

Kran(t)zpoort, Transvaal
1911 - 1913

Presented is a double circle oval date stamp with KRANTZPOORT between the circles and the date - 6 MAR.A.12 - in the centre.



This appears on a pre-paid envelope of buff paper embossed with a 1d. carmine Orange River Colony stamp which is addressed to Mrs. A E W Ramsbottom ¹ of Bloemfontein, backstamped Ermelo and Bloemfontein.

Kranzpoort Postal Agency, was opened 1 September 1911 on the farm "Kranspoort" (No. 264) in the district of Ermelo (29° 44' E, 26° 22' S) ². For administrative purposes, it was linked to the post-office in Ermelo. The original spelling KRANZPOORT changed to KRANTZPOORT on 1 March 1913 when a telegraph office was opened there. On 1 November 1913, the agency was closed and its functions transferred to the agency at Krantzpoort Station ³.

An indication of the rarity of this canceller is the comment in Putzel ⁴ which is "no postmark has been seen".

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¹ Ramsbottom, Alfred Ernest William, spouse Mary Isabel Ramsbottom (born Smith).

² Imperial Map of South Africa: Ermelo (No. 107) 1st Edition. Compiled by Field Intelligence Department, Cape Town, April 1900.

³ Putzel, R F. The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies. Vol 2 (F-M);246. Publ. Putzel, Tokai 1987

⁴ Putzel, R F. The Postmarks of South Africa and the Former States & Colonies. Vol 5 (Ke-L) Publ. Putzel, Tokai 1996