

OREGON'S COUNTY AND POSTMASTER HANDSTAMPS

Postal handstamps incorporating the county name and/or the name of the postmaster are most often seen from the late 1870s into the 1890s and are usually seen from small towns. Postmasters at 4th class post offices were required to buy their own handstamp devices. The modest additional cost for a personalized device incorporating the county or postmaster name meant these devices were used by many small towns postmasters throughout the United States.

POST OFFICE SUPPLIES

ESTABLISHED 1872.

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS

For the most complete line of articles used by P. M.'s and their Clerks.

Engraved Letter Headings,
 " Note Headings,
 Stamp Ribbons (all colors),
 Money Order Daters,
 Post-Office Daters,
 Registered Letter Daters,
 Received Daters,
 Patent Inking Pads,
 P. O. Cancellng Ink (by Express),
 P. O. Rubber Cancellng Corks,
 Twine Cutters,
 Steel and Rubber Stamp Racks,
 Coin Detectors,
 Paper Weights,
 Letter and Package Scales,
 Check Protectors,
 Gem Type Case.

THE BEST OFFER YET.

One RUBBER P. O. Dater and Cancellor, Ink Powder, and Pads, Dates for ten years in Walnut case with tweezers, and all the single line stamps needed in a Post Office, this style type: **UNCLAIMED**
 By mail, postage paid, on receipt of price, \$3.00.

PROOFS FROM POSTMASTERS.

Your Quarterly Record received, and I like it very much. — JAMES CARR, P. M., California, Md.
 The \$5 outfit ordered by me was duly received this evening. They are all A No. 1 articles, and give entire satisfaction. — JAZZ E. HANING, P. M., Orangeburg, N. Y.
 The Rubber Stamp, Note and Bell Heads, came to hand all right and meet with favor with those who have examined them, for cheapness, neatness, and durability. — T. W. LITTLE, P. M., Picture Rocks, Pa.
 I have been using one of your Stamps and Pads for the last year and it gives satisfaction. — W. E. BOWEN, P. M., Shelby, Iowa.
 I received my Note and Letter Heads, Dater, etc., all O. K. Am satisfied with your job. It far exceeds my expectations. — W. J. KISS, P. M., Merville, Mo.
 The Dater received, and I am well pleased with it. — CHAS. COOK, P. M., Union, Idaho.
 Your Hot Brand cancelled, and is all O. K. — J. W. FRANK, P. M., Fort Madison, Iowa.
 The Pads ordered came to-day. I am very much pleased with them. — ED. S. MANNING, P. M., St. Genovese, Mo.

Illustrated Catalogue of Post Office Supplies sent free to Postmasters only. For samples of Note and Letter Headings send 6c's. Address: F. P. HAMMOND & CO., Aurora Illinois.

No. 529.



No. 530.



No. 531.



No. 532.



Advertisement from 1880s Postal Guides for F.P. Hammond & Co.

Other suppliers, including E.S. Miller of Newark Ohio, advertised sale of steel, brass and rubber devices with county and/or postmaster names.

Several circular, oval, octagonal and rectangular types are recorded, some with attached duplex killers.

Inevitably when postmasters were replaced, or county designations changed, new postmasters burnished out the now incorrect information so as to be able reuse the device.

See:

Doane-Thompson Catalog of U.S. County and Postmaster Postmarks, David Phillips publisher, 1990

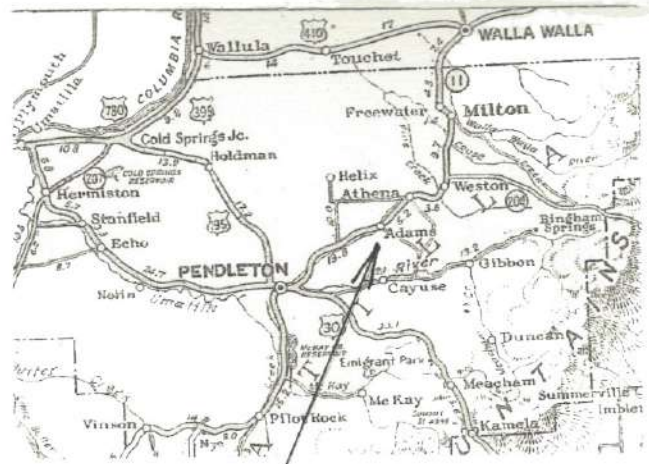
Oregon Postmarks, C. Whittlesey and R. Helbock, La Posta Publications, 1985

Oregon's Postmaster Appointments (from National Archives Records)

This exhibit is organized alphabetically by Oregon town name. It is easily the most complete showing of Oregon county and postmaster markings ever put together and includes many markings not recorded in the Doane-Thompson Catalog.

ADAMS

UMATILLA COUNTY
1883 - DATE



This post office was named for John F. Adams, whose homestead was part of the community. William H. McCoy was the first postmaster. The post office is located 13 miles northeast of Pendleton on Wildhorse Creek.

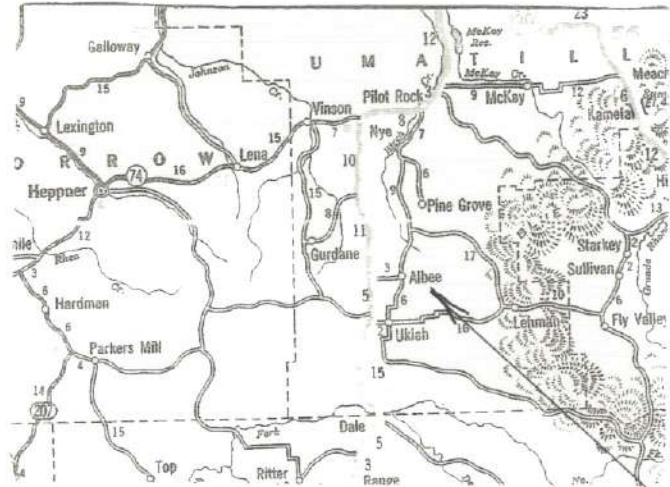
32 mm circular date stamp showing postmaster name and county markings. Reported use from Aug. 19, 1884 to Sept. 1, 1885. Circular date stamp used by Ingnail Hanson 3rd postmaster of Adams (Nov. 26, 1883 to Jan. 2, 1887).



30 mm circular date stamp, reported use from Nov. 30, 1885 to July 27, 1886.

ALBA

UMATILLA COUNTY
1882 - 1907



This community was served by the Snipe post office (1881 – 1882) which took its name from nearby Snipe Creek. On April 17, 1882 the name was changed to “Alba” (1882 – 1907) to honor the Albee brothers, who were well known stock raisers in the area. then on July 30, 1907 the named was changed to “Albee” to match the correct spelling of the local family being honored. John H. Clifford was the first postmaster. The post office was located 6 miles north of Ukiah. The Albee post office was closed down on October 31, 1943 with the mail being transferred to Ukiah.

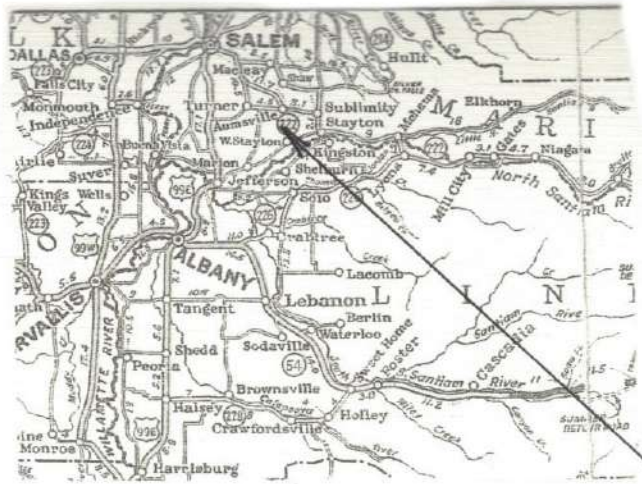


This circular data stamp was used by the 6th postmaster, Anderson Finley (Nov. 27, 1891 to Dec 14, 1896). This device has been recorded used from July 24, 1888 to March 7, 1892. This cover is the latest know usage.

AUMSVILLE

MARION COUNTY

1868 - DATE



Aumsville was established as "Condit (1862 - 1868), but moved 3 miles Northeast in March of 1868. The new community was named for Amos "Aumus" Davis. This community is located on Mill Creek, 4 miles Northwest of Stayton. John W. Cusick was the first postmaster. Aumsville is still in operation today.

This circular date stamp was used by James K. Smith the 7th postmaster of Aumsville.



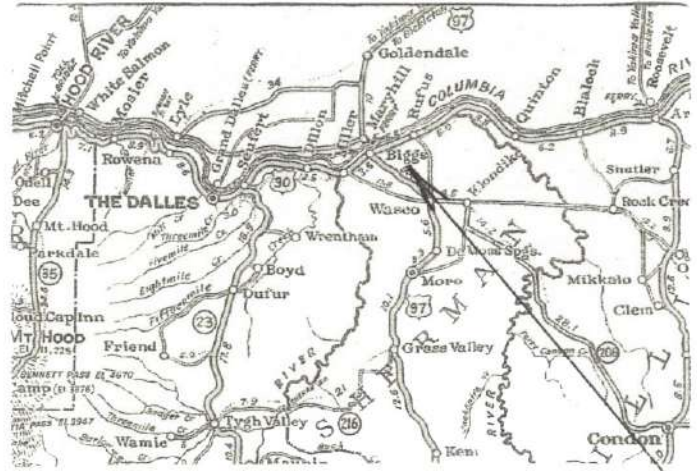
Aumsville, Oregon ca: 1910



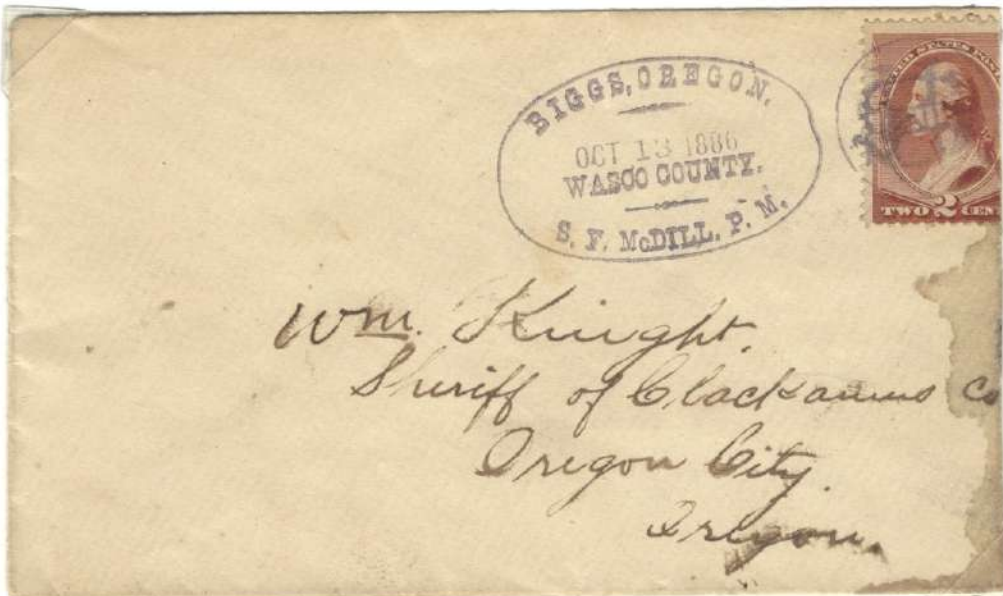
First postmaster of Aumsville, Oregon.

CUSICK, J. W., of Albany, was born near Quincy, Adams County, Illinois, May 28, 1837, and came to Oregon in 1853, locating in Linn County. He traveled around the state doing anything he could get till 1866, when he embarked in the merchandise business at Aumsville, Marion County. He afterwards engaged in the cattle business in Wasco County until 1884. In 1885 he engaged in the banking business in Albany in the firm of Cowan & Cusick, and is now in the firm of J. W. Cusick & Co. He has been a delegate to county and state conventions for fourteen years, and was delegate to the national convention in 1888.

BIGGS
SHERMAN COUNTY
1886 – 1888



This post office was named for W. H. Biggs, a prominent local landowner. This small, local community was known as Biggs Junction because this is where US-97, running north and south, makes an important intersection with I-84. The post office was located at the mouth of Spanish Hollow on the south bank of the Columbia River. Samuel F. Mcdiell served as the first postmaster. The Biggs post office was established in Wasco County on June 12, 1886 than moved to the Sherman County list on February 27, 1888. The Biggs post office was closed down on July 31, 1954 with the mail transferred to Celilo (1950 – 1957).

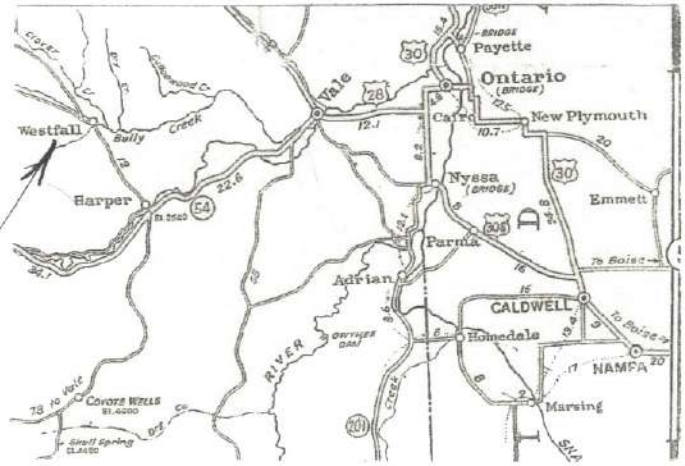


S. F. Mcdiell served as the first postmaster from June 12, 1886 to Jan. 3, 1887. This circular date stamp has been reported used from Sept. 27, 1886 to Nov. 2, 1886.

BULLY

BAKER COUNTY

1882 - 1889



This post office and community was named for Bully Creek. Levi Westfall was credited with discovering, and first claiming land at would become know as Bully Creek in 1870. In early 1880's his brothers Jackson and James Westfall settled in the area with there own families. Phillip A. Cammann opened a store on Westfall's homestead in 1882, the first step towards becoming a city. Nancy Kline was the first postmaster. The Bully post office was closed from May 4, 1883 to June 8, 1886. The office was finally closed down on February 13, 1889 when the town was renamed Westfall.

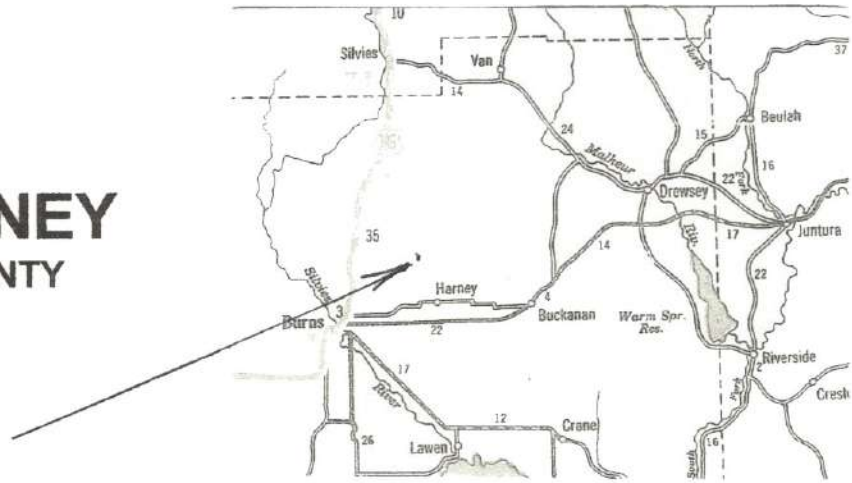


The Bully post office moved on to the Malheur County list on June 8, 1886 with Philip Cammann as postmaster. This circular date stamp has been reported use from Dec. 17, 1886 to Feb. 15, 1887.

CAMP HARNEY

HARNEY COUNTY

1874 - 1885



This post office was located on the military post officially known as Fort Harney. This fort was on the Malheur Indian Reservation, about 2 miles northeast of the present day community of Harney. The fort was named for major-general William S. Harney, who commanded the U.S. Dept. of Oregon from 1858 to 1859. William T. Stevens served as the first postmaster (1874 to 1880). The post office was closed down with a name change to Harney and moved to the south on September 16, 1885.



When Harney County was established in 1889 the Camp Harney post office moved onto the county list. This circular date stamp has been reported use from Mat 20, 1879 to July 16, 1883.

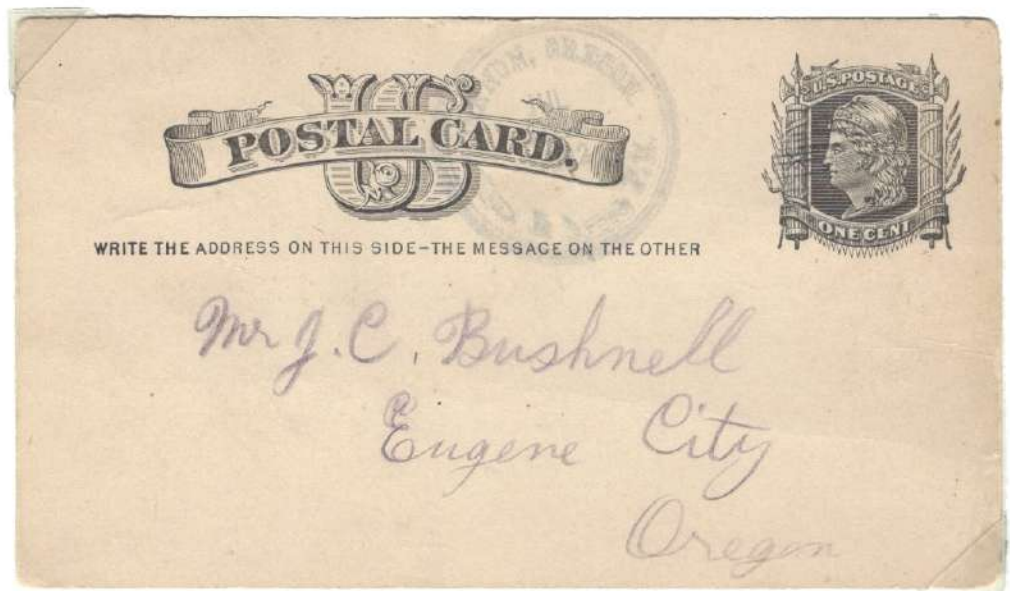
Bvt. Maj. Gen. William S. Harney

CANNON

LANE COUNTY
1880 - 1883

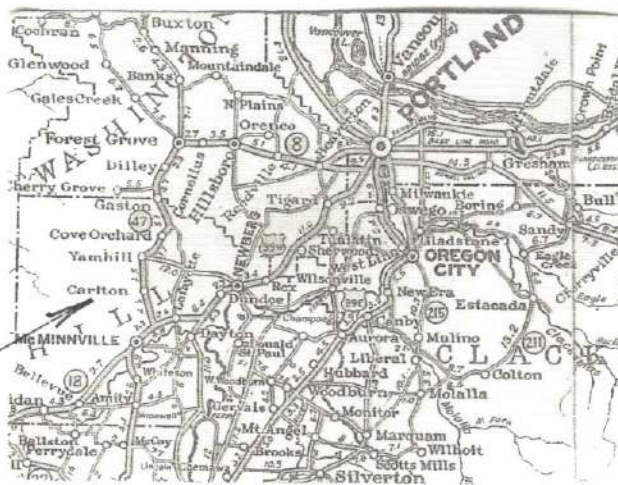


This post office was named for A. D. Cannon, a local settler. The post office was located on the Hyland ranch along the middle fork of the Willamette River about 4 miles northeast of Dexter. Charles E. Byers was the first postmaster (1880 to 1882). Albert E. Mcfarland became postmaster on January 3, 1882. The post office name was changed to Lowell on February 19, 1883 with Mr. Mcfarland still the postmaster.



Lowell, Oregon ca 1910

CARLTON
YAMHILL COUNTY
1874 - DATE



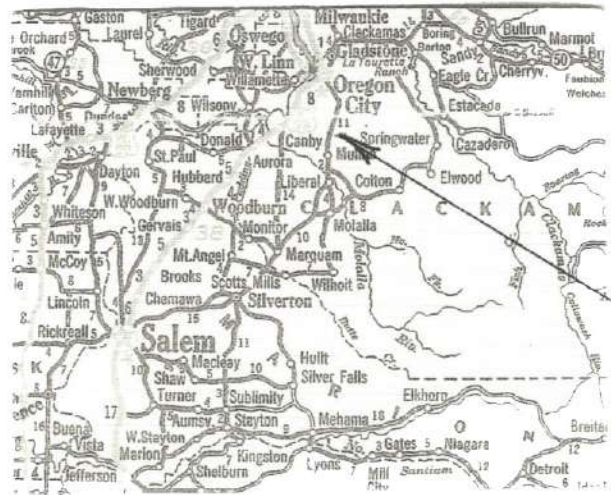
The post office who Carlton was named for the Carl family, who were local pioneer settlers in the area. This community is located near the North Yamhill River, about 4 miles south of the town of Yamhill. Flavious J. Fryer was the first postmaster, serving from July 21, 1874 to May 9, 1877. This postal marking as only been recorded used in the year 1889. The circular date stamp was used by Henry C. Plummer the 7th postmaster to serve this post office (Jan. 10, 1887 to Feb. 8, 1889). The Carlton post office is still in operation today.



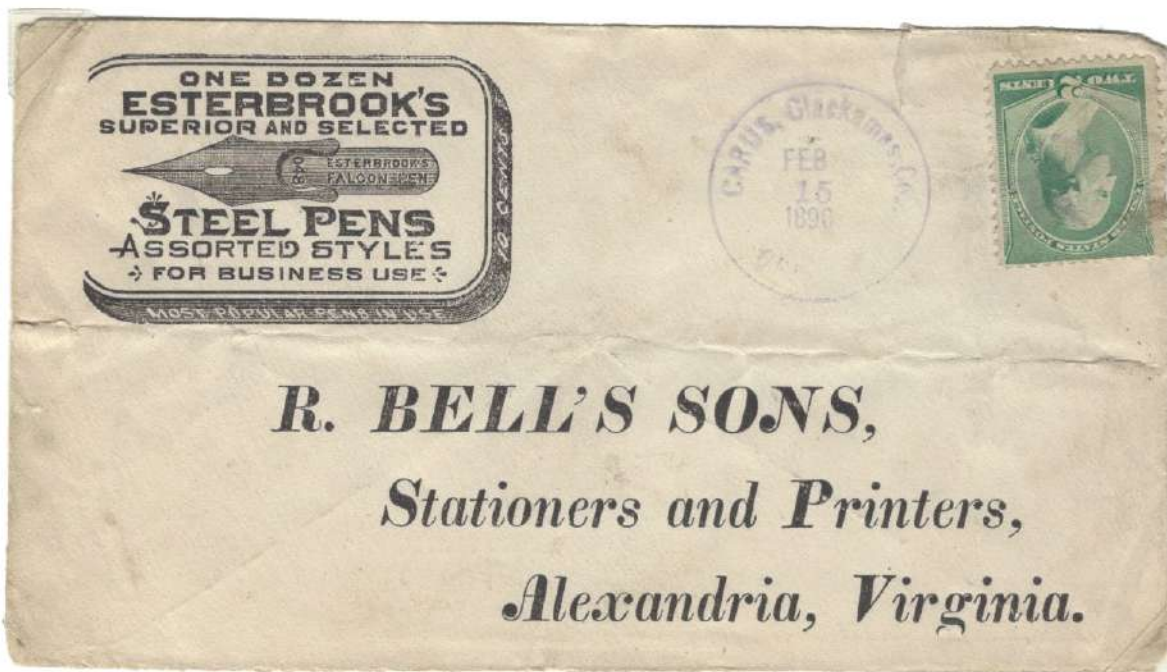
in 10 days, to be returned to

Mr. D. Wimmerberg
 210 Lowinsdale St.
 Portland
 Oregon

CARUS
CLACKAMAS COUNTY
1887 – 1907



The Carus post office name was intended to honor a local pioneer family named "Carns" but the application was misread resulting in the name "Carus". This post office was located along state highway #213 about 7 miles south of Oregon City and a little to the southeast of beaver creek. David Hunter was the first postmaster to serve this office. The post office of Carus was closed down on July 27, 1907 with the mail transferred to Oregon City.



This circular date stamp was used by Hattie A. Hunter the 3rd postmaster of Carus. She served in this position from Dec. 7, 1888 to April 1, 1891. Only 2 date stamps of this type have been reported.

CONNOR CREEK

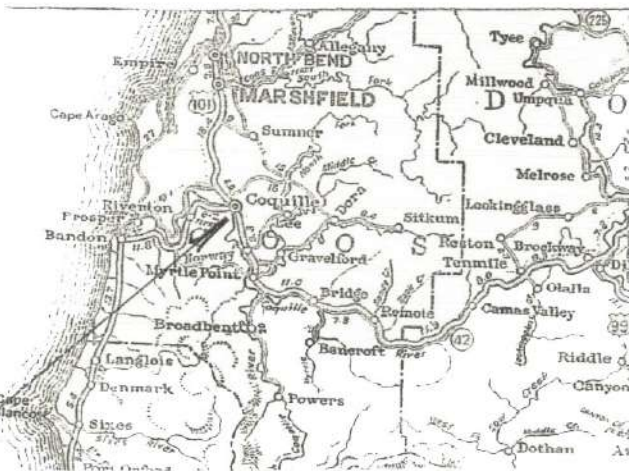
BAKER COUNTY
1887 - 1911



This post office and community was first known as "Marysville" from 1873 to 1877. The name was change to "Conner Creek" on July 3, 1877 and remained unchanged until 1887. Or May 11, 1887 the spelling was changed to "Connor Creek". The Connor post office was named after the creek where it was

located. The Connor Creek post office was about 19 miles Northeast of the town of Weatherby. Herbert E. Thompson served as the first postmaster (May 11, 1887 to Oct. 10, 1887). The post office of Connor Creek was closed down on Mach 31, 1911 with the mail transferred to the town of Huntington. This Oval circular date stamp has be reported used from Jan. 2, 1889 to May 14, 1890 when Josiah Myrick was the postmaster. Mr. Myrick was the second postmaster serving until March 10, 1907.

COQUILLE
COOS COUNTY
1870 - DATE



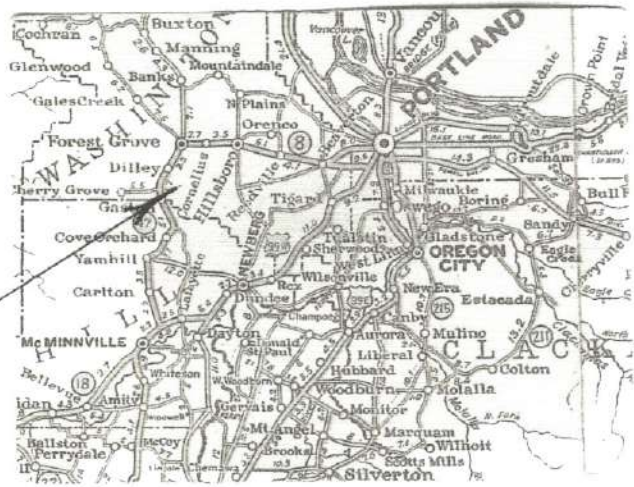
Coquille was named after the Coquille River, which was named for the Indian Tribe common to this area. This town is located on the Coquille River at the mouth of Cunningham Creek, about 17 miles south of Coos Bay. Titus B. Willard was the first postmaster. These circular date stamps were used by the 8th postmaster, Lentner Hartocker (1890 to 1884) and the 9th postmaster, Andrew G. Aiken (1894 to 1898).



CORNELIUS

WASHINGTON COUNTY

1871 - DATE

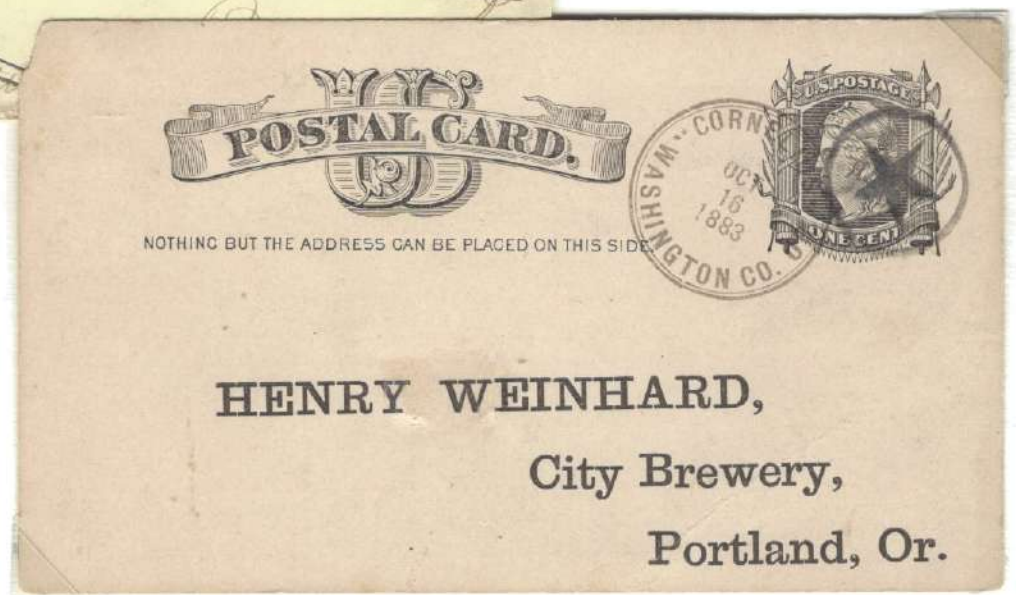


This town and post office is named for Col. T. R. Cornelius, who at the age of 18 was a member of the Meek party of 1845. He was later an officer in the Cayuse and Yakima Indian wars. This community is located about midway between Forest Grove and Hillsboro on the Tualatin Plain. E. M. Geiger was the first postmaster (1871 to 1873).



This circular date stamp was used by Irvin M. Adair the 7th postmaster (1878 to 1879).

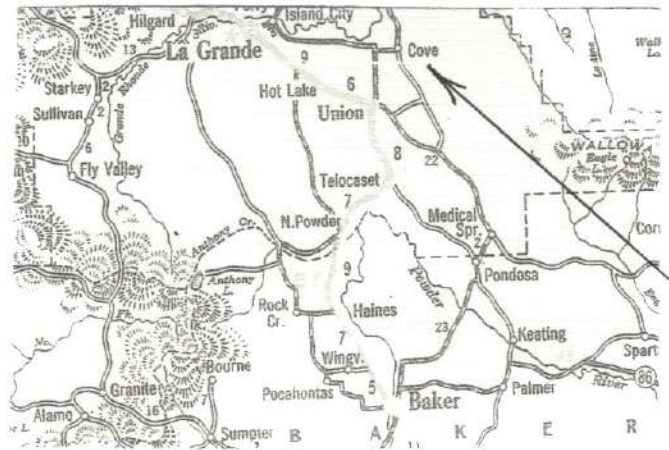
This circular date stamp was use by the 8th postmaster, Robt. W. McNutt (1879 to 1886)



HENRY WEINHARD,
 City Brewery,
 Portland, Or.

COVE

UNION COUNTY
1868 – DATE



Cove was established as "Forest Grove" (1863-1868), but this cause confusion with the post office at Forest Grove in Washington County, causing the name change. This community is located about 17 miles east of La Grande, at the edge of the Grande Ronde Valley. Samuel D. Cowles was the first postmaster (1868-1869, 1870-1877). The post office is still in operation today.



Cove, Oregon ca - 1900's



The first settlers on the present site of Cove were Samuel Cowles his niece Fannie Cowles, and a nephew. They came from the mining town of Auburn in Baker County in December 1862 and set up their camp in a grove of fir trees which later became the site of Cove. During that first winter the bed of the wagon which they had used to come to the valley made a living room in the tent for Miss Cowles. Not long after her arrival, Miss Cowles was married to E. P. McDaniel. Mr. McDaniel and her uncle formed a partnership which continued for many years, and the two men engaged in stock raising, operating a flour mill and a general merchandise store, the second such enterprise in the community. It was in honor of Mrs. McDaniel that Mount Fannie, the mountain back of Cove was named she being the first woman to have climbed it. The ascent was made in June of 1863. Within the town of Cove proper the first store was established by James Crawford in 1866 and in that same year a grist mill was set up by Samuel G. French The first sawmill was established by James M. DeMoss.

DALLAS

POLK COUNTY

1852 – DATE



Dallas was settled in the 1840s on the north side of Rickreall Creek (in the area that is now north Dallas) and was originally named "Cynthian" or "Cynthiana". It is likely the name was chosen by Mrs. Thomas Lovelady, naming it after her hometown of Cynthiana, Kentucky. In 1852, acting on a petition signed by a number of citizens, Dallas was renamed in honor of Former Vice President George Mifflin Dallas. The town was moved to the south side of the creek in 1855 or 1856, where water was more plentiful. Dallas was incorporated as the Town of Dallas in 1874, and as the City of Dallas in 1901. John E. Lyle was the first postmaster. The town of Dallas was named for George M. Dallas, who was vice president under Polk from 1845 to 1849. The post office is still in operation today.



This circular date stamp was used by Joseph D. Lee the 11th postmaster of Dallas (1870 to 1873). This device has been recorded use from Dec. 5, 1865 to June 23, 1875.



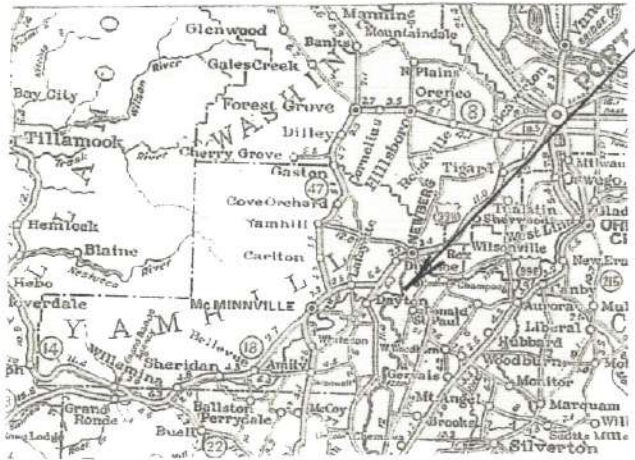
HON. J. D. LEE.
POLK COUNTY, OR.
A NATIVE OREGONIAN.

Joseph D. Lee was born in Polk county, Oregon about one mile northwest of where the city of Monmouth now stands. His boyhood days were spent on the farm; and after entering school he oversaw and partly tended to the carrying on of the same until his twenty-first year. He completed a partial course in the La Creole Academy of Dallas, and after that sometimes assisted in the store at the same place, sometimes on the farm, and sometime steamed between Dallas and Portland. In 1870 he was appointed postmaster at Dallas, but resigned the position after serving three years.

DAYTON

YAMHILL COUNTY

1851 - DATE



General Joel Palmer

3rd Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives

In office
1862–1863

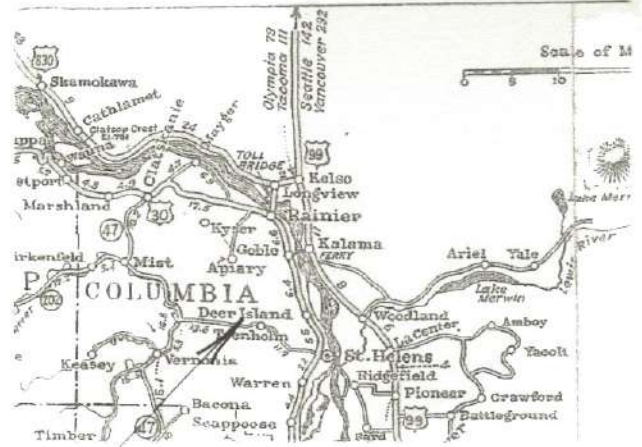
Born October 4, 1810 Ontario, Canada,
Died June 9, 1881 (aged 70)
Dayton, Oregon, U.S.

The city was founded in 1850 by Andrew Smith and Joel Palmer. Palmer, who also served as superintendent of Indian affairs for Oregon, built a flour mill there. Dayton was named for Smith's hometown, Dayton, Ohio. Dayton post office was opened in 1851, with Christopher Taylor serving as postmaster. This circular date stamp was used by Alfred L. Saylor the 9th postmaster of Dayton (Jan. 21, 1878 to Dec. 3, 1884). The device has been recorded used from July 8, 1870 to Feb. 18, 1880. This community is located on the Yamhill river about 7 miles east of McMinnville.



DEER ISLAND

COLUMBIA COUNTY
1887 - 1931



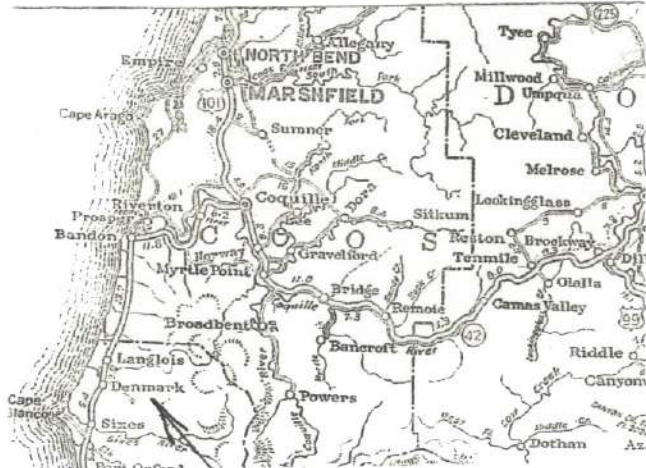
The town of Deer Island was named for a large island in the Columbia River. The island was named by Lewis and Clark, who visited the island on Nov. 5, 1805, on their way down the Columbia River. The Deer Island post office was located on the north bank of the Columbia River, south of Deer Island and about 8 miles north of the town of St. Helens. The first postmaster was Helson Pinckney (Oct. 24, 1887 to Nov. 16, 1887). The post office of Deer Island was discontinued on March 31, 1931 with mail transferred to St. Helens.



This circular date stamp was used by the 2nd postmaster, Elzy George (Nov. 16, 1887 to Dec. 18, 1891). The device has been reported used from May 18, 1891 to June 16, 1891.

DENMARK

CURRY COUNTY
1882 - 1957



The Postmaster making up Registered Letters, &c., for dispatch, will fill up the other side of this Bill, and write the name of his Post Office, County, and State in the blank address on this side. The Postmaster receiving this Bill in Registered Package will at once compare entries with letters, &c., inclosed; make entries on record of registered matter received; stamp postmark below; sign this Bill on other side, noting any errors, and return it to the mailing Post Office without cover. A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card on other than official business.

Post Office Department.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Post Office a

RETURN TO:

Postmaster at On Klau
County of Langlois
State of Oregon

Stamp here and on Post Office
DENMARK
18
JAN
1887
and date of receipt
OREGON

This circular date stamp has been reported used from May 28, 1882 to Jan. 18, 1887 by the first postmaster of Denmark, Nicholas C. Lorentzen.

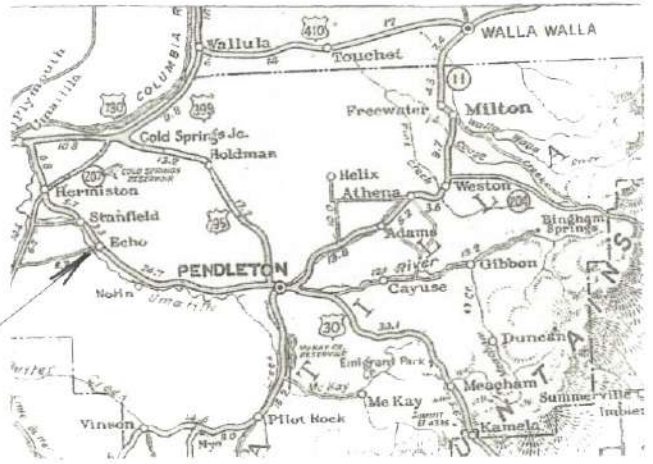
The original post office was known as Langlois between 1881 and 1882. Frank M. Longlois was the first postmaster of this office. In May of 1882 the post office was moved three miles to the south and renamed by the three postmaster, Nicholas C. Lorentzen (May 5, 1882 to Feb. 14, 1887). He named it Denmark, in honor of his native county. The Denmark post office suspended operation from May 14, 1927 until Jan. 7, 1931. The post office of Denmark was closed down on April 30, 1957 when it became a rural station of Langlois, Oregon.

RECEIVED BY
N. C. Lorentzen P. M.

The signature of the first postmaster

ECHO

UMATILLA COUNTY
1881 - DATE



In 1880, James H. Koontz moved to the area from Umatilla Landing, on the Columbia River at present Umatilla, and platted the town, which he named for his three-year-old daughter Echo. The town of Echo is located on the east bank of the Umatilla River about halfway between the towns of Umatilla and Pendleton. The Oregon Railway and Navigation Company built a railroad through Echo in 1883, and in the early 1900s, the town was a major shipping point for grain, wool, sheep, and cattle. Moses C. Tribble was the first postmaster to serve this post office. The post office of Echo is still in operation today.



Circular date stamp used by 2nd postmaster Loren D. Kay.

Circular date stamp used by 3rd postmaster Wm. E. Brownell.

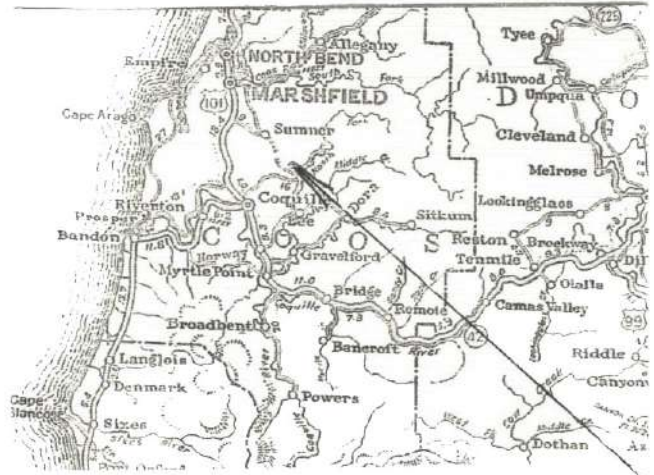


If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

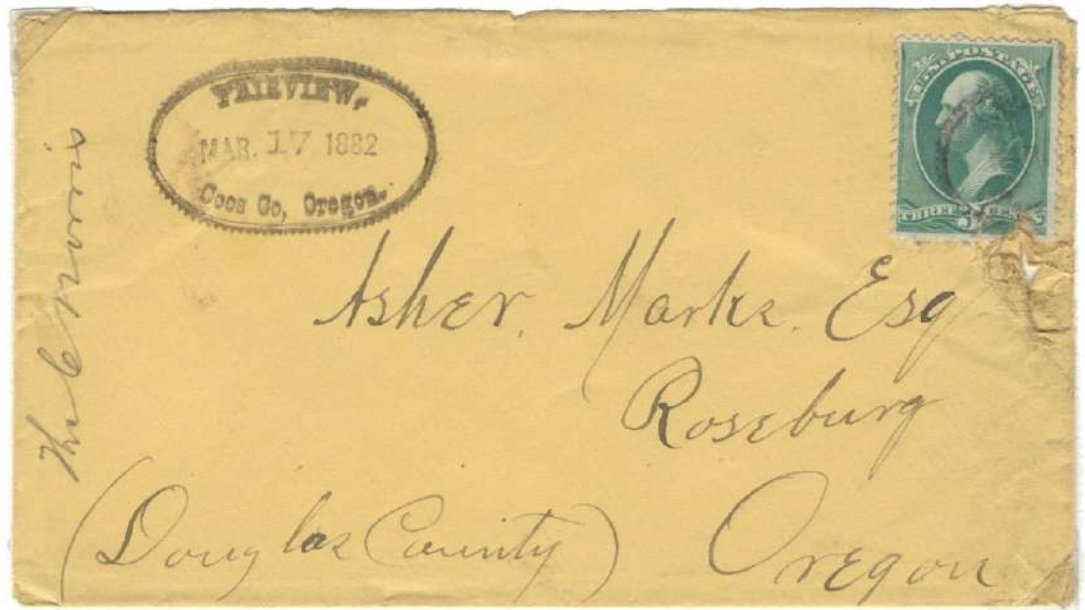
FAIRVIEW

COOS COUNTY

1873 - 1913



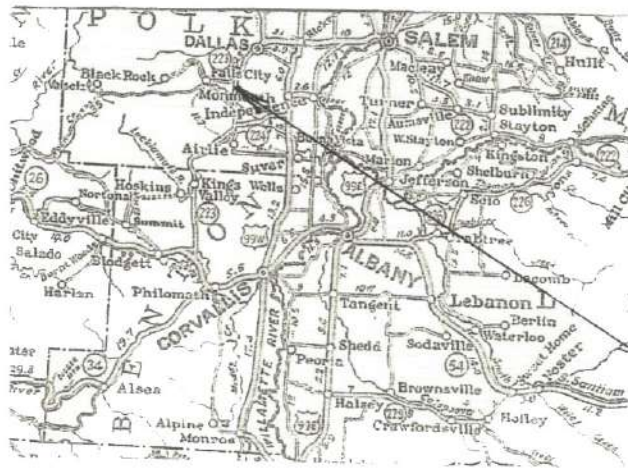
This community and post office name was descriptive for the area. The post office was located along the north fork of the Coquille River, about 6 miles Northwest of the town of Coquille. Francis I. Braden was the first postmaster to serve this office. He was in this position from May 7, 1873 to May 24, 1876. The post office was discontinued from May 25, 1875 and was re-established on Nov. 1, 1875 with George H. Brockman in charge. Wm. Benham who was the 3rd postmaster used this circular date stamp and has been recorded from Jan. 14, 1880 to Aug. 3, 1885. The post office of Fairview was closed down on July 15, 1913 with the mail being handled out of the McKinley post office (1897 to 1954).



Mail stage line, Myrtle Point to Roseburg ca 1900

FALLS CITY

POLK COUNTY
1889 - DATE



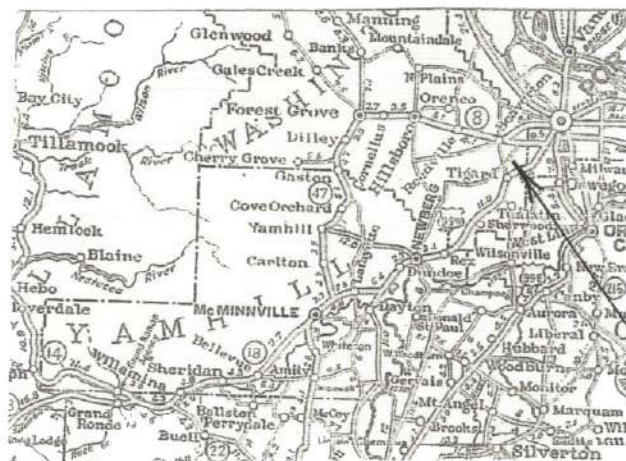
This town was named for the Falls in the Little Luckiamute River, just west of the town site. The community of Falls City is located along side of the Southern Pacific Railroad line, about 8 miles southwest of Dallas. Frank K. Hubbard served as the first postmaster (Oct. 28, 1889 to June 25, 1889). The 3rd postmaster, George W. Griggs (Nov. 25, 1890 to July 28, 1895) used this circular date stamp, this device was been recorded from Oct. 17, 1891 to April 14, 1893. This community was first call "Syracuse" (1885 to 1889).



The town received its name from these Falls located on the Luckiamute River.

GARDEN HOME

WASHINGTON COUNTY
1882 - 1954



This post office was named for sentimental reasons, presumably reflecting the natural setting. The community of garden home became prominent when the Oregon Electric Railroad was built. The station was just east of the community at the junction with the Forest Grove line. The post office did not operate between January 31, 1904 and October 26, 1912. Garden Home was located about 2 miles west of Multnomah at S. W. 69th Avenue. Luman H. Nichols was the first postmaster. The post office of Garden Home was closed down on February 28, 1954 when the office was turned into a contract station of Portland, which was closed on March 31, 1979.

This circular date stamp was used by the 1st postmaster, Luman H. Nichols (March 6, 1882 to Feb. 21, 1903). The county canceling device has been reported from April 14, 1888 to June 16, 1891. So far this cover is the earliest to be reported.

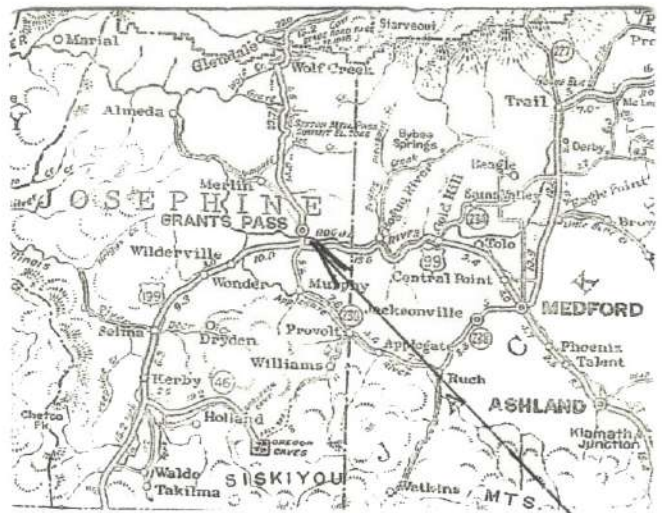


The circa 1890s photo of the first general store and post office in Garden Home shows Mr. Lumen H. Nichols standing against the picket fence. The building has a cough remedy poster and a typical "Wanted" poster attached to the front of the store.

GRANT'S PASS

JACKSON COUNTY

1865 - 1885

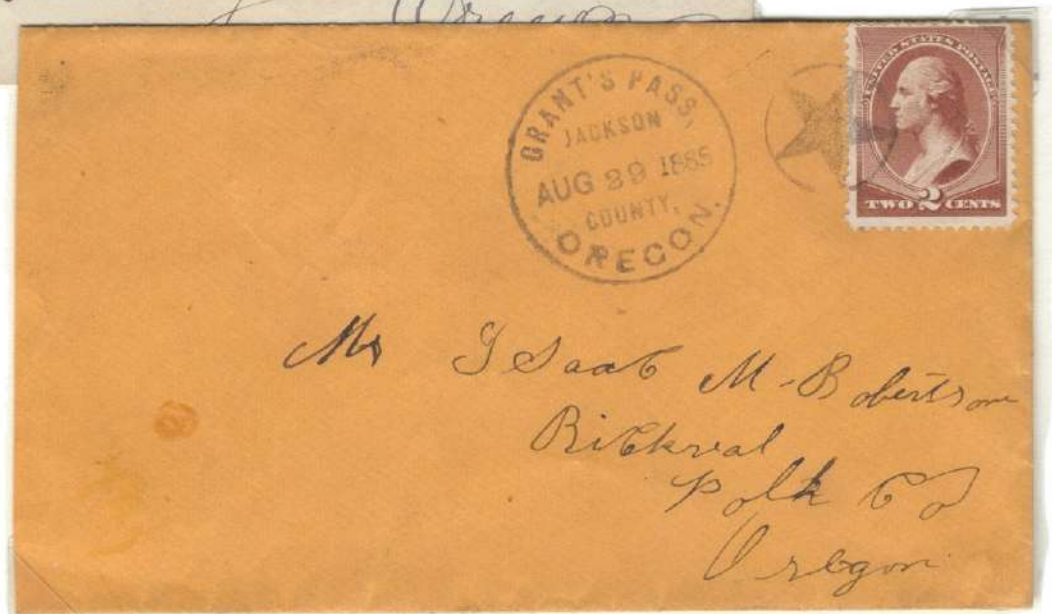


Grant's Pass was named for general U.S. Grant, who rose to national prominence during the civil war. The original post office was a stage stop located in the low hills north of the present day town site. When the railroad reached this area, the community was relocated to the current site along the railroad line. In 1885 the state moved the county line one section to the south, making the townsite part of Josephine county. Thomas Croxton was the first postmaster. The post office is still in operation today.



The 2nd postmaster, Ebenezer Dimmick used this circular date stamp during his time in office. The earliest date for this device is Oct. 14, 1881.

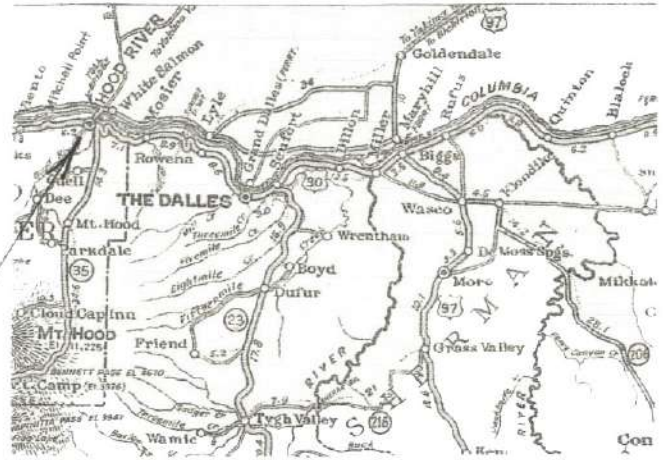
The 3rd postmaster, John W. Howard used this circular date stamp during his time in office. The latest date for this device is May 28, 1885.



HOOD RIVER

HOOD RIVER COUNTY

1858 - DATE



The community and post office of Hood River was named for the nearby stream. The post office is located on the south bank of the Columbia River at the mouth of the Hood River. Nathan Benson served as the first postmaster of this office. The post office was first established on the Clackamas County list (1858 to 1859) then on the Wascopum County list (1859 to 1860) then on the Wasco County list (1860 to 1908) and finally on the Hood River County list (1908 to date). The Hood River post office is still in operation today.

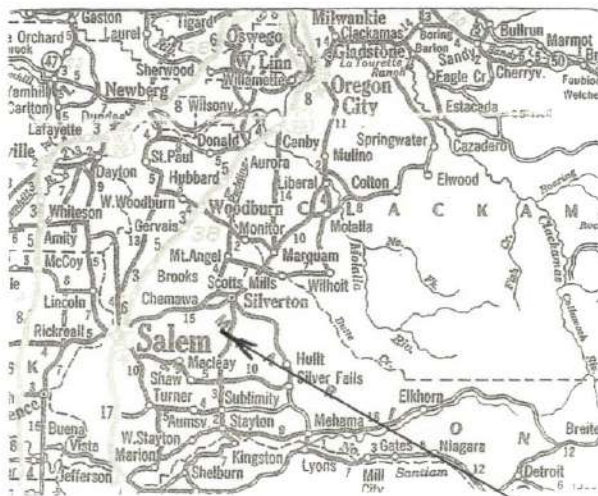
This circular data stamp was used by the 14th postmaster, Mrs. Adella A. Stranahan (Oct. 20, 1879 to Aug. 26, 1880). This marking has been recorded used from April 19, 1880 to April 31, 1886.



This circular data stamp was used by the 15th postmaster, Ruel J. Rogers (Aug. 27, 1885 to June 27, 1886). Only two covers have been recorded with this marking, March 3, 1886 and May 2, 1886.

HOWELL PRAIRIE

MARION COUNTY
1876 – 1881



The community and post office of Howell Prairie was named for John Howell, who was a pioneer of 1843 and settled in this area. The office was located about 6 miles southwest of the town of Silverton. Daniel W. Elledge served as the first of two postmasters, from May 4, 1876 to March 29, 1881. Thurston T. Shaw was the second postmaster, who worked in the office from March 30, 1881 to the closing of the post office in May 26, 1881. When the post office closed the mail was transferred to the post office at Silverton. This area would be served by a second post office called "Howell" which was established in 1887 and closed down in 1903.



This circular date stamp was used by the 1st postmaster, Daniel W. Elledge and is the only reported marking in the catalog of 19th century usage.



Pioneer Northwest Gospel Preacher Daniel W. Elledge was the first postmaster of Howell Prairie, Oregon. His first year in office found his compensation as \$49.89. Mr. Elledge was born Bourbon County, Kentucky, 1813 and died in Yoncolla, Oregon, 1890.

HUNTINGTON

BAKER COUNTY
1882 - DATE

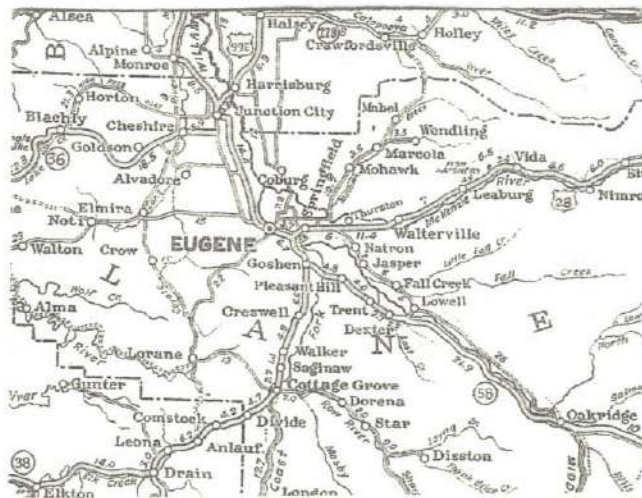


Henry Miller settled in the area in August 1862. In 1870, Miller's Stagecoach Station was established before the coming of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company rail line in 1884, and was platted in 1885 or 1886. It soon became the primary shipping point for the cattle country to the south. Miller built the Stage Tavern, known for many years as "Miller Station". It was on the overland route that had been established in the valley, and had become well known to all who traveled in pioneer days. Huntington was named for J.B. and J.M. Huntington, brothers who purchased Miller's holdings in 1882. Huntington's maintained a small trading post on their land. In 1884, the rails of the Oregon Short Line and the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company line were joined in Huntington. Since that time, Huntington has been an important railway division. James M. Huntington was the first postmaster (1882 to 1885). This device as been recorded use from Sept. 17, 1882 to Feb. 26, 1884.

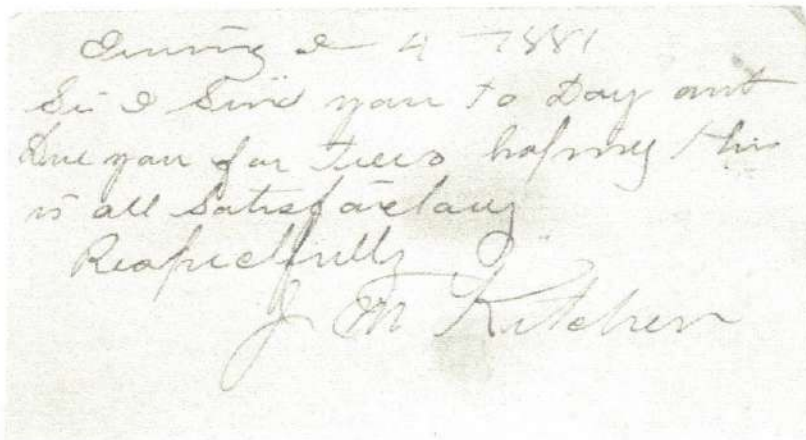


Huntington, Oregon ca 1900

IRVING
LANE COUNTY
1876 - 1919



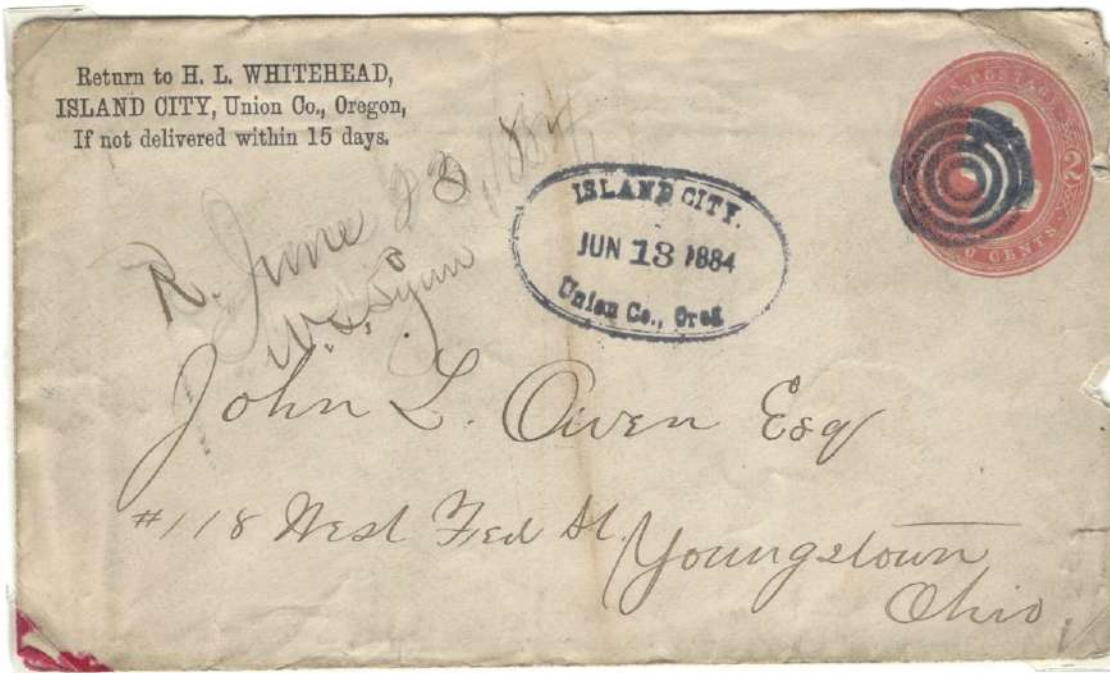
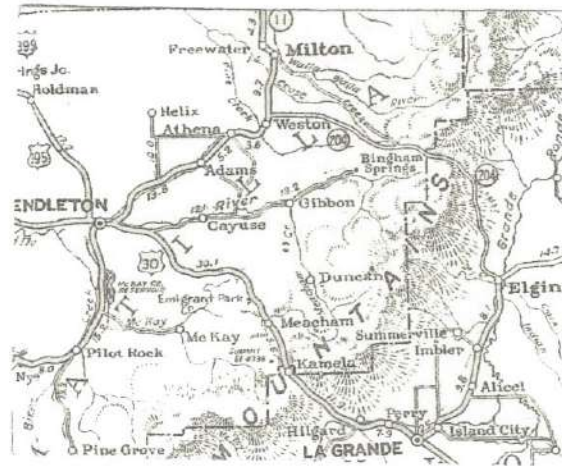
Irving was an unincorporated community in Lane County, Oregon, United States, and now partly within the Eugene city limits. Irving was a station on the Southern Pacific Railroad's Valley Line between Eugene and Junction City, first named "Halletts" when the line was built in 1872. J. L. Hallett had built the first 100 miles of the line and supervised the construction of the rest of the line to Roseburg. On Jan. 24, 1876, the name of the station was changed to Irving, probably for William Irving, who was a settler in the area. But a clerical error resulted in the spelling of "Irvine". On Oct. 17, 1876 this error was corrected and the name was changed to "Irving". The first postmaster was James M. Kitchen (Oct 17, 1876 to Dec. 4, 1882). There are 3 examples of this Oval date stamp recorded. On May 31, 1919 the post office of Irving was closed



Penny postal card signed by the first postmaster

ISLAND CITY

UNION COUNTY
1873 - 1959



The community and post office was named for its location on a island formed by a slough of the Grande Ronde River. The post office was located about 3 miles north of the main business district of the town of La Grande. Marshall B. Mallory was the first postmaster. He was in charge from April 10, 1873 to May 27, 1873. The Island City post office became a rural station of La Grande on Oct. 10, 1959.

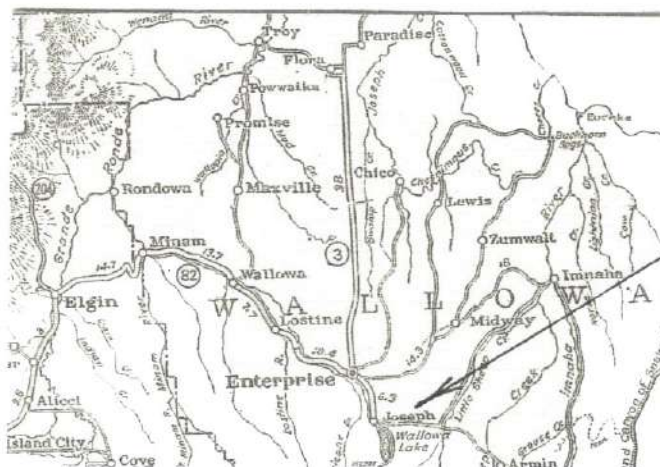
The 3rd postmaster, Oscar Kirkpatrick, who served from March 29, 1880 to July 15, 1886 used this oval circular device. This postal marking has been recorded used from 1883 to 1886.



Photo of the 3rd postmaster, Oscar Kirkpatrick.

JOSEPH

UNION COUNTY
1880 - 1890



Joseph post office was named for the famous Nez Pus Indian chief Joseph (1837-1904). He led his people on a epic flight to Montana, where he finally surrendered to the U. S . Army in 1877. The post office and town is located a mile north of Wallowa Lake. Mathew Johnson was the first postmaster. Joseph was moved into Wallowa County in 1890 when the county boundary lines were changed.



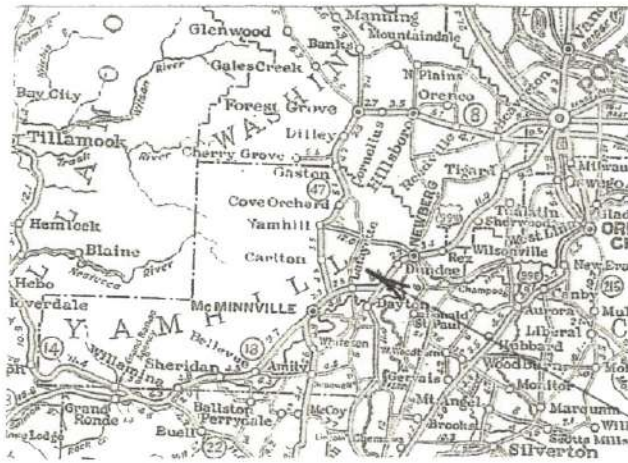
Hin-mah-too-yah-lat-kekt (or hinmatóowyahtq'it in Americanist orthography), popularly known as Chief Joseph, Young Joseph, or Joseph the Younger (March 3, 1840 – September 21, 1904), was a leader of the wal-lam-wat-kain (Wallowa) band of Nez Perce, a Native American tribe of the interior Pacific Northwest region of the United States, in the latter half of the 19th century. He succeeded his father tuekakas (Chief Joseph the Elder) in the early 1870s.

Chief Joseph led his band of Nez Perce during the most tumultuous period in their history, when they were forcibly removed by the United States federal government from their ancestral lands in the Wallowa Valley of northeastern Oregon onto a significantly reduced reservation in the Idaho Territory. A series of violent encounters with white settlers in the spring of 1877 culminated in those Nez Perce who resisted removal, including Joseph's band and an allied band of the Palouse tribe, to flee the United States in an attempt to reach political asylum alongside the Lakota people, who had sought refuge in Canada under the leadership of Sitting Bull.

LAFAYETTE

YAMHILL COUNTY

1851 - DATE



Lafayette name was transferred from Lafayette, Indiana, by Joel Perkins, who platted the townsite. Lafayette was first established as "La Fayette" and then change to Lafayette in 1918. This community is located on the Yamhill River, about 2 miles northwest of Dayton. This community was the county seat up to 1889 when this title was moved to McMinnville. Hardin D. Martin (1851 to 1862) was the first postmaster. Postal marking from this office used both forms of the spelling during the 19th century. The Lafayette post office is still in

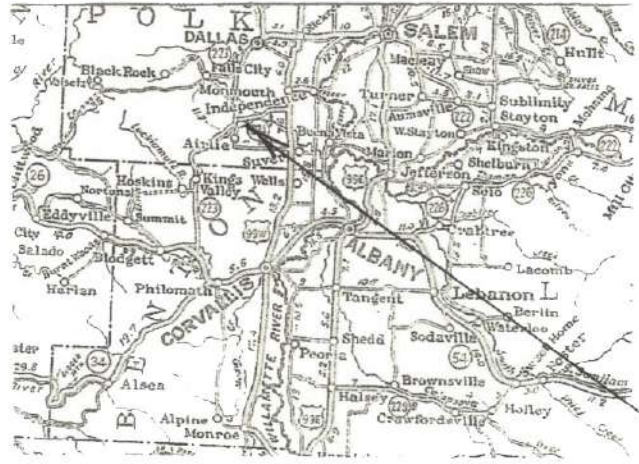


This oval circular stamp was first used by the 19th postmaster, Jno. Hubbard (Jan. 6, 1879 to Aug. 16, 1885). When Cus Johnson the 20th postmaster started on Aug. 17, 1885 he acquired the canceling device. This device has been recorded during the periods of both postmaster years of service. It has been recorded from Nov. 29, 1883 to June 7, 1886.

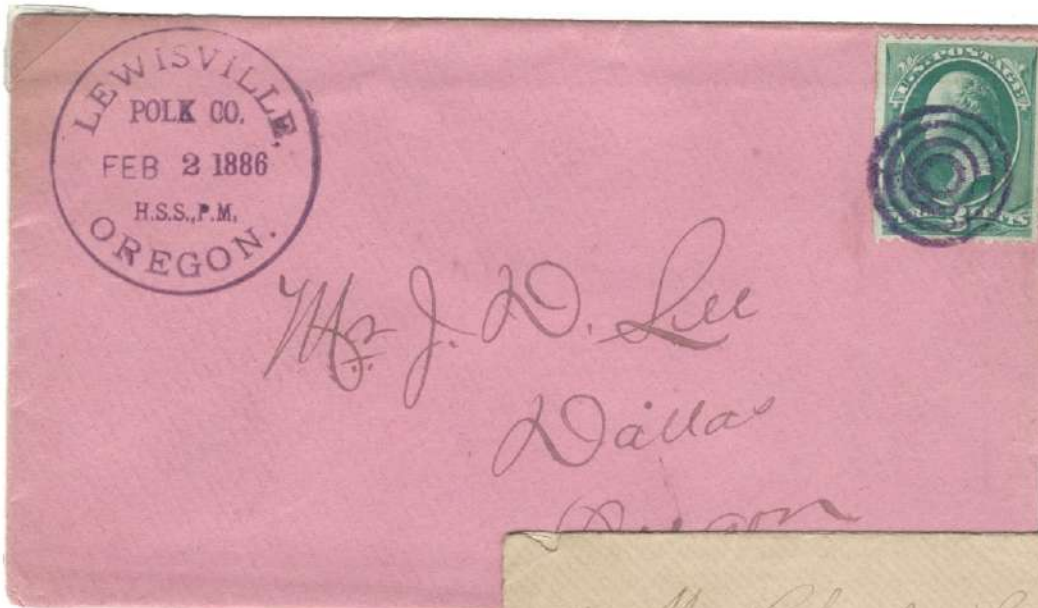
If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

LEWISVILLE

POLK COUNTY
1868 - 1905



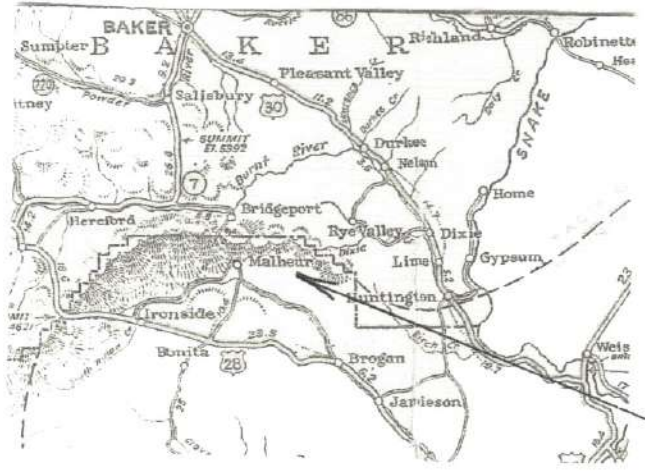
The Lewisville post office was named for David R. Lewis, whose donation land claim formed the basis of the community. This community and post office was located about 5 miles southwest of the town of Monmouth along the north side of the Luckiamute River. Abraham Wing served as the first postmaster. Mr. Wing's first year of compensation was \$12.00. The post office of Lewisville was closed down on February 28, 1905 with the mail transferred to Monmouth.



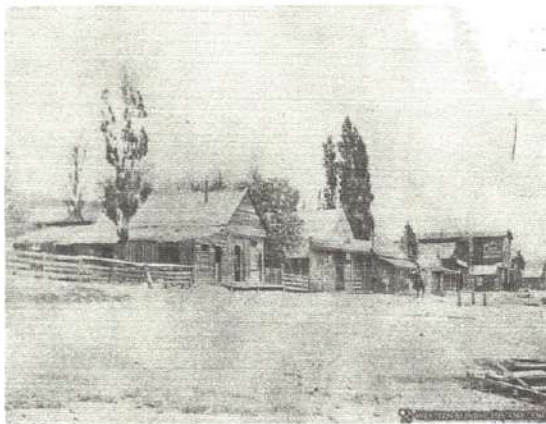
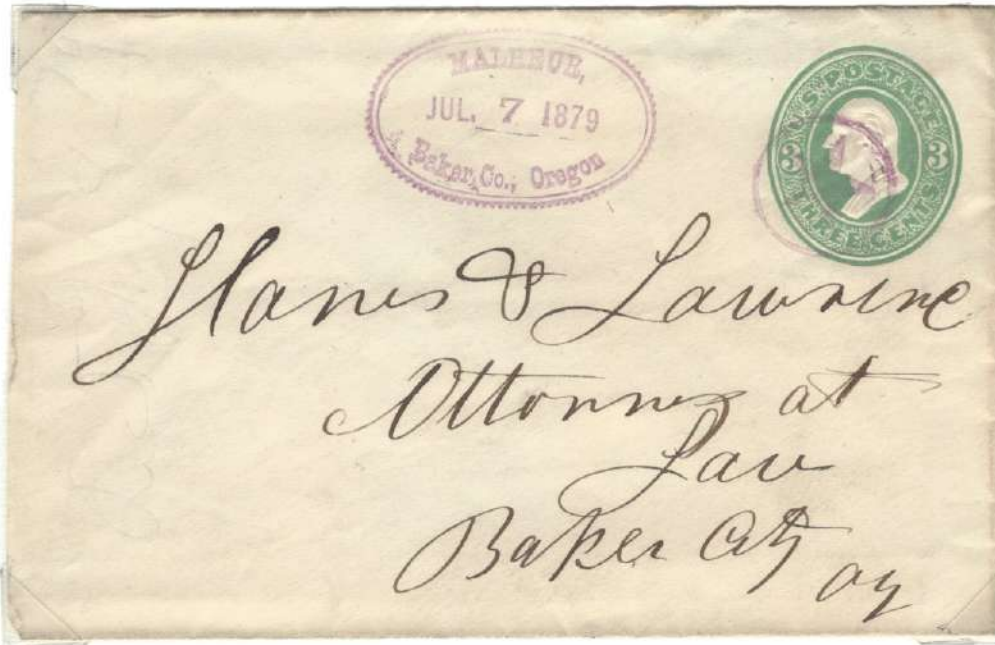
This circular date stamp was used by the 10th postmaster, Henry S. Smith (H.S.S. P.M.) Mr. Smith served as postmaster from Jan. 15, 1883 to Dec. 2, 1886.



MALHEUR
BAKER COUNTY
1879 – 1944



Malheur City is a ghost town in Baker County, Oregon, United States, situated along Willow Creek. The town was established in 1863 after miners struck gold in the nearby El Dorado mine. Originally located in Baker County, Malheur City became part of Malheur County after the county's formation in 1887. The town became unpopulated around 1911 after mining operations slowed in the area. On August 16, 1957, a brush fire burned all of the town's remaining wooden structures, leaving only stone foundations. Benj. F. Sargent was the first postmaster and used this oval circular date stamp. This type of town markings are recorded from July 7, 1879 to April 8, 1882.



Malheur City around 1905

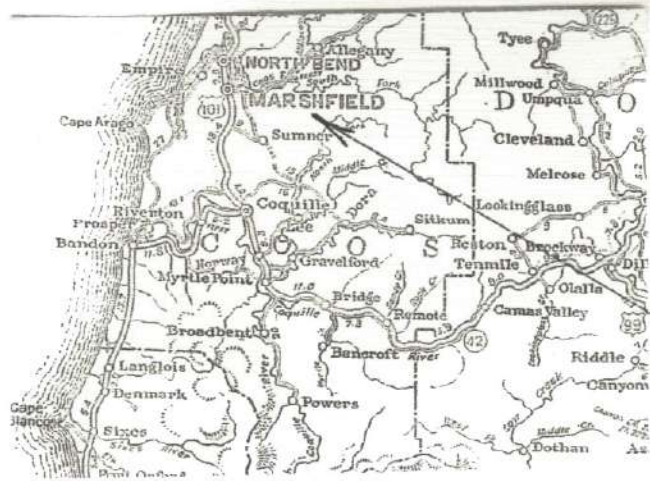


Benj. F. Sargent first postmaster

When Gold was discovered in about 1864 at Eldorado about 2 miles up Shasta Creek from Malheur City, B.F. Sargent went there to open a store. When the town was abandoned in the 1870's all the buildings were moved east to a new town named Malheur from the county in which it was located. He operated a hotel, Dry goods store and a livery stable.

MARSHFIELD

COOS COUNTY
1871 - 1945



This post office name was transferred from Marshfield, Massachusetts, the hometown of its founder, J. C. Tolman. The office is located on the west shore of Coos Bay near the mouth of Isthmus Slough. Andrew Nasburg was the first postmaster (June 22, 1871 to May 21, 1884). The Marshfield post office was closed out with a name change to Coos Bay on February 15, 1945. Mr. Nasburg is credited as using both of these two types of circular date stamps in his service as postmaster.



This type of marking has been recorded used from Feb. 20, 1878 to Oct. 6, 1880.



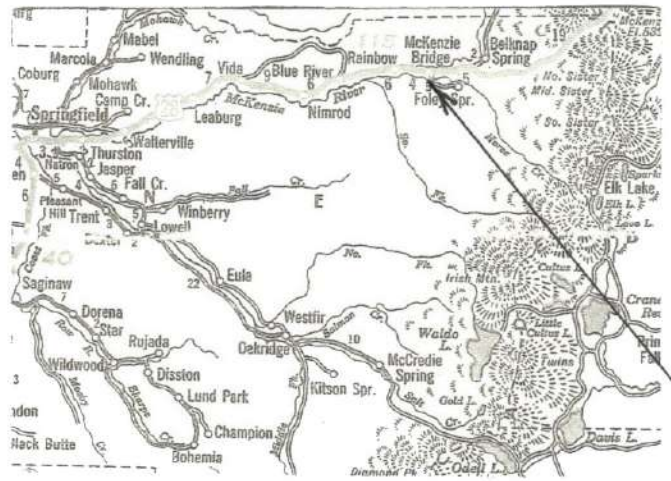
This marking has been recorded used from Mar. 8, 1884 to July 21, 1886.



McKENZIE BRIDGE

LANE COUNTY

1874 - 1960



This post office and community was at an important crossing of the McKenzie River. The post office was located, about 12 miles east of Blue River. From December of 1874 to November of 1912 the spelling of the town was "Mckinzie Bridge". Philander C. Renfrew was the first postmaster. The McKenzie Bridge post office was closed down on April 30, 1960 when the office was changed to a rural station of Eugene.

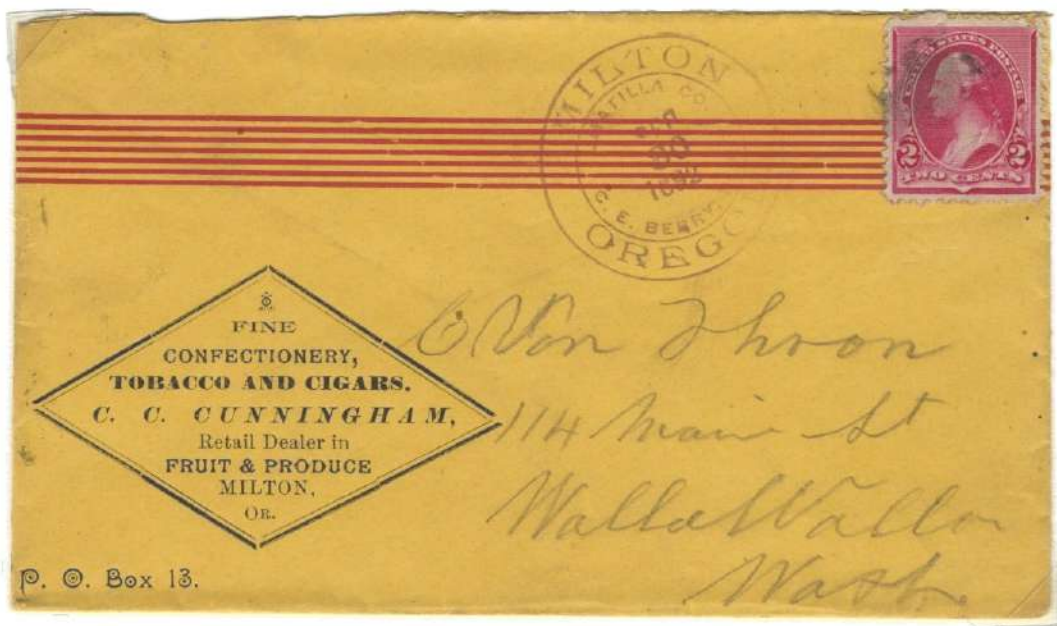
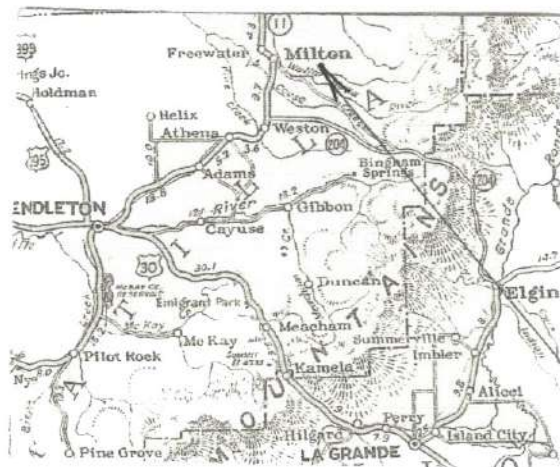
John Craig was a legendary postmaster who, after attempting to ski Christmas mail over McKenzie Pass in the winter of 1877, was found frozen beside his mail pouch in his shack atop McKenzie Pass. For 25 years Craig carried mail from the Willamette Valley to Eastern Oregon, by horseback in the summer and on his own back in the winter. Mystery still shrouds the details of his death, but a few details of his life give some insights to his stubborn pioneer spirit. In 1871 he formed the McKenzie, Salt Springs and Deschutes Wagon Road Company and began to build his toll road. He cut trees, chipped and chiseled a roadbed out of the jagged lava fields just north of North Sister to form a McKenzie Pass crossing lower than what was available at the time. In 1871 he formed the McKenzie, Salt Springs and Deschutes Wagon Road Company and began to build his toll road. He cut trees, chipped and chiseled a roadbed out of the jagged lava fields just north of North Sister to form a McKenzie Pass crossing lower than what was available at the time.



This oval circular date stamp was used by the first postmaster, Philander Renfrew. Only two examples of this device have been recorded June 17, 1880 and Aug. 4, 1883 and is unlisted in the Doane-Thompson Catalog.

MILTON

UMATILLA COUNTY
1873 - 1951



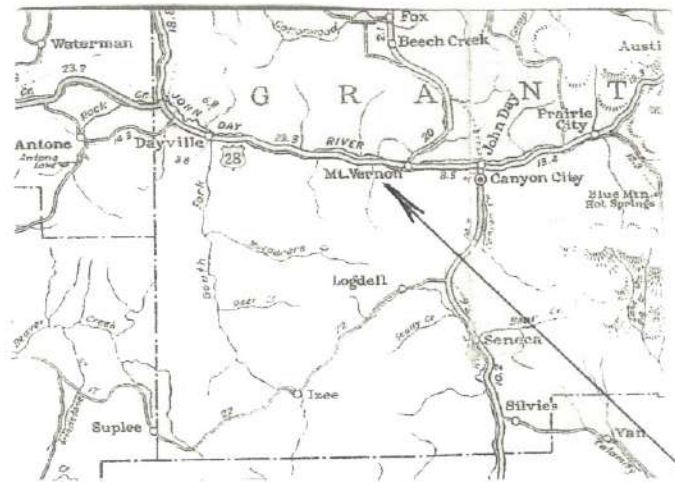
The Milton post office was named by William A. Cowl, who owned inn at the stage crossing on the Walla Walla River near here. Mr. Cowl applied for a post office and name it Milton after his place of birth in Milton, New York. The community is located along the Walla Walla River, about 12 miles south of the town of Walla Walla, Washington. Mr. Cowl served as the first postmaster from 1873 to 1874. The post office of Milton was closed down on August 31, 1951 when the near by town of Freewater and Milton were combined to be called "Milton-Freewater".



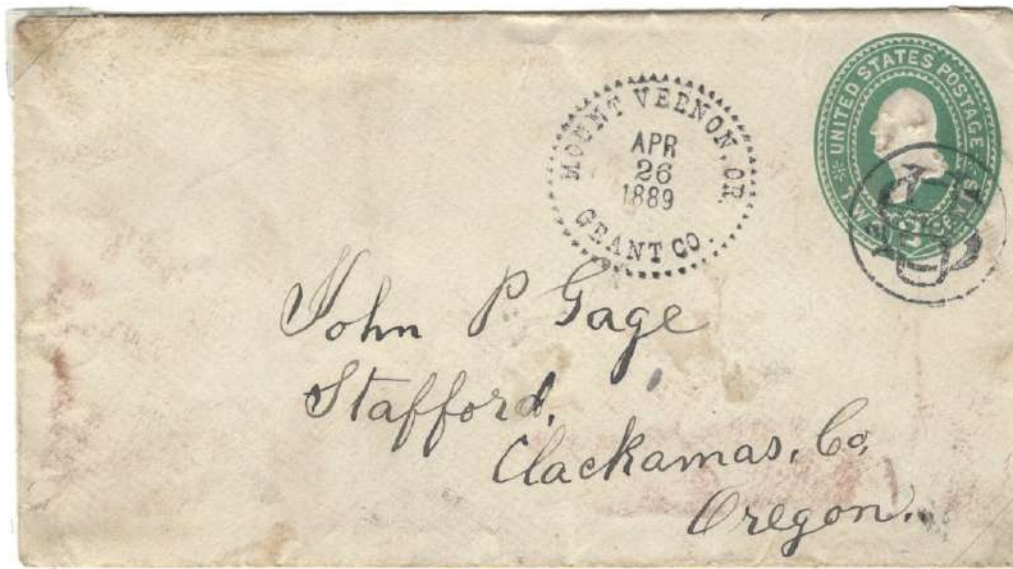
This circular date stamp was used by the 16th postmaster, Charles E. Berry (April 27, 1892 to July 21, 1895). This device has been recorded used from August 1, 1892 to May 17, 1893.

MOUNT VERNON

GRANT COUNTY
1877 - DATE



The post office of Mount Vernon was named after a prize black stallion that belonged to settler David W. Jenkins. Both the town and the rocky eminence just north were named for the horse. The community is located on the John Day River about 8 miles west of the town of John Day. Mr. William J. Gray (May 14, 1877 to Jan. 20, 1878) served as the first postmaster. The post office of Mount Vernon is still in operation today.



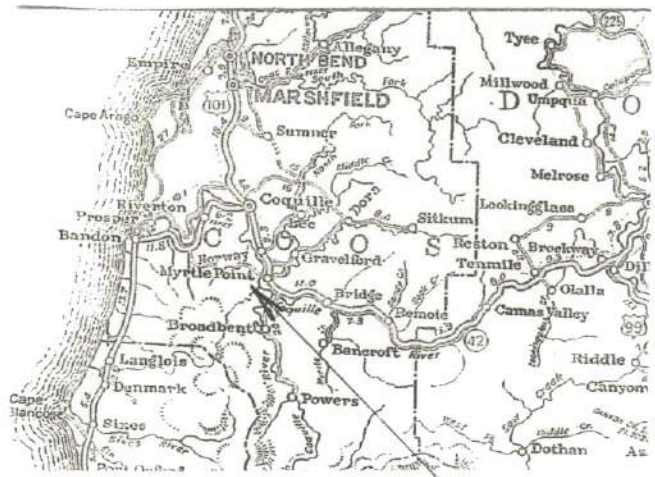
This County cancel was used by Jared A. Taylor the 5th postmaster at Mount Vernon. He was in office from Dec. 31, 1885 to April 20, 1891. This is the only example recorded at this time.



William J. Gray first postmaster at Mount Vernon

MYRTLE POINT

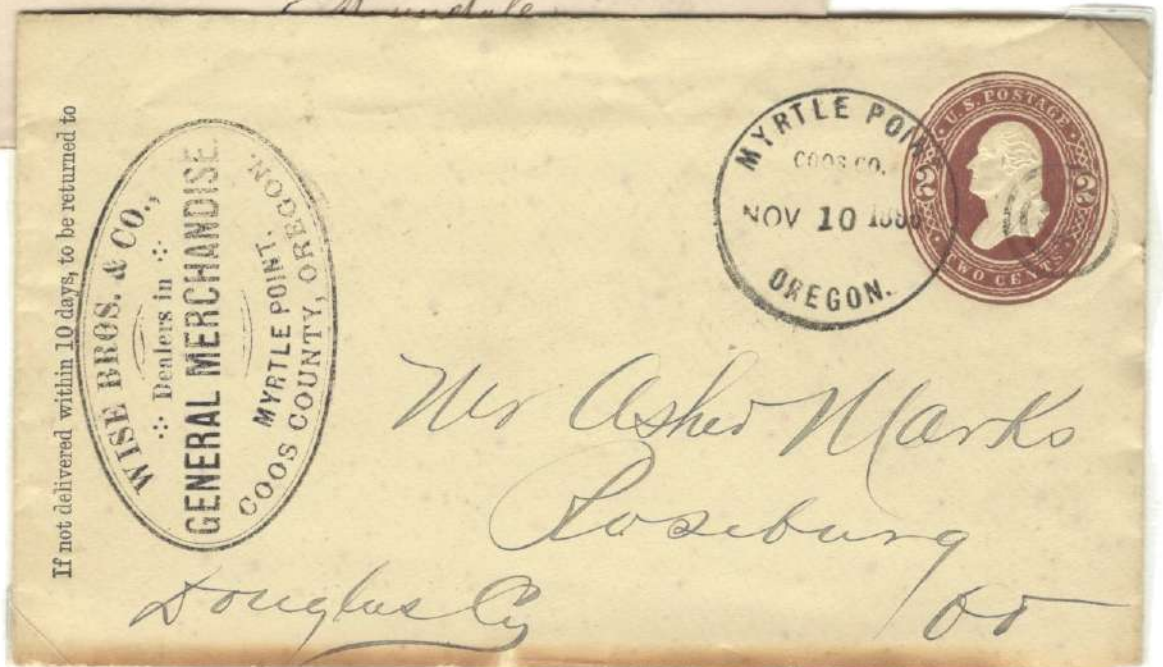
COOS COUNTY
1876 - DATE



Myrtle Point is located 9 miles south of Coquille on the banks of the Coquille River. The community name was due to the geographical location and also an abundance of large groves of myrtle trees in the area. This post office was first called "Ott" (Aug. 27, 1872 to Dec. 29, 1876). Binger Hermann and Edward Bender became interested in the town site and suggested that the name be changed to Myrtle Point. Edward Bender became the first postmaster serving from Dec. 29, 1876 to July 9, 1897. The Myrtle Point post office is still in operation today.

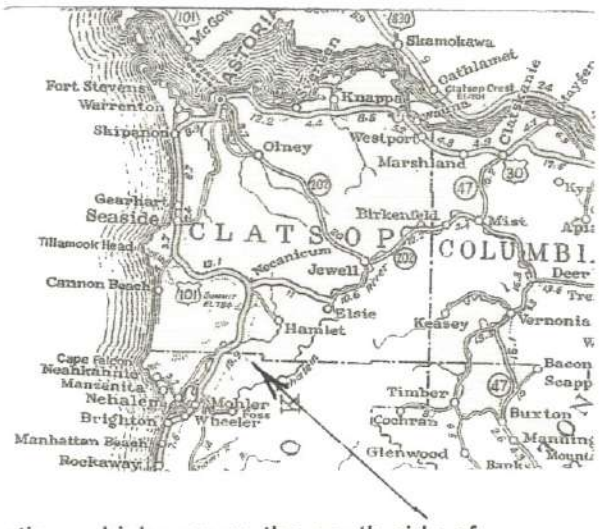


The first postmaster, Edward Bender has been credited for using these two different type of circular date stamps. The top one has been recorded from Jan. 26, 1879 to Nov. 24, 1879. The bottom one from Dec. 14, 1885 to Jan 12, 1893.



If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

ONION PEAK
TILLAMOOK COUNTY
1884 - 1893



This post office was named for its location, which was on the south side of Onion Peak Mountain. This mountain with an elevation of 3,064 feet is one of the highest points in Clatsop County. The mountain was named for the wild onions growing near the summit. The post office was located about 6 miles northeast of the community of Nehalem, and just south of the Tillamook - Clatsop County line. John M. Alley was the first postmaster from Feb. 6, 1884 to June 13, 1887. The Onion Peak post office was closed down from March 15, 1888 to Oct. 23, 1888. The Office was finally closed down on April 7, 1893 with the mail transferred to the Nehalem post office.

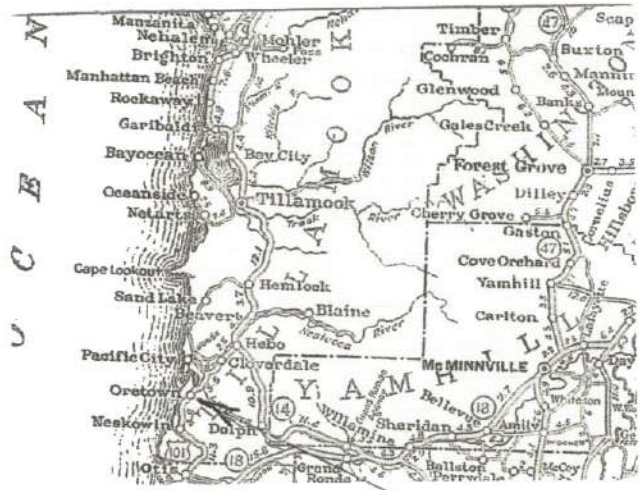


17 July 1885 - Maltese Cross killer - Only recorded example

ORE TOWN

TILLAMOOK COUNTY

1877 - 1954



This post office was named by James B. Upton, who settled here in 1875. Mr. Upton petitioned the post office department to use the name "Ore City", but the post office department allowed the name "Oretown" to avoid confusion with "Oregon City". The post office and community of Oretown was located near the west shore of the Nestucca Bay, about 6 miles south of Pacific City. Christian Christensen was the first postmaster (Oct. 8, 1877 to March 25, 1879). The post office of Oretown was closed down on February 28, 1954 with mail transferred to the Cloverdale post office.

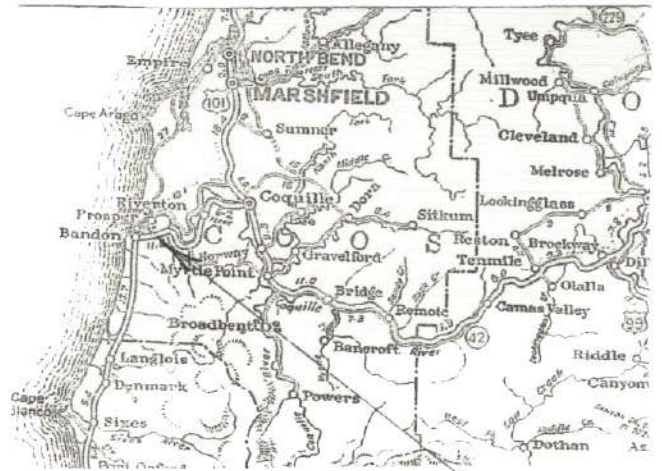
Only recorded example of the oval circular date stamp used by the 5th postmaster, Albert W. Fletcher. He held this office from May 13, 1881 to Jan. 19, 1886.



This oval circular date stamp was also used by the 5th postmaster, Fletcher and has been recorded used from April 1, 1883 to July 19, 1886.

PARKERSBURG(H)

COOS COUNTY
1877 - 1919



Parkersburg was named for caption Judah Parker, who built a sawmill in this area in 1876. This community was located on the Coquille River near the mouth of Bear Creek, about 3 miles east of Bandon. Meldon I. Hanscom was the first postmaster (Aug 30, 1877 to Sept. 28, 1881). The Parkersburg post office was closed out to Bandon on March 15, 1919.



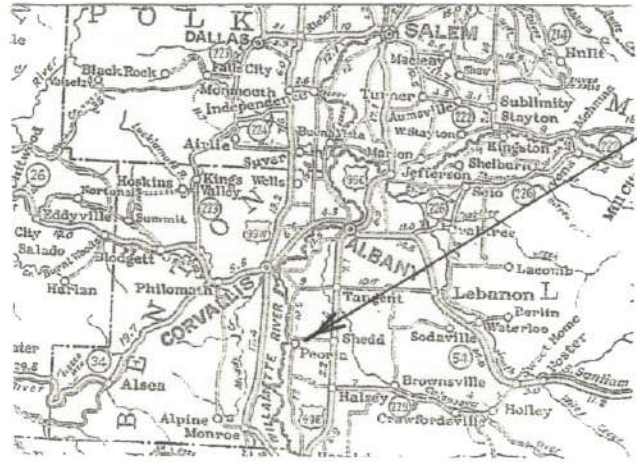
Both types of circular date stamps shown here are created to be used by the 2nd postmaster, Judah Parker (Sept. 29, 1882 to Aug. 30, 1899). First marking has been recorded from Feb. 17, 1882 to Dec. 1, 1884. The second marking is recorded for March 31, 1887 to Dec. 19, 1887.

Judah Parker
BIRTH 17 Jul 1829
DEATH 20 May 1899
BURIAL Parkersburg
Coos County, Oregon



PEORIA

LINN COUNTY
1857 - 1900



This post office was named after Peoria, Illinois by early migrant settlers. The first post office in this area was called Burlington (1855-1857) at Burlington landing. The landing became ruined by silt accumulation and the river traffic ceased, so the post office was moved 1 mile south on November 7, 1857 and re-named Peoria. The community was located, about 5 miles southwest of Shedd. John Q. A. Worth was the first postmaster. The post office of Peoria was closed down on August 10, 1900 with the mail being transferred to Shedd.

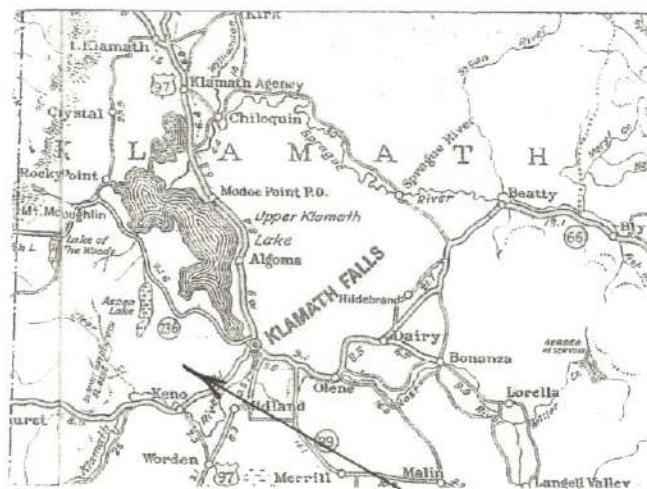


This oval circular date stamp was used by the 9th, 10th, and 11th postmaster of Peoria, Oregon. The first to utilize this marking was Jess B. Gilbert postmaster from Feb. 27, 1878 to Dec. 12, 1880. This cancellation device has been recorded from May 23, 1878 to May 3, 1882.



PLEVNA

KLAMATH COUNTY
1878 - 1892



The post office of Plevna was originally called Whittles Ferry, as the site was located on the Klamath River and Robert Whittle operated a ferry at the river crossing here. The office name was changed to Plevna in 1878 by O. C. Applegate. Plevna, Bulgaria was in the news at this time as this was where Osman Pasha surrendered to the Russians in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877. William H. Roberts was the first postmaster to serve the post office. The post office of Plevna was closed down on March 21, 1892 with the mail transferred to Keno.



This circular date stamp was used by Thomas F. Miner the 3th postmaster of Plevna, Oregon who served this post office from Nov. 27, 1885 to Feb. 14, 1888. The cancellation device has been recorded used from July 20, 1886 to Jan. 10, 1887.

PRINEVILLE

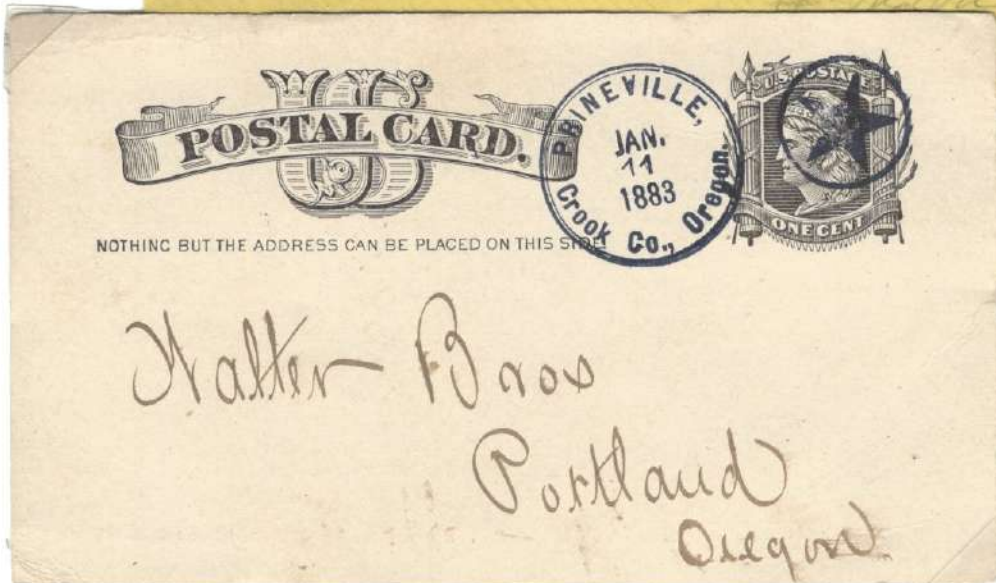
WASCO/CROOK COUNTY
1872 - DATE



The post office of Prineville was named for Barney Prine, who operated a general store on the Crooked River southwest of the Ochoco mountains. This office was first established as Prine in 1871 with William Hisler serving as the first postmaster. The post office name was changed to Prineville on December 23, 1872 with James C. Luckey as the first postmaster under the new name. On October 24, 1882 Crook County was established and Prineville was move into this county. Prineville is still in operation today.

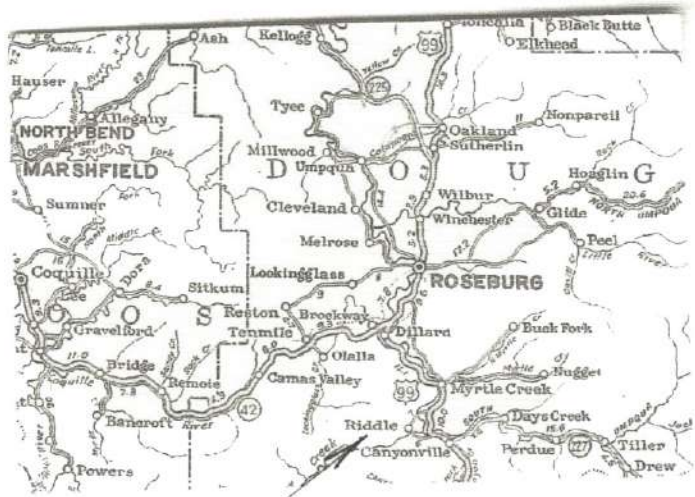


Both of these circular date stamps were used by the same postmaster, Daniel E. Thomas was in office from the time that Prineville was in Wasco County (1872 to 1882). When Crook County was established on Oct. 24, 1882 Mr. Thomas was still the postmaster of Prineville. He had a new date stamp made shown that Prineville was now in Crook County.

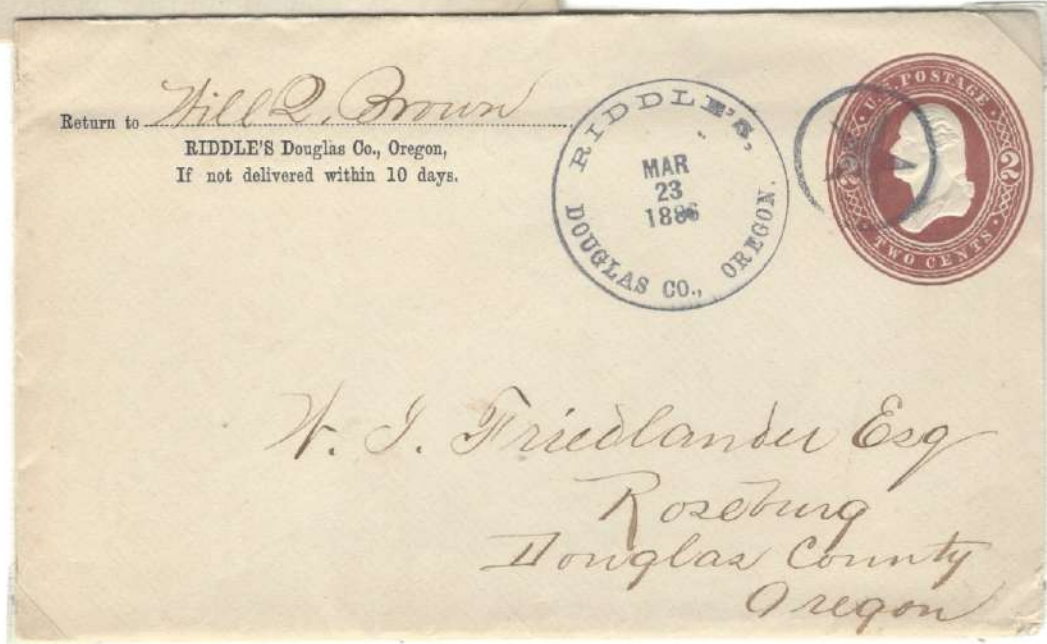


RIDDLES

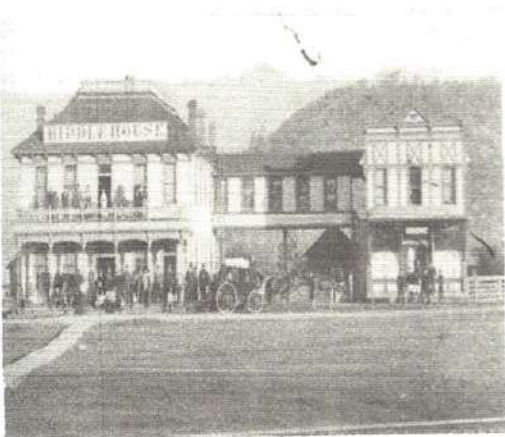
DOUGLAS COUNTY
1882 - 1910



The Riddles post office was named for William H. Riddle, a pioneer of 1851, who settled in the cow creek valley west of Canyonville, Oregon. The town of Riddles is located at the eastern base of mount Isaac, about 5 miles northwest of Canyonville along side of the Southern Pacific Railroad line. Jos. D. Johnson (Oct. 11, 1882 to Sept. 16, 1885) was the first postmaster. On Sept. 17, 1885 Freelin Cornutt became postmaster and must had acquired Mr. Johnson handstamp and than removed the name from the circular date stamp.

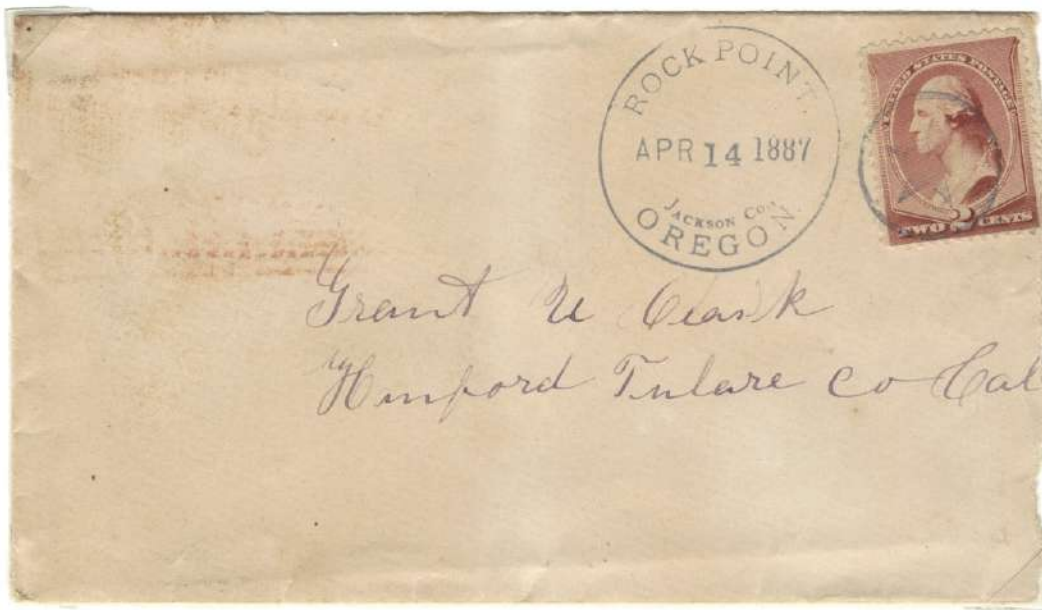
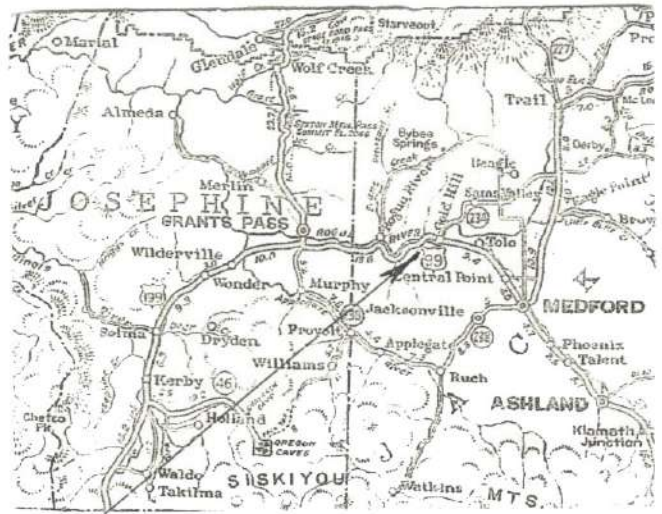


Riddles Hotel ca 1900's



ROCK POINT

JACKSON COUNTY
1859 - 1912



This post office was named for a geological feature near the post office site. The office was located on the north bank of the Rogue River, about 2 miles west of Gold Hill. John B. White (Nov. 17, 1859 to Jan. 1, 1873) was the first postmaster. The post office was closed down on Oct. 31, 1912 with the mail transferred to Gold Hill.

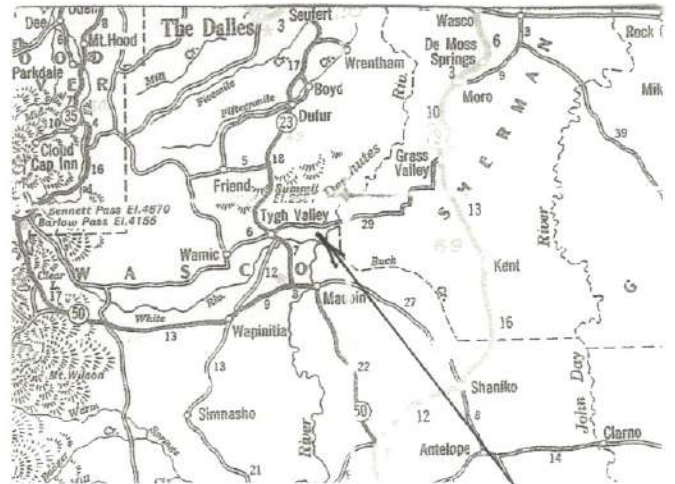
The White House, located on the old pack train and stage route through the Rogue River Valley, was built in 1859 for John B. White who was the townsite proprietor, storekeeper and postmaster. It is the oldest dwelling remaining in the settlement established during local gold excitement in the mid-1850s. Rock Point, situated on the Rogue River between the later communities of Rogue River and Gold Hill, began as a way-station for packers and miners. Later it was a waypoint for travelers on the main stage route between Jacksonville and the Willamette Valley. After 1883, it was a stop on the Southern Pacific Railroad. At the height of its historic period, in the 1880s, Rock Point boasted a store, hotel, livery stable, blacksmith shop, saloon, post office, schoolhouse, and telegraph office.



SHERAR BRIDGE

WASCO COUNTY

1883 - 1907

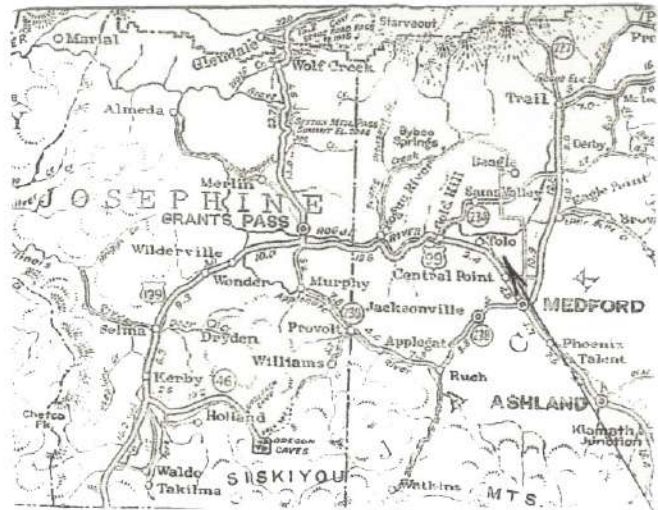


The first post office to serve this area as called "Deschutes" with Joseph Sherar serving as the second postmaster (1872 - 1883). When Mrs. Jane Sherar started as postmaster on Jan. 4, 1883 the name was change to "Sherar Bridge". The Sherar Bridge post office was located about 7 miles east of Tygh Valley, at the west end of a pioneer crossing on the Deschutes River. The post office was closed out to Dufur on December 31, 1907. A new office called "Sherars Bridge" was established in this area on April 25, 1922 and discontinued on January 31, 1938 with the mail transferred to Tygh Valley post office.



This circular date stamp was used by Mrs. Jane Sherar who was the only postmaster at this post office. This device as been recorded from March 22, 1887 to April 5, 1889.

TOLO
JACKSON COUNTY
1886 - 1918



The first post office at this location was called "Willow Springs". When Nicholas Cooke became the 7th postmaster of this office he partition to have the name changed to Yolo. A clerical error intervened and the "Y" became a "T" to create the new name. Yolo, was the former home of Nicholas Cooke, who was serving as postmaster. This community was located along side the southern pacific railroad, which was about 5 miles northwest of Central Point. The office was closed between June of 1897 to April of 1898. The post office of Tolo was closed down on December 14, 1918 with the mail transferred to Central Point.



This circular date stamp was used by Nicholas Cooke, who was serving as the 7th postmaster of this office. The device has been recorded as being used from March 26, 1888 to September 18, 1893.

