Westbrook Postal History
Cumberland County, Maine

Last update for this page: 5 November 2024

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Originally known as Saccarappa after Saccarappa Falls on the Presumpscot River, it was a part of Falmouth until February 14, 1814, when it was set off and incorporated as Stroudwater. It soon changed to Westbrook that same year. In 1871, Westbrook amicably split into two municipalities: Deering, which was ultimately annexed into Portland in 1898; and the current Westbrook. In 1891, Westbrook was incorporated as a city.

Briefly, there were ten post offices in Westbrook:

1. Cumberland Mills Post Office opened on 13 July 1875 and closed on 31 August 1903. The name was changed to Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook.
2. Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook Post Office (formerly Cumberland Mills Post Office) opened on 31 August 1903 and closed on 30 June 1981. Cumb. Mills Sta. Westbrook and Cmbrid Mils Sta. have been seen.
3. Duck Pond Post Office opened on 23 February 1869 and closed on 13 February 1871. It was re-established on 5 August 1874 and closed on 12 July 1900. The name was changed to Highland Lake Post Office.
4. Highland Lake Post Office (formerly Duck Pond Post Office) opened on 12 July 1900 and closed on 26 October 1916.
5. Prides Corner Post Office (formerly Westbrook (1) Post Office) opened on 25 April 1891 and closed on 30 June 1904.
6. Saccarappa Post Office opened on 1 November 1797 and closed on 21 May 1891. The name was changed to Westbrook (2) Post Office. Sacarappa has been seen.
7. Westbrook (1) Post Office opened on 1 April 1881 and closed on 25 April 1891. The name was changed to Prides Corner Post Office.
8. Westbrook (2) Post Office (formerly Saccarappa Post Office) opened on 21 May 1891 and is still operational.
9. Westbrook Sta. No. 1 Post Office opened on 16 November 1910 and closed on 31 March 1929. It was located at 615 Main Street. Westbrook Sta. No. 1 Post Office was re-established on 1 May 1957 and closed sometime between 1964/1981. It was located at 125 Bridgton Rd.
10. Westbrook Sta. No. 2 Post Office opened on 16 November 1910 and closed in 1927.

In 1897, there were four post offices operating within the City of Westbrook: Cumberland Mills, Duckpond, Prides Corner, and Westbrook.
Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine 1897. Map reproduction courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library.
https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82kk95k
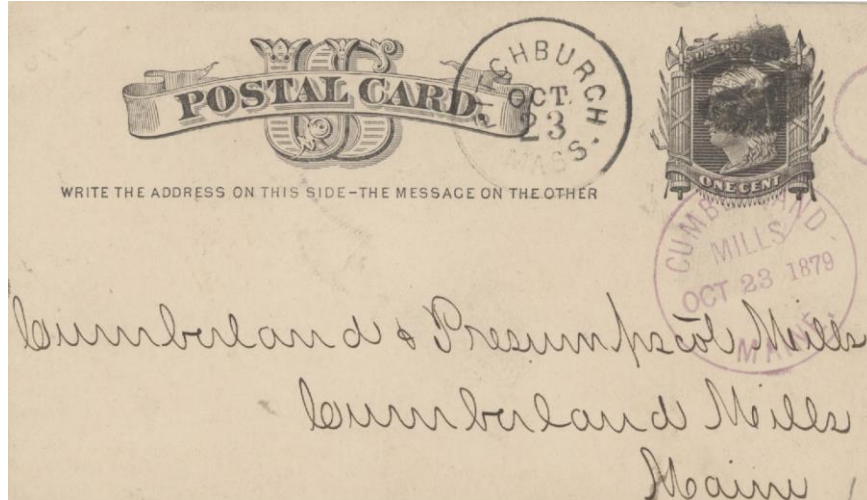
Cumberland Mills

13 July 1875:
   Cumberland Mills Post Office opened.

13 July 1875:
   William W. Lamb became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

4 January 1877:
   Daniel P. Horr became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

23 October 1879:
The received circular post is 30 mm in diameter with a partial circle killer.

15 February 1881:
The circular postmark is 25 mm in diameter with no killer. A similar postmark dated 20 January 1881 is known.

? January 1882:
The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

3 September 1883:
The circular postmark is 27.5 mm in diameter with an unknown killer.
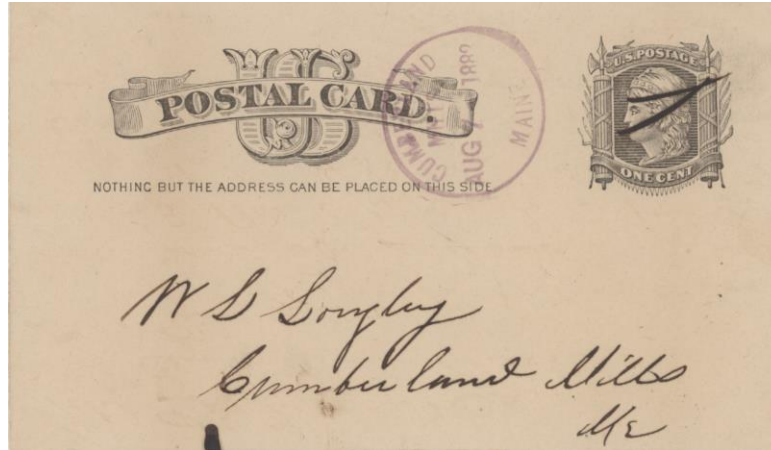
24 August 1885:
  Harlan M. Raymond became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

12 October 1886:
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with cork smudge killer.
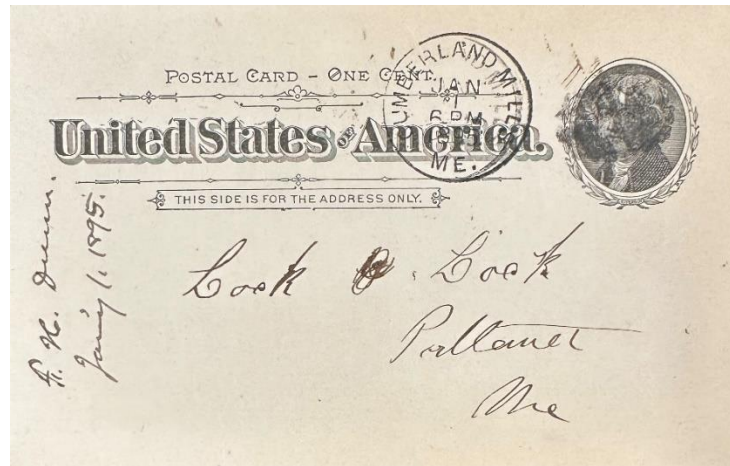
7 August 1887:
The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a manuscript killer.

18 November 1889:
   Alfred H. Larrabee became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

20 February 1890:
   Joseph Dunnell became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

1 January 1895:
The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

1 February 1896:
    Harlan M. Raymond became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

24 February 1900:
   Nathaniel A. Burnell became the Postmaster of the Cumberland Mills Post Office.

29 August 1903:
   Cumberland Mills Post Office was discontinued effective 31 August 1903. The name was changed to Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook.

View of the Warren Block, where the Cumberland Mills Post Office was once located.
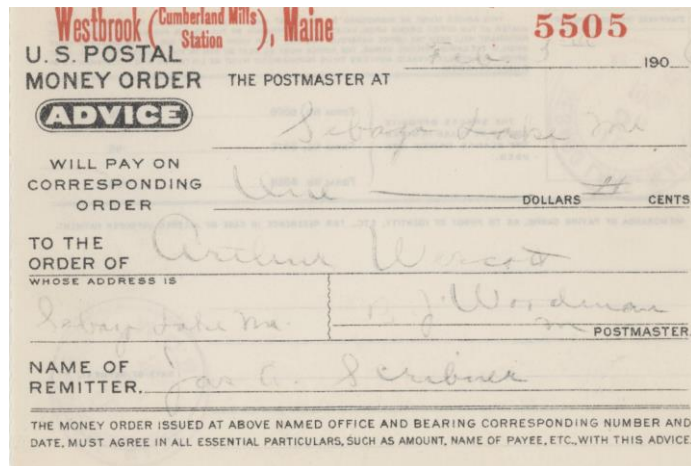Date and photographer unknown. From Maine Philatelic Society collection.

Another view of the Warren Block, housing the Cumberland Mills Post Office.
Old color postcard, date and photographer unknown. From Maine Philatelic Society collection.

Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook

31 August 1903:
  Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook Post Office (formerly Cumberland Mills Post Office) opened.
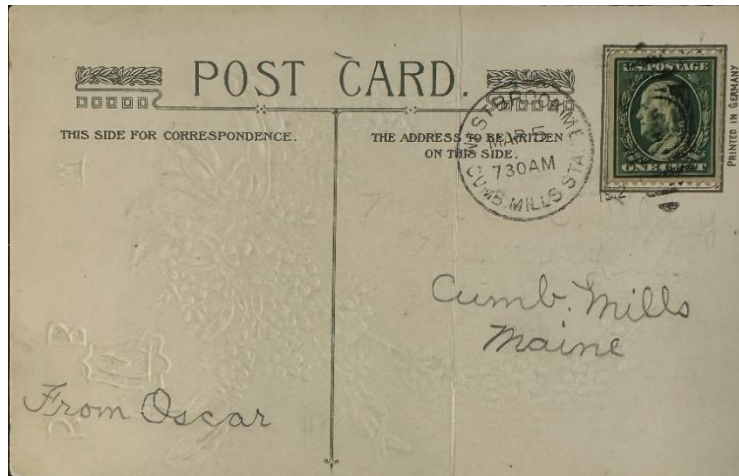

3 February 1906:
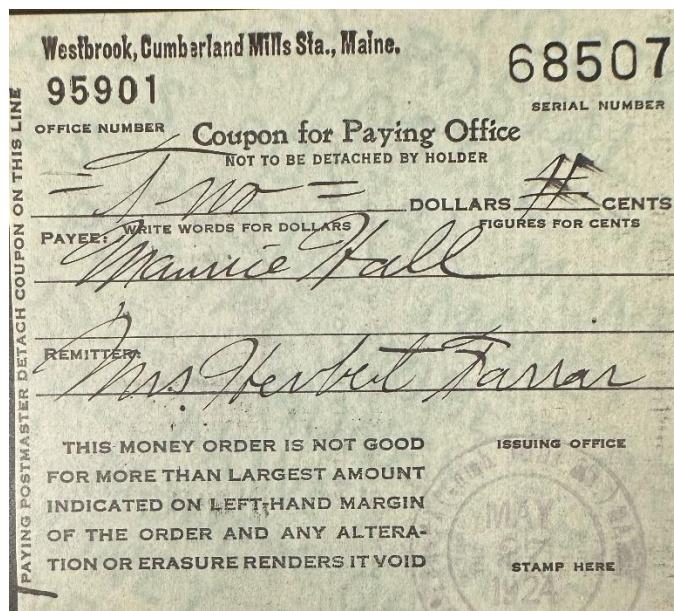U.S. Postal Money Order Advice. No Postmark.

12 October 1907:
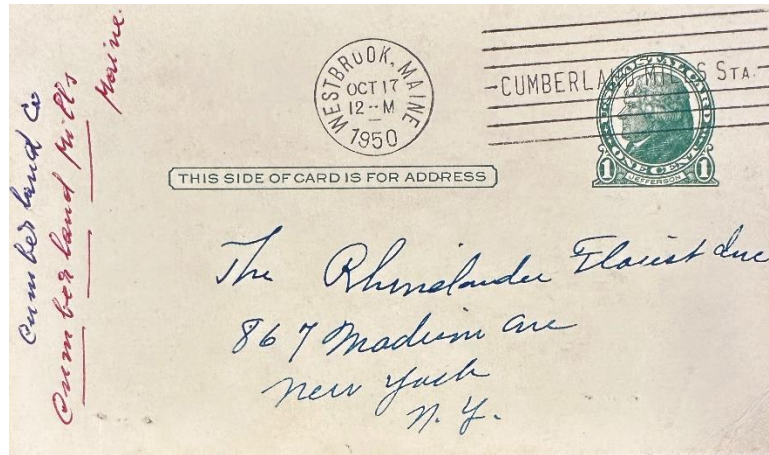The received circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with no killer.

5 March 1912:
The circular postmark is 26 mm in diameter with a six-bar duplex/1 killer. Similar postmarks and killers dated 1 February 192?,
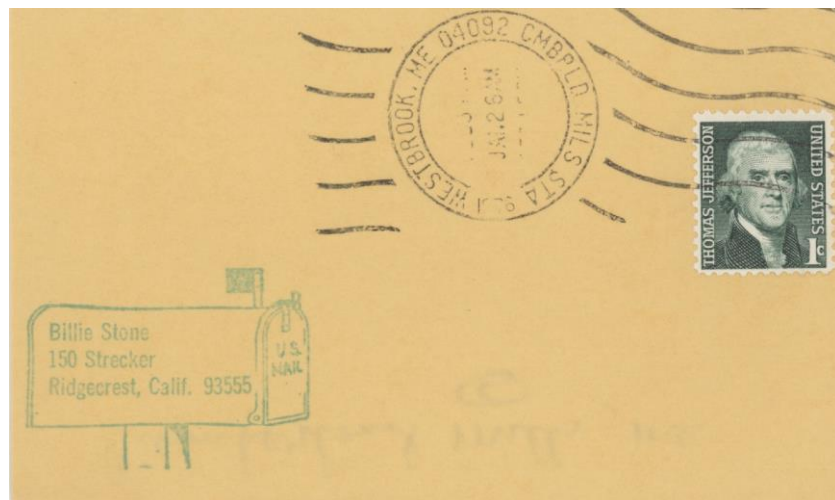14 April 1950, and 17 April 1950 are known.

27 May 1924:
The double-ringed circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter with no killer. A similar postmark dated 15 September 1922 is known.

17 October 1950:
The circular postmark is 20 mm in diameter with a seven-line Internal Machine killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 7 April 1952 is known.

2 January 1976:
The double-ringed circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a Hanley Steel Roller killer.

30 June 1981:
   Cumberland Mills Sx Westbrook Post Office closed.

Duck Pond

23 February 1869:
   Duck Pond Post Office opened.

23 February 1869:
   Ichabod M. Leighton became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office.

24 March 1870:
   William Jordan became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office.

13 February 1871:
   Duck Pond Post Office closed.

5 August 1874:
   Duck Pond Post Office was re-established.

5 August 1874:
   Cornelius B. Pride became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office.

22 November 1875:
   Albert Dingley became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office.

4 April 1881:
   Alvan D. Woodbury became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office.

12 July 1900:
   Duck Pond Post Office closed. The name was changed to Highland Lake Post Office.
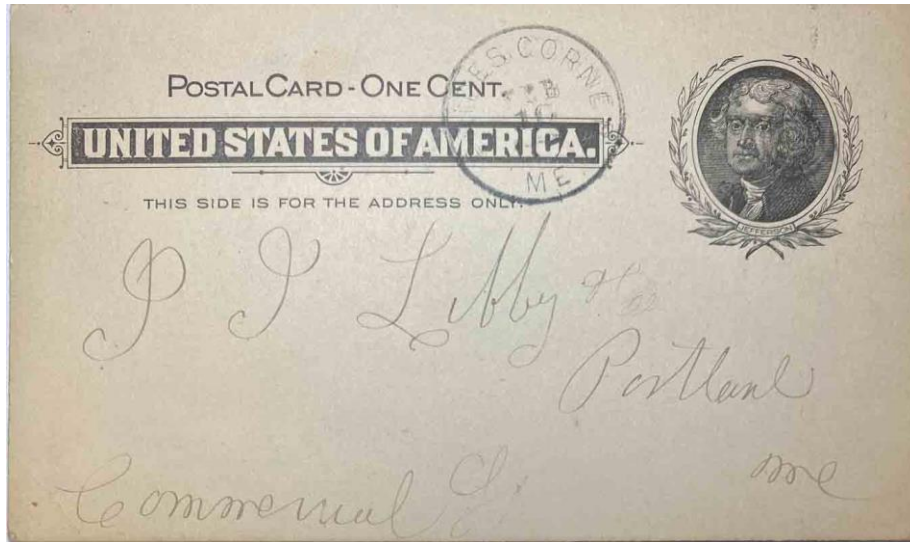

Highland Lake

12 July 1900:
   Highland Lake Post Office (formerly Duck Pond Post Office) opened.

4 April 1881:
   Alvan D. Woodbury became the Postmaster of the Duck Pond Post Office and remained as
Postmaster when the Duck Pond Post Office name was changed to Highland Lake Post Office on
12 July 1900.

30 June 1909:
   George M. Allen became the Postmaster of the Highland Lake Post Office.

31 December 1909:
The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a Doane 3/2 killer. A similar postmark dated 27 August 1908 is known.

26 October 1916.:
   Highland Lake Post Office closed with service from Portland.

Prides Corner

25 April 1891:
   Prides Corner Post Office (formerly Westbrook (1) Post Office) opened.

1 April 1881:
   John A. Clark became the Postmaster of the Westbrook (1) Post Office and remained as Postmaster when Westbrook (1) Post Office name was changed to Prides Corner Post Office on 25 April 1891:

10 February 1899:
The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

24 June 1904:
   Prides Corner Post Office closed effective 30 June 1904 with service from Portland.

Saccarappa (Sacarappa has also been seen)

1 November 1797:
   Saccarappa Post Office opened.

1 November 1797:
   Enoch Freeman became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

By 1811:
   Hezekiah Winslow became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.
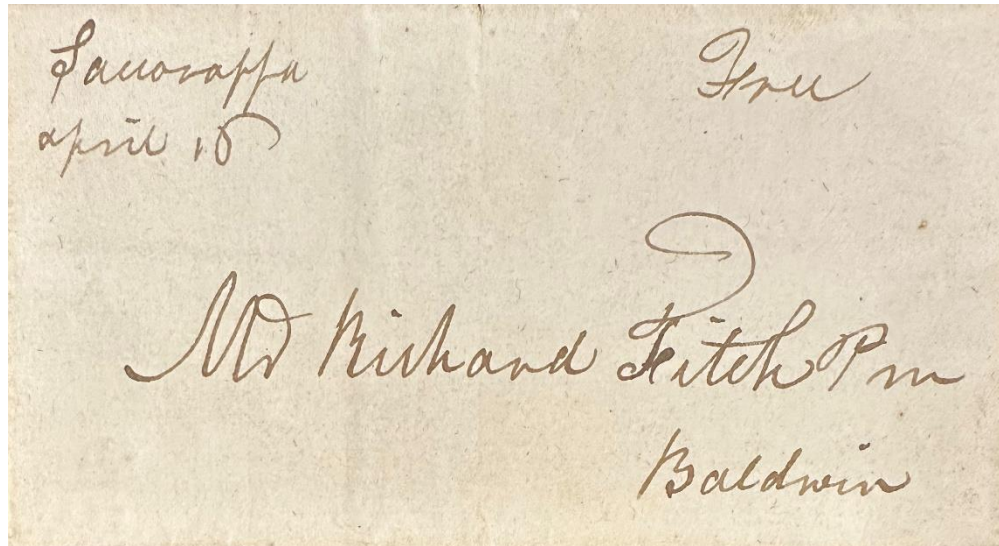
18 February 1814:
   Luther Fitch became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.
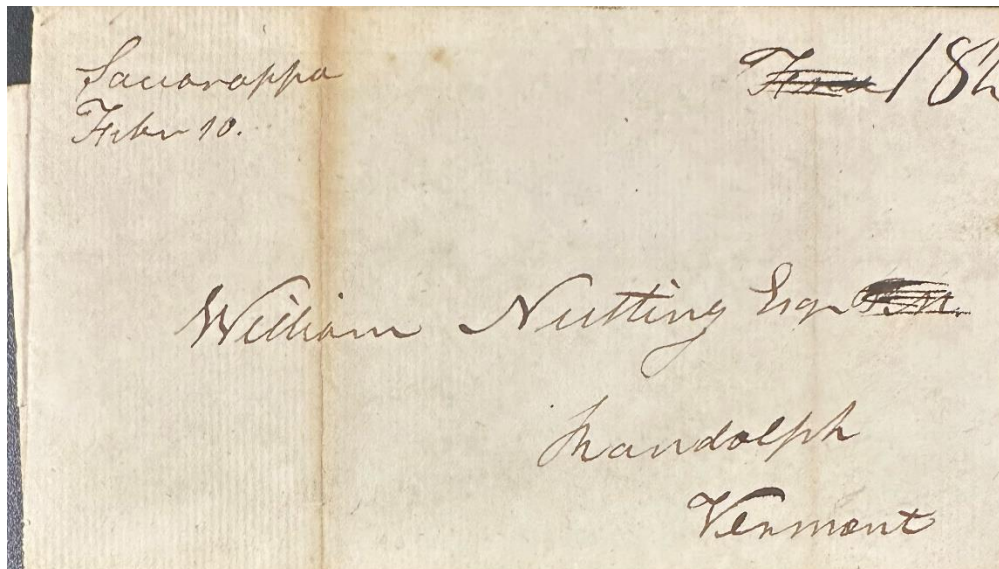
6 February 1819:
   Lewis Pease became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

28 May 1821:
   Luther Fitch became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

15 April 1822:
Manuscript postmark and killer.

10 February 1823:
Manuscript postmark and killer.

22 June 1824:
   David Hayes became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.
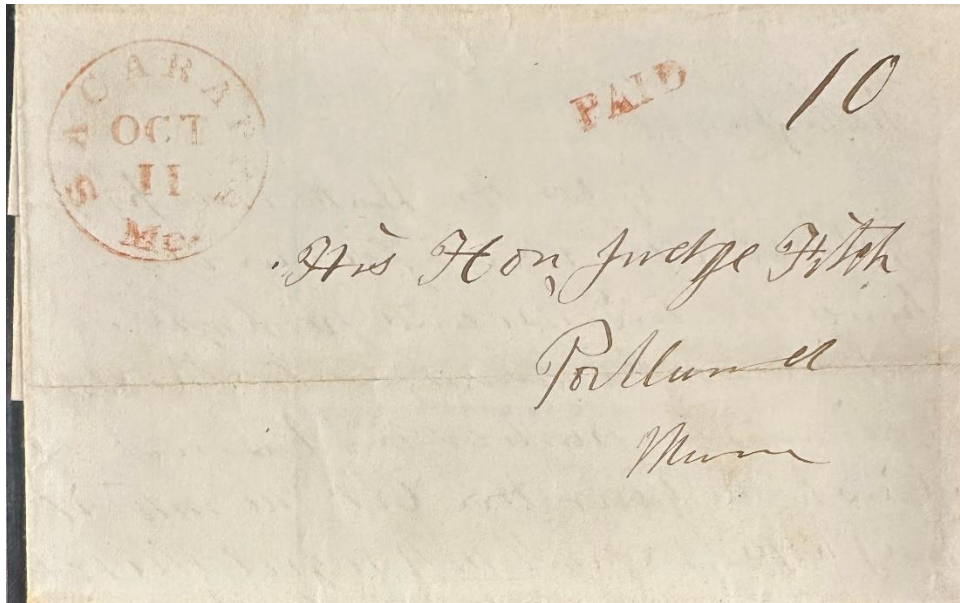
1 August 1838:
   John C. Baker became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

9 February 1841:
   George Warren became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

25 June 1844:
   David Hayes became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

11 October 1845:
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a hand-stamped PAID and manuscript killer.

19 November 1845:
   Joseph Walker, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

9 June 1849:
   William Cox became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

22 April 1853:
   Joseph Walker, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

5 October 1855:
   Joshua Gore became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

5 June 1861:
   William L. Pennell became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

24 September 1867:
   James M. Webb became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

24 April 1891:
The serif circular postmark is 26 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

17 March 1882:
The circular serif postmark is 27.5 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer. A similar postmark dated July 1882 is known.
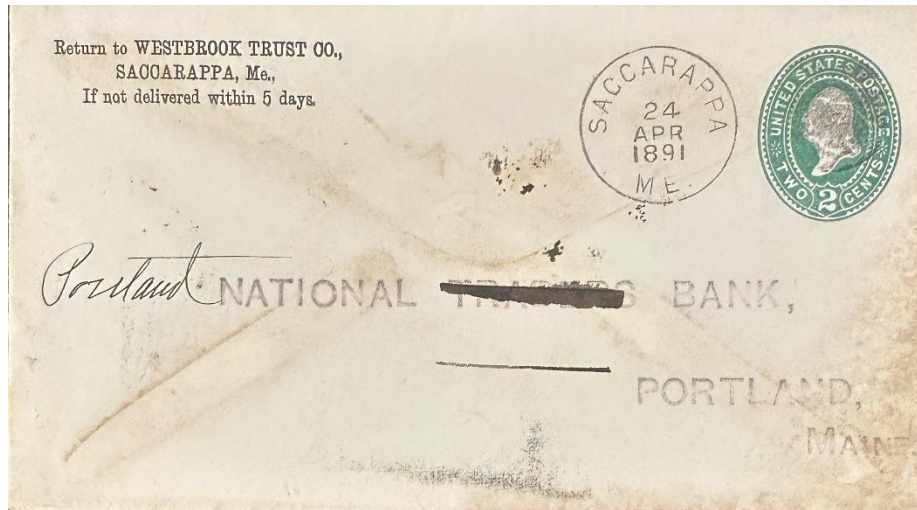
15 January 1884:
  Saccarappa Post Office became Presidential.

28 July 1885:
  Nathaniel A. Swett became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

11 April 1890:
  Charles B. Woodman became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office.

24 April 1891:
The sans-serif circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

21 May 1891:
  Saccarappa Post Office closed. The name was changed to Westbrook (2) Post Office.
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Westbrook (1) (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Westbrook 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.)

1 April 1881:
  Westbrook (1) Post Office opened.

1 April 1881:
  John A. Clark became the Postmaster of the Westbrook (1) Post Office.

25 April 1891:
  Westbrook Post Office closed. The name was changed to Prides Corner Post Office.

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

21 May 1891:
  Westbrook (2) Post Office (formerly Saccarappa Post Office) opened,

11 April 1890:
  Charles B. Woodman became the Postmaster of the Saccarappa Post Office and remained Postmaster when the post office changed its name to Westbrook Post Office on 21 May 1891.
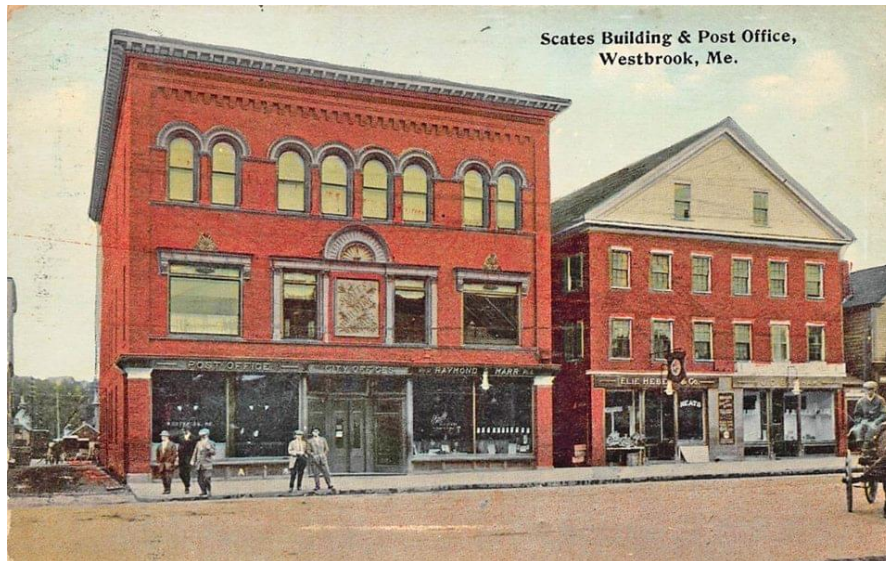
27 April 1894:
  Nathaniel A. Swett became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

8 April 1895:
  Edwin T. Mayberry became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

13 March 1899:
  Charles B. Woodman became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

Circa 1900
Westbrook Post Office (postcard)

9 October 1901:
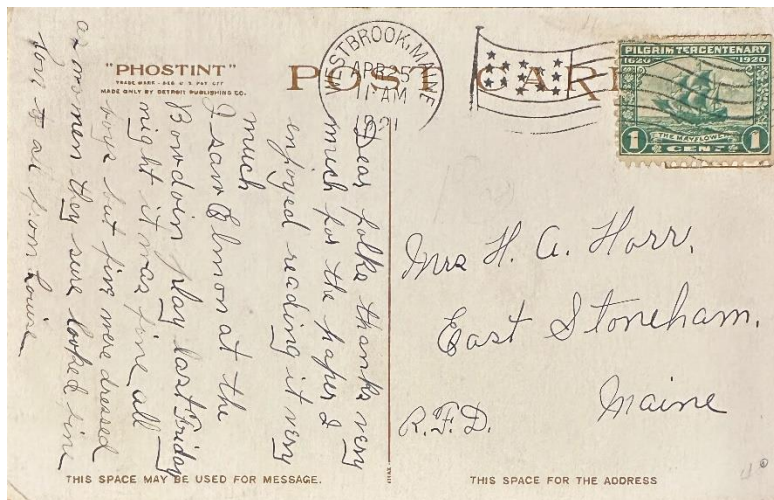 Benjamin J. Woodman became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

3 October 1905:
The circular postmark is 26 mm in diameter with a six-bar elliptical duplex/1 killer.

Circa 1910:
Postwoman (location unknown) – Unknown Photo Credit

14 May 1920:
  Clinton S. Eastman became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

25 April 1921:
The circular postmark is 22.5 mm in diameter with a flag killer.

30 June 1926:
  Carroll M. Richardson became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.
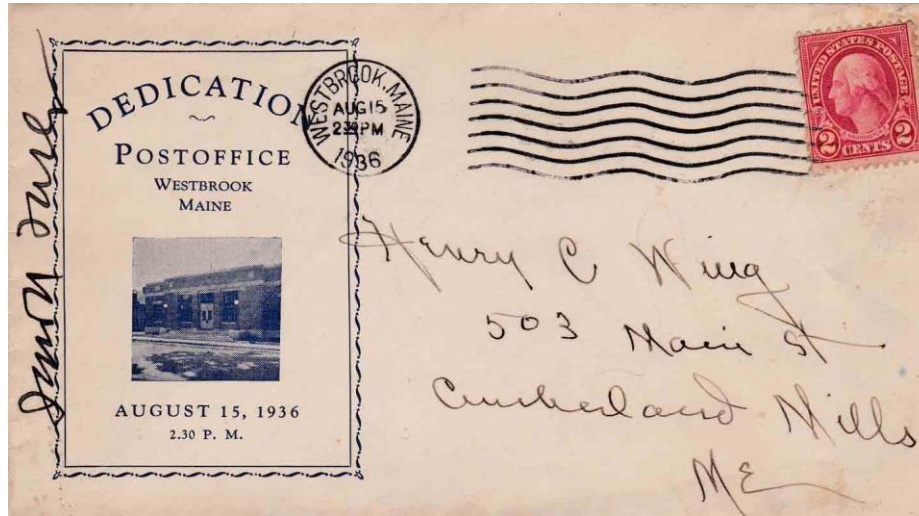
5 February 1935:
   Eugene I. Cummings became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

16 January 1936:
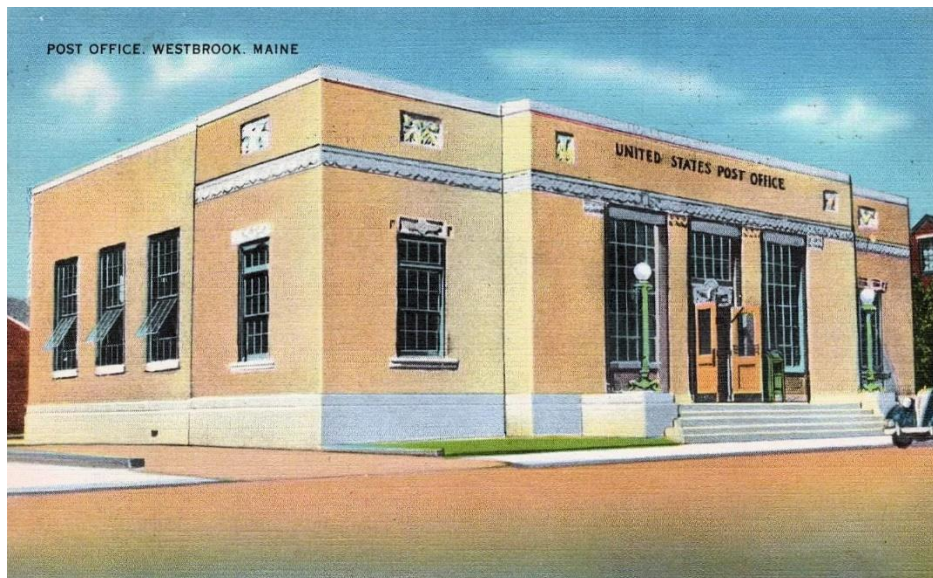   George C. Robinson became the Acting Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

19 June 1936:
   George C. Robinson became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

15 August 1936:
The circular postmark is 20.5 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line International Machine killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 14 December 1942 is known.

Circa 1940
Westbrook Post Office (postcard)

Date Unknown
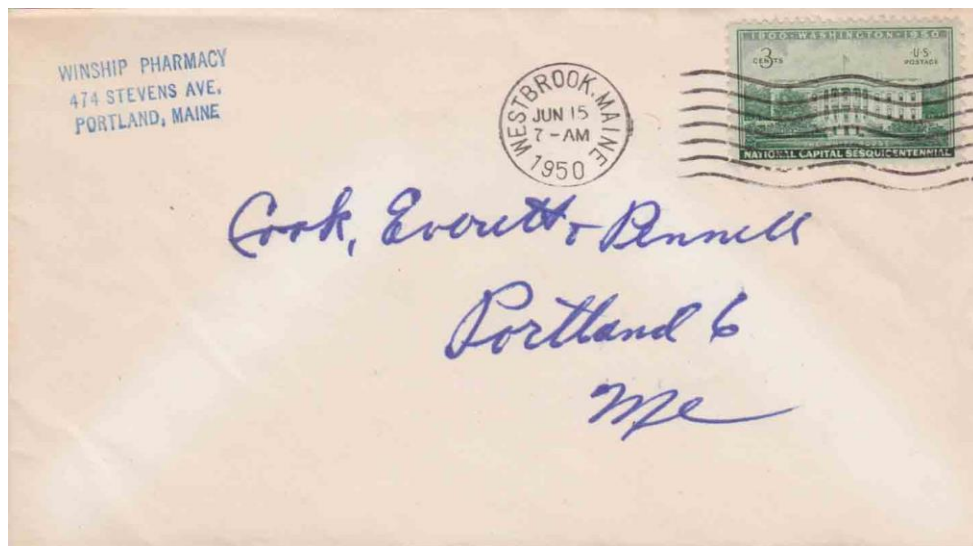Westbrook Post Office – Photo Credit Unknown

4 December 1939:
The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a six-bar triplex/1 killer—postmaster signature present.

20 May 1944:
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a six-bar duplex/1 killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 12 June 1950 is known.

15 June 1950:
The circular postmark is 21 mm in diameter with a six-wavy-line International Machine killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 31 December 1956 is known.

16 March 1962:
   Leo P. Pinette became the Acting Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.
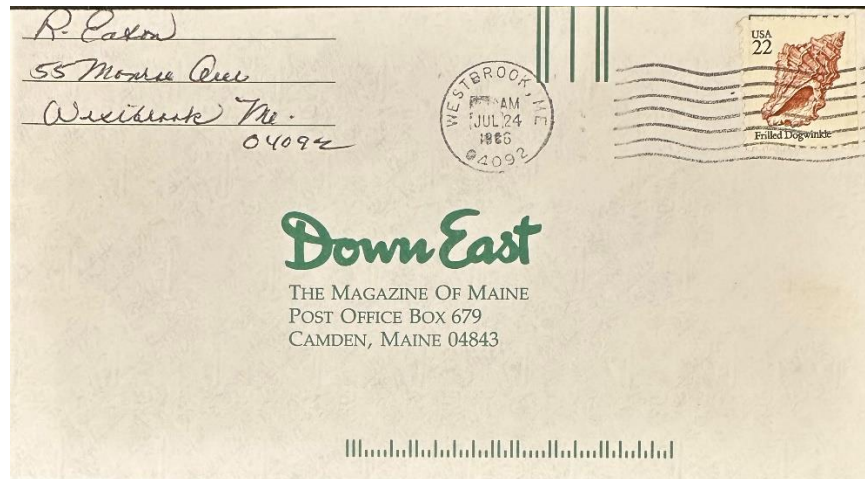
2 December 1963:
   Leo P. Pinette became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

30 August 1984:
   Donald C. Thompson became the Office-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.
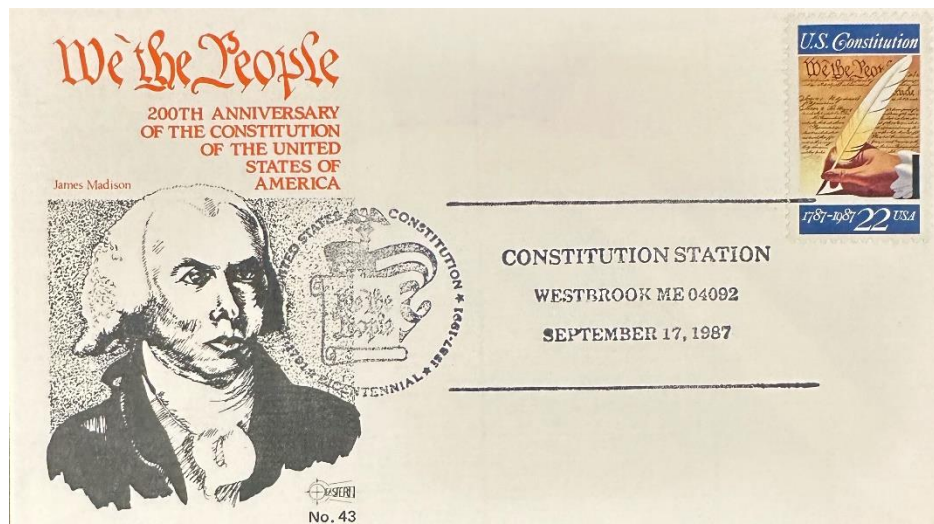
5 January 1985:
   John J. Bennett became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

24 July 1986:
The circular postmark is 21.5 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line Universal Machine killer.

17 September 1987:
The circle of words is 33 mm in diameter with a hand-stamped straight-line killer.

5 November 1987:
   Paul E. Robinson became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

4 May 1988:
   Stephen Harris became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

12 September 1988:
   Lawrence S. Lamson, Jr. became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.
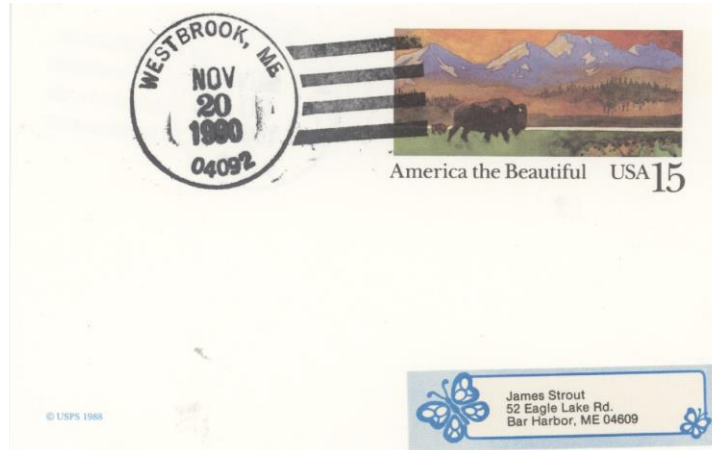
19 January 1989:
   Dennis C. Ward became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

9 March 1989:
   Arnold Rosario Jr. became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

3 June 1989:
   Stephen J. Harris became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

20 November 1990:
The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a Four-Bar F/2a killer.
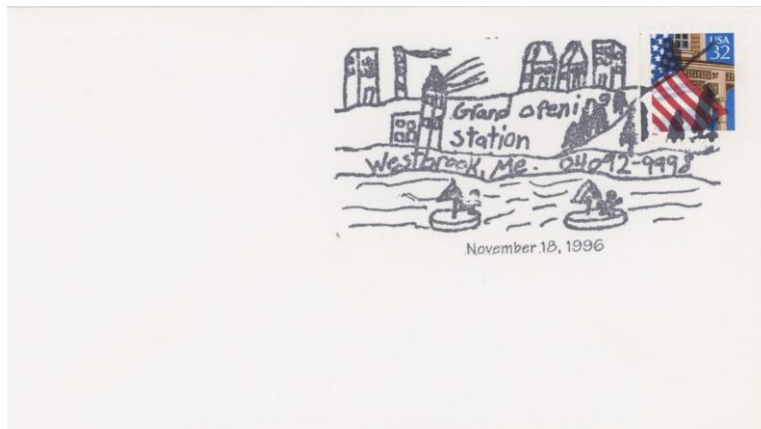
19 February 1993:
   Norman Davidson became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

9 November 1993:
   Susan M. Cloutier became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

5 February 1994:
   Bernice Nelson became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

18 November 1996:

Special Event/Souvenir Pictorial Postmark and Killer.

13 August 1997:
   Warren R. Cutter became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

15 /December 1998:
   Regina M. MacDonald became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

3 July 1999:
   Regina (MacDonald) Flaherty became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

(Regina M. MacDonald's surname changed to Flaherty on March 1, 2000, and to Bugbee on August 25, 2001.)

8 April 2005:
   John S. O'Brien became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

28 May 2005:
   John S. O'Brien became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

21 May 2007:
   Teresa A. Bourke became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

30 August 2008:
   Teresa A. Bourke became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

3 December 2017:
The double-ring circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with no killer.

18 November 2019:
   Jamie Smyth became the Officer-In-Charge of the Westbrook Post Office.

1 February 2020:
   Erin A. Sullivan became the Postmaster of the Westbrook Post Office.

9 October 2022:
Westbrook Post Office – Photo Credit Jim Husson

10 October 2024:
   Westbrook Post Office is still operational at 775 Main St. Westbrook, Maine 04092. GPS 43° 40' 36" N   70° 21' 45" W

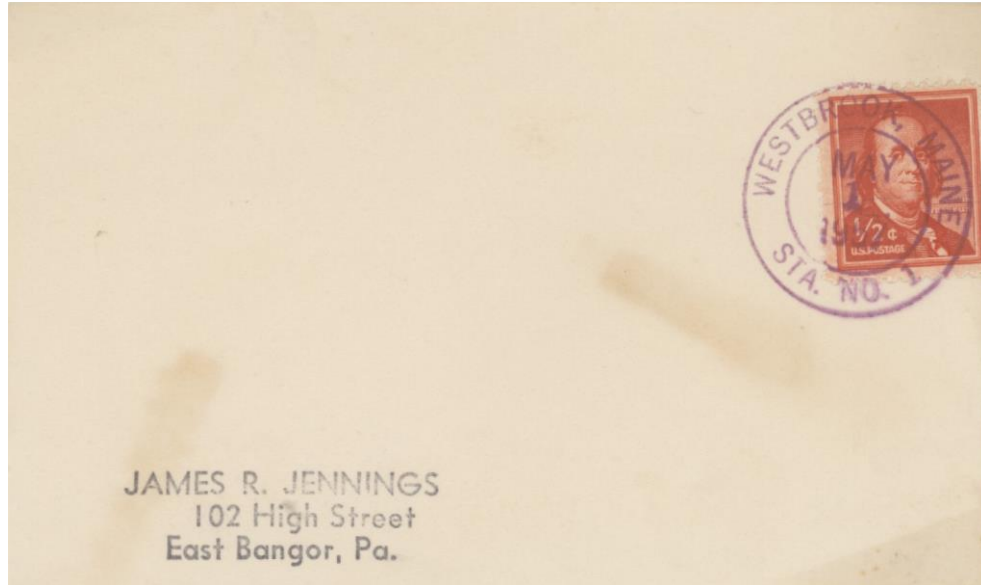## Westbrook Sta. No. 1

16 November 1910:
   Westbrook Sta. No. 1 Post Office opened located at 615 Main Street.

31 March 1929:
   Westbrook Sta. No. 1 Post Office closed.

1 May 1957:
   Westbrook Sta. No. 1 Post Office was re-established and was located at 125 Bridgton Rd.

1 May 1957:
The double-ring circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter, with the CDS used as a killer.

1 May 1957/1981: (closed at some time between these dates)
  Westbrook Sta. No.1 Post Office closed.

Westbrook Sta. No. 2

16 November 1910:
  Westbrook Sta. No. 2 Post Office opened.

1927:
  Westbrook Sta. No. 2 Post Office closed.

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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, Kelvin Kindahl, 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.
http://www.postmarks.org/resources/PMCC_FourBarCancelsUSPS.pdf

U. S. Cancel Finder: Find a Machine Cancel by Style on the Swanson Group website:
http://swansongrp.com/postal/about/index.html

Anderson, Gary, Maine Doanes: Maine Doanes (doanecancel.com)

Richow, Harold E., Encyclopedia of R.F.D. Cancels, Second Edition, LaPosta Publications, 1995

Westbrook

Westbrook and Deering [map] from Atlas of Cumberland County, Maine 1871
https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_cumberland_1871/27/
Saccarappa and Cumberland Mills [map] from Atlas of Cumberland County, Maine 1871
https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_cumberland_1871/28/

"Westbrook," article in Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westbrook,_Maine

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https://maineanencyclopedia.com/westbrook/

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https://www.westbrookhistoricalsociety.org/

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