

Standish Postal History

Cumberland County, Maine

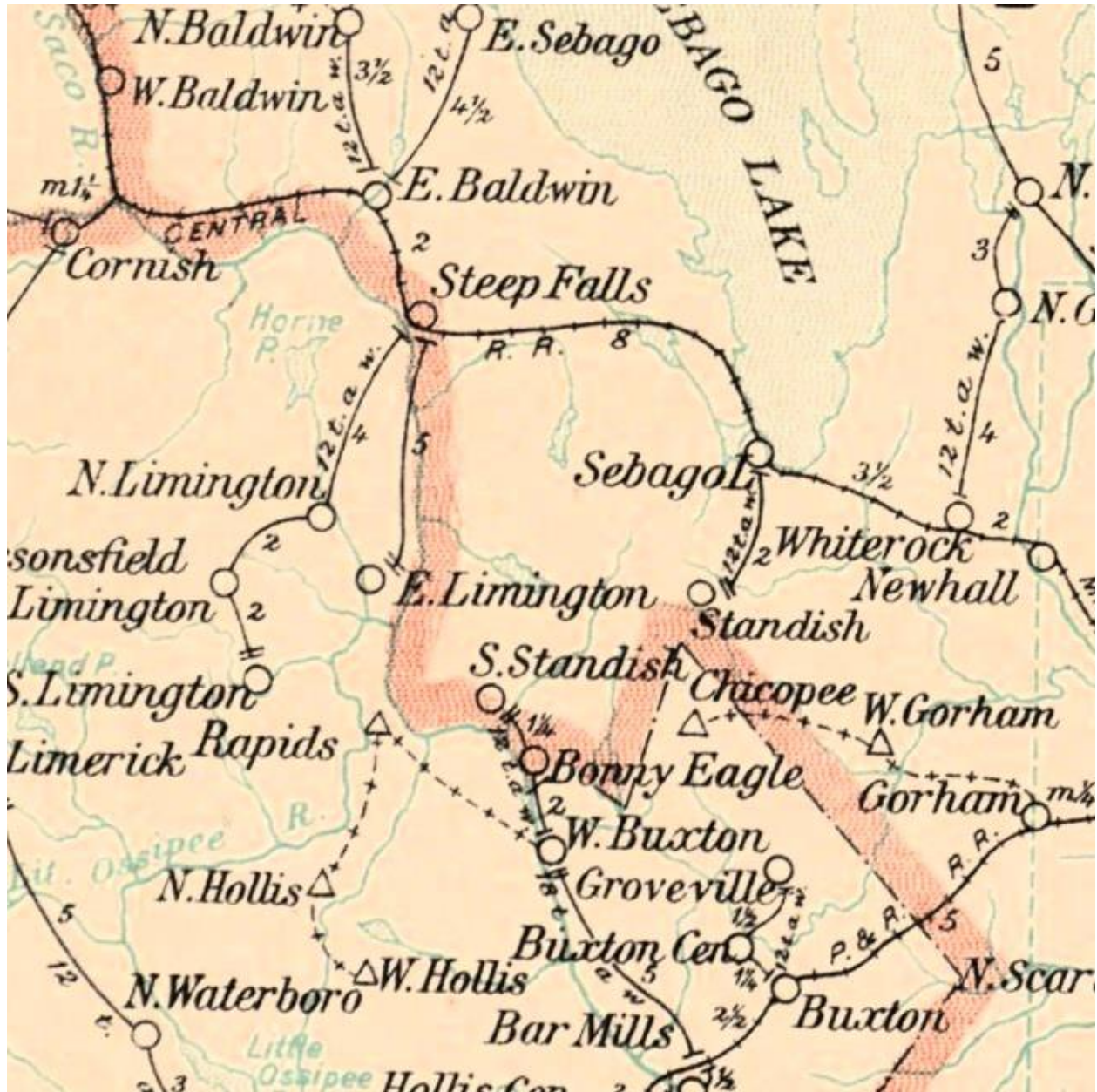
Last update for this page: 5 November 2024

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>.

The area that became Standish began as a grant from the Massachusetts General Court in 1760 to Captain Humphrey Hobbs and Captain Moses Pearson, and their companies, for military service to the Crown in the French and Indian Wars. Originally known as Pearsontown Plantation, the town was incorporated by the General Court in 1785 as the Town of Standish, in honor of Miles Standish of the Plymouth colony.

Briefly, there were eight post offices in Standish:

1. [Bonny Eagle](#) Post Office opened on 24 February 1853 and closed on 31 July 1919.
2. [East Standish](#) Post Office opened on 17 December 1832 and closed on 21 January 1859. It was re-established on 12 February 1859 and closed on 6 January 1860. It became the White Rock Post Office (located in Gorham).
3. [Sebago Lake](#) Post Office opened on 12 December 1871 and closed on 30 July 1998. Its name was changed to Sebago Lake CPO Standish.
4. [Sebago Lake CPO Standish](#) Post Office (formerly Sebago Lake Post Office) opened on 31 July 1998 and closed on 11 June 2007.
5. [South Standish \(1\)](#) Post Office opened on 17 December 1832 and closed on 14 November 1836.
6. [South Standish \(2\)](#) Post Office opened on 9 October 1893 and closed on 28 February 1917.
7. [Standish](#) Post Office opened on 27 August 1797 and is still operational.
8. [Steep Falls](#) Post Office opened on 27 May 1850 and is still operational.



In 1903, there were five post offices in the Town of Standish: Bonny Eagle, Sebago Lake, South Standish, Standish, and Steep Falls. Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1903. Map reproduction courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library. <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82km77v>

Bonny Eagle

24 February 1853:

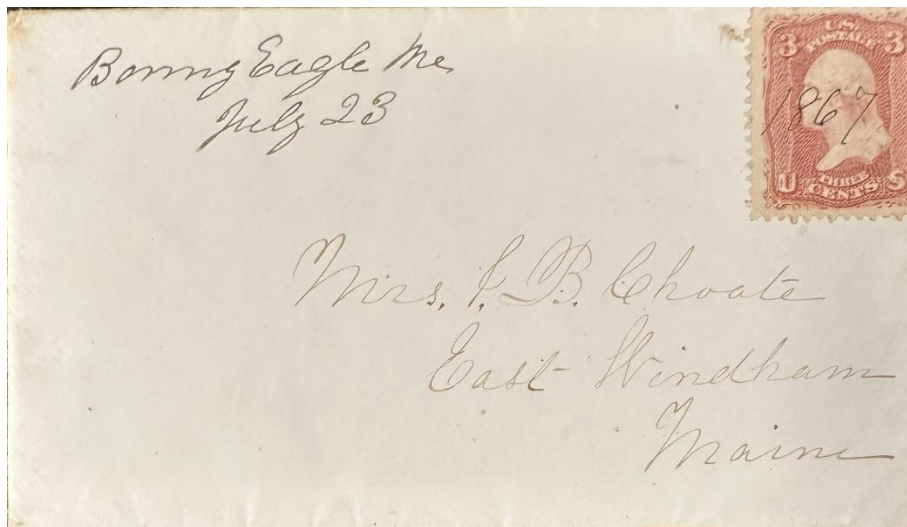
Bonny Eagle Post Office opened.

24 February 1853:

Nathaniel H. Lane became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

9 October 1862:

Simeon G. Rumery became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.



23 July 1867:

Manuscript postmark and killer.

8 April 1870:

Cotley G. Rumery became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

25 July 1872:

John L. Davis became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

5 November 1873:

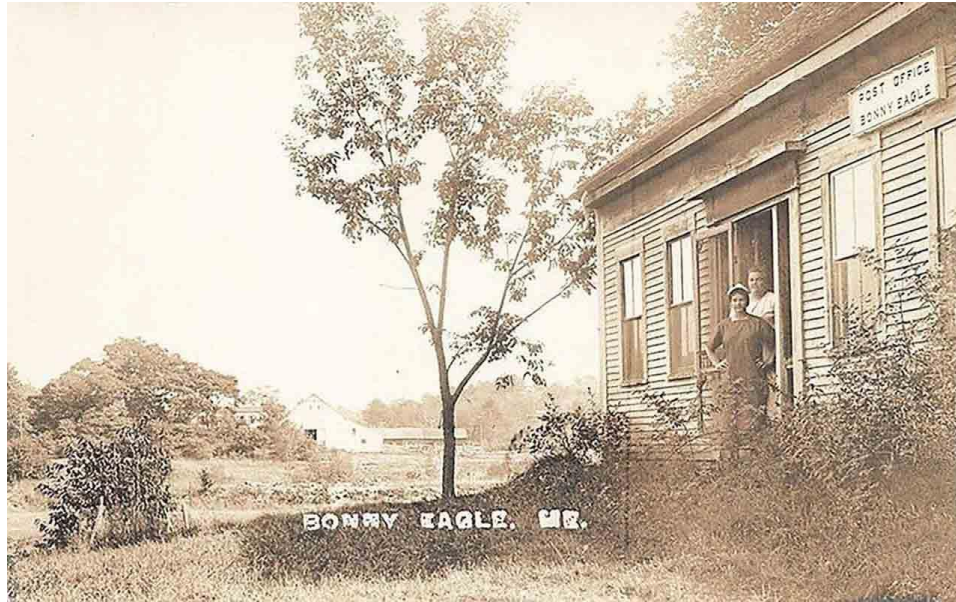
John M. Hutchinson became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

15 April 1881:

Winthrop Bradbury became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

20 October 1884:

Maria M. Lane became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.



Date Unknown

Bonny Eagle Post Office: Photo Credit Unknown



Date Unknown

Bonny Eagle Post Office: Photo Credit Unknown.

30 August 1889:

William H. Sturgis became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

4 February 1896:

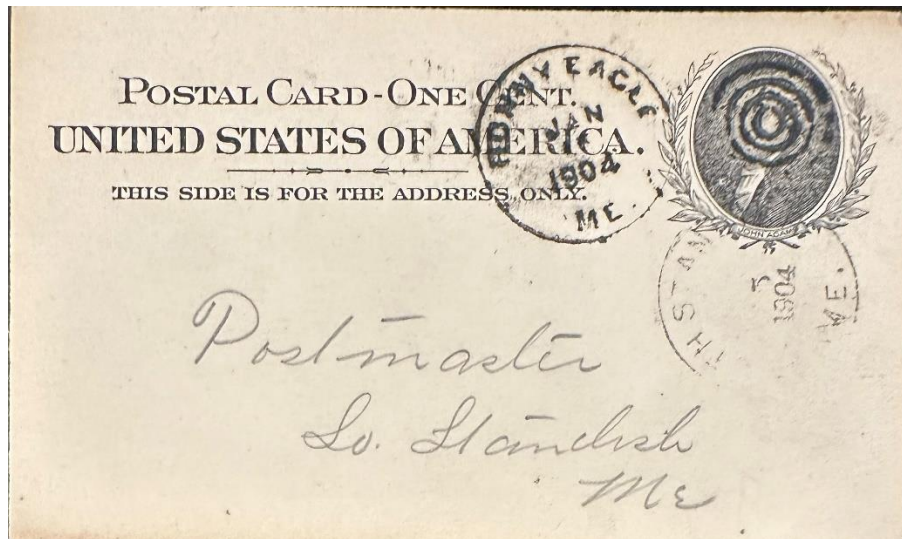
Alphonso G. Davie became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

8 January 1897:

Stephen E. Thayer became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

6 September 1902:

Grace E. Haley became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

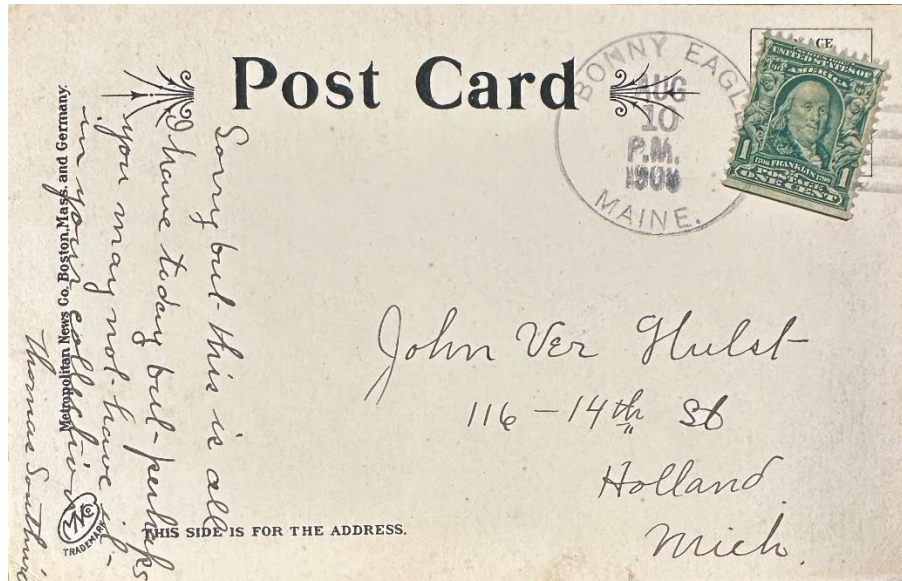


? January 1904:

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

5 August 1904:

Orion E. Southwick became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.

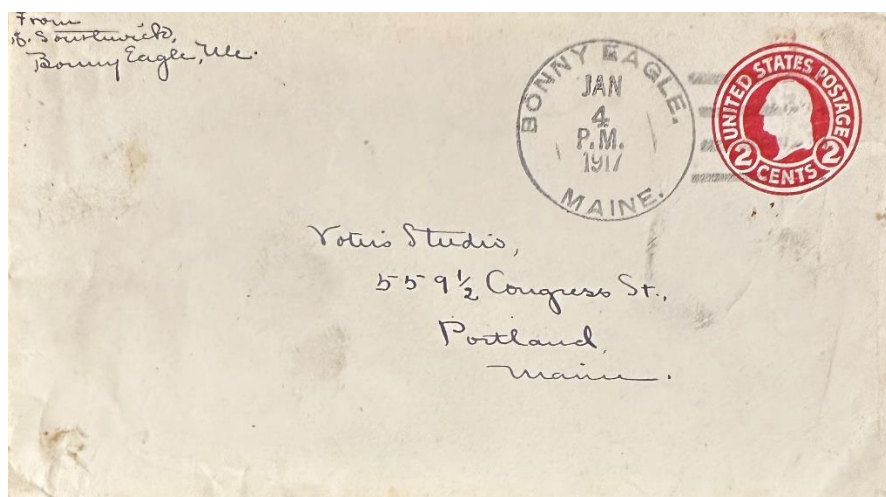


10 August 1908:

The circular postmark is 30.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar A/1 killer.

11 February 1915:

Esther Southwick became the Postmaster of the Bonny Eagle Post Office.



4 January 1917:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter and has a four-bar type B killer. The postmaster's signature is in the upper left corner.

31 July 1919:

Bonny Eagle Post Office closed with service from West Buxton.

East Standish

17 December 1835:

East Standish Post Office opened.

17 December 1835:

Benjamin Chadbourne became the Postmaster of the East Standish Post Office

1 May 1850:

Joseph Webster became the Postmaster of the East Standish Post Office.

21 January 1859:

East Standish Post Office closed.

12 February 1859:

East Standish Post Office was re-established.

12 February 1859:

Josiah P. Chadbourne became the Postmaster of the East Standish Post Office.

6 January 1860:

East Standish Post Office closed and was renamed White Rock Post Office (located in Gorham)

Sebago Lake

12 December 1871:

Sebago Lake Post Office opened.

12 December 1871:

Joseph S. Webster became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

7 January 1880:

George E. Whitney became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

14 January 1886

Oliver Dole became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

20 January 1886:

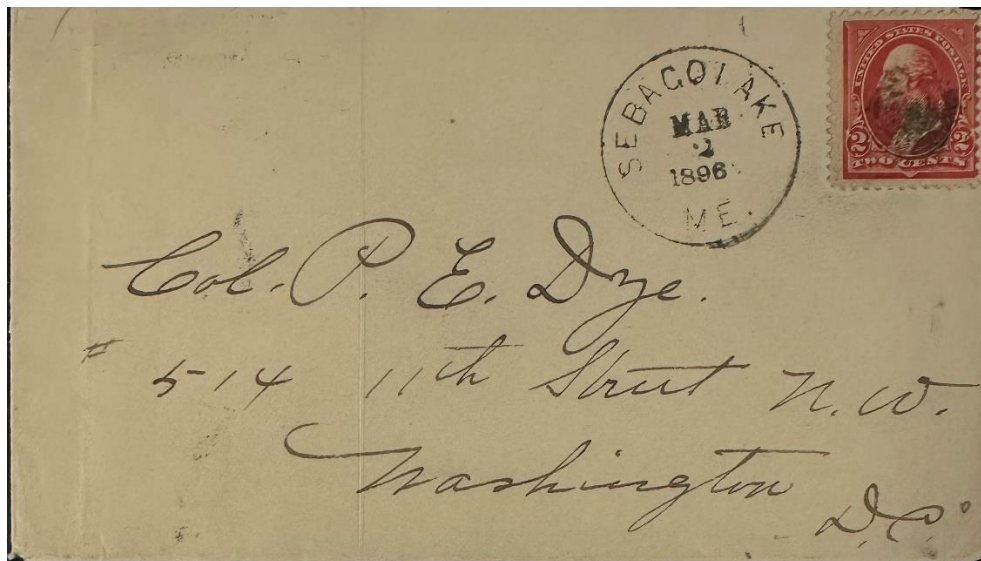
George E. Whitney became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

29 May 1889:

John H. Rich became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

24 August 1893:

Clinton D.W. Shaw became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.



2 March 1896:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

1 November 1897:

John H. Rich became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

STAMP HERE THE DATE OF RECEIPT

THIS ADVICE MUST BE DISPATCHED BY THE FIRST MAIL AFTER THE ISSUE OF THE ORDER. THE POSTMASTER AT THE OFFICE DRAWN UPON, UNLESS IT IS WITHDRAWN BY THE ISSUING POSTMASTER ON ACCOUNT OF REPAYMENT, WILL KEEP THE ADVICE CAREFULLY FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH OF ISSUE, WHEN, IF THE ORDER REMAINS UNPAID, IT MUST BE SENT BY HIM TO THE DEPARTMENT AS AN "INVALID ADVICE". IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ORDER HAS BEEN PAID AT THE OFFICE DRAWN UPON, THE ADVICE MUST BE RETAINED THEREAT FOR FOUR YEARS, AFTER WHICH IT MAY BE DISPOSED OF AS WASTE PAPER.

THE SPACES OPPOSITE ARE TO BE FILLED IN WHEN THE BLANKS NAMED ARE USED.

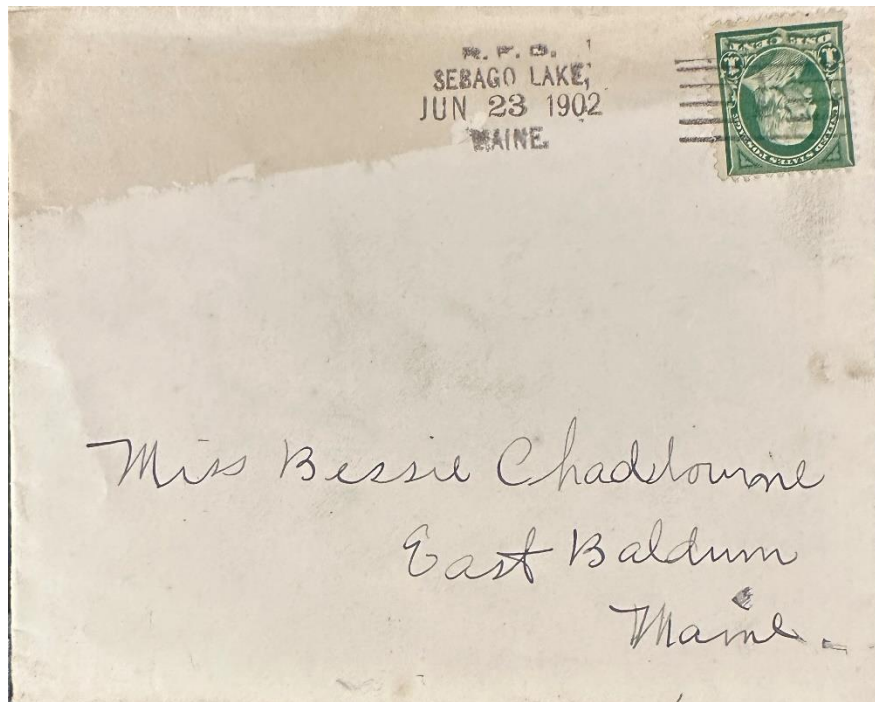
Form No. 6006	190
Form No. 6075	190
Form No. 6089	190

MEMORANDA OF PAYING CLERK, AS TO PROOF OF IDENTITY, ETC., FOR REFERENCE IN CASE OF ALLEGED IMPROPER PAYMENT.

SEBAGO LAKE, ME. JAN 10 1902

10 January 1902:

The circular double-ringed Money Order Business postmark is 28 mm in diameter with no killer. A similar postmark dated 10 February 1902 is known.



23 June 1902:

R.F.D. postmark Type 1 Route 1.

15 December 1904:

Samuel Rich became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.



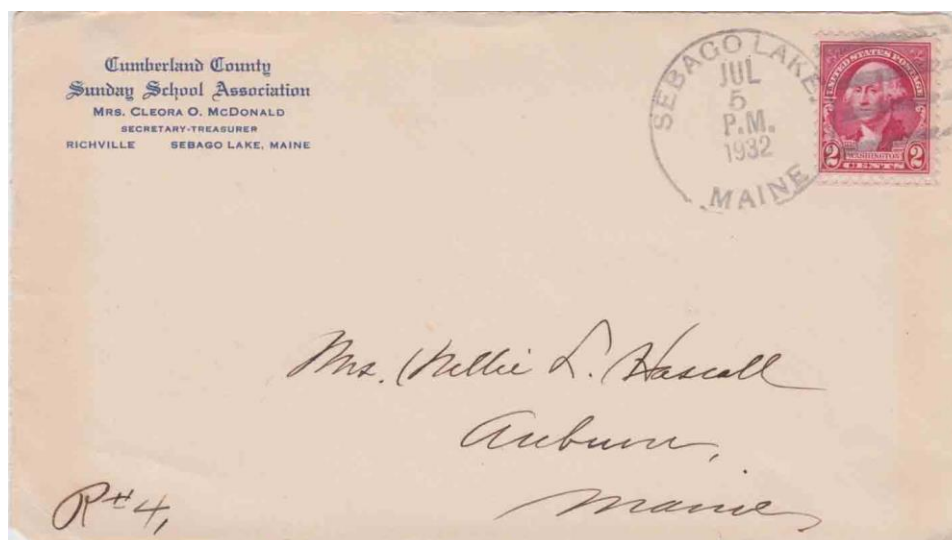
Date Unknown:
Sebago Lake Post Office. Photo Credit unknown.



11 August 1906:
R.F.D. Postmark Type 1A Route 2.

21 January 1926:

Lemuel Rich became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.



5 July 1932:

The circular postmark is 31.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar C/1 killer.

19 February 1943:

Aubrey E. Kenney became the Acting Postmaster of the Sebang Lake Post Office.

5 November 1943:

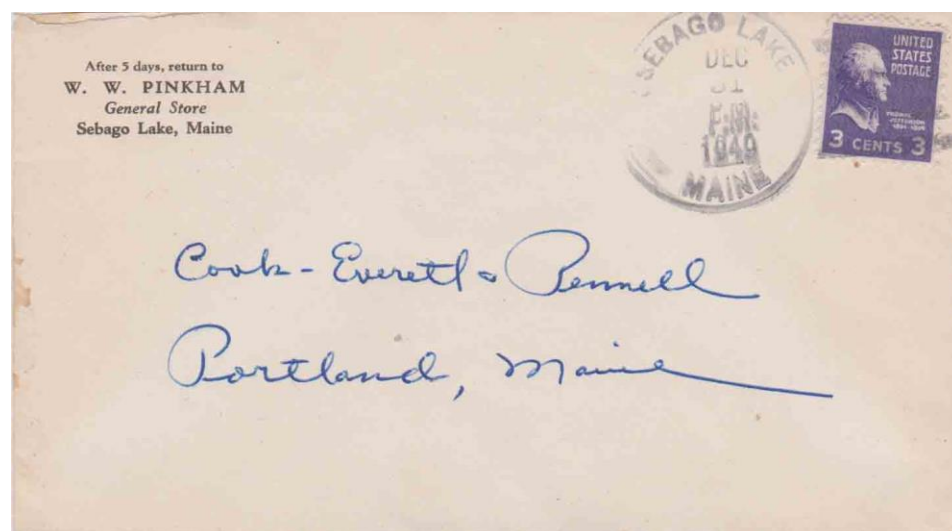
Aubrey E. Kenney became the Postmaster of the Sebang Lake Post Office.

31 January 1944:

Pearl M. Blake became the Acting Postmaster of the Sebang Lake Post Office.

15 December 1945:

Aubrey E. Kenney returned from Active Duty and resumed as Postmaster of the Sebang Lake Post Office.

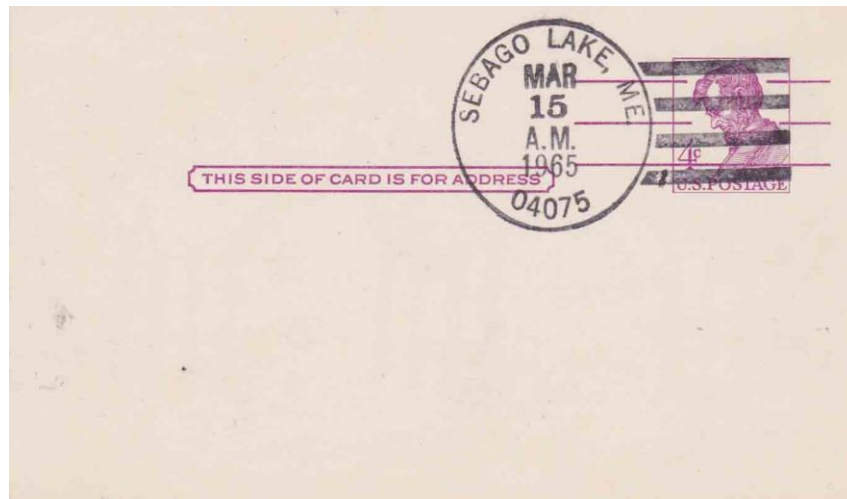


31 December 1940:

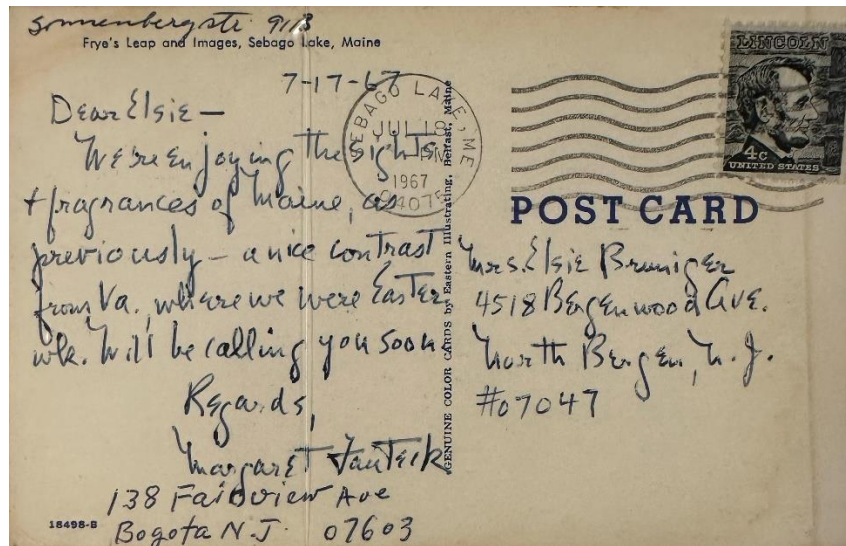
The circular postmark is 34.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar F/1 killer. A similar postmark dated 30 January 1950 is known.



1957:
Sebago Lake Post Office – Photo Credit Unknown



15 March 1965:
The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar F/2 killer.



18 July 1967:

The circular postmark is 22.5 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line Columbia Machine killer.

1 March 1975:

Mrs. Marilyn L. Klien became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

7 June 1975:

Mrs. Marilyn L. Klien became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

Unknown date:

An unknown person became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

14 December 1985:

Richard H. Loubier became the Postmaster of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

25 February 1993:

Shirley M. Batchelder became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

25 May 1993:

James Fred Hale became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

29 December 1993:

Sherry Jude became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

29 March 1994:

Sidney R. Cohen became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

1 July 1994:

Steven Conley became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

28 October 1994:

David Roy became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

27 January 1995:

James T. Chamberlain became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

05 May 1995:

Tatiana L. Roy became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

22 May 1995:

Jaye Olender became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

8 August 1995:

John J. Romprey Jr. became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

3 November 1995:

Margaret Aspinall became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

8 March 1996:

D. Camille Leonti became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

25 July 1996:

Lawrence Lamson became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago dsfa Lake Post Office.

19 September 1996:

Linda Crawford became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

2 January 1997:

William Potts became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

9 April 1997:

Paul Cobb became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

6 August 1997:

Theresa Morin became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

19 November 1997:

Paul Therrien became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

16 March 1998:

Roxanne Libby became the Officer-In-Charge of the Sebago Lake Post Office.

30 July 1998:

Sebago Lake Post Office closed and was converted to Sebago Lake CPO Standish.

Sebago Lake CPO Standish

31 July 1998:

Sebago Lake CPO Standish Post Office (formerly Sebago Lake Post Office) opened.

11 June 2007:

Sebago Lake CPO Standish Post Office closed.

South Standish (1) (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named South Standish 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.)

17 December 1832:

South Standish (1) Post Office opened.

17 December 1832:

Edmund Mayo became the Postmaster of the South Standish (1) Post Office.

14 November 1836:

South Standish (1) Post Office closed.

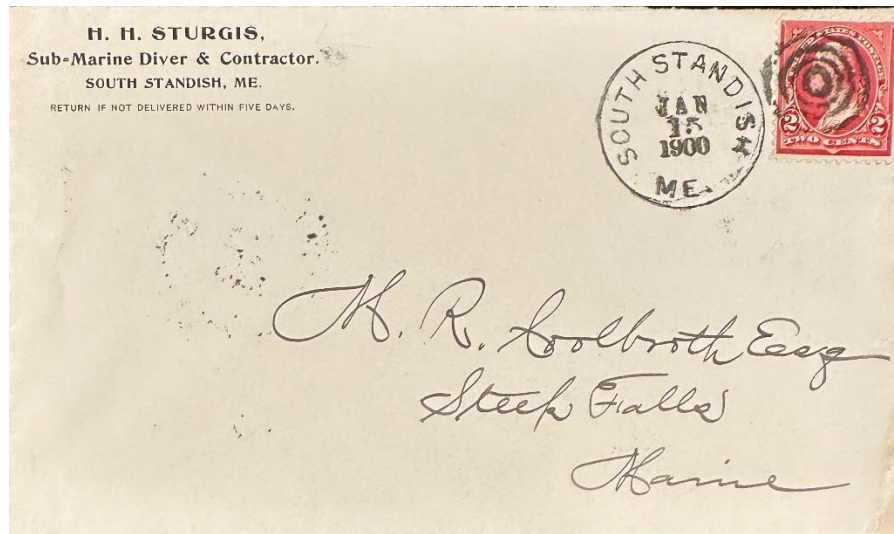
South Standish (2) (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named South Standish at different times and locations. The (2) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

9 October 1893:

South Standish (2) Post Office opened.

9 October 1893:

Levi Libby became the Postmaster of the South Standish (2) Post Office.



15 January 1900:

The circular postmark is 28.5 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.



20 April 1908:

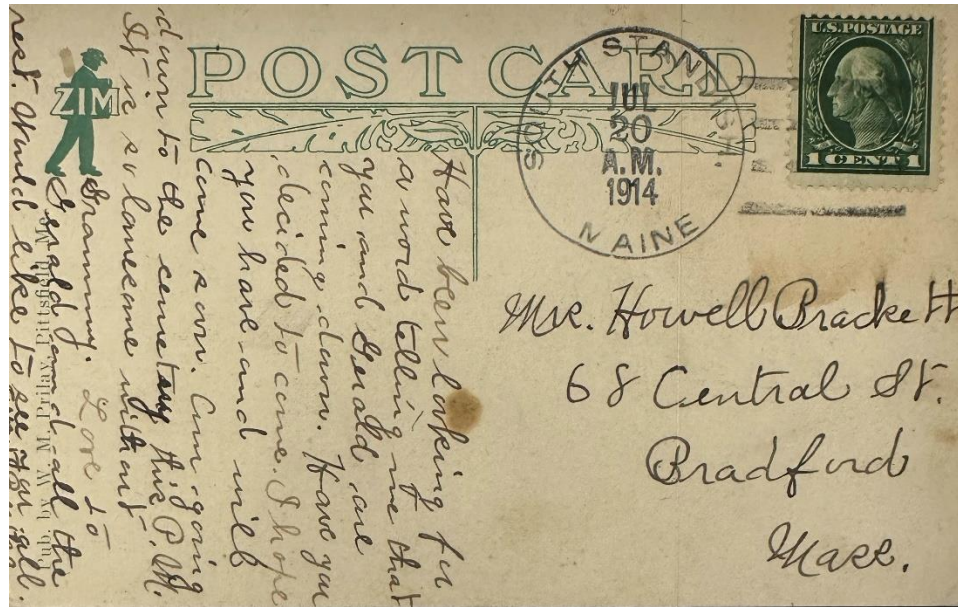
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a Doane 3/1 killer.

4 February 1911:

Fannie F. Cook became the Postmaster of the South Standish (2) Post Office.

30 August 1912:

Belle B. Nason became the Postmaster of the South Standish (2) Post Office.



20 July 1914:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar B killer.

28 February 1917:

South Standish (2) Post Office closed with service from West Buxton.

Standish

27 August 1797:

Standish Post Office opened.

27 August 1797:

John Dean, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

25 August 1800:

William Lamson became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

28 August 1815:

John Lowell became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

6 October 1834:

Samuel Dennett became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

20 November 1835:

James Hasty, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

3 June 1841:

Joseph S. Thompson became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

15 August 1846:

Gardner Dennett became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

14 July 1849:

Joseph S. Thompson became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

2 May 1854:

Theodore M. Bradbury became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

4 July 1855:

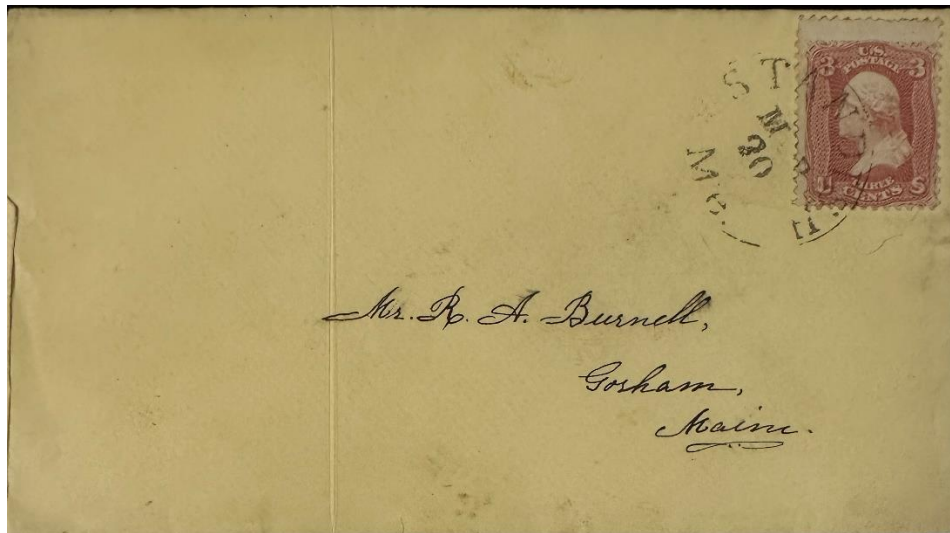
Joseph S. Thompson became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

8 July 1856:

Seth Higgins became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

12 November 1860:

Milton Shaw became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

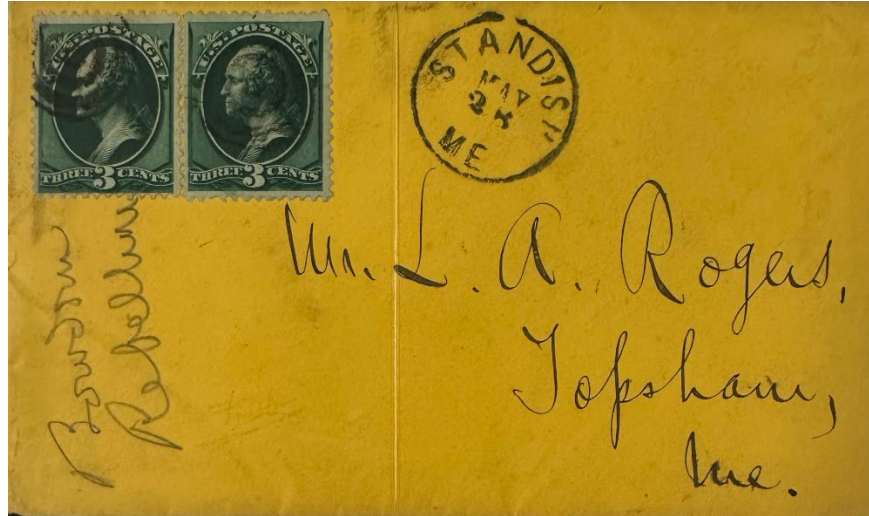


20 March circa 1865:

The circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter, and the CDS is used as a killer.

15 January 1866:

William Paine became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.



28 May circa 1880:

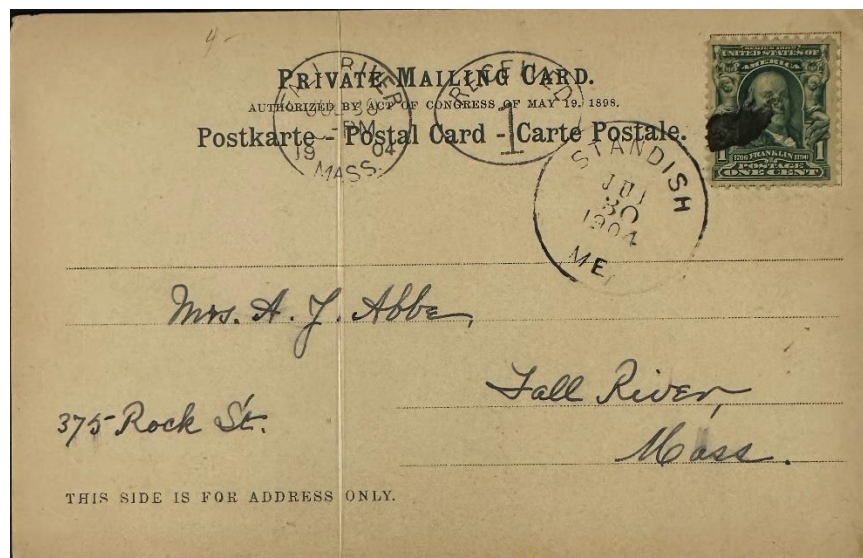
The circular postmark is 25 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

17 October 1881:

William H. Libby became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

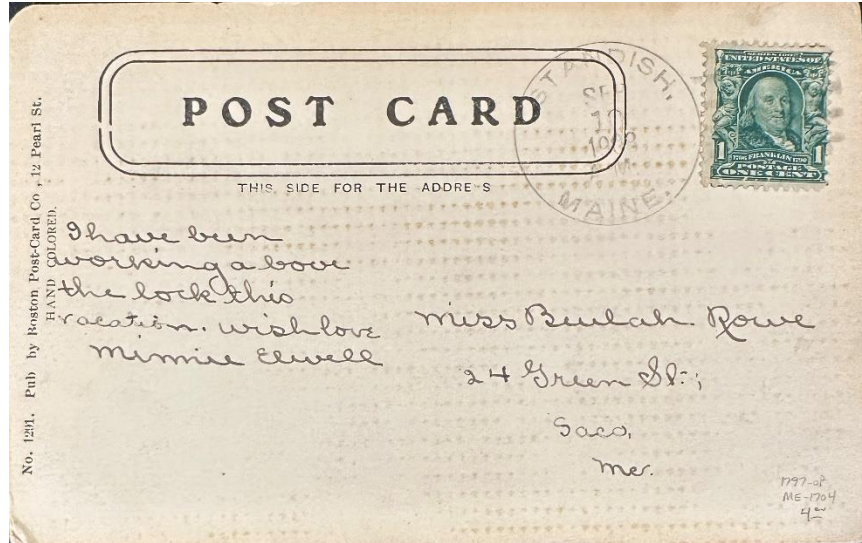
24 August 1885:

Henry B. Hartford became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.



30 July 1904:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

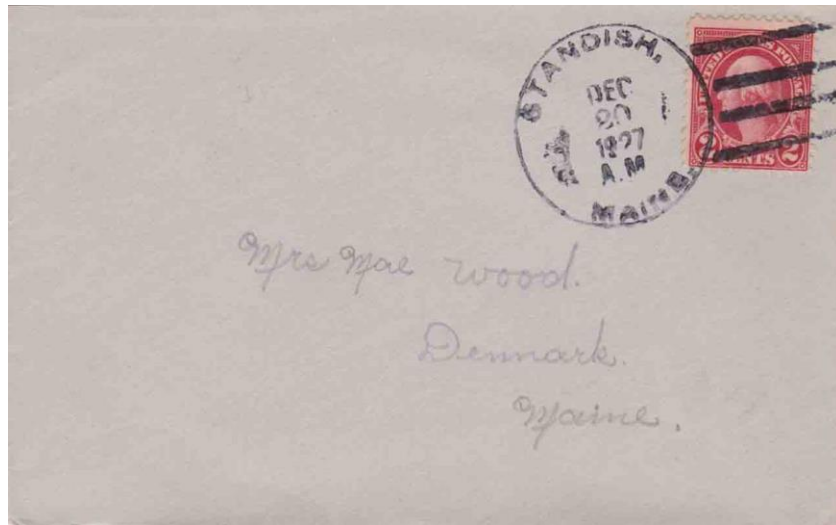


10 September 1908:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar A/1 killer

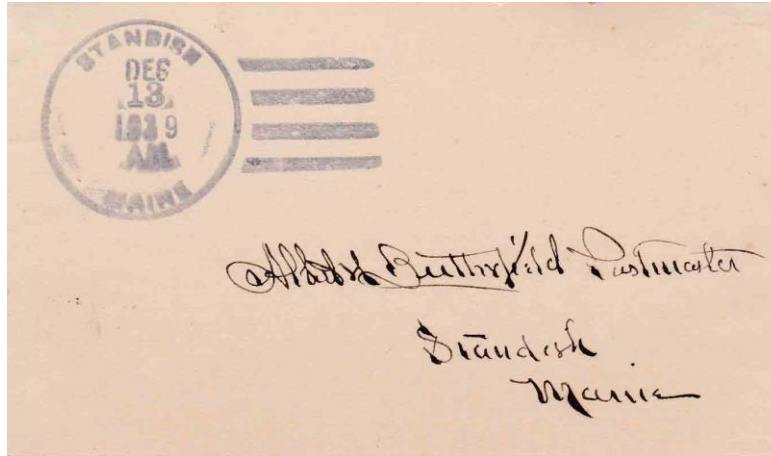
13 November 1914:

Albert H. Butterfield became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.



20 December 1927:

The circular postmark is 32.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar C/1 killer.



13 December 1939:

The circular postmark is 32.5 mm with a four-bar F/1 killer.

30 November 1945:

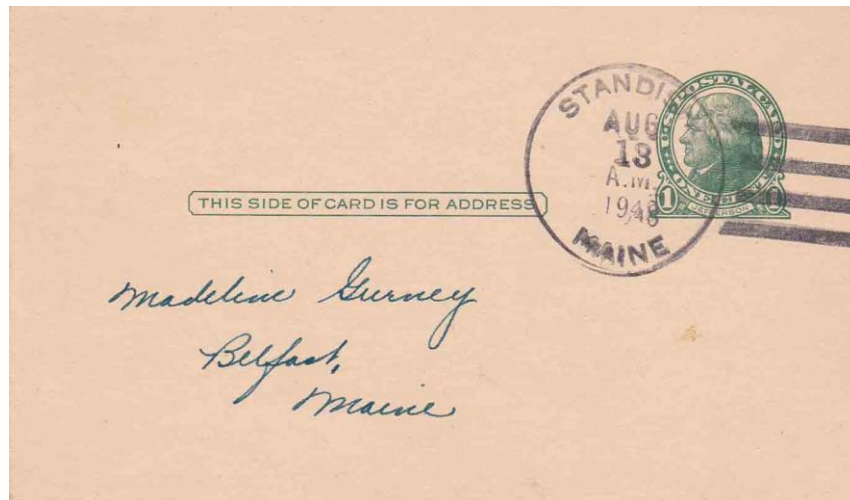
Mrs. Ruth M. Webb became the Acting Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

30 June 1947:

Robert M. Heggeman became the Acting Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

16 June 1948:

Robert M. Heggeman became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.



13 August 1948:

The circular postmark is 34 mm in diameter with a four-bar F/1 killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 22 April 1949 is known.



1957:
Standish Post Office – Photo Credit Unknown.

3 May 1984:

Ronald K. Bouchard became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

21 July 1984:

Joanne N. Foster became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

7 January 1992:

Sherrie Fortin-Bailey became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

1 April 1992:

Linda McLean became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

14 October 1992:

Richard H. Loubier became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

12 June 1993:

Richard H. Loubier became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

30 July 1998:

Roger Desrochers became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

13 February 1999:

Sherry L. Jude became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

12 July 2000:

Steven M. Conley became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

13 July 2001:

Patricia A. Barr became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

6 October 2001:

Patricia A. Barr became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

2 September 2009:

Heather L. Dyer became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

17 July 2010:

Heather L. Dyer became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

27 May 2011:

Mary Morelli became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

30 July 2011:

Paula L. Monaghan became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.

? Date

Unknown person became the Officer-In-Charge of the Standish Post Office.

22 October 2022:

Jeanine L. Mitchell became the Postmaster of the Standish Post Office.



9 July 2022:

Standish Post Office – Photo Credit James Husson

2 October 2024:

The Standish Post Office is operational at 111 Ossipee Trail, Ste. 9998, Standish, Maine 04084.

GPS 43° 43' 50" N 70° 32' 39" W.

Steep Falls

27 May 1850:

Steep Falls Post Office opened.

27 May 1850:

Andrew Hobson became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

22 January 1852:

Pelatih M. Hobson became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

26 April 1853:

Edmund Mann became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

17 January 1859:

Charles F. Staples became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

4 October 1861:

William Wingate became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

31 May 1870:

Tobias Lord, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

28 January 1886:

Isaac N. Richardson became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

(18 February 1886):

(William D. Mayo) not commissioned.

3 May 1889:

Edwin R. Wingate became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

26 June 1893:

Fred Marean became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

7 June 1897:

Edwin R. Wingate became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.



28 March 1907:

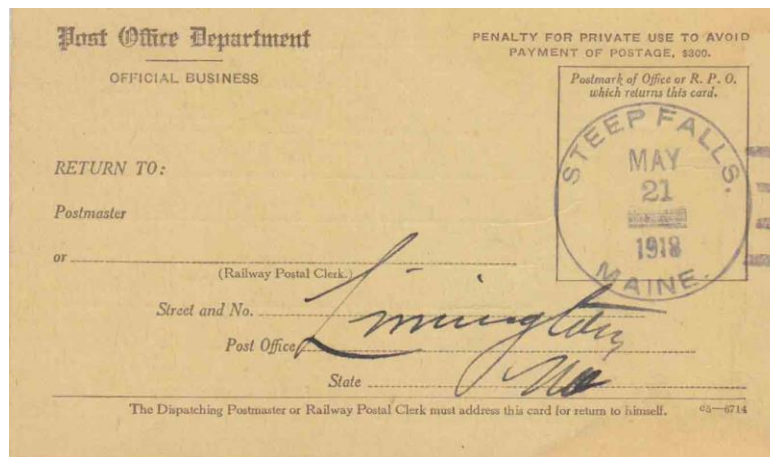
The circular postmark is 29.5 mm in diameter with a nine-bar oval duplex killer.

25 August 1913:

Walter E. Marean became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

3 May 1917:

James W. Wadleigh became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.



21 May 1918:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar B killer.

27 April 1922:

Fred W. Small became the Acting Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

8 June 1922:

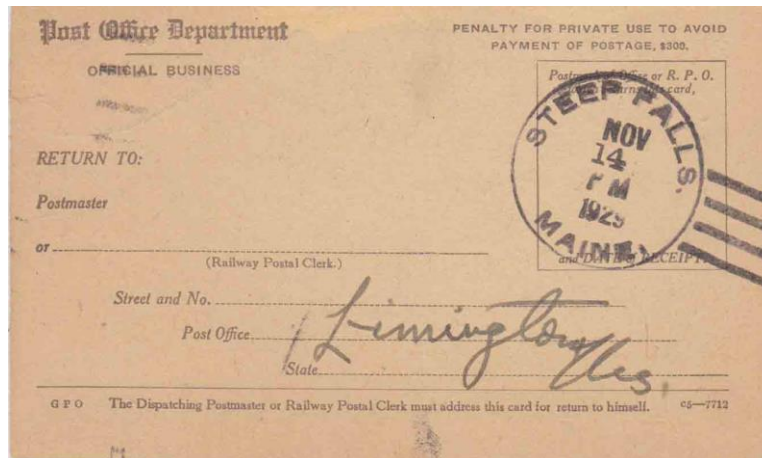
Fred W. Small became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

10 October 1924:

Frank L. Strout became the Acting Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

19 January 1925:

Frank L. Strout became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.



14 November 1929:

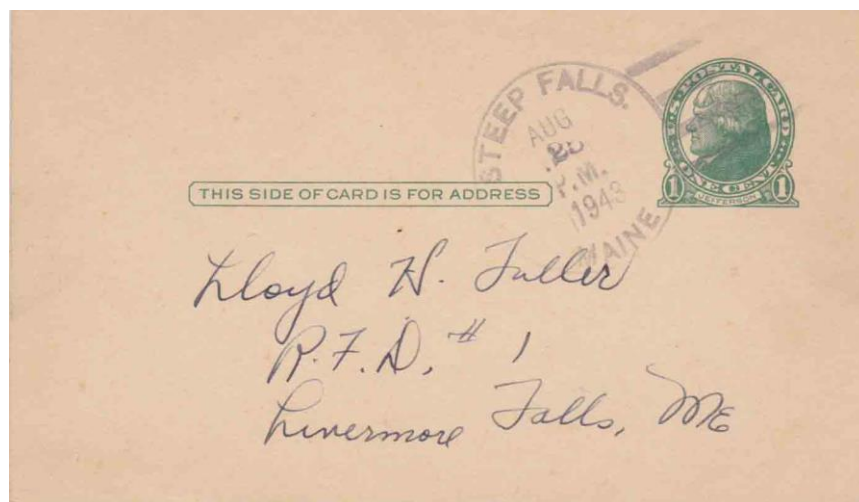
The circular postmark is 31.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar A/2 killer.

7 February 1940:

Ralph L. Harrington became the Acting Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

24 August 1940:

Ralph L. Harrington became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

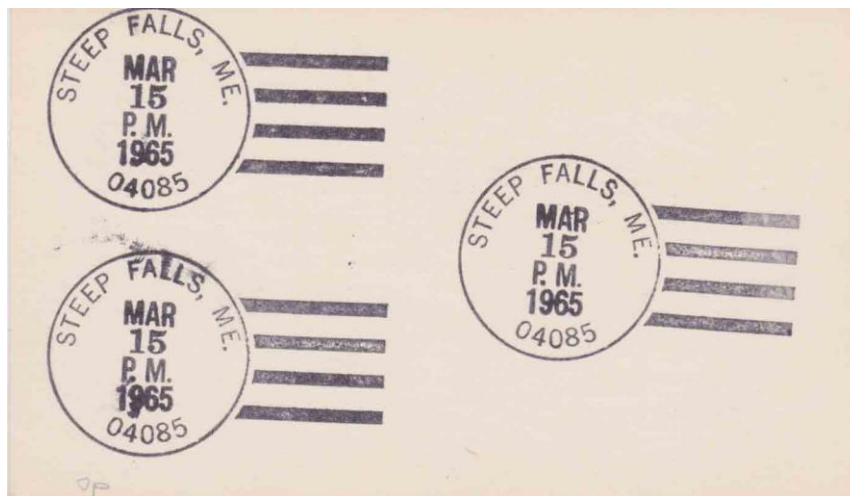


25 August 1943:

The circular postmark is 34 mm in diameter with a four-bar F/1 killer. Similar postmarks dated 4 November 1948 and 2 November 1950 are known.



1959:
Steep Falls Post Office – Photo Credit Unknown



15 March 1965:
The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar F/2 killer.

30 June 1965:

Frank P. Pendexter became the Acting Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

4 April 1968:

Kenneth P. Ridlon became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

5 July 1974:

Philip G. Walker became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

17 August 1974:

Philip G. Walker became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

Date Unknown:

Joseph Nitsche became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

15 March 1986:

Kathleen M. Huff became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

2 September 1989:

Cynthia Reagan became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

21 October 1989:

Randy G. Cantwell became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

3 September 1992:

James B. Dixon became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

17 April 1993:

Conrad M. Ustaris became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

1 December 1999:

Sharon D. Ames became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

26 February 2000:

Linda G. McLean became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

16 November 2001:

Gene Stone became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

13 January 2002:

John Schreiber became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

15 April 2002:

Mary Picchi became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

22 February 2003:

Donna L. Merrick became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

10 November 2004:

Barbara Barnes became the Officer-In-Charge of the Steep Falls Post Office.

25 June 2005:

Charles F. Cornwell became the Postmaster of the Steep Falls Post Office.

20 April 2013:

Steep Falls Post Office was converted to a Level 6 (6-hour) remotely managed post office under the direction of the Limington Post Office Postmaster.



9 July 2022:

Steep Falls Post Office – Photo Credit Jim Husson.

9 October 2024:

Steep Falls Post Office is operational at 1090 Pequawket Trail, Steep Falls, ME 04085. GPS 43° 47' 27" N 70° 38' 54" W.

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 the Strout Family and Jim Husson.

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

Sources:

Postal History

Maine Philatelic Society Gateway to Maine Postal History

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

The Post Offices of Maine 2022, Maine Philatelic Society:

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

National Archives Catalog: Postmaster Appointments for Cumberland County, Maine

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746483>

Postmaster Finder by City:

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

The Digitized U. S. Postal Bulletins and Postal Laws and Regulations [1880-2016]

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

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>.

Postmarks

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

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