

Ohio Town List

Welcome!

By now you have read the hand out material contained in the

March 2008 Issue of Machine Cancel Forum. By this time you are familiar with machine cancels -- how we identify them, how we catalog the postmarks and the cancels, how to distinguish Universal machine cancels from other cancels, and are ready to begin searching for new Ohio towns that used Universal machine cancels and new dates of use for those towns that are already recorded as having Universal machines. It is the hope of the Editor and the Machine Cancel Society that you will join in the chase, and consider joining the Society. Annual dues are relatively inexpensive . . . \$15 per year, and this entitles you to four issues of Machine Cancel Forum every year. The range of topics discussed in Machine Cancel Forum is great, and range from the very modern to the very old. The goal is to not only meet your current machine cancel needs, but to encourage you to grow into other machine cancel collecting areas.

Value?

Up to now we have not spoken or reviewed any hand out material on

values. Because these dates of use and towns on the list are based on reported examples not post office records, value cannot be assigned based upon length of use for each listing or even number of examples reported. The number of reporters and the overall census is just not large enough to do this. Age is also not a determining factor. Sometimes it just seems easier to find the older material than the newer simply because more of it was saved. In the future it is hoped that a value system can be assigned, using factors such as population of the community that used the machine cancel and a factor of hardness in finding postal history of the age in question. For right now, most of the machine cancels in this list are priced in the market place based upon general qualities of value (postal rate, age v modern, frequency of such material being found, type of mailing – postal card, picture post card, large size envelope, cut 2x4) and often times ignore the machine cancel aspect. Some of the items found on the Ohio list were very hard to find, and were found on cut 2 x 4 paper for mere pennies. While a nicely preserved number six envelope is to be preferred, a 2 x 4 cut to size example is just as good as verifying dates of use as the larger piece.

The List -

The list is arranged alphabetically. As noted in your material

before, the Universal machines were manufactured to be either electric or hand powered. If you are confused about identifying hand powered machines, see the March 2008 Special Issue of Forum for help. In this list, they are identified as Model K. You will find pictures showing the different types of machine cancels, and occasionally even examples of other machines. Many towns switched from one make of machine to another. It is impossible to ‘flag’ every change. But you will find examples in the list to help remind you of the different manufacturers. A typical listing is featured below:

TOWN NAME	MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION LIKE IF IT IS HAND POWERED (MODEL K), IF A ZIP CODE APPEARS IN THE POSTMARK	POSTMARK		EARLIEST KNOWN USE (EKU)	LATEST KNOWN USE (EKU)
		DIAL CATALOG TYPE	CANCEL TYPE		
TERRACE PARK	MODEL K	DT	200	1957 0705	1957 1218
TERRACE PARK		DT	300 2	1963 0417	1965 0521
TERRACE PARK	45174	DTSz	300 2	1966 1121	1975 0610

This is a listing for Terrace Park, Ohio. On the very first line you will observe that a Model K is reported used in 1957, starting July 5 (0705, the month-day is given numerically) and ending December 18 (1218). Remember the Model K is a hand powered machine, and the postmark dial and cancellation are very close together. Again review the March 2008 Special Issue of Machine Cancel Forum if you can not distinguish this kind of machine.

The second and third line for Terrace Park do not list a model, and that means these cancels are from electric machines. On the third line for Terrace Park you will see “45174”. This is the zip code that appears in the postmark dial.

The postmark dial and cancel types are charted on the following page. Occasionally in the list, you will find quick reminders of these types.

Finally, to the right of the postmark dial and cancel types you will find additional single digit numbers. The starting list was prepared by Robert Payne (“Bob” to his many friends). Because these cancels were applied by metal dies, these dies frequently changed. When they changed, letters were recut or a new type of wavy cancel was installed. Even when their designs were of the same type, Bob tracked the changes of dies. He numbered his discoveries 1, 2, 3, etc. Where he predicted a change in die or a much earlier use of an older die, you will find a number 2 or 3, without a predecessor. For example, in the Terrace Park example you will find on lines 2 and 3 of the listing a “2” to the right of the cancel type, 300. In Bob’s study of Terrace Park, his report is short for the years 1958-1962. What was used during this period of time? Was it a longer use of the hand powered Model K? Or perhaps an earlier use of the electric? Or even still, could another style or type of machine have been used? The “2” is there as a flag that something preceded the 1963 electric use, and to be on the watch for it!

UNIVERSAL Postmark Dial Types Used in Ohio

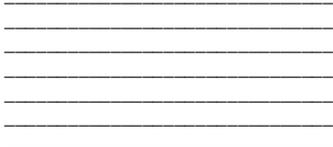
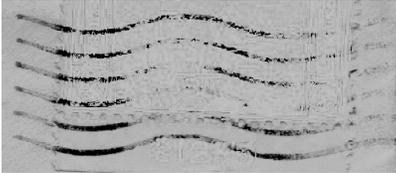
Type A 22 ½ - 23 mm in diameter	Type B 22 ½ - 23 mm in diameter	Type D 20 - 21 mm in diameter	Type R 20-21 mm in diameter
 <p>Year curved at bottom of dial</p>			 <p>With 3 digit zip at top (not bottom)</p>

There are various ways for the town name (as well as machine number and station if applicable) to be engraved on the dial. To describe how the town name (and machine number and/or station name if applicable) are engraved inside the dial, **add these letters** to the Type above:

- T = Town only at top of dial, state name at bottom
- TS = Town and State at top of dial
- SB = Town and State at top of dial; station name at bottom
- ST = Town and State at bottom of dial; station name is at the top
- B = Town and State at top of dial; branch name at bottom
- 1R = The machine number 1 appears in the dial, to the right
- 1L = The machine number 1 appears in the dial, to the left

Example: If we wished to describe a Type D dial with the machine number “6” inside at the right, with a station name at the top, and town-state at the bottom, it would be described as Type DST6L.

UNIVERSAL Cancellation Types Used in Ohio

<p>7 Straight lines Type 100</p>  <p>Used only at Kenton, Ohio. See page 63.</p>	<p>Type 400</p> <p>Where a special slogan cancel is used, it is classified as a Type 400. In this Ohio list, it is merely designed "SLOGAN".</p>
<p>6 wavy lines / 2 full waves Type 300</p> 	<p>6 wavy lines / 1 full wave Type 600</p> 
<p>7 wavy lines / 2 full waves Type 200</p> 	<p>7 wavy lines / 1 full wave Type 500</p> 

In those situations where a line is purposely engraved short, the number of the line (counting from the bottom) is added to the three-digit type. For example, on page 124 is the listing for the Toledo, Central Station. The cancel types are listed as 201 and 2012. Both are 7 wavy line cancels like Type 200. But for cancel type 201, the bottom line is engraved short at the left. For cancel type 2012, both the bottom line and the line immediately above it are engraved shorter at the left than the top five lines. See page 4 in the Ohio list for scan of an Akron Type 2012 cancellation.

HINT # 1: Some Quick Look-Alikes for a Universal Machine Cancel:

An International cancel with an International Type J dial . . . see page 53 in the Ohio Town List for a scan of an International Type J dial.

A comparison of: Columbia-Ielfield, International Model HD 2 hand powered machine, and a Universal Model K hand powered machine . . . see page 57 in the Ohio Town List.

HINT #2: Can't tell an electric Universal from a hand-powered? See page 12 in the Ohio Town List. The key is the distance from the postmark to the cancel.

