

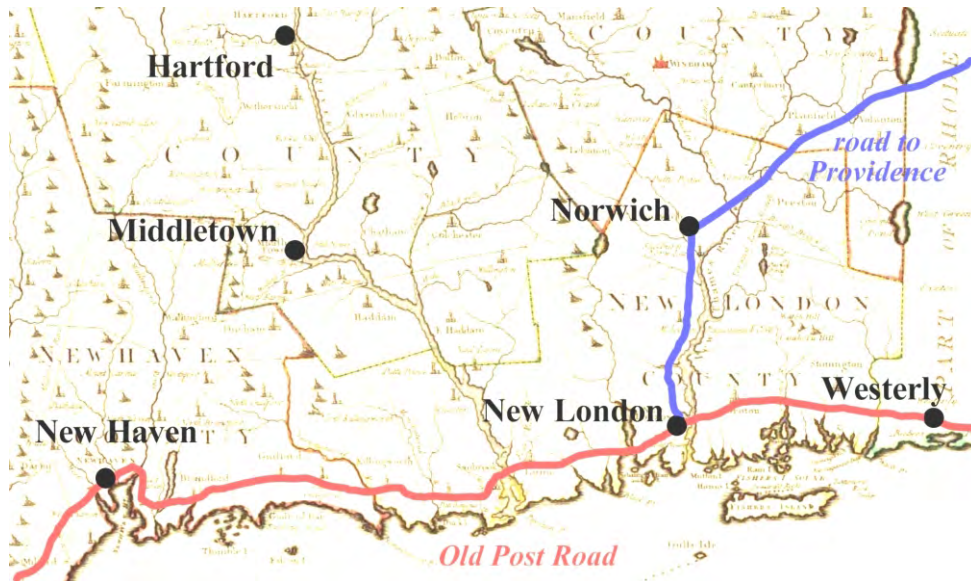
Norwich

This exhibit presents significant vignettes that illustrate the pre 1867 letter mails to and from what is now Norwich, Connecticut. It is organized by the three post office locations and chronologically by name change within as follows:

Norwich I (1755-1836) and Norwich Town (1836-1861)

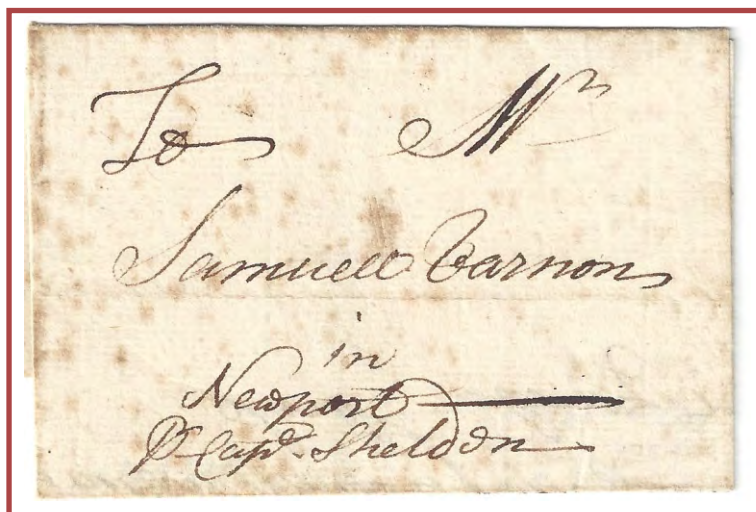
Norwich Falls (1828-1829)

Chelsea Landing (1802-1827), Norwich City (1827-1836) and Norwich II (1836-1867)



The main road connecting New London, Norwich and Providence, RI is shown in blue. The lower Old Post Road, the major colonial era postal route, is shown in red. As will be seen, the blue route was used as a provisional postal route in April and May 1779 after the British disruption of mails carried on the lower Post Road. Norwich became a post office in 1781.

Pre Post Office Privately Carried Mail

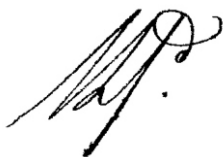


2 December 1755 Norwich to Newport, per "Capt. (James) Sheldon" the earliest reported letter from Norwich in private hands

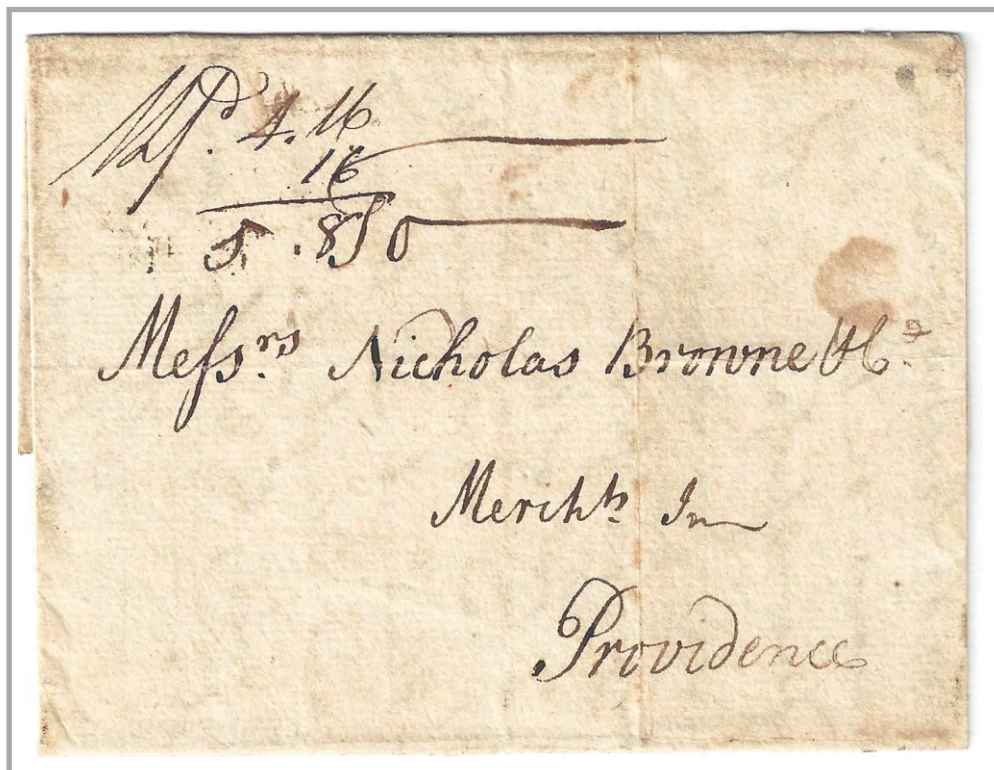
Norwich

Pre Post Office Period

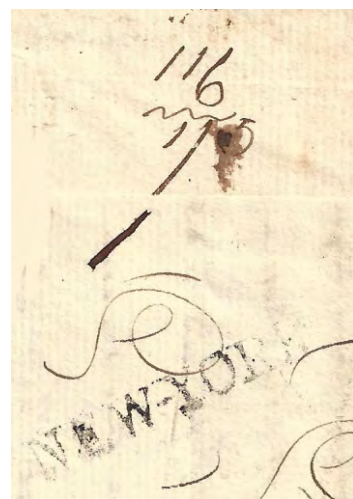
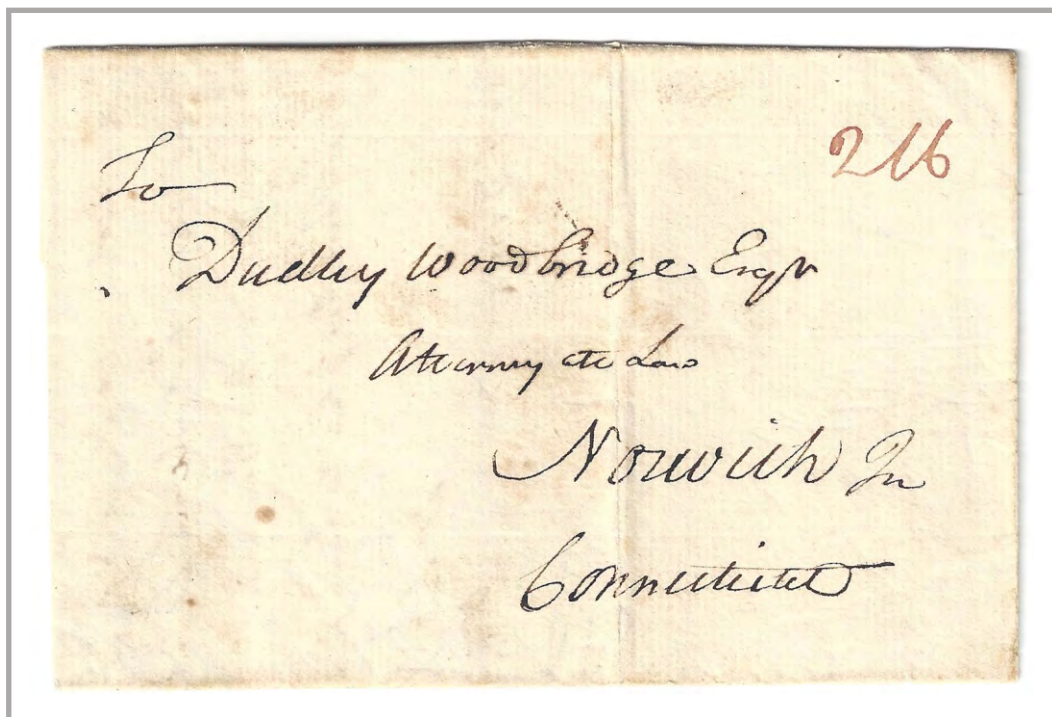
Private Mails to / from British Parliamentary Post



New London
postmark



November 1772 Norwich to Providence double rate letter, carried privately to New London entered the British mails at New London, incorrectly rated as postage due of 4dwt, 16gr postage due amount corrected at Providence to 5dwt 16gr (1dwt 8gr private carriage Norwich to New London + 4dwt double rate to Providence)



12 October 1774 New York to Norwich, postmark on back, 2dwt 16gr due at New London (local currency equivalent of 11d postage + 6d for carriage from New London = 1sh/5d due)

Norwich

Provisional Continental Congress Post Office

During the British occupation of Newport, a provisional mail route via Norwich was established. In March 1779, Ebenezer Hazard and Boston Postmaster Jonathan Hastings decided to change the route between Providence and New London away from the lower Post Road via Westerly to a new route via Norwich. The route was in operation from 5 April to 8 May 1779. Dudley Woodbridge served as the provisional post office agent.

Norwich 5th April 1779 — List of Letters Recd —

William Hubbard — Boston	Post	
Martha Green — Boston	4	
Shelb. Wheel & Postman — Boston	4	
Leonard Hills — May	2	8

(sent) 7th April

Boston — 1 bundle	12	
Hubbard Wm — May	2	
Applegate Court — May	2	
Williams Joseph — May	20	80

Sent to N.L. 17th April

Gale Samuel — May	2	
-------------------	---	--

Sent to Boston 20th April

3 single — May	12	
1 Double —	8	

Sent to Boston 18th April

Thomas Dunning — 2 single	12	
Elijah Lathrop — 1	10	
3 single to N.L.	6	

from Portsmouth (bill dated 18th)

Howland & Post — 1 single	6	
1 packet	40	

from Boston (bill dated 22nd)

Elijah Lathrop — 1	10	
Howland & Post — 2	12	
Wm Hubbard — 1	10	
2	10	
May & Huntington — 1	10	
Frederick Gray — 1	4	paid

25th from N.L.

Benjamin Webster — 1	7	3/4
Sam Johnson — 1	16	4
Benjamin Dummer — 1	16	4
Sam Alden — 1	16	4
Joseph Williams — 1	16	4

Apr 25th Cont from N.L.

Elijah Lathrop S. Ship — 1	6	3/4
Howland & Post Ship 1	12	3/4
2 ^o — 1	6	3/4
Managers Short — 1	6	3/4
Major Paine — 1	6	3/4
John Corning — 1	6	3/4
Col. Bingham — 1	5	
Gov. Pownall — 1	5	
Gov. Pittman — 1	5	
Col. Davis — 1	5	
2	10	

26th Sent to Boston

4 single	16	
----------	----	--

to Providence

2 single	8	
----------	---	--

Sent to Boston May 6th from

Post from N.L. May 7 th		
Post from Boston May 10 th	12	32
Frederick Gray — 1	4	
Proctor — 1	4	
Andrew Huntington — 1	4	
Sam & Paine — 1	4	

May 8th

Sent to Fairfield	3	9
Sent to Saffhill	2	8
Sent to London	2	8

May 8th

Col. Paine & Lamb — 1	10	paid
Gov. Pownall — 1	5	
Gov. Pittman — 1	5	
Gov. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. W. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. D. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. P. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. S. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. T. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. U. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. V. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. W. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. X. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. Y. Mifflin — 1	5	
Gov. Z. Mifflin — 1	5	

5 April to 8 May 1779, scans of the two page ledger of mails sent and received at Norwich compiled by Dudley Woodbridge acting as postmaster (original displayed on following page)

Dudley Woodbridge was the first postmaster of Norwich. After his temporary service during the provisional route change of 1779, he was officially designated postmaster in 1781 and served in that capacity until 1789. He and his brother Samuel were important merchants in Norwich, dealing primarily in rum and other foodstuffs.



Norwich

Provisional Post Office - List of Letters Sent and Received

Norwich 5th April 1779 — List of Letters Recd —

William Hubbard — Boston 4^{Post}
 Martha Green — Boston 4
 Mess^{rs} Wheat & Madman — D^o — 4
 Leonard Hills — Way — 2nd 8

April 5-1779

(sent) 7th April

Boston — 1 trible — 12
 Recd from N^o 2

Hubbard W^m — Way — 2
 Liffenwell Christ^o — Way — 2
 Williams Joseph — Way S^c — 20

W^m Hubbard — Boston }
 2nd }
 12 — 2 P^{er}ple — 24 }
 W^m Joseph — 4 }

17th April — recd from Boston

Sent to N^o L. 17th April

Gale Samuel Way — 2

Sent to Boston 19th April

3 Single Way — 12
 1 Double — 8

Recd from N^o London 18th April

Thomas Fanning 2 single — 7²

Elijah Lathrop 1 — 10

24 26th Dutch Cant^o 1 — 5

3 Single to N^o L — 6

from Portsmouth (Bill dated 13th)

Howland West 1 Ship single 6

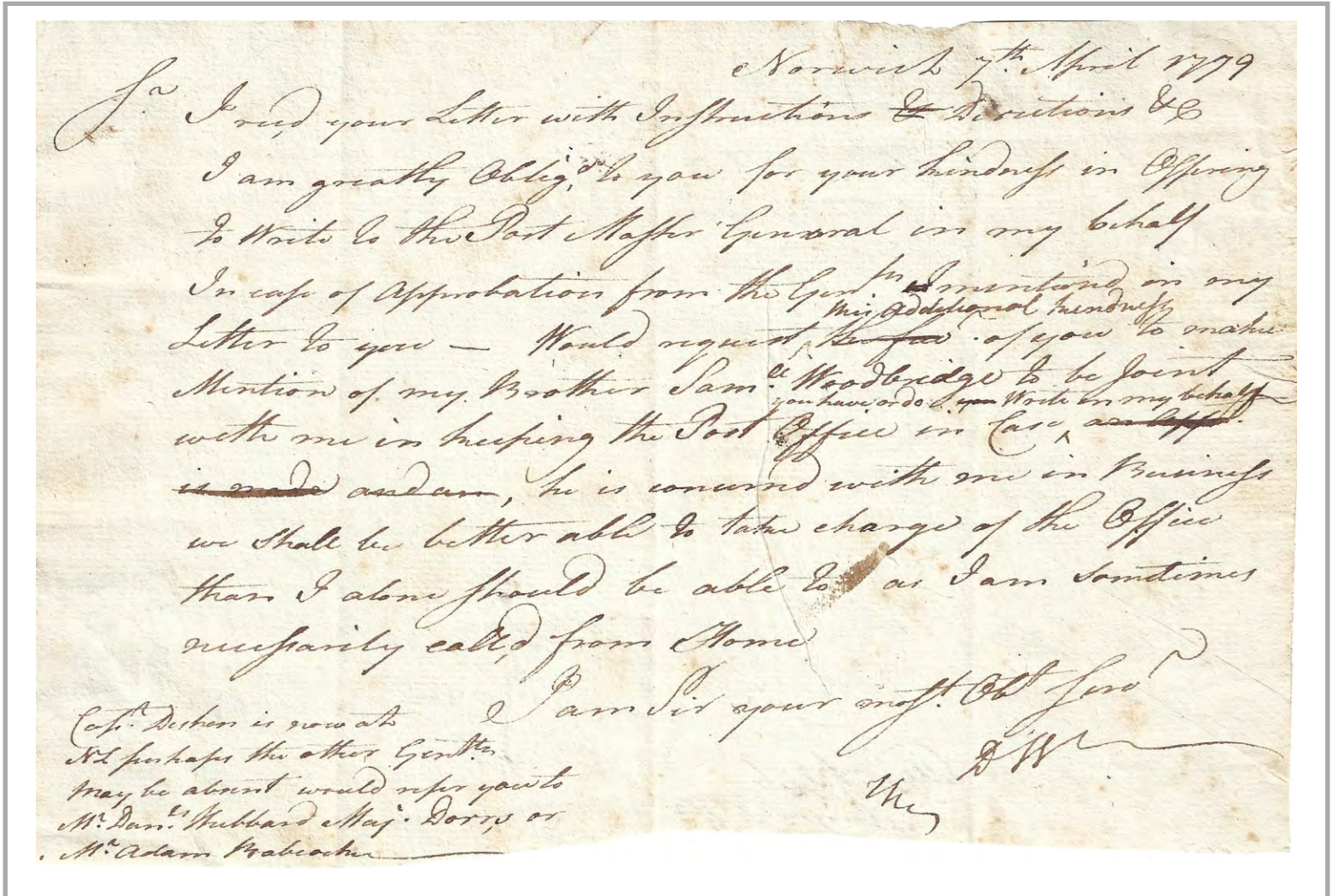
1 packet — 48

from Boston (Bill dated 22nd)

Elisha Lathrop Ship 1 — 9

Holand East — 2 — 12

The provisional postmaster of Norwich, Dudley Woodbridge, writes a draft letter to the Jonathan Hastings, postmaster of Boston, regarding hoped-for official appointment as a postmaster for Norwich. Dated on the first day that mail was to be carried from Norwich over the new route.



7 April 1779 retained copy of Woodbridge letter to Boston Postmaster, Jonathan Hastings, Jr.

Norwich 7th April 1779

Sir, I rec'd your Letter with Instructions, Directions etc, I am greatly Oblig'd to you for your kindness in Offering to Write to the Post Master General in my behalf.

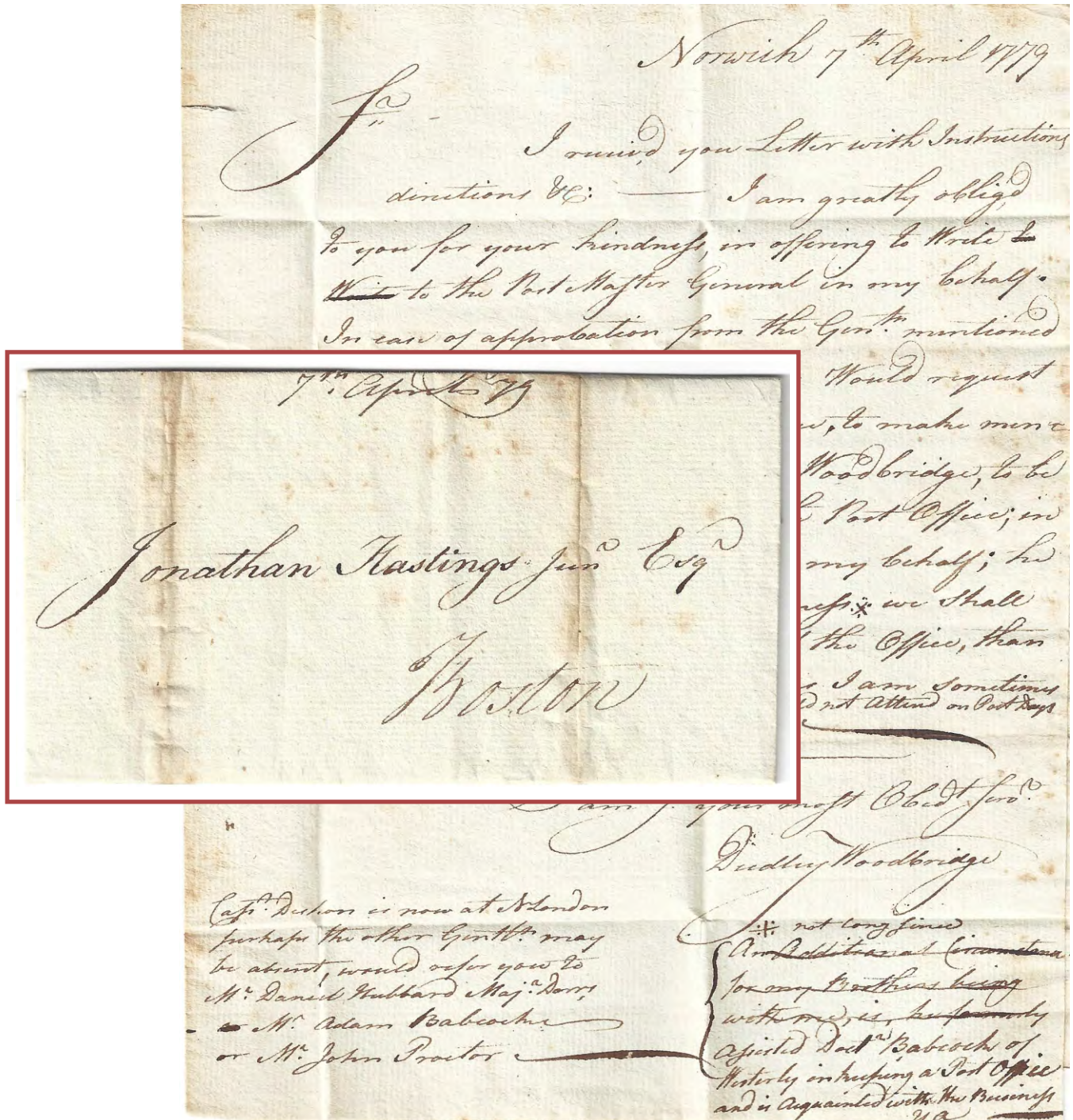
In case of Approbation from the Gentl'm., as I mentioned in my Letter to you - Would request this additional kindness of you to make Mention of my Brother Sam'l Woodbridge to be Joint with me in keeping the Post Office in Case you have or do Write in my behalf, he is concerned with me in Business we shall be better able to take charge of the Office than I alone should be able to as I am sometimes necessarily call'd from Home.

I am Sir your most Obt Serv't, D.W.

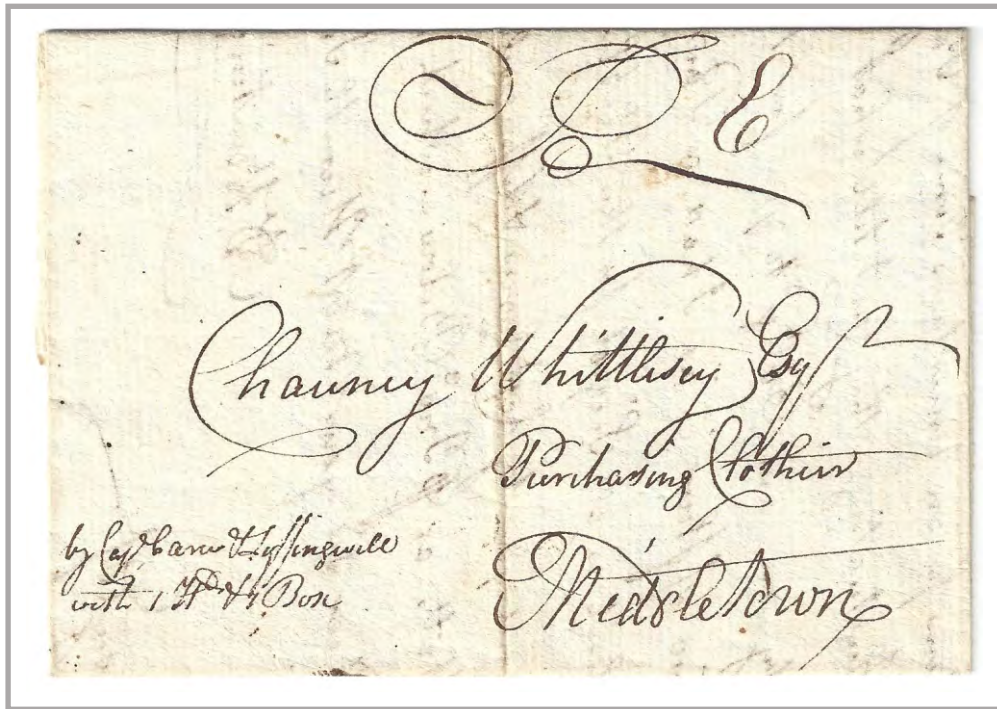
Capt. Deshon is now at N(ew) L(ondon) perhaps the other Gentl'm May be absent would refer you to Mr. Dan'l. Hubbard, Maj. Dorr's or Mr. Adam Babcock.

Letter Carried on First Trip from Provisional Post Office

Letter of Dudley Woodbridge transmitted over the provisional postal route on first day of service. Contents as previous page but with added postscript at bottom right which mentions that his brother had assisted Dr. Babcock at the Westerly, RI post office.



7 April 1779 Norwich carried over provisional postal route as free mail to Boston
Woodbridge writes to Boston postmaster, Jonathan Hastings, Jr.



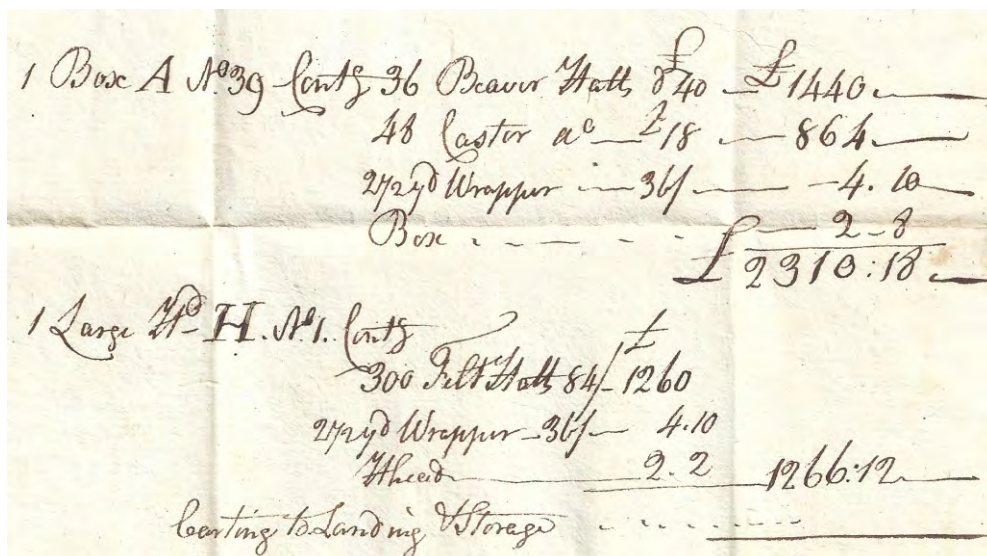
19 October 1779 Norwich to "Purchasing Clothier" at Middletown
Huntington's invoice for 36 beaver and 300 felt hats endorsed to be carried by Capt. Leffingwell

Norwich Octbr 19th 1779

Sir, I have your favour of the 13th Instant & observe the contents - if I could pay for the Hatts as soon as they are done - or advance part of the pay before hand it would be advantageous - but the makers will not sell them for an uncertain time of payment as the times are so fluctuating they can't tell what the money will be worth by & by - am Obliged to you for the prospect of a barrel or two of flour as I had a part in the cargo of prize flour which is all seized for the Public Use -----

I now send you by Capt C. Leffingwell One Box of Hatts as per invoice below which may arrive safe ...

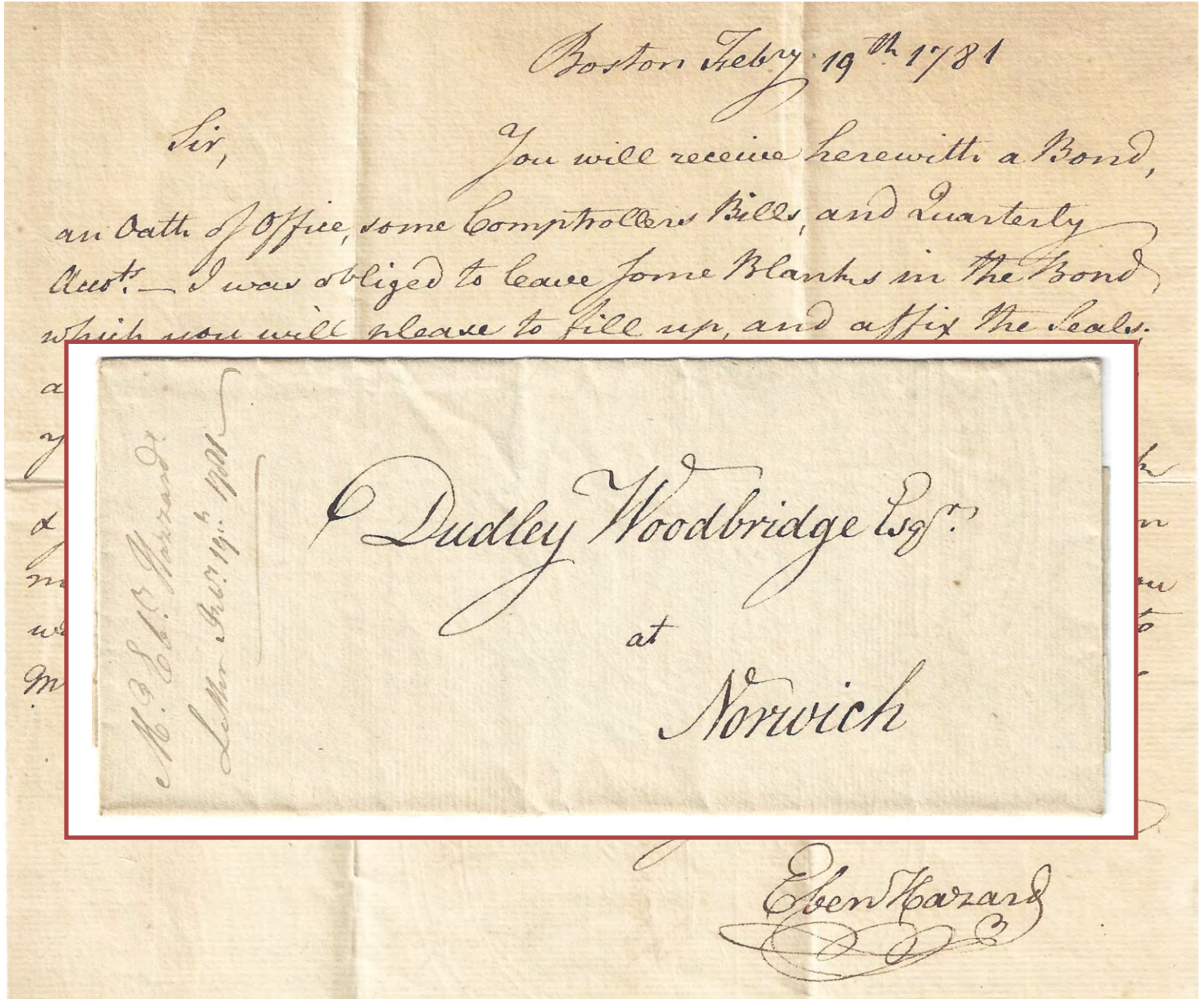
I am Sir your most Obt Serv't, AD (Andrew) Huntington



Norwich

Birth of Norwich Post Office

Ebenezer Hazard, as Surveyor General of the Continental Congress Post Office, sends Woodbridge a bond and oath of office to fill out and sign as the final step in becoming Norwich's first postmaster.



19 February 1781, Boston to Norwich, free mail, Ebenezer Hazard letter to Dudley Woodbridge

Boston Feby 19th 1781

Sir, You will receive herewith a Bond, an Oath of Office, some Comptroller Bills, and Quarterly Accts. - I was obliged to leave some Blanks in the Bond which you will please to fill up, and affix the Seals; and when you have signed it, and taken the Oath, you will return both to me. -

I have wrote to Phila. for a Book & some Post Master Bills for you; perhaps Mr Hallam may be able to lend you some of the latter, should you want any in the mean Time. With compliments to Mrs. Woodbridge, Miss Cree, your Brother & their Friends.

I am / Sir / Your humble Servt. / Eben Hazard

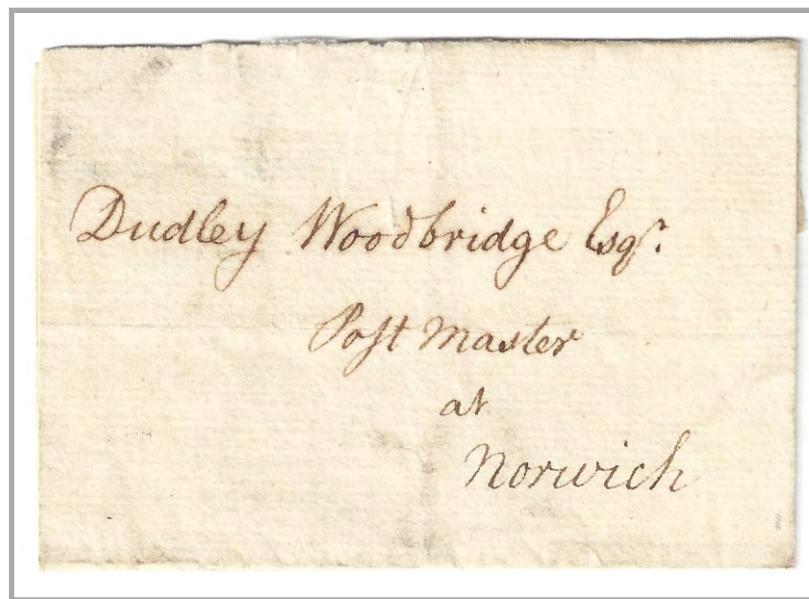
Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business

Peter Baynton, Comptroller and Secretary of the Continental Congress Post Office writes Dudley Woodbridge on behalf of Ebenezer Hazard, as Surveyor General of the Post Office regarding missent post office bills.

Mr Hazard presents his Compt. to Mr Woodbridge & informs him that Mr Bryson of Philadelphia wrote Mr H. the 13th ult. as follows. "I have sent the Bills &c to Mr. Woodbridge of Litchfield." - By the Bills &c are meant the Papers Mr. Hazard sent for to Phila. for Mr. Woodbridge's Office; - if they are come to Hand it is very well; - if not Mr Woodbridge will please to write to Mr. Hildrups at Hartford, and desire him to direct his Rider to enquire at Litchfield for them: - though Mr Hazard apprehends Litchfield was wrote through Mistake instead of Norwich. - Compt. to Mrs. Woodbridge & Miss Cree. -
March 5. 1781



Dudley Woodbridge Esq:
Postmaster
at
Norwich

5 March 1781, (Philadelphia) to Norwich, free mail addressed to postmaster, no postal markings
this piece confirms that Norwich was an operating post office by this date

Mr. Hazard presents his Compts. To Mr Woodbridge & informs him that Mr Bryson of Philadelphia wrote Mr H. the 13th ult. as follows. "I have sent the Bills &c to Mr. Woodbridge of Litchfield". - By the Bills &c are meant the Papers Mr. Hazard sent for to Phila. for Mr. Woodbridge's Office; - if they are come to Hand it is very well; - if not Mr. Woodbridge will please to write to Mr. Hildrups at Hartford, and desire him to direct his Rider to enquire at Litchfield for them: - though Mr. Hazard apprehends Litchfield was wrote through Misstake Instead of Norwich. - Compts. to Mrs. Woodbridge & Miss Cree. -
March 5, 1781

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Ebenezer Hazard Free Frank

*Free
Ebenezer Hazard*



Ebenezer Hazard was born in Philadelphia and educated at Princeton University. He was appointed first postmaster of New York City under the Continental Congress.

Hazard was appointed as surveyor general of the Continental Post Office in 1776. In January 1782, he succeeded Richard Bache as the United States Postmaster General, serving until 1789. Most of his tenure in office was while the capital was in New York City (1785 to 1790). During his tenure as Postmaster General, Hazard reorganized the Post Office and largely replaced the old post rider system of mail transport with stagecoach service on the main routes.



25 December 1781, (Philadelphia) to Post Master Dudley Woodbridge at Norwich
Eben(ezer) Hazard free frank used while serving as Surveyor General of the Post Office

Norwich

Dudley Woodbridge, Postmaster

Post Office Business

James Bryson, Postmaster of Philadelphia, on behalf of the Postmaster General Hazard, writes Dudley Woodbridge regarding Post Office accounts received and outstanding.

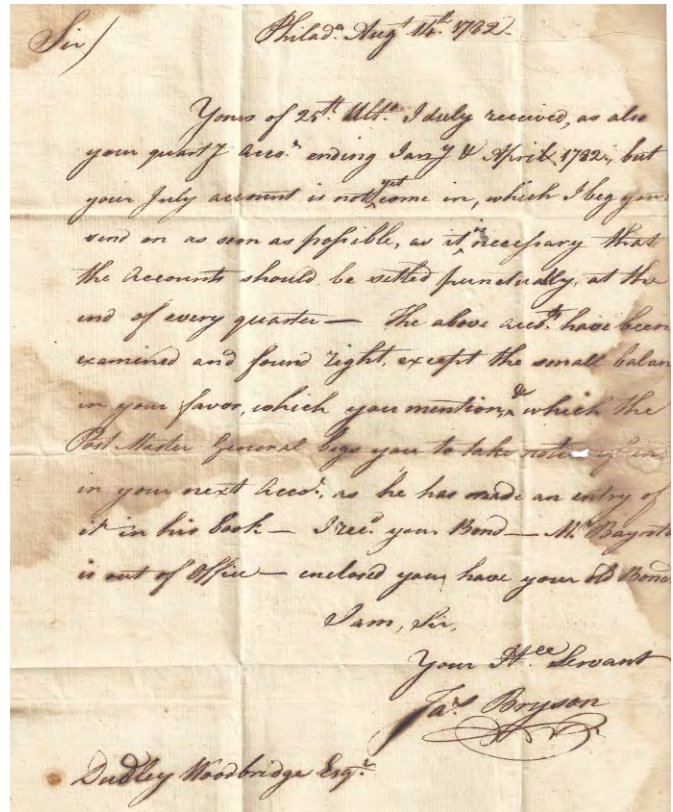
Philada. Augt. 14th. 1782.

Sir,

Yours of 25th. Ult^o. I duly received, as also your quarterly Accts. ending Jany. & April 1782, but your July account is not yet come in, which I beg you to send on as soon as possible, as it is necessary that the accounts should be settled punctually, at the end of every quarter. - The above accts. have been examined and found right, except the small balance in your favor, which you mention & which the Post Master General begs you to take note of in your next Acct. as he has made an entry of it in his book. - I recd. your Bond - Mr Baynton is out of Office - enclosed you have your old Bond.

I am, Sir

Your Hble. Servt. Jas Bryson

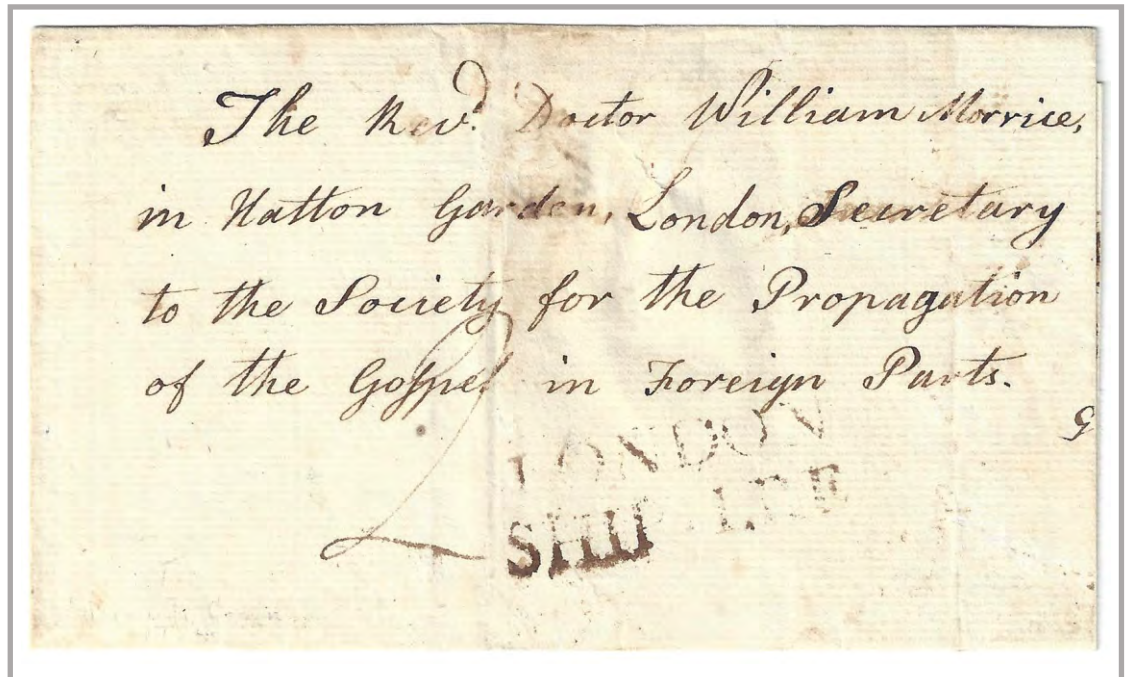


14 August 1782, Philadelphia to Norwich, "FREE*" handstamp addressed to Post Master Dudley Woodbridge

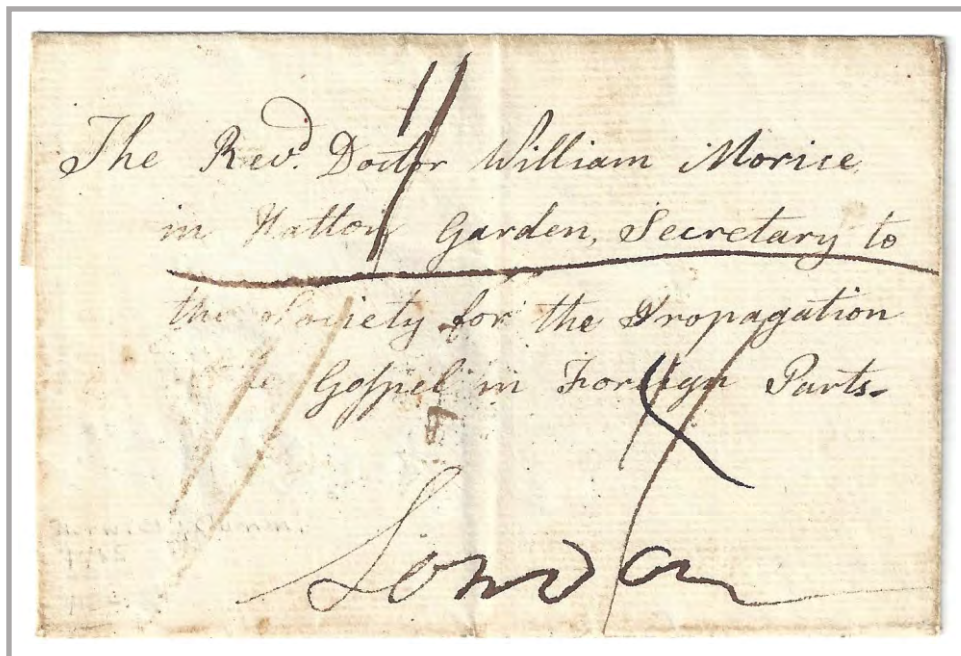
Norwich

Mail to England by Private Ship / Falmouth Packet Service

LONDON
SHIP-LRE



- 1 December 1784 Norwich to London, England by private ship "Little Joe" from Norwich direct Howland and Coit advertised the departure of the brig "Little Joe" in Norwich papers
- 23 December 1784 the "Little Joe" departed Norwich, via New London, to London
- 10 February 1785 arrived London, London Ship letter arrival handstamp, 2d due rate

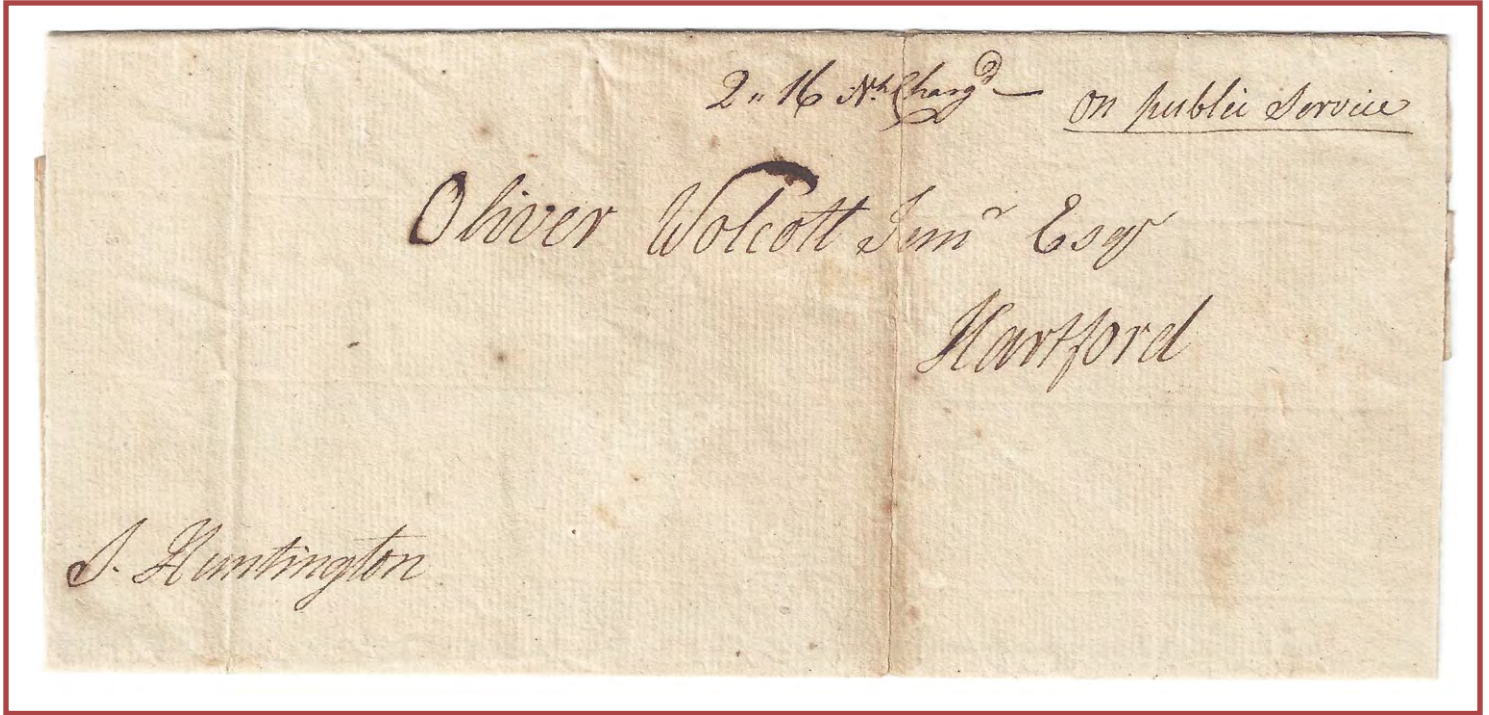


- 1 July 1785 Norwich to London, England by Falmouth Packet departing from New York
- 9 September 1785 New York per British Falmouth Packet "Prince William Henry"
- 10 October 1785 backstamped upon arrived in London, 1/- packet postage due

Norwich

"N^h" - Norwich's First Postmark

2^d N^h Charg^d



8 August 1787 Norwich double rated to Hartford, "N^h Charg^d" postmark and 2.16 (dwt. gr) rate signed by Samuel Huntington and endorsed "On Public Service" so he can claim a rebate the only privately held example of the earliest reported Norwich postmark (two in archives)

LETTERS sent from the POST OFFICE at *Norwich*

Date of the Bills sent.	To what Office the Letters were sent.	Number of unpaid Letters.		Number of paid Letters.		Free Letters.
			Sums unpaid.		Sums paid.	
1787						Number sent.
Aug 6	<i>Boston</i> <i>Writ over</i>	1	10 ⁴ / ₂ 16		24	14
	<i>Salem</i>			1	38	
8	<i>Alexandria</i>	1	4 16			
	<i>Boston</i>	5	10 16			
	<i>New Haven</i>	1	2			
	<i>Hartford</i>			1	2 16	
9	<i>New York</i>	1	8			

Norwich letter book records this (second line from foot) as a prepaid double rate to Hartford

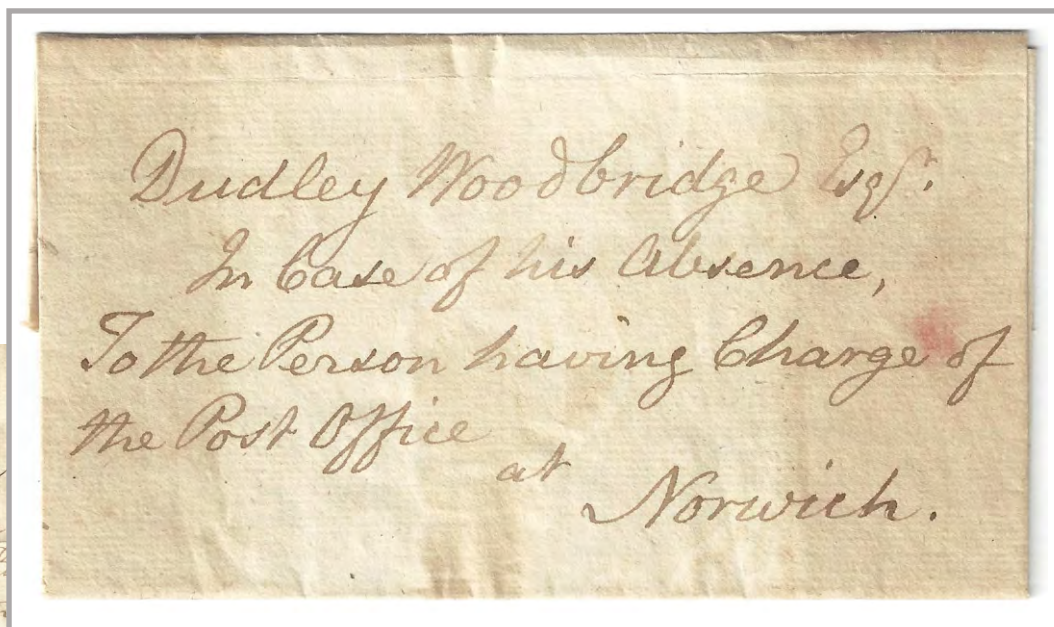
S. Huntington

Samuel Huntington was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation. At the date of this letter he was serving as Governor of Connecticut.

Norwich

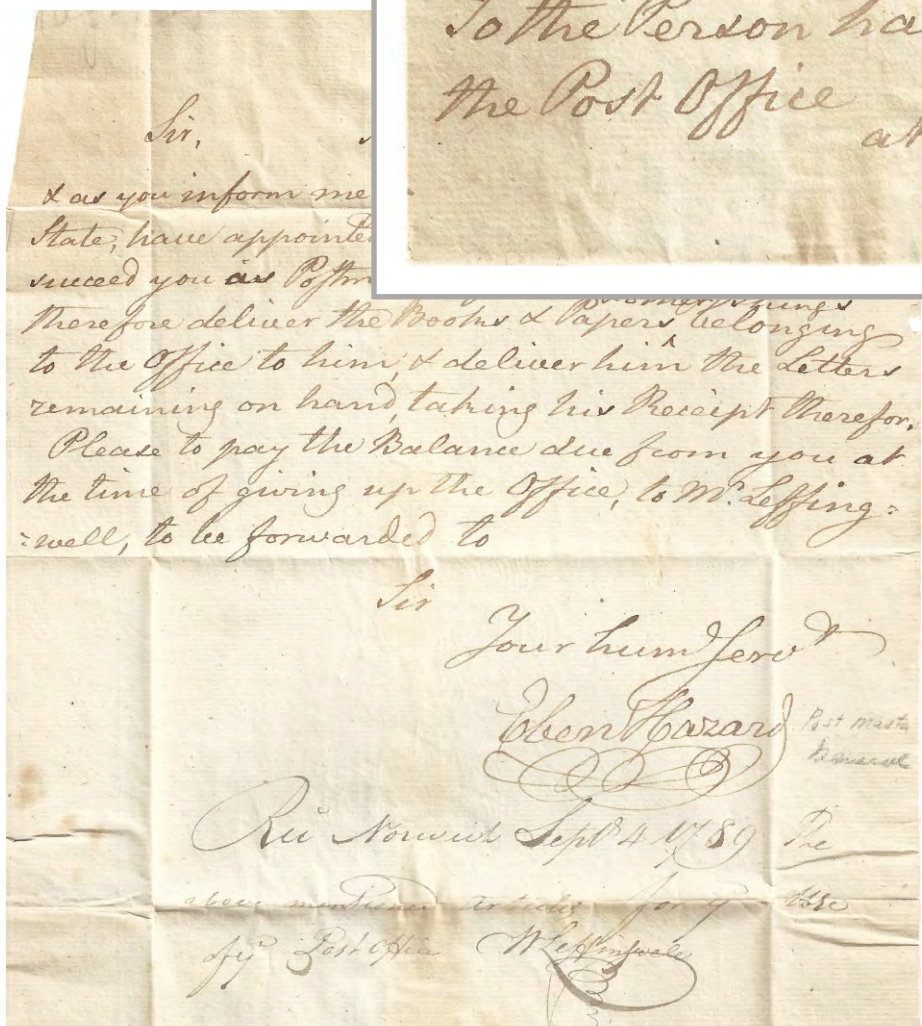
Change of Norwich Postmaster

Postmaster General Ebenezer Hazard writes to Woodbridge advising him that as he has appointed William Leffingwell to succeed him as Postmaster of Norwich. Leffingwell appends his receipt.



Dudley Woodbridge Esq:
In Case of his Absence,
To the Person having Charge of
the Post Office at Norwich.

27 August 1789
"to the Person having
Charge of the Post
Office at Norwich"



Sir,
As you inform me
State, have appointed
succeed you as Postmaster
Therefore deliver the Books & Papers belonging
to the Office to him, & deliver him the Letters
remaining on hand, taking his Receipt therefor.
Please to pay the Balance due from you at
the time of giving up the Office, to Mr. Leffing-
well, to be forwarded to
Sir
Your humble Servt
Ebenezer Hazard Postmaster General
Recd Norwich Sept 4 1789
The Above mentioned articles for ye use
of ye Post Office W Leffingwell



Ebenezer Hazard

New York Aug 27th 1789

Sir, I have recd. yours of 29th. ult. & as you inform me you are about to leave the State; have appointed Mr. William Leffingwell to succeed you as Postmaster of Norwich: you will therefore deliver the Books & Papers & other things belonging to the Office to him, & deliver him the Letters remaining on hand, taking his Receipt therefor. Please to pay the Balance due from you at the time of giving up the Office, to Mr. Leffingwell, to be forwarded to

Sir Your humble Servt

Ebene Hazard

Recd. Norwich Sept 4, 1789 The Above mentioned articles for ye use Of ye Post Office. W Leffingwell

Norwich nov, 25

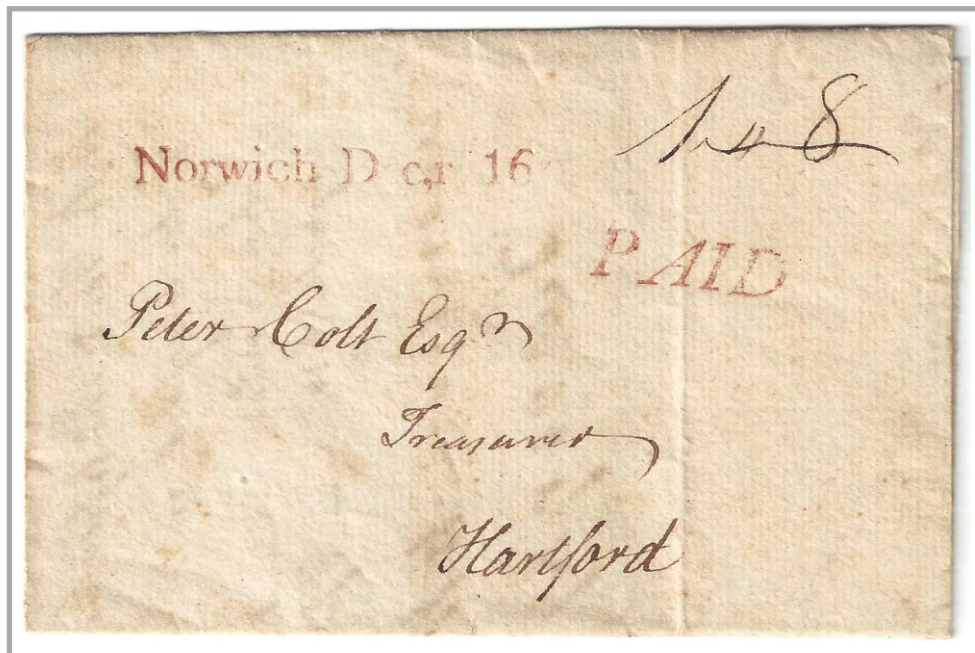
FREE



25 November 1789 Norwich to Hartford, letter of postmaster Leffingwell with "FREE" handstamp
earliest reported use of a Norwich straight line postmark

Norwich Dec,r 16

PAID

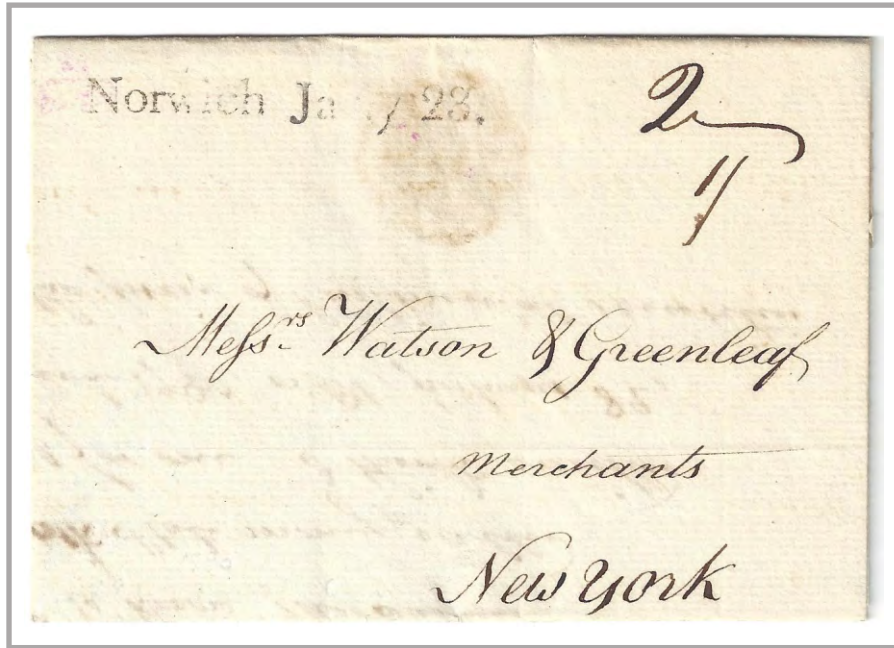


16 December 1789 Norwich to Hartford, prepaid 1dwt, 8gr postage, "PAID" handstamp
only reported example of the postmark in red

Post Office Department Established

1792 Postal Rate Change

With the establishment of the Post Office Department, new postal rates went into effect on 1 June 1782. Rates were now in cents rather than in pennyweights and grains of silver.



23 January 1790 Norwich to New York, 2 dwt. postage due upon arrival the postage due amount was marked in local currency equivalent of 1/-

NORWICH April 8.

PAID



8 April 1794 Norwich to New Haven, 10¢ prepaid fewer than five known of this postmark with capital letters

Norwich

Norwich Post Office Seal

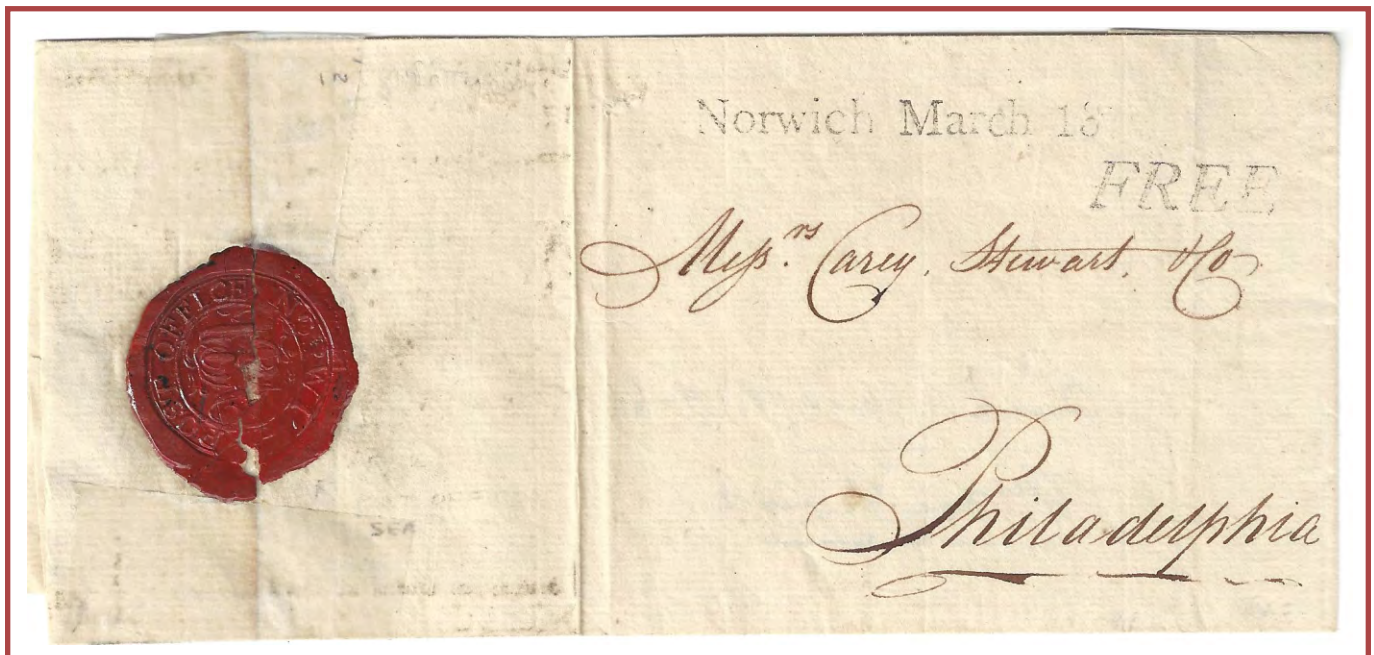
Postmaster William Leffingwell

The Norwich Post Office seal with monogram USA, impressed in wax, is known only on two letters sent by postmasters. No similar seals from other post offices have been reported.



Norwich March 13

FREE



13 March 1792 Norwich to Philadelphia, red wax seal "Norwich Post Office USA" on reverse letter of Postmaster William Leffingwell with "FREE" handstamp

one example of this seal known impressed in red wax and one in black wax



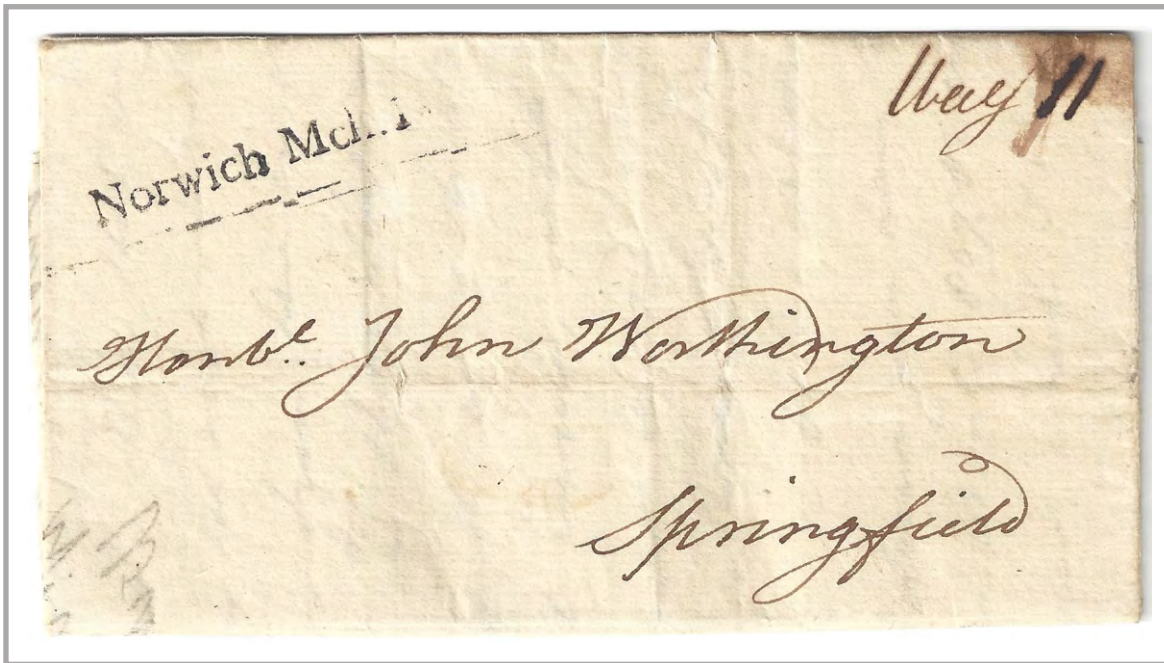
After a post office opened in nearby Chelsea Landing in 1802, the mail volume from the Norwich office dropped significantly.



11 August 1813 Norwich to New London, manuscript postmark and handstamped "FREE" postmark in the hand of postmaster Christopher Gardner who served 1799 to 1815



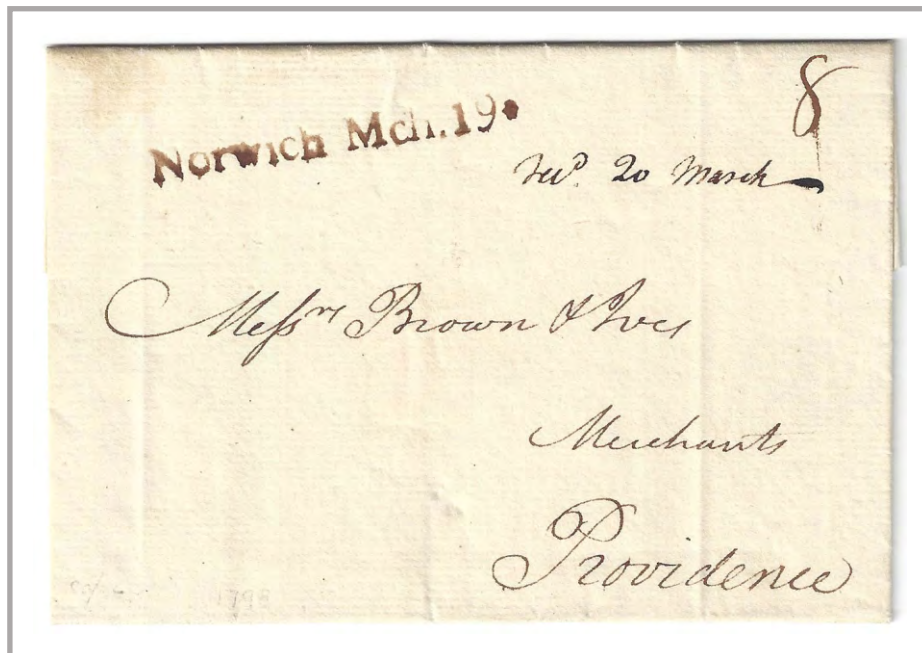
19 July 1817 Norwich to Providence, manuscript postmark and 10¢ due postmark in the hand of John Hyde who served as postmaster from 1 July 1815 until 1836



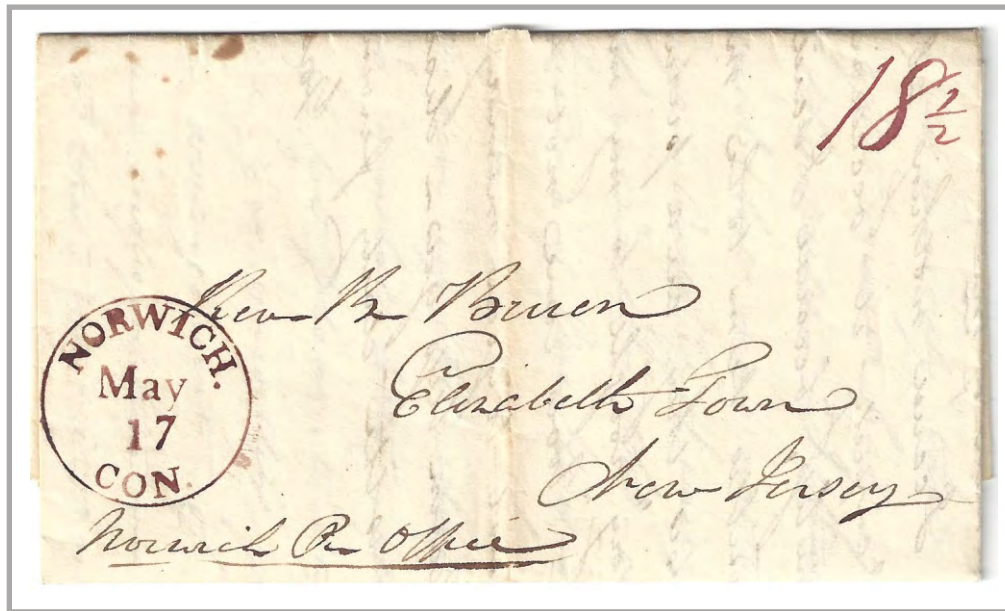
12 February 1798 Salem, MA via New London and Norwich to Springfield, MA
30 March entered mails at Norwich with 1¢ way fee added to postage, "Way 11" due
letter of William Gray was probably carried onboard ship to New London and given to post-rider

William Gray junr

by 1812, William Gray had the largest private fleet in the U. S. with 60 square-rigged vessels



15 March 1798 letter dated at New London to Providence, RI
19 March entered the mails at Norwich after carriage outside the mails to Norwich, 8¢ due



17 May 1820 Franklin, CT, via Norwich, to Elizabeth Town, NJ, 18½¢ due

John Hyde served as postmaster at the original Norwich post office from 1815 to 1836 when the office was renamed Norwich Town. After initially declining to become the new postmaster, he was appointed and served again from 1841 to 1844.



18 June 1821 Norwich to Hartford, John Hyde free frank as postmaster

Norwich Town

The name of the post office in "old" Norwich was changed from Norwich to Norwich Town on 21 April 1836 by the Postmaster General. The Norwich postmaster, John Hyde, was offered the appointment but declined (see notice below). A new postmaster was not found until the 5 October 1836 appointment of Henry Harland.

By an order of the Hon. Postmaster General of the 21st of April, 1836, the name of the Post Office at Norwich, in the County of New London and State of Connecticut, was changed from Norwich to Norwich Town; and the then Postmaster was offered the appointment of Postmaster of the new office of Norwich Town, which, under the circumstances, he declined accepting. Subsequently the following order was issued, viz:

*Post Office Department, Appointment Office, }
September 19th, 1836. }*

Sir—The Postmaster General desires that public notice be given to the citizens of Norwich Town, Ct., (evidence of which notice you will please forward to this Department,) of the expected vacancy in that Post Office, that they may have a voice in recommending a person for appointment.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
your obedient servant,

ROBERT JOHNSON,
Second Assistant Postmaster General."
Postmaster Norwich Town, New London Co., Ct.

notice that appeared in the *Norwich Courier* of 5 October 1836

Norwich Town Postmasters with date appointed (for 1836-1861 period shown)

Harland, Henry	Oct 5 1836	McNelly, Henry	Apr 12 1850
Wait, John	Oct 3 1840	Rogers, Elisa	Jul 22 1853
Hyde, John	Jun 28 1841	Tracy, Henry	Jul 1 1854
Tracy, Henry	Jan 18 1844		

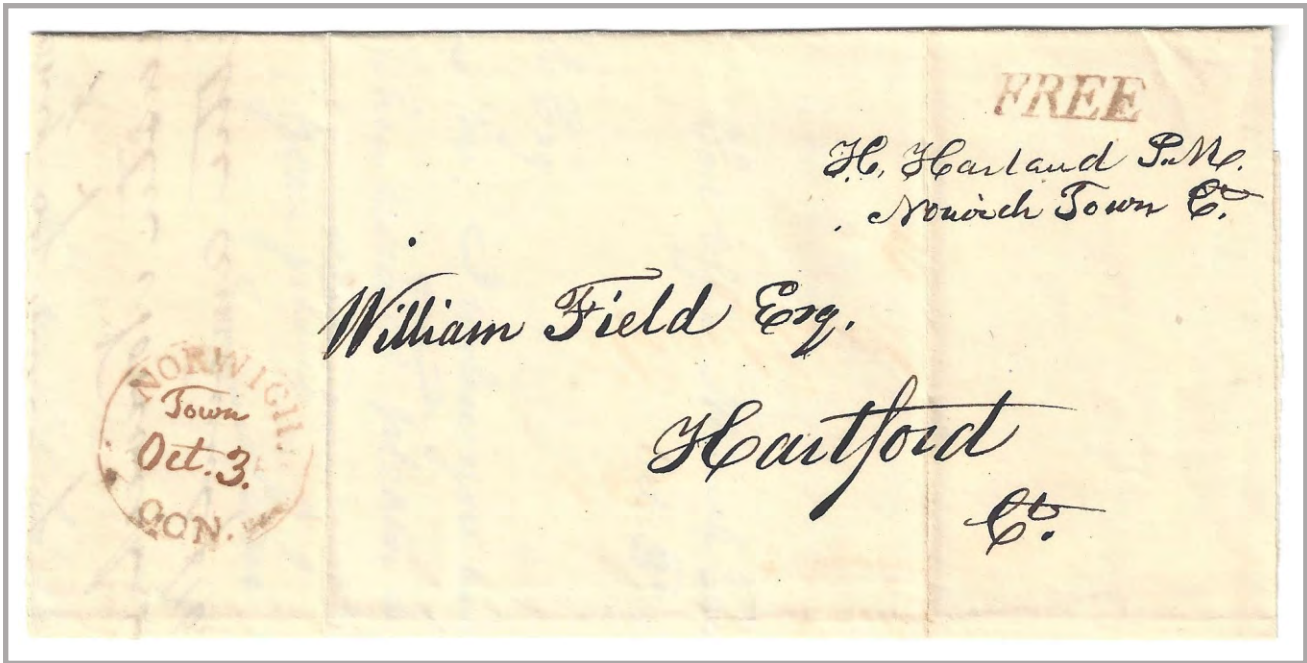
Provisional Postmark



13 April 1840 Norwich Town to Windham, due 6¢
postmark with manuscript correction, "Town" added to marking impressed from old device

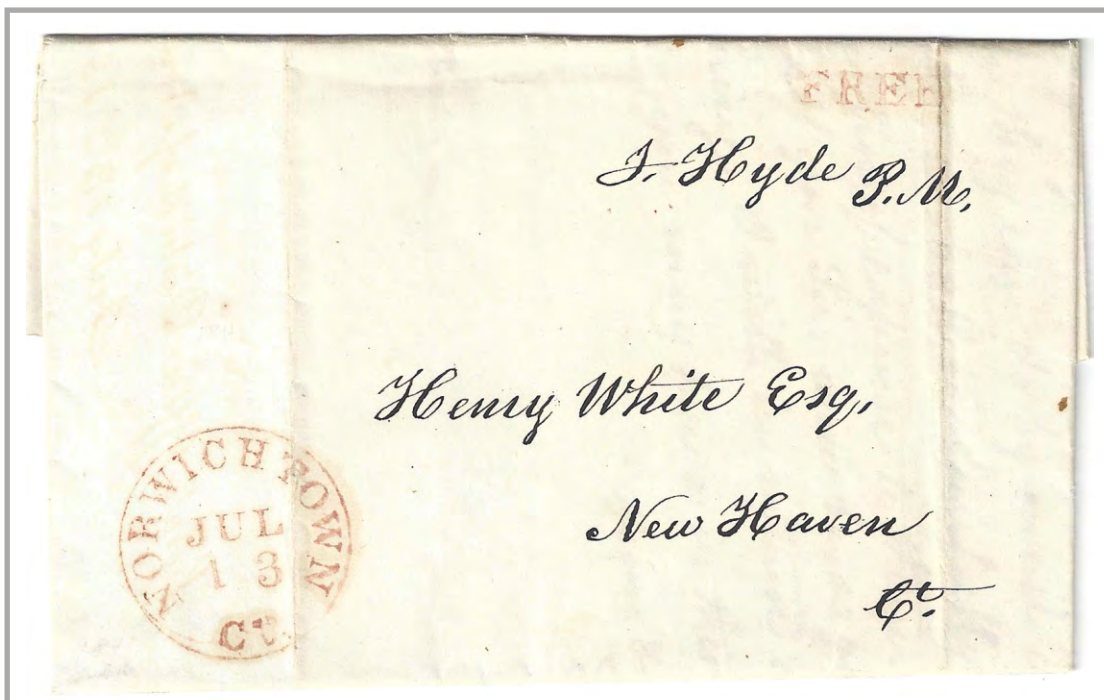
Norwich Town

Illegal / Legal Free Frank



3 October 1837 Norwich Town to Hartford, illegal forgery of postmaster Harland's free frank letter of John Hyde signed "for Postmaster" as illustrated below

*John Hyde
for Postmaster*



13 July 1841 Norwich Town to New Haven, John Hyde, P.M. free frank Hyde was serving as Norwich Town postmaster when this letter was franked

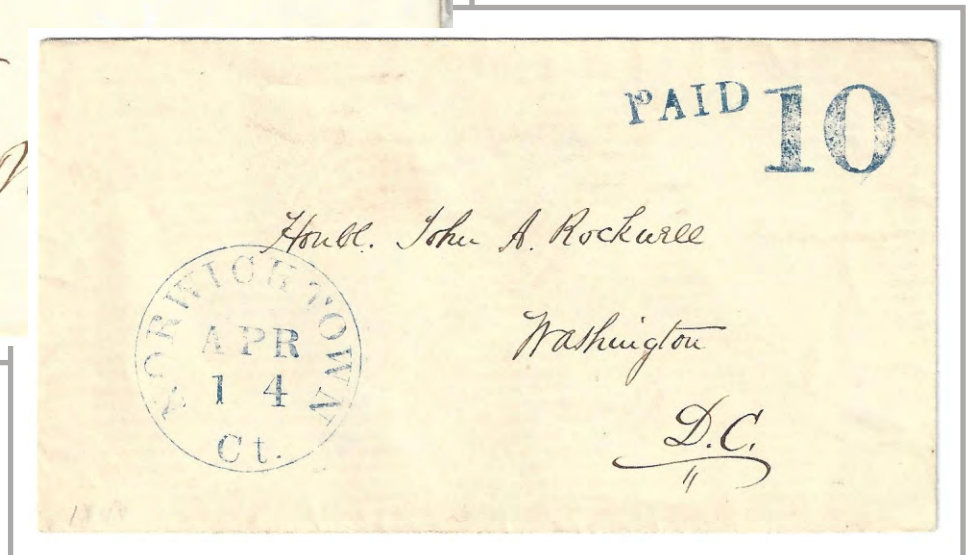
Norwich Town

From 1 July 1845 to 30 June 1851 the single letter mail rates were lowered to five cents for distances to 300 miles and ten cents for greater distances. Prepayment was optional.

1845 Postal Rates



The postmark ink change from red to blue occurred in April / May 1850.



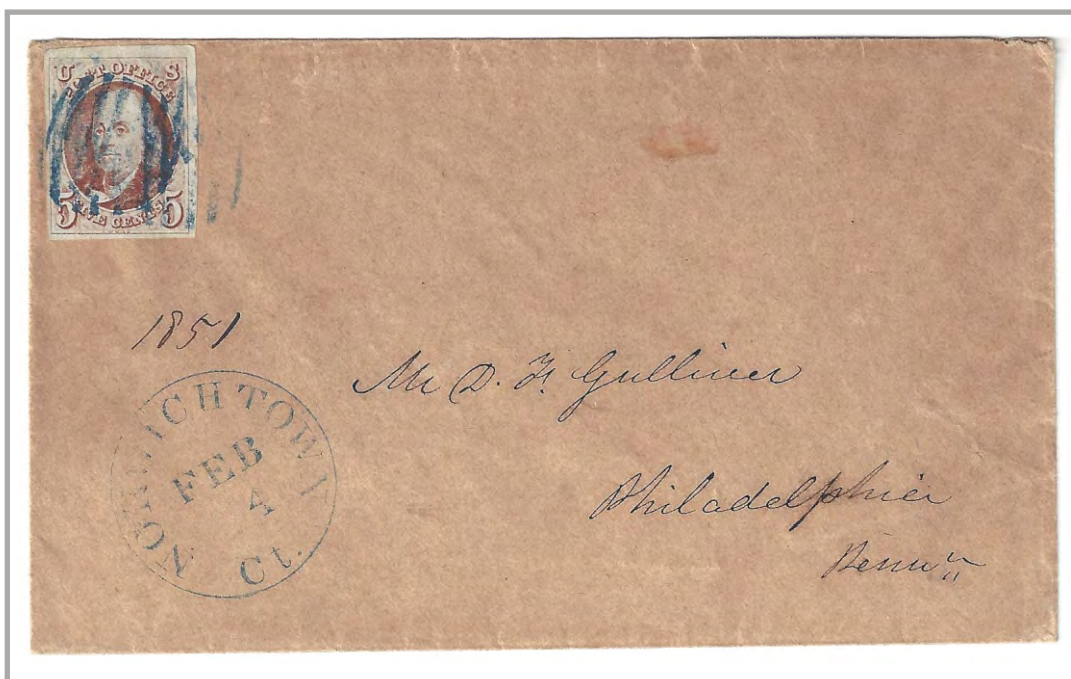
Norwich Town

The first postage stamps issue of the United States began to be distributed to post office in early July 1847. However, no five or ten cents stamps were ever ordered by the postmaster at Norwich Town. There are nine reported 1847 issue covers from Norwich Town, all are single five cents frankings.

1847 Issue



25 August 1849 Norwich Town to Webster, MA, prepaid with 5¢ brick red adhesive
the earliest reported use and the only example with red cancel



4 February 1851 Norwich Town to Philadelphia, prepaid with 5¢ adhesive

Norwich Town

On 1 July 1851 new reduced postal rates were accompanied by a new issue of stamps. A three cents stamp was issued to pay the most common postal rate, for a single weight letter sent to a distance of 3,000 miles.

1851 Issue

PAID
3

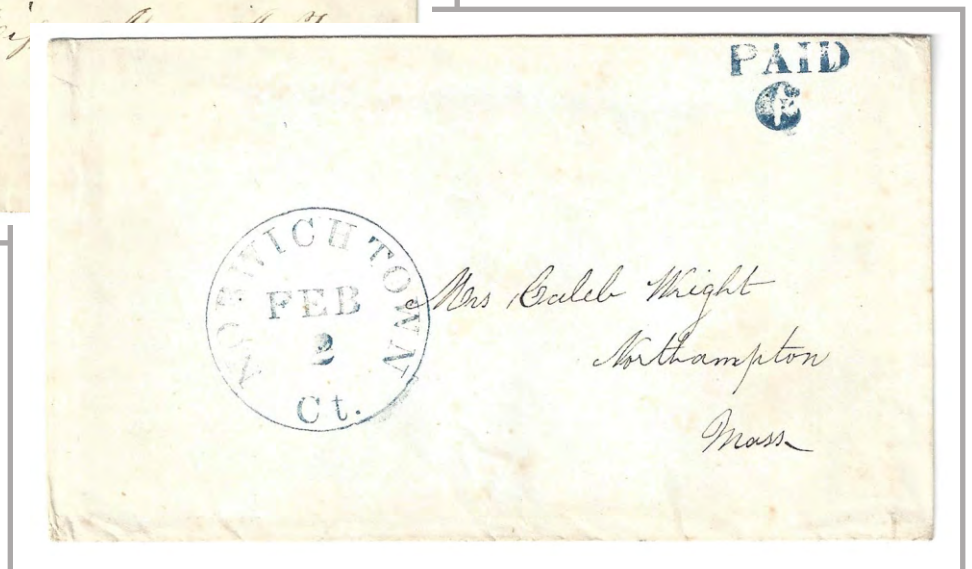


4 August 1851 Norwich Town, prepaid with 3¢ orange brown adhesive the only reported example with the stampless "Paid 3" mark used as a cancel



prepaid in cash

single
and
double rate



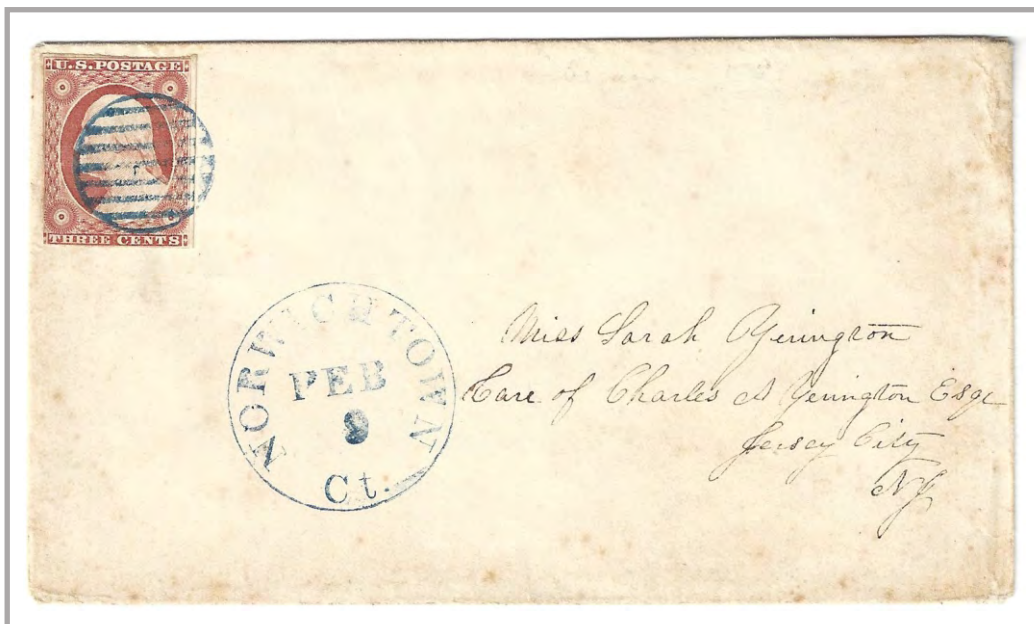
Norwich Town

The two covers on this page with barred circle cancels are dated before and after the adhesive on cover on previous page. This shows that the use of the "Paid 3" stampless marking as a cancel was an anomaly rather than a standard practice.

1851 Issue



21 August 1851 Norwich Town, prepaid with 3¢ orange brown adhesive embossed and hand-colored corner card of a U.S. Navy frigate



9 February 1852 Norwich Town, prepaid with 3¢ dull red adhesive

Norwich Town

The patriotic response to the formation of the Confederate States became most intense in the first several months of 1861. As an expression of patriotism numerous printed envelopes with diverse designs were sold and used.

1857 Issue on Patriotic Covers



6 June 1861 Norwich Town, flag patriotic cover prepaid with 1¢ strip, type IIIA, plate 11
"Wm. Everdell's Sons, 104 Fulton St, N.Y." printer's imprint on back



13 May 1861 Norwich Town, flag patriotic cover prepaid with 3¢ dull red adhesive

Norwich Falls

A Norwich Falls post office operated from 27 February 1828 until 25 August 1829. Nathaniel B. Adams served as the only postmaster. Three of the five known postmarked letters are shown.

Map of the post offices in 1828 and 1829. The original Norwich post office was located above Norwich Falls on the Yantic River and is labeled "Norwich" on the map while the second Norwich Post Office, located at the confluence of the Yantic and Shetucket Rivers, previously known as Chelsea Landing is labeled "Norwich City."



10 May 1828 Norwich Falls to Washington, D.C., manuscript postmark
manuscript "Free" as addressed to Member of Congress from Rhode Island, Tristan Burgess
two known manuscript postmarks

Norwich Falls



E: 1828 Jul 8



8 July 1829 Norwich Falls to Fairfield, CT, date corrected in manuscript from June to July only reported example with "CT" reading out



E: 1829 Aug 30

30 August 1829 Norwich Falls to Concord, NH, probably carried on last mail from this office date corrected in manuscript from July to August, two known same date, "CT" reading inward

Chelsea Landing

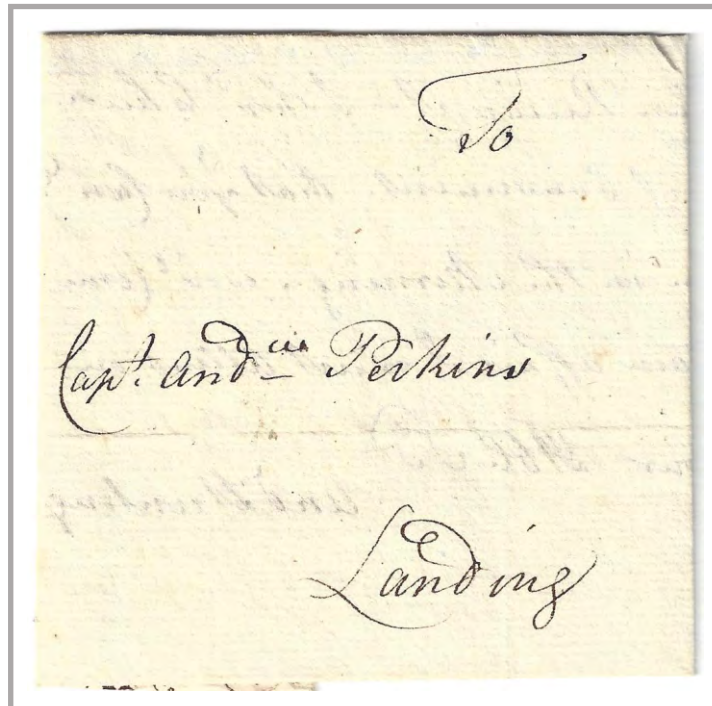


The Chelsea Landing post office was established in 1802 at the confluence of the Thames and Shetucket Rivers. The landing, locally known as Norwich Landing before the post office was established eventually became an important steamboat and transportation center. The post office name was changed to Norwich City in 1827 and then to Norwich in 1836.

Map at left shows the various post office locations, identifies the names changes and includes the year dates of operation.

Pre Post Office Period

Revolutionary War Military Mail



9 April 1778 Norwich to Capt. Perkins at (Norwich) Landing, later Chelsea Landing letter of provisioner, Andrew Huntington, mentions carriage by Capt Leverit with flour

Chelsea Landing

Pre Post Office Period

Private Carriage to the Mails

norwich. Landin ce 29 fructidor
maison Du Capitaine Culver



8 September 1797 letter dated in French, "Norwich Landing at the home of Capt. Culver" carried privately to Norwich post office, entered the mails to Philadelphia, 20¢ due

Private Carriage from the Mails with Fee



22
2
24

2¢ delivery fee added

9 September 1802 Demerary dateline on letter of Capt. Francis Smith to Norwich
3 November 1802 Marblehead, MA ship postmark and ship 22¢ due rate to Norwich
2¢ delivery fee added to amount due for carriage to Capt Perkins at Chelsea Landing

Demerary (later Demerara, British Guiana) was at this date was a Dutch Possession

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

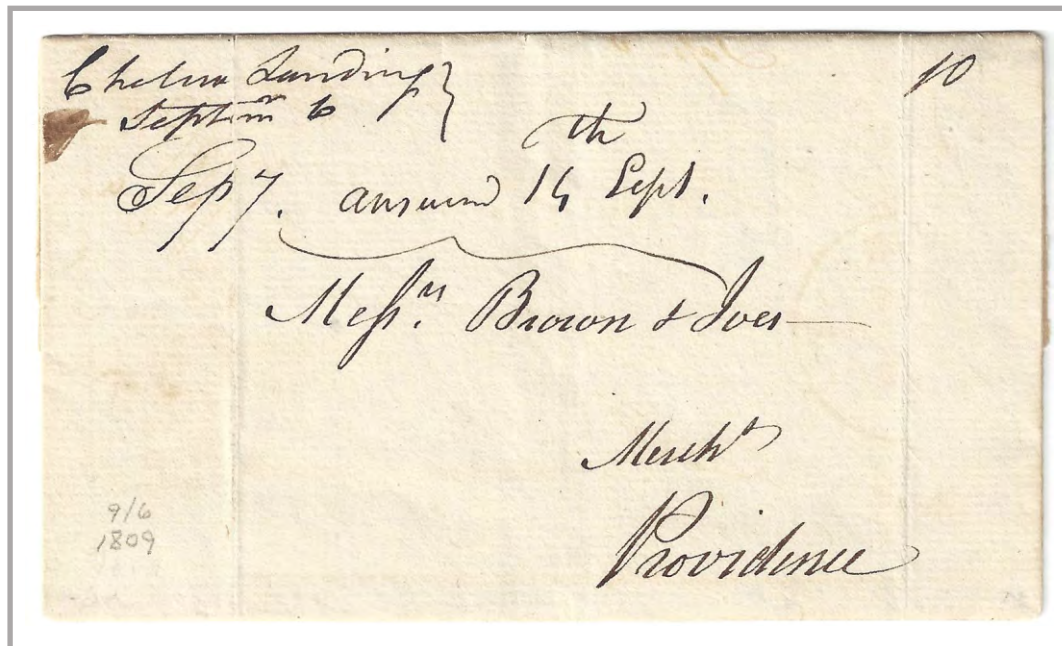
Postmarks

The Chelsea Landing post office was established on 1 April 1802 and operated as a post office under that designation until 5 November 1827 when the name was change to Norwich City.

Postmasters: Jacob DeWitt
John De Witt
Charles Kinney

Apr 1 1802 to Dec 12 1809
Dec 13 1809 to Jun 1 1823
Jun 2 1823 to Nov 4 1827

*Chelsea Landing }
Sept 6*



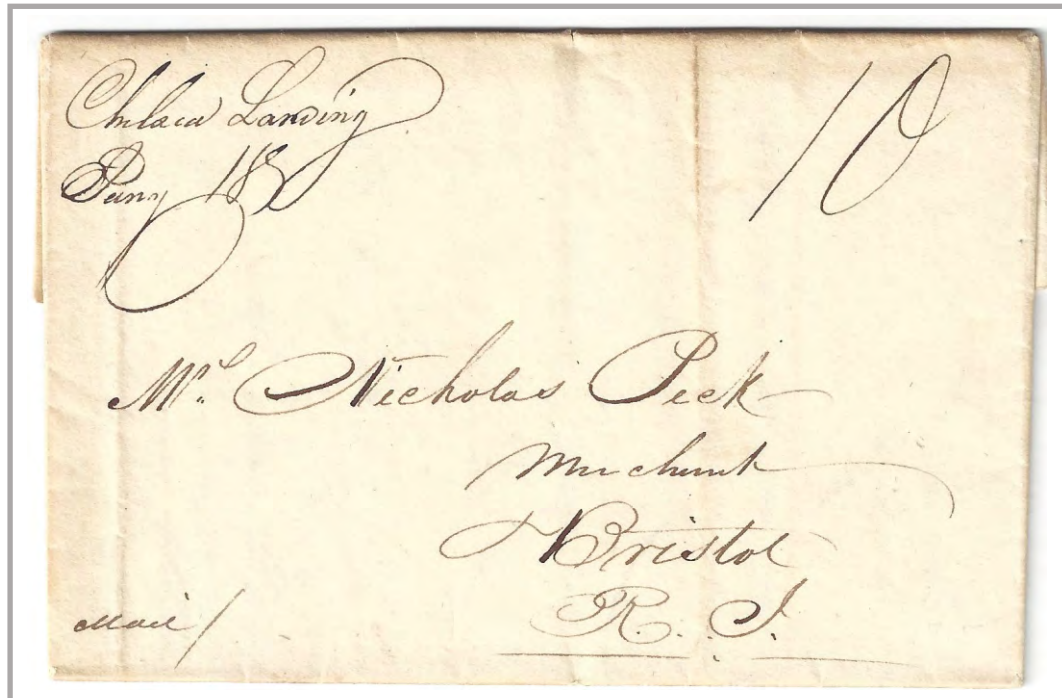
6 September 1809 Chelsea Landing to Providence
manuscript postmark and 10¢ due rate applied by first postmaster, Jacob DeWitt

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

1815 Postal Rate Change

The War Surcharge rates of 1815 were in effect for the 13 months from 1 February 1815 until 31 March 1816. All postage rates were increased by 50% to help pay for the War of 1812. This pair of letters from same correspondence show the pre surcharge rate and the surcharge rate.



18 January 1815 Chelsea Landing to Bristol, RI, 10¢ due rate for 40 to 90 miles distance manuscript postmark and 10¢ due rate applied by second postmaster, John DeWitt



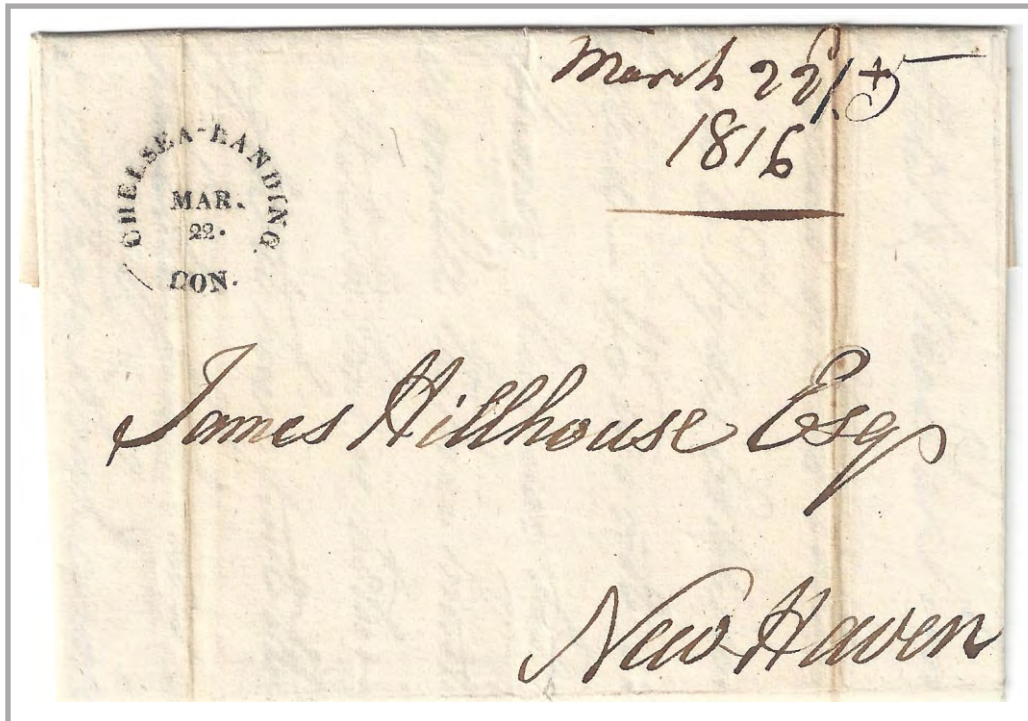
10 February 1815 Chelsea Landing to Bristol, RI, 15¢ **War Surcharge rate** for 40 to 90 miles

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

1815 War Rate / 1816 Restored Rate

The War Surcharge rates ended on March 31, 1816 and the previously used postal rates of 1799 were restored. The Restored rates lasted only for the month of April 1816 and were replaced on 1 May 1816 with a new rate schedule with only five distance rate steps.



22 March 1815 Chelsea Landing to New Haven, 15¢ **War Surcharge rate** for 40 to 90 miles earliest reported use of the first handstamped postmark



3 April 1816 Chelsea Landing to Hartford, paid 8¢ **Restored rate** for up to 40 miles distance

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks

In the period between 1809 and 1823, when John DeWitt was postmaster of Chelsea Landing, five different postmark devices were used to postmark letters. All are shown.



E: 1816 Mar 22
L: 1820 Jun 2

21 May 1816 Chelsea Landing to Providence, 10¢ due



E: 1821 Sep 21
L: 1822 Jan 24

30 October 1821 Chelsea Landing to Hallowell, ME, italic letters in postmark, 18½¢ due

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks

In 1822 the postmaster began using red ink for postmarks. These two postmarks are different diameters and the one at foot includes an inverted "G" in "LANDING".

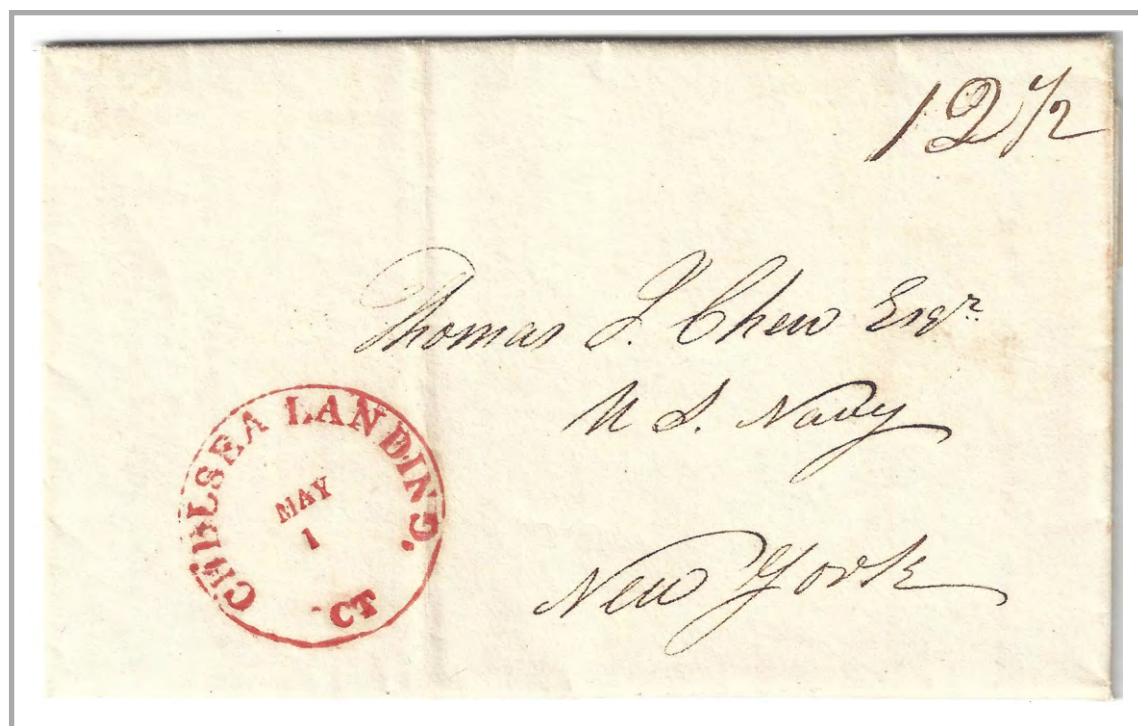


E: 1823 May 31
L: 1823 Sep 8

15 August 1822 Chelsea Landing to Yale College, New Haven, paid 10¢



E: 1822 Apr 11
L: 1822 Sep 26



1 May 1822 Chelsea Landing to New York, **inverted "G"**, 12½¢ due

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks

Effective 1 June 1823 John DeWitt was replaced by Charles Kinney as postmaster at Chelsea Landing. The postmark device on this page was the last used by DeWitt.



E: 1823 Jan 1



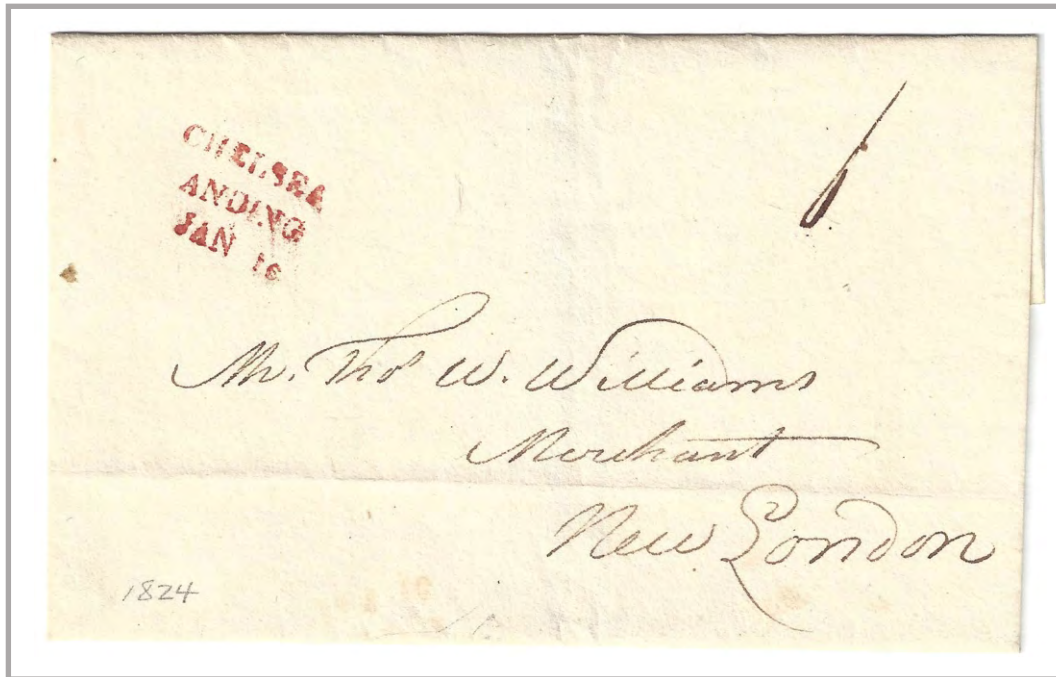
1 Jan 1823 Chelsea Landing to Exeter, NH, 12½¢ due
the only reported example

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks

Postmaster Charles Kinney used six different "Chelsea Landing" postmark devices between during the period between 2 June 1823 and 5 November 1827.



CHELSEA
LANDING
JAN 16

E: 1823 Jan 1
L: 1823 Jan 16

16 January 1824 Chelsea Landing to New London, **no state designation**, 6¢ due
two known examples of the three lines handstamped postmark

CHELSEA
LANDING
Mar 8

E: 1823 Nov 10
L: 1824 Mar 8



8 March 1824 Chelsea Landing to St. Louis, **date and "Ct" in manuscript**, 25¢ due
only reported example struck in orange

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks

This page and previous page show three of the four known straight line uses. The postmark device set may not have included "NOV" and "MAR" month plugs as only "JAN" was used.



10 November 1823 Chelsea Landing to Stonington, **date and "Ct" in manuscript**, paid 10¢
the earliest of the three known straight line postmarks

CHELSEA LANDING CT

APR 3

E: 1824 Apr 3



2 April 1824 Chelsea Landing to New London, paid 6¢
the only reported example of the postmark

Chelsea Landing

Post Office Period

Postmarks / 1825 Rate Change

The Post Office Act of March 1825, effective 1 May 1825, changed the postal rate for letters carried between 100 and 200 miles from 18½ to 18¾ cents to better fit the Mexican "real" coins used to pay the rate. The lower letter shown shows this new rate.



E: 1824 May 14
L: 1826 Oct 24

14 July 1826 Chelsea Landing to New New Haven, paid 10¢



E: 1826 Nov 16
L: 1827 May 19



16 November 1826 Chelsea Landing to Exeter, NH, syncopated rim, 18¾¢ due

Norwich City

Effective 6 November 1827 the name of the Chelsea Landing Post Office was changed to Norwich City. Charles McKinney continued as postmaster and briefly continued to use his old postmark device. The location of the office did not change. Effective 22 April 1836 the post office name was changed to Norwich and the "old" Norwich office name was changed to Norwichtown.



E: 1827 Jul 24
L: 1827 Nov 14

14 November 1827 Norwich City using Chelsea Landing postmark, to New Haven, due 10¢
the latest reported use of any Chelsea Landing postmark
used after the post office name was changed to Norwich City



E: 1827 Dec 4
L: 1827 Dec 26



4 December 1827 Norwich City to Dudley, MA, paid 10¢
the earlier of two reported examples of the postmark

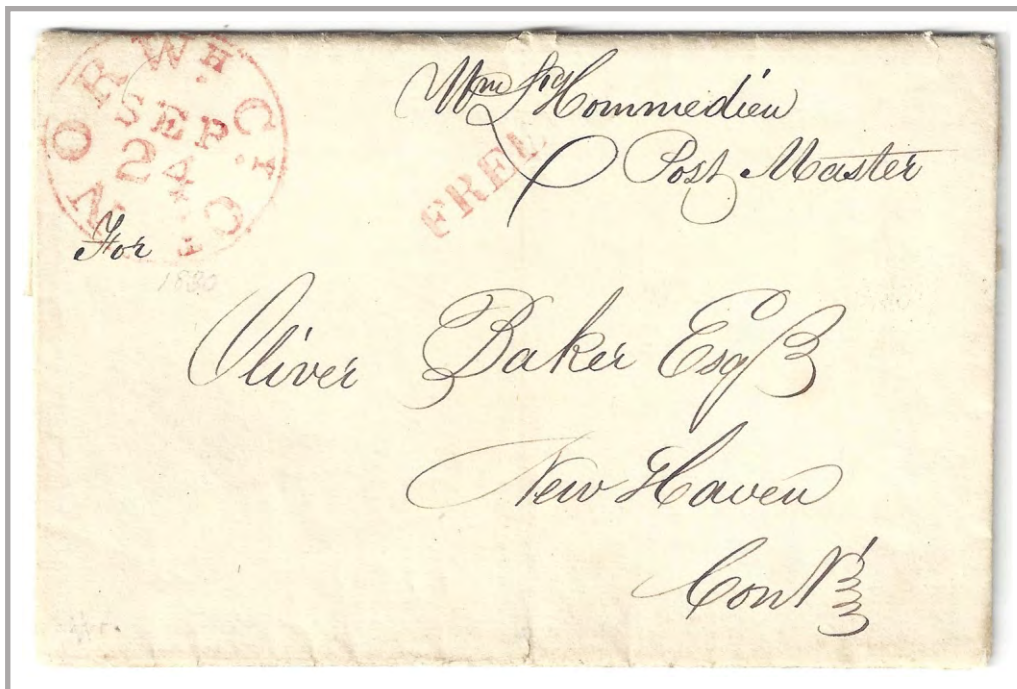
Norwich City

Postmasters

During the the period of existence as the Norwich City post office, between 1827 and 1836, there were two postmasters, Charles Kinney, who served until 24 August 1829, and William L'Hormmedieu who replaced him and continued after the name change to Norwich on 22 April 1836. The most important postal development during this period was the increase in steamboat service as seen in the "Steamboat Mails" section of the presentation.



30 August 1828 Norwich City to New York, free frank of Charles Kinney, Post Master



24 September 1830 Norwich City to New Haven, free frank of Wm. L'Hormmedieu, Post Master

Norwich City

Postmarks

During the the period of existence as the Norwich City post office only two postmark devices with the Norwich City designation were used; one used only in December 1827, and the one shown below that was used for over eight years.



E: 1828 Jan 4
L: 1836 Jul 6



2 October 1829 Norwich City to Stonington, due 6¢



28 December 1829 Norwich City to Stonington, paid 6¢

Norwich

The name of the original Chelsea Landing post office was changed to Norwich City in 1827 and then to Norwich from 21 April 1836.

This portion of the exhibit includes sections of foreign mail, mail carried by rail or steamboat and unusual cancels.

Norwich Postmasters with date appointed (for 1836-1868 period shown)

L'Hommedieu, William	Apr 21 1836	Dunham, John	Jun 21 1849
Downer, Samuel	Feb 4 1842	Stedman, John	Apr 25 1853
Chapman, Enoch	Apr 11 1843	Starkweather, Henry	May 31 1861
Townsend, John	Jun 15 1844	Coit, Charles	May 29 1866
L'Hommedieu, William	Jun 28 1845		



1843 free frank of postmaster Chapman and 1854 free frank of postmaster Stedman

At this date most mail from United States to Hawaii was sent via Panama and required multiple forwarders to reach the destination. This letter, and the following page, are rare exceptions.

The ship Tsar cleared at Boston yesterday, for Society and Sandwich Islands, with an assorted cargo valued at over \$59,700.

2 March 1848 New London Morning News.



29 February 1848 Norwich, via Boston, Rio De Janeiro, and Tahiti to Lahaina, Hawaii
letter endorsed "Per Ship Tsar of Boston" and prepaid 5¢ postage to port of departure
1 March 1848 Tsar cleared Boston and after a four day stop in Rio de Janeiro, rounded the Horn
17 September 1848 the Tsar arrived at Lahaina after having spent 6 weeks at Papeete, Tahiti

The letter of Adams Express agent at Norwich, W.W. Kingsley mentions:

Not having been a vessel thence for a year the letters that I forward from New London will give you all the news ...

For an example of one of the letters forwarded by Kingsley, see letter on next page.

On Tuesday morning the long-looked-for 'Tsar,' (not Czar,) from Boston, via Tahiti, arrived, bringing a large mail—creating a great bustle—and doubtless making many glad by good tidings from friends in far-distant lands.—Everybody was on the *qui vive* for letters, and some hinted that we ought to have a post office, in order that people might know where to go for them. The 'Tsar' touched into Lahaina, and reported the arrival at that port, of the S. S. from San Francisco. Soon after the mail of the S. S. arrived, and as soon as its contents were devoured, symptoms of the gold fever began to be manifested. The news from California will be found in our columns. In the evening the Consul of Bremen gave a ball in honor of the officers of the Independence.

arrival notice in Sunday, 24 September 1848 Honolulu *Polynesian*



24 February 1848 New London by Adams Express to Norwich and to Lahaina, Hawaii

29 February 1848 entered US mails at Norwich, endorsed "Per Ship Tsar" (from Boston)

1 March 1848 Tsar cleared Boston and after a four day stop in Rio de Janeiro rounded the Horn

17 September 1848 the Tsar arrived at Lahaina after having spent 6 weeks at Papeete, Tahiti

The letter begins:

I received a line this afternoon by Telegraph from Mr Kingsley (the Adams Express Agent at Norwich) that there would be a ship sail from Boston the first of March to the islands thus affording us an opportunity of writing to you. ...

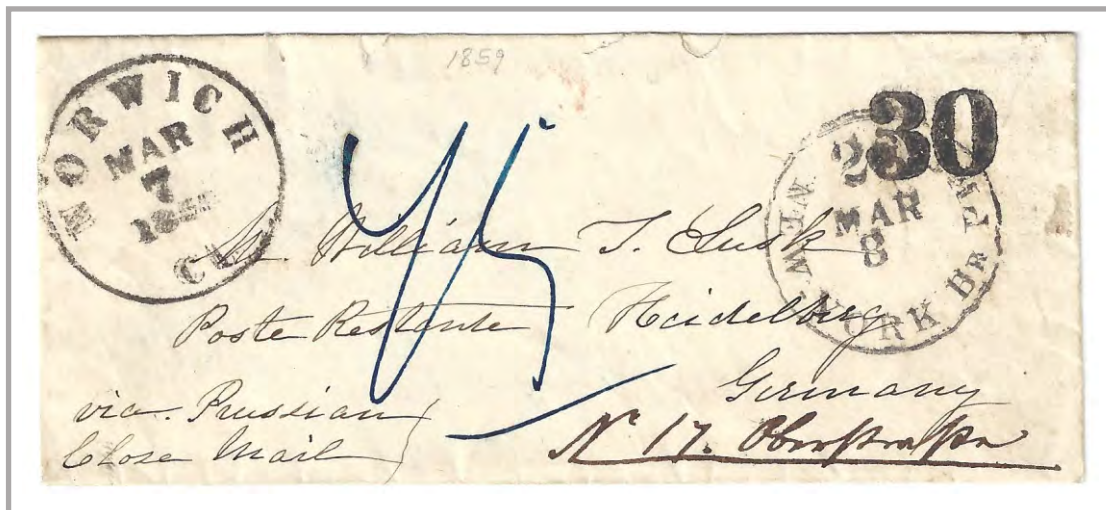
Norwich

Foreign Uses

Treaty Mail to England / to Germany



12 October 1857 Norwich to London, England, unpaid 24¢ rate with "24" handstamp, 1/- due 23 November Norwich to London, prepaid 24¢ rate with two 1857 issue 12¢ stamps both carried by Cunard Line steamers from New York (the Acadia and the Asia)



7 March 1859 Norwich to Heidelberg, Germany, unpaid 30¢ rate with "30" rate handstamp carried by Cunard steamer Canada

Norwich

Foreign Uses

Treaty Mail to Canada / to New Brunswick



21 September 1852 Norwich to Brockville, Canada, unpaid 10¢ rate with "10" handstamp "U. States" exchange office handstamp and corresponding 6d due



13 September 1860 Norwich to Oak Point, New Brunswick, prepaid 10¢ rate with 1857 issue "U. States C" exchange office handstamp, "W.O. Mouth of Nerepis, N.B." backstamp

This manuscript cancel was applied during William L'Hormmedieu's brief tenure as postmaster of Norwich. He was replaced on 21 June 1849 by John Dunham who introduced handstamped cancels.



E: 1849 Jan 1



1 January 1849 Norwich to Boston, prepaid with 5¢ "dark brown" adhesive
the only reported example of a manuscript cancel used at Norwich
the earliest reported use of an 1847 issue stamp from Norwich

According to published records, the Norwich Post Office did not received stamps of the 1847 issue. Instead, stamps were supplied by the post office route agent operating on the Norwich and Worcester Railroad, Stephen B Roath.

On 19 August 1848 agent Roath was sent 500 five cent stamps. He subsequently received 600 more on 18 January 1849 and a final shipment of 400 stamps was received on 21 April 1849.

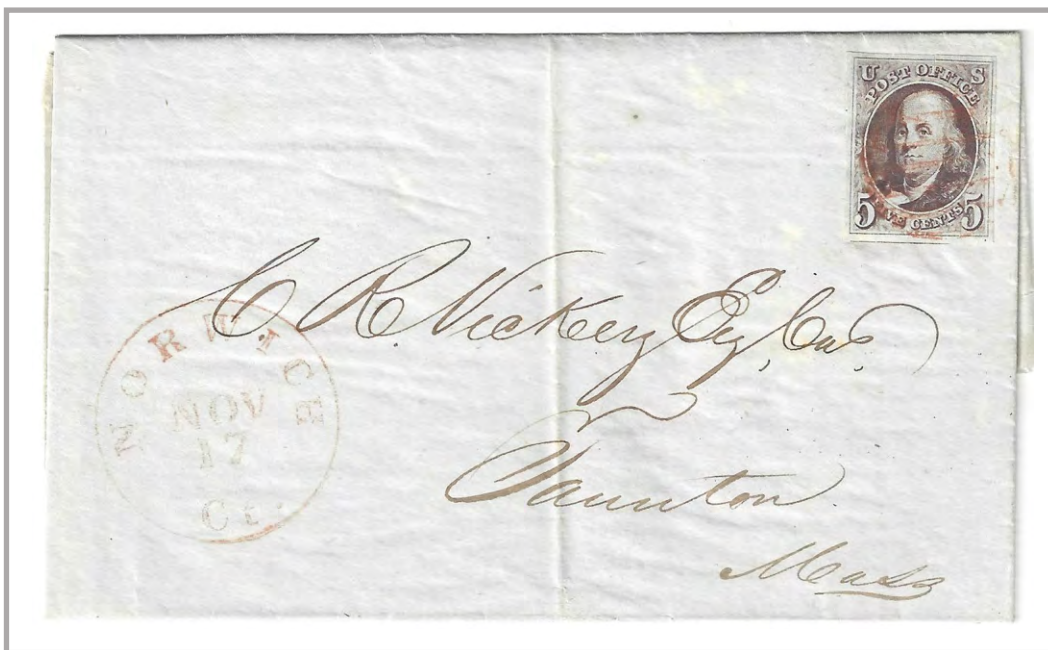
Although postal agent Roath received a total of 200 ten cents stamps over this period, it is doubtful that any any were sold to the postmaster. None are known used from Norwich. The only reported ten cent rate use was prepaid with two five cent stamps.



E: 1849 Aug 8
L: 1849 Nov 21



25 August 1849 Norwich to Philadelphia, prepaid with 5¢ "seal brown" adhesive
4-bars in circle cancel



E: 1849 Nov 16
L: 1849 Nov 17

17 November 1849 Norwich to Taunton, MA, prepaid with 5¢ adhesive
5-bars in circle cancel

Norwich

Cancels on 1847 Issue



E: 1850 Jan 8
L: 1850 Jul 28



18 May 1850 Norwich to Andover, MA prepaid with 5¢ adhesive
5-bars in circle cancel



29 July 1850 Norwich local use, overpaid 2¢ drop rate with 5¢ "orange brown" adhesive
5-bar cancel, one of two reported overpaid drop uses at Norwich



E: 1850 Sep 30
L: 1852 Feb 3



29 October 1850 Norwich to Birmingham, CT prepaid with 5¢ adhesive
7-bars in circle cancel



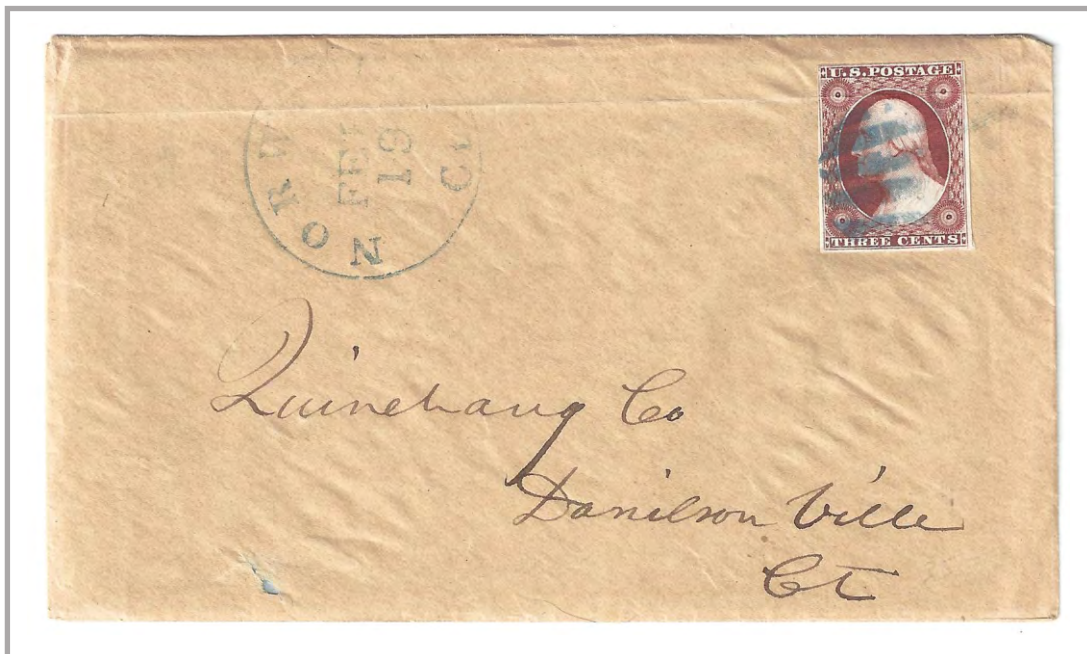
19 May 1851 Norwich to Binghampton, NY, prepaid 10¢ double rate with 5¢ adhesives
7-bar cancel, the only reported example of ten cent rate prepaid with 1847 stamps



E: 1850 Sep 30
L: 1852 Feb 3

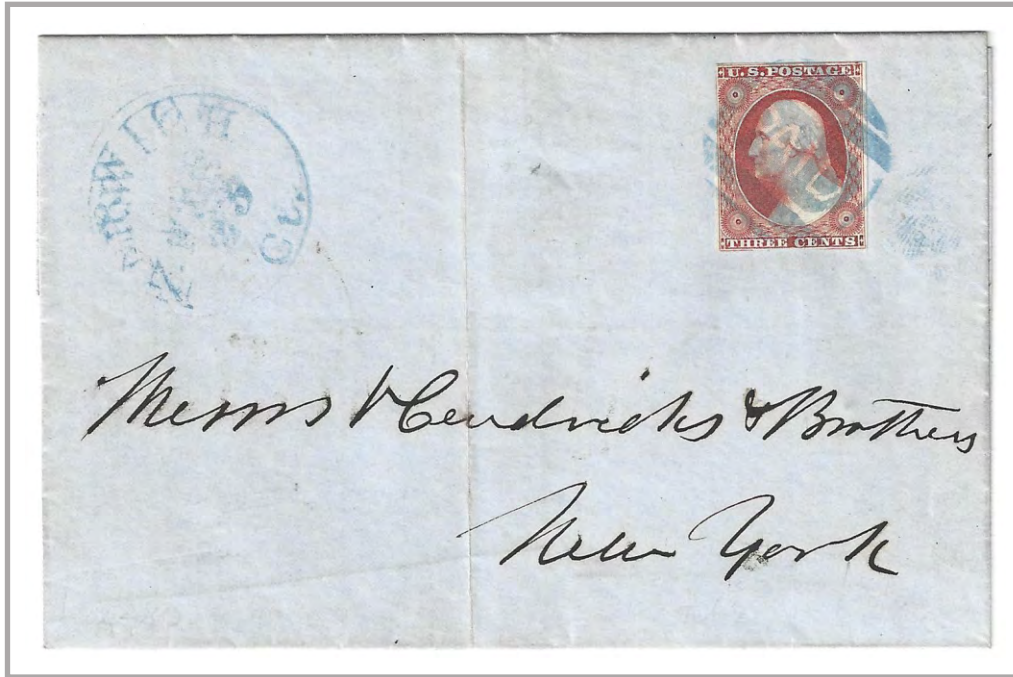


11 October 1851, 3¢ orange brown adhesive, 7-bars in circle cancel



E: 1852 Feb 19
L: -

19 February 1852, 3¢ dull red adhesive, 5-bar grid cancel



E: 1852 Feb 23
L: -

23 February 1852 use with early state of cancel, the earliest reported



E: 1852 Mar 5



5 March 1852 use with late state of cancel



E: 1852 Mar 11

11 March 1852, the only reported example of this cancel



E: 1852 Mar 23

L: 1852 Apr 5



5 April 1852, latest reported use of the reversed "PAID" cancel



E: 1852 Apr 20
L: 1852 May 23



1 May 1852 / 18 May 1852 uses

Norwich

1853 Cancels



E: 1853 Feb 26
L: 1853 Sep 1



12 July 1853, 1853 issue 3¢ Nesbitt postal entire with seal on back flap



19 August 1853

The cancels below show rapid deterioration of the cancel device over a period of 35 days



E: 1853 Sep 10
L: 1853 Apr 27



15 September 1853 / 28 September 1853 / 5 October 1853 (with Nesbitt seal)



E: 1860 Sep 8
L: 1860 Sep 24



8 September 1860, Andrew & Nash store illustrated cover, 3¢ 1857 issue

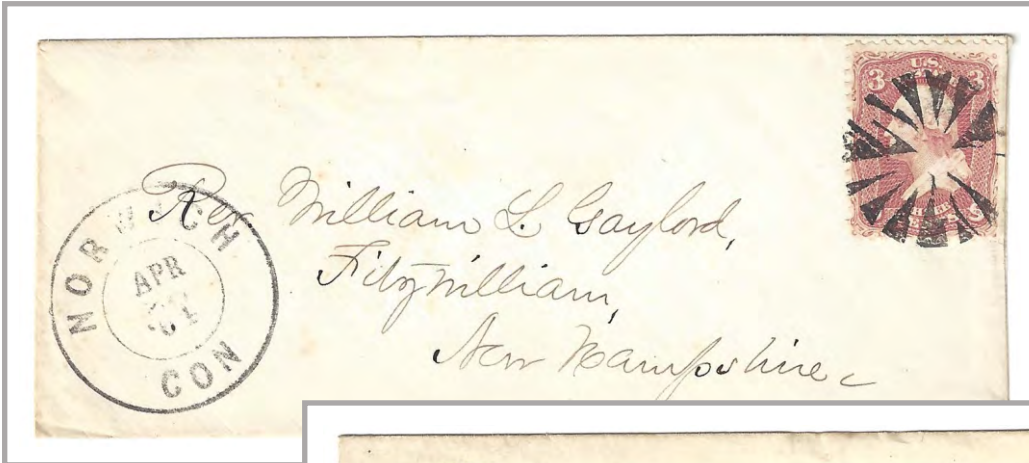


E: 1860 Nov 3
L: -

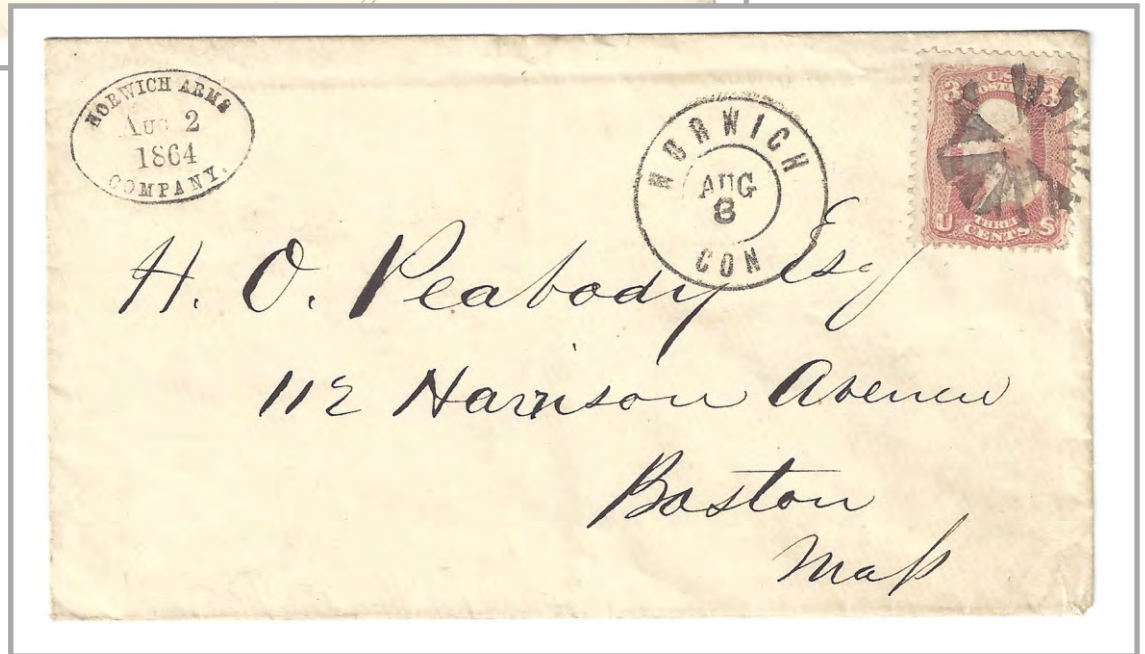
3 November 1860, Norwich Courier, 1798 - 1860, printing press illustrated cover

Norwich

1864 Cancels



E: 1864 Apr 28
L: 1864 Aug 8



28 April 1864 early state of device / 8 August 1864 late state of device



E: 1864 Aug 18
L: 1864 Dec 15

15 December 1864



E: 1865 Feb 7
L: 1865 Mar 14



7 February 1865



E: 1865 Nov 7
L: 1865 Nov 8

4 November 1865

Norwich

1866 Cancels



E: 1866 June 2
L: 1866 Aug 3



masonic "seeing eye" cancels 7 July 1866 / 30 July 1866 (Coit appointed PM on 29 May)



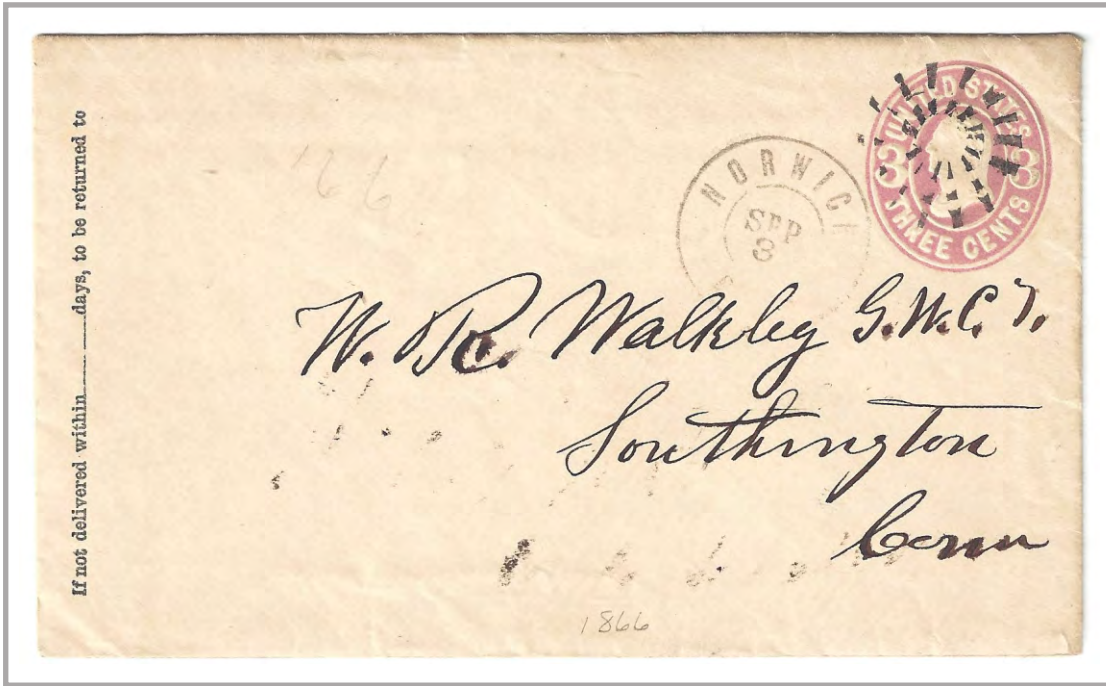
E: 1866 Aug 28



28 August 1866

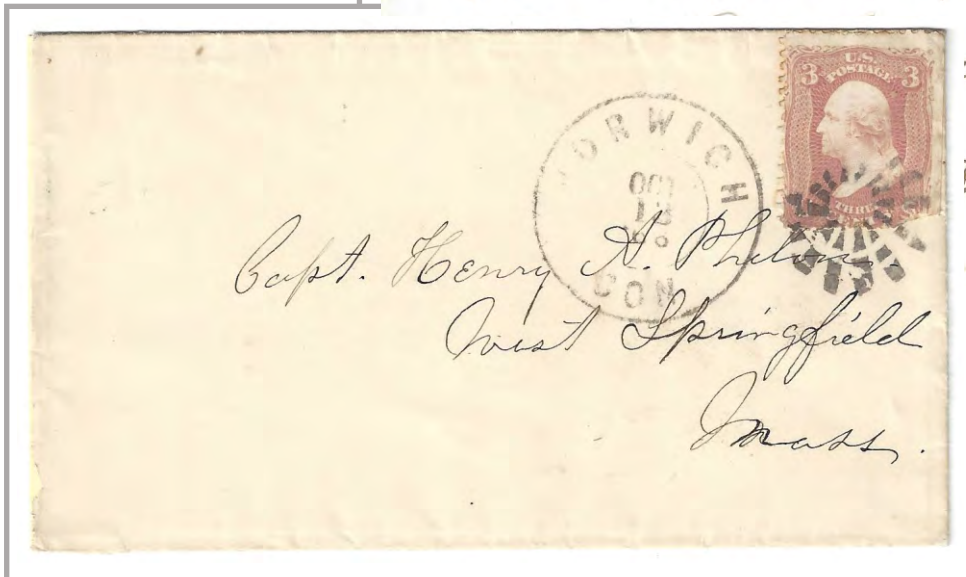
Norwich

1866 Cancels



E: 1866 Sep
L: 1866 Oct 13

3 September 1866, earliest reported use



10 and 13 October 1866, latest reported uses from damaged device



E: 1866 Oct 22
L: -



E: -
L: 1866 Dec 29



23 November 1866, early state of Masonic cross cancel



4 December 1866, late state of the Masonic cross cancel

1867 Masonic Cancels

The postmaster of Norwich, Charles Coit, was evidently a Mason. The Masonic cancels are only found from 29 May 1866 to 1867 while he was as postmaster. Various style obliterators were duplexed with the date stamp into a single device



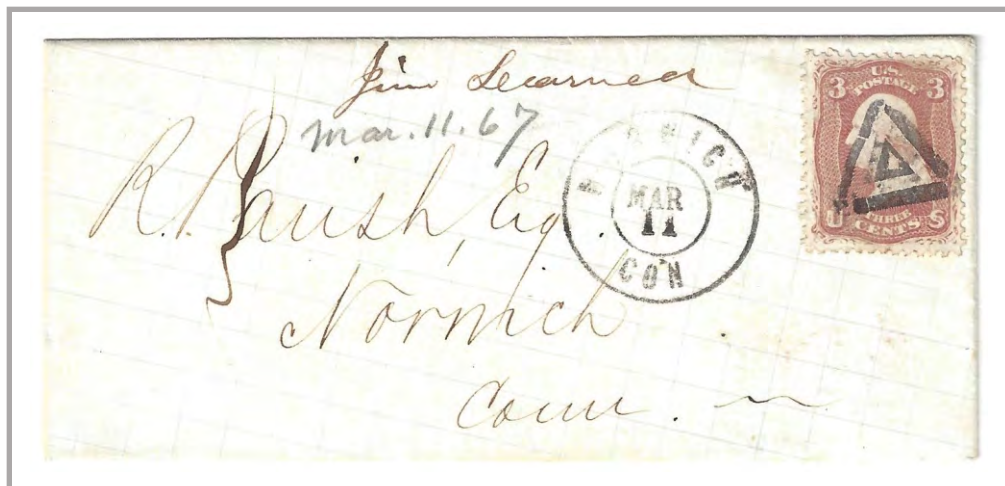
E: 1867 Feb 1
L: -



E: -
L: 1867 Mar 3



20 February 1867, early state of Masonic triangles cancel



11 March 1867, late state of Masonic triangles cancel



E: 1867 Jan 17
L: 1867 Jan 22



E: 1867 Mar 13
L: 1867 Apr 6

17 January and 13 March 1867, five point stars, on a convenience use old 3¢ Nesbitt envelope



E: 1867 Jan 25
L: 1867 Feb 6



29 January 1867
six point star

Norwich

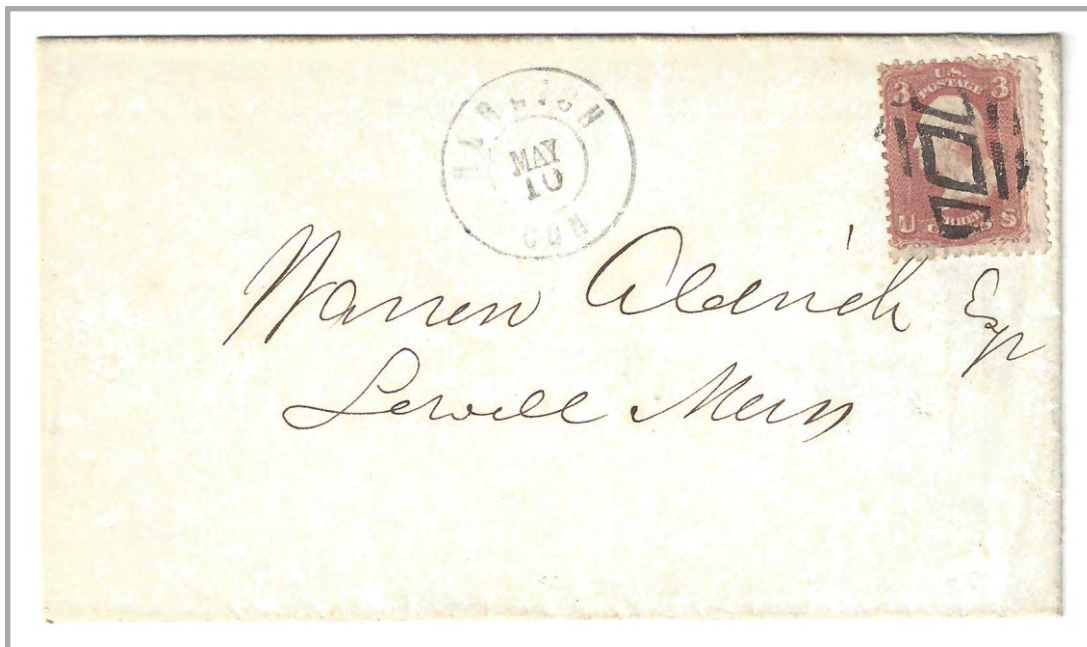
1867 Cancels



E: 1867 Apr 30
L: 1867 May 10



30 April 1867, earliest reported



10 May 1867, latest reported

Norwich

Duplexed Cancels

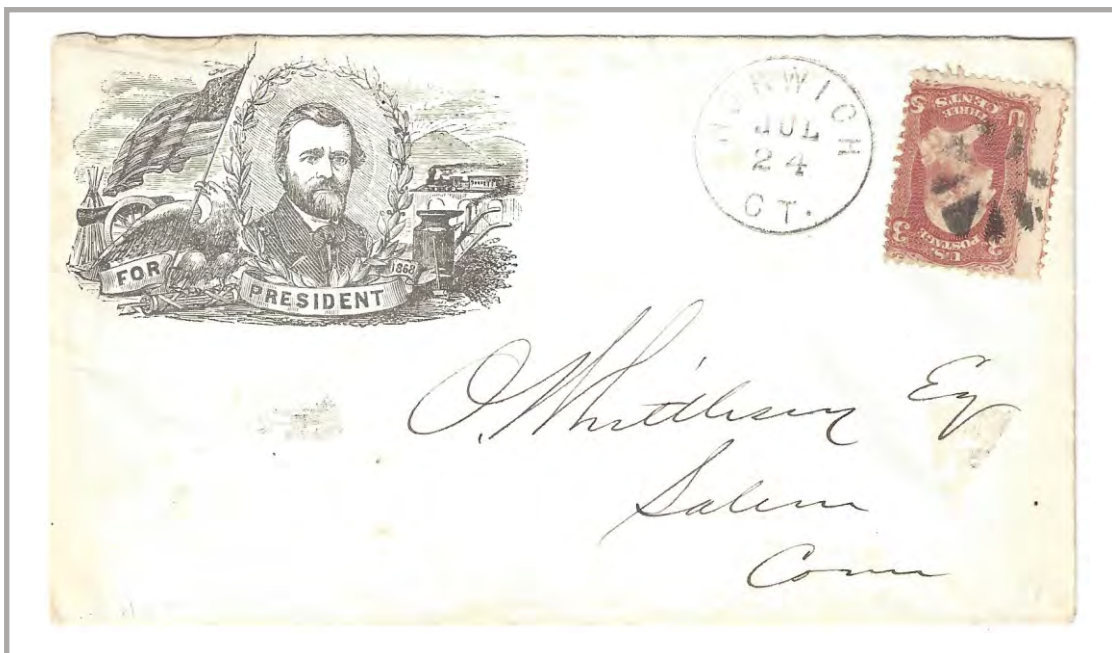
in July 1867 duplexed postmarking devices that combined a datestamp and an obliterator were introduced at Norwich.



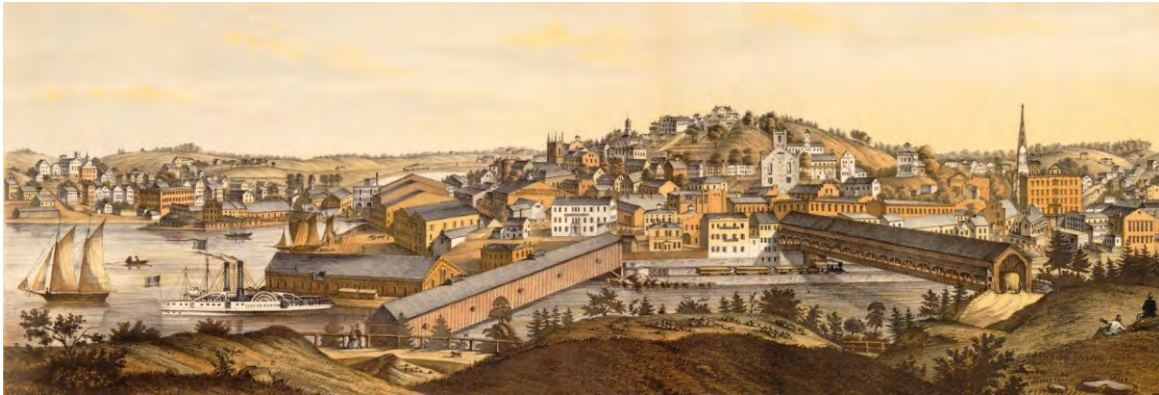
E: 1867 Jul 15



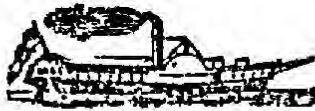
15 July 1867, the earliest reported use of a duplexed device at Norwich, 2¢ wrapper



24 July 1867, Ulysses S. Grant Presidential campaign cover



View of Norwich, Conn. showing a steamboat at left center and train at right center.



THE STEAM-BOAT FANNY

Will commence running to New York, on the 24th inst. and will continue to leave Norwich on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 2 o'clock p. m. and New London at half past 3 p. m. Leave New York on Mondays and Thursdays at 3 o'clock p. m. Fare \$6.

JED. HUNTINGTON.

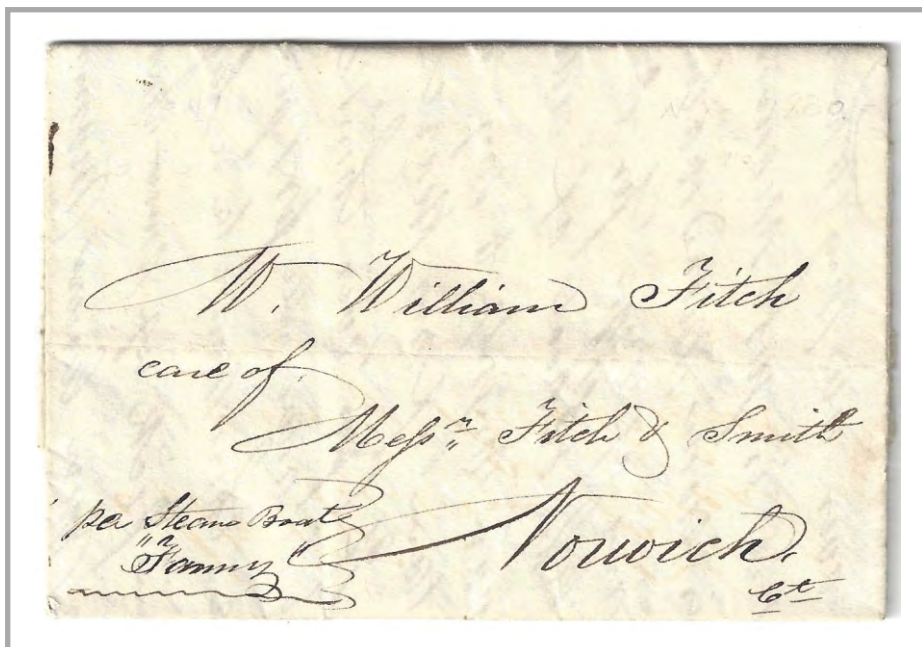
Dec. 16

3R

The *Fanny* was a small sidewheeler of 126 tons constructed for Captain John Douglas and associates. The first enrollment was made at the New York on April 27th 1825.

She operated between New York and Norwich for the next five years. On October 1830 she sank and was recovered but never returned to Norwich route.

per Steam Boat "Fanny"



per Steam Boat
"Fanny"
[Signature]

5 January 1829 New York to Norwich, endorsed for Monday steamboat Fanny carried outside of the government mails

Norwich

Steamboat Mail

Mail addressed beyond the port of entry (top letter) normally received postmarks while letters for local delivery (lower letter) did not.



22 August 1832 New York, via Norwich City, to Webster, MA, carried on steamboat Genl. Jackson entered the mails with Norwich City postmark, manuscript "Steam Boat" and 18^{3/4}¢ due

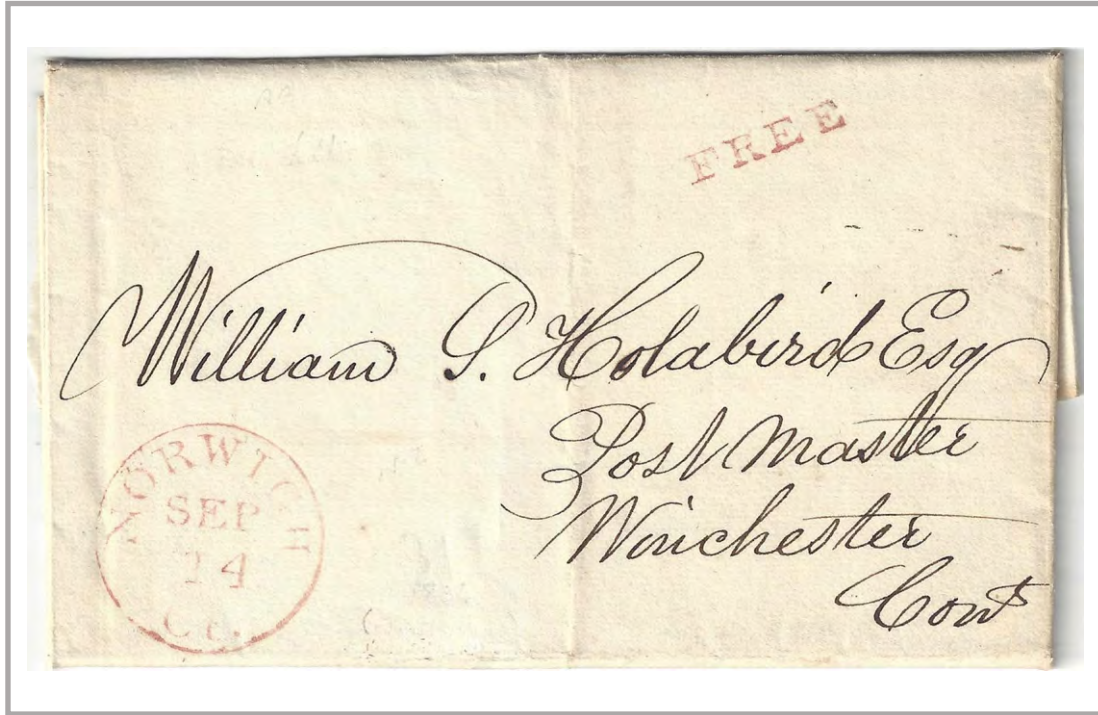
avored "by Capt. Havens"



18 January 1833 New York to Norwich, carried on Capt. Haven's steamboat Genl. Jackson entered the mails at Norwich for local delivery, manuscript "Steam Boat" and 12^{1/2}¢ due

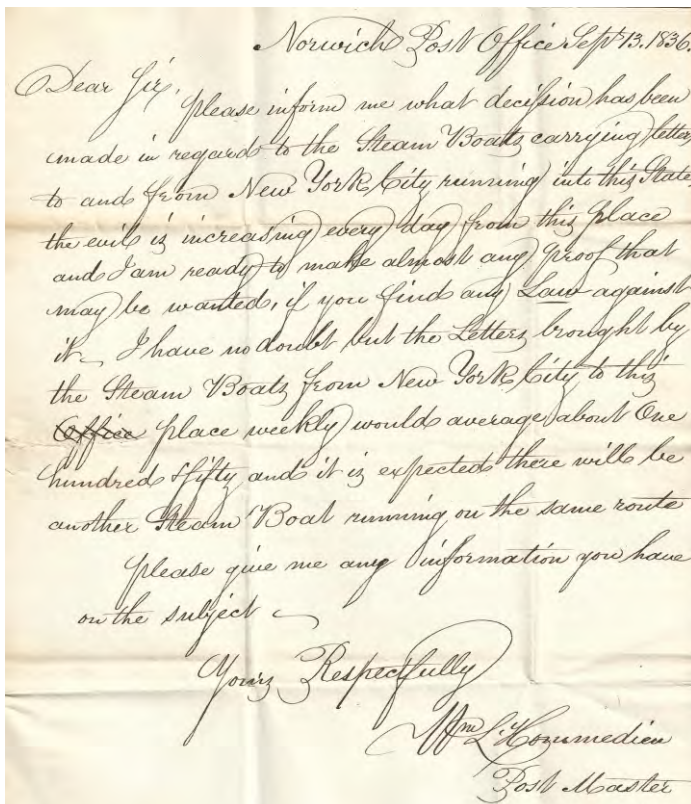
Norwich

1836 Norwich Postmaster's letter U.S. District Attorney about private steamboat mails.



1836 letter from Norwich postmaster to US District Attorney and postmaster at Winchester, CT letter seeks assistance in finding legal basis to stop private carriage of mail on steamboats

The addressee, William S. Holabird, was been appointed by Andrew Jackson in 1834 as U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut.



Norwich Post Office Sept. 13 1836

Dear Sir,

Please inform me what decision has been made in regard to the Steam Boats carrying letters to and from New York City running into this State, the evil is increasing every day from this place and I am ready to make almost any proof that may be wanted if you find any Law against it. I have no doubt but the letters brought by Steam Boats from New York to this place weekly would average about one hundred & fifty and it is expected there will be another Steam Boat running on the same route.

please give me any information you have on the subject

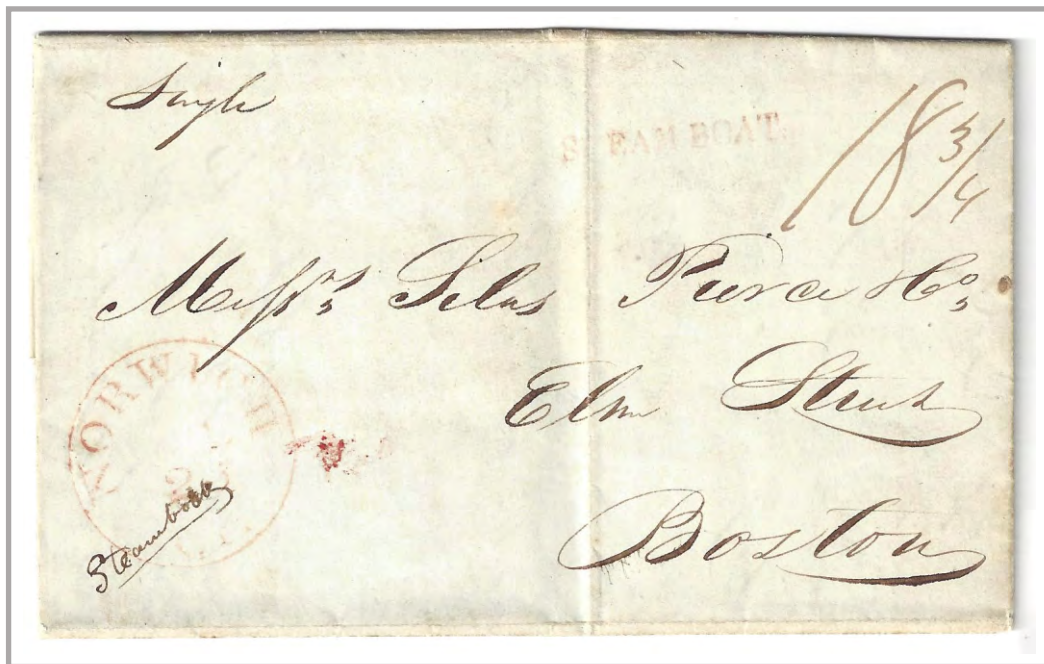
Yours Respectfully,
Wm. L'Houmedieu, Post Master

Norwich

Steamboat Mail

STEAM-BOAT.

In use July 1840 / August 1841



NEW ROUTE TO BOSTON, VIA NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAIL ROAD.
 From East River Steamboat Place, foot of Beekman street.
 Fare through to Boston (in boat and train) \$5; deck and forward car, \$3; Worcester, \$4; Providence Rail Road and Stage, \$1.



The steamboat CHARTER OAK, Captain Roath, will leave as above every Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

The steamboat NORWICH, Captain Colt, will leave every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Afternoon, at 5 o'clock. Passengers will leave on the arrival of the above boats at Norwich, every morning, in the splendid cars of the Norwich and Worcester Rail Road Company, and proceed immediately to Boston, without change of cars or baggage.

Freight taken until 4 o'clock.
 N. B.—Providence passengers will take the Rail Road Cars from Norwich to Killingly, thence Stage to Providence. Fare through \$4.

For farther information inquire of
 J. E. 25 E. A. & G. W. CORLIES, 233 Pearl st.

22 July 1840 ad

22 July 1840 (Wed.) New York, via Norwich, to Boston, on steamboat Charter Oak Norwich postmark, "STEAM-BOAT" handstamp and 18¾¢ due

MAIL LINE—NEW ROUTE TO BOSTON, VIA NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAIL ROAD.
 From East River Steamboat Place, foot of Beekman street.
 Fare through to Boston (in boat and train) \$5; deck and forward car, \$3; Worcester, \$4; Providence Rail Road and Stage, \$1.



The steamboat BELLE, Captain Colt, will leave Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

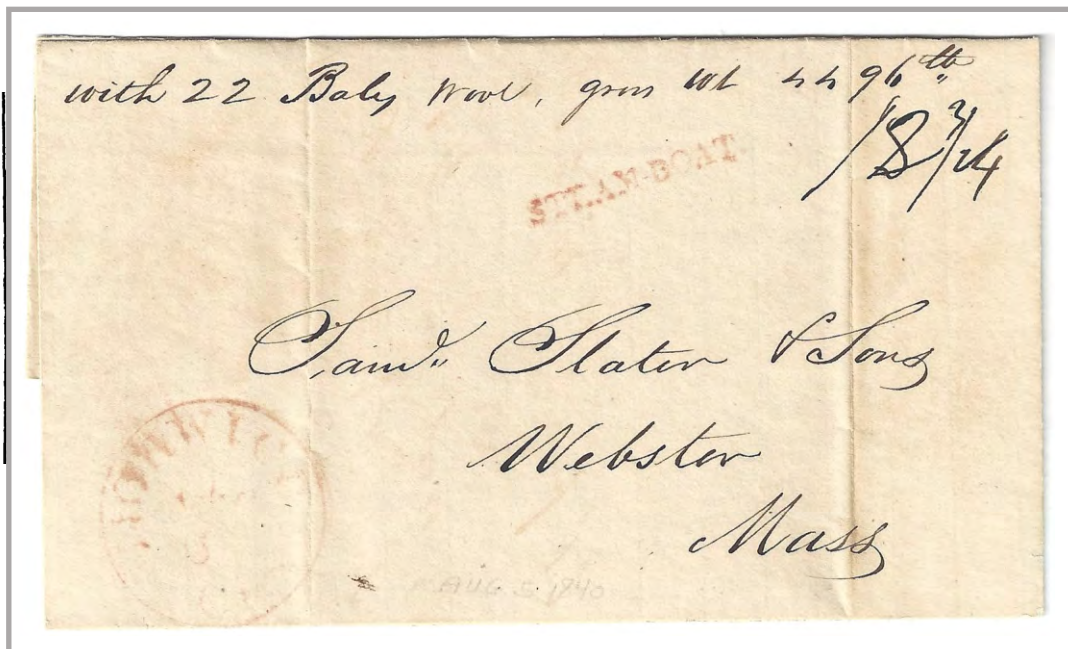
The steamboat CHARTER OAK, Captain Colt, will leave every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

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3 August 1840 ad
 Norwich replaced by Belle
 and departure days changed



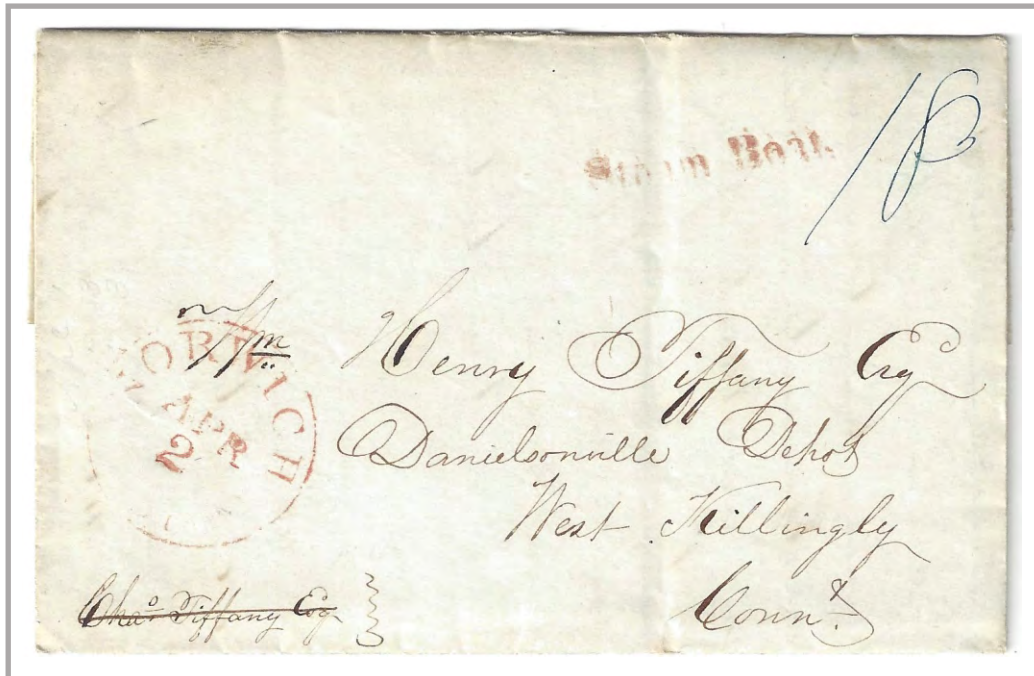
5 August 1840 (Wed.) New York, via Norwich, to Webster, MA carried on steamboat Belle, Norwich postmark, "STEAM-BOAT" handstamp and 18¾¢ due

Norwich

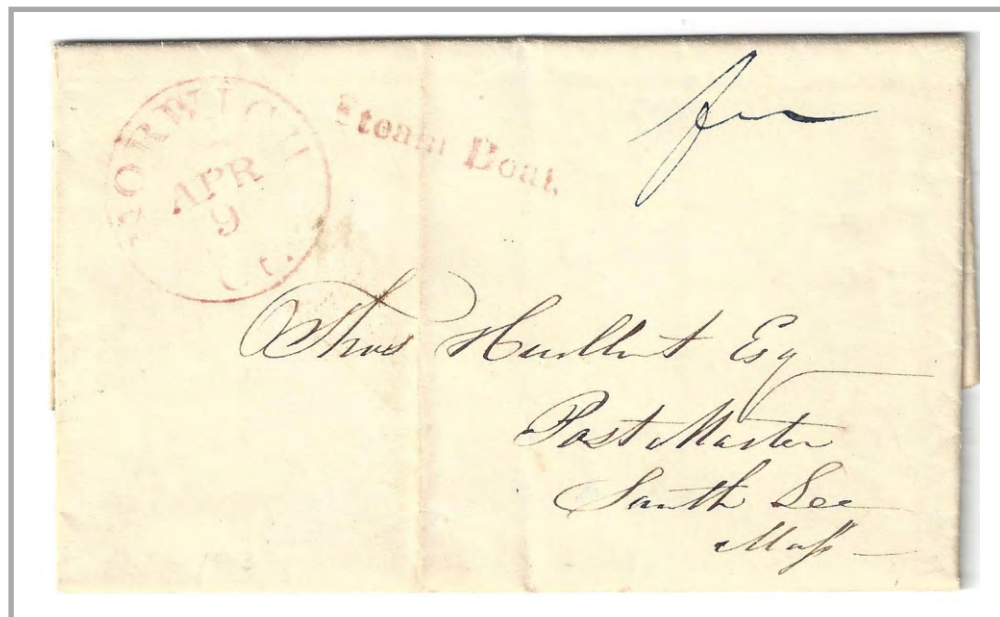
Steamboat Mail

Steam Boat.

In use 24 Mar 1843 / 9 Apr 1843



2 April 1843 New York, via Norwich, to Danielsonville Depot, CT (on the N & W Rail Road)
Norwich postmark, "Steam Boat." handstamp and 18³/₄¢ due



9 April 1843 New York, via Norwich, to Postmaster South Lee, MA
Norwich postmark, "Steam Boat." handstamp and manuscript "free" as to a postmaster

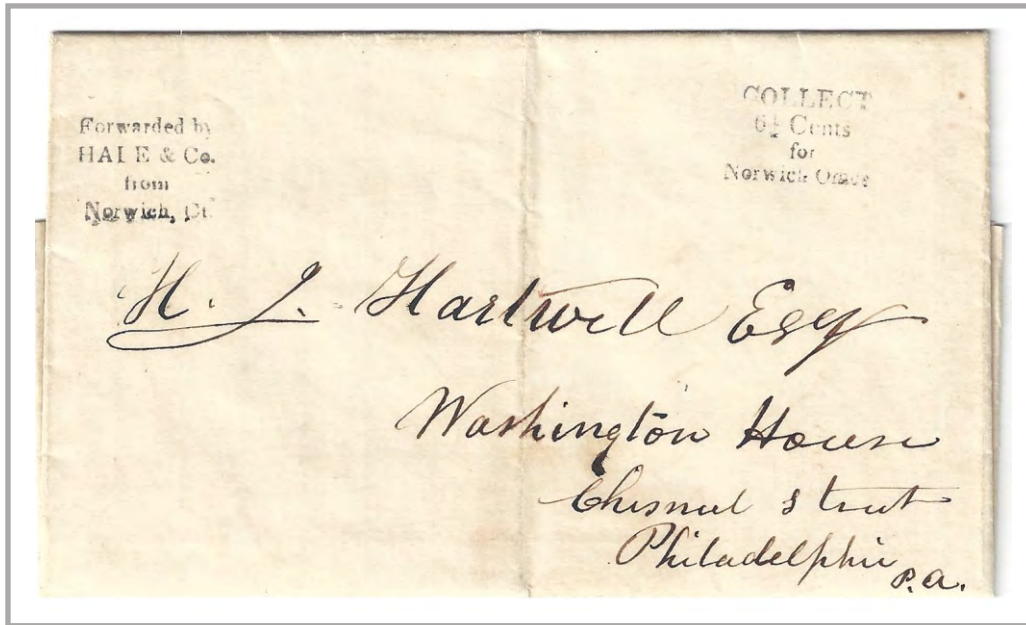
Norwich

Steamboat Mail

Forwarded by
HALE & Co.
from
Norwich, Ct.

Hale & Company, one of the largest of the 1844 Independent Mail Companies established an office in Norwich. For mail heading south, they utilized steamboats operating to New York where they could link with rail lines to more distant points. Two different marking were used at the Norwich office. Both were in use August 1844 to June 1845.

COLLECT
6¼ Cents
for
Norwich Office



24 October 1844 Norwich, via New York, to Philadelphia, PA by Hale & Co.
"Forwarded by Hale & Co from Norwich, Ct" handstamp and their "Collect 6¼ Cents" handstamp

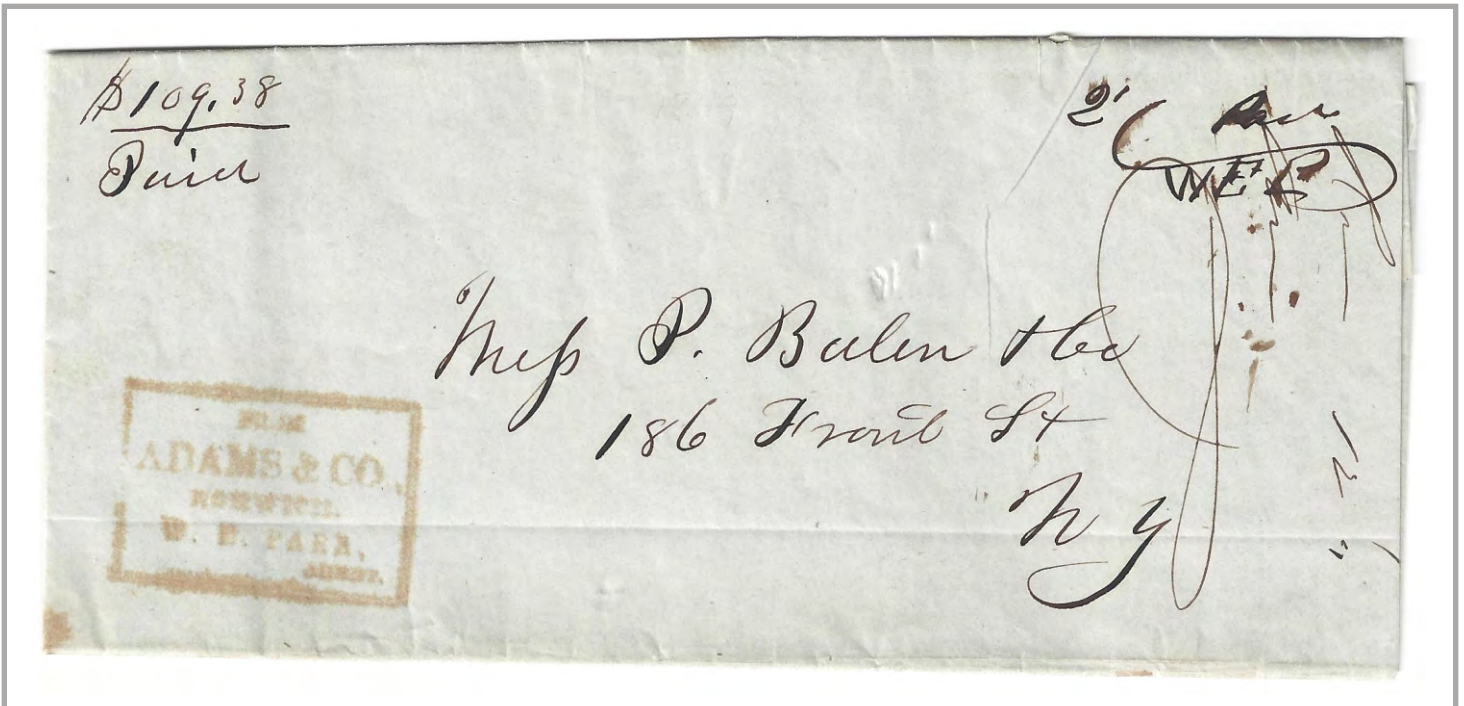


15 August 1844 Norwich to New York by Hale & Co., Hale's "20 for \$1" adhesive with "N" cancel
"Forwarded by Hale & Co from Norwich, Ct" handstamp
manuscript delivery note "Hale & Co, 58 Wall St" on reverse

Adam's Express - Alvin Adams and P.B. Burke established an express between New York, Norwich, Worcester and Boston under the name of Burke and Co. in 1840. Burke retired and Adams was on his own by December 1841. The original route utilized the Norwich & Worcester Rail Road as well as the Long Island Sound steamers departing from Norwich. By the start of the Civil War, Adams had become one of the largest express companies in the East.



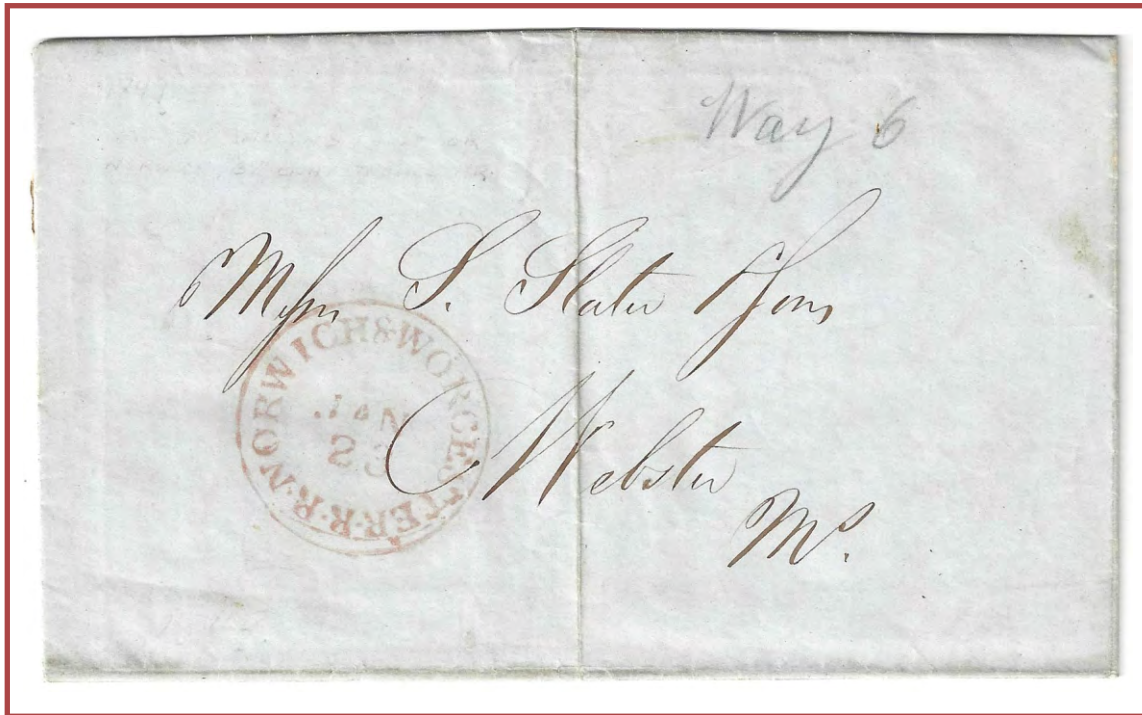
The only reported example of this marking.



11 July 1849 money letter for \$109.38 sent from Norwich to New York
"From Adams & Co. Norwich. / W.E. Park Agent" handstamp
Agent Park has also marked "2/- Paid / W.E.P." at right indicating 25¢ had been paid

The U.S. Post Office did not offer registered mail service until 1855.

Way Mail - The two letters below show different types of way uses on mail that entered the mails from steamboats. The upper letter was received by the railroad route agent when he was at the Allyn's Point landing. He paid the steamboat captain one cent fee and added it as a way fee. The lower letter was carried direct to the Post Office from Allyn's Point landing and the postmaster paid the one cent fee to the contract carrier and added the amount to the postage.



22 January 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Webster, MA entered the mails with "Norwich & Worcester R.R." route agent postmark and pencil "Way 6" rate fewer than five known railroad route agent way uses



23 February 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Mansfield, CT entered the mails with Norwich postmark and manuscript "Way 6" rate, carried on stage route

Way Mail - The handstamp "Way 6" marking is known used at Norwich between July 2, 1849 and August 18, 1849.

WAY 6

in use 2 July 1849 / 18 Aug 1849



17 August 1849 New York, by steamboat via Norwich (Allyn's Point), to Mansfield Centre, CT
18 August entered the mails with Norwich postmark and matching "Way 6" handstamp

Norwich

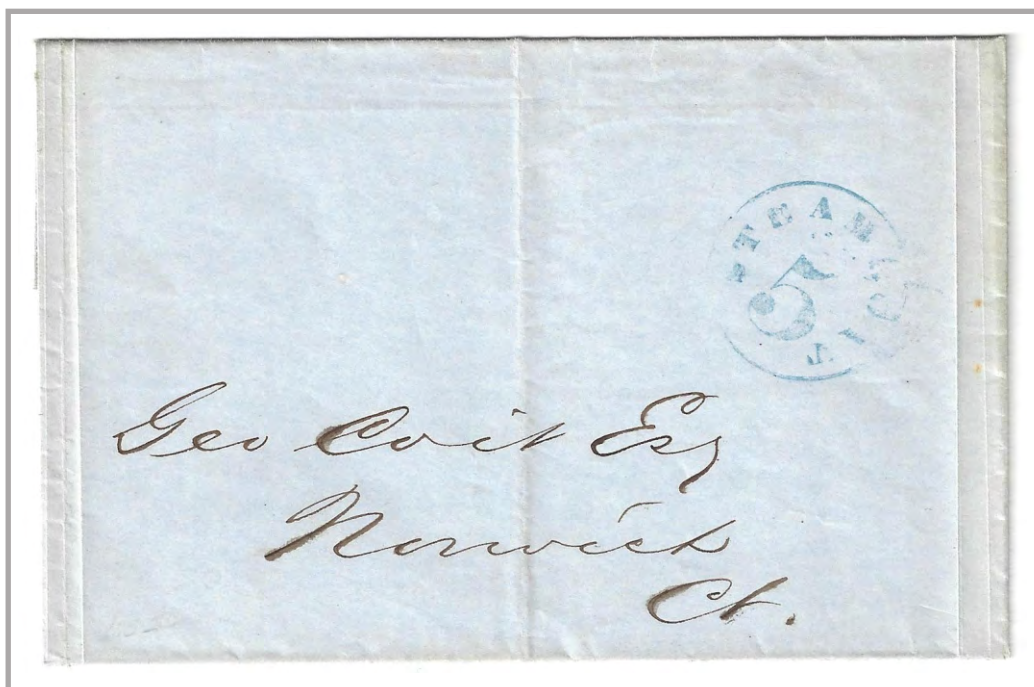
Steamboat Mail



in use 8 Mar 1850 / 30 Oct 1850



7 March 1850 New York, via Norwich, to Mansfield Centre, CT entered the mails with Norwich postmark and "STEAMBOAT 5" due handstamp



19 July 1850 New York to Norwich entered the mails with only the "STEAMBOAT 5" due handstamp



27 March 1850 New York to Norwich, prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue stamp, 7 bar circle cancel entered the mails with "STEAMBOAT 5" handstamp

STEAMER

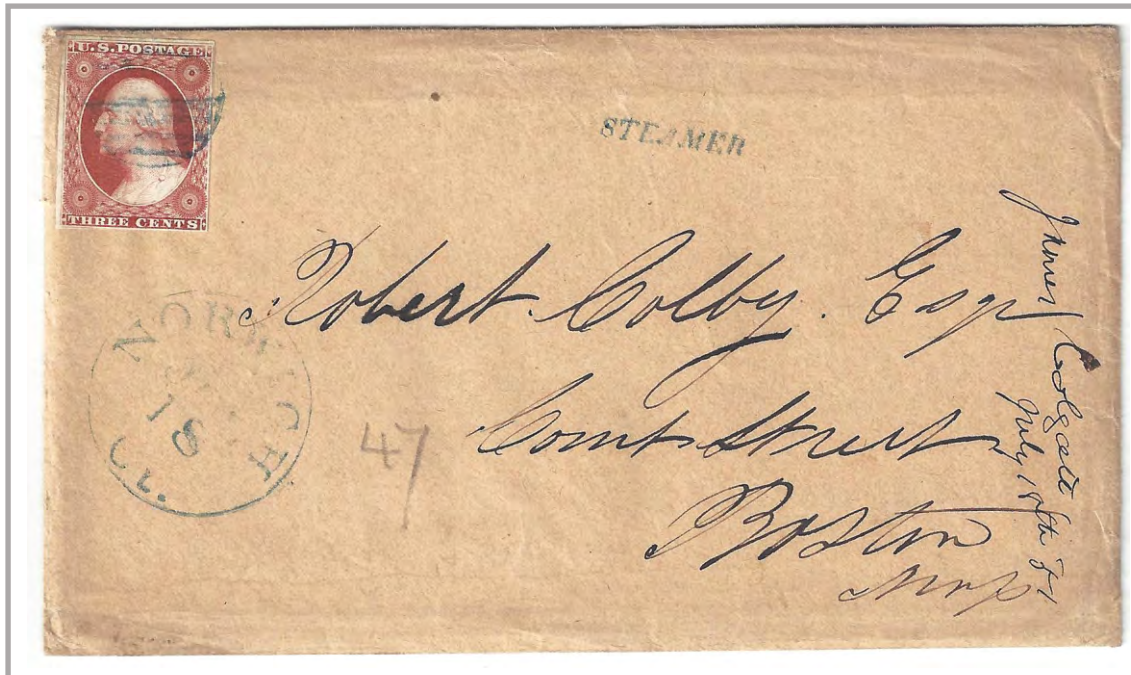
in use 30 Nov 1850 / 31 Aug 1852



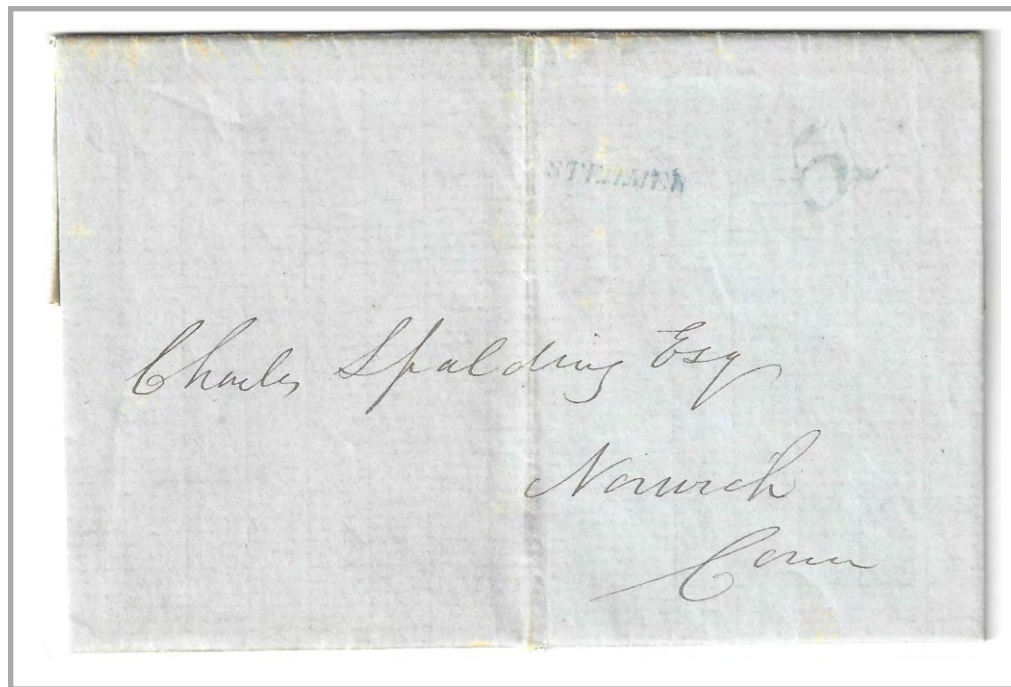
30 November 1850 New York to Norwich, prepaid with 5¢ 1847 issue stamp, 7 bar circle cancel entered the mails with italic letter "STEAMER" handstamp

Norwich

Steamboat Mail



18 July 1851 New York, via Norwich, to Boston
prepaid with 3¢ stamp first issued 1 July 1851, 7 bar circle cancel



9 June 1852 New York to Norwich, entered the mails with "STEAMER" handstamp, 5¢ due