

MISSOURI



“Official Business”
State Departmental Offices
Illustrated Covers
1860 - 1960

Compiled by Mike Ludeman



Hosted in the Stamp Smarter Library

<https://stampsmarter.org/learning/StateGovCovers.html>

MISSOURI: “Official Business” Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

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. This occurred as the result of the Postal Act of March 3, 1845, when rates were changed to consider the weight of the letter rather than the number of sheets 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 agency and departmental offices, which are typically located at the state capitol. The state department 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

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

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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 digital 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.

All contributors will be acknowledged in the monograph(s) for which they submit examples unless requested otherwise. Any errors are the sole responsibility of the compiler, and please bring any errors found to my attention.

Mike Ludeman

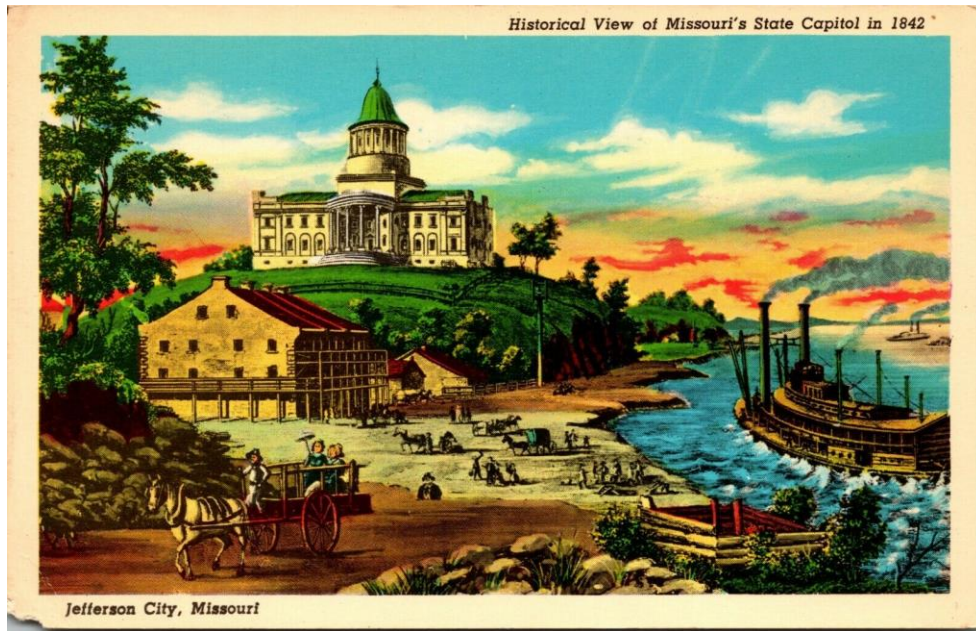
mike@ludeman.net

July 2021

v3

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State Capitol in 1842



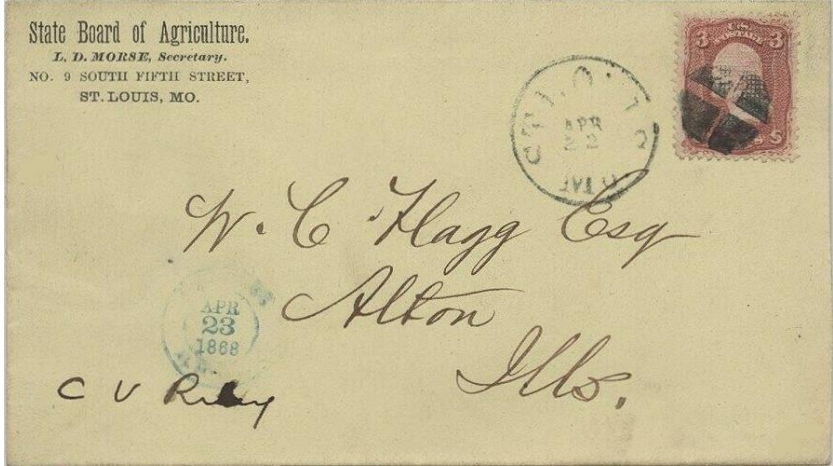
Postcard image courtesy of eBay seller bama4348, June 2021.


State Capitol – Constructed 1918




Postcard image courtesy of eBay seller mdcgbg, June 2021.

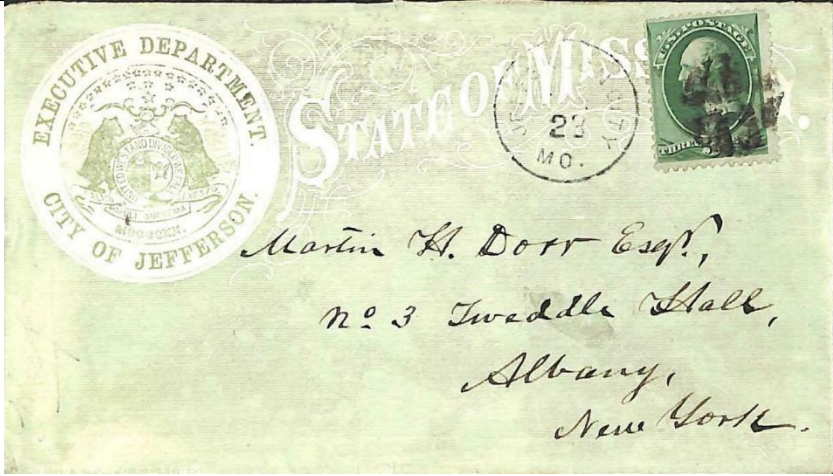
MISSOURI: “Official Business” Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: St. Louis	City: St. Louis
Dates: 22 Apr ~1868	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: “State Board of Agriculture. / L. D. MORSE, Secretary.”			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller yefzin, May 2021.			
			

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 29 Oct ~1870s	Color: Rose	Size: Regular	
Office: “ATTORNEY GENERAL’S OFFICE. / CITY OF JEFFERSON”			
Notes: Printer’s imprint on back flap: “JNO. J. DALY & Co., ST. LOUIS.”			
			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 17 Feb ~1870s	Color: Gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE. / CITY OF JEFFERSON"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

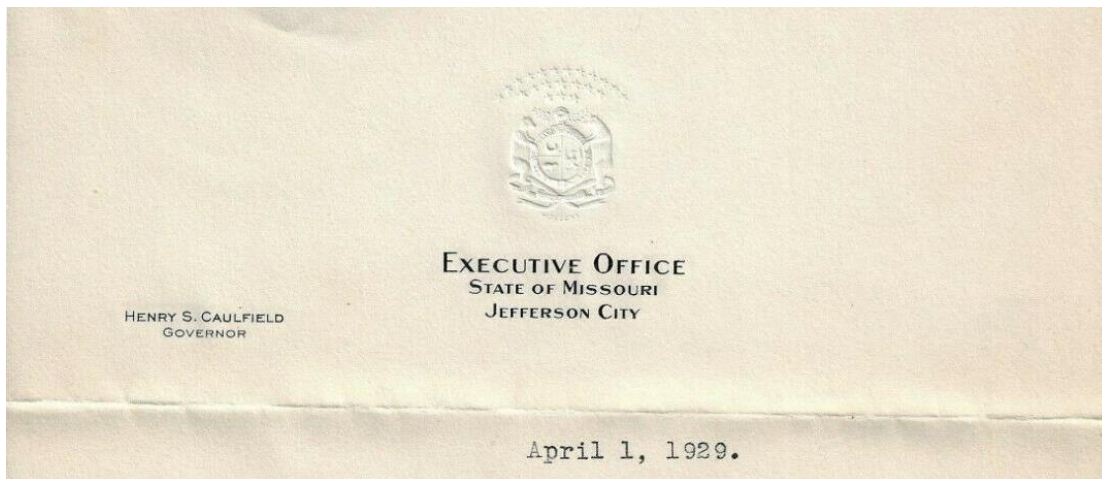
ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 23 June ~1870s	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. / CITY OF JEFFERSON."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards


ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 19 Apr 1929	Color: Black	Size: Legal	
Office: "EXECUTIVE OFFICE / STATE OF MISSOURI / JEFFERSON CITY"			
Notes: Embossed seal on letterhead. Used during the term of Governor Henry S. Caulfield, who served from Jan 14, 1929 to Jan 9, 1933.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller jeneezirishh35, May 2021. From the Adelle Steinhauer Autograph collection.			

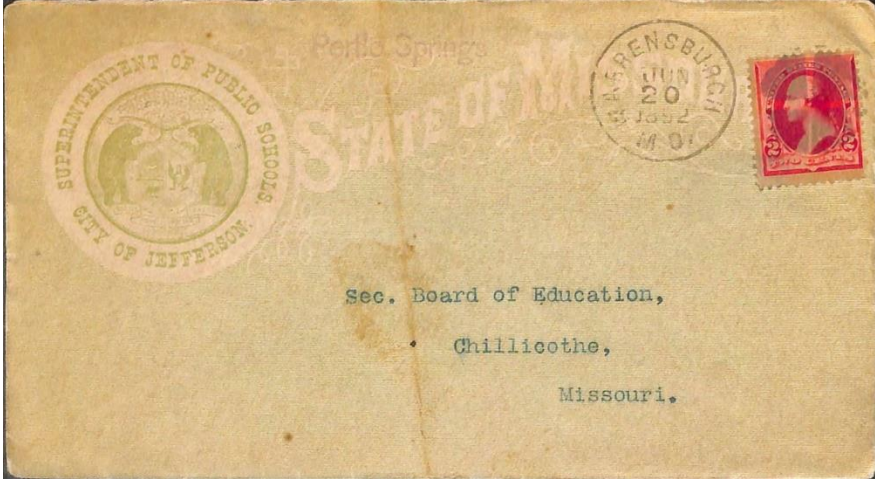


Letterhead



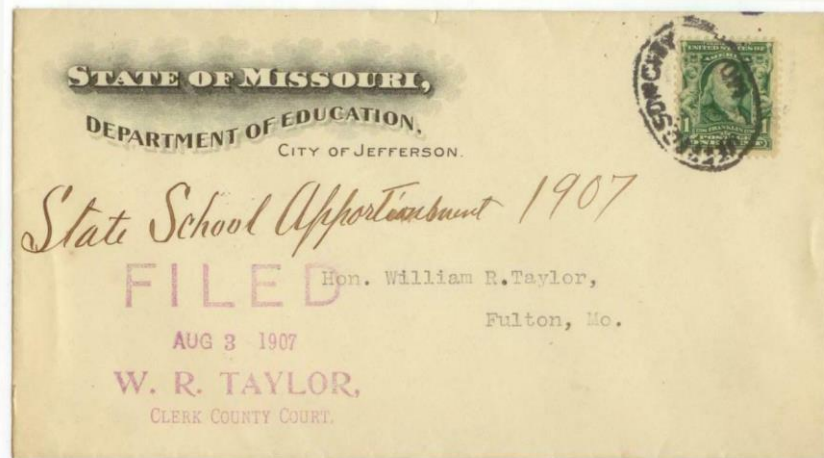
MISSOURI: “Official Business” Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: ~1880s	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: “SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS. / CITY OF JEFFERSON”			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller postchris, June 2021.			
			

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 20 June 1892	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: “SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS. / CITY OF JEFFERSON”			
Notes: Different font used for CITY OF JEFFERSON . Green color badly faded.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

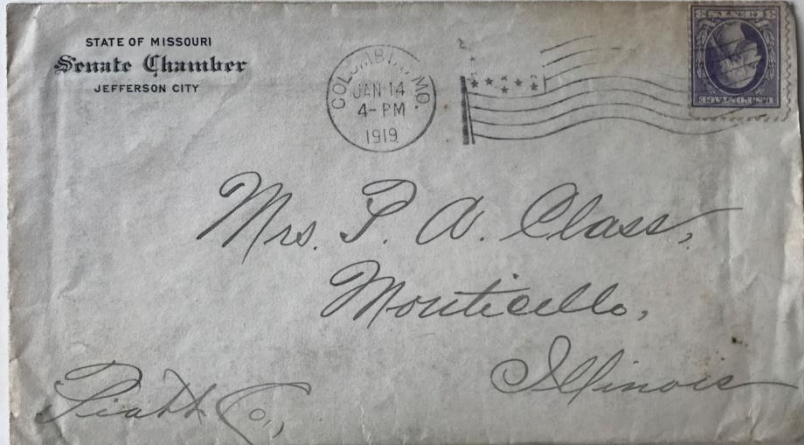
ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 3 Aug 1907	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, / CITY OF JEFFERSON."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller postchris, June 2021.			

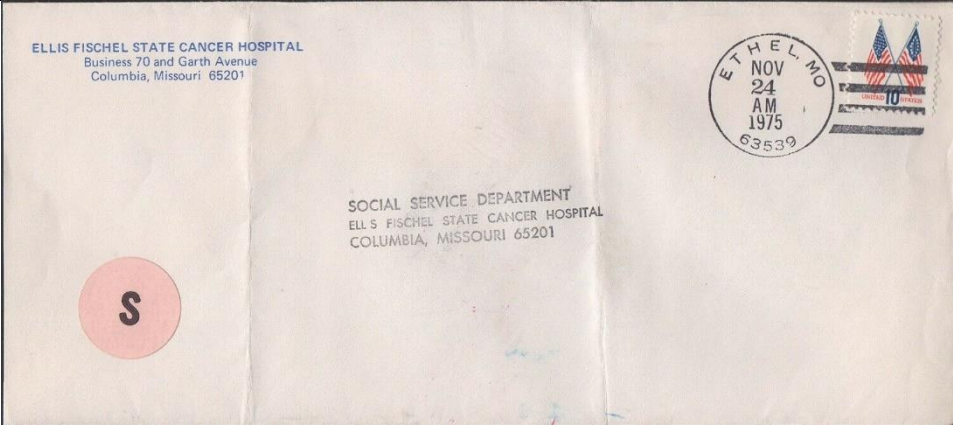


ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 15 Jan 1903	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "SENATE CHAMBER. / CITY OF JEFFERSON"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stamps-plus, May 2021.			



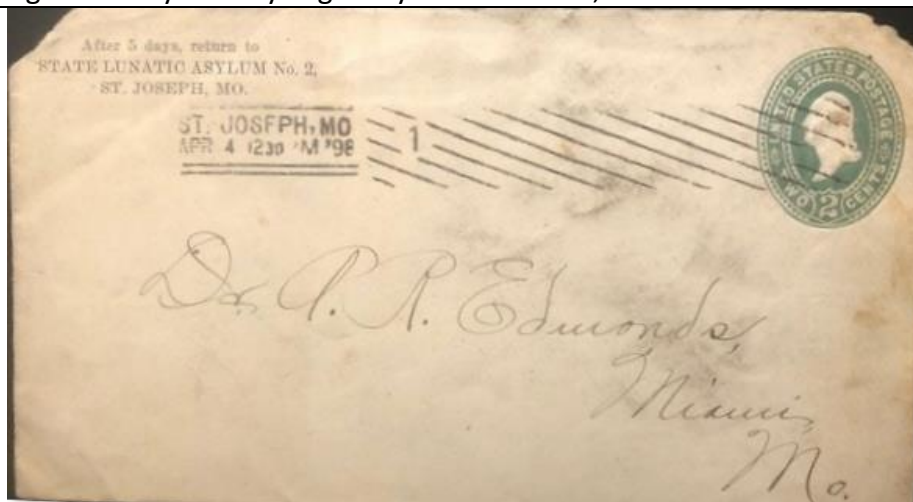
MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 14 Jan 1919	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "Senate Chamber / JEFFERSON CITY"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller calloohcallay11, May 2021.			
			

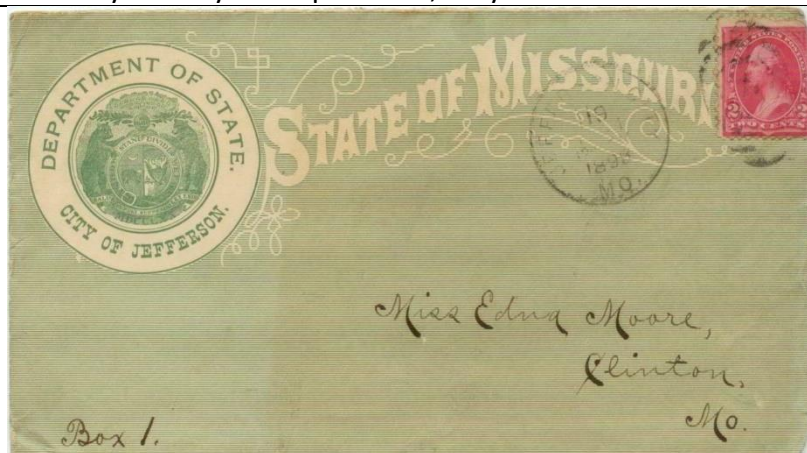
ID:	State: Missouri	County: Boone	City: Columbia
Dates: 24 Nov 1975	Color: Blue	Size: Legal	
Office: "ELLIS FISCHER STATE CANCER HOSPITAL"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller trammdamo, June 2021.			
			

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards


ID:	State: Missouri	County: Buchanan	City: St. Joseph
Dates: 4 Apr 1898	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM No. 2"			
Notes: On 2 cent green PSE.			
Source: Image courtesy of Jerry Login Asylum collection, June 2021.			

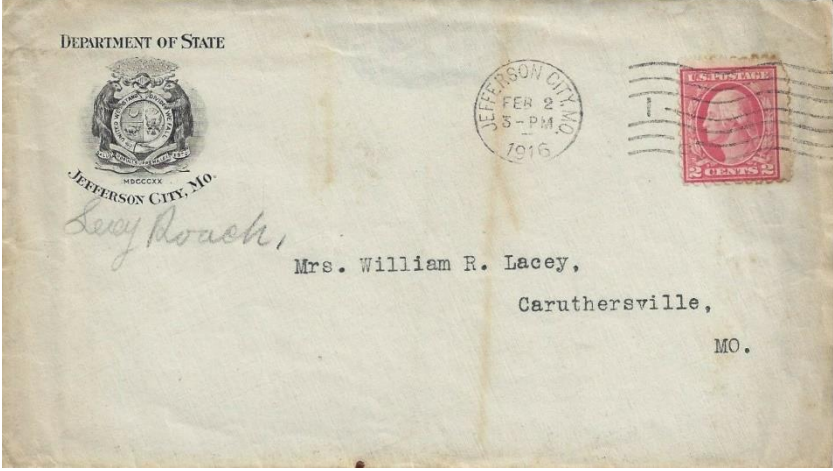


ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 19 ??? 1898	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "DEPARTMENT OF STATE. / CITY OF JEFFERSON"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller postchris, May 2021.			



MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 22 Aug 1899	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "DEPARTMENT OF STATE. / CITY OF JEFFERSON"			
Notes: New font for "CITY OF JEFFERSON"; new "Return in 5 days to" and "SECRETARY OF STATE" added below seal.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 2 Feb 1916	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "DEPARTMENT OF STATE. / JEFFERSON CITY, MO."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller halfmoon28a, May 2021.			
			

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 4 Apr 1883	Color: Orange	Size: Regular	
Office: "TREASURER'S OFFICE. / CITY OF JEFFERSON"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller weiszcovers, May 2021.			




Part 2

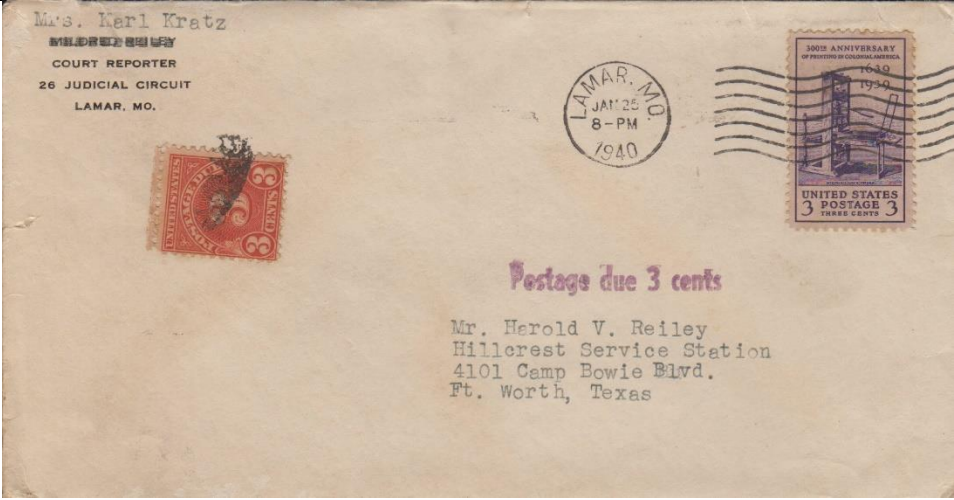
MISSOURI

County & City Agencies “Official Business” Envelopes

Arranged by County and City

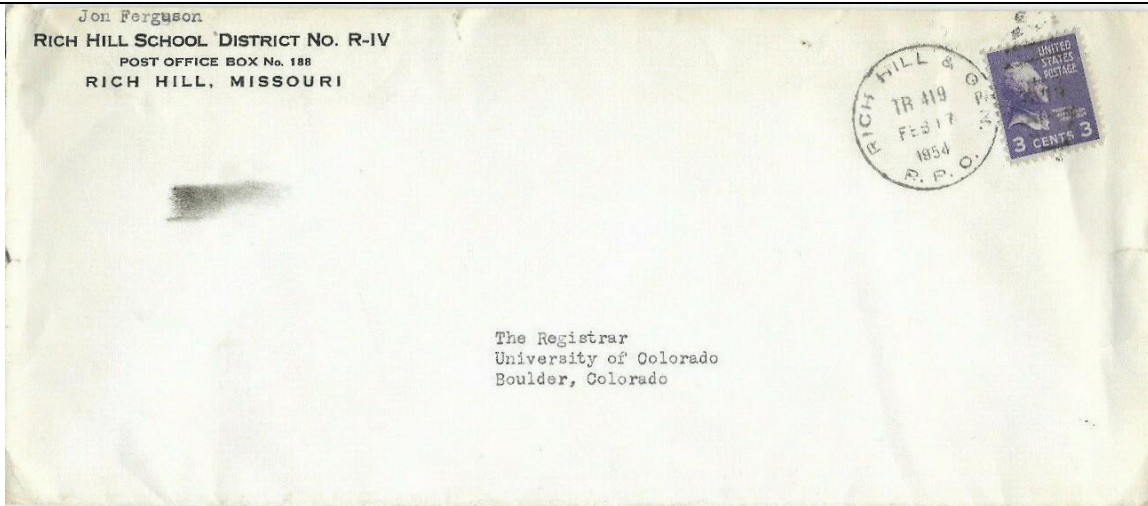
MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Adair	City: Kirksville
Dates: 24 Oct ~1880s	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "State Normal School."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller cjmce1, June 2021.			
			

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Barton	City: Lamar
Dates: 25 Jan 1940	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "COURT REPORTER / 26 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT"			
Notes: Postage due auxiliary and stamp.			
Source: Image courtesy of Author's collection, June 2021.			
			

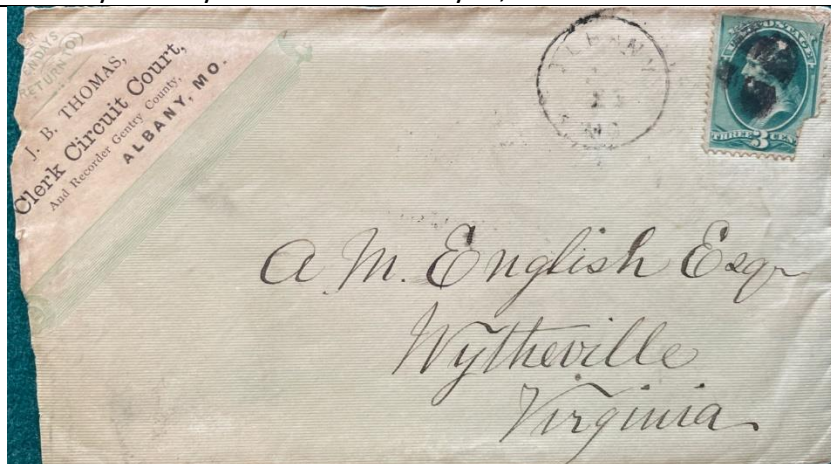
MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Bates	City: Rich Hill
Dates: 17 Feb 1954	Color: Black	Size: Legal	
Office: "RICH HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT No. R-IV"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller cantdog, July 2021.			

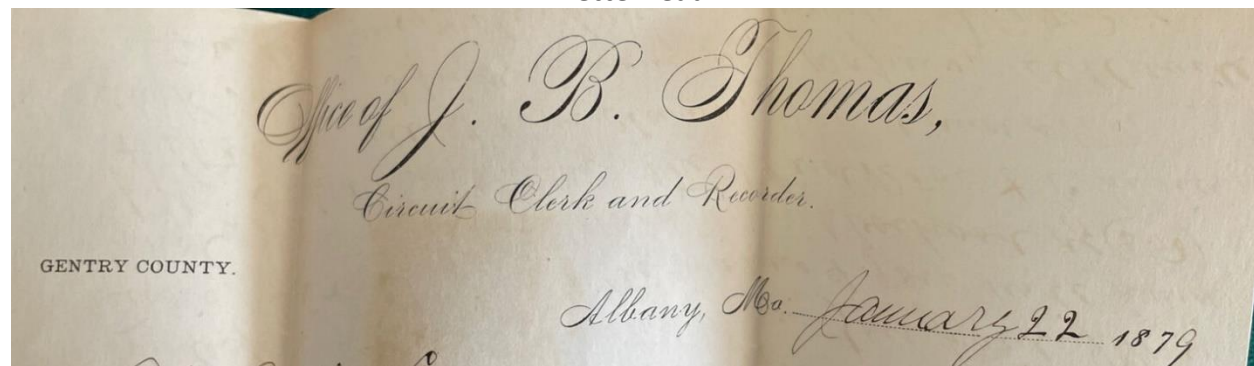


MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Gentry	City: Albany
Dates: 22 Jan 1879	Color: Pale green	Size: Regular	
Office: "J. B. THOMAS, / Clerk Circuit Court, / And Recorder Gentry County."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller calloohcallay11, June 2021.			

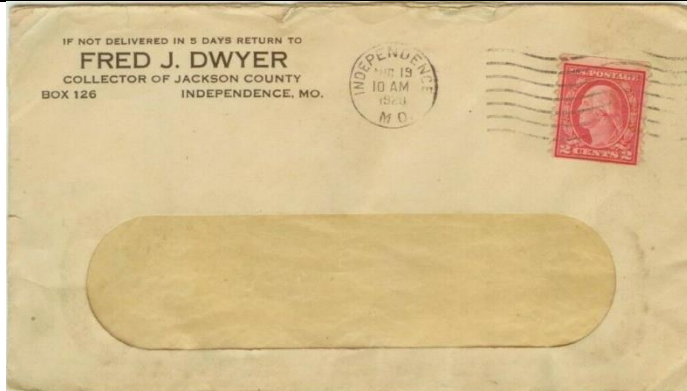


Letterhead



MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Jackson	City: Independence
Dates: 19 Aug 1920	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "FRED J. DWYER / COLLECTOR OF JACKSON COUNTY"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller postchris1, June 2021.			



Enclosure – Tax Statement

This STATEMENT Becomes a Receipt When Officially Numbered, Cancelled Paid and Countersigned by Cashier

Independence Office of County Collector, June, 1920.

TO JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI, DR. Tax Payer's Copy.
 For Taxes Levied for State, County and School Purposes for the year 1920, on PERSONAL PROPERTY ONLY. No. **809**

LEVIES	Dollars	Cents
State	141	
County	647	
Country Sch. No.		
Independence School		
<i>County</i>	<i>647</i>	
TOTAL	1485	
To Cover Cost of Sending Statement and Return of Receipt		<i>04</i>
TOTAL	1489	
Interest		
Attorney Fee		
TOTAL		

Ernest Collinge,
 Route # 2
 Kansas City, Mo.

Page 1513 Line 9

PERSONAL

Assessment of June, 1919

Tax Due and Payable June 1st, 1920
 Delinquent November 1st, 1920

Township **Brookings**

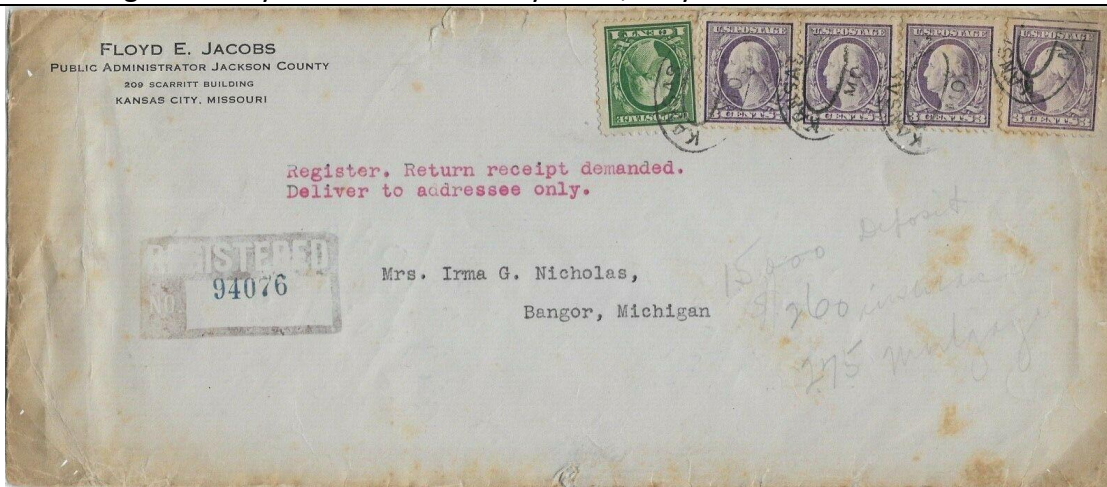
Valuation, \$ **940 1060**

Countersigned *R.P. Lindsay* **FRED J. DWYER, COLLECTOR.**
 Cashier. By *Wood* Deputy.

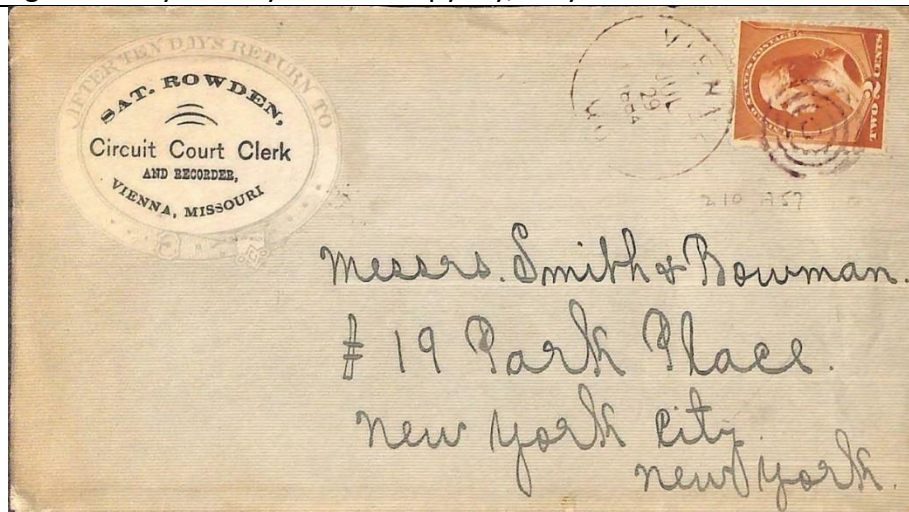
These Triplicate Forms Must Not Be Detached, but ALL Returned with Money Order, Cash or Draft

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Jackson	City: Kansas City
Dates: 28 Nov 1917	Color: Black	Size: Legal	
Office: "FLOYD E. JACOBS / PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR JACKSON COUNTY"			
Notes: Registered letter, date from postal markings on reverse.			
Source: Image courtesy of unidentified eBay seller, May 2021.			



ID:	State: Missouri	County: Maries	City: Vienna
Dates: 29 July 1884	Color: Gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "SAT. BOWDEN, / Circuit Court Clerk / AND RECORDER"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			

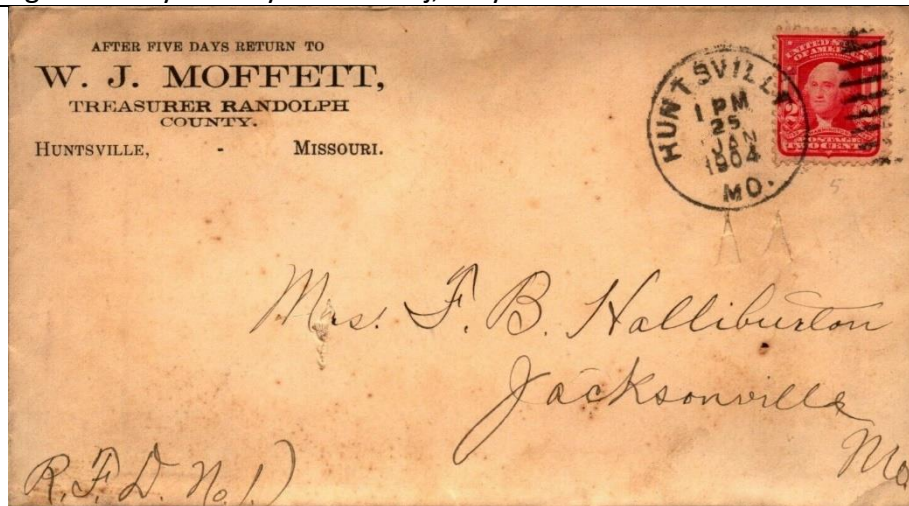


MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

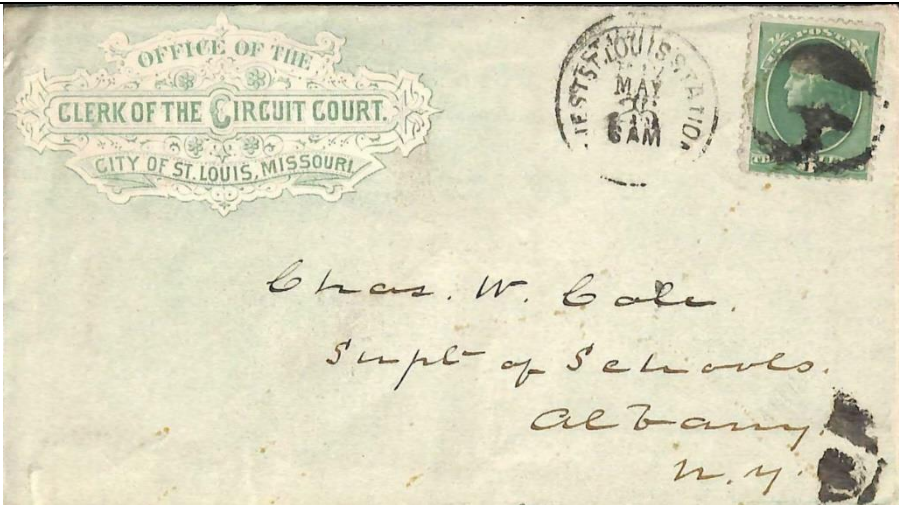
ID:	State: Missouri	County: Saline	City: Marshall
Dates: 6 Dec ~1870s	Color: Black	Size: Legal	
Office: "WILL. H. NOBEL / Recorder of Deeds,"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller jtse777, June 2021.			



ID:	State: Missouri	County: Randolph	City: Huntsville
Dates: 25 Jan 1904	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "W. J. MOFFETT, / TREASURER RANDOLPH / COUNTY"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller millsj, May 2021.			



MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: St. Louis	City: St. Louis
Dates: 17 May ~1870s	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT. / CITY OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

Part 3

MISSOURI

Private Business’s Using designs similar to the “Official Business” Envelopes

Arranged by County and City

No covers identified.

Part 4

MISSOURI

Federal Department & Agency Envelopes

Used within the State

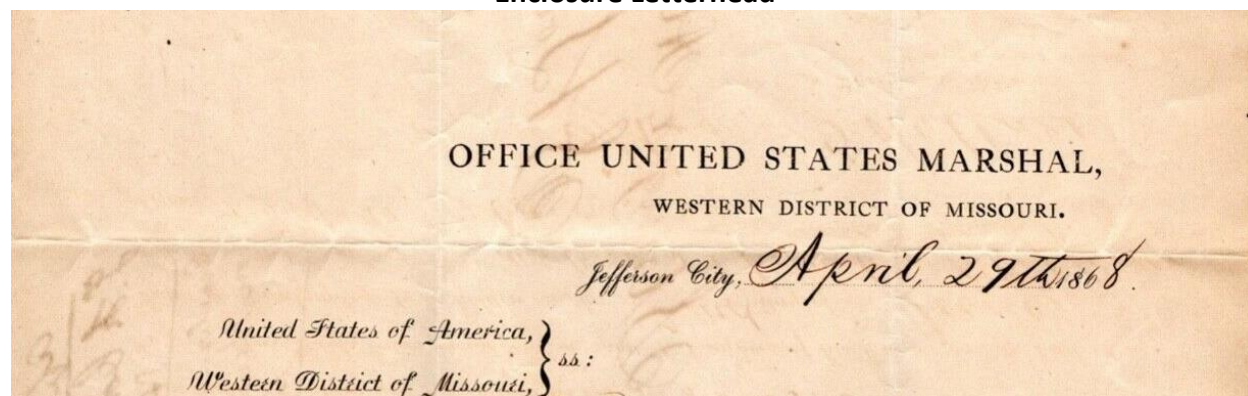
Arranged by County and City

MISSOURI: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: Missouri	County: Callaway	City: Jefferson City
Dates: 29 April 1868	Color: Black on tan	Size: Regular	
Office: "THOMAS B. WALLACE"			
Notes: Corner card is for an United States Marshal, Western District of Missouri, but the only indication is found in the enclosure.			
Source: Image courtesy of unknown eBay seller, June 2021.			



Enclosure Letterhead



Signature block in letter

