

“No Loc” Bank Covers

There are certainly lots of them! They say “Bank of America,” “Southwestern Trust Company,” “Flintlock Savings & Loan,” etc., but they don’t have any location! And there’s the rub! Most Bank collectors house their covers by state (some, even by state, then city). What do you do with all those covers that not only don’t have a city, but they don’t even have a state?

Here’s how I have single-handedly solved this most perplexing problem [*to my own satisfaction, if no one else’s!*]: I happen to organize my banks by state, then alphabetically, so that if we were dealing with the “Alhambra Bank,” in Rochester, NY, for example, it would be filed under the New York “A’s.” But then there’s always that annoying stack of covers with no state, no city, nothing but the bank name. I file those by state, as well, only here I take the state from the manumark. So, if the manumark says, “Lion Match Co., Boulder, CO,” I’d file it with my Colorado banks, alphabetically.

Yes, I know what you’re thinking. That bank cover quite probably doesn’t come from Boulder at all. Boulder may simply represent the nearest Lion distribution center to the bank’s actual location. The bank could even be located somewhere next door in New Mexico. But, as long as I’m consistent in my “error,” it doesn’t matter. I will always know where to look for that particular cover, especially when checking for dupes among newly arrived covers.

Finally, there are those bank covers which don’t have *any* location in the manumark...or don’t have a manumark at all! For these few covers, I simply create a special section in the front of my first album. Here, all of the truly “unknown” covers are simply put in alphabetically. Again, since I’m consistent, the process works.