

What connects 1912 cover with doomed liner?

The rather battered cover at right was prominently featured on the front page of the July-August *Seaposter*, the bimonthly journal of the Maritime Postmark Society, under the headline "A Titanic Cover?"

The route is plausible enough — a cover to Washington, D.C., mailed from the French town of Paulx in the lower Loire region.

The envelope was franked with a 25-centime Sower paying the basic foreign letter rate, canceled with two strikes of the Paulx datestamp on March 13, 1912.

The back of the envelope (not illustrated here) has a March 14 Paris foreign mail handstamp, but also a March 27 Washington, D.C., machine receiving postmark.

The boxed datestamp that appears sideways on the front at left, "RECEIVED / MAR 28 1912," was presumably applied at the office of the addressee — but that date is some 13 days before *Titanic* left Southampton, England, on its ill-fated maiden voyage April 10.

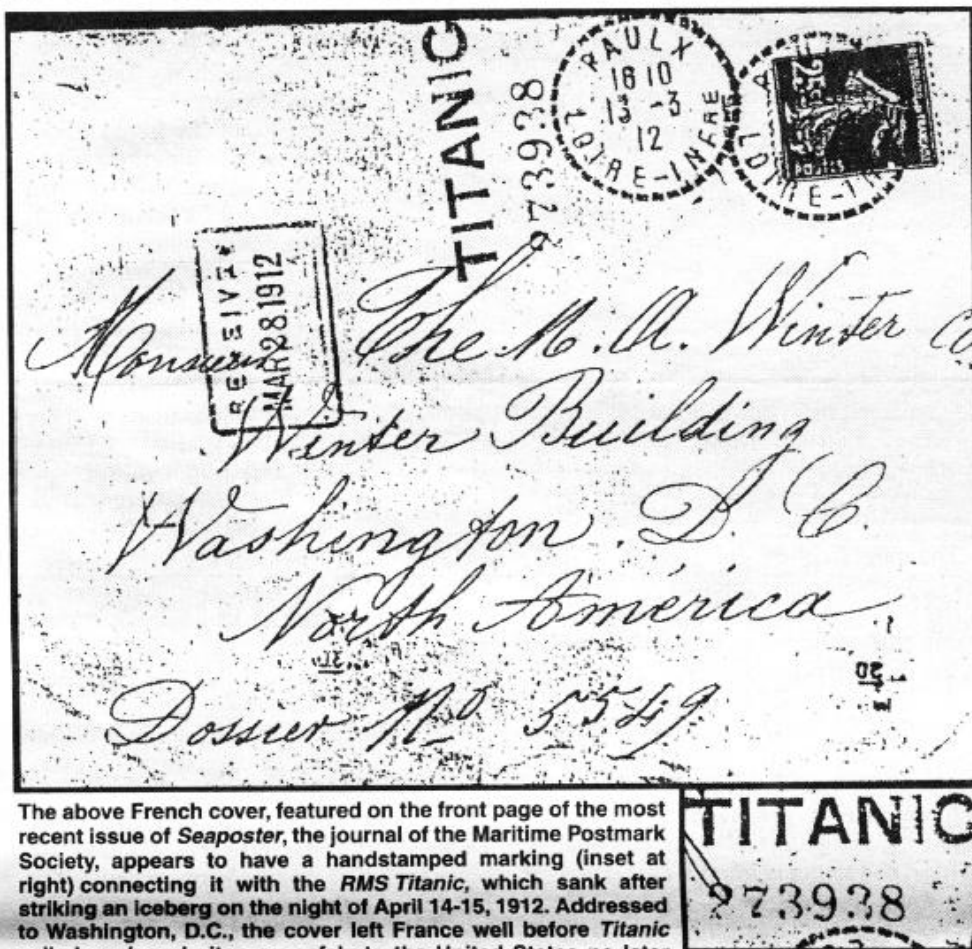
Having crossed the Atlantic long before *Titanic* left the dock, why was this cover handstamped "TITANIC / 273938"?

The Maritime Postmark Society is polling its members to find out more. Perhaps you have information to add. If you'd like to learn more about the MPS, write to Secretary-Treasurer Fred McGary, Box 26231, Columbus OH 43226.

Inside This Issue

Philatelic News

Canada's U.N. Human Rights issue.....	1
United Kingdom honors 'Men of Speed'	1
Hats off at Mega Event?	1
What connects 1912 cover with doomed liner?	3
Philatelic literature sale Nov. 11-12.....	6
Unique error offered.....	16
August, Christian, Lowe named to Hall of Fame	16
BU.P.U. specimens in Sept. 24 sale	17
Asia featured in Sescal sale.....	22
Book on U.S. earliest known uses	27



The above French cover, featured on the front page of the most recent issue of *Seaposter*, the journal of the Maritime Postmark Society, appears to have a handstamped marking (inset at right) connecting it with the *RMS Titanic*, which sank after striking an iceberg on the night of April 14-15, 1912. Addressed to Washington, D.C., the cover left France well before *Titanic* sailed, and made its way safely to the United States no later than March 27, when it was backstamped — so why does it bear this "TITANIC" handstamp?