

Census of Tuscumbia, Alabama, Postmaster's Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Description



A-TUS-AL-E01



TUS-AL-E02



TUS-AL-E03

The Tuscumbia Provisional Markings

The Tuscumbia provisionals were prepared by taking an old "PAID" postmark and replacing the date logos with a rate.

Apparently, the Tuscumbia postmaster ran out of stamps in late March 1861 and could not get anymore from the Post Office Department in Washington, DC. He prepared the "3" marking as a substitute for stamps. This marking was struck in red, and the color carried over into June when the rate was changed to "5." It was not until late July that the first markings are recorded in black.

CN-012 has been removed from the census. See "Notes."

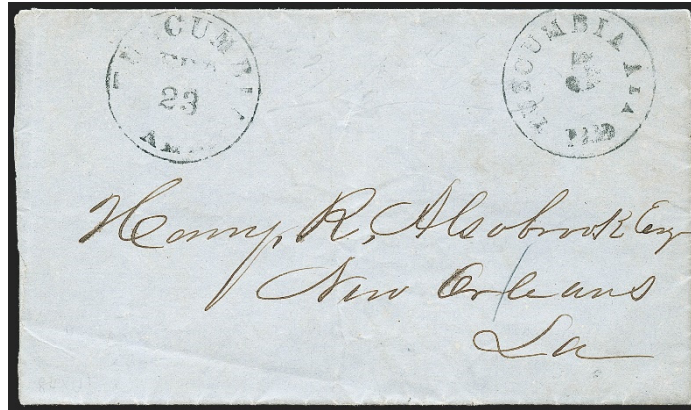
Count of the Tuscumbia provisionals

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Covers
After Secession			
3c red	A-TUS-AL-E01	6AUX1	2
3c red under a postally used US stamp	A-TUS-AL-E01x		2
Confederate			
5c red	TUS-AL-E01	84XU2	1
5c black	TUS-AL-E02	84XU1	17
5c color unknown	TUS-AL-E02x		1
10c black	TUS-AL-E03	84XU3	1

Notes

Tuscumbia Folded Letter Provisionals

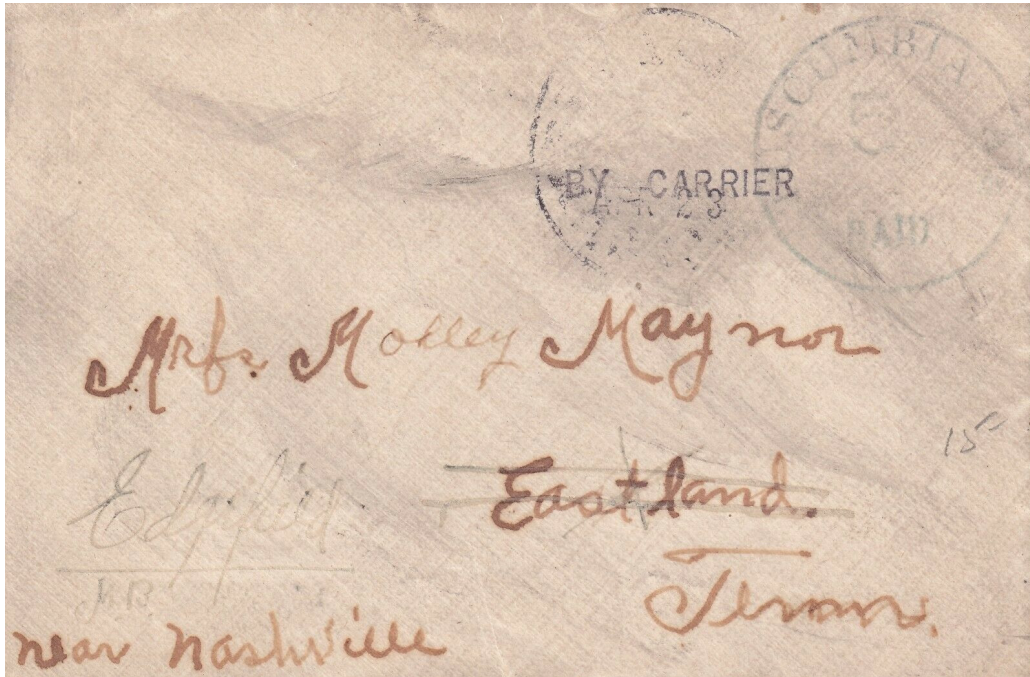
Below are images of two folded letters bearing the Tuscumbia 5c provisional marking. The first (addressed to New Orleans) was examined by the Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service in the fall of the 2020. It was determined it was an example of the Tuscumbia provisional marking used as a stampless marking. The reason was the top of the provisional marking was not on the reverse of the cover, meaning the letter was not marked with the provisional marking when in was an unfolded letter sheet. Further there was no skip or jerk where the pen crossed the folds in the letter. This meant that the letter was written before it was folded. These two facts resulted in the conclusion the provisional marking was applied as a stampless marking. This cover (CN-012) was removed from the census.



The cover immediately below is another folded letter in which the pen of the writer did not skip or jerk when crossing the folds in the letter. Since this cover has not been examined in detail no conclusion can be reached on its status. It is included in the census (CN-020).



Fake



A Tuscumbia fake. The illegible postmark may be authentic, but the provisional marking is a fake. The “BY CARRIER” handstamp is a fake addition.

Mini Census of Tuscumbia, Alabama, Provisionals

<u>Pmk Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>
After Secession -- 3c red -- A-TUS-AL-E01 (6AUX1)				
30 Apr [1861]	Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La.	UL	UR	016
Illegible Post	Mr. C. H. Howland / St. Louis / Mo	UC	UR	003
After Secession -- 3c red under a postally used US stamp -- A-TUS-AL-E01x				
6 May [1861]	Miss Mary. M. Keller / Knoxville / Tenn.	UR	UR	001
20 May [1861]	Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La.	UR	UR	002
5c red -- TUS-AL-E01 (84XU2)				
12 Jun [1861]	Mrs C M Burtwell / Florence / Ala	UL	UR	014
5c black -- TUS-AL-E02 (84XU1)				
28 Jul [1861]	Miss Mary. M. Keller. / Louisville. / Tenn.	UL-UC	UR	021
14 Sep [1861]	Mr H. R. Alsobrook / Neworleans [New Orleans] / La	UL	UR	004
17 Sep [1861]	Mrs. Geo A Tuthill / Care of / Geo A Tuthill & Co / Mobile / Ala.	UC	UR	005
1 Oct [1861]	Jas. A. Coons / Yellow Creek /Ala	UL	UR	006
1 Oct [1861]	S. D. Cabaniss Esq / Huntsville / Alabama	UL	UR	023
29 Oct [1861]	Col. D. M. Bradford / Huntsville / Ala	UL	UR	018
29 Oct [1861]	Mrs "A. R.C." / Pleasant Hill / Alabama	UL	UR	017
10 Nov [1861]	Miss Mary K Newsum / Care of Genl L. G. Ganett / Richland / Jefferson Cty / Ark.	UL	UR	007
22 Nov [1861]	Miss Mary K Newsum / Richland / Ark	UL	UR	008
28 Nov [1861]	Mr. J Whorley, / Nashville. / Tennessee	UL	UR	022
1 Dec [1861]	Miss. E. V. Smith / Military Springs / Ala	UL	UR	019
7 Dec [1861]	Mr Henry R Alsobrook / New Orleans / La	UL	UR	009
10 Dec [1861]	Col L. B. Thornton. / Augusta. / Ga.	UL	UR	010
23 Dec [1861]	Henry. R. Alsobrook Esq / New Orleans / La.	UL	UR	011

<u>Pmk Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>
-- Jan [1862]	Gov. J. G. Shorter / Montgomery / Ala.	UL	UR	020
5 -- [186-]	J. A. Coons / Yellow [Creek, Ala.]	UL	UR	024
No Postmark	O. F. Prescott Esqr / Care J. P. Prescott & Co / Memphis / Tenn		UR	015

5c color unknown -- TUS-AL-E02x

20 Nov [1861]	--- Savage / ---[w] Creek / Ala	UC	UR	025
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10c black -- TUS-AL-E03 (84XU3)

13 Sep [186-]	Mrs. A. F. Hopkins / Alabama Hospital / Richmond / Va	UL	UR	013
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Full Census of Tuscumbia, Alabama, Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

After Secession -- 3c red -- A-TUS-AL-E01 (6AUX1)

30 Apr [1861]

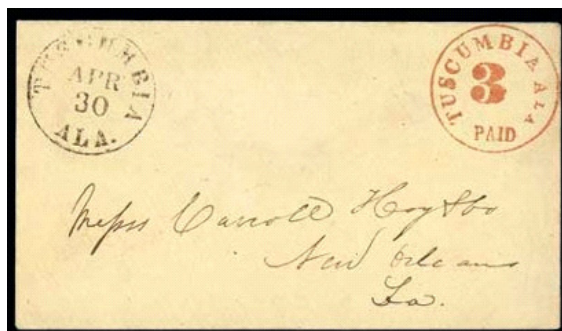
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La.

Provenance: Caspary.

Source: PF-191812*; HRH-15Nov1955(967)-152; MB-20Feb2007(314)-96; HA-1Sep2007-96. [016]

Image Credit: Heritage Auctions.



Illegible Postmark

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UC, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mr. C. H. Howland / St. Louis / Mo

Provenance: Przybyl.

Source: PF-272508*; RAS-17Dec2019(1215)-2557*; RAS-9Nov2021(1244)-520*. [003]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



After Secession -- 3c red under a postally used US stamp -- A-TUS-AL-E01x

6 May [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UR, provisional marking UR. Stamp moved to show provisional.

Address: Miss Mary. M. Keller / Knoxville / Tenn.

Provenance: Gross.

Source: PF-278773*; RAS-3Oct1992(745)-296*; RAS-29Oct2019(1211)-370*; RAS-28Sep2021(1241)-1423*; RAS-28Sep2021(1461)-1423*. [001]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



20 May [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UR, provisional marking UR. Stamp moved to show provisional.

Address: Messrs Carroll Hoy & Co / New Orleans / La.

Provenance: Caspary, Kilbourne.

Source: PF-216485*; HRH-15Nov1955(967)-153; RAS-28Sep1999(815)-151*; RAS-9Sep2020(1225)-57*. [002]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



5c red -- TUS-AL-E01 (84XU2)

12 Jun [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mrs C M Burtwell / Florence / Ala

Provenance: Hill.

Source: CSX-Hill(Aug1996)-36. [014]

Image Credit: Private.



5c black -- TUS-AL-E02 (84XU1)

28 Jul [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL-UC, provisional marking UR.

Address: Miss Mary. M. Keller. / Louisville. / Tenn.

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: HA-12Dec2009-31429*. [021]

Image Credit: Private.



14 Sep [1861]

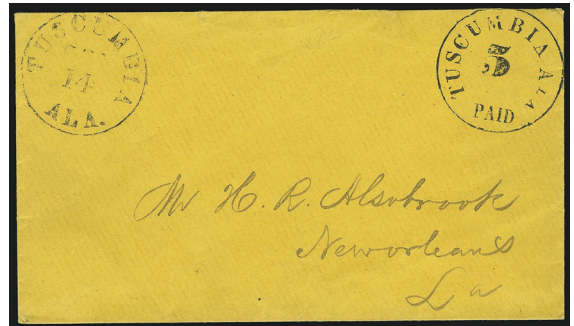
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mr H. R. Alsobrook / Neworleans [New Orleans] / La

Provenance: Hall.

Source: PF-381283*; RAS-17Dec2001(840)-133*; SR-20Apr2012(47)-1841*; SR-11Dec2019(90)-318*. [004]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



17 Sep [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UC, provisional marking UR. Postmark and provisional marking strengthened in pencil. Seven-star patriotic envelope (CSA F7-5A) with corner card of Franklin House, Tuscumbia at LL.

Address: Mrs. Geo A Tuthill / Care of / Geo A Tuthill & Co / Mobile / Ala.

Provenance: Brandon.

Source: RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-345*. [005]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



1 Oct [1861]

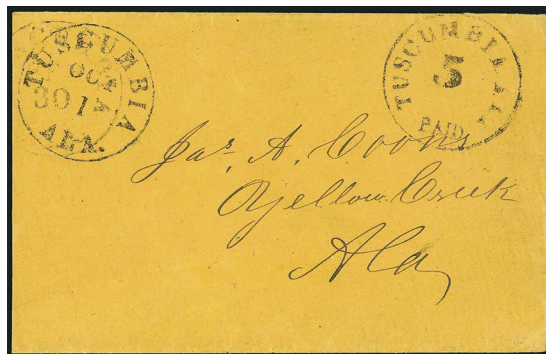
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. There is a second lighter postmark dated 30 Sep under the 1 Oct postmark.

Address: Jas. A. Coons / Yellow Creek / Ala

Provenance: Carnahan, Wishnietsky.

Source: SPB-9Mar1978-2111; RAS-26Feb2014(1064)-108*. [006]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



1 Oct [1861]

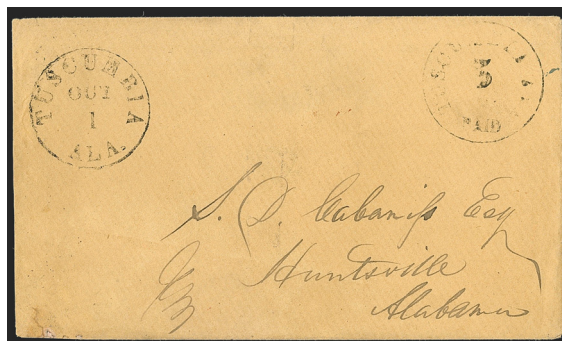
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: S. D. Cabaniss Esq / Huntsville / Alabama

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: CWPAS-03292; HRH-18Feb1963(1485)-1477; RAS-15Dec2020(1230)-1508*. [023]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



29 Oct [1861]

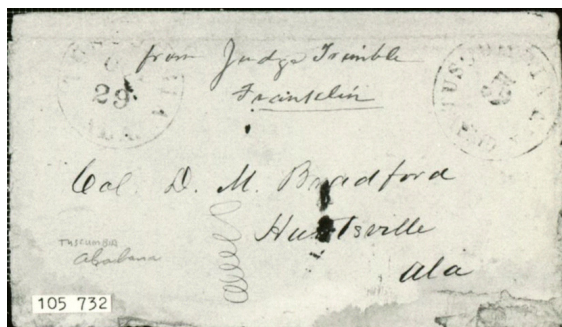
Description: "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Docketed "from Jude Trimble / Franklin" at UC.

Address: Col. D. M. Bradford / Huntsville / Ala

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: PF-105732; RGK-16Dec1981-787. [018]

Image Credit: Philatelic Foundation.



29 Oct [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Docketed "Jno M Powers / PM" at UR through postmark. There is a second postmark dated 28 Oct under the 29 Oct postmark. Year date "1862" added

Address: Mrs "A. R.C." / Pleasant Hill / Alabama

Provenance: Ferrary, Hind, Telep.

Source: CWPAS-2626*; DFA-14Jun1922(4)-101; P&K-20Nov1933(1)-177A; JWK-1Dec1987-50. [017]

Image Credit: Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service .



10 Nov [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Docketed "Via Memph & L. Rock R.R" at LL.

Address: Miss Mary K Newsum / Care of Genl L. G. Ganett / Richland / Jefferson Cty / Ark.

Provenance: Brooks.

Source: L&S-24Apr1943(123)-158; RAS-9May2017(1155)-3016*. [007]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



22 Nov [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Docketed "Via Littlerock" at LL.

Address: Miss Mary K Newsum / Richland / Ark

Provenance: Felton.

Source: RAS-9Dec2008(966)-2619*; RAS-15Nov2011(1016)-643*. [008]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



28 Nov [1861]

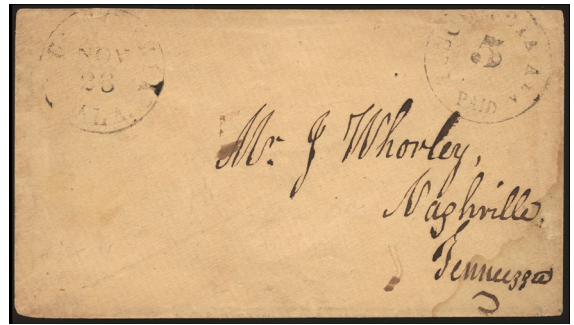
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mr. J Whorley, / Nashville. / Tennessee

Provenance: Walcott.

Source: RL-23May1935-188; HA-12Dec2009-31431*. [022]

Image Credit: Heritage Auctions.



1 Dec [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Miss. E. V. Smith / Military Springs / Ala

Provenance: Warren.

Source: HA-12Dec2009-31430; SR-27Apr2013(53)-4301*. [019]

Image Credit: Schuyler Rumsey Auctions.



7 Dec [1861]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mr Henry R Alsobrook / New Orleans / La

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: RAS-22Jun2016(1132)-3220*. [009]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



10 Dec [1861]

Description: "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Col L. B. Thornton. / Augusta. / Ga.

Provenance: Agre.

Source: RAS-25Sep2002(850)-5796*. [010]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



23 Dec [1861]

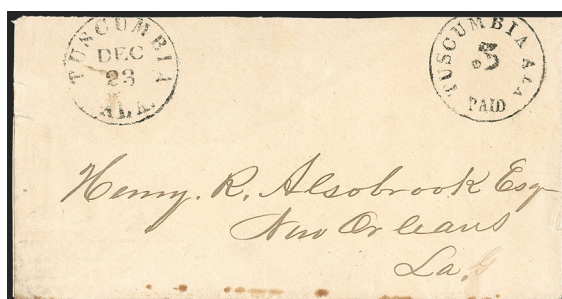
Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Henry. R. Alsobrook Esq / New Orleans / La.

Provenance: Ferrary, Hind, Caspary, Meroni, Kilbourne.

Source: DFA-24Nov1925(14)-395; P&K-20Nov1933(1)-177A; HRH-5Mar1956(989)-466; JAF-20Mar1961(258)-199; SPB-13Oct1989-1317; RAS-24Oct2018(1190)-1333*. [011]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.



-- Jan [1862]

Description: Black "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Folded letter with contents.

Address: Gov. J. G. Shorter / Montgomery / Ala.

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: Private collection. [020]

Image Credit: Private.



5 -- [186-]

Description: "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR. Docketing across left end of cover. Partial image of full cover.

Address: J. A. Coons / Yellow [Creek, Ala.]

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: VIPH-Jun/Jul1901(4:10)-96. [024]

Image Credit: Virginia Philatelist (journal).



No Postmark

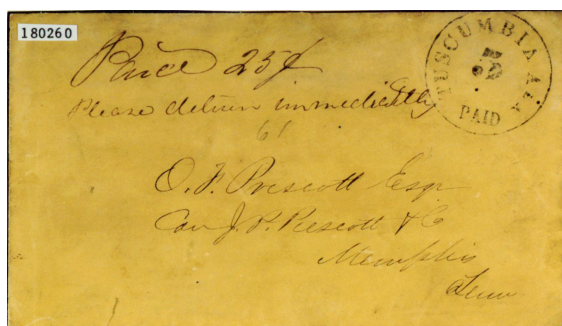
Description: Provisional marking UR. Docketed "Paid 25c" and "Please deliver immediately" at UL-UC. Cover carried outside the mails by private express company.

Address: O. F. Prescott Esqr / Care J. P. Prescott & Co / Memphis / Tenn

Provenance: Hill.

Source: CWPAS-02070; PF-180260*; CSX-Hill(Aug1996)-35. [015]

Image Credit: Philatelic Foundation.



5c color unknown -- TUS-AL-E02x

20 Nov [1861]

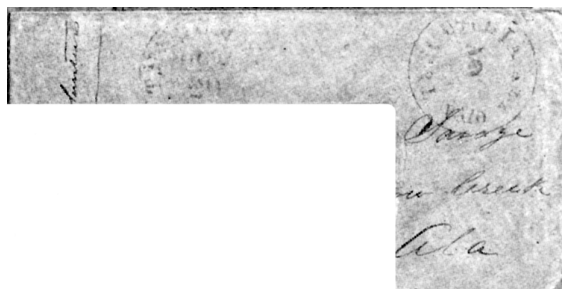
Description: "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UC, provisional marking UR. Partial image of full cover.

Address: --- Savage / ---[w] Creek / Ala

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: VIPH-Jun/Jul1901(4:10)-96. [025]

Image Credit: Virginia Philatelist (journal).



10c black -- TUS-AL-E03 (84XU3)

13 Sep [186-]

Description: "TUSCUMBIA / ALA." postmark UL, provisional marking UR.

Address: Mrs. A. F. Hopkins / Alabama Hospital /
Richmond / Va

Provenance: Walcott.

Source: RL-23May1935-189; RAS-9Apr1997(787)-3289.
[013]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions.

