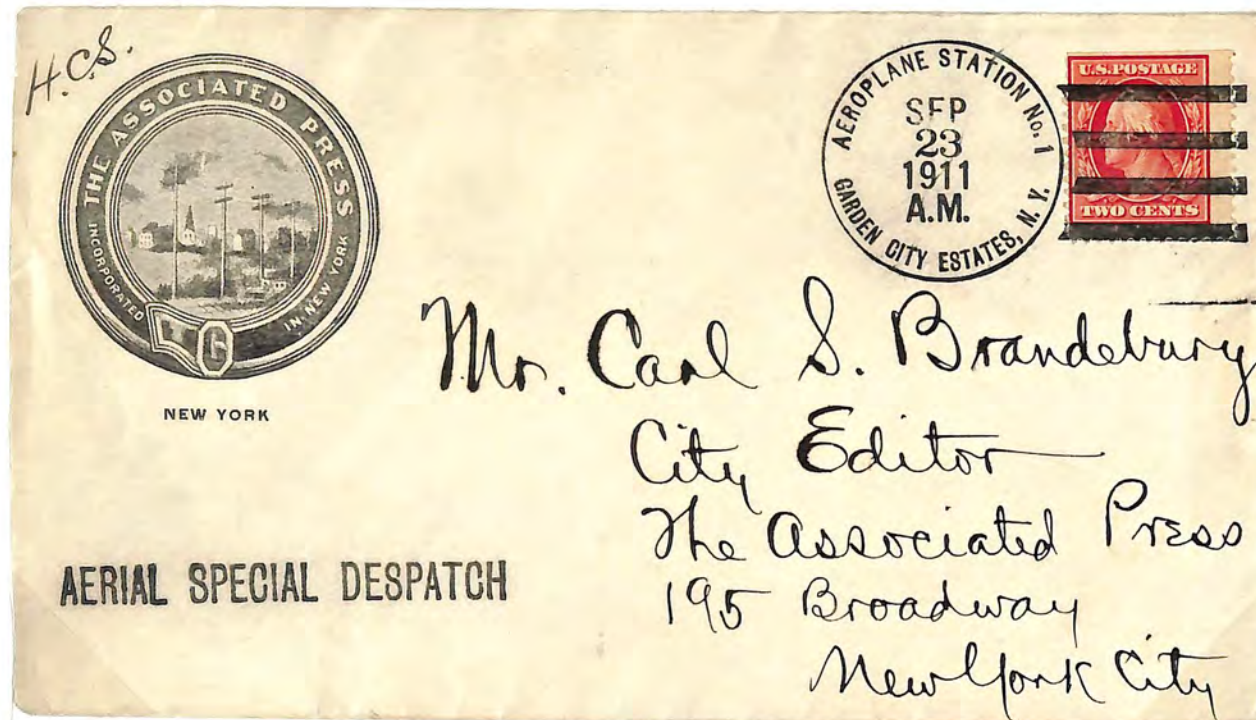


1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

First Day of Official Airmail with Special Postal Marking: AERIAL SPECIAL DESPATCH



Special Postal Marking Omitted



One of very few recorded items without the special AERIAL SPECIAL DESPATCH

Mail Flight by Earle Ovington

The Post Office authorized mail flights from the Nassau Boulevard Aerodrome in Garden City to Mineola each day of this meet. Ovington made this two mile flight with 640 envelopes and 1280 cards on the first day. He dropped this mail to post office officials who processed it for delivery by regular channels.

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Some mail deposited on the 23rd was processed the next day due to heavy mail volume. This is such a card, dated the 23rd in its text, but canceled and flown on the 24th.



All September 23rd and 24th postmarks contain the "A.M." time indication. On subsequent days all mail received a "P.M." postmark.

1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1



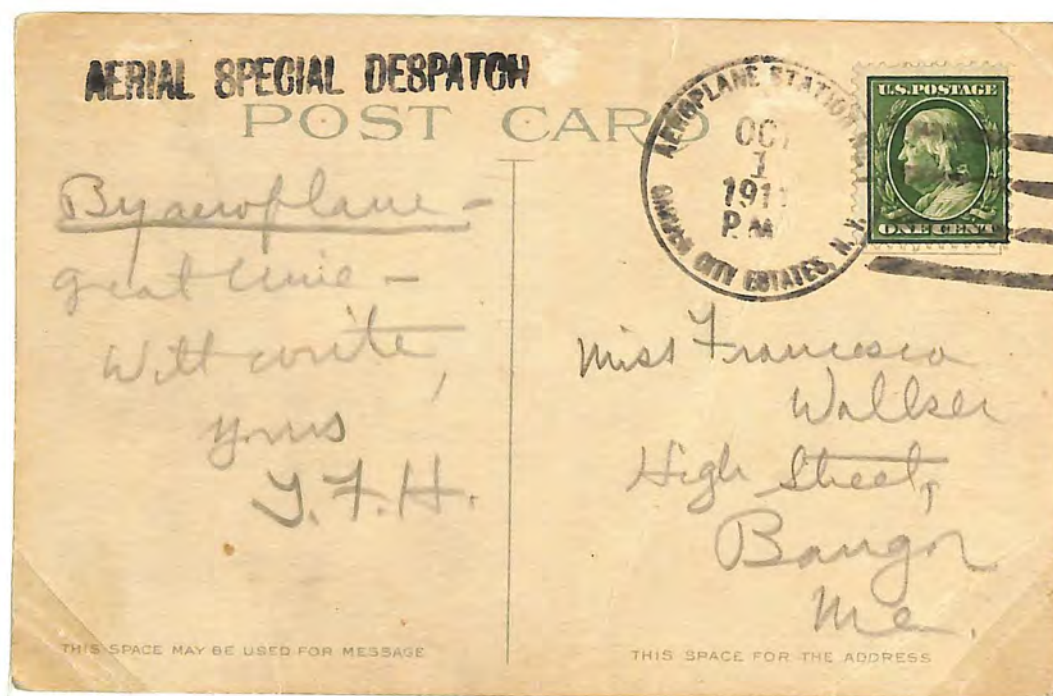
Official Postal Aviator
EARLE L. OVINGTON

Special Aerial-Despatch Post Card

THIS CARD was conveyed to the addressee, by Aeroplane, from "Aeroplane Station No. 1," established by the United States Government at Garden City Estates, New York, during the International Aviation Meet of 1911.

With the Special Cancellation Stamp, it is an Official Souvenir of the First Aerial Postal Service established in the Western Hemisphere. As such, it

is well worth preserving for its historical value.



A card was sold to recognize Earle Ovington, the first official airmail pilot. Mail was flown each day of the meet except September 29 and October 1 when weather prevented flights. Ovington flew mail each day that it was flown, sometimes assisted by other pilots.

1911

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"Aviation" Adhesive

For the Dawn of a New Era



One of *three recorded covers* with "Aviation" adhesive

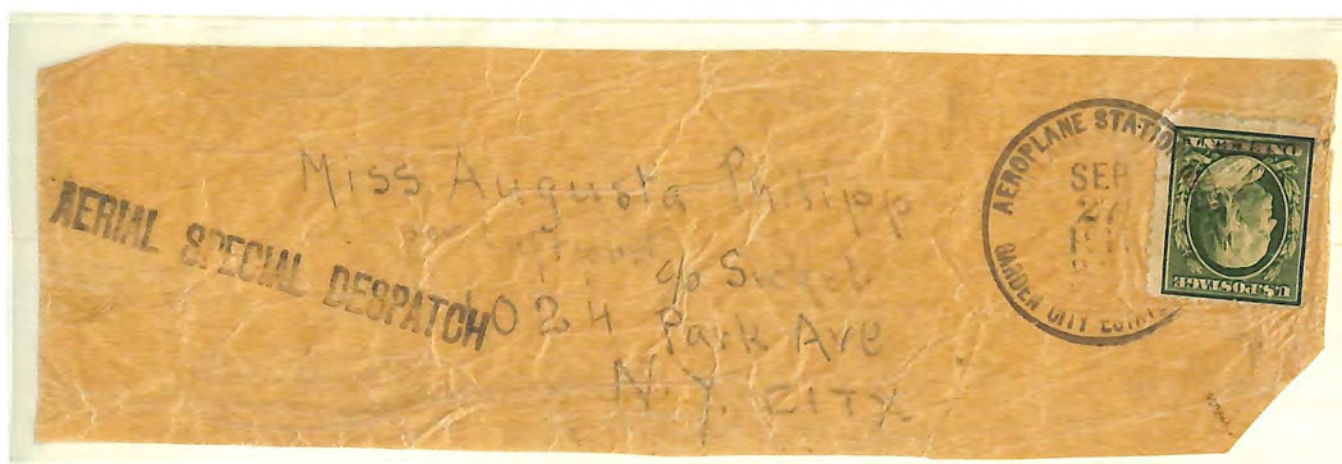
Meet organizers prepared this label, intending to sell it to the public and require its use as a semi-official stamp on mail flown at the meet. That plan was abandoned when Post Office approval was not forthcoming. The labels were not available to the public, but a few were used on covers by officials. There are no unused copies.

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1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

Wrapper for Printed Matter



Only recorded wrapper flown during meet

Special Delivery



Only special delivery cover recorded

It is 1¢ overpaid (2¢ letter rate plus 10¢ special delivery fee).

1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

King George IV Scotch Whisky Advertising Card



The novel airmail service engendered much attention in the nation's press. Enterprising businesses used this new medium to promote their products and services.

The card above is addressed to Park & Tilford, a distiller. It is the **only recorded example** of an advertisement on the address side of a Garden City Card.

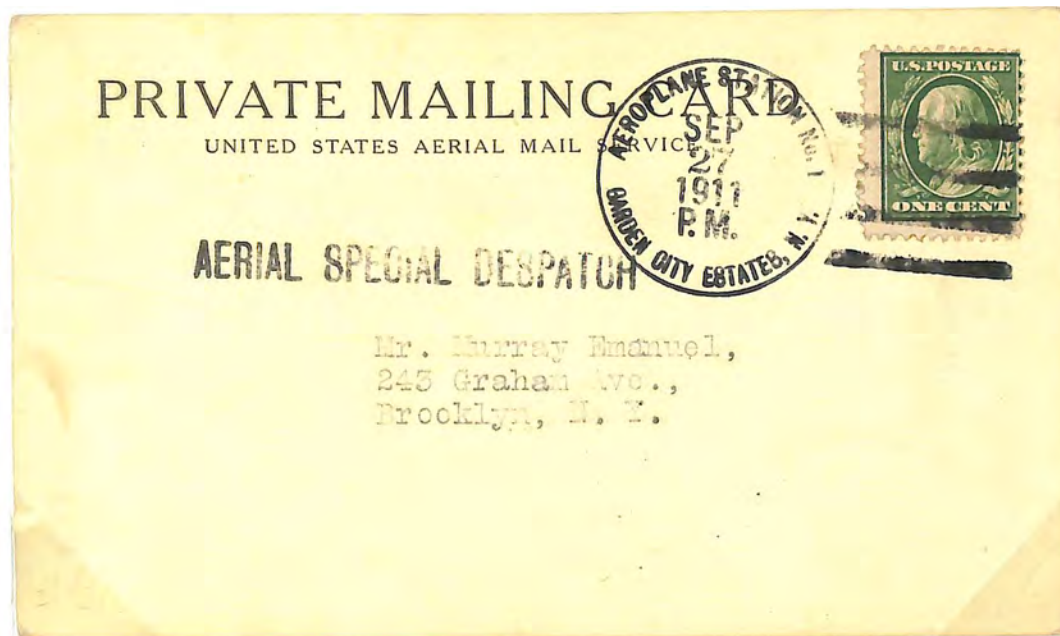
1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

13

Moisant International Aviators Advertising Card



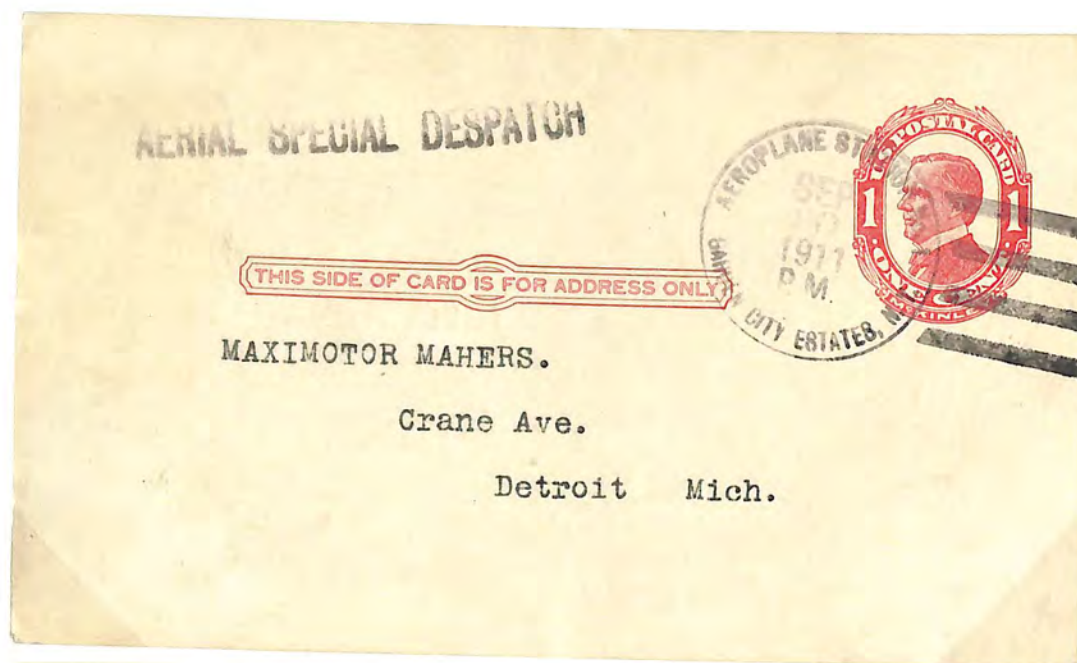
Moisant Monoplanes were flown at the meet as the company participated actively. Its promotional card with a printed cachet on the front was flown September 27th. The lower card is unused.

1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

Manufacturers' Publicity Corp. Advertising Card



This Post Card is sent you by AEROPLANE from the *FIRST* Aerial
Postal Station established by the United States Government.

We suggest your keeping it as a memento of this historical occasion.



It will also serve as a reminder of the fact that the
MANUFACTURERS' PUBLICITY CORPORATION
is an up-to-the-times organization of
Advertising Specialists
who are prepared to bring all modern aids to your
advertising needs. *When can we serve YOU?*
30 Church Street, NEW YORK.

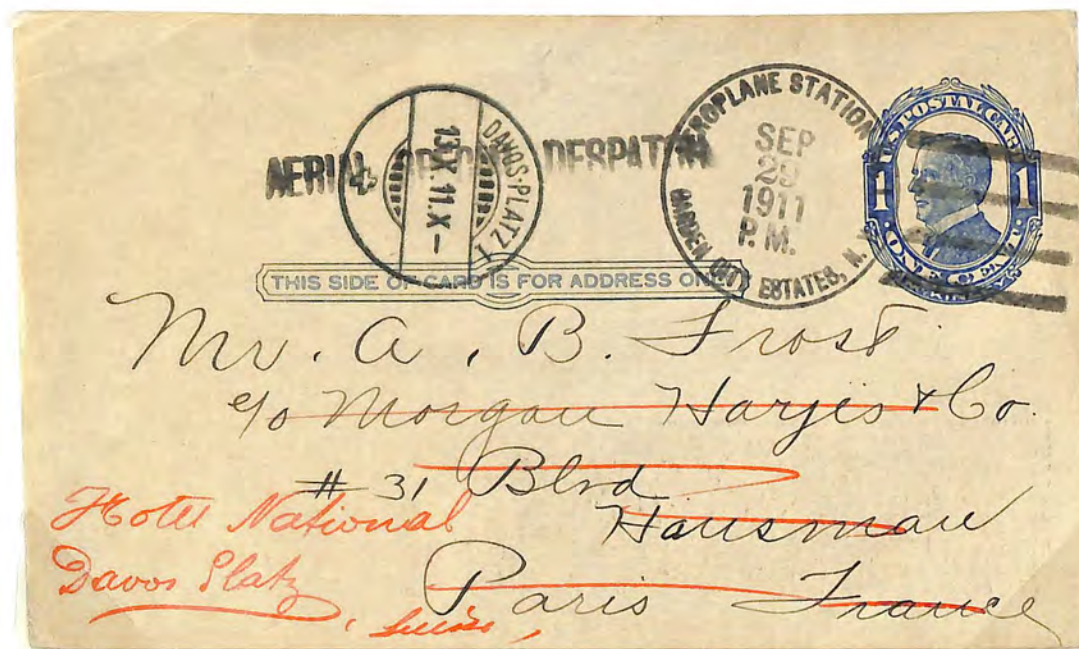
Advertising cards were mailed to clients and dignitaries. The importance
of this event among businessmen is shown by these cards to other businesses.
Both cards were flown September 30th.

1911

Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

Doubleday, Page & Co. Advertising Card
To France, Forwarded to Switzerland



THIS is one of the first pieces of mail ever sent by aeroplane. We suggest you save it.



This postal card is sent by aeroplane on the first aerial postal route of the U. S. Post Office Department, posted on the Aviation field at Garden City (where we try to keep up to date) September 25, 1911.



DOUBLEDAY, PAGE
AND COMPANY

GARDEN CITY, N. Y.

The top card was routed to Paris, then forwarded to Davos Platz, Switzerland and datestamped. The lower card was flown September 26th.

1911

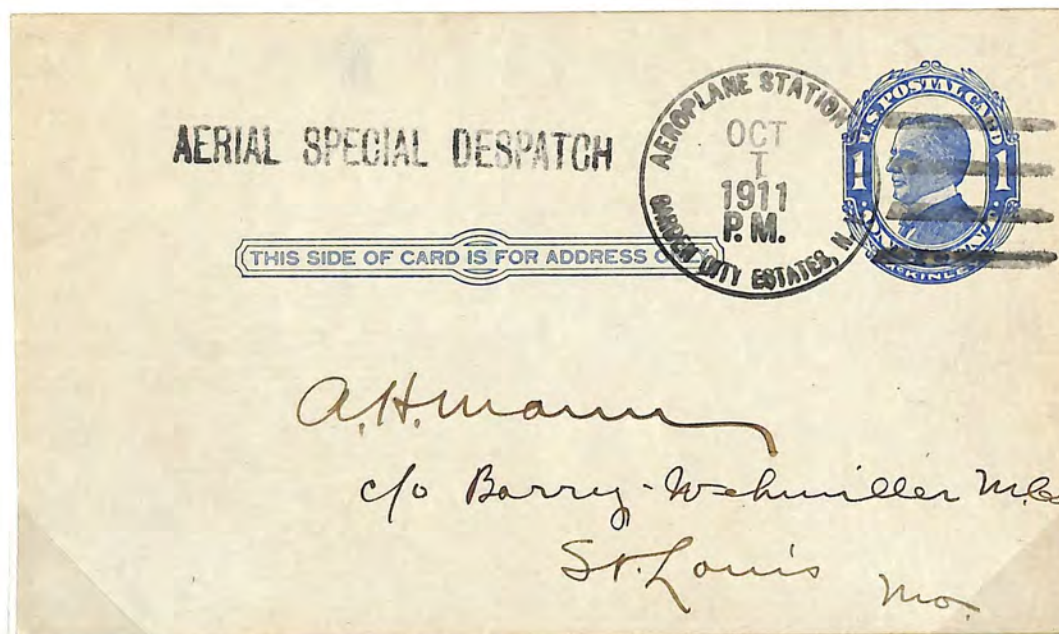
Garden City, New York

International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

Special Postmark with Normal Oct. 1, 1911 Date



Special Postmark with Inverted "1" Error in Date



The inverted "1" variety is found on some mail.

Rain forced cancelation of most events on October 1st, the last day of the meet.
No conclusive evidence exists that mail was flown that day.

1911

Garden City, New York

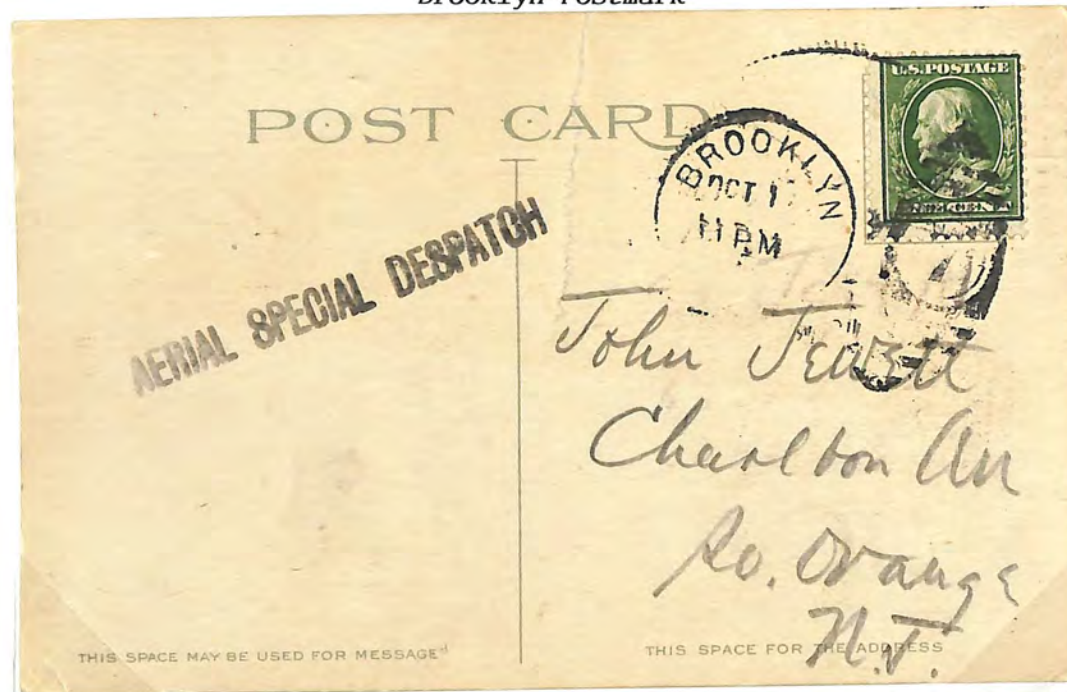
International Aviation Meet
September 23 - October 1

Special Postmark: AEROPLANE STATION/GARDEN CITY ESTATES, N.Y.



All mail from this meet processed at the Brooklyn Post Office.

Brooklyn Postmark



Only item recorded without the special AEROPLANE STATION postmark.