

# FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL



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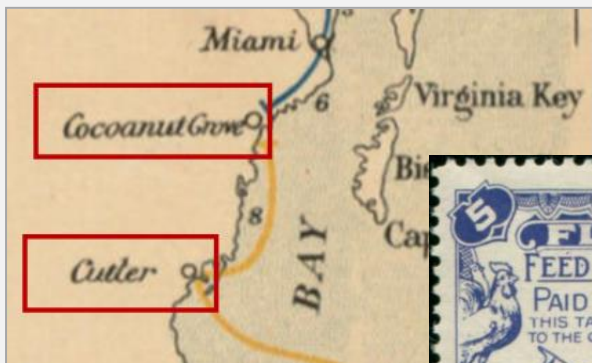
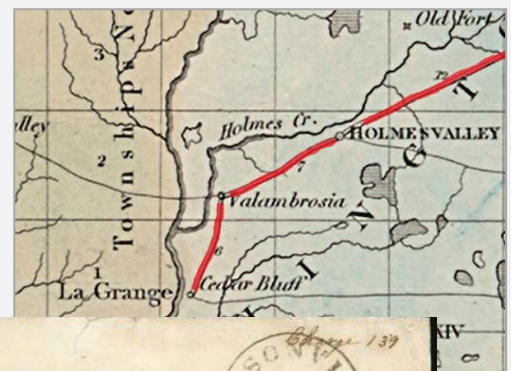
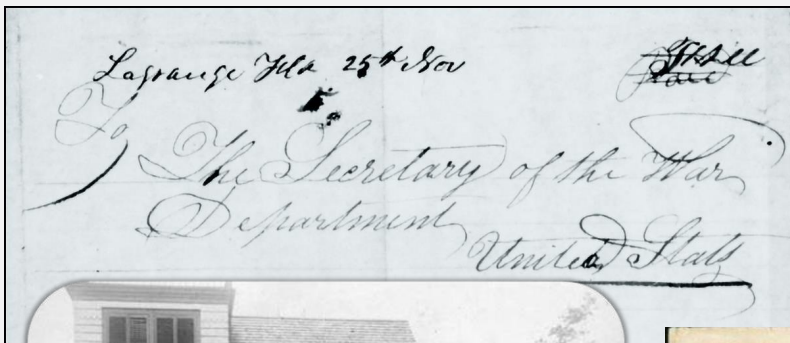


Vol. 31, No. 3

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Whole No. 88

## LaGrange, Cutler, and Jacksonville Postal History Florida Revenue Stamps



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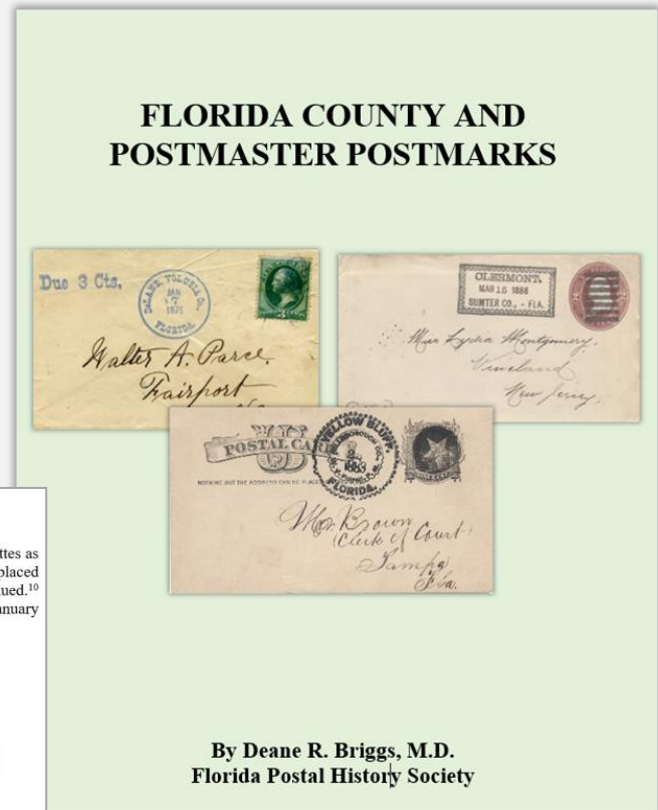
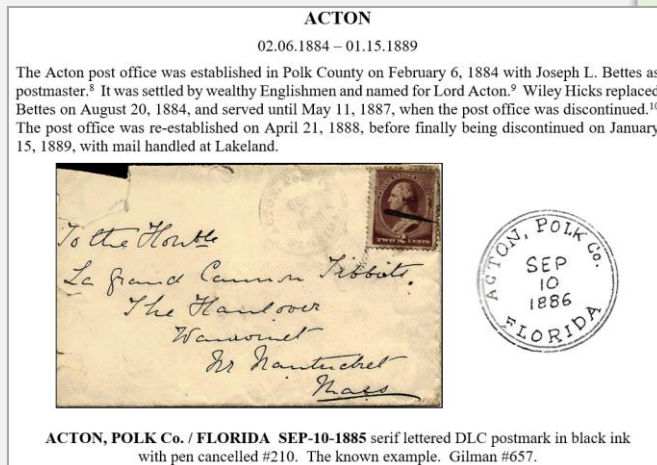
# FLORIDA COUNTY AND POSTMASTER POSTMARKS

By Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

During the past half century, county and postmaster postmark collecting has become a popular area of specialization within the scope of "Postal History." State postal history societies have been established for nearly all states in this country and many of these societies have published or maintain comprehensive listings and tracings which include county and postmaster postmarks.

This image-rich book documents the 74 known Florida postmarks and includes a listing of the dates of use as well as an updated current census of all known examples.

An example of the book's presentation format is shown below for the Acton, Polk County post office.



Only 50 copies of *Florida County and Postmaster Postmarks* are initially to be made available.

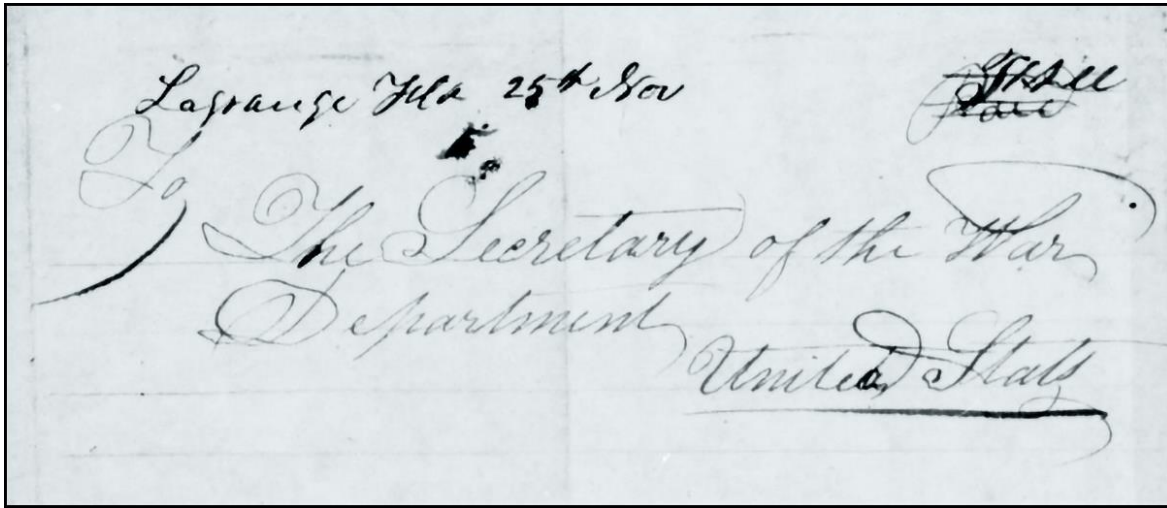
The price is \$20 including postage and can be ordered by contacting the author, Deane R. Briggs, at 236 Lost Trail, Highlands, NC 28741 or by email at [deanebriggs@gmail.com](mailto:deanebriggs@gmail.com).



## First Known Postmark from LaGrange, Florida

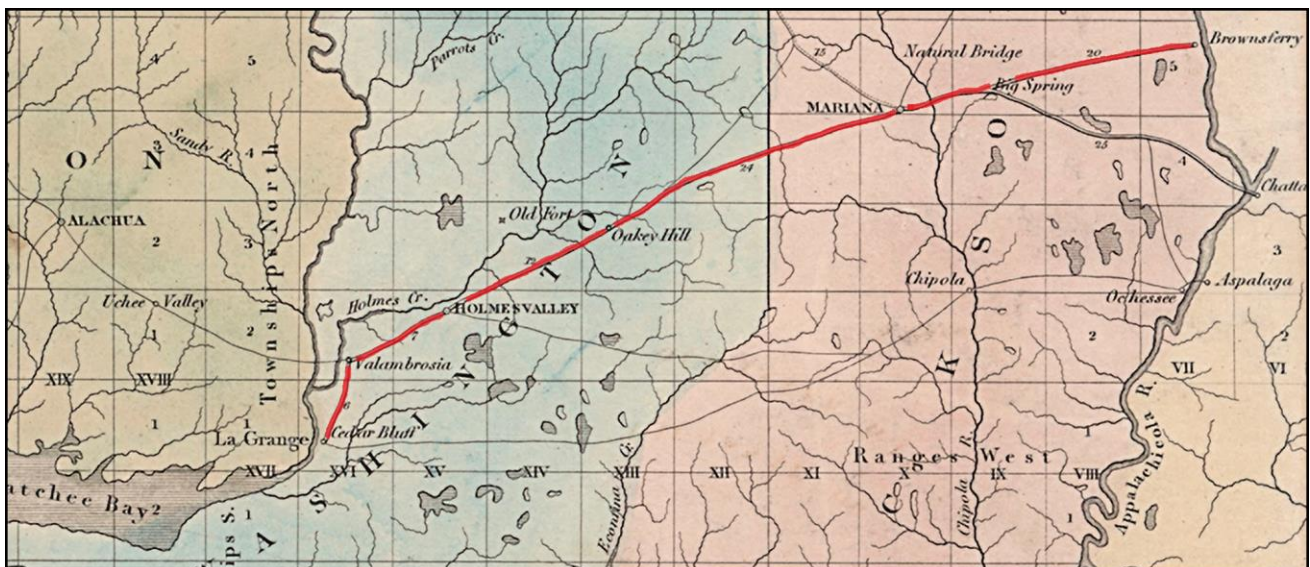
### By Thomas Lera

While reviewing the National Archives files in Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Series: Letters Received, I came across several interesting items. The first was in the Daniel McLearn [McLeod] 1837 file, where I discovered the first known postmark from LaGrange Fla, dated Nov 25 [1837] (Figure 1).<sup>1</sup> The post office was established July 15, 1837, with James Mallet Postmaster and was discontinued September 7, 1838.<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 1. LaGrange Fla. manuscript postmark.**

Post Route No.2469 from Bainbridge to LaGrange crossed the Apalachicola River at Brown's Ferry, and continued on through Marianna, Oakey Hill and Holmes Valley. The route was an estimated ninety miles each way and was operated by W.T. Stockton & Co. three times a week (Figure 2).<sup>3</sup>



**Figure 2. Post Route No. 2469 shown by red line. Route continues twenty miles into Georgia to Bainbridge.**

There was also steamboat mail, Post Route No. 2474, from Pensacola to LaGrange, which was ninety miles each way, and three times a week.<sup>4</sup>

The National Archives file also included a three-page letter dated November 20, 1837, to the Secretary of War. A portion of the letter reads:

“Sir, I have been in the service about eighteen months, acted as Adjutant twelve months with the last three months commanding the 8th Regiment of the Florida militia. While in service, I have made applications to the commander in chief and governors of Florida and to regular officers so often as opportunity admits for the United States militia law and cannot get it, on any terms whatsoever.

“Now as I have to remain in service with my regiment until the existing war in Florida comes to a determination, I wish you would send me the United States militia laws. And if you please I will pay the cost and charges for I cannot get along without. I have no guide but the Florida laws...and without the law I am subject to myself and subordinates into difficulties without doing or giving justice.

“If you cannot send me the law, and if I cannot get it, I shall resign my commission.

Signed, Daniel McLeod, Colonel Commanding. 8th Regiment Florida Militia”

The Muster Roll of Captain Alexander Campbell’s Company of the 8th Regiment 1st Brigade of Florida Mounted Militia, commanded by Colonel Levit Brown, listed Daniel McLeod, 2nd Lieutenant, as having enrolled July 13, 1837, at Euchee Anna. On September 13, 1837, he was promoted to Colonel.<sup>5</sup>

McLeod was a three-term Sheriff of Walton County, Florida in the 1830s. He was appointed Criminal Court Judge for Walton County by Governor David S. Walker and served from January 10, 1866, to January 10, 1868. He died November 4, 1887, in White Creek and is buried in Euchee Valley cemetery.<sup>6</sup>

### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Chris Kimball, Seminole War Foundation, and Diane Merkel, Walton County Heritage Association, for their assistance in preparing this article.

### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Source: Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office. Series: Letters Received. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/28518125>, accessed October 9, 2023

<sup>2</sup> Briggs, M.D., Deane R., Thomas Lera, and Francis Ferguson (Eds.). (2022). *Florida Stampless Postal History 1763 -1861* (Second Edition), Florida Postal History Society, 199.

<sup>3</sup> Portion of 1839 Map of Florida Exhibiting the Post Offices, Post Roads, Canals, Rail Roads, &c. by David H. Burr, accessed November 13, 2023. <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~1621~140008:Map-of-Florida-?>

<sup>4</sup> Briggs, Lera, and Ferguson, (2022), *Florida Stampless Postal History 1763 -1861*, 29-30.

<sup>5</sup> Florida Department of Military Affairs, 198--, *Muster Rolls, Seminole Indian Wars Volume 3*: p. 6, accessed November 15, 2023. <https://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00047719/00002>.

<sup>6</sup> *Find a Grave Memorial Page* for Hon. Daniel Campbell McLeod (April 8, 1808 – Nov. 4, 1887), accessed November 15, 2023. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/33328326/daniel-campbell-mcleod>



# The South Dade Settlement of Cutler, Florida

## By Juan L. Riera and Steve Swain

The area that became Cutler was originally called the Hunting Ground because for generations it was used for that very reason. Located fifteen miles south of Miami, the area was part of the thirty-six square mile township granted to Henry E. Perrine (1797-1840) by the U.S. Congress in 1838 (Figure 1).<sup>1</sup>

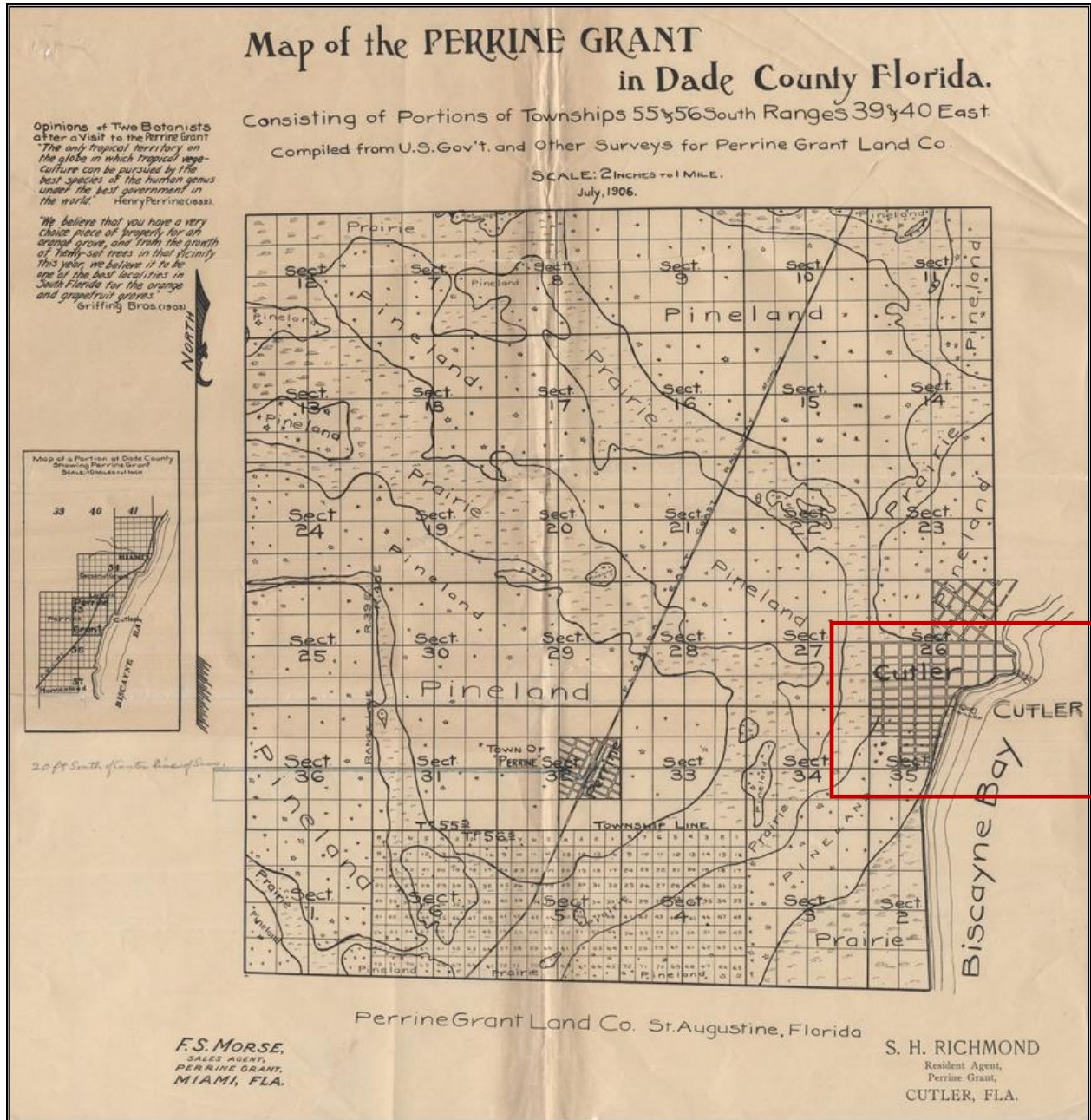


Figure 1. Map of Perrine Grant in Dade County, Florida. Cutler is outlined in red.

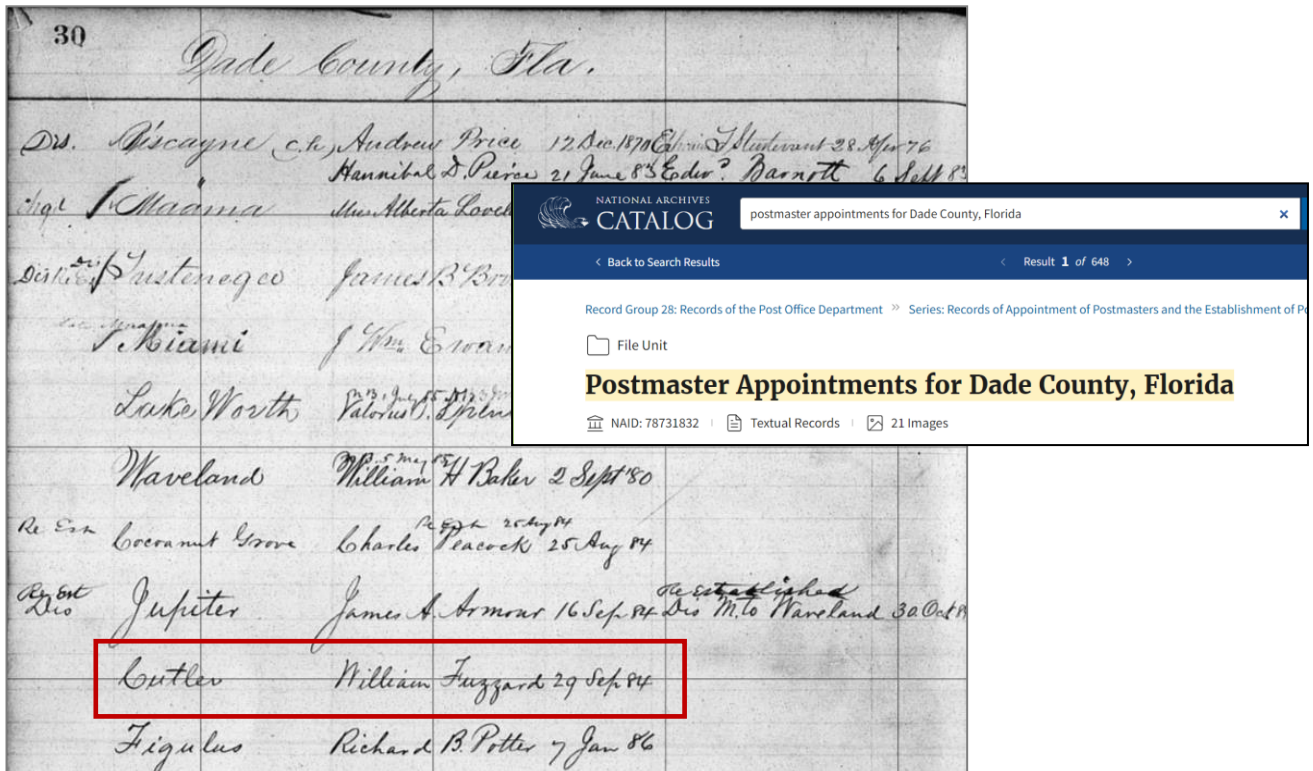
In 1864, John and Mary Addison arrived from Manatee County and built a home, which led to the area being called Addison’s Landing by the 1870s. In early 1880, Dr. William C. Cutler visited the area and shortly thereafter decided to buy a 600-acre tract. By 1882, he had persuaded his friend, twenty-two-year-old William Fuzzard, (1861 – 1932) to move to the area.<sup>2</sup>

In 1883, Fuzzard built a two-story home (Figure 2)<sup>3</sup> in this developing settlement that by the end of 1884 had a population of seventy-five.

According to the Records of the Post Office Department, National Archives Catalog<sup>4</sup>, the Cutler post office was established on September 29, 1884, with William Fuzzard as its first postmaster (Figure 3).



**Figure 2. A gathering at Fuzzard’s house in 1892. William Fuzzard is shown third from the left with white pants and shirt, legs crossed. On the porch above him to his left is his wife.**



**Figure 3. Records of the Post Office Department, National Archives Catalog, Dade County, Florida.**



A year earlier, Fuzzard created a trail connecting Cutler with Coconut Grove which was nearly fifteen miles in length and the first iteration of what has become Old Cutler Road (Figure 4).<sup>5</sup> This trail will become an important element of the Cutler mail service in 1915, as presented later.

The marker reads in part:

*“In 1883, Fuzzard, with the help of other residents of Cutler, cut a path north and east through the wilderness of pine rocklands and hardwood hammocks to the village of Coconut Grove. The road followed a natural limestone ridge along Biscayne Bay and established the first overland route connecting Coconut Grove and Cutler. Today, Old Cutler Road which follows a somewhat altered course, maintains the appearance and atmosphere of a country road.”*



**Figure 4. Old Cutler Road Highway Marker.**

An 1896 photograph of the first Cutler post office is shown in Figure 5.<sup>6</sup> The facility was made from a converted freight car. Two such cars had floated into Chicken Key in a storm and had been rescued by Fuzzard. He made one into a workshop while the other became the Cutler post office.<sup>7</sup>

Standing in front of the post office is Mrs. William Fuzzard, on the left, and an unidentified woman.



**Figure 5. First Cutler post office was a converted freight car.**



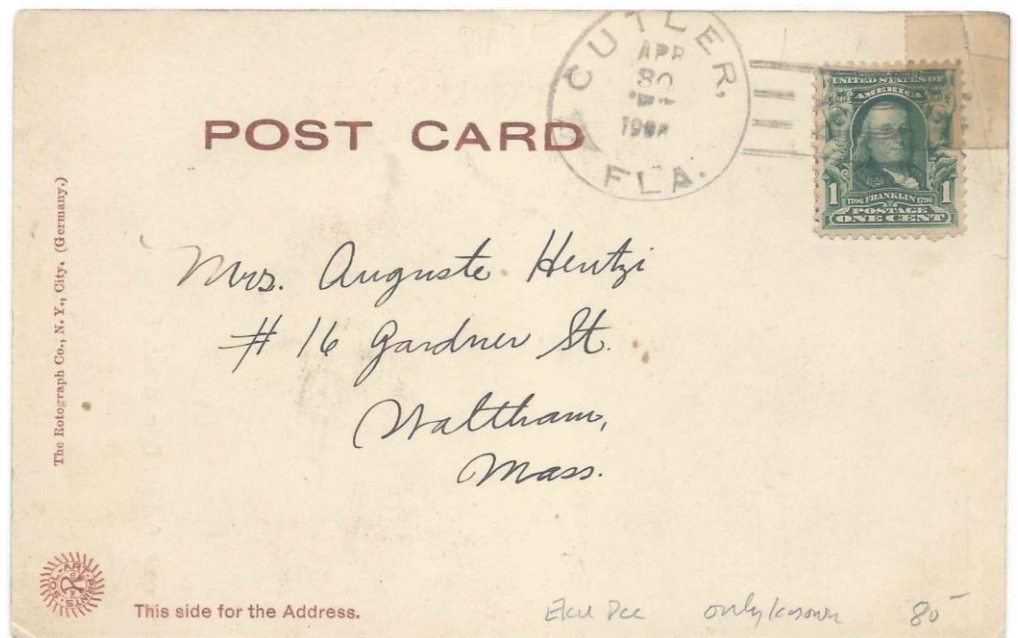
Around 1899, the post office was moved to the Brown and Moody General Store (Figure 6)<sup>8</sup> located around the intersection of what is now S.W. 168<sup>th</sup> Street (Richmond Drive) and S.W. 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.



**Figure 6. Brown & Moody General Store that housed the Cutler post office.**

Research revealed that the Brown & Moody Store was located on lots 23 and 24 of Block 77 of Cutler. Another store, possibly the Tweedell Bros. Store and a Post Office, was located on a part of lot 17. This location is now inside the Deering Estate, where Richmond Drive dead-ends at the rock wall that borders the second Cutler Road.

Figure 7 is a post card sent to Waltham, Massachusetts serviced at the Brown & Moody Store post office. The card carries a CUTLER FLA. APR 30 1903 cds.



**Figure 7. CUTLER, FLA. APR 30 1903 postmark. (Deane R. Briggs collection.)**

When the Florida East Coast Railroad bypassed Cutler in 1903, the town began to die. In 1915, Cutler became part of the Charles Deering Estate. All buildings were torn down except Richmond Cottage, which was incorporated into the Deering home. The Fuzzard family moved north to Miami by 1905.

The Cutler post office was discontinued on July 31, 1915 (Figure 8).<sup>9</sup> The mail would be forwarded to Coconut Grove.

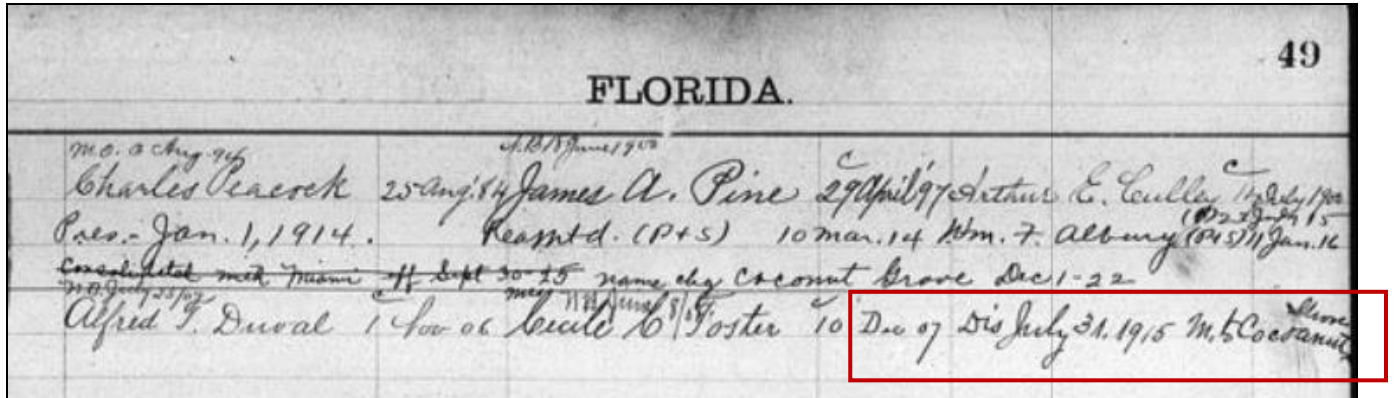


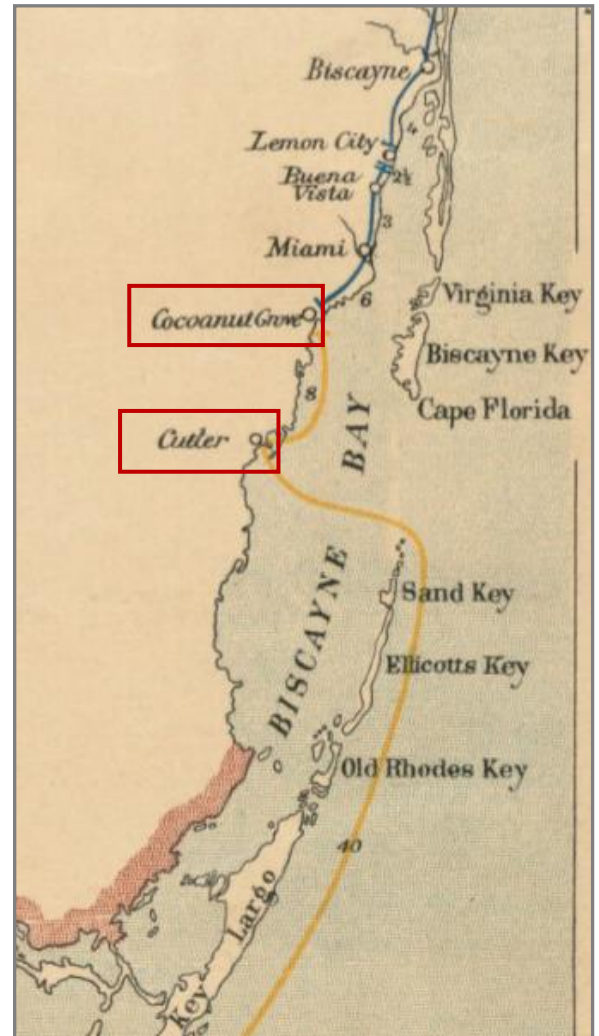
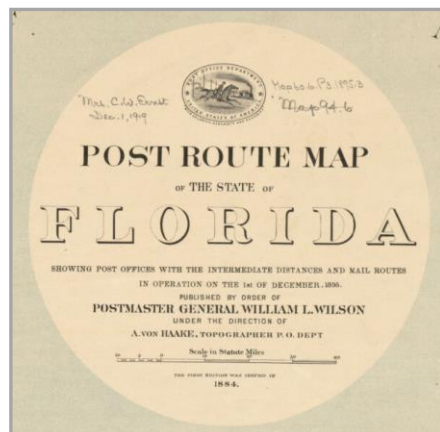
Figure 8. Cutler post office discontinued on July 31, 1915. Mail forwarded to Coconut Grove.

Figure 9 is a December 1, 1885, post route map<sup>10</sup> showing the relative distance and route between Cutler and Coconut Grove.

### Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> <https://hsdade.com/the-cutler-extension/>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://www.ghosttowns.com/states/fl/cutler.html>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/ingraham/expedition>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78731832>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://www.ghosttowns.com/states/fl/cutler.html>
- <sup>7</sup> <https://www.historymiami.org/>
- <sup>8</sup> <https://hsdade.com/george-w-moody/>
- <sup>9</sup> <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78731832>
- <sup>10</sup> <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth>

Figure 9. 1885 Post Route Map showing relative locations of Cutler and Coconut Grove.



# FLOREX 2024

**\*\* 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary \*\***

**Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**



**FLOREX**, a World Series of Philately event, has a long history of successful shows in the Central Florida area.

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## L'Engle Civil War Correspondence from Jacksonville

### By Phil Eschbach

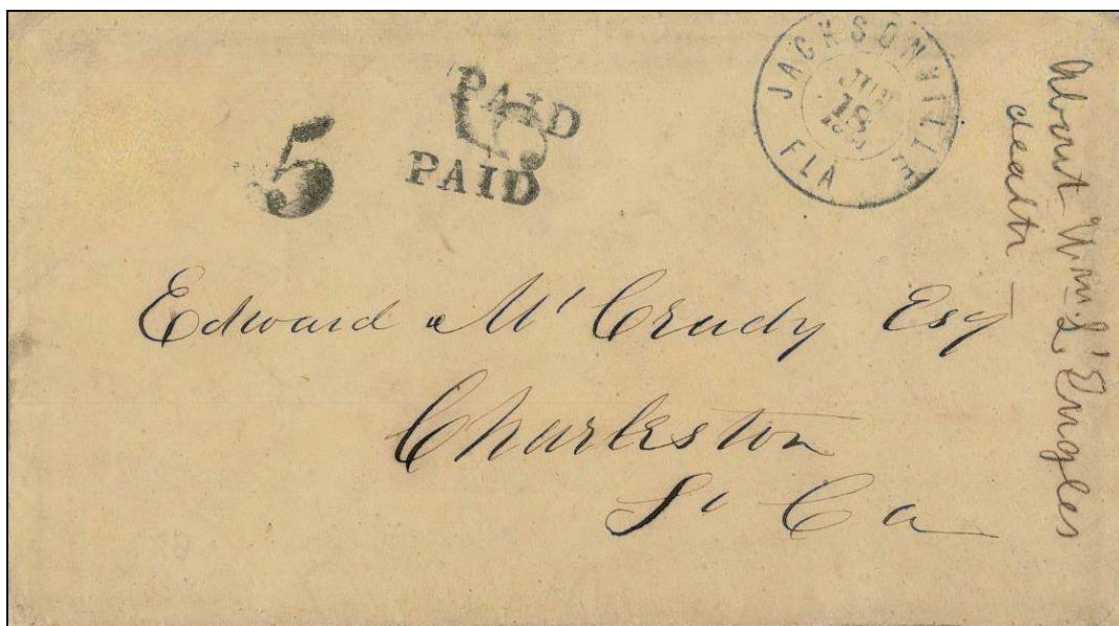
Susan Fatio L'Engle (1806-1895) (Figure 1) resided in Jacksonville, Florida at the beginning of the Civil War having settled there prior to the war with her husband John L'Engle (1800-1864). The cover, (Figure 2) is a mailing written on June 18, 1861, by Susan L'Engle, just six months after Florida had seceded from the union.



Per the contents of the mailing (Figure 3), L'Engle is informing her dear friend Edward McCrady of the death of her husband's brother, Dr. William L'Engle.

Her husband had grown up with Edward in the same family, that of William Johnson of Charleston. The Johnsons and McCradys were close friends, such that Johnson adopted Edward McCrady (1802-1892) when he was orphaned after the early death of his father. Similarly, Susan's husband, John L'Engle, was also adopted by Johnson.

**Figure 1. Susan Fatio L'Engle.**  
(Courtesy Tennessee Portrait Project.)



**Figure 2. June 18, 1861, from Susan L'Engle.**

Emily's husband) are expecting to be  
 ordered to Virginia in a few days -  
 & the poor little wife & mother, (Emily) not  
 able to set up - & my poor Mary too is  
 in miserable health too. The shock  
 of her brother's death almost destroyed  
 her - please to give my kindest  
 love to Posey & every member of his  
 family - You sincerely attached  
 friend  
 Susan L'Engle

The Farm  
 June 1861

**Figure 3. “.....the shock of her husband’s death did almost destroy her. Please give my kindness love to Posey and every member of her family.”**

The horrible and bloody Haitian revolution of 1791-1804, virtually extinguished the white ruling class of the island. However, some educated, and formerly wealthy whites managed to escape to America (like modern-day Cuban refugees), usually with nothing more than the clothes on their backs.

Among them were some members of the L’Engle family, and thus we find in Charleston two young children, John and Madeline L’Engle, up for adoption after their parents were lost at sea in a separate sailing. John and Edward were close in age, and fast friends, even though not blood related. John and Susan named their first son Edward McCrady L’Engle.

Edward McCrady’s father and Johnson were law partners in Charleston and close friends, having survived being sent together to prison in St. Augustine during the Revolution for resisting the British. And later, one of Johnson’s daughters married one of McCrady’s sons. Johnson also became a U.S. Supreme Court Justice.

Susan L’Engle’s descendant was the noted author Madeline L’Engle. Susan L’Engle was the daughter of Francis Fatio, son the St. Augustine scion Philip Fatio from Switzerland and early settler there during the British Period.

The Figure 2 cover is unusual in that it has a double-circle 26mm datestamp and a double struck PAID 5 (Type IA) handstamp for the 5-cent under-500-mile rate on cover to Charleston, S.C. on June 18, 1861. It has a note in the right margin in McCrady’s hand denoting the death.



Noteworthy is the fact that more than half of the entire surviving Jacksonville Confederate postal system usages are from just two correspondences. There is no recorded usage after February 19, 1862, nearly three weeks before the Federal occupation of Jacksonville.

The second cover (Figure 4) is also unusual, dated November 30 (1861), to Captain Edward McCrady L'Engle. This is obviously a letter from Susan L'Engle (same handwriting as the first cover) to her son who is serving in the military in Richmond during the war. Unfortunately, there is no enclosure.



**Figure 4. November 30 (1861) from Susan L'Engle.**

The cover has a 34mm balloon handstamp postmark, and a PAID 5 (Type IA), revalued to 10 (Type B) handstamp for the over-500-mile rate. It has a "Charge 139" in the upper right noting that the extra cost was posted to L'Engle's charge account.

These Jacksonville Confederate covers are probably "Postmaster Provisional Handstamped Envelopes" with PAID 5 rates and the latter revalued 10 for usage to Richmond, Virginia. The 1945 edition of *The Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook* recorded an entire section on Revalued Handstamped Pairs and its editor, Van Dyk MacBride, considered them to be "definitely in the class of Provisionals, a position, far-reaching in its consequences".

He wrote a long dissertation to support his contention that the Paid 5 "Revalued 10" covers were all prepared in advance by the postmaster with a Paid 5 rate for his stock or sold to businesses. They were only revalued 10 after July 1, 1862, when the postal rate changed, or earlier, as in the case of this Jacksonville cover, if the distance required uprating to the 10 cent rate.

These Jacksonville covers, at the time, were the lone Florida listings. Considerable controversy must have ensued as the Editorial Board of the next edition of the Dietz catalog in 1959 eliminated this separate section of revalued pairs, although an acknowledgment was made that a number of these may have been prepared in advance as "provisionals". Today they are generally considered to be provisionals.



### Sources

Gold, Pleasant Daniel, *History of Duval County Florida* (The Record Company, St. Augustine, 1928).  
L'Engle, Susan, *Notes on My Family*, Jacksonville, 1887.  
L'Engle, Susan, *Notes of My Family and Recollections of My Early Life*. New York, Nickerbocker Press, 1888.  
McCrary, Waring, family historian, notes and correspondence.  
Conversations with Deane Briggs.

### Editor's Note

In a 1952 article published in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Walter Hartridge offers insight into the history of the L'Engle family as recorded not only in Susan L'Engle's *Notes of My Family*, but also in Miss Gertrude L'Engle's two volumes on the Fatio family. (Hartridge, Walter C. (1952) "The Fatio Family: A Book Review," *Florida Historical Quarterly*: Vol. 31: No. 2, Article 6. Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol31/iss2/6>)

Revealed through the L'Engles' publications is Florida's place in the gallery of families taking part in Florida's history and the formation of the Southeast throughout four changes of political allegiances. The family has been in Florida since 1771, when Francis Philip Fatio, his wife and five children, sailed into St. Augustine harbor in a chartered vessel.

Mr. Hartridge offers that especially in Susan L'Engle's book, "she preserved much that would have been lost, including many anecdotes that relate to the Second Spanish regime in Florida. She tells of the only bull fight ever fought on Florida soil, describes the pomp and circumstance of freebooters introduced to Amelia Island, and related happenings of her childhood spent on the family plantations that stretched along the waterways of northern Florida. The volume is one of the rarities of Floridiana."

## Competition Awards

**Congratulations are extended to Society members for awards earned at the San Diego Stamp Show, February 24, 2024.**

- Single Frame, Large Gold and Grand Award: **Michael Mahler**, "California Blues, The Iconic 1857 Issue"
- Large Gold, Multi-Frame: **Vernon Morris**, "Evolution of American Colonial Mail to Postal Act of 1792 - 1799"
- Large Gold, Multi-Frame: **Michael Mahler**, "Rebel Documents, Yanke Stamps: How the Union Collected Its Stamp Taxes in the Confederacy, During Wartime Occupation and by Postwar Retroactive Stamping"

## State Revenue Stamps of Florida: Agriculture

### By Richard G. Lomax

Welcome to the sixth and final article in our series of state revenue stamps of Florida. Here we consider Agriculture. This follows the categories and subcategories of the Wrisley catalog (*The State Revenue Catalog: Revenue Stamps and Related Materials of the States of the United States of America*, 2013, State Revenue Society.)

The Agriculture subcategories are: (a) Feed; (b) Feed Tags; (c) Fertilizer; (d) Fertilizer Tags; (e) Plant Inspection; (f) Peat & Humus; (g) Peat & Humus Tags; (h) Seed Certification; and (i) Seed Packet. Let us take a look at the specifics of each type of stamp, including examples from my collection and other sources.

The first subcategory is Feed Inspection Stamps. These stamps were used from 1905 through 1962. They have a numbering system of FE1 to FE40 (although FE12, 21, 22, 25, and 37 have not been seen), and include a number of specimens and variations. Example stamps are shown below, Figures 1 through 6, with the FE15 (25 pounds variety) from my collection.



Figure 1. FE15, 25 Pounds variety.



Figure 2. FE10, 100 Pounds variety.



Figure 3. FE16, 50 Pounds variety.



Figure 4. FE19, 5 Pounds variety.





Figure 5. FE20, 8 1/3 Pounds variety.



Figure 6. FE33, 10 Pounds variety.

A related subcategory is Feed Inspection Tags, in use from the 1930s through 1961. The tag numbering system is FET1 to FET14 (although FET12 has not been seen), with a few variations. Figure 7 is the FET13 variety.

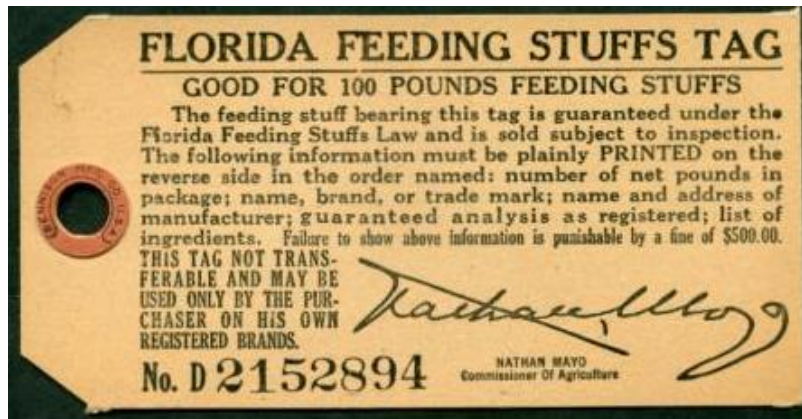


Figure 7. FET13 Feed Inspection Tag.

A third subcategory is Fertilizer Inspection Stamps, in use from 1889 to 1969. Their numbering system is FT1 to FT59 (although FT55 and 56 have not been seen), with a few specimens and variants. A related subcategory is Fertilizer Inspection Tags, used from 1935 to 1965. These are labeled as FTT1 to FTT5.

An example stamp from my collection is Figure 8, the FT20 variety. Figures 9 through eleven are additional examples of Fertilizer Inspection Stamps.



Figure 8. FT20, 10 Pounds variety.



Figure 9. FT19, 8 1/3 Pounds variety.



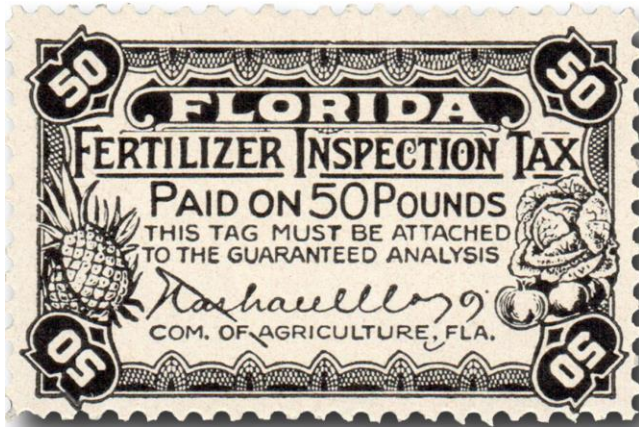


Figure 10. FT30, 50 Pounds variety.



Figure 11. FT18, 5 Pounds variety.

The fifth subcategory is Plant Inspection labels and tags, in use from at least the 1930s. These are not believed by Wrisley to be associated with any sort of tax payment and thus are not further described in Wrisley or here.

Subcategory six is Peat & Humus Inspection Stamps, used from 1935 to 1966. These stamps are denoted by PH1 to PH6. A related subcategory is Peat & Humus Inspection Tags, in use during the same time frame, and numbered as PHT1 through PHT5, although PHT5 has not been seen.

An example stamp from my collection is Figure 12, the PH1 variety. Figures 13 and 14 are additional examples of Peat and Humus Inspection Stamps.



Figure 12. PH1, 50 Pounds variety.



Figure 13. PH4, 1 Ton variety.



An eighth subcategory is Seed Certification Tags. These are also not believed by Wrisley as evidence of a tax payment and thus are not further described in Wrisley or here.

A final subcategory is Seed Packet Inspection, in force from 1941 to 1969. These stamps are denoted by PS1 to PS 35, although there is no PS14, 16, 18, 22, 28, 30, 32 or 34.

An example stamp from my collection, PS1, is shown in Figure 15. Additional Seed Packet Inspection Stamps are shown in Figures 16 and 17.



Figure 14. PH6, 5 Tons variety.



Figure 15. PS1, Seed Inspection Stamp.

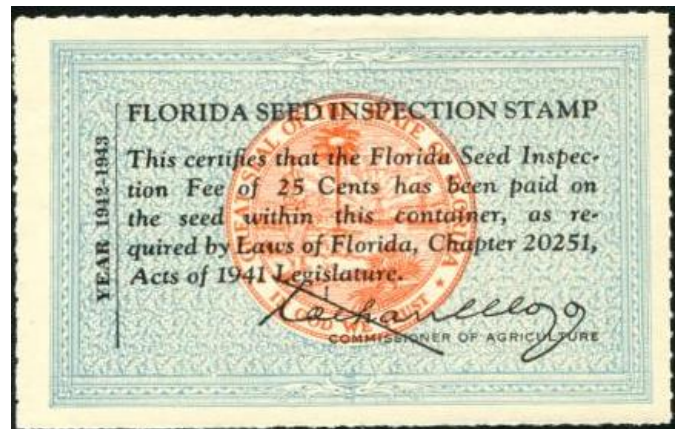


Figure 16. PS2, Seed Inspection Stamp.

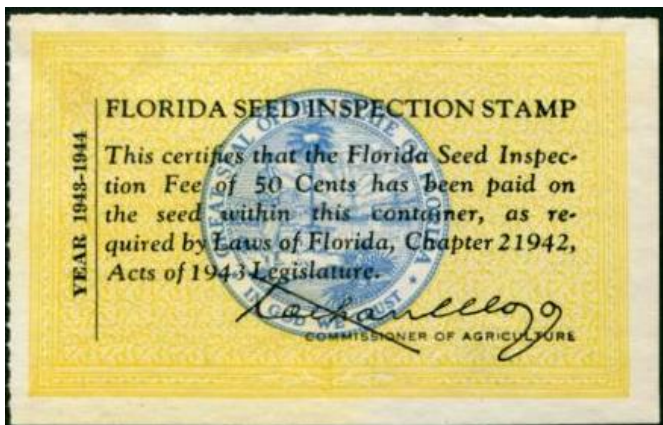


Figure 17. PS3, Seed Inspection Stamp.

We have now covered all of the categories of revenue stamps issued by the state of Florida.

In summary, these categories were Food Products, Alcoholic Products, Documentary, General Inspection & Excise, Tobacco Products and Agriculture. I hope you have enjoyed this series of interesting stamps and labels.

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