

THE OHIO PETROLEUM MARKETERS ASSOCIATION
MAPS OF 1927 THROUGH 1930
by Gary Spaid
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Most oil company map collectors are familiar with the 1928 Talley Brothers map. But did you know this map is just one of dozens produced by the Ohio Petroleum Marketers Association (OPMA) from 1927 through 1930 (and perhaps earlier and later since the organization was founded in 1922). As a matter of fact the OPMA organization still exists today, however, its name has changed to the Ohio Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association.

The earliest OPMA maps known were made in 1927 by Crams. The Power Plus map pictured below is a good example of the 1927 map covers. All the 1927 maps seem to be very difficult to find.



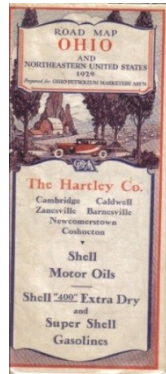
1927 Power Plus



1928 Talley Brothers

The Talley Brothers 1928 map, made by Rand-McNally, is by far the most common of these maps with a boxful being discovered a few decades back. The 1928 OPMA maps are somewhat easier to find than other years.

The 1929 OPMA maps were also made by Rand-McNally. The 1929 Hartley, shown below, is a good example. 1929 OPMA are also fairly easy to find.



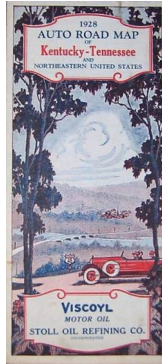
1929 Hartley



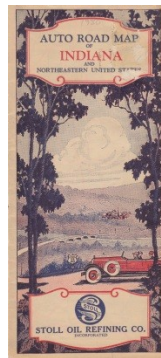
1930 White Star Oil Co.

The final year known when OPMA produced maps was 1930. These were made by Forman-Bassett. The White Star Oil Company (of Eaton, Ohio, not the White Star that became part of Socony-Vacuum) is a good example of the 1930 cover design. The 1930 maps also seem to be quite hard to locate.

Only one of the known OPMA maps is not of Ohio. The 1928 Stoll Oil (Viscoyl) is a map of Kentucky-Tennessee. Does anyone have a Stoll OPMA map of Ohio or any other non-Ohio OPMA maps? Stoll used the 1928 OPMA map cover design for its 1930 map of Indiana.



1928 Stoll



1930 Stoll



1928 Auto-Owners

Curiously, Auto-Owners Insurance used a very similar cover as the OPMA maps for its 1928 maps.

Are there any others who used a similar map cover?

Below is a table listing all OPMA maps known to me. I currently know of 48 different oil companies who used OPMA maps. OPMA had many members so I expect there are several more OPMA maps out there.

Note: White Star Oil (of Eaton), Vahey Oil and Monroeville Oil produced road maps in 1927 but they were Independent Oil Men Association (Spread Eagle) maps not specifically OPMA maps. Check your maps and let us know if you have any others not listed. Thanks to fellow collectors Rich Horwitz and Jim Wakefield for sharing some of their map images.

Known Ohio Petroleum Marketers Association Road Maps



		1927	1928	1929	1930
		Cartographer			
Oil Company/Brand	Location(s)	Cram	Rand-McNally	Rand-McNally	Forman-Basett
Arrow Gas	Salem		X		
Blue Flash Gyro	Cleveland			X	
Brilliant (Red Head)	Brilliant		X		
C.A. Pierce (Blue Ribbon)	Akron		X		X
Cameron	Toledo			X	
Canfield	Cleveland			X	
Carson	Cadiz		X		
Cincinnati Oil Works (White Rose)	Cincinnati			X	X
Clark County Oil Co.	Springfield, OH	X			
Columbus Oil Co. (Silver Flash)	Columbus		X*	X*	
Commodore	Steubenville		X		
Commonwealth Oil Co.	Cleveland			X	
Dubois Oil	Bellaire, OH		X		
Duncan (Tourist)	Youngstown / Akron		X	X	
Clifford H. Wagoner (Flashright)	Zanesville		X		
Gordon Oil	Bowerston		X		
Hartley	6 locations			X	X
Knox / Red Fox	Mt. Vernon / Rt. Wayne		X		
J.E. Smith	Washington C.H.		X		
Johnson Oil	Chicago, IL			X	
Lake County Oil Co.	Painesville	X			
Liberty Bell Oil Co.	Wooster, OH		X		
Medina	Medina		X	X	
Monroeville Oil	Monroeville		X	X	
Ochs Gas & Oil	Fremont		X		
Ohio Valley Distributing Co.	Gallipolis / Pomeroy		X		
Ohio Valley Oil Co	Martins Ferry	X	X		
Parks-Klay	Lima		X		
Pater's Service Stations	Hamilton		X		
Pearl Oil Service	Bowling Green / Fostoria			X	
Peerless Oil Co.	Elyria / Lorain / Amherst			X	
Pennlit (Litten Gas & Oil)	E. Liverpool, OH / Wheeling, WV		X	X	
People's Oil Co.	Cambridge			X	
Portsmouth Oil	Portsmouth		X	X	
United Oil Products / Marysville Oil Products (Power Plus)	Springfield/Marysville	X			
Purdy and Son	Killbuck			X	
Snyder Oil	Orrville		X		
Stellar Refining (Stellarene)	Newark		X	X	
Sterling Oil Co.	Zanesville				X
Sterling Petroleum Co.	Mt. Sterling		X		
Stoll (Golden Tip / Viscoyl)			Y		
Talley Brothers	Zanesville		X	X	
Tiona Oil Co.	Warren		X		
United Petroleum (Hyvis Lubr. Oil)	Cincinnati			X	
Vahey Oil	Warren / Salem / Youngstown		X		
Valley Home Service Station	Bridgeport	X			
Warren Petroleum Products	Warren				X
White Star Oil Co.	Eaton		X	X	X

X = OPMA Ohio map

Y = OPMA Kentucky-Tennessee map

* 1928 and 1929 Silver Flash maps of Ohio cover is not same as typical OPMA maps; they reference OPMA inside on map itself. 1930 Silver Flash map of Ohio (by Gousha) has no references to OPMA.

In 1930 Stoll used a map similar to the 1928 OPMA map for its Indiana map with no reference to OPMA and not dated on the cover.