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IN MEMORIAM TO OUR GOOD FRIEND AND FELLOW POSTAL HISTORIAN,
MR. CHARLES W. JONES OF SEATTLE
THIS ISSUE OF LA POSTA IS DEDICATED WITH RESPECT AND LOVE.

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LA POSTA is the research journal of the Mountain & Desert West Postal History Research Society. It is published on an irregular basis with six issues per volume. The subscription rate is \$5 per volume, and single copies are available at \$1.50 each. For additional information, or to place a subscription, write: Richard W. Helbock, Editor, 1635 Mariposa Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88001.

NINETEENTH CENTURY OREGON POSTMARKS: COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By Charles A. Whittlesey
With Cartography By John Pynch and Res. Asst. Loren Meyer

[This is Part VIII of the 19th CENTURY OREGON POSTMARK CATALOG]

Nineteenth century postmarks are known from 22 of the 48 post offices which operated in Columbia County prior to 1900. From a percentage viewpoint, that does not sound like a very impressive statistic, but when one takes into account the extremely brief life-span of many Columbia County post offices it is not surprising. Saint Helen(s) and Rainier were established in the early 1850's, but it was nearly two decades before they were joined by other post offices on the Columbia County list. Scappoose, Columbia City, Clatskanie, Riverside(Mist), Vernonia and Pittsburg(h) were added during the 1870's, and Vesper, Warren(Gillton), Deer Island, Mayger and Apiary became post offices during the 1880's. But aside from these 13 offices, the only other post offices established in the county prior to 1890 were short-lived affairs. Twenty post offices were established in Columbia County between 1890 and 1899, although two of the twenty were located at Warren which had had an earlier office. Some of these 1890's offices proved to be substantial and stood the test of time, but since they were opened late in the 19th century, examples of the postmarks from the 19th century are not common. In summary, although Columbia County saw 48 post offices (counting name changes) during the 19th century, only about 13 of them operated over a sufficient number of years to make their postal markings reasonably available. The fact that 22 post offices are represented in our catalog of the offices of this county does then appear quite so incomplete.

Six Columbia County post offices are still operating: Saint Helens, Rainier, Columbia City, Clatskanie, Scappoose, and Vernonia. Several others were converted to rural stations in the late 1950's and early 1960's, and some of them continue to function.

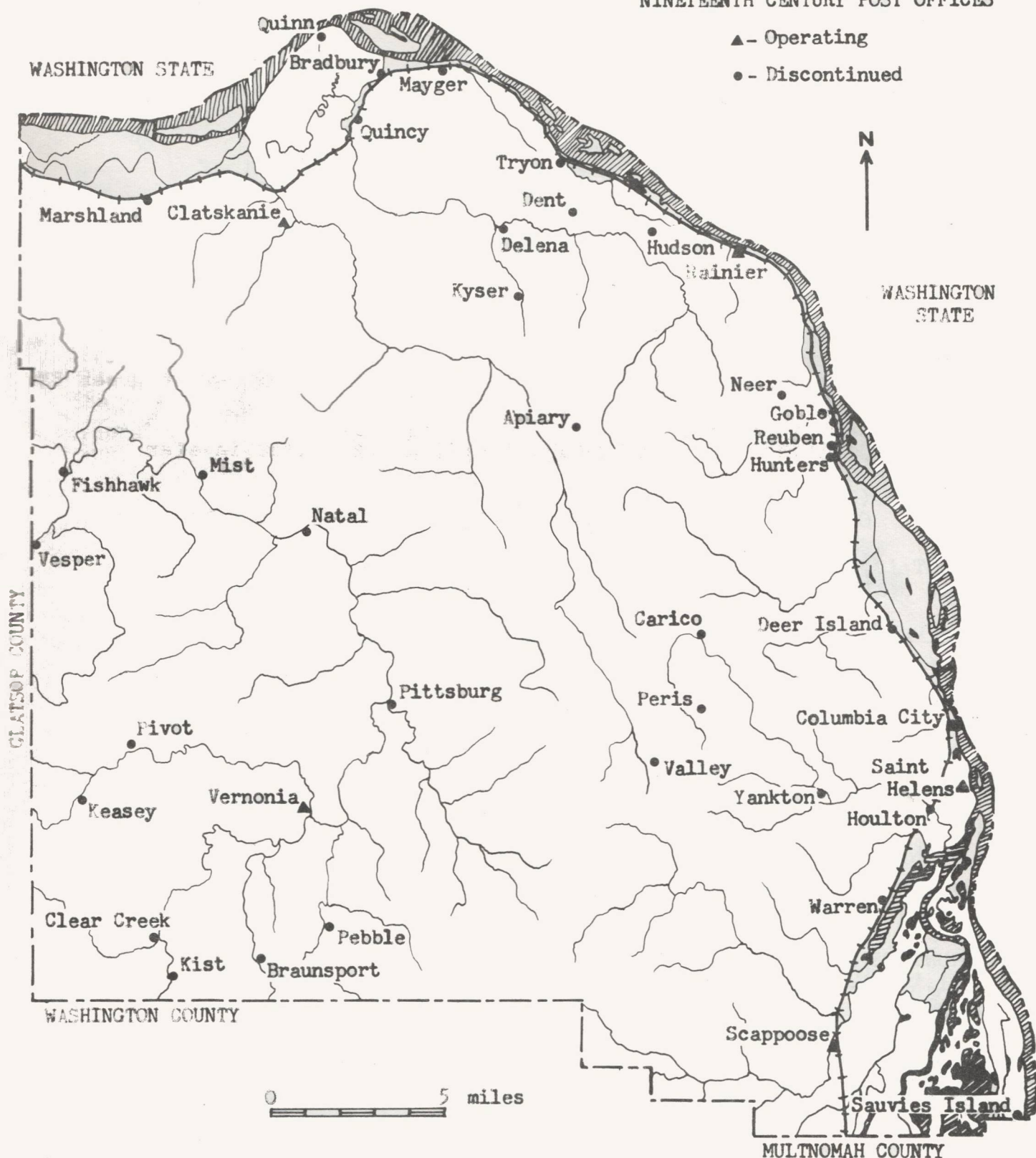
The listing of postmarks which follows is arranged alphabetically by office and chronologically by postmark type. Each type is assigned a Town Type Number and classified according to a code described in LA POSTA, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp.2-5. The earliest and latest known dates for each postmark type are listed, along with the number of examples seen, and the type of killer noted in use with the postmark. Quite a large number of the listed postmarks are illustrated.

This listing is the eighth part of the 19TH CENTURY OREGON POSTMARK CATALOG, which is being published serially in LA POSTA for the first time. It is anticipated that once the entire catalog has been published in this first draft basis, the work will appear as one single reference volume. To that end the author requests that any one able to make additions and corrections contact LA POSTA.

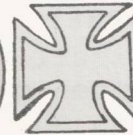
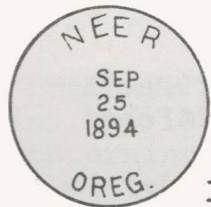
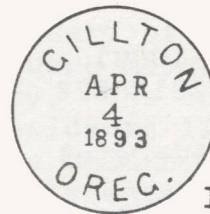
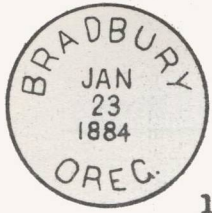
COLUMBIA COUNTY

NINETEENTH CENTURY POST OFFICES

- ▲ - Operating
- - Discontinued



| TOWN TYPE NO. | POSTMARK CODE | EARLIEST DATE | LATEST DATE | EXAMPLES KNOWN | KILLER TYPE | NOTES |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| BRADBURY (1881-1890) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1B27 | 23Jan84 | 28Jan84 | 2 | Target | |
| 2. | M | 27May85 | 20Jan86 | 2 | | |
| CARICO (1889-1913) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27 | 15Sep91 | | 1 | | |
| CLATSKANIE (1871-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1BA1RP'B'26.5 | 8Mar72 | | 1 | Star-in-Circle | |
| 2. | C1JN1RRB25 | 14Apr82 | 16Apr85 | 2 | | |
| 3. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 23Dec87 | | 1 | Target | |
| 4. | C1JN1B27.5 | Jul97 | | 1 | | |
| COLUMBIA CITY (1871-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | M | 73 | 74 | 10 | | (1) |
| 2. | C1EA1BBR25 | 17Apr7? | | 1 | | 3¢ green BN |
| DEER ISLAND (1887-1958) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1C1N1B29 | 18May91 | 15Oct91 | 2 | Star-in-star | |
| DELENA (1892-1922) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1?N1BBR27.5 | 12Jul97 | | 1 | Target | |
| DENT (1892-1898) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1JN1BBR27.5 | 12Oct94 | | 1 | Target | |
| EMINENCE (1851-1852) | | | | | | |
| 1. | M | 10Oct51 | 5Dec51 | 2 | | |
| FISHHAWK (1890-1910) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 31Mar91 | | 1 | Target | |
| 2. | C1JN1BBR28 | 1Dec98 | | 1 | Target | |
| GILLTON (1890-1895) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 30Jun91 | 4Apr93 | 2 | Target | |
| 2. | C1JN1BBR28 | 7Feb94 | 24Jul95 | 4 | Target | |
| GOBLE (1894-1960) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 20May99 | | 1 | Target | |
| HUNTERS (1888-1893) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 24Jun90 | 19Jul90 | 2 | Target | |
| MARSHLAND (1873-1961) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C41JN1B30 | 24Apr85 | 14Feb87 | 3 | Maltese Cross | |
| MIST (1888-1958) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27 | 26Oct89 | 24Mar91 | 2 | Target | |



Bradbury, Apr Jan 20 1886



*Columbia City
Oct 27 1873*

| TOWN TYPE NO. | POSTMARK CODE | EARLIEST DATE | LATEST DATE | EXAMPLES KNOWN | KILLEP TYPE | NOTES |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|
| NEER (1886-1894) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1B27 | 25Sep94 | | 1 | Maltese Cross | |
| PEBBLE (1891-1895) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1RRB27.5 | 9Feb92 | | 1 | Target | |
| QUINN (1876-1909) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C21J2S1RRB28 | 1Mar86 | 19Jul87 | 3 | Star-in-circle | |
| RAINIER (1852-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | M | ?? | 28Jan59 | 6 | | (2) |
| 2. | C31EA1BBR25 | 27Apr82 | | 1 | Target | |
| 3. | C1JS1B28 | 14May85 | 23Nov87 | 2 | Target | |
| 4. | C1JS1RRB29 | 17Mar90 | 14Dec94 | 4 | Target | |
| RIVERSIDE (1874-1888) | | | | | | |
| 1. | M | 29Dec76 | | 1 | | |
| 2. | C1JN1RRB24 | 26Feb81 | | 1 | Maltese Cross | |
| SAINT HELEN(S) (1850-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1JM2BR'31 | 23Jun52 | 22Sep52 | 2 | | |
| 2. | M | 10Oct53 | | 1 | | |
| 3. | C1JA1BBR31 | 10Jul54 | 25Jun55 | 3 | | (3) |
| 4. | C1CM2B26 | 69? | | 1 | Target | |
| 5. | C1EA1BBR24.5 | 18Apr73? | 24Sep73? | 2 | Target | |
| 6. | C1JN1B27 | 27Aug83 | 1Sep84 | 3 | Star-in-Oval Bars | |
| 7. | C1EN1BBR27 | 21Sep91 | | 1 | | |
| 8. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 27Oct92 | 21Apr97 | 4 | Target | |
| 9. | C1EN1B28 | 19Nov98 | 31Mar00 | 2 | Cork | |
| SCAPPOOSE (1872-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR24.5 | 80? | | 1 | | |
| 2. | C31EN1RRB27.5 | 9Jan82 | 30Jul83 | 2 | Target | |
| 3. | C1EN1RRB27.5 | 17Oct87 | | 1 | Target | |
| 4. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 15Mar88 | 8Nov88 | 3 | Target | |
| 5. | C1EA1BBR27.5 | 14Nov94 | ?? | 2 | Target | (4) |
| 6. | C1EN1BBR28 | 13Dec97 | | 1 | Mss. | |
| VERNONIA (1878-Date) | | | | | | |
| 1. | C1EN1BBR27.5 | 30Nov89 | 26Jul91 | 2 | Target | |
| 2. | C1JN1BBR28 | 8Nov00 | | 1 | Target | |

Notes: (1) Most examples have pencil notations of year date.
(2) Examples known on Nesbitt envelopes with no year date.
(3) Known in use with 5-in-circle, 10-in-circle and "PAID."
(4) Appears to be the same as Type 4, but with no year.

NINETEENTH CENTURY POST OFFICES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By Richard W. Helbock

Columbia County was created January 16, 1854, from territory which had formerly constituted the northeastern portion of Washington County. The new county was named for the Columbia River which formed the northern and eastern boundary of the county. Columbia County has a land area of 646 square miles and consists largely of rough hilly to mountain country. The county has never sustained a large population, and most residents live in the towns, villages and hamlets clustered through the Columbia Valley. The main economic function of these urban settlements has centered upon transportation, but some places serve as agricultural and fishing centers as well. Columbia County has also hosted a few logging centers scattered throughout its narrow interior valleys, but, aside from Vernonia, most of these communities were relatively short-lived.

The following chronology presents a listing of Columbia County post offices established during the 19th century along with their postmasters and a few notes concerning the communities they served. Names of postmasters and dates of tenure have been excerpted from the microfilm Records of Appointments of Postmasters, Oregon, 1850 to 1930. These records are in manuscript and are known to contain numerous errors of omission and commission. No attempt has been made to correct such errors.

PLYMOUTH. Established April 9, 1850. The Plymouth post office was apparently named for Plymouth, Massachusetts. Henry Knighton was a former sea captain and a New Englander by birth. This short-lived office was located on the west bank of the Columbia in the vicinity of present-day Saint Helens.

19th Century Postmasters: Henry M. Knighton

Status: Name changed to Saint Helen on November 4, 1850.

SAINT HELEN(S). Established November 4, 1850, by change of name from Plymouth. The name of this office was changed to Saint Helen, but the possessive or plural form has prevailed. Postmarks from the territorial period are known using both forms, but modern use almost invariably shows Saint Helens. The reason for the name change is uncertain, but the new name undoubtedly reflects the fact that the townsite affords an excellent view of Mount Saint Helens across the river in Washington. The post office is located on the west bank of the Columbia in the northern part of township 4 north, range 1 west.

19th Century Postmasters and Appointment Dates: William H. Tappan, 4 Nov 1850; Nathaniel P. Cartland, 6 Jan 1852; Benjamin M. Dukell, 2 Nov 1853; Seth Pope, 29 Jul 1856; Thomas H. Smith, 3 Sep 1859; Benjamin M. Watts, 29 Jan 1862; Benjamin F. Giltner, 27 Aug 1866; John W. Woodward, 31 Jan 1867; William B. Daniels, 21 Dec 1867; Benjamin F. Giltner, 2 May 1870; George W. McBride, 29 Jun 1876; Benjamin F. Giltner, 15 Apr 1878; George W. McBride, 24 Jun

1878; Benjamin F. Giltner, 30 Mar 1881; William H. Dolman, 13 May 1887; Mrs. Nancy E. Dolman, 9 Apr 1890.

Status: Currently operating; ZIP Code - 97051.

EMINENCE. Established June 5, 1851. The somewhat presumptuous name of Eminence was bestowed upon the county's second post office, but the name did not long endure. Eminence means a high or lofty place, and it must be assumed that the town fathers were expressing their desire for the community's future for there is little in the physical setting of the townsite to suggest such a name. The Eminence post office was located at present-day Rainier on the southwest bank of the Columbia opposite the mouth of the Cowlitz River.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles E. Fox

Status: The name of the office was changed to Rainier on 6 Jan 1852.

RAINIER. Established January 6, 1852, by change of name from Eminence. This name change created a curious symmetry in the post offices of Columbia County. With the Rainier office named for Mount Rainier, the county had two offices named for Cascade Mountain peaks located in Washington. In addition, these two offices served Columbia County's postal needs without assistance for almost two decades. The Rainier post office is located on the southwest bank of the Columbia in section 16, township 7 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles E. Fox, 6 Jan 1852; Marshall B. Millard, 16 Aug 1854; William C. Moody, 17 Sep 1855; Ashley P. Minear, 4 Mar 1858; Dean Blanchard, 24 Feb 1864; Henry Addis, 4 Jan 1895; George F. Moeck, 10 Apr 1895; Andrew L. Clark, 11 Dec 1897.

Status: Service was interrupted at Rainier briefly from 17 Mar 1863 to 24 Feb 1864, but the office continues to operate; ZIP code-97048.

SAUVIES ISLAND. Transferred from Multnomah County September 25, 1869. The site of the Sauvies Island post office was temporarily moved to southeastern Columbia County while Samuel T. Gosa served as postmaster. During its short stay on the county lists, it was apparently located at or near the place now known as Johnson Landing (see map).

19th Century Postmasters: Samuel T. Gosa

Status: On December 12, 1870, the site of this office was moved back into Multnomah County.

COLUMBIA. Established December 14, 1870. The Columbia post office was located at or near the place now called Johnson Landing, a few miles east of present day Scappoose. It is interesting to note that this office was established with Samuel Gosa postmaster just two days after the Sauvies Island post office was returned to Multnomah County.

19th Century Postmasters: Samuel T. Gosa.

Status: The name of this office was changed to Scappoose on April 25, 1872.

COLUMBIA CITY. Established August 16, 1871. With an eye toward future community expansion the founders of this settlement appended the word "city" to the name of their newly founded townsite. The settlement never realized the promise of its name, but it has managed to survive for over 100 years. Columbia City post office is located about two miles north of St. Helens on the west bank of the Columbia, and in section 28, township 5 north, range 1 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Devereaux J. Yeargain, 16 Aug 1871; Mrs. Minerva J. Caples, 18 Dec 1874; Moses McGrew, 10 Dec 1889; Elijah McVey, 13 Apr 1891.

Status: Currently operating; ZIP Code - 97018.

CLATSKANIE. Established December 1, 1871. This post office was named for the Clatskanie River which enters the Columbia near the townsite. The name is reportedly a corruption of the Indian place name Tlats-kani. Clatskanie post office is located on Conyers Creek near its junction with the Clatskanie River, and in section 8, township 7 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Enoch W. Conyer, 1 Dec 1871; Wilson K. Tichenor, 31 Jan 1881; William A. Edgerton, 20 Oct 1885; Nathan Nichols, 30 Oct 1891; Albert M. Tichenor, 12 Jun 1893; Henry L. Warren, 14 Mar 1899.

Status: Currently operating; ZIP Code - 97016.

SCAPPOOSE. Established April 25, 1872, by change of name from Columbia. The name of this office was reportedly taken from the local Indian word meaning "gravelly plain." As the successor to the Columbia post office, Scappoose was initially located at the place known as Johnson Landing. It was moved to its present location when William West became postmaster in 1886. The Scappoose post office is near Scappoose Creek on U.S. Route 30 in section 12, township 3 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Samuel T. Gosa, 25 Apr 1872; Henry Sharringhousen, 9 Apr 1879; William W. West, 2 Dec 1886; James G. Watts, 19 Mar 1888; De William Price, 10 Apr 1899.

Status: Currently operating; ZIP Code - 97056.

MARSHLAND. Established May 27, 1873. The original name of this community was Skunk Cabbage Flat, but when the post office was obtained it was decided to name it Marshland, which expresses roughly the same idea in a more pleasant sounding, but less colorful, way. Both names adequately described the locality which is dominated by low, swampy land along the Columbia in the northwest part of the county. The post office was located along U.S. Route 30 in section 10, township 7 north, range 5 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Zephaniah S. Bryant, 27 May 1873; Albert M. Tichenor, 29 Dec 1880; Samuel M. Graham, 7 Mar 1882; George A. Graham, 8 May 1899.

Status: Marshland post office was converted to a rural branch of Clatskanie in early 1961.

RIVERSIDE. Established March 9, 1874. The Riverside post office bore a name descriptive of its location along the bank of the Nehalem River. This office was located in the west-central part of the county in the vicinity of present-day Mist. It was thus the first post office to be established in interior Columbia County.

19th Century Postmasters: Joseph Bawzer, 9 Mar 1874; John W. Jones, 19 Dec 1877; Charles F. Knowles, 6 Jan 1879; Mrs. Matilda Lindgren, 12 Mar 1883; John G. Lindgren, 2 Jan 1885.

Status: Name changed to Mist April 10, 1888.

QUINN. Established May 4, 1876. This office was given the family name of its first and only postmaster. The Quinn post office was located near the south bank of the Columbia, a mile or two northwest of Quincy.

19th Century Postmasters: James Quinn.

Status: Discontinued June 1, 1909, mail to Quincy.

CLEAR CREEK. Established January 11, 1878. The Clear Creek post office was named for a tributary of the Nehalem River. This short-lived office was located in the extreme southwestern part of the county near the mouth of Clear Creek in section 27, township 4 north, range 5 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Henry D. Sluter

Status: Discontinued January 22, 1879.

VERNONIA. Established January 11, 1878. Vernonia post office was named for the daughter of Ozias Cherrington, one of the pioneer settlers of the community. McArthur reports in Oregon Geographic Names that Cherrington's daughter was really named Verona, but the variation could have easily resulted from confusion in communications. Vernonia post office is near the junction of Rock Creek and Nehalem River and about 19 miles due west of St. Helens.

19th Century Postmasters: David F. Baker, 11 Jan 1878; William Mellinger, 19 Jul 1887; Robert U. McNutt, 8 Aug 1888; John Pringle, 19 Jul 1893; Carroll S. McNutt, 17 Jun 1897.

Status: Currently operating; ZIP Code - 97064.

BEAVER LANDING. Established March 21, 1879. This short-lived post office was apparently so named because the site provided a convenient way of getting from the Columbia River to the headwaters of Beaver Creek in the hills above. The office was located a few miles northwest of Rainier on, or near, Rinearson Slough.

19th Century Postmasters: Jacob S. Rinearson

Status: Discontinued May 1, 1879.

PITTSBURGH. Established April 17, 1879. This office was named for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by Peter Brous, a former resident of the Keystone State. Pittsburgh post office was located at the junction of Nehalem River with its East Fork, about four miles northeast of Vernonia, and in section 23, township 5 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Peter Brous, 17 April 1879; George

Price, 6 Mar 1888; Edwin O. Darling, 8 Aug 1889.

Status: The name of this office was changed to Pittsburg on April 26, 1892.

VESPER. Transferred from Clatsop County April 1, 1880. The site of this office was in the Nehalem Valley and during the 1880's it shifted between Clatsop and Columbia counties. See LA POSTA, V.5, N. 5, pp. 8 & 14 for additional details.

19th Century Postmasters: George W. Carr, 1 April 1880; Horace H. Hayward, 2 Jan 1885.

Status: The Vesper post office operated in Columbia County for two periods: 1 April 1880 - 10 July 1884; and 2 Jan 1885 - 1 April 1886. On the last listed date the office was returned to Clatsop County where it continued to operate until discontinued on 20 Nov 1919.

BRADBURY. Established December 30, 1881. This office was named in honor of C. A. Bradbury, a pioneer settler in the locality. It was located about two miles west of Mayger, near the south bank of the Columbia, and opposite Crims Island in section 23, township 8 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: William Symons, 30 Dec 1881; Arthur McGraw, 8 July 1886.

Status: Discontinued July 28, 1890, papers to Mayger.

TRYON. Established December 1, 1884. This office was named for its first and only postmaster, Socrates Hotchkiss Tryon, Jr. The Tryon post office was located on the south bank of the Columbia between Rainier and Mayger, and about a mile and a half south of Walker Island.

19th Century Postmasters: Socrates H. Tryon

Status: Discontinued September 5, 1894, papers to Stell, Cowlitz County, Washington.

WARREN [1] Established February 19, 1885. The Warren post office was named by its first postmaster for his former home in Massachusetts. It was located at or near the present-day community of Warren, about 3 miles south of Scappoose on U.S. Route 30.

19th Century Postmasters: James Gill, 19 Feb 1885; Henry Larsen, 4 Jan 1886.

Status: Discontinued November 3, 1888, mail to Scappoose. See WARREN [2] for details of the latter Warren post office.

NEER. Established June 8, 1886. This office was named for Abe Neer, an early settler, who platted the townsite in August 1883. The Neer post office was on the Columbia River Highway at the junction of a county road about half a mile north of Goble, and in section 2, township 6 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: William A. Makinster, 8 June 1886; Michael D. Link, 13 Feb 1888; Isaac Makinster, 12 Mar 1888; Michael D. Link, 2 May 1891.

Status: Discontinued October 17, 1894, papers to Goble.

DEER ISLAND. Established October 24, 1887. The Deer Island post office was named for a large island in the Columbia which lies just north of the site of the office. Deer Island was visited by Lewis and Clark as early as November 1805, and the expedition reported a good catch of venison on the island. The post office was located on the Columbia River Highway, about 6 road miles north of Saint Helens.

19th Century Postmasters: Nelson Pinckney, 24 Oct 1887; Elzy George, 16 Nov 1887; Charles English, 19 Dec 1891; Mattie English, 11 July 1895.

Status: Deer Island was converted to a rural station of the Saint Helens post office April 1, 1959.

MIST. Established April 10, 1888, by change of name from Riverside. The new name of this office reflected an accurate description of the prevailing atmospheric conditions in the Nehalem Valley. The Mist post office was located on the Nehalem River Highway in section 14, township 6 north, range 5 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles F. Knowles, 10 Apr 1888; Charles Jones, 30 Dec 1889; Nathaniel C. Dale, 1 Mar 1892; Henry Brauning, 19 Mar 1896; Flora A. Turner, 14 Apr 1897; Gus F. Lindgren, 21 Apr 1898.

Status: Converted to a rural station of Clatskanie post office on July 31, 1958.

HUNTERS. Established May 29, 1888. Named for a family of early settlers, this office was on the southwest bank of the Columbia, opposite Sandy Island, and a mile or so south of Coble.

19th Century Postmasters: Stephen H. Walker, 29 May 1888; Shelumiel F. Hunter, 27 May 1892.

Status: Discontinued October 30, 1893, papers to Reuben.

MAYGER. Established August 22, 1889. This office was named for Charles W. Mayger, who settled at Oak Point, Washington, and later served as the first postmaster of this Columbia County office. The Mayger post office was on the south bank of the Columbia about one mile east of the east end of Crims Island, and in section 19, township 8 north, range 3 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles W. Mayger, 22 Aug 1889.

Status: Converted to a rural station of Clatskanie March 30, 1957, and closed 31 January 1961.

APIARY. Established August 28, 1889. The name of this office is attributable to the fact that the first postmaster, David Dorsey, operated a bee farm. Apiary post office was located about seven miles southwest of Rainier in section 10, township 6 north, range 3 west.

19th Century Postmasters: David M. Dorsey, 28 Aug 1889; Charles A. Buck, 12 Dec 1892; William L. Brown, 28 Jul 1893.

Status: Discontinued March 24, 1924, papers to Rainier.

NATAL. Established October 2, 1889. This short-lived office was named for Nathaniel C. Dale, an early resident of the Nehalem Valley who assisted his neighbors by bringing their mail from the MIST[RIVERSIDE] post office to his home. Natal appears to be a contraction of Dale's first name. The Natal post office was located on Nehalem River between Mist and Pittsburgh in the southwestern part of township 6 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Roderick D. Cole, 2 Oct 1889.

Status: Discontinued January 26, 1891, mail to Mist.

CARICO. Established December 4, 1889. The Carico post office was named for John Carico who settler a landclaim in the wooded area west of Deer Island in the early 1880's. This office was located about 6 miles west of Deer Island and not far from Milton Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: Mrs. Lydia Pinckney, 4 Dec 1889.

Status: Discontinued October 16, 1899, but re-established on March 25, 1904. Carico was finally discontinued April 23, 1913, papers to Deer Island.

GILLTON. Established January 14, 1890. This office was a successor to the first WARREN post office. The new name became necessary when a Warren post office was established in Umatilla County in 1888. The Umatilla County Warren operated until 1895, and shortly thereafter Gillton changed to WARREN[2]. Gillton was named for James Gill, the first postmaster of the old Warren post office and a founding father of the community.

19th Century Postmasters: William J. Fullerton, 14 Jan 1890; James S. Bacon, 26 Aug 1891.

Status: Name changed to Warren on July 11, 1895.

FISHHAWK. Established January 17, 1890. Named for Fishhawk Creek, a stream which flows through the mountains along the Columbia-Clatsop county line, this office was located near the mouth of the creek and a mile or so from present-day Birkenfeld.

19th Century Postmasters: Ernest E. Hogberg, 17 Jan 1890.

Status: Discontinued August 15, 1910, mail to Vesper. [Another office with this name, but using the form FISH HAWK, was in service from February 14 to September 22, 1917. It was located in the eastern part of Columbia County.]

HOULTON. Established March 5, 1890. This office was named for Houlton, Maine, the former home of Burnham W. Plummer, the first Houlton, Oregon, postmaster. The office was situated in the Saint Helens railroad station, about a mile from the town.

19th Century Postmasters: Burnham W. Plummer, 5 Mar 1890; Newton A. Perry, 9 Jan 1892.

Status: Converted to Station A of the Saint Helens post office on April 30, 1946.

KEASEY. Established August 5, 1890. Named for the first postmaster the Keasey post office was located in the extreme southwest corner of the county on Rock Creek and the Spokane, Portland & Seattle RR. in section 5, township 4 north, range 5 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Eden W. Keasev, 5 Aug 1890.

Status: Discontinued February 21, 1923, but re-established on October 21, 1924. Finally discontinued July 31, 1955.

REUBEN. Established September 5, 1890. This office was named for Reuber R. Foster, who served as the second postmaster and was a relative of the first postmaster. The office was located about a mile south of Goble on the west bank of the Columbia in section 13, township 6 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Eli G. Foster, 5 Sep 1890; Reuben R. Foster, 10 May 1893.

Status: Not in service 17 Oct 1894 - 25 Jan 1901. Discontinued October 25, 1923, papers to Goble.

PEBBLE. Established January 31, 1891. The Pebble post office was named for Pebble Creek and was located about three miles south of Vernonia on the old Pebble Creek Road in section 21, township 4 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Richard J. Tyacke, 31 Jan 1891; Eben Roberts, 30 July 1894.

Status: Discontinued December 5, 1895, mail to Vernonia.

BRAUNSPORT. Established November 10, 1891. This office was named for its first and only postmaster, Johann B. Braun. It was located on Beaver Creek, about 5 miles southwest of Vernonia, and in section 29, township 4 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Johann B. Braun

Status: Discontinued November 9, 1901, mail to Kist.

PERIS. Established November 19, 1891. The Peris post office was located 8-10 miles west of Saint Helens in the mountains.

19th Century Postmasters: Christopher Sanervein, 19 Nov 1891; Emily E. Hoover, 23 Nov 1893.

Status: Discontinued May 9, 1891, papers to Valley.

DELENA. Established April 22, 1892. The Delena office was reported to have been named by its first postmaster with a name picked from a classical dictionary or mythology. Delena was located about 7 miles west of Rainier on the Columbia River Highway near Beaver Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: Lincoln J. Meserve, 22 Apr 1892; Harry E. Meserve, 12 June 1897; Ellender M. Wonderly, 5 May 1899.

Status: Closed October 3, 1905, the Delena post office was re-established March 16, 1920, and continued to operate until 23 Feb 1922, mail to Clatskanie.

PITTSBURG. Established April 26, 1892, by change of name from Pittsburgh. In the interests of modernity, the "h" was dropped. Interestingly, the city in Pennsylvania for which this office was named has never dropped its "h".

19th Century Postmasters: Mary E. Detrick, 26 Apr 1892; Warren D. Case, 2 May 1897.

Status: Discontinued November 30, 1908.

DENT. Established June 20, 1892, but apparently not in operation until July 21, 1892. It has been reported that this office bore the maiden name of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, but the local significance of the name is unknown. Dent post office was located about 3 miles west of Rainier on Beaver Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: Frances M. Fowler, 20 June 1892.

Status: Discontinued October 31, 1898, mail to Delena.

HUDSON. Established June 20, 1892. Given the family name of its first postmaster, Susan A. Hudson, this office was located about 5 miles west of Rainier on Beaver Creek in section 15, township 7 north, range 3 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Susan A. Hudson, 20 June 1892; Susan A. Everman, 19 Jan 1895.

Status: Discontinued September 25, 1913, mail to Rainier.

KYSER. Established June 20, 1892. Located about two miles south of Delena, and near Long Creek in section 20, township 7 north, range 3 west, the Kyser post office was named for its first postmaster.

19th Century Postmasters: William H. Kyser, 20 June 1892.

Status: Discontinued March 16, 1918, mail to Painier.

QUINCY. Established October 8, 1892. This office was named for Quincy, Illinois, former home of J. W. Barnes, who founded the community. Quincy post office was located about 4 miles northeast of Clatskanie on the Spokane, Seattle & Portland Railroad in section 27, township 8 north, range 4 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Lottie Rutter, 8 Oct 1892; De Forest J. Barnes, 25 July 1893; Kate M. Jones, 7 Nov 1895; John Hendrickson, 20 June 1899.

Status: Converted to a rural station of Clatskanie August 31, 1959, and finally discontinued 25 Aug 1966.

PIVOT. Established April 26, 1894. Pivot post office was only in operation for about one year. It was located in the extreme southwestern part of the county in the vicinity of Keasey. The origin of the name is not known.

19th Century Postmasters: Nancy Davison, 26 Apr 1894; Rebecca Webster, 17 Dec 1894.

Status: Discontinued May 16, 1895, mail to Keasey.

YANKTON. Established August 15, 1894. This community was settled by a group of families from Maine, and went by the name Yankeetown during its early years. The post office was given a shortened form of the name for convenience. It was located a few miles west of Saint Helens in the northeastern corner of township 4 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Lizzie Sherman, 15 Aug 1894; Lizzie Faxon, 12 Apr 1898.

Status: Discontinued January 15, 1931, papers to Houlton.

GOBLE. Established September 14, 1894. The Goble post office was named for Daniel B. Goble, who first settled the community. It was located on the Columbia River Highway about 7 miles south of Rainier and in section 12, township 6 north, range 2 west.

19th Century Postmasters: Flora A. Fowler, 14 Sep 1894.

Status: Converted to an independent rural station of Rainier on April 30, 1960.

VALLEY. Established April 23, 1895. This office was descriptively named and was located on the road from Pittsburgh to Saint Helens at the point where it crossed the Clatskanie River.

19th Century Postmasters: Catherine Dupont, 23 Apr 1895.

Status: Discontinued March 20, 1905, mail to Yankton.

WARREN[2] Established July 11, 1895, by change of name from Gillton. The Warren post office in Umatilla County closed March 26, 1895, so the citizens of this Columbia County community petitioned to have the original name of their post office restored.

19th Century Postmasters: James L. Bacon, 11 July 1895.

Status: Converted to a rural station of Saint Helens Sept. 1, 1961.

KIST. Established January 21, 1899. The Kist post office was reportedly named in commemoration of a local homesteader who was frozen to death prior to the establishment of the office. It was located in the southwest part of the county on Clear Creek, a few miles upstream from its junction with Nehalem River.

19th Century Postmasters: James H. Turk, 21 Jan 1899.

Status: Discontinued May 10, 1912, mail to Timber, Washington County.

References: McArthur, Lewis A. Oregon Geographic Names, 3rd Ed., Binfords & Mort, Portland, 1955.

Landis, Robert Post Offices of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Hellock, Richard W. "Nineteenth Century Oregon Post Offices, Part III - Columbia County," Western Express, XX, No. 11 (April 1970), pp. 21-36.

THE POST OFFICES OF WYOMING: PART XVIII, LINCOLN COUNTY

By Daniel Y. Meschter & Ruth Dolezal

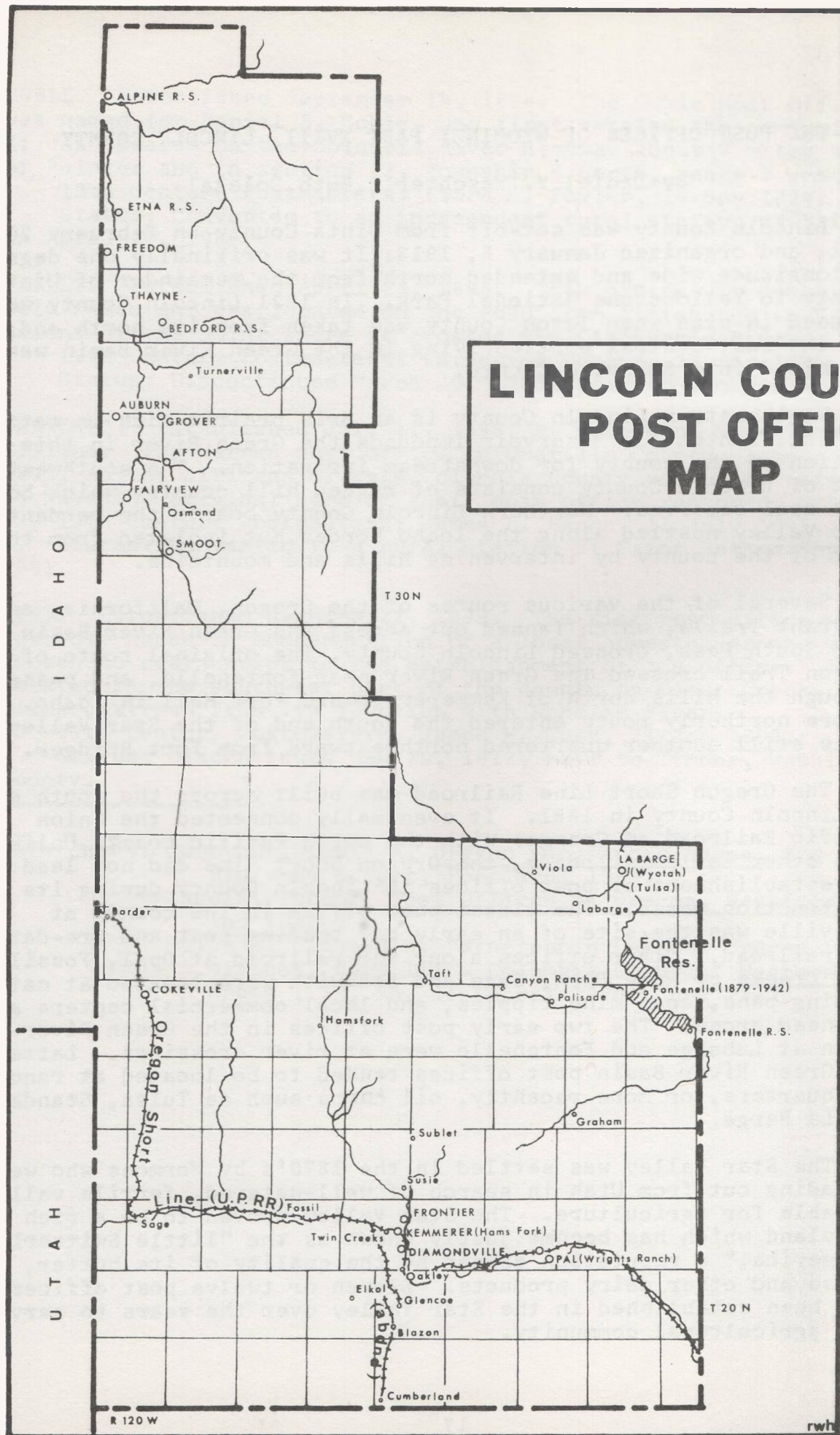
Lincoln County was set-off from Uinta County on February 20, 1911, and organized January 6, 1913. It was originally one degree of longitude wide and extended north from the remainder of Uinta County to Yellowstone National Park. In 1921 Lincoln County was reduced in size when Teton County was taken from its north end, and the east-central portion lying in the Green River Basin was organized into Sublette County.

Southeastern Lincoln County is an arid prairie rich in cattle and oil. Fontenelle Reservoir impounds the Green River in this portion of the county for downstream irrigation. The southwestern part of Lincoln County consists of rugged hill country which house vast coal reserves. Northern Lincoln County boasts the verdant Star Valley nestled along the Idaho border but isolated from the rest of the county by intervening hills and mountains.

Several of the various routes of the Oregon, California, and Emigrant Trails, which fanned out across the Green River Basin from South Pass, crossed Lincoln County. The original route of the Oregon Trail crossed the Green River near Fontenelle, and passed through the hills north of Kemmerer toward Fort Hall in Idaho. A more northerly route entered the south end of the Star Valley, while still another quartered northwestward from Fort Bridger.

The Oregon Short Line Railroad was built across the south end of Lincoln County in 1881. It eventually connected the Union Pacific Railroad at Granger with the north Pacific Coast. Unlike some other early railroads, the Oregon Short Line did not lead to the establishment of post offices in Lincoln County during its construction phase. The oldest post office in the county at Cokeville was the site of an early day trading post and pre-dated the railroad. Other offices along the railroad at Opal, Fossil, Twin Creeks or Hams Fork, Sage and Beckwith were located at cattle loading pens, coal mine tipples, and local commercial centers as the need arose. The two early post offices in the Green River Basin at Labarge and Fontenelle were at river crossings. Latter day Green River Basin post offices tended to be located at ranch headquarters, or more recently, oil camps such as Tulsa, Standard and La Barge.

The Star Valley was settled in the 1870's by Mormons who were spreading out from Utah in search of well-watered, fertile valleys suitable for agriculture. The Star Valley proved to be a rich dairyland which has become justly known as the "little Switzerland of America," a reputation earned by the quality of its butter, cheese and other dairy products. Eleven or twelve post offices have been established in the Star Valley over the years to serve this agricultural community.



**LINCOLN COUNTY
POST OFFICE
MAP**

Coal was discovered along the Hams Fork River as early as 1868, and a mine was opened by the railroad at Twin Creeks in 1881. Other mines were opened by the Diamond Coal and Coke Company at Diamondville during the 1880's. In the 1890's, P. J. Quealy, a pioneer Wyoming coal mine operator, interested M. S. Kemmerer of Pennsylvania in developing coal mines around the town soon named after him. Coal mining camps were established from time to time at Sublet, Susie (named for Quealy's wife), Frontier, and Elkol by the Kemmerer Company; Oakley, Glencoe, and possibly Blazon by the Diamond Company; and Cumberland by the Union Pacific Coal Company. Coal continues to be the county's leading industry with much of the present production being burned in a thermal power station near the mines a few miles southwest of Kemmerer.

Lincoln County has other claims to fame. Deposits of fossil fish near Fossil are known to paleontologists as being among the largest and best preserved occurrences of their kind in the world. Also, in 1902, young James Cash Penney opened his first store under the J. C. Penney name in Kemmerer. This store still operates as the "No. 1" store of the huge J. C. Penney chain.

Lincoln County has had a total of 45 post offices including four changes of name. It is an indication of the stability of the county's economy and population that 16 remain in operation even after the closure of offices at the various short-lived coal camps.

WYOMING POST OFFICES LINCOLN COUNTY

| Post Office | Established | Discontinued | Notes |
|--------------------|---|---|---|
| Afton | 5 Apr 1888 | Operating | |
| Alpine | 30 Jun 1890 7 Aug 1918 | 22 Jun 1895 31 Oct 1934 | No papers From Bonneville Co. ID Mail to Etna |
| Alpine Rural Sta. | 1 Sep 1959 | Operating | R.S. of Thayne (1) |
| Auburn | 7 Oct 1889 | Operating | |
| Beckwith | 13 Nov 1884 13 May 1897 12 Oct 1920 | 21 Jul 1886 28 Feb 1903 30 Jun 1931 | Mail to Sillem Mail to Sage Mail to Sage |
| Bedford | 11 Feb 1898 | 22 Apr 1966 | To Rural Station |
| Bedford Rural Sta. | 22 Apr 1966 | Operating | R. S. of Thayne |
| Blazon | 3 Jun 1924 | 11 Jul 1942 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Border | 23 Mar 1900 | 31 Dec 1933 | Mail to Raymond, ID |
| Canyon Rancho | 21 Sep 1910 | 31 May 1933 | Mail to Fontenelle |
| Cokeville | 12 Oct 1877 | Operating | |
| Cumberland | 5 Jan 1901 | 23 Jul 1930 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Diamondville | 7 Jan 1895 | Operating | |
| Eagle | 19 Apr 1892 | 17 Nov 1892 | Mail to Hams Fork |
| Elkol | 12 Apr 1909 | 3 May 1968 | Mail to Diamondville |

| Post Office | Established | Discontinued | Notes |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Etna | 22 Jun 1908 | 30 Dec 1966 | To Rural Station |
| Etna Rural Sta. | 30 Dec 1966 | Operating | |
| Fairview | 26 Jun 1889 | Operating | |
| Fontenelle | 25 Sep 1879 | 16 Jun 1884 | M. to Green River Cy. |
| | 25 Feb 1885 | 30 Apr 1942 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Fontenelle Rur.Sta. | 1 Jun 1962 | 30 Mar 1968 | Of Kemmerer |
| Fossil | 15 Feb 1886 | 9 Dec 1887 | Mail to Hams Fork |
| | 25 Apr 1888 | 31 Dec 1945 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Freedom | 11 Mar 1891 | Operating | |
| Frontier | 20 Jan 1899 | Operating | |
| Glencoe | 23 Nov 1901 | 31 May 1904 | Mail to Diamondville |
| | 28 Aug 1906 | 31 Jan 1919 | Mail to Oakley |
| | 11 Mar 1925 | 2 Jun 1927 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Graham | 9 May 1898 | 15 Jul 1901 | Mail to Diamondville |
| Grover | 24 Aug 1889 | Operating | |
| Hams Fork | 14 Jun 1887 | 1 Dec 1897 | N. ch. to Kemmerer |
| Hamsfork | 26 Mar 1898 | 30 Dec 1899 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| | 24 May 1905 | 30 Nov 1933 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Kemmerer | 1 Dec 1897 | Operating | Was Hams Fork |
| La Barge | 31 Jul 1935 | Operating | Was Tulsa |
| Labarge | 5 Apr 1880 | 22 Jun 1883 | Mail to Fontenelle |
| | 24 Jul 1886 | 6 Apr 1887 | Mail to Fontenelle |
| | 6 Aug 1889 | 4 Aug 1928 | Mail to Tulsa |
| Oakley | 19 Jan 1901 | 31 Jul 1942 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Opal | 24 Aug 1886 | Operating | Was Wrights Ranch |
| Osmond | 13 Jul 1906 | 31 Dec 1907 | Mail to Afton |
| Palisade | 25 Jul 1903 | 15 Jul 1910 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Sage | 8 Nov 1900 | 28 Feb 1973 | Mail to Kemmerer |
| Sillem | 21 Oct 1884 | 30 Aug 1887 | Mail to Fossil |
| Smoot | 1 Mar 1901 | Operating | |
| Standard | 18 Aug 1938 | 14 Sep 1940 | Mail to La Barge |
| Sublet | 10 Jan 1908 | 15 Jul 1933 | Mail to Frontier |
| Susie | 3 May 1911 | 30 Sep 1915 | Mail to Frontier |
| Taft | 12 Oct 1908 | 15 Sep 1910 | Mail to Sublet |
| Thayne | 8 May 1891 | Operating | |
| Tulsa | 25 Feb 1927 | 7 Jul 1935 | N. ch. to La Barge |
| Turnerville | 17 Aug 1927 | After 1931 | |
| Twin Creeks | 15 Feb 1883 | 10 Nov 1885 | M. to Wrights Ranch |
| Viola | 27 Mar 1896 | 15 Jun 1935 | Mail to Tulsa |
| Wright's Ranch | 1 Oct 1884 | 24 Aug 1886 | Name ch. to Opal |
| Wyotah | 26 Aug 1925 | 25 Feb 1927 | Name ch. to Tulsa |

Additional Notes: (1) Summer Post Office effective 1 May 1964;
operates 1 May to 30 November.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Short this month. Robert Dalton Harris, P.O. Box 175, Wynantskill, NY 12198 has begun publishing a new postal history quarterly. Called Post Script, the first number looks to be a most worthy effort. Why not try a \$5 subscription? I am.
RICHARD W. HELBOCK, EDITOR, 1635 MARIPOSA DR., LAS CRUCES, NM 88001

