

Tudor Hall Post Office

Manassas Junction, Prince William County, Virginia

During the spring of 1861 Confederate troops, the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Brig. Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard, considered Bull Run as a suitable area to defend Virginia against U. S. Troops, from Washington D.C. attempting to attack the city of Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate capital.

Tudor Hall, a plantation set up in the early 1800s, was in the vicinity of the junction of the Orange & Alexandria and the Manassas Gap Rail Roads. The actual building of Tudor Hall housed a village store, which by 1861 had a postal facility counter, handling in 1860 a total yearly business of \$47.53.

By 1861 the turnover had increased to \$7,800 for the four months of July to October, and Postmaster George Robinson had ten clerks to handle the mail for the Confederate Armies of the Potomac and the Shenandoah following the Battle of Bull Run, known as the First Manassas in the Southern States.



Wartime map showing position of Tudor Hall at Manassas Station.

POST OFFICES—VIRGINIA.		
co.	Saint Marys (c h)	Prince William co.
ille	Willow Island	Brentsville (c h)
le	Pocahontas co.	Bristoe Station
Shop	Academy	Buckland
ove	Big Spring	Dumfries
un Sta-	Dunmore	Evansport
Ford	Edray	Gainesville
h)	Frost	Groveton
rings	Green Bank	Haymarket
le	Huntersville (c h)	Independent Hill
co.	Marlin Bottom	Landsdown
at	Mill Point	Maple Valley
ty	Mount Murphy	Neabsco Mills
	Oldfield Fork of Elk	Ocoquan
	Sunset	Thoroughfare
	Thorny Creek	<u>Tudor Hall</u>
	Traveller's Repose	Pulaski co.
	Powhatan co.	Draper's Valley
		Dublin

Section of 1860 U.S.A. Postal Guide
Tudor Hall not shown in 1850 Edition.

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

Brig. Gen. Pierre G. T. Beauregard

Commander of the Confederate Army of the Potomac

Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard (1818 - 1893) was born outside of New Orleans, serving in the Mexican War prior to being appointed brigadier general at the outbreak of the Civil War by the Confederate government.

Beauregard took command during the firing upon Fort Sumter, in the bay at Charleston, South Carolina in April 1861, the first shots of the War, and was hailed as the South's greatest hero. Upon arriving at Manassas Junction Beauregard was promoted to General and organised the Confederate defence of the suspected U.S. route to Richmond, Virginia.



Pre-war Carde-de-Visite
Gen. Pierre G. T. Beauregard
in U.S. Army Uniform

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

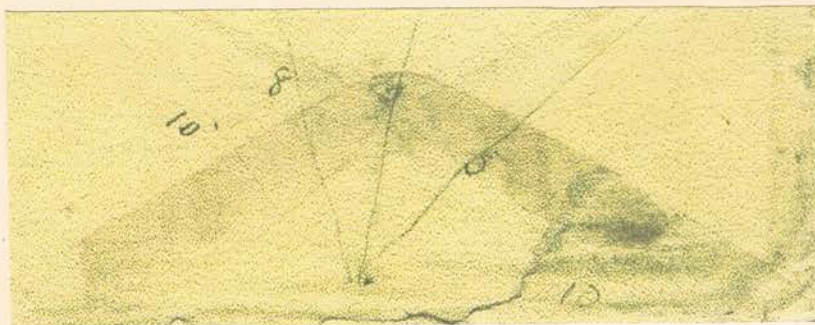
**Arrival of letter to Aide-de-Camp of General Beauregard
at Manassas Station, Virginia**

General Beauregard arrived at Manassas Station area with the Confederate Army of the Potomac early in June 1861, to command the forces in defence of the route to Richmond from the U.S. attacking army descending from the Federal Capital of Washington, some 25 miles away.



RICHMOND Va. [JUN] 30 1861 (Month confirmed by docketing) -"PAID 5"

Addressed to Hon. J. L. Manning, Aid to General Beauregard.



It is considered by some that the pencil diagrams on both sides of this cover have some relationship to the placement of artillery in the forthcoming battle of July 21st, 1861.

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

**Following Confederate victory at Manassas Junction
Soldier's Handstamped "PAID" letter sent from Tudor Hall**

The Battle of Bull Run, known as "First Manassas" in the South, was the first victory on July 21st, 1861, for the Confederates. It has been thought of as the last of the type of battles where two armies were ranged against each other on a vast open area in the history of warfare.

There were about 30,000 Union troops who were beaten by the South's 32,000, composed of Beauregard's Army of the Potomac, joined later in the day by General Joseph Johnston's Army of the Shenandoah.

The resultant collection of Confederate troops left in the Manassas area was a large volume of business for the expanded Tudor Hall post office.



TUDOR HALL VA. OCT 2 [1861] - Handstamped "PAID 5"

Mrs. A. K. Simonton
Statesville
Ireland Co.
N. C.

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

**Handstamped "PAID" double rate of Ten Cents
for distances over five hundred miles**

When the newly formed Confederate Post Office took over the postal system in the Southern States on June 1st, 1861, the single letter rate was raised from the U.S. rate of Three Cents to the new Confederate rate of Five Cents, with letters sent on distances of 500 miles or over at Ten Cents.

As it became obvious that it would be some months before official adhesive stamps would be available, the "Handstamped Paids" would be a way of life to Confederate letter writers, including Southern soldiers.

PAID 10



TUDOR HALL VA. SEP 6 [1861] - Handstamped "PAID 10"

*Mrs. Susan Allen
Antioch P.O.
Troup Co.
Ga.*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Due Markings for Officers and Soldiers

First manuscript "Due" marking on Tudor Hall mail - *Italic "5"*

The postal instruction of prepayment was a considerable hardship for troops at Manassas, particularly so, as they had not been paid for a long period.

On July 29th, 1861, the Confederate Congress authorized officers and soldiers to send their mail without prepayment, the postage being collected from the addressees at the time of collection.

Such "Soldier's Due" letters were to be marked with the amount Due and to be endorsed with the name, rank and the regiment of the sender. The first marking at the Tudor Hall Office was a manuscript italicic "5" without the word "Due". The earliest recorded date of this use is August 20th 1861.



TUDOR HALL VA. AUG 27 1861

Early example of First Type of Tudor Hall "Due" Marking
Endorsed "J. B. Griffin Lt. Col. Hamptons Legion SCV"

Note on reverse of envelope

*"Mrs Griffin you will please send me the postage
on this letter. - J. S. Adams P. M. Dorns Mill S.C."*

*Mrs J. B. Griffin
Edgefield CH
SC*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

**Due Marking for Officers and Soldiers
on Mail to be sent distances of over 500 miles**

As well as the first manuscript "5" a handstamped italic "10" was used on letters to be sent over 500 miles. In some cases a manuscript "*Due*" was added, in other cases the word "*Due*" was omitted.

On these "Soldier's Letters" the sender was required to endorse the top of the envelope with his name, rank and regiment.

10



**TUDOR HALL VA. OCT 29 1861 - ms. "*Due*"
and Handstamped "10"**

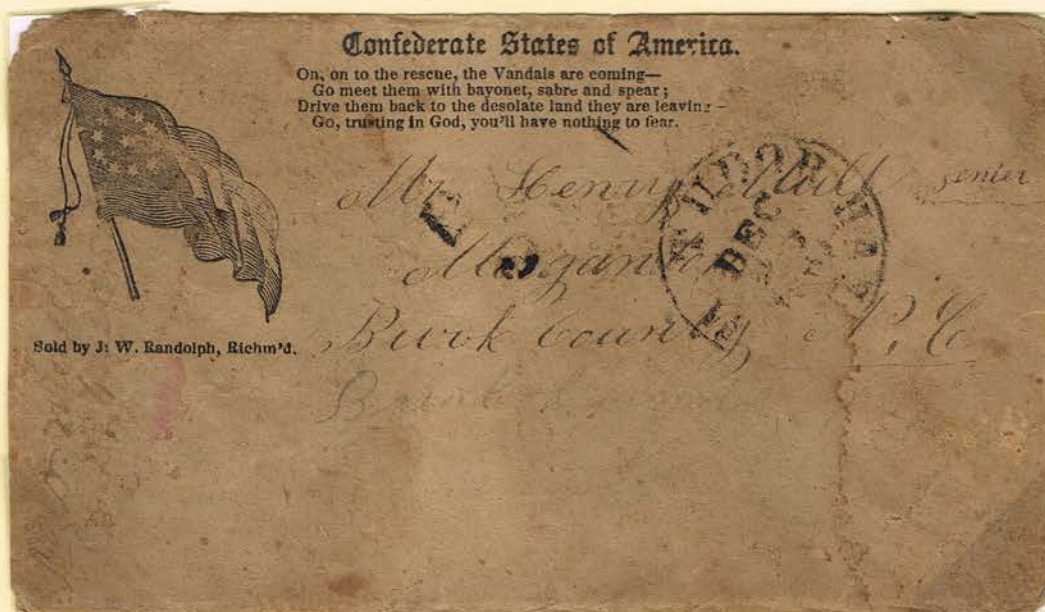
Endorsed "From Sergt W. T. Field of Co H 4th Regt S.C.V."

*Mrs W. T. Field
Pichersville
S. C.*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Due Markings for Officers and Soldiers

“DUE 5” handstamp supplied for letters under 500 miles

A “DUE 5” handstamp was received at Tudor Hall in early August, 1861. This example on a war-worn Patriotic Cover was posted much later, the date being on Christmas Day - 25th December, 1861, some two months after the first supplies were received at Tudor Hall of the official Five Cents, Green Lithographed adhesives.



TUDOR HALL VA. DEC 25 1861 - “DUE 5” - Patriotic Cover F11 - 16
Endorsed “Pvt D. Mull - Co D - NC 6th Infantry”

Mr. Henry Mull, Senior
Morganton
Burke[e] County
N. C.

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Due Markings for Soldiers and Officers

“DUE 10” handstamp supplied for letters over 500 miles

A “DUE 10” handstamp was received at Tudor Hall in early November, 1861, of a similar design to that supplied for single letters sent under a distance of 500 miles, this particular “DUE” marking being used on letters of 500 miles or more, or over weight.

This cover bears the Type Two c.d.s. for Tudor Hall with the “VA.” State abbreviation shown as



TUDOR HALL V^a JAN 26 1862 - “DUE 10”
Endorsed “From T Inglet - Company B - 28 Regt Geor vol”

To Mrs Martha Inglet
Berzelia
Columbia County
Geor

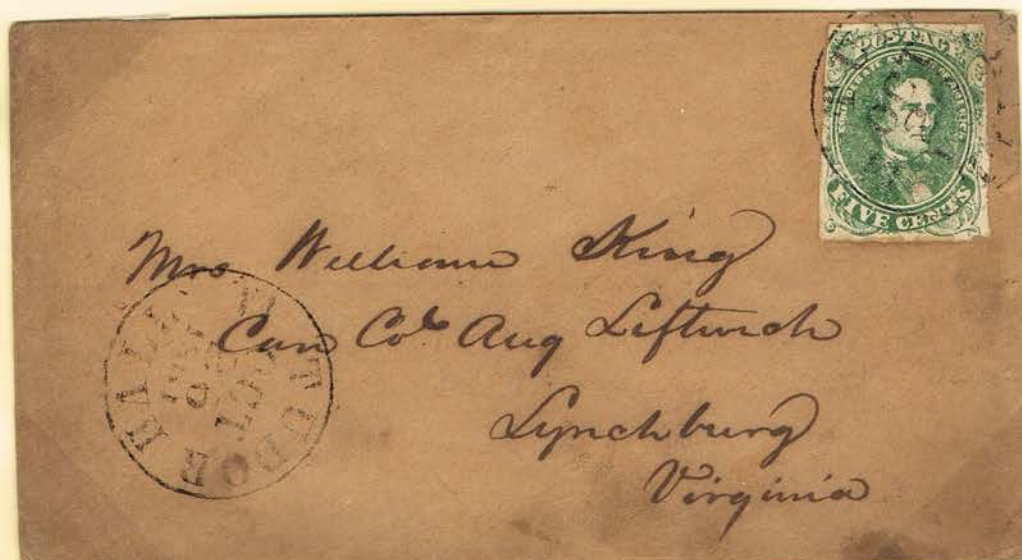
Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

Use of Official C. S. A. Lithographed Adhesive Stamps

Five Cents Green Lithographed Adhesive

The Five Cents Green Lithographed Issue was printed by Hoyer & Ludwig of Richmond, Virginia, in late 1861. The earliest recorded use is October 16th, 1861, and the earliest recorded use from Tudor Hall is October 23rd, 1861, making this example, dated October 26th, 1861, an early date of use from Tudor Hall.

These stamps were initially supplied to large C.S.A. post offices and army camps with postal facilities, some smaller offices did not receive supplies before the start of 1862.



TUDOR HALL VA. OCT 26 1861 - 5 Cents Green - Catalogue CSA 1

*Mrs. William King
Care Col Aug Leftwich
Lynchburg
Virginia*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Use of Official C. S. A. Lithographed Adhesive Stamps

Pair of Five Cents Green Lithographed Adhesives

For distances over 500 miles the C.S.A. postal rate was doubled, as this example, to South Carolina. The date of use of this pair is October 28th, 1861, five days after the first use of this adhesive at Tudor Hall.



TUDOR HALL VA. OCT 28 1861 - 5 Cents Green Horizontal Pair
Catalogue CS 1

Mrs Pauline Harden
Chester C H
S C

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

Use of Confederate Patriotic Cover sent by Soldier

Twelve Star Flag over Firing Cannon

Confederate States of America Patriotic Covers are very popular amongst collectors of the field of of Confederate Philately. The North, even before the start of the War, were printing many thousands of different designs, both in colour and in black only.

Less than 200 basic Confederate designs are known, usually showing the "Stars and Bars" flag with the Stars denoting the number of states within the Confederacy at the time of printing the envelope.



TUDOR HALL VA. DEC 18 1861 - 5 Cents Green - Catalogue CSA 1
Patriotic Cover - CN - 3 "God and our rights."

*Mrs. D. E. Hutchison
Charlotte
N. Carolina*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

Use of Official C. S. A. Lithographed Adhesive Stamp

Unofficial use of Official Post Office Department envelope

Despite the large volume of mail sent from Tudor Hall, following the first battle at Manassas, bearing the postmark of that post office, letters and other mail was in most cases addressed to Manassas or Manassas Junction.

This letter, sent unofficially with the adhesive partly obscuring "Official Business" was addressed to "*Tudor Hall*", as sent by an employee in the C.S.A. Post Office Department, who would know the correct office name.



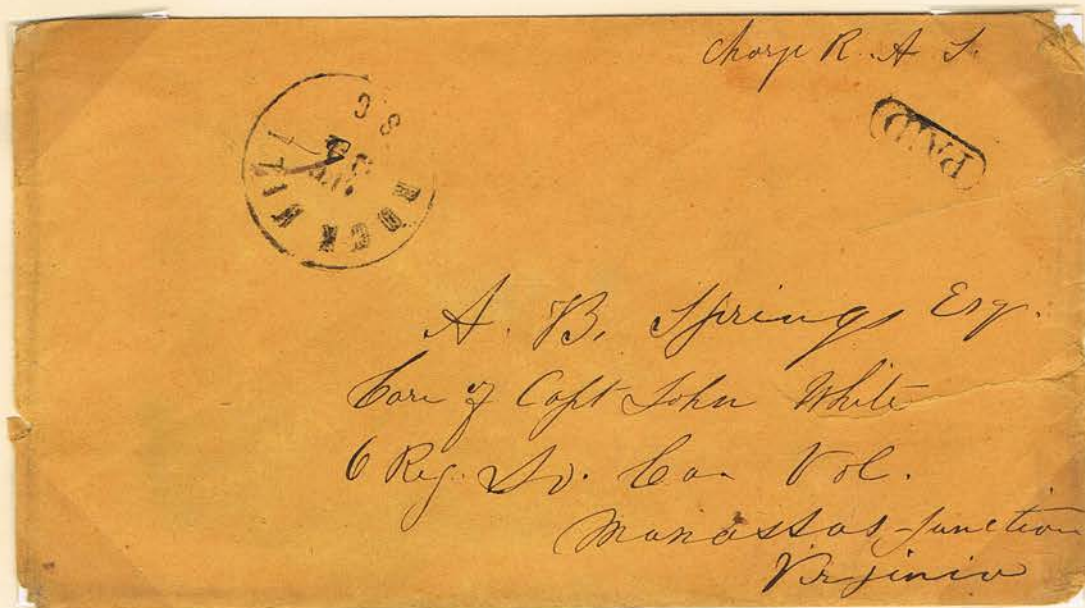
TUDOR HALL VA. JAN 8 [1862] - 5 Cents Green - Catalogue CSA 1

Cap. C. D. Clarke
Quarter Masters Office
Tudor Hall
Va.

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Incomming Letter addressed to Manassas Junction

Handstamped "PAID"

As mentioned earlier most mail sent to the thousands of soldiers encamped around the Manassas Junction area was addressed to **Manassas Junction** or just **Manassas**, despite all letters leaving the area had been postmarked with the **Tudor Hall** circular date stamp. The name **Tudor Hall** was only used mainly on letters to the Post Office by the C.S.A. Postal Authorities.



ROCK HILL S.C. AUG 24 [1861]
Manuscript "5" under c.d.s. - Handstamp "PAID"

*A. B. Springs
Care of Capt John White
6 Reg. So. Ca. Vol.
Manassas Junction
Virginia*

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia
Use of Official C. S. A. Lithographed Adhesive Stamp

Ten Cents Blue Lithographed Adhesive

The Ten Cents C.S.A. Blue adhesive, bearing a portrait of Thomas Jefferson, lithographed printed by Hoyer & Ludwig in Richmond, Virginia, was first available on November 8th, 1861. The earliest recorded use from Tudor Hall is November 23rd, 1861.

The Ten Cents was issued basically to pay the Ten Cents rate for mail sent over 500 miles, as this example sent to Alabama.



TUDOR HALL VA. DEC 13 1861 - 10 Cents Blue - Catalogue CSA 2-H

Mrs E. C. Steele
North Port
Alabama

Tudor Hall Post Office, Manassas Junction, Virginia

**Penultimate Day of the Tudor Hall Post Office at Manassas
Friday, March 7th, 1862**

The Confederate Post Office of Tudor Hall was abandoned late in the day of Saturday, March 8th, 1862, Postmaster Robinson transferring undelivered mail and other post office items to the Confederate post office at the town of Gordonsville, Virginia.

In their advance upon Richmond, Virginia, the Confederate Capital, the U.S. Postal Authorities took over Tudor Hall, renaming it **Manassas**, the name the office retained after the war.



TUDOR HALL V^a MAR 7 1862 - Pair of Five Cents Green - CSA 1

Mrs E. C. Steele

North Point

Alabama

Camps Near Lewis House on Bull Run Va
March 2nd 1862

*My Dear Ellen I am entirely at leisure to night
and thought I would write you a short letter
although I have no news here to write to you
we are still making preparations for a visit of
the Yankees under Mister McClelland in the*