

Cover talk

The two covers here are from the collection of Florence Harrell (#966) who asks why they carry perfins that seem to have no direct connection with the cachets. The cover at top, which commemorates the Long Island Tercentenary of 1936, carries a GE perfin while the first flight cover at bottom carries an F-19 (FAC) perfin, which remains unidentified in the catalog.

Why these perfins on these covers? Our best guess is that they represent unauthorized use of stamps. We can envision someone preparing covers "at the office" and dipping into the office postage box. It could be that Fred Sanders was an official at GE and that Ivan Larson was entitled to use the FAC postage.

Such covers aren't terribly uncommon. They are interesting, however, because they point up that perfins don't always prevent unauthorized use of postage stamps.