



LA POSTA: A JOURNAL OF AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY

Website: www.la-posta.com

Publisher: Richard W. Helbock

Associate Editors:

Henry Berthelot	Tom Clarke
Rod Crossley	Michael Dattolico
Dennis H. Pack	Robert G. Schultz
Randy Stehle	

Advertising & Circulation Manager: Cath Clark

COVER: Our cover reproduces a World War II-era patriotic Christmas card as a backdrop for four covers franked with definitives of the 1938 Presidential series illustrating just a few of the many ways these stamps were used on mail of that period. See the Publisher's Page for details of the four covers.

La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History is published six times a year with issues mailed on or about the 20th of February, April, June, August, October and December. Persons desiring information on manuscript submittals or subscription should e-mail or write *La Posta* c/o All About Mail, 33470 Chinook Plaza, Suite 216, Scappoose, OR 97056

or

Telephone in Australia: 612-6645-1829

Opinions expressed in articles appearing in this journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher. *La Posta* cannot be responsible for the accuracy of any information printed herein.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

U. S. A.	- \$25.00 per annum (6 issues)
CANADA	- \$33(US) per annum
OVERSEAS	- \$37.00 per annum surface
	- \$60.00 per annum airmail

**October - November 2005
Volume 36, Number 5
Whole Number 215**

IN THIS ISSUE:

Prexies at War

By Richard Martorelli 9

**The Postmasters General of the United States
XIXa. The Assistant Postmasters General,
1789-1860**

by Daniel Y. Meschter 31

**Free as the Antelope - A Letter from
Montana, 1883**

Courtesy of Roger Robison 38

Studd, Missouri

By Bob Schultz 40

**Letters From a Texas Merchant During the
Republic Days and Beyond**

By Brett McLean and Bob Roland 43

What's In A Name?

**Geographic Transfer Names for
Ohio's Settlements**

By Michael Dattolico 55

Reading Other People's Mail. II.

A Letter from Dardenne Prairie, Missouri

By Bob Schultz 62

**Washington Postal History Pages from the
Woodard Collection..... 65**

**Also Miscellaneous Columns, Notes
and Announcements**

LA POSTA Benefactors & Sustaining Subscribers

La Posta **Benefactors** are those persons contributing \$50 or more for their subscription. Benefactors recognize that the La Posta journal, along, with its books and e-books, are a vital force that helps build and sustain interest in American postal history. Benefactor and Sustainer contributions go beyond just supporting the journal and help fund our research and publishing endeavors. We would like to give our special thanks to the following individuals for contributions above and beyond:

Joseph J. Adamski	Rod Crossley	Jon E. Krupnick	Timothy M. Sheehan
Gary Anderson	James P. Doolin	Eliot A. Landau	John W. Spangler
James K. Avery	Alyce Evans	Russell Lang	Gus Spector M.D.
Ted Bahry	Edward Fisher	Arnold A. Leiter	Rex H. "Jim" Stever
Debby Baker	Michael Goldstein	Dennis J. Lutz MD	Robert Stoldal
Rex J. Bates	Ross Goodner	Millard Mack	W. L. Strauss
Henry F. Battestin Jr.	Ted Gruber	Larry McBride	John C. Swanson
John Beirne	Kenneth L. Hamlin	R.J. McEwen	Tonny E. Van Loij
Kevin Belmont	Col Richard Hargarten	Francis E.W. Ogle	Bill Wallace
Dr. Steven J. Berlin	Wayne Hassell	Larry Oliver	M. Lauck Walton
Chip Brown	Bruce Hazelton	George Pinyuh	Ronald A. Wankel
Mike Brown	Gary G. Hendren	Robert & Beverly Potts	Roy C. Ware
Stuart R. Brown	Gerald R. Heresco	Henry B. Scheuer	Kirk Wolford
John A. Cheramy	Gordon E. Katz	Robert G. Schultz	Lane B. Woodard
C. Robert Chow	Robert Kittredge	Dr. Michael Senta	

The following individuals and institutions have contributed financial assistance to *La Posta* in excess of their subscriptions and we are proud to list them as our **Sustaining Subscribers**. We are indebted to them for their generous support. Without it *La Posta* could not continue to exist.

Albert Aldham	Robert M. Ebner	Larry Dean Maddux P.L.S.	Roger Rydberg
Bill Arata Stamp Company	Craig Eggleston	Howard A. Mader	A. J. Savakis
Archives International LLC	Mike Ellingson	Richard Malmgren	W. Michael Schaffer
A. A. Armstrong, Jr. MD	David M. Ellis	Martin Margulis	Edmund J. Schenck Jr.
Ausdenmore-McFarlane Stamps/Covers	Arthur R. Everett	Bernard D. Mayer Jr.	Schmitt Investors Ltd.
Regi Ausmus	James W. Faber	Thomas C. Mazza	Joseph Sedivy
Dennis K. Austin	Ronald W. Finger	David R. McCord	John Seidl
Edmund Bashista	Sidney Fingerhood	Stephen Merchant	Larry R. Sell
William H. Bauer	Kenton Forrest	Robert G. Metcalf	Terry Shaw
Robert A. Beall	Dale Forster	Jewell L. Meyer	Lawrence Sherman, M.D.
Arthur E. Beane Jr.	Myron Fox	Steven Miedziak	James E. Shew
Robert Beasecker	Gene Fricks	Ken Miller	David J. Simmons
William R. Beith	A.E. Gaddy	Lynn I. Minneman	R. J. "Jack" Smalling
Bary D. Bender	C. Dorance Gibbs	Harvey Mirsky	Anita T. Sprankle
Wolf Berry	Justin Gordon	Andrew W. Mitchell	Stanley Spurgiesz
Henry J. Berthelot	Maurice Grossman	John Edwin Moffatt	Ken Stach
Kenneth Bieda	LTC John T. Hardy Jr.	Jack E. Molesworth	Thomas E. Stanton
John Bigart	Loyal M. Haun	Steven R. Morehead	Col. Carl L. Stieg
James B. Blandford	Dr. Edwin J. Helitzer	James Moses	Seymour B. Stiss
Joseph Bock	Karl E. Hellman	E. F. (Al) Mueller	Bob Summerell
Thomas V. Boettger	Virgil S. Henderson	John G. Mullen	Robert A. Svoboda
Charles F. Boubelik	Henry Higgins	Neill D. Mullen	Robert D. Swanson
James N. Boyden	Terence Hines	Robert Myerson	Mike Tacha
Deane R. Briggs M.D.	Robert C. Hoge	Burnham S. Neill	William C. Tatham
Roger S. Brody	William Hong	Eric A. Nelson	Lavar Taylor
William E. Brooks	B. Clyde Hutchinson	Ray L. Newburn Jr.	David Thompson
Dan Brouillette	James H. Inverarity	Don Nichols	Donald G. Thompson
Mrs. Gloria P. Brunelli	Rev. Constant R. Johnson	Robert D. Nichols	Don Tocher
Dr. Kenneth E. Burden	Dr. William H. Johnson	Ronald Olin MD	Thomas K. Todsen
Maurice M. Bursey	Steve Kaplan	Douglas Olson	Allan Tomey
Arden D. Callender Jr.	Robert Keatts	Robert Omberg	William Jay Treat
Patrick E. Campbell	James E. Kenney	Richard H. Parker	Robert A. Truax
E. B. Canteley Jr.	Curtis R. Kimes	Alan Parsons	Thomas P. Unterberger
Thomas E. Caton	Lucien S. Klein	Donald R. Pearson	Frans van de Riviere
Thomas E. Chastang	Daniel M. Knowles M.D.	Norman H. Pence	Howard A. Wallace
E. F. Christman Jr.	Mr. James J. Kotanchik	Richard F. Pesot	Charles S. Wallis Jr.
Robert C. Clark Jr.	George Kramer	James C. Pierce	John Weigle
Walter S. Clarke	Kenneth Kreager	Hans Pohler	Larry Weinstock
Clay's Covers	Kelly J. Krizan MD	Rev. Elwood S. Poore	Kenneth L. White
Louis Cohen	Alfred F. Kugel	Stephen Prigozy	Owen L. White
Stephen E. Cohen	Richard E. Kunz	Robert L. Markovits	John Wright
Giles R. Cokelet	William O. Kvale	Robert Quintero	Nicholas Zevos
David C. Collyer	Walter P. LaForce	Toivo R. Rannikko	
Thomas E. Coming	Edward C. LaFountain	Peter J. Rathwell	
Vince Costello	Robert M. Langer	Lt. Col. Gale J. Raymond, USAF Ret.	
Raymond A. Currier	Howard Lee	Mark Reasoner	
Richard F. Curtin	James E. Lee	Louis A. Repetto	
Matt Dakin	Leslie Warren Lee	Thomas S. Richardson	
J. Leonard Diamond	Brian P. Levy	Norman N. Ritchie	
Lee Drickamer	James R. Littell	Robert G. Rose	
Joseph E. DuBois	Richard A. Long	Hal Ross	

Publisher's Page

Our Autumn 2005 Issue

When Rich Martorelli told me that he was preparing an article called "Prexies at War" a few months ago, I was absolutely delighted. Not only has Rich become one of my favourite postal history research authors over the past few years, but the 1938 Presidential Series has long been a subject near and dear to me. As I recall, I emailed Rich at the time that I would be delighted to make his article our "feature" for an upcoming issue and prepare a full-color cover to highlight his work.

Time passed. Rich sent me a draft and it looked great; a real primer covering the use of prexies during the World War II period. I told Rich I thought it was a wonderful piece. He sent me a revised version, and provided me with a whole bunch of image plates to illustrate his points. Meanwhile, the time for preparing the cover art—please remember that we print the covers for two different issues at the same time as a cost saving measure—came too quickly to coordinate with Rich about what postal history items to place on the cover. As a result, I selected four pieces from my own collection to array against the stirring patriotic backdrop of a World War II Christmas card. An explanation of these four items seems in order.

The cover at top right is an Asiatic Fleet cover franked with 5¢, 15¢ and 50¢ Prexies paying the 70-cent trans-Pacific Clipper Rate. Mailed on board the USS *Heron*, the cover is postmarked Jan 2, 1942; just a few days after the ship had been attacked in Dutch East Indies waters. Although severely damaged and suffering numerous casualties, the *Heron* was able to return to Ambon. Postal regulations authorizing the 6-cent concession air rate were published December 23, 1941, but that information had obviously not reached the sender.

The cover below and to the left was mailed by a military police soldier stationed in Ledo, Assam, India, and postmarked at A.P.O. 689 on January 17, 1944. This APO served the Northern Combat Area Command, also known as Merrill's Marauders, from 1943 to 1946. The sender used four copies of the 11¢ Polk on his 6¢ concession air entire to make-up the 50-cent per half ounce rate to the US to West Africa. It has long seemed odd to me that an APO in Ledo would have a quantity of 11¢ Prexies on hand to make-up that franking, but it is an interesting wartime piece. The cover bears backstamps from both Freetown and Bonthe in Sierra Leone.

The card illustrated below and left of the Ledo cover is a printed form "I am well" postal card apparently mailed by a sailor at Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941. There is no specific geographic location identified anywhere on the card, but the postmark and censor marking look "right" for Pearl Harbor and the circumstances would certainly justify such a printed form. I'd be delighted to hear from anyone who might have seen similar pieces or has a different theory on the origin of this card. One further note on this image, the "§" that appears at the right edge of the 1¢ Washington is not some mysterious overprint. It was added in error during the layout of the cover by yours truly.



The bottom left cover shows an 8¢ Van Buren franking an air mail cover postmarked Bloomsbury, PA, May 10, 1945, to an air force lieutenant at McDill Field, Florida. The cover has been marked "Deceased" by a lieutenant in the Personnel Office, and the letter was returned to sender. A routine usage of the 8¢ Van Buren to pay the domestic air rate, but it is a poignant reminder of the true cost of war.

We have a wonderful series of articles for you in this, our autumn 2005 issue. The Texas Republic letters are a special treat, and our sincere thanks to Brett McLean and Bob Roland for sharing them. Roger Robison contributes a fascinating glimpse of life and attitudes from the plains of 1880s Montana Territory. Dan Meschter, Bob Schultz and Michael Dattolico have added their personal talents to make this an issue with something for almost everyone. My sincere thanks to all our authors for taking the time to share their ideas and information with us.

Please remember that *La Posta* is in constant need of new information and fresh ideas. If you have a desire to share your ideas and discoveries in American postal history, please send me an e-mail or a letter. I would love to help you join our distinguished group of authors.

Richard W. Halliburton

In Memory of Don Evans

We are very sad to report that Don Evans of the San Diego area has passed away recently. Don and his wife Alyce are long-time *La Posta* subscribers. In recent years, Cath and I have been proud to count them among our closest long-distance friends.

Perhaps best known in the hobby for his 1997 book on the 1¢ Franklin of 1861-7, Don is familiar to all *La Posta* readers for his multi-part series "Early Air Mail and Aviation in Southern California" that originally appeared in several issues of our journal in 2000 and 2001. It later became one of *La Posta*'s first E-book publications.

In recent years Don has been working on a history of his US Air Force unit in the Pacific in World War II, and at last report he was fairly close to completing it. He served in the Army Air Force in World War II as a bomber pilot, and retired after 33 years of service as a Colonel in the USAF.

I think many of our readers may have known this distinguished collector and gentle friend, and we all mourn his passing.

POSTAL HISTORIANS ON LINE

The following individuals have expressed an interest in corresponding with other collectors via e-mail. Names are followed by specific interest (where known) and complete e-mail address. If you would like to join this list in future issues of *La Posta*, send us a note via e-mail at helbock@la-posta.com

Paul G. Abajian [Vermont postal history] — PGA@vbimail.champlain.edu
Joe Adamski [SD, CT] — joe_adamski@hotmail.com
Jim Alexander [Texas Postal History] — jralexander3@aol.com
American Philatelic Research Library — aprl@stamps.org
Gary Anderson [US Doanes & ND postal history] — garyndak@ix.netcom.com
Walter Anderson [SD statehood & territorial; SW Minnesota, NW Iowa, Anne Arundel Co. MD, Butler, Phelps, Ripley Co, MO] — heyneboy1@sio.midco.net
Kirk Andrews — kirk.j.andrews@intel.com
A.A. Armstrong, Jr. [Western Nebraska & S.D. Butcher & son PPCs] — draa@hotmail.com
Regi Ausmus [21st C modern postal history] — rockinregi2004@yahoo.com
Dennis Austin [WA,OR,ID] — skypub@quest.net
Fred Austin [airmail first flights] — skyman@npgcable.com
Ted Bahry [Wake & Midway Isl, Benzie Cty, MI] — semperted@aol.com
Mark Baker Enterprises [Dealer CA & NV postal history, Express, Photos, postcards, ephemera] Web: goldrushpaper.com — mbcovers@directcon.net
Bob Baldridge — [Wisconsin p.h.] bobbaldridge@earthlink.net
Alan Banks [Missouri] — abanks7@aol.com
Mike Baranoski [MI & Philippines] — debbbar@provide.net
Richard Bard, Jr. — dbard@plix.com
William H. Bauer [CO; NY: Otsego Co] — Whbcphs@mkl.com
Beall, Robert — rbeallstmp@aol.com
John E. Beane, MD [West Virginia postal history] — JBEANE@prodigy.net
Robert Beasecker [MI p. history] — beaseckr@gvsu.edu
Stan Bednarczyk [Street cars] — abednarc@columbus.rr.com
John Bierne [Navals, RPO, AK] — john_bierne@hotmail.com
William R. Beith [Eastern Oregon] — wrbeith@comcast.net

Kevin Belmont [SW Arkansas, West Pointers on stamps] — kevin.belmont@west-point.org
Bary D. Bender [Dealer p.c.'s & p.h.; + collects WA: Columbia Co] — ngatecol@comcast.net
Larry Berg — lberg@charter.net
Steven Berlin [interruption of mail, US, Karl Lewis DWI] — drstevenberlin@yahoo.com
Wolf Berry [Dealer: buys/sells US covers, collectible paper. Collects tied seals] — thepaperwolf@infoblvld.net
Henry J. Berthelot [train, ship wreck mail & US postal card p.h.] — hankberthelot@yahoo.com
Henry Betz [Franklin Co., PA & Cumberland Valley RR] — hbetz@epix.net
Jim Blandford [Mich. Doanes & RPOs, booklet stamp usage on cover, pre-1880 Detroit postal markings] — jblandf526@aol.com
Tim Boardman [Washington PH, photos, books & maps] — simcoe@dsl-only.net
Joe Bock [US Airmail 1935-1950 & Arizona town cancels; U.S. WWII] — jandrobbies@commspeed.net
John Bloor [Worldwide early airmail; semi-official airmail; provisional airmails of Portuguese Africa] — aerophil59@yahoo.com
Eppe Bosch [Eastern WA: Stevens, PendOReille, Whitman Co.s; Central Wisc: Portage, Waupaca, Wood Co.s] — bonep@qwest.net
James Boyden [WWI military, WW censored] — jimesmc@worldnet.att.net
Bruce Branson [CA counties: Inyo, Morro, Alpine, Mariposa, Siskiyou] — bjbranson@lonopinete.com
Caj Brejtfus [1851-61 3c & Machine cancels] — brejtfus@earthlink.com
Carolyn S. Bridge [military, esp. Civil War] — thecottonwoods@copper.net
Deane Briggs, MD [Florida Postal History] — drb@gte.net
Roger S. Brody [Series 1902, Prominent Americans, BEP Production] — rsbco@optonline.net
Daniel Broulette — danbro1@comcast.net
Brown, Chip [WV ph; 1903 uses of 1902 definitives on cover] — grahamb@alltel.net
Brown, Edward — nedbrown@ameritech.net
Kenneth Burden [Washington & CA; western RPOs] — burden@localaccess.com
Maurice Bursey [#215 covers, Confederate N Carolina & Union occupation of E. NC covers. — mauricebursey@aol.com
Raymond Buse [Cincinnati & Clermont Co., OH p.h.] — stampat@aol.com
James W. Busse [San Diego Co.p.h.] — Jimb1997@aol.com
Cali, John — rocket@dremscape.com
Arden Callender [U.S. banknote issues] — callenderardy@sbcglobal.net
Carl Cammarata [AK, IN, RPO, Civil War, Special Delivery] — carlcammarata@earthlink.net
Gary Carlson [machine cancels] — gcarlson@columbus.rr.com
George Carnahan — mishaboy@bellsouth.net
Dave Carney [Wisconsin postal history] — dcarney1@new.rr.com
Alan Cartwright [Postal Cards—used abroad, with RFD cancels, or w/ Street Car cancels] — c4rto@btinternet.com
Case, Victor [SE & Central OR] — vjc@uci.net
Glenda & John Cheramy [Dealers; Canada] — gcheramy@shaw.ca
Larry Cherns [covers & PCs pre 1953 & post-1953 wars with original non-commercial contents in English] — katchke@hotmail.com
Robert Chisholm — [Dealer: postal history] — chizz5@aol.com
Bob Chow [Colorado] — bob.chow@fmr.com
Greg Ciesielski [Knights of Columbus postal history] — liski@ec.rr.com
G.A. Clapp [correspondence, US postal history] — g.clapp@cox.net
Douglas Clark [Railway Mail] — dnc@alpha.math.uga.edu
Nancy B. Clark [Maine postal history] — nbc@cape.com
Tom Clarke [Philadelphia] — ocl-tom@ix.netcom.com
Walter S. Clarke [Interesting on-cover cancellations on Scott # 10 & 11] — worldata@mindspring.com
Lawrence E. Clay [Scouting, Broken Bow, NE] — lclay3731@charter.net
Ed Close [U.S. POW (Civil War-Korean) & WWII Japan-Am Internment mail] — hombresello@comcast.net
Louis Cohen [Kentucky postal history] — cohenstamps32@aol.com

- Giles Cokelet** [Montana postal history, Greenland]
— giles_c@coe.montana.edu
- William G. Coleman, Jr.** [Mississippi postal history: DPO emphasis]
— jearnest@netdoor.com
- Collyer, David C.** [General US, Texas, USS Texas] — cozumel_90@hotmail.com
- Robert W. Collins** [Korean War & "Collins" postmarks] — ohiorwc@aol.com
- Vince Costello** [US fancy cancels, postal history, auxiliary marks]
— vinman2119@aol.com
- Joe H. Crosby** [Oklahoma & Indian Territory; 19th c fancy cancels, college cancels] — joecrosby@cox.net
- W.H. "Tom" Crosby** — tcrosby@wans.net
- E. Rod Crossley** [West coast military, Spruce Production Division, Ventura county CA & CA RPO] — rcrossley@worldnet.att.net
- Russell Crow** [Virginia PH, esp stampless also pre-1900 school covers]
— cornwall2@adelphia.net
- Frank Crown** [Georgia p.h.] — fcrown@earthlink.net
- Tony L. Crumbley** [Dealer; NC & Confederate postal history]
— tcrumbley2@aol.com
- Roger D. Curran** [US 19th C cancels] — rdcnrc@evenlink.com
- Richard Curtin** [CA covers & CA express] — curtinr@srcglobal.net
- Matt Dakin** [Mississippi Postal History] — patdakim@mindspring.com
- Mike Dattolico** [La Posta Associate Editor] — MMDATTOL@aol.com
- Bob Delaney** — bdelaney@uclink4.berkeley.edu
- Joseph M. Del Grosso** — diandme2@gbis.com
- James L. Diamond** [Spanish American war; US possessions] — dia407@aol.com
- Thomas S. Donnelly** [history on postals] — tdonn@adelphia.net
- James P. Doolin** [19th century postal history of all "Columbus" named towns]
— jamesdoolin@worldnet.att.net
- Doubleday, Elwyn** — doub@worldpath.net
- George B. Dresser** [Texas postal history] — g-dressel@cox-internet.com
- Lee Drickamer** — lee.drickamer@nau.edu
- John L. DuBois** — jld@thlogic.com
- Joseph E. DuBois** [AK, CO, MT & eastern OH] — hobbyduby@aol.com
- Francis Dunn** [19th Century Montana] — francis@dunn386.fsnet.co.uk
- Geoffrey Dutton** [2d Bureau postal history] — geoff@neddog.com.
Website: <http://neddog.com/stamps>
- Don East** [fancy cancels on officials & CA: Mendocino & Humbolt Co]
— doneast@mcn.org
- Loring Ebersole** [Ohio postal history, WWII APOs, Rt 66 postcards]
— loringebersole@comcast.net
- Fern Eckersley** [OR postal history] eckers@prinettime.net
- Leonard M. Eddy** [OK & Arkansas p.h.] — lmeddy@arkansas.net
- David Eeles** [p.h. of the 1954 Liberty series, experimental mechanization]
— eeles.1@osu.edu
- Tom Edison** [Non-European postal history] — tomedisonppcs@cs.com
- Ralph Edson** [New England 20th C — every cancel from every P.O. (1900-2000 EKU & LKU)] — edsonrj@aol.com
- L. Steve Edmondson** [Tennessee] — tenac@hctc.com
- Craig Eggleston** [Philippines, US Possessions] — cae@airmail.net
- Fred Ekenstam** [TX POW camps, Co/PM j US newspaper wrappers]
— cfekenstam@juno.com
- James F. Elin** [Arizona post. hist.] — tucscon1934@aol.com
- Mike Ellingson** [North Dakota Territory; machines] — mikeellingson@comcast.net
- Empire State Postal History Society** — <http://www.esphs.org>
- Darrell Ertzberger** [NC, VA, railroad, RFD] — mteton@aol.com
- Paul Eslinger** [MT, Dakota Territory] — elkaholic@natisp.com
- Glenn Estus** [New York] — gestus@westelcom.com
- Alyce Evans** [Wva] — DEvansUSAF@aol.com
- James W. Faber** [WY, NW OH, Hancock Co, ME, No. WI]
— faber@bluemarble.net
- John Farkas** [US Possessions] — jonfark@cs.com
- Wayne Farley** [West Virginia P. H.] — cwfary@comcast.net
- Richard Farquhar** — [seapost, military, RPO, RFD] — FARQRICH@bellsouth.net
- Norm Ferguson** [Navy covers — NS Savannah] — normjanstjoe@prodigy.net
- Walter Findlay** — waltjul@aol.com
- Ronald W. Finger** [US Navy CV's, WWI & WWII APOs & Feldpost]
— roncv43@aol.com
- Louis Fiset** [WWII civilian internment ph] — fiset@u.washington.edu
- Ed Fisher** [MI; 4th Bureau: 1/2c-Hale, 1 1/2c Harding, 1/2c postage due]
— efisherco@earthlink.net
- Ken Flagg** [Used postal stationery: US, CZ, PI; WWII APOs, Postwar APOs]
— ken0737@earthlink.net
- Jane King Fohn** [TX WWI air branches; Medina Co, TX; US#1043 (9c Alamo)]
— janekfohn@sbcglobal.net
- Jim Forte** [Dealer] — jimforte@postalhistory.com
& Website <http://postalhistory.com>
- Nancy Foutz** [Dealer/collector — postcards, adv postal cards, p.history]
— dexterpc@bestweb.net
- Myron Fox** [WWI/WWII U.S. & German military & censored mail WWI, WWII 2nd postwar occupations] — MyronFox1@aol.com
- Gene Fricks** [Literature, TN & NJ PH] — genefricks@comcast.net
- Bob & Kathy Friedman** [Dealer-worldwide p.h. & mint stationery]
— covercnr@eaze.net
- Don Garrett** [Mississippi] — Donompix@aol.com
- Craig Garrison** [WWI domestic bases; Doanes] — crg@toad.net
- Douglas Gary** [Dealer] — doug_gary@hotmail.com
- Bob Gaudian** [Connecticut Postal History] — rgstamper@aol.com
- John J. Germann** [Texas DPOs & Navy ship covers] — jghist@houston.rr.com
- Glen A. Gerner** — gbgerner@fuse.net
- Ray Getsug** [Minnesota postal history, literature] — rayg669563@aol.com
- Glenn Gholston** — mgholston@osbar.org
- Atholl S. Glass** [Stamp affixers & control perfins] — athollglass@hotmail.com
- Don Glickstein** [postal cards used in Alaska] — dglicks1@earthlink.net
- Michael Goldstein** [RPOs, streetcars, WA, D.C. pms] — caped@starpower.net
- Justin Gordon** [CT postal history, PNC's on cover] — justyod@aol.com
- Max Gors** [Dakota Territory & Tripp Co.] — maxagors@aol.com
- John Grabowski** [Prexies, famous Americans, 1941 Defense, 1902 Regular issues] — minjohn@alum.mit.edu
- Ken Grant** [Wisconsin postal history] — kgrant@uwc.edu
- Maurice Grossman** — mbgrossma@att.net
- John Grosse** — johngrosse@compuserve.com
- Ted Gruber** [Nevada] — TedGruber@aol.com
- E. J. Guerrant** [Unusual US Stamp Usages] — ejguerrant@prodigy.net
- Alex Gundel** [Mail to Foreign Destinations] — Alexander.Gundel@dlr.de
- Michael Gutman** [Mass ph & 19th cent., Precancels] — mikeg94@comcast.net
- Arthur Hadley** [Indiana, flag cancels] — ahadley1@comcast.net
- Raymond Hadley** [postal cards, Wesson; Connecticut] — ray-suzann@gsi.net
- John Hale** — jwh60@chartertn.net
- Hall-Patton, Mark** [CA: Orange Co; Bridges-related post offies, Nevada aviation]
— hallpatt@unlv.nevada.edu
- Larry Haller** [Handstamped Flags] — LJHaller@aol.com
- Ken Hamlin** [Montana postal history, photographs & ephemera]
— knphamlin@sofast.net
- Scott Hansen** [Aden censored mail, US Navy WWII, US Military stations in the Philippines] — scott.hansen@teradyne.com
- Gregory Hanson** [Civil War, unusual postmarks] — webberliz@aol.com
- John T. Hardy, Jr.** [US postal cards & general; Philippines]
— john_hardy@msn.com
- Richard A. Hargarten** [signed airmail & air race covers 1910-1940]
— rahargarten@yahoo.com
- Ron Harmon** [Florida PH] — rhrm@hotmail.com
- Labron Harris** [Dealer, postal history] — labronharr@aol.com
- Wayne Hassell** [Dealer; collects US Marines, Wisconsin & Michigan]
— junostamps@aol.com
- Thomas Hayes** [South Dakota & pre-territorial Wyoming] — dakter@nvc.net
- Karl Hellmann** [US covers, Doanes, postcards.] — karllectibles@aol.com
- Steve Henderson** [military postal history] — vshenderson@aol.com
- Gary Hendren** [Missouri PH] — g2hslm@msn.com
- Henry Higgins** [Florida; TN] — henry@xtn.net
- Jack Hilbing** [Illinois stampless; machine cancels] — jack@hilbing.net
- Robert Hill, Jr.** [Virginia postal history] — bobhill@shentel.net

- Terence Hines** [Hanover, NH & #E12-21 on cover] — terencehines@aol.com
Gerald Hof [NY, MD, VA postal history; PanAm commemorative covers, Scott US 295-300 — alfredson2@msn.com
Tim Holmes [machine cancels] — timhol@hotmail.com
John Hotchner [20th c aux marks; Xmas seals tied; Spec deliv; wreck & crash mail; some FDCs] — JMHSStamp@ix.netcom.com
B. Clyde Hutchinson [US 1861 issue; CA postal history] — bch@llcllp.com
Stan Jameson [dealer] — empire65@tampabay.rr.com
Stefan T. Jaronski [postal history of Ithaca NY; northeastern Montana; Confed. States military mail] — bug@midrivers.com
Cary E. Johnson [Michigan p.h.; Railway, Waterway & Streetcars] — cejohn@umich.edu
Gerald Johnson [3c 1851] — gdj@ix.netcom.com
William H. Johnson [Florida p.history] — whjdds@aol.com
Charles A. Jones [CO & Prexy postal history] — cgjones3614@bresnan.net
Robert D. Jones [Nebraska postal history, esp. DPOs] — robwanjones@charter.net
Barton D. Kamp [Massachusetts postal history] — bartdk@mindspring.com
Steven Kaplan [US postal cards] — skpk1984@aol.com
Gordon Katz [Maryland & DE postal history, postal history on postcards] — g.e.katz@att.net
Robert Keatts [Walla Walla Co., WA p.h.] — lkeatts@innw.net
Rodney Kelley [Arkansas, esp Conway & Pope counties] — rkel@swbell.net
Peter Keyes — [VT 19th C illustrated covers] — pbk@sover.net
Curtis R. Kimes [US naval postal history] — pmarche@jps.net
John L. Kimbrough [Confederate states] — jlksa@aol.com
Kelvin Kindahl [New England p.h.; postmarks] — Kelvin01027@charter.net
Lon King — lon@lonking.net
Bob Kittredge [US Airmail postal stationary, UC1 & UC16] — caljenkitt@aol.com
Lucien Klein [Prexies, OR: Marion & Grant Co] — lusal@msn.com
James E. Kloetzel [Scott Publishing Co] — jkloetzel@scottonline.com
Kenneth Kloss [OH: Ashland Co; "billboard" advertising covers] — monion@webtv.net
Eric Knapp [Alaska postal history] — eknapp@gsi.net
Vincent L. Knauss III [Key West ph & US Fancy Cancels] — knaussv@springfieldstampclub.org
Daniel M. Knowles [NY: Suffolk Co, Long Island; 3c 1861-auxiliary markings] — dknowles@med.cornell.edu
Kent Kobersteen [US Scott CII, unusual commercial usages, unusual off-cover stamps] — kobersteen@aol.com
William Kolodrubetz [classic US post office seals] — wkolo@prodigy.net
Konigsberg, Paul [Museum of Postal History, NYC] — pkonigsb@email.usps.gov
Van Koppersmith [Alabama & Mississippi p.h.] — cleave3@aol.com
Jim Kotanchik [Franklin Co., MA & PO Seals] — jimko@speakeasy.net
George Kramer [west; western Europe, telegraph] — gjkk@optonline.net
Ken Kreager [CO postal history; series 1851-1857 3c + 1c + 10c, World's Columbian covers, Pan Am Centennial, German states] — stampman@buffalopeak.com
Jon E. Krupnick [Pacific Flights 1936-46 & US Pacific Possessions] — jonpac@aol.com
George Kubal [Dealer] — geokubal@aol.com
Alfred Kugel [20th Cent. Military Mail, US Possessions & Offices Abroad] — afkugel@hotmail.com
Rick Kunz [RPO, AGT, RR postmarks] — rkunz@eskimo.com (see also Mobile Post Office Society)
William O. Kvale [MN p.h.: Territorial, Civil War patriotics, early Statehood] — flo3wil@aol.com
Charles LaBlonde [WWII mail to & from Switzerland & Red Cross] — clablonde@aol.com
Eliot Landau [U.S. Registry, U.S. Classics, All Lincoln issues on cover] — elandau@aol.com
Walter LaForce [US Doanes & NY RFD & Co/PM cancels] — vlwl@rochester.rr.com
Gary Laing [Virginia p.h.] — laing@naxs.com
Dick Laird [U.S. Doanes and Indiana Postal History] — d.laird@insightbb.com
Curt J. Lamm [Unusual 1851-61 townmarks] — cjlammm@netstorm.net
Eliot A. Landau — [U.S. Registry, All U.S. w/ Lincoln Stamps] — elandau@aol.com
Russell C. Lang [Nebraska] — LangWhiteOak@nntc.net
Robert M. Langer [Boston ad covers; Carroll County NH] — rla4141975@aol.com
Peter B. Larson [Idaho & U.S. postal history] — plarson@wsu.edu
Ken Lawrence — [Crystal Palace World's Fair, 1853 New York] — apsken@aol.com
Wes Leatherock — wleathus@yahoo.com
Howard Lee [Usage of the U.S. 4th Bureau Issue 6c, 7c, 8c, 11c, 12c, 13c, 14c, 17c] — gimpo@adnc.com
James E. Lee [Philatelic Literature Dealer. Collects McHenry Co, IL] — jim@jameslee.com & website: www.jameslee.com
Leslie W. Lee [WI p.history & WI Doanes] — leslee@itis.com
Ron Lessard — ronlessard@att.net
Brian R. Levy ["To the Fair" or EXPO, Long Island PH, aero] — bellobl@aol.com
Bruce Lewin [China, Hong Kong, US offices in China] — bjlewin@att.net
Matthew Liebson [Ohio PH; Licking Co., Doanes, stampless] — paperhistory@mindspring.com
Ron Leith [USA banknote issues to foreign destinations] — ronleith@uniserve.com
David C. Lingard [Florida-4 bars, Doanes, RPO, Adv. & most anything] — david_lingard@hotmail.com
James R. Littell [balloon, rocket, Zeppelin post] — zepplinat@wzrd.com
William Lizotte [VT postal history, Doanes, etc] — bill.lizotte@anr.state.vt.us
Jerry Login [US UX6 postal cards] — jerl204@msn.com
Nicholas Lombardi [US 2d Bureau issue + Registered Mail] — 8605@comcast.net
Robert Lorenz [CT postal history] — fotolorenz@aol.com
Bud Luckey [Siskiyou Co. CA; northern CA] — luckey@snowcrest.net
Len Lukens [Oregon p.h. & trans-Pacific airmail] — llukens@easystreet.com
David Lyman [World postmarks on covers or piece] — postmark@sympatico.ca
Max Lynds [Aroostook Co., Maine p.h.] — max@pwless.net
Millard Mack — millardhmack@yahoo.com
Larry Maddux [OR postal history; all over advertising covers] — lmaddux@pacifier.com
Tom Maringer [Arkansas PH] — willwhitfoot@shirepost.com
Bob Markovits [WW I Air Corps] — RLMarkovits@aol.com
Peter Martin — pmartin2020@aol.com
Richard Martorelli [Military, Postage Due] — martorel@pobox.upenn.edu
Richard Matta [MD:Montgomery Cty & PA: McKesport] — rkm@groom.com
Bernard Mayer [Oklahoma] — Bernie@m47303.com
Thomas C. Mazza — tmazza@dbllp.com
Robert McAlpine — rmcalpine63@comcast.net
Larry McBride [U.S. town & DPO cancels] — lmcbride@yahoo.com
W.T. McGreer [Dealer. Western covers to 1920] — outwest13@aol.com
David McCord [Doanes, Type E 4-Bars + AK, WA, WY, NV, OR covers] — damac52@comcast.net
R.J. McEwen [Eastern Oregon] — rjmcewen@aol.com
Chuck & Jan McFarlane [Ausdenmoore-McFarlane Stamps] — Mcmichigan@charter.net
Bob McKain [Pittsburgh, Alaska Hiway & AK APOs] — 57-vette@adelphia.net
Michael E. Mead [Britannia Enterprises - postal history dealer] — meadbritannia@aol.com
Jim Mehrer — [Dealer. Collects expo's, Navy ships] — [mehrer@postal-history.com](http://www.postal-history.com) & website <http://www.postal-history.com>
Steve Merchant [Stampless letters] — smerchant@adelphia.net
Doug Merenda [U.S. Columbians on cover, Columbian Expo] — doug43@webtv.net
Charlie Merrill [US postal history] — cwm04@sbcglobal.net
Robert G. Metcalf ["Coal" on cover] — jax@mum.net
Jim Mevarden [Milwaukee, WI ad covers; WI postal history] — mevarden@att.net

- Mark Metkin** [Idaho postal history] — metkin@mindspring.com
Jewell Meyer [Arizona - CA] — jlmeyer_2000@yahoo.com
Corbin Miller [Idaho P.h., photo postcards] — clm@lastphase.com
Minneman, Lynn [Portland, Oregon area] — lminnema@msn.com
Harvey Mirsky [US 1847 issue] — HarveyMirsky@aol.com
John Moore [US Exposition/World's Fair postal history]
 — anne.moore@comcast.net
Steve Morehead [Colorado postal history] — steveasc@ix.netcom.com
Darren Mueller [WI-Fond du Lac Co p.history] — darren.mueller@juno.com
John G. Mullen [WA state; flags; Ntl Air Mail Week; Snohomish, Skagit, Island
 County posmarks] — longjohn.wa007@netzero.com
Bob Munshower — bearmtnbobb1@cs.com
Jim Myerson [US Navy, US pioneer airmail, WA-Franklin] — jpm_ww@yahoo.com
Larry Neal [Holmes & Coshocton Counties, Ohio] — larryln@valkyrie.net
Burnham Neill [FL-Miami/Dade DPOs on PPCs; some MS, MO]
 — mbneill@bellsouth.net
Howard Ness — hbness@hotmail.com
Ray Newburn CO pre-wwII Pan Am Pacific Div; 4th & 5th Bureaus (all rates)
 — newburn@mindspring.com
Dan Nieuwlandt [S. California, WWII, Belgian Congo p.h.]
 — nieuwlandt33@msn.com
Bill Nix [Skamania Co., WA] — wanix@gorge.net
Jim Noll — [computer postage] jenca@pacbell.net
Joe Odziana — drjoeo@earthlink.net
Larry Oliver [WW postal history, pre 1900 & war mails]
 — oliver.lawrence@mayo.edu
Clay Olson [Tioga Co., PA] — shawmut@comcast.net
Robert Omberg [Idaho p.h.] — hsbebay@aol.com
Kevin O'Reilly [NWT, Yukon & Labrador; US APOs in Canada]
 — kor@theedge.ca
Steve Pacetti [1861 1c, Hawaii, Prexie postal history] — sbp57@comcast.net
Dennis Pack [Sub-station postmarks; Utah ph, USCG] — packd@hbc.com
John Palm [Merced & Mariposa Co., CA] — jwpalm@elite.net
Ray Palmer [OR: Yamhill, Polk Counties] — rpalmer@onlinemac.com
Dr. Everett L. Parker [Pitcairn, Canada, Maine] — eparker@midmaine.com
Richard Parker [Ohio Stampless] — lorandrh@aol.com
Alan Parsons [US, UN, NY: Steuben, Schuyler & Chemung counties]
 — alatholleyrd@aol.com
Ron Pascale [CT fancy cancels, Waturbury & Putnam Liberty postal history]
 — pascale@pascale-lamorte.com
James Patterson — patterson@azbar.org
Robert Payne [machine cancels world wide-Christmas seal]
 — guroobob@aol.com
Donald Pearson [IN & OH p.history, machines] — donpearson@aol.com
Norman Pence [OK & Indian Territory] — norpen@hotmail.com
Randy Pence [Yangtze River Patrol; WWI medical] — catclan@earthlink.net
Ken Pendergast — kenp44@charter.net
Paul E. Petosky [Michigan postal history; US & Canada post offices on
 postcards — paul_petosky@yahoo.com
 Website: www.grandmaraismichigan.com/History/postmarks.htm
James C. Pierce [Dakota Territory; 1851-1861 3-c US] — jpqqwe@earthlink.net
Kenneth A. Pitt [Postal history dealer. Collects LI NY, Dead Letter office to 1870,
 Pioneer post cards] — pittj@erols.com
Hans Pohler [Ohio postal history, Germany, military] — hpohler@juno.com
Stephen Prigozy [Telegraph & electrical covers] — prigozys@aol.com
Ada M. Prill [Delaware Co., NY] — ada@math.rochester.edu
Robert Quintero [Detroit Mail Boat/Detroit River Sta 1895-Current]
 — qover@comcast.net
Ben Ramkissoon [Postal history of Chicaco & Dupage Co., IL; history of U.S.
 space (lunar) exploration] — rramkissoon@juno.com
Peter Rathwell [AZ pre-1890; 1869 US or Canada large Queens]
 — prathwell@swlaw.com
Robert D. Rawlins [naval covers] — rawlins@sonic.net
Gale J. Raymond [island mail, small nations, expeditions, military
 forces, UN forces, courier mail] — c/o laposta_cclark@hotmail.com
Mark Reasoner [Ohio] mreason@columbus.rr.com
Michael J. Rainey [Western covers, NV, SIE, YUB counties]
 — rainey@nccn.net
Ramkissoon, Reuben A. — rramkissoon@juno.com
Byron L. Reed [South Dakota p.h.] — laposta@byronreed.com
Thomas E. Reiersgord [MN: Hennepin Co; Ux27 usages]
 — Reiersgord@aol.com
Thomas Richards [Movie star mail] — ThomasR1@ohiodominican.edu
Martin Richardson [OH & IL ph, officially sealed, US Local posts]
 — martinR362@aol.com
Thomas Richardson [North Carolina P.H., APOs] — stamps@northstate.net
Harold Richow [WWI & Civilian Conservation Corp covers] — harr@mchsi.com
Al Ring [Arizona postal history] — ringal@msn.com
Norm Ritchie [CO, UT, AZ & NM photos, postal history] — mnp@ctos.com
Linda Roberts [Utah: Park City postmarks, postcards, stocks,
 Tokens, stereoviews, bottles, etc] — robertsfamily@earthlink.net
William B. Robinson [Dealer; collects Wisconsin postal history]
 — wbrob@hotmail.com
Roger Robison [Montana postal history] — ???
Gilbert M. Roderick [auction house: Downeast Stamps. Collects Straight line
 stampless, cameo advertising] — destamps@acadia.net
Michael Rogers — mrogersinc@aol.com
Robert C. Roland [post cards, postal history, U.S.] — robt.roland@sbcglobal.net
Romanelli, Paul J. [blackjacks on cover; VT, ME postal history]
 — docroma2000@yahoo.com
Robert G. Rose [New Jersey p.h.] — rrose@pitneyhardin.com
Hal Ross [Kansas Territorials & postmarks] — halross@sbcglobal.net
Steven Roth [Prexie-era foreign destn & WWII] — stevenroth@comcast.net
Art Rupert [Rural Branches & Stations, CPO] — aerupert@bentonrea.com
Roger Rydberg [Colorado postal history] — rrydberg5@comcast.net
Russ Ryle [Indiana p.h; U.S. Registered material] — theyles@bluemarble.net
Bill Sammis [US Express Company labels, stamps & covers]
 — cds13@cornell.edu
William A. Sandrik [Dealer + collects Disinfected mail, Austrian Lloyd]
 — sandrik42@verizon.net + www.ballstonphilatelics.com
A.J. Savakis [Ohio-machines] — mcsforum@earthlink.net
W. Michael Schaffer [UN postal history, forces mail] — unmike@msn.com
Allan Schefer [U.S. foreign mails 1861-1870; fancy cancels, 3c US 1861,
 Bicycle advertising covers & pcs, France 1871-75 ceres issue, prexies]
 — schef21n@netscape.net
Henry B. Scheuer [U.S. FDCs, pre-1935] — hscheuer@jmsonline.com
Steve Schmale [Dealer-pc & photos. Collects Plumas Co, Sierras & gold mining
 related] — outweststeve@comcast.net
Dennis W. Schmidt [US Official postal stationery/covers]
 — officials2001@yahoo.com
Fred Schmitt — [Dealer] — fred@fredschmitt.com & http://www.fredschmitt.com
Robert Schultz [Missouri postal history] — schulhstry@aol.com
Joseph Sedivy [1909 corners on cover & card; RPO, Chicago streetcars]
 — JNJSED717@aol.com
John Seidl — [Cayman Islands etc] jseidl@mindspring.com
Larry R. Sell [postal history/banknotes, 1861, 1902's] — larrysell@infoblvd.net
Mike Senta [Alaska postal history] — msenta@pobox.mtaonline.net
Norman Shachat [Phila. & Bucks Co. PH] — nshachat@msn.com
Edwin H. Shane [Philippines, WWII military PI, masonic, Computers
 — edmarshane@earthlink.net
Robert Shaub [PA: York Co; MD: Baltimore Co] — farmersdaughter@cyberia.com
Terry Shaw [Alaska] — cgsarchxx@aol.com
Timothy M. Sheehan [NM Territorial postal history] — sheehantm@aol.com
Gina Sheridan — [eclectic] gsherida8502@yahoo.com
Lawrence Sherman — larrysberman@san.rr.com
David J. Simmons [Israel, Palestine, Gaza; U.S. Seaboard, Worcester MA]
 — dsim465835@cs.com
Roland Simoneau [Nevada postal history] — rsimoneau1@cfl.rr.com
Ed Siskin [U.S. Colonial] — jeananded@comcast.net
Rich Small [Machine cancels, post offices] — rsmall003@comcast.net
 & http://hometown.aol.com/rsmall9293/mcfmain.htm

- R. J. "Jack" Smalling** [Iowa DPOs; baseball autographs] — jack@baseballaddresses.com
- Chet Smith** [US post offices; branches & stations] — cms@psu.edu
- Jack M. Smith, Sr.** [Texas DPOs; TX Doane Co-ordinator] — jandd@tstar.net
- Fred Smythe** — fredabet@paulbunyan.net
- Gus Spector** [PA ad covers & postal history] — gspec56@aol.com
- Keith Spencer** [Alberta & western Canada] — krs2@ualberta.ca
- Duane Spidle** [Colorado postal history & RPOs; 1907 & earlier precancels] — dspidle@dspidle.cnc.net
- Anita Sprinkle** [Northcentral PA DPOs] — lysprank@aol.com
- Ken Stach** [Dakota & Nebraska territories] — kstach@houston.rr.com
- Kurt Stauffer** — [WWII POW mail & military postal history] — kastauffer@aol.com
- Randy Stehle** — RSTEHLE@ix.netcom.com
- Rex H. "Jim" Stever** [Republic of Texas] — rhstever@hotmail.com
- Carl Stieg** [Washington, D.C.] — carl_phil@webtv.net
- Seymour B. Stiss** (Chicago & IL postal history) — sbstiss@msn.com
- Robert Stoldal** [Nevada] — stoldal@lvcom.com
- Matt Stoll** [Samoa, Arizona & NJ p.h.] — stoll57@yahoo.com
- Greg Stone** [stampless covers] — michcovers@ec.rr.com
- David L. Straight** [Pneumatic mail] — dls@library.wustl.edu
- Howard P. Strohn** [CA: Monterey & San Benito Co] — howardpstrohn@mybluelight.com
- Eric Sullivan** [Dealer, postcards. Collects Durant, Raquette Lake, Adirondacks, NY; Gildersleeve, Portland, CT. PH, postcards, ephemera. — oldcards2@aol.com
- Bob Summerell** [Dealer: Postal History/Deltiology. Collects: worldwide PH early cinema/theatre deltiology] — kusummer@aol.com
- Summers, Ron** [Philadelphia; ad covers w/ furnaces] — summers1Wmindspring.com
- Greg Sutherland** — [Dealer: Freeman's philatelic literature] gregfreecoax.net http://www.gregfree.com
- Robert Svoboda** [Montana postal history] — SVOBODA7@aol.com
- Bob Swanson** [WWI p.h.] — rds@swansongrp.com & www.swansongrp.com/posthist.html
- John Swanson** [postcards, general p.history] — jns@johnninaswanson.com
- Bill Tatham** [California] — wtatham@gte.net
- Michael Taugher** [So Cal-LA, Ventura, San Diego counties] — mtaugher@aol.com
- Lavar Taylor** [German Colonies, Hong Kong, US mail to Germany; German Seapost/Schiffspost] — ltaylor@taylorlaw.com
- Stephen T. Taylor** [Dealer: USA stamps & postal history] — staylor995@aol.com & www.stephentaylor.co.uk
- Gerry Tenney** [Washington Franklins & Prexies, Westchester & Ulster Counties NY, C23's commercial usage; 20th c 5c to Foreign destinations; Cancels on banknotes off cover, 2c o & 5c] — gtenney@earthlink.net
- The Collectors Club** — (New York) collectorsclub@nac.net
- David Thompson** [Wisconsin p.h.] — thompdae@msn.com
- Don Thompson** [Stampless NH, MA, FL] — thomcat7405@aol.com
- Harvey Tilles** — tilles@triad.rr.com
- Don Tocher** [19th Century US] — dontoch@ix.netcom.com & http://www.postalnet.com/dontocher/
- Allan Tomey** [Indian war military & war of 1812, esp Naval] — atomey@cs.com
- Bob Trachimowicz** [Worcester, Mass. P.history; Wesson Tobs of Worcester] — bob.track@wgint.com
- William Treat** [CO: Clear Creek, Gilpin & Jefferson counties 1850s-1930s] — jtsouthwest@msn.com
- Kenneth Tretten** — [Iowa: Floyd Co.] revenuer@omnitel.com
- Selden Trimble** [Confederate, early U.S.] — strimble@rollanet.org
- Ron Trosclair** [Louisiana postal history] — rontrosclair@yahoo.com
- Joseph A. Turek** [classic US, flag cancels, Doanes] — joecpa312@aol.com
- Henry G. Turnbull** [Arizona & Maine p.h.] — aznphgt1@webtv.net
- Tom Turner** [Alabama postal history] — turnertomp@aol.com
- William T. Uhls** [19th C US & Canal Zone covers] — buhls@austin.rr.com
- Bill Ulaszewski** [Ohio history, covers, folded letters] — odeman99@aol.com
- Tom Unterberger** [WI: Douglas County] — unterberger@chartermi.net
- Tonny van Loij** — tonnyvanl@msn.com
- Dirk van Gelderen** [Alaska postal history] — dirk@esveld.nl
- Hal Vogel** — halvogel@ispwest.com
- Tim Wait** [IL: Boone Co, Wa Bicentennial 1932, Spec Deliv Bicycle Airmail Special Deliv combo] — t.wait@insightbb.com
- Jim Walker** [NJ: Coryell Ferry Stamp Club. Collects NJ & Eastern PA postal history] — jwalker@earthlink.net
- W. Danforth Walker** [MD: Baltimore, Howard Co., Westminster] — dan@insurecollectibles.com
- Gordon L. Wall** [CA,NV,NM,WI,AZ pre-cancels; Finland] — gordonwallwis@aol.com
- Bill Wallace** [IL: Cook, Lake, DuPage, Ogle counties; Chicago suburbs; ND: western counties] — wallacehoss@aol.com
- Charles Wallis** [OK & Indian Territory] — cswallis@telepath.com
- Lauck Walton** [Early US machine cancels, unusual usages on postal cards, C&D, county & postmaster cancels] — jwalton@shentel.net
- William C. Walton** [Mexico, Territorial covers] — wcw078@webtv.net
- Ron Wankel** [Nebraska & WWII APOs on #UC9] — margiegurley@aol.com
- Ron Ward** [Maryland PH] — Anoph2@aol.com
- Richard Warfield** [Dealer. Collects RPOs, MD Doanes, early Flag & machine cancels.] — everettbooks@comcast.net
- Robert Washburn** [modern US postal history esp. usages of PNCs] — stamps@kynd.net
- Jim Watson** [Mendocino/Lake Co. CA cancels] — pygwats@mcn.org
- George P. Wagner** [US p.history-interesting uses-small banknotes to modern; 2nd & 4th Bureau, Wash-Frank, Prex, Liberty] — gpwwauk@aol.com
- John S. Weigle** [CA: Ventura Co; interrupted mail; officially sealed mail of world, auxilliary marks] — jweigle@vcnet.com
- Rich Weiner** [18th & 19th C letters w/ high content value; NC stampless Covers] — rweiner@duke.edu
- Larry Weinstock** [Dealer-Western postal history] — wstampscovers@aol.com
- Douglas Weisz** [Dealer U.S. covers] — weiszcovers@adelphia.net
- Robert B. Whitney** [FL & CT postal history] — rmwhit1@juno.com
- C. Michael Wiedemann** [Cutlery advertising, FL postal history] — cmikew@mindspring.com
- Ken White** [AZ, NM, & France] — kenwhite@northlink.com
- Clarence J. Winstead** [NC postcards, RPOs & Doanes] — clarencewinstead@hotmail.com
- Richard F. Winter** [transatlantic mail] — rfwinter@bellsouth.net
- Kirk Wolford** [Dealer. Collects US postal cards & stationery, military postal History (all services), US p.h., possessions, & airmail] — krkstpc@goldstate.net
- Bob Yacano** — [Philippines only] ryacano@triad.rr.com
- Gene Youngman** — youngmanpc@yahoo.com
- Robert J. Zamen** [Machine cancels & IL] — bzame@aol.com
- Nicholas Zevos** [Postal history of Northern New York] — zevosn@potdamsd.edu
- Michael Zolno** — mzolno@aol.com

POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETIES (Listed by request)

Mobile Post Office Society — <http://www.eskimo.com/~rkunz/mposhome.html>

(For a listing of all U.S. State Postal History Societies on-line, see the web page for the Empire State Postal History Society) — <http://www.esphs.org/usphsoc.html>



Prexies at War

By Richard Martorelli

Introduction

My son John recently saw me reading a WWII history magazine, and teased me. “Hey Dad”, he said, “I know how it ends. Besides, what is there new to learn about that war?” A similar thought could be expressed about the US Presidential definitive stamp issue of 1938 (the “Prexies”). After all, they are almost 70 years old and were replaced by the Liberty series in 1954, which has also been supplanted several times over in turn. Yet, the Prexies persist. New examples of in-period usages continue to be found, and record prices for material are set and broken with regularity on eBay. Unlike old soldiers, these stamps have not just faded away. All in all, there were approximately 240 billion Prexie stamps issued from 1938 thru 1958, with a face value of \$8.8 billion. The quantity issued of the 1, 2 and 3 cents declined about 50% during the 1941-1944 years, as the “For Defense” series (Scott#99-901) was intended to be the primary definitive.

There are several different ways to present and discuss the Presidential Series. In “*The Prexies*”, author Roland Rustad devotes most of his effort to a comprehensive review of each denomination. In *Prexie Postal History*, edited by Bill Helbock, the individual chapter authors write about collecting by face value and solo stamp usage, specializing in depth in one value, or demonstrating specific types of usage, such as on overseas airmail. This article, and my collecting, more follows the approach outlined by Stephen Suffet in his chapter “Collecting and Exhibiting Strategies”. In general, discussed below are examples of various domestic mail services used to and from soldiers around the world, primarily handled in the military postal system and with Prexies as franking. US troops were stationed in over 70 countries, and on six of the seven continents. The Prexie stamps showed up around the world and were used for mail home.

In the introduction of their book “*A Price Guide to US APO Cancellations of the Second World War*”, Helbock and Forte discuss the frequency distribution of APO covers, noting both APO numbers and postage. They state that 95 % of covers will be one of three franking types—“free”, a Transport issue or an airmail postal stationary envelope (PSE). In preparing this article, I tested their

premise. My collection of APO covers is based on the sender’s unit, rather than only the APO number. I have a wide range of covers, consisting of many commonly occurring APO numbers, as well as a few rarer items. All theaters of war from the 1941-1946 period are represented. Sure enough, I found that about 95% were one of the three franking types. The remaining 5% became the basis of this article. It is a review of the use of the Prexies on APO/FPO mail in the World War II period, and shows more typical or commonly found examples of the stamps used for different classes of mail and services. Not all stamps or all possible combinations are discussed; for example, there are no single use \$0.04½ White House covers. Still, there’s plenty here to talk about.

1st Class Mail

When the Prexie series was initiated, the 1st class domestic rate was \$0.03/oz. **Figure 1 top** shows an April 1941 envelope mailed by a USMC officer on board the *USS George F. Elliot (AP-13)*, using 1c Washington and 2c Adams booklet singles. The ship was taking the 1st Marine Brigade to the Caribbean for training exercises. This was one month before the British occupied Iceland, and three months before the 1st Marines were sent to Iceland as replacements for the British garrison. First class mail sent by military personnel still required regular postage from December 1941, when the United States officially entered the war, and March 31, 1942. **Figure 1 middle** is a February 1942 usage by a 5th Infantry Division soldier from APO 810 Iceland of a 3c Jefferson booklet single. The envelope was addressed to a shoe company, possibly ordering warm boots. For purposes of determining the appropriate postage rate, mail sent from an Army Post Office outside of the Continental United States (CONUS) was considered as being sent from a domestic US post office. In the case of parcel post, where postage rates are a factor of both weight and distance, mail from a soldier was considered to originate in the city of the sender’s APO/FPO postal concentration center (New York, San Francisco, etc.). During the war, Congress authorized two special armed forces postal privileges. One of them, effective April 1, 1942, was free surface mail, in either the military or civilian postal systems, for mail to, from or within CONUS. This “free frank” privilege was only for active duty military personnel, and the privilege was not extended to other civilians in groups working for or on behalf of the armed forces. **Figure 1 bottom**



Figure 1

shows a letter mailed in 1944 from APO 501, Australia. The sender was a member of the American Red Cross (ARC), and had to use a 3c Jefferson sheet single to pay the regular 1st class letter rate.

The only exception to the surface mail free postage privilege was for small packages sent from overseas. If a soldier wanted to send this type of item, for example a small gift, to someone in the US, he had the choice of 3rd class or parcel post (depending upon weight under/over 8 ozs.) at low cost and slow delivery, airmail at high cost and fast delivery or 1st class mail at civilian rates with an in-between transit time. **Figure 2 top** is a part of a parcel mailed in August 1942 from APO 826

in the Panama Canal Zone. The wrapper is marked with both a rubberstamped "BY AIR MAIL" and a manuscript "First Class". It bears \$0.36 in stamps, including three 10c Tylers. As this is only a part of the wrapper, we cannot determine how much the gift parcel weighed. The postage applied is appropriate for either 1st class (12 oz. x \$0.03/oz) or the special armed forces airmail rate (6 oz. x \$0.06/oz). The comparable 3rd class rate was \$0.1½ / 2oz and parcel post (Zone 7) would have been \$0.11 for the 1st pound.

The free frank concession for soldiers and sailors also applied to postcards, as did the exclusion of civilian use. **Figure 2 middle** illustrates a May 1945 postcard

mailed through APO 651. It was sent by an ARC worker at a French Riviera "R & R" (rest & relaxation) camp, and is franked with a 1c Washington sheet stamp for the \$0.01/card rate. **Figure 2 bottom**, however, is a head-scratcher. This postcard is an April 1945 usage by AAF officer from same APO 651 in Nice, France and is also franked with a 1c Washington sheet stamp. From the message, it is likely that the sender was aware of and had used the free mail privilege. He was assigned the 719th Bomb Squadron flying B-24's out of Grottaglieto in the "heel" of Italy, from January 1944 thru May 1945, and used APO#520, operated out of Cerignola, Italy, about 90 miles north, as his return address. It appears that APO #651 was the post office for this rest camp in the south of France, and as such, had all types of military and civilian visitors. To avoid the necessity for change making, or having to review all outgoing mail to see who was or was not eligible to use the APO, could the postcards at the military canteen have been sold pre-stamped?



Figure 2

The other 1st class postage rate in the early 1940's was the local intracity letter. There were two classifications of local letters—mailed either at a “carrier” or a “non-carrier” post office. A carrier post office (PO) letter is one where the letter is mailed at one post office for delivery by carrier within the same post office delivery area (ex: different branches of the same city post office). A non-carrier post office letter is one where the letter is mailed at a post office for delivery by that same post office (ex: same physical building/branch of a city

post office). In 1941, the carrier PO rate was \$0.02/oz (until eliminated in March 1944), and the non-carrier PO rate was \$0.01/oz.

Prior to WWII, and still today, naval ship cancel collecting was a popular hobby. In **Figure 3 top**, a collector wanted a cancellation from the *USS Reuben James* (DD-245), a post-World War I four-stack destroyer with a crew of 101. The sender attempted usage of \$0.02 carrier PO rate, likely using the theory that the ship was based in New York City, and the cover would be sent to another NYC address. This cancel request hap-

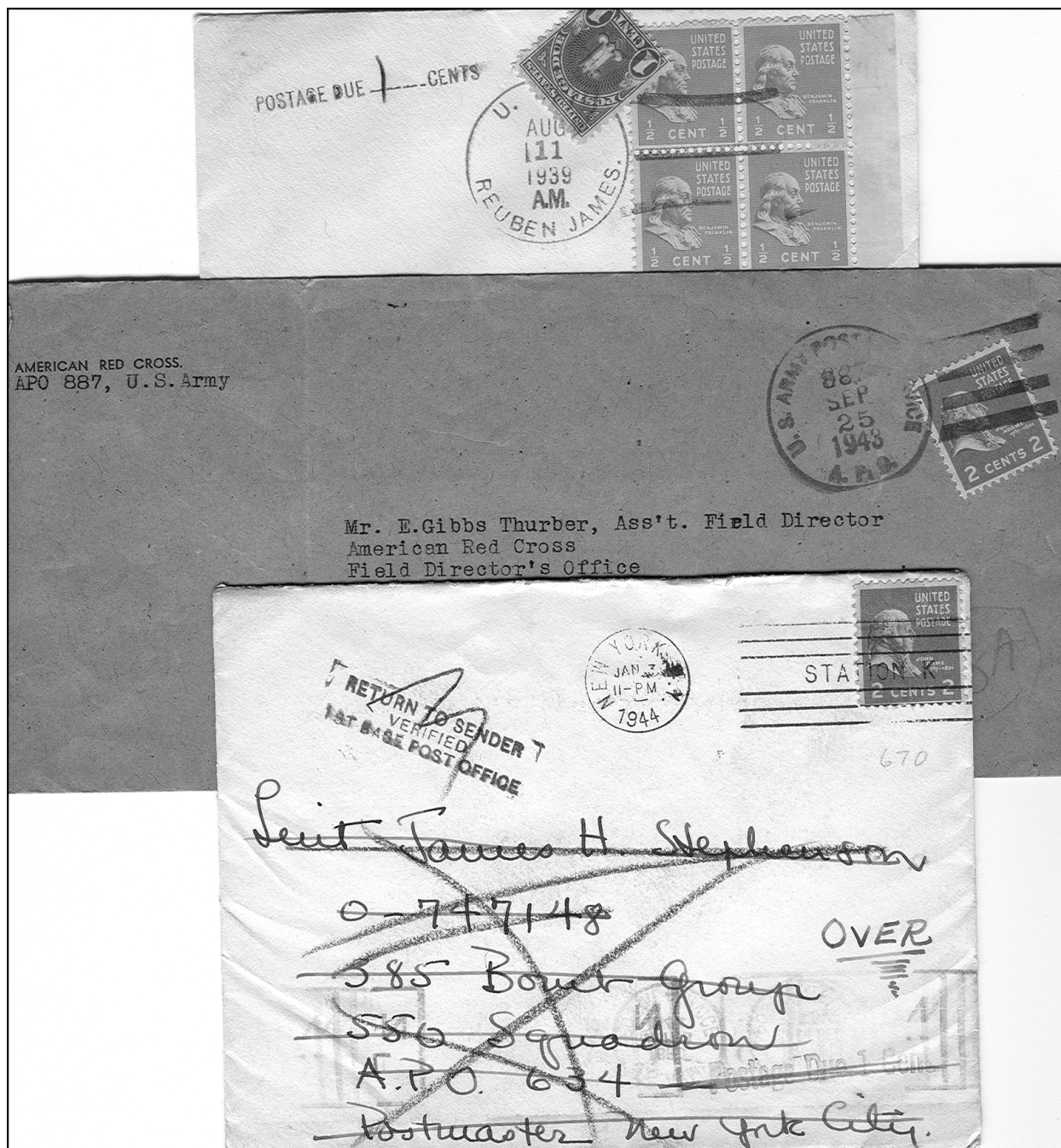


Figure 3

pened just before the German invasion of Poland and the assignment of the *Reuben James* to the Neutrality Patrol. This force was created by President Roosevelt to report any movement of belligerent forces towards the coasts of the United States or the West Indies. On October 31, 1941, while participating in protecting a convoy from Nova Scotia to Great Britain, the *Reuben James* was torpedoed by German submarine U-562 and sunk, becoming the first U.S. Navy ship sunk by hostile action in World War II. This sealed envelope is franked with four ½ c Franklin sheet stamps. If the mailer were attempting to use the 3rd class single piece printed matter (a.k.a. "Christmas card" rate), they would have only used three ½ c stamps and left it unsealed. When handled by the Post Office, the envelope was uprated to 1st Class and postage due of \$0.01 affixed.

As noted above, the free surface mail privilege was not given to members of non-military organizations who otherwise were able to use the military postal system. **Figure 3 middle** is a September 1943 usage by the American Red Cross headquarters of a 2c Adams sheet single for official business mail. The envelope was sent from APO 887, HQ-European Theater of Operations, London, to a Red Cross Field Director at APO 638, IX Air Defense Command, Sunninghill, England, about 25 miles away, using the Army Postal System. The sender and the Army postal clerk must have thought this mailing fit within the definition of a "local carrier PO" letter, requiring only \$0.02 postage.

The last example of the attempted use of the local letter rate is this January 1944 envelope, shown in **Figure 3 bottom**. Surface mail from civilians to service personnel was governed by existing domestic rates, as the postage was for delivery to the continental US Port of Embarkation (usually New York or San Francisco). The illustrated letter was mailed in New York City and addressed to APO 634, c/o Postmaster New York City. In the sender's mind, this was the meaning of a local intracity letter, and so only affixed \$0.02 postage, using a 2c Adams sheet stamp. The Post Office Department did not agree, calling it instead a regular 1st class letter requiring \$0.03 postage, and charged postage due of \$0.01. The addressee was a navigator on a B-17 bomber that was shot down over Germany. The good news is all ten crewmen survived the crash and their time as POW's. This envelope was marked "Return to Sender" when the airman's status as missing in action was confirmed. As an example of the transit time of surface mail, this letter was postmarked January 3, 1944, and was not received at the airbase in England until some-

time after the addressee had been shot down on January 29. It was marked "MIA" and the letter returned to sender on February 22.

Domestic Airmail

The domestic airmail rate in 1941 was \$0.06/ ½ oz. This was increased to \$0.08/ ½ oz in March 1944, and decreased to \$0.05/ ½ oz in 1947. A special military reduced rate of \$0.06/oz. for mail from overseas locations to CONUS was authorized December 25, 1941. The reduced rate was later authorized for civilians writing to military personnel overseas, and to various civilians working outside the US for the military or the government, including ARC, UNRRA, war correspondents, and defense contractors. This rate privilege was also extended to Allied nation soldiers using the overseas APO system.

Figure 4 top is a cover mailed in June 1943 by a US Navy Armed Guard sailor, using a pair of 3c Jefferson coil stamps. Because all Armed Guard mail was processed thru the civilian mail system, it is hard to say if this letter originated overseas or not. Because the envelope has a "Passed by Naval Censor" hand stamp, the best opinion is that the letter was written outside of the United States, censored on board the merchant ship by the Armed Guard officer, and then sent in bulk to the New York Armed Guard Center. The September 1943 envelope in **Figure 4 middle**, on the other hand, is definitely of a domestic origin. An officer attending the US Army Command & General Staff School (C&GSS) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, mailed this letter. The C&GSS educates and trains intermediate level Army Officers to operate as field grade commanders and staff officers. Mailed from Colorado (on field maneuvers?) to Hawaii, the pair of 3c Jefferson coils pays for airmail to California, and then the "free mail" privilege would have carried the letter by surface mail to Hawaii. Under ordinary circumstances, the Hawaiian "Clipper" rate was \$0.20/ ½ oz for air service. The manuscript "Clipper" notation in the corner may indicate that this letter did go that route because of the military sender. **Figure 4 2nd from bottom** is a May 1944 usage by Woman Marine from Camp Lejeune, NC of pair of 1c Washington sheet stamps that are used to make up March 1944 8c rate. Not every serviceman was as aware or conscientious of the correct rates. **Figure 4 bottom** shows a short paid June 1945 usage by an officer in Patrol Bombing Squadron 99 (VBP 99) from California. This was a PBM Mariner Flying Boat training squadron based at Alameda, California that ferried crews to Hawaii after completion of their train-

ing. The sender franked his letter with a 3c Jefferson booklet pair, resulting in 2c postage due being collected on delivery as the letter was mailed in Oakland. The pilot may have forgotten that he was mailing the letter

in the CONUS, where the civilian \$0.08 rate was in effect, as opposed to Hawaii, where the \$0.06 concession rate would have applied.



Figure 4

Figure 5 top is an October 16, 1946 postwar usage of an 8c VanBuren stamp by a civilian, mailed through APO 500, Tokyo, working for the military in Japan. In late 1946, efforts were initiated by the US, working through the Public Health and Welfare (PH&W) Section of the Allied Occupation Forces to undertake a long-range study of the medical and biological effects of the atomic bomb. The August 1948 5c Monroe usage in **Figure 5 middle** is on a War Department official mail

envelope from APO 209, HQ US Troops in Trieste. Under the terms of the 1947 Peace Treaty with Italy, on an interim basis, the United States, Great Britain, and Yugoslavia were to administer and protect the Territory of Trieste, which was divided into two zones. Zone A, administered by the American and British contingents was primarily the metropolitan area, while Zone B, administered by the Yugoslavs, was primarily the hinterland. Finally, in 1954, Italy, Yugoslavia, and the



Figure 5

major powers agreed that Zone A would pass into Italian administration and Zone B into Yugoslav administration. The government “penalty clause” in the UR corner covers only basic 1st class service, and the postage for airmail fee had to be added. Both of these envelopes were mailed from outside the official geographical place known as “the United States of America”. In practice, domestic postage rates have always been applied to mail to/from the US, its territories and possessions. Since the Spanish American War, domestic rates have also been applied to mail from military post offices abroad. This is because the APO & FPO systems are officially recognized as US post offices. So, technically, these two letters were treated as domestic mail. The postmark date and rate of Figure 5 (top) are in contradiction to each other. Effective October 1, 1946, there were two changes in domestic airmail rates. First, the wartime discount rate for military personnel mail to the US (\$0.06/ ½ oz) was ended. So, a serviceman, or civilian serving with the US armed forces, mailing a letter from overseas to CONUS would have to pay the then-current domestic airmail rate. This rate, as noted before, had changed from \$0.06/oz to \$0.08/oz in March 1944. At first glance then, the 8c Prexie paid the correct rate. The other change, however, was that the domestic airmail rate became \$0.05/oz. So this letter was actually overpaid, probably by force of habit or lack of awareness of the rate change. It will be noted that this letter is addressed to Canada. Does this change the above analysis? Actually, no, it doesn’t. Starting in August 1928, the airmail letter rate between the US and Canada was the same as each country’s domestic airmail rates. In addition, until April 1943, when Canada imposed a \$0.01 war tax on the first ounce of airmail, such a letter cost the same amount in Canada or the US, whether mailed within or between the two countries. Even after the US and Canadian domestic airmail rate amounts diverged in 1943, the cost to mail a cross-border airmail letter from one country was the same as the cost of mailing an airmail letter within that country. For example, in 1964, it cost \$0.08 to mail an airmail letter within the US or from the US to Canada; at the same time, it cost \$0.07 to mail an airmail letter within Canada or from Canada to the US. This rate situation stayed in place until the mid-1970’s, when the domestic airmail classification and distinct rate were eliminated by Canada (1976) and the US (1977).

Airmail rates changed once more in the Prexies lifetime, and that was back to \$0.06 in January 1949. **Figure 5 2nd from bottom** is an airmail registered letter with \$0.31 postage mailed in March 1949 from APO

757, HQ US European Theater of Operations Forces, Frankfurt, Germany. The 1c Washington sheet and the 5c Monroe electric eye single stamps pay the airmail rate, and a 25c McKinley pays the newly increased basic registration fee. With the introduction of the Liberty series in 1954, the Presidential series was gradually withdrawn from circulation. **Figure 5 bottom** is a very late usage in October 1962. On this letter, with a return address of APO 23, Thule AB, Greenland and postmarked from APO 862, St. Johns, Newfoundland, a 1c Washington coil stamp is used to make up the 7c rate implemented in August 1958.

Overseas Airmail

The second special armed forces postal privilege authorized by Congress during WWII was chronologically the first approved. A reduced airmail rate of \$0.06/ ½ oz. to or from military personnel at overseas locations to the continental United States (CONUS) was authorized December 25, 1941. This included civilians writing to service personnel. Over its life, this privilege was extended to various civilians, including those working for the military or the US government, American Red Cross, UN Refuge Relief Administration, war correspondents, and defense contractors. Allied nation soldiers using the American military postal system could also use the reduced airmail rate.

Figure 6 top is a letter from a serviceman of the 1st Armored Division stationed in Northern Ireland. The troops were preparing for Operation Torch, the invasion of North Africa in November 1942. It is franked with a 6c J.Q. Adams, paying the concession airmail rate. Also note the 4-bar cancel of APO 251, with a date of July 1, 1942. This date was the beginning of the “numberless cancels” period. Due to security concerns about being able to link an organizational unit (regiment, division, etc) with a physical location via the APO number, the Army decided to excise the APO number from all canceling devices. Since, however, the soldiers were required to use their APO number in the return address, it was still possible to identify a piece of mail with a given unit. By September 1943, the “numberless cancels” policy was revoked, and APO numbers again were visible in the canceling devices. **Figure 6 middle** is a corresponding usage of the airmail concession rate from a civilian to a serviceman, also using a single 6c J.Q. Adams. This letter was mailed to a paratrooper attached to the 101st Airborne who participated in the D-Day jump and was killed in action, noted by the hand stamp and the manuscript notation by the Division Surgeon.



Figure 6

Figure 6 2nd from bottom is a March 1944 usage from a soldier at APO 252, 2nd Armored Division, training in England for the European invasion, to the CONUS. The postage used is a booklet pair of the 3c Jefferson. The front of the envelope has a civilian parcel post double ring cancel used to note that a package had been requested by the soldier, and was being sent in response to that specific request. Families and friends sent so many "goodie boxes" that the parcels clogged the military postal system overseas. In 1942, and again in 1943, restrictions were placed on the size and weight of parcels addressed for delivery outside of the US. In the January 1943 regulations, Order No. 19687 of the US Post Office, the rule was published that before a package could be sent to an overseas APO, proof had to be shown to the Post Office that the serviceman or woman had request the parcel. Quoting one soldier's letter, "This is a formal request—so you oughtn't to have any trouble with the Post Office. I think it is the most asinine rule I've heard of. Every guy over here wants good things from home."

To make up the \$0.06 rate or multiples for mail greater than ½ ounce, there are any numbers of combinations of Prexies alone, or Prexies used with other stamps, that can exist. **Figure 6 bottom** is a March 1944 usage of 2c Adams coil strip of three from a US Navy Officer receiving mail through APO 787, Cairo but using Navy censorship and the FPO system for outgoing mail. The sender was a member of a War and Navy Departments Joint Intelligence Collection Agency (JICA), which were responsible for the collection and transmission of non-combat intelligence, management of human intelligence sources (spies and

OSS agents), and dissemination of information with their theater of operations.

Figure 7 illustrates a 1c Washington sheet single with an Overrun Nations mailed from a member of the Office of Strategic Services (the OSS was the predecessor to the CIA.) at APO 413, London, England in Jan 1945, a 3c Jefferson sheet single with a 3c National Defense addressed to a liberated Merchant Marine POW in September 1945 and a 5c Monroe sheet single used with a 1c National Defense on a commercial mail item from the USS Orion (AS18) stationed in Australia in June 1944. **Figure 8** shows Prexies used in combination with other stamps to make up multiples of the basic rate. These examples include block of four ½ c Franklin added to a pair of Overrun Nations a for double

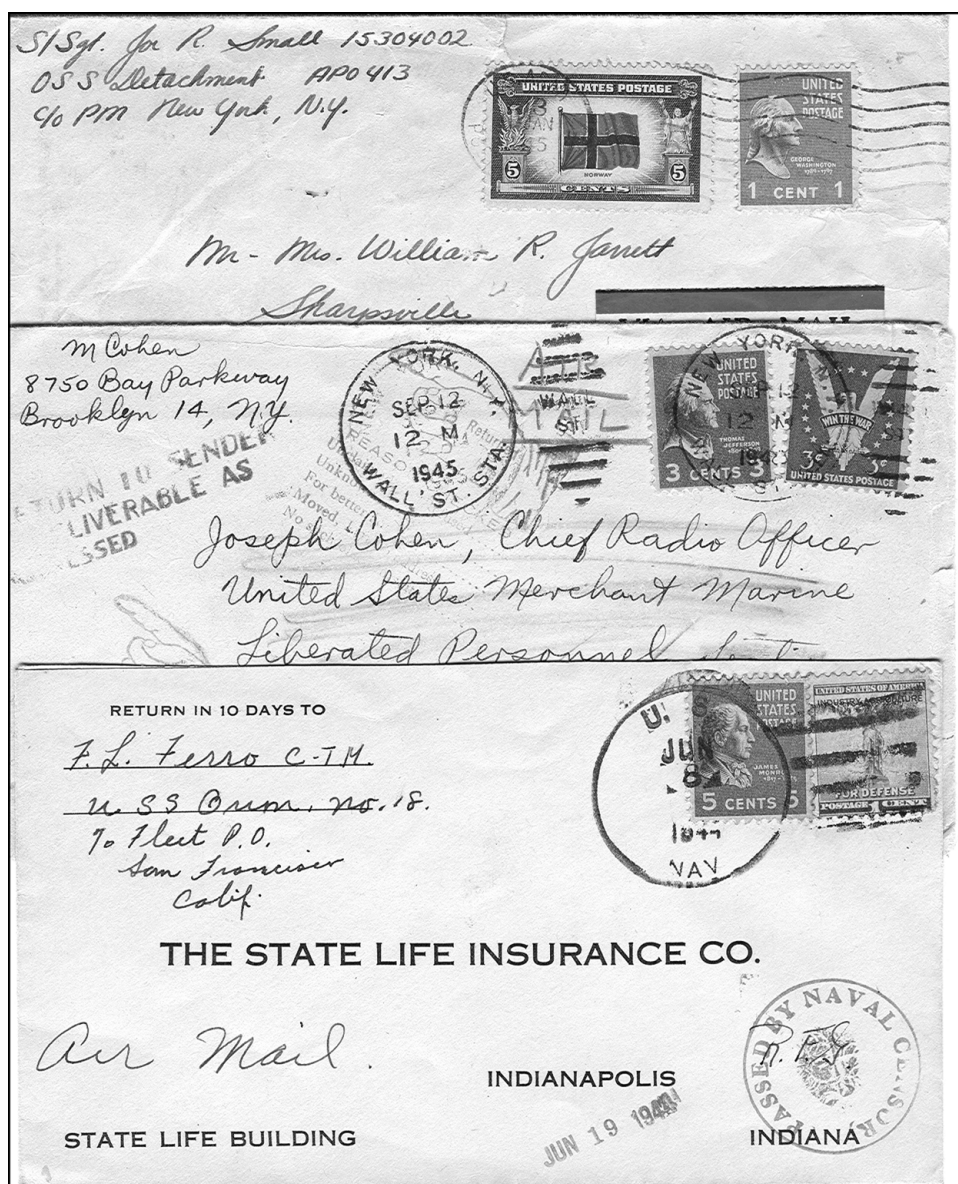


Figure 7



Figure 8

weight letter from APO 960 Hawaii in November 1943 and a 30c T. Roosevelt added to strip of three 2c Adams for a 6 oz. envelope sent by General CE Hurdis, 1st Infantry Regiment, 6th Infantry Division (APO 6) in Luzon, Philippines in February 1945. This was shortly before he was promoted to Major General and given command of the 6th ID following the battle death of Major General Edwin D. Patrick in March 1945.

Figure 8 bottom is the last illustration of the airmail concession rate. It is a September 1943 usage by British RAF Squadron Leader using the US Navy FPO system. The letter was mailed from New Zealand (return address is "c/o Bank of New Zealand, Wellington, NZ" to Canada of 6c J.Q. Adams in combination with an

airmail PSE to cover the 2 ounce weight. Officially, the US armed forces reduced airmail rate was extended to soldiers of Great Britain and Canada in 1943 and 1944.

Another choice, quickest in speed and greatest in cost, was to use airmail, at the armed forces rates of \$0.06/oz. **Figure 9** is a package front bearing \$2.28 (2 x \$1 Wilson, 2 x 4c Madison and a 20c Garfield) to pay airmail postage on a 2 pound, 6 ounce package in August 1946 mailed from the Navy Number 926, Submarine Base, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands. The hand stamped markings of "VIA AIR MAIL" distinguish this usage from the first class package in Figure 2, above.

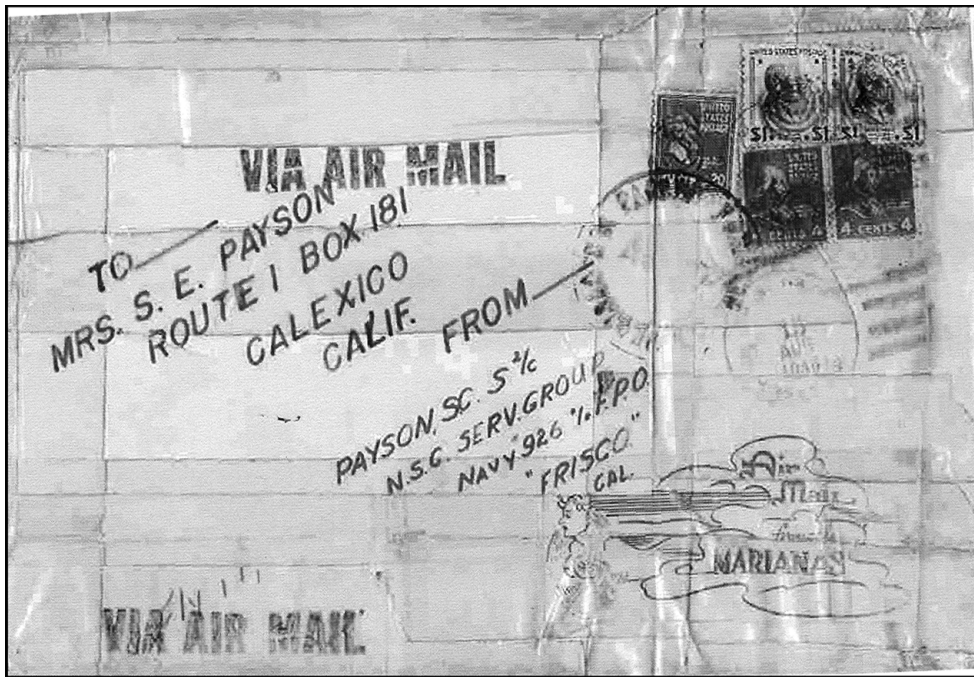


Figure 9



Figure 10

2nd and 3rd Classes

Of course, not all mail sent is handled as first class. In 1941, approximately 30% of mail handled was other than 1st class. By weight, the biggest volume was 2nd class newspapers and periodicals. Most of the time, this rate was used by publishers or registered newsagents for the direct mailing of the material. An exception rate was created in 1884 for use by other than by publishers or registered newsagents, and was called the transient 2nd class rate for mailing of single items. The pre-war rate was \$0.01 / 2 oz. **Figure 10 top** shows a July 1944 newspaper wrapper used from England, and mailed from the 693rd Field Artillery Battalion, operating 105mm howitzers. This artillery unit was assigned to the 3rd Army (General George S Patton Jr., commanding) just before they landed in France, and was deployed in support of various divisions and operations in the European Theater. The 1c Washington plate block paid the up-to-8 oz. maximum rate for this class of mail and most likely contained a copy of the European edition of the soldier's newspaper, the *Stars and Stripes*. The "dumb cancel" undated envelope in **Figure 10 bottom** was mailed from Accra, Gold Coast. This was the headquarters of the Africa Middle East Wing, Air Transport Command. Accra was the first aerial port of debarkation in Africa, and it was also the supply point for all the stations along the route to Cairo and India. All major maintenance on aircraft was performed there and all men to be assigned to the route stations were given a period of training at Accra first. This envelope was originally intended as 1st class free mail, but apparently contained newspaper or periodical material. The APO clerk then marked it as 2nd class and paid the postage by using a single 2c Adams sheet stamp for the 4 oz. envelope (\$0.01 / 2oz. rate times 2).

3rd Class mail was a catch-all category for low weight (less than 8 ounces) items that did not qualify as 1st or 2nd class. The single piece pre-war rate was \$0.1½ / 2oz. Printed matter with no/minimal writing sent unsealed also qualified for this rate, a.k.a. "Christmas card rate". **Figure 11 top** is a 1940 cover for the last day of postal service for the USS Claxton, a "Famous Fifty" ship. In September 1940, President Roosevelt announced a plan to help Great Britain stay in the war. Fifty old US flushdeck destroyers were exchanged for bases in Newfoundland, Bermuda, the West Indies and British Guiana. Because this envelope was sent unsealed

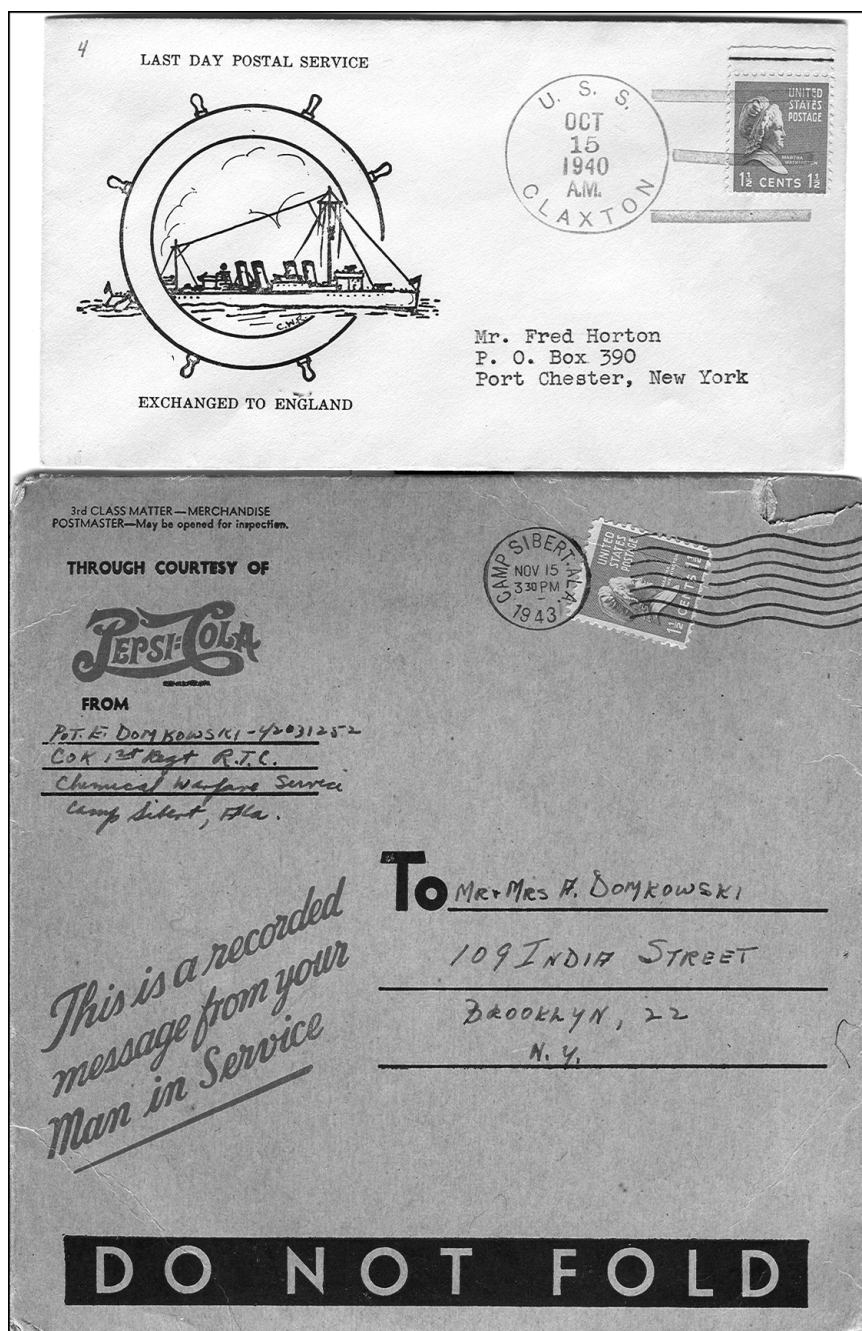


Figure 11

and with no writing contained, it qualified for the 3rd class rate; this was paid by the 1½ c M. Washington stamp. Another example of this rate is the mailer shown in **Figure 11 bottom**. Sent in November 1943, it contained a phonograph record mailed from a soldier at a Chemical Warfare Service training camp in Alabama. The record is a 45 rpm size, made through the courtesy of Pepsi-Cola and was mailed in a cardboard envelope. Above the return address is a printed notice “3rd Class Matter—Merchandise”, which is paid by the 1½ c M. Washington stamp.

Whenever possible, servicemen enjoyed sending pictures home that showed where they were or what they were doing. **Figure 12** illustrates three variations on this theme. Different wording is used to describe them, and they are treated slightly different. The first item is an illustrated narrative printed “letter” mailed in December 1943 by a recruit at the US Naval Training Station, Sampson, NY, on the east shore of Seneca Lake. This facility, opened in October 1942, was the location of a basic training station and five service schools. Recruits spent two months in basic training, graduating as a second-class seaman. Afterwards, if qualified, they could train an additional four months to try to qualify, as third class petty officers. Altogether, about 420,000 sailors trained here from 1942 thru 1945. The sailor originally thought it could be sent as 1st class mail using the free frank privilege. When brought to the mail window, the clerk determined that it was miscellaneous printed matter weighting less than 8 ounces, and rated it as 3rd class, and affixed a single 1½ c M. Washington sheet stamp for the \$0.1½ / 2oz rate. Similarly, the small undated packet of pictures of New Orleans was sent from Camp Clairborne, LA, (200 miles northwest of New Orleans) and rated as 3rd class matter. The primary purpose of the area was division sized infantry maneuvers. It was comparable to Camp Polk, 40 miles to the east, which was used for armored division maneuvers. In this case, the postage was paid by a 3c Jefferson booklet single for two times the \$0.1½ / 2oz rate. Compare these two items with the packet of pictures mailed from the 761st Military Police Battal-

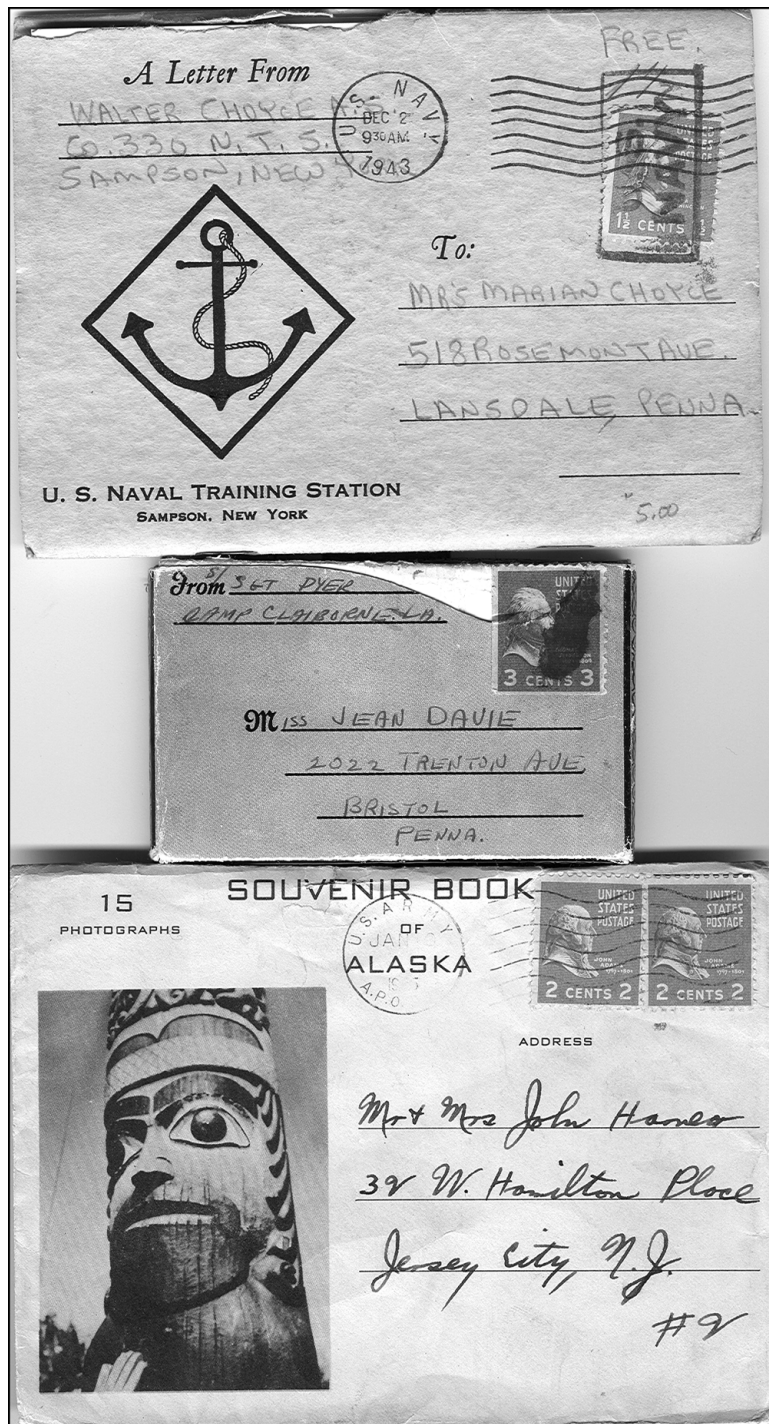


Figure 12

ion, headquartered at APO 942, Anchorage, Alaska in January 1945. This unit arrested aliens without travel permits for the Alaskan Territory, searched baggage, seized contraband, processed travel applications, issued travel permits, censored photographs, and confiscated liquor. Essentially, it is the same item being mailed in all three cases. Yet, because the latter item is specifically called a “souvenir book”, the APO clerk used a

pair of 2c Adams sheet stamps to pay the 3rd class rate for books, at \$0.01/oz times 4 ounces. This book rate of \$0.01/oz was more expensive than the printed matter rate of \$0.0³/₄ /per oz. within the 3rd class mail category. Both of these would be more expensive than the 2nd class rate of \$0.01 / 2oz.

Sometime, mailed items were placed in the 3rd class category because they didn't fit anywhere else. This is certainly the case for the postcard in **Figure 13 top**. This August 1942 postcard, when mailed from 104th Field Artillery Regiment, 27th Infantry Division through APO 960, used to have a small bag of Hawaiian lava rock attached. Again, it was thought by the sender to be covered by the free frank, but was not. When evaluated by the postal clerk, it didn't fit into 1st class as a postcard or a parcel, and did not weight enough to go into 4th class, so it was deemed 3rd class and franked with a 3c Jefferson sheet single for two times the 0.1¹/₂ / 2oz rate. The last item in this section, shown in **Figure 13 bottom**, is a bit of a mystery. It is a tri-fold postcard written in France from a soldier in the 863rd Field Artillery Battalion, 63rd Infantry Division and mailed from Scotland in June 1945, with a 2-cent Adams sheet single folded over the edge holding the postcard closed. If this was allowed as a postcard, it should have been covered by the free mail privilege, and indeed has this endorsement in the corner. If the postage stamp used was only done as a convenience, why use a 2-cent? Why not a 1c, or some other piece of gummed paper? A speculation is that the item was not considered 1st class mail, and that the stamp was needed to pay the 3rd class rate of \$0.1¹/₂. On the other hand, the simple explanation of the 2-cent stamp being the handiest thing to fit the purpose is also likely. Any thoughts on the matter will be appreciated.

Parcel Post

Parcel Post was redefined in 1913 to include all matter not covered by the 1st, 2nd or 3rd class categories and generally greater than 4 ounces, increased to 8 ounces

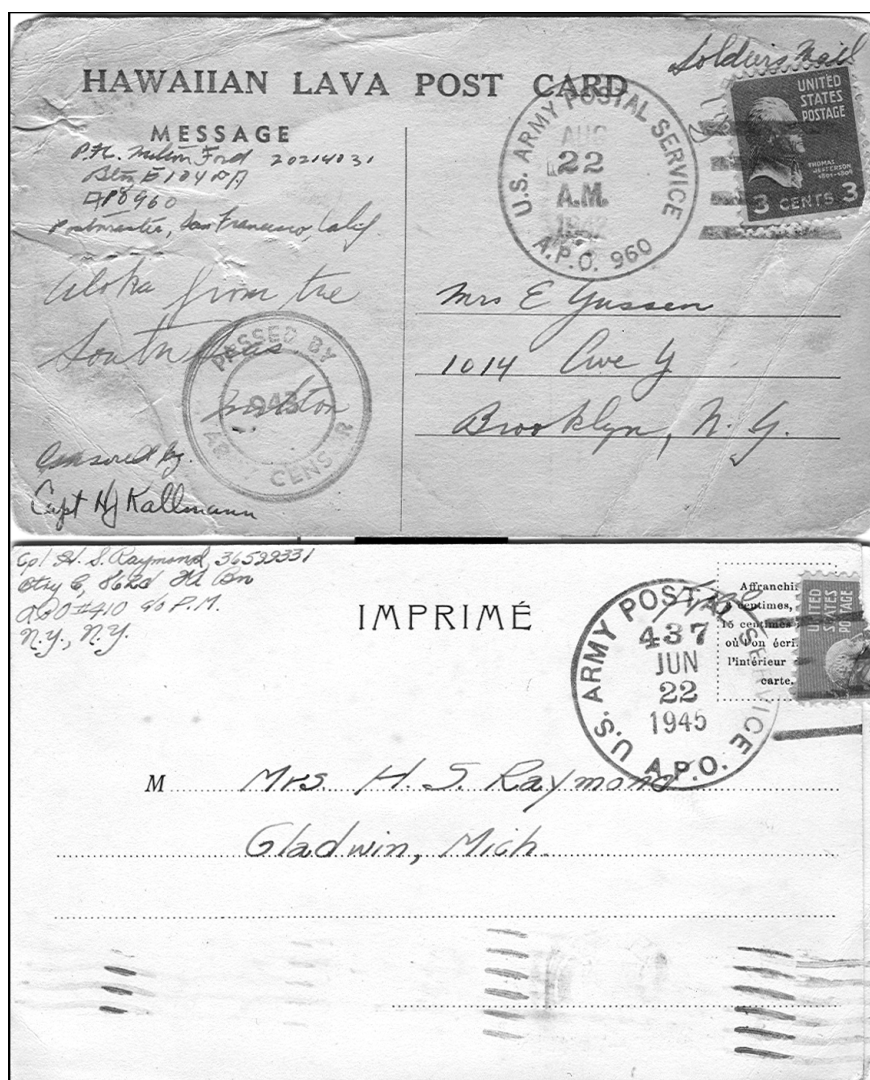


Figure 13

in 1925. Rates were determined by package weight and distance traveled, using 8 zones. Effective March 26, 1944, a 3% surcharge, with a minimum \$0.01 per package, was added to be basic rate charged.

While away from home, soldiers invariably thought about home, and their family and friends. Soldiers would buy presents or “liberate” souvenirs, and ship them home. The shipping method mostly depending on weight, but the military sender also had a choice of the desired speed in transit. Small packages could be mailed as first class, prepaid at the regular \$0.03/ounce rate. The free frank privilege did not apply to this type of mailing **Figure 14** shows a part of a package wrapping mailed from APO 562, Deauville, France. It is franked with a 30-cent T. Roosevelt and a 6c J.Q. Adams stamp to pay regular first class postage on a 12-ounce package in July 1945. Attached to the package was a label, completed by the sender and countersigned by

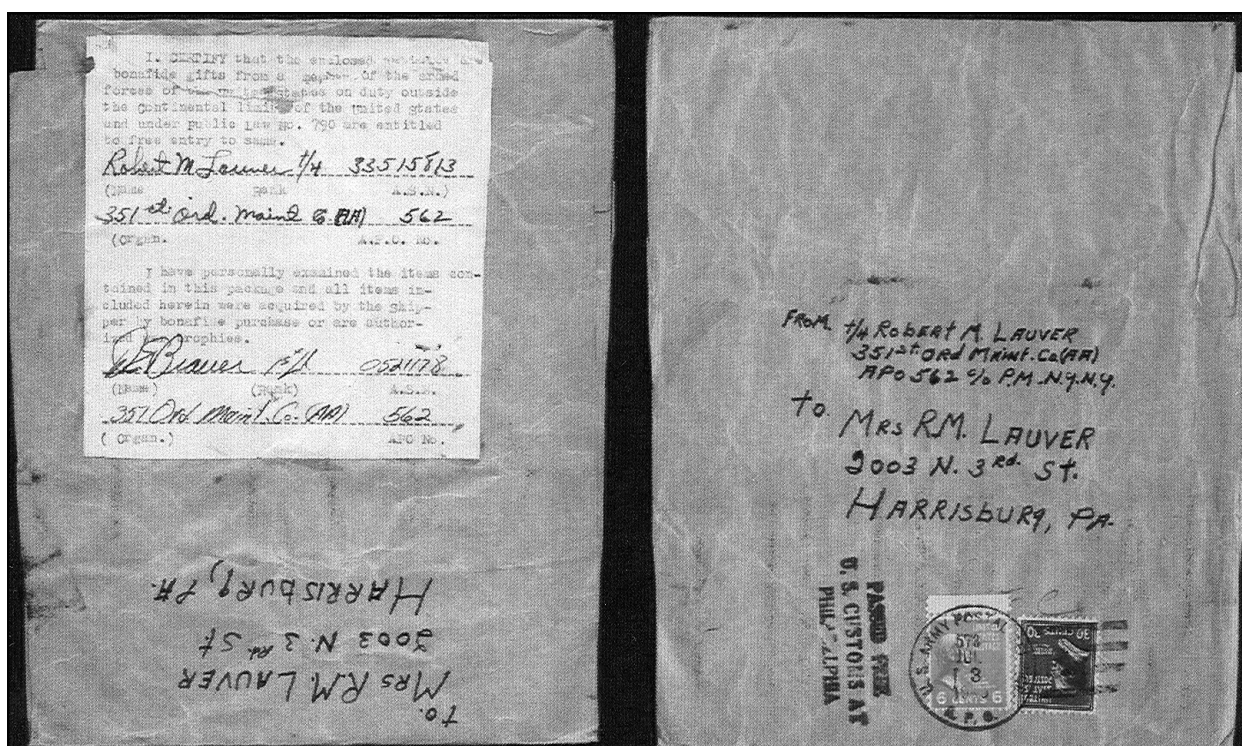


Figure 14

his superior officer, attesting to the fact this the enclosed item was a gift, not subject to customs duties, and that the items in the parcel were "acquired by bonafide purchase or are authorized war trophies." Also see illustrations **Figure 2 top** and **Figure 9** for other examples of parcels mailed at first class or airmail rates.

The most frequent method used, however, was Parcel Post. It had the slowest delivery time, but also the least expensive cost. As packages got heavier, this was the overriding concern. For determining rates, the origin of a package sent from an APO or FPO was calculated as being sent from the city in the return address. The parcel in **Figure 15 top** was mailed from APO 927, Australia. For Parcel Post purposes, it was deemed as being sent from San Francisco, CA, and was rated as Zone 5 (600-1,000 miles) for the trip to Denver, CO. Based on the \$0.27 postage (a 25c McKinley and two 1c Defense stamps) this parcel, mailed in December 1942, weighed 4 pounds (1st lb @\$0.11, plus 3 lbs @0.053). If it had been sent first class, postage would have been \$1.92, seven times more expensive. The package piece shown in **Figure 15 middle** is a similar item. While there is no specific date or return address on this item, it had to have been mailed after the March 1944 imposition of the 3% surcharge. Based on the return address, it was rated as Zone 8 (over 1,800 miles) for its' cross-country trip (west to east) to Connecticut. The postage of \$0.38 (a 30c T.Roosevelt and two 4c Madisons) cov-

ers postage for the 1st lb @\$0.15, 2 additional lbs @\$0.11, and the 3%, minimum \$0.01/package surcharge. That parcel post was the least expensive way to ship heavy packages is again illustrated by the tag in **Figure 15 bottom**. Mailed shortly before V-J Day in 1945, it was attached to a package sent by a sailor stationed at the US Naval Hospital, Key West, FL to Illinois, a Zone 6 mailing. The US Naval Hospital was commissioned in 1942, replacing the U.S Marine Hospital, opened in 1845 to help US Merchant Marine sailors and marking the start of the permanent military presence in the city. The package was franked with a total value of \$5.27, paid by one 2c Adams and twenty-one 25c McKinley stamps. Deducting \$0.20 for \$25 insurance, this translates into a weight of 70 lbs, which was the maximum per package weight for all zones, enacted in 1931, and the 3% parcel surcharge.

Other Services

Almost all special postal services available were used on mail sent by armed forces personnel through the military postal systems. This includes registration, insurance and special delivery services.

REGISTRATION

Registered mail rates were determined by value, with minimum fee of \$0.15, increased in March 1944 to \$0.20, and to \$0.25 in January 1949. This service was



Figure 15

only available to items sent 1st (surface or airmail) 2nd and 3rd class. The registration system provides for indemnification and protection of mail and its contents while in transit. The cover shown in **Figure 16 top** was mailed in January 1944 and is a usage of basic registration at \$0.15 plus airmail. A civilian employee of the Raytheon Manufacturing Company sent this letter from the Canal Zone to Massachusetts. The company was the primary manufacturer of the magnetron tube in short-wave, or microwave, radar designed by Great Britain to detect enemy aircraft which was the heart of the radar's function, and microwave SG radar, a shipboard radar used in PT boats and other ships protecting the Atlantic convoys from U-boats. It was from these radar applications that the chief engineer, Perry Spencer, accidentally discovered the principles of microwave cooking in 1945. On this letter, the registration fee was paid by a 15c Buchanan stamp added to an airmail PSE. Also, note the patriotic "V-in-a-circle" dumb killer cancel used by this Navy post office. The **Figure 16 middle** cover is a US Navy official business official envelope. Mailed in April 1944 from Aratu Brazil to Washington, DC, it has Navy Number 412 in the return address, and 10765 Branch in the backstamp. A "flying boat" patrol squadron operated from Aratu, flying night patrols against German subs. The letter itself was sent surface mail and illustrates the increased fee of \$0.20 for basic registration. The penalty envelope was accepted for payment of the surface postage, but registration was a separate and extra fee, paid here by a single 20c Garfield stamp. Last in this category is a domestic usage, in Nov 1942, by a soldier in Virginia. In **Figure 16 bottom** is an airmail PSE with an added single 21c Arthur stamp, mailed by a soldier at the Coast Artillery Replacement Training Center, Fort Eustis, VA.. This franking paid for airmail service (\$0.06/ ½ oz as this was mailed within the continental US), registration for a declared value of \$25 (\$0.18) and the Return Receipt



Figure 16

Requested (\$0.03) fee, noted by the auxiliary marking. As noted above, the envelope shown in **Figure 5 2nd from bottom** illustrates the increased \$0.25 rate, effective in January 1949.

INSURANCE

Insurance for mailed items was introduced in January 1913, coincident with the revisions to parcel post and the introduction of Collect On Delivery (COD) service. It is a method of offering indemnification protection for mail that is dispatched and handled in transit as ordinary mail. The pre-war rates were determined by value, with minimum fee of \$0.07. The service applied only to 3rd and 4th class mail or to 1st class mail **only** if it contained 3rd and 4th class mail. The minimum fee

changed to \$0.10 in Nov 1944 and \$0.03 in Dec. 1944. The parcel shown in **Figure 17 top** is part of a November 1942 parcel post package mailed from Iceland (counted as New York for zone rating) to Washington by a pilot with the 31st Ferrying Squadron, part of the transport system of planes and supplies from North America to Europe and other theaters of operations. Enclosed in the package was a "Customs Declaration" tag, Form 2966, which stated the contents, the insurance value and the weight. The franking of a single 25c McKinley stamp paid for \$0.15 postage to send 1 pound postage to Zone 8 and \$0.10 for insurance up to \$25 for this gift of a sweater and jewelry. The Oct 1944 parcel tag shown in **Figure 17 middle** was mailed by a soldier using his transit APO, c/o Postmaster San Francisco (#17455 = assigned while enroute to Hawaii). The sender was part of the 316th Troop Carrier Squadron, assigned to the Seventh Air Force, which flew C-47 Dakota's. They arrived at Kahuku AAB, Hawaii on November 4th, 1944 and moved to Okinawa in August 1945. The parcel was rated as Zone 4 for delivery to the Los Angeles, CA area, and the 9 lbs, including the 3% surcharge, cost \$0.39. The soldier also paid \$0.50 for \$100 insurance. The total postage of \$0.89 on this tag was paid using two 30c T. Roosevelt, two 10c Tyler and one 9c Harrison stamps. As noted, insurance was also available for 3rd class mail items. **Figure 17 bottom** is a June 1945 3rd class package mailed from the *USS Sutton* (DE771), franked with \$0.08. On May 15, the *Sutton* had accepted the surrender of the German submarine U-234, which was on its way to Japan in the closing days of the European war. The sub was carrying German military and civilian passengers who were being transported to Japan to provide technical advice in strategy and weapons to help the Japanese military. When the European war ended, the Japanese severed relations with defeated Nazi Germany. The 3-cent Defense stamp paid for basic insurance up to \$5 and the 5c Monroe stamp pays for 6 ounces at \$0.1½ / 2oz (overpaying by ½ cent).



Figure 17

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Payment of the Special Delivery fee provided for immediate delivery of a letter as soon as it arrived at the receiving post office. The pre-war rates were based on weight and class of mail, with the basic fee of \$0.10. This charge increased in November 1944 to \$0.13 for all mail weighing 2 pounds or less, and in January 1949 for all mail weights and classes. Illustrated in **Figure 18 top** is a March 25 1944 official business envelope sent airmail special delivery, with the airmail postage prepaid by a 6c J.Q. Adams stamp. The special delivery fee was not covered by the penalty imprint and so was paid by a 10c postage due stamp. This letter was sent to the Army Regulating Station at Spokane, Washington. During World War II, under the Transportation Division, Services of Supply (SOS), a "regulating station" was the agency established to control all movements of personnel and supplies into or out of a given area, in this case the Pacific Northwest. All rations, clothing, fuel, ammunition, and other military supplies came to

the Regulating Station in bulk when requested from storage depots, and in turn the Regulating Station handled everything intended for the fighting front or coming from it. This included men, replacements, mail and other supplies. **Figure 18 bottom** shows a Nov 28 1944 domestic airmail special delivery with the special delivery fee paid by a 13c Fillmore and the increased airmail rate paid by an 8c transport. This was sent from the Key West Naval Air Station, one of many military facilities in Key West. Inactive from 1919 until 1939, the start of WWII led to the reopening of the base, which was used as a training base for fleet aircraft squadrons.

POSTAGE DUE

When a soldier was sending a letter home, they would usually write as much as they had time for, or as would fit into a standard envelope. Both of the covers shown in **Figure 19** are airmail envelopes that were filled with more than 1 ounce of material. **Figure 19 top** is a letter that was prepaid for 1 ounce, and was overweight by an additional ounce. It was sent from APO 303 by an



Figure 18



Figure 19

officer in the III Corps located in Germany, on the last day before financial service in the APO was terminated, and two weeks before the APO was closed. The \$0.06 postage due was collected on delivery in Georgia using a 1c Washington and a 5c postage due. The **Figure 19 bottom** item must have been stuffed indeed. It was mailed June 5, 1944 from APO 201, Troop C, 8th Engineers, 1st Cavalry Division, then located at Admiralty Islands. The 8th Engineers were originally assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division in 1921, and continue today as part of the 1st Cavalry on assignment in Iraq. This letter required \$0.18 postage due for 3 ounces overweight, which was paid for with strip of three 6c J.Q. Adams

Finally, for those of you who have read this far, here is the payoff. **Figure 20** illustrates a February 1942 soldier's concession rate airmail letter from Hawaii to California. The sender was an officer who mailed the letter in the US postal system. From other mail in this time period, the best theory is that it was forwarded

from the USPOD to the military. They noted that it was sent by an officer, who had the privilege and responsibility of self-censoring, marked it as "Passed by Army Censor", and sent it on the next airmail flight to the continental United States. The \$0.12 for 2 ounces was paid using a pair of the 4 ½ c White House and a strip of three 1c Defense stamps. So, while not a single usage, this does represent an appropriate usage of the White House sheet stamp.

Conclusion

The popular tales told of war are usually action-packed, and speak of deeds of heroism, valor and concern for the task at hand. In private letters, a more simple story is shared—that of people missing home. Whenever there was time, servicemen and women wrote home. The results of a review of selected military units in mid 1942 indicated that, with 3.9 million personnel in uniform, c. 2.5 million free mail letters a day were being mailed. Another review in mid 1944, when there were

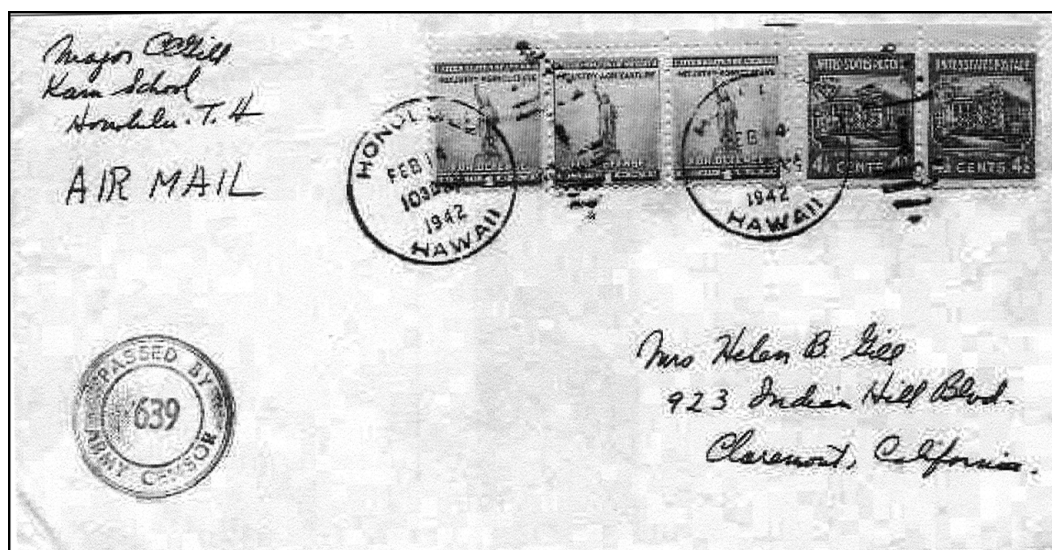


Figure 20

11.5 million personnel, indicated that free mail volume was 1 item per day *per person*. The concession airmail rate also was a spur to letter writing, and even with the reduced rate, airmail postage was the largest source of postal revenue from servicemen overseas. As an indicator of volume, from July 1944 to March 1945, the entire production of 862 million six-cent airmail envelopes was sent to military post offices, and this still wasn't enough to satisfy demand. This great output of letter mail was only a part of the whole activity, with some of the other classes and uses illustrated in this article.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beecher, H.W. and Wawrukiewicz, A.S. 1999. *U.S. Domestic Postal Rates 1872-1999*, Revised Second Edition. Portland, OR: CAMA Publishing Company.

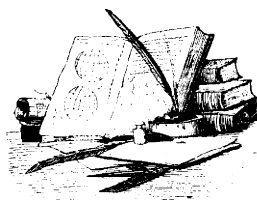
Carter, R. *Numbered Army & Air Force Post Office Locations*, 7th Edition. Volume 1 (2001), *BPOs, PRSs and Regular APOs, 1941-1964*; Volume 2 (2002), *Temporary APOs 1941-1947*; Volume 3, *Numbered Navy and Marine Corps Post Office Locations*. Cypress, TX: Military Postal History Society.

Forte, J. and Helbock, R.W. 1996. *A Price Guide to U.S. APO Cancels Of The Second World War*. Lake Oswego, OR: LaPosta Publications.

Helbock, R.W. (editor) 2003. *Prexie postal history: an anthology examining the postal history possibilities presented by the 1938 Presidential Series / Scappoose*, OR: La Posta Publications

Rustad, R. 1994. *The Prexies*. Belleville, IL: Bureau Issues Association, Inc.

Sherman, L. (editor) 2002. *The United States Post Office in World War II*. Chicago, IL: Collectors Club of Chicago.



***Your Classified Ad could reach
1,000 United States postal
history enthusiasts.***

***Send your copy by post or e-
mail and we'll invoice you for
the proper rate.
Cheap but effective!***

helbock@la-posta.com

THE POSTMASTERS GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

XIXa. The Assistant Postmasters General, 1789-1860

by Daniel Y. Meschter

The Continental Congress in 1782 authorized the Postmaster General to appoint a clerk or assistant “to himself”. Ebenezer Hazard appointed James Bryson, but Bryson seems not to have used the title of “assistant.” The first constitutional Congress continued this authority. Samuel Osgood appointed Jonathan Burrall in 1789. His position was generally known as Assistant Postmaster General until Congress authorized a second assistant in 1810 after which “assistant” became “first assistant” or sometimes “senior assistant².” A third assistant was authorized in 1836³.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of the Assistant Postmaster General in the management of the Post Office in its earlier years. The first formal division of responsibilities was the arrangement worked out by Habersham (Part III) that put money and accounts in the hands of the Assistant. This continued almost until the plan adopted by John McLean near the end of his term in 1829 assigned the Appointments Branch to the First Assistant, Finance to the Second, and Contracts and Transportation to a Chief Clerk in lieu of a third assistant that both McLean and his successor, William T. Barry, recommended to Congress. Up until that time the First Assistant supervised the day-by-day operations of the headquarters office; took personal charge of the receipt, custody, and disbursement of revenues; and acted in the Postmaster General’s absence. Perhaps most importantly, as the senior staff officer, the First Assistant

provided continuity in the management of the Post Office as Postmasters General more and more became limited to the terms of the presidents who appointed them.

This relationship between the Postmasters General and the First Assistants is illustrated by comparing their tenures. There were in all nineteen Postmasters General in the antebellum period from Samuel Osgood in 1789 to Horatio King in 1861, averaging about three years and nine months each. During the same time there were only seven first assistants (not counting Selah Hobbie’s reappointment in 1853 for an average of ten years and three months. Thus, each first assistant spanned three Postmasters General on the average. In addition, there were twelve second assistants from 1810 to 1861 and five third assistants from 1836 to 1861

First Assistants tended to be chosen for their training, experience, and ability, and not least their connections which are quite evident in several cases. The qualifications for the Second and Third Assistants were less demanding so that while some were men of accomplishment, others were virtually unknown outside their own communities and even eluded identification in the more readily available biographical and genealogical sources. Nevertheless, the majority of assistants on every level were men of ability and integrity. A few probably were of the new class of bureaucrats who moved from agency to agency as opportunity afforded.

The Assistant/First Assistant Postmasters General, 1789-1861

<u>Name</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Date/Place of Birth</u>	<u>Date/Place of Death</u>	<u>Profession/remarks</u>
1. Jonathan Burrall	26 Sep 1789	1753, Connecticut	18 Nov 1834, Goshen, NY	Banker; paymaster, American Revolution 2.
Charles Burrall	12 Aug 1791	1755, Connecticut	2 May 1836, Goshen, NY	Baltimore PM
3. Abraham Bradley	21? Jan 1800	21 Feb 1767, Guilford, Ct	7 May 1838, Washington, DC	Lawyer
4. Charles K. Gardner	4 Mar 1829	1787, Morristown, NJ	1 Nov 1869, Washington, DC	Career soldier; POD auditor, Washington postmaster
5. Selah Reeve Hobbie	Jul? 1836	10 Mar 1797, Newburgh, NY		Lawyer; U.S. House; 2nd Assistant PMG
	4 Mar 1853		23 Mar 1854, Washington, DC	Reappointed
6. Solomon D. Jacobs	Apr? 1851	1795, East Tennessee?	Unknown	Merchant; Tennessee Assembly
7. Horatio King	28 Mar 1854	21 Jun 1811, Paris, ME	20 May 1897, Washington, DC	Newspaperman; Postmaster General; legal representative

1. Jonathan Burrall

Fragmentary sources indicate that Jonathan Burrall was born in the Norwalk, Connecticut area in 1753⁴. Nothing else is known of his origins. His later career suggests he had a background in business, perhaps as a bookkeeper or accountant in a mercantile or shipping establishment, before he was of age.

These sources report that he entered the Continental Army in October 1776 and was appointed Assistant to the Paymaster General with Steven's Corps of Artillery. However, he later wrote in an application for a position as a Treasury auditor, "I have been in public service from March 1776 first as Assistant [to the] Paymaster General, in which employment I acted quite [a lot] of the time as a Dep'ty separate from my principal and was responsible for the public monies⁵." He was promoted to Assistant Paymaster General in 1779 with the rank of major. The next year Congress elected him one of the commissioners to settle wartime accounts, a position to which he was reelected annually for the next eight years. In this capacity he came into close contact with members of the Continental Congress and high-ranking administrators such as Samuel Osgood in the Treasury and Postmaster General Ebenezer Hazard. His application for employment as an auditor obviously did not succeed and it can only be assumed President Washington found a vacancy for him as assistant to Samuel Osgood and that his appointment became effective when Osgood was confirmed Postmaster General by the Senate on September 26, 1789 (Part I).

Burrall's first assignment was to travel through the South to reappoint such postmasters as he found competent and able to post bond while Osgood apparently did the same in the North. He then helped organize the fiscal structure of the Post Office in conformance with the new form of government and to put it into operation. He probably had much to do with the "Plan for Improving the Post Office Department" Osgood submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury on January 22, 1790⁶. The General Post Office's staff at the end of Osgood's term consisted of himself, Burrall, and one clerk.

It has been said that Samuel Osgood resigned rather than move with the capitol from New York to Philadelphia in 1791. It is more likely Jonathan Burrall resigned at the same time because he, too, was reluctant to leave New York than for any idea his appointment was somehow related to the Postmaster General's. It is equally possible he *did* move to Philadelphia to assist in the organization of the Bank of the United States Congress chartered to manage the public debt left from the Revolution⁷, turning his position in the Post Office over to his brother Charles. In this event, he was

back the next year as cashier of the New York Branch the Bank opened there. When Congress failed to renew the Bank's charter in 1811, its officers, no doubt including Jonathan Burrall, obtained a state charter for their own bank.

In the meantime, he married Frances Wickham, the daughter of an eminent attorney who numbered the wealthy and politically powerful among his clients in both New York City and Goshen, New York, by whom he had three daughters noted for their beauty and intelligence and who, in turn, made prestigious marriages⁸. He moved to Goshen, New York in 1820 to serve as cashier for his brother-in-law in the Orange County Bank for four years before retiring. He died in Goshen on November 18, 1834.

2. Charles Burrall

Charles Burrall also was born in the Norwalk, Connecticut area about 1755. His official correspondence shows that he, Jonathan Burrall of New York, and Samuel Burrall of Norwalk were brothers⁹. There is no evidence he served in the Continental Army during the Revolution and the absence of his name in the *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records*¹⁰, Francis B Heitman's *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army*¹¹, and lists of Connecticut volunteers seems to rule out service in the militia. It is easy to assume he obtained appointment as Assistant Postmaster General through the recommendation of his brother Jonathan. In any event, his appointment coincided with that of Timothy Pickering as Postmaster General on August 12, 1791.

Pickering instituted an aggressive management policy (Part II), increasing the number of post offices from approximately 81 as of October 5, 1791 to more than 450 in three and a half years with only three more clerks, one of whom was Abraham Bradley, to handle the flood of paper work these establishments must have caused. This increase in service and a reduction in longer distance postal rates resulted in a near 200% increase in letters carried and a similar increase in revenues estimated by Rich¹².

Joseph Habersham retained Charles Burrall as his Assistant when he replaced Timothy Pickering on February 25, 1795 (Part III). He also continued Pickering's policy of expanding the Post Office by more than doubling the number of post offices, letters carried, and revenues during his six and a half years in office. Habersham, however, was different from Pickering in that he was a businessman with an eye to improving the General Post Office's methods of doing business. He was the first to adopt a table of organization listing the duties of the Postmaster General, his Assistant, solicitor, chief clerk, book-keeper, and three clerks¹³. The

duties of the Assistant were to take charge of moneys received, pay contractors and other expenses, balance accounts, and prepare fiscal reports for the Treasury. Habersham did not assign specific responsibility for advertising and issuing mail route contracts except to say that it is a "considerable business," quite evidently deferring assignment of these duties to one or another of the clerks he planned to hire to increase their number to seven by the end of 1800. Although Congress did not incorporate these views in the 1799 Post Office Act¹⁴, Burrall's letter book confirms that he already was performing these duties. And more than either Osgood or Pickering, Habersham relied on his Assistant to act for him during his frequent and often protracted absences.

A Georgian himself, Habersham naturally was interested in expediting the transportation of mails to the more distant southern states. His innovation was to inaugurate packet service between northern ports and Charleston. To this end, probably in early 1798, he delegated Burrall to purchase two schooners, the *Anne* and the *Maria*, to be used as mail packets first between Philadelphia and Charleston and then between New York City and Charleston beginning about the first of 1799. Brother Jonathan managed the transfer of the purchase money through the New York Branch of the United States Bank while Samuel, a ship's captain in his own right, was his technical expert and later commanded one of the vessels. Unfortunately, the vagaries of weather, the unsuitability of the *Anne* for the service, and the constant need for repairs made maintaining a regular schedule impossible and the project was abandoned.

It was about this same time that Habersham began developing his "hub and spoke" scheme for "distributing post offices" to facilitate the transmission of the mails through an increasingly complex postal system. Part IIIA describes how this plan was developed probably by Charles Burrall and Abraham Bradley in Habersham's absence in the last half of 1799.

Effective about January 19, 1880, Charles Burrall resigned as Assistant Postmaster General to replace Alexander Furnival as Baltimore postmaster. He was succeeded immediately by Abraham Bradley. A postscript to Bradley's letter of Friday, January 25th to Jonathan Burrall read: "Your brother set out for Baltimore this morning," suggesting that Burrall took charge of the Baltimore post office on Monday, January 28th.

Charles Burrall served as Baltimore postmaster for sixteen years in spite of being a relic of the old Federalist Party during the more activist Jefferson and Madison administrations. J. Thomas Scarf described him as "a fine-looking gentleman of the old school" who "as was the

custom in those days, wore his hair powdered." But Burrall was no patsy. Scharf went on to say that he performed his duties as postmaster with only one assistant and "It is stated that when the office was threatened" by the British during the War of 1812, "he was in the custom of carrying a brace of pistols for the protection of the mails¹⁵."

After President Madison removed him from office in 1816, he moved to Goshen, New York where his brother, Jonathan, had located his family. Charles lived in a mansion on Main Street, formerly a public house, until his death on May 2, 1836.

3. Abraham Bradley, Jr.

Abraham Bradley, Jr. served the Post Office as Assistant Postmaster General for twenty-nine years from January 1800 to September 1829 and as many as eight years before that as a clerk appointed by Pickering. His first entry in the Assistant Postmaster General's letter book was dated Friday, January 25, 1800 from which it is assumed his appointment was effective Monday the 21st, the first day of the week Charles Burrall left for Baltimore.

The Bradley brothers were descended from a 17th century English immigrant to the New Haven Colony. Abraham was born in Guilford, Connecticut on February 21, 1767 and his younger brother, Phineas, on July 17, 1769¹⁶. John reports that Abraham graduated from Tapping Reeve's law school in Litchfield, CT, the first law school as such in the United States, and was admitted to the bar in 1791¹⁷. He settled in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania where his knowledge of law and capacity for hard work attracted the attention of Col. Timothy Pickering, a civic leader on the Wyoming Valley frontier with close ties to President Washington (Part II). When Washington appointed Pickering to succeed Osgood, Pickering took Bradley along as a clerk in late 1791 or 1792.

Bradley's primary assignment was the supervision of mail route contracts. Before the Post Office Act of February 20, 1792¹⁸, the Postmaster General had complete discretion to "appoint the necessary post-riders, messengers and expresses, with such salaries and allowances as he . . . shall think meet" for the transportation of the mails¹⁹. The Act of 1792 continued this provision in force with added authority to designate post roads in addition to those listed in the act with their contractors to receive the postage on the mail carried as compensation. Another provision required the Postmaster General to publish advertisements of route contracts specifying the schedules contractors were required to meet. Bidders were invited in the first notices that appeared in the *Gazette of the United States* to "state the terms" to which they would agree²⁰. Advertising, awarding, and administering these contracts was a responsibility of the highest order Bradley willingly accepted.

Abraham Bradley was responsible for establishing routes and prescribing schedules during this time and nobody knew how the postal system worked better than he. It was in this capacity he became aware that deputy postmasters needed a visual image of the postal system to assist them to rate and route letters. His greatest accomplishment was his publication of a map of the United States (1796) showing the location of existing post offices and the post roads between them in a degree of detail and accuracy not previously achieved. A revised edition in 1804 not only updated new and discontinued post offices and mail routes, but included the Louisiana Purchase, for the first time giving Congress and the public alike a portrayal of how vast the United States had become²¹. His knowledge of the mail transportation system also made him indispensable to both Habersham and Burrall in the design of Habersham's mail distributing system that lasted for more than 60 years (Part IIIA).

Bradley's performance made him the clear choice to succeed Burrall as Assistant Postmaster General. He described his duties in a deposition before a Senate Select Committee on February 1, 1831: "I was the treasurer of the Department, and, until about five years ago, had charge of the contracts for conveyance of the mail. Phineas Bradley then took charge of this last mentioned duty. I had also the superintendence of all the business, except making appointments until P. Bradley was appointed Second Assistant Postmaster General²²."

The Bradley brothers virtually ran the General Post Office under four successive Postmasters General: Habersham, Gideon Granger, Meigs, and McLean. In the Post Office Act of 1810 Congress authorized a Second Assistant Postmaster General without specifying any area of responsibility for the position²³. Granger appointed Seth Pease (1764-1819), a former Surveyor General of the United States who just happened to be his brother-in-law. Pease served eight years until he resigned on account of failing health and Phineas Bradley was appointed Second Assistant in 1818. However, the duties of the new Second Assistant remained poorly defined until John McLean reorganized the General Post Office at the end of his term.

The election of 1828 prefaced the end of the Bradleys' careers in the Post Office Department. Lost in the shuffle with McLean going to the Supreme Court and Barry taking the Post Office was the appointment of Charles K. Gardner and Selah R. Hobbie as First and Second Assistants, both on March 4, 1829, orchestrated by Andrew Jackson's inner circle. Nobody said what was to happen to Abraham and Phineas Bradley under the circumstances. In the meantime Barry didn't enter on his duties until April 6th and his reports show that Abraham Bradley acted as Postmaster General during his absence from March 7 to April 5. Thus it is not

clear whether Gardner and Hobbie took office as assistants upon Barry's entering on his duties on April 6th or had to wait for the Bradleys to be disposed of²⁴.

But sweeping the Adamsites from office, which was to say any senior official who supported the elder John Adams or John Q. Adams or anybody in between them, was only a beginning. There was no end of old grievances to settle and the Jackson cabal could see there was no way they could control the Post Office Department and its patronage with Abraham Bradley standing in the way²⁵. The time had come not just for demotion, but outright dismissal. Barry fired McLean's Chief Clerk, Andrew Coyle, in July, appointing the far more obsequious Obadiah Brown in his place. Abraham Bradley was dismissed on September 14th and Phineas Bradley a few weeks later. The effect was to politicize the Post Office Department.

Abraham Bradley became an activist. He wrote public letters attacking Barry's fitness for a cabinet post and raised questions about his fiscal management with more than a little justification to back him up. He got his revenge in 1835 when financial scandals forced both Barry and Brown to resign. Unfortunately, he wasn't given much time to enjoy his victory. Abraham Bradley died in Washington on May 7, 1838. Phineas Bradley also died in Washington on February 28, 1845.

4. Charles K. Gardner

Charles Kitchell Gardner spent his life in government employment of which his tenure as First Assistant Postmaster General was only one of several assignments to which any man could aspire. He also earned some distinction as a writer and editor, but little has been found on his family or upbringing²⁶.

Charles Gardner was born in Morristown, New Jersey in 1787. He joined the U.S. Sixth Infantry as an ensign in May 1808 and spent nineteen years as a career army officer. His first assignment was at remote posts on Lake Ontario where he later fought along the Canadian frontier in the War of 1812. He gained a degree of celebrity when he carried the severely wounded General Winfield Scott off the field at the Battle of Niagara on July 14, 1814. An inconsistency in his service record appeared when, after being court-martialed on charges of misbehavior and cowardice in the face of the enemy²⁷, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel for distinguished service and appointed adjutant general of the Army's Northern Division until he resigned in 1827 to accept a position in the Post Office Department. He became a personal assistant to Postmaster General John McLean to whom there is evidence he was related by marriage. As a

Jackson/Calhoun loyalist, he was tabbed for the First Assistantship as soon as Jackson was inaugurated.

Although Post Office records show that he was appointed First Assistant Postmaster General on March 4, 1829, he did not assume office until at least April 6th when Wm. T. Barry, the new PMG, entered upon his duties and more likely not until his predecessor, Abraham Bradley, Jr., was dismissed on September 14th. Attachment 'B' to Barry's report to the Senate, "Advances for printing, etc." of May 5, 1830 contains a table of organization showing that the Washington Office staff numbered 50 permanent and 8 temporary employees by that time, not including himself²⁸. This table appears to be the same as McLean's with the transposition of the First and Second Assistants. Under this arrangement, Gardner was in charge of finance, Hobbie of appointments and the dead letter office, and Obadiah Brown of contracts.

Barry proved incompetent as an administrator and corrupt in his management. His resignation on April 10, 1835 set off a chain of events that had a profound impact on the Post Office. Amos Kendall, his successor, at once implemented policies to put it on a financially sound basis and businesslike in its internal procedures (Part VIII). He also persuaded Congress to ratify his proposals to funnel revenues through the Treasury, thereby making the Post Office dependent upon annual appropriations like every other agency, and providing for fiscal oversight by an auditor of the Treasury²⁹. This opened the door for Gardner to take advantage of his recent experience in Post Office finance to transfer to the Treasury as the Post Office Auditor and for Selah Hobbie to move up to First Assistant.

Further, the Act authorized a third assistant to replace the previous Chief Clerk, Obadiah Brown, who was forced to resign with Barry. Kendall promptly appointed Daniel Coleman and developed a new plan of organization to conform to his understanding of the Act that permitted much simplification. Contracts were put under the supervision of S.R. Hobbie; Appointments under the new Second Assistant, Robert Johnston; Inspection under the Third Assistant, Daniel Coleman; Auditing under Charles Gardner; and general superintendence, dead letters, etc. under the Postmaster General himself³⁰.

Ousted at the end of the Van Buren administration, Gardner next obtained appointment as Washington City postmaster during the Polk administration. A note attached to the Papers of George Clinton Gardner (1809-1900) states that his father, Charles K. Gardner, "a former journalist and army officer" was the surveyor general of Oregon Territory in 1853³¹, thus making his later career uncertain except for a statement in

Appleton's Cyclopedia that he returned to the Treasury before advanced age forced his retirement in 1867.

Charles Gardner was the author of three books on military tactics and organization and was the editor of *The Literary and Scientific Repository, and Critical Review* (1820 to 1822) in which he printed early non-fiction by James Fenimore Cooper whom he met while Cooper was serving in the Navy on Lake Ontario. Charles Gardner died in Washington, D.C. on November 1, 1869.

5. Selah R. Hobbie

Selah Reeves Hobbie was descended from an English family who settled in the area of Stamford and Greenwich, Connecticut in the mid 17th century and spread into the adjacent parts of Westchester County, New York. The family used Hobby as their preferred name variant throughout the 18th century.

Selah was born in Newburgh, New York on March 10, 1797, possibly when his family was en route across the Catskill Mountains to the head of the Delaware River where an uncle took up a farm three or four years before in what is now Bovina in the heart of New York's dairyland. His family also bought a small farm near the Delaware County seat at Delhi in 1802 that made it possible for him to attend public school there³². As soon as he was old enough he read law with one of the attorneys, of whom there were several in the community. He was admitted to the bar soon as he reached legal age and opened a law practice in Delhi. It was about this time his family adopted the Hobbie form of the name, possibly the only branch to do so.

During the 1820s he served as county attorney (1823-27) and was elected to the State House of Representatives 1827-29. He also was commissioned a major in the militia, a title with which he was occasionally honored afterwards³³. In 1827 he was elected to Congress as a Calhoun supporter and Jackson Democrat. No reason has been found why he didn't run for a second term. Instead he was appointed Second Assistant Postmaster General, suggesting he had some understanding of an appointment to public office when Jackson was elected.

As in Gardner's case, it is uncertain whether Hobbie actually took office before his predecessor, Phineas Bardley, was dismissed. In addition Barry explained that his Chief Clerk, Obadiah Brown, received the compensation of an Assistant Postmaster General from October 1st to November 15, 1829 because "there was a vacancy in the office of one of the assistants, during which time he was *acting assistant* and performed the duties of that office³⁴." This absent Assistant

could only have been Selah Hobbie who almost certainly was home in New York on account of the death of his mother in September of that year. Thus it seems likely Hobbie did not take office until the middle of November 1829.

Under McLean's plan of organization adopted by Barry, the duties of the Second Assistant no doubt became routine. Then in 1836 with the passage of the *Act to change the organization of the Post Office Department* and Gardner's transfer to the Treasury Department, Kendall, himself a Jackson loyalist, appointed Hobbie his First Assistant³⁵.

Hobbie assumed responsibility for contracts, most likely in July, that was far more demanding than formerly. In addition to the usual stage route contracts and a handful of routes performed by post riders left over from earlier times, Hobbie had to deal with the contentious problems of railroad contracts and their intractable spawn, the expresses. Also, beginning in 1837, Kendall directed Hobbie to prepare separate statements or reports on the transportation of the mails to be attached to his own annual reports. In 1841 Hobbie interviewed the post-masters at Boston, New York, and Philadelphia with respect to the nature and extent of the expresses and prepared a succinct report that may have influenced Congress to enact the so-called Express Act of 1852³⁶.

The Assistant Postmasters General were gradually maturing into managerial and policy-making positions as annual reports by the Second and Third Assistants gradually were added to those of the First Assistant and the Auditor in the Postmaster General's annual reports, especially after the Act of March 3, 1853 made their appointment by the President subject to confirmation by the Senate³⁷. After Postmaster General Cave Johnson and A. Duckwitz of the Post Office Department of the Republic of Bremen agreed to an arrangement for the interchange of mail in the spring of 1847, Johnson deputized Hobbie a special agent to go to Europe to negotiate detailed regulations to implement that agreement. He sailed from New York on the *Washington* on June 1st and obtained Duckwitz's agreement to the regulations in September³⁸.

Unfortunately, Hobbie had long been afflicted by a pulmonary condition, probably tuberculosis, that continued to sap his strength. In anticipation of his resignation effective April 1, 1851, Postmaster General N.K. Hall appointed him Commissioner to Cuba and Panama to negotiate the exchange of mails to and from the West Indies and the Atlantic Coast of South America at those places and a special agent on to San Francisco to assist in letting new route contracts there. He was, however, stricken by fever on the Isthmus and only arrived in San Francisco in time to assist execute the new contracts³⁹. Hobbie's abilities and

experience in negotiating foreign mail arrangements were sorely missed to the extent that Hall created the "Foreign Desk" to which he appointed the capable Horatio King as Superintendent of the Foreign Mail Service.

Selah Hobbie was replaced as First Assistant by Solomon D. Jacobs; but recovering his health some-what in the meantime, he was persuaded to accept reappointment as First Assistant to a new Postmaster General (Campbell) at the beginning of Franklin Pierce's administration. The demands of the office, however, took a heavy toll and he died in Washington barely a year later on March 23, 1854.

6. Solomon D. Jacobs

Solomon Jacobs' appointment as First Assistant Postmaster General has never been satisfactorily explained, coming as it did out of nowhere. Although he had a solid record as a businessman, he had no experience in postal management and was unknown beyond the confines of East Tennessee.

Jacobs was born in 1795 most likely in the hill country of East Tennessee or maybe western North Carolina, although he gave Tennessee as his birth state in the 1850 census. He was educated at Washington College founded by the renowned Rev. Samuel Doak⁴⁰. He settled in Knoxville at twenty or so, married, and established a mercantile business, a trade he followed for the next 35 years. He was an active supporter of education; mayor in 1834; and representative in the state legislature, 1841-2. He was an active promoter of railroads and president of the Hiwassee Railroad Company in 1837.

He was appointed First Assistant Postmaster General in 1851 following S.R. Hobbie's resignation effective April 1st. and served two years without distinction. He apparently stepped aside upon Pierce's inauguration for Selah Hobbie's reappointment on March 4, 1853 seemingly into oblivion because nothing more is known of him. There is no report of his returning to Knoxville and he has not been found listed in the 1860 federal census.

7. Horatio King

Horatio King was the only Assistant Postmaster General in the ante bellum era to rise to Postmaster General. King's life and career in the Post Office

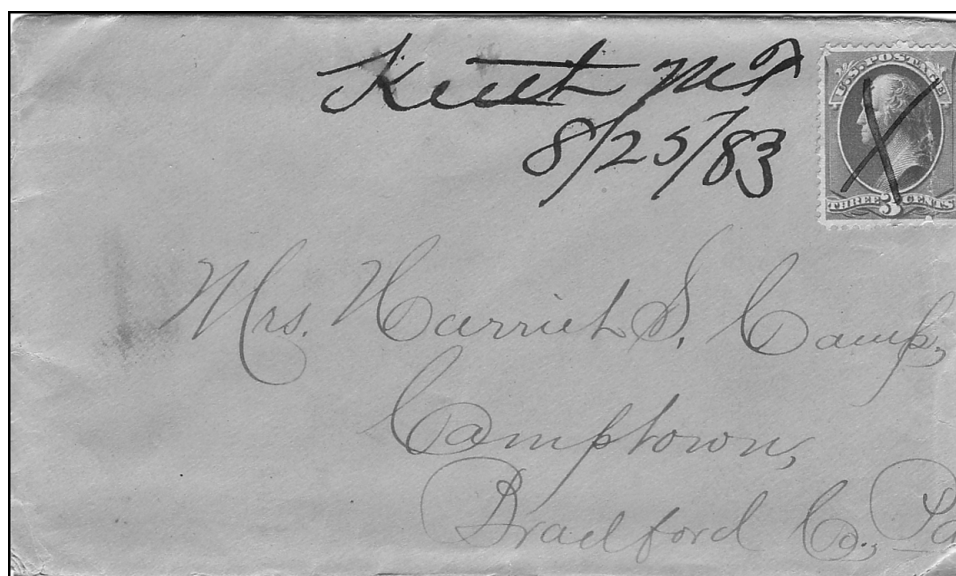
Department is traced in Part XIX. His tenure as first Assistant lasted from March 24, 1854 to January 1, 1861; but other than continuing as head of the contracts branch and using

his experience to formulate foreign postal arrangements, neither he nor either of the other assistants attracted much attention during this period which was one of consolidation rather than expansion and innovation of the existing postal system.

Endnotes

- 1 *Journal of the Continental Congress*, v. XXIII, October 18, 1782, p. 670.
- 2 Act of April 30, 1810, 2 Stat. 592.
- 3 Act of July 2, 1836, 5 Stat. 80.
- 4 Jonathan Burrall's biography here is compiled from scattered sources too numerous to list separately..
- 5 Letter of application for appointment as Auditor of Accounts in the Treasury, August 6, 1789, George Washington Papers, Series 7, Applications for Office, 1789-1799.
- 6 *American State Papers*, v. 27, no. 1, pp. 5-7.
- 7 Act of February 25, 1791, 1 Stat 191.
- 8 Ruttenber, E.M. and L.H. Clark, *History of Orange County, New York*. Philadelphia, 1881.
- 9 Records of the First Assistant Postmaster General, Letters Sent, vol. 3, National Archives and Records Service, Record Group 28.
- 10 White, Virgil D., Volume I, Waynesboro TN, 1995.
- 11 Reprint of the 1914 Edition, Baltimore, MD, 1973.
- 12 Rich, Wesley E., *The History of the United States Post Office to the Year 1829*, Cambridge, MA, 1924, Appendix C, Tables I and III.
- 13 *Alterations proposed to the Post Office Laws*, January 8, 1799, *A.S.P.*, v. 27, No. 8, pp. 17-21.
- 14 1 Stat. 733.
- 15 *History of Baltimore City and County*, Philadelphia, 1881, reprinted Baltimore 1971, p. 493.
- 16 Thomas Osgood Bradley Foundation, Miami, FL.
- 17 John, Richard R., "Abraham Bradley," article in *American National Biography*, New York, 1999.
- 18 1 Stat. 232.
- 19 Ordinance of October 18, 1782, *J.C.C.*, v. XXIII, p 670.
- 20 Issues of March 24 and 30, 1792, copied by Tom Clarke in "The Post Office's Earliest Route Proposals, May 6, 1792," *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History*, v. 35, no. 6, pp. 50-54, December 1904.
- 21 *Id*, reproduction of Bradley's 1796 "Map of the United States Exhibiting the Post-Roads, the Situations, Connections, and Distances of the Post Offices," pp. 54-9.
- 22 "Condition of the Post Office Department," March 3, 1831, *A.S.P.*, v. 27, no. 109, Exhibit K, No. 17, pp. 331, 333.
- 23 2 Stat. 592.
- 24 "Advances for printing, etc. *A.S.P.*, v. 27, no. 95, May 5, 1830, p. 250; "Condition of the Post Office Department," *op cit*, p. 328.
- 25 John, *op cit*, pp. 218-223.
- 26 *Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography*, New York, 1888-1901; private communications.
- 27 Court martial proceedings, Library of Congress.
- 28 "Advances for printing; etc.," *op cit*, pp. 254-6.
- 29 Act of July 2, 1836, 5 Stat. 80.
- 30 Annual Report, December 5, 1836, House Ex. Doc. No. 2, December 5, 1836, Serial 301, Attachment No. 2, pp. 519-20.
- 31 William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan.
- 32 For background on S.R. Hobbie and his family, see Delaware County, New York Genealogy and History Site;
- Gould, Jay. *History of Delaware County*, 1856; Munsell, W.W., *History of Delaware County*, 1880.
- 33 *Biographical Directory of the American Congress*, 1961 ed, Washington.
- 34 "Conditions of the Post Office," *op cit*, p. 303.
- 35 July 2, 1836, 5 Stat. 80.
- 36 Annual Report, December 2, 1841, Senate Ex. Doc. No. 2, Serial 401, Attachment D, pp 446-458; 10 Stat 141.
- 37 10 Stat 255.
- 38 Report of the Postmaster General, February 6, 1849, Senate Ex. Doc. No. 25, Serial 531.
- 39 Annual Report, November 29, 1851, Senate Ex. Doc. No.1, Serial 612, p. 433. Pages 434-5 contain a lengthy discussion of Pacific coast mail arrangements.
- 40 For biographical sketches of Solomon D. Jacobs, see McBride, Robert M. ed. *Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly*, Nashville, 1975, pp. 401-2 and Rothrock, Mary U. *The French Broad-Holston Country, a History of Knox County, Tennessee*, Knoxville, 1946, pp. 433-4.





Bearing a bold manuscript postmark from Keith, M T, August 25, 1883, this cover carried a letter from a young man to his mother in Pennsylvania. His letter expresses a deep desire to remain in Montana "unhindered by forests or fences".

Free as the Antelope - A Letter from Montana, 1883

Courtesy of Roger Robison

Keith, Montana, Aug. 23, 1883

My Dear Mother,

Your short and surprising little letter was received and I take the first opportunity to answer it. I was glad to hear from you and appreciate the affection which calls me to come home. It seems strange that you should get the idea that I would need help to get home, and as Marion in her last letter offered to come out and go back with me if I needed her, it looks as if somebody must have been exaggerating things. Now, I am not in a very enfeebled condition, as you would understand if you could see me working in the hayfield or riding in the saddle 30 or 40 miles a day which is not at all uncommon. It is true, I have been sick occasionally, and I would have been so anywhere. But, honestly and truly, I am better than I was when I came here, and I cannot but feel that it would be better for me to remain here, for the present, at least.

Pent up, as I have been, for years, confined almost wholly to mental work, my mind on the rack constantly, I enjoy the freedom and abandon of this country, with its pure air, wild, illimitable

expanse of hills and valleys, over which one may roam, as free as the antelope, unhindered by forests or fences; away from society, with its conventionalities, and from the competition, and hurly-burly, and pulling and hauling of business; clad in garments which need no care, when I may go unshaven and ragged, lie in the dirt or wipe my hands on my clothes if I like, and no one who has not been similarly situated can appreciate the relief and rest. If I could have my family and friends about me I should enjoy it vastly more, but all can not be as I like it, and I feel that a season of this sort of life will better fit me to the society of loved ones hereafter, which I hope may not be very far distant.

I have remembered your self-sacrificing care and indulgence, the patience and servitude which only a mother's love could prompt, and I assure you this has not been so fully expressed as it should have been. My thoughts and affections wander to you often, unhindered by the 2,000 miles which separate us, and it would afford me great pleasure to be able to make your burdens lighter and to add to your material comfort; but I am temporarily handicapped and you must take

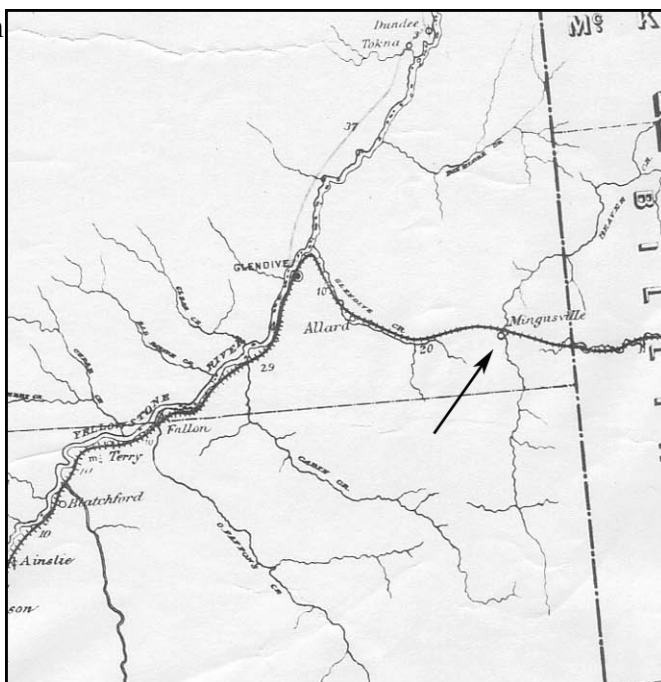
the will for the deed. I can not see how I could live in that country except by some kind of mental work, and I feel that I am unable to endure it at present. I would rather not live than live on the bounty of friends and I must follow my judgment, rather than inclination, in my efforts to provide for the future of myself and family. It looks to me at present as if the sheep business would agree with my health and be the most profitable of any that I could follow. I mean to be cautious and move slowly. If it should be that my health should not continue to improve here, I assure you that I will hasten to return home.

I had intended to write more, but the team is going to Keith and is now ready. Would be glad to hear from you often. Am always pleased to hear from home, but being 20 miles from post office cannot always myself write promptly.

Affectionately,

Cyrus

Keith Post Office was established July 17, 1882, with the appointment of William Fountain as first postmaster. Originally located in Dawson County, the name of the office was changed to Mingusville on July 30, 1884, when Gustave Grisy was appointed postmaster. On January 18, 1895, the name of the office was once again changed. This time the post office was named Wibaux, and, when Wibaux County was erected on August 17, 1914, Wibaux became the new county seat.



Mingusville, as it was then known, appears on the 1884 Postal Route Map of Montana on the railroad just west of the Dakota Territory border.

COLLECTOR WANTS:

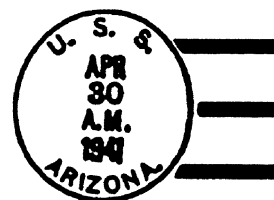
- Stampless Rate Covers (esp. hi rates)
- Attached Rates from all states
- County/Postmaster Cancels from NY, VT
- Essex and Clinton Counties, NY material
- Tasco Information Booklets

Check out my webpages for further info:
<http://users.westelcom.com/gestus/interests.htm>

Glenn A. Estus
 PO Box 451
 Westport, NY 12993

gestus@westelcom.com

**HISTORY!
 ADVENTURE!
 LEGENDS
 OF VALOR!**



All yours collecting Navy covers.

For information and free USCS LOG write to:

UNIVERSAL SHIP CANCELLATION SOCIETY
 c/o Steve Shay
 747 Shard Court, Dept. C
 Fremont, CA 94539
 Website: www.uscs.org

Studt, Missouri

By Bob Schultz

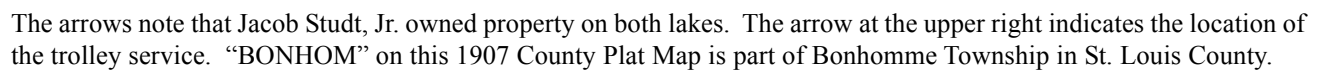
In St. Louis County, Missouri there is a lake, one of the largest natural lakes in the state, that was formed originally as an ox-bow of the Missouri River. This lake, Creve Coeur Lake, is now encompassed by a County Park. There is sailing, picnicking and a hiking trail around the perimeter of the lake. At one time, now long gone, there was a trolley line out to the park and excursion cars (open air) were run to the park. With the coming of automobiles, ridership declined and the trolley route was removed in 1950. But the park, to this day, has remained a popular recreation spot.

What some people do not know, however, is that today's Creve Coeur Lake was once two lakes – Upper Creve Coeur Lake and Creve Coeur Lake. Early in the 20th century, the upper lake silted up and disappeared from view and became farmland. However, at the turn of the Century (the 20th Century, that is) both lakes were popular spots. The area was served not only by the trolley line, but also by two steam railroads. Needless to say, the entrepreneurial spirit prevailed and the lakes were developed beginning in the 1880's. Two of these developers were Jacob Studt and his son, Jacob Studt, Jr.



Their holdings are shown in the map below, part of the 1909 Plat Book for St. Louis City and County. The Studt's owned property on both the lakes and through his promotion of the Upper Creve Coeur Lake obtained a summer post office for the area in 1896. The post office was discontinued in 1902, but the development at the lake struggled along for a few more years. Eventually, the Upper Lake filled in and interest shifted to the main Creve Coeur Lake. With the advent of automobiles, the popularity of the Lake declined and much of the development was abandoned (hotels, restaurants, etc.). After World War II, St. Louis County established Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park and interest in the park revived, but the type of recreation changed to day trips, picnics, and boating.

Postal markings from the Studt Post Office are rare. It is interesting to note that even Jacob Studt, Jr. gave his return address as Creve Coeur Post Office in the example above, but this cover with the marking surely is a good advertisement for Studt's operation.



Finally, the picture below is of Upper Creve Coeur Lake Park taken some years earlier. Note that Jacob Studt (not Jacob Studt Jr.) is listed as the proprietor. The photo is probably from the early 1890's.



Three New La Posta E-books



We are pleased to announce three new titles to our stock of La Posta E-books:

- 1) *Postmarks Among the Palms: A Postal History of the Florida Keys***
- 2) *Oregon Frontier Cavalryman: Lt. Wim. Brown's letters from Ft. Klamath, Oregon, 1878-80***
- 3) *United States Post Offices, Vol. 7 The Lower Mississippi Valley***

Each CD E-book is priced at \$19.95 postpaid worldwide. (Note: **La Posta** subscribers are entitled to purchase titles at \$17.50 postpaid)

To obtain a synopsis of each title, or to place an order, please contact:

Cath Clark (lopostalgal@hotmail.com)

Letters From a Texas Merchant During the Republic Days and Beyond

Brett McLean, APS, owner and transcriber

Bob Roland, APS, researcher and compiler

Nicholas Peck (1739-1838) emigrated to Gonzales, Texas in 1831. He later served in the Army of the Republic of Texas, fighting on the way to and in the battle of San Jacinto. For his service to the Republic he was awarded land near Texana, Jackson Co. This town near the junction of the Navidad and Lavaca rivers, close to Vanderbilt and Lolita, to my knowledge, no longer exists. Sometime during the early days of the Texas Republic, Mr. B.B. Peck of Bristol, Rhode Island, son of Nicholas, journeyed to Texas. It is recorded that Mr Nicholas Peck returned to Rhode Island and brought back at least part of his family. My records indicate that they had at least seven children. Benjamin Bradford Peck was born in Bristol in May 9, 1818, according to some records. Based on my unconfirmed genealogy research, I believe he was the second eldest son of Nicholas Peck and his wife Ann Bradford. It is said that Ann was related to William Bradford, the Governor of the Plymouth colony. Until 1747 Bristol, RI was part of Massachusetts so this is possible for that relationship to exist.

It is most likely that because of the prominence of the shipping industry to Bristol that Benjamin entered the Republic via Galveston or Port Lavaca.

We do not know for sure what Benjamin's plans were when he came to Texas but he struggled during the Republic days to evolve to millionaire status in the days before the Civil War.

Sometime after Benjamin came to Texas and begin his trade as a merchant, cotton and vegetable farmer his younger brother (one at least seven siblings), Mr. William DeWolf Peck, who was born in 1832, also came to Texas. The principle location of the business enterprises was the historic town of Gonzales. Peck also owned land in San Saba and Lavaca counties. According to historical records he owned a number of slaves. This is perhaps why in 1860, Benjamin gave the census taker a value of his real and personal property as being \$176,000. His

immediate neighbor, the most prosperous Lawyer in the town, listed his wealth at a mere \$20,000. These numbers really jump out if you compare them to ordinary working people in the town with total wealth of less than \$500, and doctors only worth a few thousand.

Benjamin met Elizabeth Jeffries who was born in 1828 and was from Kentucky. They were married in the late 1840's and had a first child Anne E. born in 1849.

By the 1850 census, William Peck is living with His brother and some other unrelated borders. In 1860, William is living next door with four of Benjamin's store clerks, one who became his business partner after the war.



Olney's School Geography Map of Texas, 1844. Arrow identifies location of Gonzales. (Source: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/maps/texas/statemap/maptexas1844.jpg>)

In 1861, William DeWolf Peck joined the Eighth Texas Infantry and had charge of I company and later transfers over to Waul's Texas Legion and fought in several battles as well as serving as part of the coastal defense of Texas. (For more detailed history please see <http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/innerresidents3.htm>)

By 1870, William DeWolf Peck and wife Mary (married in 1866) have not only their two young children but also are raising his Brother Benjamin's four, ages from six to fourteen. Benjamin passed on in 1866, he and his wife are buried in the cemetery at Gonzales, and I do not know who passed first.

Both Benjamin and William were merchants and had grocery, meat market, hardware and dry goods stores. Among the partners were a Mr. Fly, a Mr. Evans, a Mr. Qualls, a Mr. Dewitt.

William continued on with the merchant business after the passing of his brother and is recorded to have passed on in January of 1895.

Thus ends a brief history of the letter writers.

Unfortunately for historians, we know that not all of the letters are in this collection. The letters in the collection are written to Benjamin's mother, Mrs. Nicholas Peck, and cousin's, George and Ann Peck, as well as sisters Ann and Nancy.

The first two letters were written during the Republic of Texas era and describe the tough times encountered by those early Texicans. During this period, Mexico and Santa Fe Anna were not ready to give up their claims to Texas even after the defeat at San Jacinto. Santa Anna had recently occupied Santa Fe (just North of Galveston) and taken a number of prisoners back to Mexico. In response, Sam Houston was raising an army with the intent of invading Mexico.



Figure 1 LETTER ONE: B.B. Peck to his mother. Started January 20, 1842 and continued, January 27. On about the 27th the letter was handed off to Mr. Tempel to hand carry to a port of departure. The letter arrives in New York on February 28th, with a red orange cancel and a blue paid mark in the upper right.

Letter One

Gonzales Texas January 20th 1842

To; Mrs Nicholas Peck Sr

Bristol RI

Politeness of Mr Tempel

Dear Mother,

Hearing Mr Tempel was about leaving for your part of the country I cannot let this opportunity pass without writing you a few lines letting you know that I am well and hope this may find you in the same good health. Business is very dull here. I think the times are worse then ever they have been once I have a been in the country and are a getting worse every day. We have no money. The crops have failed and what is worse then all out Texas Boomeracy? nots goes 10 for one so you can judge what the times are here. I have often heard of hard times but never knew what they were before. If nothing happens I think we will have better times in about 12 months. The farmers are making preparations for a large crop of cotton this year and if they don't fail it will bring money in to the country. That is our only hope for better times. We will have to get along this year the best way we can.

I am doing a small business in the grocery line am a making a little more then a living and that is a great deal better then most young men are a doing in this place. I suppose you have heard of our Santa Fe Boys being taken prisoner and striped of all their clothes hand cuffed and sent to the city of Mexico on foot without shoes. The Commander having orders to shoot them down as fast as they give out. I have no doubt but what most of them will be killed before they reach the end of the journey.

There is some talk of raising men to go an try and get them released or break up the settlement on the Rio Grand as people have suffered very much by them the last year. If such an expedition goes into effect it will take of most of the young men in the country.

They waiting and anxious to go. The expedition was comprised of some of the best young men of our country. I think something will be done. I wrote you a letter in nov and have never received an answer. I have not heard a word from non since Dec 18th. I have begun to think you have all forgotten that there is such a chap in the world. I want you to write on receiving this and let me know how you all get along. Give me all the news and send me some new paper. You will want to know how land goes. I can tell you it will not bring any thing at this time for the reason that no one has money to bye with. I think it will be a long time before it will bring any thing. You cannot form any idea how bad the times are. You will no want know when I am coming home that is a hard question to answer. I cannot tell when that will be. I want to come very bad but the times are so bad I cannot make any promis but shall come as soon as i am able. I have stayed away so long I am all most a shamed of myself but hope you will forgive me. I have been sick a great deal since I left you. I have been troubled the last summer a good deal with the liver? complaints but have got pretty much well of it. Give my love to all of the children and Lucy and all inquiring friends. I want you to write me on receiving this. I must now bid you good night. I will try and think of something more in the morning.

From your affectionate son,

Benjam. B Peck

Thursday Morning January 27th 1842

A fine pleasant morning as warm as an April day in Bristol as Mr Tempel has not yet I think I will try and fill up with something.

The Indians have troubled our settlement very much the last summer and fall. They steal all of our horses. It is all most impossible to keep a horse in this place. They killed a man a short time since near San Antonio. They say not killed any one about this place for some time.

They only trouble us by stealing. Tell ?eg? ? Pitman that I wrote him in Nov and have never received an answer. Give my best respects to all of the boys and girls and tell them not to come to Texas until there is some alteration in the times. Tell John I want to hear from him very bad and know how he is a getting a long and what he is a doing too. I don't know what you are all a doing no more then a man in the Moon. I have never seen any persen since I have been in Texas that I ever knew before. Give my best respects to Grandmother and family also. To W. D. Brigg and family. It makes feel a shame when I think about the boys all a getting married off and that I am still left to keep Bachelors Ball. I am now a sitting in my little hut about 8 by 10 feet as snug as you please.

No wife to scold no children to squall. How happy the man that keeps Bachelors Ball. I want Nancy to write me and should be very much pleased to have one from Billy and Henry for I think they must be big enough ??? ??? by this time. Tell them when I come home I shall expect one of them to come out and live with me but should advise John to stay

where he is if he is a doing any thing. Don't forget to ??? me to Lucy. Mr Tempel is about starting and I have about filled up a sheet in haste

From your affectionate son

Benjam. B Peck



Figure 2 LETTER TWO. B.B. Peck to his cousin, George R. Peck. This letter was dated June 7, 1842 and must have entered the mails close to that date. It routed via New Orleans with a Blue July 11 stamp, then onto New York with an August 10 marking. In the same reddish orange cancel is the mark I?RWAR?EB, perhaps a reader will tell us too what that mark relates. We were unable to determine the first marked out writing in the lower left, but the other says "No 20 Commis St. N.O. Give ???"

Letter Two

Mr. George Peck

Bristol

Rhode Island

April 8 , 1842

Dear Cousin,

I will now take my pen to write you a few lines in anwser to yours of Nov. 3 which came to hand yesterday.

I arrived here yesterday from the army on San Antonio River where I had been laying for about a month doing nothing. The army have nearly all gone to their home to wait until there is a march order for Mexico.

Old Sam has issued the proclamation saying he will invade Mexico within four months. Col. Summerville is recruiting men at Baker to move to the Rio Grande as soon as he is sufficient when he makes a move every man in Texas will turn out. I neglected noting you that Baker has been taken and robbed by a Mexican army of about 500 men. They was very careful however to leave before we could get there. it is generally beleaved hear that an invasion was intended but think old Sam will turn the book on them. He has written to Santa Anna stating that He will be on the Rio Grande in a

120 days with a large army. He has also sent to the states for men and munitions of war. Men will all be on the way from New Orleans. This river and San Antonio and Austin is completely broken up as quick as the people get taken.

That Baker was taken they commenced getting bright and buck and putting out east. I think a hundred wagons and carts through this place in a day. They all expected a large journey was behind them for our spies had been taken and the Mexicans were in before we knowed what we was doin. A part of the families have returned to their homes but some of them never will come back to stay. The best our river is completely backed up for the — eat up all the corn in the country. Most of the families have not come for bread. They will have to go it on beef. In fact the best of us have nothing but beef and corn bread no coffee no sugar to be had I shall not more about it.

June 7, 1842

The mails have stopped all through this country and not having an opportunity to send this I have concluded

to write a few more lines as I have an opportunity to send a few — I am now sitting in a little log cabin a writing by the light of a fire on my knee. So you must excuse bad wording.

The times are very dull bear in fact — is nothing. Mexicans came to San Antonio. We new nothing was old Sam is preparing for an invasion of Mexico. The army is to move some time in August. He has ordered a draft through this country. He ordered a 128 men out of this country which will take about half of the men that is left here. As a—many of this— never — from the —. I am doing nothing at this time. Now I have been a doing anything for the last three months but—and that you know is bad buisness in Texas.

We have to campaigns out to the San Antonio River and have no fighting as of yet. I think if I could get in the North again I should be contented to stay there for I do believe it will be a long while before a man can do anything her. In fact a man can not do anything here to get money for there is no money in the country. The only trade here is Spanish horses and cattle. The people are a getting to make their clothing of deer hides. I am now dressed in buck skin and expects to wear them for a long time. We called the time haard when you was out here but we now look back and talk about good times we had then. The Indians steal all the horses we can get. My fire has burnt down now and I have no more wood handy therefore I must stop.

Please send this to my Mother and let her know that I am well. If you can make out to read this I think you will do well good —.

From Your Cousin

Benj. B. Peck



Figure 3 LETTER THREE, this is the last letter by Benjamin. He writes Mrs. Ann Peck, but calls her sister. This “Mrs.” is confusing unless she is the wife of one of his brothers, but he signs it Brother.

Letter Three

Gonzales Texas Aug 23 1846

To; Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

No. One

Dear Sister,

You cannot imagine the pleasure that I had in receiving your letter on yesterday or July 19th. It gave me a great deal of pleasure to hear that you are all well and a getting along so well. You will see by the above that I am at the old place yet.

I am a merchandizing the same as when I wrote you last and expect to continue here until next spring if not longer but cannot yet tell what I will do then. I am a doing a very good business as good as any house in this place if not a little better. Times are a getting very good money is a getting plenty. I think we will have to thank Uncle Sam for it.

The army is a circulating a great deal of money through this country. I think this wave will be the making of this country. Some of U.S. Troops passed through here yesterday and there will be about 800 Volunteers through here tomorrow. It looks a little like(?) doing the business for the Mexicans.

You wanted me to write you all about the country. I do not know what to write but you can tell Mar. that if nothing happens I will try and see her next spring and will then tell her a great deal more than I could write on a ? of paper and a great deal more that I expect she will give credit to. You cannot tell how bad I want to see you all. But I was a nocking about so long in this country without making anything that since I have commenced making a little money I have thought best to stay and try to make up some of my losses. Sister I have been doing a good business for the last 2 1/2 years. I have made about one thousand dollars a year during that time and at this time I am making a little more clear of all expenses. if I have not bad luck but this you can keep to your self.

Our old Texican Boys are all doing well and it does me more good than anything that I have seen in a long time but some of them have gone to the army. They cannot stay away from the war. But I have tried my best to keep them at home for I

think our Texican Boys have seen service aplenty and have suffered a plenty to stay at home and let Uncle Sam fight the balance.

For I think we have paid him very well for fighting our battle in giving up the country to him. For my own part I have concluded to stay at home the balance of the time or during this war. At any rate, our boys have gained a great deal of credit in this war as they always have done in our Texican Wars. But I cannot say as much for some of your U.S. Boys.

You write me that you have had a very warm summer. We have had an uncommon hot summer and more rain then I have ever seen fall in one summer since I have been in the country. We have had a great deal of sickness this summer. But I have had as better or as good health as I have ever had since I have been in the country. I think my health is improving every year and I think if I could make a visit to you that I would be a sound man again. I am so well used to the Suthern climate that I believe I can stay most any place.

I suppose you had a fine time on the Fourth of July. I wish I could say the same. I will tell you how I spent the day.

I left Port Lavaca about nine o'clock in the morning and rode about 30 miles through the ?? to Victoria without any water to Victoria by myself and I think one of the hottest days I ever felt. My mind was in B most of the time but when I arrived in V I had the pleasure of attending a fine Ball and had the pleasure of seeing all of the Victoris Girls. But they do not come up with our Gonzales or B girls. So you can tell by this how I have spent most of my Fourth since I left you. I have never been to a selebration since I left home.

You write that you would like to see Texas. Nothing would give me more pleasure then to see you all out here. I would do all in power to get minds to come out here and settled on our league of land. You wrote me ?? wanted to know if our land had any settlements upon it. There is none. I have concluded to that it would be the best for us all to hold on to the land.

Until the children all become of age and then have it divided between them. And then they can do what they pleas with it. I have had several appointments to sell part of it but have refused to do any thing in that way. The land is worth but very very little at this time but is rising in value and I think by the time the children get of age it will be worth something to them and as for my part I do not intend to sell any land for it has cost me nuff to know the value of it and I contend to keep it as a stam???. I have payed up all the taxes regular as they become due and there is nothing unpaid at this time. The San Jacinto land I have employed a man to locate but have not as yet received the patent.

Mar you write wants to know what we have to pay for board. I pay \$10 pe month and without lodgine and board it is shuch board as you would hardly think fit to eat. Meat and bread coffee that all. But I am used to hard living and do not mind.

There often said times I have been in this country that I would never advise any one to come to this country but I think if I come home I would try and get some of you to come out but I know you would not be contented after living so long in and old settled country.

You must excuse this bad writing as I am in a hurry and have been call off a dozen times since I commenced writing.

Give my best respects to all my old friends and in particular to the ladies and tell them Ben is a live and doing very well and is not yet married and no prospect of his getting married unless he comes to B-

From Your affectionate Brother

Benjan. B Peck

Tell Billy he must attend to his books until I come home and he shall come to Texas with me if none of the rest of you come —



Figure 4 LETTER FOUR, From William D.W. Peck to Ann Peck, also referred to as Sister.

Letter Four

Gonzales Sept 1 1849

To : Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you last Sunday. It gave me a great deal of pleasure. I was very glad to hear that you enjoyed such good health and that you all was getting along so well. I think that John acts very strange about his papers not to let you take them out of the office. But I know what John is so I do not think much about it.

I was very glad to hear that mother had paid him so much. You wrote that mother said that if I wanted any shirts made to write her word. You tell her that I think that she is very kind. Tell her that I think that she has a plenty to do without working for me.

You wrote that you wanted to know wither Mr Hunt was in company with Benjm. He is not they disolved on the 20th of January. It was his intention to go to California when they disolved but he giv out that notion and himself and 2 other young men went to Mexico and drove in about 2 or 3 hundred horses and mules. I think that he intends to raise mules and horses to sell.

I like to forget to tell you that Benj. was father to a fine daughter. It was born yesterday morning so you see that there is just one bushel of us now. Tell mother that they talk of naming it after her. Elizabeth, Mr Hunts wife, had a girl about 2 weeks ago.

The Metherdist has had their camp meeting. There was but 2 or 3 experienced religion. There is a great deal of sickness in this country.

You wrote that you have had a very dry summer. We could have spared some rain very well for we have had a great deal. My health is very good with the exception of a cold. Benj. has a very bad cold. Elizabeth is getting well again. Tell mother that I think about her.

It almost seems to me as though I could see her now. I would like very much to see one of the Smoking Caps(?) that you wrote about. I never heard of such a thing. Tell the Nortrell(?) Girls that I send my respects to them. Tell mother that I send my love to her and would like very much to see her. I almost imagine that I can see Henry ?ing his onions. Tell Henry and John that I send my love to them and accept a long share for yourself. I shall send you a paper in Company with this I believe that is all . you must excuse all the bad spelling and mistakes.

From your affectionate Brother

Wm DW Peck

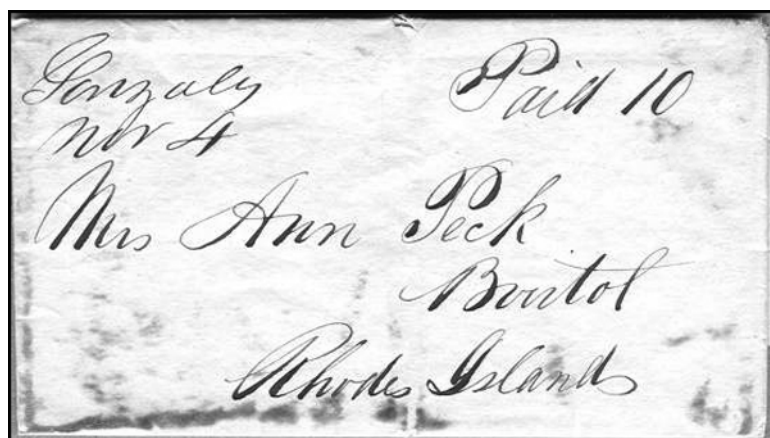


Figure 5 LETTER FIVE

Letter Five

Gonzales Nov 2

To; Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you last Sunday. Benjm. received one the same day. I was very glad to hear that Mothers onions did so well. I was very much pleased to hear that Henry raised so many. But was very sorry to hear that John had such a soar hand. I think that he has had a bad luck this summer. I don't know when I have had anything please me so much as to hear that John was so kind to you all. I was very sorry to hear that Luce had threatened Mother so bad. I wish she was dead and it is not the first time that I have

wished the same. You wrote me that you wanted me to write you what the fashion was for shirts. They do not stand so much for fashion in Texas as they do in the North.

They don't wear stand up collars here at all. Elizabeth has just commenced to make some shirts for me. They ware long bosoms with very small buttons on them. You wrote that Mother wanted to know if I don't want some stockings. You tell her that I have got a good stock. I have not worn out but one pair. You tell her that I will write her when I want any thing.

I think that mother is very kind to think so much about me. I don't think that there is any one in Town except myself and a young man that sleapes with me but what has been sick this summer. I have had very good health. Benjm. is very well.

Elizabeth is not very well. I was very glad to hear that you and mother had enjoyed such good health this summer. I have never been out on that hunting excursion that I wrote you about for it was so hot in the summer that I did not dare to go out in the Sun much. I have been out a Coon hunting several times. There was five or six went out last Monday night.

We caught two coons. The dogs chased something two or three miles. We could not tell what it was but we thought it was a Wolf.

We did not get back not till after twelve O'clock. We had a fine time. We have some very fine wether hear now. Tell Mother that I send my love to her. Tell henry and John that I send my love to them and except a large share for yourself. I don't know of anything else worth writing about. You must write me as often as you can. You must not forget to send them garden Seeds that I wrote you about if Benjm. wants to raise some vegetables next year. You must excuse all mistakes for I have wrote this in a hurry so good by nancy.

From your affectionate Brother

Wm DW Peck

Letter Six

Gonzales

Dec.17

to; Ann peck Bristol Rhode Island

Dear Sister,

I had the great pleasure of recieving a letter from you last thursday. I was very sorry to hear that Henry did not get any better. I think that he must have worked very hard this summer to have ernt so much. Benjamin recieved a letter from Mr.Sprague the other day he wrote that he had shipped the apples. I expect that they are at Port Lavaca by this time. He wrote that he should leave for Texas in about two weeks. You



Figure 6 LETTER SIX: From William to his sister Ann

wrote that you wanted to know if we had any onions in Gonzales. We have some that is brought from New Orleans. They retail them at about 20 cents a dozen here. I was very glad to here there was a coal man in Bristol.

I think that coal will be cheaper now. I think that you must of had a very warm fall in Bristol this year. A week ago last Thursday was Thanksgiving day here. The Suns of Temperence turned out and they had a Temperence lecture delivered. I think you will be suprised when I tell you who joined them and marched with them. It was Benjamin. We have had some very cold weather for two or three days frost last Saturday night. It was quite warm but Sunday morning the wind shifted to the North and in a little while it commensed to rain and froze as quick as it touched the ground. As you see we have some cold weather in Texas as wet as in the north. It is quite warm again the 27th of this month. The Free Masons to turn out here and to have a dinner. It was a year yesterday since I left New York and it seems like a very long year. Tell mother that i will try not to eat to many apples if they dont all spoil before they get here. Tell John that he must not forget to send me the brother Jonathon as quik as he can for I would like very much to see one of them. There was fourteen or fifteen eat dinner at our house thanksgiving day. We had chickens and venison and fresh pork also pumpken pies and custards and cakes biskits and butter and ?? and coffee that was our Thanksgiving dinner we drink coffee and milk three times a day.

Tell mother that I send my love to her and would like very much to see her. Tell the ??? Girls that I send my respects to them. I think everytime I take my pen I think I will write a long letter but before I get half through I dont know what write. Benjamin and Elizabeth and the baby are all very well. Tell henry and John that I send my love to them and except a large share for yourselve I believe that is all now. i will buy to write you a longer letter next time so i will bid you good by Nancy. you mus excuse all mistakes and bad spelling.

From your affectionate Brother

Wm. DW Peck

Letter Seven

Gonzales Texas Mar 2nd 1851

To: Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I had the great pleasure of receiving a letter from you last Monday. I was very sorry to hear that you had been sick but hope you are quite well before this time. You wrote that you wanted to know if Benjm. had received a letter stating that Mother had received the draft. I forgot to ask Benjm. but I am preaty certain that Benjm. received the letter but I don't know wither he answered it or not. I told him today that he aught to write a letter home by the next mail. He said maybe he would. He told me to write you how you and mother would like to take a trip out here next fall. I expect that

Benjm. will go to New York and home this summer and he will want you and mother to com out if he dos. But you must not look for him for fear that you get disappointed. I think that Mr Jo Martin acted very strange not going to see you after staying there so long but it was just like him. Elizabeth says if he had gorn to see you you could not have got anything out of him. He would not told you anything. You say you think he must be a real Moap. I think you guess very well. I expect his mother has kept him housed up since he has been there. I don't expect that he has hardly been out of the City. He has not got bucks yet and he may be in Providence yet. There is no telling he is a strange man. I suppose you will want to know how we all are getting along. Benjm. and Elizabeth are both very well and I am well and as hardy as a buck.

I expect that you have received a letter from Elizabeth before this time. She wrote you one sometime ago. I suppose you will want to know what the news is out this way there is none as usual except that this part of the country is filling up very fast.

There has a great many Emigrants come in this winter. We have had a very warm spring until last Thursday morning when there blew up a Norther and the next night it froze the

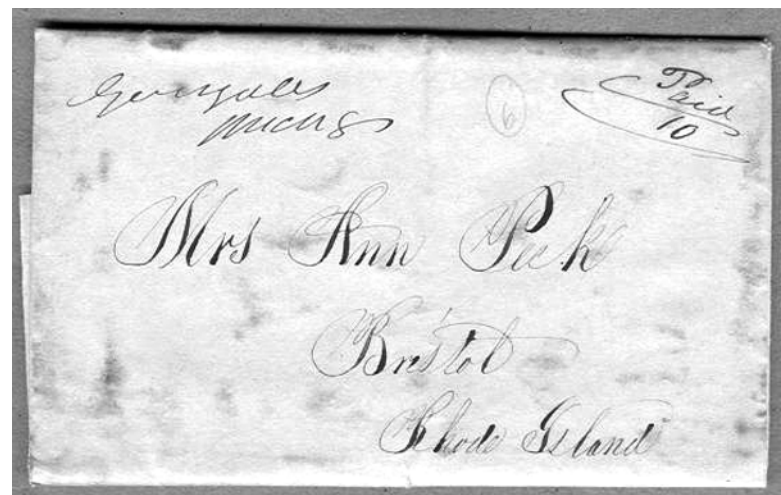


Figure 7 LETTER SEVEN From William to his sister Ann

Peach Trees and the Plum Trees were all in Bloom but they soon shed them. It killed nearly all the Vegetables that were up and I am afraid that we will not get any Peaches. This summer I was thinking about you. Today I supposed you was in the Meeting House listing to Mr Shephard preaching. I would have liked to have been there with you and had a very good sermon this morning and that is something uncommon for we have som miserabel Preacher here. Next Thursday is Thanksgiving Day through Texas but I don't expect that we will have any Preaching here that not been any appointment here yet. Tell the Wardwell Girls that I send my respects to them.

Tell Mother and Henry that I send my love to them and would like very much to see them both. You wrote that Mother told you to tell Benjm. to write Mother I was a good boy. Tell her that I am as steady as an old Shoe. I don't run about any. I have stayed at home so long that I don't care about running about much. I go to the House three times a day and back to the Stor so you see I am as steady as a Mill.

Tell John that I send my love to him and accept a large share for yourself. Write me as often as you can. You must excuse all mistakes and bad spelling. I don't know of any thing more at present so good bye Nancy.

From your affectionate Brother

Wm DW Peck

Letter Eight

Gonzales

May 6

To; Nancy B Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

As I am now alone I thought I could not spend my time better then writing you a few lines to let you know how I am agetting along.

Benjm. left Sunday for New Orleans so I am alone in the store. Mr Hunt left Monday for Mexico to buy mules or horses. We have had some very warm weather and some very cold. We have had several messes of string beans. The first we had was April 16th and that night we had a heavy frost which hurt the Farm very much. There has been green vegetables in this town. There has been new Potatoes in town some time ago. I think I have seen as hot weather as ever I saw in Bristol. Benjm. received a letter from John last Sunday. He said he was a going on Rhode Island to go a fishing. he said he was coming out next fall and asked Benjm. to give him some advice about it. Benjm. said he did not know what he would do if he did. He said he had a gold watch he ment to give me the first time he saw me. He said then had a great many gone to Gold Regions. There was a company of young men from New York passed through this place last Sunday on their way to the Gold Diggins. The men laughed a good deal to see how green they was with their mules.

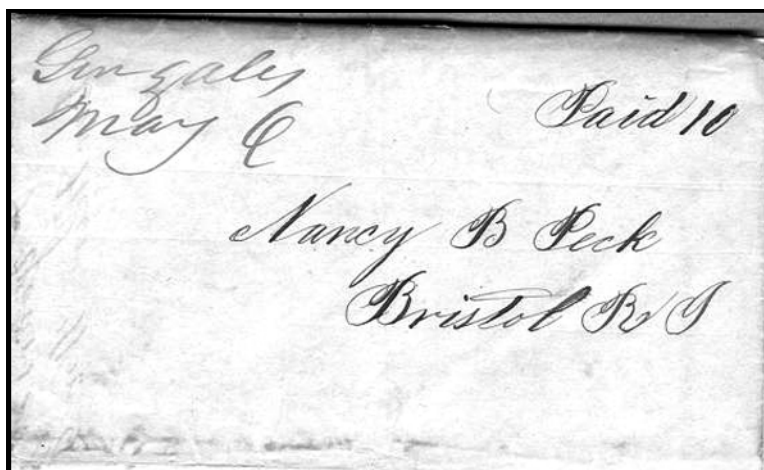


Figure 8 LETTER EIGHT from William to sister Nancy B. Peck .

There has a great many Companies passed through this place on their way to the Gold Diggins. It is amusing to see them. I have not received but one letter from you since arrived here but I look for one next Sunday. I have grown a great deal since I left home. I have out grown some of my clothes. I told you when I left that I would write you what I had for my first meal. I forgot to tell you before.

The first meal that eat at Benjm. we had fried venison and corn bread and biscut and butter. Coffee and milk and Preserved Orange Peel I think. That is correct the first meal that I eat in Gonzales I eat at the hotel. Benjm. was living 3 miles from town in a log house without any windows in itbut it was a very good one from the wind. Since then he has moved to town in a framed house.

I want you to write me and give me all the news. Tell the Wardwell Girls that I send my love to them. Tell Mother that I send my love to her and Henry and John and Mr and Mrs Simons and except a large share for yourself. Tell henry to tell Sidney Munro that I send my love to him and would like to receive a letter from him. I don't know of any thing else to tell you now.

If you can read this you will do well

Your affectionate Brother

Wm DW Peck

Letter Nine

Gonzales Texas May 12, 1851

To; Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I have the pleasure of receiving two letters from you a short time since one of them was rather an old fellow it was wrote or rather finished last Christmas Day so you see it has been on the road a great while. I think it has been delayed at Victoria for they have a Drunken Port Master there. Your other letter was dated April the 6th.

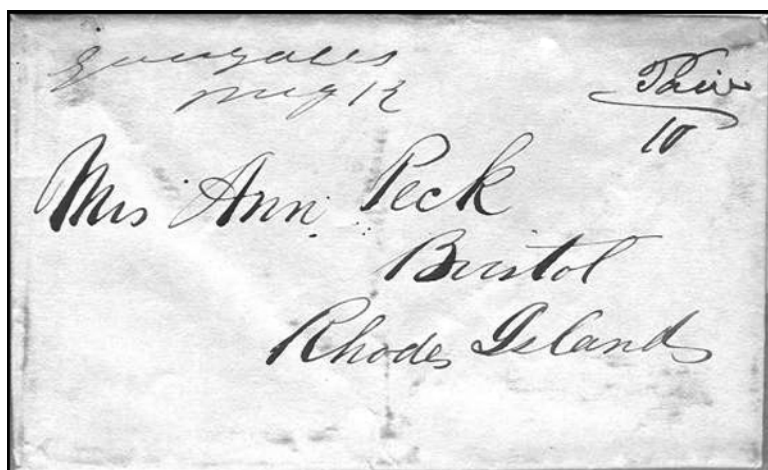


Figure 9 LETTER NINE From William to Mrs. Ann Peck.

I was very sorry to hear that mother was not well but I hope she is quite well before this time. Tell her that I don't think that I can come home this Summer, but Benjm. will be on som time this summer. We cannot both leave at the same time very well but I would like very much to make you a visit. Tell Mother that I think she is very kind to think so much about me. Tell her that I don't think of any thing that I want just now. I often wish that I had some thing to send you all but I have to take it out in wishes.

You say that they talk very strong of building a Rail Road from Bristol to Providence. What I think it is about time they commenced it for they have been talking about it a great wile but I think they will make it go after a wile.

I suppose you will want to know how we are all getting along. We are well and hardy and getting along very well. Trade has been very good and brisk with us this spring. We have had a great deal of rain this Spring for a country that it never rains in. Nearly every little River and Creek in Texas has ben out of its banks but our river and it has ben very high several time so you may know that we have a shower occassionally in Texas. But the wether has cleared off now and I think we are a going to have some pleasant wether. It has been a fine spring for the vegetables. We have a very good garden this Spring.

We have a plenty of Irish Potatoes and Beans and Cabages and a great many other kind of vegetables. I wish you had some of them. It would be quite a rarity I think in Bristol to have vegetables so early in the season. We have had them for the last three weeks so you see we can beat you in early gardens if we can't in any thing else.

Tell the Wardwell girls that I send my respects to them. I think that you are very unfortunate in Bristol in the way of Bells.

I suppose you will want to know what the news is out in these diggins. Wel there is none as usual except that the Lehinch Folks are getting along pretty well with their Subscriptions. The metherdists hav selected a place to build their Church upon.

Tell John that I received Six Papers from him about a week ago. I have not sent him any papers for the last two or three weeks but tell him that I will send him som the first opportunity. I am very much pleased with Johns papers.

Tell Mother and Henry that I send my love to them and would like very much to see them both very much.

Tell John that I send my love to him and except a large share for your self. I hardly know what to write you for there is no news here at all.

You must write me as often as you can and give me all the news. I think if you can read this letter that you will do well but I am afraid that it will giv you som trouble but you must excuse all mistakes and bad spelling for I have wrote this in a great hurry for I could not let this mail pass with-

out answering your letter. I don't think of anything else just now so good by Nancy

From your affectionate Brother in haste

Wm DW Peck

Letter Ten

Gonzales Texas June 8th 1851

To; Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you a few days ago. It gave me a great deal of pleasure for I had not received one from you before in a great wile.

I was very glad to hear that you were all in the enjoyment of such good health and I hope you may all continue to enjoy the same blessing for health is a great blessing. I was glad to hear that you were all getting along so finely and hope you may continue to do the same

You wrote that you wanted to know when Benjm. was coming home. I hardly know what to write you but you must not expect him until you see him for I don't know whether he will come home this summer or not. Sometimes he talks like he was not agoing this summer and then he will talk at other times like he was going. If he had talked this spring

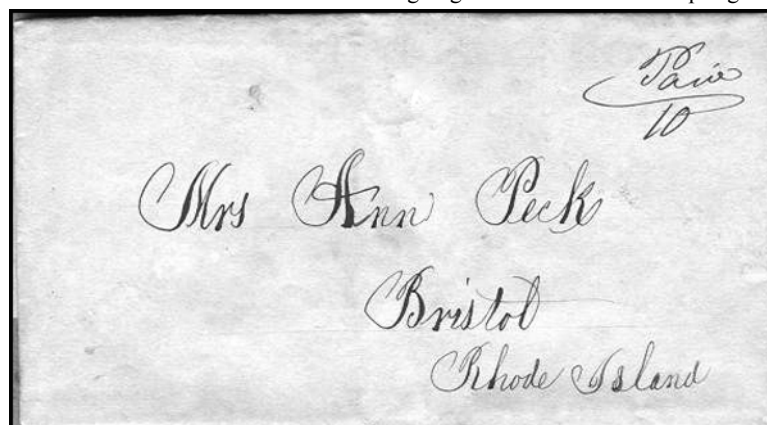


Figure 10 LETTER TEN

like he dos I think I should yorn. I shall be very much disappointed if he does not go. I shall do all I can to get him to go. He and Elizabeth started down to the Bay last Thursday.

Benjm. does not intend to stay, he will leave Elizabeth there and come back. Elizabeth Mother is down keeping house for us whilst Benjm. is gone. She is a fine old lady. She is a very Motherly old Lady. I have a man in the Store to help me now. He is a French man. He has been with us about three months. He is a very fine man. I like him very much.

I suppose you will want to know how we are all getting along. We are all well that is at home and we are getting along very well.

Times are very dul here now for the Farmers are all busy with their crops. We have had some very warm wether this summer. It is very hot here today. I believe it is the hottest day we have ahd this season. The preperation is rolling off of me now and I have no Coat nor Cravat(?) so you can have some idea how warm it is here. Watter mellons is ripe here but they are very scarce. I hav not seen one this season.

Green Corn is ripe here so you see it is a littel forwarder here then it is with you. It is very dry here now. It has not rained here in a great while. If it does not rain very soon the Farmers will make very slimm crops but I think it will rain before a great wile for it is so hot and still and that is a pretty good sine of rain.

I suppose you will want to know what the news is. Well there is not much as usual for we are so far out of the World that we never get any news.

All there is is that the young folks are all getting married of there was a young lady married the other night aged fourteen and that is nothing uncommon in this country for girls to marry at that age and some marry younger then that.

Tell Mother that I send my love to her and would like very much to see her and hav a chat with her.

Tell the Wardwell Girls that I send my respects to them.

Tell John and Henry that I send my love to them and except a large share for yourself. Tell John that I received four Papers from him last Sunday and expect four more to night in the mail. Tell him that I am ashamed for not sending him any in return but I should if I could get them to send. I will try to send him two in the next mail but he must not stop sending them because I don't send him any in return for I shall send them when I can get them. I am very much pleased with his papers

I did not number this letter. I have forgot what I numbered the last. If you can read this you will do well but you must excuse it for I have wrote it in a great hurry for it is so hot in this store that I am in a hurry to get out of it.

I don't think of anything more at present so I wil bid you good bye Nancy

From your affectionate Brother

Wm DW Peck

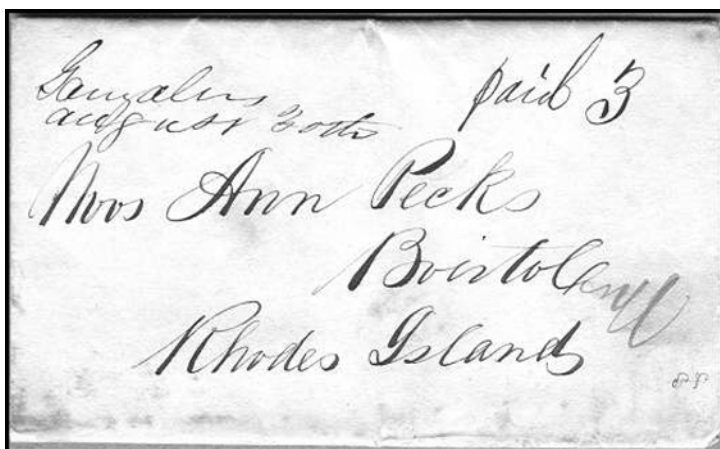


Figure 11 LETTER ELEVEN: William to Mrs. Ann Peck. Note that the letter has been rated "Paid 3" as opposed to the Paid 10 found on other letters. The prepaid 3¢ per ½ oz. rate went into effect July 1, 1851.

Letter Eleven

Gonzales Texas Aug 28th 1851

To; Mrs Ann Peck Bristol RI

Dear Sister,

I had the great pleasure of receiving a letter from you last Sunday. I was very glad to hear that you were all well.

I was very much surprised to hear that you had a piano and that you had learned to play several tunes. I think that you are learning very fast. I never should have dreamt of your having a piano. Elizabeth thinks that it must have taken you a great while to earn enough to buy it. There is but two pianos in Gonzales and there is but a very few that can play on them.

I am very sorry that you were all so much disappointed again this summer. I was nearly provoked with myself that I wrote you that Benjm. was a going on this summer but I nearly thought he would go. Elizabeth says that she is very sorry that she wrote you that he was a going. I don't think that I shall write you again that he is a going for I disappoint you every time that I do it but I will try and get Benjm. to write you a letter to pray for disappointing us all so bad.

I hardly know what to write you for there is no news here at all. I wrote John a letter day before yesterday. I received one from him a week ago last Sunday. This is the fourth letter that I have wrote to Bristol in the last two weeks. This the second one that I have wrote you and and one to Frank Munro and one to John so you see that I have been quite busy for the last week or two writing letters and that is bout all that I have done for it is very dull here now and has been all this summer.

It is very hot here and very dry. We have had no rain here of account in a great while. The vegetation is all dried up and the crops look very slim. The crops will be very short this summer but I think we will have enough to live on.

I suppose you will want to know how we are all getting along. We are all well and I am well and hardy as a pig. And Elizabeth and Benjm. are both very well and getting along very

well. I made Benjm. promise a few moments a few moments ago that he would write you a letter this week and I think that he will keep his promise. If he does not I will jog his memory again.

It has been so long since he wrote that I think that he thinks it is sufficient for me to write.

Tell the Wardwell girls that I send my respects to them and would like very much to see them.

Tell Mother that I send my love to her and that I would like very much to see her. Tell her that the longer that I stay the worse I want to see her. I would like very much to hear you play on your piano. I think that they are beautiful music but I have not heard them much since I have been in this country.

Tell John and Henry that I send my love to them and would like very much to see them. Except a large share for your self.

You must write me as often as you can and give me all the news for I am always very happy to receive a letter from home.

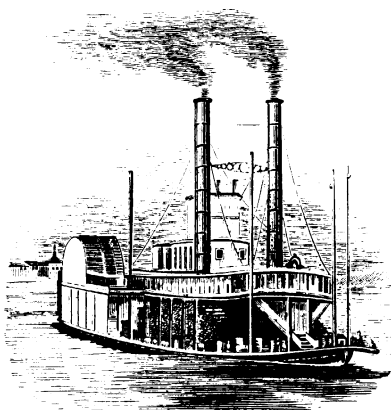
You must excuse all mistakes in this letter and I think if you can read this that you will do well for I have wrote it in a very great hurry. I don't think of any thing else at present so I will bid you good by Nancy

From your affectionate brother

Wm DW Peck

References:

1. Sons of Dewitt Colony Texas, Wallace L. McKeehan
2. Goodspeed Brothers. Memorial and Genealogical Record of Southwest Texas, Chicago 1894
3. Ancestry.com site for the United States Census for the years 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870
4. Index to the Gonzales Inquirer newspaper.
5. Ancestry.com One World Tree
6. Ancestry.com Texas Land Title Abstracts
7. Angelfire.com info on 8th Texas
8. The Handbook of Texas Online, tsha.utexas.edu.
9. Ancestry.com civil war service records



Randy Stehle Mail Bid No. 115

16 Iris Court, San Mateo, CA 94401

Phone: (650) 344-3080

Email: RSTEHLE@ix.netcom.com

CALIFORNIA

- 1 AROMAS, 1916 VG 4-BAR REC'D ON PPC, EST. \$4
- 2 BELLA VISTA, 1908 G+ 4-BAR ON PPC (93/37), EST. \$5
- 3 BELLOTA, 1908 VG CDS REC'D & O/S ON PPC (60/18), EST. \$15
- 4 BETTERAVIA, 1920 VG DOANE MIMIC ON COVER, EST. \$6
- 5 BIG DRY CREEK, 1870 VG CDS ON CVR W/EDGE FAULTS (70-93) \$150
- 6 BONDVILLE, ca1858 VG DC ON COVER (55-60), EST. \$350
- 7 BONNY DOON, 1908 VG DOANE ON PPC (87-30), EST. \$6
- 8 CALIFA, 1914 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (12-15), EST. \$35
- 9 CAMP HAAN, 1944 F MACHINE ON COVER (41-47), EST. \$5
- 10 CANTARA, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (02-16), EST. \$20
- 11 CANYON, 1906 VG DUPLEX MIMIC ON PPC (97-06), EST. \$35
- 12 CASTROVILLE, 1908 G+ DUPLEX ON PPC, EST. \$6
- 13 CHITTENDEN, 1911 F 4-BAR ON PPC W/SM STAIN (93-23), EST. \$12
- 14 CHUALAR, 1944 VG 4-BAR ON PPC, EST. \$4
- 15 COSUMNE, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (52-15), EST. \$20
- 16 DEWITT, 1910 F CDS ON PPC (03-27), EST. \$12
- 17 EASTON, 1893 VG CDS ON COVER (82-02), EST. \$35
- 18 ELECTRA, 1913 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (00-23), EST. \$12
- 19 EVERGREEN, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (70/35), EST. \$6
- 20 FLOYD, 1909 F DOANE ON PPC (06-11), EST. \$35
- 21 FORT BARRY, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (11-18), EST. \$25
- 22 FRODSHAM, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (10-22), EST. \$20
- 23 GIBBS, 1915 VG 4-BAR ON RESORT PPC W/SM TEAR (00/16) E. \$20
- 24 GRUBGULCH, 1909 VG DOANE ON PPC W/SM TEAR (83-18), EST. \$20
- 25 HENLEYVILLE, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (73/36), EST. \$6
- 26 HUNTERS, 1910 F DOANE ON PPC (88-30), EST. \$6
- 27 IAQUA, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (80/20), EST. \$20
- 28 JELLY, 1904 VG CDS ON PPC (01-34), EST. \$12
- 29 JUPITER, 1909 VG CDS ON PPC (01-22), EST. \$12
- 30 KINGS RIVER, 1878 F CDS ON COVER (56-95), EST. \$35
- 31 LAVERNE, 1912 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (09-14), EST. \$20
- 32 LONETREE, 1910 F DOANE ON PPC (00-11), EST. \$35
- 33 MALTERMORO, 1895 F CDS ON WINERY COVER (94-13), EST. \$25
- 34 MAMMOTH, 1914 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (07/24), EST. \$12
- 35 MAYHEWS, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (91-22), EST. \$12
- 36 MIDLAND, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-14), EST. \$20
- 37 MISSION SAN JOSE, 1915 F DUPLEX ON PPC (50-60), EST. \$4
- 38 MONMOUTH, 1915 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-19), EST. \$20
- 39 MONSON, 1907 G+ CDS REC'D ON PPC (89-20), EST. \$10
- 40 MOORETOWN, 1909 VG CDS ON PPC (88-13), EST. \$20
- 41 NARANJO, 1911 VG CDS ON PPC (01/18), EST. \$20
- 42 NEWTOWN, 1910 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (54/12), EST. \$20
- 43 NORD, 1913 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (71/33), EST. \$6
- 44 NORTHBRANCH, 1910 VG CDS ON PPC (52/25), EST. \$12
- 45 NORTH CUCAMONGA, 1911 VG DOANE ON PPC, EST. \$10
- 46 NORTHSPUR, 1913 G+ 4-BAR ON PPC (10-22), EST. \$30
- 47 OAKBAR, 1914 G+ CDS ON PPC (74-28), EST. \$10
- 48 OAKLAND/ALDEN STA, 1906 G+ CDS REC'D ON PPC (00-08), E. \$12
- 49 OAT HILL, 1908 VG CDS ON PPC (91-10), EST. \$20
- 50 OGILBY, 1914 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (90/42), EST. \$6
- 51 TORQUAY, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (08-11), EST. \$75

COLORADO

- 52 BASHOR, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (09-18), EST. \$12
- 53 CHASE, 1910 F 4-BAR ON PPC (92-11), EST. \$40
- 54 HICKS, 1905 G+ CDS ON PPC W/SEVERAL CREASES (95-14), E. \$15
- 55 HILLTOP, 1913 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (90-44), EST. \$6

MONTANA

- 56 BONITA, 1908 VG 4-BAR ON PPC (86/42), EST. \$6
- 57 CABLE, 1910 F DOANE ON PPC (82-13), EST. \$12
- 58 FAMILY, 1909 F 4-BAR ON PPC (00/40), EST. \$6
- 59 WELCH, 1909 VG CDS ON PPC (02-11), EST. \$35

OREGON

- 60 IVISON, 1908 VG DOANE ON PPC (93-09), EST. \$20
- 61 McKEE, 1907 F DOANE ON PPC (88-24), EST. \$12
- 62 PEAK, 1911 F 4-BAR ON PPC (99-17), EST. \$20
- 63 STRASSEL, 1915 F 4-BAR ON TONED PPC (13-34), EST. \$6

SOUTH DAKOTA

- 64 ALBANY, 1908 F DOANE ON PPC W/SM TEAR (05-09), EST. \$20
- 65 ASHCREEK, 1914 G+ 4-BAR ON PPC (03-19), EST. \$20

Railway Post Offices

- 66 BARD, 1907 F 4-BAR REC'D & O/S ON PPC (87-13), EST. \$15
- 67 BATES, 1911 F DOANE ON PPC (86-24), EST. \$12
- 68 DET & ALGONAC, 1907 VG (Q-3-e) ON PPC, EST. \$30
- 69 SACRA RIVER, 1907 VG (U-9-a) ON PPC, EST. \$40
- 70 ST. P. & DEVILS LAKE, 1911 G+ (869-2-I) ON PPC, EST. \$6
- 71 ST. VINCENT & FOSSTON, 1897 VG LITE (869-BP-1) ON PPC, E. \$12
- 72 SAN RAMON & SAN FRAN, 1908 VG (992.10-A-2) ON PPC, EST. \$15
- 73 SEATTLE & SKAGWAY, 1923 F (X-19-d) ON PPC, EST. \$12
- 74 SEATTLE & SKAGWAY, 1938 F (X-19-e) ON PPC, EST. \$12
- 75 SKIDMORE & FALFURRIAS, 1910 VG (482-Y-1) ON PPC, EST. \$15
- 76 SODUS POINT & STANLEY, 1906 F (129-I-1) ON PC W/STAMP GONE.5
- 77 SPOKANE & COULEE CITY, 1906 F (906.6-D-1) ON PPC, EST. \$20
- 78 SPOK FALLS & PORT, 1891 G+ (892-AA-1), EST. \$12
- 79 STURGE BAY & GR BAY, 1918 F (854.1-B-1) ON PPC, EST. \$12
- 80 SUMMIT & GLADSTONE, 1909 VG (250-L-3) ON PPC, EST. \$12
- 81 TOLUCA & KIRBY, 1909 VG LIGHT (951-R-2) ON PPC, EST. \$15
- 82 TRUCKEE & LAKE TAHOE, 1909 VG (997.4-A-1) ON PPC, EST. \$12
- 83 TRUCKEE & LK TAHOE, 1938 VG (997.4-B-2) ON PPC, EST. \$8

Minimum Bid \$3.00 please. Phone bids accepted.

CLOSING DATE:

December 15, 2005 (10 PM Pacific)

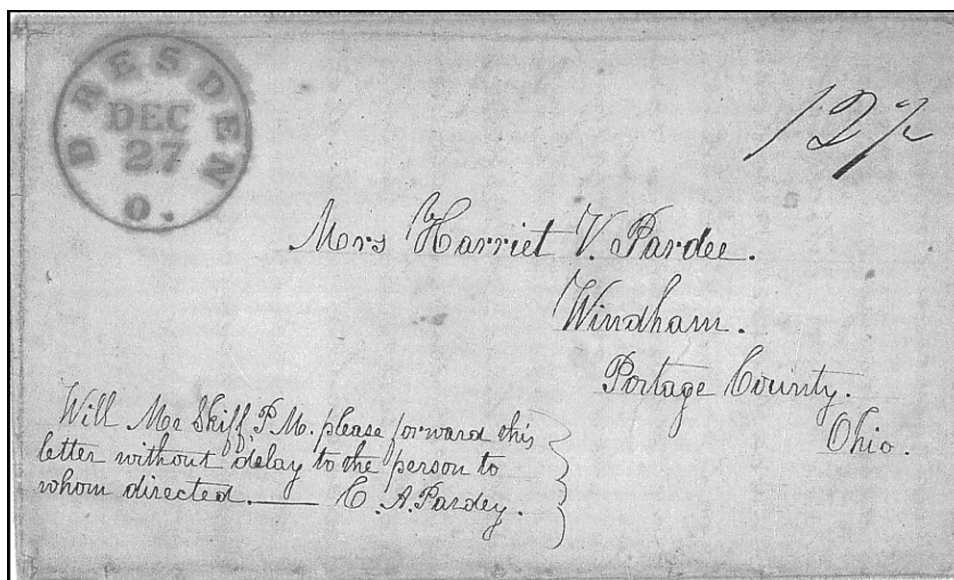


Figure 1 The Dresden Ohio post office was established in Muskingum County in 1818.

What's In A Name?

Geographic Transfer Names for Ohio's Settlements

By Michael Dattolico

The rich variety of Ohio's town names reflect a colorful, creative side of Ohio's postal history.

Ohio was an unorganized region before it became part of the Northwest Territory which was created after the Revolutionary War. When the Indian Wars of the 1790s ended, pioneers flooded the area, resulting in Ohio's statehood in 1803.

Among the earliest names used by Ohio settlers were those of Indian tribes and prominent Americans of the new United States. Thus, names such as Seneca, Huron, Erie, Pawnee, Mohican, Ottawa, Scioto, Cuyahoga and Miami were given to burgeoning villages and some of Ohio's counties. Names of nationally known men, notably Washington, Franklin, Adams, Jefferson, Hancock and Adams were popular, as were Revolutionary War military heroes such as Allen (Ethan), Jones (John Paul) and Greene (Nathaniel). Military leaders of the Ohio Indian wars such as Hamilton, Butler, St. Clair and Wayne found their names attached to the state's counties and settlements.

Settlers commonly formed names that ended in the suffixes, "ville", "town" or the derivative "ton", or "burg". They also incorporated dominant natural features as part of their settlement's name. Names such as Adams Ridge, Bear Creek, Belle Valley, Chagrin Falls, Cranberry Prairie, Hanging Rock and Eagle Cliff are a few town - and post office - names that are connected to the terrain.

Ohio village names included other natural highlights such as dale, plain, river, lake, hill, wood, bottom, cave, heights, point or bank as part of their settlements' names.

Pioneer activities played a role in how a post office got its name. Examples of such places are Dick's Mills, Eagle Furnace, Hedges Store, Brush Creek Forge, Carsons Tavern and Folks Station. Other activity words such as depot, grove and ferry abound in the roster of Ohio post offices.

Natural man-made gathering place words have been liberally used to name Ohio places. The state's legacy is spiced with places followed by such words as crossing, fork, landing, junction, cross roads, corners and ford. Even an abrupt turn in a river or road referred to as a "bend" became part of a post office's identify, such as Delaware Bend, Ohio.

Many early settlers migrated from the East and chose names similar to their former towns. Those places were often preceded by the word "New." Town names such as New Albany, New Boston, New Bedford and New Philadelphia pepper the listing of Ohio post offices. Even foreign names preceded by "New" were used, indicating places from which many newly arrived immigrants had departed. Some examples are New Paris, New Moscow, New Vienna, New Holland and New Berlin.

There is a related category of place names used by Ohioans to name their communities. They are foreign cities and countries and the names of other U.S. states and territories that were not preceded by the word, "new." They constitute a unique group of post office names, many of which are operational today and are delightful to collect and study.

Why did earlier generations of Ohioans adopt the names of prominent foreign cities, countries and other American states? A basic reason seems to have been a nostalgic reluctance to sever emotional ties to their former homelands. An example might be Poland, Ohio. Located in eastern Ohio, a post office was established there in 1804. In some cases, the immigrants' new home may have resembled the old country, thus prompting them to keep its name. Some newcomers chose the place in Europe from which they departed, or simply picked the place they last saw as they sailed for America. Some foreign names were used because they sounded exotic, such as Pekin or Tokio, both antiquated spellings. Such place names were the result of wishful thinking, places that settlers had dreamed of visiting but lacked the opportunity. Communities were named after famous places to instill civic pride, while others hoped that the name of an old enduring place might bring good luck to the new settlement.

The names of European cultural and learning centers were adopted by Ohio's early settlers. Several examples are Athens (1802), Cambridge (1807) and Oxford (1817). Biblical and related place names also were employed, including Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Lebanon and Mesopotamia, Ohio, where a post office has been operational since 1805.

As the 19th century progressed, America's wars had a bearing on the town/post office names chosen by its citizens. Ohio soldiers brought back exciting stories of battles, many in exotic-sounding places, and the names

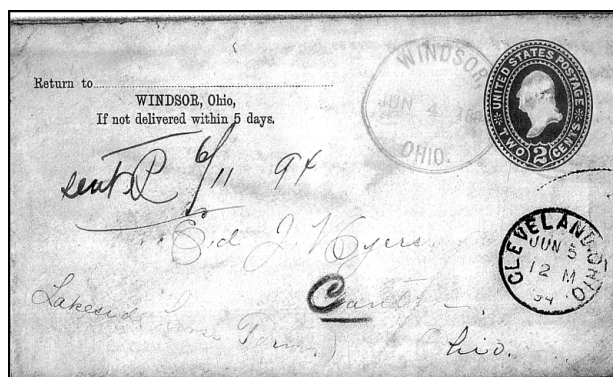


Figure 3 Located in Ashtabula County, the Windsor Ohio post office has served the community since 1804.

of those locations stuck. The Florida, Ohio post office, for example, was established in 1843, the same time the second Seminole War ended in Florida. The war with Mexico (1846-1848) left its influence in the same manner. The Texas, Ohio post office was established in 1846, and the Buena Vista, Ohio post office was established in 1847.

That trend seems to have continued throughout the century. The names of western territories, often the site of Indian wars, found their way into Ohio's post office listing. The Idaho, Ohio post office was established in 1870, and the Wyoming Ohio post office was established in 1873. The names of western Indian tribes, such as Modoc and Sioux, were used to name post offices as well.

Momentous events overseas was sometimes the catalyst for the naming of a post office. In 1893, for example, the Hawaiian kingdom government was changed due to American influence, and a republic was formed by Samuel Dole. In the aftermath of that far-reaching political change in Hawaii, the Honolulu, Ohio post office was established in 1893. And it's certainly no coincidence that the Manila, Ohio post office was established in 1898 after the U.S. Navy defeated the Spanish fleet at Manila Bay in the Philippines.

Ohio was certainly not the only state to use foreign city or country names or the names of other states. And not all such places names were permanent. The postal history of Ohio is filled with instances of offices being discontinued and later reopened under different names. Some foreign place names were used in different places during various time periods. For example, there have been three post offices in different counties bearing the name, Damascus, throughout Ohio's history.

The following roster is a compilation of Ohio post offices bearing the names of most foreign place names or U.S. states.

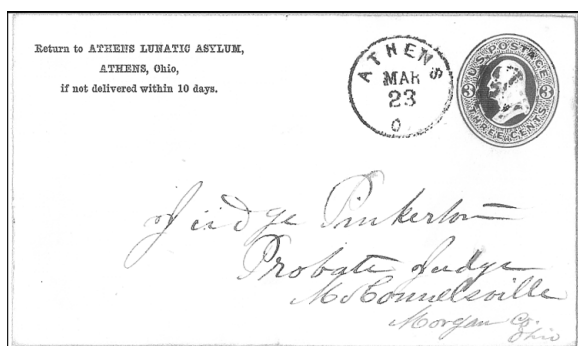


Figure 2 The Athens post office was established in 1802 and is operational. Athens is the government center for Athens County and home to Ohio University, which opened in 1804.

Roster of Post Offices

Ohio Post Office	Transferred From	Ohio County	Operational Period
Adelaide	Australia	Marion	1887-1905
Africa	Continent	Delaware	1884-1906
Aberdeen	Scotland	Brown	1825-open
Alaska	U.S. state	VanWert	1889-1894
Alberta	Canada	Meigs	1873-1906
Alexandria	Egypt	Licking	1831-open
Alexandria	Egypt	Scioto	1805-1808
Amoy	China	Richland	1891-1900
Amsterdam	Holland	Jefferson	1832-open
Angola	Africa	Clermont	1855-1873
Angola	Africa	Gallia	1890-1914
Antioch	Iraq	Monroe	1839-open *
Antwerp	Belgium	Paulding	1842-open
Arabia	Middle East	Lawrence	1858-1912
Armenia	Europe	Washington	1887-1915
Athens	Greece	Athens	1802-open
Barcelona	Spain	Richland	1833-1844
Belfast	Ireland	Clermont	1840-1907
Belfast	Ireland	Highland	1910-1944
Berlin	Germany	Holmes	1822-open
Berlin	Germany	Huron	1818-1825
Berne	Switzerland	Noble	1832-1953
Bethlehem	Palestine	Richland	1887-1895
Bethlehem	Palestine	Stark	1828-1843
Birmingham	England	Erie	1832-open
Bremen	Germany	Fairfield	1837-open
Bristol	England	Morgan	1834-1915
Bristol	England	Perry	1820-1829
Cadiz	Spain	Harrison	1812-open
Cairo	Egypt	Allen	1922-open
Cairo	Egypt	Stark	1850-1904
Calais	France	Monroe	1841-1918
Calcutta	India	Columbiana	1838-1913
Cambridge	England	Guernsey	1807-open
Canaan	Middle East	Wayne	1825-1903
Carthage	Africa	Hamilton	1828-1902
Ceylon	Asia	Erie	1871-1904
Cheshire	England	Gallia	1826-open
Christiana	Norway	Butler	1829-1837
Cologne	Germany	Hamilton	1887-1888
Congo	Africa	Perry	1892-1959
Congo	Africa	Pickaway	1891-1892
Cork	Ireland	Ashtabula	1830-1904
Corsica	Italy	Morrow	1844-1912
Coventry	England	Summit	1884-1889
Cuba	Country	Clinton	1826-open
Damascus	Middle East	Henry	1819-1868
Damascus	Middle East	Mahoning	1881-open
Damascus	Middle East	Perry	1872-1872
Darwin	Australia	Meigs	1894-1907
Delhi	India	Hamilton	1834-1911
Denmark	Country	Ashtabula	1812-1904
Dover	England	Cuyahoga	1812-1915
Dover	England	Tuscarawas	1819-1831
Dover	England	Tuscarawas	1915-open
Dresden	Germany	Muskingum	1818-open
Dublin	Ireland	Franklin	1820-open
Dundee	Scotland	Tuscarawas	1847-open
Dunkirk	France	Hardin	1854-open
Edinburgh	Scotland	Portage	1822-1903
Egypt	Country	Belmont	1883-1905
Frankfurt	Germany	Monroe	1838-1868

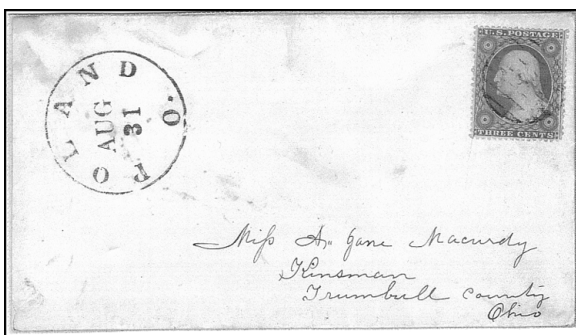


Figure 4 The Poland Ohio post office was established in 1804 in Mahoning County and operated until 1955. Today is a branch of the Youngstown post office.

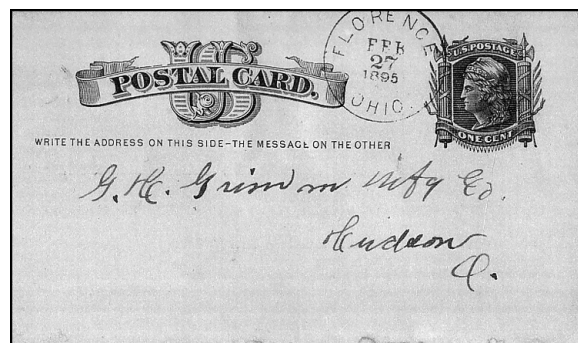


Figure 8 The Florence Ohio post office was operational from 1818 until 1906 in Erie County.

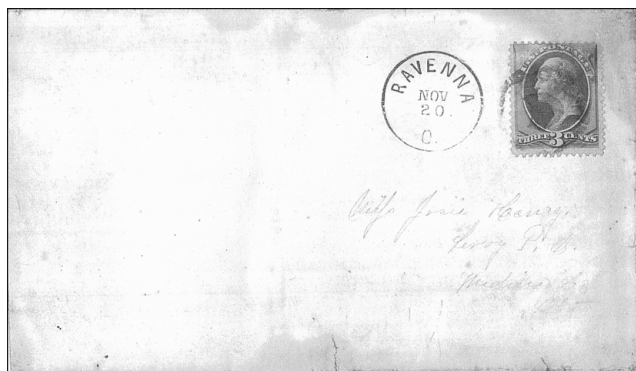


Figure 5 Established in 1805, the Ravenna post office is one of Ohio's oldest operating post offices. It is located in Portage County.

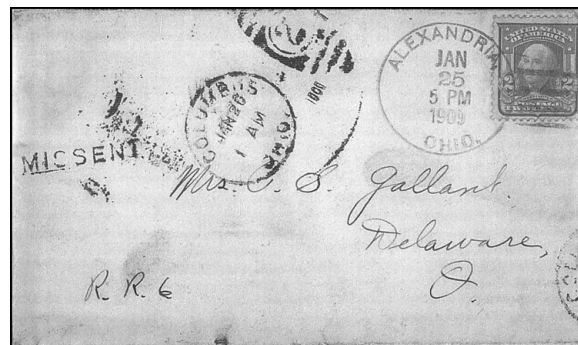


Figure 9 The Alexandria post office was established in 1831 and is still operational. It is located in Licking County.

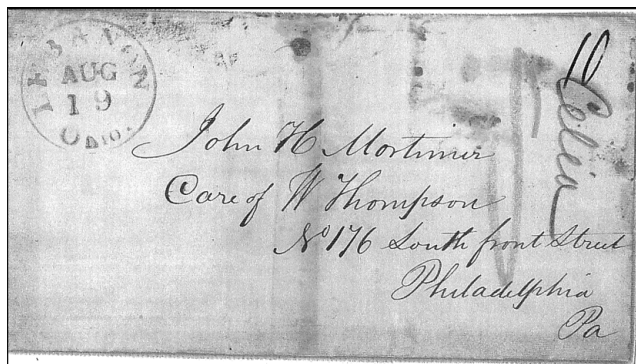


Figure 6 The Lebanon Ohio post office has served that Warren County community since 1805.

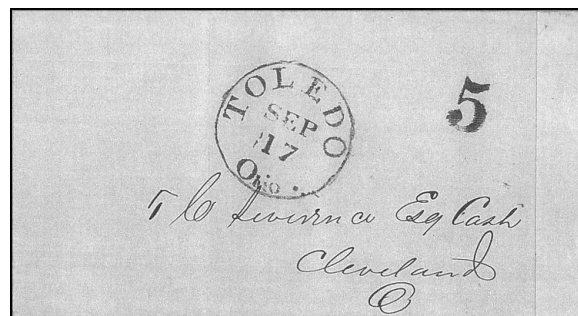


Figure 10 The Toledo post office was established in 1836. It is the county seat for Lucas County and a major municipality in northwest Ohio.

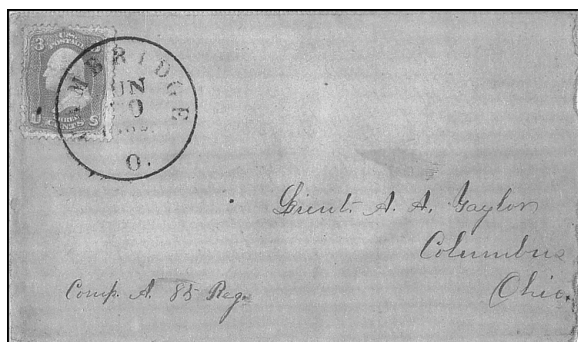


Figure 7 Located in Guernsey County, the Cambridge post office was opened in 1807.

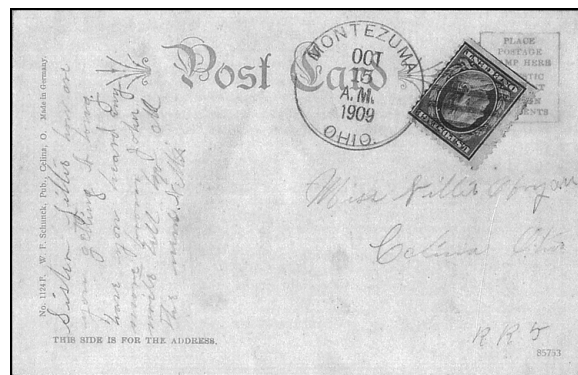


Figure 11 Montezuma Ohio, situated in Mercer County, has had an operational post office since 1840.

Ohio Post Office	Transferred From	Ohio County	Operational Period
Frankfort	Germany	Ross	1834-open
Ganges	India (river)	Richland	1836-1906
Geneva	Switzerland	Ashtabula	1829-open
Genoa	Italy	Delaware	1819-1849
Genoa	Italy	Ottawa	1854-open
Germany	Country	Pike	1876-1906
Ghent	Belgium	Summit	1858-1918
Glasgow	Scotland	Columbiana	1839-1902
Glouster	England	Athens	1887-open
Guinea	Country	Clermont	1894-1907
Hamburg	Germany	Fairfield	1895-1905
Hampshire	England	Lake	1842-1843
Hanover	Germany	Knox	1822-1824
Hanover	Germany	Licking	1815-1959
Havana	Cuba	Huron	1851-1958
Holland	Country	Lucas	1863-open
Iberia	European Area	Morrow	1832-open
Idaho	State	Pike	1870-open
Inverness	Scotland	Columbiana	1838-1902
Israel	Biblical Country	Lawrence	1856-1860
Ithica	Greece	Darke	1837-1967
Java	Island	Lucas	1848-1901
Jericho	Middle East	Butler	1852-1855
Jericho	Middle East	Gallia	1895-1898
Jerusalem	Middle East	Monroe	1850-open
Kansas	State	Seneca	1861-open
Kent	England	Portage	1863-open
Lancaster	England	Fairfield	1801-open
Lebanon	Middle East	Warren	1805-open
Lisbon	Portugal	Clermont	1837-1844
Lisbon	Portugal	Columbiana	1894-open
Liverpool	England	Medina	1817-1910
London	England	Madison	1813-open
Londonderry	Ireland	Guernsey	1819-1907
Londonderry	Ireland	Ross	1929-open
Lucerne	Switzerland	Columbiana	1893-1901
Lucerne	Switzerland	Knox	1850-1888
Lyme	England	Huron	1824-1894
Macedonia	Europe	Clinton	1871-1872
Macedonia	Europe	Summit	1908-1965
Madeira	Portugal	Hamilton	1867-1957
Malaga	Spain	Monroe	1824-open
Malta	Country	Morgan	1829-open
Manchester	England	Adams	1800-open
Manila	Philippines	Clermont	1898-1905
Mantua	Italy	Guernsey	1854-1856
Mantua	Italy	Portage	1811-open
Marseilles	France	Wyandot	1844-1920
Mecca	Arabia	Trumbull	1825-1904
Mesopotamia	Middle East	Trumbull	1805-open
Mexico	Country	Wyandot	1837-1902
Milan	Italy	Erie	1821-open
Monmouth	England	Franklin	1898-1898
Montezuma	Mexico	Mercer	1840-open
Montreal	Canada	Lawrence	1894-1907
Moscow	Russia	Clermont	1826-open
Nebraska	State	Columbiana	1854-1857
Nebraska	State	Pickaway	1862-1902
Nevada	State	Wyandot	1854-open
Norwich	England	Muskingum	1828-open
Nottingham	England	Cuyahoga	1863-1914

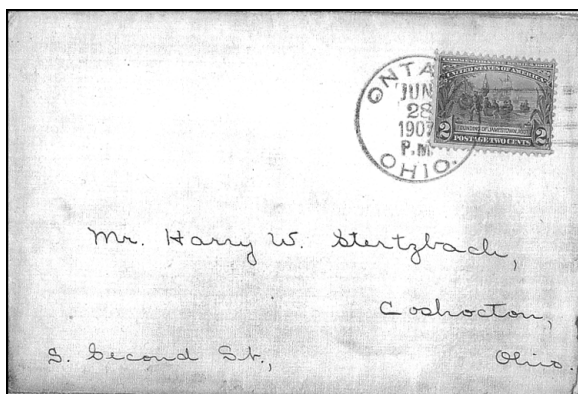


Figure 12 Located in Richland County, the Ontario post office was established in 1841 and remains operational.

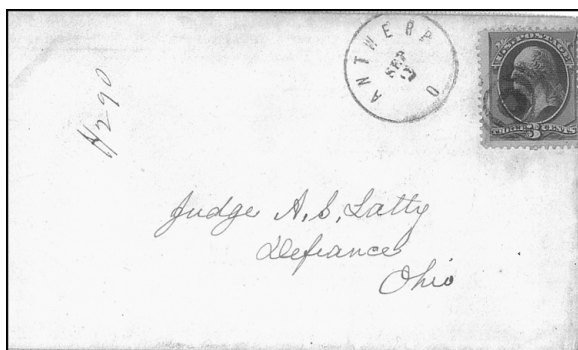


Figure 13 The Antwerp Ohio post office was established in 1842 and is still operating. It is located in Paulding County.

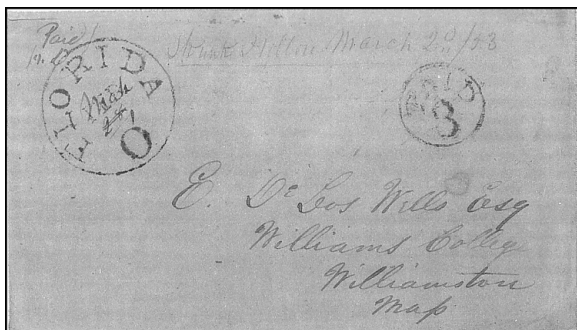


Figure 14 Located in Henry County, the Florida Ohio post office was in operation from 1843 to 1919.

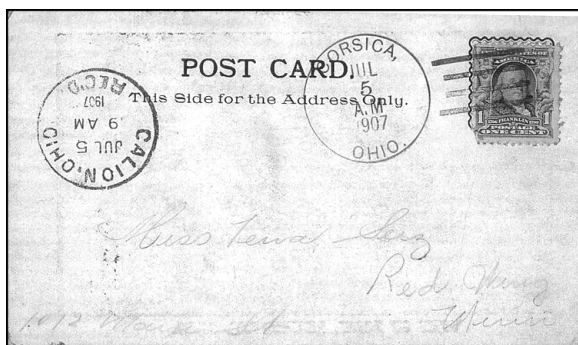


Figure 15 The Corsica Ohio post office was located in Morrow County. It served that community from 1844 until 1912.

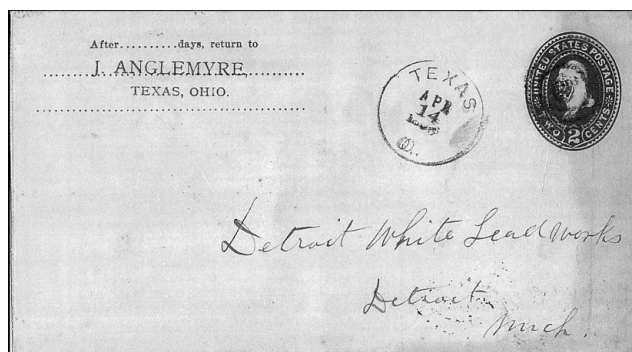


Figure 16 The Texas Ohio post office was established in 1846 and operated until 1903 in Henry County.

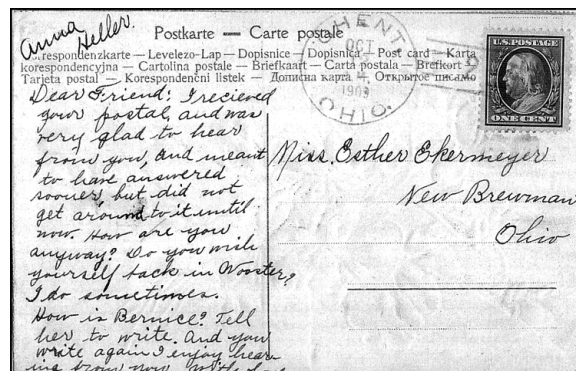


Figure 17 This post card was mailed from the Ghent Ohio post office in 1908. Named for the business & cultural center in Belgium, the post office operated from 1858 until 1918 in Summit County.

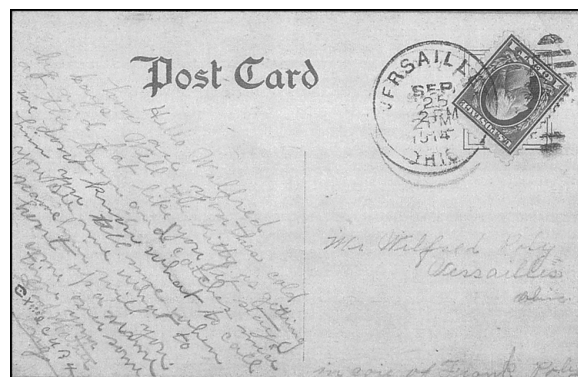


Figure 18 A post office was established in Versailles Ohio in 1860. Located in Darke County, it remains open for business.

Ohio Post Office	Transferred From	Ohio County	Operational Period
Ottawa	Canada	Ottawa	1839-1862
Ottawa	Canada	Putnam	1862-open
Oxford	England	Butler	1817-open
Oxford	England	Delaware	1819-1819
Padua	Italy	Mercer	1882-1903
Palermo	Sicily	Carroll	1839-1904
Palestine	Middle East	Darke	1901-open
Palestine	Middle East	Pickaway	1833-1899
Panama	Country	Defiance	1846-1862
Paris	France	Starke	1822-open
Parma	Italy	Cuyahoga	1827-1901
Pekin	China	Carroll	1836-1855
Pekin	China	Starke	1828-1828
Pekin	China	Warren	1874-1901
Peru	Country	Huron	1820-1904
Plymouth	England	Richland	1823-open
Poland	Country	Mahoning	1804-open
Portsmouth	England	Scioto	1808-open
Potsdam	Germany	Miami	1861-open
Ravenna	Italy	Portage	1805-open
Riga	Latvia	Lucas	1837-1870
Rome	Italy	Ashtabula	1818-open
Russia	Country	Lorain	1834-1835
ussia	Country	Shelby	1860-open
Sardinia	Italy	Brown	1837-open
Siam	Country	Seneca	1878-1938
Sicily	Italy	Highland	1848-1895
Sinai	Middle East	Pike	1901-1904
Sodom	Middle East (Biblical)	Trumbull	1874-1903
Sonora	Mexico	Muskingum	1855-closed**
Sparta	Greece	Morrow	1837-open
Sussex	England	Auglaize	1872-1872
Sweden	Country	Ashtabula	1891-1893
Tampico	Mexico	Darke	1850-1876
Texas	State	Henry	1846-1903
Tokio	Japan	VanWert	1880-1950
Toledo	Spain	Lucas	1836-open
Toronto	Canada	Jefferson	1880-open
Toronto	Canada	Paulding	1881-1881
Troy	Turkey (Ancient)	Miami	1824-open
Tyrone	Ireland	Coshocton	1850-1900
Ulm	Germany	Clinton	1883-1884
Utah	State	Lucas	1851-1859
Venice	Italy	Erie	1827-1963
Vera Cruz	Mexico	Brown	1872-1905
Verona	Italy	Preble	1899-open
Versailles	France	Darke	1860-open
Vienna	Austria	Trumbull	1808-open
Wales	United Kingdom	Gallia	1855-1906
Warsaw	Poland	Coshocton	1839-open
Waterloo	Belgium	Fairfield	1837-1841
Waterloo	Belgium	Franklin	1837-1841
Waterloo	Belgium	Lawrence	1843-open
Westminster	England	Allen	1837-1944
Weymouth	England	Medina	1824-1905
Windsor	England/Canada	Ashtabula	1804-open
Wyoming	State	Hamilton	1873-1902
York	England	Sandusky	1823-1839
York	England	Union	1844-1905
Yorkshire	England	Darke	1898-open

... office is now closed. It was replaced by the Westfield office.

... t office was destroyed ... l years ago and ... opened. The Zanesville ... s the town's

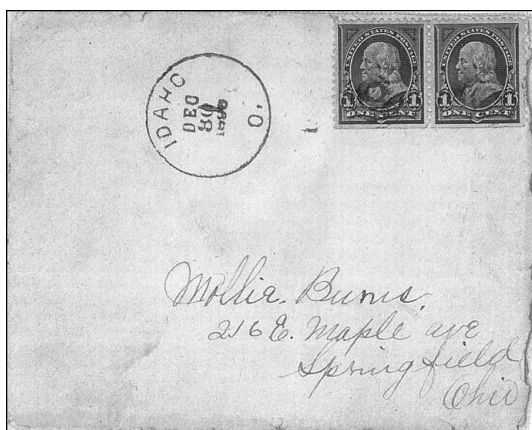


Figure 19 The Idaho Ohio post office was established in 1870 in Pike County. It operated as an autonomous post office until 1964, when it became a rural branch office.

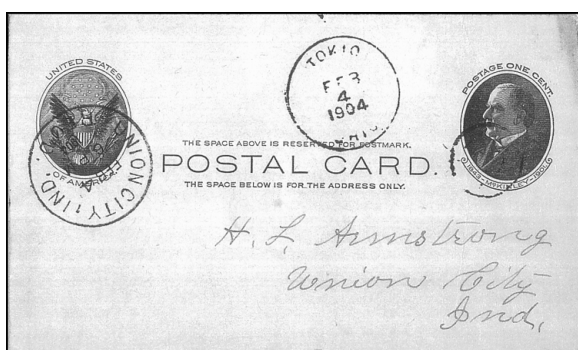


Figure 20 Located in Van Wert County, the Tokio Ohio post office was open from 1880 until 1950.

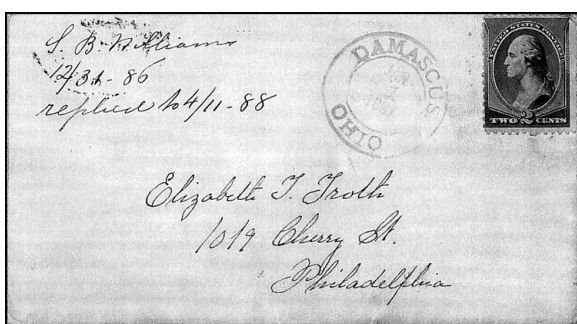


Figure 21 Several Ohio communities have used the name, Damascus, during the state's history. This cover was mailed from the town of Damascus in Mahoning County. That post office was established in 1881 and is operational. Note that the cover was postmarked on New Year's Day, 1887.

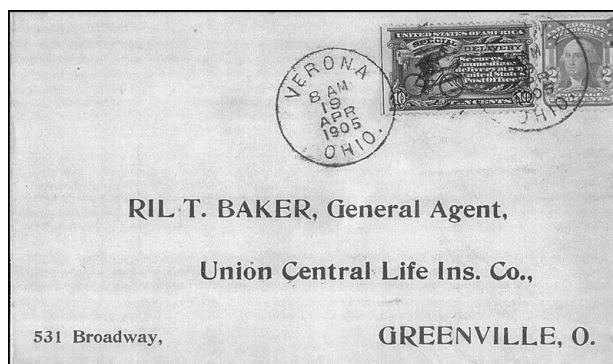


Figure 22 The Verona Ohio post office is located in Preble County. It was established in 1899 and operates today.

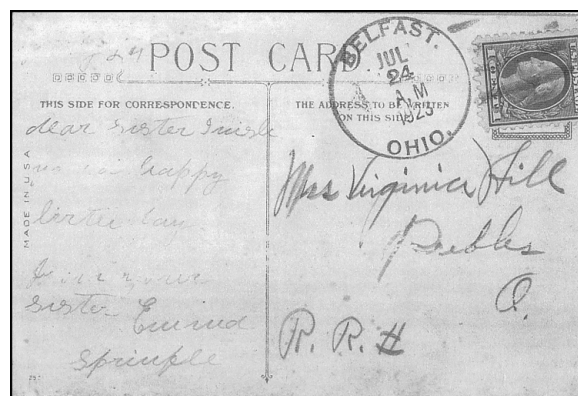


Figure 23 Located in Highland County, the Belfast Ohio post office operated from 1910 to 1944.

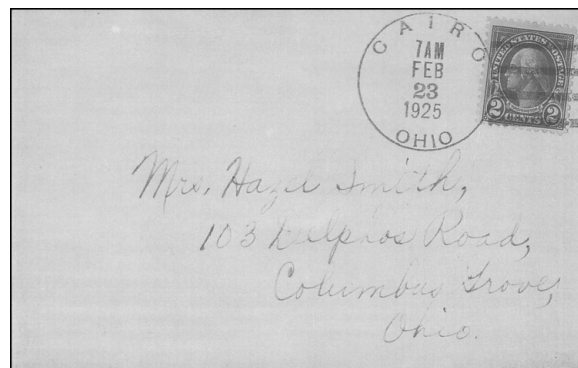
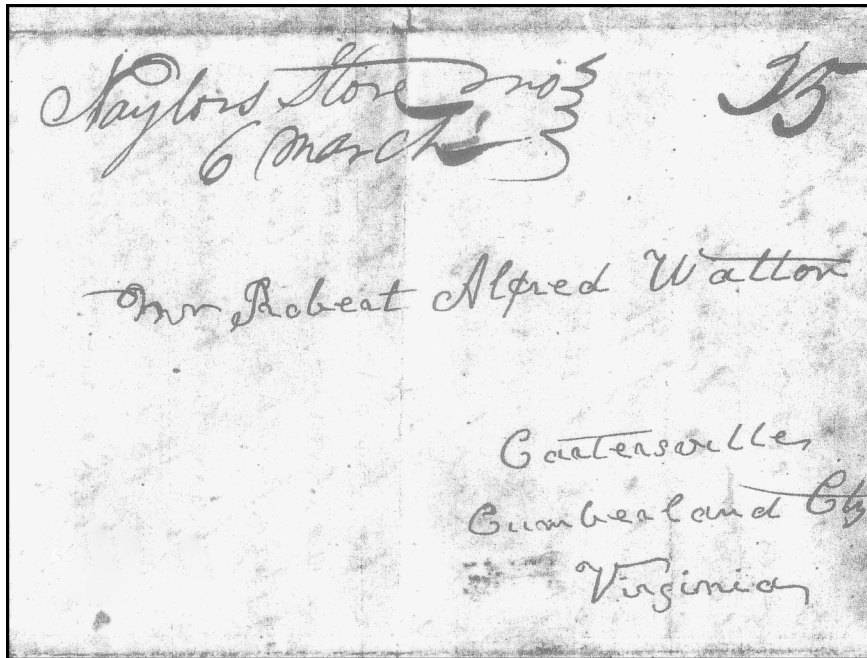


Figure 24 Cairo was the name of two Ohio post offices. This cover was mailed from Cairo Ohio in Allen County. It was established in 1922 and is still operational.

Reading Other People's Mail. II.

A Letter from Dardenne Prairie, Missouri



By Bob Schultz

One of the joys of postal history research is the ability to read other people's mail. I guess that the ability to do this abets the nosiness found in all of us. The stampless folded letter sheet illustrated below was addressed to Mr. Robert Alfred Walton in Cartersville, Cumberland County, Virginia and was sent by his aunt, Mrs. M. M. Wharton.¹ The year is 1838, and the letter was mailed from Naylor's Store, St. Charles County, Missouri – a small post office on the Boonslick Trail. This 1838 letter is one of the earliest recorded from Naylor's Store (1827-1868). I have added some punctuation and corrected some spelling.

New Trial,² March 5th, 1838

My Dear Alfred

Your long looked for but very acceptable letter came to hand a few days since. I will try to answer it immediately putting you in mind at the same time to do unto others as you would have them do to you. Nothing could give us more pleasure than to hear from our Virginia friends as often as possible and particularly from you.

Cousin ECB³ is now writing at the same table and may I say she says she is writing too willingly would the dear girl write without thinking of any impropriety on her part if others did not disapprove of corresponding with any young gentleman at all, no matter on what subject. She returned last fall from Columbia and is now more interesting than ever. She has fattened up and looks much larger, a fine sweet girl such as you can seldom come across – would suit a poor man as well as a rich one. And may I say a good deal

admired. Several are visiting here, but that is all I am able to say. One Dr. Tyler, from Bonum⁴ neighborhood moved from Louisa about 18 months since, his Father it is said is rich good many of his connections as well as his father has settled in the Bonum settlement. He is about 22 or three I suppose, a good looking person, he has not been over for some time owing, I suppose, to the visit Miss Edna Bates⁵ made here about three weeks since. Aunt Julia⁶ bid me tell you, the little lassie sends you a kiss but may I say perhaps you would prefer one from a larger Cousin. All are well here and more promising chaps I never saw, rosy and fat enough to eat were they pigs.

You mentioned remind Maria of her promise. I do not know what that was, but I think I could guess. I have been here four weeks but will return in a few days now. I was really distressed to hear you had gone in trade again in Virginia. I am fearful we shall never more see you here or if we do, it will only be on a visit.

You said you would like to know what the boys are doing. Mr. Freemore⁷ will remain until August, after that time then Lucius, Woodville and Barton will go to a higher school. The boys are progressing very fast with the languages it is so said.

I heard from Dr. Coalter⁸ a few days since that Colonel J. H. Christian⁹ was dead. He was told so by a Mr. Merriweather that married a Miss Miller a sister of Mrs. Christian's. He is just from your old dominion, he says that he supposed there were about 50 blacks that would one day or other belong to the Bates's. Well, I must try and say something on another score. Mr. F¹⁰ has a day or so back bought Dr. Coalter's farm and started immediately down for St. Louis to enter land adjoining, but a few moments ago Mr. Hatcher

stept in and said he could not cross the river at St. Charles and returned home again, but will try and go over as soon as the ice will allow him to do so.

Mr. Hatcher¹¹ bought of Mr. Naylor,¹² Notts¹³ place. He is now as busy as possible building and will move as soon as he can get a house to shelter in of any kind. He has purchased a very cheap place and if he should not like, can sell for more than his is to give, the timber is richly worth the money. It is said about 500 or upwards at about \$1200.

You cannot tell how much we one and all want to see you. I have not seen my mother and sister since September. They were well last week. I expect to visit them as soon as the muddy bottoms will allow me to do so.

Present my most affectionate love to you father and mother and each member of the family. Although we are separated at a great distance, you are still dear to me. Do if you please in your next, say something about the Whartons if you have seen or heard anything from any one of them.

I think you might like to know what my opinion respecting you and a certain sweet person that could be named, I think she is too prudent to say directly, but you stand high in her estimation and I do believe higher than any other person whatever, but perhaps she may conclude that she shall never more see you, and cannot correspond neither and it would be useless under those circumstances to imagine the time would ever arrive to see each other.

Dr. Coalter lives in Pike [County] was down a few days since when he sol Wm. Frayser Calomel Point. I suppose they will continue to live at the same place this year, Mrs. Heald's¹⁴ place less than a mile from the new purchase. My best love to all enquiring friends. Tell the young people Missouri is the place for them to get rich, but not for comforts. Farewell,

Your affectionate Aunt,

M. M. Wharton.

[PS]

Your aunt Julia with the rest of the family unite with me in love to you. Farewell my dear Alfred – write when you can and give me the news of every kind. I do regret your settling in Virginia. You could do better here, if in a log house at first. Do in your next let me know if ever you calculate on coming to this country – again farewell.

M. M. Wharton.

n.b. I have omitted saying anything to you about the messenger sent to _____. All have been received except two numbers and they may have been misplaced here in her absence at Columbia. She bids me say she is very much obliged to you for them.

Now, let's get to "the rest of the story." To understand what is going on – the bases of the letter – we have to look elsewhere. One good source is *Pioneer Families of Missouri* by Bryan and Rose, originally published in 1876 and reprinted in 1935. The information there helps

to connect the various family names in the letter. Scharf's *History of St. Louis and St. Louis County* (1883) and Christensen, et al. (1999) also provided information. The *History of St. Charles, Montgomery, and Warren Counties* (1885) and the *History of St. Charles County, Missouri* (1997) which reprinted the St. Charles portion of the 1885 book both essentially repeat, word for word, the information found in *Pioneer Families of Missouri*.

1. M. M. Wharton was Mrs. Margaret (Bates) Wharton, one of twelve children of Thomas Bates and Caroline Woodson Bates of Virginia. Margaret Bates first married John Spears and then, after his death, married Dr. Orton Wharton in Virginia. When she again became a widow, she came to St. Charles County in 1838 and lived on the farm of her brother Edward Bates. **Edward Bates** was also a prominent Missouri attorney with an office in St. Louis. He later served as Attorney General in the first Lincoln Administration.

2. New Trial was the name given by Edward Bates to his farm in St. Charles County, in the Dardenne Prairie area. Bates said that "Lawyer Bates" barely made enough to support "Farmer Bates." He moved back to St. Louis in 1842.

3. Cousin ECB was **Emily Caroline Bates**, born in 1820, daughter of Frederick Bates. Frederick Bates was the older brother of Edward and Margaret. He served terms as Territorial Secretary, Governor of Missouri Territory and as the second Governor of the State of Missouri, serving from 1824 until his death in 1825.

4. "Bonum" probably refers to "Bonhomme" township in St. Louis County where Frederick Bates had his home, called "Thornhill." The home remains today and is located on its original site in Faust County Park.

5. Edna Bates was probably the daughter of Frederick Bates. (He had four children.) Note that mention is made of her visit "here," i.e. New Trial farm in St. Charles County.

6. Aunt Julia was the daughter of David Coalter. She married Edward Bates in 1823. They had seventeen children, so the "little lassie" referred to was probably one of their children.

7. Mr. Freemore apparently was the tutor for the Bates children. Lucius and Woodville were sons of Frederick Bates and Barton was the first child of Edward and Julia Bates. In 1838, Lucius was 17, Woodville was 15, and Barton was 14.

8. Dr. Coalter was Dr. Beverly T. Coalter, brother of Julia Coalter Bates. He owned property in both Pike and St. Charles Counties.

9. Colonel J. H. Christian was not found. From the contest of the letter, it seems that this refers to Virginia matters. The Bates in both Virginia and Missouri were slave owners.

10. Mr. F. was Robert Frayser who arrived in the area with Henry Hatcher in 1836. Frayser served in the Convention that decided in 1861 that Missouri would not secede from the Union. Although a slave owner, he voted with the majority against secession. He bought the Coalter farm which adjoined the Bates property.

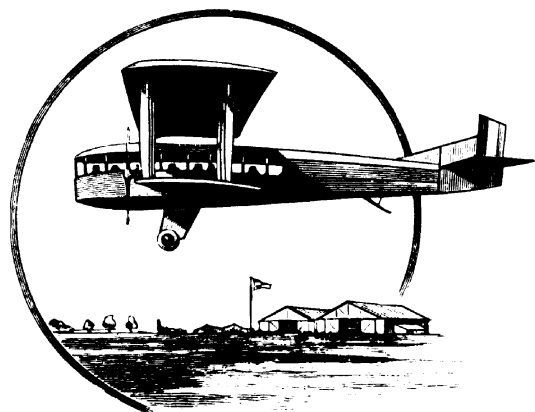
11. Mr. Henry Hatcher also owned property in the area. He married Susan Spears, daughter of John Spears and Margaret Bates.

12. John Naylor was postmaster of Naylor's Store, located on the Boonslick Trail in the Dardenne Prairie area. He married Jane Coalter, sister of David Coalter.

13. A daughter of the Naylor's, Caroline, married **Dr. William Nott** who also owned property in the area. John Naylor handled the sale of Nott's place to Hatcher.

14. Mrs. Heald was the widow of Major Nathan Heald. In the War of 1812, Heald commanded Fort Dearborn (Chicago). Indians attacked, captured the fort, massacred the garrison, and carried Heald and his young wife into captivity. They were exchanged and, in 1817, settled in St. Charles County.

Finally, Margaret Wharton, the writer of the letter, was an effective matchmaker. Robert Alfred Walton did indeed come to St. Charles County and did marry Emily Caroline Bates. And they had eight children. So now we have "the rest of the story."



In Search of Columbus!!!



Wanted Any 19th Century Covers
from "COLUMBUS"

ILL., MICH., MO., N.C., WASH., FL., NV.,
MONT., COLO., N.M., LA., & PA.

Send Priced Scans to JAMESDOOLIN@ATT.NET,
or mail to:

James Doolin
11258 Goodnight Lane, Suite 105
Dallas, TX 75229
Tel. 1-800-886-2653

Member of APS, USPCS, CSA and many others.



Buying and Selling Worldwide Postal History

Established in 1974
Mail, and Internet
(Freeman's)
Shows
(Global Phil. Assoc.)

Website Highlights

Weekly Featured Cover

Net Price Lists

Philatelic Literature

Show Schedule

Postal Rates

10-11 Sep - AIRPEX, Dayton, OH
20-23 Oct - Fall-MEGA, Madison Square
Garden, NY, NY
18-20 Nov - CPS, Chicago, IL
26-27 Nov - Worthington Club Show,
Worthington, OH

Greg Sutherland
www.gregfree.com
gregfree@coax.net
1-800-352-8304

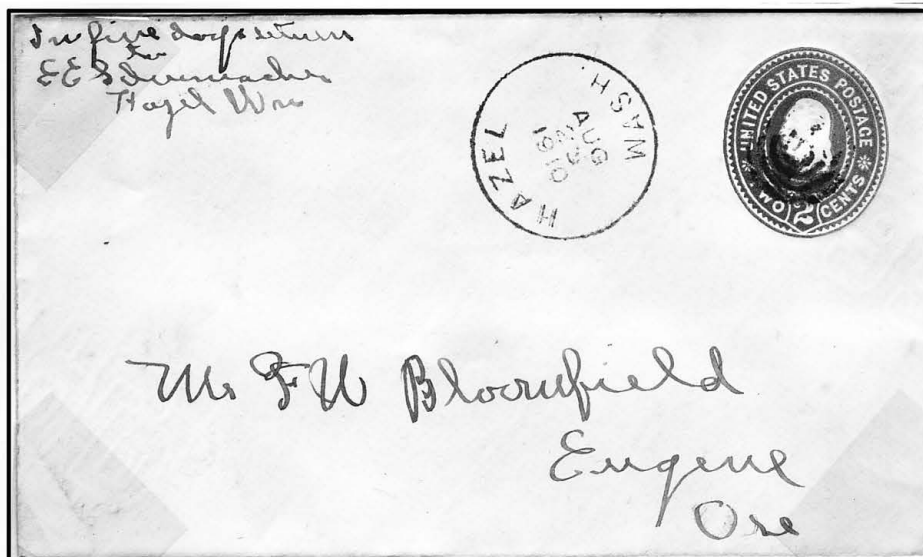
P.O.B. 24231
Huber Heights
Ohio
45424-0231

ASDA, APS, PF,
Postal History
Society, Others

Washington Postal History Pages from the Woodard Collection

La Posta has been invited to conduct a public auction featuring many of the most desirable pieces of Washington postal history from a collection assembled over a 40-year period by a life-long resident of the state. The auction will be held in conjunction with PIPEX 2006 in Spokane next May, and between now and then we will share images of some of the pages arranged by Guy Reed Ramsey.

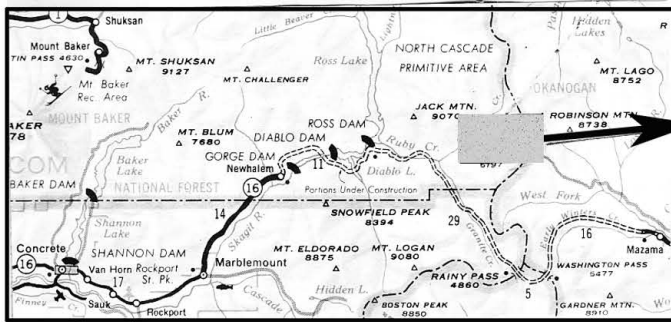
HAZEL, WASHINGTON
SNOHOMISH COUNTY



HAZEL POST OFFICE WAS
ESTABLISHED JUNE 27, 1903
AND DISCONTINUED APRIL 30, 1917.



BARRON, WASHINGTON
(HATCOM COUNTY)

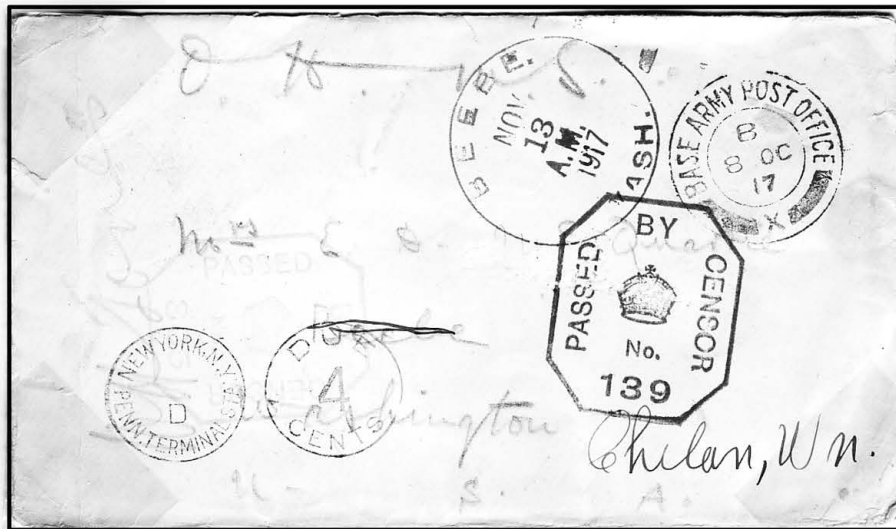


BARRON POST OFFICE WAS IN SERVICE FROM DECEMBER 20, 1899 TO JANUARY 15, 1910



DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS AND RUSTING MACHINERY - ON SITE OF BARRON

BEEBE, WASHINGTON DOUGLAS COUNTY



BEEBE POST OFFICE WAS ESTABLISHED
JULY 31, 1912, AND DISCONTINUED
MARCH 15, 1942.

1. John L. Craig, Postmaster
2. Eddie D. McQuarrie,
Orchard Superintendent
3. Wenatchee Beebe Orchard
Co. cookhouse

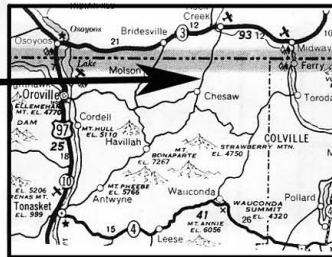
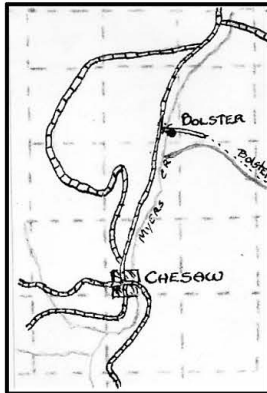
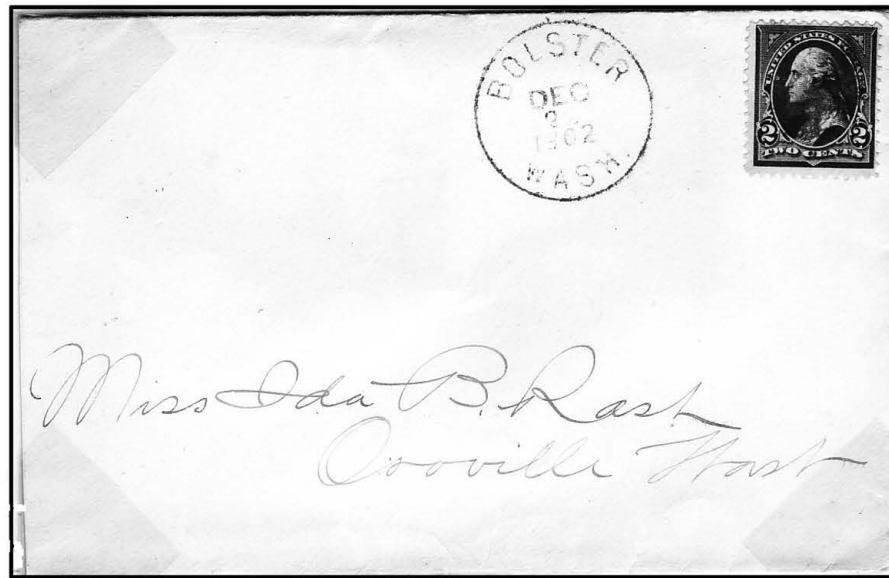


1912 to 1920

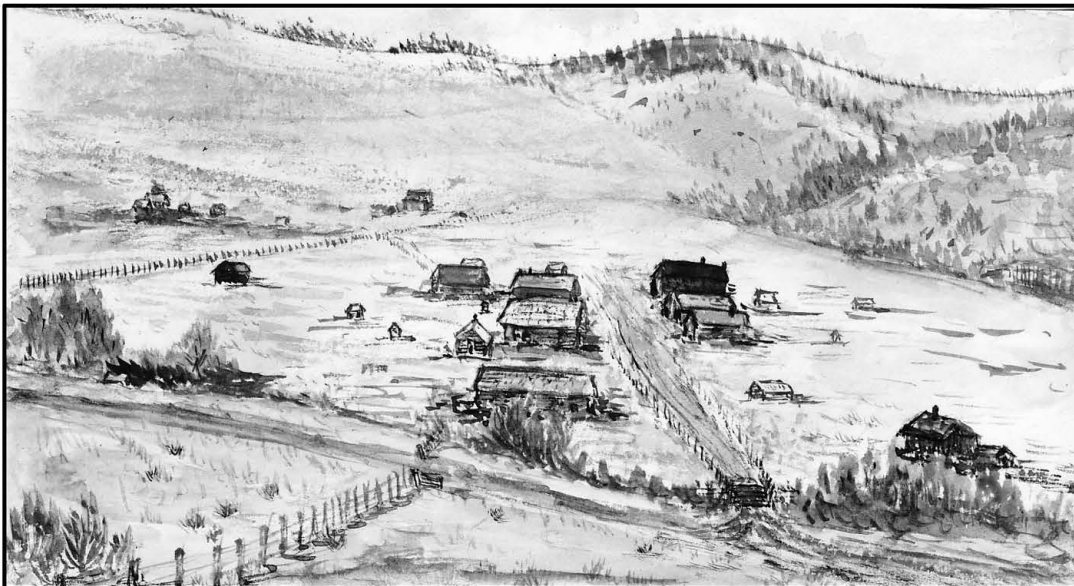


1920 to 1942

BOLSTER, WASHINGTON OKANOGAN COUNTY



BOLSTER POST OFFICE WAS IN
SERVICE FROM NOVEMBER 20, 1899
TO JANUARY 15, 1909.



BOLSTER IN 1914. POPULATION A HALF-DOZEN OR SO BACHELORS. LARGE 3-STORY
BOLSTER HOTEL ON RIGHT LATER BURNED

EAGLECLIFF, WASHINGTON WAHKIACUM COUNTY



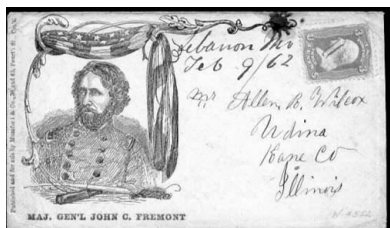
THE POST OFFICE WAS ESTABLISHED AS EAGLE CLIFF APRIL 2, 1872, DISCONTINUED JANUARY 22, 1878, BUT REESTABLISHED MAY 11, 1891. ITS NAME WAS CHANGED TO EAGLECLIFF SEPTEMBER 11, 1894, AND IT WAS FINALLY DISCONTINUED FEBRUARY 15, 1935.



COVER CONTRIBUTED BY MRS. V. STAMPER, CATHLAMET, WASH.

www.heldforpostage.com

US & Worldwide Postal History



*Selections from the Stocks of
Noted Dealers*

***Bob Baldrige
Crown & Eagle
Elwyn Doubleday
& Others***

***Classics to Modern
States, Postmarks, Rates, etc.***

***Also Selling
Paper Collectibles
& Ephemera***

Website Updated Regularly

***Accepting Credit Card and
On-Line Payments Through
PayPal***

www.heldforpostage.com

Timothy R. Pusecker,

Proprietor

APS #157253

postagedues@sbcglobal.net



Don Tocher U.S. Classics, Stamps and Postal History

~ See the many examples at
my website ~

<http://www.postalnet.com/dontocher/>

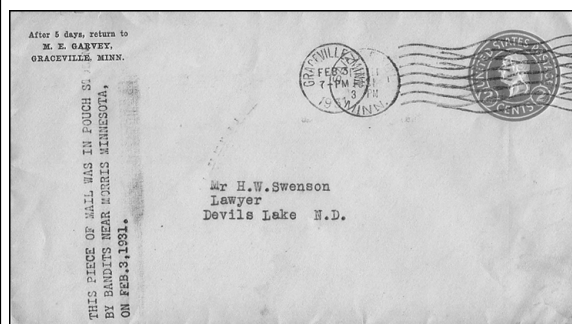
**NY Mega Event, Oct 20-23
Madison Square Garden**

5th Sunday Show, Oct 30
Best Western Hotel, Exit 45
off Rt. 91, East Windsor, CT
9:30-3:30

NEASDA-NESS, Nov 5-6
Holiday Inn, Dedham, MA

ASDA, APS, USPCS, CSA, USSS
Box 679, Sunapee, NH 03782, PH/FAX 603-763-5138
dontoch@ix.netcom.com

WANTED:



**Robbery Covers, Bomb Mail,
Volcano,**

**Earthquake, or covers related to
Floods.**

**Also Terrorist Mail including the
Lockerbee Fight Crash.**

Send price and information to Dr. Steven Berlin.

Fax number: (410) 252-7376

E-mail: drstevenberlin@yahoo.com

United States & Worldwide Postal History



Photocopy Approval Service

U.S. and Worldwide, mostly 20th Century, priced in the \$10 to \$200 range. What can I offer?

U.S. Town Cancels

D.P.O.'s, machine, advertising, R.P.O.'s and much more are featured in my free states pricelists. Which state may I send?

<http://postalhistory.com>

**P.O. Box 94822
Las Vegas NV 89193
(800) 594-3837
FAX(888) 898-6123**

Colorado Postal History Society



Membership includes:

- Journal - 5 Issues Per Year "Colorado Postal Historian"
- Including "Encyclopedia of Colorado Post Office Markings"
 - Tracings of all recorded postal markings...
 - A list of postmasters and appointment dates...
 - A description of the town site and how to locate it.
- Two Meetings per Year



For More Information Contact:
Roger Rydberg, CPHS Secretary
354 So Nile St, Aurora, CO 80012
rrydberg5@comcast.net

www.ColoradoPostalHistorySociety.com

Help our 'Club Postal History
Exhibit!'

IRVING, TEXAS IS 100 YEARS OLD.

We need the following cancels:

Irving (1904-70), Kit, Finley, Estelle,
Buck, & Breck.

Contact: John Barrett, Ph.D. at
johnb@royalbodycare.com

Our web site: www.mid-citiesstampclub.com

THE NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



announces the publication of
**THE POSTAL MARKINGS OF NEW JERSEY
STAMPLESS COVERS: AN UPDATE**

by Donald A. Chafetz

© Copyright 2004

Price: \$10 postpaid to US, \$12 abroad;
add an extra \$5 for CD if purchased with book.



20 years of additions to the Wm C. Coles work of 1983, including a wealth of new dates and new postmarks.

A must for the collector of New Jersey stampless covers, and other stampless collectors as well.

To order, contact

Jean Walton, 125 Turtleback Rd., Califon, NJ
07830

email NJPostalHistory@aol.com

Order form available on our website at

<http://members.aol.com/njpostalhistory/phsindex.htm>

USA POSTAL HISTORY

Colonial to Prexies: Maritime, Destinations,
Expos, DPOs, Railroad, Territorial, CSA,
Express, Possessions, & Military

Chicagopex

Arlington Heights, IL
November 18 - 20

STEPHEN T. TAYLOR

5 Glenbuck Road
Surbiton, Surrey
England KT6 6BS

Phone 01144-208-390-9357

Fax 01144-208-390-2235

Email: staylor995@aol.com

www.stephentaylor.co.uk

Your American dealer in Britain



Earn Money at Home

(No, really!)

Nutmeg Stamp Sales is becoming one of the premier United States postal history auction houses in the world. We are acquiring postal history collections faster than we can process them . . . literally! Knowing that *La Posta* subscribers are serious postal history collectors, we are taking this opportunity to ask for help.

Nutmeg is in need of United States postal historians with philatelic knowledge to describe lots for auction.

We train and no experience is necessary.
For more information, contact David Coogle
at 1-800-522-1607.



• P.O. Box 4547 Danbury CT 06813 • Fax: 203-798-7902
• Email: info@nutmegstamp.com

MKD Research & Consulting

Michael K. Dattolico
3830 Bernard Place
Columbus, Ohio 43224-2201



Specializing in:

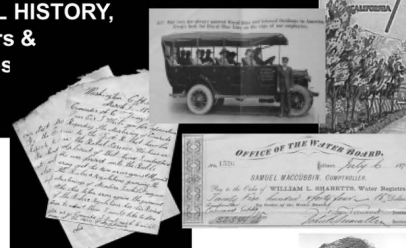
- manuscript editing
- research on US military covers, US possessions and general states postal history

614/263-6145
mmdattol@aol.com

We're paying Immediate Cash

for your POSTAL HISTORY,
interesting letters &
correspondences
ephemera and
more! Read on:

WANTED! General U.S. & foreign postal history at least 50 years old—including manuscripts, paper Americana and cover collections and accumulations. Free appraisals, quick decision, and we pay you immediately! We also pay all postage costs. Large accumulations welcome. Please: no photocopies, lists or stamps.



Fred Schmitt
Professional
Philatelist

ALSO: We're now
buying early U.S.
TRAVEL
BROCHURES!



www.fredschmitt.com

Member: Manuscript Society, ASDA, APS,
PTS (London), CSDA (Canada)

We'll
ALWAYS
pay you
full market
value.

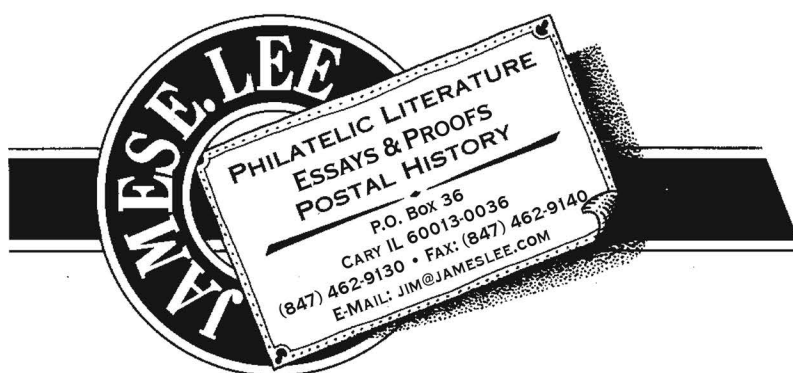


Schmitt
Investors Ltd.

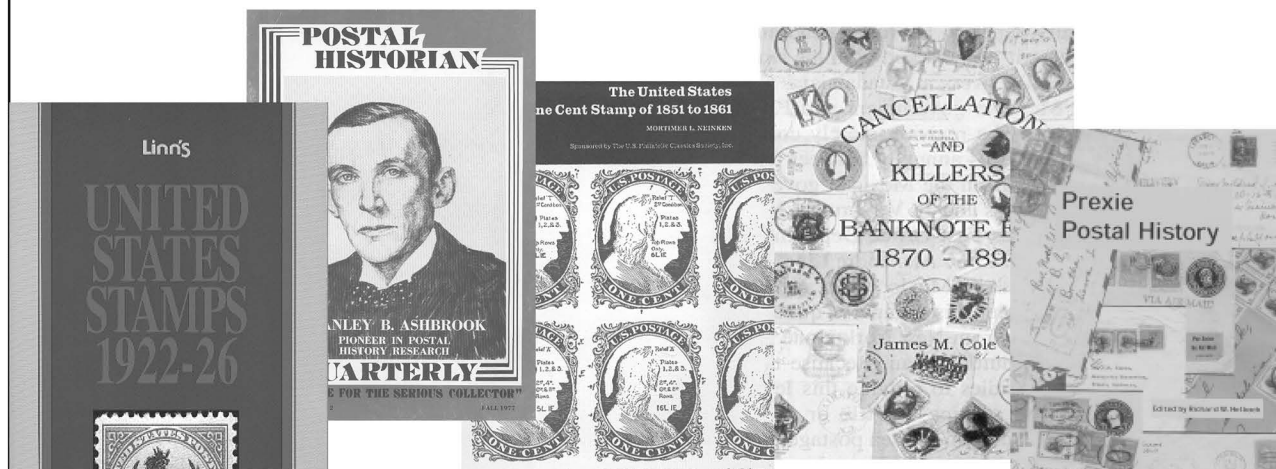
International Postal History Specialists Since 1953
P.O. Box 387-LaP • Northport NY 11768
Phone: (631) 261-6600 (24 hours)
Fax: (631) 261-7744 • E-Mail: fred@fredschmitt.com

Internet Based. **www.jameslee.com** Personal Service Driven.

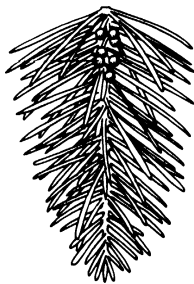
Toll Free: 1-877-696-8403



Our free *Special Weekly E-Mail Newsletter* is a real treat—full of unique special offers of postal history, essays & proofs and philatelic literature. It's easy to sign up to receive it. Just visit our site's home page today.



WWI Spruce Camp Mail Wanted



I am seeking information, covers, postcards, or photos of the Spruce Production Division—a U.S. Army unit that logged spruce trees in Washington & Oregon for airplane construction during WW I.

The camps were based in coastal counties, and may be addressed "Camp 4", or "S.T. Camp 2/48th Sqd. S.P.D." or similar.

Will buy, or would appreciate copies or jpegs.

Rod Crossley,
Box 729,
Montrose, CA 91021.
rcrossley@worldnet.att.net

Alaska Collectors Club APS Affiliate #218

Dedicated to developing a wider interest in the study and preservation of Alaska's Postal History.

We are a wide-ranging group of collectors who are interested in all aspects of the postal history of Alaska. From the first covers under United States ownership to the latest events, we try to cover the gamut of Alaska postal history.

Some of our features:

- ❖ Quarterly Journal, *The Alaskan Philatelist*
- ❖ Auctions of Alaska material
- ❖ Fellowship with other Alaska collectors

Dues \$15.00, information available from:

Eric Knapp
Secretary/Treasurer
4201 Folker Street, Unit 102
Anchorage, AK 99508 -5377
E-mail: eknapp@gci.net



ARIZONA - NEW MEXICO POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**Seeks New Members, Who Seek New
Material, New Information and New
Friends**

DUES \$10 Annually

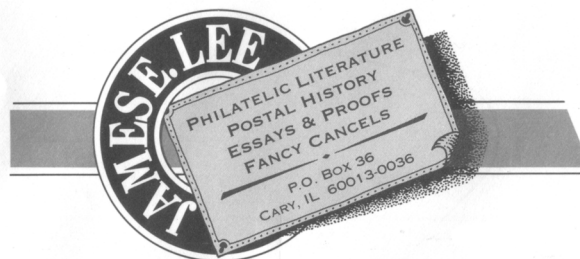
Receive "The Roadrunner" Quarterly Newsletter

Trade Duplicates at Winter and Summer Meetings

Contact: J. L. Meyer,
20112 West Point Dr.,
Riverside, CA 92507

or

Peter Rathwell,
4523 E. Mountain View Dr.,
Phoenix, AZ 85028



ATTENTION

POSTAL HISTORY & LITERATURE DEALERS



Trade discounts are available on
United States Post Offices, Volumes 1 - 6,
as well as other La Posta Publications.

WRITE OR CALL:

JAMES E. LEE,
P.O. Box 36,
CARY, IL 60013-0036
VOICE: 847-462-9130
FAX: 847-462-9140

A marriage made in collecting heaven!

The world's most respected
certificate and numerical grading!

The Philatelic Foundation		No. 900013
70 West 40th Street • 15th Floor		09/07/2005
New York, NY 10018		
EXPERT COMMITTEE		
We have examined the enclosed item, of which a photograph is attached, and <i>described by the applicant</i> as follows:		
Country: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA		
Cat. No.	Issue	Denom.
C6	1923	24¢
		Color
		Carmin
AND WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT:		
Scott's unless otherwise specified.		
IT IS GENUINE, NEVER HINGED*****		
*** PF GRADED XF-S 95 ***		
		
900013		
		
For The Expert Committee Chairman		
Photocopies of this Certificate are not valid.		
Submitted by GEORGE J. KRAMER		

By popular demand, The Philatelic Foundation will - effective October 1, 2005 - accept applications for graded certificates for most major categories of United States issues. This will include all categories in the *Scott Valuing Supplement*, as well as some not included - like US Revenue stamps, Newspaper stamps without gum, Savings stamps, Confederate States of America and US Possessions. There is no extra charge for this service, and you still have the option of requesting an opinion without a grade if you prefer. Go to our website (www.philatelicfoundation.org) and click on "expertise," then "grading" for more information, a schedule of fees and an application for downloading.



The Philatelic Foundation

70 West 40th Street, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10018
(212)221-6555

PROFESSIONAL POSTMARK TRACING & MAPS

I will execute to your exact specifications accurate



tracings of plain or
fancy postmarks,
cancels and maps.

My work has
appeared in *La
Posta* in both the
Washington

Territorial postmark series by Richard A. Long and the
19th Century Colorado postmark series by Richard
Frajola.

If you've been thinking of a postmark catalog
project, or any research which requires well-executed
postmarks or maps for illustrations, but do not have
the time required to accomplish the tracings, drop me
a line or give me a call with the particulars, and I will
give you a quote.

Jane Dallison

P. O. Box 296, Langlois, OR 97450

(541) 348-2813



La Posta Backnumbers

Backnumbers of *La Posta* may be purchased
from **Sherry Straley, 2214 Arden Way #199,
Sacramento, CA 95825**. An index of all
backnumbers through Volume 28 has been com-
pleted by Daniel Y. Meschter and is available on
the *La Posta* website at www.la-posta.com.

To order backnumbers call Sherry at 916-359-
1898, fax 916-359-1963 or send her an E-mail at
collectibles@4agent.org.

WANTED: CALIFORNIA

Postal History by County Pre-1920

California Counties:

**Alpine, Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino
Orange & San Diego**

Please write or call:

Bob Nichols

1423 N. 1st Ave.

Upland, CA 91786

(909) 982-9697



CANADA COVERS

WEBSITE

INCLUDING USA RELATED COVERS

www.canadacovers.ca



Jim Miller Ltd.

Box 56571, Lougheed Mall Postal Outlet

Burnaby, BC V3J 7E3

CANADA

LA POSTA CLASSIFIED ADS

**Only 5 cents per word delivers your message to the
largest and best informed group of postal historians in
America**

Word Count	1 issue	3 issues	6 issues
1-25	\$1.25	\$3.12	\$5.94
26-30	\$1.50	\$3.75	\$7.14
31-35	\$1.75	\$4.35	\$8.28
36-40	\$2.00	\$4.98	\$9.48
41-45	\$2.25	\$5.61	\$10.68
46-50	\$2.50	\$6.24	\$11.88
51-55	\$2.75	\$6.84	\$13.02
56-60	\$3.00	\$7.47	\$14.22
61-65	\$3.25	\$8.10	\$15.42
66-70	\$3.50	\$8.73	\$16.62
71-75	\$3.75	\$9.33	\$17.76
76-80	\$4.00	\$9.96	\$18.96
81-85	\$4.25	\$10.59	\$20.16
86-90	\$4.50	\$11.22	\$21.36
91-95	\$4.75	\$11.82	\$22.50
96-100	\$5.00	\$12.45	\$23.70

CARDS & COVERS: FOR SALE

POSTAL HISTORY featured in our mail bid sales. Free catalogs. Juno Stamps, 2180 Hartford Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116-1010. junostamps@aol.com [37-4]

DO YOU COLLECT State Postal History, Doane Cancels, or cancels of any kind? Now with 36 states on line plus Dakota Territory and more coming. Over 8400 covers online with over 1400 of them pictured. Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106. [36-5]

DPO's, RPO's, ships, Doanes, Expos, machines, military, advertising, auxiliaries, and more! My Mail Bid Sales offer thousands of postal history lots. Write/ call for sample catalog. Jim Mehrer, 2405-30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6539. Email: mehrer@postal-history.com. Internet website: <http://www.postal-history.com>. [36-5]

ILLINOIS POSTAL HISTORY collector selling cover collection representing 2,700 different towns. Willing to sell by county or city-town lots. Contact: Seymour B. Stiss, 436 N. Park Drive, Arlington, VA 22203-2344, e-mail: sbstiss@msn.com, phone: 703-525-9193 [37-1]

CARDS & COVERS: FOR SALE

PANAMA CALIFORNIA Expo Advertising cancels. Columbia SD 16-07, Long Beach \$30. SD 16-09 Riverside, \$25. SD 16-10 San Bernardino, \$160. All good cancels on cover. RLG, 2218 Burns, St. Louis, MO 63114 [37-1]

TOWNS:WANTED

ALL STATES and categories wanted! Better consignment material always needed for my bi-monthly Mail Bid Sales. Write/ call for consignment details. Jim Mehrer, 2405-30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6539. Email: mehrer@postal-history.com. Internet web site: <http://www.postal-history.com>. [36-5]

CALIFORNIA - KERN & IMPERIAL County covers and cards. Especially interested in Bakersfield corner cards. Send description or photocopies and prices to John Williams, 887 Litchfield Ave., Sebastopol, CA 95472 [36-6]

CALIFORNIA: MONTEREY COUNTY covers, cards and any related material. Please send xerox copies to: Mike Brown, P.O. Box 5372, Carmel, CA 93921 or phone: 831-625-2299 [37-1]

TOWNS: WANTED

COLORADO: LAKE CITY covers from Abbott correspondence and GEORGETOWN Barton House Corner Card and advertising covers. Other small Colorado towns also wanted. Steve Morehead, PO Box 1350, Green Valley, AZ 85622. Email: steveasc@ix.netcom.com [36-6]

ILLINOIS, SNOWFLAKE (Franklin County) (1886-1907) wanted, manuscripts or postmarks. Send photocopies & prices to: Kenneth Bieda, PO Box 72248, Roselle, IL 60172-0248 [36-5]

WASHINGTON, DC COVERS wanted. Non-machine 1900-1915. No 3rd class. Carl Stieg, 260 Merrydale Rd., Apt 15, San Rafael, CA 94903. carl_phil@webtv.net [36-6]

IDAHO PANHANDLE: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Idaho, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce, and Shoshone Counties. Interested in all postmarks and other postal history items. Send photocopies or priced on approval. Write or e-mail for post office lists. I will pay all copying or mailing costs. Peter Larson, 5301 Robinson Park Rd., Moscow, ID 83843, Tel 208-883-8297, e-mail plarson@wsu.edu. [36-6]

ILLINOIS: MEACHAM (DuPage County) (1874-1924); SNOWFLAKE (Franklin County) (1886-1907). Wanted: manuscripts or postmarks. Send photocopies & prices to: Kenneth A. Bieda, P.O. Box 72248, Roselle, IL 60172-0246 [36-5]

MISSOURI CARDS and covers in these counties: St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Washington, Jefferson, Iron, Madison and Perry — territorial to 1945. Description and/ or copies with price first letter. Especially desire Ste. Genevieve Internment Branch covers and PPC of the Camp as well as paper ephemera of above counties. Bob Schmidt, 5984 Highway Y, French Village, MO 63036 [36-6]

NOTE:

**EXPIRATION DATE SHOWN
AT END OF EACH AD, i.e.,
[36-4], MEANS AD WILL
EXPIRE WITH THIS ISSUE.**

**AD DEADLINE FOR NEXT
ISSUE:**

Nov. 20, 2005

**E-MAIL US IF YOU
INTEND TO RENEW
YOUR AD & TIME IS
SHORT FOR RENEWAL**

TOWNS: WANTED

NEBRASKA TERRITORIAL covers (before Mar 1, 1867) wanted for my personal collection. Write or send copies. Ken Stach, 15 N. Morning Cloud Circle, The Woodlands, TX 77381 [36-5]

URGENTLY NEEDED! Philadelphia, PA. advertising covers with illustrations of buildings. Also Phila. cameos, classics, all-overs. Postal history of Philadelphia in the Civil War, anything paper from the Centennial of 1876 or Phila. National Export Exposition of 1899. Autographs of former Mayors of Philadelphia. All replies answered. Member APS. Gus Spector, 750 South Main Street, Suite 203, Phoenixville, PA 19460. GSpec56@aol.com [36-6]

NORTH DAKOTA: all postal history wanted from territorial to modern. Send photocopies or on approval. Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106 [36-6]

OHIO-ATHENS County. Postmarks on cards, letters, or other post office identification for the following Athens County post offices: Allans Store; Bessemer; Big Hocking; Brettland; Denmans Salt Works; Derthick; Doanville; Englishtown; Federal; Fisher; Grosvenor; Hamlet Run; Hartleyville; Hawkeye; Hocking City; Horton; Hull; Jacksonville; Judson; Kimberley; Kings; Lewis Hill; Lick Ridge; Linscotts; Lowry; Luhrig; Lyda; Lysander; Marchmount; Medill; New Burlington; New Marshfield; Oakdale; Poston; Rawndale; Selby (mail to Joy); Sharps Fork; The Plains; Torch; Welch. Also, from OHIO-Vinton County; for Moonville and Rue. Send information to: Gary Schwindler, 4 Cook Drive, Athens OH 45701-2101. Phone (1-740-594-9005). [36-5]

SOUTH DAKOTA Territorial and Statehood covers wanted for my personal collection. Write or send copies. Ken Stach, 15 N. Morning Cloud Circle, The Woodland, TX 77381 [36-6]

SUB-STATION POSTAL MARKINGS: WANTED

SUB-STATION postal markings from any US city wanted. Especially interested in legible duplex and MOB markings. Send photocopies with firm price to Dennis Pack, 1915 Gilmore Ave., Winona, MN 55987 [36-6]

RFD CANCELS: WANTED

COLORADO RFD postal markings wanted. Especially interested in "Richow" Type 1 and Type 2 examples. Send scans or photocopies with prices to: Roger Rydberg, 354 So. Nile St., Aurora, CO 80012. E-mail: rydberg5@comcast.net [36-5]

MILITARY: WANTED

ALASKA & WESTERN CANADA APOs, interesting Pan American (Scott 294-299) issues on cover and Pittsburgh/Allegheny County covers from 1851-1861. Send Xeroxes or scans and pricing to Bob McKain, 2337 Giant Oaks Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15241 (57-vette@adelphia.net) [36-6]

U.S. CIVIL WAR through Korean War P.O.W. and WWII Japanese-American U.S. Internment Camp postal history wanted. Send photocopy / scan and price to Ed Close, 12 Sweet Briar Rd., Coatesville, PA 19320. Email: hombresello@comcast.net [37-2]

DOANE CANCELS: WANTED

Buy, sell and trade Doane Cancels of all states. Send photocopies or on approval. Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 600039, St. Paul, MN 55106 [36-5]

LITERATURE: FOR SALE

THE AWARD-WINNING 240-page book of Wisconsin postal history - *Going For the Mail, A History of Door County Post Offices* -- is now at a special price: \$13.00 postpaid from the author. Jim Hale, 5401 Raymond Road, Madison, WI 53711. [36-6]

United States Post Offices on CD-ROM. The most complete lists currently available*. Contains: Combined alphabetical list of active and discontinued Offices from all states (including years of operation and counties); 50 individual state lists, plus DC and Indian Territory; combined list of all Counties; and statehood, territorial and Confederate secession dates. The ultimate reference for identifying manuscript postmarks, postcards, letters, etc. (*NOTE: Alabama and Georgia have not been fully researched, but this CD includes thousands of offices previously unpublished from those states.) PC or MAC. \$99.00 postpaid, worldwide. (Illinois residents: \$105.93.) Jim Mehrer, 2405-30th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. [36-5]

www.pacificpioneers.com - Check out this 700 page Book on Pan Am's flight covers in the Pacific - 1935 to 1946. I sell, trade or exchange information on new cover finds. Also want to purchase similar material. Jon E. Krupnick, 700 Southeast 3rd Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 [36-5]

LITERATURE: FOR SALE

WOW: An invitation for lunch to Danial Burnham from Theodore Roosevelt is one of 480 illustrations and a superb text of *Chicago's Great White City: A Postal History Panorama of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition*. Richard Graham writes Harvey M. Karlen, Philatelic "Hall of Fame" author "has created a detailed history of the fair...with a lot more than just the special post office markings." PRICE: \$83 plus \$4 s/h. To La POSTA readers, \$73 complete. ORDERS to BERK-HILL PUBLISHERS, P.O. Box, 833, Oak Park, IL 60303 [36-5]

WANTED: MISCELANY

RODEO/"WILD WEST" illustrated advertising covers; early law enforcement corner cards; Newfoundland/Western Canada Postmarks/viewcards. Priced photocopies: Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, SASK., S7K 3L3, CANADA [36-5]

9¢ ALAMO US #1043: plate varieties; commercial covers (interesting destinations and postal markings); unusual FDCs especially postmarked other than San Antonio; Alamo memorabilia. Jane Fohn, 10325 Little Sugar Creek, Converse, TX 78109-2409; janekehohn@sbcglobal.net [36-5]

BUYING?SELLING -- US mint and used postal cards, reply cards, covers and machine cancels. Dick Borkowski, P.O. Box 118, Edgemont, PA 19028. [36-5]

MILITARY: WANTED

ROYAL NAVY warship covers (names on backflaps) sent from/to North American port (19th Century). Priced photocopies to D. Mario, Box 342, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 3L3 Canada [37-3]

FOREIGN: WANTED

COMMERCIAL AIR air covers, 1945 or earlier, any intercontinental mail, i.e. Europe to Asia, North America to Africa, Australia to Europe, etc. Send scans or photocopies for my offer, or on approval to Richard Helbock, PO Box 100, Chatsworth Island, NSW 2469, Australia or helbock@la-posta.com

PORTUGUESE AFRICA provisional airmails (Companhia de Moçambique/Moçambique/Angola/Guiné; (1932-1937) * Angola emergency airmails (1945); on cover or mint/used; for an exhibit. Send copy/scan/price to: aerophil59@yahoo.com: John Bloor, 8727 E. Kettle Pl., Englewood, CO 80112-2710; Voice mail (720)-529-5942; Voice/fax (303) 771-7554 [36-5]



La Posta Publications

33470 Chinook Plaza, #216,
Scappoose OR 97056
email: helbock@la-posta.com

We hope that you have enjoyed our journal and I wish to cordially invite you to become a subscriber.

LA POSTA is published six times a year and provides over 450 pages of research, news and information regarding all aspects of American postal history. With a subscription price of just \$25 per year, most of our readers consider us to be the best bargain in postal history today.

In addition to the journal, *La Posta* conducts regular mail auctions of postal history material submitted by our subscribers. These Subscribers' Auctions typically feature over 500 lots per sale and are mailed as separate booklets. They have proven extremely popular as a way for collectors to acquire moderately priced cards and covers and to dispose of their duplicate or unwanted material.

I hope you will find *La Posta* worthy of your support. If so, please take a moment to fill out the form below and send us a check in the amount of \$25, or pay via credit card at www.la-posta.com/journal.htm to begin your subscription with our next issue.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Helbock,

Publisher

La Posta Publications
33470 Chinook Plaza, #216
Scappoose, OR 97056

Hello Richard:

Yes, I'll give *La Posta* a try. You may begin my subscription with the Volume 36, Number 6 (Dec 05- Jan 06) issue. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$25.00.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

*or pay via credit card through Pay Pal at www.la-posta.com/journal.htm

ADVERTISING IN LA POSTA

DISPLAY ADS are available on a contract basis as shown below. Ad contents may be changed from issue-to-issue, provided changes are received by the posted deadlines.

INSIDE PAGES

Ad Size	One Issue	Three Issues	Six Issues
1/8-page	\$13.00	\$29.90	\$54.60
1/4-page	\$30.00	\$69.00	\$126.00
1/2-page	\$55.00	\$126.50	\$231.00
1-page	\$100.00	\$230.00	\$420.00

INSIDE COVER*

(FULL-PAGE, BLACK & WHITE)

One Issue	\$175.00
Two issues	\$275.00
Four issues	\$580.00
Six issues	\$800.00

BACK COVER*

(1/2 PAGE, COLOR)

One Issues	\$250.00
Two issues	\$475.00
Four issues	\$800.00
Six issues	\$1,200.00

*We normally ask that back cover and inside cover ads be taken out for a minimum of two issues due to our advance printing schedule for covers.

All charges include Type setting & Layout

AD DEADLINES FOR INSIDE PAGES are as follows: Dec/Jan issue - **Nov 15**; Feb/Mar issue - **Jan 15**; Apr/May issue - **Mar 15**; Jun/Jul issue - **May 15**; Aug/Sep issue - **July 15**; Oct/Nov issue - **Sep 15**.

AD DEADLINES FOR **BACK COVER COLOR AD & INSIDE COVER ADS** are: Dec/Jan & Feb/Mar issue - **Oct 31**; Apr/May & Jun/July issue - **Feb 28**; Aug/Sep & Oct/Nov issue - **June 30**.

E-mail your ad to Cath Clark at: laposta_cclark@hotmail.com

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

MAIL AUCTIONS

RANDY STEHLE - 53

DISPLAY ADS

ALASKA COLLECTORS CLUB - 74

ARIZONA-NEW MEXICO P. H. S. - 74

STEVEN BERLIN - 70

COLORADO P. HIST. SOCIETY - 71

ROD CROSSLEY - 74

JANE DALLISON - 76

MICHAEL DATTOLICO - 72

JAMES DOOLIN - 64

GLENN A. ESTUS - 39

JIM FORTE - 71

FREEMAN'S - 64

LA POSTA BACKNUMBERS - 76

LA POSTA SUBSCRIPTION FORM - 79

DISPLAY ADS

JAMES E. LEE -73 & 74

MID-CITIES TEXAS STAMP CLUB - 71

JIM MILLER - 76

NEW JERSEY POSTAL HISTORY
SOCIETY - 71

BOB NICHOLS - 76

NUTMEG STAMP SALES - 72 & Back
cover

THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION - 75

TIMOTHY R. PUSECKER - 70

SCHMITT INVESTORS LTD. - 72

STEPHEN T. TAYLOR - 71

DON TOCHER - 70

UNIVERSAL SHIP CANCELLATION
SOCIETY - 39