

IRISH PHILATELY

JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE



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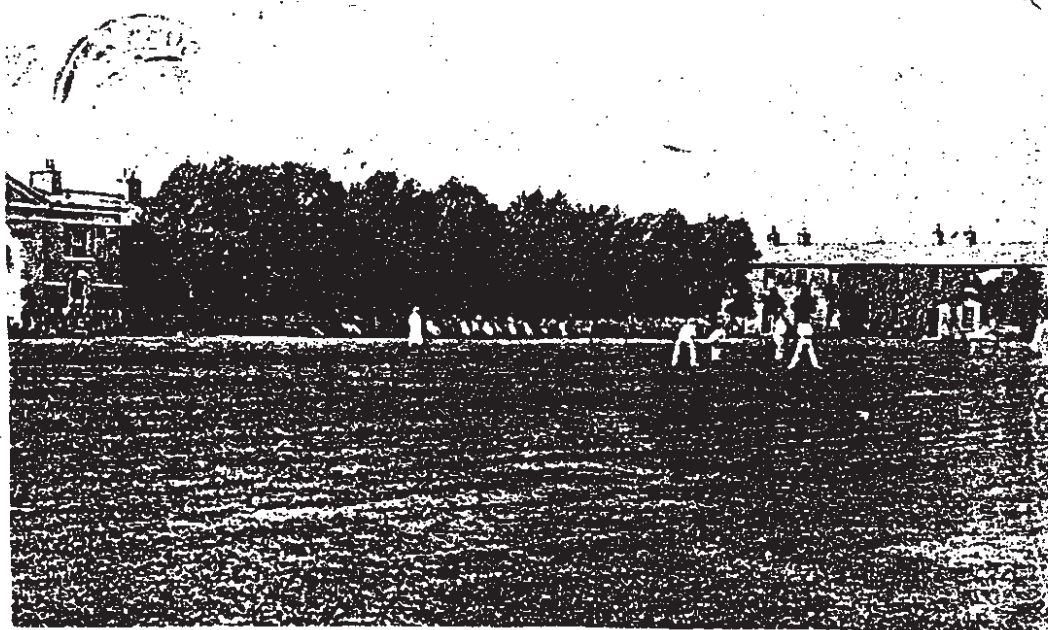
December 1990

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Sport; cricket match in progress,
County Cork (?), c.1914.

is any member able to furnish details of location presumed to
be in County Cork ? (see page 68)

EDITORIAL:

With Christmas fast approaching there are just two messages to
one and all; a Happy and Holy Feast and get those articles and
letters that you have intended to do, done!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Historical Documents, Ephemera etc

It seems to me that (rightly or wrongly!) historical documents, postal ephemera and pictorial matter are taking a progressively more prominent part in many collections of stamps and postal history. I doubt that many members of IPC know of a firm of postal auctioneers based in Exeter who deal only in such items. I have no wish to spoil it for those who do know, nor to give free advertisements for traders, but there is a place in Journals like ours for recording unusual or interesting items which change hands either in auctions or sales or which are on offer or exhibition.

Messengers' of Exeter in their Postal Bid sale of June 21st, among some 1,500 lots, had a number of Irish related items. These included Post Office notices, 18th and 19th century Acts of Parliament (Irish and U.K.), handbooks/maps, mailboat timetables and posters. There were also a Twopence Irish Almanac Duty Stamp (1788) applied to an almanac - 'on cover', so to speak; a Twopence Irish Newspaper stamp (20th May 1801) with plate letter, on a complete copy of the 'Waterford Mirror'.

A rarity was a Halfpenny Irish Handbill Duty Stamp (1813) on a handbill. One of only two such examples recorded - it sold for £180 (estimate of £100).

Even more exotic were three different Irish Wallpaper Duty Stamps (1831) applied in red to one corner of a piece of wallpaper, 9" X 20". The description, in part, reads "Previously unrecorded they are described in a recent publication by Harold Dagnall 'The Tax on Walpaper'. Authorized for use in Ireland in 1797, the duty was repealed in 1836". Sold for £260 (estimate £200). The late F.E. Dixon would have liked these!

P. Williams,
Birkenhead.

Dear Editor,

Cricket Ground Query

A sepia tinted postcard recently came into my possession showing a cricket game in progress. (front cover) The halfpenny green George VI definitive is tied by a double ring 'Buttevant - Co Cork' CDS, dated April 13th, 1915.

The message is of family army matters and relates nothing of the scene on the front.

Should any member know of the location of the ground shown, presumably an army barracks possibly Fermoy, County Cork, I would be most grateful to hear from them.

Catherine Murphy,
Hayward's Heath.

OBITUARY

It is with a feeling of great sadness, that I record the passing of that great Irish Philatelist, **A.L.Stokes**. Arthur as he was known to his friends, passed away on the 18th October, 1990.

By a strange coincidence this was the opening date of "STAMPA 90". It is not generally known that Arthur was one of the instigators of that National Stamp Exhibition. It was he who initially suggested to a few members of the Irish Philatelic Society, that a National Exhibition should be instituted in Dublin, as far back as the early months of 1970.

Arthur was always a stalwart of the Irish Philatelic Society, and is generally considered to have been one of the best Hon. Secretaries of that Society, this post he held from the late 1960's to the early 1970's. He was also a member of the Dublin Stamp Society, and the Irish Philatelic Circle.

While Arthur was also recognized as an authority on Irish Philately, and Postal History, his philatelic knowledge covered a much wider field.

Following a display of "Flowers on Stamps" which he gave to the Dublin Stamp Society during the 1956 - 57 season, it was that display that converted me to take an interest in Thematic Collecting.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of seeing one of Arthur's displays, always commented on the wonderful style of his handwriting, and the excellence of his presentation, which became the hallmark of his work.

Over the years Arthur was a keen student of both Irish Stamps and Postal History, but I think the Historical side was his favourite. He formed an extensive collection of the C.D.S Cancellations of practically every Irish Post Office. A collection that I have never seen equalled. His Postal History displays were always a joy to see.

For a few years Arthur moved to Douglas, Isle of Man, and was a most respected member of their Philatelic Society, but the call of home was too great, and he returned to Dublin to the great joy of a large circle of his friends.

Irish Philately has lost a great champion, but to the large circle of his friends, we have lost a wonderful personality who will be long remembered in our thoughts and prayers.

Bill Kane

A VISIT TO THE ARCHIVES S.D. Challis

Many years ago when I first expressed an interest in Irish Postal History to a collector with a fine reputation for a knowledge of English Postal History, accumulated over many decades, I was told (in as many words) 'Ireland is difficult - there is practically nothing to guide you in the London archives; at least with England if you dig deep enough you can usually find it'.

One of my present research topics is Diamond Numeral cancellations used in Ireland after 1844; and indeed the best source of basic information would be the Datestamp Impression books. However it is common knowledge that the Irish Proof books - along with so much else of value to the Postal Historian - was lost in the 1916 'rising'.

Thus with a couple of hours to kill in London recently I found my way to the British Post Office archives at Freeling House, which is incidentally found more or less under the railway arches in the depths of Southwark, just to see if the proof books of England and Wales as well as Scotland might tell me anything; and indeed they did.

Firstly, and I believe this is generally known, the original Irish numeral (killer) cancellations of 1844 were produced in England and can be found in an impression book that also includes the Scots numeral cancellations of the same date.

But what did fascinate me was that the list of datestamp impression books included in a few cases the word 'Ireland' - not often but just occasionally. A further search revealed that just a handful of Irish cancellations in the 1879 to 1881 period were struck in the 'English' impression book of this time and were therefore, I think it is fair to say, of English manufacture. Why?

To what Place.	Date when sent.	Stamps.
<i>Supplied specially to Savings Bank Dept.</i>	<i>15 11 79</i>	

fig 1; 'TOWNLEY HALL / DROGHEDA' datestamp

Figure 1 shows a circular datestamp for Townley Hall, Drogheda, produced in November 1879. According to the narrative in the impression book this datestamp was 'Supplied Specially to Savings Bank Department'. So far as I could see no other datestamp of this immediate period receiving this treatment, new datestamps normally being sent to the appropriate Head Postmaster for forwarding on to the relevant office under his control. What then was so special about Townley Hall; it was in fact a rural office, five miles west of Drogheda situated at a

country seat of that name; it was opened about 1850 and closed some fifty years later, being replaced by Tullyallen. Why should it, seemingly alone of all Irish offices, have a datestamp specially produced in England for the benefit of the Savings Bank Department, when according to the Post Office guides of the period it never conducted savings bank business (never being a money order office). Does anyone actually possess an example of this datestamp?

My next revelation was that datestamps and numeral cancellations (not in the form of duplex) was supplied to Cork and Waterford in May 1880 (figs 2 and 3). Why these two alone? Were Irish datestamps really produced in London and had these two been impressed in the wrong book with the datestamp impression book lost at some subsequent dates? I think it is well established that datestamps for Irish offices were in fact manufactured in Dublin. What was so special about these? I do in fact have an example of this Waterford numeral cancellation apparently used in a duplex handstamp bearing time code 'C' for January 9th, 1892, but no trace of Cork.

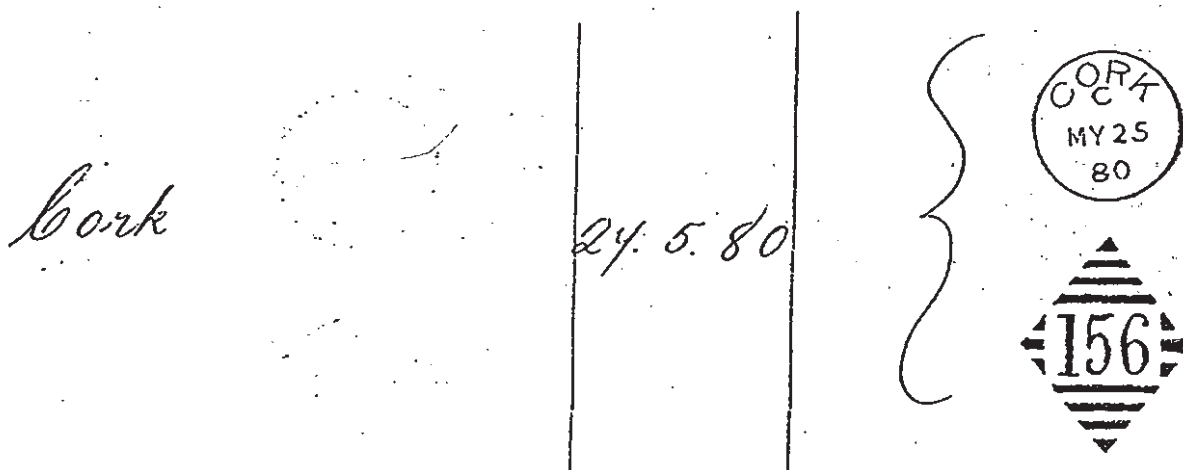
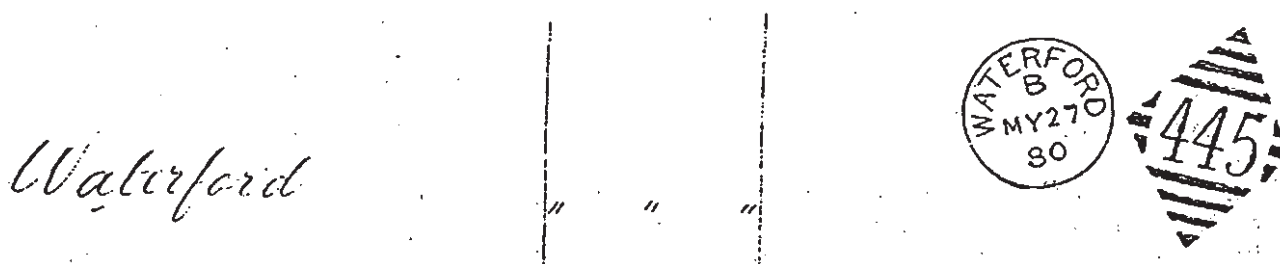


fig 2; (above) and fig 3, (below); 'CORK' and 'WATERFORD' datestamps and numeral cancellations.



Soon I had a clue. The October 1881 impression book shows three circular Dublin datestamps with three identical Dublin numeral cancellations alongside (fig 4). These are somewhat different from other Dublin duplex (or Pearson Hill Pivot cancellations) of the period, having a small 186 numeral - particularly the top of the '8' - and just 8.5 mm between fourth bar from the top and fourth bar from the bottom. 9.5 mm to 10.5 mm is more typical of this period. Alongside is the legend 'Three Stamping Machines'. Is this then the answer? Was some form of experimental stamping machine in use which required datestamps and numerals to be cut in London? I do in fact have what

appears to be an example of one of these code '1' (no additional letter) dated April 20th, 1882.

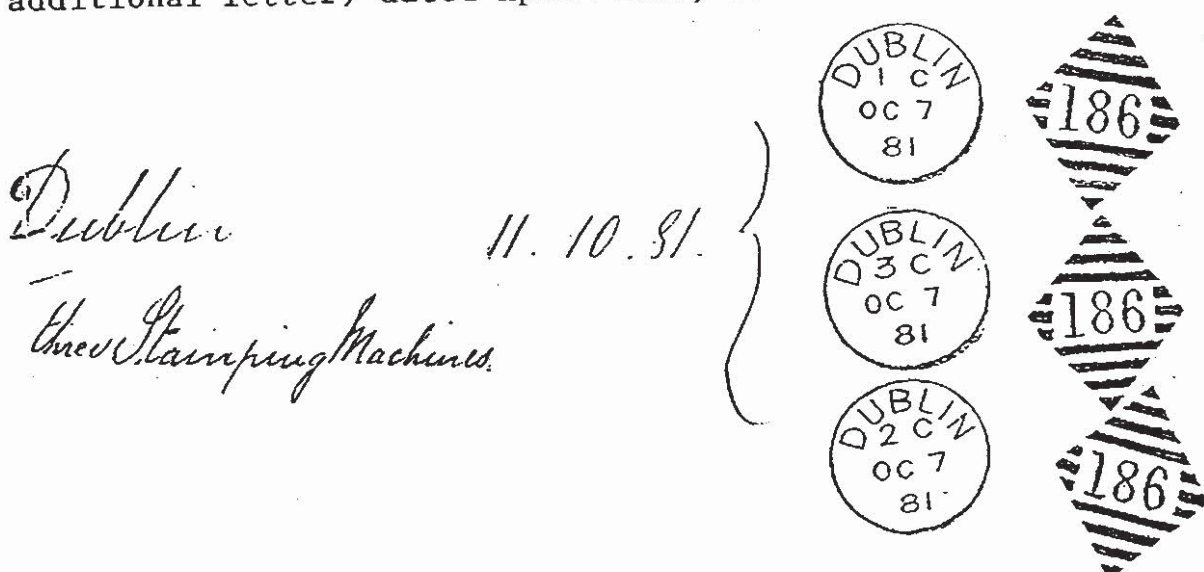


fig 4, the three 'DUBLIN' datestamps and numeral cancellations.

We have not finished yet. December 1881 reveals a similar datestamp and separate numeral sent to Limerick. The numeral does in fact have only three bars above and below the number and should be easy to spot. Sadly I do not have one in my collection. Alongside once again is the legend 'For Stamping Machine'. (fig 5)

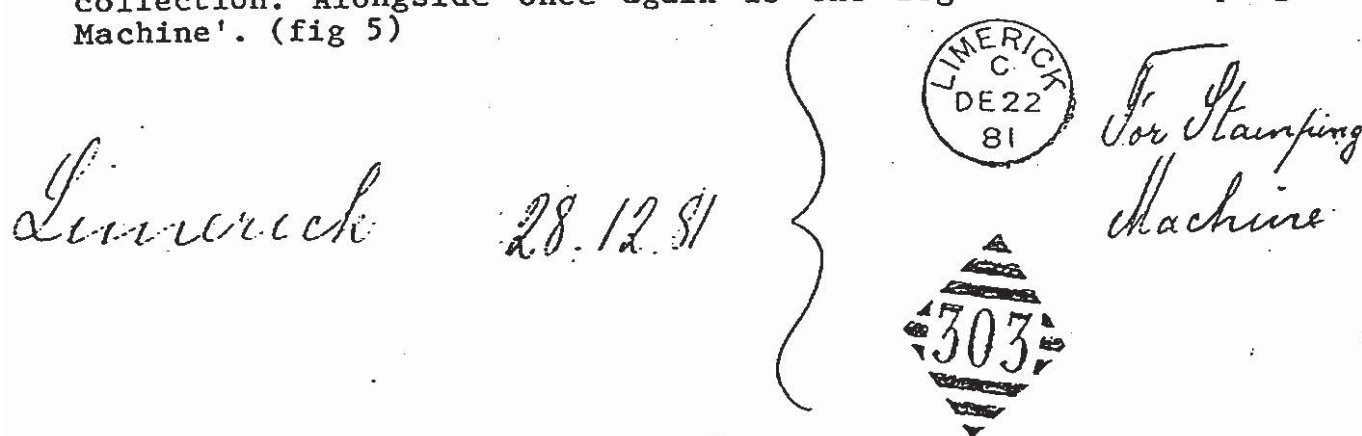


fig 5, the 'LIMERICK' datestamp and numeral cancellation.

I do believe that these numeral cancellations may have been cut in London as they were for some form of experimental machine that was in use elsewhere in England and Wales, and this machine required a special type of die or fitting. Hence the Irish postmarks were produced in England. It could not have been successful, or alternatively Dublin soon found out how to make their own as so far as my search revealed seemingly that no further impressions of Irish datestamps appear in the impression books of the Victorian period. Who can fill in the obvious gaps in my story?

But where does that leave Townley Hall?

(illustrations from the 'PROOF IMPRESSION BOOKS', courtesy of the British Post Office Archives, Freeling House)

THE HANDSTAMPS OF THE CORK TOWN SUB-OFFICES C.T.Hinneburg-Murphy

One of the more fascinating aspects of Irish Philately is the great range of town and village handstamps. Since first coming into use on the island there has been and still is a plethora of examples, so much so that the collecting enthusiast will invariably have to confine his interests. The wealth of material is scarcely found elsewhere. The peculiarity of Ireland is such that even contemporary handstamps will provide a most rewarding survey for the researcher.

The variety in use at the present is quite immense - with apparant disregard for uniformity! One of course can anticipate 'AN POST' eventually ensuring conformity in the near future - with a single basic type supplanting all those individual handstamps still in daily use. For the present, though, the philatelist can enjoy a wide range of types.

The 34 town sub offices in Cork offer rather a diverse number of handstamps. The 39 in use, five offices have two distinct types - Douglas, Grand Parade, Capwell, Bandon Road and North Main Street, fall into some eight broad groups. The majority are single ringed and of a 31 or 30mm diameter. Still there is the exception!

The SUNDAY'S WELL office boasts of perhaps the most distinctive handstamp of the Cork postal establishments. It is a double ring cancel with the outer diameter being but 29mm. There is no mention of 'CORCAIGH / CORK' and the more archaic Irish spelling is used where a dot is used over a letter, where the intricacies of the language demands same, instead of the now used 'H'. So TOBAR RI an DOMNAIGH is spelt TOBAR RIOG AN DOMNAIGH'. The BALLINTEMPLE office, using a much smaller single ring handstamp - diameter of 26mm, also incorporates this nuance of the Irish language. Thus CORCAIGH, at the base, is interpreted as 'CORCAIG'.



As already mentioned the bulk of the handstamps are either 30 or 31 mm in diameter, being of course single ring. There are many small handstamp, those without an asterisk over the

date slug, variations in letter height and finally those where the positioning of the city name varies - from the base to being included after the name of the post office itself.



FARRANREE h/s



KNOCKNAHEENY h/s

Rather surprising perhaps is the number of offices which do not include the city name, many being rather recently created. Neither Farranree nor Knocknaheeny for example include the

Neither Farranree nor Knocknaheeny for example include the legend 'CORCAIGH' in their handstamps. Does this reflect an independent streak or just an oversight?

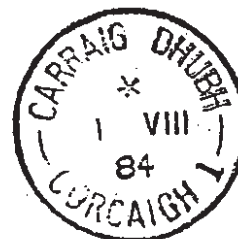
Several offices reflect the now long awaited scheme to introduce postal codes in the city. BLACKROCK, MacCURTAIN STREET, SHANDON STREET and WASHINGTON STREET all have handstamps which include the proposed numbering system; all therefore bear the 'CORCAIGH 1' legend. As regards the WASHINGTON STREET example there is a variation in that the '1' is immediately after the name of the office and not after 'CORCAIGH'. The postal code system for Cork remains to be implemented despite the foresight of these four offices.



WASHINGTON STREET



TOGHER



BLACKROCK

Even if TOGHER office and TOGHER itself is now long since part of the city, well within the corporation boundaries, no one has seen the need to replace what must surely be an anachronism. The handstamp in use at the office reads 'AN TOCHAR / CO CHORCAIGHE' - County Cork! Yet another example of the native spirit reflected in the handstamps still in use.

Thus within a small microcosm of the handstamp world - 34 offices with a total of 39 handstamps in use - there is scope and interest for research. The variety shows a distain for change. One no doubt will reflect on the many types in use as it can be safely assumed that the continued reorganization of AN POST will eventually eliminate these vagaries.

Summary of Handstamp types; -

1. double ring; 29 mm in diameter with letter height of 4 mm.
SUNDAY'S WELL remarks; no mention of Cork; old form of Irish used, i.e. dot over letter rather than an 'h'.
2. single ring; 29 mm in diameter with letter height of 3 mm.
ALBERT ROAD remarks; no mention of Cork.
- 3a. single ring; 30 mm in diameter with letter height of 3 mm;
thick bar at base of handstamp.
DENNEHY'S CROSS remarks; no mention of Cork.
- 3b. single ring; 31 mm in diameter with letter height of 3 mm;
thin bar at base of handstamp.
DOUGLAS remarks; no mention of Cork.

FARRANREE
KNOCKNAHEENY

4a. as above, but thin line at base.
BARRACKTON remarks; all with '*' above the
BANDON ROAD date.
BLACKPOOL
POULADUFF
SOUTH DOUGLAS ROAD

4b. as above, 4a.
BISHOPSTOWN remarks; no '*' above date.
NORTH MAIN STREET

4c. as above but diamtere of 30 mm.
DOUGLAS



HIGH STREET

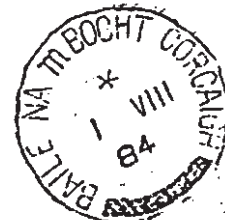


MONTENOTTE PARK



WASHINGTON STREET

4d. as above, 4b but thick line at base.
BALLYPHEHANE
GURRANE BRAHER
HIGH STREET
MONTENOTTE PARK
SHANDON STREET
WASHINGTON STREET



MAYFIELD

4e. as above, 4b, but diameter of 28 mm
MAYFIELD

4f. as above, 4b, but no line at base.
BLARNEY STREET

5a. single ring; diameter of 26 mm with letter height of 3 mm.
BALLINTEMPLE remarks; 'Corcaigh' at base. Old
use of Irish - dot over letter
instead of 'h'.

5b. as above, 5a.
CAPWELL remarks; no '*'.



BLARNEY STREET



CAPWELL

6a. single ring; diameter of 30 mm with letter height of 3 mm.
 BANDON ROAD
 BLACKROCK
 ST LUKE'S
 WESTERN ROAD
 remarks; '*' above date.



BLACKROCK



ST LUKE'S

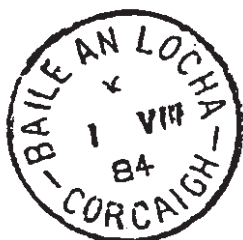


GRAND PARADE

6b. as above, 6a.
 GRAND PARADE
 remarks; no '*'.

6c. as above, 6a but letter height being 4 mm.
 COLLEGE ROAD
 NORTH MAIN STREET

6d. single ring; diameter of 31 mm with letter height of 3 mm.
 BALLINLOUGH
 FAIRHILL
 FRIAR'S ROAD
 GRAND PARADE



BALLINLOUGH



FRIAR'S ROAD



CAPWELL

7a. single ring; diameter of 31 mm with letter height of 3 mm;
 'CORCAIGH 1' at base.
 CAPWELL

7b. as above, 7a.
 BLACKROCK
 remarks; thin bars on either side of 'CORCAIGH'.

7c. as above, 7a.
 McCURTAN STREET
 SHANDON STREET
 remarks; thin bars on either side of 'CORCAIGH'.

7d. as above, 7c.
 WASHINGTON STREET
 remarks; the '1' and 'CORCAIGH' further apart.

8. single ring; 31 mm in diameter with letter height of 3 mm.
 TOGHER
 remarks; the handstamp reads 'CO CHORCAIGH' (County Cork).

FORGED ALBINO OVERPRINTS
P.H. Williams

Ten or more years ago I alerted members through the pages of the Journal to the dangers of forged albino overprints on GB stamps overprinted for use in Ireland. In my view not only is it unwise to pay anything more than a nominal amount (pence rather than punts) for back street shenanigans but, more importantly, such items debase the hobby and demean those who offer them for sale as anything other than bogus items. One of the earliest forgeries, if not the first, to be offered for sale was in an auction in the North of England. It was a 2/6d Dollard.

Subsequent a veritable rash of bogus albino overprints on genuine Rialtas (Dollard and Thomond) and Saorstat overprinted stamps appeared on the market. They were all highly priced. Subsequently I do not recall ever seeing a Thomond Rialtas high value stamp having been defaced with a bogus albino. No doubt the perpetrators shied away from doing so because of the financial consequences if the item failed to sell. It is noticeable that only seriously defective copies of the 5/- and 10/- stamps have been mistreated in this way.

Students of the stamps of other territories some of which are found with double overprints (e.g. Falkland Islands War Tax, Nauru and Morocco Agencies) know that such items were discovered soon after issue, recorded, studied and have a proper philatelic importance. They are sometimes difficult to recognize, and easily forged; hence neither the Royal P.S. nor the B.P.A. will issue certificates of genuineness for any albino. One test is that the uninked impression must be as deep as the inked one. Seldom is that the case with forgeries and seldom with the appreciable number of Irish forgeries I have examined. The sceptical might ask themselves why no 'albinos' were ever recorded on any Irish stamp during the period 1922 to about 1975? Could all these items have remained unrecognized for so long?

One more, after a decent interval during which I had hoped they had died a natural death, I notice they have reappeared. (It is only fair to add that a high proportion of these bogus stamps were withdrawn, not very long after they first appeared, from the stocks of dealers who had been offering them, after representations were made). A certain number must be held by collectors, and some dealers and auctioneers would be unaware of the status of these stamps should they be offered them by the present owners.

Lot 842 in Stanley Gibbons auctions on April 19/20 1990 was a 4d Dollard (SG 6) with an albino impression. I am most reliably informed that this stamp was detached from a block of four which had a Brandon certificate. The albino impression was weak and uneven and nearly co-incidental with the inked impression. Lot 855 in the same auction was a 2/6d Saorstat wide date setting with a diagonal albino impression. In this case I am told it looked heavier and more like the genuine. This is reason to surmise that the forgery was done with a piece of

genuine type. However the stamp had a heavy thin and several hinge remainders. Perhaps it is more likely that defective copies would be used for 'experiments' of this nature. It was not sold.

It is my opinion from examination of a number of these bogus overprints that the Dollard are lightly, sometimes almost invisible, impressed. I believe that were not done with a cliché from the genuine stereos; if I am wrong it was without the benefit of a press which would exert the same pressure as was used by Dollard. The Saorstat forgeries are much more dangerous; I believe these were done with a piece of genuine type and with the help of a printer who had access to a suitable press.

My advice is: don't buy any alleged albino overprinted Irish stamps. If you can't resist them, pay only pence.

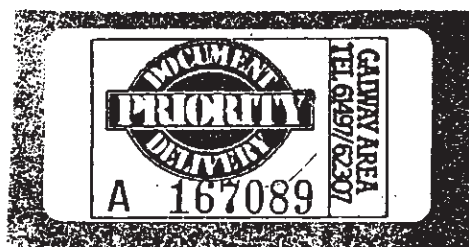


GALWAY DELIVERY SERVICE label;
booklet page, June 1988, rouletted between labels.

ALWAY LOCAL POSTS
M. Hartnett

During a period from late 1981 to mid 1983, a total of about 56 local or Courier mail delivery services operated in Ireland. Of these, four were located in Galway, and two of these - Priority Document Delivery and Galway Delivery Service - used labels for prepayment. Both of these companies commenced operation in October 1982; Priority ceased deliveries in February 1983, whilst G.D.S. still exists. Priority did not use a post mark on their labels, but for a period of about two months after they started, they date stamped each letter on receipt, usually on reverse. A horizontal label was used, printed by Irish Self-Adhesive Labels of Monkstown, County Dublin. Each label has a serial number, pre-fixed with the letter 'A', pink in colour and measures 51 mm X 25 mm.

15p was the charge for each delivery and a percentage discount for bulk was offered.



the PRIORITY DOCUMENT DELIVERY label (left) and the GALWAY DELIVERY SERVICE label with 'cancellation'. (right)

Galway Delivery Service used a vertical format label, 27 mm X 39 mm, and unlike Priority's self adhesive label, they used gum arabic. After 1983, they stopped the practice of fixing the label to the envelope, and used labels without any form of adhesive.

The practice was that the user would bulk buy the labels in booklet form. When the mail was collected, a number of labels, corresponding to the number of envelopes collected, would be taken from the user's booklet. The labels were destroyed on the collectors return to his office.

These labels were printed locally by Emerald Printers Ltd. They have appeared in different shades of red and yellow. An experimental post-mark was used during the early part of 1983, consisting of a double ring circle, 28 mm outer and 23 mm inner in diameter, with the letters GDS in the centre. This device appeared time consuming and unnecessary and was dropped after some four weeks.

The initial charge made by GDS was 12p a letter but by late 1987 this had risen to 19p. Delivery was often same day and was in any way guaranteed by the day following collection.

The labels were printed in sheets of 240, 12 X 20 format and subsequently guillotined to 5 X 3 label size for insertion into booklets.

MODERN SKELETONS

J.T. Howley

These are not to be found in a closet. They are used to cancel Irish mail. 'Skeletons' are temporary datestamps, i.e. postmarks.

They are often employed when the regular handstamps are broken, worn, lost or stolen; or sometimes when an office is awaiting a new handstamp. They comprise a skeleton case with slots round the circumference into which loose type may be inserted to make up the required inscription, and with slots across the body of the case into which other type may be inserted to form the date and sometimes the time of day. 'Modern Skeletons' are known from about 1940 onwards, and are readily identifiable, in that the case is 30 mm. in diameter, the lettering is small and squarish, and the month in the date is always composed of two small letters, e.g. JA, FE, etc. (Exceptions are those shown in Figs. D or G, and KILD 14.)

There are, however, many variations in the arrangement of the wording and the dates. This article is an attempt to codify these arrangements and to list the offices where they were used, as well as the dates of use. It makes no claim to completeness. In fact, the author would welcome any new information that will further the study of modern skeletons.

I must state at the outset that I have relied to a great extent on the information provided in Part VI of James A. MacKay's "Irish Postmarks Since 1840", and have used, with his kind permission, much data therefrom. And I have also had considerable assistance from Edwin Davey. To both these gentlemen I offer my sincerest thanks.

To aid in identifying the arrangements of these skeletons, I have prepared a set of illustrations:

Fig. A is the commonest. It is illustration 615 in MacKay's book, and comprises the town name at the top and the date across the centre.



fig. A
(variations of figs. A, B, C and F are illustrated through the listing)

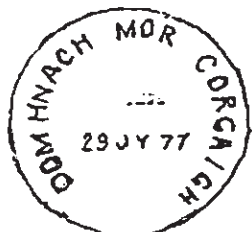


fig. B

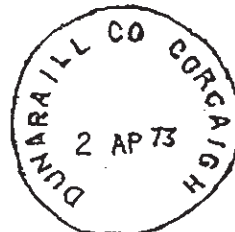


fig. C

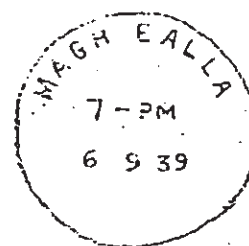


fig. D

Fig. B (MacKay 617) has town name, and post town, at the top.

Fig. C (MacKay 619) has town name. and county, at the top.

Fig. D includes time above the date, across the centre

Fig. E is the second commonest (MacKay 616), and has an asterisk (*) above the date.

Fig. F (MacKay 627), has the name at the top, date across the centre, and county at the bottom.

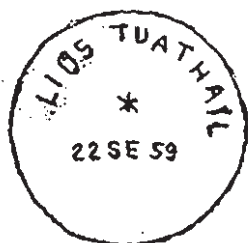


fig. E

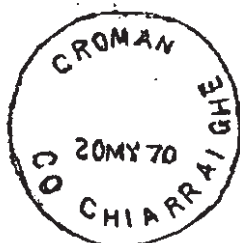


fig. F



fig. G

Fig. G has the name at the top, date across the centre, and post town at the bottom.

Where the date is not in one line, my list shows a slash (/) and an asterisk has been added against the items actually illustrated.

As MacKay says, skeleton inscriptions are notorious for their distressing tendency to get letters transposed, inverted, or omitted, since all the letters and numbers have to be hand-inserted in the slots. MacKay gleefully describes the vagaries of Tubbercurry (Sligo 70), and illustrates them in his illustrations 629 through 634; also of Clara (OFF 16), shown in his illustrations 635 through 643. A number of lesser absurdities are mentioned in the following lists.

Note that DON 39, KILD 14, MEATH 51 and the skeleton used in 1944 in SLIGO 70 have aspirated consonants.

	OFFICE	FIGURE	DATES
CAR 28	MUINE BHEAG (Bagenalstown)	E	16 JA 57
CAR 28A	MUINE MHEA (Monivea)	B	23 Jul 82
CAV 16	BEAL ATHA NEACH (Ballinagh)	A	26 MY 77 21 DEC 77
CAV 25	CILL CHATHLAIGH (Bailieborough)	A	20 NOV 52 15 DE 52
CAV 29	CILL NA SEANRATHA (Killeshandra)	C (var. 1)	30 JY 70 21 DE 70
CLARE 82	SCAIRBH (Scarriff)	C (var. 2)*	1 JU 62

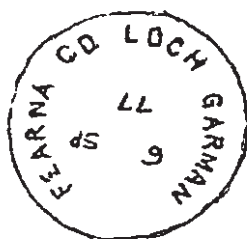
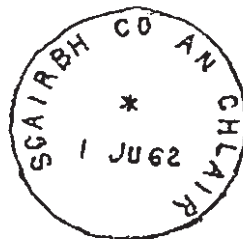


fig. C

variety 1



variety 2



variety 3

CORK 1	ACHADH AN CHOISTE (Coachford)	A	28 JU 66
CORK 17	BAILE AN CHOLLAIGH (Ballincolig)	A	6 NO 79
CORK 58	BEAL ATHA AN SPIDEIL (Ballinspittle)	E	24 AU 62
CORK 59	BEAL ATHA DA CHAB (Ballydehob)	A	16 FE 72
CORK 67	BEIRINN (Berrings)	C (var. 3)*	24 OC 86
	BIORAINN	C	24 FE 84?
CORK 68	BLARNA (Blarney)	A (var. 1)*	24 SP 69
CORK 98	CEANN SAILE (Kinsale)	C (skewed)	10 MY 74
	CEANN tSAILE	A (var. 3)	28 MY 74
			31 JY 74
			13 AU 75



fig. A variety 1



variety 2



variety 3

CORK 118	CILL NA MULLACH (Buttevant)	A	15 MY 72
		A (var. 2)*	20/FE 23
			72/FE 8
CORK 157	DOMHNACH MOR (DONOUGHMORE)	B*	29 JY 77
			10 JU 78
			28 JY 76
		B (var. 1)*	6/JY 78
		C (var)	17/MY 74
		A	27 FE 74
CORK 164	DROM ATHAIN (Drommahane)		
CORK 169	DUBHGHLAS (Douglas)	G	10 JU 69
			28 NO 68
CORK 171	DUNARAILL (Doneraile)	C*	2 AP 73
			10 MY 73
CORK 180	FAOLAN (Waterfall)	C (date sideways)	7 MR 74
CORK 206	INIS UI EIDIRSCEOIL (Hare Island)	A (var. 3)*	MR/15 77 -
			'77' in manuscript.
CORK 221	MAGHCHROMTHA (Macroom)	E	18 MR 66
			16 JY 66
CORK 225	MAINISTIR NA CORAN (Midleton)	A	19 DE 74
		E	31 OC 61
			10 DE 61
CORK 226	MAGH EALLA (Mallow)	D*	5 AP 39
			14 AU 39
		D (var)	6 9 39
			9 9 39 -

inv. 'G'.

CORK 241	RATH LUIRC (Charleville)	E	12 FE 62 1 MY 62
CORK 254	SEAN BHAILE (Shanbally)	F	17 NO 69
DON 2	ANAGAIRE (Annagry)	B	11 JY 70
DON 33	BUN DOBHRAIN (Bundoran)	E	8 AU 63 26 OC 65
DON 39	CARN DOMNAC (Carndonagh)	A (D?)	5 DE 40
DON 65	CRAOSLOCH (Creelough)	F	12 NO 69 3 3 79
DON 81	DUN FEANNACHAIDH (Dunfanaghy)	A (var. 2)	72/12 MY
DON 83	DUN NA NGALL (Donegal)	A	12 MY 77
DON 130	PNAIBLA THCHE (sic) (Portnablagh)	E	31 JY 59
DON 135	RATH BHOTH (Raphoe)	C	26 JU 73 9 NO 73
DON 151	TOACHR (sic) (Tory Island)	B	1953 - unreadable
DUB 9A	ARDAN ATHA NA mBO (Annamore Terrace)	B (var. 2)*	18 JA 81
DUB 15A	ASCAL GHLASNAION (Glasnevin Ave.)	A (var. 1)	28 JA 81
	Note Spelling; 'ASCAILL GHLASNAOIM'	A (var. 4)*	28 MY 82
	Note; Reversed 'C', inverted 'G', '82' and '28'	A (var.)	29 NO 79
DUB 22	BAILE ATHA CLIATH (Dublin)		

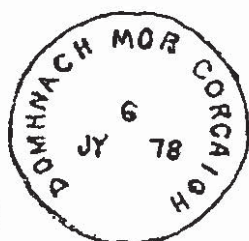


fig. B

variety 1



variety 2



variety 3

DUB 31	BAILE LUINDIN (Blanchardstown)	E	11 JY 57
DUB 39	BAILE BHLAINSEIR NA HUAILCIN (Walkinstown)	B (var. 3)* B	5 JY 80 10 AP 76
DUB 46	BOTHAR ATHA NA mBO (Annamore Road)	B (star above date)	29 NO 57
DUB 77	CARRAIG DHUBH (Blackrock)	G (star above date)	16 AP 63
DUB 85	CILL FIONNTAIN (Sutton)	A	1960s - unreadable
DUB 98	CROMGHLINN (Crumlin)	B	19 JN 85
DUB 111	DUMHACH TRAGHA (Sandymount)	G	10 OC 79

DUB 150	RATH NA LACH (Ranelagh)	B	29 OC 75
DUB 155	RATH MAONAIIS (Rathmines)	A	16 SP 82
DUB 160	ROS EO (Rush)	A	13 DE 66
DUB 163	SEANBHAILE S.O. (Oldtown)	F	17 MY 77
DUB 169	SORD CHOLUIM CHILLE (Swords)	A	2 SP 81
DUB 170A	SRAID AMIENS (Amien St.)	G	9 9 82 8 9 83
DUB 174	SRAID AN MHAINAIR (Manor St.)	G	4 AP 73
DUB 224	TIGH MOLOG (Templeogue)	A	30 OC 56
GAL 8	ATH CINN (Headford)	C	18 ON 81 12 JA 82 19 11 83
GAL 14	BAILE ATHA AN RIOGH (Athenry)	A	5 DE 69
GAL 38	BOTHAR AN TRA (Salthill)	A (var. 2)	8/1 DE
GAL 44	CARNA (Carna)	B	9 OC 69 16 FE 70
GAL 50	AN CHEATHRU RUA (Carraroe)	B A (var. 3)	4 JY 80 AU/12 83
GAL 67	CLADACH DUBH (Claddaghduff)	A (var.)	AU/15 8 78
GAL 70	CLOCH BHREAC (Cloghbrack)	E	29 OC 62 - 'OS' for 'OC'.
GAL 77	CNOC BREAC (New Inn)	F	29 JA/73
GAL 97	GAILLIMH (Galway)	D D	20 JY 38 22 AU 38 15 SP 38 -
GAL 100	GLEANN NA MADADH (Glenamaddy)	A	1962 - date unreadable with dropped 'M'.
KER 23	CAISLEAN NA MAINGE (Castlemaine)	A (var. 2)	73?/13 NO
KER 39	CILL ORGLAN (Killorglin)	F (no 'Co')	22 SE 71 11 DE 71
KER 45	CROMAN (Cromane)	F*	20 MY 70
KER 73	LIOS NA gCEANN (Headford)	G*	25 10 71
KER 75	LIOS TUATHAIL (Listowel)	D E*	23 AP 40 22 SE 59
KER 85	RATH MHOR (Rathmore)	F	5 OC 38
KER 97	TRAIGH LI (Tralee)	A	29 AP 70
	TRALI	A	11 SP 71

KILD 14	CEATRACH (Carragh)	A (var. 1)	16 III 59
KILD 17	CILL CHOICE (Kilcock)	A	16 FE 76 - day in manuscript 30 AU 76 23 NO 77
KILD 32	CURRACH CILL DARA (Curragh Camp)	A	1 NO 67 19 DE 67
KILD 42	MAGH NUADHAD (Maynooth)	A	13 JU 84 16 OC 84
KILD 45	NAS NA RIOGH (Naas)	D	27 JY 40
KILD 46	RATH IOMDHAIN (Rathangan)	E	10 JA 61
KILK 1	ACHADH UR (Freshford)	B (star above date)	6 JY 63 14 SP 63
KILK 9	BAILE HAOL (Ballyhale)	B	29 JU 76
KILK 12	BAILE MHIC ANNDAIN (Thomastown)	A	15 DE 67
KILK 21	CALAINN (Callan)	A	8 73 DE 21 DE 73
KILK 23	CILL CHOINNIGH (Kilkenny)	A	21 DE 59
KILK 40	GABHRAN (Gowran)	A	2 JY 77 17 NO 79
LEIT 12	CARA DROMA RUISG (Carrick-on-Shannon)	A	10 DE 49
LEIX 9	BAILE MHIC MHAOILMHUIRE (Ballickmoyler)	A	? SE 79 6 AP 78 -
LEIX 26	CUIL AN tSUDAIRE (Port Arlington)	D	date inverted 10 AP 39
LEIX 34	MAINISTIR LAOISE (Abbeyleix)	E	22 OC 58
LEIX 38	RATH DOMHNAIGH (Rathdowney)	A	17 JU 40
LIM 3	MAINISTIR (Manister)	C (star below date)	15 5 60
LIM 6	ATH DARA (Adare)	A	7 SP 72 7 NO 72
LIM 13	BAILE AN LONDRAIGH (Ballylanders)	A	19 DE 73
LIM 34	CAISLEAN NUA (Newcastle West)	C (skewed)	NO/69 18
LIM 50	CA SLEAINUA (sic) CILL MOCHEALLOG (Kilmallock)	C D	8 6/69 29 JU 38 27 JY 38
LIM 55	CNOC AINE (Knockainy)	F (var. 1)*	20 OC 86 25 NO 86
LIM 86	LIOS NA GROIGHE (Lisnagry)	A	30 AP 71
	LIOSENA GROIGH (sic)	A	4 MY 71

LIM 87	LUIMNEACH (Limerick)	A	19 AP 70 28 AP 70
LIM 88	MAINISTIR NA FEILE (Abbeyfeale)	E	3 JU 59 5 MR 60
LONG 18	COR NA DUMHCHA (Newtowncashel)	B (star above date)	31 MY 63
LONG 31	EATHUS TRUIM (no 'M') (Edgeworthstown)	A	28 OC 71 7 9 71
LOUTH 8	BAILE ATHA FHIRDIA (Ardee)	A (var.)	83/21 SP
		A (var. 1)	19 JA/84
	BAILE ATHA SHIRDIA	A (var. 5)*	22 12/83 9 JA 84



fig. A variety 4



variety 5

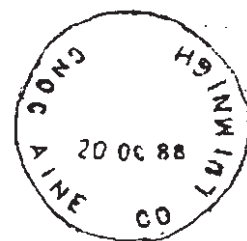


fig. F variety 1

LOUTH 29	DROICHEAD ATHA (Drogheda)	A	4 JY 44
LOUTH 33	DUBH LEARGAIDH (Ravensdale)	G (star above date)	14 JU 63
LOUTH 35	DUN DEALGAN (Dundalk)	E	27 AU 60
LOUTH 36	DUN LEIRE (Dunleer)	F (star above date)	20 OC 61
MAYO 6A	DOIRIN (Derreens)	F	21 MY 74
MAYO 15	BAILE AN RODHBA (Ballinrobe)	E	9 JU 58
MAYO 24	BALL ALUINN (Balla)	A	27 AP 72 ? MY 72
MAYO 26	BEAL AN MHUIRTHID (Belmullet)	A	4 SP 73 15 DE 73
MAYO 30	BEAL ATHA hAMHNAIS (Ballyhaunis)	A	10 MY 77 17 DE 77
	BEAL ATHA AMHNAIS	A (var.) [no 'H']	30 NO 77
MAYO 45	CAISLEAN AN BHARRAIGH (Castlebar)	A	11 SP 75 19 JA 76 3 II 76
MAYO 52	CATHAIR NA MART (Westport)	E	25 FE 57 7 SP 59
		D	1 OC 38
MAYO 70	CLAR CHLOINNE MHUIRIS (Claremorris)	A	29 MR 67
MAYO 71	CLIARA (Clare Island)	F	? 9 39 -
			'OC' for 'CO'.
MAYO 73	CLOCHAR (Clogher)	F (var.)	26 JY 56 -
		(note; 'C CHLOINNE MUIRIS' for P.T.)	

MAYO 143	SRUTHAIR (Shrule)	E	4 AP 60
MEATH 2	AN OBAIR (Nobber)	F	14 NO 70
MEATH 13	BAILE ATHA BUIDHE (Athboy)	A	22 MY 80 12 DE 80 29 NO 78
MEATH 21	BAILE MHIC GORMAIN (Gormanstown)	A ('GORWAIN) A (var. 1)	18 JU 74 3 AP/81 - ('GOR AIN')
MEATH 29	BAILE MHICOG ORMAIN (sic) CAISLEAN SIURTAIR (Castlejordan)	A A	6 MR 85 12 MR 70 13 AP 70
MEATH 51	DRUIM CONNRAC (Drumconrath) DRUIMCONRACH	F F	22 SE 66 29 OC 81 22 FE 82 - ('82' inverted)
MEATH 53	DRUIMCHONNRACH DRUIM RIOGH (Drumree)	F C	7 12 79 7 MR 62
MEATH 56	DUN BOINNE (Dunboyne) DUNB OINNE (sic)	F F	19 MY 39 5 MR 39
MEATH 74	SLAINE (Slane)	A	29 AU 77 19 DE 77
MON 4	AN BHOTH (Scotstown)	E	8 JU 60
MON 13	CAISLEAN MATHGHAMHNACH (Castleblayney)	E	3 FE 60 - (CAISLEAN MAGHTHAMHNACH)
MON 15	CARRAIG MHACHAIRE ROIS (Carrickmacross)	A	6 AP 43 27 JU 68 26 OC 68
OFF 11	CEANN EITIGH (Kinnitty)	B	4 AP 72
OFF 16	CLOIRTHEACH (see Mackay pp 635-643) (Clara)		
ROS 14	BEALACH AN DOIRIN (Balaghaderreen)	A	12 NO 45
ROS 59	MAIGHEAN (Moyne)	F	28 AP 66
SLIGO 6	BAILE AN MHOTA (Ballymote)	E	12 NO 65
SLIGO 17	BREACHMHAGH (BreaghwyO)	F	18 FE 72
SLIGO 25	CILL GHLAS (Kilglass)	C	29 MY 54
SLIGO 45	DRUIM CLIABH (Drumcliff)	G (var.)	11 JU/69
SLIGO 55	INIS EASGRACH ABHANN (Inniscrone)	A	4 5 53
SLIGO 70	HOBAR AN COIRE (sic) (Tubbercurry) TOBAR AN CHOIRE (see Mackay pp 629-634)	F	7 DE 44

TIP 1	AONACH URMHUMHAN (Nenagh)	E	11 OC 61
TIP 3	ARD FHIONAIN (Ardfinnan)	E	5 OC 65
TIP 38	CAISEAL MUMHAN (Cashel)	A	27 JY 72 21 SP 72
TIP 44	CARRAIG NA SIUIRE (Carrick-on-Suir)	E A	6 JY 61 10 I 53 17 I 53
TIP 82	DURLAS EILE (Thurles)	D	26 OC 40 20 JA 73
	DURLAS	A	18 AU 72 19 MR 73
		A*	21 JU 74 18 SP 74
TIP 109	COIMINI (The Commons)	B (star above date)	2 JU 59
TIP 128	TEAMPALL MOR (Templemore)	E	2 SP 64
TIP 131	TIOBRAID ARANN (Tipperary)	D A	16 OC 43 4 FE 72 13 MY 72
WAT 20	CILL MHIC THOMASIN (Kilmacthomas)	E	23 JY 66
WESTM 3	ATH LUAIN (Athlone)	E	2 6 66 17 JY 67
WESTM 29	CAISLEAN NA SRAIDE (Street)	A	27 JY 40
WEX 15	BAIL MIOTA (Ballymittty)	G	23 JY 53
WEX 38	CILL AINE (Killanne)	A	20 SE 65
WEX 66	FEARNA (Ferns)	C (var. 1)*	6 SP/77
WEX 73	GUAIRE (Gorey)	A	5 AP 49 16 AP 48
WEX 74	INIS COIRTHE (Enniscorthy)	A	12 FE 72 16 MR 72
WEX 78	LOCH GARMAN (Wexford)	A	30 NO 79 18 FE 70
WICK 4	ATH NA FUINSEOIGE (Ashford)	A	9 JU 78
WICK 5	ATH NA mBO (Annamore)	A	2 JY 84
WICK 22	CILL CHOMHGHAILL (Kilcoole)	A	18 ? 79
WICK 34	CROS BHAILE COIMIN (Blessington)	A	26 FE 66 3 6 66
WICK 50	MAIGHEAN (Moynce)	F (var.)	4 JY 77 -
WICK 54	RATH DROMA (Rathdrum)	A	23 FE 57
WICK 63	TIGH NA hEILLE (Tinahely)	A	8 SP 72 27 NO 72

(Both 'C's reversed in 'CO. CILL MAINTAIN)

MODERN SKELETONS IN ENGLISH

CAR 4	Hacketstown	H	14 MR 63
DUB 31	Blanchardstown	J	27 JY 71
			18 NO 71
			16 FE 71
DUB 93	Clonsilla S.O.	K	22 AU 60
			30 AU 60
DUB 259	Horse Show	K (var)	5 AU 69
		(no star; P.T. Dublin)	
	Show Yard	K (var)	6 AU 85
		(no star; P.T. Ballsbridge)	
CLARE 17	Kildysart	J	5 JU 70
			15 DE 70
KILD 36	Allenwood	H (var)	3/MR 51



fig. H



fig. J



fig. K

MAYO 6A	Derreens	As B, but in English,	23 MR 74
			4 AP 74
OFF 14	Killurin	K	23 JA 63
OFF 16	Clara S.O.	J	19 MY 66
OFF 18	Clonbullogue	As E, but in English,	29 MR 62
			9 AP 74
WICK 45	Glenealy	J	14 JA 75

A further addition to the list of skeleton handstamps is one from KNOCKNAHEENY, a town sub-office in Cork City. This office opened on April 4th, 1984. There was some confusion as to the actual opening day at the time; the office was to have opened some days earlier but this was not the case. The skeleton itself reads

'CNOC NA H AOINE
11 4 84'

and was in use for at least two months.

Deimhníú Rinneadh an phacáid phoist thíosluaite a chlárú agus a phostáil anseo inniu.
Certificate The undermentioned postal packet was registered and posted here this day.

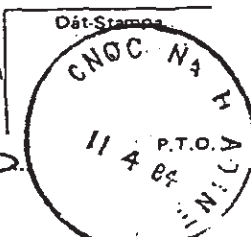
Clár Uimh. Regn. No.	Táille Fee	Postas (Beartáin Amháin) Postage (Parcels Only)
1	p	p

Ainm agus Seoladh:
Name and Address:

Miss Nicola Murphy
74 Summerhill Park
St Lutes
Cork.

Inisíleacha an Oifigigh a Ghlaic
Accepting Officer's Initials

A.M.O.D.

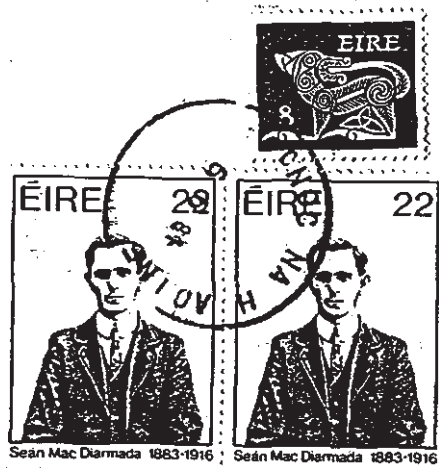


Registration certificate, bearing the skeleton. This was the first use for registered mail at this office.

The skeleton was still in use on June 6th, as the cover below shows, but a subsequent visit on August 3rd revealed that a single ring handstamp had replaced the skeleton.

Express

A. Murphy
74 Summer Hill,
St Lukes,
Coen



SPORT STAMP WITH IRISH CONNECTION



BULGARIA - the ITALIA '90 miniature sheet;
Billy Hamilton, former Northern Ireland international is the player on the right of the left hand stamp.

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