
100 Years Later

Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue

Christian C. Rueger (#1834)

Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809. "100 years later" the first Lincoln commemorative (Scott #367) was produced by the BEP. It was issued by the U.S. Post Office Department on February 12, 1909, for Lincoln's 100th birthday. The 2-cent value satisfied the then current U.S. single ounce, first-class domestic letter rate and the red color met UPU agreements for the same service.

Today – "100 years later" – on Lincoln's 200th birthday, as promised I am updating my previous *Bulletin* article¹, with more information. This includes additional covers shown on the following pages along with 142 new patterns as part of Table 1.

My gift to Old Abe on his 200th birthday is a masterlist of #367 with 403 different perfin patterns. This was developed with the help of Brad Baker (LM#3766), John Brandt (LM#14), Steve Endicott (#2284), Mike Falls (LM#131), Bob Schwerdt (#505-L), James Sneed (LM#128), Bob Szymanski (LM#145), and Steven Stratford's web site². Thank you all very much for your help.

I am aware of about 50 covers with a perfined #367 stamp. Most of these covers are very nice Advertising Covers. All postmarks are from 1909. The earliest known use (EKU) is from St. Louis, MO dated February 26, 1909 with pattern S138, Simmons Hardware Co¹. The latest is from Chicago, IL dated October 12, 1909 with pattern I41, International Harvester Co. It seems that all of the #367 perfins were used in a 9 month period. Was it the nice, handsome commemorative in the size of a regular issue that made this stamp so popular?

The stamp also was issued on the same day in imperforate form (Scott #368). Most of these stamps were used as coil stamps by private perforators in vending and affixing machines. The best-of-the-best is Bob Szymanski's find of a vertical pair with

jumbo margins. The pattern is I17 by International Banking Co., New York, NY.

On March 18, 1909, the OFFICE OF THIRD ASS'T P. M. GEN'L, WASHINGTON, D. C., notified the Postmasters in a notice titled "Unperforated Postage Stamps", "That The Lincoln memorial stamps will no longer be available after the Department's present supply is exhausted"³. That was only about 5-weeks after the issue of the imperforate stamp.



Unperforated Postage Stamps.

OFFICE OF THIRD ASS'T P. M. GEN'L,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 18, 1909.

Postmasters are notified that the following denominations of stamps of the new designs of 1908 have been issued in sheets of 400, unperforated: 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent, 4-cent, 5-cent; also the 2-cent Lincoln memorial. See sections 28 to 29, page 29 of the July, 1908, Postal Guide, for further information concerning unperforated stamps. The Lincoln memorial stamps will no longer be available after the Department's present supply is exhausted.

A. L. LAWSHE,
Third Ass't P. M. Gen'l.

GS-179

This was also an era of experimentation in printing methods, papers and perforating of U.S. stamps. In experiments to control shrinkage, the stamp was printed on so-called "bluish

paper" (Scott #369)⁴. The stamps were mostly used in the Washington D.C. area. I am not aware that any #369 perfined stamps have been discovered to date?

I would greatly appreciate receiving information about additional patterns or postmarks that any members might have in their respective collections. Are there any Scott #368 or #369 perfins waiting to be discovered? My address: Christian C. Rueger, Rotbuchenstrasse 4, 90449 Nuernberg, Germany or email me at: ch.rueger@t-online.de and send a scan if possible.

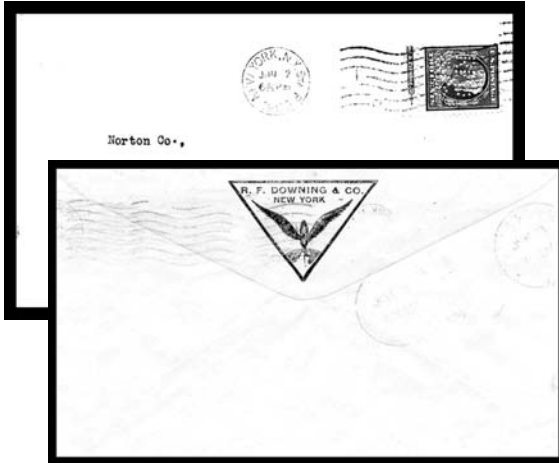
References:

1. Rueger, C., *The Perfins Bulletin*, July/August 2005, Vol. 59, No. 7, pages 108-112
2. Web site: www.US1909.com maintained by Stephen J. Stratford
3. H.R. Harmer, Inc., Auction #2961, lot: 1063, March 22, 2006
4. Landau, Eliot A., *Scott Stamp Monthly*, February 2009, Vol. 27, No. 2, pages 22-35, 92

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Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue (cont.)

Some New #367 Covers



Pattern R61 – RFD/Co – A Rate
R.F. Downing & Company
NEW YORK, N.Y. STA. P – June 2, 1909



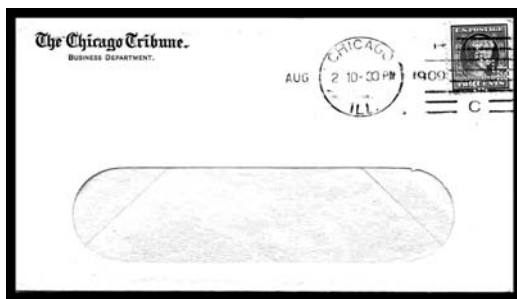
Pattern H14 – HA/Co – C rate
The Henderson-Ames Company
KALAMAZOO, MICH. – March 18, 1909



Pattern H172 – HSB/Co – C rate
Hibbard, Spencer, Barlett & Company
CHICAGO, ILL – June 3, 1909



Pattern P252 – P&F/C – C rate
The American Hardware Corporation
NEW BRITAIN, CONN – March 1, 1909



Pattern T83 – TRIB – C rate
The Chicago Tribune
CHICAGO, ILL – August 2, 1909



Pattern G166 – GS/NY – D rate
Gustav Schirmer Incorporated [Music Publisher]
NEW YORK, N.Y. STA. O – May 7, 1909

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Perfins in the Abraham Lincoln 1909 Issue (cont.)

**Table 1: Perfin patterns known in SC#367
(Updated March 2009)**

Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern	Catalog #	Pattern
A3	A	B270	B&H	D146	D/&Co	G74	GEC/Co
A40	AB/Co	B290	B&S	D155	D/18	G76	GES/Co
A42	ABD	C6	[O(<>)](C)	E7	[EAC](o)	G101	G(IN)N
A48	AB/NY	C15	CAA/&C	E50	[<E>HF]	G106	GIR/ARD
A53	AB/&Co	C31.3	C/(A)Y(C)	E55	EJG/Co	G151	G(R)AY
A75	ACI/Co	C43	CBQ	E70	ELIAS	G166	GS/NY
A76	ACL	C54	CB/&Co	E84	EMP	G179	GTH
A87.2	[AC/o]	C63	[CC]	E90	Heart[EO]	H14	HA/Co
A87.9	[AC/o]	C65	CCC	E96	EP/Co	H15	HAC/&Co
A102	[AE]L/Co.	C68	Heart(CC/C)	E96A	EPC(o)	H18	HAL
A162	AK/C	C68A	Heart(CC/C)	E103	ERIE	H29	HBC/Co
A179	AMC	C76	C(C)H	E110	ES	H42	HC/Co
A187.4	AM/ICE	C94	CC/&S	E117	E(SL)	H43	HC/Co
A187.5	AM./ICE	C96	C-D	E118	ESS	H44	HC/Co
A221-1A	AR	C102A	CDG/Co	F8	Diamand(F)	H54	H/(Co)
A236	ART	C108	C(E)	F25	FAIR	H82	H.H./C.C.
A254A	ASF	C111	CE/Co	F25.5	FAIR	H89	HI/Co
A264	AS/&B	C118	CE/NB	F37	FB/Co	H91	HILL
A265	AT	C127	[CFE]	F42.5	FB/&Co	H95	HKC
A265A	AT	C145	C-H	F92	FJM	H116	HMC
A267A	ATC	C156	CHO	F96	FL	H127	HNB
A268	(A)TC(o)	C177	CJ/NY	F109	F<McK>C(o)	H138	HO/AST
A276	AWB	C177.8A	C[JW]O	F110A	FML	H149	H[OY]T
A280	AWP	C182	CL	F114.5	FM/&Co	H172	HSB/&Co
A304	A&S	C198	CMC/Co	F127	F/NB	H182	HSP
B2	B	C207	CMT/Co	F129	FNB	H207	HWP
B12.5	Diamond(B)	C255	C(o)oK/Co	F144	FOP	H211	H&B
B15	Star(B)	C258	CP	F193	FS/J	H222	H&H
B23	BAP	C266	[CP](B)	F197	FS/NB	H228	H&NYT
B29	BA/&Co	C278	CPR	F219	F&C	I2	I
B48	BB/CC(o)	C290	CR/Co	F234	F&W/Co	I9	(A)I(C)
B49	BB/Co	C294	CRR/NJ	G10	Diamond(G)	I17	IBC (#368 pair)
B55	BBH/Co	C347	CT/Co	G15	GA	I21	IC
B82	B/Co	C355	CUA/Co.	G18	GA	I41	IHC
B88	BD/Co	C356.1	CUD/AHY	G23	GAI/Co	I51	IM/Co
B94	B[EC]K	C360	C(W)	G47	GB/&M	I76.5	[IR]
B110	BFC/Co	C366	CW/LIFE	G49	[GCB]	I87	ISC
B113	BF/Co	C382	C(Y)C	G64	GC/&T	I91.1	ISC(o)
B118	BFG/Co	C422	C(8)	G67	GDB	I116	I/WILL
B126	BFU	C424	C(10)	G72-1	G(E)	I119.5	I/WILL
B139	BIG/4	C425	C(11)	G72-2B	G(E)	I123	I&T
B151	B/L	D16	DBC/Co	G72-2C	G(E)	J8	JBE
B167	BMP/Co	D21	D(C)	G72-7	G(E)	J80	JKO
B202	BRC	D36	Diamond(DE)	G72-9	G(E)	J81	JKO
B227	BSF	D63	D(M)	G72-14	G(E)	J82	JK/&Co
B233	BTC	D76	DNE/WCo	G72-21	G(E)	J84	J Bar L
B235.5	BT/Co	D92	DR	G72-32	G(E)	J108.5	JM/Co
B241	B-V	D94	DR/Co	G72-36	G(E)	J125	JPH/Co
B258	B&B	D119	Dun	G72-48	G(E)	J127	JPS
B266	B&D	D136	DW	G73	GEB	J134	JR/S

Note: Patterns in **Bold** are additions to the checklist published in *The Perfins Bulletin*, July/August 2005 (59:108-112).

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Table 1: Perfin patterns known in SC#367 (cont.)
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J141	JSB/&Co	N36	NB/PCo	R20	RBC	S338	S/&Co
J160	JT/S	N36.5	NB/REPUBLIC	R26	RB/&E	S338.9	S./&Co
K4	K		"B"	R54	REC/ORD	S352	S&M
K5	Circle(K)		"R"	R61	RFD/&Co	S355	S&S
K7	[KA][BO]		"P"	R69	R-H	S367	S&W/Co
K47	KNK		"L"	R75	RI	T12	TB
L3	L		"I"	R86.3	RIC(O)/LD	T28	TC/&S
L8	Circle(L)	N41	NCB	R87	RIC(o)/LD	T43.5	TG&/TCo
L44	L-B/Co.	N54	NCS	R103	R/McN	T68	TM/Co
L55-1	LC/Co	N59	N&C/SCo	R106	RMM/Co	T76	TM&/NCo
L55-5	LC./Co	N67	NE/LA	R116	RP@	T80	TRA/SL
L55-6	LC./Co.	N75	NES/Co	R116.5	[RPS]	T83	TRIB
L55-8	LC./Co.	N81	NF/C	R117	RP/&Co	T87	[TRT]
L56.5	L/Co	N101	NKF	R119	R-R	T107	TTC(o)
L61	L(C)P/Co	N102	NKF.	R121A	RRD	U13	[UCL]
L76	LEW/Co	N103	NL	R151	R&B	U19	UCS/Co
L77	LEW/Co	N148	NSC	R159	R/&Co	U52	UO/Co
L118	L(M)C	N151	NS/Co	R163	R&G	U64	U(PC)
L128	LOF/TIS	N182A	NYC	R173	R&W	U75	USF&G
L135	LBarS	N190	NYE/Co	S6	S	U79	USI/Co
L146	LS/&MS	N192	NY/MAIL	S7	S	U83	USM/Co
L150	LTI/&TC	N202	NY/SUN	S18	[Arrow S]	U99.7	[UT]
L156	LV	N204	NYT	S26	SAKS	U103	UTH
L159.5	LW	N207	NY/UA	S46.3	SBB/Co	V17	VLA
L173	L&D	O12	O(B)	S64	S-C/Envelope	V31	V&A
L174	L&F	O24	OD/SS	S69	SC(C(o))	W7	W
M26	MA/NY	O32	OHIO	S76	S-C/MCo	W7.9	W
M40 or 40A	MB/Co	O40	OJG	S78	SC(o)	W7.12	W.
M46	MC	O74	OTC	S129	SG/Co	W12	Flag(W)
M73	MC/LH	O76	OTIS	S130	S-G/Co	W17	WA/Co
M90	MC/RR	O77	O.TIS	S131	SGI/Co	W57.5	W/CO
M106A	MET/LIFE	P22	PB/C	S138	SH/Co	W58	W/C(o)
M106B	MET/LIFE	P51	P/Co	S164	SK/Co	W75A	W-E/Co
M109	Circle([MF])	P56	PD/Co	S165	SKF	W80	W/EM
M123	MBarG	P56.21	PD/Co.	S167.5	SKF	W83	WESTON
M129	[MH]	P57	PDG	S170	SKF	W112	WI/&Co
M130	(M) Bar (H)	P101	PH	S195-19	SO	W113	WJD
M161	ML/IC	P112	PI/CO	S215	SP	W126	WM/CCo
M173	MM/Co	P132	PM	S219	SP(A)	W129	WO/&S
M177	MMI/Co	P138	PM C/Co	S228	S(P/L)	W142	WNU
M185	M(NB)	P143	PM/Co	S233	S(P/S)	W146.5	WO/Co
M191	MOR/LEY	P150	PNB	S253	SSC	W183	W-S/Co
M192	MOR/RIS	P183	PP/Co	S266	SSM	W195	WTC(o)
M196	MOR/R.I.S	P199	PRR/Co	S272	SSW	W195.5	WTC(o)
M204	MP/Co	P200	PRR/Co	S272.4	SSW.....	W216	W&/JS
M217	MRC	P222	PS/Co	S292	SUN	W218	W&K
M219A	MR/Co	P248	P&/Co	S314	SW/Co	Y10	Y&L
M224	MR/M	P252	P&F/C	S328	SYS/TEM	Y11	Y&T
M237	M-S	Q3	QI/Co	S330	S&B	#22	3Ws
N10	Diamond(N)	R3.7	[IR]	S333	S&B	Des.9	Calipers
N12	NAA	R6	Circle(R)	S334.5	S&C	Des.19	Diamond

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