

Small Categories Series

YMCA

Here's a tough one! If it weren't for the fact that I collect Military, I wouldn't have half of the ones I have! Fortunately, there was a big connection between the YMCA and the Military, at least in earlier decades. In fact, the only one that I have that's dated is from the World War II years.

I'm not exactly certain just *why* this is such a tough category. I suppose there weren't that many different YMCA covers to begin with, but, of those that *were* issued, you'd think they would have been given out by the thousands (each location), especially considering that much/most of their clientele were servicemen, at least during the war years. But these covers are infrequently seen in the hobby. You might dig up a few from your traders, but you could die of old age waiting for them to turn up in an auction.

For the serious collector, I'd recommend going after the accumulations from non-collectors in your local area. You never know what's going to turn up there.

There are currently 69 listed, and I have those 69 covers, but the conundrum is that I count my Military collection as a higher priority, so I haven't pulled those YMCA covers out to put in my YMCA collection, so, technically, I only have 29 YMCA covers in that collection!

No matter how small the number of covers, however, the YMCA has been part of American culture for some 160 years and is still going strong, having a presence in 10,000 neighborhoods across the country.

