

Star Plate: The 1c Third Bureau Coils and Coil Waste Issues From 1908 and 1910

Purpose of Exhibit: This exhibit will show the development and production of the third Bureau coils produced on the Star Plate from 1908 to 1910. It will focus on production material, the changes, and the end result of a failed experiment by the Bureau to solve the problem with design spacing and paper shrinkage.

Exhibit Plan

- A. Original 2 mm Plates
- B. Star Plate 1908
 - 1) Plate Design
 - 2) Paper
 - 3) Plate Markings
 - 4) Coil Construction
- C. Star Plate 1910
 - 1) Paper
 - 2) Plate Markings
 - 3) Coil Construction
- D. Epilogue: Coil Waste
 - 1) Perforated Panes of 60
 - 2) Imperforate Blocks

collectors and were discovered years later. The Bureau made these changes without any type of formal announcement which contributes to the rarity of numerous items produced during the Washington and Franklin series from 1908 to 1922.

Philatelic Importance

- The Star Plates were an experiment by the Bureau to solve a problem with poorly spaced designs.
- The experiment created a number of different varieties to collect.
- Coils can be found with 2mm and 3mm spacing.
- The Bureau's attempt to solve one problem created another.
- Private vending machine companies could not adjust their perforating machines to fit the new spacing of the Star Plate.
- The Bureau made an effort to help out one of these companies and because of this effort created a very scarce variety of coil waste.
- Coil Waste: Is excess stamp material intended for coil production that ends up being produced into sheet stamps.

Historical Significance

The Bureau of Printing and Engraving did a number of experiments during the production of their coil stamps. Many of the changes they made went unnoticed by

Key Items are Matted in Red

Personal study and research

This is the first example found of the imperforate coil waste used on cover. Up until this discovery it was not known used on cover. While it is a later use, it is the only example of the scarce coil waste used on cover.



New Discovery/First Documented Use

First class airmail, 10 cents per ounce on CAM route of length $\leq 1,000$ miles. This is the first known example of the imperforate coil waste used on cover. The coil waste was first produced in 1910 and sold at the post office in Washington D.C. up through the early 1920s.