

# 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.

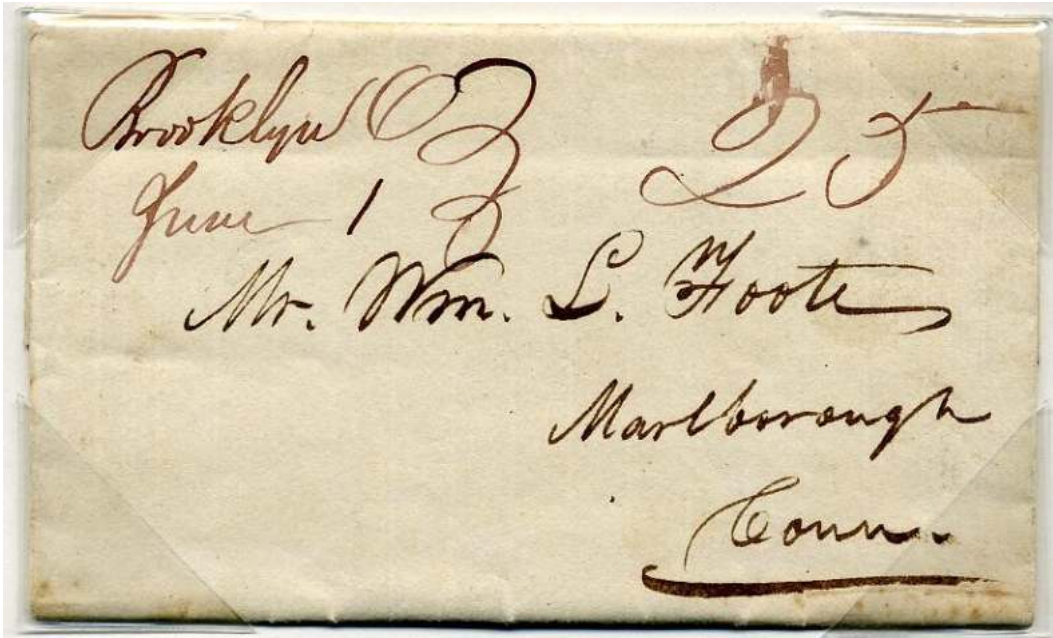
Despite its short period of existence, Ohio City used four different town markings and a variety of handstamp markings. A census records approximately 140 covers from Ohio City.

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



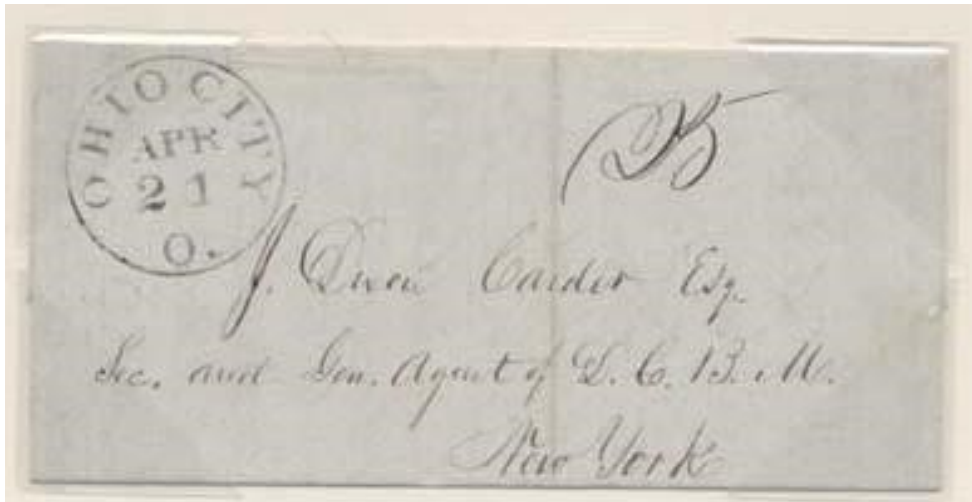
October 25, 1844  
Single rate prepaid, 80-150 miles

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



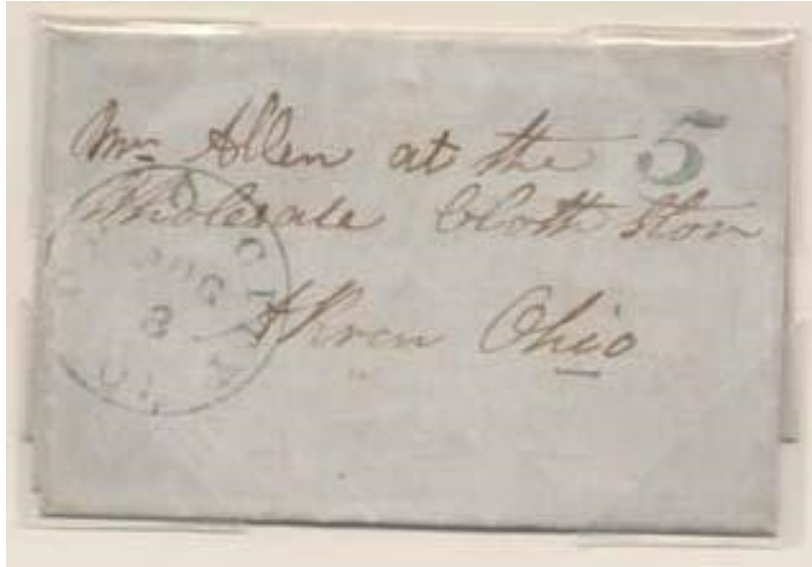
November 8, 1851  
Prepaid single rate under 3000 miles  
*Fewer than five reported examples of "PAID" handstamp and "3" rate numeral*



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.