

# Oakfield Postal History

## Aroostook County, Maine

Last update for this page: 8 October 2024

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

---

In 1878, Oakfield was first organized as a plantation from the unorganized township T5 R3 WELS, and in 1897 it achieved incorporation as a town. By virtue of its topography, it was once known as “the Switzerland of Aroostook.”

During the history of the town of Oakfield, there have been three post offices.

Briefly, the history of these is as follows:

1. [Burleigh](#) Post Office was established on 12 February 1894. It was renamed on 1 January 1913 as Oakfield (2) and is still operating. [What does it mean when there is a \(1\) or \(2\) after the name of a post office?](#)
2. [Oakfield \(1\)](#) Post Office opened on 14 June 1872, closed on 22 December 1894, re-opened on 16 October 1897, and closed on 30 April 1909.
3. [Oakfield \(2\)](#) Post Office opened on 1 January 1913, formerly named Burleigh Post Office, and is still open.

In 1903, there were two post offices in Oakfield: Oakfield (1), and Burleigh.



Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1903

Courtesy of Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library.

<https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82km77v>

## Burleigh

12 February 1894:

Burleigh Post Office opened.

12 February 1894:

Rebecca G. Holden became the Postmaster for the Burleigh Post Office.



4 June 1894:

The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a target killer.

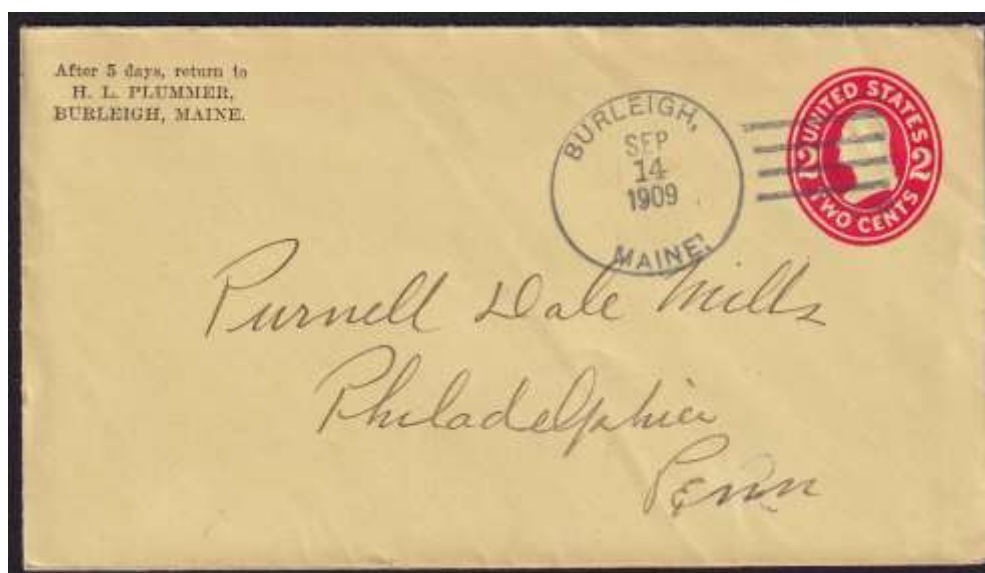
16 October 1897:

Charles S. Lougee became the Postmaster for the Burleigh Post Office.



20 August 1907:

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



14 September 1909:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A/1) killer.



17 November 1909:

The oval postmark is 32 X 30.5 mm in 'diameter' with a five-bar killer. A similar postmark with the same five-bar killer dated 12 August 1908 is known.



18 December 1912:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.

1 January 1913:

Burleigh Post Office was discontinued and renamed Oakfield (2) post office, per order of 2 December 1912, as noted in U. S. Postal Bulletin 10016.

**Oakfield (1)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Oakfield 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.)

14 June 1872:

Oakfield (1) post office opened.

14 June 1872:

John Sprague became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

2 July 1877:

Lewis C. Sprague became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

22 December 1882:

William Gerrish became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

6 July 1883:

Lewis C. Sprague became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

23 June 1884:

Nellie M. Sprague became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

1 September 1886:

Albert Smart became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

12 June 1889:

William H. Gerrish became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.



1 December 1891 (date confirmed by back-stamp):  
The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a four-bar target killer.



9 April 1893:

The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a target killer.

31 May 1893:

Albert Smart became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

22 December 1894:

Oakfield (1) Post Office closed—service from Burleigh.

16 October 1897:

Oakfield (1) Post Office reopened.

16 October 1897:

Melissa J. Morton became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

9 September 1905:

William H. Gerrish became the Postmaster for Oakfield (1) Post Office.

30 April 1909:

Oakfield Post Office closed—service from Burleigh.

**Oakfield (2)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Oakfield 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.)

1 January 1913:

The Oakfield (2) Post Office opened after being renamed from the former Burleigh Post Office, per order of 2 December 1912, as noted in U. S. Postal Bulletin 10016.

2 December 1912:

Charles S. Lougee, the previous Postmaster for Burleigh Post Office, remains as Postmaster for the renamed Oakfield (2) Post Office.



20 January 1913:

The circular postmark is 29.5 mm in diameter with a Doane 1/1 killer.



24 March 1913:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.



6 December 1915:

The circular postmark is 32.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.

19 December 1927:

Edith B. Holden became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.



25 October 1932:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a nine-bar oval duplex killer.

8 May 1935:

The Oakfield (2) Post Office becomes Presidential.

31 October 1941:

Gertrude M. Sprague became the Acting Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

16 November 1942:

Gertrude M. Sprague became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

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

31 July 1957:

Grace M. Sullivan became the Acting Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

24 July 1958:

Grace M. Sullivan became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

30 September 1959:

Robert C. Fisher became the Acting Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

31 May 1960:

Robert C. Fisher became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

1 June 1985:

Eva J. Hamm became the Officer-In-Charge for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

28 September 1985:

Ona A. Pratt became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.



28 September 1990:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (F2b) killer.

30 December 1996:

Karla Tower became the Officer-In-Charge for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

7 June 1997:

Malcolm D Mersereau became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

10 October 2002:

Nancy E. Smith became the Officer-In-Charge for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

30 November 2002:

Torri M. Bates became the Postmaster for the Oakfield (2) Post Office.

2015 January 10:

Oakfield (2) post office was converted to a Level 6 (6-hour) Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Houlton post office. The Postmaster position remained until ultimately vacated.

28 January 2024:

Oakfield (2) Post Office is still operating. Located at 198 Oakfield Smyrna Rd. Oakfield, ME 04763. GPS 46° 06' 59" N 68° 09' 37" W



July 2023:

Oakfield Post Office. Photo Credit Dennis Dixon.

*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).

Thank you for the contributions to this page by James Husson and Max Lynds.

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>

Oakfield Plantation (T5R3) [map] from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine:

[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_aroostook\\_1877/13/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_aroostook_1877/13/)

Additional material, including links to official records of postmaster appointments, can be found at Research Resources on Maine 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>

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

“Oakfield,” article in Maine: an Encyclopedia: <https://maineencyclopedia.com/oakfield>

“Oakfield,” article in History of Aroostook, by Edward Wiggin (Presque Isle: Star Herald, 1922), pp. 281-291 <https://archive.org/details/historyofaroosto00wigg>