

Census of Limestone Springs, South Carolina, Postmaster's Provisionals

Complied by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Description



Limestone Springs provisionals: Left - die cut, right – cut to shape

The provisionals were prepared by stamping paper with the “5” rate marking. Some were then struck with a circular die to produce the die cut stamps. Others were apparently sold in sheets and the user cut the rate marking out. Based on the examples in this census it appears the die cut provisionals were prepared on light green paper and the cut to shape on light blue paper. The die cut provisionals probably came first as the postmaster would soon realize using the die to cut out individual stamps was too much trouble.

There is one example (CN 004) for which the color of the paper is unknown. There is a photograph of the cover in the Luff Reference Collection at the Philatelic Foundation.

NOTE: The inclusion of an item in this census is not a guarantee of authenticity.

Count of Limestone Springs provisionals

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Unused	Used	Covers	Total
5c black on light green	LIM-SC-A01				2	2
5c black on white	LIM-SC-A02	121X2			1	1
5c black on light blue	LIM-SC-A03	121X1			2	2
5c black unknown	LIM-SC-A0-				1	1

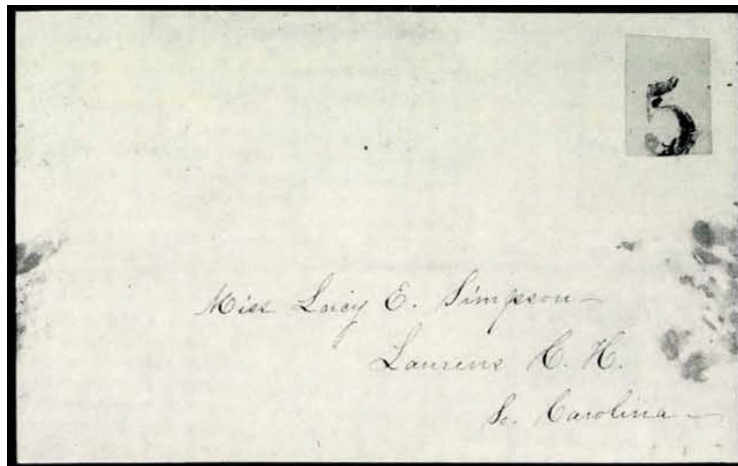
Notes

Why Were They Recognized as Postage?

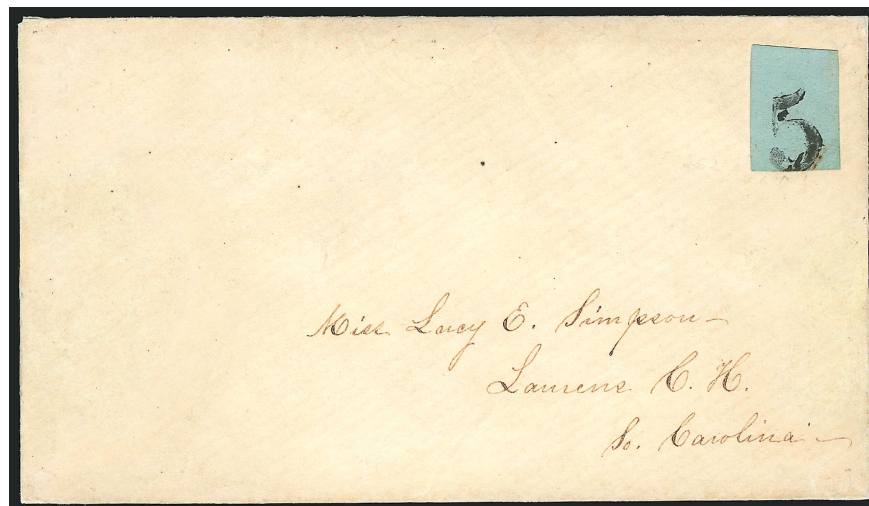
A major question regarding the Limestone Springs provisionals is, how did they pass through the mails? First, no examples have postmarks. Second, a cover with only a rate marking and no paid marking would normally be marked due at the receiving office. There are no recorded examples with postal markings of any kind. This could be an anomaly if directed to a single post office, but the recorded covers were addressed to four different post offices.

Restored Covers

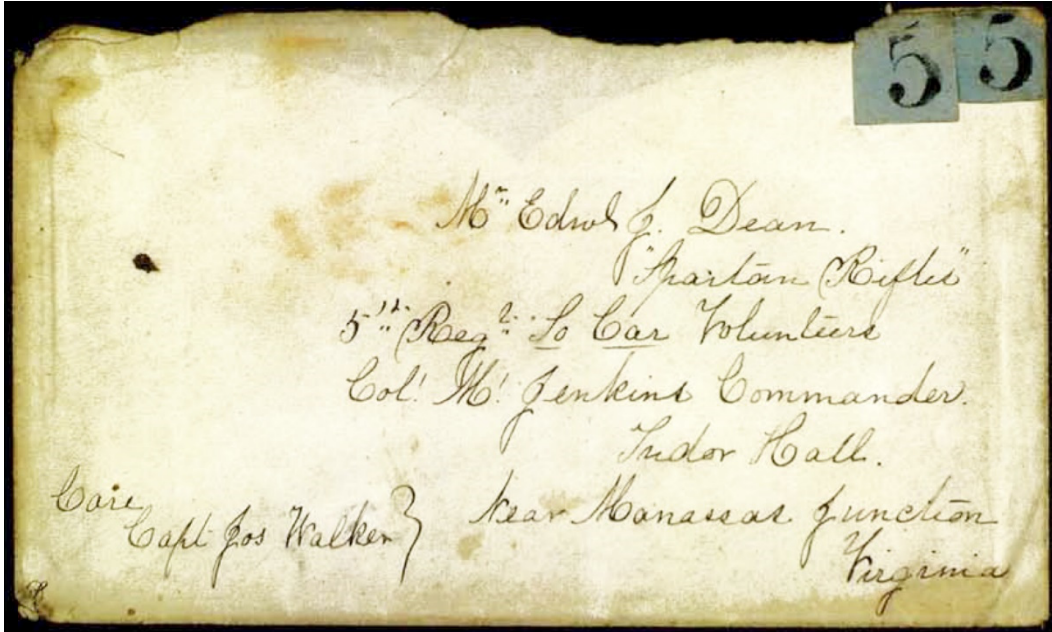
At least two of the Limestone Springs provisionals have undergone professional restoration. Compare the “before” images below to the images of the same covers in the full census.



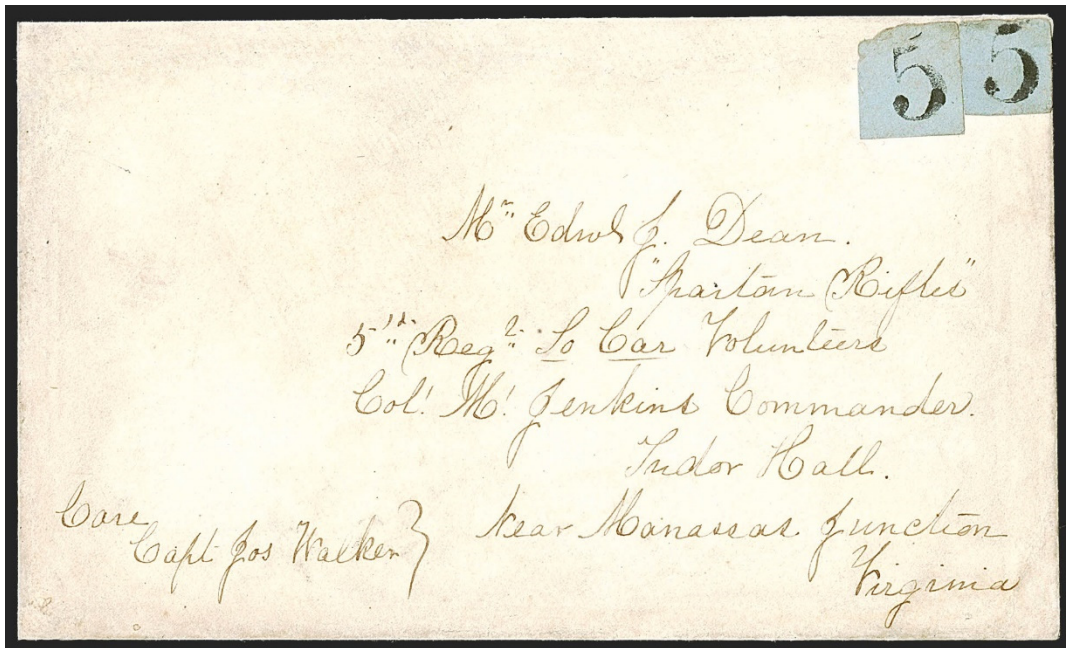
CN 003 Before (Confederate Stamp Album, Feb 1959)



CN-003 After (courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction, Sale 850)



CN-005 Before (image courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction, Sale 772)



CN-005 - After (image courtesy Robert A. Siegel Auction, Sale 1244)

References

Earl A. Weatherly, "Recently Discovered Adhesives on Covers from Limestone Springs, South Carolina, Appear to be New Confederate Postmaster's Provisionals," *Stamps* 88:1 (3 July 1954): 15-18

Earl A. Weatherly, "Limestone Springs Confederate Adhesive Found in Luff Reference Collection," *Stamps* 91:3 (16 April 1955): 106-107

Earl A. Weatherly, "Third 'Find' of Limestone Springs Confederate Adhesives," *Stamps* 93:5 (29 October 1955): 152-165.

Earl A. Weatherly, "The 'New Look' In Confederates," *American Philatelic Congress Book* 25 (1959): 22,

Mini Census of Limestone Springs, South Carolina, Provisionals

<u>Pmk Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>PmkPos</u>	<u>PrvPos</u>	<u>CN</u>
5c black on light green, die cut in circle -- LIM-SC-A01				
No Postmark	Corp. Edwd J. Dean / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt. So Car Volunteers / Col M. Jenkins Commander / Tudor Hall P. O. / Near Manassas Junction / Virginia		UR	001
No Postmark	Master H. J. Dean. / Spartanburg C H. / So. Car		UR	002
5c black on white, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A02 (121X2)				
No Postmark	Mr. Belton O. Mauldin. / Brooks Troop. / Hampton Legion. / Richmond. / Va.		UL	006
5c black on light blue, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A03 (121X1)				
No Postmark	Miss Lucy E. Simpson - / Laurens C. H. / So. Carolina -		UR	003
No Postmark	Mr Edwd J. Dean. / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt. So Car Volunteers / Col. M. Jenkins Commander. / Tudor Hall. / Near Manassas Junction / Virginia		UR	005
5c black on unknown paper, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A0-				
No Postmark	Mr. Edwd J Dean / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt. So. Car. Vols. / Col M. Jenkins. / Tudor Hall. / Near Manassas Junction / Virginia		UL	004

Full Census of Limestone Springs, South Carolina, Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

5c black on light green, die cut in circle -- LIM-SC-A01

No Postmark

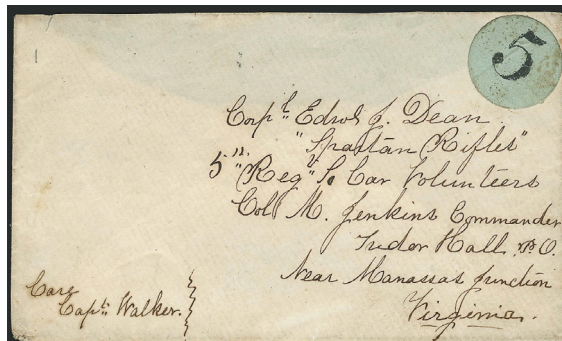
Description: Provisional UR. Enclosure dated 2 Aug 1861.
Docketed "Care / Capt. Walker" LL.

Address: Corp. Edwd J. Dean / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt.
So Car Volunteers / Col M. Jenkins Commander /
Tudor Hall P. O. / Near Manassas Junction /
Virginia

Provenance: Weatherly, Brandon.

Source: APCB-1959(25)-22; STAM-3Jul1954(88:1)-16;
CONA-Feb1959(4:2)-5; RAS-20Oct1972(420)-
636; RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-279*. [001]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions



No Postmark

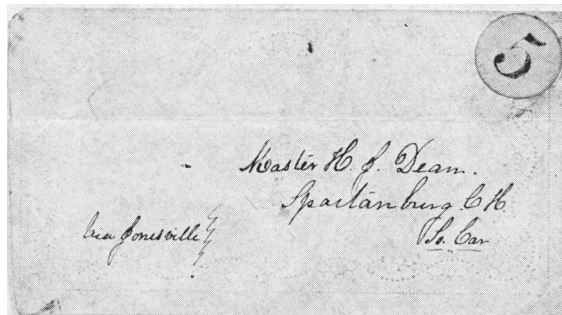
Description: Provisional UR. Ladies embossed envelope.
Docketed "Via Jonesville" at LL.

Address: Master H. J. Dean. / Spartanburg C H. / So. Car

Provenance: Weatherly.

Source: APCB-1959(25)-22; STAM-3Jul1954(88:1)-16;
CONA-Feb1959(4:2)-9; RAS-20Oct1972(420)-
637. [002]

Image Credit: Confederate Stamp Album (journal)



5c black on white, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A02 (121X2)

No Postmark

Description: Two provisionals UL. Mourning cover. Docketed "Rec'd June 3rd 1862 / Answered June 6th 1862 / from Gen. / Whiting's / Hd Q'rters near Richmond" across left end of cover.

Address: Mr. Belton O. Mauldin. / Brooks Troop. / Hampton Legion. / Richmond. / Va.

Provenance: Sharrer.

Source: PF-462215*; RAS-19Dec2007(950)-2875*; RAS-10Dec2012(1035)-34*. [006]

Image Credit: Robert A Siegel Auctions



5c black on light blue, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A03 (121X1)

No Postmark

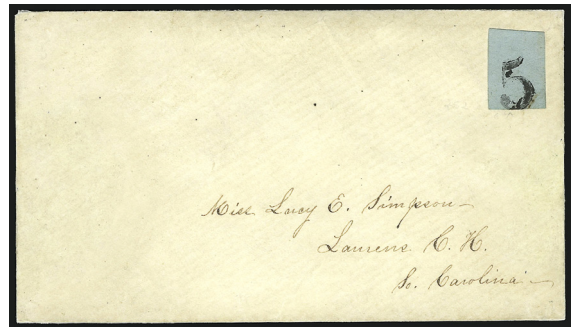
Description: Provisional UR. Cover professionally restored.

Address: Miss Lucy E. Simpson - / Laurens C. H. / So. Carolina -

Provenance: Weatherly, Agre, Erivan.

Source: PPH-117*; STAM-3Jul1954(88:1)-16; CONA-Feb1959(4:2)-9; RAS-20Oct1972(420)-638; RAS-25Sep2002(850)-5734*. [003]

Image Credit: Postmasters' Provisionals: United States and Confederate States (book)



No Postmark

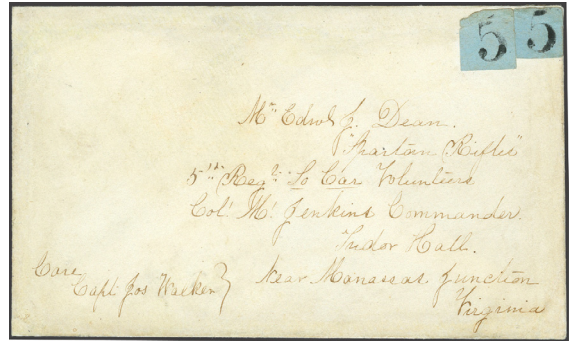
Description: Two provisionals UR. Docketed "Care / Capt Jos Walker" at LL. Cover professionally restored.

Address: Mr Edwd J. Dean. / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt.
So Car Volunteers / Col. M. Jenkins Commander.
/ Tudor Hall. / Near Manassas Junction / Virginia

Provenance: Erivan, Przybyl.

Source: HRH-10Dec2019(3030-2)-68*; RAS-
9Nov2021(1244)-S533 Przybyl. [005]

Image Credit: H R Harmer Auctions



5c black on unknown paper, cut to shape -- LIM-SC-A0-

No Postmark

Description: Two provisionals UL. Docketed "Care / Capt. Jos Walker" at LL.

Address: Mr. Edwd J Dean / "Spartan Rifles" / 5th Regt.
So. Car. Vols. / Col M. Jenkins. / Tudor Hall. /
Near Manassas Junction / Virginia

Provenance: None recorded.

Source: CONA-Feb1959(4:2)-7. [004]

Image Credit: Confederate Stamp Album (journal)

