

# Madawaska Postal History

## Aroostook County, Maine

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This page is part of the Maine Postal History pages—a project of members of the Maine Philatelic Society. For more information, see <http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph>

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Madawaska was incorporated on March 15, 1831, taking in thousands of square miles of territory in Maine, and in areas now part of the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Québec. The intent was to stake the State of Maine's claim to the region. The language of the treaty that ended the Revolutionary War had not clearly defined the boundary in this area.

The original Madawaska settlement, spread out on both sides of the St. John River, was in the heart of the disputed area. The community was divided in 1842 when the international border was established running down the middle of the river, ending the bloodless "Aroostook War."

During the history of Madawaska, there have been six post offices.

Briefly, the history of these six is as follows:

1. Central Madawaska Post Office operated from 18 April 1875 to 9 July 1879.
2. Cleveland Post Office operated from 5 July 1906 to 29 November 1924.
3. Madawaska (1) Post Office opened on 11 November 1841, closed on 11 May 1869, re-opened on 6 July 1869, and closed on 22 January 1877. [What does it mean when there is a \(1\) or \(2\) after the name of a post office?](#)
4. Madawaska (2) Post Office, previously named Upper Madawaska Post Office, opened on 23 August 1912 and is still operating.
5. Saint David Post Office opened on 9 November 1885 and is still operating.
6. Upper Madawaska Post Office opened on 6 July 1869 and closed on 6 June 1912. It re-opened on 23 April 1912 as Madawaska (2) Post Office and is still operating.
7. West Madawaska Post Office opened on 11 November 1851 and closed on 1 September 1854.

Note: The Post Office in the adjoining Town of Edmundston, in New Brunswick, began operation in 1837 under the name of Madawaska. The Madawaska, New Brunswick Post Office served customers from Maine before the establishment of the local U. S. Post Office in 1841. To view an example of the Madawaska, New Brunswick postmark, see the Maine Postal History page on Fort Kent:

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/Mainepostalhistory/AroostookCounty/FortKent.pdf#FishRiver>

In 1914, there were three post offices in Madawaska: Cleveland, Madawaska, and Saint David.



Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1914

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/PostRouteMaps/MainePostRouteMap1914.pdf>

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Post Offices from Madawaska are listed below. In addition, postmarks that collectors have provided from the towns/villages associated with Madawaska for this project have been included.

[Central Madawaska](#)

[Cleveland](#)

[Madawaska \(1\)](#)

[Madawaska \(2\)](#)

[Saint David](#)

[Upper Madawaska](#)

[West Madawaska](#)

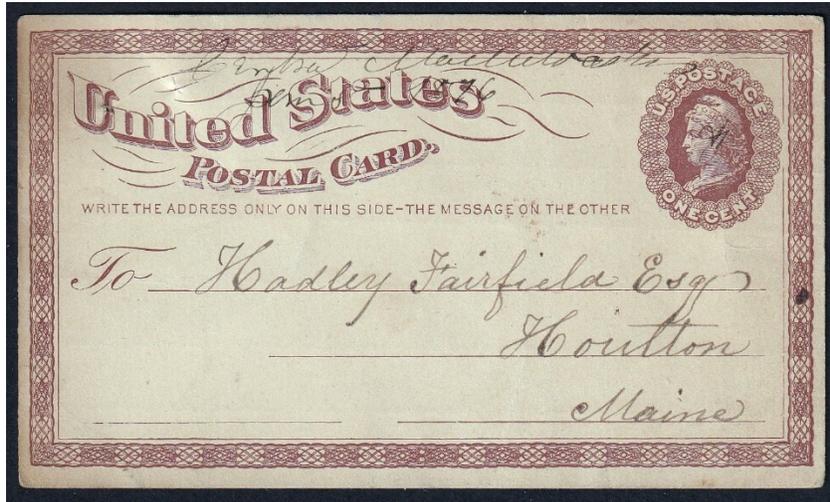
## Central Madawaska

18 April 1875:

Central Madawaska Post Office opened.

18 April 1875:

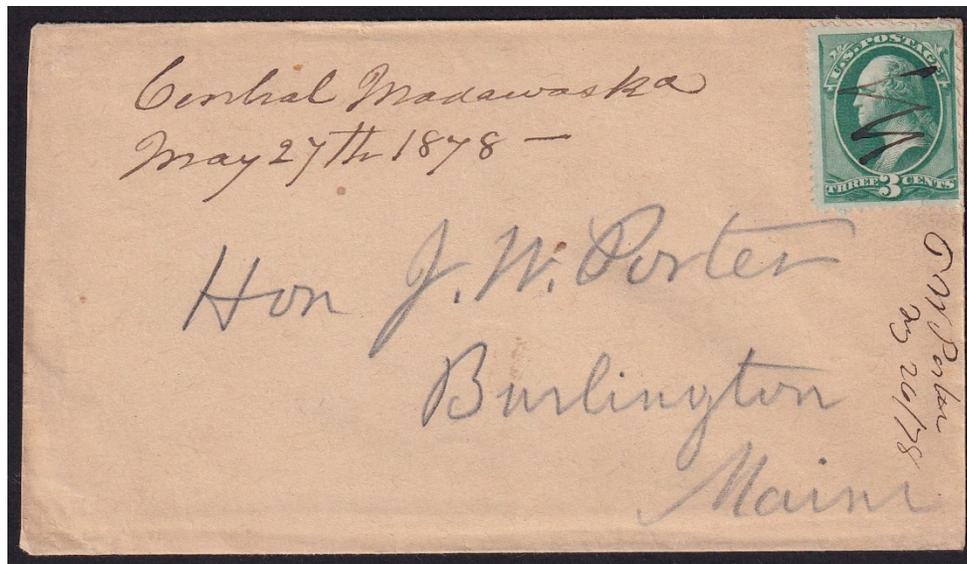
Randall M. Davis became the Postmaster for Central Madawaska Post Office.



5 January 1876:  
Manuscript postmark

27 May 1878:

Allan E. Hammond became the Postmaster for Central Madawaska Post Office.



27 May 1878  
Manuscript postmark

9 July 1879:

Central Madawaska Post Office closed.

## Cleveland

5 July 1906:

Cleveland Post Office opened.

5 July 1906:

Alice Michaud became the Postmaster for the Cleveland Post Office.

31 December 1908:

George Michaud became the Postmaster for the Cleveland Post Office.



16 February 1909:

The circular postmark is 31.5 mm in diameter with a Doane 3/1 killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 29 December 1909 is known.

28 December 1920:

Joseph H. Sylvain became the Postmaster for the Cleveland Post Office.

29 November 1924:

Cleveland Post Office closed. Mail to Saint David.

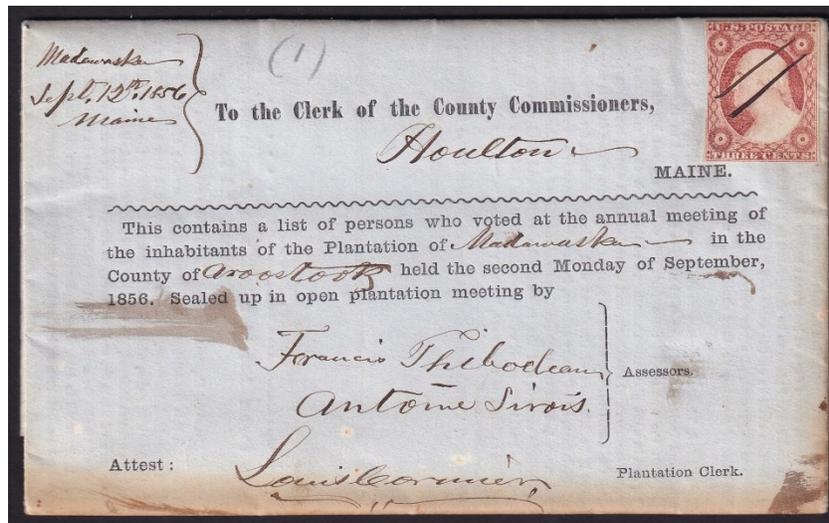
**Madawaska (1)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Madawaska at different times and locations. The (1) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

11 November 1851:

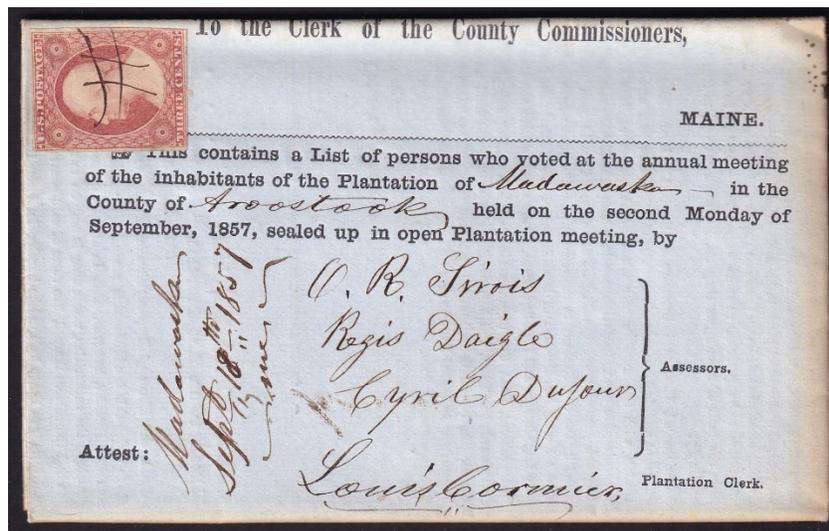
Madawaska (1) opened.

11 November 1851:

J. Baptiste Fournier became the Postmaster for the Madawaska (1) Post Office.



12 September 1856:  
Manuscript postmark



18 September 1857:  
Manuscript postmark

6 July 1869:

Louis Cormier became the Postmaster for the Madawaska (1) Post Office.

11 May 1869:

Madawaska (1) Post Office closed:

6 July 1869:

The Madawaska (1) Post Office is reestablished.

6 July 1869:

Louis Cormier became Postmaster of the Madawaska (1) Post Office.

22 January 1887:

The Madawaska (1) Post closed.

**Madawaska (2)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Madawaska at different times and locations. The (2) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

23 April 1912:

Madawaska (2) Post Office open, being renamed from the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

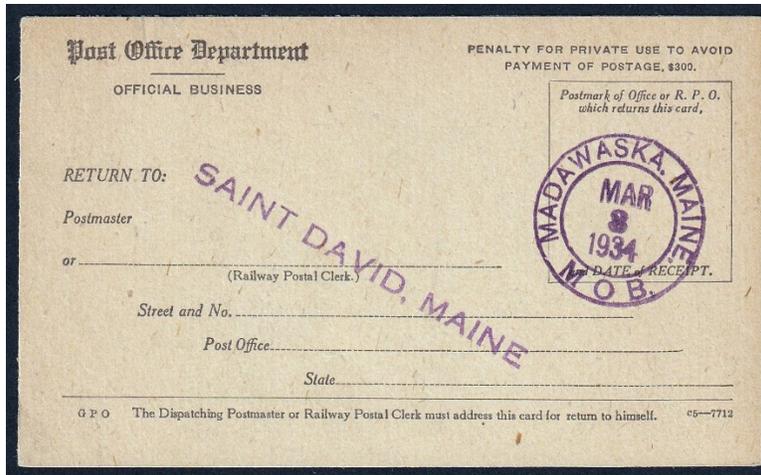
24 September 1907:

Thomas Herbert became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office and remained as Postmaster when the Upper Madawaska Post Office name was changed to Madawaska Post Office on 23 April 1912.



30 June 1914:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with no killer.



3 March 1934:

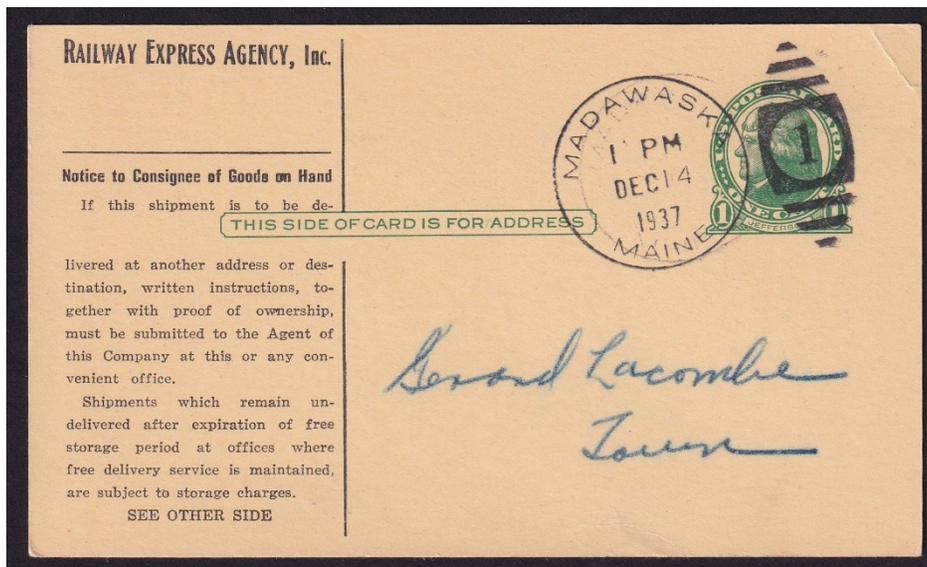
The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with no killer.

5 October 1935:

Paul J. Archambault became the Acting Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

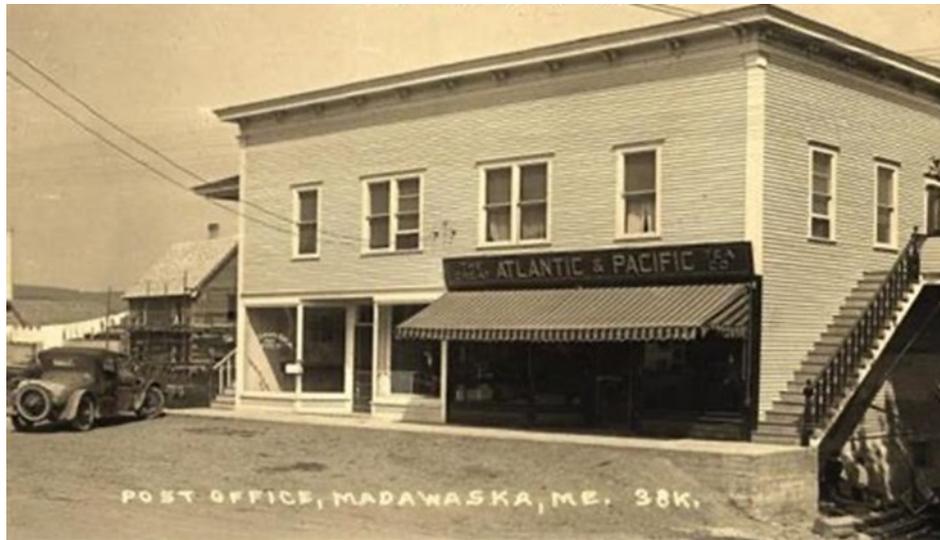
23 January 1936:

Paul J. Archambault became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

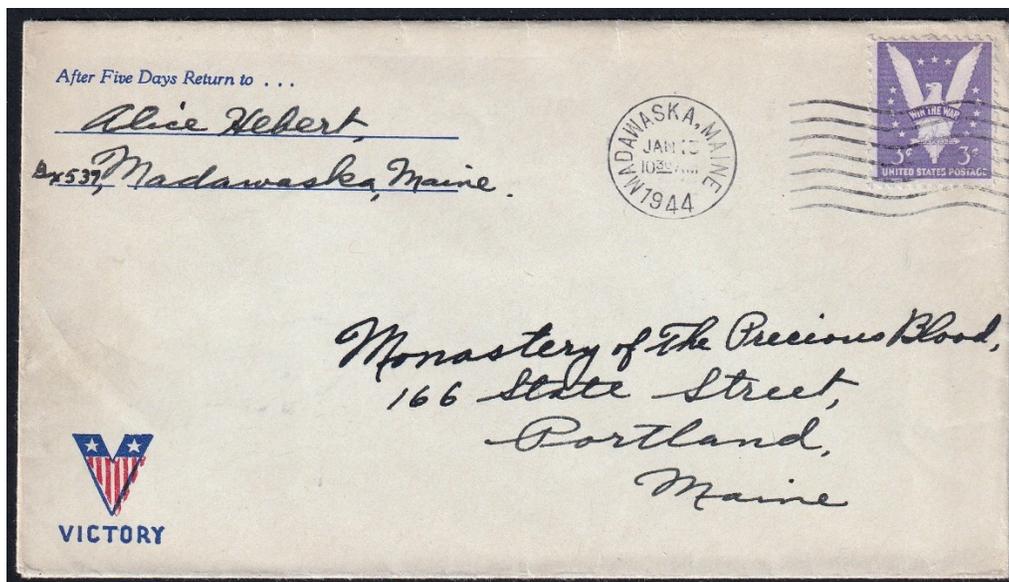


14 December 1937:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an elliptical six-bar duplex/1 killer.



Circa 1940: Madawaska Post Office and store



15 January 1944:

The circular postmark is 22 mm in diameter and has a seven-wavy Universal Machine Killer. A similar postmark and killer dated circa 1940 is known.

31 October 1953:

Romeo R. Albert became the Acting Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

15 May 1956:

Raoul D. Cyr became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

1972 June 30:

Joseph M. Sysee became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph>

5 January 1973:

Joseph N. L. Albert became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

27 April 1973:

Lawrence Parent became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

29 September 1973:

Lawrence Parent became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

Date?:

Margaret M. Brown became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

1 May 1982:

Joseph R. Deschenes became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

16 April 1992:

Manzer Belanger Jr. became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

6 March 1993:

Manzer Belanger Jr. became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

9 May 1997:

Patrice A. Jalbert became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

22 July 1997:

Cecile P. Casey became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

20 December 1997:

Cecile P. Casey became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

23 February 2004:

Lisa A. Nascimbeni became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

8 January 2005:

Lisa A. Nascimbeni became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

1 October 2008:

April M. Pelletier became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

27 February 2010:

April M. Pelletier became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

6 June 2017:

Jennifer Y. Cyr became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

30 October 2017:

Nathalie E. Nadeau became the Officer-in-Charge for the Madawaska Post Office.

23 December 2017:

Michelle D. Beaulieu became the Postmaster for the Madawaska Post Office.

21 January 2024:

The Madawaska (2) Post Office remains open. 370 Main Street Madawaska, ME 04756. GPS coordinates 47° 21' 21" N 68° 19' 27" W.



2022  
Madawaska Post Office

## **Saint David**

9 November 1885:

Saint David post office opened.

9 November 1885:

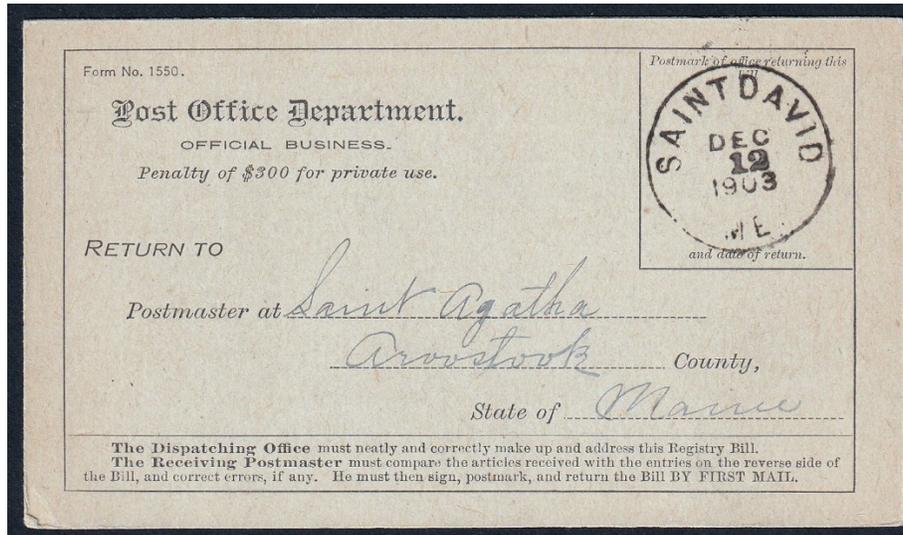
Thomas H. Pelletier became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

1 March 1886:

Arthur Daigle became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

13 November 1903:

Joseph F. Cyr became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.



12 December 1903:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with no killer.

28 August 1905:

Theodule Albert became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

23 August 1907:

Laurent B. Fournier became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.



12 September 1908:

The circular postmark is 29.5 mm in diameter with a hollow stars flag killer. A similar postmark dated 15 June 1908 is known.

15 August 1913:

Frank D. Fournier became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

**REGISTRY DISPATCH RECEIPT CARD.** Form 3830.  
Rev. 3-24.

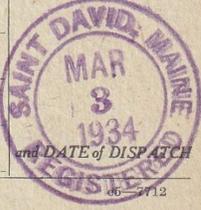
Page No. .... CAUTION.—Dispatching office must draw a diagonal line across any blank spaces after last entry. See Sec. 882, P. L. & R., 1924.

REGISTERS.	*Original Reg. No. or Jacket or Lock Nos.	OFFICE OF ORIGIN.	Postmark of Office or R. P. O. dispatching the registered mail,  and DATE of DISPATCH	
	1	130		SAINT DAVID, MAINE
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			

\*Write "L" before number if piece is dispatched loose in pouch; "O," if outside piece.

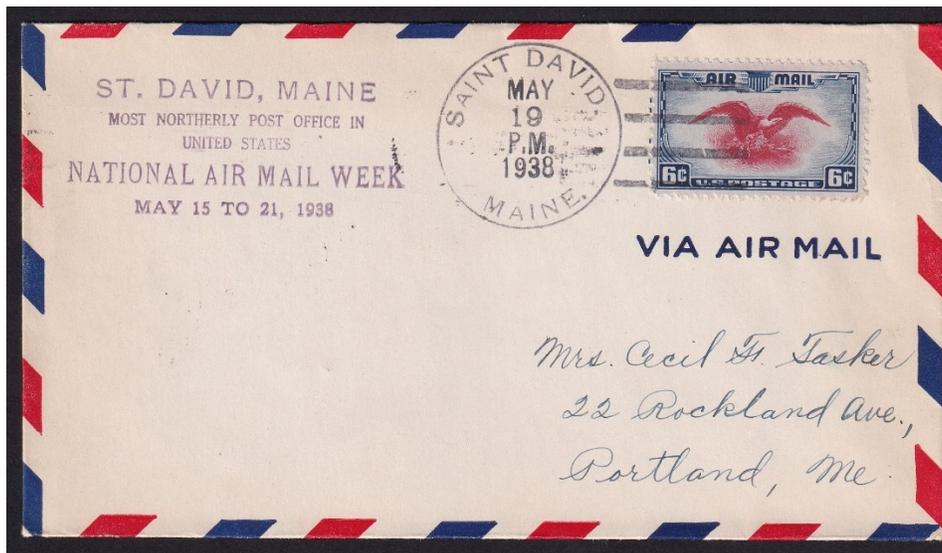
RECEIVED *one* articles described above. (Write number.)  
 (Write signature. See Sec. 1060, P. L. & R., 1924.)  
 Receiving office or clerk must note on this card any articles received in bad condition; and correct errors thereon, if any, as prescribed by Sec. 977, P. L. & R., 1924.

Postmaster or R. P. O. Clerk.  
*Frank D. Fournier*



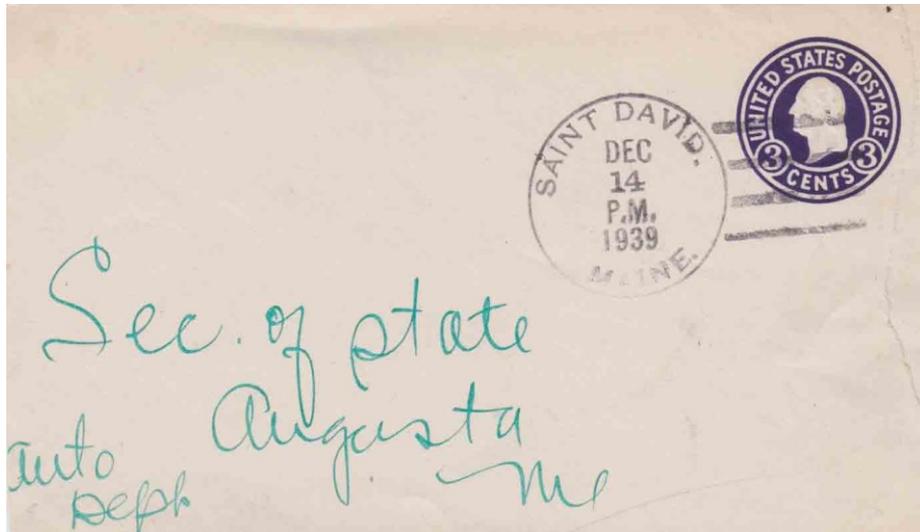
3 March 1934:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with no killer.



19 May 1938:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (C/2) killer.

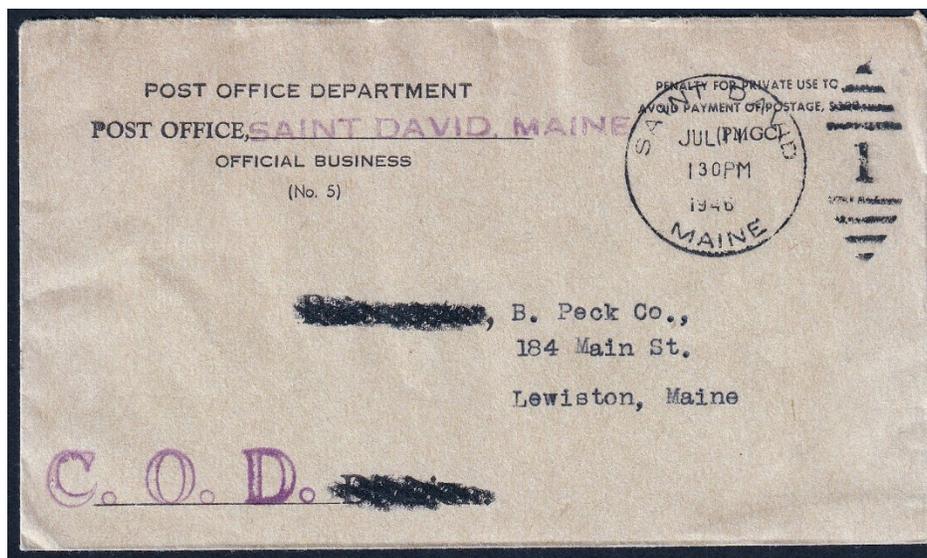


14 December 1939:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (C/2) killer.

1 July 1945:

Saint David Post Office became a Presidential Office



11 July 1946:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a four-bar elliptical duplex/1 killer.

31 October 1955:

Mrs. Corrine C. Cyr became the Acting Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

30 November 1956:

Mrs. Corrine C. Cyr became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

16 October 1974:

Jean Levasseur became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

28 February 1975:

Leo J. Violette became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

28 June 1975:

Roger Bossee became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

22 October 1975:

Mrs. Florine Michaud became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

31 January 1976:

Leo James Violette became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

27 April 1990:

Patrice A. Jalbert became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

2 June 1990:

Corinne M. Boutot became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

29 September 2005:

April M. Pelletier became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

4 March 2006:

April M. Pelletier became the Postmaster for the Saint David Post Office.

28 October 2008:

Janice H. Dionne became the Officer-in-Charge for the Saint David Post Office.

25 January 2014:

The Saint David Post Office was converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Madawaska Post Office.

21 January 2024:

Saint David Post Office is at 353 Main Street, Saint David, Maine 04773. GPS 47° 20' 25" N 68° 13' 52" W



2022  
Saint David Post Office.

## Upper Madawaska

06 July 1869:

Upper Madawaska Post Office opened.

6 July 1869:

Oliver R. Sirois became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

3 March 1886:

Magloire Sirois became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

31 May 1889:

Beloni Hebert became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

31 August 1893:

Denise A. Bouchard became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

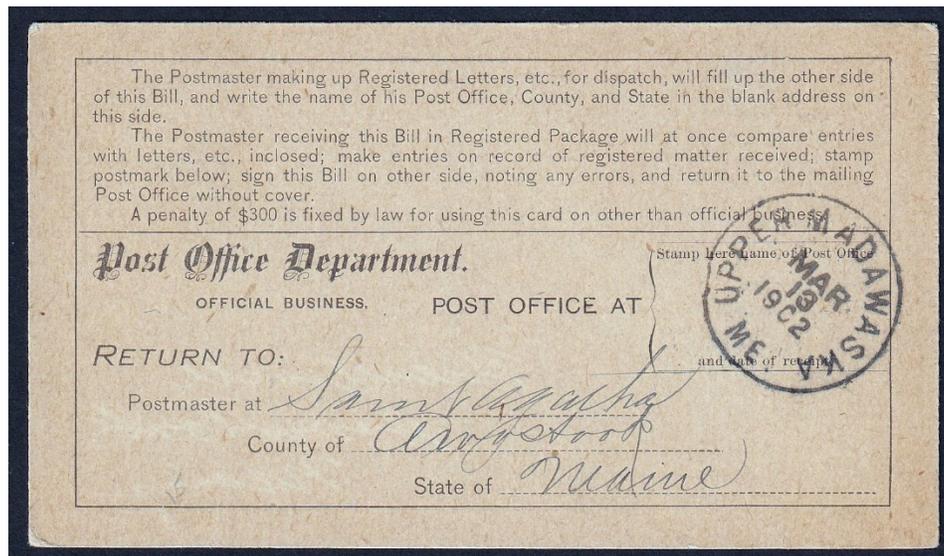


12 December 1895:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

3 May 1901:

Belonie Hebert became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.



13 March 1902:

The circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter with no killer.

24 September 1907:

Thomas Hebert became the Postmaster for the Upper Madawaska Post Office.

23 April 1912 per Postmaster records, 30 June 1912 per Doubleday, and Effective 1 July 12 per Postal Bulletin and *Maine Postal History*:

The Upper Madawaska Post Office is closed and renamed Madawaska (2) Post Office.

## **West Madawaska**

11 November 1851:

The West Madawaska Post Office opened.

11 November 1851:

Edward Guy became the Postmaster for the West Madawaska Post Office.

27 April 1852:

Romain Michael became the Postmaster for the West Madawaska Post Office.

11 September 1854:

The West Madawaska Post Office closed.

*What does it mean when there is a (1) or (2) after the name of a post office?*

Sometimes the numbers (1) and (2) appear after the name of a post office. These numbers indicate the (first) and (second) localities of post offices of the same name. For example, if the post office name is used for two separate post offices in two respective villages at different times, they will be identified in this manner. These numbers do not necessarily indicate time periods.

These numbers do not represent numbered stations. Some larger places, like Auburn, have postal stations with numbers. These differ from the post offices we call Auburn (1), Auburn (2), etc.

Also: the numbers do not appear in postmarks or official post office publications.

However, they are used by postal historians and collectors to refer to different post offices, as noted above.

Credits:

This document is based on the original web page compiled by the V. F. Thomas Co. (2021), with revisions and additions by James Husson and Brian Damien (2024).

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Thank you to Patrick Lacroix, Director of the Acadian Archives, University of Maine at Fort Kent, for help in obtaining an article from the *Revue de la Société historique du Madawaska*.

Thank you to the Waterville Stamp Club (<https://thewatervillestampclub.com>) for helping ensure this project's continuity.

Sources:

The Post Offices of Maine 2022, Maine Philatelic Society:

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/books/TPOOM>

Linneus Village, Frenchville (T18R5), St. Agatha & Madawaska (T18R4) [map] from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine:

[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_aroostook\\_1877/48/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_aroostook_1877/48/)

Sirois, Georges. "90 ans d'histoire postale à Edmundston: 1837-1927," in *Revue de la Société historique du Madawaska*, XIII (janvier-mars 1985): pp. 4-31

Additional material, including links to official records of postmaster appointments, can be found at Sources for Researching Maine Post Offices, Postmasters, and Postal History:

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/books/post-office-sources.pdf>.

National Archives Catalog, Postmaster Appointments for Aroostook County, Maine

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746425>

Postmaster Finder by City:

<https://about.usps.com/who/profile/history/postmaster-finder/postmasters-by-city.htm>