

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY

J. Staley started the *St. Louis City Delivery* in November of 1882, delivering circulars, letters, and small packages throughout the business district of the city. By January of 1883, his business had become so successful that he opened his second post, this *Cincinnati City Delivery*. Unfortunately, only a few weeks later, the government suppressed both City Deliveries.

Stamps were issued for both posts with identical designs, with only names and addresses changed. About 25,000 stamps were produced for each post. These stamps were printed in sheets of twenty-five, in shades of carmine, and perforated with gauge 11. Of the Cincinnati post, which operated for a shorter period, only about 5,000 of the stamps were sold for usage. After the posts were forced to close, the remainder of the stamps were sold to collectors. Most of these remainders were cancelled before sale, using a purple target handstamp consisting out of two circles.



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE
ON WHITE



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE (SHADE)
ON WHITE



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE (SHADE)
ON WHITE



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE (SHADE)
ON WHITE



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE
ON WHITE
MANUSCRIPT CANCEL



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE
ON WHITE
HORIZONTAL PAIR
MANUSCRIPT CANCEL



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE
ON WHITE
PURPLE TARGET CANCEL

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY

While the corner stamps can be identified by the imperf sides, there are a few positions that can be plated. Plate wear also appears on several of the stamps, most noticeable in the bottom row stamps, making those identifiable as well.



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 11
LARGE BREAK IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE RIGHT BORDER-LINE



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 12
CLEAR DOT IN RIGHT BORDER-LINE
ON LEVEL WITH BOTTOM ORNAMENTS



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 14
SMALL BREAK IN OVAL NEAR THE
LEFT "UPSIDE-DOWN 2" ORNAMENT



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 18
THE LETTERS "TY" OF "CITY" ARE
MALFORMED AT THE BOTTOM



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 19
THE LETTERS "IT" OF "CITY" ARE
MALFORMED AT THE TOP

While imperf stamps do exist, most imperf examples, such as the ones below, are usually corner stamps that had the two perforated sides cut off. Truly imperforated stamps are rare.



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 1
FAKE IMPERF



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 21
FAKE IMPERF
PURPLE TARGET CANCEL



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
POSITION 25
FAKE IMPERF

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY



39L1
GENUINE
1c CARMINE ON WHITE
SHEET OF TWENTY-FIVE
FAINT PURPLE TARGET CANCELS

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY



39L1
GENUINE
1¢ CARMINE ON WHITE
PARTIAL SHEET OF TWENTY-FOUR

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY

In 1951, the Society of Philatelic Americans hosted their 57th Annual Convention and Exhibition in Cincinnati, Ohio. To commemorate the occasion, a special souvenir seal was produced that featured a facsimile of the Cincinnati City Delivery stamp. These souvenirs were printed in red and blue ink on white, green, and yellow paper.

The facsimiles are copies of the original stamp. They can be identified by their darker printing, most noticeable on the right side, where the dark scroll reading "CINCINNATI" appears to continue down the side of the design.



SOUVENIR FACSIMILE
SOCIETY OF PHILATELIC AMERICANS
1¢ RED AND BLUE
ON WHITE
(39L1)



At left is a trial color proof of the facsimile design in green. The proof was acquired by the Farrell Collection along with a note reading "Compliments of Harrison Dunseth Cin. Ohio June 1951."

SOUVENIR FACSIMILE
TRIAL COLOR PROOF
1¢ GREEN ON WHITE
(39L1)

CINCINNATI CITY DELIVERY

SOUVENIR FACSIMILE
SOCIETY OF PHILATELIC AMERICANS
1¢ RED AND BLUE
ON YELLOW
(39L1)



SOUVENIR FACSIMILE
SOCIETY OF PHILATELIC AMERICANS
1¢ RED AND BLUE
ON GREEN
(39L1)