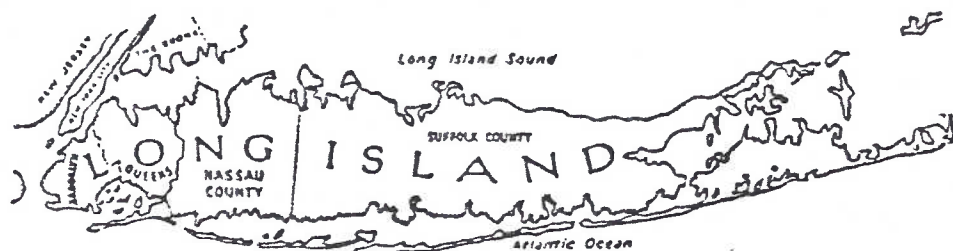




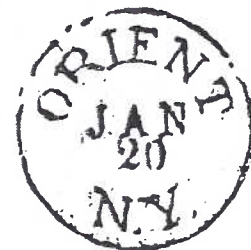
LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORIAN

THE NEWSLETTER AND JOURNAL OF THE LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



ISSN: 1078-1692

Dedicated to the collection and research of the postal history of
Brooklyn (Kings Co.), Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties.



Vol. 22 No. 1

Whole Number 63

Spring 1999

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Annual Membership Subscription \$15.00

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 Sample Copies of this Journal are available at \$4.00 each, postpaid; also available
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- MEMBERSHIP REPORT -

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 collects: Long Island Railroad covers and post card views

Resigned:

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Many Thanks for the recent DONATIONS: R.Boos, E.Lettick, J.Gallagher, B.Levy,
 R.Marshall, F.Braithwaite, A.Huneke, W.Anderson.

Total Donations for 1999 to Date: \$60.00

CONGRATULATIONS to Richard O. Jones for again winning the Annual Award for the best
 article to have been published in the 1998 issues of the Long Island Postal Historian.
 For his award, he receives FREE Dues for the 1999 year. The award was presented for
 his continuing series of articles on the Military & War covers of Long Island.

If you want to be considered for this award in the future, **NOW** is the time to start
 submitting articles for publication in the Journal.

As a common philatelic courtesy, please use stamps when corresponding, especially
 high denominations or unusual items when mailing large envelopes or packages, as the
 collector to whom you are writing does collect stamps and covers, but probably not
 postage meters. Ask the postal clerk to affix stamps, not meters at the post office
 counter. Thanks.

**We Need
 Articles Now !**

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER - Help the Society to continue Growing

Long Island Military & War Covers - Part 17

WWI NAVAL AIR STATIONS ON LONG ISLAND

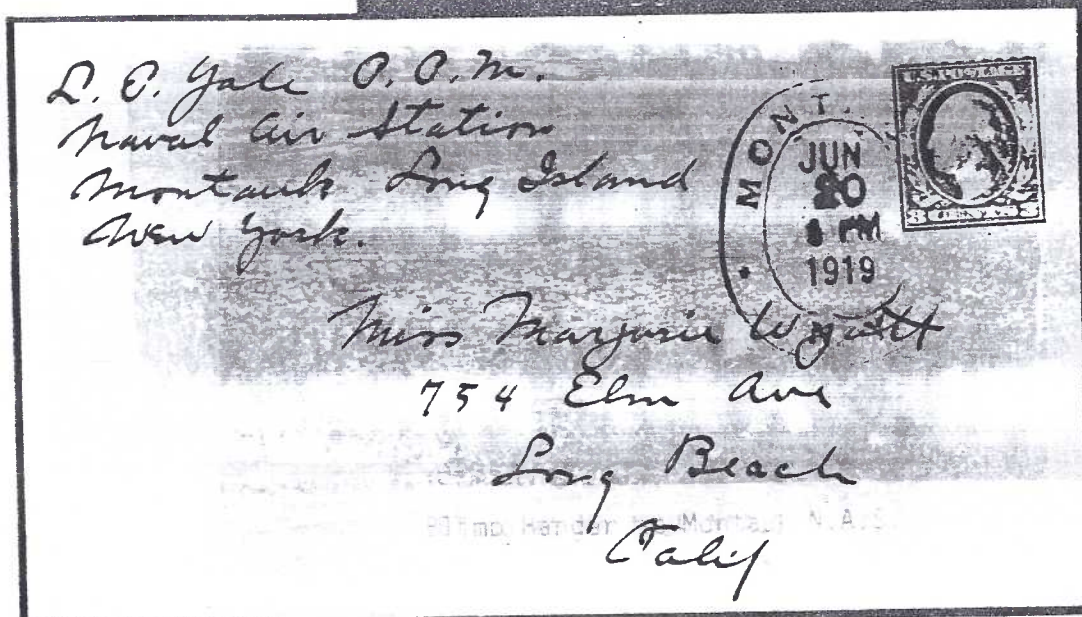
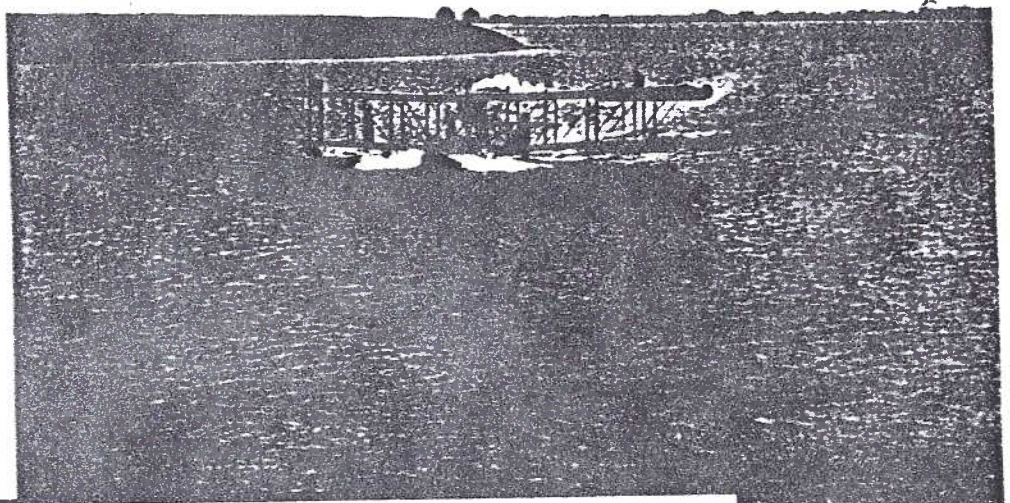
by: Richard O. Jones

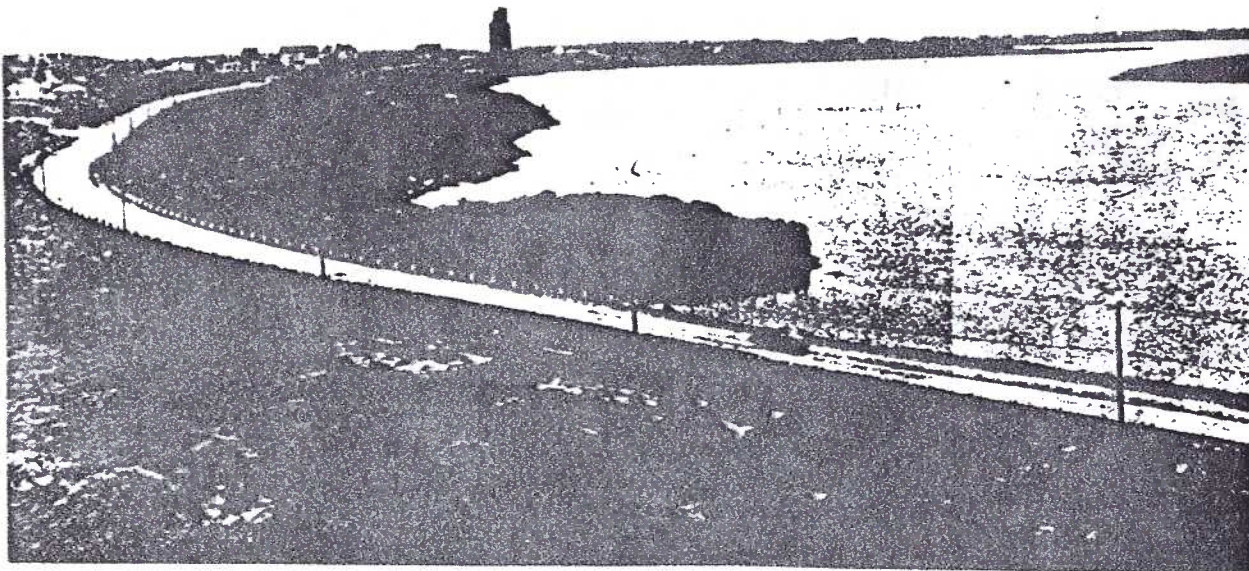
Long island had three commissioned Naval Air Stations between 1917 and 1922. They were part of a network along the east coast to patrol for enemy submarines and shipping.

MONTAUK N.A.S.

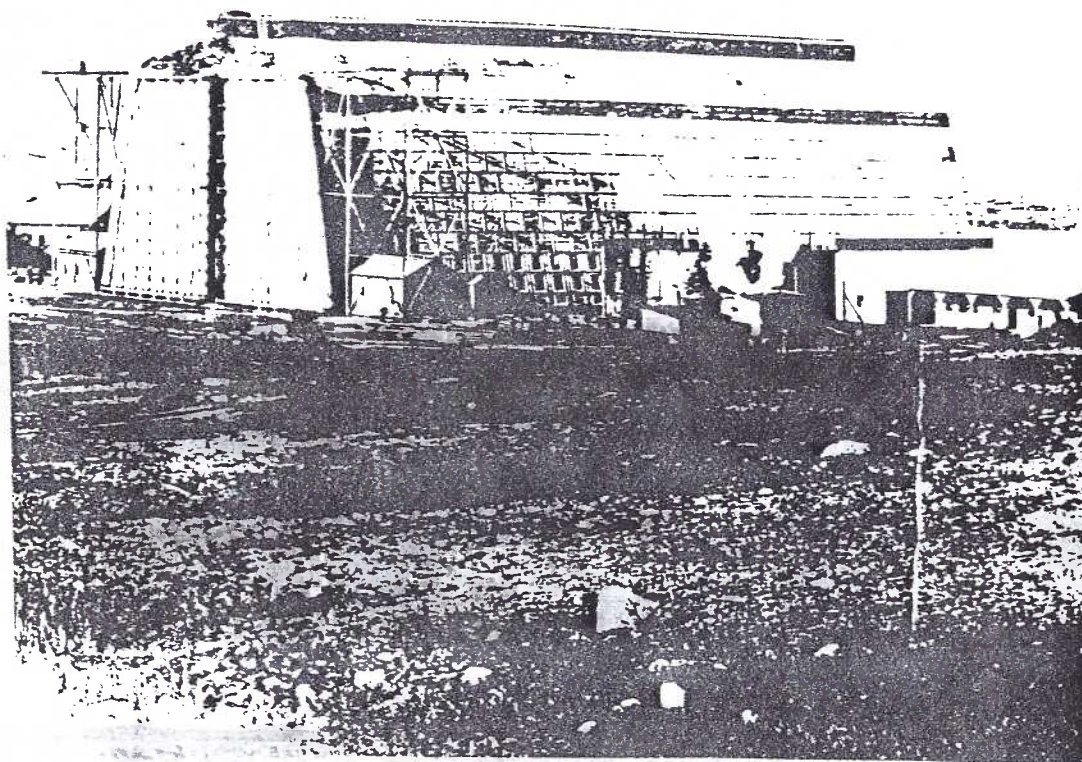
This base was located about six miles west of Montauk Point on a strip of land between Fort Pond and the Atlantic Ocean. The seaplane ramp was near the southeast corner of Fort Pond and the rest of the field was in the area where the seven story Carl Fisher office building is today. In addition to seaplanes this was a Lighter-Than-Air (LTA) base and it had a large hanger that could house two blimps. This patrol station was commissioned as a Naval Air Station early in August 1917 and closed on August 2, 1919. The first Commanding Officer of the station was Lt. Marc A. Mitscher who would later become Admiral Mitscher, well known in WW2 for his activities in the Pacific. As far as it is known there was no military post office here, probably because of its proximity to the established Montauk P.O.

Approaching Ramp on
Fort Pond at
Montauk N.A.S.

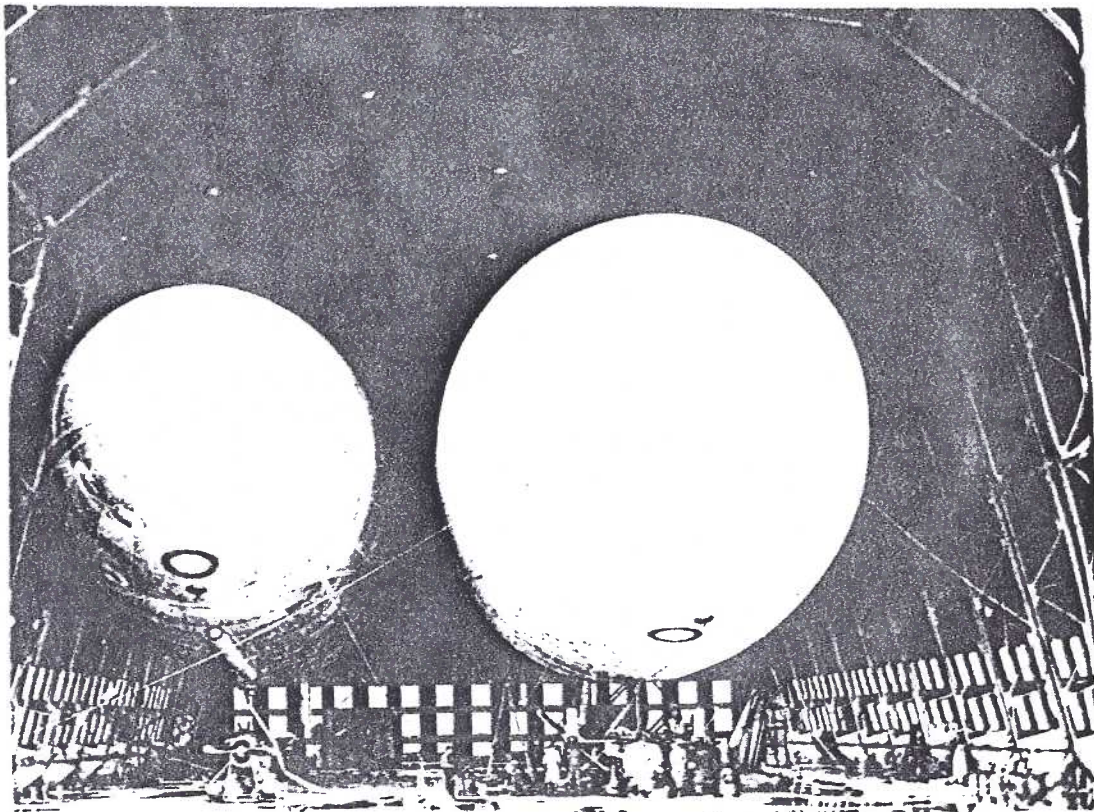




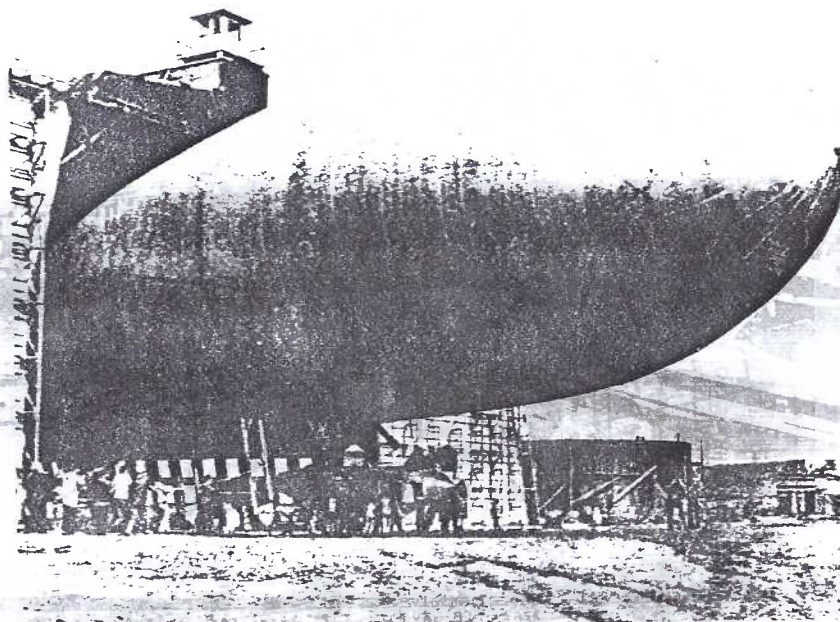
Fort Pond looking South to Atlantic Ocean
Montauk N.A.S. was in the vicinity
of the Fisher Building on the horizon



Blimp Hanger at Montauk N.A.S.



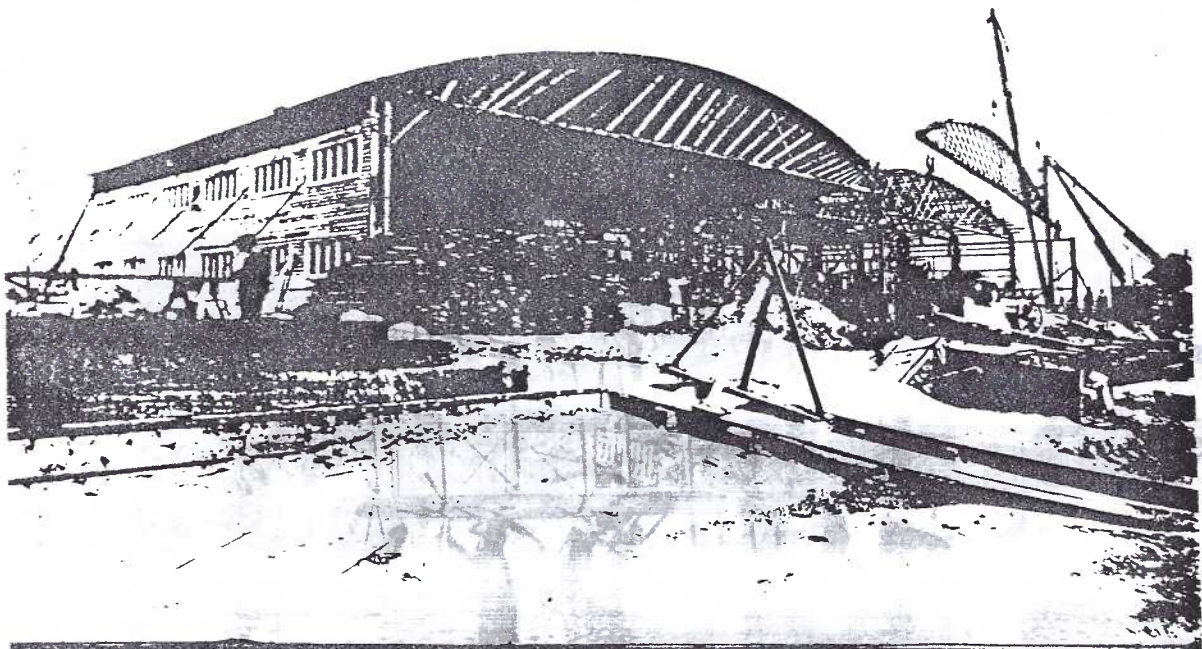
Blimps in Hangar
Montauk N.A.S.



Blimp at Montauk N.A.S.

BAYSHORE N.A.S.

This base was located in the village of Bay Shore just west of the town, on a peninsula jutting into Great South Bay. The peninsula is bounded on the west by Lawrance Creek and on the east by a shallow dredged inlet. Today the location is at the south end of Garner Lane. The base was organized by the Naval Militia of the State of New York around May 1915, before the United States entered the War. It was organized for the purpose of training national naval volunteer men for flying and aviation work. There were three hangars and some buildings built by private subscription before it was taken under Navy jurisdiction on May 4, 1917. At that time there were three flying boats and one Curtiss N-9 seaplane on line. The personnel consisted of seven officers and eighty-nine men. The base was commissioned as a Naval Air Station on May 17, 1917 and its first Commanding Officer was Lt. A.C. Read. In 1919 Lt. Commander Albert C. Read would become famous as the commanding officer of the first airplane to cross the Atlantic - the NC-4. The government continued the construction on the base and at war's end forty-six buildings were completed, including four single hangars and one large hangar. The complement had grown to fifty-five officers, eight hundred men and forty-six planes. The primary purpose of the base was to train student aviators and to train enlisted men as aviation mechanics. One thousand pilots were given elementary training with only three facilities. This base had no LTA facilities so all operations were carried out by airplanes or rescue boats. In 1919 when the troopship Northern Pacific ran aground in the winter surf off Fire Island, the station was commended for its good work in assisting with the rescue operation. The ship was returning from Europe with over twenty-five hundred service personnel, a number of them wounded.

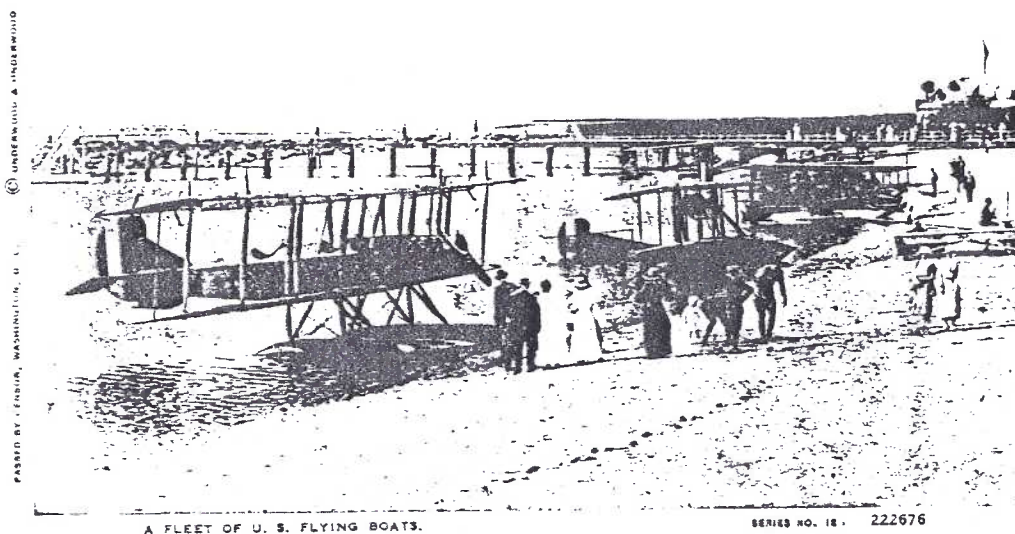


CONSTRUCTION OF AIR BASE IN BAY SHORE 1917 (NAVAL AIR BASE)

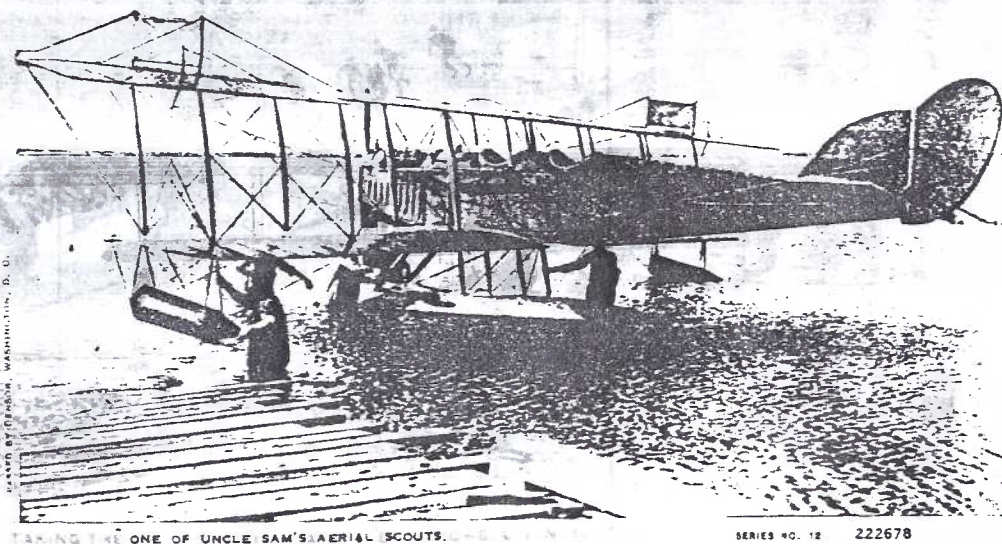
Hangars being built at Bay Shore N.A.S. in 1917

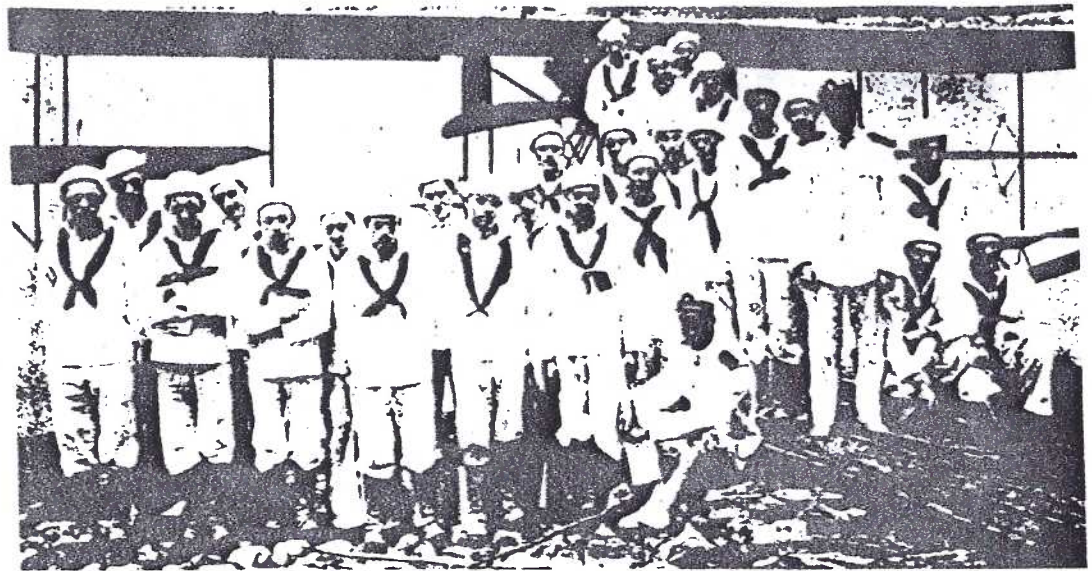
An inspection flight was made in a seaplane by Lt. Commander B.N. Chase, who was in command of the Naval Air Station at that time. Boats from the station ran back and forth between the mainland and Fire Island carrying supplies and returning with the rescued. Some of the wounded troops were taken care of temporarily in the base hospital. The planes delivered the mail to Fire Island. It took three days for the Coast Guard and the Navy to get all the passengers off the ship. The majority of them were taken off in small boats and ferried to larger ships waiting off shore. This happened in January and the wind and the wind was strong at the time but the rescue was completed without the loss of a life. One of the large buildings on the station was donated to the Suffolk County Marine Museum in West Sayville and now houses a good number of their boat collection. As with Montauk N.A.S. there was no known military post office here as it was very close to town. The station closed on May 19, 1920.

Greetings from Bayshore, L.I.

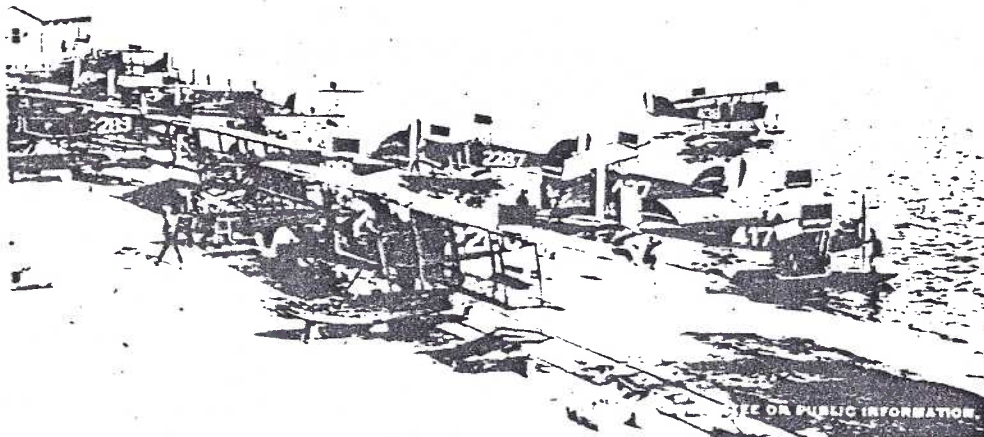


Greetings from Bayshore, L. I.

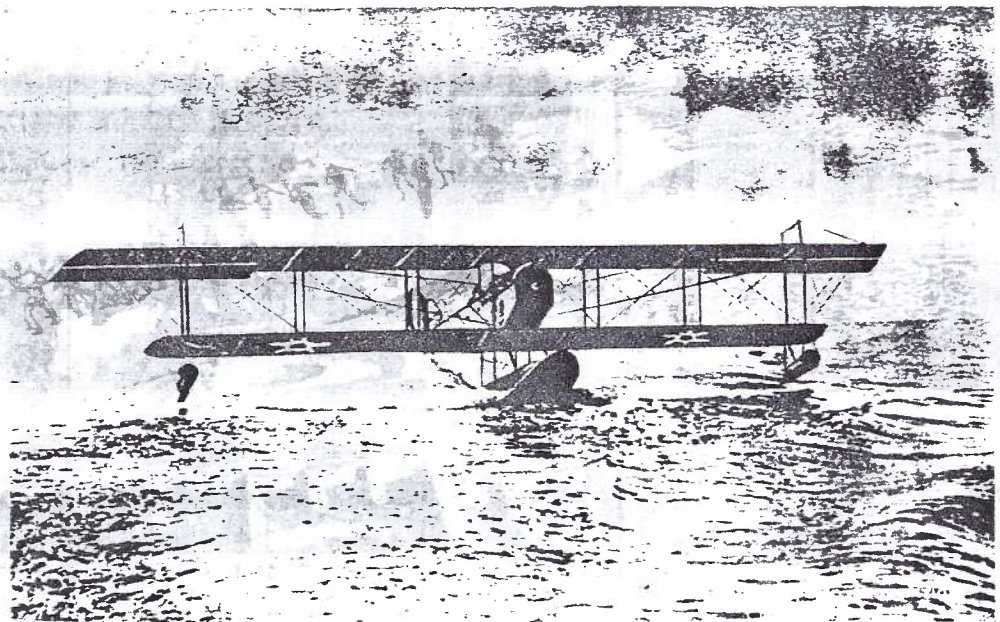




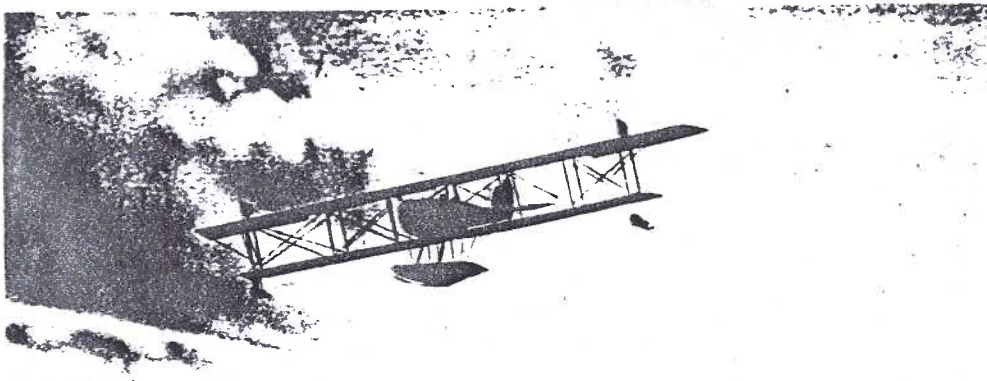
Crew at Bayshore Naval Training Station with Curtiss Flying Boat, ca. 1918.



READY FOR THE MORNING FLIGHT U. S. AERO STATION, BAY SHORE, L. I. N. Y.



TAKING THE AIR, U. S. AERO STATION, BAY SHORE, L. I. N. Y.



THE EYES OF OUR NAVY U S AERO STATION BAY SHORE L I N Y

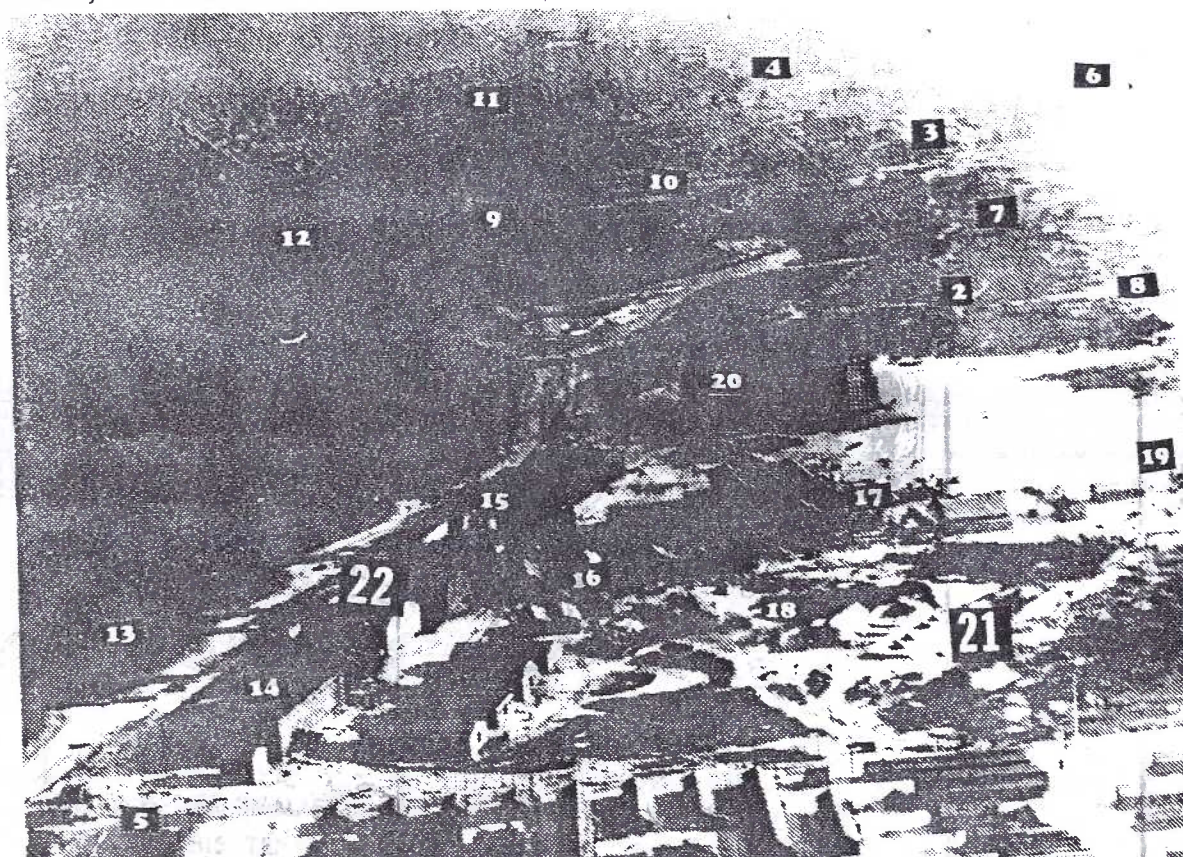


BACK FROM ITS MORNING FLIGHT U S AERO STATION BAY SHORE L I N Y

ROCKAWAY BEACH N.A.S.

This base was located on the Rockaway Peninsula just east of Fort Tilden and the Coast Guard Station - east of what is now Beach 169th Street. It covered about half of the present Jacob Riis Park. This was a seaplane and LTA patrol station. It was commissioned as a Naval Air Station on October 15, 1917. There is no record of an earlier Commanding Officer but Lt. Commander W.G. Child was in command in November 1917. The largest building was the blimp hangar with two blimps. Along Jamaica Bay there were three smaller hangars for the seaplanes and one larger hangar to house two Navy Curtiss flying boats, at the time the largest planes flying. Other buildings were aircraft maintenance shops, mess hall, commissary, barracks and all the buildings needed to make a large air station. At its peak it had a complement of 125 officers, 1160 enlisted men, 18 seaplanes, 2 blimps and some kite balloons. The base's biggest claim to fame was as the starting point for the Trans-Atlantic flight of the NC-4 in 1919. By early 1919 four of these large Curtiss flying boats had been delivered to Rockaway Beach - NC-1, 2, 3, and 4. Parts of these planes had been made by different manufacturers, then shipped to the Curtiss plant in Garden City for assembly. They were disassembled and carted about twenty miles to the N.A.S. for reassembly in the large NC hangar. Originally the four planes were to make the flight but due to a wind storm and a fire NC-2 had to be cannibalized for parts to repair NC-1 and NC-4. On May 8, 1919 the three planes took off from Jamaica Bay and started across the Atlantic. Only the NC-4 made it across and it took them twenty-four days. Delays were due to bad weather and minor mechanical problems. Actual flying time was fifty-three hours and fifty-eight minutes. The six man crew was shipped by Lt. Commander Albert C. Read, the pilot was Lt. Elmer Stone (USCG), and the co-pilot was Lt. Walter Hinton.

Unlike Montauk and Bay Shore, this N.A.S. had a Post Office, establishment date is unknown, the station closed in 1922.



Rockaway Beach N.A.S. from the air

#14 - NC Hangar

#15 - Small Hangars

#20 - Blimp Hangar



POST CARD

July 19, 1919

EAGLE HUT
BRYANT PARK, NEW YORK CITY

ADDRESS



We are going to
be let loose as
soon as possible
and close down the
Station till new
recruits are trained,
except for keeping a
number sufficient for
guard etc. am expecting
Release next winter back

Mr. E. Y. Humberger,
Lindstrom,
Minn.



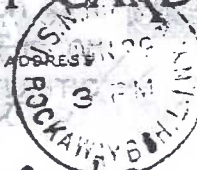
Mr. Stephen Perry
Ludlow St
Brooklyn
N. Y.

The Hotel Commonwealth will occupy the
entire block at Broadway, 55th St., 56th St.
and Seventh Ave. The imposing structure to
be erected will cost \$15,000,000 and will pro-
vide 2,500 rooms with baths. It will be the
home of the \$3,000,000 Commonwealth Club.
The novel feature of this hotel is that it will
be built and operated by the people on a profit-
sharing plan. The stock in shares of \$100 each
will be held by the public, no individual being
allowed more than 10 shares.

THIS SPACE FOR MESSAGE

POST CARD

ADDRESS



6/29/21

hello.

am alive &

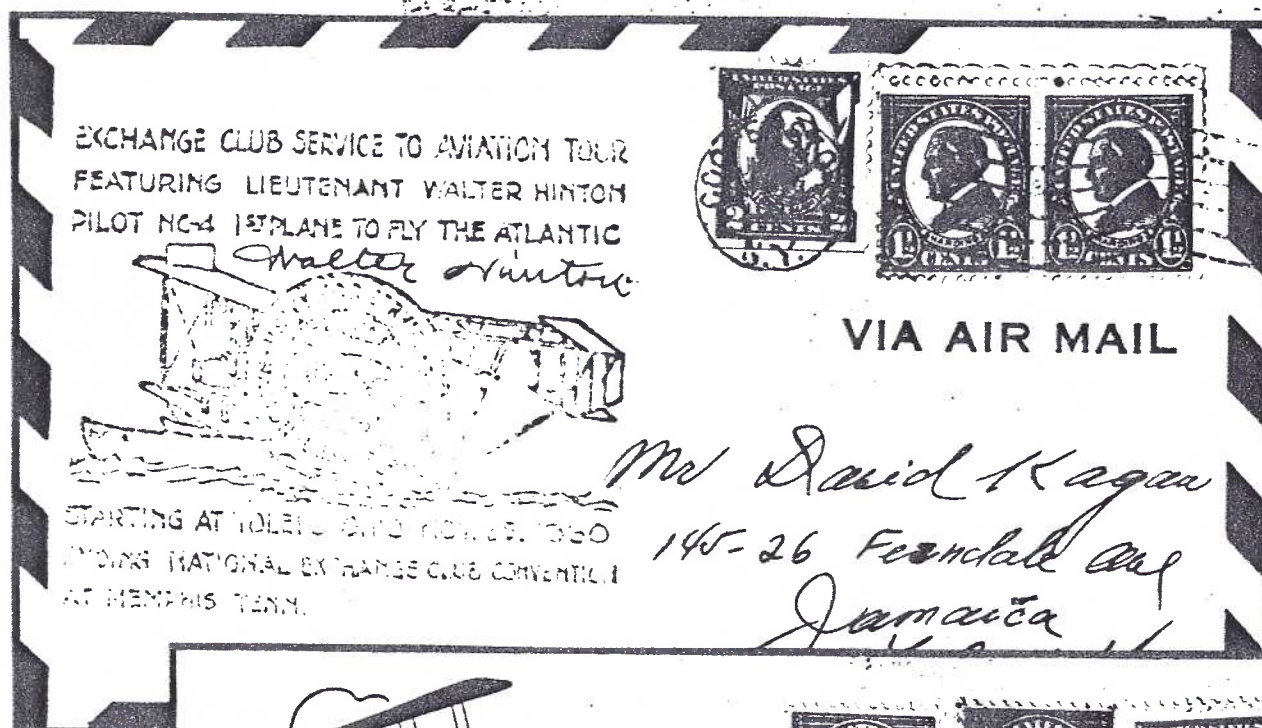
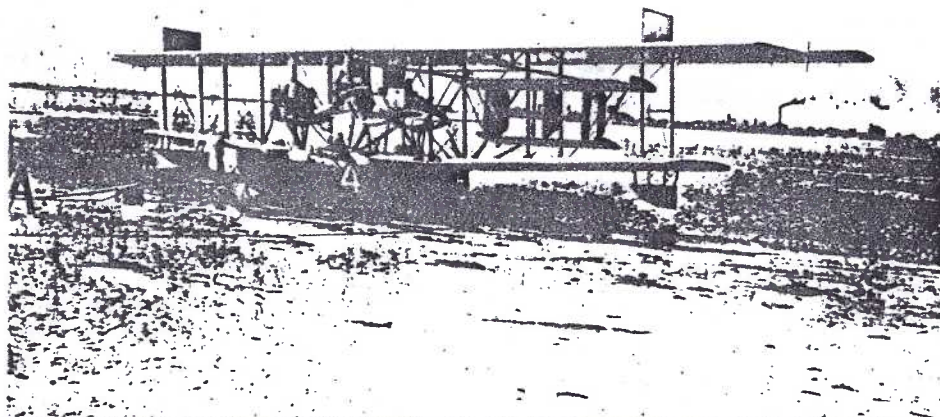
sobri. I thank you

N. Y. 39

Mac.
Came In

Mrs. J. D. Newcomb
1179 - Ellis St.
San Francisco
California

NC-4 at Rockaway Beach
N.A.S. in 1919.



Covers autographed by Walter Hinton on his Exchange Club Tour
around the country in 1930-1931. He was co-pilot of the NC-4 on its 1919 Flight

Shelter Island 26th Nov. 1897.

My Dear Daughter

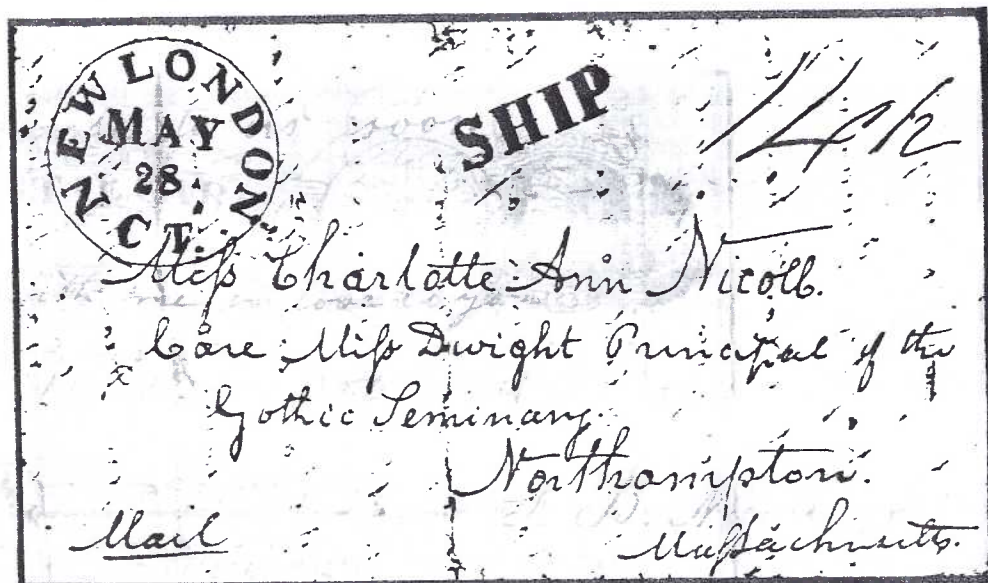
I returned home quite safe and found all well and think we were very fortunate in going to the Harbour on Friday as the next day we had such a dreadful snow storm. I send you over shoes and Aunt Denny's over shoes and a tooth brush of yours, also a pair of stockings of Jane Goodale's which she left here, and the umbrella hope you will get them safe. I found your Aunt Denny's socks very comfortable. I hope this snow storm will not frighten your Aunt from coming on the Island as I think we shall have some pleasant weather after it before the Winter commences. I think your Father will have a cold time of it in the City. I shall look for him home some time this week. I suppose you have finished your aprons, be a good girl and try to improve every day give my love to Sister Denny & Sister Anne and respects to your Uncle Denny. good night my dear Daughter your Brother William deserves his love to you. I send your text book

Your affectionate Mother
Sarah P. Nicoll

(contents of unrated cover on next page)

*Miss Charlotte Ann Nicoll
Sag Harbour
to be left at Mr Derings Store*

EARLY CARRIAGE OF MAILS FROM SHELTER ISLAND (LONG ISLAND) NY - 1837
SFL headed "Shelter island" to Sag Harbor, with address "to be left at Mr. Derings Store" Short content from mother to daughter with family news and advising that she has sent over shoes, stockings, etc. The Shelter Island p.o. was not opened until 1846. The Derings were apparently relatives of the writer, so it's unclear whether this was simply a matter of personal/family convenience or whether Mr. Dering's store served as the local mail depository, a la English coffee houses. The location of the store is also unknown -- whether on Shelter Island, in Sag Harbor or at some other location.



12½¢ letter postage rate plus 2¢ SHIP Fee = 14½¢

Shelter Island May 25th 1837

My Dear Sister

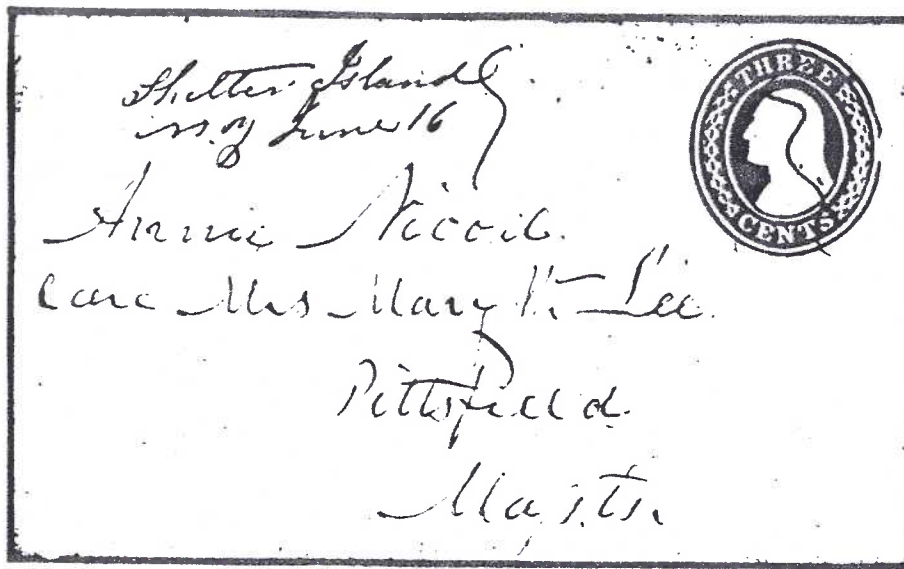
Father and myself ^{arrived} here on
Saturday and found Mother and the babe quite well
and very happy to see us. We left Aunt Gloriana
at Lyme on board of the Leopatria. We staid at
Mr Bucons one night but I did not see him
I hope that you have not been home-sick since we
left you. I believe that there is not any news
excepting that ^{our brother} Saphires Father is dead and that
Lore died on the Eighteenth. I expect that you
will write to us soon.

Father Mother Brother and myself all
unite with me in love to you

From Your affectionate Brother

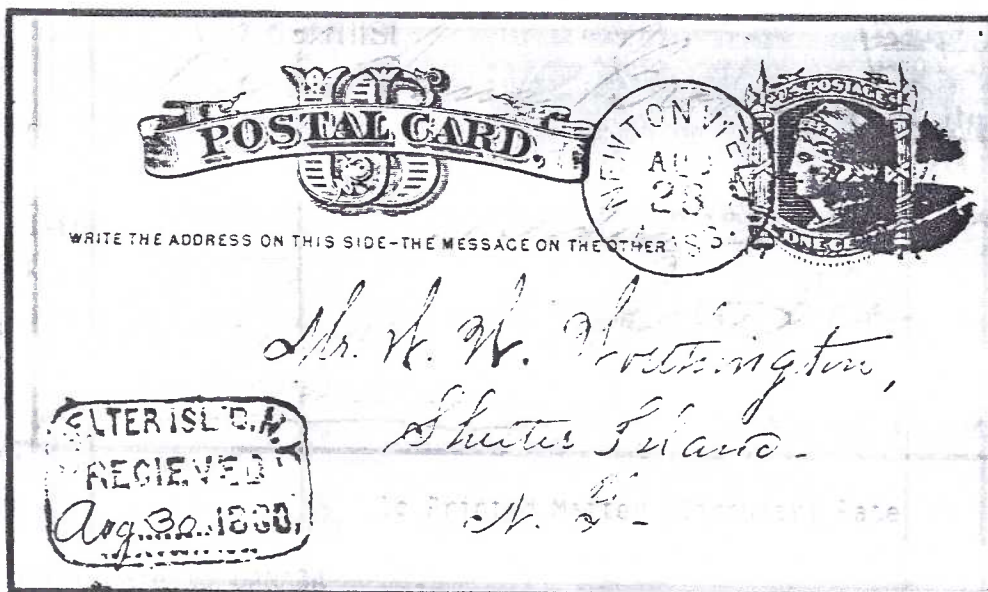
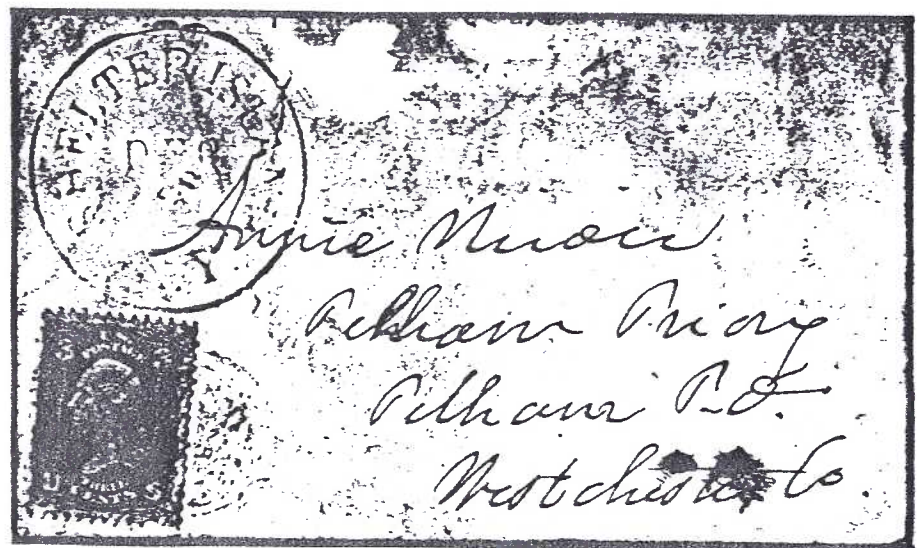
S. B. Nicoll jr

(contents of NEW LONDON - SHIP cover on previous page)

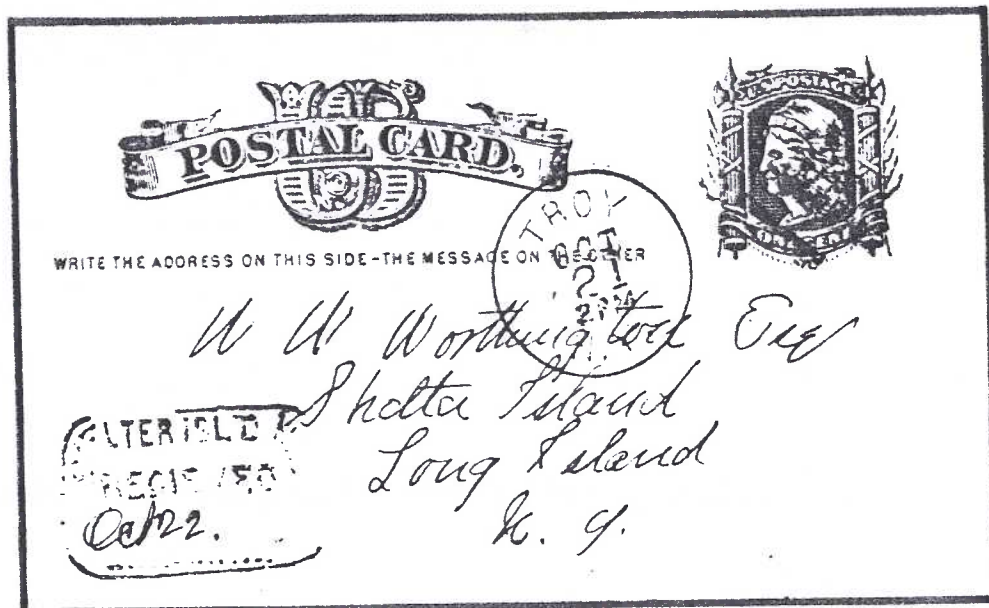


1850s 3¢ Embossed Envelope
Manuscript Town Marking

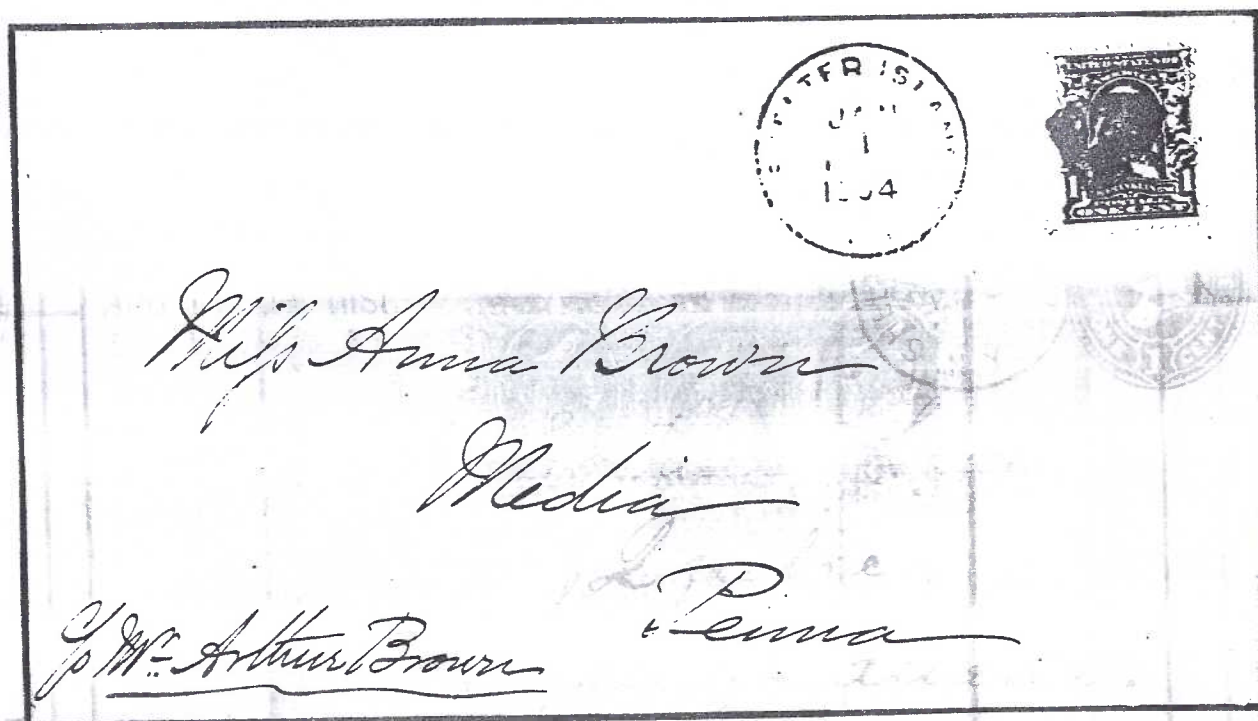
3¢ 1861 Issue
Balloon Postmark



1880 1¢ Postal Card
SHELTER ISLAND NY
RECEIVED
Auxillary Marking



SHELTER ISLAND NY RECEIVED - Auxillary Marking

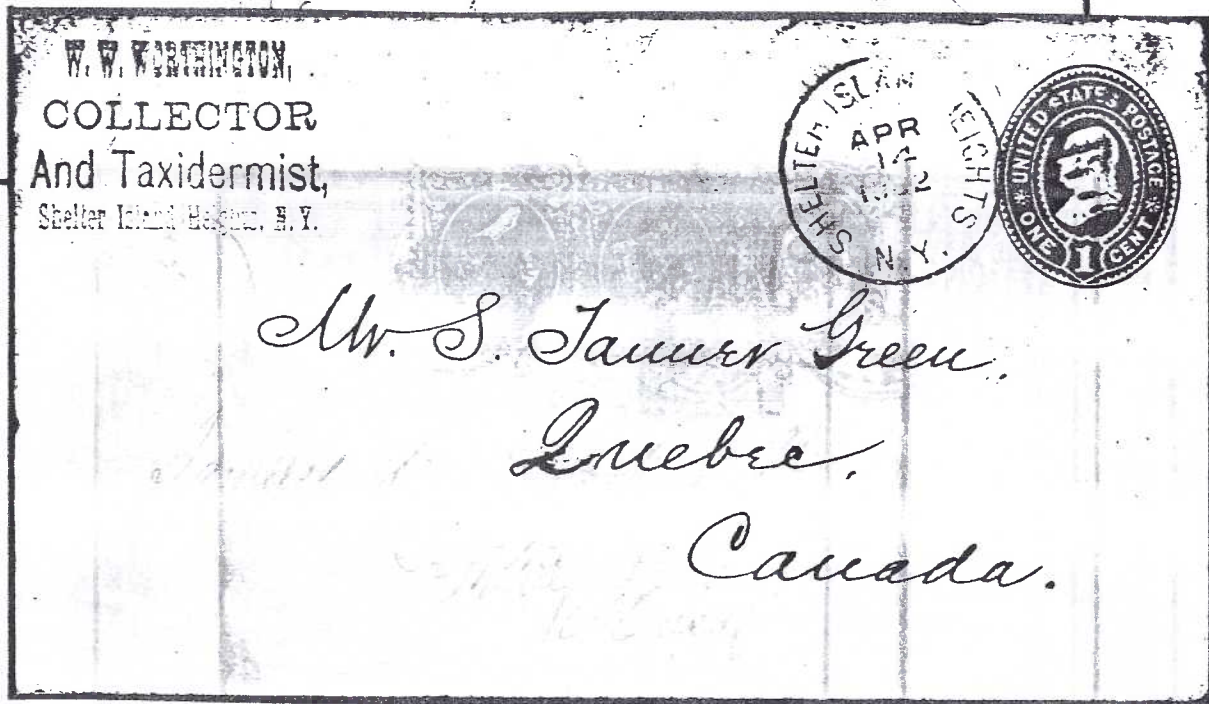
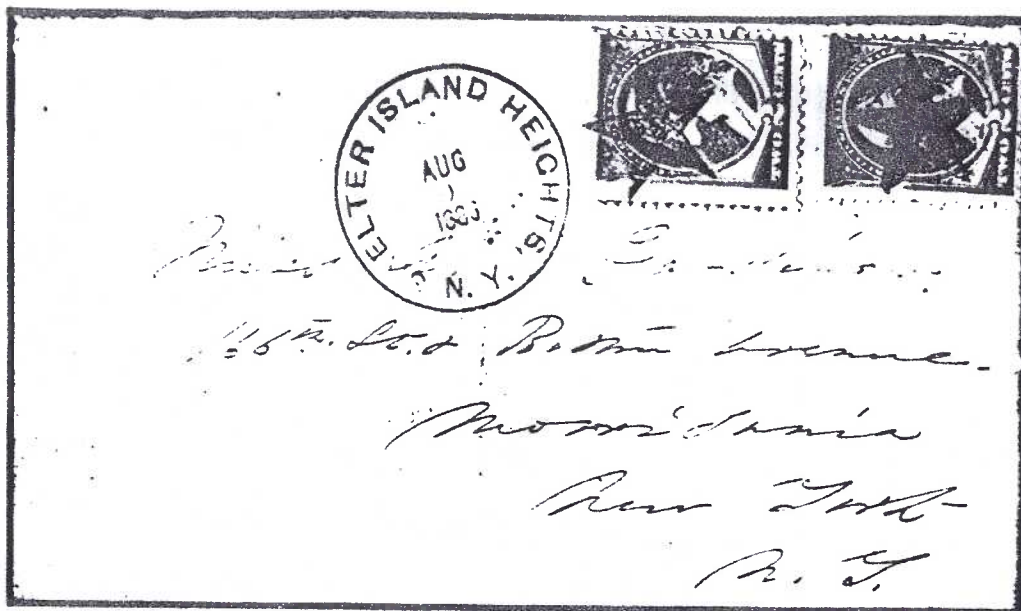


1¢ Printed Matter (Circular) Rate

SHELTER ISLAND
HEIGHTS NY

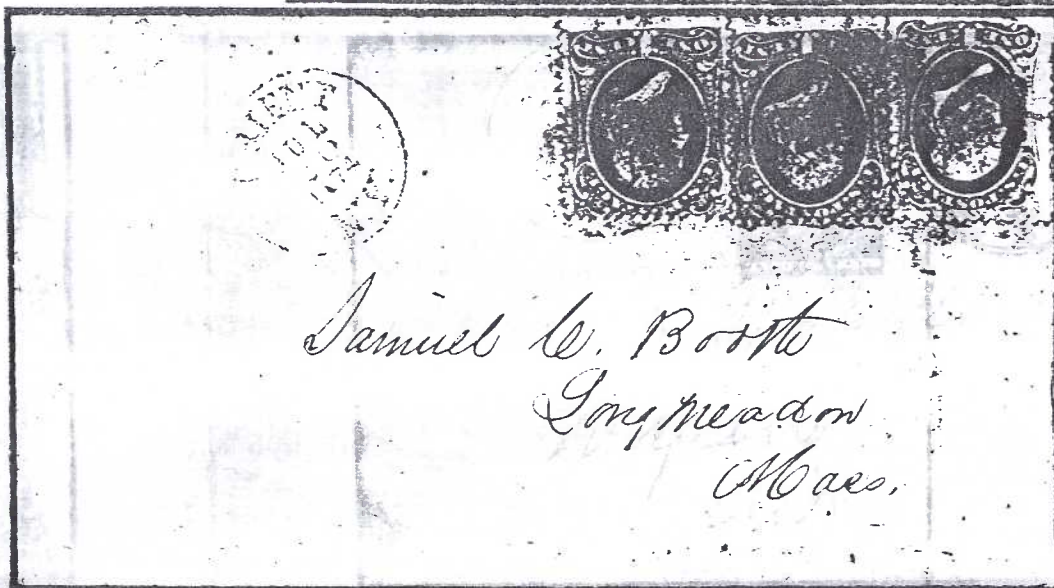
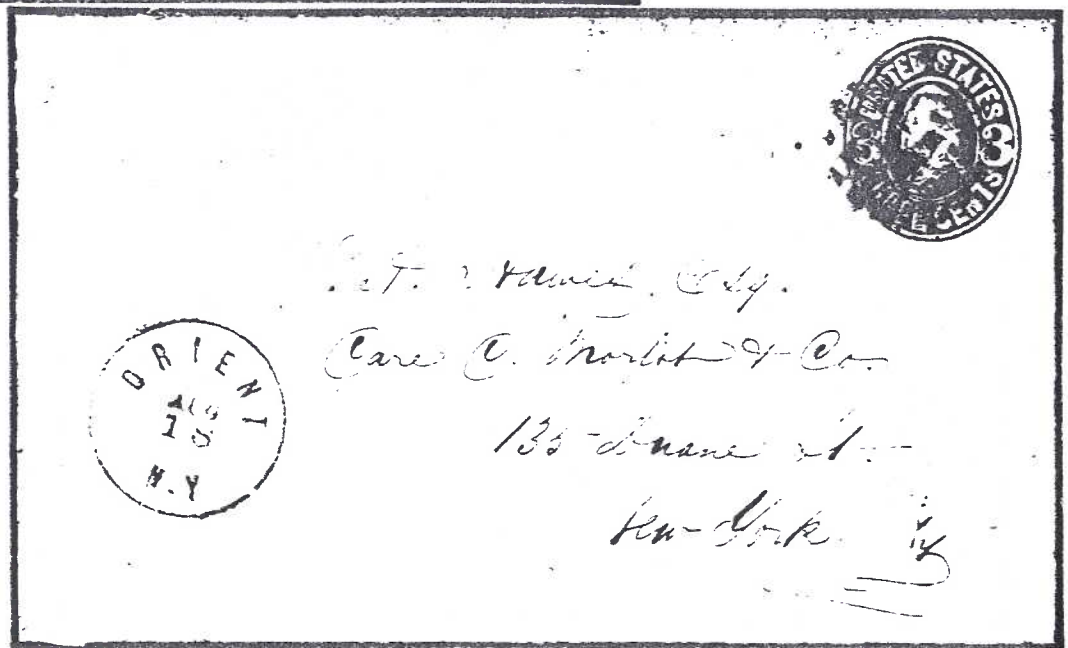
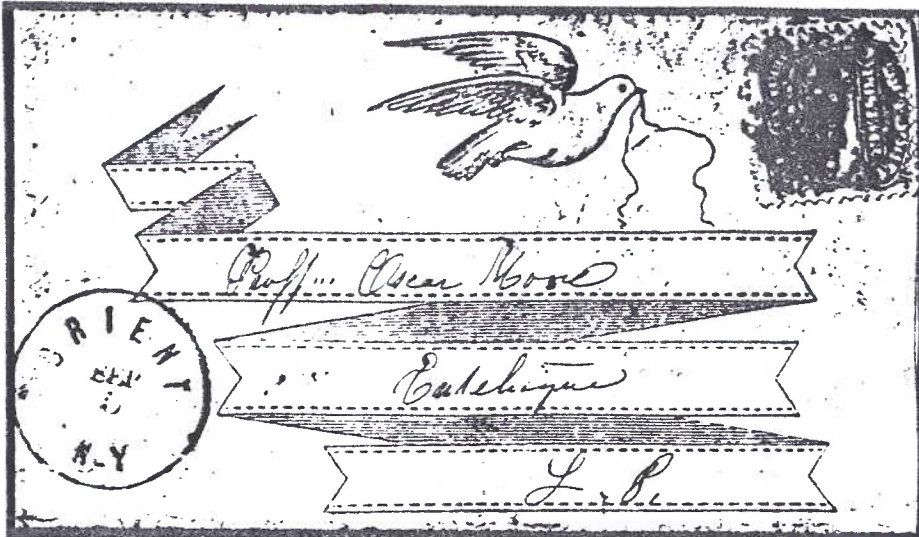
Solid Star
Fancy Cancel

2 x 2¢ double
weight letter

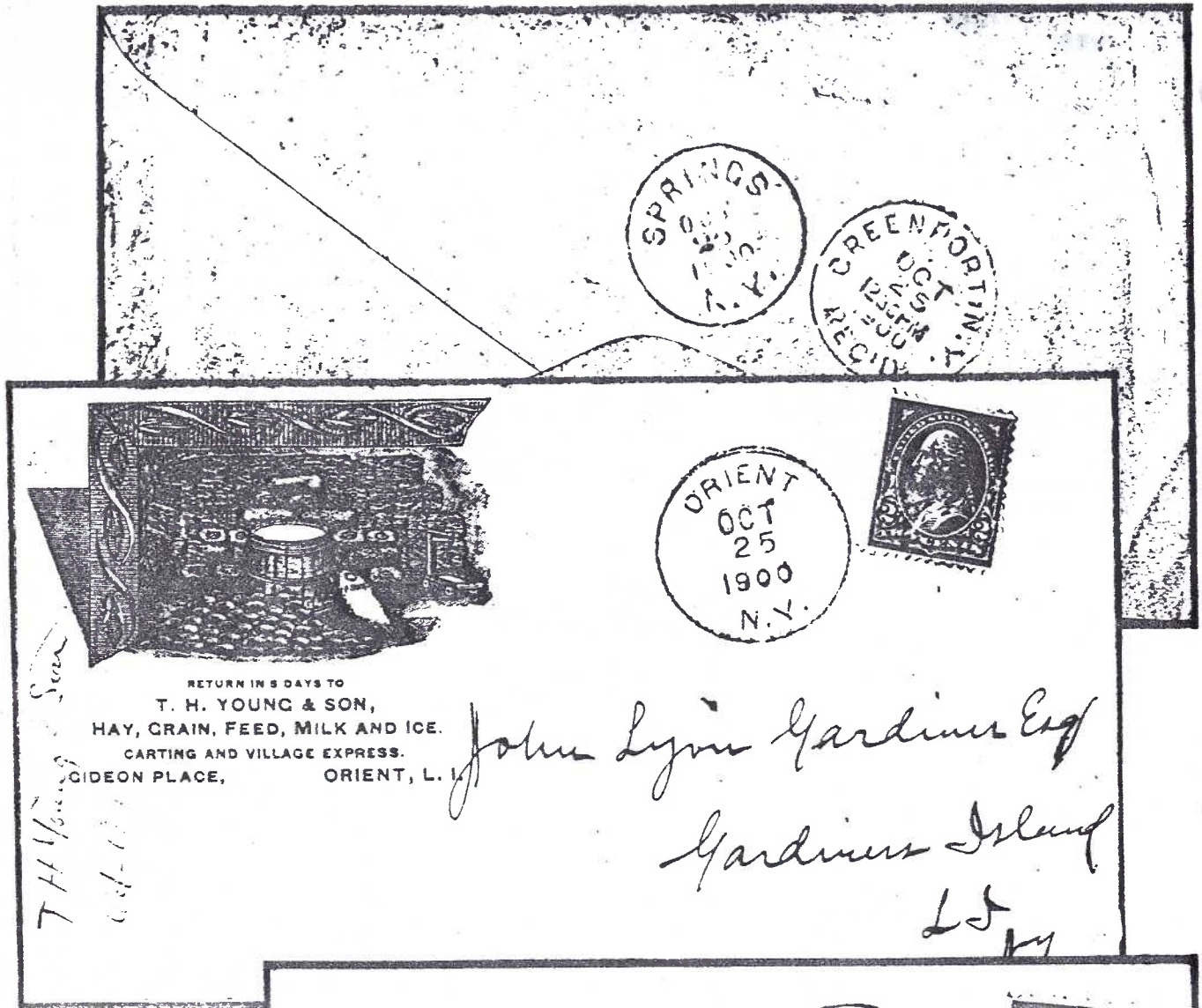


2¢ Letter Rate to CANADA

LIPH
Spring 1999



ORIENT NY
ORIENT POINT NY

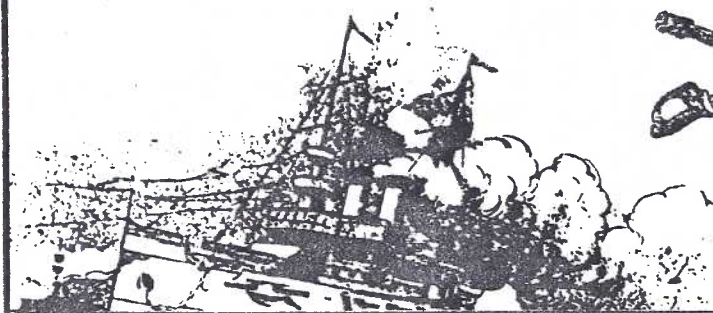


1998 LONG ISLAND PICTORIAL SPECIAL EVENT CANCELLATIONS

By: Brad Arch

Commodore George Dewey's American
naval force destroyed the Spanish
fleet in Manila Bay - May 1, 1898

"You may fire when you are ready,
Gridley"



Remember the Maine
April 22, 1998
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

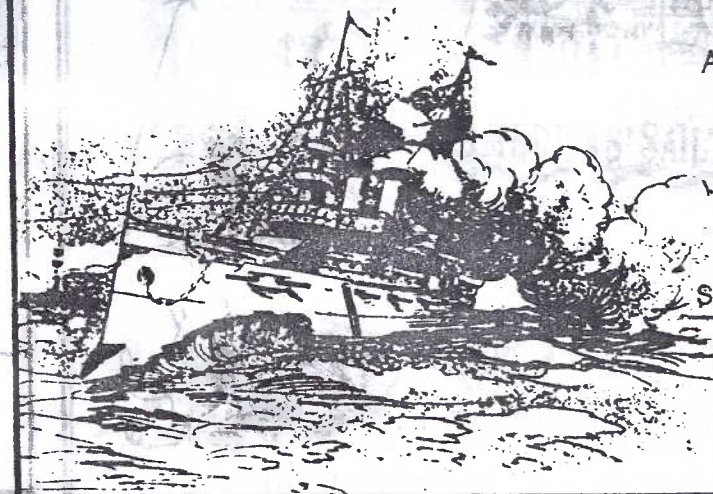


PUT YOUR STAMP
ON HISTORY
1998-1999



U.S. Battleship Maine blew up in
Havana Harbor, killing 260 crew
members - February 15, 1898

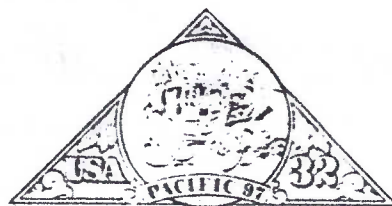
"REMEMBER THE MAINE"



A SALUTE TO THEODORE ROOSEVELT



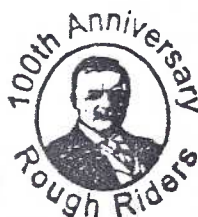
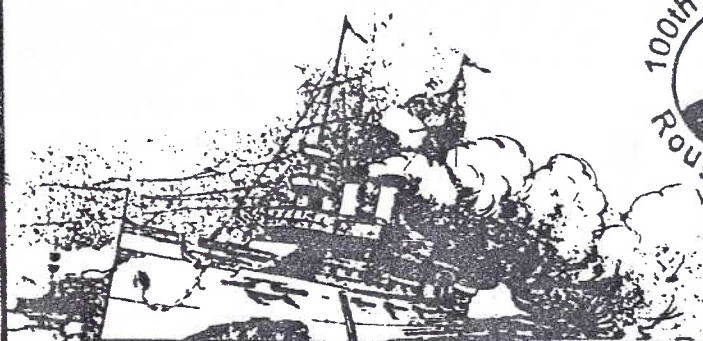
SAGAMORE HILL STATION • MAY 9, 1998
OYSTER BAY • NY • 11771



35016 Anniversary Station
May 25, 1998
Hicksville, NY 11801

U.S. Battleship Maine blew up in
Havana Harbor, killing 260 crew
members - February 15, 1898

"REMEMBER THE MAINE"

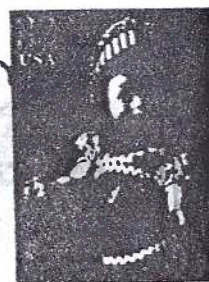


LISDA SPRING 98
ASDA STATION
Bayside NY 11361
May 30, 1998



LICM
Long Island Children's Museum Station

May 30, 1998
Garden City NY
11530



AMERICAN BAIL 98 - GLEN COVE



FESTIVAL DAY



MAY 31, 1998
SMITHTOWN NY 11787

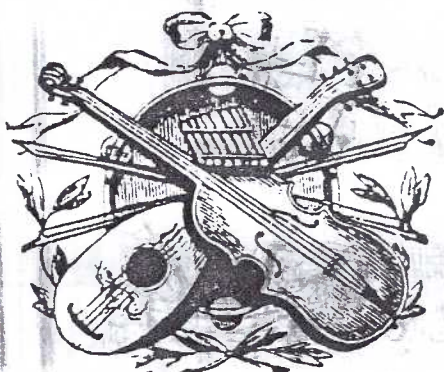


BELMONT STAKES
130th Running

BELMONT STAKES
ELMONT, N.Y. 1
JUNE 6, 1998



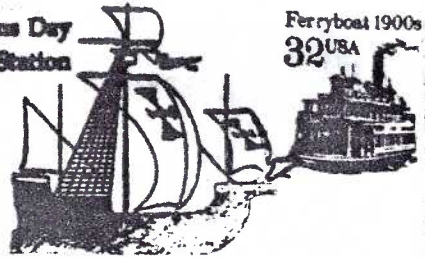
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
STATION
JUNE 19, 1998
MATTITUCK, NY 11952



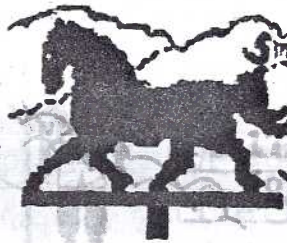
AMERICAS' SAIL '98 - GLEN COVE

Third Annual Columbus Day
Feast and Festival Station

Ferryboat 1900s
32 USA



Mather St. Charles
SOUTH ALLIANCE
VICTORY DAY STATION



Smithtown Stitchers Station
1998 Quilt Show
October 3, 1998
Smithtown, NY 11787





Anniversary Station

1648 - 1998

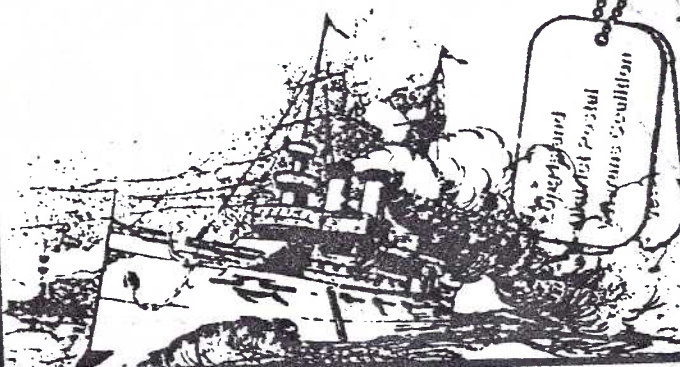
October 10, 1998

East Hampton, NY 11937



U.S. Battleship Maine blew up in
Havana Harbor, killing 260 crew
members - February 15, 1898

"REMEMBER THE MAINE"



Veterans Day Station

Farmingville NY

11738

November 11, 1998

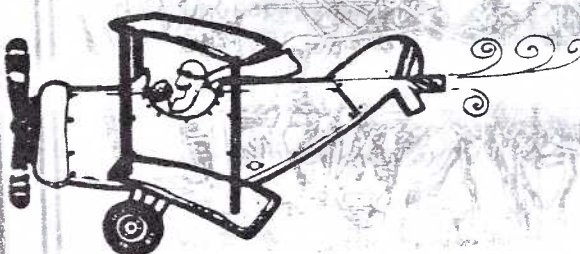
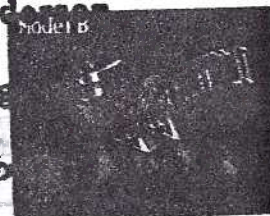
Forsythe & Anderson

Station

Farming

11735

Novemb



CLASSIFIED ADS:

STILL BUYING: all interesting New York stampless covers, with emphasis on War of 1812, Hudson River mail, and Long Island. I have ready cash. Keith Bantz, 222 Artist Lake Drive, Middle Island NY 11953

WANTED: Pre-1900 HICKSVILLE NY covers, send description, no approvals. Robert Boos, 34 Santa Barbara Drive, Plainview NY 11803

WANTED: COW NECK, MANHASSET, PORT WASHINGTON, FLOWER HILL, EAST HAMPTON cards, covers, cancels, documents. Robert E. Juceam, 106 Hemlock Road, Manhasset NY 11030

WANTED: Anything relating to May 15, 1918 First Airmail Flight from/to Belmont Park. Cards, covers, tickets, programs, etc. Send photocopies with asking price. Stephen Reinhard, PO Box 110, Mineola NY 11501

WANTED: Old Historical Letters and correspondences, diaries, journals, ship's logs, paper Americana and ephemera. Top Prices Paid! Instant Check! Phone (516) 367-4030. Fred Schmitt, PO Box 67, Woodbury NY 11797

WANTED: Exhibit grade covers from Staten Island. Send Xerox with price requested. Any time period fine, but must have postal history significance/importance. Martin Margulis, 4159 Steck #113, Austin TX 78759

WANTED: Any Kings County related material - covers, post cards, memorabilia, etc. (718)875-4747. Fred Snitzer, 75 Henry St., Brooklyn NY 11201

GLEN COVER native seeks local covers from 1870 to 1930. Will trade or barter covers from US Classic period for GLEN COVER originals. Please Write. Joseph V. Gallagher, 275 Wolf Hill Road, South Huntington NY 11747

WANTED: Long Island Spanish-American War related covers, etc. Send photocopies, priced. Brian Levy, 1983 Guildford Park Drive, Seaford NY 11783

WANTED: Parcel Post stamps on covers from all locations, especially Long Island and New York City (5 Boros). Steve Rappaport, 57-33 244th Street, Douglaston NY 11362

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