

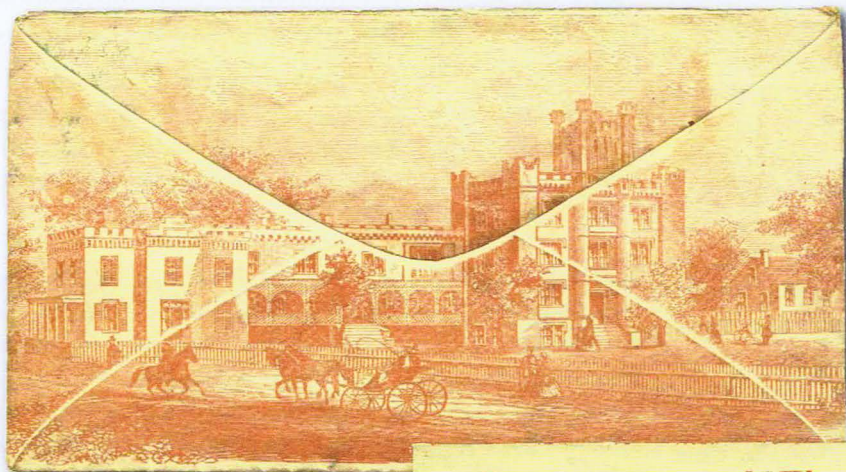
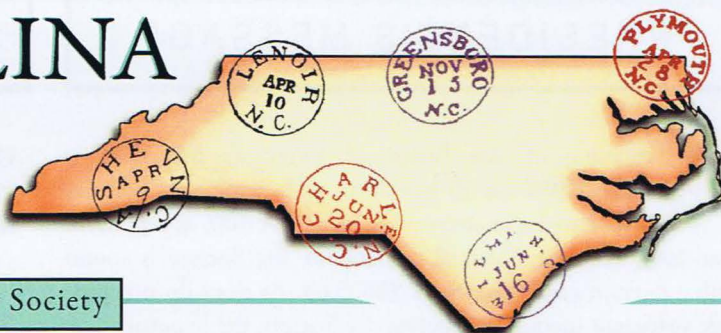
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

The Journal of North Carolina Postal History Society

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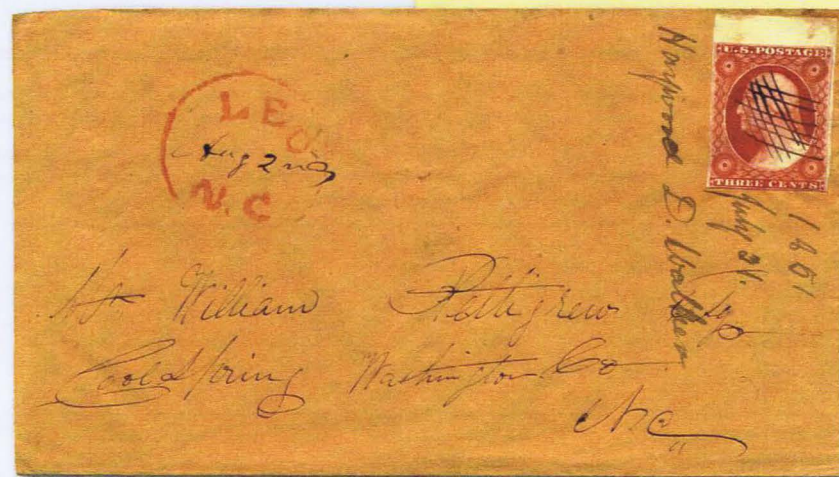
FALL 2009

WHOLE 108



NC Institution for the Deaf and
Dumb and Blind

Mendenhall and Shumaker
Cachets



Unrecorded Leo Postmark

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at CHARPEX on 25 July 2009, with a quorum present. The current membership stands at 100, seven more than last year. The financial position of the Society is sound with a current cash balance of \$8825.63. As dues do not provide sufficient income to operate the Society, the generosity of sustaining members provides sufficient income so that dues can remain at current levels. Tony Crumbley reported on the current status of the *Postal Historian* indicating there is a good backlog of articles for future issues. Dick Winter has assumed the responsibility of producing the publication's layout. We would like to start up a web site for the society but are unable to pursue this until there is a volunteer to produce and maintain the site. An index is being prepared for the complete run of the *Postal Historian*. Maurice Bursey is heading the effort and it is hoped that it will be produced as a special issue during the coming year. Few consignments are coming in for NCPHS auctions. We have fallen behind in issuing prices realized for the auctions, but this will be corrected. Meanwhile, we need more and better quality lots for the auction. The North Carolina Postmark Catalog Update is proceeding but at a slower rate than expected, due primarily to taking time to prepare the North Carolina section of the new *American Stampless Cover Catalog*, which is being worked under the direction of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. Our input is almost done. Both Maurice Bursey and Harvey Tilles were elected to new 3-year terms as directors. Our next NCPHS meeting will be at CHARPEX 2010

The status box of the North Carolina Postmark Catalog

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Update on the last page will show only modest changes. No new counties have been added; however, a few more "prepared" counties have been completely revised as a result of new postmark information from the collections of the Post Mark Collectors Club (PMCC).

This will be the first call for the 2010 dues, which remain unchanged at \$15, one of the great bargains of specialized society membership. Donations above the regular membership amount are deductible since we are a 501c educational organization. These donations are very helpful to a small society such as ours. I hope you enjoy our journal and will be generous with a donation.

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 at or write to me. My mailing address appears on page 2 of this journal.

Dick Winter

NCPHS Web Site help needed

We are looking for someone who is capable of setting up a web site and would be able to maintain the site as webmaster. Our desire is to create a simple but attractive site for the North Carolina Postal History Society and organize it so it is capable of growth. Contact Tony Crumbley or Dick Winter if you can help us with this project.



NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

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North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind – 1844

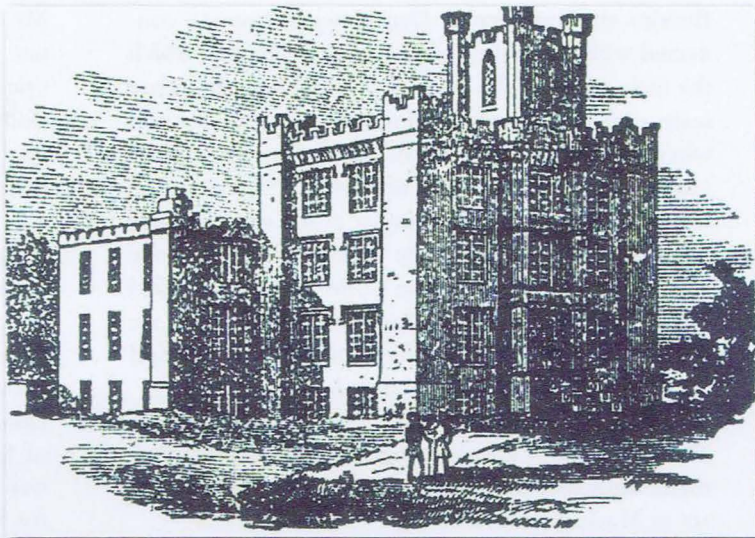
by Tony L. Crumbley

In 1844 the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$5,000 for a school for deaf mutes. This school opened in 1845 and was housed in a residence on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh. The initial enrollment was seven students.

In 1848 a special building was constructed on Caswell Square at the corner of McDowell and Jones Street. The woodcut engraving illustrated in Figure 1 is this first building. In 1851 the blind were also admitted to the institution. The following year it was incorporated by the state as the North Carolina Institution for the Education of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind. The school remained until 1895 when the deaf students were moved to Morganton.

Figure 1.

View of first building of the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind from original wood engraving by A.H. Jocelyn of New York.



The article that follows appeared in *The Times* of Greensboro, January 29, 1859, and was penned by "W.J.P." The author is recognized as Willie J. Palmer, a teacher at the Institute, who became the school's principal in 1860.

Among the benevolent institutions of our State there is none more deserving of public attention, than the N.C. Institution for the Deaf & Dumb and the Blind. To verify this assertion, and to show what has been done in past years, and what is now being done towards educating these unfortunate members of society, and fitting them to become intelligent and useful citizens, let us take a brief review of the history of this Institution for its foundation to the present time. Previous to the year, 1845, nothing had been done towards accomplishing this object. The attention of our citizens had been called to the importance of educating the Deaf & Dumb by Mr. William D. Cooke, then connected with the Virginia Institution for the Deaf & Dumb at Staunton. He traveled over a portion of the State with a young man, a deaf mute, who had been partially educated and showed the method of teaching Deaf Mutes. By this means a general interest was excited throughout the State, and Gov. Morehead in his message to the Legislature at the session of 1844 and '45, urged the importance of establishing an Institution for the education of the Deaf & Dumb in North Carolina. His successor, Gov.

Graham, also proved himself a warm friend of the enterprise. Near the close of the session of the 12th day of January, 1845, a bill was passed establishing the

school. The sum of \$5,000 was appropriated, and the several counties in the State were required to levy a tax of \$75 for every pupil they might send to the school. Mr. William D. Cooke was appointed Principal, and on the 1st day of May, 1845, the school was opened with seven pupils. During the term the number increased to seventeen, and during the next session the number was increased to twenty-six.

At the next session of the Legislature, it being shown that the buildings then occupied by the school were insufficient for that purpose, a bill was passed on the 18th day of January, 1847, making an appropriation for the erection of suitable buildings for the school. It is a creditable fact to the State that the Bill passed both Houses of the Legislature with one dissenting vote. The Messrs. Cosby, of Raleigh, N.C., became contractors for the new building, and the corner stone was laid on the 14th day of April, 1848. It is said that the ceremonies, on that occasion, were very interesting. They were conducted by the Masonic fraternity in the morning when an address was delivered by the Rev. Sam'l S. Bryant, then of Newbern. At night the ceremonies were conducted by the Odd Fellows, when an address was delivered by Harvey P. Peet, L. L. D., Principal of the New York Institution for the Deaf & Dumb.

The buildings are situated on Caswell Square, near the State House in Raleigh. The ground on which they are located was granted by the Legislature to the Institution, and embraces about four acres, a part of which is cultivate and the remainder used as a pleasure ground where the pupils can amuse themselves at proper hours.

Besides the Intellectual Department, there is connected with the Institution a Printing Office in which the male pupils in the Deaf & Dumb Department are instructed in the art of printing; also a Broom Shop where the male pupils in the Blind Department are taught broom-making. The necessity of these departments must appear obvious to every one, because when a pupil completes the course of study at the Institution and goes into the world again, he is fitted to earn a competent livelihood. The female pupils are under the care of the matron out of school hours, and are instructed in sewing, knitting, bead-work, etc.

The Blind pupils are also taught music, and many of them, after they leave the Institution, are qualified to act as Music Teachers.

In the Blind department, Prayers are held morning and evening, and on Sabbath the pupils attend church in the city.

In the Deaf Mute department, the exercises are opened and closed every day, by an explanation of a verse from the Bible, and prayer in the sign language. On Sabbath the principal lectures on the Scriptures, in the morning, and one of the teachers in the afternoon.

We have endeavored thus briefly to give a history of this Institution. It has accomplished much since it was founded, and bids fair to do much more towards educating the Deaf & Dumb and the Blind in our native State. Every true philanthropist and patriot in the State should be proud because we have such an Institution within our borders. Up to this time a number of young men have graduated at this Institution, and are now receiving good wages as journeymen printers in different sections of the State.

[Editor's Note. At this point in the original article a registry of the Board of Directors, faculty and staff for the departments of Intellectual, Domestic and Mechanical appeared. This has been omitted.]

A bill has been introduced into the present Legislature

asking for an appropriation, to enlarge the buildings. Additional rooms is very much needed, and it is to be hoped that the bill will pass. W.J.P.

The first principal of the school was William Dewey Cooke (Figure 2). Born in Williston, Vermont, W.D. Cooke spent much of his life in the south.

Mr. Cooke had not only developed teaching skills for the deaf, he had great mechanical skills including printing skills. One of the first actions of the state after providing Mr. Cooke a salary of \$1,200 a year was to purchase for him a printing press, wood working equipment and shoe shop equipment. This all would be used to train his students as well as provide an income to run the school.



▲ **Figure 2.** William Dewey Cooke, founder and first principal of the Institute.

In the first years of the school, the students began publishing their own publication, *The Deaf Mute*. This newspaper was the first paper in the U.S. to be published for the deaf by the deaf. This weekly newspaper was published until 1851. At this point Mr. Cooke began publishing several literary newspapers. During his tenure, a new school building was built and then added on to. In late 1860, W.D. Cooke resigned as principal and moved to Georgia.

John Nichols (Figure 3) was born in Eagle Rock (Wake County) and came to Raleigh in 1850 to work as an apprentice in the printing shop of the institute. In 1857 Nichols left the institute and moved to Beaufort, North Carolina, where he became the editor of the "Beaufort Journal," an independent newspaper. He stayed there a short time and returned to Raleigh where he was given the position of Superintendent of Printing. It's not clear what this position was but most likely he was responsible for the state's printing. He would retain his superintendent's position throughout the Civil War until 1866. During his tenure



▲ **Figure 3.** John Nichols, North Carolina's Superintendent of Printing and later a principal of the Institute, postmaster of Raleigh from 1881-1885, and U.S. Congressman.

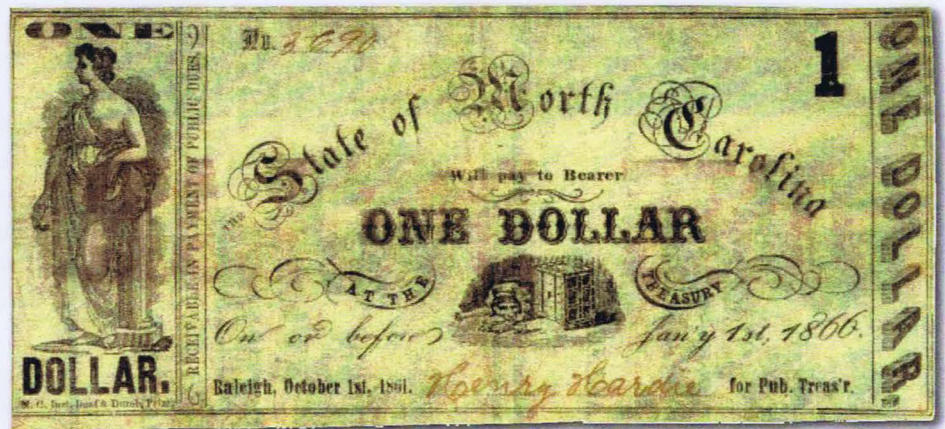
number of the male students were involved in the production of cartridges of paper for the Army rifles using paper from a mill near Raleigh and powder from the state powder mill in Raleigh. The students also molded bullets which were fixed in the paper cartridge cases. Over one million cartridges were made at the school.

Turning back to John Nichols, he would serve as Grand Master of the Masons in 1872. From 1873 – 1877 he was principal of the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind. In 1879 he was appointed Revenue Stamp Agent for Durham and served until 1881. At this time he was appointed postmaster of Raleigh, which he would serve until 1885. In 1887 he was elected to the House of Representatives of the Fiftieth Congress of the United States.

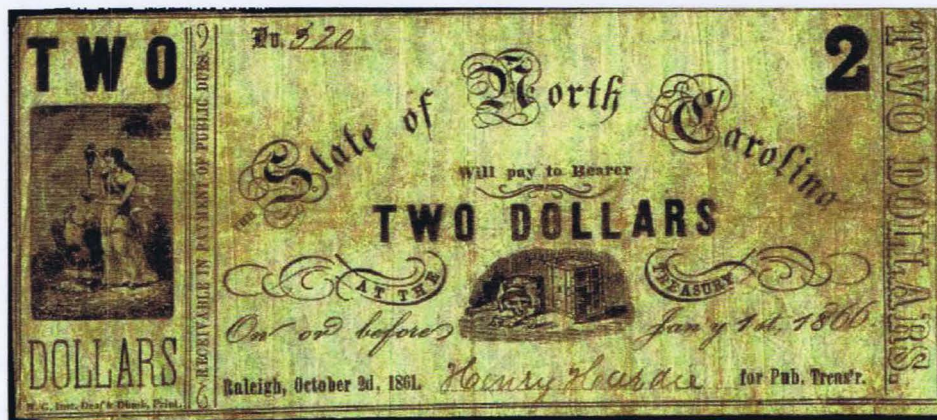
Without a doubt, the North Carolina Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind has played a considerable role in the history of the state. For decades the author has had two covers in his collection with embossed corner cards of the school. Figure 6 is a Confederate use of Scott #11 posted in Raleigh ca 1863 with a blue double circle CDS and the oval embossed corner card of the school. The corner card reads across the top N.C. Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind in the middle and Raleigh, N.C. across the bottom.

the Institution of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind received the contract to print Treasury notes for the State of North Carolina. Figures 4 and 5 show examples of the one and two dollar notes printed by the Institute. Little is known about the history and contracts for these notes. The two dollar note is considerably rarer than the one dollar note with fewer than 15 notes recorded.

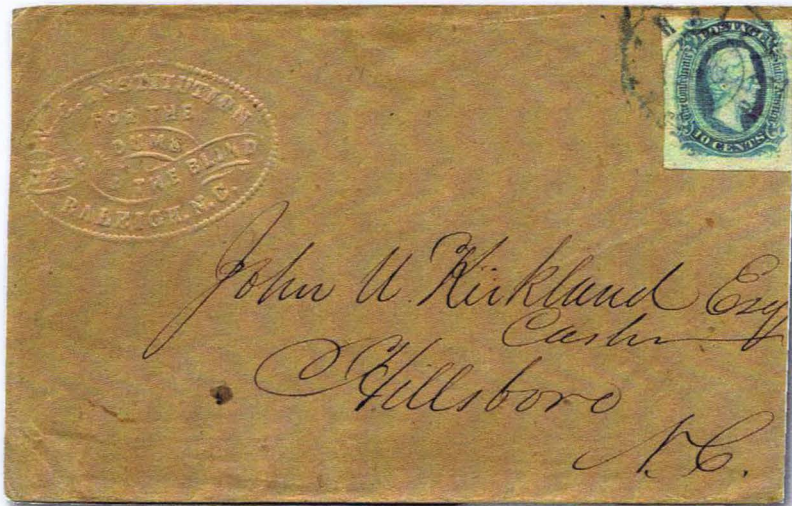
By 1862, the number of students at the school was 42 deaf and 27 blind. A



▲ **Figures 4.** One dollar Confederate note dated October 1, 1861, printed by the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.



◀ **Figure 5.** Two dollar Confederate note dated October 2, 1861 and printed by the North Carolina Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind. Fewer than 15 of these notes exist.



◀ **Figure 6.** Confederate #11 Archer & Daly printing, posted from Raleigh ca 1863. The envelope has an oval embossed corner card of the school in the upper left corner.

Figure 7 is the same embossed corner card used with a U.S. #65, posted May 28, 1867.

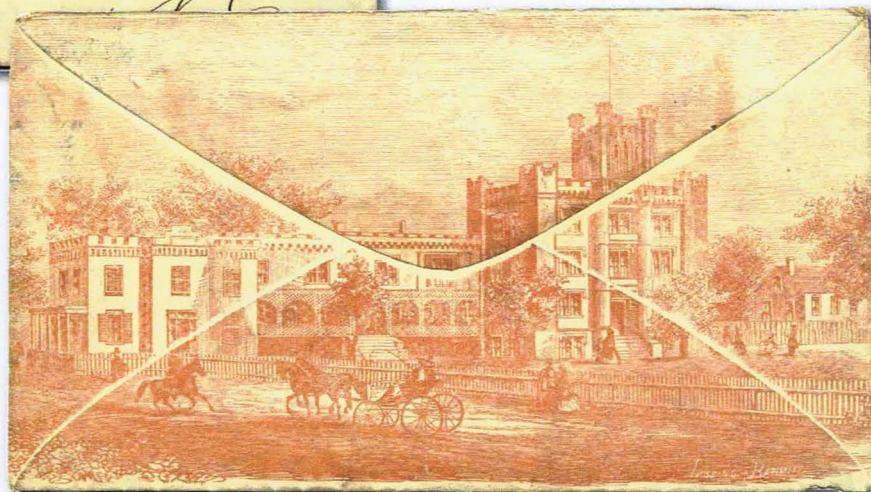
The motivation for this article comes from the cover illustrated in Figures 8 and 9. The author was recently offered this cover which had come on the market for the first time. It was speculated that it was a college cover. However, nothing was known about it. The woodblock illustration on the reverse was familiar but was unlisted in any reference books.

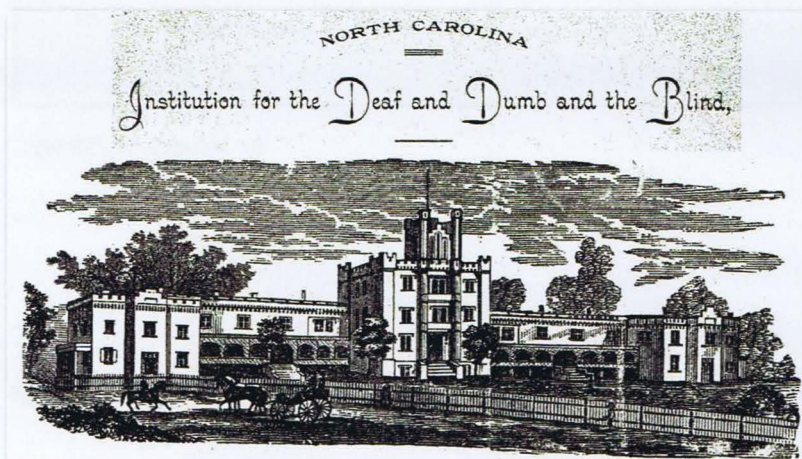
Figure 7. ▶
Post war cover with the same embossed corner card as the previous cover. Posted May 28, 1867 to Hillsboro.



After the author acquired the cover, he remembered an article on the Institute that had been published in the *North Carolina Numismatic Scrapbook* by fellow NCPHS member Jerry Roughton.

Figure 8. ▲ Figure 9. ▶
Front and reverse of envelope from Raleigh, October 1, 1863, to Milton, with Confederate #11, Archer & Daly printing. Wood cut engraving on reverse with the engraver's name in lower right, Lossing – Barritt, was applied to the envelope after it was made.





◀ **Figure 10.** Wood cut engraving of school used on its letterhead in 1890. One can see the original main building with the addition of a wing to the right – not shown on the envelope's engraving.

The woodblock imprint used on the reverse of the envelope is very similar to the woodblock illustrated in the Roughton article, shown as Figure 10. The letterhead was used in the early 1890s. This illustration shows the addition of the right wing to the school.

Figure 11. ▶
(Use on cover) 1901 postcard view of the state school for the blind.



The history of this school continues to this date. Figure 11 illustrates the school in 1901, depicted on an undated colored post card. In 1894 the white deaf children were removed from the school in Raleigh to an elegant new school in Morganton. The school still operates as an educational facility for the deaf. The original school building in Raleigh still stands today as a state office building. It has been remodeled several times, the roof was removed and an additional floor was added so today's structure looks quite different from the woodblock illustration.

tion of the journal, I would encourage you to order a sample copy at NCNS, PO Box 793, Kenansville, NC, 28349 or rough-ton@giwave.com. ■

This is the first notice that

Dues for 2010

are now being collected.

Send your \$15 dues and contributions to our Secretary-Treasurer:

William DiPaolo

404 Dorado Court

High Point, NC 27265

Mendenhall and Shumaker – Raleigh Cachet Creators of the Early 1930s

by Maurice M. Bursey



▲ **Figure 1.** Typical Shumaker cachet cover, August 14, 1932, commemorating the dedication of the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

A modest number of event covers from the early 1930s bears the names of Mendenhall and Shumaker. Most of these covers commemorate events in North Carolina. Both of the makers lived in the greater Raleigh area at the time, and their partnership in cover production was joined at what is today North Carolina State University. Figure 1 illustrates a typical Shumaker cover addressed to one of the makers himself, Ross Shumaker.

W. Guy Mendenhall (31 March 1908, Greensboro, NC – 26 July 2002, Raleigh, NC) (Figure 2) was from a Quaker family that traced its American origin to a man who accompanied William Penn to Pennsylvania. More recently, they had been in Archdale, NC, for several generations. Mendenhall grew up in Spencer, where his father, though trained as an engineer, was a mechanic at Spencer Hall. Working his way through college, he spent a year at Catawba College, which was nearby, and then completed his education at North Carolina State College. He worked with Ross Shumaker there, and graduated in architectural engineering in 1932. He first appeared in the Raleigh City Directories for 1933 and 1934 as owner of Mendenhall's Print Shop, living with his young family at the same address, 110 West Martin Street. That building no longer existed in 1935, and in 1936 Mendenhall's Print Shop was operated at an address on Hope

Street, across from the State Bell Tower, by Walter G. Mendenhall, helped by one trusty each from both the men's prison and women's prison in Raleigh. The company operated three presses, one of which was the first automatic printing press in Raleigh.

In 1941 he moved to a farm near Cary, and during the war he taught wood shop and metal shop at North Carolina State, paper being so scarce as the war progressed that he was forced

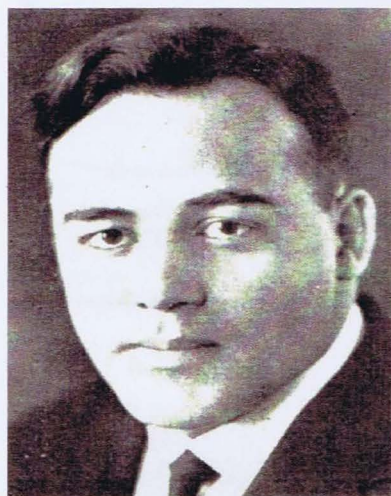


▲ **Figure 2.** Martha Elias Crocker Mendenhall and Walter Guy Mendenhall, early 1930s, by permission of W. Guy Mendenhall, Jr.

to close his print shop. On the farm he set up the first miniature golf course in Wake County, after bringing back pictures of the first one in the entire state in Fontana Village, and built a successful mobile home park on his farm land. Then he taught mathematics at State in the three academic years beginning in 1945. Later he was the first professor of mathematics at the Norfolk campus of the College of William and Mary (now Old Dominion University). After that he taught math at John Tyler Community College and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, both in Richmond. He helped with the construction of the Savannah River Plant of the Atomic Energy Commission near Aiken, SC, and after a short time with the L. M. Wooten Construction Company back in North Carolina, he established his own company. In addition to many private residences, his company was responsible for buildings at East Carolina University and the Elizabeth City dirigible hangar.

Mendenhall took up painting later in life, using a talent that was nurtured by his architectural training. Some of his paintings hang in banks in Raleigh and Richmond. His civic activities included the presidencies of the Wake County Wolfpack Club and the Wake County Men's Garden Club. From the farm in Cary he operated several small businesses, including the print shop, a lawn care company, and even a stamp shop (Figure 3). His own collection included a cover album, now in the possession of his son, Guy, Jr., but none of his and Shumaker's cover appears in it.

Ross E. Shumaker (31 July 1889, Gladdens, PA – 8 April 1960, Raleigh, NC) (Figure 4) attended Ohio Southern University, and then transferred to Ohio State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1916. He did graduate work at Harvard and at Penn-



◀ **Figure 4.** Ross Edward Shumaker, from *Alumni News*, January 1939, North Carolina State College. (By permission of the North Carolina State University Libraries)

sylvania State University, and was an instructor at Penn State. He worked for architectural firms in Beckley, WV, and Asheville, NC, before coming

to State College in 1920. He was the founder and Head of the Department of Architecture at North Carolina State College, now North Carolina State University. He was a professor of Architecture there from 1920 to 1955, having been hired as associate professor of architecture in the Department of



▲ **Figure 3.** Letterheads of Guy Mendenhall's Cary businesses in the 1940s. (Courtesy of W. Guy Mendenhall, Jr.)

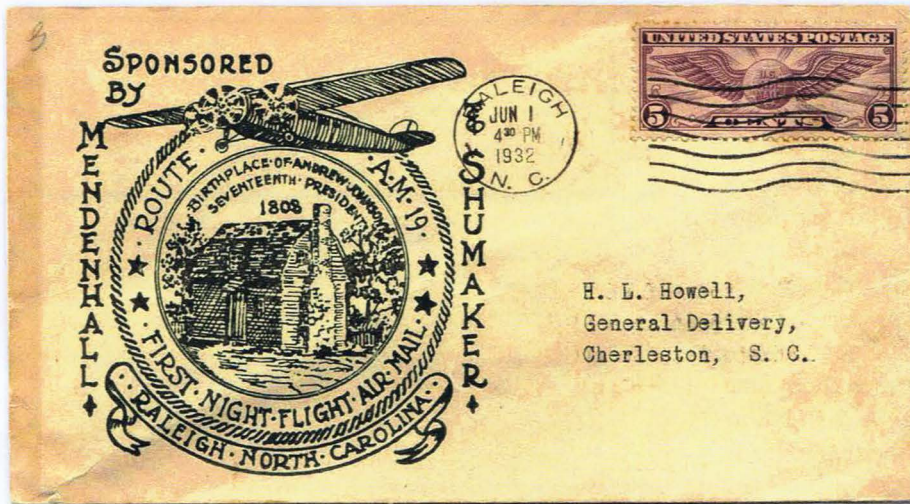
Engineering. Architectural Engineering soon became a separate curriculum under his leadership. He urged that the School of Design become a separate unit within the College as early as 1924, but this did not occur until almost two decades later.

In 1927 he also became State College Architect. He designed four dormitories on State's campus and planned and oversaw the remodeling of ten other buildings, most of them constructed with funds from the Federal Public Works Administration during the Great Depression, and was a participant in the design of Reynolds Coliseum. He also was in private practice, designing several private residences in Raleigh, the North Carolina Education Association Building.

He was President of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1946, and then its Executive Secretary from 1952 to 1954. He served on, and was secretary of, the North Carolina Board of Architectural Examination and Registration, and was a member of the State

Building Code Council, the National Council of Architectural Examiners, Pi Kappa Phi, and Alpha Rho Chi, the professional architecture fraternity.

Mendenhall-Shumaker covers available to the author are from 1932 and 1933. Figure 5 shows a dark blue cachet prepared for the inaugural night flight on the New York to Miami route, AM 19. This flight left Raleigh in late afternoon on June 1, 1932, for Charleston, S.C. Besides an airplane, the main cachet represents the little house behind a Raleigh tavern where President Andrew Johnson was born in 1808, now standing in Mordecai



◀ **Figure 5.** Cover with Mendenhall-Shumaker cachet for first AM 19 flight, June 1, 1932.

Park in Raleigh. The designers' names appear vertically on either side of the medallion. Other examples of this cachet in red and dark blue have the word CACHET in typeface above the words SPONSORED BY, presumably to make it clear that Mendenhall and Shumaker were responsible for the cachet, not the flight itself.

Figure 6 shows a cachet developed for the dedication of the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium on August 14, 1932. The Schumaker label is on the reverse (Figure 6a). The outside element of its design is a recasting of the AM 19, with the plane now facing to the right and the letters in the ribbon at the bottom slightly smaller. The medallion contains the south-facing view of the entrance to the auditorium. Individual proofs of both elements are shown in Figure 7 and 7a. Examples are known in which both elements are red,

The year 1933 produced a much more important anniversary, the quasiquintennial of Andrew Johnson's birth. Their cachet prepared for this event is quite a bit more elaborate (Figure 9). There are three joined circular medallions. The top one contains a likeness of President Johnson; the lower left one has a reworking of the earlier picture of his birthplace, with less lettering around the top; and the lower right one, text with infor-



Figure 6 and 6a. ▶ ▼ Mendenhall-Shumaker cachet for dedication of Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, August 14, 1932. The Schumaker label is on the reverse.

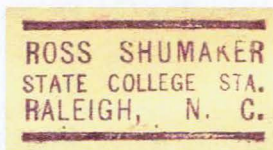
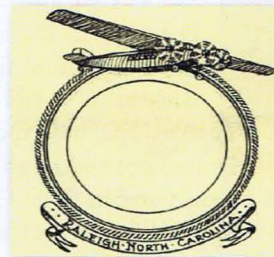


Figure 7 and 7a. ▶ Outer and inner design elements of the Memorial Auditorium cachet, which was printed in both one and two colors.



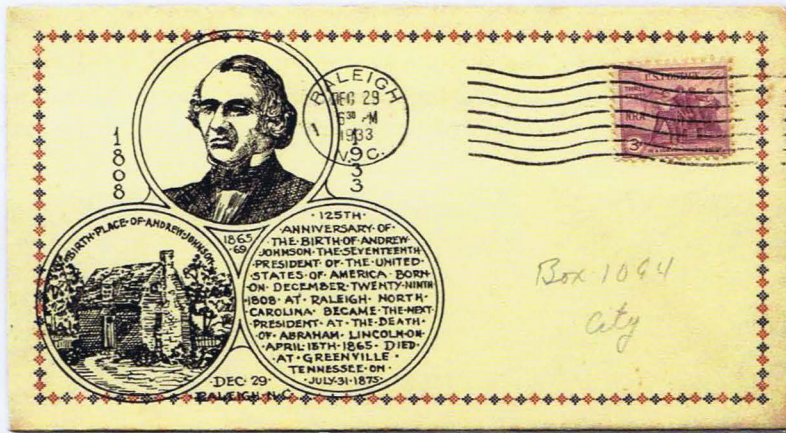
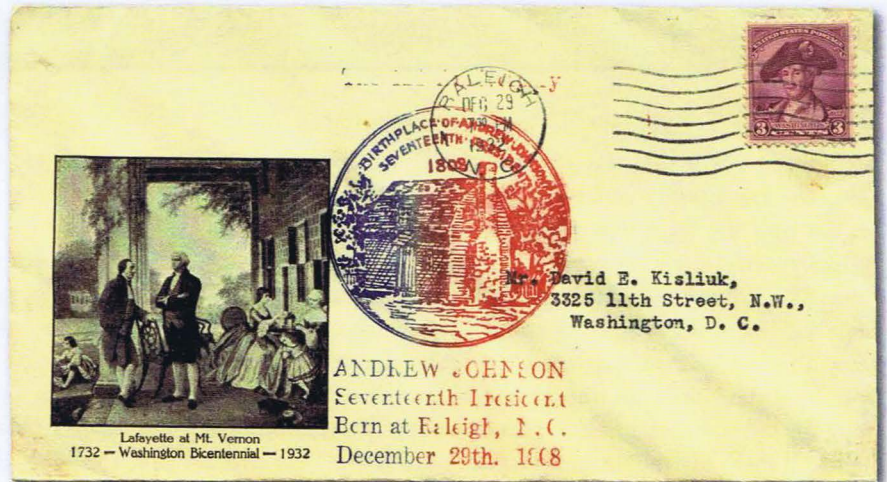
both are maroon, and both are dark blue, as well as two-color printings in which the outside element is dark blue and the medallion is maroon, or red and dark blue respectively, or maroon and dark blue respectively.

Figure 8. ▶

Inner element of Andrew Johnson Birthplace cachet added to Lafayette at Mount Vernon cachet for the Washington Bicentennial to commemorate birthday of Andrew Johnson, December 29, 1932.

mation about his life. This cover is printed in dark blue, likely on envelopes that already bore a border of alternating blue and red diamonds.

Although only Figure 5 contains the names of



◀ **Figure 9.** Cover with Mendenhall-Shumaker cachet for Andrew Johnson's 125th birthday, December 29, 1933.

Cachet Sponsored By
W. G. Mendenhall & Ross Shumaker
State College Station,
Raleigh, N. C.

▲ **Figure 10.** Printed identification of a Mendenhall-Shumaker cachet and servicing.

Mendenhall and Shumaker, all the covers were clearly drawn and inscribed by the same hand, one bearing the marks of architectural training. At least one cover (Figure 10) is known in which the identification of the sponsor-designers is printed on the reverse.

If any readers knows of other designs in this series, the author would be pleased to know about them.

I thank Tony Crumbley for suggesting this article and for copies of covers. Thanks also to Adam Berenbak, Special Collections, North Carolina State University Libraries, Raleigh, NC; the staff of the State Library of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC; W. Guy Mendenhall, Jr., Cary, NC; and Allison Murray and Jason Tomberlin, North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Special thanks to W. Guy Mendenhall of Cary, NC, for the loan of the photograph of his parents, the Mendenhall business stationery, and for a copy of his father's cover album. ■

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www.ancestry.com, 1930 United States Federal Census.

Sneads Ferry, Onslow County

by Scott Troutman

Sneads Ferry sits near the mouth of the New River in Onslow County and for most of its existence the ferry across the river was a big part of the town. The first license to operate a ferry across the New River in the area was granted to Edmund Ennett in 1725. Many of Ennett's descendants still live in the area. At the time the area was called Lower Ferry as there was another ferry operating upstream. It was, from its earliest time, an important link on the roads running along the coast. For the first 50 years, however, there was nothing much there but the ferry. It was not until about 1775 that a village sprang up, making it the oldest settlement in Onslow County.

Attorney Robert Snead took over the ferry operation in 1760, and the area took on the name Snead's Ferry. He had come to the area to open a tavern about 1750. Bob Snead was an interesting character. He shot and killed Revolutionary War hero George W.

Spaight. There was speculation that the pardon was achieved dishonestly.

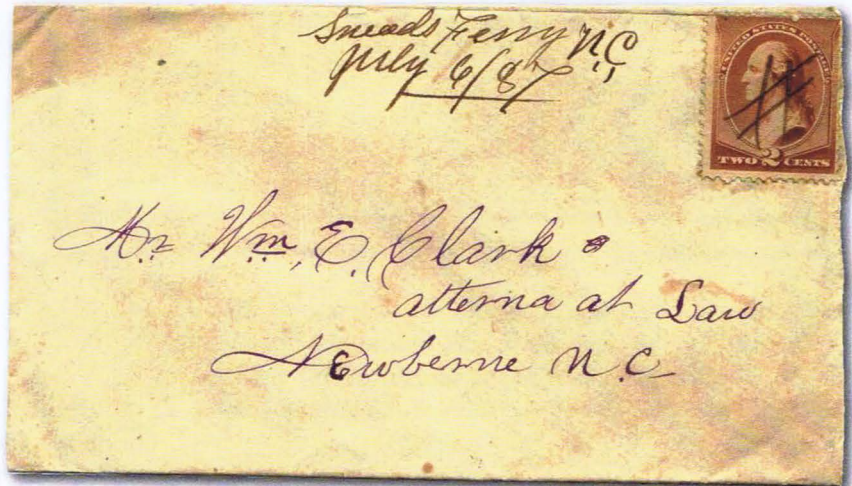
The village that formed was a traditional fishing village harvesting shrimp, oysters, and fish. Even today it brings in the largest catch in Onslow County.

There wasn't a post office in Sneads Ferry until May 10, 1842, when Jarvis Marble was appointed the first postmaster. The first canceling device with the town name didn't appear until about 1899.

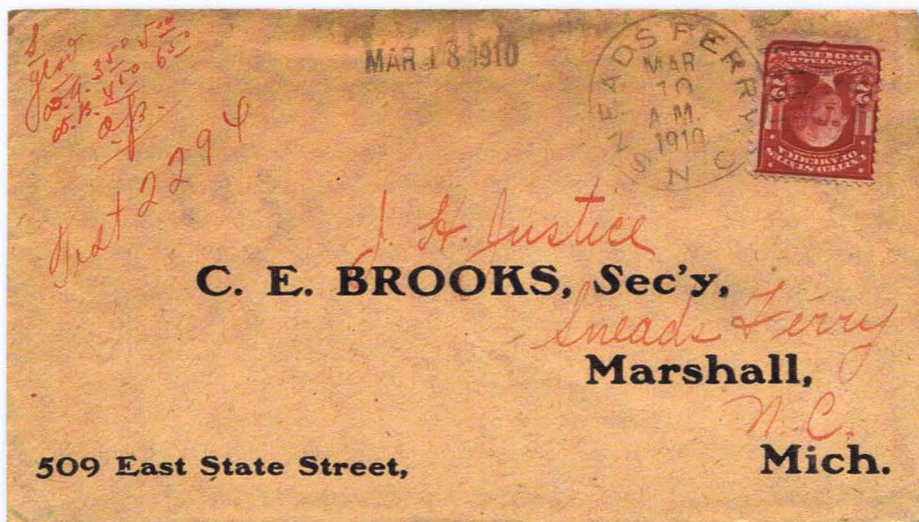
The ferry operated for almost 200 years until 1939 when a wooden bridge was built across the river. Shortly thereafter, in 1940, Camp LaJeune was established just north of the town.

Figure 1. ►

July 6, 1887 manuscript cancel on a letter to New Bern. (Courtesy Tony Crumbley)



Mitchell in the heat of a political argument. After being tried and convicted, Snead received a full pardon from Governor Richard Dobbs

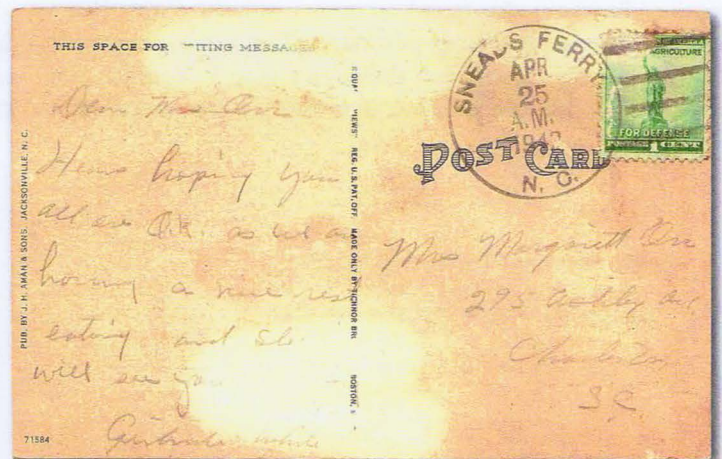


◄ Figure 2. March 10, 1910 printed envelope to Marshall, Michigan, with Doane Type 2-? cancel. (Courtesy Tony Crumbley)

After World War II, North Topsail Beach was developed on Topsail Island nearby, providing still more jobs and outlets for their seafood. When the Intercoastal Waterway was developed, Sneads Ferry found itself along it.

Figure 3. ▶
April 25, 1942 post card to Charleston, S.C.
(Courtesy Tony Crumbley)

It is still a small town, with only about 2200 people in the last census, but they are quite progressive with 1000 homes linked by the internet. The old wooden bridge has long been replaced by a modern span. Today they host a Shrimp Festival every August and promote a locally-produced wine called "Red Reel." It also serves as a charter boat and head boat center for vacationers on nearby Topsail Island. ■



Leo Postmark Update

by Richard F. Winter

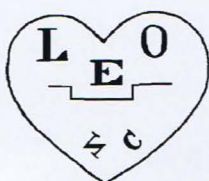
Writing in the *NCPHS Newsletter*, Summer 1989, Whole No. 29, Tom Richardson presented census data on the known covers with the LEO Fancy Heart postmark. This short article will update that information twenty years later, illustrate a few of the Leo covers, and present a newly discovered Leo circular datestamp.

Skinnerville (Washington County) established a post office in 1808. Today, this small town is located about 12 miles northeast of Plymouth, on Albemarle Sound. In December 1850, the name of the post office was changed to Leo, a name that lasted only two and a half years before the post office was discontinued. In 1878 the office opened again under the Skinnerville name, but closed for good in June 1908.

The Leo Fancy Heart postmark, shown in Figure 1, is the best-known of the Leo cancellations. It is a scarce marking with only five examples known. The Leo manuscript post-

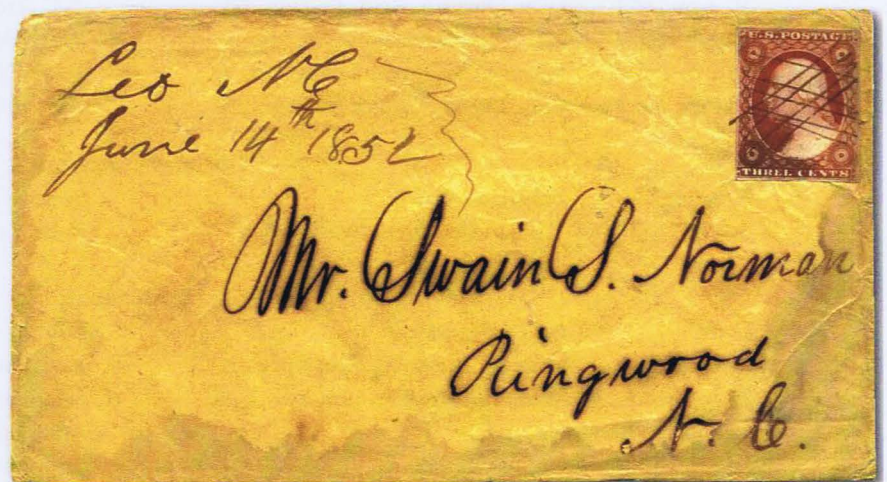
mark, which was used before and after the fancy cancel, is just as rare with only six examples recorded. A newly discovered Leo circular datestamp is perhaps the rarest with just the one example recorded. However, neither the manuscript postmark nor the circular datestamp are as desirable as the fancy heart-shaped cancel, which commands a high price (\$1,500 in the 1997 American Stampless Cover Catalog and surely to be higher in the next version of this catalog).

Figure 2 illustrates a typical manuscript postmark of Leo. The envelope is paid with a 3¢ 1851 (Scott No. 10) adhesive, canceled with pen cross-hatch. The pen cross-hatch cancellation



◀ **Figure 1.** Leo Fancy Heart tracing from Vernon Stroupe.

Figure 2. ▶
14 June 1852 manuscript postmark on envelope to Ringwood, NC.

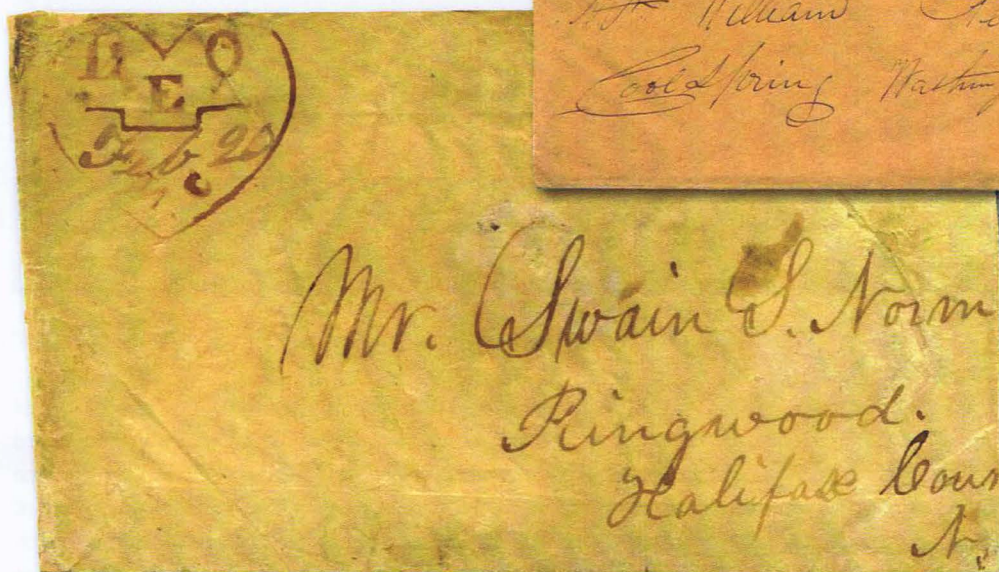


on the adhesive is also found on covers with the Fancy Heart and the circular datestamp postmarks. The newly discovered red Leo circular datestamp is shown in Figure 3. Note the pen cross-hatch on the 3¢ adhesive. The Fancy Heart cancellation

is illustrated in Figure 4 on a stampless cover without an indication of the year, but surely it is 1852 based on the other examples.

Table 1 lists the Leo postmarks known to us today. ■

Figure 3. ▶
Newly discovered Leo circular datestamp
on a 2 August 1851 envelope to Cool
Spring, NC. This is only example seen.



◀ **Figure 3.** 20 February 185x envelope with Leo Fancy Heart postmark addressed to Ringwood, NC. Most of the Leo covers were sent to Swain S. Norman, probably from his brother Joseph.

Table 1. Leo Postmarks
Manuscript

Date	Addressed to	Source
14 Feb 1851	Gen. William A Blount, Washington, NC	NC Archives, PC 193-22
22 Aug 1851	S.S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Postal Markings, Harry M. Konweiser, p. 550
30 Apr 1852	Gov. David S. Reid, Raleigh, NC	NC Archives, Postal History Collection
7 May 1852	S.S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Postal Markings, Harry M. Konweiser, p. 550
14 Jun 1852	Swain S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Tony Crumbley
18 Apr 1853	Gov. David S. Reid, Raleigh, NC	NC Archives, GP 132

Circular Datestamp

Date	Addressed to	Source
2 Aug 1851	William Pettigrew, Washington, NC	Tony Crumbley

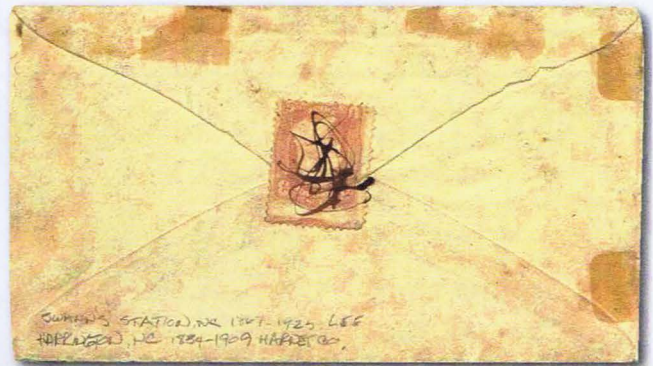
Fancy Heart

Date	Addressed to	Source
31 Oct 1851	Swain S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Kelleher 581st Sale, Feb 1989
3 Nov 1851	Swain S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Kelleher 577th Sale, Jan 1988
6 Nov 1851	Unknown	American Stampless Cover Catalog, p. 287
12 Jan 1852	Unknown	Stroupe photocopy records
20 Feb 185x	Swain S. Norman, Ringwood, NC	Tony Crumbley

Mystery Cover

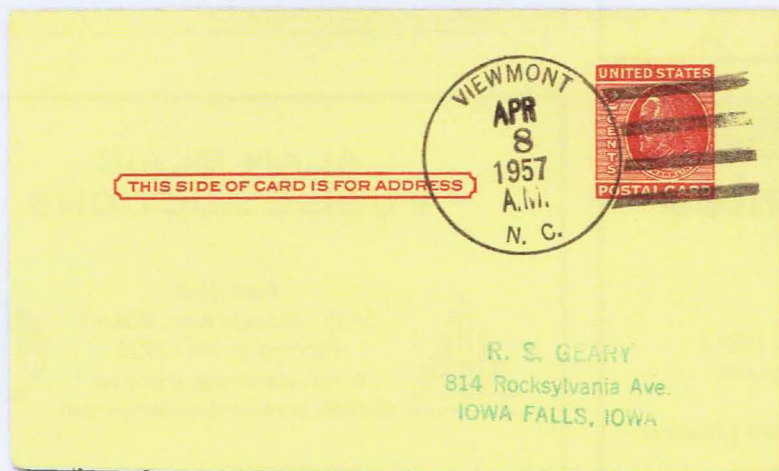
Summer 2009 Issue Mystery Cover

This odd-looking reconstruction period cover has two postmarks on the front, one dated 19 February 1867 and the other of 4 May. A 3¢ 1861 adhesive on the front appears to have two killers while another on the reverse is pen canceled. Can you explain where this cover was posted and give a scenario that would explain why two adhesives were used?



No responses to the questions asked about this cover were received. Here is our opinion: This reconstruction period envelope appears to have been used twice (shortage of envelopes during this period?). The first time it was sent from Concord (Cabarrus County) to Miss Harrington at Swann's Station (Moore County at the time) with the stamp on the reverse pen canceled. She may have been the daughter of Anne S. Harrington, the postmaster at Harrington (Harnett County). A few months later, the envelope was used again from Harrington back to the daughter, again in Swann's Station. Period maps show Harrington about 6 miles northeast of Swann's Station. Since the original address was still good, no new address was written; only a 3¢ stamp was added in the upper left corner of the front. This stamp appears to have been canceled before with a cork killer. The four-ring killer in a darker ink appears to have been applied at Harrington, which strongly suggests the stamp was reused also. Strange things happened during the reconstruction period. Swann's Station (called Swann today) was on the Fayetteville and Western Railroad, a short line that ran northwest from Fayetteville to Sanford.

New Mystery Cover



The Viewmont post office on this modern postal card doesn't seem to be in *Post Offices and Postmasters of North Carolina*. Can you help locate this office?

Send your answer to Tony Crumbley or Dick Winter.

