

Census of Christiansburg, VA, Provisionals

Compiled by Francis J. Crown, Jr.

Markings



E01 / E02 / E03



E04 / E0x

The Christiansburg Provisionals

The Christiansburg provisionals were typeset with the central portion of the design containing "PAID" and the value surrounded by a serrated oval border. The typeset markings were impressed on envelopes for use as postal stationery. The design is similar to that used for the Abingdon, Virginia, provisionals.

The blue color of the Christiansburg markings varies from a light blue to a dark blue that can easily be interpreted as black. For that reason, the color of individual provisionals in this census are based on source and authentication descriptions. **Colors of images in this census may not correspond to the color description of the item.**

Caution: From the 2012 Confederate Catalog. The lack of any recorded stampless markings from Christiansburg may be evidence these markings were also used as stampless markings. Stampless uses cannot be readily distinguished from provisional uses. Each example must be considered on its own merits.

NOTE: The inclusion of an item in this census is not a guarantee of authenticity.

Description and Count

Provisional	CSA Cat No	Scott Cat No	Covers
5c black	CHR-VA-E01	99XU1	-- ¹
5c blue (shades)	CHR-VA-E02	99XU2	17
5c green	CHR-VA-E03	99XU4	1
10c blue	CHR-VA-E04	99XU5	-- ¹
10c black	CHR-VA-E0X	---	1

1. Legacy listing.

Notes for the Collector

The Fake Christiansburg Provisional



The provisional marking on this cover was cut from an authentic provisional envelope and pasted on this envelope. The tying postmark is fake. (Philatelic Foundation certificate 0151844).

The differences between the authentic and fake postmark can be seen in the images below. The fake postmark is identified by the “A” in “VA.” being wider than the authentic. The “G” in “CHRISTIANSBURG” has no spur on the fake, while the authentic has a spur.



Genuine



Fake

Postmark

Although the postmark found on all the provisionals is spelled “Christiansburgh” the town name is actually “Christiansburg,” no “h” on the end.

Legacy listings

The 5c black and 10c blue are legacy listings in the 2012 CSA Catalog. Neither was found during the preparation of this census. It is possible the 5c black is actually blue and the 10c blue actually black. Black and blue can be misidentified in less than optimum light. This is particularly true in the case of dark blue.

The Calhoun census (see references) contains one 5c cover listed as black. It is dated 24 Aug 1861 addressed to Mrs. R. Wm H. Dennis, Big Lick, VA. This listing has not been verified.

Reference

Calhoun, Richard L., *The Confederate Postmaster Provisionals of Virginia* (Gloucester, VA: Virginia Postal History Society, 2011), 13-15.

Full Census Christiansburg, VA, Provisional Covers

Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

11 Jul [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

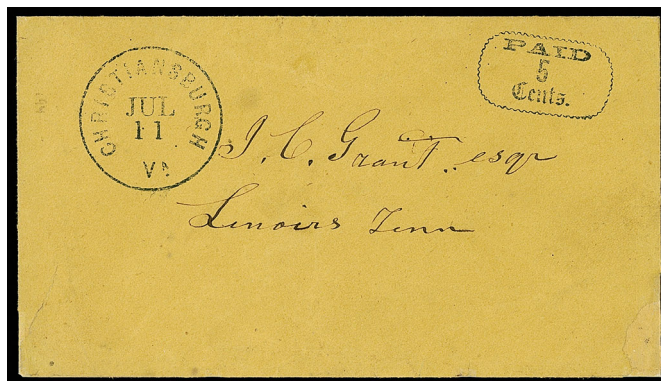
Address: J. C. Grant esqr / Lenoirs Tenn

Provenance: None recorded.

References: RAS-26Mar2026(1373)-3223*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [019]



18 Jul [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

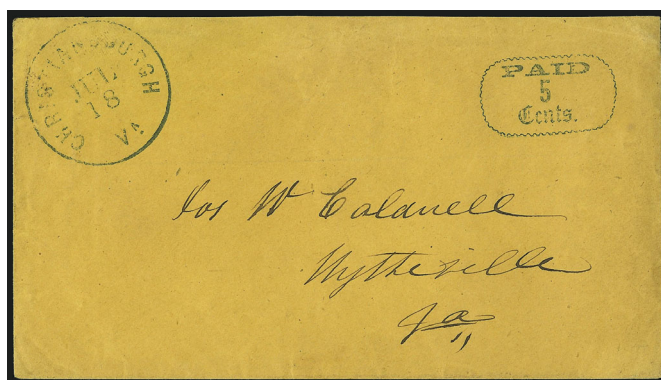
Address: Jos W Caldwell / Wytheville / Va.

Provenance: Brandon

References: RAS-24Jun2014(1073)-222*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [009]



20 Jul [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

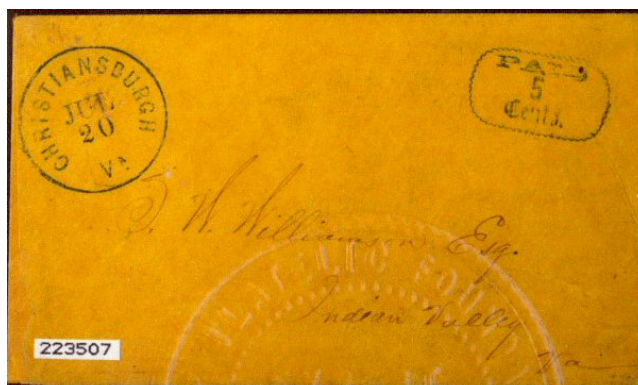
Address: S. W. Williamson Esq / Indian Valley / Va

Provenance: Weill Brothers

References: CHR-18Oct1989-1106

Cert: PF-223507*

Image: Philatelic Foundation [002]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

21 Jul [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

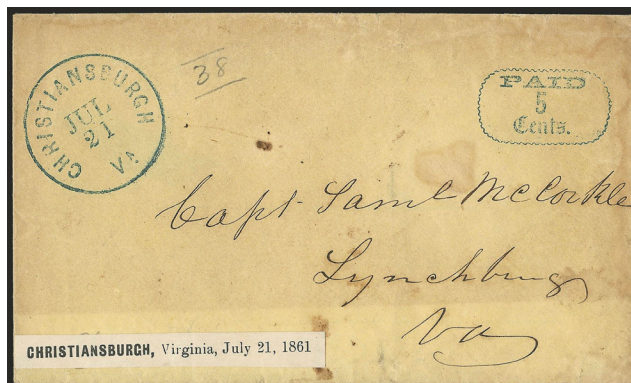
Address: Capt Saml McCorkle / Lynchburg / Va

Provenance: Adutt, Hall

References: RAS-17Dec1991(840)-52*; RAS-25Apr2007(933)-915*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [001]



13 Aug [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Mrs Esther B. Matthews / Lacey's Spring / Rockingham Co / Va.

Provenance: Brugh, Hill, Haub

References: JWK-7Sep1979(55)-89; HRH-21Jun2023-116*

Cert: None

Image: H R Harmer Auctions [015]



15 Aug [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Clark & Holt / Lynchburg

Provenance: Adutt, Hall

References: LONDON-Jul1922(31:367)-Plate 3 [4]; RAS-17Dec2001(840)-53*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [003]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

12 Sep [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Mrs M. M Grant / Lenoirs Roane County / East Tennessee

Provenance: Agree

References: RAS-25Sep2002(850)-5678; CG-13Jun2016(34)-864*

Cert: PF-44733

Image: Christoph Gartner Auctions [004]



16 Sep [1861]

Postmark: "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Partial image of full cover.

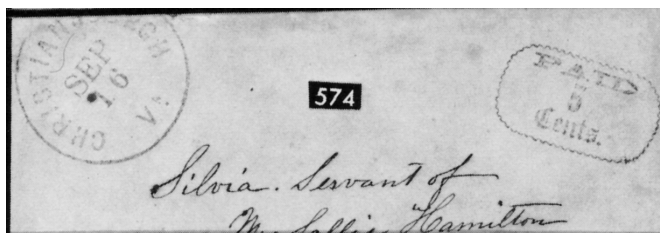
Address: Silvia, Servant of M-- Sallie Hamilton / ---

Provenance: Kimmel

References: RAS-18May1976(492)-574

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [014]



[21 Sep 1861]

Postmark: "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Partial image of full cover.

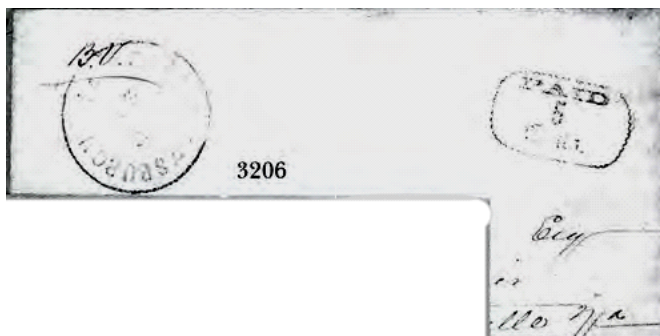
Address: ---Esq / [Wythev]ille / Va

Provenance: None recorded.

References: RAS-9Apr1997(787)-3206

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [016]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

24 Sep [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

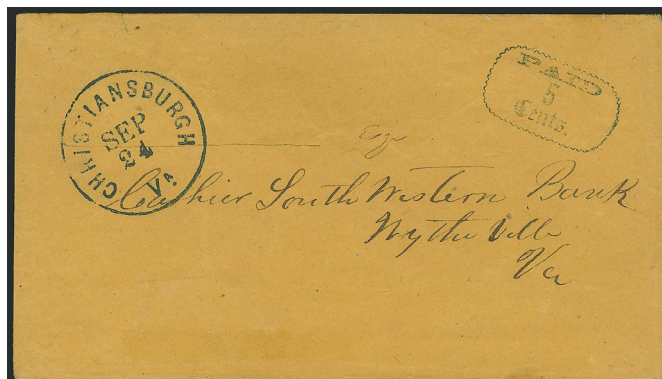
Address: Cashier South Western Bank / Wytheville / Va

Provenance: Adutt, Everett, Hill

References: RAS-30Oct1993(754)-128; RAS-16Mar2006(907)-2644*

Cert: PF-438580

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [005]



24 Sep [1861]

Postmark: "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Docketed "B V." at UL above postmark.

Address: C A. Haller Esq / Cashier / Wytheville / Va.

Provenance: Rosenberg

References: JWK-13Jun1981(73)-1029

Cert: CWPAS-02931

Image: Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service [012]



25 Sep [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

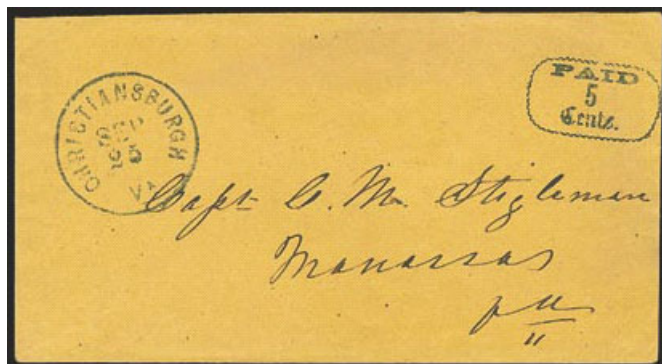
Address: Capt. C. M. Stigleman / Manassas / Va.

Provenance: H Green

References: RCF-22Feb1986(27)-299*; RAS-12Apr2000(822)-66*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [006]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

5 Oct [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Docketed "Care of Dr. Owen across bottom."

Address: Mrs W W Christian / Lynchburg / Va

Provenance: H Green

References: RAS-24Jun2015(1104)-2105*; RAS-5Nov2025(1364)-1074*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [007]



16 Oct [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Mr W. W. Christian / Lynchburg / Va

Provenance: None recorded.

References: RAS-7Dec2024(9014)-10006*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [017]



23 Oct [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Ladies fancy envelope.

Address: Mr A J Castle / Fairfax C. H. [LO] / Va / Manassas

Provenance: None recorded.

References: Private*

Cert: None

Image: Private collection [018]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c blue (shades) -- CHR-VA-E02 (99XU2)

25 Oct [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Docketed across the top and "Care of Dr. Owen" at LC- LR.

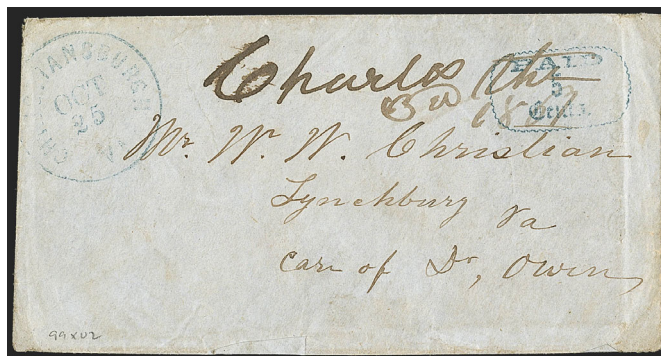
Address: Mrs. W. W. Christian / Lynchburg / Va

Provenance: "Atlanta," "Beverly Hills"

References: JWK-20Feb1986-13; RAS-22Jun2016(1132)-3070*

Cert: None

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [008]



7 Nov [1861]

Postmark: Blue "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Miss Sew [sic] Willis / Eagle Falls / Rockingham C / N. C

Provenance: "Napoleon"

References: DFK-29Jul2025(816)-4158*

Cert: CWPAS-02967

Image: Civil War Philatelic Authentication Service [013]



Christiansburg, VA -- 5c green -- CHR-VA-E03 (99XU4)

18 Jun [1861]

Postmark: Green "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: Used on US 3c star die envelope.

Address: Mrs Elizabeth Kent / Dublin [Dublin] / Pulaski County / Va.

Provenance: Haas, Hill, Haub

References: HRH-10Dec2019(3030)-57*; RAS-26Mar2026(1373)-3222*

Cert: PF-28685

Image: Robert A Siegel Auctions [010]



Christiansburg, VA -- 10c black -- CHR-VA-E0x

2 Dec [186-]

Postmark: Black "CHRISTIANSBURGH / VA."

Notes: None.

Address: Rev W. A. Wade / Blacksburg / Va

Provenance: None recorded.

References: None

Cert: PF-224465*

Image: Philatelic Foundation [011]

