

## UH-OH! - MISTAKES IN U.S. AUXILIARY MARKINGS

The Auxiliary Markings Club defines the term "Auxiliary Marking" as follows: *Postal marking applied to covers by handstamp, machine cancellation, a stick-on label, manuscript markings, or by mechanical or electronic methods such as addressograph or computer, indicating that the covers were given special attention due to some special circumstance...*

Many auxiliary markings are the result of a mistake - such as using an incorrect address. But the markings themselves are not immune to Murphy's Law. This exhibit will examine the following types of mistakes found in U.S. auxiliary markings:

- Spelling or other mistakes made in the manufacture of the handstamp or other device used to apply auxiliary markings. Also missing letters which may have been caused by faulty manufacture or may have been the result of wear.
- Mistakes made by the user of the device, such as inverted elements or misspelled spray-on markings.
- Errors in grammar or logic in the text or usage of the marking.



**Manufacturer Error:** *UNCLIAMED* in machine *RETURN TO WRITER* marking. Cover also has manuscript *House vacant*.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota, 1924.