

General Motors perfins: there're more than a few

One of the oldest and most famous names in American automotive history will soon be no more. General Motors announced late last year that it has decided to phase out production of the Oldsmobile, which has been around since the late 1800s.

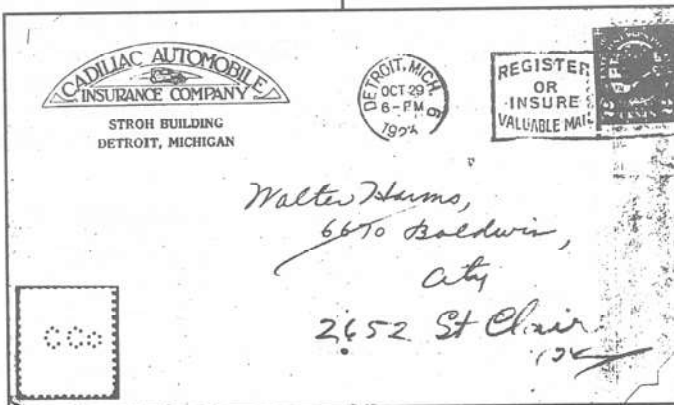
If you're interested in building an interesting specialty perfins collection, General Motors and its perfins can prove to be something of a challenge, although not an expensive one. Most of the GM and GM-related patterns are fairly common and covers aren't all that difficult to come by either.

A quick check of the U.S. catalog shows eight patterns quickly identifiable as having a GM connection. G116, G119.5, and G120 are all GM/C and used by the company either in Detroit or in New York. G112 (GM) was the pattern of the General Motors Export Division and G115 (GM/AC) is the pattern used by the General Motors Acceptance Corporation, the finance division of the company which made car-buying a matter of monthly payments for many Americans.

The Pontiac Motors Division in Pontiac, MI, used an ACB (A58) pattern for some reason not immediately clear. The Buick, Oldsmobile, Pontiac Division in Detroit used the more obvious BOP (B183). And

then there is Des12, the instantly recognizable logo of the Chevrolet Motors Division.

up even more perfins with a General Motors connection. If any of our members pursue



Another entry in the GM topic is in the collection of Joe Laura (#1238). It's a cover from Cadillac Automobile Insurance Company of Detroit, obviously connected with the Cadillac automobile and General Motors. This is the only known cover with C80.5 (Cco) on it and one of only two copies ever reported of the pattern. Joe's cover provides a firm identification of the pattern—which is not identified in the U.S. catalog.

Then there is the OMC (048) used by the Oakland Motors Corporation. The Oakland was an independent brand until it was acquired by General Motors and phased into history. There's probably also a GM connection with the OM/W (O50) of the Old Motor Works of Lansing, MI.

A more careful check of the catalog—or maybe Joe Laura's collection—might turn

this topic, we'd like to hear the results.