



NJPH

The Journal of the
NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY
 ISSN: 1078-1625

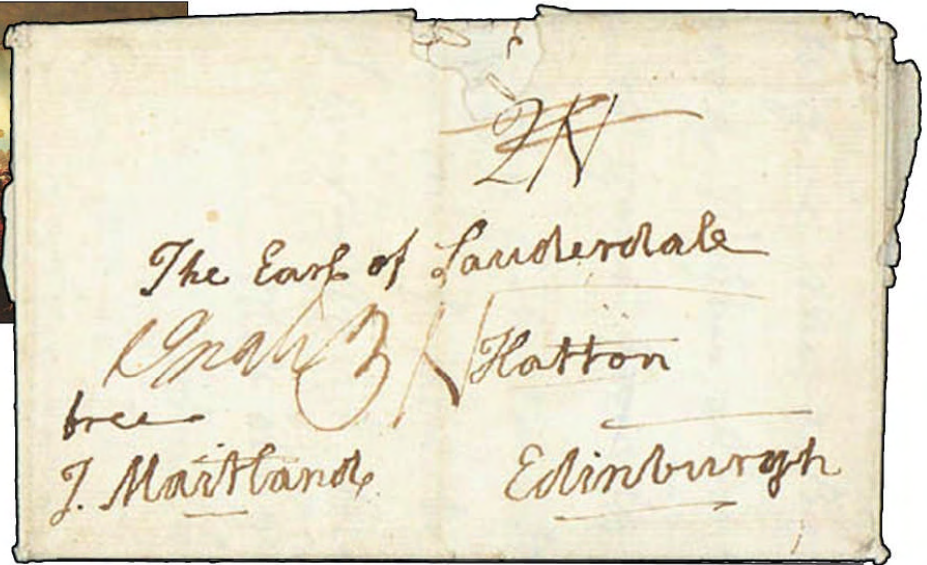
Vol. 40

No. 1

Whole Number 185

February 2012

New Jersey Revolutionary War Cover



Featured this issue is a letter from John Maitland, a British officer, describing the events of December 26, 1776 – a turning point in the American Revolution. For more information see [page 3](#), and see our [Featured Cover page](#) for this article online.

~ CONTENTS ~

President's Message	Robert G. Rose.....	2
A Wonderful Revolutionary War Letter	Ed & Jean Siskin.....	3
From Guadalcanal To The Garden State: August 6, 1942: Part I	Lawrence Brennan	9
History of the Hammonton Post Office.....	Doug D'Avino.....	21
Civil War Patriots: The Story of the Beverly Hospital	William E. Hughes, Jean Walton & Richard Micchelli.....	32
Census of Early NJ Covers, Part 3: Princeton.....	Ed & Jean Siskin	47
Hometown Post Offices: Ampere, NJ	Doug D'Avino.....	53
Member News: Treasurer's Report, Errata, Donors, New Members,		55
Member Ads		57
Literature Available		59

NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY, INC.

APS Affiliate #95 - PHS Affiliate #1A - NJFSC Chapter #44S ISSN: 1078-1625

Annual Membership Subscriptions \$15.00 *** Website: www.NJPostalHistory.org/

OFFICERS

President: Robert G. Rose, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 President@NJPostalHistory.org

VP & Ed. Emeritus: E. E. Fricks, 25 Murray Way, Blackwood, NJ 08012 VicePresident@NJPostalHistory.org

Treasurer: Andrew Kupersmit, 143 Woodbridge Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840 Treasurer@NJPostalHistory.org

Secretary: Jean R. Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ 07830 Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org

Auction Manager: Arne Englund, P.O. Box 57, Port Murray, NJ 07865 auctionmanager@NJPostalHistory.org

Editor-in-Chief/*NJPH*: Robert G. Rose, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 rrose@daypitney.com

Layout Editor: Jean R. Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ 07830 Njpostalhistory@aol.com.

DUES REMINDER!

If you have not yet paid your dues for 2012, a form for dues payment is included with this issue. Please don't forget. 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] 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!

SPECIAL THANKS FOR DONATIONS!

A great many of you have helped the Society with a contribution, to help offset our expenses. We are extremely grateful. A list of contributing members will be found on the Member News page.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of *NJPH* is sure to include an article of interest to any collector of New Jersey postal history, or in the broader scheme of things, history with a New Jersey connection. The advent and conduct of war, and the need to provide postal services for soldiers to communicate with loved ones at home, has created a fertile field for collectors of postal history. We begin with Ed and Jean Siskin's article that highlights a 1776 Revolutionary War cover from a British officer in occupied New Brunswick to his brother, in which he describes General George Washington's successful attack and defeat of the Hessian soldiers at the Battle of Trenton. We then move to the Civil War and a fascinating article concerning the army hospital established in Beverly, NJ for wounded Union soldiers and the many patriotic covers in which their letters to home were mailed. From there we fast forward to World War II and Captain Lawrence Brennan's article on the invasion of Guadalcanal by the U.S. Marines who were carried to battle on a New Jersey built transport ship, the USS *American Legion*. Doug D'Avino contributes a long article on the Hammonton post office, as well as another in his series on Hometown Post Offices, featuring the history of the establishment of the Ampere post office before it became a branch of the East Orange post office. The Ampere post office played a special part in my life as a young stamp collector, for it was at the very post office that I bought several "Prexies" for my collection. Finally, the Siskins provide another installment on their census of early New Jersey covers, this article illustrating 18th century Princeton covers.

This year our Society will celebrate its 40th Anniversary at NOJEX which will be held on May 25-27 in Secaucus. Please consider showing your New Jersey postal history at the Show, be it a single or a multi-frame exhibit. An exhibitor's prospectus and complete Show information can be found at www.nojex.org. It will also be the venue for our annual meeting on the 27th.

Finally, if you have not yet paid your dues for 2012, a reminder is enclosed. To the many of you who have so generously supported the Society with a donation, I add my personal thanks. Enjoy the Spring!

ROBERT G. ROSE

A WONDERFUL REVOLUTIONARY WAR LETTER

By Ed & Jean Siskin



(So often we hear the story of the Battle of Trenton from the American point of view. This letter from New Jersey to Scotland in February of 1777, gives us some insight from the British point of view, and makes the Revolutionary War a little more real, to hear it in the words of one who was there... Ed.)

In the Oct-Nov 1988 issue of *La Posta*, Tom Clarke wrote an article about a wonderful Revolutionary War cover he had. Dated February 16, 1777, from New Brunswick, New Jersey, it was from a British officer to his brother, the Earl of Lauderdale in Edinburgh, Scotland and discussed, among other things, the recent Battle of Trenton. Tom kindly let me acquire it and for many years it remained one of my favorite covers. Now that it's moving on to a new owner, it seems appropriate to provide additional documentation of this gem. First let's consider some background.

In July 1776, General Howe with more than 30,000 troops invaded New York. General Washington's force of 18,000 fought bravely but was pushed out of New York and across New Jersey. By Christmas, Washington's remaining 6,000 men had crossed into Pennsylvania. Many of his remaining men would be going home when their enlistments expired at the end of the year. In an historic campaign that revitalized the Revolution, Washington re-crossed the Delaware on Christmas Day Eve and successfully attacked the 1,200 Hessians at Trenton. Then, he successfully outmaneuvered the British, took on two companies of British troops at Princeton and then withdrew to safe winter quarters at Morristown.

By the time Major Maitland wrote this letter, he and his company were comfortably ensconced in their winter quarters in New Brunswick. The cover is shown in *Figure 1*.

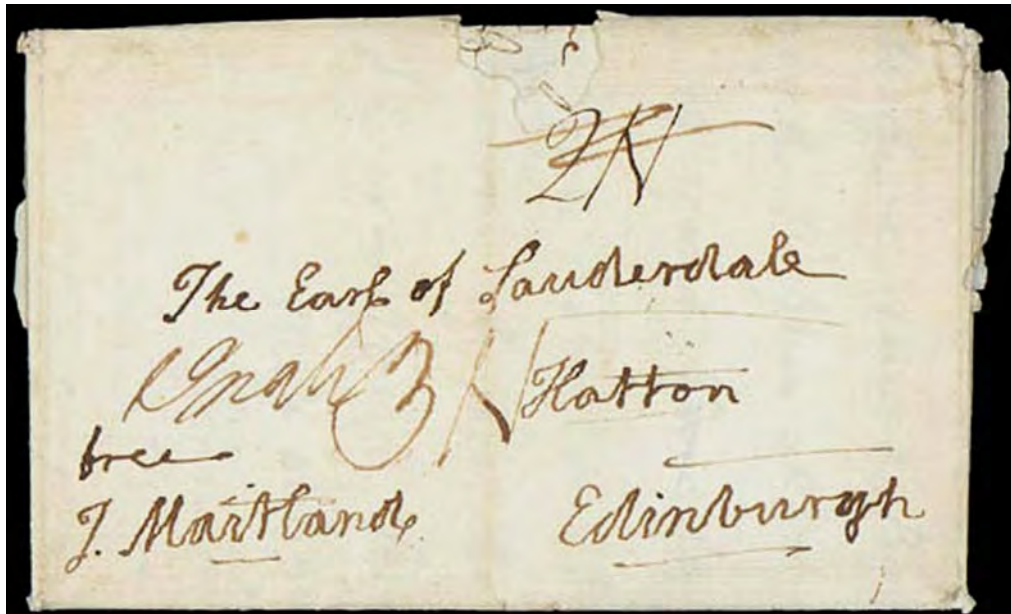


Fig. 1: Note that it is free franked for domestic postage. Unlike the American Post Office, the British soldiers did not have free franking privileges. The Honourable Major Maitland had franking privileges because he was also a member of the British Parliament.

Dunswick N.J. febr^y 18th
1777

My Lord

It is a Long while since I wrot to you
which is owing to my hardly ever having
time and very seldome Paper &c. we
Ended our Campaign Nobly and went
into a sort of winter Quarters and would
have been very comfortable had it ^{not} been for
the too much security of a Hessian Colonel
his name was Raul, he was quartered at
Trentown on Delawar with three Regiments
of Hessians, he was informed from all
sides that he was to be attacked the
next morning

It is a Long while since I wrot to you which is owing to my hardly ever having time and very seldome Paper &c. we Ended our campaign Nobly and went into a sort of winter Quarters and would have been very comfortable had it not been for the too much security of a Hessian Colonel, his name was Raul, he was quartered at Trentown on Delawar with three Regiments of Hessians, he was informed from all sides that he was to be attacked the next morning but nothing could bring

Fig. 2: The first page of the enclosed letter. John Maitland had lost his right hand, and thus wrote, with some difficulty, with his left hand.

him to believe that they would come, however the rebels crossed the river in the Night in Extreme bad weather and in the Morning about Nine they drove in his Piquets and Entered the town along with them, the Hessians who were quartered in a Hollow had not time to get well formed, Raul was killed & about six Hundred of his People taken I had sent a small detachment of Light Infantry there the night before which was to return to me next day. They got off without loss as did a small detachment Light dragoons between four and five Hundred Hessians also got off but the rest were taken, this happened on 26^t Decemr. Since which we have brought our Quarters nearer to each other...

but the rest were taken, this happened on 26^t Decemr. since which we have brought our Quarters nearer to each other.

Fig. 3: Page two of this letter – several more pages followed.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR LETTER ~ Ed & Jean Siskin

The transcript of the full letter is as follows: (*breaks added for easier reading – not in original text*)

Brunswick NJ febr 16th 1777

My Lord

It is a Long while since I wrot to you which is owing to my hardly ever having time and very seldome Paper &c.

We Ended our campaign Nobly and went into a Sort of winter Quarters and would have been very comfortable had it not been for the too much security of a Hessian Colonel, his name was Raul, he was quartered at Trentown on Delawar with three Regiments of Hessians,

he was informed from all sides that he was to be attacked the Next Morning but nothing could bring him to believe that they would come, however the rebels crossed the river in the Night in Extreme bad weather and in the morning about Nine, they drove in his Piquets and Enter'd the town along with them

the Hessians who were quartered in a Hollow had not time to get well formed, Raul was killed and about six Hundred of his People taken I had sent a small detachment of Light Infantry there the night before which was to return to me next day. They got off without loss as did a small detachment Light dragoons between four and five Hundred Hessians also got off but the rest were taken,

this happened on 26t Decemr. Since which we have brought our quarters nearer to Each other so as to be in force everywhere. there has been some Scirmishing since but of no great Consequence, except at Prince Town where a body of Eight or Nine Thouson rebels fell in with 17th & 55th on their march when the 17th and part of the 55 attacked then beat their first Line back killed a great many officers and men and wounded one of their General officers and Retreated to a different part of our army,

they have in this Province a body of about ten thousand men a purpose to disturbe our quarters and convoys &c. but if they dont take very good care they may get Cursed knock.

I was at first quartered at Prince Town but now at this place. We are greatly Crowded but I dont mind it. I have gone thro: a great deal of fatigue this year and thank God with good health I have not had my cloths off since the month of June

General Howe I find, without my knowing it wrot home to Lord George Germagne in my favour and I find he Expects me to get a company in the Guards. I wrot last Packet to Lord George G- requesting his good offices and telling him that Sir William Howe had wrot in my favor I believe though he had never told me of it, in Short I feel they must give me something we are so crowded that I sleep 11 in a Room and we ar obliged to feight for Hay and Corn very often, which is a Dear way of buying it.

There are fourteen shirts of Mine Ready made at Mr Robertsons I wish they would make them up to two Dozen and send them to Hog and Kinlock to be forwarded by the Portsmouth Waggon directed to me to the care Lieut. Archbald Marines I shall be sure to get them or any, sent in that way as it comes by a man of war. A cask of the very best ale or any thing of that sort, might be sent by Glasgow Murthon Hams a good thing, if John Robertson could get me a good Jedburgh Cheese, old, it would convince our army that Tiviotdale beats Chesshire, I was happy in having it in my power to make a Sergant of 22d an officer recommended by the good town Jedburgh the day after got their letter.

I beg to be remembered all our frinds in Hoddington Jedburgh & Larrder. if the war lasts another year I intend Please God to come home to attend Parliament in the meantime they ought to give me a Bonny thing

my most sincere good wishes attend My Lady and every one of your family God Blis you all Pray desire John Robertson to buy a Lottery Ticket for me if there be a Lottery this year, I ever am

*Your Most Affect &
Most obliged Brother
John Maitland*



Fig. 4: John Maitland

The author of this letter, John Maitland, pictured in *Figure 4*, was a fascinating person.

He was born in 1732, the 10th son of Charles Maitland, the 6th Earl of Lauderdale. Lauderdale was one of the ranking noblemen of Scotland. Typically, younger sons of nobility considered the military as a career. John Maitland's older brother James succeeded to the title in 1744. John Maitland was appointed a Captain of Marines in 1755 and fought throughout the Seven Years War (known in North America as the French and Indian War) and lost his right arm in action in the East Indies. The fact that he had to write with his left hand can be seen in the appearance of his handwriting. In 1763, he was retired on half pay. In 1773, he was elected to the British Parliament and was re-elected in 1777. In 1775, he was recalled to active duty and sailed for Boston. Shortly after he arrived, he led one of the lead companies at the Battle of Bunker Hill. He was promoted to Major two months later and was temporarily transferred to the Savannah campaign.

In July 1776, Major Maitland landed with General Howe's force invading New York. *Figure 5* shows a cover Maitland sent his brother, the 7th Earl of Lauderdale, from Staten Island, dated July 8, 1776. A quick examination of this letter shows that it was actually hand-written by someone else, but signed and addressed by Maitland. The letter mentions his raids on Long Island.



Fig. 5: An earlier cover from Maitland, sent from Staten Island to his brother in Scotland.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR LETTER ~ Ed & Jean Siskin

Major Maitland fought throughout the New York and New Jersey campaigns, and led the detachment sent to recover Trenton after General Washington's raid.

In October 1778, Maitland transferred to the army. He was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st Battalion of the 71st Foot (Fraser's Highlanders). He served with distinction in South Carolina and Georgia. In October 1779, while he was in command at Beaufort, South Carolina, Savannah was surrounded by French and American troops. Maitland brought 800 men from Beaufort by a march through the swamps to successfully reinforce the British garrison. Shortly thereafter, he succumbed to malaria. The exact date of his death is uncertain. We've seen dates ranging from October 9 to October 25, 1779.

Stedman's contemporary book on the American War reports:

“One circumstance alone served to cloud the joy of the garrison on their recent success. This was the success of the highly-esteemed and much beloved officer the honourable lieutenant-colonel Maitland, who fell a martyr to a bilious disorder contracted from the pestilential vapours which arise from the marshes during the hot and sultry season in that unwholesome climate. He was attacked by it before he left Beaufort. It gathered strength in his route through the marshes to Savannah, and preying upon him during the siege, soon afterward put a period to the existence of this gallant officer; whose memory will be dear to Britons, so long as manly fortitude, unstained honour, and highly-improved military talents, are held in estimation.”

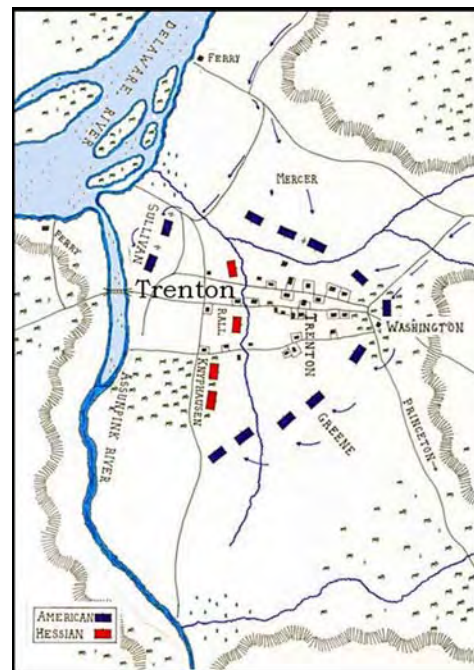
Maitland was originally interred in Savannah but many years later his remains were returned to Scotland. Maitland and Major John André, executed for his involvement with Benedict Arnold, were the only British casualties of the Revolutionary War whose remains were repatriated.

REFERENCES:

- “A Timeless Letter From 1776/1777,” Tom Clarke, *La Posta*, Oct-Nov 88.
- Biographical sketches of UK servicemen in the 1775-83 American and World War, <http://www.silverwhistle.co.uk/lobsters/index.html>
- Boatner III, Mark M., *Encyclopedia of the American Revolution, 3rd Edition*, Stackpole Books, 1994
- Hahn, Calvet M., *Personal Correspondence*, 1992.
- “List of the General and Field Officers as they Rank in the Army; Officers in the Several Regiments of Horse, Dragoons, and Foot, of the British and Irish Establishments,” by The Right Honourable, The Secretary at War, London, Editions for the years 1775 through 1780.
- Stedman, Colonel Charles, *The History of the Origin, Progress, and Termination of the American War*,” Colonel Stedman served under Sir W. Howe, Sir H. Clinton and the Marquis Cornwallis, London 1794, also on Google books at <http://books.google.com/>.

For George Washington's account of the Battle of Trenton, see <http://americanrevolution.org/delxing.html>.

Map at right from <http://www.britishbattles.com/battle-trenton.htm>.
(2/9/2012)



Map of the Battle of Trenton, Dec. 26, 1776. Washington's troops crossed above Trenton.

FROM GUADALCANAL TO THE GARDEN STATE: August 6, 1942¹:

A Cover from a NJ US Marine officer on a New Jersey-built ship, Part I By Captain Lawrence B. Brennan, U.S. Navy Retired

“The courage and determination displayed in these operations were of an inspiring order.”
Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy.



The First Marine Division's unit patch² has always contained the word “Guadalcanal” in white vertical capital letters. It is embossed on a red Arabic numeral “1,” superimposed on a blue diamond with five five pointed stars, one each in the northern, western, and southern angles, and a pair of stars in the central eastern half of the diamond. The single word “Guadalcanal” conjures images of a desperate and pivotal battle fought initially by the United States Marine Corps and Navy against the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy from August 1942 through early 1943.³

Guadalcanal was more than the end of the Japanese advances in the Pacific and Indian Oceans; that had occurred at Coral Sea and at Midway in May and June 1942 respectively. It was the initial U.S. offensive during World War II; it was primarily an “offensive defensive” action to ensure the safety of the US to Australia and New Zealand line of communications. It was the first amphibious assault by US forces since the Spanish American War, although the Japanese Army did not contest the initial landings. Guadalcanal was a “shoestring” operation, a glaring first major exception to the agreed Allied policy of “Germany First,” driven by Admiral Ernest J. King, U.S. Navy, who was Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations and the strongest advocate in the Allied leadership for focusing on the war in the Pacific. Guadalcanal was the longest and most hotly contested battle in the US advance across the Pacific which culminated in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. The battle produced many heroes in every service and Major General A. A. Vandegrift, USMC Commanding General, First Marine Division received the Medal of Honor and subsequently became the first full general officer to be Commandant. Sailors, Marines, and later Soldiers fought, suffered, and died in the oppressive tropical environment; the only U.S. Coast Guardsman to be awarded the Medal of Honor died at Guadalcanal.⁴

This is the story of a six month campaign which began with a 47 year old field grade Marine officer from New Jersey who was delivered to the first assault on Guadalcanal by a 21 year old New Jersey-built amphibious assault ship.



Fig. 1: Lt. Col. E.G. Hagen



Fig. 2: The USS American Legion, (AP-35 to APA-17, 1944-45), built at the New York Shipbuilding Co. in Camden, NJ.⁵

Photo credit NH 92699

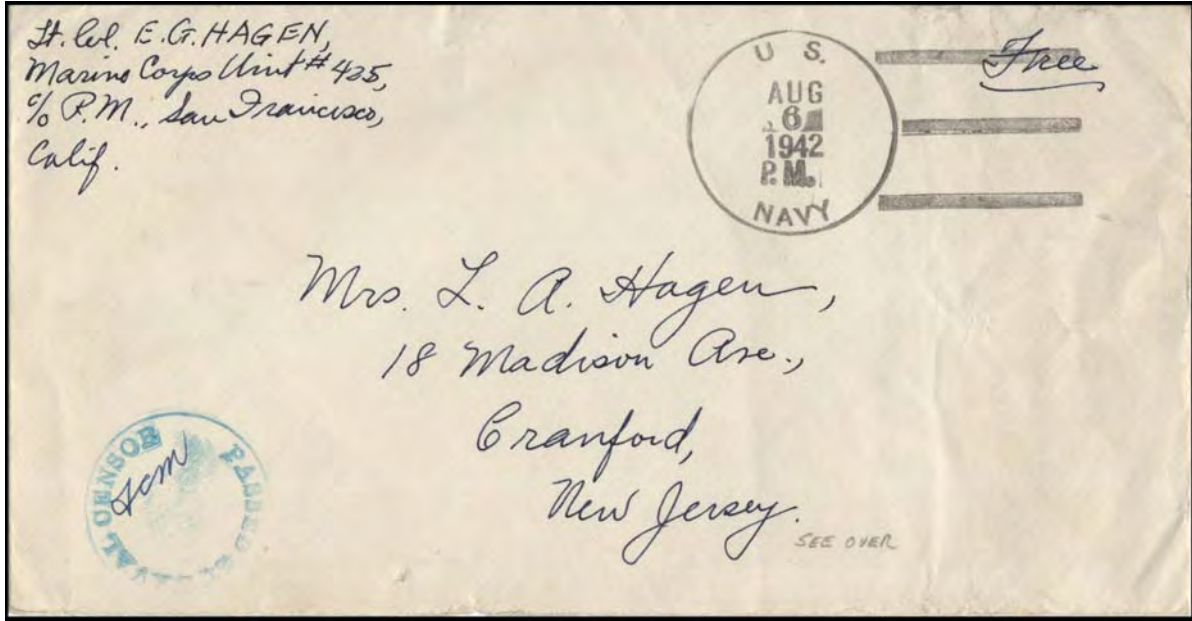


Fig. 3: The obverse of the cover sent by Lieutenant Edward G. Hagen, USMC, Marine Corps Unit # 425⁶, % P.M., San Francisco, Calif., postmarked Aug 6 1942 P.M. on board USS American Legion. The cover, addressed to “Mrs. L. A. Hagen, 18 Madison Ave., Cranford, New Jersey” is free franked and bears a blue inked censor’s mark with the blue black ink written initials “FCM” (1st Lieutenant Floyd C. Mauer, USMC). The black ink impression of the rubber stamp hand cancel is the Locy Type 3z(TTT) postmark of the ship.⁷ The cancel is rated B or “limited edition” in the Universal Ship Cancellation Society’s Postmark Catalog.⁸

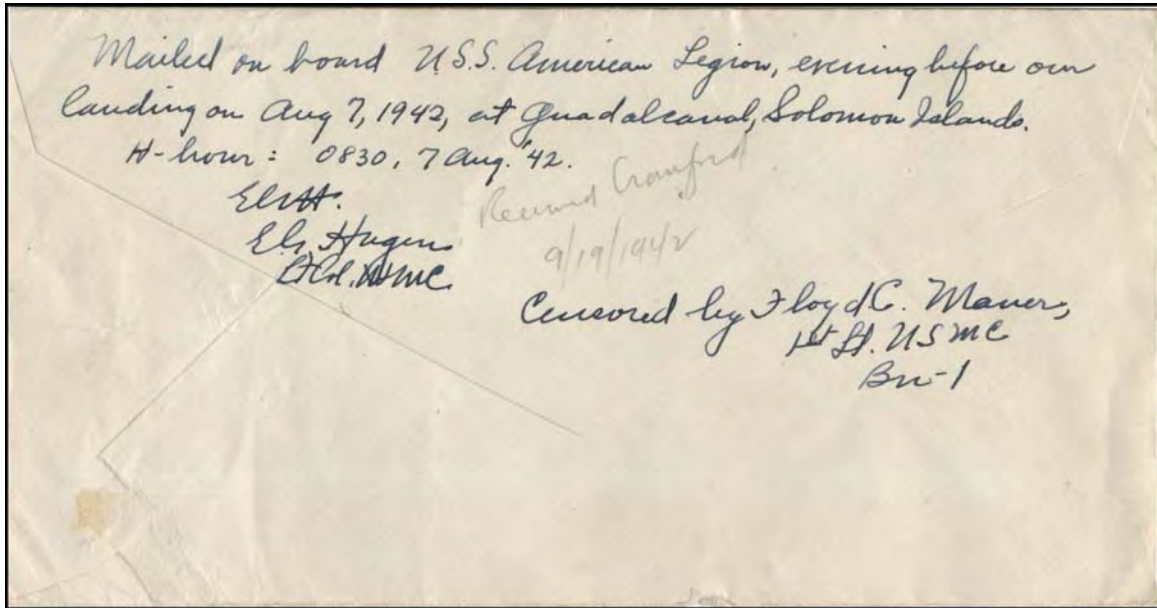


Fig. 4: The reverse of the cover and bears the inscriptions in ink, “Mailed on board USS American Legion, evening before our landing on Aug 7, 1942, at Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. H-Hour 0830, 7 Aug. ’42. / (Signed) EGH. E. G. Hagen, Lt. Col., USMC / Censored by Floyd C. Mauer, 1st Lt. USMC, BN-1.” In pencil the receipt of the envelope is noted “Received Cranford 9/19/1942,” less than six weeks after the posting.⁹

The Solomon Islands are 10 degrees south of the Equator— plagued by tropical heat, humidity, and perpetual rain. Jack London reportedly said, “If I were king, the worst punishment I could inflict on my enemies would be to banish them to the Solomons.”¹⁰

Spanish explorers discovered but failed to colonize Solomons during the mid-sixteenth century. Germany, recognizing strategic value for its empire, in 1884 established a protectorate over northern New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, and the northern Solomons. Britain countered with a protectorate over the southern Solomons and by annexing the remainder of New Guinea. In 1905, the British transferred administrative control over all its territories in the region to Australia, and the Territory of Papua, with its capital at Port Moresby. Following World War I, Germany's colonies fell under the administrative control of the League of Nations, with the seat of the colonial government located at Rabaul on New Britain.

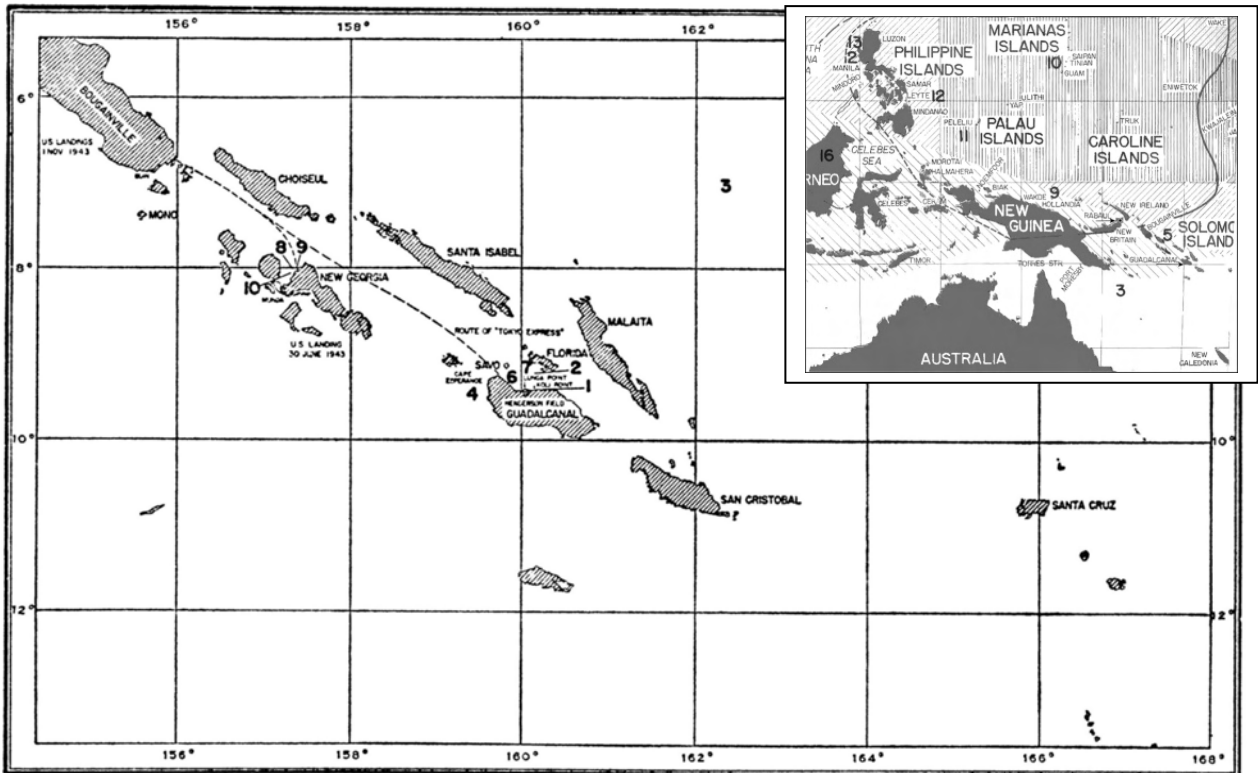


Fig. 5: Map of the Solomon Islands, showing Guadalcanal. Inset shows southwest Pacific Theater. [For a map of the full Pacific Theater of Operations, see <http://njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/wwiipacmap.pdf>.]

The presence of westerners on the islands prior to World War II was best explained by Admiral Morison who described the islands in *History of United States Naval Operations During World War II: The Struggle for Guadalcanal*, Volume V (hereinafter “Morison, *U.S. Naval Operations*, Vol. V”).¹¹

Tulagi in 1939 was a one-street town with Chinese shops and a small hotel, a wireless station and neat bungalows on the hill for the British officials. On Guadalcanal there were two or three Christian missions and at Aola a Burns Philip trading station. ... Missionaries came full of apostolic fervor and retired after a few years, full of malaria. Nobody expected anything to happen in the Solomons, and nothing usually did. The

FROM GUADALCANAL TO THE GARDEN STATE, Part I ~ Lawrence Brennan

government did not even take the trouble to survey them properly. Extant maps were very imperfect, showing only dotted lines for estimated courses of rivers.

According to American and Australian standards, the Solomon Islands were almost pure "bush" or wilderness. ... The Solomons were still a region of uncharted seas, leaving the edges of trackless forests.

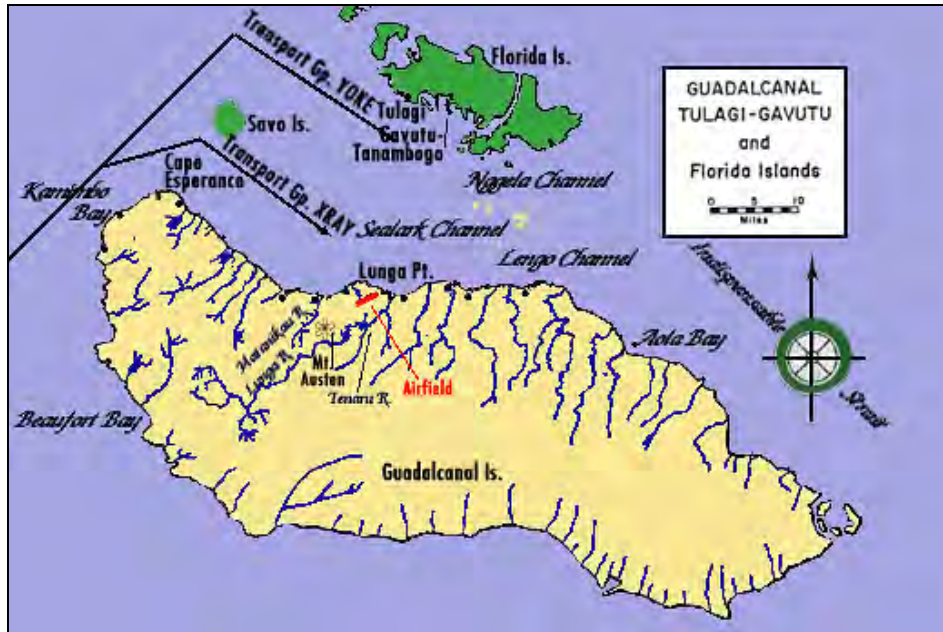


Fig. 6: Map of Guadalcanal.¹²

The outbreak of hostilities in the Pacific in December 1941 by Japan caused problems for the territories controlled by the Allies. Again, Admiral Morison explained:

At the time the Pacific war broke, the native population of Guadalcanal was between 8000 and 10,000, with over 40,000 more in Malaita.

The Australian Air Force stationed a squadron of Catalinas in Gavutu Harbor near Tulagi and assigned 20 infantrymen to help the "Gilbert and Sullivan Army" of 15 whites, 5 Chinese and 130 native police in defending their base. Japanese planes began bombing runs on Tulagi and Gavutu in January 1942, after which Europeans and Chinese shopkeepers began to get out. When the Japanese task force, part of the Coral Sea operation, approached on 1 May, the Australian government saw that defense was hopeless and ordered Tulagi to be evacuated ...

One important institution outlasted the Japanese invasion -- the Australian "coastwatchers." They were a network of small radio stations through the Bismarcks and Solomons, established several years earlier and taken over by the Australian Navy in 1939. Only eight or nine coast-watchers remained in all the Solomons after the evacuation of Tulagi, but many others were brought back by American boats or planes. These coastwatchers, whom the natives generally aided and abetted, were of inestimable value throughout the Solomons campaign. They relayed to Allied headquarters the movements of enemy ships, planes and

ground forces. At a time when American air power was worn thin, their reports of southward-flying enemy aircraft, received as much as fifty minutes in advance, made it possible for American planes to take off and gain altitude in time to swoop down on the enemy. And, in less than a year, coastwatchers succored 120 crashed Allied air-men.¹



Photo credit:
National
Archives
Photo BO-G-
17080

*Fig. 7: A team of “coastwatchers” headed by Capt W. F Martin Clemens, British Guadalcanal district officer, with Island natives in the British Solomon Islands.*¹³

For some time after their occupation of Tulagi on 2 May, the Japanese paid no attention to Guadalcanal except to send over parties to round up and kill the wild cattle. But before the end of June a convoy of 13 ships put in, bringing a substantial force of labor troops, engineers and heavy equipment to build the landing field. It was the discovery of this by an Allied reconnaissance plane on 4 July that put the heat on Operation “Watchtower.”

The U.S. invasion of Guadalcanal was designed as an opportunistic offensive primarily in response to the Japanese offensive action in the area. As discussed in Morison, *U.S. Naval Operations*, Vol. V:

That operation had been conceived by Admiral King as early as February 1942. He wanted Tulagi partly as an additional bastion to the America-Australia lifeline, partly as the starting point for a drive up the line of the Solomons into Rabaul, and as a deterrent to any further expansion by the Japanese. General MacArthur, too, liked the idea, since Japanese possession of Rabaul blocked his eventual return to the Philippines.

¹ Information from Lt. Rhodes and from Mr. W. H. Brocklebank, who originated the system at the R.A.N. office, Melbourne, in June 1943, Cdr. Eric A. Feldt RAN *The Coastwatchers* (1946).

THE LANDINGS

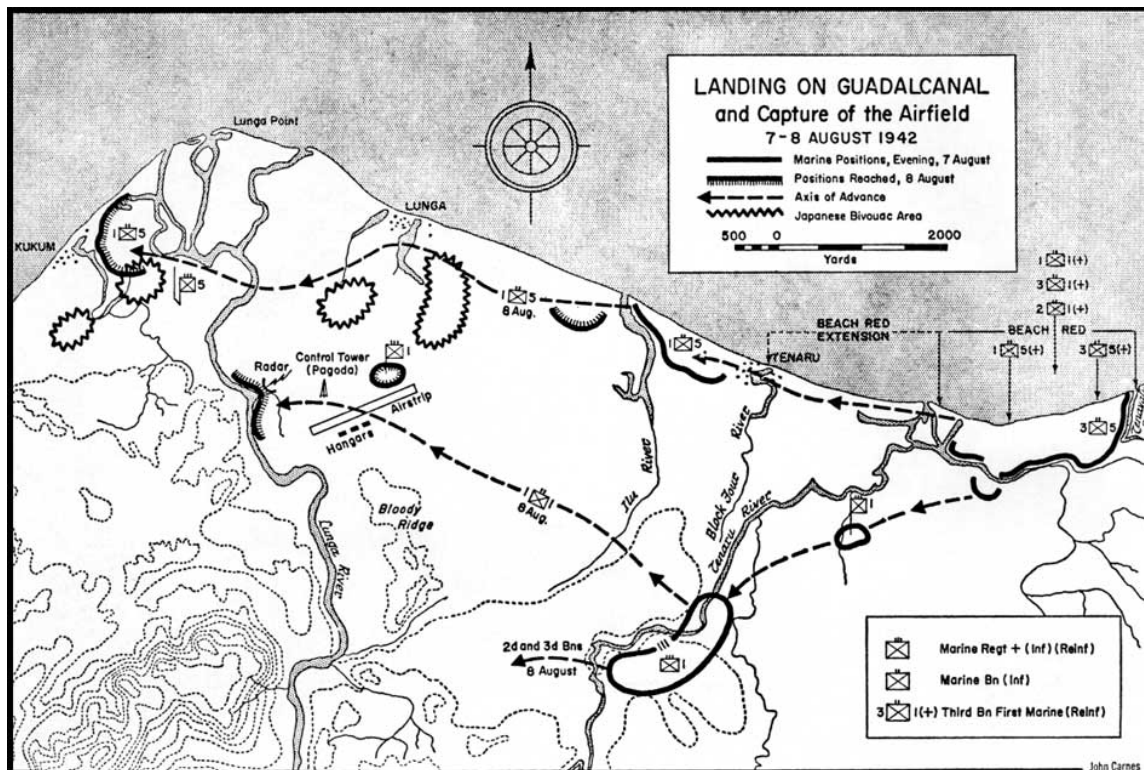


Fig. 8: Guadalcanal landing map from Shaw's article.¹⁴ Once landed, the primary objective was the air strip.

The U.S. planning for the invasion and capture of Guadalcanal and its dependent islands was abbreviated. Within seven months of the opening of hostilities and soon after the agreement between the Combined Chiefs of Staff of the US and UK to give priority to the war against Germany, after the successes at Coral Sea and Midway, the holding action in the Pacific was expanded to preventing the Japanese from interrupting the sea lanes between the United States and Australia and New Zealand. As explained in Morison, *U.S. Naval Operations Vol. V*:

This first offensive, Operation "Watchtower," was ordered by the Joint Chiefs of Staff at Washington on 2 July 1942. The ultimate objective was defined as "seizure and occupation of the New Britain-New Ireland-New Guinea area," including the principal enemy base at Rabaul. Task No. 1, with target date 1 August, was to be seizure of the Santa Cruz Islands, Tulagi and adjacent positions. But on 4 July an Allied reconnaissance plane reported that the Japanese were starting work on an airfield - the future Henderson Field - near Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

That is why this large and fecaloid island became the immediate and urgent Allied objective. For, if the enemy were allowed to complete the Lunga field and to base planes there, he might be able to knock out Espiritu Santo, Efate or even Kumac, the northern airfield on New Caledonia.

The planning for the invasion of Guadalcanal benefited greatly from photo-reconnaissance, an art which had been learned by U.S. Naval observers in Great Britain in 1941. The flag officer in overall command of the invasion force was Commander South Pacific, Vice

Admiral Richard Ghormley, who was relieved by Vice Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr., during the dark days of the battles of Guadalcanal. Ghormley deserves credit for the successful use of aerial photography in preparing for the invasion. As the results of Ghormley's effort, the U.S. Navy began to take a serious interest in the technique. From London in the spring of 1941 Ghormley got the Navy to send a delegation to Europe where it spent three months with the British. Ghormley then convinced the Navy to start a school for photographic interpreters. When Admiral Ghormley went to the South Pacific, he demanded a photo interpretation unit with one of the three London observers, Lieutenant Commander Robert S. Quackenbush, Jr., U.S. Navy in charge.

Quackenbush's unit provided the Watchtower forces photography they needed. Captain Forrest P. Sherman, U.S. Navy, a future Chief of Naval Operations and commanding officer of USS Wasp (CV 7) during the Guadalcanal operation, noted in his after-action report that an aerial photo mission flown on August 2 plus radio intelligence had given his aviators what they needed for their invasion support mission.

On 17 July, a couple First Division staff officers, Lieutenant Colonel Merrill B. Twining and Major William McKean, had been able to join the crew of a B-17 flying from Port Moresby on a reconnaissance mission over Guadalcanal. They reported what they had seen, and their analysis, coupled with aerial photographs, indicated no extensive defenses along the beaches of Guadalcanal's north shore.

The division intelligence officer (G-2), Lieutenant Colonel Frank B. Goettge, had concluded that about 8,400 Japanese occupied Guadalcanal and Tulagi. Admiral Turner's staff figured that the Japanese amounted to 7,125 men. Admiral Ghormley's intelligence officer pegged the enemy strength at 3,100—closest to the 3,457 actual total of Japanese troops; 2,571 were stationed on Guadalcanal, mostly laborers working on the airfield.

Barely two weeks after the op order was promulgated on July 10, 1942, the convoy of ships, with its outriding protective screen of carriers, reached Koro in the Fiji Islands on July 26. Practice landings did little more than exercise the transports' landing craft. Admiral Fletcher ordered that in view of the threat from enemy land-based air, he could not "keep the carriers in the area for more than 48 hours after the landing." Vandergrift protested that he needed at least four days to get the division's gear ashore, and Fletcher reluctantly agreed to keep his carriers at risk for a third day.

According to Morrison, *U.S. Naval Operations*, Vol. V:

There was little time for planning this important operation, and little enough to do with - South Pacific sailors nicknamed it Operation "Shoestring" - but almost the entire Expeditionary Force managed to assemble at a mid-ocean rendezvous on 26 July, at a point about 400 miles south of the Fijis. Some 75 ships were there, "loaded with rude humanity, trained only for fighting and destruction," as Parkman said of Wolfe's force that captured Quebec in 1759. What better phrase for United States bluejackets and Marines! Lucky indeed for America that in this theater and at that juncture she depended not on boys drafted or cajoled into fighting but on 'tough guys' who had volunteered to fight and who asked for nothing better than to come to grips with the sneaking enemy who had aroused all their primitive instincts.

FROM GUADALCANAL TO THE GARDEN STATE, Part I ~ Lawrence Brennan

The invasion force was en route to Guadalcanal, Tulagi, Gavutu and Tanambogo close by Tulagi's shore. The landing force was composed of Marines; the covering force and transport force were U.S. Navy with a reinforcement of Australian warships. There was no mystery to the selection of the 1st Marine Division to make the landings.¹⁵ All three infantry regiments of the landing force had battalions of artillery attached, from the 11th Marines, in the case of the 5th and 1st; the 2d Marines drew its reinforcing 75mm howitzers from the 2d Division's 10th Marines.¹⁶

Before dawn on August 7, while Turner's Expeditionary Force rounded Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal, Fletcher's carrier group maneuvered restlessly south of the island and prepared to furnish air support for the landings. These landings were the least part of the long-drawn-out Guadalcanal operation. The first amphibious operation undertaken by the United States since 1898 went off fairly smoothly because the enemy was taken completely by surprise and overwhelmed. Landing craft from 15 transports took 11,000 Marines ashore on a beach at Guadalcanal, about four miles east of Lunga Point, by nightfall. By the following afternoon the Marines were in possession of the partially completed airstrip and of the principal Japanese encampment at Kukum on the west side of Lunga Point. The enemy, not more than 2000 in number and mostly labor troops, retired after only token resistance.

The division's heaviest ordnance had been left behind in New Zealand. Limited ship space and time meant that the division's big guns, a 155 mm howitzer battalion, and all the motor transport battalion's two-and-a-half-ton trucks were not loaded. Also failing to make the cut in the battle for shipping space were all spare clothing, bedding rolls, and supplies necessary to support the reinforced division beyond 60 days of combat. Ten days supply of ammunition for each of the division's weapons remained in New Zealand.

In the opinion of the 1st Division's historian and a veteran of the landing, the men on the approaching transports "thought they'd have a bad time getting ashore." They were confident, certainly, and sure that they could not be defeated, but most of the men were entering combat for the first time. There were combat veteran officers and noncommissioned officers (NCOs) throughout the division, but the majority of the men were going into their initial battle. The commanding officer of the 1st Marines, Colonel Clifton B. Cates, estimated that 90 percent of his men had enlisted after Pearl Harbor.



Fig. 9: Equipment and supplies littered the beaches as the Marines sought to establish a foothold.

Colonel Hagen was not the only Marine to write home before the landing. As the ships approached Guadalcanal, on board his command ship, Vandegrift wrote to his wife: "Tomorrow morning at dawn we land in our first major offensive of the war. Our plans have been made and God grant that our judgment has been sound ... whatever happens you'll know I did my best. Let us hope that best will be good enough."

At 6:41AM on August 7, Turner signaled to "land the landing force." Just 28 minutes before USS *Quincy* (CA 39) had begun shelling the landing beaches at Guadalcanal. The sun came up that Friday at 6:50, and the first landing craft carrying assault troops of the 5th Marines touched down at 9:09AM on Red Beach. To the Marines' relief, no Japanese appeared to resist the landing. Hunt immediately moved his assault troops off the beach and into the surrounding jungle, waded the steep-banked Ilu River, and headed for the enemy airfield. The following 1st Marines were able to cross the Ilu on a bridge the engineers had hastily thrown up with amphibian tractors bracing its middle. The silence was eerie and the absence of opposition was worrisome to the riflemen. The Japanese troops, mostly Korean laborers, had fled to the west, spooked by a week's B-17 bombardment, the pre-assault naval gunfire, and the sight of the ships offshore. The situation was not the same across Sealark. The Marines on Guadalcanal could hear echoes of a firefight across the waters.



Fig. 10: The makeshift bridge constructed using two amphibious vehicles (LTVs or "amtracs" for support in the middle. These vehicles were very useful for beach landings of men and materials (and improvising bridges), but they lacked armor for protection when landing under fire.

The Japanese on Tulagi were special naval landing force sailors and they had no intention of giving up without a battle. The Marine battalions encountered pockets of resistance in the undergrowth and maneuvered to outflank and overrun the opposition. The advance of the Marines was steady but casualties were frequent. By the end of its first day ashore, 2d Battalion had lost 56 men killed and wounded; 1st Raider Battalion casualties were 99 Marines.

FROM GUADALCANAL TO THE GARDEN STATE, Part I ~ Lawrence Brennan

Throughout the night, the Japanese swarmed from hillside caves in four separate attacks, trying to penetrate the raider lines. They were unsuccessful and most died in the attempts. At dawn, the 2d Battalion, 2d Marines landed to reinforce the attackers and by the afternoon of August 8, the mop-up was completed and the battle for Tulagi was over.

The fight for Gavutu and Tanambogo was every bit as intense as that on Tulagi. The area of combat was much smaller and the opportunities for fire support were limited once the Marines had landed. After naval gunfire from USS *San Juan* (CL 54) and two destroyers, and a strike by F4F Wildcats flying from *Wasp*, the 1st Parachute Battalion landed near noon in three waves, 395 men in all, on Gavutu. The Japanese, secure in caves, opened fire on the second and third waves, pinning down the first Marines ashore on the beach. This time, 2d Marines reinforcements were needed; the 1st Battalion's Company B landed on Gavutu and attempted to take Tanambogo; the attackers were driven to ground and had to pull back to Gavutu.

After a night of close-in fighting, the 3d Battalion, 2d Marines reinforced the men already ashore and mopped up on each island. The toll of Marines dead on the three islands was 144; the wounded numbered 194. The few Japanese who survived the battles fled to Florida Island, which had been scouted by the 2d Marines on D-Day and found clear of the enemy.

Morison, *U.S. Naval Operations*, Vol. V notes the involvement of the U.S. Coast Guard which provided invaluable contributions to many amphibious operations both in the Pacific and Europe.

During the afternoon of 8 August, Lieutenant Commander Dwight H. Dexter USCG and 25 coastguardsmen were set ashore from Hunter Liggett with their landing craft, as nucleus of a naval operating base on Lunga Point, and Dexter assumed the duties of beachmaster;² These men proved both courageous and resourceful; indispensable in moving small bodies of Marines along the coast.

On the Tulagi side, where the lesser part of the troops were discharged, the Marines ran into stout opposition. Tulagi was not secured until the afternoon of 8 August, nor did the Japanese seaplane base on the small islands of Gavutu and Tanambogo fall into American possession until just before midnight of the same day. In the meantime, the transports and their escorting destroyers, with effective aid by fighter planes from the three carriers, beat off several heavy attacks by Japanese bombing and torpedo planes that flew down from Rabaul, Transport George F. Elliott and, indirectly, destroyer Jarvis, were lost as a result of these air attacks; but on the whole the landings at Tulagi and Guadalcanal were very successful. Not the most pessimistic old chief petty officer in the Expeditionary Force could have predicted that it would take twenty-six weeks' hard fighting by Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Forces to secure what had been occupied in little more than that number of hours.³

Morison was correct – the landings were just the beginning of the story of Guadalcanal.

² *The Coast Guard at War, the Pacific Landings*, VI (15 Mar. 1946); information from Mr. Frank R. Eldridge. Nineteen of the 23 transports and APDs in the landing force carried coastguardsmen, and several of their surfmen and coxswains distinguished themselves handling landing craft.

³ In Vol. IV of this History, chaps. xii-xiv, will be found a more detailed account of the planning of Operation "Watchtower" and of the landings and other events of 7-8 August. The complete task organization will be found on pp. 270-75.



Fig. 11: Henderson Field, so important to the Allies, and for which so many lives were lost, seen from the air.



Fig. 12: Maintaining the foothold would need supplies, but even this effort had to be abandoned at one point, making the lives of those left on Guadalcanal tenuous at most. Photo NH 80-G-40796

Part II of this article will cover some more of these first days in the Solomons, and the Battle of Savo Island, as well as more on E.G. Hagen, and the Jersey-built ship, the *American Legion*.

ENDNOTES

¹ Copyright 2012 by Lawrence B. Brennan; all rights reserved. This article may not be reproduced without the express consent of the copyright holder. The footnotes included are quotes from Morrison, *The History of U.S. Naval Operations During World War II: The Struggle for Guadalcanal*, Vol. V. The numbering of Morrison's footnote changed because of the selective quotes from his masterful work. The end notes are the author's.

² "The 1st Division shoulder patch as the first unit patch to be authorized for wear in World War II and specifically commemorated the division's sacrifices and victory in the battle for Guadalcanal.

As recalled by General Merrill B. Twining, a lieutenant colonel and the division's operations officer on Guadalcanal, it appeared that the Marines might have to wear Army uniforms, which meant that they would lose their identity, and Twining came up with the idea for a division patch [which] was approved by Vandegrift.

Marines however were issued uniforms different from the Army, and the distinguishing patch, although well-liked, became unnecessary for its original purpose. Shortly after the end of the war, Colonel Twining went to now-

- Marine Commandant General Vandegrift saying that he "no longer thought Marines should wear anything on their uniforms to distinguish them from other Marines. He agreed and the patches came off for good." —Benis M. Frank
- ³ PRESIDENTIAL UNIT GUADALCANAL OPERATION 4 February 1943: THE FIRST MARINE DIVISION (REINFORCED): CITATION: "The officers and enlisted men of the First Marine Division, Reinforced, on August 7 to 9, 1942, demonstrated outstanding gallantry and determination in successfully executing forced landing assaults against a number of strongly defended Japanese positions on Tulagi, Gavutu, Tanambogo, Florida and Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands, completely routing all enemy forces and seizing a most valuable base and airfield within the enemy zone of operations in the South Pacific Ocean. From the above period until 9 December 1942, this Reinforced Division not only held their important strategic positions despite determined and repeated Japanese naval, air and land attacks, but in a series of offensive operations against strong enemy resistance drove the Japanese from the proximity of the airfield and inflicted great losses on them by land and air attacks. The courage and determination displayed in these operations were of an inspiring order." S/Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy http://www.wv2gyrene.org/spotlight_1stmardiv_awards.htm
- ⁴ Douglas A. Munro, a signalman first class of the United States Coast Guard, died heroically on Guadalcanal September 27, 1942, after succeeding in his assignment, for which he had volunteered, to evacuate a detachment of Marines from a point where enemy opposition developed beyond anticipated dimensions. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Munro was also awarded the Purple Heart Medal posthumously.
- ⁵ NavSource ONLINE: Amphibious Photo Archive at <http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/03/03017.htm> . This photo at <http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/03/100301702.jpg>
- ⁶ Second Battalion, Eleventh Marine Regiment (2/11). The battalion has a lengthy and distinguished history spanning nearly 95 years. It first was activated September 5, 1918 at Montierchame, France as the 2d Battalion, 11th Regiment. They were relocated during July-August 1919 to Hampton Roads, Virginia. and were deactivated August 11, 1919. 2/11 was reactivated on May 9, 1927 at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia as the 2d Battalion, 11th Regiment. Deployed during May 1927 to Chinandega, Nicaragua and assigned to the 2d Brigade.
- 2/11 was again reactivated on January 1, 1941 at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as the 2d Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Brigade. Relocated during April 1941 to Parris Island, South Carolina. They deployed during June 1942 to Wellington, New Zealand. The battalion participated in the following World War II battles: Battle of Guadalcanal, Finschhafen, Battle of New Britain, Battle of Peleliu and the Battle of Okinawa. They redeployed during September 1945 to Tientsin, China and participated in the occupation of Northern China from September 1945 to December 1946. They were reassigned during January 1947 to the Fleet Marine Force and redeployed during January - February 1947 to Guam. Subsequently, they fought at Inchon, Korea, in Vietnam and in both Gulf Wars.
- ⁷ This historic cover posted by a U.S. Naval Academy graduate (Class of 1917) and a two war veteran refutes the narrow view of some that "docketing" on the reverse of a cover is anathema.
- ⁸ See generally, www.uscs.org
- ⁹ Ibid.
- ¹⁰ London, Jack, *The Cruise of the "Snark,"* MacMillan & Co. 1911.
- ¹¹ The illustrious Harvard history professor, Samuel E. Morison was commissioned by President Roosevelt to witness and document the exploits of U.S. Naval Operations during World War II. The result was a series of fifteen volumes *History of United States Naval Operations During World War II* and an abbreviated single volume, *Two Ocean War*. Commissioned a Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve, Professor Morison was placed on the retired list as a Rear Admiral.
- ¹² Much of the description, maps, and photos of the invasion of Guadalcanal used here is sourced from Henry I. Shay, Jr.'s long and excellent article entitled *First Offensive, The Marine Campaign for Guadalcanal*, to which we are greatly indebted. It is available on a number of different web sites, notably the following: http://www.marines.mil/news/publications/Documents/First%20Offensive-The%20Marine%20Campaign%20for%20Guadalcanal%20PCN%2019000311700_1.pdf , http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/npswapa/extcontent/usmc/pcn-190-003117-00/sec1.htm and http://books.google.com/books/about/First_offensive.html?id=-PFmAAAAMAAJ
- ¹³ Ibid.
- ¹⁴ Shaw, Henry I., Jr., *ibid.*
- ¹⁵ Five U.S. Army divisions were located in the South and Southwest Pacific: three in Australia, the 37th Infantry in Fiji, and the Americal Division on New Caledonia. None was amphibiously trained and all were considered vital parts of defensive garrisons.
- ¹⁶ Shaw, Henry I., Jr., *op cit.*

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE

By Doug D'Avino

[Author's Note: Much of the information below came out of an article prepared by David M. Adams for the 1939 dedication of the Hammonton Post Office. As appropriate, I have revised Adams' text to reflect the passage of over 70 years and supplemented the text with additional information and illustrations. D.D.]

The service of the Post Office Department to Hammonton and its surrounding territory dates back to December 18th, 1827, when the office was established as Hammonton, Gloucester County, New Jersey, almost two centuries ago. The original office was in the vicinity of what was early Hammonton, adjacent to the Hammonton Lake and the present White Horse Pike.

Records of the Office of the First Assistant Postmaster General show “the office was established on the mail route operated between Long-a-coming (now Berlin, N.J.), and Leeds Point, and the service was once a week in two-horse stages. Mail for Philadelphia was carried from Hammonton to Long-a-coming, Haddonfield, Camden and thence to Philadelphia, a total distance of approximately 24 miles.”

William Coffin, Jr.¹ was named the first postmaster of the early Hammonton, Gloucester County post office, in December, 1827. Table 1 lists the postmasters, office name changes and change in county that the post office has gone through since that first office was established.

Jesse Peterson succeeded Coffin in August, 1828. The earliest records of the office show that “the postmaster at Hammonton received \$9.85 for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1829, and the earliest record of net receipts at the office shows \$5.49 for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1828.” In contrast, the total office receipts for 1938 were \$23,476.24 while the postmaster's salary was \$2,700.

Two years later, William Coffin was appointed postmaster in October, 1830.

It was on January 27, 1845 that the Hammonton post office was changed from Gloucester (shown in an 1840 map in *Figure 1*) to Atlantic County (shown in an 1895 map in *Figure 2*) and Edward W. Coffin² appointed postmaster. John H. Coffin followed him in August, 1847, with John Little succeeding Coffin in January, 1852.

Little had only held the office seven months when the post office was discontinued on August 2, 1852.

For five years, there was no recognized Hammonton post office until the office was reestablished on June 19, 1857, and George A. Walker was appointed postmaster. Walker served until November 3, 1857, when the name of the office was changed to Dacosta³ (or Da Costa) and Isaac S. Longshore appointed postmaster. Just three months later, George H. Bingham was appointed postmaster (February, 1858), and the name was changed back to Hammonton.

Longshore evidently wanted another try as postmaster because Bingham had served less than two months before Longshore was appointed postmaster again (April, 1858) and the office changed back to Dacosta. It remained Dacosta from then until it was discontinued entirely on August 18, 1893, when all mail was ordered sent through the present Hammonton office, which had been re-established on May 10, 1859. So, from 1859 to 1893, Dacosta and Hammonton finally had separate post offices.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE ~ Doug D'Avino

During the remaining years the Dacosta office continued, Benjamin Bland was appointed postmaster to succeed Longshore in 1864 and in 1879, Margaret W. Atkinson was appointed postmaster, serving until the office was discontinued in 1893.

Table 1. Hammonton Postmasters		
Name	Position	Date Appointed
Hammonton (Gloucester County)		
William Coffin, Jr.	First Postmaster	December 18, 1827
Jesse Peterson	Postmaster	August 18, 1828
William Coffin	Postmaster	October 23, 1830
Hammonton (Atlantic County)		
Edward W. Coffin	Postmaster	January 27, 1845
John H. Coffin	Postmaster	August 23, 1847
John Little	Postmaster	January 12, 1852
Post Office Discontinued, Aug. 2, 1852, Re-established June 19, 1857.		
George A. Walker	Postmaster	June 19, 1857
Changed to Decosta on Nov 3, 1857.		
Issac S. Longshore	Postmaster	November 3, 1857
Changed to Hammonton on Feb 16, 1858.		
George H. Brigham	Postmaster	February 16, 1858
Changed to Decosta on April 10, 1858.		
Issac S. Longshore	Postmaster	April 10, 1858
Benjamin Bland	Postmaster	December 1, 1864
Margaret W. Atkinson	Postmaster***	June 17, 1879
Hammonton (Atlantic County)		
Cyrus J. Fay	Postmaster	May 11, 1859
William A. Elvins	Postmaster	June 28, 1861
George Elvins	Postmaster	March 22, 1869
Annie Elvins	Postmaster	December 9, 1880
Cyrus F. Osgood	Postmaster	May 19, 1887
George Elvins	Postmaster	June 14, 1890
John T. French	Postmaster	June 16, 1894
Marcellus L. Jackson	Postmaster	March 3, 1899
Thomas C. Elvins	Postmaster	March 2, 1907
Louis J. Langhorn	Postmaster	February 26, 1915
James L. O'Donnell	Acting Postmaster	March 1, 1923
James L. O'Donnell	Postmaster	December 13, 1924
George H. Eckhardt	Acting Postmaster	January 3, 1931
Raymond L. Buck*	Postmaster	July 31, 1932
Irma M. Adams	Acting Postmaster	February 21, 1934
Irma M. Adams**	Postmaster	June 8, 1939
Walter H. Shilleto	Acting Postmaster	February 11, 1966
Walter H. Shilleto	Postmaster	August 5, 1966
Henry B. Lewandowski	Postmaster	May 25, 1985
Joseph M. Delio	Postmaster	August 23, 2003
John P. Glenn	Postmaster	September 24, 2011
<p>Table spellings are according to NARA records, not Adams' spellings. * Removed February 21, 1934. ** Retired December 30, 1965. ***Decosta post office discontinued August 18, 1893, mail to Hammonton. A post office named Da Costa opened 1905, and discontinued in 1915.</p>		

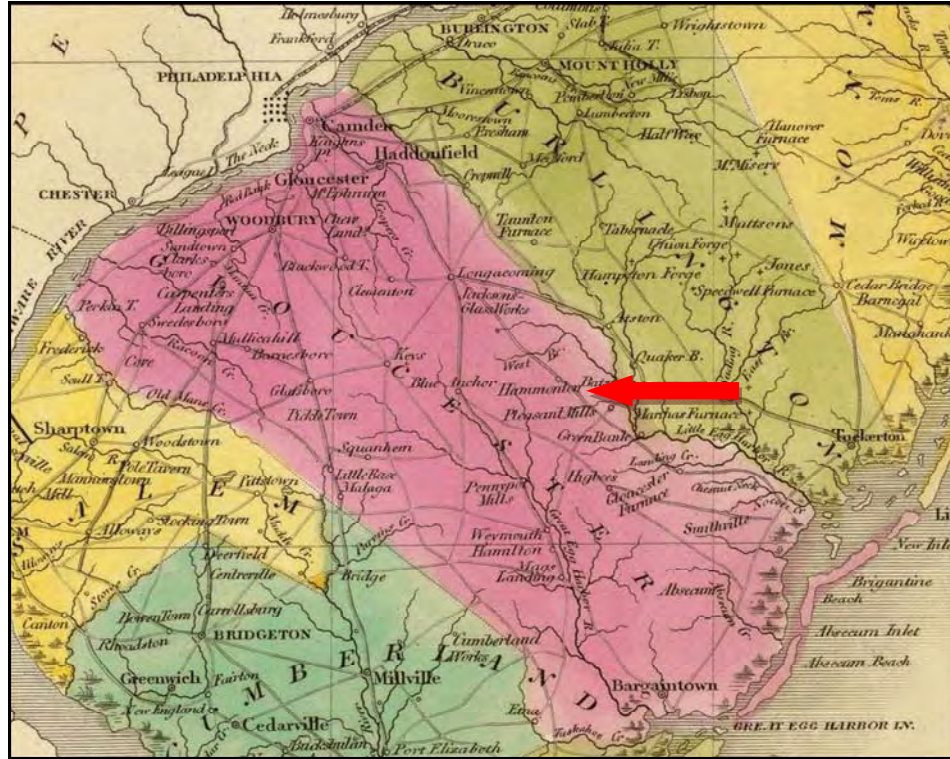


Fig. 1: In 1840, Gloucester County extended from the Delaware River to the Atlantic Ocean, including what is now Camden, Atlantic and Gloucester Counties. At that time, Hammonton was located in Gloucester County, indicated by the red arrow.

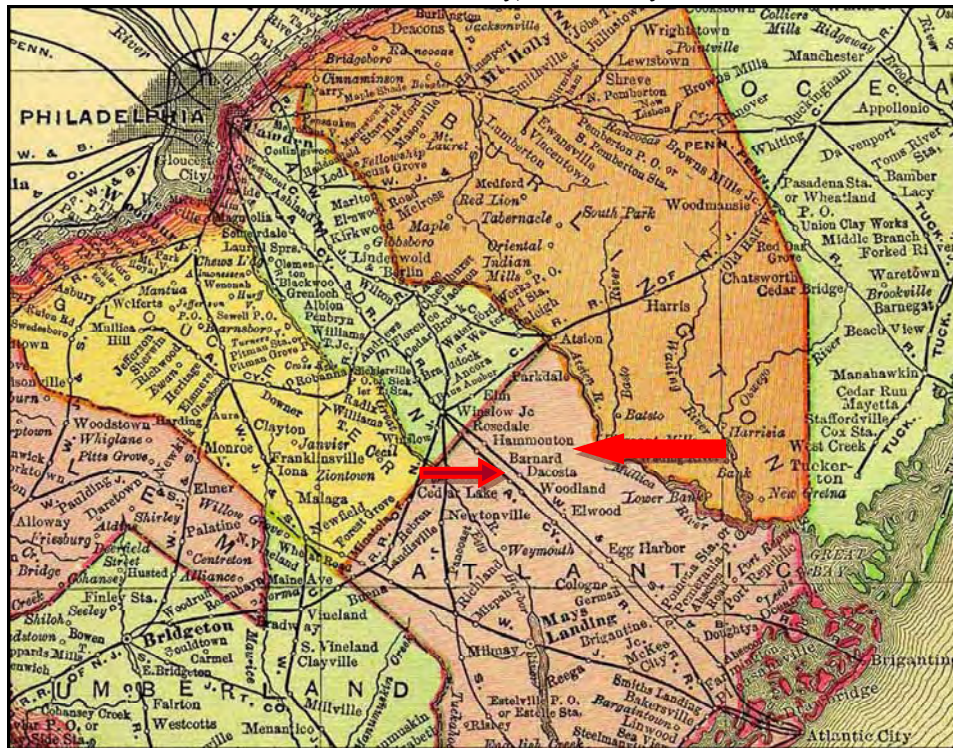


Fig. 2: In 1845, Hammonton became part of Atlantic County, indicated by the red arrow. Dacosta is indicated by the smaller red arrow.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE ~ Doug D'Avino

Cyrus J. Fay, head of one of the early families to settle the present Hammonton, was the first postmaster in the Atlantic County office. He received his appointment in May, 1859, just seven years prior to the incorporation of Hammonton. He established the post office in the Fay Building, in the general store he operated at that time, at the corner of Bellevue Avenue and Egg Harbor Road. For a time the second floor of the building housed the early beginning of the Osgood and Smith Shoe factory. A Hammonton cover from Fay's business is illustrated in *Figure 3*, while *Figure 4* shows a paid testimonial for a patent medicine (druggist being another of his occupations) that ran in a number of newspapers while Fay was postmaster.

In June, 1861, William A. Elvins, shown in *Figure 5*, was appointed postmaster and established the post office at Elvins Store, on Bellevue Avenue and the White Horse Pike, shown in *Figure 6*. For the convenience of the scattered settlers in the lower part of the town, a "branch" was opened in the old P. S. Tilton store. Mr. W. J. Smith, president of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company in 1939, recalled how the mail at Tilton's Store was delivered over the top of a large round cheese box, at one end of the counter near the small tier of mailboxes.

This service continued and George Elvins (*Figure 5*), a brother of William and father of Thomas Clohansey Elvins, was appointed postmaster March, 1869. Mr. Elvins erected a building at the corner of Bellevue Avenue and Third Street and established the main post office there. A "branch" office however, at Elvins' store was continued into the 1930s.

Mrs. Annie (nee Clohansey) Elvins (*Figure 5*), wife of George, succeeded her husband in December, 1880. She served during his term in the NJ State Assembly. Seven years later she was succeeded by Cyrus F. Osgood (*Figure 7*), prominent banker and shoe manufacturer, who was appointed in May, 1887.

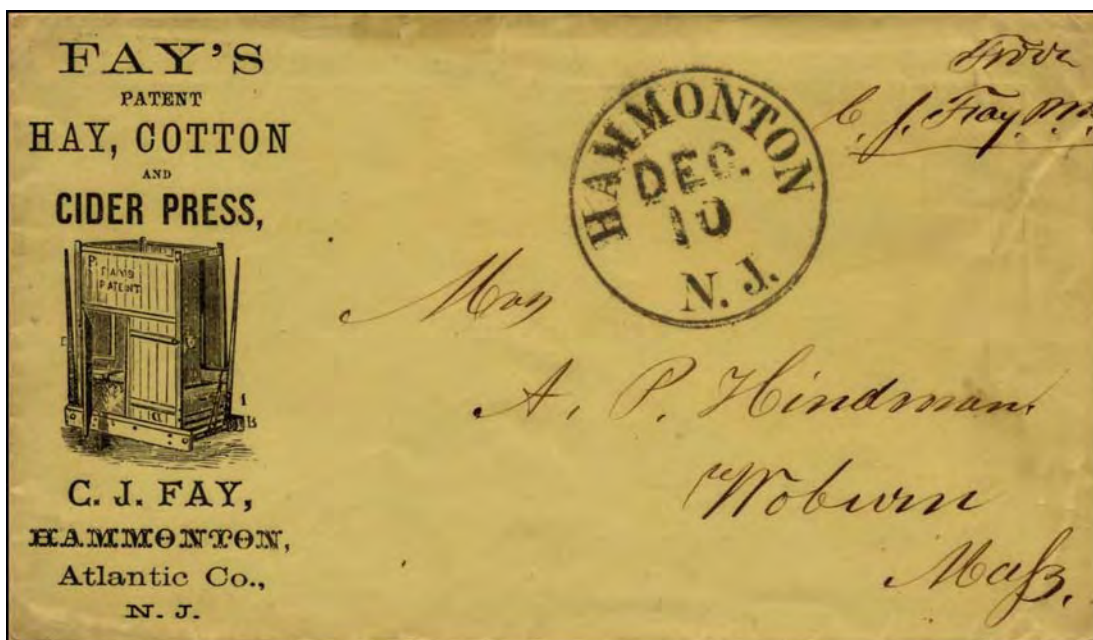


Fig. 3: Stampless envelope advertising Fay's mill for the production of hay, cotton and cider presses, postmarked in Hammonton on December 10, either 1859 or 1860. Postmaster Cyrus J. Fay used his postmaster free frank on this envelope, which does not appear to be post office business but his own.

This Case of C. J. Fay,
should command attention from the sick.
Let him in search of health ask if these
things be so; being assured they are, let him
take courage and the Pills, and secure his
health:
HAMMONTON, N. J., May 7, 1861.
DR. BRANDRETH—Dear Sir: I have long
wanted to write to you and express my
gratitude for the beneficial effects that have
been experienced in my own family, and in
hundreds, aye, thousands of others, by the
use of Brandreth's Pills. The first year my
friend Brockway sold your Pills in Boston,
1838, I was then in a declining state of
health, and my friends, as well as myself,
supposed that my earthly voyage would
soon terminate. Mr. Brockway urged me to
take the Brandreth Pills; but having used so
much medicine, with no good effect, I was
more inclined to let nature take its course,
and calmly submit to my fate. Mr. B. offered
to give me one dozen boxes, if I would take
them as prescribed. By this I saw he had
great faith in them, and I finally consented
to take them, but not as a gift. I went home,
and went at it most hopelessly. After taking
one box I began to feel better. Well, sir,
when I had used up my twelve boxes, I was
a well, healthy man, my weight having gone
from 131 pounds up to 152 pounds. I then
ordered a supply, and between that time and
the present, I have retailed three thousand
dollars worth of these invaluable Pills, and
am quite sure that I have thereby been
instrumental in saving not hundreds, but
thousands of lives.
Yours truly, C. J. FAY, P. M.

Fig. 4: This 1861 testimonial for Benjamin Brandreth's Pills appeared in the May 17, 1862 issue of Harper's Weekly. Fay, a druggist as well as an inventor, wasn't shy in using his Government position to sell patent medicine, as noted by his signature - C.J. Fay, P.M. An identical testimonial, dated May 7, 1860 vice 1861, shows up in The Tribune Almanac and Political Register of 1861.

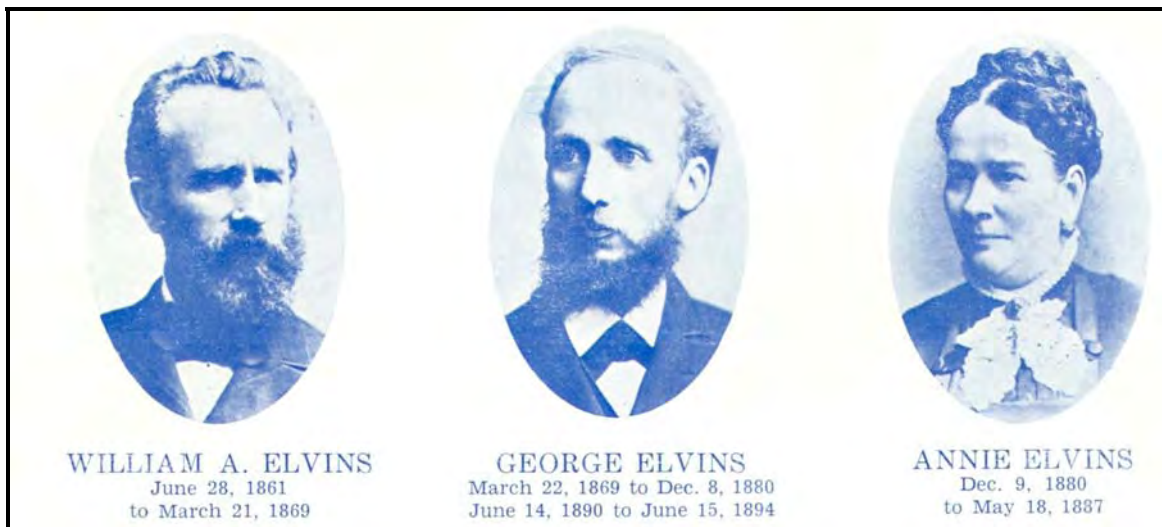


Fig. 5: William A., George and Annie Elvins served as Hammonton postmasters for most of the period from 1861 to 1894.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE ~ Doug D'Avino



Fig. 6: Elvins Corner was located at Bellevue Avenue and the White Horse Pike. A general store, it was operated by several generations of the Elvins family and housed the Hammonton post office while William, George and Annie Elvins were postmasters, then remained a branch office into the 1930s. The second floor served as a community hall where organizations and churches held meetings. This real photo postcard was postmarked (see inset) May 9, 1907, at the beginning of Thomas C. Elvins' eight year term as postmaster.



Fig. 7: Hammonton postmasters Cyrus F. Osgood, John T. French, Marcellus L. Jackson and Thomas C. Elvins. Elvins was the son of postmasters George and Annie Elvins.

The postmaster position during the 19th century was a political position. As a case in point, on Saturday, June 14, 1890, the South-Jersey Republican newspaper published the following item:

President Harrison on Wednesday sent to the Senate the name of George Elvins as Postmaster at Hammonton. Although no fault could possibly be found with Mr. Osgood, as Postmaster, It is natural that a Republican administration should desire subordinates of the same political faith. We have been expecting this appointment for several months, but as no one here cared to urge the matter, it was delayed until Mr. Osgood voluntarily resigned.

George Elvins served as postmaster until 1894.

With the appointment of John T. French (*Figure 7*) in June, 1894, the post office was moved from the Third and Bellevue location to the Jackson Building, at Bellevue and Second Street. The office was advanced to Second Class during Postmaster French's incumbency.

As is usually the case, considerable interest is created and discussion is rife when there is to be a change in the postmaster. But the interest surrounding the appointment of French must have "been the talk of the town," as the following ditty would denote. The ditty was written and sung by W. R. Seely (later Town Clerk) at a performance of "Pinafore" presented by local thespians in 1893.

*When Cleveland was elected in 1892
John French, Ben Timberman and Wayland Depuy, Each,
Postmasters wanted to be,
But the Democrats said, "Let us vote and see," Ben
Timberman, the votes did claim,
But John held the office in his pocket just the same.*

With the expiration of French's term, Marcellus L. Jackson (*Figure 7*), a former mayor and freeholder was appointed March 3, 1899, and he served until March 2, 1907, when Thomas C. Elvins (*Figure 7*) was made the postmaster. Elvins, the son of former postmasters George and Annie Elvins, had previously served five years in the NJ State Assembly and would later become mayor of Hammonton. *Figure 8* shows Hammonton postmarks from 1912 and 1915.

It was during the term of Elvins that the first rural route was established, September 1, 1909, and William A. "Bill" Elvins, a brother, was appointed the first rural carrier. Several years later, a second rural route was established and John Saxton, appointed as carrier. The deliveries at this time were with horse and wagon.

Elvins served as postmaster for eight years being succeeded by Louis J. Langham (*Figure 9*), who was appointed in February, 1915. About a year later the office was moved to more spacious quarters, at the corner of Bellevue Avenue and Second Street, which were erected especially to house the post office, by William L. Black. It was under Langham that city delivery service was established, November 4, 1916, with three carriers, David M. Adams, William Dunning and Thomas N. Lockhardt. Dunning and Lockhardt, still carriers in 1939, are identified in *Figure 10*.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE ~ Doug D'Avino

In 1917, Lewis Mathis was appointed to succeed John Saxton as rural carrier and, a short time later, a third rural route was created when John Welser, who had been serving the mail out of the Winslow post office, was transferred to the Hammonton office.

James L. O'Donnell (*Figure 9*), became the acting postmaster March 1, 1923, receiving his regular appointment in December, 1924. The post office continued in the Black Building until it moved to Vine Street in 1927.



Fig. 8: A 7-bar 1912 Hammonton postmark and a 1915 postmark.

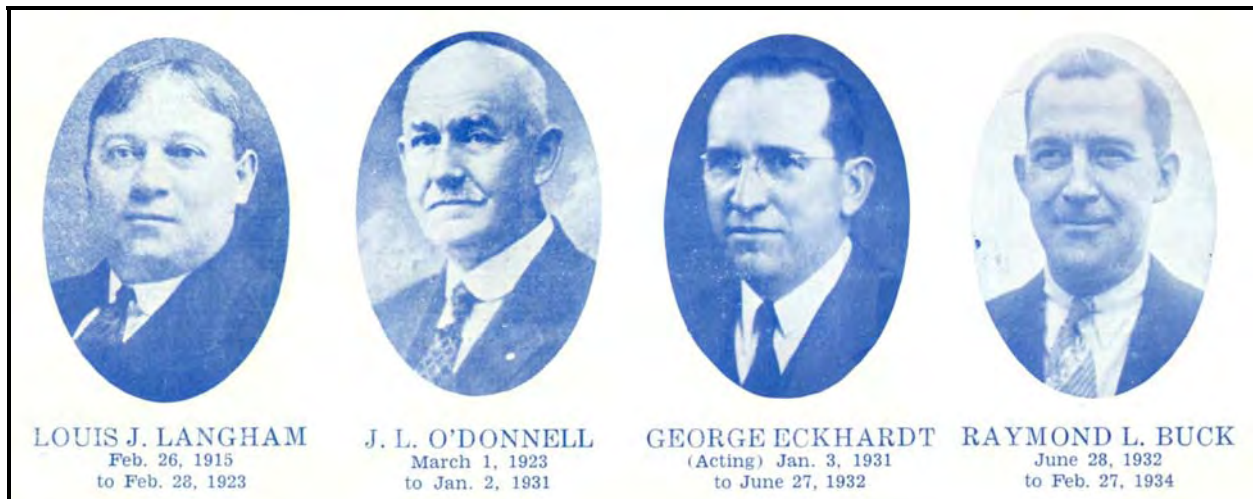


Fig. 9: Louis J. Langham, James L. O'Donnell, George Eckhardt and Raymond L. Buck served as Hammonton postmasters.

Former mayor and Freeholder George Eckhardt (*Figure 9*), succeeded O'Donnell and served as acting postmaster from January, 1931 to June, 1932 when Raymond L. Buck (*Figure 9*), publisher of *The Hammonton News*, was appointed. He served for a year and seven months when he was succeeded by Mrs. Irma M. Adams (shown in *Figure 10* and *Figure 11*), who served as acting postmaster until April, 1935 when she was regularly appointed.

After passing the Civil Service examination required by a law passed by Congress in 1938, which places postmasters of the Second, Third and Fourth offices, indefinitely in the service, Mrs. Adams was permanently appointed on May 25, 1939.

Although there had been talk of a new Federal Post Office building in Hammonton for many years "nothing ever came of it" until Congressman Elmer H. Wene, who was elected in 1936, went to work and carried through the necessary details to have Hammonton approved for a Federal Building.

Doug D'Avino ~ HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE

Early in 1937, Postmaster Adams organized what was known as the Post Office Committee, composed of many business, professional and civic leaders of the community, and it was very active in cooperating with Congressman Wene to secure Federal approval of the project. The Hammonton Business Men's Association was also a factor and, at a meeting held April 23, 1937 they endorsed the move to secure the new building.

Congressman Wene's efforts were successful and in September 1937, the U. S. Treasury Department announced that bids would be received for a site for the office.

The site, that of the old Jackson House property at the corner of Third and Peach Streets, was finally approved from a list of 18 bidders, being purchased from John Machise, while an adjoining lot, owned by the Workingmen's Building and Loan Association, completed the required lot dimensions. The price of the lot, 120 feet facing on Third Street and 180 feet along Peach Street, was \$10,500.00, and the purchase was completed in January, 1938.

The general contract was awarded September 14, 1938 to the Mutual Construction Company of New York City and ground was broken October 14, 1938. The contract for the building was for the total of \$51,930.00.

The building, of Colonial design as shown in *Figure 12*, had a width of 65 feet on Third Street and a depth of 37 feet, contained 8,650 feet of floor space (4,500 square feet on the main floor and 4,150 square feet of basement). It was the first new Federal office to be erected in Atlantic County outside of Atlantic City.



Fig. 10: Hammonton Post Office personnel at the time of the 1939 building dedication, on the front steps of the building.

HISTORY OF THE HAMMONTON POST OFFICE ~ Doug D'Avino

The post office was dedicated in a formal ceremony on July 8, 1939, as shown by the dedication cover in *Figure 13*. Postmaster Adams served until her 1965 retirement.



Fig. 11: Postmaster Irma M. Adams was in the position for 30 years and was postmaster at the time of the building dedication.



Fig. 12: The Hammonton post office, the first new Federal office to be erected in Atlantic County outside of Atlantic City, was dedicated July 8, 1939. The building still serves as Hammonton's post office.

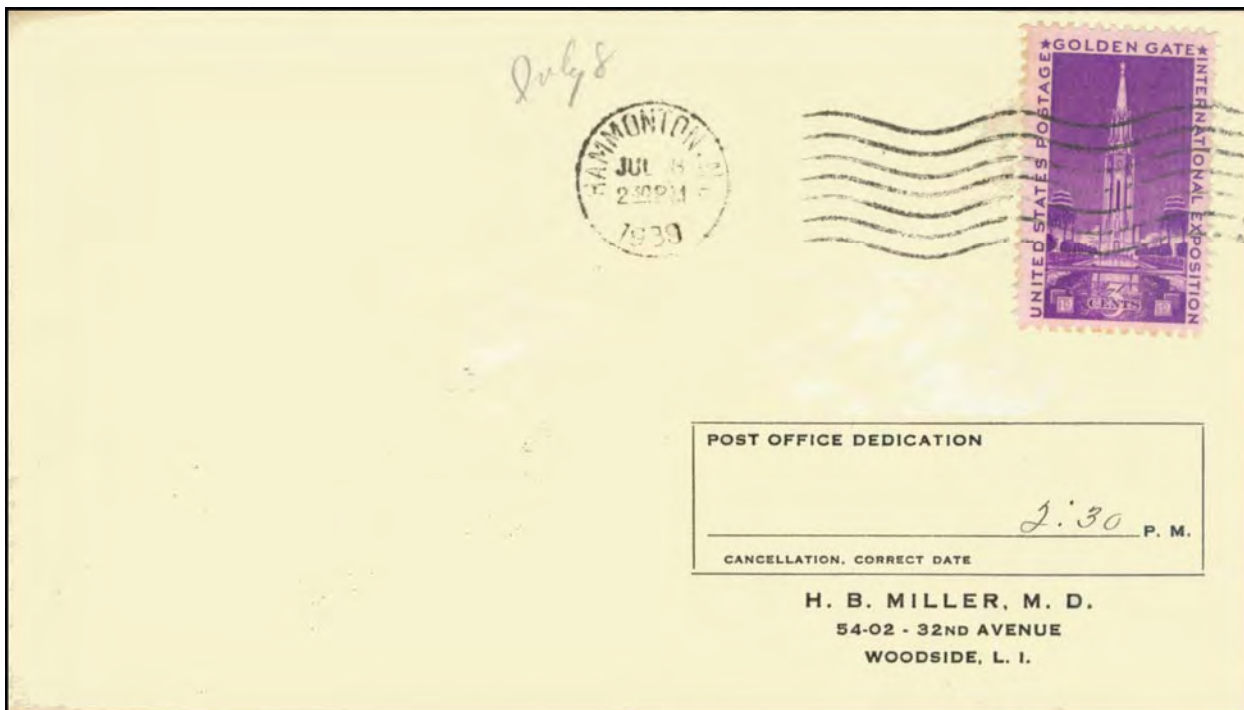


Fig. 13: Cover postmarked July 8, 1939, from the dedication of the Hammonton post office.

In the over 70 years since the building was dedicated, four additional postmasters have served Hammonton: Walter H. Shilleto, Henry B. Lewandowski, Joseph M. Delio, and John P. Glenn. And the building at the corner of Third and Peach Streets is still Hammonton's post office.

REFERENCES & ENDNOTES:

David M. Adams, "A History of the Hammonton Post Office," Dedication of the Post Office, Hammonton, New Jersey, July the Eighth, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-Nine.

"Elvins Corner, Hammonton, N.J.," *The McClintock Letter*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (May 2008), pg. 4,

<http://www.sjpostcard.com/PAGES/ARCHIVES.htm> .

South-Jersey Republican, Vol. 28, No. 24, June 14, 1890, Pg. 5,

<http://www.atlanticlibrary.org/newspapers/sjrepublican/SJR06141890.pdf> .

H.W. Wilbur and W.B. Hand, "Town Of Hammonton With An Account Of Its Soil, Climate And Industries," The Mirror Steam printing House, Hammonton, NJ, 1889, pg. 12 - 17.

¹ Adams document indicates the first postmaster as Coffen, and later PMs as Coffin – it appears from National Archive records however that both first and later postmasters with this name were spelled Coffin. We have kept the text as the original, but the table spellings are according to National Archives records.

² See above.

³ Both Smith & Kay and National Archives records show the original name spelled Decosta (1857-1893). It was re-established in 1905 as DaCosta, until its discontinuance in 1915.

CIVIL WAR PATRIOTICS: The Story of the Beverly NJ General Hospital By William E. Hughes, Jean Walton, & Richard Micchelli

In the small town of Beverly, New Jersey (approximately 15 miles north of Philadelphia, on the Delaware River), with a population of less than 3,000, lies a plot of land along the railroad bed, not far from the Delaware River, which is now occupied by a trucking company. No plaques mark the spot, no monuments, nothing is present to tell the history of this place. During the Civil War years, however, it was a source of a great deal of postal history. Particularly during the year between July 1864 and August 1865, the correspondence which poured from this site could, and in some cases does, fill volumes. While physically nothing remains, postal history helps preserve the history of this place for posterity.

Some may wonder why there are so many covers from the quiet little town of Beverly in the Micchelli collection of Civil War patriotic covers. One reason for this was location – the Camden & Amboy Railroad ran through Beverly, making an easy connection between Trenton to the north and Camden and Philadelphia to the south. In addition, steamboats plied the waters of the Delaware to this point. A three-story brick building on this site, previously used for manufacturing of various types, was now empty. All these things, along with a large flat empty space between the river and the railroad, made it an ideal spot for the mustering of Civil War soldiers. Between 1861 and 1863, 5 separate regiments of soldiers were organized and mustered into the Union Army at Beverly – the NJ 10th, 23rd, 24th, 25th and 34th Regiments.



Fig. 1: A chance to enlist! A broadside encourages men to join up before drafting will be enforced. No Union draft legislation was passed until March 3, 1863.

Illustration courtesy William Hughes and the Riverfront Historical Society, Burlington County

Posters such as the one shown at left were used to interest young men in enlisting. This appears to be a recruiting poster for the 24th Regiment (a 9-month regiment, formed in September of 1862) as the names at the bottom were officers in the NJ 24th, Company I. John O. Crowell was killed at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862. Shinn and Crowell mustered out in June of 1863.

Pvt. John Keyser was an army artist for the 24th, and drew a series of sketches of camp scenes of his regiment - one of these shows the original encampment at Camp Cadwallader, in Beverly. (See *Figure 2* on the following page). In 1864, this same location became the home of the U.S. General Hospital at Beverly.

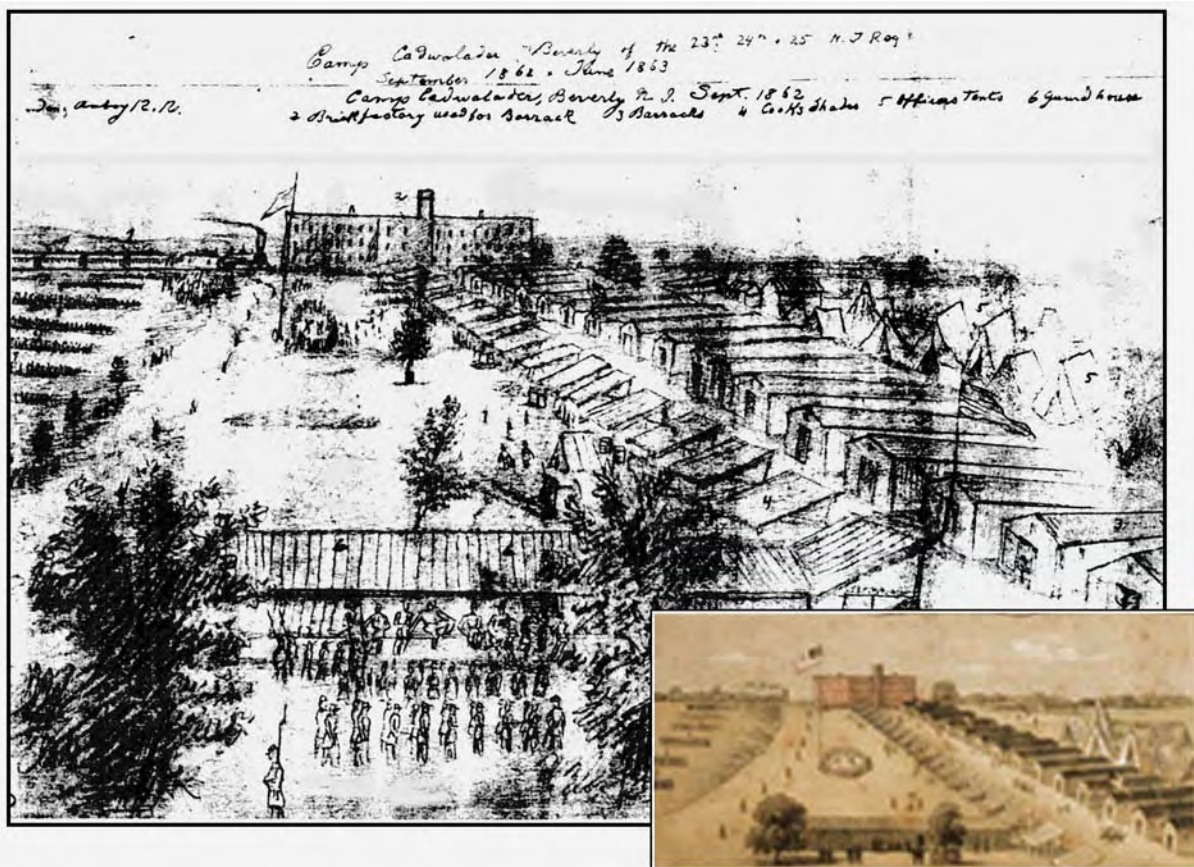


Fig. 2 – An 1862 sketch by Pvt. John Keyser, NJ 24th Regiment, at Camp Cadwallader shows how this place looked in 1862. The old 3-story brick manufactory building became headquarters for the formation of the New Jersey 24th Regiment, with tents filling the grounds. Small water pumps run down the field at left. A train is visible on the Camden & Amboy Railroad. This sketch was reprinted and sold by the artist as part of a post-war poster of views (see inset view). These grounds would be the future home of the Beverly General Hospital.

Sketch reprinted from Wm A. Hughes, courtesy Cumberland County Historical Society; inset from poster from Swann Galleries.^{1,2}

Soldiers entering the Army are often too busy to write home, though some soldiers' letters must exist from this period. By 1864, however, it became apparent that the numerous hospitals in and around Philadelphia were still not sufficient to handle the recovering wounded of the Civil War. Hence, a hospital was established on this site for the care of convalescing Civil War soldiers, to return them to the battlefield, or to their homes if too incapacitated. The Beverly Hospital accepted its first patients on July 7, 1864. The story of this hospital adds a great deal to the postal history surrounding these items.

This was not a field hospital – no bullets and mortars were heard around it – it was instead a General Hospital, which meant it served soldiers from all parts of the Union Army for care and convalescence, not just from one specific regiment. During its use as a hospital, a large water tower replaced the small hand pumps shown in the sketch in *Figure 2*. Tents again were used to house the patients. Recovery was often a long process in these days before antibiotics. Injured soldiers treated here were often around for the long haul, with time to write home – perhaps helping to explain the number of covers originating here.

CIVIL WAR PATRIOTICS & THE BEVERLY, NJ HOSPITAL ~ Hughes, Walton, & Micchelli

The two covers below show two different Corps badges, one clearly marked Soldiers Leter (sic). These are both Army of the Potomac, the shamrock of the 2nd Corps, in red for the 1st Division, and the shield of the 9th Corp, shown in green for the 4th Division. These badges came into use in March of 1863 for the 2nd Corps, and April 1864 for the 9th Corps, and made recognition of corps members easier on the battlefield, as well as instilling a sense of pride.



Fig. 3: The emblem of a shamrock regimental badge of the 2nd Corps, worn on the cap, is used on this envelope, printed by Magee (copyright 1864) in Philadelphia. Cancelled at Beverly on Oct. 18 (1864), it was sent to South Otselic, N.Y.

Cover from the Richard Micchelli Collection.

Fig. 4: Identified as a Soldier's Letter, this cover is marked "Due 3." Although mail at this time was required to be prepaid, soldiers' letters could pass unstamped, with the recipient paying the postage. This again is a Magee cover, copyright 1864 and printed in Philadelphia. It is addressed to York, Michigan and cancelled with a Beverly Aug. 2 (1864 cds). This cover bears the shield of the 9th Corps.



Cover from the Richard Micchelli Collection

The Beverly Hospital was set up in 1864 with Dr. Clinton Wagner in charge, and he requested Mrs. A. H. Gibbons of New York City to be his head nurse, and to appoint the necessary nurses. Abby Hopper Gibbons, born into a Quaker family in Philadelphia in 1801, was already well-known as an abolitionist, and as a leader in women's prison reform. She had become a nurse at the beginning of the war, studying at the David Island hospital (off the coast of New Rochelle) under the auspices of the U.S. Sanitary Commission. She had served in various field hospitals, at Point Comfort and Fredericksburg, along with one of her daughters, before assuming her position at Beverly. At the time she was put in charge of the Beverly nursing staff, she was 63 years old.³ Georgeanna Woolsey, also from New York, served under Mrs. Gibbons. Preserved letters from both tell of the hospital's beginnings.



Civil War surgeon images online *

**Dr. Clinton Wagner,
Doctor-in-Charge**



Friends Historical Society

**Abby Hopper Gibbons,
Superintending Nurse**



William Hughes

**Georgeanna Woolsey,
Volunteer Nurse**

Figs. 5 - 7: Some of the staff at the Beverly General Hospital between July 1864 and August 1865.

Georgeanna Woolsey writes on August 6, '64 *"I have been in to see Mrs. Gibbons, who has written to know whether Carry [her sister] and I would go with her to Beverly, fifteen miles from Philadelphia, and help put in running order Dr. Wagner's new hospital, to open on Tuesday, for 2,000 men. He implores Mrs. Gibbons to come and help him. She is to appoint all his nurses, and do as she pleases. She is to go at once, so as to be there for the first arrival of sick, which will be early in the week, and is to let us know all about the place diet-kitchens, accommodations, etc., etc. - after she gets there, and then we are to decide and join her if we like the look of it. If she won't go, Dr. Wagner says he will not have any woman nurses, and that is such a loss to a hospital, that she feels obliged on that account, if on no other, to help him."*⁴

And Mrs. Gibbons to her daughter Sarah:-- U. S. General Hospital. Beverly, N. J., August 11, 1864. *"We arrived at Beverly about six. As we got out of the cars, we saw an ambulance, which we knew was our means of conveyance to the Hospital, where we found Dr. Wagner, who received us graciously. After a few minutes, we entered the ambulance again and were conveyed to a lovely cottage on the river bank, where he had a room furnished for us, and we sat down to ...dinner ... I...declared myself in no way reconciled to that way of life. Give me the Camp and the rough fare that soldiers are subject to. Life with them and not outside of them....Everything is getting into shape and we shall have a nice Hospital - we have now 500 - and we hear that the Medical Director is to fill up directly, to the number of 3000.*

"The front of the cottage is over the water; we have a pleasant breeze evening and morning, and a drive of two miles to the Hospital."

Her daughter Sarah explains: In the Army, everything was comparative. The "lovely cottage" was an abandoned Ferry House on the wharf where the sick and wounded were landed.⁵

*[http://www.braceface.com/medical/Armand_images/Civil War surgeon images_7.htm](http://www.braceface.com/medical/Armand_images/Civil_War_surgeon_images_7.htm) (A collection of Cartes de Visite or CDVs).



Fig. 8: Old ferry house
Courtesy William Hughes

Mrs. Gibbons writes to another daughter, Julia:

United States General Hospital, Beverly, New Jersey, .. August, 17th, 1864: *"We have 700 patients; eight buried last evening. I closed the eyes of four who arrived in the Atlantic from Fortress Monroe not twelve hours before. Barbarous to put dying men off on such a journey. We are all needed every moment, and next Second day⁶ will bring twelve more nurses. ...I perform my round as best I can. The greatest difficulty is to keep the townspeople out, which is only done by strict guard; they want to kill with what they call kindness.*

"How hard to believe that we have lived through so much the past weeks! I hardly dare think of a quiet sunset, so cloudy has been the morning and afternoon of my life so far. But if it all happens while I am here, and my children are permitted to enjoy a peaceful noon and evening, I shall be content, and die happy....."We draw our rations and do not allow Dr. Wagner to be at any expense for us.

"My best love to thee, my beloved daughter, strength and hope of my days, a heart brim full." ⁷

Food was in short supply, although this seems to have been not from a lack of availability, but because of both Army mismanagement and graft: Food preparation was in the hands of the army, and the nursing staff was not allowed in the kitchens. There never seemed to be enough food for the patients, so gifts from the community were an important and useful addition to their diets. The nursing staff too contributed by using their own stipends (amounting to about \$12 a month) to buy eggs and milk and other necessities to help fill out the diet of the soldiers.

Georgeanna writes; from Beverly to her Mother, September, '64: *"C. [Caroline] and I have 100 men in our wards, all in bed. It is grimly amusing to hear the ward-surgeon say day after day, "Milk and eggs for 38." For two days there have been no eggs at all, and the milk rations are always short. The ladies are not allowed in the kitchen, or to have anything to do with the food for the patients. No steak and potatoes or milk punch come into this ward. We have opened a private account for bread, and milk, and butter and eggs, enough for this ward, with the village store. Our ward-surgeon has gone to a horse race, which seems a pretty long one! The surgeon-in-charge is kind in manner, and draws rations strictly according to army regulations; and seems to think that the stewards are the best persons to manage the food business. The object of the minor officers seems to be to subsist the men on nothing, and avoid making a row. We cannot keep our men alive; eleven of them have died in three days." ⁸*

Letters from Mrs. Gibbons further describe life at Beverly:

To her daughter Julia, Beverly, NJ, ..Sept. 29, 1864: *"Last evening, at six, a boat laden with wounded arrived. We were notified at three and had 319 beds to get ready. Two died between here and Philadelphia; two more to-day; we now have eight to bury. While the wounded and sick were being carried in, two ladies appeared. The husband of one was about to be put in the ground, but at her request was taken back, and he was sent home this morning. She accompanied, poor woman! How well she did in all her sorrow! the most unselfish of women! Instead of thinking her grief more than all others, she said: 'Oh, here is a woman worse off than myself (turning to the other)-she has with her a baby six months old; her husband has been dead a week and she can neither see him nor take him home. I can do both.'*

"Martha Sever has been and is still very sick. Everybody is full of work and it is hard to break away, but I shall do it, because it is time to plan for the winter and I have much to do." ⁹

Hughes, Walton, & Micchelli ~ CIVIL WAR PATRIOTICS & THE BEVERLY, NJ HOSPITAL

Sarah Emersion, Mrs. Gibbons' eldest daughter, now also a nurse at Beverly, writes to her Father from Beverly, October 16, 1864: "We were startled at midnight by the arrival of the ambulance to announce a boatload of patients just from the front. By half past two, they were comfortably stowed away. They are a jolly set, although many are severely wounded. While those who could walk were filing off, the stretcher cases called out: 'Come boys! fall in for yourhardtack and sugar! those with one arm, take the left flank!' &c. &c. A lot of them are to be furloughed this week.

"The stoves are up and the warming apparatus almost complete, so there seems to be no reason why the wards may not be comfortable. An extra pillow and blanket have been issued to each man. I have just written a letter for a dying boy, asking his family all to send their love to him.

"We are sending hundreds of men home on furlough - that is, to vote. Some Jersey politicians came for the Jersey soldiers, with the following plan: - the red-hot Lincolnites were to go at once; the lukewarm, next; and we were to keep the McClellanites until the day before election. It was no go, and we sent all at once.



Fig. 9: Martha Sever
Courtesy William Hughes

"The large tank fell this morning with a tremendous crash, and for a while there was an excitement about boilers bursting. No one was injured, although the fireman had a narrow escape."

And again from Sarah, Beverly, Nov. 12, 1864 "Martha Sever has just died from typhoid fever contracted while watching at the bedside of a dying soldier. She has been ill seven weeks, during which time Annie and I have shared the nursing... Who can say her life was not given to her country as truly as that of anyone of the band of heroes who have fallen in battle?"

Most of the above letters were personal, to family and friends, and we unfortunately do not have the originals to know whether some were carried in patriotic covers or not. The Beverly General Hospital had a full staff of doctors and nurses, however, who needed to communicate on hospital business. The hospital itself had its own patriotic envelope which was likely used for any hospital correspondence, and for thank yous for the gifts which were presented to the hospital.

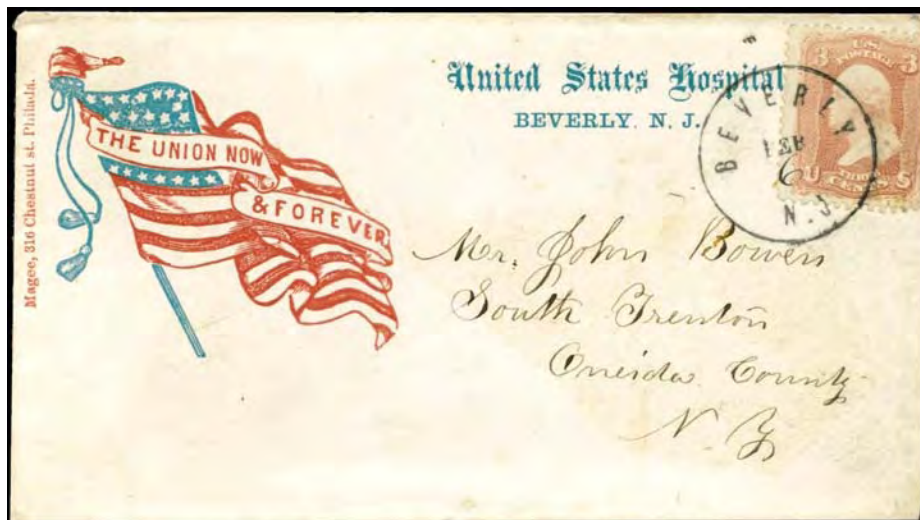


Fig. 10: A Feb. 6 (1865) Beverly, N.J. cds on a United States General Hospital, Beverly, N.J. envelope. Printed by Magee in Philadelphia Cover from the Richard Micchelli Collection

CIVIL WAR PATRIOTICS & THE BEVERLY, NJ HOSPITAL ~ Hughes, Walton, & Micchelli

Envelopes as this one were used for correspondence such as these letters from Mrs. Gibbons to a Mrs. Colson, of the Woodbury Ladies' Aid Society:

For "*The Constitution*" [Woodbury, N.J. local newspaper]

*U. S. General Hospital,
Beverly, N. J. Nov. 19, 1864*

Mrs. Asa Colson,

My Dear Madame: In behalf of the sick and wounded soldiers of our country, now in this Hospital, I beg to acknowledge from the Woodbury Aid Society, the receipt of a half barrel of pickles, 3 jars of pickles, 4 bottles of catsup, half bushel of dried apples, 6 pillows, 16 pairs of slippers. Several of the articles were most welcome, as the poor fellows were just then in want of such. The sick and feverish men often pine for a roast apple. The only ones we have are such as our volunteer nurses send out and buy with their own money, and at most extravagant prices. I do not like to have them give their nursing and then have to buy apples too, and get so few for their money. Cannot the friends of the sick and wounded men make up a barrel and send us? You can hardly imagine how easily many sick and feverish men may be soothed and made much more comfortable by these small stores. They will thank you for your kind memory of them in the hour of suffering.

*Respectfully, I am, &c.,
A.H. Gibbons [sic]*

The above letter seems to have (quite literally) borne fruit, as the letter below shows:

*U. S. General Hospital
Beverly, N. J., Nov. 26, 1864*

Mrs. Colson:

My Dear Madam, I acknowledge the receipt from the Woodbury Aid Society, the following articles, for which accept our thanks:

*4 jars pickled cherries;
15 jars of pickled tomatoes;
1 jar of pickled cucumbers;
5 jars of catsup;
2 barrels of apples.*

*Respectfully, I am
A. H. Gibbons*

U.S.A. Hospital, Beverly

10

The U.S. Christian Commission supplied stationery and writing materials to soldiers in hospitals, and sometimes personnel to write letters for patients who were unable to write themselves. This way soldiers could communicate with their families, even if their writing skills were not the best, or their injuries prevented it.

These letters were often sent in envelopes like the one in *Figure 11*, and this explains why this type of envelope is so often seen during this period from Beverly. This one is dated Dec. 19 (we presume 1864, as the hospital existed for only one year, covering only one December).



Cover from the Richard Micchelli Collection

Fig. 11: A U.S. Christian Commission soldier's letter envelope, with the emblem of a dove delivering a letter. These were supplied to soldiers for writing to their families at home.

For one year, the post office in Beverly bristled with correspondence – letters between staff and family, letters between soldiers and their loved ones, correspondence between doctors and their counterparts in other of the Philadelphia hospitals, or reporting to their superiors in Harrisburg – the years between 1861 and 1865 must have been busy for Joseph Black, the postmaster, but none busier than during the existence of the hospital, between July 1864 and August 1865. The population of Beverly, 1,220 in 1860, must have more than doubled. A total of 2,852 men were admitted to the Beverly Hospital during its year of existence – the highest number at any one time being 1,818 in November of 1864, and this does not include the hospital staff, another 400 plus – including everything from doctors to bottle washers. The town of Beverly responded with an overwhelming desire to help, with Ladies' Aid Societies from nearby towns contributing as well in their efforts to ameliorate the suffering of the convalescing soldiers, as witness the thank you letters above.

The letter below is written by William S. Henay, of Massachusetts, while a patient at the Beverly General Hospital. The letterhead explains the purpose of the US Christian Commission:

United States Christian Commission
Individual Relief Department

The United States Christian Commission seeks to afford a sure and effective medium of communication between the wounded and sick soldier — whether in the Camp or in Field or General Hospitals — and his home friends. This is done by furnishing facilities for writing and by writing for those who are not themselves able. Soldiers, for whom special inquiries are made of us will be sought out if possible and relieved and their condition made known to those asking. All letters of this character should give the Corps, Division, Regiment and Company of the soldier, as also the Hospital in which he is supposed to be. Address, United States Christian Commission, 500 H Street, Washington, D.C.

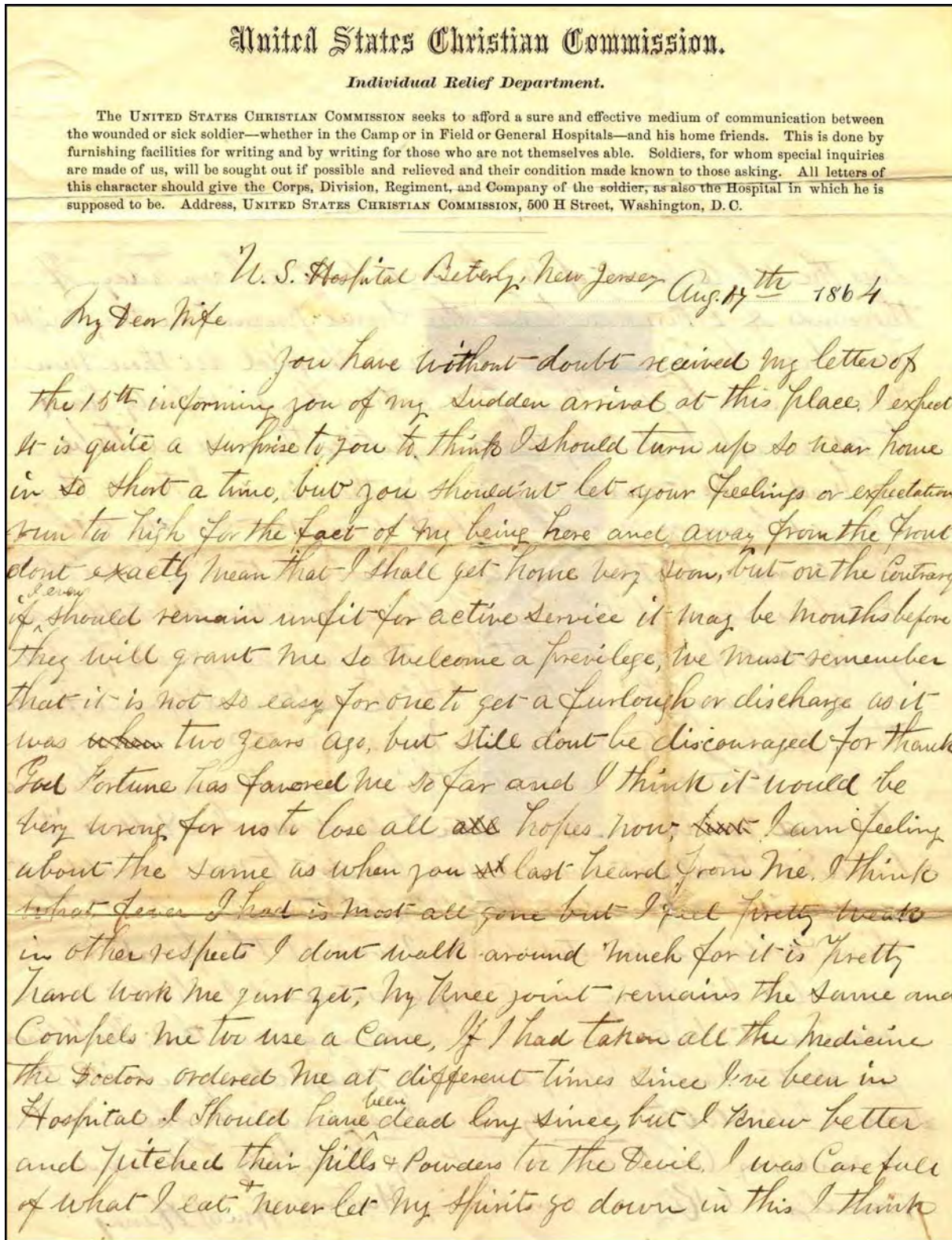


Illustration courtesy William E. Hughes

Fig. 12: Letter from William S. Henay, of the Massachusetts 56th and a patient at Beverly Hospital, written Aug. 17, 1864 on United States Christian Commission stationery.

SOLDIER LETTERS - WILLIAM S. HENAY, 56th MASSACHUSETTS

Written at Beverly, New Jersey — U.S. General Hospital 1864

(William S. Haney was a painter by profession and a resident of Roxbury, MA when he enlisted at the age of 30 on 5/22/61 as a Corporal. He mustered into Co. D, 1st Mass. Infantry on 5/24/61. Discharged for disability on 11/20/62. At age 32 he enlisted again on 2/29/64, mustering into Co. F, 56th Mass. Infantry on 3/10/64 as a Private. Discharged for disability on 6/28/65 at Philadelphia, Pa., Haney must have been one of the last patients at Beverly, as it closed down with only 4 remaining patients on 5/30/65. He may have been transferred to White Hall before being mustered out).

Notes, letters and transcriptions courtesy William E. Hughes

U. S. Hospital Beverly New Jersey Aug 17th 1864

My Dear Wife

You have without doubt received my letter of the 15th informing you of my sudden arrival at this place. I expect it is quite a surprise to you to think I should turn up so near home in so short a time, but you shouldn't let your feelings or expectations run to high for the fact of my being here and away from the front don't exactly mean that I shall get home very soon, but on the contrary if I ever should remain unfit for active service it may be months before they will grant me so welcome a privilege, we must remember that it is not so easy for one to get a furlough or discharge as it was two years ago, but still don't be discouraged for thank God fortune has favored me so far and I think it would be very wrong for us to lose all hopes now. I am feeling about the same as when you last heard from me. I think what fever I had is most all gone but I feel pretty weak in other respects. I don't walk around much for it is pretty hard work [for] me just yet. My knee joint remains the same and compels me to use a cane. If I had taken all the medicine the doctors ordered me at different times since I've been in [the] hospital I should have been dead long since but I knew better and pitched their pills + powders to the Devil. I was carefull of what I eat + never let my spirits go down, in this, I think lays the whole secret of my being as well as I am today. If thousands of others had taken the same precaution they might have been living as well. Here in [the] Hospital all those men who are able to eat their full rations find it pretty hard to get enough to satisfy their appetites.

There seems to be no head to the concern as yet or if there is one, I think they should have a new one. If it was not for the citizens who come into the Hospital with baskets filled with eatables some of the poor fellows here would suffer a good deal for want of them. They are very good people and are very kind to us. I think quite a different profile than the majority of those in Massachusetts.

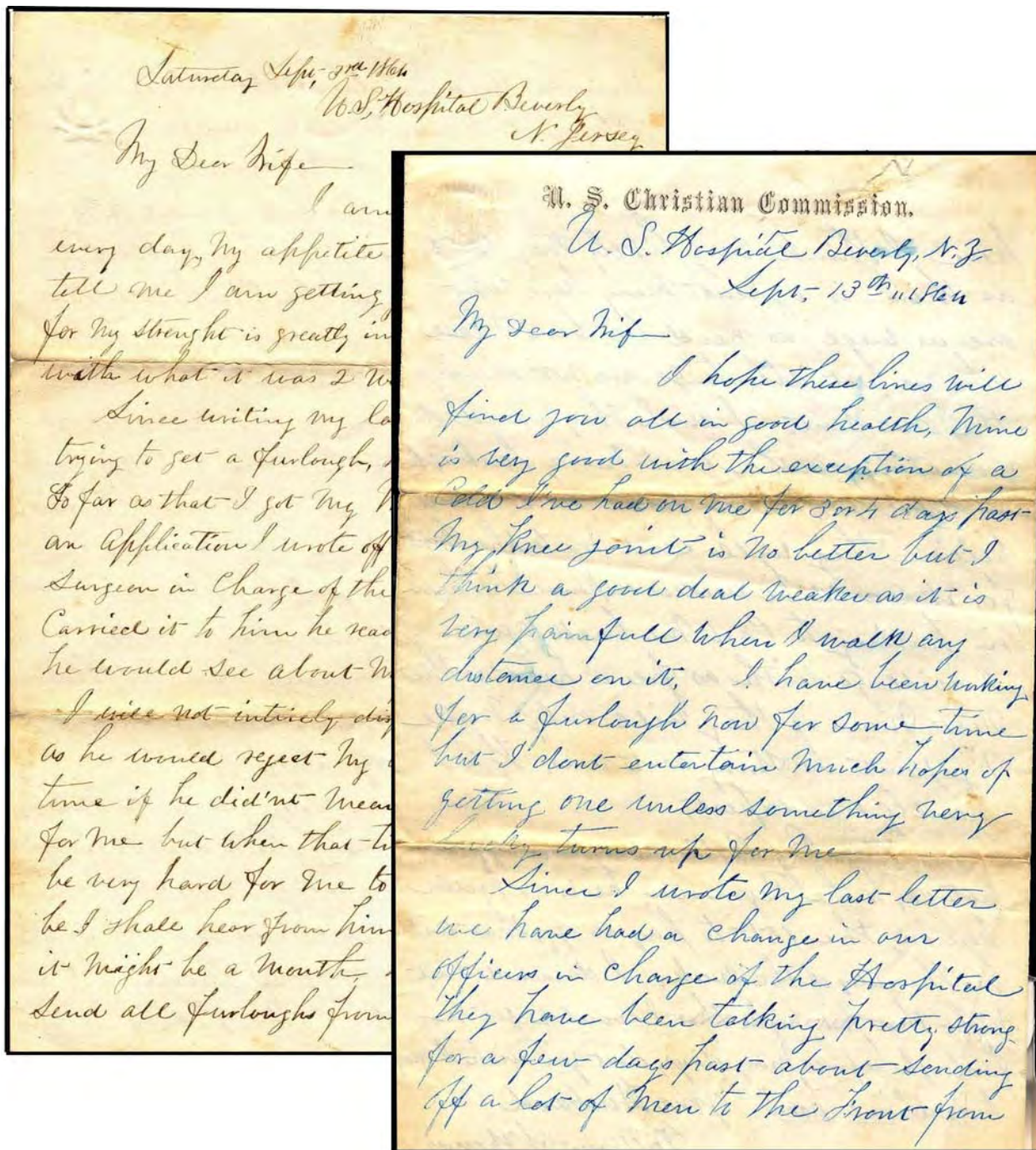
Dear Kate you must not think me extravagant because I asked you in my last letter to send me five dollars. If I didn't think it would be a benefit to me I should not ask for it. I have been thinking whether you sent the five dollars I wanted when I was at the front if you did I'm sorry for its very uncertain if I shall ever receive it but never mind we can get over that. The tobacco [sic] letters you have sent I have no hope of ever seeing that, when you write the same as I directed to Beverly, New Jersey until further orders.

I send my love to all Millie, Fannie, Katie, Baby Kate and yourself.

I remain your loving husband, Wm S Haney

This letter is written on the same day as one from Mrs. Gibbons complaining about the townfolk who “*want to kill with what they call kindness,*” (see letter above) – but clearly their efforts were appreciated by the patients.

Two more letters follow, one on a different US Christian Commission letterhead, and the other on plain paper with no letterhead. These are also transcribed below.



Illustrations courtesy William E. Hughes

Fig. 13: Two more letters from Henay to his wife, written during his stay at the Beverly General Hospital. One is dated September 3, and the other September 13, 1864. Henay was mustered out in late June 1865 in Philadelphia, and as his first letter here is written in August of 1864, he must have been in the Beverly Hospital for almost its entire existence.

Saturday Sept 3rd 1864
U.S. Hospital Beverly
N Jersey

My Dear Wife

I am improving in health every day, my appetite is good and they tell me I am getting fat. I don't doubt it for my strength is greatly improved compared with what it was 2 weeks ago.

Since writing my last letter I have been trying to get a furlough. This morning I did succeed. So far as that I got my ward doctor to sign an application. I wrote off to present to the surgeon in charge of the Hospital. When I carried it to him he read it and told me he would see about my furlough- I will not intirely [sic] despair of getting one as he would reject my application at the time if he didn't mean to do something for me but when that time will be it would be very hard for me to say. It may be I shall hear from him in a week and it might be a month. They are obliged to send all furloughs from this place to Genl Couchs Head Quarters at Harrisburg, Pa. for approval. I may be lucky enough to get one and if I do I shall be agreeably surprised.

An order has been issued from the War Department to furlough all the Maine soldiers in the Hospital who are able to go home to vote. This is probably by request of the Governor of the state.

There is no danger of our Governor making such a request for I don't think it would benefit his party much, as most all soldiers in the Army would vote against him. So they should and I hope they will + every man at home should do the same give us a new Governor and McClellan for our next President. I think things will be more agreeable for everybody.

I shall look for a letter from you on Monday or Tuesday next and hope to hear that you'll be in your usual good health.

Give my love to all Millie, Fannie, Katie, Baby Kate and yourself
Yours forever
Wm S Haney



Cover from the Richard Micchelli Collection
Fig. 14: A patriotic cover used from Beverly on September 3 (but not from Haney) shows that other soldiers there were not all “red-hot Lincolnites,” but favored McClelland. Sarah Emerson, in her October 16th letter above, also writes about furloughing patients to go home and vote in the upcoming Presidential election. She notes that no favoritism was shown and all were released at the same time – although clearly there was an attempt by some to affect the election. Lincoln’s second run for election resulted in a landslide for the incumbent President, in large part because of timely major victories in the field.

U. S. Christian Commission
U. S. Hospital Beverly N.J.
Sept 13th 1864

My Dear Wife

I hope these lines will find you all in good health. Mine is very good with the exception of a cold I've had on me 3 or 4 days past. My knee joint is no better but I think a good deal weaker as it is very painful when I walk any distance on it. I have been working for a furlough now for some time but I don't entertain much hope of getting one unless something very lucky turns up for me.

Since I wrote my last letter we have had a change in our officers in charge of the Hospital. They have been talking pretty strong for a few days past about sending off a lot of men to the front from here. I think very likely they will as there is a great many here who are as well as need be, but those who are best able to go are not always the ones sent. I wish they would do something, either give me a furlough or send me away from here. I don't believe they will send me to the front for it would be useless expense to them in having to cart me back again. I will go with as free a heart as the next man if they will only make my joint as strong as it was. This I hardly ever expect.

Our Pay Rolls were sent off on yesterday to the Paymaster. He is expected here on the 15th to pay us off, that will be Thursday of this week. I dreamed last night that I would get a furlough before many days, don't you wish I may.

*I don't "in a horn"**

Your Husband
William S Haney

*Ed. Note: I have no idea what this phrase meant.

Haney, as noted above, never got his furlough until the end of the war.

Georgeanna sums up her experience at Beverly

*"The Beverly Hospital was perhaps the worst one claiming to be a Regular Army establishment that I (G.) ever went into, and the conditions exasperating, because it was in the midst of a land of plenty. But it was dominated by the same Regular Army spirit which we had encountered all along, from the very first day of our army experience. As in our late Spanish** war, the system adapted to the case of a frontier regiment in time of peace was expected to cover all the emergencies of a large army in time of war. At Beverly the surgeon in charge was kind, but was strangled in red tape. Mrs. Gibbons made the effort to keep us comfortable, and her daughter herself prepared in one corner of the kitchen articles for our table, to mitigate the army ration. Our own discomforts on the top floor of the board shanty are not worth speaking of, but one incident will illustrate the general conduct of affairs. I was pursued up-stairs one day by the man detailed to wait on the nurses' table, (a huge private in shirt-sleeves and bare feet), and violently berated for taking a piece of dry bread from the table to eat in peace in my own room, "contrary to regulations," I suppose.*

Cousin Margaret Hodge and home friends helped us constantly to feed our poor men, and Robert sent weekly boxes of fruit and flowers. At last a tent hospital took the place of this wretched old tooth-brush factory building (where, through the wide cracks in the single plank floor of my ward, we looked down into the dead-house), and, matters having improved, we came away.

The poor fellows' Christmas day was happy. Miss Sever, our co-laborer, who remained, in acknowledging Christmas boxes from us, writes: "The dinner was a great success, and Mrs. Grant, the General's wife, spent the day going about among the men, which delighted them." ¹¹

** Mexican War.



Covers from the Richard Micchelli Collection

Fig. 15: Two more covers mailed at Beverly, one dated September 6 and the other October 4, both to New Jersey addresses. Since the local population in Beverly supported the War wholeheartedly, these could well have been used by local citizens, not patients at the hospital.

A National Cemetery was established at Beverly in 1864 to handle the soldiers who died at the Beverly Hospital, through a gift of land from a local citizen. It is located on the other side of the railroad tracks, adjacent to Beverly's own Monument Cemetery. A statue of a Civil War soldier once overlooked the National Cemetery, but as years went by, its base eroded and it was removed for safety reasons. It originally stood 60 feet high, and graced the cemetery for some 76 years. After some years in storage, this statue now stands in front of the American Legion post in Beverly, on a much smaller base.

One hundred and forty plus soldiers were buried in this Cemetery, from those who did not survive their stay at the Beverly Hospital. Many others have been added since.

Our sincere thanks to Bill Hughes for allowing us to use his research and letters to create this article. For those interested in further information, his very detailed monograph is available for the price of \$18 by contacting him at William E. Hughes, 4 Washington Blvd., Stratford, NJ 08084, or by email at NYSV107th@aol.com.



Fig. 16: The Civil War monument at the Beverly National Cemetery on a post card sent from Beverly in 1906.

And our appreciation to Richard Micchelli for the covers pictured. Those interested in seeing further Civil War patriotic covers should visit our web site, where a pdf of these is available in our Free Online Library at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/pdf/NJCWPats.pdf>.

Below are a few photos of the hospital site and National Cemetery, as they appear in Beverly today. Our thanks to Jack Edge, NJPHS member in Beverly, for these.



Fig. 17: A trucking firm now occupies the site of the U.S. General Hospital at Beverly.



Fig. 18: The entrance to the National Cemetery at Beverly.

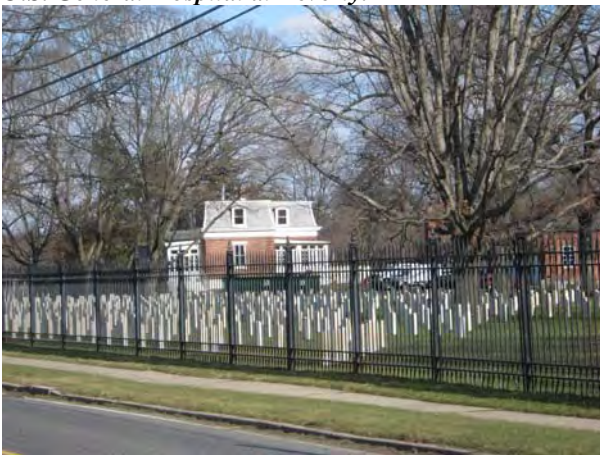


Fig. 19: Caretaker's house at National Cemetery.



Fig. 20: the statue as it appears today, on a reduced base, outside the American Legion Post in Beverly.

ENDNOTES:

- ¹ Hughes, William E., *The U.S. General Hospital at Beverly, NJ 1864-65* (a very comprehensive history, self-published);
- ² The Swann Galleries sale #2207, lot 85, an 18x24 lithographed print of 13 Campaign Views of the 24th Regiment by John Keyser, lithographed by C.Kolb, printed in Stuttgart, which realized \$475 in the May 18, 2010 sale.-
<http://catalogue.swannalleries.com/asp/fullCatalogue.asp?salelot=2207+++++85+&refno=++625122&saletype=>
- ³ Emerson, Sarah Hopper, *The Life of Abby Hopper Gibbons, told chiefly through her correspondence*, Vol. 11. G.P Putnam's Sons, NYC, 1896. Available on GoogleBooks at
<http://books.google.com/books?id=2QpaAAAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=abby+hopper+gibbons&hl=en&sa=X&ei=BMIhT6TWfsm60AG3nMDvCA&ved=0CD8Q6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=abby%20hopper%20gibbon&f=false>
- ⁴ Bacon, Georgeanna Woolsley and Eliz Woolsey Howland, *Letters of a Family During the War for the Union, 1861-65*, Vol. 2, privately printed and edited, p.615 (quoted in Hughes, q.v., and available online at
<http://www.archive.org/details/LettersOfAFamilyDuringTheWarForTheUnion1861-1865>).
- ⁵ Emerson, Sarah, *Life of Abby Hopper Gibbons*, op. cit.
- ⁶ Quaker dating, Second Day being the second day of the month.
- ⁷ Emerson, op cit.
- ⁸ Bacon, op cit. pp. 619-622.
- ⁹ Emerson, op cit.
- ¹⁰ Both letters reprinted from Hughes, whose source was the *Woodbury Constitution*, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, 1864.
- ¹¹ Bacon, Georgeanna Woolsley and Eliz Woolsey Howland, *Letters of a Family During the War for the Union, 1861-65*, Vol. 2, privately printed and edited, p.623-24.

CENSUS OF EARLY NEW JERSEY COVERS – Part 3: Princeton

By Ed & Jean Siskin
jeananded@comcast.net

We continue here the census of all New Jersey covers dated before June 1, 1792 with domestic town postal markings. This includes covers handled by the parliamentary post (to 1777), its American successors (1775-1792) and by independent services. Previous sections have covered covers from Trenton (May 2011 Issue of *NJPH*, Vol. 39, No. 2, Whole No. [182](#)), and New Brunswick, (August 2011 Issue of *NJPH*, Vol. 39, No. 3, Whole No. [183](#)).¹

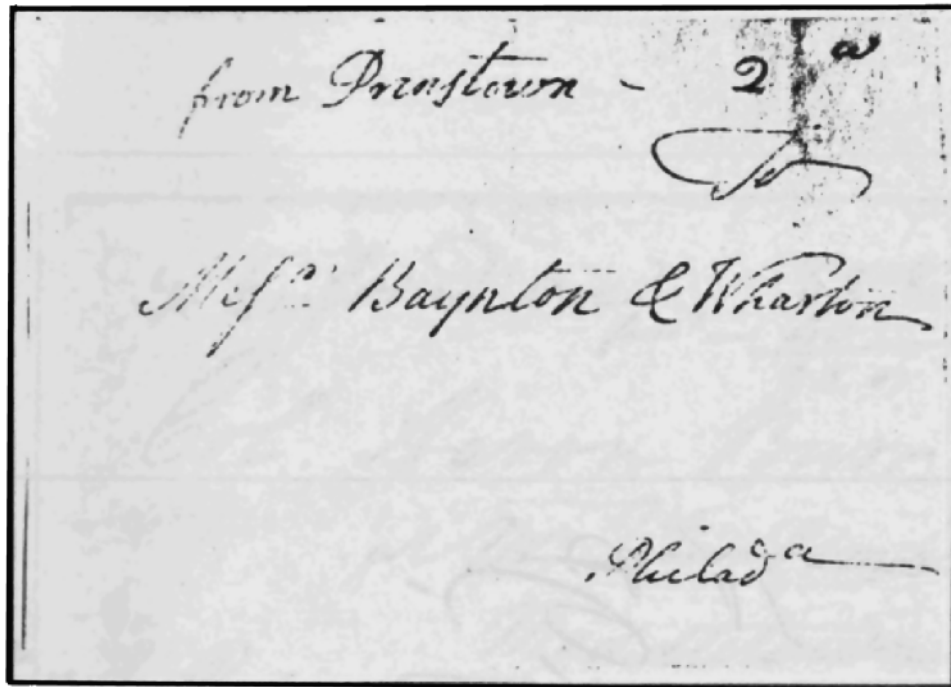
Again, we invite members to contribute. Please send all new information to be included to jeananded@comcast.net – your help is needed.

Princeton

(Post Office established 1757 or earlier)

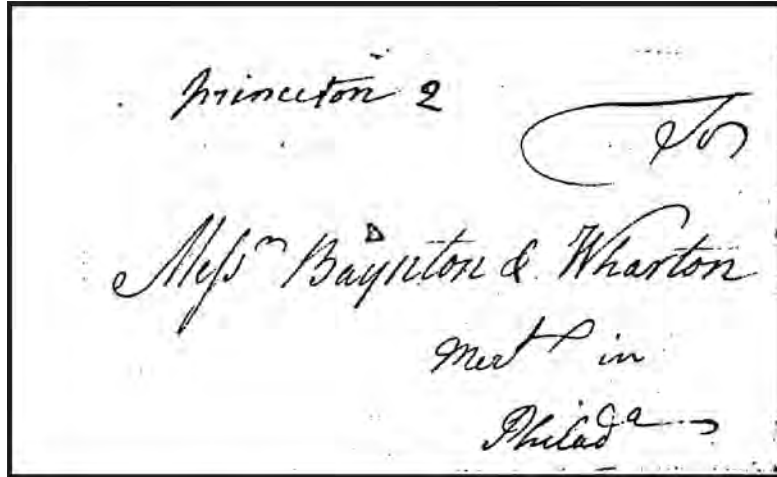
1763.04.18

“from Prinstown,” April 17, 1763, to Philadelphia, 2 dwts. (PA State Archives)(terBraake NJ4)²



1764.03.10

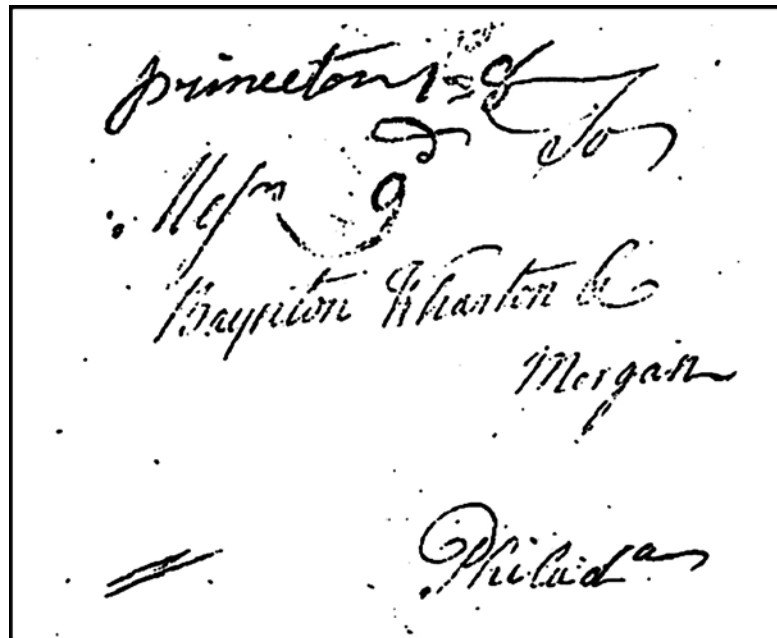
"Princeton 2" Black manuscript, datelined March 10, 1764, to Philadelphia 2 dwts. (PA State Archives) (ter Braake Cover NJ5)



Princeton 2
To
Mess^{rs} Baynton & Wharton
met in
Phila

1764.10.15

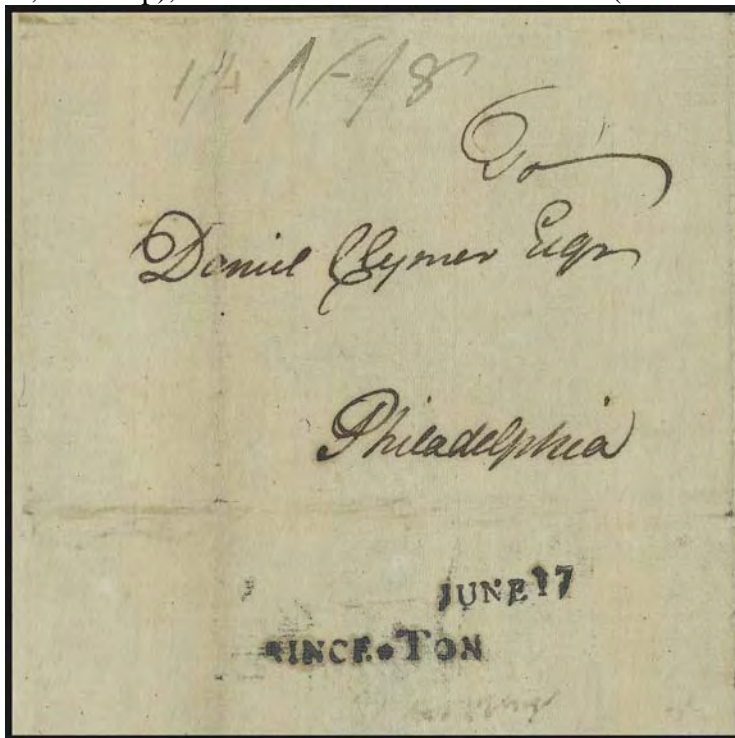
"Princeton" Black manuscript (PA State Archives)



Princeton 2
To
Mess^{rs} Baynton & Wharton
Morgan
Phila

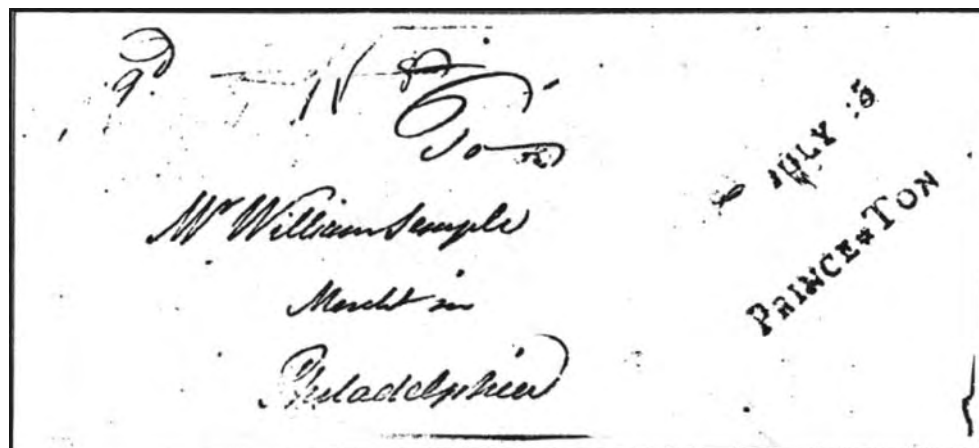
1775.06.17

"PRINCE*TON" Black Straightline postmark and separate "JUNE 17" datemark on back of folded cover to Daniel Clymer in Philadelphia, manuscript "N8" 8-pence Congressional Post rate, red "1/4" due in local currency (8p x 1.67 inflation factor=14p plus 2p carrier fee, or 1sh4p), the entire cover has been silked. (PaHS Lot 2744)³



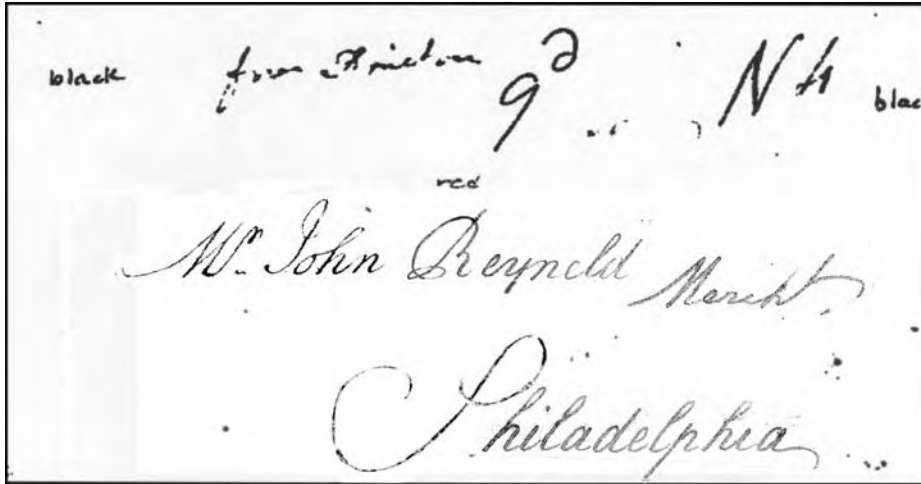
1775.07.05

PRINCE*TON, brown, 37x4, JULY :5, all on reverse, 1775, to Philadelphia. Double rate -N8=8d. Local currency 9d. Contains letter from Jonathan Witherspoon, President of Princeton University and signer of the Declaration of Independence (Princeton University Library) (ter Braake Cover NJ6)



1775.09.05

"Princeton" ms, 9d, N4, From Jonathan Dickinson Sergeant at Princeton, 5d 9mo 1775 to Reynold, merchant, Philadelphia. (NJPH Whole # 56:6) (image enhanced)⁴



1775.09.11

Prince*ton Sep:11 two line pmk on reverse of 1775 folded letter to Philadelphia, magenta ms "9d" local currency equivalent and black "N4" (4d) rate reflecting the 20% rate reduction of the Congressional Post, ex-Lounsbury (Frajola Auction 26, Lot 1141)

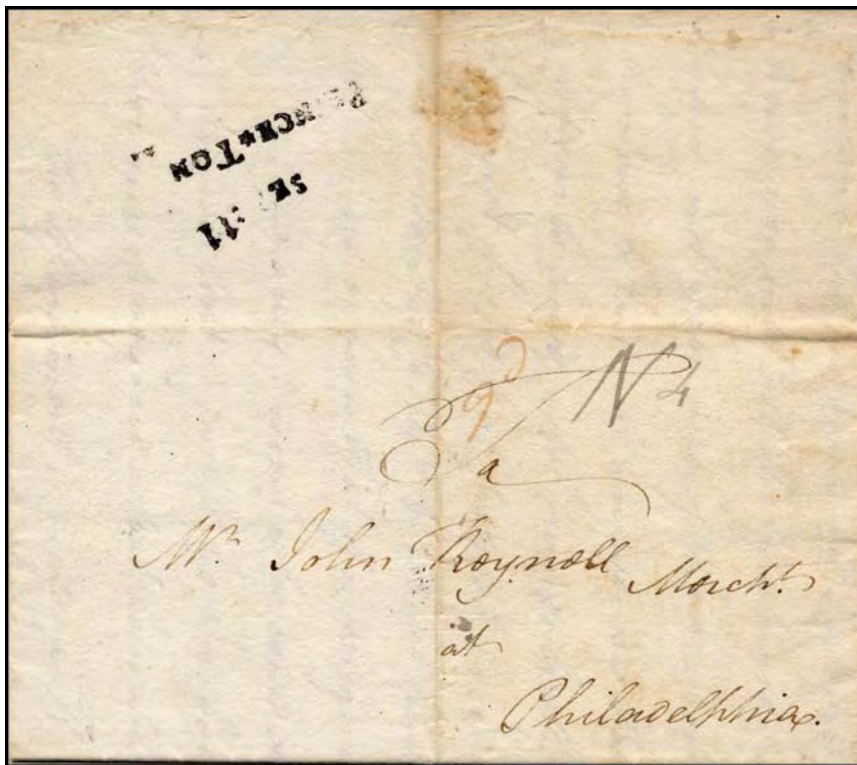
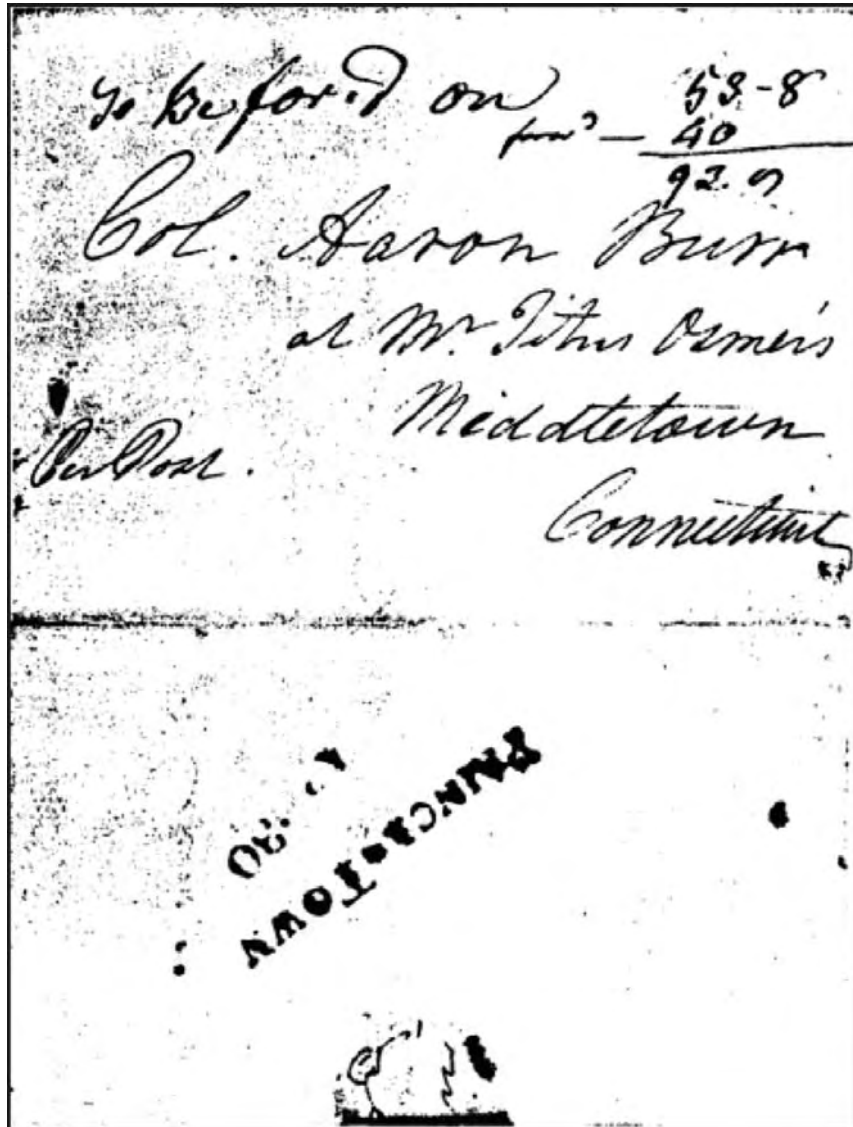


Image courtesy Robert G. Rose

1780.04.27

"PRINCE*TOWN" SL 43X4 mm, Black to Middletown CT (American Antiquarian Society) (ter Braake Cover D-25)



1780.05.10

"PRINCE*TOWN / MAY: 10" to Morristown, Two Line pmk. in Brown on back of 1780 Folded Letter to Col. Charles Stewart (Officer in Washington's Army) at Jockey Hollow, Morristown, ms. "26-16" rate, the Very Scarce "20 Times 1775" Rate of 1779, contents refer to supplying material for uniforms, ex-Rich (Siegel 546, Lot 160), (Postal Markings, June 20, 1935, Page 12.)

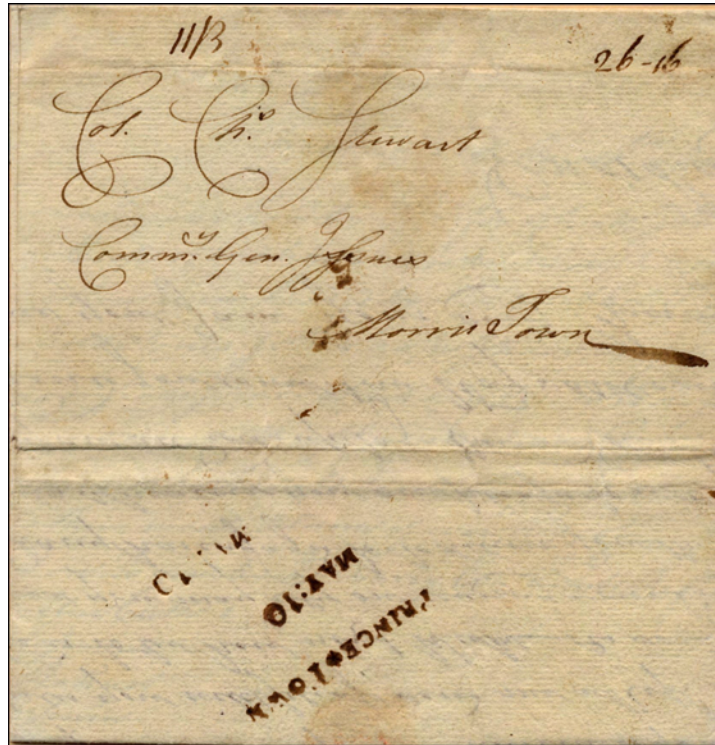


Image courtesy Robert G. Rose

Please send all new reports to Jean and Ed Siskin at jeananded@comcast.net . We are eager to make this database as complete as possible, so if you have unreported covers in your collection, or have seen others in other sources – catalogues, web sites, etc., we would like to include them.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ For Trenton covers, see the May 2011 Issue of NJPH, Vol. 39, No. 2, Whole No. 182, <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/journal/may11njph182.pdf> . For New Brunswick covers, see the August 2011 Issue of NJPH, Vol. 39, No. 3, Whole No. 183, <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/media/journal/aug11njph183.pdf> .
- ² ter Braake, Alex L., Coord., *The Posted Letter in Colonial and Revolutionary American 1628-1790*, published by APRL, State College, PA, 1975.
- ³ Siegel Sale 944 (<http://www.siegelauctions.com/zoom/imageviewer.php?url=http://www.siegelauctions.com/2007/944/2744.jpg>), "Archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania," October 24, 2007.
- ⁴ The image shown is from an old photocopy, used in *NJPH* Whole #56. The address, which was illegible in that journal, has been enhanced for clarity, and is not a true representation of the original cover. The address information provided was from the author of that article. The postal markings we have left as they appeared in the photocopy.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: Ampere, NJ

By Doug D'Avino

The Crocker-Wheeler Company was organized in New York City but, by 1894, had relocated to East Orange (Essex County), New Jersey to have sufficient space for manufacturing. The company produced electric motors, generators and transformers. The name "Ampere" was first applied by the company to an East Orange railroad station, but soon became associated with the entire community surrounding the company facilities, shown in *Figure 1*. While the company has departed, Ampere is still acknowledged as a section of the city of East Orange.

Soon after relocating, Crocker-Wheeler requested a post office and constructed the building shown in *Figure 2*. It was located on Fourth Avenue just below North Sixteenth Street. The following report was reprinted in the 1908 *Cassier's Magazine*, *A Monthly Review of the Applied Science of Engineering*, right around the 10th Anniversary of the post office's opening:

New Post Office at Ampere, N.J.

In order to facilitate handling the increasing volume of mail at the Ampere, N.J., post office, the Crocker-Wheeler Company, manufacturers of electrical machinery, have built a brick and cement post office building on their grounds. The architecture is of a modern classical style, which might be termed "federal." Upon the pediment above the main entrance is an eagle and United States shield in high relief. The interior of the building is finished in quartered oak, and the floor is of mosaic tile. Upon the walls hang a fac-simile (sic) of the Declaration of Independence, with the coats-of-arms of various States, a Constitution of the United States and an autograph letter and portrait of A.M. Ampere (1775–1836), after whom Ampere is named, and whose name is also used throughout the world to designate the unit of electric current. The new post office will still further beautify the grounds of the Crocker-Wheeler Company.



Figure 1. The Crocker-Wheeler Company's manufacturing plant, circa 1900, cut from a postcard. Even after the Ampere post office was discontinued and consolidated into the East Orange post office, "Ampere" continued to be included in the East Orange postmark, as shown by the postcard's 1906 postmark (inset). A 6-bar Mount Vernon, NY postmark is also partially visible. The short-lived Ampere postmark between 1898 and 1902 (without East Orange) would be a worthwhile philatelic find.

HOMETOWN POST OFFICES: Ampere, N.J. ~ Doug D'Avino

Henry P. Jones was appointed the first postmaster of the Ampere post office in March, 1898, as listed in Table 1. The post office served not only Crocker-Wheeler, but the entire Ampere community. The post office began selling postal money orders on March 11, 1899.

In the 1901 Official Register of the United States, Jones is listed as Ampere postmaster, earning an annual salary of \$1,000.

The Ampere post office was discontinued in April, 1902, to be consolidated with the East Orange post office effective July, 1902. In the 1903 Official Register of the United States, Jones is listed as a clerk in the East Orange post office, earning an annual salary of \$900. He may very well have continued working in the same building at a reduced salary!



Figure 2. The Ampere Post Office was built by the Crocker-Wheeler Company to handle the increasing volume of mail at its manufacturing facility. The uniformed individual on the left is probably Postmaster Jones, the only postal worker assigned to the Ampere Post Office.

Table 1. Ampere Postmasters		
Name	Position	Date Appointed
Henry P. Jones	1st Postmaster	March 25, 1898
Ampere discontinued on April 25, 1902; mail to East Orange effective July 1, 1902.		

REFERENCES:

- Thomas J. Blalock, "Ampere, New Jersey, Home of the Crocker-Wheeler Company," IEEE Power & Energy Magazine, January 2003, <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/pes/public/2011/may/peshistory.html>.
Cassier's Magazine, A Monthly Review of the Applied Science of Engineering, Vol. XXXIV, The Cassier Magazine Company, New York, May - October 1908.
William Hart, *East Orange in Vintage Postcards*, Arcadia Publishing, 2000, pg. 26.

MEMBER NEWS: Treasurer's Report**TREASURER'S REPORT – JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2011**

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	January 1, 2011		\$8,599.95
INCOME	DUES x 109	\$1,635.00	
	DONATIONS x 43	\$952.00	
	CD & LITERATURE SALES	\$74.00	
	TOTAL INCOME		\$2,661.00
EXPENDITURES	PAYPAL FEES	(\$13.43)	
	JOURNAL	(\$2,346.40)	
	NATIONAL ARCHIVES	(\$250.00)	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		(\$2609.83)
NET CHANGE			\$ 51.17
BALANCE YEAR END 12/31/2011			\$8,651.12

Journal Expenses By Issue

Month	Printing	Mailing	Total
February 2011	\$375.00	\$227.70	\$602.70
May 2011	\$340.00	\$273.90	\$613.90
August 2011	\$335.00	\$250.80	\$585.80
November 2011	\$315.00	\$229.00	\$544.00
TOTAL	\$1,365.00	\$981.40	\$2,346.40

The only expense the Society incurs is the printing and mailing of the Journal, and Jean Walton and Bob Rose have once again 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, 2009 & 2010.

The \$250 is for two National Archives Postmaster Appointment files that the Society ordered, and which are available to members on request.

We lost eight members and eight donors. But the 45 donors who gave so generously this year have raised the bar and the donations for the year that were \$775 in both 2008 and 2009 to a whopping \$892 this year. Their kind contributions allowed the Society to turn what would have been a significant loss into a modest increase, and to hold dues at the very reasonable \$15 annual rate yet again. I thank the many Society members who contributed beyond their dues, and hope that the membership will continue to donate in 2012.

ANDY KUPERSMIT, TREASURER

~ ☒☒☒ ~

Correction to the November 2011 issue: Lou Geschwindner informs me that the Haddonfield receiving mark is a Doremus, not a Barr-Fyke. My type chart must have an error.	Gene Fricks
---	-------------

MEMBER NEWS: DONORS, NEW MEMBERS, ADDRESS CHANGES

DUES REMINDER: A renewal form is enclosed with this issue if your dues for 2012 are still outstanding. Please send your payment of \$15 to Jean Walton, Secretary, 125 Turtleback Road, Califon, NJ 07830. Donations are welcomed, and very important to the Society. Should you prefer to pay online, just go to our web site at <http://www.njpostalhistory.org/>, and follow the links at left to pay your dues by Paypal. You can also make a contribution with your dues payment if you wish. The 2011 journals on CD are available to members for the price of \$5.00. An annual index is included on the CD, as well as a full index to NJPH #1-184.

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO OUR 2012 DONORS:

Capt. Lawrence B. Brennan USN	Robert J. Jones
Robert Buckler	Donald Jones
E. Leslie Byrnes	George Kramer
Patricia E. Byrnes	Peter Lemmo
Donald A. Chafetz	Robert Livingstone
Doug D'Avino	Hugh Merritt
Art Desimine	Richard Micchelli
Robert J. DeTrollo	Ed Murtha
Claude Duperrex	Leonard R. Peck
John W. Edge	Robert H. Penn
Joseph J. Felcone	Robert J. Rankin
Lloyd E. Foss	Robert G. Rose
Leonard Frank	Steven M. Roth
Joseph Geraci	Paul W. Schopp
Ken Hall	Harry M. Segner III
John D. Hankin	Russell N. Silverstein
Joseph Haynes	John Trosky
Mike Hodas	Jean R. Walton
Charles M. Hogate	Charles D. Wrege
William H. Johnson	Nathan Zankel

MEMBER CHANGES:

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Mike Hodas, 598 28th Street, San Francisco, CA 94131-2220 mikelaurieH2@gmail.com,
Lakehurst Special cancels, Tom's River, PCs of NJ & Philly

Dr. Marion Rollings, PhD., 101 New Amwell Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08840,
Drmarionrollings@yahoo.com, Topicals, cinderellas, charity stamps, Duck stamps

Robert Vary, oldcrowstamps@optonline.net

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Deborah L. Hoskins, 28 Hampton Corner Rd, Ringoes, NJ 08551, change email from
hoskinsdbj@msn.com to hoskinsdbj@gmail.com

Robert Livingstone, P.O. Box 256, South Dennis, MA 02660-0256 to Robert Livingstone,
85 Alfred Metcalf Drive, South Dennis, MA 02660

William Somerville, 901 Timberbrook Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360-8923 to William
Somerville, 901 Timber Brook Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360-8923

GOODBYE TO OLD FRIENDS

Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane, Ledgewood, NJ 07852, resigned.

MEMBER ADS ~ YOUR AD MISSING? LET US KNOW AT

SECRETARY@NJPOSTALHISTORY.ORG OR BY MAIL TO 125 TURTLEBACK RD, CALIFON, NJ 07830

STAMPLESS MANUSCRIPTS WANTED –

New Jersey and Maine only –Please 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.

Always interested in CORRESPONDENCE TO/FROM OCEANPORT

as well as anything between Portugal, its colonies and N.J. Contact me by mail at Steve Washburne, P.O. Box 43146 Phila. PA 19129 or email Stevewashburne@gmail.com

WANTED: STAMPLESS THROUGH PRESIDENTS.

For the following New Jersey towns: Allendale, Hohokus, Manasquan, Point Pleasant, Point Pleasant Beach, Ridgewood and Wyckoff. PLS send copies with prices to J. Haynes, Box 358, Allendale, NJ 07401.

SAMUEL SOUTHARD CORRESPONDENCE ALWAYS WANTED!

Always interested. Please contact Jean Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd, Califon, NJ 07830, 908/832-9578 or send scan and e-mail to jwalton971@aol.com.

WANTED: COVERS to and from CALDWELL, N.J.,

Also CALDWELL POST CARDS & NEWTON POST CARDS BY RYERSON. Contact Les Byrnes, P.O. Box 765, Kinderhook, N.Y. 12106 or call 518/758-7581.

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.

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 07070-1136/201-896-8846/email JTJersey@verizon.net.

ALWAYS DESIRED: FISH HOUSE, COVERS, BURLINGTON COUNTY ADVERTISING COVERS AND CORNER CARDS;

BURLINGTON COUNTY DPOs. Email Paul W. Schopp at pwschopp@comcast.net.

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.

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. Joseph J. Felcone, PO Box 366, Princeton, NJ 08542 609/924-0539; 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.

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.

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.

MEMBER ADS

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 or e-mail rose@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.

WANTED: Picture Post card of WEST ENGLEWOOD NATIONAL BANK. Contact Bill Berdan, 475 Forest Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666 or by email at William.Berdan@gmail.com.

WANTED: Any letter between Phila., and the UK which is endorsed for conveyance by stage. Your price paid, with no whining. Contact Dr. John Barwis, PO Box 8035, Holland, MI 49422, jbarwis@charter.net, 616/399-9299.

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

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, webmaster@NJPostalHistory.org.

Any postal material relating to STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY in Hoboken? Post(al) cards, return address covers, et al. As a professor there, these could make for an interesting exhibit by me. All inquiries answered. Contact Prof. Mark Sommer, 1266 Teaneck Road #10A, Teaneck, NJ 07666

STILL SEARCHING for postal history items relating to **ALLIANCE, NJ** and other Jewish/Agricultural communities. (See article in NJPH February '05 - Vol. 33 No. 1 – Whole #157 pgs. 25-27). All inquiries answered. Contact Prof. Mark Sommer, 1266 Teaneck Road #10A, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666.

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.

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.

CIVIL WAR PATRIOTICS: Buy, Sell, Or Trade. Contact Richard Micchelli At micchelli@optonline.net

PATERSON, NJ WANTED INTERESTING COVERS. Contact George Kramer, P.O. Box 2189 Clifton, NJ 07015, or email gjkk@optonline.net.

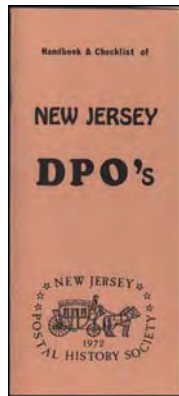
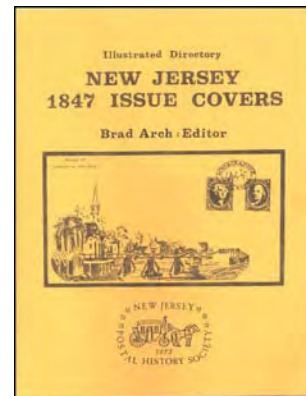
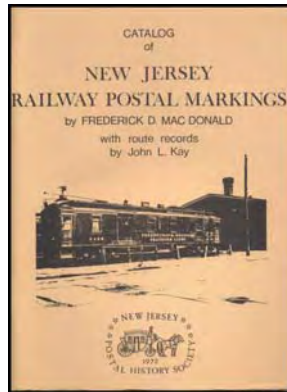
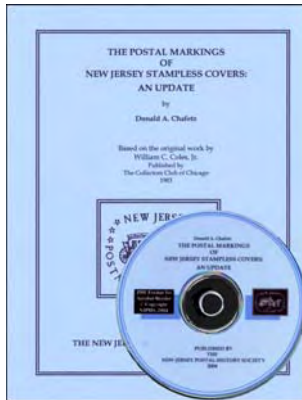
Looking for scans of cancels from **HAMBURG, NJ** 1929 to 1996 for a Digital Library project – especially anything related to the Gingerbread Castle – If you have personal stories, souvenirs, photos or movies to share, please contact the project librarian at: Libraryenthusiast@gmail.com.

NJPHS LITERATURE AVAILABLE postpaid from Robert G. Rose, NJPHS, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891, or email Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org for Paypal invoice.	Member price	Non-members
CD or hard copy: <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 Updates the extensive work of William C. Coles, with new markings and dates since that original work was published in 1983 Also available to members free as a downloadable file	\$10.00	\$15.00
CD only: <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..... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ, • Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles. • Includes much paper ephemera as well. An impressive collection. 	\$7.50	\$10.00
Hard copy: <i>Catalog of New Jersey Railway Postal Markings</i> , 1984, Frederick D. MacDonald, 136pp. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still the "bible" of New Jersey railway postmarks. • A must for any RPO collector. • Routes and cancels shown..... • Terminal markings 	\$7.50	\$10.00
Hard copy: <i>Illustrated Directory of New Jersey 1847 Issue Covers</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1987, 44pp & Supplements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the collector of the 1847 Issue, this book by Brad Arch is the comprehensive work on New Jersey covers • 5¢ and 10¢ covers in separate sections • Detailed descriptions of each cover, arranged by office of origin. 	\$4.00	\$7.50
Hard copy: <i>New Jersey DPO's</i> , Brad Arch, ed., 1981, 22pp, pocket sized Checklist of Discontinued Post Offices THE pocket manual of New Jersey discontinued post offices, easy to transport and an excellent checklist Also available to members free as a downloadable file	\$3.00	\$4.00
Hard copy: <i>New Jersey's Foreign Mail</i> , 1997, Gerard J. Neufeld, 76pp. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fine monograph on foreign mail to and from New Jersey in the 19th Cent. • Profusely illustrated • Each cover explained 	\$8.00	\$10.00
CD: Mosher's NJ Private Express Companies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey with many color illustrations • Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript plus index 	\$10.00	\$15.00
CDs: Back issues of the NJPH Journal are available on CD for 2003 to 2010 at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each CD includes the 4 quarterly journals for one year, in color, pdf format CD: 2011 <i>NJ PH</i> Issues on CD in PDF format, may color illustrations Members only: 2 back issue CDs, \$8.00, 3 back issue CDs \$12.00, 4 back issue CDs \$15.00, 5 CDs \$18, 6 CDs \$22, 7 CDs, \$25, 8 CDs, \$28, all 9 CDs (including 2011) \$32 (Also available to members free as a downloadable files) Non-members: 2 back issue CDs, \$12.00, 3 back issue CDs \$15.00, 4 back issue CDs \$18.00, 5 CDs \$22, 6 CDs \$26. 7 CDs, \$30 8 CDs \$32, all 9 back issue CDs (including 2011 CD), \$38.	\$5.00 each	\$7.50 each
Literature purchases may be made with Paypal – email us your choices for a Paypal invoice.		
DOWNLOADABLE FILES AVAILABLE FREE TO MEMBERS ONLY!*		
Brad Arch's handy DPO book available in Excel format (for hardcopy see above).	FREE	2.95
Stampless Era Post Offices, based on Coles and the Coles Update in Excel format.	FREE	2.95
Brennan, Lawrence, <i>New Jersey-Built Air Craft Carriers</i> , a long series with many covers in PDF format.	FREE	12.95
Chafetz, Don <i>Coles Update</i> – a supplement and update to Wm Coles study of <i>New Jersey Stampless Markings</i> , in pdf format.	FREE	2.95
Chafetz, Don, <i>Development of Morris County Mail Service – 1760-1850</i> – a digital exhibit, PDF.	FREE	4.99
Edge, Jack, <i>Post Towns of Burlington County</i> . All of Jack's Burlington series, as published in the pages of <i>NJPH</i> , compiled into one document, in PDF format.	FREE	7.99
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 & New Jersey Postal History</i> , articles 2004-10, pdf	FREE	9.95

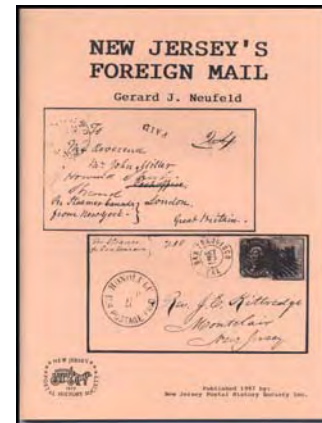
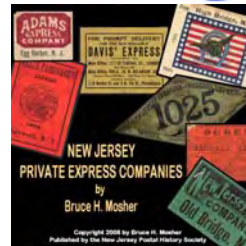
* see our web site at www.NJPostalHistory.org for other files available free to the public

THE NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY LITERATURE

AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY, Post paid, send check to: Robert G. Rose, New Jersey Postal History Society, One Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054-2891 , or email President@NJPostalHistory.org, PayPal payment available – email Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org with wants for Paypal invoice.



**Yearly NJPH issues on CD
(2003 – 2011)
Plus other valuable studies
on CD**



Literature purchases may be made by check (see above) or with Paypal – email us your choices to Secretary@NJPostalHistory.org for a Paypal invoice.	Member price	Non-members
CD or hard copy: <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)..... 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
CD: Bruce Mosher's <i>NJ Private Express Companies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 compiled articles by Bruce Mosher on many aspects of private express mail in New Jersey • Many color illustrations • Previously unpublished material in lengthy postscript • Alphabetical index 	\$10.00	\$15.00
CD: <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.. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A series of 3 articles on the advertising covers and history of the organ manufacturers of Washington, NJ, • Adds a picture gallery of many covers not illustrated in those articles. • Includes much paper ephemera as well. An astounding compilation of material. 	\$7.50	\$10.00

Visit our web site at: www.NJPostalHistory.org/
(see inside back cover for hard copy literature)