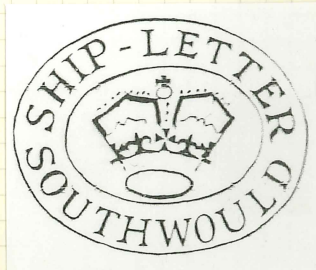


GREAT BRITAIN  
SHIP LETTER MARKS  
SOUTHWOLD



22<sup>nd</sup> June 1810 letter from Braunsberg & Co. in **Amsterdam** to Messrs. N. M. Rothschild in London, bearing fine strike of the oval SHIP-LETTER / Crown / SOUTHWOLD handstamp.

Alan Robertson explained in private correspondence to one "Mr. de Lacroix" in 1975 that he had to that point recorded "**only five of these**" Crown marks for the port, all from the Rothschild correspondence and all dated 1810, which he had acquired from Hugh Miller in 1955. Elsewhere, he has also commented that the unusual spelling (with the extra "U") is "interesting, for the name thus spelt, ceased to appear on contemporary maps after those published by Thos. Kitchin in 1764,...and by the time this handstamp was made the present spelling was in common use".

JGS Scott has since reported a further example, used from Husum in Germany, and dated 1806.

This is the **only ship letter mark recorded for Southwold** in Suffolk and there is a little irony in the fact that the majority of its usages are from Holland in that Southwold Bay is perhaps best remembered for the naval battle there in 1672 when de Ruyter, commanding the Dutch Fleet, inflicted severe damage on the British Fleet under James, Duke of York.

Ex-Robertson & Chadwick.

LETTER FROM AMSTERDAM TO LONDON VIA  
SOUTHWOLD (ARRIVED LONDON 9 JULY 1810).  
THIS MARKING APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN IN  
USE AT SOUTHWOLD IN 1809 AND 1810 ONLY.  
NOTE THE UNUSUAL SPELLING 'SOUTHWOULD'

[ONE OF FIVE SO FAR RECORDED]

UK-CHADWICK (1975)  
LOT 1236 - £160.

*Rothschild*

HTK

(Oval Type)  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Via SOUTHWOLD  
\*\*\*\*\*  
RECORDED

ALAN W. ROBERTSON  
RANWORTH  
ST. LAWRENCE DR.  
PINNER  
MDDX. ENGLAND.

23rd. December 1975.

Dear Mr. de Lacroix,

In reply to your letter of December 16th.

Regarding SOUTHWOLD Ship Letters, I have recorded only five of these, all from the Rothschild correspondence and to the best of my knowledge dated 1810.

All of these I bought in 1955 when I acquired the Hugh Miller Ship Letter collection of the Rothschild correspondence. I kept the best impression of the five for my own collection (which I still have) and one or two of the others have been changing hands at auction over the last twenty years.

You quote a year date of 1809. If your cover is addressed to Rothschild then I have made an error originally; if not then it is an addition to the five I have recorded.

Sincerely yours,

*Alan W. Robertson*