GEORGIA





"Official Business" State Departmental Offices Illustrated Covers

1860 - 1960

Compiled by Mike Ludeman



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INTRODUCTION

Mike Ludeman

Although the use of an envelope to securely enclose a letter sent through the mails has been around for many centuries, it was not until the 1840s when several events occurred that brought them into widespread use in the United States. The first was the invention of manufacturing equipment which could mass produce the envelopes inexpensively, and the second was the change in how the United States Post Office Department calculated the way it charged for the postage to carry a letter through the mails. The early rates were based on the number of pieces of paper that made up the letter, and since the envelope was considered a separate sheet, the rate would automatically be doubled for a letter sent in an envelope. With the Postal Act of March 3, 1845, the rates were changed to be based on the weight of the letter rather than the number of pieces of paper comprising the mail piece. This law became effective on July 1, 1845.

By the early 1860s, several state governments had begun to produce decorative envelopes with an all-over background design for use in their "Official Business" correspondence. The typical design included some representation of the official state seal in the upper left corner, together with the name of the individual department or agency, either as part of the design with the seal or in the background of the entire envelope. As these envelopes were often printed in bright colors, they no doubt readily caught the attention of their recipients.

Eventually the local governments (county and city) began to emulate the state government, and some prepared illustrated envelopes for use in their departments and agencies.

The present monograph is an initial effort to document and illustrate these envelopes which were used at all offices within the current state. It is not intended to be complete in all respects, such as one might expect in a formal handbook or catalog but has been prepared to provide the reader with an introduction to a representative sample of the styles and varieties of envelopes that were used during this period, and perhaps educate the collecting community as to the possibilities that could exist in collecting them.

The initial section will include those envelopes used by the state agencies and departmental offices, which are typically located at the state capitol. The state departmental envelopes have been organized into an alphabetical order based on the agency or department name. These department names were not always consistent, as they evolved over time, and therefore, these are usually grouped by what the compiler believed was the most obvious choice. Within the envelopes from a specific agency or department, the envelopes are arranged in chronological order.

A second section was prepared to include envelopes from agencies and departments prepared for and used by the county and other local (city) governments. The organization of this section was arranged in alphabetical order by county, then by county seat, and finally by date, with any envelopes from a city office in the county to follow.

Only the illustration of front side of these envelopes has been included, unless there is some significant postal history element present on the reverse. When the envelope illustrated also included contents related to the purpose of the office, the contents, or at least the illustrated portion of the letterhead or billhead, were also included. As the search for relevant envelopes proceeded, other state and county documents with "interesting" billhead type illustrations were encountered, and because I found these interesting in terms of explaining the purpose for the use of these envelopes, they were included as well.

THE FUTURE PLANS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The complete series of these monographs has been hosted on the Stamp Smarter website through the courtesy of Don Denman. These are not intended to be an active project of the original compiler, but the source documents (a simple Microsoft Word file) can be made available to other collectors who would be interested in taking responsibility to add new materials to them.

For the immediate future, the compiler solicits the contribution of digitals scans that illustrate envelopes which are not present in these monographs, including those present but were used with different dates. Preference will be given to those envelopes with the all-over illustrations, and the state/local buildings and seals, and those used prior to 1920. Contributions of envelopes from any state will be welcome. It is requested that the submitted envelopes should be scanned at 300dpi and provided in the JPG format when possible. Images of envelopes created with a camera or iPhone are not really useful unless they are carefully focused and prepared with no angular distortion. If contributing more than a small number, please contact me to discuss options other than email.

Contributors will be acknowledged in the monograph(s) for which they submit examples. I would like to thank Francis J. Crown, Jr., for making available scans from the covers of this type from his collections. These greatly expanded the number of examples that could be included.

Any errors are the sole responsibility of the compiler, and please bring any errors found to my attention.

Mike Ludeman

mike@ludeman.net

July 2021

V4

The Georgia State Capitol Building

Construction completed March 1889.



Postcard circa 1910, courtesy eBay seller crowspostcards June 2021

Dates: 9 July 1890 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "J. T. HENDERSON / COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Dates: 20 Mar 1895 Color: Blue Size: Regular

Office: "R. T. NESBITT / COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

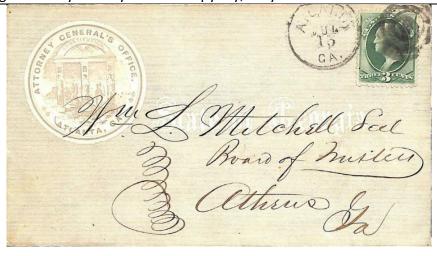
ID: **State:** Georgia **County: Spalding** City: Experiment 14 Feb 1895 Color: Black Size: Regular Dates: Office: "GEORGIA EXPERIMENT STATION / R. J. REDDING - Director." Notes: Established in 1888 by the Hatch Act (Federal) of 1887. **Source:** Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, Aug 2021. GEORGIA EXPERIMENT STATION, EXPERIMENT, GA. R. J. REDDING, -Wer S. H. Broadnax, Walnut Grove,

ID:State:GeorgiaCounty:FultonCity:AtlantaDates:Before Aug 1, 1883Color:TanSize:Regular

Office: "ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE" in seal.

Notes: "State of Georgia" in center background in straight line.

Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.



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ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Office: "OFFICE / COMPILER OF STATE RECORDS,"

Notes: Office name in slightly different font from 1907 example.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Dates: Before Oct 1, 1883 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S OFFICE"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

Return to OMPTROLLER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
ATLANTA, Ga.,
If not delivered within 10 days.

 ID:
 State: Georgia
 County: Fulton
 City: Atlanta

 Dates:
 15 Feb 1923
 Color: Black
 Size: Regular

 Office: "CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS HOME"

 Notes:

 Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS HOME CAN REGISTER



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Dates: 21 Dec 1908 | Color: Blue, red, gold | Size: Regular |
Office: "DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY / GEORGIA DIVISION."

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Office: "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION" in seal, "Office of / State School Commission," in

center background

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Dates: 27 July 1886 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / GUSTAVUS J. ORR,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

GUSTAVUS J. ORR,

STATE SCHOOL COMMISSIONER

County: Fulton City: Atlanta

City: Atlanta

City: Atlanta

City: Atlanta

City: Atlanta

City: Atlanta

County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Size: Regular

Available

County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Size: Regular

Available

County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Size: Regular

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City: Atlanta

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County: Fulton City: Atlanta

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County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Size: Regular

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Available

County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Size: Regular

ID:State:GeorgiaCounty:FultonCity:AtlantaDates:7 Sept 1889Color:BlackSize:Regular

Office: "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION / JAS. S. HOOK,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



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THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT AND GOVERNOR



ID: **State:** Georgia County: Baldwin City: Milledgeville

Dates: 29 Dec ~Late 1860s **Color:** Size: Regular

Office: "EXECUTIVE / DEPARTMENT / GEORGIA" embossed in oval.

Milledgeville was the state capital of Georgia between 1804 and 1868. Notes:



 ID:
 State: Georgia
 County: Fulton
 City: Atlanta

 Dates: Before Aug 1, 1883
 Color: Tan? Rose?
 Size: Regular

Office: "EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT" in seal.

Notes: "State of Georgia" in center background in straight line.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



ID:State: GeorgiaCounty: FultonCity: Atlanta

Dates:Before Aug 1, 1883Color:TanSize:Regular

Office: "EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT" in seal

Notes: "State of Georgia" in center background with "state" at an angle.

Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.



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ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta **Dates:** 25 Mar 1955 **Color:** Slate blue Size: Regular Office: "Executive Department / Atlanta" Notes: Letterhead used during term of Governor Marvin Griffin, who served Jan 11,1955 -Jan 13, 1959. Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller authentictradingpost, June 2021. Executive Department Atlanta MARVIN GRIFFIN BEN T. WIGGINS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY January 25, 1955

ID: State: Georgia **County:** Fulton City: Atlanta **Dates:** 25 Mar 1955 Color: Slate blue Size: Regular Office: "Office of the Governor / Atlanta, Georgia, 30334" Notes: Letterhead used during term of Governor George Busbee, who served Jan 14, 1975 - Jan 11, 1983. Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller midyatjewelry, June 2021. Office of the Governor Atlanta, Georgia 30334 George Busbee GOVERNOR March 1, 1977

ID: County: Fulton City: Atlanta **State:** Georgia **Dates:** 7 July 1989 Color: Black Size: Regular Office: "STATE OF GEORGIA / OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR / ATLANTA 30334" Notes: Letterhead used during term of Governor Joe Frank Harris, who served Jan 11, 1983 Jan 14, 1991. Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller autogaphedcards, June 2021. STATE OF GEORGIA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ATLANTA 30334 Joe Frank Harris July 7, 1989

ID: State: Georgia **County:** Fulton City: Atlanta Color: Blue Dates: 4 May 1895 Size: Regular Office: "GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GEORGIA." **Notes:** Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GEORGIA, ATLANTA. Mr. Wm. F. E. Gurley, State Geologist. Springfield. Ill.,

Dates: 12 Sept 1902 Color: Green Size: Regular

Office: "GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GEORGIA,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

Geological Strivey of Georgia

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ATLANTA

ATLANTA

ALLEGICAL

ID:State: GeorgiaCounty: FultonCity: AtlantaDates: Before Oct 1, 1883Color: BlueSize: Regular

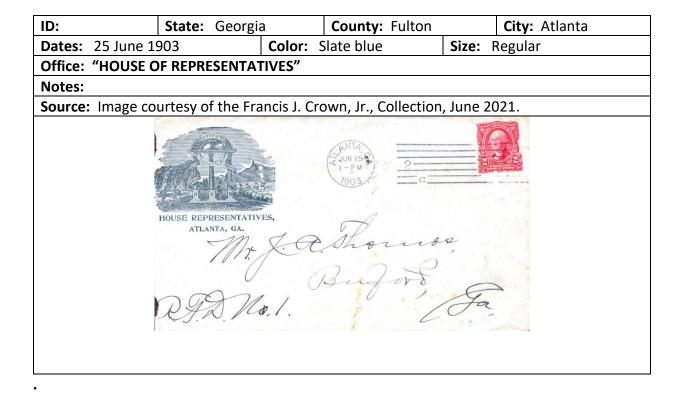
Office: "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES"

Notes: "State of Georgia" in center background with "State" at an angle.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



ID:	State:	Georgia		County:	Fulton		City: Atlanta		
Dates: 8 Oct 187	0		Color:	Brown		Size: Regular			
Office: "GEORGIA LEGISLATURE / HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES"									
Notes:									
Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.									
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Monograph [US-02(GA)]

ID:State:GeorgiaCounty:FultonCity:AtlantaDates:20 May 1899Color:Black on tanSize:Regular

Office: "SECRETARY OF STATE"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



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ID:State: GeorgiaCounty: FultonCity: Atlanta

Office: "SENATE CHAMBER"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



Dates: 18 Dec 1884 | Color: Black | Size: Regular |
Office: "STATE LIBRARY / FRANK L. HARALSON,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

Dates: 27 Sept 1889 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "STATE LIBRARY."

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

STATE LIBRARY.

JNO. MILLEDGE Maryland Historical Society, ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

Ballimore, Maryland Historical Society, Atlanta, Georgia.

ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta Color: Black Size: Regular Dates: 6 June 1905 Office: "C. J. WELLBORN, / STATE LIBRARIAN" Reply card acknowledging receipt of books loaned from State Library. Notes: **Source:** Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. J. WELLBORN, STATE LIBRARIAN, ATLANTA, GA. RECEIVED OF C. J. WELLBORN, State Librarian, the following books for use of officers in this County, vi Two copies Vol.___Georgia Repo

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ID: State: Georgia County: Clarke City: Athens Dates: 7 Dec 1914 Color: Blue Size: Regular Office: "STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,, P.F. BROWN, A.M.," Notes: Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. STATE NORMAL SCHOOL P. F. BROWN, A.M. ATHENS DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
ATHENS, GA. DEC 7 -14 2-80PM Major W. a. Smith ansonville

ID: State: Georgia County: Wilcox City: Abbeville

Dates:2 Oct 1905Color:BlueSize:Regular

Office: "GEORGIA NORMAL COLLEGE, A. A. KUHL"

Notes: Established 1898, but relocated to Douglas in 1908, and became South Georgia

State College.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, Aug 2021.



Dormitory at Georgia Normal College, 1907.



Picture postcard courtesy of eBay seller pratercollectibles, Aug 2021.

ID: State: Georgia County: Fulton City: Atlanta

Dates: 5 Dec 1890 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



Dates: 5 July 1887 | Color: Brown | Size: Regular |
Office: "University of Georgia," in an arc in center of cover.

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

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Part 2

GEORGIA

County and City Agencies "Official Business" Envelopes

Arranged by County and City

ID:State: GeorgiaCounty: BibbCity: MaconDates: 13 Mar 1888Color: Black on TanSize: Regular

Office: "Lewis Normal Institute"

Notes: Founded by the American Missionary Association in 1865 for Freedmen. Became a public school in 1873 and named Lewis High School. The name was changed in 1885 to Lewis Normal Institute, and became Ballard Normal School several years later..

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



ID: State: Georgia County: Bibb City: Macon

Dates: 1 May 1890 | Color: Black | Size: Regular

Office: "Ballard Normal School"

Notes: Was previously known as Lewis Normal Institute.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



Dates: 26 Sept 1918-18 Dec 1919 | Color: Black on Cream | Size: Regular |

Office: "WATER DEPARTMENT"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller rogevaiv0, May 2021.

WATER DEPARTMENT | Weed, c/o Weed Hawe. Co., Savannah, Ga.

ID: State: Georgia County: Coffee City: Douglas Dates: 24 Feb 1907 Color: Blue Size: Regular "Southern Normal Institute / Douglas, Georgia," Office: Notes: Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. Southern Normal Institute, Douglas, Georgia. Mr. Roland M. Harper, College Point, North Boulevard.

State: Georgia	County: Fulton	City: Atlanta	
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Dates: 22 Nov 1892 Color: Blue & Red Size: Regular

Office: "THE ATLANTA FIRE DEPARTMENT,"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

THE ATLANTA FIRE** DEPARTMENT**

W.R. JOYNER, CHIEF.

ATLANTA, GA.

THE ATLANTA FIRE** DEPARTMENT**

ATLANTA, GA.

ATLANTA FIRE** DEPARTMENT**

THE ATLANTA FIRE** DEPAR

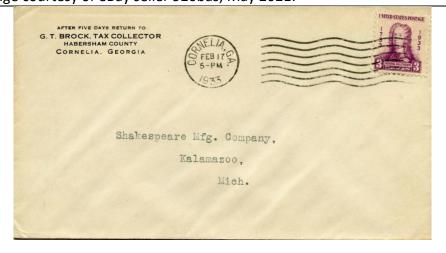
ID: State: Georgia County: Habersham City: Cornelia

Dates: 17 Feb 1933 Color: Black on Tan Size: Regular

Office: "G. T. BROCK, TAX COLLECTOR"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller 920bas, May 2021.



Dates: 17 Feb 1933 Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "LA GRANGE HIGH SCHOOL / R. E. PARK, Principal"

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller weiszcovers, May 2021.

LA GRANGE, GA.

R. E. PARK, Principal.

MASSICE

Alegary John M. Sark

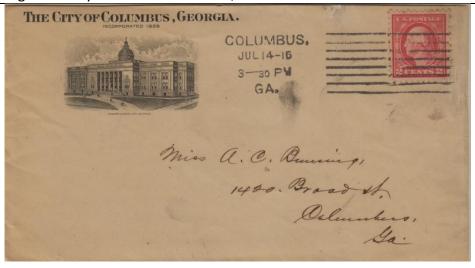
ID:State: GeorgiaCounty: MuscogeeCity: Columbus

Office: "THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA"

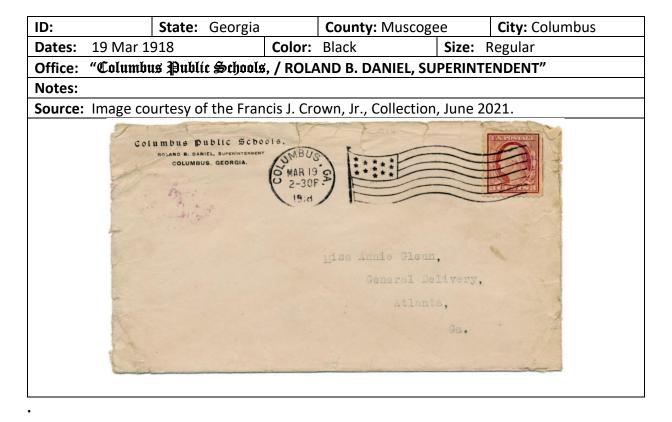
Notes: Printed by the "COURIER-JOURNAL LITH. LOUISVILLE", located below courthouse.

COURTER-JOURNAL LITH LOUISVILLE.

Source: Image courtesy Jim Doolin collection, June 2021.



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Part 3

GEORGIA

Private Business's Using designs similar to the "Official Business" Envelopes

Arranged by County and City

Dates: 31 Jan 1914 Color: Blue Size: Regular

Office: NEW TERMINAL HOTEL, / ATLANTA, GA."

Notes: State Seal in company logo.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

Dates: 7 Feb ~1880s Color: Brown Size: Regular

Office: GEORGIA HOME INSURANCE CO. / COLUMBUS GA.

Notes: State Seal in company logo.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.

ID: State: Georgia **County:** Muscogee City: Columbus **Dates:** 21 Spet 1933 Color: Brown Size: Regular Office: GEORGIA HOME INSURANCE CO. / COLUMBUS GA." in the Seal State Seal in company logo. Envelope used at an Agent's office in Rochester, NY. Notes: **Source:** Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. LIKLY - FROST AGENCY, Inc., Agents 424 Cutler Building 42 East Avenue Mr. Milton G. Silver Rochester, N. Y. 195 Platt Street Rochester, New York

ID: State: Georgia County: Bibb City: Macon

Office: U. S. / Christian Commission. / SOLDIER'S LETTER"

Notes: A corner card in the style of some U.S. Government corner cards, but this organization was a Y.MC.A. sponsored organization established to perform religious and charitable work during the Civil War.

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



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Part 4

GEORGIA

Federal Department & Agency Envelopes

ID: County: Chatham City: Savannah **State:** Georgia Color: Black Dates: 19 Aug 1878 Size: Regular Office: "U. S. MARSHALL / SAVANNAH, GA" **Notes:** Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller dave-katz, June 2021. RETURN TO U.S. MARSHAL SAVANNAH, CAS, E If not delivered in Ten day Insert In the District Court of the United States, FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA. IN BANKRUPTCY. In the matter of A. M. SLOAN & CO., Andrew M. Sloan, Arthur N. Sollee, and George W. Wylly, Jr., B inkrupts. SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA, ss: United States Marshal's Office, Savannah, Aug. 8, 1878. To Mr.

ID: State: Georgia **County:** Fulton City: Atlanta Dates: 1899 - 1902 Color: Blue Size: European "PAY DEPARTMENT U.S. ARMY, / ADDITIONAL PAYMASTER'S OFFICE" Office: **Notes: Source:** Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. PAY DEPARTMENT U. S. ARMY. ADDITIONAL PAYMASTER'S OFFICE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA. Mrs S. Ho. Heaston Huntington Indiana 25 m St.

 ID:
 State:
 Georgia
 County:
 Fulton
 City:
 Atlanta

 Dates:
 2 Sept 1898
 Color:
 Black on tan
 Size:
 Regular

 Office:

 "OFFICE OF THE CLERK / UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT,"

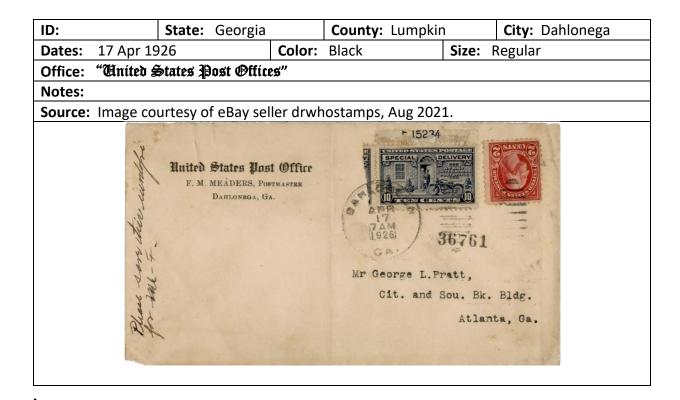
 Notes:

Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021.



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ID: **State:** Georgia **County:** Dougherty City: Albany Dates: 15 Mar ~1865 Color: Black Size: Regular Office: "Deputy Collector's Office, Internal Revenue, / Division, 2nd District, Georgia" Notes: Source: Image courtesy of the Francis J. Crown, Jr., Collection, June 2021. Deputy Collector's Office, Internal Revenue, Division, 2nd District, Georgia. OFFICIAL BUSINESS.



Part 5

GEORGIA Confederate States of America Department & Agency Envelopes

Used within the State

Arranged by County and City

| Discription | County: Unknown | City: Unknown | Dates: ~1860s? | Color: Black | Size: Regular | Office: "包. 和. 和t. / Official Business." In shield.

| Notes: Catalog listing copy. | Source: Image courtesy Schuyler Rumsey Auction#85, Lot 2056.

ID: WD-ZA-27 State: Georgia County: Unknown City: Unknown

Dates: 1860s Color: Black Size: Regular

Office: "HEAD QUARTERS 2ND and 6TH MILITARY DISTRICTS. / Department of South

Carolina, Georgia, and Florida."

Notes:

Source: Image courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 1230, Lot 1598.

