# FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL

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OL. 10, NO. 1	JANUARY
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#### FLORIDA SUB-TROPICAL EXPOSITION PASS

Harry G. Dow

	Special Pass, I	25	
§ Flori	da Sub-Tro	pical Exp	osition.
_Admit≗ Account	Urs Jennis James S Intil llay	l Geher	re k Son nacket
Good U	Intil May	165 112-74	1888. -Le vi
	President.  President.		Secretary:

Special Pass No. 27 Florida Sub-Tropical Exposition Good Until May 15, 1888

The Florida Sub-Tropical Exposition pass pictured above and in the May 2002 issue of The *Florida Postal History Journal*, *Vol. 9, No. 2, page 3*, is of special interest to me. I thought our members might like to know something of the identity and lives of Mr. Schumacher and Mrs. Moore.

James M. Schumacher was a son-in-law of General Francis Spinner who was Treasurer of the United States from 1861 to 1875, appointed by President Lincoln. In 1874, General Spinner established the First National Bank of Jacksonville.

Mr. Schumacher, a successful attorney in Mohawk, N.Y., relocated to Jacksonville with his wife Josephine ("Josie") Spinner Schumacher in 1874, having been appointed by Spinner to establish this new bank. Along with Schumacher came Colonel Moore, Schumacher's law partner at Mohawk. Moore was the first president of the new bank, but two years later because of ill health, he retired,

and Schumacher became president.

James Schumacher was one of Jacksonville's most prominent citizens during his time. In addition to his bank presidency, he became President of the Jacksonville Board of Trade and in 1886 was elected president of the new Jacksonville and Atlantic Railroad. He was a graduate of Tufts University in Boston, and the University of Michigan Law School. He died in 1915 at age 75.

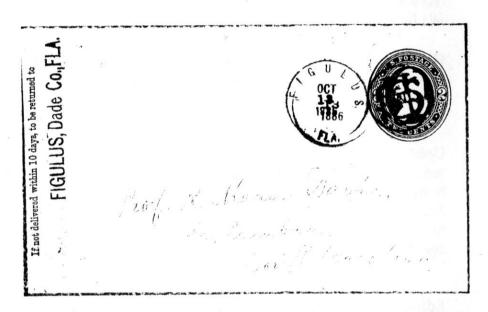
Colonel Moore died in 1878. His wife Jennie Clark Moore, to whom the above pass was given, was a granddaughter of General Spinner. She was the child of General Spinner's first-born daughter, Harriett. The family lived in Buffalo.

Upon the death of Colonel Moore, Spinner took Jennie and her two sons into his perpetual care for the rest of Jennie's life. She died, however, of pneumonia in 1889, the year after the pass was issued. Jennie's sons stayed on with Spinner and the Schumacher's. The two sons, Thomas Channing Moore and Leroy Clark Moore were ages 16 and 12 at the time the Exposition pass was issued.

Editor's Note: The information that Harry Dow submitted helps make our Journal articles all the more interesting. Members are encouraged to send the editor notes or biographies of addressees of covers reproduced in our journal. I will attempt to publish them. Anyone with a request for an article is encouraged to write. A recent article by member David Lingard on Lucerne Park, Florida was a direct result of a request by one of our members. The more interaction there is among members, the better our Society and Journal will become. With this in mind, lets have a great attendance at our Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 1, 2003 in Sarasota. Ted Light will have a most interesting talk with many interesting Florida covers to show. The Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition is going to be the premiere stamp show in the United States this year, with an all "Court of Honor" exhibit, double the normal number of dealers, and "Black Tie" banquets for those wishing to attend. Try to make it!!!

# **FANCY "US MAIL" CANCELLATION**

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

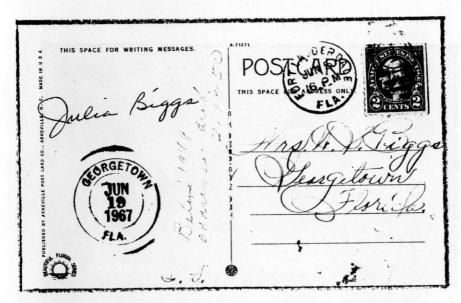


FIGULUS / FLA. OCT 13 1886 cds postmark with unusual "US MAIL" fancy handstamp cancellation on 2 cent entire

The above cover has a very unusual Florida fancy cancellation which I have not previously seen. It is a large 30 mm. circular handstamp with a large serif script intertwined U S with serif MAIL in the center. I have checked *Billig's Philatelic Handbook* and find no listing resembling this cancellation. Sinner and Eno's book, *United States Cancellations 1845-1869* does have a very similar marking on page 201, PT-USM 6. The Figulus / Fla. cds postmark is also unusual in that the letters of the town are much more widely spaced than the FLA. This is to my knowledge to known example of this postmark and fancy cancellation as it is not recorded in the CD Rom archives of the Post Mark Museum. Anyone with another example or a similar fancy cancellation is encouraged to submit a photocopy for publication.

#### THINK MAIL DELIVERY IS SLOW TODAY

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



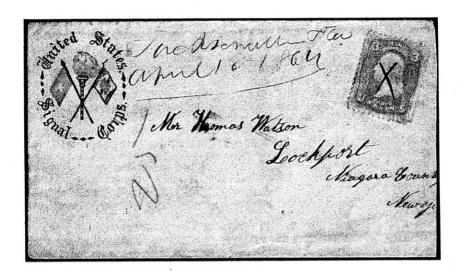
FORT LAUDERDALE / FLA. JUN 5 (circa 1925) duplex postmark ties 2c Washington on post card to Georgetown, Florida with JUN 19 1967 D/C receiving hand stamp

The above post card was not apparently delivered for over 40 years after being mailed at Fort Lauderdale in the 1920's. The Georgetown, Florida receiving mark clearly notes a 1967 date. Docketing on the post card reflects that the addressee had apparently died on February 13, 1950, fully 17 years before the post card finally made it to Georgetown.

When the card is examined closely, it appears that it was crumpled with many bends and creases. Perhaps the card got stuck in some place in the Ft. Lauderdale post office building and was only found when the building was remodeled or possibly torn down. That would explain the apparent damage to the card and the long delay in eventual delivery. At any rate it makes for a good laugh at the USPOD.

#### JACKSONVILLE UNION OCCUPATION

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



# Jacksonville Fla / April 16 1864 manuscript postmark with pen cancelled #65 on United States Signal Corps patriotic cover

I recently obtained the above cover which represents only the third recorded example of the "provisional" manuscript Union Occupation Jacksonville postmark. It also has a nice purple and black colored patriotic crossed flags and torch design (Walcott - 1600var.). In my article on Jacksonville, Florida, during the civil war published in the *Florida Postal History Journal* vol, 2, no. 4, September 1995, I listed the known examples of the various postmarks used during the Union occupation of Jacksonville. Jacksonville was actually occupied and abandoned four times before the end of the Civil War (First Occupation - March 12 to April 8, 1862, Second Occupation - October 5-9, 1862, Third Occupation - March 10-29, 1863, and Fourth Occupation - February 7, 1864 to 1866). Many of the inhabitants of Jacksonville were union sympathizers who remained when the Confederate forces withdrew after burning the city on March 11, 1862. Union forces began occupation on the morning of March

12, 1862, but remained only until April 8, 1862. For a complete review of this and the other occupations, I recommend reading my article mentioned above.

No postal system or postal history is recorded during the first three occupations. Those were short periods of occupation, mainly to help support the Union sympathizers from reprisals by Confederate troops and secessionist irregulars.

The Fourth Occupation was begun as a troop buildup leading to an invasion of the Florida interior, with an intent on capture of the Confederate capitol at Tallahassee. Between February 7 and 11, 1864, over 5500 Union troops arrived in Jacksonville and quickly captured Baldwin and Sanderson to the west of Jacksonville. The Battle of Olustee was subsequently fought on February 20, 1864 with the Union casualties numbering 1861. The remaining Union forces retreated back to Jacksonville where they were eventually reinforced up to a total of 8000 troops. They remained in occupation (with 2500-3000 troops) throughout the remainder of the war and for a period of nearly a year after the war during "reconstruction".

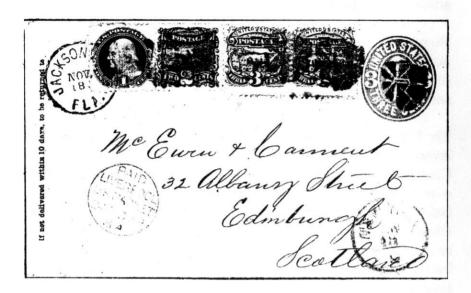
As a result of the large troop contingent, a Union postal system was needed in Jacksonville during the fourth occupation. Initially, mail was handled by the post office at Port Royal, S.C., and the earliest known Jacksonville datelined letter (March 27, 1864) was posted there. Three manuscript postmarked letters are known from Jacksonville, the earliest being the above cover (April 16, 1864) and the latest dated April 18, 1864. A crude typeset arc handstamp was used shortly thereafter with a short period of use (April 20-24, 1864) with four known examples. The officially issued double circle postmark was used throughout the remainder of the occupation with recorded use from May 13, 1864 through May 1865.





# THE FANCY BLUE CANCELS OF JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA

#### Niles Schuh



JACKSONVILLE / FLA. NOV 8 (1869) blue 23 mm postmark with blue fancy cross-roads cancel tying #112, 113, and pair #114 on U-59 entire usage to Scotland with Liverpool packet marking.

For a number of years in the late 1860's and early 1870's the Jacksonville post office used bright blue ink for its postal markings on letters. Each of the 55 covers from this period that has been examined by the author or the FPHJ editor was postmarked with one of three types of circular date stamps (cds) plus a duplexed killer to cancel the stamp with all markings in blue. The killer portion of the handstamp was rotated to cancel additional or oddly placed stamps on the envelope. Four different postmarking devices can be differentiated by size of the device and the size of font used in the date portion. The killer shape was either one of several geometric designs, various crossroad designs, or a shield. The cds markings were all similar with block letters for JACKSONVILLE in arc above the FLA. Two distinctly different sizes are known with a 23mm.size used from 1867 to 1870 and a larger 26 mm. size used from 1870 to 1875. In addition to the size difference, the larger cds has wide spacing between the SONVIL

of Jacksonville. The smaller size cds has two variations, one with large month and day lettering and a second type with much smaller letters. The larger 26 mm. cds was originally felt to only have large letters, but a single type D example with small lettering has been recorded. Several examples of cds markings are known which appear to have an incomplete outer rim, but this is felt to represent wear or under inking and not a stencil type postmark.









Type A 23 mm. (1867-70) large date font

Type B 23 mm. (1868-70) small date font

Type C 26 mm. (1870-74) large date font

Type D 26 mm. (1870-74) small date font

Only eight of the 55 covers examined can be year dated by enclosure or docketing with dates of 1867, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1874 and 1875. Since the cds does not include the year date, only a general time frame of 1867 - 1875 can be suggested as the period of blue ink use.

In an attempt to document the various types of fancy killer cancels, three reference books were consulted. Skinner lists identical or close to the same cancels found in eight different Jacksonville designs. Billig lists three and Norona lists only two.

Killer description	Skinner#	Billig #	Norona #	Remarks
Geometric-Circle Geometric-Cogwhee Geometric-Radial Cross-Roads	GE-R 36 p66 CR-X 1 p83	1074 883 833	96	identical identical very close very close similar
Patriotic-Shields Simple Designs Simple Designs	PS-SD 44 p20 SD-M 31 p38 SD-G 96 p29		C-7	identical close similar

# FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

# **ANNUAL MEETING**

# **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2003**

# 12:00 NOON

# SARASOTA NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

The annual meeting of the Florida Postal History Society will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2003, at 12:00 pm. at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition on US Highway 41. This Exhibition will be one of the finest stamp shows in the United States this year. It is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this Sarasota Show and will have twice as many dealers as normal and all exhibits will be internationally awarded "Court of Honor" exhibits. There will even be an exhibit from the Queen of England's collection. All of our members should have received an invitation to the show with reception on Thursday and a Black Tie dinner on Friday night. Special room rates at the Sarasota Ritz Carlton Hotel are supposed to be available. Our meeting will be held on Saturday at noon in the balcony above the show floor. Ted Light has been elected our next president and he will take over the duties from past president, Don Thompson. Ted also has agreed to present a talk on unusual Territorial Florida stampless usages. His talks are always interesting. Lets all try to make this annual meeting a successful one.

The various killers used were undoubtedly made locally by cutting designs into a soft material such as boxwood or cork. Without exact year dates for the covers with various killers, it isn't possible to track the exact period of use of each design. However, by listing the killer used with various postage stamps or entires used, and by comparing with the type of cds postmark and known dated examples, one can fairly accurately date the period of use.

The table below lists the number of the various killer designs with known stamps or entires used with the killer. Note that the total does not equate to the 55 covers examined as some are combinations of stamps on postal entires.

	1867-69	1867-71	<b>1869-7</b> 1	1870	0-3 1870-	3 187	4-5
Killer	65,88,94	U58-59	112-19	U82	147,158	UX3	Totals
Geo-Cir Geo-Co		1					4 2
Geo-Rad	10	7	4	4	10	1	22 20
X-Roads Pat-Shlo		3 2	3	4	10		4
Simple		1	1	1	1	1	5
Totals	17	14	8	5	11	2	57

Some additional information to better help date the various killers comes from an analysis of the type of postmark. The Cross-Roads killer is found used only with the type C cds postmark which places its use to the period 1870-1875. The Patriotic Shield killer is found only used with type B cds postmarks which places its use to 1868-1870. The fancy and ornate Geometric-Circle killers appear to only be used with the type A cds postmark and as such were the earliest of the Jacksonville fancy cancellations in blue ink dating to 1867-1870. The latest known blue ink usage of the Jacksonville postmark and fancy killer is on UX-3 postal card dated January 12, 1875. The killer is an unusually late use of a Simple Grid with an unrecorded type resembling Skinner SD-G 96. (Fig. 1.)

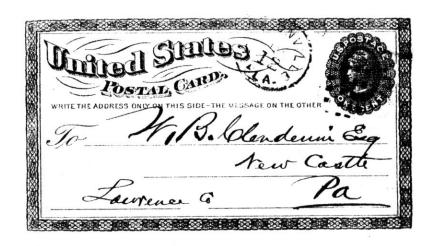


Fig. 1 JACKSONVILLE / FLA. JAN 12 (1875) blue 26mm. type C postmark with fancy simple grid killer.

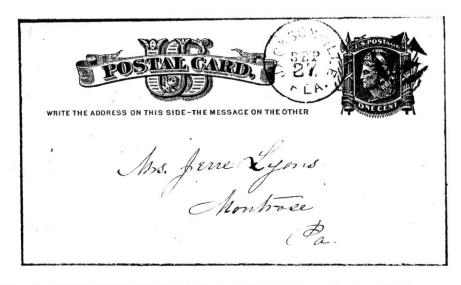


Fig. 2 JACKSONVILLE / FLA. SEP 27 type C cds with fancy killer in black ink on 1876 docketed postal card.

The end of use of the blue ink Jacksonville postmark and killer can be placed to early 1875. An example of a <u>black</u> ink Jacksonville postmark type C dated September 27, 1876 is shown in Fig. 2, with a <u>black</u> ink fancy cancel Billig type 840. A very late <u>black</u> ink killer used with red registry postmark is recorded for interest in Fig. 3, dated Sep 16, 1910 with a fancy unrecorded geometric circle.

The analysis and data recorded in this article are made based on the collections of just five collectors and can only be a start at a census of Jacksonville blue postmarks and fancy killer cancels. Any additional information and copies of more examples would be very helpful, especially if the year of usage is available. This article will conclude with copies of the different variations in Jacksonville fancy killers and will be numbered to begin a census as other examples are submitted. Geometric-Circle = GC, Geometric-Cogwheel = CW, Geometric-Radial = GR, Cross-Roads = XR, Patriotic Shield = PS, and Simple Designs = SD.

The author appreciates the assistance of members Edward Joyce, Todd Hause, Deane Briggs and Ted Light in supplying covers for recording and forming the present census. Many more examples will be recorded in the future, which should add to this census. Members are encouraged to submit these examples in an effort to make this census more accurate and to denote additional types of killer markings. Anyone with Skinner type ST-S 6, "Fancy Solid Star" page 85 recorded as dated 1867 should submit this for documentation, as it has not been seen by the author or any of the above members.

# References:

Skinner, Hubert C., and Eno, Amos, <u>United States Cancellations 1845-1869</u>, American Philatelic Society, State College, Pa., 1980.

Billig's Philatelic Handbook, <u>Fancy Cancellations on Nineteenth</u> <u>Century United States Postage Stamps</u>, HJMR Co., North Miami, Fl., 1972.

Norona, Delf, <u>Cyclopedia of United States Postmarks and Postal History</u>, Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence, Mass., 1975.







CW-1







GR-1



GR-3







GR-4

GR-5

GR-6







XR-1

XR-2

PS-1





SD-2

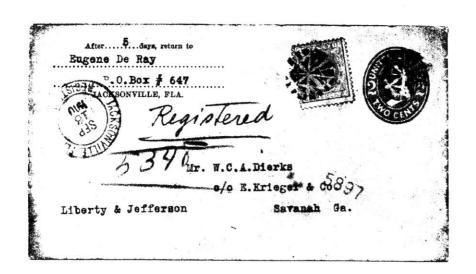


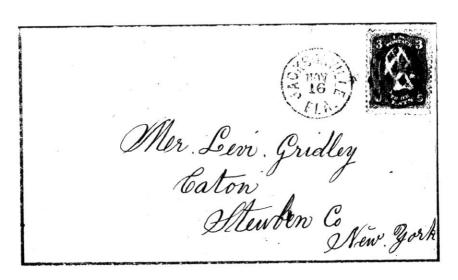
Fig. 3. Red JACKSONVILLE / REGISTERED D/C SEP 16 1910 postmark with blue fancy Geometric Circle on U411 and #338.



JACKSONVILLE / FLA. MAR 25 blue postmark with type XR-1 killers tying #119 and pair #147 with boxed REGISTERED handstamp on undated US Internal Revenue official cover. This cover is the known Florida usage of the 15 cent 1869 issue stamp.



JACKSONVILLE / FLA. APR 30 blue type B cds postmark with type GR-3 killer. Note use of rotated duplex hand stamp to cancel the abnormally placed stamp.



JACKSONVILLE / FLA. NOV 16 black cds with black circle of diamonds fancy killer cancel (similar to Billig 1134) predating period of use of blue ink (1865-1867).

# FLORIDA FUMIGATION POSTAL CARD

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



JESSAMINE / FLA. SEP 10 1888 cds postmark on fumigated postal card to Massachusetts

The above postal card was mailed from Jessamine, Florida during the 1888 yellow fever fumigation of mail period and unlike other known covers fumigated during this period, has no nail holes perforating the card. The card certainly has dark stains consistent with sulfur fumigation but no handstamp marking denoting "fumigated" as was supposed to have been done per post office directive. As a postal card had no enclosure, it did not require perforation. This card entered the mails in Pasco County and went by rail to Jacksonville. It was sulfur fumigated for about six hours in a sealed railroad car at La Villa Junction before continuing through the mails to Massachusetts. This is the only postal card I am aware of used during the fumigation period. There must be many more such postal cards with Florida post marks used between August 13,1888, and December 16, 1888. Members are encouraged to look through your collections and report on any other "fumigated" post cards or covers.

# TELOGIA FLORIDA P.O.W. COVER

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

P.V.T. AMOS L. HAHM. H.S.N. 2590 2818.

P.O.W. Side Comp.

Jelogia Fela.

P.A.C. Charles. E. Fregley. 3514 67.78.

Bosl. Censor. Office no. 7.

Opo. 350. New York, n. y.

HOSFORD / FLA. AUG 20 1944 4-bar postmark with "Free" rate on soldier's cover from P.O.W. Side Camp, Telogia, Fla.

In the September 2002 issue of the *Florida Postal History Journal* Ken Rice reported on two Florida P.O.W. covers which to his knowledge were unique. Although there were 22 different P.O.W. camps in Florida during WW II, surviving covers are scarce. The above cover records a third example, this coming from Telogia, Fla. This camp was located in sparsely populated Liberty County, just above the Apalachicola National Forest. The cover was postmarked at Hosford, a town only three miles to the north of Telogia, and the "Free" rate was accepted by that post office. The notation of the P.O.W. camp being a "Side Camp" is not understood by the author and perhaps a member can clarify this. Members are again encouraged to look for more Florida P.O.W. examples to assist in forming a census of these usages.

#### **GUM SWAMP - A NEW STAMPLESS LISTING**

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

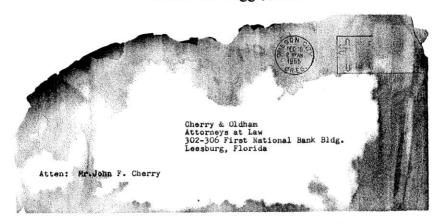
June June 95 July 25 1841 95 Green Ergn Ridgeway

Gum Swamp Fla / Feby 28<sup>th</sup> 1845 manuscript postmark with unpaid 25 rate on FLS to Ridgeway N.C.

It has been several years since a new Florida stampless territorial listing has been reported. The above outer letter sheet was recently released from the Duke University archives (without the enclosure) and sold in a large lot of otherwise fairly ordinary Florida stampless covers by the Robert A. Siegel auction house. What is remarkable about this find is not only that it is a new territorial listing, but one from a very small town which had a post office open for only nine months. In researching this town in the FPHS book, *Florida*Stampless Postal History 1763 – 1861, it appears that only 5 letters were mailed from Gum Swamp in a six month period as the postal receipts for the 6 mo. period ending 30 June 1845, amounted to only \$1.25 (5 letters at 25 cents). The Gum Swamp post office was opened in Madison County on 19 September 1844, with Robert H. Shaffer as the postmaster. It was discontinued on 19 July 1845. The town location is unclear and not recorded on known period maps.

#### YET ANOTHER FLORIDA CRASH COVER

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



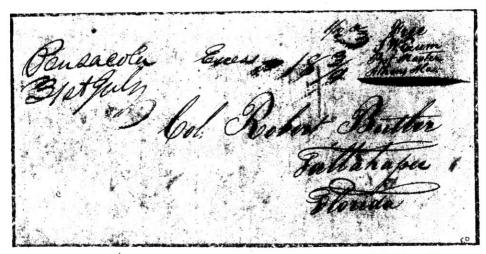
# OREGON CITY / OREG. DEC 16 1955 2 30 AM machine post mark on badly burned cover addressed to Leesburg, Florida

The above burned remains of a cover addressed to Leesburg, Florida must have survived the same crash as the cover recorded by member William Hancock in the May 2002 issue of our journal. His cover was postmarked the same day and was an incoming cover from New York with a 7:30 pm postmark. That would allow a mail route from Oregon to arrive in New York and to be transferred to the ill-fated flight which crashed in Jacksonville. Instead of the hand stamp "Damaged In Plane Crash" on the nearly intact Hancock cover, this damaged one was sealed with a form from the Jacksonville post office "Dead Letter Branch" which is recorded below.

XXA 2	
UNITED STATES POST OFFICE	
DEAD LETTER BRANCH	
Jacksonville 1. Florida	
-40.4114 1,710174	
To hom It May Concerns	
The enclosed mail matter was damaged in plane crash	- 11
Address of sender only located. Address of addressee only located.	-
Contents: Faclosed, damaged, Contents enclosed in good con -	1
dition.	35
	14
Contents not found. Contine mail intact but damaged.	
Loose check or other item only found, sent to you as person signing,	
Loose check or other item only found, sent to you as the Pank on	
which drawn for possible delivery or return.	
Any of contents not enclosed was destroyed in crash or missing	1.1
when mail was recovered.	13
Sincerely yours,	- 1
Sincerary yours,	- 1
The second secon	
Geo.C. Blume, Postmaster.	
Geo. D. Mins, Fostmaster,	
10	100

#### AN UNUSUAL PENSACOLA "FREE" USAGE

Deane R. Briggs, M.D.



Pensacola / 31<sup>st</sup> July (1827) manuscript postmark with "Free" rate corrected to "Excess 18 ¾" with J.W. Exum, Post Master, Athens, Ala. Endorsement on cover to Tallahassee, Florida

The above outer letter sheet is a most unusual example of a stampless territorial usage from Pensacola. The manuscript postmark from Pensacola is a very late usage, as both the "thimble" and PENSA handstamps had been available by this time. It also documents that the Pensacola postmaster recognized the ability of the Athens, Alabama postmaster to use his free franking privilege in Pensacola, Florida. The "Free" rate was correctly changed by the Pensacola postmaster to an unpaid "18 34" and denoted "Excess" to reflect postal regulations restricting postmaster "free" franking to a single sheet of ½ oz. or less per Act of March 3, 1825, with each additional 1/4 oz or sheets charged "Excess postage". This letter sheet has docketing noting an "enclosure of a plat explaining his mode of surveying". This explains the "Excess" rate due to an extra sheet, not due to being overweight (the cover is noted to be only ½ oz). This is the only example I am aware of which documents the "Excess" rate, and as such, is a most unusual Florida usage.

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