

Montrose Postal History 1707-1840.

This sixteen sheet frame will show the postal markings that were used at Montrose, Angus from the Post Office opening in 1707 until the introduction of the postage stamp in 1840, including some that carried on into the post 1840 period.

Sheets 2-12 will show the manuscript, handstamps and datestamps that were used, followed by sheet 13-16 which will show the charge marks used during the period. The last sheet dates outside the period by may also have been in use from 1839, but no other examples are currently recorded.

Initially the first postal marking was in manuscript abbreviated to "Mont" to show where the letter originated from and is known used from 1718. The first namestamp is known used from 1739. All the periods mentioned are those recorded from surviving examples.

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8. Circular 488-E AN247, used 1808-1811 with this the earliest example.
9. Boxed 488-E AN249, used 1812-1818.
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11. Double Arc AN253, used 1828-1837 with this the earliest example.
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13. Additional Halfpenny AN263, used 1832-1839.
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15. UPP 1 AN265 used 1839-1841
16. UPP 2 Not listed previously (Two strikes of AN265, one inverted) used 1841

The reference book "Postal Markings of Scotland to 1840" by Bruce Auckland and research conducted via Scottish Postal History Society have been used in this work.

Manuscript: Mont 2

Used at Montrose, Angus from November 1718 to 2 October 1730.

This cover posted on latest known date of use of Type AN235.

This is the earliest postal marking used in Montrose.

Recipient: William Douglas,

Writer At Mr Archibald Stuart,

Writer to the Signet,

His Writing Chamber, Edinburgh

Sender: George Skene

Born Aberdeen, 23 February 1695

Died 1756

17th Laird Of Skene (1724-1756)

Written at his residence at Caraldstone near Brechin, and taken to Montrose which was the nearest post office for transit to Edinburgh.

Entire concerning land values between the college of St Andrews and Lord Strathmore of Glamis Castle.

Mont 2 To
William Douglass -
Writer at Mr. Archibald
Stuart Writer to the Signet
his Writing Chamber in
Edinburgh

Postal Markings : Straight Line Montrose AN237

Used at Montrose, Angus from 6 January 1739 to 1749.

This entire posted on 2 June 1743.

This is the second postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 4d

Recipient: Mr James Smyth,
Writer to the Signet,
Edinburgh

Sender: John Allan, Shipmaster, Montrose

Entire with legal letter concerning contracts, and getting two moorings for
J Strachan's ship.



Postal Markings : Double Circle Montrose AN239

Used at Montrose, Angus from 1749 to 1769.

This entire posted on 27 September 1769.

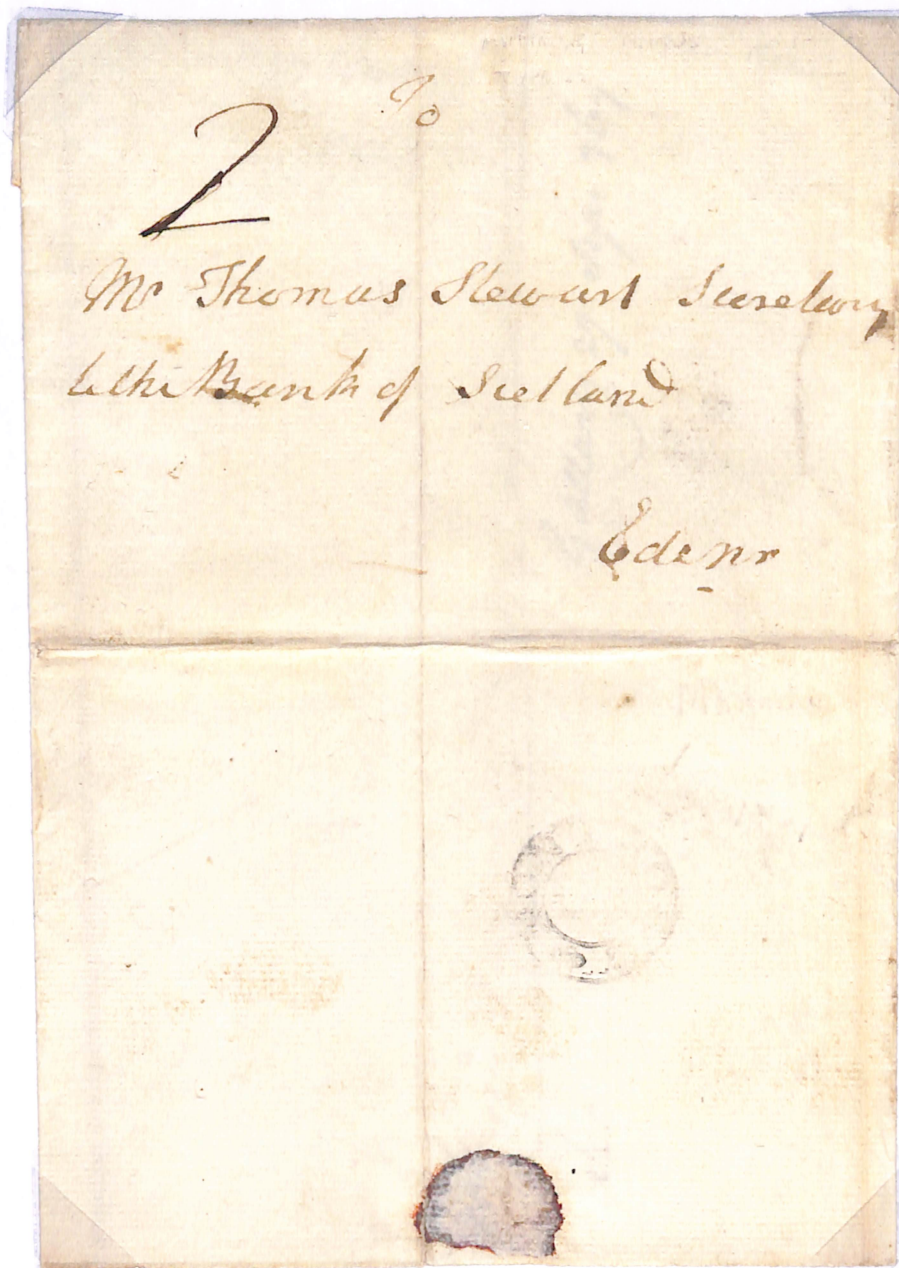
This is the third postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 2d

Recipient: Mr Thomas Stewart, Secretary, The Bank Of Scotland, Edinburgh

Sender: David Campbell, Gallary (Now Gallery House), Near Montrose

Entire with contents cut out, leaving date written and place only.



Postal Markings: Black Straight Line Montrose AN241 7 April 1778
Used at Montrose, Angus from 1769 to 21 November 1790
This is the fourth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 2d

Recipient: Mr David Taylor, Attorney at Exchequer, Edinburgh

Sender: John Milne of Montrose

An entire discussing starch duties paid at the customs house at Montrose.



Postal Markings: Black Straight Line Montrose AN243 24 October 1789
Used at Montrose, Angus from 1786 to 7 December 1800
Red Edinburgh ED5, 29 October 1789
Used At Edinburgh from 19 January 1725 to 3 January 1806
This is the fifth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 5d

Recipient: Sir William Forbes Bart, Edinburgh

Sender: Andrew Bisset, James Bisset & Sons Solicitors of Montrose

Entire with three pages of information on the deceased estate of Alexander Reid, detailing monies owed and beneficiaries.



Postal Markings: Black Straight Line Montrose AN245 26 May 1802
 Used at Montrose, Angus from 631 October 1801 to
 30 November 1807

This is the sixth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 1/ 2d

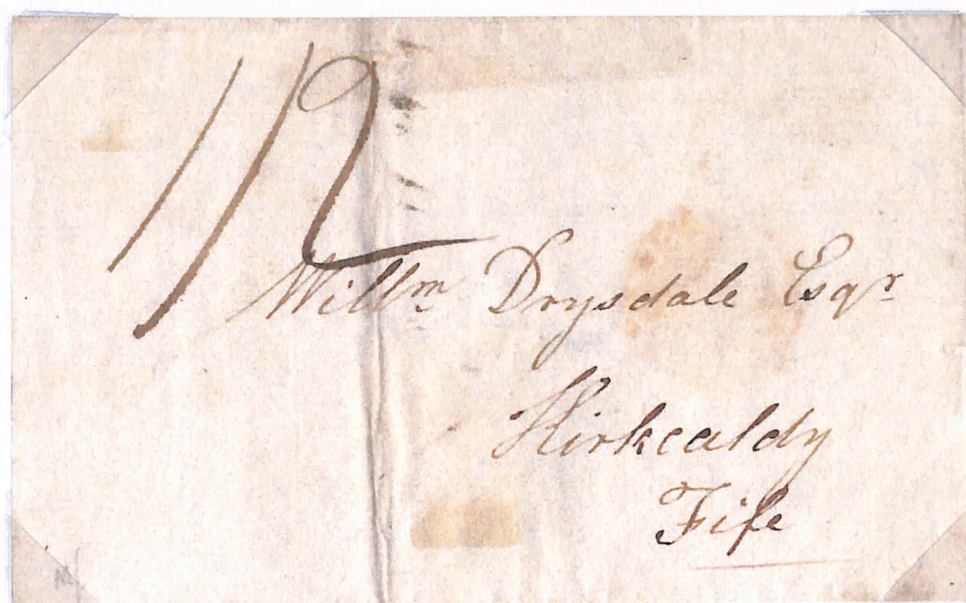
Recipient: William Drysdale Esquire, Town Clerk, Kirkcaldy, Fife

Sender: Unknown, The Burn, Edzell, By Brechin, Angus

A wrapper, with message cut and removed from inside, except senders address information.

The Burn is a large country house and estate built by General Lord Adam Gordon who died in 1801. It is now an Academic retreat with King Charles III as patron.

This is a copy of the front of the cover, the original is shown with reverse showing.



Postal Markings: Black Montrose 488-E AN247 21 October 1808
 Used at Montrose from 21 October 1808 to 1811.
 With this being the earliest known example.
 This is the seventh postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 7d, reduced to 6d
 Recipient: Roderick McLeod, Principal, Marischal College, Aberdeen
 Sender: Mrs Scott, Usan, Near Montrose

Mrs Scott was the wife of David Scott who was chairman and director of the East India Company, they and their descendants lived at Dunninald House at Usan near Montrose.

Roderick McLeod was born in 1727, graduating MA from Aberdeen University in 1746, elected Professor of Philosophy in 1749 at Kings College, Aberdeen. In 1764 he was elected sub Principal of Marischal College, Aberdeen, and then Principal in 1800 until his death on 11 September 1811.



Postal Markings: Black Montrose 488-E AN249 11 July 1818
 Used at Montrose from 22 June 1812 to 1818
 Red Edinburgh 18 July 1818, ED43a
 Used at Edinburgh 3 November 1812 to 1857.
 This is the eighth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: James Ferguson, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh

Sender: John Walker

A partial entire with half of letter missing, and some details scored out.



Postal Markings: Black Montrose 488-E AN251 27 October 1821
 Used at Montrose from 1819-1827.
 Red Boxed Paid In The Country, Edinburgh
 28 October 1821, ED108
 Used at Edinburgh 6 June 1821 to 6 June 1823.
 This is the ninth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: Thomas Cranston Esquire, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh

Sender: Patrick Ronald, Montrose Academy, Montrose

A wrapper with contents now absent.

Thomas Cranston of Dewar was the eldest son of George Cranston of Dewar, Mid Lothian. He was born in 1760 and died unmarried on 21 October 1836.



Postal Markings: Black Double Arc Montrose AN253 17 June 1828
Used at Montrose, Angus from 17 June 1828 to 1837,
With this being the earliest known example.
This is the tenth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: Messrs Perry & Bain, Milntonduff Distillery, Elgin

Sender: Mr Andrew Henderson, Montrose

An entire concerning the senders apologies that he will not be able to afford to pay an
outstanding bill in full but encloses £15 of the £31 2/ owed and agrees to pay interest
due on the outstanding amount until paid in full.



Postal Markings: Black Single Arc Montrose AN255a 22 January 1833
 Used at Montrose, Angus from 6 September 1831 to
 15 November 1843
 Black Single Arc Kirkcaldy 23 January 1833, FI416
 Used at Kirkcaldy from 13 May 1830 to 1 March 1833
 This is the eleventh postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: David Morgan Esquire, Bank of Scotland Office, Kirkcaldy, Fife

Sender: John Peter, Canterland, Marykirk, Montrose

An entire, with message cut removed from inside,, except senders information.



Postal Markings: ½ Black AN263, 22 December 1838

Used at Montrose 29 December 1832 to 10 October 1839

Black Single Arc Montrose AN255a 22 December 1838

Used at Montrose from 6 September 1831 to 1 June 1842

Black Boxed Glasgow 23 December 1838, Time Code 12, GW276b

Used at Glasgow 1 December 1838 to 27 November 1839.

This is the twelfth postal marking type used in Montrose.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: W.J. Duncan Esquire, Sub Manager of the The Bank of Scotland, Glasgow

Sender: John Barclay, Bank of Scotland office, Montrose

An entire with Bank of Scotland 26 December 1938 Paid Handstamp inside concerning a deposit in favour of James Ritchie for £420.



Postal Markings: ½ Black AN263,

Used at Montrose 29 December 1832 to 10 October 1839

Black Single Arc Montrose AN255a 10 & 11 January 1839

Used at Montrose from 6 September 1831 to 1 June 1842

Black TOO LATE 10 January 1839 AN261a

Used at Montrose from 1830-1841.

Black Boxed Glasgow 12 January 1839, Time Code 7, GW278

Used at Glasgow 7 January 1839 to 7 August 1840.

This is the new earliest recorded date of use.

Red Edinburgh 11 January 1839, ED43

Used in Edinburgh from 3 November 1812 to 1857.

Postal Rate: 9 ½ d

Recipient: Messrs Wilson & Company, Summerlee Iron Works, Glasgow

Sender: The Montrose Trading Company, Montrose

A wrapper with no contents sent to the Messrs Wilson & Company owners of the Summerlee Ironworks, Coatbridge, Glasgow which operated from 1836 to the 1930's.



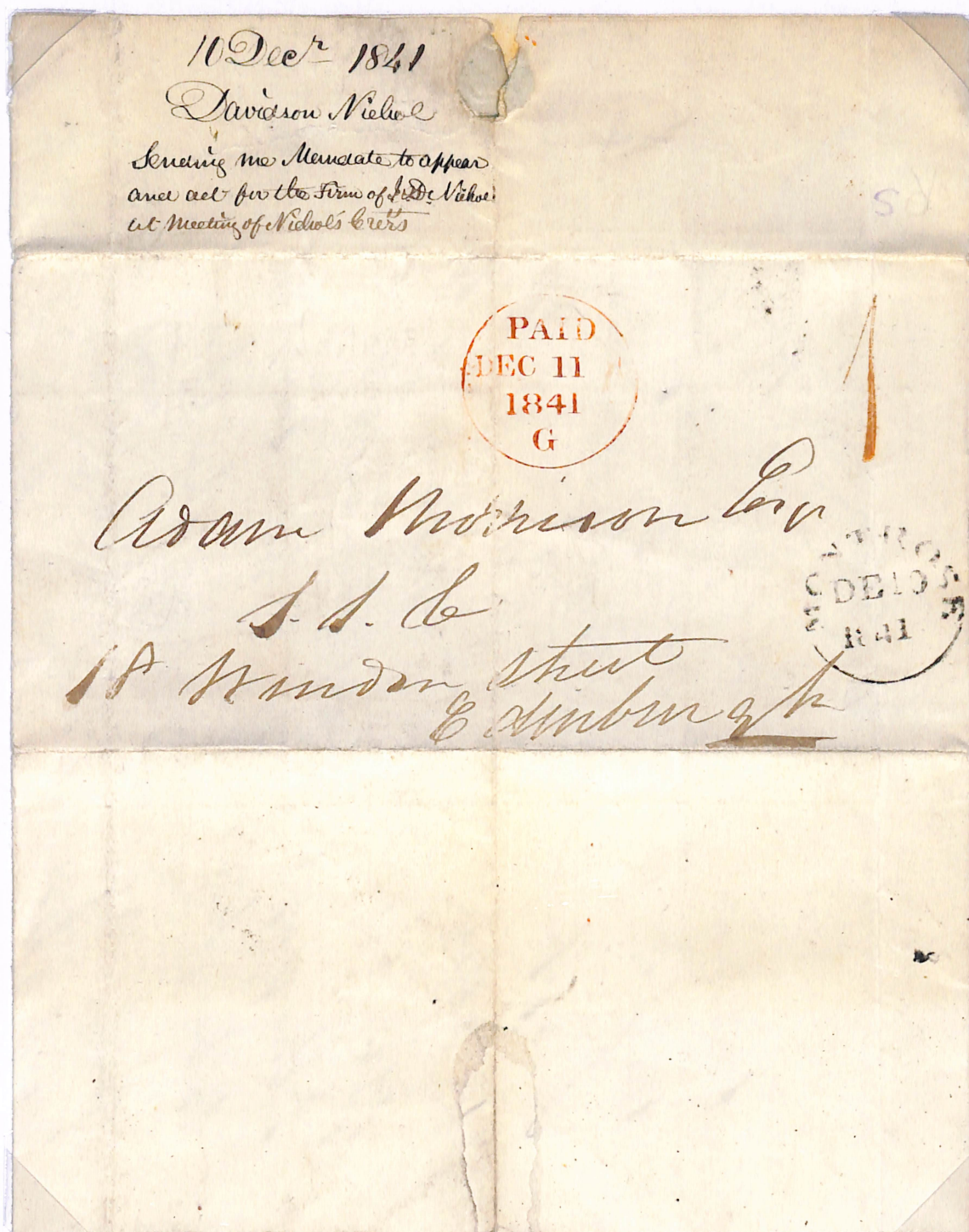
Postal Markings: Black Single Arc Montrose AN255a 11 December 1841
Used at Montrose from 6 September 1831 to 1 June 1842
Red Edinburgh Paid ED76 11 December 1841, Stamper's Code G,
Used at Edinburgh 10 February 1840 to 20 January 1849
Red 1 handstruck charge mark AN265 11 December 1841
Used at Montrose 18 March 1841 to 1850.

Postal Rate: 1d

Recipient: Adam Morrison Esquire, Solicitor to the Supreme Court,
18 Windsor Street, Edinburgh

Sender: Davidson Nichol, Montrose

An entire with a mandate to appear and act for the firm of J & D Nichol at meeting of
Nichol's executors.



Postal Markings: Black Single Arc Montrose AN255a 1 November 1841
 Used at Montrose from 6 September 1831 to 1 June 1842
 Red Edinburgh Paid ED76 2 November 1841 M,
 Stamper's Code triangle,
 Used at Edinburgh 10 February 1840 to 20 January 1849
 Red 1 UPP handstruck charge mark applied twice Tete-Beche
 AN265 1 November 1841
 Used at Montrose 18 March 1841 to 1850 for 1d and this is only
 recorded example struck twice to denote 2d to pay by recipient.

Postal Rate: 2d

Recipient: Adam Morrison Esquire, Solicitor to the Supreme Court,
 18 Windsor Street, Edinburgh

Sender: Davidson Nichol, Montrose

An entire concerning Nichol's executors and the estate that he is representing. Letter weighs $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce but contents state that it also enclosed a letter which must have made it weigh over $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce moving it to the 2d postal rate. In Stewarton, Ayrshire the 1d was used three times to form the figure four in 1843.

2d Charge marks known used at Montrose were AN267 which was in use from 1742 to 2 April 1743 for mail to Edinburgh and AN268 on 9 August 1854, both are different design 2's so this method of using two 1's Tete-Beche fills the gap of what was used at some point during AN267 possibly getting lost and AN268 being issued. It would only have been required after 1840 when the Universal Penny Post was introduced as there had not been any requirement for one for over 50 years prior to 1840.

