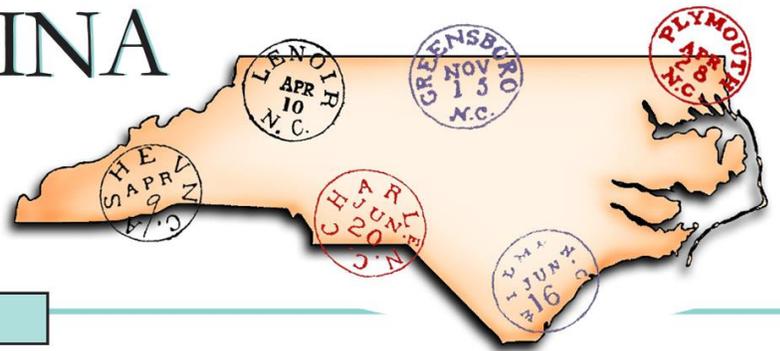


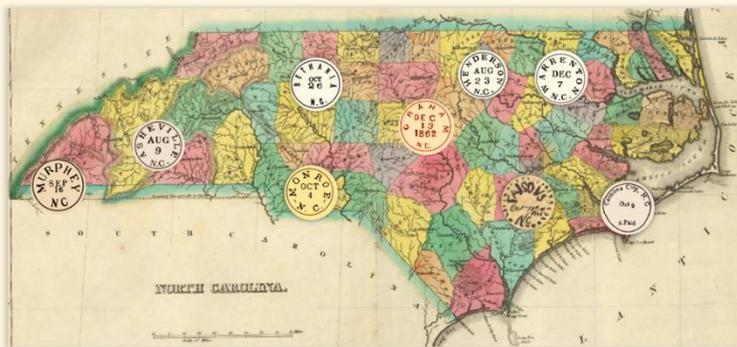
NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN



The Journal of North Carolina Postal History

VOLUME 42, NO. 3 SUMMER 2023 WHOLE 163

North Carolina Post Offices and Postmasters 1860 - 1866



North Carolina Postal History Society

Announcing an Updated Monograph



Duck, N.C. – Outer Banks Postal History

Affiliate #155 of the American Philatelic Society



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

When the secession crisis erupted on the American scene as 1860 gave way to the momentous year of 1861, North Carolina, like its three counterparts in the upper South - Virginia, Tennessee, and Arkansas - did not rush to follow its seven sister states of the lower South in their march out of the Union. In the Spring of 1861, most North Carolinians were opposed to secession. Only after firebrands from South Carolina fired on Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor and Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 troops to put down the rebellion, did the remaining Southern states vote to secede. North Carolina left the Union on May 20 and joined the newly formed Confederate States of America on May 27, 1861.

In the four years that followed, North Carolina took a large part in the war, furnishing 134,000 troops to the Confederacy and 8,000 troops to the Union. Though the Old North State escaped the devastating destruction experienced by some states, its civilians suffered from Union campaigns that culminated in sharp battles near New Bern, Wilmington's Fort Fisher, Bentonville, and Salisbury. Students of the war in North Carolina are fascinated with many aspects of the war experience. There is the military aspect, of course, but many others enlighten researchers as well.

One very interesting aspect of the American Civil War - the postal history of Confederate North Carolina - commands our attention in a remarkable addition to the issue of the *North Carolina Postal Historian* which you hold in your hands today. Its subject is *North Carolina Post Offices and Postmasters 1860-1866*. This monograph encompasses the work of a number of notable members of the North Carolina Postal History Society over the course of many years. It provides a historical resource which is a boon for Confederate postal historians. And it has the potential to heighten the fascination with North Carolina Confederate covers for both present and future collectors.

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It is appropriate as the Society provides this valuable resource to the wider collecting community, to pay tribute to A. Earl Weatherly, the "Grandfather," not only of North Carolina postal history, but to North Carolina Confederate postal history as well. His "The First Hundred Years of Historic Guilford 1771-1871," published in 1972, is a postal history of Weatherly's native Guilford County, North Carolina. It is illustrated with numerous covers from his prodigious collection, a huge proportion of which is Confederate. The book is a pioneering work in the postal history of his native county and state.

We encourage you to devote more attention to the fascinating hobby of collecting Confederate covers from North Carolina. And we trust that this updated survey of post offices and postmasters will enable you to understand more about the covers you own and the covers you may now be more encouraged to acquire.

Mark your calendar for CHARPEX at Central Piedmont Community College, 1228 Elizabeth Avenue, in Charlotte on July 29 (10:00-6:00) and July 30 (10:00-4:00). This popular regional show will feature 22 dealers and numerous exhibit frames of postal history.

The NCPHS annual meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on July 29 when our Literature Award winner will be announced, and our Nominating Committee will present Dick Winter, Tim McRee, and Boyd Morgan for election to the NCPHS Class of 2026.



NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN

(Library of Congress No. ISSN 1054-9188.)

Web site www.ncpostalhistory.com

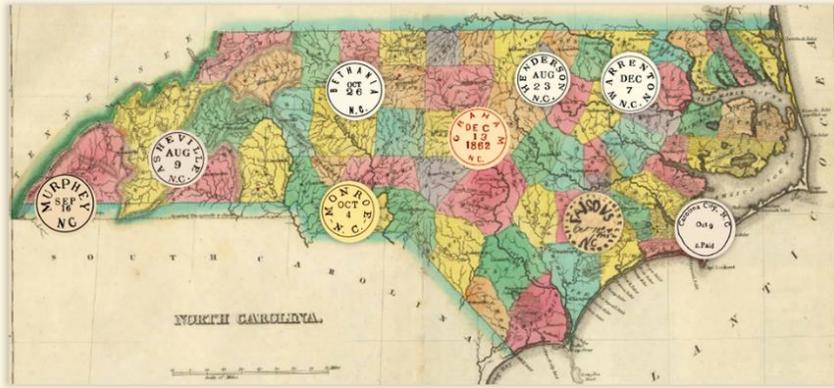
The *North Carolina Postal Historian* is the official journal of the North Carolina Postal History Society. It is published quarterly in January, April, July and October.

Membership in the Society is \$15 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the Secretary/Treasurer. Submissions for the *Postal Historian* or inquiries may be addressed to the editors.

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North Carolina Post Offices and Postmasters 1860 - 1866



North Carolina Postal History Society

Updated Monograph Now Available

With the help of a large group of North Carolina Postal History Society members, North Carolina now updates the *Post Offices and Postmasters 1860–1866* listing first produced in 1992. The editors would like to thank each of those who have devoted time to preparing this work.

The research and recording are by no means complete, but it is an excellent start to a project, one that may not have a definitive ending. You can expect a periodic expansion of this study.

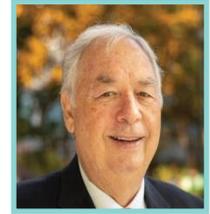
We ask that you review your Confederate covers and to report to the Society any markings which have not been recorded. This process is the only way we can confirm that many of the post offices serviced mail, or that they even existed.

Copies of this monograph can be purchased by contacting Tony Crumbley, North Carolina Postal History Society.

Known	Post Office	County	Postmaster	Federal Appointment		Federal Compensation	Confederate Appointment		Relative Activity
				From	To		From	To	
C	Abbott's Creek	Davidson	J.M. Raper		05/31/61	\$11.18	08/31/61		12
	Adams Creek	Craven	Henry T. Foscue	10/17/60	05/31/61	\$0.96	06/01/61		33
	Albemarle (c.h.)	Stanly	J.O. Ross	07/01/60	12/31/60	\$28.63			
C	Albemarle (c.h.)	Stanly	D.C. Shankle	01/01/60	05/31/61	\$16.71	11/05/61	11/26/62	10
C	Albemarle (c.h.)	Stanly	Henry Shankle				11/26/62		
	Albertson's	Duplin	B.D. Ford		05/31/61	\$2.23			27
C	Alexandria	Mecklenburg	W.D. Alexander		05/31/61	\$11.80			12
	Alfordsville	Robeson	Sion Alford		05/31/61	\$23.23	01/06/62		8
C	Allemance	Guilford	W.R. Smith		05/31/61	\$4.82			19
C	Allensville	Person	William H. Royster		05/31/61	\$7.53	11/21/61		15
	Aman's Store	Onslow	Edmund Shepard		05/31/61	\$3.59	07/04/61		21
C	Amity Hill	Iredell	Ebenezer McNeily		05/31/61	\$5.64			17
C	Anderson's Store	Caswell	A.B. Walker		05/31/61	\$24.00			8
	Angola	New Hanover	Isaac Rochelle	10/01/60	05/31/61	\$0.27			64
	Anna Perenna	Robeson	Robt. L. Monroe		05/31/61	\$2.57			25
C	Ansonville	Anson	James M. Wright		05/31/61	\$57.79	06/01/61	07/04/61	5
C	Ansonville	Anson	R.P. Simmons				07/04/61		
C	Aquone	Macon	Alex P. Munday		05/31/61	\$1.11	01/06/62		39
	Arcadia	Davidson	J.H. Shelton		05/31/61	\$3.67			21
	Areysville	Sampson	Robert Peterson		05/31/61	\$0.81	06/01/61	07/03/61	45
	Areysville	Stokes	J.W. Martin				07/03/61	10/16/61	
	Areysville	Sampson	Discontinued				10/16/61		
CT	Argyle	Cumberland	Duncan McLaughlin		05/31/61	\$4.39			19
C	Ashborough, Ashboro, Asheboro	Randolph	Lucy A. Baldwin		05/31/61	\$113.64	07/04/61		4
C	Ashland	Edgecombe							
C	Ashville or Asheville	Buncombe	F.M. Miller		05/31/61	\$530.10	08/01/61		2
	Asylum	Granville	H. Barker	07/01/60	12/27/60				
	Asylum	Granville	Discontinued						12/27/60

Example view of monograph's contents.

Duck, N.C. – Outer Banks Postal History



By Tony L. Crumbley

Duck, North Carolina has a long but not well documented history. The town is located today in Dare County named for Virginia Dare, the first child of English parents born in the New World.

The town is located within twenty miles of where Virginia would have been born, so clearly these early settlers would have explored this prosperous countryside.

The community got its name from Lloyd Toler, a resident of the village. He felt a post office was needed and filled out the application for one. The form asked for a post office name, and he thought about what the most common thing was around. He then applied for a post office named Duck. On June 29, 1908, Lloyd A. Toler was appointed postmaster of Duck, which was then in Currituck County. Toler would serve until March 6, 1911, when Amy R. Wright was appointed postmaster.

Not long after the establishment of Dare County in 1870, people living in the communities in the North Banks realized that new problems had resulted from the fact that Nags Head and Colington were in Dare County, but that the adjoining banks communities of Kitty Hawks and Duck were in Currituck County.

In 1920, the General Assembly took the North Banks from Currituck and moved it to Dare County. Thus, the reason for the post office move from Currituck County on August 26, 1920.

Postmaster Wright would continue to serve the town of Duck until the post office was discontinued on August 31, 1941. The mails were transferred to Kitty Hawks where they remain today.

Throughout this 33-year history, Duck has had some interesting postal history. Figure 1 is a letter posted from Duck on January 19, 1924. The cover is posted with a Type 1, 32.5 mm, 1924 Type D, 4-bar handstamp used in Duck for four years after it was moved into Dare County.



▲ **Figure 2.** The four ducks on this envelope are listed in the 20th Century Fancy Cancel catalog as being from Duck, N.C. They are recorded used from November 7, 1929, until January 7, 1930.



▲ **Figure 1.** Cover is addressed to Mashoes, another Dare County post office approximately thirty-five miles away operating from 1891 to 1952.

In the 1930s, fancy cancels became popular with some US postmasters. Seven North Carolina post offices are recorded as having fancy cancels from 1929 to 1935. Duck was one of these towns. Figure 2 is an example of the fancy Duck cancel.

Initially, postmasters were not allowed to cancel outgoing registered mail with their CDS on the front of the envelopes. This became an excuse for the postmasters to develop fancy cancellers for the stamps. These cancels were frowned on by the post office department.

These fancy cancels became collectible by stamp collectors. The cover in Figure 2 had been sent to Duck with a request for the fancy cancel to be applied.

Figure 3 is another example of a Duck fancy cancel. It is significantly different from the previous example in that there is no postmark on the cover to prove it originated in Duck, N.C.

Figure 3. ▶

The pair of ducks on this cover are similar to those on Figure 2. The 1 ½ cent Harding stamp used here was issued December 1, 1930. There are no other postal markings.

However, the only other Duck post office is in West Virginia and no fancy cancels have been recorded from there. It is the author's feeling that the cover in Figure 3 is from Duck, NC.



◀ **Figure 4.** A July 17, 1937, Type E, 4-bar Duck, N.C. CDS. The cachet was hand drawn by Bertha Clift of Naingua, Missouri. Clift joined the ACE cover exchange and was member #115.

At some time around 1934, Postmaster Wright received a new 1930, Type E, 4-bar handstamp. This device would be used until the close of the post office. Figure 4 is an example of this handstamp posted on July 17, 1937.

The Figure 4 cover is the result of a collecting fad that began in the 1930s as well. Collectors would exchange covers that they had drawn art on. The Art Cover Exchange (ACE) was formed in 1935 to promote these collectibles. Duck was clearly a popular post office for these collectors.

The cover in Figure 5 has a pair of Ducks that look similar to those on Figure 2 and Figure 3. The ducks are a purple handstamp colored by Postmaster Amy R. Wright. However, Wright is not listed as an ACE member by 1930.

Figure 5. ▶

The registered cover has a center line block of the 1-cent National Park Souvenir sheet and is signed by Postmaster Wright on the reverse (Figure 6).





◀ **Figure 6.** Reverse of Figure 5 cover signed by Postmaster A R (Amy R.) Wright.

Figures 7 and 8 show a pair of similar ducks. These two covers were produced by the same artist as Figure 4, Bertha Clift of Niangua, Missouri.



▲ **Figures 7 and 8.** The different addresses - one type written, the other printed – prompts the author to wonder if the artist was being provided envelopes to return to the collector with their cachet.

The cover in Figure 9 has a previously unrecorded green cancel, Type 2 cancel from Duck. The cachet was printed, not hand drawn, indicating a larger number was produced. The use of the green ink with the green cachet makes the author wonder if the artist, F. T. Carter of Denver, CO, had made arrangements with Postmaster Wright to do this or if she just thought it was a great idea.



▶ **Figure 9.** Previously unreported green Duck postmark.



Figure 10 is an April 10, 1939, Type 2 CDS, the latest recorded postmark from Duck. The Easter duck was hand drawn by Florence Edmiston from San Antonio. The office was officially closed on July 20, 1941.

◀ Figure 10. April 10, 1939, Type 2 CDS.

Today, Duck is a tourist town. Its full-time population has grown from 369 in 2010 to 697 in 2020. In the summer months, the population grows to 20,000. In 2001, the North Carolina House voted to make Duck an incorporated town, thus making it the northernmost town on the Outer Banks.

The town of Duck is served by a USPS Contract Postal Unit (CPU). The current post office, since at least 1990, is located within the Carique gift shop, seen in Figure 11. This station has been managed by the owner of the shop, Chuck Burdick, since before 2015. The cover in Figure 12 was posted at this Duck CPU.



▲ Figure 11. Duck post office in Carique gift shop.



▲ Figure 12. Duck CPU cancellation.

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- Images of Modern America – Duck*, Susanne Tate, Arcadia Publishing, 2015.
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duck_North_Carolina/Duck.NC on the Outer Banks/History, attractions & more.

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NORTH CAROLINA POSTAL HISTORIAN



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