

How Pilottown (Louisiana) got its NAVIRE stamp

The letter from 1981 shown below illustrates quite clearly how the small town of Pilottown got its NAVIRE stamp.

In the Dovey and Morris catalog, the mark appears under number 2095.

The text of the letter shows that philatelists from England played a major role in this. The efforts from England suggest that Pilottown may not have been the only port town in the world whose post office was supplied with a Paquebot or Navire stamp from philatelist circles. Perhaps there is more authentic evidence in collector circles that proves something similar for other ports. I would be very pleased to receive information on this.

P. Schulz



Head Postmaster
Pilottown.

MARITIME P.H. CLUB
6 DEVON TERRACE
TOTNES DEVON TQ9 5AZ
ENGLAND

9 April 1981

Dear Sir,

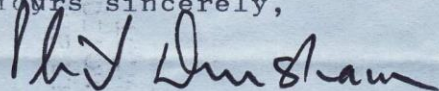
I am Chairman of a collectors Club which concentrates on obtaining paquebot marked ships mail covers.

Recently I received six covers from your Office which had been posted on high seas aboard ship S A CONSTANTIA. These were handed in de couverte in terms of the regulations together with a mailing slip requesting use of your PAQUEBOT mark. The covers were marked in hand-writing only. Presumably you hold no PAQUEBOT or NAVIRE mark in terms of the UPU Convention. That in itself is not remarkable as many ports where little ships mail is handed in do not possess such a thing.

If it is permitted, however, we would like to send you a PAQUEBOT or NAVIRE handstamp at our expense which you may care to adopt for use on ships mail items received ex ship. If this is possible I'd like to return the 6 covers for marking with the new mark.

Please let me know if this is of interest to you, and if agreeable I'll get a handstamp sent on to you.

Yours sincerely,

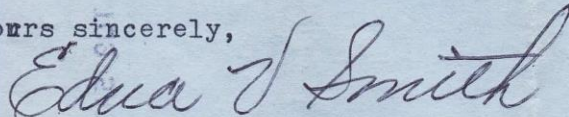


Phil Densham.

Dear Sir,

Your sending a handstamp will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



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NAVIRE