## Do you collect Railway Post office postmarks (RPO or AGT) by

## \*\*STATE\*\* \*\*REGION\*\* or \*\*RAILROAD\*\*?

Mobile Post Office Society has a newly useful resource for you. We have scanned the State Directories (Mail Travel Guide) and are making them available individually or as a set in searchable PDF format.

The 1100+ page compilation was prepared through exhaustive research over many years by John Kay and Fred Macdonald. It was published serially by MPOS. It contains chronological information by original railroad name and subsequent names, showing AGT and RPO lines that operated on each. Those with postmarks reported are documented. Each State directory contains a Rand McNally map of the railroad lines in the State as well as an indexed alphabetical list of the AGT and RPO operations, steamboat and ferry portions and information on Civil War interruptions.

A sample of a small state's directory is viewable on the MPOS web site.

The full set of states plus Indian Territory will allow you to search for a railroad name over the entire country. However, you can purchase only the State directories you need. Prices for CD-ROM or Dropbox are as follows:

Single State Directory: \$ 5.00 2-4 States: \$ 8.00 5-10 States \$12.00 Complete set: \$30.00

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Add 5% to order total for shipping and handling, minimum 50¢, which is waived for payment by check or cash. Please include your email address with any order.

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Printed individual state directories can be made available at additional cost depending on the size of the directory. Contact MPOS for information on hardcopies.

## MAIL TRAVEL GUIDE UPDATED AGENT AND RPO ROUTES LISTED BY STATE AND RAILROAD WITH ROUTE NUMBERS, DIRECTIONS AND MAPS

by John L. Kay and Fred MacDonald with data compiled by Charles L. Towle



MOBILE POST OFFICE SOCIETY, INC.

Affiliate No. 64, American Philatelic Society

The Mail Travel Guide has been created to make it easier for collectors who collect only one state or region to identify the Routes that traveled through their states and which railroads operated them.

The listings will be alphabetical by state and then the original railroad that operated the earliest mail carrying operations. This is followed by railroad name changes and names of other railroads that the routes were continued on to their destination.

A short synopsis of the towns that the route operated through follows with the assigned Route Number. The heading "markings" lists the types of markings that can be expected to be found for this route, namely: RR, Station, Agent or RPO. Also noted will be Civil War Interruption, steamboat or ferry portions, Star Routes and changes to Highway Post Office Routes.

The Route Agent and RPO operations are listed in their proper order with current revised dates of operation. If the listing is preceded by an \*, it means that this postmark has not been found and therefore no tracing is in the society's files.

Each state directory will be followed by an alphabetical route listing giving the page where it can be found and a full page map of each state.

The first section contains all railroad routes, followed by sections on waterway operations (steamboat, ferry and mail boat), city street cars and Highway Post Office routes.

Each mailing section of the book will be constructed as a complete section so that there are no continuations into the next mailing section, therefore an index will be produced at the end listing the published order.

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John L. Kay at work, April 1977 Coming up the road on N.Y. & Wash. R.P.O. TR. 4

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD

Jersey City to Bound Brook, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore,

Washington and Grafton

Ferry: New York City to Jersey City

Note: under USRA orders route was changed to Bound Brook to Newark and New York City via Lehigh Valley R.R. and Pennsylvania R.R. from April, 1918 to August 26,1926

Route 206 markings: Station, RPO

\*Philadelphia, Upland, Pa. & Baltimore, Md. RPO -

Jul 1,1887 to Apr 5,1888

Philadelphia, Pa., Aiken & Baltimore, Md. RPO -

Apr 5,1888 to Jan 21,1893

note: Short Run of N.Y., Balt. & Wash. RPO after Jan 21,1893

New York, N.Y., Baltimore, Md. & Washington, D.C. RPO -

Apr 11,1891 to Oct 20,1895

Oct 4,1912 to Dec 22,1934

Dec 16,1935 to Apr 27,1958

New York, N.Y. & Grafton, W.V.RPO - Oct 20,1895 to Oct 4,1912 Dec 22,1934 to Dec 16,1935

note: Eastern Division - New York City to Washington

DELAWARE RAILROAD (PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)

Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R., Eastern Shore R.R., New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk R.R.

Philadelphia to Wilmington, Townsend, Dover, Wyoming, Seaford, Salisbury, Kings Creek and Cape Charles Branch: Kings Creek to Crisfield Steamboat: Cape Charles to Old Point Comfort and Norfolk

Route 260 markings: RR, Agent, RPO Civil War Interruption

\*Wilmington & Dover, De. Agt - Jul 10,1856 to Dec 18,1856

\*Wilmington & Seaford, De. Agt - Dec 18,1856 to Apr 18,1861

\*Wilmington, De. & Salisbury, Md. Agt - Apr 18, 1861 to Nov 15, 1865 note: service interruption -Oct 9,1861 to Nov 21,1861

\*Wilmington, De. & Jacksonville, Md. Agt - Nov 15, 1865 to Feb 13, 1868

\*Wilmington, De. & Crisfield, Md. Agt - Feb 13, 1868 to

Philadelphia, Pa. & Crisfield, Md. Agt -1869 to Aug 1,1882

Philadelphia, Pa. & Crisfield, Md. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Nov 16,1900

Philadelphia, Pa. & Cape Charles, Va. RPO - Nov 16,1900 to Aug 22,1901

Nov 21,1905 to Jan 1,1917

Aug 1,1955 to Jan 10,1958

Philadelphia, Pa. & Norfolk, Va. RPO - Aug 22, 1901 to Nov 21, 1905 Jan 1,1917 to Aug 1,1955

Philadelphia, Pa. & Delmar, De. RPO - Jan 10, 1958 to Apr 25, 1964 note: also operated as Short Run of Philadelphia & Crisfield RPO between 1891 and 1892

Philadelphia, Pa. & Dover, De. RPO - Short Run of Philadelphia & Crisfield RPO between 1892 and 1901

Philadelphia, Pa. & Wyoming, De. Agt - cancels known 1885-86, probable Short Run of Philadelphia & Crisfield RPO

DORCHESTER & DELAWARE RAILWAY (PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)
Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.
Seaford to Federalsburg, Hurlock and Cambridge
Route 264 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

Seaford, De. & Cambridge, Md. Agt - Nov 24, 1869 to Aug 1, 1882 Seaford, De. & Cambridge, Md. RPO - Aug 1, 1882 to Apr 23, 1949

JUNCTION & BREAKWATER RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)
Breakwater & Frankford R.R., Worcester R.R., Delaware, Maryland &
Virginia R.R., Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.
Harrington to Milford, Ellendale, Georgetown, Berlin and Franklin City
Branch: Georgetown to Lewes
Route 265 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

Harrington & Lewes, De. Agt - Feb 4,1870 to Aug 1,1882
Harrington & Lewes, De. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Oct 12,1903
\*Georgetown & Frankford, De. Agt - Jan 19,1875 to Dec 2,1875
\*Georgetown, De. & Stockton, Md. Agt - Dec 2,1875 to Aug 1,1876
\*Georgetown, De. & Greenbackville, Va. Agt - Aug 1,1876 to Mar 13,1880
\*Georgetown, De. & Franklin City, Va. Agt - Mar 13,1880 to Aug 1,1882
Georgetown, De. & Franklin City, Va. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Oct 12,1903
Harrington, De. & Franklin City, Va. RPO - Oct 12,1903 to Jul 9,1949
Lewes & Georgetown, De. RPO - Mar 4,1904 to Sep 7,1917

KENT COUNTY RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)
Baltimore & Delaware Bay R.R., Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.
Townsend to Massey and Centreville
Route 261 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

Townsend, De. & Centreville, Md. Agt - Oct 25,1871 to Aug 1,1882 Townsend, De. & Centreville, Md. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to May 5,1936

KENT COUNTY RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)
Baltimore & Delaware Bay R.R., Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.
Townsend to Massey and Chestertown
Route 263 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

\*Townsend,De. & Chestertown,Md.Agt - Aug 3,1872 to 1874 Clayton,De. & Chestertown,Md.Agt - 1874 to Aug 1,1882 Clayton,De. & Chestertown,Md.RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Dec 1,1902 Townsend,De. & Chestertown,Md.RPO - May 5,1936 to Apr 6,1949 MARYLAND & DELAWARE RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)

Delaware & Chesapeake R.R., Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.

Clayton to Hartly, Ridgley, Easton and Oxford

Route 262 markings: RR Agent, RPO

\*Clayton,De. & Hillsborough,Md.Agt - Aug 1,1868 to Jul 31,1870
\*Clayton,De. & Easton,Md.Agt - Jul 31,1870 to Jun 19,1873
Clayton,De. & Oxford,Md.Agt - Jun 19,1873 to Aug 1,1882
Clayton,De. & Oxford,Md.RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Sep 4,1882
Oct 16,1934 to Jul 31,1949
Clayton,De. & Easton,Md.RPO - Sep 4,1882 to Oct 16,1934

NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN & HARTFORD RAILROAD + PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD Boston to New York, New Brunswick, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore and Washington
Route 70 markings: RPO

Boston, Ma. & Washington, D.C. RPO - Apr 26,1965 to Apr 30,1971

PENNSYLVANIA & DELAWARE RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD)
Delaware City to Newark, Laudenburg, Avondale and Pomeroy
Route 171 markings: Agt

\*Pomeroy,Pa. & Delaware City,De.Agt - Apr 11,1874 to 1878

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD + PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON & BALTIMORE RAILROAD + BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD

Jersey City to Newark, New Brunswick, Trenton, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore and Washington

Ferry: New York City to Jersey City

New York City to Newark after tunnel opened 1910

Route 238 markings: RPO, special designations

Washington, D.C. & New York, N.Y. RPO - Oct 14,1864 to 1866
New York, N.Y. & Washington, D.C. RPO - 1866 to Jun 30,1977

special designations include Postal Railway(PR), Postal Railway Car(PRW Car), Fast Mail and Day/Night Line

PHILADELPHIA, WILMINGTON & BALTIMORE RAILROAD(PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD) +
BALTIMORE & WASHINGTON RAILROAD(BALTIMORE & OHIO)
New Jersey R.R. & Trans.Co., Camden & Amboy R.R., Phila. & Trenton R.R.
Jersey City to New Brunswick, Trenton, Philadelphia, Wilmington,
Baltimore and Washington

Ferry: New York City to Jersey City
Route 239 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

\*Philadelphia,Pa. & Washington,D.C.Agt - Jan 1,1838 to Nov 17,1862 note: P,W & B RR cancelled contract from Jan 1 to Mar 1,1840 \*New York,N.Y. & Washington,D.C.Agt - Nov 17,1862 to 1866 Philadelphia,Pa. & Baltimore,Md.Agt - 1861 to 1862 1866 to 1868 1871 to Aug 1,1882

Philadelphia, Pa. & Baltimore, Md. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Jan 21,1893 note: Short Run of New York & Washington RPO after Jan 21,1893 Philadelphia, Pa. & Wilmington, De. RPO - Jul 28,1896 to Nov 20,1916 note: operated as Short Run of New York & Wash RPO

QUEEN ANNE'S RAILROAD(MARYLAND & DELAWARE COAST)
Maryland, Delaware & Virginia R.R., Phila., Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.
Lewes to Ellendale, Greenwood, Denton, Queenstown and Love Point
Steamboat: Love Point to Baltimore
Route 267 markings: RPO

Ellendale, De. & Queenstown, Md.RPO - Aug 24,1897 to Apr 4,1898
\*Lewes, De. & Queenstown, Md.RPO - Apr 4,1898 to Apr 9,1902
Lewes, De. & Baltimore, Md.RPO - Apr 9,1902 to May 29,1916
Lewes, De. & Love Point, Md.RPO - May 29,1916 to Jul 16,1923
\*Greenwood, De. & Love Point, Md.RPO - Jul 16,1923 to Apr 25,1924

WILMINGTON & READING RAILROAD(READING RAILROAD)
Wilmington & Northern R.R.
Reading to Birdsboro, Suplee, Coatesville, Chadds Ford Jct and Wilmington
Route 189 markings: RR, Agent, RPO

\*Birdsborough,Pa. & Wilmington,De.Agt - Jan 1,1871 to Mar 12,1880 \*Reading,Pa. & Wilmington,De.Agt - Mar 12,1880 to Aug 1,1882 Reading,Pa. & Wilmington,De.RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Jun 18,1932 WILMINGTON & WESTERN RAILROAD(BALTIMORE & OHIO)
Delaware Western R.R.
Wilmington to Marshalltown and Landenburgh
Route 266 markings: RR, Agent, Station, RPO

Wilmington, De. & Landenburgh, Pa. Agt - Aug 11,1872 to Feb 15,1879

Sep 23,1880 to Aug 1,1882

\*Wilmington, De. & Pomeroy, Pa. Agt - Feb 15,1879 to Sep 23,1880

Wilmington, De. & Landenburgh, Pa. RPO - Aug 1,1882 to Apr 27,1917

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