

Savannah College of Art and Design®

Jen Library Archives and Special Collections

201 East Broughton Street
Savannah GA 31401
912 525 4757

Collection Name:	Savannah Postcard Collection
Collection Number:	MS 016
Dates:	1904-1968
Size:	1 Box, .25 cubic ft.
Provenance:	Collected by staff members
Restrictions:	none
Copyright:	Retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.
Preferred Citation:	[Identification of item], in the Savannah Postcard Collection, MS 016, Jen Library Archives and Special Collections, Savannah College of Art and Design.
Date of Gift:	Collected by staff, collection is accepting donations.
Housed in:	Postcard box

Abstract: The postcards in this collection date from 1904-1968, though many are undated. Some have copyright dates and others, if they were mailed, have postmarks. The bulk of the collection dates from between 1905-1915. The subject of the collection is predominantly of Savannah buildings, street scenes, and monuments. Since many of these buildings have been preserved and repurposed, it is interesting to see them in their original form. A number of the buildings depicted are now owned or used by SCAD.

Institutional History: It is known that privately printed mailing cards may have been in use as early as 1848, but it wasn't until 1861 that Congress authorized that these cards could be sent through the mail, with varying postal rates. In 1873, in the United States, the only entity allowed to print a card defined as a Post Card was the United States Postal Service. The first stamped Post Cards were issued with one cent postage. Any other cards produced by private companies required two cents postage. These cards were blank on the front; the back was reserved for the address only. Cards from this era with pictures on the front often also had the message written on the front as well. It wasn't until 1907 that the divided back allowed the message and the address to appear on the same side.

During the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, the Government issued Post Cards with pictures of the buildings and views of the exposition and postage of one cent printed on the back. Private vendors also created souvenir cards, but these required two cent postage. In 1898, the Private Mailing Card Act reduced the postage of the privately published cards to one cent and generated a post card boom.

In 1899, George Eastman developed a process which worked with the Kodak camera and allowed amateurs to make their own photo postcards. These were called real photo post cards and differed from the mass produced halftone post cards. As commercial photo processes and mass production methods constantly improved and made other sources of photography readily available, the real photo post card declined in popularity.

Following World War I, the post card industry declined somewhat. Most of the best quality cards had been produced in Germany. Cards produced in the United States during this time had a white border to save on the cost of ink. The post card was still predominantly in black and white, but there were companies in France and Belgium that produced Hand Tinted cards.

Around 1930, the Linen card became popular. These were printed on a rag paper with linen- like texture. Brightly colored dyes were possible with this type of printing process and the cards were inexpensive to produce. Photochrome and other chrome processes came along after 1939 and are still the processes in use today. They are in color and of high photo quality.

Collection Overview: Many of the buildings in this post card collection have been acquired and repurposed by the Savannah College of Art and Design. The post cards have been collected over time by staff. Donations are accepted.

Series: The collection has been divided into several series:

1. Aerial Views
2. Cemeteries and Parks
3. Churches
4. Downtown Buildings
5. Government Buildings
6. Hotel De Soto
7. Hotels
8. Miscellaneous
9. Not Savannah
10. River Front
11. Schools
12. Street Scenes
13. Theaters
14. Victorian Houses

Subject Headings: Savannah (Ga.) ~ History ~ Pictorial works.

Savannah (Ga.) ~ Buildings, structures, etc. ~ Pictorial works.

Postcards ~ Georgia ~ Savannah.

Historic buildings ~ Georgia ~ Savannah ~ Pictorial works.

Inventory: Information for each postcard includes caption from front, caption on back, and publisher information. Many cards lack some or all of this information.

Series 1 Aerial Views

1. Caption on front: Aerial View of Main Business Section, Savannah Georgia, Caption on back: Historic and Beautiful Savannah, "Birthplace of Georgia" is situated on a deep landlocked harbor...most beautiful in the South, Published by Genuine Curteich Chicago "C.T. Art Colortone," Distributed by Dixie News Co. Savannah Ga.
2. Caption on front: Savannah Ga. - From the De Soto, no other information available
3. Caption on front: Savannah Ga. From City Hall, Published by Valentine & Sons' Publishing Co. Ltd., New York, Printed in Great Britain.

Series 2. Cemeteries and Parks

1. Caption on front: Monument to Tomo Chi-Chi, Savannah Ga., Published by The Rotograph Co., N. Y., City (Germany).
2. Caption on front: Savannah Ga. Colonial Park, First Burial Ground in Savannah, Published by Raphael Tuck & Sons
3. Caption on front: The Palmetto Avenue, Colonial Park, Savannah, GA., Published by The Valentine & Sons Publishing Co. Ltd. New York, Printed in great Britain
4. Caption on front: Tomo-Chi-Chi Memorial, Savannah Ga., Published by F. M. Kirby & Co., Made in Germany
5. Caption on back: Barnard Street, Astropark, Savannah Georgia. This bright playground is used by hundreds of children...permanent playground equipment, Distributed by Dixie News Co. Savannah Ga. Curteicolor ®3-D Natural Color Reproduction (Reg. U S A Pat. Off.)

Series 3. Churches

1. Caption on front: Cathedral of St. John, Savannah Ga., Published by Coastal News Co. Savannah Ga., Natural Color Post Card made in U.S.A. by E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis. GBY
2. Caption on front: First Presbyterian Church, Synagogue and Wesley Memorial Church, Savannah Ga., Published by American Post Card Co., New York. Made in Germany
3. Caption on front: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bull and Thirty first Streets, Savannah, GA, Caption on back: Organized November 3, 1895. With 148 Charter Members. Dedicated March 22nd, 1896. First Pastor, the Late Dr. M. J. Epting. Served the congregation thirty-two (32) years....seats 800, Published by: Fort Wayne Printing Co. Fort Wayne IND. Roto Tone

Series 4. Downtown Buildings

1. Caption on front: Cotton Exchange Savannah Ga., Published by: Adolph Selige Publishing Co. St. Louis, Leipzig, Printed in Germany
2. Caption on front: Drayton Arms Apartments, Savannah Ga., Caption on back: The first Air Conditioned Apartment House in the State of Georgia. Edw. T. Courtney, Mgr., Published by: Tichnor Quality Views, Tichnor Bros. Boston, Mass.
3. Caption on front: Germania Bank Building, Savannah Ga. Published by: Savannah Post Card Co. New York. Printed in Germany
4. Caption on front: Harmony Club and Guards Armory, Savannah. H. Rymes, Art Store, Savannah Ga., Published by: Raphael Tuck & Sons Post card series no. 1010. "Savannah" Art Publishers to their Majesties, the King and Queen.
5. Caption on front: Jewish Educational Alliance, Savannah, Ga., Jewish Educational Alliance, Savannah Ga., Caption on back: A Community Club House and Social Center. Organized 1913...swimming pool., Published by: C. T. American Art
6. Caption on front: Knights of Pythias Castle Hall, Savannah, Ga., Published by F. M. Kirby & Co. Made in USA

7. Caption on front: Masonic Temple, Savannah Ga., Published by: J. S. Pinkussohn Cigar Co., Savannah Ga.
8. Caption on front: National Bank of Savannah Ga.
9. Caption on front: Oglethorpe Memorial and City Hall Savannah Ga., Published by: Valentine & Sons Publishing, New York, printed in Great Britain
10. Caption on front: Savannah Bank and Trust Co., Savannah Ga., Published by the Silver 5 & 10 Cent Store, Savannah Ga. Made in USA
11. Caption on front: Ted Waters (signature on drawing), Caption on back: The Nationally Famous Pirate's House (1734) 20 East Broad St., Savannah Ga. 31401...Bring the Youngsters, Published by: See Fred M. Gorfain Distributor...Savannah Ga.
12. Caption on front: The Citizens and Southern Bank, Savannah, Ga., Published by: A.H. Co.
13. Y.M.C.A. Building, Savannah Ga., A.L Kanter Specialties, Savannah Ga.
14. Caption on back: Savannah Ga. The Pirate House and the adjoining Herb House. Situated in the original Trustees Garden...11:30 A.M until 10:45 P.M., Published by: Dixie News Co. Savannah Ga.

Series 5. Government Buildings

1. Caption on front: Chatham County Jail, Savannah Ga., Published by: J. S. Oppenheimer Co., Pub. Savannah Ga.
2. Caption on front: Custom House, Savannah Ga., Published by: The Rotograph Co. N.Y. City (Germany)
3. Caption on front: Guards Armory Savannah Ga., Published by: Savannah Post Card Co., New York, Printed in Germany
4. Caption on front: Public Library, Savannah Ga., Published by: the Silver 5 & 10 Cent Store, Savannah Ga. Made in USA
5. Caption on front: Public Library, Savannah Ga., Published by: (?mas?) Bros. News Co. Savannah Ga. Made in U.S.A.
6. Caption on front: U. S. Marine Hospital, Savannah Ga., Published by: Coastal News Co., Savannah Ga. A "Colourpicture" publication, Boston 15, Mass. U.S.A.
7. Caption on front: United States Marine Hospital, Savannah Ga., Published by: the Silver's 5 and 10 Cent Store, Savannah Ga. Made in USA
8. Caption on back: Interior of Fort Pulaski, Savannah Ga.... A National Park Service Area Kodachrome by Walter H. Miller, Published by: Miller's Camera Shop, Williamsburg, Va., made by Dexter Press, Inc., West Nyack NY
9. Caption on back: Federal building and U.S. Courthouse 125-127 Bull Street, Savannah Georgia Constructed 1894-1899, 1932 (addition) Photograph c. 1900 Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1899-1999 Centennial Celebration, Published by: U.S. General Services Administration Preserving America's Federal Buildings
10. Caption on back: U.S. Custom House 1-3 East Bay Street, Savannah, Georgia Constructed 1852, Photograph 1929 Listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Image reprinted with permission from the Georgia Historical Society, Published by: U.S. General Services Administration Preserving America's Federal Buildings

Series 6. Hotel De Soto

1. Caption on front: A Bedroom in Suite "C" of the De Soto, Savannah, Ga., Caption on back: The De Soto Savannah's biggest and Best commercial hotel \$2.00 and \$2.50 without bath \$2.50 Connective \$3.00 and up with bath Sample rooms Elihu S. McLean, Jr. Manager, Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
2. Caption on front: De Soto Hotel Savannah Ga., Published by: Valentine & Sons Publishing, New York and Atlanta, Ga., printed in Great Britain

3. Caption on front: De Soto Hotel Savannah Ga., Published by: W (no other publisher information is included)
4. Caption on front: DeSoto Hotel Savannah Ga., Caption on back: Convenient and luxurious hotels, as well as numerous spots of historic interest, form a great attraction for the tourist and pleasure seeker. Semi-tropical vegetation, healthful climate, and excellent roads to delight the motorist, Published by: Coastal News Co., Savannah Ga. Made in U.S.A.
5. Caption on front: DeSoto Hotel and Jasper Monument, Savannah, Ga., Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
6. Caption on front: Dining Room of the De Soto, Savannah Ga., Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Ga. Premier Southern Hotel, European Plan, Open All Year, J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, Mgr., Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
7. Caption on front: Hotel De Soto Savannah GA , Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Ga. Fireproof J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block. Offering splendid auto parking facilities-8900 square feet of porch space. Air conditioned tavern, Dancing Nightly (except Sunday.), Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis. Made in U.S.A.
8. Caption on front: Hotel De Soto Savannah GA , Caption on back: Hotel Desoto Fireproof Savannah Georgia, J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block. Offering splendid auto parking facilities-8900 square feet of porch space, Published by: Tichnor Quality Views.
9. Caption on front: Hotel De Soto Savannah GA, Caption on back: Hotel De Soto Savannah, Ga. Chas. G. Day Vice President & General Manager Associate Hotels General Oglethorpe Hotel Savannah De Soto Beach Hotel Savannah Beach Hotel Seminole Jacksonville Hotel Patten Chattanooga J. B. Pound, President , Published by: Natural Color Post Card Made in USA By E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis.
10. Caption on front: Hotel De Soto Savannah GA , Published by: A "Colourpicture" Publication, Boston 15, Mass. USA Sold y Coastal News Co. Savannah Georgia
11. Caption on front: Hotel DeSoto Court Garden and Swimming Pool, Savannah GA - 32, Coastal News Company, Savannah Ga.
12. Caption on front: Hotel DeSoto Court Garden and Swimming Pool, Savannah GA , Caption on back: Hotel De Soto Fireproof Savannah Georgia, J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block. Offering splendid auto parking facilities-8900 square feet of porch space, air conditioned..., Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
13. Caption on front: Japanese Garden Hotel De Soto, Savannah, GA. , Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Ga. Fireproof J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block. Offering splendid auto parking facilities-8900 square feet of porch space, Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis. Made in U.S.A.
14. Caption on front: Jasper Monument and De Soto Hotel Savannah Ga., Published by: F. M. Kirby & Co. USA
15. Caption on front: Ladies Writing Room of the De Soto, Savannah Ga., Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Ga. Premier Southern Hotel, European Plan, Open All Year, J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, Mgr., Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
16. Caption on front: Savannah Ga. Hotel De Soto, Published by: The Hugh Leighton Co. Manufacturers, Portland, ME. USA, Made in Germany
17. Caption on front: Swimming Pool, Hotel De Soto, Savannah GA, Caption on back: Hotel De Soto Fireproof Savannah Georgia, J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block..., Published by: Made in U.S.A. by E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis.

18. Caption on front: The Tavern, Hotel De Soto, Savannah GA. , Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Ga. Fireproof J. B. Pound, Pres., Chas. G. Day, V. P. & Mgr. European Plan, Open All Year, Superbly located-covers entire city block. Offering splendid auto parking facilities-8900 square feet of porch space. , Published by: Made in U.S.A. by E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis.
19. Caption on back: De Soto Hotel, Savannah Georgia 300 Rooms, all air conditioned with bath, Swimming pool-Phone and television in every room. Doug Stalker General Manager. Adams 2 0171, Published by: Natural Color Publishers, Inc. 605 Lincoln Rd. Miami Beach 39, Florida Photos by Hannau Color Prod., Inc.
20. Caption on back: Hotel De Soto, Savannah Georgia, Published by: Tulia's Novelty & gift Shop at Hotel De Soto, Savannah, GA. The finest American Made view post card-the Alberttype Co. Brooklyn N. Y.
21. Caption on back: De Soto Hotel, Savannah Georgia, Published by: Tulia's Novelty & gift Shop at Hotel De Soto, Savannah, GA. Post cards of quality-the Alberttype Co. Brooklyn N. Y.

Series 7. Hotels

1. [No title appears to be Savannah Hotel under construction], Published by: The Foltz Photographic Postals, 110 Bull Str, Savannah, Ga.
2. Caption on front: Downtowner Motor Inn, Caption on back: Downtowner Motor Inn "Next to the Civic Center" 201 West Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah Georgia 31402, The Coastal Empire's newest and finest motor inn. Complete luxury facilities, dining room..., Published by: Dexter Press Inc. West Nyack New York
3. Caption on front: Downtowner Motor Inn, Welcome to Savannah Ga., Caption on back: Downtowner Motor Inn 201 West Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah Georgia 31402 The Coastal Empire's newest and finest motor inn. Complete luxury facilities, dining room..., Published by: Charles Henry Photographer, Savannah, Georgia, made by Dexter Press, Inc., West Nyack, New York
4. Caption on front: General Oglethorpe Hotel and Golf Club, Wilmington Island, Savannah, Georgia, Caption on back: General Oglethorpe Hotel and Golf Club, Savannah GA. J. B. Pound Pres - Chas. G. Day, Vice - Pres. J. B. Temple, Manager Other J. B. Pound Hotels: Hotel De Soto Savannah, Ga..., Published by: C. T. Art Colortype Courier Journal Job Prtg. Co. Louisville KY.
5. Caption on front: Hotel Pulaski Savannah's Newest and Oldest Every Room Outside, Savannah Georgia...Johnson Park...Front of Pulaski Hotel
6. Caption on front: Hotel Savannah, Savannah Ga. ~14B, Caption on back: Facing historic Johnson Square, famous for the General Nathaniel Green Monument and Tomb...Colony of Georgia, Published by: Coastal News Company, Savannah Ga. Natural Color Postcard made in USA by E. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis.
7. Caption on front: Hotel Savannah, Savannah Ga. ~Chas. B. Griner Manager, Time Savers ~ Easy Correspondence Card, Caption on back: A Baron & Wilson Hotel Absolutely Fireproof Radio in Every Room Electric Ceiling Fan in every Room Soft water throughout the house, Rate Posted on every room Without Bath \$1.50 up With bath \$2.00 up, Published by: E. Kropp Co. Milwaukee Wis. Copyright and made in the USA
8. Caption on front: John Wesley Hotel, Congress and Abercorn ~ Savannah Georgia, Caption on back: John Wesley The Founder of Methodism, Lived 1736-1737, on this lot set apart by Oglethorpe for a Parsonage Here in April, 1736, according t his record, was the second rise of Methodism, Published by: "C.T. Photo-Colorit" made only by Curt Teich & Co., Inc. Chicago, U.S.A.
9. Caption on front: Newcomb Hotel Company, Props. Opens Jan. 1st, 1913, Hotel Savannah, Savannah Ga. Open Fall 1912, W. L. Stoddart, Architect, NY Chas. McDaul Co. Builders, Phila.

10. Caption on front: The New Savannah Hotel, Savannah Ga., Published by: the Silver's 5 and 10 Cent Store, Savannah Ga. Made in USA, C. T. Photochrome

Series 8. Miscellaneous

1. Caption on front: Casino Thunderbolt, Near Savannah Ga.
2. Caption on front: Greetings From Savannah Ga., Published by: The Mutual Book Company, Boston. Patent Applied for All Rights Reserved

Series 9. Not Savannah

1. Caption on front: Maas Brothers Home of Tropical Fashions on the Sunshine corner of the Sunshine City, St. Petersburg, Fla., Caption on back: Maas Bros. Department Store, opposite beautiful Williams Park, is Florida's newest, most modern fashion center in the heart of the Sunshine City. Published by: Sun News Co. St. Petersburg, Fla. Genuine Curteich- Chicago "C.T. Art Colortone" Post card (Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.)

Series 10. River Front

1. Caption on front: Ocean Steamship Co's docks, Savannah Ga., Published by: Detroit Photographic Co.
2. Caption on front Ocean Steamship Terminals, Savannah Ga., Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee
3. Caption on front Savannah River, West from Bull Street, Savannah Ga.

Series 11. Schools

1. Caption on front: Anderson St. School, Savannah Ga., Published by: American News Company , New York, Leipzig, Berlin, and Dresden Litho-Chrome
2. Caption on front: Barnard Street School, Savannah Ga., Published by: The ? Chicago
3. Caption on front: Barnard Street School, Savannah Ga., Published by: The Leighton & Valentine Co. NY City, Printed in the United States
4. Caption on front: Henry Street School, Savannah Ga., Published by: F. M. Kirby & Co. USA
5. Caption on front: Savannah Ga. Public Schools, Caption on back: Savannah Georgia Public Schools. Savannah recovered rapidly from the effects of the civil war and is now one of the most advanced cities of "The New South."
6. Caption on front: Thirty-eighth Street School, Savannah, Ga., Published by: the Silver's 5 and 10 Cent Store, Savannah Ga. Made in USA, C. T. Photochrome

Series 12. Street Scenes

1. Caption on front: Broughton Street looking West from Bull St. Savannah Ga., Published by: J. S. Pinkussohn Cigar Co. Savannah Ga. Made in Germany
2. Caption on front: Broughton Street looking West Savannah Ga., Published by: "Phostint" card Made only by Detroit Publishing Company
3. Caption on front: Bull St., from Monterey Square, Savannah, Ga., Published by: American Post Card Co., New York. Made in Germany
4. Caption on front: Bull Street North from Masonic Temple, Savannah GA., Caption on back: Bull Street, Savannah GA. Looking toward Savannah Harbor. Every foot of this famous thoroughfare is rich in historic interest. On this street are some of the antebellum mansions. Published by: Savannah News Co. Savannah GA. C.T. American Art Colored
5. Caption on front: Bull Street, Savannah, Ga., Published by: The Rotograph Co., N. Y., City (Germany)
6. Caption on front: Historic and Beautiful Savannah, "Birthplace of Georgia", Caption on back: Historic and Beautiful Savannah, "Birthplace of Georgia" is situated on a deep Landlocked harbor...most beautiful in the South, Published by: Curteicolor ®3-D Natural Color Reproduction (Reg. U S A Pat. Off.) Distributed by Dixie News Co. Savannah Ga.

7. Caption on front: Greetings From Savannah Ga., Caption on back: Broughton Street, Savannah, Georgia Historic and Beautiful Savannah, "Birthplace of Georgia" is situated on a deep landlocked harbor at the head of ocean navigation on the Savannah River. More cotton is shipped from here...naval stores. Published by: Dixie News Co. Savannah Ga.
8. Caption on front: Union Station and West Broad Street, Savannah Ga., Published by: F. M. Kirby & Co. USA
9. Caption on back: Savannah Georgia Downtown Savannah, looking east on Broughton Street toward the World-Famous Pirate House Restaurant , Published by: Kastichrome Colourpicture, Boston MA, 02130, Distributed by Dixie News Co. Savannah GA
10. Caption on back: Drayton St. Looking N.E., Savannah Ga., Published by: Robert Thomas, P. O. Box 405, Thomasville, Ga. Plastichrome ® by Colourpicture, Inc., Boston 15, Mass. USA

Series 13. Theaters

1. Caption on front: New Theatre, Savannah Ga., Published by: The Valentine & Sons Publishing Co. Ltd. New York, Printed in great Britain
2. Caption on front: Savannah Theatre, Savannah Georgia ~109, Caption on back: This theatre is the oldest active in use in the United States, opened December 4, 1818. Within these walls have played the greatest dramatic and operatic stars of the world. No in continuous moving picture policy. Published by: Coastal News Co. Savannah, Ga. Made in USA
3. Caption on front: The Lucas Theatre, Savannah Ga., Caption on back: The Lucas Theatre, one of Savannah's show places, was completed December 26, 1921, by Arthur Lucas, on the site of the home of Sir John Houston, the Governor of Georgia. Published by: E. C. Kropp Co. Milwaukee

Series 14. Victorian Houses

1. Caption on front: Savannah Georgia, Caption on back: Savannah, Georgia. Authentically restored houses found throughout the city reflect the early history of Savannah. The restoration program has revitalized the city and has helped bring back the charm and beauty it so justly deserves. Published by: Dixie Postcards & Souvenir Sales, Savannah Georgia 31405 Tel. (912) 234-2300 Plastichrome, Printed in Ireland

Sources Cited: <http://www.metropostcard.com/metropchistory.html>

The Metropolitan Postcard Club of New York, History page, Web page browsed 1/13/2009

Processed: dhr, 2009