

# Sergio Sismondo

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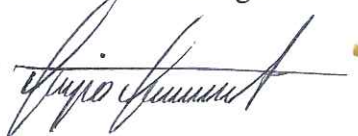
Syracuse, New York, 2006.07.14.

## WENDEN LOCAL POST, 1899.

I have examined the envelope sent from Shtokmanshoff, Livonia, to Dorpat, Livonia, on February 25th of 1899, franked with one postage stamp of the District of Wenden local post, "Wenden Arms" 2 kopecks black, scarlet, and green, perforated 11 ½, on medium white wove paper without watermark, and one postage stamp of Imperial Russia, "Arms" 7 kopecks deep blue, perforated 14 ½ x 15, on horizontally laid paper, Scott Classics Specialized Wenden #L11, Russia #50; Stanley Gibbons Wenden #12, Russia #55, the two adhesives are cancelled by a single strike of the Shtokmanshoff traveling post office No. 1 postmark, dated "25 II 1899", (Julian Calendar), and on reverse is another Shtokmanshoff t.p.o. No. 2, a Riga transit (illegible) and the arrival datestamp of February 27th, a colour reproduction of which is on the reverse side of this certificate, reduced to 90% of true size, and am of the opinion that:

The envelope, two postage stamps affixed, and postal markings indicated above are **genuine in all respects**. The envelope is in excellent state of preservation. The two adhesives are in perfect condition. The payment of 2 kopecks was the postage rate for internal delivery within the Wenden region, up to the Russian Imperial post office. Seven kopecks was the internal rate in effect for a single weight letter sent anywhere in Russia. It is unusual for the Wenden stamp to be without the expected pen cancellation. A fine cover. Ex John Birkinbine II collection. I have signed it.

Sergio Sismondo.



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