



Georgia Post Roads

January 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 1

Savannah Manuscript Postmarks

by Frank Crown

Sav. A. Aug

Type I

Sav. 9. Aug

Type II

Sav. 21. March

Type III

The only recorded manuscript postmarks from Savannah are three different types which were used in the 1790's. The earliest examples are from 1793 and their use continued through at least 1797. The postmarks are similar but distinctively different. The first two types are very similar. Both are recognized by the town being abbreviated "Sav" with a final letter raised above a period or dash. The final letter in Type I is an "a" and in Type II an "h". The third postmark (Type III) is merely the town abbreviated "Sav" followed by a colon.

In the illustrations above the Type II and Type III markings are not as clear as desired. The Type II marking is taken from a postmark that has bled somewhat and the Type III marking is taken from a microfilm image and has therefore lost some of its clarity.

The Type I postmark is the most common with eight examples recorded. The earliest is dated 10 March 1793 and the latest 4 August 1797. Every example of this postmark with the exception of one is written across the left end of the cover. On all but one of these covers the postmark is at least partially written over the left side of the address. Of

the eight recorded examples, six are in the Georgia Archives.

There are only two recorded examples of the Type II postmark. The covers are dated in June and August of 1796, near the end of the period of use of the Type I postmark. Interestingly both these postmarks are written in the upper left corner of the cover clear of the address. Also, both recorded examples are in the hands of collectors.

The Type III postmark is the rarest of the Savannah manuscript postmarks. It is dated 21 March 1797 at the end of the period of use of the Type I postmark. Only one example has been recorded and it is in the National Archives.

Of the eleven recorded examples of Savannah manuscript postmarks only four are known to be in the hands of collectors. Additional copies are probably in the hands of collectors but none have been seen in the philatelic market in the last twenty-five years. Many more examples are undoubtedly in the numerous files of correspondence in the Georgia archives.

Illustrations of several covers bearing the three different Savannah manuscript postmarks are at Figures 1 - 4. (Continued on page 6).



Georgia at Auction

Robert A. Siegel Auctions held two important sales for Georgia collectors on 11 and 12 December. The first was a sale of Confederate postal history. Included was a March (1861) cover from Savannah to Switzerland with two copies of U. S. #24 and a Griffin 31 May (1861) postmark on a star die envelope. Among the provisionals were off cover stamps from Athens and a Ringgold marking on piece. There were full covers from Athens, Atlanta, Milledgeville and Thomasville. The cover from Atlanta had a striking red corner card of the *Southern Confederacy* newspaper.

Among the general issues was a cover from Washington, Ga. with a 5c green #1 and a 5c blue #7 tied by the town postmark. Other general issues included a 10c blue Paterson #2 tied by a Columbus postmark, a 10c blue #12 used from Social Circle, a privately perforated 10c blue #12 used from Forsyth and a 10c greenish blue #11 used on a "Georgia State Guard" semi-official envelope from Atlanta.

Other covers included two outstanding patriotic covers with Waynesville and Dawson GA postmarks, and a Savannah Southern Express cover with a 5c green #1 on cover to Macon. Adversity covers included one made from an illustrated medicine wrapper used from Atlanta and a cover made from a publisher's broadside used from Sandersville. Finally there was a cover bearing a "Forwarded by E. H. Cushing" label on the reverse and posted at Atlanta with a pair of 5c blue #7 stamps.

The second sale included U. S. stamps and covers. This sale included a 1796 cover with a manuscript Savannah postmark. However, the most important items in the sale were eight lots of covers bearing 1847

issues used from Georgia. Included were two covers from Macon, three from Roswell, two from Savannah and one from Washington. This was an unprecedented opportunity to obtain one of these scarce covers.

Another sale of interest to Georgia collectors is the upcoming Shreves Philatelic Galleries 20 January sale. This sale includes three covers bearing 1847 issues used from Georgia. They include a 5c and 10c stamp used on covers from Roswell and 10c stamp used on cover from Olive Grove. Among the modern issues are a Juliette Low first day cover from Savannah with a Dorothy Knapp hand painted cachet and a Moina Michael first day cover from Athens with a Dorothy Knapp hand painted cachet. Included in the Confederate section are provisionals from Athens and Dalton. Among the general issues is a 2c green on cover postmarked Macon, a 5c blue #4 tied by a Kingston postmark and a 20c green bisect used from Augusta.

Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today. 1847 issues used from Georgia. Census on a disk for IBM PC - \$5.00 S/H. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [6/3] BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

Post Road Notes

The super bargain of \$12.50 for two years membership in the Georgia Postal History Society is past. The results, while encouraging, are less than expected. Only about 60% of our membership took advantage of the bargain. One wonders what the others were thinking. I am sure many just put the dues notice aside and forgot it. I have done this several times myself with other organizations. Usually they are not so forgiving as I end up paying a late fee. In any event about half of our members will get a "final notice" for their dues with this issue. Hopefully this one will not be put aside and forgotten.

As always, I am looking for contributions to *Georgia Post Roads*. As I have mentioned many times before I desperately need your articles and news items. Articles do not need to be complete. Even if you only have an idea or a "like to see" wish for an article drop me a line. For example, McCary Ballard wrote a short note that he would like to see something on the Savannah manuscript postmarks. He also included a cover from his collection. The result is the lead article in this issue. I cannot promise I can always turn your idea or wish into an article but we can certainly work together on it.

If you have a news item, you can send me the details on a postcard or by e-mail. Items can be most anything that relates to Georgia postal history. One thing that has not received much attention are the local stamp shows that take place in Georgia or surrounding states. If you have a local show send me the details as early as you can so they will appear in *GPR* before the event.

When it rains it pours. In the space of 60 days at least 11 different covers bearing 1847 issues used from Georgia will have come on the market. This represents about 13 per cent

of the recorded examples! The Siegel sale of 12 December (eight covers) and the upcoming Shreves sale of 20 January (three covers) represent the largest number of these covers I have seen on the market at one time. This is a golden opportunity if you are interested in this facet of Georgia postal history.

The annual membership list will be mailed with the next issue of *GPR*. I will include e-mail addresses for those that have them. If you have not corresponded with me by e-mail before and want your address included in the list please send me an e-mail at fcrown@ro.com.

Your address label now includes the year through which your dues are paid. For those that took advantage of the two-year membership this number is "97." For those who have not yet paid the number is "95."

Frank

Roster Changes

One address change to report:

Scott C. Ward, 2636 Dellwood Drive NW,
Atlanta, GA 30305

Members in the News

Charles O'Brien, who has been our representative to the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs, was elected President of the Federation.

Ed Jackson continues as Secretary of the Federation.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES
IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET!**



Modern Postmarks

Listed below are the latest special postmarks reported for Georgia.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS
Station, Atlanta, GA 30303, 28 October 1995. Features a baseball with a tomahawk to the right.

FORT VALLEY STATE COLLEGE
Station, Fort Valley, GA 31230-9998. Features a clock tower.

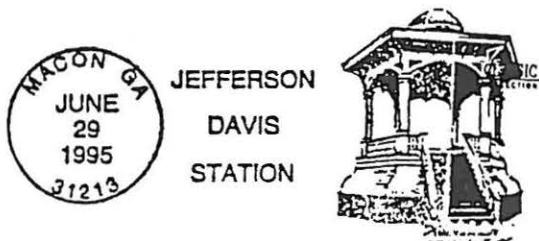
GAPEX Station, 525 Eighth Street, Augusta, GA 30901-9998. Features a boat.

COLUMBUS COLLEGE Station, Box 9998, Columbus, GA 31907-9998. Features clock tower in circular crest of "Columbus College 1958 - 24th Annual Model United Nations."

In addition to the listing of new postmarks Lowrell Pierce sent covers with several of the postmarks mentioned in this and earlier columns. These postmarks are illustrated below.

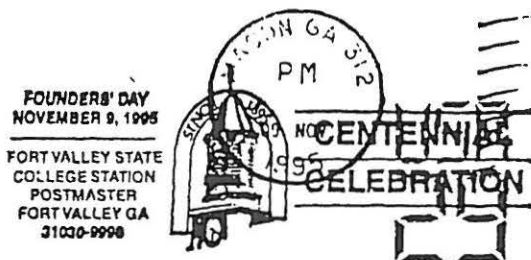


"Legends of Hollywood - Celebrity Station" in Macon. Marking in black ink.



"Jefferson Davis Station" in Macon. Marking is in black and red ink. The red

ink is rare with only about 20 copies prepared. Note the letters to the right of the roof are from the marginal inscription of the stamp used on this cover.



"Founder's Day - Fort Valley State College Station." Marking in black ink. Special postmark is canceled over by a Macon postmark. The stenciled "USA" and "29" are from the stamped envelope cover.

Upcoming Shows

- 20-21 Jan - Winter Stamp & Postcard Show, Woodhill Mall, 6300 Garner's Ferry Road, Columbia, SC. Hours, Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM. Free.
- 10-11 Feb - ALAPEX '96. Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 9th Ave. SW (Exit 108 on I-20/I-59), Bessemer, AL. Hours, Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM. Free.
- 24-25 Feb - Spring Stamp Festival '96, Gwinnett Civic Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway at Satellite Blvd (Exit 42 on I-85 NE of Atlanta), Duluth, GA. Hours: Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM. Free.

Coming Soon

Future issues will contain an article on the "Savannah Star" late black period and an interesting "cover to ponder." And there will be more "Cracker Covers." Why not submit one of your covers for this column?

GEORGIA'S RAILROADS

by Douglas N. Clark

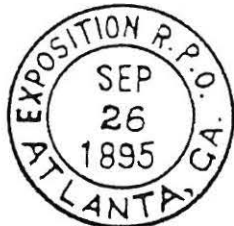
Atlanta Exposition R.P.O. Part II

U.S. Exposition expert William G. Bomar has written to me about the Cotton States and International Exposition (Atlanta 1895), the subject of my last Georgia Post Roads column. Bomar is the author of *Postal Markings of United States Expositions* (David G. Phillips Publishing Co., North Miami, FL, 1986) and a prominent R.P.O. collector and member of the board of directors of the Mobile Post Office Society.



Type I

Bomar reports that he has recorded 35 copies of the Type I Atlanta Exposition R.P.O. marking, earliest 10/10/95 and latest 1/10/96, about half on cards and half on covers.



Type II

Of the Type II postmark, he has recorded four, none of which, by the way, are registered, the purpose for which I had imagined the postmark was intended. But Bomar has not seen an example of the small

CDS (Type III) and conjectures, as I do, that it comes from a reduced photocopy of a Type I marking.



Type III

Fred MacDonald, who assumed the editorship of the U.S.R.P.O. Catalog upon the death of Charles L. Towle, concurs in this. He has been unable to locate the cover or photocopy from which Towle traced the Type III marking, before his death.

I also discussed these matters at Peach State Stamp Show with GPHS member Roy Delafosse, who is familiar with the first two markings, but who, also, has never seen the Type III marking.

Bomar continues that he believes the Exposition R.P.O. postmarks to have been applied on a remodeled U.S. mail car, rebuilt from a surplus car, occupying a permanent siding next to the Transportation Building at the exposition. Bomar considers the car to have been rendered immobile, for display on its siding only. I wonder where Earl Moore got the idea it was a Chicago R.P.O. car. I would love to see a picture, so we could determine for sure!

I am grateful to Bill Bomar, who has been in ill health of late, for his prompt and thorough response to my inquiry. I hope that we will some day be able to determine whether the Type III marking really exists or is the result of a tracing made from an undersized photocopy.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES
IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET!**

Savannah Postmarks (from page 1)

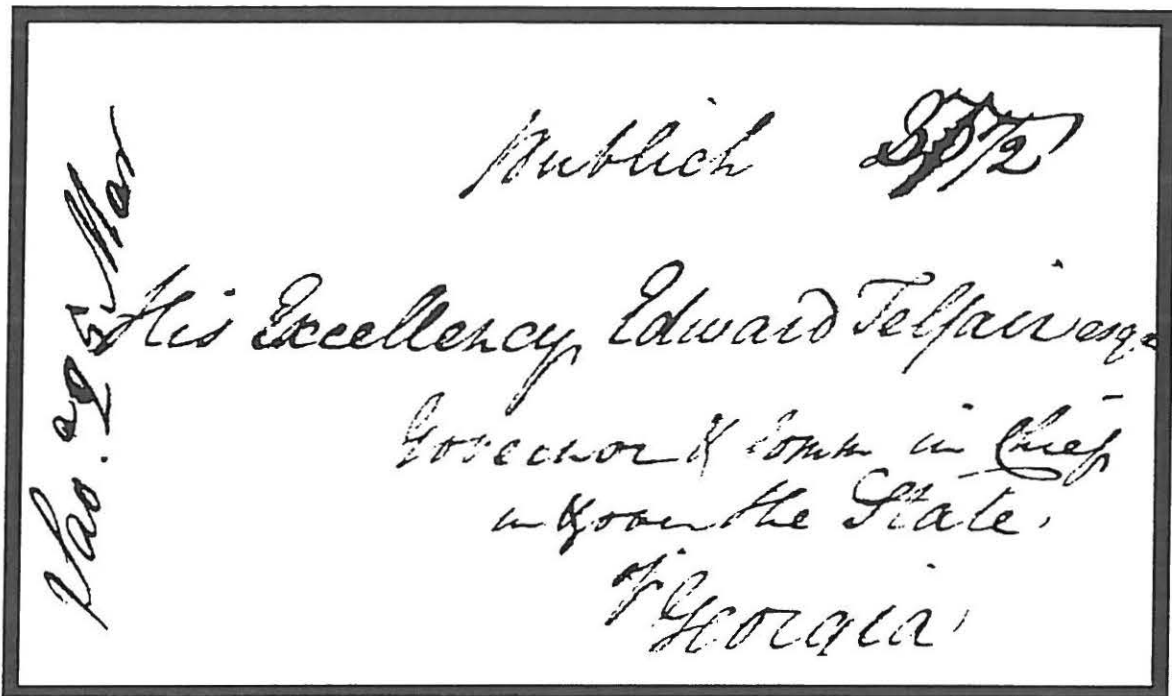


Figure 1. Type I Sav.^a postmark dated 25 March (1793) on a folded letter to Governor Telfair. The cover appears to have been rerated "37 1/2" from "25". The annotation "Publich" was probably applied to indicate the contents concerned public business. (James Jackson correspondence in the Georgia Archives)

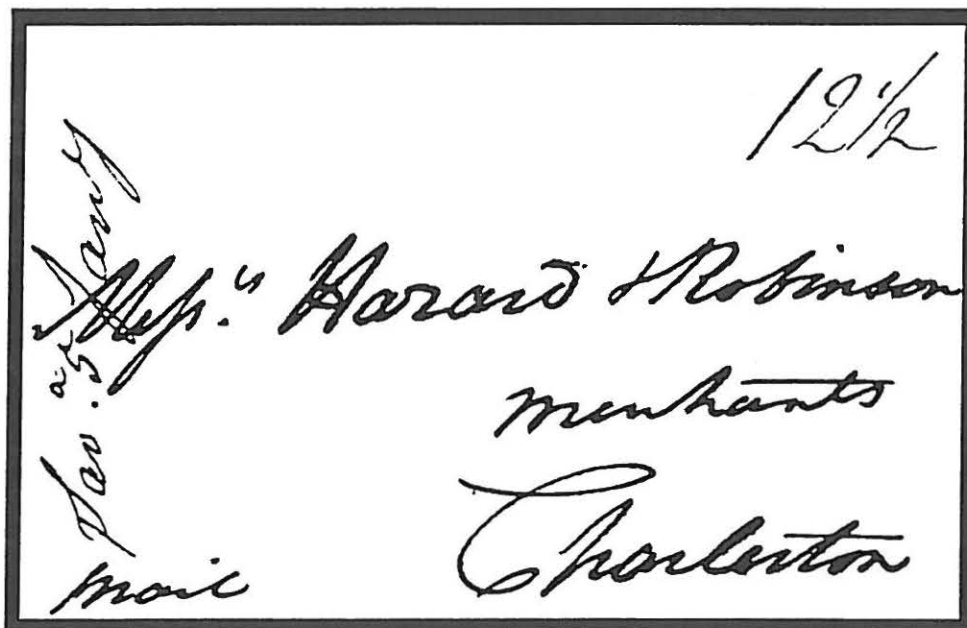


Figure 2. Type I red-brown Sav.^a postmark dated 5 January (1794) on date docketed cover to Charleston. (Collection of McCary Ballard)

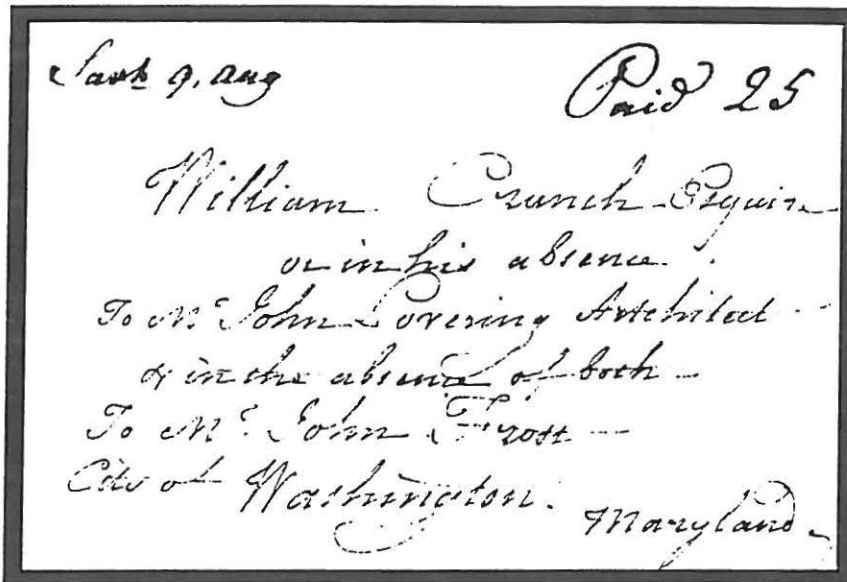


Figure 3. Type II brown "Sav.^h" postmark dated 9 August (1796) on dated folded letter to City of Washington in Maryland. Note the letter writer considered the new national capital to still be in Maryland. (Collection of Ernie Owens)

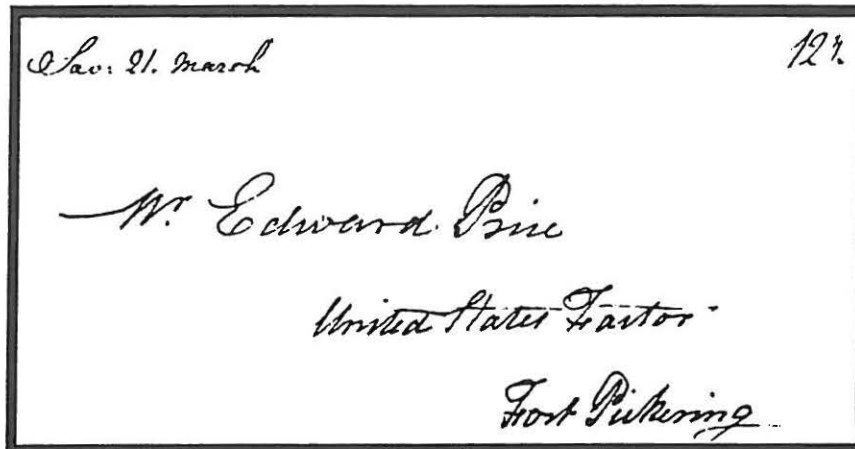
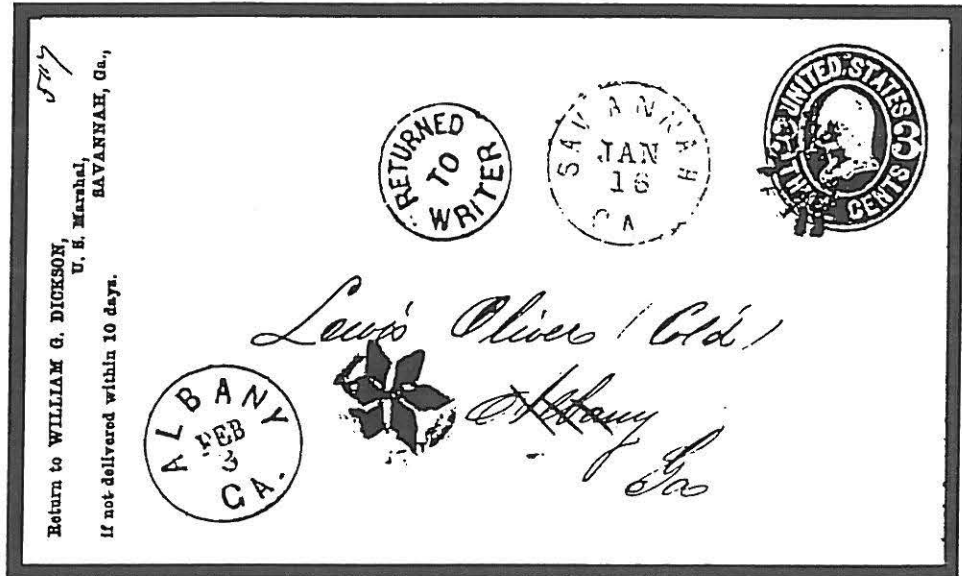


Figure 4. Type III "Sav." postmark dated 21 March (1797) on a dated folded letter to Fort Pickering (Georgia). (Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Indian Trade, Creek Factory Records, 1795-1821. National Archives microfilm publication M1334)

Support the GPHS by getting a new member in '96.

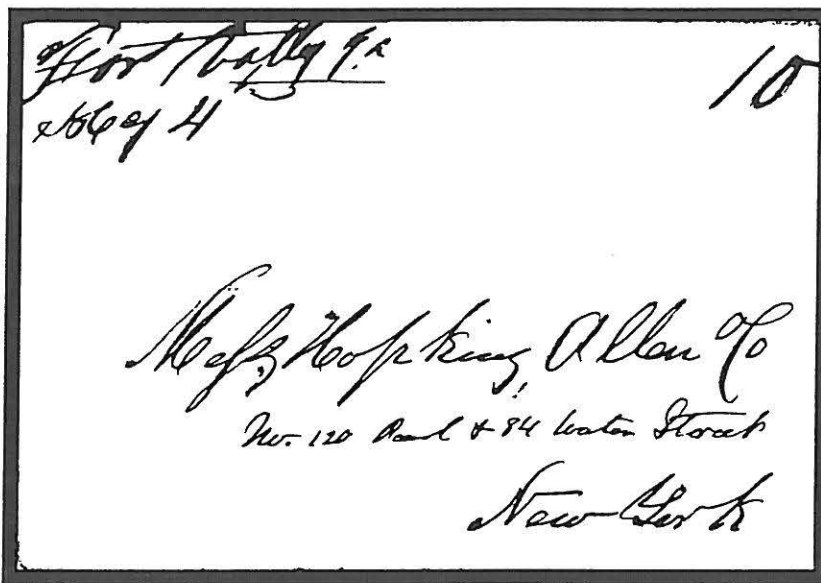
Cracker Covers

This interesting cover was in a recent Kelleher auction. It has a blue Savannah 16 January postmark with a blue geometric fancy cancel. The cover addressed to Albany was returned from that town on 3 February by a black postmark with an attached



geometric cancel and a black "RETURNED TO WRITER" handstamp. The year was probably in the late 1860's. One of the most interesting aspects of this cover is its

addressee, "Lewis Oliver (Col'd)". Does "Col'd" stand for "colored?" Do members have other examples of "Col'd" or "colored" used in the address of postwar covers?



Stampless cover with a 4 May (1848) Fort Valley, Ga. postmark. This cover is interesting because it is said the name submitted to the Post Office Department was "Fox Valley." Someone in the Post Office Department apparently misread the name and established the office as "Fort Valley." There is no record of there ever being a fort at the site. (Submitted by Ernie Owens.)

DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET!



Georgia Post Roads

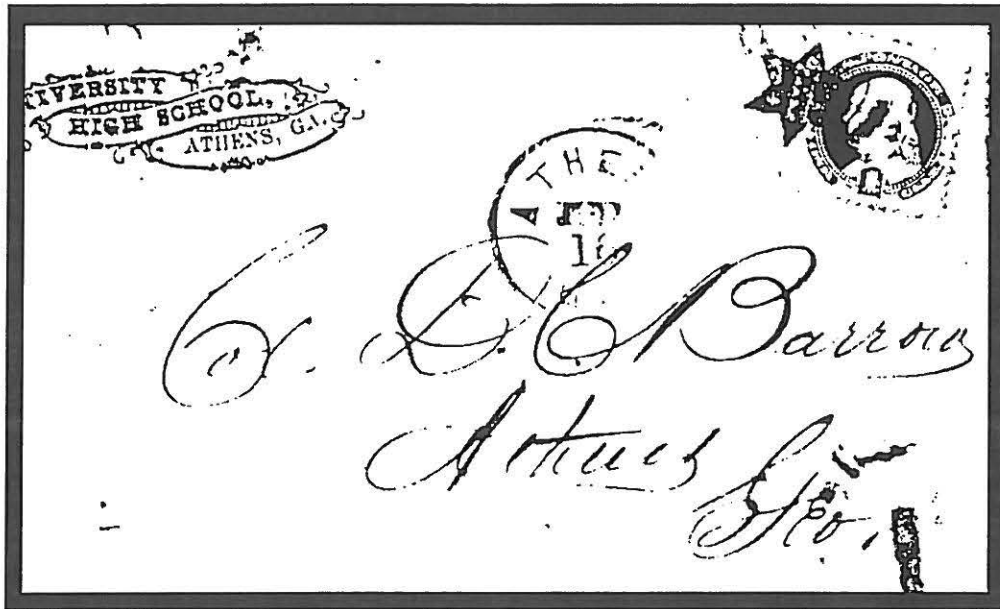
March 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 2

University High School Cover

By Frank Crown



Black Athens postmark and fancy six pointed star cancel on University High School corner card used as a drop letter about 1870.

The cover illustrated above is interesting for many reasons. First is its value as an example of postal history from the Reconstruction period in Georgia. It features a 1¢ stamp from the 1869 issue tied by a black Athens six pointed star fancy cancel. Clear bold fancy cancels like this are an exception from Georgia towns. Finally it is a rare use of a corner card as a drop letter in the town of origin.

A look into the history of the period reveals that the University High School was originally built in 1859 and was intended for the freshmen and sophomore classes attending the University of Georgia. However, it was soon found that the students would not go there saying they would sooner stay at home. As a result the school became

a preparatory school for the University and was dedicated as the University High School on 29 April 1862.

The school opened with Mr. Benjamin R. Carroll as principal and Mr. L. H. Charbonnier as assistant. During the war the students were formed into companies and trained under Mr. Charbonnier, a graduate of St. Cyr in France. After the war the school continued to flourish under the guidance of Professor B. T. Hunter and Mr. W. W. Lumpkin.

Over the course of the years the school was known the Collegiate Institute, the University High School and Rock College.

My thanks to Gary Doster for the information about the University High School.



Modern Postmarks

If you are interested in ink-jet postmarks there is a listing of all U. S. postmarks of this type. The list is 75 pages long and is up to date through 10 December of last year. It is available for \$5.50 postpaid or \$10.00 for a year (one basic list and four updates). Order from Wes Perkinson, c/o Fidelity Contract Services, Inc., Box 73819, Puyallup, WA 987373-0819.

Only one new special cancel from Georgia to report.

CHERRY BLOSSOM STATION, 451 College Street, Macon, GA 31213-9998, March 15-24. Included ribbon and rosette inscribed "1983 / ABA Top 100 Event in N. A. / 1996."

UPCOMING SHOWS

25-26 May BUTTPEX VII. The Harvey Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn), 6345 Powers Ferry Road NW at I-285 exit 15, Atlanta, GA. Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 10AM-4PM. (William Callahan 334-566-6970).

Roster Changes

The following members are dropped for non payment of dues.

Patrick S. Bernard
Greater Augusta Stamp Club
John B. Haynie
Norman F. Jacobs, Jr.
Robert E. Johnson

**Support the GPHS
Get a new member in '96**



Georgia at Auction

The only auction activity to report is from the Kukstis sale of 2 March. The prices realized are given after each description.

Georgia lots included three stampless covers with Savannah postmarks. A red double circle Savannah postmark on a 1823 stampless cover (\$40); a red Savannah star postmark on a 1846 forwarded stampless cover with an originating postmark of Northampton, MA (\$46); and a Savannah star postmark on a 1857 "Ship Letter" with a handstamp "5" marking and two strikes of the Savannah straight line "STEAM BOAT" marking (\$75).

Other lots included a blue bird fancy cancel socked on the nose of a 3¢ #65 on cover from Savannah (\$50.00) and a 1859 cover from Augusta to Switzerland used with a 12¢ #36 and a vertical pair of the 3¢ #26 (\$85).



Trading Post

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Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today. 1847 issues used from Georgia. Census on a disk for IBM PC - \$5.00 S/H. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [6/3] BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

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Post Road Notes

This issue is somewhat delayed. However, I was on a business trip for three weeks and did not have the time to put together an issue sooner. Fortunately it is six pages and also, as promised, contains the current year's membership roster.

My trip did afford me the opportunity to make two stamp shows, the "Mega Event" in New York and a small bourse in Alexandria, VA. At both shows the amount of Georgia postal history material was scarce. Some dealers had one or two covers. I found only one dealer at the New York show that had any depth in his stock and only one at the Alexandria show.

It is with reservation that we are forced to drop several of our members for non-payment of dues. Our dues are quite reasonable, particularly if you took advantage of the special at the end of last year. If one does not pay the annual dues, they cannot expect to continue to receive the benefits of the society. If you know one or more of the individuals dropped for non-payment of dues, ask if they would like to pay up and renew their membership. We will be glad to have them back.

This issue introduces two new features. First is the "Cover to Ponder" column and the second is "Patriotic Corner." The first will present Georgia postal history items which require some thought to determine or speculate on their actual usage. It is hope this column will provide a forum for members to both present and provide comments on items of interest. "Patriotic Corner" will focus on patriotic covers used from Georgia. Many are already familiar with the Confederate patriotics. However, there are also many interesting patriotics from other wars.

Frank

Digging Through the 25¢ Cover Box

I recently went to a collectible show at the local mall which was advertised to have stamp dealers. Much to my surprise I found there were more than a half dozen dealers present. Although Georgia material as usual was scarce, I did find one dealer with a large box of 25¢ covers which included many Georgia covers.

As I looked through the box, I found many examples of the handstamp postmark that features a numeral within an oval killer. One of these caught my eye because the year date was not in the circular postmark but between the postmark and the killer (Figure 1).

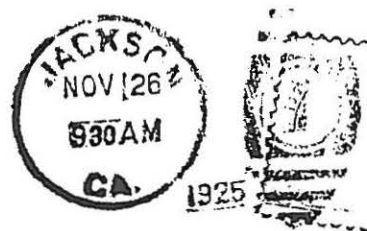


Figure 1. Black Jackson, Ga. postmark with a 1925 year date between postmark and killer.

Further digging produced a second example of this type postmark (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Black Athens, Ga. postmark with a 1909 year date between postmark and killer.

While these postmarks are by no means rare, they are much scarcer than those which have the year date within the postmark. It would be interesting to find out how many of these postmarks are known from Georgia towns.

Cover to Ponder



Vertical pair of 5¢ #1 tied by “STEAM BOAT” handstamp on forwarded cover with red Decatur, Ga. postmark

This is the first of what is hoped will be many columns to focus on the unusual aspect of markings, stamps and covers used from Georgia. This is your forum in which to share an unusual cover with other members as well as provide your comments on the “cover to ponder.”

The cover illustrated above features a vertical pair of 5¢ #1 just tied by a black “STEAM BOAT” straight line handstamp. Just below the pair of stamps is a handstamp black “5” marking. The cover is addressed to Clair Dearing in Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia, U.S. and has a red March Decatur, Ga. postmark at the upper left.

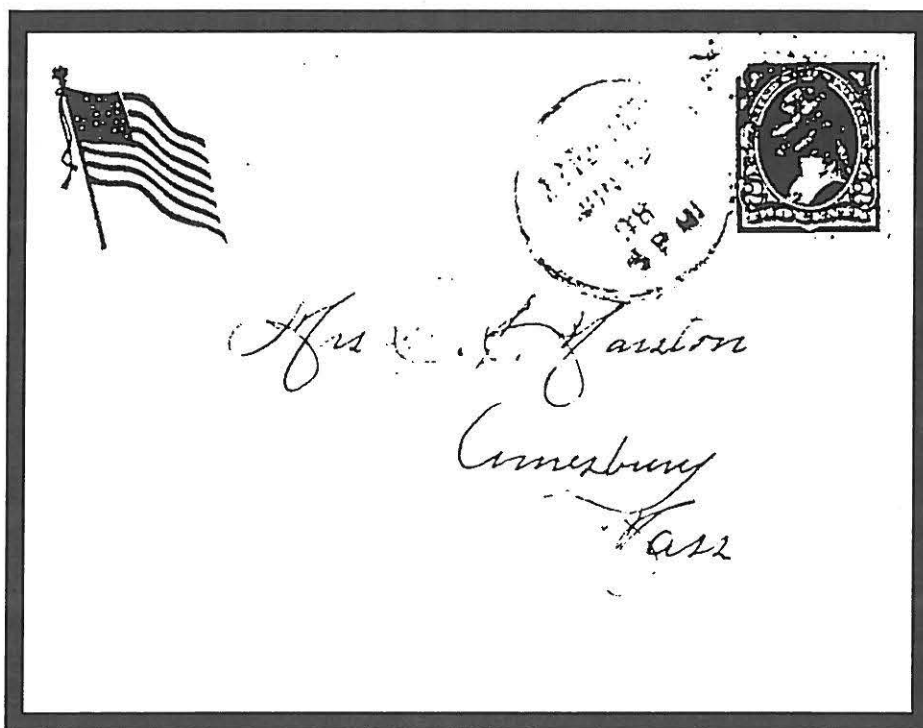
Already the cover is quite interesting. First a vertical pair is much scarcer than a horizontal pair of stamps. Then there is the “STEAM BOAT” handstamp. The handstamp is not a type known to be used by any Georgia post office. Further the use of “U. S.” in the address indicates the cover originated overseas. The use of a pair of 5¢

stamps indicates the letter entered the U. S. mails somewhere more than 300 miles from Decatur. However, this does not account for the handstamp “5” marking.

There are several more markings of note on the cover. First is the “Ford 5 / 10” manuscript marking below the handstamp “5”. Then there is a manuscript notation at the lower left which appears to read “Paid, PM”. Finally the “Decatur, DeKalb Co” portion of the address is lined through and “Savannah” written in. The first and last markings are indicative of a cover which was forwarded from one town to another. However, there is no rational explanation for the notation “Paid, PM”.

The quality of the illustration in this first column is the best that could be rendered from a photocopy obtained from an auction house several years ago. What are your comments on the cover? Write the editor or send e-mail to fcrown@ro.com.

Patriotic Corner



Simple red, white and blue U. S. flag on cover with 2¢ stamp tied by 15 June 1898 Lytle, Ga. postmark. The cover is addressed to Amesbury, Mass.

Patriotic covers were an early element of the postal history of the Confederacy. Patriotics specific to Georgia as well as those pertaining to the Confederacy in general are well known to collectors. More than thirty years passed before patriotics were used again, this time for the Spanish-American War. This is an area that has not received much attention to date although the covers are available in numbers from many dealers.

At least four camps were established in Georgia to train men for military operations against Spain: Chickamauga National Military Park, Griffin, Macon and Athens. Many patriotic covers of this period bear the postmark of Chickamauga National Park or Lytle, a nearby town. Spanish-American

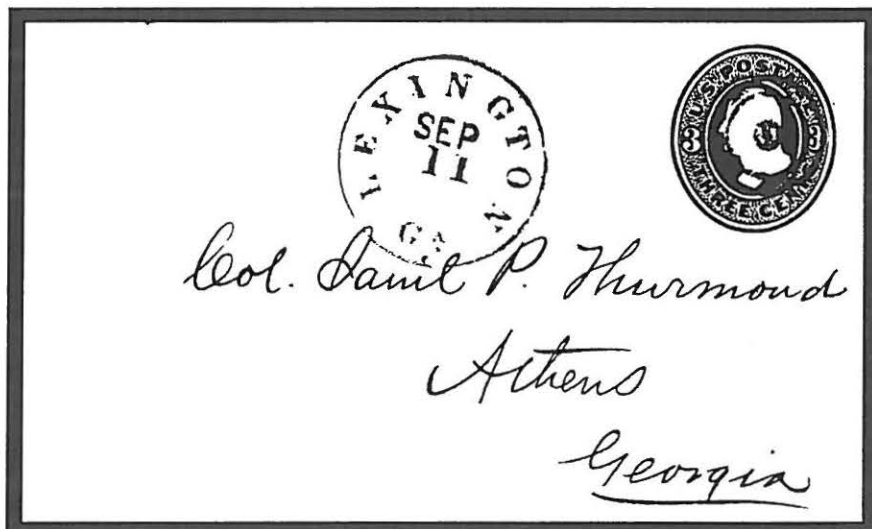
patriotic covers are also known used from Savannah and probably other Georgia cities as well.

During the 20th century patriotic covers were prepared for the First and Second World Wars. Patriotics were also probably prepared for the Korean War and possibly the war in Viet-Nam. All of these covers represent an interesting facet of the postal history of Georgia.

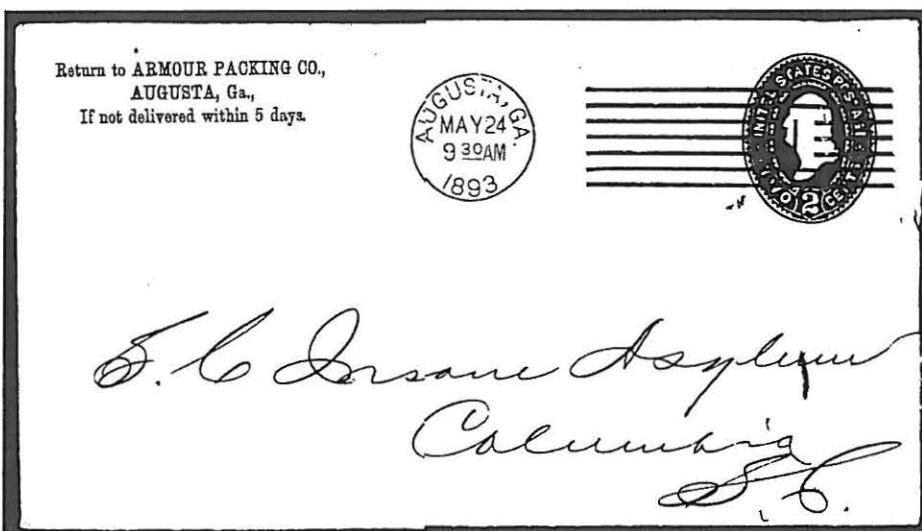
Illustrated above is a Spanish-American War patriotic featuring a simple U. S. flag in the upper left corner cancelled by a poor Lytle, Ga. strike. The flag is in natural color with the white stars and stripes actually being colorless with the white envelope providing the color.

Cracker Covers

This cover bears a Lexington, Ga. postmark used in combination with a target type killer on a 3¢ green #U163 envelope. What makes this cover interesting is the postmark. It is a type first used by the Lexington post office before the Civil War. This cover is dated no earlier than 1874 by the envelope. In spite of most Georgia post offices being provided with new postmarks



immediately after the war this covers shows the Lexington office continued to use the old prewar postmark for at least nine years after the war.



This cover bears a 24 May 1893 Augusta, Ga. postmark on a 2¢ 1887 envelope. It looks like a rather common cover and that is what it is unless someone can come up with something special about it. The cancel is a machine cancel of the International Postal Supply Company of New York. It features

a seven line straight bar killer with the machine number across the middle three bars about one third of the way in from the right side. We can speculate that the letter was about supplying meat from the Armour Packing Company in Augusta to the South Carolina Insane Asylum in Columbia, SC.

Georgia Postal History Society

Membership Roster - March 1996

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Bansner, Phil; P.O. Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609-2529
Bridges, H. I. Jr.; 217 Ridgeland Drive, Sandersville, GA 31082-1223
Bridges, Sara B.; 217 Ridgeland Drive, Sandersville, GA 31082-1223
Byne, Richard H.; 7518 Buckskin Lane, San Antonio, TX 78227-2716

Carrubba, Gregory; 215 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Clark, Douglas N.; P.O. Box 51, Lexington, GA 30648 [dnc@alpha.math.uga.edu]
Confederate Philately, Inc.; 88 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108
Crown, Francis J. Jr.; P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758-0171 [fcrown@ro.com]

Delafosse, Roy E. Jr.; 1785 Samaria Trail, Tucker, GA 30084
Doster, Gary L.; 1230 Bob Godfrey Road, Athens, GA 30605-5316
[doster.g@calc.vet.uga.edu]

Espy, Eugene M.; 1383 Briarcliff Road, Macon, GA 31211

Forte, Jim; P.O. Box 94822, Las Vegas, NV 89193 [jimforte@ix.netcom.com]

Garrard, Jr., R. Lamar; 1131 N. Eisenhower Court, Augusta, GA 30904

Jackson, Edwin L.; 255 Greystone Terrace, Athens, GA 30606-4472
[jackson@igs.cviog.uga.edu]

O'Brien, Charles J. III; 3475 Oak Valley Road, #1540, Atlanta, GA 30326
Owens, Ernest C.; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872-6183

Pierce, T. Lowrell; 5997 Sardis Church Road, Macon, GA 31206
Postal History Foundation; P.O. Box 40725, Tuscon, AZ 85717-0725
Pou, Robert L.; 202 E 45th Street, Savannah, GA 31405

Rybolt, Robert M.; 800 William R. Day Building, Canton, OH 44702

Sanders, Warren H.; 10833 Greencrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70811-1831
Stanton, Thomas E.; 2109 Alice Ave, Apt #2, Oxen Hill, MD 20745-3507
Sterken, Margie; 121 N. Stratford Drive, Athens, GA 30605

Teal, Harvey S.; 2337 Terrace Way, Columbia, SC 29205

Ward, C. Scott; 2636 Dellwood Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30305
Willis, J. Edward; P.O. Box 1594, Valdosta, GA 31603-1594



Georgia Post Roads

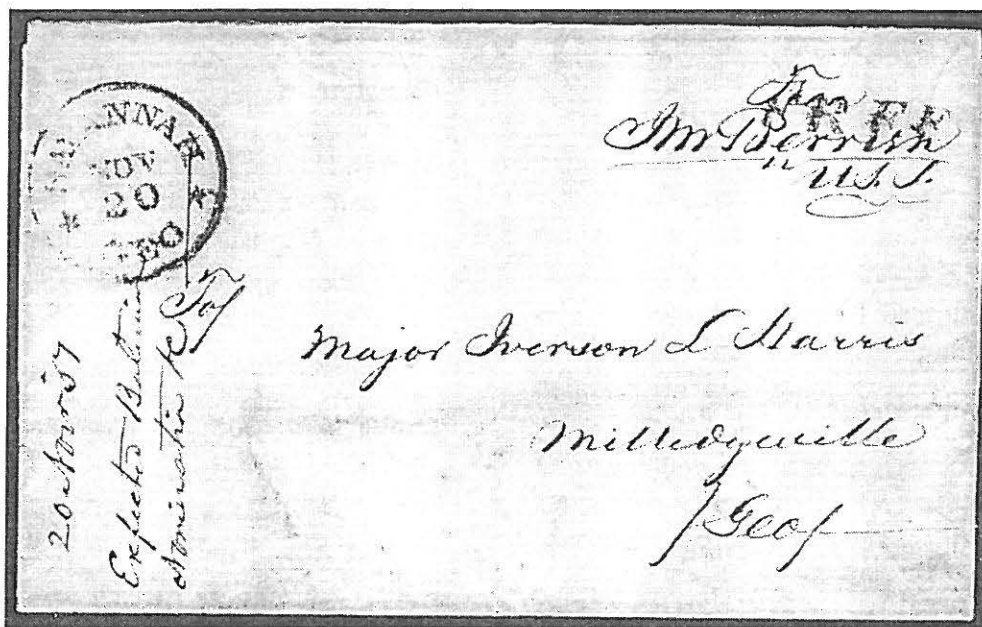
May 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 3

The "Savannah Star" Late Black Period

By Frank Crown



This earliest reported "Savannah Star" postmark used from the late black period. The postmark is dated 20 November (1851) and is used on a cover franked by Senator John M. Berrien. A black italic straight line "FREE" is just above the free frank.

The March 1995 issue of *GPR* contained an article on the early black period of the "Savannah Star" postmark. This article completes the story of the black "Savannah Star" postmarks with a look at stampless usages during the late period.

The "Savannah Star" late black period began when the Savannah post office switched from red ink to black ink sometime during the period 1 August to 3 September 1851. The last recorded red postmark is a "SAVANNAH Ga. / 3" used on 1 August 1851. The first recorded black postmark in the late period is a "SAVANNAH Ga. / 5" used on 3 September 1851. The earliest

recorded "Savannah Star" postmark in the late period is dated 20 November 1851. The "Savannah Star" postmark continued in use right up to the Confederate period as did the use of black ink.

Dates are more difficult to pin down during the late black period because there are fewer covers recorded for this period. While covers are recorded for all but one month of the early black period, this is not the case for the late period. Only five covers are recorded for the period November 1851 to March 1853. Five more are recorded for the period 1854 to 1859. There are two reasons (continued page 4)



Georgia at Auction

The only sale to report on is the Kukstis sale of 26-27 April 1996. This sale had a selection of both U.S. and Confederate stampless covers. Among the more unusual stamped covers was a Confederate cover with pair of 5c #7 tied by a violet Augusta postmark.

Georgia Place-Names

Georgia Place-Names, Their History and Origins by Kenneth K. Krakow is an excellent work on the names of places in Georgia both well known and forgotten. The original edition of this book was published in 1975. It is now available in an updated second edition.

This book is strongly recommended to anyone who has an interest in the history of Georgia. It is available from Leonard Hartmann, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233, at the very reasonable price of \$22.50 postpaid.

Buyer Beware!

The following was seen in a recent auction catalog.

Copy of a Columbus Ga Express Mail Cover, Aug 28 1837 letter copied, folded and with notations of Postal Mark and 75c rate, to Boston Mass; Fine and unusual Est 30-40

If I read this correctly, the auction house is estimating \$30-40 for a transcript of an express cover letter, not even a photocopy!

Robert E. Johnson

Bob, a well known dealer member from south Georgia, passed away on 13 March 1996. His passing is a loss to all his philatelic friends.

Roster Changes

Reinstatements:

John B. Haynie. 2210 Fair Haven Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30305-4317
Greater Augusta Stamp Club, P.O. Box 15151, Augusta, GA 30919

Deceased:

Robert E. Johnson, Putney, GA



Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today. 1847 issues used from Georgia. Census on a disk for IBM PC - \$5.00 S/H. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [6/3] BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

Post Road Notes

There are several surprises in this issue of the GPR. First is the quality of the illustrations. They will be much better now that I have a new flat bed scanner. The scanner I used previously had some severe limitations. The new scanner has few if any.

The second surprise is the New Echota straight line postmark. This discovery is a direct result of the cooperative nature of our hobby. A simple request for information generated the leads that lead to the discovery of this interesting postmark. If you have some information on a subject don't hesitate to share it with others. Who knows it might lead to the discovery of other postal history rarities.

New technology is changing our lives daily and it is becoming more influential in philately as well. During the last six months the amount of philatelic traffic on the Internet has increased many fold. Something I find most useful are the home pages which contain auction information. At first this was mainly a list of upcoming auctions with a few illustrations and some listings. Now complete auction catalogs are posted. As an example the latest Robert S. Siegel and Kukstis catalogs are at the Stamp Auction Central home page. These are the text listings without illustrations. However they are an excellent way to view a sale if you don't normally get a firm's catalogs.

The latest innovation is to have the catalog available in a compressed data file for downloading. I downloaded several of these from Stamp Auction Central and was able to quickly write a program that lets me retrieve all lots which contain any string of characters I desire. Thus I can quickly scan a catalog to see if there are any lots which contain words

or character strings like "Georgia," "Atlanta," or "Savannah". This is a quick way to scan a catalog for items of specific interest.

"Cover to Ponder" and "Patriotic Corner" do not appear in this issue because of the space devoted to the article on the "Savannah Star" postmarks. They will return in the next issue.

Finally this issue is a week or so late getting out like the last. And like the last it is due to a prolonged business trip. Hopefully these will be over in another few months.

Frank



Modern Postmarks

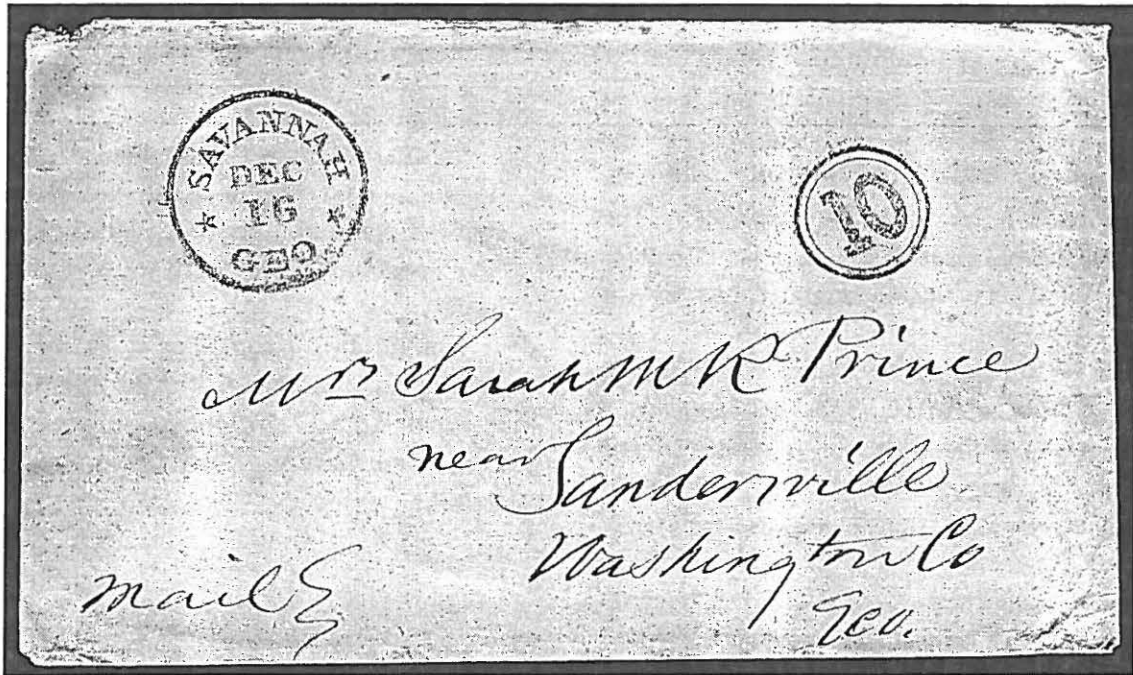
OLYMPHILEX '96 Station, P.O. Box 9998, Lexington, GA 30648-9998, 23 March. Features negative stamp frame around logo of scroll, Olympic rings and column for "Cultural Olympics Atlanta 1996." Stamp like frame around "Olymphilex '96/Exhibition of Olympic Collectibles/Atlanta, Georgia/July 19 - August 3, 1996/Five months and counting."

21st ANNUAL WINTER GRAND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Station, Box 9998, Perry, GA 31069-9998, 25-28 March. Features oval medallion on ribbon around clock tower in crest inscribed "A Golden Opportunity in 1996."

WOMEN'S FAST-PITCH SOFTBALL Station, Columbus, GA 31908-9998, 13 April. Features cameo of woman in "U.S." baseball cap and jersey. "Centennial 1996, Columbus Area Stamp Club, 31907."

FIRST UNION GRAND PRIX Station, P.O. Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30339-9998, 28 April. Features two stylized bicyclists riding on the wavy lines of the cancel.

"Savannah Star" Postmarks (continued from page 1)



Black 16 December (1857) "Savannah Star" on cover with black "10" rate marking. This rate represents an unusual due 10 rate for a letter weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 ounce. The cover is dated in the late black period because it is an envelope. Envelopes were not in use during the early black period.

for the scarcity of covers. First, in the late 1840's several new postmarks were introduced in the Savannah office. Consequently, we see the "Savannah Star" used less and less. Secondly, folded letters were being replaced by envelopes and stationary. Many who kept letters in the past began to keep only the actual letter, throwing away the envelope.

A total of 14 covers are recorded from the late black period. This includes four for which a date is not known but which are placed in the late period because they are used on envelopes. Reported covers from the late period all bear a handstamp rate or auxiliary marking in addition to the postmark with one exception. A single cover has a manuscript "12" rate.

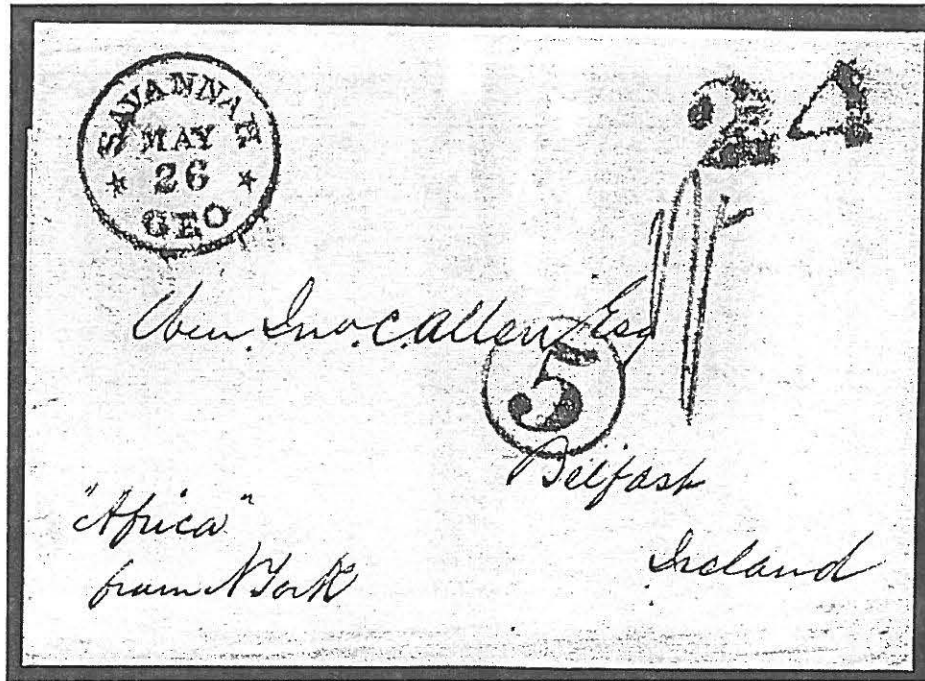
Rate markings include a "5", "10", "10" in double circle, "24" and "24" in circle.

Auxiliary rates include straight line "PAID", "STEAM BOAT" and "HAVANA." markings and straight line italic "FREE" and "PAID" markings.

It is interesting that of the 14 recorded covers three bear "STEAM BOAT" handstamps and six are international usages. One of these has the rare "HAVANA." marking. The other five have one of the two types of "24" rate marking on usages to Europe.

The New Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook also lists usages of the "Savannah Star" postmark for the years 1861 and 1862. Surprisingly both red and black usages are indicated during this period although no other handstamp or provisional markings are indicated as being known in red.

(continued page 5)



Black "Savannah Star" postmark and black "24" rate marking on 26 May (1852) cover to Belfast, Ireland



Black "Savannah Star" 21 November (1856) postmark and black circled "24" rate marking on cover to Plymouth, England.

More on "Outside" Year Date Postmarks



Normal School Station, Athens, GA postmark with year date between postmark circle and oval grid. The postmark is dated 26 October 1905.

In the last issue of *GPR* there was a short article on duplex postmarks that feature a circular town postmark and an oval grid killer with numeral. While these are quite common postmarks the article noted that some had the year date outside the circular postmark. The year date being located between the postmark and the oval grid.

Gary Doster provided the following list of Georgia towns from which he has recorded postmarks with the dates "outside." While the list may seem long, it is not when you consider Georgia had 1,000 or more post offices in operation during the period in which the postmarks were in use.

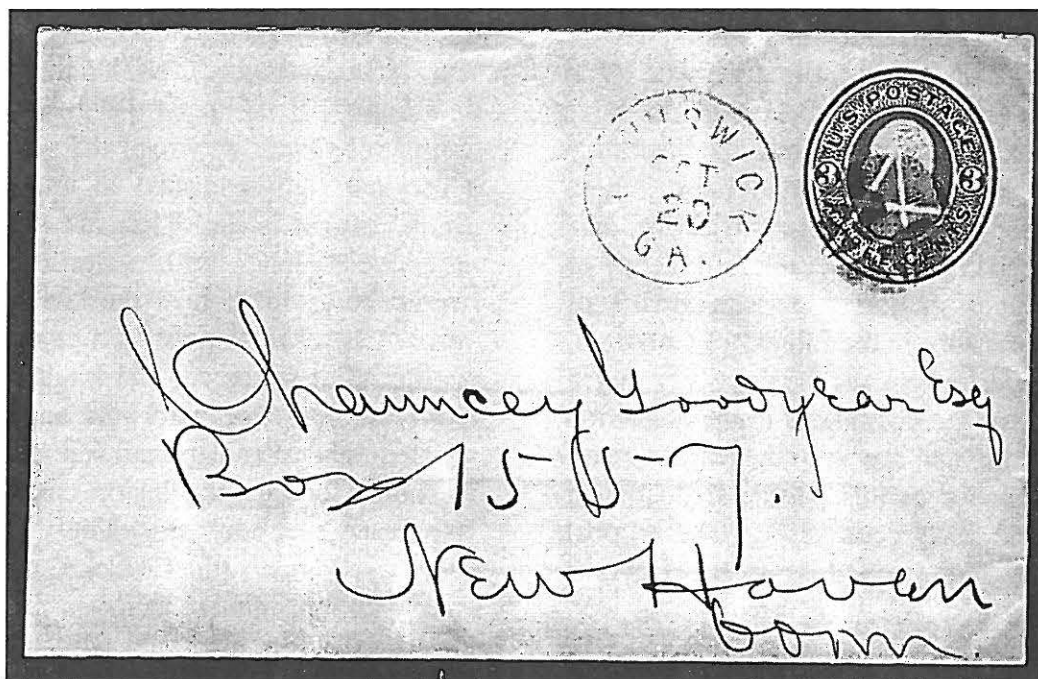
Towns/Postmarks and Recorded Years of Use

American Aviation B - 1919?
 Ashburn - 1921
 Athens -1909-10, 1928, 1932
 Athens Normal School Sta - 1905, 1907 (also see "Normal School")
 Atlanta - 1910
 Atlanta Sta A - 1907, 1911
 Atlanta Sta C - 1910
 Atlanta Ft McPherson Br - 1907-08
 Atlanta Gordon Br? or Sta? - 1920
 Atlanta Woodward Sta - 1912, 1915
 Augusta - 1909, 1912, 1916
 Augusta The Hill - 1913
 Canton - 1917
 (continued page 7)

“Outside” Year Date (continued from page 6)

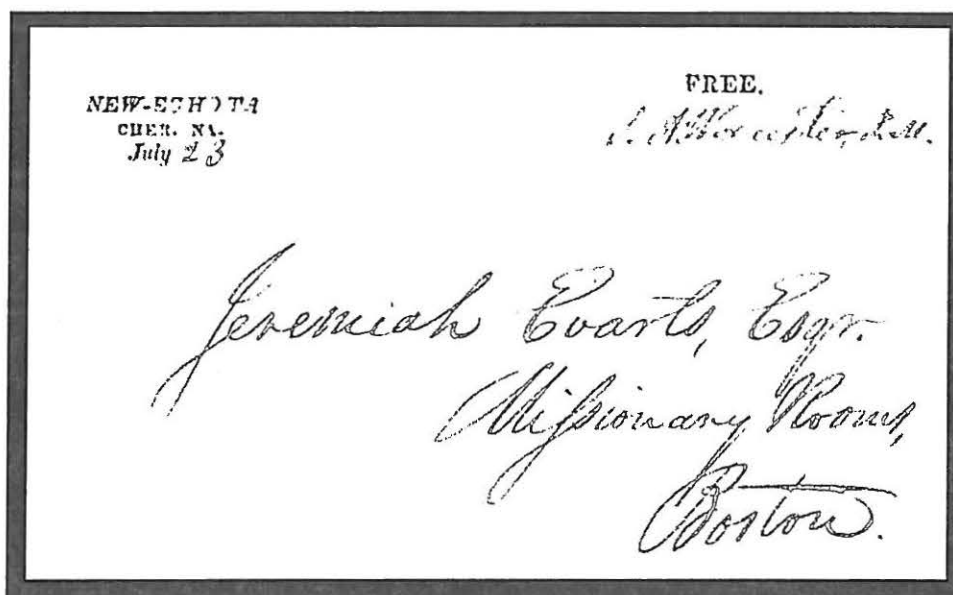
Carrollton - 1907, 1910, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1924	Milledgeville - 1909, 1913
Cartersville - 1908-10, 1912, 1917, 1922	Monroe - 1916
Cedartown - 1907, 1910-11, 1914, 1917	Monticello - 1922
Columbus - 1907-09, 1914-15	Moultrie - 1907-09, 1918
Cuthbert - 1917	Newnan - 1906
Dalton - 1907-08, 1910	Normal School - 1905, 1909-12, 1914, 1916
Dawson - 1909	Quitman - 1908, 1911, 1916
Douglas - 1913, 1929	Rome - 1910-11
Dublin - 1906-07	Savannah - 1906?, 1910
Elberton - 1909-10	Statesboro - 1913, 1916?
Fitzgerald - 1910-11, 1913	Thomasville - 1921
Gainesville - 1907-09, 1925	Tifton - 1906
Griffin - 1906-07	Vidalia - 1909?
Jackson - 1923, 1925	Washington - 1911-12
LaGrange - 1907	Waycross - 1908
Macon - 1909	West Point - 1910-11, 1914-15
Marietta - 1908, 1910	

Cracker Covers



This cover with a Brunswick, GA postmark bears an interesting fancy cancel. It is the negative outline of a five pointed star in a solid black circle. The year is unknown.

New Echota Straight Line Postmark



NEW-ECHOTA / CHER. NA. straight line postmark on a free franked letter mailed by postmaster S. A. Worcester on 23 July (1829). This illustration is a computer enhanced copy made from a photocopy taken from the microfilm records.

In the November 1995 issue of GPR there was a request for information on Samuel Worcester. Doug Clark and Frank Crown responded with some information and leads to other sources of information on Rev. Worcester. These leads led to the discovery of the previously unreported New Echota straight line postmark illustrated above. The illustration is taken from a microfilm copy of the Archives of the American Board of Foreign Missions in the Library of Congress. Mr. Granger, who made the discovery, noted that many of the documents in the collection appear faded and are very difficult to read. Fortunately for us this particular document survived in fairly good shape. The original is in the Houghton Library at Harvard University.

This postmark is unique in that it is the only reported handstamped postmark from Georgia which includes the political

jurisdiction "CHER. NA." (Cherokee Nation). In fact the letter was written at a time of great turmoil in the Cherokee Nation. On 20 December 1828 the Georgia legislature passed an act designed to extend the state's sovereignty over the whole of the Cherokee Nation located in the territorial limits of the state. This act was to be effective 1 June 1830. After this date it would be a violation of the law to use the term "Cherokee Nation" in a postmark.

Mr. Granger noted, and I agree, that the postmark and free markings appear to be printed rather than handstamped. A case may be made for this conclusion based on Mr. Worcester's close association with the *Cherokee Phoenix* (the Cherokee newspaper) and its printing facilities. A final determination of the method of preparation will have to wait until the actual letter is physically examined.



Georgia Post Roads

July 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 4

More New Echota Straight Line Postmarks

by Frank Crown

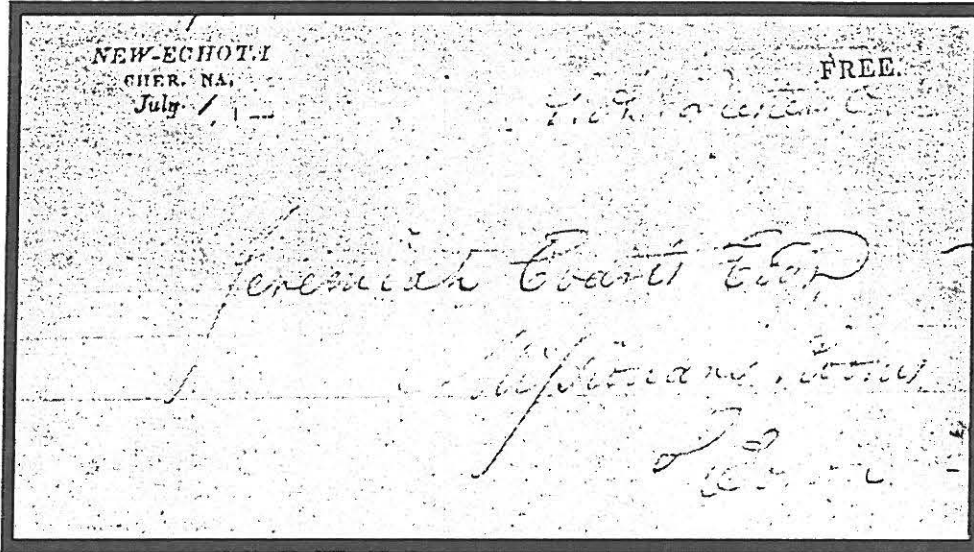


Figure 1. New-Echota straight line postmark (Type I) dated 1 July 1829. This cover bears Mr. Samuel Worcester's free frank and the Type I "FREE" marking. The cover is addressed to Jeremiah Evarts Esqr, Missionary Rooms, Boston.

The last issue of *GPR* contained a computer enhanced illustration of a New Echota, Cherokee Nation postmark. The illustration was not very clear, particularly the free frank of postmaster Samuel A. Worcester. Now thanks once again to the unselfish efforts of Mr. Jason Granger we have not only a clearer illustration of this important postmark, but examples of two other straight line postmarks from the same town!

Mr. Granger reported that the New Echota straight line postmarks appear on at least 22 different letters sent by Mr. Worcester. The earliest is dated 18 July 1829 and the last in June 1831. There are three examples dated in 1829, 12 in 1830 and five in 1831. Surprisingly there is one and perhaps two covers from Mr. Worcester

during this period that bear manuscript postmarks instead of a straight line postmark. Both are from the period March - April 1831.

Of the 22 covers, Mr. Granger found only eight to be clear enough to copy. Most were faint in the microfilm records probably due to fading or damage to the original documents. Of the eight copies provided by Mr. Granger only four were clear enough to illustrate.

The most interesting thing about the new photocopies was that they provide examples of at least three different types of straight line postmarks used by Mr. Worcester. With the exception of Savannah no other Georgia town used so many different straight line postmarks.

(Continued on page 4)



Modern Postmarks

The following special cancellations were reported.

TRIBUTE Station, P.O. Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30304-9998, 1 June. Features fanlike display of runners from ancient, 1896 and 1996 Olympic Games.

MEMORIAL BREAST CENTER Station, 2 North Fahm Street, Savannah, GA 31402-9998. Features heart and two hands, "First Day of Issue."

The three machine cancels with the special cancellation hubs mentioned in the "Post Roads" column are from Atlanta and Athens. The first is used by both Atlanta and the Metro North stations. It features the word "ATLANTA" with stylized flames or wings above and the phrase "Come Celebrate Our Dream" below. The second is from Athens. It features "ATHENS" in bold letters with "GEORGIA, USA" immediately below and within the large "A" and "S" of Athens. Below this is the phrase "Discover a Classic!" These three cancels are illustrated below.



Roster Changes

New Members:

William E. Callahan, Route 1, Box 342F, Troy, AL 36081

Joe Crosby, 5009 Barnsteeple Court, Oklahoma City, OK 73142

Hugh M. Goldberg, 2121 Beale Ave., Altoona, PA 16601-2010

Dr. Henry B. Hearn, III, 1206 East Greenville Street, Anderson, SC 29621-3934

Robert C. Whitehead, 108 Calloway Crossing, Peachtree City, GA 30269-3706

Stamp Shows

18 July - 4 August. **Olympophilex '96**, Olympic and sports philately, Atlanta, GA. This is an International FIP show.

26 - 27 October. **Peach State Stamp Show**, Classic Center, Athens, GA.

Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED Spanish-American War patriotic covers used from Georgia. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/1]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

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Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

 **Post Road Notes**

There has been a lot of press about the Postal Service and its competition with the Atlanta Olympic Committee. Fortunately the business of selling T-shirts has been resolved and things are moving on. Of course the whole thing could have been avoided with a little communication between the parties concerned.

On the postal history front our Postal Service is still at it. Although they produced Olympic stamps, they are not the official delivery sponsor for the Olympics. This means they cannot use the Olympic logo or the words Olympic on postmarks. However, they are doing the next best thing. In the last issue mention was made of the "Olympihlex '96" postmark used at Lexington. Another is the Tribute Station postmark mentioned in this issue's "Modern Postmarks" column.

Finally there are at least three machine cancels with special cancellation hubs. While they do not say "Olympic," they do give the impression. Certainly they should be an addition to any collection of the '96 Olympics as they show the efforts of the Postal Service to work around the legalities of using the official Olympic logos and phrases. Perhaps other Georgia cities which host Olympic events also have similar postmarks.

Erv Underwood's collection of Georgia postal history is finally coming to market. It is contained in the Robert A. Siegel auction of Civil War postal history scheduled for 10 July 1996. Unfortunately Siegel has seen fit to group almost all the non-Confederate material in wholesale lots. This is a real tragedy!

I was fortunate enough to see the collection when it was being prepared for shipment to Siegel. Many of the covers are

outstanding examples of Georgia postal history and deserve to have been lotted separately. One can only wonder how many desirable covers are buried in lot 618 which has 2,300 plus Georgia covers from the stampless period to the 20th century!

This unfortunate lotting of material should serve as a warning to any who may be considering selling their collections.

Frank



Georgia at Auction

The biggest auction of Georgia postal history is the Siegel sale scheduled for 10 July. Included in this sale are many outstanding lots of Confederate material. The Confederate section begins with lots of independent state usages and U.S. stamps used in the Confederacy. Examples of the latter are so plentiful that there is one wholesale lot of 19 covers!

Next are several examples of Express covers from Georgia towns. This is followed by a nice selection of handstamp "PAIDS" and "DUES." There is also a good selection of Georgia postmasters' provisionals.

Among the general issues are many covers from Georgia. Some of the more interesting include a cover with a 1865 manuscript Atlanta postmark and a cover postmarked Andersonville.

Among other Georgia postal history items are stampless covers from Creek Agency and Fort Hawkins and three covers bearing Savannah straight line postmarks.

The Kukstis Auction scheduled for 16-17 July has several stampless and stamped covers from Georgia.

The 27 July David G. Phillips sale also has several Georgia postal history lots.

New Echota (continued)

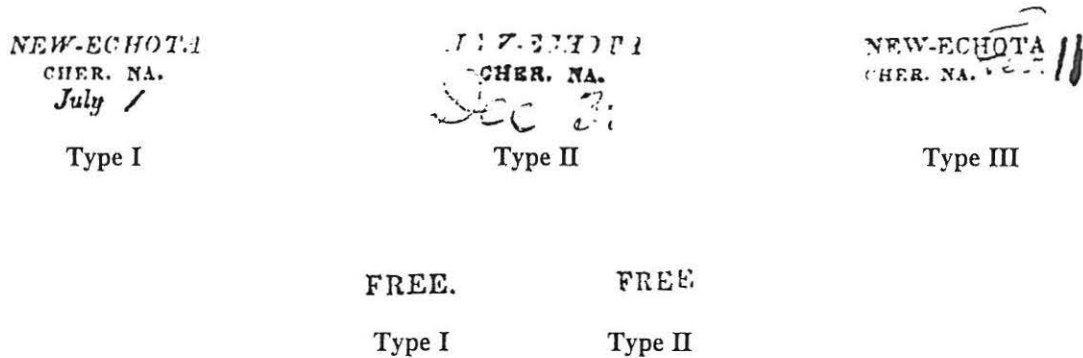


Figure 2. These illustrations were prepared from photocopies taken from microfilm. The markings as presented are approximately equal in size. However, the actual relative size and measurements of the markings are unknown.

Each of the three different types of straight line is distinctive. Type I (Figures 1 and 2) is distinguished by the town name and month being in italics. Type II (Figures 2 and 3) is similar to Type I except there is no month logo as part of the postmark. Type III (Figures 1 and 4) is distinguished by the town name being in a normal (non italic) font.

In addition to the three different straight line postmarks, a second handstamp "FREE" marking was found. Both types are illustrated in Figure 2. Again we are fortunate in that the two different types can be distinguished by their appearance. The Type I "FREE" marking is followed by a period while the Type II marking has no period and the final "E" is slightly raised.

In the last issue it was speculated that the markings may have been printed rather than handstamped. The new markings found by Mr. Granger appear to discount this theory. The alignment of the "FREE" markings in relation to the postmark is different even in that instance where the postmarks are the same (Figure 2). While this would ordinarily indicate the use of handstamps it may not be the case for the New Echota markings. Apparently Mr. Worcester had access to the print shop at New Echota for how else would he have produced the three different straight line postmarks over so short a period? He may have reset the type each time he needed a new supply of envelopes for his correspondence.

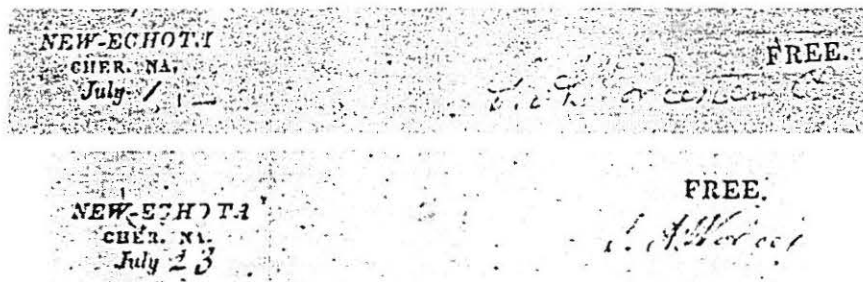


Figure 2. The alignment of the "FREE" marking in relation to the postmarks is different in the two examples above which are postmarked 1 July and 23 July 1829.

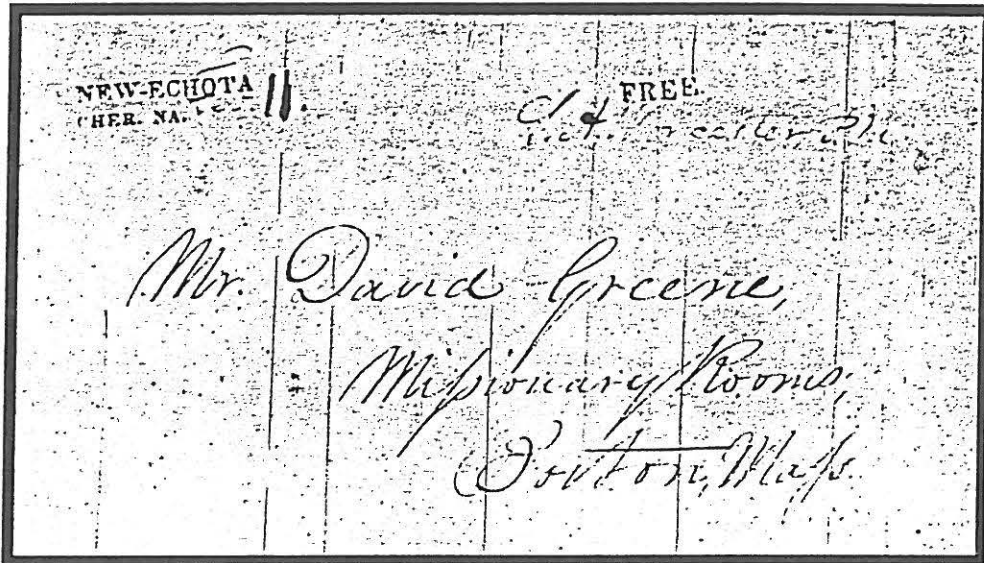


Figure 3. New Echota straight line postmark (Type II) on cover dated 11 February 1830. The cover bears Mr. Worcester's free frank and the Type II "FREE" marking. The cover is addressed to Mr. David Greene, Missionary Rooms, Boston.

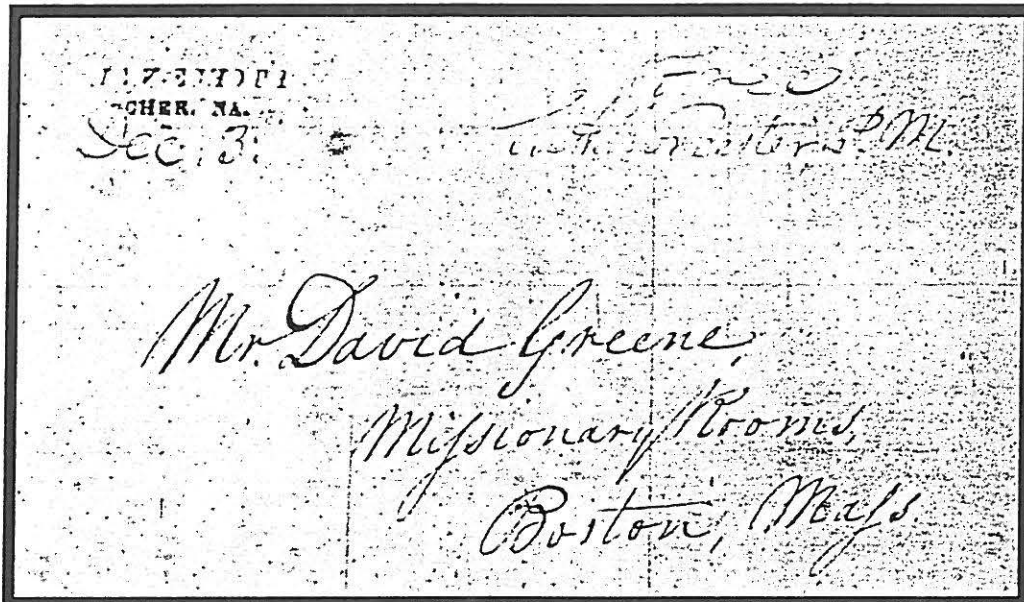
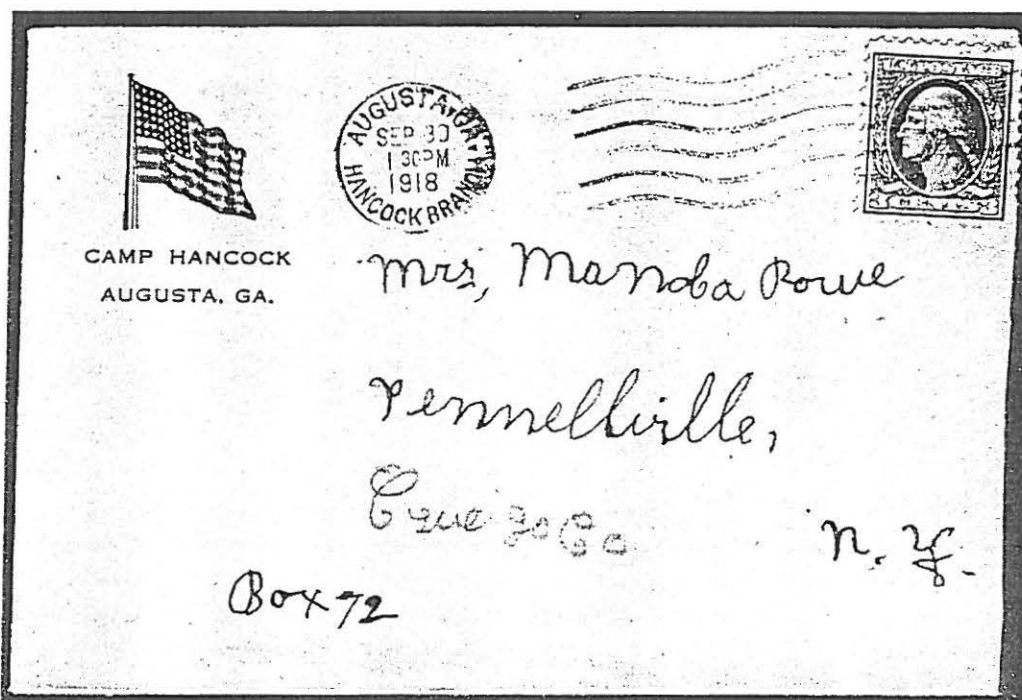


Figure 4. New Echota straight line postmark (Type III) on cover dated 10 July 1830. This cover bears Mr. Worcester's free frank and a manuscript "Free" marking. The cover is addressed to Mr. David Greene, Missionary Rooms, Boston.

Patriotic Covers



Patriotic cover used from Camp Hancock. Black AUGUSTA, GA. / HANCOCK BRANCH postmark dated 30 September 1918 ties 3¢ violet Type IV stamp.

Camp Hancock, adjacent to Augusta, was established as a temporary camp for the training of National Guard troops on 18 July 1917. It was designated as a demobilization

center on 3 December 1918 and was abandoned and turned over to a caretaker detachment on 27 March 1919.

Cracker Covers

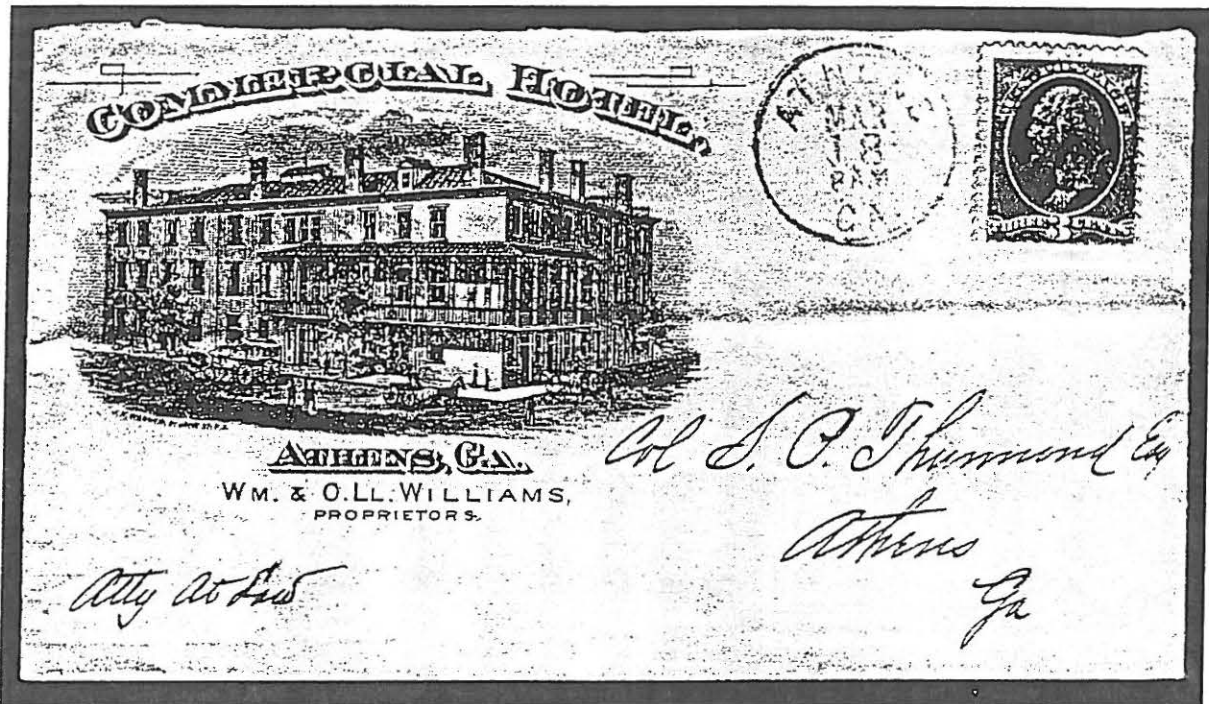
This month we look at two advertising covers from Athens hotels. The first cover bears an illustration of the Commercial Hotel. The cover bears a three-cent green stamp issued in 1881. The second cover has an illustration of the Commercial and Windsor Hotels. It bears a two-cent red stamp used in 1908.

There are two questions about these covers. First is the name of the hotel. While the name is different on both covers, the name on the second implies that the Windsor Hotel was merged with the Commercial

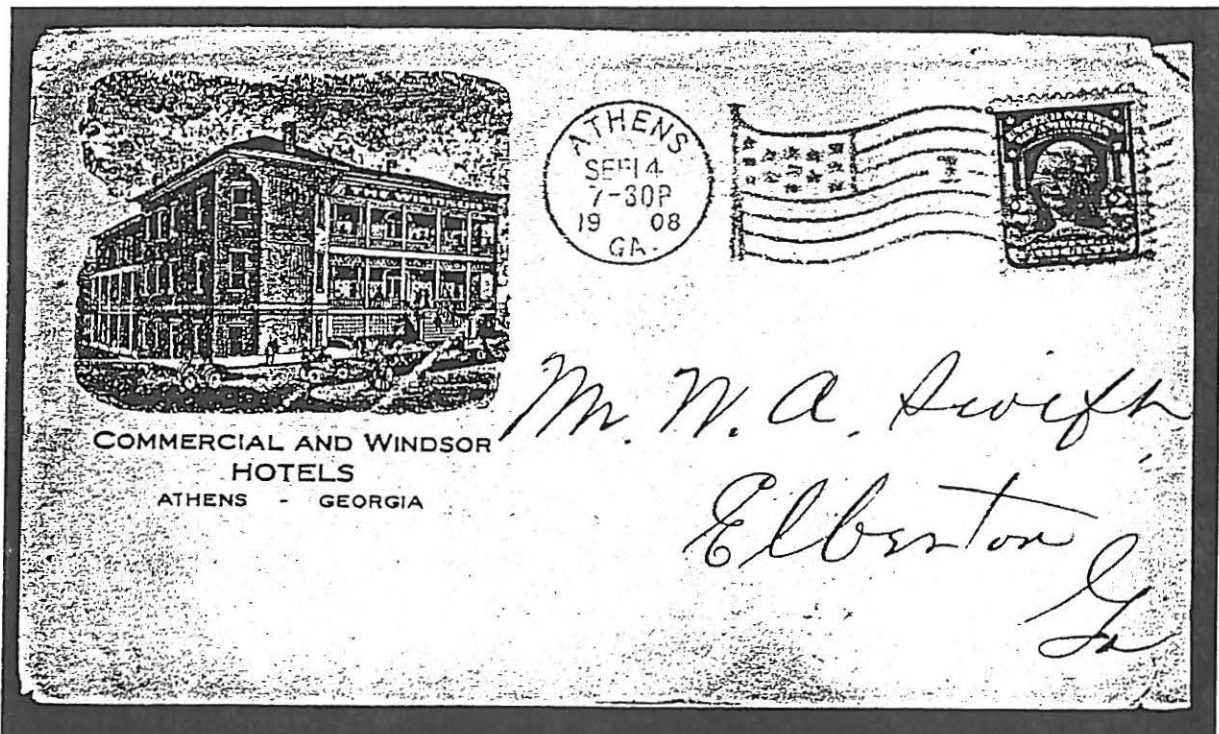
Hotel. The second question has to do with the illustrations. If in fact the two hotels did merge is the illustration of the hotel on both covers of the same building?

The noticeable differences in the buildings seem to rule out that they are the same building. If this is true then did the Windsor Hotel take on the name of the Commercial Hotel without talking over the physical hotel?

Your editor had no answer to these questions. Hopefully one or more of our members that are familiar with Athens can provide an answer.



Commercial Hotel corner card envelope with black ATHENS / GA. postmark dated 18 March tying a 1881 green 3¢ Type IV stamp.



Commercial and Windsor Hotels corner card envelope with black ATHENS / GA. postmark dated 14 September 1908 tying a 2¢ red Type I stamp.

Cover to Ponder



Manuscript "St Marys" 30 July (1797) postmark with forwarding "Sava." 4 Aug postmark. The cover was rated "12 1/2" at St. Mary's and a forwarding fee of "4 1/2" added at Savannah for a total of "17".

This issue's "cover to ponder" is an unusual early stampless cover. It bears a St. Mary's 30 July postmark and a Savannah ("Sava.") 4 August forwarding marking. The year date is 1797 from the docketing as the lower left side. There are no contents in the folded letter sheet.

There are two problems with this cover. First are the rate markings. The "12 1/2" rate was the postage from St. Mary's to Savannah. However, what does the rate of "4 1/2" represent?

The second problem has to do with the lack of a forwarding address. The Savannah marking indicates the letter was forwarded, but where? Send your comments to the editor at P. O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758.

No comments were received concerning the cover featured in the January issue. That cover had a Decatur, GA postmark with a pair of U. S. #1's tied by a straight line "STEAM BOAT" handstamp. In the absence of comments from our readers your editor

will make a few. Hopefully they will not revisit too much of what was already said.

First the "STEAM BOAT" marking, which appears to measure just over 50mm does not match any of the steam boat markings used by Georgia towns. Therefore, we must assume that the cover originated outside of Georgia. The 10 cent rate represented by the pair of five cent stamps and the term "U. S." in the address also bears this out.

The handstamp "5" marking is not of a type recorded for either Decatur or Savannah so it must have been struck before arriving in Georgia. If so is this a triple rated cover? The manuscript "5" forwarding marking says not. The handstamp rate and forwarding markings only make sense if you disregard the stamps. So what does the cover represent? Without actually physically examining the cover we can only conclude that the cover requires further examination before an opinion can be rendered.



Georgia Post Roads

September 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 5

Reconstruction Postmarks of Savannah

By Frank Crown

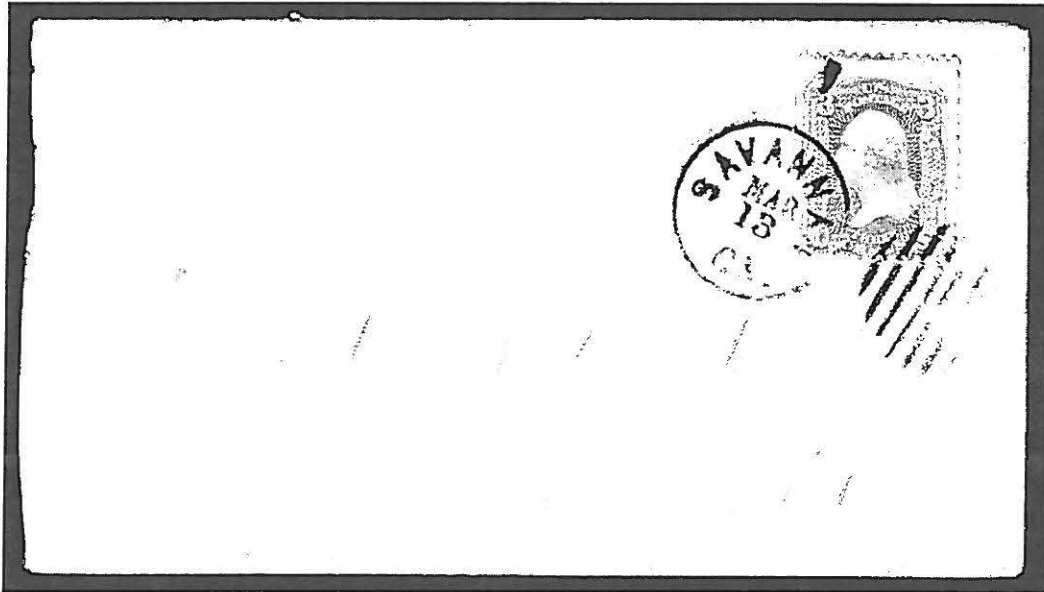


Figure 1. Black SAVANNAH / GA. postmark with vertical grid duplex killer ties 3¢ 1861 issue on cover addressed to Keene, New Hampshire.

As the title implies, this article is about the postmarks used in Savannah during the post Civil War reconstruction period. However, the term “reconstruction postmarks” is used to refer to a single class or type of postmark which was introduced during the reconstruction period. These postmarks have three distinguishing characteristics: they are duplex cancels, the postmarks measure less than 27 mm in diameter and only the month and day appear in the postmark. As offices were reestablished after the war, these were the type postmarks supplied by the Post Office Department. Later in the mid 1870's a new class of postmark, which included the time, was introduced.

Like many collectors I never really paid any attention to the postmarks of the

reconstruction period. Granted they were smaller than their pre war predecessors but other than that they appeared quite common. Then recently I happened to be looking at some Savannah postwar covers and their postmarks. Much to my surprise I realized that there was actually more than one type postmark used during this period. In fact the more I looked the more different postmarks I found. The final count in the small sample of the covers available to me was five, with a possible sixth variety!

Despite the large number of different postmarks it is very difficult to determine the chronology of their use. The reason for this is the lack of dated material. Most envelopes of the period no longer have their letters and of course the postmarks are not dated. (Continued on page 4)

Georgia Riverboat Featured

The new series of stamps featuring riverboats includes one honoring the *Rebecca Everingham*. This vessel was built in 1880 in Columbus, GA. The hull was launched on 27 August. By the end of September she was outfitted with new boilers and engines from the riverboat *William S. Holt*. Finally on 15 November the *Rebecca Everingham* made her maiden voyage to Apalachicola.



A reporter from the *Columbus Enquirer Sun* wrote that the *Rebecca Everingham* was "the finest boat that floats south of the Mason Dixon Line. . . . On an ordinary river, she will carry 900 bales of cotton, 75 cabin passengers, and as many on deck as she can get aboard. . . ."

Like many riverboats before her the *Rebecca Everingham* was lost on the river. On 3 April 1884, about 40 miles south of Columbus, a fire broke out in her cotton cargo. The cotton was so dry that the entire vessel was aflame before it could reach the shore. The fire consumed the whole vessel with the loss of 12 lives.

The *Columbus Enquirer Sun* noted "the *Everingham* was the best steamboat in every respect that was engaged in plying the river, being perfectly seaworthy and elegant in all her departments. Her loss, is universally regretted, and it is feared that it will be some time before another boat will be put upon the river that will prove such a favorite with the traveling public."

Roster Changes

New Members:

Mrs. Nonie Green, 2401 Colorado Ave., San Angelo, TX 76901
 Alvin Krasne, 4801 Taylor Street, Hollywood, FL 33021-5834
 Michael C. O'Reilly, P.O. Box 1131, Huntsville, AL 35807-0131

Show Log

- 19 - 20 October. **JAXPEX**, Fraternal Order of Police Building, 5546 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville, FL (W K Dow (904) 743-2809)
 26 - 27 October. **Peach State Stamp Show**, Classic Center, Athens, GA.
 30 November - 1 December. **COCOPEX '96**, The Harvey Hotel, 6345 Powers Ferry Road NW at I-285, Exit 15, Atlanta, GA (Bill Callahan, (334) 566-6970)

Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED Spanish-American War patriotic covers used from Georgia. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/1]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.



Post Road Notes

First I want to apologize for the poor quality of the illustrations in the last issue. On my part the preparation was as good as it has been since I began using a flat bed scanner. The problem was the printing. Apparently the printer has more than one high speed copier and the quality of the machines varies. As you noticed, the issue was run on one of the poorer quality machines. I have discussed this with the printer and hopefully we won't have this problem again.

By now those that live in the Atlanta Metro area should have recovered from the Olympic invasion. It should be noted the invasion was not limited to people. Our own Postal Service contributed by producing an over abundance of special postmarks. One for each day of OLYMPHILEX '96, 25 for Olympic sport venues and 38 for the Atlanta post office branches, which are called "postal store stations" in the cancels. In fact there are so many that all of the postmarks could not be listed in this issue.

For several years I have wondered why more organizations in Georgia did not take advantage of the Postal Service's special postmarks to mark their meetings or historical dates. What Georgians failed to do the Postal Service has done for us in spades.

On the Internet is a new publication, *NetSTAMPS*. One of its early articles was entitled "Postal Service to Provide Postmark for Electronic Mail on the Internet." The bottom line is the Postal Service wants to introduce a fee for service on the Internet that will provide e-mail with a postmark that carries the full legal weight of a postmark on standard letter mail. This is probably another ill fated marketing ploy that will render the Postal Service the wrath of Congress.

Frank

New Publication Readied

A new publication is being readied by the Georgia Postal History Society. The title of the new work is *Georgia Postal Historians Guide to Public Officials in the Stampless Period*.

The purpose of this work is to provide a dating aid for those whose collecting interests lie in the stampless period. Many covers in this period are addressed to public officials and many of these may be without a date. The new publication will provide a means to look up a public official and determine a year or period of use for the cover.

The main section of the new publication is an alphabetical list of all the U. S. Senators and Representatives from Georgia, Georgians who held cabinet posts and Governors of Georgia. Each listing in this section includes the dates of birth and death as well as the office or offices held and the dates of same. Separate lists of the U. S. Presidents, U. S. Postmasters General and the U. S. Secretaries of War are included.

It is anticipated the publication will be approximately 20 pages and will sell for about \$5.00. Hopefully it will be ready for sale at the Annual Meeting at Peach State Stamp Show.

Winners Circle

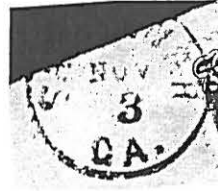
Early Railway Mail Routes of Georgia by Doug Clark and Nancy Zielinski-Clark, won the Grand Award at STAMPOREE.

Make use of the "Trading Post." This is an easy way to offer your excess postal history items for sale or solicit specific items from other members. See page two for more details about using the "Trading Post."

Reconstruction Postmarks
(continued from page 1)



Type A
(23 mm)



Type B
(23.5 mm)



Type C
(24 mm)



Type D
(24 mm)



Type E
(26 mm)



Type X
(23.5 mm)

Figure 2



Type A
(enlarged 25%)



Type B
(enlarged 25%)



Type X
(enlarged 25%)

Figure 3

A very few have contemporary date docket and a few include dated circulars. Other than this the only way to determine an approximate date of use is by the stamp used on the envelope.

This article is primarily concerned with the identification of the different reconstruction postmarks used in Savannah. However, when a date is known it is given. It is hoped that others interested in this

period of Savannah's postal history will be able to provide additional information.

The Type A postmark (figure 2) is 23 mm in diameter and may well be the earliest of the reconstruction postmarks. The only example of this postmark which I examined was in black ink used with a copy of the 3¢ 1861 issue. It is also the only postmark with the killer being a grid of vertical bars (figure 1). Unfortunately a complete example of this postmark was not found. As a result the identifying characteristics are limited to its diameter and the closeness of the letters "G" and "A" in the state abbreviation.

The Type B postmark is 23.5 mm in diameter and was found in blue ink on two printed circulars dated 1866 and 1868. Both examples were used with a 2¢ "Black Jack." Again only an incomplete example of this postmark was examined. The identifying characteristics are the wider "H" in Savannah and the wider spacing between the "G" and "A" of the state abbreviation.

The Type C postmark is 24 mm in diameter was found in blue in with copies of the 3¢ 1861 and 1869 issues. The identifying characteristics are the very narrow "H" in Savannah and the even spacing of the letters in the town name.

The Type D postmark is also 24 mm in diameter and was found in blue ink on a 1869 cover bearing a 3¢ 1861 issue. This postmark is very similar to the Type C postmark except for one distinguishing feature, the exaggerated spacing between the "V" and "A" of Savannah.

The Type E postmark is 26 mm in diameter and was found in blue ink used with the 3¢ 1869 issue. The distinguishing characteristics of this postmark are the wide spacing between the letters of the town name and state abbreviation.

A possible sixth type is designated as Type X. This marking is 23.5 mm in

diameter and was found in blue on a cover bearing a 3¢ 1861 issue. The only example examined is very incomplete. However, there is sufficient detail to warrant its comparison to Types A and B.

Figure 3 contains enlarged illustrations of the Type A, B and X markings. These will be used to compare the three markings in more detail. As mentioned above the major differences between the Type A and Type B postmarks are the 0.5 mm difference in their diameters and the spacing between the "G" and "A" of the state abbreviation. Although difficult to see in the illustrations, there is also a difference in the angle between the "N" and "A" of Savannah. In Type A the angle is greater.

The Type X postmark appears to be the same as Type B in that it has a wide "H" and wide spacing between the "G" and "A" of the state abbreviation. However, the angle between the "A" and "H" of Savannah is different. In Type X the angle is much smaller.

The Type X marking also appears to be the same as the Type A postmark if one looks at the angle between the "N" and "A" of Savannah. The angles appear to be the same in both types.

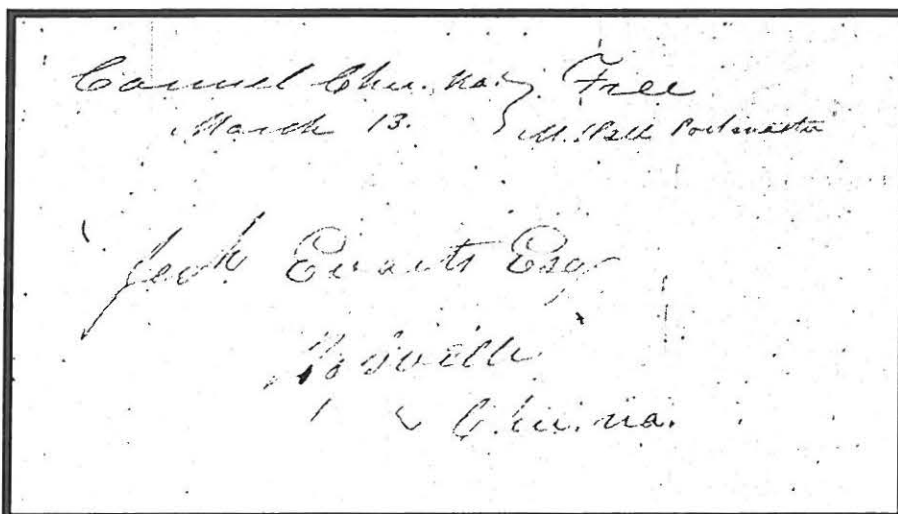
In spite of the apparent differences in the spacing of the letters of the state abbreviation Type X is more like the Type A postmark than the Type B postmark. A final determination as to its status will have to await the examination of more examples.

Those who are interested in this period of Georgia's postal history and the reconstruction postmarks are encouraged to write the editor.

Peach State Stamp Show

26-27 October 1996
The Classic Center
Athens, GA

A Cherokee Nation Cover



Manuscript Carmel Cher. Na., March 13 (1826) postmark addressed to Rossville, Cher. na. At UR is the free frank of M. Hall, Postmaster.

In previous issues the straight line postmarks used by the postmaster at New Echota, Cherokee Nation have been featured. This time it is a very unusual stampless cover addressed from one Cherokee Nation post office to another.

This illustration is courtesy of Jason Granger.

Cracker Covers

The issue's cracker cover is a registered letter originating at Atlanta. It bears a purple Atlanta registered postmark at the UL. The three stamps appear to be cancelled by the edge of an oval marking of some sort. The stamps are the blue 1¢ Franklin and the violet brown 8¢ Sherman from the 1894-99 issue.

This cover is one of several registered letters found in a correspondence.



Purple Atlanta registered postmark dated Nov 9 1897 on cover to Maine.

Cover to Ponder

Last month's "Cover to Ponder" was the stampless cover bearing a manuscript St. Mary's postmark and a forwarding Savannah manuscript postmark. Two problems were highlighted. First were the rate markings and second was the lack of a forwarding address.

Ernie Owens wrote with comments on the lack of a forwarding address. He noted that Major John Berrien was a Revolutionary war soldier who lived in Savannah. He also had a son, John MacPherson Berrien born in 1781. Ernie suggests the letter was probably addressed to the senior John Berrien. As a well known figure in Savannah the postmaster probably forwarded several letters to him at once, only putting the forwarding address on the top letter.

No one had an explanation for the rate so I will offer one which a group of collectors examining the cover developed. As noted in the previous article the "12 1/2" rate was correct for a letter to Savannah. The "4 1/2" forwarding charge is not a rate. The answer lies in the total charge of "17". The Savannah postmaster charged only the difference between the original charge of "12 1/2" and the charge for a letter from Saint Mary's to the forwarded address. In this case the letter traveled from 200 to 250 miles from Saint Mary's to its ultimate destination. The charge for such a distance was "17" at the time.

I might add that I have recorded one other early Savannah cover with the same forwarding rate markings.

Cracker Covers

Last month's "Cracker Covers" featured illustrated advertising covers from two Athens hotels. The hotel name on the second cover indicated it was the result of combining with the hotel on the first cover. However, the two buildings looked totally different.

Gary Doster has provided the following explanation. The Commercial Hotel began as the Newton House. This hotel was constructed by Elizer L. Newton at the corner of Broad Street and College Avenue. During the 1850's it was one of the best known hotels in Athens. By the 1880's it became the Commercial Hotel. Gary noted that the building still stands and was the site of the Varsity for many years.

The Windsor Hotel was located a block west of the Commercial Hotel on the corner of Broad and Lumpkin Streets, the present site of the SunTrust Bank. Gary found the first reference to the hotel at the turn of the century in a 1902 phone book. By 1909 it was the Green Hotel and in 1912 the Hotel Sanges. By 1920 there was no hotel listed on the site.

Annual GPHS Meeting

The annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society will take place in conjunction with the Peach State Stamp Show 26 - 27 October. The GPHS meeting is tentatively scheduled for 11:00 A.M.

This year Peach State will be held at the Classic Center, 300 N. Thomas Street in Athens, GA. Additionally this year it will be an APS World Series Show.

Make a note now so you won't forget to attend our annual meeting.

DO YOUR PART - RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER



Modern Postmarks

The following special cancellations were reported.

UHStation, 525 Eighth Street, Augusta, GA 30901-9998, 18 June. Features two hands touching in logo for "University Hospital, Supports Breast Cancer Awareness Month."

CDC 50th Anniversary Station, 1779 Briarcliffe Road, Atlanta, GA 30333-9998, 1 July. Features globe in "0" of "50." "The Nation's Prevention Agency/CDC 1946 1996 50/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC Station."

Two Georgia cities had special "Rebel Withou a Cause" postmarks in conjunction with the first day of issue of the James Dean stamp. The two cities were Atlanta (30304) and Duluth (30136). These postmarks were used at the Warner Brothers Studio Stores but are still available by writing the postmaster at P.O. Box 9998 at the cities mentioned above.

The first day of issue for the U. S. Centennial Olympic Games stamp was held at Atlanta on 19 July. It is interesting to note that this postmark makes no reference to the Olympics either in word or symbol. The postmark is illustrated below.



There was a special cancellation for almost every day of Olymphilex '96. Those reported follow. All postmarks include the text "Olymphilex '96 Station."

Request for cancels should be sent to the name of the postmark, c/o Postmaster, Special Cancellation, 257 Lawrence Street, Marietta, GA 30060-9998.

19 July - **Salute to Centennial Games Day.** Features laurel boughs.

20 July - **FIP Day.** Features stamp-like frame.

21 July - **Philatelic Trade Day.**

22 July - **Postal Administration Day.**

23 July - **Organized Philately Day.** Features two stamp-like frames.

24 July - **Country Collectors Day.** Features globe.

25 July - **Philatelic Press and Literature Day.** Features open book.

26 July - **Cultural Olympiad Day.** Features Greek temple.

27 July - **Olympic & Sport Philately Day.** Features Olympic symbol for runner in stamp-like frame.

28 July - **Young Collectors Day.** Features outlines of boy and girl.

29 July - **Olympic Coin Collectors Day.**

30 July - **Olympic Memorabilia Collectors Day.** Features medallion with laurel boughs.

1 August - **International Peace Day.** Features dove carrying olive branch.

2 August - **Exhibitors Day.** Features three stamp-like frames.

3 August - **Olymphilex 2000: Salute to Australia Day.** Features Australian flag.

Due to the overwhelming number of postmarks prepared for use during the Olympics not all can be described in this issue. In the next issue the Olympic venue postmarks and the special postmarks used at the various stations in Atlanta and other Georgia towns will be listed.



Georgia Post Roads

November 1996

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 6, Number 6

HELD FOR POSTAGE

By Frank Crown

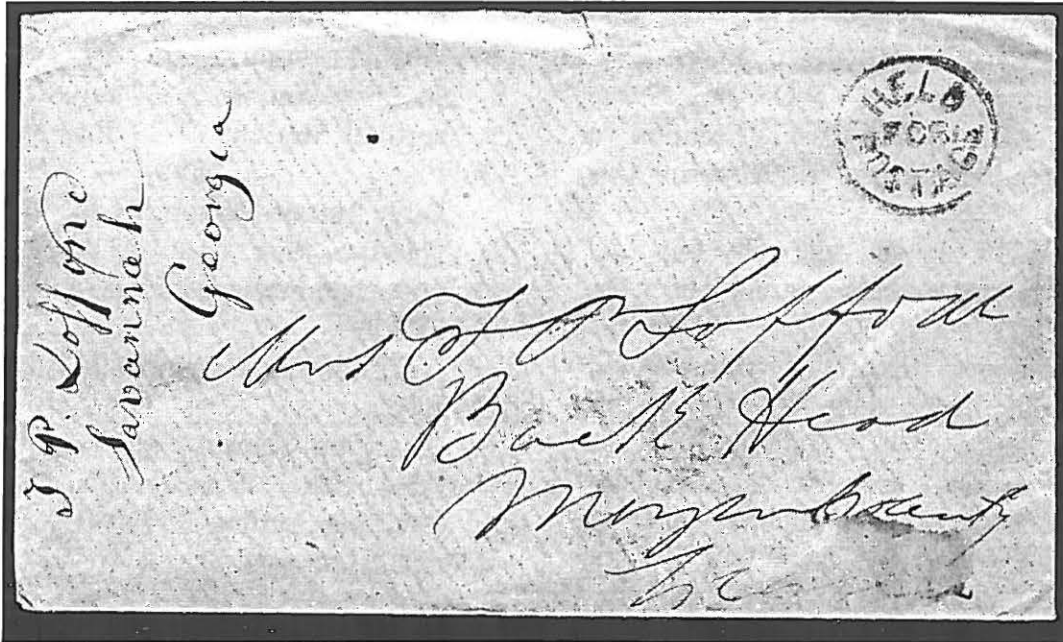


Figure 1. Black "HELD / FOR / POSTAGE" handstamp on unpaid letter originating at Savannah and which was returned to the writer for postage

The cover illustrated above is from a group of three letters from the same correspondence. All three were mailed in March 1861, a month after Georgia joined the Confederacy, and all three are different.

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 is by far the most unusual of the three. The face of the cover bears only the black handstamp "HELD / FOR / POSTAGE" in a 20.5 mm circle, the address and docketing across the left side. On the reverse (Figure 2) there is a "Dead Letter Office" label from the Post Office Department stating the letter is returned to the writer because postage must be prepaid in full. Under this label is a strike of a Savannah postmark dated 13 March

1861. This postmark is the same duplex postmark used on the other two covers in the correspondence (Figures 3 and 4).

The Post Office Regulations of the period provide some clues to the marking and label on the cover. First a post office finding an unpaid letter was required to mark the reverse of the cover with the post office name and date. This was accomplished by the Savannah postmark on the reverse. Second as an unpaid letter it was required to be forwarded to the Dead Letter Office in Washington with the reason plainly marked. This was done with the handstamp marking "HELD / FOR / POSTAGE". At the Dead (continued on page 4)



Modern Postmarks

The following special cancellations are reported:

RFD BIRTHPLACE Station, 18 August.
146 Massengale Street, Norwood, GA 30821-9998.

RFD Station, 20 August. 525 Eighth Street, Augusta, GA 30901-9998.

ATLANTA GREEK FESTIVAL Station, 3-6 October, P.O. Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30304-9998. Features a torchbearer in circular crest "Honoring Our Heritage."

The following are the Olympic and Olympic related cancels continued from the last issue.

In addition to the first day postmark for the Olympic stamp there were 25 Atlanta Olympic venue cancels depicting different Olympic events. Just like the first day postmark none of these include either an Olympic logo or the flame logo of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. All markings are for specific dates. Most date stamps show a range of dates and for some several ranges. Consequently, the actual number of different cancels far exceeds the 25 different basic designs. The designs and dates of use are as follows:

Aquatics Station, 20 July-4 August

Archery Station, 28 July-2 August

Athletics Station, 26 July-4 August

Badminton Station, 24 July-1 August

Baseball Station, 20-25 July, 27-30 July and 1-2 August

Basketball Station, 20 July-4 August

Boxing Station, 20-28 July and 30 July-4 August

Canoe/Kayak Station, 26-28 July, 30 July-4 August

Cycling Station, 21 July, 24-28 July, 30 July, 31 July and 3 August

Equestrian Station, 21-29 July, 31 July-1 August and 3-4 August

Fencing Station, 20-25 July

Football Station, 20-25 July, 27-28 July, 28 July, 31 July-3 August

Gymnastics Station, 20-25 July, 28-30 July and 1-4 August

Handball Station, 24 July-4 August

Hockey Station, 20 July-2 August

Judo Station, 20-26 July

Rowing Station, 21-28 July

Shooting Station, 20-27 July

Softball Station, 21-27 July and 29-30 July

Table Tennis Station, 23 July-1 August

Tennis Station, 23 July-3 August

Volleyball Station, 20 July-4 August and 23-28 July

Weightlifting Station, 20-24 July and 26-30 July

Wrestling Station, 20-23 July and 30 July-2 August

Yachting Station, 22 July-1 August

(continued on page 7)

Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

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 **Post Road Notes**

Peach State Stamp Show and the annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History have come and gone. From my perspective both were a success but not without some gripes.

First was the location. Atlanta is home to the largest concentration of collectors in the state. The show should be held there. However, the economics of Atlanta drove the show to Athens. It seems the Olympics have changed the expectations of those that rent space for shows. If you can't afford an Olympian price, you don't get the space. Perhaps in another year the market will drive the prices back down.

My second gripe concerns the number of dealers. For a nationally rated show there should be many more dealers. Of course there is a synergism at play here. The show must draw large crowds to entice more dealers to come. Yet there must be a good number of dealers to draw a large crowd. Hopefully the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs can solve this dilemma and get both next year.

As noted in the article about the annual meeting I have advised Doug Clark of my intention to resign as editor of *Georgia Post Roads* at the end of 1997. After being your editor for some five years I need a break. While I have enjoyed the opportunity to be your editor I feel it is now time for someone else to take over the task. If you have a desire to serve your society as the editor, Doug will be happy to hear from you.

On the last page you will see what our Postal Service can do to our mail. On the same day I received the letter from Gene Espy I had an encounter with the Postal Service. They wanted me to pay postage due on a proxy form that became separated from its envelope. I told the clerk, no way was I going to pay for their errors!

Annual Meeting

Doug Clark, President of the Georgia Postal History Society opened the meeting with the following members present, Frank Crown, Charles O'Brien, Gary Doster, McCary Ballard, Lowrell Pierce, and two visitors.

Doug called for the Treasurer's report which was presented by Frank Crown in the absence of Ernie Owens, the Secretary-Treasurer. Frank stated that the society had a balance in the treasury of \$1,644.45 with no outstanding bills.

Doug asked for suggestions on how the society might best utilize the funds on hand. Frank suggested that the special rate of \$12.50 for two years dues be extended to those whose dues are due this December. He stated the Society had previously agreed to publish the handbook on Georgia Public Officials announced in the last *Georgia Post Roads*. He also said he was getting close to finishing the book on the Georgia postmasters of the 1860's and hoped to have it ready for publication next year.

Doug stated that the Society needed to appoint members to serve as representatives to the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs. He said that our appointees from last year, Charles O'Brien and himself had worked well with the committee and reappointed both for the 1997 term.

There followed some general discussion about the upcoming stampless catalog being prepared by David Phillips. This prompted some thoughts by visitor Joel Rind on the need to preserve the information collected and recorded by collectors so that it will be available to future collectors. He continued with his visionary thoughts on how the computer age will influence the preservation and access to philatelic information.

Held for Postage (from page 1)

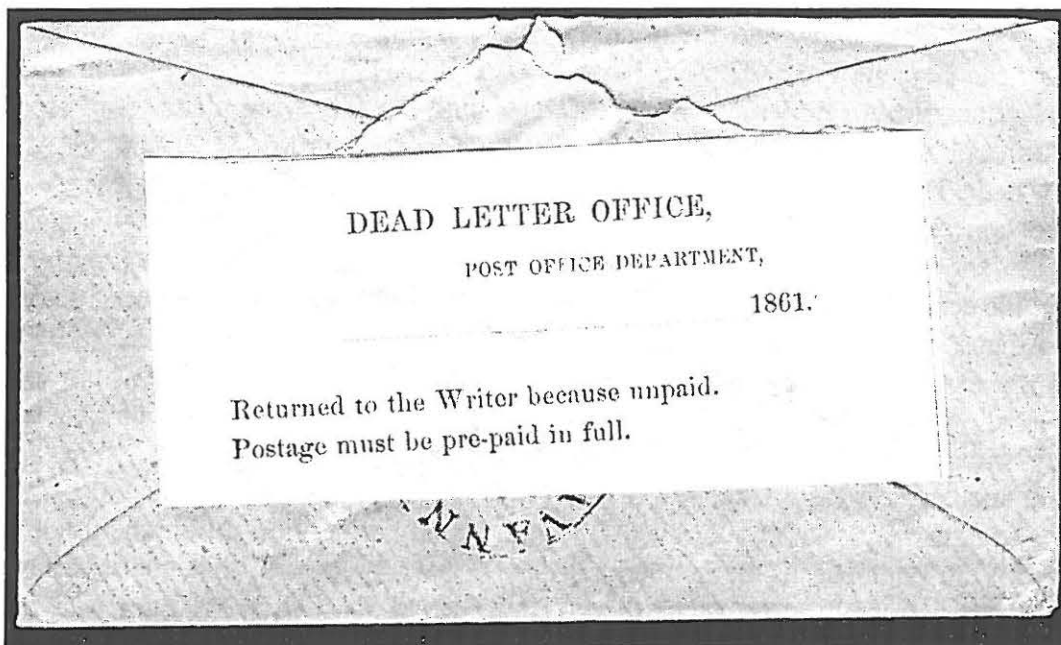


Figure 2. Reverse of the cover with the "HELD / FOR / POSTAGE" handstamp. The "Dead Letter Office" seal is affixed over a black 13 March 1861 duplex postmark of Savannah, Ga.

Letter Office the letter was opened and the writer determined to be "T. P. Lofford" of Savannah, Georgia. Apparently the letter held something of value or the contents were determined to be of some consequence because it was not destroyed. Instead the "Dead Letter Office" label was affixed, possibly to reseal the envelope. The label indicates that the letter was returned to the writer. How this was accomplished is unclear. The Dead Letter Office may have accomplished this or the letter may have been returned to the Savannah office for its return to Mr. Lofford. In any event the cover eventually found its way back to join the other two in the correspondence.

This cover is also interesting historically. It provides evidence that as late as mid March 1861, as the nation stood on the verge of a bloody civil war, the mail continued to be handled according to regulations.

The other two covers that make up this correspondence are unusual in that they are also from that short period between the establishment of the Confederate States of American and the take over of the postal system by the new government.

The cover in Figure 3 is dated 10 March 1861, three days before the "Dead Letter" received its markings.

The third cover is a 1860 three-cent star die envelope postmarked 18 March 1861. It is also tied by the same Savannah duplex postmark.

The careful reader will note that the exposed part of the postmark on the "Dead Letter" does not appear to be the same postmark as the other two because the letters appear to be closer to the rim. This is attributed to the manner in which the postmark was struck. It is not a different postmark.

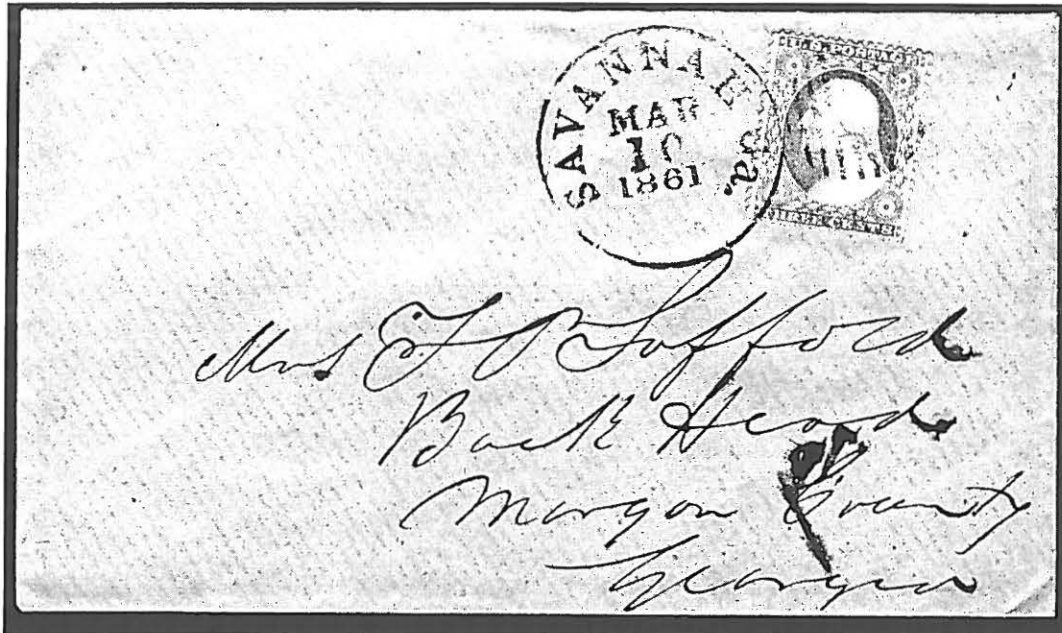


Figure 3. U.S. 3¢ 1857 issue cancelled by a black duplex Savannah postmark dated 10 March 1861.

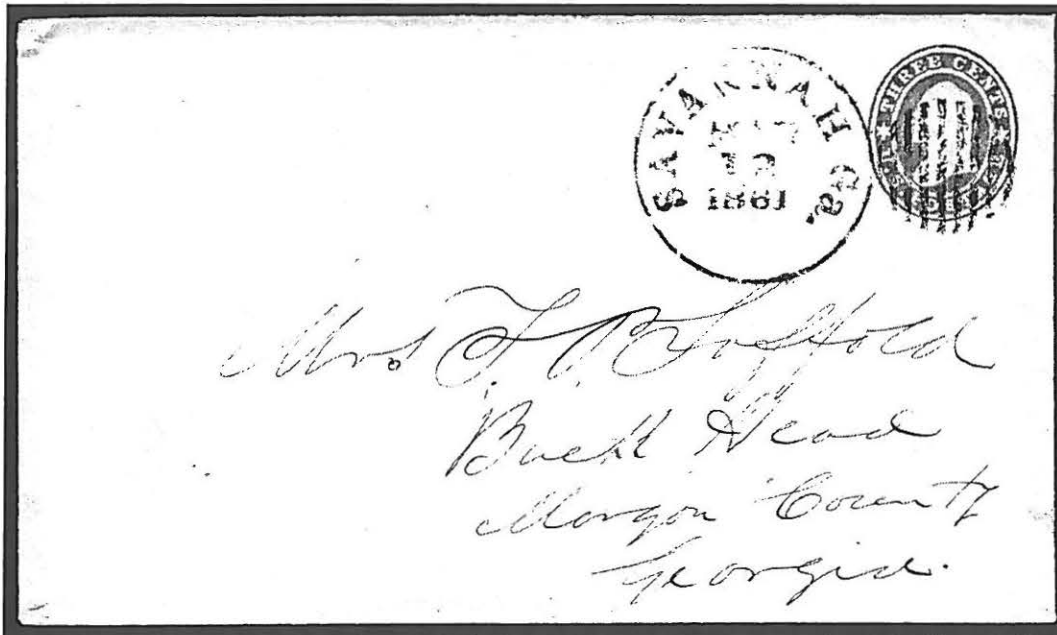


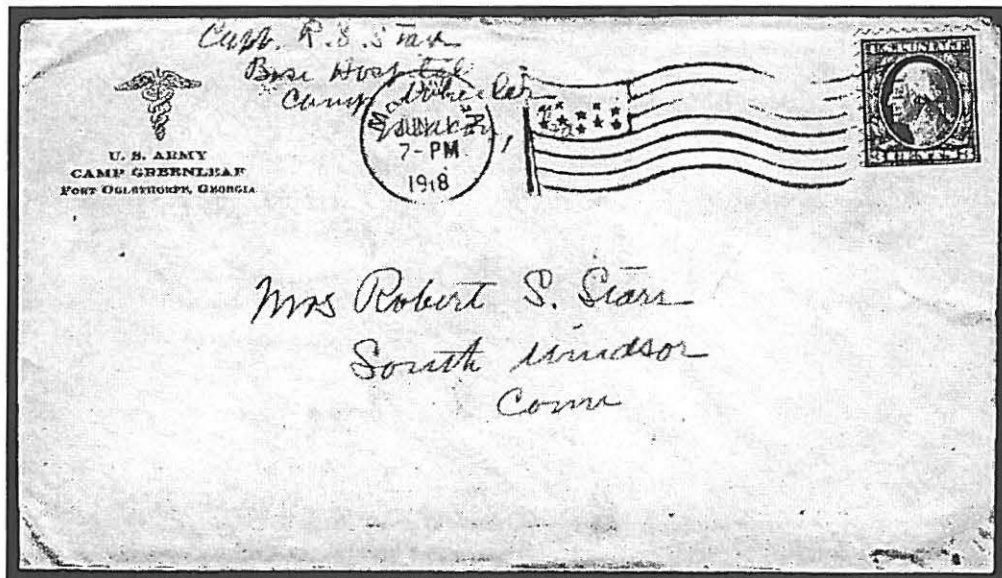
Figure 4. U.S. 3¢ 1860 star die envelope cancelled by a black duplex Savannah postmark dated 18 March 1861.

Cracker Cover



Special Delivery cover bearing a black 10¢ blue Special Delivery stamp on a 2¢ stamped envelope postmarked by a 15 November 1902 Athens postmark.

Patriotic Cover



3¢ war rate cover with red Medical Corps, Camp Greenleaf and Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. corner card and 1 June 1918 Macon postmark. Return address is Camp Wheeler, Macon, Ga. Who can tell us where all these camps were?

Modern Postmarks (continued)

As if the above were not the U. S. Postal Service also prepared 38 pictorial cancels for use in the Atlanta area during the period of the Olympic games.

Six postmarks depict a stylized mail truck. These were for the Atlanta mobile postal units and are identified as follows:

Broad Street Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30308

International Boulevard Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30303

Nassau Street Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30303

Rhoades Street Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30314

Wall Street Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30303

West Peachtree Street Mobile Station, Atlanta, GA 30308

Ten postmarks depict a cartoon chick saying "Hello World!" These were for the Georgia Postal Stores all of which are outside the city of Atlanta and some by a considerable distance. These are identified as follows:

Alps Road Postal Store Station, Athens, GA 30604

Decatur Postal Store Station, Decatur, GA 30030

Ellijay Postal Store Station, Ellijay, GA 30540

Fairburn Postal Store Station, Fairburn, GA 30213

Georgia Square Mall Postal Store Station, Athens, GA 30606

Limestone Postal Store Station, Gainesville, GA 30501

Memorial Postal Store Station, Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Mountain Park Postal Store Station, Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Rockbridge Postal Store Station, Norcross, GA 30093

Stone Mountain Postal Store Station, Stone Mountain, GA 30086

Finally there were 22 "Atlanta Welcomes the World" postmarks which feature a stylized Atlanta skyline. These postmarks are identified as follows:

Akers Mill Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31139

Briarcliff Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30345

Broadview Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30324

Brookhaven Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31119

Central City Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30322

Civic Center Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30308

CNN Center Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30303

Cumberland Mall Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30339

Druid Hills Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30333

Embry Hills Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31141

Greenbriar Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30331

Hartsfield Airport Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31123

Howell Mill Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30327

Little Five Points Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30307

Main Office Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30321

Martech Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30318

North Highland Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30306

Northlake Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31145

Peachtree Center Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30343

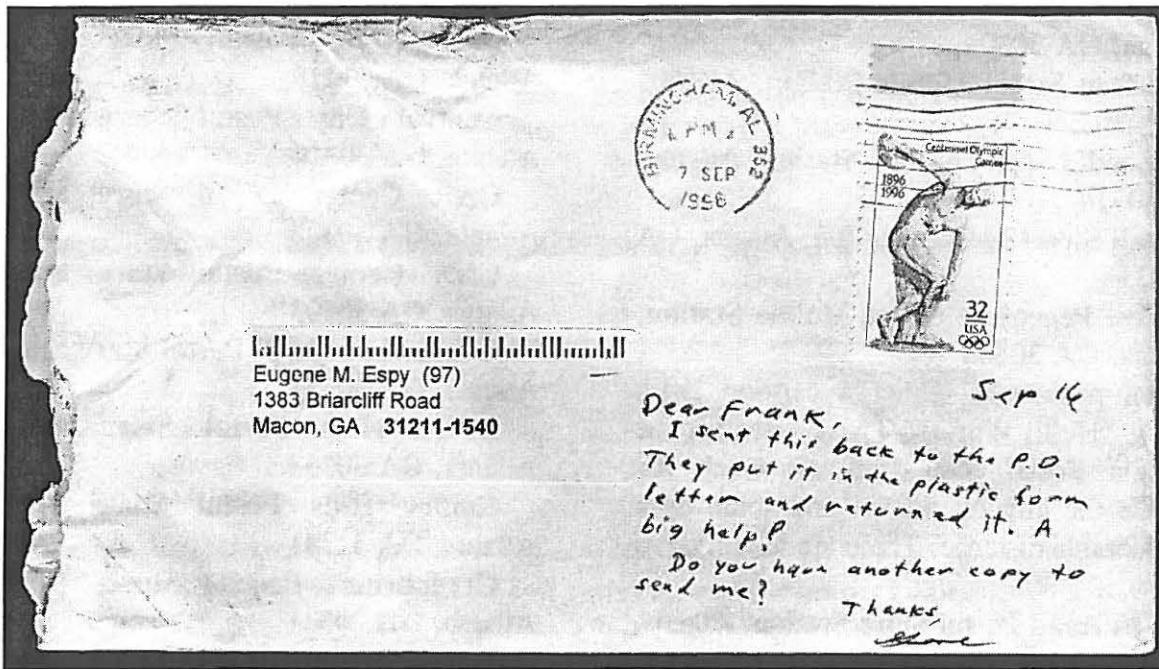
(continued on page 8)

Postal Service Delivers Abridged Edition of *Georgia Post Roads*

Member Gene Espy received an abridged version of the last issue of *Georgia Post Roads* courtesy of the Postal Service.

Gene wrote that he received his last issue in the envelope illustrated below. Approximately the left quarter of the

envelope and the contents appear to have been chewed off. Gene's handwritten note on the cover states that he returned the chewed off envelope to the Postal Service. They in turn placed the envelope in a plastic bag and delivered back to him!



Modern Postmarks (continued)

Perimeter Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 31146

Pharr Road Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30355

Sandy Springs Postal Store Station, Atlanta, GA 30328

Have a Happy Holiday Season!

New Society Publication

The newest publication of the GPHS announced in the last issue of *GPR* is now available. The booklet, entitled *Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period*, is available to members at the special price of \$6.00 postpaid through 31 December 1996. After this date the price will be \$7.50. Order from the editor: Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758.



Georgia Post Roads

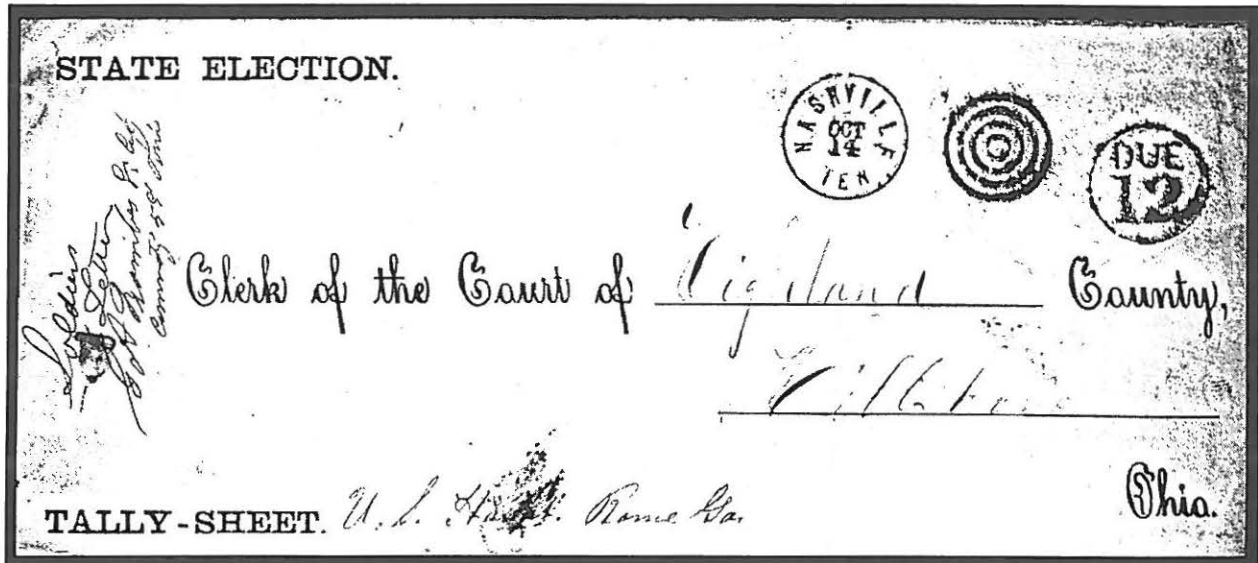
January 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 1

A Rome Occupation Cover

By Douglas N. Clark



Nashville duplex postmark dated 14 October and "Due 12" marking on cover annotated "U.S. Hosp. Rome Ga." to the left of "TALLY-SHEET" at lower left. (Author's collection)

The Union occupation of Georgia is not an area from which I have seen much postal history. Indeed, except for the usual common knowledge about Sherman's march, I admit to knowing very little about the movements of the Yankee troops in our state. I certainly knew nothing about the occupation of Rome, Georgia, until I acquired the cover illustrated above.

According to Roger Aycock's book, *All Roads to Rome* (Rome Area Heritage Foundation, 1981), there was considerable Federal action near Rome, in early 1864. After digging in to defend the city in May of that year, Confederate troops evacuated on May 17. The next day, Federal troops took Rome.

Aycock quotes the diary of Henry C. Norton, a Confederate soldier freed in a prisoner exchange. By late May, three

thousand wounded Federal soldiers were shipped to Rome and, on July 18, Norton writes that Broad Street was almost completely taken over by hospitals, filled with sick and wounded Union soldiers.

The subject cover, postmarked October 14, apparently originated in the fall of 1864, from a wounded Federal officer in Rome. Although postmarked in Nashville, Tenn., the cover bears the docketing "U.S. Hosp. Rome, Ga." at the bottom.

The docketing also identifies the sender as Lt. Col. Granville A. Frambes of the 59th Ohio Infantry.

The cover is a printed envelope, intended for an Ohio state election tally-sheet. Because the postage (due) is 12c, the mailed item must have weighed between 1-1/2 and 2 ounces; thus, I suppose it must have contained more than (continued on page 7)



Georgia at Auction

There were several sales in November and December which contained items of Georgia postal history. However, only two lots in the Cherrystone Auction of 13-14 November 1996 are highlighted. Both lots are rare example of pioneer flight covers from Georgia.

The first, lot 2451, was a cover postmarked 28 November 1911 with the Savannah, Ga. Aerial Sub Station cancel. This seldom seen cover brought \$120. The second lot, 2452, was a postcard with a 28 December 1911 Albany, Ga., Aerial Sub-Station postmark. This lot brought \$110.

Both items are infrequently seen on the philatelic market. The fact there were two in the same sale is even more unusual. The rarity of these items is readily apparent. Only 619 postcards and five letters were carried on the 28 November flight at Savannah. About 1,000 items were flown on the 28 December flight at Albany. It is probable that only a fraction of these items eventually made their way into philatelic hands.



Modern Postmarks

After the deluge of special cancellations resulting from the Olympics there is only one postmark to report.

GAPEX Station, 101 Fornum Street, Grovetown, GA 30813-9998, 2-3 November 1996. Features state map and "300th Anniversary/Birth of/James E. Oglethorpe/Soldier - Colonist - Statesman."

Recruit a New Member in '97

Roster Changes

New Members:

Jim Doolin, 11258 Goodnight Lane, Suite 105, Dallas, TX 75229

Joel M. Rind, 14 W. 8th Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Show Log

18 - 19 January, **CPA Stamp and Postcard Show**, Woodhill Mall, 6300 Garner's Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC. Bill Mitchell (803) 254-3727.

8 - 9 February, **ALAPEX '97**, Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 9th Ave. SW (Exit 108 on I-20/I-59), Bessemer, AL. Charles Hancock, (205)-822-3826.

22 - 23 February, **Spring Stamp Festival '97**, Harvey Hotel, 6345 Powers Ferry Rd NW (I-285 exit 15), Atlanta, GA. Debra Tyson (404) 352-5856.



Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED Spanish-American War patriotic covers used from Georgia. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/1]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

Post Road Notes

The latest publication of the Georgia Postal History Society, *Guide to Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period* proved to be quite popular. The first printing of 25 copies sold out almost immediately. Copies are again available from a second printing. The price is \$7.00 to members and \$7.50 to non members postpaid. Send orders to the editor.

This is the last call for dues from those whose membership expired the end of 1996. The year your membership expires is indicated by the two digits following your name on the address label. For those whose membership has expired there is a dues notice inclosed with this mailing.

Although there has been no official announcement as yet this is the year in which we must elect officers. Unlike the American Philatelic Society I have detected no stampede of "wantabes" for our offices. If, however, you have the urge and desire to serve your society I strongly encourage you to contact our President, Doug Clark.

I might also mention that a new editor is needed for *Georgia Post Roads* starting with the January 1998 issue. If you always wanted to try your hand at putting together a newsletter now is your opportunity. Anyone with a desire is urged to contact yours truly.

The past year has seen a change in the type of material presented in these pages. A wider variety of material from many different facets of Georgia's postal history has been presented. This is healthy and hopefully will generate more interest in different areas. The postal history of Georgia is a field that has been neglected for far too long. In fact the only publications on the field are the three that were prepared by our society (see box at right). There is ample opportunity for many specialized studies.

Frank

GPHS Publications

The following publications of the GPHS are available for immediate shipment. Prices are for members and include shipping. Prices for non members are 50 cents more than member prices.

First Returns Received from Georgia Offices 1789-1818. \$8.00

1816 Georgia Post Offices from the Register of Officers and Agents. \$3.50

Guide to Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period. \$7.00

Winter special - all three publication for \$16.00 (\$17.50 for non members).

Send your order to Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758.

Coming Up

In the months ahead look for more examples of "reconstruction postmarks" and an article or two on Confederate covers.

This will be supplemented by more "Cracker Covers," a few patriotic covers and perhaps one or more "Cover to Ponder" columns.

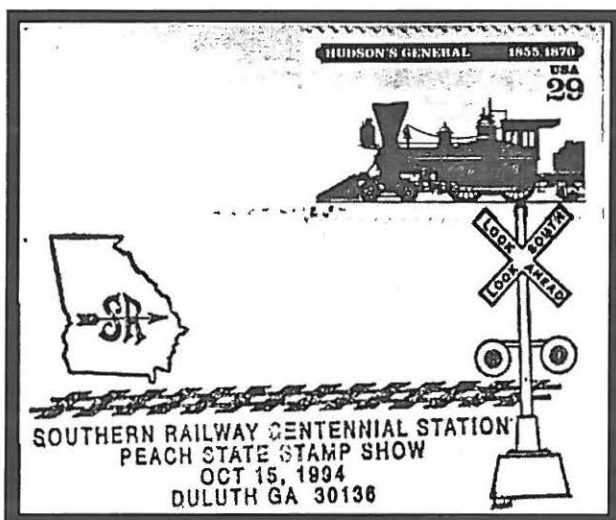
Those with an idea for an article are encouraged to put pen to paper and send it to the editor. If you have an interesting cover but don't know how to write it up you should contact the editor. That is how the article "Of Express Mail and Indian Wars" came about.

Final Dues Notice
for memberships expiring in 1996!

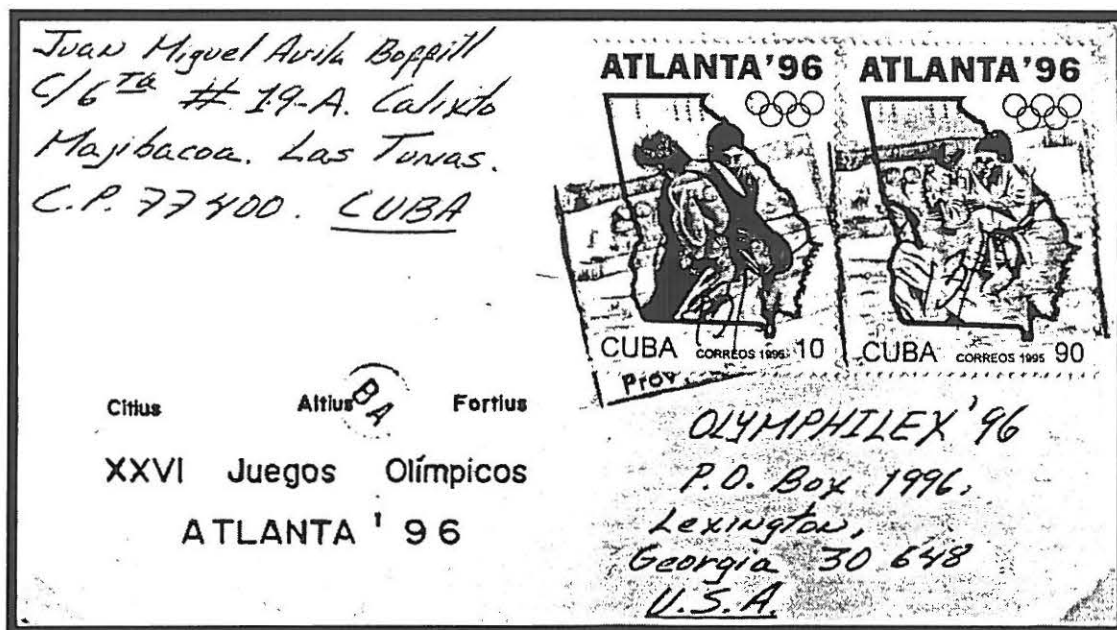
Georgia on Stamps and Postmarks

Doug Clark has a collection of postmarks and stamps which depict maps of the various

states. Below are several examples which feature the state of Georgia.



This postmark from the 1994 Peach State Stamp Show shows an outline of Georgia with a Southern Railway logo within. The stamp used also ties in with Georgia. It pictures the famous locomotive "General" from Civil War fame.



Card from Cuba bearing two Olympic stamps The stamps are inscribed "ATLANTA '96" and feature an outline of the state of Georgia enclosing what appears to be athletes

engaged in competition. Although Cuban stamps have been embargoed since 1961 they are apparently valid on international mail to the United States. (continued on page 5)

Postal History is Where you Find It

By Frank Crown

Recently I received a lot of 19th century Georgia covers on approval. Upon looking through the lot I found several covers I wanted and set them aside. Before returning the lot I checked it once more. While doing so I suddenly stopped after looking at two covers with Cuthbert postmarks.



Figure 1. Black 27.5 mm Cuthbert, Ga. postmark dated 10 October 1896.

Something told me to check the covers again. After looking at the markings closely I realized the two postmarks, only two years apart, were different. One postmark was noticeable larger than the other. The fact the town was using two different postmarks struck me as unusual considering Cuthbert was a small town with a population of only 2,600 in 1900.

The postmark used in 1896 (Figure 1) is 27.5 mm in diameter and shows no sign of wear. So why was a new postmark 29 mm in diameter in use only two years later (Figure 2)?

There is a story here but it is one which will require further research. My sample is small, only two covers. More covers from

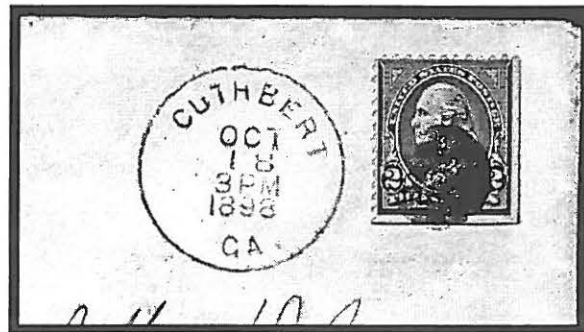
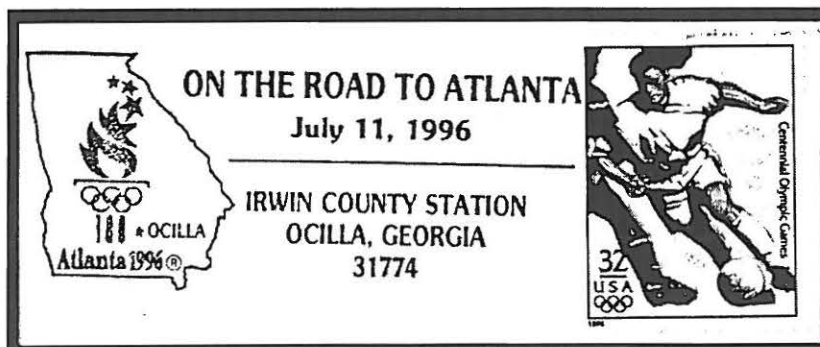


Figure 2. Black 29 mm Cuthbert, Ga. postmark dated 18 October 1898.

Cuthbert need to be examined to determine the actual dates of use of the postmarks. This may in turn lead to a need to examine postal records or local historical records to ferret out answers.

The whole point is that this chance observation of two covers from a small town can lead to a detailed study. As the title suggests, postal history is where you find it.

Georgia on Stamps and Postmarks (continued from page 4)



This postmark commemorates the Olympic Torch Run through Ocilla, Georgia on 11 July 1996. It features an outline of the state of Georgia with the Atlanta Olympic Committee logo within.

Of Express Mail and Indian Wars

By Frank Crown



Red Columbus, Ga. postmark dated 28 September 1836 on a letter to Fort Hamilton, Long Island, New York. (Collection of Joel Rind)

The rather plain looking stampless cover illustrated above conceals some interesting historical facts both postal and military. The letter is datelined "Fort Mitchell September 27th 1836".

As many readers are undoubtedly aware Fort Mitchell was built about 1813 as an outpost in the Creek Indian Country. From that time until about 1826 many considered Fort Mitchell to be in Georgia. However, when the boundary line was run between Georgia and Alabama in that year Fort Mitchell fell on the Alabama side of the Chatahoochee River. Columbus was established the next year a few miles up river on the Georgia side.

The letter is addressed to a Mrs. Colonel A. Stanton and signed "Henry." Reading the letter makes it clear Henry is writing his

wife. Armed with this information a check of the *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army 1789-1903* revealed the letter writer was probably Lt. Col. Henry Stanton a quartermaster officer.

The first lines of the letter are of interest to postal historians. The writer notes "I have by the express of this evening from Columbus received your letter of 15th instant." At first reading this appears to be a reference to the early "Express Mail" service established by the post office. However, this is impossible because the "Express Mail" service did not begin until two months later. In addition Col. Stanton unknowingly tells us it took 12 days for his wife's letter to travel from New York to Fort Mitchell. The normal transit time for regular mail from New York to Columbus was approximately

10 days. The "Express Mail" would soon reduce this time to approximately four days. The "express" mentioned in the letter is probably a reference to an express established by the military to transport the mail and dispatches between Columbus and Fort Mitchell.

Other parts of the letter give a flavor for the military operations then being conducted against the Creeks in Alabama and the Seminoles in Florida.

Fort Mitchell was apparently a post of some importance at the time. Col. Stanton states

. . . we soldiers are so little our own masters. Two days ago we were packing up when along comes an order to the General to send the Marine Corps . . . to Florida. To do this requires some days, so unpack and to work again. To add to our vexation the Chattahoochee river down which the Troops and supplies destined for Florida are to be sent in Steam Boats has taken a fancy to fall so far below its usual level as to preclude the possibility to bringing up Steam Boats higher than 50 miles below this place. Consequently the supplies destined for Florida and the troops must be sent down which will

require the services of all the wagons we can muster for several days - but we are busy.

The order issued two days since designated the Troops that are to move to the Seminole country and those that are to remain in the Creek country for the present. Among the latter are [four] companies of the 4th Artillery.

You ask . . . if I am to go to Florida and I answer to the best of my knowledge and belief no. On the contrary I have been told that my return to the North is necessary, so in good time . . . I shall return, God willing.

From these lines we can conclude that Fort Mitchell was an early staging base for the war effort against the Seminoles and at the same time provided a force to deal with any Creek Indian problems in Alabama. Col. Stanton also notes a considerable dependence on steam boats to ferry troops and supplies down the Chattahoochee to the fighting in Florida. Finally Col. Stanton appears confident and somewhat relieved that he will shortly return to the North.

As a footnote, the record of Col. Stanton shows that he survived the Seminole Indian War and became a Brevet Brigadier General for his service in the Mexican War.

Rome Cover (continued from page 1)
one tally sheet. Probably a number of Col. Frambes' men were hospitalized in Rome.

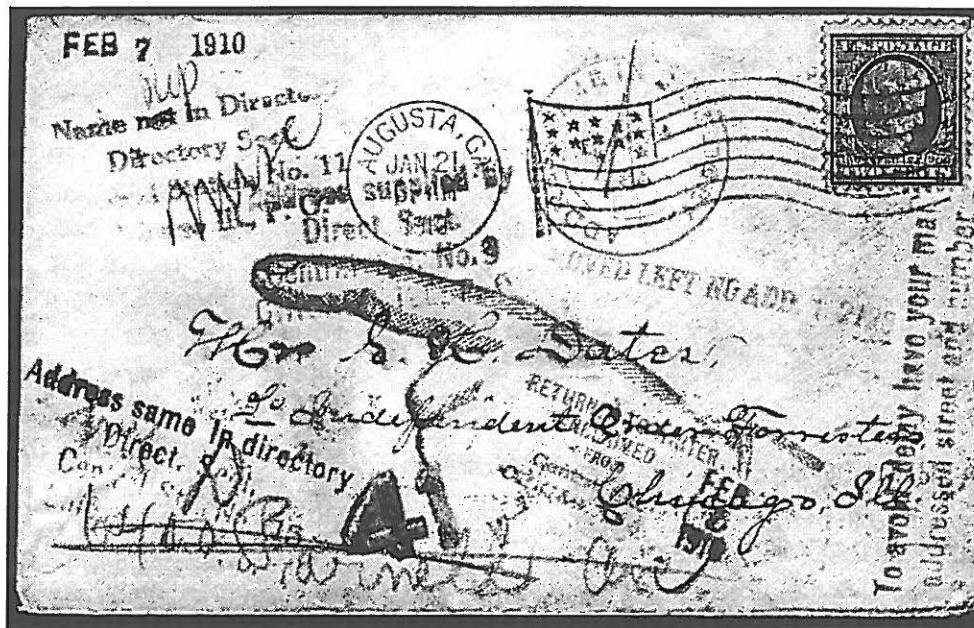
U.S. records indicate a September 13, 1865 date for the post-war reopening of the Rome post office, with a second postmaster appointed October 27. This further confirms 1864 as the year of the subject cover, which had to be carried to Nashville for mailing.

At the 1996 Georgia Postal History Society meeting, at Peach State Stamp Show in Athens, I showed the auction catalogue in which this cover appeared (Charles G. Firby's October 22, 1996 sale). At that time I had bid successfully on the lot, but had not yet received the cover from Firby. The

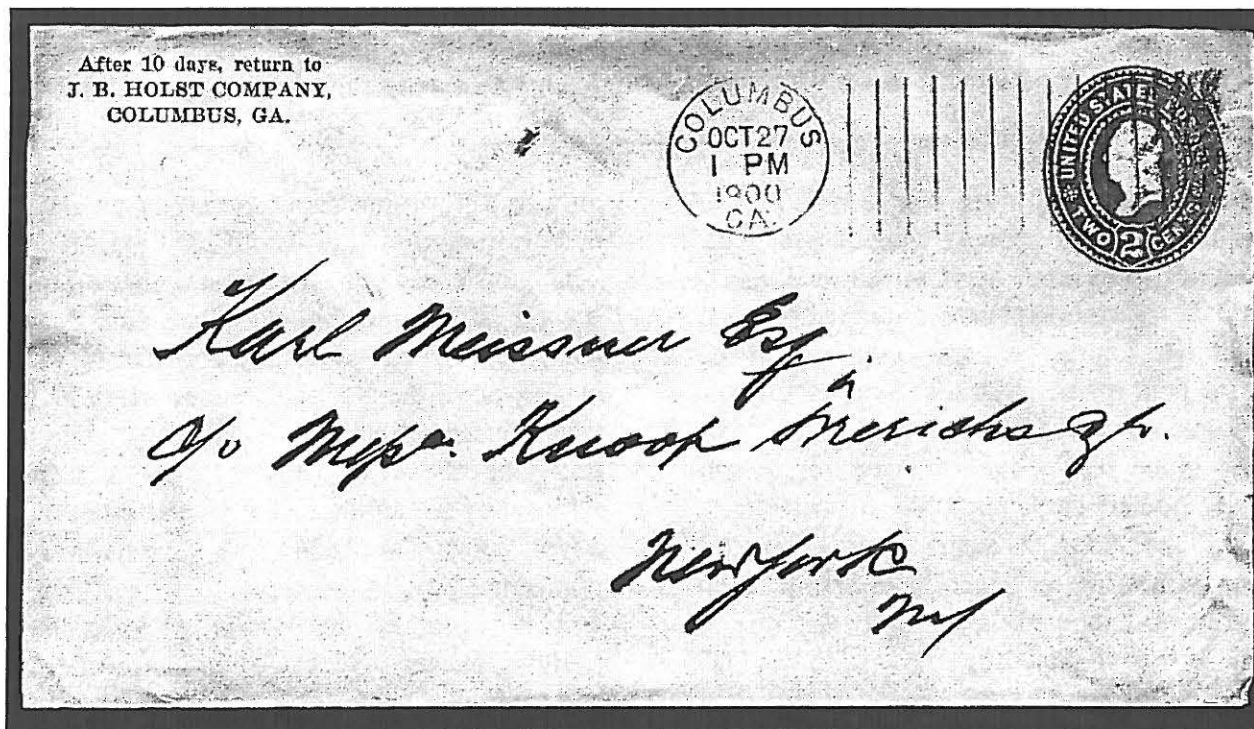
auction description dated the cover as 1861 and even referred to "Lincoln 1861 election." The consensus of the postal historians present at the meeting was that there was something wrong, especially considering the small type of the Nashville postmark (which was illustrated in the catalogue). Upon receiving the cover, my suspicions were relieved by the absence of any 1861 date; the cover, with the 1864 date, seems very plausible.

I am grateful to Edwin Jackson for pointing out the Aycock Rome history book and to Frank Crown for assistance with U.S. government records.

Cracker Covers



Cover postmarked by Augusta, GA, 21 January 1910 flag cancel to Chicago, IL. There the cover received several directory services at stations 9, 11 and 15 before it was finally returned to the sender on 5 February 1910. (Courtesy of Lamar Garrard)



Early use of a machine cancel from Columbus, GA. This is a Barr-Fyke cancel with wide spaced vertical bars (4mm). The postmark is dated 27 October 1900. (Courtesy Frank Crown)



Georgia Post Roads

March 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 2

The Confederate Atlanta Handstamped "PAID 10"

By Frank Crown

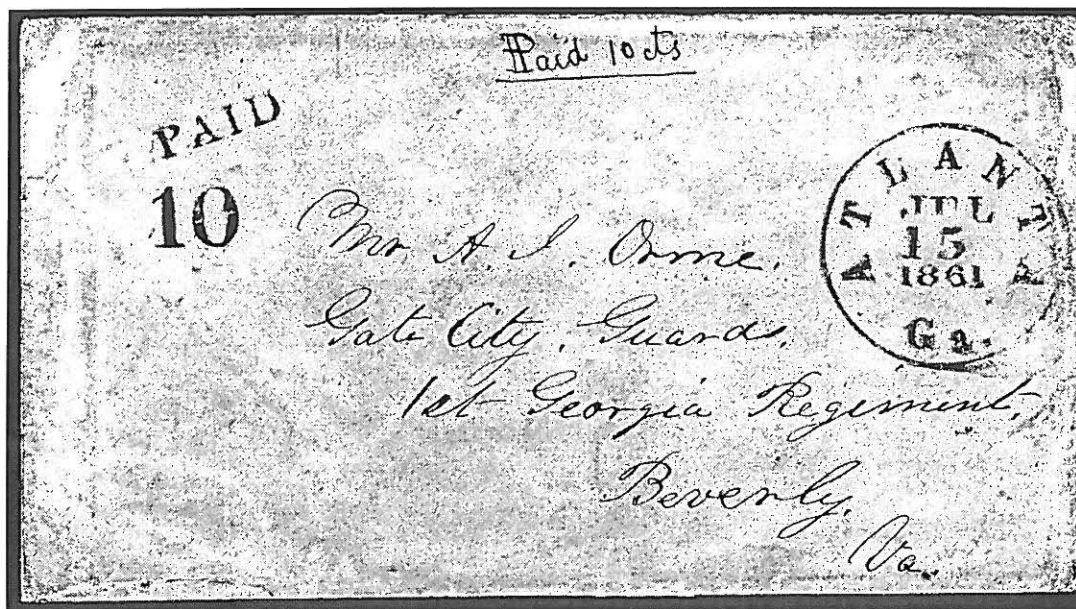


Figure 1. Black Atlanta handstamped "PAID 10" marking on cover postmarked 15 July 1861. (Author's Collection)

The cover illustrated above appears to be nothing more than a handstamped paid cover to a Confederate soldier from Georgia. However, research reveals this is no ordinary cover. In fact this cover has not one, but two stories to tell.

First let's look at the address on the cover. It is addressed to a "Mr. A. J. Orme, Gate City Guards, 1st Georgia Regiment." Mr. Orme was in fact First Corporal in the Gate City Guards when it was mustered into Confederate service on 18 March 1861. On 1 April the unit marched south to Pensacola, Florida. In early June they were ordered north to Virginia with the 1st Regiment of Georgia Volunteer Infantry.

In July the unit was assigned to the command of General Robert S. Garnett. The company saw action at Belington, Laurel Hill

and Carrick's Ford in what is now West Virginia. On 14 July at Carrick's Ford the Gate City Guards and five other companies were cut off from the main body of the Confederate army. Instead of surrendering the small force made its way across mountains and unsettled wilderness trying to link up with Confederate forces to the southeast. After several days without food and drenched by rains they made their way back to the Confederate lines.

The exposure took its toll on the unit with some members dying of fever and exposure while others became mentally deranged. Corporal Orme survived the ordeal but was discharged from service on 31 December 1861, three months before his enlistment expired.

(Continued on page 4)



Modern Postmarks

There are two new special cancellations to report.

CARTER LIBRARY Station, Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30307-1498, 19 February. Framed text: "Points of Entry / A Nation of Strangers, Nationalization Ceremony."

PGH. CONF. Station, Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30304-9998, 16-21 March. Text: "Pittcon '97 / Catch the Star."

Show Log

22-23 March. **JAXPEX Spring Show 1997**. Fraternal Order of Police Building, 5546 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL. Sponsored by Jax Stamp Collectors Club. Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-5PM, W. K. Dow (904) 743-2809.

11-13 April. **Spring Stamp Fest '97**. Central Florida Fairground, Building "A", 4603 W. Colonial Drive (Hwy 50), Orlando, FL. Sponsored by Florida Stamp Dealers Association. Fri-Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-3PM. John Smith (813) 522-9745.

19-20 April. **Nashville Stamp Show '97**. Days Inn-Airport/Opryland, Briley Parkway @ 1 International Plaza, Nashville, TN. Sponsored by Nashville Philatelic Society. Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-5PM. Bob Picirilli (615) 297-0183.

Coming Up

The next issue of GPR will feature an interesting article on the Atlanta Olympic Highway Post Offices by Nancy Z. Clark.

Roster Changes

Dropped for Nonpayment of Dues:

Joe Crosby
Hugh M. Goldberg
Greater Augusta Stamp Club
John B. Haynie
Henry B. Hearn
Alvin Drasne
Charles J. O'Brien
Warren H. Sanders

Articles Wanted

Share your collecting interests with other members of the Society. Write an article for *Georgia Post Roads*. If you need help contact the editor.

Recruit a New Member in '97



Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED Reconstruction era covers from Georgia towns. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/3]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [7/2]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

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 **Post Road Notes**

An interesting phenomenon about postal history is the constant emergence of new material. The last issue the "Georgia at Auction" column focused on the rarity of early airmail covers from Georgia and the fact that an auction featured three pieces of this mail. Shortly thereafter the Robert A. Siegel sale catalog for 11-12 March appeared. And you guessed it, more scarce early airmail covers from Georgia. Not just three but seven!

This is not an isolated case. Over the last 35 years I have compiled a database containing information on over 4,000 Georgia stampless covers. Every time several such lots appear in an auction I find I have already recorded information on 25% or more of them. The same is true of lots received from dealers. Imagine my shock recently when I received a lot of 24 covers from a dealer and not one of them was contained in my database!

On the facing page is "Trading Post," the classified ads section of *Georgia Post Roads*. If you followed these over the last few years, you know there are very few users. This is unfortunate because they can be quite helpful in finding new material. I use them and have been rewarded with some very nice acquisitions to my collection. For a very nominal fee you can present your special wants to collectors with similar interests.

This issue is only six pages instead of the usual eight. This is to allow the annual membership list to be mailed at no additional expense to the society.

Elections for new officers will be held later this year. If you are interested in serving your society, you are urged to contact our President, Doug Clark.

Frank


Georgia at Auction

The upcoming Robert A. Siegel sale of 11-12 March contains some significant Georgia postal history items. Included in the sale are some very rare early airmail covers from Georgia towns. Lots 535 and 536 are covers bearing the Atlanta Speedway Aviation Meet postmark. The first cover is postmarked 18 November 1911 and the second 17 November.

Lot 537 is a postcard bearing the Savannah Athletic Park Aviation Meet postmark dated 28 November 1911. Lot 538 is a postcard bearing the Columbus Driving Park Aviation Meeting postmark dated 12 December 1911. Lot 539 is a postcard bearing the Albany South Atlantic League Aviation Meet postmark dated 28 December 1911. Lot 593 is postcard bearing the Cuthbert Fair Grounds Aviation Meet postmark dated 12 October 1912.

The final Georgia lot in the sale is an early balloon flight cover (lot 750). The illustrated cover depicting two airships bears the Savannah Great Airship Races postmark dated 6 October 1909.

GPHS Publications

The following publication of the GPHS is available for immediate shipment. The price is for members and includes shipping. The price for non members is 50 cents more than the member price.

Guide to Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period. \$7.00

Send your order to Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758.

Atlanta Handstamped Paid (continued)

There are two recorded handstamped "PAID 10" covers addressed to Corporal Orme (figures 1 and 2). The dates of the postmarks (15 and 17 July respectively)

mean these covers were mailed while Orme and the Gate City Guards made their exhausting march to link up with the Confederate forces.

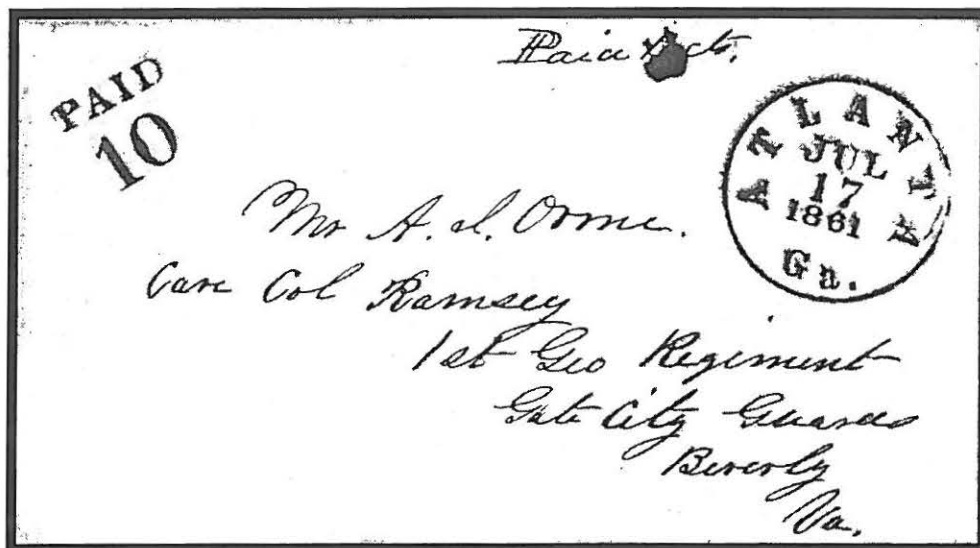


Figure 2. Black Atlanta handstamped "PAID 10" marking on cover postmarked 17 July 1861. (Courtesy McCary Ballard)

Now let's turn to the "PAID 10" marking. Although the marking is classified as a handstamped paid marking, it is very scarce. Morris Everett listed only two handstamped paid markings from Atlanta, both "PAID 10". To this count we can add one additional (figure 3) for a total of three.

It is this extremely low number of recorded usages which make the markings such an enigma. Compare this number to the more than 150 provisional usages recorded from Atlanta. This is a ratio of one handstamp paid cover for every 50 provisional covers! One would expect the ratio to be just the opposite.

This peculiar ratio leads one to the speculate that the Atlanta provisionals are not real provisionals. However, we know this is not true. The Atlanta postmaster advertised that postal patrons could bring their envelopes to the post office to have them

stamped with the office stamp. Such envelopes could then be used as prepaid envelopes.

The unusual ratio means the Atlanta postmaster probably used the same markings as both handstamped paid (applied when mailed) and as provisionals (applied in advance of mailing). The question then becomes how do you distinguish a provisional cover from a handstamped paid cover. The answer is you can't.

Finally, it should be noted that the handstamped "PAID 10" had a very short period of use, 1-17 July 1861.

Now let's examine the markings on the three covers illustrated in this article in more detail. Those in figures 1 and 2 are annotated at the upper center "Paid 10 cts". What is the significance of this? It is difficult to say with any certainty. One could speculate that it was the amount of postage that someone

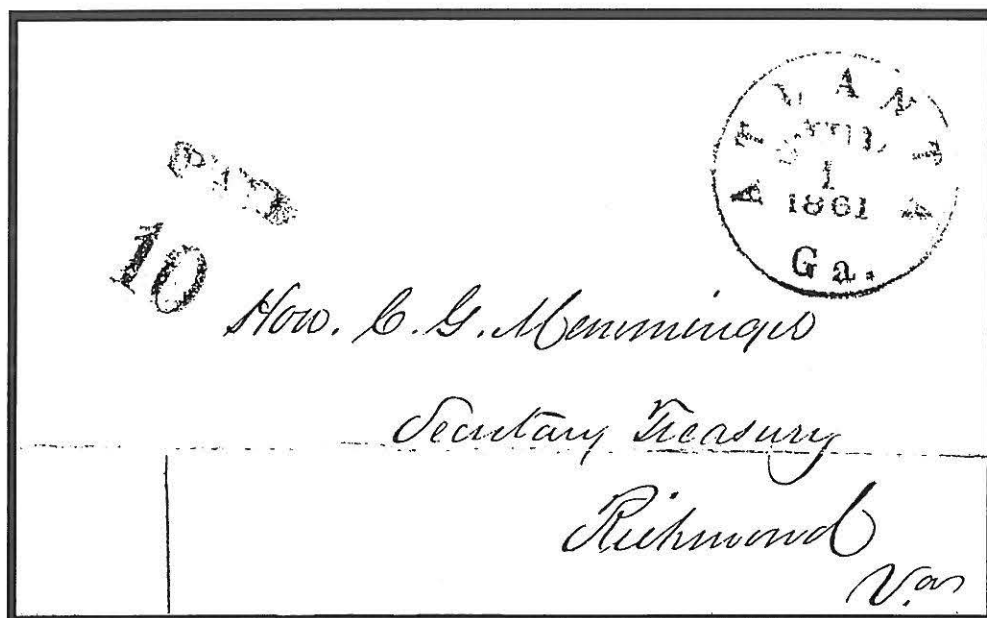


Figure 3. Atlanta handstamped "PAID 10" postmarked 1 July 1861. (Courtesy Scott Ward)

wanted stamped on the cover (a provisional). Or it could be a note by the postal clerk that the mailer had paid the necessary postage and later he or someone else would handstamp the cover accordingly (a handstamped paid). Other theories could be just as plausible. The curious thing about these annotations is that I have not found similar markings on other Atlanta covers bearing handstamped markings.

There are a few other interesting things about the "PAID 10" marking. First the "PAID" marking is one that dates from the U. S. stampless period. The same "PAID" marking was used to prepare the *New Dietz* Type VII handstamped 10 marking. However, a different "PAID" marking was used to prepare the *New Dietz* Types IV and VI handstamped 5 markings. The most notable difference between the two is the left leg of the letter "A". On the five cent provisionals the serif on the bottom of the left leg is significantly lower than that on the right leg. On the ten cent handstamped paids and provisionals the serifs on both legs of the

"A" are on the same level. For the ten cent values this is best seen in figure 2.

The "10" marking was apparently prepared specifically for use during the Confederate period. It is found only as part of the handstamped "PAID 10" and the *New Dietz* Type VII handstamped 10 markings. Additionally the "10" marking was used to revalue the five cent markings to 10 cents.

References.

Crown, Francis J. Jr., *Surveys of the Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals*.

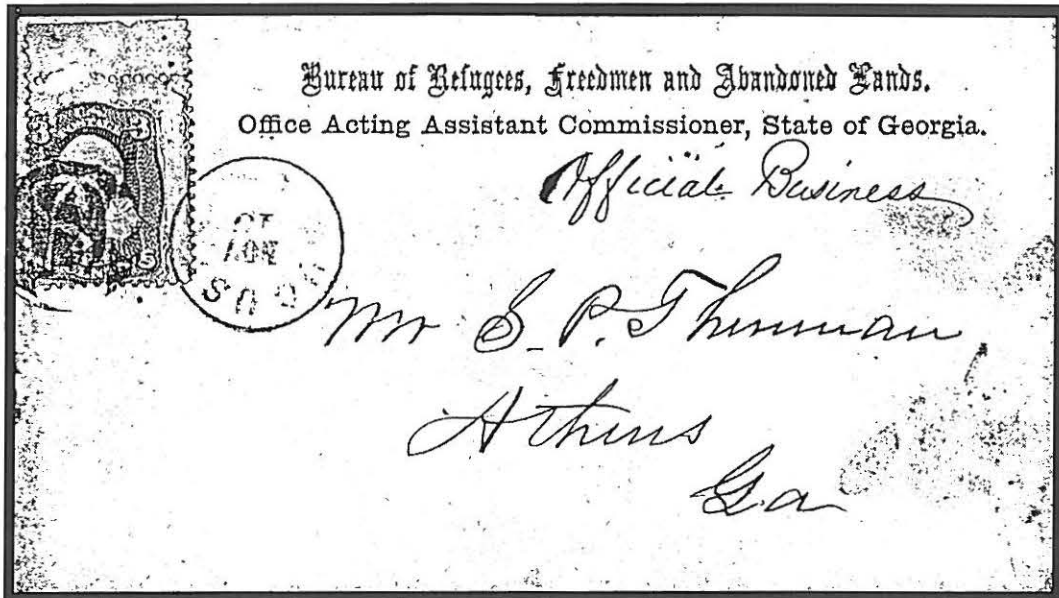
Evans, Clement A., *Confederate Military History, Extended Edition*.

Garrett, Franklin M., *Atlanta and Environs, A Chronicle of Its People and Events*, (vol 1).

Henderson, Lillian, *Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia 1861-1865*, (vol 1).

Write an Article for GPR

Cracker Covers



U.S. 3¢ 1861 issue used on an official cover of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, State of Georgia. The stamp is cancelled by an Augusta duplex cancel featuring a negative interlaced “US” in the killer. This illustration is courtesy of Harvey Teal.



U.S. 3¢ 1857 issue on an overall illustrated advertising cover of the Fruitland Nurseries in Augusta. The illustration is a light gray color. The stamp is tied by a black Augusta postmark dated 7 March.

Georgia Postal History Society

Membership Roster - March 1997

Ballard, McCary; P.O. Box 6963, Atlanta, GA 30315-0963

Bansner, Phil; P.O. Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609-2529

[pbansner@epix.net]

Bridges, H. I. Jr.; 217 Ridgeland Drive, Sandersville, GA 31082-1223

Bridges, Sara B.; 217 Ridgeland Drive, Sandersville, GA 31082-1223

Byne, Richard H.; 7518 Buckskin Lane, San Antonio, TX 78227-2716

Callahan, William E.; Route 1, Box 342F, Troy, AL 36079

Carrubba, Gregory; 215 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201-2856

Clark, Douglas N.; P.O. Box 51, Lexington, GA 30648-0051

[dnc@alpha.math.uga.edu]

Confederate Philately, Inc.; 88 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108-3300

Crown, Francis J. Jr.; P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758-0171

[fcrown@ro.com]

Delafosse, Roy E. Jr.; 1785 Samaria Trail, Tucker, GA 30084-7430

Doolin, James; 11258 Goodnight Lane, Dallas, TX 75229

Doster, Gary L.; 1230 Bob Godfrey Road, Athens, GA 30605-5316

[doster.g@calc.vet.uga.edu]

Espy, Eugene M.; 1383 Briarcliff Road, Macon, GA 31211-1540

Forte, Jim; P.O. Box 94822, Las Vegas, NV 89193-4822

[jimforte@ix.netcom.com]

Garrard, Jr., R. Lamar; 1131 N. Eisenhower Court, Augusta, GA 30904

Green, Nonie Mrs; 2401 Colorado Ave, San Angelo, TX 76901

Jackson, Edwin L.; 255 Greystone Terrace, Athens, GA 30606-4472

[jackson@igs.cviog.uga.edu]

O'Reilly, Michael C.; P.O. Box 1131, Huntsville, AL 35807-0131

[mco@asgna.com]

Owens, Ernest C.; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872-6183

Pierce, T. Lowrell; 5997 Sardis Church Road, Macon, GA 31206-7044

Postal History Foundation; P.O. Box 40725, Tuscon, AZ 85717-0725

Pou, Robert L.; 202 E 45th Street, Savannah, GA 31405-2216

Rind, Joel M.; 14 West 8th Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

[joelrind@aol.com]

Rybolt, Robert M.; 800 William R. Day Building, Canton, OH 44702-1914

Stanton, Thomas E.; 2109 Alice Ave, Apt #2, Oxen Hill, MD 20745-3507

Sterken, Margie; 121 N. Stratford Drive, Athens, GA 30605-3074

Teal, Harvey S.; 2337 Terrace Way, Columbia, SC 29205-2339

Ward, C. Scott; 2636 Dellwood Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30305-3575

Whitehead, Robert C.; 108 Calloway Crossing, Peachtree City, GA 30269-3706

Willis, J. Edward; P.O. Box 1594, Valdosta, GA 31603-1594



Georgia Post Roads

May 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 3

Georgia's Newest H.P.O.s

By Nancy B. Z. Clark

Highway Post Office operations were originated to serve areas where train service was discontinued. Where trains had Railway Postal Clerks to sort, postmark and route the mail, buses now served the same mail acceptance, postmarking and sorting services. Georgia had several designated Highway Post Offices (H.P.O.s) during the classic period for the service, including Macon and Rome, and Augusta and Savannah. They were mail cars on tires. Postmarking devices clearly marked their exceptional treatment with the letters H.P.O. in the die.

For Olympic Games, when efficient mail service is threatened by massive crowds, interrupted by politically motivated incidents or disrupted by commercial altercations, the USPS has traditionally called into service motorized vans. The vehicles, arriving at their designated locations, provided a user friendly way to mail letters and cards, posted via a curbside window. This service was revived and regionally promoted at the summer Games in Atlanta this past July and August, by the United States Postal Service. Each of these posting sites had its own pictorial postmark which was used for the duration of the Games.

The services performed in these vans had some similarities to routine H.P.O. activities, but the lack of routing and sorting mail while traveling from one site to another does not qualify them as "classic" H.P.O.s; rather they performed the modern analog, delivering the mail to the General Post Office routinely for regular dispatching.

Visitors to Atlanta were perspiring and seeking shade and any cool breeze as they hiked the designated walking corridors. The United States Postal Service provided colorful fans for their relief at no charge (Figure 1). They were handed to visitors at postal facilities, on street corners, in MARTA (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) stations and at OLYMPHILEX '96. These fans pictured the eaglet which represented the Postal Service, a chick reminiscent of the "Sam the Eagle" mascot which the USPS used to promote their participation in the Los Angeles Games in 1984. On one side, the fans had a map of the downtown Atlanta area, where the majority of sporting and cultural events were scheduled. They showed MARTA routes, Olympic sport venue sites and locations of all postal facilities, including the H.P.O.s. The other side carried a large picture of this eaglet toting a shopping bag filled with stamps and stamp-related products. A perceptive approach to publicize "The Postal Store"(s) and the mobile post offices.

It is interesting to notice that Ruth Gooch, the USPS person who was brought in from California to handle a joint mission of implementing the Olympic postal involvement and of placing the Postal Store "game plan" into operation, had also been involved with the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. The combined focus of Olympic postal facilities and the newly activated network of postal stores is reflected in this piece of Olympic-USPS material. It is also of (continued on page 4)



Modern Postmarks

There are two new special cancellations to report.

FORSYTHIA FESTIVAL Station, Box 9998, Forsyth, GA 31029-9998, 1-6 April. Features courthouse clock tower in a frame of stylized blossoms.

100 Years of Rural Delivery. From Ed Willis and Joe Ganas, postmaster a Quitman, I received a copy of the postmark below. A note from the postmaster stated, "the first rural mail carrier to serve after the establishment of Rural Free Delivery in Georgia was Ephram Ponder, Dec. 8, 1896." He also noted that the postmark will be used for the rest of the year. Those desiring covers postmarked with the marking should write the Postmaster, Box 9998, Quitman, GA 31643-9998,



Show Log

3-4 May. Greenville Stamp Club Stamp Show, Greenville Elks Lodge, 8000 Pelham Road, Greenville, SC Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM. (Susan Reshni (864) 855-8545)

4 May. Central Florida Stamp & Coin Show, Admiral Inn, 5665 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33884. 10 AM-4 PM. (Jerry Siegel (813) 326-1038)

Roster Changes

New Member

Raleigh E. Multog, P.O. Box 7327, McMinnville, TN 37110

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Trading Post

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WANTED Reconstruction era covers from Georgia towns. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/3]

AUGUSTA, GA wanted. Covers, postcards, documents, photos, books, Confederate, UCV reunions, Masters' Golf, Fort Gordon, Bobby Jones and Ty Cobb. Lamar Garrard, 1131 North Eisenhower, Augusta, GA 30904 [7/4]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

 **Post Road Notes**

These are exciting times to collect Georgia postal history. In the last issue mention was made of the relatively large number of Georgia pioneer flight covers in a Siegel sale. This sale was just recently eclipsed by another Siegel sale of a Confederate collection containing many outstanding examples of Georgia postal history. Yet another Siegel sale will be held in the next two weeks containing even more items of Georgia postal history. Other auction houses already have or will feature some nice Georgia material. However, nothing beats the quantity sold or to be sold by Siegel in the next few weeks. A sample of the Siegel material is featured "Georgia at Auction."

Auctions aren't the only thing to write about. Linn's has just published an excellent work on the U.S. 1¢ 1861-1867 issue. This 440 page book containing more than 500 color and black and white photographs is a must have for those specializing in this issue. My only complaint is that I found no Georgia covers in the book. Of course I may have overlooked the obvious. The book is available from Linn's, Box 29, Sidney OH 45365. The cost is \$33 for the soft-cover edition and \$63 for the hardcover edition. Prices quoted include postage.

We are midway through the year. I have three more issues to go before I retire from the editorship. In the meantime we are looking for a replacement. If you have any interest in being the editor of *GPR* please contact Doug Clark or myself.

Remember elections for new officers will be held later this year. If you are interested in serving your society, you are urged to contact our President, Doug Clark.

Frank


Georgia at Auction

The prices realized for the Georgia pioneer flight covers in the Siegel sale of 11-13 March were very interesting. First lots similar to those in the earlier Cherrystone sale brought about \$25 more in the Siegel sale. Actual prices realized were as follows: Lot 535 (Atlanta) \$375; lot 536 (Atlanta) \$55; lot 537 (Savannah) \$50; lot 538 (Columbus) \$130; lot 539 (Albany) \$200; lot 593 (Cuthbert) \$160 and lot 750 (Savannah balloon races) \$450.

Siegel sale # 787 (9-10 April) featured the Confederate collection of J. R. Keeling. Among the many Georgia items was a copy of the *Augusta Daily Chronicle* bearing a 2¢ green stamp and an Augusta postmark (\$2,000); strip of five 2¢ green stamps tied on cover by Macon postmarks (\$9,500); strip of three 2¢ red-browns and a single 5¢ blue local print tied by Atlanta postmarks (\$1,700); a pair of Athens 5¢ purple provisionals tied on cover (\$2,100); Sparta 5¢ provisional (\$1,150) and a Warrenton 5¢ provisional (\$1,800). Another eye catcher included a U.S. 5¢ brown stamp used on a pale red pictorial advertising corner card of the *Southern Confederacy* (newspaper) postmarked by an April 1861 Atlanta postmark (\$850). A very unusual turned cover had a 10¢ frameline tied by a Milledgeville postmark. The original use was a pair of the 5¢ blue local prints tied by an Atlanta postmark (\$475). These are only a very few of the many covers from Georgia towns. This was truly a sale that had something for everyone.

The upcoming Siegel sale #790 (8-9 May) also features some very nice Georgia covers. One of these is a cover to Switzerland with a pair of the 12¢ black 1857-61 issue used with a 3¢ dull red tied by two strikes of the Augusta postmark.

HPO's from page 1

interest to recognize that all Olympic venues which are indicated on the map do not bear their "official Olympic titles," but rather generic names. The two stadiums are named "Fulton County Stadium" and "Stadium." The Stone Mountain Olympic Tennis Facility is indicated only by the town name, "Stone Mountain." The same approach is taken for "Atlanta Beach" (the facility for Beach Volleyball) and "Wolf Creek Shooting Complex."

The Highway Post Office locations are indicated on the fans by cartoon-like drawings of the postal vehicles on the map. The same approach was taken to the artwork in the postal markings available at the vehicles. A "Legend" in a box on the lower right of the map gives street addresses of the facilities.

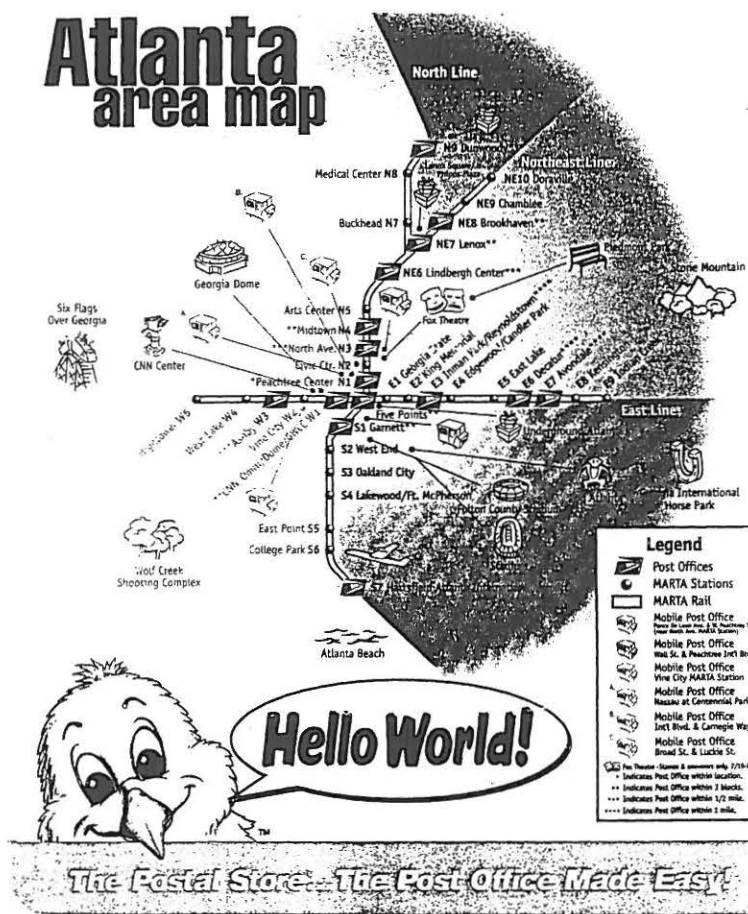


Figure 1. Fan map handed out by Postal Service.

Not simply rolling mailboxes (repositories for mail with wheels), the facilities offered patrons the opportunity to purchase stamps and postal stationery and also to get postmarks on a hand back basis and/or via the mail system. There is no evidence that the traditional activities of sorting and routing of mail occurred.

The duties of running OLYMPHLEX limited my ability to actually visit each H.P.O. site. However I was able to patronize the one located near the Fox Theater on the corner of Ponce de Leon Avenue and West Peachtree Street.

One morning following a visit to the Australian Olympic Headquarters, where the launch of a sheet of Australian Olympic stamps was held, we walked outside to find the mobile office on our route to the MARTA station. I purchased a postal card and mailed it to our Lexington, GA address. Like many of the early Games postmarks, it received an overstrike and a spray marking. (Not too many marks against it as I also collect spray markings!) Post-event I sent for a complete set of the HPO offices to be posted to myself and another for a friend. These were sent under outer wrapper and

received no extra postal markings (examples at figures 2 to 4).

There were six stations. All dates were "multiple," so read "Jul 19 - Aug 4." Most other Olympic-related postmarks used multiple dates; the major exception to that rule being the postmark of a facility established in the "Olympic Family Hotel" at the last minute and having a changeable date.

As modern as the Games promised to be in many areas, the postal controversy

prevented many special postmarks from coming to fruition. For example, we were unable to arrange for an Olympic Village cancellation due to the acrimony between United Parcel Service, United States Postal Service and the United States Olympic Committee. But the mail DID move. And one of the significant ways in which it moved was via this modern H.P.O. service.

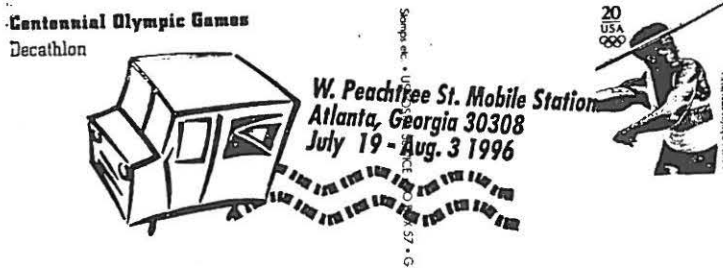


Figure 2. W. Peachtree St. Mobile Station postmark on Olympic postcard.

Figure 3. Wall Street Mobile Station postmark on Olympic postcard.



Figure 4. International Blvd. Mobile Station postmark on Olympic postcard.

Kingston Provisionals Setting the Record Straight

By Frank Crown



Figure 1. Black Kingston, Georgia provisional (Scott 46XU2) on cover with black Kingston postmark dated 19 June (1861) to Floyd Springs, Georgia. (Courtesy John R. Hill, Jr.)

Recently I had an opportunity to examine two of the Confederate postmaster's provisionals from Kingston, Georgia. One bore the "PAID/ c 5 s / CENTS" marking (Figures 1 and 2). This is listed by *Scott* as Type E2 (catalog number 46XU2). The second was the "PAID / 5 / CENTS" marking (figures 3 and 4). This is listed by *Scott* as a variety of Type E2 ("No 'C' or 'S' at sides of numeral") and has the catalog number 46XU2a.

PAID
c 5 s
CENTS

Figure 2. Enlarged Kingston provisional marking, Scott Type E2 (# 46XU2).

Both the '59 *Dietz* and the *New Dietz* catalogs similarly list one marking as a sub type of the other. I always took these listings literally and assumed the only difference was the presence of the flanking letters "C" and "S" on one variety. You can image my surprise when I examined the two markings side by side and found they are in fact two distinctly different markings (figures 2 and 3).

PAID
5
CENTS

Figure 3. Enlarged Kingston provisional marking, Scott Type E2a (# 46XU2a).

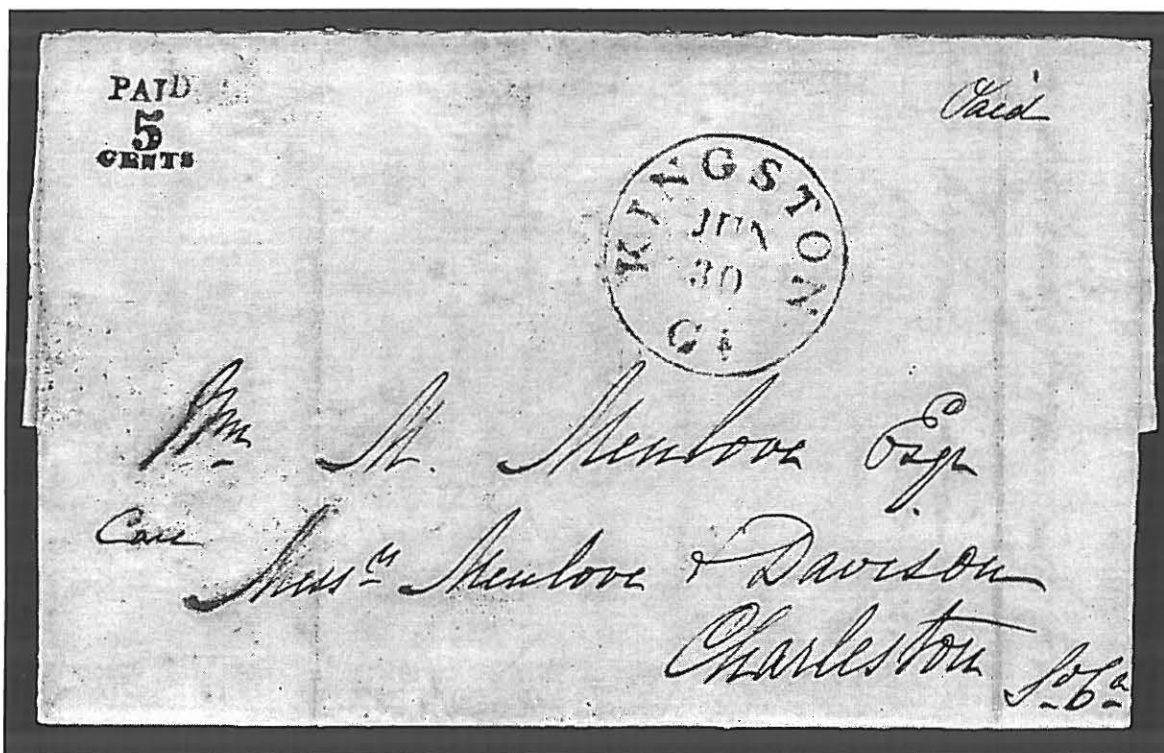


Figure 4. Black 5¢ Kingston, Georgia provisional (Scott 46XU2a) on folded letter postmarked by black Kingston 30 June (1861) postmark to Charleston, SC. (Courtesy John R. Hill, Jr.)

The primary differences in the two markings are in the words "PAID" and "CENTS". In figure 2 the letters in "PAID" are uniformly aligned. In figure 3 the "D" in "PAID" is raised above the other letters. There is also a noticeable difference in the shape of the base serif of the "P". In figure 2 the word "CENTS" measures 8.5 x 2 mm. In figure 3 the same word measures 12 x 2 mm.

One could argue that the "PAID" is the same in both markings with the raised "D" and differences in the "P" being the result of damage to the form. In fact the "5" may well be the same in both markings. However, the word "CENTS" is completely different in both markings and no argument can be made otherwise.

In spite of the apparent differences, as noted above, *Scott* lists one provisional marking as a variety of the other. The *New*

Dietz Catalog listing is no better. In fact the explanation given is completely wrong. The *New Dietz* lists the markings as numbers KG-E1 and KG-E1a. The latter is described as a variety "without "C S". In the explanatory notes an even bigger error is made. The catalog notes read:

Type I. a simple three-line typeset form, "PAID/5/CENTS" with a small "C" added to the left and a small "S" added to the right of the "5"; printed in the upper right corner.

Type Ia. The same three-line form as Type I, but with the "C" and "S" removed; printed in the upper left or upper right corner of the envelope.

As noted by the dimensions, description, and illustrations above the two markings are distinct and different. Hopefully the catalog editors will take note and change their listings accordingly.

Cracker Covers



Overall illustrated corner card of Fruitland Nurseries, Augusta, Ga. Cover bears a 3¢ 1857- 61 issue tied by a 7 Mar Augusta postmark.



Confederate handstamped "PAID 5" marking of Starkville, Ga. Cover is postmarked 3 Jan (1862). (Courtesy McCary Ballard)



Georgia Post Roads

July 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 4

Atlanta Reconstruction Postmarks

By Frank Crown



Figure 1. Blue Atlanta Type 1(L) postmark on 2¢ Black Jack envelope with additional postage paid by a 1¢ blue 1861 issue.

The September 1966 issue of *Georgia Post Roads* contained the first article on Reconstruction postmarks with a look at those from Savannah. This study now continues with an examination of those from Atlanta.

Based on my experience preparing the article on the Savannah Reconstruction postmarks I assumed the research for this article would be a snap. It soon became apparent that it would be far more difficult. At first I recognized at least four different type postmarks. On closer examination I reduced the number to two. However, two of

the types were so much alike that it was difficult to tell some markings apart. After considerable examination of the postmarks I found distinguishing characteristics that allowed me to positively identify three different postmarks.

Atlanta was occupied by Federal forces from September to November 1864. No new Atlanta postmark should be expected from this period. After the fall of the Confederacy a new Atlanta postmaster was appointed on 21 July 1865 and the Post Office Department probably supplied a new postmark shortly afterwards. (Continued on page 6)

Roster Changes



Modern Postmarks

There is only one new special cancellation to report.

INTERNATIONAL EXPO '97 Station, Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30303-9998, 27 April. Triangular design with sides showing stylized roadway, waves of a waterway and railroad tracks.

Show Log

1-3 August. VOLPEX, Day's Inn Convention Center, 5335 Central Ave., Knoxville, TN. Commercial Bourse. Fri: 12AM-6PM, Sat: 9AM-6PM, Sun: 9AM-5PM. (Paul Garland 423-970-3271).

Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog

Frank Crown has announced the first edition of the Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog should be ready for distribution by the annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society during the Peach State Stamp Show in October. The catalog is based on records of more than 4,300 Georgia stampless covers compiled over 30 years. The work is completely independent of any other catalog and contains listings found nowhere else. Detail is evident throughout the work especially in the listings of the various rate and auxiliary markings used during the stampless period.

It is estimated the book will be priced at \$25.00 or less. All members interested in obtaining a copy are asked to contact Frank at P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 to facilitate a printing estimate.

New Member

Lyla Owens, 453 Alamo Street, Grants, NM 87020.

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Guide to Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period.

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Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED 19th century Georgia registered covers and military through World War II. Send photocopies, price. Nonie Green, 23401 Colorado Ave., San Angelo, TX 76901-3713. [8/1]

WANTED Spanish-American War covers from Georgia towns. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/5]

AUGUSTA, GA wanted. Covers, postcards, documents, photos, books, Confederate, UCV reunions, Masters' Golf, Fort Gordon, Bobby Jones and Ty Cobb. Lamar Garrard, 1131 North Eisenhower, Augusta, GA 30904 [7/4]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

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Post Road Notes

I was fortunate enough to make the last two days of PACIFIC '97. However, I came away with mixed feelings. First there was not a lot of Georgia postal history material. This is not my feeling alone. Other members of the society have told me they were also disappointed in this regard. And I don't believe it was isolated to Georgia material. Other collectors of 19th century United States postal history expressed disappointment as well. I did not come away from the show completely empty handed. I found a few items of interest but certainly not the quantity I was expecting to find.

On the positive side it was encouraging to see the large crowds each day I was there. Even more encouraging was the number of younger people. Unfortunately they seemed more interested in the modern issues being sold by the various philatelic agencies representing countries around the world. The standout in this regard was the U. S. Postal Service which had long lines throughout the two days I was in attendance.

One of our newer members has a short but very interesting article on Crispin Island and the fumigation of mail from that post office. Certainly more can be learned about this little publicized aspect of Georgia postal history. Hopefully other members of the society, both new and old, will consider writing a short article about one of their interesting covers.

Time grows short. Yours truly will retire from his duties as editor at the end of this year. That is just two more issues by the editors' calendar. If you want to help pick up the duties please get in touch with our President, Doug Clark, or myself.

Frank



Georgia at Auction

There were at least three sales of note which contained Georgia postal history material. The first was the Shreves Philatelic Galleries sale of 6 June 1997. This sale was conducted in conjunction with PACIFIC '97 but held at a different location. The single Georgia stampless cover in the sale bore the only known straight line postmark from Carnesville. Another lot contained 1,400 19th century covers from Georgia. This is believed to be part of the Underwood collection which was previously sold by Robert A. Siegel. Among the Confederate items in the sale was an Atlanta 5¢ provisional on a patriotic flag cover and a lot of 148 handstamped paid covers from Georgia. Other items included two covers bearing 20¢ green bisects from Augusta and several blockade covers from the Locke correspondence written in Savannah and addressed to Rome, Italy.

Another sale held in conjunction with PACIFIC '97 was the Butterfield, Johnson and Gillio sale of "Civil War Postal History & Related Ephemera." This sale had little Confederate content and only one Georgia item of note. That was a Marietta 5¢ provisional revalued "10".

The Robert A. Siegel sale just ended (26-27 June) had one very interesting Georgia stampless cover. It was an 1838 Express Mail cover from Augusta to Scotland. Express Mail covers to overseas destinations are very rare.

Although there are no known Carriers or Locals used from Georgia the Siegel sale on 25 June contained two addressed to Georgia. One cover had an Eagle Carrier stamp used from Philadelphia to Augusta. A second cover was used from Kensington, PA and addressed to Savannah.

Crispen Island, Georgia

By Nonie Green

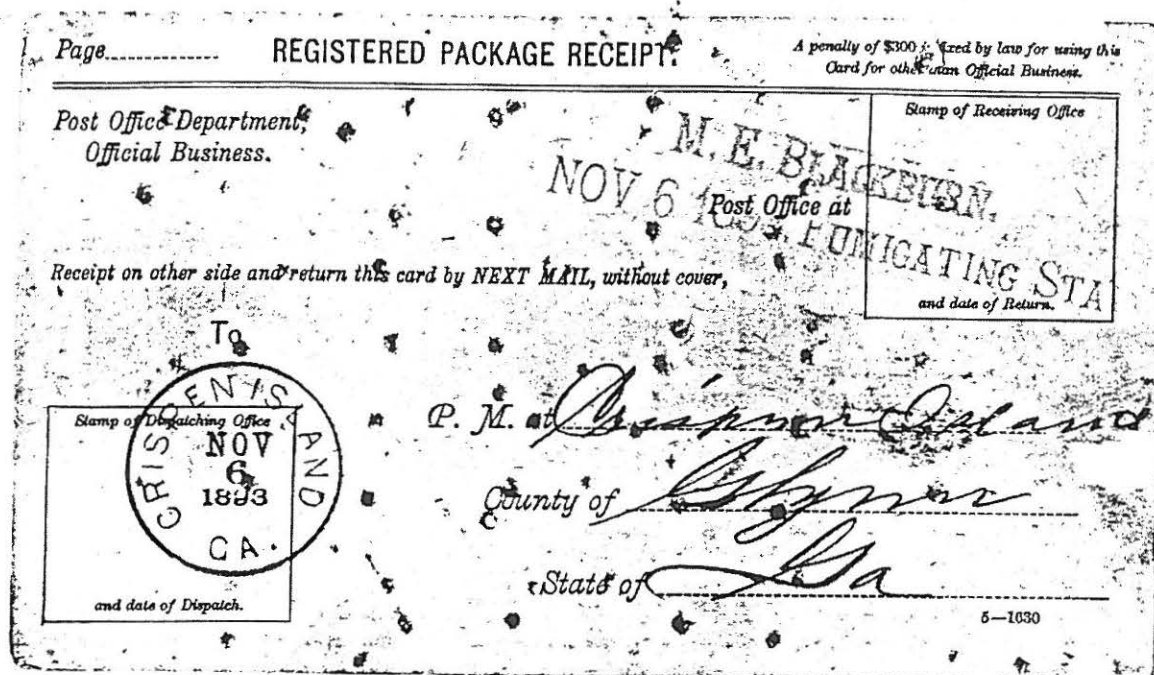


Figure 1. 6 November 1893 CRISPEN ISLAND / GA. postmark on Registered Package Receipt card. Note receiving office handstamp "M. E. BLACKBURN, / NOV 6, 1893. FUMIGATING STA".

This registered package receipt is a most unusual Georgia postal history item. The dispatching office cancellation is Crispen Island, Georgia, Nov. 6, 1893. The card's reverse (figure 2) lists four packages by number, the originating office, postmark date, and post office destination. Note the two line handstamp, "M. E. Blackburn / Nov. 6, 1893 Fumigating Sta."

Instructions were to receipt the items by signature (M.E. Blackburn) and return the card to Crispen Island, Glynn County, Georgia. The receiving mark on its return was dated Nov. 7, 1893.

The card shows fumigating marks. The dealer who sold it to me in 1980 said that this two line handstamp marking was not listed in any known list of fumigating stations.

During my research, I found the reason why such a card in the United States received this treatment at the given date. They fumigated the cards because large numbers of residents suffered and even died from malaria in that region.

James T. Dent of Hofwyl, near the Altamaha River, conducted an experiment in his home. He screened every opening including chimneys. His family spent the entire summer of 1903 in safety and comfort from the usual fevers and illnesses.

I am seeking information about Crispen Island such as exact location, population, settlement and residents. If any member can furnish a source, I will appreciate it.

Reference: Cate, Margaret Davis, *Our Todays and Yesterdays*. Brunswick, Georgia: Glover Bros., Inc., 1930.

Received from the Postmaster named on the other side the registered packages described as follows:
 Avoid blanks between entries and after last entry.—(See Section 1068, Regulations of 1887.)

DESCRIPTION "R" or "S."	No. of PACKAGE	POSTMARKED AT—	Date of Post-mark	NAME OF P. O. ADDRESSED.
Write "R" for ordinary packages, "S" for postage stamps, stamped envelopes, or postal cards.	75	Crispen Island	11/7/93	Boston, Mass.
	76	"	"	Atlanta, Ga.
	77	"	"	Crispen Island, Ga.
	78	"	"	Waymanville, Ga.
Write Signature. <i>M. B. Blackman</i> on Parcel Clerk.				
Do not Stamp.				

Signer will write in WORDS on reverse the total of packages.

Figure 2. Reverse of Registered Package Receipt form showing the form was received back at the Crispen Island post office on 7 November 1893.

Editor's Note. Crispen Island was a very short lived post office. The Post Office Department records show it was established on 14 December 1892 with Fletcher D.

Biggs as the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Charles H. Adams who was appointed on 7 September 1894. The office was discontinued on 7 December 1894.

New American Stampless Cover Catalog

The long awaited fifth edition of Volume I of the *American Stampless Cover Catalog* is now available. This is a complete revision of the previous edition published in 1985. Larger type, an entirely reorganized introduction and the grouping of all handstamped markings together make this volume both easier to read and use.

Unfortunately, there is little change in the Georgia section. The only big change is a separate section for the Savannah markings. Otherwise the obvious incorrect listings have been removed or corrected and some new listings added. Among the more interesting are a very ornate 40 mm postmark from Hawkinsville and a double circle

Waymanville postmark which appears to be a stamping device of the Franklin and Wayman Cotton Factory. As in previous editions the manuscript markings are relegated to a section at the end of the state listing.

Changes in the other state sections may be more dramatic as some states had "editorial contributors and assistants." None was noted for Georgia.

The catalog is available in both softcover (\$40) and hardback (\$50) editions. Order from David G. Phillips Publishing Company, P.O. Box 611388, North Miami, FL 33261. Include an additional \$3 for postage and handling.

Atlanta Postmarks (continued)



Type 1(E)
(22.5-23 mm)



Type 1(L)
(22.5-23 mm)



Type 2
(22.5-23 mm)



Type 3
(24 mm)

The Type 1 postmark and the Type 2 postmark are very similar. In fact they were probably produced at the same time. The alignment of the letters is the same in both types. The major difference is that the state abbreviation "GA." is displaced slightly down and to the right in the Type 2 as compared to the Type 1 postmark. This displacement is such that the alignment when extending the vertical portion of the "L" downward to the state abbreviation is the same in both types. To further add to the confusion the Type 1 postmarks exist in two states, the early state, Type 1(E), and a late state, Type 1(L).

The main difference between the early and late state of the Type 1 postmark is in the rim below the state abbreviation. Apparently sometime in 1867 or 1868 the postmark was damaged in such a way that the rim was forced closer to the state abbreviation. Subsequently there was additional damage to the rim extending from left of the state abbreviation to the first "T" of Atlanta. The closeness of the rim to the state abbreviation in Type 1(L) causes this postmark to be easily confused with the Type 2 postmark.

The other major characteristics of both states of the Type I postmark is the lazy "L" in "ATLANTA", the tilted "A" and spacing between the "G" and "A" in the state abbreviation. On clear strikes of both states of the postmark the horizontal extension of the "L" appears to droop downward slightly. In the state abbreviation the "A" tilts slightly

to the left and the distance between the "G" and "A" is 2 mm. Finally, the diameter of the postmarks in both states measures from 22.5 mm to 23 mm.

All examined examples of the Type 1 postmarks are blue with the earliest dated 23 October 1867 and the latest dated 25 January 1868.

The Type 2 postmark is noted by the state abbreviation being close to the rim. However, the most useful identifying characteristic is the spacing between the "G" and "A" of the state abbreviation which measures almost 3 mm. Also the "A" appears wider in Type 2 than in the Type 1 postmark.

The examined examples of the Type 2 postmark are in both blue and black ink. The earliest examined example was dated 2 April 1868 in blue. The latest dated example was dated 20 October 1869 in black. This indicates a color change occurred sometime in the 1868-1869 period. This color change lasted for the rest of the century.

The Type 3 postmark is easily distinguished from the other types by its 24 mm diameter. Additionally, the angle created by extending the legs of the last "A" in "ATLANTA" just misses the letter "T" across the postmark. In Types 1 and 2 this angle includes the letter "T" in its entirety.

A single example of the Type 3 postmarks examined bore a date, 24 October 1870. All examples were in black ink.



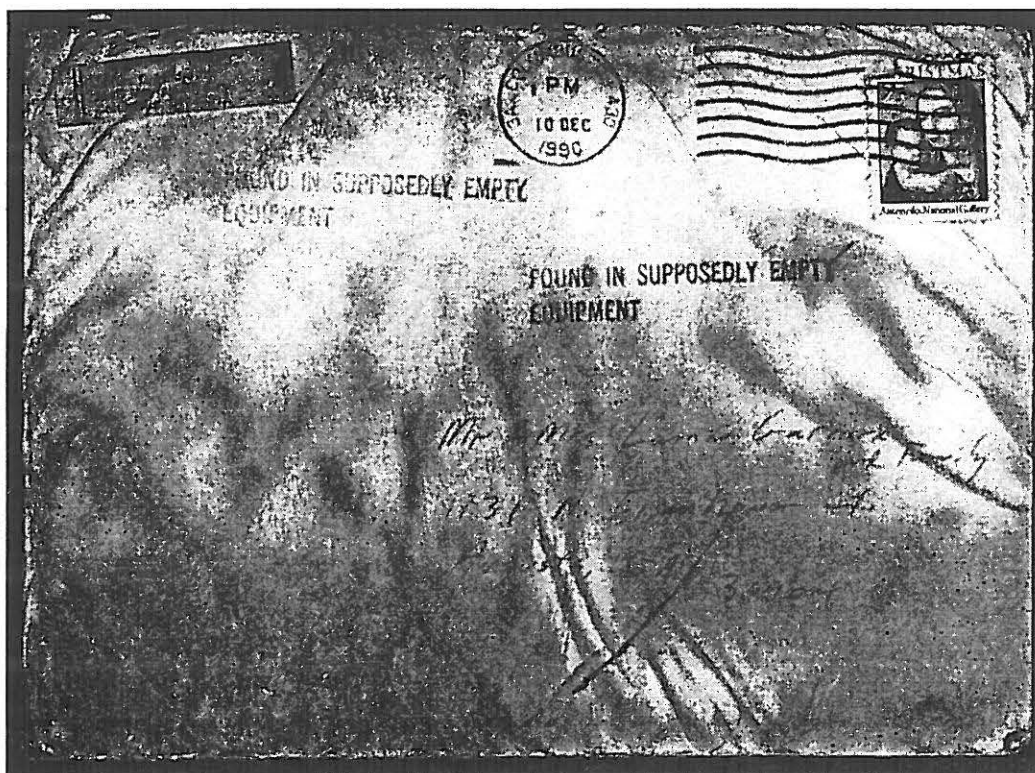
Figure 2. Blue Atlanta Type 1(E) postmark on cover with 3¢ 1861 issue tied by fancy duplex cancel.



Figure 3. Black Atlanta Type 3 postmark ties 3¢ green 1870 issue on overall corner card cover of the National Hotel in Atlanta.

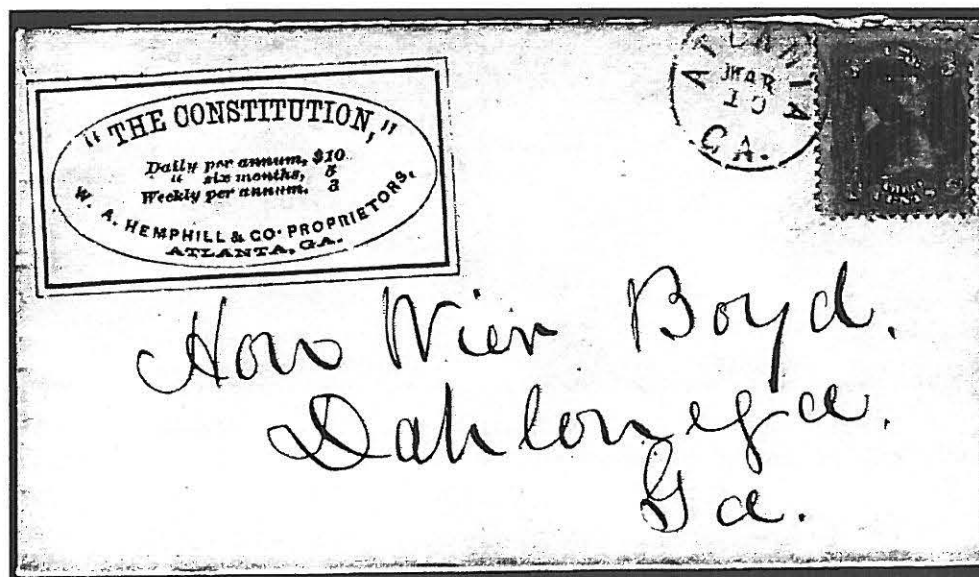
See also "Cracker Cover," page 8.

Five Years in the Mail



Mailed on 10 Dec 1990 from Columbus, OH. Delivered on 30 Oct 1995 at Augusta, GA. Note the two "FOUND IN SUPPOSEDLY EMPTY EQUIPMENT" handstamps. (Courtesy Lamar Garrard)

Cracker Cover



Atlanta Type 1(L) postmark dated 10 March used on corner card of *The Constitution*.



Georgia Post Roads

September 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 5

Georgia Baptist Bible and Colporteur Society

By Frank Crown

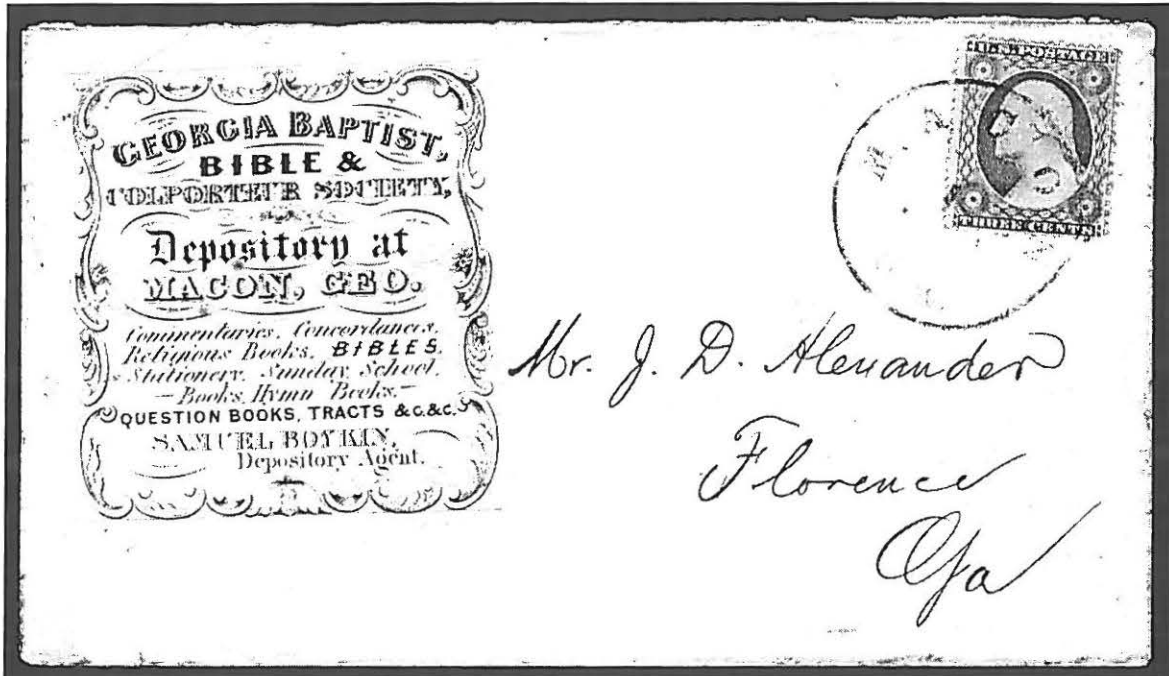


Figure 1. Corner card of the Georgia Baptist Bible & Colporteur Society franked with a 3¢ 1857 issued tied by a black Macon, Ga. postmark

Corner card envelopes from the 1850's are relatively plentiful. As one would expect, most were prepared for businesses. Thus it came as a surprise to see a religious cover card in a recent auction (figure 1).

From the illustration in the auction catalog I thought the corner card was actually a label. I was somewhat surprised when I received the cover to find that it was actually printed. The design is boxed by a thin line and on this particular envelope it was printed at a slight angle to the horizontal, thus the illusion that it is a label. The reverse of the cover is equally interesting (figure 2). It features overall text which explains the Georgia Baptist Bible and Colporteur Society.

What was the Baptist Bible and Colporteur Society? The answer lies in the word which gets little use today - colporteur. The word is defined as a peddler of religious books. As used in the title of the society it means a group that fosters the sale or distribution of Bibles and other religious works. In fact this is very close to the first aim of the society, "to circulate the Bible and religious publications," as listed on the reverse of the cover.

The cover bears a 3¢ 1857 stamp tied by a black Macon, Ga. postmark. Unfortunately the date is not legible. However, based on the stamp the cover was used sometime during the period 1857 to 1861. The book (Continued on page 4.)



Modern Postmarks

There continues to be a drought of special cancellations from Georgia. However, two were reported for this issue.

FERNBANK Station, Box 9998, Atlanta, GA 30307-9998, 21-22 June. No other details for this "Planet Dinosaur" postmark.

GA. MOUNTAIN FAIR Station, Box 9998, Hiawassee, GA 30546-9998, 7 Aug. The postmark features a log cabin.

Show Log

4-5 October, CALCOPEX, City Meeting Center, 1615 Nobel Street, Anniston, AL. Bourse Sat: 10AM-5PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM (Robert Effinger 205-435-9010).

4-5 October, JAXPEX '97, Fraternal Order of Police Building, 5546 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville, FL. Bourse Sat: 10AM-6PM, Sun: 10AM-4PM (W. Dow 904-743-2809).

17-19 October, Peach State Stamp Show, The Classic Center, 300 N. Thomas St., Athens, GA. Bourse Fri ?, Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 10AM-5PM.

Annual Meeting Peach State Stamp Show

The annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society will be held in conjunction with the Peach State Stamp Show. Again this year Peach State is being held in Athens, GA at the Classic Center. Unlike in past years, the show this year will run for three days instead of two.

The annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society is scheduled for Saturday 18 October at 1:00 PM. Mark your calendar and make your plans to attend. It should be a most enjoyable fall weekend.

GHPS Election

Enclosed with this issue is the official ballot for the election of GPHS officers. Take a few minutes to complete your ballot and return it. Vote and be counted!

Only a Few Copies Left!

Guide to Georgia Public Officials During the Stampless Period.

Order your copy today. Only \$7.00 postpaid to members, \$7.50 for others. Order from Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758



Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED 19th century Georgia registered covers and military through World War II. Send photocopies, price. Nonie Green, 23401 Colorado Ave., San Angelo, TX 76901-3713. [8/1]

WANTED Spanish-American War covers from Georgia towns. Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758. [7/5]

AUGUSTA, GA wanted. Covers, postcards, documents, photos, books, Confederate, UCV reunions, Masters' Golf, Fort Gordon, Bobby Jones and Ty Cobb. Lamar Garrard, 1131 North Eisenhower, Augusta, GA 30904 [7/4]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

Georgia Post Roads is published bi-monthly by the Georgia Postal History Society; 6303 Fir Road, Sebring, FL 33872.

Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758 or e-mail fcrown@ro.com.

Post Road Notes

The summer has seen much in the way of philatelic news. Pacific '97 has come and gone but is not forgotten. A considerable debt was incurred by the sponsors and the future of the next international show in the United States, while not in jeopardy, faces serious questions. Our Postal Service appears to have shot themselves in the foot with the Franklin and Washington souvenir sheets which were sold only at Pacific '97. The realization from the sale of the sheets was way under the official estimates. Perhaps this may force the Postal Service to reappraise their marketing efforts in trying to force feed collectors new issues.

Lately Congress has gotten in the act and the President concurred in forcing the first semi-postal issue on the Postal Service and the collecting public. I wonder just how much money will be realized? In today's world the cost of administration could easily eat up much of the income derived from the sale of the issue.

This issue is only six pages due to the ballot which is enclosed. Be an active member and vote for those you desire to lead the GPHS into the 21st century.

At long last a new editor has been found for *Georgia Post Roads*. The individual is an accomplished writer and I am sure *Georgia Posts Roads* will be a better publication under their editorship. I leave it to our President, Doug Clark, to make the official announcement of the new editor.

Following the frenzy of auctions during the period of Pacific '97 things were relatively quiet during the summer months. Now I hear that things will pick up with a major sale of Confederate material in late October.

Frank

Uchee Village Oval Revisited

The May 1992 issue of *Georgia Post Roads* contained an article entitled "Uchee Village Oval Postmarks." The article concluded without giving a clear answer to the question of whether there were one or two Uchee Village oval postmarks.

Further research has revealed that there was only a single postmark. A copy of one postmark was made with a scanner and printed on acetate. This was then overlaid on the second postmark. It was immediately apparent that the letters and words in the upper portion of both ovals are in alignment and with a slight adjustment the same is true for the word "GEORGIA" at the bottom. At some point the bottom portion of the oval was subjected to a force which pushed the right portion of the word "GEORGIA" closer to the upper portion.

We can now conclude that there is a single Uchee Village oval postmark. However it exists in both an early and late state.



Early
(33 x 27 mm)



Late
(33 x 26 mm)

Georgia Baptist (continued from page 1)

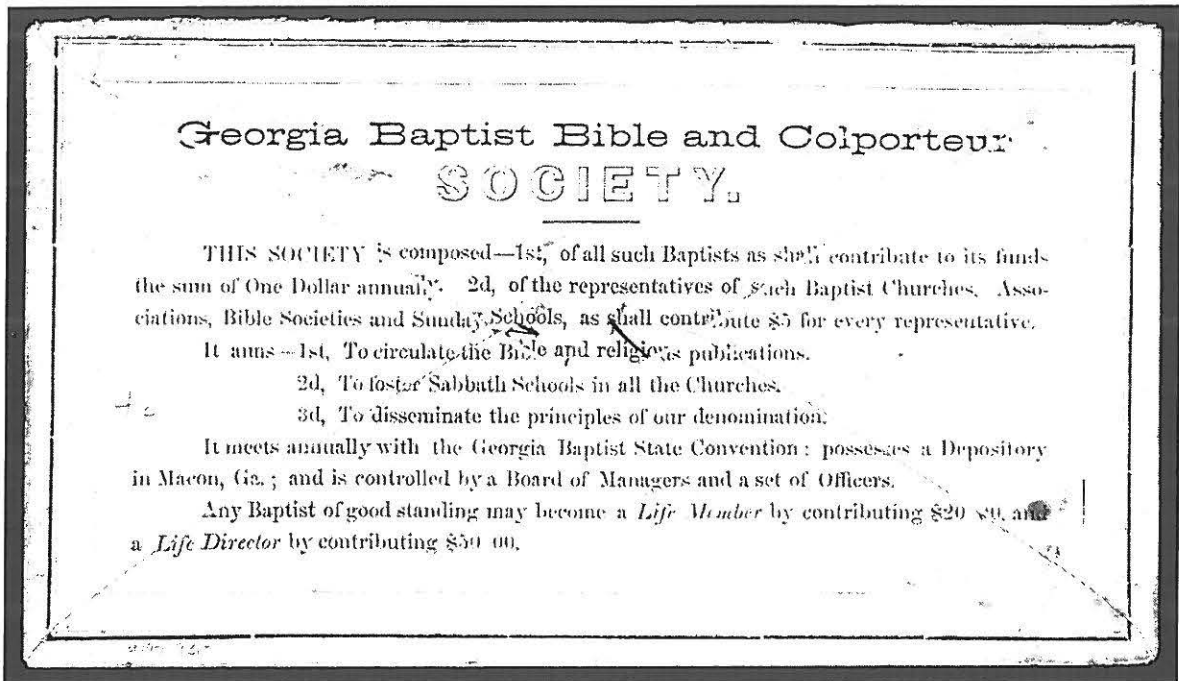


Figure 2. Reverse of Georgia Baptist Bible & Colporteur Society Corner Card Cover.

History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia provides some details of the society. It notes that the "Bible Board and Colporter Society was formed on the 25th of April [1857].... A Board of Managers, composed of Macon brethren, were elected, and the society was located in that city." The book continues that the society "had a large depository of books in Macon, . . . with successive depository agents, S. Boykin, James

D. Cubbedge and F. M. Haygood. . . ." The first named agent is the same as the name on the bottom of the corner card. The society continued to operate throughout the war and went out of existence soon thereafter.

Reference: *History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia* [1881]. Reprint, Easley South Carolina: Southern Historical Press. 221.

Advertisement

Collection of Georgia Confederate Handwritten town and Paid Covers

Twenty-six covers: twenty-one different small and unusual towns, a few with original letters. The collection includes: Alpharetta, Prince Edward, Johnson's Station, Cottage Mills, Big Shanty, Benzelia, Ogeechee, Okapilco, Union Point, Waverly Hall, etc. All are readable identified towns, fine to very fine condition, no dogs!

They are realistically priced individually @ 35.00 to \$100.00 each or a total of \$1,930. Offered as a lot for \$1,500.00.

Confederate Philately, 88 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

Advertisement

Some Thoughts on the Savannah "HAVANA" Markings

H A A N A S H A V A N A
SA-2 SA-3

H A V A N A H A V A N A
SA-4 C-6

Those who are interested in the maritime postal history of Savannah are certainly aware of the straight line "HAVANA" markings. These markings are rare and are known only from the 1850's. In his book, *United States Incoming Steamship Mail 1847-1875*, Theron Wierenga lists three different markings for Savannah. These are illustrated as Types SA-2, SA-3 and SA-4.

In more than 30 years of collecting Georgia postal history I have recorded only four such covers. I have been curious about the markings for almost as long. The four covers I have recorded bear the Type SA-4 "HAVANA" marking and are used during the period 1858 to 1859.

The markings are noted by their crudeness, particularly in the irregularity of the letters in the marking. The quality of these markings is substantially lower than any other markings known to have been used at Savannah. If they were made in the late 1700's or early 1800's poor quality would be expected. However, these were used in the 1850's and the quality of handstamps produced then was quite good. A similar marking, also noted by its crudeness, was applied to letters which entered the mail at Charleston. This marking is illustrated as Type C-6.

I have often wondered if these markings were actually applied at the post offices in Savannah and Charleston. There was no requirement that I have been able to find to stamp incoming foreign mail with the place of origin. This is particularly true in the case of mail carried aboard the *Isabel* from

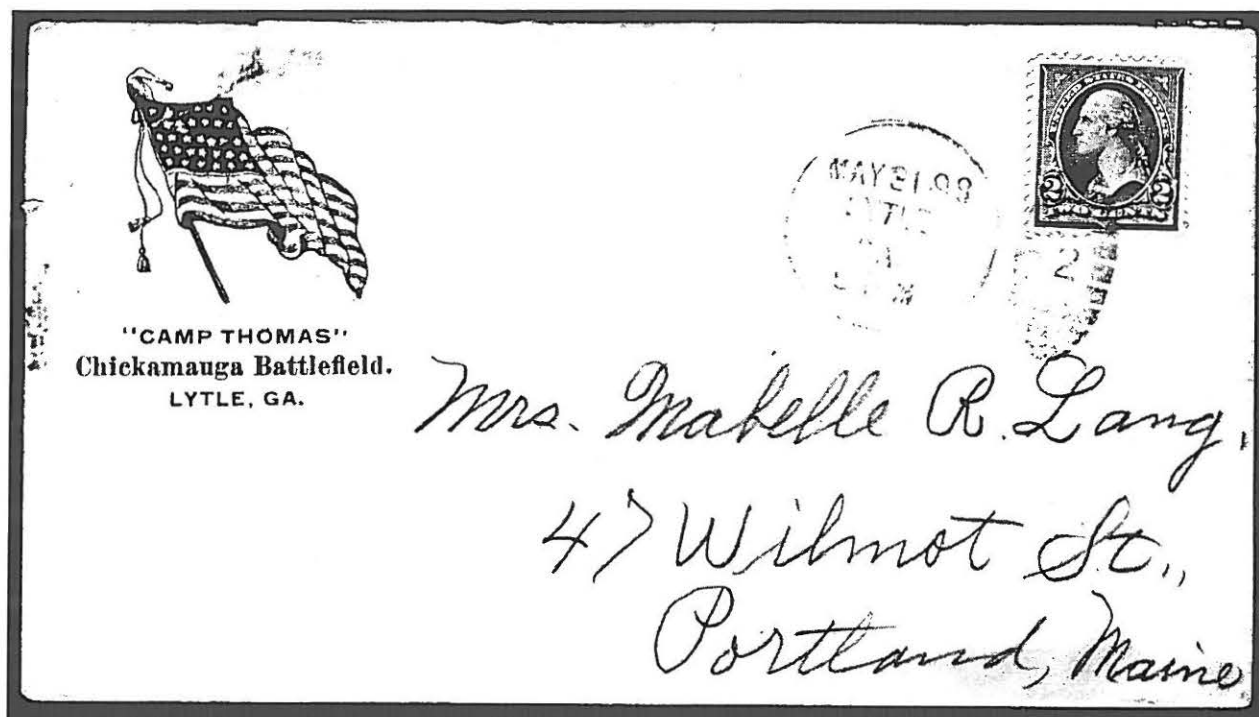
Havana to Savannah and Charleston as this ship carried mail under contract with the Post Office Department. The law that established the contract mail route between Havana and Savannah required that the steamship company ". . . carry an agent of the [Post Office] department with the mails. . . ."

This provision for a post office department agent to accompany the mails may explain where the "HAVANA" markings were applied. Did the agent apply them on receipt of the mail in Havana or at sea before making port at Savannah or Charleston? Another bothersome question about these markings is why were they applied. Their application required the clerk to strike the cover again after applying the postmark and rate marking. Humans are lazy by nature and such a action would normally be done only if required.

While this may be a plausible explanation, we cannot dismiss the accepted belief these markings were applied in Savannah and Charleston. In his book Theron Wierenga gives details on other uses from Savannah that date from 1850. The colors of the markings in the descriptions match the established color changes in markings used at Savannah. This is also true for the Charleston marking. This supports, but does not prove, the markings were applied at the Savannah and Charleston post offices.

Acknowledgment: The tracings above are reproduced with the permission of Theron Wierenga from his book *United States Incoming Steamship Mail 1847-1875*.

From a Soapbox



Spanish American War patriotic flag cover from Camp Thomas, Chickamauga National Battlefield Park. The cover is postmarked by a black Lytle, Ga. postmark dated 31 May 1898.

The cover illustrated above is a pretty patriotic cover from the Spanish American War. Pretty it may be, but from the philatelic perspective it is a poor example. The cover has been torn through the flag design and repaired with, of all things, scotch tape.

However, this cover has a redeeming feature that few poor covers have, an interesting enclosure. The letter in the envelope gives a very personal picture of the situation at Chickamauga Battle Park on a late day in May 1898. Even more interesting it gives a very brief glimpse of activity at the post office.

The letter was written by Sergeant Major Frank Lang of the 1st Maine Volunteers. It reads in part:

"We arrived O. K. last night, after various experiences enroute, and camped on the side of a hill near the railroad station.

"This morning we move back into the Park and are assigned to the 3rd Army Corps under Gen. Wade. . . .

"Am writing this sitting on a soap box at the Camp Thomas P. O., and under considerable difficulty, so you may well have to guess at most of it, but I want you to know that I am remembering you my dear little wife, and send you all my love."

In a post scrip the Sergeant Major notes, "this place looks like a wild western ranch with cowboys, mule drivers, hobos and every possible nationality both in uniform and out."



Georgia Post Roads

November 1997

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Volume 7, Number 6

A Circular Rated Augusta Postmark?

By Frank Crown



Printed circular with orange AUGUSTA Ga. postmark dated 14 Sep (1847) and orange handstamped "PAID" marking below. The postmark is rated "3" above the date.

Postmarks with an integral rate or supplemental marking make up a unique group of Georgia postmarks. While the different types and the towns that used them are few, most are quite common. The cover illustrated above bears one of the uncommon varieties. In fact this is the only recorded example of the marking.

The cover is a folded printed circular dated 6 September 1847 from the house of Adams, Hopkins & Company, Warehouse and Commission Merchants in Augusta. This is important because it determines the rate of postage required on the cover. The Act of 3 March 1847 raised the circular rate from two

cents per sheet to three sheets per sheet and required prepayment of the postage.

Instead of the usual month and day logos the postmark contains "3 / SEP / 14". Based on the fact that the cover is a circular the "3" was probably meant as the rate and the "SEP / 14" as the date. This is a very odd arrangement as all other Georgia postmarks with an integral rate have the rate at the bottom of the postmark.

A final curious aspect of the cover is the handstamped "PAID" marking immediately below the postmark. Its position is such that it appears that it might be attached to the postmark.

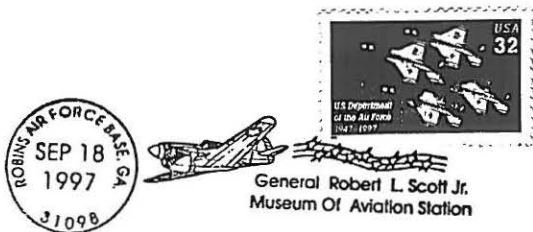


Modern Postmarks

The following special cancellations were reported.

COCOPEX Station, 6345 Powers Ferry Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30339, 23-24 August. "Salutes the Lockheed Martin-Boeing F-22 Raptor."

MUSEUM OF AVIATION Station, Robins Air Force Base, GA 31098, 18 September 1997. Features a World War II aircraft and trail of stars with caption, "General Robert L. Scott Jr., Museum of Aviation Station."



PLAINS DEPOT Station, 119 Main Street, Plains, GA 31780-9998, 27 September. Features Depot and words "Opening Ceremony."

DANIEL FIELD Station, 525 8th Street, Augusta, GA 30901-9998, 18 October. Features single engine airplane for "Boshears Memorial Fly-In."

PSSS 97 Station, Athens, GA, 17-19 October. Features outline of delta wing fighter and "U.S. Air Force, 1947-1997"



PSSS 97 STATION • ATHENS GA 30601 • OCT 18 1997

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society was held at 1:00 PM on 18 October at the Athens Classic Center in Athens. All officers and several members and interested individuals were present.

President, Doug Clark, announced that Nancy Clark would be the new editor of *Georgia Post Roads* starting with the first issue in 1998. He also announced the publication of the *Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog* and Handbook by Frank Crown.

Secretary Treasurer Ernie Owens read the results of the election. Our new officers: President, Doug Clark; Vice President, Lowrell Pierce and Secretary-Treasurer, Frank Crown.

Lyla Owens gave the Treasurer's Report. The Society has an account balance of \$1,727.81 as of 13 October 1997.



Trading Post

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED 19th century Georgia registered covers and military through World War II. Send photocopies, price. Nonie Green, 23401 Colorado Ave., San Angelo, TX 76901-3713. [8/1]

WANTED LOUISIANA and other mid-Gulf Coast states stampless/stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak Street, Metairie, LA 70005-1069. [7/6]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Georgia Postal History Society

A.P.S. Affiliate 224

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Subscription is by membership which is \$10.00 per year. A sample copy is \$1.00.

Editorial material should be directed to the editor, Nancy Clark, P.O. Box 151, Lexington, GA 30648 or e-mail nbc@cape.com.



Post Road Notes

It was some six years ago that I put pen to paper or rather fingers to keys to prepare the first issue of *Georgia Post Roads*. The purpose at that time was to provide an inexpensive supplement to the *GPHS Bulletin* which was appearing at irregular intervals. The early issues lived up their inexpensive purpose as the printing quality was poor. By mid 1993 things improved considerably as *Georgia Post Roads* became the official publication of the GPHS. More improvements came primarily in the area of better illustrations. Now I am ready to retire and turn my duties over to a capable replacement.

At the Annual Meeting held at the Peach State Stamp Show Doug Clark announced that Nancy Clark will be the new editor. I know she will do an outstanding job. We all need to help by preparing an article for *Georgia Post Roads*. The publication is for the membership and what better way to share your prized covers than by writing an article to share with your fellow collectors.

Georgia stampless cover collectors now have their own catalog. *The Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook* was published just in time for Peach State. Details on how you can obtain a copy are in the advertisement at the right.

As a final note I want to pay tribute to **Ernie Owens**. He was elected the first Secretary-Treasurer in 1985 and has served faithfully and unselfish in that office through the current year. During that time the financial health of the society was never in doubt. As he leaves office, the society has more than \$1,700 in the bank. Ernie, on behalf of all the society members thanks for your long and faithful service.

Frank



Georgia at Auction

The auction of the season is undoubtedly the Confederate States Stamps and Covers sale held by the Robert A. Siegel Galleries on 28-29 October. The catalog by itself is a superb reference and the quality of the material contained within its pages make in even more valuable.

Georgia items are not lacking. There are several Confederate State usages of U.S. stamps, the Griffin "Southern Letter Unpaid" cover and several Adams Express covers from Augusta just for starters. Handstamped Pairs, Provisionals and General Issues used from Georgia are all well represented.

Roster Changes

New Member

Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak Street,
Metairie, LA 70005-1069.

Advertisement

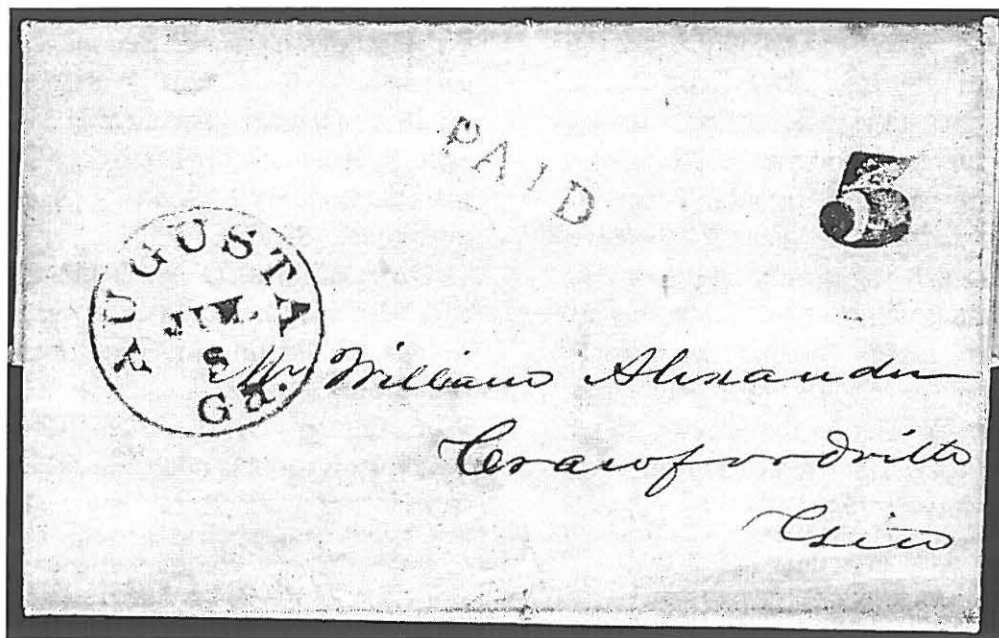
Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook

The definitive work on the stampless covers of Georgia is now available. It includes over 60 pages of stampless cover listings, and special sections on the Cherokee Nation, Creek Nation, Forts, Express Mail, Ship and Steam Markings and postal rate tables.

This 120 page spiral bound book is available to GPHS members for \$20.00 (nonmembers \$25.00) postpaid.

Frank Crown
P.O. Box 171
Madison, AL 35758
Advertisement

A Cover with Mixed Color Markings



Folded letter with a blue AUGUSTA / Ga. postmark dated 8 Jul (1845), a bold blue handstamped "5" and a red handstamped "PAID" marking.

What are mixed color markings? The *Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook* describes them as "covers which bear handstamped rate or auxiliary markings of a town in a color different from the town's postmark."

Such markings are uncommon from Georgia towns as well as towns from other states. In fact Augusta is one of only six Georgia towns from which mixed color markings are recorded.

The obvious question that these covers pose is, why the two colors. There is no evidence of any instructions from the Post Office Department directing the use two colors of ink in postmarking and rating letters. Perhaps the answer is so obvious that it can't be recognized as such. It may be as simple as individual postmasters, on their own initiative or by accident, using two colors of ink.

In the case of Augusta July 1845 was a period in which the primary color of ink used to mark letters changed from red to blue. Thus, it is entirely possible that both colors of ink were available to the postmaster or clerks and in the process of postmarking and rating letters both were used.

Another theory is based on the major rate change that was effective on 1 July 1845. Perhaps the implementation of the new rate had something to do with the use of two different colors of ink.

Whatever the reason two different colors of ink were used to postmark and rate this cover they make it both unusual and colorful. To date no other cover from Augusta during this period has been reported with a similar use of two colors of ink.

Support your editor
Write an article for *Georgia Post Roads*

Fort Mitchell, Georgia?

By Frank Crown



Folded letter with manuscript Fort Mitchell, Ga. 12 March 1823 postmark to New York. The cover was forwarded from New York to Brooklyn as evidenced by the red New York postmark, the red handstamped straight line and boxed "FORWARDED" marking and the manuscript forwarded rate of "6".

Those familiar with Georgia's early history realize that Fort Mitchell is located in Alabama, not Georgia. The question then, why the Fort Mitchell, Georgia postmark on the above cover.

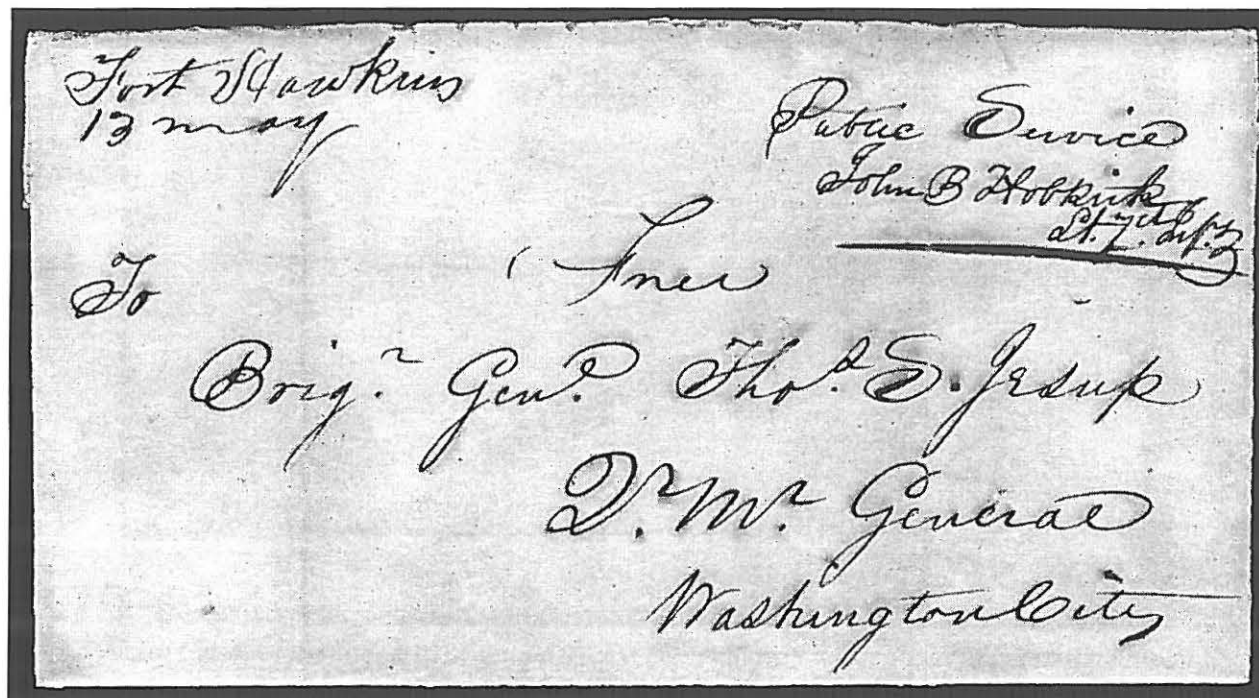
This same question can be asked about the Coweta and Creek Agency offices. All three offices were located in the same general area (the vicinity of present day Fort Mitchell, AL) and all operated at some time during the period 1818 to 1823. Over the years there have been many theories to explain this anomaly. One, detailed in the Alabama section of the *American Stampless Cover Catalog* (1997 edition), theorizes the offices were administratively attached to the state of Georgia.

My own theory is much simpler. Georgia gave up its claim to the western lands with

the settlement of the Yazoo Land Frauds with the United States in 1802. This settlement prescribed the western boundary of Georgia as the "western bank of Chatahouchie [*sic*] river, where the same crosses the boundary line between the United States and Spain, and running thence up the said river Chatahouchie, and along the western bank thereof, to the great bend thereof, and next above the place where a certain creek or river called Uchee, (being the first considerable stream on the western side, above the Cussetas and Coweta towns) empties into the said Chatahouchie river; thence in a direct line to Nickajack, on Tennessee river. . . ."

The problems with this description of the boundary are the terms "great bend" and (continued on page 7)

Fort Hawkins, Georgia



Manuscript Fort Hawkins postmark on a folded letter dated 13 May 1821. The manuscript "Free" and "Public Service" indicate the letter was on public business and was sent free of postage.

In 1805 the Creek Indians ceded their remaining land between the Oconee and Ocmulgee rivers and also gave the Federal Government the right to build a road through the Creek Nation. Work on the road, actually the old Lower Creek Trading Path, began almost immediately. A new fort was needed to secure the new road and border with the Creeks. To meet this need Fort Hawkins, was constructed in 1806 on the east bank of the Ocmulgee River at the site of the Ocmulgee Old Fields in what is now Macon.

As part of the treaty under which the Creeks ceded their land a trading post was established at the post. This resulted in the Fort becoming a commercial center for Indian trade. On 1 May 1815 a post office was established at the fort. The office operated until 28 October 1824 when it was discontinued. However, the military garrison

probably departed the fort sometime before this.

The cover illustrated above is dated 1821 and was sent from a Lieutenant John B. Hobkirk to General Thomas S. Jesup, the Quartermaster General of the Army in Washington. The contents of the letter merely inform the Quartermaster General of several land leases entered into by the Lieutenant on behalf of the Government.

Of more interest is the addressee, General Jesup. General Jesup held the position of Quartermaster General of the Army from 1818 until his death in 1860. Undoubtedly he holds a record of some sort for holding the same position in the army for 42 years!

There were only two other military posts in Georgia during the stampless period which had post offices, Forts Wilkinson (1799-1808) and Mitchell (1818-1823).

More on the "Savannah Star" Late Black Period

By Frank Crown



Black Savannah postmark dated 8 May (1857) with two black handstamped paid markings and a black handstamped "10" rate marking on an envelope to New Brunswick, Canada.

The May 1966 issue of *Georgia Post Roads* contained an article on the "Savannah Star" late black period. The article listed the various auxiliary markings known to have been used with the "Savannah Star" postmark during the late black period. These included two types of handstamped paid markings, a normal straight line type and an italic straight line type.

The cover illustrated above is in poor condition but it is a rare example of the two different handstamped paid markings being

used together on the same cover. Why the two different paid markings. The answer may lie in the New Brunswick (Canada) address. As a piece of international mail the cover may have been initially marked by a window clerk at the Savannah post office. Then the cover was passed to a special section that handled international mail and a second type paid marking applied. This may also explain why the smaller paid appears to be in a darker black ink.

Fort Mitchell (from page 5)

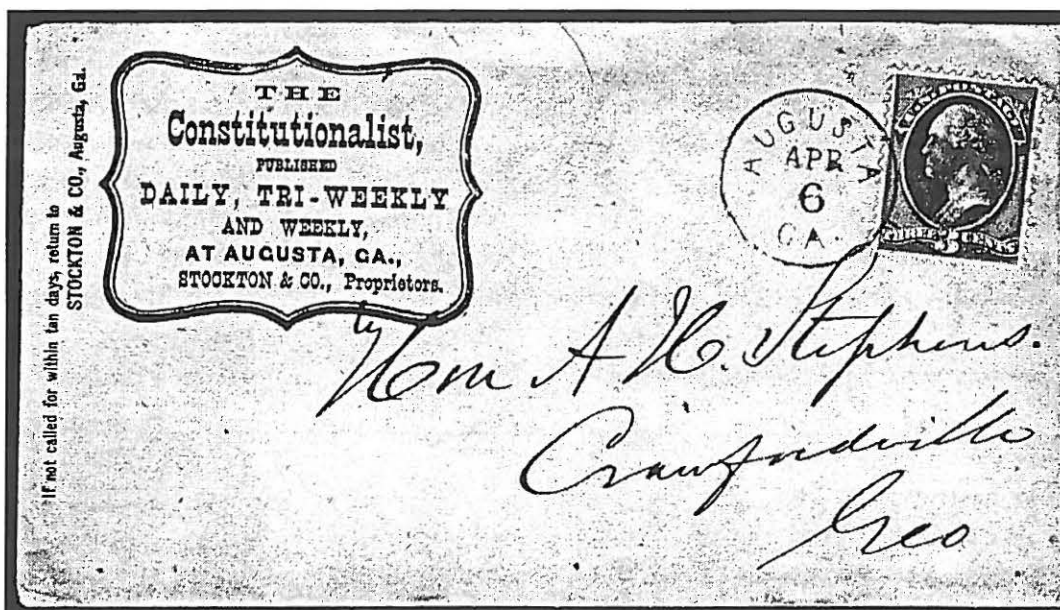
"creek or river called Uchee." These were not commonly defined locations on the Chattahoochee River. As a result different individuals interpreted their locations differently. Many map-makers of the period prepared their maps showing the state line

from Nickajack south passing just to the west of the Coweta - Fort Mitchell - Creek Agency area before intersecting the Chattahoochee at a large bend in the river. It wasn't until 1827, when the state line was physically run, that this area was determined to be in Alabama and not Georgia.

Cracker Covers



Corner card envelope of the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel* with black Augusta postmark dated 1 Sep and a 3¢ 1861 issue with grill points down canceled by a fancy black killer. Based on the fancy killer the cover was probably used in 1868.



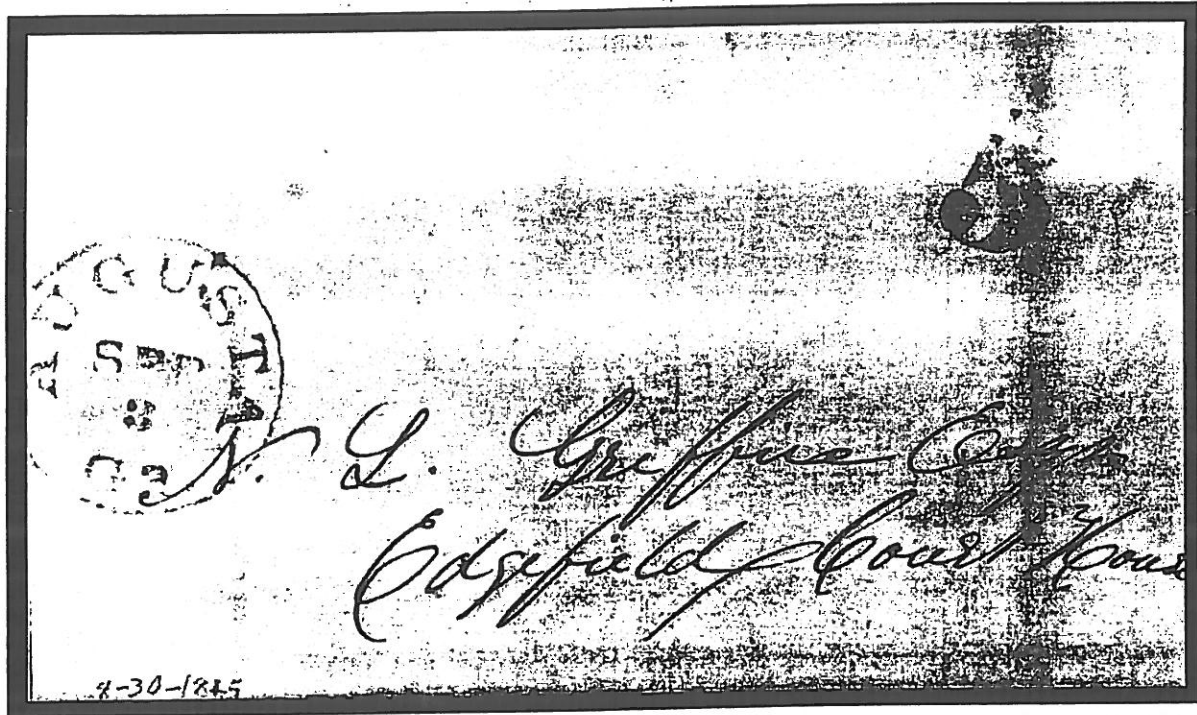
Corner card envelope of the *Augusta Constitutionalist* with black Augusta postmark dated 6 Apr tying a 3¢ 1873 issue. The cover is addressed to Alexander Stephens whose annotation on the back dates the cover in 1871.

Georgia Post Roads

Jan 1998

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Vol. 8, No. 1



Second Augusta Cover with Mixed Color Markings
Frank Crown

Harvey Teal responded to the article in the last issue of Georgia Post Roads with a copy of a second Augusta cover with mixed color markings. The cover to Edgefield Court House, SC, illustrated above courtesy of Harvey Teal, is somewhat different than the one illustrated last month. In this case the postmark, 3 Sep (1845), is red and the rate marking, a handstamped "5", blue. Last month's cover had a blue postmark and a blue rate marking with a red "PAID" marking.

Harvey's cover reinforces the theory that the mixed color markings used from Augusta are the result of a change in the primary color of ink used as the office. It

may be argued that the change was very short or temporary, never the less there was a change in the early summer of 1845. The table below is a list of recorded covers for the period and it clearly illustrates the changes.

Date	Postmark Color	Rate Color	PAID Color
9 May 1845	Red	Red	Red
29 May 1845	Red	—	—
8 July 1845	Blue	Blue	Red
17 July 1845	Blue	Blue	
11 Aug 1845	Blue	Blue	
3 Sep 1845	Red	Blue	
22 Sep 1845	Red Brown	Red Brown	
6 Oct 1845	Red	Red	

Georgia Postal History Society Officers

President	Douglas N. Clark P. O. Box 51 Lexington, GA 30648 dnc@alpha.math.uga.edu
Vice President	T. Lowrell Pierce 5997 Sardis Church Rd. Macon, GA 31206
Secretary-Treasurer	Frank J. Crown P. O. Box 171 Madison, AL 35758 fcrown@ro.com
Editor GPR	Nancy B. Z. Clark P. O. Box 451 Lexington, GA 30648 nbc@cape.com
Representatives to the GFSC	Douglas N. Clark Nancy B. Z. Clark

Are YOU On the Internet?

In the interest of serving the Society's membership, the *GPR* will publish email addresses of Georgia Postal History Society members *who* wish to be listed. Please email the editor at nbc@cape.com if you wish to be included here.

Editor's Soapbox

The service Frank Crown has given the Society for six years, establishing and editing the *GPR*, and writing extensively for the Georgia postal historian in this and other publications, is remarkable. As Doug stated, Frank is the foremost scholar in this area of postal history.

My contributions to the Society will not be based primarily on my own research in Georgia postal history. I welcome the support both Frank and Doug are providing in this area and look forward to hearing from other Georgia authorities. The future of the *GPR* is dependent upon that foundation.

There is a desire for the Society to grow and to assume a more conspicuous position in the philatelic galaxy. This and other issues will be carried to philatelic shows in other states as a means of Society promotion. Each issue will carry the application for membership. Please feel free to copy it and use it to recommend the Georgia Postal History Society as an interesting, friendly and worthwhile organization to your friends.

We've had such a capable editor for so many years that it is somewhat daunting to attempt this job. While I've been active in philately for many years, this is the first regularly published organ I've edited. A learning experience is always welcome. 'As I begin this editorial assignment, your help and recommendations are welcome. nbc

Modern Postmarks

Please send us information on any postmark planned for an event in Georgia so we can include it in these listings. Also, if you know of a postmark which is based on or honors a person from Georgia, please notify the editor.

Depot Station, Woodstock, GA 30188-9998, Dec. 6, 1997. "Woodstock Centennial Celebration/ Incorporated 1897/For Heritage--For Vision" showing building and trees.

Georgia Stampless Catalog Sold Out!

The Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook published by Frank Crown is sold out. This specialized book was published in a limited edition of only 30 copies. Frank advises that he has no plans to reprint the book. Rather he will publish an updated and expanded catalog in the next few years.

ed. note: This book was reviewed by Richard A. Graham in Linn's of 8 Dec 1997. The book shows Frank's usual excellent scholarship and shares his reliable records. It belongs in an honored position on the reference shelf of every Georgia postal history collector.

President's Message

Douglas N. Clark

Your Georgia Postal History Society begins the new year with several important changes. As announced earlier, Frank Crown has ended his term as editor of Georgia Post Roads. Frank is the foremost scholar on Georgia Postal History and we are fortunate to have had his editorial leadership.

The new editor is Nancy B. Zielinski Clark. Her name is well known in philatelic circles, although not primarily as a Georgia collector. Nancy has served as the U.S. representative to the international (F.I.P.) youth commission, American Philatelic Society board member, Chair of Peach State Stamp Show, international judge and exhibitor of Maine postal history. Her most visible Georgia postal history connection is a modern one, as the chairman of Georgia's only international stamp show, OLYMPHILEX '96. We are fortunate that Nancy has agreed to enter a new area of endeavor by serving our society. Frank Crown and I have agreed to continue as contributors to Georgia Post Roads. We hope many other members will also contribute to our society's publication.

We also enter the new year with a new Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President. For the first time since its founding, the society must continue without the hardworking services of Ernest Owens, our retiring Secretary-Treasurer. For many years, Ern has been the anchor that has held our society together. We hope the rest of us will be able to help fill his shoes!

At the annual G.P.H.S. meeting, I was not able to appoint two representatives to the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs, of which our society is a member. It is now my pleasure to announce that Nancy B. Z. Clark has agreed to join me on the G.F.S.C. board. Nancy's previous service as representative of the Athens Stamp Club and service to the Peach State Stamp Show make her a

logical representative for us. At the first G.F.S.C. meeting of the year, she was elected its President. It was also decided at that meeting that I will serve as Secretary. We hope to keep Peach State Stamp Show going as a source, in our state, for stamps and postal history and as a meeting place for our's and other societies.

TRADING POST

YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues.

Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED 19th century Georgia registered covers and military through World War II. Send photocopies, price. Nonie Green, 2401 Colorado Ave., San Angelo, TX 76901-3713. [8/1] *Please note: corrected address.*

WANTED LOUISIANA and other mid-Gulf Coast states stampless/stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak Street, Metairie, LA 70005-1069. [8/3]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Secretary's Report

New Member

Nancy Clark, P.O. Box 451, Lexington, GA 30648-0451

Several members have not paid their dues for 1998. These members will find a reminder notice included with this issue of GPR.

Railroads of Georgia

Douglas N. Clark

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers

From time to time, Frank Crown has tried to stimulate interest in "fancy cancels" in these pages. Railroad covers provide a fruitful source of fancy killers. The late Charles L. Towle, dean of U.S. railroad postal historians, once suggested that a systematic listing of railroad fancy cancels would be a valuable research project, but to my knowledge, this has never been attempted. It is my intention to devote a series of columns to such railroad markings on railroad covers from the collection of "Early Railway Mail Routes of Georgia" that Nancy and I have formed.

Towle's railroad postmark catalogues give scant treatment to killers, when they list them at all. This survey of fancy killers I have observed, is listed by railway mail routes. This is a first approximation, and readers are invited to submit copies of other examples for future listing.

Georgia Railroad - Main Line

Figure 1 shows examples with three, four and five concentric circles. All of these are on the Georgia Railroad's main line, from Augusta to Atlanta. The ones reading GEORGIA/R.R. or AUGUSTA & ATLA. R.R. are route agent markings, whereas the three-ring variety is on an R.P.O. cover.



figure 2

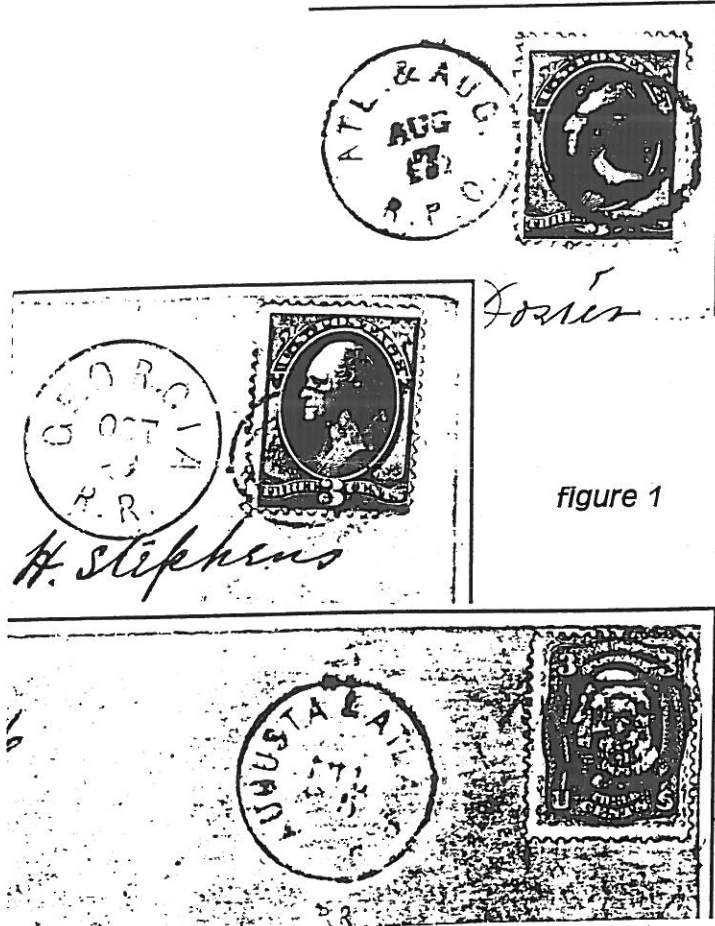


figure 1

The Augusta & Atlanta R.P.O. also used a distinctive negative star, as shown in Figure 2. Figure 3 shows a cork killer divided into eight segments, used with another ATL. & AUG. R.P.O. postmark. This is one I reluctantly classify as "fancy." Target killers are probably the most common fancy cancels, however I do not propose to show every cork blob, quartered cork, etc.

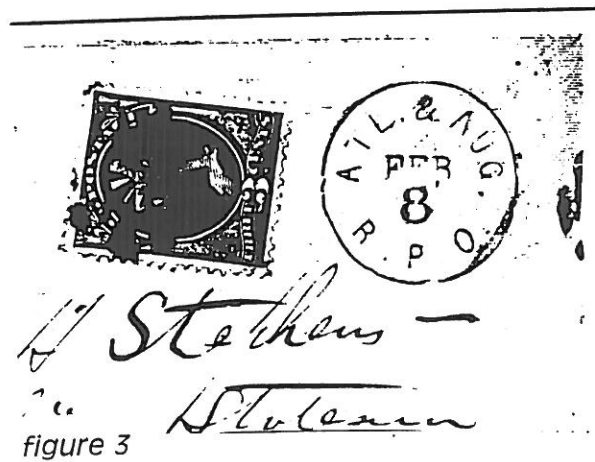


figure 3

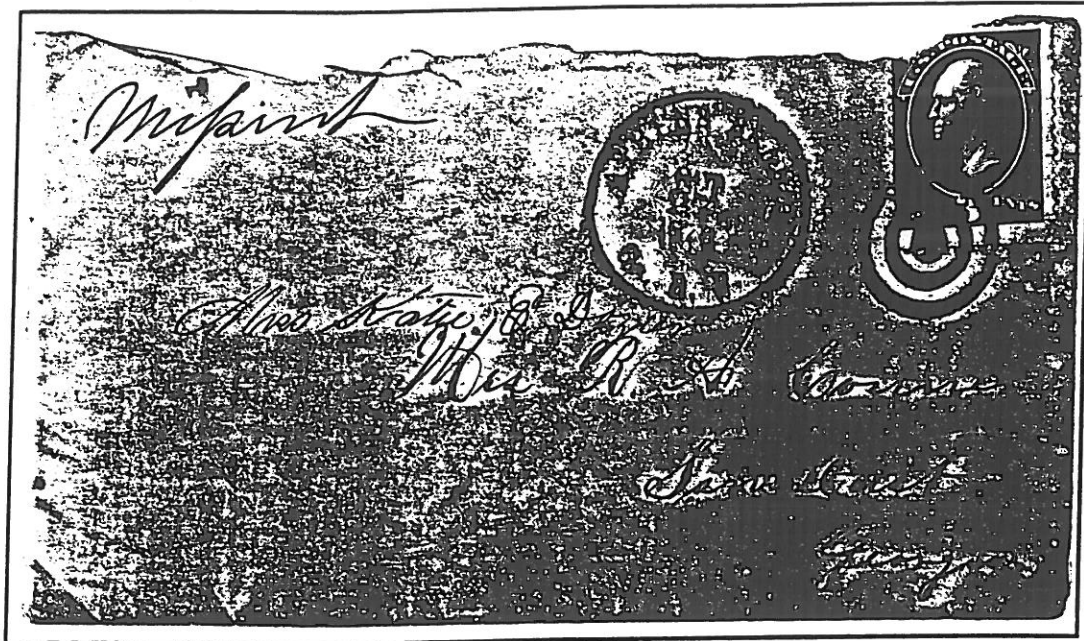


figure 4

Georgia Railroad - Branches

The Georgia Railroad's Athens branch used a target killer with three concentric circles, as shown in Figure 4. I believe this to be a patent duplex hand-stamping device, although I am not particularly knowledgeable on the subject of the handstamperers themselves.

Figure 5 shows two markings of the MACON & AUGUSTA R.R., with notable killers. One is a target killer with four concentric circles and the other is an unusual "design," resembling a tree branch or an animal with eight legs.

It should be mentioned that some catalogues have classified the markings in Figure 5 as coming from a Central of Georgia Railroad route between Augusta and Macon. Rather, I believe that they come from the Georgia Railroad branch from Camak to Macon. This branch was operated by a Georgia Railroad subsidiary with the name Macon & Augusta Railroad; and messages or docketing on both these covers indicates an origin of Crawfordville, a town not on the Central of Georgia route.

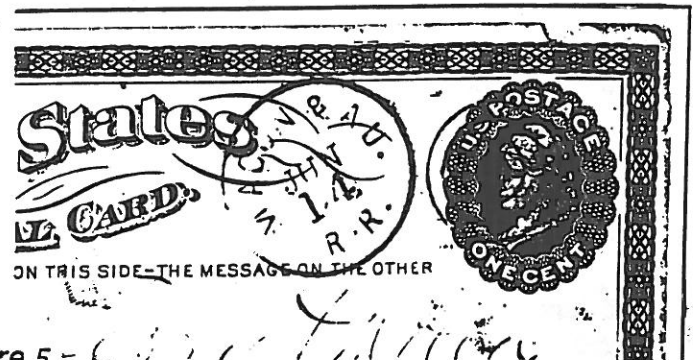
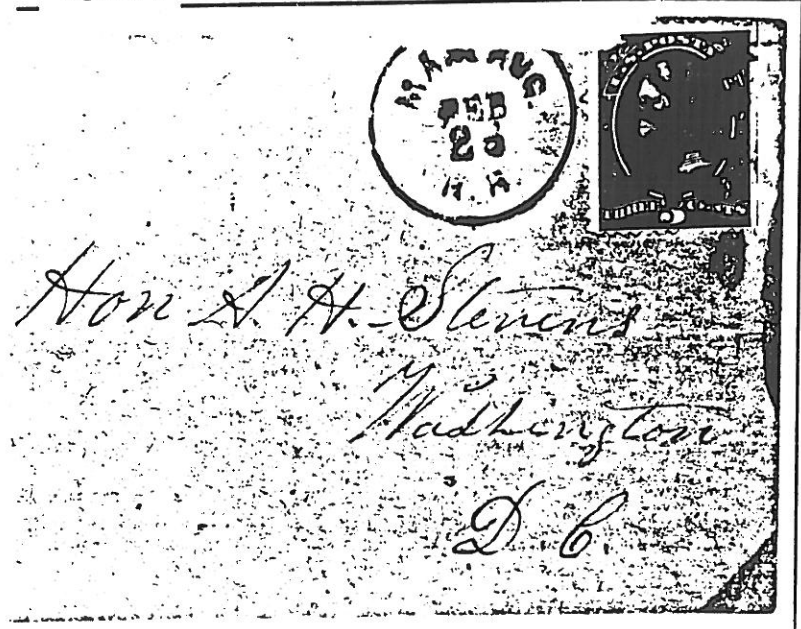


figure 5 - Crawfordville



We welcome Glenn A. Estus as a guest columnist in this issue. While not a collector of Georgia postal history, he is an active postal historian and a Director in Sports Philatelists International.

**U. S. Postal Service:
Official Sponsor 1992 Olympic Games**
Glenn A. Estus

Late in 1989, the United States Postal Service (USPS) issued a press release noting that 145 post offices in the United States and Puerto Rico had been granted permission to use a special die hub cancellation with the wording "U.S. POSTAL SERVICE/OFFICIAL SPONSOR/1992 OLYMPIC GAMES". These hubs could be used continuously or intermittently through August 31, 1993, depending upon prior commitments to which the local post offices may have already agreed.

The earliest reported date seen in December 26, 1989, from a number of post offices throughout the United States. There is one report of an earlier date (December 3, 1989) from the Northern Virginia Sectional Center, however this may be a poor inking of December 30 or December 31.

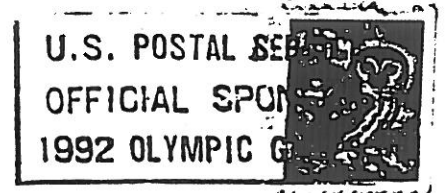
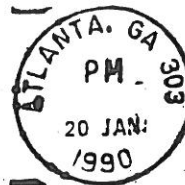
Even though the last authorized date for the cancels use was August 31, 1992, a few post offices in other states used the cancellation well after that time. The latest date reported is Green Bay, Wisconsin (January 3, 1995).

In Georgia, the 1992 slogan was used at three post offices as noted below.

Some notes on the chart:

ZIP is the ZIP Code number actually found in the cancellation dial.

City	ZIP	Earliest	Latest
Atlanta, GA	303	28 Dec 1989	16 Apr 1990
Macon, GA	312	29 Dec 1989	6 Mar 1992
Savannah, GA	314	3 Jan 1990	9 Sep 1991



For those interested in Olympic cancellations, I must make mention that another Olympic cancellation exists from Georgia. In late 1959 and early 1960 a number of post offices throughout the United States used a special cancellation honoring the Olympic Winter Games held at Squaw Valley, California.

ATLANTA/GA. Earliest: Dec. 10, 1959
Latest: Feb. 28, 1960



I have not been able to determine why the cancellation was used at Atlanta.

Anyone with earlier or later dates is asked to send such information to the author at PO Box 452, Westport, NY 12993-0451.

The machine cancellations for the 1996 Olympic GAMES did not contain the words "Olympic" or Games" due to sponsorship issues. The USPS was not an Official Sponsor for the '96 Games. There were, however, two handstamp postmarks preceding the Atlanta based GAMES, one in Lexington, GA (used February 15 to April 15, 1996) and the other, during the torch run, July 11, 1996 in Ocilla, GA. There was also a handstamp used on the day the Greek community gift of sculpture was dedicated in the Centennial Park in Atlanta.

All the handstamped postmarks using graphics of Olympic sport competitions were available at the Merchandise Mart location of OLYMPHILEX '96.

The stamps issued by Australia in Atlanta, GA are shown in an article by Glen Stephens Linn's of 1 Jan 1998.

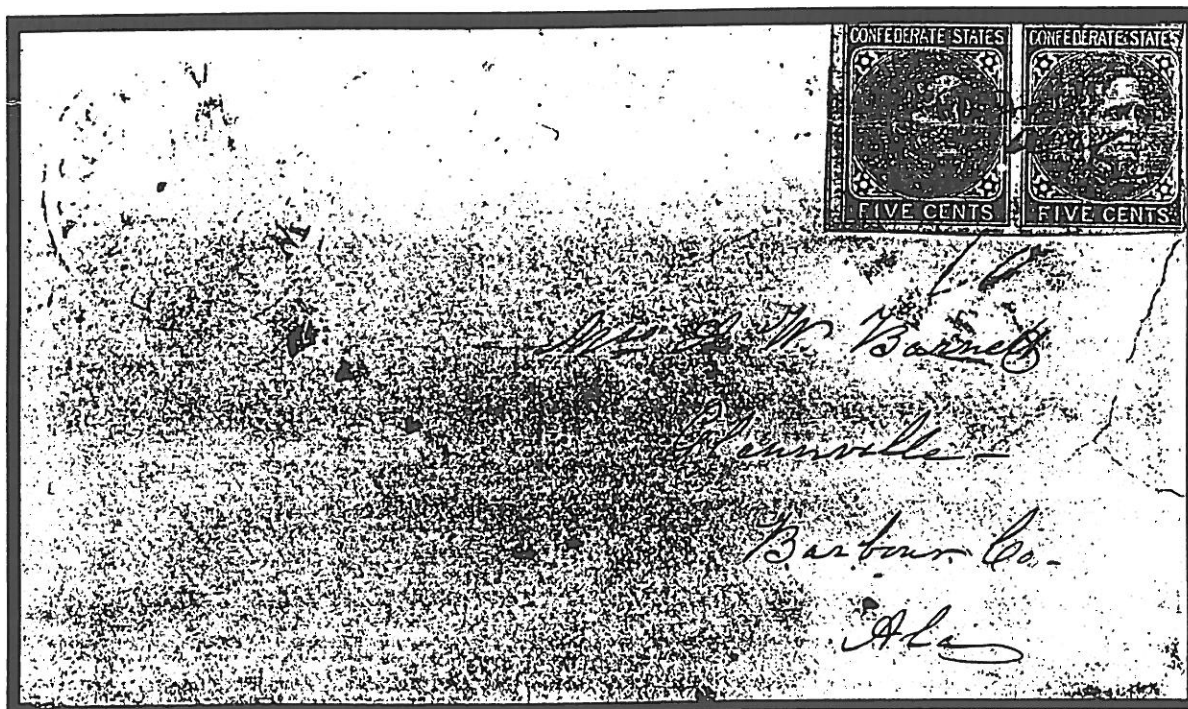
Another Washington, Georgia Provisional Cover

Frank Crown

Harvey Teal submitted the above cover which is the third Confederate provisional cover reported from Washington, Georgia. This cover, which has a pair of 5¢ blue London prints tied by a Washington postmark over New Dietz Type IIB "PAID 10" markings and a faint undated Washington postmark at the upper left, differs from the two previously recorded covers in that the undated postmark used as a control mark is on the front of the cover instead of the reverse. This cover is addressed to Glennville, AL, and is shown courtesy of Harvey Teal.

Harvey wrote, ". . . underneath the stamps is a Paid 10, Type B. The Paid 10 is clearly visible when in front of a light. I have not lifted and removed the stamps to reveal this marking."

It is one of the many mysteries of philately that after so many years of concentrated interest by the large body of Confederate collectors that new varieties continue to appear.



New Georgia Postmaster Provisional?

The November-December edition of *The Confederate Philatelist*, Vol. 42, No. 6, has an interesting article by GPHS members Frank Crown and McCary Ballard, exploring the possibility of a new postmaster provisional sighting. Dated August 2 and August 15, 1861, the two Plains of Dura, GA covers researched have the postmaster's initials written under a handstamped "PAID" with a manuscript rate marking. The authors compare the Georgia markings to provisionals used in Selma and Demopolis, AL. A copy of *The Confederate Philatelist* may be ordered from L. Kilbourne II, 109 S. Greenfield Rd., Greenfield Center, NY 12833, for \$1.75.

Show Calendar

If you know of a stamp show in Georgia, Alabama, the Carolinas or Tennessee, please notify the editor for inclusion in these listings.

Jan 23-25 Macon, GA, 36th Annual Show. Monument Room, Macon Coliseum, I-16 at Coliseum Dr., Exit 4, Macon. Sponsored by Mid-Ga Coin Club. Bourse. Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4. Free.

Jan 31-Feb 1 Charlotte, NC, PARPEX. Ramada Inn Airport, I-75 S, Exit 7, and Clanton Rd. Bourse. Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4. Free.

Feb 27-Mar 1 Birmingham, AL, ALAPEX '98. Birmingham-Jefferson CO. Civic Center, Birmingham. Bourse. Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4. Free.

Membership Information

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**Application for Membership
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Dues schedule for applications submitted during:

Dec - Jan	10.00	Aug - Sep	3.00
Jun - Jul	4.50	Apr - May	6.00
Feb - Mar	8.50	Oct - Nov	11.50

Name

Address.....

Special interests.....

Other club affiliations

References (preferably philatelic)

1. Name

Address.....

2. Name.....

Address.....

Signature

Submit to: Frank Crown, P.O. Box 171, Madison, AL 35758

Georgia Post Roads

MARCH 1998 A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society Vol. 8, No. 2

Bar Code Machinery: Athens, GA

Nancy B. Clark

While I collect spray markings, I had not had the chance to see the interior of these OCR (Optical Character Reader) machines until the end of January, '98. Derek Elliott, Supervisor of Mail Processing at the Olympic Drive facility in Athens, GA, was kind enough to show these machines to me. They were being cleaned as part of their regular maintenance schedule.

This facility once did some primary mail processing, i.e. sorting mail which was received without the benefit of bar codes and applying the codes necessary for mechanical sorting. The Athens machinery was not sophisticated enough to handle the amount of mail required. They were able to bar code less than twenty percent of non-bar-coded mail received. To handle the matter more economically, one facility in the region is stocked with up-to-date machinery for primary or general sorting and application of bar codes.

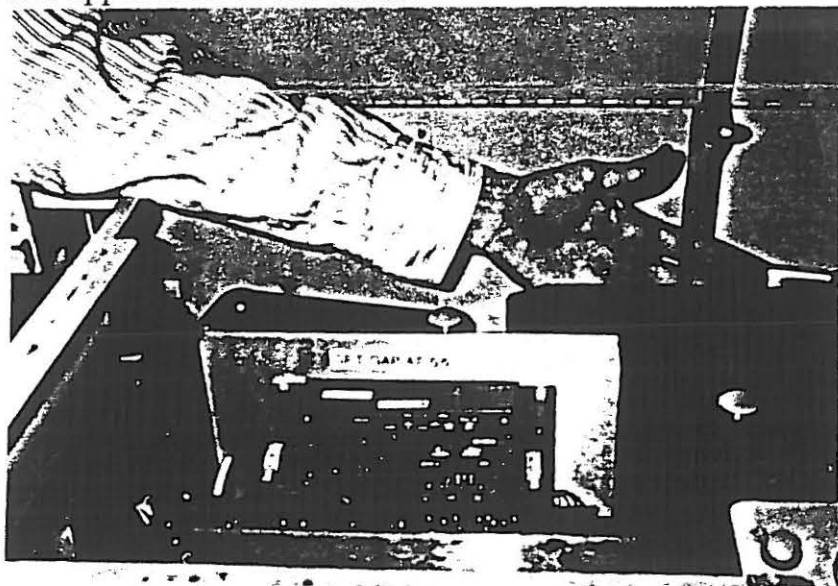


Figure 1 The hand shows where the bar code is scanned.)

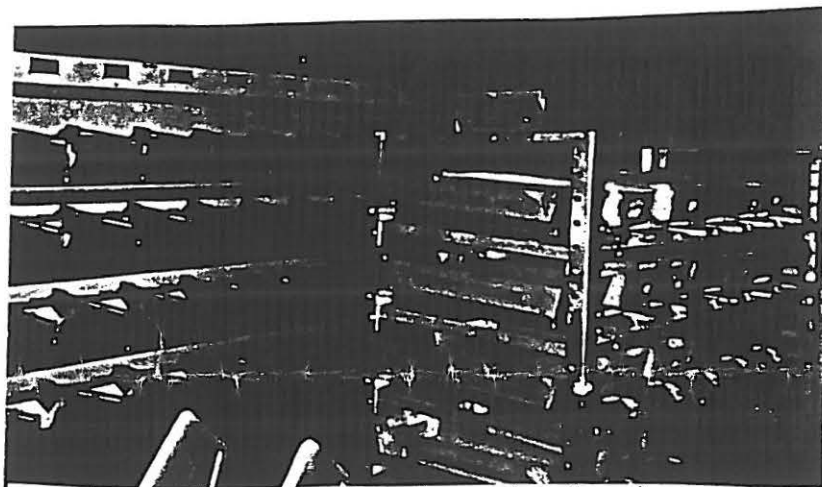


Figure 2 The bins [l] where the sorted mail awaits transfer to coded trays [r].)

The North Metro facility in Duluth, GA, now handles all mail which is received without a bar code in Atlanta and in most north Georgia postal facilities. It is a smooth operation which allows the treatment of over ninety percent of mail received without bar codes. After the initial coding and preliminary sort, the mail is shipped to smaller facilities for a more in-depth sorting. The machinery in Athens reads bar codes and sorts the mail to the correct route or carrier; and even places it in order of individual recipient in some cases, i.e. rural route carriers. This facility manages the sub-sorts for most of north Georgia.

The process is computer driven. Mail is mechanically fed through the OCR where the bar code (which was applied by the mailer, a paid private contractor or the North Metro facility) is electronically read. Figure 1 shows the inside of an OCR. The mail is then deposited in bins with like-coded mail. Figure 2 The bins on the left hold mail waiting to be processed and placed in coded trays, shown on the right. When the sort is done, a small button beside the bin is pressed and a label is

continued on page 3

Georgia Postal History Society Officers

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Editor GPR Nancy B. Z. Clark
*P. O. Box 451
 Lexington, GA 30648
 nbc@cape.com*

Representatives to the GFSC Douglas N. Clark
 Nancy B. Z. Clark

Secretary's Report

This Report contains membership changes dating from November of last year.

New Members:

Nancy B. Clark, P.O. Box 451, Lexington, GA 30648-0451

Change of address:

Frank Crown
 P.O. Box 99085
 Tacoma, WA 98499
 [fcrown@wport.com]

Dropped for nonpayment of dues:

Gregory Carrubba
 Raleigh E. Multog

Membership as of 31 October 1997: 33

New members 1

Dropped for non payment of dues: 2

Membership as of 28 February 1998: 32

Editor's Soapbox

My apologies to the membership for the tardiness of this issue of GPR.

There was a notice at the beginning of Jim Forte's last listing of Georgia covers which emphasized a concern for the Society which I have felt a need to address for some time. He stated, " Four of the five worst selling states have been consistent for over ten years. They are Connecticut, Arkansas, South Carolina and Georgia. At some points Georgia seemed to move up. Alas, it would prove not to be. Right now Georgia and South Carolina are in a struggle to be ;ast in demand. new South or not, Georgians don't seem interested in the postal history."

As members of the Georgia Postal History Society it behooves us to stimulate and encourage an interest in the postal history of Georgia. There are several steps we as a Society can take to support this pursuit:

establish study groups for specific historical time frames

establish a website to promote awareness of this group

invite interested parties to join the Society

continued on page 4

TRADING POST**YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!**

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues.

Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

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BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Bar Code Machinery: Athens, GA (continued)

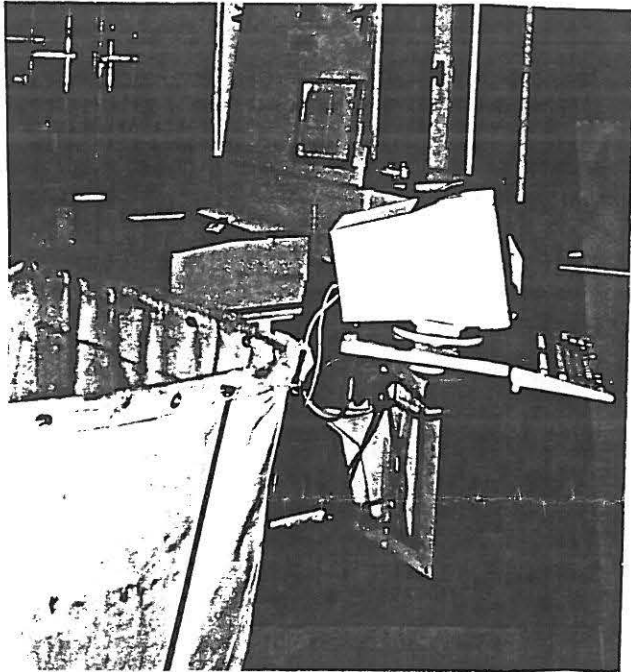


Figure 3 The computer which runs the show.

printed. This label is slipped into the tray to identify the post office to which it will be delivered and sometimes the carrier route on which the recipient is located.

The computer keeps track of how many pieces of mail have been handled, and how many have gone to each post office, carrier or route. Figure 3 pictures the printer, on the left and behind the mail cart. A "run report" is printed at the machine site, and the information is also electronically accessible by an office within the facility.



Figure 4 Hand sorting is the option of choice for "electrically challenged" mail.

In Athens, any mail which has an incorrect bar code, has a change of address, or for some other reason is mechanically unfriendly is sorted the old fashioned way: by hand, shown in Figure 4.

Thanks to Postmaster Herb MacNabb and Supervisor Derek Elliott for their help informing the author of this article and for allowing the photographing of the Athens facility.

Show Calendar

If you know of a stamp show in Georgia, Alabama, the Carolinas or Tennessee, please notify the editor for inclusion in these listings.

notify the editor.

The Button-Gwinnett Stamp Club will host Buttpe "98 on Saturday, April 18, 1998 and Sunday, April 19, 1998, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center, 6400 Sugar Loaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia. Interstate 85 to exit 42 (Highway 120) then follow the signs. As in the past admission and parking are free. Show cover featuring the 100 anniversary of the Spanish-American War, cost is \$1.50 at the show. To order, remit money and a self addressed envelope to Don La Berteaux, 5008 Brandwood Court, Lilburn, Georgia 30047. Additional information can be obtained by telephone (770) 381-7114, or e-mail <donclab@Juno.com.>

Modern Postmarks

Please send us information on any postmark planned for an event in Georgia so we can include it in these listings. Also, if you know of a postmark which is based on or honors a person from Georgia, please

DEDICATION STATION
APRIL 9 1998
NATIONAL PRISONER OF WAR MUSEUM
ANDERSONVILLE, GEORGIA 31711

April 9, 1998
DEDICATION STATION
POSTMASTER
113 CHURCH ST
ANDERSONVILLE GA 31711-9998

Editor's Soapbox (continued)

present information on postal history to local stamp clubs and local non-stamp organizations

To follow up on these general proposals:

I ask you to consider heading a sub-study-group for the Society:

* Pre-adhesive * Confederate * Pre-UPU
 * Rural Free Delivery * Doane Postmarks
 * County and Postmaster Name Postmarks
 * Fancy Cancels * Ship Mail * RPO and
 HPO Markings * First Day of Issue
 * Flight Covers * Opening and Last Day
 P.O.s * Spray Markings

...you name it, we need a study group leader. Suggest your own collecting interest. Should we consider grouping by county instead of by historical time unit?

We can have a free website listing at Delphi, thanks to APS Director Lloyd De Vries, but we need someone to gather and scan in images for the site. Along a similar line, an application has been sent to the Library of Congress to obtain an ISBN number for this publication. In this way, people who are scanning the Library of Congress for information on Georgia will be made aware of this Society and its publications.

A membership application is located on the back page of each issue of **GPR**. Use it!

A slide show at your local stamp club or Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions organization can be a lot of fun for all. It can also give you a chance to use the membership application!

There is so much knowledge held by our members. A good application of that knowledge is to develop an interest in this organization.

Help keep the Hobby Alive! Volunteer!

Along this line, we have had two requests for information on Georgia Post Offices. Bill Bauer wrote to ask about Unadilla, GA. Thanks to Ed Jackson and Frank Crown for information on that city. We were not able to arrive at a definitive date for the founding of the city, but got it within a decade. Now

we have a request from Mary Ann Owens for any knowledge of Aspinwall, GA. Any information can be sent directly to her at <MAOWens134@aol.com> or to the editor. Thanks in advance!

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Tacoma, WA 98499

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Name

Address.....

.....

Special interests.....

.....

Other club affiliations

.....

References (preferably philatelic)

1. Name

Address.....

.....

.....

2. Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

--

Are YOU On the Internet?

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Phil Bansner <pbansner@epix.net>
website address <http://www.philbansner.com>

Richard H. Byne <rhbcaps@flash.net>

Ron Trosclair <rtrosclair@prodigy.net>

The Allen Correspondence



Figure 1 Example of the rare handstamped "24"

By Frank Crown

About 10 years ago a substantial correspondence to William Jno. C. Allen of Belfast, Ireland, was purchased by a U. S. dealer from a European source. Shortly thereafter the covers entered the philatelic market.

I have seen many of these covers at major shows and have recorded a total of 19 Allen covers postmarked from Georgia towns. The majority of them bear Augusta postmarks. The balance bear postmarks from Savannah (2), Clarksville (1) and Shell Creek (1). The remarkable thing about the correspondence is the large number of covers from Georgia towns. Even more significant is that on some of these covers are the only examples of "24" (Figure 1) rate markings I have recorded from Augusta.

Recently I purchased the cover illustrated above, Figure 2. It intrigued me because the postmark which is an AUGUSTA GEO / PAID postmark has the "PAID" smudged out and the rate is the handstamped "24". It also bears a somewhat faint but legible "GREEN ISLAND / BELFAST" straight line handstamp to the left of the Augusta postmark.

After purchasing the cover, I found the contents to be of even more interest.

continued on page 6

Allen Correspondence (continued)

The writer of almost all the Augusta letters is a "R. Campbell." A check of the 1850 census for Georgia revealed a Robert Campbell living in Augusta at that time. He was a landed gentleman 68 years of age who was born in Ireland. This is apparently the same "R. Campbell" who was obviously from Ireland and in the letter states that he had been in the United States for more than 50 years.

In the letter Mr. Campbell remarks about a niece in Ireland who has indicated a desire to immigrate to the United States with her new husband. Mr. Campbell writes "... it will be contrary both to my advice and my wishes as expressed to her." He adds that her husband "... will have a better chance in his own country than here. There is a strong and growing dislike to [sic] foreigners. I have been here now over fifty years; identified in many ways



Figure 2 Black Nov 27 (1855) AUGUSTA GEO / PAID postmark with "PAID" smudged out and black "24" rate marking used on cover to Ireland.

Mr. Campbell acted as Mr. Allen's agent for cotton purchases and obviously handled most of Mr. Allen's financial affairs in Augusta, if not in much of the state. All the letters from Mr. Campbell contain financial information, but this one also contains a rare insight into perceived attitudes in Georgia during the mid 1850's.

continued on page 7

with this country, entitled to favorable consideration for some of my acts, and yet I can see that the junior part of this community look upon me only as a successful foreigner."

The 19 covers I have recorded are dated during the years 1841 to 1857. Fifteen of the covers are dated in the period 1847 to 1854. Most are addressed to 8 Wellington Place, Belfast Ireland. Seventeen covers

Allen Correspondence (continued)

are addressed directly to Mr. Allen. The others are addressed to females in the Allen family care of Mr. Allen.

SHIP LETTER - FREE

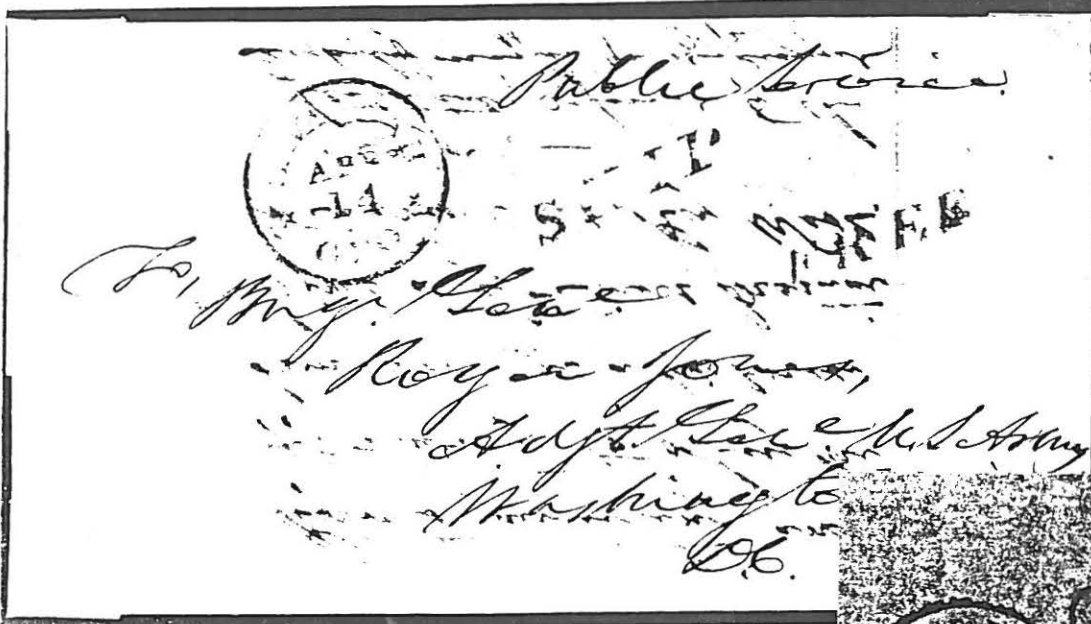


Figure 1 Private ship cover from Matanzas, Cuba, entered at Savannah, GA, and traveled free of all postal charges to Washington, DC.

Douglas N. Clark

The letter illustrated in Figure 1 originated in Matanzas, Cuba, in 1845. It was placed on a private ship to the U.S., reaching this country on April 14, at Savannah.

Normally a private ship letter would be charged a ship fee added to the domestic postage (2¢ ship fee + 25¢ domestic, Savannah to Washington D.C., by act of 1816, in this case), but the addressee of this letter, the Adjutant General of the Army, enjoyed the franking privilege, and so the letter went entirely free.

In the Sotheby Parke Bernet sale of Ishikawa's Hawaii collection (November 18, 1980), there was a ship letter addressed to a postmaster and, although the letter was rated "Ship Free," the descrip-

tion stated that it "should have been charged ship fee."

I spent some time trying to confirm this assertion, but all I could find in the *Postal Laws and Regulations* was that letters addressed to persons with the franking privilege should be sent free, up to one full rate of postage.

Finally, I had the opportunity to ask Ishakawa about the auction description, at a stamp show where he was judging, and

his explanation was that "one sees so many covers" rated that way.

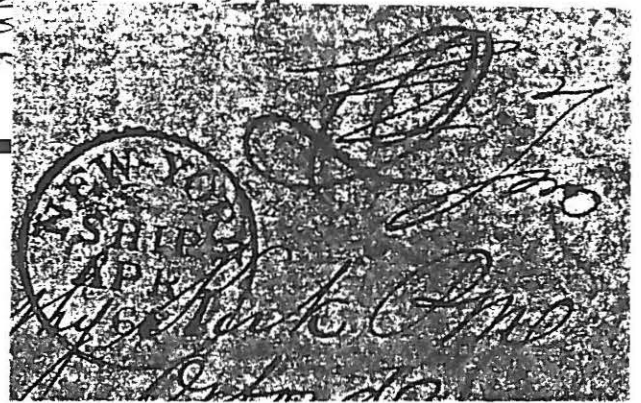


Figure 2 Private ship cover charged a ship fee, then corrected to "free."

In subsequent years of looking, I have been able to find only one ship cover to an individual having the franking privilege, with the ship fee charged. On that one the ship fee was later corrected to "free" (Figure 2).

I have to conclude that Ishakawa was wrong and that the Savannah postmaster was right. I would be interested in seeing any other "Ship 2" covers, addressed to, or sent by, persons with the franking privilege.

Roster - March 1998

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Georgia Post Roads

MAY 1998

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Vol. 8, No. 3

APS Chapter No. 224

ISSN 1099-0372



Figure 1 Western & Atlantic Railroad route.

Railroads of Georgia

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers

(Continued from GPR 8, No. 1 (Jan 1998))

Douglas N. Clark

In the January 1998 column, I began a tour of fancy killers used with railroad postmarks, from the collection "Railway Mail Routes of Georgia," which Nancy and I have formed. In this issue, we continue with the Western & Atlantic (figure 1) and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia (figure 6) Railroads. The main lines of both these railroads extended north from Atlanta into the state of Tennessee. The E.T.,V.&G. also combined several smaller lines extending west and south from Atlanta.

Western & Atlantic R.R.

Perhaps the most predominant early railroad killers which can be classified unques-

tionably as fancy, are the directional letters, "N," "S," "E" and "W." These can be considered forerunners to the "train" or "trip" numbers found in twentieth century and very late nineteenth century railroad postmarks.

Figure 2 shows "S" and "N" killers used on south- and north-bound trains of the Chattanooga & Atlanta R.P.O. in 1882 and 1885, respectively. The 1882 cover also shows "DAY" at the bottom of the dial, as a further aid to identification of the train on which the cover was handled. Please note, the letter "N" is backwards! Most of these early fancy killers were whittled out of wood, sometimes crudely, probably by one of the R.P.O. clerks using them.

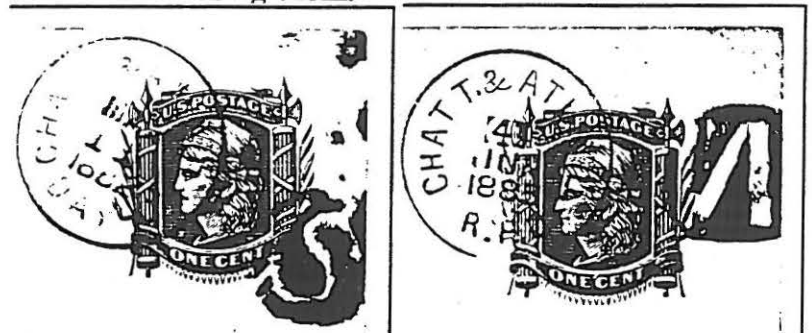


Figure 2 Directional fancy killers, often carved by the R.P.O. clerks, sometimes printed the letter backwards.

In Figure 3 is a target killer used on the Atlanta & Chattanooga R.P.O. I count five concentric circles. There may be other types, as I have seen many covers with target killers, both before and after the line was renamed Chattanooga & Atlanta, in 1874; but I cannot be sure I have identified more than just this one type.

Figure 4 shows a Chattanooga & Atlanta R.P.O. cover with a six pointed star killer; the year is 1877.

The killer in Figure 5 is apparently the number 72, in a sort of script writing. This is the year of the cover. The R.P.O. is, once again, Atlanta & Chattanooga.

continued on page 3

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Editor's Soapbox

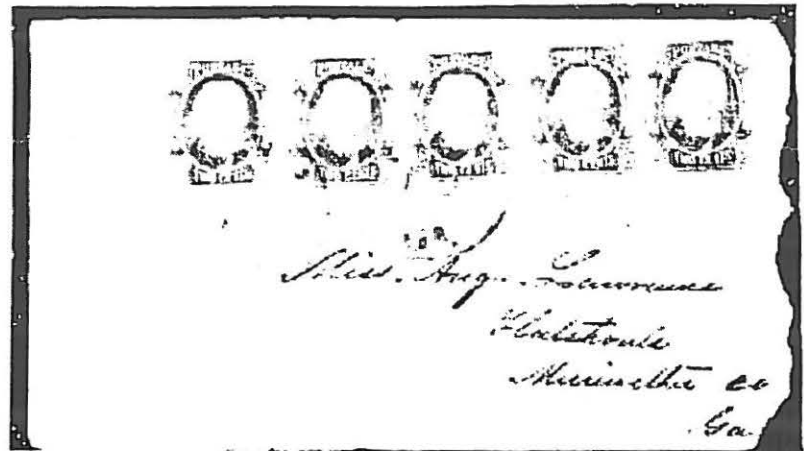
Due to the tardiness of the March issue of **GPR**, we are sending the May issue in close proximity to that edition.

The **GPR** now has its own ISSN (International Serial System Number), its own unique number among all other periodicals internationally. To some it may seem somewhat presumptuous to request a membership in the international community for a relatively minor publication. However, in the attempt to create a greater awareness for the Society, this is an inexpensive (form unloaded from the Net and the cost of postage), way to let others know we not only exist but also have a publication with information regarding Georgia Postal History.

Don Tocher recently showcased a Confederate-period cover from Auraria, GA, showing its certificate #12637, by Alex Rendon, Member A.I.E.P. The cover has been trimmed since the 1990 certificate was issued and an "expert restoration" reestablished the lower right corner. Quite

a change. This "surgery" renders the cover more attractive...I'm beginning to understand the attractiveness in taking the nips and tucks people in a mature age group sometimes favor. (Printed here as an update to Georgia postal history collectors.)

A member of the Georgia Postal History Society, Ed Jackson, is actively stimulating and encouraging an interest in the history of Georgia, as you can see in the article "Technology and Georgia History Meet."



From Auraria, GA a single and a strip of four of the two cent red brown, tied to the cover....before



.....and after the 1990 A.I.E.P. certificate was issued.

continued on page 5

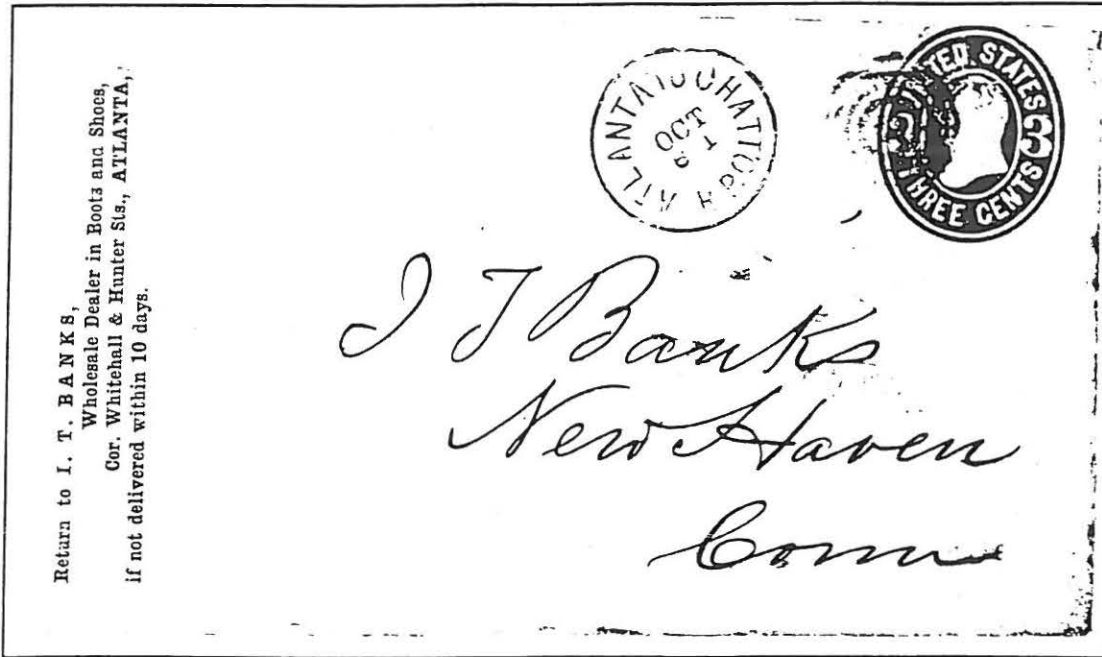


Figure 3 "ATL TO CHATT" with five concentric circles as a killer, Oct 31, 1868.

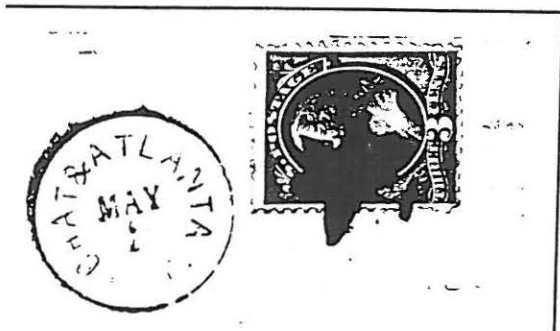


Figure 4 Star killer on 1877, "CHAT & ATLANTA AGT." cover.



Figure 5 Negative "72" on Western & Atlantic cover from 1872.

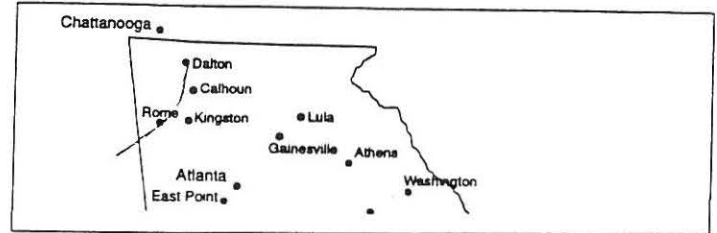


Figure 6 Dalton & Selma Railroad route, part of the E.T. & G.

agent, in Figures 7 and 8.

In Figure 7 is a two-circle target killer, which, together with the postmark, is struck in blue. In Figure 8 is another directional letter, this one a distinctive negative letter E in a stylized box.



Figure 7 Outer circle with small central circle on "DALT. & SELMA AGT." cover.

East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad

The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad was formed in 1881 by a merger of the East Tennessee & Virginia and East Tennessee & Georgia Railroads. Before the merger, we see two fancy killers of the Dalton & Selma route

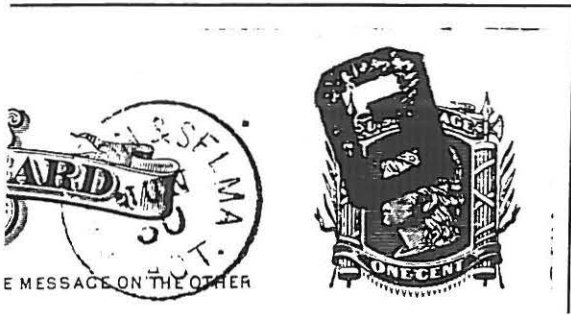
Railroads of Georgia (continued)

Figure 8 Negative directional killer of Route Agent in 1878.

On the Macon & Brunswick Railroad, another line which became a part of E.T.,V. & G., we see a target killer, as shown in Figure 9. Showing R.R. at bottom of dial, this is the marking of a route agent, a predecessor of R.P.O.s.



Figure 9 Bulls-eye marking on "MACON & BRUNS R.R." cover, 1875.

After the formation of E.T.,V.& G., I have noted only one fancy killer, and this one is only marginally fancy. Figure 10 shows this Rome &



Figure 10 Cork killer with 8-segment wedges on "ROME & MACON R.P.O."

Macon R.P.O. cover of 1884, with an eight-leaved segmented cork killer. As noted, it is questionable whether or not this should be called fancy.

Technology and Georgia History Meet

In the case of GPHS member Ed Jackson, "spreading the word" about philately has a more public application than it does for most of us. Several members are cognizant of Ed's efforts to disseminate an awareness of philately among middle-school age young people by the use of full color photographs of stamps on the cover the book of Georgia history he co-authored. *Recently* he has gone several steps further.

In the February 11, 1998, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Ed's most recent venture gets top billing under the title "Georgia history meets technology on the Net."

Philatelists involved with OLYMPHILEX '96 and Peach State Stamp Show appreciate Ed's talent for designing websites. The first on-site website at a FIP World exhibition was in the OLYMPHILEX '96 "Savvy Center." He has also designed sites each year for Peach State Stamp Show, where the GPHS annual meeting is held.

So when the State of Georgia decided to establish to present a daily history log for the state of Georgia, Ed was a logical choice. Since the April 1997 project began, Ed's life has become remarkably full. The awareness of Georgia's rich history has profited.

Both he and Annette, his wife, are looking forward to this June when this project will conclude. I'm sure librarian Charley Pou is also anticipating a more peaceful, less stressful life.

For those GPHS members with world wide web access, check out Ed's Georgia history website (see Figure 1). The address is <http://www.cviog-uga.edu/Projects/gainfo>

Along with attractive graphics, the connections to related categories is extensive. It's an impressive body of work, well worth the time spent there. The amount of information which can be gar-

continued on page 5

Editor's Soapbox (continued)

Two Georgia sub-sections have volunteer coordinators:

Georgia RPO markings:

Doug Clark

Spray Markings: Nancy Clark

Still needed: Pre-adhesive * Confederate
* Pre-UPU * Rural Free Delivery *
Doane Postmarks * County and Postmaster
Name Postmarks * Fancy Cancels *
Ship Mail * HPO Markings * First Day of
Issue * Flight Covers * Opening and Last

Technology and Georgia (continued)

Day P.O.s *

...you name it, we need a study group leader. Suggest your own collecting interest.

We still need someone to gather and scan in images for the a free website listing at Delphi.

Help keep the Hobby Alive! Volunteer!

A membership application is located on the back page of each issue of GPR. Please use it!



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Athens, Georgia



[Welcome to GeorgiaInfo](#) / [Georgia Bulletin Board](#) / [What's New](#) / [Table of Contents](#) / [Credits](#)

**This Day in
Georgia History**

A view of the Georgia Information website managed by GPHS member Edwin Jackson.

Information Quest

nered is significant. Congratulations for a job well done, Ed. Historians and postal historians for the state of Georgia applaud you!

Mary Ann Owens has requested anyone with a knowledge of Aspinwall, GA, to contact her. Information can be sent directly to her at <MAOWens134@aol.com> or to the editor. Thanks in advance!



Figure 2 Stone Mountain Memorial as it appears on US #1408

Figure 1 Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial

The Stone Mountain Park is illustrated with Disney characters dressed as Civil War re-enactors, marching in the park located at the base of the Confederate Memorial. A symbol for Columbian World Stamp Expo appears in the lower right portion of the design.

Mr. Carmen cites a new publication, *Carved in Stone: The History of Stone Mountain*, David B. Freeman, Mercer University Press, 1997. A website, which I located from the gainfo-site, features the Stone Mountain Park. Its address is <<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~UG97/stone/home.html>>

Stone Mountain and St. Vincent Meet?

What do Stone Mountain, GA, and the island country of St. Vincent have in common? A stamp!

According to Dennis Carmen in the April 1998 issue of *Global Stamp News*, the Confederate Memorial carved on Stone Mountain (Figure 1) and dedicated May 9, 1970; featured on a United States stamp issued September 19, 1970 (Figure 2, #1408), also appeared on a \$5 stamp issued by Saint Vincent (Figure 3, # 1269).

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Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues.
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WANTED LOUISIANA and other mid Gulf Coast states stampless/ stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Troclair, 1713 Live Oak Street, Metairie, LA 70005-1069. [8/3]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, WestLawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

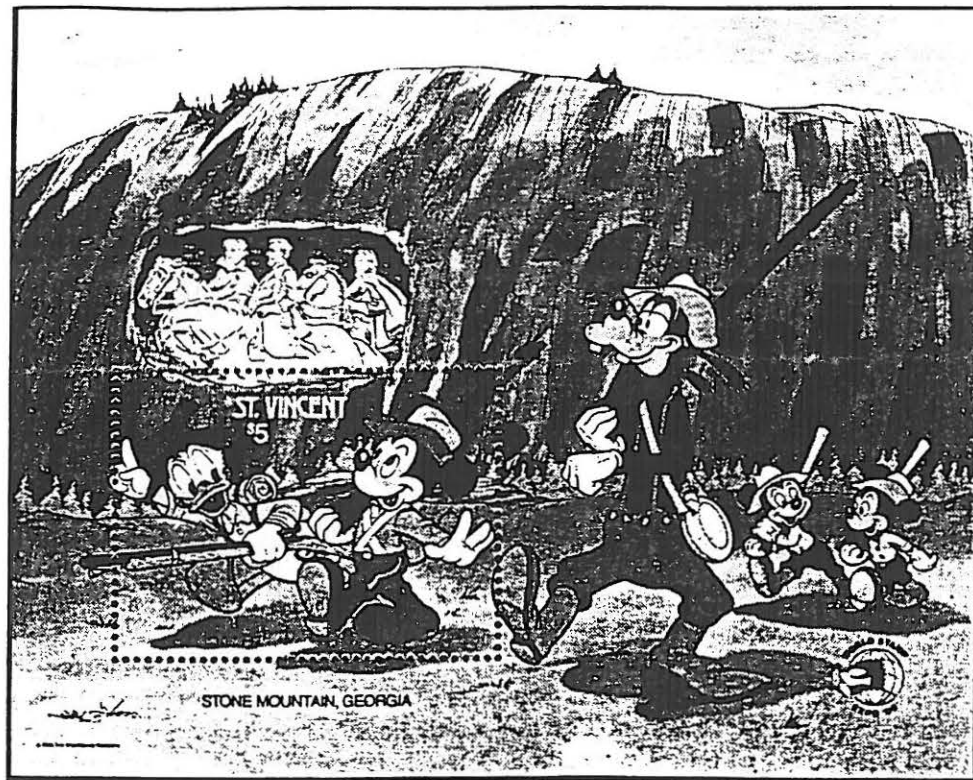


Figure 3 Stone Mountain Park on St. Vincent #1269

with other members of the society, many of whom are recognized experts in their Georgia postal history specialty.

Application for Membership in the Georgia Postal History Society

I hereby apply for admission to membership in the Georgia Postal History Society. Dues in the amount prescribed in the table below are submitted herewith.

Dues schedule for applications submitted during:

Table with dues schedule: Dec - Jan 10.00, Jun - Jul 4.50, Feb - Mar 8.50, Aug - Sep 3.00, Apr - May 6.00, Oct - Nov 11.50

Name
Address.....
Special interests.....
Other club affiliations
References (preferably philatelic)

1. Name
Address.....
2.Name.....
Address.....
Signature

Submit to: Frank Crown, P.O. Box 99085, Tacoma, WA 98499

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Are YOU On the Internet?

In the interest of serving the Society's membership, the GPR will publish email addresses of Georgia Postal History Society members who wish to be listed. Please email the editor at nbc@cape.com if you wish to be included here.

Phil Bansner <pbansner@epix.net>
website address http://www.philbansner.com

Richard H. Byne <rhbsaps@flash.net>

Ron Trosclair <rtrosclair@prodigy.net>

Membership Information

Are you a collector of Georgia postal history? Are you interested in Georgia postal history? Are you just interested in Georgia history? If your answer is yes to any of the above you need to give some thought to joining the Georgia Postal History Society.

The Georgia Postal History Society is devoted to the study of all aspects of Georgia postal history. This includes the pre-stamp or stampless period that goes back to the late 1700s, the Confederate period, fancy cancels, machine postmarks, RFD markings, railroad markings, flight covers, first days, last days, use of a particular stamp on covers from Georgia and just about anything else you can think of that mixes stamp collecting and Georgia. Basically there is something for everyone.

Benefits of membership include a bi-monthly newsletter, Georgia Post Roads, featuring articles on various aspects of Georgia postal history. In addition, you have the benefit of meeting and corresponding

Georgia Post Roads

JUL 1998

A Publication of the Georgia Postal History Society

Vol. 8, No. 4

APS Chapter No. 224

ISSN 1099-0372

A BURSTED BUBBLE

Cracker Covers

by Frank Crown



Miss Mary C Austin
West Boyford
Essex Mass

Black "AMERICUS GA." postmark dated 25 Dec 1898 on an unusual Spanish American War patriotic cover. There was a National Guard camp (Camp Gilman) located in the vicinity of Americus during November and December 1898.



Miss Jennie Inooney
227 Pearl St
Trenton
N.J.

see "Georgia Rambler" page 3

Black "FORT MCPHERSON/GA." postmark dated 20 May 1898 with a negative "A" killer on a cover to Trenton, NJ. This cover is unusual both for the fancy killer marking and the fact that the Trenton, NJ receiving marking is dated 21 May 1898. If only mail was as fast today!

Saturday, October 24 GPHS Meets at Peach State Stamp Show '98

Peach State Stamp Show '98, will once again play host to the annual meeting of the Georgia Postal History Society. The show opens Friday and Saturday at 10 am and closes at 6pm. Sunday show hours are 10-4.

Georgia Postal History Society is currently scheduled for Saturday, October 24 at 4pm.

A speaker of interest to GPHS members, Galen Harrison, is speaking on prison mail from the American Civil War. He has published an award winning book on this subject too. He will also have a competitive exhibit in PSSS '98 which you might enjoy seeing while at the show.

GPHS members who wish to exhibit should contact Doug Clark for a prospectus at P. O. Box 31, Lexington, GA 30648.

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Representatives to the GFSC
 Douglas N. Clark
 Nancy B. Z. Clark

Editor's Soapbox

Coming to you from Cape Cod (where the temperature on the porch is 62 degrees and the ocean is slate blue, the July issue of **GPR** was initially assembled with a minimal amount of jet lag. GPHS president, DOug Clark, and I had recently returned from a trip to Luxembourg, Germany and Romania.

It's the first time we have had a mathematical and a philatelic conference mesh. JUVALUX '98, a youth and postal history specialized FIP exhibition, was held in Luxembourg. I was privileged to serve on the jury and Doug sought philatelic materials in the dealer stocks and attended several postal history seminars. After a brief visit in Frankfurt, we went to a mathematics conference in Timisoara, Romania. Doug delivered a plenary talk and listened to others' papers. I explored local yarn supplies and sought historical remains from the many societies which have claimed this geographic area as theirs.

One Georgia-related philatelic find: a mint copy of the stamps issued by Romania Post for the 1996 Olympic Games.

After a good start on **GPR**, computer glitches and scheduling issues interfered, so

we have a very late issue, finished and sent from Georgia. My sincere apologies.

We still need someone to gather and scan in images for the a free website listing at Delphi.

Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

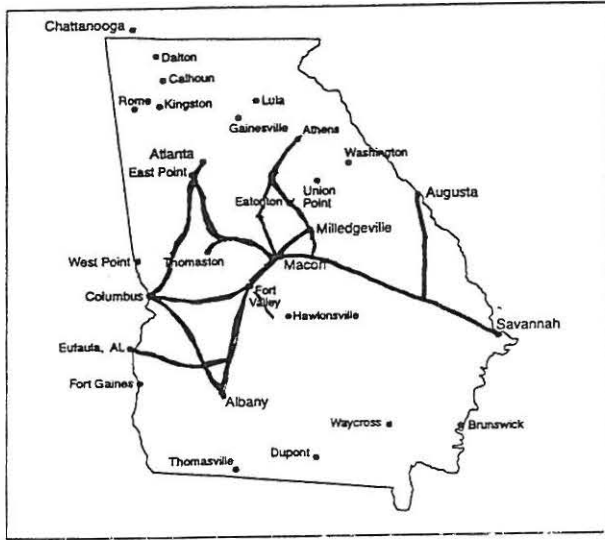
On the front page of this issue, "Cracker Covers" illustrates a cover from Fort McPherson, GA to Trenton, NJ. The emphasis in the pictorial column is on the negative "A" killer marking. However, there is more to the cover. Note the postmark is dated "May 20, 12 M, 1898." The Trenton, NJ receiving mark, on the reverse, is dated "May 21, 1 PM, 98."

This cover apparently traveled from Atlanta to Trenton in no more than a day and a half, and possibly in only 13 hours! Recently I mailed a certified letter from Tacoma, WA to Huntsville, AL on a Friday. It did not reach its destination until the following Friday! Unfortunately this type of service is more typical than atypical these days.

Wouldn't it be nice if the postal service once again began affixing dated receiving marks on the mail? U. S. Postal Service sponsored surveys would not be necessary to make us believe mail delivery was timely. You could run your own poll by comparing the date of the postmark and the receiving mark.

Of course, there are two reasons why this won't come to pass. First, the postal service could not take the heat from the public. Second, they would scream that the application of a receiving mark would be cost prohibitive.

Sure, it might cost a little more, but with the automated equipment used to cancel letters, the current USPS surplus, and the new revenue from an unneeded rate hike it could be done. But we know better. The postal service will continue to try to convince us that three to five day delivery is reasonable to expect and that is what we will get.



Railroads of Georgia

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers

(Continued from GPR 8, No. 3 (May 1998))

Douglas N. Clark

The next stop on our excursion through Georgia's railroads is the Central of Georgia. Unfortunately for the fancy killer enthusiast, this line used a few four-circle target killers and very little else.

Part of the main line of the Georgia Central (officially "Central of Georgia") ran west from Macon to Columbus and Montgomery. As of 1869, this part was leased by Southwestern R.R., and this shows up in the markings.

Another part of the main line ran from Macon to Augusta and a northwestern branch, the Macon & Western R.R., ran from Macon to Atlanta.

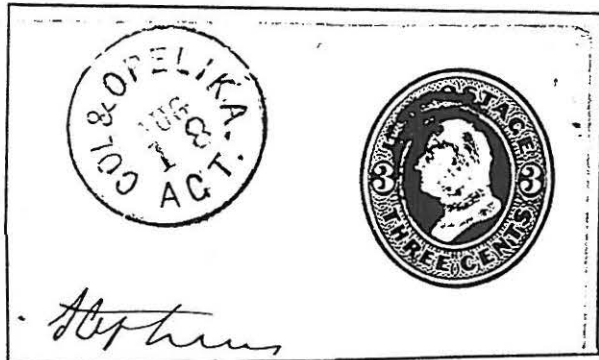


Figure 2 Columbus and Opelika Route Agent handstamp with four concentric circle killer.

continued page 5

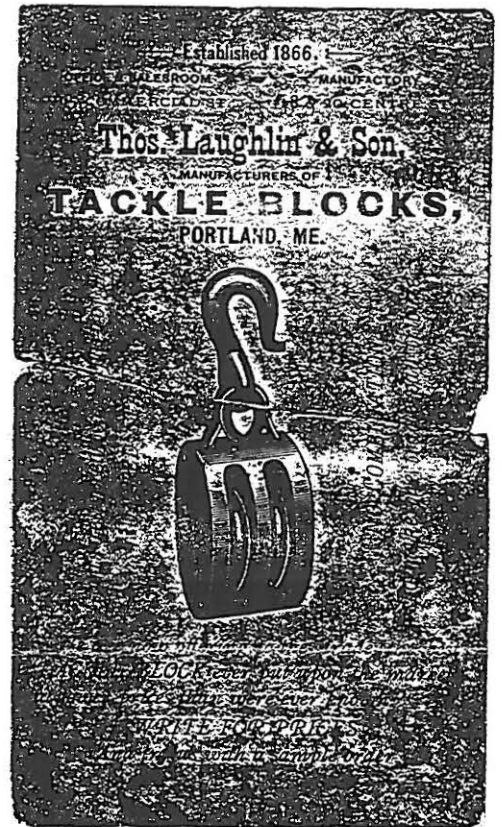
A Georgia Collector's Dream Comes True

T. Lowrell Pierce

For a Georgia postal history collector, an original find is a dream. For this collector, it is now a dream come true.

An antique dealer friend and I went together to purchase the contents of an attic of a store here in Macon. The material spans from 1844 to the 1890s. There are forty-two boxes and each box is about the size of a bushel basket.

They contain ledgers, catalogs, receipts and orders. The purchase orders



were written on any piece of paper that came to hand. There are about a thousand government postal cards with orders from all over middle Georgia.

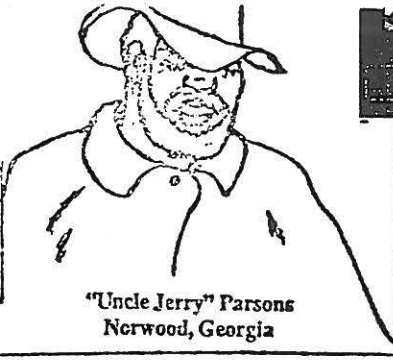
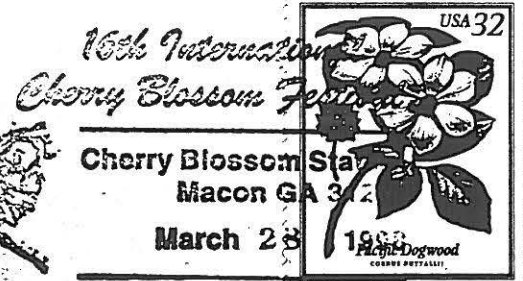
As the attic contents are explored, the postal items from this collector's dream "find" will be shared with fellow Georgia postal history buffs in this column.

Thanks for sharing this find with us! nbc

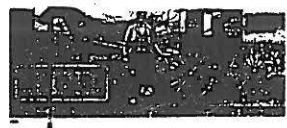
Modern Postmarks

Please send us information on any postmark planned for an event in Georgia so we can include it in these listings. Also, if you know of a postmark which is based on or honors a person from Georgia, please let us know for inclusion here.

This issue we have a recap of postmarks which were kindly provided to us by T. Lowrell Pierce of Macon, GA.



"Uncle Jerry" Parsons
Norwood, Georgia



16th International Cherry Blossom Festival,
Macon, GA, March 28, 1998

Uncle Jerry Parsons, Norwood, GA, August
18, 1996

Romeo Valentine Station
February 1, 1998
Romeo MI 48065-9998



Juliet Valentine
February 1, 1998
Juliette GA 31046-0999



Sylvester and Tweety, Sylvester, GA, April
28, 1998

Juliet Valentine, Juliette, GA, February 1,
1998 (shown with Romeo, MI, February 1,
1998 postmark)



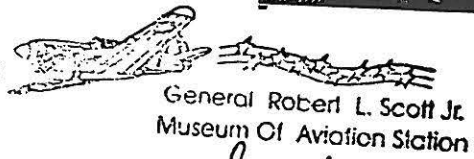
SYLVESTER & TWEETY STATION
Current Postmark Notice:

General Robert L. Scott, Jr., Warner Rob-
bins Air Force Base, GA

General Clay, Father of the Berlin Airlift,
Athens, GA, PSSS '98, Oct.23-25, 1998.
Covers may be ordered (\$1.50 & SASE)
from Charles Zatsick, c/o P. O. Box 31,
Lexington, GA 30648.

T. LOWRELL PIERCE
CIRCLE
31206

.32
x20
\$6.40



General Robert L. Scott Jr.
Museum Of Aviation Station

Robert L. Scott

Show Calendar

If you know of a stamp show in Georgia, Alabama,
the Carolinas or Tennessee, please notify the editor
for inclusion in these listings.
notify the editor.
Peach State Stamp Show '98, October 23-
25, Athens, GA. Athens Classic Center, 255
N. Thomas St, Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4.
GPHS Annual Meeting, Sat., Oct. 24, 4pm.

Railroads of Georgia (continued)

Figure 2 shows a marking of Columbus & Opelika Agent, on the western part of the main line, in 1876. It has a target killer with four concentric circles. The marking in Figure 3 shows a four-circle target, possibly the same one, with So. Western R.R. handstamp. Although undated, this may represent the same route as the Macon & Opelika cover.

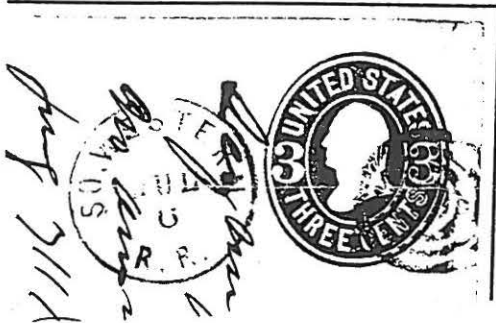


Figure 3 Possibly the same killer with a So. Western postmark.

The cover in Figure 4 has another, very similar killer. This cover, with postmark reading "Ga. Central R.R.," was carried over the Augusta-Macon portion of the main line. Again the year is not known.



Figure 4 Ga. Central postmark with four circle killer.

The fourth four-circle target killer appears on the Macon & Western R.R. Shown in Figure 5, this killer appears with a CDS reading "At(lanta). & Macon Agt." The date is 1875.

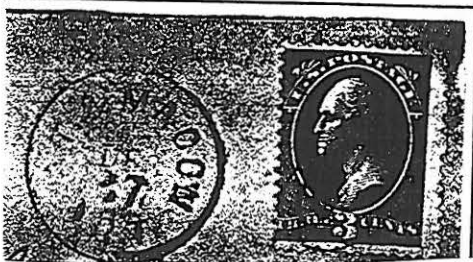


Figure 5 1875 Atlanta and Macon Agent postmark with similar killer.

The Macon & Western R.R. also used a circle killer containing seven parallel grid lines. It is illustrated in Figure 6.



Figure 6 Circle grid killer used by Macon and Western agent.

The last marking shown is Macon & Clayton Agt. This agent ran over the original western portion of the main line. The killer is somewhat of a mystery as it is a quartered cork with some kinds



Figure 7 Quartered cork with "negative" shapes from Macon and Clayton route.

of little figures cut into the four leaves (Figure 7). I wish we could say that these are the shapes of a club, diamond, heart and spade, or something like that, but final determination will have to await a clearer strike.

Secretary's Report

We have two new members, as follows:

William S. Connolly
P.O.Box 10197
Clearwater, FL 33757-8197

Kenneth A. Hall
3524 Kilbarry Court
Las Vegas, NV 89129-6968

Frank was spotted at the APS STAMPSHOW in California. He reports that on the second to last day he found a cover that "made the trip worthwhile." We look forward to hearing more about this "show-making" cover in a future GPR.

TRADING POST**YOUR AD BELONGS HERE!**

Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues.

Support the GPHS, submit your copy to the editor today.

WANTED LOUISIANA and other mid Gulf Coast states stampless/ stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak Street, Metairie, LA 70005-1069. [9/5]

BUYING-SELLING U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usages, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, WestLawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Volunteer Opportunities

Three Georgia sub-sections have volunteer coordinators:

Georgia RPO markings:

Doug Clark

Spray Markings: Nancy Clark

1881-1899: Nonie Green

Still needed: Pre-adhesive * Confederate * Pre-UPU * Rural Free Delivery * Doane Postmarks * County and Postmaster Name Postmarks * Fancy Cancels * Ship Mail * HPO Markings * First Day of Issue * Flight Covers * Opening and Last Day P.O.s *

This is your society: help to colate the information on Georgia postal history. If you don't find any of the above listings in your selected areas, suggest your own collecting interest.

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Are YOU On the Internet?

In the interest of serving the Society's membership, the GPR will publish email addresses of Georgia Postal History Society members *who* wish to be listed. Please email the editor at nbc@cape.com if you wish to be included here.

Phil Bansner <pbansner@epix.net>
websiteaddresshttp://www.philbansner.com

Richard H. Byne <rhbcaps@flash.net>

Robert L. Pou <bob_pou@ucamp.com>

Ron Trosclair <rtrosclair@prodigy.net>

Aurarua, GA Update

We recieved a telephone call regarding the Aurarua, GA, Confederate-period cover which was illustrated in the March GPR. The authenticity of the marking is questioned by well known dealer, Molesworth. The 1990 opinion rendered by Alex Rendon that the cover shows a legitimate use is considered ill formed by Mr. Molesworth.

Don Tocher recently showcased this cover showing its certificate #12637, by Alex Rendon, Member A.I.E.P.

Congratulations, North Carolina!

We note with congratulations, and not a little envy, that North Carolina has successfully created a Postal History Commission as a formal part of the state. Under the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, the Commission has a state appropriation of \$35,000. Congratulations! It makes one wonder at the possibilitites for the creation of such a Commission in Georgia.

Study Plan: Georgia Postal History 1881 - 1899

New County Postmark

by Frank Crown

Illustrated below is a cover bearing an oval postmark of Copeland, GA, which includes the county name, Dodge. Such postmarks are relatively rare from Georgia towns. The Catalog of U. S. County and Postmaster Postmarks, edited by Kenneth L. Gilman and published in 1990, lists only 53 towns which used a county or postmaster postmark. Of those listed, only 22 are county postmarks.



Miss Josephine Cumming
Warthen
Washington Co., Georgia

Black "COPELAND, / Dodge Co., Ga" postmark in double oval dated 18 July 1883. The stamp is tied by a horizontal bar killer.

The Copeland county postmark is in a double oval with the outer oval being slightly heavier and serrated. The town name is in uppercase letters while the county and state are in upper and lowercase. This style is common to most Georgia towns which used oval county postmarks.

In an earlier edition of the county and postmaster catalog, Edith R. Doane noted that postmasters of fourth-class post offices did not receive postmarking devices from the Post Office Department. Therefore, they were free to select and pay for whatever postmarking device they desired. Several firms offered the postmaster and county postmarks.

by Nonie Green

My observations about Georgia postal history are:

- it has had little written about it
- it is a difficult area to explore
- access to covers is limited or not well known
- much material was destroyed during the Civil War
- fewer letters were written during the Reconstruction era

I find that locating history books about Georgia is a challenge, but the covers can come alive if you can tie them into history. See page 5 for an example of this phenomenon nbc

While I am new to the Georgia area, I do know about postal history and had an exhibit on Registry in the Champion of Champions section of STAMPSHOW '86. I am willing to try a sub-study group on the period 1881 through 1899. In so doing, it is necessary to cover all the bases available for those years. The following outline is my proposed action plan.

Photocopies of covers in this time period (1881 - 1889) with any special observations or questions should be sent to Nonie Green, 2401 Colorado, Avenue, San Angelo TX 76901-3713. I look forward to hearing from other members of the GPHS.

We will study the following phases connected with the covers copied and sent:

- postmarks - listing of towns/cities, size and style
- rates - those represented by material
- routes - when known
- handling of mail - registered, special delivery, postage due, auxiliary markings
- destinations
- stamp issues used

A compilation will be made of the submissions and sent to each person in the group with comments. Study group member remarks will be solicited. A copy of the packet

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and remarks will be furnished to the GPR editor and contents published at editor's discretion.

Any additions gleaned from further study or new material added will be done on a quarterly basis.

Please let Nonie know if you are willing to work as a member of the group.



Editor Soapbox

The formation of a study group for the time period 1881 - 1899 is an exciting step forward for the Society. As the article on page one shows, Nonie Green is a very organized and efficient student of postal history. We look forward to seeing the results of this committee's work.

In a National Postal Museum news release, we note that A. R. Bass of Appling, GA has designed an award winning rural mailbox. His mailbox is shaped, most appropriately, as a bass, with the mail opening in the fish's mouth. The rural mailbox also includes a fishing rod, reel and lure in its design. A photograph is currently on display in Washington, DC as part of the *Artful Mailbox Contest* display at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in honor of the Museum's fifth birthday celebration. The exhibition is open daily from 10 am to 5:30 pm and admission is free. Or go on by the real article if you can incorporate Appling in your travel plans.

The Georgia Postal History Annual Meeting is scheduled for 4 pm, Saturday, October 24, followed by the talk by Galen Harrison on Prison Mail from the American Civil War. Both opportunities are at the Classic Center in Athens, GA and are offered by Georgia's only APS World Series stamp show, Peach State Stamp Show '98.

This is the first issue of GPR to be written in *Microsoft Works* and is a new adventure for your editor. Let me know what you think of the new format. If you prefer the older approach, let me know. Thanks.

Georgia Postal History Society Officers

President	Douglas N. Clark P. O. Box 51 Lexington, GA 30648 dnc@alpha.math.uga.edu
Vice President	T. Lowrell Pierce 5997 Sardis Church Road Macon, GA 31206
Secretary-Treasurer	Frank J. Crown P. O. Box 98626 Tacoma, WA 98498 fcrown@telisphere.com
Editor	Nancy B. Z. Clark P. O. Box 451 Lexington, GA 30648 nbc@cape.com
Representatives to the GFSC	Douglas N. Clark Nancy B. Clark

G. & F. R. R. Trivia

by Ed Willis

In reviewing a railroad employees schedule and operations manual, circa 1923, from the Georgia and Florida Railroad, I found the following piece of trivia under the heading "Special Instructions:"

A-31 Agents will, upon receipt of new Time Table, notify postmaster at their station of any change in passenger trains, being particular to mention any new trains to be added.

Trading Post

Wanted Louisiana and other mid Gulf Coast states stampless/stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak St., Materiel, LA 70005-1069 [9-5]
Buying-Selling U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usage's, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Your ad belongs here! Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the *GPHS*, submit your copy to the editor today!

Green Savannah Star Postmark Discovered

by Frank Crown

In 1995 I wrote the first of two articles about the Savannah "star" postmark. The first I called the "Early Black Period," and the second I called the "Late Black Period."¹ The point of the article was that the Savannah star postmark is red with the exception of the two periods in which the color was switched to black. The sample of covers I examined over the years gave me great confidence in my conclusions.

Recently, I attended APS STAMPSHOW '98 in Santa Clara CA. After a day and a half of looking through dealers' covers it appeared that I was going to go home with a few nice covers but nothing to brag about. Then, halfway through my last day, while looking at a dealer's meager selection of Georgia covers, I came upon a green Savannah star postmark applied to an 1841 stampless cover!

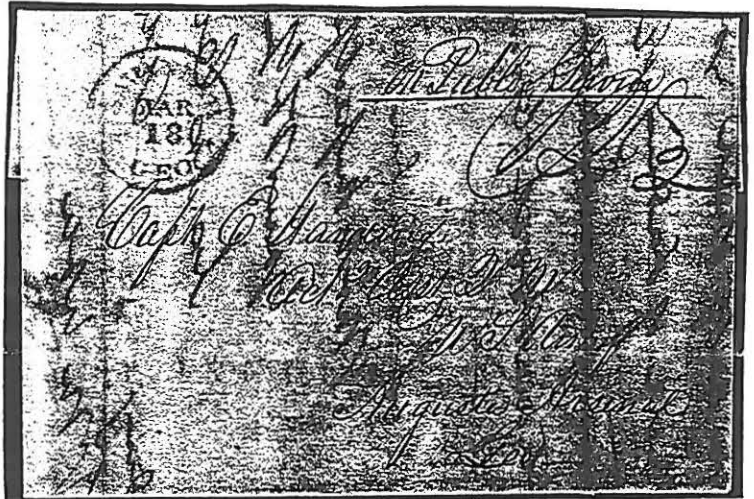
I couldn't believe it. After some thirty years of collecting Georgia covers and seeing nothing but red and an occasional black Savannah star postmarks I was now looking at the postmark in vivid green!

I had to have this postmark. It alone would make the trip a success. Unfortunately the dealer who owned the cover was away from his table and I was forced to bide my time. On his return we began to negotiate a price. After agreeing to combine the Savannah cover with a few other Georgia covers, a price was agreed upon. The green Savannah star postmark was mine.



The cover (illustrated below) clearly shows the postmark is dated 18 March. The folded letter is dated 1841. This puts the use square in the middle of the "early black period," October 1840 to April 1842. In fact the green postmark is bracketed by two black postmarks dated 12 March and 19 March 1841.

This single green postmark from a period in which black was the only previously recorded color suggested a color "changeling." Over the years I have examined many blue and red postmarks which show traces of another color, suggesting a color changeling. An examination of the green postmark under high magnification revealed no traces of any other color ink.



The addressee, a Captain E. Harding, was checked against a register of Army officers and an Edward Harding, with the rank of Captain in 1841, was found.² The Augusta Arsenal, to which the cover is addressed, was established in 1816.³ Thus there is nothing about the cover itself which would indicate it is not from the period indicated by the dated letter.

It appears that the Savannah star postmark in green ink is a new color variety; one which current evidence indicates was used for a very short period of time: no more than the six days from 13 to 18 March 1841.

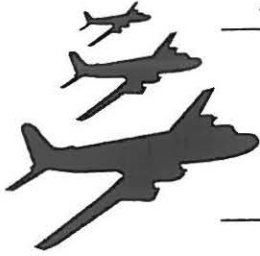
²Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, 1789 - 1903*, Vol. 1, Washington, D.C.:Government Printing Office, 1903; 500.

³"Georgia Historical Markers," Valdosta, GA: Bay Tree Grove Publishers, 1973; 411.

¹ Frank Crown, "The Savannah Star 'Early Black Period,'" *Georgia Post Roads*, 5 (March 1995); 1, 4-5; "The Savannah Star 'Late Black Period,'" *Georgia Post Roads*, 6 (May 1996); 1, 4-5.

Special Postmark Honors Georgian General Lucius Clay

Father of the Berlin Airlift, General Lucius Clay will be the honoree of Peach State this year. Mementos from his son's collection will be featured at the show and the postmark will illustrate aircraft of the Berlin Airlift and say "Berlin Airlift 50th Anniversary / GEN. LUCIUS CLAY STATION / OCT. [], 1998 / ATHENS GA 30614 / Lucius Clay Birth Centennial.



BERLIN AIRLIFT 50TH ANNIVERSARY

GEN. LUCIUS CLAY STATION
OCT. 23, 1998
ATHENS, GA 30601

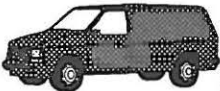
LUCIUS CLAY BIRTH CENTENNIAL

GPHS Meeting Site

A digital map, downloaded from the PSSS '98 website, is shown below.



For those GPHS members who are electronically connected, the website address is <http://dm.net/~edjackson/psss98.htm> The location of the show is the Classic Center, 300 N. Thomas Street.



From the EAST: Take U. S. 78 west to downtown Athens. At the light at Broad and Thomas streets (Main Street Bank) turn right. The Classic Center is the second group of buildings on your right.

From the WEST: Take I-85 north to Georgia 316 east. At the Athens Perimeter (Georgia Loop 10), exit right, heading south ("to UGA stadium"). Stay on Georgia Loop for 6 miles, exit at College Station Road. Go left at the bottom of the exit. At the third light, just past RR tracks, go right on East Campus Rd. In 2-3 miles, the road becomes Thomas St. After you cross Broad St., the Classic Center is the second large building on the right.

From the NORTH: Take U. S. 129 south to Prince Ave. GO east on Prince Ave. It will become Dougherty St. At the light at Thomas St. (Athens Welcome Center on right),

turn right. The Classic Center is on the left after the first light (Hancock St.)

From the SOUTH: Take U. S. 441 north. At Milledge Ave. light (Shell gas station on left), turn right. Go under the overpass then turn left onto the Athens Perimeter (U. S. 78 / Georgia Loop 10). Continue to the "Downtown Athens" (U. S. 78) exit. Head east (left) into town. At the light at Broad and Thomas streets (Main Street Bank), turn right. The Classic Center is the second group of buildings on your right.

See you there!



A Georgia - Texas Connection

by R. H. Stever, Editor, *Texas Postal History Society Journal*

One of the most famous men in the early days of Texas was Dr. James Harper Starr. He and his brother, Franklin Jefferson Starr, were born at New Hartford, CN, Franklin in 1805 and James in 1809. The family moved to Ohio, in 1814. They chose to settle in the Columbus area.

In April 1829 Franklin became a Regimental Adjutant of Ohio state troops. In early 1833 he was admitted to the Ohio bar. Later that year he moved to Georgia and by October he was admitted to the Georgia bar.

A group of Georgia citizens sent Starr and Amasa Spencer on an inspection tour of Texas in the fall of 1834. They returned in the spring of 1835. They reported on the agricultural potential but were critical of the onerous conditions imposed by the Mexican administration on non-Mexicans.

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James Harper Starr graduated from an academy at Worthington OH and subsequently taught school. In 1830 he became a medical student. After graduation he followed his brother to Georgia. He first practiced at McDonough, and later at Pleasant Grove, where he also served as Postmaster.

In August 1835 Franklin married Pamela Orme and moved to Texas. He and William Barrett Travis formed a law partnership at San Felipe.

With a Mexican army approaching, Travis took command of the Alamo in early 1836. Starr joined a volunteer company and marched to Gonzales. Later Starr obtained a furlough to move his family to Nacogdoches and, in the process took the Travis diary for safe keeping.

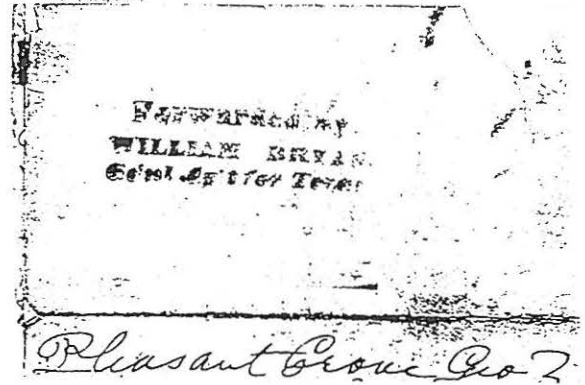
Texans gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos and issued their Declaration of Independence from Mexico 2 March 1836.

A week later Travis died at the Alamo. Fanin's command at Goliad, which included a Company of Georgians, were executed 27 March by order of Mexican President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, though they had surrendered on honorable terms to General Urrea.

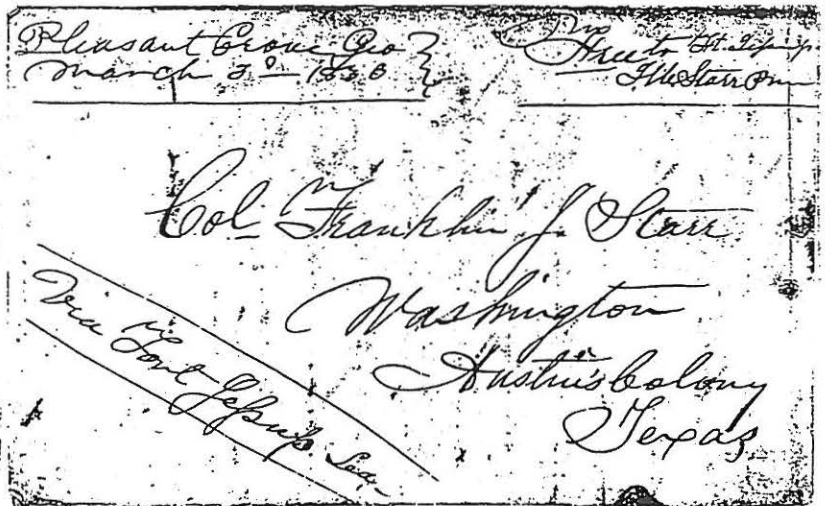
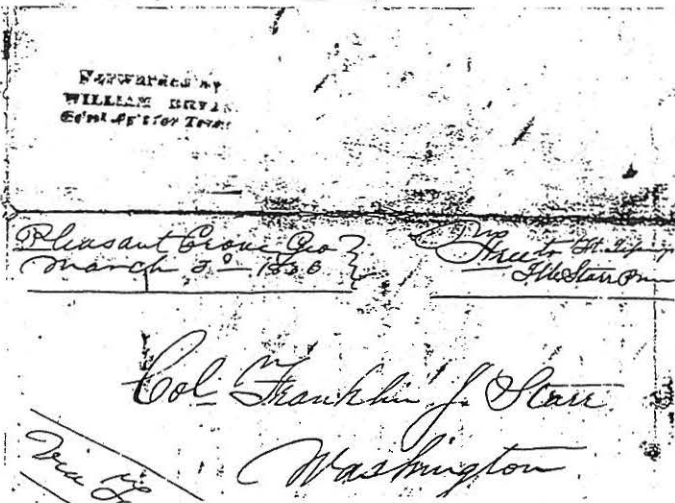
The Battle of San Jacinto took place 21 April 1836. Texas General Sam Houston defeated Santa Anna and captured him. The resultant withdrawal of Mexican armies south of the Rio Grande consolidated the Republic of Texas.

where it was handled by William Bryan, Texas forwarding agent in that city.

Bryan's service to Texas officially began on 2 March 1836 (Independence Day). He was officially fired on 24 May by President Sam Houston. He later served two more terms, but this short first term resulted in only a handful of covers with Bryan's three-line handstamp: five are known.



It reads "Forwarded by / WILLIAM BRYAN / Co'n'l Ag't for Texas".



The illustrated cover was posted at Pleasant Grove GA on 3 March 1836. It was sent "Free to Ft. Jessup" by Postmaster James H. Starr to his brother Colonel Franklin J. Starr at Washington TX. Postmasters enjoyed a free franking privilege at that time.

Although the letter was directed "Via Fort Jessup, La." it did not travel by that route. It went to New Orleans LA

This letter traveled free of postage the whole way. J. H. Starr's postmaster franking saved the U.S. charge, which would have been 25 cents, the rate for a single lettersheet for a distance of over 400 miles as determined by the Act of 3 March 1825. F. J. Starr, the Texas recipient, was a Texas official (colonel in the military service) William Bryan would have marked on the letter front Texas

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Republic postage of 6 1/4 cents ship rate (New Orleans to Galveston) plus Texas inland postage of 25 cents for between 100 and 200 miles, for a total of 31 1/4 cents.

Col. Franklin Starr died 7 July 1837 from a fever contracted as a result of forced marches and exposure chasing Indians on the Texas frontier.

Dr. James Starr moved, with his wife Harriet Johnson Starr, moved from Georgia to Texas in January 1837. President Sam Houston selected him for service with the General Land Office. He was very efficient.

Mirabeau B. Lamar, the second President, was another Georgian who had emigrated to Texas. He appointed Dr. Starr Secretary of the Treasury 25 May 1839.

Students of Confederate philately will recognize Dr. Starr's name. On 12 March 1864 Confederate Postmaster General John Reagan appointed Dr. Starr Postal Agent for the Trans-Mississippi West, headquartered at Marshall TX.

Dr. James Starr's public career ended with the surrender of the Southern armies. The latter part of his life was spent at Marshall helping Texas citizens with land problems. He died 15 July 1890.

References

ter Braake, Alex, *Texas: The Drama of its Postal Past*, American Philatelic Society, Sate College PA, 1970

The Handbook of Texas, Vol. II, The Texas State Historical Association, Austin TX, 1952

Postage Rates 1789-1930, United States Post Office Department, reprinted by Virginia Postal History Society, Richmond VA, 1982.

Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

It never ceases to amaze me how really intriguing and interesting our hobby is. I was never a fan of first day covers. These modern philatelic products just don't appeal to me. I cannot criticize anyone for collecting their area of interest, but first day covers are not on my plate.

Recently I received a letter from a collector inquiring about a cachet made for the first day of the Oglethorpe stamp in 1933. I did not know the answer, but his question prompted me to spend some time at the APS show in Santa Clara looking at Oglethorpe first day covers. I was surprised when one dealer handed me a large handful of the covers and every one bore a different cachet. As if this were not enough, the prices on some of them were unbelievable: more than \$100.00!

If this were a more recent stamp, I could understand the great variety as many firms are in the business of producing these covers in great quantities. However the Oglethorpe stamp was issued only ten years after George Linn's first day cover cachet was prepared. This was before there was a special "First Day of Issue" cancel.



Further investigation revealed another interesting facet of the Oglethorpe issue: "second day" cacheted covers, prepared for cities other than the first day city of Savannah GA.

A quick look at the Scott Catalog revealed a few more surprises. There is an entry for "P# block of 10, CS" and a second entry for "Bottom margin block of 20, no P#."

I haven't taken up first day cover collecting as a result of looking at the Oglethorpe first day covers. However I now am convinced collecting the Oglethorpe stamp, including those on cached first day covers, is an interesting sideline worthy of pursuit.

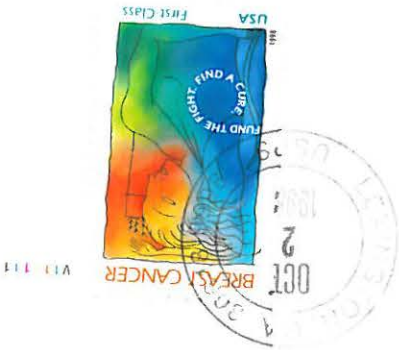
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Are you a collector of Georgia postal history? Are you interested in Georgia postal history? Are you just interested in Georgia history? If your answer is yes to any of the above you need to give some thought to joining the Georgia Postal History Society.

The Georgia Postal History Society is devoted to the study of all aspects of Georgia postal history. This includes the pre-stamp or stampless period that goes back to the late 1700s, the Confederate period, fancy cancels, machine postmarks, RFD markings, railroad markings, flight covers, first days, last days, use of a particular stamp on covers from Georgia and just about anything else you can think of that mixes stamp collecting and Georgia. Basically there is something for everyone.

Benefits of membership include a bi-monthly newsletter, Georgia Post Roads, featuring articles on various aspects of Georgia postal history. In addition, you have the benefit of meeting and corresponding with other members of the society, many of whom are recognized experts in their Georgia postal history specialty.

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Francis J. Crown, Jr. (99)
P.O. Box 98626
Tacoma, WA 98498-0626

Nancy B. Clark, Editor



Georgia Post Roads
Post Office Box 451
Lexington, GA 30648

Georgia Post Roads Vol.8, No.9; Vol.9, No.1

Georgia Post Roads Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society * ISSN 1099-0372 * A.P.S. Chapter 224
Volume No. 8 Issue No. 9 November - December 1998
Volume No. 9 Issue No. 1 January - February 1999

Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

The "Editor's Soapbox" column on page two of the May 1998 issue of GPR illustrated a Confederate cover bearing a single and strip of four of Scott #8 postmarked Auraria, Georgia. The July issuer of GPR contains a short note on page six advising that Jack Molesworth questioned the legitimacy of the cover. The illustration of the cover and its accompanying certificate of authenticity were posted on the Internet as late as 18 October and may still be there when you receive this issue. (Go to www.postalnet.com/portfolios/dontocher and scroll down to "c csa 001x").

There are several details about this cover which did not come out when it was previously mentioned in GPR. First is the Certificate of Authenticity, which is dated 8 June 1990, with certificate number 12687. The certificate bears the letterhead of Alex Rendon, member Association Internationale des Experts Philateliques (AIEP) and is signed by Mr. Rendon. The certificate included the following statement:

"CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. General Issues 1863 (April) 2¢ red brown (Scott #8), single and strip of 4 (second stamp from right has vertical crease) lightly tied to cover mailed within Georgia, reduced picture below, is in my opinion genuine."

I am not familiar with the AIEP, but find it very curious that the certificate states "in my opinion." Did anyone else examine this cover? Apparently not from the verbiage. A cover of the potential value of this one certainly deserves more scrutiny than that provided by one individual. Personally, I would be much more comfortable with a certificate from the Confederate Stamp Alliance or the Philatelic Foundation. As for Mr. Rendon, I do not find him listed as a member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance in the latest membership directory. While not a prerequisite

for authenticating Confederate material, membership in the society would certainly add to his credentials.

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A Cover to Ponder

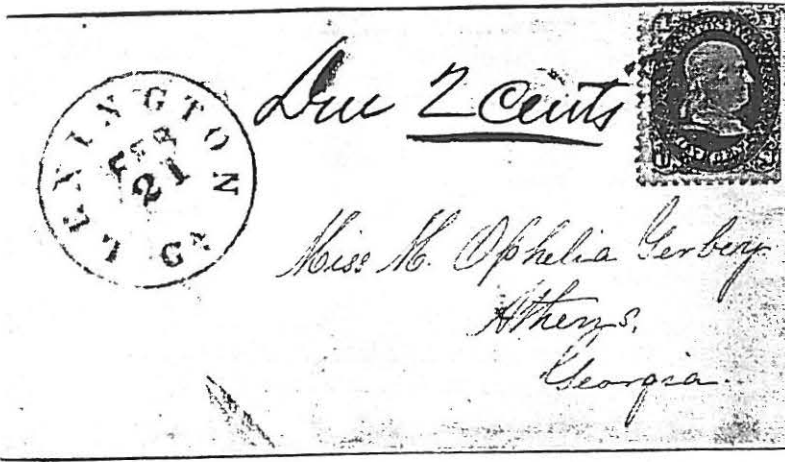


Figure 1. One cent blue Franklin stamp of the 1861 issue tied by faded black "PAID" handstamp on cover with faded black "LEXINGTON / GA" postmark. Manuscript "Due 2 cents" added to indicate the postage due on the letter to Athens GA

The cover illustrated above is unusual and interesting for several different reasons. The most obvious is the use of the 1861 one cent blue Franklin on a cover from Georgia.

Another unusual feature of the cover is the use of the Lexington postmark from the Confederate period. Several years ago *GPR* carried an article on the use of Confederate period postmarks during the Reconstruction period.¹ The article concluded that the use of Confederate postmarks during this time, while not common, was not extremely rare either.



Figure 2. Enlargement of the "PAID" marking with the blue color of the stamp filtered out.

The most significant feature is the cancellation which ties the stamp. It is a faded black straightline "PAID" marking.

¹Frank Crown, "Reconstruction Postal History," *GPR* 3(1), Jan 1993: 5

This marking is of Confederate origin and was used on handstamped paid covers of that period. Of what significance, if any, is the use of the "PAID" marking on this cover?

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Maine Entrepreneurs in Georgia

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While the following is more "social" than postal history, the letter content is sufficiently entertaining to find inclusion in this issue of *GPR*.

Bearing a 19 July 1898 postmark reading "CH'CK'MAUGA / NATL PARK / GA" the patriotic cover went to Norway Lake ME and bears two 21 July receipt marks.

It is written by Ervin A. Blair to his aunt, Ellen Crockett, while he is on guard duty. Blair was in Company D, 1st Maine Regiment, 74th Volunteers. His spelling skills do

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RETURN TO
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 74 VOLUNTEERS
 Fort Howard

*Mr. Greenbrieth
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Figure 1. Chickamauga National Park 1898 postmark on cover to Norway Lake ME which has been carefully opened by cutting through the stamp!

He and his friend Guy are making a tidy profit on an initial \$35.00 investment.

Guy and I have put up a little shanty and have got permit to sell ice cream in it between drill. We have our ice cream come from a hole sale store in Chaotaneuga, 9 miles from the camp grounds. Friday was the first day that we started to sell ainy. So we only orded 30 gal to be sent to us. We sold out those 30 gal inside of 2 ours and made a profit of \$15.00 beside paying all expenses and the cost of puting up the shanty. Sat. we had 60 Gal. come up, and we sold them out in 3 ours. Profits \$50.00 expense \$4.00 net gain of \$46.00. We have 2 men to work for us... We are going to have 80 gal come Mon....

The scene he paints of a hundred years ago is not very changed from a current scene where ice cream and frozen yogurt are sold in northern GA in July:

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GPR is mailed to all members as well as several non-dues-paying organizations and individuals. Complimentary copies are mailed to the APS and the affiliate representative pre the terms of our affiliation with the APS. Complimentary copies are also mailed to the University of Texas at Dallas Library, which maintains a large philatelic library, the *Linn's* state postal history editor and Richard Graham, a *Linn's* columnist. Copies to the last two have resulted in significant publicity for the society.

Balance 31 Oct 1997	\$1,727.81
Income	
Advertising	16.00
Dues	308.50
Expenses	
Dues to GFSC	25.00
<i>GPR</i> printing and postage	175.42
Misc. postage	12.40

Balance 19 Oct 1998 \$1,839.49

Respectfully submitted by Frank Crown

page 4

Bethlehem GA Swamped by Holiday Mail

by Erik Tryggestad

Excerpt from the Athens Banner-Herald, 20 Dec 98

Every year the post office of this (Bethlehem GA) small Barrow County town is swamped with mail.

It seems that having a postmark that shares the name of the town where Jesus was born makes letters somewhat "sacred," or at least adds to the holiday spirit.

Last year the U.S. Postal Service at Bethlehem handled 110,000 pieces of mail between Thanksgiving and Christmas, said Postmaster Dru Evans. Not bad for a town of about 550 people, with about 2,500 living in the post office's delivery area.

During the year the post office manually handles 400-500 pieces of mail each day, Evans said. After Thanksgiving it jumps to 6,000-7,000 pieces of mail each day.

It's a lot of work for Evans and one part-time worker, who moves to full-time status during the holidays to help handle the load. The office also employs three mail carriers who stay busy getting the Bethlehem-postmarked mail out at this time of year, Evans said.

In addition to the sought-after Bethlehem postmark, the post office also has a special Christmas stamp the reads "Christmas greetings from Bethlehem" and features a picture of three wise men, Evans said.



Jeff Blake/Photo staff

Figure 1. Cover bearing the Bethlehem GA postmark and handstamp of three wise men following a star.

Trading Post

Wanted Louisiana and other mid Gulf Coast states stampless/stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Troclair, 1713 Live Oak St., Materiel, LA 70005-1069 [9-5] Buying-Selling U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usage's, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Your ad belongs here! Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the *GPHS*, submit your copy to the editor today!

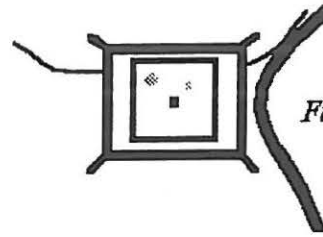
Fort Mose Postmark

The University of Georgia Museum of Natural History will host a traveling exhibit from the Florida Museum of Natural History entitled "Fort Mose: Colonial America's Black Fortress of Freedom." The exhibition will be displayed at the Hill Atrium of the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education from January 19 through March 1, 1999.

More than 250 years ago, African-born slaves escaped from English Carolina and Georgia and took refuge near Spanish St. Augustine. Here they were given sanctuary if they converted to Catholicism. They formed America's first legally-sanctioned free-black community when the governor of Florida established the fort and community of Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose.

The U.S. Postal Service in Athens is offering a special Fort Mose postmark which will be available for the length of the exhibit. It shows an outline of the first earth-berm fort with indications of the road that ran to and through it from St. Augustine and the tidal creek which bordered it, Robinson Creek. Those wishing to receive the postmark may visit the exhibit January 19 between 10 and 2 or send to the Postmaster, Athens GA 30602-9998. The Athens Philatelic Society is printing a cachet envelope for the event, which may be purchased from them for \$1.50 and a SASE. The editor will forward requests to the Athens club.

University of Georgia Museum of Natural History Station



FORT MOSE
1736 - 1763

First Free Black Settlement

Athens Georgia 30602
January 19 - March 1, 1999

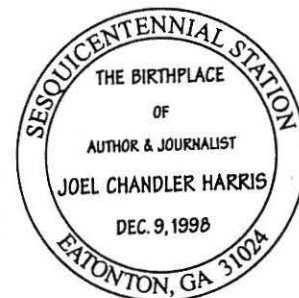
Florida Museum of Natural History Travelling Exhibit

Note: each GPHS member has a copy of this postmark on this issue of GPR.

Eatonton Celebrates 150th Birthday of Joel Chandler Harris

As part of Eatonton's celebration of Joel Chandler Harris' 150th birthday, the Putman County post office is offering a special cancellation featuring Br'er Rabbit.

Created by Keith Winsell of Greensboro and Andy Kennedy, co-owner of Briarpatch Office Products, the cancellation, which became available starting 9 Dec 1998, was originally scheduled to end 8 January 1999. However, at the 12 Jan 99 meeting of the Athens Philatelic Society, Keith Winsell announced that there has been an extension. The Eatonton Post Office will continue to use the postmark through 7 Feb 1999. Because of the current USPS policy of making a postmark available for 30 days after its official "last" day, you can receive the postmark, by mail, until early March by writing the Postmaster, Eatonton GA 31024-9998.



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In the introduction to the 1982 Penguin edition of *Uncle Remus: His Songs and His Sayings*, Robert Hemenway refers to Br'er Rabbit as "the briar patch representative of a people living by there wits to make a way out of no way...If their minds could not have identified with Brer Rabbit's assaults, with his violence, they might have actually become the Sambo figures whites wanted them to be." Shown above in the 150th celebration postmark.

The first is a backward "N" carved into a cork killer (figure 1), used on the northern part of the route. In addition to the killers, the cover is unusual as it is addressed abroad (to Brussels, Belgium). I have noticed, as I am sure most Georgia collectors have, the scarcity of covers addressed abroad from this mostly rural state in the nineteenth century.

Railroads of Georgia

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers *continued from GPR Vol. 8 No. 5, September 1998*

by Doug Clark

This is a continuation of a series of articles about fancy killers used on railroads in Georgia.

The railroad route considered here runs from Charleston SC to Jacksonville FL via Savannah GA. The railroads involved were Savannah & Charleston R. R., Savannah, Florida & Western R. R. (Savannah to Pensacola FL), and Jacksonville, Pensacola & Mobile R. R. (Pensacola to Jacksonville).

I have noticed two fancy killers on this route, both recorded late in 1880.

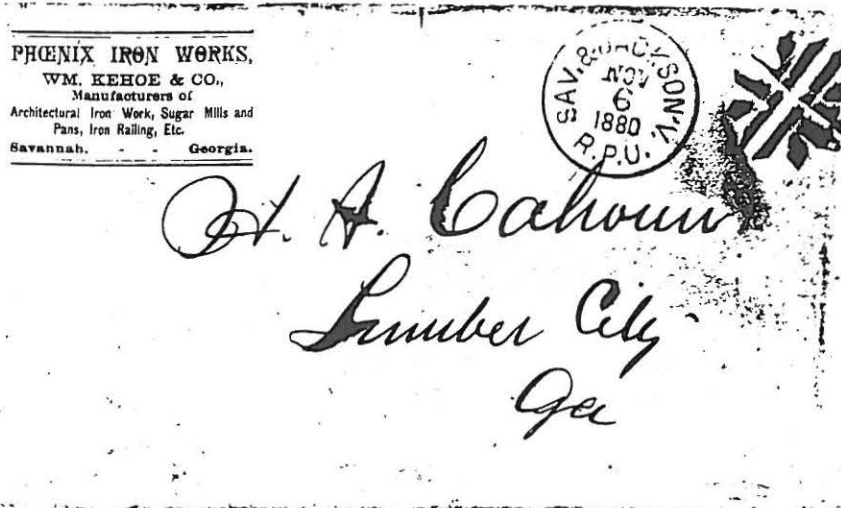


Figure 2. Savannah & Jacksonville R.P.O. with "crossroads" geometric killer applied despite the lack of an adhesive.

The second cover (figure 2) is from the southern part of the route. The "SAV. & JACKSONV. R.P.O." postmark has a killer which consists of an intricate geometric design. It is a fancy cancel collector's dream in that the killer is struck completely clear of any stamps and so is strikingly vivid.

Indeed, this cover has no stamp at all, and I have no idea why not. It has no evidence of postage, front or back, and no sign of postage due being charged! I suppose it is an error; an error perpetuated by all the postal employees through whose hands the cover passed. Quite unusual for the nineteenth century, although a fairly common occurrence today.

Cracker Covers

by Frank Crown

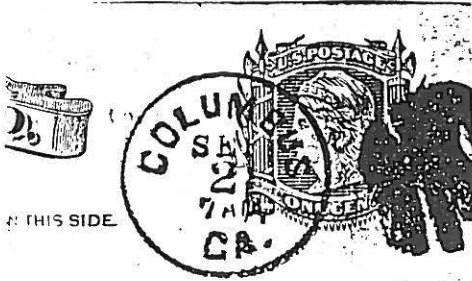
The "Georgia Rambler" column in the last issue mentioned first day covers bearing the Oglethorpe stamp (Scott (continued on page 8)



Figure 1. Negative backward "N" on cover from Georgia to Belgium. page 6

STUDY GROUP: Georgia Postal History 1881-1899

The following postmarks of Columbus, Georgia represent a good variety from that city during a period of 1882 to 1894. An assortment of stamps and postal stationery items were used to frank the correspondence.



1882 black 27 mm cds on postal card issue of 1881.



1883 black 27 mm cds 2¢ Bank-note issue of 1879 pays 1/2 oz. rate introduced only three days earlier on Oct. 1.



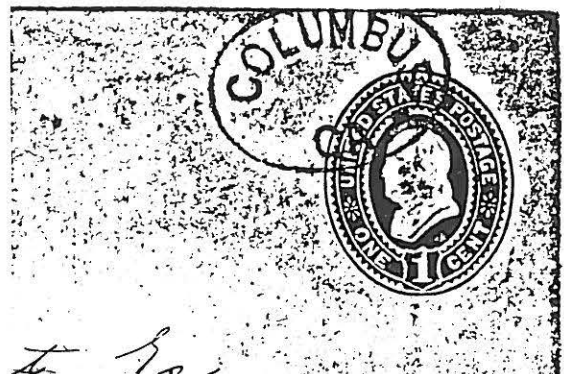
Black 27 mm cds circa 1885 franked with 2¢ brown Bank-note issue of 1883. Negative "X" killer.



1886 black 27 mm cds on 2¢ brown entire of 1884-86 issue. In 1885 the weight of a 2¢ letter was raised to 1 oz.



1887 black 27 mm cds that now includes the year date which first appeared in Columbus postmarks in 1886.



1889 black 31 mm oval postmark on 1¢ blue entire of 1887-94 issue that pays the circular rate. It has a Germany receiving mark not often seen on this class of mail.

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(continued from page 6 Cracker Covers)
#726). Herewith are illustrations of first day covers with two of the more than 50 known cachets.



Figure 1. Oglethorpe first day cover with the black Savannah machine cancel. The cachet is red-brown



Figure 2. Block of four first day cover with a black Savannah handstamped postmark and duplex killer. The cachet is black and orange.

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Georgia Post Roads
Post Office Box 451
Lexington, GA 30648



Nancy B. Clark, Editor

Georgia Post Roads Vol.8, No.9; Vol.9, No.1

Georgia Post Roads Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society * ISSN 1099-0372 * A.P.S. Chapter 224
Volume No. 8 Issue No. 9 November - December 1998
Volume No. 9 Issue No. 1 January - February 1999

Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

The "Editor's Soapbox" column on page two of the May 1998 issue of GPR illustrated a Confederate cover bearing a single and strip of four of Scott #8 postmarked Auraria, Georgia. The July issuer of GPR contains a short note on page six advising that Jack Molesworth questioned the legitimacy of the cover. The illustration of the cover and its accompanying certificate of authenticity were posted on the Internet as late as 18 October and may still be there when you receive this issue. (Go to www.postalnet.com/portfolios/dontocher and scroll down to "c csa 001x").

There are several details about this cover which did not come out when it was previously mentioned in GPR. First is the Certificate of Authenticity, which is dated 8 June 1990, with certificate number 12687. The certificate bears the letterhead of Alex Rendon, member Association Internationale des Experts Philateliques (AIEP) and is signed by Mr. Rendon. The certificate included the following statement:

"CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. General Issues 1863 (April) 2¢ red brown (Scott #8), single and strip of 4 (second stamp from right has vertical crease) lightly tied to cover mailed within Georgia, reduced picture below, is in my opinion genuine."

I am not familiar with the AIEP, but find it very curious that the certificate states "in my opinion." Did anyone else examine this cover? Apparently not from the verbiage. A cover of the potential value of this one certainly deserves more scrutiny than that provided by one individual. Personally, I would be much more comfortable with a certificate from the Confederate Stamp Alliance or the Philatelic Foundation. As for Mr. Rendon, I do not find him listed as a member of the Confederate Stamp Alliance in the latest membership directory. While not a prerequisite

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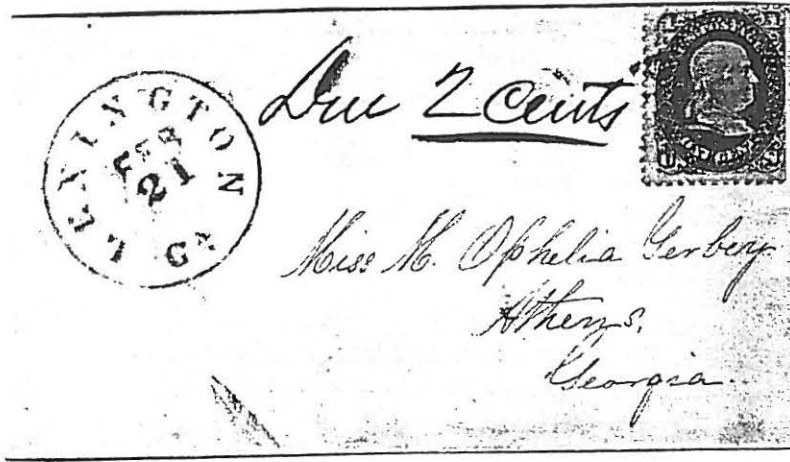


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Dues receipts for 1999 are projected at approximately \$150 - \$200. Approximately \$10 - \$30 in advertisement revenue is also projected.

Membership in the Society was rather stable over the past year. Two members were dropped for non-payment of dues and three new members added for a net gain of one.

GPR is mailed to all members as well as several non-dues-paying organizations and individuals. Complimentary copies are mailed to the APS and the affiliate representative pre the terms of our affiliation with the APS. Complimentary copies are also mailed to the University of Texas at Dallas Library, which maintains a large philatelic library, the *Linn's* state postal history editor and Richard Graham, a *Linn's* columnist. Copies to the last two have resulted in significant publicity for the society.

Balance 31 Oct 1997	\$1,727.81
Income	
Advertising	16.00
Dues	308.50
Expenses	
Dues to GFSC	25.00
<i>GPR</i> printing and postage	175.42
Misc. postage	12.40

Balance 19 Oct 1998 \$1,839.49

Respectfully submitted by Frank Crown

page 4

Bethlehem GA Swamped by Holiday Mail

by Erik Tryggestad

Excerpt from the Athens Banner-Herald, 20 Dec 98

Every year the post office of this (Bethlehem GA) small Barrow County town is swamped with mail.

It seems that having a postmark that shares the name of the town where Jesus was born makes letters somewhat "sacred," or at least adds to the holiday spirit.

Last year the U.S. Postal Service at Bethlehem handled 110,000 pieces of mail between Thanksgiving and Christmas, said Postmaster Dru Evans. Not bad for a town of about 550 people, with about 2,500 living in the post office's delivery area.

During the year the post office manually handles 400-500 pieces of mail each day, Evans said. After Thanksgiving it jumps to 6,000-7,000 pieces of mail each day.

It's a lot of work for Evans and one part-time worker, who moves to full-time status during the holidays to help handle the load. The office also employs three mail carriers who stay busy getting the Bethlehem-postmarked mail out at this time of year, Evans said.

In addition to the sought-after Bethlehem postmark, the post office also has a special Christmas stamp the reads "Christmas greetings from Bethlehem" and features a picture of three wise men, Evans said.



Jeff Blake/Photo staff

Figure 1. Cover bearing the Bethlehem GA postmark and handstamp of three wise men following a star.

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Trading Post

Wanted Louisiana and other mid Gulf Coast states stampless/stamped postal history (folded letters, covers, stationary, etc., 1790-1917. Ron Trosclair, 1713 Live Oak St., Materiel, LA 70005-1069 [9-5]
 Buying-Selling U.S. postal history. Stampless, stamped, towns, usage's, destinations, advertising. How can I help? Phil Bansner, Box 2529, West Lawn, PA 19609 (610)678-5000. [9/6]

Your ad belongs here! Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the *GPHS*, submit your copy to the editor today!

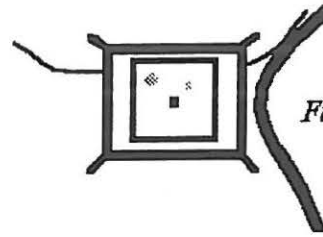
Fort Mose Postmark

The University of Georgia Museum of Natural History will host a traveling exhibit from the Florida Museum of Natural History entitled "Fort Mose: Colonial America's Black Fortress of Freedom." The exhibition will be displayed at the Hill Atrium of the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education from January 19 through March 1, 1999.

More than 250 years ago, African-born slaves escaped from English Carolina and Georgia and took refuge near Spanish St. Augustine. Here they were given sanctuary if they converted to Catholicism. They formed America's first legally-sanctioned free-black community when the governor of Florida established the fort and community of Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose.

The U.S. Postal Service in Athens is offering a special Fort Mose postmark which will be available for the length of the exhibit. It shows an outline of the first earth-berm fort with indications of the road that ran to and through it from St. Augustine and the tidal creek which bordered it, Robinson Creek. Those wishing to receive the postmark may visit the exhibit January 19 between 10 and 2 or send to the Postmaster, Athens GA 30602-9998. The Athens Philatelic Society is printing a cachet envelope for the event, which may be purchased from them for \$1.50 and a SASE. The editor will forward requests to the Athens club.

University of Georgia Museum of Natural History Station



FORT MOSE
1736 - 1763

First Free Black Settlement

Athens Georgia 30602
January 19 - March 1, 1999

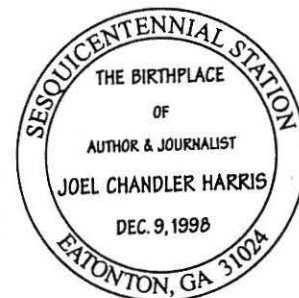
Florida Museum of Natural History Travelling Exhibit

Note: each *GPHS* member has a copy of this postmark on this issue of *GPR*.

Eatonton Celebrates 150th Birthday of Joel Chandler Harris

As part of Eatonton's celebration of Joel Chandler Harris' 150th birthday, the Putman County post office is offering a special cancellation featuring Br'er Rabbit.

Created by Keith Winsell of Greensboro and Andy Kennedy, co-owner of Briarpatch Office Products, the cancellation, which became available starting 9 Dec 1998, was originally scheduled to end 8 January 1999. However, at the 12 Jan 99 meeting of the Athens Philatelic Society, Keith Winsell announced that there has been an extension. The Eatonton Post Office will continue to use the postmark through 7 Feb 1999. Because of the current USPS policy of making a postmark available for 30 days after its official "last" day, you can receive the postmark, by mail, until early March by writing the Postmaster, Eatonton GA 31024-9998.



Georgia Post Roads Vol.8, No.6; Vol.9, No.1

In the introduction to the 1982 Penguin edition of *Uncle Remus: His Songs and His Sayings*, Robert Hemenway refers to Br'er Rabbit as "the briar patch representative of a people living by there wits to make a way out of no way...If their minds could not have identified with Brer Rabbit's assaults, with his violence, they might have actually become the Sambo figures whites wanted them to be." Shown above in the 150th celebration postmark.

The first is a backward "N" carved into a cork killer (figure 1), used on the northern part of the route. In addition to the killers, the cover is unusual as it is addressed abroad (to Brussels, Belgium). I have noticed, as I am sure most Georgia collectors have, the scarcity of covers addressed abroad from this mostly rural state in the nineteenth century.

Railroads of Georgia

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers *continued from GPR Vol. 8 No. 5, September 1998*

by Doug Clark

This is a continuation of a series of articles about fancy killers used on railroads in Georgia.

The railroad route considered here runs from Charleston SC to Jacksonville FL via Savannah GA. The railroads involved were Savannah & Charleston R. R., Savannah, Florida & Western R. R. (Savannah to Pensacola FL), and Jacksonville, Pensacola & Mobile R. R. (Pensacola to Jacksonville).

I have noticed two fancy killers on this route, both recorded late in 1880.

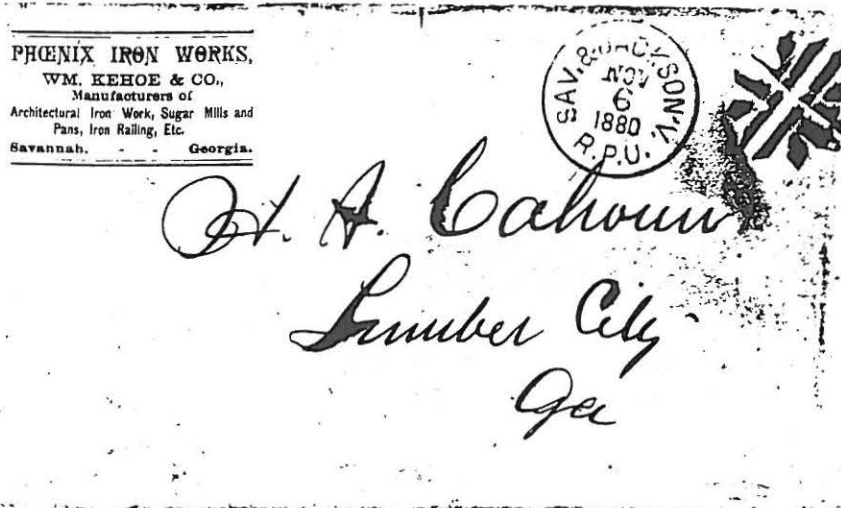


Figure 2. Savannah & Jacksonville R.P.O. with "crossroads" geometric killer applied despite the lack of an adhesive.

The second cover (figure 2) is from the southern part of the route. The "SAV. & JACKSONV. R.P.O." postmark has a killer which consists of an intricate geometric design. It is a fancy cancel collector's dream in that the killer is struck completely clear of any stamps and so is strikingly vivid.

Indeed, this cover has no stamp at all, and I have no idea why not. It has no evidence of postage, front or back, and no sign of postage due being charged! I suppose it is an error; an error perpetuated by all the postal employees through whose hands the cover passed. Quite unusual for the nineteenth century, although a fairly common occurrence today.

Cracker Covers

by Frank Crown

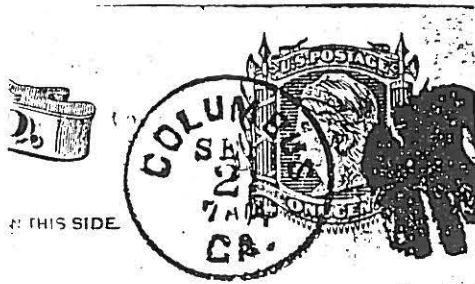
The "Georgia Rambler" column in the last issue mentioned first day covers bearing the Oglethorpe stamp (Scott (continued on page 8))



Figure 1. Negative backward "N" on cover from Georgia to Belgium. page 6

STUDY GROUP: Georgia Postal History 1881-1899

The following postmarks of Columbus, Georgia represent a good variety from that city during a period of 1882 to 1894. An assortment of stamps and postal stationery items were used to frank the correspondence.



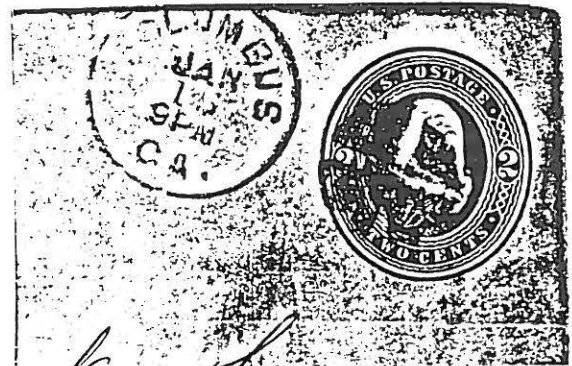
1882 black 27 mm cds on postal card issue of 1881.



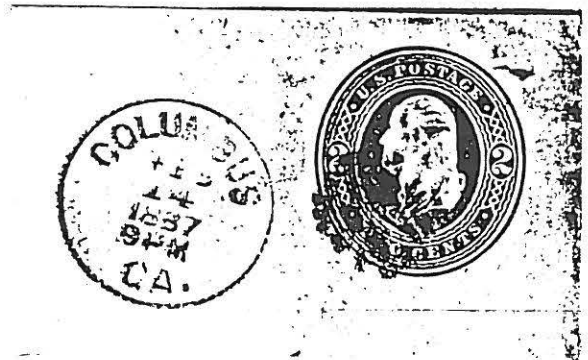
1883 black 27 mm cds 2¢ Bank-note issue of 1879 pays 1/2 oz. rate introduced only three days earlier on Oct. 1.



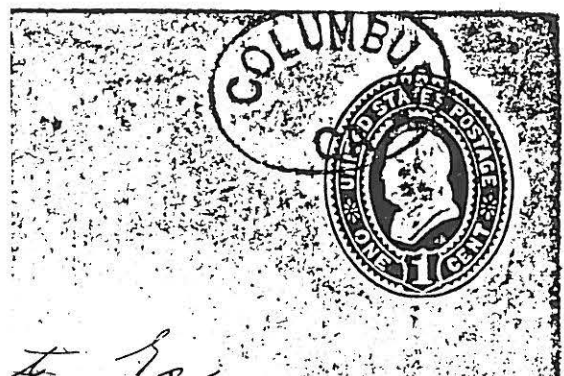
Black 27 mm cds circa 1885 franked with 2¢ brown Bank-note issue of 1883. Negative "X" killer.



1886 black 27 mm cds on 2¢ brown entire of 1884-86 issue. In 1885 the weight of a 2¢ letter was raised to 1 oz.



1887 black 27 mm cds that now includes the year date which first appeared in Columbus postmarks in 1886.



1889 black 31 mm oval postmark on 1¢ blue entire of 1887-94 issue that pays the circular rate. It has a Germany receiving mark not often seen on this class of mail.

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(continued from page 6 Cracker Covers)
#726). Herewith are illustrations of first day covers with two of the more than 50 known cachets.



Figure 1. Oglethorpe first day cover with the black Savannah machine cancel. The cachet is red-brown



Figure 2. Block of four first day cover with a black Savannah handstamped postmark and duplex killer. The cachet is black and orange.

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Georgia Post Roads
Post Office Box 451
Lexington, GA 30648



Nancy B. Clark, Editor

Georgia Post Roads Journal of the Georgia Postal History Society * ISSN 1099-0372 * A.P.S. Chapter 224
Volume No. 9 Issue No. 2 March - April 1999

Early Savannah Duplex

by Roger D. Curran

One of the most important steps in the evolution of postmarking practices in the US was the adoption of duplex handstamps that made the canceling device operate as a unit with a killer. The precipitating factor for this development was a Post Office Department regulation of 23 July 1860, prohibiting use of the CDS as an obliterator of stamps, requiring instead the use of a "distinct canceller" for that purpose. This had a tremendous impact because it affected such a widespread practice. Carroll Chase, the great student of the 3 cent 1851 and 1857 issue stamps, estimated that two-thirds of the 3 cent 1851-57 stamps, apart from stamps with manuscript cancellations, are found with the CDS as the canceller.¹

not surprising that some of the larger, busier post offices were the first to seize on the virtues of the duplex handstamp. New York began using duplex handstamps at least as early as 8 August 1860², Cleveland³ and Cincinnati⁴ by at least 17 August 1860 and Chicago by at least 27 September 1860.⁵

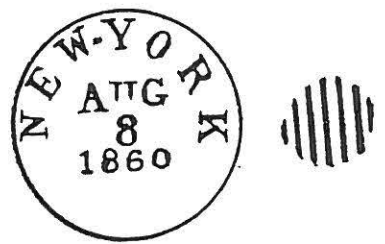


Figure 2. Arthur Bond's tracing of a New York 8 August 1860 duplex postmark.

Another post office that quickly employed duplexes was that of Savannah GA, with an early date reported by Dick Graham of 23 October 1860.⁶ A cover dated 25 October 1860 is illustrated as Figure 1.

The purpose of the present article is to seek additional information on the transition of the Savannah post office to using duplex handstamps. In that connection, several questions are raised for the consideration of GPR readers. The author assumes that the Savannah post office was using the CDS as a canceller at the time of the 23 July 1860 regulation. I further assume that it would take several days after July 23rd for the regulation to be sent out, received and read by the Savannah (and other) postmasters.

The first question is how late after 23 July 1860 are Savannah covers known where the CDS was employed as the obliterator?

Savannah Duplex continued page 3

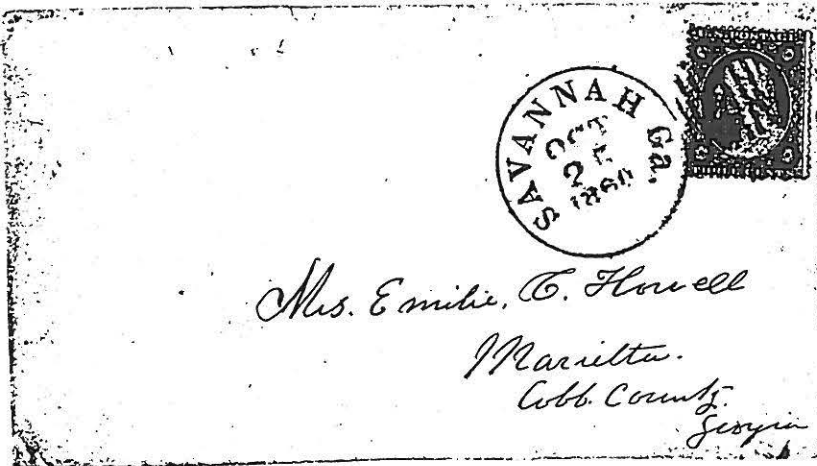


Figure 1. Savannah GA duplex, currently thought to be on the third day of use: 25 October 1860.

Since employing two handstamps to accomplish what one had previously done essentially doubled the workload, it is

¹Carroll Chase, *The 3 cent Stamp of the United States 1851-1857 Issue*, revised Quarterman Publications, Inc., 1975, p. 334.

²Arthur Bond, "Time-saving Duplex Handstamp; Its Invention, Use and Manufacture," *Postal History Journal*, Vol. VII, No. 1, June 1963, pp. 59-63.

³Thomas F. Allen (editor), *19th Century Cleveland Ohio Postal Markings*, The Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Inc., 1991, p. 31.

⁴Roger Curran, "New Early Date- Cincinnati Duplex," *U.S. Cancellation Club News*, Spring 1998, p. 31.

⁵Roger Curran (editor), "Early Duplexes-Chicago," reporting findings of Leonard Piszkiwicz, *U.S. Cancellation Club News*, Summer 1998, p. 45-6.

⁶Richard B. Graham, "The Savannah, Georgia, Duplexed Handstamp of 1860-61," *The Chronicle of the US Classic Postal Issues*, Vol. 44, No. 1 (February 1992), pp. 20-22.

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Second Green Savannah Star Die Surfaces

by Frank Crown

The September-October issue of *Georgia Post Roads* announced the discovery of a Savannah star die postmark in green.¹ As it turns out, this was not technically correct. Roy Delafosse actually found a green star die postmark earlier. Roy's cover, illustrated below, is a folded printed "prices current" dated March 1841. Although this was a circular, the sender wrote a note on a blank portion of the circular and the higher letter-rate postage was charged.

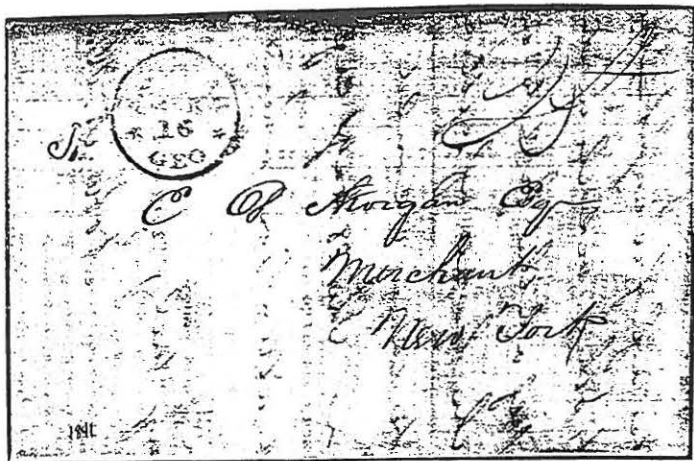


Figure 1. Green SAVANNAH/ "GEO" postmark dated MAR 16 and rated "25" on a prices current dated March 1841.

This new cover confirms the use of green ink by the Savannah post office. It also confirms March 1841 as the period of use. The earlier article announcing the discovery of the green postmark gave the estimated period of use as the six days between 12 and 19 March 1841. Surprisingly this cover, dated 14 March 1841, falls right in the middle of this period!

Now that the two green star die postmarks have come to light one wonders, is another waiting to come out of hiding?

¹Frank Crown, "Green Savannah Star Postmark Discovered," *Georgia Post Roads*, Sept-Oct 1998, 8:5, p. 4.

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New Ringgold Postmark Found

by Frank Crown

Recently I received a letter from McCary Ballard containing photocopies of several stampless covers. Included in the group was a cover from Ringgold bearing a postmark which struck me as odd. After studying it for some time I realized I did not recall seeing the postmark previously. A check of the *Georgia Stampless Cover Catalog and Handbook* revealed that I was correct, the postmark was not listed.



Figure 1. Red RINGGOLD/GA ("A" raised) postmark dated MAR 14 and rated "5" on a ruled cover front to Tennessee.

Ringgold Postmark continued page 3

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Ringgold Postmark, continued

The postmark measures 31.5mm in diameter and is a faded red color. The ink bleeds slightly resulting in a somewhat fuzzy impression of the postmark. The cover is a folded letter front made from ruled paper. There is no writing on the reverse of the front. The address, "Mr. A. S. Lenoir, Bairsferry, Ten," is the only clue as to its use.

I checked the name "Lenoir" against my database of Georgia covers and was unable to find another cover similarly addressed. The town name "Bairsferry" was of no immediate help because there is no such town listed in the postal records.

Finally I decided to look for variants of the spelling and found a "Blair's Ferry" in Roane County, Tennessee. This is probably the town to which the letter was actually directed. Unfortunately the post office at Blair's Ferry was established years prior to the period of use indicated by the manuscript "5" rate on the cover.

The only recourse was to attempt to date the cover based on the rate and periods of use of previously listed Ringgold postmarks. This process results in an estimate of use either during the period 1845 to 1848 or after 1851. If one also considers the periods in which the handstamped rate markings were used, the estimated period of use for the new postmark is 1845 to 1848.

Savannah Duplex, continued

Second, was there an intermediate period where a separate instrument to cancel stamps was used by the Savannah post office?

Finally, do readers know of any usages of a duplex from Savannah from before 23 October 1860, the date reported by Mr. Graham?

If readers have information pertinent to any of the above questions, this writer would be grateful to learn it. Photocopies of covers reported would be especially helpful. Please send information to 20 University Avenue, Lewisburg PA 17837.

The author edits *U.S. Cancellation Club News*, and hopes to run an article on the subject at some point in the future. Contributions would be fully acknowledged and all information also reported to *Georgia Post Roads*.

Canooche GA Auto Post Office

by Nancy B. Clark

With April Fool's Day upon us, the pictured cover came to hand and seems an appropriate inclusion for this issue of GPR.

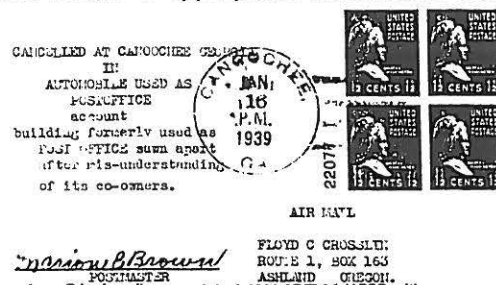


Figure 1. Canoochee GA airmail cover dated JAN 16/P.M./1939 with an unusual tale to tell of post office politics.

Bearing 6 cents in postage for air mail delivery from Canoochee GA to Ashland OR, the cover bears a novel notation. The typed message reads, "CANCELLED AT CANOOCHEE GEORGIA IN AUTOMOBILE USED AS POSTOFFICE account building formerly used as POST OFFICE sawn apart after mis-understanding of its co-owners." The cover is signed by Marion E. Brown, Postmaster. There are no receipt markings. A manuscript notation says "No 69," in case one doubts its philatelic-souvenir status!

What we collectors will commemorate! Surely this is post office politics to a fare-the-well.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

It is our unfortunate duty to accept the resignation of two members who have decided to curtail their philatelic memberships. We wish them the best and hopefully they will rejoin us in the future.

Phil Bansner

Ron Trosclair

Respectfully submitted by Frank Crown

BUTTPEX '99

Buttpex '99, sponsored by the Button Gwinnett Stamp Club and SDAG, is set for April 10-11 at the Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth. Hours are 10 - 6 Sat., 10 - 4 Sun. Free admission.

Shakespeare In Love With GA?

by Nancy B. Clark

With the hit movie *Shakespeare In Love* winning at the Oscar ceremonies, it is interesting to note a precursor to the awards. Juliette GA and Romeo MI have formed an alliance, one which does not involve the death of either participant! Each post office has created a postmark which features a silhouette of their namesake Shakespearean character for use during the valentine-sending month of February. They also worked out an agreement to forward, at no extra cost, mail to the corresponding city for the mate to each postmark. This year was the third in the exchange of mail between the Georgia and Michigan towns.

Alex Stubbs, postmaster of Romeo MI, is credited with the inspiration for the exchange. He discovered that Juliette GA, an unincorporated town northwest of Macon, is the only US post office bearing the name of Romeo's true love. Stubbs contacted Delores Molton, Juliette's postmaster and the affair between 48865 and 31046 ZIP codes began.

This editor has not seen the postmarks, but they are reported to be a left- and right-facing set of silhouettes, allowing the teen-agers to gaze at one another. Anyone wishing their mail to be forward from one office to the other must request it on a cover letter. Romeo CO, the only other US post office of that name, is not involved in the exchange.

Douglas N. Clark Inducted into Writers Unit Hall of Fame in Orlando

Writers Unit, APS-No. 30, selected Douglas N. Clark to be inducted to the Writers Unit No. 30 Hall of Fame. Familiar to the readers of *GPR* as a past editor and the current president of the organization, he was also recognized for his ten years' work as editor of the *Transit postmark Collector*, the Mobile Post Office Society organ. His writing in the *American Philatelic Congress Book*, the *Journal of the Postal History Society*, the *American Philatelist*, the *Philatelic Exhibitor*, the *Chronicle of the*

Clark continued on page 5.

page 4

Editor's Soapbox



The local newspaper, and I do mean local, is *The Oglethorpe Echo*. It is a weekly which serves Oglethorpe County, and is the only regular newspaper of the county. Part of their space is generally given to a column which summarizes events which appeared in past editions. Heading the "Echoes from the Past" space under the category of one hundred years ago, 27 January 1899, was the following tidbit:

Congressman Howard has prevailed upon the postal authorities to make a trial of rural delivery mail delivery in this section and the trial will be begun on a route running from Athens and will cover a large territory lying this side of that city and reaching to the Oglethorpe County line. It is sincerely hoped that the scheme will prove satisfactory and will lead to such a delivery all over the county. Just think of people living in the country having mail delivered and collected at their doors every day or every other day. What a convenience and blessing t'would be.

To add a bit of savor to the reminiscence, your editor and president live in the house once owned by Congressman Howard. We'd not realized the postal significance of this location to Oglethorpe County prior to this article.

Frank notes the theft of the Hill material in Florida. Another article notes the theft of a fellow Georgian's material: Bill Avery of Dunwoody Stamps. While not primarily a dealer in Georgia postal history, he is of the state and a long time dealer participant in Peach State. It seems as though the number of stamp thefts has increased; not only in large population areas.

On a happier note, two of our members recently won awards of recognition: Douglas N. Clark and Edwin L. Jackson. We surely have quality if not quantity!

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Clark, continued

U.S. *Classic postal Issues* and the *Massachusetts Spy* were also cited.

Clark also has served as president and is currently serving as secretary of the Mobile Post Office Society.

Another member of the *Georgia Postal History Society* gave the keynote address at the Writers Unit Breakfast: Peter Martin.

Trading Post

Wanted: information on Savannah duplex cancellation dates of use. Roger D. Curran, 20 University Ave., Lewisburg PA 17837]

Your ad belongs here! Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the *GPHS*, submit your copy to the editor today!

OLYMPHILEX '96 Donates to WASHINGTON 2006

Excerpt from APS Press Release

At the APS AMERICAS '99 Awards Banquet in Orlando FL, Nancy B. Z. Clark, president of OLYMPHILEX '96, presented Stephen Luster, president of WASHINGTON 2006, with a check for \$5,200.00, representing the profits from the 1996 Atlanta philatelic exhibition.

Clark said, "Though a relatively small World Exhibition, Olympilex 96 is gratified to be able to continue the tradition of endowing a future World Exhibition with seed money."

Hotchner expressed thanks for the recognition of Washington 2006 and also the Society's appreciation to Nancy Clark and the Olympilex volunteers who made this gift possible.

Railroads of Georgia

Fancy Killers on Railroad Covers *continued from GPR Vol. 8, No. 6, November 1998-February 1999*

by Douglas N. Clark

The Pensacola and Georgia R.R. is not a railroad of Georgia.

A Georgia collector may be attracted to the postmarks of the 1870s reading Pensacola and Georgia R.R., Towle Number 381-A-2 (Figure 1), but this railroad never reached our state.

The railroad marking bore the name of the railroad, not the route. We often see this in early railroad markings whose use began during construction of the road.



Figure 1. The Pensacola & GA R.R. was not a GA line, despite its name.

The original route agents operated between Jacksonville and Quincy FL, 192 miles, beginning 25 January 1867 (after temporary route agents ran from 1 January to 1 March 1866 and 1-21 January 1867). The marking in Figure 1 is not listed in the catalogue¹ until the route was lengthened in 1874, to run 216 miles from Jacksonville to Chatahoochee. An example used before 1874 (exact date not listed) would thus be a use on a different route, even if the marking were the same.

Railroads of Georgia continued on page 6.

¹C. L. Towle, *U.S. Route and Station Agents Catalog*, Mobile Post Office Society, 1986.

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Railroads of Georgia, continued

Later the route agent route was briefly shortened to run from Live Oak to Chatahoochee (127 miles), became an R.P.O. in 1882 and, after the ultimate lengthening to 369 miles, Jacksonville to Pensacola in 1883, it was split into an eastern and a western division. The divisions were discontinued in 1966 and 1957, respectively. The railroad never reached Georgia.

If this had really been a Georgia railroad, we would have had to list it in our series on fancy killers, because a route agent named Sherman used a killer that spelled out his name (Figure 2).

SHERMAN

Figure 2. "SHERMAN" fancy cancel as listed by Cole, ML-136.

There is one more connection with Georgia, besides the name of the railroad contracting for the route agent service. The part of the road between Jacksonville and Live Oak was also a part of the route from Columbia SC to Charleston SC to Savannah GA to Jacksonville FL. Hence, it was a part of the route of the Savannah & Jacksonville Agent and Charleston & Jacksonville R.P.O.

The reference books^{2 3} attribute these routes to the Atlantic & Gulf railroad, so it is clear that the markings in Figures 1 and 2 were used only on Florida railroads.

Edwin L. Jackson Wins Governor's Award

Each year, the Governor selects eight people to recognize for contributions to the humanities in Georgia. This year one of our members, Ed Jackson of Athens GA, was selected as a recipient of the 1999 Governor's Award in the Humanities.

"It was quite an honor for me, and a good way to end my career (at least as a full time faculty member)," said Ed.

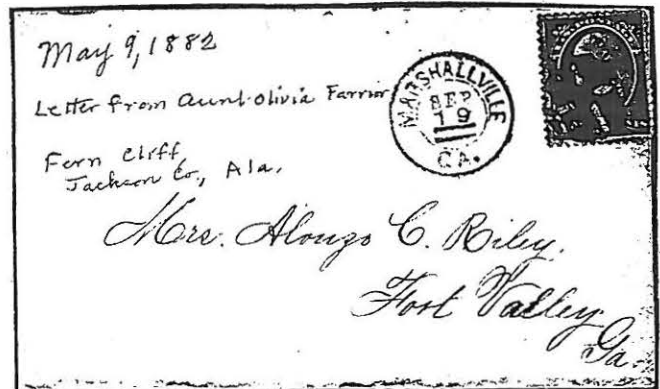
The presentation ceremony was held in Atlanta with a number of UGA and Vinson Institute of Government officials in attendance.

Ed recently previewed the makings of a CD-ROM based on stamps associated with Georgia for the Athens Philatelic Society. The images of stamps he showed can be seen on his GeorialInfo web site, which was established under Governor Zell Miller's directive.

Cracker Covers

by Frank Crown

Black "MARSHALLVILLE / GA." in double circle, used with a 3 cent green 1870 issue cancelled by a black cork cancel. The postmark is interesting because the area for the year date has been replaced by two horizontal slugs. Apparently the notations at the upper left do not indicate the actual date of use.



Cracker Covers continued page 7.

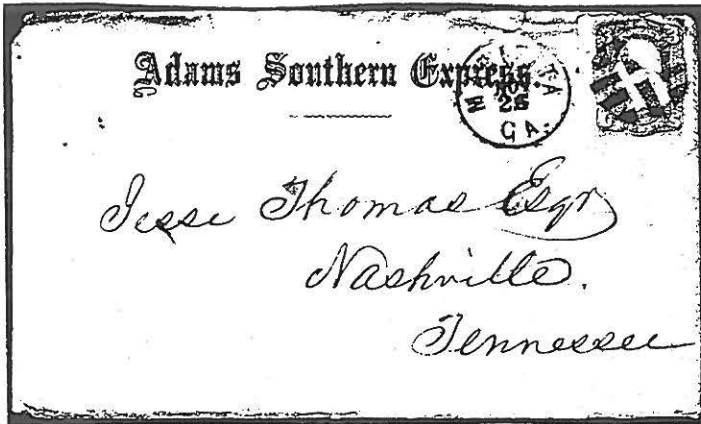
² John L. Kay, *Directory of Route Agent Routes, 1837-1882*, Mobile Post Office Society (1990).

³ John L. Kay, *Directory of Railway Post Offices*, Mobile Post Office Society (1985).

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Cracker Covers, continued

Black "MARIETTA / GA." postmark geometric duplex cancel used with a 3 cent red 1861 issue on an "Adams Southern Express" corner card envelope.



experience, you have to keep at it, always looking for new sources. These include major and minor auction houses, mail sales, stamp shows, the local stamp shop and, more recently, the Internet.

I just read about another big stamp theft. This one, in early February, resulted in the estimated loss of \$1.5 to \$2 million of philatelic material. Of concern to Georgia collectors is the loss of John Hill's collection of Confederate provisionals. This collection was recently purchased by Andrew Levitt and was in Florida on consignment to the sealer who suffered the loss. While it is not known what provisionals were lost, we do know that John Hill's collection included some very rare provisionals from Georgia.

Peach State Stamp Show '99

Peach State Stamp Show '99, the site for the Georgia Postal History Society Annual Meeting, has both dealer and exhibitor prospectae available.

An exhibitor prospectus may be requested from Douglas N. Clark, P. O. Box 51, Lexington GA 30648, or from William H. Waggoner, 160 University Drive, Athens GA 30605. Dealer information is available from D. D. Gray at 527 San Salvador Drive, North Augusta SC 29941. The forms may also be downloaded from the show web site. The address is <http://www.dm.net/~edjackson/psss99.htm>

The annual meetings of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, including the North American Youth Champion of Champions will be held, along with our annual get together. Also meeting at PSSS '99 are the Southeast ("Dixie") Chapter of the British North American Philatelic Society and the Fall Gathering of the Confederate Stamp Alliance, October 15, 16, and 17, 1999 in Athens GA.

Peach State will take place in the Athens Classic Center, 300 N. Thomas Street. For further information contact Chairman D. D. Gray at 527 San Salvador Drive, North Augusta SC 29941.

Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

It never ceases to amaze me that the new discoveries in Georgia postal history occur with such regularity. In this issue there is the announcement of a second green Savannah star die postmark. Is is an important discovery because it confirms both the period of use and the fact that the Savannah post office used green ink. This issue also contains an article an a new Ringgold postmark from the stampless period. The fact that a new postmark is discovered is unusual in itself. However, in the case of Ringgold, it is the third postmark known to have been used between 1845 and 1848. This is something very unusual for a town the size of Ringgold.

Georgia postal history remains a relatively uncollected and unstudied philatelic specialty. This is unfortunate as Georgia has a rich postal history. Some of it is recorded in the pages of the *Georgia Post Roads* and the *Georgia Stampless Catalog and Handbook*, but much more remains to be discovered, studied and recorded. It is not always easy to find Georgia material. From personal

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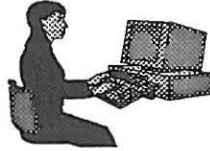
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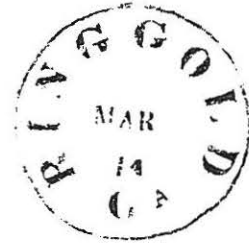
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Georgia Post Roads
Post Office Box 451
Lexington, GA 30648



Nancy B. Clark, Editor



Red RINGGOLD/GA ("A" raised) postmark



Savannah GA duplex

Georgia Post Roads Journal of the Georgia Postal
History Society ISSN 1099-0372 A.P.S. Chapter 224
Volume No. 9 Issue No. 2 May - June 1999



Vertical pair of US #1 just tied by black "STEAM BOAT" handstamp on cover with red "DECATUR / G 2" postmark, black handstamped "5" marking and forwarded from Decatur to Savannah with various manuscript notations.

The Decatur U. S. #1 "STEAM BOAT" Cover

by Frank Crown

In two earlier articles I discussed the various aspects of the cover illustrated above.² These included the fact that the "STEAM BOAT" marking does not match any of the markings used by Georgia towns; the handstamped "5" marking is not of a type known to have been used at Decatur or Savannah; and the contradictory nature of the manuscript markings on the cover. At the time I concluded the cover required further examination.

Since that time I have had the opportunity to correspond with the current owner of the cover and examine a color photo and learned that the cover is an envelope with no enclosure. At my suggestion the cover was submitted to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service and information sought from the Philatelic Foundation. In addition the

owner sought the opinion of a recognized specialist, John Eggen. This article summarizes what we now know about the cover.

The cover was submitted to the Philatelic Foundation in 1994 and received certificate 283016 with the opinion that, "it is a genuine usage the stamps with tears, and the cover with light age spotting." In 1998 the current owner submitted the cover to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service and received a response with the control number 114531 which states, "the APS Expert Committee declines to render an opinion and returns the item without comment." This is a rather curious statement but must be used frequently as it is handstamped on the form.

In September 1998 John Eggen examined a photocopy of the cover and commented on the cover with primary focus on the "STEAM BOAT" handstamp. Pertinent remarks are quoted below:

Steamboat handstamps were used as an accounting marking by postmasters to record the 2 cent steam fee paid to the boat captain of boats without a mail contract for delivery into the mail of loose letters received in transit. Since there was no water service to the inland

Continued on page 2

¹[Frank Crown], "Cover to Ponder," *Georgia Post Roads* 6:2 (March 1996); 4:6 (July 1996); 8.

Decatur STEAM BOAT, continued

Atlanta [Decatur] area, the Steamboat handstamp was not applied there; yet if a steam marking were applied it **should have been at the point of entry** into the mail system. Even if a water route were present at Savannah, the letter was already in the mails; a steam marking would not have been appropriate at Savannah or any point beyond Decatur.

The crude 5mm x 52 +/- mm marking does not match known examples from Savannah and appears to have been homemade. As noted above the Steamboat handstamp was an accounting marking; it is, therefore, highly unlikely that this handstamp was used as a cancellation device.

Based on the above, I must question the cover. It would appear that the stamps were added and the steamboat markings added by someone other than a postmaster....³

In summary, it is safe to say that the cover is not what it appears to be and that the Philatelic Foundation should reexamine the cover in view of John Eggan's and my own comments.



Railroads of Georgia: Pensacola & Georgia R.R. Comments

by J. Edward Willis

The article on the Pensacola & Georgia Rail Road was of sufficient interest that I think the following non-philatelic material might be of interest; a stock certificate for one share with an issued value of \$100.00 per share. It was dated 26 February 1862.

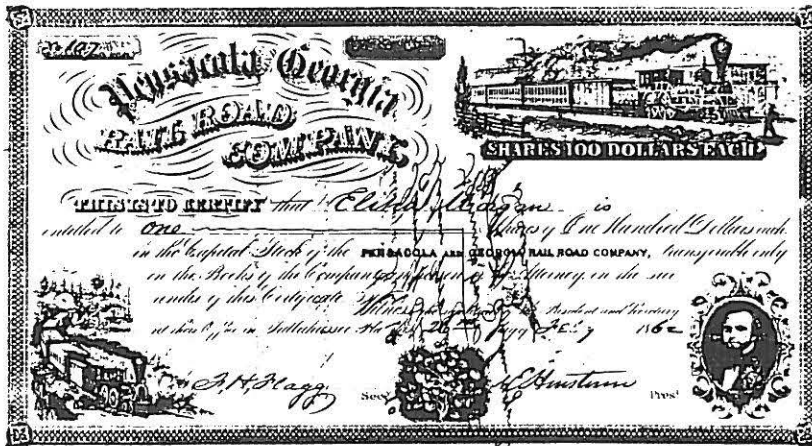
While Douglas Clark's article¹ clearly states that the P. & G. R. R. is not a railroad of Georgia, in correspondence from 1987 with William N. Thurston, Historic Preservation Supervisor in the Florida Department of State, some interesting information leads me to speculate on the possibility of a Tallahassee FL to Albany GA connection. Mr. Thurston writes:

The P & G RR was chartered in 1853. Apparently the original intent was to connect Pensacola with Bainbridge so as to tap the cotton traffic then carried on the Apalachicola River. But due to lack of public interest, this plan was discarded in favor of a Pensacola-Jacksonville connection with a possible later extension to east Georgia. By 1855, the Company directors had settled for a route from Quincy, Florida through Tallahassee to Lake City, connecting there with the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad out of Jacksonville. Purchase of the Tallahassee Railroad, which ran to St. Marks, by the P&G would complete a rail link between the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

In 1856, the P&G acquired and rebuilt the Tallahassee-St. Marks line, and began construction of its main line between Tallahassee and Lake City, which was completed in 1861. This line was extended to Quincy shortly thereafter. In the final months of the Civil War, the P&G built a branch line from Live Oak to the Georgia border, connecting with a branch of the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad from Dupont.

The P. & G. route may have made a rail connection at the Georgia line, south of Dupont, with the Dupont and Albany Route Agent, according to the above correspondence. If so, this would establish a Tallahassee FL - Albany GA railroad connection. The Dupont & Albany route agent operated 1875 - 1881.

All the rails at Dupont were taken up several years ago. The P & G was sold and eventually became part of the Seaboard Air Line.



³ Letter from John A. Eggen dated 30 September 1998.

¹ D. N. Clark, *Georgia Post Roads*, 9:2, March-April 1999, p. 5.



located three other Dirt Town covers, all of which had manuscript postmarks and were from the same general period. Of the three, one had some similarities with the postmark on Lamar's cover. Now I began to believe that my original theory about the cover might be wrong. I now attempted to research the addressee "Matilda Hill." However I could find no reference to Matilda Hill even though I did find several Hills in the Milledgeville area. Finally there was the actual address itself, "Westover." Again I went through all my references on Milledgeville and Baldwin County. Just when I was about to give up, I found a book I failed to check previously. In it was a reference to Westover. It was described as "...the plantation mansion of Benjamin S. Jordan. Located at the center of the 950-acre tract, Westover possessed a complete assortment of plantation structures...The principal features of this establishments were its orchards, flower garden and its formally landscaped grounds." The actual location of Westover was about four miles north of Milledgeville.¹

Manuscript "Dirt Town Geo." postmark and a 3c 1851 issue pen cancelled on a cover addressed to "Westover, Baldwin co., Geo."

It Pays to Check Twice

by Frank Crown

Recently Lamar Garrard sent a copy of the Dirt Town cover illustrated above for my opinion. What follows are my comments on the cover taken from my response to Lamar.

Dirt Town was a...post office in Chattooga County. It was established in 1852 and was reestablished after the Civil War. I thought the cover would be easy to comment on but it is not. First I cannot find the town it is addressed to, "Westover, Baldwin Co, Geo." I have checked all my references and find no town by that name in Georgia during the period 1800-1860. Second take a look at the manuscript postmark and the address. Note the similarity in the "M" and "Geo" in both. It appears they were written by the same person. If so, why didn't the postmaster use his free frank instead of paying three cents postage? I am afraid I cannot give this cover a clean bill of health without further examination.

Fortunately Lamar was persistent. In short order he wrote back. This time he sent the actual cover and a short note. He commented that the cover was part of an original find that he "...found buried in the bottom of a box of old envelopes at an estate sale in middle Georgia..." Armed with the actual cover and Lamar's comments I began a reexamination of the information at hand. First I

This Dirt Town cover is quite unusual because it is directed not to a post office but a plantation. Apparently mailed addressed unidentifiable offices in Baldwin County were directed to the Milledgeville post office. There the postmaster was familiar with Westover and kept mail addressed to the plantation at his office for pick up. Covers with this type of address are quite scarce, especially as late as the 1850s.



WAL★MART



Compliments of T. Lowrell Pierce, the latest cancellation from Macon GA. Wal-Marts all over the country, in conjunction with the USPS, had special cancellations available for the new Daffy Duck issue. As our correspondent states, "Try for a complete collection from GA!"

¹Bonner, James C., *Milledgeville, Georgia's Antebellum Capital* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1978), p. 125.



Editor's Soapbox

This issue of *GPR* will be mailed at NOJEX in the Meadowlands of New Jersey. We are now in our Massachusetts home which is our summer base of operations. It is nice to be close enough to see our friends in the Boston Philatelic Group, where Elizabeth Pope spoke a short time ago, and to be close enough to drive to other national shows, like NOJEX.

Frank has outdone himself in articles of substance this issue. The research he shares with the membership is remarkable. The work you are doing would also benefit our membership. Consider sharing your postal history insights and observations via the *GPR*.

Peach State Stamp Show jurors have been chosen and a theme is being resolved. Thoughts are to have a dual theme with Bartam's Trail as one theme and Hank Aaron's record-setting hit being the other. Dealer tables are close to filled already, though a few remain. If you have a favorite dealer you'd like to visit at Peach State this year, contact him or her to make sure they have sent in their paperwork. It would be nice to have a good representation of Georgia postal history in frames this year. If you have an exhibit or are forming one, plan to participate.

The membership roster is enclosed with this issue.

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Georgia 1847 Cover Count Reduced by One?

by Frank Crown

Recently I was thumbing through the 15-17 April 1999 Schuyler Ramsey Auction catalogue. Toward the back of the catalogue I ran across an illustration (lot 1509) of a US #2 used on a piece with a Savannah postmark (Figure 1). The lot was described as:

10c black, three large & just touched at top, tied by red grid on fragment with matching Savannah, Ga. cds alongside, fresh and Very Fine.

All 1847 issues on cover from Georgia are rare so this use on piece intrigued me. I checked my listing of 1847 covers and found I had a cover listed with the same postmark date as that on the piece. Now I was really curious.



Figure 1. Lot 1509 in the 15-17 April 1999 Schuyler Rumsey Sale.

I pulled the photocopy of the cover from my reference file and found that the stamp on piece was until recently a stamp on cover (Figure 2)! According to my records the last major auction the cover appeared in was the Robert A. Siegel sale of 12 December 1995 (lot 432). The illustrated lot is described as

10c Black (2). Huge margins to touching at T., tied by red grid, matching "Savannah Ga. 10 Apr. 7" cds on 1848 prices current and letter, Scotch tape stains in address panel, worthy of restoration, otherwise fine.

Why was a rare US #2 on cover reduced to a stamp on piece? First, as can be seen, the cover had distracting tape stains from the center to the center right edge. The Siegel Auction description noted the cover as "worthy of restoration." Surely they didn't have in mind restoration by reducing the cover to a stamp on piece.

Continued page 5

1847 Cover Reduced by One, continued

Elsewhere in my reference file I found another reason the cover may have undergone radical surgery. The reverse of the cover bore the signature of John A. Fox. Mr. Fox is known to have taken liberties with more than one cover during his career as a dealer and auctioneer. Perhaps the last owner decided it was best to eliminate the negative aspects of the cover by cutting away the tape stain and Mr. Fox's signature.

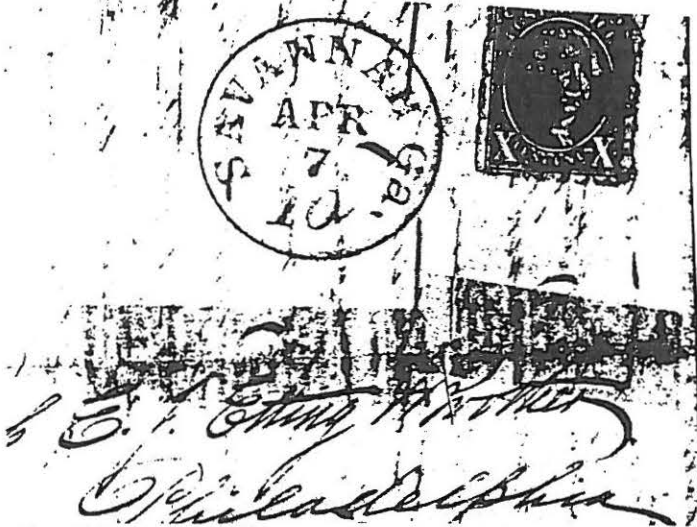


Figure 2. Appearance in 1995.

While I can find no notes, I believe this cover was offered in at least two Abraham Siegel sales since the 1995 Robert A. Siegel sale. When and by whom the surgery was conducted remains unknown.

A cover with the Savannah "10" or "5" postmark would be relatively easy to fake. Many of these covers from the stampless period bear no marking other than the postmark which indicated the letter was sent due "5" or "10." All the faker has to do is apply a stamp and cancel it with a grid. Matching the color of the grid to that of the postmark is the most difficult task.

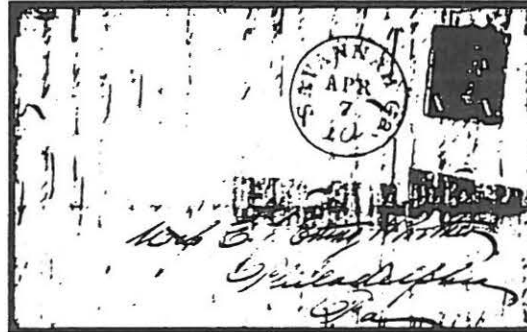
There is no specific evidence that the postal use of the 10 cent stamp was faked. In fact the available circumstantial evidence indicates the opposite. Why would someone go to the trouble of faking a US #2 usage on a cover marred by tape stains? The return on the effort involved is minimal compared to the potential return if a cover of even average condition is used. Yet the owner of the cover apparently felt so strongly about the negative aspects of the cover he cut them away. Did he know something we don't? We are left with the question, have we lost a genuine Georgia 1847 cover or a fake?



Trading Post

Wanted: Information on Savannah duplex cancellation dates of use. Roger D. Curran, 20 Univedrsity Ave., Lewisburg PA 17837

Your ad belongs here! Twenty-five words for only \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 for four issues. Support the *GPHS*, submit your copy to the editor today!



Georgia Rambler

by Frank Crown

Featured in this issue is an article about a rare US #2 on cover from Savannah that underwent radical surgery. What used to be a rare stamp on cover is now nothing more than a rare stamp on piece. Certainly it may look better than it did when part of a cover with tape stains. But the history of the use of this rare stamp is now one cover short. The information and insight provided by that single cover is now lost to future generations of Georgia collectors.

Unfortunately, this is not the first or the last time a significant piece of Georgia postal history will fall victim to a philatelic surgeon. Over the years I have seen other covers which have undergone transformation. If the object is restoration and it is done correctly the piece will certainly be more attractive and will be preserved for future generations to admire and enjoy. If done incorrectly the loss is incalculable.

I thought I previously mentioned a new publication on Georgia post offices. However, I conducted a quick review of *GPR* issues for the last year and could find no mention of it. The title of the list is *The Post Offices of Georgia 1764 - 1900* by Richard E. Small. Contained in its pages are a list of Georgia counties, both alphabetically and

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Georgia Rambler, continued

chronologically, maps of Georgia showing counties and towns, and a list of post offices. The post office listing shows what I presume to be the dates of establishment and discontinuance.

This work is not a list of the Georgia post offices contained in the official records of the Post Office Department. Rather it is compiled from what I call secondary sources such as the *American State Papers, Register of Officers and Agents* and postal guides and other unofficial publications. In spite of the secondary nature of the source material used to compile the list, the information is

generally quite accurate. It is a handy reference and for most general purposes will provide the needed accuracy. However the best accuracy can only be obtained by consulting the official records of the Post Office Department.

The listing is \$15.00 post paid from Richard Small, 14502 Oak Cluster Drive, Centreville VA 22020. For those with internet access, Richard has a web site at members.aol.com/rsmall9293.

❖

Cracker Covers

by Frank Crown

The Cracker Cover for this issue is a re-rated stampless cover from West point. While re-rated covers from the stampless period are not extremely rare, they are unusual. This particular one even more so because of the size of the two rating devices. For whatever reason, the postmaster applied the handstamped "5," realized his error, inked out the "5" and applied the "10" marking.



Black "WEST POINT / Ga." postmark dated 31 March 1848 on re-rated cover with large black "5" and "10" markings.

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Georgia Post Roads Volume 9, Number 3

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Georgia Post Roads
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Nancy B. Clark, Editor

Georgia Post Roads

Volume 10, Number 1 January 2000 APS Chapter 224 ISSN 1099-0372

A Look at Georgia Flag Cancellations

by Nonie Green

Flag cancels are one of the more interesting types of early modern cancellations. Frederick Langford's Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia¹ lists several

thousand by state, town, dial, die, year installed, and year discontinued. He lists 65 Georgia town and includes 112 varieties. In a separate section, military stations are listed. These include "ATLANTA, GA., GORDON BRANCH;" "AUGUSTA, GA.

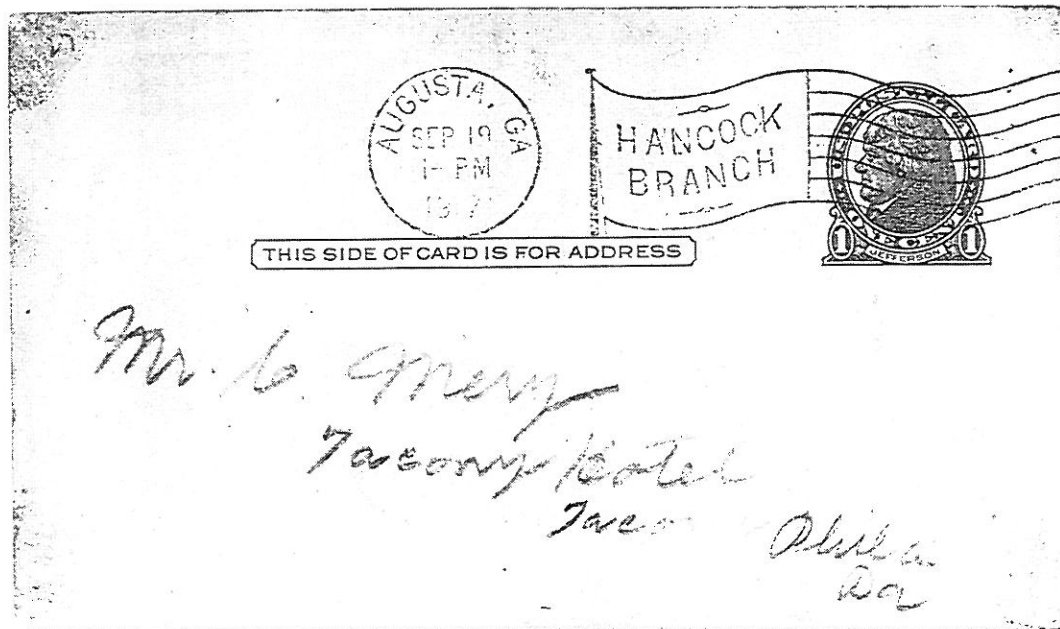


Figure 1. One cent rate for postal card

→continued page 2→

¹ Langford, Frederick, compiler, Standard Flag Cancel Encyclopedia, 2nd revised edition, Frederick Langford, 1965.

Georgia Flag Cancels, continued↓

HANCOCK BRANCH" (Figures 1,2,3); "CAMP BENNING, GA.;" "FORT BENNING, GA" (changed from "Camp"); and "MACON, GA., WHEELER BRANCH." The listing also shows a "CHATTANOOGA, TENN." (type A dial, 38 die) with "MILITARY BRANCH" in the field of the flag, used in 1917 and 1918. These are believed to have been used on mail of the various camps located close to Chattanooga (Figure 4, 5). Two other Chattanooga dials have "FOREST BRANCH" and "GREENLEAF BRANCH" in the flag die.

Camp Hancock was established 18 Jul 1917, and temporarily was used to train National Guard troops near Augusta. It is named to honor Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, a veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars. Camp Hancock became a demobilization base in December 1918. No longer needed, it ceased operations 27 Mar 1919.²

Camp Greenleaf began the training of medical units in May 1917. This post was named for Brigadier General Charles R.

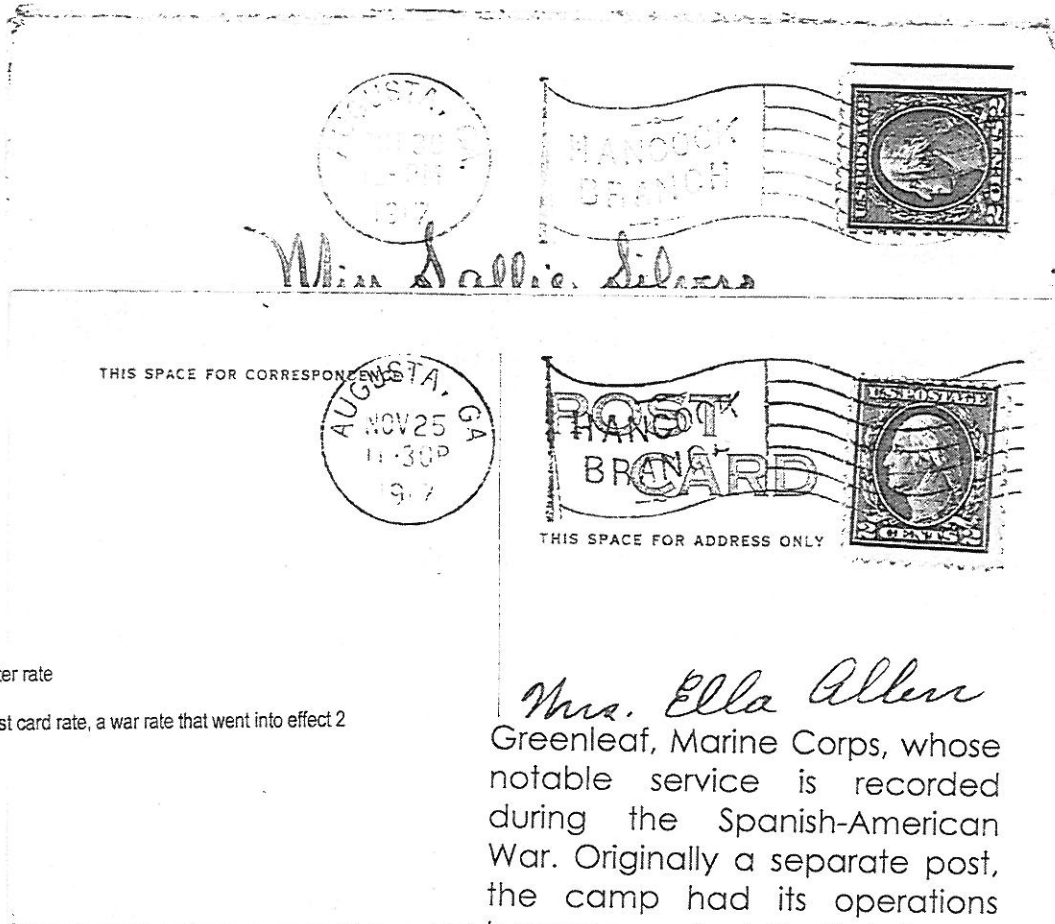


Figure 2. 2 c letter rate

Figure 3. 2 c post card rate, a war rate that went into effect 2 November 1917

Mrs. Ella Allen
Greenleaf, Marine Corps, whose notable service is recorded during the Spanish-American War. Originally a separate post, the camp had its operations become part of Ft. Oglethorpe February 1919.³ →Continued, page 4→

² Roberts, Robert B., *Encyclopedia of Historic Forts*, Macmillan Publishing company, New York, 1988.

³ *Ibid.*

A Puzzling Cover

By Frank Crown

Every now and then you see a cover with markings which defy immediate explanation. The cover illustrated at Figure 1 is such a cover. At first glance it is unusual because it bears a Chattanooga, Tennessee, postmark at the upper left, and what appears to be the frank and postmark of the "Salulafarm Ga" postmaster at the upper right.

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fcrown@telisphere.com

city. Additionally, the post office at Chattanooga probably served as the distribution office for mail from the surrounding area. Knowing this we may

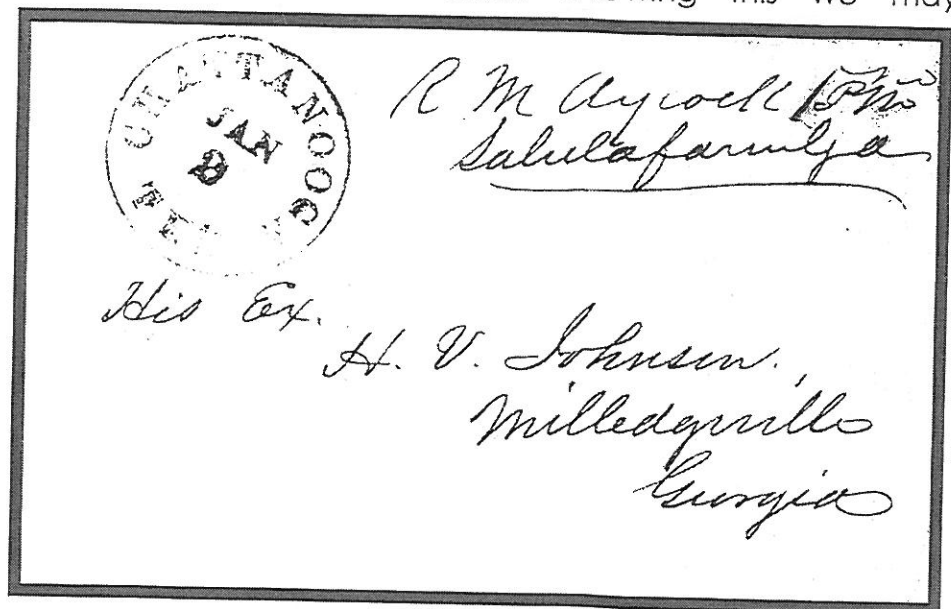


Figure 1. Black Chattanooga, Tenn. Postmark on a cover bearing the free frank of "R. M. Aycock" postmaster at "Salulafarm, Ga."

The obvious question is why did the Salula Farm postmaster place his frank and office name on a cover that bears a Chattanooga postmark? One answer may lie in geography. Salula Farm is in Dade County. This county, in extreme northwest Georgia, is very near Chattanooga. In fact, Chattanooga is the closest large

conclude the Salula Farm postmaster placed the franked cover in the mail bound for Chattanooga and there it was postmarked again.

Although this theory gets the cover to Chattanooga, it does not adequately explain the effort expended to postmark the cover a second time.

3

Continued from page 2↓

Camp Forrest was named for Lieutenant General Nathan B. Forrest who performed distinguished service in the Civil War. Located in the Chicamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, its first identity went by the name "Main Camp."

Augusta	7
Lagrange	6
Macon	7
Savannah	7

Regular Army troops began using the cantonment in 1917. The Corps of Engineers used part of the area for mobilizing and training troops in May 1918. Ft. Oglethorpe assimilated Camp Forrest January 1919.⁴

The earliest flag cancel was used from Savannah in 1896. Macon followed shortly with one in 1897. Four towns had several different types used over a period of time

A Savannah cover of 1898 has a flag type with a space break in the middle wavy line of the flag. Franked with a 1c entire, it went at the unsealed rate and probably contained printed matter or a pricelist (Figure 6).

A similar cancel is on an 1899 cover, but this type has a "1" in a space that breaks the middle wavy lines of the flag. Somehow this 1899 cover got by with a 2c proprietary revenue stamp that has a "(partial letter). O. S. & CO. NOV 08 1898" handstamp in



Figure 4. Enclosure datelined 4 December 1917, on letterhead of U. S. Army, Medical Officers Training Camp, Camp Greenleaf, Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga. 3c war rate for letters.

magenta ink across it (Figure 7). The 1899 type postmark first used in that year continued until 1901.

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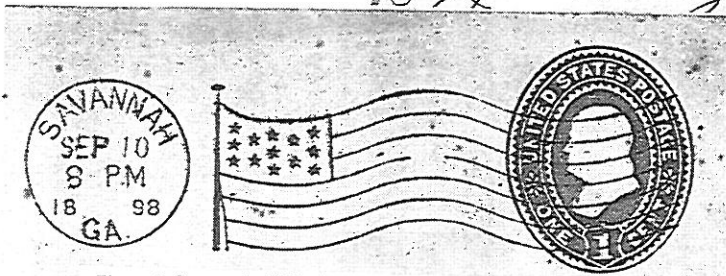


Figure 6. Savannah 1898 – break in middle wavy line.

4 ⁴ Ibid.



Figure 7. 1899 flag type – "1" in space that breaks 3 middle wavy lines.

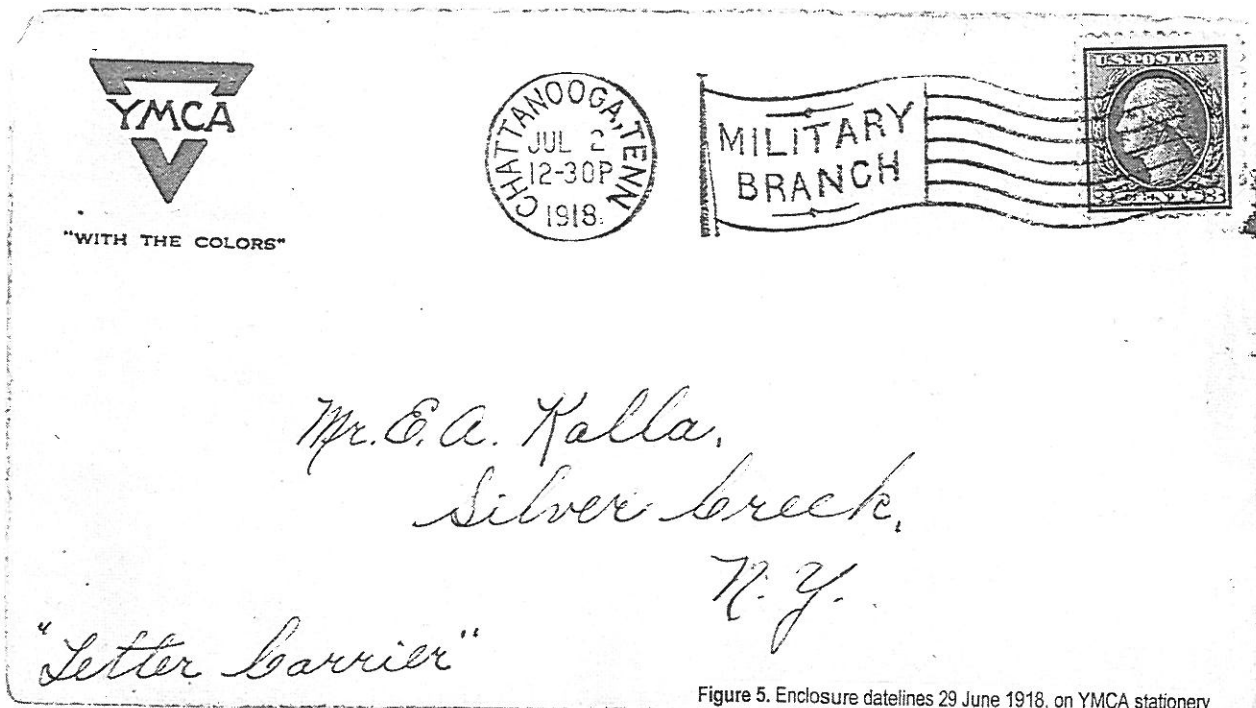


Figure 5. Enclosure datelines 29 June 1918, on YMCA stationery with U. S. flag, Camp Forrest, Ga.

A cover destined for a foreign country only has the domestic rate of 2c postage applied and shows a postage due marking struck in New York. On arrival at Milan, Italy, it received a penalty of 30 centesimi (Figure 8). This attractive segment of collecting has a lot of potential.

It can be utilized as an additional section to any specialized postal history collection if the time frame of these cancels fits into the collector's interests. With the factors of what constitutes postal history, its scope can be



Figure 8. Italy destination with auxiliary postage due marking.

used to develop a prominent collection or exhibit on this area alone.

Italy. 5

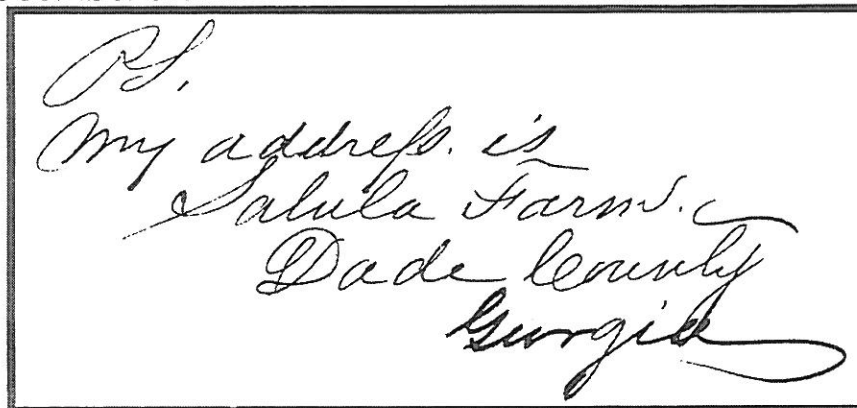
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A better theory is that the postmaster of Salula Farm carried the letter with him on a trip to Chattanooga, and mailed it there. This would explain his frank as well as the office name "Salulafarm Ga." In support of this theory, I have seen several covers bearing a postmaster's free frank and post office name but bearing a postmark from a different town.

An examination of the contents of the cover revealed this theory is basically correct but lacking in one small detail. The dateline of the letter is "Chattanooga, Tennessee, December 31, 1853."

they franked mail. It was especially important when exercising a traveling frank to note the office by which they claimed the franking privilege.

The other puzzling feature of this cover is the name "Salula Farm." The records of postmaster appointments reveal the office was established in July 1853 as "Saluda Farm" with Mr. Aycock as the postmaster. There is no doubt Mr. Aycock considered the name of the office to be "Salula Farm," as it is plainly written on the cover as well as in the enclosure (Figure 2).



P.S.
My address is
Salula Farm.
Dade County
Georgia

Figure 2. Copy of postscript to the enclosure with the town name again spelled "Salula Farm" by postmaster Aycock.

Thus the letter was actually written and mailed in Chattanooga. The notation "Salulafarm Ga." Under the frank of post-master R. M. Aycock identifies the town of which he is post-master. Therefore it is not a postmark in the true sense of the word. *Ed. Note: Postmasters were required to write their name and the name of their post office when*

Lists of post offices from the 1850s as well as the list of postmaster appointments maintained by the Post Office Department list the name of the office as "Saluda Farm" with one exception. The *List of Officers and Agents* for 1855 lists the name of the office as "Salula Farm." This discrepancy in the name combined with the postmaster spelling of the name

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Georgia Rambler

By Frank Crown

I am sure many who collect postmarks or covers have encountered the abbreviation "DPO" at one time or another. For those unfamiliar with "DPO," it stands for **discontinued post office**. Basically, it means that the postmark is from a town which had its post office discontinued.

Most often I find the abbreviation used to describe covers in dealers' stock or at auction. I suspect the term "DPO" is used with the expectation a collector will pay a few more dollars for a postmark from a discontinued post office. Why not, the post office no longer exists and there will be no more covers postmarked with the office name.

Actually there is a lot wrong with this rationale. First, we all know that the postal service closed a large number of post offices during the past two decades. Does this mean that 50 or 100-year-old covers from these towns are any rarer than those from similar sized post offices that were not closed? Probably not. In fact 50 or 100-year-old covers from offices still open may be rarer than covers from offices subsequently closed.

The term "DPO" is meaningful to a collector who specializes in postmarks and covers from discontinued towns. However, to the rest of the postal history collectors it has no real meaning as an indicator of value. Value should be based on other more relevant details. For example did the post office exist for six months, six years, sixty years? How many different postmarks are known from the town? Are covers from the town numerous or scarce for the period you collect?

As a collector of Georgia stampless covers I am concerned with the availability of material from particular towns during the stampless period. Whether these towns were discontinued in 1890 or 1990 has no bearing on cover values for the period I collect. If a dealer wants to increase the asking price of a cover because it is from a "DPO" that is his business. However, I firmly believe if covers are priced based on the period of use, rather than a future event (discontinuance), dealers will increase their cash flow.

Georgia in Milgram's New Publication

By Frank Crown

I just received a copy of James W. Milgram's new book *United States Registered Mail 1845 - 1870*. This well written and profusely illustrated book covers registered mail from its beginnings in the United States,

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as "Salula Farm" indicates the possibility of a misunderstanding regarding the name of the office when it was established. Obviously postmaster Aycock believed the name to be "Salula Farm." However, by 1856 the spelling of the office is consistently "Saluda Farm."

The Saluda Farm post office did not last long. It was discontinued in 1862 under the Confederate administration and was never reestablished. As a result the actual location of the office in Dade County is also a mystery.

Does anyone have more information on the site of this office and its name?

Post Offices Help Make a Community

By Nancy B. Clark

An article written by the late Celestine Sibley in February of last year rang true for me. She was reminiscing about post offices she had known, and brought back memories of my own experiences in both large city and small town post offices. Many of these town gathering points have been lost to urbanization, and I think the communities which have endured such modernization suffer the loss of a once key community-binding factor.

In Lexington GA's level 15 office, delivery within city limits has only

become available within the past three years, unless health considerations prevented one from getting to the post office. Residents were obliged to rent a post office box or take general delivery of their mail. Since the town is only four miles square, this was not a problem for people within the city limits. For those who reside outside the limits, though they use a Lexington postal address, there is rural free delivery service.

We are still not governed by the nationally accepted "911" service, but in preparation for that service, all the roads in Oglethorpe County have been given names within the last two years. The street address is now the one used by the RFD carriers, rather than the post box number and route. For example, rather than "Box 2176, Rt. 1," the current address is "2 David's Road."

We, along with many of our neighbors, continue to use a post office box for receipt of our mail. In fact we use three boxes; one for Douglas' mail, one for my mail, and one for philatelic society mail (which generally is used for the overflow from our boxes when auction catalogues and newspapers start arriving at the same time). Between Box 51, Box 451 and Box 31, we manage to accommodate a large volume of mail.

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based on the experiences of other nations, through the 1855 Registered Mail Service and changes through 1870. Also included are rate and fee tables for both domestic and foreign registered mail.

There are more than 150 different illustrations of handstamped markings used on registered mail during the period. Georgia towns with illustrated markings include Albany, Atlanta, Augusta and Savannah.

This excellent book lacks only one feature, an index. The book is available from the David G. Phillips Publishing Company, Post Office Box 611388, North Miami FL 33261. The cost for a hardbound copy is \$49.50 plus \$2.00 shipping. A softbound edition is also available.

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Postmark in current use in Lexington GA

We live within a comfortable walk of the Office, but generally our mail is significantly large, so due to size and weight considerations, as well as time, we generally drive to the Lexington Post Office to pick it up. This is also true of the general population of box holders.

When I first moved here over eleven years ago, it was not unusual for there to be a line of patrons stretching out the door (which means more than five people were in line!), when the phone would ring. The Postmaster would pick up the phone and say "Hey! No, I ain't doin' nuthin' now. Go on, I ain't busy." He'd proceed to talk on the telephone. He'd continue to do those tasks which one can do while in a conversation, i.e., things that took only one hand. He might motion to his clerk to come to the window if a large package needed to be handled, and she'd gamely step in to work the counter.

Now there is a cordless phone, so two hands continue with the work while the telephone conversation takes place. It is now more common for the Postmaster or Clerk to indicate they'll call the person back, rather than carry on a conversation with customers waiting...a touch of the old South gone, some would say.

Lexington's post office is currently located in a small, flat-roofed, square, brick and concrete building, privately owned and easy to maintain. As with most post offices which have been established for a long time, it has previously been located in a variety of buildings, from a home extension to a granite-fronted building in the commercial district. Its present location, just opposite the

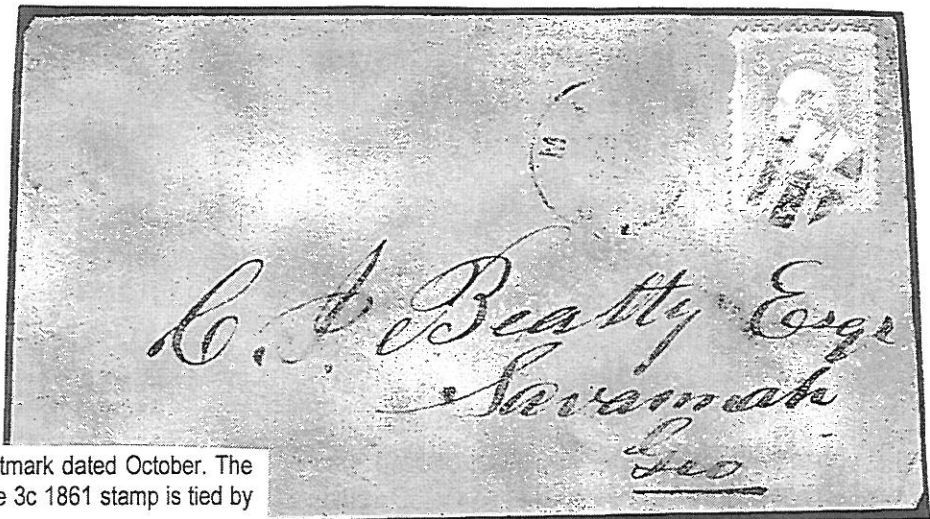
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Cracker Covers

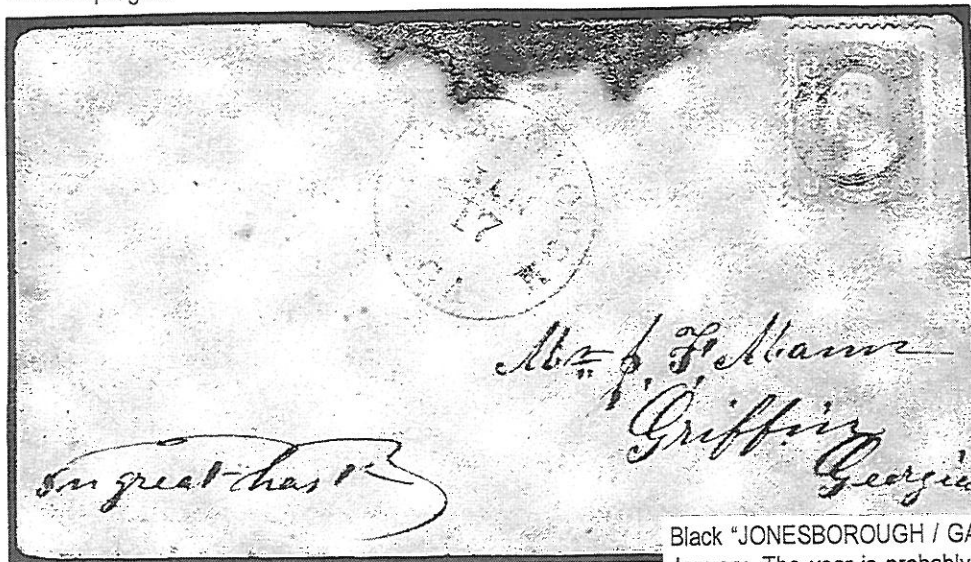
By Frank Crown

The two covers illustrated below are not attractive to say the least. In fact in themselves they are probably of little philatelic value. However, they do have something to tell. Both covers are made from a paper that Confederate collectors call

"oatmeal" or "butcher" paper. This poor quality paper reflects the shortage of many common items which the people of the South were forced to endure during the war. It is interesting that months after the war was over people still used envelopes made of this paper.



Black "MACON / GA" postmark dated October. The year is probably 1865. The 3c 1861 stamp is tied by a black split grid.



Black "JONESBOROUGH / GA" postmark dated 17 January. The year is probably 1866. The 3 c 1861 stamp is canceled by a black target cancel. This is a post war use of a Confederate postmark. The dark area at the upper center is a stain.

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Oglethorpe County Courthouse, places it on a quiet, one-way street, near legal offices and the only bank in town.

There are post offices in Georgia with remarkable architectural details, but Lexington's is not, and never has been, one of them. The old Atlanta post office building on Forsyth Street had an ambiance matched by others built at the time, when such buildings did credit to the desire for elegance, which then reigned in federal buildings. Marble floors and walls, desks with pens (which often didn't work) and inkwells, and brass spittoons. The Federal Building in Athens still houses a post office, but the main facility is now located in a sterile, if efficient, facility just off the by-pass which circles the downtown.

The post office has never had the mandate to provide a convenient meeting place for the community. However in a few fortunate places, this neighborhood service is still served by the post office. Lexington is one of those few.

While the benches where people could sit and chat in the warmth of the afternoon sun are no longer available, it is the place where one most often hears of community happenings; from the most recent births, illnesses and deaths to the grades of a college freshman, the most

recent posting of a soldier, or the casting of the high school play. The post office provides that point in the community where people meet, speak and get caught up in the county's heartbeat. This is something a computer chat room simply can not offer: a real sense of community.

It is probable that the major reason this office has been spared the ax, despite its lack of business (the office, including RFD coverage, handles an average of 2200 pieces of letter-size mail per day), is its location in the county seat. It doesn't hurt that the current postmaster is a friendly sort, as have been many of his predecessors, so that several of the neighboring towns' businesses prefer to deal with the Lexington personnel than their own town's post office. Whatever the reason, I feel fortunate to have such a special place in Lexington.

Railroads of Georgia: R.F.D.s

By Douglas N. Clark

Although not railroads by any stretch, R. F. D.s (Rural Free Delivery) carriers involved a conveyance and postmarked mail in transit, and so I am devoting a "railroads" column to them.

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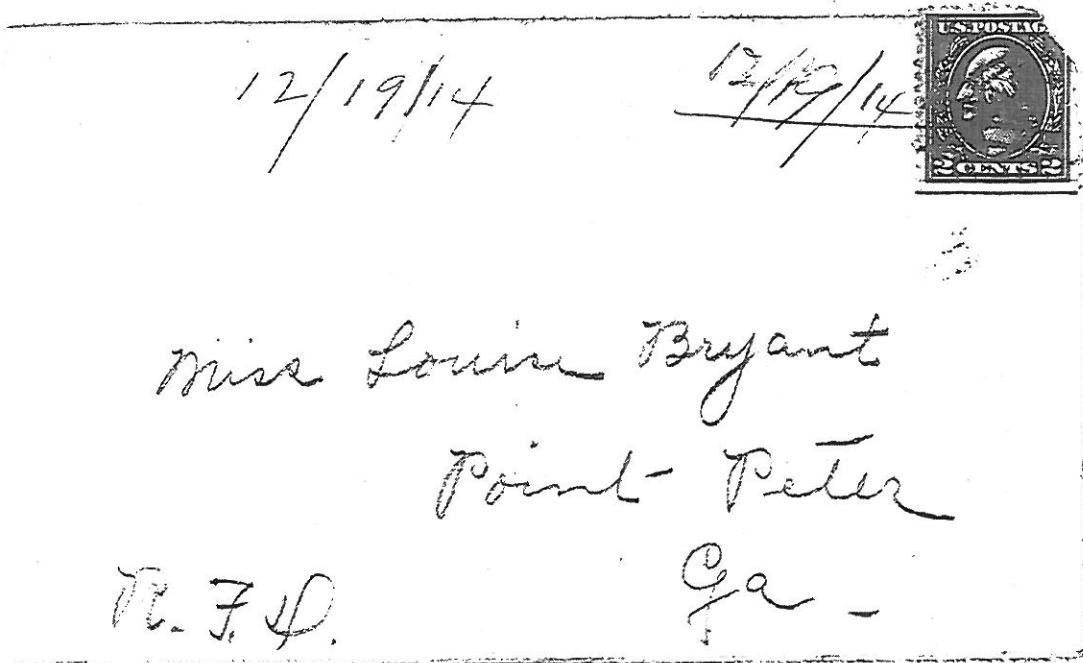


Figure 1. Lexington RFD Route 2 cover, picked up and carried further along the route for delivery.

The three examples shown may not look like R.F.D.s. Indeed, they may not look like collectible postal history! But his type of cover (stamp obliterated in pencil, often with no town name in postmark, and bearing an R.F.D. address) is recognized as a rural free delivery usage.

The first example (Figure 1.) is addressed to Lexington GA, with "Route 2" as part of the address. The pencil stamp obliteration is accompanied by the date, "5/12/14." Evidently it was picked up on Lexington R.F.D. Route 2 and carried further down the line for delivery. Much earlier, there may have existed a Lexington GA, R.F.D. handstamp. The late R.F.D. expert Edith Doane once wrote me that she had one in her collection, but I have never seen one, and when Ms. Doane's

collection was sold, no Lexington GA handstamped marking was there.

The second example (Figure 2.), a cover similarly canceled, this time with a purple-leaded pencil, with a date of "12/19/14," is addressed to "Point Peter/R.F.D. Ga." The enclosure concerns a visit by the addressee. I guess in those horse and buggy days, when phones were uncommon, a proposed visit from another party also on the same R.F.D. route could be an undertaking worth writing about. The enclosure is headed only "Saturday morning." The postmark date, 19 December 1914, did fall on a Saturday, but this neither confirms nor denies Point Peter as being the point of origin.

The third cover (Figure 3.) is another post (greeting) card

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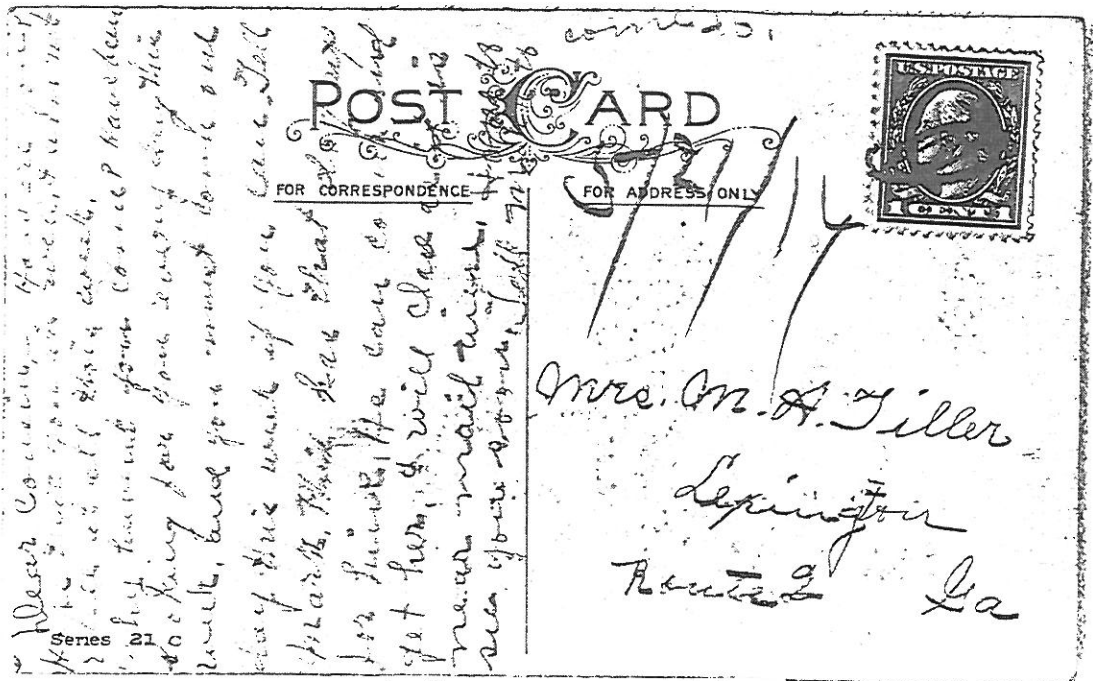


Figure 2.. The Rural Free Delivery system made it possible to coordinate an impending visit in this era.

with the same Point Peter address. This time there is no date; the stamp is canceled with a pencil grid and, above the address, the initials "H. L. B.," also in pencil. These are not the initials of either of the Point Peter carriers at the time, Robert D. Turner or Edward D. Salmon. I

believe the initials may be related to the addressee or the sender.

Readers can make up their own minds as to the collectibility or value of such items as these, but current thinking among experts is that they are R. F. D. usages.

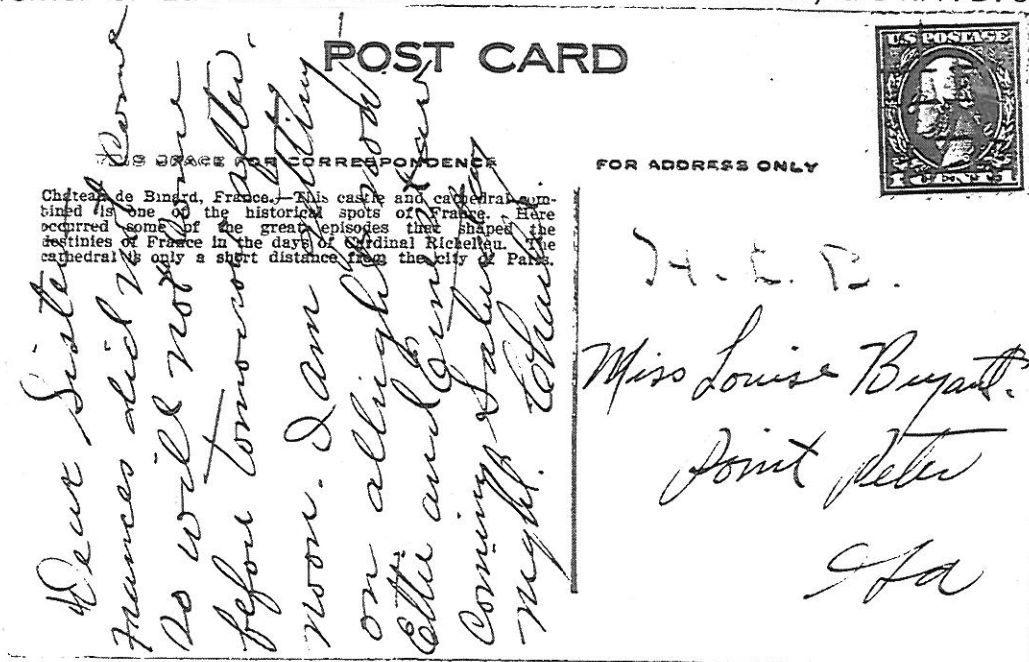


Figure 3. A hand drawn pencil grid cancels this RFD carried postcard.

Georgia Postal History Society at Peach State Stamp Show

Nonie Greens' exhibit of "Savannah, Georgia: Postal History 1798-1899" filled three frames with interesting material and won a Silver award. There were three additional exhibits in which material from Georgia was present or referenced: Galen D. Harrison's "Prisoner's Mail from the American Civil War, 1861-1865;" Daniel C. Warren's "The Southern Mail;" and James L. D. Monroe's "Selected Confederate Covers and Their Stories."

The Annual GPHS meeting was on Saturday, October 16, 1999. The meeting started with a moment of silence for past Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest Owens. There was considerable discussion over ways to make people aware of the Society. Ed Jackson offered to place information on the Society in various website and email postings.

There was also talk of establishing an exhibit photocopy service, whereby photocopies of collections and exhibits of Georgia material would be made available for study and reference to members at cost and non-members for a fee.

It was decided to keep the dues at their present level and to retain the current representatives to the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs.

Peach State and Georgia Federation Report

The Georgia Postal History Society continues to play a prominent role in the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs.

Douglas Clark was chosen to head Peach State Stamp Show 2000. The Chairman announced the dates for the show will be October 20-22, 2000. His Co-chairs are Stanley Field of the Atlanta Stamp Club and James Carr of the Stone Mountain Stamp Club

Nancy Clark was elected to her third term as President of the Georgia Federation of Stamp Clubs. She stated that this would be her last term in this post. Don LaBerteau was elected Vice President, with the expectation that he will assume the post in 2001.

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