

Redington Township Postal History

Franklin County, Maine

Last update for this page: 08/12/2025

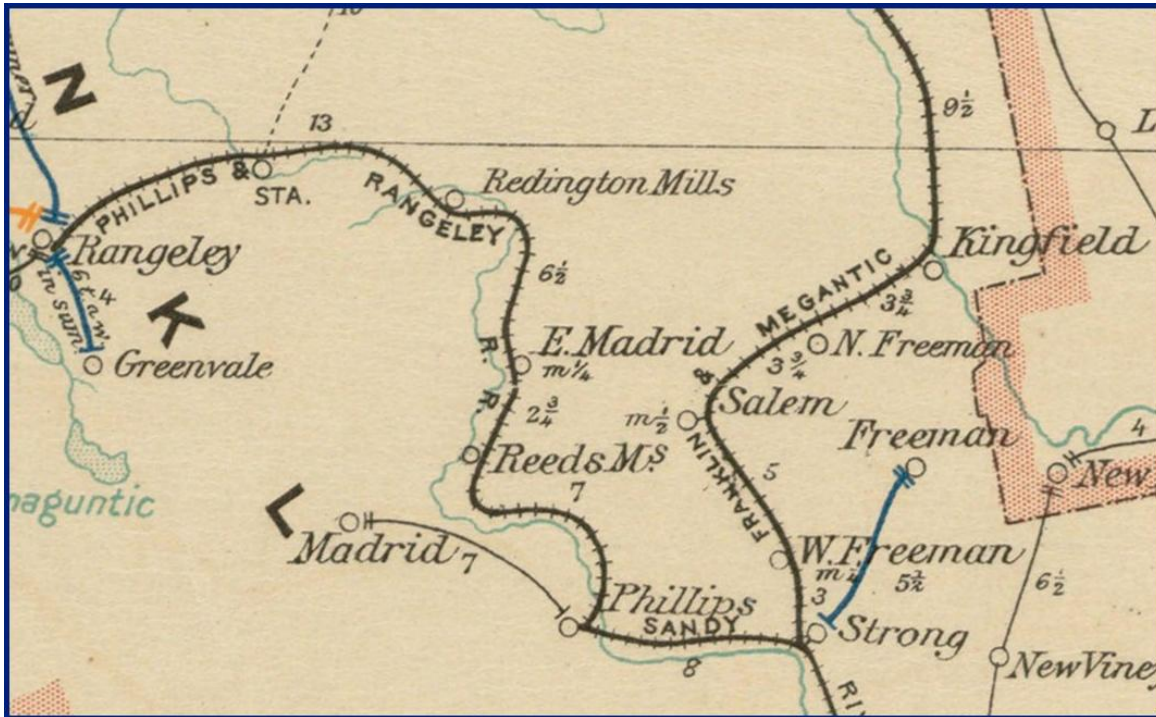
This page is part of the Maine Postal History website—a project of the Maine Philatelic Society.
For more information, see <https://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph>.

Redington Township (also known as T1 R2 WBKP, or Township 1 Range 2 West of Bingham's Kennebec Purchase) is adjacent to Carrabassett Valley, was accessed by the long-defunct Phillips and Rangeley Railroad, and was once the site of two sawmills. The population, which stood at 28 in 1890, reached a peak of 113 in 1900, but was down to 7 by 1910. In 1920 there were 76 people counted, but that number dwindled to 14 in 1930. Topographic maps from the 1980s show a few buildings remaining. Today the township is known as one of the places traversed by the Appalachian Trail.

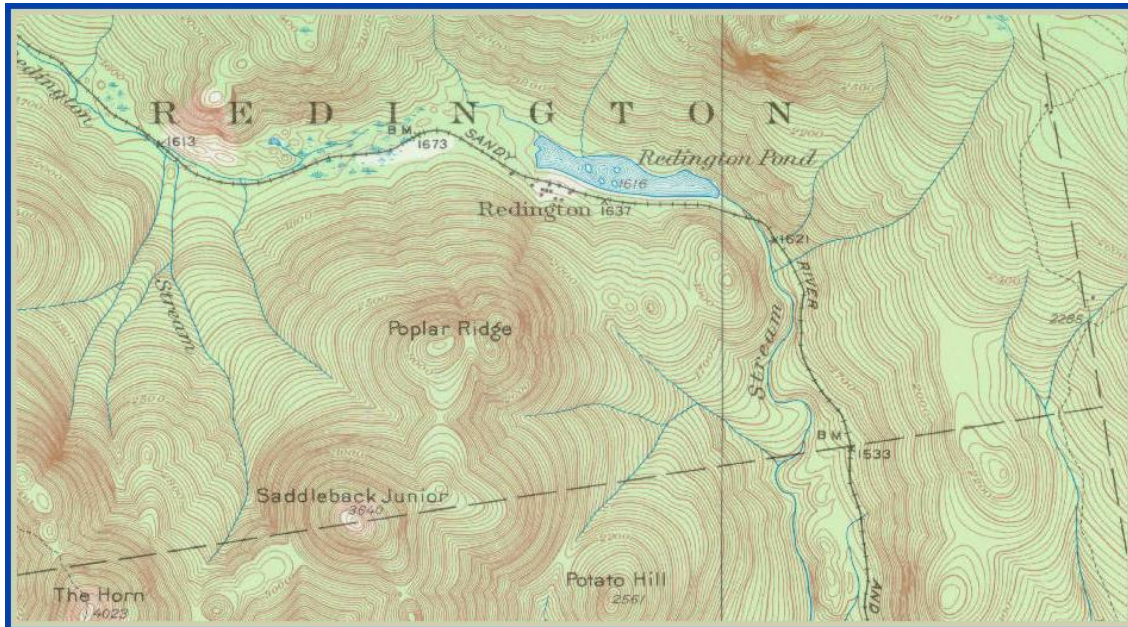
During the history of Redington Township, there have been three post offices.

Briefly, the history of the three post offices is as follows:

1. Redington Post Office opened on 10 March 1914 and closed on 30 June 1921.
2. Redington Mills Post Office opened on 27 December 1890 and closed on 14 October 1891.
3. Redington Mills Post Office reopened on 9 December 1891 and closed on 10 March 1901.



Location of Redington Mills, as shown on the Post Route Map of the State of Maine 1897. Detail from map courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library. Link to source: <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82kk95k>



This detail from the 1929 topographic quadrangle map shows the location of the sawmill village. The railroad was the only way in or out of the community. Link to source: https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=352e4a63f7fb89afaad3e42d4b4a2345

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

Redington

10 March 1914:

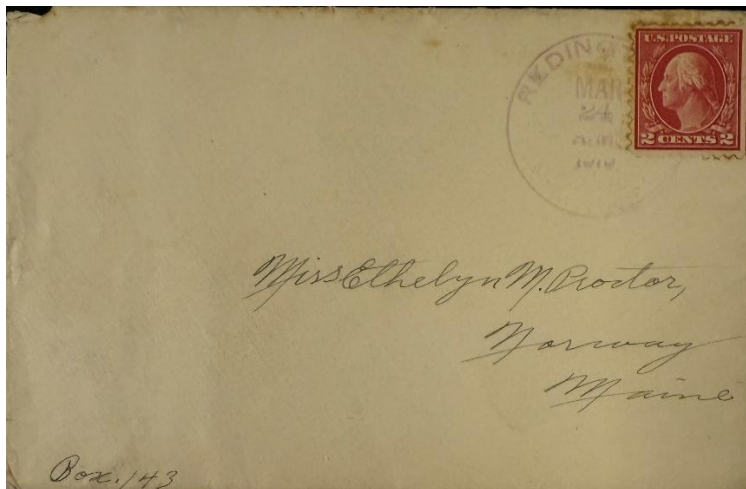
Charles A. Sweetser became the Postmaster of the Redington Post Office.

8 February 1916:

Morris B. Luce became the Postmaster of the Redington Post Office.

8 July 1916:

Jos. L. Violette became the Postmaster of the Redington Post Office.



24 March 1919:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with an undetermined killer.

24 June 1920:

Frank M. Hammond became the Postmaster of the Redington Post Office.

30 June 1921:

Redington Post Office closed with service from Dallas.

Redington Mills

27 December 1890:

Redington Mills Post Office opened.

27 December 1890:

John F. Hilton became the Postmaster of the Redington Mills Post Office.

14 October 1891:

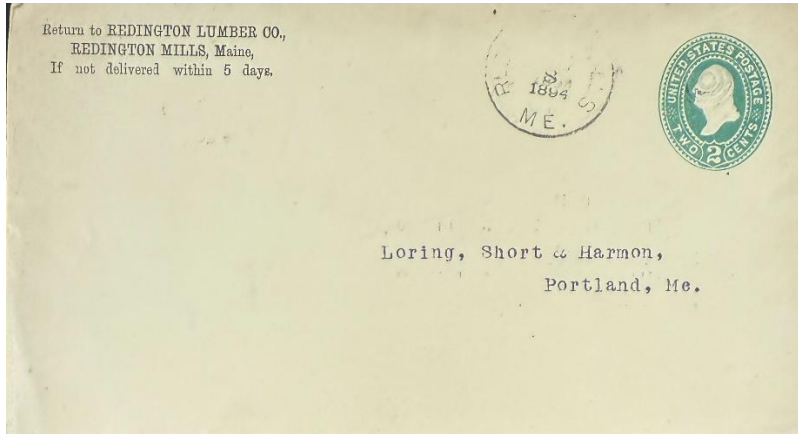
Redington Mills Post Office closed with service from East Madrid.

9 December 1891:

Redington Mills Post Office reopened.

9 December 1891:

Willis P. Eaton became the Postmaster of the Redington Mills Post Office.



8 ??? 1894:

The circular postmark is 27.5 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

7 March 1901:

Redington Mills Post Office closed effective 10 March 1901, with service from East Madrid.

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 Jim Husson.

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

Sources:

Postal History

Maine Postal History Gateway at Maine Philatelic Society:

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

The Post Offices of Maine 2022, Maine Philatelic Society:

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

Postmaster Appointments

U. S. National Archives: Postmaster Appointments for Franklin County, Maine:

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746541>

For help finding postmaster appointments see the Finding Aid for U. S. Postmaster Appointment Records, 1789-Present, <https://www.mainephilatelic.org/pma-findingaid.pdf>.

Postmaster Finder by City

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

The Digitised U. S. Postal Bulletins and PL&Rs 1880-2013

<http://www.uspostalbulletins.com/>

U. S. National Archives. U. S. Post Office Department Reports of Site Locations, Franklin County, Maine. Reports for the Post Offices in Redington Township”
for Redington:

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/68415820?objectPage=227> and the three following pages.

for Redington Mills:

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/68415820?objectPage=231> and the following page.

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>.

Redington Township Local History

Basic information about Redington Township can be found in old editions of the *Maine Register*.

Census data for Redington for 1890-1930 is available from the website of Fogler Library at the University of Maine:

<https://library.umaine.edu/govdoc/Census/Census%20Population%201790%202000.pdf>.

In addition, there are references to and information about Redington in books about the narrow-gauge railroads of Franklin County. In particular, *The Franklin County narrow gauges : the next stop is Rangeley* by Guy Rioux gives substantial attention to Redington.

Postmarks

Helbock, Richard W. *Postmarks on Postcards: An Illustrated Guide to Early 20th Century U. S. Postmarks*. Revised, Second Edition. Scappoose, Oregon: LaPosta Publications, 2002.

Sanders, Christine, The 4-Bar Postmark of the USPS, *PMCC Bulletin* Reprinted Article, Original Publication Date: June, July & December 2012.

http://www.postmarks.org/resources/PMCC_FourBarCancelsUSPS.pdf

Disclaimer:

As with any database of this size, occasional errors—especially typos—are inevitable. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this work and to correct any mistakes made by previous authors. We take full responsibility for any errors and encourage you to bring them to our attention so that we can make the necessary corrections.

Determining the size and type of a postmark or killer is as much an art as it is a science. Many of the cut squares originate from the digital Willett/Thompson Collection. Those postmark dimensions have been estimated by comparing them to a known object, such as a stamp, and using proportional ratios. These measurements may vary by a millimeter or two. Additionally, parameters such as V span or wBar for four-bar killers can be difficult to assess without examining the specimen firsthand. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these interpretations.