

Sharing: Restoration of a Private Die Proprietary U.S. Revenue Stamp.
RS235d - 8 Cents "Swaim's Panacea" die cut, watermarked USIR, 1864.



Top: RS234 Jas. Swaim 8¢ orange, die cut. Bottom: RS235d Wm. Swaim 8¢ orange, die cut

My most recent restoration project involving surface cleaning, crease smoothing and reinforcement/tear repairs (with acid-free, archival materials). My approach is to best preserve the integrity and value and is reversible.

Process in Brief:

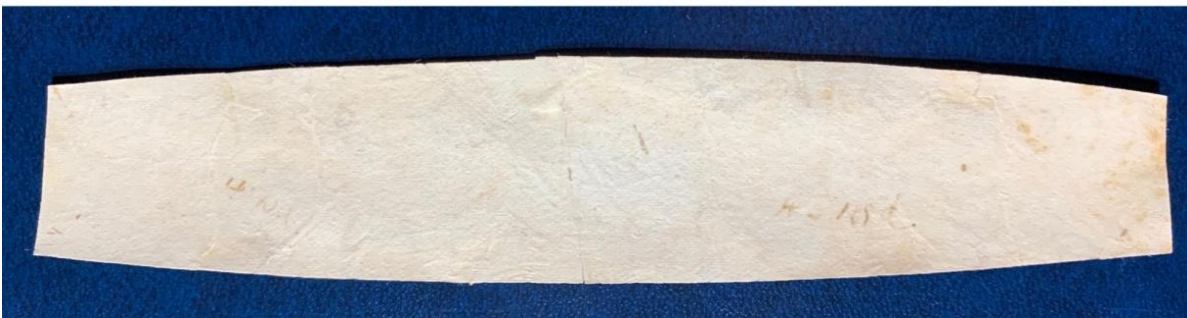
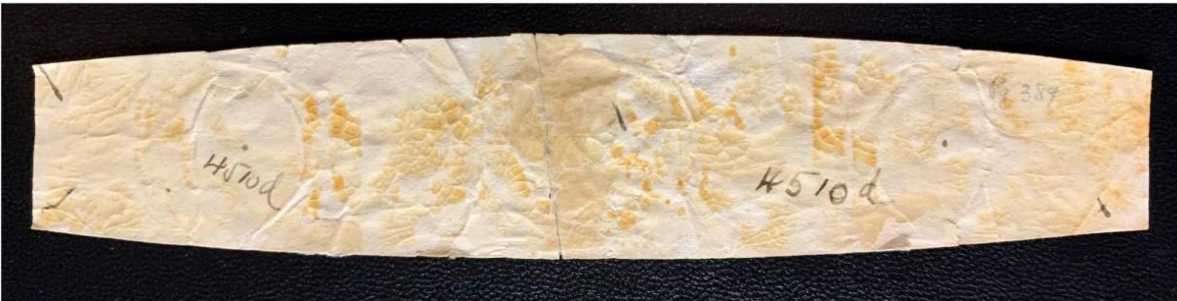
- * Photographed original front and reverse, wide and close-up.
- * Documented tears, fold-over's, scrapes, bends, adhesive, writing, etc.
- * Removed loose reverse hinges, where possible.
- * Carefully unfold areas on reverse that were bent back and repositioned to obverse, where possible.
- * Multiple soaks, lukewarm distilled water.
- * Smoothing out wrinkles, removal of hinges, surface paper, and crystallized adhesive with gentle rubbing.
- * Diluted H₂O₂/distilled water treatment, 25 rinses in lukewarm distilled.
- * Dry, flatten & press between archival Whatman blotting paper under gentle pressure.
- * Reinforcement (rejoining of the two pieces, sealing tears) using pH neutral transparent mending tissue, etc.



RS235d Wm. Swaim 8¢ orange, die cut Final Restored Stamp/Label, Face and Reverse



3 Phases of Restoration - Front



3 Phases of Restoration - Reverse