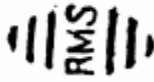


Highway Post Office - These cancels replaced the RPO mail trains. The buses sorted mail as they moved from office to office.



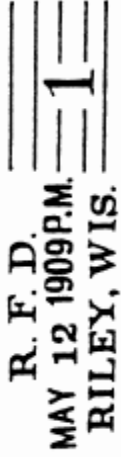
RPO Cancels - These cancels were used by the mail clerks on railroad mail trains as they sorted mail between stops.



Rural Branches, Rural Stations - Were postal sub-units without postmasters located outside the corporate limits of the city serving that particular office.



Rural Free Delivery Postmark - Used to facilitate accurate records of mail handled on routes. Seventeen different cancel types were used in Wisconsin. Additional manuscript cancel varieties are numerous.



POSTAL

HISTORY

SOCIETY

Affiliated with:

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

The American Philatelic Society

The following is a list of informational bulletins which are available from the Wisconsin Postal History Society. Most of the information from bulletins 1 thru 11 (out of print) is included in the bulletins below.

- | | | |
|--------|--|---------|
| No. 12 | Railway Mail Postmarks of Wisconsin & Upper Mich. | \$5.25 |
| No. 13 | 1902 Wisconsin Railway Scheme | \$2.75 |
| No. 14 | Straight Line Postmarks of Wisconsin - Enlarged edition | \$2.00 |
| No. 15 | County & Postmaster Postmarks of Wis. - Enlarged edition | \$1.75 |
| No. 16 | Rural Free Delivery Postmarks of Wisconsin | \$1.50 |
| No. 17 | Flag and Doane Postmarks of Wisconsin | \$2.00 |
| No. 18 | 19th Century Fancy Cancellations of Wisconsin | \$3.25 |
| No. 19 | The Precanceled Stamps of Wisconsin - Revised Edition | \$3.75 |
| No. 20 | Rural Branches of Wisconsin Post Offices | \$4.25 |
| No. 21 | Territorial & Early Statehood Covers owned by SHSW | \$5.25 |
| No. 22 | Wisconsin - Its Territorial and Statehood Post Offices | \$25.00 |
| No. 23 | Contract, Classified Stations & Branches of Wisconsin | \$2.50 |
| No. 24 | Contract, Classified Stations & Branches of Wisconsin 1998 Rev | \$5.00 |
| No. 25 | Wisconsin Post Office Handbook - 3rd Edition | \$6.50 |
| No. 26 | The History & Postal History of the USS Wisconsin | \$6.50 |
| No. 27 | Wisconsin Ink Jet Cancels | \$3.00 |

Anyone desiring to purchase copies of these bulletins may do so by sending the proper funds, payable to Wisconsin Postal History Society, plus \$2.00 for handling & postage for each bulletin to:

WPHS Treasurer, Greg Schmidt, 1978 Fox Burrow Ct., Neenah, WI 54956

Wisconsin Postal History Society

At the 1942 annual meeting of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, some twelve collectors gathered at a breakfast meeting in the Plankinton Hotel Milwaukee, and inaugurated what was then called the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs Postal History Project.

The name of the organization was changed, in 1949, to the Wisconsin Postal History Society, and after it was incorporated became affiliated with the Wisconsin State Historical Society and later with the American Philatelic Society.

The purpose of WPHS is to collect and disseminate information on the postal history of Wisconsin for educational and historical uses. All postal activities are covered - locations and dates of operation of post offices, types of postmarks used, mail transportation routes and methods, post office personnel, etc. Most of our members collect covers and other postal information from a single county or a small group of counties. Some specialize in covers from the territorial period, from discontinued post offices or in fancy cancels. Members are encouraged to compile data on new systems as they are phased in by the US Postal Service serving Wisconsin post offices. This data can be used as subjects for future bulletins.

We publish a quarterly journal, **Badger Postal History**, which contains news about membership activities, and other items of general interest to the Wisconsin postal historian. WPHS continues to publish informational bulletins which can be obtained from our treasurer. (see back page) The Society's library contains micro-films of postmaster commission dates, a number of maps, and numerous books on postal service data.

The WPHS conducts its annual meeting in conjunction with the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs show each year. We also have available for that show an award for the best state or best county exhibit.

Our dues are \$15.00 per year. We welcome collectors from all branches of philately and all other persons, clubs or societies with an interest in Wisconsin postal history. Why not join us!

Membership applications may be requested from the president.

Darren Mueller
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Oak Creek WI 53154-0343
darren.mueller@juno.com

Examples of some of the various cancels used over the years:

English Prairie . 25
Aug-14

Pen cancellations - until the middle 1850's this was the usual way to cancel letters.



County Postmark - These markings served to better identify the location of obscure post offices.



Postmaster Postmark - Never required by postal regulations it was probably done to please the postmaster's fancy.



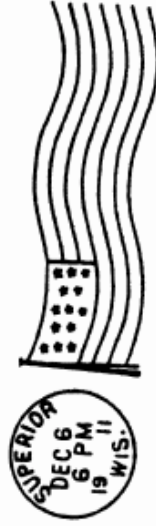
Fancy Cancellations - During the pre-1890 period, many postmasters purchased a town mark and then used their artistic ability to carve a killer from cork, apple wood, pear wood, a rubber eraser, or even a potato.



Hand Cancels - Usually used in smaller offices and have a large circle with four or five horizontal bars to the right as the killer.

HINGHAM, Wis
Aug 15

Straight Line Postmarks - Used by small post offices that were without a permanent canceling device, especially in the late 1800's.



Flag Cancels - Are machine cancels that were used primarily during the period 1896 to 1937. Fifteen types of flag cancels are known. At least 106 offices used these cancels.