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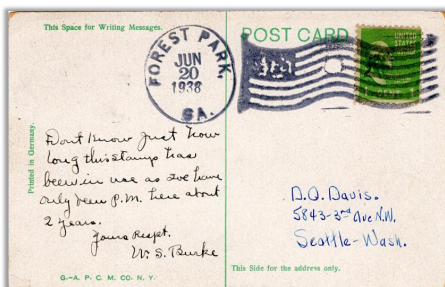
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Nacoochee, Georgia Postal History

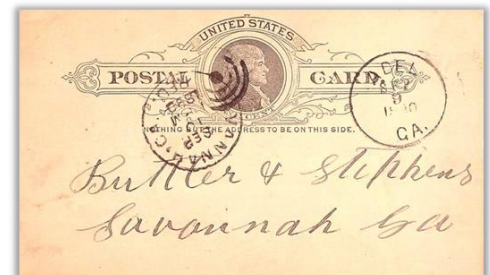
ALSO IN THIS ISSUE



Forest Park, Ga. Flag Cancel



Daniel Field P.O.W. Base Camp



Adel, Georgia



Birdsville Plantation – Jones Family History



Stone Mountain Commemorative Stamp

The Georgia Postal History Society is a non-profit, educational organization whose purpose is to cultivate and to promote the study of the postal history of Georgia, to encourage the acquisition and preservation of material relevant and necessary to that study, and to publish and to support the publication of such knowledge for the benefit of the public.



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Nacoochee, Georgia Postal History

By Steve Swain
(with assistance from Lamar Garrard)

Originally known only as Nacoochee, the community's name today is Sautee Nacoochee, sometimes hyphenated as Sautee-Nacoochee. It is an unincorporated district and census-designated place in White County, Georgia (Figure 1). Near Sautee Creek in the Appalachian foothills of northeast Georgia, the town is approximately ninety-five miles north of Atlanta. The nearest incorporated city is the tourist destination of Helen.



Sautee Nacoochee's double name is reflective of the two valleys in the area. The Nacoochee Valley runs east and west, and the Sautee Valley runs more-or-less north and south. They converge around the Old Sautee Store at GA-17 and GA-255.

The Treaty of 1819 ceded Cherokee occupied lands in the Sautee and Nacoochee Valleys and paved the way for expansion in the area. As Native Americans were forced westward, the subsequent Land Lottery of 1820 drew settlers into the valleys.

An explanation of the names for the two valleys has several versions.¹

Figure 1. Sautee Nacoochee, Georgia, ninety-five miles north of Atlanta.

One version holds that the two names are of Muscogee origin. *Sautee*, an anglicized name of a tribe of Muscogee Native Americans, known as the Sawate, which means "Raccoon People." *Nacoochee* could be the anglicization of the Cherokee pronunciation of the Muscogee word, *Nokose*, which means "bear."

An often-told folktale version explaining the valleys' names and the community's current name involves a beautiful Cherokee maiden named Nacoochee who fell in love with Sautee, a Chickasaw warrior. When their love was forbidden by the tribal elders, a war party followed the eloping lovers and threw Sautee off the mountain, with Nacoochee then jumping to her death.

Early Trading Post – First Postmaster

A noteworthy Nacoochee historical item is the Early Trading Post.² A road marker (Figure 2) erected in 1955 looking east on Georgia Highway 17 (the Unicoi Turnpike) offers a brief history of the Trading Post:

At this point, just north of the safest ford in the Chattahoochee River, the first settlers in this area built their campfires in 1822. A trading post was soon established on the site and Indians traded gold nuggets and gold-dust to the settlers for merchandise.

The first Nacoochee post office was established at the trading post with Charles Williams, son of one of the first settlers, serving as Postmaster for more than 50 years.

Charles Williams' appointment in 1837 as the first Nacoochee postmaster is confirmed in the *National Archives Postmaster Appointments for Habersham County, Georgia* (Figure 3)³.

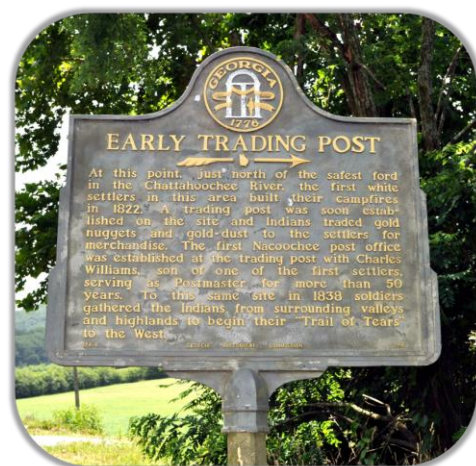


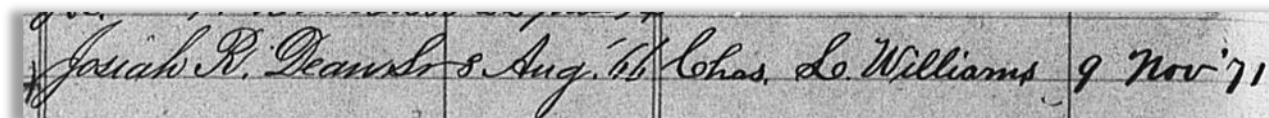
Figure 2. Early Trading Post historical road marker.



Figure 3. *National Archives Postmaster Appointments* records for Habersham County, Georgia.

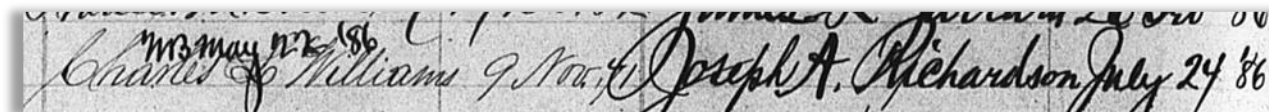
Note that at that time, Nacoochee was designated as a town in Habersham County, Georgia. Today it is designated in White County.

With respect to the Early Trading Post historical marker stating that Williams held the Postmaster position for more than fifty years, the *Postmaster Appointments* records reveal that Josiah R. Deane assumed the postmaster position August 8, 1866, until Williams was reinstated November 9, 1871. This accounts for twenty-nine years of Williams' service:



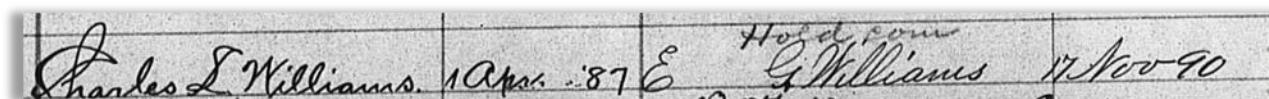
1837 – 1866: 29 years

Williams held the position for the next fifteen years when Joseph A. Richardson was appointed Postmaster:



1871 – 1886: 15 years

In April of 1887, Williams was reinstated for three years until November 17, 1890, when E.G. Williams (a relative?) was appointed Postmaster:



1887 – 1890: 3 years

This history accounts for forty-seven years of Charles Williams' tenure as the Nacoochee Postmaster. However, if you take into account the months in the partial years of service, the fifty-year tenure per the historical marker is reasonable.

Post Offices

Old Sautee Store

Known today as the Old Sautee Store (Figure 4), the E.P. Williams family built the general store in 1872. The store has remained in business for nearly 150 years and is a landmark in the Sautee Nacoochee Valley. Part of the old store is preserved as a museum. It served as the local post office for Sautee-Nacoochee until 1913 and as the post office for Sautee until 1962.

Current Day Post Office

Today's Sautee Nacoochee post office (Figure 5) is located at 93 GA-255, Sautee Nacoochee, Georgia, 30571.



Figure 4. Old Sautee Store erected in 1872.



Figure 5. Current day post office.

Post Office Name Change

According to the *National Archives Postmaster Appointments for White County, Georgia* (Figure 6⁴), the "Nacoochee" post office name was changed to "Sautee-Nacoochee" effective April 30, 1959.

| <u>White</u> <u>Sautee Nacoochee</u> | | | | <u>Georgia</u> | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>Sautee</u> | | | | Established _____ | | | |
| Discontinued | | | | name changed to "Sautee-Nacoochee, Eff-4-30-59 (P.O. 4-16-59) | | | |
| POSTMASTER | NOMINATED | CONFIRMED | REASON FOR ACTING | COMMISSION SIGNED AND MAILED | ASSIGNED CHANGE | CAUSE AND DATE OF VACANCY | REMARKS |
| Robert A. Williams | | Oct. 6, 1913 | | Oct. 20, 1913 | | Ret. 3/31/48 | 4th. cl. |
| Miss Lula L. Logan | | Feb. 11, 1948 | act. pm | Mar. 11, 1948 | Mar. 31, 1948 | Died 7/1/59 | Made Pres. 7/1/58 |
| Miss Florence C. Logan | | | apptd. Pres. | | Sept. 18, 1959 | | |
| Miss Florence C. Logan | Apr. 27, 1961 | July 24, 1961 | July 24, 1961 | Aug. 17, 1961 | Aug. 18, 1961 | | |

Figure 6. "Name changed to Sautee-Nacoochee effective 4-30-59."

The hyphenated postmark is shown on the Figure 7 cover postmarked July 1, 1971⁵. This is a first day of issue cover for the inauguration of the United States Postal Service. The cover is franked with the eight-cent Eagle stamp, Scott 1396, issued July 1, 1971.



Note the 1981 eighteen-cent B rate change stamp, Scott 1818, in the lower right corner of the cover. Even though the SAUTEE-NACOOCHIEE postmark is dated July 1, 1981, the inclusion of the stamp and postmark on the cover does not have a first day component. The stamp's issue date was March 15, 1981.

Most likely, therefore, the stamp and postmark were philatelically inspired additions for the cover originally postmarked July 1, 1971.

Figure 7. SAUTEE-NACOOCHIEE hyphenated postmark on July 1, 1971, first day cover.

Reflecting the current day design of the hyphenated postmark is the Figure 8 cover postmarked July 12, 2022.

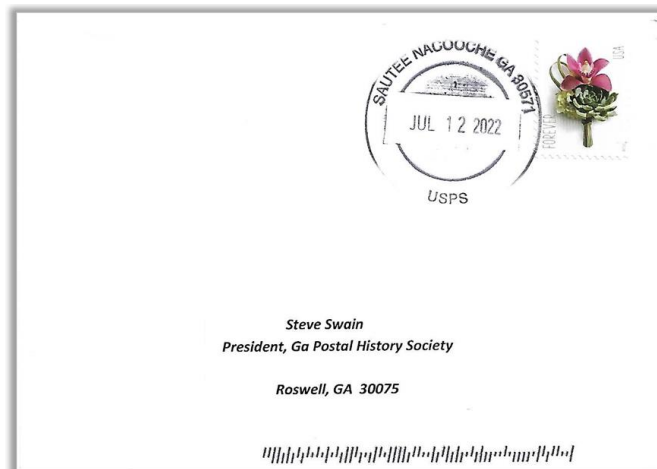


Figure 8. SAUTEE-NACOOCHIEE July 12, 2022, postmarked cover.

Nacoochee Valley and Nacoochee Village Post Offices?

Jim Forte's *Postal History* website⁶ shows the history of White County's post offices to include:

Nacoochee Valley (1830-1831)
Nacoochee Village (1831-1831)

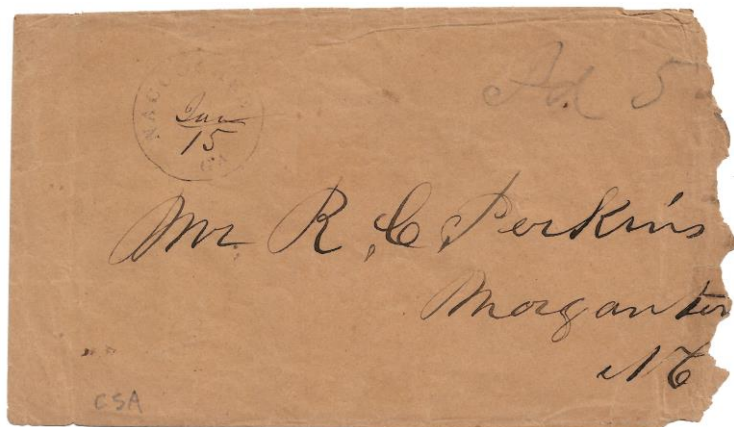
However, the *National Archives Postmaster Appointment* records for White and Habersham counties and the United States Postal Service records do not show listings for Nacoochee Valley or Nacoochee Village.

Given the very brief timespan listed for these post offices, they were most likely not officially sanctioned postal facilities but rather local delivery services.

Civil War Covers - Stampless

Society member Lamar Garrard's collection includes the Figure 8 cover with a NACOOCHEE GA single-rim circular datestamp.

A manuscript JUN 15 was entered inside the circular handstamp. Importantly, a manuscript "Pd 5" marking is seen in the upper right corner.



The cover is only one of three known Civil War mailings from Nacoochee with a manuscript "paid" marking.

The Figure 9 cover and the other two Nacoochee Civil War covers with a manuscript "paid" marking were first presented in Capt. James L.D. Monroe's "Nacoochee, Georgia Handstamped Paid Discovery" article published in the July-August 2000 issue of *The Confederate Philatelist*.⁷

Figure 9. June 15, (1861 or 1862) NACOOCHEE GA mailing to Morganton, N.C.

In the article, Monroe explained that while at the Confederate Stamp Alliance convention at TEXPEX 2000 in Dallas, Texas, he visited a California dealer's table and viewed his selection of Confederate covers. Three manuscript "paid" covers from Nacoochee, Georgia, caught Monroe's attention because of the very unusual name.

Referring to his *New Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook*, Monroe quickly determined that the covers were unlisted.

Monroe then consulted with three Georgia Confederate postal history experts who were attending the convention: General Francis J. Crown, Jr., General McCary Ballard and Colonel W. Newton Crouch, Jr. All three were of the opinion that until that time, no Nacoochee, Georgia, Confederate manuscript "paid" covers were known to exist.

In addition to the Figure 9 cover, the other two unlisted Nacoochee covers were presented in the article as seen in Figure 10 and Figure 11.



Figure 10. August 17 (1862), 'Paid 10' in ink, docketed in pencil "Recd 26th Aug 62".

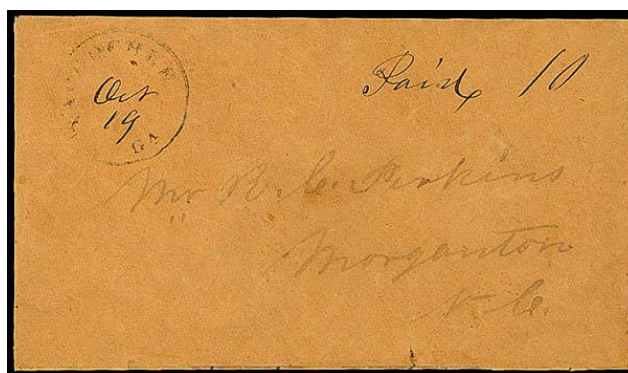


Figure 11. October 19 (1861 or 1862), "Paid 10" in ink.⁸

The three covers are addressed to R. C. Perkins, Morganton, N.C. Perkins (1825-1904) was a farmer at "Pleasant Valley" on John's River near Morganton (Burke County) and served as a local official during and after the Civil War. A Confederate training camp, Camp Vance, was a few miles east of Morganton.⁹

Civil War Cover - Stamped

Currently being offered by Confederate philatelic dealer John L. Kimbrough, Figure 12 is a NACOOCHEE GA circular datestamped cover franked with a Jefferson Davis CSA #1. The circular datestamp includes a manuscript JUL 22 (1862).



Figure 12. NACOOCHEE GA circular datestamped cover franked with a Jefferson Davis CSA #1.¹⁰

The cover's description notes that it was posted several weeks after the rate change and is underpaid as the rate should have been ten cents, not five cents. "There is no evidence that there was ever another stamp on the cover, and there is no "due" marking to assess the underpayment, so the cover successfully went through as underpaid."

Nacoochee "Free" Postmaster Cover

An antebellum NACOOCHEE GA datestamped mailing to North Carolina is shown in Figure 13, courtesy of Society member Francis J. Crown, Jr.



Figure 13. Nacoochee "Free" franking per C.S. Williams, Postmaster.

Of interest is the upper right corner manuscript "Free" franking marking. Underneath that is the authority for the free franking, "C.S. Williams, P.M." As previously presented, Williams was Nacoochee's first postmaster, serving in that position for more than fifty years.

Nacoochee Post Office Discontinued – “No!”

The *National Archives Postmaster Appointments for White County, Georgia* (Figure 14) has interesting “discontinued” and “rescinded” entries for Nacoochee.¹¹

| POSTMASTER | NOMINATED | CONFIRMED | EXCESS OR ACTING | COMMISSION SIGNED AND MAILED | ASSUMED CHARGE | CAUSE AND DATE OF VACANCY | REMARK |
|---|-----------|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Mr. Katie O. Cannon | | Nov. 26, 1917 | act. com. | | | Optional Retired 9/30/42 | 4th. cl. |
| Mrs. Fannie Ruth Thurmond | | | Oct. 17, 1942 | | Oct. 1, 1942 | | |
| Mrs. Fannie R. Thurmond | | Jan. 9, 1943 | | Jan. 21, 1943 | Apr. 11, 1943 | Resc. | |
| Discontinued Aug. 28, 1952 - Eff: Sept. 30, 1952 - mail to Helen - Resc - 9-16-52 - Discontinued f 4-14-59 Eff: 4-30-59 | | | | | | | |

Figure 14. *National Archives Postmaster Appointments* records for White County, Georgia.

The highlighted area of the record reads: *Discontinued Aug 28, 1952 – Eff: Sept 30, 1952 – mail to Helen – Resc – 9-16-52.*

In essence, the discontinuance of the Nacoochee post office to be effective September 30, 1952, never happened since the discontinued status was rescinded prior to that date, i.e., September 16, 1952.

Related to this is the Figure 15 postcard addressed to Newton Chapman, Onaway, Michigan.

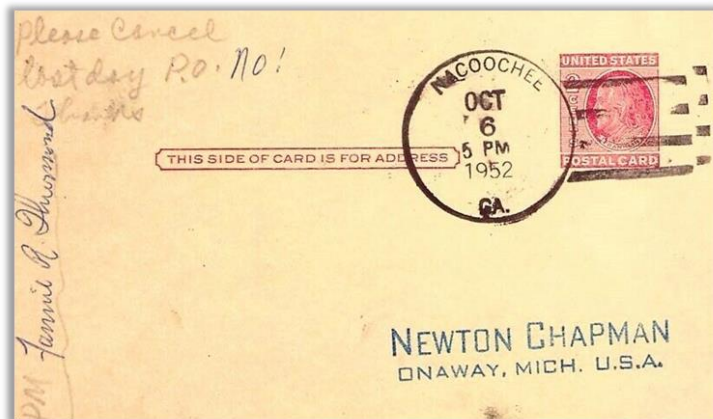


Figure 15. “Please cancel – last day P.O.”¹²

The card was indeed cancelled and processed. But note that the card’s duplex 4-bar NACOOCHEE GA postmark shows October 6, 1952, not the presumed September 30, 1952, post office discontinued date.

Ms. Fannie R. Thurmond, Nacoochee’s postmaster at the time, knew the decision to discontinue the Nacoochee’s post office operations was rescinded on September 16, 1952. Thus, she wrote “No!” on the card’s upper left corner next to Chapman’s instructions alerting him that the PO was still operational. To her credit, Mrs. Thurmond did sign the card in the designated area.

Endnotes

- ¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sautee_Nacoochee,_Georgia.
- ² https://dlg.usg.edu/record/dlg_ghm_early-trading-post.
- ³ <https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=Nacoochee%20georgia%20postmasters>.
- ⁴ <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78734550>.
- ⁵ <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/1-71-scott-1396-canc-sautee-nacoochee-1537605131>.
- ⁶ <https://www.postalhistory.com/postoffices.asp?task=display&state=GA&county=White>.
- ⁷ <https://www.civilwarphilatelicsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/CP317Sample.pdf>.
- ⁸ <https://www.rumseyauctions.com/auctions/lot/35/2713> Nov 17-20, 2009, sale 36 autumn sale.
- ⁹ <https://finding-aids.lib.unc.edu/03894/>.
- ¹⁰ <http://www.jlkstamps.com/covers/geo/ga1150.htm>.
- ¹¹ <https://catalog.archives.gov/search?q=Nacoochee%20georgia%20postmasters>.
- ¹² <https://www.ebay.com/itm/363496579347>.

Forest Park, Georgia – A Mimic Flag Cancel

By Tony L. Crumbley

In *Georgia Post Roads*, Vol. 28, #3, Summer, 2020, I discussed the American Flag cancels of Georgia. The first recorded American Flag cancel in Georgia was in 1896. The last recorded use of a flag machine cancel was in 1937. With the start of Rural Free Delivery (RFD), several manufacturers of handstamp cancels began producing small handstamps for rural carriers to take along their route. There was considerable demand for mimic cancels of the old flag cancel machine.

One such producer of these handstamps was William Baumgarten & Co. There are seventy-eight post offices recorded as using their flag handstamp. Three Georgia towns - Braselton, Zirkle and Forest Park - are included in the seventy-eight post offices. The cover in Figure 1 is an example of the Forest Park flag handstamp.

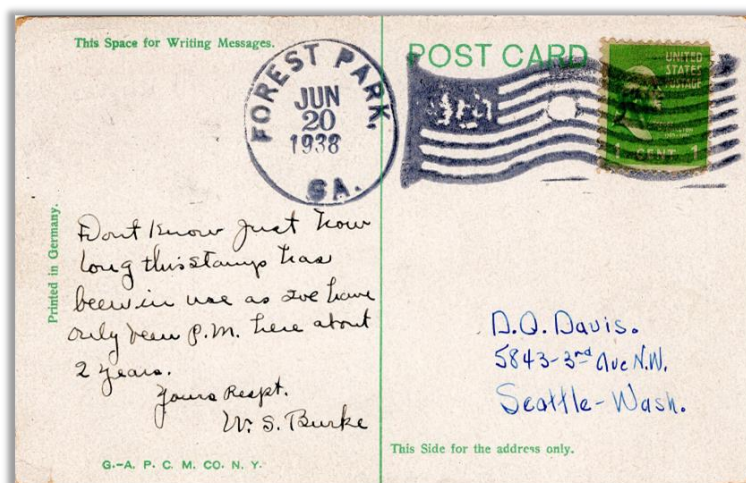


Figure 1. FOREST PARK GA., JUN 20, 1938, mimic flag handstamp cancel produced by Baumgarten & Co, one of three Type 3 flag handstamps known used in Georgia.

William Baumgarten & Co. was located at the time in Washington, DC. The company has been in business for 153 years and operates today out of Laurel, Maryland. The Baumgarten handstamp cancels were not well received by RFD carriers perhaps because they were too large to be carried and difficult to carry in their buggies. Most were used by small, rural post offices.

Frederick Langford listed the Baumgarten and Co. cancels in his catalogue¹ as the Type 3 commercial style flag cancel. This type is the only type to have Georgia cancels known.

The town of Forest Park has a long and interesting history². It is located approximately eight miles from downtown Atlanta, south of the Hartsfield – Jackson Atlanta International Airport. The community was originally called Quick Station. It was founded in 1846 for the third refueling stop from Atlanta for the Macon and Western Railroad. At the time, the steam trains used wood to fuel the train. A considerable amount of timber was cut from around the station and the town became known as Stump Town because of all the stumps that remained after the cutting.

Forest Park was incorporated in 1908. Its name was given because of the park-like setting around the town. In 1910, the town had a population of 173 people. By 1940, the town had grown to 577 people. In 1941, Fort Gillem was founded nearby the town as a satellite installation of Fort McPherson. Forest Park's population grew to 2,653 by 1950 primarily because of the fort. In 1973, Fort Gillem was annexed into the city.

The US Postal Service Postmaster Finder³ lists Forest Park as first being Astor, Georgia with James J. Cowan appointed Postmaster on January 3, 1881. He would serve until July 15, 1891, when Henry Puckett was appointed postmaster. The post office's name was changed to Forest Park on May 9, 1903. There is still a post office in Forest Park with Sherry B. Arrington serving as Postmaster. Since its beginning in 1881, there have been seventeen Forest Park postmasters.

Endnotes

¹ Langford, Frederick, *Flag Cancel Encyclopedia*, 2008.

² <https://webpmt.USPS.gov/pmt003.cfm>.

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Park_Georgia.

Daniel Field, Augusta P.O.W. Base Camp

By Bill Baab

Editor's note: A longer version of this article was originally published in a 2019 issue of Augusta Magazine. Images in this article were added by the Editor.

My longtime friend, Joseph Moore Lee III, and I observed our pre-teenage years on Heath Street of Augusta's Hill Section between Central Avenue and Wrightsboro Road. Those years date from 1940, when my family moved from Atlanta to Augusta, through the 1950s. Joe was already there, having been born in the city. Each of us had entered the world in 1935.

Both of us lived within a bicycle ride of Daniel Field (Figures 1 and 2). After World War II broke out in 1941, the place became a magnet for us neighborhood kids when the U.S. Army Air Corps took over the base.

After American armed forces and their Allies began their winning ways, a big problem emerged: what to do with German, Austrian and Italian troops captured in North Africa and elsewhere.



Figure 1. Daniel Field, Augusta, circa 1944. (Wikipedia.org.)

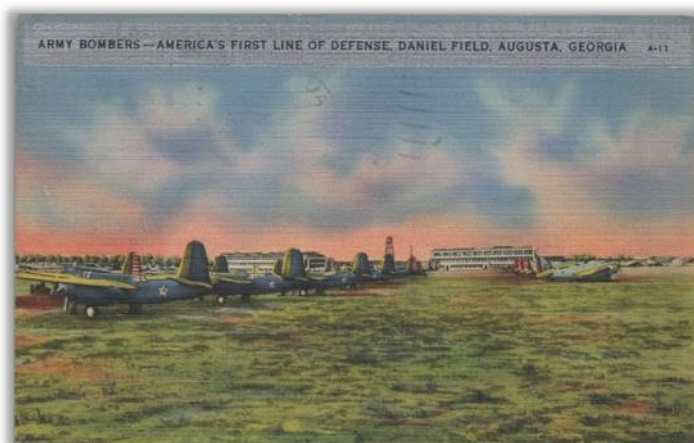
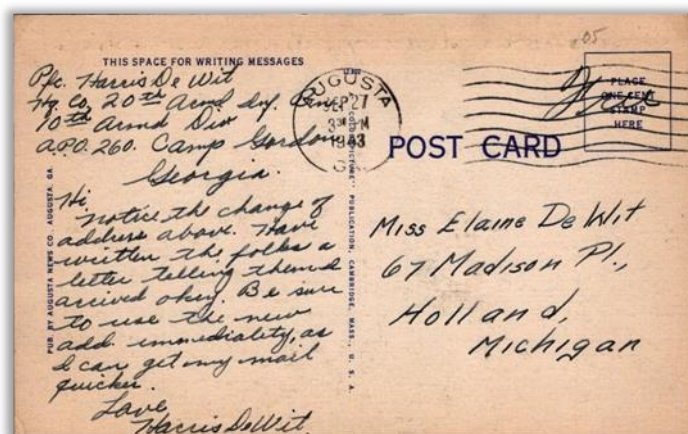


Figure 2. 1943 postcard showing Army bombers at Daniel Field.

There was no interest in setting up prisoner-of-war camps overseas because of the large numbers of personnel that would be required to take care of them. So, as early as 1942, the U.S. War Department ordered the transfer of all enemy prisoners to confinement in America.

The United States and Great Britain had reached an agreement whereby all prisoners taken in northwest Africa would be shipped to America, with less than 5,000 reportedly in the U.S. by early 1943. By May of that year, numbers rose to more than 240,000 German, Austrian and Italian prisoners. Before the war ended in 1945, the number had reached more than 425,000, mostly Germans, according to news accounts of the time.

Among several POW camps in Georgia, Camp Gordon was a pleasant surprise to the first prisoners, who had expected the worst. They arrived in October 1943 and found standard living conditions, including barracks, a latrine with showers and laundry tubs, an administration building, a recreation building, an infirmary, workshop, canteen, chapel, station hospital and a large outdoor recreation area, all constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "We were introduced to a life that was incomparably better than that we had known as German soldiers," said one prisoner.

When the prisoner population at Camp Gordon fell in 1945, some 300 of the remaining prisoners were relocated to an area across from Daniel Field along Highland Avenue to Ada Ramp Walden Drive.



Figure 3. 1945 mailing from “POW BR. CP., Daniel Field, Ga.”

Joe Lee’s recollection of German prisoners of war “is not real specific except for the guard’s Jeep. I remember seeing them on many of the occasions when I rode my bike to Daniel Field, my primary purpose was to see the military planes,” he recalled. He was ten years old at the time.

The Baab family (my mother, Helen E. Baab and father, William H. (Bill) Baab Sr., and siblings Betty, Barbara Jean, Charles and Jimmy) would drive out on Sunday afternoons and on one trip down Highland Avenue, I vaguely remember groups of prisoners watching us from behind the chain-link fence topped with strands of barbed wire. Some waved and us kids waved back. There were towers manned by guards armed with machine guns at each corner of the camp.

Some of the German POWs in the Daniel Field camp were die-hard members of the Nazi Party and were in the habit of taking names of fellow prisoners who displeased them or refused to take orders. The Nazis’ plans were to discipline the errant ones once they returned to Germany. But they were surprised by changed conditions when they arrived back home. Some Nazis were segregated from non-party members at other camps across the country.

With most of America’s labor forces overseas during the war, someone got the bright idea of using POWs in their places. Stories in The Augusta Chronicle documented the sorely needed services performed by the prisoners who were hired out to farmers on both sides of the Savannah River for eight to 10 hours a day. They earned 80 cents a day in credits. On one farm near Monetta in Aiken County, S.C., the prisoners helped pick cotton, corn and peaches and helped gather hay.

Attitudes of prisoners hired for such work were mainly positive because the forced monotony of imprisonment was broken in a good way. Many became friends with their employers and maintained contacts long after the war.

Germany agreed to an unconditional surrender in early 1945, and if there were any emotions expressed by Augusta’s POWs, they were not obvious to a reporter who visited the camp. “The impression gathered by this observer was that the Germans were quietly elated to hear the war had ended, but any comments they had to make was done out of hearing of persons who worked with them,” he said.

Postscript – August 2022.

After WW II ended in 1945, my friend Joe Lee (now deceased) and buddies explored the vacated P.O.W. camp barracks. They found German money, knives and other artifacts. The camp became a residential area and today contains some businesses, Aquinas High School, the school’s football field and basketball gym and some miscellaneous structures. – *Bill Baab*

By Steve Swain

The United States Post Office in Adel is a building erected in 1939 (Figure 1¹). It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. It is now houses the Cook County Historical Society Museum & Genealogical Library.



The building's location is at 115 E. 4th Street at the intersection with Parrish Avenue, named after the city's first postmaster, Joel Jackson Parrish (1834 – 1921). Parrish was appointed Postmaster on July 22, 1873.

Long before pavement covered its roads, Adel was called Puddleville. The name stood as a testament to the many water puddles that saturated low-lying streets after a rainfall. Joel Parrish's association with Adel's current-day name is an entertaining story with a local legend element and the "real story" offered by Parrish's grandson.

Postmaster Parrish was anxious in the early months of his new position to change the name of Puddleville to a more “acceptable” name. The local legend² holds that while visiting the town’s general goods store, he saw the name “Philadelphia” on a croker (burlap) sack of potatoes, such as Figure 2.

Taking the letters "a-d-e-l" out of "Philadelphia," Parish declared that Adel should be the city's new name. He successfully lobbied the town leaders and in 1889 everyone celebrated Adel's incorporation into the county.

Joel Parrish's grandson, June Jackson Parrish, relates the true story of the naming of the city in his book, *The History of Cook County Georgia and Its Municipalities*.

PHILADELPHIA

FARMERS FINEST

RED RIVER VALLEY

POTATOES

NORTHERN GROWN

NET WT. 35 LBS. NET WT. 35 LBS. CONTINUE OF U.S.A.

suggested that Puddleville should have a post office. He explained that he was a friend of the Congressman from the district and felt sure he could secure the establishment of a post office, provided, a good man could be secured to serve as Postmaster and made this remark to Joel J. Parrish: "If you will agree to serve as Postmaster, I'll get you appointed."

“Joel Parrish (otherwise known as "Uncle Jack") readily agreed to serve. There were several present in the store at the time and everyone was in favor of securing a post office, so Berry Wells stated that he would write the Congressman to send the necessary papers for making application.

In due time, he received from the Post Office Department the application form and other papers in connection therewith, together with a book containing the names of all post offices by states in the entire nation. Then, a meeting was arranged by him and Uncle Jack for the purpose of making the application. At this meeting they read and discussed all the requirements and found this item in the instructions: "In selecting the name of your post office, be sure to see that there is no other post office within your state by the same name."

“When Wells and Uncle Jack read this, they decided they would get a name for the new post office unlike any other post office in Georgia or in all the other states of the Union. The selection of the name seemed to them the most important thing that they had to do so they started out, each one suggesting a name. Then, they would look through the entire list of post offices within the United States and without fail every name they suggested was found to be a post office at some place within the Union.

“This searching for a name lasted for several weeks and they were beginning to believe they would have to use some name that was already a post office somewhere. Finally, they arranged to meet again in Wilkes store for the purpose of getting a name from some other state for the new post office.

“They met at the appointed time and Uncle Jack hadn't completely given up and was busy at the time looking through the Post Office Register and ran across the name of Philadelphia. He called Wells' attention to what he had found and asked him what he saw. Wells replied, "I see Philadelphia." Then Uncle Jack covered the first four letters and the last four letters of the word "Philadelphia" and said, “Now what do you see?" Wells, of course, replied, "I see A-D-E-L."

“Then, Uncle Jack said: "Berry, when I looked at that name the four letters in the center seemed to me to be twice as large as the remaining letters." They immediately looked through the Federal Post Office Register and they did not find the name Adel as the name of any other post office in the United States. "Now Berry, I believe Providence had something to do with it." They were both well pleased and right then completed the application naming Joel J. Parrish as Postmaster and immediately mailed it to the Post Office Department in Washington.

“In due time they received from the Post Office Department a paper establishing the Adel Post Office in Berrien County, Ga., as of July 22, 1873, and named Joel J. Parrish as Postmaster.”

“For several years, Uncle Jack kept the post office in his home which was just across the branch from Puddleville. But he later built a post office building and moved it from his home to the new building where it remained until the Georgia-Southern Railroad was built through the community. The station selected by the railroad company was named by them as "Daphne." Uncle Jack immediately built a new post office building near the railroad and a block distant from the depot.

“The station being named "Daphne" and the post office "Adel" created an undesirable situation and pretty soon officials from the railroad called upon Uncle Jack for the purpose of securing his recommendation for changing the name of the post office from "Adel" to "Daphne." Uncle Jack promptly refused to do so and remarked: "The Adel Post Office has been here for fifteen years and I'm not going to change its name now, especially to "Daphne.”

“The station was called Daphne for several months, but finally railroad representatives came back to see Uncle Jack if he would recommend changing the name of Adel to "Jewette." They had already taken down the "Daphne" sign on the depot and put up the sign "Jewette." But Uncle Jack was still obstinate and visibly showed his animosity toward the railroad's endeavor to change the name of the post office. In a short time, the railroad took down their sign "Jewette" and placed the name "Adel" in place of it.

“With the post office's name now officially “Adel,” Uncle Jack successfully petitioned the town leaders to change the name of the town from Puddleville to Adel.”

The Adel postmark is shown on the Figure 3 postcard to Savannah, Georgia, processed on September 9, 1910.

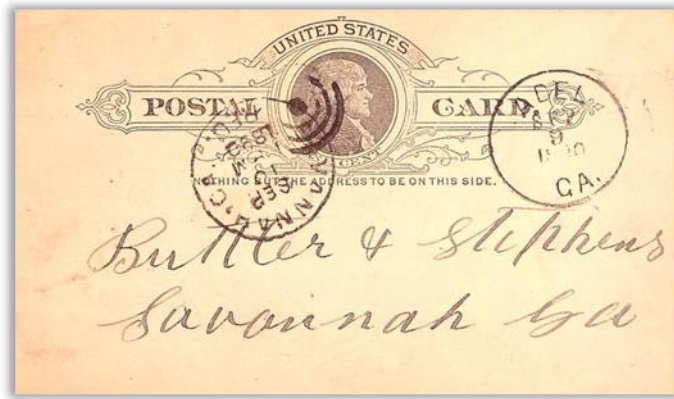


Figure 3. Adel 1910 mailing to Savannah, Georgia.

The Figure 4 cover also has the Adel postmark. Of interest is this May 14, 1934, mailing's return address is D.F. Bruton, Adele, Ga. David Foster Bruton was appointed Adel's Acting Postmaster on March 15, 1934, and then Postmaster on January 22, 1935, holding that position until April 1, 1945.⁴



Figurer 4. Adel 1934 mailing from Acting Postmaster D.F. Bruton.

Endnotes

¹ <https://www.exploregeorgia.org/adel/history-heritage/history-heritage-museums/cook-county-historical-society-museum-genealogical-library>.

² <https://www.genealogy.com/ftm/p/a/r/Alan-J-Parrish/GENE9-0019.html>.

³ <https://www.seekingmyroots.com/members/files/H001129.pdf>.

⁴ <https://webpmt.usps.gov/pmt003.cfm>.

“Welcome” New Members

Robert Edmondson currently resides in Dillard, Georgia. His primary collecting interests are Georgia cards, covers, and enclosures such as receipts, billings, etc. Bob was introduced to the Georgia Postal History Society by member Tony Crumbley.

Robert Willingham of Washington, Georgia was introduced to the Georgia Postal History Society by member Bill Baab. Robert is a collector of Wilkes County and vicinity postal history. He is writing an article, to be submitted soon for *Georgia Post Roads*, about discontinued Georgia post offices.

Birdsville Plantation – Jones Family History

By Steve Swain (with assistance from Lamar Garrard)

The history of Birdsville in Jenkins County, Georgia, near Millen (Figure 1) and the history of the Jones family are so intertwined that an account of either would be incomplete without the other.



Figure 1. Birdsville, Georgia, Jenkins County. (GoogleMaps.)

Early pioneer Francis Jones, Sr. arrived in Georgia from North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War and settled on the east side of the Ogeechee River in what was then St. Mathew Parish, now Screven County.¹ Francis had two sons, Francis Jr. and Phillip. From this pre-Revolutionary War beginning, the Jones family legacy had its roots.

It was the second son, Philip, who settled at the place known today as Birdsville in Jenkins County on land granted for his services in the Revolutionary War. Philip died at the age of thirty, leaving his wife and a single heir, his eighteen-month-old son, Henry Philip Jones.

What later became known as the Birdsville Plantation came to fruition under his tutelage.

He began the construction of the manor house that was completed by his son, William Beaman Jones in 1847. Under Henry Phillip's administration, Birdsville emerged as one of the great plantations of the South. Birdsville survived Sherman's March to the Sea during the Civil War.

Birdsville Plantation is a fifty-acre property which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. At that time, the property had ten buildings including a main house (Figure 2²), a barn, a privy, a smoke house, an old kitchen, a well house, a log building, an apothecary, and a cotton gin.

The name Birdsville came about in 1813, when a post office (Figure 3³) was established at the plantation's commissary and named after the first postmaster, Samuel Bird. Prior to that, it was simply known as the Jones Plantation.



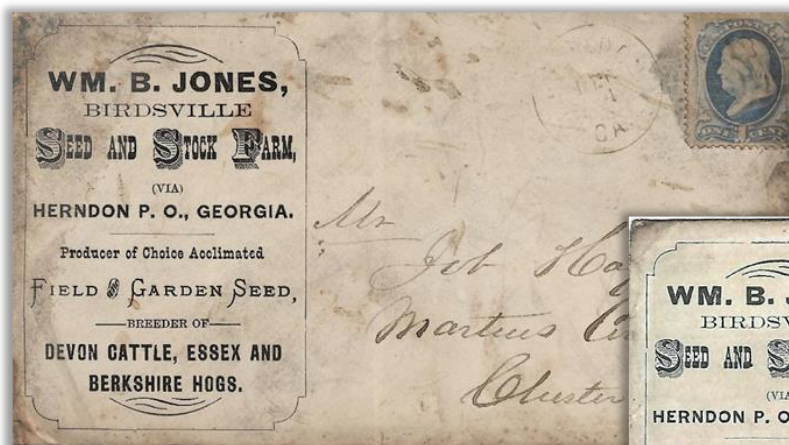
Figure 2. Main house, Birdsville Planation.



Figure 3. Commissary / post office at Birdsville Plantation, circa 1964.

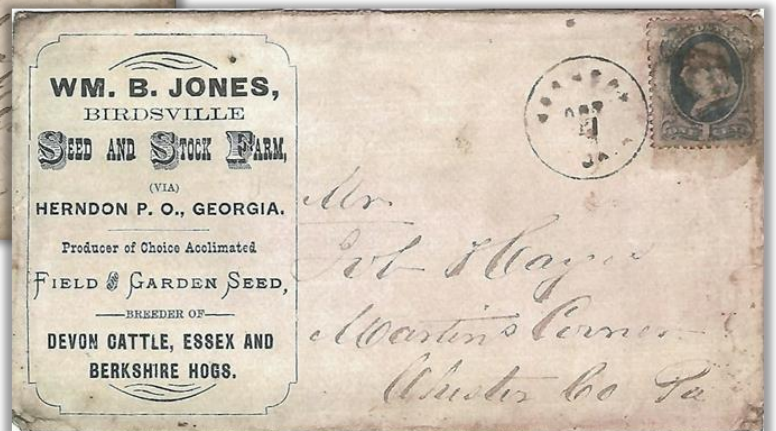
After the Civil War, William Beaman Jones founded the Birdsville Seed and Stock Farm, “Producer of choice acclimated field and garden seed and breeder of Devon cattle, Essex and Berkshire hogs.”

Courtesy of Lamar Garrard, the attractively designed Seed and Stock Farm advertising covers shown in Figures 4 and 5 were mailed from Herndon, Georgia (eight miles southwest of Birdsville) to Mr. Jeb Hayes, Martins Corner, Chester County, Pennsylvania.



A post office called Herndon was established in 1858 and remained in operation until 1974.

The covers' circa 1882 mailing date is supported by the one-cent Franklin stamps, Scott 206.



Figures 4 and 5. “Seed and Stock Farm” advertising covers.

William B. Jones was arguably the most accomplished and interesting member of the Jones family. Born in Birdsville on February 23, 1827, he graduated from the State University in 1845 and completed medical studies at one of the Medical Colleges of New York City.⁴ He practiced medicine in Atlanta until 1854 when Colonel H.P. Jones, his father, died. Jones relocated to Birdsville, his inheritance, where he pursued his profession complemented by his planting interests.

He was one of the representatives of Burke County in the Secession Convention of 1861. As a surgeon in the Confederate Army, Jones was stationed in Savannah and subsequently in Griffin. At the close of the war, he returned to Birdsville to pursue his profession.

Jones represented Burke County at the Georgia Constitutional Convention of 1877 and appointed a delegate of the 1886 National Agricultural Convention.

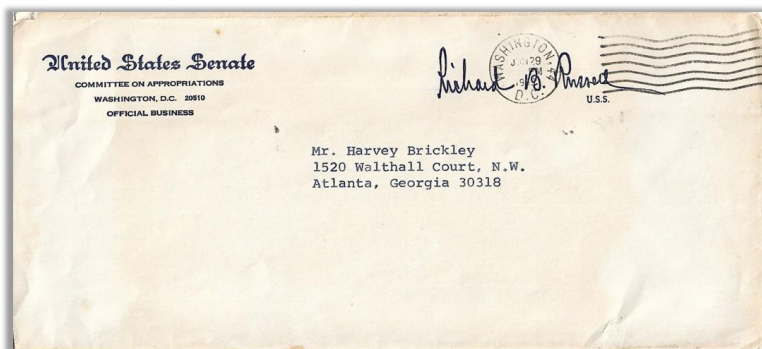
Finding that cotton planting was no longer a profitable enterprise in the South after the war, Jones devoted the last eight years of his life to the establishment of the Birdsville Seed and Stock Farm. He died at Birdsville, March 10, 1886.

Endnotes

- ¹ <https://www.hrcga.org/church/fair-haven-methodist>.
- ² <https://warwashere.com/category/birdsville-plantation>.
- ³ https://dlg.usg.edu/record/dlg_vang_bur116.
- ⁴ <https://books.google.com/books?id=62E4AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA262&lpg=PA262&dq=Birdsville>.

Georgia Covers Stone Mountain, Georgia Commemorative Stamp

Georgia Senator Richard B. Russell's signature on the Figure 1 stampless cover confirmed his franking privilege for the June 29, 1969, mailing to Mr. Harvey Brickley, Atlanta, Georgia. The signature most likely is a handsamp since the "U.S.S." (U.S. Senate) under the signature is clearly not a manuscript entry. The cover's "United States Senate" corner card shows the correspondence was related to an item associated with the Committee on Appropriations of which Senator Russell was the Chairman.



**Figure 1. June 29, 1969, mailing from Georgia
Senator Richard B. Russell.**



Figure 2. Senator Richard B. Russell, Jr.

Richard Brevard Russell, Jr. (Figure 2) was a member of the Democratic Party serving as the 66th Governor of Georgia from 1931 to 1933 and serving in the United States Senate for almost 40 years, from 1933 to 1971.

The cover's enclosure is a letter to Mr. Brickley in reply to his correspondence to Senator Russell "written with reference to legislation, which has been introduced into the House of Representatives, proposing a commemorative stamp be issued depicting Stone Mountain."

Senator Russell explains that Senator Talmadge (Herman Eugene Talmadge, U.S. Senator from Georgia from 1957 to 198) "introduced a Joint Resolution in the Senate on April 18 concerning this matter" and that "the measure is currently pending in the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service."

The Resolution was a proposed postage stamp commemorating the completion of the carving on Stone Mountain, Georgia. Russell adds in his reply that the proposal has his full support but cautions that the selection of all commemorative stamps is made by the Post Office Department's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. Russell offers assurance that he corresponded with the proper officials of the Post Office Department "urging favorable consideration of the matter."

Joint Resolution 95 was passed by the Senate and the issuance of the Stone Mountain Memorial stamp was authorized. Figure 3 shows a single copy of the stamp, Scott 1408. Figure 4 is an unmailed September 19, 1970, first day cover.



Figure 3. Stone Mountain Memorial, Scott 1408.



Figure 4. September 19, 1970, first day cover.

2022 American Philatelic Society Great American Stamp Show Literature Awards - Georgia Society Members



Nancy B. Clark

Gold: "An Oddity Uncovers a Short-lived Registry Plan"

Large Vermeil: "Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. Internee's Postcard: Written from a Spy to a Spy?"

Large Vermeil: "The Sinking of the P.R.R. Ferry Chicago, October 31, 1899"

Steve Swain

Large Vermeil: "Local Usage Prevails for Name of Town and Post Office"

Vermeil: *The Postal History of Saint Simons Island, Georgia* (monograph)