

IHLC MS 350

**United States Post Office Department  
Records, 1789-1930**

# **Manuscript Collection Inventory**

Illinois History and Lincoln Collections  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Note:** Unless otherwise specified, documents and other materials listed on the following pages are available for research at the Illinois Historical and Lincoln Collections, located in the Main Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Additional background information about the manuscript collection inventoried is recorded in the [Manuscript Collections Database \(http://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php\)](http://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php) under the collection title; search by the name listed at the top of the inventory to locate the corresponding collection record in the database.

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Microfilm - 1 reel

A. Mail route registers, 1814-1859

From the Bureau of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, these mail route registers cover the states of Massachusetts, Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri, and Illinois. Included are names and routes of mail deliverers.

B. Postmaster appointment records, 1832-1930

Drawn from data in the United States Post Office Archives in Washington, D.C., this series contains a list of appointments of postmasters in Illinois and Kentucky. The list is organized by county.

Box 1

B. Typescript of postmaster appointment records, 1832-1930

See microfilm above for corresponding list.

C. Transcripts of correspondence sent to the Postmaster General's office, 1856-1861. 16 items.

These are transcripts of letters written to the Postmaster General's office in Washington, D.C., and to other officials, from Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. They are either reports or contain requests about mail service in certain areas. Most often the requests, which are partially complaints, enjoin the Postmaster General to reroute mail for better service or to institute mail service with more frequent delivery. There is one letter from Galena on this subject which is addressed to President Pierce.

D. Transcripts of correspondence sent from the Postmaster General's office, 1789-1893. 92 items.

This collection is largely composed of transcripts of letters originating in the office of the Postmaster General of the United States. They are addressed to post office establishments in the area of Illinois and the Midwest and discuss matters relating to the mail, i.e. personnel, regulations, salary, routes, schedules, and various physical problems in transporting the mail. There are also some charts and schedules pertaining to mail service.

E. Illinois post office historical data cards, 1800-1917

This series consists of 6 boxes of 3x5" index cards with data about Illinois post offices. Each card includes the location of the post office, date of establishment, first postmaster, date if discontinued, and any change in name. The cards are filed by number. In order to match a post office with its assigned number, consult the cards located in the first half of box 2, which are arranged alphabetically by post office name.

Box 2

Alphabetical index  
Post office numbers 0-300.

Box 3

Post office numbers 301-1100.

Box 4

Post office numbers 1101-2000.

Box 5

Post office numbers 2001-3000.

Box 6

Post office numbers 3001-4000.

Box 7

Post office numbers 4001-4806.

F. DVD Indices, 2008

Two DVDs containing indices organized by post office number, county, date, and place name which correspond to the content found in Duncan's 494 page typescript and index cards.