



THE SQUARED CIRCLE CANCELS OF BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND



+ SYNOPSIS +

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TITLE PAGE

PURPOSE OF EXHIBIT:

To illustrate through stamps, pieces and covers, the evolutions of all thirteen hammers that were assigned to the various Post Offices of Bradford, Yorkshire, England. The exhibit will show as many as six changes, and as few as one change to the different cancellers, and in the process, identify the earliest and latest recorded dates of use for each incarnation of each of the hammers. The exhibit further recognizes the extensive amount of work on tabulating the information relative to the current earliest and latest uses of each cancel which has been spear-headed by Mike Boddy. He has worked diligently to update the listings originally provided in the first edition of "Collecting British Squared Circle Postmarks", and revised in the second edition of that publication.

CHALLENGE FACTOR:

Although these cancels were used between 1887 and 1906, the timing of the various re-cuts and other alterations that were performed, varied greatly, and as a consequence, there were short and long periods of use of each resultant hammer. Difficulties were thus created in acquiring examples of those ones which were used for the shorter time frames. As with any study of postmarks, the need for good quality strikes further decreases the body of material from which to choose.

WHAT IS PRESENTED:

The exhibit contains all but one example from each of the 60 variations created in the thirteen series of hammers. Many specific numbers of the series of hammers went through very similar progressions (moving from different time codes, re-sizing, adding numbered corners) and because virtually all the changes for each hammer are provided in separate examples, there are strikes of all the constant designs spread over different series numbers. In this way, the viewer is able to comprehend the extent of the variations that are produced through the many re-cuts of the cancellers.

Several new earliest and late-dates-of-use are shown, in red borders, while scarcer hammers are identified with a blue border.

While not related to the marcophily aspect of this exhibit, there is a variety of interesting destinations to be seen on the covers presented.

INFORMATION SOURCES:

Collecting British Squared Circle Postmarks - by Stanley Cohen, Maurice Barette and Daniel G. Rosenblat;

Collecting British Squared Circle Postmarks Second Edition Part 1 The Provincial Offices- by Stanley Cohen, Maurice Barette, John Hine and A. M. Williams

Electronic Bi-Monthly Updates to Earliest and Latest Dates of Use Listed in the Above Catalogues - by Mike Boddy

(Continued:)

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MATERIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Page 3 - Series 1 - Earliest Reported Date of Use;

Page 3 - Series 1 - Latest Reported Date of Use;

Page 10 - Series 4 - Earliest Reported Date of Use;

Page 11 - Series 4 - Scarce Destination - Moscow, Russia;

Page 14 - Series 5 - Rarest of Bradford Squared Circle Cancels;

Page 15 - Series 5 - Scarce Destination - Portugal;

Page 15 - Series 5 - Earliest Reported Date of Use;

Page 19 - Series 7 - One Day Before the Last Reported Date of Use;

Page 23 - Series 8 - Scarce Destination - Argentina;

Page 24 - Series 9 - Latest Recorded Date of Use;

Page 25 - Series 9 - Scarce Destination - Finland;

Page 28 - Series 11 - Very Scarce Hammer to find (2);

Page 31 - Series 13 - Very Difficult Hammer to find;