

# Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter



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Editor



*"Go Fly A Stamp"*



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## DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF by Neal E. Danielson

This is the 77<sup>th</sup> in a series of articles relating to small post cards and small covers so if you have any in your collection that you would like to share please let us know.



This Small Stuff comes to you by way of Atchison, Kansas (Figure 1) through Atchison, Kansas and measures 3 5/8 inch by 2 3/4 inch and is franked with a 1¢ Benjamin Franklin stamp (Scott #300) and tied to the cover with a **Barr-Tyke** Machine Cancel Type D4-101a, earliest known use in Atchison Sept. 19, 1904 through Jun. 20, 1905, and postmarked Jun. 13, 1905. The Small Stuff cover contained an invitation to an event at the Carlisle home on Dirkson Terrace, Jun. 23<sup>rd</sup> (Figure 2)

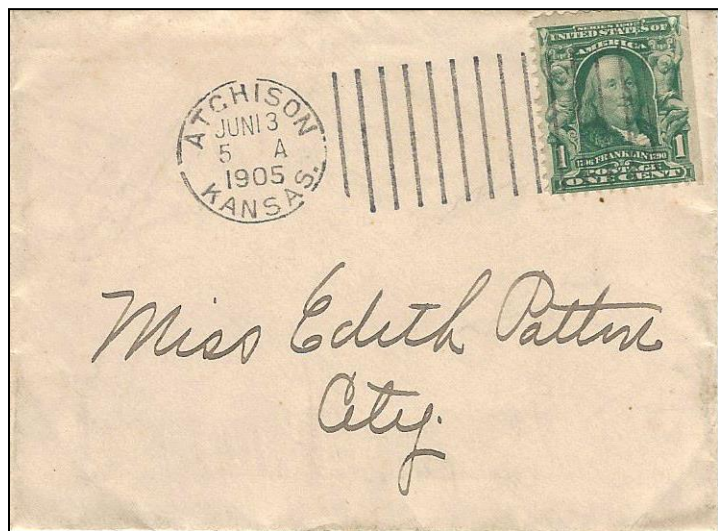


Figure 1

Small Stuff Cover Atchison, Kans 1905

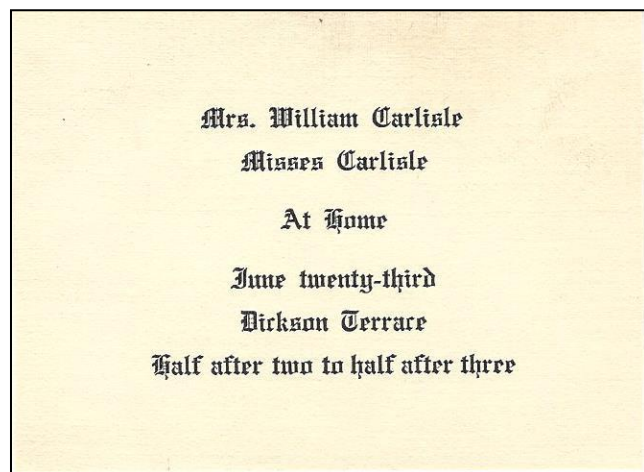


Figure 2

Small Cover Insert-Invitation

Since October is the month in which Halloween occurs it is fitting that we look at one of Kansas's popular Haunted towns, that being Atchison. The only stamp that has been issued depicting a Halloween theme is the Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Scott #1548—Figure 3) by legendary author Washington Irving (Scott #859—Figure 4).



Figure 3  
Scott #1548



Figure 4  
Scott #859 Irving

The town of Atchison even has a Trolley Tour of the Haunted Homes in the city. Atchison dates back to the time when wagons by the thousands appeared in the town daily on the way to the gold rush in California and during the Territorial years of Kansas outbreaks of unrest occurred in the town between pro-slavery and free-state settlers, even the political environment in Atchison was often at odds with the future of the Territory, the State and the City . The Missouri River runs past Atchison on the east side of town and several strange occurrences in the home along Riverview Drive, such as television and stereo mysteriously coming on in full volume but no one is at home. When guest stay they are requested to leave their suitcases at the top of the stairs leading to the attic and find their suitcases at the bottom of the stairs the next morning. On one occasion an elderly lady was sleeping in her room and heard a noise and thought it was her dog and called out to it, but a figure appeared and smoothed out a place on her bed and sat down and the lady ran from her room screaming.

A road in Atchison that leads down to the Missouri River is a steep hill called Ferry Street. It is said that a woman traveling down this steep road in a buggy lost control of her horse and eventually came unhitched from her buggy and plunged down and into the freezing waters of the Missouri River. She was trapped inside the buggy and drowned but her body was never recovered from the freezing water. It is said that when men walk along the riverbank they can hear a woman calling them to join her in the murky waters below.

Another home on Riverview Drive and R Street was sold and the new owners moved into the home which was completely furnished including numerous paintings on the wall. The new owner decided to make some changes in the homes décor and removed several paintings, wrapped them neatly and stored them in the basement of the home. However, the very next morning all the paintings were back in their original location in the home.

There are “Casper the Friendly Ghost” in some of the residents. For instance a home at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Kearny; the former owner indicates that a friendly ghost lingers in the home. He noted that unexpected and unexplained events have occurred, such as someone walking through the house and is very helpful, by helping the owner with his dinner jacket. The owner expecting his wife when he turned around to thank her, there was no one in the room. There was this occasion when the couple was out for the evening and upon returning home, the wife stated that she would love to have a cup of hot tea when they got home. Upon entering the home they herd the teakettle hissing and a cup, saucer, tea bag, and spoon were sitting on the counter waiting for her.

North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street lays claim to a home that once was home to a single school teacher, Nellie Trueblood. The story goes that she died in the home without any companion and was suffering from the loss of a loved one. Following her death the house was sold and the new owner began making some major renovations. Apparently Nellie did not appreciate what the renovation crew was attempting to change as it was reported that gleaming balls of light 18—24 inches would hover over the crew, just out of reach. If the crew approached the light it would quickly move away, frightened the work crews quickly left the renovation project and the task was never completed.





North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Home is normally referenced as “Sallie’s the Heartland Ghost Home” said to have belonged to a local doctor. The House has been featured in the popular 1990’s TV Show *Sightings* and *Unexplained Mysteries*. The story goes that a little six year old girl named Sallie grew very sick with abdominal pains during the night and her mother rushed her to the doctor’s house where he practiced on the first floor and the family resided in the upstairs. The doctor said that Sallie had a severe case of appendicitis and needed immediate surgery. The little girl became panicky upon seeing the surgical instruments and they had to hold her down to administer ether. Before the anesthesia took full effect the doctor began to perform the surgery and before she died she stared at the doctor with fear and loathing, and still remains within the house to this day. In the mid 1990’s a young couple rented the house and eventually reported that Sallie made her appearance known immediately, frequently paying pranks such as turning electrical appliances off and on; turning pictures hanging them upside down on the wall; taking the children’s toys and scattering them all about in the nursery. The husband suffered red welts on his stomach; scratches that would bleed; and finally one time the husband felt a strong shove that almost sent him over the stair railing, the couple could take it no longer and moved out.



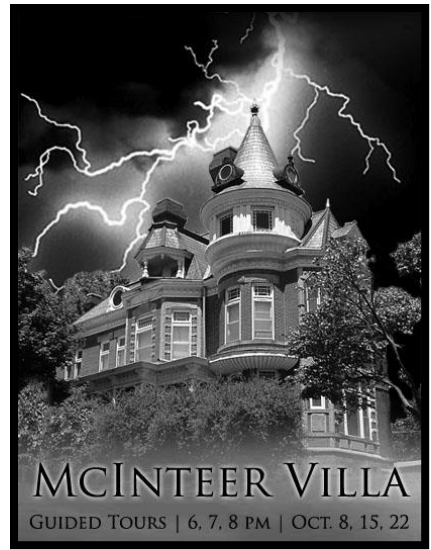
Front of house



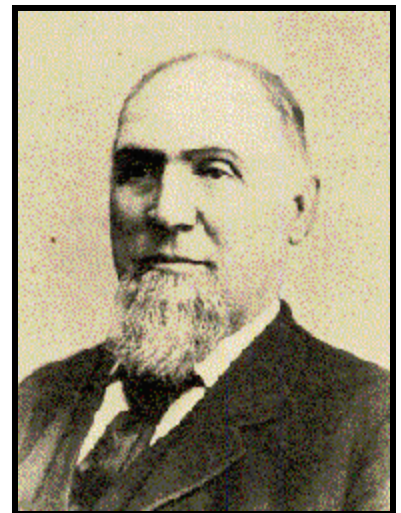
Back of house



819 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street referred to as the Waggener House and sometimes the Gargoyle Home. The home was constructed in 1884-1885 by a lawyer and politician, B. P Waggener in the local area. Generally gargoyles are erected to ward off evil spirits. However, the story goes that Mr. Waggener acquired his wealth by deals with the devil and installed the gargoyles to honor his pact with the devil. It is reported that the house has an evil curse. One of the future owners attempted to remove the gargoyles and fell to his death on the staircase. The house was featured on the Travel Channel and was reported to have been visited by some Ghost Hunters that picked up the presence of ghosts on their special equipment and they felt the presence in the house.



1301 Kansas Avenue is the location of the stately mansion called McInteer Villa and has been used on flyers for guided tours. John McInteer was an Irish immigrant in 1890. It has been reported that an odd phenomena transpired in the mansion, including lights in the tower turning off and on and the home did not have electricity. Some who have driven past the mansion have reported seeing figures moving about through the windows. Some photographs taken inside the Villa have reported figures showing up on the print.



503 North Second Street – Glick Mansion with construction beginning in 1873 by George Washington Glick who arrived in Atchison from Fremont, Ohio around the spring of 1859. He soon established a law practice with the Honorable Judge Alfred G. Otis, thus becoming the “Otis & Glick Law firm. When the Civil War broke out Glick joined the Union Army as a soldier in the 2nd Division Kansas Regiment. Following the War Glick and his wife Lizzie Ryder Glick, son Frederick H. and daughter Jennie, purchasing some property that was razed and construction began of the Glick Mansion in the old Gothic Victorian style which would last 39 years. Glick was elected in 1862 to the Kansas Legislature and would serve 14 of the next 18 years in that category. Glick purchased 600 acres of land and ventured into farming and raising stock in 1874. Glick’s wife Lizzie purchased two adjoining lots to the north of the mansion in 1879 for expansion of the mansion. It was during this period of time that Glick became the 9<sup>th</sup> Governor of Kansas becoming

the first Democratic governor of the state, but only lasted for one term. Following Glick's death in 1944 the Mansion passed on to his wife, then his daughter and a mortician named William Stanton and when he passed away it changed hand several times and now in on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. It is said that ghost also rattle around in this century old home, doors opening and closing by unseen forces and even sounds of footsteps when no one is around.

There are other homes and places in Atchison said to be haunted which you can visit if you take the opportunity to take the trolley tour. Such as Jackson Park; Benedictine College; Muchnic House; the Majestic House at 18936 262<sup>nd</sup> Road; the Theatre Atchison, 401 Santa Fe Street; and the Santa Fe Railroad Depot. The Haunted Atchison Trolley Tours operate in September and October of every year and they also have murder mystery dinners; cemetery lantern walking tours; and more. Check with the Atchison Chamber of Commerce.



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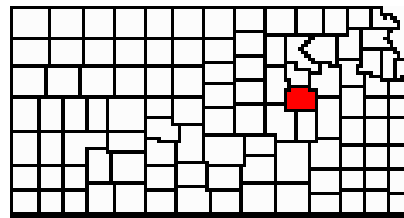


## TRAVEL KANSAS—NORTH TO SOUTH—EAST TO WEST by Neal E. Danielson



**Figure 1**

Morris Co. Railroad Map ca1899



**Figure 2**

Morris County

**Travel Kansas to one of several ghost towns in Kansas – Diamond Springs** was considered to be a trail town as it was visited by many who traveled the Santa Fe Trail. Diamond Springs is located in the beautiful Flint Hills in times forgotten part of Morris County (Figures 1 & 2) and was the first stop after leaving Council Grove the County Seat with its trading post and available supplies. When the Santa Fe Trail was surveyed in 1825 the springs were called the “Diamond of the Plains” and records show that traders passed by the springs as early as 1821 by the “Father of the Santa Fe Trail” William Becknell. The springs was known as Jones Springs during the surveying of the Santa Fe Trail in 1825, named after Ben Jones who came upon the springs that put forth a welcome abundant of excellent clear cold sweet water for weary travelers and was soon marked as “Diamond of the Plains” on a large Elm tree near the springs by the surveyors.

The springs was a favorite stopping place for emigrants on the Trail, often forming large caravans due to the southwest being vulnerable to Indian attacks by the Cheyenne, Comanche and Kiowa tribes. In 1849 the Government awarded a contract with Waldo Hall Company to transport the mail to Santa Fe, thus established a mail station at the springs composed of two large stone buildings; one served as a hotel, restaurant and saloon; the other one served as a warehouse and store. As the settlement began to expand, it soon had a blacksmith shop, large corrals that would hold numerous livestock, along with a number of other out-buildings. When pioneers left the springs they had listened to the tales of frequent Indian attacks and short water supply. The trip was referred to as the “Journey of the Dead”. The most popular tale was in reference to a group of U. S. Dragoons camped out east of the springs when a fire broke out that encircled the camp about a mile away. The winds of the south soon brought the flames close to the camp and the troops fought the flames with gunny sacks or saddle blankets and eventually put out the flames but were exhausted.

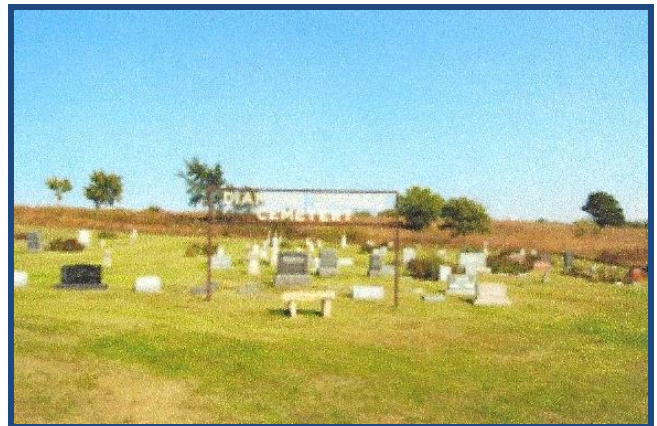


**Figure 3**  
Diamond Springs Post Card 1910

Even though there were issues surrounding travel from Diamond Springs westward the pioneers continued to arrive and the U. S. Post Office Department established a Diamond Springs Post Office on July 21, 1859 with George C. Newberry serving as its first postmaster. The Post Office closed and moved to Six Mile Creek on February 9, 1863, during the Civil War era. The stage station was attacked on May 4, 1863 and robbed by Missouri Bushwhacker Dick Yeager, with the stage station owner killed and his wife wounded. The renegades set the station on fire and it was never rebuilt. The springs continued to be a valuable water source and popular camp site even though a lot of the buildings reflected the damage done by the war. The Six Mile Creek Post Office closed on October 3, 1866. When the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad was established and depot constructed the town began to flourish again and on August 21, 1868 a Post Office returned to Diamond Springs. A Post Card (Figure 3) addressed to an individual that had lived in Diamond Springs received a postmark that is not clearly visible so this is a forward postmark dated May 29, 1910 and the card forwarded on to Oakley, Kans. The card is franked with a 1¢ Benjamin Franklin stamp (Scott #331) and tied to the cover with the original cancel of a killer footprint and circular-date-stamp and the forwarded cancel is a four-bar circular-date-stamp. The Post Office eventually closed on February 15, 1930.



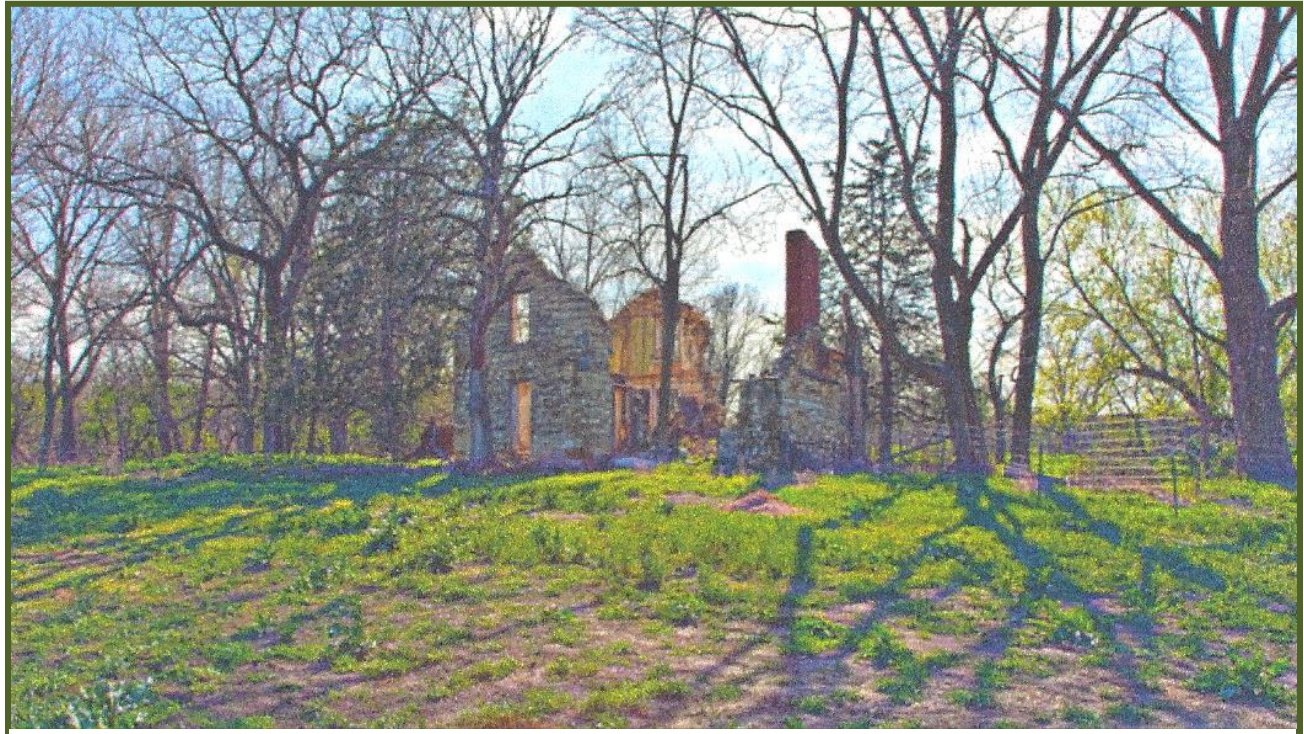
**Figure 4**  
Diamond Springs Welcome Sign



**Figure 5**  
Diamond Springs Cemetery



About all that remains of this ghost trail town is its welcoming sign at the outskirts of what was once a thriving settlement (Figure 4); the Diamond Springs Cemetery (Figure 5); and the remains of a two story stone structure that may have been the trading post, hotel, restaurant and saloon. To find this ghost town one has to obtain permission from the land owner to visit the site and still find the springs that flows into Diamond Creek, but the scenery is beautiful.



**Figure 6**

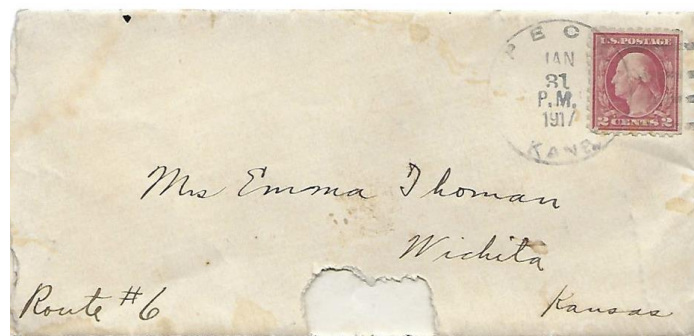
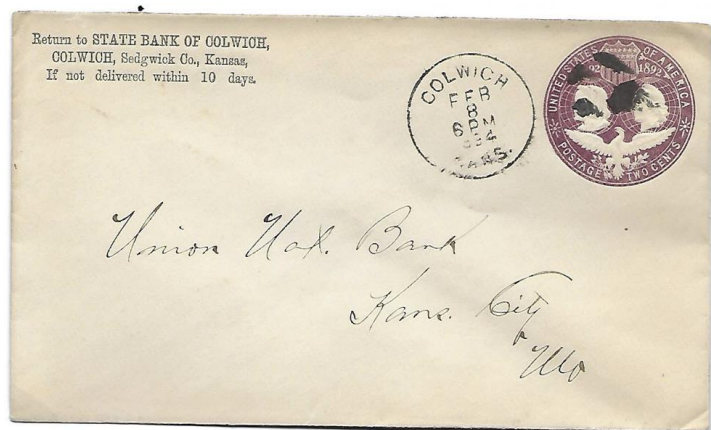
Remnants of a two story stone building of Diamond Springs

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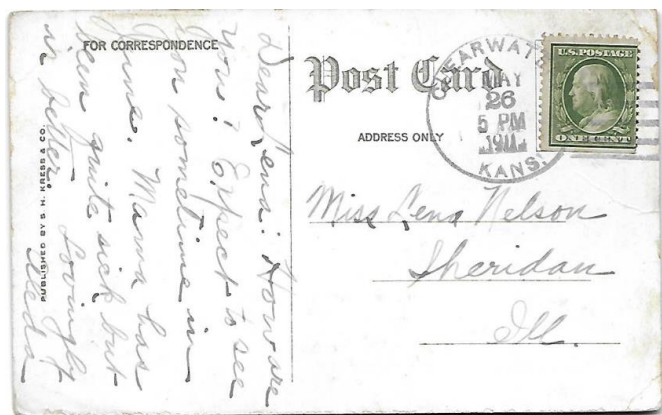
### *Sedgwick County 3 by Jeff Lough*

**Peck** was somewhat unusual because in its earliest days it was served by both the the Rock Island and Santa Fe Railroad systems. It was located 15 miles south of Wichita. Part of Peck was in Sumner County and part was in Sedgwick County. The Post Office and several businesses were in Sumner County, to the south, and most residences, the schools, elevator, two general stores, one restaurant, a drug store, pool hall, livery stables and a hardware store, were in Sedgwick County to the north. As postmasters changed they moved the post office to their place of business. Consequently the post office moved back and forth between Sumner and Sedgwick Counties until the U. S. Post Office Department decided that the Peck Post Office was to be in Sedgwick County in March, 1937. The town served the several farmers and stockmen in the surrounding fertile Ninnescah River valley. It's first postmaster was George Vawter and the post office began operation October 27, 1887.



**Colwich** began as a Missouri Pacific Railroad town linking Wichita and Hutchinson to the northwest. The name Colwich is derived from a combination of the names Wichita and Colorado. Its first postmaster was Henry Haskins and the the post office was established December 18, 1885.

**Clearwater** has historically been one of the larger of the small cities in Sedgwick County. It was one of the first to have electric lights and had four general stores. Clearwater was first known as Clear Water, whose post office was open from April 5, 1871 until February 17, 1894. Clear Water's first postmaster was George Russell. Clearwater had other common small town businesses as well including two banks, three churches and a school system in the city limits. Both the Missouri Pacific and the Santa Fe railroads passed through the town. The town was moved in 1884. Its post office opened February 17, 1894 and the first postmaster was James Kincaid.



**Maize** is both one of the most recently established municipalities in Kansas (incorporated May 17, 1915) and one of the largest. It was originally known as Hatfield and the name changed to Maize when the town and post office was moved tow miles southeast to the Wichita and Colorado Rail Road line. William A. Williams was the postmaster for Hatfield and became the first postmaster for Maize on February 1, 1886.

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## Ghost Countries by Jeff Lough

**Hyderabad** was an Indian princely state located in the south-central region of India, and was ruled, from 1724 until 1948, by a hereditary **Nizam**. The capital city was **Hyderabad**. In 1798 Hyderabad became a princely state under the **British East India Company's** suzerainty. By a **subsidiary alliance** it had ceded to the British East India company the control of its external affairs. In 1947, at the time of the **partition of India**, the British offered the various princely states in the sub-continent the option of acceding to either India or Pakistan, or continuing as an independent state. Hyderabad State was the largest princely state in India. It covered 82,698 square miles (214,190 km<sup>2</sup>) of fairly homogenous territory and comprised a population of roughly 16.34 million people (as per the 1941 census), of which a majority (81%) was **Hindu**. Hyderabad State had its own army, airline, telecommunication system, railway network, postal system, currency, and radio broadcasting service. The Nizam, **Osman Ali Khan**, decided to keep Hyderabad independent. The leaders of the new **Union of India** however, were wary of having an independent – and possibly hostile – state in the heart of their new country. Most of the other 565 princely states voluntarily acceded to the new India within a few months. In September 1948, India launched **Operation Polo**, led by **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, then **Minister of Home Affairs** and **Deputy Prime Minister of India**. The **Indian Armed Forces** invaded Hyderabad State and took control of the state. Due to the very basic nature of the printing and design, stamps of the feudatory states are often informally referred to as "Uglies", however, the stamp to the far lower left puts this thought out to a drought ridden pasture.



Hyderabad Stamp



King Francis I  
of the Two Sicilies



King John of Saxony



Bantu warriors wearing white masks

The name "**Two Sicilies**" originated from the division of the medieval Kingdom of Sicily. Until 1285, the island of Sicily and the Mezzogiorno (South Italy and Sardinia) each formed part of the Kingdom of Sicily. As a result of the War of the Sicilian Vespers (1282-1302),<sup>[8]</sup> the King of Sicily lost the island of Sicily to the Crown of Aragon in Spain, but remained ruler over the peninsular part of the realm. Although his territory became known as the Kingdom of Naples, he and his successors never gave up the title of "King of Sicily" and they officially referred to their realm as the "Kingdom of Sicily". At the same time, the Aragonese rulers of the island of Sicily called their realm the "Kingdom of Sicily" as well. Thus, formally, there were two kingdoms calling themselves "Sicily" hence, the Two Sicilies. The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies resulted from the re-unification of the Kingdom of Sicily with the Kingdom of Naples (called the Kingdom of Peninsular Sicily), by King Alfonso V of Aragon in 1442.

In 1806, French Emperor Napoleon abolished the Holy Roman Empire and established the Electorate of **Saxony** as a kingdom in exchange for military support. The Elector Frederick Augustus III accordingly became King Frederick Augustus I of Saxony. Frederick Augustus remained loyal to Napoleon during the wars that swept Europe in the following years; he was taken prisoner and his territories declared forfeit by

the allies in 1813, after the defeat of Napoleon. Prussia intended the annexation of Saxony but the opposition of Austria, France, and the United Kingdom to this plan resulted in the restoration of Frederick Augustus to his throne at the Congress of Vienna although he was forced to cede the northern part of the kingdom to Prussia. The remnant of the Kingdom of Saxony was roughly identical with the present federal state. In 1815, the southern part of Saxony, now called the "State of Saxony" joined the German Confederation.<sup>[13]</sup> (This German Confederation should not be confused with the North German Confederation mentioned below.) In the politics of the Confederation, Saxony was overshadowed by Prussia. King Anthony of Saxony came to the throne of Saxony in 1827.

In 1854 Frederick Augustus II's brother, King John of Saxony, succeeded to the throne. During the Austro-Prussian War King John

supported Austria and when defeated by Prussia, Saxony was forced to pay an indemnity and to join the North German Confederation in 1867.<sup>[15]</sup> Under the terms of the North German Confederation, Prussia took over control of the Saxon postal system, railroads, military and foreign affairs.<sup>[15]</sup> In the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, Saxon troops fought together with Prussian and other German troops against France.<sup>[15]</sup> In 1871, Saxony joined the newly formed German Empire.

The **Transkei** (meaning *the area beyond the river Kei*), was a Bantustan, an area set aside for members of a specific ethnicity and a nominal parliamentary democracy in the southeast of the Republic of South Africa. It was the first of four territories to be declared independent of South Africa by South Africa in 1963. South Africa had established the four comparatively small enclaves to attempt to mollify international opposition to Apartheid. Throughout its existence Transkei remained an internationally unrecognized, diplomatically isolated, politically unstable *de facto* one-party state. In 1994, it was reintegrated into its larger neighbor and became part of the Eastern Cape province.

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Ghostly Definitions of Philately: "Bargain"—a collector's dream not come true. "Cracked Plates"—time to see your dentist. "Roulette Perforations"—this happens to the bank roll at Las Vegas or Reno, Nev. "Se Tenant"—a punk neighbor. "A Pair"—not aces. "Compound Triple Transfer"—change buses three times to get to town. "Cover"—useful on a cold night. "Arabic Numerals"—stamp dealing in Algiers. "Double Print"—seeing cockeyed."

To the right is a "ghost stamp" more commonly referred to as an "albino" imprint or embossing



imprint or

(You have to feel it to believe it)

on Scott # U534

>

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## HARRISONVILLE, A Ghost Town of Montgomery County, Kansas

Several miles south of Independence, Kansas the village of Harrisonville began as a stagecoach stop with a store, newspaper, post office, school, a Quaker/Society of Friends church and 2 or 3 homes. It is thought that the town was named after William Henry Harrison, the ninth President. When the railroad was built through nearby Bolton, the post office moved to Bolton. Nowadays Harrisonville is simply a well preserved cemetery. To the below right is a cover with Scott #210 American Bank Note Washington issued to cover the reduced to 2 cents postage for 1/2 ounce first class mail in 1883 tied with a traditional circular location and date postmark and a circular killer. In 1885 there was a newspaper, the *Harrisonville Critic*, published by editor Joe Ray. It was said that the newspaper was short-lived because in those days there were so called “Tramp” newspaper editors that roamed the country setting up a newspaper then moving on when it became apparent that a community showed minimal potential for growing. Montgomery County is comparatively unusual for its fine care of isolated public cemeteries.



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## DENMARK COLD WAR EMERGENCY STAMP

In 1963, at the height of the Cold War, the Danish Post Office, working with civil defense authorities, created a secret "Emergency Stamp" (Nødfrimærke) that was for use in the event of a major crisis, such as a nuclear war. Approximately 200,000,000 of the stamps were crudely printed in secret and placed in sealed packages at 8 post offices around the country where their nature and purpose remained a secret. Printing plates were stored with the stamps so that more stamps could eventually be locally printed. In 1991 it was decided that these stamps were no longer needed. 150,000 of the stamps were sold to the public in 1991. When sold the stamps were accompanied by a small folder illustrating a 4-block on the cover and providing background information. Versions of the folders exist with (at least) text in Danish, German, and English.



Because the stamps were printed secretly and thus it was not possible to use all the usual printing facilities and equipment, the stamps were crudely printed by letterpress (typography). The paper has invisible gum (to reduce the possibility of sticking while in storage under poor conditions). They usually have rough perforations (this is not a defect). The centering is highly variable.

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