

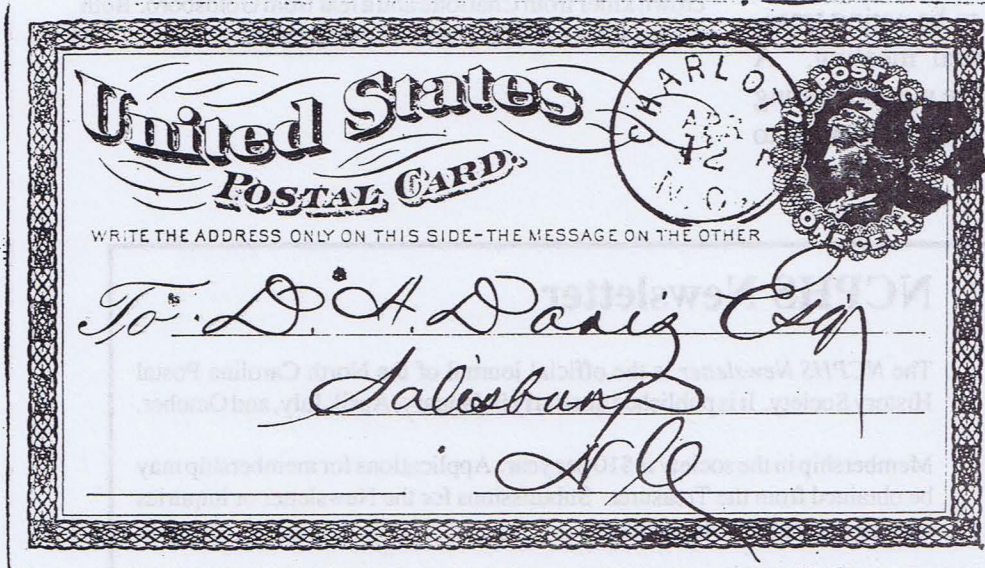
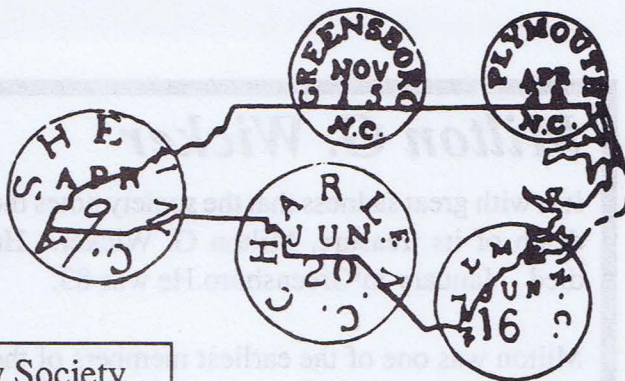
NCPHS Newsletter

The Journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society

Volume 8, No. 1

Winter, 1989

Whole No. 28



Fancy Cancels



Milton G. Wicker

It is with great sadness that the society notes the death of its treasure, Milton G. Wicker. He died January in Greensboro. He was 83.

Milton was one of the earliest members of the society and served as treasurer for many years. For many years, members in the Greensboro area would gather at his home on Thursday nights to talk postal history.

Milton collected North Carolina covers for years before the society even existed. He also had significant postal history collections of Alaska and Oklahoma/Indian Territory. For his work in compiling a list of North Carolina Doane cancels, he was awarded the A. Earl Weatherly Award in 1986.

He will be sorely missed.

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Ken Schoolmeester has agreed to be acting treasurer until elections at the annual meeting. A volunteer is needed to continue the work of listing N.C. Doane cancels. If you are interested write to the editors.

Cover: Two examples of North Carolina fancy cancels. The crown killer from Charlotte and a leaf from Goldsboro. Both covers from the collection of Tony Crumbley.



NCPHS Newsletter

The *NCPHS Newsletter* is the official journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society. It is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

Membership in the society is \$10 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the Treasurer. Submissions for the Newsletter or inquiries may be addressed to the Editors.

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North Carolina Fancy Cancels

by

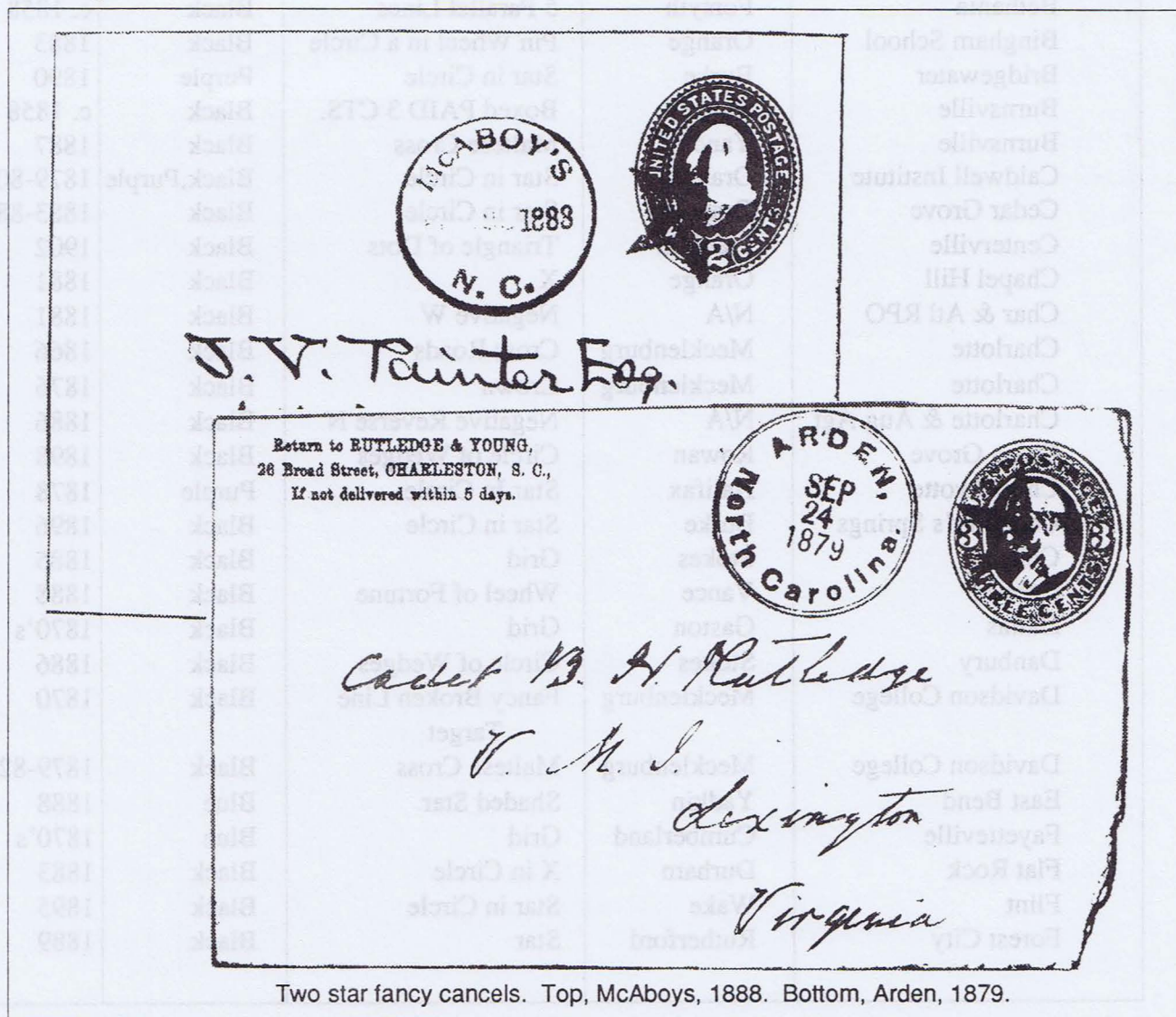
Dr. Ken Schoolmeester

P.O. Box 8465, Greensboro, N.C. 27419

Perhaps one of the most enjoyable aspects of postal history collecting is the discovery of a new fancy cancel from one's area of interest. As attractive and desirable as these markings are, little is known about their origin and existence. Several books have been written on the subject; Herst-Simpson's, Skinner-Eno's, and Tracy Simpson's works are perhaps the three most noted publications. However, these works are not organized by state or office of origin, so a review of these publications produces few North Carolina markings.

This article is an initial attempt to record all fancy cancellations from North Carolina. So far nearly 120 offices have been found to have had some type of ornate marking at one time or another. Many more are certainly out there.

Because of the nature of the marking device, most carved from wood or cork, few have survived today. Typically their period of use was short as they wore out quickly. For example, the crown cancellation of Charlotte was only used from April 6 to 16, 1876; a short time by any standard. The



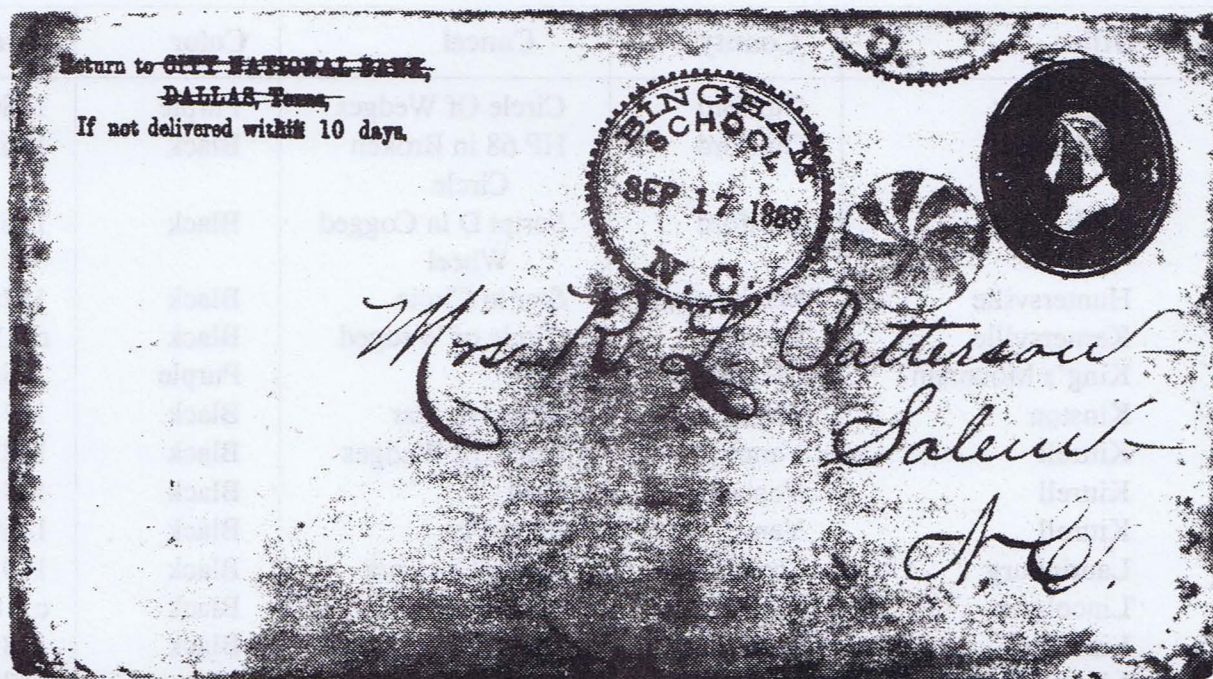
Two star fancy cancels. Top, McAbos, 1888. Bottom, Arden, 1879.

1870s and 1880s were the most prolific period for these cancels though some are found as early as the stampless era and some were used much later.

The list which starts below shows markings that have been recorded to date. This listing is a

prelude to what is hoped to be a more extensive illustrated publication. Please take time to compare this list to the fancy cancels in your collection. If you find markings not listed here, or examples of superior quality, please send photocopies to the author.

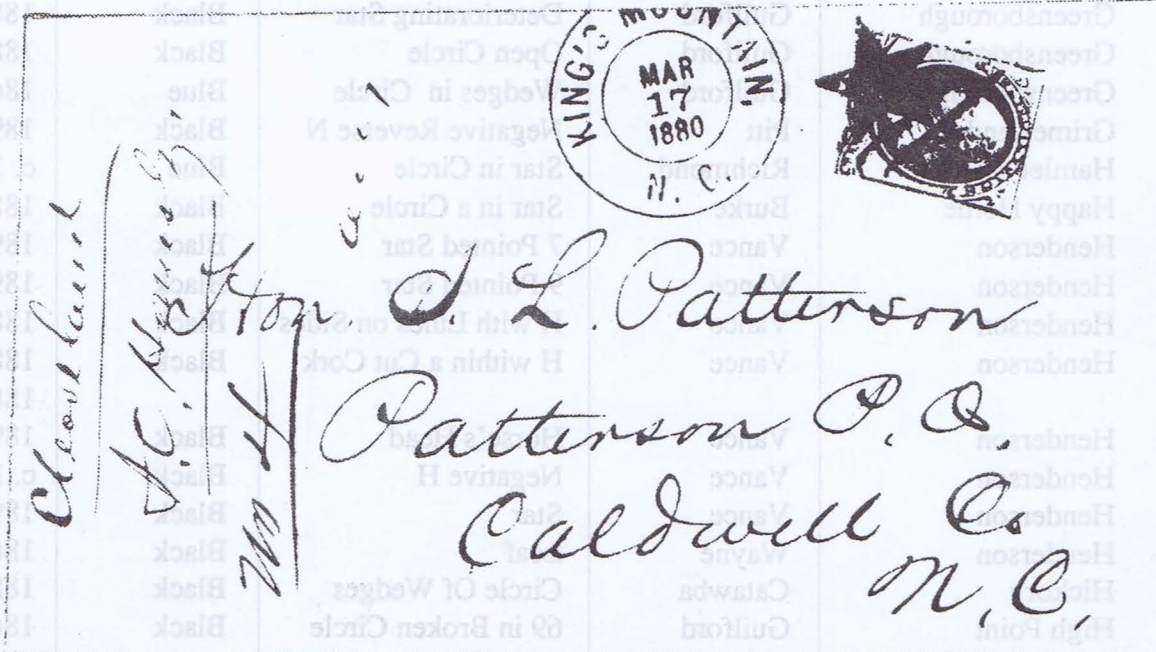
Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
Aberdeen	Moore	Fancy Geometric	Black	1898
Alexander	Buncombe	Shaded Star	Blue	1887
Archdale	Randolph	Negative A	Black	1889
Arden	Buncombe	Star	Magenta	1879- 80
Asheville	Buncombe	Negative A	Black	c. 1880
Bakersville	Mitchell	MalteseCross	Purple	1878-82
Bartonsville	Halifax	B.B. VASSALL	Black	1857
Battleborough	Nash	3 Diamond Geometric	Black	1890
Belvidere	Pasquotank	Wheel of Fortune	Black	1885
Bethania	Forsyth	5 Parallel Lines	Black	c. 1858
Bingham School	Orange	Pin Wheel in a Circle	Black	1883
Bridgewater	Burke	Star in Circle	Purple	1890
Burnsville	Yancey	Boxed PAID 3 CTS.	Black	c. 1858
Burnsville	Yancey	Maltese Cross	Black	1887
Caldwell Institute	Orange	Star in Circle	Black,Purple	1879-80
Cedar Grove	Orange	Star in Circle	Black	1883-88
Centerville	Franklin	Triangle of Dots	Black	1902
Chapel Hill	Orange	X	Black	1881
Char & Atl RPO	N/A	Negative W	Black	1881
Charlotte	Mecklenburg	Cross Roads	Black	1866
Charlotte	Mecklenburg	Crown	Black	1876
Charlotte & Aug Agt	N/A	Negative Reverse N	Black	1886
China Grove	Rowan	Circle of Wedges	Black	1898
Chockoyotte	Halifax	Star In Circle	Purple	1878
Connelly's Springs	Burke	Star in Circle	Black	1896
Culler	Stokes	Grid	Black	1885
Dabney	Vance	Wheel of Fortune	Black	1888
Dallas	Gaston	Grid	Black	1870's
Danbury	Stokes	Circle of Wedges	Black	1886
Davidson College	Mecklenburg	Fancy Broken Line Target	Black	1870
Davidson College	Mecklenburg	Maltese Cross	Black	1879-82
East Bend	Yadkin	Shaded Star	Blue	1888
Fayetteville	Cumberland	Grid	Blue	1870's
Flat Rock	Durham	X in Circle	Black	1883
Flint	Wake	Star in Circle	Black	1895
Forest City	Rutherford	Star	Black	1889



Bingham School pinwheel, 1888

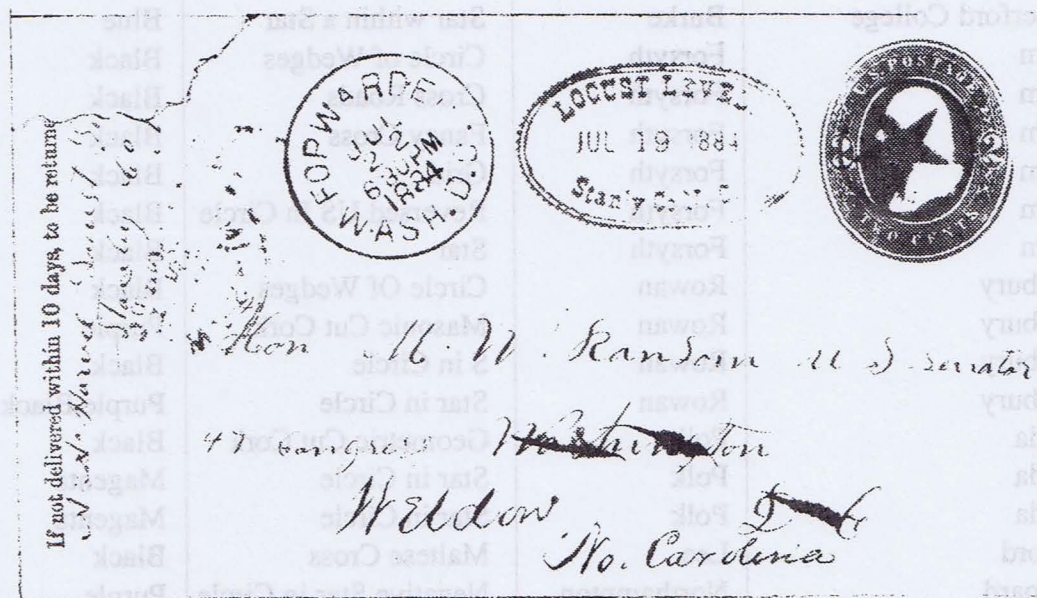
Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
Fork Church	Davie	Star in Circle	Black	1884
Franklin	Macon	Circle of Wedges	Black	1884
Franklinton	Franklin	Negative F	Black	1870's
Franklinville	Randolph	FV in Serrated Circle	Black	c. 1866
Garysburg	Northampton	Grid	Black	1888
Garysburg	Northampton	Star in Circle	Black	1882
Greensborough	Guilford	Deteriorating Star	Black	1883
Greensborough	Guilford	Open Circle	Black	1888
Greensborough	Guilford	Wedges in Circle	Blue	1868
Grimesland	Pitt	Negative Reverse N	Black	1890
Hamlet	Richmond	Star in Circle	Blue	c. 1880
Happy Home	Burke	Star in a Circle	Black	1882
Henderson	Vance	7 Pointed Star	Black	1897
Henderson	Vance	9 Pointed Star	Black	1897
Henderson	Vance	H with Lines on Sides	Black	1889
Henderson	Vance	H within a Cut Cork	Black	1880(?) - 1889
Henderson	Vance	Horse's Head	Black	1897
Henderson	Vance	Negative H	Black	c. 1886
Henderson	Vance	Star	Black	1897
Henderson	Wayne	Leaf	Black	1867- 68
Hickory	Catawba	Circle Of Wedges	Black	1880's
High Point	Guilford	69 in Broken Circle	Black	1869

Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
High Point	Guilford	Circle Of Wedges	Purple	1880's
High Point	Guilford	HP 68 in Broken Circle	Black	1868
High Point	Guilford	Script D in Cogged Wheel	Black	1867-70
Huntersville	Mecklenburg	Star in Circle	Black	1875
Kernersville	Forsyth	Circle of Wedged	Black	c. 1867
King's Mountain	Cleveland	Star	Purple	1880
Kinston	Lenoir	Negative Star	Black	1871
Kittrell	Vance	Circle of Wedges	Black	1883
Kittrell	Vance	Grid	Black	1888
Kittrell	Vance	Shoo-Fly	Black	1869
Laurinburg	Scotland	Fancy Cut Cork	Black	1895
Lincolnton	Lincoln	Star Burst	Black	c. 1867
Linwood	Davidson	Maltese Cross	Black	1885
Linwood	Davidson	Star In Circle	Magenta	1878
Littleton	Halifax	Circle of Wedges	Black	1892
Locust Level	Stanly	Star in Circle	Black	1884
Long Branch	Alamance	Star	Black	1870's
Louisburg	Franklin	Grid	Blue	1870's
Lumberton	Robeson	Star in Circle	Blue	1883
Madison	Rockingham	Star in Circle	Black	1888-89
Magnolia	Duplin	Maltese Cross	Black	1877
Manly Station	Moore	Maltese Cross	Black	1878
Mapleville	Franklin	Segmented Maltese Cross	Blue	1887

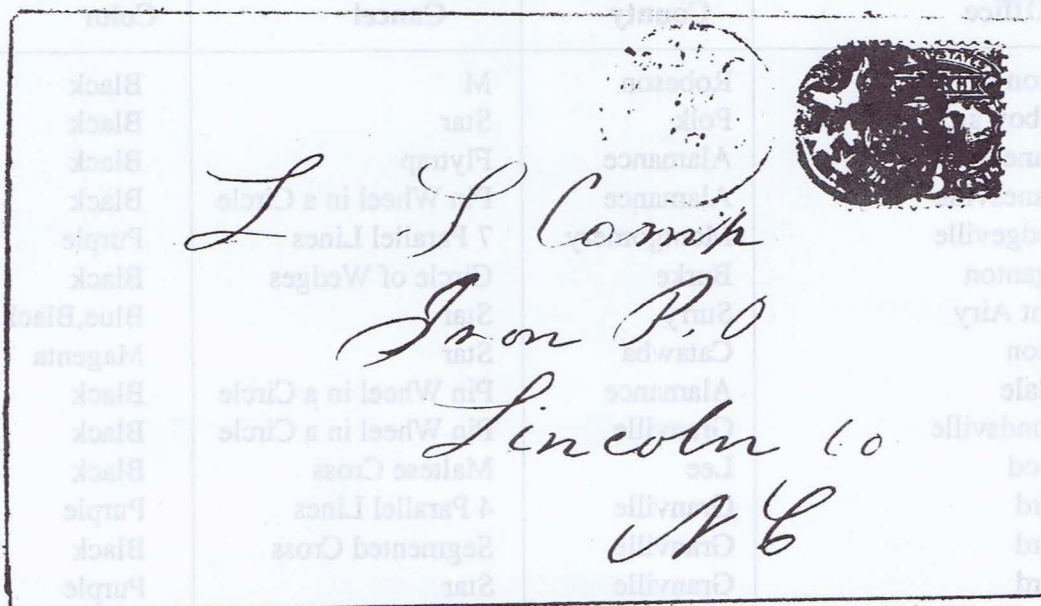


Kings Mountain star, 1880

Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
Maxton	Robeson	M	Black	1894
McAboy's	Polk	Star	Black	1888
Mebanesville	Alamance	Flytrap	Black	c. 1868
Mebanesville	Alamance	Pin Wheel in a Circle	Black	1882
Milledgeville	Montgomery	7 Parallel Lines	Purple	1887
Morganton	Burke	Circle of Wedges	Black	1885
Mount Airy	Surry	Star	Blue, Black	1886-89
Newton	Catawba	Star	Magenta	1879
Oakdale	Alamance	Pin Wheel in a Circle	Black	1886
Ormondsville	Granville	Pin Wheel in a Circle	Black	1885
Osgood	Lee	Maltese Cross	Black	1892
Oxford	Granville	4 Parallel Lines	Purple	c. 1878
Oxford	Granville	Segmented Cross	Black	1894
Oxford	Granville	Star	Purple	1877
Oxford	Granville	X	Black	1894
Panacea Springs	Halifax	Star in Circle	Black	1884
Pineville	Mecklenburg	Maltese Cross	Violet	1881
Plymouth	Washington	Cut Cork	Black	1865
Plymouth	Washington	Sheild	Black	c. 1867
Plymouth	Washington	V's within a Circle	Blue	c. 1868
Raleigh	Wake	Circle of Wedges	Black	1870's
Raleigh	Wake	Mask	Black	1877
Raleigh	Wake	Quartered Cork	Black	1885
Raleigh	Wake	R in Circle	Black	1877
Randleman	Randolph	Star	Black	1883
Reidsville	Rockingham	Star in Circle	Black	1880



Locust Level county cancel with star killer, 1884



Tarboro moon and stars killer, 1870

Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
Ridgeway	Warren	Negative Star	Black	1879
Ridgeway	Warren	Propeller	Black	1867
Ridgeway	Warren	R	Black	1877
Ridgeway	Warren	Star Burst	Black	1902
Ridgeway	Warren	Star in Circle	Black	1894
Rockingham	Richmond	Grid	Black	1898
Rocky Mount	Edgecombe	Cross Roads	Black	1870
Rocky Mount	Edgecombe	Masonic Cut Cork	Black	1880
Rocky Point	Pender	Star in Circle	Purple	1877
Rutherford College	Burke	Star within a Star	Blue	1883
Salem	Forsyth	Circle of Wedges	Black	c. 1866
Salem	Forsyth	Cross Roads	Black	c. 1868
Salem	Forsyth	Fancy Cross	Black	c. 1867
Salem	Forsyth	Grid	Black	1879
Salem	Forsyth	Reversed US In Circle	Black	1870's
Salem	Forsyth	Star	Black	1883- 88
Salisbury	Rowan	Circle Of Wedges	Black	1870's
Salisbury	Rowan	Masonic Cut Cork	Purple	1877
Salisbury	Rowan	S in Circle	Black	1870's
Salisbury	Rowan	Star in Circle	Purple,Black	1877
Saluda	Polk	Geometric Cut Cork	Black	1886
Saluda	Polk	Star in Circle	Magenta	1880
Saluda	Polk	Star in Circle	Magenta	1881
Sanford	Lee	Maltese Cross	Black	1882
Seaboard	Northampton	Negative Star in Circle	Purple	1879
Shaw's Mills	Guilford	Star	Blue	1885

Office	County	Cancel	Color	Dates
Siler City	Chatham	Maltese Cross	Black	1887
Siler Station	Chatham	Maltese Cross	Black	1886
Smithfield	Johnston	Circle of Wedges	Black	1899
Sparkling	Catawba	Maltese Cross	Black	1884
St. Jude	Watauga	Circle of Wedges	Blue	1892
Staley	Randolph	Maltese Cross	Black	1888
Summerfield	Guilford	Star	Black	c. 1880
Sunny Side	Washington	Star	Purple	1870
Sylva	Jackson	Star in Circle	Black	1884-89
Tarborough	Edgecombe	Circle of Wedges	Blue, Black	1866
Tarborough	Edgecombe	Neg. Crescent Moon & Stars	Black	1870
Thomasville	Davidson	Negative Star	Black	c. 1880
Turkey Tail	Burke	Star	Purple	1878
Wadeville	Montgomery	Star	Purple	1886
Walnut Cove	Stokes	Circle of Wedges	Black	1871
Washington	Beauford	Cross	Black	1887
Whitakers	Edgecombe	Maltese Cross	Black	c. 1880
Willard	Pender	Star in Circle	Black	c. 1893
Williamston	Martin	Sand Dollar	Blue	1869
Williamston	Martin	Shaded Star	Black	c. 1866
Wilmington	New Hanover	Geometric	Black	c. 1866
Wilmington	New Hanover	Negative W	Black	1867-68
Wilmington	New Hanover	Negative W	Black	c. 1869
Wilmington	New Hanover	Cross Roads	Black	1879-80
Wilmington	New Hanover	Cross Roads a Circle	Black	1880
Wilson	Wilson	W	Black	1888
Winston	Forsyth	5 in Circle	Black	1870's
Winston	Forsyth	Grid	Black	1885
Winston	Guilford	Negative G	Black	1875
Yanceyville	Caswell	Maltese Cross	Black	1885

If you find markings not listed here, or examples of superior quality, please send photocopies to the

author, Ken Schoolmeester, P.O. Box 8465, Greensboro, N.C. 27419. **NCPHS**

Annual Meeting on May 6 in Winston-Salem

The North Carolina Postal History Society's annual meeting is set for 1:00 pm, Saturday, May 6 at the Winpex '89 stamp show in Winston-Salem. The show site will be the Sawtooth Building, Winston-Salem Square, 226 N. Marshall Street. This can be reached via the Cherry street exit on I-40.

Several items of business will be discussed. The society will consider combining the offices of secretary and treasurer. Four terms of the society's Board of Directors expire this year. New directors will be elected fill these three year positions. The current members of the board and the date of expiration of their terms are:

Continued on page 11

Davidson River Post Office and Train Station Are Remembered

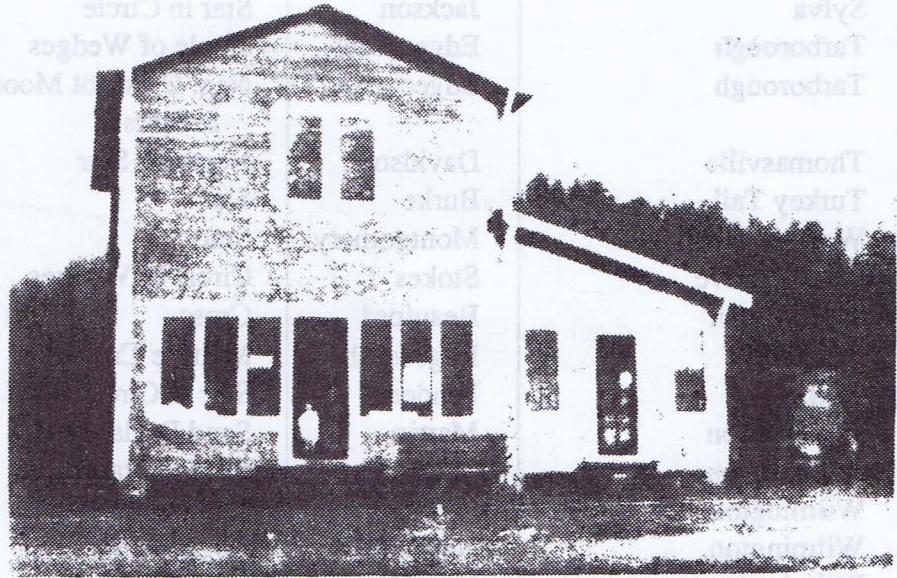
by
Pete Zampelas

[This article originally appeared in the November 7, 1988, issue of the Transylvania Times. It is reprinted here by permission. — Ed.]

Going to the post office just isn't the same for Bill Lyday of Davidson River. Lyday recalls when Davidson River had its own post office, before its service was absorbed by the Pisgah Forest office at the end of the Great Depression.

The Davidson River post office was in a rear room of the Joe Patton McLeod home on Clarkson Hill Road from 1914-1924. In 1914, chain gang workers built the road, which connected Everett and Wilson roads. Lyday's father, G.H. Lyday, was paid about a dollar a day for a month to guard the prisoners who built the road. Lyday's grandfather, J.T. Lyday, was chairman of the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners at the time. The home was recently known as the Mountain Key Lodge and is now once again a private residence. The post office served residents in the areas of Everett Farm, Wilson Road, and Clough Farm, which is now Glen Cannon Properties.

In 1925, noted Lyday, the post office moved to the grocery store of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Picklesimer on State Route 28, now Old US 64.



Blurry picture of the Arthur Picklesimer grocery store in 1925, the first year the post office was there.

Lyday and his brother Dixon grew with Harry and Helen Picklesimer.

The store was located across the road from the home Lyday grew up in and his family store, which were next to the Davidson River railroad station. The train depot was run by John Patton and, he said, was used to store hay in 1946 before eventually being torn down.

The post office was a spot to socialize on weekends when picking up mail. Because of the low volume of mail in those days, Lyday said, most families would wait until Saturday or Sunday to pick up mail. "I'd get the mail," he said, "then hang around and talk with others."

The train would arrive mornings on its way

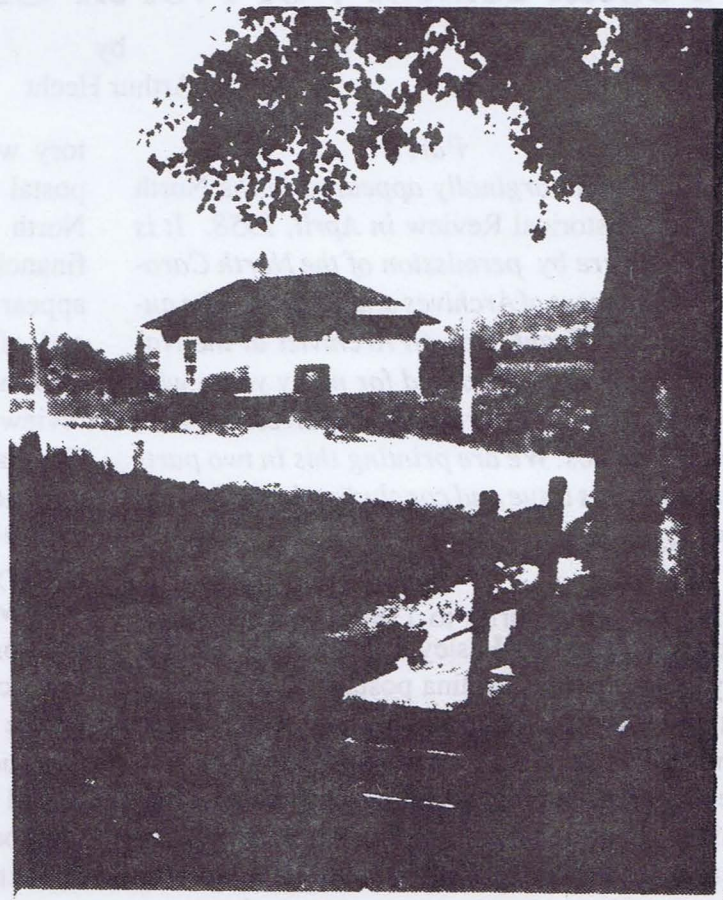
to Lake Toxaway and deliver mail, and freight such as cattle and fertilizer. The "highlight" of deliveries, he said, was a load of Texas horses that President Roosevelt sent to the area to aid farmers during the Depression.

Each afternoon, the train would pass by on its way to Hendersonville. While traveling about 20 miles per hour, the train conductor would grab the bag of outgoing mail that was attached to a large hood at raiiside [*Actually the person would hooked the mail sack was one of the railway mail clerks in the mail car. Davidson River was on the route of the Asheville and Lake Toxaway Railway Post Office (R.P.O.)—Ed.*]. Lyday said as a child he loved to watch the quick mail pickup.

Of all the mail his family received at the Davidson River post office over the years, his most memorable were the annual Sears

Roebuck and Montgomery Ward catalogs. He said he ordered such items as shotguns and fish traps. "We'd read through the catalogs, and dream up a storm."

Ironically, Lyday still today picks up his



Davidson River Depot in 1924. This was the site of incoming mail for Davidson River.

mail at the post office.. He prefers being able to collect his mail in mid-morning at the Pisgah Forest branch rather than waiting until mid-afternoon to have it delivered to him. Besides, who knows who he might run into? **NCPHIS**

Annual Meeting, continued from page 9

Terms expiring in 1991:

Tony Crumbley	Darrell Ertzberger
Vernon Stroupe	Ruth Wetmore

Terms expiring in 1990:

Del Frazier	Bill Harter
Phil Perkinson	Harvey Tilles

Terms expiring this year 1989:

Jim Harris	Johnny Johnson
Ken Schoolmeester	Milton Wicker

A nominating committee will propose a slate for these positions at the meeting. Also the new board will select new officers from its members this year in a meeting immediately after the general meeting.

All members and anyone else interested in the Society are encouraged to attend the meeting and vist the Winpex '89 stamp show. **NCPHIS**

**Articles are needed! If you have an idea for one, contact the editors !
Share your knowledge!**

Postal History of North Carolina, 1789-1795

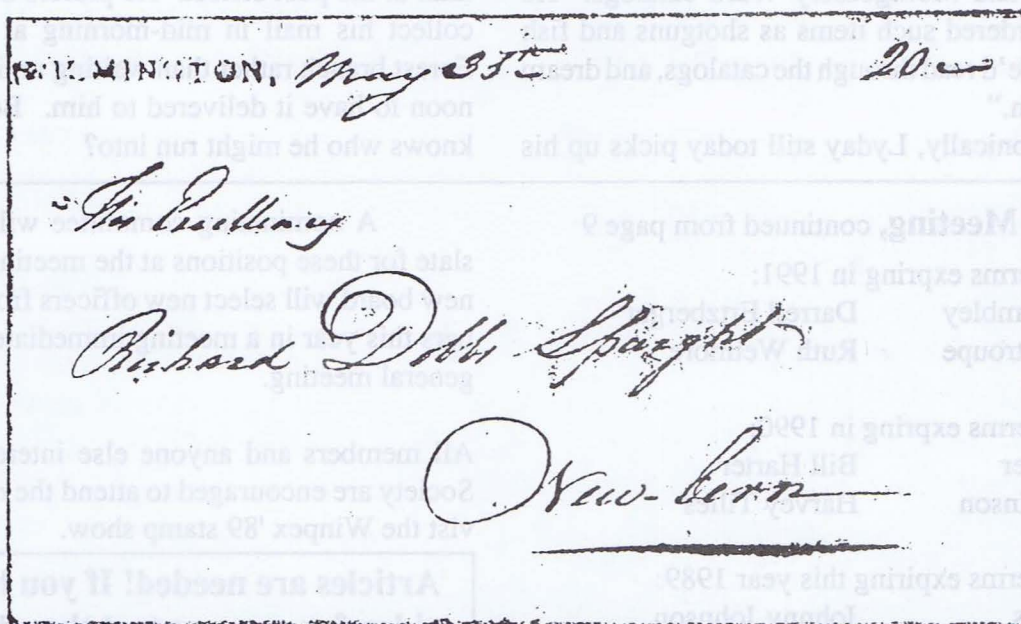
by
Arthur Hecht

Part I

[This article originally appeared in the North Carolina Historical Review in April, 1958. It is reprinted here by permission of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History. The author, Arthur Hecht, was an Archivist at the National Archives and worked for many years with the federal post office records. Mr. Hecht died in the early 1980s. We are printing this in two parts starting in this issue and concluding in the Spring, 1989 issue. -- Ed.]

For the period prior to 1789, Dr. Christopher Crittenden and Dr. Wesley E. Rich cover the history of the North Carolina postal system. It was not, however, the intention of these historians to furnish details of a governmental operation in a specific area. In his articles¹ Dr. Crittenden wrote mainly about travel, transportation, and communications in North Carolina with references to postal services. Dr. Rich's publication² encompasses British North America and later the United States to 1829 and presents a comprehensive his-

tory with general remarks about all aspects of postal operations which are also applicable to North Carolina. The earliest details about the financial operations of North Carolina post offices appear about October, 1789, and continue until the end of December, 1795. For this period, the information that might have come to light by a review of correspondence, lists, and ledgers of the General Post Office³ was unavailable because of the inaccessibility of these records to the public. In the 1940's the Post Office Department and the Library of Congress transferred to the National Archives the existing outgoing correspondence of the Postmaster General and his assistants and a few accounting ledgers from the General Post Office Establishment. From these records and from postal laws and regulations and instructions issued to deputy postmasters, a title given to each local postmaster, it has been possible to determine the extent of the postal service in its operations during the last decade of the eighteenth century in North Carolina.



1794 letter from Wilmington to New Bern. Rate for double letter between 50 to 100 miles.
Courtesy of N.C. Department of Archives and History.

There had been no change in postal legislation since the enactment of *An Ordinance for Regulating the Post Offices of the United States of America* on October 18, 1782. Supplementary measures thereto were passed on October 28 and December 24, 1782. The acts of September 22, 1789, August 4, 1790, and March 3, 1791, provided for the temporary establishment of the Post Office. These acts extended the colonial postal service. The acts of February 20, 1792, and of May 24, 1794, further revamped the colonial post office into the General Post Office of the United States. Both of these acts authorized the establishment of specific post roads, fixed rates of postage, decreed the activities of deputy postmasters, and provided punishment for tampering with the mails. The Postmaster General was empowered to appoint deputies and make contracts for carrying mails over post roads designated by Congress.

Post Offices

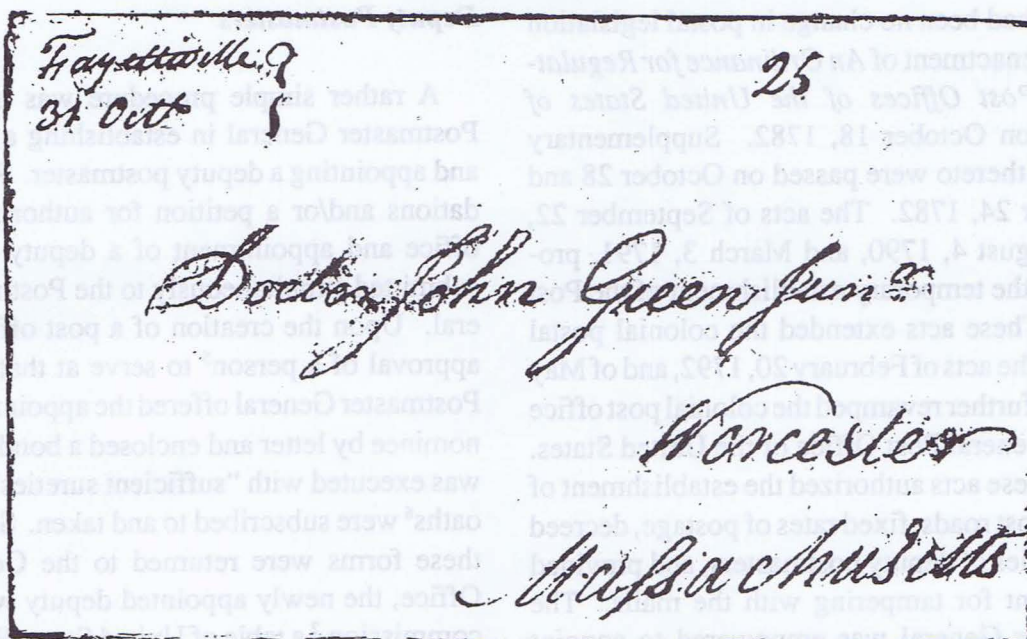
By October of 1789, towns had been well established on the coastal plain area of Albemarle Sound at Edenton, Newbern, Wilmington, and Washington. In the central part of North Carolina there were Halifax, Tarborough, and Fayetteville (formerly Cross Creek). The network of roads extending to the piedmont area led to Salem, Salisbury, Charlotte, and Hillsborough. Although postal service was extended to each of these towns, only the deputies at Edenton, Newbern, Washington, and Wilmington maintained correspondence with the Postmaster General and submitted their quarterly accounts as of October 1789. For the period 1790 and 1791 people continued their emigrations to North Carolina and settled chiefly around county courthouses and churches, but the Postmaster General did not authorize the creation of any post office. Thirteen post offices were established in 1792, 9 in 1793, 25 in 1794, and 1 in 1795. The name of these offices were usually derived from names of English and French royalty, colonial proprietors, North Carolina governors, military men, founders of settlements, and European towns.⁴

Deputy Postmasters

A rather simple procedure was used by the Postmaster General in establishing a post office and appointing a deputy postmaster. Recommendations and/or a petition for authorizing a post office and appointment of a deputy were often submitted simultaneously to the Postmaster General. Upon the creation of a post office and the approval of a person⁵ to serve at that office, the Postmaster General offered the appointment to the nominee by letter and enclosed a bond. The bond was executed with "sufficient sureties" (two) and oaths⁶ were subscribed to and taken. Shortly after these forms were returned to the General Post Office, the newly appointed deputy was sent his commission,⁷ a table of United States Post Offices showing their distances to the seat of the Government,⁸ a copy of the most recent postal laws and regulations,⁹ a copy of a map of the United States,¹⁰ a saddle bag or portmanteau with a key, forms (or folios), a table of rates postage, and ledgers.

When the mail arrived at an office, the deputy postmaster or his assistant unlocked the portmanteau and removed all bundled letters and packets addressed to his office. This mail was accompanied by a post bill showing the number of letters enclosed and the postage of each. Another bill known as the "way bill" of the through mails was endorsed at each post office and showed the arrival time of the mail. These way bills enabled the General Post office to locate all mail delays and penalize mail contractors for late mail deliveries. The deputy postmaster marked all letters, newspapers, periodicals, and pamphlets; noted paid and dead letters; redirected missent letters; advertised letters on hand;¹¹ made up the land or sea mail; and kept quarterly accounts. The act of 1792 contained a reference to hours of attending a post office. On this subject Postmaster General Timothy Pickering on June 15, 1792, commented to a deputy postmaster:

I have not before been desired to fix the hours of attendance of a postmaster in his office. The reason may be that the Postmasters generally, or those who assist them are



1792 letter from Fayetteville to Worcester, Mass. 25 cent rate for over 450 miles.

commonly in the way to serve such as call upon them; and being disposed to accommodate their fellow citizens restrain them to no fixed hours. Yet where the business in considerable, *constant* attendance is not to be expected. But tho' authorised by law it will be extremely difficult, I apprehend, for the postmaster General to determine what ought to be hours during which post offices should open...¹²

Letters which were brought to an office a half hour before the mail was made up were included in the next pickup, and in exceptional cases the post rider or stage coach driver could not be delayed beyond an hour.

Compensation paid to a deputy postmaster was based on a commission of monies collected. Prior to February 20, 1792, the Postmaster General fixed the amount of the commission.¹³ Thereafter, postal legislation specified the following commissions of postage paid to the deputies and other additional bases for earnings:

- 30 per cent of \$100 collected
- 25 per cent of \$100 to \$300 collected
- 20 per cent of \$400 to \$2000 collected
- 8 per cent of \$2400 and above collected

Additional amount not exceeding \$25 in a three-months' period to those deputies involved with foreign mail.

Additional amount of 50 per cent on \$100 collected in a three months' period where the mail regularly arrived between 9 PM and 5 AM.

50 per cent of postage collected on newspapers, magazines, or periodicals.

2 cents for every free letter (the deputy's excepted) delivered to the person addressed, out of the deputy's office.

1 cent for each letter delivered from the post office where it was lodged merely for such delivery and not carried by post.

1 cent for each letter carried by private vessel or ship.

Between 1789 and 1795 there were 60 deputy postmasters who served at 52 North Carolina post offices. The names of the post offices, names of the deputy postmasters, and the dates of their appointment, compensations paid to the deputies and receipts reported to the General Post Office are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Post Offices, Postmasters, and Finances in North Carolina, 1789-1795

Post Office	Deputy Postmaster	Appointment Date	Period	Receipts	Compensation to PM
Anson Courthouse	Thomas Wade	Oct. 1, 1794*		—	—
Averysborough	Charles S. Carraway	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1785	.50 11.03	.10 3.25
Bethania	—	—	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	1.05 4.29	.19 1.34
Chapel Hill	Samuel Hopkins	Nov. 30, 1794	11/30/94 to 2/23/95 1795	.73 17.03	.52 4.60
Caswell Old Courthouse	Lawrence Lea	Oct. 1, 1794*	—	—	—
Charlotte	Edward Wayne	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct. 10) 1795	16.50 295.85	5.09 68.19
Chatham Courthouse	Michael Sperlock	Aug. - ,1794	--	—	—
Duplin Courthouse	James James	Oct. 1, 1794	1795	1.04	—
Edenton	Lemuel Standin	July 1, 1786	10/5/89 to 1/5/90 10/5/90 to 10/5/91 1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	55.75 267.00 84.58 217.37 428.06	11.15 53.40 27.27 76.48 101.65
Elizabethtown	William Richardson	July 1, 1793*	—	—	—
Fayetteville	John Sibley	July 10, 1792	1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	131.22 465.11 472.81	42.11 24.01 112.67
Germanton	Joseph Bitting	Oct. 1, 1794*	1795	20.04	8.08
Greenville	Grove Wright	Oct. 1, 1794	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	2.29 20.04	.94 5.57
Halifax	Thaddeus Barnes	Sept. 4, 1793	1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	54.33 268.47 156.84	17.37 65.77 36.94
Hertford	Thomas McNider	Oct. 1, 1794*	1795	2.34	.59
Hillsborough	David Ray Henry Thompson William Hooper John Allison	June 12, 1792 April 1, 1794* April 12, 1794 July 1, 1794*	1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	19.59 83.86 98.67	12.89 45.74 30.18
Huntsville	Henry Young	Jan. 1, 1795*	1795	4.52	.95

Post Office	Deputy Postmaster	Appointment Date	Period	Receipts	Compensation to PM
Indiantown	Thomas P. Williams	July 1, 1793*	—	—	—
Iredell Courthouse	Archibald Young	July 1, 1793*	10/16/94 to 1/7/95	5.62	1.65
Kinston	Thomas Lester	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	2.80 22.62	1.25 9.17
Lincolnton	Joseph Morris	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	2.65 17.63	1.14 1.08
Louisburg	—	—	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	6.15 57.04	2.37 20.36
Lumberton	John Noyes	Oct. 1, 1794*	1795	11.65	1.92
Martinsville	Smith Moore	June 18, 1792	1794 1795	27.40 37.42	10.59 11.09
Montgomery Courthouse	—	—	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	2.18 1.61	.53 .74
Moore Courthouse	Joseph Lea	Nov. 28, 1794*	1795	.37	.85
Morganton	William Watson	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct 20) 1795	2.99 9.76	1.36 2.96
Murphreesborough	Murfree Knight	Oct. 14, 1794	1795	91.43	21.95
Newbern	Henry Machen Francois X. Martin	April 5, 1793 June 1, 1790	10/5/89 to 1/5/90 10/5/90 to 10/5/91 1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	43.13 200.00 90.05 423.95 498.39	8.90 44.00 29.19 104.94 130.42
Nixonton	Charles McMorine Matthias Sawyer	Dec. 3, 1793 Aug. 15, 1795	1794 (from 12/3/93) 1795	104.94 19.99	21.23 5.54
Person Courthouse	Charles Moore	Feb. 25, 1795	1795	8.67	3.11
Plymouth	Martin R. Byrd	July 18, 1792	4/1/93 to 3/31/94 1795 (from 4/1/94)	41.90 70.26	17.36 18.61
Princeton	John Harrison Benjamin Coakley	June 18, 1792 Jan. 14, 1795	1794 1795	172.79 9.09	.90 3.21
Raleigh	William Shaw	Jan. 1, 1795*	1794 (from Oct. 21) 1795	4.93 127.94	1.84 39.23
Richmond Courthouse	Toddy Robinson	Oct. 1, 1794*	1795	3.40	1.42
Rockford	Thomas Lester Isaac Bills	Jan. 1, 1795* Oct. 1, 1795*	1795	12.45	5.18

Post Office	Deputy Postmaster	Appointment Date	Period	Receipts	Compensation to PM
Rockingham Courthouse	Peter Watson	Jan. 1, 1795*	11/9/94 to 2/9/85 1795	1.40 16.17	.83 6.75
Salem	Gottlieb Shober	July 18, 1792	1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	16.12 62.64 57.95	7.05 21.57 17.98
Salisbury	Samuel Dayton William Winder	June 12, 1792 April 1, 1793*	1793 (from Oct 1) 1794 1795	47.69 224.57 139.03	20.965 76.965 58.00
Sawyer's Ferry	Enoch Sawyer Michael Fennel	June —, 1792 Oct. 1, 1795*	1795	—	—
Smithfield	William Sasser	Aug. 10, 1793*	1794 1795	87.31 18.67	29.86 6.24
Tarborough	Joseph Ross G. L. John Schenk	July 18, 1792 Jan. 25, 1785	1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 (includes 1/24/95) 1795	29.74 158.24 234.82	29.79 54.84 62.37
Warrenton	Thomas Gloster	Oct. 1, 1793*	1793 1794 1795	11.35 53.40 73.13	5.17 22.17 27.79
Washington	William Groves John Gray Blount	Oct. 5, 1788 Nov. 8, 1791	10/5/89 to 1/5/90 10/5/90 to 10/5/91 1793 (from Oct. 1) 1794 1795	29.18 138.00 38.01 259.03 266.21	5.83 27.60 26.60 69.96 58.39
Warrington	Thomase Collins	June 12, 1792	—	—	—
Waynesborough	Arthur Jernigan	Jan. 1, 1793*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	1.08 1.36	.41 .84
Wilkes [Courthouse]	John Dobson	Jan. 1, 1793*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	2.41 9.13	1.11 4.23
Williamsborough	Stephen Sneed	June 12, 1794	1794 1795	28.80 63.44	10.97 20.81
Williamston	Thomas Jones	July 1, 1793*	1793 (from July 1) 1794 1795	20.91 42.76 40.72	10.31 15.63 12.30
Wilmington	John Bradley	Feb. 16, 1790	10/5/89 to 1/5/90 10/5/90 to 10/5/91 1793 (from July 1) 1794 1795	72.12 400.00 322.96 580.45 639.95	14.22 80.00 70.50 130.22 141.235

Post Office	Deputy Postmaster	Appointment Date	Period	Receipts	Compensation to PM
Windsor	William Benson	Oct. 1, 1794*	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	4.18 27.43	1.23 8.67
Winton	Lawrence Mooney	Jan. 1, 1795	1794 (from Oct. 1) 1795	8.16 43.22	3.54 15.78

Footnotes

¹ Christopher Crittenden, "Overland Travel and Transportation in North Carolina, 1763-1789," *The North Carolina Historical Review*, VIII, No. 3 (July 1931), 239-257; and "Means of Communication in North Carolina, 1763-1789," *The North Carolina Historical Review*, VIII, No. 4 (October 1931), 372-383.

² Wesley E. Rich, *The History of the United States Post Office to the Year 1829* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1924).

³ The General Post Office (or the Post Office Establishment) was originally subordinate to the Treasury Department. As the office developed in importance, it assumed the privileges and autonomy of a ranking administrative department and it was seldom challenged. The Postmaster General became a member of the cabinet in 1829, but it was not until June 8, 1872, that the Office became known officially as the Post Office Department.

⁴ A few examples of derivative names are as follows: Fayetteville for Marquis de Lafayette, Salisbury for Marquis of Salisbury, Waynesville for General Anthony Wayne, Greenville for General Nathanael Green, Charlotte for Queen Charlotte, Lincolnton for Colonel Benjamin Lincoln, Martinsville for Alexander Martin, Halifax for the second Earl of Halifax, Newbern for Bern (Switzerland), and Morristown for Robert Morris. Other towns received their names as follows: Kinston for King's Town in honor of George III, Louisburg for the French fortress at Louisburg (Nova Scotia), Plymouth for Plymouth (Massachusetts), and Lumberton which was a trading center for timber and naval stores. The derivation of these names is generally accepted although there is no legal proof that the towns were named for the person or place or reason specified.

⁵ The Postmaster General characterized a deputy postmaster as "accurate and punctual in the business and of perfect Integrity, who would give entire Satisfaction to the people of [community]." Postmaster General Letterbook "C," 45, National Archives, Washington, D.C., hereafter cited as Postmaster General Letterbook.

⁶ "I . . . do swear (or affirm as the case may be) that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me, and abstain from anything forbidden by the law in relation to the establishment of post-offices and post-roads within the United States.

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm as the case may be) that I will support the constitution of the United States." *Regulations to Be Observed by the Deputy Postmaster in the United States, 1794.*

All postal officials and employees took these oaths for faithful performance of their responsibilities. They were the continuance of the practice in the period prior to the American Revolution.

⁷ The appointment of a deputy postmaster became effective upon the date his commission was signed by the Postmaster General. However, in the eighteenth century there were instances whereby the deputy postmaster was requested to conduct the business of a post office pending the receipt of his commission for the position or when the deputy postmaster executed his bond. The dates were sometimes delayed until the end of the month or until it was convenient for the preceding deputy to turn over his office to his successor.

⁸ Existing lists are dated 1789, 1790, 1792, 1794, and 1795.

⁹ Extracts of postal legislation of 1782, 1792, and 1794.

¹⁰ Although the General Post Office had not printed any post route maps during the eighteenth century, it may have sent to deputy postmasters copies of the maps of the United States prepared either by Samuel Lewis or Abraham Bradley. Library of Congress, Division of Maps and Charts, Washington, D.C.

¹¹ The records do not show all the forms used by a deputy postmaster; however, the *Postal Laws and Regulations of 1794* contain the following form descriptions:

- No. 1 Account of letters and newspapers received at a post office.
- No. 2 Post bill (number of letters and newspapers which were paid and unpaid and then bundled

and sent at the next office on the mail route). Included on the post bill were references to way letters which the post rider or carrier accepted from persons who were more than two miles from a post office.

- No. 3 Account of letters and newspapers sent.
- No. 4 Account of ship letters received.
- No. 5 Statement of number of sea letters, the name of the vessel which would carry the letters, and the names of the seaports which would receive the letters.
- No. 6 List of sea letters and name of addresses.
- No. 7 Account of dead letters.
- No. -- Account and receipts for contingent expenses.
- No. -- Accounts current.

¹² Postal legislation of February 20, 1792, and of May 24, 1794, provided for the following rates:

By land, a single letter:

- Up to 30 miles, 6 cents
- 30 to 60 miles, 8 cents
- 60 to 100 miles, 10 cents
- 100 to 150 miles, 12 1/2 cents
- 150 to 200 miles, 15 cents
- 200 to 250 miles, 17 cents
- 250 to 350 miles, 20 cents
- 350 to 450 miles, 22 cents
- Over 450 miles, 25 cents

Double and triple letters were accordingly rated.

Newspapers

- Up to 100 miles, 1 cent
- Over 100 miles, 1 1/2 cents

Periodicals and pamphlets

- Up to 50 miles, 1 cent per sheet
- 50 to 100 miles, 1 1/2 cents per sheet
- Over 100 miles, 2 cents per sheet

By sea in vessels or ships provided by the United States or property thereof and sailing from seaport to seaport:

- Single letter, 8 cents
- Double letter, 16 cents
- Triple of Packet letters, 24 cents

By sea in a private vessel or ship, an additional 4 cents to the rate mentioned.

Franking privileges were extended to congressmen and head of departments [of the federal government].

¹³ The names of addressees of these letters were either listed for three successive weeks in one of the local newspapers or posted in conspicuous places in the post town for three months before they were sent as "dead" letters to the General Post Office.

¹⁴ Postmaster General Letterbook "B," 16.

¹⁵ 40 per cent of gross receipts until the deputy's commission became \$50 per annum.
\$40 for receipts between \$125 and \$167.
30 per cent of gross receipts between \$167 and \$334.
\$100 for receipts between \$334 and \$500.
20 per cent of gross receipts over \$500.

American State Papers, Post Office, (Washington, D.C.: Gales and Seaton, 1834), 13.

NCPHS

[Continued in next issue, Spring, 1989]

New Members

Please welcome these new members:

Raymond Epple
6815 Michigan Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63111

Bill McCarren
370 17th St., Suite 3050
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We can always use new members! Invite a fellow collector or postal historian to join today!

PHILATELY
A FAMILY
HOBBY

PHILATELY
SHARING A FAMILY
TREASURE



*Fall in
Love*

WITH
STAMP
COLLECTING

Letter from the Past

Low Morale at War's End

This letter is from a soldier barely a month before the end of the Civil War. At this time he was in North Carolina, but his unit was about to be sent to Petersburg, Virginia to defend Richmond against what would turn out to be the final Union campaign to take the capital. Richmond fell on April 2. Lee's surrender was a few days later. The writer of this letter was sent to Petersburg and survived. According to federal records he was held briefly by Union forces and paroled at Farmville, Virginia in late April with the rest of Lee's army.

This letter was mailed postage due in Warren Plains. Only soldiers could post unpaid mail in this manner. This letter is from the collection of Tony Crumbley.

March 22nd 1865
Warenton Depot N.C.

Sir:

I write you a few lines to let you know I am well at present and hope when the few lines reach you they may find you and all well. We have left

the surgery and most of the regiment left last nite for Petersburg. They say and I reckon it so. The men leaves with a great deal of reluctance. None of them wants to go to Petersburg. I haint any nuse to write except they are making up Negro companys getting them to volenteer. They say there is some that is volinteering. The most of the men is satisfied that the Yankees will carey the point. We wont have provisions to cary on the war and make a crop. Corn and meat is scarce hear in Warren County. I thought when I go to Warren I would find plenty from what some of the Warren men had told me but I find it scarce. I havent had a letter from home since the 28th of Feb. When you write again you may direct your letter to Petersburg. I thought I would have had a chance to go home if we had stayed at the surgery but we have left it know. I think the chance vary bad John Newton and Moses Jones went home. John left Saturday nite last, Newton, Sunday nite on 3 days leave of absince. We got orders to leave on Monday nite and that stopt giving pases. I have wrote several letters since I come up hear. Write soon. So I must close my hasty letter. We expect to leave this evening. Nothing more at present. I remain your, as ever

Alesa M. Gray

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