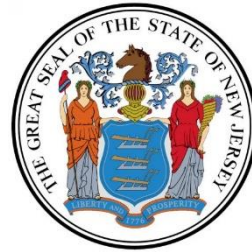


NEW JERSEY



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

Compiled by Mike Ludeman



Hosted in the Stamp Smarter Library

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

NEW JERSEY: “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. 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.

NEW JERSEY: “Official Business” Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

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 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

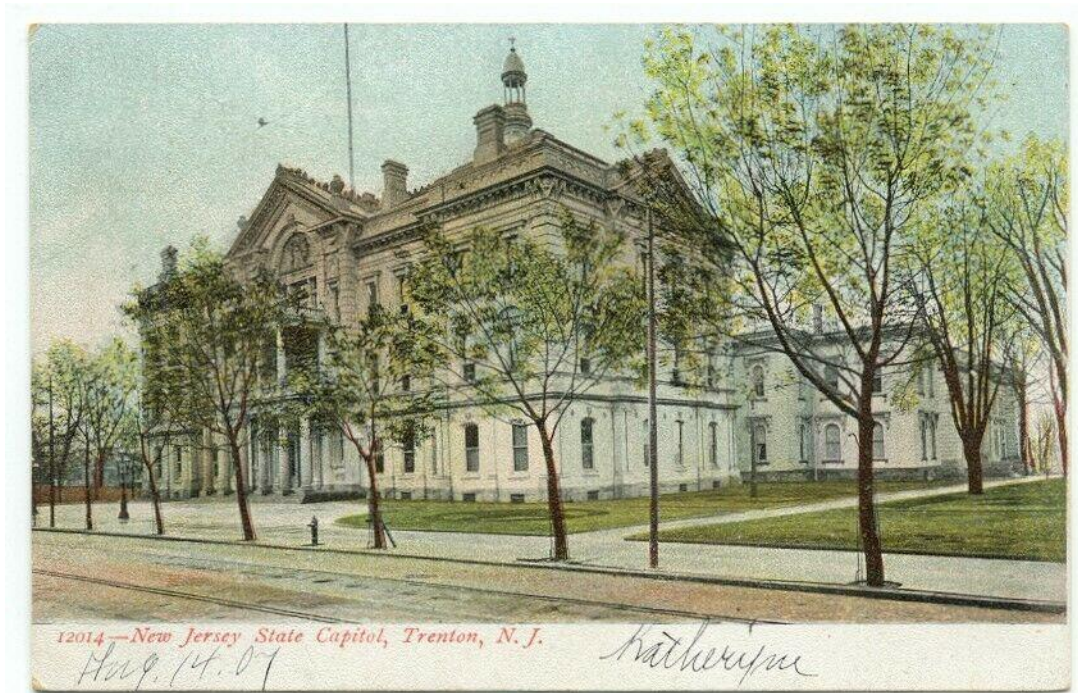
July 2021

v4

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

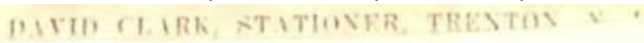
Capitol Building

Constructed 1904



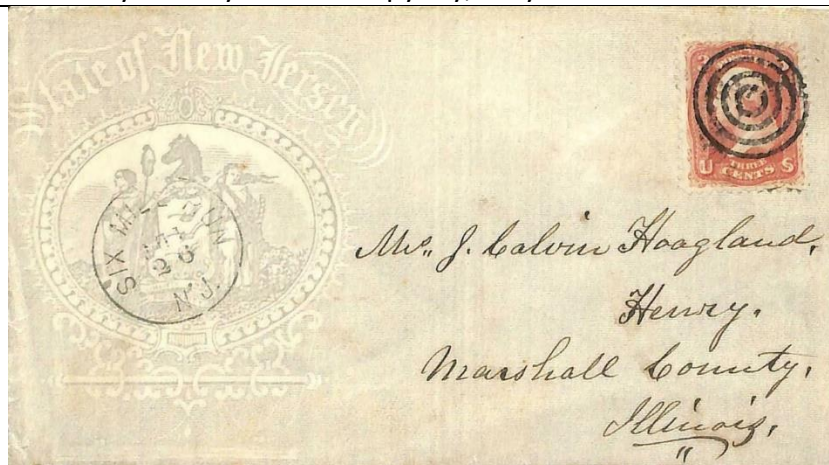
Postcard Image courtesy eBay seller sellmeless, June 2021.

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards


ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Mercer	City: Trenton
Dates: 30 Mar 1860	Color: Gray		Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey,"			
Notes: Generic envelope, no department identified. Seen with and without printer's imprint on back flap: "DAVID CLARK, STATIONER, TRENTON, NJ".			
			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			

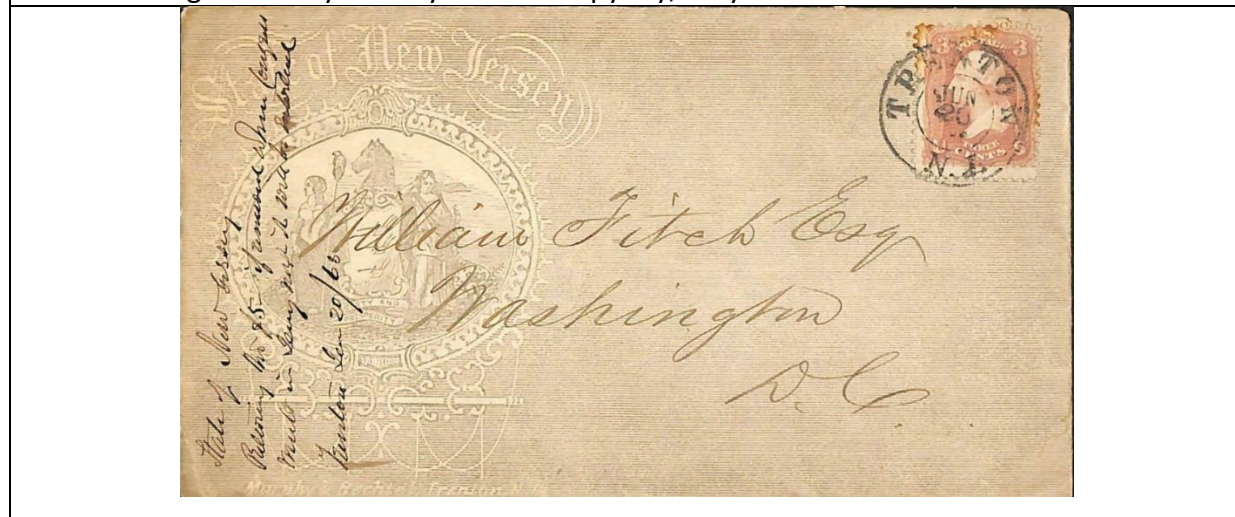


ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Mercer	City: Trenton
Dates: 26 July ~1860s	Color: Gray		Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey," above seal in arc.			
Notes: Generic envelope, no department identified. Mailed from Six Mile Run, NJ.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			



NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

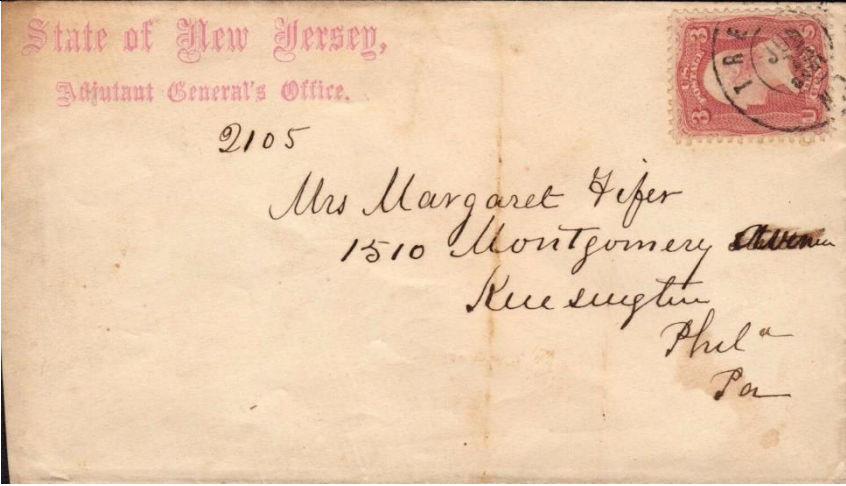
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Mercer	City: Trenton
Dates: 20 June 1866		Color: Light Brown	Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey,"			
Notes: Generic envelope, no department identified. Printer's imprint at lower left below seal for "Murphy & Bechtel, Trenton N.J"			
			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			

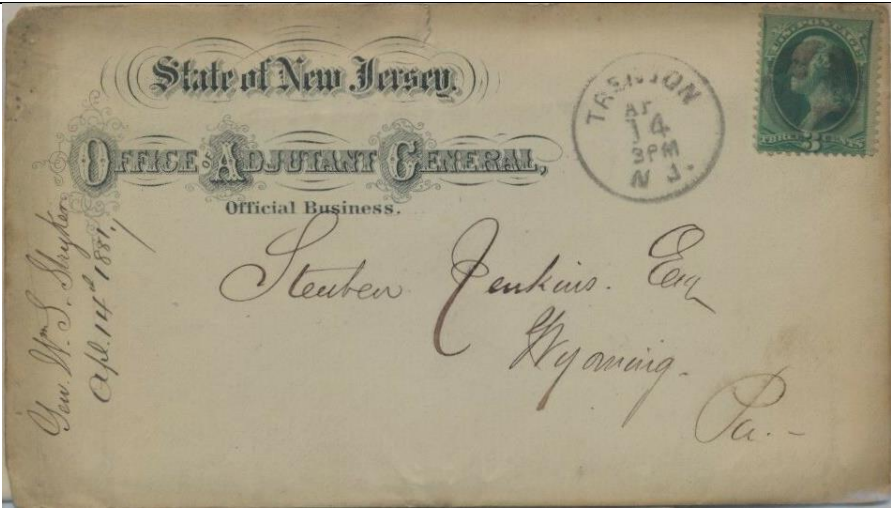


ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Mercer	City: Trenton
Dates: 3 Dec ~1860s		Color: Gray	Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey," in arc above seal, and "Adjutant-General's Office / OFFICIAL MAIL", in red print at top right.			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			



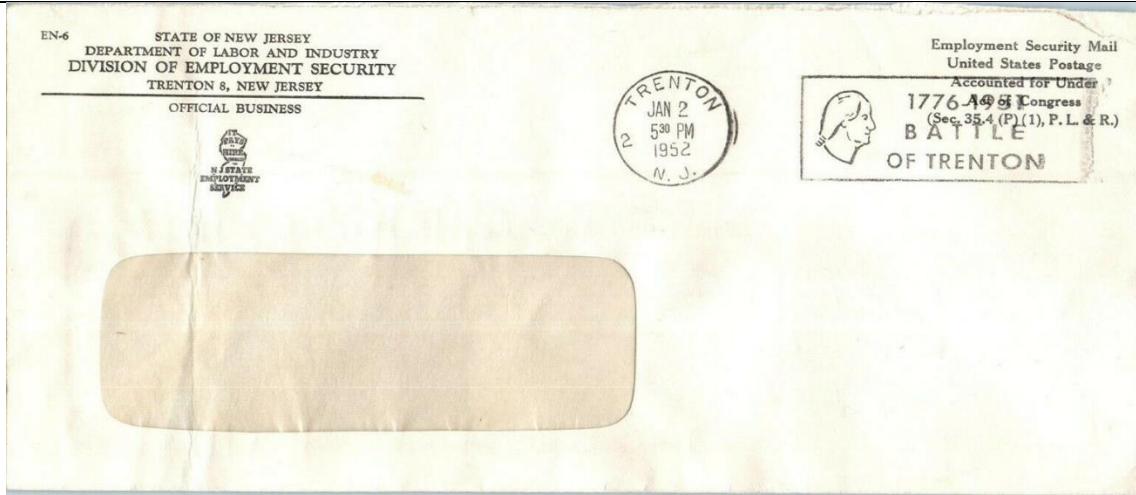
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Mercer	City: Trenton
Dates: 13 June 1863	Color: Rose on cream		Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey, /Adjutant-General's Office."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller scandiman, June, May 2021.			
			

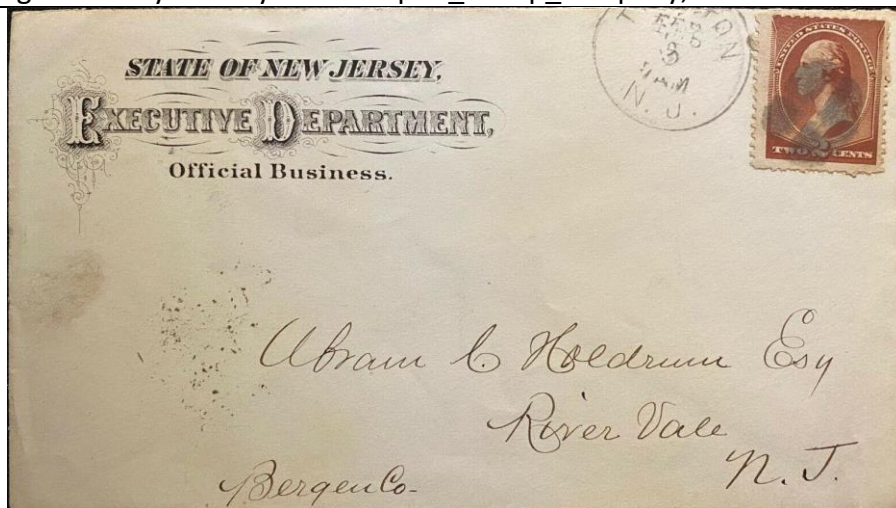
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 14 April 1881	Color: Black		Size: Regular
Office: "State of New Jersey / OFFICE ADJUTANT GENERAL"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller yefzin, July 2021.			
			

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 2 Jan 1952	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY / DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller soundnostalgia, June 2021.			



ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: After Oct 1, 1883	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "STATE OF NEW JERSEY, / EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, / Official Business"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller empire_stamp_company, June 2021.			



NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 19 Aug 1911	Color: Black	Size: European	
Office: "STATE OF NEW JERSEY / EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT / The Secretary to the Governor"			
Notes: Gold seal at corner, no other return on front. Letterhead used during term of Governor Woodrow Wilson, Jan 17, 1911 – Mar 1, 1913.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller jaksterm June 2021.			



Letterhead

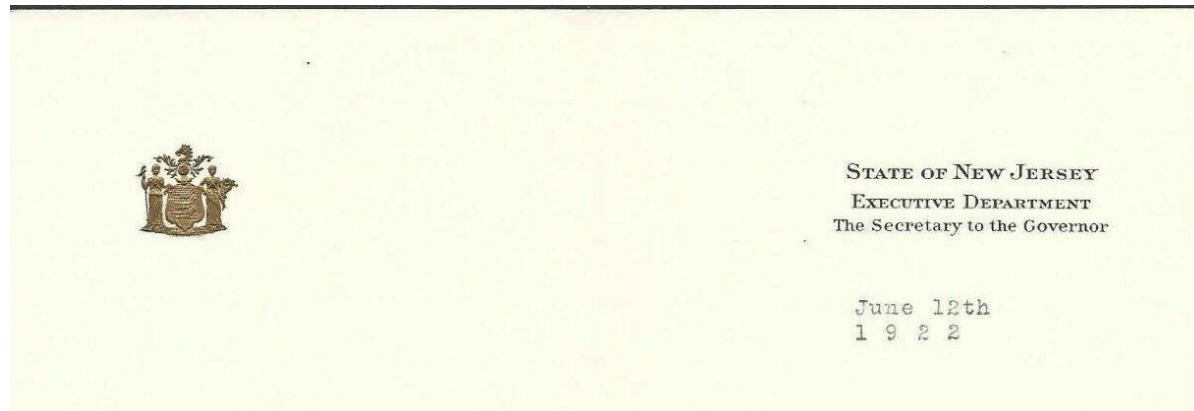


NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

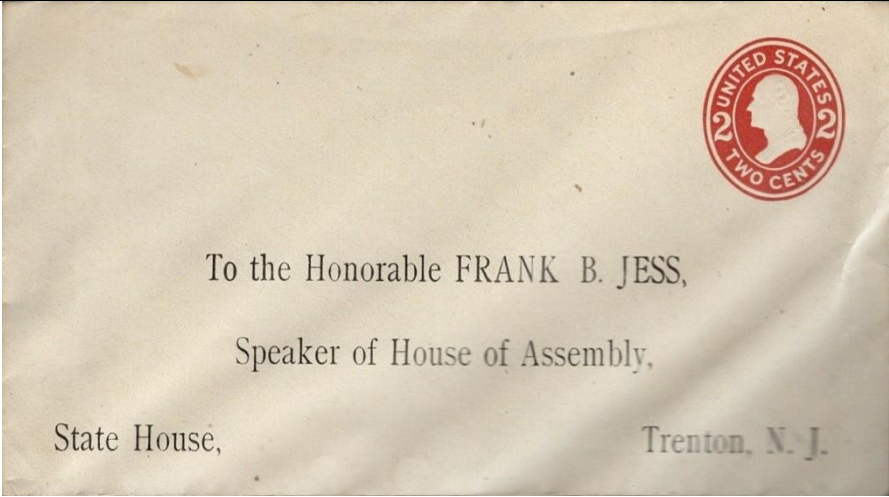
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 12 June 1922	Color: Black		Size: European
Office: "STATE OF NEW JERSEY / EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT / The Secretary to the Governor"			
Notes: Gold seal at corner, return on backflap (envelope cropped for display). Letterhead used during term of Governor Edward I. Edwards, Jan 20, 1920 – Jan 15, 1923.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller ephemeraand, June 2021.			

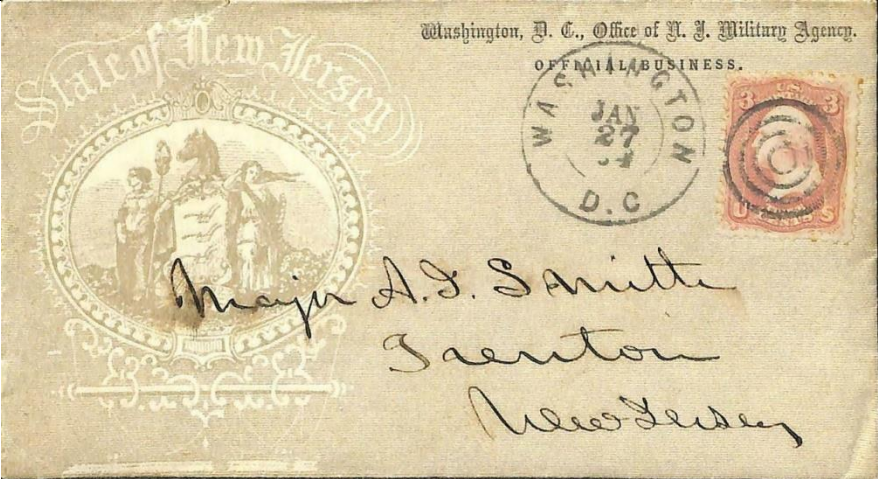


Letterhead



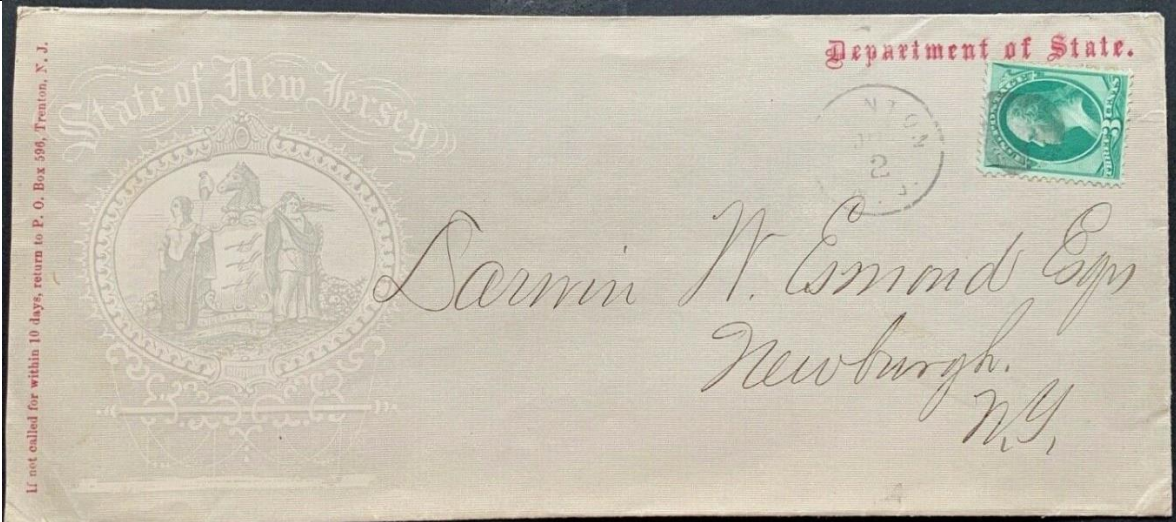
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: ~1900s	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "Speaker of House of Assembly,"			
Notes: Return envelope on 2 cent red PSE.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller citystamps, June 2021.			
			

ID:	State: District of Columbia	County:	City: Washington
Dates: 27 Jan ~1864	Color: Light brown	Size: Regular	
Office: "State of New Jersey" above seal, with "Washington, D. C., Office of U. S. Military Agency." at top right corner.			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller scandiman, June, 2021.			
			

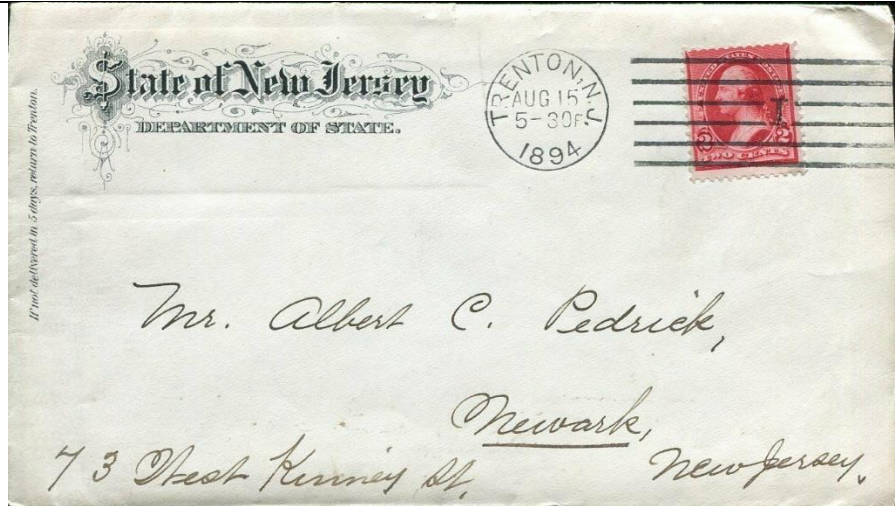
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: ~1870s	Color: Gray & Red	Size: Legal	
Office: "State of New Jersey / Department of State"			
Notes: Return corner in red, vertically at left edge.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller tohncoverman, July 2021.			

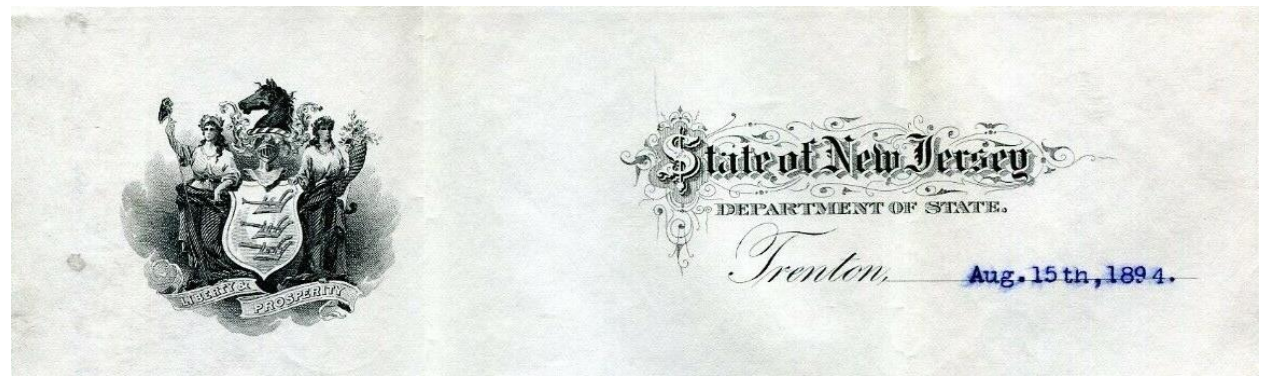


NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 15 Aug 1894 – 3 Nov 1894	Color: Black on white	Size: Regular	
Office: "State of New Jersey / DEPARTMENT OF STATE."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller postcardduster, June 2021.			

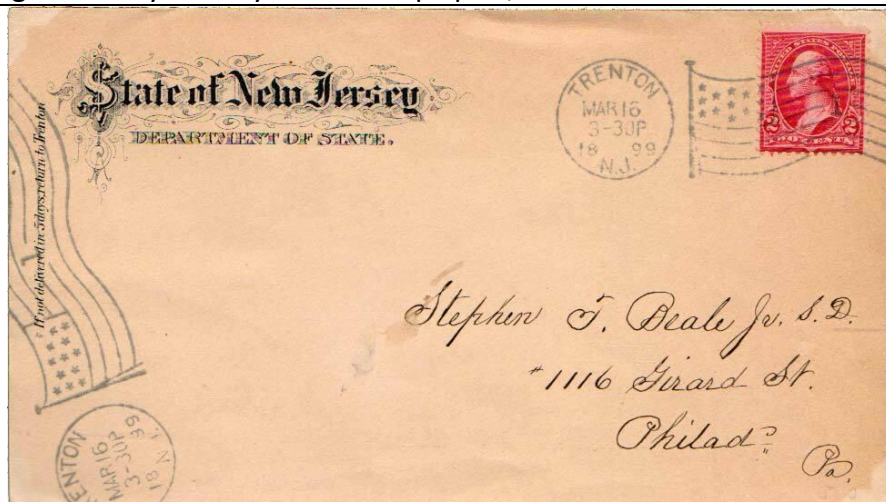


Letterhead

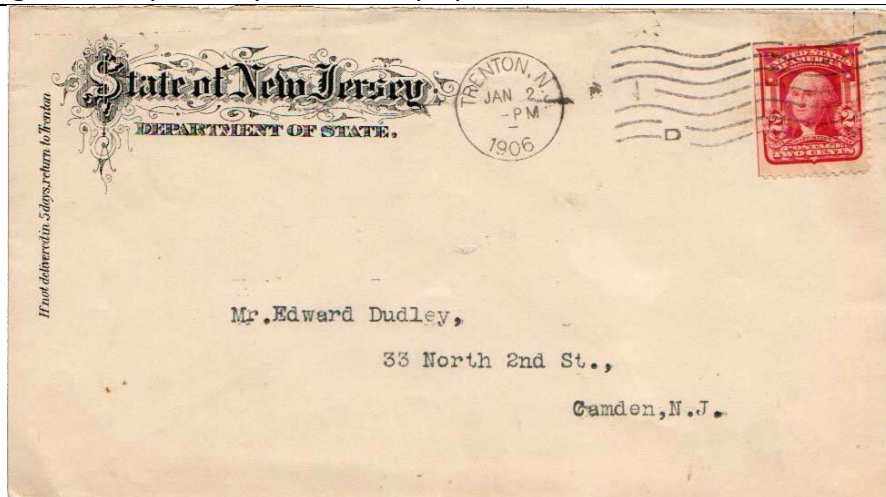


NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 7 Feb 1898 – 16 Mar 1899	Color: Black on gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "State of New Jersey / DEPARTMENT OF STATE."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stamps-plus, June 2021.			



ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 2 Jan 1906	Color: Black on cream	Size: Regular	
Office: "State of New Jersey / DEPARTMENT OF STATE."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stamps-plus, June 2021.			



NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

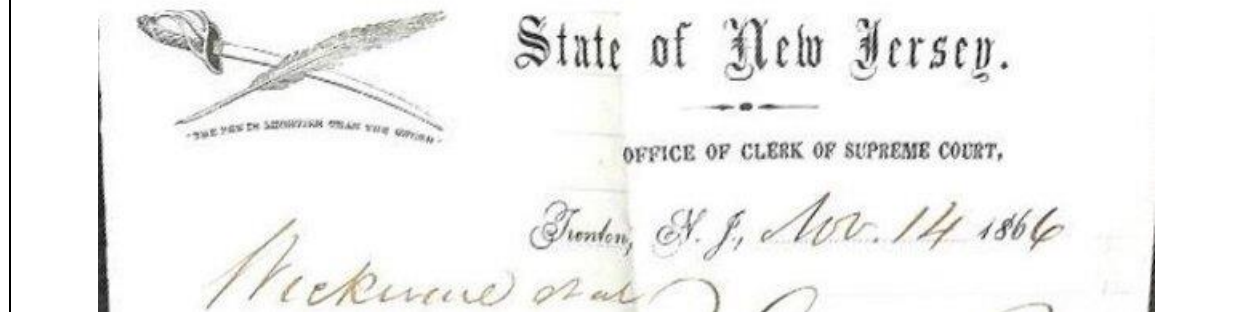
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: ~Sept 1893	Color: Black	Size: Wrapper	
Office: "THE NEW JERSEY STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY / NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR,"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller tocoreef, July 2021.			

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 3 Nov 1866	Color: Light brown	Size: Regular	
Office: "State of New Jersey" / OFFICE OF CLERK OF SUPREME COURT / TRENTON."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			



Letterhead



NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 1 June 1889	Color: Yellow	Size: Legal	
Office: "Clerk of the Supreme Court / TRENTON, N.J."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller rcl, May 2021.			

Part 2

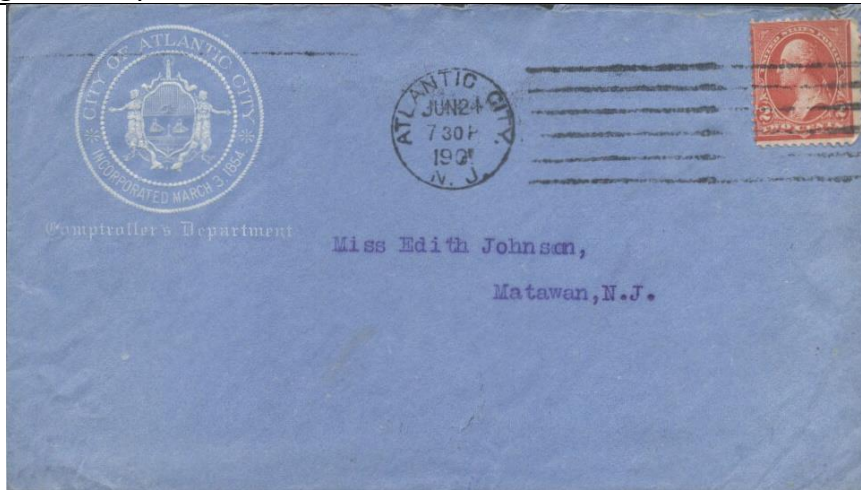
NEW JERSEY

**County & City Agencies
“Official Business”
Envelopes**

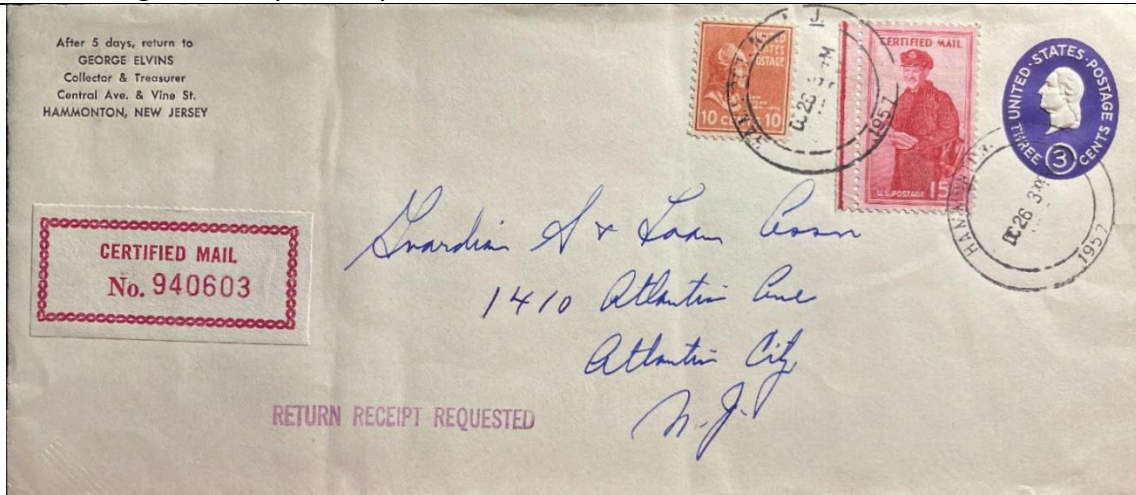
Arranged by County and City

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

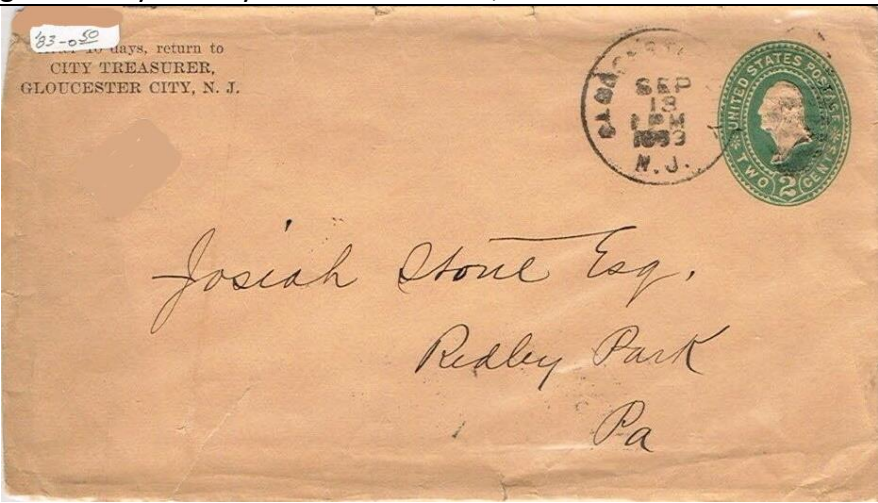
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Atlantic	City: Atlantic City
Dates: 24 June 1902	Color: Blue	Size: Regular	
Office: "CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY / Comptroller's Department"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of Phil Bansner website, item# 84456, June 2021.			

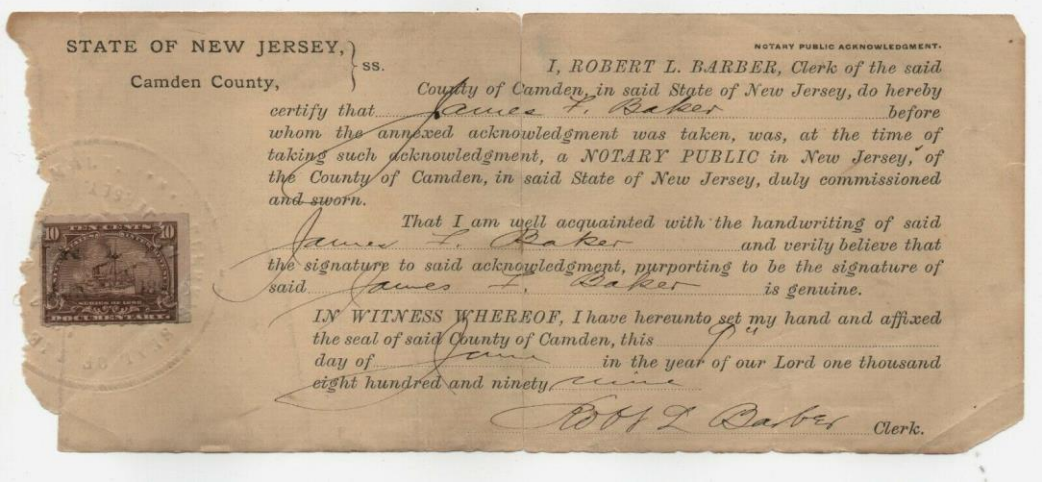


ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Atlantic	City: Hammonton
Dates: 26 Dec 1957	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "GEORGE ELVINS / Collector & Treasurer"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller Aztec-collectibles, June 2021.			

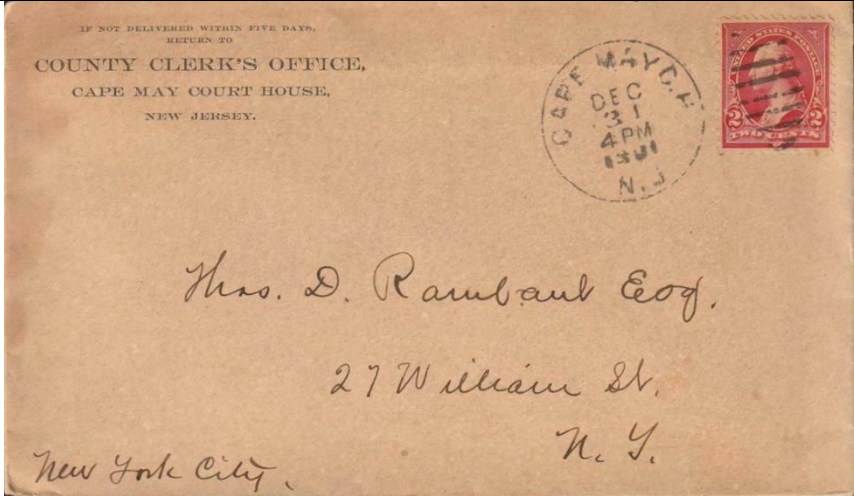


NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Camden	City: Gloucester
Dates: 18 Sep 1893	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "CITY TREASURER"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller taverntrove, June 2021.			
			

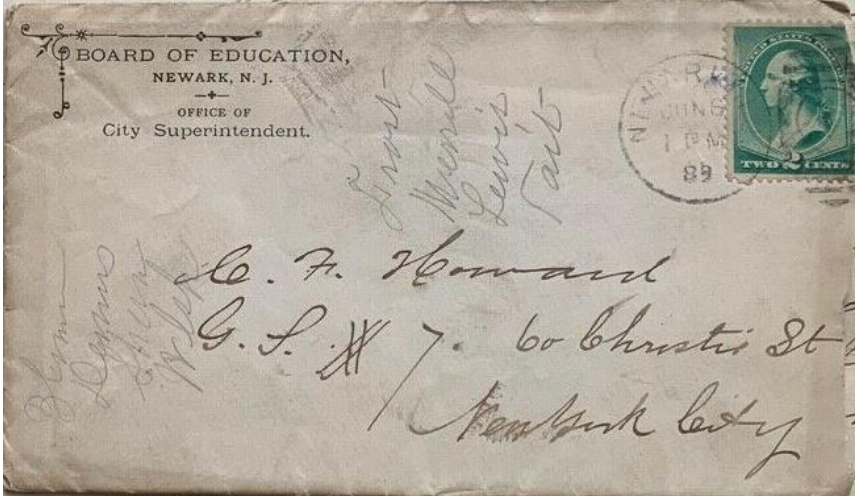
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Camden	City: NA
Dates: 9 Jan 1899	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "Clerk of County of Camden, NJ – Notary statement"			
Notes: With embossed seal.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller sweet-orr, June 2021.			
			

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

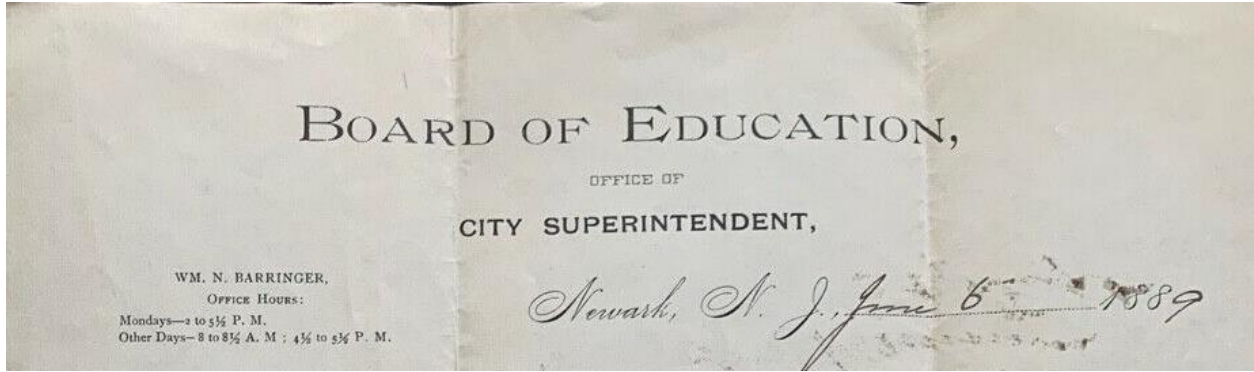
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Cape	City: Cape May
Dates: 31 Dec 1901	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE / CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller jrstamps, May 2021.			
			

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Newark
Dates: 5 June 1889	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "BOARD OF EDUCATION / OFFICE OF / City Superintendent."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller tohncoverman, June 2021.			



Letterhead




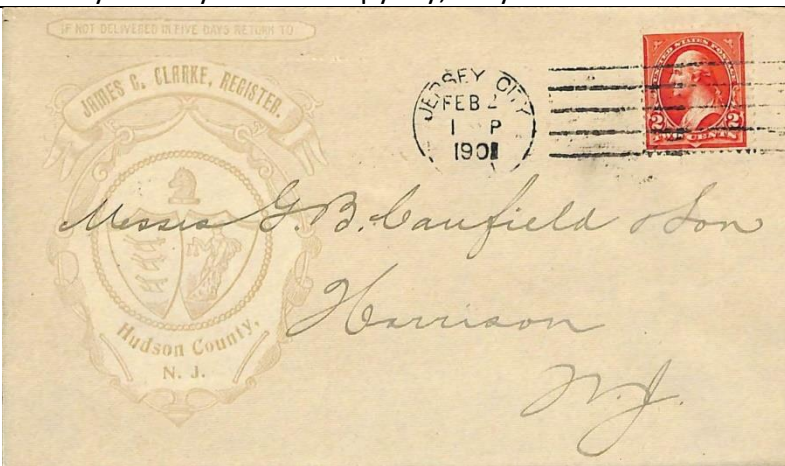
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Newark
Dates: 6 June ~1880s	Color: Gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "OFFICE / OF THE / Street Commissioner."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			

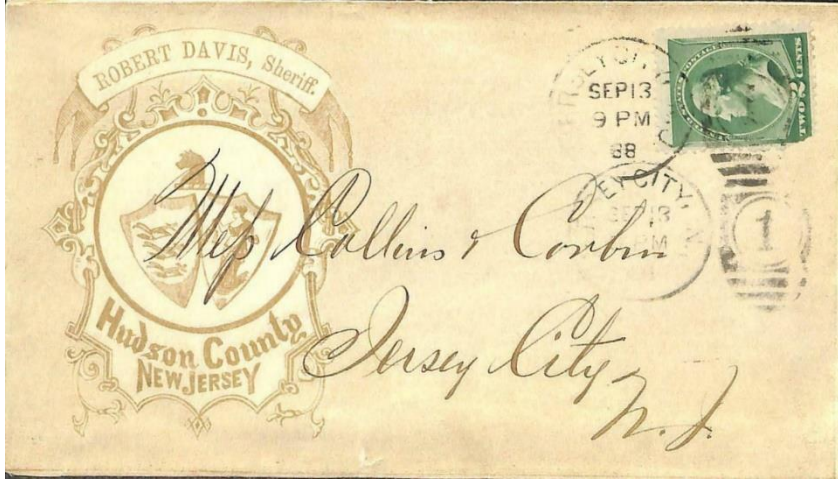
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Gloucester	City: Clayton
Dates: 25 July 1900	Color: Black on gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "BENJAMIN M. TURNER / JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, COMMIS-- / SIONER OF DEEDS, REAL ES- / TATE, CONVEYANCE, / AND INSURANCE"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller 920bas, May 2021.			

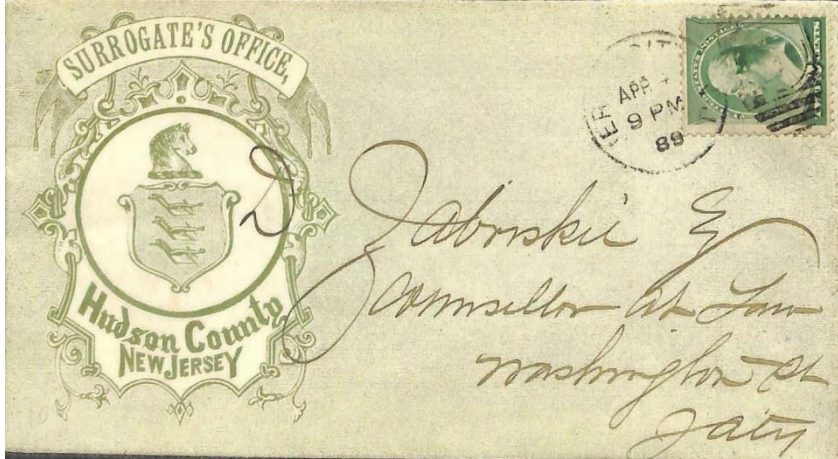
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Guttenberg
Dates: 12 Nov 1889	Color: Light Brown	Size: Regular	
Office: "Township of Union / CLERK'S * OFFICE,"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

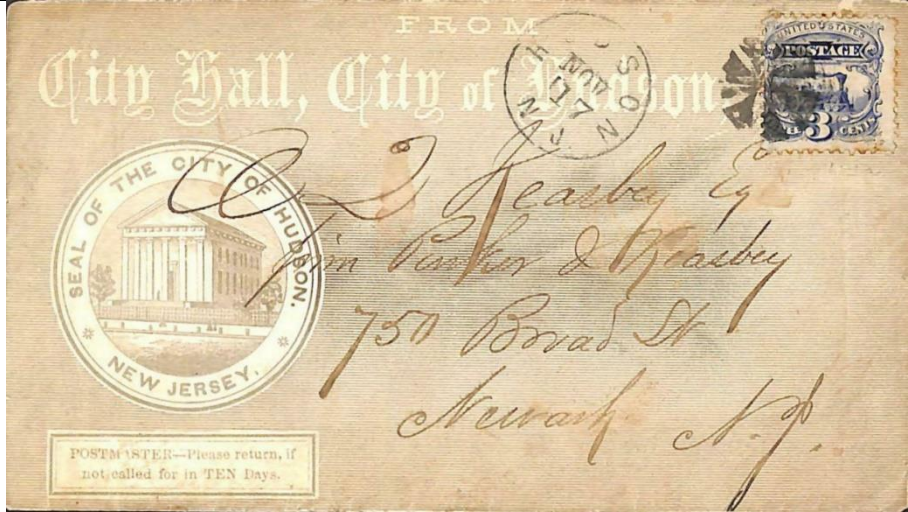
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Jersey City
Dates: 2 Feb 1901	Color: Gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "JAMES C. CLARKE, REGISTER. / Hudson County, / N.J."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			


NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Jersey City
Dates: 12 Nov 1888	Color: Gold	Size: Regular	
Office: "ROBERT DAVIS, Sheriff, / Hudson County"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Jersey City
Dates: 4 Apr 1889	Color: Green	Size: Regular	
Office: "SURROGATE'S OFFICE, / Hudson County"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

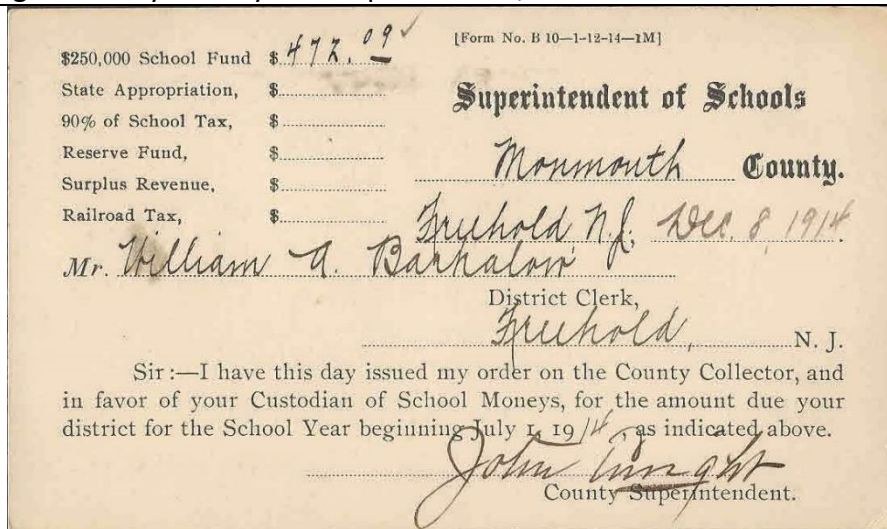
NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Hudson
Dates: 17 Nov 1869	Color: Light Brown	Size: Regular	
Office: "City Hall, City of Hudson"			
Notes: Hudson became part of Jersey City on May 2, 1870.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			
			

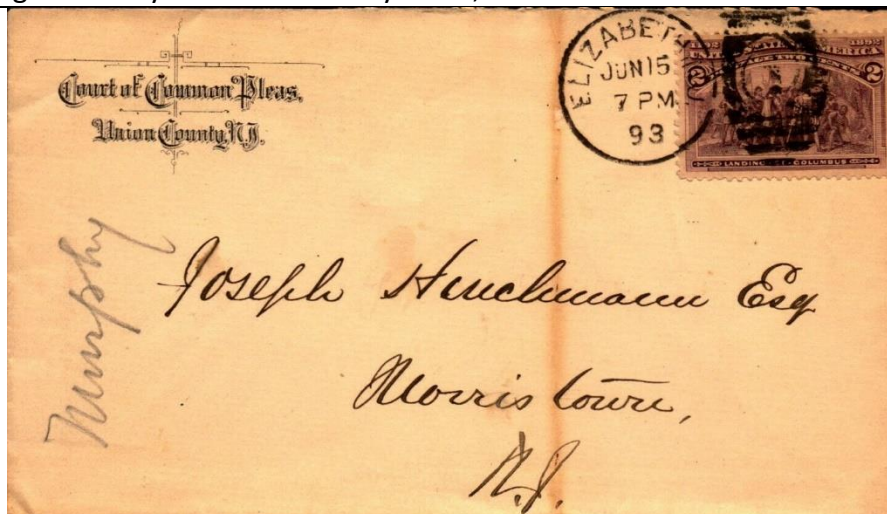
ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Hudson	City: Hudson
Dates: 15 Sept 1870	Color: Gray	Size: Regular	
Office: "MAYORS OFFICE / CITY OF HUDSON, N.J."			
Notes: Hudson became part of Jersey City on May 2, 1870.			
Source: Image courtesy of Philamercury Cover Census, entry#3589, OwnerID=kamila, April 2021.			
			

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Monmouth	City: Freehold
Dates: 8 Dec 1914	Color: Gray	Size: Postal card	
Office: "Superintendent of Schools / _____ County."			
Notes: Notice of distribution of funds to public school.			
Source: Image courtesy of ebay seller ephemerand, June 2021.			



ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Union	City: Elizabeth
Dates: 15 June 1893	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "Court of Common Pleas, Union County, N.J."			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of unknown ebay seller, June 2021.			



Part 3

NEW JERSEY

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

Arranged by County and City

No covers identified.

Part 4

NEW JERSEY

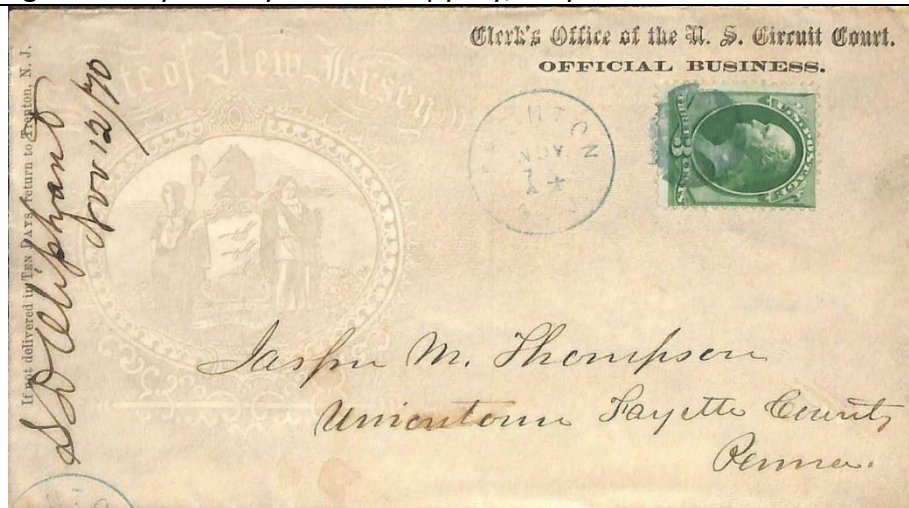
**Federal Department & Agency
Envelopes**

Used within the State

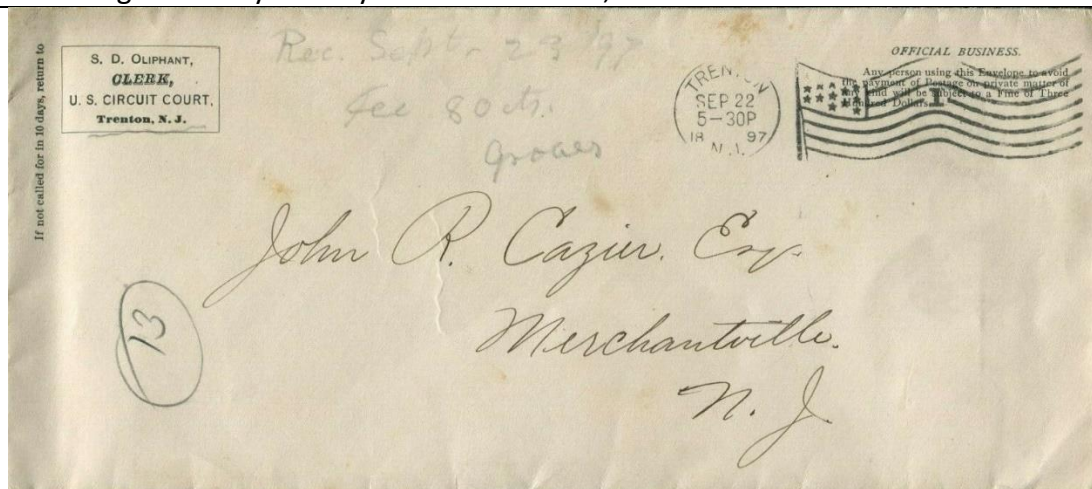
Arranged by County and City

NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Trenton
Dates: 12 Nov 1870	Color: Light brown	Size: Regular	
Office: "Clerk's Office of the U.S. Circuit Court. / OFFICIAL BUSINESS"			
Notes: Return corner vertically at left edge.			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller stampyboy, May 2021.			



ID:	State: New Jersey	County: MErcer	City: Trenton
Dates: 22 Sept 1897	Color: Black	Size: Legal	
Office: "S. D. OLIPHANT / CLERK / U. S. CIRCUIT COURT"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller mdkirkham, June 2021.			



NEW JERSEY: "Official Business" Illustrated Covers and Corner Cards

ID:	State: New Jersey	County: Essex	City: Newark
Dates: 2 July 1926	Color: Black	Size: Regular	
Office: "UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT / DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY / JUDGE'S CHAMBERS"			
Notes:			
Source: Image courtesy of eBay seller oldpaperchaser, June 2021.			
