

# THE HELIOGRAPH



WESTERN POSTAL HISTORY MUSEUM

SUMMER 1990 ISSUE

VOLUME 4, NO. 3



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# The HELIOGRAPH

## VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3 (Whole Number 15)

### Summer 1990

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**OUR FRONT COVER** is Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory from an 1853 sketch by Charles Koppel. To find out if the US official postage stamps were used at this fort, and the other army forts in the country, read Rollin Huggins interesting article and compilation.

Where are all the used US official War Department stamps that were supposedly dispatched to the frontier forts?

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The Western Postal History Museum is the only multi-purpose philatelic institution in the western United States. It is an Arizona non-profit corporation chartered to be used exclusively for historical, research, scientific, and educational purposes in the advancement of philately including, but not limited to, the collecting, assembling, preserving, recording and publication of postal history. Membership donations over that for annual membership, and donations of cash, acceptable stamps, covers, books, post cards, periodicals and postal history material are deductible for U.S. income tax purposes and are most gratefully received. The Museum is an IRS designated 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

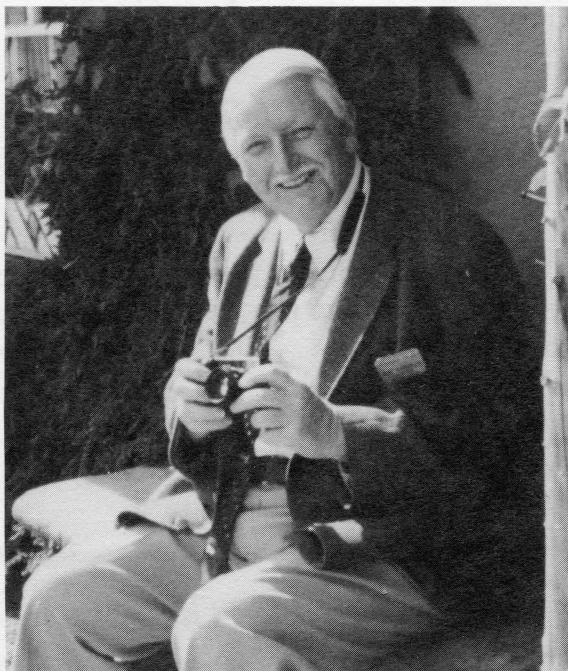


## IN MEMORIAM

## CHARLES L. TOWLE

1913–1990

Charles L. Towle, postal historian and author, passed away at his home at Tucson, Arizona, on Monday, April 9, 1990. When he died, Charley was serving as Western Postal History Museum Curator of Territorial Postal History, board member, and membership chairman; President of the Mobile Post Office Society; and U.S. Philatelic Classics Society *Chronicle* section editor and regional vice president.



Charley is best known for his authorship of the *Towle-Meyer Railroad Postmarks of the U.S., 1861-1886* in 1958; the four volume *U.S. Transit Markings Catalog*; and *United States Route and Station Agent Markings* published in 1986. These publications, the many articles, book contributions, and monographs are the result of more than fifty years of collecting transit markings. His generosity in sharing and publishing his research inspired and influenced generations of philatelists, postal historians, researchers, and authors. Almost everyone doing creative work in U.S. postal history owes Charley a debt.

In addition to his books, Charley's philatelic accomplishments include many awards of recognition for his work; the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society's initial Distinguished Philatelist award (1988), three USPS cup awards for his research and writing (Perry,

1968; Chase, 1985; Ashbrook, 1986), and the American Philatelic Congress Eugene Klein and Walter McCoy awards (1969, 1974). He was selected to receive the SEPAD National Merit Award in 1983 and was elected to the Writer's Unit Hall of Fame in 1987.

Charles had been an exhibitor since 1978 having received many gold awards and a grand award which led to a 1981 appearance in the APS World Series of

Philately for his exhibit, "U.S. Route and Station Agent Markings — The first 75 years."

Charley was employed for 37 years by the Pennsylvania Railroad, ending his career as the Chairman of the Board and President of the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton R.R., and the Ann Arbor R.R. In 1973 he retired to Tucson, Arizona where he became active in the Western Postal History Museum. As a volunteer museum staff member, he served as curator, instituted and supervised a successful membership program, and was the award-winning editor of the museum's quarterly publication, *THE HELIOGRAPH*, for three years. He served two terms as Chairman of the Board of Directors of WPHM.

Charles, to borrow a well-known line from Walt Whitman, contained multitudes.

—continued on page 25



# U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL STAMPS AND THE ARMY FORTS

by Rollin C. Huggins, Jr.

Fort cancels are eagerly sought by collectors of the official stamps issued to the War Department from 1873 to 1884. This was the period of the final conquest of the Indians in the West. Custer's defeat at the Little Big Horn was followed by the subjugation of the Sioux in the Dakota Territory. The Apache uprising in Arizona and New Mexico struck fear in the hearts of settlers in those territories. As a result of the perceived menace of the Indians, many forts were garrisoned in the West to deal with the "Indian situation." Army personnel at these forts were issued official stamps for use on their correspondence relating to official business.

Typically, a post office would be established at or near the fort. The name of the post office might be the same as the name of the fort, or it might be entirely different. However, when the name of the post office and the name of the fort coincided, a stamp cancelled at the post office has what is known to philatelists as a fort cancel. If the War Department stamp is not on cover, it must be cancelled by the post office's circular date stamp showing the name of the fort in order to be identified as a fort cancel.

Recently, the *American Stampless Cover Catalog, Volume II*, was published with a listing of American military posts in existence from 1775 to 1873 and a tabulation of fort postmarks reported on stampless covers. This gave me the idea of picking up where they left off. Accordingly, I have prepared a list of forts known to have been garrisoned from 1873 to 1884 with an indication of whether or

not a fort cancel is known to have been used on War Department stamps by the post office at the fort.

An area of confusion is caused by the fact that the installation might first be called a camp and later a fort, but the name of the post office at the installation might not be changed at exactly the same time. Thus, for a short time the Camp Thomas post office may have been serving Fort Thomas in the Arizona Territory.

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*"The Apache uprising . . . struck fear in the hearts of settlers. . ."*

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When the name of the post office does not contain the word "fort," another area of confusion develops that causes problems. Does a Pembina, Dakota Territory, postmark qualify as a fort cancel since that post office served Fort Pembina? For the purpose of this study, it is assumed that this is not a fort cancel, but there is some disagreement of this subject. Regardless of its exact status, a Pembina cancel on a War Department stamp is eminently collectible.

The list that follows is intended to be a complete list of all military posts in existence during the period when War Department stamps were in use. As can be seen from the question marks on the list, the information is far from complete as to whether War Department stamps were cancelled at all of the forts. Further information from readers is solicited



in order that the list may be updated. Please include photocopies of newly reported cancels and address your letter to the author at 700 Greenwood Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091.



Fort Apache, Arizona 1881 cancel on six cent War Department official stamp.

#### References:

*American Stampless Cover Catalog, Volume II*, David G. Phillips Publishing Co., 1987.

*Guide to the Military Posts of the United States*, Francis Paul Prucha, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, 1964.

*Forts of the West*, Robert W. Frazer, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman 1965.

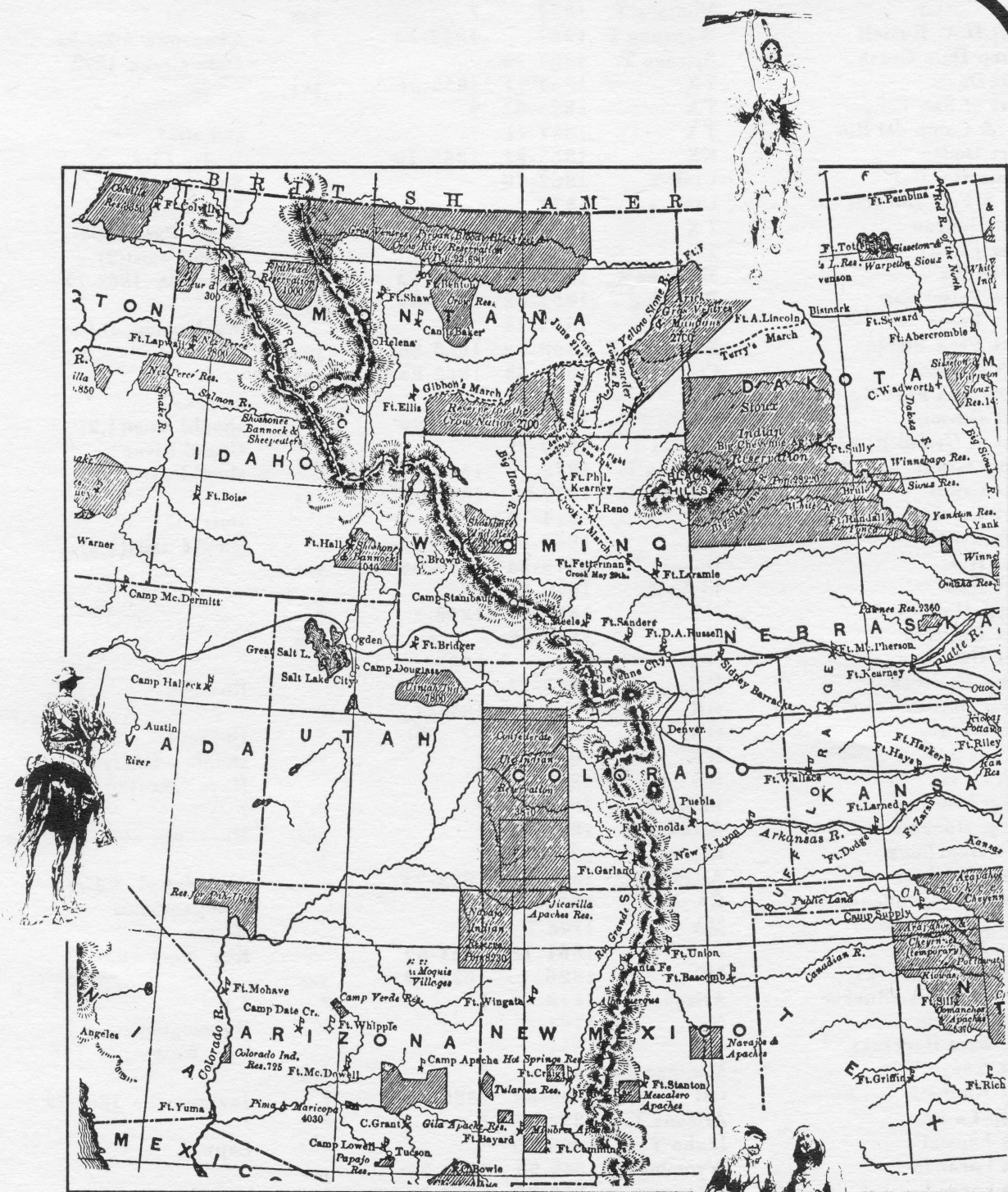


Pembina, Dakota Territory post office during the era of the War Department official stamps. Could this have been the Fort Pembina post office?



<u>NAME</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Period of garrison</u>	<u>Period of post office</u>	<u>Post-mark report on War Dept. stamp</u>	<u>Post Office used if none at Post, or remarks regarding use.</u>
(1) Post office listed in OUTLINE OF POSTS — SHERIDAN, 1876					
(2) Post office listed in US POSTAL GUIDE, Jan. 1881					
Fort Abercrombie	Dakota T.	1858-77	1860-77+	?	should exist(1)
Fort Abraham Lincoln	Dakota T.	1872-91	1873-91+	?	should exist(1,2)
Fort Adams	RI	1798-			Newport
Alcatraz Island	CA	1859-			San Francisco
Post of Angel Island	CA	1863-			San Francisco 1863-74, Angel Island 1875- Apache Pass
Camp Apache,	Arizona T.	1871-79			
Fort Apache	Arizona T.	1879-	1879-	yes	
Fort Assinniboine	Montana T.	1879-	1879-	yes	
Post at Austin	Texas	1866-75			Austin
Cantonment Bad Lands	Dakota T.	1879-83	?		?
Camp Baker	Montana T.	1869-78	1872-9	?	became Fort Logan(1)
Barrancas Barracks	FL	1820-			Warrington?
Baton Rouge Barracks	LA	1810-79			Baton Rouge
Fort Bayard	N. Mexico T.	1866-00	1867-00+	yes	
Camp Beales Springs	Arizona T.	1871-74			Beale Springs
Post of Beaver	Utah T.	1872-74			Beaver
Benicia Barracks	CA	1849-			Benecia
Fort Bennett	Dakota T.	1879-91	?	yes	At Cheyenne Agency
Fort Benton	Montana T.	1869-81	1869-81	yes	
Camp Bidwell	CA	1866-79	1868-?	?	should exist
Fort Bidwell	CA	1879-93	? -93	?	should exist(2)
Fort Bliss	TX	1848			El Paso
Fort Boise	Idaho T.	1863-79			Boise
Boise Barracks	Idaho T.	1879-13			Boise
Camp Bowie	Arizona T.	1862-79			Apache Pass
Fort Bowie	Arizona T.	1879-94	1880-94	yes	
Fort Brady	MI	1822-			Sault Ste. Marie
Fort Bridger	Wyoming T.	1858-90	1857-90	yes	
Fort Brooke	FL	1824-82			Tampa & St. Marks
Camp Brown	Wyoming T.	1870-78	1875-79	?	Later Fort Washakie
Fort Buford	Dakota T.	1866-95	1867-95	yes	
Fort Cameron	Utah T.	1874-83			Beaver
Fort Cape Disappointment & Fort Canby	Wash T.	1864-75			Pacific City?
	Wash T.	1875-			Pacific City?
Carlisle Barracks	PA	1842-79			Carlisle
Camp Chelan	Wash T.	1879-80	?		Spokane Falls?
Post at Cheyenne Agency	Dakota T.	1870-78			Later Ft. Bennett, Ft Sully
Cheyenne Depot	Wyoming T.	1867-88			Cheyenne
Fort Clark	TX	1852-	1855-61	?	should exist(1)
Fort Coeur d'Alene	Idaho T.	1878-87			Coeur d'Alene
Columbus Arsenal and Columbus Barracks	OH	1863-75			Columbus
	OH	1875-			Columbus
Fort Colville	Wash T.	1859-82	1859-82+	?	should exist(2)
Fort Concho	TX	1867-89	1868-84	yes	
Fort Craig	N. Mexico T.	1854-84	1855-79	yes	
Cantonment on the Uncompahgre	CO	1880-86	?		Montrose or Los Pinos Agency
& Fort Crawford	CO	1886-90	?		"





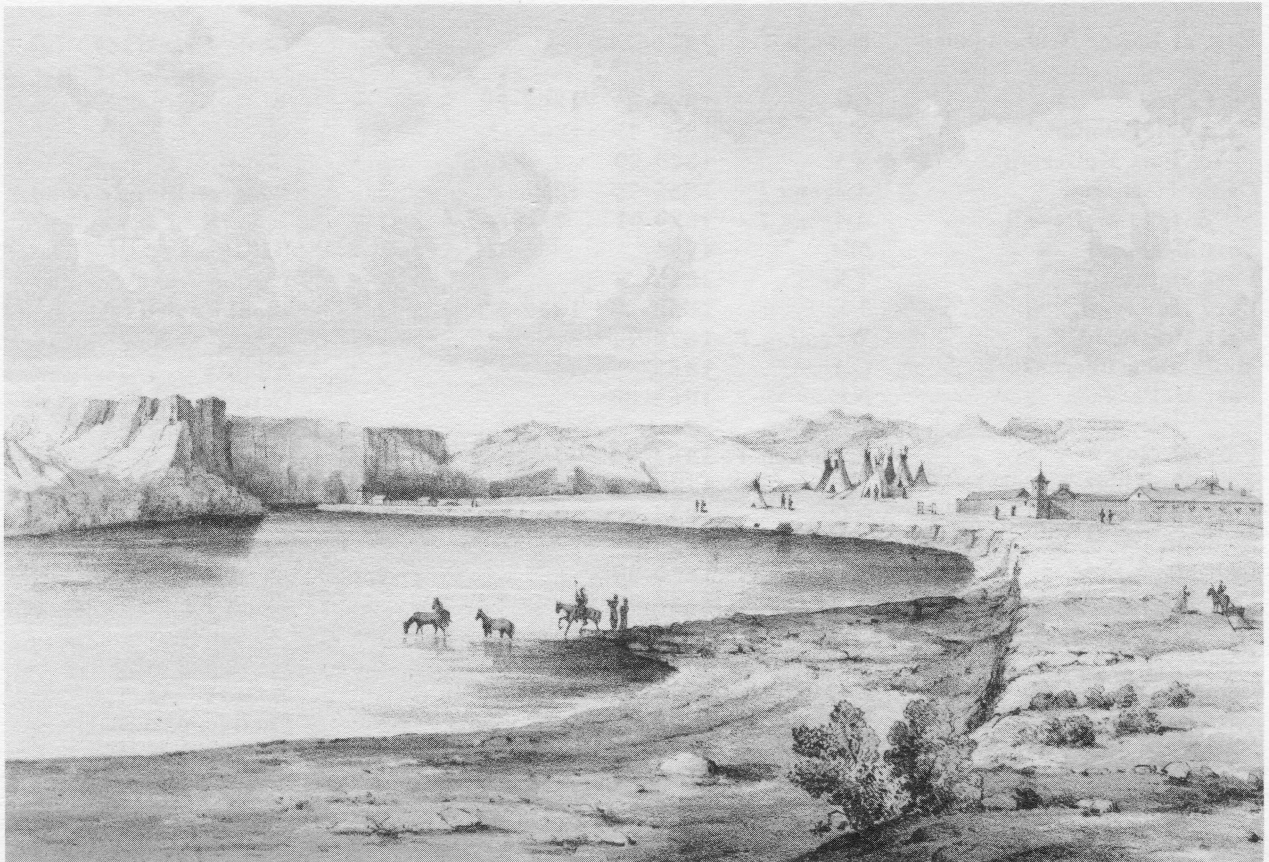
INDIAN RESERVATIONS AND MILITARY POSTS  
OF THE WESTERN STATES IN 1876

reprinted from Harper's Weekly, July 22, 1876

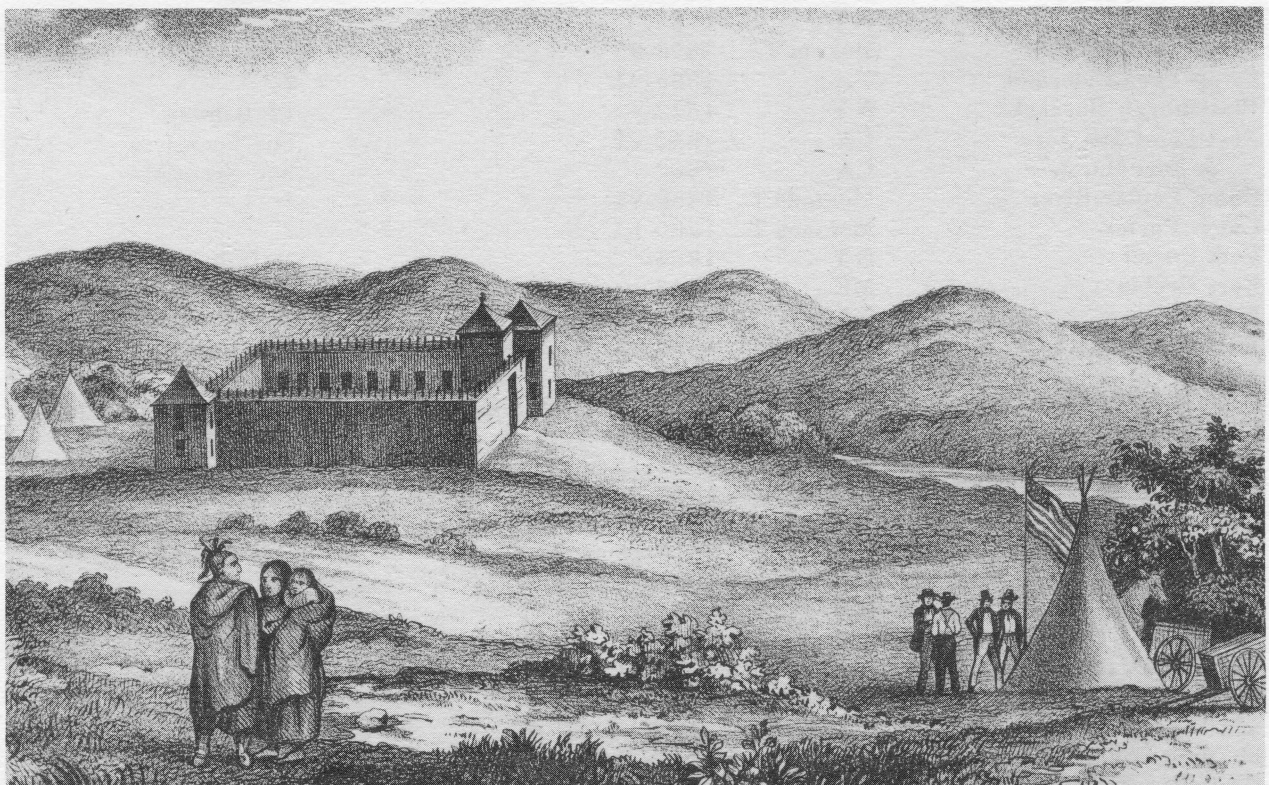


Fort Cummings	N Mexico T	1863-86	1866-86+	yes	
Fort Custer	Montana T.	1877-	?	yes	
Fort D.A. Russell	Wyoming T.	1867-	1883-30	?	Cheyenne 1867-82
Camp Date Creek	Arizona T.	1867-73			Date Creek 1872-
Fort Davis	TX	1854-91	1855-91+	yes	
Post of San Felipe	TX	1876-81	?		
& Camp del Rio	TX	1881-91	?		Del Rio?
Fort Dodge	KS	1865-82	1865-70		Dodge City
Camp Douglas	Utah T.	1862-78			Salt Lake City
& Fort Douglas	Utah T.	1879-			Salt Lake City
Fort Duncan	TX	1849-83	1851-53		Eagle Pass 1853-
Fort Elliott	TX	1875-90	?	?	should exist(2)
Fort Ellis	Montana T.	1867-86	1880-83	?	Bozeman 1868-79
Fort Fetterman	Wyoming T.	1867-82	1873-89	yes	
Fort Foote	MD	1863-78			Washington, D.C.
Fort Fred Steele	Wyoming T.	1868-86	1868-86+	yes	
Fort Garland	CO	1858-83	1862-83+	yes	
Camp and Fort Gaston	CA	1858-92			Eureka?
Fort Gibson	Indian T.	1824-90	1827-90	?	should exist(1,2)
Post at Grand River Agency	Dakota T.	1870-75			Grand River
Camp Grant	Arizona T.	1872-79	1875-79	?	should exist
Fort Grant	Arizona T.	1879-98	1879-98+	yes	
Fort Gratiot	MI	1814-79	1827-		Detroit?
Fort Griffin	TX	1867-81	1869-81+	?	should exist(1,2)
Fort Hale	Dakota T.	1878-84	1879-84	yes	
Fort Hall	Idaho T.	1870-83	1870-	?	
Camp Halleck	NV	1867-79	1868-?	?	
Fort Halleck	NV	1879-86	? -86+	yes	
Fort Hamilton	NY	1831-	1833-	?	
Camp Hancock	Dakota T.	1872-77			Bismark
Camp Harney	OR	1867-79	1874-?	?	
Fort Harney	OR	1879-80	? -80+	?	Harney?
Fort Hartstuff	NE	1874-81	?	?	should exist(1)
Fort Hays	KS	1865-89			Hays City 1867-
Camp Howard	Idaho T.	1877-81	?	?	?
Camp Huachuca	Arizona T.	1877-82	?	yes	Huachuca alone at times
Fort Huachuca	Arizona T.	1882-	?	?	
Camp Hualpai	Arizona T.	1869-73	1873-74		Abandoned 8/27/73
Camp Independence	CA	1862-77			Independence
Fort Independence	MA	1798-79			Boston
Fort Jefferson	FL	1861-78	1861-69		Key West 1869-78
Jefferson Barracks	MO	1826-	1828-01	yes	
Camp John A. Rucker	Arizona T.	1878-80	?	?	?
Fort Johnson	NC	1794-81			Wilmington
Key West Barracks	FL	1831-			Key West
Fort Keogh	Montana T.	1876-	?	yes	
Fort Klamath	OR	1863-89	1880-89+	?	Jacksonville 1863-79
Camp La Paz	Arizona T.	1874-75	?	?	?
Fort Lapwai	Idaho T.	1862-85			Lapwai
Fort Laramie	Wyoming T.	1849-90	1850-90+	yes	
Fort Larned	KS	1859-78	1866-78	?	should exist(1)
Fort Leavenworth	KS	1827-	1828-	yes	Still garrisoned
Fort Lewis	CO	1878-91	?	yes	
Camp Lewis	Montana T.	1874-74			existed only 7 months
Little Rock Barracks	AR	1873-90			Little Rock
Fort Logan	Montana T.	1879-80	?	?	Was Camp Baker
Camp Lowell	Arizona T.	1862-79			Tucson
& Fort Lowell	Arizona T.	1879-91			Tucson





*Fort Benton from a sketch by Charles Koppel.*



*Fort Laramie.*



Post at Lower Brule Agency	Dakota T.	1870-78				Crow Creek(1870-77), Lower Brule (1878)
Fort Lyon	CO	1860-89	1862-89	yes		
Camp McDermit	NV	1865-79	1866- ?	?		
& Fort McDermit	NV	1879-89	? -89+	yes		
Camp McDowell	Arizona T.	1865-79	1869- ?	?		"McDowell" only in cds?
& Fort McDowell	Arizona T.	1879-91	? -91+	?		
Fort McHenry	MD	1794-				Baltimore
Fort McIntosh	TX	1849-				Laredo
Fort McKavett	TX	1852-83	1852-83	?		should exist(1,2)
Fort McKinney	Wyoming T.	1876-94	?	yes		
McPherson Barracks	GA	1865-				Atlanta
Fort McPherson	NE	1863-80				Cottonwood Springs or Plum Creek
Fort McRae	N Mexico T.	1863-76				Aleman
Fort Mackinac	MI	1796-94				Mackinac
Fort Macon	NC	1834-76				Beaufort
Madison Barracks	NY	1815-				Sackets Harbor
Fort Maginnis	Montana T.	1880-90		yes		
Fort Marcy	N Mexico T.	1846-94				Santa Fe
Fort Meade	Dakota T.	1878-	?	yes		
Fort Missoula	Montana T.	1877-	?	?		?
Camp & Fort Mohave	CA	1859-90				Mohave
Fort & Fortress Monroe	VA	1823-	?	?		Fortress Monroe?
Mount Vernon Barracks	AL	1873-94				Mt. Vernon
Fort Niagra	NY	1796-	1797-13			Niagra Falls
Fort Niobrara	NE	?	?	yes		(2)
North Platte Station	NE	1867-77				North Platte
Post at Ojo Caliente	N Mexico T.	1874-82	?	?		?
Omaha Barracks	NE	1868-78				Omaha
& Fort Omaha	NE	1878-91				Omaha
Fort Ontario	NY	1796-				Oswego
Fort Pembina	Dakota T.	1870-95				Pembina
Camp Pena Colorado	TX	1880-93	?	?		?
Plattsburgh Barracks	NY	1812-				Plattsburg
Fort Point San Jose	CA	1863-82				San Francisco
& Fort Mason	CA	1882-				San Francisco
Camp Poplar River	Montana T.	1880-93	?	?		?
Camp Porter	Montana T.	1880-81	?	?		?
Fort Porter	NY	1863-				Buffalo
Fort Preble	ME	1863-				Portland
Fort Quitman	TX	1858-77	1858-76	?		should exist(1)
Fort Randall	Dakota T.	1856-92	1860-92+	yes		Whetstone Agency
Fort Reno	Indian T.	1874-	?	yes		
Fort Rice	Dakota T.	1864-78	1866-78+	yes		Standing Rock Agency
Camp Rice	TX	1881-86	?			Ft. Davis subpost
Fort Richardson	TX	1867-78				Jacksboro
Fort Riley	KS	1853-	1855-	?		Junction City?
Ringgold Barracks	TX	1848-78				Rio Grande City
& Fort Ringgold	TX	1879-06				Rio Grande City
Fort Ripley	MN	1849-77	1849-77+	yes		
Fort Robinson	NE	1874	?	yes		
San Antonio Q'master Depot	TX	1845-				San Antonio
Post of San Carlos	Arizona T.	1882-94	?	?		?
Fort Sanders	Wyoming T.	1866-82	1880-82	?		should exist(1)
San Diego Barracks	CA	1849-				San Diego
Presidio of San Francisco	CA	1847-				San Francisco
Camp San Juan	Wash. T.	1859-74				San Juan?



Fort Schuyler	NY	1861-			New York
Fort Selden	N Mexico T.	1865-90	1866-91	yes	
Fort Seward	Dakota T.	1872-77			Jamestown
Fort Shaw	Montana T.	1867-91	1867-91+	yes	
Camp Sheridan	NE	1874-81	?	?	should exist(1,2)
Sidney Barracks	NE	1867-78			Sidney
& Fort Sidney	NE	1879-94			Sidney
Fort Sill	Indian T.	1869-	1869-	yes	
Fort Sisseton	Dakota T.	1876-89	1876-89+	?	should exist(2)
Camp on Snake River	Wyoming T.	1879-83	?	?	?
Fort Snelling	MN	1819-	1828-	yes	
Camp Spokane	Wash T.	1880-82	?	?	Spokane Falls?
& Fort Spokane	Wash T.	1882-	?	?	Spokane?
Camp Stambaugh	Wyoming T.	1870-78	1871-78	?	should exist(1)
Fort Stanton	N Mexico T.	1855-96	1857-96	yes	
Fort Stevens	OR	1865-84			Astoria
Fort Stevenson	Dakota T.	1867-83	1875-83+	yes	
Fort Stockton	TX	1858-86	1859-79+	?	should exist(1,2)
Fort Sully	Dakota T.	1863-94	1866-94+	yes	Cheyenne Agency
Camp Supply	Indian T.	1868-78	1873- ?	yes	
& Fort Supply	Indian T.	1879-94	? -94	yes	
Camp Thomas	Arizona T.	1876-82	?	yes	
& Fort Thomas	Arizona T.	1882-90	?	yes	
Fort Thornburgh	Utah T.	1881-83	?	?	?
Fort Totten	Dakota T.	1867-90	1869-90+	yes	
Fort Townsend	Wash T.	1856-95			Port Townsend
Fort Tularosa	N Mexico T.	1872-74			Socorro?
Fort Union	N Mexico T.	1851-91	1851-91+	yes	
Fort Vancouver	Wash T.	1849-79			Columbia City?
& Vancouver Barracks	Wash T.	1879-			Columbia City?
Camp Verde	Arizona T.	1866-79	1873-91+	?	should exist
& Fort Verde	Arizona T.	1879-91	?		Camp Verde(2)
Fort Wadsworth	NY	1861-			New York
Fort Wadsworth	Dakota T.	1864-76	1865-76	?	Later Ft. Sisseton(1)
Fort Wallace	KS	1865-82	1866-82	?	should exist(1,2)
Fort Walla Walla	Wash T.	1856-			Walla Walla
Camp Warner	OR	1866-74			Ft Bidwell, CA?
Fort Warren	MA	1861-			Boston
Fort Washakie	Wyoming T.	1879-	?	yes	Camp Brown previously
Washington Barracks	D.C.	1881-			Washington, D.C.
Fort Wayne	MI	1861-			Detroit
West Point	NY	?			West Point
Fort Whipple	Arizona T.	1863-79			Prescott
& Whipple Barracks	Arizona T.	1879-13			Prescott
Fort Whipple	VA	1863-81			Washington, D.C.
& Fort Myer	VA	1881-			Washington, D.C.
Camp on White River	CO	1879-83	?		Meeker?
Fort Point	CA	1861-82			San Francisco
& Fort Winfield Scott	CA	1882-86			San Francisco
Fort Wingate	N Mexico T.	1862-	1874-12+	yes	
Fort Wood	NY	1822-			New York
Fort Wrangel	Alaska T.				
Camp Wright	CA	1862-75			Cahto?
Fort Yates	Dakota T.	1874-		yes	Standing Rock Agency
Yuma Depot	Arizona T.	1864-85			Yuma
Fort Yuma	CA	1850-83			Yuma



## Postage Stamp—sized Post Offices

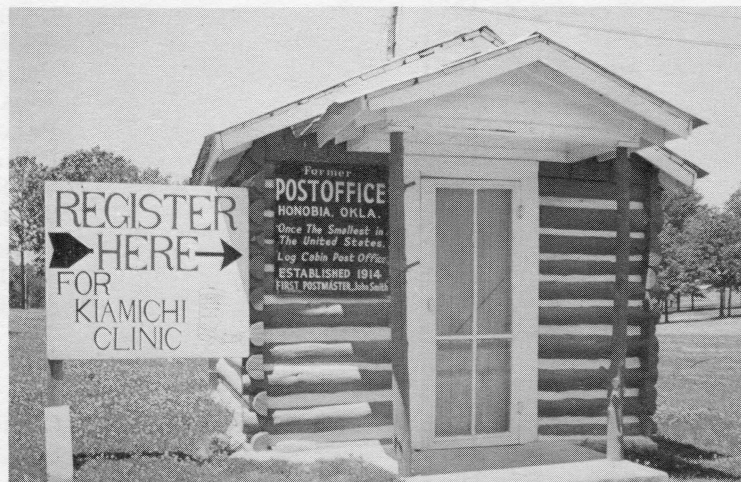
by the WPHM staff  
illustrations provided by Stanley F. Spurgiesz



Wheeler Springs, CA—The sign says, "U.S.A.'s Smallest Post Office 'Believe It Or Not'."



Bill's Place, PA—Population 6. Inside dimensions: 4'4 1/2" x 7'3". Located on the Lincoln Highway (US 30) between Bedford and Fulton County.

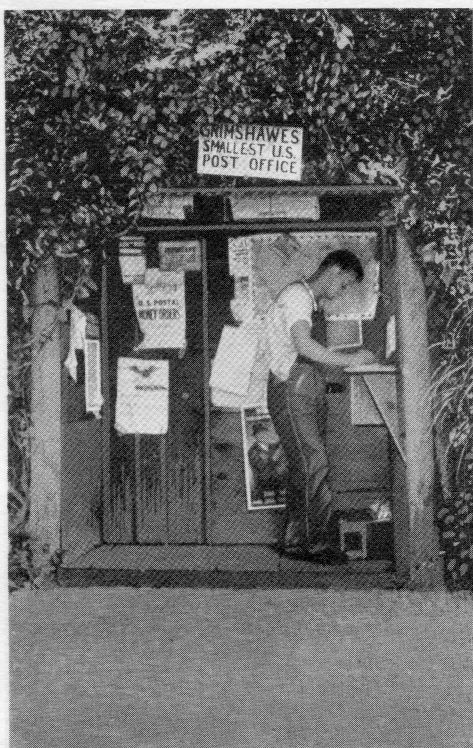


Honobia, OK—A log cabin post office claiming to have once been the smallest in the United States.





Cooley, Sullivan Co., NY—Claiming to be the smallest post office in the state.

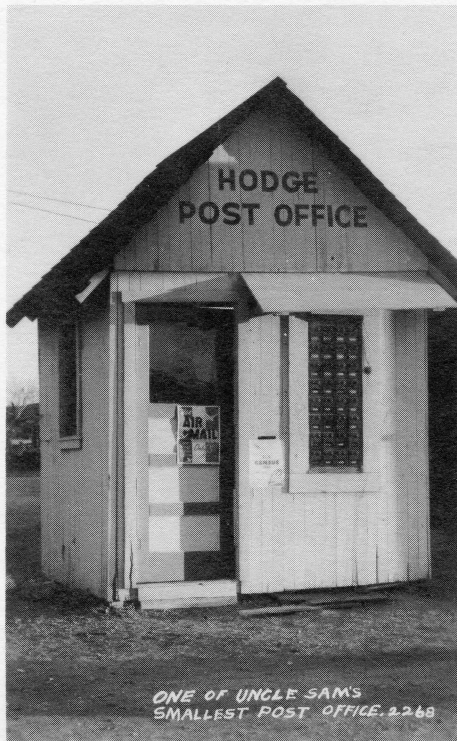


Grimshawes, NC— The caption states, "smallest post office in the U.S.A.," however another card indicates that this PO is part of a much larger building.



Wawasee Lake, IN—There is no caption on this card claiming to be the smallest PO; but by looking at it, it certainly qualifies as a postage stamp-sized outfit.

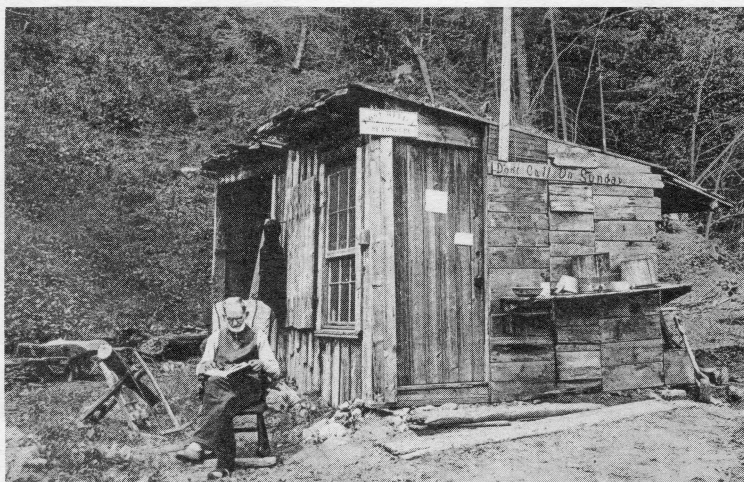




Hodge, CA—"One of Uncle Sam's smallest post offices." There are no indications as to the dimensions.



De Luz, CA—On the reverse is written: Smallest "complete" post office in the world, 7'10" x 7'10". Perhaps "complete" means a free-standing building providing all regular postal services.



Searsburg, VT—The sign says, "Don't call on Sunday!"



Other small post offices claiming to be the smallest or having the distinction of being postage stamp-sized include:

Kaweah, CA—A Utopian community begun in 1886 and failing in 1892 leaving behind "one of the smallest" post offices.

Lake George, MN—Like the post office at DeLuz, it also claims to be the smallest post office in the world!

Little Lake, CA—Established as Narka in 1909, it became a stage coach stop between Keeler and Mojave.

The *San Diego Tribune* of October 2, 1936 published an article by Margaret Romer:

*San Diego County boasts the smallest post office building in the United States. It was established in 1882, some twenty miles up the Santa Margarita Valley from Oceanside and about fifteen miles from Fallbrook. J.H. Camp, a local minister, was its first postmaster. It is housed in a separate building eight feet square. The front has eighteen padlocked pigeon-holes which serve as subscriber's mail boxes.*

The article does a good job of describing the location of the post office, but doesn't mention the name of the post office or the unique community.



Finally, the post office most popularly known as the "smallest post office" is Ochopee, Florida. According to their publicity notice, this post office measures 8'4" x 7'3" thereby claiming the title as the smallest post office building in the US.

The Ochopee post office (illustrated left) was established in a general store in 1932, but burned down in 1953. This current building was a storage shed which survived the fire. It was selected as a temporary post office, leased and occupied by postmaster Sidney Brown. The current postmaster, Evelyn

Additional postage stamp-sized POs:

Salvo, NC—the second smallest PO  
Muddy Circle, IL  
Silver Lake, WV  
Watt's Bar Dam, TN  
Bethlehem, IN  
Agate, NE

Shealy, assumed her duties in 1972.

A star route of 123 miles delivers mail six days a week to the nearly 158 families, including Seminole and Miccosukee Indians, served by the Ochopee post office.



## Hotel Forwarder Markings

by D.A. Kelsey

In the early days of postal service, when stagecoaches ran the mail between cities, letters were often left at coffee houses, hotels, and inns for the addressee to pick up. The local inn was the gathering place for messages and news, usually signaled by the arrival of the mail stage. America's early hotels and inns were the great public social, business and political centers.

When ships arrived in port, they would deposit their letters at the local coffee house or wharf inn, where people would sort through the mail looking for their own correspondence and that of their friends to deliver.

Many residents of villages or towns would have their mail addressed to them in care of the local hotel or popular inn. Sometimes the hotel also served as the general store and post office. Often innkeepers and shopkeepers also served as postmasters to attract people to their establishment.

Illustrated is a February 2, 1846, cover from Columbus to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, prepaid five cents with a black (also known in red) oval handstamp "FORWARDED FROM KELSEY'S AMERICAN HOTEL. COLUMBUS. O."

Were some hotels acting as an independent mail service? George Sloane in the October 6, 1956, issue of *STAMPS* writes:

*Hotels would accept letters from their guests and convey them to the post office. No doubt their messengers, at the same time, picked up mail at the post office addressed to those who were registered at their various hotels.*

*Thus, it would seem, the operations of these hotel messengers placed them in the category of private carriers. There likely was a small fee, perhaps a penny a letter, for the service to or from the post office.*

There are about seventy different markings, mostly from 26 larger, Eastern cities (eighteen from New York City, fourteen from Philadelphia) that would make a challenging collectable for anyone. The American Stampless Cover Catalog, Volume II, lists these markings as "Independent Mail Service Markings."

Other than the handstamped markings, there is little other physical evidence to determine whether this auxiliary service was operated by hotels primarily as a commercial

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*The hotel network seemed to be just one more elaborate way to evade the high cost of mailing a letter.*

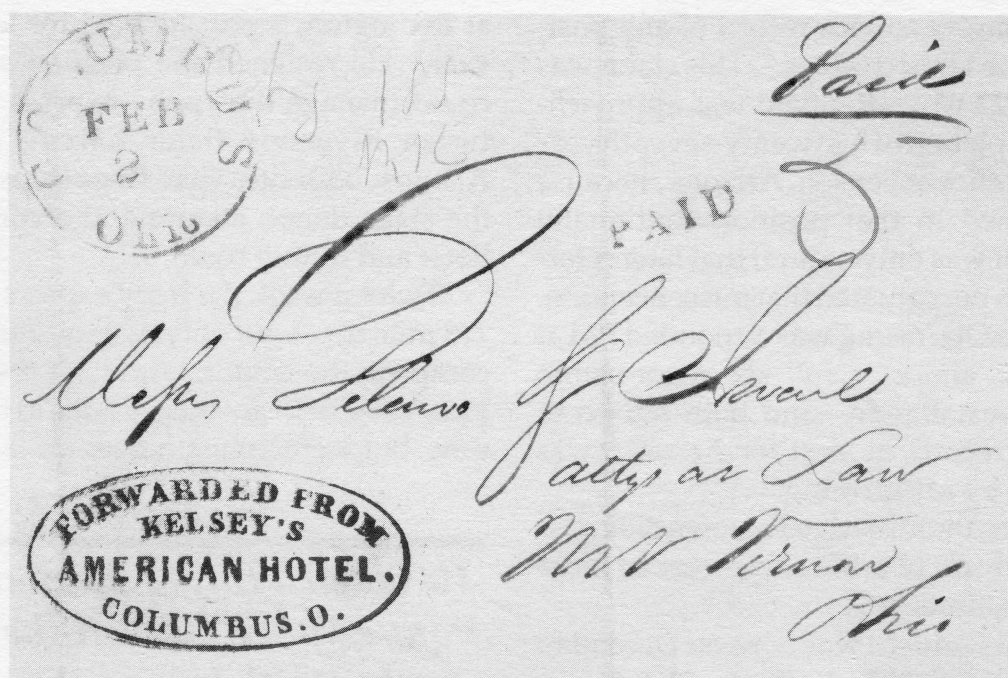
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project, or performed as an accommodation for patrons. Little is known about the purpose of these markings, rates or charges, or extent of services. Sloane reported a red circular "Astor House, Paid" handstamp on an 1842 stampless cover thereby indicating a fee was paid for the forwarding/carrier service.



There is no doubt, however, that, after examining letter contents by curious collectors, hotels entrusted letters to be carried outside the mails to individuals who were travelling to distant cities for deposit in the local post offices. This, of course, evaded the high postal charges, resulting in the hotels paying only a small drop letter fee. Both their own commercial business mail as well as guests' personal letters received this treatment, much to the dismay of the Post Office Department who banned this practice in 1851.

During the 1840-1850 period, the competitive local posts were at their peak of operations. The government was deprived of enormous revenue by citizens who found the postal rates more favorable in their ignorance than in their practice. The hotel network seemed to be just one more elaborate way to evade the high cost of mailing a letter. The hotel proprietors, observant and intelligent businessmen, obviously exploited an opportunity to save money on postage and to provide convenient service to their own patrons.



Columbus, Ohio, February 2, 1846, to Mt. Vernon, Ohio. "Forwarded from Kelsey's AMERICAN HOTEL

## DESPATCH FROM THE FRONTIER

### Klondyke Mail Service

First winter trip completed by US Mail Carrier, Holcomb, to carry government mail from the seat of the Yukon, Valdes to Eagle, Alaska, a distance of 620 miles.

During the journey, 10 of 12 horses died, or had to be killed. A working force of

eleven men were employed to construct cabins for mail stations one for every 20 miles.

The Department hopes to carry on with monthly mail service between Valdes and Eagle.

—THE ARIZONA REPUBLICAN  
January 20, 1900



## America's Oldest Postmaster

by William L. Alexander

*(Ed. note—Proclaimed America's oldest postmaster by several sources including Life Magazine and Arizona Highways, Redfield innocently perpetuated the story.)*

Leonard D. Redfield initially had fame thrust upon him because someone decided he had "the longest service record of any postmaster in the United States." This claim was made in 1922 when Redfield was approaching the completion of his twenty-seventh year in the post office at Benson, Arizona. Because he functioned in that position continually until 1940, it was only natural that later references to him perpetuated that misconception. In fact, Miss Ola Young was appointed PM at Young, AZ, almost a full six years before Redfield's installation—and both retired in 1940. The record, at least for Arizona, was and is held by Miss Young.

However, the misjudged renown did cause public exposure of a life and career of more than passing interest.

Leonard Redfield was born on December 6, 1867 in Olean, New York. In 1868 Henry and Malvina Redfield, both natives of New York, moved to California. Henry "went along with the Union Pacific to mend harness and make saddles" as "in those days it took mules, muleskinners, saddles and harness to wrangle a railroad into shape." With his earnings Henry settled his family in Porterville, California where he ran a freight line for the next six years. "But he was the victim of banditti" that wiped him out. In December of 1876 Leonard's father moved the family to Arizona, a two month trip, where he tried his hand at prospecting for gold.

But the search for gold didn't pan out. Henry Redfield had somewhat better success with the property he homesteaded in the San Pedro River valley, at what later became known as Redington. On October 7, 1879, Henry Redfield became the first postmaster at Redington, a post he held for less than a year. He resigned the position so that he could manage the "pony express mail" between Riverside (later Kelvin) and Tres Alamos. Both sites were stage stops, boasting the stage depot, a store and a combination hotel and dining room.

Twice a week the pony express made the 218 mile trip, with only twenty-four hours to complete the circuit. Adult riders hired by Henry Redfield got the job done in the allotted time, but were killing horses off in the proc-

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*He started toting the mail as a Pony Express rider at the age of twelve with legs so short they spur the saddle blanket instead of the horse!*

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ess; this was not a profitable proposition for the contractor! So Henry turned to his small, light son of twelve and enlisted him as his rider. His physique saved the ponies, but there were some problems—"My legs were so short they often spurred the saddle blanket instead of the pony's flank," Redfield later reported.



It was during the era of his father's postmastership and his riding the express mail that Leonard Redfield firmly fixed his mind on his future career—that of being a postmaster himself.

After Leonard had ridden the express for about a year, his father gave up the route (the railroads were making the express obsolete) and moved the family to Benson. In 1884 Benson was not an incorporated town. Henry settled his family on an "arid claim" and established a livery stable that he ran until his death in 1886.

In about 1885 Leonard became involved in a grocery store concern with George W. Bryan. As there was only enough business to keep one man busy, Bryan got himself appointed postmaster of Benson. Soon thereafter, Leonard's store had the misfortune to be totally burned out. He began again by operating a fruit stand until he had accumulated sufficient capital to again engage in the mercantile trade. In 1905 this new enterprise, which had enjoyed a fair degree of success, was also totally destroyed by fire.

Grover Cleveland was well into his second term when Republican Leonard Redfield petitioned him for appointment as postmaster of Benson. This was approved, and, on April 17, 1896, Leonard was commissioned as postmaster of Benson. His success in retaining the position for forty-four unbroken years, under Republican and Democratic regimes alike (all but his last appointment were under the patronage system) was undoubtedly due to his devotion to duty and his endearment to the residents of Benson and environs.

Asked about the highlights of his long postmastership, Redfield smiled and replied, "Work, just plain hard work!" A robbery attempt in January, 1936 provided some spice to the job.

When Redfield entered the office on the morning of the thirteenth, he surprised Clyde Murray, a transient, trying to open the safe. Reaching into his pocket, Redfield commanded, "Stick 'em up." After eyeing the ominous bulge in Redfield's pocket, Murray surrendered. With the intruder safely arrested, Redfield pulled his shaking hand from his pocket, clutching an innocent lumpy key ring! Murray served a year in the Federal penitentiary at McNeil Island.

In 1910 Leonard Redfield married Miss Fannie Arm-

itage, a native of New Zealand who had immigrated to the United States in childhood with her parents. They moved to Benson after settling briefly in both San Francisco and the Yuma area. It was she who assumed responsibility as acting postmaster of Benson for six months upon her husband's retirement.

In May 1940, Redfield was invited to be the guest of honor at the dedication of the branch post office at Old Tucson, the purported replica of the city of Tucson as it was in the 1850s. This was a portion of the activities surrounding the May 4 portrayal of the history of postal transportation in the southwest.

Leonard Redfield died in Benson on July 14, 1944.



*For nearly half a century of continuous service, Leonard Redfield served the citizens of Benson as their postmaster. (Photo courtesy of Arizona Highways)*



## We just wanted you to know that. . .

*(Doing research at the WPHM, our staff often runs across some rare and esoteric fact or detail about postage stamps or postal history. We save all these little ridiculous tidbits never knowing when they will come in handy. Why, just the other day, we were playing philatelic trivial pursuit when the idea came to mind that all of us just wanted you to know that. . .)*

... the 11 cent, US stamp of 1915 was issued to prepay postage on parcels, and postage and insurance fee on insured parcels—amounting to 11 cents!

... a Bayside, New York Catholic School was the first to teach its pupils the "Science of Philately."

... the US registration fee was once only eight cents. It was raised to the appalling sum of ten cents in 1911 after being eight cents since 1893.

... dog sleds first carried mail from Barrow to Kotzebue, Alaska on November 1, 1903.

... Maryland issued "lottery stamps" in 1846.

... George Washington sent the world's first airmail on January 9, 1793.

... during the fiscal year ending June, 1868, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing of the Treasury Department manufactured \$20,265,000 worth of beer stamps and \$7,780,000 worth of cigar stamps.

... the first American to live on the proceeds of his stamp dealing was James Brennan in New York in 1862. He also claimed to have issued the first postage stamp price list.

... the 1908 US Special Delivery stamp is nicknamed "The Merry Widow."

... the Franklin carrier stamp of 1851 is the only United States stamp that has no indication of value.

... in 1886 the commercial postage stamp hobby business in America was estimated to be \$800,000 yearly.

... in 1927 the US airmail service carried 1,270,299 pounds at an average cost of \$2.08 per pound.

... Napoleon is portrayed on an American private revenue stamp.

... the spoilage during 1928 at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was 2.02%.

... the US Philatelic Sales Agency sold only \$20,906.50 worth of stamps in its first year's existence (1922). Sales for 1933 were \$302,619.54; 1974 were \$42.1 million, 1983 were \$120 million.

... stamps are not a security of the United States but only a receipt for money paid.

... 400,000,000 postal cards were used in the United States during 1883 (ten years after being introduced in this country).

... United States stamps, although issued in 1847, were not compulsory until 1855.

... the US bi-color 5 cent airmail stamp of 1928 shows Sherman Hill in the Rocky Mountains.



... in 1891 Roswell Beardsley, North Lansing, Thompsons County, New York, was the oldest postmaster in the United States. He was appointed June 28, 1828 (63 years of service).

... even if unused, United States postage stamps issued prior to 1861 cannot be used today. On the other hand, there have been an awful lot of postage stamps issued since 1861 that can be used!

... the portrait of only one postmaster general has ever appeared on a United States postage stamp.

... Pony Express rider's mail pouches were never to contain over twenty pounds.

... a philatelic pawn shop existed in New York City during the 1890s.

... San Francisco's first mail carrier, Tim Mahoney, received as high as five dollars for delivering a single letter in 1859.

... the first railroad car equipped for mail handling, in transit, left Chicago on August 28, 1864 for Clinton, Iowa.

... only one out of every 300,000 letters is lost in the United States mail (*Yea, right, sure. If you believe that I've got some luxurious Arizona real estate that you might be interested in buying*).

... Benjamin Franklin was not our first postmaster general.

... Benjamin Franklin was the American Deputy Postmaster General for nineteen years.

... the theft of a postage stamp is grand larceny.

... the first United States airmail was carried in 1911.

... the first pony express riders were Alexander Carlyle and Harry Roff.

... Rowdon, Wright, Hatch and Edeson of New York printed the first American stamps.

... the 1933 US Newburgh Peace stamps pictures the wind blowing the flag in one direction and the sail in the boat in the opposite direction.

... small mattresses were provided to mail truck drivers in the 1920s for use as cushions when hauling fragile parcels, such as eggs.

... Rural letter carriers were called upon by the Department of Agriculture to conduct a "pig census" in the 1920s.

... postmasters faced with the problem of rats in their building often employ the services of cats to take care of the problem. On April 18, 1926, Henry Pease, postmaster at Jonesville, Vermont, was accidentally killed when the shotgun he kept in the cellar for the purpose of eradicating rats discharged. Henry was not partial to cats.

... the Universal Postal Union, in 1989, says that the United States is the world's largest mail generator responsible for 40 percent of all mail even though the population is well below that of a number of countries.

... in 1988 160 billion pieces of mail originated in the US. Applying our earlier statistic, one piece of mail in 300,000 is lost, means that, in 1988, only 533,000 letters were lost in the mail. Yea, right, sure. How come they were all addressed to us!



## BOOK REVIEW

AMERICAN AIR MAIL CATALOGUE  
1990 PRICING SUPPLEMENT, published by  
 the American Air Mail Society, 218 pages, hard-  
 bound. Available to \$12 postpaid from Greg  
 Schmidt, 870 Bengal Road, Neenah, WI 54956.

Just arrived from the American Air Mail Society (AAMS) is their revised and enhanced 1990 Pricing Supplement to the American Air Mail Catalogue (AAMC). The original catalogues, Volumes 1- V, were written from the 1950s to 1980s in five editions. The AAMS has, for the second time, provided the collectors with an updated pricing supplement. This is an efficient and cost effective way of maintaining the market valuations of the air mail material covered in the catalogues.

This book is strictly a pricing supplement. It does not contain updated facts, new information or additional catalogue listings which will, no doubt, be incorporated into a new (sixth!) edition of the AAMC.

An introduction to each of 28 sections is a commentary by the specialist or responsible editor for that particular section. The comments reflect changes in market conditions and collector interests since the 1983 Pricing Supplement was issued.

For example: Illustrated are two covers representing the beginning and end of the five cent rate period of 1928 - 1932. Figure 1 is listed in the AAMC as #RC19a, figure 2 as AAMC #RC20.

	AAMC Edition	1983 Price	1990 Price
RC19a	\$3	\$5	\$5
RC20	\$5	\$10	\$15

The section editor in the introduction correctly states, "The 1980s were a time of increasing interest in airmail postal history, and US airmail rates have been a focal point of collector and exhibitor interest. In many cases, last day of rate covers . . . may exist in lower quantities than first day of rate covers." This is obviously reflected in the above prices.

This handsome hardbound (to match your AAMC) book is easy to read and essential to the maintenance of your catalogues. It is highly recommended not only for the current price information, but also for the editors' comments of the state of their air mail specialty; and, at \$12, it's priced right. (DAK)



Figure 1. August 1, 1928—first day of the five cent air mail rate used on a Contract Air Mail (CAM) route 1 cover from Hartford CT.

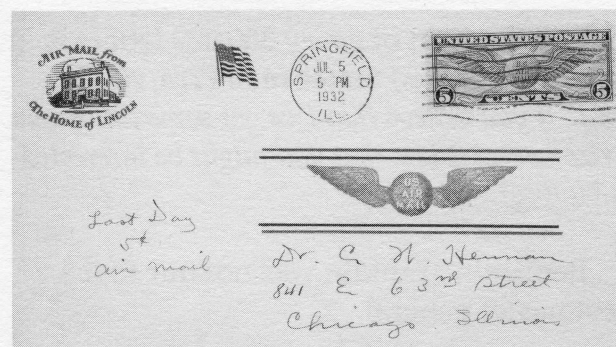


Figure 2. July 5, 1932—last day of the five cent air mail rate period.



## HELIOGRAPH AND THE PHILATELIC PRESS

•The last issue of *THE HELIOGRAPH* featured, in this section, *The Independent Philatelist*. We asked for more information about its history. Several readers wrote responses summarized as follows: The Independent Philatelist began as The Bayonne Philatelist published at Bergen Point, NJ, edited by H.M. Craft from Oct. 1883 to Oct 1884 (numbers 1-13). Thereafter, the name was changed to *The Independent Philatelist* published by

W.H. Mitchell and H.M. Craft in New York, Bayonne City, and Berpen Point. The publication lasted until 1885 when it became dormant until being revived in 1890 for four more issue. Its final issue appeared February 1891.

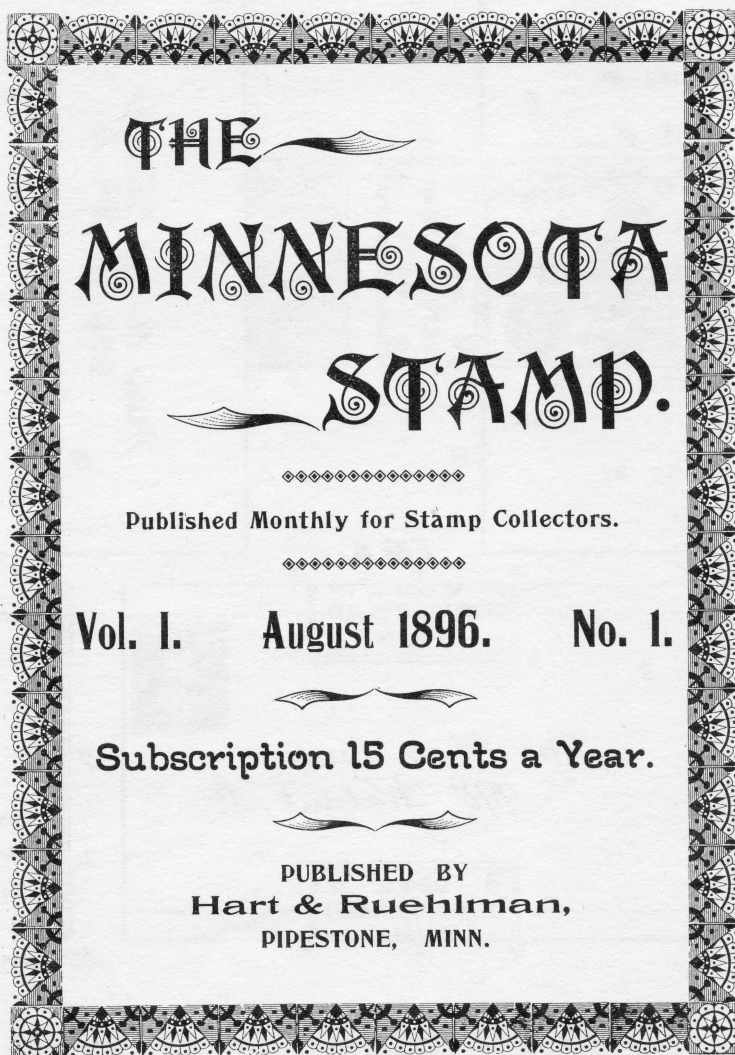
Thanks to Brad Arch, Richard Byne, and Larry Parks for sending information about this publication.

•The philatelic publication for this issue is The Minnesota Stamp published by Hart and Ruehlman, Pipestone Minnesota. It only lasted one issue, August 1896, but it had high hopes for its future:

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*"With this, our first number, we venture on the broad sea of philatelic journalism, only hoping we may live a long and prosperous life."*

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(No Model.)

R. S. WILLIAMS.  
RETURN POSTAGE STAMP.

No. 522,037.

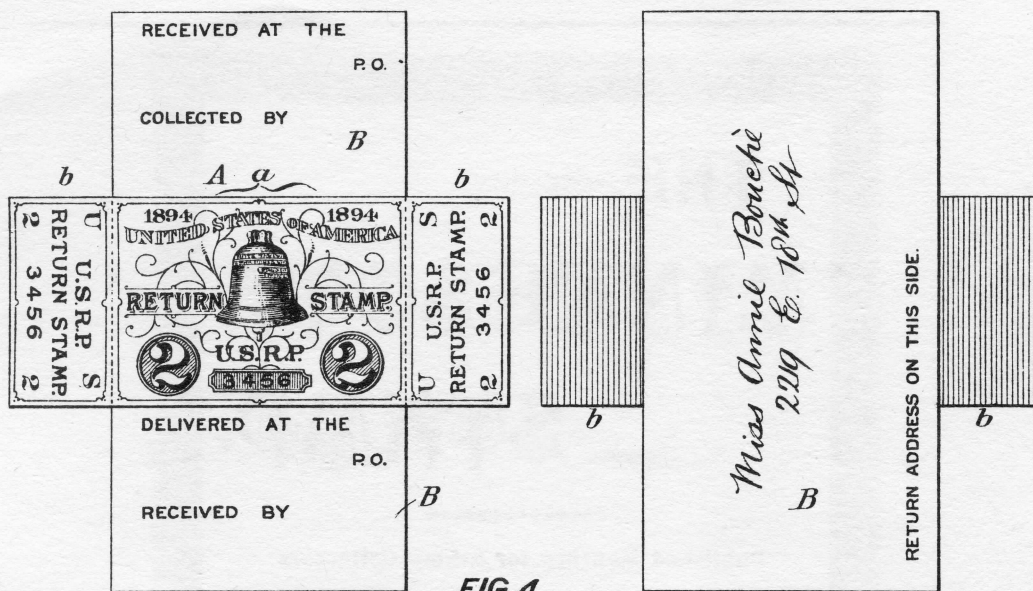
Patented June 26, 1894.

**FIG. 1**

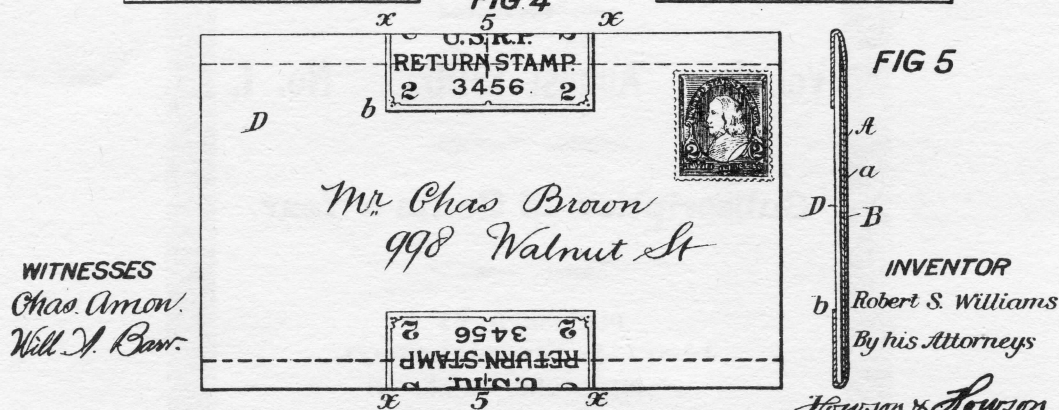


**FIG 2**

**FIG 3**



**FIG. 4**



**FIG 5**

THE NATIONAL LITHOGRAPHING COMPANY,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT S. WILLIAMS, OF MERCHANTVILLE, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO  
CHARLES V. WILLIAMS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## RETURN POSTAGE-STAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 522,037, dated June 26, 1894.

Application filed March 3, 1894. Serial No. 502,188. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT S. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Merchantville, New Jersey, have invented certain Improvements in Return Postage-Stamps, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a letter sent by the ordinary mail with a return receipt card and stamp; the stamp being of such a form that it will attach the card to the letter and be utilized to return the card to the sender of the letter.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1, is a view of my improved return stamp. Fig. 2, is a view showing the stamp attached to the back of the return card. Fig. 3, is a face view of the card showing the ends of the stamp overlapping. Fig. 4, is a view of a letter with the return card and stamp attached; and Fig. 5, is a sectional view on the line 5—5, Fig 4.

The main object of my invention is to provide a substitute for the ordinary registry of letters in which the sender of the letter has to register the letter at a post office. Often this is very inconvenient and consequently letters that should be receipted for are sent in the ordinary manner, but if stamps can be procured which can readily be attached to a return card and to a letter and the letter receipted for on the return card by the receiver in the presence of the postman and the receipted card returned to the sender it will be of great convenience to the public at large.

Referring to the drawings, A is a stamp which can be of any suitable design and extending from each side of the body *a* of the stamp are wings or coupons *b b*; these wings as well as the body of the stamp are preferably gummed at the back so that the stamp can be readily attached to the return card and to an envelope. On the body of the stamp as well as on the wings is a number, in the present instance number "3,456;" this number is preferably printed on the stamp the same as on bank notes the stamp being consecutively numbered. By this means the receiving post office as well as the delivery post office can keep an account of all mail matter

having return stamps so that the letters become practically registered.

The stamp is secured across the back of the return card B in such a manner that the wings *b b* extend beyond the edges of the card, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and after the stamp has been secured to the return card it is secured to the envelope D, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5 by the overlapping wings.

The return card may have on the back the words "Received at," "Collected by," "Delivered at" and "Received by" so that the card will indicate the post office from which it was mailed, the postman who collected it, what post office it was delivered at, and who received it, so that when the card, which is addressed on its face, is returned to the sender it will give to the sender the information desired. When the letter is received and after the return card is signed by the recipient the stamp is severed on the lines *x x* so as to leave the wings or coupons *b b* on the envelope and the body *a* of the stamp on the return card, thus when the return card is received by the sender of the letter he has a receipt for the letter in the hand writing of the person to whom the letter was addressed and the number on the receipt corresponds with the number on the letter without any labor on the part of the postal authorities.

Thus while my invention does not cover the same ground as the ordinary registered letter in which a receipt is given by the post office authorities, still it covers sufficient ground to answer ordinary purposes, that is where a sender of a letter simply wants a receipt from the person receiving the letter.

The return card may be supplied by the post office with the printed matter as indicated in Fig. 2 and with the stamp printed thereon or attached thereto; or other printed matter may be used.

The card may be simply an ordinary card with the address written on the face and room left at the back for the stamp and for the recipient to sign.

I claim as my invention—

1. A return postage stamp for attaching to letters consisting of a body portion, with



wings or coupons at each side adapted to be attached to the letter and severed from the body of the stamp, in combination with a return card to which the body of the stamp is secured, substantially as described.

2. A return postage stamp for letters consisting of the body portion having a number thereon, with wings or coupons at each side to be secured to a letter, one or both of said coupons having numbers thereon corresponding to the numbers on the body of the stamp, in combination with a return card to which the body of the stamp is adapted to be secured, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a return card of a return postage stamp, consisting of the body portion secured to the return card, a number

thereon, wings or coupons at each side of the stamp and having numbers corresponding to the numbers on the body, the wings or coupons of said stamp being gummed at the back so that the wings can be attached to an envelope or parcel sent by mail, whereby the body of the stamp and return card can be readily severed from the letter or other parcel, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT S. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

S. W. REEVES,  
HENRY HOWSON.

(This patent, issued in 1894, discloses the idea of providing for sending a letter by ordinary mail with a return receipt card and stamp, the stamp being of such a form that it will attach the receipt card to the letter and be utilized to return the card to the sender of the letter. The idea is to provide for return receipt without the expense or trouble of registration.)

## BOOK REVIEW

UPU MAIL, Annual Tables of Exchange Rates and of Postage Rates to the U.S., 1881-1953 as exemplified by short paid matter, *The Printer's Stone, Ltd., Box 30, Fishkill, NY 12524.* 186 pgs + introduction by Robert Dalton Harris. \$56 postpaid.

Let's not forget that the United States has been receiving mail for a long, long time. Often, in our search for the ultimate cover of our favorite US stamp issue to a foreign destination, we forget that, at the same time, letters were being sent from those same foreign countries to the U.S.

Incoming mail to the United States is a subject which has been, with few exceptions, largely ignored by exhibitors, writers, and researchers of modern (post UPU) postal history. One reason for this void has been a derth of information, easily assembled, that provides a guide to the fascinating subject of incoming foreign mail. Such a guide, hiding

behind a long and arduous title, has been published by The Printer's Stone.

This book is a compilation of tables showing the rates of postage charged in foreign countries on mail sent to the United States. For the first time, it assembles the components of a global postal system into an easily usable format. Using these tables, one can easily unravel the complexities of short-paid mail into basic, understandable elements.

The handy (and essential) preface by Robert Dalton Harris provides a practical working guide and explanatory text to the inner workings of the tables.

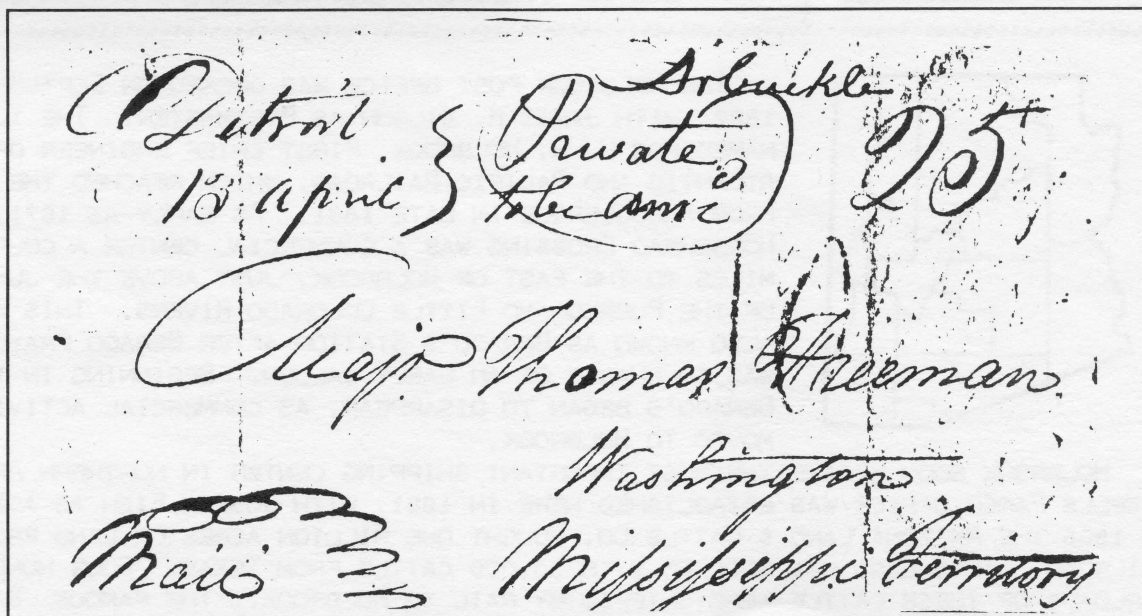
This is a "must have" book for those who think globally and for those who have an interest in the postal history of any foreign country and how it interacts with the postal history of the United States. Rate students will find this book particularly important. Any collector of US postage due stamps on cover will need this book to understand incoming foreign mail that has been underpaid.

This book is available in a limited quantity and is, at \$56, a value. (DAK)



# THE EMBRYO METROPOLIS

by Thomas J. Alexander



DETROIT, MICHIGAN TERRITORY, 1816: This letter is datelined "Detroit 12th April 1816." It is from an officer who refers to the re-establishment of U.S. military control over the northwest frontier after the War of 1812:

*"When I left the South I was hurried to this post. . . . The object was to establish posts up the Lakes before Winter. We are on tolerable terms with the British Officers in this quarter yet they continue the practice of inviting the Indians from our territory and making them presents, the continuance of this practice does not look like they had determined to dispence with their services when occasion may require. Col. Bauger . . . is appointed an agent for the Indians on the north side of Lake Michigan and his residence will be at Green Bay, where a military post is to be established. . . ."*

This is an example of the "restored rates" of postage that were in effect for only one month, from March 31 through April 30, 1816.

—continued from page 1

He was a deeply generous man, one of the most generous we have ever known: he was absolutely unsparing of his time, his intelligence, his money, himself. He thrived on thunderous arguments that he loved to spark with a calculated remark, and, although God knows he could be gruff, he was never discourteous in waging them.

His example motivated and encouraged scores of philatelic authors, postal historians, researchers, students, and collectors. He was always sharing some discovery or another— new RPO marking, or bit of information or piece or history or a book. Yes, he was generous. He loved the railroads; Garrison Keillor; Saturday afternoon classical music, discussions that inspired thoughtful exchanges; history; and writing.

He despised fakery, cowardice, pompousness, the usual pieties. He applauded deliberation, honorable action, the unfettered mind, He held little sacred,

vigorously testing the convictions of his friends and opponents alike, probing, questioning, provoking.

Whatever Charley did, he did with rare good humor, even in the thick of mental combat; for that reason, he had few, if any, real enemies, no matter how controversial the positions he took. More often than not, Charley was at the forefront of whatever his subject du jour.

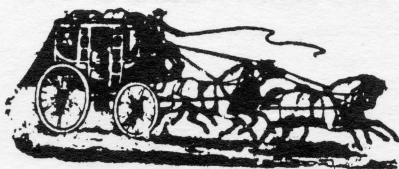
When he died on the ninth of April, he left a hole in our hearts, in the heart of his family, in the heart of American postal history, in the heart of the Western Postal History Museum. He contained multitudes, and he will be remembered in as many ways as there are people who came to know him.

His wife, Betsy, and his family have requested that memorials may be made to the Western Postal History Museum, P.O. Box 40725, Tucson, Arizona, 85717. (DAK)

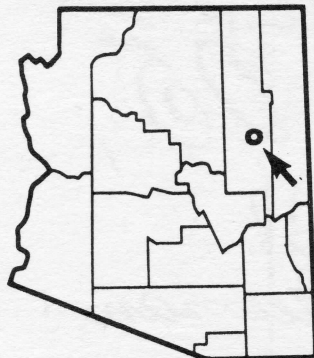


# WESTERN POSTAL HISTORY MUSEUM

TUCSON, ARIZONA



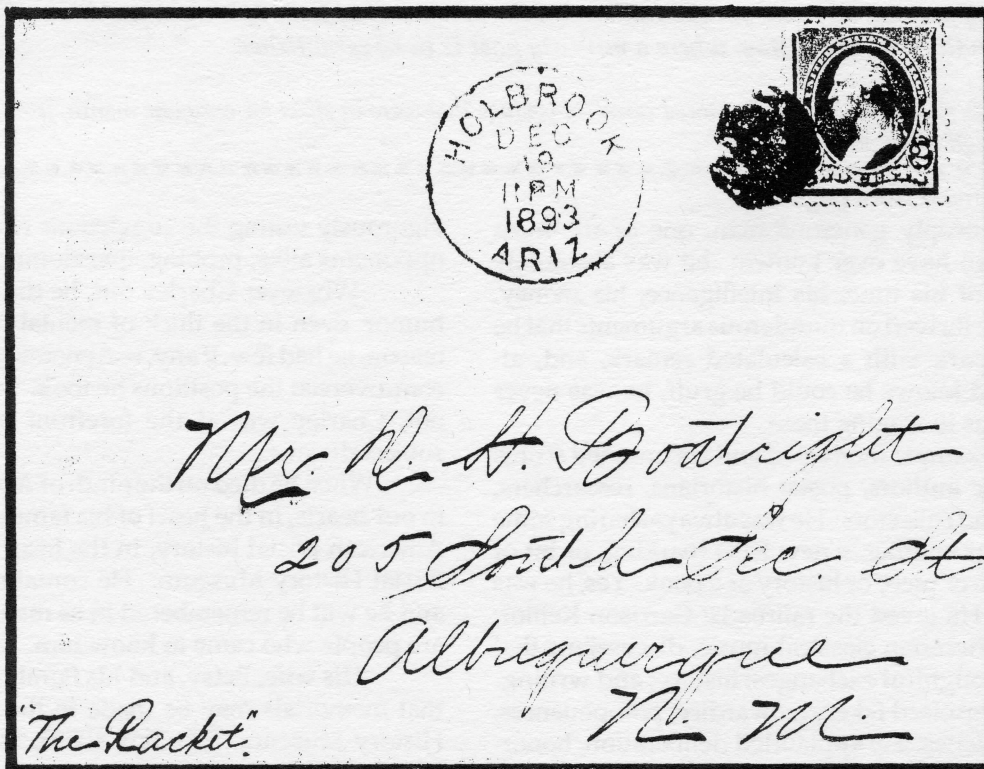
## HOLBROOK ARIZONA TERRITORIAL POST OFFICE



THE HOLBROOK POST OFFICE WAS OPENED ON SEPTEMBER 18, 1882, WITH JAMES H. WILSON AS POSTMASTER. THE TOWN WAS NAMED FOR H. R. HOLBROOK, FIRST CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD, WHICH REACHED THE AREA FROM ALBUQUERQUE IN LATE 1881. AS EARLY AS 1871, HORSEHEAD CROSSING WAS A COMMERCIAL CENTER A COUPLE OF MILES TO THE EAST OF HOLBROOK, JUST ABOVE THE JUNCTION OF THE PUERCO AND LITTLE COLORADO RIVERS. THIS WAS ALSO KNOWN AS BERADO'S STATION AFTER BERADO FRAYDE, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF AN EARLY SALOON. BEGINNING IN 1882 BERADO'S BEGAN TO DISAPPEAR, AS COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WAS MOVED TO HOLBROOK.

HOLBROOK SOON BECAME THE MOST IMPORTANT SHIPPING CENTER IN NORTHERN ARIZONA. A WELLS FARGO OFFICE WAS ESTABLISHED HERE IN 1881, WITH JOSEPH FISH AS AGENT. IN 1886 THE ARIZONA LAND & CATTLE CO. BOUGHT ONE MILLION ACRES OF LAND FROM THE RAILROAD. THIS LAND WAS STOCKED WITH 30,000 CATTLE FROM TEXAS. FOUR HUNDRED CARLOADS OF THESE CATTLE WERE SHIPPED BY RAIL TO HOLBROOK. THE FAMOUS HASH KNIFE BRAND ALSO WAS IMPORTED FROM TEXAS. THE HASH KNIFE OUTFIT BECAME ONE OF THE MOST COLORFUL OUTFITS OF ARIZONA'S GREAT CATTLE ERA.

HOLBROOK REMAINS A CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE, CATTLE AND DAIRY FARMING. IT IS A GATEWAY TO HOPI AND APACHE INDIAN COUNTRY AND THE FAMOUS PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT AND THE PAINTED DESERT. PARTICULARLY IN EARLY YEARS, MANY SMALLER POST OFFICES RECEIVED THEIR MAIL SUPPLY FROM THE HOLBROOK POST OFFICE, WHICH WAS A DISTRIBUTION CENTER FOR THE ALBUQUERQUE AND LOS ANGELES RAILROAD POST OFFICE.





# ARIZONA STATEHOOD POST OFFICES & POSTMASTERS, 1912-1979

(continued from HELIOGRAPH #14)

## D

DATE CREEK (1872)*Formerly Haynes*

Mrs. Addie Kuns

James M. Ross

*Discontinued*YAVAPAI

Jan 7, 1922

Apr 1, 1926

Nov 30, 1927

*Mail to Hillside*

This PO was inactive from 1880 until 1922.

The Indian name for the yucca plant is "datal" from which the PO name derived.

DATELAND

Mrs. Jeanette M. Collins

Mrs. Agnes M. Young

YUMA

Sep 16, 1942

Jun 24, 1958

The grove of date trees from which the name was derived still survives.

DAVIS DAM

Deloris A. Graham

Mrs. Nila C. Hatch

Mrs. Emma E. Moore

*Discontinued*MOHAVE

Dec 1, 1950

Dec 12, 1952\*

May 31, 1953\*

Aug 31, 1953

*Mail to Bullhead City*

Originally called Bullhead Dam (see Bullhead City) the name was changed to Davis Dam in honor of Arthur Powell Davis, US Director of Reclamation. The Dam is 200' high.

The PO was originally established in Clark County, Nevada, but moved to Mohave County December 1, 1950.

DAVIS MONTHAN AFB—TucsonPIMA*Name changed from Air Base Branch*

Apr 1, 1955

Tucson Air Base was dedicated by Col. Charles Lindbergh in 1927 as a civilian air field. The Army moved in during 1940 and renamed the field in honor of Lt. Samuel H. Davis and Lt. Oscar Monthan, both of whom were killed in military air accidents in the early 1920s.

DEER VALLEY STA.—PhoenixMARICOPA*Established*

Apr 27, 1977

DENNEHOTSO CPO—Teec Nos PosAPACHE*Established*

Apr 18, 1977

DESERT HILLS STA.—Lake Havasu CityMOHAVE*Established*

Sep 23, 1978

DESERT SAGE BR—MesaMARICOPA*Established*

Oct 1, 1962

*Changed to TWIN KNOLLS BR*

Jul 1, 1975

DEWEY (1898)

Charles C. Miller

Mrs. Katie M. Bonnell

Mrs. Bessie Knee

Mrs. Ada B. Culver

Harry Dunlap

Charles E. Stanton

Mrs. Jessie Stanton

Mrs. Agnes L. Neighbor

Mrs. Bertha G. Best

Mrs. Janet L. West

Mrs. Helen T. Stirland

Mrs. Lorraine A. Kraus

Ruth M. Guldin OIC

YAVAPAI

Dec 11, 1900

Jul 11, 1913

Feb 24, 1917

Jul 30, 1921

Sep 30, 1923

Mar 31, 1934

Jul 26, 1940

Apr 20, 1949

Oct 21, 1955

Mar 30, 1973

May 6, 1977

Jan 3, 1978

Feb 23, 1979



It is said that this PO was named in honor of Admiral Dewey of Spanish-American War fame. The name of the RR station is Cherry but the POD would not accept this name because there was another on the RR with that same name.

DILKON

*Formerly Castle butte*

Justus W. Bush  
Mrs. Hattie B. Bush  
*Discontinued*

NAVAJO

Jan 14, 1921  
Dec 1, 1941  
Jan 13, 1943  
*Mail to Winslow*

Located on the Navajo Indian Reservation. The Navajo word *cezindilko:hi* from which this name was derived means "smooth black rock" referring to the butte in back of the PO.

DINOSAUR CITY RB—Peach SpringsCOCONINO

*Established* Jun 6, 1963  
*Discontinued* 1974

The postmark used shows only "DINOSAUR CITY, ARIZ." and the date.

Named for the dinosaur tracks in the valley here.

DOAK

Mrs. Margaret L. Tanner  
*Discontinued*

GILA

Mar 24, 1919  
Mar 15, 1921  
*Mail to Globe*

DOLAN SPRINGS RB—KingmanMOJAVE

*Established* Nov 16, 1965  
*Changed to CPO* Jul 10, 1976

DOMES (1892)

Eugene W. McDaniel  
Earl H. Rhodes  
Mrs. Izora M. Plumlee  
Irvin L. Rhodes  
Earl H. Rhodes  
Mrs. Jean A. Bachleda  
*Discontinued*

YUMA

Mar 1, 1906  
Jul 2, 1926  
Aug 2, 1928  
Aug 10, 1929  
Oct 10, 1933  
Mar 1, 1937  
Jun 15, 1938  
*Mail to Yuma*

Mrs. Josie F. Morris  
*Discontinued*

Jul 1, 1939  
Jul 10, 1940  
*Mail to Yuma*

Mrs. Helen Q. Walker Oct 1, 1948  
Mrs. Georgia B. Wayland Nov 14, 1950  
*Became RS—Yuma* Dec 8, 1962  
*Discontinued* Jul 7, 1964

The RR here was the shipping point for the Castle Dome Mine and other mines in the area.

DONEY

Frank G. Smith  
*Discontinued*

COCONINO

Jun 1, 1922  
May 31, 1924  
*Mail to Flagstaff*

Ben Doney, a Civil War veteran, settled on this flat and named it. The name first proposed for this PO was Eldendale, after nearby Mr. Elden.

DON LUIS (1903)

Miss Gardie Bent  
Mrs. Mae McDonald  
Jessie J. Sanders  
Matthew C. Egnell  
Mrs. Frances Egnell  
*Discontinued*

COCHISE

Jul 1, 1910  
Apr 1, 1919  
Nov 19, 1920  
Dec 28, 1922  
Nov 16, 1931  
Aug 31, 1933  
*Mail to Bisbee*

Lewis Williams and his brother Ben developed mines in this area. Mexican workers called him Don Luis.

DOS CABEZOS (1879)

Mrs. Lucinda White  
Georgia Gardner  
Mrs. Lucinda White  
Atherton B. Wadleigh  
Edwin H. White  
Mrs. Anna M. Flanders  
Mrs. Anna M. Downs NCM

COCHISE

Sep 13, 1898  
Mar 5, 1915  
Jul 1, 1916  
Dec 21, 1926\*  
Mar 12, 1927  
Jan 31, 1933  
Nov 24, 1934

*Name corrected to Dos Cabezas*

Peter Downs  
*Changed to RS—Willcox*  
*Discontinued*

Jan 1, 1949  
Dec 31, 1958\*  
Feb 1, 1960  
Aug 23, 1963

Atherton B. Wadleigh was an engineer who was active in the early development of mines at Cananea, Sonora, Mexico and at Dos Cabezas. At Cananea he acted as a "spy" for Frederick W. Taylor, a heavy financial backer



of Col. William Greene's Consolidated Copper Company. Taylor was naturally concerned for his investment, but Greene was secretive and disingenuous about management performance, costs and earnings. Wadleigh was sent to gather accurate data on these matters at the source. (See Daniel Nelson's "Fifth Column at Cananea: A Stockholder Circumvents Colonel W. C. Greene." *J. Ariz. Hist.* 20 [1]:47-64, Spring 1979.)

A few families remain among the ruins of this settlement.

### DOUBLE CIRCLE

Anna E. Hoffman

*Appointment rescinded and PO closed.*

### GREENLEE

Jan 5, 1921

Feb 2, 1921

Cattle on the Double Circle Ranch were branded with a double circle.

PM Hoffman's appointment date is given.

### DOUGLAS (1901)

Fred E. Cadwell

Melville C. Hankins

Charles A. Overlock

William J. Jackson

Charles K. Foster

Edward J. Huxtable

Caleb O. Rice

William E. Wood

A. Leroy Brewer CIC

Joe Y. Gomez

Donald P. Updike OIC

Roger M. Estes, Jr.

### COCHISE

Jun 18, 1903

Jun 19, 1916

Sep 1, 1921

Feb 19, 1926\*

Apr 16, 1926\*

Feb 11, 1927

Aug 1, 1935

Jul 20, 1962

Apr 14, 1972

May 14, 1972

Mar 9, 1979

Aug 25, 1979

Charles A. Overlock was the first mayor and the first PM of Douglas. He built the first home and developed the first water supply in the community. Overlock was also one of the organizers of the *Bisbee Review* and one of the founders of the *Tucson Citizen*. His second term as PM ended abruptly on Feb. 18, 1926 when he succumbed to a heart attack.

PM Joe Y. Gomez is the brother of PM Miguel Gomez of Pirtleville.

City delivery was established while Arizona was still a territory - Nov 1, 1906 - with three carriers and one alternate.

### DOWNTOWN STA.—KingmanMOJAVE

*Established*

May 15, 1978

### DOWNTOWN STA.—Phoenix MARI-COPA

*Established*

Jun 1, 1968

### DOWNTOWN STA.—TempeMARICOPA

*Established*

Aug 1, 1969

### DOWNTOWN STA.—Tucson PIMA

*Established*

Jan 14, 1974

### DRAGOON (1881)

Ralph E. Cushman

Mrs. Ada M. Server

Leona Hayden

Minnie E. Mills

Mrs. Mary T. Heflin

Mrs. Jean M. Nuttall

Mrs. Athena P. Burrell

Matthew V. Lee

Mrs. Della Mae Comstock

Mrs. Ralphone C.A. Matuszak

### COCHISE

Sep 30, 1909

Apr 1, 1916

Mar 17, 1919

Aug 17, 1921

Jan 15, 1923

Apr 25, 1942\*

Jun 9, 1942

Sep 30, 1950

Dec 30, 1965

Oct 6, 1978

The 3rd U.S. Cavalry, sometimes called Dragoons, were stationed here in Territorial days to quell Indian raids.

The Western Postal History Museum has a large oil painting by Cal N. Peters showing the Dragoons arriving at Dagoon Pass where a stage coach had been pillaged by Indians, the occupants murdered and the mail scattered on the ground.

### DRAKE

Frank Scheil

*Discontinued*

### YAVAPAI

Dec 29, 1936

Apr 15, 1939

*Mail to Paulden*

This shipping point for the quarries yielding the very finest quality flagstone was named for construction engineer W.A. Drake, who built the local RR.

### DUGAS

Mrs. Gertrude H. Dugas

Fred Dugas

*Discontinued*

### YAVAPAI

Apr 13, 1926

Dec 30, 1936\*

Jun 15, 1938

*Mail to Mayer*

Fred and Gertrude Dugas were husband and wife. The PO was located in their home, said to be at the geographical center of Arizona.



DUNCAN (1883)

James L.T. Watters

John Evans

James L.T. Watters

Mrs. Harriet C. Dean

Mrs. Chloe P. Gandolfo

Mrs. Sue M. Davis

Mrs. Helen R. White

Nadine C. Price OIC

GREENLEE

Oct 6, 1897

Feb 28, 1917

Dec 1, 1921

May 14, 1935

Nov 30, 1958

Dec 31, 1970

Oct 11, 1974

Jul 27, 1979

**E**EAGAR (1898)

Mrs. Melisa J. Burgess

John P. Lesueur

Mrs. Delila Burgess Eagar

Mrs. Emma J. Udall

Joseph K. Udall

Mrs. Maude C. Udall

Mrs. Rebecca W. Hall

Mrs. Rebecca W. Burgess

Mervin Hall

Beulah E. Ashcroft

Erastus K. Slade

APACHE

Nov 30, 1910

Jan 23, 1914

Jun 30, 1917

Nov 1, 1917

Feb 10, 1922

Feb 25, 1933\*

Nov 3, 1933

Feb 24, 1941

Jan 4, 1952\*

Jun 3, 1954

Nov 15, 1955

The story is told that the Duncan brothers were killed here by Apaches in the 1880s.

Another possible source of the name was a Scotsman named Duncan Smith, Director of the Arizona Copper Co. which had operations here.

Twice appointed Watters had perhaps one of the most diverse and colorful careers, before his installation, of all the Arizona PMs. Born in England in 1850, he shipped out at the age of 17 with the Royal Navy as a steward. After being present at a number of the more famous naval actions and ports of the time he moved on to become the Chief Steward aboard the newly launched steamship *Columbia*, which had the first installation of incandescent lights outside of Edison's laboratory. Heading inland in 1880, Watters spent most of the next decade in various western New Mexico locales as a miner, teamster, entrepreneur and mail contractor. In 1890 he acquired all the mail contracts between Willcox-Ft. Grant-Ft. Thomas-Globe-Florence. At Duncan he became a pharmacist, U.S. Court Commissioner and Justice of the Peace in addition to postmaster. (Data from his autobiography in the Arizona Heritage Society archives, Tucson.)

DUNGANTOWN RS—Peach SpringsCOCONINO*Established*

Jun 16, 1963

*Discontinued*

Oct 16, 1965

Peach Springs is in Mojave County.

DUQUESNE (1890)

Charles A. Banderd

Edward C. McLaughlin

*Discontinued*SANTA CRUZ

Sep 13, 1904

Sep 30, 1918

Feb 14, 1920

*Mail to Parker Canyon*

The name Washington was permanently changed to Duquesne (1904) for the Duquesne Mining & Reduction Co. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania that operated smelters here. The mines became depleted and the thousand or more residents moved away. Only a few people remain.

Three Eagar brothers homesteaded this area in 1878 and donated the townsite in 1888. The altitude is 7000'.

EAST BROADWAY BR.—Tucson PIMA*Established*

Apr 15, 1958

*Changed to Sta.*

Mar 26, 1959

*Changed to Coronado Sta.*

Feb 24, 1970

EASTER

Mrs. Della S. Miller

*Discontinued*MARICOPA

Jun 28, 1915

Aug 13, 1917

*Mail to Tempe*

The local Easter Mine was located on Easter Sunday. However, the name first proposed for the PO was Hansen since it was located about 1 mile from the Hansen Jct. RR station.

EAST FLAGSTAFF BR—Flagstaff CO-CONINO*Established*

Jun 2, 1958

*Changed to Sta. No. 1*

Aug 1, 1959

EAST FORK RB—Whiteriver NAVAJO*Established*

Nov 16, 1968

*Changed to CPO—Whiteriver*

Jul 10, 1976

EDEN (1892)

Caroline Blair

Francis Fuller

GRAHAM

Aug 22, 1908

Mar 31, 1915



Thomas F. Fuller	May 31, 1916
John W. Higgins	Apr 27, 1929
Joseph R. Moody	Dec 7, 1929
Horace D. Fuller	Dec 1, 1933
Mrs. Sammie M. Blair	Dec 16, 1936
Ira N. Kempton	Jan 21, 1941
Mrs. Sammie M. Blair	Jan 31, 1942
Mrs. Etha L.M. Colvin	Jun 11, 1942
Mrs. Sylvia B. Kempton	Sep 11, 1944
Thomas H. Colvin	Jun 30, 1954
Mildred McGregor OIC	Aug 17, 1979

A Mormon group settled here in 1881 and named it Eden because of the agricultural possibilities of the fertile ground.

### EHRENBERG (1869)

John N. Smith	Sep 11, 1911
<i>Discontinued</i>	Dec 31, 1913
	<i>Mail to Blythe, CA</i>
Mrs. Cora L. O'Bannon	Jun 28, 1958
Mrs. Juanita C. Partridge	Aug 2, 1960
Stanley W. Thies	Mar 30, 1973

At the Western Postal History Museum there is a Territorial diorama by Cal N. Peters showing the steamboat arriving at Ehrenberg from Yuma with mail, passengers and freight.

### EL CAPITAN

Mrs. Frankie Wood	Jan 17, 1920
Lillamay Hill	Jan 1, 1921
Thomas A. Livingston	Oct 23, 1922
<i>Discontinued</i>	Sep 15, 1924
	<i>Mail to Globe</i>

This PO was at the El Capitan Mine, named for a nearby peak.

### ELEPHANT HEAD

Henry W. Williams

### SANTA CRUZ

Jul 10, 1914

No further information available. It never was in operation.

The Elephant Mine was named for a nearby mountain that resembled an elephant head.

### ELEVEN MILE CORNER RB—

#### Casa Grande

*Established*

*Changed to CPO*

#### PINAL

Oct 16, 1952

Jul 10, 1976

### ELFRIDA

Mrs. Marie H. Leitch

Arthur E. Branham

Thomas B. Patterson

Mrs. Hootsie McKinsey

David J.C. McKinsey

Stark E. Stephenson

Mrs. Mary J. Patterson CIC

Mrs. Hootsie McKinsey

Jessie L. Lee

### COCHISE

Sep 13, 1915

Jul 1, 1919

Sep 22, 1921

Mar 15, 1952\*

May 15, 1953

Feb 11, 1966

Jun 30, 1972

Dec 31, 1972

Jul 2, 1976

G.I. Van Meter donated the right of way across his land to the RR which named the station for his mother at his request.

### ELGIN (1910)

Reuben B. Collie

Chopeta B. Collie

Mrs. Cora Everhart

Albert L. Hanson

Troy Ramsey

Mrs. Grace E. Ramsey

Ronald C. Horne

Mrs. Helena L. Harrison

Mrs. Dorothy W. Sutton

Mrs. Geraldine Van Gorder

Russell W. Van Gorder

Mrs. Geraldine Van Gorder

Mrs. Lucille E. Schock CIC

J.L. Kinion

Mary E. Howell OIC

### SANTA CRUZ

May 9, 1910

Jun 30, 1914

May 17, 1919

Jan 1, 1925

Sep 19, 1927\*

Mar 9, 1928

Jan 30, 1939

Jan 20, 1941

Aug 10, 1943\*

Sep 28, 1944

Dec 1, 1948

May 18, 1959

Nov 15, 1971

May 13, 1972

Jun 30, 1978

It is said that this town is named for an early settler and the local storekeeper who came from Elgin, Illinois.

The Elgin station (on the New Mexico & Arizona RR) was cast as Claremore, Oklahoma in the screen version of Rogers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma*.

### EL MIRAGE

#### MARICOPA

Clayton F. Glaser

Mrs. Mac L. Headley

Oct 1, 1947

Oct 27, 1967



ELOY

George L. Stronach	Jun 4, 1919
John A. Alsdorf	Feb 29, 1920
Robert E. Hamilton	Apr 1, 1930
Mrs. Cleo M. Hughes	Jan 1, 1945*
James C. Garrett	Sep 30, 1946
Robert H. Marsch	Oct 14, 1948
Mrs. Pauline L. Clark	Jul 7, 1953*
Leonard O. Vittitow	Apr 15, 1955
Mrs. Pauline L. Clark	Sep 5, 1957
Mrs. Pauline F. Prettyman NCM	Sep 9, 1971
Israel L. Martinez	Oct 15, 1971

City delivery established March 16, 1955.

Do not confuse this name with Floy PO in Apache County.

The promise for agriculture of cheaply available state lands and abundant subsurface water was realized in the decade of the 1940s. The Eloy region experienced a rather phenomenal population growth from 700 permanent residents in 1940 to almost 4800 in 1950 – and these statistics in no way included the migrant workers. For labor-intensive cotton was king of the fields; residents even agitated to have the name changed to Cotton City, a move vetoed by the Southern Pacific RR that had years before named their siding there “Eloi.” With the up to 18,000 migrant pickers that flocked to Eloy came a boomtown mentality. Violence and lawlessness were so much the order of the day that the Governor threatened to send in the National Guard.

One of the victims of this general social environment was forty-one year old PM James Cohen Garrett, a native of Arkansas. On Sep. 25, 1948, Earl Neal, “a poorly nourished white man of about 50 years,” entered the Eloy PO and asked Garrett for his mail. None being found for him, Neal became irate and accused Garrett of withholding mail from him. Appeals to reason having failed, Garrett told the unruly patron that if he didn’t leave the busy PO, he would have to summon the police. Neal told him to go ahead and do so whereupon Garrett, who had been a justice of the peace, took his gun from a drawer, slipped it into his pocket and informed Neal that he was making a citizen’s arrest.

On the way to the sheriff’s office the two men neared a deputy sitting in his parked patrol car. Garrett approached Deputy Hinton and told him about the episode with Neal, and that there had been similar occurrences with this itinerant previously. He wanted Neal locked up and said he would sign a complaint. When Hinton ordered Neal into the car the latter pulled a gun, and so did Garrett and Hinton. Only Hinton, shot in the right side, survived the ensuing gun battle. (Details on the

PINAL

Garrett shooting are from the book *Eloy* by Jim Slotter—no date or publisher given.)

With the incorporation of the town of Eloy in December, 1949 came more effective local law enforcement; a few years later mechanization replaced much of the migrant labor force; diversification of crops especially vegetables diminished the domination of cotton. Today the demeanor of Eloy is little different from that of numerous other Arizona farming communities. But there was a time . . .

EMERY PARK

Camilla M. Emery
Mrs. Mary E. Rice
James B. Bull
Mrs. Annie R. Smith
Mrs. Lizzie Sturdivant
Mrs. Lillian K. DuBois
Mrs. Fay H. Donnelly
Mrs. Gladys E. Tanner
William D. McKale

*Changed to BR-Tucson*

*Changed to STA-Tucson*

PIMA

Oct 30, 1928
Feb 1, 1929
Jul 31, 1930
Apr 18, 1931*
Aug 13, 1931
Feb 1, 1934
Jan 12, 1943*
Mar 18, 1944
Dec 1, 1945
Oct 1, 1952
Feb 1, 1961

Named for the first postmaster.

EMPIRE LANDING RB—Parker YUMA

<i>Established</i>	Mar 3, 1973
<i>Changed to CPO</i>	Jul 10, 1976

ESCUELA (1907)

John M. Robe	Aug 29, 1910
James F. Record	Sep 30, 1912
Martin L. Girton	Oct 11, 1915
John E. King	Oct 16, 1941
<i>Discontinued</i>	Oct 31, 1942
	<i>Mail to Tucson</i>

Martin L. Girton was the superintendent of the Tucson Indian Training School located here (“escuela” is Spanish for “school”) as was his successor as PM, John E. King.

ESPERO

<i>Summer Office</i>
Sophia J. Taylor
Ernest R. Patterson
<i>Discontinued</i>

GREENLEE

May 7, 1919
May 8, 1924
Feb 28, 1934
<i>Mail to Alpine</i>



Name is Spanish for "expectations." The owner of the guest ranch here had great expectations. (The ranch still operates under the name of Sprucedale.) Elevation = 7,500'

**ESTHWAITE**

Richard W. Mattinson  
*Discontinued*

**PINAL**

Aug 6, 1919  
Dec 15, 1919  
*Mail to Superior*

**ESTRELLA**

*Formerly Estrella Hill*  
James T. Carter  
*Discontinued*

**MARICOPA**

Jan 2, 1933  
Jul 15, 1944  
*Mail to Gila Bend*

**ESTRELLA HILL**

Roy L. Crowley  
Michael C. Fulks  
Mrs. Rhoda Scherr  
Robert E. Walsh  
Thomas L. Sherrill  
James T. Carter  
*Name changed to ESTRELLA*

**MARICOPA**

Apr 26, 1919  
May 3, 1920  
Nov 28, 1921  
Jul 20, 1922  
Dec 28, 1926  
May 17, 1927  
Jan 2, 1933

Name is Spanish for "star." The PO is near the Estrella Mountains.

## F

**FAIRBANK (1883)**

Arthur L. Heney  
Mrs. Nora O. Cox  
Mrs. Hazel L. Poole  
Christine Turner  
Mrs. Emma D. Findley  
Mrs. Dorothy H. Findley  
Mrs. Margaret T. Raasveld  
Charlotte A. Blank

**COCHISE**

Mar 11, 1907  
Mar 2, 1943  
Dec 2, 1943  
Sep 30, 1945\*  
Jan 18, 1946  
Dec 31, 1947  
May 1, 1949  
Nov 23, 1960

Named for Nathaniel K. Fairbank, a stockholder in the New Mexico & Arizona RR which located a station at this site.

In Territorial days this was a stage station for the Tucson to Tombstone stage.

The original stage coach is in the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tucson.

**FAIRVIEW (1909)**

Ephraim Larson  
Roderick Williams  
Lehi Larson, Jr.  
*Name changed to GLENBAR*

**GRAHAM**

Feb 11, 1909  
Feb 16, 1916  
Dec 6, 1916  
Jan 10, 1918

**FELDMAN (1911)**

Hugh H. Ballinger  
David L. Peterson  
Fred L. Pusch  
Herman H. Herrington  
Gertrude D. Zipf  
Mrs. Mirta Herrington  
*Discontinued*

**PINAL**

Dec 30, 1911  
Apr 19, 1918  
Dec 1, 1920  
Oct 1, 1922  
Sep 14, 1923  
Jan 14, 1925  
May 15, 1928  
*Mail to Winkelman*

**FLAGSTAFF (1881)**

Eva M. Marshall  
James L. Byrnes  
Frank N. Noble  
Lutie P. Paxton  
Charles P. Heisser  
Lutie P. Paxton  
Richard J. Connor  
Walter Runke  
George G. Babbitt Jr.  
Henry L. Worischeck  
Elmore H. Husband  
William L. Azlin OIC  
Forrest C. Bacus Jr. OIC  
Arthur L. Brewer  
Richard L. Walter OIC  
Arthur W. Baker

**COCONINO**

Jun 5, 1906  
May 22, 1914  
Jul 20, 1918\*  
Jan 19, 1919\*  
Apr 7, 1919  
Feb 16, 1922  
Sep 7, 1923  
Jun 6, 1928  
Jul 2, 1936  
Mar 4, 1954  
Aug 31, 1964  
Jul 18, 1975  
Oct 31, 1975\*  
Nov 22, 1975  
Apr 9, 1977  
Aug 26, 1977

County seat of Coconino County; said to be the second largest county in the U.S.

Frank N. Noble had been suffering from tuberculosis for a number of years; for this reason he declined consideration for the position of PM. Upon his demise, Miss Lutie P. Paxton assumed responsibility. Paxton had worked at the Flagstaff PO as a clerk from February, 1909 to December 1911 and from November 1913 to her appointment as Acting PM. She voluntarily removed her name from the list of applicants for PM.



Charles P. Heisser was born in Shreveport, Louisiana on Nov. 23, 1887. He enlisted in the army at Memphis, TN in January 1906. From Nov 15, 1909 until his discharge on Jun 17, 1910, he was stationed at Ft. Whipple (Arizona). After three years as a clothing salesman in Prescott, Heisser took employment with Babbitt Brothers in Flagstaff (April 1913) where he rose to the position of Department Manager before leaving to become PM. Interestingly, the list of references he supplied with his application for PM included Jesse L. Boyce, who was to become PM at Williams, and E.T. McGonigle of Riordan, two of whose relations were post-masters there.

City delivery was established effective October 1, 1919.

See Appendix B.

### FLORENCE (1869)

	<u>PINAL</u>
Mrs. Ella G. Clarke	Feb 28, 1910
Rosa L. Bourne	Jan 10, 1919*
George W. Sigler	Aug 29, 1919
Andy C. Wren	Feb 2, 1920
Ella G. Clarke	May 10, 1920
Mrs. Mary A. McGee	Jan 10, 1927
Nott E. Guild	Feb 14, 1936
Mrs. Lena M. Morrell	Jan 1, 1944
Lawrence A. Lippert	Sep 30, 1964
Mrs. Evelyn Rodriguez OIC	Jun 29, 1973
Thomas J. Lemme	Feb 23, 1974

County seat of Pinal County.

### FLORENCE JUNCTION

	<u>PINAL</u>
Mrs. Velma Caldwell	Aug 10, 1934
Mrs. Theme M. Parr	Jan 26, 1939
John W. Parr	Dec 30, 1965*
<i>Changed to RB—Apache Junction</i>	
	Jun 18, 1966
<i>Changed to CPO</i>	Jul 10, 1976
<i>Discontinued</i>	Jul 8, 1979

### FLOY

	<u>APACHE</u>
Mrs. Rosa Despain	Feb 6, 1920
Mrs. Hazel Reeder	May 23, 1924
Mrs. Clara Stuart	Jun 1, 1925
Mrs. Edna Stuart	Jul 25, 1928
Mrs. Floy B. Dickinson	May 24, 1929
Jefferson B. Harkey	Jul 20, 1931
Mrs. Floy B. Dickinson	Oct 31, 1931
<i>Name changed to PLENTY</i>	May 1, 1933

It is said that the residents voted on the names of the local girls and Floy Greer won. The name Floy was changed to Plenty because it was often confused with Eloy due to poor writing of the address.

There are only a couple of houses left.

### FLYING SCHOOL BR—Tucson PINAL

<i>Established</i>	Aug 15, 1942
<i>Discontinued</i>	Jan 31, 1948

Located just north of Marana.

Although the official discontinuance date is as given, a letter from Tucson PM Harold Collins to the Division of Topography, POD (dated May 10, 1947) states that the Flying School Br. closed Oct 2, 1945.

### FOREPAUGH (1910)

Charles B. Genung	Aug 6, 1910
Morris E. Crane	Apr 1, 1912
Zachary T. Ingle	Feb 28, 1913
Rito Martinez	Oct 6, 1915
<i>Discontinued</i>	Jul 15, 1916
	<i>Mail to Aguila</i>

An old miner who had been living on the nearby mountain since the early years was named Forepaugh and his name was chosen for the settlement.

### FORREST

Mrs. Josie C. Clymer	Sep 10, 1914
<i>Discontinued</i>	Nov 15, 1917
	<i>Mail to Douglas</i>

Henry Forrest owned a cattle and sheep ranch here.

### FORT APACHE (1879)

	<u>NAVAJO</u>
John Gibbins	Apr 9, 1911
Miss Grace F. Gibbins	Feb 1, 1915
Mrs. Grace F. Jones NCM	Oct 14, 1915
Miss Susie Hastings	Feb 1, 1917
Mrs. Susie Adams NCM	Jul 13, 1918
Miss Madge Close	Sep 5, 1922*
Mrs. Jessie E. Stanion	Sep 1, 1923
Mrs. Anne C. Cooley	Jul 24, 1928
Miss Veronica E. O'Connor	Jul 15, 1935
Mrs. Hazel I. Chadsey	Feb 15, 1937
Miss Mary P. Moore	Jul 1, 1937
Mrs. Charlotte L. Adams	Jun 20, 1942
Mrs. Marie C. Bear	Sep 21, 1956*
Mrs. Virginia L. Penrod	Oct 18, 1957

Located on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. In 1924 the Fort was transferred to the Indian Service for use as a school.

**FORT DEFIANCE (1856)**

George U. Manning  
Garner T. Hammock  
William M. Staggs  
Mrs. Louisa L. Staggs  
Robert E. Briscoe  
Mrs. Fern E. Morgan  
Rex T. Kontz  
Mrs. Fern E. Morgan  
Alene T. Kontz  
Mrs. Fern E. Morgan  
Mrs. Alene T. Kontz

**APACHE**

Aug 1, 1911  
Dec 11, 1922  
Dec 14, 1925\*  
Jul 6, 1926  
Feb 20, 1938  
Sep 7, 1962\*  
Jan 26, 1963\*  
Sep 3, 1965\*  
Dec 6, 1966\*  
Oct 27, 1967  
Jun 27, 1975

The first PO established in what is now Arizona (when it was part of New Mexico).

Located on the Navajo Indian Reservation. Now it is an Indian boarding school.

**FORT GRANT (1879)**

*Reestablished*

Carl S. Gungl  
Mrss. Lida F. Pullian  
Sarah B. Moody  
Doctor B. Jones  
Jess E. Dendy  
Alma P. Sessions  
Mrs. Ida M. Alexander  
Mrs. Alpha E. Rudd  
Mrs. Laura C. Kennedy  
Mrs. Aline A. Whelan  
Mrs. Violet Whelan  
Marcus L. Foster, Jr.  
Mrs. Margaret Midkiff  
Mrs. Ruth Sowell  
Mrs. Laura G. Morton  
Mrs. Alice G. Goodwin  
Mrs. Alice G. Turnbull NCM  
*Changed to RS—Willcox*

**GRAHAM**

Apr 15, 1914  
Jan 31, 1916  
Jun 15, 1918  
Nov 23, 1919  
Sep 13, 1920  
Jan 1, 1922  
Jul 30, 1923  
Sep 1, 1925  
Jul 17, 1926  
Feb 1, 1929  
Mar 4, 1931  
Jul 7, 1931  
Nov 19, 1931  
Jul 14, 1937  
Apr 10, 1939  
Jul 23, 1945  
Oct 6, 1951  
Sep 1, 1955

**FREEDONIA (1892)**

Mrs. Emma S. Brown  
Olive B. Brooksby  
Mrs. Olive B. Judd NCM  
Warren D. Judd  
Evan J. Lewis

**COCONINO**

Apr 30, 1910  
Apr 1, 1925  
Sep 15, 1926  
Jul 1, 1942  
Nov 30, 1965

First named Hardscrabble when settled by a group of Mormon families seeking freedom from Federal polygamy laws. The Spanish word "dona" means wife, part of the new name Fredonia, later adopted as more applicable to the settlement.

**FRISCO**

Cornelius J. Falvey  
*Discontinued*

**MOHAVE**

Jun 12, 1913  
Apr 15, 1915  
*Mail to Kingman*

The settlement was adjacent to the Frisco Mine.

**FRITSCH**

Sydney Fritsche  
*Discontinued*

**YAVAPAI**

Jan 28, 1913  
Apr 15, 1918  
*Mail to Jerome Junction*

Named for the PM who had a ranch here.

**FRY COCHISE**

*Formerly Garden Canyon*

Mrs. Lillian S. Fry	Apr 1, 1937
James M. Rice	Sep 14, 1940
Margaret E. Goudy	Mar 19, 1942*
Herminia Estrella	Oct 9, 1942*
Lyman B. Matthews	Dec 31, 1942
Mrs. Vera J. Schrader	Aug 12, 1943*
James B. Rice	Sep 30, 1946
<i>Returned from military leave</i>	
Mrs. Vera J. Schrader	May 7, 1947
Mrs. Jimmie L. Matheson	Aug 31, 1954*
<i>Name changed to Sierra Vista</i>	Oct 20, 1956

Oliver Fry homesteaded here with other early settlers.



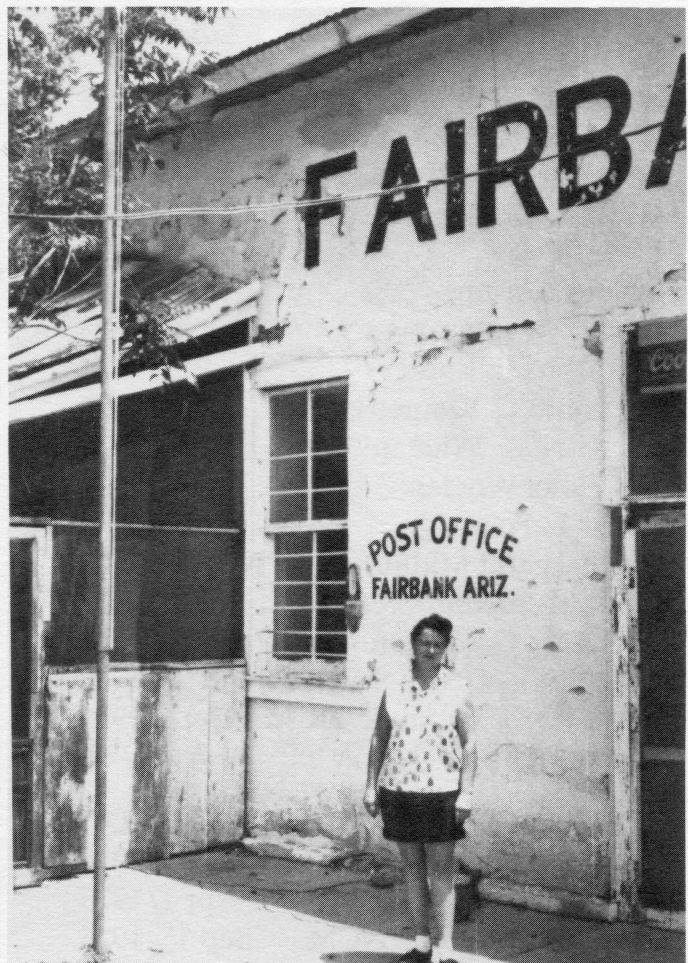
Post Office & general store—Dragoon, Arizona, 1963.





*Awaiting mail call in Elgin,  
Arizona. Circa 1946*

*Charlotte Blank, postmaster at  
Fairbank, Arizona, July, 1965*





- The Western Postal History Museum has available, in a limited quantity, Volumes 1—3 (12 issues) of *The Heliograph* bound in a handsome red-brown buckram cover with gold lettering.

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