

Synopsis for the Exhibit/Judges

An alpha array of synonyms for the word "Synopsis": Abstract, breviary, brief, capsule, conspectus, digest, encapsulation, epitome, inventory, outline, précis, recap, recapitulation, résumé, roundup, run-through, rundown, sum, summa, summarization, summary, summing-up and wrap-up.

This is a fascinating list including a few words we had to look up in Webster's for clarification/definition purposes. But most all exhibitors can readily deal with the word "Synopsis." A Synopsis is not required (yet) by many philatelic exhibit chairs of WSP shows, but discussions are flowing about trying to make the inclusion of the written synopsis mandatory for admission/acceptance of any exhibit at all WSP shows. We think that it is a worthy consideration and a needed discussion as it truly aids two people most keenly interested in any exhibit: (1) the proud exhibitor and (2) the judge/jury that is tasked with deciding on the points and, therefore, the medal level.

The question that surfaces is, admittedly, doesn't the always-evident and required title page provide the necessary evidence/data for the jury? The title page does – and often can – if well-written, present significantly important information.

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Synopsis: Work Horses of WWII - The U. S. Transport Airmails

PURPOSE & SCOPE: 5-frame Airmail exhibit demonstrates the intriguing history and varied postal uses with assortments of postal markings in 8 chapters. The exhibit chronologically shows the proper rates & fees from 1941 to 1945. These airmail stamps were used by almost all U.S. Post Offices. It links aerophilately and WWII.

TREATMENT/PLAN: The organization/story line is essentially by ascending rates while highlighting the P. O.'s, as well as pertinent chronological, geographical, and historical aspects. Exhibit begins with the earliest uses and ends with post WWII uses.

IMPORTANCE: Key and important items are highlighted in a red outlined box versus a light gray box. The importance of this topic is the linkage to WWII for most postal historians/philatelists. It is typical for this exhibitor to locate only one or two additional quality covers for this exhibit annually. This exhibit represents in excess of 20 years+ of searching for these difficult to acquire covers. *This is the first time exhibited.*

KNOWLEDGE & RESEARCH: The Transport set of stamps (8) including the booklet pane were clever/innovative. The utilization by the Postmasters/Customers was vast. The durability of the rates was hampered by an abrupt ending of the rates in 1946. Most published articles by philatelic authors on the subject have been entirely considered by the Exhibitor.

RARITY & CONDITION: The material in this exhibit is wholly over 70 years old. The covers reflect the impact of normal aging, but the covers are generally in very good to excellent condition. There are several covers shown are the only ones known or just one of <5 known. Highlighted in the exhibit are items that are unusual, uncommon, or the first time reported in the literature.

PRESENTATION: The covers and descriptions are shown in an easy format to follow. Brief and clear descriptions allow the viewer to always easily comprehend the rates, the markings, and the originations/destinations. The epilogue provides a bridge to the next U. S. airmail stamps. Each chapter concludes with:

REFERENCES:

<https://arago.si.edu/category/Transports>

The Transports - Paperback by C. H. Davis - August 20 1999

<https://www.americanairmailociety.org/resources/collecting-airmail/us-airmail-stamps>



The synopsis abets the title page in a methodology that illuminates the viewer/jury to a higher degree. The synopsis should not be a repeat in toto of the title page and visa-versa. They should help each other, but not duplicate.

We really enjoy preparing synopses because one can be relatively creative and even a little daring. The one place the exhibitor can really express him or herself from a personal view is on the synopsis page(s).

One can express why this is a fine exhibit, why it is a challenge, why it was difficult to pull together and, in plain talk, express why the exhibit is well prepared and well-written. Think of the synopsis as an advertising piece extolling why the exhibit is really, truly a fine example of philatelic exhibiting. Think about how a marketing guru would talk or write about the product being sold. "New and improved," "tastes great," "smells good," "feels terrific" and "it is enjoyable" should be woven into the context of the synopsis.

"Attached Rates" 1830's & Early 1840's - Brief Saga

SYNOPSIS

PURPOSE &

SCOPE: This single-frame postal history exhibit demonstrates the intriguing Circular Date Stamps with their "Attached" Rate postal markings. The exhibit shows the proper rate fees for distance and number of sheets all per the Act of 1825. They were used by a small group of U.S. Post Offices in the New England and northern New York area during the 1830's and the early 1840's. Included are (the only known) 4 examples (to date) of "Detached" Rate markings that used the same slugs integral to the Attached Rate postmark devices.

TREATMENT/PLAN: The organization/story line is essentially by ascending single sheet rates while highlighting the P. O.'s, as well as pertinent chronological, geographical, and historical aspects. Exhibit begins with the earliest known Attached Rate cover in 1830 and concludes with Detached Rate covers.

IMPORTANCE: Key and important items are highlighted in a red box versus a light gray box. The impact of this topic is that most postal historians/philatelists are not well versed on Attached Rates. This is believed to be the first exhibit of both Attached/Detached rates in the past 5 decades or more. It is typical for this exhibitor to locate only one additional cover for this exhibit annually. This exhibit represents in excess of 30 years of searching for these difficult to acquire covers. *This is the first time exhibited.*

KNOWLEDGE & RESEARCH: The Attached Rate devices were a quite clever/innovative invention. The utilization by the Postmasters was brief in almost all cases. The durability/longevity was hampered by poor sturdiness forcing an abrupt ending at most Post Offices that had purchased the marking devices. No actual physical device has been found to date. All published articles by the few authors on the subject have been entirely considered by the Exhibitor.

RARITY & CONDITION: The material in this exhibit is wholly over 174 years old. The covers reflect the impact of normal aging, but the covers are generally in very good to excellent condition. There are several covers shown that are the only ones known or just one of <5 known. Highlighted in the exhibit are items that are unusual, uncommon, or the first time reported in the literature.

PRESENTATION: The covers and descriptions are shown in an easy format to follow. Brief and clear descriptions allow the viewer to always easily comprehend the postal history, the rates, the markings, and the destinations. Also, highlighted rate headings delineate the ensuing section enhancing the viewers understanding of the subject. The Detached Rate covers provide an apropos epilogue.

REFERENCES:

Vol.59, Number 1 Year 2007 USPS Chronicle 213; Article: "Attached Rates"; Author James W. Milgram

Vol.59 Number 2 Year 2007 USPS Chronicle 214; Article: "Attached Rates Part 2"; Author James W. Milgram

May 2019 USPS Article: "Attached Rates/Detached Rates"; Authors William Schultz & Mark Schwartz

"Attached Rate Handstamps of the 1830 Era"; Author Arthur H. Bond; 3 articles in the Postal History Journal; 1968 #20, pp. 35-38, 1969 #23, p. 54, & 1973 #35 p.47

Judge's Synopsis

The Postal Markings of Newbury and Newburyport, Mass. During the Stampless Period - 1755-1855

Treatment

This single frame postal history (marcophily) exhibit traces the postal history of Newbury and Newburyport on stampless covers from the earliest known letter marked at the colonial Newbury post office (1755) until stamps became required on letters in January 1856. This exhibit includes all known markings of the office that began as Newbury, and remained officially the Newbury PO until the rebels took it over as the Newburyport PO in 1775. However, between 1764 and 1775, note that manuscript town marks applied at the Newbury post office between 1764 and mid-1775 were variations on "Newburyport", not Newbury. The exception was the official Newbury hand stamp used in Feb.- March 1775.

The organization is essentially chronological. Markings used at the Newbury colonial post office are shown first, with manuscript markings preceding the only hand stamp. Those of the Newburyport Congressional and U. S. Post Office follow, again with manuscript markings preceding hand stamps. At the upper right of each page is the type of postmark (manuscript, CDS, etc.), and if a hand stamp, its dimensions and color (if not black). Below that is noted any hand stamped auxiliary markings on the page, e.g., rate, "PAID", "FREE", etc. Manuscript town marks from the 18th century are duplicated for clarity. For all covers, the date range in which each marking was used is contained in a gray box to the side of the appropriate covers. Also included are the rate and rate period, the date the cover was postmarked in Essex County, and for ship covers, when known, the ship and ship's captain.

Important covers are framed in red.

Importance.

The towns of Newbury and Newburyport have a history that spans the history of this country. Newbury is one of the country's earliest post offices, and is noted on the famous Herman Moll map of the first decade of the 1700s. Newbury was one of five colonial post offices in Massachusetts (along with Boston, Salem, Marblehead and Holmes Hole) for which postal markings are recorded, and was a major Massachusetts port. As such, this town is representative of most small northeastern towns established during the Colonial period.

Among the important covers are:

- The only colonial Newbury ("Newby") manuscript mark and one of 4 known colonial NEWBURY hand stamps.
- The only reported colonial Newburyport ship letter (while the post office was still officially Newbury; 1768)
- An October 1775 letter initially rated at Newburyport as per the Act of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress of May 13, 1775, later rated at the destination as per the Resolution of Congress of Sept. 30, 1775.
- One of four known letters (of any origin) rated per the Resolution of Congress, Dec. 12, 1780. This rate period lasted only 6 weeks.
- The earliest known example of any of the first standardized town circles provided by the PMG in 1799 (Newburyport, May 6).
- A cover sent from Newburyport to Valparaiso, Chile in 1855. With the 48c rate split evenly between U.S. and British packets.

Personal Study and Research

The length of time that I have collected this material (over 20 years), and have kept records of both the material in his collection and the material seen in other collections, exhibits and auction catalogs, has allowed me to more precisely determine the time periods in which the markings were used, and the transition from the use of one marking to another.

Condition and Rarity

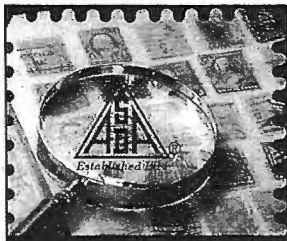
The covers in this exhibit are generally in excellent condition with very fine examples of the marking. Those that are not are either the earliest known post mark of a particular post office, or they contain a unique or seldom seem marking.

This exhibit contains all of the unique or rare Newbury / Newburyport items of which this exhibitor is aware.

History of the Exhibit

In its current form, this exhibit has only been shown at SESCOAL 2103, where it won the Single Frame Grand. It will also be at PNSE in April 2014.

Key Reference: American Stampless Cover Catalog, Vols. 1-3, D. G. Phillips, ed., 1987-1997



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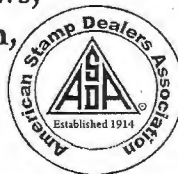
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We display on these pages three fine examples for your perusal of synopses that we fervently suggest have done the required marketing job they were intended to accomplish. The inherent concept of a synopsis is that you can say things in it that you cannot on the title page or in the exhibit. You can use words such as "scarce" and "rare." You can say that you have been collecting for 35 years, as an example. You can write about this being the best exhibit of its type in philately today. Well, you can say all these things if they are basically true and you can openly brag about what you have learned, how hard it was to find the material and more. Be bold in the statements you make in the synopsis. It is your one real opportunity to "spout off."

The authors would enjoy getting feedback from readers. They may be reached at the following email addresses: bill@patriciaschultz.com and mark.schwartz1@verizon.net