

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY JOURNAL

Vol. 17, No. 2

May 2010



Promoting Philately in the Sunshine State



**FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY
OFFICERS
2010**

PRESIDENT -	STEPHEN PATRICK
PAST PRESIDENT -	WILLIAM H. JOHNSON, D.D.S.
VICE PRESIDENT -	ALEXANDER HALL
SEC. - TREASURER -	DEANE R. BRIGGS, M.D.
JOURNAL EDITOR -	DEANE R. BRIGGS, M.D.
JOURNAL PUBLISHER -	DR. EVERETT L. PARKER
WEB PAGE -	www.FPHSonline.com

**Membership applications may be obtained from
Deane R. Briggs, M.D., 160 E. Lake Howard Drive,
Winter Haven, FL 33881. Telephone: (863) 299-1251;
Fax: (863) 299-7666; email: drb@gte.net or by link on our
webpage: www.FPHSonline.com**

***Articles may be submitted for publication to
Deane R. Briggs, M.D., 160 E. Lake Howard Dr.
Winter Haven, FL 33881***

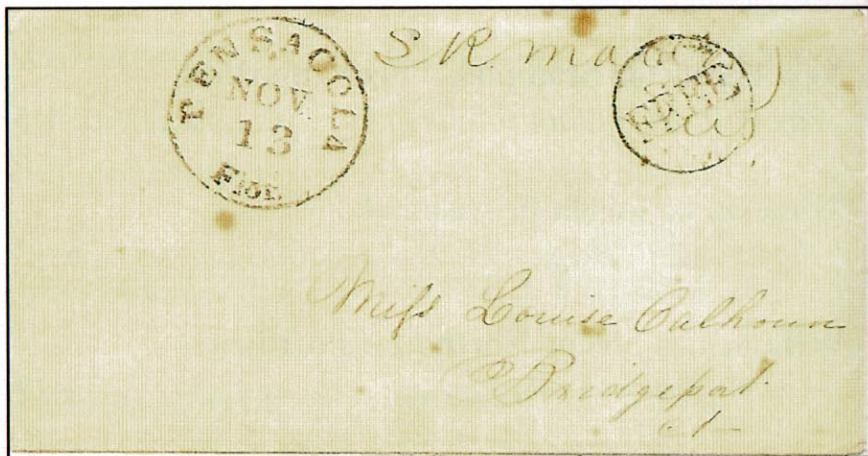
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Florida Postal History Society Officers	2
New Pensacola Stampless “Free” marking <i>by William H. Johnson, D.D.S.</i>	4-5
Micanopy, Florida Provisional <i>by Deane R. Briggs, M.D.</i>	6-13
Wellborn: A Sleepy North Florida Town <i>by Dr. Everett L. Parker</i>	14-19
Early Florida RFD markings <i>by Deane R. Briggs, M.D.</i>	20-23
Florida Postal History Society Contributing Members	24

*The illustration on the cover showing an early vehicle with “R.F.D. No. 2”
painted on the side is believed not from a Florida post office.*

New Pensacola Stampless “Free” marking

By William H. Johnson, D.D.S.



“PENSACOLA/ Flor. NOV 13” Type VII postmark with newly discovered “FREE” in circle with senatorial franking by S.R. Mallory.

The above cover is a new listing for the stampless statehood period of Florida postal history. The postmark has known usage from 1834 to 1857 during the stampless period and again during a short window of use during the Confederate period from August 15 through November 11, 1861. This cover is a U.S. senatorial free frank from Florida Senator Stephen Russell Mallory, who served from 1851 until he resigned his seat at the onset of the Civil War on January 21, 1861. The “FREE” in circle rate handstamp is the new listing and is unusual as the only Florida “FREE” marking that is not a straight-line marking. Its year date of use is unclear.

Steven Russell Mallory, 1812(13) - 1873

Steven Mallory was born in Trinidad, British West Indies in 1812 or 1813, and moved with his parents in 1820 to Key West where his mother, El-

len, ran a boarding house and is recorded as being the only white female inhabitant of Key West in 1823. He was educated in Mobile, Alabama and Nazareth, Pennsylvania and returned to Key West in 1833 after an appointment by President Andrew Jackson to be customs inspector. He studied law and practiced in Key West and from 1837 to 1845, was a Monroe County judge. In 1845, he became collector of the port of Key West and later served in the Seminole War. He married Angela Moreno, daughter of a wealthy Pensacola family, and entered politics. He was elected to the United States Senate as a moderate Democrat, serving from 1851-1861. While a senator, he was regarded as one of the most knowledgeable men in naval affairs and was chair of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs. He worked to reform the United States Navy, helped to retire elderly and ineffective officers and tried in vain to develop ironclad vessels due to lack of funding.

Following the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, Senator Mallory urged conciliation along with other Southern politicians, including Jefferson Davis. When Florida seceded on January 10, 1861, he and fellow Florida Senator David Yulee resigned as their loyalties lay with the South. Confederate President Jefferson Davis needed a Floridian for a cabinet position in the Confederate States of America and named him Secretary of the Confederate Navy. At the start of the war, the Confederacy owned only 15 warships and had only a few naval officers. Nonetheless, Mallory ran an efficient Confederate navy despite being highly under supplied. He obtained funding and ships from Great Britain, including the CSS *Alabama*, arguably the most famous Confederate raider. Despite the lack of military industrial capabilities in the Confederacy, Mallory was able to produce 22 ironclad vessels, and developed many weapons and tactics which were innovative, including torpedoes, submarines, and amphibious raids. He had hoped that the ironclad warships could destroy the mainly wooden Union blockading ships, but he could not obtain sufficient funding to make their use operational as most funds went to support the Confederate military.

After the war, Mallory was captured and imprisoned at Fort Lafayette, New York for approximately 10 months before being released. He eventually returned to Pensacola to practice law and died while playing a game of chess on November 9, 1873. He is buried in St. Michael's Cemetery in Pensacola.

Micanopy, Florida Provisional

By Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

The cover in Figure 1 is a fabulous new addition to Confederate Florida provisional usages. It recently surfaced in an Augusta, Georgia antique dealer's auction lot, consigned by the Mealing family who had lived in North Augusta and the town of Hamburg, South Carolina since the Civil War. Much Hamburg material was consigned but this was the only cover from Florida.

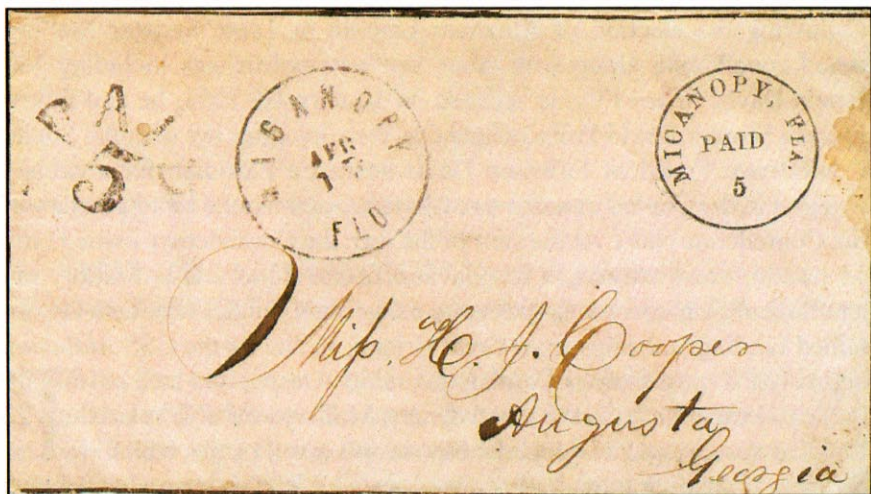


Figure 1: “MICANOPY/ FLO APR 12” (1862) postmark on “conjunctive use” mourning cover with “MICANOPY, FLA. PAID 5” provisional handstamp (Dietz Type II, Scott #105XU1) and “PAID/5” handstamp (Dietz Type I) to pay 10¢ rate to Augusta, Georgia.

The cover is noteworthy in many ways. It is only the second recorded example of the Micanopy, Florida provisional handstamp, and unlike the previous recorded usage, it is intact without a portion of the upper rim missing from a tear. The strike is so strong and clear that it is embossed with a “ghost” through to the back of the envelope, which further confirms



Figure 2: Reverse of Figure 1 with “Post Mortum” manuscript notation with the embossed “ghost” provisional marking at upper left.

the provisional nature of this rate marking having been applied before the enclosed letter was mailed.

The envelope is small and pinkish, almost the same as the other known example. It was most likely made and provisionally handstamped by the Micanopy postmaster. The envelope was made into a “mourning” cover with black ink lines around the edge and on the back flap is a “Post Mortum” manuscript notation (*Figure 2*). The enclosure, datelined “Micanopy East Florida / April 11th 1862,” is an eloquently written condolence letter concerning the death of an uncle (*Figures 3, 4, 5*).

The “PAID / 5” in arch handstamp rate marking (Dietz Type 1) used in conjunction with a provisional rate makes this cover a most rare “conjunctive” usage. Confederate Stamp Alliance member General Jim Monroe in his recent *Confederate Philatelist* article¹ on Conjunctive Use covers recorded only 12 examples, this being the most recent addition to his census and the only stampless “PAID 5” example. This “PAID / 5” marking is by itself extremely rare, with only one previously known example recorded. That cover was owned by the late William Bomar (a charter FPHS member and the society’s first secretary) and according to Herbert P. McNeal, was stolen at some time in the 1980s and was known to have been in a pawn shop that burned. That cover has never surfaced and was likely destroyed.

The only record I have of it in my Florida Confederate census is a photocopy from Bill Bomar. That photocopy has been the basis for the tracing in the Dietz handbook. The newly discovered cover (Figure 1) has a bold strike of this handstamped "paid" marking which will become the example reproduced in the soon to be published C.S.A. Catalog.

The only other known Micanopy Provisional (Figure 6) is a wonderful cover in its own right and has an interesting story. It

also has a well struck provisional handstamp and is on a small pink cover but has a small piece torn from the upper right corner which just removes a portion of the handstamp rim. The handstamped circular postmark is the same as the one on the cover in Figure 1 with an "Apr 21" date. This cover also has an enclosure relating to the death of a relative and an additional comment, "I think our negros here are unsafe, the enemy being near on either side." This enclosure was datelined "Micanopy, April 19th 1862" (Figure 7).

Micanopy East Florida
April 11th 1862

Dear Helen

This world has truly been
said to be all a fleeting shore, and
why it is, that we anticipate and
expect so much from it is truly
astounding, but such seems to be
the nature of man, and we strive
to attain to that eminence in it
which to our limited vision is enviable,
Oh! how vain, Hope, that ever
prophet Monitor says, has bid fair
for a long life The world is before
you reap the riches it can bestow
and fly away in the arms of the
world's renown! But Oh! how vain,
forgetting the interest of life which
should every moment engage our
attention, that all important interest
a preparation for another world
Oh! Helen how, said this will be to you

Figure 3: Dateline and first page of enclosure.

not that the things before mentioned
is true, but the fact that I am obliged
to pen to you the words that your dear
beloved, Uncle & Cooper is no more.
He has passed away to the spirit land.
Grief, pain, sorrow, trouble not, the
dark confiners of the grave now
envelopes that form the once loved
undying sleep, would you have him
back again, cry, but in the language
of the bible, Oh, because of these things
Prepared must thy bed, thy Prepared
must him in heaven that world of
sleep. Where, rest, peace, joy, such as the
world cannot give, fade not neither
passeth away. Oh! He is in a sad
time at my house, you had learned to
love him, nature from social intercourse
and the tender bonds of relationship
but what think you of a letter from
him especially to your Mary you know
he had him in my house for the last five
or seven years and in this time I have
never more have ever regarded him as one
of the family. And how can I tell you
how dear he was to your mother
but such is the sentence that thou art and
unto that thou shalt return. I have
excess of sorrow and I must stop.
He is dead, he is gone he also the
world passeth away and the things
thereof pass not, but rather prepare
to meet him in a better land. May
the all heart in heaven, I cannot
now give you any of the particulars
of his illness but will in another
letter which you shall have soon. The
distressing feature in his case was that
he was most of the time delirious
consequently he had no satisfactory
conversations with him on any subject.
While these things passed your mother
we must think we know that things

Figure 4: Second and third pages of enclosure.

This Judge Castleberry cover was first listed in the 1959 *Dietz Catalog* with a valuation of \$100. It was originally in the Oxer collection and was valued at \$300 in a census of his collection on October 20, 1958. This would likely place its discovery to the 1950s. It was subsequently acquired by William Bogg and sold last in the John Kaufmann sale of his collection in February 1987, as lot 1016 for \$10,500. It is listed in the 1986 *New Dietz Catalog* without price and is currently listed in Scott at \$11,500, perhaps valuing it at its last sale price plus commission.

The addressee, Judge Castleberry and the Monimia P.O. in Clay County, Georgia, were difficult to research. Apparently there were only six towns in all of Clay County during the Civil War and none named Monimia. The current Clay County librarian, Jean Turn, put me in touch with the current owner of the Castleberry home, Alison Gulbrandson. This house (Figure 8) was built in the 1840s and was on a 1,985 acre plantation. Judge William Castleberry had been elected justice of the inferior court in 1838 and ran a pine plantation with 86 slaves who were valued at \$43,000 in the 1859 census. He also had a 15-year-old daughter named Monimia, for which the plantation was apparently named. Thus, this cover was addressed not

There are currently only three other Confederate Micanopy, Florida covers recorded. All are adhesive uses, two with manuscript postmarks and one with Scott #11 postmarked with a "MICANOPY / FLA." handstamp, different from the "MICANOPY / FLO" postmark on the provisional examples.

cated near one of the earliest settlements in Florida, certainly the earliest one in Central Florida. The site was originally a Timucuan Indian village and recorded by Hernando De Soto in the 16th century. The naturalist William Bartram visited a Seminole Indian village named Cuscowilla in 1774 and popularized Alachua (now the county in which Micanopy is located) in a book *The Travels of William Bartram*, published in Philadelphia in 1791. The first white settlement was begun in 1821, during the Second

Figure 5: Fourth page of enclosure.

Spanish period and was originally known as both Wanton's and Micanope. It was actually just an Indian trading post run by Edward M. Wanton, an early settler and manager of the Arrendo's Spanish Land Grant. It was located about 15 miles south of present Gainesville and was near a Seminole settlement headed by Chief Micanope (1785-1849). The Wanton's



Figure 6: “MICANOPY, FLA. PAID 5” provisional handstamp rate with “MICANOPY/ FLO APR 21” (1862) postmark, addressed to Judge Castleberry at Monimia P.O., Clay County, Georgia.

post office was established on March 6, 1826, with Edward Wanton as postmaster. It was only the ninth post office in Territorial Florida and was the southernmost one at the time. The post office and town name was changed to Micanopy on March 3, 1834.

The Confederate postmaster of Micanopy was Thomas J. Leonard, who had been the pre-war postmaster since September 29, 1860. The Confederate postal routes servicing Micanopy were 6510 and 6512. The cover in Figure 1 would have gone on Route 6510 to Lake City and then by rail on Route 6505 to Tallahassee (where, in April 1862, all mail from Florida to Georgia was distributed), and then on to Savannah, Georgia by rail on Route 6006, and finally to Augusta, Georgia by rail on Route 6010 -- over 500 miles. It is interesting to note that prior to the Union occupation of Jacksonville on March 12, 1862, the route to Augusta would have been much more direct, via Jacksonville to Savannah and then to Augusta, less than 500 miles and as a result, this “conjunctive use” cover would never

Micanopy April 19th 1862
Judge Castleberry,
Dear Brother,
Abner's wife died
on the 14th Inst quietly and without a struggle she
left 7 children including an infant. Abner is
still in the army and will probably remain.
He saw his wife buried he is in good health and
so are all his children.
I have not heard a word from Edmund
since I saw you. I do not think of visiting
Georgia this summer. I think our negroes here
are unsafe, the enemy being near on either side.
I should be glad to hear from you at any time.
Yours affectionately
Paul McCormick

Figure 7: Dateline and enclosure from Castleberry cover.

have existed.

After the war, the USPOD reestablished a post office at Micanopy on January 8, 1866, with Augustus H. Mathers as postmaster. Mathers was also the writer of the eloquently written enclosure from the cover in Figure 1, and was likely a Unionist since he was not mustered into Confederate service and was given the U.S. postmaster position soon after the war and

during Reconstruction. The town of Micanopy remains quite small with a 2004 population of only 652. The entire downtown is a designated Florida Historic Site.

The author appreciates the assistance of Stefan Jaronski in researching the postal routes which justify the over 500 mile distance from Micanopy to Augusta, Georgia at the time this “conjunctive use” cover was mailed.

Reference

¹ Monroe, James L.D. “Confederate Conjunctive Use Covers,” *The Confederate Philatelist*, 54(2) Whole No. 361, April-June 2009, 6-8.

A version of this article was previously published in The Confederate Philatelist, 54(4) Whole No. 363, October-December 2009, 31-33.

Any FPHS member wishing to join the Confederate Stamp Alliance is encouraged to do so and can contact the author, who is currently a CSA trustee, or the CSA membership chairman and fellow FPHS member Larry Baum, 316 W. Calhoun St., Sumter, SC 29150.



Figure 8:
Photograph of
the Judge
William
Castleberry
plantation
home, circa
1840, recently
restored by
Morris and
Alison
Gulbrandson.

WELLBORN

A SLEEPY NORTH FLORIDA TOWN STEEPED IN HISTORY

By Dr. Everett L. Parker

Nestled in the majestic live oak trees and rolling hills of extreme North Florida is the historic town of Wellborn. Often confused phonetically with the much larger city of Melbourne in Brevard County, this settlement of a couple thousand residents in Suwannee County has much to offer, and enjoys a long and colorful history. A stroll down the old brick roadway in the center of town is a long step back into the Florida that once was -- the "Old Florida" -- before tourists and a certain mouse found the Sunshine State.

Located on the eastern side of Suwannee County and nestled up to the Columbia County line, Wellborn was founded in 1860, at a time "when cotton was king and one of the largest cotton warehouses in the area was found within its town limits," county historian Eric Musgrove has said.¹ The town was named for Louis Wellborn Dubose, a civil engineer from Tallahassee who worked on the railroad from Tallahassee to Jacksonville. In appreciation for his help, he was given 162 acres near the town that

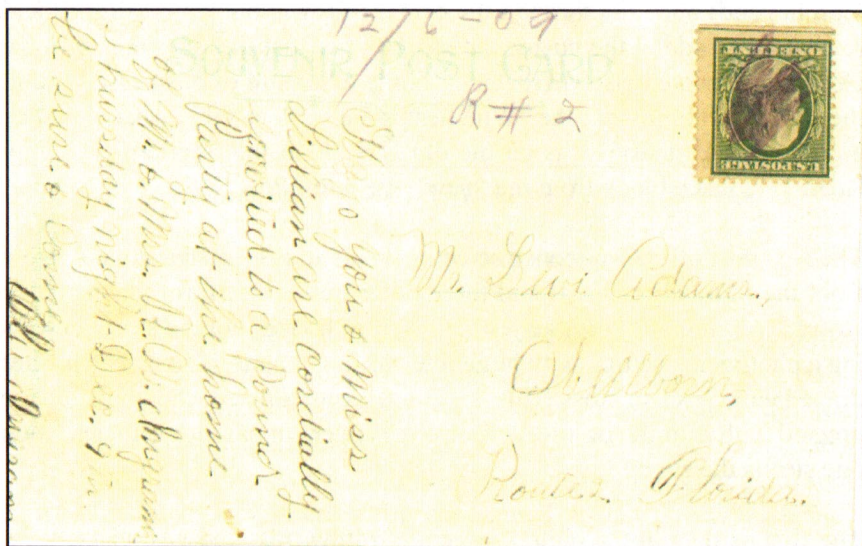
This photograph shows the brick-paved road in Wellborn. It was the first paved road in Suwannee County and one of the earliest in Florida. Confederate soldiers may have marched this route in the Civil War.



This post office in Wellborn was constructed in 1962. The current postmaster does not know where the former post office was located.



would bear his name. The post office was believed started after the Civil War on October 17, 1865 with James T. McMillen named the first postmaster. Other sources indicate a post office was operational during the 1860s, with Jesse N. McLeran serving as postmaster during the Civil War. Dr. Deane Briggs said Confederate covers are known addressed to Wellborn, but no Confederate States of America post office was established at Wellborn.²



This is an early (1909) RFD #2 post card addressed to Mr. Levi Adams in Wellborn.

From the Collection of Dr. Deane Briggs, M.D.

These buildings stand next to the railroad (to the left of the dirt road) in Wellborn. The building at left was a general store in decades past, and may have been a post office as well.



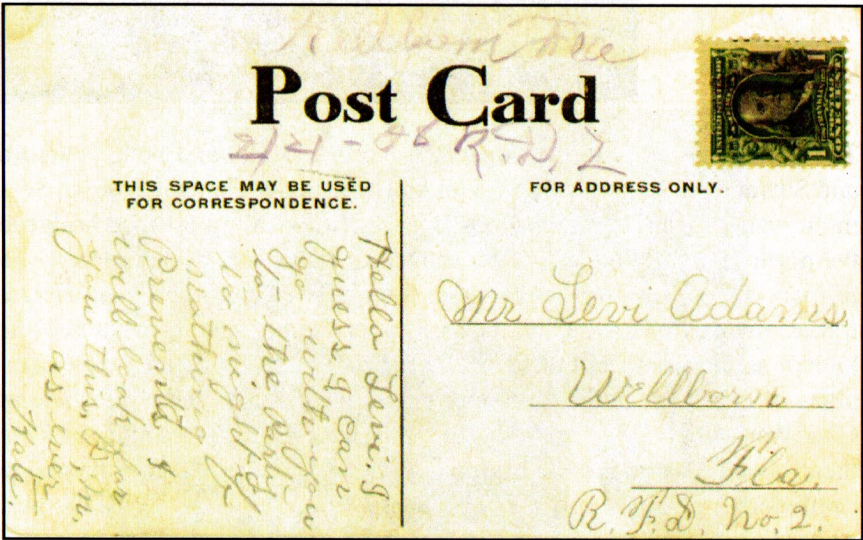
Not long after the arrival of the automobile age, Wellborn had the distinction of being the first place in Suwannee County with a paved road. A segment of that road exists today, running parallel to the railroad which cuts through the center of the “business district” of town. Running about three-quarters of a mile, the brick road is nine feet wide, and only rarely does a vehicle traverse it. The road was also one of the earliest paved public roads in Florida. U.S. 90, the main east-west route from Lake City to Live Oak (and beyond) once ran through the center of town, but was realigned and relocated outside of the business district. Since that time, businesses have closed or relocated elsewhere. One of only a handful of businesses still in the center part of town is the “Whistlestop Cafe,” located in what was once an old service station. It is on the old U.S. 90 at intersection of County Road 137, just a block from the “new” Wellborn Post Office.

The new post office was constructed in 1962 and is located a stone’s throw from the railroad tracks. It and three other businesses form the center of “town.” A number of old, majestic two story houses dot the streets, creating a photogenic setting with huge live oak and magnolia trees, the former draped with Spanish moss. This is a quiet, pastoral place where visitors are greeted with a smile, or a wave from passengers in passing vehicles when one strolls the streets.

The first settlers in the region of gentle rolling hills and vast vistas were the Timucuan Indians, a widespread tribe of Native Americans whose villages were found throughout southeastern Georgia and North Florida over

500 years ago. From an estimated quarter of a million people at the beginning of the 16th century, the Timucuan quickly succumbed to diseases introduced by Europeans. Upwards of 80 percent died of diseases from which they were not immune. By the end of the 17th century, they had all but ceased to exist.

First the Spanish and then the English arrived in what would become Suwannee County. During the 1700s, Spanish, French, English, and American explorers traveled this land. When the War of 1812 ended, many American colonists drifted southward into Spanish Florida. From then,



This is another early (1908) RFD #2 post card addressed to Mr. Levi Adams in Wellborn.

From the Collection of Dr. Deane Briggs, M.D.

with minor setbacks, the population increased. At the time of its formation in 1858, Suwannee County contained only 200 people.³ Named for the river immortalized by Stephen Foster (who never visited the area), Suwannee County expanded rapidly as a railroad (the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Line) was constructed. Small towns quickly sprang up, some now ghost towns and others still prospering. The first Suwannee County post office was established at Houston on December 22, 1859 and was operated by Craven Lassiter, although there were other post offices in the area prior to the land becoming Suwannee County.

*Visiting Wellborn
is literally a step
back in time.
This stately old
house sits back
from County
Road 137 near
U.S. 90.*



The Civil War had a direct impact on North Florida, and both Wellborn and Suwannee County. In 1864, Union troops under General Truman Seymour were ordered to march from Jacksonville to take a railroad bridge at the northwestern boundary of Suwannee County. This bridge served as a primary supply line for Confederate forces. The Union and Confederate forces met east of Lake City, the Columbia County seat, in what became known as the Battle of Olustee. The February 20, 1864 battle saw casualties of nearly 50 percent on both sides, and remains today the fiercest Civil War battle in Florida. In the end, the Union troops were stopped from their advance west, and the bridge over the Suwannee River remained in Confederate hands, supplying Confederate troops until the end of the war. According to Eric Musgrove, some of the bridge supports and Confederate earthworks built near the bridge as a final defensive position remain visible and are part of the Suwannee River State Park.

Although it's not clear the exact route Confederate soldiers took in their march east to meet the Union forces at Olustee, it is likely they followed the railroad or traversed the Old Spanish Trail, also known by that time as the Bellamy Road. It is thus possible the soldiers marched through what would become downtown Wellborn, and perhaps their footsteps are buried under the brick-paved road of the early 1900s.

What the future holds for Wellborn is questionable. As Lake City develops to the west, and Live Oak spreads east, will the town eventually be swallowed up by one or the other? Or will it continue to be a sleepy Southern

town? In any event, it's worth a trip to explore the Suwannee-Columbia County area. It's a far cry from the flatlands of Central and South Florida. With rolling hills and fall foliage, it's an area much more reminiscent of more northern climes. In fact, it's an area the author and his wife like so much they bought a house and four acres in Lake City and will complete a move there this fall.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Eric Musgrove, "Our History," Suwannee County Clerk of the Circuit-Court website, <http://www>.

² Deane R. Briggs, M.D. Personal correspondence, March 20, 2010.

³ *Ibid*, Musgrove.



This old service station on what used to be U.S. 90 is now the Whistlestop Cafe in downtown Wellborn.

Stamp Club and Stamp Show News

The *Journal* now includes local chapter meeting times and locations as well as local stamp shows and bourses free of charge. Members should contact their stamp club and encourage club membership. Special show cancellations will also be announced for postmark collectors. Please send information to be listed to the editor with a three month lead time if possible.

Early Florida RFD markings

By Deane R. Briggs, M.D.

Handstamped RFD postmarks are extremely rare from Florida. The example below from Sanford (Richow 3FD) [Figure 1] is the only handstamped marking that I personally have seen. Harold C. Richow's *Encyclopedia of R.F.D. Cancels* lists this marking and two other handstamp postmarks from Florida, Cantonment 1902 Route 1 (2B) and Cottondale (date unknown, Route 2 [3F]). Most Florida RFD covers are actually on post cards with manuscript cancellation placed by the carrier en-route and delivered farther along the same route on the same or following day. These are often only pen-cancelled in magenta ink with a slash or a date without post office name but can be determined to be RFD cancellations by the address or by reading the note on the post card. Even these manuscript RFD usages from Florida are uncommon (Richow lists just two) and highly collectible when compared to such usage from other states

with more numerous routes.

The example in Figure 2 has the same RFD handstamp marking from Sanford as the example in Figure 1. The Sylvan Lake post office to which the post card in Figure 1 was addressed

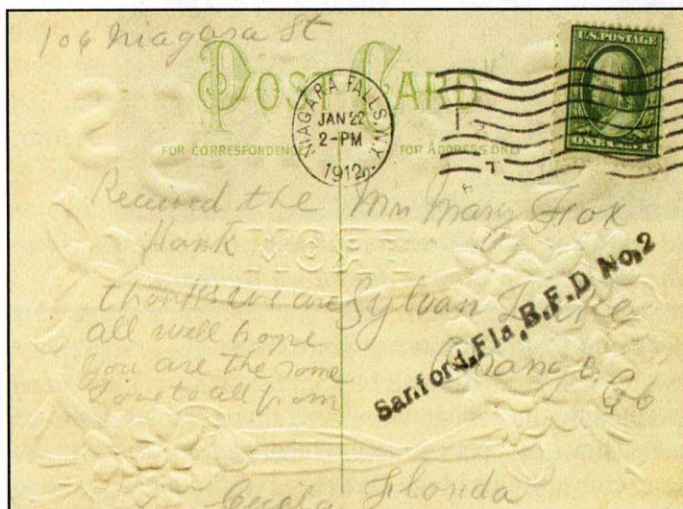


FIGURE 1

Sanford, Fla. RFD No. 2 handstamped route marking on January 1912 post card addressed to Sylvan Lake, Orange Co., Florida.



FIGURE 2

PAOLA / FLA JUL 20 1911 Doane Type II postmark on post card addressed to Paola, Florida and handstamped with the Sanford, Florida RFD No. 2 route marking.

had been discontinued since August 31, 1906, almost six years earlier. Mail was handled after the discontinuation by the Paola post office. In the 1880s when the Paola post office was temporarily closed, mail was handled by the Sylvan Lake office. Thus both of these small towns were close together and when RFD service became available were on the same route. It is also interesting to note that both these cards were addressed to a member of the Fox family. I wonder if both of these actually went to the same rural farm family, once serviced by the Sylvan Lake post office and the sender from New York was unaware that the post office was closed and should have been sent to Paola.

Early map (c. 1917) showing Paola and Sylvan Lake on the same post road only a few miles apart.



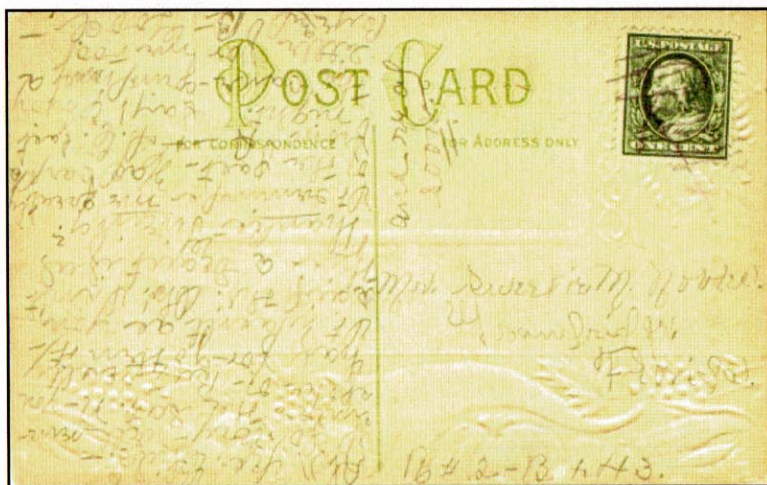


FIGURE 3

Florida manuscript RFD marking on post card picked up in Grandridge on Route 2-B and delivered on Route H-3 in Grandridge (Jackson County).

From the beginning of the postal system in the Colonial states, mail was always delivered and picked up at the town post office. By the middle of the 19th century, a carrier service developed to pick up and deliver mail in around 40 large cities for an extra fee. Eventually in 1863, free city delivery was instituted in 49 large cities. By 1890, this had expanded to 454 post offices. Even so, farmers and rural residents had to travel many miles to pick up and post mail, often taking a day for a round trip. Mail was often left uncollected for weeks at a time. One farmer calculated that he had traveled 12,000 miles going to and from the post office.

A demand for rural mail delivery was spearheaded by the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, the nation's oldest agricultural organization. Postmaster General John Wanamaker was the first Postmaster General to advocate a rural free delivery (RFD) and an experimental rural free delivery trial was launched in three West Virginia towns, Charlestown, Halltown, and Uvilla on October 1, 1891, covering five routes over 10 miles. It was not until 1896, under President Grover Cleveland, that RFD became an official service. In that year, 82 rural routes were put into operation, with Winter Park having the first route in Florida beginning on January 1, 1898. The service grew rapidly, and by 1910 covered 993,068 miles with 40,997 carriers at a cost of \$36,915,000. Even so, as it is with

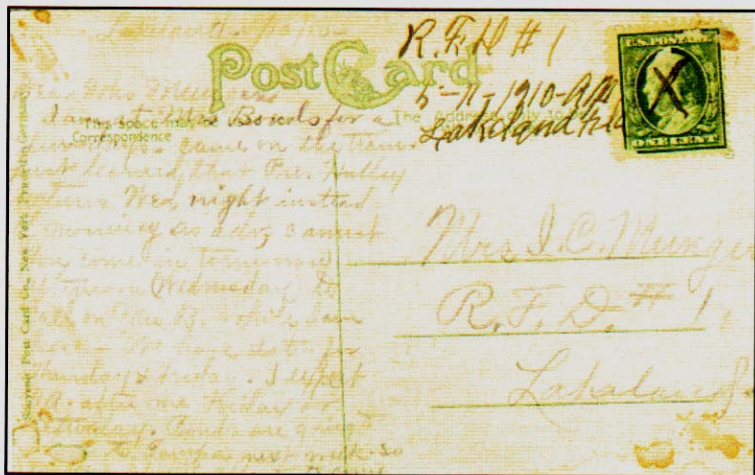



FIGURE 4

A most uncommon type of manuscript RFD marking with route, town and date, including “a(.)m(.)” written out, addressed to Lakeland.

politics today, Florida did not benefit to a great degree, with the number of authorized routes being quite small.

Examples of Florida manuscript RFD postmarks and cancellations are shown in Figures 3 and 4. The example in Figure 3 was picked up in Grandridge on Route 2-B and delivered on a different route H-3 in Grandridge. No date, town, or route is written as is common for these types of RFD markings. The example in Figure 4 is a most uncommon type of manuscript RFD marking with route, town, and date including “am” written out.



VENICE STAMP CLUB

PO BOX 1501, VENICE, FL 34285
ESTABLISHED 1963 A.P.S. #51446

Monthly Meetings 3rd Tuesday except Dec.
Doors open 5PM Business Meeting at 6PM
Venice Main Public Library

Bourse at Jacaranda Library, 1st Sat. 10A-2P
Call Larry Anctil at 493-4040 for Information

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS - 2009

The following members of the Florida Postal History Society have been denoted as **"Contributing Members"** for their additional contribution to the Society. The support of these members keeps our Society fiscally sound and enables us to respond to member and non-member inquiries regarding Florida postal history and send sample copies of our *Journal*.

Hector Arvelo
Donald Ball
Lawrence F. C. Baum
Wade H. Beery
John J. Beirne
Richard F. Bergmann
Deane R. Briggs, M.D.
Conrad L. Bush
Walter S. Clarke
Joseph Confoy
Daniel B. Curtis
Robert DeCarlo
James L. Diamond
James P. Doolin
Harry G. Dow
Gus Dueben
Francis Ferguson
Douglas S. Files, M.D.
Richard Frajola
Alex Hall
William J. Hancock
Robert J. Hausin
Richard W. Helbock
Gary G. Hendren
William L. Hendry
Henry Higgins
Todd A. Hirn
Stan Jameson
Stefan T. Jaronski
William Johnson, D.D.S.
Edward R. Joyce, Jr.
Patricia A. Kaufmann
John L. Kimbrough, M.D.
Howard King
Leon King
Dr. Vernon Kisling

Ron Klimley
Alan E. Knight
Alvin L. Krasne, D.D.S.
Barbara Kuchau
Carolyn B. Lewis
Rev. David C. Lingard
William Lyons
Millard H. Mack
Charles F. Meroni, Jr.
Ray Messier
Vernon R. Morris, M.D.
James Moses
Mike Mullins
Richard F. Murphy
Burnam S. Neill
Kevin Nichols
Dr. Everett L. Parker
Stephen Patrick
David G. Phillips
Vincent P. Polizatto
William D. Radford
Kenneth L. Rice
Joel Rind
Steven M. Roth
Joe Rubinfine
Schuyler Rumsey
Niles Schuh
Casimir Skrzypczak
S. George Trager
Phillip V. Warman
John Watts
Jim West
Robert B. Whitney
C. Michael Wiedemann
Dave Wrisley
Central Florida Stamp Club