

NEW ORLEANS U.S. CITY POST

Carrier service was established at the New Orleans U.S. City Post in 1851. Postmaster M. Musson divided the city into six districts and set carrier rates, which he advertised in the paper.

The New Orleans Post Office used four different handstamps for letters delivered by carrier. The first was a "snow shovel" shaped datestamp, originally marked in green. Around the end of 1853, this stamp was changed to blue. It was replaced in late 1854 by a circular datestamp.

Two additional rate stamps were used - the first stated "CAR. 2" or "CAR. 1" in an oval frame. The other read "PAID CAR. 1." in a rectangular frame.

Each Letter Carrier is entitled to charge:
Two Cents on *delivery* of each letter mailed out of the city and by him received from the Post Office.
One Cent on *delivery* of each drop-letter taken from the Post Office, in addition to the drop-postage of one cent.
One Cent on *delivery* of each city letter found in the Boxes or received by him on the way. (Letters intended for the mail or for City Delivery are brought by the carriers to the Post Office, free of charge.)
One Cent on *delivery* of each circular, handbill, card, notice, &c.
One Half Cent on *delivery* of each newspaper or pamphlet, &c.
Carriers are not allowed to receive more than the rates mentioned above.

CLIP FROM ADVERTISEMENT
NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE,
SEPTEMBER 3, 1851



N.O.U.S. GREEN "SNOWSHOVEL" HANDSTAMP
GENUINE ON COVER
MAILED WITH RED NEW ORLEANS CDS
MARCH 29 (CIRCA 1852)

The letter above was mailed from New Orleans to Natchez, Mississippi. It was delivered to the New Orleans City Post by carrier, and from there mailed out of the city to its destination.

This cover is marked with a green snow shovel datestamp, but no carrier rate marking. This is because, as indicated in the partial advertisement above, "Letters intended for the mail or for City Delivery are brought by the carriers to the Post Office, free of charge."