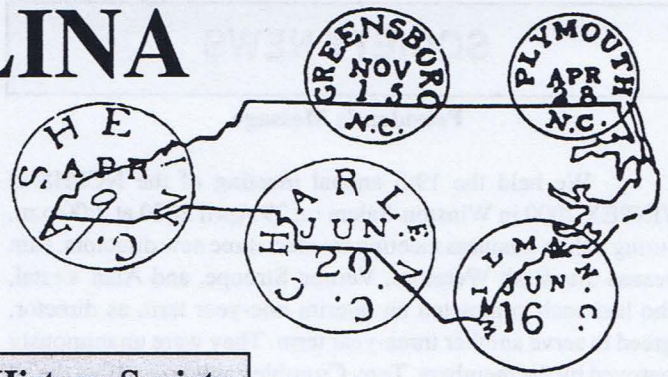


NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

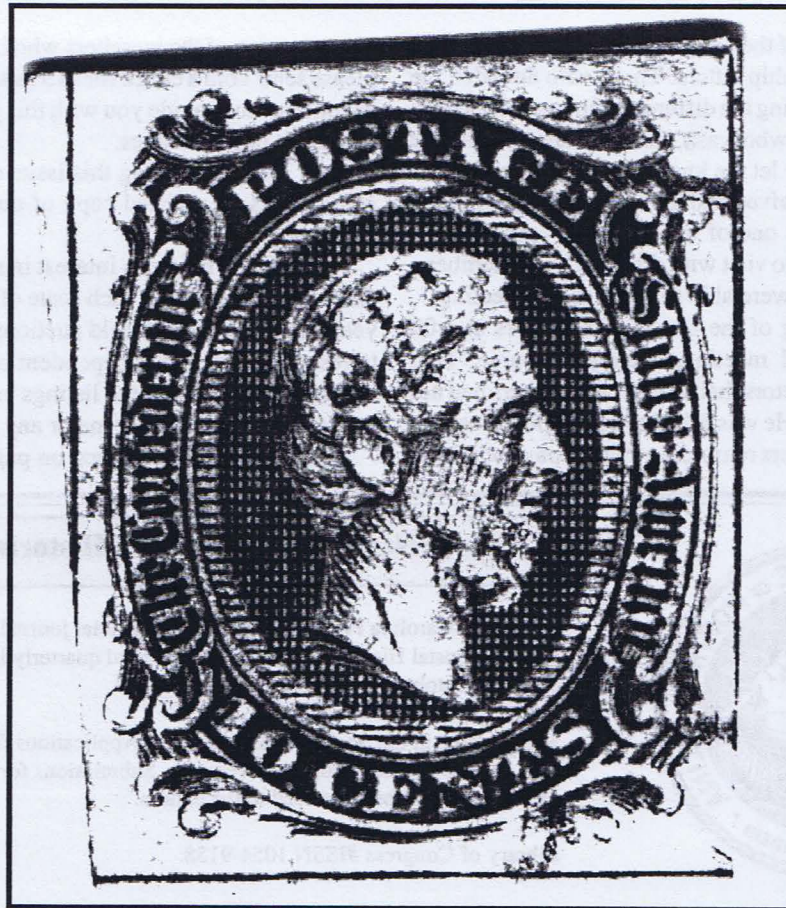


The Journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society

Volume 19, No. 1

Spring 2000

Whole 71



The Confederate States "Frameline"

Affiliate #155 of the American Philatelic Society



SOCIETY NEWS

President's Message

We held the 19th annual meeting of the NCPHS at WINPEX 2000 in Winston-Salem on 29 April 2000 at 2:00 p.m. During a short business meeting we elect three new directors. I am pleased that Ruth Wetmore, Vernon Stroupe, and Alan Vestal, who had each completed an interim one-year term as director, agreed to serve another three-year term. They were unanimously approved by the members. Tony Crumbley announced that he and Vernon Stroupe were the joint recipients of the August Dietz, Sr. Award given by the Confederate Stamp Alliance for 2000. Their work on the four-volume set, *Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina*, essentially doubled the available information on Confederate Postmasters in North Carolina. The award was a medal and a very handsome wall plaque picturing August Dietz, Sr., the foremost early student of Confederate philately and author of the well-known *Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Hand-Book*.

At the conclusion of the business meeting I gave a slide program on North Carolina ship letters. Those who attended the talk received a handout showing the different ship rate tables from 1792 to 1863. If any member who wasn't in attendance would like a copy of this handout please let me know and I will send one. I thought the talk was well received and the attendance quite good. Since the annual meeting is one of the very few opportunities during the year that we have to visit with other NCPHS members, I was glad to see those who were able to come to the meeting.

During the meeting of the Board of Directors at 1:00 p.m. just before the annual meeting, society treasurer, Tom Richardson, advised the directors that at least 20 members had not paid their dues for this year. He was asked to send a postal card to each of the delinquent members reminding them to pay their dues.

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If you are one of the members who have not paid this year's dues, please send Tom a check for \$15 as soon as you read this. We want to continue to provide you with this journal but won't be able to if you don't pay your dues.

Accompanying this issue of the *North Carolina Postal Historian* is an updated copy of our ByLaws for each member. This is for your use.

There has been interest in restarting an auction of North Carolina material with each issue of the journal. It has been many years since the society held auctions. Whether or not we are able to restart the auction is dependent on our finding a member who will agreed to prepare the listings and run the auction. If you are interested please contact me or any one of the directors.

(continued on page 14)



North Carolina Postal Historian

The North Carolina Postal Historian 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 \$15 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the Treasurer. Submissions for the News-letter or inquiries may be addressed to the editors.

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THE IMPOSSIBLE COVER

By Tony L. Crumbley



In early 1941, the manager of The Hobby Shop in Sibley, Lindsay and Curr Department Store in Rochester, N.Y. had a very successful sales campaign to sell 250 covers postmarked by every Ship in the Navy. A great idea with great demand, only one problem - 1941 was a bad year to pick to attempt this feat. With the world at war, the U.S. Navy prohibited Navy mail clerks from canceling covers for collectors.

Not to be thwarted by the U.S. Navy, the store manager had rubber stamp cancels made of the ship postmark, applied the cancel and shipped them off to the subscribers. Many of the ships which cancels were applied did not even have post offices at this time.

Any cover from The Hobby Shop canceled after June 1941 can be considered a fake. Those prior to June 1941 are considered genuine postmarks. The Hobby Shop covers are very distinguishable. They were usually printed in two colors with an image of the ship in the center of the cachet, a border of stars around the image and the great seal of the U.S. in the upper left corner. This cover has a dark blue border of stars and a moss green ship image.

The above USS Asheville cover canceled July 4, 1941 is an example of these fake covers. The Hobby Shop continued to make these covers until March 1942 when it became too obvious because the U.S. was at full war. In total, three different types of cancels were created by The Hobby Shop.

B. O. Brinson
5 Weymouth Dr.
Brighton Sta.
Rochester, N. Y.

The USS Asheville saw service in the south China Sea. She was called on to protect U.S. citizens during an attack on Amoy by the Japanese navy. The Asheville was sunk with all hands in a night engagement with three Japanese cruisers and two destroyers 300 miles from Christmas Island on 3 March 1942 while enroute from Java to Australia.

**REMINDER
TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT PAID
THEIR DUES**

**THE 2000 DUES FOR THE NCPHS
ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE.
PLEASE SEND YOUR \$15
TO THE SOCIETY TREASURER.**

**If there is a red check-mark on your address
label, your dues are late!**

POSTAL NOTES OF COMPANY'S SHOPS / BURLINGTON

NCPHS member Clary Holt wrote an article on the postal history of Company's Shops which was published in the American Philatelist (March 1995, p. 230-231). His article brought a response from APS member James E. Noll of Escondido, California. The following is the contents of Mr. Noll's letter.

Dear Mr. Holt,

I am an APS member and collector of, among other things, Postal Notes, Postal Orders and Money Orders. As it turns out my U.S. Postal Note collection of 1883-1894 series includes an example from Company's Shops, N.C. issued Jan 18, 1887 with its rear date stamp being Burlington, N.C., so the item seems to document the 1887 name change. Attached find a copy of an article on the item I wrote for the Postal Order News, the newsletter of the Postal Order Society of UK in their Feb. 1987 issue. As I say in the article this note is unusual for the notation at the top saying "Burlington Late". It is a possible wager on 25¢ on the train.

In late 1993 another Postal Note collector reported that he had added a similar note to his collection, also Company's Shops, N.C. Copy attached. (Figures 3 and 4).

The serial numbers are 3441 - 1896 = 1545 orders issued in about 540 days, gives us an issue rate of about three per day, a low issue rate location.

Have you ever seen any Postal Notes or Money Orders from this location?, If so, I would like to get copies of any information you might have. No one to date has reported any notes with the printed name "Burlington, N.C.", but who knows, they should have been used.

Very few Postal Notes exist in collectors hands as they did their service of moving money and if all went well they were cashed and, after proper accounting, destroyed by the Post Office Dept. The few that remain to document their use, about 700 to date, is but a drop in the bucket so to speak when one considers that 70 million were issued 1883 - 1894.

James E. Noll

The article which Mr. Noll wrote in the February 1987 issue of the Postal Order News reads as follows:

TWO U.S. POSTAL NOTES OF THE 1880/1890 PERIOD THAT HAVE STORIES TO TELL

As a collector every so often you make addition to your collection that seem to have a story to tell beyond being simple examples of a given note or order type. I would like to describe two such notes.

Figure 1 shows a U.S. Postal Note, Type 2A, from Company's Shops, N.C. issued June 18, 1887. What makes it

unusual is the written comment written across the top of the face, "Burlington Late", and the notes issued value 25 cents. In the 1887 period, 25 cents was a large amount of money equal to the cost of a good meal or several hours wages. I speculate that this Note represents the payment of a wager on the question of the Burlington Train being late. The notation at the top of the Note seems to indicate the train was late and this note was purchased to pay the bet.

Figure 2 shows the back of the same Note and shows the issuing cancel of Burlington, N.C. Company Shops being the postal station at the Burlington Train Shops in Burlington, N.C. at the time. From the pattern of stains and folds I speculate the winner of the bet carried this Note for a number of years in his wallet as a souvenir of his winning the wager and that is why it never got cashed and is now available to be collected today.

Type 2A notes were printed by The Home Lee Bank Notes Company and differ from Type 2 by the addition of the "Any Money Order Office" rubber stamp marking in the office of payment line by the issuing office. This was in accordance to the legislation of 1887 that allowed Postal Notes to be issued cashable at any money order office vs. The previous requirement that a paying post office be specified, as was the case in Note Types 1 and 2.

Editor's Comments

It is easy to get far afield when not having enough research sources. This is what happened to Mr. Noll. He had no way of knowing that Company's Shops and Burlington were both the issuing post office! Therefore, his theory of a wager on a train arrival fails.

But, what then, does "Burlington Late" mean. Your editor's guess is that there was an "early" train and a "late" train. Someone with train schedules for 1887 can now shoot down this theory. What is your guess?

Why was the note never redeemed? It may have been someones emergency cash. Enough to get a meal, but not too easily spent.

HELP WANTED - AUCTIONEER

How about giving a little of your time to running the NCPHS auction?

A great knowledge of NC Postal History is not necessary, just some organizing and mailing.

Contact President Dick Winter

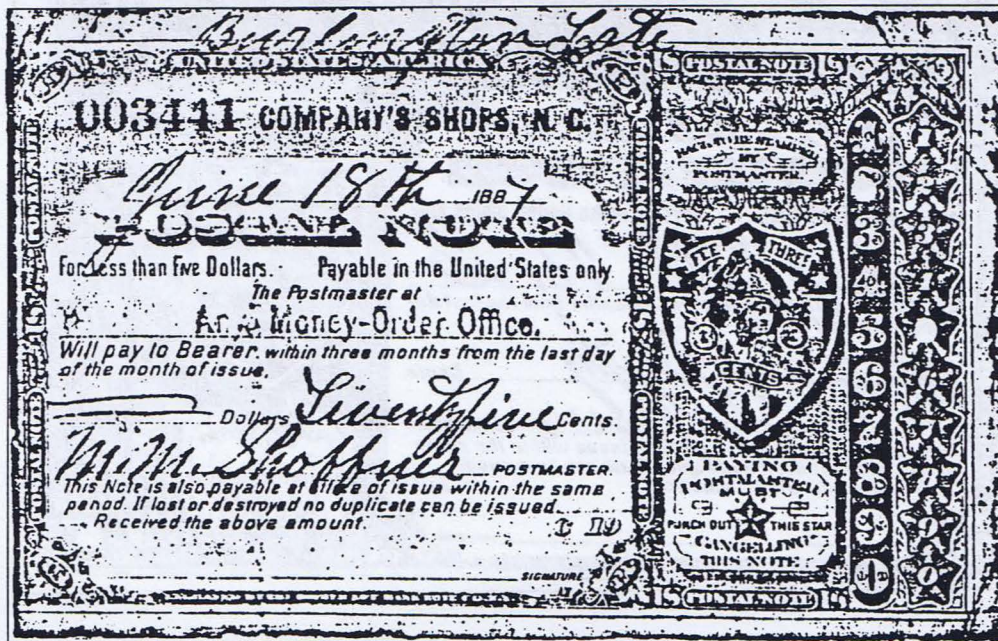


Figure 1. Postal Note issued 18 June 1887 at Company's Shops. Money order forms had been pre-stamped "Company's Shops" and issued when the post office name had changed to Burlington.

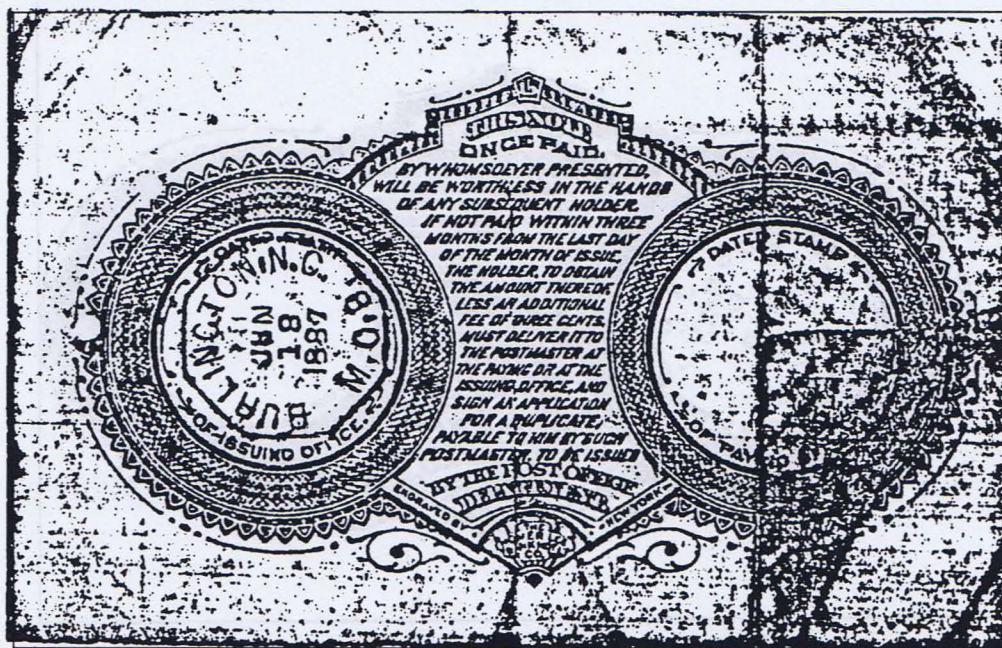


Figure 2. Reverse of the Postal Note showing the octagonal Burlington, N.C./ M.O.B. date stamp affixed when issued.

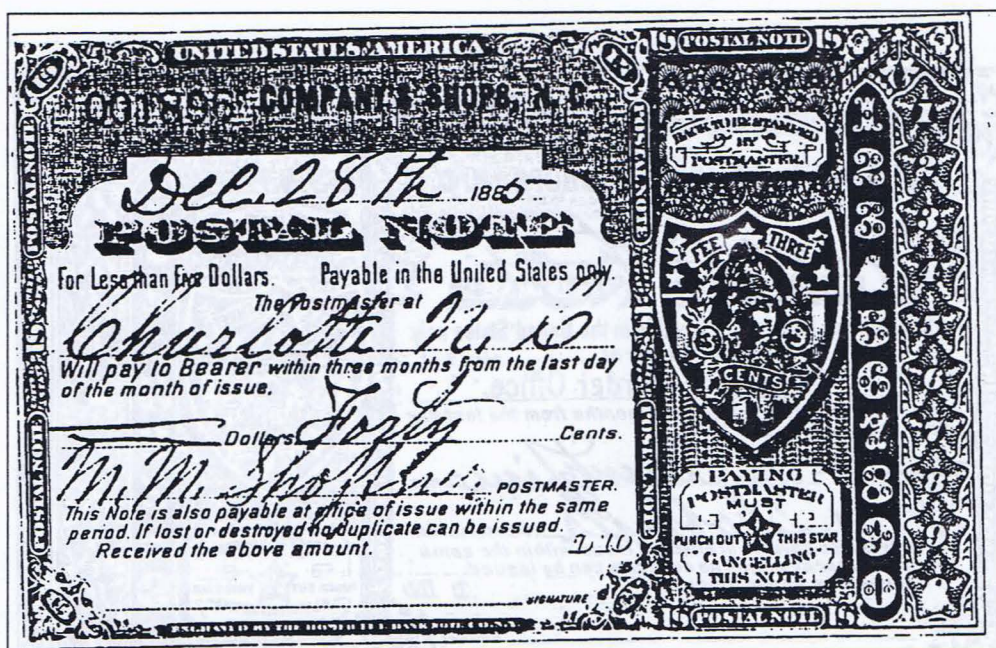


Figure 3. Postal Note from Company's Shops dated 28 December 1885 in the amount of 40¢. This note was redeemable only at Charlotte.

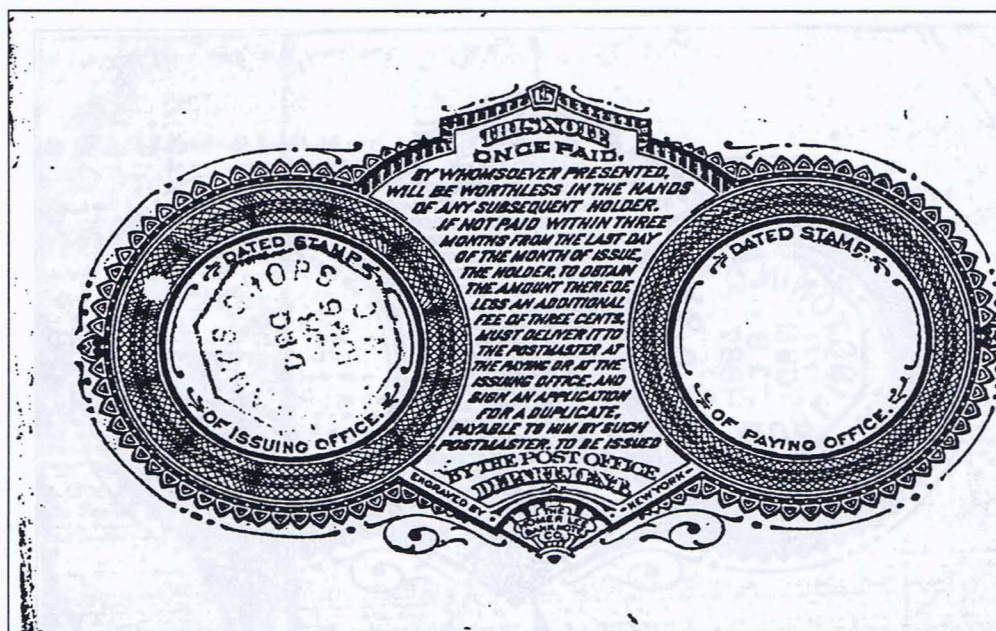
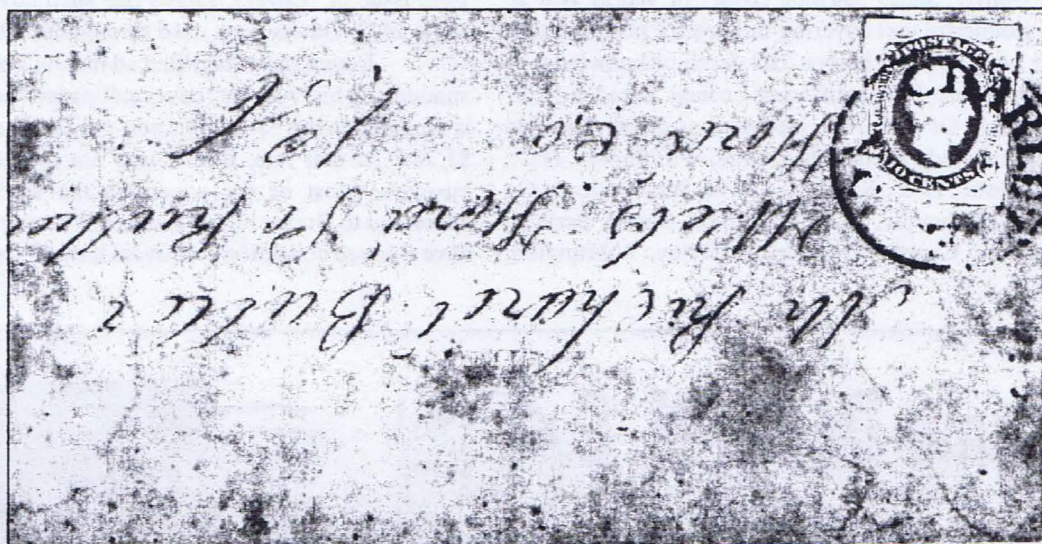


Figure 4. Reverse of the above note showing the Company's Shops octagonal M.O.B. date stamp.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES FRAME LINE USED IN NORTH CAROLINA

by Tony L. Crumbley



In early 1863, Engraver John Archer, with the printing firm of Archer & Daly of Richmond, VA, began experimenting with a new method of stamp printing. Previous stamp printing in the southern states had been lithographed - printed with stone plates. The design cut in stone with acid wore out very quickly from the printing ink. Archer began experimenting with steel engraved dies that were then impressed into copper plates.

Mr. Archer convinced the Confederate Postal Department to allow him to print a trial run of stamps for department use. A new die was cut featuring a bust of Jefferson Davis surrounded by scroll work. Once the die was complete and ready to be sunk into the copper plate, a grid of rule lines was laid down on the plate to guide the placement of the die. These rule lines were placed in an arrangement of 10 x 10 forming a sheet of 100 stamps. It was the only plate printing Confederate stamps with a single pane to the sheet.

This concept of engraving one example of the stamp and impressing it a number of times into a soft copper plate had to be a great time saver over the task of hand engraving numerous images on a stone plate. This new printing technique had one fault - the abrasiveness of the printing ink quickly wore the soft copper plate beyond use. Only an estimated 500,000 copies of the stamps were printed and delivered to the postal department. These stamps were quickly shipped to post offices across the South. The earliest known use was April 19, 1863.

This small printing of stamps obviously makes "the frame line" the rarest of the Confederate issues. A true measure of a Confederate collection is the number of frame line stamps or covers the collection holds. Over the years, two outstanding collections of frame line stamps have been assembled. The most extensive was the Robert W. Wiseman collection sold by Robert A. Siegel on June 23, 1971. The Wiseman Collection had 69 lots of stamps and covers - 36 were covers and the balance were off cover stamps including 4 used pairs, 1 mint strip of 4 and 2 mint pairs. Not a single North Carolina postmark was included in the Wiseman Collection.

In the 1990's, Peter Dupree assembled an even larger collection of frame line covers. Like the Wiseman Collection, Dupree had no North Carolina covers.

In the authors 25 years of Confederate collecting, he was seen only 3 frame line covers from North Carolina. With so few covers from North Carolina, it is doubtful that any frame line stamps were issued to N.C. post offices. The covers that have been seen are from Charlotte, Pittsboro and Raleigh. If other collectors have North Carolina frame line covers, the author would like to receive photocopies.

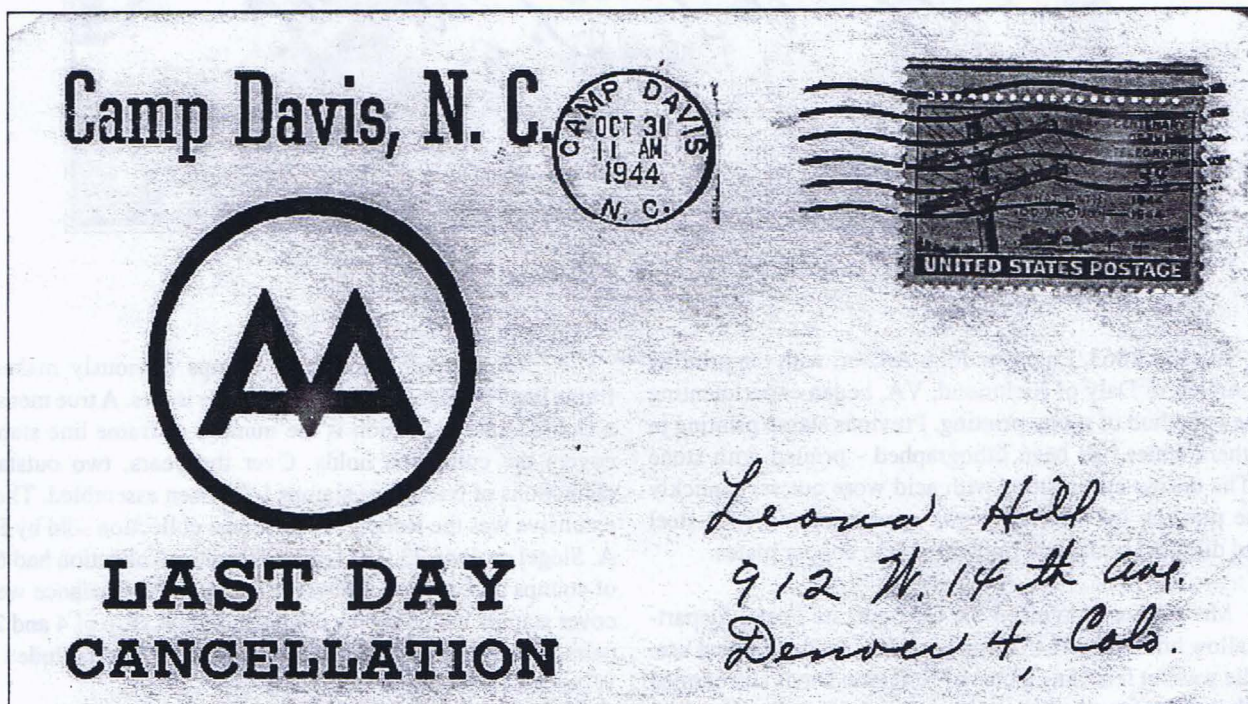
Richard P. Boone North Carolina Cachet Maker

by Tony L. Crumbley

In recent years, we have seen the publishing of several excellent new philatelic reference works heretofore virtually uncovered in any literature. In late 1999, Lawrence Sherman, MD published the United States patriotic covers of World War II. This is truly a wonderful text covering this area of postal history as it has never been covered before. His depth of knowledge is outstanding. There are 9,660 different cachets listed by 627 different publishers. Of these, six are listed as North Carolina publishers. These include Richard B. Boone, Wilmington, N.C.; Mr. Burke, Charlotte, N.C.; Ralph E. David, Whiteville, N.C.; John Max Rush, Asheville, N.C.; Tar Heel Stamp Service, Charlotte, N.C.; and Captain Theodore R. Wiley, Wilmington, N.C..

of 100 each. If demand was great enough he would produce more such salute covers. It must have been great enough for it appears he produced over 43 such covers. The notice was run in the June 1943 issue of *Covers*. I have one such cover dated as early as May, 1943. Others were used throughout 1943 and 1944.

Boone ran a classified ad in *Linn's* on February 17, 1944 announcing his "victory" cover calling it a "honey, brand new and is included in the 33 designs you get for 50 cents - three sets for \$1.25." At that rate, Boone was not to get rich off his cover business. Most of the covers in the author's collection are addressed to Boone himself with a Wilmington cancel. He must have enjoyed collecting the covers himself for him to have mailed



Offset printed red and blue cachet on white envelope Last Day of Cancellation unlisted in Sherman

Little is known of any of these publishers; however, Richard P. Boone by far produced more than any other N.C. publisher. In total, 529 different WWII patriotic covers have been attributed to Boone. Only two other publishers, William Slinto and Walter G. Crosby, produced more.

Richard Boone was a printer that resided at 516 Queen Street, Wilmington, N.C. His covers are both offset printed in single and multiple colors and thermographed in two or more colors. Most often he used two colors - blue and red. Occasionally he would add gold or black. The author's collection has over 50 such covers. Many are addressed to Boone himself.

Boone advertised in both *Linn's* and *Covers* in the early 1940's. One such ad announced a new series of covers "a salute to heroes." Twenty different covers were to be printed in quantities

them to himself. Some of the covers are mailed from Wilmington to other collectors with his return address on the reverse. This is evidence that he supplied posted covers to collectors.

One such cover, Figure 1 is a last day cancel of Camp Davis, N.C. with the army air corps symbols on envelope posted from Camp Davis on October 31, 1944 to Denver Co. The reverse has Boone's return address. This cover is in the style of Boone's others but is not included in the patriotics listed in Sherman's book. Figure 2 is another Boone cover produced before the war. The cachet is in honor of Confederate Memorial Day, May 10, 1940. It is thermographed in blue and is the earliest in the authors collection from Boone. His name and address is printed on the reverse of the cover. The latest cover from Boone in the author's collection is September 2, 1945. The cachet promotes victory and

that Japan has surrendered to the allies.

At least two different atomic bomb covers were produced by Boone and mailed to himself on the day of the bomb drops, August 6, 1945 and August 9, 1945. Only 22 other atom bomb cachets are recorded.

Surely other Boone covers were produced for other events. If the readers have other such covers, the author would like to hear about them. Perhaps some member will take on the task of researching Boone further.

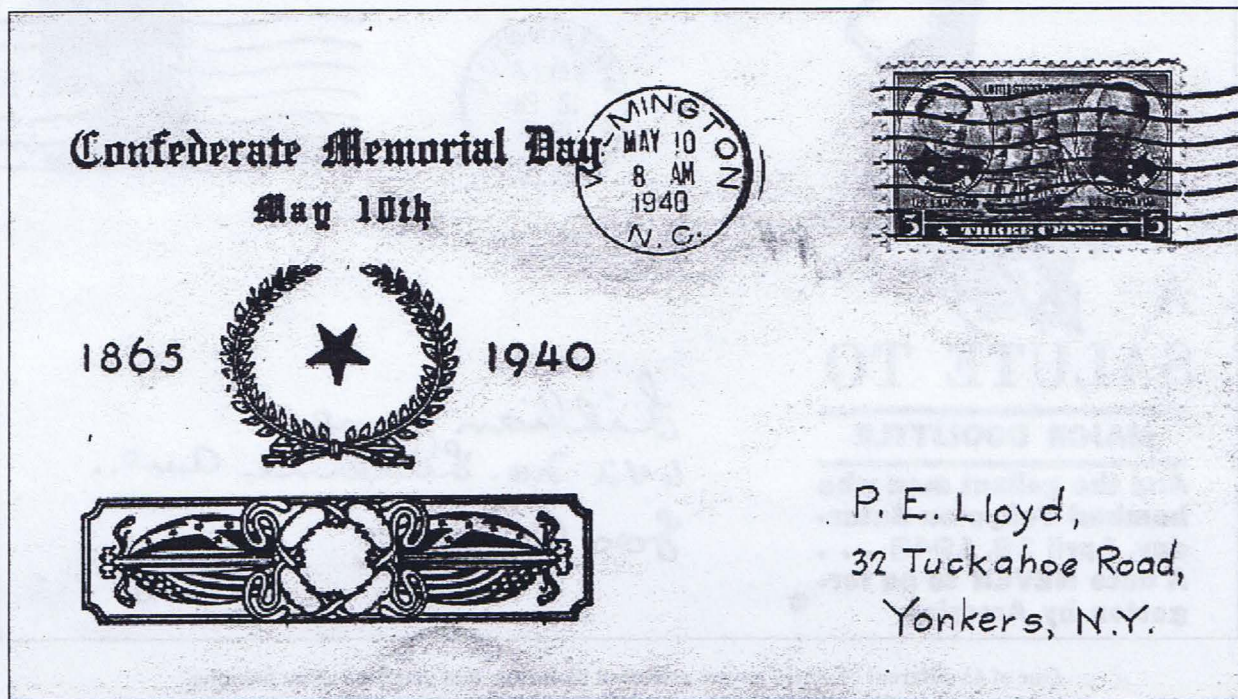
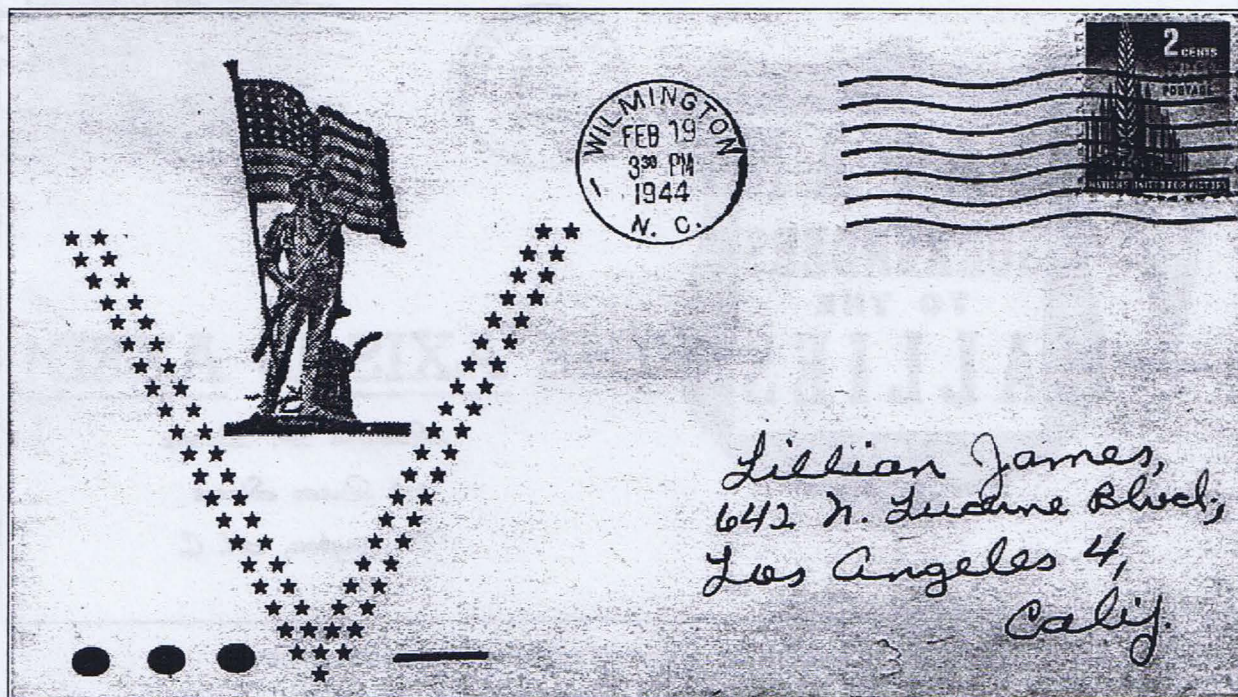
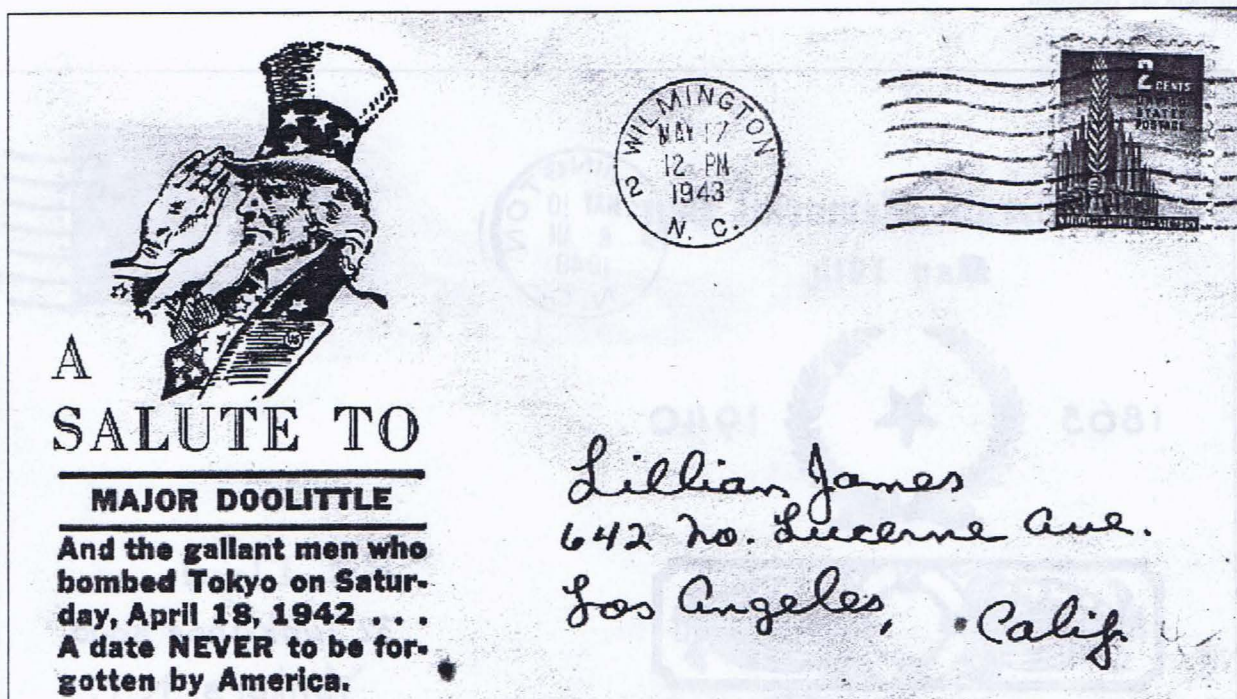
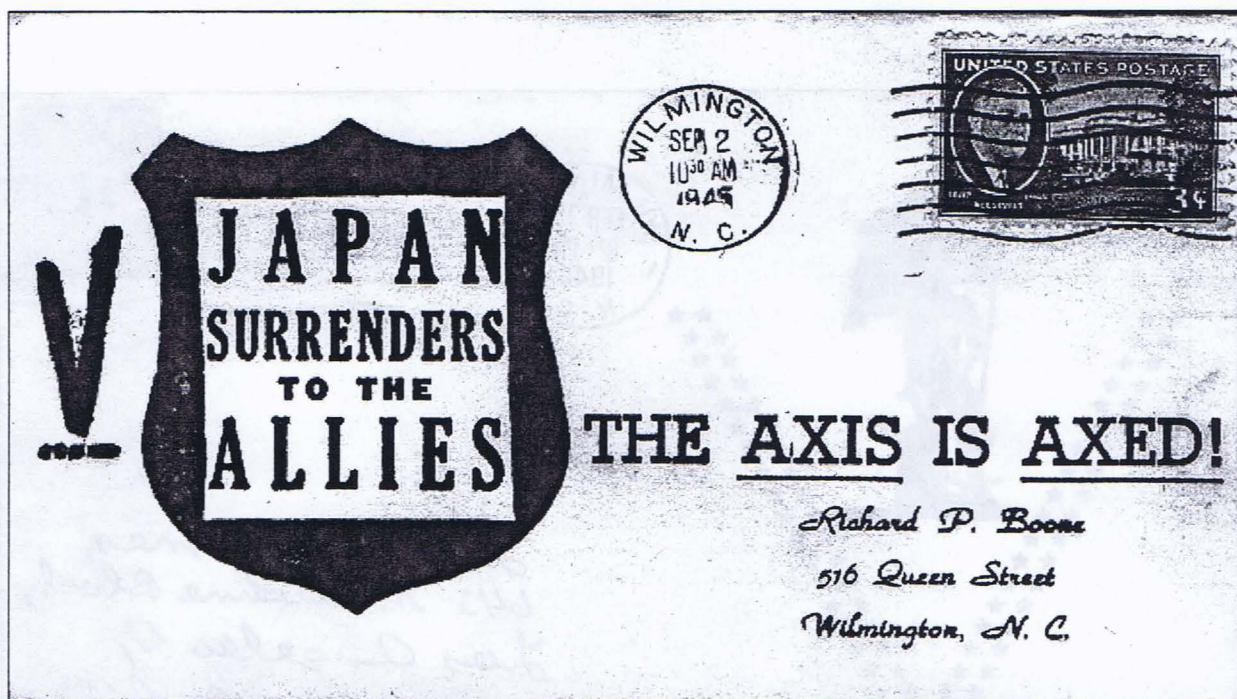


Figure 2. Dark blue thermographic printing with Richard P. Boone return address on back





One of 43 different "Salute" covers produced by Boone. Red and Blue offset printing.
See page 12 for a complete list of the "Salute" covers.



Latest known Boone cachet - typical red and blue thermographic printing

LIST OF BOONE "SALUTE" PATRIOTIC CACHETS

10	A Salute to Capt. Norman Miller/ (One man task force, etc.)	Blue, red
11	A Salute to Ernie Pyle/ Who has been 29 months overseas, etc.	Black, blue, red
12	A Salute to Fighting First Infantry Army Patch #1	Black, orange
13	A Salute to Gen. George/Old Blood and Guts/Patton	Blue, red
14	A Salute to George Ray Tweed of California	Black, red, green, orange
15	A Salute to Lt. Samuel Wallace Magill	Blue, red
16	A Salute to Lt. Van T. Barfoot of Carthage, Miss.	Black, red
17	A Salute to Lt. Col. Francis Zabreski	Blue, red
18	A Salute to Lt. Louis A. Johnson	Unknown
19	A Salute to Major John E. Preddy of Greensboro, N.C.	Black, red
20	A Salute to Major James Howard	Unknown
21	A Salute to Maj. Thomas B. McGuire of Ridgewood, N.J.	Blue, red
22	A Salute to Maj. John L. Smith, USMC	Blue, red
23	A Salute to Pfc. Joseph Muckton of Carteret, N.J.	Green, red
24	A Salute to Pvt. Earl McAllister of the Canadian Army	Blue, red
25	A Salute to Sgt. Alexander Drabik	Unknown
26	A Salute to Sgt. John C. Squires of Louisville, Ky.	Blue, red
27	A Salute to the Rangers/ the Rangers are Home	Green, red
28	A Salute to "Red Devils"/ Story of Valor	Green, red
29	A Salute to Heroes of Bastogne/Gen. A.C.McAuliff	Green, red
30	A Salute to Capt. Smoky Joe Foss, USMC	Blue, red
31	A Salute to Capt. A.W. Wermuth	Blue, red
32	A Salute to Capt. Don S. Gentile of Piqua, Ohio	Blue, red
33	A Salute to Capt. Herman Bottcher	Blue, red
34	A Salute to Capt. Richard I. Bong of Poplar, Wisc.	Blue, red
35	A Salute to Capt. Robert S. Johnson of Lawton, Okla.	Blue, red
36	A Salute to Capt. Charles Davis	Blue, red
37	A Salute to Col. John R. Kane	Blue, red
38	A Salute to Commando Tech Sgt. Charles E. Kelly	Unknown
39	A Salute to Corporal Barney Ross	Blue, red
40	A Salute to Corporal Al Schmid, USMC	Blue, red
41	A Salute to Douglas Munro, Seaman 1c	Blue, red
42	A Salute to Lt. A.J. Brassfield of Missouri	Blue, red
43	A Salute to Lt. Robert W. Hanson of Newtonville, Mass.	Blue, red
44	A Salute to Lt. Cmdr. C.C. Kirkpatrick	Blue, red
45	A Salute to Lt. Col. Francis Gabreski	Unknown
46	A Salute to Maj. James Howard of St. Louis, Mo.	Blue, red
47	A Salute to Major Doolittle and the Gallant men . . .	Blue, red
48	A Salute to Maj. John L. Smith, USMC	Blue, red
49	A Salute to Sgt. John Basile	Blue, red
50	A Salute to the Submarine Pompano	Black, blue
51	A Salute to Allied Air Force for the Bismark Sea Victory	Blue, red
52	A Salute to the Pacific Fleet	Blue, red
53	A Salute to U.S. Sub Patrols	Blue, red

A complete list of known cachets by Richard P. Boone is available in *United States Patriotic Covers of World War II*, Lawrence Sherman, M.D., 1999, Chicago Collectors Club

COVERS ARE SELDOM WHAT THEY SEEM

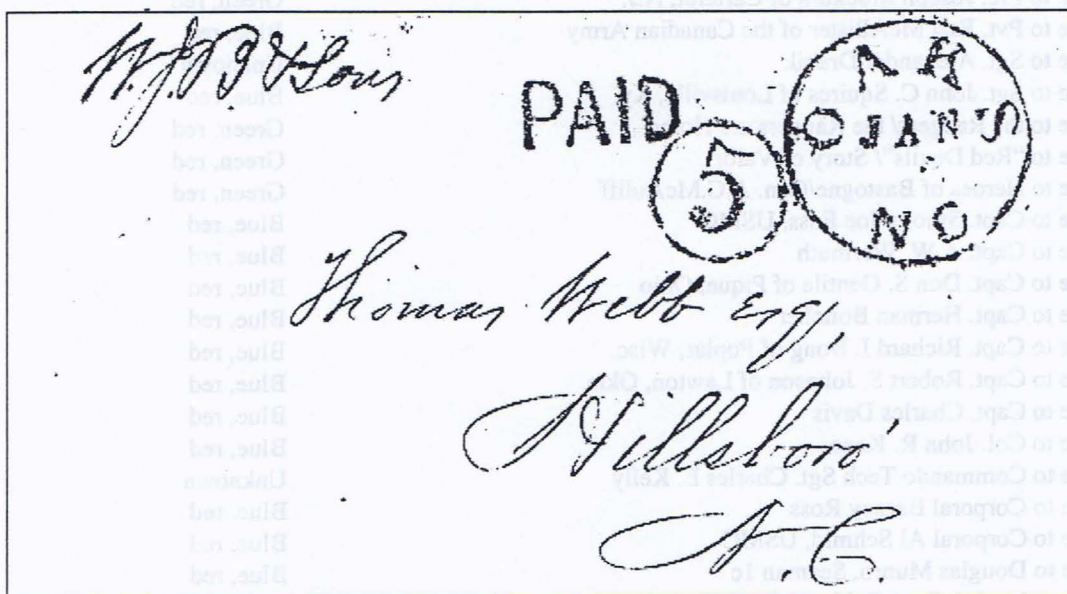
by Vernon S. Stroupe

There are covers that look like they should be one thing and are really something else. I am thinking of two in particular. Figure 1 is an Oaks cds with handstamp markings paid and either a manuscript 5 or a hs 5 in a circle. In the upper left are the manuscript initials W.J.B. or W.J.B. and Sons.

A number of such covers were in the marketplace a few years ago and dealers speculated that these were "possibly Confederate postmaster's provisionals". The theory was that the initials were the control mark of the postmaster. And, of course, the prices reflected this speculation.

Frederick S. Marshall	1842 - 1857
James V. Allen	1857 - 1857
George W. Owen	1857 - 1861
Willie R. Williams	1861 - 1861
W. R. Williams, CSA	1861 - 1861
Thomas P. Weeks, CSA	1861 - 1861
John O'Brien, CSA	1861 - 1865

There is no HRB in this list, so he was not postmaster, and the cover is not a provisional. But, who then, was HRB?



Cover from Bingham School for Boys at Oaks - Jan. 1862

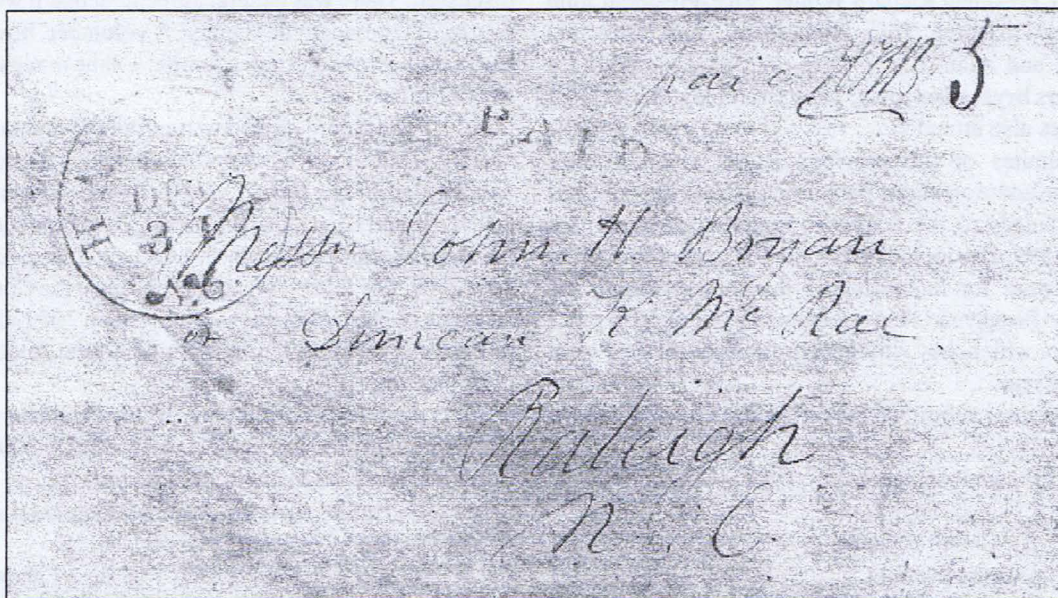
As it turned out, some of these covers were Confederate, but not postmaster provisionals. The initials were a docketing by the sender, W.J. Bingham, postmaster and headmaster of W.J. Bingham and Sons, School for Boys at Oaks, and later Mebane(ville) and Asheville. William Bingham had no reason to put control marks on his own correspondence.

Figure 2 is a similar situation. It has the familiar blue Halifax Type 3 cds used from 1835 to 1861 and a matching blue paid handstamp. The rate is a manuscript 5, but there is also a manuscript paid and initials "HRB". This has even more looks of a Confederate postmaster's provisional.

The problem in proving or disproving is in finding who HRB was. The postmasters of Halifax for the period when the 5 cent rate was in effect were:

The cover is addressed to John H. Bryan. John Heritage Bryan (1798-1870) was born in New Bern, attended New Bern Academy, received his bachelors and masters degree from UNC, studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1819. By 1823 he was in the state senate. In 1825 he defeated no less than Richard Dobbs Spaight, Jr. (Governor 1835-36) to become a Member of Congress from the New Bern district, and was reelected in 1827.

In 1828 he returned to North Carolina, became active in the formation of the Whig party, and moved his law practice to Raleigh. He was a trustee of the University of North Carolina for 45 years, and opposed the secession of North Carolina from the Union.



**Blue Halifax cds with manuscript 5, handstamp PAID,
and manuscript Paid 5 with initials "HRB"**

In John Heritage Bryan's biography there is a mention that he and his wife had fourteen children, including seven sons that graduated from UNC. The daughters attended St. Mary's. It did not take long for us to find the biography of the sixth son, Henry Ravenscroft Bryan, our HRB.

Henry Ravenscroft Bryan (1836-1919) attended the Mathematical and Military Academy in Raleigh and graduated with honors from UNC delivering the Latin salutatory. He was licensed to practice law the following year. Being physically disabled, he and the Bryan family spent the Civil War period "upstate", but returned to Raleigh during the reconstruction and defended many leading citizens accused of KKK activities.

Henry Bryan's career included fifty years as vestryman and warden of Christ Episcopal Church, trustee of the University of North Carolina, federal court clerk, justice of the peace, attorney for the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad Company, Craven County board of commissioners, city attorney and mayor of New Bern, director on the board of state penitentiary, presidential elector, and judge of the superior courts. Memorial plaques in his honor are in Memorial Hall, University of North Carolina and the courtroom of Craven County courthouse.

What does all this tell us about the cover and markings? Not very much. Why does a sender initial and mark "paid" on his own envelope? The handwriting is in the same hand as the address. Probably it was sent to the post office by messenger and HRB had a monthly account with the postmaster as was common in that time. This notation authorized the postmaster to send the letter paid rather than collect. The postmaster, Frederick S. Marshall (1842-57) added the 5¢ rate, handstamped the blue paid and applied the cds. How do we know that was the period of use? The color is blue, and blue was used from 1845 to 1852. Black was used after 1852.

Although not a cover of great value, this cover is one with rich history from one of the most notable families of North Carolina.

References

Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, William S. Powell,
Editor, Univ. of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill

Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina, NCPHS,
Stroupe, Crumbley, Wetmore, Winter, Editors.

Minutes of the NCPHS Annual Meeting

The NCPHS Board of Directors met at WINPEX 2000 on 29 April 2000. President Richard Winter, Vice-President John Allen, Secretary/Treasurer Tom Richardson, and Directors Vernon Stroupe and Alan Vestal were present, constituting a quorum. Members Bryson Bateman, Tony Crumbley, Bryan Hunt and Harvey Tilles also attended.

The minutes of the previous Board meeting were approved with the addition of one item omitted from the previous minutes. The changes to the By-laws, approved at the Board meeting in July 1999, also included the deletion of the payment of one half year's dues for those joining the society during the second half of the fiscal year. New members are required to pay a full year's due, for which they will receive all copies of the *Postal Historian* for the year.

The Treasurer submitted the following financial report:

NCPHS Financial Report: July 1999 to April 2000

<u>July 1999</u>	Beginning Balance	\$1815.00
	Dues collected	<u>\$1510.00</u>
	Total	\$3325.00
	Postage & Printing: Newsletter	\$1531.72
	Balance as of April 29th, 2000	\$1793.28

Members

Paid	68
Non-paid	20

Thomas Richardson Sec/Treasure

The Board asked the Treasurer to send postal cards to the 20 unpaid members to remind them of delinquent dues. If there is no response they will be dropped. A discussion followed for recruitment of new members. The Board agreed to a plan to send a letter to all CSA members to advertise *Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina* with recruitment for membership included. Tony Crumbley and Vernon Stroupe agreed to pay half the expense with the NCPHS paying the other half.

President Winter advised the Board that he had received notification from the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources that the grant application submitted by Vernon Stroupe in 1999 on behalf of the society had been turned down, as had all grant requests for the year. All one-time appropriations had been frozen by Governor Hunt in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd. Our grant request had been for funds to reprint *Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina* and distribute a set to the county library of each county in the state. The request also had provisions for developing a data base for an interactive internet site for the data in the four-volume set.

Alan Vestal agreed to conduct an audit of the NCPHS financial records during the summer and report to the president.

President Winter gave each member attend the meeting a new copy of the current NCPHS By-laws, which show the changes approved last year. The Board agreed to send a copy to each member with the next mailing of the *Postal Historian*.

The subject of re-starting the NCPHS auction was again discussed. There was general agreement that it would be a helpful source of income to the society. A volunteer, however, is needed to run the auction. Further attempts will be made to find a member to run the auction.

The Board agreed to moving the annual meeting of the society in 2001 to another location to get more visibility in another part of the state. Locations were suggested for Raleigh, Asheville and Charlotte. It was agreed to contact the manager of the Raleigh stamp and coin show to see if we could meet there in June 2001. For future consideration, since the Confederate Stamp Alliance (CSA) will meet in Charlotte in 2003, the Board agreed to pursue a meeting that year in Charlotte to coincide with the CSA meeting.

New NCPHS member Bryson Bateman was awarded the NCPHS award for his exhibit at WINPEX 2000 of Goldsboro Confederate postal history.

A new application form for membership in the society will be created by Vernon Stroupe.

Thomas Richardson

President's Message continued from page 2

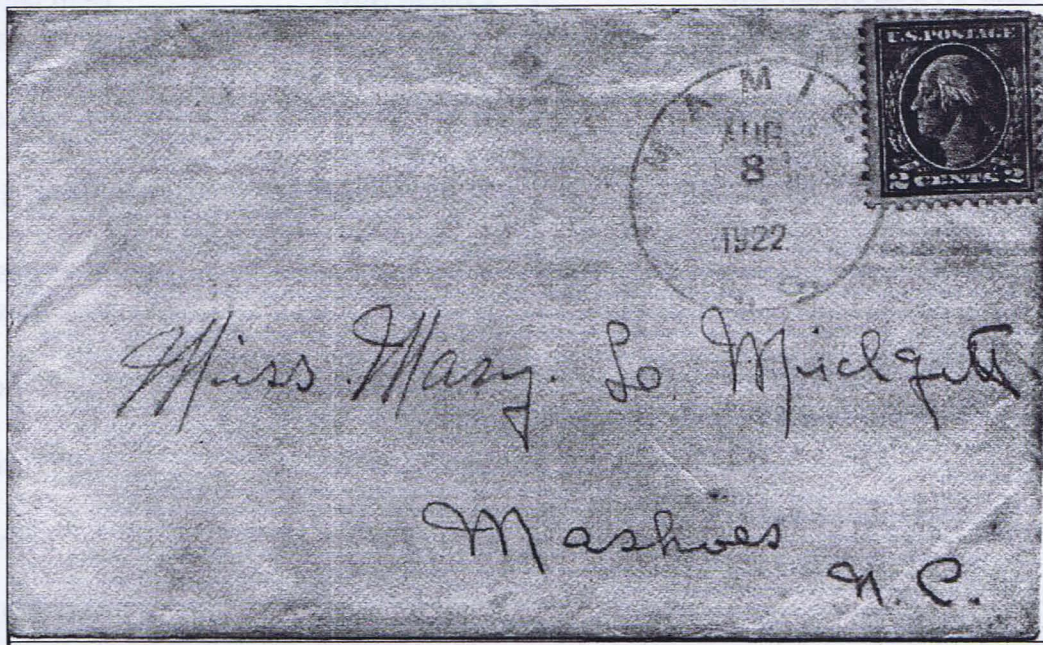
Volume IV of *Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina* has been published and mailed to all those who ordered it. The four-volume set is now complete. Volume IV is quite a nice surprise. It contains a great deal of useful information on other North Carolina markings, information from a variety of sources that has been assembled conveniently in one place. There are two very helpful cross-reference lists of Post Offices-to-County and Postmasters-to Post Office. In addition the North Carolina railroad data has been updated and re-published in whole. Other sections include cancellations used by highway post offices and air mail services, machine cancellations, doane cancels, rural free delivery, and 20th Century fancy cancellations. Volume IV also includes maps that show the formation of the North Carolina counties, the early post roads, and the railroads. There are also addenda and errata to Volumes I, II, and III. The volume concludes with a bibliography. The four-volume set has been an enormous undertaking. The Chief Editor, Vernon Stroupe, has done a marvelous job in organizing all the material, preparing the page copy and illustrations, and completing the major portion of the editing. Substantial contributions have also been made by the other members of the editorial staff, Robert Stets, Ruth Wetmore, Tony Crumbley, and myself. The society has every reason to be proud of this set of books and of the group of editors who brought it to fruition.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for improving the society. Please feel free to call me at home (336 545-0175), send me an e-mail message, or write to me. Both my e-mail address and my mailing address appear in this journal.

Dick Winter

MAMIE, CURRITUCK COUNTY

by Scott Troutman



Shown are two four bar cancellations from the small town of Mamie, N.C. The post office first opened on 24 June, 1904. Mamie doesn't mean much to folks who grew up in North Carolina, but to people like me who grew up in Virginia and vacationed on the Outer Banks, Mamie used to be a favorite stopping point.

Mamie sits on the Currituck peninsula in Currituck County down Route 158 maybe ten miles from the bridge out onto the Outer Banks. I do not know where it got its name, maybe it was the wife of its long time postmaster Taylor S. Harrell who ran the post office from its inception until 1994. He would have posted both of these letters. The first time I went through in 1958, Mamie was a sleepy farming village. Today, during the summer weekends, it is the site of one of the worst traffic jams on the east coast as vacationers surge on and off the Outer Banks.

But Mamie has lost a real landmark, the Anchor Inn. The Anchor Inn was a small restaurant that sat on 158, and run by an old sailor, who once had been the cook on a Navy battleship. The mention of their pork chops gets my father misty eyed. I learned

to eat hushpuppies from the cooks wife, who waited the tables. It was obvious to her we didn't know how to split them in half and pat in some butter. The Anchor was nothing to look at on the outside; inside it was a piney jumble of booths and tables, with decorator plates from every state in the union covering the walls. How the cook found his way to Mamie was a great mystery to us.

For a decade every friend and relative we had (and there were many who vacationed on the Outer Banks) made the mandatory stop at the Anchor Inn. Between us I think we ate everything on the menu. Alas, the old sailor died or finally had enough of cooking and the place closed in the 60's. Even now some 30 plus years later, we never pass down that highway without looking for where the Anchor Inn was.

Getting back to postal history, I should note that the 1922 letter is posted to Mary Lou Midgett (Midgett being a family name synonymous with the Outer Banks) at Mashoes on the back side of Roanoke Island. The post office in Mamie closed down on January 21, 1972.

NCPHS Member Internet Directory

CALLING ALL MEMBER CYBER-PHILES

THE POSTAL HISTORIAN IS COMPILING A MEMBER-SHIP E-MAIL DIRECTORY

PLEASE SEND YOU E-MAIL ADDRESS TO

EDITOR VERNON STROUPE

at

VSStroupe@worldnet.att.net

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Goldsboro

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