



# NJPH

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**NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY**  
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## *A Revolutionary War Cover*

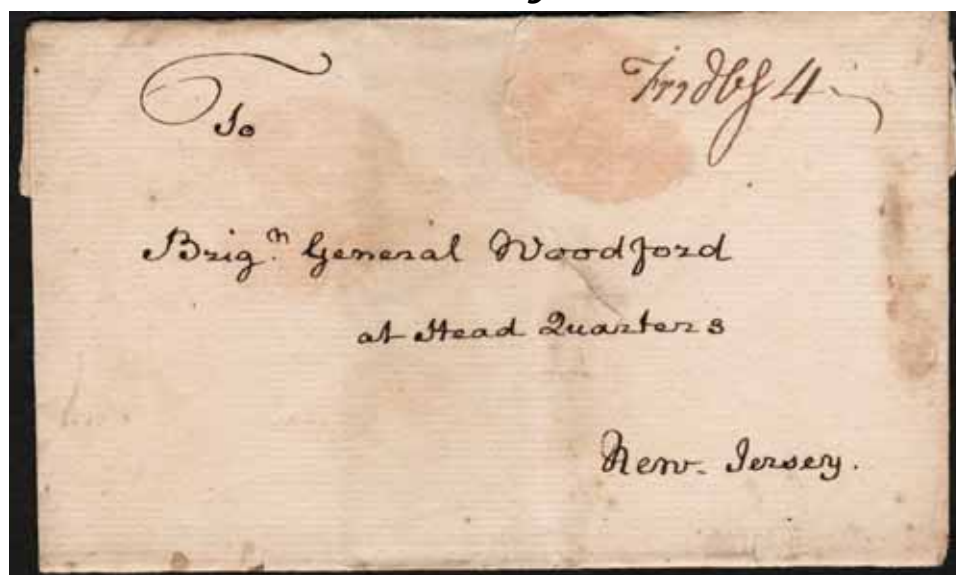


Illustration courtesy of Don Chafetz, NJPHS

*Sent from Fredericksburg, Virginia to Jersey Headquarters in July 1777 during the Revolution. See more of these Revolutionary and Confederation covers in Don Chafetz's exhibit on [page 198](#), and visit our [Featured Cover page](#) at [www.NJPostalHistory.org](http://www.NJPostalHistory.org).*

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**OFFICERS**

President: Robert G. Rose, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 [President@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:President@NJPostalHistory.org)  
VP & Ed. Emeritus: E. E. Fricks, 25 Murray Way, Blackwood, NJ 08012 [VicePresident@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:VicePresident@NJPostalHistory.org)  
Treasurer: Andrew Kupersmit, 143 Woodbridge Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840 [Treasurer@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Treasurer@NJPostalHistory.org)  
Secretary: Jean R. Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ 07830 [Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org)  
Auction Manager: Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865 [Auctionmanager@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Auctionmanager@NJPostalHistory.org)  
Editor-in-Chief/*NJPH*: Robert G. Rose, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 [rrose@daypitney.com](mailto:rrose@daypitney.com)  
Layout Editor: Jean R. Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ 07830 [Njpostalhistory@aol.com](mailto:Njpostalhistory@aol.com)

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**DUES TIME AGAIN!**

Enclosed with this issue is a form for dues payment for 2011. We encourage you to mail this right away, so it is not forgotten. Dues are still \$15 a year. Again this year you have the option of paying your dues online by Paypal (no extra fee), by going to our web site [[www.NJPostalHistory.org](http://www.NJPostalHistory.org)] where you will find a link for membership renewal. You can also donate to the Society at the same time, if you would like. We are happy to accept your dues and donations in whatever form you find comfortable paying. We hope not to lose a single member!

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

This year seems to have past by so quickly! Perhaps that’s good thing. In these difficult times, our hobby can provide a healthy escape from the daily pressures we face. With the first hint of snow this Thanksgiving morning, I look forward to working with my collection and catching up on my philatelic reading and research.

I hope that you enjoy studying the many articles in *NJPH*. This year’s four issues have provided a wealth of information on many diverse topics. It’s not often that we are presented with an opportunity to take the time to study a gold medal exhibit. However, this issue contains the first portion of Don Chafetz’s wonderful collection of Morris County postal history, representing a 40-year effort assembling this elusive material. You will also find an interesting variety of articles from several frequent contributors to these pages including Ed and Jean Siskin’s article that details a striking example of the abuse of the franking privilege, Jim Walker’s tracing the movement of the Pottersville post office back and forth across the Lamington River, and the last installment of his Hunterdon County postal history, Doug D’Avino’s illustrated histories of the Middleville and Mt. Holly post offices, my article on the “saw tooth” rate marking found on stampless covers, and Don Chafetz’s additions to the long historical collection of Samuel Southard covers. For those with an interest in aviation, be sure to take a look at the article on Salem County airmail that we have reprinted with the kind permission of the Salem County Historical Society. Again, my sincere thanks to Jean Walton for her dedication and the many hours of hard work that she has devoted to producing this quality journal.

We also mourn the passing of long-time Society member and supporter Paul Jackson. An educator by profession, he had a passionate interest in our State’s postal history. I just reread his article on World War I usages from New Jersey that appeared in our journal back in 2005. He will be missed by all.

Along with the Journal, I have enclosed a dues notice for 2011 with a form for you to fill- in for two free classified ads in *NJPH*. This year, I again urge you to make a tax deductible contribution to your Society. To continue to publish a quality journal in the face of ever increasing printing costs and rising postal rates, the Society needs your financial support. Membership dues raise about \$1,500, but to get *NJPH* into your hands four times a year costs in excess of \$2,300. Help eliminate the gap with your contribution.

Finally, with the Holiday Season approaching, I wish you and yours the very best!

**ROBERT G. ROSE**

## ABUSE OF THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE

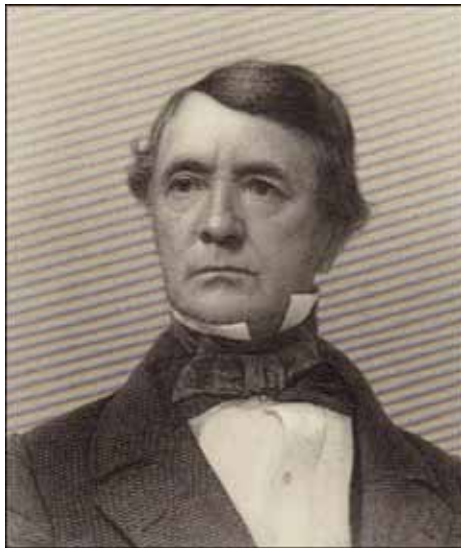
By Ed & Jean Siskin

At first glance, *Figure 1* appears to be a routine cover free franked by William Wright, a United States Senator from New Jersey. Senator Wright is shown in *Figure 2*.

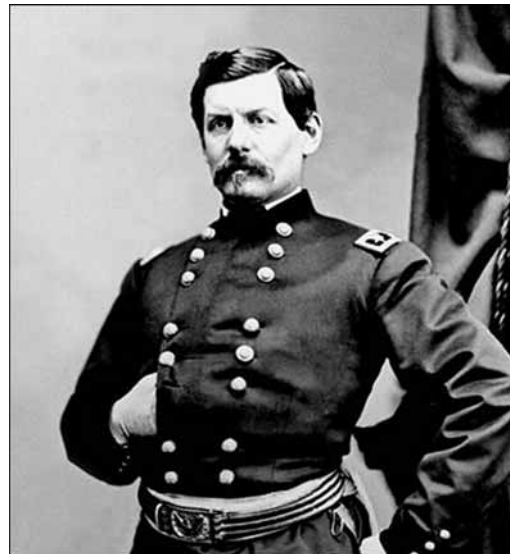


*Fig. 1: Cover from Gen'l Geo. McClelland to Capt. Henry Liebenau, sent free under the signature of W. Wright, USS [US Senate] from Newark, NJ October 14, 1864.*

To understand this cover it is important to understand what was going on politically at the time. During the summer of 1864, the Civil War was going poorly for the Union. George B. McClelland, shown in *Figure 3*, an unsuccessful general, had been nominated by the Democrats to run for President against Abraham Lincoln. McClelland's platform was peace with the Confederacy at any price.



*Fig. 2: Sen. William Wright*



*Fig. 3: Gen. George B. McClelland.*

## ABUSE OF THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE ~ Ed & Jean Siskin

During the summer of 1864, because it appeared that Lincoln would lose, he was planning how to make the most progress before he had to turn things over to McClellan. Then in September 1864, Sherman took Atlanta and Sheridan took the Shenandoah Valley. Suddenly, Lincoln's popularity soared. On November 8, 1864, McClellan took only three states, New Jersey, Delaware and Kentucky, and faded from national view. He did go on to win the Governorship of New Jersey in 1877 and served from January 15, 1878 until January 18, 1881.

On a closer look at *Figure 1*, we see:

- a. It is addressed to Capt Henry Liebenau, Corresponding Secretary of the McClellan Legion. The Legion was created to encourage Union soldiers to vote for McClellan for President in the Election of 1864. The McClellan Legion only existed for a few months in 1864.
- b. It's postmarked Newark, October 14, 1864. The year is very faint but discernable. This was 25 days before the presidential election of 1864.
- c. It's docketed as from Genl McClellan and is addressed in his hand.

Clearly, Senator Wright, a McClellan supporter, provided pre-franked blank envelopes for his candidate's political use.

From the beginning of free franks, there has been a continuing issue with abuse of the franking privilege. The abuse took two forms. The most common abuse was the use of authorized signatures by unauthorized people. Another abuse was the use of franks for unauthorized purposes, the most egregious of which was the use of franks for political campaigning. The subject cover richly illustrates both abuses.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **WE NEED ARTICLES NOW!**

**Articles on items in your collection, studies you are doing, or other material  
pertinent to**

**New Jersey postal history are always welcome.**

**PLEASE submit these to your Editor: Robert G. Rose**

**at One Jefferson Road,  
Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891**

**or [rrose@daypitnev.com](mailto:rrose@daypitnev.com) .**



## FIRST AIR MAIL FLIGHT LEAVES SALEM COUNTY IN 1938 And A Memorial of a 1918 Bridgeton Air Mail Plane Crash

By J. Harlan Buzby\*

[In our last issue<sup>1</sup> we published an article on Air Mail week in Hunterdon County. The following article is reprinted with permission from the Salem County Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter,<sup>2</sup> and sheds more light on this 1938 event around the State.]

A Nationwide celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of air mail service in the United States was observed the week of May 15-21, 1938, as National Air Mail Week. Salem County postmasters and philatelists rallied to mark the occasion locally with a first ever air mail delivery from Salem County to Camden.



Photograph Courtesy John V. Homan, Sr.

*Fig. 1: The Salem County observance of National Air Mail Week was held at Wright's Field, Pennsville at 3:00 P.M., Thursday, May 19, 1938, when the first air mail plane ever to leave Salem County was ready to take off, carrying over 5,000 pieces of mail from the post offices of the county. In the picture, dignitaries carrying the mail bags from their districts are, left to right: Carl Dietrich, Rural Carrier, Pedricktown; Frank Callahan, Postmaster of Swedesboro; Annabel B. Willey, Postmistress of Pennsville; Joseph S. Sickler, Postmaster of Salem; Howard A. Roberts, Postmaster of Deepwater; and J. Carl Empie, Pennsgrove, pilot of the airplane.*

The citizens of the county were made aware of the effort in advance with some postmasters passing out free air mail envelopes to be addressed and then stamped with specially designed cachets depicting each locality that had been approved by the United States Post Office Department.



*Fig. 2: The Deepwater Post Office cachet shows a map of the 1938 flight with an old sailing vessel marked "1638," an airplane marked "1938," and the slogan, "Deepwater, N. J., a Chemical Center Producing Better Things for Better Living Through Chemistry." Also designated was "First Flight, Deepwater to Camden, May 19, 1938." Deepwater led the county in the sale of the special six cent stamped envelopes, placing more than 3,000 pieces of mail on the commissioned airplane.*

Courtesy Wayne P. Patrick

**1<sup>ST</sup> AIR MAIL LEAVES SALEM COUNTY, 1938 & 1918 CRASH MEMORIAL ~ J. Harlan Buzby**

Postmaster Howard Roberts of Deepwater headed the Deepwater Committee which included Dr. William Kirk, honorary chairman, James Ricketts, chairman; Irvin LaMotte and Dewey Schermerhorn, vice chairmen; Mrs. Bertha Roberts, treasurer; Mrs. Frank Durfee, secretary; Mrs. Frank Banger, financial secretary; William Adams, John J. Dwyer, publicity committee; William Hall, Radio Chairman; Charles Diehl, chairman of educational committee; Atwood Wright, John Humphreys, business and professional committee. Pennsville Postmistress Annabel B. Willey headed the Pennsville Committee.

*Fig. 3: Pennsville's Post Office developed a cachet of the Pennsville-New Castle ferries with the slogan "The Gateway to South Jersey." Pennsville teacher, Miss Ann Penton wrote in the letter above, addressed to Mrs. Beulah Strang, c/o Earl Moore of Elmer, "This stamp and envelope was drawn by one of my former pupils of whom I am most proud." Over 500 pieces were specially stamped from the Pennsville Post Office.*



Collection Salem County Historical Society

The Salem County airfield in Pennsville was called Wright Flying Field in memory of the Wright Brothers and their memorable first flight at Kitty Hawk, N. C. on December 17, 1903. Miss Penton (mentioned in the above caption) could view the airfield from her classroom window. The airfield was used by the Salem County Flying Service, Inc., of which the specially commissioned pilot, John Carl Empie, was a member. Carl Empie was a chemist at DuPont's Dyeworks and a licensed pilot and instructor, and his airplane was specifically commissioned for the one-time flight by the United States Post Office. The airplane was expressly painted for the day advertising Salem County and its advantages. The following was painted in big letters on the airplane: "Salem County, River-front Industrial Sites, Lowest Tax Rate in New Jersey."



*Fig. 4: The Salem Post Office cachet was designed by Miss Mildred Chandlee, art instructor at Salem High School, and had the Old Oak tree for a background. It measured 3x3 inches and was stamped on air mail envelopes in green ink at the residence of and by the Rev. Thomas V. Wingate. First Flight cover collectors mailed 2,000 pieces from the Salem Post Office.*

Courtesy John V. Homan, Sr.

## J. Harlan Buzby ~ 1<sup>ST</sup> AIR MAIL LEAVES SALEM COUNTY, 1938 & 1918 CRASH MEMORIAL

The Salem Air Mail Week Committee was headed by Mayor F. Newlin Acton, honorary chairman, and the Rev. Thomas V. Wingate, acting chairman and cachet director. Oakford W. Acton was treasurer and other members were Postmaster Joseph S. Sickler, Ernest White, Clarence Ingersoll, Wilford Saul and Charles Smith.

The mail was escorted to the Pennsville airfield from Salem by Postmaster Joseph S. Sickler and the Rev. Thomas V. Wingate, an ardent philatelist who obtained the special Salem cachet and stamped it on all local letters. The pouch was carried by Alvis W. Wallace, authorized carrier of mail from Salem to Pennsville.



*Fig. 5: Penns Grove and Carney's Point got into the proposition the weekend before the event. Postmaster Kidd had the envelopes printed with the special cachet and distributed them free of charge in order that collectors might have the advantage of first flight covers from the borough. The cachet had the wording, "First Flight from Penns Grove-Carney's Point, N. J., Twin Community of Industry and Opportunity." Approximately 1,200 pieces were mailed from the Penns Grove Post Office.*

Courtesy John V. Homan, Sr.

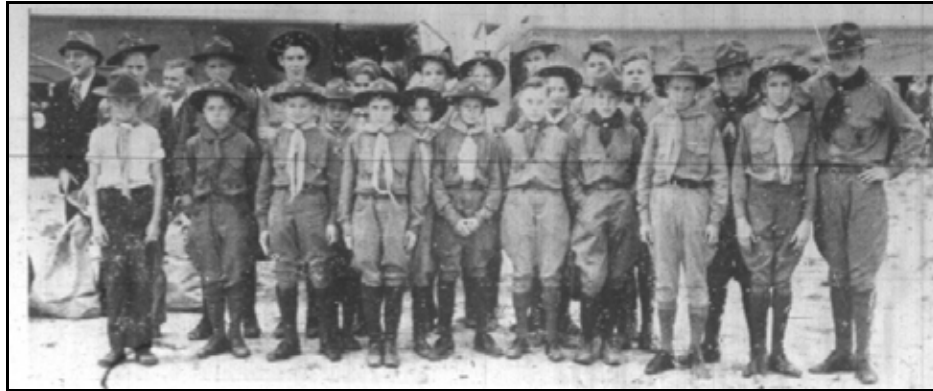
Plans for Deepwater's participation were arranged by a civic and fraternal committee headed by John Kenney. The special mail pouches were placed on a fire truck, prearranged by Fire Chief John Dwyer, and escorted to Wright's Field in Pennsville by Boy Scouts, local police and soldiers from Fort DuPont.

*Fig. 6: Deepwater Postmaster Howard A. Roberts follows the mail pouches from the post office and his home on Plant Street, containing approximately 3,000 first cover airmail letters. Deepwater and Pennsville Boy Scouts stand watch as the Scouts carry the bags to a waiting Deepwater fire truck.*



Photograph Courtesy of Wayne P. Patrick





*Fig. 7: "Present at the take-off of the airplane of J. Carl Empie on Salem County's first air mail flight were Boy Scouts of Troop 2, of Deep Water and Troop 23, of Pennsville. Left to right, front row: Jack Pickering, James Waddington, Samuel Whitesell, Jack Boellard, Sterling "Skeeter" Herman, John Winfield, Buddy LaMotte, Eddie Sparks, William Camburn, Earl Minter, Carliss Spencer, Jerry Collier; Back row: Daniel Durfee, Lewis Ashworth, Calvin Birchmire, Levi Zane, Billy Franks, Herbert Taylor, Russell Mannis, Alfred Laidler, Jack Dawson, Courtland Styron, Edwin Jacobs."*

*Penns Grove Record, June 2, 1938*



*Fig. 8: Mike Wolfer, of the Deepwater Fire Company, drives the decorated Graham chemical fire truck out of Deepwater and down the main street in Pennsville to Wright's Flying Field, escorted by scouts, police and soldiers.*

Photograph Courtesy of Wayne P. Patrick

The dignitaries, postmasters, school children and the public assembled before the 3:15 P.M. flight for the special services. Prayer for Divine guidance was delivered by the Rev. Leslie Woolson, asking for the safe arrival at Camden. A bouquet of flowers for delivery to the Camden Postmistress, Mrs. Emma Hyland, was placed on the airplane along with the seventy-one pounds of sealed pouches of mail. Pilot Empie departed Wright's Flying Field at 3:15 P.M. for Central Airport in Camden, New Jersey.



*Fig. 9: The Pedricktown pouch of letters with a special cachet was brought to the Wright Airfield ceremonies by Carl Dietrich, Pedricktown's Rural Carrier. Airmail letters were even brought to Pennsville from Gloucester County by Postmaster Frank Callahan of the Swedesboro, New Jersey Post Office.*



Courtesy John V. Homan, Sr.



*Fig. 10: "Seventy-one pounds of mail, totaling over 5,000 individual pieces, was carried to Camden from Pennsville last Thursday afternoon. The event was held in observance of National Airmail Week. Lined up awaiting the plane's departure are (left to right) Carl Dietrich, Pedricktown R. D. carrier; Frank T. Callahan, Swedesboro, postmaster; Anna Willey, Pennsville postmistress; Robert W. Kidd, Penns Grove postmaster; Joseph S. Sickler, Salem postmaster; Howard A. Roberts, Deep Water postmaster; J. C. Empie, pilot; and John Dwyer, Deep Water fire chief. The bouquet which Dwyer is holding was presented to Mrs. Emma Hylan, Camden postmistress. Empie, who lives in Carney's Point, and who is a licensed pilot and instructor, transported the mail under a special commission from the U. S. Post Office department. Special cachet designs which were stamped on the envelopes attracted the interest of stamp collectors in this and similar flights made throughout the country."*

*Penns Grove Record, May 26, 1938*

## 1<sup>ST</sup> AIR MAIL LEAVES SALEM COUNTY, 1938 & 1918 CRASH MEMORIAL ~ J. Harlan Buzby

That same May day in 1938, a complementary nationwide radio broadcast event occurred in Bridgeton, New Jersey that commemorated an historic unpleasant incident there in 1918.

### 1918 BRIDGETON AERIAL MAIL PLANE CRASH

Another feature of the National Air Mail Week celebration, that same afternoon of May 19, 1938, was a nation-wide radio broadcast at 1:45 P.M., from station WSNJ in Bridgeton, New Jersey over a nationwide Columbia Broadcasting Company hook-up in which pilot Lieutenant Stephen Bonsal, Jr. was the highlighted speaker.

Bonsal's biplane was wrecked in an attempted landing at Bridgeton on May 16, 1918, in the early afternoon, during the second day of air mail service in the United States. He was transporting the second cargo of air mail in history, from Washington, D. C. to New York City.

Bonsal's defective compass was the primary difficulty that accounted for the airman getting off his route from Washington, D. C. Steering only by compass and running low on gasoline at a speed of 85 mph, he realized he should have reached the Philadelphia area. Flying at a high altitude, he decided to make a descent and land, in order to learn his whereabouts. In attempting his first landing he had to avoid a herd of horses and that was when engine trouble developed.

At approximately 1:45 P.M. while once again attempting to land the aircraft at the race track field in Bridgeton, the biplane struck a post, breaking one wing and causing the plane to crash head first into the ground, smashing the propeller.

George R. Elwell, one of Bridgeton's rural post office carriers, came along in his automobile and took the uninjured aviator and his mail bags to the post office. The mail sacks were dispatched on the 3:05 P.M. train. That evening the biplane was loaded on "Woodnutt's" truck and taken, along with a very "appreciative" Bonsal, to Bustleton Field in northern Philadelphia.

Interestingly, the day after the 1918 accident, the *Vineland Daily Republican* reported on the first ever "aerial letter" to be delivered in Vineland.

*"A. B. Crossman is the first Vinelander to receive aerial mail. The letter was on the wrecked plane which landed at Bridgeton yesterday. The mail bore a New York postmark, and was delivered as special delivery mail by carrier, Walter Boody."*

The advent of air mail service in the United States had begun on May 15, 1918, when the world's first regularly scheduled airmail route was inaugurated under United States government auspices between New York City and Washington, D.C., with a stop at Bustleton Field in northern Philadelphia. The distance of the route was 218 miles, and one round trip per day was made, six days a week. Army Air Service pilots flew the route until August 10, 1918, when the Post Office Department then took over the entire operation with its own planes and pilots.



**Fig. 11** *Lieut. Stephen Bonsal, Jr. Lieut. Stephen Bonsal flew 4,975 miles in his three months of service, making 38 trips, with 75 hours in the air, and suffering four forced landings.*



Photographer, Harvey Porch

**Fig. 12:** *The damaged machine of Bonsal's modified Curtiss JN-4D 'Jenny' biplane that went down due to engine trouble at the old race track on Fayette Street, Bridgeton, N. J., May 16, 1918, the second day of the debut of air mail service in the United States. Bonsal "was badly shaken and nervous but was not injured except for a cut on his hand." The pilot was quoted as saying "he had used this machine but once before, having had a trial trip of about twenty minutes the night before."*

*Bridgeton Evening News, May 18, 1918*

The 1938 radio broadcast commemoration in Bridgeton, N. J. was held on the fairgrounds where the 1918 crash had occurred. Other dignitaries interviewed, with Bonsal, were Congressman Elmer H. Wene and H. P. Bauer and William Laning, who were both eyewitnesses to the crash.

All were guests that evening at a joint meeting of the Bridgeton Rotarians and Kiwanians at the Cumberland Hotel along with Postmaster MacPherson and staff and the officers of the Bridgeton Stamp Club. Lt. Bonsal returned to New York later that evening.

*\*The author, J. Harlan Buzby is on the Board of Trustees as Vice President, Library, of the Salem County Historical Society, Salem, New Jersey, where he has volunteered since 1987. A retired dentist, he and his wife Gretchen reside in Pennsville, New Jersey.*

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*Bridgeton Evening News, Bridgeton*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, May 16, 17, 18, 1918; May 18, 19, 20, 21, 1938

*Elmer Times*, Elmer, New Jersey, May 17, 1918; May 12, 17, & 19, 1938.

*Penns Grove Record*, Pennsgrove, New Jersey, May 12, 19, & 26, 1938; June 2, 1938.

*Salem Standard and Jerseyman*, Salem, New Jersey, May 18, 19, 25, & 26, 1938; June 2, 1938.

*Salem Sunbeam*, Salem, New Jersey, May 18 & 25, 1938.

*Vineland Daily Republican*, Vineland New Jersey. May 17, 1918.

[www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) .

Appreciation to John V. Homan, Sr., Wayne P. Patrick and Grover Sterling "Skeeter" Herrman.

<sup>1</sup> "National Air Mail Week in Hunterdon County," by Jim Walker, *NJPH*, Vol 33, No 3, August 2010, p.165.

<sup>2</sup> *Quarterly Newsletter*, Volume 55, Issue No. 2, Summer 2010, and *Quarterly Newsletter*, Volume 55, Issue No. 3, Fall 2010. Published by the Salem County Historical Society, 83 Market Street, Salem, New Jersey 08079, 856/935.5004, <http://www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com/> .

## MIDDLEVILLE POST OFFICE, SUSSEX COUNTY

By Doug D'Avino

Middleville is one of three small villages in Stillwater Township. The township is located in Sussex County, New Jersey, eight miles west of Newton, and encompasses an area of 29 square miles. The three villages, including Stillwater and Swartswood, have a population of approximately 4,500.

In 1837, Hampton Andress built a general store in Middleville. *Figure 1* shows the same store as it looked in 1905. The store carried items such as musket flints for old weapons, barrel molasses, whalebone corsets and high button shoes. As listed in Table 1, in July, 1846, Hampton became the first Middleville Postmaster (PM). As was the custom at the time, his store also served as the town's post office. The post office was to remain in the store Hampton built for a large part of the next 133 years.

Hampton served as PM until 1852; Robert Howell became PM that January but I haven't been able to verify whether the post office remained in Hampton's store during Howell's term.

In 1861, Oscar Andress, Hampton's son, was appointed Middleville PM and the post office is again in the Andress' store. For 35 of the next 42 years, Oscar or his wife Edith, served as Middleville PM: 1861-86, 1889-90, and 1897-1903 (Oscar), and 1890-93 (Edith). Edith died in 1897 at the age of 70 and in 1902, Oscar, then 75, sold the store to Alfred and Martha Robbins. At the time of the sale, the store was empty except for the post office. Oscar was in his last stint as PM; he died in December, 1903.

The Robbins family began running the store in 1903, still taking eggs in trade for groceries. Upon Oscar Andress' death, Amos L. Pettit was appointed Middleville PM. Once again, the location of the post office under PM Petit is not recorded.

Being postmaster became a family business: Victor M. Robbins was PM from May 16, 1914 until his son Donald A. Robbins became acting PM in November 30, 1950. Don's appointment became permanent in May 25, 1951. Postcards became a Robbins' Store product for almost 75 years. Don wrote in "Stillwater Remembered," an introduction in *A Penny A View - An Album of Postcard Views: Stillwater, NJ*, by Kate Gordon & Wayne T McCabe:

*" ... my father and grandfather operated "Robbins' Store" in Middleville from 1902 until I took over in 1946. Dad always had local views available for the Swartswood Lake summer trade. Mother would take the pictures with her old glass plate camera. Dad would send accepted views to Germany for printing. Firms in Germany did the best card reproduction till the advent of World War I, after which U.S. firms had better production methods..."*





*Fig. 1: The exterior of A. Robbins & Sons General Store, circa 1905. The sign hanging from the second post from the right may say Post Office; it is in the right location and size for the time period. However, the sign is too indistinct to read. Inset: A 1907 postmark indicating receipt of a greeting postcard on Christmas Eve.*

Figure 2 shows the store, now renamed Victor M. Robbins' Store, in the 1930s. Vic Robbins is the PM and his young son Don is standing on the front porch. The road has actually been filled up so that front porch was now level with road and the cellar can only be reached by going down the stairs. In addition, gas pumps have been added. The pump on the left reads Standard for Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, while the pump on the right reads Esso, possibly Standard's diesel or kerosene product at that time.



*Fig. 2: Victor M. Robbins' Store and PO, circa 1934.*

Figure 3 shows the store, renamed again Robbins' Store, in the 1950s. PM Don Robbins is standing on the front porch. The gas pumps have been updated but otherwise the store looks much as it did in the 1930s.



*Fig. 3: Robbins' General Store (PM Donald Robbins), Esso gas station & PO, circa 1950s. In 1973, Esso was largely replaced in the U.S. by the Exxon brand.*

Figures 4 and 5 show the exterior and interior of the Robbins' General Store in 1964. Once again Don Robbins is on the front porch, joined by Vic and another man.



*Fig. 4: Robbins' General Store and PO, 1964. Vic (left) and PM Don Robbins (right) sitting on the porch.*

The interior of Robbin's General Store & PO (*Figure 5*) shows PM Donald Robbins, his wife, Shirley, and his father, former PM Vic Robbins. On the postcard, the "Post Office" is on the left, represented by PO boxes. Just below the PO boxes hang several U.S. Post Office Department posters. The poster on the right shows the stamp (Scott #1246) issued just months after the assassination of John F. Kennedy. To its left is a poster for the New Jersey Tercentenary issue (Scott #1247), and on the far left is a poster for the New York World's Fair issue (Scott #1244).



*Fig. 5: Interior of Robbins' General Store and PO, 1964. Vic (left) and PM Don Robbins (right) sitting, Don's wife Shirley standing.*

*Figure 6* depicts the back of a postcard bearing a special blue rubber stamp. Postmarked on March 30, 1979, the stamp commemorates the "Last Day of Ownership for the Robbins Family." The 100th Anniversary of Mail Order stamp (Scott #1468) was selected to celebrate the passing of one more general store/post office into the history books.



*Fig. 6: Stamped "Last Day of Ownership for the Robbins Family" on March 30, 1979.*



**MIDDLEVILLE POST OFFICE, SUSSEX COUNTY ~ Doug D’Avino**

The mailboxes from the Robbins’ Store were donated by Don Robbins' to the Stillwater Historical Museum and are on display in its downstairs school room.

*The author would like to thank Bill Turkowski for providing information and background for this article.*

| <b>Table 1. Middleville Postmasters.</b>   |                     |                              |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <b><u>Name</u></b>   | <b><u>Title</u></b> | <b><u>Date Appointed</u></b> |
| Hampton Andress  | Postmaster          | July 8, 1846                 |
| Robert H. Howell   | Postmaster          | January 26, 1852             |
| Joseph Andress, Jr.  | Postmaster          | July 15, 1853                |
| Joel W. Huff   | Postmaster          | October 5, 1857              |
| Andrew Swartswelder  | Postmaster          | January 11, 1859             |
| Oscar Andress  | Postmaster          | August 10, 1861              |
| Simeon Yetter  | Postmaster          | March 2, 1886                |
| Oscar Andress  | Postmaster          | July 26, 1889                |
| Edith C. Andress   | Postmaster          | February 20, 1890            |
| Aaron C. Huff  | Postmaster          | June 30, 1893                |
| Oscar Andress  | Postmaster          | June 19, 1897                |
| Amos L. Pettit   | Postmaster          | January 15, 1904             |
| Victor M. Robbins  | Postmaster          | May 16, 1914                 |
| Donald A. Robbins  | Acting Postmaster   | November 30, 1950            |
| Donald A. Robbins  | Postmaster          | May 25, 1951                 |
| Daniel Janiec  | Officer-In-Charge   | September 25, 1987           |
| Robert A. Miller   | Postmaster          | January 2, 1988              |
| Mildred L. Rivera  | Officer-In-Charge   | May 29, 2002                 |
| Mildred L. Rivera Hogan  | Postmaster          | November 30, 2002            |
| Susan A. Walker  | Officer-In-Charge   | September 27, 2006           |
| Stella Vince   | Officer-In-Charge   | September 25, 2007           |
| ?  | Officer-In-Charge*  |                              |
| Florina Cordero  | Postmaster          | August 29, 2009              |
| * - "Research on this post office has not yet been completed." USPS Postmaster Finder, <a href="http://www.usps.com/postmasterfinder/">http://www.usps.com/postmasterfinder/</a> . |                     |                              |

**REFERENCES:**

Gordon, Kate & McCabe, Wayne T. *A Penny A View-- An Album of Postcard Views: Stillwater, NJ*, Newton, NJ, Historic Preservation Alternatives, 1995, Introduction by Don Robbins.  
 Honeyman, A. Van Doren, *Northwestern New Jersey, A History – Somerset, Morris, Hunterdon, Warren and Sussex Counties*, in 4 vols., Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc, 1927.



## NEW JERSEY'S STAMPLESS SAW TOOTH RATE MARKING

By Robert G. Rose

During the stampless period ending in 1855, few fancy rate markings have been reported having been used by New Jersey's post offices. However, in 1845 with the advent of the new five cent rate for ½ ounce mail under 300 miles, both the New Brunswick and Trenton post offices used a fancy "saw tooth" handstamp rate mark.

The earliest reported usages of the saw tooth rate mark are from Trenton. The first, in *Figure 1*, is dated July 7, 1845 with both the postmark and rate mark in blue.



*Figure 1.* A July 7, 1845 stampless folded letter from Trenton to Philadelphia, with a nice clear saw tooth rate marking strike in blue.



Trenton:  
July 7, 1845



Coles: Trenton:  
July 14, 1845



New Brunswick:  
August 2, 1845

The second Trenton usage, shown in *Figure 2* below is a black and white illustration appearing in the *Coles Book*,<sup>1</sup> dated July 14, 1845.<sup>2</sup> This cancel was also in blue.



*Fig. 2: A July 14, 1845 stampless letter from Trenton to Long Branch, N.J., addressed to Mrs. Peter Vroom, (Vroom was a former NJ Governor) simply "at Green's", Long Branch N.J. As early as 1809, Long Branch was a well-known summer resort community.*

The New Brunswick usage of the saw tooth rate mark in *Figure 3* is dated August 2, 1845, with both the postmark and rate mark in black. To date, it is the only reported usage from New Brunswick and was first listed in the *Coles Update* in 2004.<sup>3</sup>



*Fig. 3: An August 2, 1845 stampless letter from New Brunswick to New York, addressed to N.G. Ogden, with a saw tooth cancel almost identical to that used in Trenton in July 1845, but in black. Trenton uses are only known in blue.*

The saw tooth rate mark used by both the Trenton and New Brunswick post offices appear to be identical in size and design and probably were purchased from the same private manufacturer, as this was then the typical source for most handstamp markings.

The author is interested in knowing if any other New Jersey post offices used this or a similar saw tooth handstamp rate mark during the stampless period. He can be contacted at [rose@daypitney.com](mailto:rose@daypitney.com).

### ENDNOTES:

- <sup>1</sup> William C. Coles, Jr., *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers*, Figure 80, pg. 55, (The Collectors Club of Chicago, 1983); and Robert G. Kaufmann Auction, *William C. Coles, Jr., Collection, Sale No. 33, March 8, 1984*, lot 727, where this same cover was described as a blue "cogged circle."
- <sup>2</sup> Coles reports this rate marking used only in blue and only in 1845. *Ibid.*, pg. 270.
- <sup>3</sup> Donald A. Chafetz, *The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers: An Update*, pp. 16-17 (New Jersey Postal History Society, 2004). This listing was based on a cover that was included in the Richard C. Frajola, Inc. auction, March 14, 1987, lot no. 252.

### ATLANTIC CITY ADDITIONS:

By Gene Fricks

Two nice pieces of Atlantic City history:



**THE DEVELOPMENT OF MAIL IN MORRIS COUNTY, 1760-1850**  
**An Exhibit by Donald A. Chafetz**

The following pages are presented in their original form: an exhibit on the development of Morris County mail 1760 to 1850. Don Chafetz has made this exhibit available to us to publish, and we will include installments over a period of several issues. It illustrates many nice early covers, of interest to all collectors of New Jersey. It covers mail to and from Morris County, and includes items that show the existence of mail service, sometimes before the establishment of actual post offices. This exhibit was part of the Court of Honor at NOJEX 2010, so for those who were unable to attend, this affords the opportunity to see it.

These first pages are arranged in chronological order, and this section will cover the very earliest – up through the Confederation Period. Following in future issues will be pages that show the Statehood period, with various post offices of Morris County in their order of establishment. These are:

|                  |             |   |             |
|------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| Buds Valley      |             | Parsippany                                | [est. 1817] |
| Morristown       | [est. 1777] | Dover                                     | [est. 1820] |
| Booneton         | [est. 1797] | Rockaway Valley                           | [est. 1820] |
| Rockaway         | [est. 1792] | German Valley                             | [est. 1821] |
| Washington       | [est. 1802] | Flanders                                  | [est. 1822] |
| Mendham          | [est. 1802] | Montville                                 | [est. 1827] |
| Hanover          | [est. 1806] | Denville                                  | [est. 1828] |
| Suckasunny       | [est. 1808] | Newfoundland                              | [est. 1828] |
| Chatham          | [est. 1808] | Pompton Plains                            | [est. 1831] |
| Chester          | [est. 1808] | Pleasant Grove/ Stephensburgh             | [est. 1834] |
| Schooly's Mount  | [est. 1812] | Madison /<br>from Bottle Hill [est. 1812] | [est. 1834] |
| Stockholm        | [est. 1812] | Pinebrook                                 | [est. 1836] |
| Pompton          | [est. 1812] | Drakestown                                | [est. 1837] |
| Berkshire Valley | [est. 1816] | Millington                                | [est. 1841] |

We hope you will enjoy this presentation. If you would like to see the entire exhibit before publication, it is available online in our Members Only files – you can access it by going to <http://njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/ChafetzMorrisCtyStampless.pdf>. For other files available to members only, please request a link sheet from your secretary at [Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org).

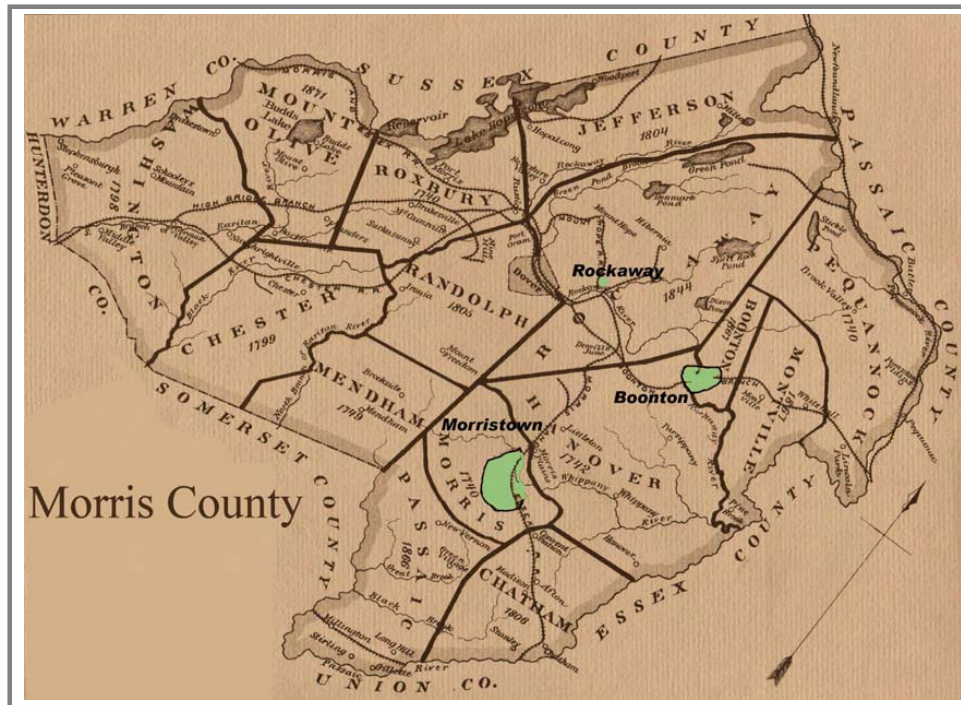


## DEVELOPMENT OF MORRIS COUNTY MAIL SERVICE

Pre-Statehood Period [to 1789]

By Donald A. Chafetz

This exhibit traces the development of a mail system in Morris County. During the Revolutionary War, General George Washington encamped three times for various lengths of time in the Morristown area. During these encampments, a “temporary” civil post office was established in Morristown and the military postmaster was also present.



I am not aware of any mail items in private hands with postal markings from Morris County prior to 1800. Starting with the Statehood Period, 1789, the post offices are shown in the order in which they were established. Each post office, has its covers grouped together to cover the period to 1850. In order to follow the development, a map on each page shows the earliest established post offices of Morristown, Boonton and Rockaway and additional communities and routes as they are established. Each new post office is shown on the map with a red circle and the community names are listed on the top of the respective page(s). To avoid clutter, once a post office has been introduced, a “black location dot” will be shown on the next new post office map and the name removed.

To show the full development of the postal service, there is included mail that originated within Morris County, mail sent to Morris County and some mail items either directed to or from a “community” even though no post office existed. Also included are a couple of relevant “postal documents.”

The exhibit shows the many different methods used to carry the mail including: out of the mail, military express, On Public Service, via Grand Post, local post, ship, stagecoach and by the United States Post Office Department. Many of the covers formed the basis for the Morris County listings in books **The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers** by William Coles, Jr. and the **The Postal Markings of New Jersey Stampless Covers: an Update** by Donald A. Chafetz. The identification of the postmark types is based on Coles’ nomenclature.

### Plan of the Exhibit

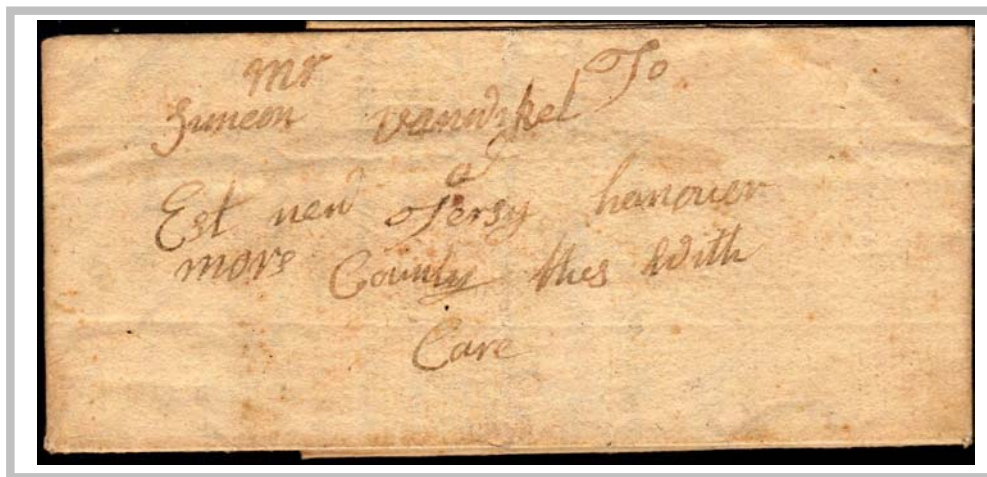
- Pre Revolutionary War
- Revolutionary War
- Confederation Period
- Statehood Period

# Pre Revolutionary War

Hanover

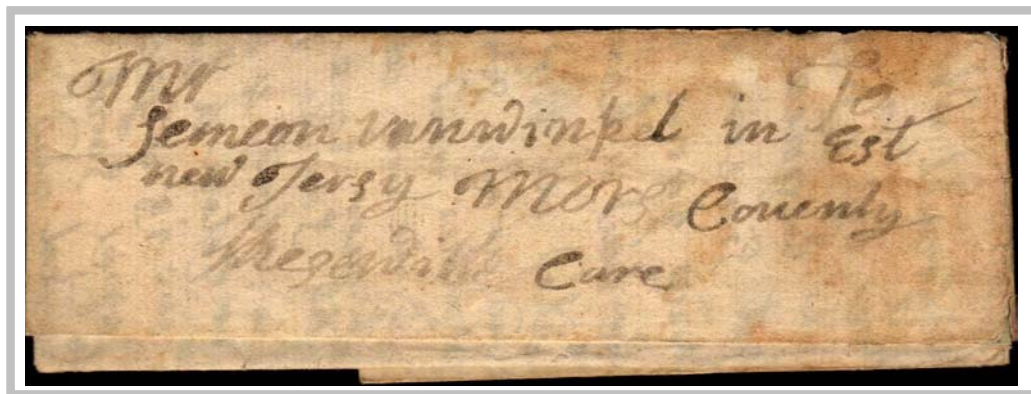
Dateline: August 28, 1760 Rowan County, NC  
 To: Hanover, Morris County, East New Jersey  
 Excerpt: *...have not a letter from you since .. have been here...  
 ..but we have received one from John and one from Michael*

Out of the mail



Dateline: June 13, 1774 Richman Town, Torry County  
 To: Morris County, East New Jersey  
 Excerpt: *...we received your letter by Mr. Gerus...*

Out of the mail





# Revolutionary War

1775 - 1783

Morristown

Temporary Post Office January 5, 1777 - August 27, 1778  
December 1779 - June 1780



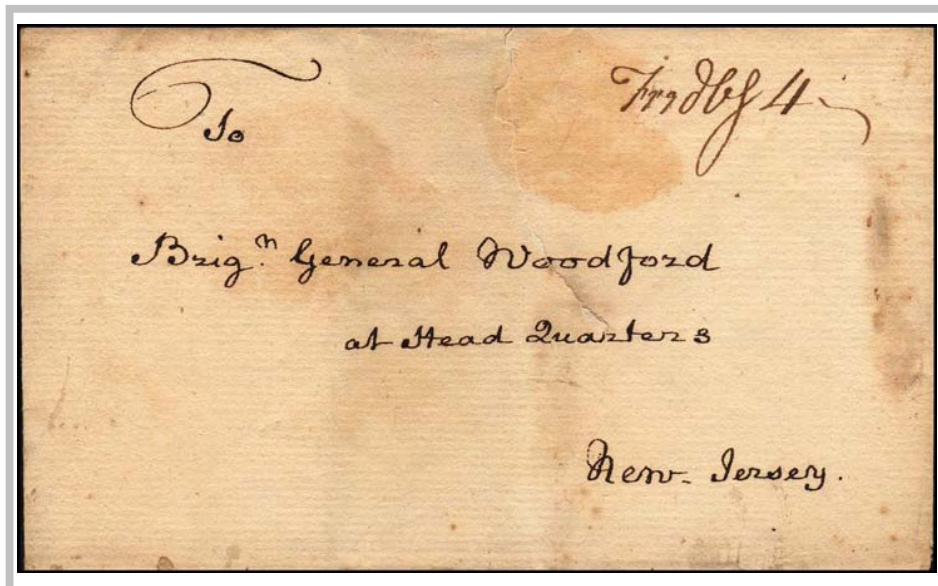
Dateline: May 28, 1777 Morristown, NJ  
From: John Fitzgerald, Aide-de-Camp  
To: Boundbrook, NJ  
Excerpt: *Places will be necessary for the Paymaster General & Adjutant General, also some places for the Post Office Master*

Military Express



Postmark: 1777 Fredbg, VA  
To: Headquarters, NJ  
Morristown encampment: July 3 - July 11, 1777  
Brigadier General Woodford was present during the encampment  
Reference: Washington's' Forgotten Encampment, Carl B. Scherzer, p. 12

60 - 100 miles - 2 dwt  
additional 100 miles - 2 dwt  
total - 4 dwt



# Revolutionary War

Morristown

Dateline: February 25, 1778 Boston MS  
 Forward: March 12, 1778 Fishkill NY  
 Forward: Morristown Post Office, NJ  
 To: Headquarters (Valley Forge, PA)  
 From: John Fitzgerald, Aide-de-Camp

way - 6 dwt  
 under 400 miles - 6 dwt  
 total - 12 dwt  
 on Public Service

**Post Office in Morristown**  
 March 6, 1777  
 A Post Office is just opened and kept by  
 High Smith Esq.  
 At Headquarters in Morristown, NJ through  
 which we receive the Philadelphia Mail once a  
 week. The Post arrives at Fishkill on Wednesday  
 and sets out again for Morristown on Thursday  
 morning.'

*Fishkill 12 March 78.*  
 I have forwarded  
 two Letters to M. Boudinot  
 to Morristown P. Office, supposing  
 he was at home, and not at  
 Headquarters. SL

107

Wed.  $\frac{6}{12}$

Elias Boudinot Esq. - Commissary Gen,  
 of Dragoons —

att  
 Headquarters —  
 Pennsylvania

on Public Service

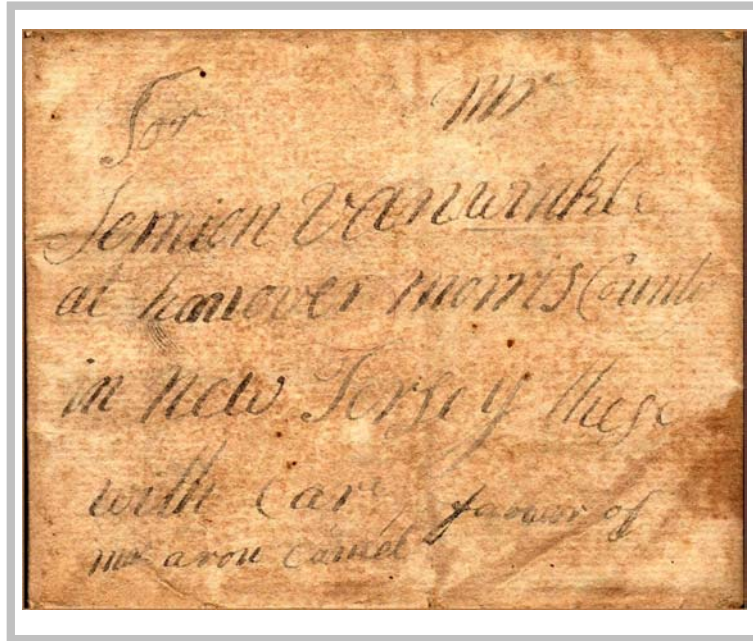
Only non-archive reference to Morristown Post Office during this period



# Revolutionary War

Dateline: April 28, 1778 Surry County, NC  
To: Hanover Morris County, NJ  
Excerpt: ...I received a letter...by Aron Camel...

Out of the mail  
with care favor of Mr Aron Carnel



Docket: Morristown, 1779  
To: Morristown, NJ

Out of the mail



Confederation Period

1781 - 1789

Morristown

Dateline: February 26, 1782 Wilkes County, NC  
To: Boontown, Morris County, NJ  
Excerpt: ...I received your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1781...

Out of the mail



Dateline: March 6, 1782 Trenton, NJ  
To: Jersey Camp, near Morristown, NJ

Out of the mail



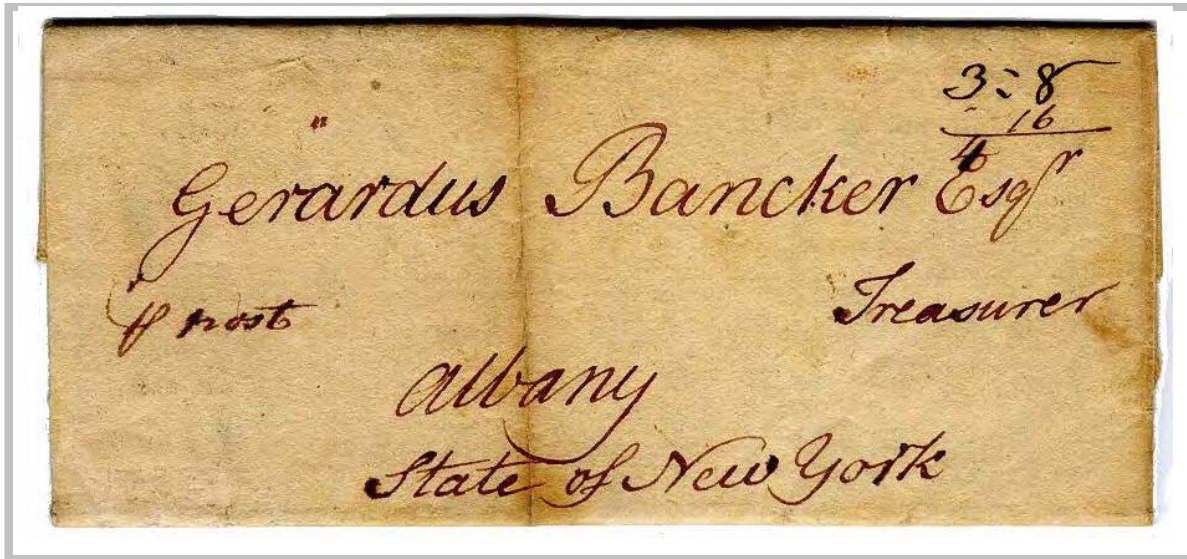


Confederation Period

Morristown

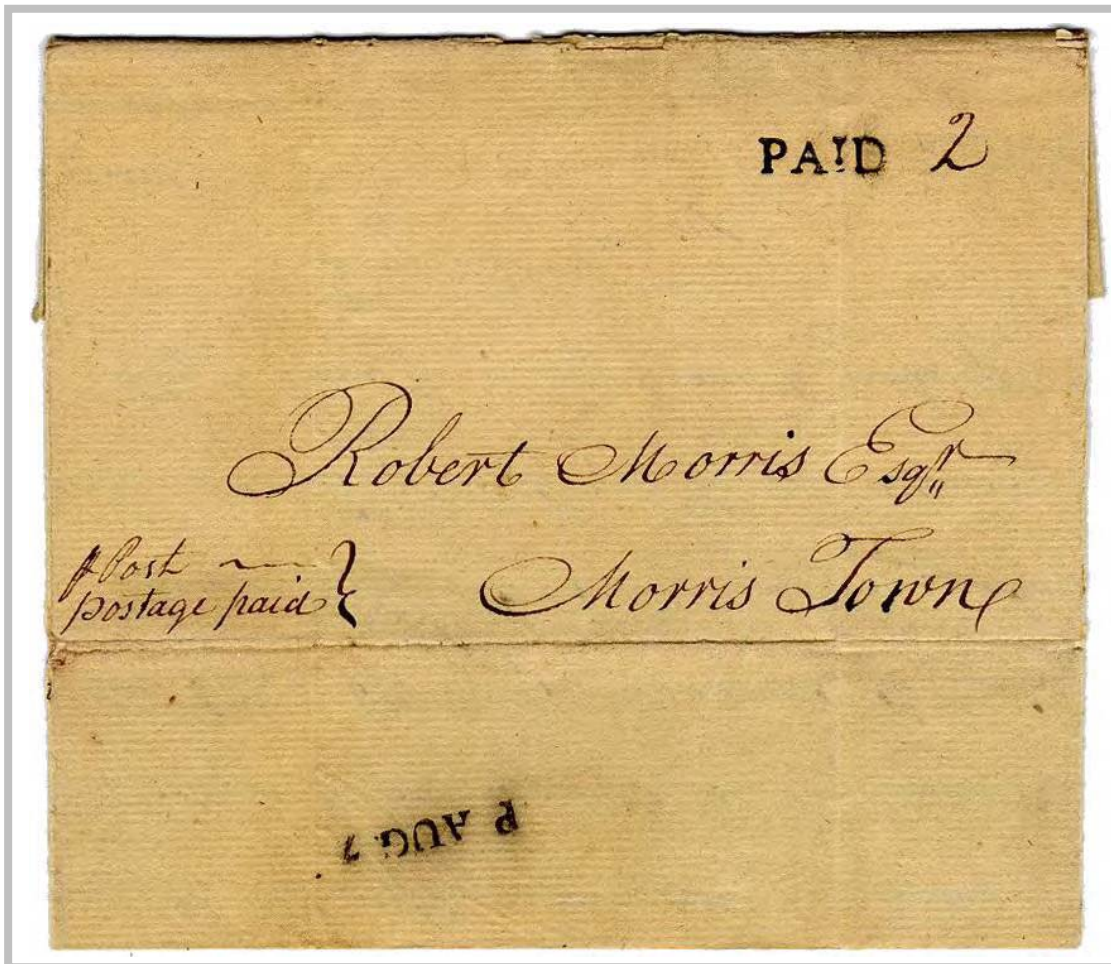
Dateline: April 17, 1782 Westfield, NJ  
To: Albany, NY  
Route: Letter carried via the "Grand Line of Post" through Morristown

Westfield to Morristown (60 - 100 miles) - 2 dwt  
Morristown to Albany (60 - 100 miles) - 2 dwt  
total - 4 dwt



Dateline: August 7, 1782 Philadelphia, PA  
To: Morristown, NJ

Restored rate of September 30, 1775  
60 - 100 miles - 2 dwt



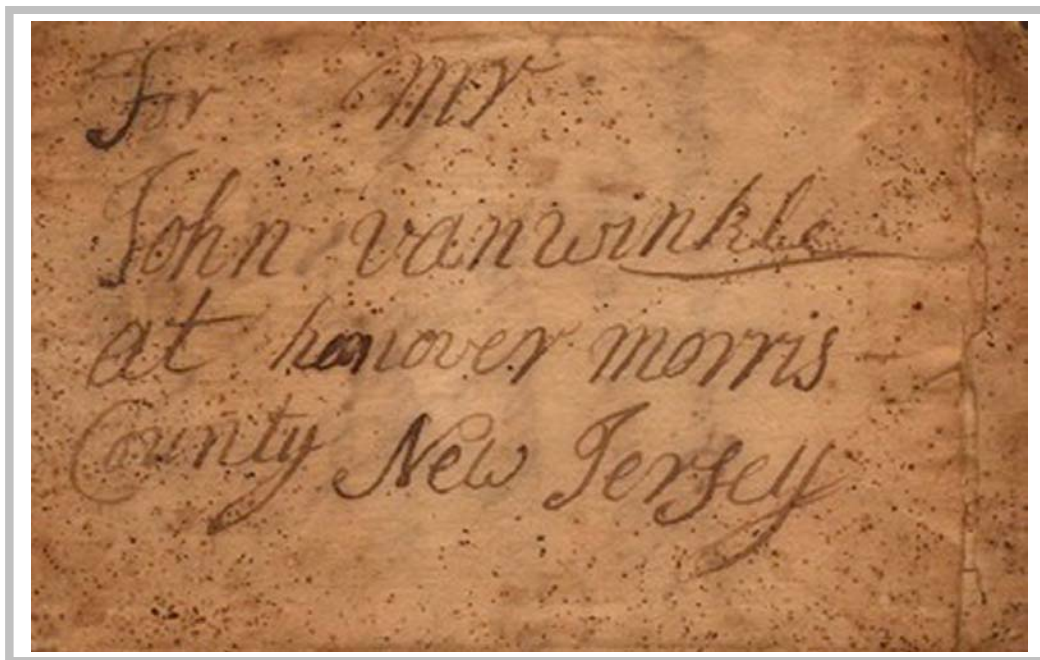


# Confederation Period

Hanover / Dutch Valley

Dateline: April 14, 1783 Miles County, NC  
 To: Hanover, Morris County, NJ  
 Excerpt: ..I received your letter...by the hand of Clezbe Cobb...

Out of the mail



Dateline: June 14, 1788 Tortola, British Virgin Islands  
 Transist: Ship to Philadelphia, PA  
 To: Dutch Valley, NJ (west Morris County, NJ)  
 Excerpt: ...write to me by getting Mr. Rapalje to forward them by Captain Godwise w ho in the west India trade...

Out of the mail favor by W. Rapalje



Possible Explanation of Way Fee 3/4

|                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Ship Letter     | 16 gr                |
| 60 - 80 miles   | 2 dwt 00 gr          |
| Carrier way fee | 20 gr                |
| Postal fee:     | total way 3 dwt 4 gr |

Way fee - Cover was given to a carrier on way from one office to another and rated at the next stop. It was rated from the point of pickup with an amount added to compensate the rider.

Back: Please to forward this morrow if you please



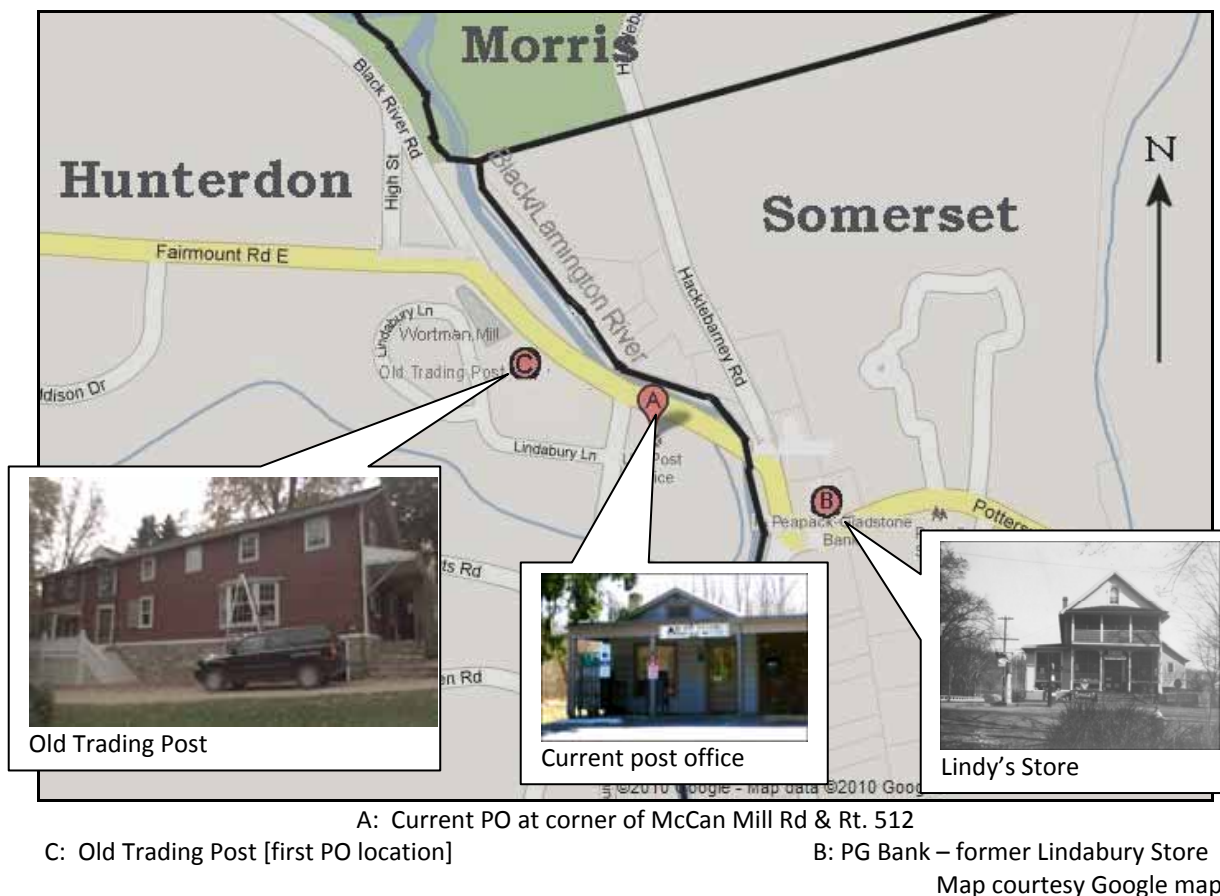


## POTTERSVILLE: HUNTERDON OR SOMERSET COUNTY?

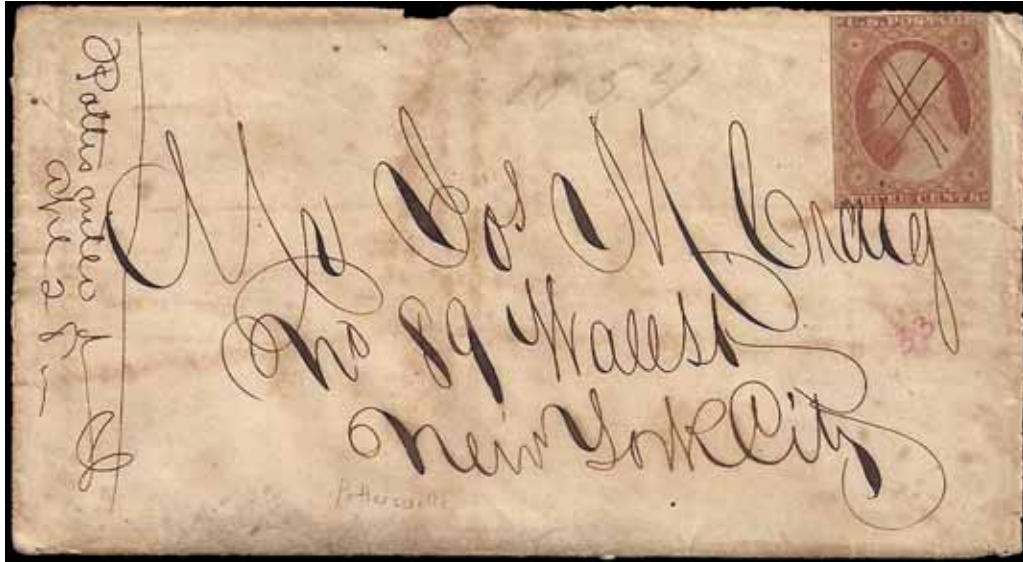
By Jim Walker

[A quick check of Kay and Smith<sup>1</sup> will show that, in that key reference for NJ postal historians, Pottersville is listed in Somerset County, but a quick drive past the current post office will show that it is clearly on the Hunterdon side of the Lamington River (also known as the Black River – depending on where you are). It seemed time to correct the record, and we turned to Jim Walker, our Hunterdon County postal historian to do just that. Help also came from Chris Wolfe, editor of the Black River Journal, and Richard Lindaberry,<sup>2</sup> descendent of the 3 Lindabury postmasters, and local historian. Many thanks to all.]

In the early 1740s, Richard Potter established a mill along the Lamington River. This is the location where the boundaries of three countries, Hunterdon, Somerset, and Morris meet (see map in *Figure 1*). A village developed around this mill and on January 24, 1829, a post office was established here named for its most prominent resident, Sering Potter.<sup>3</sup> Sering became the first Postmaster and he would serve until June of 1878. Three others would follow Sering as Postmaster; Elias T. Bartles, 1878; Todd J. Mills, 1886; John Fisher, 1889; and Elias T. Bartles, appointed again in April, 1889. (See *Figure 2* for a manuscript cancel in 1854 by PM Potter).

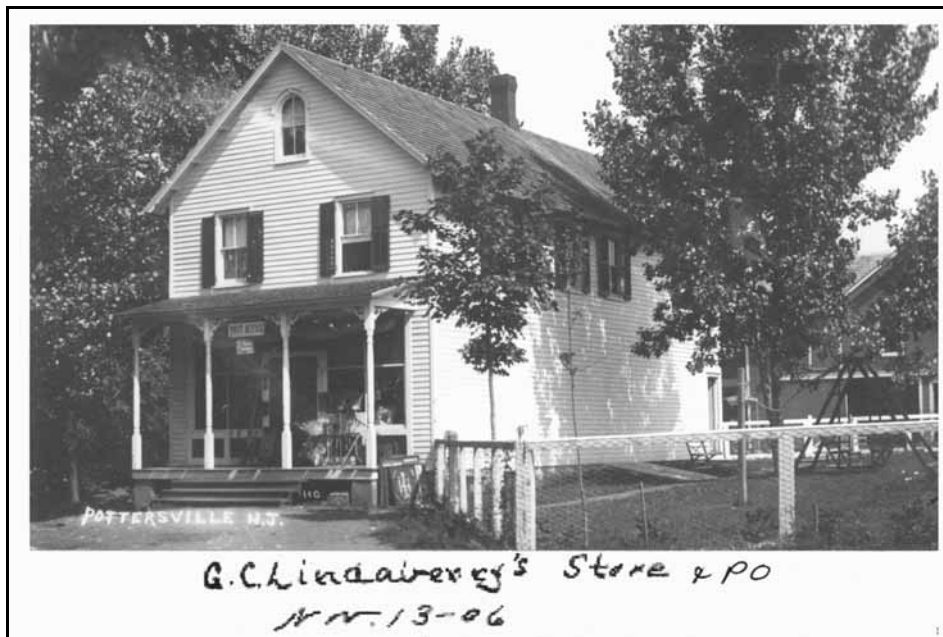


**Fig. 1:** Map of Pottersville, showing county boundary lines. From its establishment in 1829 until 1899, the post office was located in the area of “C” – in the Old Trading Post.<sup>4</sup> In 1899, it was moved to Lindabury’s store in Somerset County, located across the river at B. It was there for 73 years, until the store closed in 1973. It then moved to its current location, back across the Black (or Lamington) River to Hunterdon County again, where it is located in a small building adjacent to a deli, currently known as the Black River Country Store.



*Fig. 2: An 1854 cover from Pottersville, NJ, showing a manuscript Pottersville cancel and an April 28 date, during its location on the Hunterdon side of the river in the period when Sering Potter was postmaster.*

Fourth Class post office locations changed often. With no dedicated building, the post office moved with the Postmaster as his business or residence changed, sometimes crossing political boundaries. On October 14, 1899 the Post Office reassigned the Pottersville post office from Hunterdon County to Somerset County. This is unusual without a boundary change, such as the establishment of Mercer County in 1838 which caused the loss of seven post offices for Hunterdon.



*Illustration courtesy Richard Lindaberry*

*Fig. 3: Lindaberry store in 1906, owned then by George C. Lindaberry, son of Peter Lindaberry, appointed postmaster in 1903. (See Endnote 5 regarding different name spellings.)*

In this case, Richard Lindaberry, a family member and local historian, tells us that when his great-grandfather, Peter W. Lindaberry, was appointed postmaster in 1899, the post office was moved to the Lindaberry<sup>5</sup> store on the Somerset side of the Black (or Lamington) River, where Peter Lindaberry is listed as the first postmaster (on October 19, 1899) in the Somerset County Pottersville post office.<sup>6</sup> (see Figure 3).



POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

No. 3010. SERIES OF APRIL, 1897.

**READ BEFORE EXECUTION OF BOND AND OATH.**

If you, as the proposed postmaster, are in any way interested in any mail contract, either as a contractor, subcontractor, or mail carrier, or are a surety on a contract or subcontract, you are not eligible for appointment, and these papers should be returned, unexecuted, to the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

**Post Office Department,**  
OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,  
BOND DIVISION,  
Washington, D. C., *Oct. 19, 1899*

SIR: ~~The Postmaster General has appointed you~~ **POSTMASTER** at  
*Pottersville* County of *Somerset*  
State of *N.J.*, in which capacity you will be  
authorized to act upon complying with the following requirements:

1st. To execute the inclosed bond, and cause it to be executed by two or more sufficient sureties, in the presence of suitable witnesses; the sufficiency of the sureties, and their oath or certification by a duly qualified magistrate.

2d. To subscribe the oath or affirmation of office inclosed, before a duly qualified magistrate, and to have the same certified by him; also to appoint an assistant, who must also take the oath; and to forward to me, in an envelope addressed to me, the papers in the mail in an envelope addressed to me.

3d. To deposit at this Department of your bond and qualification, duly executed and approved of the same by the Postmaster General, a commission will, in due course, be forwarded to you. Until this commission shall have been received, you will not be permitted to incur any expense or performing any act as postmaster.

4th. Upon the receipt of your commission you will be entitled to enter upon the duties of the office, and to take possession of the public property belonging to the Post Office aforesaid, such as desks, cases, fixtures, and other articles, and to receive the Post Office laws and instructions, mail keys, blanks, letters, and papers on hand, of which articles you will send to the First Assistant Postmaster General a receipt, and to receive the same. At the time of the appointment, the bond and oath must be executed and returned without delay, and notice thereof should be immediately given to this Office.

5th. To keep on file in your office, and to forward to the Third Assistant Postmaster General, on the face of your first requisition, Form 3201, the day you took possession of the office, a list of all such requisitions, and receipts for stamped paper, yourself.

6th. To continue in charge of the office, either personally or by an assistant, until relieved from it by consent of the Department, which will be signified by the discontinuance of the office or the appointment of your successor.

Very respectfully,  
*J. H. Bristow*  
Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

*P. W. Lindabury*, Esq.

N. B.—The quarters expire on the 31st March, 30th June, 30th September, and 31st December. All postal accounts must be rendered for each quarter within two days after its close. Failure to render your accounts promptly will be reported to your sureties. If your office is a money-order office consult the printed schedule on file therein as to the period for which money-order accounts must be rendered.

The balance due the United States on postal account at the close of each quarter must be deposited at once with your designated depository; failure to comply with this requirement will be reported to your sureties. If your office is a money-order office the surplus money order funds must be deposited daily.

Postmasters are not authorized to give credit for postage. Want of funds, therefore, is no excuse for failure of payment.

A Postmaster must not change the name by which his office is designated on the books of the Department. Your appointment as postmaster gives you no authority whatever to move the post office from its present location. Express authority must be obtained from this office for any change of site of the office.

Be careful in mailing letters and transient newspapers, to postmark each one, in all cases, with the name of your office and State; and, in all communications to the Department, to embrace in the date the name of your office, county, and State.

In stamping letters, great care should be observed to render the impression distinct and legible.

1024

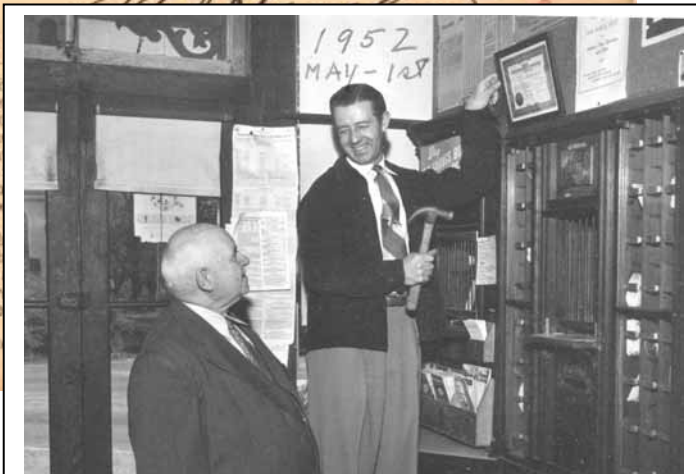
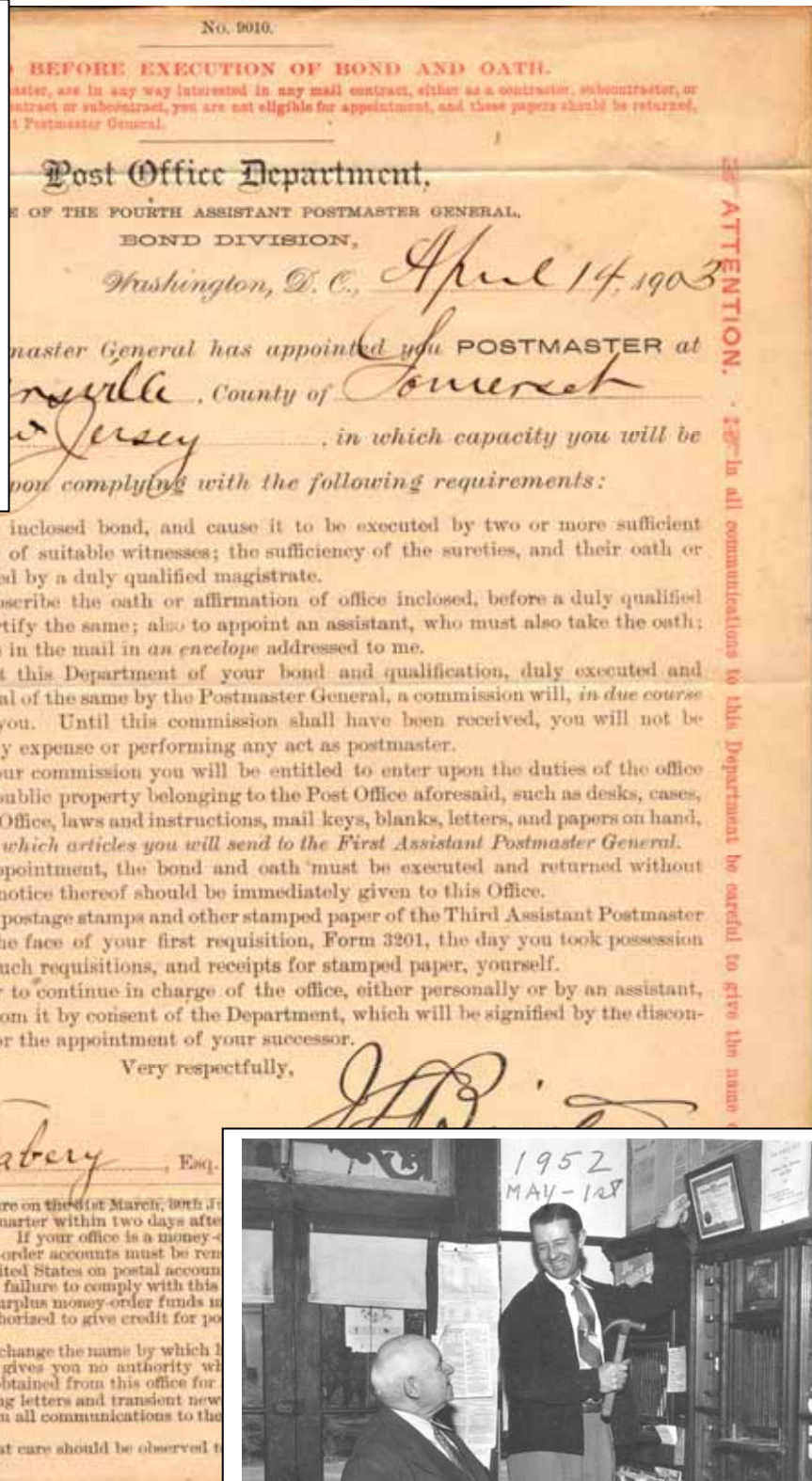


Fig. 4: The PO appointment of Peter W. Lindabury on Oct. 19, 1899. Peter would become ill and die in January of 1902. His son served temporarily until he was appointed to fill that role in April of 1903.





George C. Lindabery, PM. 1903-52



George C. passes the baton to son Russell, May 1, 1952. Note PO window and boxes.

Fig. 5. Just after his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, George replaced his father as postmaster, and served 41 years, retiring in 1952 at the age of seventy.



Shortly after moving from Hunterdon to Somerset, this post office received one of the new canceling devices issued to fourth class offices – a fine example of Pottersville’s new Doane cancel (type 3, #4) is shown below on cover, dated Oct. 1909 (see *Figure 6*). *Figure 7* shows a Dec. 24, 1917 four bar Pottersville cancel on post card.



*Fig. 6: A Pottersville Doane cancel, type 3, #4, dated Oct. 11, 1909. The Excel Manufacturing Company was an iron foundry on the Black River.*



*Fig. 7: A Pottersville 4-bar cancel, dated Dec. 24, 1917, and with a message indicating it is from Postmaster George and wife May Lindabery to cousins in Lebanon, NJ – George Lindabery remained postmaster for 41 years, retiring in 1952, when his son Russell took on the task on May 1, 1952.*

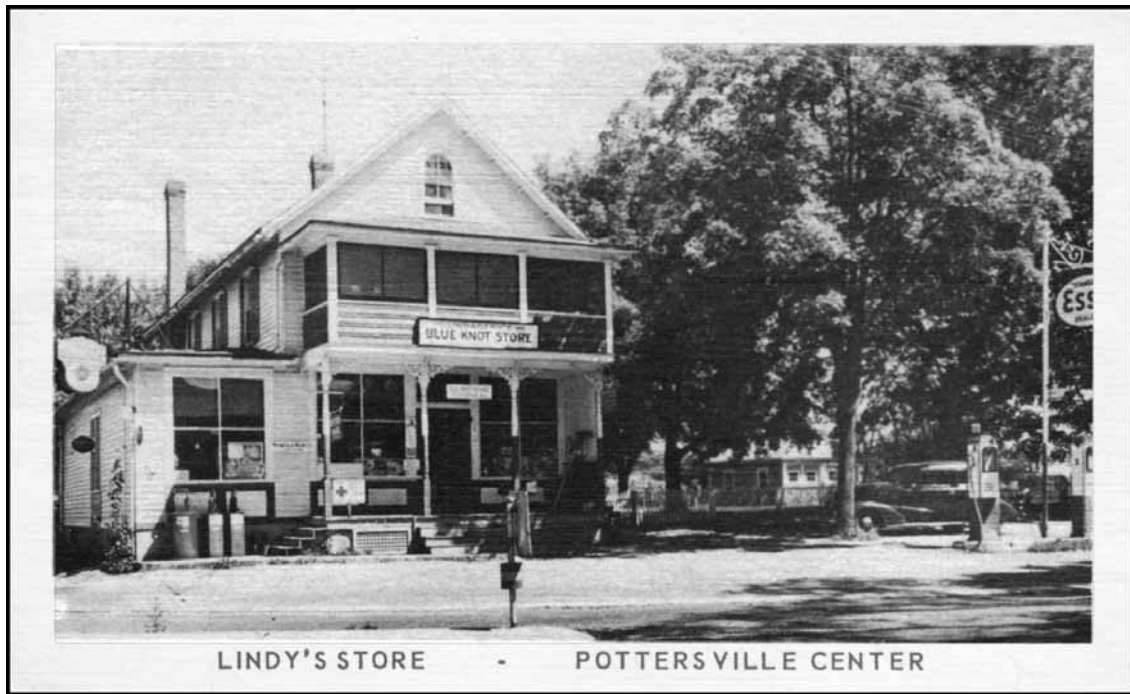


Illustration courtesy Doug D'Avino

*Fig. 8: A somewhat later view of the store and post office, known as Lindy's Store, at this time part of the Blue Knot Grocery chain. Russell Lindabery became postmaster in May of 1952, and served until the store closed in 1973.*

Here the post office remained for the next 73 years. The 1914 edition of the Hunterdon & Somerset County Directory states that Pottersville had 125 residents and many Hunterdon folks received their mail through the Pottersville post office.

*Fig. 9: A current view of this building, still standing. The old post office building currently serves as the Peapack-Gladstone Bank in Pottersville, and has made a point of preserving the original building much as it was, including an old counter from the store.*





In 1973, with the Lindabury store closing, the Pottersville post office needed a new home. The Pottersville post office relocated to the west side of the Black/Lamington River in 1973, to a small building once known as the Star Valley Grocery. This little store was originally located across from Wortman's Mill and the Old Trading Post, but was moved in the 1950s to the center of town, and served as a store until the building next to it was built in 1961-62 (that building is now known as the Black River General Store). In 1973, the post office took over the smaller attached building, where it remains today. (See *Figure 11*.)

*Fig. 10: Star Valley Grocery at its original location. This building was moved with a bulldozer and soaped planks to its present location, where it continued as a store until the newer larger building was built. After that it was used for storage until 1973, when it was leased to the post office.*

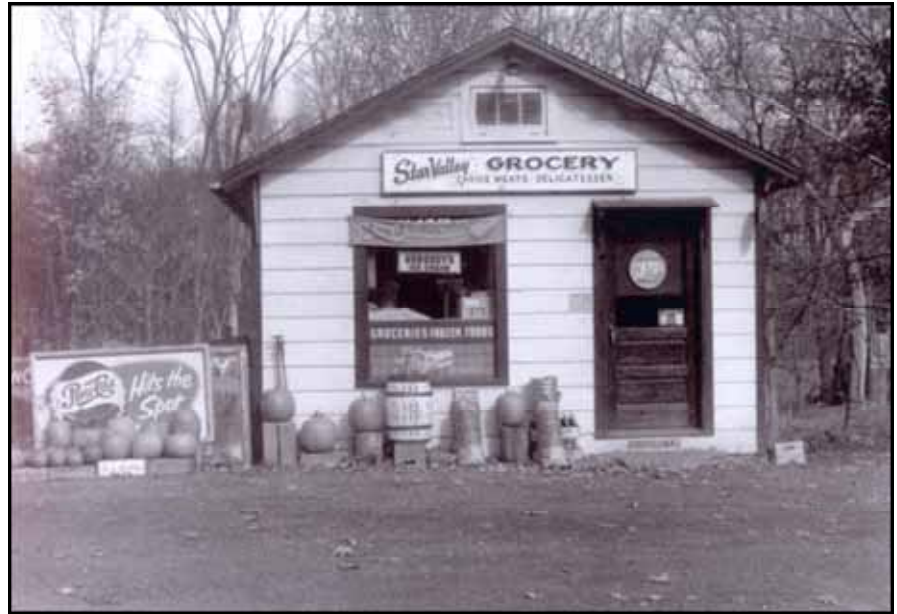


Illustration courtesy Richard Lindaberry



*Fig. 11: The present Pottersville post office, at the corner of McCan Mill Road and Rte. 512 (East Fairmount Rd.), in Hunterdon County.*

**POTTERSVILLE: HUNTERDON OR SOMERSET? ~ Jim Walker**

*Fig. 12: This shows the post office in its current setting, next to the Black River General Store.*



It has taken us 37 years to correct the record and note that this post office is no longer in Somerset County, but instead is once again in Hunterdon. Postal history has its current side – let’s not forget to pay attention to what is happening with our own local post offices in our own lifetimes!

**POTTERSVILLE POSTMASTERS**

***ESTABLISHED IN HUNTERDON COUNTY*** Old Trading Post

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Sering Potter *    | Jan.24, 1829                             |
| Elias T. Bartles   | June 13, 1878                            |
| Todd J. Mills      | Dec. 30, 1886                            |
| John Fisher        | March 21, 1889                           |
| Elias T. Bartles   | April 2, 1889                            |
| Peter W. Lindabury | Temporary 1898 until Appt: Oct. 19, 1899 |

***MOVED TO SOMERSET COUNTY OCT. 14, 1899*** Lindabury Store

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| George C. Lindabery | Temporary 1902 until Appt: April 14, 1903 |
| Russell Lindabery   | May 1, 1952                               |

***MOVED TO HUNTERDON COUNTY 1973*** old Star Valley Grocery bldg 1973

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Tony Thomason          | June 16, 1979                           |
| Linwood R. Davis III   | Nov 18. 1987                            |
| Rocco J. Russo, OIC    | Nov. 28. 1987                           |
| Carol A. Cottrell, OIC | Mar 24, 1988                            |
| James E. McClam, OIC   | May 21, 1988                            |
| Joseph Toriello Jr.    | OIC Aug 2004 until PM Appt: Feb 5, 2005 |
| James M. Stazo         |   |



## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Kay, John L. and Smith, Chester M., Jr. *New Jersey Postal History*, Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Lindaberry indicates that his great-grandfather Peter W. Lindabury was postmaster 1898-1902. During this time, the post office moved from Tewksbury Township (Hunterdon County) to the Lindabury store (where the Peapack-Gladstone Bank currently is, opposite the Pottersville Reformed Church) in 1899.

In 1903 Peter's son, George C. Lindabery, became postmaster [Richard's grandfather], and was postmaster until May 1952. He was followed by Russell Lindaberry [George's son, Richard's uncle] who was postmaster until the store closed in 1973. When the store closed in 1973, it was sold to Peapack-Gladstone Bank.

The Post Office then moved in 1973 to its present location in the little building, once the Star Valley Grocery, next to the Schleppler store [now Black River General Store].

<sup>3</sup> Kay and Smith note the first postmaster as "Lering Pottter" but local historians agree that it was Sering – probably a misreading somewhere along the way of a script *S* misread as an *L*.

<sup>4</sup> Information from Chris Wolfe, editor of *The Black River Journal*.

<sup>5</sup> The Lindaberry/Lindabury name has changed back and forth over time, and from family member to family member with variations of Lindabury, Lindaberry, and Lindabery, but it is all the same family, residents in this area since long before the Revolution. The original name was from the German Leinenburg or Leinenberger.

<sup>6</sup> See Kay & Smith, *op cit*.



*Fig. 13: Photograph of James A. Farley, Postmaster General, inscribed to George C. Lindabery, "with every good wish."*

Photo courtesy Richard Lindaberry

**ADDITIONS TO THE SOUTHARD LETTERS: from Don Chafetz' Collection\***  
**Stampless Folded Letters with Historical Content**



Collection of Don Chafetz  
To: Mr. Samuel L. Southard  
Hagley near Fredericksburg, Virginia  
From: David Thompson, Jr.

May 6 (1808)  
Mendham [mss]  
Rate 17 (3 sheets of paper)  
Mendham 4 May 1808

Friend Samuel,

You know it is not uncommon for me to begin at the end of a story, and end at the beginning. So I must do now with your last favor lest I should forget it. You conclude by telling of the hard things that Mrs. T. says of me for ~~something~~ a certain omission that I was guilty of in my last. Give my compliments (if you please) to Mrs. Talf\* and tell her I am much obliged to her, putting me in mind that I am a monster. I knew it myself long ago, but was in hopes the world would not find it out. However since she has discovered it, I hope she will be so good, as not to make more public than absolutely necessary – for perhaps I may, sometime or other, be

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\* **NOTE:** The Collected Letters to and from Samuel Southard is a long-running series in *NJPH*, the last of which was published in Feb 2008 (Vol. 36 No. 1 Whole number 169). These letters contain much historical content, and are numerous in the hands of New Jersey collectors of stampless markings. From time to time, we add to this series, and hope to publish the whole group in digital form soon for download by interested members.

Samuel Southard was a New Jersey favorite son, whose political career spanned the years between 1811 and 1842, when he was a New Jersey senator, a judge, a US senator, Secretary of the Navy, Attorney General, Governor of New Jersey, and again a US Senator, ending his career as President pro tem of the Senate. This letter is from his close friend David Thompson, Jr. who lived in Mendham. At the time of this letter, Southard was a tutor in the home of the Taliaferros in Virginia, friends of Southard's father, who had also served in Congress.

where you are, and I should not care to have every body know what kind of a being I am. I am sometimes monstrously out of humour, often monstrous melancholy, sometimes monstrous fool and always monstrous dull. Now if all these put together will not make a monstrous vagabond, I shall be unable to tell what ingredients will. You may now tell Mrs. Tali<sup>o</sup> that a certain somebody was in Sussex County when I wrote last at a Mr. Hunts and of course I knew nothing about her, but she is now at Mr. A<sup>o\*\*</sup> Mendham, and in good health, as far as I can judge from sight only, for I seldom dare to speak to a young lady, and never do above once or twice unless they are easy of access and will sometimes talk nonsense. Why I insist particularly upon nonsense it that I have not courage enough to reason with a young lady unless I am on terms of intimacy with them that will permit me to shut my eyes without transgressing the rule of politeness. For believe me the discourse of a lady not infrequently falls as heavy upon my heart, by means of my eyes or my ears, and I am sure you would not wish to have a resemblance of this somebody printed on my heart by either of those conveyances.

The next thing in your letter is “You seem to have token spite at at [sic] all the Liddle family.” I hope I have not I assure you, but I confess I have a firm and manly dislike to them, and perhaps not altogether without foundation. Tempe, has certainly many worthy qualities. But the old man is a brutish brute. Dr. John has nothing manly about, And Polly from her bringing up must be of necessity, only so so. I need so much charity myself that I have often resolved never to speak evil of any person whatever unless for some very forcible cause.

Don't you thing [sic] I saw Henry Mills a few weeks ago and he asked me what I thought of the story respecting Miss E. Biggs etc. He said the tale had been told in Philadelphia as a matter of fact. You must not suppose that Mills had any doubts about it, he only wished to know how the tale came into existence. While ignorant of all circumstances I would not judge Miss P.L. but I cannot help suspecting her Delicacy and prudence a little. As to leading a public or private life. I have not yet come to a resolution to lead any kind of life. And if one cannot determine in 25 years, how he intends to live, I think it affords pretty conclusive evidence that he does not intend to live at all. Perhaps however I may be inclined to stay about him a while longer. And perhaps I may suffer my name to be run as a candidate for the clerkship tho I do not intend to, if I can avoid it. Charles Russell and Stephen Ogden will be candidates from Morris. Capt<sup>n</sup> S. Dod wished me to stand for clerk and so let D Dod take the Surrogacy. There is one other person who wishes to be a candidate if he is not hindered by some unfavorable repercussion between this and September. His name I am not at liberty to mention. I see no reason why you should not take the office in preference either to Russell or Ogden. But if Capt. Dod should be a member and insist upon giving Daniel, one or the other of the two offices, your success would be a little more doubtful. But by the by, Daniel does not wish to take the clerkship. And I do not wish it either. So that I don't know how it will go, you ask me who is the girl from Newark, but I am ashamed to tell you, and yet it I did tell, you would not know her. She was in this place with Phebe Biggs and I called once or twice to see her, she appeared to be possessed of [...] some tenderness and softness -- but on seeing her at home, I fear her softness will be turned into flatness. But I could tell better if I should see her a few times more. She made herself agreeable a little while telling what she had heard of Rev. Ogden. I am so much of a novice in politics, that I hate to say anything about them, unless it be to ask the why and wherefore. Some leading Federalist in this part our State prefer Madison to any of the

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\*\* Amzi Armstrong, minister of the Hilltop Church in Mendham, and where Fanny (Southard's 1<sup>st</sup> love) was a ward.

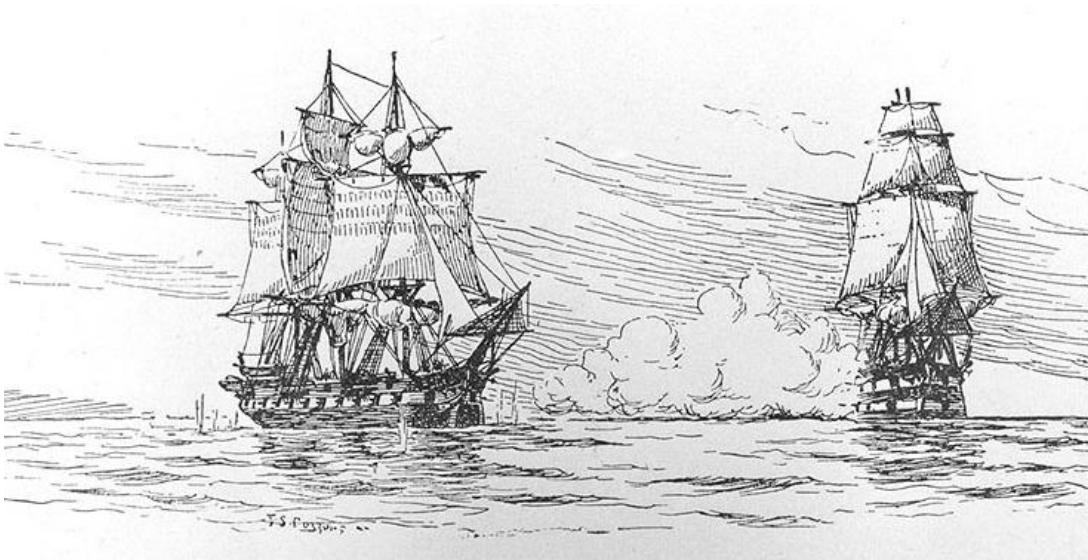


Presidential candidates. The reason given is that he is possessed as they suppose of better talents and information. Others of the same class would choose Clinton, but I am informed they would prefer Monroe in N. York. You talk to me about the acts of the present administration but I cannot know if you are right or wrong, for I about as ignorant of those matters as I am of the edicts of the emperor of China. An election was held thro this State of N. York last week, it was warmly contested. Mr. Ralston was there & he says the Republicans carried the election in the city by a majority of 11,000. The blocks were all arrayed on the Federal side, and the Irish in the Republican, for this reason the parties considered [matched?] about on a par, as to the respectability. Mr Josiah wrote me last week – he said considerable about the embargo,<sup>1</sup> he reprobates the measure. And he thinks the President’s proclamation interdicting our harbors to British armed vessels ought to have been withdrawn as soon as Mr Rose informed gov’t that his Majesty has disavowed the act, which was the immediate cause of producing it. And he seems to think that the British do not fear us because Mr. Monroe says they have a strong party in favor of a war with the Country. Mr. Simpson appears to have read the letter of John’s man Timothy for he would seem profoundly ignorant of any cause which could authorize such a measure as the embargo. But he concludes by saying I am not Democrat enough to take for my motto “Carthage est Delende.” This is not my motto either, but if a wolf was continually devouring my sheep, I should not care to keep the remainder for his use, lest he would die of hunger. Mr. Timothy’s letter is highly reprobated in this country. Mr. Richards the Revd on its first appearance held it in high estimation. The widow Lila Dickerson is married to Col. Joseph Jackson, formerly son in law to Robert Ogden.

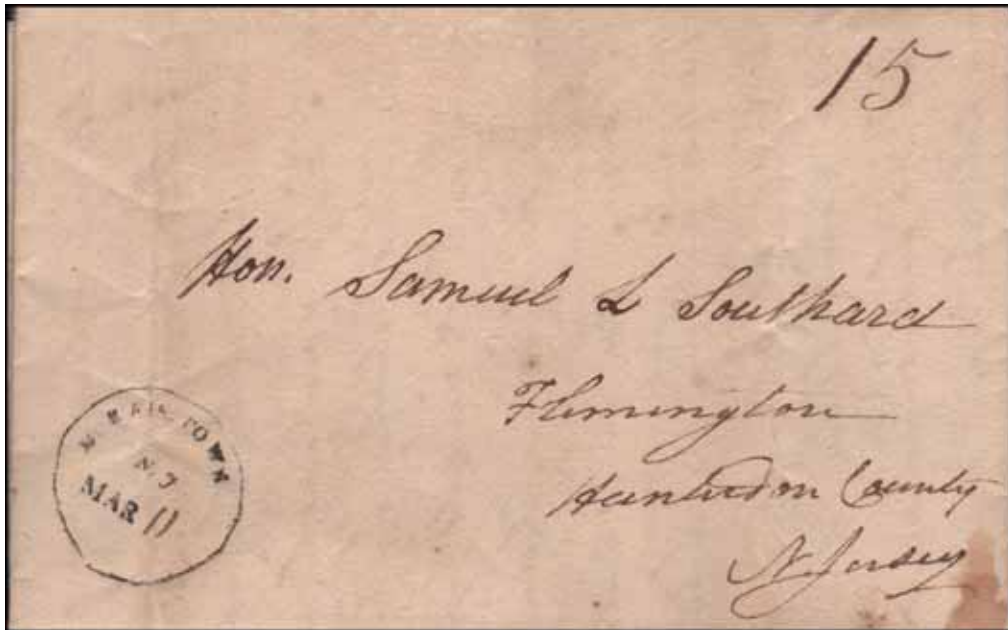
David Thompson, Jr

To Samuel L Southard

<sup>1</sup> The Embargo of 1807 was instituted against the British, in response to an incident in which *HMS Leopard* boarded the American frigate *USS Chesapeake*, on the excuse of retrieving British deserters [who in fact had been impressed into service; 3 were American born]. The American ship was fired upon and 3 sailors were killed and 18 wounded. In response, Jefferson closed US territorial waters to British warships and prohibited the boarding of US ships, a precursor to the War of 1812. It severely restricted trade.



The *HMS Leopard* firing on the *Chesapeake*, drawn by Fred S. Cozzens and published in 1897. [USNavy}



Collection of Don Chafetz  
To: Hon. Samuel L. Southard  
Flemington, Hunterdon County, N. Jersey  
From: David Thompson, Jr.

Mar 11 (1816)  
Morristown [M44] with mss date  
Rate 15 (1 sheet of paper)

Dear Sir,

I am sorry you will not be here in March, though I don't know that I should have much to say – for I believe I have told you often enough how tired and sick I am of politics – I am of opinion that *Jupiter Tonans*\* will not trouble the legislature another session. When Judge Kollock returned to Elizabeth from Trenton he declared me politically dead, I suppose because I did not run, and turn at Dayton's nod. But in that respect I believe Dayton will die first. If I please to keep alive – though it is very difficult to act honestly as a politician and maintain any credit. If anything determined me to make an exertion to keep alive, it will be such declarations.

As to your living at Trenton – I suppose you ask my opinion as a matter of compliment; and I will give it candidly so as not to be outdone in civility.

The primary advantages will be much greater in Trenton than in Morris; and I suppose likewise the advantages of improvement in your profession. The society in the two places I should put about equal, I mean so much of society as necessary for our comfort.

But all of these things I suppose you do not consider of leading consequence, though they would undoubtedly have their influence.

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\* *Jupiter Tonans* – an epithet for Jupiter as the Thunderer.

## ADDITIONS TO THE SOUTHARD LETTERS ~ Don Chafetz

Your choice of residence ought to depend principally on what you wish to be hereafter. If you should desire to be employed in any capacity by the public (if other things are equal) you will be more likely to succeed at the seat Gov't than any other place. But at Trenton you know, there are peculiar difficulties to be encountered. You must be the tool of Wilson and his [sattelites?] or have him and them implacable enemies. His tool I know you never will be. Can you then keep him quiet, or rise above his machinations? If you can, I should be much pleased to have you reside in Trenton, for somebody is very much needed there to counteract the folly of that Jacobinic madman. I think however that Wilson's power is on the decline. Rutherford and Holcombe will be able to give much assistance, in restraining him, and they will do it willingly.

If I stay in Morris, I should be very glad to have you as a neighbor, but notwithstanding this, I would be better pleased to see you settle in Trenton on account of the public, if you can maintain your political character & standing. This part of the state undoubtedly think they ought to have the benefit of a resident Judge, but they would make no difficulty about it.

This opinion will probably interfere with the reappointment of Kirkpatrick, and he and Russell may possibly afterwards interfere with yours – this is only a supposition, the probability of which you can judge better than I can. And if it be a probable supposition you can tell whether it ought to have any weight. If you wish to continue on the bench in this State, I think there will be less danger of rivalry if you reside in Morris or Essex than if you live in any other place, for we shall not produce any rival candidate. I have hastily but put down such ideas as occurred to me at the moment respecting your place of residence, if they are not quite so full or clear or well arranged as they might be, you must not mind it.

My farm speculation lands fair to do very well. I have an offer for the remainder of the place so as to clear a little more than \$1200. If the payments please me I shall take it. As the new countries are all the rage, I may possibly try my luck once or twice more this summer. I can make more money this way than talking politics.

My best respects to Mrs. Southard etc.

David Thompson, Jr.

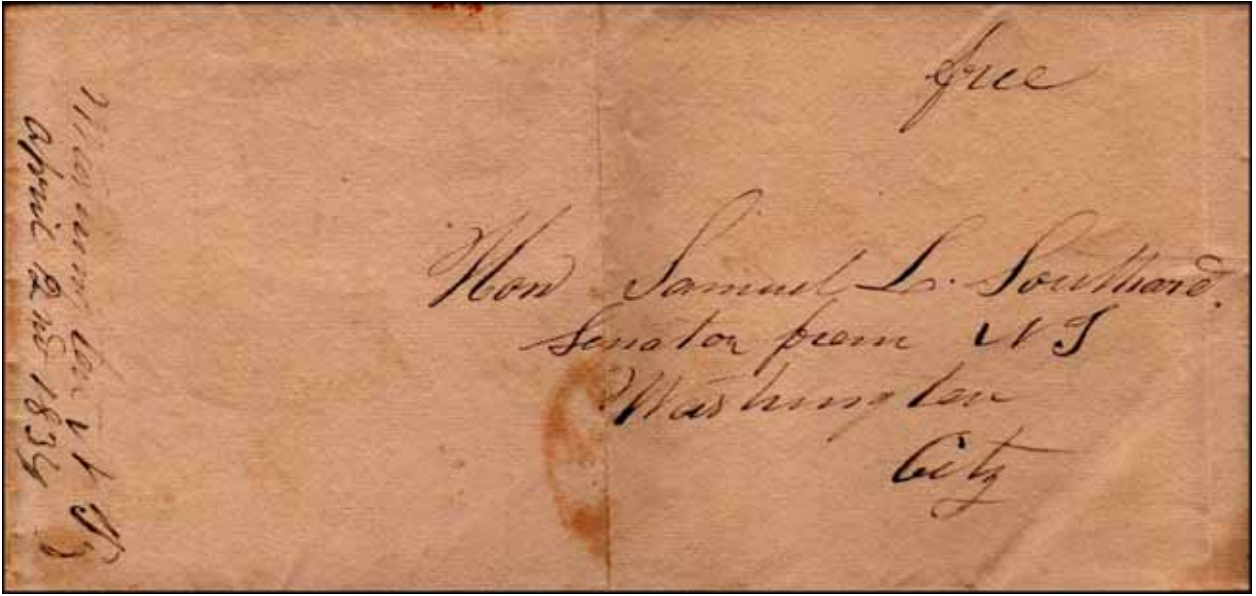
**HISTORIC NOTES:** At this point in time (1816), Southard has abandoned his first love, and married a ward of the Taliaferros, and returned to New Jersey to pursue his career in law. His first home was in Flemington, but as can be seen in this letter, he contemplates a move to Trenton, and has requested advice of Thompson.

\* \* \* \* \*

The following letter, written to Southard well into his career, is typical of the many requests made of Southard for help, influence, and favors. In 1834, he had already served as Secretary of the Navy under Madison & Monroe, and Governor of New Jersey, and has returned to the US Senate.

This letter is true postal history, and has the distinction of being from Washington, NJ to Washington, D.C. – the Washington New Jersey referenced here is not the present town of Washington in Warren County (then known as Mansfield), but a Morris County post office which later became known as Neighborville (1852), and then Middle Valley (1862).





Collection Don Chafetz  
 To: Samuel L. Southard  
 Senator from NJ  
 Washington City  
 From David Miller, PM

April 2, 1834  
 Washington, Morris County/free  
 (mss)

Dear Sir,

According to a contract entered into by my father and since by myself with the former Postmaster General and since acknowledged by the present PM General, we were to receive all the income of this office as our compensation for transferring the mail from this place to Schooley's Mountain P.O. a distance of about five miles once or twice a week.

But I have lately received a letter from O. B. Brown, Treasurer of the Office of Finance, informing me that if I did not pay a draft in favor of J.J. Ray for \$40, my dismissal from office would be the consequence. I cannot understand why such measures should be adopted by but presume there must be some mistake.

I have understood that this office was included in a late contract between Easton and New York which is certainly wrong for this office in the Lower and in German Valley more than four miles from the direct route, at any rate the contractor have never offered to supply this office with our mail, and certainly I ought not to suffer for faithfully performing my contract previously entered into with the P.M. General; if any person is in default it must be the contractor who have failed to supply this office according to their engagement. I have written O.B. Brown and if he will show you the letter it will more fully explain the above.

You will oblige me to speak to the P.M. General on the subject. And whatever be you may think advisable to do for me, I first will be thankfully received and gratefully remembered.

Yours with the highest esteem,

Samuel L. Southard

David W. Miller, P.M.

**Note:** Should other members have Southard letters to contribute, we welcome any additions. The member collection now numbers nearly 200 items.

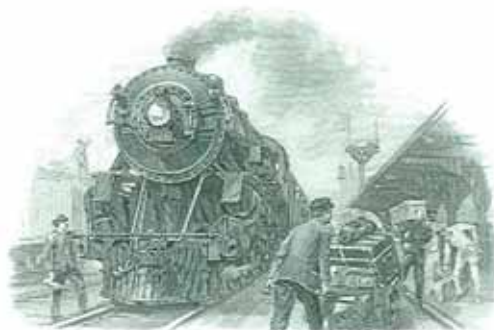
## HUNTERDON COUNTY POSTAL HISTORY: PART 13: RR & Canal Cancels

By Jim Walker



*This is the thirteenth and last in a series on Hunterdon County Post Offices by Jim Walker [for Parts 1 through 12, see the August & November issues of NJPH, Vol. 35, Nos. 3 & 4, 2007, the February, May, August, and November issues, Vol. 36, No 1-4, 2008, the February, May, August and November issues of 2009, Vol. 37, No. 1- 4, and Vol. 38, No. 2 & 3].*

### HUNTERDON COUNTY RAILROAD CANCELS



## POST OFFICES AND RAILROADS IN HUNTERDON COUNTY

By Jim Walker

The arrival of the iron horse had a profound effect on the towns, large and small, which it passed through, of this we can have no doubt. The following notes show a different view of these effects on some of the communities of Hunterdon.

In 1866, a post office was established where two railroads, New Jersey Central and the D.L. & W., converged, at a place called Junction until 1909, when the name was changed to Hampton. When the N.J. Central laid its track south of the town of Clinton, the station there naturally became known as Clinton Station. The post office recognized this in 1859. The place was said to remind the new president of the N.J.C. railroad of his boyhood home in Scotland called Annandale, and the name was changed to that in 1871.

Asbury Station on the N.J. Central was built south of the town of the same name which is located in Warren County. A village grew up around the station and a post office was established here in 1886. The name of this place was changed to Ludlow in honor of Governor George Ludlow, who was born in Milford in 1830. The post office was reestablished here as Ludlow in 1898.

When the Lehigh Valley Railroad built the Musconetcong tunnel through Jugtown Mountain, the village known as Bethlehem changed its name to West End on December of 1879, according to Post Office records. This village changed its name two more times before its post office was discontinued in 1956. It was known as Valley for a short time (1881-1908) and finally as West Portal. Another N.J. Central station that developed into a village is White House Station: a post office was established here in 1866.

Sometimes the railroad changed its station names to accommodate the town or to avoid confusion with another station. The Belvidere-Delaware Railroad changed the name of its Centerbridge Station to Stockton in 1867. When the Pennsylvania Railroad took over operation of the Bel-Del line in the 1870s, some names were changed again. Point Pleasant was renamed Byram and Barbers Station became known as Bowne. When the Bel-Del built their station at Saxtonville in the 1850s, they called it Bull's Island; by 1890 the area was known as Raven Rock and so too the station.

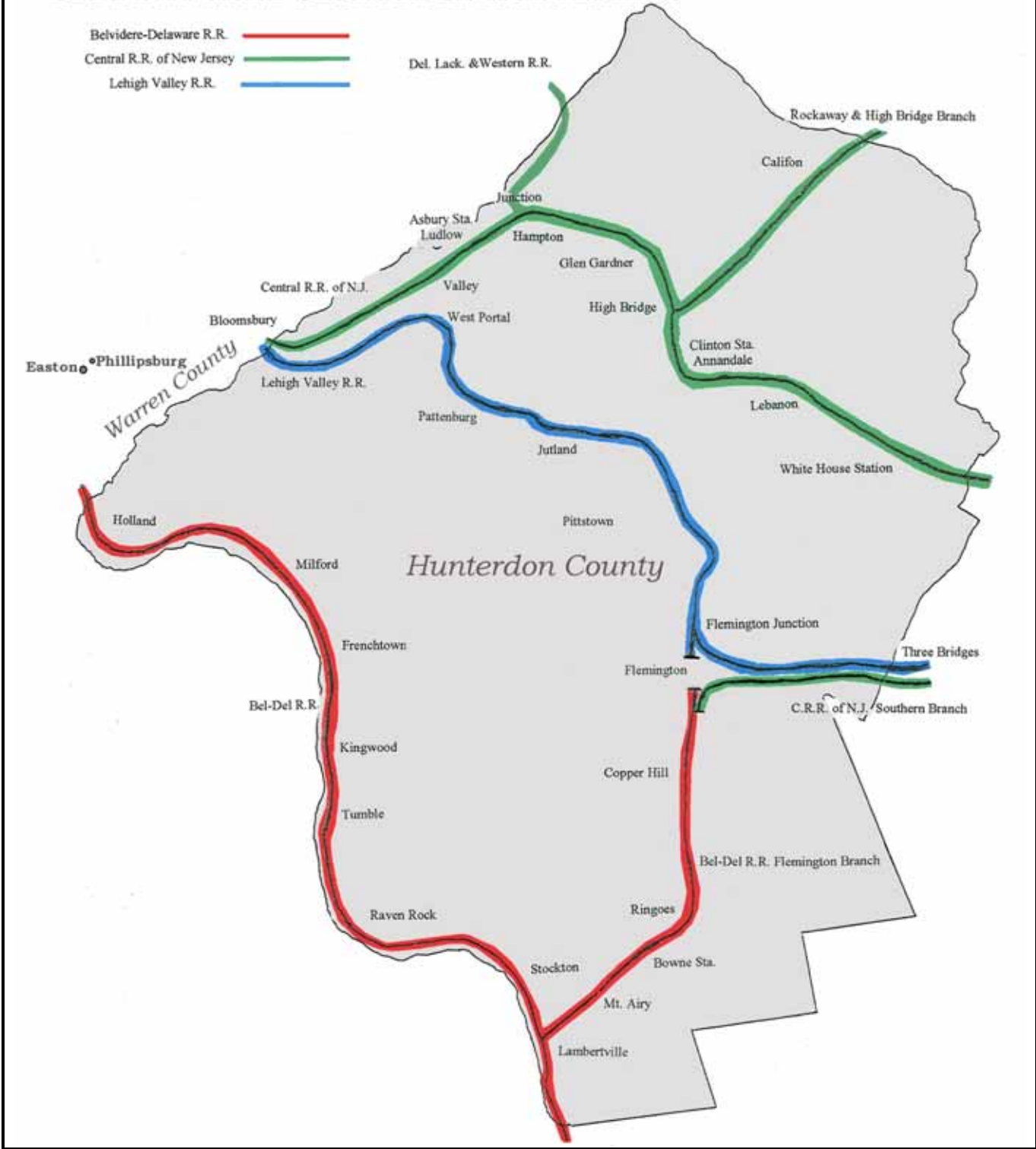
Three main line railroads crossed Hunterdon County and all had mail contracts with the Post Office Department: the Central Railroad of New Jersey and later the Lehigh Valley Railroad crossed the Delaware River at Phillipsburg. Each railroad built stations in many of the small towns their tracks passed through.

The third railroad to serve Hunterdon was the Belvidere & Delaware. Following the Delaware River north from Trenton, it traversed the entire length of the County and on to Phillipsburg. Eventually all three railroads made connections with Flemington. The first was to be the Bel-Del by way of The Flemington Railroad & Transportation Company in 1854.



### RAILROADS IN HUNTERDON COUNTY

#### RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE IN HUNTERDON



All three railroads sorted and canceled mail en route. The Central R.R. of N.J. and the Bel-Del provided their station agents with canceling devices. Most of the earliest railroad business mail will be found without stamps or postage paid markings due to the fact that the Post Office Department found it difficult to convince the railroads to pay postage for carrying their own business correspondence. Eventually they agreed to pay and the P.O.D. allowed any mail that concerned the train that carried it to be sent free.

The devices used to cancel the mail by the Railway Post Office usually contained the name of the line, which would be an abbreviation of the towns at the ends of the system or major cities served. When looking for examples of R.P.O. cancels from intermediate stops such as the small stations of rural Hunterdon, all we have to go on is the return address or the dateline that sometimes gives the place of origin.



*Fig. 195: A BEL-DEL RR manuscript pencil cancel tying a U.S. #65 to a Civil War era cover, mailed at Lambertville and addressed to Holland, a station on the line north of Milford.*



*Fig. 196: This cover was canceled with a 28mm Lambertville B.D.R.R. postmark. No postage was paid on this 1856 letter because it contained Railroad business addressed to Charles Bartles at Flemington, Chairman of the Board of the Flemington Railroad and Transportation Company*

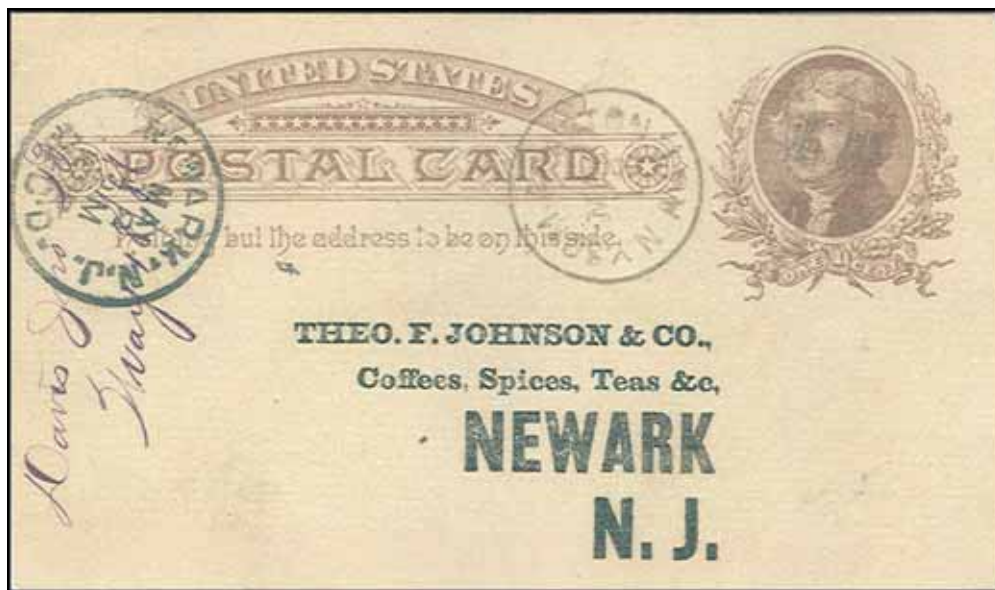


Fig. 197A: This U.S. postal card was mailed from White House May 18, 1886 to Newark. It was canceled by the Station Agent with a N.Y., SOM. & EASTON AGT. railroad cancel and carried on the Central Railroad of New Jersey line.

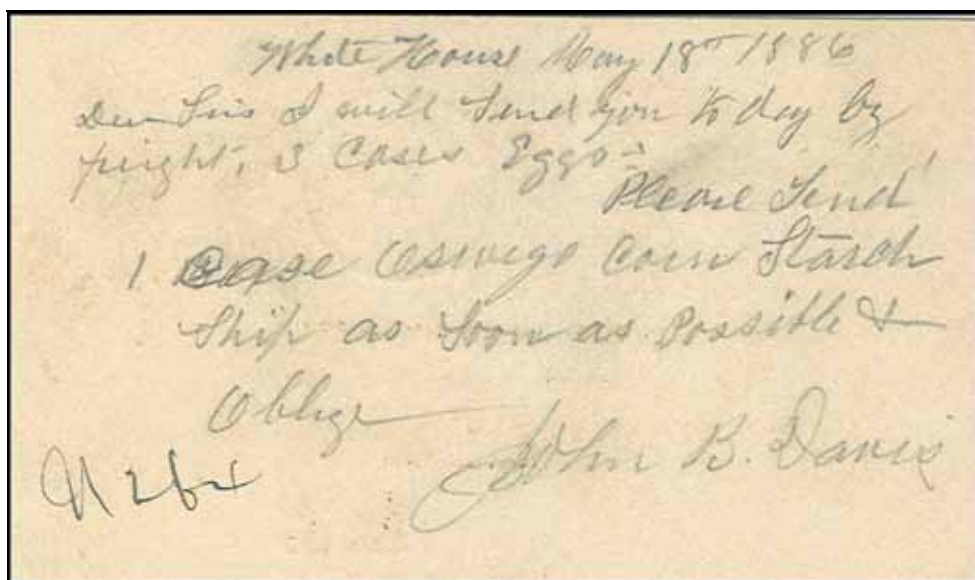


Fig. 197B: The message side reads: Dear Sir, I will send you today by freight, 3 cases eggs. Please send 1 case of Oswego Corn Starch. Ship as soon as possible & Oblige John B. Davis



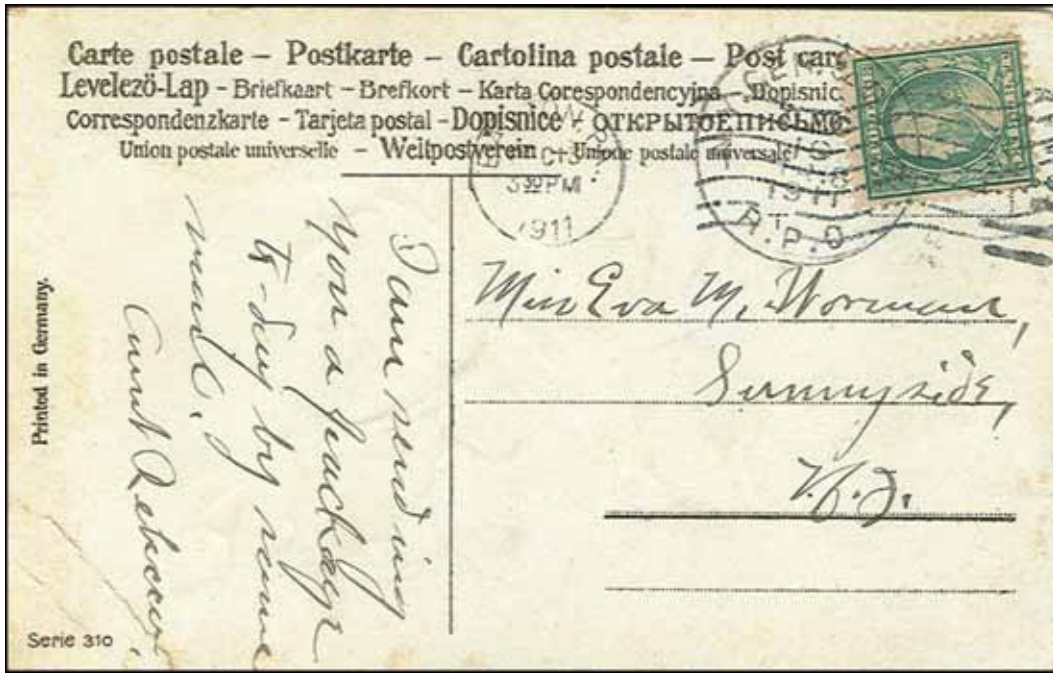


Fig. 198: This post card was mailed at Easton, PA. Addressed to Sunnyside, Hunterdon County, it was carried by the Lehigh Valley Railroad and received a second cancel, N.Y., GENEVA & BUFF. R.P.O. en route.



Fig. 199: Canceled by the Railway Post Office on the BEL-DEL morning run south from Belvidere, this card arrived in Lambertville by 9 AM Feb. 10, 1908.



**B.D.R.R.**

*Fig. 200: Revenue Stamp #R15 used to show taxes paid on BEL-DEL R.R. document SEP. 25, 1865.*



**C.R.R.CO.N.J.**

*Fig. 201: Revenue Stamp #R15 used on a bank check to Samuel Knox tied by a double circle cancel: Treasurers Office C.R.R. CO. of N. J. NOV. 30, 1867*

These six return receipt cards for registered letters on the following page show they were carried on the Pennsylvania Railroad, East Stroudsburg & Trenton Line, to each of the addressed towns between 1942 and 1947.

Both types of R.P.O. cancels (242-F-1 & 242-F-2) as listed in the *U.S. Transit Marking Catalog*<sup>1</sup> are represented here.

The postmaster or clerk at each of the receiving offices signed for the cards. James Clery at Lambertville, William Ledger at Stockton, Cornelius Hoff at Frenchtown, Wilmer Lawrence for Postmaster Charles Melick at Milford. The last two cards were carried over the Flemington Branch, Postmaster Rachel Berger of Ringoes and Ed Case of Flemington returned their cards in May of 1942.



Fig. 201: Registered return receipts for items carried by railroads.

<sup>1</sup> US Transit Marking Catalog, 1837-1974, Mobile Post Office Society, 1974.



CANAL SERVICE

By Jim Walker



The Delaware & Raritan Canal feeder supplies the main canal with water from the Delaware River at Bull's Island. This envelope is addressed to Joseph Smith at Lambertville: Smith operated the Prallsville mill and a quarry on the canal. This cover carried a letter from D. Loder in Trenton requesting a shipment of Belgium block for the paving of Clinton Street. The canal boat was used to carry messages between Smith and Loder. This is noted at the upper left: "Boat Service/ Geo's Boat" in the hand of the boat captain George Bancroft, and is dated inside September 1882. Without a charge noted on the envelope, this letter was carried outside the U.S. Mail. Such covers are seldom seen.

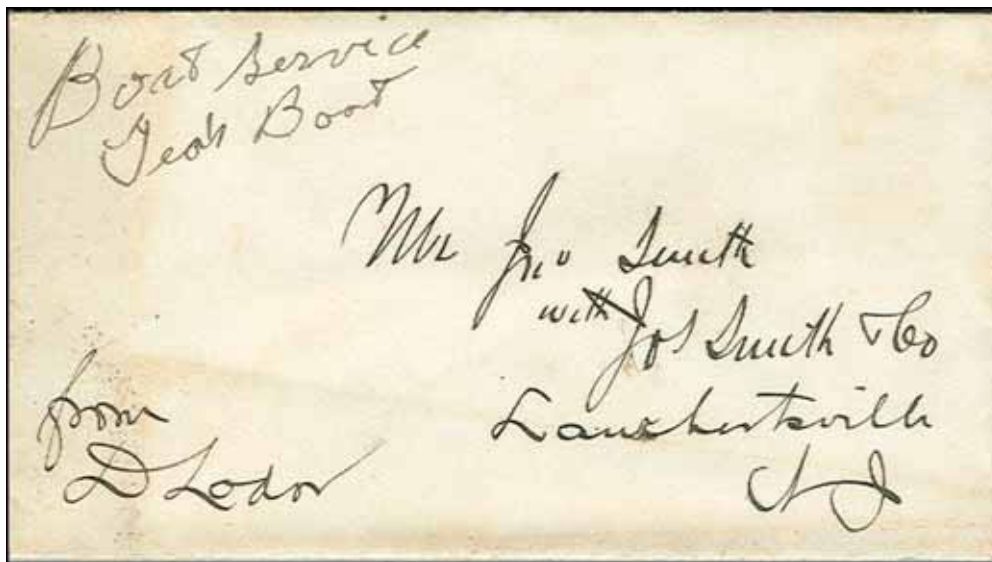


Fig. 202: Scarce canal cover carried outside the mail.

Thanks very much to Jim Walker for allowing us to serialize his material. It has been a wonderful contribution to Hunterdon County and New Jersey postal history. Ed.

## HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: MOUNT HOLLY

By Doug D'Avino

The Masonic Lodge (Mount Holly Lodge #14) was erected in 1891 at the corner of Main (now High) and Brainerd Streets in Mount Holly (county seat of Burlington County). Unfortunately, the expense of building the brownstone structure became excessive, and the Masons ended up as tenants instead of owners. The building, as well as the law offices of Jonathan H. Kelsey & Herbert S. Killie in an adjoining building, was destroyed by fire on January 28, 1925.



The post office was located on the ground floor (basement) of the building, and the Masonic Lodge had facilities on the fourth floor. Members of the Lodge who have served as Mount Holly's Postmaster include Samuel Risdon, Jr. (1841-43, 1849-53), William E. Bryan (1855-61), Jack B. Collins (1891-95), Charles C. Cowperthwait (1899-1915), Walter T. Stewart (1922-1934), William H. Claypoole (1948-53) and Gerald E. White (1953-78). The building was owned by the law firm of Kelsey & Killie, who, as insurance agents, had also insured the structures that were destroyed.

Mount Holly finally got a dedicated post office on December 12, 1936. That building, on Washington Street, is still in use.



Fig. 1: Post card view of the Masonic Temple/Mount Holly Post office in 1913, and its cancel.



Fig. 2: Cover from the dedication of the new post office in 1936, addressed to the PM of West New York, NJ.



(Image courtesy of Mount Holly Lodge #14)

**Fig. 3:** The post office occupied the ground floor on High Street. On January 28, 1925, the coldest night of the year, water froze as it hit the buildings, leaving an ice sculpture that attracted sightseers for weeks. Fire companies from Mount Holly, Burlington, Moorestown, Beverly, Riverside and Masonville responded to the fire).

*My thanks to Val Korsniak, Mount Holly Lodge #14 F&AM Librarian/Historian and member of the Mount Holly Historical Society, for providing access to historical data and images relative to the post office.*  
Doug D'Avino

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If you have a post office to feature in the "Hometown Post Offices," please let us know, or send material to Doug D'Avino at [davinod@earthlink.net](mailto:davinod@earthlink.net).



## MEMBER NEWS:

### Obituary: Paul T Jackson -- August 24, 1941 - November 20, 2010

Long-time member and contributor to our Journal, Paul Jackson, died on November 20 after a long illness. Many will remember his enthusiasm for the hobby, and for his interesting articles. Bob Rose recalled in his message the article on military cancels and the Hoboken eagles, but his interests were wide – he loved New Jersey perfins, and had a nice collection of them. He enjoyed DPOs and covers commemorating the change of post office names. He reminded us to be mindful of our heritage, in the many small stamp societies that once existed in towns across the state. There were always interesting things to be collected, and Paul always took great pleasure in them.

Paul was a member of the American Philatelic Society as well an NJPHS. We will miss his enthusiasm and appreciation for all things philatelic.

### Web site files

A few additions have been made to our Member Only online files. We have added Arne Englund's article and list of Summer (or seasonal) post offices, Don Chafetz's Development of Morris County Mail Service, 1760-1850, and Larry Brennan's long series on Air Craft Carriers. All of these files are color pdfs available for download. You also have access, as a member, to all of our journals in pdf format. If you would like a link sheet to access any of these, please contact your secretary at [Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org).

This now makes five different county documents, Burlington, Cape May, Morris, Hunterdon, and Sussex, which are available to members online. We would love to add others, so if you are a collector of a specific country, we encourage you to do a history its post offices. We have available resources to help, and can point you to others. Joe Felcone often offers local history books which would be valuable in such an effort. One day perhaps we will be able to offer postal histories of all twenty-one New Jersey counties <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/freelibraryarticles.html>.

A membership directory is available on request to all members. Again, contact your secretary at [Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org](mailto:Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org).

## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

|   |
|---|
| <b>WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER:</b>   |
| Robert H.Penn, 1108 Walnut Dr., Danielsville, PA 18038, <a href="mailto:RobertHPenn@aol.com">RobertHPenn@aol.com</a><br>Pre-Stamp Covers - So. Jersey Counties      |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:</b>  |
| Don Chafetz: change email address from <a href="mailto:intrepid09@cox.net">intrepid09@cox.net</a> to <a href="mailto:09intrepid@gmail.com">09intrepid@gmail.com</a> |
| Matt Stoll: change address to 2758 E. Rockledge Road, Phoenix, AZ 85048   |
| <b>GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS</b>   |
| Paul T. Jackson, Raritan, NJ – deceased.  |

**MEMBER NEWS: TREASURER'S REPORT**

**TREASURER'S REPORT – JANUARY 1, 2009 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2009**

|                                    |                       |                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 12/31/2008 |                       | \$8,130.91            |
| INCOME                             | DUES                  | \$1,650 (110)         |
|                                    | DONATIONS             | \$ 775                |
|                                    | CD & LITERATURE SALES | \$ 120                |
|                                    | NOJEX cash sales      | \$ 48 (no accounting) |
|                                    | TOTAL                 | \$2,593               |
| EXPENDITURES                       | PAYPAL FEES           | (\$ 11.22)            |
|                                    | JOURNAL               | (\$2,341.35)          |
|                                    | TOTAL                 | (\$2,352.57)          |
| NET CHANGE                         |                       | \$ 240.43             |
| BALANCE YEAR END 12/31/2009        |                       | \$8,371.34            |

Journal Expenses By Issue

| Month         | Printing          | Mailing         | Total             |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| February 2009 | \$385.00          | \$232.30        | \$617.30          |
| May 2009      | \$323.00          | \$263.75        | \$586.75          |
| August 2009   | \$321.00          | \$227.70        | \$585.10          |
| November 2009 | \$331.00          | \$257.60        | \$588.60          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$1,360.00</b> | <b>\$981.35</b> | <b>\$2,341.35</b> |

The obvious and only real expense the Society incurs is the printing and mailing of the Journal, and Jean Walton and Bob Rose have earned our praise for all of their hard work in producing the fine journal that we all enjoy. Without the Journal, it is doubtful that the Society would continue. The Journal costs are nearly identical to 2008.

I am also pleased to report that we have 7 more members this year!

The contributions from our many generous members (nearly half – 53!!!) totaled the same dollar amount as last year. Their kind contributions allowed the Society to turn a small loss into a modest increase, and to hold dues at the very modest \$15 annual rate for the umpteenth year. I thank the many Society members who contributed beyond their dues, and, despite the current economic situation, hope that the membership will continue to donate in 2011.

**Andy Kupersmit, Treasurer**

## MEMBER ADS ~ YOUR AD MISSING? LET US KNOW AT

[SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG](mailto:SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG) OR BY MAIL

**WANTED BERGEN COUNTY; OCEAN COUNTY:** Stampless through Presidents. PLS send copies with prices to J. Haynes, Box 358, Allendale, NJ 07401.

**LOOKING FOR LOCAL PICTURE POST CARDS OF OLD NJ GENERAL STORES & POST OFFICES,** particularly with post office signs, Contact Doug D'Avino at [davinod@earthlink.net](mailto:davinod@earthlink.net).

**WANTED:** Calno, Brotzmanville, Millbrook, Pahaquarry, Dunnfield, Delaware Gap, Flatbrookville, Wallpack Centre, Bevans, Layton, Hainesville, Montague. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865-3012 or [alenglund@aol.com](mailto:alenglund@aol.com).

**WANTED: Hunterdon County NJ, Bucks County PA** postal history, covers, postcards, pictures, Americana ephemera collateral paper items, all eras,. Contact Jim Walker, 121 Wertsville Road, Ringoes, NJ 08551-1108, 908/806-7883 or email [jiwalker@earthlink.net](mailto:jiwalker@earthlink.net).

**OUT-OF-PRINT AND RARE NEW JERSEY BOOKS BOUGHT AND SOLD** since 1972. 8000 items, 1690s to 1990s. Visit our searchable website: [www.felcone.com](http://www.felcone.com). Joseph J. Felcone, PO Box 366, Princeton, NJ 08542 609/924-0539; [felcone@felcone.com](mailto:felcone@felcone.com).

**NOW AVAILABLE: *Annotated Cumulative Subject Index to the Chronicle of the U.S. Classical Postal Issues for Issue Numbers 1-200***, 591 pages with searchable CD-ROM. \$75.00 + \$10.00 shipping. Order from Joseph J. Geraci, Box 4129, Merrifield, VA 22116 or call 703-280-5928.

**WANTED: SHIP CANCELS FROM WWII,** Morris, Sussex County covers, Patriotic covers, and postal cards. Clean clear strikes preferred. Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane, Ledgewood, NJ 07852, or 973/584-0359.

**WANTED:** Port Murray, Anderson, Changewater, Port Colden, Karrsville, Rockport, Beatyestown, Pleasant Grove, Stephensburg, Anthony, Woodglen. Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865-3012 or [alenglund@aol.com](mailto:alenglund@aol.com).

**WANTED FOR EXHIBIT: BETTER COVERS FROM NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ, COLONIAL PERIOD TO 1900.** Contact Nathan Zankel, P.O. Box 7449, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 or call 732/572-0377.

**WANTED:** Clear handstamps on New Jersey stampless covers for exhibition collection. Send copies and prices to Robert G. Rose, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 or e-mail [rrose@daypitney.com](mailto:rrose@daypitney.com).

**WANTED: WASHINGTON FRANKLIN with SIDEROGRAPHER OR PLATE FINISHER INITIALS,** on or off cover, used or unused.. Contact Doug D'Avino at [davinod@earthlink.net](mailto:davinod@earthlink.net).

**COLLECTOR SEEKS LONG BEACH ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY,** especially picture postcards. Please contact Michael White, P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950 or email [mwhite@saipan.com](mailto:mwhite@saipan.com).

**ESPECIALLY WANTED: TANSBOROUGH (1862-1884, 1898-1906), WILTON (1884-1898) CANCELS ON CARDS/COVERS,** or addressed to these P.O.s. Note: There is a C.W. correspondence to Tansboro. Contact Craig Mathewson, 114 Hayes Mill Rd, Apt D-202, Atco, NJ 08004, phone: 856/809-7484

**WANTED: 1970'S UPS DENOMINATED STAMPS SOLD IN NORTHERN NJ BY UNITED PARCEL SERVICE.** Also any literature, waybills, etc., about this UPS experiment with prepaid stamps. Contact Bruce Mosher, POB 33236, Indialantic, FL 32903, 321/723-7886 or e-mail [bhmexp@digital.net](mailto:bhmexp@digital.net).



MEMBER ADS

MEMBER ADS

**WANTED: POSTAL HISTORY OF SUSSEX COUNTY:** DPO postmarks: Culvers, Cutoff, Edison (pre 1910); stampless letters, OLD DEEDS, documents, memorabilia of all kinds. Contact Leonard R. Peck, 200 Bristol Glen Dr., Box 312, Newton, NJ 07860 or call 973-300-5788 & ask for Len Peck.

**WANTED: All GLOUCESTER COUNTY, NJ POSTAL HISTORY stampless to 1920.** All Woodbury, NJ stampless to present. **NEED BASSETT PO** (DPO GlouCty 1891-1920) Warren Plank, POB 559, Woodbury 08096, 856/229-1458, [unclebubba1954@comcast.net](mailto:unclebubba1954@comcast.net).

**WANTED: SCOTT #610 MATCHED SET OF PLATE BLOCKS, F-VF** or better, NH not required. Send scans or photocopies with price to Al Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, 607-732-0181, [alatholleyrd@aol.com](mailto:alatholleyrd@aol.com).

**WANTED; STAGE COVERS BEFORE 1860.** All Eastern states. Also wanted: Confederate fakes and forgeries. Contact Steven M. Roth, 1280 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW, Suite 209, Washington, DC 20036, 202/293-2563 or email [stevenroth@comcast.net](mailto:stevenroth@comcast.net).

**ALWAYS DESIRED: FISH HOUSE, COVERS, BURLINGTON COUNTY ADVERTISING COVERS AND CORNER CARDS; BURLINGTON COUNTY DPOs.** Email Paul W. Schopp at [pwschopp@comcast.net](mailto:pwschopp@comcast.net).

**GLASSBORO OR GLASSBOROUGH N.J. COVERS WANTED: STAMPED OR STAMPLESS.** Send price desired and photocopy to Bill Whiteman, 402 North Harvard Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028, Call 856/881-8858 or email [BillWhit3@juno.com](mailto:BillWhit3@juno.com).

**WANTED: MOUNTAIN LAKES, BOONTON, PARSIPPANY, TROY HILLS POSTAL HISTORY** items. Describe or send photocopies for my very generous offer. APS (Life member), NJPHS member since 1980. Peter Lemmo, PO Box 557, Whippany NJ 07981-0557.

**WANTED: JERSEY CITY POSTAL HISTORY,** advertising covers, post cards of Jersey City, street scenes and unusual usages or cancellations prior to 1940. Contact John A. Trosky, 2 St. Clair Ave., Rutherford. NJ 07070-1136, 973-977-4639 or email: [JTJersey@verizon.net](mailto:JTJersey@verizon.net).

**WANTED: COVERS** to and from **CALDWELL, N.J.,** Also **CALDWELL POST CARDS.** Contact Les Bymes, P.O. Box 765, Kinderhook, N.Y. 12106 or call 518/758-7581.

**19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AND INTERESTING PATERSON WANTED.** Contact George Kramer, 199 Charles St., Clifton, NJ 07013-3853, or email [gikk@optonline.net](mailto:gikk@optonline.net)

**WANTED: WWI & WWII CENSORED MAIL TO AND FROM TOWACO, NJ 07082.** Email scans to [hughtowaco@optonline.com](mailto:hughtowaco@optonline.com) or mail copy to POB #139, Towaco, NJ 07082-0139.

**WANTED: WYCKOFF POSTMARKS ON COVER** appreciated. Are there any out there? Please contact me! Also other North Jersey covers wanted. Marge Faber, P.O. Box 1875, Bloomington, IN 47402 or email [faber@bluemarble.net](mailto:faber@bluemarble.net).

**WANTED: FLORIDA STAMPLESS POSTAL HISTORY,** Pre-territorial, Territorial, Statehood, Civil War periods. Contact William Johnson, 13691 Metropolitan Pkwy, Ft. Myers, FL 33912 or email [whjdds@aol.com](mailto:whjdds@aol.com).

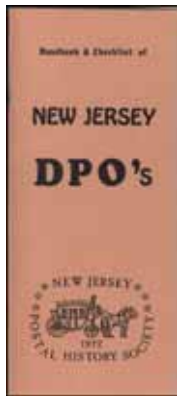
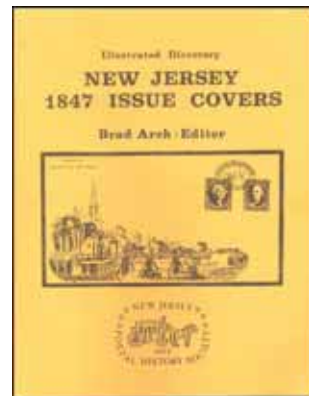
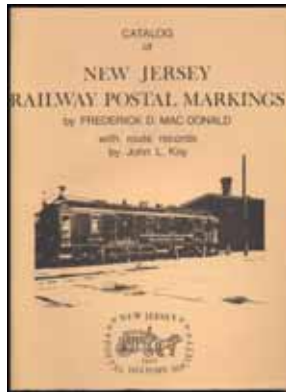
**WANTED: NJ DPOS, RPOS, NJ SMALL TOWN POSTCARDS,** NJ RRs, Morris Canal Real Photo postcards, NJ towns' fire stations. Contact Maurice Cuocci, 100 Evesham #B, Freehold, NJ 07728, 732-577-8214 or email [lou2cuo@hotmail.com](mailto:lou2cuo@hotmail.com).

| NJPHS LITERATURE AVAILABLE postpaid from Robert G. Rose, NJPHS, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891, or email <a href="mailto:Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org">Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org</a> for Paypal invoice.  | Member price | Non-members |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| <b>CD or hard copy:</b> <i>The Postal Markings Of New Jersey Stampless Covers: An Update</i> by Donald A. Chafetz (2004) hardcopy, 28pp. or available on CD in .PDF format .....<br>Updates the extensive work of William C. Coles, with new markings and dates since that original work was published in 1983<br><b>Also available to members free as a downloadable file</b> .....  | \$10.00      | \$15.00     |
| <b>CD only:</b> <i>Washington Organ Manufacturers</i> on CD, by Len Frank - 3 articles + many many illustrations not in <i>NJPH</i> , in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format.....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ,</li> <li>• Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles.</li> <li>• Includes much paper ephemera as well. An impressive collection.</li> </ul> | \$7.50       | \$10.00     |
| <b>Hard copy:</b> <i>Catalog of New Jersey Railway Postal Markings</i> , 1984, Frederick D. MacDonald, 136pp. ....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still the “bible” of New Jersey railway postmarks.</li> <li>• A must for any RPO collector.</li> <li>• Routes and cancels shown.....</li> <li>• Terminal markings</li> </ul>   | \$7.50       | \$10.00     |
| <b>Hard copy:</b> <i>Illustrated Directory of New Jersey 1847 Issue Covers</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1987, 44pp & Supplements .....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the collector of the 1847 Issue, this book by Brad Arch is the comprehensive work on New Jersey covers</li> <li>• 5¢ and 10¢ covers in separate sections</li> <li>• Detailed descriptions of each cover, arranged by office of origin.</li> </ul>   | \$4.00       | \$7.50      |
| <b>Hard copy:</b> <i>New Jersey DPO's</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1981, 22pp, pocket sized Checklist of Discontinued Post Offices .....<br>THE pocket manual of New Jersey discontinued post offices, easy to transport and an excellent checklist<br><b>Also available to members free as a downloadable file</b> .....  | \$3.00       | \$4.00      |
| <b>Hard copy:</b> <i>New Jersey's Foreign Mail</i> , 1997, Gerard J. Neufeld, 76pp. ....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fine monograph on foreign mail to and from New Jersey in the 19<sup>th</sup> Cent.</li> <li>• Profusely illustrated</li> <li>• Each cover explained</li> </ul>   | \$8.00       | \$10.00     |
| <b>CD:</b> Mosher's NJ Private Express Companies .....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey with many color illustrations</li> <li>• Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript plus index</li> </ul>  | \$10.00      | \$15.00     |
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| Edge, Jack, <i>Postmasters of Burlington County</i> . List of Burlington County postmasters from in Jack's Burlington series, in PDF format.  | FREE         | 4.99        |
| Englund, Arne, <i>New Jersey Summer Post Offices</i> – seasonal POs of NJ, in PDF.  | FREE         |             |
| Law, Mary E., <i>The Postal History of Cape May County, NJ</i> including postmaster list, published in <i>NJPH</i> between March 1993 through May 1994, PDF format.   | FREE         | 8.99        |
| Walker, Jim, <i>Hunterdon County Postal History</i> , serialized articles 2007-2010, pdf  | FREE         |             |
| Peck, Len, <i>Essays on Sussex County &amp; New Jersey Postal History</i> , articles 2004-10, pdf   | FREE         | 9.95        |

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| <b>CD or hard copy:</b> <i>The Postal Markings Of New Jersey Stampless Covers: An Update</i> by Donald A. Chafetz hardcopy, 28pp. or available as CD in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format (2004).....<br>Updates the extensive work of William C. Coles, with new markings and dates since that original work was published in 1983   | \$10.00      | \$15.00     |
| <b>CD:</b> Bruce Mosher's <i>NJ Private Express Companies</i> .....<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey</li> <li>• Many color illustrations</li> <li>• Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript</li> <li>• Alphabetical index</li> </ul>   | \$10.00      | \$15.00     |
| <b>CD:</b> <i>Washington NJ Organ Manufacturers</i> on CD, by Len Frank - 3 articles + many illustrations not in <i>NJPH</i> , in Acrobat Reader [.PDF] format, 2004..<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ,</li> <li>• Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles.</li> <li>• Includes much paper ephemera as well. An astounding compilation of material.</li> </ul> | \$7.50       | \$10.00     |

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