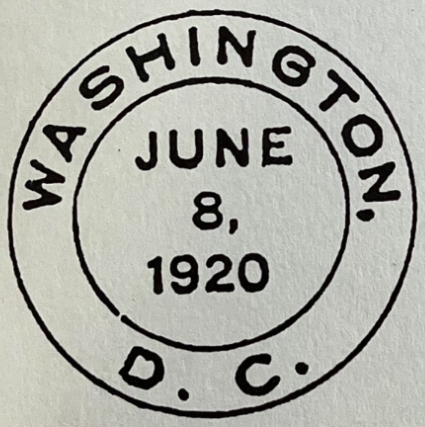
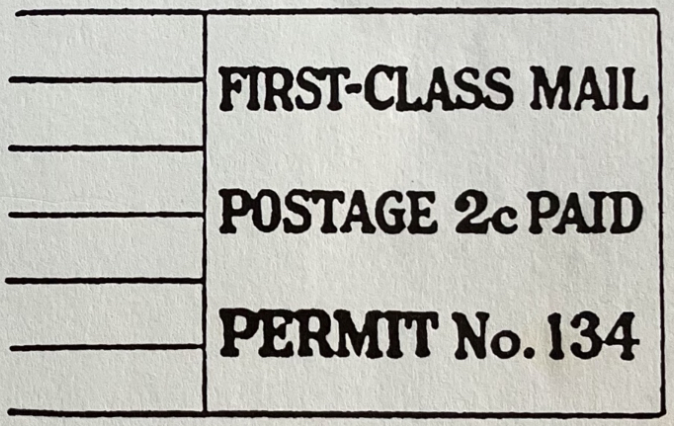
UNITED STATES FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT STAMP CATALOG

INCLUDING BUSINESS REPLY MAIL





RICHARD STAMBAUGH

A CATALOG OF

U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL

PERMIT STAMPS

INCLUDING BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY

RICHARD STAMBAUGH
12 RUTGERS DRIVE
TINTON FALLS NJ 07724
USA

January 1989

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

In order not to impede the spread of information on permits, the material presented in this catalog has not been copyrighted.

Acknowlegements

Homer H. Hemenway was a collector of meter and permit stamps who authored the Linn's Stamp News columns "Fun With Meters" and "Perusing Permits" from 1975 to 1982. Homer formulated the idea of creating a modern first class permit stamp catalog but was unable to carry it out because of his other responsibilities. It was during this period I became his friend. While providing me with guidance in organizing my many years worth of accumulated permits, he persuaded me to take on the cataloging project. I am sorry to say Homer died before this was completed.

Much recognition belongs to the late David Crane who compiled an unpublished permit and meter stamp catalog in 1960. This catalog provided much information I was not able to find elsewhere. My thanks to David Walsh for allowing me to borrow Crane's manuscript.

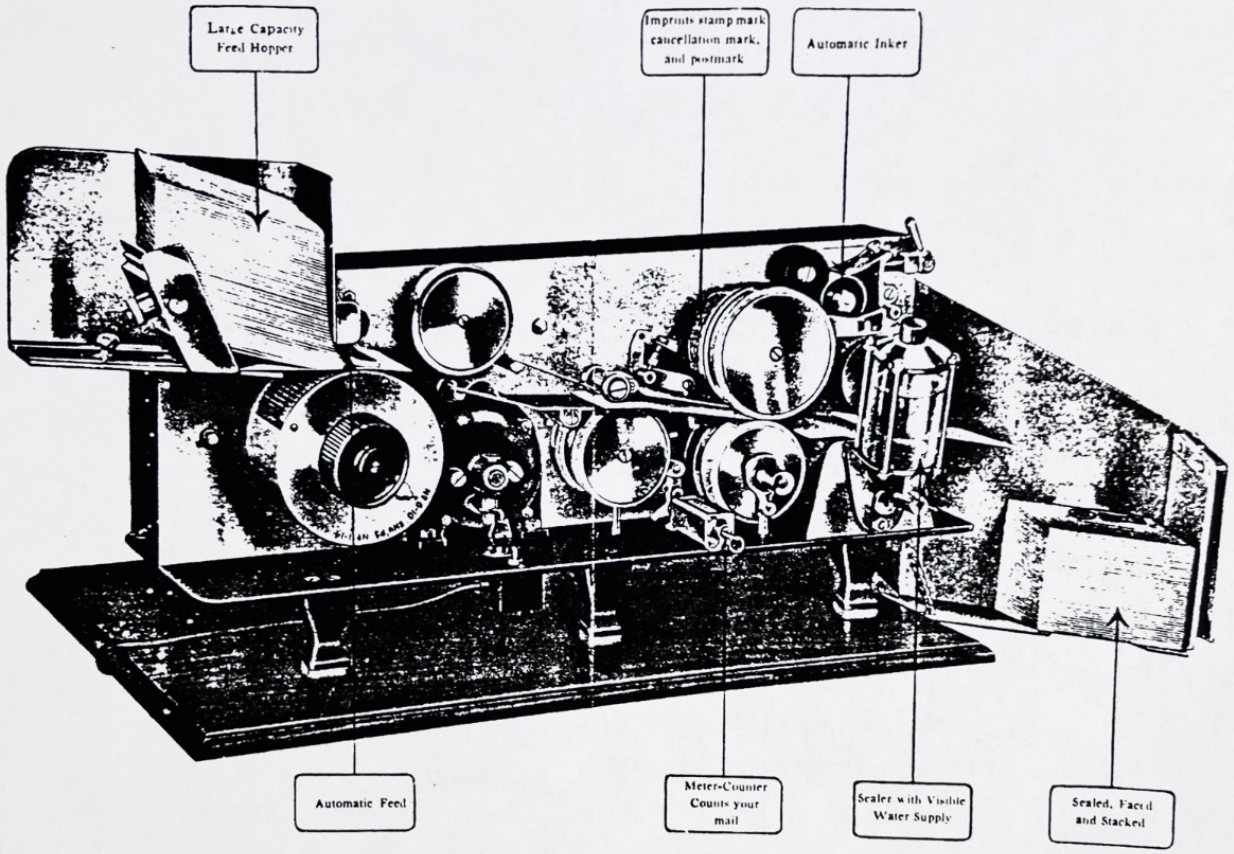
Another major contributor to this effort is Robert McDonald who very generously provided copies of all Postal Bulletins containing information on permits. Bob also compiled an unpublished catalog of official mail permit stamps which he allowed me to borrow from extensively for this project.

Two other contributors deserve special recognition. They are Edwin S. Lapham and Werner Simon. Both these gentlemen reviewed various drafts of this catalog and provided many covers showing new dates, values and permit types. Ed in particular practically donated his entire collection of permit stamps.

I also want to thank Gabriel Pustel for giving me access to his large collection which I consulted several times during this project.

Others have also helped and deserve thanks. They are Dorothy Alfano, John Bean, Bart Billings, David A. Clark, Lowell Cooper, Alan Draves, Roger Edwards, Russell E. Handly, Russell F. Hanmer, Dennis Horvath, Alfred Kanzler, Pauline C. Mallon, Robert T. Needels, Robert J. Payne, Bretton Perry who died in 1983, Ernest J. Roscoe, and Dr. Frank Scheer.

THE *Standard* POSTAL PERMIT PRINTER AND SEALER



Manufactured by

Standard Mailing Machines Co.

Everett, Mass.

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Group R: Business Reply Mail permit indicia.....90

Groups O-A thru O-J: Official mail indicia from permit printer machines.....123

31 Jan 1989

ERRATA

page 8, type AA2 — Second line should read "Box larger and TM smaller"

page 13, type AE3 — The note should cite type "O-EB1", not O-EC1.

page 33, type CG6 — Unlike other CG types, this one does not have serifs on the 1's in the year figures. Type CG6 is possibly an early Inserting and Mailing Machine (type CJ) permit stamp instead of a Multipost.

page 38, type CJ5 — Identifications under illustrations should read "CJ5e" and "CJ5f", not CJ6e and CJ6F.

page 41, type CJ12 — Top line should read "Similar to CJ11 but with F/V removed."

page 54, type EB — The sine waves were omitted from the type description which should appear as follows: "...A FULL OR NEARLY FULL SINE WAVE (~ OR ~) ABOUT 5mm LONG..."

page 59, TYPE EC — The type description should include the manufacturer: BELL & HOWELL CORP.

page 67, type FC3 — The fifth line should cite type "FC2" instead of FB3.

page 95, type RA8 — The description for variety "Ca" should read "Right square contains "U.S. POSTAGE PAID..." instead of "FIRST CLASS"."

page 100, type RB9 — The sentence starting with "Blank impressions" should be omitted.

page 126, type O-AA4 — The third line should read "Six <u>varieties</u> are known..." instead of "Six permits...".

page 131, type O-BA5 — The third line should read "...on the right." instead of "...on the left."

page 141, type O-ED1 — The word "counsular" in the third line should be "consular".

page 146, type O-GB3 — The word "appears" in the first line below the illustration should be "appear".

page 146, type O-GB4 — The first line should read "Similar to private permit type GB2 but".

New first-class mail permit stamp catalog

Postal History

By Richard B. Graham

As was noted in this column for Aug. 14, permit mailings in the United States were authorized for third-class bulk mails by an act of April 28, 1904, and later acts. These included similar provisions that allowed second- and fourth-class material to be mailed without postage stamps.

Actually, a form of permit mail had been in effect for second-class matter since the 1860s. Newspapers have always been mailed with postage paid in bulk.

Louis Campbell responded to the Aug. 14 column by providing the cover in Figure 1. This is an advertising cover from the Mittineague Paper Co., Mittineague, Mass.

The handstamped imprint at upper right reads: "Third Class Matter. 1c. Paid in money. Permit No. 1." Mailed to Middletown, Conn., in the early 1900s, the cover is a pale blue envelope with the permit imprint in purple. The envelope is water stained and bears no dates.

The permit marking on the Figure 1 cover is similar to that on a cover shown in the Aug. 14 column, except for the permit numbers. Tracing A in Figure 2 shows an example. This type was evidently standard. It was used by many cities and included the class of mail, amount of postage, "paid in money" and the permit number.

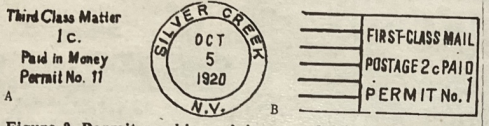


Figure 2. Permit markings. A is an early third-class permit handstamp similar to that on the cover in Figure 1. B is an early first-class permit marking applied by a Columbia rapid canceling machine.

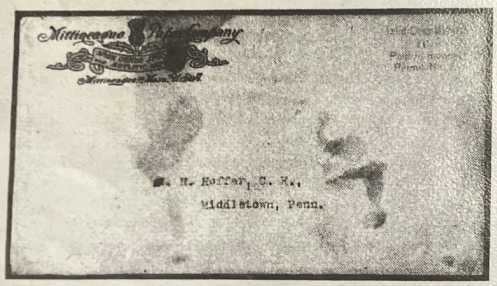


Figure 1. Handstamped third-class permit mail, circa 1905, similar to that from Mittineague Paper Co., at Mittineague, Mass. The permit imprint is traced as A in Figure 2.

The return address of the Figure 1 cover, given as "Mittineague, Mass.," was apparently a company town or post office, located in Hampden County, Mass., according to the *U.S. Postal Guide* of 1904. *Cram's World Atlas* for 1904 shows Mittineague midway between Westfield and Springfield, Mass. It has long since vanished from maps and postal records.

Richard Stambaugh, editor of the *Meter Stamp Society Bulletin*, supplied much of the data regarding mailing permits used in this column.

He has recently published the *United States First-Class Mail Permit Stamp Catalog*, a 150-page, softbound compilation of the early meter imprints. He also loaned me a few examples to help illustrate this column, including a corner piece from which the tracing shown as B in Figure 2 was taken.

This marking was produced by a machine of the Columbia Postal Supply Co. I previously discussed Columbia machine cancels in this column for June 8 and Nov. 19, 1987.

Columbia was soon driven from the field by meter-producing competitors in the 1920s. But it was the earliest company to provide first-class permit imprints by machine. Tracing B in Figure 2 shows Columbia's first type, used at the company's hometown of Silver Creek, N.Y., on Oct. 5, 1920.

Figure 3 shows a Columbus, Ohio, cover (furnished by Stambaugh) with a later imprint that doesn't include the words, "first class mail." This change permitted the same printing heads to be used for more than one class of mail.

Stambaugh's catalog is available from him at 12 Rutgers Drive, Tinton Falls, N.J. 07724, at $29.50 postpaid. Stambaugh advises this is a very limited printing, which is probably the reason for the relatively high cost. He also advises that this is a rather limited field, in which few collectors have delved very deeply.

For this reason, Stambaugh doesn't include catalog values in the form of prices in his catalog, although he does include rarity factors. To my way of thinking, this is a sensible approach. Prices change more than scarcity when a field of collecting grows in popularity.

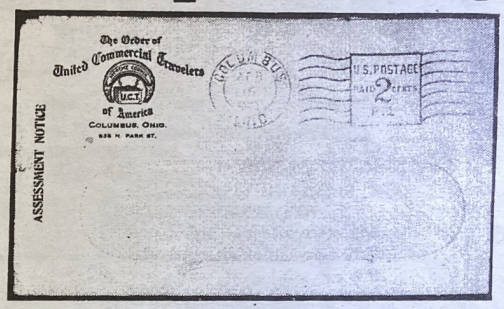


Figure 3. A later type of first-class permit marking, in which the words "first class" weren't required to appear. This was used at Columbus, Ohio, in 1922.

I recommend that anyone with interest in first-class permit mails pick up a copy of this catalog, which covers some of the forerunners of the present "junk mail" collecting interests.

Early meters on first or other classes of mails are quite rare. But it's possible that many of these rare markings are to be found, unrecognized and unappreciated, in dealer junk boxes. ■

Ropex 90 details

An exhibitor prospectus and dealer information for Ropex 90 are now available. The show will be staged March 23-25, 1990, at the Holiday Inn, Rochester, N.Y.

Ropex will honor the 150th anniversary of the Penny Black, the first adhesive postage stamp. Since the Penny Black pictured Queen Victoria, the show will also honor 150 years of women on stamps.

Ropex is a Champion of Champions qualifying show. The prospectus is available from Ropex, Box 10206, Brighton Station, Rochester, N.Y. 14610. General information is available from the same address.

Most dealer tables have been reserved by participants in last year's show. To check on availability of space or to be put on a waiting list, write to Ropex, c/o Robert Steeb, 37 Centennial St., Rochester, N.Y. 14611. ■

March 1990

Dear Permit Collector or Dealer,

Since last year's publication of the U.S. FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT STAMP CATALOG a large number of additions, corrections and other changes have accumulated. These changes would be incorporated into a second edition of the book should one be produced, but since that is unlikely for several years, I have prepared the enclosed listing to bring your catalog up to date. This listing includes all changes reported in earlier update/errata sheets.

On the back of this letter is a permit basic 'shape' chart or index which may make identification an easier task.

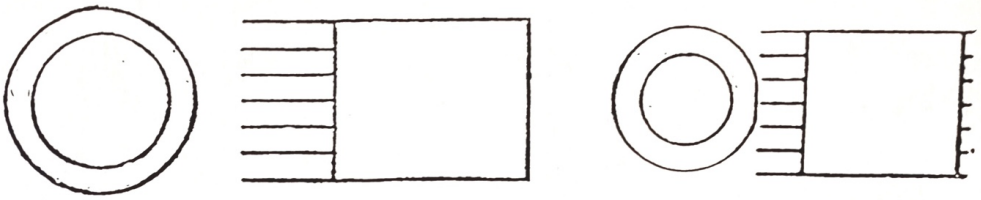
Should you have any recommended changes not listed in this update, please drop me a note.

Thank you.

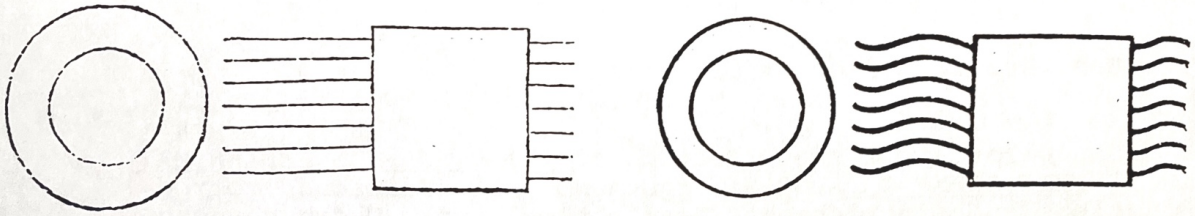
Sincerely,

Richard Stambaugh
12 Rutgers Drive
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

TYPICAL SHAPES OF THE BASIC GROUPS

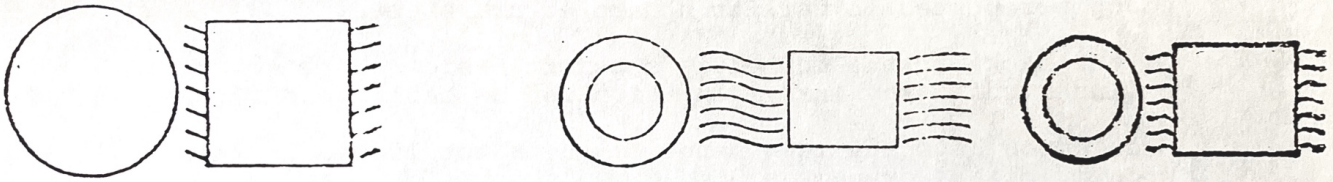


GROUP A



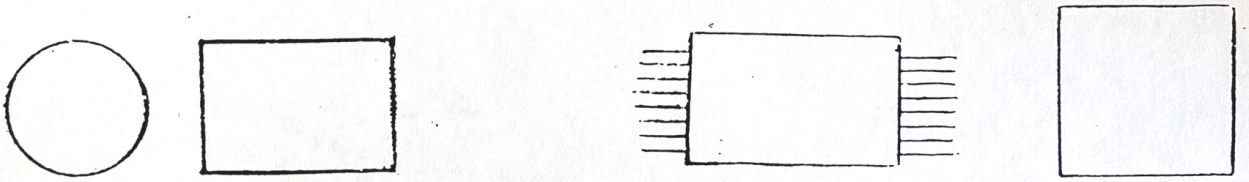
GROUP B

GROUP C



GROUP D

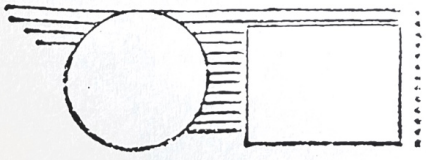
GROUP E



GROUP F

GROUP G

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA.
PERMIT NO. 1629



GROUP H

GROUP J

UPDATE TO

U.S. FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT STAMP CATALOG

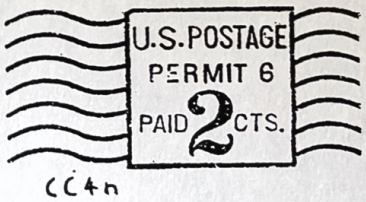
MARCH 1990

AD3 - 6¢ also known from DES MOINES/IOWA #350
AD4 - EKU: JUN 1, 1971
AD4d - single circle TM (HARTFORD/CONN #4387)
AD6e - also known from SACRAMENTO/CALIF. #1
AD6h - as AD6b (TM rimless), TM reads "MAILED FROM ZIP CODE/##### (66414 #535)"
AE1 - Values should be 1¢ and 3¢ (not 2 cents)
AE1b - 5¢ also known from HICKSVILLE/NY #1. 5¢ BRENTWOOD/N.Y. should be #22.
AE1c - F/V large and cent sign replaces "CTS.": 5¢ (HICKSVILLE/N.Y. #1)
AE3 - NOTE at bottom should cite type "O-EB1", not O-EC1
AE3b - add 5¢
AE6 - EKU: JUL 11, 1956
AE6a - cent sign removed: 5¢ (CAMP HILL/PA. #32)
AF1 - Value: 3¢
AH1a - PAID at left, not centered: JERSEY CITY/N.J. #816, SACRAMENTO/CA #1
AH1b - TM small: 23mm (SACRAMENTO/CA. #1)
TYPE AJ: BELL & HOWELL
AJ1 - Small design with double circle TM,
PAID and cent sign without F/V.
BOX: 19-20 x 16-17mm
LINES: 4-5mm
SPACING: 1.5mm
TM: 18-19mm
One permit known: CHICAGO/ILL. #3060

AJ1

AX6 - add WASHINGTON/D.C. #42609, WASHINGTON/D.C. #3070)
CB2e - Large TM (29.5mm): 2¢ (PHILADELPHIA/PA. #6)
CB3 - 1¢ also known from NEW YORK/N.Y. #255 and SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #29
Change rarity of 1 cent from RRR to VR.
CB3d - add 4¢. Two cent also known from NEW YORK/N.Y. #22
CB3e - DELETE
CC4 - Second line should read "CTS. replaces CENTS except on one cent denomination which has CENT."
CC4d - delete 1¢, add 4¢
CC4g - This variety was made by removing '1/2' from 1 1/2 cent denomination. (NEW YORK/N.Y. #765)

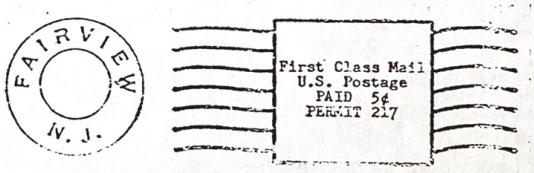
CC4n - With permit line in center and value line at bottom of box: 2¢ (SEATTLE/WASH. #6)



CC4n

CC5 - add 4¢
CC5 - add NOTE: Permits of this type were made by former Mailometer machines modified after Pitney Bowes bought the Mailometer company.
CC6 - add 6¢
CD3 - EKU: JUN 24, 1926
CE4 - EKU: OCT 2, 1923
CE4 - 5¢ and 8¢ also known from SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #62
CE4a - also known from GLOUCESTER/MASS. #9
CE4e - add 3¢ (OWATONNA/MINN. #2)
CE4f - These are not as rare as originally thought. Remove the VR and R ratings.

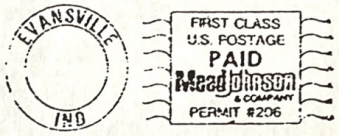
CF1 - This may be an ordinary press printed permit and not a Mack machine permit.
CG6 - This may be an early Inserting & Mailing Machine Co. permit and not a Multipost.
TYPE CH also may be an early IMM instead of a Multipost.
CH1 - The illustration shows only seven lines emanating from the value box. The permit has an eighth line coming from the top edge of the box.
CH1 - EKU: MAR 14, 1936
CJ1 - add 6¢. Also known from CHICAGO/ILL. #303
CJ3 - add 2¢. Also known from HARTFORD/CONN. #44
CJ4 - add 10¢
CJ4d - add 3¢ and 15¢
CJ4e - 4¢ also known from WEST SPRINGFIELD/MASS. #71
CJ4h - add 13¢
CJ4n - "CTS." omitted. Value line consists of "PAID" and F/V only: 4¢ (LEE'S SUMMIT/MISSOURI #47)
CJ5 - Illustrations should be labeled "CJ5e" and "CJ5f", not CJ6e and CJ6f.
CJ5a - add 13¢
CJ5g - "AIR MAIL" above value box: 7¢ (WASHINGTON/D.C. #415)
CJ6 - add 11¢ and 24¢
CJ6a - add 8¢
CJ6c - Values: 4¢, 5¢, 6¢
CJ8a - add 15c (ST. LOUIS/MO. #4813)
CJ10 - EKU: AUG 15, 1956. Add 3¢, 13¢, 15¢, 18¢, 22¢
CJ10a - add 3¢
CJ10c - also (GREAT NECK / L.I., N.Y. #584)
CJ11 - add 10¢
CJ11.5 - Similar to CJ10B but with F/V removed. EKU: JAN 19, 1978
CJ12 - Description should read "Similar to CJ11 but F/V removed."
CX1 - Some evidence points to this being a Mailometer/Pitney Bowes hybrid.
CX2 - Two examples on full cover have turned up. This is not a hand stamp, but the machine make remains unknown. EKU: MAY 25, 1927
CX6 - add HARRISBURG/PENNSYLVANIA #675
CX8.5 - As CX8 but "PAID" only on value line: WASHINGTON/D.C. #42828
CX11 - Value: 6¢
CX12 - Lettering in value box is reduced typewriter font:
  Box: 23 x 21mm
  Left lines: 14mm
  Spacing: 4mm
  TM: 20mm
  None seen with date. Value: 5¢
  Only permit known is FAIRVIEW/N.J. #217



CX12

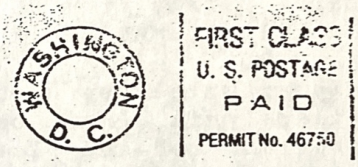
DA2 - add 4¢
DA2a - add GREENWICH/CONN. #1
DB1a - add 4¢
DB2 - also known from SACRAMENTO/CALIF. #2
EA1a - add 11¢
EA2 - add 8¢
EA2a - add NEW YORK/N.Y. #14215
EA3a - add 13¢
EA3c - add 5¢ (EDITORS PARK/MD #11)
EA3e - add SEATTLE/WASH. #8715
EA3g - add 5¢
EA4 - add 10¢ (WASHINGTON/D.C. #40473)
EA4.5 - Similar to EA3a but F/V removed. None seen with date.
EA5 - add 5¢
TYPE EB: Insert in parenthesis: (~~~ and ~~~)

EB1 - add 10¢, 18¢
EB1b - add 8¢ (WASHINGTON/D.C. #40473)
EB2a - add 13¢ (PHILADELPHIA/PA. #135) and 15¢ (DES MOINES/IOWA #2255)
EB2b - add 5¢
EB4 - add 10¢
EB5 - add 8¢
EB5b - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" removed; large space above U.S.POSTAGE, but first class use: 5¢ (BOSTON/MASS. #56830)
EB5c - Cent sign removed, and figure of value very small (3mm): 8¢ (MILWAUKEE/WISC. #3125)
EB7 - EKU: JUL 25, 1966
EB8a - With "PRESORTED" in box attached above value box: 1 oz. (FORT WAYNE/
EB9a - has been seen from several locations
EB9k - "PRESORT" under value box (ST. PETERSBURG/FLORIDA #572)
EB10c - DELETE, this is actually GB2c.
EB13 - Earliest seen is from 1978. Also known from EVERETT/WA 98206 #193
EB14 - Similar to EB12 but user's name inserted between "PAID" and permit line: EVANSVILLE/IND #206 (Mead Johnson & Company)

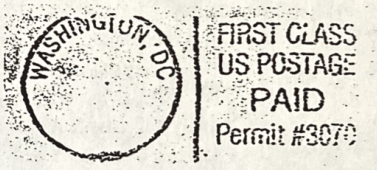


EB14

TYPE EC: BELL & HOWELL CORP.
EC2.5 - As EC2 but "PAID" centered, alone on value line (NEW YORK/N.Y. #4666)
EX4 - also known from WASHINGTON/D.C. #44398
EX6 - add WASHINGTON/D.C. #6508
EX6a - With "PRESORTED" above value box
EX9a - with "FIRST CLASS MAIL" under value box
FB3 - Value 'box' consists of vertical lines left and right of text which reads FIRST CLASS / US POSTAGE / PAID / permit line Double circle TM. None seen with date. One permit known: WASHINGTON, D.C. #46750
FB3a - Right vertical line removed, and single circle TM with city and state at top:: WASHINGTON, D.C. #3070



FB3



FB3a

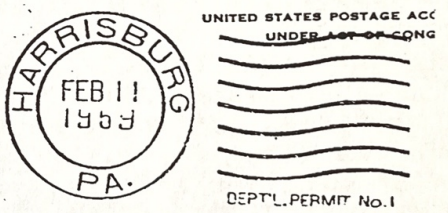
FC1a - add STEVENSVILLE, MD/21666 #100, WASHINGTON, D.C./20013 #7335 and WASHINGTON, D.C./20737 #3014
FC3 - Reference is made to type FC2, not FB3.
GA1 - add 4¢, 6¢
GB2c - change to read "with redundant circular townmark (double, single or rimless)"
GB2d and GB2e: DELETE
GB2g - "With "PRE-SORTED" or similar endorsement inside value box"
GB2h - "With value line reading "U.S.POSTAGE PAID" on one line"
GB2j - With number sign (#) replacing "NO." in permit line: NEW YORK/N.Y. #8
GC1 and GC2: DELETE (These are now varieties of GB2. The illustrations for GC1 and GC2 should be labeled GC2g and GC2gh.)
JB1 - EKU: JAN 11, 1980
JB1a - Permit cited for 20¢ should be OMAHA/NE #496
JB2 - Reference is made to type JB1b, not JB1
TYPE HB and HB1: DELETE. This has been identified as a meter slogan and is not a permit.
PA2 - add 12¢
PA2a - add 1¢
PA2e - With value line as "Xc PAID": 3¢, 6¢
PA2h - add ANN ARBOR/MICH. #1
PA7 - Move PB5 to PA7. Text should read"...similar to type PA4...". Delete "One permit known...". Several have been seen.

PB1 - add 15¢
PB1g - With value surcharge: 4¢ + 1¢
PB2 - add 8¢, 10¢
PB4 - Illustration is of PA6, not PB4.
PB5 - DELETE (See PA7)
PC1 - add 4¢
PC1a - with value surcharge: 5¢ + 1¢
PD1 - add 3¢, 4¢, 10¢
PD1a - Values are 6¢ and 8¢
PD1k - With redundant separate circular TM: 4¢ (READING, PA #142)
PD3e - ZIP + 4 added
PE1e - As PE1a but "U.S. POSTAGE" omitted
PE4 - With value line. Text reads:

FIRST CLASS MAIL
Value: 5c US POSTAGE
PAID Xc
user identification

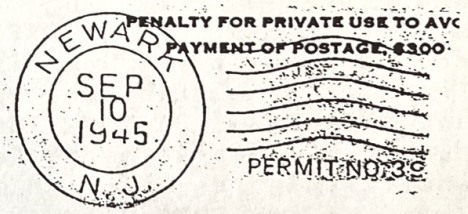
PF2.5 - Similar to PF1 but value in weight: 1 oz.
RA1 Ca - Expiration date on message side of card: 2¢
RA3 - Illustration is of RA4 Ea, not RA3 Ea
RA3 C - CARD
RA4 Ca - Expiration date on message side of card.
RA8 Ca - Right square contains "U.S. POSTAGE PAID...", not "FIRST CLASS..."
RA9 C 2¢ - change rarity from VR to R
RA11 - AIR MAIL FORMAT B without expiration date or value line:
C - CARD
Only example seen used by RUSSELL ERNEST BAUM, permit #8, Philadelphia, PA. Contrary to the PL&R it did not have the border of red and blue lozenges.
RB6 C 4¢ - change rarity from RRR to VR
RB6 Eb - F/V is in upper left square: 4¢ (LIFE, Chicago IL #22)
RB10a - Inscription reads "BUSINESS REPLY COUPON" (Gateway Book Co., # 29504, Chicago, Ill.)
RC6 E 7¢ - change rarity from VR to R
RD1 Ma - Error: UR box contains "Non-Profit Org. / U.S. POSTAGE / PAID" (Planned Parenthood of Northern New York, # 71, Watertown, NY)
RD1 Mb - Hash marks omitted (Hyatt Regency, Knoxville TN #3514)
RD3 - AIRMAIL FORMAT B with value line:
E - ENVELOPE; value: 8¢ (THE REPORTER, NEW YORK, N.Y. #55449)
RD3a - AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY; value: 27¢ (National Research Bureau, Chicago, IL #18455)
RD4 L - LABEL (replaces RD8)
RD5.5 - FORMAT B with value line
C - CARD Values: 2¢, 3¢
Only examples seen omit the permit number.
RD6 X - Does not cite CARD, ENVELOPE or MAIL
RD6 Xa - "BUSINESS REPLY...", permit line and hash marks all omitted. (This replaces RX12.)
RD8 - DELETE (see RD4 L)
New RD8 - MERCHANDISE RETURN LABEL. Most such labels are restricted to 3rd or 4th class, but this one could be used on 4th or 1st class mail. The mailer would write the class in a box on the label. Used by HOSIERY CORP., Charlotte, NC #6173.
TYPE RE: add at the bottom of page 112: "FORMAT A is not authorized for RE types. The postal manual allows for one format with "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." in UR and the permit line below BUSINESS REPLY citation."
RE1 L - LABEL

RE1 Cb - add NEW YORK, NY #2043
RE1 Mc - DELETE (See RE5 below)
RE1 Me - Error: BULK RATE message is lieu of "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." in UR corner (Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe, VT, no permit cited)
RE2 L - LABEL
RE2 Ca - Envelope with "CARD"
RE2 Ea - circle in UR corner, not a square: 7¢
RE2 La - Without bar coding
RE2 Mb - Error: BULK RATE imprint instead of "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." in UR corner (DES PLAINES, IL #312)
RE2 Mc - Window envelope with permit line printed on enclosure
RE2 Md - Message in UR corner reads "IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES OR THROUGH APO OR FPO" (ASMBA, Nashville, TN #3506)
RE3 M - add NORTHWEST AIRLINES, Minneapolis, MN #6874
RE5 - Neither FIM A, B or C. FIM is nonstandard pattern
RO1 L - LABEL
RO2 - DELETE (This is now RO1 L)
RO4 C - CARD
RO4 Ca - without bar coding
RZ4 E 4¢ - add HANNAFORD & TALBOT, San Francisco CA #4582
RZ11 - Description should read "Similar to type RD but no permit number cited and no reference to the PL&R at all."
RX12 - DELETE (see RD6 Xa)
O-AA1 - EKU: AUG 9, 1937
O-AA1a - Permit number has letter prefix: A-1 (DALLAS/TEXAS)
O-AA3 - In the NOTE under this type, add "Another such cancellation is known to have been used by the US Army Postal Service to frank unofficial soldiers' mail. It reads "U.S. ARMY POSTAL SERVICE / 7 B.P.O."
O-AA4 - Third line of description should read "six varieties are known..."
O-AA4A - add RALEIGH/N.C. #30
O-AA4C - change permit #87 to #67
O-AA4E - add BALTIMORE/MD. #56
O-AA4G - As O-AA4F but wavy lines do not form a center hump (HARRISBURG/PA. #1)



O-AA4G

O-AB2 - EKU: MAR 12, 1951
O-AC5 - Similar to Pitney Bowes type O-AA4B but lettering in permit line larger. Lines appear to be thinner. Date figures typical of IMM permits.
EKU: SEP 10, 1945
One permit known: NEWARK/N.J. #39



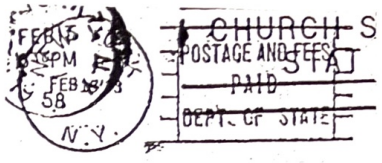
O-AC5

O-BA1d - add DENVER/COLO. #?
O-BA2 - add WASHINGTON/D.C. #25
O-BA2a - add WASHINGTON/D.C. #25
O-BA5 - Third line of description should read "...on the right."
TYPE O-CD: BELL & HOWELL / Large TM (28mm in diameter) with 2 or 3 line date.
O-CD1 - Double circle TM.
Only example seen has 9-digit ZIP code in bottom of TM: AUSTIN, TEXAS / 70778-0001

O-CD1

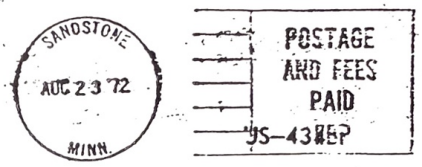
O-DB2 - EKU: MAY 13, 1953
O-EA1 - EKU: OCT 9, 1953

O-EA1.5 - Similar to type O-EA1 but the text inside the box reads:
POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
users identification
No permit line.
EKU: DEC 27, 1956
One user known: DEPT. OF STATE (NEW YORK/N.Y.)



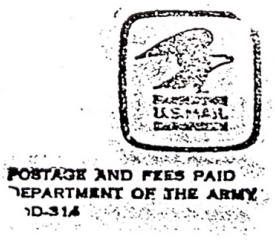
O-EA1.5

O-EA3 - Description should read "As type EA1 but the text..."
O-EB1 - EKU: JUL 29, 1955
O-EC1 - EKU: AUG 13, 1956
O-EC1a - change to read "'A' with TM removed"
O-EC1b - change to read "'A' or 'D' with TM present but empty"
O-EC3 - EKU: MAY 20, 1960
O-ED1a - First class use but with bulk rate slug "BLK. RT." vertically between TM and value box lines.
O-ED2 - As O-ED1 but text reads:
POSTAGE
AND FEES
PAID
users ID
EKU: AUG 23, 1972
One user known: FBP (SANDSTONE/MINN.)



O-ED2

O-FA1 - EKU: JUN 15, 1956
O-FA1a - With vertical row of five stars along right side
O-FA2 - Redescribe as follows:
O-FA2A EMPLOYMENT / SECURITY MAIL
O-FA2B EMPLOYMENT SECURITY / MAIL
O-FA2C EMPLOYMENT / SECURITY MAIL / LAB 449
O-FA2D DEPARTMENT / OF THE / AIR FORCE (as 'b' only)
Known users: SACRAMENTO/CALIF. (A, B and C)
JUNEAU/ALASKA (B)
FOSTER AIR FORCE BASE/TEX. (D)
a. 'C' with empty TM
b. 'A' or 'D' with vertical row of stars along right side.
O-GA1A - add EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
O-GA1A - add F.B.P.
O-GA1B - add DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE / DOD-302
O-GA1B - add "Without users identification (USAF Academy)"
O-GB4 - Description should read "Similar to private permit type GB2..."
O-GC2B - add DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY / DOD-314
O-GC3 - Framed USPS eagle above text lines.
One example see with
"POSTAGE AND FEES PAID" above
"DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY / DOD-314"
in very small letters (under 2mm in height). To the left is a slogan in larger letters. (This could possibly be a handstamp.)



O-GC3

O-HA2 EKU: SEP 27, 1961
O-HA2 - Add NOTE: Undated examples (proofs?) have been seen from WASHINGTON/D.C., AGUSTA/GA., INDIO/CALIF. and PALM DESERT/CALIF.
O-HA3 - EKU: APR 22, 1969
O-HA4 - EKU: MAR 3, 1969
O-HA4.5 - Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. TM reads AUSTIN/TEXAS. EKU: JUN 13, 1973
O-HA5 - EKU: JUN 1, 1977
O-HA7 - Ronald Reagan. TM reads LOS ANGELES/CA. EKU: JAN 1989

What are permit stamps?

The history of first class mail permit stamps in the U.S. is closely related to the history of postage meters. Both systems are in turn a part of the larger history of mail without adhesive postage stamps. A brief summary of that history will clarify what permit stamps are and the role they play in the mailing system of the United States.

The U.S. mailing system as organized under the Act of March 3, 1879 created the four classes of mail we are familiar with today: FIRST CLASS for written matter, SECOND CLASS for magazines, newspapers and other periodicals, THIRD CLASS for all other printed matter, and FOURTH CLASS for merchandise, i.e. parcel post. Although this act specifically set forth that postage for all mail of any class must be prepaid by affixed adhesive postage stamps, it was almost immediately amended (Section 199, PL&R edition of 1879) to allow for second class matter to be mailed with a pre-printed or hand-stamped indicia by those mailers who applied for the necessary permit. This is the first permit mail.

Ashland College Bulletin
Entered as 2nd. Class Matter
ASHLAND, OHIO

Entered as second class
mail matter at the Post
Office at Evanston, Illinois

Perhaps because of abuse or lack of effective control, the second class permit privilege was revoked as of June 30, 1898. Whatever the reason, it was restored under the Act of Congress of April 28, 1904. Not only was it restored, but it was extended to the third and fourth classes of mail as well. The first indicia used under this act were required to contain the class of mail, the amount of postage paid, the statement "PAID IN MONEY" and the permit number.

Third Class Matter
3c
Paid in Money
Permit No 2

Third Class Matter
1c
Paid in Money
Permit No. 5

Fourth Class Matter
1c
Paid in Money
Permit No. 1

This format was changed twice, once to eliminate the "IN MONEY" statement and to add the town and state names, and later to add the words "U.S. POSTAGE".

1c. Paid
Essex, Conn.
Permit No. 1.

U. S. POSTAGE
1c. Paid.
New York, N. Y.
Permit No. 5958

It was not until 1920 that the permit privilege was extended to first class mail. This was a result of pressure that had long been applied to Congress and the Post Office Department by A. H. Pitney, the inventor of the postage meter, and Walter Bowes, who became Mr. Pitney's partner in the formation of the Postage Meter Company which we now know of as the Pitney Bowes Corporation.

This Act of May 10, 1920 did allow for the use of postage meters to frank first class and all other classes of mail, but it also extended the non-metered permit privilege to first class mail. During the 1920s a serious and bitter rivalry developed between the Postage Meter Company and the Standard Mailing Machine Company which manufactured permit printer machines and not meters.

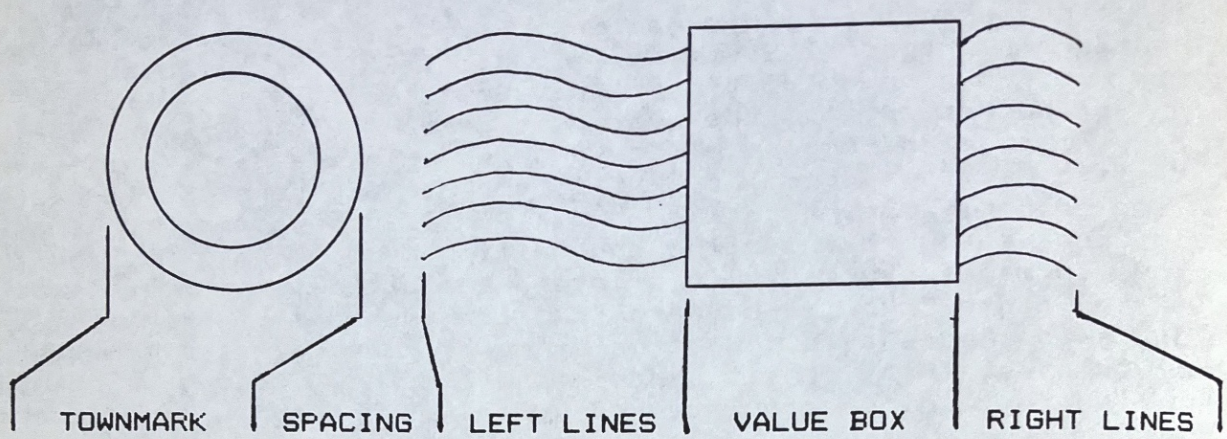
A postage meter has by design a locking mechanism that prevents the user from running off more postage that is set on the meter and which is paid for in advance. Non-metered impressions can be applied by nearly any imprinting means such as ordinary letter press or hand stamp and thus have no such controls. This was true also of the dedicated permit printer machines that appeared soon after 1920. These machines, made by several companies including Standard, are basically no more than imprinters, daters and counters and have no pre-set postage limit or locking mechanism. Mailers using these machines or any non-metered, non-adhesive method must take their mail to the post office where it is weighed and counted and where they are billed for the postage. Users of postage meters, because of the controls built into the machines, should not have to do that. But, as indicated above, the Act of May 10, 1920 placed metered and non-metered permit mail on the same footing and subjected users of both to the same controls, which in the case of metered mail, were redundant and unnecessary. This gave the lower cost permit printer machines an advantage over meters. The Standard Mailing Machine Co. fought to preserve the 1920 regulation while the Postage Meter Co. fought to eliminate the needless restrictions on metered mail.

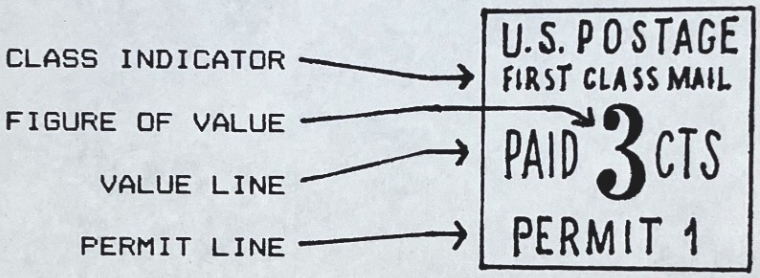
Although loosened somewhat at various times during the next ten years, the restrictions on metered mail were not lowered considerably until 1930. Postage meters finally came into their own. In spite of the changes in the rules, permit mail did not become obsolete. There was and still is a large segment of the mailing market ideally served by permit mail. Mailers whose business is too large to bother with affixing adhesive stamps but whose mailings are too infrequent to justify renting a meter, find permit mail the most convenient.

During the struggle of the 1920s the Postage Meter Co. had to survive the competition with Standard. They did this by not putting all their eggs into one basket. Through their subsidary, the Universal Stamping Machine Co., Pitney and Bowes manufactured and successfully marketed stamp cancelling machines, check signing machines, and yes, permit printers. In fact, they became the second largest supplier of permit printers, after Standard.

Although Standard and Universal (later Pitney Bowes) were the largest manufacturers of permit printer machines during the 1920s and 1930s, the earliest dedicated permit printers were made by the Columbia Postal Supply Company of Silver Creek, NY. Other manufacturers of permit printers were the International Postal Supply Company (now International Peripheral Systems) of Easton, PA, the Mailometer Co. of Detroit which was bought out by Pitney Bowes in 1924, the Bircher Company of Rochester, NY, the Multipost Company also of Rochester, and the Mack Postograph Company of Los Angeles. In the 1940s the Inserting and Mailing Machine Company of Phillipsburg, NJ became the largest supplier of permit printers with their "Phillipsburg" model. The Bell & Howell Corp. absorbed Inserting and Mailing Machine in 1957, and they continue to manufacture permit printers to this day. In the 1960s and 1970s the Friden Corp. of Hayward, CA made some permit printers, and in the 1980s the Rockaway Corporation of New Jersey marketed a Hasler permit printer. Many permit impressions are known that have not been identified to machines manufactured by any of the above named companies.

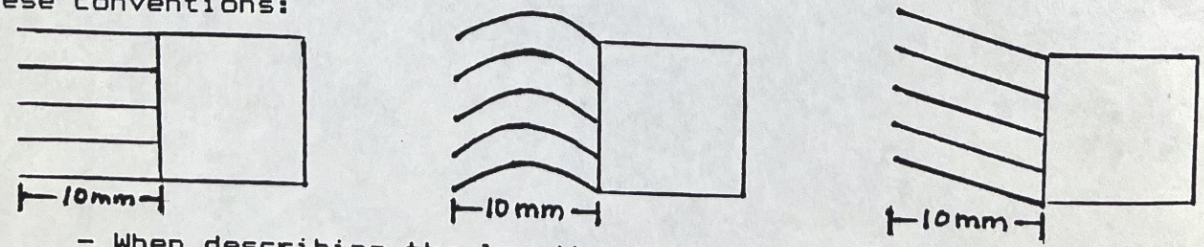
Descriptive terms:





Abbreviations: BOX: VALUE BOX
TM: TOWNMARK
F/V: FIGURE OF VALUE
EKU: Earliest Known Use

The dimensions provided in permit type descriptions are based on these conventions:



- When describing the length of lines (straight, wavy or diagonal), the measurement provided is always the flat horizontal length.

- When describing a value box, the horizontal dimension is provided first.

- When describing circular townmarks, the measurement provided is the diameter of the external circle.

Slogan and Class Endorsements on Permit Stamps

Starting in the early 1930s permit printer machines were built with the capability of printing advertising slogans or other data in the space left of the townmark. Because of their wide variety slogans are not covered in this catalog.

Occasionally this slogan area will contain an endorsement such as "FIRST CLASS MAIL" or "PRESORTED". Although relevant, most such slogan area endorsements are ignored. Coverage is limited to those endorsements located in the indicia portion of the stamp.

In the Official mail section references are made to all known slogan area inscriptions giving general or required information such as time of day or "PMGC" (see note under type O-AA2). As with non-official mail, government "official business" mail permits often have slogans. They take the form of public service messages and/or public relations for the agency sending the mail. As with non-official permits, such slogans are beyond the scope of this catalog.

Rarity Indicators and Value:

None of the permits listed in this catalog have been priced because there is only a small market for them at this time. Instead we have applied rarity indicators to those types which we know through experience are indeed rare. The rarity indicators used are the same as used in THE UNITED STATES POSTAGE METER STAMP CATALOG by Werner Simon and David P. Walsh. They are "R" for rare, "VR" for very rare, and "RRR" for extremely rare. Value is greatly influenced by condition. Those that are on full cover have much more value than those on small cuts or piece.

Many permit types, especially the more recent ones, have not been given rarity indicators because our knowledge of the extent of their usage is incomplete. As time passes and collector interest in permits increases, many of these unrated types may prove to be rare, very rare or extremely rare.

Generally speaking "R" permits may be worth from $1 to $5, and "VR" up to about $15 or $25. The value of "RRR" permits would start at about $20 to $25 and could go much higher depending on the significance and condition of the item.

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United States Post Office Department and United States Postal Service THE POSTAL BULLETIN. Published weekly. Numerous issues from no. 12256 (May 12, 1920) to 20959 (December 6, 1973).

United States Postal Service DOMESTIC MAIL MANUAL, Issue 21, September 4, 1986.

GROUP A

THIS IS THE FIRST POD APPROVED FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT STAMP DESIGN, AUTHORIZED IN MAY 1920. THE VERY FIRST IN ACTUAL USE WAS PRESS PRINTED RATHER THAN PRODUCED BY A PERMIT PRINTER MACHINE AND IS DESCRIBED UNDER TYPE "PA", THE PRESS PRINTED COUNTERPART TO GROUP "A" PERMIT STAMPS.

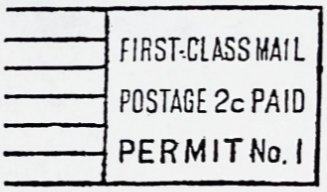
GROUP "A" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE HORIZONTALLY RECTANGULAR VALUE BOXES WITH SEVEN STRAIGHT HORIZONTAL LINES EMANATING FROM THE LEFT SIDE. THE CIRCULAR TOWNMARK IS IN MOST CASES SEPARATED FROM THE VALUE BOX. THE WORDS "FIRST-CLASS MAIL" OR A VARIATION ARE THE TOP LINE INSIDE THE VALUE BOX.

TYPE AA	COLUMBIA POSTAL SUPPLY CO.

AA1 Three line date: MO/DAY/YR
BOX: 29 x 24.5mm
Lines: 14mm
Spacing: 6.5mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: JUL 26, 1920

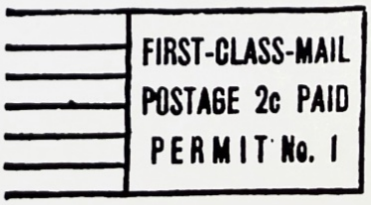
Value: 2c (R)



Six permits known:
- WASHINGTON/D.C. #2 (RRR)
- WICHITA/KANS. #1 (VR)
- BALTIMORE/MD. #1 (R)
- BALTIMORE/MD. #2 (RRR)
- SILVER CREEK/N.Y. #1 (RRR)
- PHILADELPHIA/PA. #4 (RRR)

NOTE: Two black proof impressions dated MAY/3/1921, one on piece, the other on an unaddressed cover with corner card of the Columbia Postal Supply Co. exist. The impression is larger than type AA1. No postally used impressions are known.

BOX: 33 x 26mm
Lines: 17mm
Spacing: 7.5mm
TM: 29mm



AA2 Two line date: MO DAY/YR
Box larger box and TM smaller

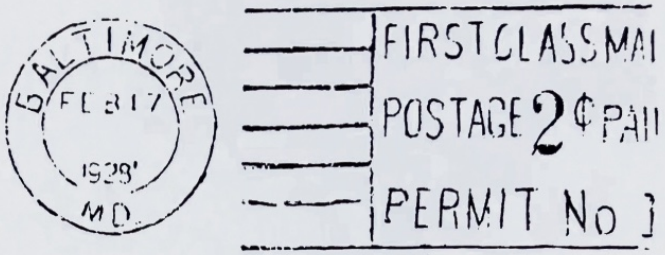
BOX: 35 x 28mm
Lines: 15mm
Spacing: 3mm
TM: 25mm

Two examples known

EKU: FEB 13, 1928.

Value: 2c(RRR)

Permit: BALTIMORE/MD. #1



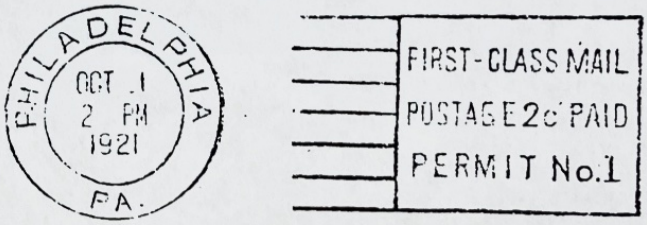
TYPE AB	UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE CO. (PITNEY BOWES)

AB1 Three line date: MO DAY/TIME/YR
BOX: 30 x 24.5mm
Lines: 12.5mm
Spacing: 8.5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: OCT 22, 1920

Value: 2c(R)

Two permits known:
- PHILADELPHIA/PA. #1 (R)
- NEW YORK, HUDSON TERM. STA./N.Y. #1 (RRR)



TYPE AC — MAILOMETER CORP.

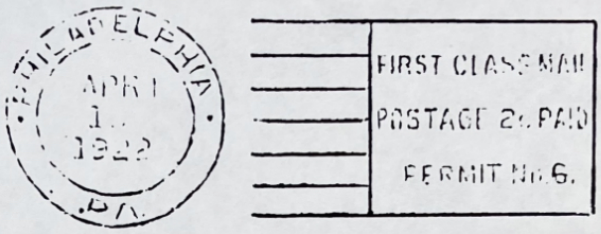
AC1 Two dots appear before and after city name in the TM.

Three line date: MO/DAY/YR
BOX: 28.5 x 24.5mm
Lines: 15mm
Spacing: 3.5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: MAR 27, 1921

Value: 2c (R)

One permit known:
PHILADELPHIA/PA. #6



TYPE AD — PITNEY BOWES CORP.

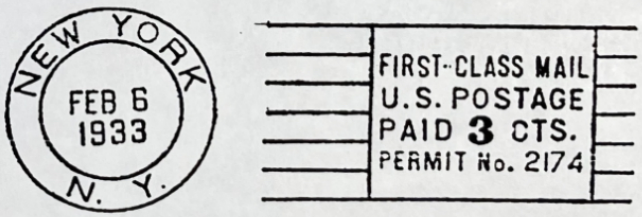
AD1 Lines emanate from both left and right sides of value box.

Two line date: MO DAY/YR
BOX: 29 x 23mm
Left lines: 13.5mm
Spacing: 6.5mm
TM: 26.5mm

EKU: FEB 6, 1933

Value: 3c (RRR)

One permit known:
- NEW YORK/N.Y. #2174



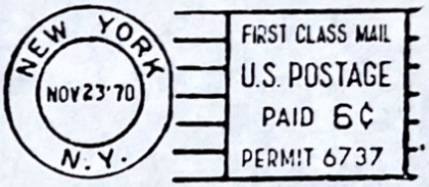
NOTE: Proofs with same permit number (2174) and earlier dates are known with "STAMFORD/CT" in the townmark.

AD2 Much shorter design than type AD1
Cent sign (¢) replaces "CTS".

One line date
BOX: 23 x 21mm
Lines; 6-7mm
Spacing: 0-1mm
TM: 22mm

EKU: MAR 25, 1963

Values: 5c, 6c, 8c, 12c

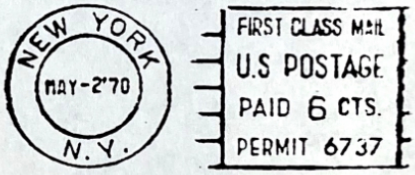


a - "No" after "PERMIT": 5c, 6c, 10c, 16c
b - TM single circle (20mm): 5c (AKRON/OHIO #615)
(Some examples have no lines on right side)
c - TM rimless: 6c (WASHINGTON/D.C. #9449)

AD3 Similar to type AD2 but "CTS" instead of cent sign.

EKU: JAN 14, 1970

Values: 6c, 12c (both NEW YORK/N.Y. #6737)

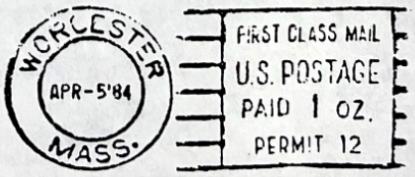


a - TM single circle: 6c
(AKRON/OHIO #615)

AD4 Similar to types AD2 and 3 but value in weight (ounces) instead of money.

EKU: DEC 9, 1975

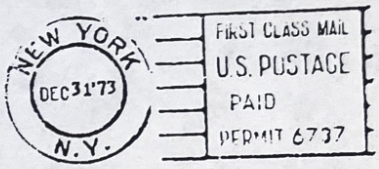
Value: 1 oz.



a - TM rimless
b - "No" after "PERMIT"
c - TM rimless and "No" after "PERMIT"

AD5 Similar to types AD2, 3 and 4 but the figure of value has been removed. PAID only remains on the value line.

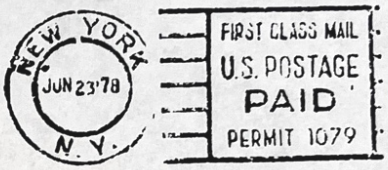
EKU: DEC 31, 1973



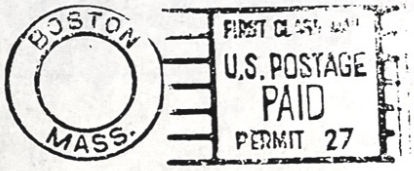
a - "No." after "PERMIT" (NEW YORK/N.Y. #8)
b - TM rimless (BOSTON/MASS. #27 JERSEY CITY/N.J. #816)

AD6 Similar to type AD5 but "PAID" is larger and centered.

EKU: JUN 16, 1976



a - TM single circle
b - TM rimless (SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #7577)
c - ZIP code in bottom of TM after state (HACKENSACK/N.J. #300)
d - "No" after "PERMIT" (ELIZABETH/N.J. #7, NEW YORK/N.Y. #8)
e - As "d" but TM rimless (KNOXVILLE/TENN. #1)
f - As "c" and "d" (HACKENSACK/N.J. #9)
g - "PAID" taller and narrower (BOSTON/MASS. #27)



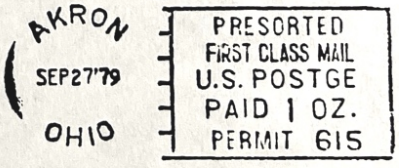
(AD6g)

AD7 Similar to type AD4 (value in weight) but the value box is longer and the left lines are considerably shorter. There are no lines on the right side. "PRESORTED" is above "FIRST CLASS MAIL" inside the value box. The only examples seen have POSTAGE misspelled as POSTGE.

BOX: 29 x 19.5mm
TM: 18mm

EKU: JUN 28, 1979

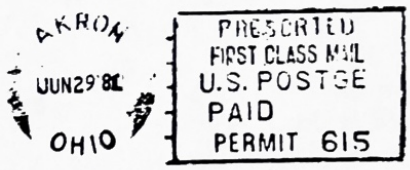
Value: 1 oz.



One permit known:
AKRON/OHIO #615

AD8 Similar to type AD7 but the figure of value has been removed. "PAID" only remains on the value line. Same permit as for type AD7. POSTGE remains misspelled.

EKU: SEP 29, 1980



a - Without TM

AD9 Similar to type AD8 but PAID larger and centered. The permit is the same as for types AD7 and 8, but the misspelling of POSTAGE has been corrected.

None seen with date.

a - Without TM

TYPE AE INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL CORP.

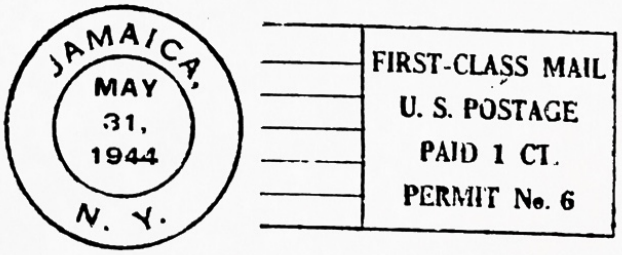
ALL TYPE "AE" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE THREE LINE DATE: MO/DAY/YR.

AE1 "No." after "PERMIT"

BOX: 31 x 25mm
Lines: 11-13mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 28-30mm

EKU: MAY 31, 1944

Values: 1c, 2c



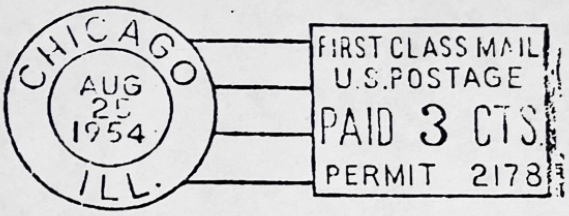
a - Town and state serifed: 3c (JAMAICA/N.Y. #6)
b - F/V large (9mm): 3c (HICKSVILLE/N.Y. #1)
4c (HEWLETT/N.Y. #91, HICKSVILLE/N.Y. #1)
5c (BRENTWOOD/N.Y. #32)

AE2 Only four lines emanate from the value box, and all four extend to and touch the TM.

EKU: SEP 8, 1950

Values: 3c, 4c, 6c

One permit known:
CHICAGO/ILL. #2178

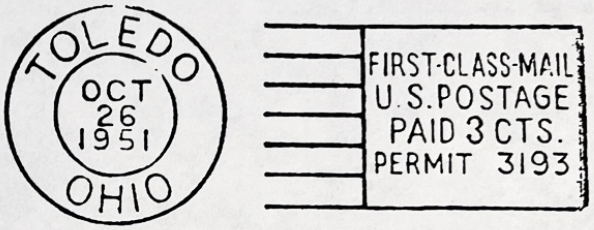


AE3 Smaller design that type AE1

BOX: 27.5 x 23.5mm
Lines: 12.5mm
Spacing: 5mm
TM: 27-28mm

EKU: OCT 26, 1951

Values: 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c



a - "No." after PERMIT: 3c (ATLANTA/GA. #179)
b - TM single circle with inner arcs: 6c (SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #6678)

NOTE: See Official permit type O-EC1.

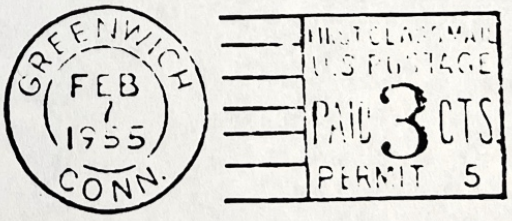
AE4 Smaller design than type AE3, but with large F/V (9mm)

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Lines: 10mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: JAN 27, 1955

Values: 3c, 4c

One permit known:
GREENWICH/CONN. #5



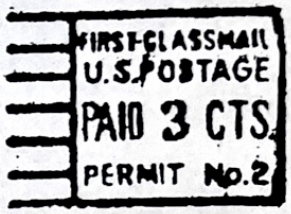
AE5 Between types AE3 and AE4 in size "No." after "PERMIT"

BOX: 26 x 24mm
Lines: 8mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: May 21, 1957

Value: 3c

One permit known: RICHMOND/VA. #2



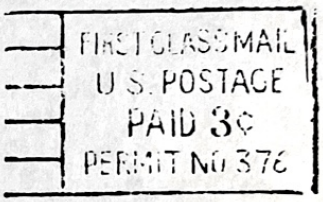
AE6 Only six lines instead of seven, and cent sign (C) replaces "CTS."

BOX: 30 x 22.5mm
Lines: 7mm
Spacing: 3.5mm
TM: 26mm

EKU: JUN 28, 1957

Values: 3c, 4c, 5c

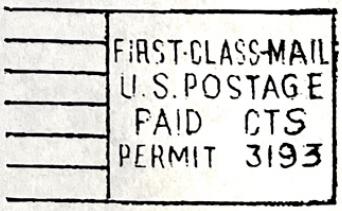
Two permits known:
HARRISBURG/PA. #376
CAMP HILL/PA. #32



AE7 Similar to type AE3 but figure of value removed

EKU: JUL 8, 1977

One permit known:
TOLEDO/OHIO #3193

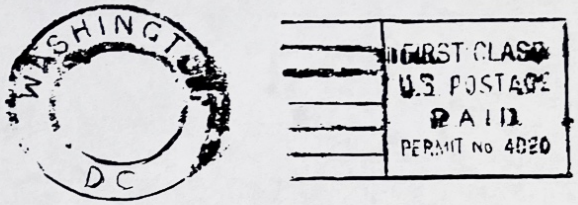


AE8 Similar in size to type AE4 but with figure of value replaced by "PAID".

BOX: 25 x 22mm
Lines: 13mm
Spacing: 8mm
TM: 27mm

None seen with date

One permit known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #4020



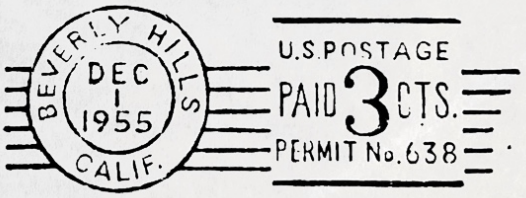
TYPE AF INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL

CUSTOM DESIGNED GROUP "A" PERMIT STAMPS

AF1 Lines on right side of box as well as left. Left lines continue on left side of TM. Ends of right line form a diagonal curve sloping down from upper right to the left. There are box outlines on top and bottom only. FIRST CLASS MAIL is not present. The user is Hilton Hotels (BEVERLY HILLS/CALIF. #638)

BOX: 25 x 22.5mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: DEC 1, 1955

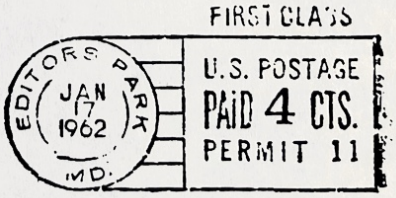


AF2 Small design with lines extending to and touching TM. "FIRST CLASS" is above value box. The user is Changing Times magazine, EDITORS PARK/MD #11

Box: 24.5 x 20mm
TM: 20mm

EKU: JAN 17, 1962

Value: 4c



a - Without "FIRST CLASS" above value box. ("FIRST CLASS MAIL" is a slogan.)

TYPE AG — FRIDEN/ SINGER

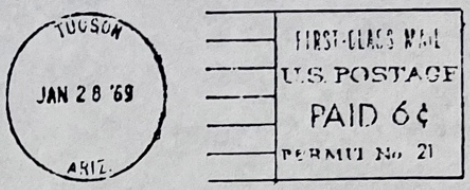
AG1 Single line date and single circle TM

BOX: 24 x 21.5mm
Lines: 9mm
Spacing: 5mm
TM: 21.5mm

EKU: JAN 28, 1969

Value: 6c

One permit known:
TUCSON/ARIZ. #21



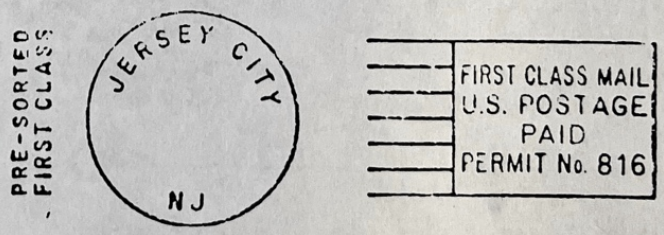
NOTE: Permit stamps similar to type AG1 but with double circle TM have been seen on non-first class mail. This variety may exist in first class format.

TYPE AH — HASLER (ROCKAWAY CORP.)

AH1 None seen with date.
TM single circle

BOX: 25 x 19mm
Lines: 10.5mm
Spacing: 8.5-9mm
TM: 26.5mm

Only two permits known:
FRAMINGHAM/MA #965
JERSEY CITY/NJ #816

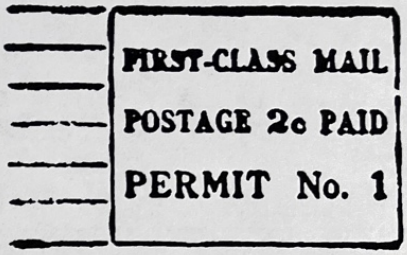


TYPE AX	MAKE OR MAKES UNKNOWN

AX1 Large design known from KALAMAZOO/MICH. #1 only. The only three examples seen appear to be machine printed, but date figures point to ordinary printing press.

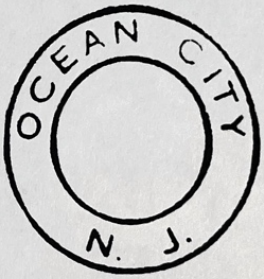
EKU: MAR 1, 1924

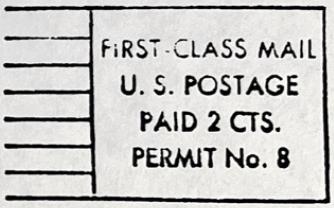
Value: 2c (RRR)



AX2 Medium sized value box with very large TM. Examples seen are from ASBURY PARK/N.J. #1 and OCEAN CITY/N.J. #8 only. None seen with date. These resemble rubber stamp impres sions, but the volume of mail put out by the public utility user does not support that.

Value: 2c



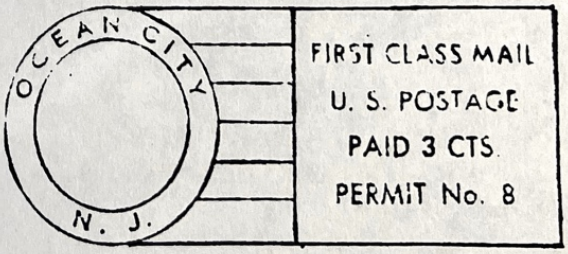


AX3 Same user as for type AX2 above, but the TM is same height as the value box. Left lines extend to and touch TM.

None seen with date.

Value: 3c

One permit known:
OCEAN CITY/N.J. #8

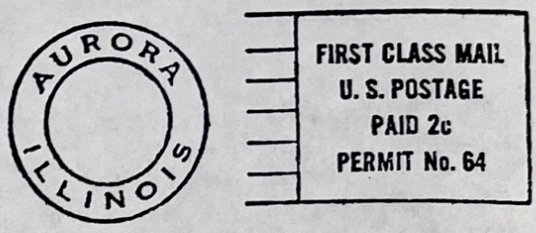


AX4 Design similar in size to type AX3 above, but left lines are short and do not touch the TM.

None seen with date.

Vaues: 2c

One user known:
AURORA/ILLINOIS #64

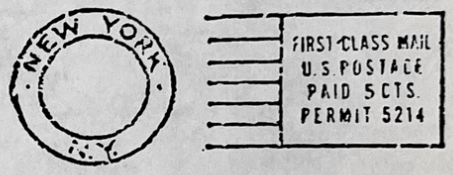


AX5 Small design with the following dimensions:

Box: 20 x 17mm
Lines: 9mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 21mm

None seen with date.
Earliest known is from
March 1962.

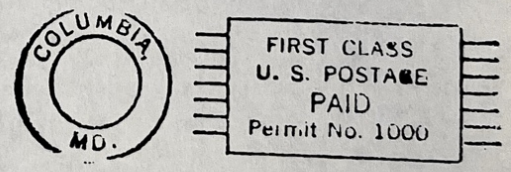
Values: 4c, 5c, 6c (all
NEW YORK/N.Y. #5214



AX6 Small horizontal design with short lines on both left and rights sides of the value box. "PAID" centered; no F/V.

None seen with date.

Two permits known:
COLUMBIA/MD. #1000
PRINCE GEORGE/MD. #5653



NOTE: A group "A" permit produced by a machine manufactured by the Bircher Co. has been reported used from Albany, NY #1 in the 1920s but has not been seen by us.

GROUP B

THIS SHORT LIVED GROUP IS CHARACTERIZED BY A SQUARE VALUE BOX WITH SEVEN STRAIGHT HORIZONTAL LINES EMANATING FROM BOTH SIDES. THE WORDS "FIRST CLASS MAIL" ARE NOT A PART OF THE DESIGN.

SHORTLY AFTER THE GROUP "A" PERMIT DESIGN WAS APPROVED AND PUT INTO USE THE STANDARD ENVELOPE SEALING MACHINE CO. OF EVERETT MASS. AND THE BIRCHER CO. OF ROCHESTER, NY CAME OUT WITH THIS UNAUTHORIZED DESIGN THAT DID NOT INCLUDE THE WORDS "FIRST CLASS MAIL". IT IS SURMISED THE PURPOSE OF THIS WAS TO ENABLE THE SAME PERMIT PRINTER HEAD TO BE USED FOR MULTIPLE CLASSES OF MAIL JUST BY CHANGING THE FIGURE OF VALUE AND REMOVING THE DATE. SOON AFTER THE APPEARANCE OF THESE PERMIT STAMPS THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCED A NEW DESIGN THAT EXCLUDED "FIRST CLASS MAIL' (GROUP "C" PERMITS) AND REQUIRED ALL GROUP "B" PERMIT STAMPS IN USE TO BE REPLACED BY ONE OF THE AUTHORIZED GROUP "A" OR GROUP "C" DESIGNS.

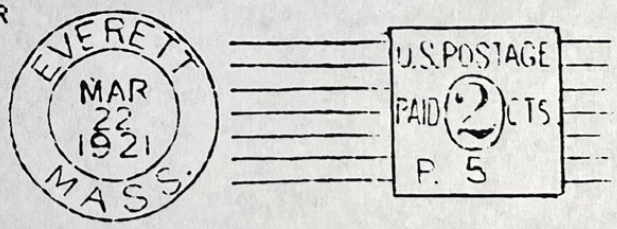
TYPE BA	STANDARD ENVELOPE SEALING MACHINE CO. (STANDARD MAILING MACHINE CO.)

BA1 Oval around F/V
PERMIT abbreviated as "P."
Three line date: MO/DAY/YR
TM: 28mm

EKU: MAR 22, 1921

Value: 2c (RRR)

One permit known:
EVERETT/MASS. #5

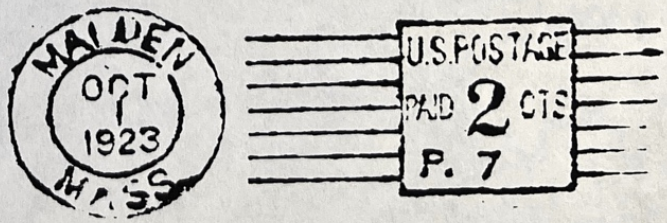


BA2 Similar to type BA1 but oval around F/V removed.

EKU: APR 2, 1921

Value: 2c (VR)

Two permits known:
EVERETT/MASS. #5 (RRR)
MALDEN/MASS. #7 (VR)



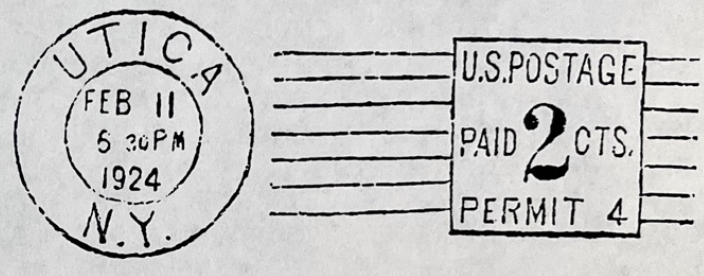
TYPE BB — THE BIRCHER CO.

BB1 Similar to type BA2 but "PERMIT" spelled out in full
Three line date: MO DAY/TIME/YR

EKU: MAY 8, 1923

Value: 2c (VR)

Five permits known:
- BRIDGEPORT/CONN. #2 (RRR)
- HARTFORD/CONN. #4 (VR)
- NEW HAVEN/CONN. #5 (VR)
- NEW HAVEN/CONN. #6 (RRR)
- UTICA/N.Y. #4 (VR)



GROUP C

THIS IS THE SECOND APPROVED FIRST CLASS PERMIT DESIGN. THE EARLY TYPES OF THIS GROUP ARE CHARACTERIZED BY A NEARLY SQUARE OR UPRIGHT RECTANGULAR VALUE BOX WITH SEVEN WAVY LINES EMANATING FROM BOTH SIDES. HORIZONTALLY RECTANGULAR DESIGNS WERE LATER INTRODUCED, AND "FIRST CLASS MAIL" OR A VARIANT CREPT INTO THE DESIGN AND BECAME COMMON IN THE 1950s AND 1960s.

ALL GROUP "C" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE WAVY LINES EMANATING FROM THE VALUE BOX AND A SEPARATE CIRCULAR TM.

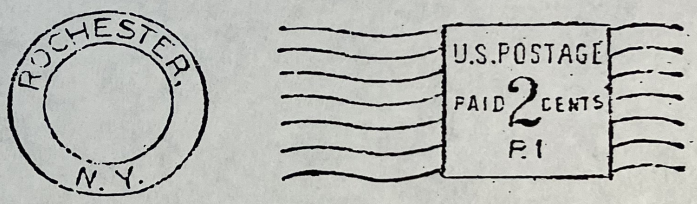
TYPE CA COLUMBIA POSTAL SUPPLY CO.

ALL TYPE "CA" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE "CENTS" SPELLLED OUT IN FULL.

CA1 Wide design.
PERMIT abbreviated as "P."

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Left lines: 23.5mm
Spacing: 11mm
TM: 27mm

Value: 2c (RRR)



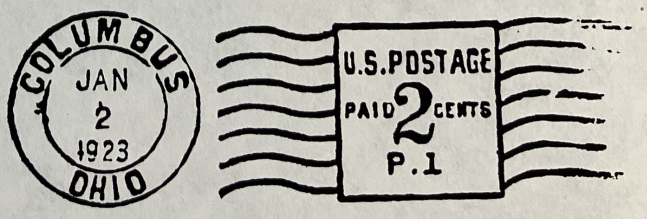
One undated example from
ROCHESTER/N.Y. #1 known.
This may be an essay or proof.

CA2 Narrower design.
Three line date: MO/DAY/YR

BOX: 23 x 24mm
Left lines: 12mm
Spacing: 3mm
TM: 26.5mm

EKU: DEC 20, 1921

Value: 2c (R)



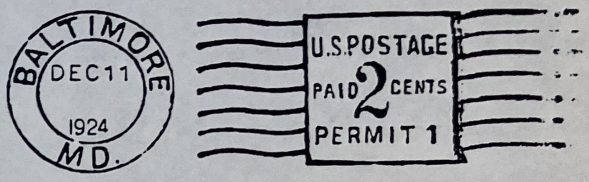
Three permits known:
BALTIMORE/MD. #2 (RRR)
COLUMBUS/OHIO #1 (R)
PHILADELPHIA/PA. #4 (RRR)

CA3 Similar to type CA2 but "PERMIT" spelled out in full.
Two or three line date: MO DAY/YR or MO/DAY/YR

EKU: Jun 6, 1922

Value: 1c (RRR), 2c (R)

Two permits known:
1c: CONNELLSVILLE/PA. #1
2c: BALTIMORE/MD. #1



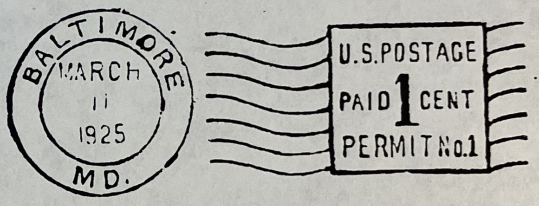
CA4 Left lines longer.
Lettering in TM is smaller, similar to that in Columbia type AA1.
"PERMIT" followed by "No".
Three line date: MO/DAY/YR

BOX: 23 x 22mm
Left lines: 18mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: Mar 11, 1925

Value: 1c (RRR)

Unique example known from BALTIMORE/MD. #1



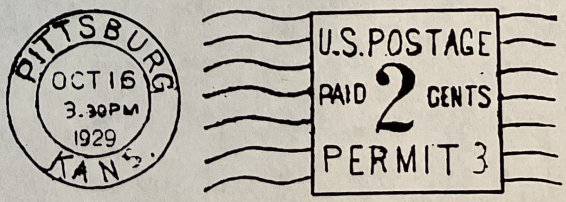
CA5 Taller design with larger box

Three line date: MO DAY/TIME/YR
BOX: 27 x 27mm
Left lines: 16mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: Oct 16, 1929

Value: 2c (RRR)

Unique example from PITTSBURG/KANS. #3



TYPE CB — MAILOMETER CO.

ALL "CB" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE "CENTS" OR "CENT" SPELLED OUT IN FULL.

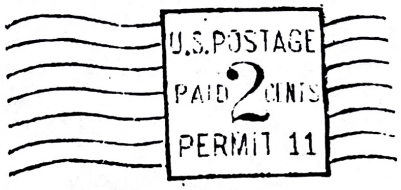
CB1 Wide design. Two dots on either side of town name in TM. Distance between outer and inner rings of TM narrow, less than 4mm. Three line date: MO DAY/TIME/YR

BOX: 22 x24mm
Left lines: 22mm
Spacing: 8mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: JAN 31, 1922

Value: 2c(RRR)

One permit known: BOSTON/MASS. #11



CB2 Narrow design. The left lines have only a slight wave. There are typically two dots on either side of the town name. Usually three line date: MO/DAY/YR

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Left lines: 16-17mm
Spacing: 4.5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: MAR 6, 1922

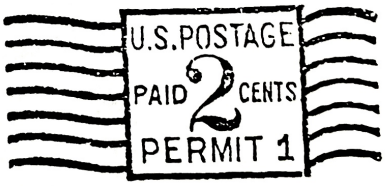
Values: 1c(VR), 2c,
3c(RRR), 4c(VR)

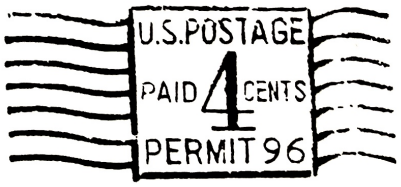
a - Large space between "PERMIT" and number caused by removal of "No.": 2c (SAN FRANCISCO/CA. #16)

b - Three cents with "CENT" (SAN FRANCISCO/CA. #16)

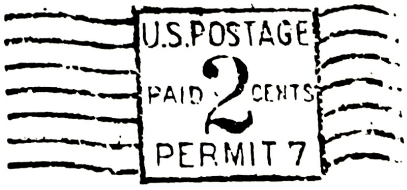
c - TM and date as type CB1 but with time line removed: 1c, 2c, 4c, (all NEW YORK/N.Y. #96)

d - With zone number in TM: 2c (COOLIDGE CORNER/47/BOSTON, MASS. #7)





(CB2c)

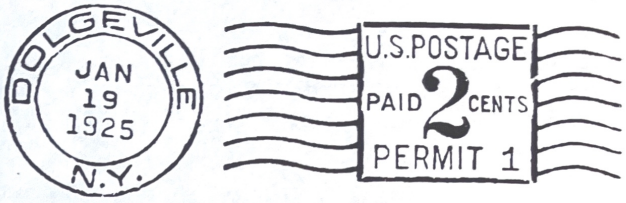


(CB2d)

CB3 Left lines midway in length between those on types CB1 and CB2. The left lines also have a more pronounced wave than on type CB2. Dots only occasionally found in TM.

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Left lines: 17-18mm
Spacing: 3mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: APR 6, 1923



Values:
1c(RRR) (SACRAMENTO/CALIF. #1)
2c
3c(VR) (SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #34, DOLGEVILLE/N.Y. #1)
4c(VR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96 NEW YORK/N.Y. #296, ROCHESTER/N.Y. #9)

a - "No." after "PERMIT": 2c(VR), 3c(RRR) (BOSTON/MASS. #24, PROVIDENCE/R.I. #9)

b - Six lines instead of seven: 2c (MILLTOWN/N.J. #1)

c - TM and date as type CB1 but with time line removed: 2c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #22, NEW YORK/N.Y. #96)

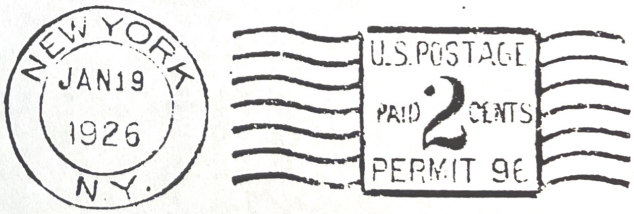
d - Two line date (MO DAY/YR): 2c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96)

e - As "d" but year figures large: 2c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96)

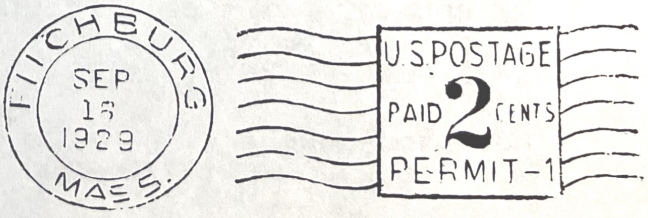
f - Dash present between "PERMIT" and the permit number: 2c (FITCHBURG/MASS. #1)

(CB3c)

(CB3d)



(CB3e)



(CB3f)

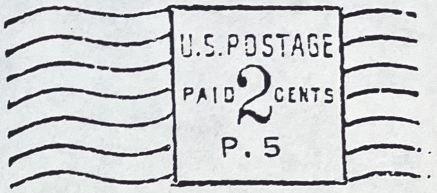
TYPE CC UNIVERSAL STAMPING MACHINE CO. / PITNEY BOWES

CC1 PERMIT abbreviated as "P."
CENTS spelled out in full.

BOX: 24 x 25.5mm
Left lines: 23mm
Spacing: 8.5mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: MAY 31, 1922

Value: 2c (RRR)



Unique example from PHILADELPHIA,PA./NORTH PHIL.STA. #5

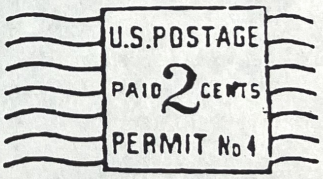
NOTE: This is possibly a proof as the user was the manufacturer.

CC2 Short left lines.
"PERMIT" spelled out followed by "No"

Three line date: MO DAY/TIME/YR
BOX: 23 x 23mm
Left lines: 14mm
Spacing: 9mm
TM: 26.5mm

EKU: SEP 23, 1922

Value: 2c (RRR)

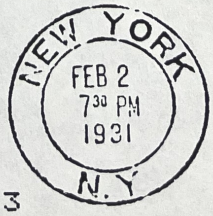


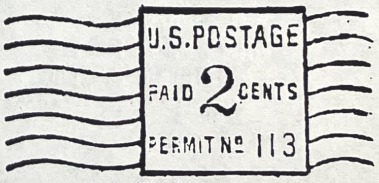
One permit known: HARTFORD/CONN. #4

CC3 Similar to type CC2 but left lines longer and line under "o" of "No". Left lines: 19mm

EKU: NOV 1, 1922

Values: 2c (R), 3c (R)
(3c has "CENT" rather than CENTS.)





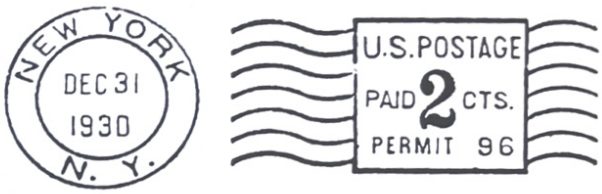
One permit known: NEW YORK/N.Y. #113

NOTE: This permit stamp and possibly type CC2 were made from modified cancelling machines.

CC4 Left lines with a more pronounced wave than on type CC3.
"CTS." replaces CENTS
Date either two lines or three lines (with time)

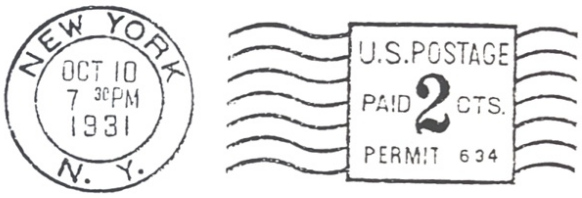
BOX: 24.5 x 22mm
Left lines: 18mm
Spacing: 5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: NOV 15, 1924

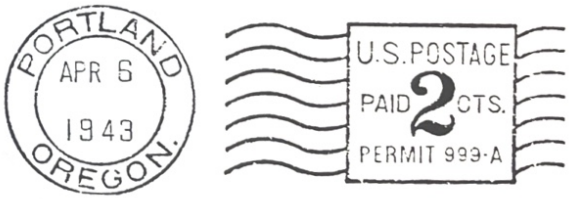


Values:
1c(VR), 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c(VR), 6c, 7c(VR), 8c(VR), 9c(VR),
10c(R), 12c, 13c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #572),
14c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #789), 15c(R) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96),
17c(VR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96), 18c(R),
19c(VR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96), 20c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #599),
21c(VR), 22c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96),
24c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #96), 25c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #1344),
26c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #582)

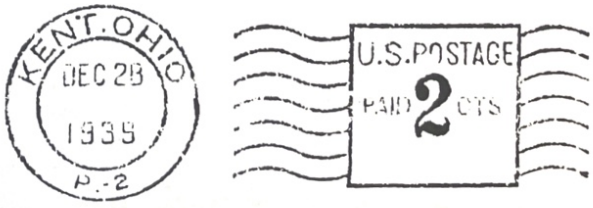
a - "No" after "PERMIT" (R): 2c, 3c
(both CINCINNATI/OH. #53)
b - Entire value line inverted:
2c (CHICAGO/ILL #258,
PHILADELPHIA/PA. #131,
3c (BOSTON/MASS. #15,
ATLANTIC CITY/N.J. #1)
10c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #418)
c - Value and permit lines inverted:
4c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #412)
d - Permit number very small (1.75mm):
1c, 2c, 3c, 6c (Twelve permits
known, all in New York, NY)
e - Small permit number as in "d" but
with letter suffix of normal size:
2c (PORTLAND/OR. #999A)
f - "P.-" and number in bottom of TM.
Permit line omitted from value box:
2c (KENT,OHIO and RAVENNA,OHIO)
g - One cent with "CTS"
instead of "CENT."
h - "SEC 562 PLR" below value box on
first class use: 3c
(JOHNSTOWN/N.Y. #2,
NEW YORK/N.Y. #812)
j - As "d" and with "SEC.562 P.L.& R."
in bottom of TM: 3c
(NEW YORK/N.Y. #812)
k - Value line at bottom of box with permit
line above: 2c (NEWPORT/KY. #1)
m - Permit line at top and "U.S.POSTAGE"
at bottom of value box: 3c (ORANGE/CONN. #16)



(CC4d)



(CC4e)

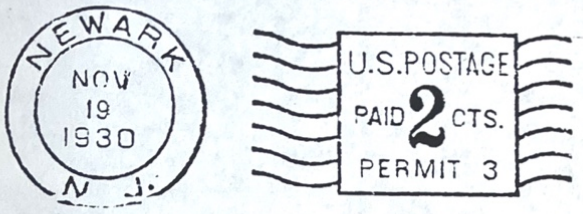


(CC4f)

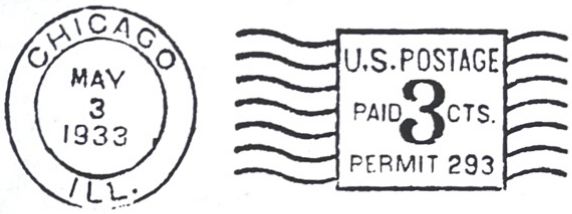
CC5 Similar to type CC4 but left lines shorter, and date figures cruder, wider, and often slightly off the horizontal. Left lines are either short (14-15mm) or very short (12mm). Three line date: MO/DAY/YR

EKU: APR 7, 1926

Values: 2c, 3c



(very short)

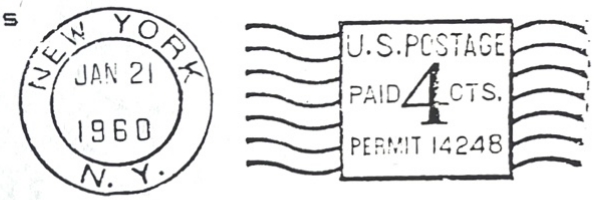


(short)

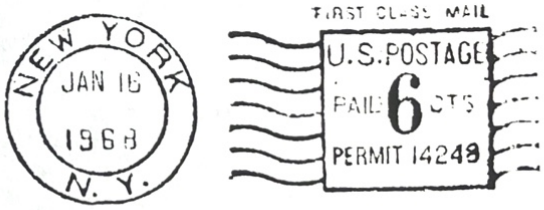
CC6 Similar to type CC5 (short left lines) but date figures as on type CC4 (two lines, neater and narrower).

EKU: NOV 11, 1955

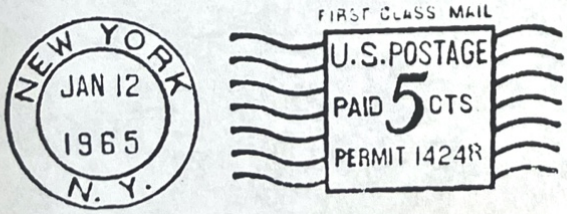
Value: 3c, 4c, 12c, 19c



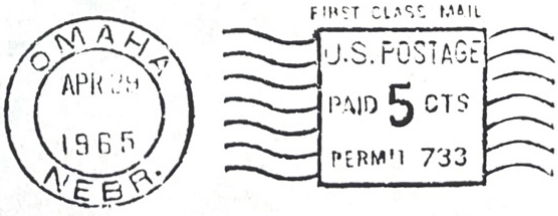
a - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" above and outside value box: 4c, 6c (both NEW YORK/N.Y. #14248)
b - As "a" but F/V is italicized: 5c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #14248)
c - As "a" but F/V small (6mm): 5c (OMAHA/NEBR. #733)



(CC6a)



(CC6b)



(CC6c)

NOTE: All examples of the 19 cent type CC6 are registered and do not have TMs. They could be classified as type CC5 or CC6.

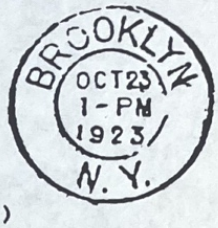
TYPE CD	INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CORP.

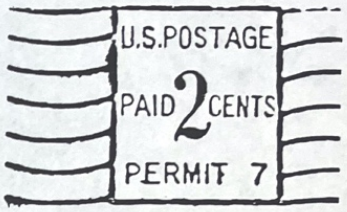
CD1 Tall narrow box with "CENTS" spelled out in full.
Two or three line date: MO DAY/YR, MO/DAY/YR or MO DAY/TIME/YR

BOX: 23 x 26-27mm
Left lines: 14-15mm
Spacing: 8mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: JUN 14, 1922

Values: 2c (VR), 4c (RRR)





Two permits known: BROOKLYN/N.Y. #7 (VR),
CLEVELAND/OHIO #1 (RRR)

CD2 Similar to type CD1 but value box squarer.
Three line date: MO/DAY/YR or MO DAY/TIME/YR

BOX: 22-23 x 23-24mm
Left lines: 15mm
Spacing: 7-8mm
TM: 26.5mm

EKU: APR 18, 1923

Value: 2c

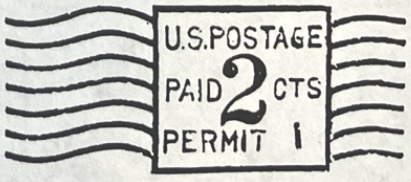
Two permits known: BOSTON/MASS. #44 (RRR)
PORTLAND/OREGON #1

CD3 Shorter wider design. CENTS abbreviated as "CTS"

BOX: 23.5 x 22.5mm
Left lines: 20mm
Spacing: 4.5mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: SEP 15, 1926

Value: 2c (VR)



Six permits known: CHICAGO/ILL. #317, SAINT PAUL/MINN. #13,
ALBANY/N.Y. #13, BROOKLYN/N.Y. #1, NEW YORK/N.Y. #479,
NEW YORK/N.Y. #687

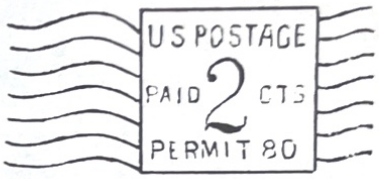
CD4 Similar to type CD3 but left lines shorter, TM larger and spacing is wider.

Left lines: 17.5mm
Spacing: 9mm
TM: 28mm

EKU: JAN 10, 1927

Value: 2c (RRR)

One permit known:
DETROIT/MICH. #80

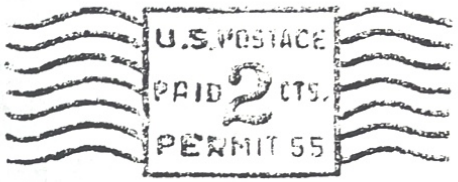


CD5 Wide lines on right as well as the left side of value box. The TM, a postmark from a cancelling machine, was applied separately.

EKU: DEC 31, 1931

Value: 2c (RRR)

Unique example from
SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #55



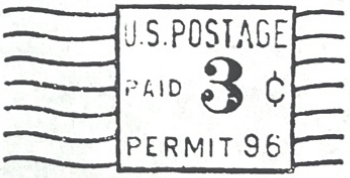
CD6 Cent sign (¢) replaces CTS"
Left lines short, nearly horizontal

One line date
BOX: 23 x 22.5mm
Left lines: 15mm
Spacing: 4.5mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: JUN 27, 1935

Values: 2c (RRR),
3c (R),
9c (RRR)

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #96



TYPE CE — STANDARD ENVELOPE SEALING MACHINE CO.
STANDARD MAILING MACHINE CO.

ALL TYPE "CE" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE "CENTS" ABBREVIATED AS "CTS", AND THEY ALL HAVE THREE LINE DATES (USUALLY: MO/DAY/YR).

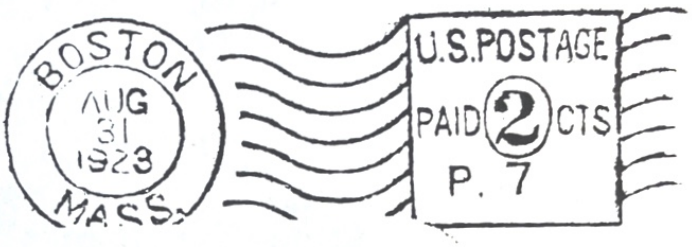
CE1 Ends of left lines form curve parallel to the rim of the TM. PERMIT abbreviated as "P.", and oval around F/V

BOX: 26.5 x 26.5mm
TM: 27.5mm

EKU: MAR 2, 1923

Value: 2c (VR)

One permit known:
BOSTON/MASS. #7



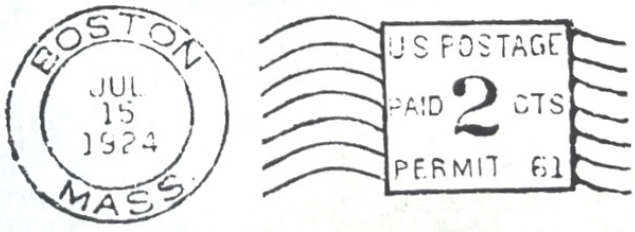
CE2 Ends of left lines end in a straight vertical line.
Oval removed from around F/V.
The wave in the left lines is a single high arch.
The right lines sweep down.
"PERMIT" spelled out in full.

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Left lines: 16mm
Spacing: 4.5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: SEP 18, 1923

Value: 2c (R)

One permit known:
BOSTON/MASS. #61



CE3 Left lines curve upward at the ends.

BOX: 24 x 22mm
Left lines: 17mm
Spacing: 3mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: OCT 1, 1923

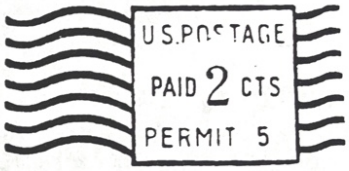
Value: 2c

CE4 Similar to type CE3 but lettering for town and state names is smaller and narrower.

TM: 26.5mm

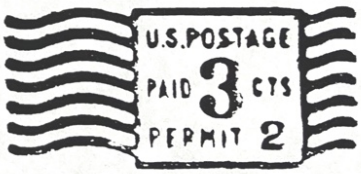
EKU: NOV 2, 1923

Values:
1c, 2c, 3c, 4c,
5c(RRR) (SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #1),
6c, 8c(RRR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #273),
9c(VR), 10c(RRR) (NEW YOUR/N.Y. #273)
17c(VR), 18c(VR) (NEW YORK/N.Y. #296),
20c(VR)



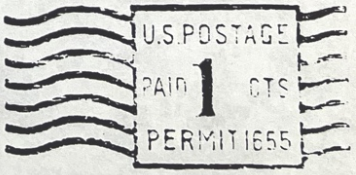
(CE4b)

a - TM larger (27.5mm), inner ring 19mm as opposed to 17mm for main type: 2c, 3c (both SOUTHINGTON/CONN. #1 and OMAHA/NEBR. #11)
b - Small F/V (5+1/2-6mm):
2c (BOSTON/MASS. #89,
FRAMINGHAM/MASS. #5,
RICHMOND/VA. #22),
6c (NEW BRITAIN/CONN. #4)
c - Permit number large (4mm):
3c (RICHMOND/CALIF. #2)
d - "PAID" and "CTS" omitted: 3c (FRAMINGHAM/MASS. #5)
e - F/V inverted:
2c (SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF. #47,
NEW YORK/N.Y. #661)
3c (HARTFORD/CONN. #13,
COLUMBUS/OHIO #5)
f - "NEW YORK CITY" instead of NEW YORK: 2c(VR), 3c(R) (NEW YORK CITY/N.Y. #564)
g - 1c made by removing "1/2" from 1-1/2 cent value slug



(CE4c)

(CE4d)



(CE4g)

TYPE CF MACK POSTOGRAPH CO. / CONTINENTAL POSTAGE METER CO.

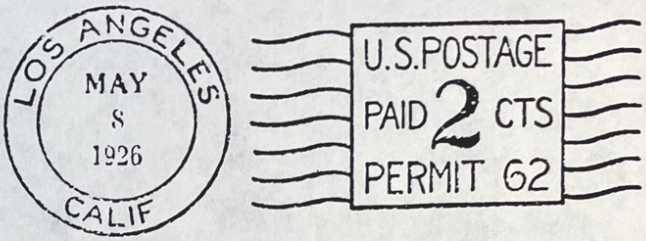
CF1 Large design
Serifed three line date MO/DAY/YR

BOX: 29.5 x 25.5mm
Left lines: 14mm
Spacing: 3mm
TM: 32mm

EKU: MAY 8, 1926

Value: 2c (VR)

One permit known:
LOS ANGELES/CALIF #62



TYPE CG THE MULTIPOST CO.

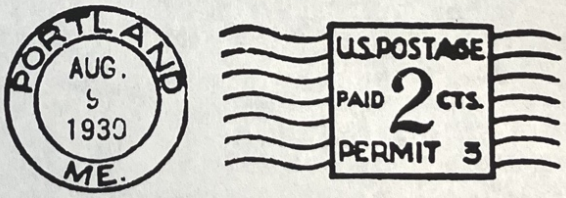
ALL TYPE "CG" PERMIT STAMPS HAVE THREE LINE DATE (MO/DAY/YR) WITH MONTH AND DAY TYPICALLY SMALLER THAN OTHER GROUP "C" PERMIT TYPES. THE YEAR FIGURES ARE EITHER AS SMALL AS THE MONTH AND DAY OR, STARTING IN THE EARLY 1940s, LARGER THAN THE MONTH AND DAY. THE "1" OF THE YEAR HAS A TOP SERIF.

CG1 BOX: 23 x 21mm
Left lines: 14-15mm
Spacing: 4-5mm
TM: 26mm

EKU: AUG 9, 1930

Value: 2c (RRR)

One permit known: PORTLAND/ME. #3

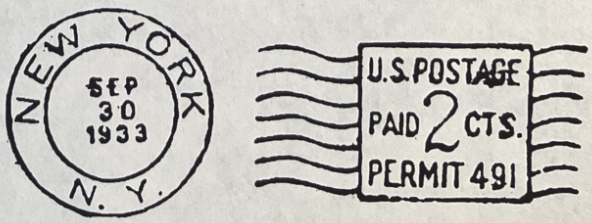


CG2 BOX: 23-24 x 21-22mm
Left lines: 16mm
Spacing: 4.5-5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: MAR 31, 1931

Values: 2c (R), 3c (R)

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #491



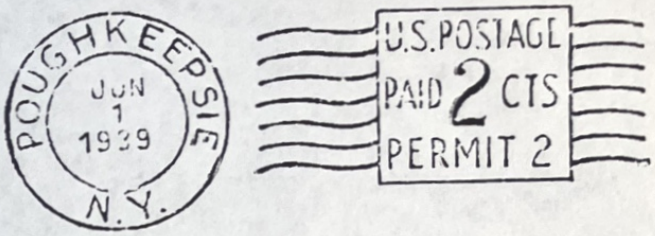
CG7 "PAID" and "CTS" taller (4mm)

BOX: 24 x 21-21.5mm
Left lines: 15mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 27mm

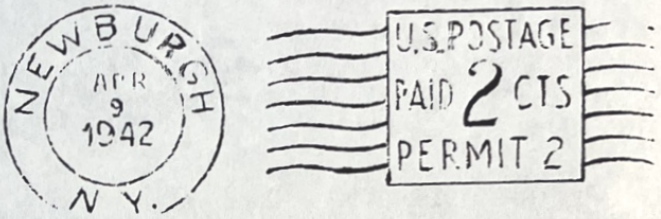
EKU: JUN 1, 1939

Value: 2c (R)

Two permits known:
NEWBURGH/N.Y. #2,
POUGHKEEPSIE/N.Y. #2



(small year)



(large year)

TYPE CH THE MULTIPOST CO.

THIS MULTIPOST PERMIT STAMP HAS "FIRST-CLASS MAIL" IN THE TOP OF THE VALUE BOX AND IS DIFFERENT IN MANY OTHER WAYS FROM MULTIPOST TYPE "CG" PERMIT STAMPS.

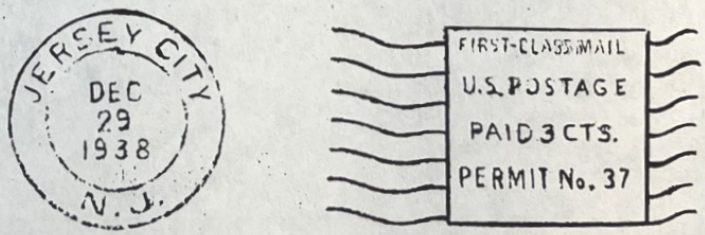
CH1 F/V very small (2mm)

BOX: 25 x 25mm
Left lines: 14-15mm
Spacing: 14mm
TM: 27.5mm

EKU: NOV 30, 1937

Value: 3c (R)

One permit known:
JERSEY CITY/N.J. #37



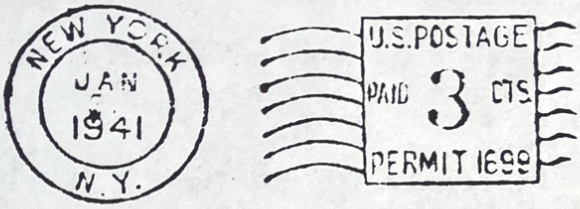
TYPE CJ INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL CORP.

CJ1 Left lines consist of a single upward arch: 13mm
Box: 23 x 23mm
TM: 27mm
Spacing: 7.5mm

EKU: MAR 14, 1939

Values: 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #1699

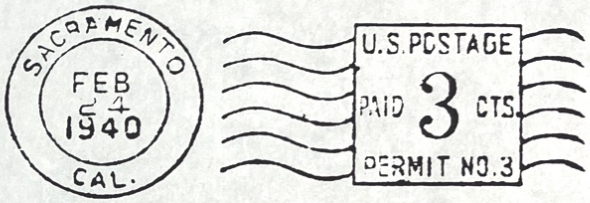


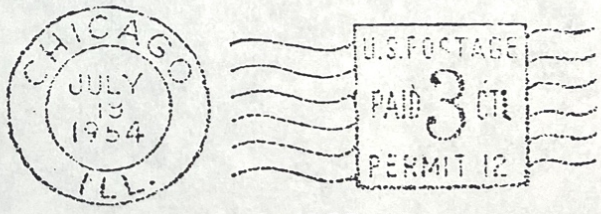
CJ2 Six wavy lines instead of seven.
"NO." after "PERMIT"
Box: 22.5 x 21.5mm
Longer left lines: 16-17.5mm
TM: 26mm
Spacing: 2.5mm

EKU: SEP 21, 1939

Values:
2c, 3c, 4c, 6c, 9c,
30c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #491)

a - Without "NO." after "PERMIT", and with elongated "PAID" and "CTS": 3c (CHICAGO/IL #12)





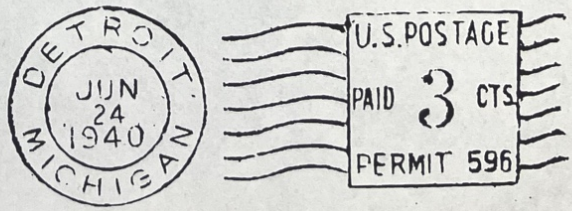
(CJ2a)

CJ3 Left lines curve gently up then tail off horizontally.
Seven wavy lines
Box: 23 x 23mm
Long left lines: 17mm
TM: 26mm
Spacing: 2mm

EKU: DEC 11, 1939

Value: 3c

One permit known:
DETROIT/MICHIGAN #596



CJ4 With type CJ4 and several succeeding CJ types there is a wide variety of sizes for the different elements of the indicium. Originally we tried to break these permit stamps into square and horizontally rectangular value box types, but there were too many examples with boxes of intermediate size.

Illustrated below are some typical examples.

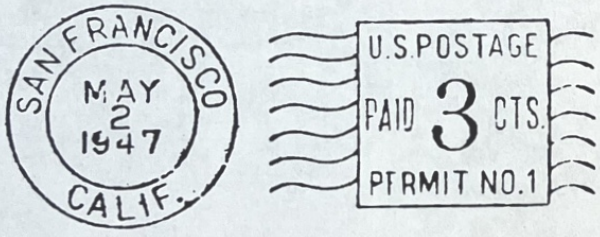
Square or rectangular value box: 23-27 x 22-24mm
Short left lines: 10-13mm
Spacing: 3-4mm
Double circle TM: 26-30mm

EKU: AUG 28, 1943

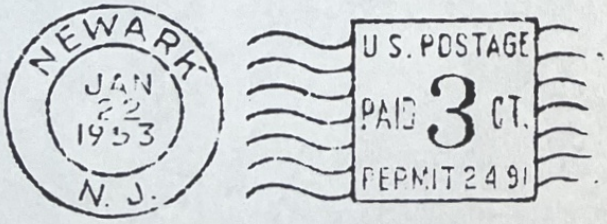
Values: 3c, 4c, 5c,
6c, 8c, 9c, 13c

a - "NO." after "PERMIT":
3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 9c

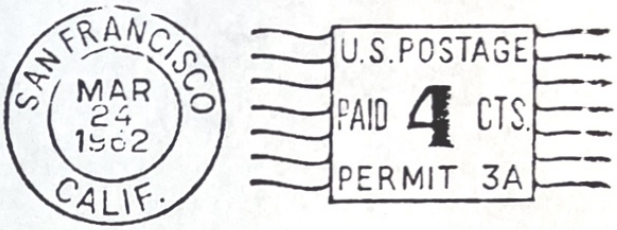
b - "CT." instead of CTS
with F/V above 1 cent:
3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c
(all NEWARK/N.J. #2491)

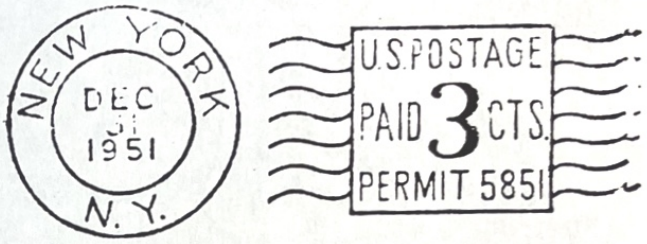


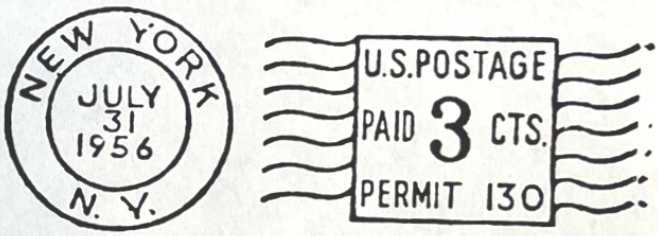
(CJ4a)

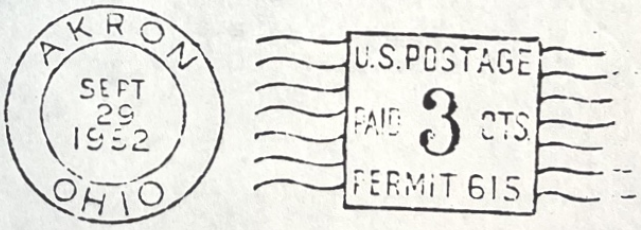


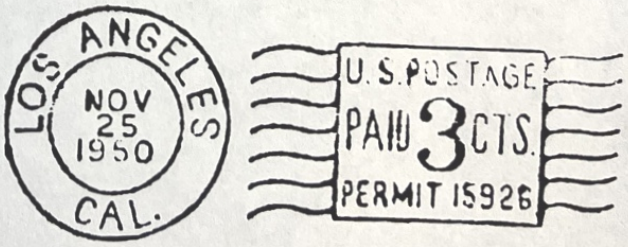
(CJ4b)











CJ4 continued

c - Permit number in smaller and serifed typeface: 3c (CHICAGO/IL #3012)

d - "FIRST CLASS" above value box: 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 13c, 16c

e - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" above value box: 4c, 5c, 6c (all PHILADELPHIA/PA #1525, 4c also NEW YORK/N.Y. #14)

f - "C" of "CTS" is a half-circle. Spacing is shorter (1.5mm): 3c (WASHINGTON/D.C. #436)

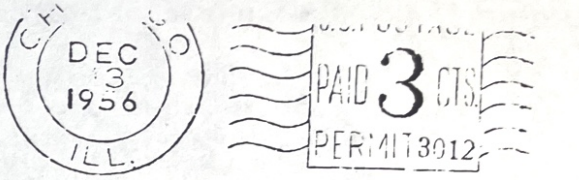
g - No wavy lines on right. Left lines are shorter (7mm): 3c, 4c (both NEW YORK/N.Y. #151 and SPRINGFIELD/MA #1)

h - Small "FIRST CLASS MAIL" in separate box with one wavy line on each side, above value box: 5c, 6c, 15c (all NEW YORK/NY #6943)

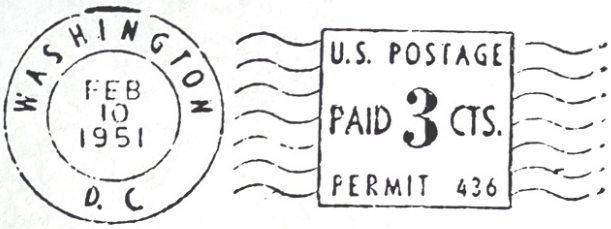
j - PENNSYLVANIA abbreviated as "P.A.": 3c (PHILADELPHIA/P.A. #1525)

k - Error: first class use with "SEC.34.66 P.L.& R." above value box: 3c (BOSTON/MASS. #27)

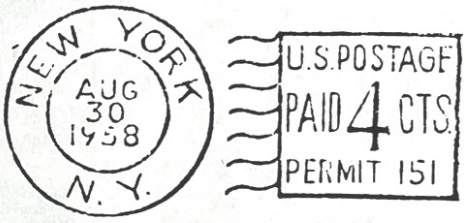
m - TM (23mm) and value box (22 x 21mm) small: 3c (GREENWICH/CONN. #5)



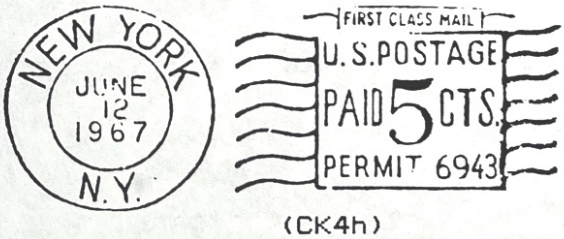
(CJ4c)



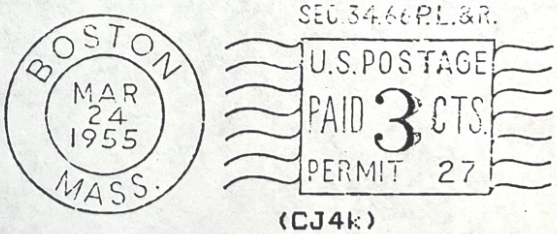
(CJ4f)



(CJ4g)



(CK4h)



(CJ4k)

(CJ4m)

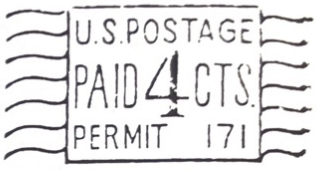
NOTE: Several examples of type CJ4 permit stamps are very similar in appearance to MULTIPOST type CG permits. The CG types have smaller month and day figures in the date, and "PAID" and "CTS" are not as tall.

CJ5 Similar to type CJ4 but TM is single circle with inner arcs instead of complete inner circle. As with type CJ4 there is much variance in element size from one example to another.

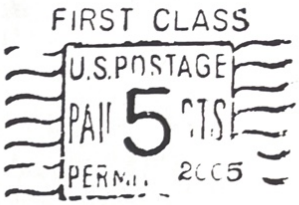
Box: 22-26 x 20-22mm
Left lines: 7.5-8.5mm
TM 24.5-25mm
Spacing: 3-4mm

EKU: JUN 8, 1953

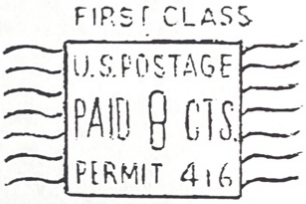
Values: 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c,
7c, 8c, 10c, 13c



a - "FIRST CLASS" above value box: 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 16c
b - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" above value box: 3c (NEVADA/MO #37)
c - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" below value box: 3c, 4c (both MILWAUKEE/WI #426) (Type CJ5c also has small F/V (4-5mm))
d - As "a" but with F/V removed: CHICAGO/ILL. #5
e - As "a" but permit number extends beyond box: 5c (CHICAGO/ILL. #2005)
f - As "a" but F/V inverted: 8c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #416)



(CJ6e)



(CJ6f)

CJ6 Similar to type CJ4 but cent sign (¢) replaces "CTS". Nearly all examples known have "FIRST CLASS" or a variant above the value box.

Box: 25-27 x 21-23mm
Left lines: 7-8mm
TM: 26-28mm
Spacing: 2-3mm

EKU: SEP 17, 1962

Values 4c, 5c, 6c,
8c, 10c, 12c

a - Superfluous reference to Long Island in TM: 5c (GREAT NECK, L.I./N.Y. #584 and #653) NOTE: Permit #584 also has small F/V (6mm).
b - With "FIRST CLASS MAIL" above value box: 5c
c - Without class designation above value box.

CJ7 As type CJ6 but F/V removed

EKU: JAN 8, 1982

(CJ7a)

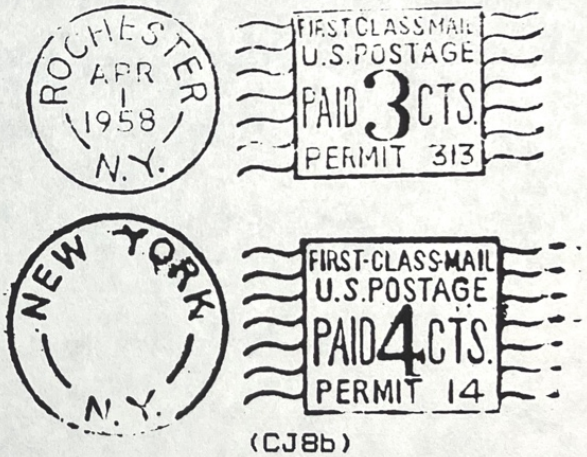
a - With boxed permit indicia as slogan: SAINT PAUL/MINN. #29

CJ8 Similar to CJ5 but "FIRST CLASS MAIL" inside value box at top. Left lines curve downward at the ends.
TM: 25mm

EKU: APR 1, 1958

Value: 3c, 4c, 5c, 8c

a - F/V small (3mm) and "No." after "PERMIT": 4c, 5c, 6c (all PHILADELPHIA/PA #5)
b - Larger design. TM: 29mm: NEW YORK/N.Y. #14

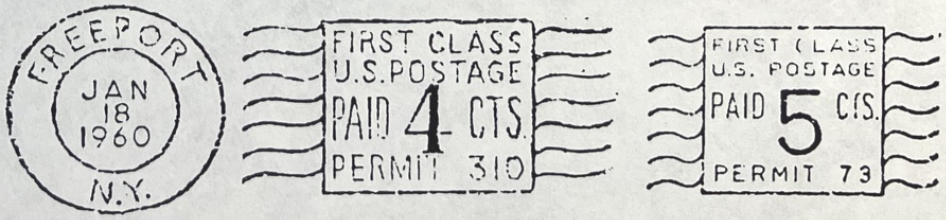


(CJ8b)

CJ9 Similar to CJ4 but with "FIRST CLASS" inside value box at top.
TM double circle

EKU: OCT 14, 1958

Values:
4c, 5c, 6c



a - F/V very small: 6c (GARDEN CITY/N.Y. #90)

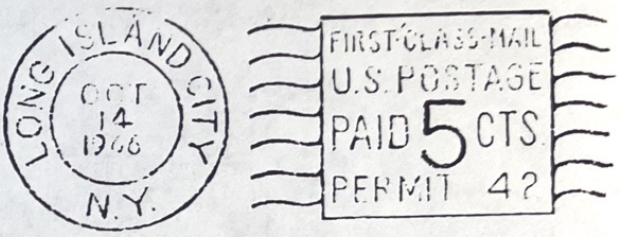
CJ10 Similar to type CJ9 but with "FIRST CLASS MAIL" inside value box at top.

A - "U.S. POSTAGE" as wide as "FIRST CLASS MAIL".

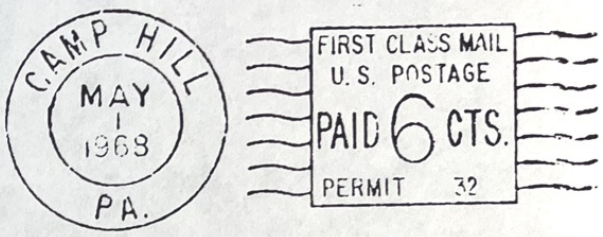
B - "U.S. POSTAGE" narrower than "FIRST CLASS MAIL".

EKU: JUN 14, 1961

Value: 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 25c



(CJ10A)



(CJ10B)

a - F/V small (4mm tall): 4c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #1699)
b - F/V inverted: 8c (CHICAGO/ILL. #4400)
c - TM contains superfluous reference to Long Island: 10c (GREAT NECK, L.I./N.Y. #584)

CJ11 Similar to CJ10 but with cent sign (¢) instead of "CTS".

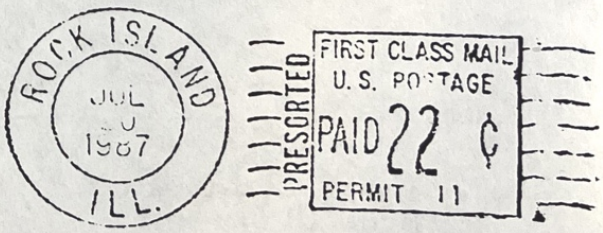
A - "U.S. POSTAGE" as wide as "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

B - "U.S. POSTAGE" narrower than "FIRST CLASS MAIL".

EKU: SEP 29, 1962

Values: 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 12c: 13c, 15c, 18c, 20c, 22c, 25c, 28c

(CJ11A)



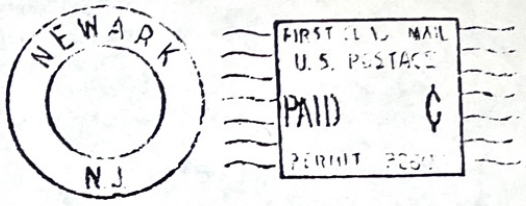
(CJ11a)

a - CJ11B with "PRESORTED" reading up inside left wavy lines: 22c (ROCK ISLAND/ILL. #11)

CJ12 Similar to CJ121but F/V removed.

None seen with date.

Two permits known:
NEWARK/N.J. #3280
PITTSBURGH/PA. #1114

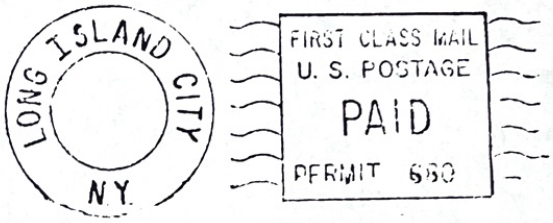


CJ13 Similar to CJ12 but cent sign also removed.
"PAID" is centered.

Box: 28.5 x 25.5mm
Left lines: 7mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 29mm

None seen with date.

One permit known:
LONG ISLAND CITY/N.Y. #680



TYPE CK INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL CORP.

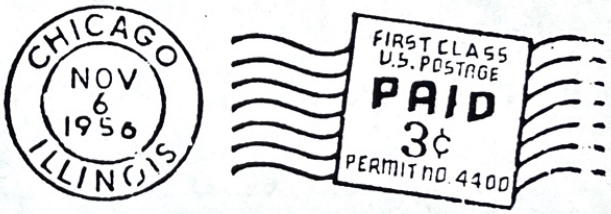
CUSTOMED DESIGNED GROUP "C" PERMIT STAMPS

CK1 Box is diagonal to the rest of the design.
Lettering in box is different: all horizontal strokes are slanted.
User: Time/Life Inc. (CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #4400)

BOX: 23.5 x 22.5mm
TM: 26mm

EKU: NOV 6, 1956

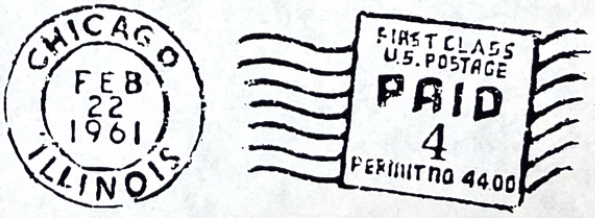
Values: 3c, 5c



CK2 Similar to type CK1 but
cent sign removed.
Same user as for type CK1.

EKU: AUG 10, 1960

Values: 3c, 4c

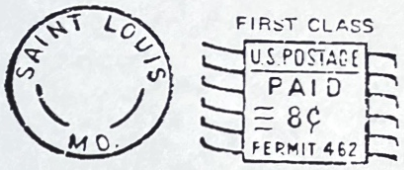


CK3 Small design. TM single circle with inner arcs. "FIRST CLASS" above and outside value box. Left lines end in an abrupt upward stroke, and the right lines end in a similar downward stroke. "U.S. POSTAGE" is underlined. The F/V is preceded by a set of three small wavy lines. The user is an unknown mailing service using permit SAINT LOUIS/MO. #462.

None seen with date

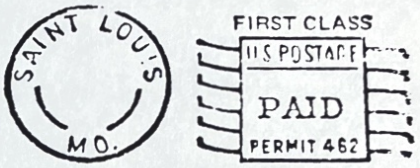
BOX: 16-17 x 16-17mm
Left lines: 5-6mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 20.5-21.5mm

Value: 8c



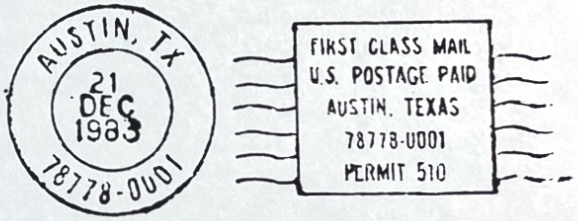
CK4 Similar to type CK3 but there is no F/V. "PAID" is centered.

Same permit as for type CK3.



CK5 The design is similar to type CJ13 except the town, state and a nine digit ZIP code are in both the TM and the value box. The user is the Texas Employment Commission (AUSTIN, TX/ 78778-0001 #510)

EKU: DEC 21, 1983



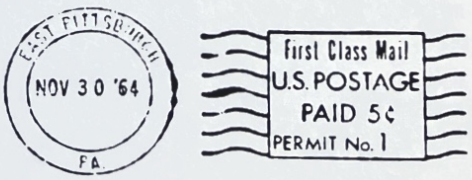
TYPE CL FRIDEN / FRIDEN ALCATEL

CL1 Small design with single line date

Box: 20.5 x 16mm
Left lines: 9mm
TM: 22mm
Spacing: 3.5-4mm

EKU: NOV 30, 1964

Value: 5c



TYPE CX

GROUP "C" PERMIT STAMPS PRODUCED FROM UNIDENTIFIED MACHINES.

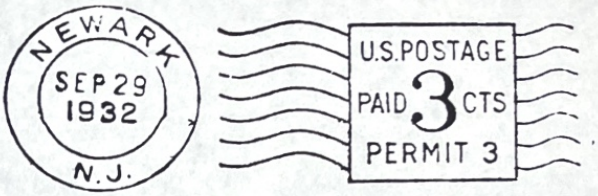
CX1 Similar to type CE4 but cruder two line date (MO DAY/YR) and thinner lines.

BOX: 22.5 x 22mm
Left lines: 18mm
Spacing: 2-2.5mm
TM: 26mm

EKU: JUN 9, 1926

Values: 2c, 3c

One permit known: NEWARK/N.J. #3



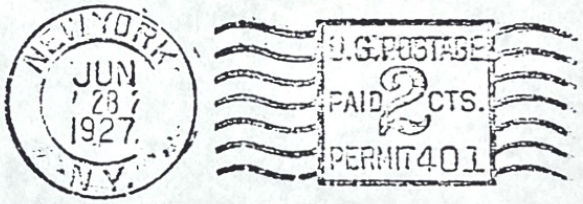
CX2 Bright magenta impression, possibly a handstamp
Three line date: MO/DAY/YR

BOX: 24 x 23
Left lines: 14mm
Spacing: 2.5mm
TM: 27mm

EKU: JUN 28, 1927

Value: 2c (RRR)

Unique impression from NEW YORK/N/Y #401



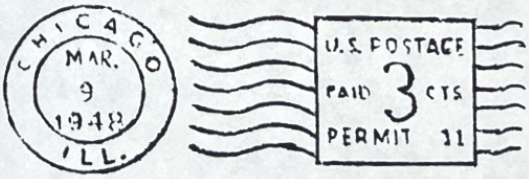
CX3 Similar to type CE4 but smaller and with different date figures.

BOX: 22 x 20mm
Left lines: 17mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 23mm

EKU: JAN 6, 1948

Value: 3c (R)

One permit known: CHICAGO/ILL. #11

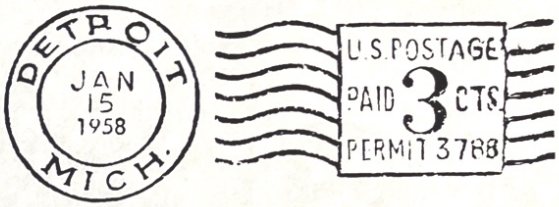


CX4 Similar to type CE4 but date figures different: year smaller than month and day, ones in day are sanserif, ones in year serifed only at top. City and state name also serifed.

EKU: JUL 15, 1957

Value: 3c

One permit known:
DETROIT/MICH. #3788



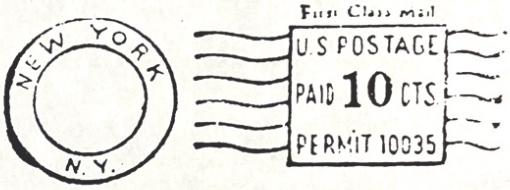
CX5 Small design with "First Class Mail" above and outside value box.

BOX: 20.5 x 19mm
Left lines: 12mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 23mm

None seen with date

Values: 5c, 6c, 10c

Permit: NEW YORK/N.Y. #10035

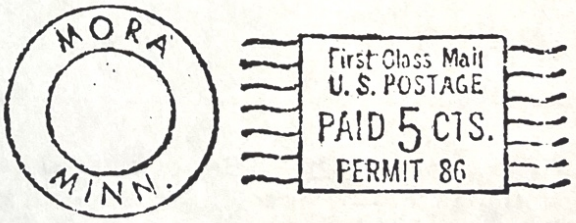


CX6 Similar to type CJ10 but "First Class Mail" in upper and lower case letters. User is M. Fingerhut at various locations.

None seen with date

Value: 5c

Permits known:
MORA/MINN. #86
PRINCETON/MINN. #171
CINCINNATI/OHIO #9379



a - TM small (18.5mm): 5c
(CINCINNATI/OHIO #9379)

b - Small TM as "a" but single circle: 5c
(CINCINNATI/OHIO #9379)

(CX6a)

CX7 Similar to type CX6 but the class designation is not present. All examples seen have "FIRST CLASS MAIL" slogan and separately applied townmark with date. The user is M. Fingerhut (CINCINNATI/OHIO #9379)

EKU: AUG 3, 1960

Value: 4c

CX8 There are only five wavy lines on each side of the value box. The wavy lines and the inner and outer circles of the TM are much thicker than the lines of the value box. "First Class Mail" and the permit line are in upper and lower case letters.

None seen with date, but known from Sep 1967

Values: 5c, 6c

Only known permit: WASHINGTON/D.C. #42828

CX9 All lines except those of the text inside the value box are quite thick. The wavy lines are separated from the value box by a small gap. Pound sign (#) after "PERMIT".

None seen with date but earliest seen is from Aug 1968.

Value: 6c

Permit: WASHINGTON DC #42828

CX10 Very similar to type CX9 but F/V removed, "PAID" only, centered on the third line. "No." after "PERMIT".

None seen with date

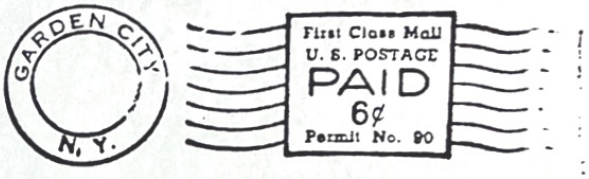
Permit: WASHINGTON/D.C. #46750

CX11 Small design with double circle TM and with left lines forming a single downward arch. "PAID" is large and above F/V. "First Class Mail" and the permit line are in upper and lower case letters.

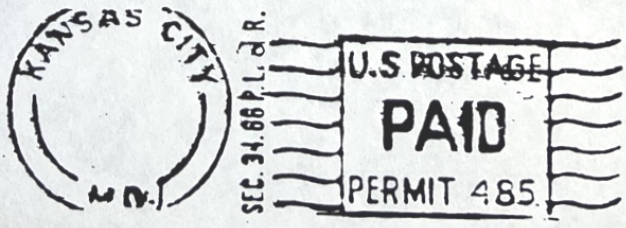
Box: 20-21 x 18.5mm
Left lines: 12.5mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 20-21mm

None seen with date, but earliest known is from Feb, 1970.

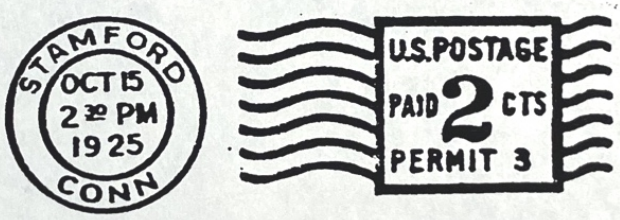
Only known permit is GARDEN CITY/N.Y. #90



First class permit stamps have been reported produced by machines manufactured by the Commercial Controls Corporation, but no examples have been seen by this writer. Illustrated below is an example of a Commercial Controls permit stamp used on third class mail.



Permit printer machines were produced by Red Star Appliances, Inc. of Stamford, Connecticut for a short period of time in the mid 1920s. This company was founded by Arthur H. Pitney who cofounded Pitney Bowes several years earlier. Mr. Pitney had become dissatisfied with his role in the Pitney Bowes organization and started the Red Star concern to compete with his former company. Red Star was not successful. Soon Pitney went back to PB, and they, almost as a courtesy to their co-founder, bought the assets of Red Star. It is not certain whether any Red Star machines actually were marketed although it is possible a few were. Only one example is known identified as a Red Star permit stamp, and it is shown below. This was an illustration is Henry Meisel's American Metered Postage Society Bulletin.



GROUP D

GROUP "D" PERMIT STAMPS ALL HAVE SHORT STUBS OF LINES, STRAIGHT OR CURVED, EMANATING FROM THE VALUE BOX. TWO MANUFACTURERS ARE KNOWN: PITNEY BOWES AND INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE / BELL & HOWELL.

TYPE DA	PITNEY BOWES

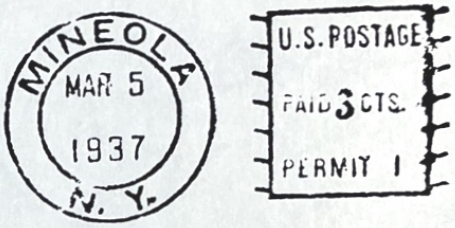
DA1 Two line date: MO/DAY/YEAR
Both left and right line stubs point upward.
Small figure of value: 4mm tall

Box: 20 x 24mm
Double circle TM: 27mm
Spacing: 5mm

EKU: FEB 5, 1937

Value: 3c

One permit known: MINEOLA/N.Y. #1



DA2 One line date.
Left line stubs point down; right line stubs point up.
Figure of value large.

Box: 23.5 x 24.5mm
Single circle TM: 20mm

EKU: FEB 28, 1947

Value: 3c

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #2241

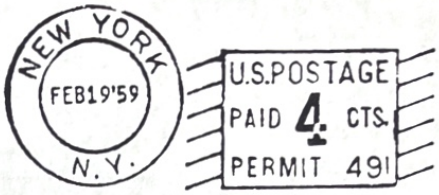
a - TM double ring: (NAUGATUCK/CONN. #28, THOMPSONVILLE/CONN. #29)

DA3 Similar to type DA2 but shorter value box and double circle TM:

Box: 22 x 16.5mm
TM: 21.5mm

EKU: JUL 26, 1956

Values: 3c, 4c, 5c, 12c



a - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" added above and outside value box: 4c, 5c, 12c (all NEW YORK/N.Y. #8) (5c also SAINT CLOUD/MINN. #371)

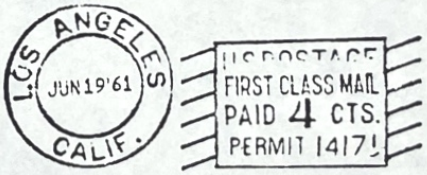
b - TM rimless: 3c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #6134)

DA4 Similar to type DA3 but "FIRST CLASS MAIL" added inside value box below "U.S.POSTAGE".

EKU: DEC 7, 1959

Value: 4c

Three permits known:
LOS ANGELES/CALIF. #14171
DES MOINES/IA. #350
BOSTON/MASS. #1000



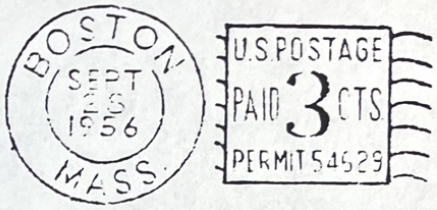
TYPE DB INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL CORP.

DB1 Three line date: MO/DAY/YEAR
Left line stubs very short: 1-2mm
Distance between TM and left side of value box 2.5-3.5mm.
Left lines can go up or down.

Box: 22-23 x 21-22mm
Double circle TM: 25-27mm

EKU: JUN 25, 1949

Values: 2c, 3c, 4c



a - Single circle TM: 3c (CHAMBERLAIN/S.D. #9)
b - "FIRST CLASS" above and outside value box: 4c (HARTFORD/CT #5)

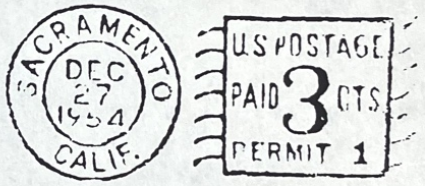
DB2 Similar to type DB1 but smaller design. Left line stubs curve downward. Distance between TM and left edge of value box is 6mm.

Box: 22-23 x 21.5mm
Double circle TM: 24-25mm

EKU: DEC 26, 1951

Values: 3c, 8c

One permit known:
SACRAMENTO/CALIF. #1



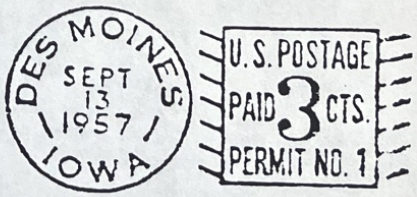
DB3 Single circle TM with inner arcs
Left line stubs vary in shape and direction but are 3mm long.
Distance between TM and left edge of value box is 4-6mm.

Box: 21-23 x 21.5mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: SEP 17, 1954

Values: 3c, 4c

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #651



(DB3a)

a - "NO." after "PERMIT": 3c, 4c (both DES MOINES/IOWA #1)
b - Small F/V (5.5mm): 3c, 4c (both NEW YORK/N.Y. #3538)

TYPE DC

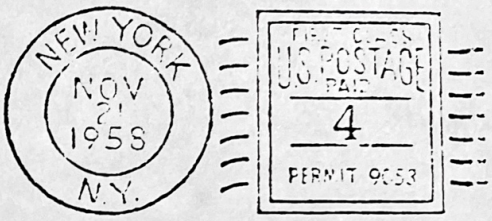
BELL AND HOWELL CORP.

UNIQUE GROUP "D" PERMIT STAMPS THAT WERE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF SINGLE CUSTOMERS.

DC1 "FIRST CLASS" is the top line in the value box. Left and right line stubs do not touch the value box. Bottom edge of "U.S.POSTAGE" forms an arch with "PAID" located under that arch. The F/V is between upper and lower lines. There is no value indicator such as CTS. Value box has double line frame. User is Consolidated Edison, NEW YORK/N.Y. #9053.

EKU: NOV 21, 1958

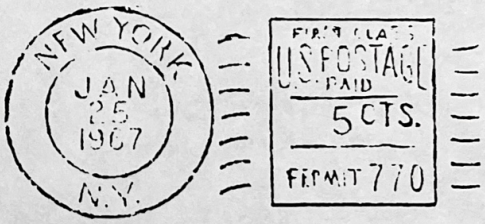
Values: 4c, 8c



DC2 Similar to type DC1 but single line frame around value box. "CTS." added after F/V. User is Arthur Wiesenberger & Co., NEW YORK/N.Y. #770.

EKU: JAN 25, 1967

Value: 5c



GROUP E

SIMILAR TO GROUP "C" PERMIT STAMPS, BUT THE DESIGN IS MUCH SMALLER. THE CIRCULAR TOWNMARKS ARE NO LARGER THAN 21mm IN DIAMETER. ALL HAVE HORIZONTALLY RECTANGULAR VALUE BOXES NO LARGER THAN 22 x 19mm. ALL HAVE WAVY LINES.

TYPE EA INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO. / BELL & HOWELL CORP.

ON TYPE "EA" PERMIT STAMPS THE WAVY LINES ARE SEPARATED FROM THE VALUE BOX BY A SMALL GAP.

EA1 Left lines swing upward

BOX: 17 x 14mm
Left lines: 8.5mm
TM: 19.5mm

EKU: NOV 16, 1957

Values: 3c, 4c, 9c

One permit known:
BROOKLYN/N.Y. #8

a - With "FIRST CLASS" below value box: 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c
(NEW YORK/N.Y. #8, MURRAY HILL/N.J. #7)
b - With "FIRST CLASS" above value box: 4c, 5c, 6c
(BROOKLYN/N.Y. #8, NEW YORK/N.Y. #8)
c - As "b" but "CLASS" centered above box: 6c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #8)

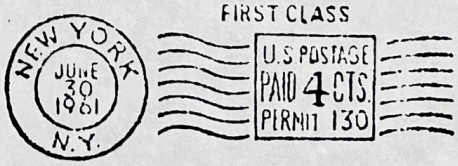
EA2 Similar to type EA1 but left lines longer and curve down at the ends.

BOX: 15.5 x 14mm
Left lines: 13mm
TM: 20mm

EKU: MAR 31, 1959

Value: 4c

One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #130



(EA2b)

a - With "FIRST CLASS" centered over value box:
4c, 5c, 10c, 13c, 15c, 17c, 18c, 20c
(OAKLAND/CALIF. #2079, CHICAGO/ILL. #12)
b - With "FIRST CLASS" above value box, but the word "CLASS" is centered: 4c, 5c, 6c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #130)

EA3 Left lines much shorter

BOX: 18-20 x 14-17mm
Left lines: 4.5mm
TM: 19-21mm

EKU: JAN 29, 1960

Values: 4c, 5c, 6c, 10c

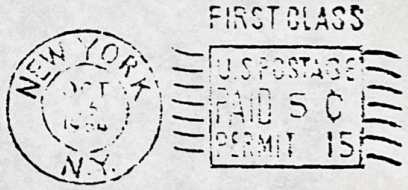
(EA3a)

a - With "FIRST CLASS" above value box: 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 16c
b - As "a" but "FIRST" is centered above value box:
5c (CLEVELAND/OHIO #533)
c - "FIRST CLASS" below value box: 4c, 8c (both HARTFORD/CONN. #1)
d - With "FIRST CLASS MAIL" above value box: 4c
(WASHINGTON/D.C. #237, EDITORS PARK/MD. #11)
e - With "FIRST CLASS MAIL" below value box: 5c (WASHINGTON/D.C. #237)
f - TM single circle with inner arcs:4c, 5c, 12c
g - As "a" and with single circle TM with inner arcs: 4c
(WASHINGTON/D.C. #237, #9449 and #40473)

EA4 Similar to type EA3 but with
cent sign (C) replacing "CTS."

EKU: JAN 10, 1963

Value: 4c (CHICAGO/ILL. #8345)
5c (BOSTON/MASS. #54629)



(EA4a)

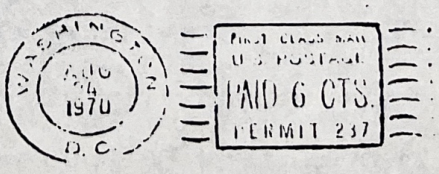
a - With "FIRST CLASS" above value box:
5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 13c, 15c

EA5 Similar to type EA3 but with
"FIRST CLASS MAIL" inside
value box at top.

EKU: APR 22, 1967

Value: 6c

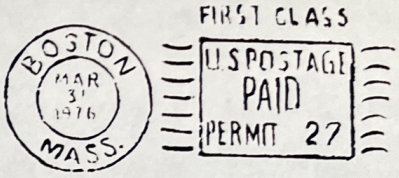
One permit known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #237



EA6 Similar to type EA3 but with F/V omitted. "PAID" is large and centered. "FIRST CLASS" is above the value box.

EKU: MAR 31, 1976

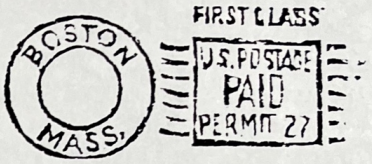
One permit known:
BOSTON/MASS. #27



EA7 Similar to type EA6 but the value box is smaller, 17.5 x 15mm.

None seen with date

One permit known:
BOSTON/MASS. #27



TYPE EB BELL & HOWELL CORP.

TYPE "EB" DIFFERS FROM TYPE "EA" IN THAT THE WAVY LINES TOUCH THE VALUE BOX AND ARE THINNER AND MAKE A FULL OR NEARLY FULL SINE WAVE (OR) ABOUT 5mm LONG. THE STATE NAME IS OFTEN SPELLED OUT.

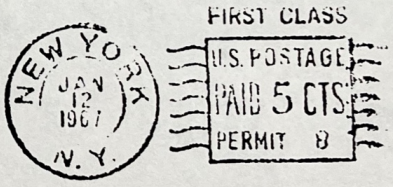
EB1 Value indicator is "CTS." "FIRST CLASS" is above and outside value box.

BOX: 19.5 x 17mm
Left lines: 5mm
TM: 21mm

EKU: AUG 1, 1961

Values: 4c, 5c, 6c, 20c

a - "FIRST CLASS" is below value box: 4c, 6c (WILMINGTON/DEL #4)
b - "FIRST CLASS" omitted: 5c (PITTSBURGH/PENNA. #1071)

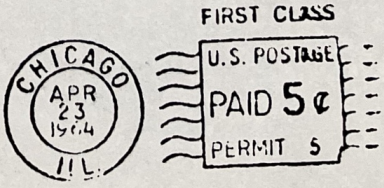


EB2 Similar to type EB1 but with cent sign replacing CTS.

EKU: DEC 13, 1963

Values: 5c, 6c, 15c

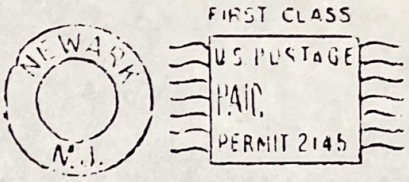
a - "FIRST CLASS" omitted: 5c (SPRINGFIELD/MA. #425)
b - "1ST CLASS" above: 6c (FARMINGDALE/N.Y. #200)



EB3 Similar to type EB1 but with F/V and CTS removed.

No dated copies seen

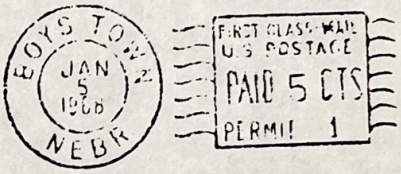
One permit known:
NEWARK/N.J. #2145



EB4 Similar to type EB1 but "FIRST CLASS MAIL" has been added inside the value box at the top.
"U" of "U.S. POSTAGE" is under "FI" of "FIRST".

EKU: SEP 11, 1961

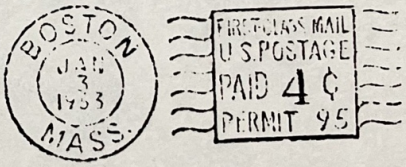
Values: 4c, 5c, 15c



EB5 Similar to type EB4 but cent sign replaces "CTS."

EKU: JAN 3, 1963

Values: 4c, 5c, 6c, 10c,
13c, 15c, 16c

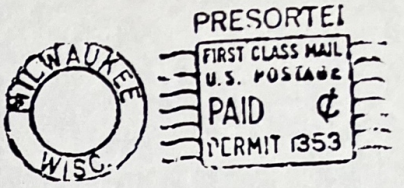


a - TM contains superfluous reference to Long Island:
6c (LYNBROOK,L.I./N.Y. #288,
OAKDALE LONG ISLAND/N.Y. #1)
8c (OAKDALE LONG ISLAND/N.Y. #1)

EB6 Similar to type EB5 but F/V removed. "PRESORTED" is above and outside value box.

None seen with date

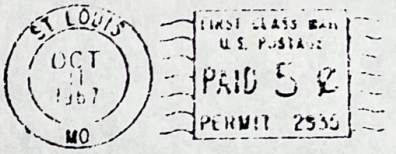
One permit known:
MILWAUKEE/WISC. #1353



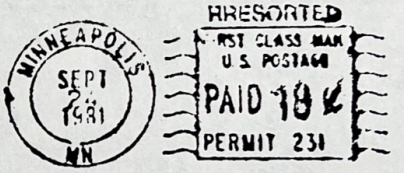
EB7 Similar to type EB5 but "U.S. POSTAGE" is smaller. "U" of "U.S." is under "RS" of FIRST".

EKU: MAR 17, 1967

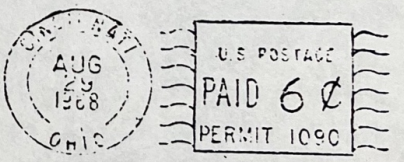
Values: 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c,
13c, 15c, 17c, 18c, 20c,
21.1c, 22c, 24c, 28c, 39c



a - Error: "RRESORTED" above value box: 18c (MINNEAPOLIS/MN #231)
b - "FIRST CLASS MAIL" omitted: 6c (CINCINNATI/OHIO #1090)



(EB7a)

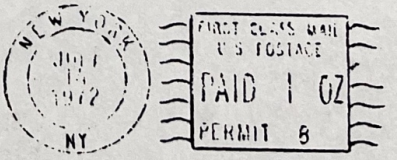


(EB7b)

EB8 Similar to type EB7 but value is in weight (ounces).

EKU: MAY 30, 1972

Values: 1oz, 2oz



EB9 Similar to type EB7 but F/V removed

EKU: MAY 30, 1975

a -"PRESORTED" above and outside value box: JERSEY CITY/N.J. #816, ST. PETERSBURG/FL. #572

b - As "a" and with "MAILED FROM ZIP CODE" and number in the TM: 66214

c - Cent sign removed

d - As "a" and with cent sign removed: JERSEY CITY/N.J. #816

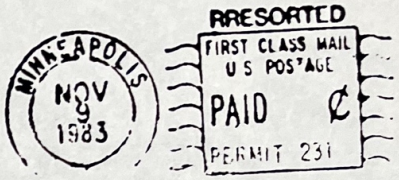
e - Error: "RRESORTED" above value box: MINNEAPOLIS/MN #231

f - Permit number starts with a zero: NEW YORK/N.Y. #0923

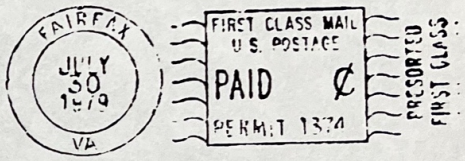
g - "PRESORTED / FIRST CLASS" reads vertically up along <u>right</u> side of value box: FAIRFAX/VA. #1374

h - Unengraved block in spot where F/V was: JEFFERSON CITY/MO. #50

j - Cent sign small with slash upright instead of diagonal: ROCHESTER/N.Y. #12

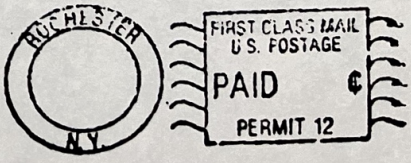


(EB9e)



(EB9g)

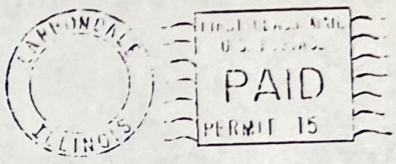
(EB9h)



(EB9j)

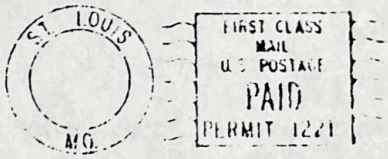
EB10 Similar to type EB8 but with cent sign removed and with "PAID" larger and centered.

EKU: JUL 26, 1974



a - "FIRST CLASS" inside value box on top line, "MAIL" alone on second line

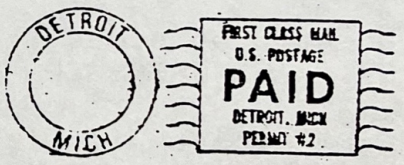
b - Redundant POSTAGE. Second line reads "U.S. POSTAGE"; third line reads "POSTAGE PAID": FARMINGDALE/N.Y. #155



(EB10a)

c - City/state repeated inside value box below "PAID": DETROIT/MICH.#2 (This permit stamp also has a number sign (#) before the permit number.)

(EB10b)



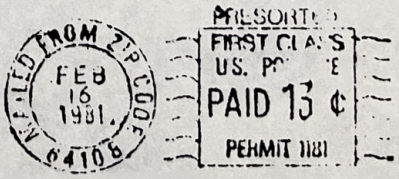
(EB10c)

EB11 Similar to type EB5 but "FIRST CLASS" replaces FIRST CLASS MAIL in top of value box.
"PRESORTED" above value box.

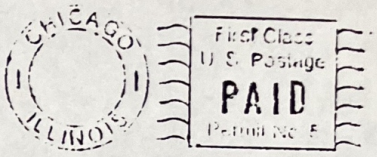
EKU: FEB 16, 1981

Values: 13c, 15c

One permit known:
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE/64018 #1181



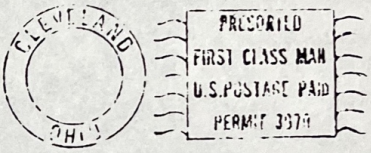
EB12 Similar to type EB10 but "First Class" (upper and lower case letters) in top of value box. "U.S. Postage" and permit line also a mix of upper and lower case letters. "No." after "Permit" TM has two vertical line ornaments.



None seen with date

One permit known:
CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #5

EB13 "PRESORTED" is the top line inside the value box followed by "FIRST CLASS MAIL" on the second and "U.S.POSTAGE PAID" on the third.



None seen with date, but several covers seen have 1980 auxiliary markings.

One permit known:
CLEVELAND/OHIO #3970

TYPE EC

CUSTOM DESIGNED TYPE "E" PERMIT STAMPS

EC1 Similar to type EA4 but wider design with smaller TM.
Dots on either side of state name
User: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. (NEW YORK/ N.Y. #10

BOX: 18 x 14mm
Left lines: 6mm
Spacing: 4.5mm
TM: 17mm

None seen with date

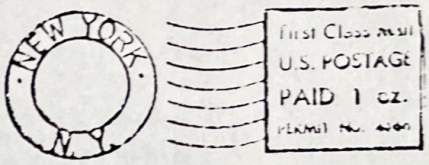
Value: 4c

EC2 No right lines. Left lines form a single downwward arc. There is a dot on either side of the town name in the TM. "First Class Mail" is the top line inside the value box. Value in weight (ounces).
User: Minkus Stamp Journal, Inc. (NEW YORK/N.Y. #4666)

BOX: 20-21 x 18-18.5mm
Left lines: 12mm
Spacing: 1.5mm
TM: 19mm

None seen with date

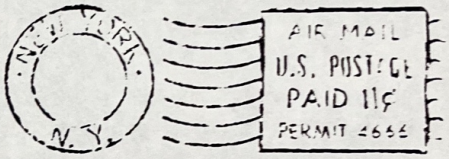
Value: 1oz



EC3 Similar to type CK4 but "AIR MAIL" replaces "First Class Mail" in the value box, value in money with cent sign, and there are short right lines present. Same user as for type EC2.

None seen with date

Value: 11c



TYPE EX GROUP "E" PERMIT STAMPS FROM UNIDENTIFIED MACHINES

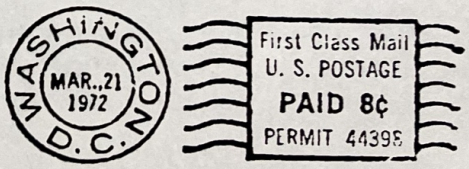
EX1 Similar to type EB5 but all lines are thicker.
Two line date:mo day/yr

BOX: 21 x 17.5-18mm
Left lines: 8mm
Spacing: 1.5mm
TM: 19.5-20mm

EKU: MAR 21, 1972

Value: 8c

One permit known: WASHINGTON/D.C. #44398



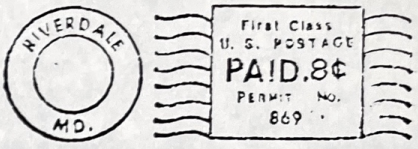
EX2 Similar to type EX1 but "First Class" is the top line in the value box, and there are eight wavy lines instead of seven.

Box: 21 x 19-1/2mm
Left lines: 8mm
Spacing: 1-1/2mm
TM: 19mm

None seen with date.

Value: .8c (for 8 cents)

One permit known:RIVERDALE/MD. #869



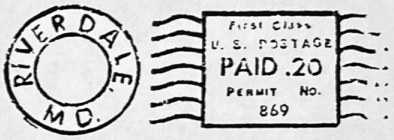
EX3 Similar to type EX1 but there is no value indicator such as CTS or a cent sign. The F/V has a decimal point to indicate cents. "First Class" is the first line of the value box. The permit number is below the line with "PERMIT NO.".

BOX: 18.5-19 x 16mm
Left lines: 7mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 17.5-18mm

None seen with date

Values: .10, .20

One permit known: RIVERDALE,/MD. #869



EX4 Similar to type EX3 but F/V removed.

None seen with date.

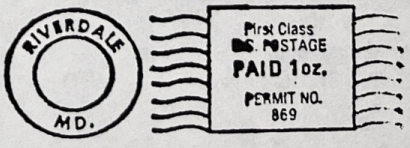
One permit known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #77

EX5 Similar to type EX2 (eight wavy lines) except value is in weight.

None seen with date.

Value: 1 oz.

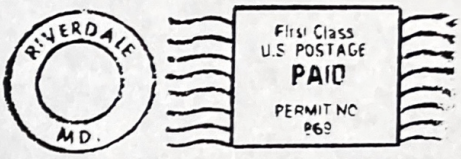
One permit known: RIVERDALE/MD. #869



EX6 Similar to types EX2 and EX5 except there is no F/V and "PAID" is centered.

None seen with date.

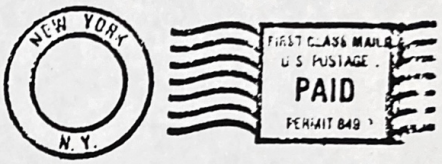
One permit known:
RIVERDALE/MD. #869



EX7 Similar to type EX6 but only seven wavy lines and they are longer on the left (11.5mm).

None seen with date.

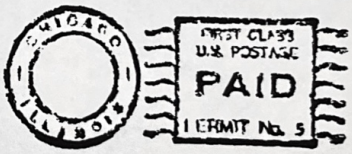
One permit known:
NEW YORK/N.Y. #849



EX8 Closely resembles type EB12 except all lines and letters are thicker. Type EB12 was printed from a steel die, and type EX8 was printed from what appears to be a rubber die.

None seen with date.

One permit known:
CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #5



EX9 Very small design with "PAID" above F/V.

BOX: 15x14.5mm
Left lines: 11mm
Spacing: 2mm
TM: 15.5mm

EKU: JAN 25, 1972
(Undated examples from before this date are known.)

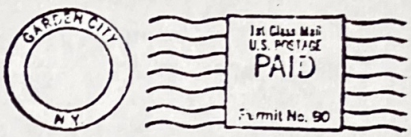
Values: 6c, 8c

One permit known:
GARDEN CITY/N.Y. #90

EX10 Similar to type EX9 but F/V removed.

None seen with date

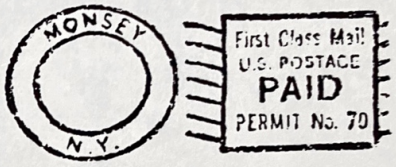
Same permit as for type EX9



EX11 Resembles type EX8 in size of TM. box, left lines and spacing, but the left lines have only a slight curve and point upward.
The class designation reads "First Class Mail".

None seen with date

One permit known:
MONSEY/N.Y. #70



GROUP F

THIS GROUP OF PERMIT STAMPS IS CHARACTERIZED BY A VALUE BOX WITH NO EXTERIOR LINES AND A SEPARATE CIRCULAR TOWNMARK.

TYPE FA — PITNEY BOWES CORP.

SIMILAR TO PITNEY BOWES "AD" TYPES, BUT THERE ARE NO LEFT OR RIGHT LINES.

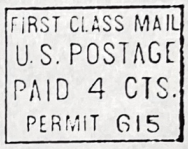
FA1 Similar to type AD3

Box: 25 x 20-1/2mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 21-1/2mm

EKU: SEP 29, 1960

Value: 4c

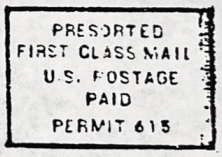
One permit known: AKRON/OHIO #615



FA2 Similar to type AD9, TM single circle.

None seen with date

One permit known: AKRON/OHIO #615



TYPE FB — BELL & HOWELL CORP.

FB1 Similar to Bell & Howell type CJ5 but with wavy lines removed. Single circle TM with inner arcs "FIRST CLASS" above and outside value box

BOX: 26.5 x 21mm
Spacing: 11mm
TM: 25mm

EKU: AUG 3, 1967

Values: 5c, 6c

One permit known: PHILADELPHIA/PA. #2876

FB2 Smaller design similar to Bell & Howell E types.
Class designation is found in the slogan area.
Arrangement of text in value box as follows:

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID X CTS
permit line

BOX: 23 x 18mm
Spacing: 7mm
TM: 20mm

EKU: OCT 30, 1970
(Undated examples from before this date are known.)

Value: 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c

Two permits known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #286 and #40473

a - TM single circle: 6c
(WASHINGTON/D.C. #40473)

FB3 Similar to type FB2 but larger value box.
Text in box arranged as follows:

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
permit line

None seen with date

Two permits known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #286 and #46750

TYPE FC BELL & HOWELL CORP.

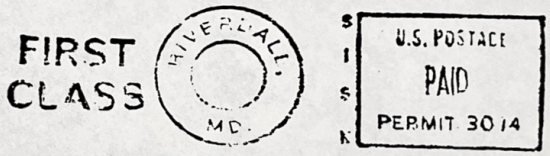
UNIQUE GROUP "F" PERMIT STAMPS THAT WERE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF SINGLE CUSTOMERS.

FC1 This permit stamp is similar to type FB2 but has the letters "S/I/S/K" (user's name?) reading from top to bottom along the left side of the value box.
Class designation is found in the slogan area.
Text in the box is arranged as follows:

U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 3014

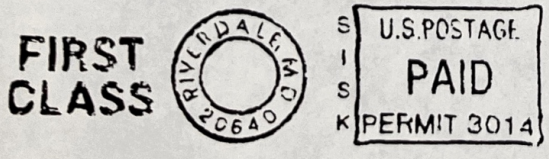
None seen with date

The user is an unknown mailing service:
RIVERDALE/MD.

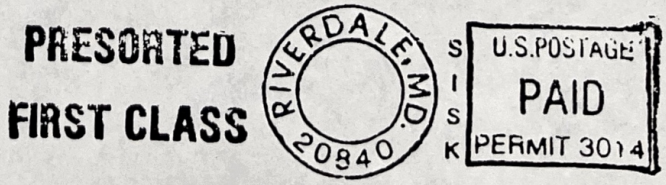


a - TM contains ZIP code:
(RIVERDALE,MD./20840)

b - As "a" but with larger TM (23.5mm)



(FC1a)



(FC1b)

FC2 Value box has double outer frame lines.
Text in box as follows:

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 286

None seen with date.

The user is the Washington
Gas Light Co. (WASHINGTON/D.C.).

FC3 Similar to type FC2 except the value box is much smaller.
"FIRST CLASS" and "NO." from the permit line have been removed.

Same user as for type FB3.

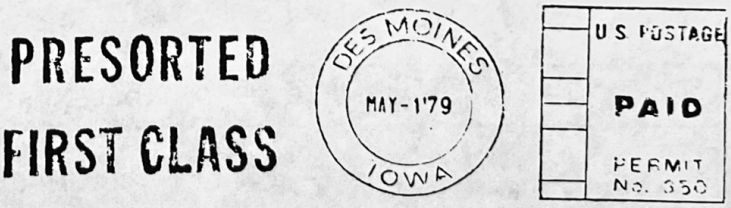
TYPE FD	POSTALIA CORP.

FD1 Double circle TM with a single line date
The value box has a double margin along its left side.
Between the inner and outer margins are five horizontal lines.
There is no F/V; "PAID" is alone in the middle.
Class designation is found in the slogan area.

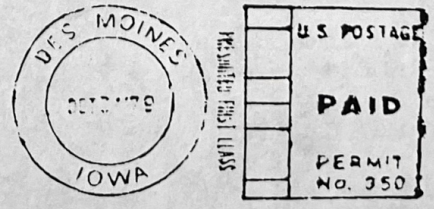
BOX: 25 x 27mm
Spacing: 5mm
TM: 26mm

EKU: MAY 1, 1979

One permit known:
DES MOINES/IOWA #350



a - With "PRESORTED FIRST CLASS" reading down between the value box and the TM



(FD1a)

GROUP G

SQUARE OR HORIZONTALLY RECTANGULAR VALUE BOX WITH TOWN AND STATE NAMES ON A SEPARATE LINE INSIDE THE BOX. ALL HAVE "FIRST CLASS MAIL" OR A VARIANT INSIDE THE BOX. SOME ALSO HAVE REDUNDANT EXTERIOR CIRCULAR TOWNMARK.

MANY OF THE GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS ARE PRODUCED BY A SIMPLE ENGRAVED METAL OR RUBBER PLATE BOLTED TO A PRINTING DEVICE ATTACHED TO A MAIL INSERTING MACHINE. DESIGNS ARE OFTEN CUSTOM ENGRAVED AND VARY WIDELY FROM ONE USER TO ANOTHER EVEN IF USED ON IDENTICAL MACHINES. BECAUSE OF THIS, TYPING GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS BY MANUFACTURER - AS ALL PREVIOUS GROUPS HAVE BEEN TREATED IN THIS CATALOG - WOULD RESULT IN NEARLY EVERY PERMIT BEING ASSIGNED A NUMBER OF ITS OWN. TO AVOID THIS, GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS ARE TYPED ACCORDING TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF TEXT LINES WITHIN THE BOX. AT THIS POINT WE WILL SAY THAT PITNEY BOWES, BELL & HOWELL AND POSSIBLY ONE OR TWO UNIDENTIFIED MANUFACTURERS MAKE MACHINES WHICH PRODUCE THESE STAMPS.

THE MOST COMMON ARRANGEMENT OF TEXT IS:

class designation
U.S. POSTAGE
value line
city and state
permit line

IN THE LATE 1960s THE USPS ALLOWED MAILERS HOLDING MAILING PERMITS IN MORE THAN ONE LOCATION TO SUBSTITUTE THEIR OWN NAME IN PLACE OF THE TOWN/STATE AND PERMIT LINES. GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS ARE USED FREQUENTLY IN THIS FORMAT.

NOTE: SOME RUBBER STAMP IMPRESSIONS CAN BE HARD TO DISTINGUISH FROM MACHINE PRODUCED STAMPS, ESPECIALLY THOSE MADE WITH A RUBBER PLATE.

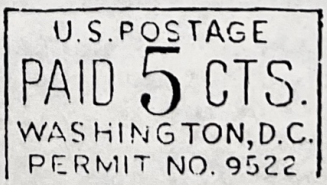
TYPE GA	FIGURE OF VALUE PRESENT

GA1 Value indicated by "CTS."
Text arrangement as follows:

U.S.POSTAGE
PAID X CTS.
city and state
permit line

Values: 2c, 5c

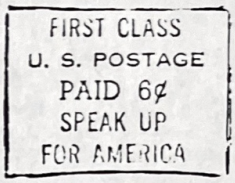
One permit known:
WASHINGTON,D.C. #9522

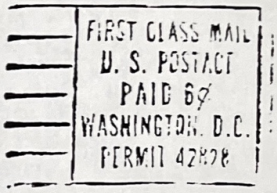


GA2 Value indicated by cent sign.
Text arranged as follows:

class designation
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID X C
name of user

Value: 6c





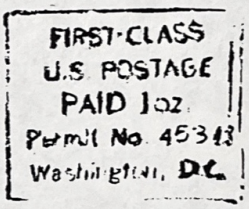
a - Town, state/permit line
replace name of user: 6c

(GA2a)

GA3 Value in weight.
Text arranged as follows:

class designation
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID X OZ.
permit line
town and state

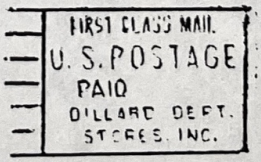
Value: 1oz



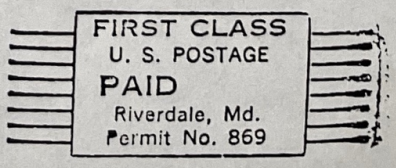
TYPE GB	FIGURE OF VALUE REMOVED

GB1 "PAID" on left side of box with a space where the F/V used to be.
Horizontal lines on the left side of the box.
Arrangement of text as follows:

class designation
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
name of user



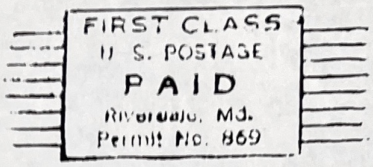
a - Town/state and permit
lines replace name
of user.



(GB1a)

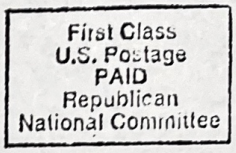
GB2 "PAID" larger and centered.
Text arranged as follows:

Class designation
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
town and state
permit line



a - Town and state are on the bottom line with permit line above

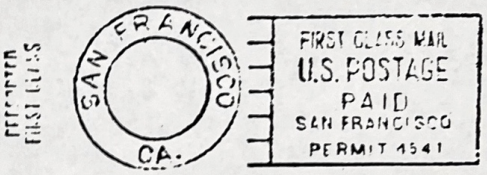
b - User's name replaces town/state and permit lines



(GB2b)

c - With redundant double line circular townmark

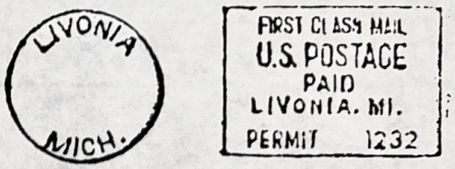
d - With redundant single line circular townmark



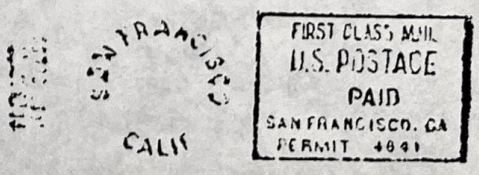
(GB2c)

e - With redundant rimless circular townmark

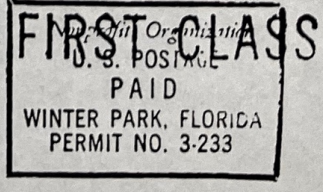
f - With "FIRST CLASS" handstamped over "Nonprofit Organization" in value box:
WINTER PARK, FLORIDA #3-233.



(GB2d)



(GB2e)



(GB2f)

TYPE GC "PRESORTED" OR A VARIANT IS THE TOP LINE IN THE BOX

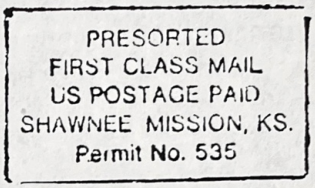
GC1 Arrangement of text as follows:

PRE-SORTED
class designation
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
town and state
permit line

a - With redundant single circle TM: NEW YORK/N.Y. #8

GC2 Arrangement of text as follows:

PRESORTED
class designation
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
town and state
permit line



a - With redundant double circle TM: NEW YORK/N.Y. #8)
b - As "a" but with number sign (#) replacing "NO." in permit line: NEW YORK/N.Y. #8

TYPE GD

NONSTANDARD GROUP "G" DESIGN WITH PROHIBITED ORNAMENTS OR OTHER DEVIATION FROM USPS PERMITTED DESIGNS

GD1 Double line box. Small rectangle under "PAID" with four outline stars above. "FIRST CLASS" outside of box reading upward along the left side.

User: U.S.News and World Report

FIRST CLASS

NOTE: In addition to the "FIRST CLASS" along the left side, there are several versions of a class designation slogan found with this permit stamp. There is also a press printed version identical in format to type GD1. One example seen has a machine printed slogan.

GROUP H

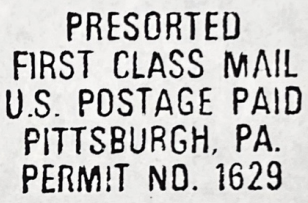
SIMILAR TO GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS IN THAT THERE IS NO SEPARATE TOWNMARK, BUT THE BOX OUTLINE IS NO LONGER PRESENT. THE STAMP IS MADE UP OF LINES OF TEXT ONLY.

AS WITH GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS THESE ARE TYPED ACCORDING TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF TEXT LINES RATHER THAN BY MANUFACTURER FOR THE SAME REASON. HOWEVER, THE FEW MACHINE-PRINTED GROUP "H" PERMIT STAMPS WE HAVE SEEN APPEAR TO BE BELL & HOWELL AND PITNEY BOWES PRODUCTS.

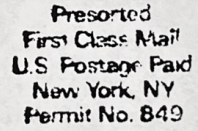
TYPE HA	FIGURE OF VALUE NOT PRESENT

HA1 Text arranged as follows:

PRESORTED
class designation
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
town and state
permit line



a - Entire stamp in upper and lower case letters

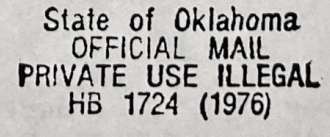


(HA1a)

TYPE HB
UNIQUE TYPE "H" PERMITS DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF A SINGLE CUSTOMER

HB1: Oklahoma state official mail.
Test reads as follows:

State of Oklahoma
OFFICIAL MAIL
PRIVATE USE ILLEGAL
HB 1742(year)

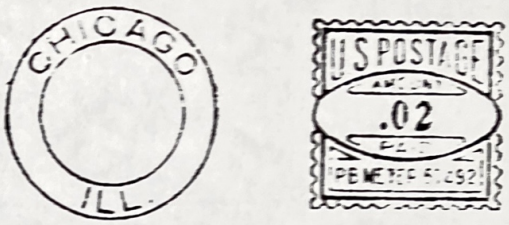


GROUP J

PERMIT STAMPS THAT MIMIC POSTAGE METER STAMP DESIGNS

TYPE JA

SIMILAR TO "D" TYPE POSTAGE METER STAMPS AS CLASSIFIED BY THE SIMON/WALSH "U.S. POSTAGE METER STAMP CATALOG".

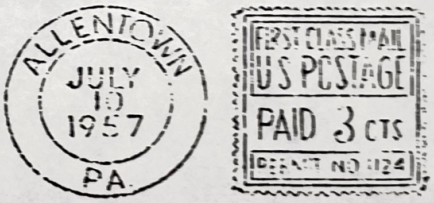


SIMON/WALSH TYPE "D" STAMP

JA1 Inserting and Mailing Machine Co.
Value box has double outer frame lines, the exterior of which is made up of imitation serrated perforations. Within the outer frame lines are two inner frames, one surrounding "FIRST CLASS MAIL/U.S. POSTAGE" and the other surrounding the permit line. User is General Acceptance Corp. (ALLENTOWN/PA. #1124)

EKU: before DEC 1956

Value: 3c



TYPE JB

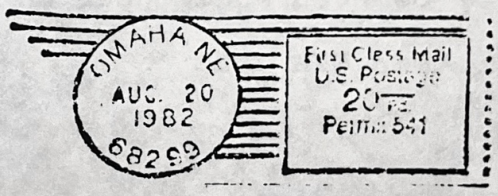
SIMILAR TO SIMON/WALSH
TYPE "H" METER STAMPS

SIMON/WALSH TYPE "H" STAMP

JB1 Make of machine unidentified. "First Class Mail" is top line in value box. Circular TM and rectangular value box are connected by a series of horizontal lines. The ends of these lines slope inward from top to bottom. The F/V is indicated by "Pd." below a short line. There are several users of JB1 type permits all of which are in Omaha, NE.

EKU: APR 18, 1980

Values: 15c, 18c, 20c

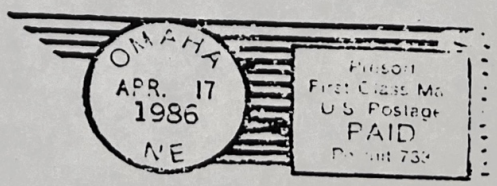


a - Without ZIP code in TM:
15c (OMAHA/NE #733)
20c (OMAHA/NE 3946)

b - With "Presort" above
"First Class Mail":
13c, 15c, 17c
(all OMAHA/NE> #541)

JB2 Similar to type JB1 but without F/V.
"PAID" is centered.

Permit is
OMAHA/NE. #733



GROUP P

THE "P" GROUP COVERS ALL PERMIT STAMPS THAT ARE PRODUCED BY ORDINARY PRINTING PRESS OR MEANS OTHER THAN DEDICATED PERMIT PRINTER MACHINE.

TYPE PA	TYPE "PA" PERMIT STAMPS CLOSELY RESEMBLE GROUP "A" PERMIT STAMPS. ALL HAVE SEPARATE TOWNMARK AND VALUE BOX WITH STRAIGHT HORIZONTAL LINES EMANATING FROM ONE OR BOTH SIDES.

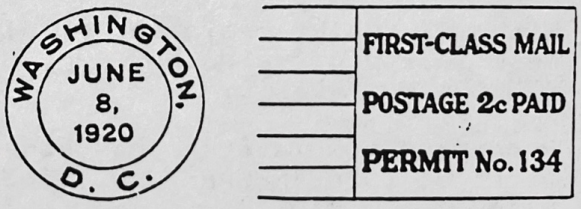
PA1 The earliest first class mail permit stamp known to have been used was of this type. The user was Lansburgh & Bro. of Washington, DC. The permit number was 134. This high number was assigned by the Washington Post Office from the series in use for 3rd and 4th class permits. They soon started a new series for first class permits and changed Lansburgh & Bro.'s permit number from 134 to one. This writer is aware of only one Lansburgh & Bro. permit stamp numbered 134. It is the earliest first class permit known and is dated JUN 8, 1920.

All type PA1 stamps have the following lines of text:

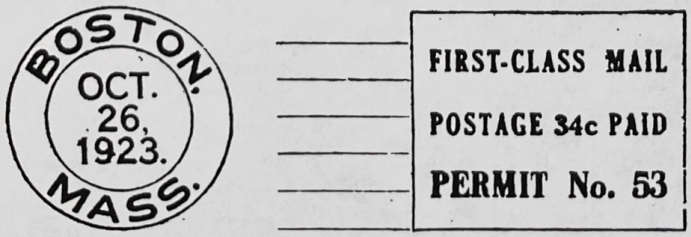
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE X c. PAID
permit line

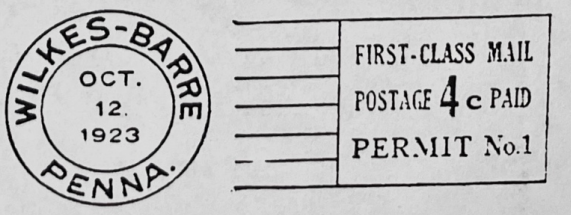
Most have seven lines on the left side of the value box and none on the right.

Values: 1c, 2c, 4c, 8c, 12c, 14c, 18c, 22c, 34c
(All values known above 4c were used by one permit holder - BOSTON,/MASS. #53)



a - F/V significantly larger than rest of value line: 2c, 4c (both WILKES-BARRE/PENNA. #1)

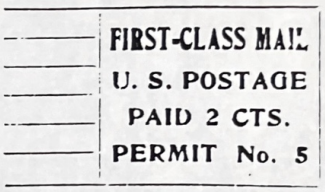




(PA1a)

PA2 Very similar to type PA1 but there are four lines of text instead of three. They are:

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID X CTS. (or C)
permit line



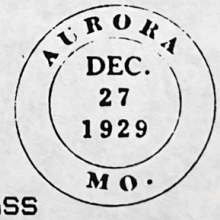
EKU: SEP 13, 1924

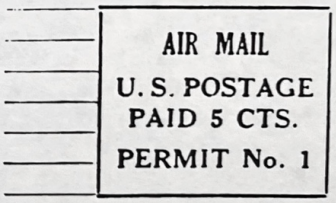
Values: 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 8c
10c, 17c, 18c, 19c, 22c

This type is still in general use although recent examples can differ greatly in appearance from earlier examples. Those from the 1920s and 30s closely resemble type PA1 except in the changes in text. Recent examples seen have as few as four horizontal lines and as many as 23. On some stamps the lines do not touch the value box. Others have value boxes in solid colors with white lettering.

a - With FIRST CLASS on top line, MAIL on the next: 3c

b - With "AIR MAIL" replacing FIRST-CLASS MAIL in top of value box: 5c (AURORA/MO. #1)

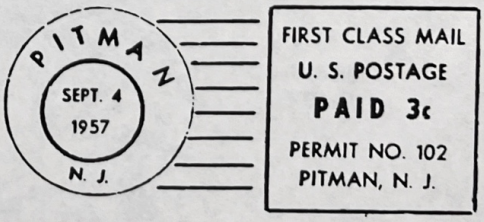




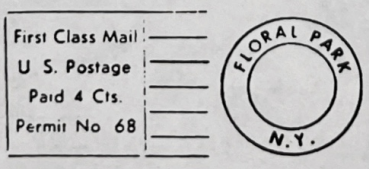
(PA2b)

c - Redundant town/state names added in value box: 3c (NEWARK/N.J. #3632 and PITMAN/N.J. #102)

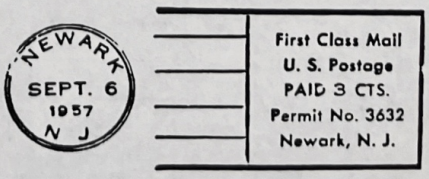
d - With value box on left, TM on right: 4c (FLORAL PARK/N.Y. #68)



(PA2c)



(PA2d)



(Another PA2c)

Type PA2 continued

e - With value line as "6c PAID": (TOLEDO/OHIO #2420)

f - Townmark square, rectangular or without rim: 1c, 3c, 4c

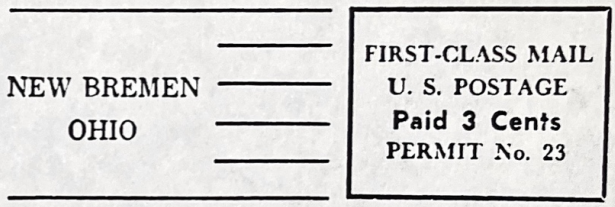
g - Registered use without TM: 17c, 18c, 22c (see note below)

h - As "g" but revalued 18c over 17c: STAMFORD UNIVERSITY, CA. #1

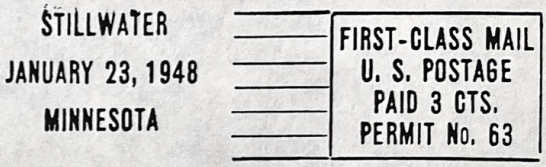
j - As "g" but rectangle containing "REGISTERED"/number where TM would be: 17c, 18c (both Cambridge, MA. #123)

k - Value surcharges added: 1c+1c, 3c+1c, 4c+1c, 6c+2c

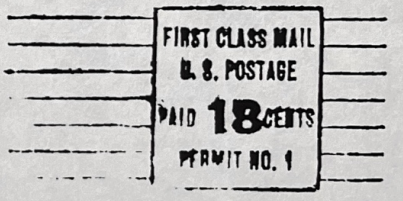
l - With city, state and ZIP code in TM: 6c, 8c, 9c, 25c



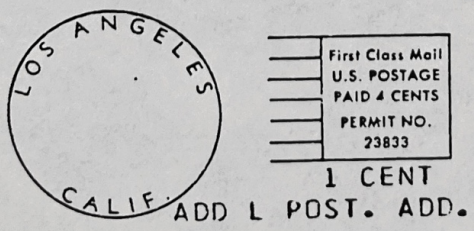
(PA2f)



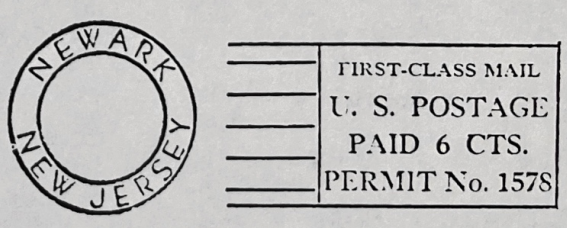
(another PA2f)



(PA2h)



(PA2k)



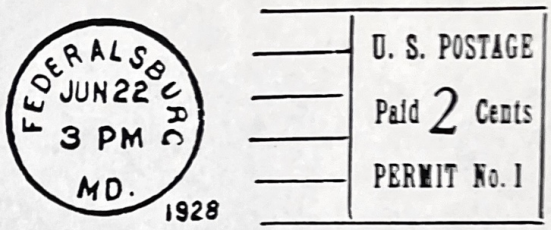
(another PA2k)

NOTE: Type PA2g can be confused with some forms of type PD in that they both do not have separate townmarks. In the case of PA2g the TM was removed to comply with regulations governing registered mail. The town and state names are not present. With PD types the town and state names are present in the value box.

PA3 Three lines of text as follows:

U.S.POSTAGE
Paid 2 Cents
PERMIT No. 1

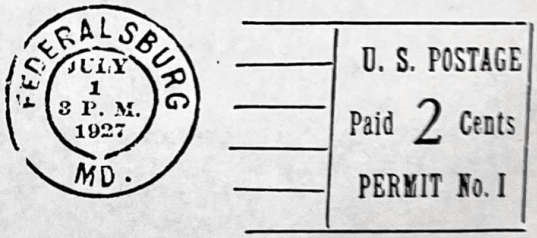
TM contains time of day. Only one permit is known in this format: FEDERALSBURG/MD #1. The user was the American Philatelic Society.
Two versions of the permit are known:



(PA3A)

A - Single circle TM with year date outside of TM, located between TM and value box at bottom. Except for those dated FEB 8, 1924, the date figures are in a 'handwritten' typeface. EKU: FEB 8, 1924

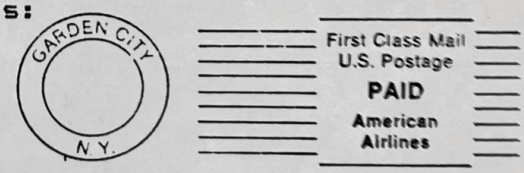
B - Double circle TM with four line date: mo/day/time/yr. EKU: JUN 7, 1924



(PA3B)

PA4 Press printed type A permit stamps without F/V; PAID only in value line. The usual arrangement of text lines is:

FIRST CLASS MAIL (or FIRST CLASS)
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
permit line



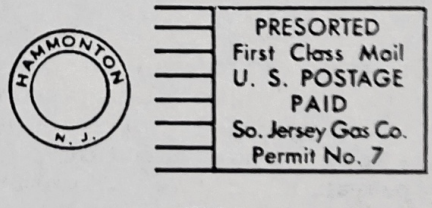
(PA4b)

No dated examples seen.

a - PRESORTED added

b - User's name replaces permit line

c - User's name added to value box above permit line



(PA4ac)

PA4 continued

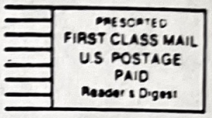
d - Redundant city/state in value box

e - City, state horizontal thru TM circles

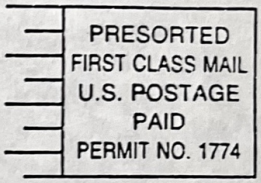
f - City, state and ZIP code in TM

g - As "f" but ZIP code in center (date area) of TM

h - With "ZIP + 4" added



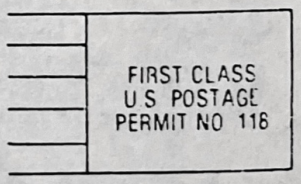
(PA4abe)



(PA4af)

PA5 Value line removed altogether. Text lines read as follows:

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
permit line

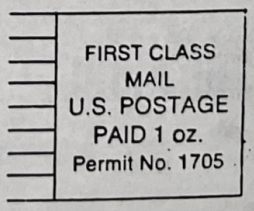


NOTE: This is not an authorized format and has been found used by only one permit holder: Electronic Buyers' News (FLORAL PARK N.Y. #118. None seen with date.

PA6 Similar to type PA2 but value in weight (ounces). One ounce is the only value seen although others may exist.

a - With PRESORTED or similar wording added

b - With "ZIP + 4" and PRESORTED or similar wording added



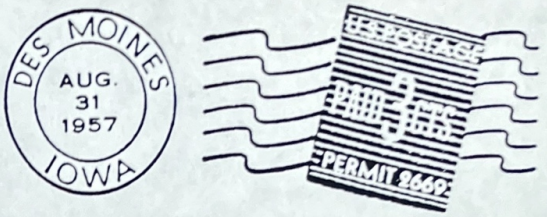
TYPE PB

SIMILAR TO 'C' TYPE PERMIT STAMPS. ALL HAVE WAVY LINES AND A SEPARATE CIRCULAR TOWNMARK.

PB1 Text in value box typically as follows:

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID X CENTS/CTS./C
permit line

EKU: JAN 31, 1922

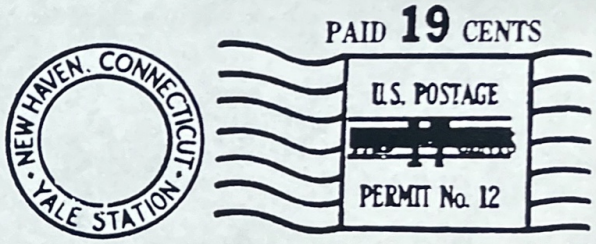


Values: 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 6c,
8c (CHICAGO/ILLS.#783)
9c (HOPEDALE/MASS.#1)
12c (CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #18, CHICAGO/ILL. #2530)
17c,
21c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #7584),
27c (CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #18, POUGHKEEPSIE/N.Y. #2)

a - No lines on right side of value box: 2c (WASHINGTON/D.C. #2)

b - TM on right, value box on left: 6c (POUGHKEEPSIE/N.Y. #2)

c - Town and state at top of TM, station name at bottom: 17c (NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT/.YALE STATION. #12)



(PB1d)

d - Revalued: 19c over 17c (same permit as in "c" above)

e - Registered use without TM: 17c, 18c

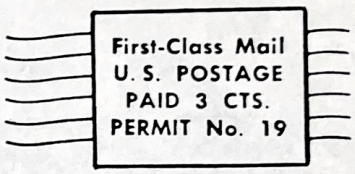
f - With double border value box, outer border serrated to simulate perforations: 3c (OAKLAND/CALIF. #49)

(PB1f)

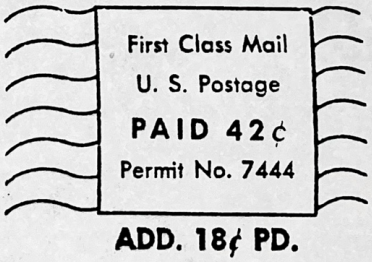
PB2 As type PB1 but FIRST CLASS MAIL or variations added as top line(s) in value box.

EKU: FEB 28, 1922

Values:
1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c,
13c (NEW YORK/N.Y. #3559),
15c (PITTSBURGH/PA. #1460),
24c,
36c (DEARBORN/MICH. #320,
NEW YORK/N.Y. #1607)



a - Value line as follows: Xc PAID: 5c, 6c
b - U.S.POSTAGE top line,
FIRST CLASS MAIL second line: 6c
c - "U.S." not present, POSTAGE alone
on second line: 2c (JERSEY CITY/N.J. #95)
d - Value and "C." on third line, "PAID"
alone on fourth: 26c, 39c (both SAN FRANCISCO/CALIF #3200)
e - Redundant town/state added inside value box: 5c, 6c
f - Text lines arranged as follows:
FIRST CLASS/permit line/redundant town and state/
U.S.POSTAGE Pd. Xc: 5c (MINNEAPOLIS/MINN. #8)
g - TM removed for registered use: 17c
h - Revalued: 3c over 2c (AKRON/OHIO #615)
j - Value surcharge: 42c + 18c
(HOUSTON/TEXAS #7444)
k - Value box text reads "FIRST CLASS /
MAIL / X CENTS / PAID / permit line":
2c (JACKSONVILLE/FLA. #1)



(PB2j)

NOTE: A 1-1/2 cent permit stamp from Springfield, Ill. dated 1943 exists with "First Class Mail" in the value box. Since 1-1/2 cents was never a first class rate, this is an error of endorsement and not a first class permit stamp.

PB3 Similar to type PB2 but F/V removed

None seen dated.

a - PRESORTED or variation added

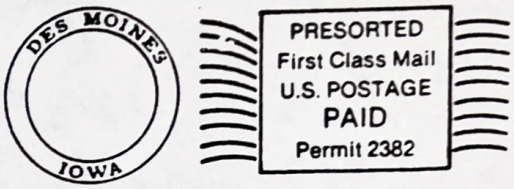
b - Redundant city/state added

c - POST CARD RATE added:
MECHANICSBURG/PA #140

d - City, state and ZIP code in TM

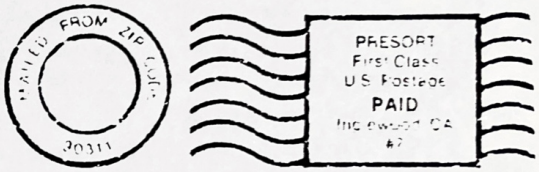
e - TM reads:
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE/ XXXXX

f - As "e" but with city
and state names added:
MFZC/90311 (Inglewood, CA #7)



(PB3a)

(PB3c)



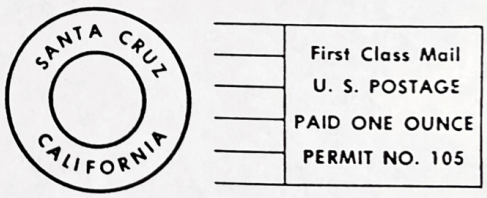
(PB3f)

PB4 Similar to type PB2 but
value in weight (ounces).

Value: 1 oz.

a - PRESORTED or variation added

b - TM contains city, state and
ZIP code



PB5 Customized permit stamp similar
to type PB3 in that there is
no F/V but a stylized eagle
surrounds the design.

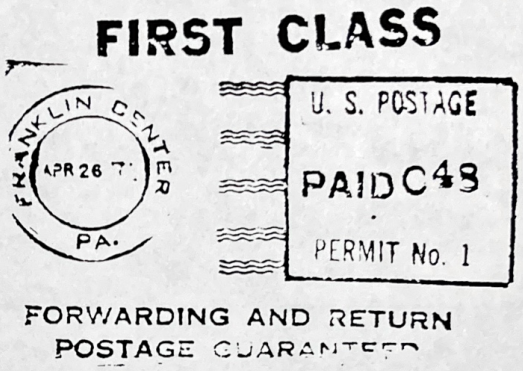
One permit known:
CHICAGO/ILLINOIS #3873

PB6 Unusual permit stamp with five groups of three wavy lines on left side of value box and none on the right. The date is in one line. Although there is a F/V there is no value indicator such as a cent sign. FIRST CLASS is above and outside the value box. The permit is FRANKLIN CENTER/PA. #1.

One example, in black, has been seen.
It appears to be a handstamp.

EKU: APR 26, 1971

Value: 048

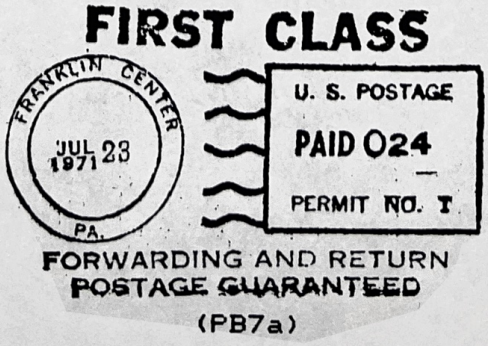


PB7 Very similar to type PB6 but instead of five groups of three wavy lines there are five thick non-parallel lines emanating from the left side of the value box. The date has a small month over a small year both to the left of a large day. FIRST CLASS is the top line inside the value box. All examples seen have "FORWARDING AND RETURN/POSTAGE GUARANTEED" below. All seen are in violet and appear to be handstamped. The permit is the same as for type PB6.

EKU: JUN 19, 1971

Values: 24, 024, 32, 032,
40, 040, 64, 064

a - With FIRST CLASS, large or small, above and outside value box: 024, 032



(PB7a)

TYPE PC

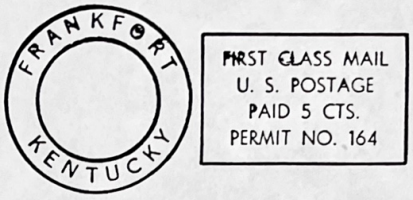
SIMILAR TO GROUP "F" PERMIT STAMPS: SEPARATE TOWNMARK AND NO LINES OUTSIDE THE VALUE BOX ON EITHER SIDE.

PC1 Text lines in value box typically read as follows:

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID X CENTS/CTS./C

EKU: MAY 14, 1946

Values: 3c, 5c



PC2 Similar to type PC1 but F/V removed.

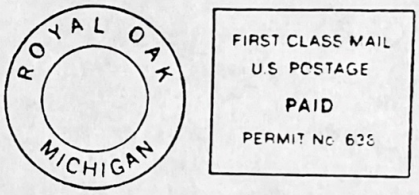
None seen with date.

a - PRESORTED or variation added

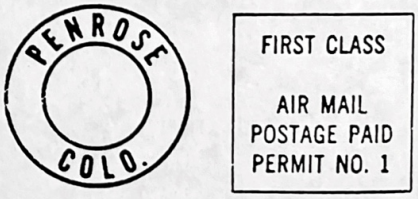
b - "POST CARD RATE" added

c - "AIR MAIL" replaces U.S.

d - TM reads
"FIRST CLASS /
JERICO,N.Y. 11753
(#140)



(PC2b)

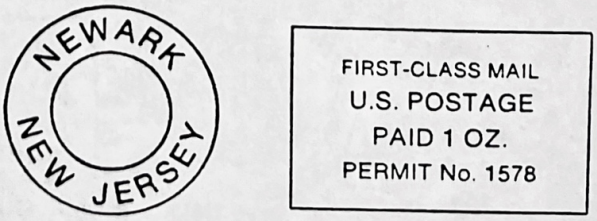


(PC2c)

PC3 Similar to type PC1 but value in weight (ounces). Only one ounce seen.

No dated copies seen.

a - Bulk rate value box along side of first class value box: MEMPHIS/ TENN #329



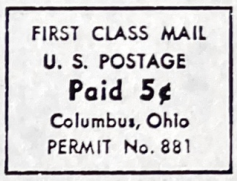
TYPE PD

SIMILAR TO GROUP "G" PERMIT STAMPS: NO SEPARATE TOWNMARK, LEFT AND/OR RIGHT LINES MAY OR MAY NOT BE PRESENT. NONE ARE DATED.

PD1 Text in value box typically reads as follows:

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID X CTS./C
city state
permit line

Values: 2c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 15c



a - User's name replaces city state and permit lines

b - PRESORTED or variation added

c - No first class designation: 6c

d - no city state line: 2c, 8c

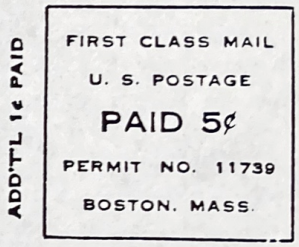
e - As "d" but value line reads PAID ON .05 CTS.

f - Value surcharged: 5c + 1c

g - With empty double circular 'townmark': 5c

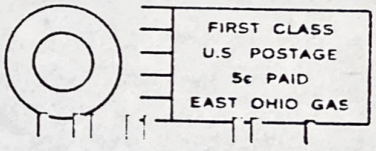
h - Error in town name - OKLAHOMA, OKLA. (#125): 2c

j - Lines in value box are as follows: UNITED STATES / First Class Mail / Paid X Cents / permit line / city state: 17c (Pasadena, Cal. #278)

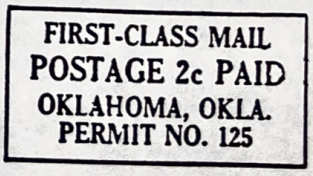


FIRST CLASS

(PD1f)



(PD1g)



(PD1h)

PD2 Similar to type PD1 but F/V omitted.

a - "PRESORTED" or variation added

b - With ZIP code added

c - With "ZIP + 4" added

d - With "ZIP + 4 BARCODED" or variation added

e - With MAILED FROM ZIP CODE XXXXX replacing town and state names

f - With CARRIER ROUTE or variation added

g - With POSTCARD RATE or variation added

h - With user's name replacing city state and permit lines

j - With "U.S." removed and with user's name replacing city, state and permit lines

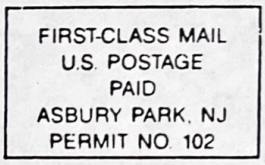
k - With "U.S. POSTAGE PAID" removed

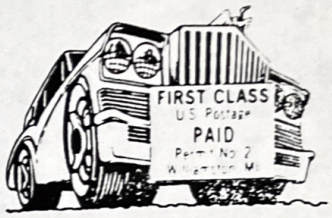
m - With FIRST CLASS MAIL outside of value box: Phila.,Pa #1379

n - With "FIRST CLASS MAIL/U.S. POSTAGE PAID / PERMIT #" press printed, and with permit number and town, state, and ZIP code applied by typewriter (computer printer): HADDON HGTS/NJ, 08035 #220

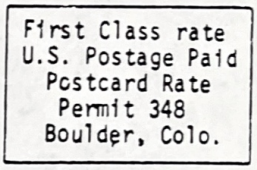
p - With text as follows: ZIP + 4
PRE-SORT
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
User's name
and with dated circular townmark applied separately by a Hasler printer: NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE

q - Without class designation, used as an overprint on a government postal card

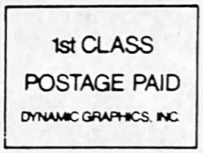




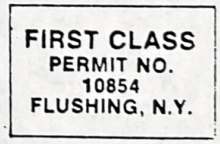
(PD2f)



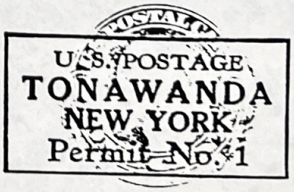
(PD2g)



(PD2j)



(PD2k)



(PD2q)

(PD2p)

PD3 Similar to type PD1 but value in weight (ounces).

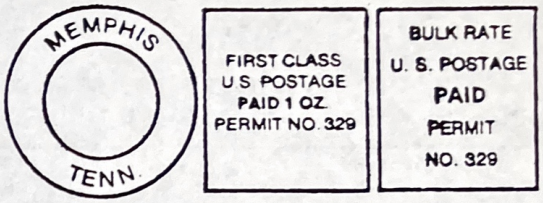
Values: 1 oz, 2 oz

a - PRESORTED or variation added

b - With name of user relpacing town state and permit lines

c - With bulk rate value box beside first class box: 1 oz

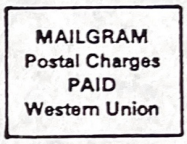
d - As "b" but with empty double circle 'townmark': 1 oz (EAST OHIO GAS)



(PD3c)

PD4 Western Union / USPS Mailgram permit stamp. Lines in box read:

MAILGRAM
Postal Charges
PAID
Western Union



PD5 Permit stamp custom designed for Western Union. Yellow letters on a black box with stylized "W" and "U" as part of the design. Text reads as follows:

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
W U
western union

PD6 Permit stamp custom designed for US News and World Report. This is the press printed version of Bell & Howell type GD1.

a - With machine printed "PRESORTED / FIRST CLASS" between horizontal lines added to the left of the press printed indicium

(PD6a)

TYPE PE

SIMILAR TO "PD" TYPE PERMIT STAMPS EXCEPT FRAME REMOVED AROUND TEXT. THE STAMP IS MADE UP OF LINES OF TEXT ONLY. OCCASIONALLY EXAMPLES ARE FOUND WITH LINES ABOVE AND BELOW THE TEXT BUT NEVER COMPLETELY SURROUNDING IT, ELSE IT WOULD BE A TYPE "PD" STAMP.

PE1 Text typicaly as follows:

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
city state
permit line

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CREDIT CARD SERVICE BUREAU

(PE1b)

a - PRESORTED or variation added

b - User's name in place of city state and permit lines

c - No city state or user's name

First Class Mail
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 44329

(PE1c)

d - Entire permit stamp consists of one line: FIRST CLASS MAIL. The user is National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees, Washington, D.C.

PE2 Similar to type PE1 but there is a figure of value in weight (ounces) present. Only one ounce examples have been seen.

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID 1 OZ
PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

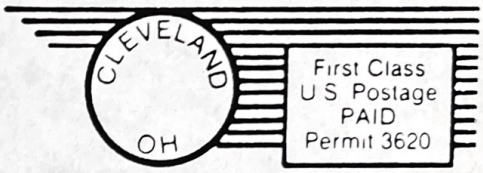
PE3 Western Union / USPS Mailgram permit stamp without value box. Two lines of text as follows in white on a blue background:

MAILGRAM POSTAL
CHARGES PAID

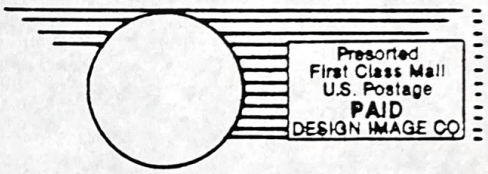
TYPE PF

PRESS PRINTED PERMIT STAMPS THAT MIMIC THE DESIGNS OF POSTAGE METER STAMPS.

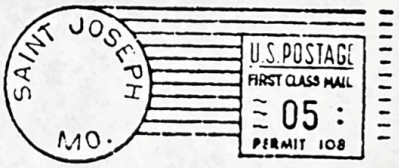
PF1 Mimics Pitney-Bowes R meter stamps (Simon/Walsh group H types). These are similar to permit type JB1. Town and state in circular portion of stamp



PF2 Very similar to type PF1 except the user's name is in the bottom of the value box. The circular portion of the stamp is empty.

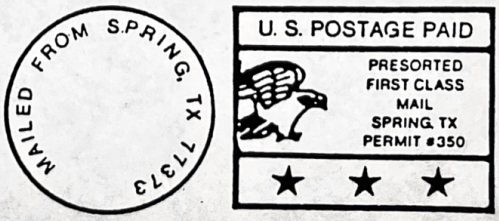


PF3 Similar to types PF1 and PF2 except there are no lines to the left of the TM. The value box is square.



PF4 Mimics Hasler postage meter stamps (Simon/Walsh group L types)

Only one permit is known:
MAILED FROM SPRING, TX 77373
#350

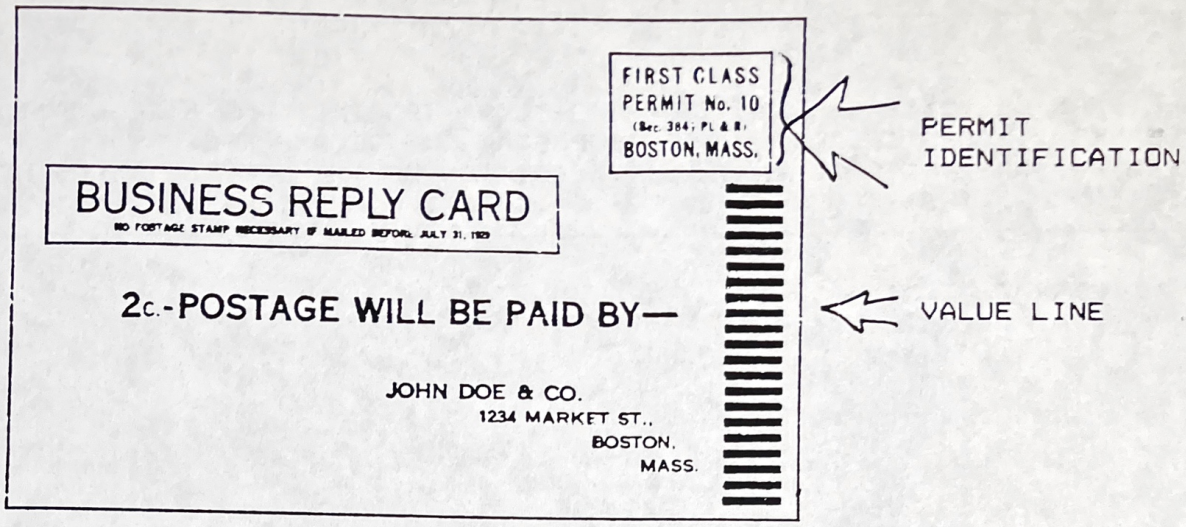


GROUP R BUSINESS REPLY MAIL PERMITS

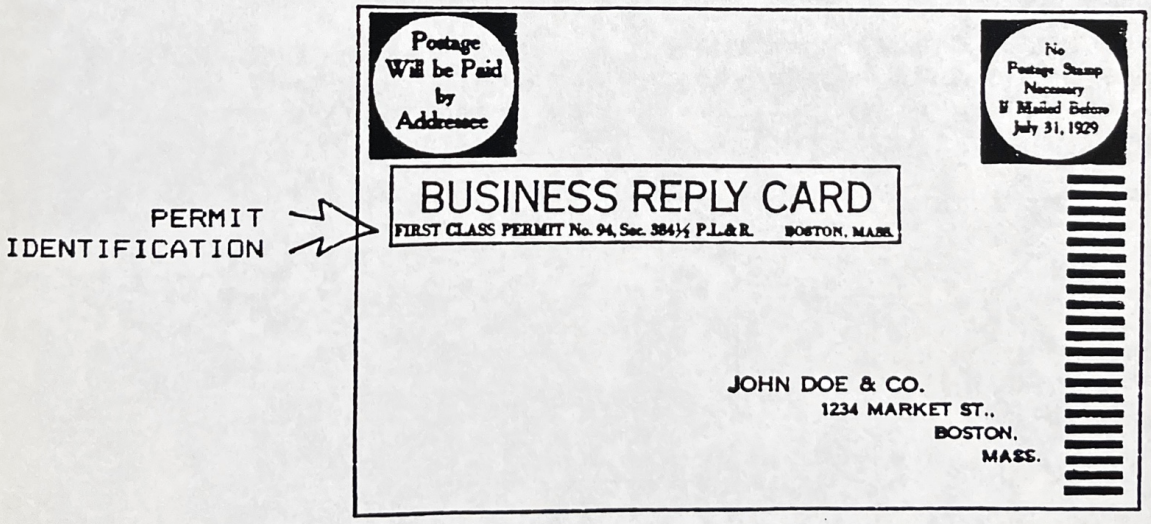
BEFORE 1928 MAIL ORDER BUSINESSES WOULD INCLUDE ORDINARY PRE-ADDRESSED CARDS OR ENVELOPES WITH POSTAGE STAMPS AFFIXED FOR THEIR BUSINESS REPLY MAIL. SINCE THE RESPONSE TO DIRECT MAIL ADVERTISING IS QUITE LOW, THESE BUSINESSES PRESSURED THE POD FOR A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD ALLOW THEM TO PAY POSTAGE ONLY FOR THOSE CARDS AND ENVELOPES RETURNED BY CUSTOMERS. THE POD RESPONDED BY ADDING TO THE POSTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS SECTION 384-1/2 (EFFECTIVE JUL 1, 1928) WHICH ALLOWED FOR THE TRANSMISSION IN THE MAILS WITHOUT PREPAYMENT OF POSTAGE BUSINESS REPLY CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

TO PAY FOR THIS SERVICE THE POSTAGE CHARGED BY THE POD WAS HIGHER THAN THE PREVAILING FIRST CLASS RATE FOR CARDS AND ENVELOPES. THIS RATE, THREE CENTS FOR CARDS AND FOUR CENTS FOR ENVELOPES, WAS SOON LOWERED TO TWO CENTS AND THREE CENTS RESPECTIVELY BUT WAS STILL A PENNY HIGHER THAN THE NORMAL FIRST CLASS RATES. THE USERS OF THIS SYSTEM WERE TO PAY THE POD A CASH DEPOSIT IN ADVANCE EQUIVALENT TO THE CHARGES DUE ON THE NUMBER OF CARDS/ENVELOPES "LIKELY TO BE RETURNED." AS THE CARDS AND ENVELOPES WERE RETURNED, POSTAGE DUE STAMPS WOULD BE AFFIXED, AND THIS AMOUNT WOULD BE DEDUCTED FROM THE USER'S LINE OF CREDIT.

THERE WERE TWO BASIC FORMATS FOR BUSINESS REPLY MAIL IN THE UNITED STATES. COMMON TO BOTH FORMATS ARE A SERIES OF PARALLEL HORIZONTAL LINES OR HASH MARKS SITUATED ALONG THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE CARD/ENVELOPE, AND NEAR THE CENTER ARE THE WORDS "BUSINESS REPLY CARD/ENVELOPE/MAIL", USUALLY IN A RECTANGULAR FRAME.



THE FIRST FORMAT, DESIGNATED FORMAT "A" IN THIS CATALOG, HAS THE PERMIT IDENTIFICATION -- "FIRST CLASS", THE PERMIT LINE, THE PL&R SECTION NO. AND THE CITY AND STATE -- LOCATED IN A RECTANGLE IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER ABOVE THE HASH MARKS. THE MESSAGE "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED BEFORE XXXX" OR "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES (OR "U.S.")" IS SITUATED BELOW THE WORDS "BUSINESS REPLY..." (THE VARIETY "NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY..." IS COMMONLY FOUND). THE VALUE LINE -- Xc POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY -- IS ABOVE THE ADDRESS.



FORMAT "B" HAS SQUARES (USUALLY WITH INNER CIRCLES) IN BOTH UPPER CORNERS. THE RIGHT SQUARE CONTAINS THE MESSAGE "NO POSTAGE (STAMP) NECESSARY IF MAILED...", AND THE LEFT CONTAINS THE MESSAGE "POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE". OFTEN THE USER'S NAME WILL BE SUBSTITUTED FOR "ADDRESSEE". THE PERMIT IDENTIFICATION, LOCATED IN THE UPPER RIGHT RECTANGLE ON FORMAT "A", IS BELOW THE WORDS "BUSINESS REPLY..." ON FORMAT "B". FORMAT "B" WAS DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR A VALUE LINE ALTHOUGH VARIETIES SHOWING A VALUE LINE EXIST.

TYPE RA

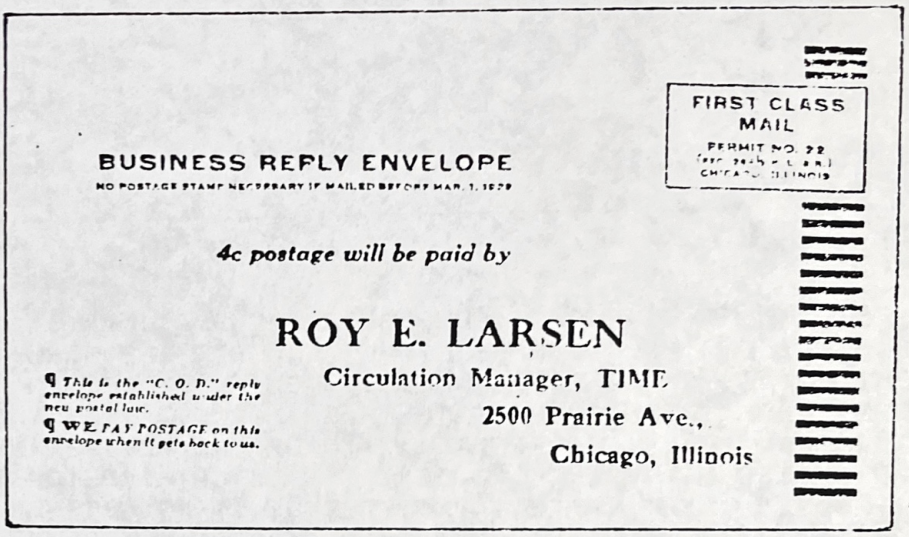
ALL EXAMPLES CITE "SECTION 384-1/2 PL&R" (POSTAL LAWS & REGULATIONS) IN THE PERMIT IDENTIFICATION. THIS POSTAL LAW BECAME EFFECTIVE JUL 1, 1928 AND WAS INSERTED IN THE 1924 EDITION OF THE PL&R BETWEEN THE SECTION ON FIRST CLASS MAIL (384) AND THAT FOR "AEROPLANE" MAIL (385).

RA1 FORMAT A, with expiration date and with value line.
Effective date: JUL 1, 1928

Earliest expiration date seen is Oct. 8, 1928.

C - CARD, values: 2c, 3c(VR)

E - ENVELOPE, values: 3c, 4c(R)

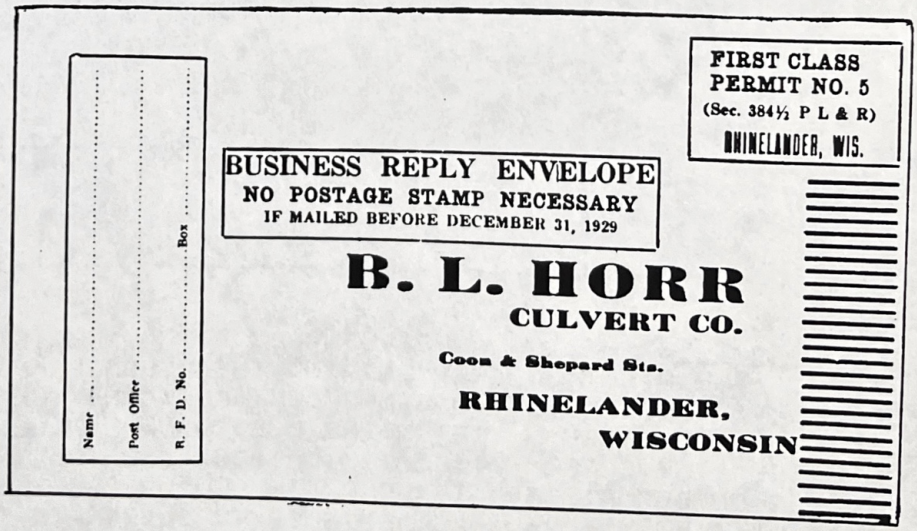


NOTE: Effective OCT 1, 1929, when the rates were lowered from 3c to 2c for cards and from 4c to 3c for envelopes, provision was made for accepting registered business reply mail. No examples have been seen by this writer.

RA2 FORMAT A with expiration date but without value line.

C - CARD (VR)

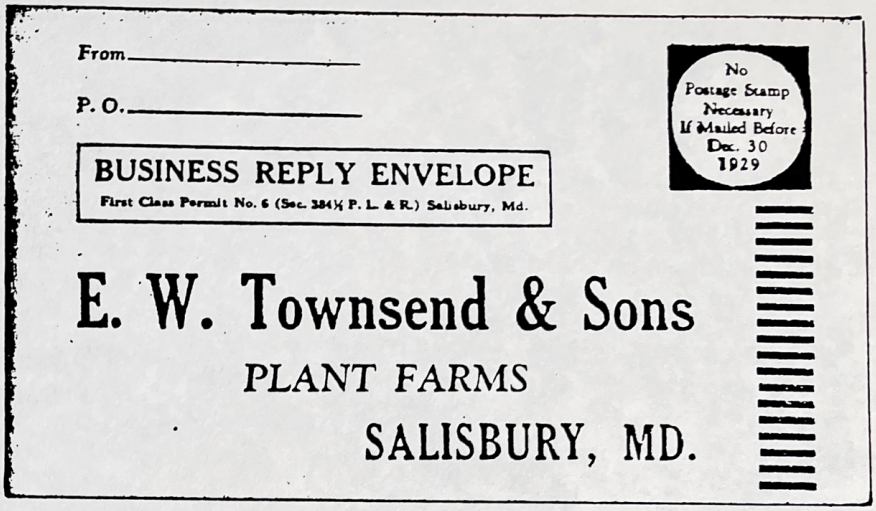
E - ENVELOPE (R)



RA3 FORMAT B with expiration date and with value line.

E - ENVELOPE, value: 3c (VR)

Ea - Left square omitted



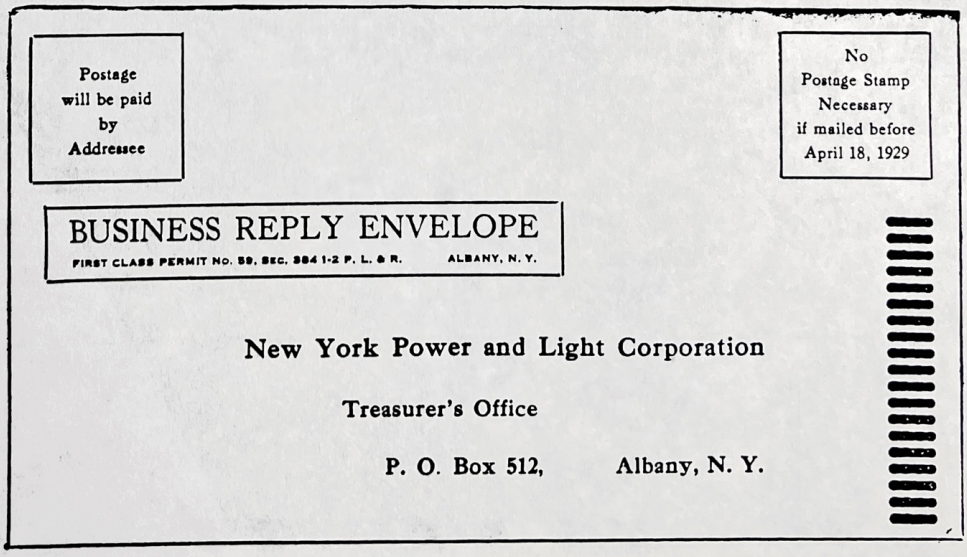
(RA3Ea)

RA4 FORMAT B with expiration date but without value line.

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ea - Left square omitted
Eb - "NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY..." imprint omitted

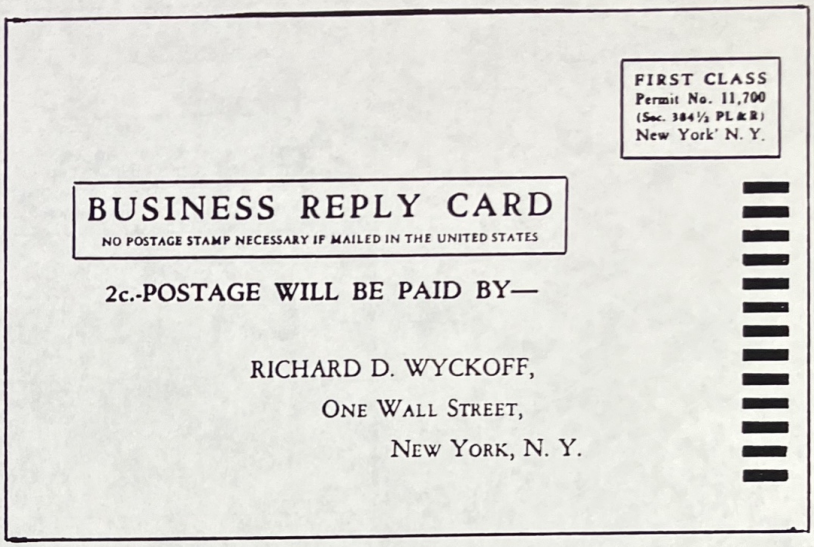


RA5 FORMAT A without expiration date but with value line.

C - CARD, values: 2c, 4c (RRR)

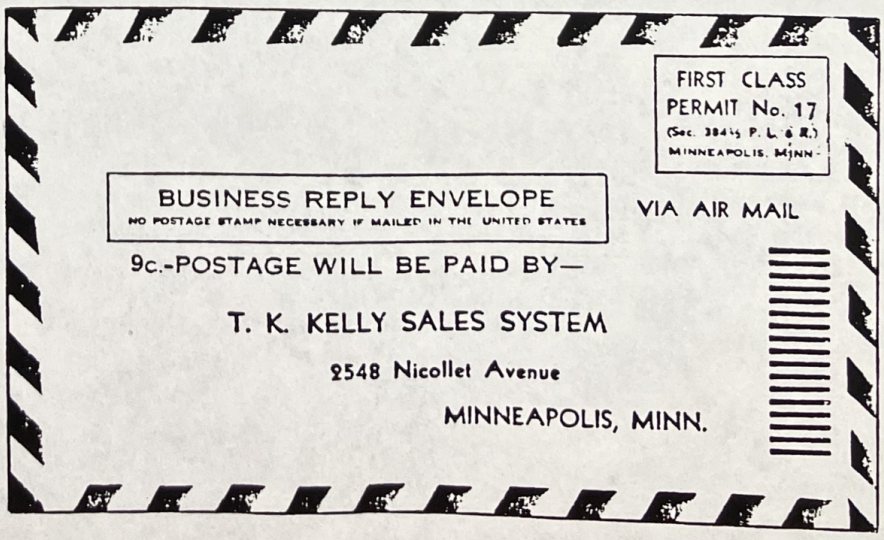
E - ENVELOPE, values: 3c, 4c

Ca - Envelope with "CARD" imprint: 4c
Ea - Card with "ENVELOPE" imprint: 2c
Eb - "NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY..." message omitted



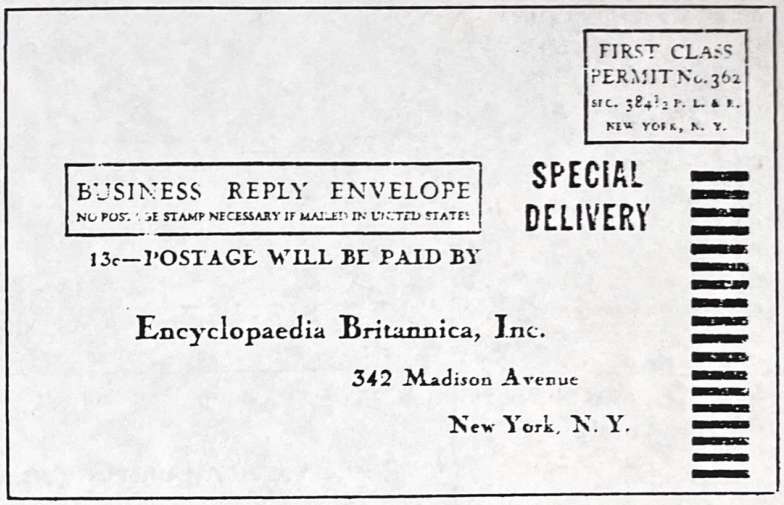
RA6 AIR MAIL FORMAT A without expiration date but with value line. Authorized air mail reply cards and envelopes were required by the PL&R to have a border of alternating red and blue lozenges.

E - ENVELOPE, value: 9c (RRR) (T.K.Kelly Sales System, Minneapolis, MN #17)



RA7 SPECIAL DELIVERY FORMAT A without expiration date but with value line.

E - ENVELOPE, Value: 13c(RRR) (Encyclopaedia Britannica, New York, NY #362)

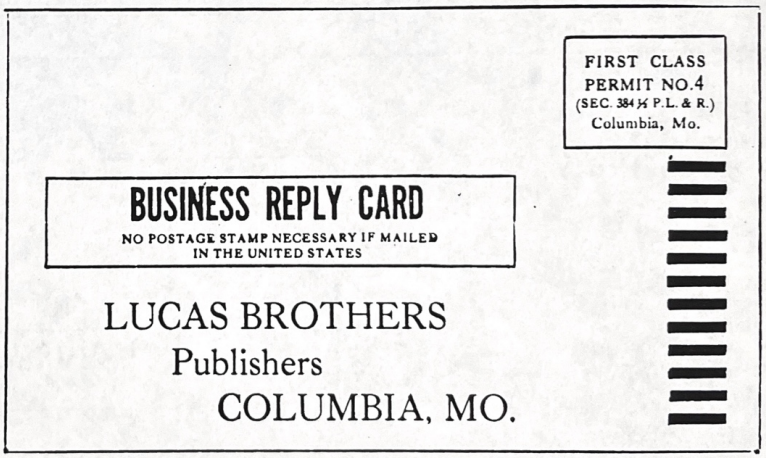


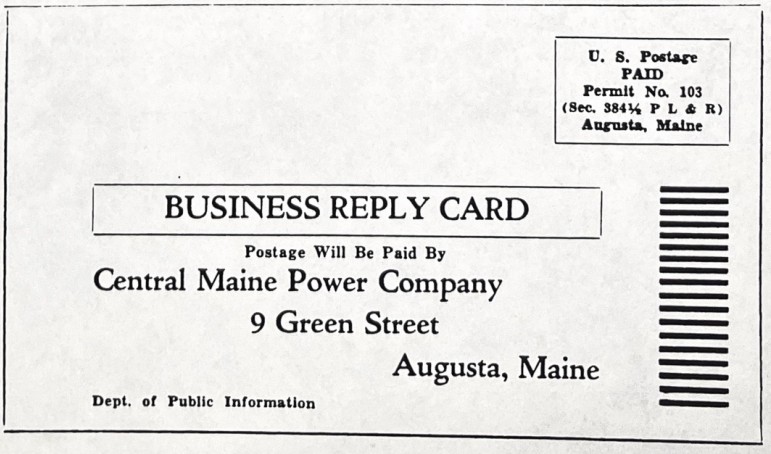
RA8 FORMAT A without expiration date or value line

C - CARD (R)

E - ENVELOPE (R)

Ca - Right square contains "U.S. POSTAGE PAID..." instead of "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..."





(RA8Ca)

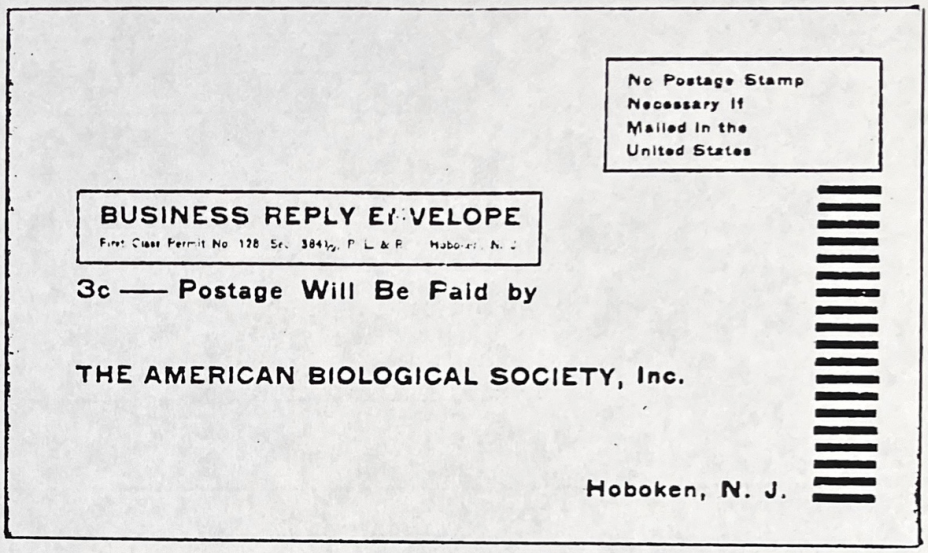
RA9 FORMAT B without expiration date but with value line

C - CARD
value: 2c (VR)

E -ENVELOPE,
value: 3c (VR)

Ca - Left square omitted: 2c
Ea - Left square omitted: 3c
Eb - Messages in squares reversed: "NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY..." in left square, "POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY..." in right.

(RA9Ea)

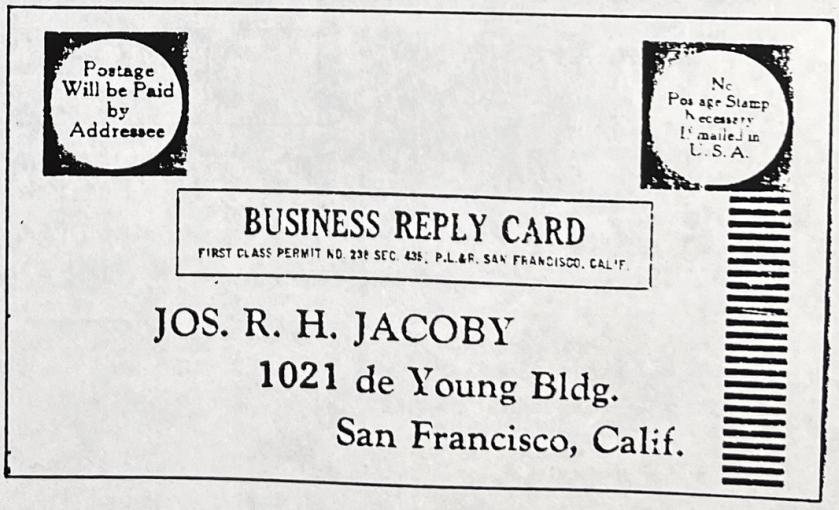


RA10 FORMAT B without expiration date or value line.

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ca - Left square omitted
Cb - Squares omitted from around messages
Cc - Envelope with "CARD" inscription
Ea - Left square omitted
Eb - Messages in squares reversed
Ec - Card with "ENVELOPE" inscription



TYPE RB

ALL EXAMPLES CITE "SECTION 510 PL&R" IN THE INDICIA.
THIS CHANGE CAME INTO EFFECT OCTOBER 1, 1934.

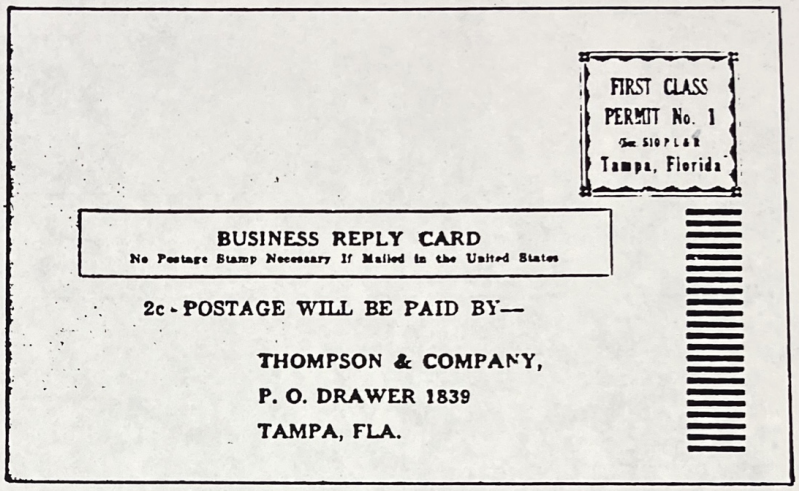
TYPE "RB" REPLY PERMITS DO NOT HAVE EXPIRATION DATES.

RB1 FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, values:
2c, 3c(RRR), 4c(R)

E - ENVELOPE, values:
2c(RRR), 3c(VR), 4c

Ca - No hash marks along right side: 2c
Cb - FORMAT B markings (squared circles in upper corners) but with FORMAT A arrangement of messages: 2c
Cc - Envelope with "CARD" inscription: 2c
Ea - Card with "ENVELOPE" inscription: 2c

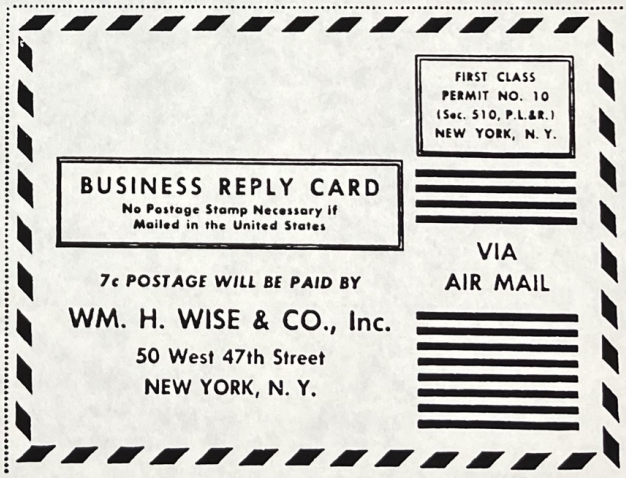


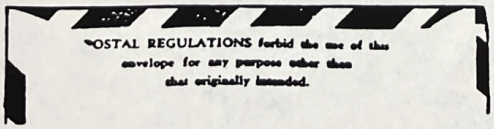
RB2 AIR MAIL FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, values:
6c(VR), 7c,
9c(VR)

E - ENVELOPE, values:
6c(R), 7c, 9c(R)

Ea - With warning on reverse: 7c, 9c (see note below)





NOTE: In FEB 1940 the POD recommended (did not require) reply mail users add the following inscription to the reverse of their cards and envelopes: "Important notice - The use of this card (or envelope) for purposes other than for which it is sent is contrary to postal regulations and will be dealt with accordingly."

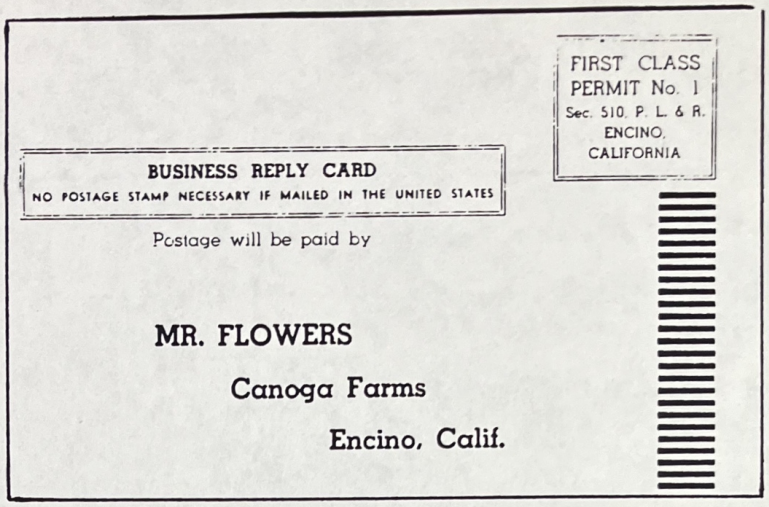
RB3 FORMAT A without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

LE - LETTER (RRR) (error)

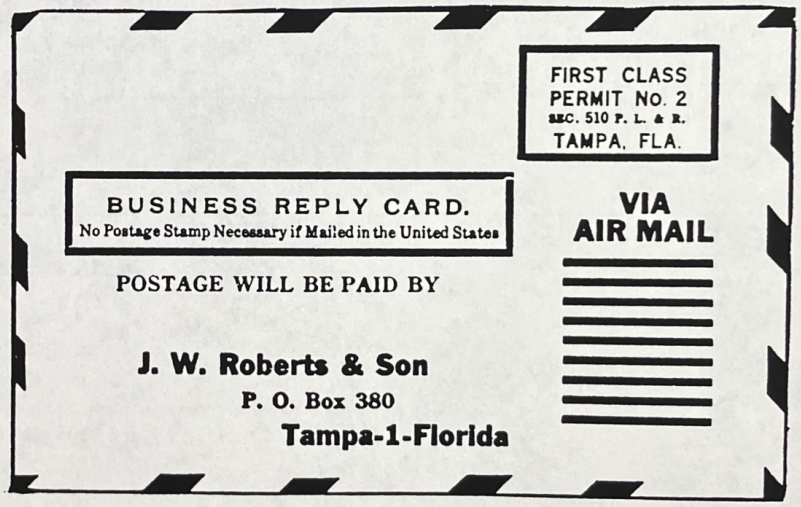
Ca - No hash marks along right side
Cb - Envelope with "CARD" inscription



RB4 AIR MAIL FORMAT A without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE



RB5 BUSINESS REPLY BOX. In MAR 1939 the POD authorized the experimental use of business reply boxes for the use of opticians, dental labs and other businesses to send to their customers for use in returning eyeglasses, dentures, etc. for repair. These items required the inscription BUSINESS REPLY BOX and FIRST-CLASS MAIL as well as the indicia required for business reply cards and envelopes. None have been seen by this writer.

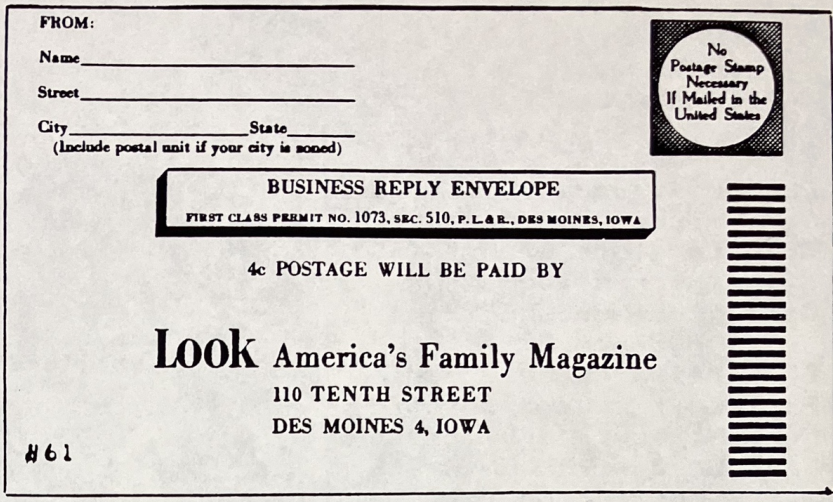
RB6 FORMAT B with value line

C - CARD, values:
2c, 4c(RRR)

E - ENVELOPE,
Value: 4c(R)

Ca - Left square omitted:
2c (Noble & Noble,
New York, NY #14791)

Ea - Left square omitted:
4c



(RB6Ea)

RB7 AIR MAIL FORMAT B with value line

E - ENVELOPE,
Value: 6c(RRR)
(Highlights for
Children,
Columbus, OH
#1167)

Ea - Left square omitted:
6c, 7c (both CORONET,
Chicago, IL #18287)

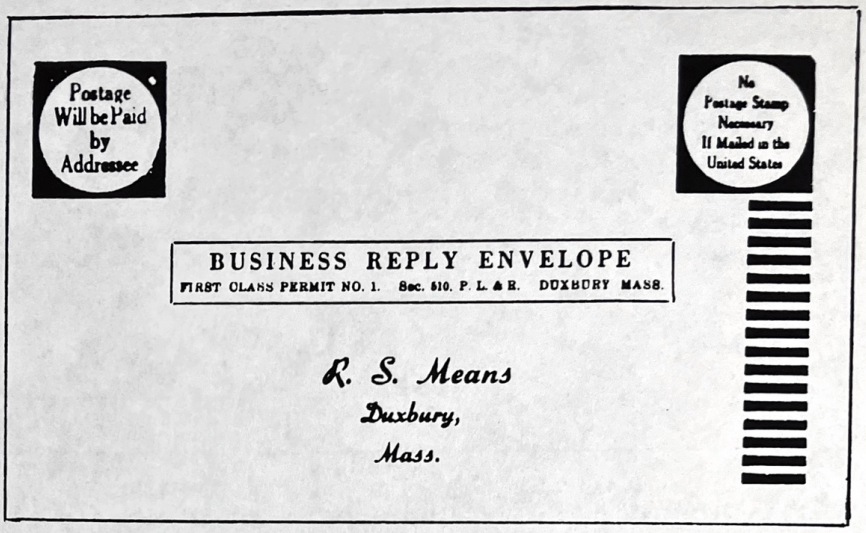
(RB7Ea)

RB8 FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ca - Messages reversed
Cb - Left square omitted
Cc - Without hash marks
Cd - Envelope with "CARD" inscription
Ce - "BUSINESS REPLY POST CARD"
Ea - Messages reversed
Eb - Left square omitted
Ec - Without hash marks
Ed - Card with "ENVELOPE" inscription
Ee - Hash marks on left side instead of right (LSU, University, LA #1)
Ef - With warning on reverse (American Medical Assn., Chicago, IL #1376)



RB9 AIR MAIL FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD (RRR) (The only example seen by this writer has red lozenges omitted. Blank impressions are visible on the card.) (Leader's Digest, Des Moines, IA # 1159)

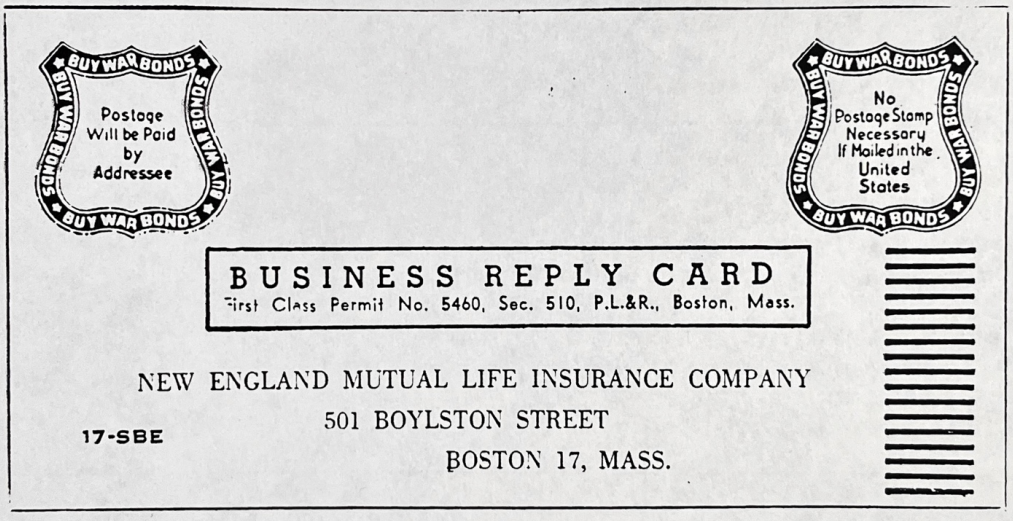
E - ENVELOPE (R)

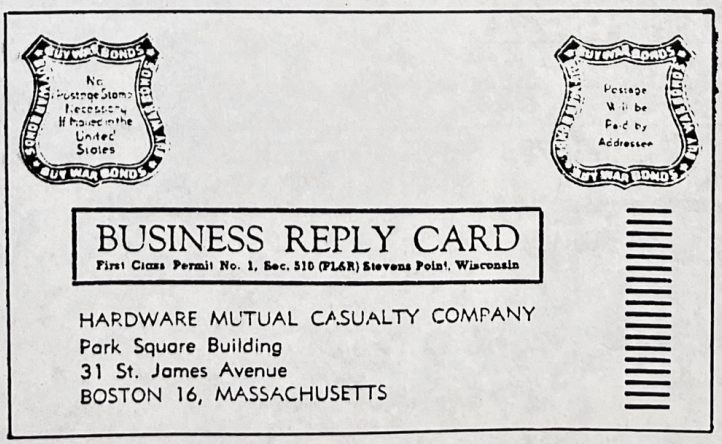
RB12 SHIELD FORMAT B without value line.

C - CARD (RRR)
(New England Mutual Life Ins. Co., Boston, MA #5460)

E - ENVELOPE (R)

Ca - With inscriptions in shields reversed. "Postage Will be Paid by Addressee" in right shield
Ea - Left shield omitted
Eb - Card with "ENVELOPE" inscription. (Judy's, Chicago, IL #59)





(RB12Ca)

TYPE RC

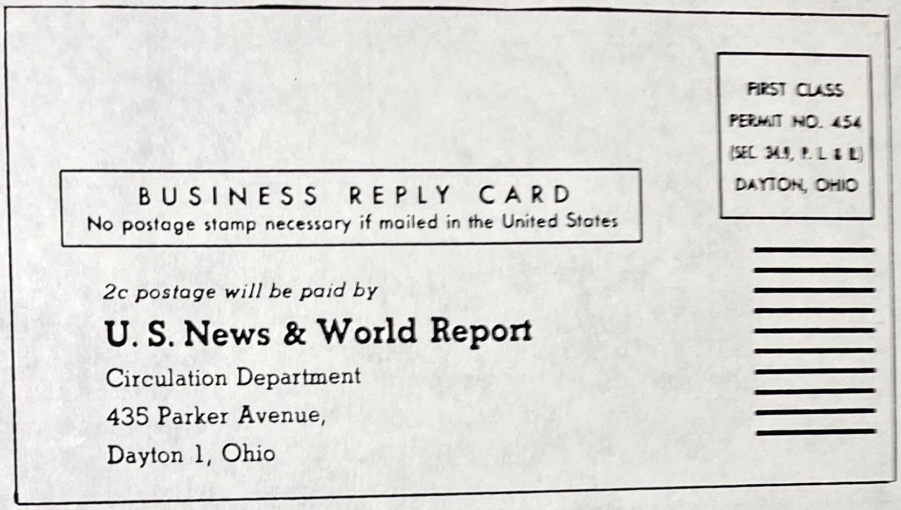
ALL EXAMPLES CITE "SECTION 34.9 PL&R" IN THE INDICIA.
THIS CHANGE CAME INTO EFFECT IN 1948.

RC1 FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, values:
2c, 3c, 4c(R)

E - ENVELOPE,
Value: 4c

Ca - Without hash marks: 2c
(Printing Equip. Engineer, Cleveland, OH #2285)



RC2 AIR MAIL FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, Values:
5c, 7c(VR)

E - ENVELOPE, Value: 7c

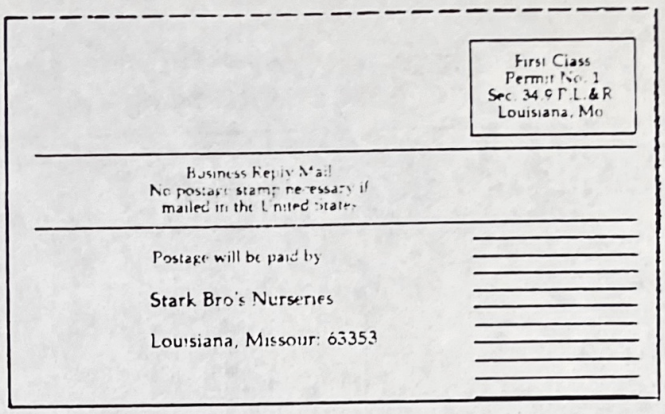
Ca - Without lozenges: 7c ("VIA AIRMAIL" and "7c" overprinted in red on type RC3.) (American School & University, New York, NY #280)

RC3 FORMAT A, without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

M - MAIL (RRR) (Stark Bro's Nurseries, Louisiana, MO #1)



Ca - Envelope with "CARD" (The Franklin Institute, Phila., PA #4218)

Cb - "3.49" instead of "34.9" (Book of the Month Club, New York, NY #419)

Cc - "NO POSTAGE STAMP NECESSARY..." message omitted. Permit line is below "BUSINESS REPLY CARD". Contradictory information citing "SEC. 34.66 PL&R" is in the upper right box. (The Hecht Co., Washington, DC, #209)

RC4 AIRMAIL FORMAT A without figure of value

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ca - No lozenges (Year, Los Angeles, CA #23456)

Cb - Envelope with "CARD" (Douglas Fir Plywod Assn, Tacoma, WA #441)

Ea - Circle in upper right corner, not a square

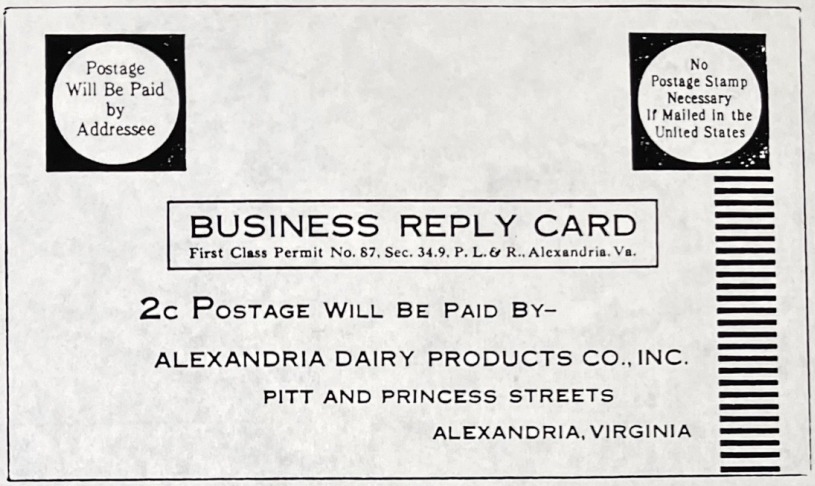
(RC4Ea)

RC5 FORMAT B with value line

C - CARD
Values: 2c(R), 3c(VR), 4c(R)

E - ENVELOPE,
Value: 4c(R)

Ea - Left square omitted (Hickory Valley Farm, Stroudsburg, PA #48)



RC6 AIR MAIL FORMAT B with value line

C - CARD, value: 7c(RRR)
(Progressive Architecture, New York, NY #1538)

E - ENVELOPE, value: 7c(VR)

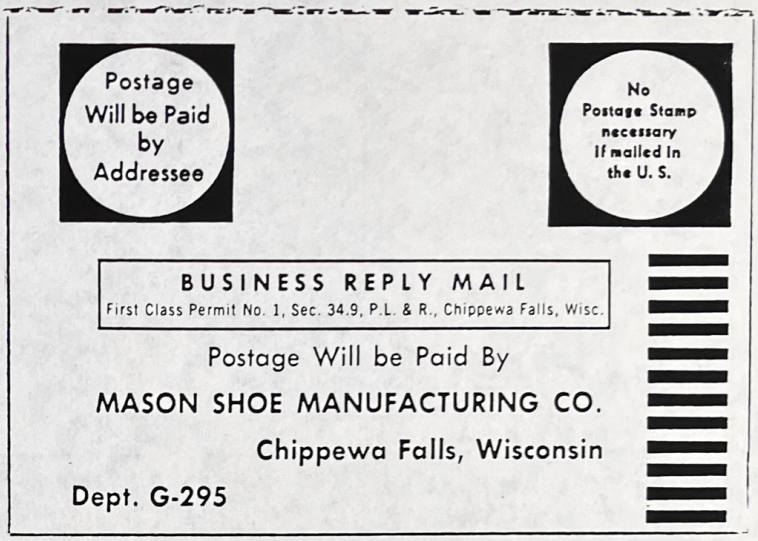
RC7 FORMAT B without value line

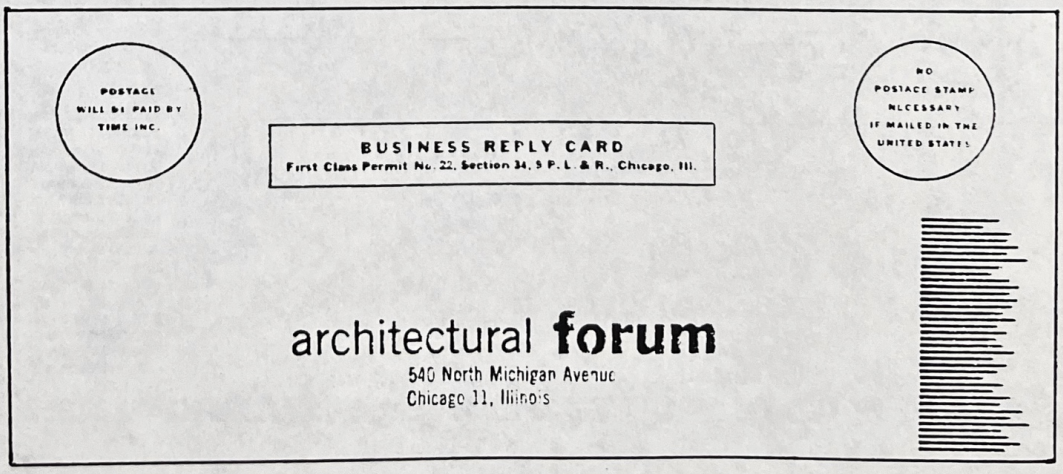
C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

M - MAIL (VR)

Ca - Messages reversed
Cb - With circles only, no squares around circles
Cc - "BUSINESS REPLY POST CARD"
Cd - Hash marks omitted
Ce - Left square omitted and "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." message omitted. "POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY..." in upper right square
Cf - "Sec. 349 PL&R" in place of 34.9 (Steel Rails, Davenport, IA #722)
Ea - Messages reversed
Eb - Left square omitted
Ec - Card with "ENVELOPE" inscription
Ed - Warning on reverse (Consumers Research, Inc., Washington, NJ #12)





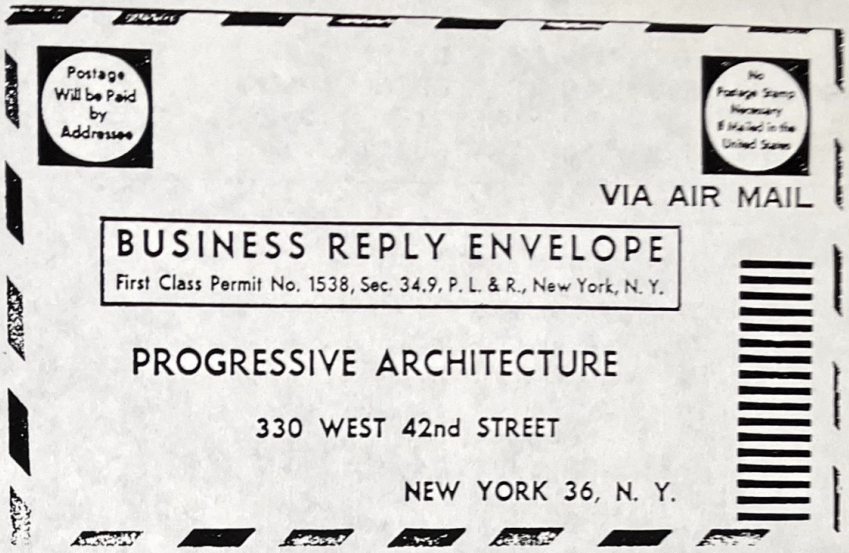
(RC7Cb)

RC8 AIR MAIL FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ea - Warning on reverse



RC9 BUSINESS REPLY stamp, without value line (RRR)

Dear Subscriber:

Your subscription will expire with the issue you receive this month -- unless you use this stamp to return the convenient card enclosed now.

We hope it is your wish that The Reader's Digest continue its monthly visits to your home. That is why we have made it SO EASY for you to reply, by simply using this special stamp, and the renewal card with your address already printed on it. SEND NO MONEY NOW. You can pay later.

No copies may be sent after your subscription expires, but if you mail the card today you will not miss the next issue.

FIRST CLASS
Permit No. 4
(Sec. 34.9 P.L.&R.)
Pleasantville, N.Y.

THIS STAMP GOOD ONLY ON ENCLOSED CARD

Sincerely,

Carolyn Davis

TYPE RD

NO PL&R SECTION NUMBER CITED. EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 1954 THE NAME WAS CHANGED FROM PL&R TO "POSTAL MANUAL". IN THIS NEW PUBLICATION THE BUSINESS REPLY MAIL SECTION (131.23) NO LONGER REQUIRED THE SECTION NUMBER'S INCLUSION IN INDICIA.

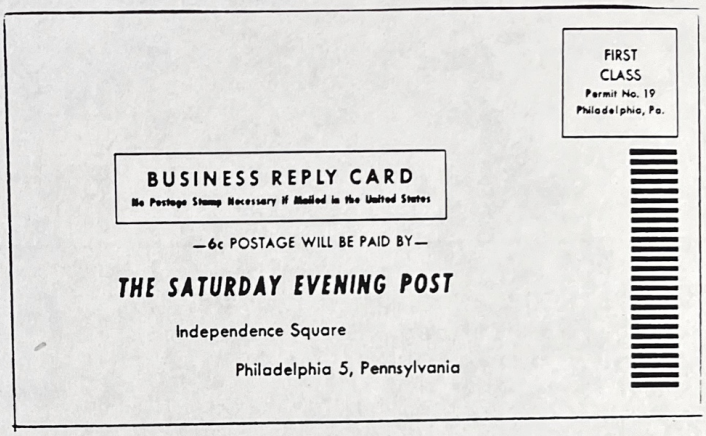
RD1 FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, values:
2c (New Wrinkle Inc., Dayton, OH #945),
3c, 4c,
6c (Saturday Evening Post, Phila., PA #19)

E - ENVELOPE, values:
4c,
5c (Home S&L, Los Angeles, CA #25215)

M - MAIL, value: 5c
(D. Van Nostrand Co., Princeton, NJ #183)

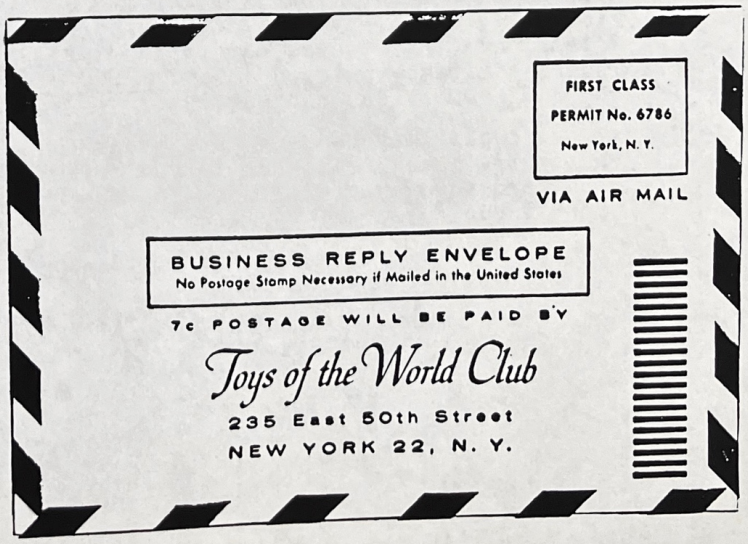
Ea - Hash marks omitted
(Arlington Committee to Preserve Public Schools, Arlington, VA #846)



RD2 AIR MAIL FORMAT A with value line

E - ENVELOPE, values:
7c, 8c (First Western S&L, Las Vegas, NV #256),
9c (LOOK, Des Moines, IA #1073)

M - MAIL, value: 9c



RD3 AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY
FORMAT A with value line

E - ENVELOPE,
value: 27c
(National
Research
Bureau,
Chicago,
IL #18455)

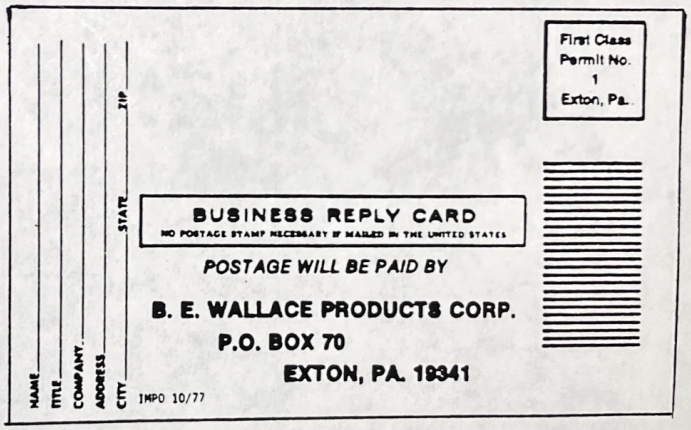
RD4 FORMAT A without value line

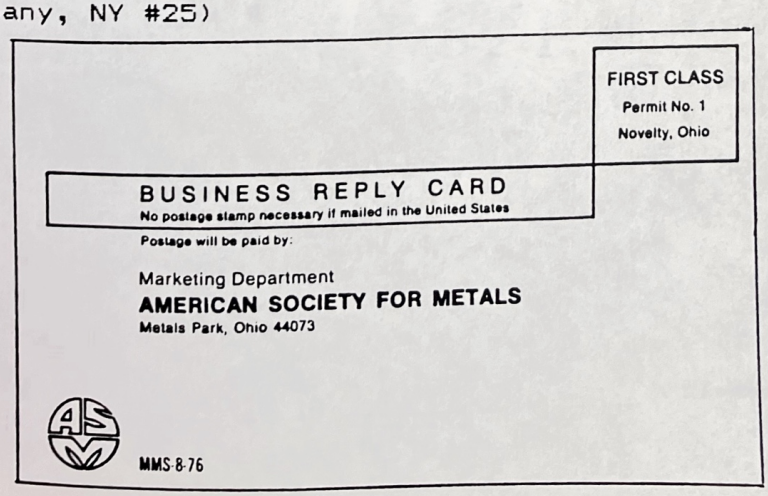
C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

M - MAIL

Ca - Hash marks omitted
Ma - Hash marks omitted
Mb - "NO POSTAGE STAMP
NECESSARY..."
message omitted
Mc - As "Ma" and "Mb"
Md - Circle instead of
square in left corner
(Matthew Bender & Co.,
Albany, NY #25)





(RD4Ca)

RD5 AIR MAIL FORMAT A without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

M - MAIL

Ma - "BUSINESS REPLY AIR MAIL"
Mb - Without red and blue lozenge border
Mc - With semi-circles or other non-authorized shapes in place of lozenges

(RD5Ma)

RD6 FORMAT B without value line

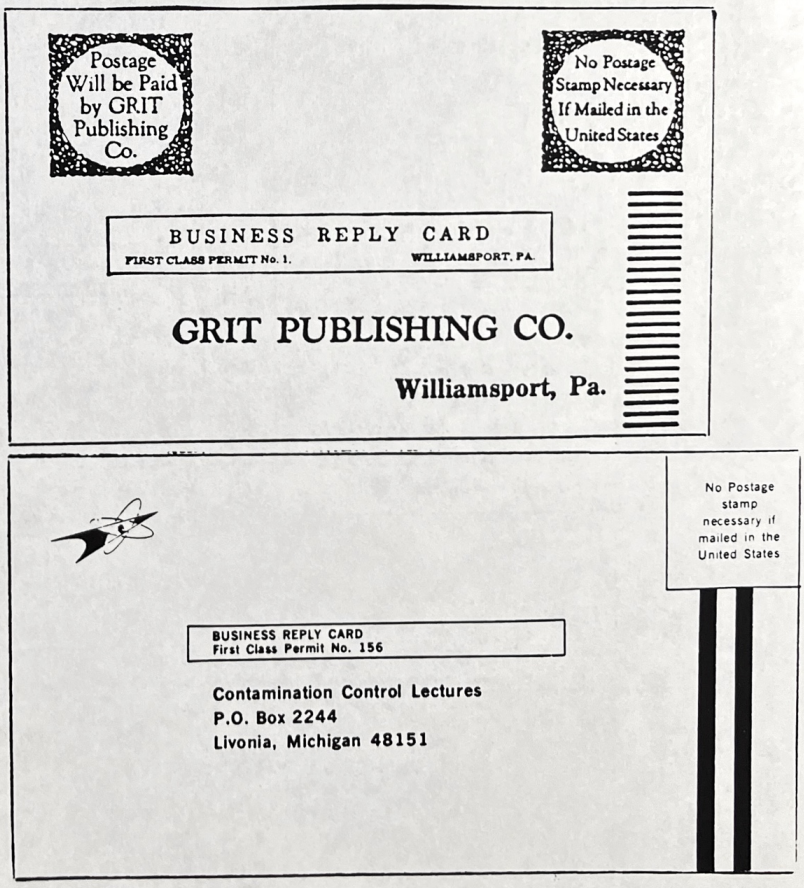
C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

M - MAIL

Ca - Without hash marks
Cb - Hash marks on left side, not right
Cc - Two vertical bars used in place of hash marks. (Contamination Control Lectures, Livonia, MI #156) (See note below.)
Ma - Without hash marks
Mb - Messages in upper squares reversed
Mc - Without hash marks, left square or "POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY..." message

(RD6Cc)



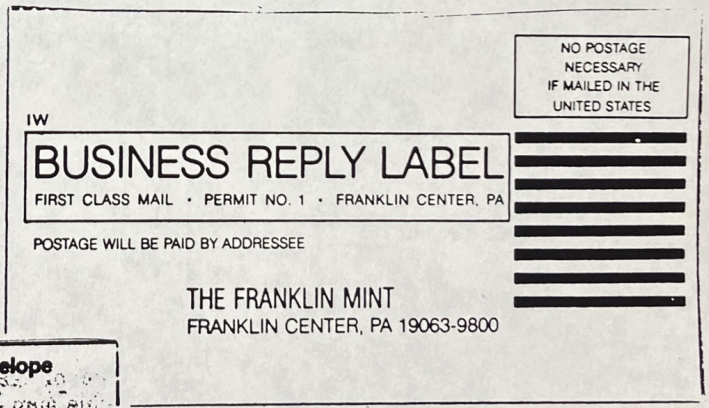
(NOTE: Two vertical bars along the right side is the business reply mail signature of Great Britain.

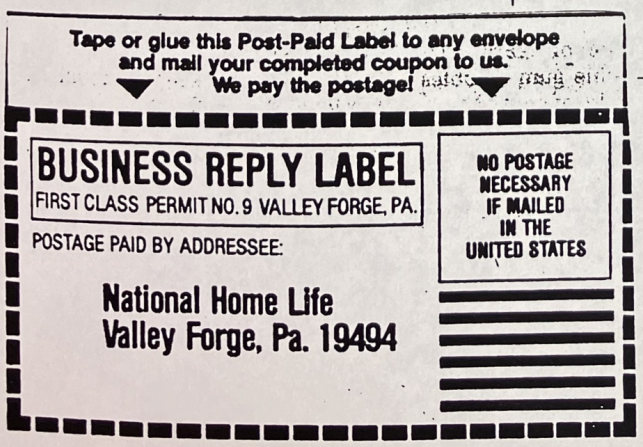
RD7 AIR MAIL FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD (Only one seen, and it has black instead of red and blue lozenges. (Vincent Callahan, Washington, DC #6095-R)

M - MAIL

RD8 BUSINESS REPLY LABEL without value line





TYPE RE

SIMILAR TO "RD" TYPES, BUT A VERTICAL BAR PATTERN (FACING IDENTIFICATION MARK, OR "FIM") HAS BEEN ADDED AT THE TOP TO THE RIGHT OF THE INDICIA. THE PERMIT IDENTIFICATION HAS BEEN MOVED TO BELOW "BUSINESS REPLY CARD/MAIL", AND THE "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." INSCRIPTION NOW OCCUPIES THE RECTANGLE IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER.

THE FIMs ARE USED AS ORIENTATION MARKS FOR AUTOMATIC FACING AND CANCELLING EQUIPMENT. THERE ARE TWO TYPES, DESIGNATED "B" AND "C" BY THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE.:

1-2-2-1

FIM B

2-1-1-2

FIM C

FIM "B" IS USED ON ITEMS WITHOUT BAR CODES. FIM "C" IS USED ON ITEMS WITH BAR CODES. BAR CODES ARE THE SERIES OF SHORT AND SHORTER VERTICAL DASHES FOUND BETWEEN THE ADDRESS AND BOTTOM EDGE OF SOME BUSINESS REPLY MAIL. BAR CODING ALLOWS SORTATION OF MAIL THROUGH AUTOMATED BAR CODE SORTERS INSTEAD OF MANUAL OR MECHANIZED METHODS.

ALL TYPE "RE" REPLY ITEMS ARE FORMAT "A". THE INSCRIPTION "BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE" IS NO LONGER USED. NONE HAVE VALUE LINES.

2-1-2

FIM A

FIM "A" WAS NOT DESIGNED FOR USE ON PRE-STAMPED BUSINESS REPLY MAIL. IT IS USED ON REPLY CARDS WITH BAR CODING BUT WHICH REQUIRE THE RESPONDEE TO SUPPLY THE POSTAGE STAMP.

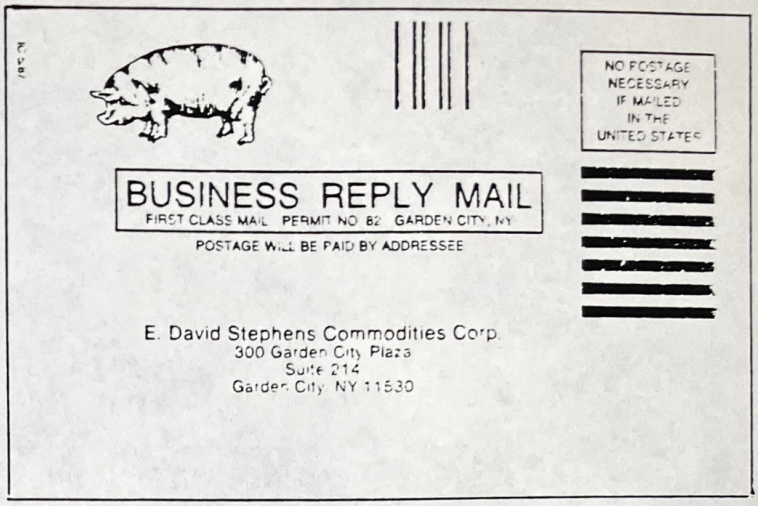
RE1 FIM B

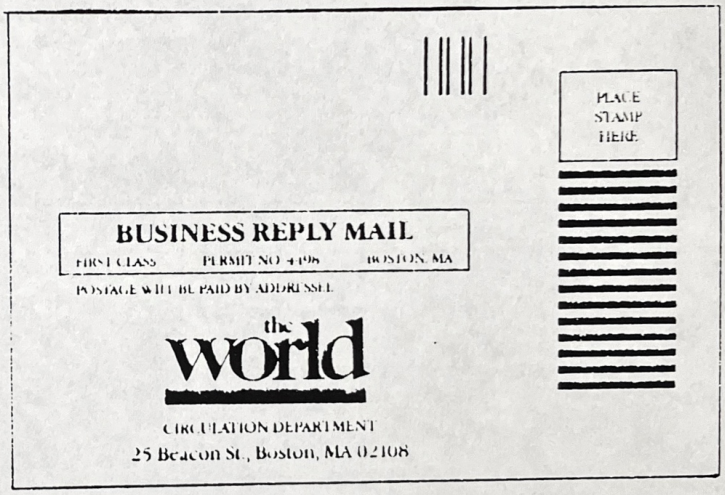
C - CARD

M - MAIL

X - Does not cite CARD, ENVELOPE or MAIL

Ca - Envelope with "CARD"
Cb - Permit line omits city/state name (Gaithersburg, MD #95) (City name in return address misspelled as GRAITHERSBURG)
Ma - FIM B with bar coding
Mb - Error: PLACE/STAMP/HERE in upper right box.
Mc - FIM is 1-2-3, not 1-2-2-1 (H.W. Wilson, Bronx, NY #4893)
Md - Window envelope - permit identification printed on enclosure.
Xa - Inscription reads "BUSINESS REPLY" only. (Long & Foster, Fairfax, VA #230)
Xb - No inscription at all and no return address. (Radisson Inn, Atlanta, GA) (Return address consists of phone no. This card was not meant to be mailed. The reply indicia were applied in error.)





(RE1Mb)

RE2 FIM C

C - CARD

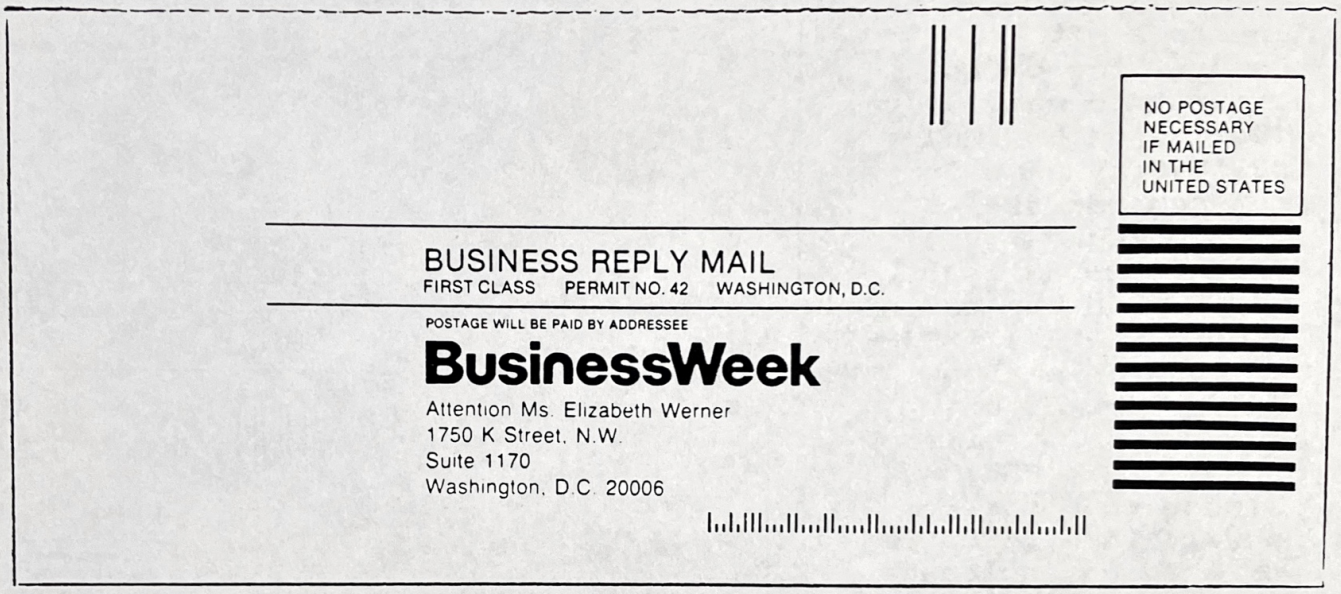
M - MAIL

Ma - Without bar coding

RE3 FIM A (error)

C - CARD (Brecks, Peoria, IL #159)

M - MAIL (Business Week, Washington, DC #42)



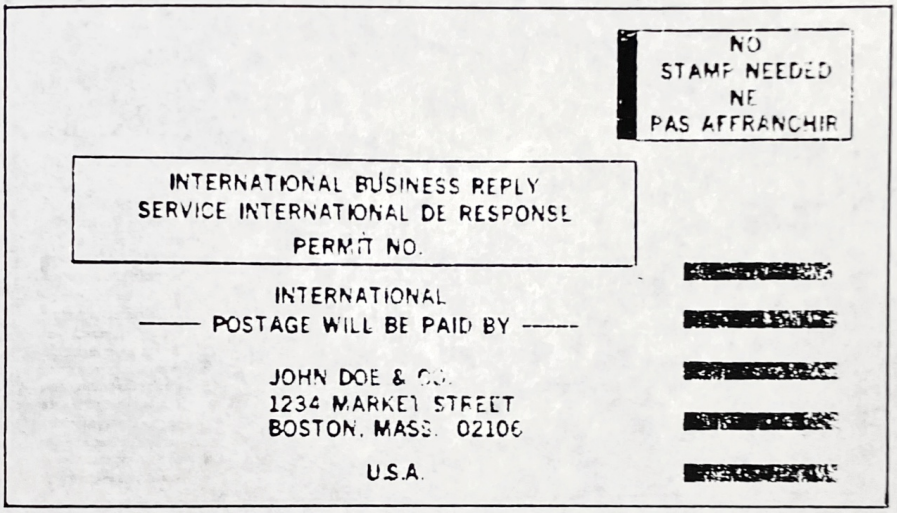
RE4 Self Mailer (carton or box)

None seen by this writer.

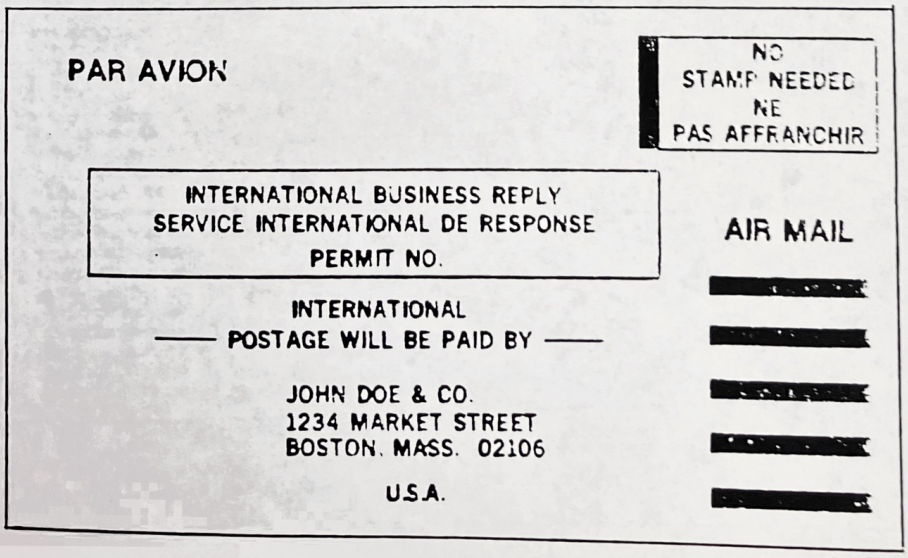
TYPE RI — INTERNATIONAL REPLY MAIL

FOR TWO YEARS STARTING IN NOV 1973 THE USPS CONDUCTED AN EXPERIMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS REPLY MAIL. MAILERS COULD USE SPECIAL REPLY ENVELOPES IN MAIL TO GREAT BRITAIN AND THE NETHERLANDS. NO OTHER COUNTRIES WERE INCLUDED IN THE EXPERIMENT. NO EXAMPLES OF TYPE "RI" REPLY ITEMS HAVE BEEN SEEN BY US. THE ILLUSTRATIONS PROVIDED BELOW ARE TAKEN FROM THE USPS POSTAL BULLETIN.

RI1 Surface Mail envelope



RI2 Air Mail envelope



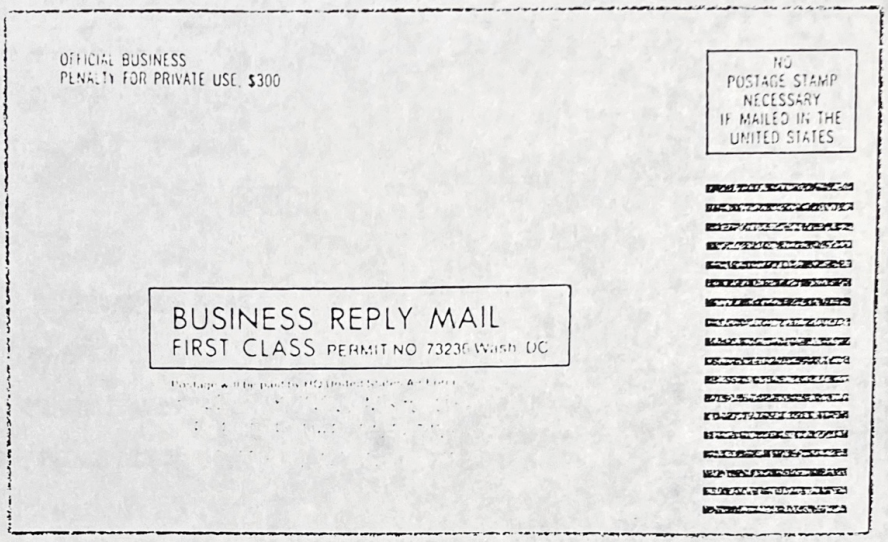
TYPE RO U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL USE ONLY BUSINESS REPLY MAIL.

RETURN ADDRESS IN UPPER LEFT CORNER CONTAINS THE WORDS "OFFICIAL BUSINESS / PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300" OR A VARIATION.

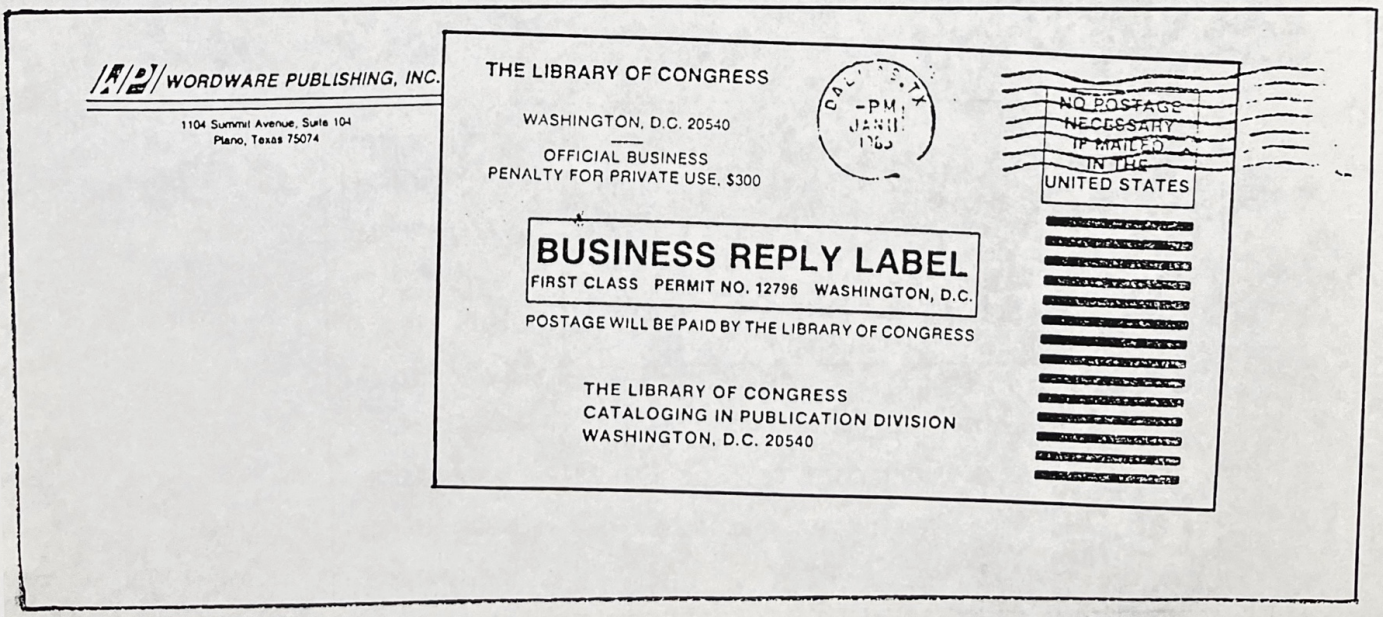
THE PL&R SAYS OFFICIAL BUSINESS REPLY MAIL WILL HAVE ABOVE THE ADDRESS THE PHRASE "POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY" FOLLOWED BY THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE USING OFFICE. OCCASIONALLY EXAMPLES ARE FOUND WITH NO SUCH PHRASE OR WITH "ADDRESSEE" INSTEAD OF USER'S IDENTIFICATION.

RO1 Similar to type RD4, Format A, no PL&R number.

M - MAIL



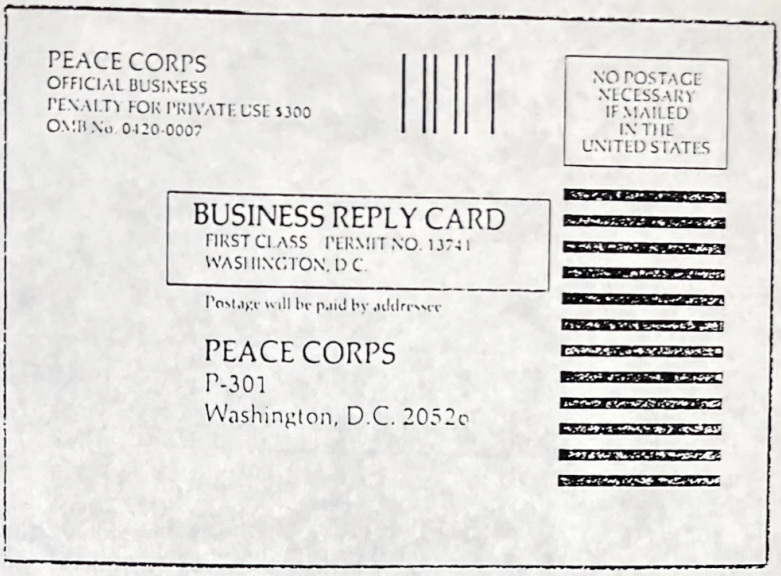
RO2 Similar to type RD8, BUSINESS REPLY LABEL.



R03 Similar to type RE1, with FIM B.

C - CARD
M - MAIL

Ma - With bar code
(error)



R03C

R03Ma

R04 Similar to type RE2, FIM C.

M - MAIL

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20265-9980

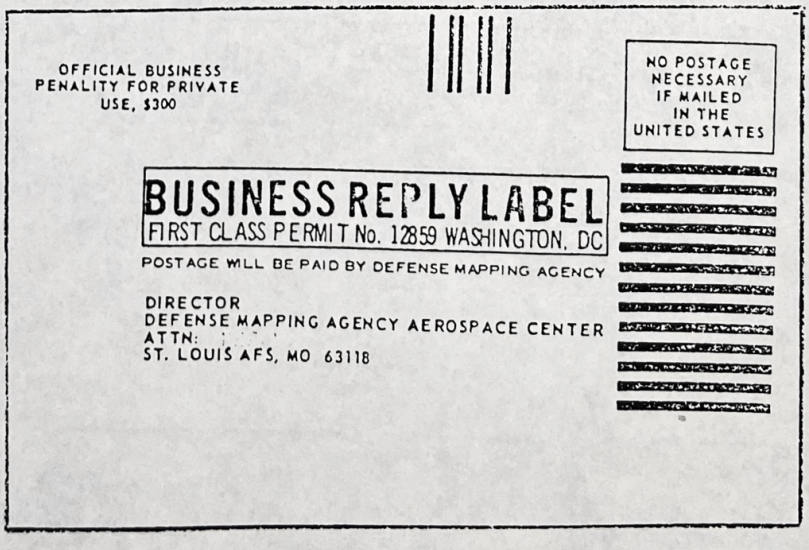
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 73026, WASHINGTON, DC

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Philatelic Sales Division
Washington, DC 20265-9980

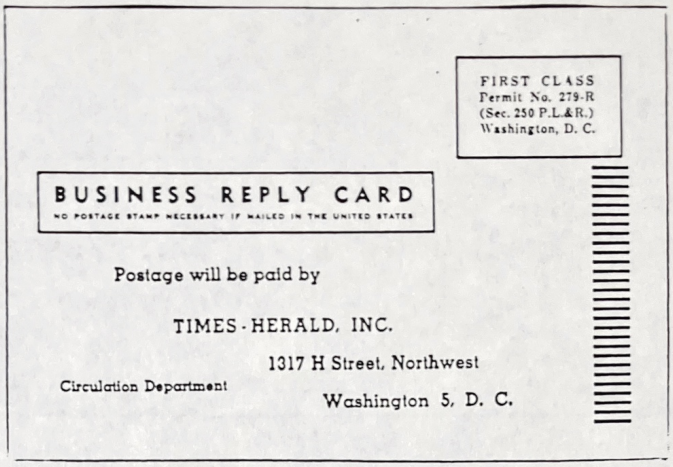
R05 BUSINESS REPLY LABEL with FIM B



TYPE RZ — PL&R NUMBER ERRORS

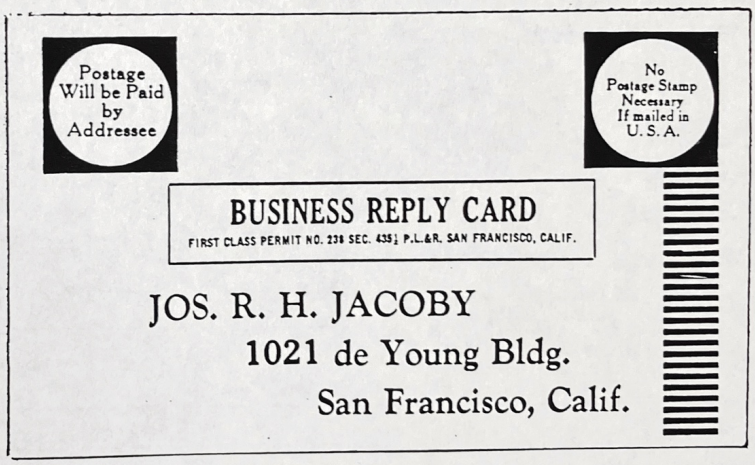
RZ1 SEC. 250 PL&R

FORMAT A CARD
without value line.
(Times-Herald,
Washington, DC
#279-R)



RZ2 SEC. 435-1/2 PL&R

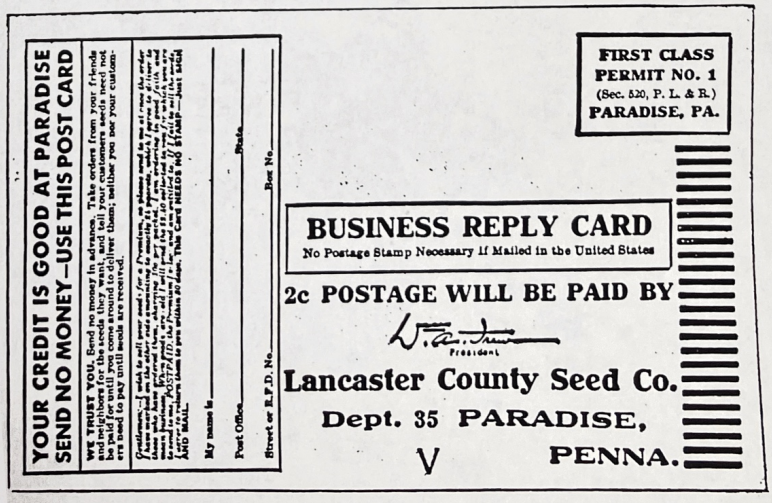
FORMAT B CARD
without value
line.
(J.R.H. Jacoby,
San Francisco,
CA #238)



RZ3 SEC. 520 PL&R

FORMAT A CARD
with value line:
2c

(Lancaster
County Seed Co.,
Paradise, PA #1)

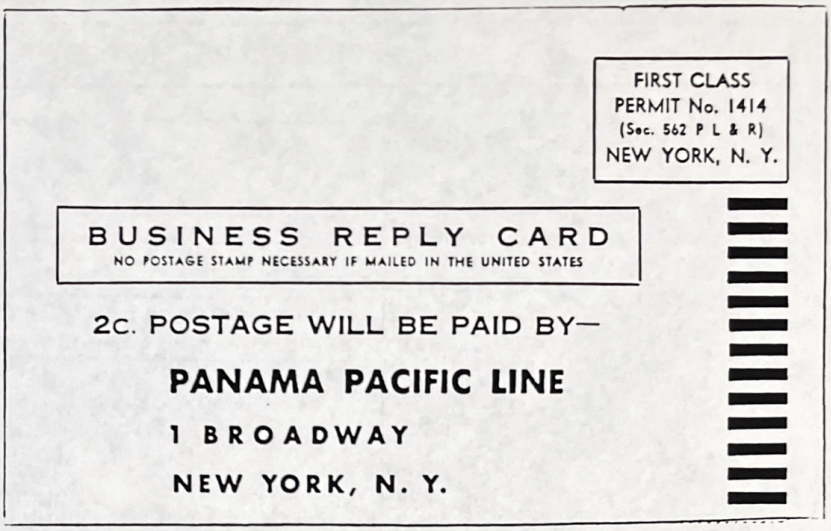


RZ4 SEC. 562 PL&R

FORMAT A with value line

C - CARD, Value: 2c

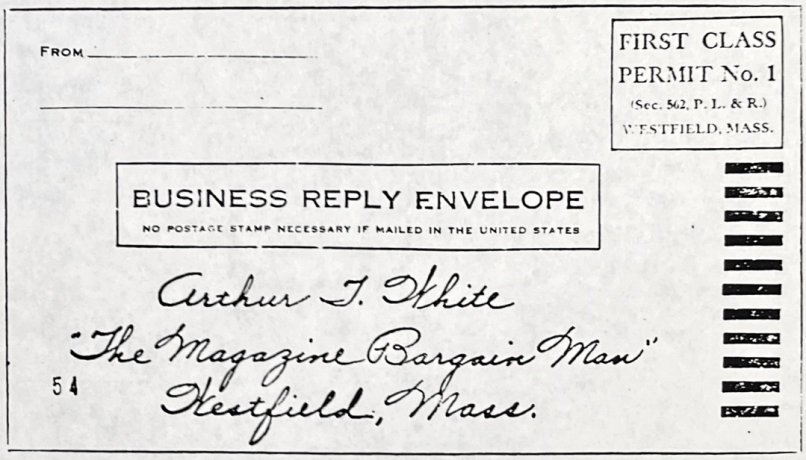
E - ENVELOPE, Value: 4c (Sampson & Co. Glens Falls, NY #47)



RZ5 SEC. 562 PL&R

FORMAT A without value line

E - ENVELOPE

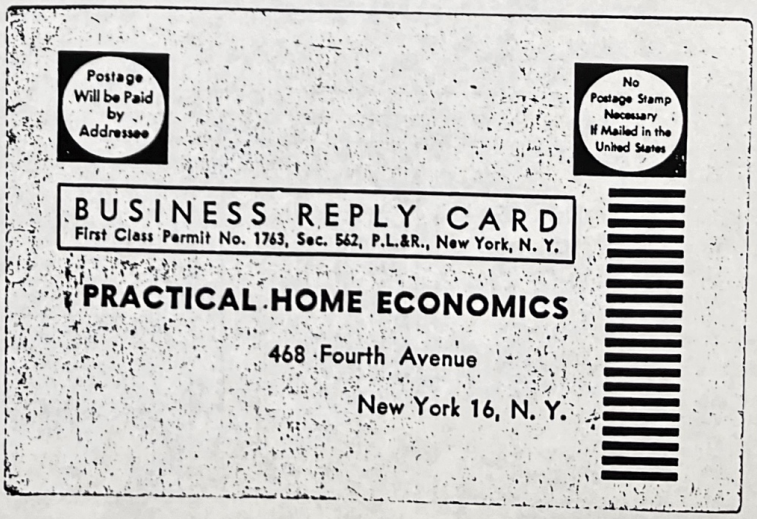


RZ6 SEC. 562 PL&R

FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD

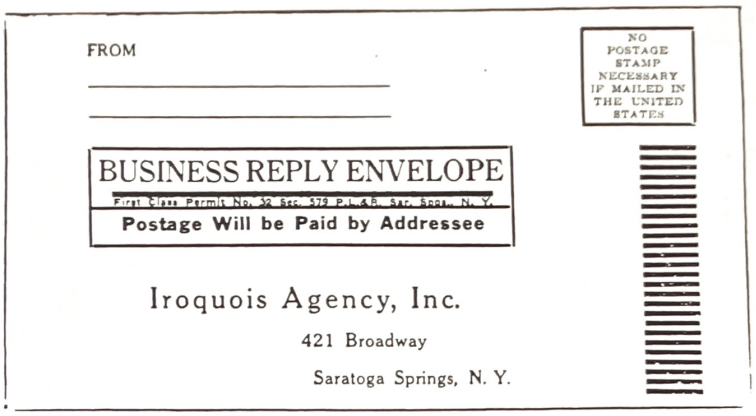
E - ENVELOPE



RZ7 SEC. 579 PL&R

FORMAT B without value line

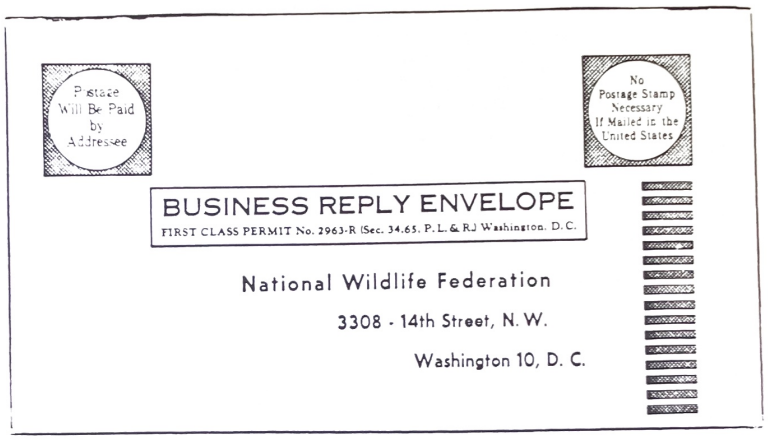
E - ENVELOPE (Iroquois Agency, Inc., Saratoga Springs, NY #32)



RZ8 SEC. 34.65 PL&R

FORMAT B without value line

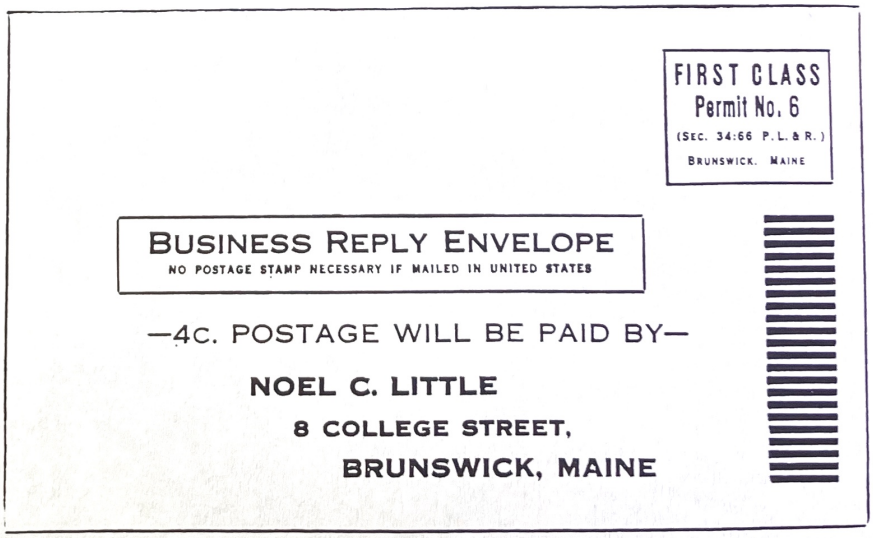
E - ENVELOPE (Nat'l Wildlife Federation, Wash. D.C. #2963-R)



RZ9 SEC. 34.66 PL&R

FORMAT A with value line

E - ENVELOPE, Value: 4c (N.C.Little, Brunswick, ME #6)



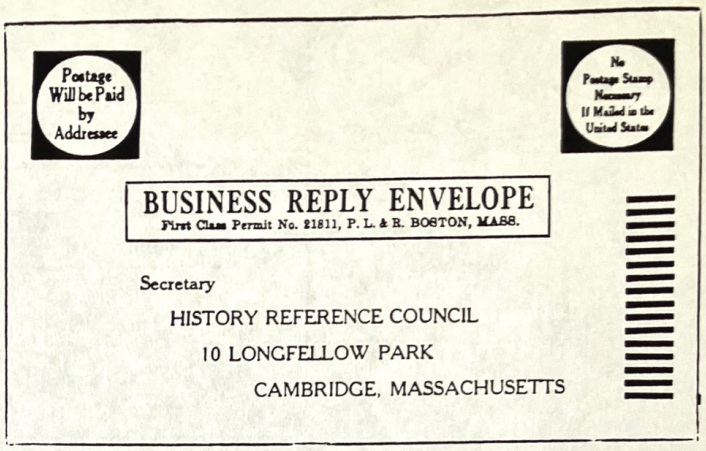
RZ10 "PL&R" OR "SEC. PL&R" ONLY, WITHOUT NUMBER,

FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD

E - ENVELOPE

Ca - Messages reversed



RZ11 NO REFERENCE TO THE PL&R AT ALL

FORMAT B with value line

C - CARD, values: 2c (U. of Pa., Philadelphia), 3c (Peale Museum, Baltimore, MD)

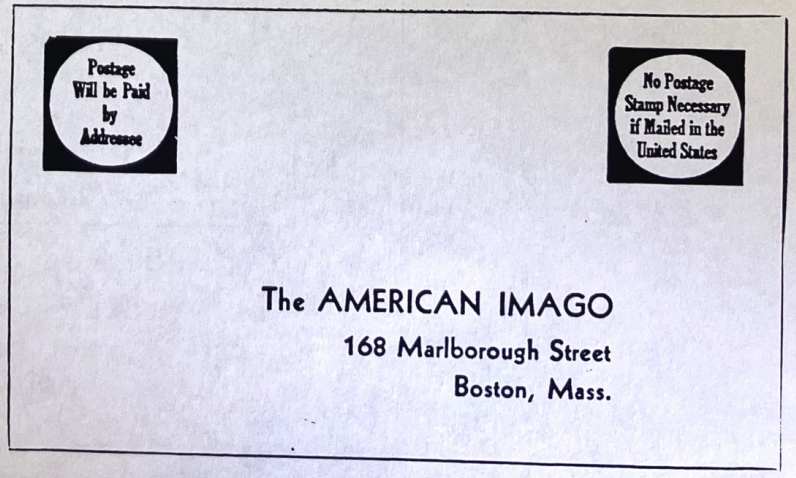
(Both the above have redundant "NO POSTAGE NECESSARY..." message below "BUSINESS REPLY CARD" displacing permit line.)

RZ12 NO REFERENCE TO THE PL&R AT ALL

FORMAT B without value line

C - CARD (The American Imago, Boston, MA)

NOTE: "BUSINESS REPLY...", permit line and hash marks all omitted)



GROUPS O-A THRU O-J OFFICIAL MAIL PERMIT STAMPS

IN THIS SECTION ARE DESCRIBED ALL KNOWN MACHINE PRINTED PERMIT STAMPS USED ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MAIL. PRESS PRINTED OFFICIAL MAIL INDICIA ARE BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THIS CATALOG.

IN ADDITION TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SEVERAL NON-FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES HAVE BEEN LEGISLATED THE OFFICIAL MAIL PRIVILEGE AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. OF THESE ONLY STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES ARE KNOWN TO HAVE USED OFFICIAL PERMIT STAMPS ON EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL.

SOME OFFICIAL PERMIT INDICIA CONSIST OF NOTHING MORE THAN A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT OF A FIELD OF WAVY LINES WITH NO PERMIT LINE. IN APPEARANCE THEY ARE SIMPLY MACHINE CANCELLATIONS OR POSTMARKS. THOSE LISTED HERE AS OFFICIAL PERMIT MARKINGS WERE APPLIED BY THE MAILER FOR USE AS DATERS/COUNTERS RATHER THAN BY THE POST OFFICE AS CANCELLATIONS.

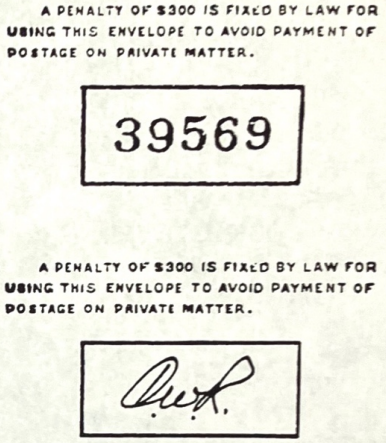
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL MAIL PERMITS ARE NOT COVERED IN THIS SECTION OF THE CATALOG. ALTHOUGH SUCH INDICIA MAY INCLUDE PHRASES LIKE "OFFICIAL MAIL" OR "PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE", THE POSTAL SERVICE TREATS THEM AS ORDINARY PRIVATE OR COMMERCIAL MAIL. STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE TO PAY FOR POSTAGE IN ADVANCE JUST LIKE THE REST OF US. SUCH PERMIT MARKINGS KNOWN ARE INCLUDED IN THOSE SECTIONS DEALING WITH COMMERCIAL MAIL PERMIT STAMPS. AS STATED ABOVE, AN EXCEPTION TO THIS IS EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL FROM STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES.

GROUP O-X EARLY EXPERIMENTAL OFFICIAL PERMIT TYPES

O-X1 The stamp consists of a five digit serial number inside a rectangular frame which is below a penalty statement. The wording of the statement is as follows:

A PENALTY OF $300 IS FIXED BY LAW FOR USING THIS ENVELOPE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE ON PRIVATE MATTER

This official permit stamp was made by an experimental metering device manufactured by the Pitney Postal Machine Company. Since the meter was used simply as a counter rather than to monitor postage use, this stamp is considered an official permit as well as an early meter. It was used in the office of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D.C. from November 1903 to March 1904. Only three postally used copies are known. (RRR)



(die proof)

NOTE: Some years later 25 die proofs were made with the script initials of Charles W. Rummler, the son of the engineer, Eugene Rummler, who built the Pitney machine, replacing the serial number.

O-X2 This resembles a Pitney Bowes machine cancellation. The TM and date, however, are like that on permit type CC5. The line field consists of seven wavy lines with no permit line present. During 1927 it appears the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Mines in WASHINGTON, D.C. used this device to date and count their official mail. (RRR)

EKU: JUN 21, 1927

NOTE: Although this marking has been seen on Bureau of Mines mail only and is not known used on ordinary mail, there is no direct proof that it was not applied by the post office. Any future discoveries uncovering other uses of this marking may cause this item to be de-listed from the catalog.

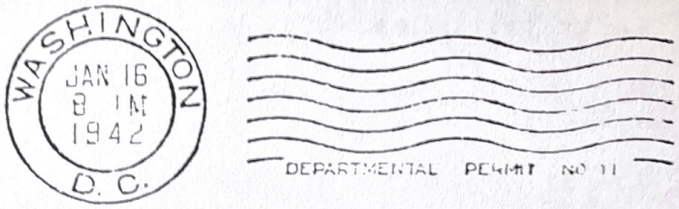
GROUP O-A

THE DESIGN IS MADE UP OF A LARGE CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT AND A RECTANGULAR UNFRAMED FIELD OF WAVY LINES TO THE RIGHT. THE PERMIT LINE, WHEN PRESENT, IS USUALLY BELOW BUT ON SOME TYPES ABOVE THE FIELD OF WAVY LINES. THE TOWNMARK IS ALWAYS GREATER THAN 25mm IN DIAMETER AND IS TYPICALLY A DOUBLE CIRCLE ALTHOUGH SINGLE CIRCLE TYPES EXIST.

TYPE O-AA PITNEY BOWES

DOUBLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK LIKE PRIVATE TYPE CC4: TWO LINE DATE (MO DAY/YEAR USUALLY) OR THREE IF WITH TIME OF DAY. LINE FIELD CONSISTS OF SIX OR SEVEN WAVY LINES WITH THE PERMIT LINE BELOW.

O-AA1 Seven wavy lines 56 to 59mm long. The permit line reads DEPARTMENTAL PERMIT NO. X and begins indented from the left edge of the wavy line field by 4mm. The permit line cuts into the bottom wavy line.



EKU: JAN 31, 1938

O-AA2 Similar to type O-AA1 but six wavy lines only 47mm long. The permit line does not cut into the bottom wavy line.

EKU: OCT 6, 1938

a - With "PMGC" below permit line (WASHINGTON/D.C. #27) (See Note below.)

NOTE: The notation "PMGC" was required between the mid-1940s and 1950s on penalty mail envelopes obtained under Postmaster General Contract. Usually it was preprinted on the envelopes, but in some cases, such as in varieties O-AA2a, O-BA1b, O-BA2b and type O-JA1, it was added by permit printer. See type O-JA1.

O-AA3 Similar to type O-AA1 in that there are seven wavy lines with the permit line cutting into the bottom wavy line, but the lines are shorter, 49mm long.

EKU: JAN 15, 1941

NOTE: A cancellation very similar to types O-AA1, 2 and 3, except without permit line, is known. It was used to cancel regular stamped commercial mail and is not known on official government mail. The cancellation reads KANSAS CITY, MO./FEDERAL RESERVE STA.

O-AA4 Similar to types O-AA1 and 2 but six or seven very short 26mm wavy lines. Six permits are known with different inscriptions as follows:

A) -PERMIT NO. X- (6 lines)
(DENVER/COLO. #1)

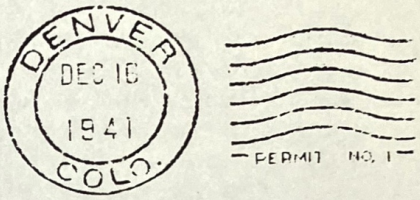
B) PERMIT NO. X (6 lines)
(WASHINGTON/D.C. #31, 33, 34 35, 36, 37, 38 and 48, BALTIMORE/MD. #56, NEWARK/N.J. #39)

C) PERMIT X (7 lines)
(WASHINGTON/D.C. #14, 20, 51 and 87)

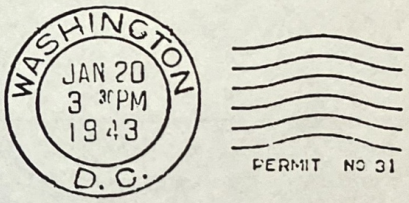
D) DEPT'L PERMIT NO. X (7 lines)
(BALTIMORE/MD. #56)

E) Same as "D" but six lines only
(DENVER/COLO. #1)

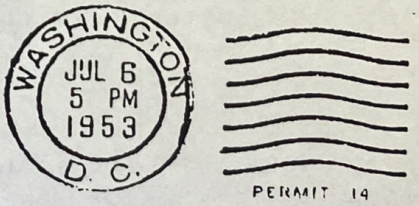
F) DEPT'L. PERM. No. X (7 lines)
(HARRISBURG/PA. #1)



(O-AA4A)



(O-AA4B)



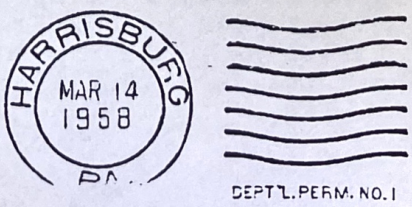
(O-AA4C)

On all but O-AA4F the center hump of the line field points up.

EKU: MAR 24, 1941

(O-AA4D)

(O-AA4E)



(O-AA4F)

TYPE O-AB COMMERCIAL CONTROLS CORP.

SINGLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK WITH INNER ARCS OR A DOUBLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK, BOTH WITH SINGLE LINE DATE.

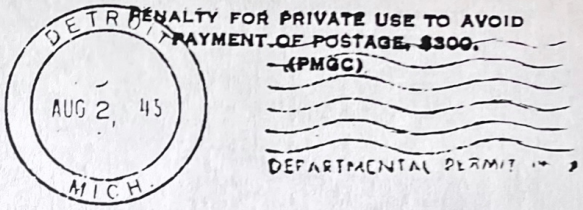
O-AB1 Single circle TM with inner arcs. The wavy line field consists of six lines 42mm long above the following permit inscription: DEPARTMENTAL PERMIT NO. X

The permit line begins at the left edge of the line field.

EKU: JUN 6, 1941

One permit known: PITTSBURGH/PA. #1

a - TM double circle: DETROIT/MICH. #2

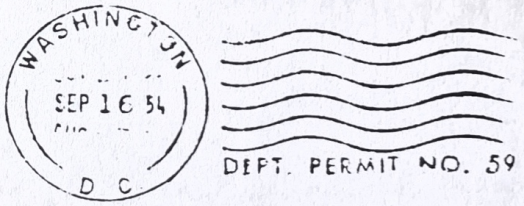


(O-AB1a)

O-AB2 Similar to type O-AB1 except the line field is 39mm wide, and the permit inscription reads: DEPT. PERMIT NO. X

EKU: ? 1951

Three permits known: WASHINGTON/D.C. #3, #59 and #61)



O-AB3 Similar to type O-AB2 except the line field is shorter still (32mm), and there are eight wavy lines.

EKU: DEC 30, 1947

One permit known: TALLAHASSEE/FLA. #4

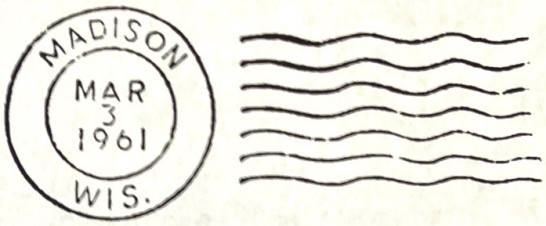
TYPE O-AC INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO.

ALL HAVE THREE LINE DATE: USUALLY MO/DAY/YR

O-AC1 The line field consists of seven wavy lines 42mm wide.

EKU: OCT 1, 1948

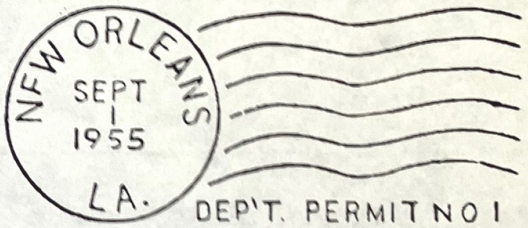
The only known user is the Wisconsin Industrial Commission, Unemployment Compensation Dept, MADISON/WIS.



O-AC2 Large single circle TM. The line field consists of six wavy lines the longest of which is the top at 43mm in length. The left ends of the lines curve around the TM. The permit line reads DEP'T. PERMIT NO X

EKU: MAY 20, 1952

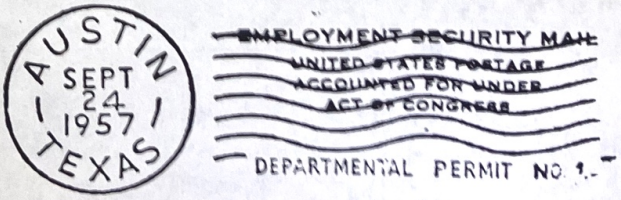
One permit is known: NEW ORLEANS/LA. #1



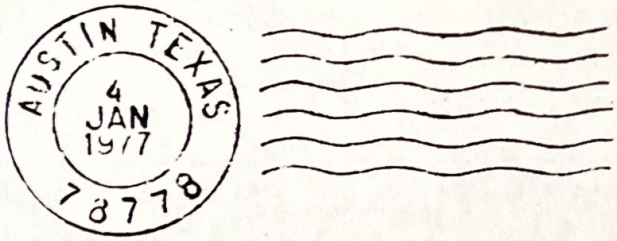
O-AC3 Similar to Pitney Bowes type O-AA1 There are seven wavy lines with the bottom line broken by the permit inscription which is DEPARTMENTAL PERMIT NO. X. The townmark is a single circle with inner arcs.

EKU: SEP 24, 1957

One permit is known: AUSTIN/TEXAS #1



O-AC4 Similar to type O-AC1 but there are six wavy lines instead of seven. The city and state are in the top of the TM and the ZIP code is in the bottom:



EKU: DEC 9, 1974

The only known user is the Texas Employment Commission: AUSTIN TEXAS/ZIP code

A - ZIP code 78701
B - ZIP code 78778

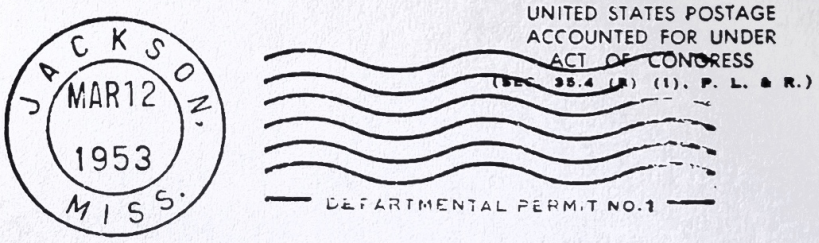
TYPE O-AD INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SUPPLY CORP.

VERY SIMILAR TO PITNEY BOWES TYPE O-AA BUT WITH CHARACTERISTIC TOWNMARK AND DATE FIGURES. THE TOWNMARK LETTERS ARE THINNER AND SPACED WIDER APART. THE ONES ("1") IN THE DATE FIGURES HAVE SERIFS AT THE TOP.

O-AD1 Six wavy lines 55mm long. The permit line reads ——DEPARTMENTAL PERMIT NO. X——

EKU: MAY 24, 1948

One permit is known: JACKSON,/MISS. #1



GROUP O-B

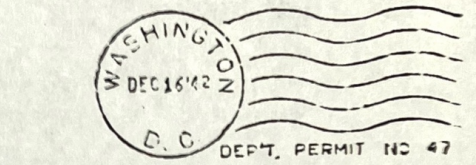
THE DESIGN IS SIMILAR TO GROUP O-A PERMITS IN THAT IT CONSISTS OF A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT OF A FIELD OF WAVY LINES. HOWEVER THE TOWNMARK IS ALWAYS SMALLER THAN 23mm IN DIAMETER, AND IS USUALLY A SINGLE CIRCLE RATHER THAN A DOUBLE CIRCLE.

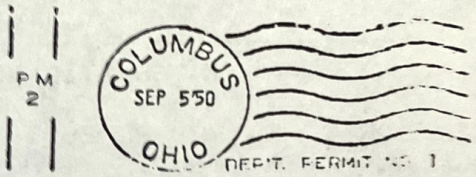
TYPE O-BA	PITNEY BOWES CORP.
SMALL SINGLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK WITH ONE LINE DATE.	

O-BA1 Short wavy line field with the left ends of the lines curving around the TM. The top and bottom wavy lines are the longest of the six. The permit line is below and reads DEP'T PERMIT NO. X.

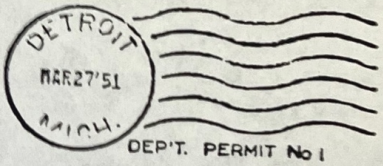
EKU: MAR 14, 1942

a - Permit line removed
b - With "PMGC" left of TM: WASHINGTON/D.C. #43
c - With time of day between two sets of vertical lines left of the TM: COLUMBUS/OHIO #1
d - With "No." instead of "NO.": WASHINGTON/D.C. #1, DETROIT/MICH. #1





(O-BA1c)



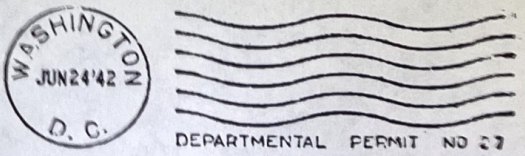
(O-BA1d)

O-BA2 Wavy line field contains six lines and is longer (46mm) than on type O-BA1. Permit line is below line field.

EKU: JUN 24, 1942

Two permits known:
WASHINGTON/D.C. #27,
KNOXVILLE/TENN. #41

a - With time of day left of TM: WASHINGTON/D.C. #26, KANSAS CITY/MO. #25
b - With "PMGC" left of TM: WASHINGTON/D.C. #27

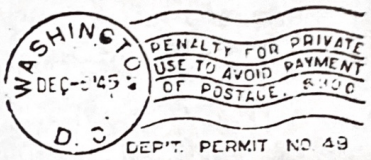


(O-BA2a)

O-BA3 Similar to type O-BA1 but a penalty inscription has been inserted between the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th wavy lines.

EKU: SEP 4, 1945

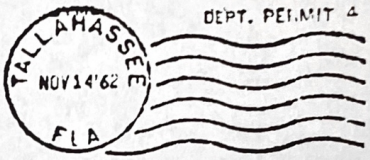
One permit is known: WASHINGTON/D.C. #49



O-BA4 Similar to type O-BA1 but the bottom line is the longest of the six. The permit line is above the wavy line field. The permit line reads DEPT. PERMIT X

EKU: JUL 30, 1962

Three permits known: TALAHASSEE/FLA. #4,
CHICAGO/ILL. #1,
NEW ORLEANS/LA. #1

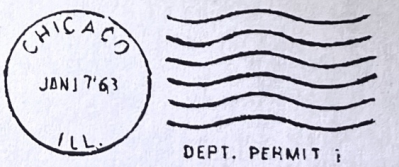


a - Permit line removed: CHICAGO/ILL.

NOTE: This indicium without permit line and with time of day between two sets of vertical lines left of the TM is known used as a machine cancellation from Argonne, Illinois.

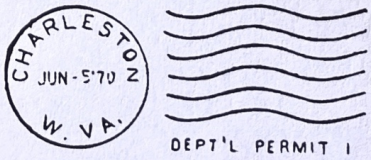
O-BA5 Line field shorter - 28mm, and it ends in a straight vertical line on the left.

A - Center hump of line field points up. Permit line reads DEPT. PERMIT X: CHICAGO/ILL. #1



(O-BA5A)

B - Center hump points up. Permit line reads DEPT'L PERMIT X: CHARLESTON/W.VA. #1

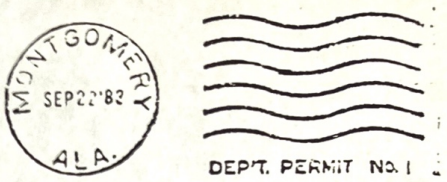


(O-BA5B)

O-BA5 continued

C - Center hump points down.
Permit line reads
DEP'T. PERMIT NO. X:
MONTGOMERY/ALA. #1

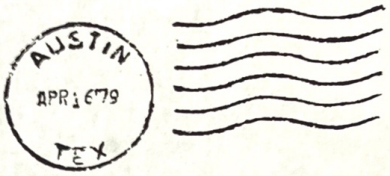
D - Center hump points up.
There is no permit line:
AUSTIN/TEX.,
MADISON/WIS.



(O-BA5C)

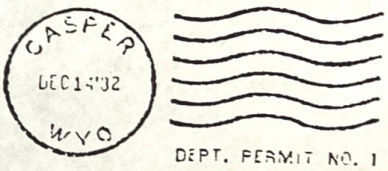
a - Type O-BA5B with additional permit description in slogan area:

PRESORT
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. G-12
(CASPER/WYO. #1)



(O-BA5D)

PRESORT
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. G-12

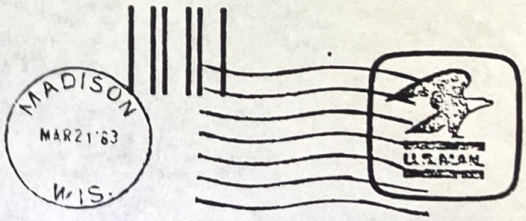


(O-BA5a)

O-BA6 Similar to type O-BA5 but wavy line field is longer, 32mm.

EKU: MAR 21, 1983

A - Seven wavy lines with no permit line:
MADISON/WIS.



(O-BA6A)

B - Six wavy lines and with permit line reading
DEP'T. PERMIT NO. X:
CASPER/WYO. #1.
This permit is known only with additional permit inscription in slogan area:

Presort
1st Class
Postage Fees Paid
Permit #G-12

Presort
1st Class
Postage Fees Paid
Permit #G-12

(O-BA6B)

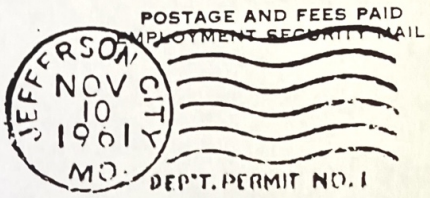
TYPE O-BB BELL & HOWELL CORP.

SMALL SINGLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK WITH THREE LINE DATE.

O-BB1 Closely resembles Pitney Bowes type O-BA1, and can be differentiated only by the characteristic lettering and date figures in the TM.

EKU: NOV 10, 1961

One permit is known:
JEFFERSON CITY/MO. #1



GROUP O-C

THE STAMP CONSISTS OF A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK ONLY.

TYPE O-CA	COMMERCIAL CONTROLS CORP.
LARGE TM (25-27mm IN DIAMETER) WITH SINGLE LINE DATE.	

O-CA1 Single circle TM with inner arcs

EKU: NOV 24, 1941

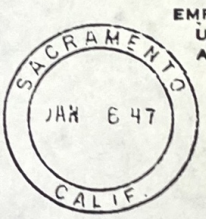
One permit known: SACRAMENTO/CALIF.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS
(PAR. 13, SEC. 579, P. L. & R.).

O-CA2 Double circle TM

EKU: JUL 14, 1945

Same permit as for type O-CA1

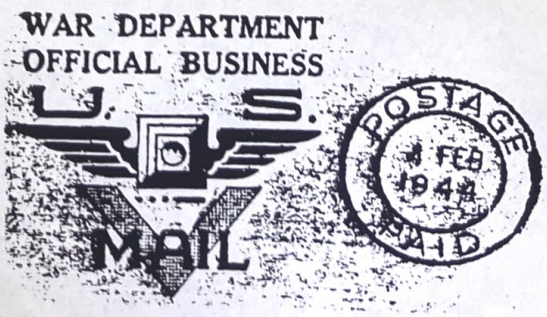


EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS
R. 13, SEC. 579, P. L. & R.)

TYPE O-CB	FRANKOPOST (GREAT BRITAIN)
LARGE TOWNMARK (27mm IN DIAMETER) WITH TWO LINE DATE: DAY MO/YR.	

O-CB1 Double circle townmark with "POSTAGE/PAID" between the rings. This stamp was applied in England to U.S. V-Mail during World War II.

EKU: FEB 4, 1944



TYPE O-CC PITNEY BOWES

SMALL TM (22mm IN DIAMETER) WITH SINGLE LINE DATE

O-CC1 Double circle TM

EKU: NOV 7, 1951

SECURITY MAIL
TES POSTAGE
FOR UNDER
CONGRESS
) (1), P.L.&R.)

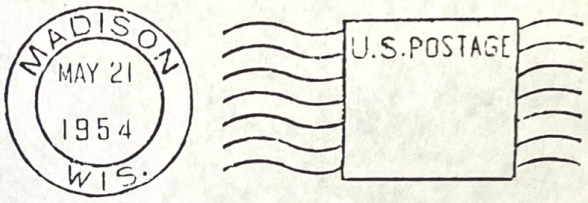
GROUP O-D

THE DESIGN IS MADE UP OF A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT AND A BOX TO THE RIGHT WITH WAVY LINES EMANATING FROM BOTH SIDES.

TYPE O-DA	PITNEY BOWES

O-DA1 This is a commercial use permit stamp very similar to type CC4 that was converted to official use by removing the value and permit lines.

EKU: ? 1943



TYPE O-DB	INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE CO.

O-DB1 As with type O-DA1 this is a converted commercial permit. The stamp is very similar to type CJ5 and was converted to official use by replacing the F/V with a solid unengraved block.

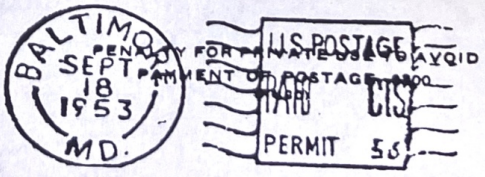
EKU: JUN 19, 1953

Only one permit is known: BALTIMORE/MD. #56. (Federal Security Agency)

O-DB2 Similar to type O-DB1 but the unengraved block has been removed leaving a blank space between "PAID" and "CTS.".

EKU: SEP 18, 1953

Same permit as for type O-DB1



GROUP O-E

THE DESIGN IS MADE UP OF A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT AND A RECTANGLE TO THE RIGHT. THE RECTANGLE MAY HAVE SHORT STRAIGHT HORIZONTAL LINES EMANATING FROM BOTH SIDES, FROM THE LEFT SIDE ONLY, OR HAVE NO EXTERIOR LINES.

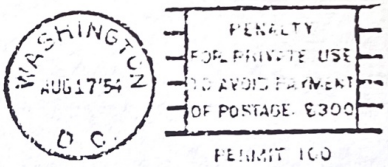
TYPE O-EA	PITNEY BOWES
SINGLE CIRCLE TM WITH SINGLE LINE DATE. THE DIAMETER OF THE TM IS 20mm. THE HEIGHT OF THE BOX IS 18mm. SIX SHORT HORIZONTAL LINES EMANATE FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE BOX.	

O-EA1 The text inside the box reads

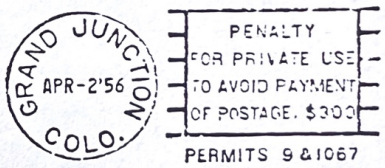
PENALTY
FOR PRIVATE USE
TO AVOID PAYMENT
OF POSTAGE $300

The permit line, PERMIT X, is outside and below the box.

EKU: MAY 17, 1954

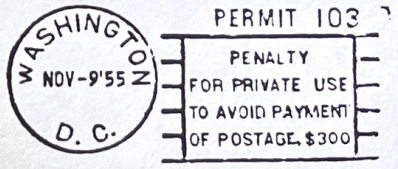


a - The permit line cites two permit numbers: SAN DIEGO/CALIF. #1 & 1048, GRAND JUNCTION/COLO. #9 & 1067

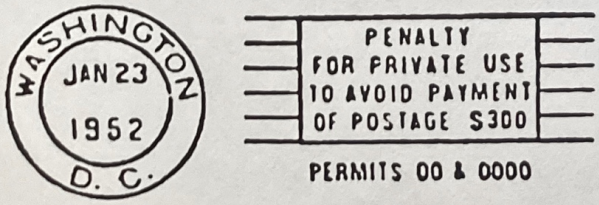


(O-EA1a)

b - The box is lowered, and the permit line is above the box: WASHINGTON/D.C. #103



(O-EA1b)



NOTE: A proof with dual permit line (like O-EA1a) is known with wider box and lines and double circle TM. It has not been seen in actual use.

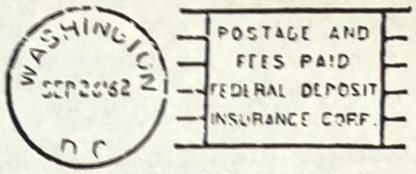
O-EA2 The text inside the box reads

POSTAGE AND
FEES PAID
user identification

There is no permit line.

EKU: SEP 26, 1962

Only one permit known:
(WASHINGTON/D.C.)
FEDERAL DEPOSIT/INSURANCE CORP.



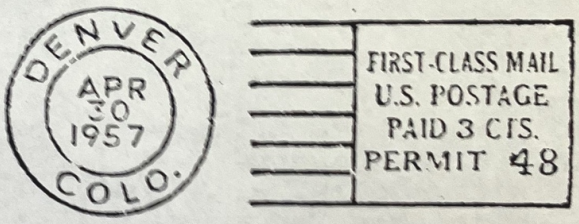
TYPE O-EB INSERTING AND MAILING MACHINE / BELL & HOWELL

DOUBLE CIRCLE TOWNMARK WITH THREE LINE DATE.
LINES EMANATE FROM LEFT SIDE OF BOX ONLY.

O-EB1 This permit is identical to commercial permit type AE3. One user, the Department of the Air Force, Air Force Finance Center, in Denver, CO used this type of permit on its official mail. It is thus listed here as well as in the commercial permit section.

EKU: DEC 30, 1955

Permit: DENVER/COLO. #48



TYPE O-EC PITNEY BOWES

SINGLE OR DOUBLE CIRCLE TM WITH SINGLE LINE DATE AS ON TYPE O-EA. LINES EMANATE FROM LEFT SIDE OF BOX ONLY. THE TEXT IN THE BOX READS "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID" WITH OR WITHOUT USER'S IDENTIFICATION.

O-EC1 Single circle TM with box 26-28mm wide. Text lines are as follows:

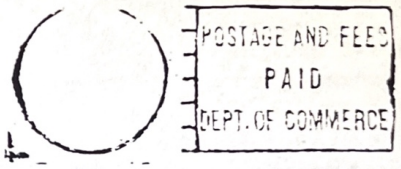
POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
user's identification in one, two or three lines

EKU: OCT 19, 1956

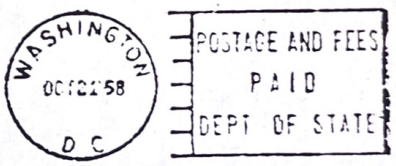
Known users' identifications are as follows:

A - DEPT. OF COMMERCE (WASHINGTON/D.C.)
B - DEPT. OF STATE (WASHINGTON/D.C.)
C - DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR (WASHINGTON/D.C., AMARILLO/TEX.)
D - EMPLOYMENT/SECURITY MAIL/LAB 449 (SACRAMENTO/CALIF.)
E - NAT'L INSTITUTES/OF HEALTH (WASHINGTON/D.C.)
F - NAT'L INSTITUTE/OF HEALTH (WASHINGTON/D.C.). This is probably an erroneous version of O-EC1E. Return addresses show the plural "INSTITUTES".
G - SELECTIVE/SERVICE SYSTEM (WASHINGTON/D.C.)

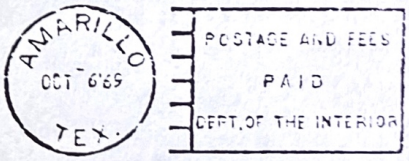
a - TM removed
b - TM present but empty



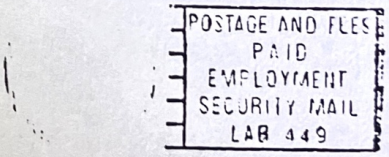
(O-EC1Ab)



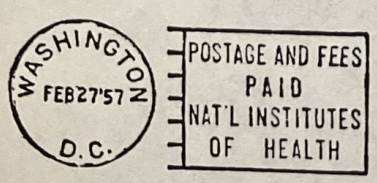
(O-EC1B)



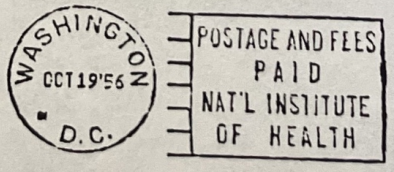
(O-EC1C)



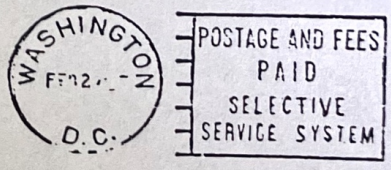
(O-EC1Da)



(O-EC1E)



(O-EC1F)



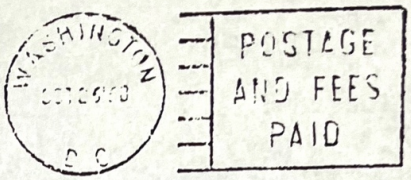
(O-EC1G)

O-EC2 Similar to type O-EC1 but there is no user's identification. Text lines read as follows:

POSTAGE
AND FEES
PAID

EKU: JUL 2, 1958

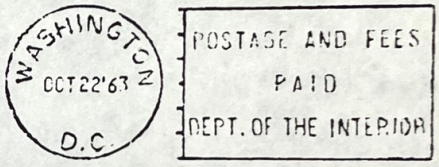
Two permits known:
WASHINGTON/D.C.,
NEW YORK/N.Y.



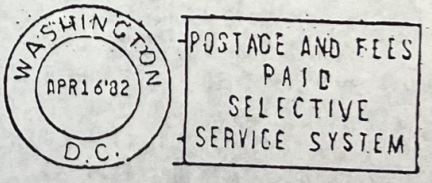
O-EC3 Similar to type O-EC1, but with wider box, 29-31mm, and left lines are reduced to 1mm or less.

EKU: SEP 20, 1960

One user identification known:
DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
(WASHINGTON/D.C.,
SILVER SPRING/MD.)



a - TM double circle:
SELECTIVE/SERVICE SYSTEM
(WASHINGTON/D.C.)



(O-EC3a)

TYPE O-ED FRIDEN

DESIGN LARGER THAN TYPES O-EA AND O-EB. SINGLE CIRCLE WITH SINGLE LINE DATE. DIAMETER OF TM AND HEIGHT OF BOX ARE BOTH 22mm. THE LETTERING IN THE TOWNMARK IS SMALL, ONLY 1.5mm TALL.

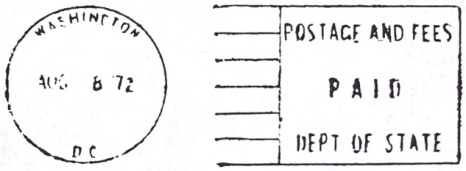
O-ED1 Seven lines emanate from the left side of the box, none from the right. The only known user was the Department of State. All examples seen were used to frank counsular pouch mail. Text in the box reads:

POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
user's identification

Box: 25 x 22mm
Lines: 9mm
Spacing: 7mm
TM: 22mm

EKU: AUG 8, 1972

One permit known:
DEPT OF STATE
(WASHINGTON/D.C.)



TYPE O-EE FRIDEN

SIMILAR TO FRIDEN OFFICIAL TYPE O-ED EXCEPT THERE ARE NO LINES EMANATING FROM THE BOX.

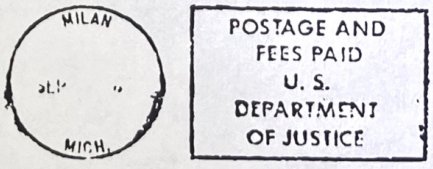
O-EE1 The box is 33.5 x 22mm.
Text in box reads

POSTAGE AND
FEES PAID
user's identification

Box: 33 x 21.5mm
Spacing: 4mm
TM: 21.5-22mm

EKU unknown (date illegible on all examples seen)

Only one user identification known:
U.S./DEPARTMENT/OF JUSTICE
(MILAN/MICH.)



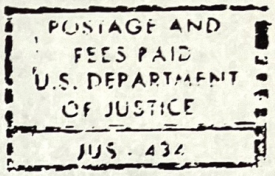
O-EE2 Similar to type O-EE1 except the box is bisected between the second and third lines of the user's identification. The inscription reads:

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE

JUS - 434

EKU: NOV 22, 1975

Same user as for type O-EE1



TYPE O-EF PITNEY BOWES

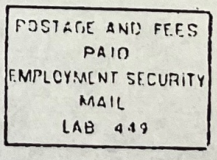
TOWNMARK AND DATE AS ON TYPES O-EA AND O-EC.
THE BOX HAS NO LINES EMANATING FROM EITHER SIDE.

O-EF1 The box is 28 x 19.5-20mm in size. Text in the box reads

POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
MAIL
LAB 449

EKU: JUN 1, 1979

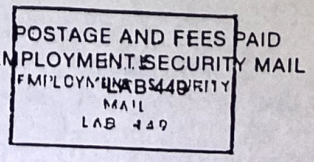
One user known:
JUNEAU/ALASKA



O-EF2 Same as type O-EF1 but wider spacing, 5.5mm, and wider box, 31mm.

EKU: ? 1981

Same user as for type O-EF1



GROUP O-F

THE STAMP CONSISTS OF A CIRCULAR TOWNMARK TO THE LEFT AND UNFRAMED TEXT TO THE RIGHT.

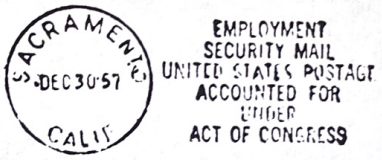
TYPE O-FA	PITNEY BOWES
SMALL SINGLE CIRCLE TM WITH SINGLE LINE DATE	

O-FA1 Text reads

EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR
UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS

EKU: DEC 30, 1957

One user known:
(SACRAMENTO/CALIF.)
State of California
Dept. of Employment



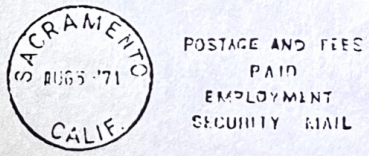
O-FA2 Text reads

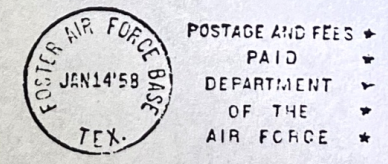
POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
user's identification

EKU: JAN 14 1958

a - TM present but empty

b - Vertical row of five stars
along the right side
(FORSTER AIR FORCE BASE/TEX.)





(O-FA2b)

GROUP O-G

THE STAMPS CONSIST OF HORIZONTAL LINES OF TEXT WITH OR WITHOUT BOX BUT ALWAYS WITHOUT TOWNMARK AND DATE.

DUE TO THE DIFFICULTY OF IDENTIFING THESE TOWNMARK-LESS STAMPS TO A PARTICULAR MANUFACTURER, THEY ARE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR STRUCTURE RATHER THAN BY MAKE.

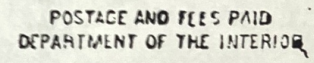
TYPE O-GA

THE STAMPS CONSIST OF UNFRAMED LINES OF TEXT ONLY.

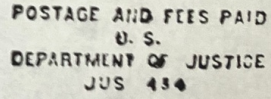
O-GA1 Top line of text reads POSTAGE AND FEES PAID with user's identification below in one, two or three lines. There are two sizes of lettering:

A - lettering 2mm high.
Four users' identifications known:
- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
- F.B.P./JUS-434 ("F.B.P." stands for Federal Bureau of Prisons),
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE/JUS-434,
- U.S./DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE/JUS 434

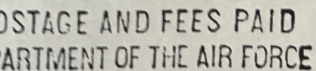
B - lettering 3 to 3-1/2mm high.
Two users' identifications known:
- DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
- FBP/JUS 434



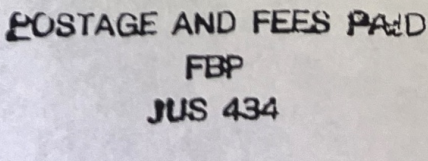
(O-GA1A - one line)



(O-GA1A - three lines)



(O-GA1B - one line)



(O-GA1B - two lines)

O-GA2 Text reads as follows:

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS

One user known:
State of California
Dept. of Employment

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
UNITED STATES POSTAGE
ACCOUNTED FOR UNDER
ACT OF CONGRESS

O-GA3 Text reads as follows:

CONSULAR MAIL
OFFICIAL___FREE

One user known:
U.S. Consulate,
Montreal,
QC Canada

Consulate General
of the
United States of America
Montreal Canada
Official Correspondence

CONSULAR MAIL
OFFICIAL___FREE

TYPE O-GB

THE LINES OF TEXT ARE ENCLOSED WITHIN A RECTANGULAR FRAME.

O-GB1 Top line of text reads POSTAGE AND FEES PAID with user's identification below. Two sizes are known, both have 2mm letters and are from the Federal Bureau of Prisons (F.B.P.), Atlanta, Ga. The frame of one is 30mm wide, and that for the other is 36mm wide.

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
P. B. P.

(narrow frame)

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
F. B. P.

(wide frame)

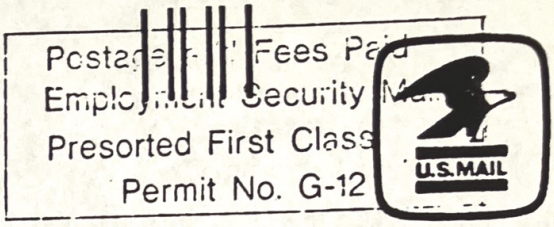
a - User's identification in two lines with bottom line outside and below the frame (F.B.P./JUS-434)

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
F. B. P.
JUS - 434

(O-GB1a)

O-GB2 Similar to type O-GB1 but the text reads as follows:

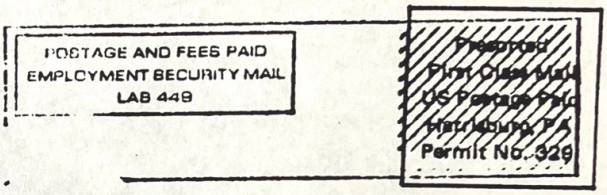
Postage and Fees Paid
Employment Security Mail
Presorted First Class
permit line



One user known:
(Austin, TX) Permit No. G-12

O-GB3 Similar to type O-GB1 but the text reads as follows:

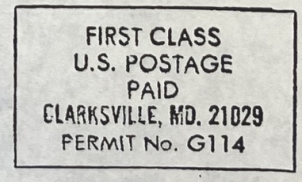
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449



The only known examples of this marking appears within a larger rectangular frame. Inside the right third of the outer frame is a square of diagonal lines used to cancel a permit indicia pre-printed on the envelope. The user is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Employment Security which created this stamp to update an inventory of pre-printed envelopes that had been made obsolete by a change in USPS policy regarding employment security mail. This stamp was applied by a Pitney Bowes 5390 check signing machine.

O-GB4 Similar to type GB2 but the permit number is preceeded by the letter "G".

Earliest seen, 1988



One user known:
Federal Emergency Managemenmt Agency,
Clarksville, MD. 21029 #G114

TYPE O-GC

THE TEXT IS UNFRAMED, BUT THE POD OR USPS EAGLE IS PART OF THE INDICIA.

O-GC1 POD eagle above text lines. User's identification in one or two lines below "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID".

Two inscriptions known:
- FBP/JUS 434,
- U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE JUS-434

a - Inscription has ampersand ("&") instead of "AND": Department of the Army

(O-GC1a)

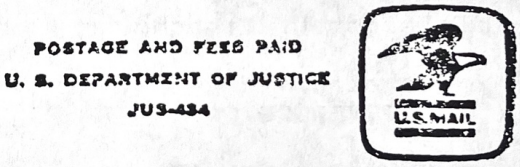
O-GC2 Framed USPS eagle right of text lines. User's identification in two or three lines below "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID".

There are two sizes of lettering:

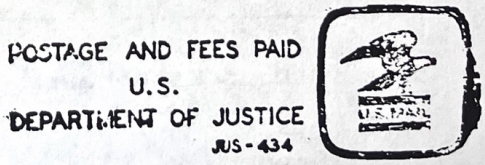
A - letters 2mm high.
Two users known:
- DEPARTMENT OF STATE/STA-501,
- U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE/JUS-434

B - letters 3mm high.
One user known:
U.S./DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE/JUS-434

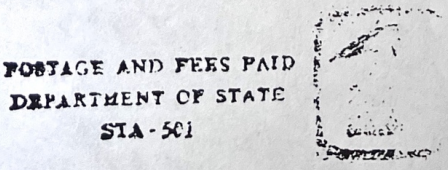
a - As "A" but with serifed letters: DEPARTMENT OF STATE/STA-501



(O-GC2A)



(O-GC2B)



(O-GC2a)

GROUP O-H PRESIDENTIAL FREE FRANKS

EX-PRESIDENTS AND THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS HAVE HAD THE FREE FRANK PRIVILEGE FOR AT LEAST 125 YEARS. AT FIRST THIS WAS AFFECTED BY THE EX-PRESIDENT, HIS WIFE OR WIDOW SIGNING THE ENVELOPE IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER. LATER ENVELOPES WITH THE SIGNATURE PRE-PRINTED CAME INTO USE, AND THESE ARE STILL IN USE TODAY. BESIDES USING PRE-PRINTED ENVELOPES, SOME EX-PRESIDENTS AND THEIR WIVES ALSO USED PERMIT PRINTERS TO APPLY THE FREE FRANKS. SO FAR, ALL MACHINES KNOWN USED FOR THIS PURPOSE HAVE BEEN PITNEY BOWES PRODUCTS.

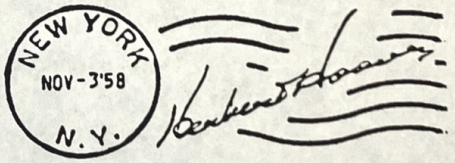
IT IS PROBABLE OTHER MACHINE PRINTED FREE FRANKS THAN THOSE LISTED HERE EXIST.

TYPE O-HA	PITNEY BOWES

O-HA1 Herbert Hoover

TM reads
NEW YORK/N.Y.

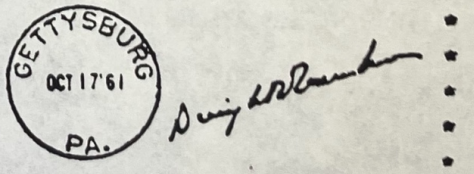
EKU: Oct 30, 1958



O-HA2 Dwight D. Eisenhower

TM reads
GETTYSBURG/PA.

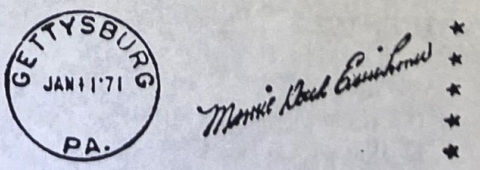
EKU: Sep 29, 1961



O-HA3 Mamie Doud Eisenhower

TM reads
GETTYSBURG/PA.

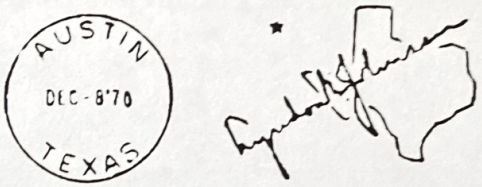
EKU: Jan 11, 1971



O-HA4 Lyndon B. Johnson

TM reads
AUSTIN/TEXAS

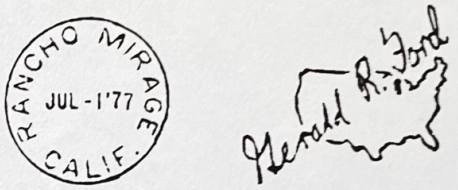
EKU: Dec 8, 1970



O-HA5 Gerald R. Ford

TM reads
RANCHO MIRAGE/CALIF.

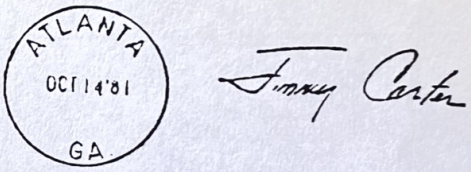
EKU: Jul 1, 1977



O-HA6 Jimmy Carter

TM reads
ATLANTA/GA.

EKU: Oct 14, 1981



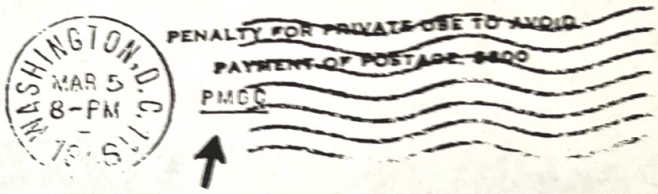
GROUP O-J SUPPLEMENTAL DATA MARKINGS

MACHINE APPLIED OFFICIAL MARKINGS THAT PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL DATA ONLY.

TYPE O-JA	THE STAMP CONSISTS OF "PMGC" ONLY.

O-JA1 Pitney Bowes imprint

One example known used by the Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. on March 5, 1946

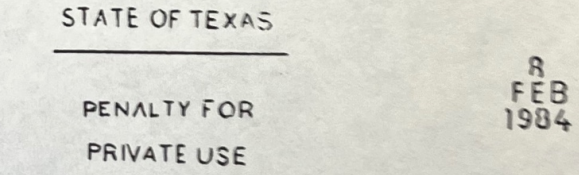


TYPE O-JB

THE STAMP CONSISTS OF THE USER'S NAME, A PENALTY STATEMENT AND THE DATE.

O-JB1 Bell & Howell imprint.

One example known used by the Texas Employment Commission, Austin TX for employment security mail, dated FEB 8, 1984



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