

Ohio City



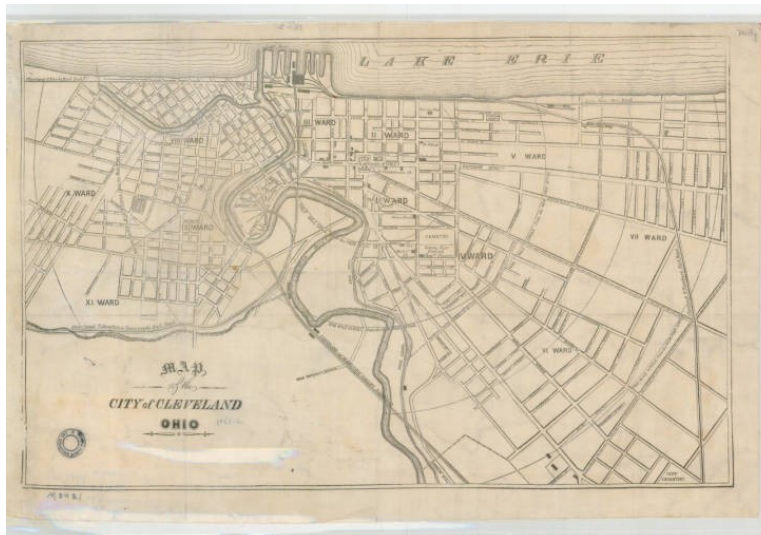
August 14, 1836
Earliest Reported Postmark from Ohio City
Fewer than 10 reported Ohio City manuscript postmarks

Ohio City is today known as an inner neighborhood of Cleveland, on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River. Prior to its 1854 merger with the City of Cleveland, Ohio City was an incorporated city that acted as a commercial rival to its eastern neighbor.

Ohio City was originally known as Brooklyn (after its township); a post office operated under that name from May 11, 1830 until the name was changed to Ohio City on June 24, 1836.

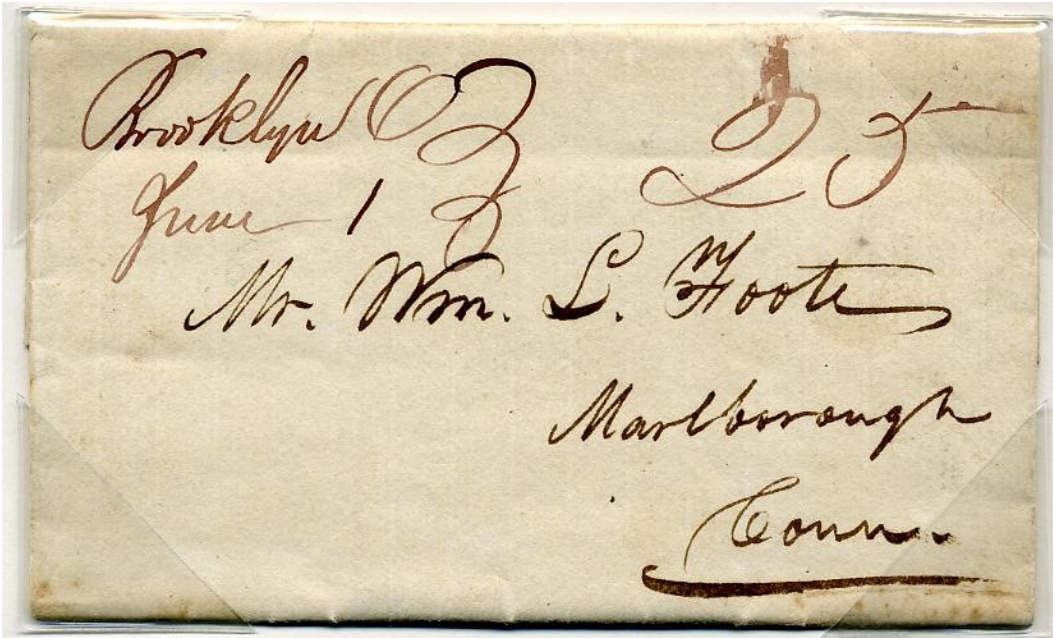
Despite its short period of existence, Ohio City used four different town markings and a variety of handstamp markings. A census records approximately 140 covers from Ohio City.

This exhibit presents all known markings from the Brooklyn and Ohio City post offices, except a "24" in circle rate marking used on the single reported cover to the United Kingdom. Highlights include the earliest reported Brooklyn and Ohio manuscript postmarks, the only reported Brooklyn straightline handstamp, both reported examples of the first Ohio City town marking, one of two reported covers to Canada, and the only example of the second town marking in red.



1862 J.H. Williston Map of Cleveland
Ohio City is the portion of Cleveland west of the Cuyahoga River
Courtesy Cleveland Public Library Map Collection

Brooklyn



May 31, 1834
Earliest Reported Postmark from Brooklyn
Fewer than 10 reported Brooklyn manuscript postmarks



August 22 1835
Only reported example of this marking
Only reported Brooklyn handstamp

The Brooklyn post office was established May 11, 1830 in the village of Brooklyn, in what was then known as Brooklyn Township. The name of the office was changed to Ohio City on June 24, 1836.

Ohio City—Manuscript Postmarks



January 11, 1837
Detroit, Michigan transit marking
Triple rate, 150-400 miles



February 12, 1837
Single rate, 30-80 miles

The newly-named Ohio City post office used manuscript postmarks in 1836 and 1837. Approximately 10 manuscript postmarks are reported.

First Town Marking



August 24, 1836
Single rate, 150-400 miles



August 30, 1836
Single rate, 400+ miles

A relatively crude and perhaps locally produced marking was used briefly. Both reported examples were used in August 1836. The reason for reversion to manuscript markings is unknown.

Second Town Marking



May 24, 1837
Single rate, 400+ miles
Earliest reported use of second handstamp
Only reported use of this marking in red



August 20, 1837
Single rate, 400+ miles

A second handstamp device, 30mm in diameter, was placed into use in May 1837.

Second Town Marking—Manuscript Rates



November 25, 1839
Single rate prepaid, 30-80 miles



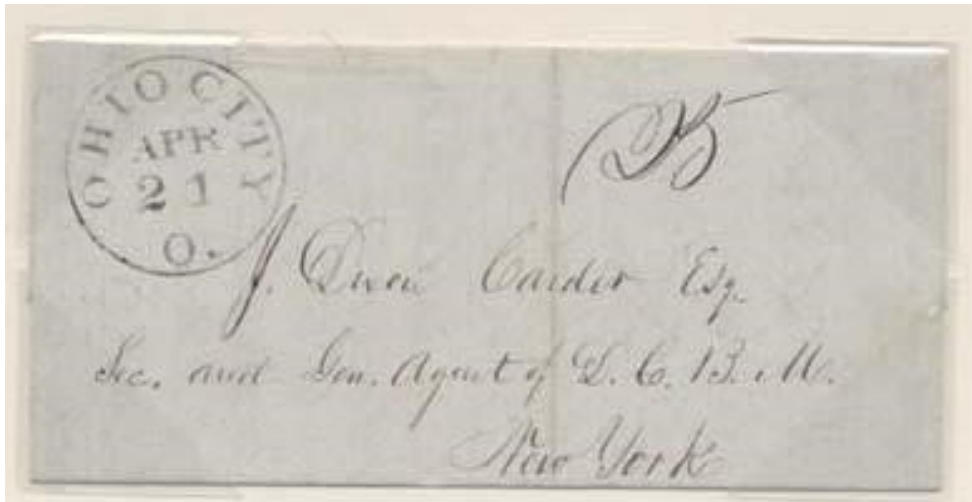
October 25, 1844
Single rate prepaid, 80-150 miles

The marking was used in black with manuscript rate markings prior to the 1845 rate change. A black "PAID" handstamp indicated prepaid mail.

Second Town Marking—Manuscript Rates



April 23, 1840
Single rate, 150-400 miles



April 21, 1841
Single rate, 400+ miles

Second Handstamp—1845 Rates



February 18, circa 1849
Single rate, under 300 miles



September 14, 1847
Single rate, 300+ miles

Manuscript rate markings remained in use during the 1845 rate period.

Second Town Marking—1845 Rate Handstamps



December 2, circa 1850
Single rate, under 300 miles
One of two reported examples of negative 5 rate marking
One of two reported examples of second town marking in blue



July 9, circa 1849
Single rate, 300+ miles
One of two reported examples of X rate marking
Turned and re-used from Townshend, VT to North Adams, MA in December 1849

Rate handstamps were used irregularly during the 1845 rate period.

Second Town Marking—Free Mail



July 20, 1843
Manuscript "f" for "free"
Traveling Postmaster frank
from PM of Franklin Mills,
Ohio

December 6, 1838
"FREE" handstamp

Postmaster free
frank of Charles
Winslow (served
1838-49)



July 12, 1839
"FREE" handstamp

Addressed to Post-
master of Blandford,
Massachusetts



A "FREE" handstamp was also available at Ohio City, but not always used.

Second Town Marking—Forwarded Mail



December 18, 1845
Unpaid single rate under 300 miles to Salem, Ohio; forwarded to Cleveland



November 30, 1848
Prepaid single rate under 300 miles to Cincinnati, Ohio; forwarded to New York

Third Town Marking—Prepaid Under 3000 Miles



November 8, 1851
Prepaid single rate under 3000 miles
Fewer than five reported examples of "PAID" handstamp and "3" rate numeral



February 14, circa 1853
Prepaid single rate under 3000 miles
Approximately 10 reported examples of PAID / 3 in circle marking

Ohio City's third town marking, measuring 34mm, was used between 1850 and 1853. A small "PAID" marking was initially used with a "3" rate marking. A "PAID / 3" in circle was subsequently placed into use.

Third Town Marking—Unpaid Mail



August 3, 1851
Unpaid single rate under 3000 miles
Fewer than ten reported examples of "5" handstamp



July 20, circa 1851
Unpaid double rate under 3000 miles
Approximately 5 reported examples of "10" rate marking

"5" and "10" rate markings were used for single and double-rate unpaid mail.

Third Town Marking—Other Uses



April 24, 1851
Prepaid 10 cent rate under 1851 Agreement
Two reported Ohio City covers to Canada



July 2, 1853
Third town marking and PAID /3 in circle used as forwarding marking
Origin at Augusta Ohio; forwarded to Nimisilla Ohio

Two Ohio City covers are reported to Canada and one to Great Britain. No other foreign destinations are reported.

Fourth Town Marking



January 22, 1853
PAID / 3 in arc; prepaid single rate under 3000 miles
Earliest reported example of these markings



September 13, 1853
PAID / 3 in arc; prepaid single rate under 3000 miles

A fourth town marking, measuring 31.5mm, entered use in 1853. Approximately ten examples are reported. Its reported use overlaps that of the third marking.

Use of Adhesives



August 1, 1851
3 cent orange brown, plate 1E

Third town marking and circular
grid killer

*Fewer than 10 reported uses of
adhesives with third town marking*

November 27, circa 1854

Third town marking also
used as cancel



August 3, circa 1854

Fourth town marking also
used as cancel

*Fewer than 5 reported
uses of adhesives with
fourth town marking*

Few adhesive stamps were used from Ohio City. One cover is known with a removed 5-cent 1847 adhesive. Approximately 10 1851 issue covers are reported. The Ohio City post office was discontinued November 27, 1854, with postal operations transferred to Cleveland effective January 1, 1855.