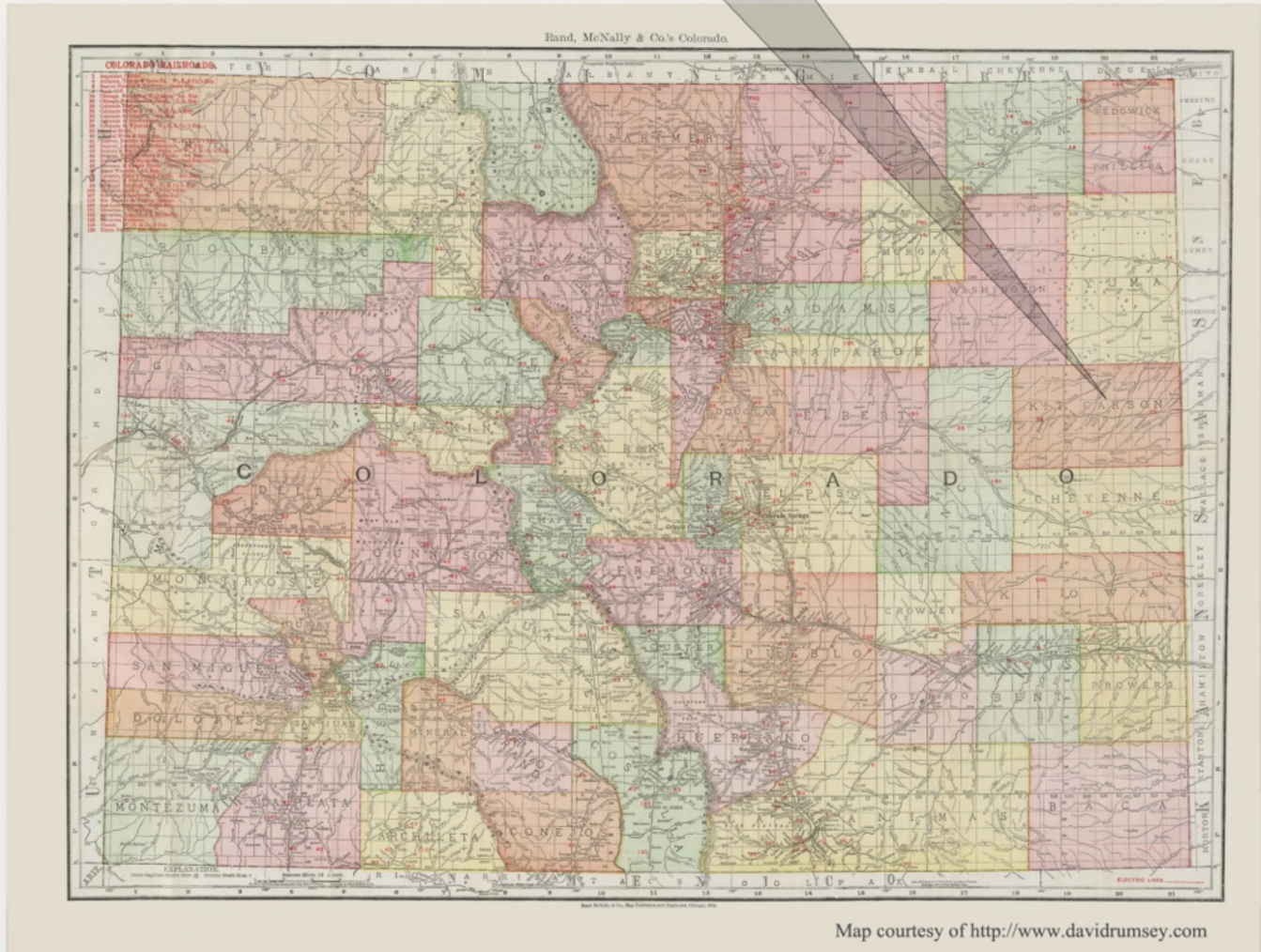


Kit Carson County



Established: April 11, 1889

County Seat: Burlington

KIT CARSON COUNTY

By William H. Bauer

Kit Carson County is located in the far east-central portion of Colorado. The county is rectangular in shape with an east-west orientation. The county is 60 miles from east to west and slightly more than 36 miles in the north-south direction.

When Colorado Territory was created, the territory that is now Kit Carson County was included in the original Douglas County. In 1874 it became a part of the newly created Elbert County, until Elbert County was subdivided in early 1889. On April 11, 1889 the Colorado Legislature authorized the formation of Kit Carson County and Burlington was designated as the county seat.

On the east, Sherman and Wallace Counties in Kansas border Kit Carson. Cheyenne County is the southern boundary, Lincoln County is the western boundary and Washington and Yuma Counties form the northern boundary.

Topographically Kit Carson County varies from gently rolling to near level prairie. The general direction of the drainage pattern is to the northeast, except for the southeast corner, which is drained eastward by the Smoky Hill River. The other major streams, from the northwest to the southeast are Hell Creek, the Republican River, Landsman Creek and Sand Creek.

The climate is semi-arid, thus most of the streams are intermittent in nature. However, severe storms can easily create flash floods and flooding of low areas. A couple of times I have been forced to detour because of flooded roads.

Until the 1880's this area lay between the major travel routes to the mountains. In 1888 the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad entered Colorado and built due west through the center of the county. The arrival of the railroad spawned a series of towns along the railroad and they are the only ones that have survived into the twenty-first century. This railroad was soon reorganized as the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad – popularly the “Rock Island.” The Rock Island continued west to Limon and then turned southwest to Roswell on the edge of Colorado Springs. In 1981 the Rock Island ceased operations and the line was sold to private interests. For several years the line operated as Kyle Railways and still continues to use that name. The track from Limon to Colorado Springs has been torn up but trains still go as far as Limon in Lincoln County.

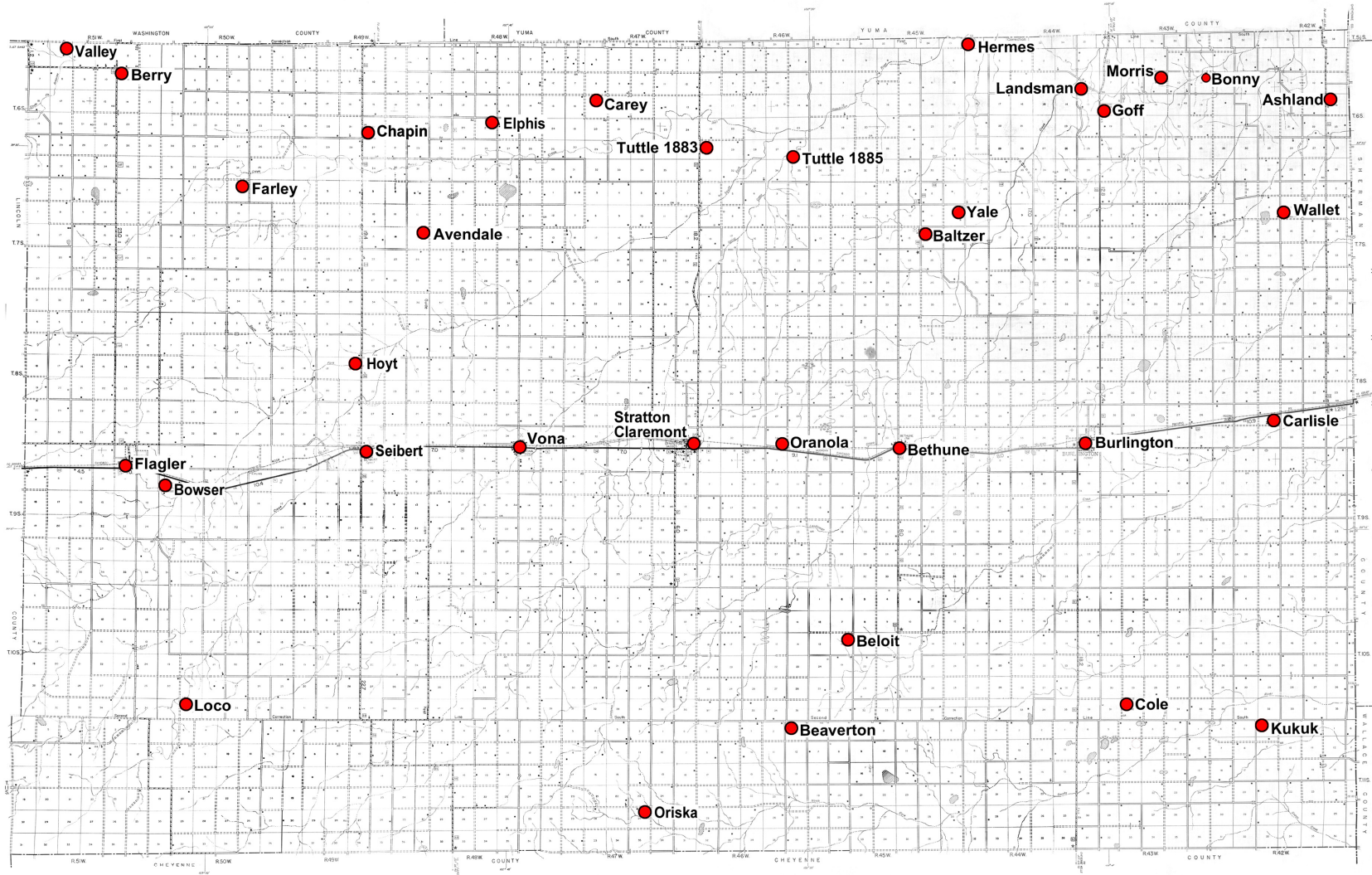
Kit Carson County is surveyed according to the section-township-range scheme of the Federal Land Survey System. That has resulted in a road grid that, with few exceptions, follows the section lines. The county roads are numbered east to west beginning with Road Zero and ending with Road 60. From the Cheyenne County line the roads are designated by letters beginning with A and ending with Road RR on the Washington-Logan County line. This county road grid is extensive but gaps force detours.

Two federal highways cross the county: US 24 from east to west along the Rock Island railroad and US 385 north-south from Cheyenne Wells through Burlington and on to Julesburg. Two north-south State Highways, 57 and 59, cross a portion of the county. Today the most important highway is Interstate 70 that parallels the railroad and US 24.

The economy of Kit Carson County is to a very large extent based on agriculture. In the early years the raising of livestock, mostly cattle, was the dominant occupation. In the 1880's homesteading during a time of higher than normal rainfall brought farming to the county. The fortunes of farming have been up and down depending on the amount of rainfall and the development of efficient dry farming techniques and irrigation from deep aquifers. As time has passed, the mechanization of agriculture has brought about the consolidation of small farms into larger and larger farms that can afford the costs of the expensive machinery. Today, a variety of products are produced: wheat, corn, sorghum, soybeans and even sunflowers.



Flagler, Colorado street scene – north from corner of Third and Main Streets
Photograph by William H. Bauer
May 13, 2002



Post Office Location Map—Kit Carson County

Locations unknown
Dodgeville
Hanover
Vansville



ASHLAND

Ashland was a rural post office in the extreme northeastern corner of Kit Carson County, one mile west of the Colorado-Kansas State line. There is no evidence that there was an organized community but it seems possible that there was more than a single farm. Ashland was still located on maps as late as 1923.

When a request for a post office was submitted, Liberty was the proposed name. That was rejected, as there was a Liberty Post Office in Rio Grande County.

From the site of Wallet, drive north three and one-half miles to Kit Carson County Road KK and then east two miles to Road 59. Turn north and go two miles on Road 59. Ashland was in the area to the east of Road 59. No structures remain and the area is level farmland.

From Ashland continue your tour of northeastern Kit Carson County with visits to the sites of Bonny, Morris, Goff and Landsman.

Chronology of the Post Office

Sep 13 1889	---	NW/4 Sec 14 T6S R42W Proposed postmaster - Charles H. Allen
Jan 14 1890		Established
Jan 14 1890		Allen, Charles H.
Jan 5 1891		Day, Albert
Sep 23 1896		Pratt, Melissa A.
Dec 10 1907		Anderson, Louise
May 15 1909		Discontinued Mail to Kanorado

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM ASHLAND

AVENDALE

Avendale was another of the rural post offices of Eastern Colorado that existed for a few years and then faded into obscurity leaving almost no historical record. The period, 1889-1890, when the Avendale Post Office was in operation was at the end of an abnormally wet cycle for Eastern Colorado. With a return to the normal, dryer climate, many of the small farms were abandoned.

There is no information as to the source of the name Avendale. Perhaps it was connected to the history of postmaster James H. Erskine.

From the site of Elphis, continue south on Kit Carson County Road 22, two miles to County Road JJ and turn west one mile to Road 21. Go south three miles to Road FF and then one mile west to Road 20. Again turn south one mile to Road EE and then west on Road EE. In 1996 this was easier than it sounds as all the turns were required turns. The location of Avendale was one mile west and one mile north of this last intersection. There is no access and no trees or structures are visible in the nearly level farmland.

Continue west on Road EE to Colorado Highway 59 and turn north towards the location of Chapin.

Chronology of the Post Office

Dec 7 1888	---	NE/4 Sec 13 T7S R49W 3 miles south of Camp Creek Proposed postmaster - James M. Erskine
Feb 5 1889		Established
Feb 5 1889		Erskine, James M.
Sep 12 1890		Discontinued Papers to Chapin

AVENDALE – Continued

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 AVENDALE / COLO.
CI 10P 28.0

Mar – 1890 Apr 2 1890

Hstp Target



1

BALTZER

I found no reference to this place in the historical literature of Colorado that I studied. All evidence is that it was a rural post office that proved to be not needed in the area where it was established.

From the site of Yale on Kit Carson County Road GG, drive two miles west to Kit Carson Road 41. Turn south one mile to the intersection with County Road FF. The location of Baltzer was in the southeast quadrant of the intersection. That corner is empty of any structure but there is a well maintained church (1996) on the west side of Road 41.

Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 23 1907	---	NW/4 Sec 14 T7S R45W Sketch map shows in NW/4 of NW/4 Sec 14 Proposed postmaster - Carrie Baltzer
Jun 4 1907		Established
Jun 4 1907		Baltzer, Carrie
Nov 29 1907		Ordered closed
Dec 14 1907		Discontinued Mail to Burlington

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BALTZER

BEAVERTON

Beaverton was a rural post office in southern Kit Carson County. It was established during the second period of agricultural settlement in this area of Colorado. By 1910 improved methods of dry farming and the ability to tap deep aquifers for irrigation water made agriculture profitable for the region. This period of prosperity would last until the Dust Bowl years. Today, even better farming practices have once again made the land fertile but instead of small homesteads, increasingly larger farms and ranches dominate the agriculture.

The location of Beaverton lies between the headwaters of the Smoky Hill River and Sand Creek. The name is likely a reference to nearby Beaver Creek. Although the Beaverton Post Office lasted five years there is no evidence that it was more than a ranch or farm post office serving neighboring farms and ranches.

From the site of Beloit, return south to Kit Carson County Road K and go west two miles to Road 36, then south one mile to Road J, west one mile to Road 35 and south two miles to Road G. Beaverton was in the southeast quadrant of the intersection of County Roads G and 35. The site is occupied but all of the buildings are quite new. The presence of some very large stumps leads me to believe that the original buildings at this site were demolished to make way for the modern ranch.

The next stop on this westward journey will be Oriska.

BEAVERTON – Continued**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jul 6 1910 --- NW/4 Sec 1 T11S R46W Beaver Creek is 1/2 mile north of post office
Proposed postmaster - Mrs. Elizabeth M. Higgon

Oct 17 1910 Established
Oct 17 1910 Higgon, Elizabeth M.
Nov 30 1915 Discontinued Mail to Stratton

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 BEAVERTON, / COLO. Sep 18 1911 Mar 20 1915
CI 10P 31.0 4bars S-23x19mm

**BELOIT**

During a period of greater than normal rainfall, Beloit was established in the south-central portion of Kit Carson County. About 100 settlers were attracted to the area. James Thomas Roberts ran a store and was the first and only postmaster of Beloit. A good portion of the promotion for Beloit was based on hope that a railroad would be built through the area. The anticipation of a railroad was behind the promotion of many townsites in Eastern Colorado. Unfortunately for Beloit, the railroad was built eight miles to the north and gradually Beloit faded away. The dry years of 1893 and 1894 and a concurrent economic depression accelerated the demise of the community.

I have found no information as to the source of the name. Perhaps James Roberts was from Beloit, Wisconsin.

There were six rural post offices strung across southern Kit Carson County. Kit Carson County Road G is the key to visiting all of them. From east to west these offices were Kukuk, Cole, Beloit, Beaverton, Oriska and Loco.

On the east end, the best access to Road G is from Burlington via US Highway 385. Drive south twelve miles to the intersection with road G. To the east of US 385 are the sites of Cole and Kukuk.

To visit Beloit turn west on Road G and go eight miles to County Road 40. Go north three miles to Road K and turn west two miles to Road 38. Go north one mile to the intersection with County Road L. Beloit was in the southeast quadrant of the intersection. In October 1996 that corner was a freshly plowed field and nothing but wide-open countryside was to be seen in any direction to the south or west. One map does indicate a cemetery about a mile to the south.

Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 12 1888 --- NE/4 Sec 18 T10S R45W 3 miles north of Beaver Creek
Proposed postmaster - James Thomas Roberts

Mar 27 1888 Established
Mar 27 1888 Roberts, James T.
Sep 29 1893 Discontinued Mail to Claremont

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BELOIT

BERRY

The Berry Post Office was in operation for one year and I have found no reference to it in any of the Colorado historical literature I have reviewed. 1911-1912 was during a period when the Rural Free Delivery System was being developed and I think it likely that the establishment of a RFD route for the area removed any need for a rural post office that would have served only a few families.

There is no obvious explanation for the choice of this post office name.

To visit the site of Berry: from Seibert drive sixteen miles north on Colorado Highway 59 to Kit Carson Road MM (two miles north of the site of Chapin). Turn west eight miles to County Road 7, then one mile north to Road NN, and again west three miles to the intersection with Road 4. This intersection can be accessed directly from Flagler via County Road 4.

The site of Berry was in the southeast quadrant of the intersection. There is an old abandoned house and a modern Quonset style farm building at that location.

From Berry continue west towards the site of Valley in the extreme northwest corner of Kit Carson County.

Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 3 1911	--	NW/4 Sec 11 T6S R51W Arickaree River is two miles north of post office
		Proposed postmaster - August Kalisch
Apr 13 1911		Established
Apr 13 1911		Kalisch, August
Apr 15 1912		Discontinued Mail to Flagler

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BERRY

BETHUNE

Bethune was one of the stations established along the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railway as the railroad built west through Kit Carson County on the way to Colorado Springs. In 1891 the railroad was reorganized under the more familiar name of the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad Company – the Rock Island.

As the railroad was constructed, stations were placed along the way at intervals of eight or nine miles. From the Kansas line west these stations were Peconic (no post office), Burlington, Bethune, Claremont (Stratton), Vona, Seibert and Flagler. The distance from Vona to Seibert and Seibert to Flagler differed slightly from the standard.

Each of these stations was established to serve the railroad with section facilities and as sidings from which livestock and produce could be shipped and supplies delivered to the farms and ranches of the surrounding area.

In the late twentieth century, the Rock Island fell into economic difficulties and in 1981 ceased to operate. The trackage was sold to a private concern, Kyle Railways, which continues to operate moving livestock and produce to market and delivering supplies to the towns along the way as far west as Limon.

Bethune came into existence in late 1888 but in spite of its early founding it was not until May 17, 1918 that J. J. Delaney filed a town plat for Bethune. Bethune was incorporated in 1926.

The source of the name is open to question. Considering the date the town was platted, residents and some historians have attributed the name to veterans of World War I that served in France and brought the name home. However, that theory is incompatible with the existence of the Bethune Post Office from 1889.

Bethune continues to exist as a small community at Exit 429 from Interstate 70. There are grain storage facilities, several small businesses and a modest residential district.

BETHUNE – Continued

In 2003 the Bethune Post Office was on the northeast corner of First and Main Streets.

Latitude = 39:18:15 North Longitude = 102:25:27 West

Chronology of the Post Office

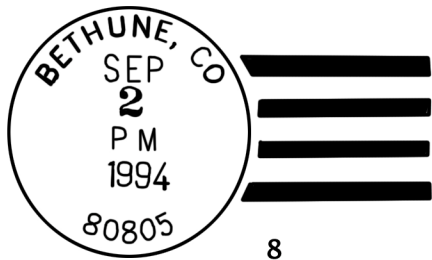
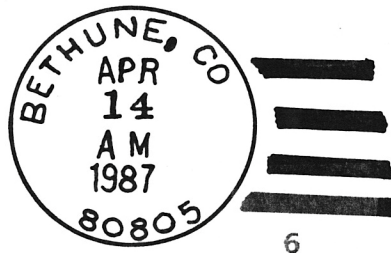
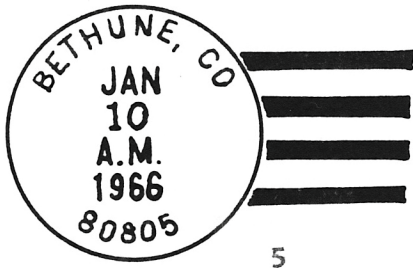
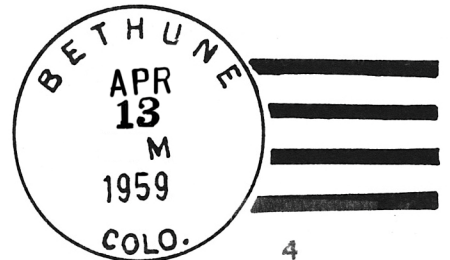
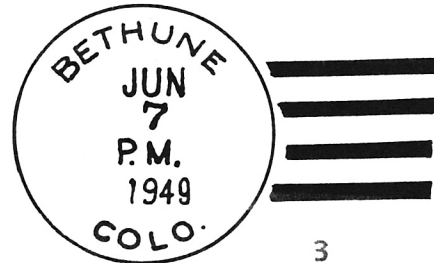
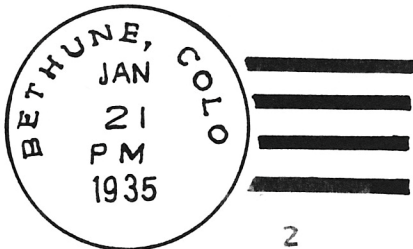
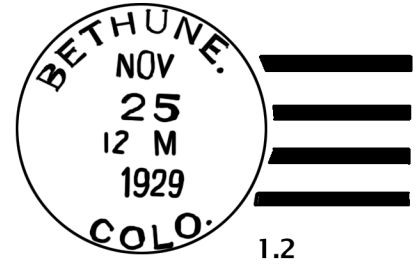
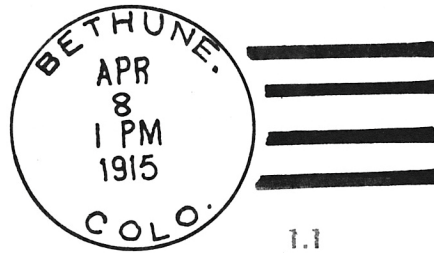
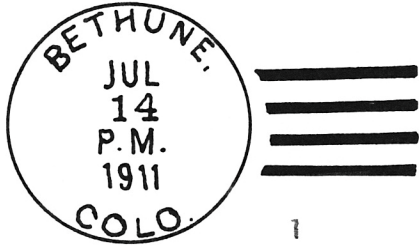
Dec 17 1888	---	SE/4 Sec 33 T9S R45W Proposed postmaster - Samuel Beidelman	
Jan 19 1889		Established	
Jan 19 1889		Beidelman, Samuel	
Jul 23 1890		Parody, Josephine	
Sep 19 1890		Mutchmore, Emma J.	
Dec 8 1890		Griswold, John	
Sep 27 1892		Braden, Mary E.	
Jun 4 1896		Gruwell, Margaret	
Apr 5 1899		Root, Nancy M	
Oct 15 1901		Lamb, John N.	
Apr 20 1905		Ordered closed	
May 15 1905		Discontinued Mail to Burlington	
Jul 21 1906	---	NW/4 Sec 3 T9S R45W Landsman Creek 1 mile north and west of office	
Sep 17 1906		Re-established	
Sep 17 1906		Blake, William	
Mar 15 1909		McFarland, John C.	
Dec 12 1910		Yersin, William H.	
Jul 10 1914	---	SE/4 Sec 33 T8S R45W 364 feet south of the Rock Island Railroad	
Jun 2 1915		Newton, Edward L.	
Jan 18 1917		Bell, Albert L.	Declined
Apr 20 1917		Yersin, William H.	Appointed
Jul 9 1917		Yersin, William H.	Commissioned
Jul 17 1917		Yersin, William H.	Possession
Oct 18 1920		Cordonnier, Emma M.	Appointed
Oct 29 1920		Cordonnier, Emma M.	Commissioned
Nov 1 1920		Cordonnier, Emma M.	Possession
Nov 16 1920	---	SW/4 Sec 34 T8S R45W (Says T8N) 1 mile east of Lostmans Creek [Landsman Creek] 285 feet north of the CRI&P RR	
Oct 20 1941	---	SW/4 Sec 34 T8S R45W Landsman Creek 1 mile west of office	
Mar 31 1962		Mayer, Mrs. Clara	Assumed charge
Apr 3 1962		Mayer, Mrs. Clara	Acting
Oct 9 1964		Mayer, Mrs. Clara	Appointed

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	BETHUNE, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-??x14mm	Feb 13 1908 Jul 14 1911
1.1	BETHUNE, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Apr 8 1915
1.2	BETHUNE, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-??x20mm	Nov 25 1929
2	BETHUNE, COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Mar 2 1932 Jul 4 1946
3	BETHUNE / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x18mm	May 5 1947 Sep 5 1953
4	BETHUNE / COLO. CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-25x20mm	Apr 13 1959 Oct 23 1963
5	BETHUNE, CO / 80805 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Jan 10 1966 Dec 21 1976

BETHUNE – Continued

6	BETHUNE, CO / 80805 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Apr 14 1987 Jun 1 1993
7	BETHUNE, CO / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Sep 2 1994
8	BETHUNE CO / 80805 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Sep 2 1994



CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 31 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 Bethune, CO 80805 / The Carousel Station
IR 00R 57.0x32.0

Jul 31 1995

Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson
County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD

BETHUNE – Continued
CAROUSEL STATION – Continued

7

BONNY

The history of Bonny, Colorado is thoroughly detailed in the book *Bonny, Colorado – A High Plains Ghost Town* by Velma Bonny Jacobs *et al.*

Bonny was a rural post office two miles south of the Kit Carson-Yuma County line. It is doubtful that there was an organized community but the post office may have served as many as 100 people.

The post office was established by Isaac (Ike) Bonny and was located in his home. In addition to the post office Isaac Bonny also ran a small store, little more than shelving on one wall of his home, that was stocked with a minimum of staples.

Charles and Jennie Barnhart lived one and a half miles west of Bonny. In late 1919 the Barnharts purchased the Bonny Store from Ike Bonny, who was moving to Idaho. The Barnharts moved to the Bonny Store and operated the store and post office until they closed in 1924.

The name Bonny lives on in the Bonny Reservoir on the Republican River, a few miles north in Yuma County.

From the location of Ashland, on Kit Carson Road 59, continue north to the intersection with County Road NN. Turn west four miles to Road 55 and then south one mile to Road MM. Go west another two miles to County Road 53 and then turn north. This seven-mile trip is not on the best of roads. I would certainly not recommend it in wet weather, as there are no bridges over some of the streambeds. An alternative would be, from Ashland go back south to Road HH, then west to Road 53 and then north to Road MM.

From the intersection of County Roads 53 and MM continue north one mile to Road NN and turn east. A half-mile will take you across a small stream (no bridge or culvert) and up a slight grade to the ruins of a house partially hidden in a grove of pine and cedar trees. This was Bonny. In 1996 a good portion of the building was still standing, although the roof was collapsing. I can not guarantee the condition of that last half-mile of road or even if there is still unrestricted access to Bonny.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 10 1915	---	NE/4 Sec 11 T6S R43W 100 yards south of Sand Creek Applicant for postmaster - Isaac Bonny
Jun 3 1915		Established
Jun 3 1915		Bonny, Isaac
Jan 6 1920		Barnhart, Charlie F.
Feb 9 1924		Ordered closed
Feb 29 1924		Discontinued Mail to Burlington

BONNY – Continued



BONNY, / COLO.

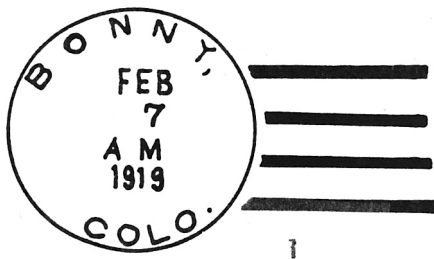
October 6, 1917

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 BONNY, / COLO.
CI 10P 32.0

Oct 2 1915 Aug 1 1919

4bars S-25x19mm



BOWSER

This place was a tiny community that began prior to the construction of the railroad through Kit Carson County. A townsite was platted in 1887 with the name Malowe, for M. A. Lowe, an attorney for the railroad.

A post office opened in mid-1888 with Bennet Robinson as postmaster. It is claimed that he named the post office for a favorite dog that had recently died. If that is true, this post office may be unique in the origin of its name.

Apparently the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad (Rock Island) did place a station at Bowser but the water supply was inadequate for the railroad and when a better source was found a mile and a half to the west, the station was moved and renamed Flagler. The post office quickly followed to the new town.

BOWSER – Continued

The site can be viewed from the eastbound lanes of Interstate 70, a mile east of Exit 395. At Exit 395, you can drive the frontage road east along the interstate for a mile before it turns south to an active ranch a half-mile south of the interstate. Anything that remained from the original settlement was destroyed by the construction of Interstate 70.

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 17 1888	---	SW/4 Sec 7 T9S R50W 1 mile north of the South Fork of the Republican River
Jun 9 1888		Established
Jun 9 1888		Robinson, Bennet
Oct 12 1888		Moved to Flagler

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BOWSER

BURLINGTON

For a brief period in 1886-1887 Lowell and Burlington were two competing settlements established on the proposed alignment of the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad. The townsite of Lowell was named for the man who, on June 7, 1887 filed the plat for the Lowell Townsite Company. However Lowell did not survive and was quickly abandoned. Supposedly the residents of neighboring Burlington then moved the mile or so east and re-platted the townsite but kept the name Burlington. It is believed the name was chosen because a number of the settlers came from Burlington, Kansas. Burlington, Kansas may trace its name back to Burlington, Vermont.

I must admit to some confusion as to the relationship between “Old” Burlington, Lowell and present day Burlington. Historians consistently state that the settlers moved east to the site of Lowell but when the Rock Island Railroad came to the area they built their depot two miles to the west of Lowell/Burlington. Once again the townspeople picked up and moved to the vicinity of the railroad depot. The town plat for Burlington was filed on June 23, 1888 by R. S. and Anna Newell.

These relative locations seem at odds with the locations that were reported to the Post Office Department. When first established in April 1887 the Burlington Post Office was located in Section 34 of Township 8 South, Range 44 West. On July 16, 1888 a second Geographical Site Location Report was submitted with the location now reported as Section 36. That would be two miles east of the original location and fits well with the present day city of Burlington. The situation is further compounded by the existence of an historical park, called “Old Burlington” on the eastern edge of Burlington.

Burlington’s growth was slow but steady. It was, and still is, a shipping point on the railroad and it has always been a major supply point for the farmers and ranchers in a large area of the plains of Eastern Colorado and Western Kansas. On April 11, 1889 when Kit Carson County was authorized by the Colorado Legislature, Burlington was designated to be the county seat.

Today Burlington is the largest and most prosperous town in Kit Carson County. It offers all public services, a community center, a good business district, motels, restaurants, an attractive park and the historical museum. The major industries remain oriented towards agriculture – grain storage elevators and cattle feedlots.

For many years Burlington was on US Highway 24. That highway still exists but today primary access to Burlington is from Interstate 70 at either Exit 437 or Exit 438. US Highway 385 also runs north-south through Burlington.

Latitude = 39:18:22 North Longitude = 102:16:08 West

BURLINGTON – Continued



BURLINGTON / COLO.

September 20, 1907

Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 17 1887	---	SE/4 Sec 34 T8S R44W	
		Proposed postmaster - Eugene T. Lemieux	
Apr 29 1887		Established	
Apr 29 1887		Eugene T. Lemieux	
Jul 16 1888	---	SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R44W	On the south side of the Rock Island Railroad within 80 rods
		Proposed postmaster - Eugene T. Lemieux	
Apr 16 1889		Leal, Joseph M.	
Apr 29 1889	---	SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R44W	Local name is "New Burlington."
		Postmaster - Eugene T. Lemieux	
Nov 13 1889		Hubbard, Robert L.	
Sep 6 1890		Carnahan, David	
Jan 18 1894		Lamb, Charles A.	
Dec 18 1897		King, Fred H.	
Aug 21 1901		Newell, Annie	
Apr 3 1903		Creglow, Charles	
Dec 11 1907		Creglow, Charles	P&S [Apptd by President & confirmed by Senate]
Dec 20 1911		Creglow, Charles	P&S
Apr 22 1914	---	SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R44W	90-1/2 rods south of the Rock Island Railroad
Jan 11 1916		Yersin, Rhoda J.	P&S
Feb 16 1922		Wilkinson, Robert L.	P&S
Feb 23 1926		Wilkinson, Robert L.	P&S
Mar 18 1930		Wilkinson, Robert L.	P&S
Apr 18 1934		Vogt, Michel A.	Nominated
May 1 1934		Vogt, Michel A.	Confirmed
May 17 1934		Vogt, Michel A.	Commissioned
Dec 8 1937		Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Acting

BURLINGTON – Continued

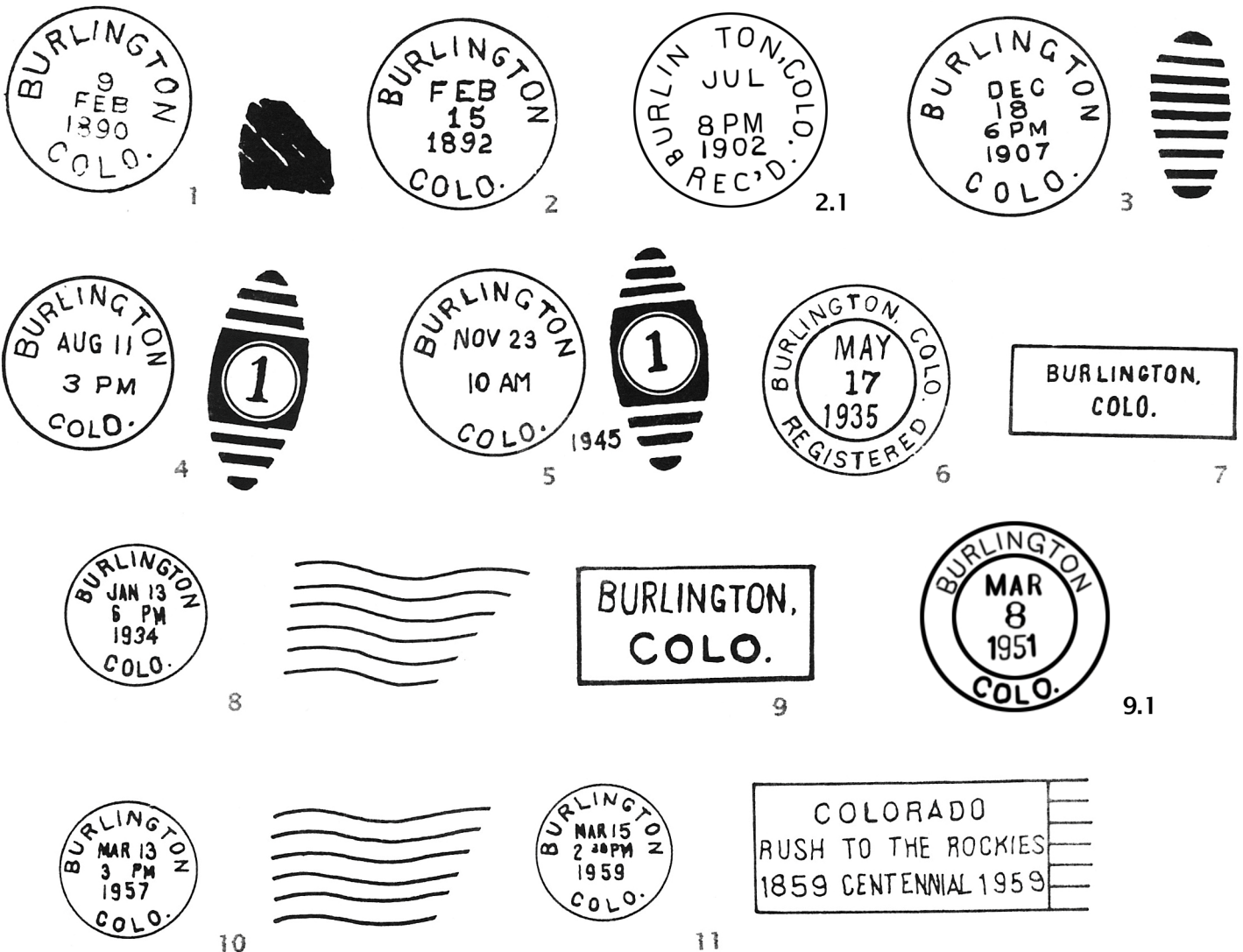
Jan 1 1938	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Assumed charge
Jun 7 1938	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Nominated
Jun 8 1938	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Confirmed
Jun 23 1938	Vogt, Mary E.	Appointed Presidential
Jul 1 1938	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Commissioned
Aug 17 1938	Vogt, Mary E.	Commissioned
Nov 10 1941	--- SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R44W 14th St. 2 blocks south of the Rock Island Railroad Highway 51 passes post office	
Oct 2 1942	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Nominated
Dec 4 1942	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Confirmed
Dec 7 1942	Vogt, Mary E.	Appointed Presidential
Dec 21 1942	Vogt, Mary E.	Commissioned
Jan 1 1943	Vogt, Mrs. Mary E.	Commissioned
Mar 10 1961	Pralle, Dale E.	Assumed charge
Mar 14 1961	Pralle, Dale E.	Acting
Jan 22 1962	Pralle, Dale E.	Nominated
Aug 31 1962	Pralle, Dale E.	Confirmed
Sep 4 1962	Pralle, Dale E.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 14 1962	Pralle, Dale E.	Commissioned
Jul 30 1976	Bowhan, Keith	Officer in charge
Jan 14 1977	Schweers, Martin L.	Officer in charge
May 21 1977	Melcher, Albert	Appointed

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Cork, Smudge	Jan 27 1888 --- 17 1891
2	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp No killer	Feb 15 1892 Apr 11 1906
2.1	BURLINGTON, COLO. / REC'D. CI 10P 28.5	Hstp Not present	Jul -- 1902
3	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Sep 20 1907 Aug 7 1920
3.1	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Hstp No killer, transit marking NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION	Jun 25 1909
4	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1	Aug 26 1924 Aug 11 192-
5	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1 and circle	Dec 24 1929 Oct 5 1947
6	BURLINGTON, COLO. / REGISTERED CI 11P 28.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	May 17 1935
7	BURLINGTON, / COLO. RC 10P 14.0x34.0	Hstp No killer	May 17 1935
8	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 21.0	Mach 6 wavy lines	Sep 22 1931 Jun 7 1948
9	BURLINGTON, / COLO. RC 10P 37.0x18.0	Hstp No killer, parcel post box cancel	--- -- 194-
9.1	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 11P 28.5.0/18.5	Hstp No killer	Mar 8 1951
10	BURLINGTON / COLO CI 10P 20.5	Mach 6 wavy lines	Mar 13 1957 Feb 1 1966
10.1	BURLINGTON, / COLO. RC 10P 35.0x17.0	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION	1950s

BURLINGTON – Continued

11	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 20.5	Mar 15 1959 Mar 16 1959 Mach Slogan in box with bars: COLORADO / RUSH TO THE ROCKIES / 1859 CENTENNIAL 1959
12	BURLINGTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Sep 16 1943 Nov 25 1963 Dplx Grid, diamond with 1
12.1	BURLINGTON, CO / 80807 CI 10P 32.0	Sep 10 1970 4bars S-23x18mm
13	BURLINGTON, CO / 80807 CI 10P 33.0	Jun 2 1975 May 5 1982 4bars S-24x20mm
14	BURLINGTON, CO / 80807 CI 10P 20.0	Oct 18 1968 Jun 26 1990 Mach 6 wavy lines
15	BURLINGTON, CO / 80807 CI 10P 21.0	Jan 15 1988 Mach Slogan in box; CENTURY OF PIONEERS / BURLINGTON, COLORADO, / 1888 TO 1988
16	BURLINGTON, CO / 80807 CI 10P 36.0	Apr 15 1987 Aug 28 1995 4bars S-25x22mm
17	BURLINGTON, CO 80807 / USPS CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Aug 28 1995 Hstp No killer



BURLINGTON – Continued



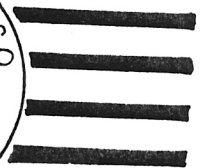
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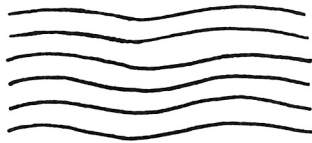
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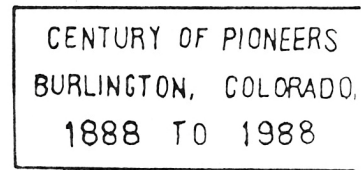
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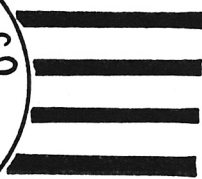
14



15



16



17

CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 31 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 Burlington, CO 8080 / The Carousel Station Jul 31 1995
- IR 00R 57.0x32.0 Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD



1

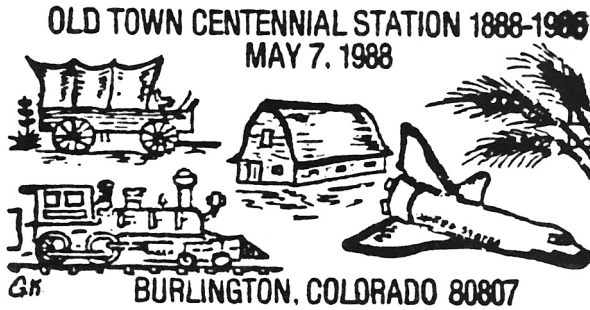
OLD TOWN CENTENNIAL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

May 7 1988 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**BURLINGTON – Continued
OLD TOWN CENTENNIAL STATION – Continued
Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 BURLINGTON, COLORADO 80807 // OLD TOWN CENTENNIAL STATION May 7 1988
IR 00R 76.0x40.0 Pict Scene - Covered wagon, barn, wheat, engine, space shuttle



1

CAREY

Carey was another of the rural post offices in the northern portion of Kit Carson County. There is no record or evidence that it was more than a single ranch that provided postal services for neighboring ranches and farms.

The post office name is that of the first postmaster, Alfonso Louis Carey.

From Stratton, drive north sixteen miles to Kit Carson County Road NN. This is two miles north of the 1883 site of Tuttle and slightly more than two miles south of the Kit Carson-Yuma County line. Turn west on Road NN and go four and one-half miles. At that point, in a grove of trees on the south side of the road, there is an occupied farm. I believe that was the location of Carey.

From here, continue west towards Elphis, Avendale and Chapin.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 23 1909	---	N/2 Sec 17 T6S R47W Hill Creek is 2-12 miles south of post office Proposed postmaster - Alfonso Louis Carey
Dec 12 1910		Established
Dec 12 1910		Carey, Alfonso L.
Sep 10 1914		Dulmer, Myron
Dec 30 1916		Discontinued Mail to Seibert

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 CAREY, / COLO. Mar 7 1911 Oct 10 1914
CI 10P 24.0x20.0 4bars S-24x20mm



1

CARLISLE

Carlisle was a small rural community east of Burlington and three miles west of the Colorado-Kansas State line. The settlement was in existence prior to the arrival of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railway Company (Chicago, Rock Island, & Pacific Railroad Company) in Eastern Colorado. Carlisle served as a supply and distribution center for an area of Eastern Colorado and Western Kansas between the Burlington and the Union Pacific Railroads.

The Rock Island tracks were laid about a mile north of the Carlisle community and gradually the residents of Carlisle moved their businesses and buildings to the railroad. The Carlisle Post Office may have moved to the railroad but the new settlement was called Peconic or Peconic Siding and did not have a post office under that name. The location of Carlisle was actually two miles east of Peconic Siding.

I have no information as to the source of the name Carlisle. Genoa was the second choice submitted to the Post Office Department.

From Burlington, drive east on US Highway 24 to Kit Carson County Road 55, Peconic Siding. Turn south to County Road W, south of Interstate 70. Turn east two miles to County Road 57. The site of Carlisle was in the northeast quadrant of this "T" intersection. In October 1996 there was a single, abandoned building at that location. The surrounding countryside is level farmland.

From the site of Carlisle you can continue north to other sites in the northeast corner of Kit Carson County.

Chronology of the Post Office

May 20 1887 ---	SE/4 Sec 29 T8S R42W 1/4 mile north of Beaver Creek Proposed postmaster - Keenan H. Clement
Jul 21 1887	Established
Jul 21 1887	Clement, Herman W.
Aug 16 1888	Mack, Edward P.
Jun 9 1890	Discontinued Mail to Lamborn, Kansas

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	CARLISLE / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	May 10 1888	Hstp Not present
---	---------------------------------	-------------	------------------

**CHAPIN**

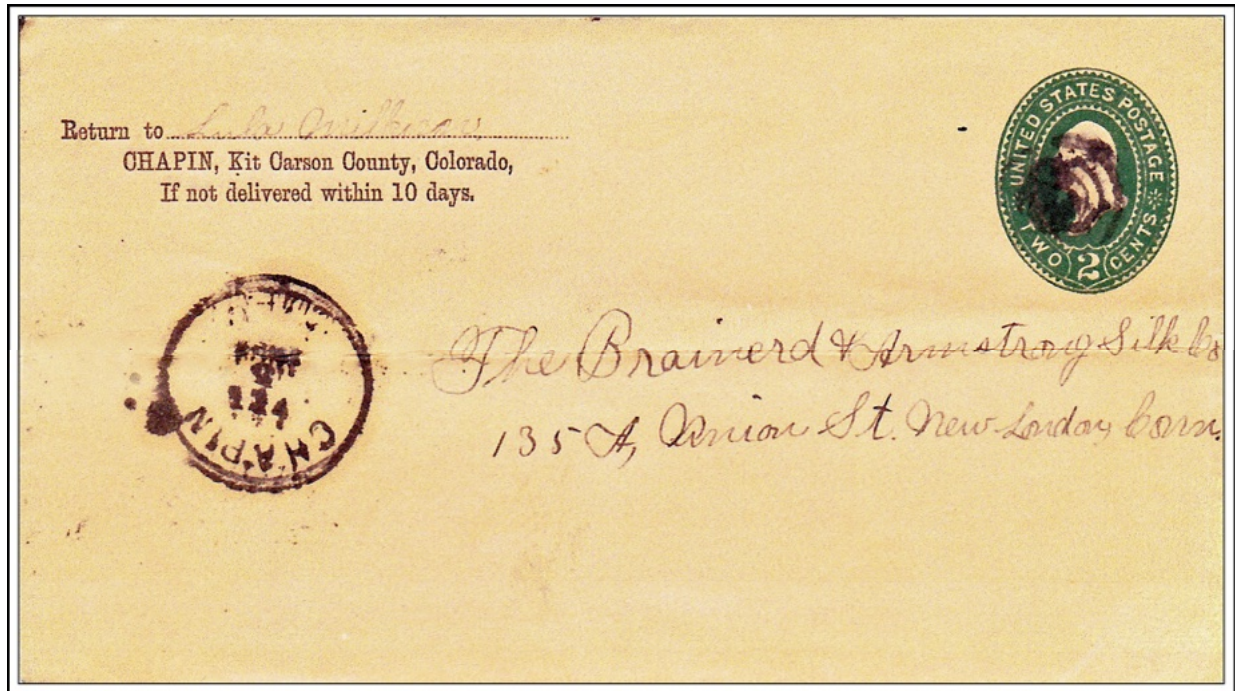
Chapin was a short-lived rural post office of the late nineteenth century. Like most of the rural post offices in Kit Carson County, very little is known about it. The site is in nearly level farmland in Eastern Colorado.

Economics of scale have dictated the consolidation of the old homesteads into large agricultural companies. Modern farm equipment is most efficient when there are few or no interruptions to its progress. To accommodate that, most of the old farm and ranch homes have been destroyed. Such is the case in northern Kit Carson County.

CHAPIN – Continued

The application for a post office suggested the name Hall, which would have honored the proposed and first postmaster - William Thomas Hall. This name was rejected, perhaps for being too similar to Hale, located not that far away in Yuma County. The eventual choice of Chapin is unexplained.

The site of Chapin is on Colorado Highway 59, fourteen miles north of Seibert and four miles south of the Kit Carson-Washington County line. It was in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Highway 59 with Kit Carson County Road KK. The area is open farmland with no visible remains of any structure. To the south, on the west side of Highway 59 there is a large group of well-maintained farm buildings.



Chapin / Colo.

February 5, 1894

Chronology of the Post Office

- May 31 1889 --- SW/4 Sec 22 T6S R49W 3 miles north of Camp Creek
Proposed postmaster - William Thomas Hall
- Feb 15 1890 Established
- Feb 15 1890 Hall, William T.
- Sep 29 1892 Stott, Luella B.
- Nov 10 1894 Discontinued Mail to Seibert

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 CHAPIN / COLO. Feb 5 1894
- CI 10P 27.5 Hstp Target, 4-ring



CLAREMONT

Claremont was one of two early settlements between present day Bethune and Vona. The other was Oranola, four miles to the east of Claremont. Both of these communities were started in anticipation of the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad that was building west, eventually to reach Colorado Springs.

The railroad chose Claremont for its depot and siding, most likely because its location fit better with the spacing between stations that the railroad preferred. Within a year, the Oranola Post Office had closed.

Having lost to Burlington the contest to be the Kit Carson county seat, Claremont grew slowly, serving as a supply and shipping point for the surrounding countryside. Its fortunes also depended on the success of agriculture and the whims of the weather.

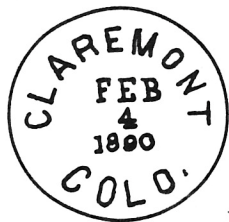
In 1906 Claremont was renamed Stratton, in honor of the mining magnate Winfield Scott Stratton. Claremont/Stratton is accessed from Interstate 70 at Exit 419.

Chronology of the Post Office

- Aug 6 1888 --- SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R47W 300 feet from track on south side C.K.& N. RR
Proposed postmaster - Louis Roether
- Sep 11 1888 Established
- Sep 11 1888 Roether, Louis
- Feb 26 1889 Hobart, George
- Feb 14 1894 Roberts, James J.
- Mar 24 1906 Name changed to Stratton

Confirmed types of postal markings

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | CLAREMONT / COLO.
CI 10P 28.0 | Apr 16 1889 May 17 1894
Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads |
| 2 | CLAREMONT / COLO.
CI 10P 28.0 | Mar 1 1899
Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads |
| 3 | CLAREMONT / COLO.
CI 10P 25.0 | Mar 25 1899 Apr 10 1899
Hstp Target, 5-ring 16mm |
| 4 | CLAREMONT / COLO.
CI 10P 28.0 | Jul 24 1904 Jan 13 190-
Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads |
| 5 | CLAREMONT, / COLO.
CI 10P 29.0 | Dec 5 1904 Apr 12 1906
Doane Type 2 with 2, S-23x14mm |



1



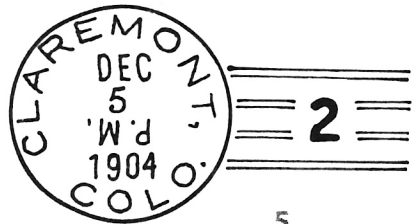
2



3



4



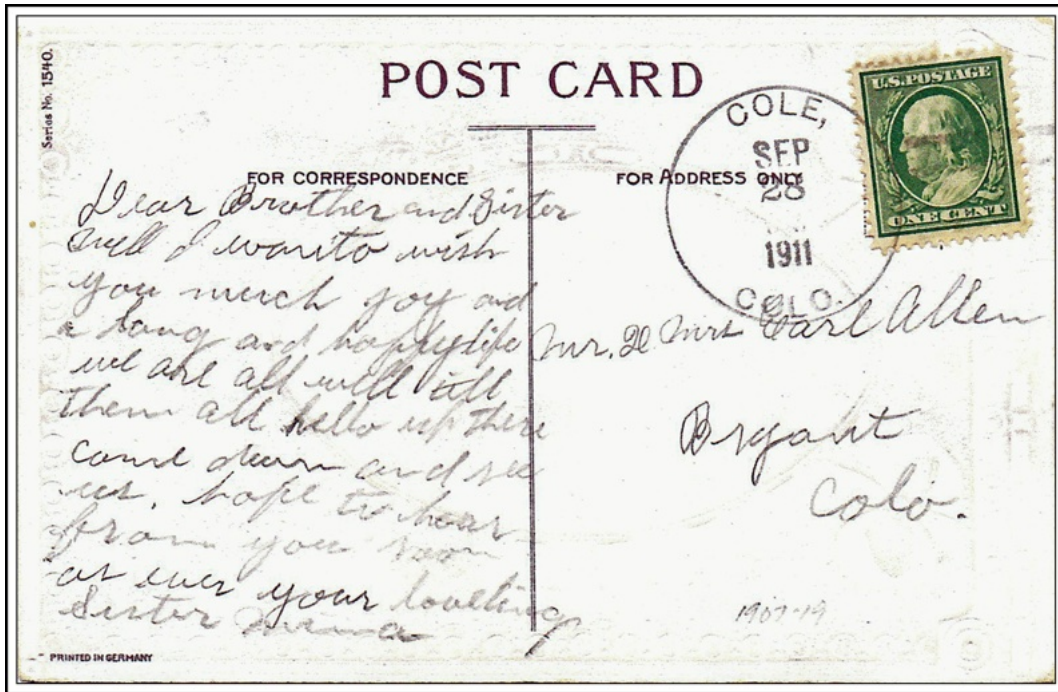
5

COLE

Cole was a rural post office in southern Kit Carson County. Operating for twelve years, Cole had a longer life than the majority of the rural post offices of Kit Carson County. However, that life span left almost no information about Cole. It is possible that there was more than a single farm or ranch at the location as there were four different postmasters but only one location was reported to the Post Office Department.

I have no information as to the source of the name of this post office.

If you have just visited the site of Kukuk, then turn back west and go six miles on Kit Carson Road G. An alternative is to come south from Burlington on US Highway 385, twelve miles to Road G and turn east for two miles. Both choices will place you one mile south of the claimed location of the Cole Post Office. There is no access north across the planted fields, but the ground is level and there are a few low trees at about where the location should be. It is possible that there would be some remains among those trees.



COLE, / COLO.

September 28, 1911

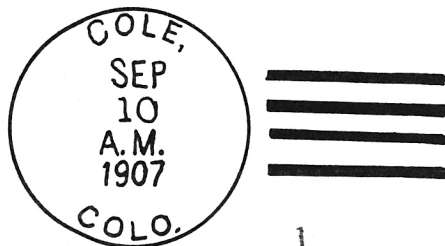
Chronology of the Post Office

- Jan 28 1907 --- NW/4 Sec 32 T10S R43W Sand Creek 1-1/2 mile north of post office
Proposed postmaster - Fred E. Wheaton
- Mar 7 1907 Established
- Mar 7 1907 Wheaton, Fred E.
- Jun 11 1907 Marsh, Charles C.
- Jan 25 1909 McCracken, William
- Apr 21 1914 Morford, Asbury W.
- May 31 1919 Discontinued Mail to Burlington

COLE – Continued**Confirmed types of postal markings**1 COLE, / COLO.
CI 10P 31.0

Sep 10 1907 May 2 1917

4bars S-24x14mm

**DODGEVILLE**

There is no Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report for this post office. I have found no mention of it in the historical literature of Colorado that I have reviewed. Although a postmaster was appointed, he declined the appointment and the establishment was quickly rescinded.

Any information about the possible location of Dodgeville and the origin of the name would be appreciated.

Chronology of the Post Office

No document was found in the Kit Carson Geographic Site Location Reports

Sep 14 1907	Established	
Sep 14 1907	Thomas, Herbert J.	Declined
Dec 14 1907	Establishment rescinded	

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM DODGEVILLE

ELPHIS

Elphis was a rural post office at the farm or ranch of postmaster Nicholas Brownwood. There was no organized community and for a few years the Elphis Post Office served a small number of farms and ranches in the surrounding countryside.

The Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report indicates that the local name for the place was Bruinewood, likely a corruption of Brownwood, the name of the one and only postmaster of Elphis. That may indicate that there was more than a single farm at the location, and perhaps a small store. Also, the preferred name for the post office was Brownwood. For some reason that name was rejected and I have no idea from whence came the name Elphis.

From the site of Carey on Kit Carson County Road NN, continue west four and one-half miles to County Road 22 and turn south to the intersection with County Road MM. Elphis was in the southwest quadrant of this intersection. In 1996 a single barn in the middle of nearly level farmland was all that remained at the location.

From Elphis, continue south and west to the site of Avendale.

Chronology of the Post Office

Sep 26 1916	---	NE/4 Sec 21 T6S R48W 2 miles north of Hill Creek Local name "Bruinewood"
		Applicant for Postmaster - Nicholas Brownwood
Dec 8 1916	Established	
Dec 8 1916		Brownwood, Nicholas

ELPHIS – Continued

Dec 7 1923 Ordered closed
Dec 31 1923 Discontinued Mail to Vona

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 ELPHIS, / COLO. Jul 23 1917 Sep 5 1918
 CI 10P 32.0 4bars S-24x19mm



FARLEY

According to the Post Office Department records, the Farley Post Office operated for less than seven months. Undoubtedly it was a rural post office at the farm or ranch of the postmaster, Thomas B. Farley, from whom it took its name. The short life may reflect the establishment of a Rural Free Delivery route in northwestern Kit Carson County, which would have eliminated the need for a remote post office such as Farley.

In 1996 when I made my exploration of northern Kit Carson County, I did not have a location for the Farley Post Office. Subsequently I did find a Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report that does provide a location and in May 2006 I did visit the site.

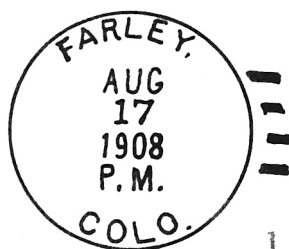
To visit that site, from Seibert, drive eleven miles north on Colorado Highway 59 to Kit Carson County Road GG. Turn west five miles to County Road 10 and go one mile north to what would be the intersection with Road HH. Farley was in the southwest quadrant of this intersection. In 2006 this was a plowed field and the surrounding area is devoid of farm buildings. There are ranch buildings visible in the far distance.

Chronology of the Post Office

Oct 21 1907 --- NE/4 Sec 3 T7S R50W Hell Creek one mile north of post office site
 Proposed postmaster - Thomas B. Farley
Mar 31 1908 Established
Mar 31 1908 Farley, Thomas B.
Sep 12 1908 Ordered closed
Oct 15 1908 Discontinued Mail to Flagler

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 FARLEY, / COLO. Aug 17 1908 Aug 31 1908
 CI 10P 31.0 4bars S-??x13mm



FLAGLER

At first the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad placed a depot at Bowser. At that place they would have conformed to the desired spacing of eight to nine miles between stations. However the water supply at Bowser was inadequate for the railroad's needs. Crystal Springs, a better source of water, was located a mile and a half to the west and therefore the station was moved to that location and named Flagler.

At first the new station was called Malowe for M. A. Lowe, an attorney for the railroad. Soon, and before the post office was moved from Bowser, the name was changed to Flagler, for Henry M. Flagler, a railroad executive and associate of John D. Rockefeller. Later Henry Flagler would gain fame for extending the Florida East Coast Railway through the Florida Keys.

On October 18, 1888 J. B. McGonigal filed the town plat for Flagler and in 1916 the town of Flagler was incorporated.

Flagler, like the other stations along what became well known as the Rock Island Railroad, depended on being a shipping point for livestock and produce and a supply center for the surrounding ranches and farms. Throughout the years Flagler has maintained a reasonably steady economy and still has a modest business district.

Access to Flagler is from Interstate 70 at Exit 395.

In 2003 the Flagler Post office was on the west side of Main Street, north of Third Street.

Latitude = 39:17:35 North Longitude = 103:04:00 West

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 17 1888	---	SW/4 Sec 7 T9S R50W 1 mile north of the South Fork of the Republican River	
Aug 25 1888	---	SE/4 Sec 2 T9S R51W 1-1/2 mile west of Little Carrol Creek 40 rods north of the track of the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad	
		Signed - Bennett Robinson - Postmaster Bowser, Colorado	
Oct 12 1888		Moved from Bowser	
Oct 12 1888		Robinson, Bennet	
Dec 12 1888		Olthoff, Jelsche	
Mar 12 1889		Whitney, Joseph S.	
Oct 31 1889		Lavington, William H.	
Oct 13 1894		Schuler, William N.	
Oct 24 1895		Crandall, John	
Sep 22 1898		Lavington, William H.	
May 28 1901		Pritchard, Edward	
Oct 22 1901		Martin, William H.	
Nov 8 1907		Epperson, Eddley T.	
Dec 20 1907		White, John A.	
Apr 24 1914		Kruchten, Edward H. K.	P&S
Jul 1 1914			Office made Presidential
Jul 13 1914	---	SE/4 Sec 2 T9S R51W 1000 feet north of the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific	
May 24 1916		Wamberg, Bertha M.	Acting
Jun 27 1916		Kruchten, Amy R.	P&S
Feb 18 1920		Langcamp, Ethel K.	P&S
Feb 26 1924		Straub, John C.	P&S
Mar 1 1928		Straub, John C.	P&S
Jun 2 1929		Straub, Zelah C.	Acting
Dec 11 1929		Straub, Zelah C.	P&S
Jun 2 1934		McBride, Mrs. Zelah S.	Name changed by marriage
Mar 8 1935		Robb, Arthur D.	Nominated
Mar 27 1935		Robb, Arthur D.	Confirmed

FLAGLER – Continued

Apr 12 1935	Robb, Arthur D.	Commissioned
Apr 24 1935	Robb, Arthur D.	Assumed charge
Jun 12 1939	Robb, Arthur D.	Nominated
Jun 19 1939	Robb, Arthur D.	Commissioned
Jun 22 1939	Robb, Arthur D.	Appointed Presidential
Jul 19 1939	Robb, Arthur D.	Confirmed
Sep 23 1940 ---	SE/4 Sec 2 T9S R51W New site 185 feet south, 80 feet west of previous location Railroad station 3 blocks southeast	
Oct 21 1941 ---	SE/4 Sec 2 T9S R51W Main Street between 3rd & 4th Streets Rock Island tracks two blocks south of office	
Feb 28 1962	Niemann, Mrs. Laurel A.	Assumed charge
Mar 6 1962	Niemann, Mrs. Laurel A.	Acting
Jun 15 1962	Niemann, Laurel A.	Nominated
Aug 31 1962	Niemann, Laurel A.	Confirmed
Sep 4 1962	Niemann, Mrs. Laurel A.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 14 1962	Niemann, Mrs. Laurel A.	Commissioned

Confirmed types of postal markings

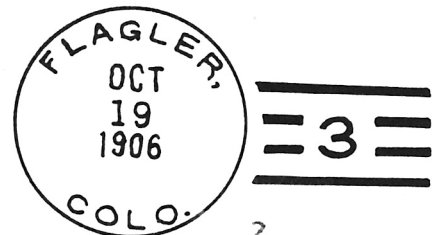
1	FLAGLER / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring	May 27 1893
1.1	FLAGLER, / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 3 ring, 17mm	Mar 1 1898
2	FLAGLER, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3, with 3, S-23x14mm	Aug 4 1906 Oct 11 1910
3	FLAGLER / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Dec 17 1910 Jun 21 1912
4	FLAGLER / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Apr 5 1915 Dec 28 1935
5	FLAGLER, / COLO CI 10P 22.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	May 20 1939 May 7 1955
5.1	FLAGLER, / COLO. RC 10P ?x14.0	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box, partial strike	1940s
6	FLAGLER / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1	May 22 1936 Feb 27 1961
7	FLAGLER, / COLO CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Oct 28 1959 Jan 13 1964
8	FLAGLER, CO / 80815 CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-24x20mm	Jan 2 1968 Aug 5(?) 1986
8.1	FLAGLER, CO / 80815 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Sep 26 1966 Mar 5 1976
9	FLAGLER, CO / 80815 CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-24x19mm	Jun 1 1993 Aug 28 1995
10	FLAGLER, CO 80815 / USPS CI 11P 27.0/18.5	Hstp No killer	Aug 28 1995



1

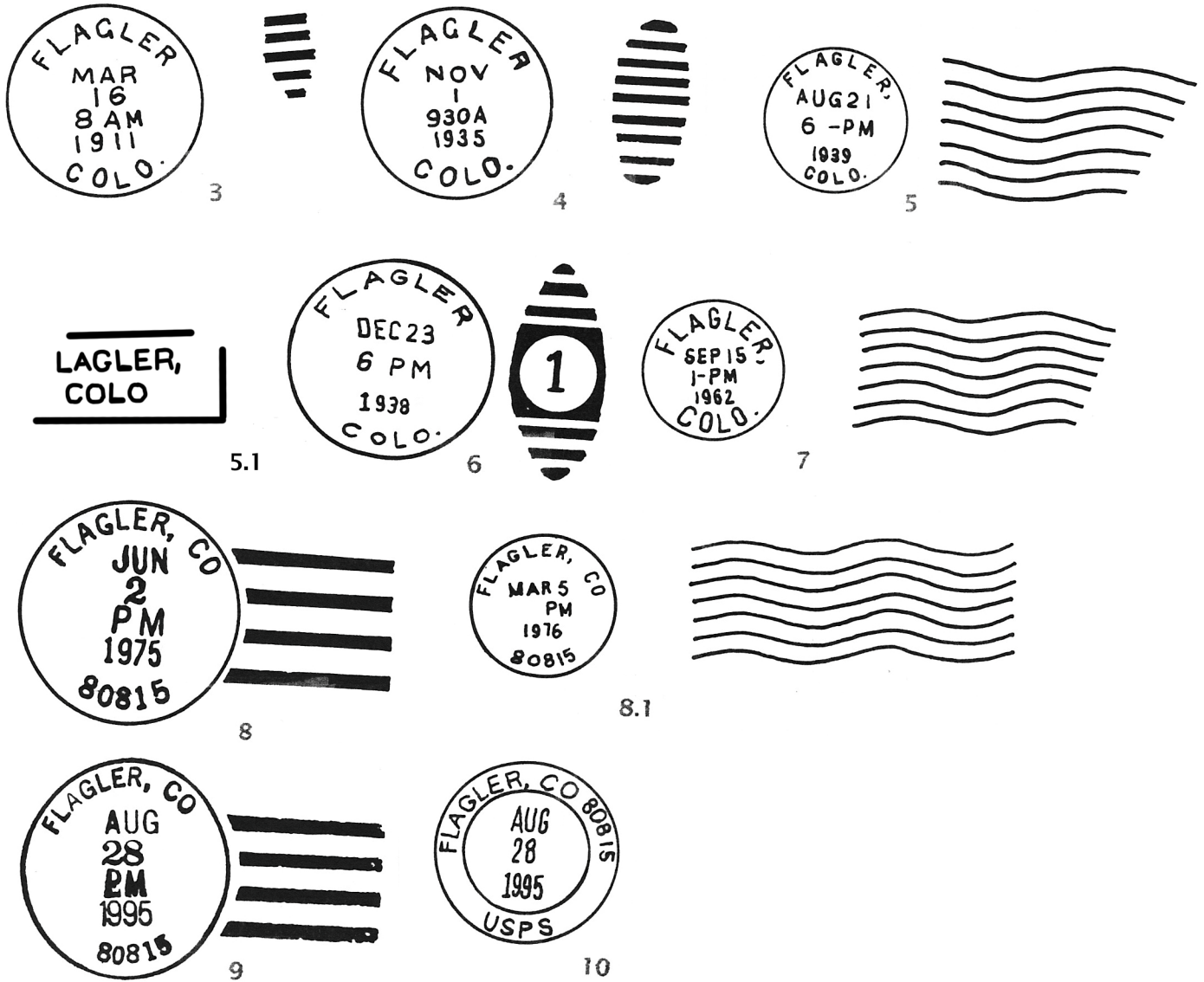


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2

FLAGLER – Continued



CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 31 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 Flagler, CO 80815 / The Carousel Station
IR 00R 57.0x32.0

Jul 31 1995
Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson
County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD



FLAGLER – Continued

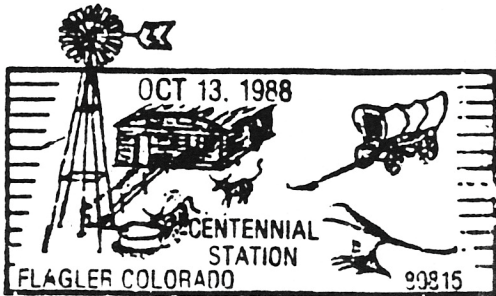
CENTENNIAL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Oct 13 1988 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 FLAGLER COLORADO 80815 // CENTENNIAL / STATION Oct 13 1988
RC 10P 63.0x30.0 Pict Scene - Windmill, cabin, wagon and plow within rectangle



GOFF

Goff, locally known as Goffstown, was a rural post office in northeastern Kit Carson County. Goff did last for more than twenty years and thus it appears that there was more than a single ranch or farm. The local name Goffstown supports that idea. The first postmaster was John B. Goff and the post office adopted his name.

The surrounding area is agricultural, a mix of grazing land and developed farmland.

The post offices in this area of northeastern Kit Carson County raise a question. Why were there so many post offices in a small area?

The first to open was Landsman, when in 1885 it was moved from a location in Yuma County. Next, was Goff in 1888, at a location less than two miles from Landsman. These two offices co-existed until 1910 when Goff was closed. However, in 1907 the Morris Post Office was established about three miles to the northeast of Goff. Landsman closed in 1913, Morris in 1914 and the Bonny Post Office opened in 1915 two miles east of the site of Morris.

From the location of Morris at the intersection of Kit Carson County Roads NN and 52, continue west on Road NN. It is four and a half miles to Goff's location, however there are several turns: south on Road 51 to Road MM, west to Road 50, south on Road 50 and finally west on Road LL to US 385. Goff was a half-mile south on US 385 where County Road LL angles to the northwest.

Goff was on the east side of US 385. In 1996 there was one, small, abandoned building at that location.

From here, go northwest on Road LL one mile to the site of Landsman.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 25 1888	---	SW/4 Sec 18 T6S R43W 1-1/2 mile east of Launchman Creek (Landsman Creek W.H.B.)	
		Proposed postmaster - John B. Goff	
Apr 23 1888		Established	
Apr 23 1888		Goff, John B.	
Nov 2 1894		Jones, Edward	
Jan 30 1895		Knapp, James H.	
Jun 21 1898		Jones, James T.	Rescinded Jul 2 1898

GOFF – Continued

Jul 13 1898	Jones, Mary
Jun 13 1905	Goebel, Henry
May 5 1909	Broadsword, William H.
Jun 15 1910	Discontinued Mail to Burlington

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	GOFF / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp No killer	Jun -- 1908 Oct -- 1909
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**HANOVER**

There is no Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report for this post office. And, I have found no mention of it in the historical literature of Colorado that I have reviewed. Although a postmaster was appointed, the establishment was soon rescinded.

Any information about the possible location of Hanover and the origin of the name would be appreciated.

From 1913 to 1921 there was a Hanover Post Office in El Paso County.

Chronology of the Post Office

	No document was found in the Kit Carson Geographic Site Location Reports
Jul 7 1908	Established
Jul 7 1908	Knoffke, Frank
Oct 29 1908	Establishment rescinded

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM HANOVER

HERMES

Hermes was a rural post office on the border between Yuma and Kit Carson Counties. In 1908 the post office was established in Yuma County but by March 1916 it had moved a short distance south into Kit Carson County.

This portion of Eastern Colorado is primarily grazing land with some farmland. There is no indication that there was any attempt to organize a community at Hermes, either in Yuma County or in Kit Carson County.

The Post Office Department Geographical Site Location Report indicates that the desired name was Edna. That was the surname of the proposed and eventual postmaster. That name was rejected, most likely because there was an Edna Post Office in San Luis Obispo County California. The selection of the name Hermes remains a mystery.

HERMES – Continued

To visit Hermes, begin on US Highway 385 at the intersection with Yuma County Road 2, two miles north of the county line. Drive west on Road 2 to Road CC and then a short distance north to Road 2.5. Continue west on Road 2.5 to Road Y. Turn south on Road Y, which curves to the southeast to cross the South Fork of the Republican River. I believe Hermes was located on the north side of the river where there are two groups of ranch buildings – several barns but only one house. A mile south, in Kit Carson County there is another group of ranch buildings. These would be the two locations of the Hermes Post Office.

The site in Kit Carson County is a half-mile south of the county line in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Kit Carson Road 44 and a farm road to the west. There is a modest sized active ranch at that location a short distance from Road 44.

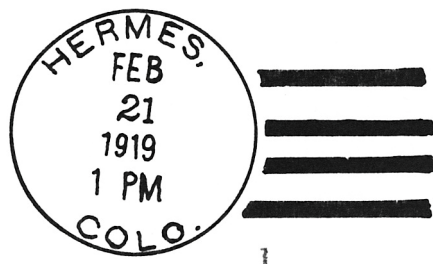
Continue south on County Road 44 towards the location of the Yale Post Office.

Chronology of the Post Office

Sep 11 1908	Established
Sep 11 1908	Andrews, Edna M.
Dec 28 1912	Richards, William A.
Mar 22 1915	Scherrer, Annetta M.
Mar 13 1916 ---	S1/2 Sec 36 T5½S R45W 1/2 mile south of the Republican River 1/4 mile south of the county boundary
Feb 1 1918	Richards, William A.
Nov 15 1919	Discontinued Mail to Burlington

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 HERMES, / COLO. Feb 21 1919
CI 10P 32.0 4bars S-25x19mm



HOYT

For less than eight months the Hoyt Post Office was supposedly in operation on the north side of the South Fork of the Republican River, a few miles north of present day Seibert. The only mention of this Hoyt in the Colorado literature is that it was a rural post office. The source of the name is unknown. Be aware that from 1906 until 1991 there was a Hoyt Post Office in Morgan County.

I can surmise that Hoyt came into existence at the time that the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad was being planned. The railroad, better known as the Rock Island Railroad, chose a route four miles to the south and with the opening of the Seibert Post Office in October 1888 there was no longer any reason for this office to continue.

From Seibert, drive about four and a half miles north on Colorado Highway 59 to one mile north of Kit Carson County Road Y. There is a short stub road to the east, which should be Road Z. The location of Hoyt was in the southwest quadrant of this intersection, which is occupied by a very active ranch.

HOYT – Continued**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 12 1888	---	NE/4 Sec 16 T8S R49W 1/4 mile north of the South Fork of the Republican River 1/2 mile north of Buffalo Creek Proposed postmaster - Charles H. Scheib
Mar 27 1888		Established
Mar 27 1888		Scheib, Charles H.
Nov 10 1888		Discontinued Papers to Seibert

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM HOYT

KUKUK

Kukuk was a rural post office in the farming country of southeastern Kit Carson County. The post office operated for a little less than a year and it may have been another victim of the expanding Rural Free Delivery System that eliminated the need for many of these remote rural post offices.

In preparing this discussion I have discovered that there is some question about the spelling of the name of this post office. The Records of Postmaster Appointments spell it Kukuk, however, the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report, the *1908 Postal Guide*, and the postmaster himself, all spell it as Kukuk. Therefore, I am forced to conclude that our listing as Kukuk in *Colorado Post Offices* was incorrect. Obviously the office was named for postmaster Frederick Kukuk.

One mile west of the Kansas-Colorado State line at Exit 451 from Interstate 70, go south on Kit Carson County Road 59 two miles to County Road V and turn west. Go west four miles to County Road 55 and turn south. Go twelve miles to County Road G and then east one mile to the intersection with Road 56. Kukuk was in the southeast quadrant of this intersection.

Kukuk is a prime example of what is happening to the old farms, ranches and settlements that once populated the plains of Eastern Colorado. My initial visit to Kukuk was in October 1996. I took a black and white photograph but when I went to take a color slide my camera froze up. Frustrated I went on. In May 1997 on my way back to Denver via Interstate 70 I decided to revisit Kukuk and take the color slide I had missed. When I reached the site I discovered that the buildings that had been there in October 1996 were no more and the “farmyard” was freshly planted with grain. All that remained was a few chunks of concrete that had been pushed into the hedgerow along the road. A little more history lost in the name of modern agriculture.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 14 1907	---	NW/4 Sec 4 T11S R42W Proposed postmaster - Frederick Kukuk
Apr 24 1907		Established
Apr 24 1907		Kukuk, Frederick
Mar 30 1908		Ordered closed
Apr 15 1908		Discontinued Mail to Burlington

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM KUKUK

LANDSMAN

The Landsman Post Office was originally established in Yuma County, about a mile northeast of Hale. In 1885 it was moved several miles southwest to a new location in Kit Carson County. Appropriately the new location was on Landsman Creek but it is open to question as to whether the community was named for the creek or the creek for the community,

LANDSMAN – Continued

Settlement of Landsman is attributed to a group of Bessarabian Germans who settled in the area. I suspect that the name Landsman has some reference to these German immigrants.

The location provided by the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report places Landsman on the southeast side of Landsman Creek about a mile northwest of US Highway 385. The site is on Kit Carson Road LL, a road that trends to the northwest to cross Landsman Creek and eventually become Road NN as it turns to the west.

Depart from US 385 about three and one-half miles south of the Kit Carson-Yuma County line. That point is also the location of the former Goff Post Office.

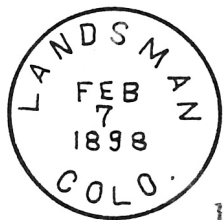
Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 27 1883	Established
Mar 27 1883	McCrellis, Edwin E.
Jun 18 1883	McCrellis, Edwin E.
Nov 20 1885	--- SW/4 Sec 12 T6S R44W 50 feet east of Landsman Creek This document was filed under Yuma County No document was found for a location of Landsman in the Kit Carson County Geographic Site Location Reports
May 27 1887	Ireland, Frank H.
May 7 1887	Ireland, Francis H.
May 5 1891	Slusser, Helen E.
Dec 18 1897	Yount, Elizabeth C.
May 31 1918	Discontinued Mail to Hale

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 LANDSMAN / COLO.
CI 10P 27.0

Feb 7 1898 Sep 9 1908
Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm; Cork, smudge



LOCO

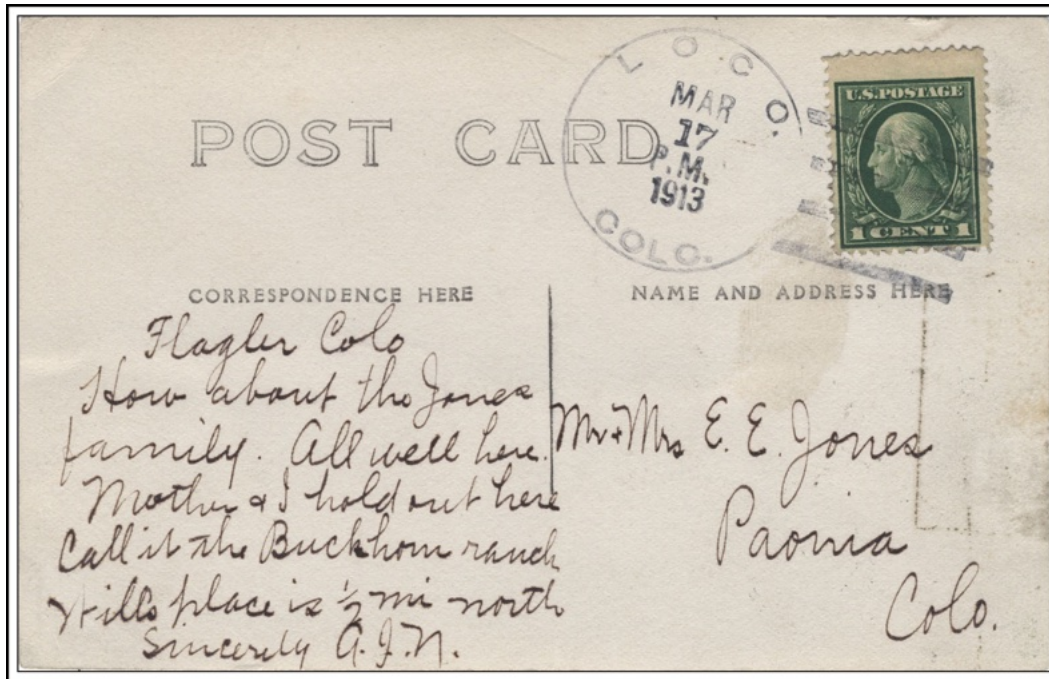
Loco was the longest lasting of the rural post offices in southern Kit Carson County. The post office operated for twenty years and it is stated that the name could still be found on maps of the 1940's. Loco was in the southwestern corner of the county and the nearest other post office was Flagler, twelve miles to the west-northwest.

Other than brief references to its existence and the records of the Post Office Department, I have been unable to find any other information as to its possible size and what, if anything other than a ranch house comprised Loco. The choice of the name is intriguing. It is certainly not a name that would inspire confidence and immigration. Perhaps the prospective postmaster felt that he had to be loco to live in such a remote location.

If you are making the tour of southern Kit Carson County and have just been to Oriska, from there continue one mile west to County Road 28 and then north four miles to Kit Carson County Road G. Go west eighteen miles to County Road 9. The site of Loco was one mile west and one mile north of that intersection but there is no access to the location of Loco. The overview, looking north from Road G, offers nothing but grassland. On Road 9, a little more than a mile north of Road G, there is a small ranch complex which may have been served by the post office at Loco.

LOCO – Continued

To exit from this portion of Kit Carson County, I suggest continuing four miles west on Road G to Road 5 and then eleven miles north to Interstate 70 and Flagler. You could also use this road as access to Road G and then visit the sites along Road G in the reverse order from that described in this chapter.



LOCO, / COLO.

March 17, 1913

Chronology of the Post Office

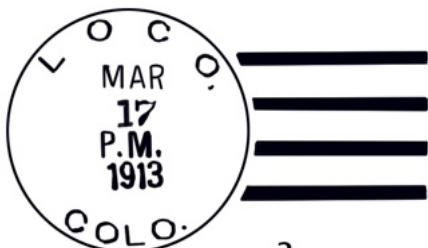
- Dec 10 1902 --- NW/4 Sec 32 T10S R50W 1/2 mile south of Sand Creek
The sketch map spots it in the SE/4 SE/4 Sec 32
Proposed postmaster - Charles D. Davis
- Mar 11 1903 Established
- Mar 11 1903 Davis, Charles D.
- Dec 3 1904 Cook, Mary H.
- Apr 10 1906 Weeks, Florence C.
- Mar 5 1907 Parker, Lenora
- Nov 7 1910 Frisbie, John M.
- Jan 12 1914 Radebaugh, Alvin B.
- May 31 1922 Discontinued Mail to Flagler

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 LOCO / COLO. Mar 17 1904 Jun 5 1911
CI 10P 28.0 Hstp Target, 4-ring
- 2 LOCO, / COLO. Mar 17 1913
CI 10P 32.0 4bars S-25x20mm



1



2

MORRIS

Morris was another rural post office and store near the northern boundary of Kit Carson County. It was only two miles west of the later site of Bonny and it has been stated that if Morris had been in operation in 1915, the Bonny Post Office would not have been established.

In 1907 James Morris opened the Morris Store and Post Office, which obviously was named for him. In 1910 Ellis Clark became postmaster and served until the office closed in 1914.

A 1907 article in *The Burlington Republican* states that, "Morris is what was called Rushville and now embraces what was called Sucker Flats."

From the site of Bonny return to Kit Carson Road 53 and continue west, one mile on County Road NN to the intersection with Road 52 to the north. The location of Morris was in the southwest quadrant of the intersection. That area is open farmland and there are no visible remains.

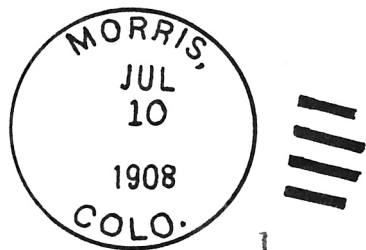
Some maps place Morris in the southeast quarter of the section, a mile south of the Post Office Department location on Road NN. There is no access to that corner or view of the location from Road NN.

Chronology of the Post Office

Dec 22 1906	---	NE/4 Sec 9 T6S R43W
		Proposed postmaster - J. A. Morris
Mar 18 1907		Established
Mar 18 1907		Morris, James A.
Dec 13 1910		Clark, Ellis L.
Mar 15 1914		Discontinued Mail to Hermes

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	MORRIS, / COLO.	Apr 27 1908	Apr 11 1913
	CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x14mm	



ORANOLA

With the planned construction of the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railroad through Eastern Colorado to Limon and then southwest to Colorado Springs a number of town companies sprang up along the proposed route. Most of these never got beyond the planning stage. One that did, briefly, was Oranola. In May 1888, the town of Columbia was platted on land homesteaded by David E. Scott. Application for a post office, to be named Columbia, was submitted but when the post office was granted in July 1888, Oranola was the name given to the new post office. The change was to comply with a Post Office Department directive that a post office name in use in California was not to be duplicated in Colorado. There was an existing Columbia Post Office in Tuolumne County, California.

The derivation of the name Oranola has not been determined.

The Oranola Post Office operated only eight months before it was discontinued. The railroad did not place a station there, instead choosing a location four and a half miles further west at Claremont (now Stratton). The railroad plans placed stations at eight to nine mile intervals and a station at Oranola would have been too close to the one at Bethune to meet the railroad's standard.

ORANOLA – Continued

Without a railroad station the town of Oranola collapsed and what had been built there moved west to Claremont.

From Colorado Highway 57, on the east edge of Stratton, drive east on US Highway 24 four miles to Kit Carson County Road 35. Oranola was north of the railroad and west of Road 35. There are no visible remains in what is now open farmland.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 21 1888	---	SE/4 Sec 34 T8S R46W
		Proposed postmaster - Francis S. Connaway
Jul 7 1888		Established
Jul 7 1888		Connaway, Francis S.
Feb 19 1889		Discontinued Papers to Claremont

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	ORANOLA / COLO.	Oct 1 1888
	CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring



1

ORISKA

Oriska is another of the early twentieth century rural post offices of southern Kit Carson County that have escaped general notice in the history of the county.

Like Beaverton to the northeast, this post office was in operation during the second period of homesteading brought on by improved methods of dry farming on the plains of Eastern Colorado. The post office lasted for seven years. It is possible that improving transportation—the automobile—and further development of the Rural Free Delivery System eliminated the need for this remote post office.

I have no information as to a possible origin of the post office name.

From the site of Beaverton at the intersection of Kit Carson County Roads G and 35, continue west five miles to County Road 30. Go south four miles to County Road C and then west one mile to the intersection with County Road 29. The site of Oriska was in the southwest quadrant of the intersection. There is a large farm operation at that location and one of the buildings is of the style that was popular in the time when the Oriska Post Office was in operation. It appears to still be in use.

An alternate access to Oriska is to drive south from Stratton on Kit Carson County Road 30. It is sixteen miles from Stratton to the intersection with County Road C and then go west one mile to Road 29.

From Oriska, you may continue west twenty-four miles to the location of the Loco Post Office.

Chronology of the Post Office

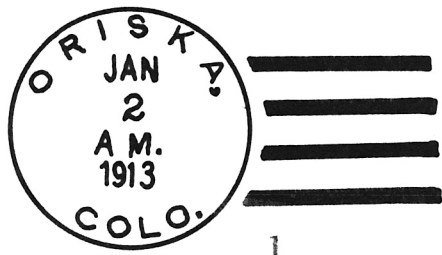
Jan 31 1911	---	NE/4 Sec 26 T11S R47W Smoky Creek is 1/2 mile south of the office
Dec 22 1910		Established
Dec 22 1910		Marten, Theodore A.
Oct 20 1913		Neill, William O.
Apr 27 1915		Marten, Theodore A.

ORISKA – Continued

Apr 6 1917 Williams, John N.
Dec 12 1917 Ordered closed
Dec 31 1917 Discontinued Mail to Stratton

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 ORISKA, / COLO. Mar 13 1912 Jul 16 1914
CI 10P 31.0 4bars S-25x20mm



SEIBERT

On August 29, 1888 C. F. Jilson on behalf of the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska Railroad (Rock Island) filed a town plat for Seibert. Seibert was another in the string of depots that the railroad spaced across what became Kit Carson County. The depots were planned to serve as shipping points for livestock and produce from the nearby farms and ranches and as supply centers for those same patrons.

On June 21, 1917 the town of Seibert was incorporated. From its founding, Seibert has continued to serve those functions and in the twenty-first century appears to be surviving somewhat better than its near neighbors. The town's economy continues to rely on the prosperity of the local agricultural industry.

Seibert was named for Henry Seibert a New York City millionaire and an official of the railroad during the construction period. It is claimed that Mr. Seibert donated a library of 500 books to the town.

Seibert can be accessed from Interstate 70 at Exit 405. US Highway 24, paralleling the interstate, runs through the town and Colorado Highway 59 passes through Seibert from north to south.

In 2003 the Seibert Post Office was on the northwest corner of Colorado and Second (US 24) Streets.

Latitude = 39:17:57 North Longitude = 102:52:07 West

Chronology of the Post Office

Sep 27 1888 --- NW/4 Sec 3 T9S R49W 400 feet south of the Chicago, Kansas & Nebraska Railroad
Proposed postmaster - Leander Hutchins

Oct 17 1888 Established

Nov 17 1888 Hutchens, Leander

May 16 1889 Sutton, John W.

Dec 24 1890 Hutchens, Leander

Jan 28 1891 Scheib, Charles H.

Oct 24 1891 Hutchens, Leander

Dec 6 1893 Erskine, James M.

Oct 17 1895 Weaver, William A.

Nov 18 1897 Lint, Annie, S.

Apr 23 1898 Hambleton, John C.

Dec 19 1898 Rogers, Mary E.

Mar 10 1899 Rogers, Lorrin C.

Jan 27 1908 --- NW/4 Sec 3 T9S R49W 35 rods south of Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad

SEIBERT – Continued

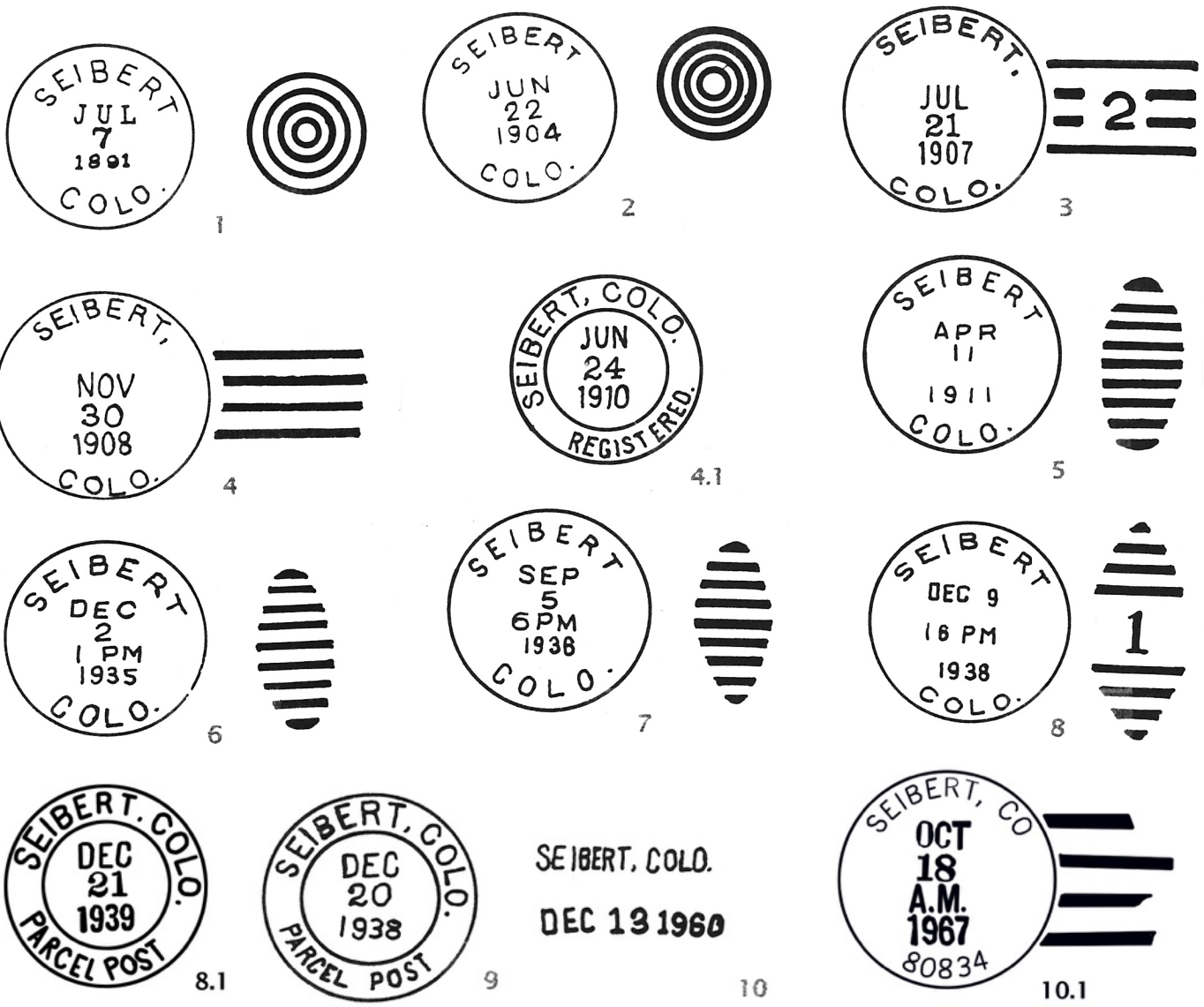
Jan 1 1910		Office made Presidential
Feb 23 1911	Wrenn, Robert W.	P&S
Feb 20 1914	Cates, Mae C.	P&S
Apr 20 1914	--- NW/4 Sec 3 T9S R49W 20 rods south of	the Rock Island Railroad
Sep 5 1918	Cates, Mae C.	P&S
Sep 22 1922	Simmons, Hallie A.	P&S
Jun 2 1926	Hutchens, Zella M.	Acting
Jan 10 1928	Hutchens, Zella M.	Appointed & Confirmed
Jan 19 1932	Hutchens, Zella M.	Nominated
Jan 28 1932	Hutchens, Zella M.	Confirmed
Feb 24 1932	Hutchens, Zella M.	Commissioned
Apr 13 1936	Haynes, Meryl D.	Nominated
Apr 21 1936	Haynes, Meryl D.	Confirmed
Apr 24 1936	Haynes, Meryl D.	Appointed Presidential
May 13 1936	Haynes, Meryl D.	Assumed charge
May 20 1940	Haynes, Meryl D.	Nominated
May 24 1940	Haynes, Meryl D.	Confirmed
May 29 1940	Haynes, Meryl D.	Appointed Presidential
Jun 27 1940	Haynes, Meryl D.	Commissioned
Oct 21 1941	--- NW/4 Sec 3 T9S R49W US 24 is one block south of post office	
Nov 18 1943	Haynes, Mrs. Myrna M.	Assumed charge
Jul 31 1944	Simon, George R.	Acting
Aug 1 1944	Simon, George R.	Assumed charge
Sep 19 1944	Simon, George R.	Nominated
Sep 20 1944	Simon, George R.	Confirmed
Sep 21 1944	Simon, George R.	Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Feb 20 1960	Atkins, Earl E.	Acting
Feb 26 1960	Atkins, Earl E.	Assumed charge
Feb 29 1960	Atkins, Earl E.	Acting
May 26 1961	Pitman, William A.	Assumed charge
Jun 6 1961	Pitman, William A.	Acting
Jun 15 1962	Pitman, William A.	Nominated
Aug 31 1962	Pitman, William A.	Confirmed
Sep 4 1962	Pitman, William A.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 14 1962	Pitman, William A.	Commissioned
Jul 27 1979	Claus, Ms. Sandra K.	Officer in charge
Jan 26 1980	Fox, Mrs. Phyllis E.	Appointed

Confirmed types of postal markings

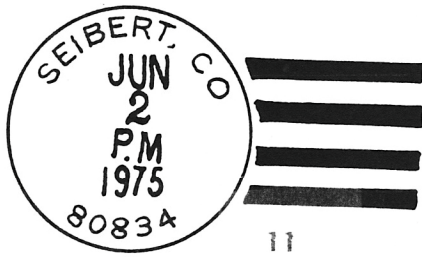
1	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 27.5	Hstp Target, 4-ring	Feb 17 1890 Oct 17 1896
2	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm	Nov 12 1897 Jun 22 1904
3	SEIBERT, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3, with 2	Jan 14 1907 Apr 8 1908
4	SEIBERT, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x13mm	Jul 9 1908 Oct 14 1910
4.1	SEIBERT, COLO. / REGISTERED. CI 11P 28.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Jun 24 1910
5	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Mar 27 1911 Apr 11 1911
6	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Oct 17 1930 Dec 2 1935

SEIBERT – Continued

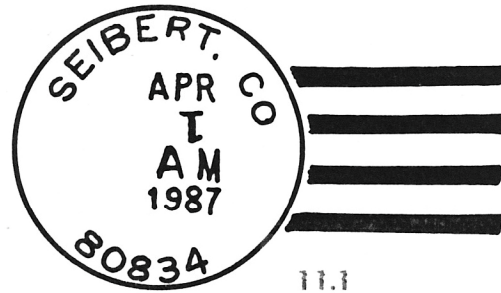
7	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Sep 5 1936
8	SEIBERT / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval [Or 1938 as traced? Xerox not available] Apr 27 1938 Oct 10 1962
8.1	SEIBERT, COLO. / PARCEL POST CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Dplx Grid, diamond with 1 Dec 21 1939
9	SEIBERT, COLO. / PARCEL POST CI 11P 31.0/20.0	Hstp No killer Dec 20 1938
10	SEIBERT, COLO. SL 00R 26.0x13.0	Hstp No killer Dec 13 1960
10.1	SEIBERT, CO / 80834 CI 10P 31.0	Hstp No killer Oct 18 1967
11	SEIBERT, CO / 80834 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-??x20mm Aug 4 1969 Nov 1 1977
11.1	SEIBERT. CO / 80834 CI 10P 36.0	4bars S-24x19mm Apr 1 1987 Aug 25 1987
11.2	SEIBERT. CO / 80834 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-28x22mm May 31 1991 May 29 1993
12	SEIBERT CO / 80834 CI 10P 35.0	4bars S-25x19mm Aug 28 1995 Jan 24 2001
		4bars S-14x21mm



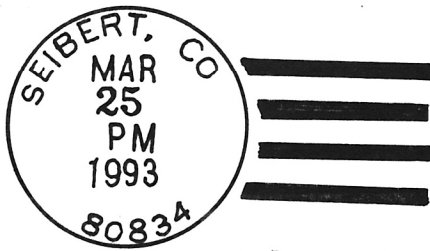
SEIBERT – Continued



11



11.1



11.2



12



SEIBERT / COLO.

July 7, 1891

CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 31 1995

Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

SEIBERT – Continued

CAROUSEL STATION – Continued

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	Seibert, CO 80834 / The Carousel Station IR 00R 57.0x32.0	Jul 31 1995 Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD
---	--	---



STRATTON

The town that is today Stratton was established in 1888 as Claremont. J. S. Jilson and C. S. Newell, acting for the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad (Rock Island) filed a town plat in July of that year.

This town was another in the series that the railroad established across the future Kit Carson County. These stations were spaced at eight to nine mile intervals and it was seemingly that spacing rule that placed a depot at Claremont and not at Oranola, four miles to the east.

In 1906 the name of the town and the post office was changed from Claremont to Stratton. This honored Winfield Scott Stratton, a one time Colorado Springs carpenter who made millions in gold from the Cripple Creek District mines. Some have suggested that the change in name was in the hope that Stratton would invest in the community but that is unlikely since W. S. Stratton died on September 14, 1902.

The economy of Stratton has always depended on the fortunes of agriculture in the surrounding area. The large scale of modern farm and livestock enterprises has reduced the need for local services. As a result the small towns of Eastern Colorado struggle to remain viable and many have already faded into history.

Stratton continues to serve its surrounding area as a shipping and supply center but its business district has declined from earlier times. On the western edge of the town a fairly new motel-conference center and a golf course have been built to hopefully attract new business and residents to Stratton.

Stratton can be accessed from Interstate 70 at Exit 419. In addition, US Highway 24 still traverses the town and Colorado Highway 59 passes through from north to south.

In 2003 the Stratton Post Office was on the southeast corner of Main and Second Streets.

Latitude = 39:18:12 North Longitude = 102:36:15 West

Chronology of the Post Office

Sep 10 1906	---	SW/4 Sec 36 T8S R47W Formerly Claremont About 600 feet from Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad
Mar 24 1906		Name changed from Claremont
Mar 24 1906		Roberts, James T.
Dec 29 1906		Smith, William R.
Jul 22 1908		Smith, Joseph A.
Jan 1 1911		Office made Presidential
Feb 6 1911		Smith, Joseph A. P&S
Mar 27 1911	---	Center Sec 36 T8S R47W 450 feet south of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad

STRATTON – Continued

May 1 1913	Hamilton, Eva B.	P&S
Apr 21 1914 ---	SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R47W One block south	of the Rock Island Railroad
Jul 21 1917	Hamilton, Eva B.	P&S
Nov 2 1921	Pugh, M. Gladys	P&S
Dec 17 1925	Quinn, Gladys	Name change
Dec 16 1929	Quinn, Mrs. M. Gladys	P&S
Apr 18 1934	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Nominated
Apr 25 1934	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Appointed & Confirmed
May 17 1934	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Commissioned
Jun 7 1938	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Nominated
Jun 8 1938	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Confirmed
Jun 23 1938	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Appointed Presidential
Jul 16 1938	Logan, Mrs. E. Velma	Commissioned
Feb 4 1943	Greenwood, Mrs. Marie E.	Nominated
Mar 17 1943	Greenwood, Mrs. Marie E.	Confirmed
Mar 18 1943	Greenwood, Mrs. Marie E.	Appointed Presidential
Apr 6 1943	Greenwood, Mrs. Marie E.	Commissioned
Apr 16 1943	Greenwood, Mrs. Marie E.	Assumed charge
Aug 6 1941 [?]	SE/4 Sec 36 T8S R47W Colorado Boulevard	A move 320 feet north of a previous location
Oct 20 1941 [?]	SW/4 Sec 36 T8S R47W Colorado & Main	
Nov 30 1971	Schiferl, Ray W.	Officer in charge
Feb 5 1972	Schiferl, Ray W.	Appointed & Assumed charge

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	STRATTON, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3, with 1	Jan 6 1907 Dec 17 1907
2	STRATTON, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x13mm	Jul 2 1908 Oct 6 1911
2.1	STRATTON. COLO. / REGISTERED CI 11P 28.5/19.0	Hstp No killer	Dec 10 1923
3	STRATTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Hstp Grid, 8 bar oval	Nov 10 1924 Sep 23 1927
3.1	STRATTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Hstp Grid, 9 bar oval	Jun 5 1931 Oct 31 1933
3.2	STRATTON. COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Nov 23 1931 Jul 14 1934
4	STRATTON, / COLO. RC 10P 35.0x15.0	Hstp No killer, parcel post box cancel	--- -- 193-
4.1	STRATTON, / COLO. RC 10P 35.0x18.0	Hstp No killer, parcel post box cancel	Jul 14 1934
5	STRATTON / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, Pointed oval with 1	Feb 5 1936 Jun 15 1960
6	STRATTON / COLO. CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jun 10 1948 Jun 15 1960
6.1	STRATTON / COLO. RC 10P 37.0x19.0	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box	1950s NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION
7	STRATTON, CO / 80836 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Oct 18 1967 Sep 14 1976
8	STRATTON, CO / 80836 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jul 17 1969 Mar 21 1987
9	STRATTON, CO / 80836 CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Feb 27 1987
9.1	STRATTON, CO / USPO CI 11P 29/19.0	Hstp No killer	--- 7 1989

STRATTON – Continued

10 STRATTON, CO / 80836
CI 10P 34.0

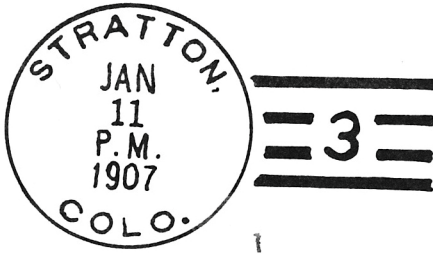
4bars S-26x20mm

Apr 13 1993 Sep 2 1994

11 STRATTON, CO / USPS
CI 11 29.0/19.0

Hstp No killer

Sep 2 1994



1



2



2.1



3



3.1



3.2



4



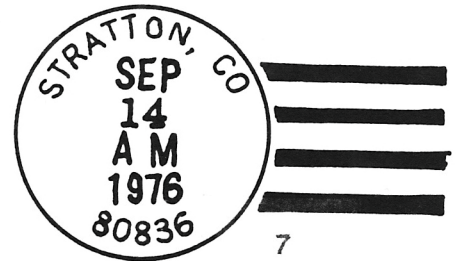
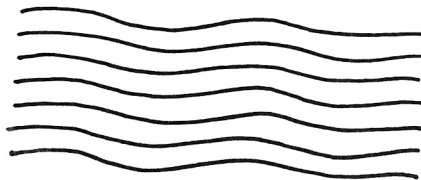
4.1



5



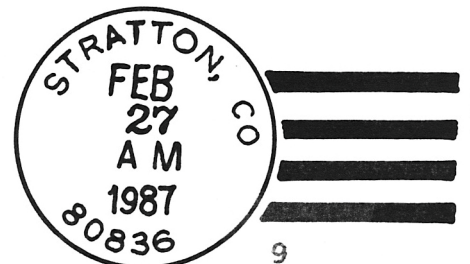
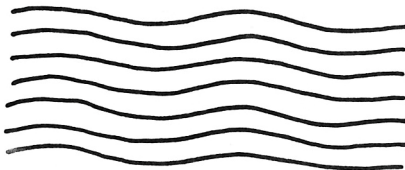
6



7



8



9

STRATTON – Continued



CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 31 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 Stratton, CO 80836 / The Carousel Station Jul 31 1995
IR 00R 57.0x32. Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson
County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD



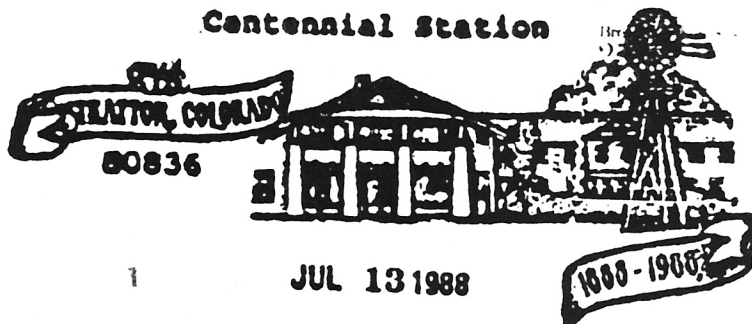
CENTENNIAL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jul 13 1988 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 STRATTON, COLORADO / 80836 // Centennial Station Jul 13 1988
IR 00R 99.0x43.0 Pict Scene - Windmill and buildings; Text in
Banner, 1888-1988



TUTTLE

Tuttle was a tiny community in north-central Kit Carson County. It was primarily a rural post office in the center of a region devoted to raising livestock. Although there is no record in the literature, it seems possible that there was perhaps a small store and a cluster of farms or ranches that formed Tuttle. In recent years much of the area has been converted to farmland.

Herman B. Tuttle first established Tuttle and the post office took his name. In 1885 the post office moved three miles east and a mile south to a new location but with Herman Tuttle remaining as the postmaster.

From Stratton, at the intersection of US Highway 24 and Colorado Highway 57, drive north twelve miles to Kit Carson County Road HH. Turn east and go three miles to what should be County Road 34. From that point the road turns north for a half mile before angling off to the northeast. The 1885 location of Tuttle was another mile further. There are no easily visible remains at this site on the north side of Spring Creek, which in 1996 was undeveloped.

After a visit to the site of Baltzer, it is possible to go on to the 1885 site of Tuttle. However, that journey requires seven changes in direction, so if you choose that option get a good county road map.

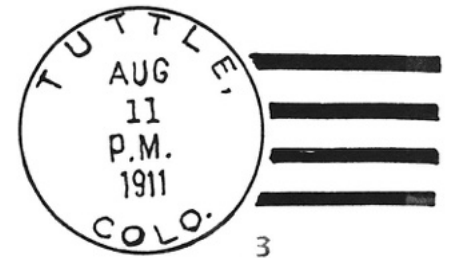
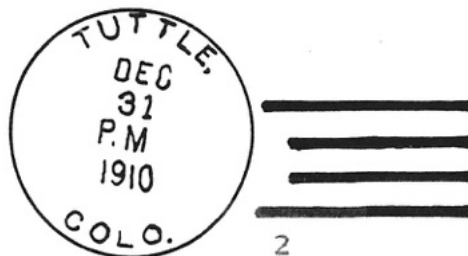
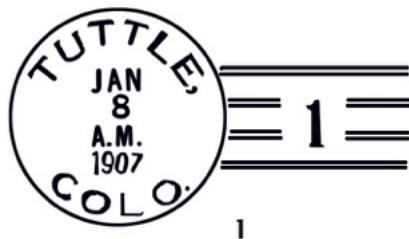
To visit the original 1883 site of Tuttle, return to Colorado Highway 57 and drive north two miles to County Road KK. The 1883 site of Tuttle was one mile east of Highway 57. In 1996 this was open farmland with a well-maintained farm about a half-mile from Highway 57.

Chronology of the Post Office

Feb 21 1883	---	NE/4 Sec 30 (26 crossed out) T6S R46W 10 rods south of Spring Creek
Mar 27 1883		Established
Mar 27 1883		Tuttle, Herman B.
Nov 21 1885	---	NE/4 SW/4 Sec 26 T6S R46W One mile southeast of the South Fork of the Republican River and immediately on the northwest side of Spring Creek. "The Republican river is always dry for 25 miles above and four miles below this office"
		Postmaster signature - H. B. Tuttle
Nov 9 1888		Davis, Elias G.
Nov 2 1894		Blackman, Dollie M.
Aug 31 1896		Davis, Elias G.
Jan 4 1901		Burr, Gordon G.
Dec 10 1903		Messenger, Solomon W.
Apr 10 1906		Harrison, William H.
Oct 1 1909		Ross, James R.
Dec 3 1909		Root, Gustaf A.
Nov 14 1914		Root, Alma, O.
Jul 31 1918		Discontinued Mail to Kirk

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	TUTTLE, / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Doane Type 2, with 1	Jun 8 1905 Jan 8 1907
2	TUTTLE, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x14mm	Mar 8 1909 Dec 22 1914
3	TUTTLE, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Feb 11 1911 May 19 1914



VALLEY

The appropriate description as a rural post office in the extreme northwest corner of Kit Carson County is all that has been recorded about this place. The Post Office Department records do confirm its operation for a period of three plus years and provide a location for Valley.

In 1996, the gently rolling countryside surrounding the site of Valley was shared between grazing land and farmland with no visible remains of any buildings.

The site is a short distance north of the South Arickaree River and perhaps the name was a reference to that feature.

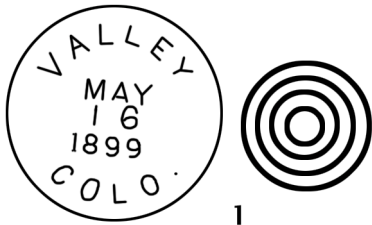
From the site of Berry, drive four miles west on Kit Carson Road NN to the Kit Carson-Lincoln County line (Road Zero) and turn north one mile to the Kit Carson-Washington County line (Road PP). The site of Valley was two miles to the east, on Road PP. Calling this a road is generous. It is little more than two tracks through the grass and fields. It seems to no longer be a county road and is only access to the fields along the way.

Chronology of the Post Office

May 14 1898	---	NE/4 Sec 5 T6S R51W 1/4 mile west of the Arickaree River Proposed postmaster - James E. Kintner
Jun 2 1898		Established
Jun 2 1898		Kintner, James E.
May 15 1901		Thompson, Ezra L.
Jul 27 1901		Ordered closed
Aug 15 1901		Discontinued Papers to Thurman

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	VALLEY / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	May 16 1899	Target, 4-ring
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VANSVILLE

There is no Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report for this post office. I have found no mention of it in the historical literature of Colorado that I have reviewed. Although a postmaster was appointed, the establishment was very quickly rescinded.

It seems likely that the name was based on the name of the postmaster to be—Smith C. Vanderlip. Any information about the possible location of Vansville would be appreciated.

Chronology of the Post Office

		No document was found in the Kit Carson County Geographic Site Location Reports
Sep 14 1907		Established
Sep 14 1907		Vanderlip, Smith C.
Nov 20 1907		Establishment rescinded

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM VANSVILLE

VONA

On March 20, 1889 Pearl S. King, a Burlington, Colorado lawyer, filed the town plat for Vona. The town had its beginnings the previous year when the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad was building west towards Limon and eventually to Colorado Springs. It has been stated that initially many of the residents were employees of the railroad. On August 9, 1919 Vona was incorporated.

Like the other towns that sprang up along the soon to be Rock Island Railroad, Vona had a depot and a siding. It was designed to be a shipping point for farm produce and livestock and a place where those farms and ranches could purchase supplies.

It is generally accepted that Vona was named for a niece of Pearl S. King.

The years have not been as kind to Vona as to the other towns along the railroad. It is still a shipping point for agricultural interests but on my most recent visit in 2003, it appeared that only one side of one block in the business district was still open for business. Other than that, there are some occupied residences, a couple of well-kept churches and a former school building that has been converted to other purposes. It is a sad fact that many of these small prairie towns are struggling to exist.

The Vona Post Office was on the west side of First Avenue just south of Howell Street.

Access to Vona is from Interstate 70 at Exit 412.

Latitude = 39:18:13 North Longitude = 102:44:33 West



Post office – Vona, Colorado

Photograph from https://elevation.maplogs.com/poi/stratton_co_usa.21137.html

VONA – Continued

Chronology of the Post Office

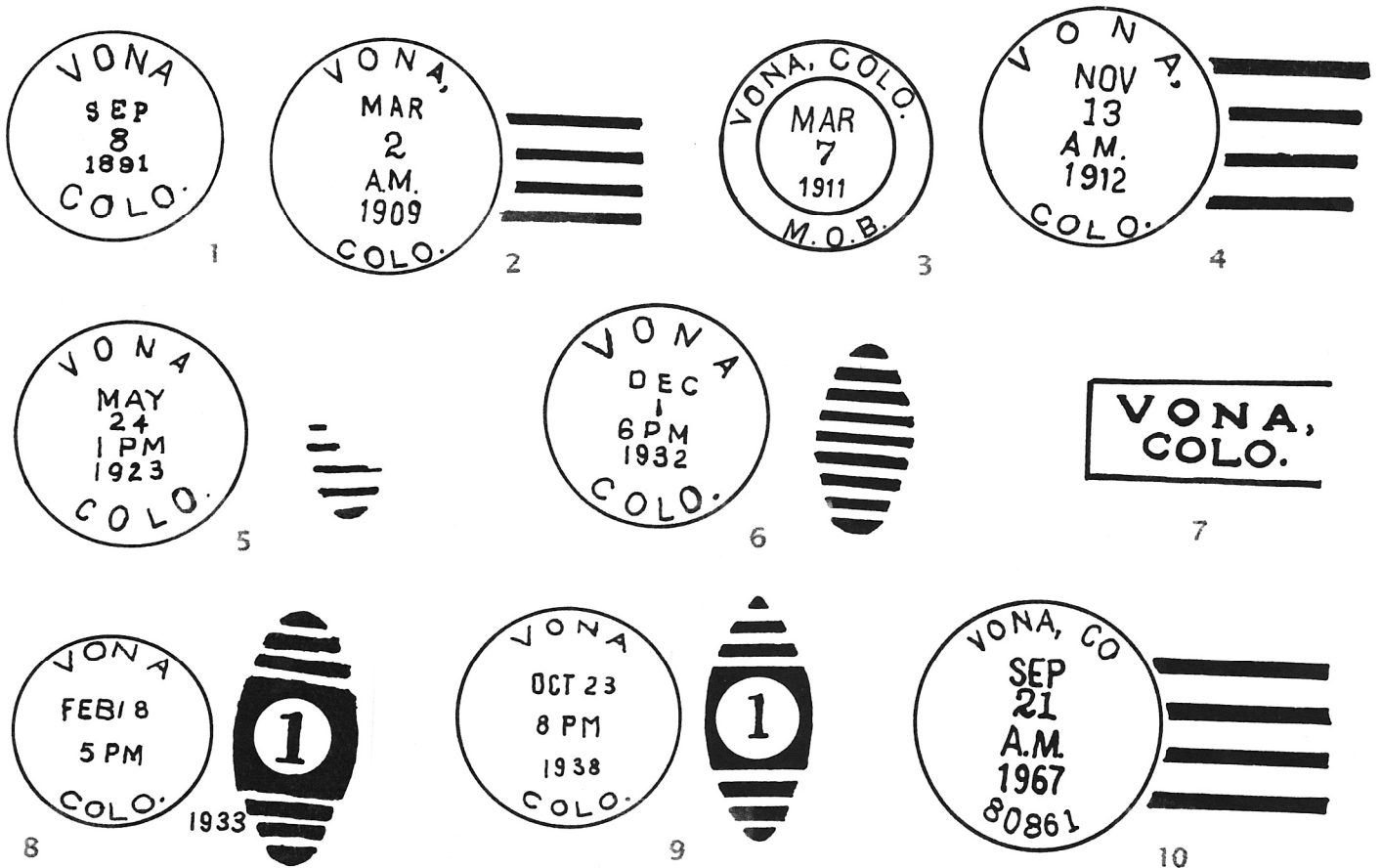
Dec 10 1888	---	SW/4 Sec 35 T8S R48W 1 mile east of Spring Creek Proposed postmaster - Erastus R. Johnson
Jan 19 1889		Established
Jan 19 1889		Johnson, Erastus R.
Feb 1 1890		Wallace, Henry W.
May 11 1894		Ferris, Alvin L.
Jul 9 1895		Discontinued Mail to Claremont
Jun 25 1901		Re-established
Jun 25 1901		Webb, Sarah C.
Apr 12 1904		Ferris, Flora
Sep 23 1905		Ordered closed
Oct 14 1905		Discontinued Mail to Seibert
Nov 28 1906	---	SW/4 Sec 35 T8S R48W 50 feet south of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Proposed postmaster - Archie L. Ferris
Jan 21 1907		Re-established
Jan 21 1907		Ferris, Archie L.
Jun 10 1907	---	NW/4 Sec 2 T9S R48W 1/2 mile north of Hackberry Creek 350 feet south of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific tracks Proposed postmaster - Sarah E. Webb
Aug 30 1907		Stover, James M.
Dec 9 1908		Dawson, William H.
Sep 18 1914		Haynes, Louise A.
Feb 15 1916	---	SW/4 Sec 35 T8S R48W 275 feet north of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Office made Presidential
Oct 1 1919		
Feb 18 1920		Haynes, Louise A.
Apr 15 1924		Butler, William L.
Aug 19 1924	---	SE/4 Sec 35 T8S R48W 80 rods north of Spring Creek 270 feet north of the C.R.I. & P. RR
Apr 17 1928		Butler, William L. Confirmed
Mar 18 1932		Butler, William L. Nominated
Apr 4 1932		Butler, William L. Confirmed
May 12 1932		Butler, William L. Commissioned
May 7 1936		Ford, Raymond L. Nominated
May 13 1936		Ford, Raymond L. Confirmed
May 19 1936		Ford, Raymond L. Appointed Presidential
Jun 9 1936		Ford, Raymond L. Assumed charge
May 20 1940		Ford, Raymond L. Nominated
May 24 1940		Ford, Raymond L. Confirmed
May 29 1940		Ford, Raymond L. Appointed Presidential
Jun 27 1940		Ford, Raymond L. Commissioned
Oct 20 1941	---	SW/4 Sec 35 T8S R48W Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific is 300 feet south of post office
Sep 1 1948		Kerl, Perl Lewis Assumed charge
Sep 14 1949		Ford, Merlin C. Nominated
Sep 22 1949		Ford, Merlin C. Confirmed
Sep 23 1949		Ford, Merlin C. Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Oct 31 1949		Ford, Merlin C. Assumed charge

Confirmed types of postal markings

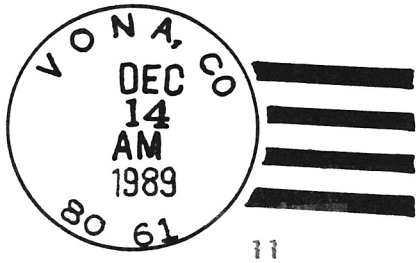
1	VONA/ COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Cork, Smudge	Sep 8 1891
2	VONA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-24x14mm	Sep 1 1908 Sep 17 1913
3	VONA, COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 28.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 7 1911

VONA – Continued

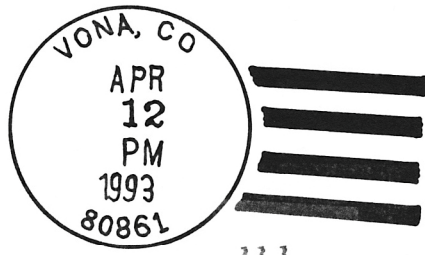
4	VONA, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Dec 14, 1911 Aug 21 1917
5	VONA/ COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Jan 5 1923 May 24 1923
6	VONA/ COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Jan 12 1929 Dec 1 1932
7	VONA, / COLO. RC 10P 34.0x15.0	Hstp No killer Parcel Post Box cancel	--- 193-
8	VONA/ COLO. CI 10P 26.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1	Feb 18 1933
9	VONA/ COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1	Aug 11 1937 Nov 27 1964
10	VONA, CO / 80861 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Oct 14 1965 Jun 23 1969
11	VONA, CO / 80861 CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-25x19mm	Apr 23 1971 Oct 15 1991
11.1	VONA, CO / 80861 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Dec 18 1991 Apr 12 1993
12	VONA CO / 80861 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Sep 2 1994 Feb 14 2001
13	VONA CO 80861 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Sep 2 1994



VONA – Continued



11



11.1



12



13

CAROUSEL STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

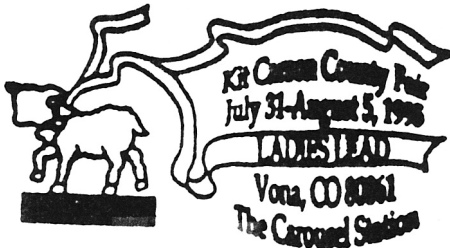
Jul 31 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 Vona, CO 80861 / The Carousel Station
IR 00R 57.0x32.0

Jul 31 1995

Pict Scene - Lamb with ribbon; Text - Kit Carson
County Fair / July 31-August 5, 1995 / LADIES LEAD



1

WALLET

Wallet was a rural post office serving farms in an area northeast of Burlington and a short distance west of the Colorado-Kansas State line.

The post office took the name of its first postmaster, Alfred Wallet, and most likely was at his homestead farm.

From the site of Carlisle, on the south side of Interstate 70, drive north on Kit Carson Road 57 to County Road X. Turn east two miles to County Road 59 and then go north 8 miles to County Road FF. Go back west two miles to Road 57. Unfortunately Road 57 is not a through road from Carlisle.

Wallet was located in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of roads FF and 57. North of Road FF, there are active ranches on both sides of Road 57.

From the location of Wallet continue north to the site of Ashland.

WALLET – Continued

Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 3 1890 --- SW/4 Sec 9 T7S R42W
Proposed postmaster - Alfred Wallet
Apr 8 1890 Established
Apr 8 1890 Wallet, Alfred
May 15 1907 Discontinued Mail to Kanorado

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 WALLET / COLO. Jan 26 1897 Oct 21 1902
CI 10P 28.0 Hstp Not present



YALE

William Yale was an early settler in the Landsman Creek Valley of northeastern Kit Carson County. This rural post office was in the home of postmaster, Sarah D. Yale and took its name from the Yale family.

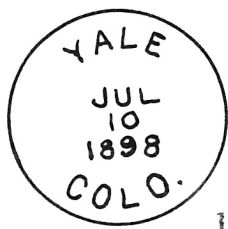
From Hermes at the Yuma-Kit Carson County line, drive seven miles south on Kit Carson County Road 44 to County Road GG. Turn west one mile to the site of Yale at the intersection with Road 43. Yale was in the southeast quadrant of the intersection. In October 1996 the small ranch on that corner was still occupied and well maintained.

Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 10 1891 --- NE/4 Sec 12 T7S R45W 2-1/2 miles west of Lost Mans Creek
[I believe this should be Landsman Creek. W.H.B.]
Proposed postmaster - Sarah D. Yale
Sep 10 1891 Established
Sep 10 1891 Yale, Sarah D.
Nov 8 1905 Ordered closed
Nov 30 1905 Discontinued Mail to Burlington

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 YALE / COLO. Jul 10 1898
CI 10P 28.0 Hstp No killer



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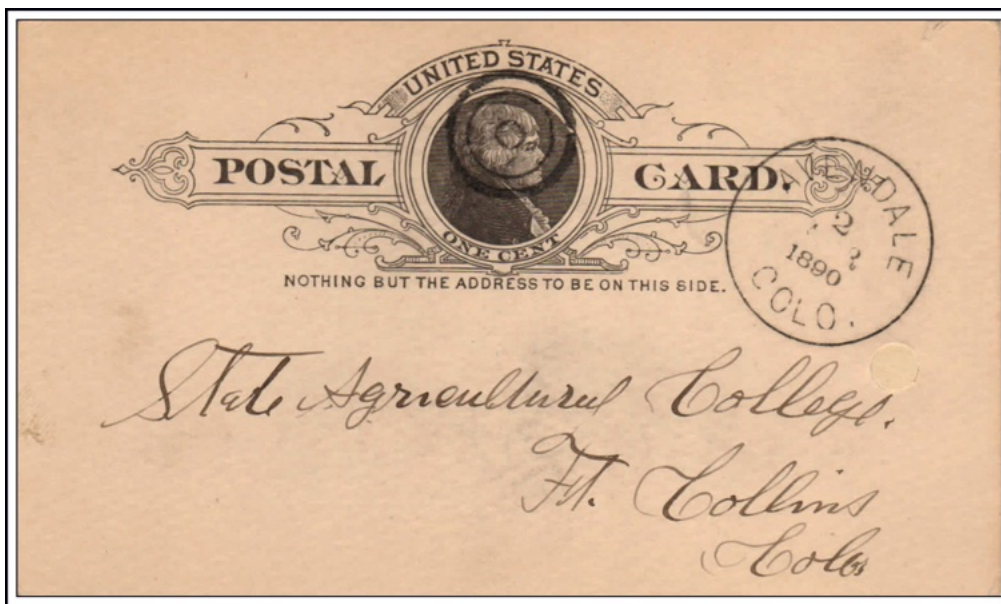
REFERENCES – COLORADO MAGAZINE

- HOSKIN, H. G *Kit Carson County's Ghost Towns*; March 1933, Vol. 10, No. 2, pp68-71
- ROCK, Kenneth W. *"Unsere Leute": The Germans from Russia in Colorado*; Spring 1977, Vol. 54, No. 2, pp155-183; illus.
- Place Names in Colorado* [Alternate Title: *The Names of Colorado Towns*]
Prepared by the Colorado Writers Project; *Colorado Magazine*; Serialized in Volumes 17-20

GEOGRAPHIC SITE LOCATION REPORTS OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

These are documents filed with applications for the approval of a new post office, at the time of a move of a post office and upon periodic requests of the Post Office Department. The documents may include a detailed location using the Federal Land Survey System, reference of distance to local streams and rivers, to railroads and to nearby existing post offices.

A GALLERY OF KIT CARSON COUNTY COVERS



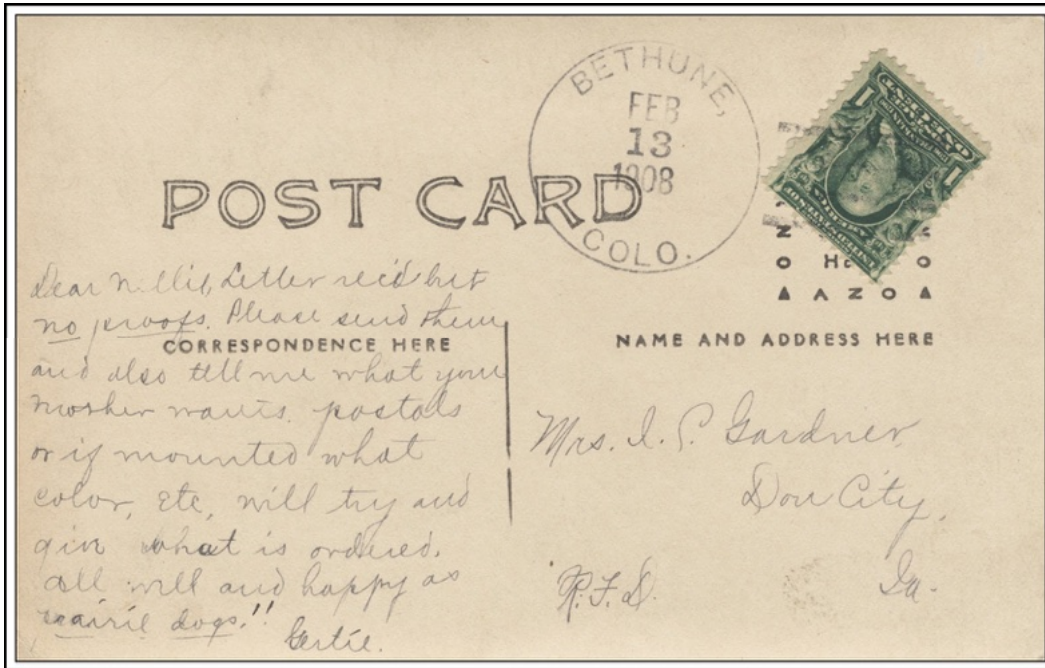
AVENDALE / COLO.

(April) 2, 1890



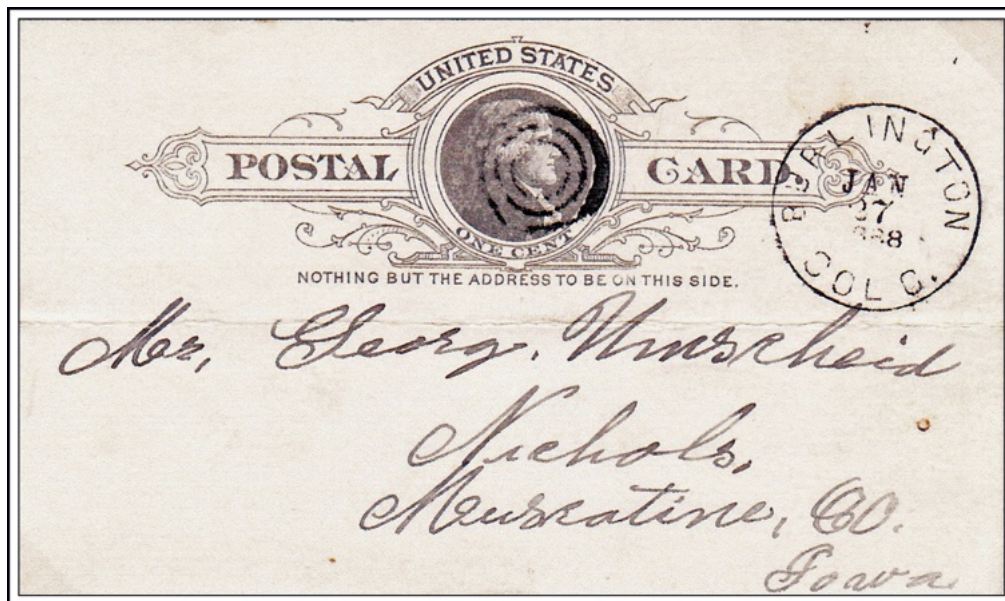
BEAVERTON, / COLO.

September 18, 1911



BETHUNE, / COLO.

February 13, 1908



BURLINGTON / COLO. January 27, 1888



BURLINGTON, / COLO.

January 4, 1899



CAREY, / COLO.

March 7, 1911



FLAGLER, / COLO.

August 31, 1907



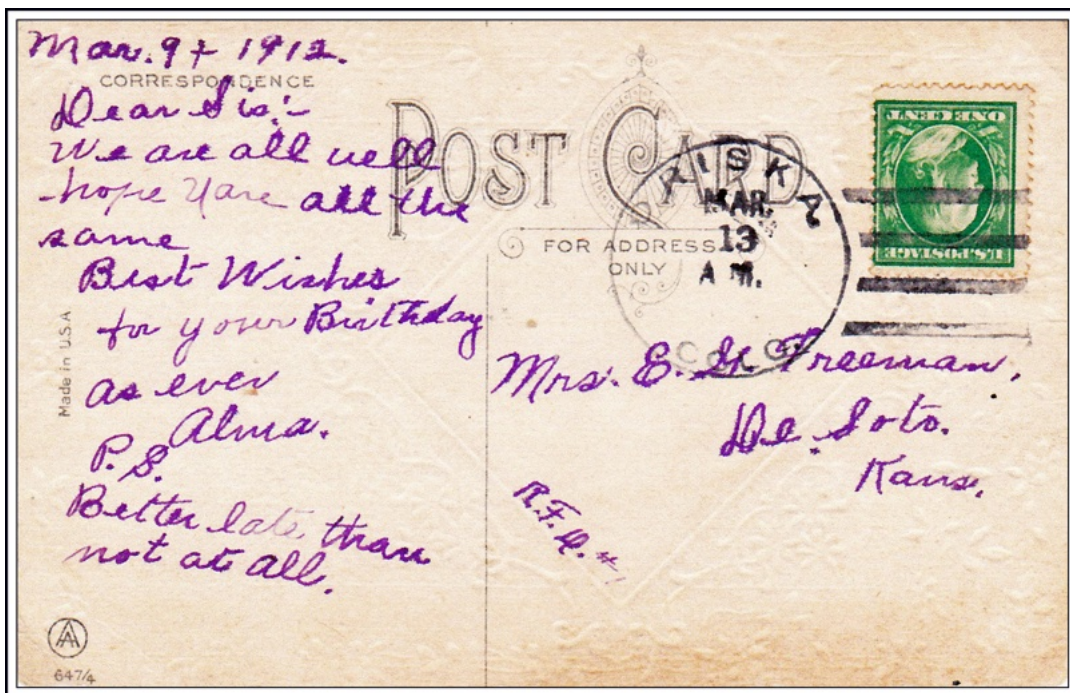
GOFF / COLO.

June 2, 1908



MORRIS, / COLO.

April 27, 1908



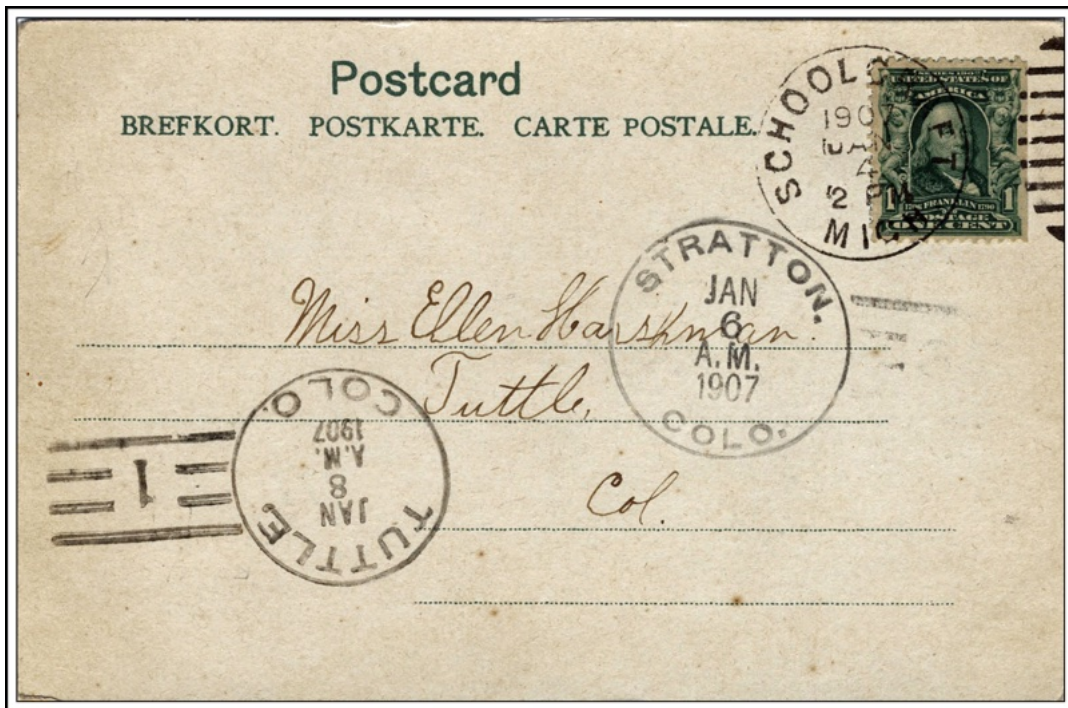
ORISKA, COLO.

March 13, (1912)



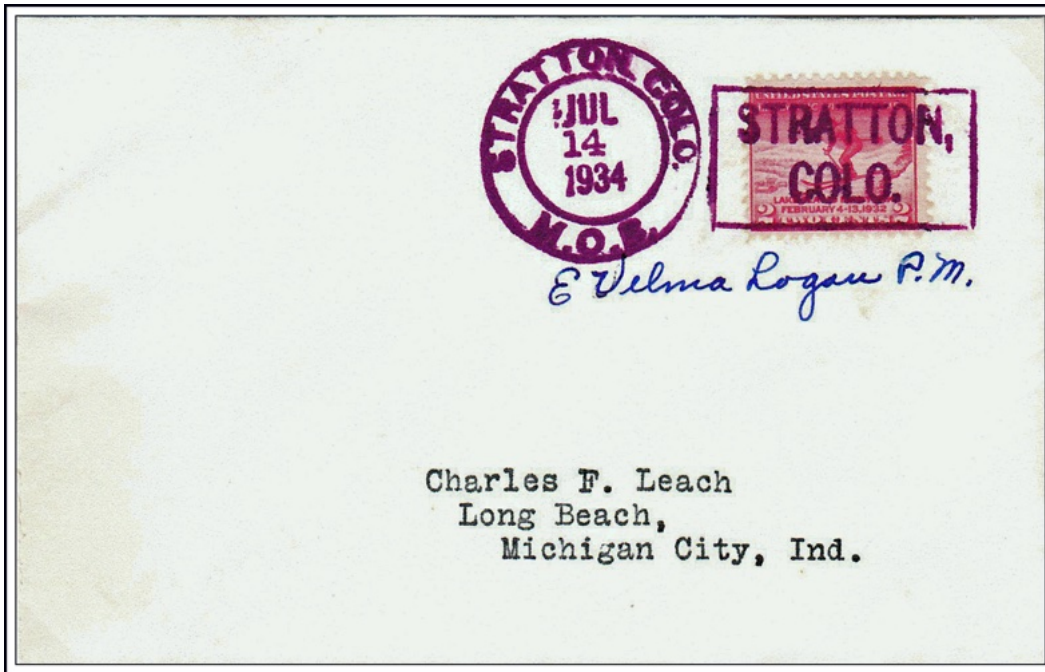
SEIBERT, / COLO.

September 5, 1907

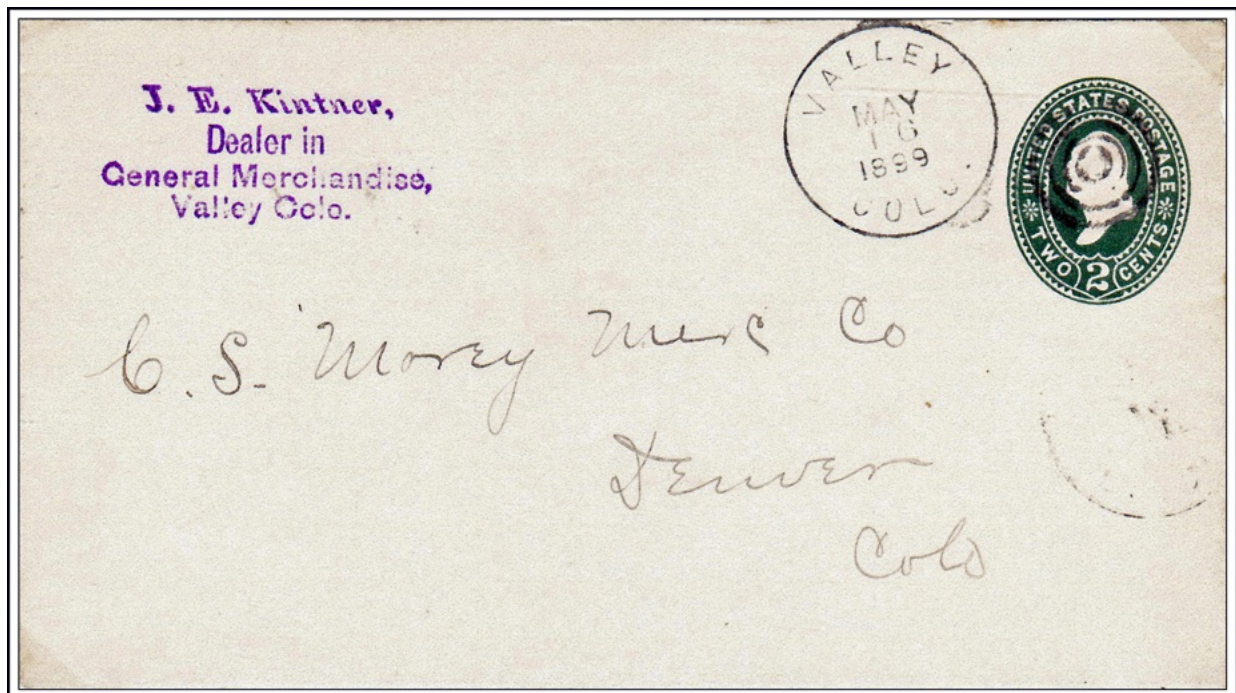


STRATTON, / COLO. & TUTTLE / COLO.

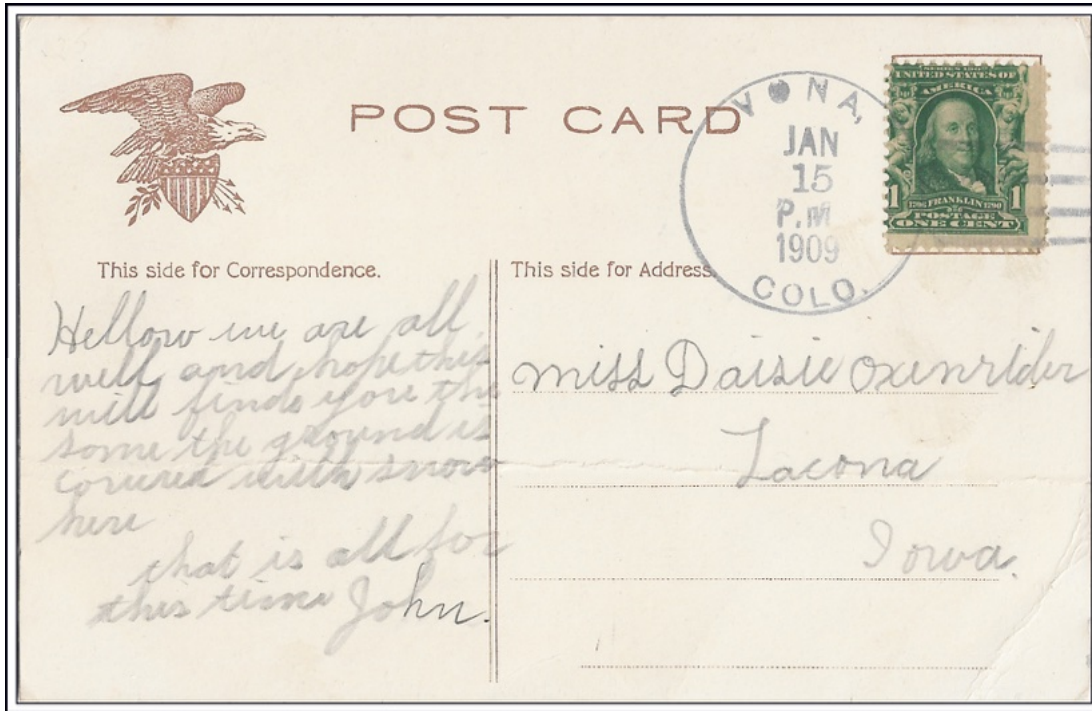
January 6 & 8, 1907



STRATTON, COLO. / M.O.B. & STRATTON, / COLO. July 14, 1934



VALLEY / COLO. May 16, 1899 FRONT ONLY



VONA, / COLO.

January 15, 1909



WALLET / COLO.

October 21, 1902