

Special Delivery Markings...

When specific is better--not all regulations are meant to be followed exactly.

by Robert L. Markovitz

Tony Wawrukiewicz's fine article in the last newsletter concerning the use of auxiliary markings in the special delivery process led me to review my holdings, as well as those of John M. Hotchner and Jim Forte (from his web site). Variants of the generic, non-specific phrase

FEE CLAIMED BY OFFICE
OF FIRST ADDRESS

are, of course, the common type to be found. Far less common are examples such as of this type of marking

Fee Claimed at Lincoln, Nebr

where a specific city is mentioned.

FEE CLAIMED AT:
Abilene, Tx.
Baltimore, Md. Post Office
Baltimore Post Office
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Chicago, Ill.
Chicago, Ill Old Post Office Annex
Cincinnati, Ohio
Denver, Colo.
Detroit, Mich
Des Moines, Iowa
Durham, N.C.
East Orange, N.J.
Evanston, Ill.
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Greensboro, N.C.
Indianapolis, Ind. P.O.
Jacksonville, Fla.
Johnson City, Tex.
Kalamazoo, Mich.
Kansas City, Mo.
Lincoln, Nebr.
Long Beach, Calif.
Los Angeles, Calif.
Miami, Fla.
Monterey, Ca.
Omaha, Nebr
Orange, NJ
Phoenix, Arizona.
Portland, Oregon
Red Wing, Minn.
Richmond, Va.
St. Louis, Mo. P.O.
Saint Paul, Minn.
St. Petersburg, Fla. Sta A
San Francisco, Calif. P. O.
South Bend, Ind.
Springfield, Mass.
Springfield, Mo.
Stockton, Calif.
Stockton, Cal.
Superior, Wisc.

Syracuse, N.Y.
Tampa, Fla.
Toledo, Ohio
Vallejo, Calif.
West Palm Beach, Fla.
Worcester, Mass.

FEE CLAIMED BY:
Oakland, Calif.
Sacramento, Ca.
Sacramento, Calif.
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

FEE CLAIMED:
Chicago, Ill.
Englewood Station (Chicago)
Cincinnati, Ohio

FEE PAID AT:
Gloucester, Mass.

FEE CLAIMED BY OFFICE:
Englewood Station (Chicago)
Schenectady, N.Y.

SPECIAL DELIVERY No
Fee Claimed
East Orange, NJ

Fee claimed at Sioux City, Ia.
Fee claimed at Los Angeles, Calif.
For Night, Sunday and Holiday Delivery
Use the Special Delivery Service

Fee Claimed at office of First Address,
N.Y.P.O. Wash. Bridge

Fee Claimed at office of First Address,
N.Y.P.O. Stations K., N., O., & W.

In my listing below I list all cities found with markings of the form FEE CLAIMED AT, followed by those containing markings of the forms FEE CLAIMED BY, FEE CLAIMED, and FEE CLAIMED BY OFFICE as well as a few others not readily classified as to type. The most common variant is the FEE CLAIMED AT type, but even this is much less commonly used than the generic one. Some markings such as FEE CLAIMED, FEE PAID AT, and FEE CLAIMED BY OFFICE, and FORWARDED, DELIVERY FEE PAID / BY OFFICE OF FIRST ADDRESS are as yet only known at 1-3 cities and are therefore rare.

Visit usspecialdelivery.com for extensive additional information about the special delivery process, including a bibliography. An extensive exhibit of the special delivery process up to 1902 is also included.

Toledo, Ohio
Spec. Del. Letter No. __

SPECIAL DEL'Y FEE PAID AT P.O.
DUNKIRK, N.Y.

FORWARDED, DELIVERY FEE PAID
BY OFFICE OF FIRST ADDRESS
(from Germantown, PA)
Waterloo, Iowa

Fee paid at
South Boston Station
Easton, Mass.
Number.....
Date.....
Time.....AM.....PM
(this type used in the Boston, Roxbury
and Cambridge areas from at least 1912
to 1938)

LYNN, MASS. (1892)

NUMBER.....

DATE.....

TIME.....

Circular receiving mark with Spec Del
or Special Delivery:

Berkeley, Ca.
Brookline, Ma
Buffalo, NY
Chicago, Ill.
Kalamazoo, Mich
Milwaukie, Wisc
Oakland, Ca
Santa Monica, Ca
Syracuse, NY

Offered for delivery at address given
West Hartford, Ct.