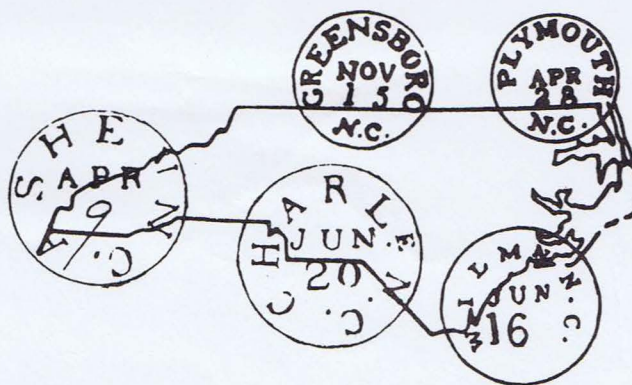


NORTH CAROLINA
POSTAL HISTORY
SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



No. 7 *Vol 3 No 1 (Vol 2 No 4)*

November 1983

GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

The meeting dates have been confirmed for the next NCPHS gathering. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. The place and time is the W. Kerr Scott Building on the North Carolina Fairgrounds in Raleigh at 11:30 a.m. on February 27. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the local stamp and coin show.

ASCC UPDATING PROJECT

Work is proceeding quite well on revising Phillips 4th Edition of the American Stampless Cover Catalogue. To date over 600 N.C. stampless covers have been recorded by the committee members from these covers, many new previously unknown markings have been reported, as well as new color varieties and earliest known dates. Considerable work is being done on expanding the manuscript section of this catalogue. This is an area that, as most of you are aware, has had very limited research in and yet many very rare covers exist.

Areas of responsibility have been assigned to NCPHS members alphabetically - i.e. individual members are assigned letters of the alphabet for which they are responsible for gathering all known data on stampless covers for towns starting with these letters. The coordinators and correspondent letters of responsibility are:

Vernon Stroupe
Milton Wicker
Tony Crumbley
Richard Weiner
Harvey Tilles
Ruth Wetmore
Philip Perkinson
Harriet Riggs
Jim Harris

Cities Starting With

A
B, G
C
D, E, F
H, I, J, K
L, M, N
O, P, Q
R, S
T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z

Members who have not yet sent photo copies of their stampless covers to Vernon Stroupe are asked to do so immediately. Send two copies to: Vernon Stoupe, P. O. Box 8879, Asheville, NC 28814.

Vernon has the responsibility of forwarding copies to specific coordinators. To make the project a success we need all your help! As results are finalized, they will be published in the N.C.P.H.S Newsletter as well as Phillips new catalogue.

DUES NOTICE

The first full year of operation of the NCPHS is coming to an end. Most will agree with less than 40 dues paying members, we have made great strides as an organization. This will be the last newsletter before the new year, so with that it's time to request payment of the 1984 dues. Enclosed with this

newsletter is a dues form, please, before you go on to do something else take the time to fill out this form and return it with your payment. Without your financial support none of this could be made possible.

POSTAL OPERATIONS IN VANCE COUNTY - PHIL H. PERKINSON

From the time of this country's formation, no institution was more vital to a community than its post office. Often located in a home, tavern, courthouse or place of business it was here that people gathered on "mail days" (occurring only bi-weekly or monthly in some areas) to collect their letter, books, newspapers and to learn what was going on in the community and the rest of the world.

The earliest letters were carried "by favor of" an individual in passing. During the British Colonial Period there were post offices at Bath, New Bern, Edenton and Wilmington, but their main business was handling ship mail to Europe and the larger American port cities. It was only after the Revolutionary War that the state started a serious westward expansion. North Carolina had only 13 post offices in 1792, but by 1794 there were forty seven. It was at this time that the Williamsboro post office was established. The main post road or "Upper Road" passed from Petersburg, VA via Warrenton, Raleigh, Fayetteville and on to Augusta, GA. From this main route, cross post routes were established. The one of interest here ran from Halifax to Salisbury via Warrenton, Williamsboro, Hillsboro and Salem. The light volume of mail is shown by the fact that receipts from 1792 to the end of 1793 were only \$35. The contract to carry the mail over this 211 mile long route was awarded on October 1, 1794 to Stephen Sneed; the postmaster at Williamsboro.

Post office equipment and supplies were rather simple in the early offices. The postmaster had to furnish only a wooden desk or chest with a strong lock and key, pen, ink and an area "sufficient to transact business". The General Post Office supplied: forms for various reports, a table of U.S. Post Offices, a copy of the postal laws and regulations, a U.S. map, saddle bag or oilskin folio with lock and key, ledgers and a table of postage rates. Letters were charged per sheet of paper and were sent folded and sealed with address written on the outside of the letter. Since an envelope was considered a second sheet of paper they did not come into widespread use until around 1848. Rates for a single sheet or letter going not over 30 miles was 6 cents, 30 to 80 miles was 10 cents, 80 to 150 miles was 12 1/2 cents, 150 to 400 miles was 18 3/4 cents and over 400 miles was 25 cents. These rates remained in effect until 1845 when the rate was reduced to 5 cents up to 300 miles and 10 cents over 300 miles. These rates are reflected in the first U.S. postage stamps which were issued in 1847. Rates were reduced again in 1851 to 3 cents up to 3,000 miles if prepaid and 5 cents if unpaid. It was not until 1855 that prepayment of letters was required and this was not well received since prepayment was thought to indicate that the receiver was too poor or unable to pay for his letters.

The focus of mail traffic saw a dramatic turn in September of 1838 when the Raleigh & Gaston R.R. arrived at the relatively new town of Henderson. The first postmaster was Lewis Reavis who donated the land for the combination railroad station - post office. This feat of generosity was matched at the small town of Lanesville to the north of Henderson. With the completion of the Roanoke Valley R.R. from Manson, N.C. to Clarksville, VA in 1855; Edmund Towne donated land for the railroad station and Lanesville became Townesville in his honor. To the south the old office of Linbank was moved several miles to the southeast and reopened as Staunton to accommodate the new railroad business. At the outbreak of the Civil War the six principal towns in this area of Granville County were enjoying daily mail service thanks to the railroads.

When the birth of Vance County in 1881 the new county annexed three post offices from Warren County: Brookston, Middleburgh, and Woodworth; four from Granville County: Henderson, Kittrell, Townsville and Williamsboro with none coming from the Franklin County area. By 1900 these seven offices had been joined by an additional nine, making a total of sixteen operating post offices. From 1900 to the present only two more post offices were established: Hilliard which lasted about five months and Tungsten which operated ten years.

With the introduction of Rural Free Delivery (RFD) in Vance County between 1903 and 1906 the less profitable Fourth Class Post Offices were rapidly discontinued. From 1900 to 1910 ten of these smaller offices were discontinued with the mail for that area being routed to a larger town for the new rural carriers. The past 83 years has seen Vance County's offices drop from the 1900 peak of 16 to the present 4; one less than when Henderson was established on September 28, 1838.

The following tabulation of post offices which have operated within the present boundaries of Vance County has many place and family names which are quite familiar and closely associated with the county. It shows that some offices had a quick turnover of Postmasters, but in some the Postmaster was truly a part of the post office. Outstanding in this respect are Fernando T. Tucker at Townsville, who at his death on January 25, 1953, had almost thirty-nine years at his post and Miss Lucille Brooks Ellis at Kittrell with over thirty years at her office when she retired. Lynesville - Townsville has the record for the longest period of continuous operation: one hundred and sixty two years.

POST OFFICES WHICH HAVE OPERATED WITHIN THE PRESENT VANCE COUNTY, N.C.

BEARPOND

Eugene O. Pardue, Oct. 24, 1899
Lizzie F. Pardue, Sept. 26, 1901
Discontinued, Feb. 28, 1903
Mail to Henderson

BOBBITT

Patrick A. Bobbitt, Nov. 12, 1891
Rufus K. Young, Jan. 14, 1901
Discontinued, March 30, 1907
Mail to Kittrell

BROOKSTON

Nelson Brooks, Dec. 13, 1870
Henry Church, April 23, 1872
Charles R. Church, Dec. 20, 1877
Harriett D. Church, June 15, 1892
Discontinued, Aug. 31, 1906
Mail to Henderson

CARLTON

Oliver H. Parham, April 11, 1892
Minnie B. Hicks, Jan. 11, 1897
Discontinued, Dec. 5, 1905
Mail to Henderson

COKES

Joseph N. Tunstall, June 7, 1894
Discontinued, Nov. 30, 1905

DABNEY

John Eaton Burroughs, Dec. 3, 1883
Ira T. Hart, April 17, 1900
Mary Wilson, Oct. 31, 1908
Lallinus W. Burroughs, April 13, 1914
Discontinued March 15, 1935

EPSOM

Simon W. Duke, Sept. 27, 1887
I. W. Green, Dec. 10, 1897
Discontinued, March 31, 1908
Mail to Henderson

GILLBURG

S. G. Satterwhite, Jan. 7, 1890
Edward W. Ellis, Oct. 10, 1899
James O. Stainback, Oct. 23, 1903
William G. Watkins, Nov. 10, 1905
Discontinued, Sept. 15, 1906
Mail to Henderson

GREYSTONE

Bryant O. Strickland, Dec. 23, 1887
Willie L. Ray, Jan. 26, 1888
P. L. Hester, Aug. 19, 1898
Elizabeth Wedding, May 17, 1900
Elizabeth W. Linehan, March 30, 1909
John M. Linehan, Feb. 19, 1914
Maurice C. Capps, Feb. 24, 1919
Eric A. Latta, Feb. 15, 1923
Discontinued, October 15, 1932
Mail to Henderson

HILLIARD

H. Hilliard, July 12, 1901
Rescinded, Dec. 3, 1901
Mail to Henderson

HENDERSON

Lewis Reavis, Sept. 28, 1838
Geo. J. Reavis, Dec. 19, 1843
Lewis H. Kittls, Oct. 15, 1845
William W. Reavis, July 16, 1850
Elizabeth L. Reavis, Sept. 9, 1865
Sallie J. Reavis, Feb. 23, 1866
Virginia C. McCraw, April 3, 1869
Rebecca J. Wyche, July 15, 1880
Richard B. Henderson, Feb. 9, 1888
Thomas W. Hicks, Sept. 28, 1889
John R. Moss, January 27, 1890
M. T. Cheatham, March 22, 1894
Dollie W. Garrett, May 2, 1898
Pryce T. Jones, June 24, 1902
William H. Jenkins, June 22, 1906
W. E. Gary, May 29, 1913
Issac J. Young, March 22, 1917
Vernon W. Faris, Dec. 21, 1922
Cadimus P. Wright, Dec. 20, 1930
John R. Teague, July 18, 1935
William C. Stainback, Oct. 31, 1953
Junius W. Rogers, Jr., Aug. 31, 1957
William S. Jones, June 30, 1973
Winston R. Harriss, Jr., Jan. 5, 1974

KITTRELL

Elisha H. Overton, Feb. 10, 1854
Mary E. Overton, October 11, 1865
Barnett L. Parrish, May 27, 1872
James C. Reid, May 16, 1873
John C. Hester, Nov. 13, 1877
William Blacknall, October 15, 1887
Thomas H. Burwell, October 24, 1889
Rufus M. Person, September 4, 1893
John H. Thorpe, January 14, 1898
Walter H. Finch, March 28, 1902
James E. Smith, Dec. 29, 1902
Ira T. Hunt, May 29, 1913
Walter H. Finch, March 28, 1922
Miss Lucile B. Ellis, Sept. 7, 1934
Sally Ann Van Dyke, May 31, 1965
Charles C. Brown, Feb. 10, 1967
Donald E. Johnson, Dec. 30, 1982
Lewis G. Harris, Jr., May 14, 1983

LINBANK

George Barnes, March 9, 1829
Samuel Duty, April 20, 1830
William A. Eaton, December 10, 1835
Samuel Duty, March 27, 1838
John Eaton, June 15, 1838
Robert D. Eaton, April 16, 1839
William R. Hicks, August 21, 1839
Office moved and name changed
to STAUNTON, May 15, 1841

LYNESVILLE

Nathaniel C. Daniel, Feb. 24, 1821
William H. Hodge, October 3, 1829
William T. Hargrove, May 30, 1835
John R. Hargrove, April 9, 1841
George Morgan, November 4, 1844
John R. Hargrove, November 18, 1847
William T. Ester, October 27, 1848
William B. Hughes, April 7, 1851
Name changed to TOWNESVILLE
April 4, 1855

MIDDLEBURGH

Elmer W. Watkins, May 4, 1876
John W. Nicholson, Sept. 19, 1881
John G. Young, November 24, 1882
Robert Bennett, May 21, 1883
John W. Nicholson, Feb. 2, 1885
Elmer W. Watkins, April 22, 1886
Spelled Middleburg from
December 1, 1894 onward
Brutus Young, January 12, 1898
Elmer W. Watkins, Jan. 16, 1902
Rebecca Watkins, Feb. 10, 1902
Linwood G. Twisdale, Feb. 17, 1904
Herbert M. Church, Dec. 3, 1907
William L. Stewart, April 28, 1914
Robert T. Stewart, April 12, 1919
James R. Carroll, May 1, 1940
Minnie B. Watkins, Aug. 1, 1942
Minnie Watkins Jones, Oct. 12, 1942
Lena H. Fleming, July 31, 1957
Hallie L. Edwards, Dec. 12, 1958

NUTBUSH

Henry B. White, Nov. 23, 1893
Rescinded, April 28, 1894
Mail to Manson

STAUNTON

George Burns, June 16, 1841
Blair Burwell, October 6, 1843
William B. Ellington, June 3, 1845
James H. Hayes, January 26, 1847
James M. Poole, December 10, 1849
Elisha H. Overton, December 21, 1851
Name changed to KITTRELL
February 10, 1854

STEEDSVILLE

James H. Goodrich, March 4, 1884
Walter H. Aycock, Jan. 30, 1885
William H. Stewart, Sept. 28, 1887
T. Britt, January 23, 1890
George H. Finch, Jan. 29, 1891
Mattie M. Stainback, March 22, 1894
Discontinued, December 15, 1894
Mail to Vicksboro

STRICKLAND

Bryant O. Strickland, Aug. 18, 1887
Name changed to GREYSTONE
December 22, 1887

TOWNESVILLE

William B. Hughes, April 4, 1855
William Overby, May 25, 1866
Moses J. Bullock, Feb. 19, 1872
Thomas S. Royster, Feb. 8, 1886
James H. Alston, Jan. 24, 1888
Charner H. Davis, July 20, 1889
Spelled TOWNSVILLE from
June 27, 1892 onward.
Walter B. Thomas, Sept. 9, 1893
Keyser J. Starke, Dec. 13, 1895
Leonidas M. Bullock, Nov. 13, 1896
Charner H. Davis, Dec. 10, 1897
Minnie F. Tally, Jan. 15, 1909
William A. Harris, Feb. 15, 1910
Fernando T. Tucker, April 28, 1914
Charles H. Howell, August 20, 1953
Ronald G. Warren, August 31, 1974
Andrew J. Hundley, Feb. 25, 1977
Marvin N. Lee, July 1, 1978
William H. Wiggins, June 28, 1980
Donald E. Johnson, Feb. 18, 1981
Joyce N. Moss, August 22, 1981

TUNGSTEN

Frank G. Hart, March 16, 1949
Dorothea M. Hart, Oct. 31, 1950
Discontinued, March 31, 1959

WATKINS

William A. Parham, Sept. 17, 1889
R. E. Kittrell, Aug. 20, 1898
James H. Parham, Jr., Feb. 12, 1901
Cland G. Evans, December 13, 1902
Thomas V. Bobbitt, Nov. 4, 1904
Discontinued, August 31, 1906
Mail to Henderson

WILLIAMSBORO

Stephen Sneed, June 12, 1794
James Sneed, July 1, 1798
Albert Sneed, March 4, 1816
Stephen Sneed, June 18, 1819
James C. Stevens, March 3, 1823
Alexander Hamilton, Feb. 19, 1824
Spelled WILLIAMSBOROUGH from
January 1825 to Sept. 26, 1833
James Anderson, July 25, 1833
Henry Fowler, June 25, 1836
Moses Neal, Sept. 6, 1843
Elizabeth Satterwhite, Sept. 17, 1853
Leopold Henderson, Aug. 24, 1865
S.S. Cooper, December 23, 1865
William F. Henderson, Sept. 26, 1866
Discontinued, August 9, 1869
Reopened, May 14, 1879
John E. Haithcock, May 14, 1879
Herbert S. Lemay, Dec. 8, 1887
James C. Wyche, April 10, 1891
William T. Hardy, Sept. 26, 1893
Robert A. Field, Dec. 10, 1897
Discontinued, Feb. 15, 1909
Mail to Henderson

WOODWORTH

Henry Woodworth, Dec. 29, 1831
E. M. Hargrove, June 14, 1837
John Read, September 27, 1837
O. F. Manson, June 10, 1847
William W. White, Feb. 12, 1851
George L. Ridout, March 7, 1854
James O. K. Pascall, June 15, 1855
Lewis, J. Peoples, Feb. 15, 1859
Discontinued, May 13, 1867
Reopened, March 29, 1880
Robert H. Read, March 29, 1880
Mary E. Ridout, Nov. 3, 1896
Melethon B. Harris, Jan. 3, 1901
John J. Riggan, June 17, 1905
Albin R. Tarry, Feb. 7, 1907
Discontinued, Feb. 16, 1914
Mail to Townsville

DOREMUS MACHINE CANCELS OF NORTH CAROLINA - TONY L. CRUMBLEY

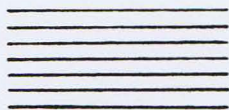
In the late 1890's several companies began manufacturing canceling machines for post offices. One of those was the Doremus Machine Company located in Washington, D.C. and founded by Willard D. Doremus. Little is known about this company other than its first patents for canceling machines were issued to Mr. Doremus. However, none of the actual Doremus Machines built are to these specifications.

The last new Doremus machine was issued in 1903. The Doremus Company remained in business for many years afterwards supplying parts and new dies for its canceling machines. Many new towns appear with Doremus cancels after 1903, this is due to older canceling machines being passed on to other post offices.

Several attempts have been made over the years to list all known Doremus cancels. The first was published in "XX Killers" a cancellation paper of the late 1940's. The most current attempt is the "Standard Encyclopedia of Doremus Machine Cancels" published in 1968 by Frederick Langford. In Mr. Langford's catalog there are the different type cancels listed. A total of 1,258 different varieties are noted from the different towns across the U.S. and Philippines.

From North Carolina, nine towns have been reported as using these cancels. Of these, Durham used two different dies making a total of ten known varieties from North Carolina.

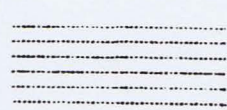
The ten types of cancels are:



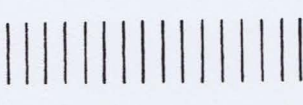
Type 1
Seven Bars
22 mm high



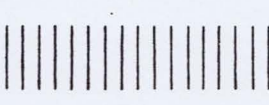
Type 2
Broken Bar variety
of Type 1



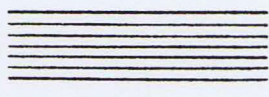
Type 3
6 dotted line variety



Type 4
16 Bars
15 mm high
curved date



Type 5
17 Bars
15 mm high
straight date



Type 6
7 Bars
15 mm high
2 3/8" high

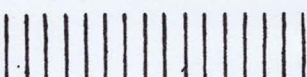
The above six cancels are the original Doremus types. They were issued as such to many different towns. The four types below are hybrid types, each was created by mixing interchangeable dies.



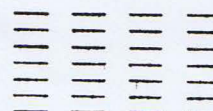
Type 7
Combines
Type 4 CDS
Type 3 Killer



Type 8
Combines
Type 5 CDS
Type 3 Killer



Type 9
Combines
Type 3 CDS
Type 4 Killer



Type 10
Combines
Type 4 CDS
Type 2 Killer

The known cancels from North Carolina are:

	Type	Earliest Known	Latest Known
Chapel Hill	5	1909	1916
Concord	5	1907	1913
Durham	3	1901	1902
Durham	4	1903	1906
Greensboro	3	1901	1902
Hendersonville	5	1809	1914
High Point	4	1903	1907
Reidsville	5	1811	1913
Tarboro	5	1909	1911
Wallace	5		1922

This list should not be considered as complete. Other towns most certainly used these canceling machines.

Caution should be noted to those unfamiliar with these cancels as other canceling machines exist with very similar markings. There are four types that are very similar, three produced by the Barr-Fyke Company. These have bars 22 mm high, 19 mm high and 20-21 mm high. The fourth manufactured by the American Postal Machine Company has six horizontal bars. These, as well as other similar cancels by Columbia Cummins or Time Machine, are much more common than the Doremus cancels as they were usually powered machines used in larger cities.

The Editor would like to hear from those of you who have an interest in early machine cancels. In particular if you have examples of unlisted North Carolina Doremus cancels, please forward copies of these covers.