

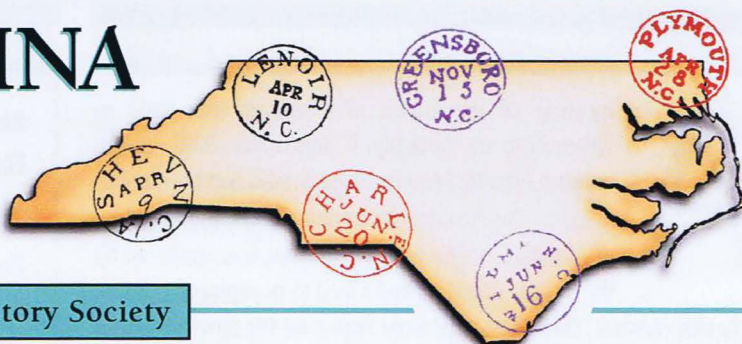
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

The Journal of North Carolina Postal History Society

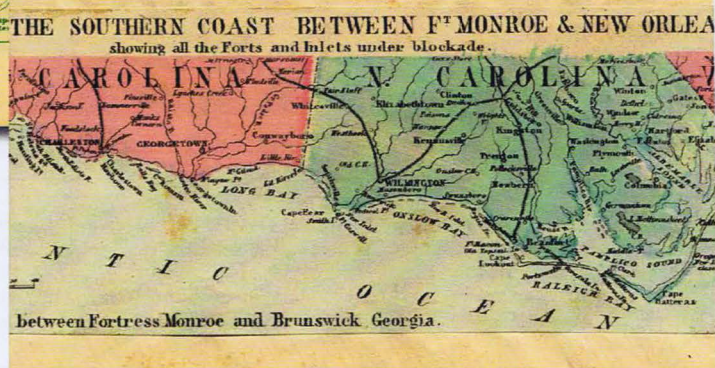
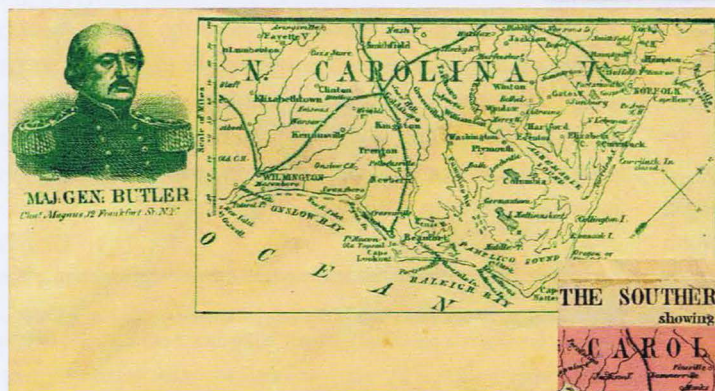
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WHOLE 104



MAGNUS NORTH CAROLINA
ILLUSTRATED ENVELOPES



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held in Greensboro on Saturday, 6 September 2008, with a quorum present. Maurice Bursey, who had been nominated by the President to complete the remaining year of Marshall Acee's term as director, was approved by the Board. Marshall had asked to be replaced because of health reasons. Three directors were approved for new three-year terms by the members in attendance. They are John Allen, Bill DiPaolo, and Dick Winter.

The society membership has remained about the same since last year and the finances are stable due in good part to the generosity of our members who donate money above the required dues. Tony Crumbley continues to keep our journal full of interesting and informative articles. Terry Chappell, who had been doing the journal layout and who created the outstanding appearance of our journal, has had difficulty keeping up with his business and the voluntary work that he is doing for us. As a result, we have had to make arrangements for temporary assistance in preparing the past two journals.

The Confederate Stamp Alliance will hold a meeting for their members in Wilmington on the weekend of 20-22 March 2009. Special arrangements have been made for the NCPHS to present a talk during their meeting. More details are provided in a later part of this journal.

The status box of the North Carolina Postmark Catalog update on the last page shows that 27 counties have now been completed. At the same time a major upgrade to counties previously posted is underway as huge amounts of new postmark data from the collections of the Postmark Collectors Club (PMCC) are added. The "A" and "B" counties have been completely revised. The files for these counties will be posted on the National Postal Museum web site by the time you read this column. In my last President's message, I mentioned that the PMCC collections included a machine slogan cancel collection of 145,000 examples. I have access to their databases for the slogan cancels and have included places in the catalog for every known North

IN THIS ISSUE

Magnus Illustrated Envelopes Related to North Carolina

Maurice M. Bursey 3

Smithfield, North Carolina: 200 Years of Postal History

Tony L. Crumbley 11

Carolina machine slogan cancel. At the same time, the administrator of the PMCC slogan cancel collection is providing almost daily new scans of North Carolina machine slogan cancels. This will greatly cut down on those that I have to scan on a future visit to the PMCC research facility. The newly completed counties will show either a scan of the slogan cancel, or identify the details of the slogan and have space for a scan to be added at a later date. The enthusiastic support of the PMCC for the North Carolina postmark project is truly outstanding.

The News Reporter of Whiteville (Columbus County) is preparing a special 150-200 page section to be published on December 11, 2008, in commemoration of the first 200 years of Columbus County. They have discovered the postmaster and postmark information that we have posted on the Internet for Columbus County and requested our permission to use some of this information in their special newspaper edition, which we have granted. This is just another example of how a variety of different users are finding North Carolina postal data on the Internet and benefitting from our effort.

This will be the first call for the 2009 dues, which remain unchanged. Yes, that time has come again to pay your annual dues. At \$15 it still remains a great bargain. Donations above the regular membership amount are deductible and will be very helpful to our small society. 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 email message, or write to me. Both my email address and my mailing address appear in this journal.

Dick Winter



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Magnus Illustrated Envelopes Related to North Carolina

by Maurice M. Bursey

During the Civil War, envelopes bearing patriotic cachets were available to both Union and Confederate soldiers and civilians. Covers from both sides are eagerly sought, and even unused envelopes are also of much interest.

There were numerous manufacturers of these envelopes. Perhaps the most prominent publisher of envelopes for the Union was Charles Magnus (Figure 1), of New York City. His company used steel, copper, and stone engraved plates and hand or stencil coloring; most hand-colored envelopes were prepared by his employees, but he even hand-colored some of his best envelopes himself. Several hundred basic designs of his envelopes exist, and besides the hand-colored envelopes many of these can be found in different single colors — gold, silver, bronze, red, etc. — or in mixed colors. Many bear his company's imprint; many do not. He also printed envelopes for other publishers, and other printers imitated his work. One must be careful in ascribing designs to his company.



▲ **Figure 1** A portrait of Charles Magnus, from *The American Philatelist* for September 1949.

Julian Carl Magnus was born in Elberfeld, Germany, in 1826. His family immigrated to the United States in the late 1840s. In 1850 he and his brother Carl Emil established a printing business in New York City, basing it upon a successful German-language newspaper, the *Deutsche Schnellpost*. He also anglicized his name to Charles around this time. About 1854 he began to advertise one of his earliest engraved products, a hundred views of American and Canadian cities, bridges, national buildings, and monuments, as oil color prints. Thereafter he produced many prints, song sheets and song books, stationery, maps, and finally the product in which readers will have the most interest, patriotic envelopes. He died in New York City in 1900. After his death a warehouse full of his stock and even several of his printing plates were purchased and made available, bit by bit, to collectors. His company's work is considered superior to that of Currier and Ives in printing technique, but inferior in artistic creativity.

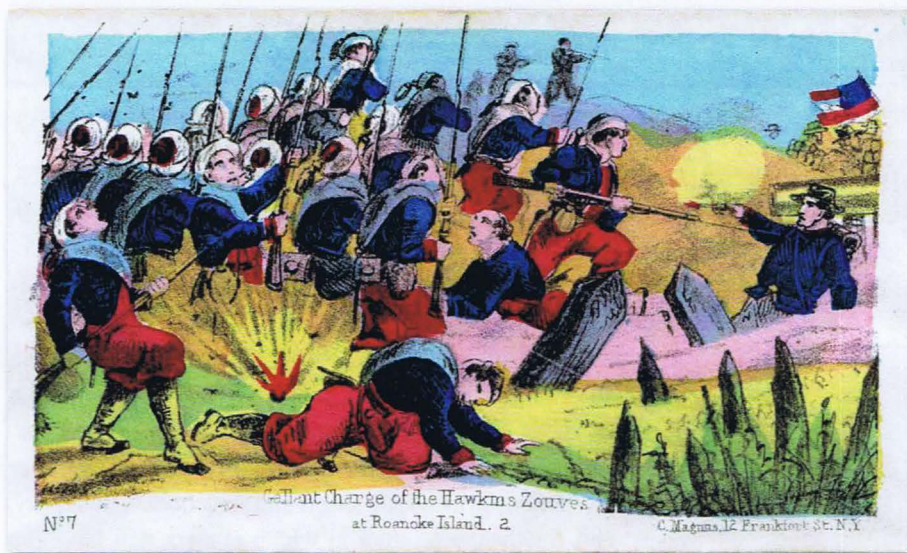
Several of the Magnus envelopes have ties to North Carolina, illustrating scenes of significant battles or maps of the theater of action here. This article illustrates some of these envelopes. The Magnus North Carolina collection shown is not quite complete.

Figures 2 and 3 show two multicolor envelopes illustrating scenes from the Union capture of Roanoke Island on February 8, 1862. The battle was fought as part of General McClellan's grand strategy, and was part of the Burnside Expedition to occupy the Atlantic coast of the Confederacy. There were several Union units involved in the successful attack on

Roanoke Island: the ninth New York (Hawkins' Zouaves, the first body in New York to volunteer) and the twenty-first Massachusetts. Officers of the latter unit always claimed that the contribution of the Zouaves was



▲ **Figure 2** Hand-colored Magnus envelope: *Gallant Charge of the Hawkins Zouaves at Roanoke Island. 1. No. 6. C. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.*



◀ **Figure 3** *Hand-colored Magnus envelope: Gallant Charge of the Hawkins Zouaves at Roanoke Island. 2. No. 7. C. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.*

overrated, but Colonel Rush C. Hawkins, the Zouaves' commander, wrote a widely publicized article shortly afterward in which he described the Zouaves' heroic role in breaking the Confederate line, and so the regiment became famous. According to Captain Charles F. Walcott of the 21st Massachusetts volunteers, "...with our two flags in plain sight upon the parapet, the fort full of our men, and the last running rebel well out of sight, the 9th New York came running up the narrow corduroy road by the flank, and with a great shout of 'Zou Zou' swarmed into the battery for all the world as if they were capturing it." But Hawkins had the attention of the Union, and so the Magnus envelopes romanticized his "victory." Earlier, Colonel Hawkins had been severely reprimanded and replaced for a while as commander of the Zouaves when a Union attempt to take Roanoke Island had failed, on October 5, 1861. Perhaps his horn blowing was in reaction to the smarting from that episode.

From this point forward reference will be made to Walcott, Grant, and Weiss. "Walcott" is the standard name used for the publication by Robert Laurence of George Walcott's enormous collection of Civil War patriotic covers in 1934, two years after the death of the latter. Part of Walcott was extended by Robert Grant in 1971. The Grant work was given the title Volume 1, as he intended to publish more volumes; but these were never produced, and so there is only a Volume 1. William Weiss's 1995 compilation of Union patriotic covers supersedes and is much more extensive than Walcott, or even Grant's extension of

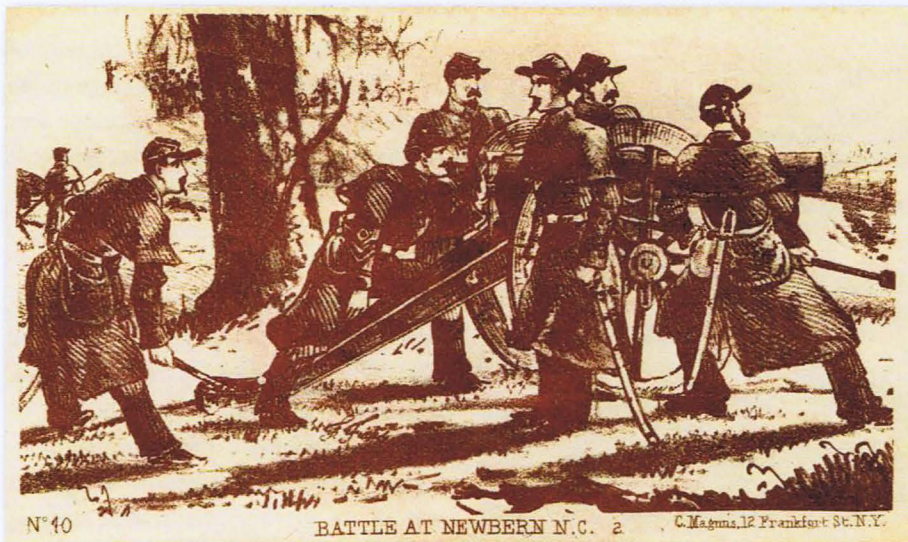


Figure 4 ▶
Hand-colored Magnus envelope: Battle at Newbern N.C. 2. No. 9. C. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.

Walcott. The hand-colored envelope in Figure 2 is Weiss SC-MB-150, but is not listed in Walcott. The cover in Figure 3 is Weiss SC-MB-152, and Walcott L-709.

The spelling of New Bern as "Newbern" is adopted here because it is the one used on the envelopes. During the Civil War, the name was spelled in several ways.

Charles Magnus often supplied his envelopes to customers in sets, typically sets of twelve. Prior covers in this particular Magnus series show battle scenes from one of the battles at Winchester, VA, and the engagement between the Monitor and the Merrimac. Another hand-colored design of this Magnus series, No. 9, (**Figure 4**) shows a scene from the battle of Newbern on March 14, 1862, in which the Burnside Expedition captured that city for the Union and occupied it until peacetime.



◀ **Figure 5** *Bronze Magnus envelope:*
Battle at Newbern N.C. 2. No. 10. C.
Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.

Walcott L-713V, but carries the enumeration No. 12 instead of No. 11 or No. 9, respectively. These four covers complete the designs of known Magnus covers identified directly on the cover as illustrating aspects of the battle of Newbern. It is not known if the illustrations are taken from actual recorded scenes or are fanciful.

The final Magnus cover showing a battle in North Carolina is reproduced in **Figure 8**. Some Magnus covers appear to have been produced in sets of twelve, and this cover, listed in Weiss as SC-MB-177 and unlisted in Walcott, is in a different set from the preceding ones. It shows the battle of Fort Thompson, March 14, 1862. Fort Thompson, a fourteen-gun sod installation on the



◀ **Figure 6** *Bronze Magnus envelope:*
Battle at Newbern N.C. No. 11. C.
Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.

This design is listed in Weiss as SC-MB-156, but is not listed in Walcott. The same design printed in bronze, except for the numbering as No. 10 instead of No. 9, shown in **Figure 5**, is unlisted in Weiss. Weiss instead lists a printing in black as SC-MB-157a. The design is again unlisted in Walcott. As noted above, Charles Magnus often printed the same design in different inks.

A further bronze design, No. 11, (**Figure 6**) shows another scene from the battle of Newbern. This design is similar to Weiss SC-MB-158a, Walcott L-710, which bears the printed number 10. Finally, No. 12, another bronze printed envelope (**Figure 7**), shows the aftermath of the battle, with a mounted officer in conversation, a wounded soldier, and corpses in the foreground, and troops moving rapidly toward the city of Newbern in the background. This design is similar to Weiss SC-MB-159a, Walcott L-711V, and to Weiss SC-MB-155a,

Neuse banks six miles below Newbern, was the only part of the defenses of Newbern whose line Colonel Lawrence O'B. Branch, 33rd North Carolina Infantry, would defend. Curiously, it may have been named for Major W. B. Thompson, possibly 1st North Carolina Artillery, who supervised its construction. Ten of the fort's guns bore on the river, and three of the remainder on the land approaches to the city, so that it was not able to withstand the land attack that overcame it. Major William G. Lewis, 33rd North Carolina Infantry, who participated in its defense, complained a few days later in a letter to his cousin about the "miserable manner in which our works were constructed. Major Thompson, who has failed in every work he has ever undertaken, made the greatest failure of all, in the construction of those works. They are a disgrace to any engineer." (On the other hand, General Branch's defense line had a break, accidentally unguarded by guns and defended by an untrained militia battalion, and it was here that the Union



forces broke through.) The conquest of Fort Thompson was the first stage of the battle of Newbern. Yet the envelope was produced as part of another set from the previous ones. It is listed in Weiss as SC-MB-177 but is unlisted in Walcott.

The next two covers are of another type, one that was also popular during the Civil War: illustrations of military heroes. **Figures 9 and 10** illustrate a bust of General Reno and a map of northeastern North Carolina that includes some, but not all, of the important battle sites of this period. The hand-colored cover is unlisted in Weiss or Walcott; a similar

▲ **Figure 7** Bronze Magnus envelope:
Battle at Newbern N.C. No. 12.
Chas. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.

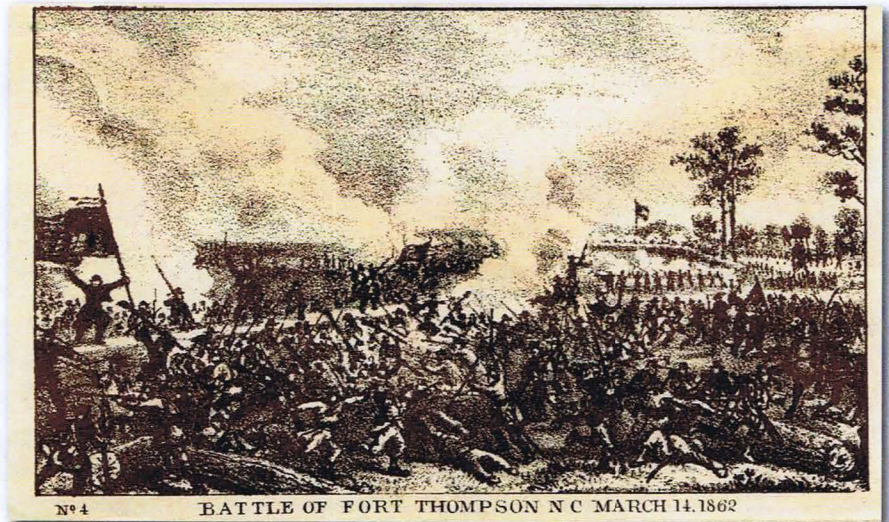


Figure 8 ▶
Bronze Magnus envelope: No. 4. Battle of
Fort Thompson N.C. March 14, 1862. Weiss
attributes this design to Magnus even
though there is no imprint on the envelope.



cover printed in bronze is PM-219 in Weiss, but unlisted in Walcott. General Jesse L. Reno had first fought in the War with Mexico, at Vera Cruz, and then had assignments in Washington, DC, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Utah, gaining much experience in ordnance. At the beginning of the Civil War, he was promoted directly from captain to

◀ **Figure 9** Hand-colored Magnus
envelope: Gen. Reno. Chas. Magnus,
12 Frankfort St. N.Y.

Figure 10

*Bronze Magnus envelope: Gen. Reno.
Chas. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St. N.Y.*

brigadier general – his West Point connections helped – and was one of three commanders of brigades under General Burnside which participated in the battles of Roanoke Island, New Bern (where he commanded the troops that broke through the Confederate line), and South Mills in North Carolina. One of his subordinate officers in this campaign was the self-aggrandizing Colonel Hawkins previously mentioned, who caused him not a little annoyance. Later in 1862 he lost his life at the Battle of South Mountain, MD, three days before Antietam. He was eulogized as a “soldier’s soldier.” The city of Reno, NV, was named for him, and his son Jesse W. Reno was one of the first inventors of the escalator.

Another Union general who appears on North Carolina envelopes is Benjamin F. Butler. Butler had been a U.S. Representative from, and later Governor of, Massachusetts, and managed to get an appointment as a Major General in the Union Army. With that kind of military training, he was not entirely effective as an officer. For example, at the beginning of the war (June 1861) he lost the battle of Big Bethel, VA, to Colonel John Magruder, C.S.A., who commanded a much smaller force. He was removed as commanding officer at Fortress Monroe in the same month. Ben Butler was detested by the Southerners who felt his wrath, and is still known among them as “Beast” Butler.



In North Carolina he planned the early attack on Hatteras in August 1861 and took formal possession of Fort Hatteras, becoming a Union hero. By 1862 he was in the lower Mississippi, where he is remembered for his infamous General Order No. 28, in which he stated that any woman in New Orleans who insulted or showed contempt for any Union officer or soldier should be regarded and treated as a “woman of the town plying her avocation,” and for burning the University of Alabama to the ground, allowing a professor to rescue only one book from the University Library. He was relieved of that command too. By November 11, 1863, he was in command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, where his heavy hand and brutal orders earned him a continuing hatred of the citizens. He was in command of the Army portion of the joint Army-Navy expedition against Fort Fisher and Wilmington in late 1864 and early 1865, retreating from the first attempt on the fort — the unsuccessful first attempt has been called a fiasco — so that he was replaced by Major General Alfred H. Terry, who led a successful second attempt a few days later.

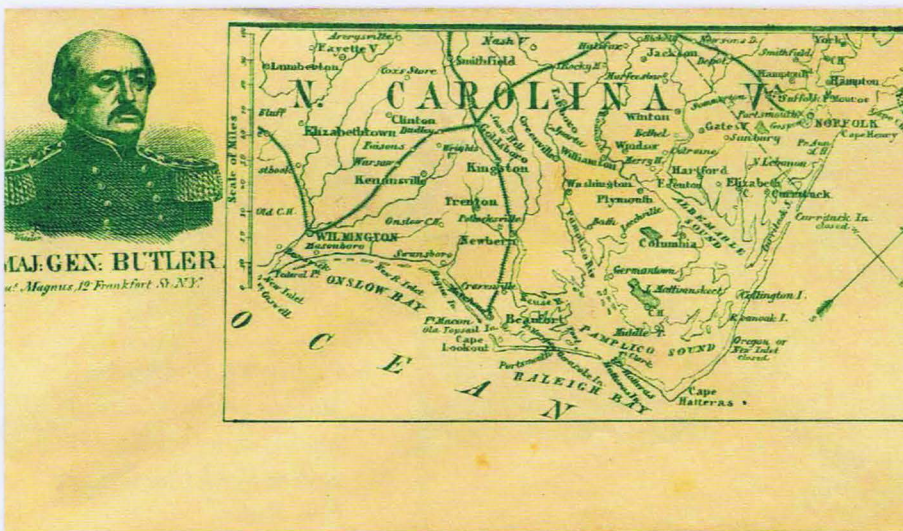


Figure 11 *Green Magnus envelope: Maj. Gen. Butler and map of eastern North Carolina. Chas. Magnus, 12 Frankfort St., N.Y.*

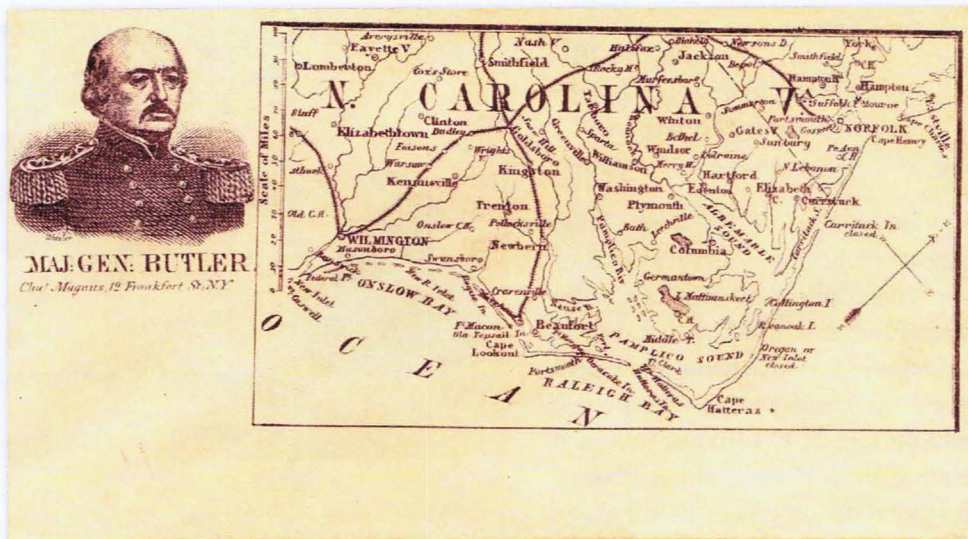


Figure 12

Violet Magnus envelope, otherwise identical to Figure 11.

The covers with General Butler and maps of North Carolina surely were produced in the aftermath of his victories at Hatteras, when he was at the height of his popularity in the North. **Figures 11 and 12**, unlisted varieties of the bronze-printed Weiss PM-75 by Magnus, unlisted in Walcott also, are printed in green and violet. The map of the North Carolina coast is oriented with northwest at the top of the map, and stretches from the below the Cape Fear River to the Chesapeake Bay. This kind of orientation in old naval maps is not uncommon.

The other Benjamin Butler cover (**Figure 13**) is hand-colored. The portrait of General Butler is the same as on the previous two envelopes, but the map is oriented with north at the top and is to a different scale. It is listed as PM-74 by Weiss and is unlisted by Walcott.

Finally, a cover by an unknown printer is shown in **Figure 14**. It is listed in Weiss as Magnus-like, i.e., likely made by Magnus, with the number NW-120, but is not listed in Walcott. It consists of a long, thin map of the Atlantic coast from the Chesapeake Bay to St. Simon's Island in Georgia pasted onto a plain envelope so that the map is folded around the envelope. Weiss calls this kind of envelope an add-on, and notes that "it is possible they were post-war, but as they are so rare, it is not an important point anyway." The North Carolina and South Carolina coasts, from Collington Island to Port Royal, make up the portion of the map on the front, so that it is included in this article. (Collington Island, also spelled Colington, Collintons, and Colleton) is in Roanoke Sound, and was named for Sir John Colleton, one of the Lords Proprietors of the Colony of Carolina.) **Figure 15** shows the back side of this envelope and demonstrates the folding of the long map around the original envelope so that

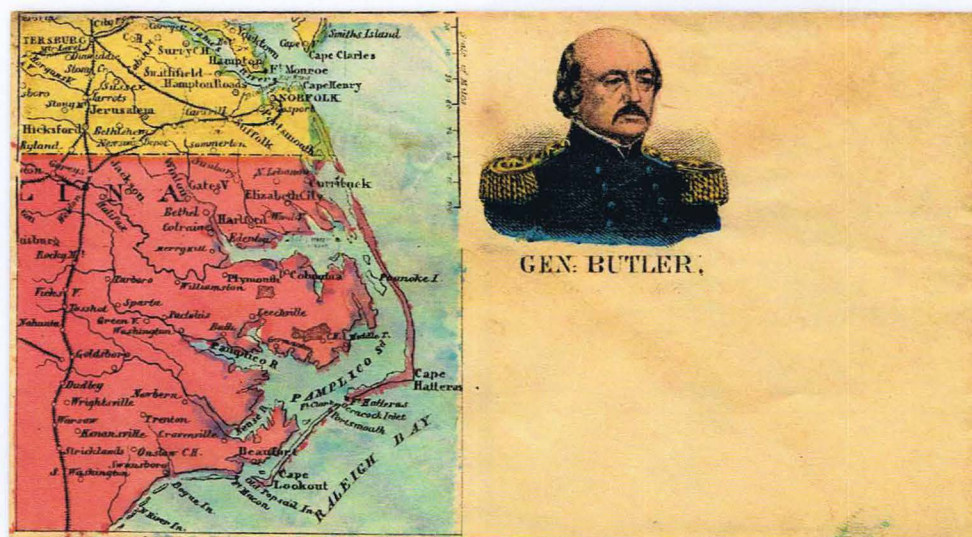


Figure 13 Hand-colored Magnus envelope: map of southeastern Virginia and eastern North Carolina and Gen. Butler.

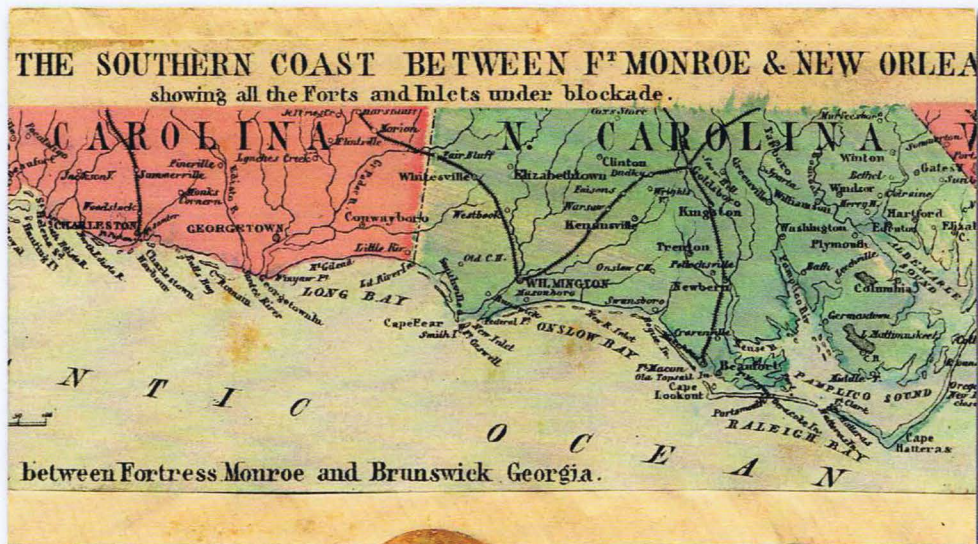


Figure 14 Envelope in the style of Magnus: The Southern Coast between Ft Monroe & New Orleans showing all the Forts and Inlets under Blockade. Coast Chart between Fortress Monroe and Brunswick Georgia.

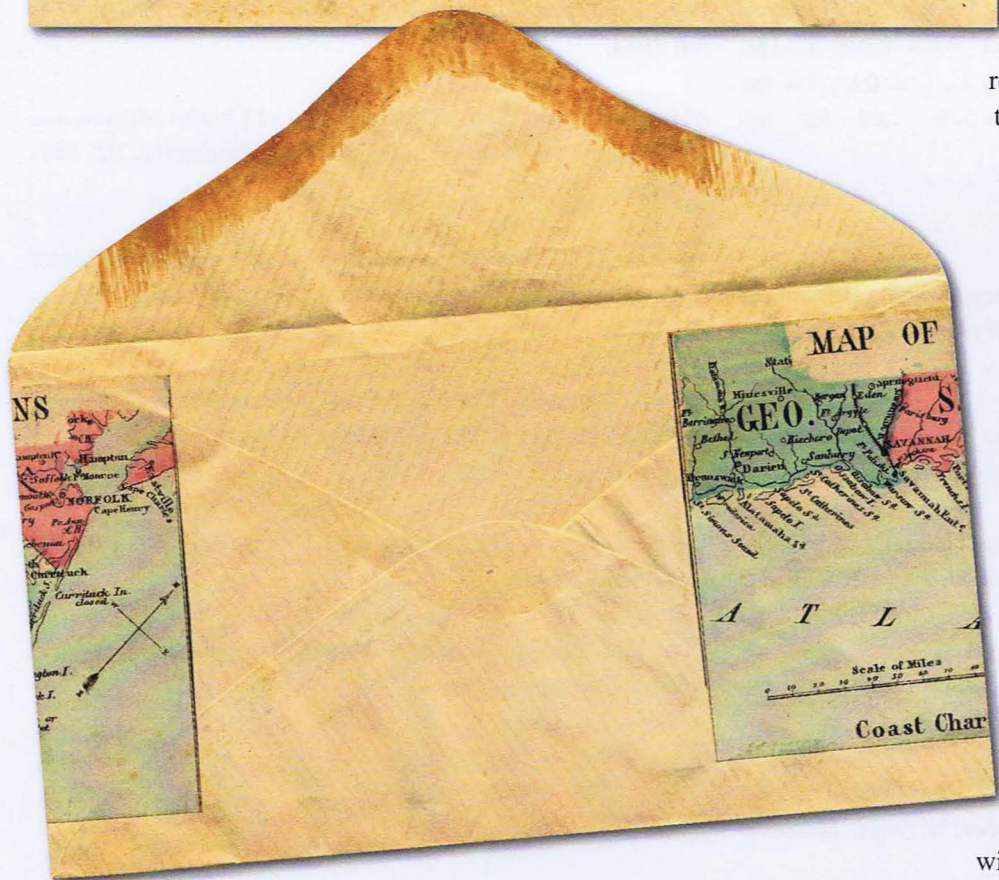


Figure 15 Reverse of envelope showing the pasted coastal map folded around the ends of the envelope and onto the reverse.

regions north and south of the area on the front appear.

These envelopes show almost all the designs by Charles Magnus related to North Carolina. I am also aware of another, Weiss ST-243 (unlisted in Walcott), which shows an American flag, a female figure with angel's wings, and a devil supporting the Great Seal of North Carolina, but I have not seen this envelope.

There are also printings of the designs shown, but in different colors or in the numeral in the lower left corner. Thus, Figure 2 is also known in bronze (Weiss SC-MB-150a, unlisted in Walcott), and Figure 3 is known in bronze (Weiss SC-MB-152a, unlisted in Walcott), as well as with the enumeration No. 8, both hand-colored (Weiss SC-MB-153) and bronze (Weiss SC-MB-153a). Both of these are Walcott L-709V. Likewise, Figure 4 is known as No. 9 in bronze (Weiss SC-MB-156a) and as No. 10 both hand-colored (Weiss SC-MB-157) and in black (Weiss SC-MB-157a), all unlisted in Walcott. Figure 5 is known enumerated as No. 10, hand-colored (Weiss SC-MB-158, Walcott L-710) and in bronze (Weiss SC-MB-158a, Walcott L-710V); Figure 6 is known enumerated as No. 11, hand-colored (Weiss SC-MB-159, Walcott L-711) and in bronze (Weiss SC-MB-159a, Walcott L-711a).

In addition, the General Reno cover (Figures 8, 9) is known in gold (PM-219a). Another General Butler cover similar to Figures 10 and 11 is in bronze (Weiss PM-75, Walcott L-368V); and others like Figure 12 in violet (Weiss PM-74a) and black (Weiss PM-74b), both unlisted in Walcott.

These last varieties either do not represent changes in designs or at most have only the minor change of the number in the lower left corner. There are also a few other covers by other

printers, but Charles Magnus produced more than twice as many as all the others combined.

Because of the exigencies of war, printers in the South made many fewer illustrated envelopes than printers in the North. A very few are known from North Carolina printers, and, because of the limited availability of inks, they are quite plain when compared to Northern covers like the ones shown here. ■

I thank Ellen S. Peachey, American Philatelic Research Library, American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte, PA, for the portrait of Charles Magnus, from the September 1949 issue of *The American Philatelist*. I also thank Tony L. Crumbley for his suggestion that I prepare this article, and for his encouragement.

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Smithfield, North Carolina: 200 Years of Postal History

by Tony L. Crumbley

Johnston County was created in 1746 from Craven County and named in honor of Gabriel Johnston, North Carolina's royal governor from 1734 — 1752. Johnston County originally contained most of what is now Wake, Wayne, Greene and Lenoir counties and part of Wilson.

The first European and African settlers to Johnston County came from coastal N.C. and the Tidewater areas of Virginia and Maryland, many traveling along Green's Path, an old Indian trade route apparently named for Roger Green, an Anglican minister in Virginia who promoted migration to neighboring lands in North Carolina. These early settlers were primarily subsistence farmers. Some made profits by raising large herds of swine and cattle which they drove to markets in Virginia. A few grew tobacco which they hauled on wagons to Virginia or shipped down the Neuse River to New Bern, and from there to Norfolk.

Smithfield, Johnston County's first town, grew up at the site of Smith's Ferry on property staked out by John Smith, Jr. on the Neuse River. The courthouse was moved there in 1771 and the town was incorporated on April 23, 1777. In 1770 the colonial assembly had attempted to boost North Carolina's tobacco trade by erecting a warehouse near Smith's Ferry for receiving and storing tobacco to be shipped down the Neuse River to the sea. Nonetheless, it would be another century and a quarter before this product would gain the attention of Johnston's commercial farmers.

SMITHFIELD N.C.
MAY.24.

Figure 1 ▲

Smithfield, North Carolina handstamp used by postmaster Jones from 1796 and by other postmasters until 1800.

By the late 1780's, Smithfield had gained sufficient prominence to be considered among several towns as the new state capital. The General Assembly chose an undeveloped site in Wake County for the new capital that would be called Raleigh.

Following the introduction of Eli Whitney's gin in Johnston County around 1804, cotton gradually became the county's leading money crop. Corn was also produced for market, although profits were small in comparison to the white fleecy staple. Before the 1850's, poor roads leading to distant markets were a deterrent to commercial farming. Construction of the 223-mile North Carolina Railroad in 1854 placed Johnston County within the prosperous Piedmont Crescent between Goldsboro and Charlotte and meant an eventual shift from subsistence farming to market-driven agriculture. In addition to boosting cotton and grain productions, the railroad spurred growth in the turpentine and lumber industries.

Throughout most of the 19th century, Smithfield experienced little growth. The Neuse River linked the town with the coast, yet the Neuse never proved to be a reliable transportation artery for commerce because of treacherous currents and sand bars.

During the Civil War, Johnstonians saw 1,500 of their sons, husbands, fathers and brothers go off to fight. Almost a third of those men died in service and many of



◀ **Figure 2** Calvin Jones Free Postmaster Free Frank, October 12, 1796. Folded letter to Westmoreland, New York. The earliest known free handstamp in North Carolina.



◀ **Figure 3** *Smithfield, North Carolina, January 13, 1845, red CDS used from 1843 until 1865.*

those who survived suffered from physical disabilities. Union forces sacked and plundered their way through Johnston County near the end of the war in March and April 1865, leaving food supplies and livestock dramatically depleted. Emancipation of slaves and political turmoil further exacerbated the social and economic tensions that would not diminish significantly until the turn of the 20th century.

Not until the 1880's and 1890's did Smithfield begin to thrive. The North Carolina Midland Railroad came to town from Goldsboro in 1882, followed in 1886 by the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad's "short cut" between Wilson and Florence, South Carolina. The coming of the railroad had the impact it had on thousands of other cities, it caused it to grow and prosper.

A depression in 1893 and a resulting plummet in cotton prices forced many local farmers to look for another money crop. The success of "bright leaf" tobacco growers in the Piedmont areas of North Carolina and Virginia soon began to catch on in Johnston and other Eastern North Carolina counties in the 1890's to the extent that a market for tobacco was established

in Smithfield in 1898. The county's first bank, by no coincidence, was also established that year. Within a few years cotton mills had been built and put in operation in Smithfield and telephone lines were extended to practically every town.

Fire destroyed most of Smithfield's business district in 1889. The town's prosperous merchants quickly rebuilt and Smithfield's economic growth continued. In 1898 the Smithfield Tobacco Auction Market was established. This provided renewed status to the importance of tobacco in Smithfield. The stock market crash in 1929 and the following depression brought about sever hard times for the farmers. Most banks closed and the wealthy families saw their fortunes disappear.

When World War II rolled around, Smithfield and Johnston County sent 7,000 men and women into battle. At least 140 of these made the supreme sacrifice and gave their life for our country.

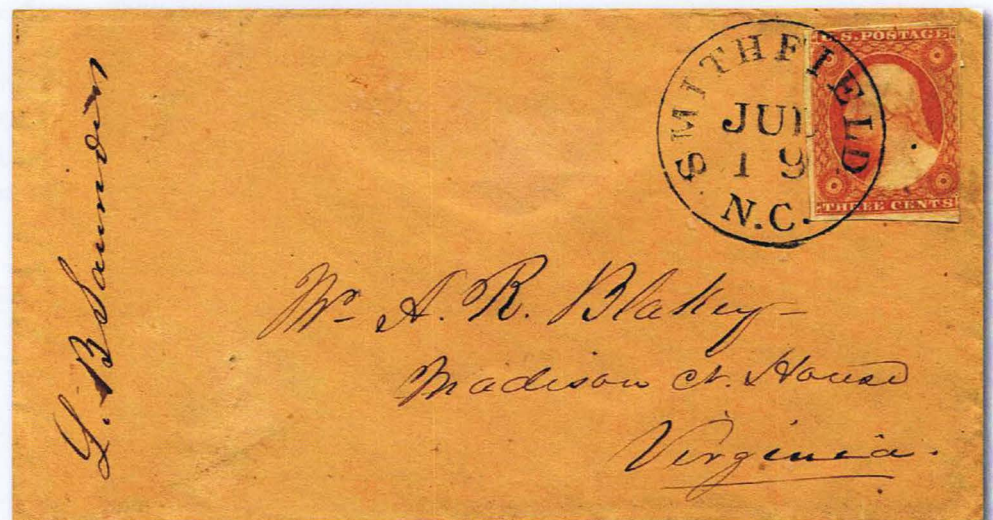


Figure 4 ▶
*Smithfield, North Carolina,
July 19, ca. 1854, black CDS
used to cancel Scott #11.*



◀ **Figure 5** *Smithfield, North Carolina, April 13, 1845, black CDS used from 1843 until 1865.*

The coming of modern industry to Smithfield since the early 1950's along with two interstate highways being built through Johnston County have boosted commercial and residential development in recent years.

The postal history of Smithfield has been as varied and interesting as the general history of the area. On June 18, 1792 John Bryan was appointed the first postmaster. On January 23, 1793 William Lasser was appointed postmaster and served until October 1, 1796 when Calvin Jones was appointed Smithfield postmaster. Postmaster Jones produced the first handstamp cancel in Smithfield and one of the earliest in the state. **Figure 1.** He also produced the first postmaster free frank handstamp in the state. **Figure 2.**

Postmaster Jones was born in 1775 in Massachusetts. Calvin apparently studied in the local schools and was widely read. There is, however, no evidence that he attended college. It is likely he apprenticed himself at about age 14 to a local physician

practicing in the Berkshires. He received a certificate from the United Medical Society of Connecticut at age 17 in 1792. For a brief time he practiced in Freehold, New York and published several papers dated 1793. In 1795 Calvin moved to Smithfield where he practiced for about eight years. In 1799 he was one of the first physicians who organized the first North Carolina Medical Society.

On May 6, 1799 Jones was replaced as postmaster of Smithfield by Mathias Handy and in 1803 he moved to Raleigh. He would later become involved with publishing several papers within Wake County. His involvement with publishing obviously put him in a position for access to the type needed to make both handstamps used in **Figures 1 and 2.**



Figure 6 ▶ *Smithfield, North Carolina, September 2, 1895, postcard mailed from Smithfield requesting registration information for state normal school in Greensboro.*

Figure 7 ▶

*Smithfield, North Carolina,
October 22, 1918, Republican
Party campaign advertising cover.
Smithfield has historically been a
very politically active community.*

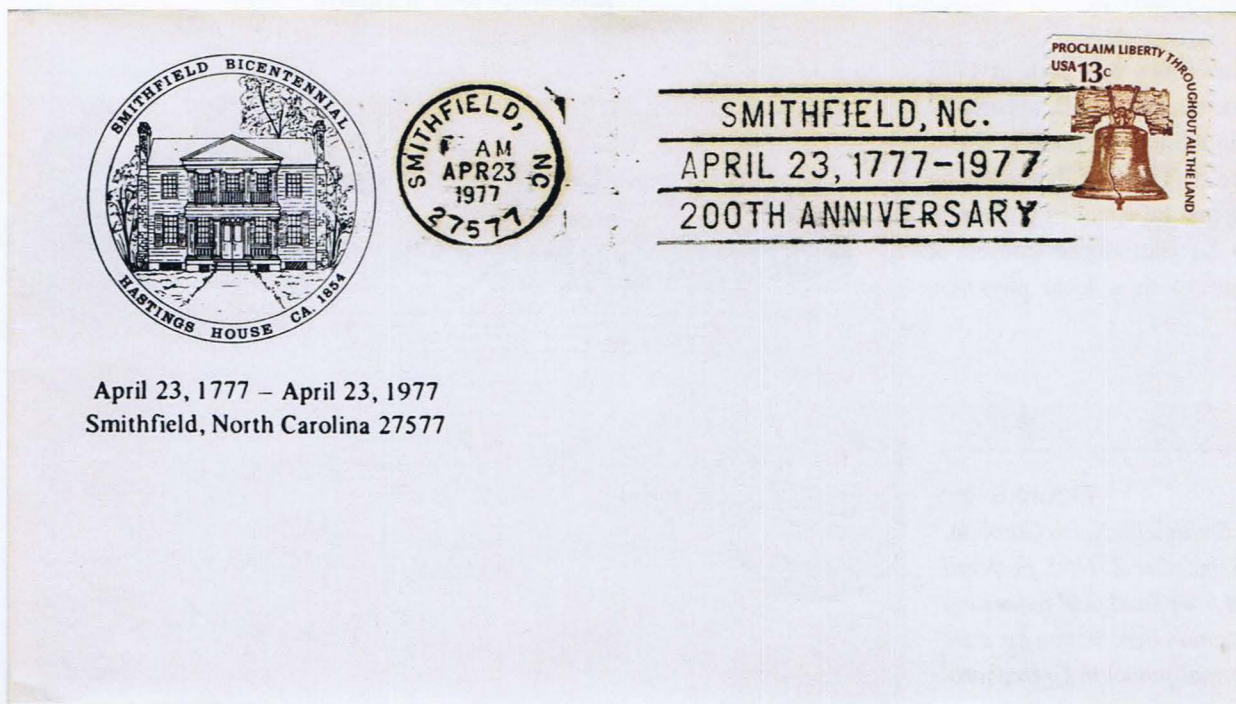


By 1828 the post office was using manuscript postmarks to cancel its mail. In 1843 postmaster Hobbs introduced a new red CDS **Figure 3**. This postmark device would be used with both red and black ink from 1843 through the Civil War. **Figures 4** and **5** are examples of the use with black ink. Figure 5 is a Confederate cover posted from Smithfield April 13, ca. 1863 to Lt. J. C. Ellington of Co. C 50th Regt. N.C. troops stationed in Kinston.

Clearly times were hard in Smithfield after the Civil War. The next recorded postmark for Smithfield does not appear until 1895. The postcard in **Figure 6** shows the new model handstamp with a negative letter with a small circular killer.

Figure 7 is a Republican advertising corner card for John M. Morehead posted from Smithfield on October 22, 1918. Throughout the history of Smithfield it has been a very politically active community.

The last cover to be illustrated is a first for this Journal. Thanks to the generosity of NCPHS member Doug Mattox, we have an example of the Bicentennial Celebration cover posted in Smithfield on April 23, 1977. Doug writes "This cachet envelope and slogan cancellation should make a nice addition to your Journal." ■



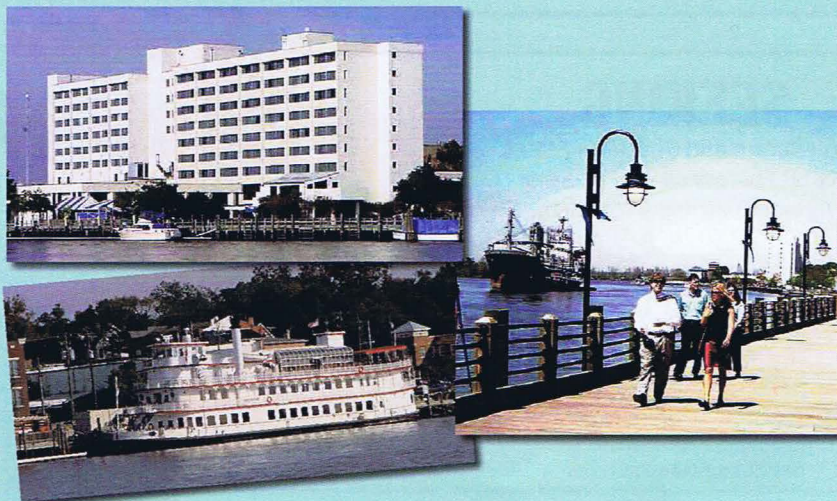
April 23, 1777 – April 23, 1977
Smithfield, North Carolina 27577

NCPHS & CSA Joint Meeting

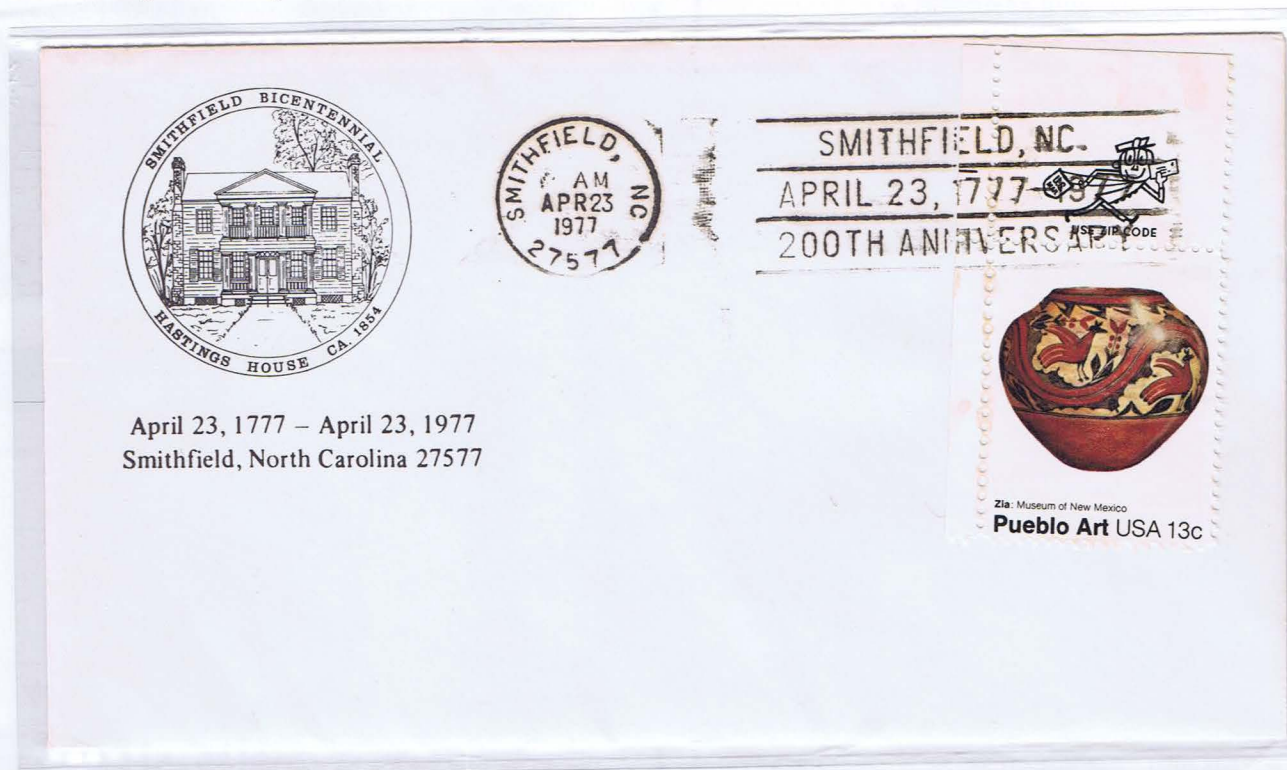
March 20 – 22, 2009

Hilton Wilmington Riverside
301 North Water Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

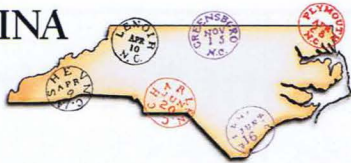
The NCPHS will meet jointly with the Confederate Stamp Alliance for their midyear meeting. The CSA has invited us to attend free of charge for a 2:00 p.m. presentation by Maurice Burnsey and Dick Winter on Saturday, March 21. Or, if you would like to attend the entire weekend including dinner on Friday, March 20 and a 10 dealer Bourse, the registration fee is \$100. Checks should be sent to Tony Crumbley who can also provide additional information.



▼ **Figure 8** Cover posted at the Bicentennial celebration of the founding of Smithfield April 23, 1977. A universal slogan cancel Ty.



NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN



If you'd like to contribute information
or articles to the Winter *POSTAL HISTORIAN*
please submit by the following deadline:

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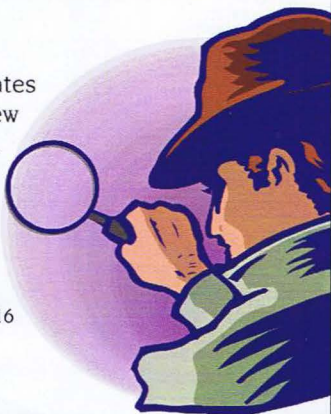
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The *POSTAL HISTORIAN* has compiled a
MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL DIRECTORY

Please send your email address to
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North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update

The following counties have been completed or
updated and are available at

[http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/
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