

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3302

October 14, 2021

Mr. Andrew S. Neal
Government Relations Representative
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Neal:

I write to you regarding the United States Post Office located at 806 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, North Carolina 27605. I am concerned that this post office is still referred to as the “Cameron Village New” Post Office on the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) website, despite its new geographic location and the troubling history surrounding the name “Cameron Village.”

This post office was previously located at 505 Oberlin Road, adjacent to a shopping center which until recently was known as Cameron Village. The shopping center, built on land which once confined hundreds of enslaved people, was named after the plantation owner who enslaved them on Cameron Plantation. In a long overdue move and with the desire to create an “inclusive future” following the racist past, the shopping center was recently renamed the “Village District.”¹

I hear from constituents and members of my community regularly who are frustrated that the current post office name commemorates a troubling past and does not accurately reflect its new location further down the street away from the shopping center.

Its new location, in a property owned by Oberlin Baptist Church, lies within the geographic boundary of Oberlin Village, one of the last surviving antebellum settlements founded by a free Black person in the State of North Carolina. After reconstruction, the community became a welcoming refuge for newly freed slaves who had just gained their freedom from the nearby Cameron Plantation.

Given these factors, I strongly urge the U.S. Postal Service to consider updating the name of this post office to the “Oberlin Village Post Office,” to better reflect its new geographic location and to end the commemoration of a plantation and its slaveholding owner.

Thank you for attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

¹ *Our New Name*, District Village c/o York Properties, Inc., last accessed October 6, 2021 (available at <https://shopvillagedistrict.com/our-new-name/>); Quillin, Martha, *Cameron Village will drop Cameron family from its name, become the Village District*, The News & Observer, January 29, 2021 (<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article248700545.html>).