



Figure 1: CSA 9, 10-cent blue T-E-N used with a Lynchburg, Va., postmark and addressed to Thomas A. Hardy.

Thomas Hardy: Forebearer of Military Royalty

By Patricia A. Kaufmann

I don't know why I continue to be amazed when a Civil War cover provides a depth of interest that spans generations and connects the past to the present with such strength. But that is the case with the seemingly ordinary cover shown in Figure 1.

The cover is franked with a CSA 9, 10-cent blue T-E-N¹ tied to the cover by a Lynchburg, Virginia, circular datestamp. It is addressed to "Mr. Thomas A. Hardy/Williamsboro/Granville County/N.C."

Hardy owned Burnside Plantation in Williamsboro. The house and several outbuildings were built in 1760 by Joseph Davenport. It passed through numerous wealthy landowners along with about 2,500 acres before becoming home to Hardy, who purchased it in 1858.²

Thomas Asbury Hardy (1800-1876)

Thomas Hardy was the father and grandfather of two illustrious general officers in the U.S. Army from the Civil War, World War I, and World War II. Those two men also share the distinction of being the first father and son to each be awarded a Medal of Honor: General Arthur MacArthur and his son, Douglas MacArthur.

Hardy is noted in numerous sources as a Virginian, but he was born in Bertie County, North Carolina. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers in North Carolina, first making an appearance about 1695.³

When he was in his mid-to-late 20s (exact dates vary according to sources consulted), he moved to Norfolk and became successful as a cotton and fertilizer broker; he was also owner of a basket and barrel factory. He purchased Riveredge in Berkley, Virginia, in 1847.⁴

Hardy's gravestone at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Norfolk, Virginia, is shown in Figure 2.⁵

Berkley was inhabited by the mid-17th century when the British Crown awarded land grants to the Herbert family. In the 18th century, Berkley developed port facilities and a shipyard on the Elizabeth River across from Norfolk.

During the 19th century, it was the rail terminus for the Norfolk Southern Railway, which extended to Charlotte, North Carolina. The village transformed into a town following the Civil War and was named after Lycurgus Berkley, a local landowner.

In 1906, Berkley was annexed by the city of Norfolk and is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

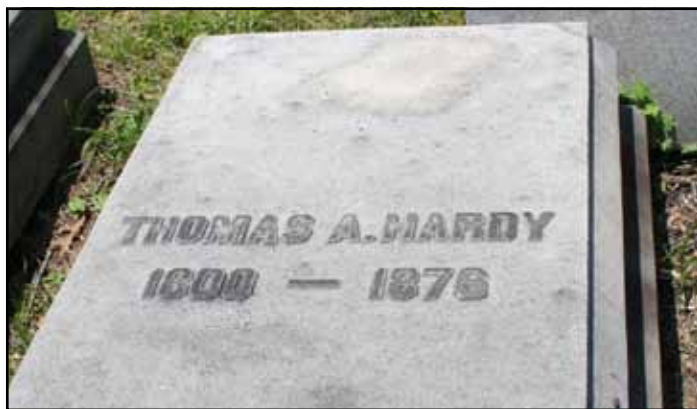


Figure 2: Thomas Asbury Hardy (1800-1876) gravestone in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Norfolk, Virginia.

Both the town of Berkley and Norfolk County are now extinct as jurisdictions.

The Berkley North Historic District can be divided into four sections, the largest of which is known as “Hardyfields,” because it was developed through the subdivision of the Hardy Estate after 1889.⁶

One of Hardyfields’ most unusual components is a small park enclosed by brick walls. It is officially known as the Mary (Pinkney) Hardy MacArthur Memorial (VDHR #122-0098). It marks the former location of Riveredge and the birthplace of “Pinky” Hardy, as she was always known.

She was the wife of Gen. Arthur MacArthur and the mother of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Riveredge was demolished in the 1940s, but the original bricks were saved to build the walls of the memorial.⁷ The home was said to contain at least 20 rooms and a brick tunnel leading from the house to the barn and an escape route down to the river’s edge, where boats were anchored.⁸

Gen. Douglas MacArthur dedicated the site of his mother’s memorial on November 18, 1951. During the day’s festivities, MacArthur stated that he felt that he had finally come home. Remembering this sentiment, in 1960, Mayor Fred Duckworth presented the general with the idea of a creating a museum and repository in Norfolk for the general’s library, papers, and other memorabilia.

Norfolk’s offer of the old City Hall Building (c. 1850) as the site for the proposed MacArthur museum appealed to MacArthur. On the condition that he and his wife, Jean, could be buried in the Rotunda of the museum, MacArthur entered into a partnership with the city of Norfolk. The resulting MacArthur Memorial opened in January 1964.⁹

Mary Pinkney Hardy MacArthur (1852-1935)

Pinky Hardy, shown in her youth in Figure 3, was one of 14 children born to Thomas A. Hardy and his wife, Elizabeth Margaret Pierce.



Figure 3: Mary Pinkney Hardy (MacArthur) as a young woman.

When Federal forces captured Norfolk in 1862, the home was turned into a hospital and Pinky found refuge at one of her father’s plantations in North Carolina.

While attending Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans in the early 1870s (one source says 1872, another 1874 and yet another 1875), she met a young army officer, Arthur MacArthur, Jr. He had joined the army at the age of 17 and fought for the Union during the Civil War.

On May 19, 1875, Pinky married MacArthur at Riveredge. At least four of her brothers had served in the Confederate Army and two were graduates of Virginia Military Institute and had served under Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Thus, they were anything but pleased when their sister married a Yankee. It is said that they refused to attend the wedding.¹⁰

Pinky and Arthur’s first two sons were born at Riveredge, Arthur III, and Malcolm, who died of measles at age four. Their third son, Douglas, was born on January 26, 1880, at Fort Dodge, which is now part of Little Rock, Arkansas, while their father was stationed in the West. As an Army wife who was raised in Southern high society, life on an isolated army post must have been difficult. Although his father was an important figure in his life, Douglas’ mother played an equally significant role. She was a dynamic woman with a strength and toughness apparent to all.

Pinky’s relationship with her youngest son became the dominant factor in the latter half of her life. In 1898, with her husband fighting a war half a world away in the Philippines, Pinky lived near Douglas at West Point, where her prodding and encouragement helped him finish first in his class. Mother and son are shown together at West Point in Figure 4.

Every night at bedtime throughout his childhood, young Douglas heard his mother say, “You must grow up to be a great man—like your father and Robert E. Lee.” She accompanied him during much of his career.¹¹

Mary Pinkney Hardy MacArthur died at age 83 on December 3, 1935, while living with Douglas. She was buried with her husband in Arlington National Cemetery. Douglas was crushed. His aide, Dwight Eisenhower, wrote that her passing “affected the general’s spirit for many months.”

Arthur MacArthur Jr. (1845-1912)

Born on June 2, 1845, in Chicopee, Massachusetts, Arthur MacArthur Jr. and his family moved in 1849 to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the city he would always call home. His father, Arthur MacArthur Sr., was a Scottish immigrant who achieved success as a lawyer, politician and judge. Throughout his life, the senior Arthur would use his political influence to assist his son in his military career.

When the Civil War began, young Arthur was determined to do his part, despite his father’s resistance. Arthur Sr. withheld permission for his son to enlist until he agreed to return to the military academy he had been attending, during which time his father attempted to get him an appointment to West Point.

When told the earliest appointment available would not be until 1863, young Arthur could no longer be denied. The 24th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry was being formed and Judge MacArthur’s influence and a lie about his age combined to obtain Arthur’s appointment as adjutant. His youthful appearance and adolescent mistakes made for a shaky start to his military career.

After early encounters at Perryville, Kentucky, and Murfreesboro, Tennessee, the 24th Wisconsin moved on to Chattanooga. On November 24, 1863, Hooker’s command succeeded in the Battle of Lookout Mountain and prepared to move east toward Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg’s left flank on Missionary Ridge.

Arthur MacArthur, an 18-year-old lieutenant, was at home on sick leave in Milwaukee, and hurried by train to rejoin his unit for the Battle of Missionary Ridge. He spent November 24 at the base of that ridge.

In the afternoon, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant ordered Gen. George H. Thomas’ Army of the Cumberland to move forward to seize the line of Confederate rifle pits on the valley floor, and stop there to await further orders. The siege guns signaled the advance. After moving out, the 24th Wisconsin charged three-quarters of a mile to the base of the ridge, and quickly sent the Confederates from the first line of rifle pits fleeing up the hill.

What happened next has become known as the “Miracle of Missionary Ridge.” After routing the enemy from the first line of defenses, the victorious Union troops were subjected to punishing fire from the Confederate lines up the ridge. Seeing the danger, but unwilling to retreat, Arthur MacArthur led the 24th



Figure 4: Pinky Hardy MacArthur with her son, Douglas MacArthur, a West Point cadet in 1899.

Wisconsin in a charge up the ridge without waiting for orders.

Back on Orchard Knob, an angry Grant wanted to know who had ordered the attack, but it quickly became clear that nobody had issued any such orders. All Grant could do was watch. Using natural cover, regiment by regiment, the Union soldiers advanced.

Halfway up the ridge, the color sergeant faltered. MacArthur grabbed the colors, waved them high, shouted “24th Wisconsin” and led the entire Union line up the hill. Pistol in one hand and flag in the other, MacArthur planted the regimental flag on the crest of Missionary Ridge at a particularly critical moment, shouting, “On Wisconsin!” He was the first Union soldier to reach the top of Missionary Ridge, after an hour of very heavy fighting.

Once on top of the ridge, the 24th Wisconsin was able to seize Confederate guns and use them to fire on the enemy. The Southerners panicked and fled. The Army of the Cumberland’s ascent of Missionary Ridge was one of the war’s most dramatic events.

The regiment’s commander, Major Baumbach, included in his official report of the battle:

Among the many acts of personal intrepidity on that memorable occasion, none are worthy of higher

commendation than that of young MacArthur... who seizing the Colors of his regiment at a critical moment, contributed materially to the general result. He was the most distinguished in action on a field where many in the regiment displayed conspicuous gallantry, worthy of highest praise.

The next dramatic stand for the 24th Wisconsin would be at the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee. Again, MacArthur rose to the occasion. Seven regiments, without orders, drew up into a battle line. MacArthur was in front of them with a pistol in one hand and a saber in the other yelling, "Give them hell, 24th!" The line stopped the Confederate charge, repelled the attackers, and saved the Union Army from disaster.

Before the battle was over, MacArthur would be hit by musket balls just below the left knee and in the shoulder near the clavicle. After two weeks in a Nashville hospital, MacArthur was returned to Milwaukee for further recuperation. He was brevetted to the rank of colonel in the Union Army the following year, and became nationally recognized as "The Boy Colonel" (Figure 5).

After the war ended in 1865, MacArthur resigned his commission and studied law. After just a few months, apparently bored, he resumed his career with the Army. He was recommissioned on February 23, 1866, as a second lieutenant in the regular Army. He was promoted to captain in September that year, and would remain a captain for the following two decades, as promotion was slow in the small peacetime army.

The interwar period was one in which MacArthur was able to effect significant changes in the Army. While serving as the post commander at Fort Selden, New Mexico, in 1866, MacArthur compensated for the absence of a sutler¹² by establishing an enlisted men's canteen, the profits of which were returned to the men in the form of better recreational facilities and lower prices. Other commanders copied the canteen concept, which eventually developed into the modern PX (Post Exchange).

Arthur MacArthur was a lieutenant in the 24th Wisconsin Infantry when he earned the Medal of Honor for his valor in battle at Missionary Ridge. (Figure 6)

The Medal of Honor was issued to him on June 30, 1890, and the citation reads:

Seized the colors of his regiment at a critical moment and planted them on the captured works on the crest of Missionary Ridge.

In January 1900, MacArthur was appointed brigadier general in the regular Army and military governor of the Philippines. However, MacArthur clashed frequently with the civilian governor, William Howard Taft. MacArthur eventually returned to the



Figure 5: Arthur MacArthur, 'The Boy Colonel,' during the Civil War.



Figure 6: The Medal of Honor presented to Arthur MacArthur and his son, Douglas MacArthur.

U.S. and commanded the Department of the Pacific, where he was promoted to lieutenant general. (Figure 7)

With the coming of peace, Gen. MacArthur was approved to take a grand tour of Asia, from November 1905 through June 1906, with his wife and son, Douglas. The general reviewed the military forces of 11 countries, and the family was treated like royalty.

In 1906, the position of Army chief of staff became available. Arthur MacArthur was then the highest-ranking officer in the Army as a lieutenant general (three stars). However, he never realized his dream of commanding the entire Army, passed over in favor of then-Secretary of War William Howard Taft, his nemesis.

In April 1909, Gen. MacArthur was relieved of command of the Department of the Pacific. He retired from the Army on June 2, 1909, the day he turned 64, the mandatory retirement age. He was one of the last officers on active duty in the Army who had served in the Civil War.

MacArthur went home and finally had time to enjoy the social life of Milwaukee. He attended a reunion of his Civil War unit there on September 5, 1912. While addressing the men he had led into battle 50 years before, he suffered a heart attack and died at age 67. He was buried in Milwaukee, but was moved to Arlington National Cemetery in 1926, where he is buried among other members of his family.¹³ Figure 8 shows Arthur and Pinky's tomb.

Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964)

Arthur's son, Douglas MacArthur, became a celebrated American five-star general best known for his command of Allied forces in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

In 1893, the MacArthur family moved to San Antonio, Texas, and Douglas MacArthur attended the West Texas Military Academy, where he showed academic promise. MacArthur graduated first out of more than 90 cadets in the U.S. Military Academy class of 1903. He is shown as a cadet in Figure 9.

At the start of World War I, MacArthur was promoted to major and assigned to what were essentially intelligence and administrative units. However, after the United States declared war on Germany, the 42nd Division, the so-called Rainbow Division, was created. MacArthur was promoted to colonel and put in its command. It was a National Guard unit composed of soldiers from many states. In 1918, he participated in the St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne and Sedan offensives, during which he repeatedly distinguished himself as a capable military leader.

Upon returning from Europe, MacArthur became the superintendent of West Point, a post he held for the

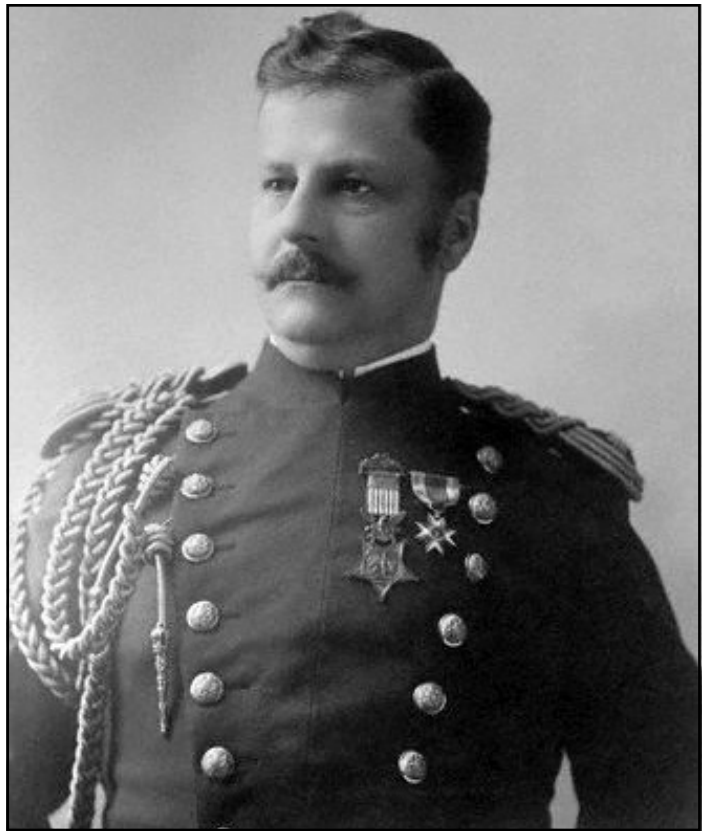


Figure 7: Lt. Gen. Arthur MacArthur



Figure 8: Arthur and Pinky MacArthur's tomb at Arlington National Cemetery.

next three years. During this time, he was promoted to brigadier general.

In 1930, MacArthur was selected as the Army chief of staff. He spoke frequently of what he considered to be the increasingly serious threat of communism, both in the United States and abroad. In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt chose MacArthur as his military adviser to the Philippines and sent him there to establish a defensive military force.

MacArthur was the first and only field marshal in the history of the Philippine Army, conferred August 24, 1936. He supervised the creation of the



Figure 9: Douglas MacArthur as a West Point cadet, number one in his class.

Philippines nation-state. He retired from both the U.S. and Philippine armies in 1937. Although he ceased to represent the United States as military advisor to the government, he remained in the Philippines as President Manuel Quezon's advisor in a civilian capacity.¹⁴

In July 1941, MacArthur was recalled to active duty and became commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific. A Japanese invasion of the Philippines that year drove MacArthur's forces from the country. In the years that followed, MacArthur launched many successful offensive operations against the Japanese military in the region. During this time, he was frequently and openly critical of his superiors' decision to focus military resources on the war in Europe rather than in the Pacific. Figure 10 shows MacArthur in Manila, Philippines.

Although on active duty and prohibited by military regulations, MacArthur did little initially to put down a movement to draft him to be the Republican Party's nominee against Roosevelt in 1944. MacArthur even won the Illinois primary before the party nominated Thomas Dewey.

Four years later, MacArthur again flirted with the presidency, but lost decisively in the Wisconsin primary to Harold Stassen. In 1952, the Republican Party once again bypassed MacArthur, this time for another war hero, Dwight Eisenhower.



Figure 10: Gen. Douglas MacArthur smoking his trademark corncob pipe, August 2, 1945, probably in Manila, Philippines.



Figure 11: Gen. Douglas MacArthur and other U.S. generals October 10, 1944, at Leyte, Philippines.

Figure 11 shows Gen. Douglas MacArthur on October 10, 1944, during the invasion of Leyte, Philippines, accompanied by Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney, Lt. Gen. Richard K. Sutherland and Maj. Gen. Verne D. Mudge, commanding general, First Cavalry Division.

In 1945, at the end of the war, President Harry S. Truman appointed MacArthur Supreme Allied Commander. MacArthur was placed in charge of the formal surrender of Tokyo, and for the next six years, he remained in Japan to command the occupation forces there and to oversee the rebuilding of the country.¹⁵

Figure 12 shows him signing the formal Japanese surrender agreement aboard the battleship USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.

When the North Korean army invaded South Korea in 1950, MacArthur was placed in command of the newly created United Nations forces and quickly drove back the attack. However, he failed to anticipate impending attacks by Chinese forces and was soon forced to retreat.

In the aftermath of this defeat, MacArthur was vocal about his belief that the war should be expanded to include China, despite warnings from President Truman. MacArthur was relieved of his command by Truman in April 1951 for insubordination. Truman favored a more limited war over MacArthur's more aggressive approach and told the country that he fired the general, in part, to prevent a third world war.

Here is the Medal of Honor citation for General Douglas MacArthur, U.S. Army, commanding U.S. Army Forces in the Far East:

For conspicuous leadership in preparing the Philippine Islands to resist conquest, for gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against invading Japanese forces, and for the heroic conduct of defensive and offensive operations on the Bataan Peninsula. He mobilized, trained, and led an army which has received world acclaim for its gallant defense against a tremendous superiority of enemy forces in men and arms. His utter disregard of personal danger under heavy fire and aerial bombardment, his calm judgment in each crisis, inspired his troops, galvanized the spirit of resistance of the Filipino people, and confirmed the faith of the American people in their Armed Forces.¹⁶

To date, the only other father and son to be given this honor are former President Theodore Roosevelt and his son, Theodore Roosevelt Jr. Figure 13 shows the Medal of Honor plaque at the U.S. Military Academy, which honors Douglas MacArthur.

The publicity-conscious general personally fashioned his signature look that included his ornate hat, aviator sunglasses and corncob pipe. A long-time cigarette smoker, MacArthur provided the Missouri Meerschaum Company with precise specifications for the deep-bowled, long-stemmed pipe that he used as a distinctive prop during public appearances.

The outsized pipe was good for show but difficult to smoke, so Missouri Meerschaum gave the general other pipes to use for his pleasure. Missouri Meerschaum continues to craft replicas of MacArthur's customized pipe, and Ray-Ban named a sunglass line after him in 1987.¹⁷

On April 19, 1951, he was interrupted by 50



Figure 12: Gen. Douglas MacArthur signs the formal Japanese surrender instrument as supreme allied commander aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.



Figure 13. Plaque showing the Medal of Honor citation for Gen. Douglas MacArthur for action at Bataan Peninsula, Philippine Islands, on April 1, 1942.

ovations during an address to a joint session of Congress in which he closed with the iconic words: "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away."

MacArthur died on April 5, 1964, and was buried in Norfolk, Virginia. He was honored with a six-cent postage stamp in 1971, shown in Figure 14.

Closing Thoughts

During the Victorian era in which she was raised, women like Pinky MacArthur were more often judged by the achievements of their husbands and sons than by their own accomplishments.

Applying this standard, as the wife of a highly accomplished general and mother of one of the greatest soldiers in American history, she was assuredly one of the most successful women of her day.

Arthur MacArthur Jr. is, today, a largely forgotten man despite his valor as “The Boy Colonel,” as well as a lengthy and devoted military career. For whatever reason, the son’s star shined brighter and longer than his father’s. Nevertheless, much of the story of the American role in the Pacific in the 20th century falls under the shadow of Arthur MacArthur. He never did realize his dream of commanding the entire Army.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur became one of the most highly decorated American soldiers in both world wars. He served as chief of staff of the Army under two presidents. In 1937, he retired only to return to active duty in 1941. During World War II, he served as general of U.S. Army Forces–Far East and was appointed Supreme Allied Commander of the Southwest Pacific Theater, reaching the rank of five-star General of the Army. Douglas MacArthur was the most visible soldier in America. Although he had presidential aspirations, it was not to be.

The MacArthurs, father and son, were both flamboyant, dedicated, influential and ambitious men who both rank as U.S. military royalty.

They were the first father and son ever to each be awarded a Medal of Honor, the highest military distinction. They were both among the highest-ranking general officers of their time. They both engaged in struggles with civilian superiors. Their legacy is one of the most powerful in American military history.

And they sprang from strong guiding stock in Pinky Hardy and her father, Thomas Hardy.



Figure 14: A 1971 U.S. six-cent stamp honoring Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

September 21, 1945. <http://files.usgwarchives.net/nc/bertie/bios/hardy.txt>

Accessed December 7, 2017

3 Ibid

4 MacArthur’s Family Roots, <http://www.macarthurmemorial.org/214/MacArthurs-Family-Roots/> Accessed December 7, 2017

5 Thomas Asbury Hardy. Find A Grave Memorial ID 91539913.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/91539913/> Accessed December 7, 2017

6 *National Register of Historic Places*, United States Department of Interior National Park Service, Virginia Department of Historic Resources File Number 122-0824

7 Ibid

8 Raymond L. Harper, *A History of Chesapeake Virginia*, The History Press, 2008, p. 31.

9 The MacArthur Memorial. <http://www.macarthurmemorial.org/225/Why-Norfolk/> Accessed December 7, 2017

10 Harper

11 Maggie MacLean, “Mary Pinkney Hardy MacArthur,” *Civil War Women*. <https://www.civilwarwomenblog.com/mary-pinkney-hardy-macarthur/> Accessed December 7, 2017

12 A person who followed the army and sold provisions to the soldiers.

13 James M. Gallen, “Lt. Gen Arthur MacArthur,” *The Spanish American War Centennial Website*. <http://www.spanamwar.com/macarthur.html> Accessed December 7, 2017

14 Douglas MacArthur, List of Field Marshals (Philippines), *Wikipedia*. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Field_Marshals_\(Philippines\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Field_Marshals_(Philippines)) Accessed December 8, 2017

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(Patricia (Trish) Kaufmann is a fulltime dealer specializing solely in Confederate States stamps and postal history. She began collecting in the mid 1960s and has been a professional philatelist since 1973. E-mail: trishkauf@comcast.net)

Endnotes

- 1 Patricia A. Kaufmann, Francis J. Crown, Jr., Jerry S. Palazolo, Editors, *Confederate States Catalog and Handbook of Stamps and Postal History*, 2012, Confederate Stamp Alliance.
- 2 John Edward Tyler, “Mother of Gen. MacArthur from Bertie County Stock,” *Bertie Ledger-Advance*,