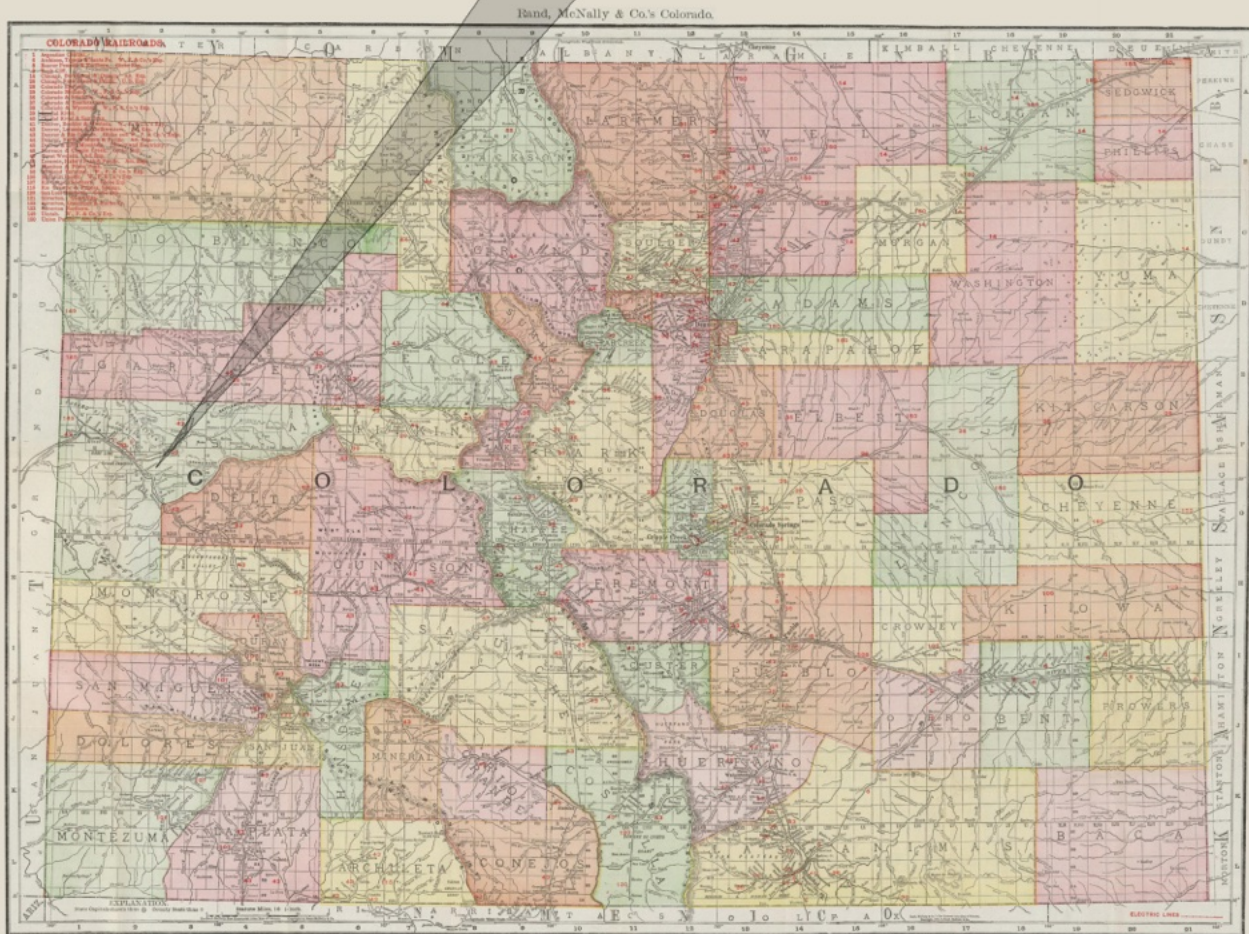


# Mesa County



Map courtesy of <http://www.davidrumsey.com>

*Established: February 14, 1883*

*County Seat: Grand Junction*



## **MESA COUNTY**

By William H. Bauer

The area that today comprises Mesa County was originally a part of Lake County, one of the original counties created November 1, 1861 by the Colorado Territorial Legislature. On March 7, 1877 the Colorado Legislature authorized Gunnison County and the future Mesa County was within the boundaries of that new county. On February 14, 1883 the legislature subdivided Gunnison County and Mesa County was authorized with the boundaries that it has today.

Mesa County lies at the center of the western edge of Colorado. On the north it shares an east-west boundary with Garfield County. The eastern boundary is irregular through much of its length, trending northeast to southwest. That boundary is shared with Pitkin, Gunnison, Delta and Montrose Counties. The southern boundary is an east-west line shared with Montrose County. The western boundary is the state line with Utah (Grand County).

The maximum east-west dimension of Mesa County is 90 miles. Along the border with Utah the north-south distance is 57 miles. One has to be careful in using the Federal Land Survey System in Mesa County. Most of the county is tied to a single meridian, however, in the heart of the Colorado River Valley, from Mack to Palisade, the system is based on the Ute Meridian.

Topographically Mesa County consists of four primary features. To the north of the Colorado River, the Book Cliffs rise to a dissected plateau with elevations reaching 7,000 feet or more. The Colorado River and the Gunnison River Valleys form a second major feature. Between the two rivers lies Grand Mesa, with a summit of over 10,000 feet altitude. To the west of the Colorado and the Gunnison Rivers the Uncompaghre Mountains comprise another group of mesas with summit elevations between 9,000 and 10,000 feet.

Three major rivers cross Mesa County. The Colorado loops through the county from east to west. The Gunnison River comes from the southeast to join the Colorado at Grand Junction. The Dolores River angles across the southwest corner of the county, ultimately joining the Colorado River in Utah. All three of these rivers have cut deep canyons along much of their passage through Mesa County. There are many tributary streams, most of which are intermittent. Other than the major rivers, East Creek and West Creek in the Unaweep Canyon, the Little Dolores River and Plateau Creek carry some year-around flow. Nearly all of the settlements that have or had post offices were located along one of these principal watercourses.

The Denver and Rio Grande was the first railroad to penetrate Mesa County having followed the Gunnison River to Grand Junction and reached the Utah border on December 19, 1882. In 1890 the Denver and Rio Grande completed a second line, along the Colorado River to Grand Junction. The Colorado Midland Railway also followed the Colorado River but it used the Rio Grande's tracks from New Castle to Grand Junction.

In 1890 the Little Book Cliff Railway was built from Grand Junction north to exploit the coal mines at Carpenter. Similarly, in 1905 the Uintah Railway was competed from Mack in Mesa County to Watson in Utah to carry gilsonite to a refinery near Fruita. From 1909 to 1933 the Grand Valley Electric Railway served a small area northwest of Grand Junction.

In the twenty-first century, the rails along the Colorado River are operated by the Union Pacific and also carry Amtrak's passenger trains. The line along the Gunnison River continues to operate but its principal traffic is unit coal trains from the mines near Somerset in Delta County.

The Gunnison and the Colorado River have always dictated the routes of travel through Mesa County. US Highway 6 followed the Colorado River and US Highway 50 followed the Gunnison River to join with US 6 at Grand Junction. Interstate 70 has supplanted US 6 as the main highway through Mesa County.

Colorado 141 is the longest State Highway in the county. It begins at Whitewater, follows the Unawep Canyon west to Gateway and then the Dolores River south to Nucla in Montrose County. Colorado 139 begins at Loma and goes north over the Book Cliffs to Rangely in Rio Blanco County. Colorado 65 begins at Exit 49 on Interstate 70 and crosses Grand Mesa into Delta County.

Two shorter State Highways are 340, from Grand Junction along south side of the Colorado River to Fruita, and 330 that connects from Colorado 65 to Collbran on Plateau Creek.

There is a network of county roads, most of which are good. However, large sections of the county are not served by roads and travel from one point to another, a few miles away as the crow flies, may require a long devious journey, made palatable by the scenery along the way.

It is necessary to express a word of caution about the designation of roads in Mesa County. In preparing the directions to the post office sites I have for the most part used the road names that I read from signs as I sought out the locations. I have also referred to the Colorado Atlas & Gazetteer produced by DeLorme Mapping. For some reason, some road names shown in the Atlas do not agree with what I observed in my travels. Hopefully this will not be too confusing if you attempt to follow my directions. In the descriptions, road designations of the form "XX.99" are from the DeLorme Atlas. The road designation scheme of Mesa County does not follow the neat patterns used by the counties of eastern Colorado. There may be a pattern but it is not obvious to me.

The economic history of Mesa County has gone in several different directions. Some are still important and new directions have arisen. Initially agriculture was the dominant economic factor. The river valleys provided land and water for irrigation. Hay and grain could be produced to support livestock. A suitable climate spurred the development of fruit orchards. Recently a wine industry is developing along the Colorado River. The uplands away from the valleys provide summer grazing for sheep and cattle.

A considerable portion of the county, particularly on Grand Mesa and the Uncompaghe Mountains provides abundant timber to support a lumbering industry.

Mining has played an important part in the Mesa County economy. There was some base metal mining but it was insignificant compared to coal mining. The strata of the Book Cliffs contained numerous coal seams that could easily be exploited. This activity has declined but there is still some coal production at Cameo.

From the late 1950's, for about 30 years, Grand Junction held the title of "Uranium Capitol." Southwestern Colorado was a hot spot in prospecting for and developing uranium mines to feed a growing nuclear energy industry. Grand Junction was headquarters for many of the mining companies and the location of several uranium refineries. This industry had its downside. When the demand fell Grand Junction was left with major cleanup of environmental hazards.

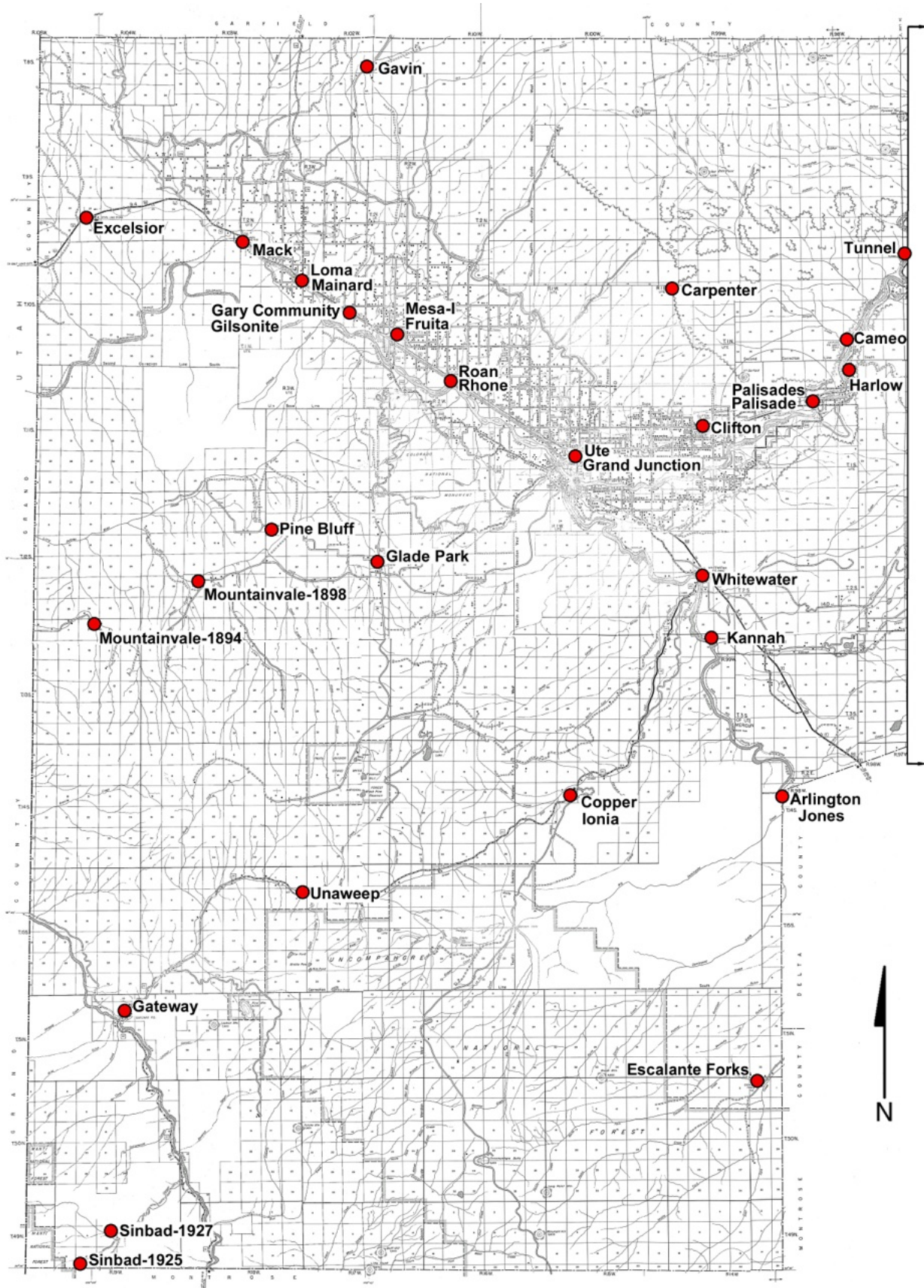
The uranium boom had a good side effect. It introduced the area to other industries and in recent years there has been a growth of light industry, focused on high technology. During the boom years many people were exposed to Western Colorado and they stayed to start new businesses or returned to make Mesa County their retirement homes.

The large, undeveloped areas of Mesa County provide an abundant, renewable resource for outdoor activities. People who take part in hunting, fishing, hiking and camping contribute much to the county's economy. The splendid scenery of the river canyons, the Colorado National Monument, the Book Cliffs and Grand Mesa will always attract tourists providing another important piece of the economic foundation of Mesa County.

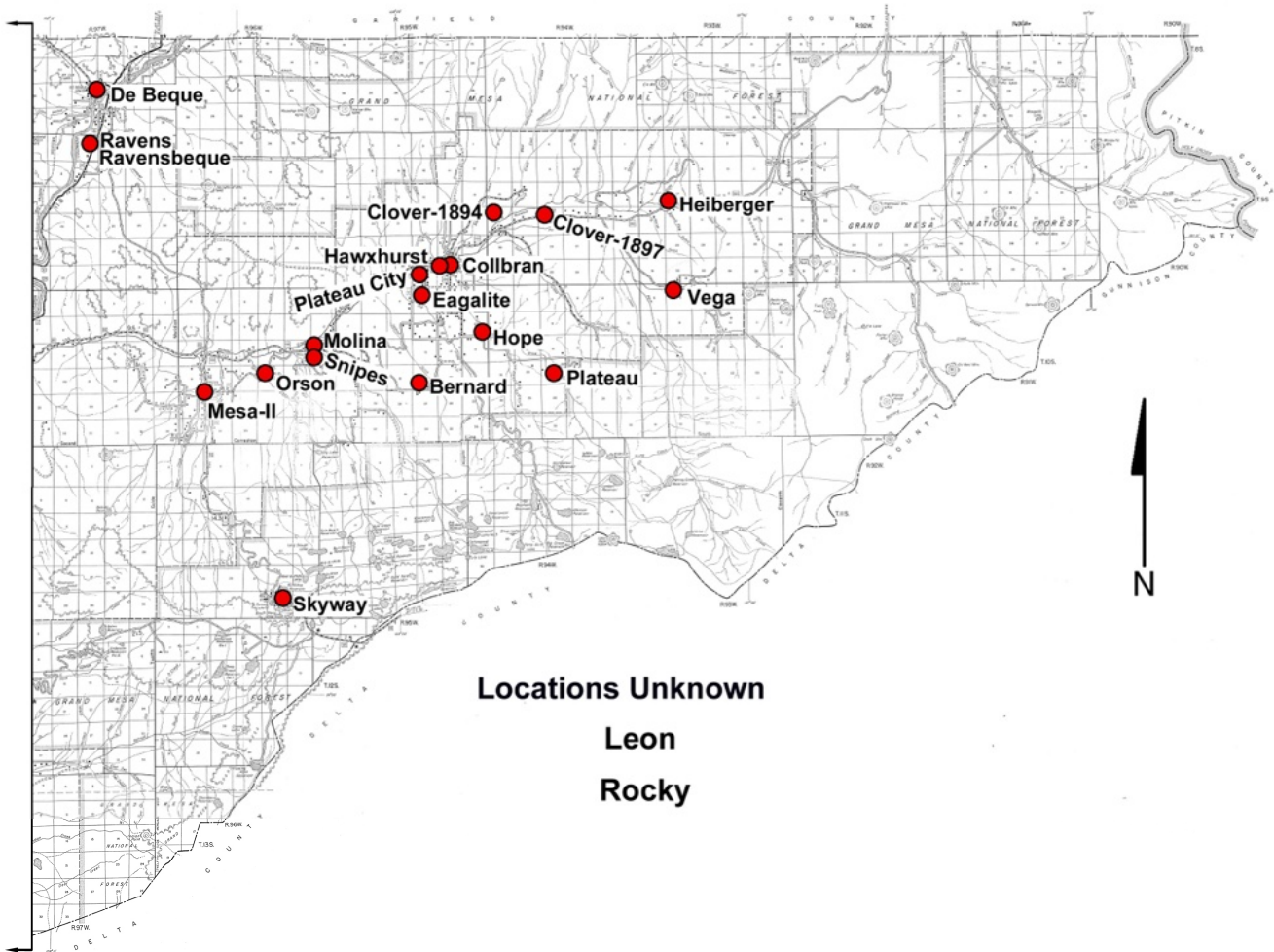


**Mesas near Clifton, Colorado**

Photograph from <https://www.uncovercolorado.com/towns/clifton/>



Post Office Location Map – Western Mesa County



**Post Office Location Map – Eastern Mesa County**

## **ARLINGTON**

This post office began in early April 1883 with the name of Jones. In May of that year the name was changed to Arlington. Arthur C. Jones, the postmaster of Jones, continued as postmaster for Arlington and I have found no reason for the change in post office name. A more appropriate name would have been Bridgeport, which was the name of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad siding near Arlington.

One reference, Colorado Ghost Towns, Volume II by Leanne C. Boyd and Carson Glenn claims that Arlington was shown on an 1887 map and listed with a population of 75. Considering the remote location, that figure seems unreasonable. I doubt that Arlington was more than a ranch post office that briefly served a few ranches and perhaps some railroad employees at Bridgeport.

For directions to the location and a description of the site, please refer to the discussion of Jones.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>May 25 1883</b>	<b>Formerly named Jones</b>
<b>May 25 1883</b>	<b>Jones, Arthur C.</b>
<b>Dec 1 1883</b>	<b>Barger, Francis J.</b>
<b>Mar 4 1884 ---</b>	<b>Unsurveyed 1/4 mile south of the Gunnison River 2 miles west of Dominguez Creek South side 1/4 mile from track of D&amp;RG, Bridgeport Station [Document was filed under Kiowa County] Proposed postmaster - Robert Halley</b>
<b>Apr 14 1884</b>	<b>Halley, Robert</b>
<b>Aug 12 1884</b>	<b>Discontinued Papers to Grand Junction</b>

### **Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM ARLINGTON**

## **BERNARD**

The only description of Bernard that I have found describes it as a, "Small town on Grand Mesa, about 7 miles south of Collbran on a 1923 map." Although there may have been a community I question the description as a "small town."

When Jim Ozment and I visited the site in 1999 all we could see, north of the road (Road KK), was a few Lombardy poplars and one building that may or may not have been still in use. I would describe Bernard as a rural post office that likely gave way to the Rural Free Delivery System.

The first postmaster was Bernard J. Duffy; thus the post office assumed his surname.

From Molina the road to the site of Bernard is not very direct. At Molina, on Road KE.00, cross to the east side of Cottonwood Creek where the road turns to the southeast. The road goes southeast for two miles and then turns north for a mile and a half and then turns east for a mile to a junction with Mesa County Road 58. Turn south on Road 58 to the intersection with Road KK and then east one mile on Road KK. This roundabout way takes you around Mormon Mesa. Road KK does connect to Road KE where the latter road turns north.

Looking at that road, which goes up and over Mormon Mesa, I was not thrilled with its possibilities so Jim and I took the long way around Mormon Mesa. By the route I described, it is seven and a half miles from Molina to the location of Bernard.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Dec 23 1895 ---</b>	<b>SW/4 Sec 22 T10S R95W Proposed postmaster - Bernard J. Duffy</b>
<b>Jan 27 1896</b>	<b>Established</b>
<b>Jan 27 1896</b>	<b>Duffy, Bernard J.</b>
<b>Jun 5 1900</b>	<b>Crane, Victor O.</b>
<b>Apr 20 1903</b>	<b>Parker, A. C.</b>



**BERNARD – Continued**

Aug 20 1903	Kendall, John
May 17 1904	DeCamp, Louis C.
May 12 1905	Ordered closed
May 31 1905	Discontinued Mail to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BERNARD**

**CAMEO**

Although discovered several years earlier it was not until 1907 that coal production began from the Cameo Mine. The Grand Junction Fuel and Mining Company opened the mine. The president of the company, John W. McNeil, founded the town to provide housing for the workers at the mine. The name Cameo was a reference to a natural sculpture on the overlooking cliffs that resembled a carved cameo.

Coal production from the mine continues but the coal is used on site to fuel an electrical power plant. The town has largely disappeared with the workers now living in nearby Palisade or other towns in the Grand Valley.

The site of Cameo is about two miles into the De Beque Canyon of the Colorado River and is reached via Interstate 70. From Exit 46 take the frontage road east to the bridge that crosses the Colorado River to the power plant and what remains of the town of Cameo. There is a large, old elm tree on the east side of the power plant. Jim Ozment claims that the Cameo Post Office was located in the vicinity of the tree.

Latitude = 39:08:55 North Longitude = 108:19:13 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

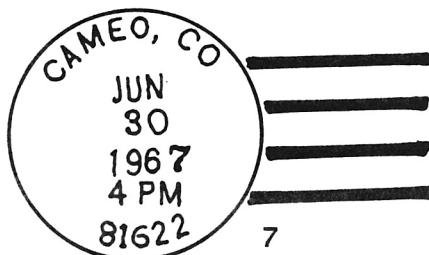
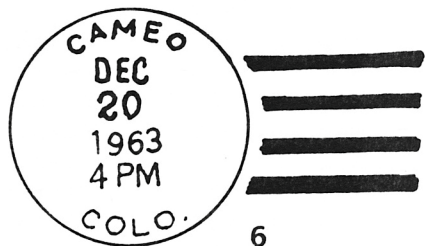
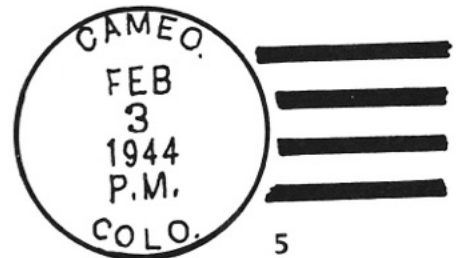
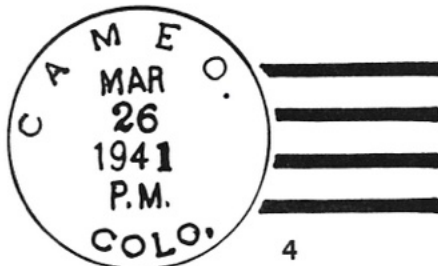
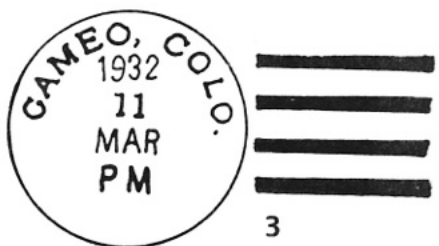
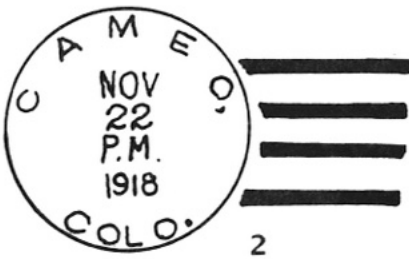
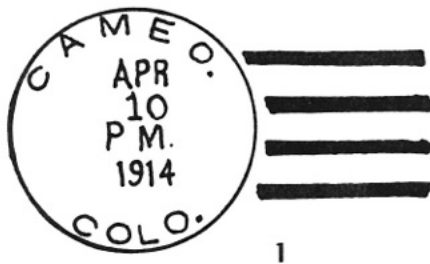
Sep 11 1907	---	NW/4 Sec 27 T10S R98W	
		Proposed postmaster - George W. McNeil	
Dec 14 1907		Established	
Dec 14 1907		McNeil, George W.	
Apr 22 1914	---	SE/4 Sec 27 T10S R98W 750 feet west of the Grand River	
		100 feet south of Coal Creek 600 feet west of the Rio Grande tracks	
Sep 10 1914		Wachob, Frank A.	
Sep 1 1917		Vandenberg, Earl W.	
Jul 30 1919		Layden, William L.	
Sep 1 1927		Neish, Andrew R.	Acting
Apr 4 1928		Neish, Andrew R.	Appointed
Mar 6 1929		Rush, Clark E.	Confirmed
Apr 5 1929		Rush, Clark E.	Commissioned & Assumed charge
Aug 21 1934		Fister, Mrs. Jean Rush	Confirmed
Sep 13 1934		Fister, Mrs. Jean Rush	Commissioned
Sep 30 1934		Fister, Mrs. Jean Rush	Assumed charge
Apr 18 1935		Miller, Judd	Assumed charge
Apr 27 1935		Miller, Judd	Acting & Confirmed
Nov 25 1935		Miller, Judd	Commissioned
Jan 28 1940		Robbins, James J.	Assumed charge
Feb 9 1940		Robbins, James J.	Acting
Mar 4 1940		Robbins, James J.	Confirmed
Mar 28 1940		Robbins, James J.	Commissioned
Oct 21 1941	---	NW/4 Sec 27 T10S R98W 1300 feet west of the Colorado River	
		50 feet west of the High Line Canal	
Jun 18 1942		Yarnell, Denzell L.	Confirmed
Jun 30 1942		Yarnell, Denzell L.	Commissioned

CAMEO – Continued

Jul 4 1942	Yarnell, Denzell L.	Assumed charge
Oct 18 1949	Davis, Roy Mack	Assumed charge
Oct 28 1949	Davis, Roy Mack	Acting
Dec 6 1949	Davis, Roy Mack	Confirmed
Dec 30 1949	Davis, Roy Mack	Commissioned
Feb 28 1953	Duncan, Mrs. Cora L.	Assumed charge
Mar 12 1953	Duncan, Mrs. Cora L.	Acting
May 7 1953	Duncan, Mrs. Cora L.	Confirmed
May 29 1953	Duncan, Mrs. Cora L.	Commissioned
Jan 31 1969	Oberly, Mrs Beulah E.	Acting
Feb 28 1969	Discontinued Mail to Palisade	

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	CAMEO, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jun 25 1912 Apr 10 1914
2	CAMEO, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Nov 22 1918
2.1	CAMEO, COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 31.0/20.5	Hstp No killer	Feb 25 1924
3	CAMEO, COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars P-25x19mm	Mar 11 1932 Sep 2 1935
4	CAMEO. / COLO. CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Mar 26 1941 Mar 29 1943
5	CAMEO, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Feb 3 1944 Feb 25 1957
6	CAMEO / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Jan 29 1960 Dec 20 1963
7	CAMEO, CO / 81622 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Jun 30 1967 Jan 31 1969



## **CARPENTER**

The Carpenter Post Office was established in May 1890. That year date is in some conflict with historical descriptions of Carpenter. Historians have claimed that on June 30, 1892 Susan Carpenter bought the property for \$30,050 from the U. S. Government.

Another account attributes the development to W. T. Carpenter, a Grand Junction banker who decided to develop a coal prospect at the foot of the Book Cliffs north of Grand Junction. In 1890 he began construction of an eleven mile, narrow gauge railway to the mine site. This was the Little Book Cliff Railway that was chartered September 11, 1889 and operated under that name until October 15, 1899. Following receivership the railroad was incorporated as the Book Cliff Railroad Company and continued to operate until 1922. Although the prime purpose of the railroad was to haul coal from the mine to a connection with the main line Denver and Rio Grande Railroad in Grand Junction, the railroad also operated excursion trains to the “cooler” elevation of Carpenter.

A fair sized community did develop at the end of the railway. Carpenter had a school, a church and a store. One source claims a peak population of 1,400. In view of the fact that the Carpenter Post Office lasted little more than a year, that figure seems unlikely.

The post office was named for a Carpenter; perhaps Susan Carpenter or maybe W. T. Carpenter.

The following item from *The Silver State Record*, Volume 4, Number 1, May 1966 tells the later history of Carpenter:

Then Miss Carpenter sold the property to Princeton University, and later a dangerous fire broke out in the mine. The University refused to supply funds to extinguish the flames, so the State of Colorado attached the property in order to put out the fire. Still later, the Monument Investment Company bought the property, and in a short time sold it for salvage. Most of the old buildings were hauled away, so all that remains is some ruins at the mine entrance. The site of CARPENTER is today privately owned.

It is possible to visit the site of Carpenter. From Grand Junction drive to the entrance to the terminal of Walker Field, north of Interstate 70. From the traffic circle in front of the terminal, go west on Mesa County Road H to Mesa County Road 27-1/4. Turn north on that road and stay with it all the way to the end at the foot of the Book Cliffs. For much of the distance you will be on the old railroad grade.

There are still remnant signs of the mining activity and from the end of the road you can look down on a level area where it is likely the town of Carpenter was located.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

May 21 1890	---	NE/4 Sec 4 T1N R1E	Terminus of the D&RG road (Branch)
Jun 11 1890		Established	
Jun 11 1890		Crieger, Mack	
Aug 3 1891		Discontinued	Papers to Grand Junction

### **Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM CARPENTER**

## **CLIFTON**

The accounts that I have read that discuss the origin of Clifton make little sense as they have been written. It is claimed that in the late 1880's the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad opened a “section of track” here and gave it the name of Clifton. Why would the railroad name an empty section of track? A further claim is that it was necessary to show a station at that point on the line and even though none existed it was called Clifton. It makes more sense to say that a section house was established and the site was named Clifton. In any event, a station did come into existence and by 1900 a town had grown up around the station and was named Clifton.

**CLIFTON – Continued**

The name Clifton is in reference to the spectacular Book Cliffs that rise a short distance north of the town.

Clifton is in the heart of the fruit-producing region of the Grand Valley. A wide variety of fruit is raised but peaches and apples are the ones for which the area is most famous.

Clifton is a thriving community. Its businesses serve the surrounding orchards and farms and in recent years it has become a growing suburb of Grand Junction. The less extreme temperatures of the eastern portion of the Grand Valley attract those seeking a moderate climate within easy reach of the outdoor recreational activities of Western Colorado.

Clifton is on US Highway 6 and is reached from Interstate 70 (Exit 37) via the I-70 Business Route towards central Grand Junction.

Latitude = 39:05:31 North Longitude = 108:26:54 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Aug 4 1900	---	SE/4 SE/4 Sec 11 T1S R1E Proposed postmaster - Abner G. Mann	
Aug 18 1900		Established	
Aug 18 1900		Mann, Abner G.	
Mar 14 1906		Griffin, Anna	
Apr 28 1906	---	From: W/4 Sec 11 T1S R1E To: NE/4 Sec 11 T1S R1E Move to new location 1/4 mile east 140 feet north of D&RG Depot	
May 11 1906		Johnson, Samuel C.	
Feb 5 1907		Griffin, Anna	
Dec 31 1909		Meyers, Frederick M.	
Apr 25 1914	---	NW/4 NE/4 Sec 11 T1S R1E, Ute Meridian	
Jul 1 1917			Office made Presidential
Jan 24 1918		Meyers, Frederick M.	P&S [Apptd. by President & confirmed by Senate]
Jul 1 1919		Office relegated	
Nov 20 1919		Van Horn, Charles J.	
Oct 1 1920			Office made Presidential
Sep 15 1921		Lucas, Frank S.	Acting
Feb 16 1922		Lucas, Frank S.	P&S
Feb 23 1926		Lucas, Frank S.	P&S
Mar 8 1930		Lucas, Frank S.	P&S
Jul 1 1933			Relegated
Aug 15 1933		Lucas, Frank S.	Confirmed
Aug 31 1933		Lucas, Frank S.	Commissioned
Jul 1 1939			Presidential
Jan 3 1940		Hickman, Charles Ray	Acting
Feb 1 1940		Hickman, Charles Ray	Assumed charge
May 20 1940		Grant, James L.	Nominated
May 24 1940		Grant, James L.	Confirmed
May 29 1940		Grant, James L.	Appointed Presidential
Jun 27 1940		Grant, James L.	Commissioned
Jul 16 1940		Grant, James L.	Assumed charge
Oct 27 1941	---	Not reported, "Main Street" US-24 is 850 feet north D&RG tracks are 535 feet south	
Dec 31 1967		Sondergard, Robert L.	Acting
Apr 17 1971		Sondergard, Robert	Appointed
Apr 17 1971		Sondergard, Robert	Assumed charge
Sep 24 1976		Blair, Ms. Blanche L.	Officer in charge
May 21 1977		Kellerby, Dale W.	Appointed

**CLIFTON – Continued**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

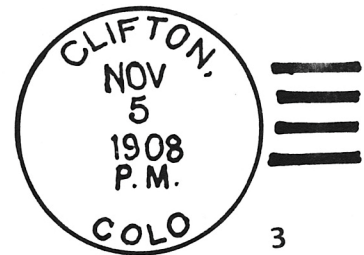
1	CLIFTON / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Not recorded	Jan 13 1903
2	Clifton Colo MS	Mscp Target	Sep 30 1907
3	CLIFTON, / COLO CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x14mm	Sep 17 1908 Jan 29 1910
4	CLIFTON, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x13mm	May 20 1910 Mar 21 1913
5	CLIFTON, COLO. / REC'D. CI 10P 30.0	Hstp No killer	Feb 6 1933
6	CLIFTON / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Dplx Grid, oval with 1	Dec 27 1933 Feb 2 1957
7	CLIFTON / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Apr 9 1946 Aug 15 1956
7.1	CLIFTON / COLO. RC 10P 39.0x18.5	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box style	1950s
8	CLIFTON / COLO. CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jul 2 1957 Dec 18 1961
8.1	CLIFTON, COLO. / USPO CI 11P 29.0/18.5	Hstp No killer	Sep 18 1965
9	CLIFTON, CO / 81520 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 6 wavy lines	May 15 1968 Apr 26 1982
10	CLIFTON, CO / 81520 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Mar 5 1969 Mar 22 1976
11	CLIFTON, CO / 81520 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Sep 21 1970 May 27 1975
12	CLIFTON, CO / 81520 CI 10P 35.0	4bars S-25x21mm	Oct 28 1981
13	CLIFTON, CO / 81520 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm ["L" missing from CLIFTON, this may be a reintroduction of Type 11]	Sep 18 1985 Nov 13 1985 Apr 16 1990 Jul 23 1992
14	CLIFTON, CO / USPO CI 11P 29.0/18.5	Hstp No killer	Apr 16 1990 Jul 23 1992
15	CLIFTON CO 81520 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 1 1995 Jul 6 2001



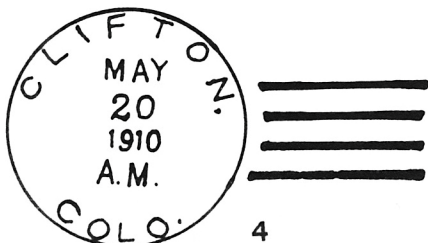
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*Clifton Colo  
Sep 30-07*

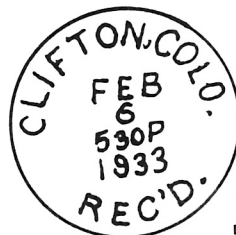
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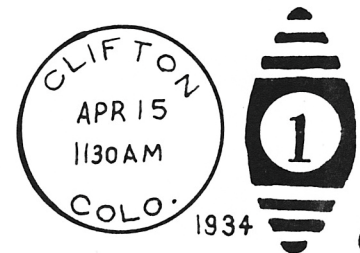
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4



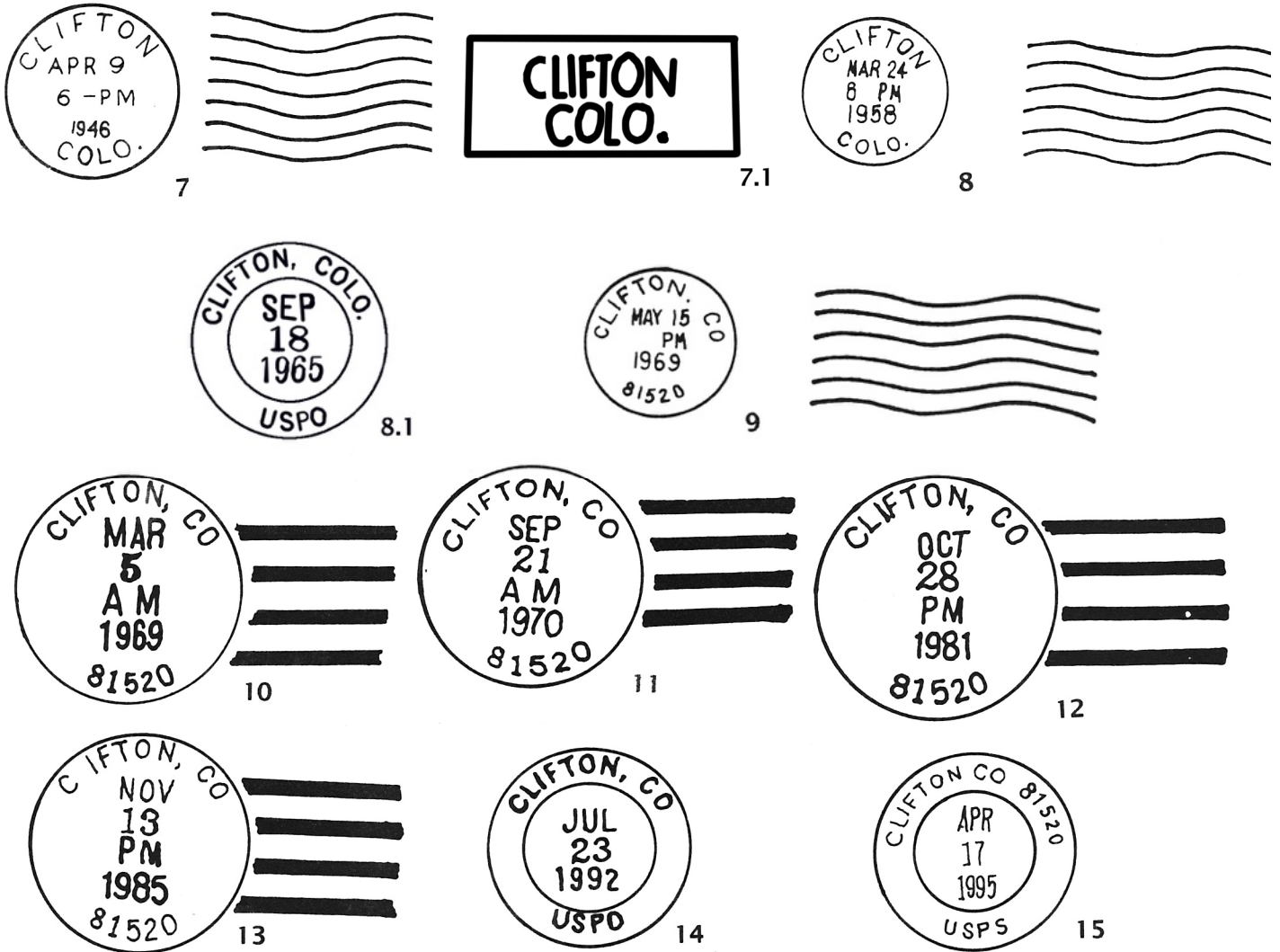
5



1934

6

CLIFTON – Continued



CLIFTON STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Oct 21 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Clifton, CO 81520 // VFW Clifton Station<br>IR 00R 102.0x51.0 | Oct 21 1995<br>Pict Scene - VFW emblem and flag outline;<br>Text - VFW POST 4663 / 50th / Anniversary /<br>Auxiliary November 8, 1995 |
| 2 | CLIFTON CO. STA. / 81520<br>CI 10P 21.5                       | Aug 18 2004<br>Pict Scene - Mickey mouse with letters;<br>Text - The Art of Disney / FRIENDSHIP                                       |

**CLIFTON STATION – Continued**



2

**CLOVER**

There is no mention of the Mesa County community of Clover in the literature of Colorado that I have studied. I would consider it to be nothing more than a ranch post office that during its short history operated at two different locations. However, a mile and a half east of Collbran, on the north side of Mesa County Road 330E, there is the small Clover Cemetery. The presence of the cemetery indicates that at some point in time Clover was a small community, likely centered on a church. The cemetery is at the original, 1894 location of Clover. There are a couple of old buildings near the cemetery.

After less than a year of operation, the Clover Post Office was closed. When it reopened in 1897, at a new location, it appears that Thomas was proposed as the post office name. Thomas was the surname of the postmaster to be. He could not suggest his last name, Sanford, as there was an operating Sanford Post Office in Conejos County. The name Thomas was rejected, probably because of the similarity to Thomasville in Pitkin County. The final decision was to re-institute the name Clover.

The second, 1897 location of Clover, is two miles to the east of the Clover Cemetery. At that point there is an old log barn and a small house in a grove of large trees.

The relative proximity to Collbran and improving transportation in the early twentieth century may be what led to the 1902 termination of the Clover Post Office.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Nov 19 1894 --- NW/4 Sec 19 T9S R94W 1/4 mile north of Plateau Creek  
Proposed postmaster - Elizabeth Hughes
- Feb 1 1895 Established
- Feb 1 1895 Hughes, Elizabeth
- Nov 8 1895 Discontinued Mail to Collbran
- Sep 16 1897 --- NW/4 Sec 21 T9S R94W 1/4 mile north of Plateau Creek  
Proposed postmaster - Thomas Benton Sanford
- Feb 28 1898 Re-established
- Feb 28 1898 Sanford, Thomas B.
- Sep 13 1902 Ordered closed
- Sep 30 1902 Discontinued Papers to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM CLOVER**

## **COLLBRAN**

Collbran was the second settlement to develop in a two-mile section of the Plateau Creek Valley that includes Plateau City and Hawxhurst. Collbran was established in 1891 and by 1892 it had outgrown Hawxhurst, its adjacent neighbor, and became the dominant supply center for this portion of the Plateau Creek Valley.

The naming of Collbran, if the story is true, is unusual. Reportedly, when the Colorado Midland Railroad built into De Beque on the Grand River, Henry Collbran, an official of the railroad, agitated to have the name of De Beque changed to Collbran. Dr. W. A. E. De Beque objected. Then for some reason the name Collbran became attached to the growing, eastern section of Hawxhurst and soon supplanted the original name.

Collbran became the commercial center of the valley and on July 28, 1908 was incorporated with an area of 60 acres. In 1960 an additional 25 acres were annexed to Collbran.

Located on Colorado Highway 330, Collbran has a small but busy business district and a residential district that includes the older Hawxhurst on the western edge.

In 1996 a modest memorial to America's Servicewomen was erected in Collbran, on the south side of Colorado Highway 330.

Colorado Highway 330 ends at Collbran. The road continues eastward but beyond Collbran it is designated as Mesa County Road 330E

Latitude = 39:14:26 North Longitude = 107:57:38 West

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Dec 1 1891</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NE/4 Sec 35 T9S R95W On the south bank of Plateau Creek</b>	
		<b>Proposed postmaster - J. Milton Englehart</b>	
<b>Jan 9 1892</b>		<b>Established</b>	
<b>Jan 9 1892</b>		<b>Englehart, J. Milton</b>	
<b>Jul 23 1895</b>		<b>Parkison, Edith</b>	
<b>Mar 2 1899</b>		<b>Putney, Joseph J.</b>	
<b>Nov 29 1909</b>		<b>Bloss, Fred A.</b>	
<b>Apr 24 1914</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NE/4 Sec 35 T9S R95W 207 feet south of Plateau Creek</b>	
<b>May 5 1914</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	
<b>Oct 1 1916</b>			<b>Office made Presidential</b>
<b>Mar 16 1917</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>P&amp;S</b>
<b>May 10 1922</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>P&amp;S</b>
<b>Jan 4 1932</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Nominated</b>
<b>Jan 22 1932</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Feb 11 1932</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Commissioned</b>
<b>Feb 4 1936</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Nominated</b>
<b>Mar 5 1936</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Mar 11 1936</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Appointed Presidential</b>
<b>Apr 2 1936</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Commissioned</b>
<b>Apr 26 1940</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Nominated</b>
<b>May 2 1940</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>May 8 1940</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Appointed Presidential</b>
<b>Jun 3 1940</b>		<b>Humeston, Adelbert E.</b>	<b>Commissioned</b>
<b>Oct 21 1941</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NE/4 Sec 35 T9S R95W 1/2 block south of Plateau Creek</b>	
<b>Jul 1 1942</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Assumed charge</b>
<b>Jul 4 1942</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Acting</b>
<b>Mar 5 1944</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Nominated</b>
<b>Mar 17 1944</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Mar 18 1944</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Appointed Presidential</b>
<b>Apr 16 1944</b>		<b>Humeston, Miss Loudene</b>	<b>Commissioned</b>
<b>Nov 1 1945</b>		<b>Adams, Roy Alfred</b>	<b>Acting</b>

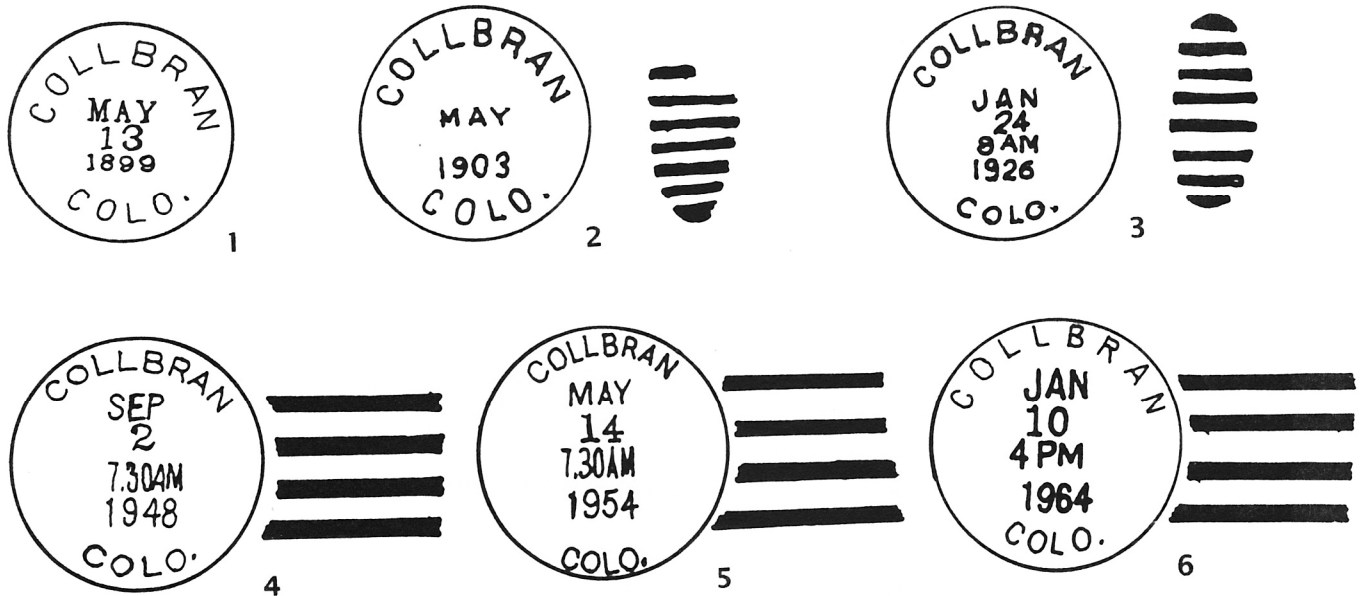


**COLLBRAN – Continued**

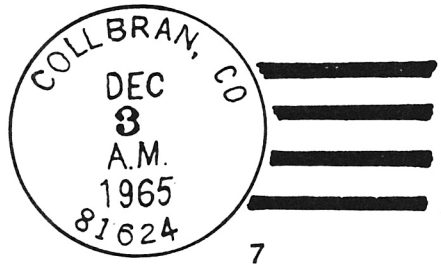
Jan 30 1948	Adams, Mrs Elma N.	Nominated
Jun 15 1948	Adams, Mrs Elma N.	Confirmed
Jun 16 1948	Adams, Mrs Elma N.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 5 1948	Adams, Mrs. Elma N.	Commissioned
Jun 30 1963	Ramseier, Mrs Bernice	Acting
Apr 6 1966	Gibson, Ballin R.	Nominated, Confirmed & Appt'd Presid.
Apr 15 1966	Gibson, Ballin R.	Commissioned

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Hstp Cork, Smudge	Sep 30 1892 May 13 1899
2	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, Oval	May -- 1903 Jan 27 1909
3	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, Oval 8-bar	Jan 20 1917 Jul 23 1943
4	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Sep 2 1948 Jul 29 1950
5	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Apr 16 1953 May 13 1959
6	COLLBRAN / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Dec 14 1962 May 25 1964
7	COLLBRAN, CO / 81624 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Dec 3 1965 Oct 9 1972
8	COLLBRAN, CO / 81624 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Dec 3 1965 Feb 18 1987
9	COLLBRAN, CO / 81624 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jul 23 1992 May 29 1999
10	COLLBRAN, CO / 81624 CI 10P 23.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jul 23 1992 Mar 23 1993
11	COLLBRAN CO 81624 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.5	Hstp No killer	Oct 25 1999



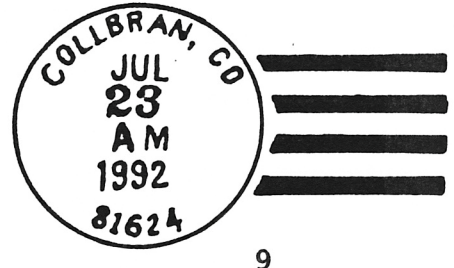
COLLBRAN – Continued



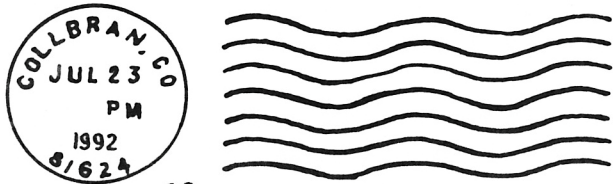
7



8



9



10



11

AUXILLARY MARKING

A-1 collbran, colo.  
IR 00P 38.0x39.0

--- 194-

Hstp Pointing hand, RETURNED / TO / WRITER /with reasons



REASON CHECKED  
 Unclaimed \_\_\_\_\_ Refused \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unknown \_\_\_\_\_  
 For better address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Moved, Left no address   
 No such office in state \_\_\_\_\_

A-1

AMERICAN SERVICEWOMEN'S STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Jan 28 1996 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

1 Collbran, CO 81624 // American Servicewomen's Station Jun 28 1996  
 IR 10P 86.0x36.0 Pict Scene - Arch with four flags. Text - American Servicewomen's Memorial



1

## **COPPER**

Other than the information provided by the Post Office Department, I have been unable to find any information about this place, either under the name Copper, or the subsequent name of Ionia.

It is difficult to guess whom this post office was intended to serve. From the name I suspect that there might briefly have been some copper mining in the area. The area is not very suitable for ranching or farming.

Copper was located on East Creek; as best I can determine it was at the junction of Colorado Highway 141 with Mesa County Road 26.10 (to the south). This is in the Unaweep Canyon, fourteen miles from Whitewater and US Highway 50. At that location there is a grove of trees with some old buildings.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Apr 20 1898</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>Not reported Unsurveyed 100 yards north of East Creek Proposed postmaster - John W. Bidwell</b>
<b>May 9 1898</b>		<b>Established</b>
<b>May 9 1898</b>		<b>Bidwell, John W.</b>
<b>Mar 2 1899</b>		<b>Name changed to Ionia</b>

### **Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM COPPER**

## **DE BEQUE/DEBEQUE**

In 1884 W. A. E. DeBeque, a Canadian by birth and a Civil War veteran, came to the valley of the Grand River. He established a ranch which he named Ravensbeque. From 1885 Mrs. Marie T. DeBeque was the postmaster of Ravens and of Ravensbeque, both of which were located on the DeBeque ranch.

In 1888 W. A. E. DeBeque moved two miles north to a new townsite, which was named in his honor. The Ravensbeque Post Office closed and Mrs. Marie T. DeBeque became the first postmaster of DeBeque.

In the early days, and following the arrival of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, DeBeque prospered as a supply center and a shipping point for cattle. However as the years passed DeBeque failed to keep pace with the other towns along the Colorado River. Even during the oil shale boom of the 1980's DeBeque received little benefit from the frantic activity surrounding that event.

The situation has begun to change. In the twenty-first century, the modernization that began at Vail is beginning to reach DeBeque and change is taking place. Stores and businesses are being renovated, new businesses are being opened and there are plans for a major residential development at DeBeque.

A comment in a *Denver Post* July 2003 article may point to the future of DeBeque. "Two years ago, a single building permit was issued in De Beque. Last year there were four. So far this year, there have been nine."

The name of the town has been spelled in several different ways: De Beque, DeBeque Debeque, and de Beque. DeBeque is located at Exit 62 from Interstate 70.

Please refer to the discussions of Ravens and Ravensbeque for more of the history of this locale.

Latitude = 39:20:04 North Longitude = 108:12:52 West

## DE BEQUE/DEBEQUE – Continued



DEBEQUE / COLO.

January 28, 1894

## Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 23 1888	Moved from Ravensbeque	
Mar 23 1888	DeBeque, Marie T.	
May 9 1888	---	NE/4 Sec 28 T8S R97W 1/4 mile northwest of Grand River 75 yards northeast of Rhone Creek
Nov 14 1889	DeBeque, Flora L.	
Apr 15 1890	DeBeque, Wallace A.	
Jan 3 1891	---	NE/4 Sec 28 T8N R97W 1/4 mile north of the Grand River 10 rods east of Roan Creek
Jul 3 1893	Shanks, Lewis N.	
Apr 28 1894	Spelling changed to Debeque	
Apr 28 1894	Shanks, Lewis N.	
Mar 25 1898	McGee, Rose E.	
Feb 10 1899	Armstrong, George M.	
Jul 25 1900	Reeder, John D.	
May 27 1902	Spelling reverted to De Beque	
May 27 1902	Reeder, John D.	
Feb 17 1905	Heflin, Edwin R.	
Jul 1 1912		Office made Presidential
Jul 24 1912	Heflin, Edwin R.	P&S
Apr 20 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 27 T8S R97W 900 feet east of Rhone Creek 650 feet north of D&RG
Jul 10 1916	Conrad, Nettie	P&S
Nov 23 1921	Heflin, George W.	P&S
Dec 14 1925	Heflin, George W.	P&S
Dec 16 1929	Heflin, George W.	P&S
Dec 19 1933	Cameron, Perry N.	Acting
Dec 31 1933	Cameron, Perry N.	Assumed charge
Apr 25 1934	Cameron, Perry N.	Nominated

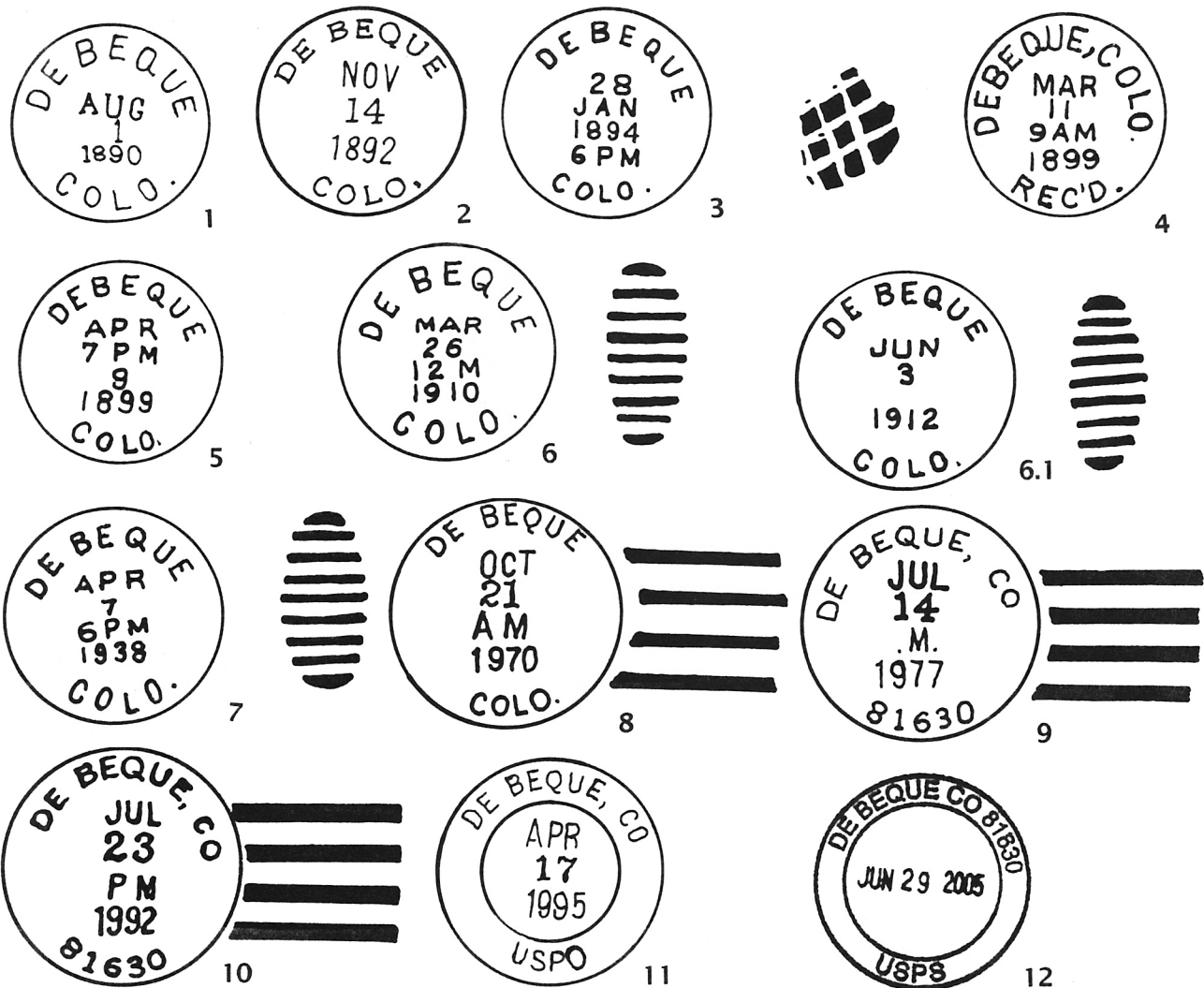
DE BEQUE/DEBEQUE – Continued

May 7 1934	Cameron, Perry N.	Confirmed
Jun 12 1934	Cameron, Perry N.	Commissioned
Apr 29 1938	Cameron, Perry N.	Nominated
May 3 1938	Cameron, Perry N.	Confirmed
May 7 1938	Cameron, Perry N.	Appointed Presidential
May 23 1938	Cameron, Perry N.	Commissioned
Oct 20 1941 ---	W/2 NW/4 Sec 27 T8S R97W D&RG tracks 575 feet south Colorado River 700 feet south	
Jul 23 1942	Cameron, Perry N.	Nominated
Aug 25 1942	Cameron, Perry N.	Confirmed
Aug 26 1942	Cameron, Perry N.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 23 1942	Cameron, Perry N.	Commissioned
Jun 30 1947	Redmon, Ernest J.	Acting
Jul 1 1947	Redmon, Ernest J.	Assumed charge
Jun 11 1948	Redmon, Ernest J.	Nominated
Jun 19 1948	Redmon, Ernest J.	Confirmed
Jun 23 1948	Redmon, Ernest J.	Appt'd Presid & Commissioned
Feb 28 1961	Castor, Mrs. Flora B.	Assumed charge
Mar 8 1961	Castor, Mrs. Flora B.	Acting
Jun 15 1962	Miller, Thomas R.	Nominated
Aug 31 1962	Miller, Thomas R.	Confirmed
Sep 4 1962	Miller, Thomas R.	Appointed Presidential
Sep 14 1962	Miller, Thomas R.	Commissioned
Sep 28 1962	Miller, Thomas R.	Assumed charge
Sep 7 1979	Allen, Mrs. Maxine A.	Officer in charge
Jan 26 1980	Allen, Mrs. Maxine A.	Appointed

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring;	Sep 6 1888 Jul 5 1892 Cork, circular hobnail
2	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Hstp Pen cancel	Nov 14 1892 Mar 15 1893
3	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Hstp Cork, Hobnail grid, Smudge	Jan 28 1894 Nov 26 1896
4	DEBEQUE, COLO. / REC'D. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 11 1899
5	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Cork, Smudge	Apr 9 1899 Jan 30 1900
6	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Not present	Dec 15 1904 May 25 1912
6.1	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Jun 3 1912 Feb 8 1913
7	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Jan 2 1936 Apr 11 1959
7.1	DE BEQUE, / COLO. RC 10P 37.0x17.5	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box style	1950s [NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION]
8	DE BEQUE / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Oct 21 1970 Feb 4 1976
9	DE BEQUE, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Jul 14 1977
10	DE BEQUE, CO / 81630 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Mar 23 1988 Jul 23 1992
11	DE BEQUE, CO / USPO CI 11P 31.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 17 1995
12	DE BEQUE CO 81630 / USPS CI 11P 30.0/22.0	Hstp No killer	Jun 29 2005

## DE BEQUE/DEBEQUE – Continued



## EAGALITE

How should the name of this town be spelled? The Post Office Department spells it EAGALITE, and the USGS Topographic map of Mesa County (sheet 3) locates the Eagalite Cemetery. Based on that evidence, I will go with the spelling Eagalite.

However there are a couple of sources that omit the initial "a" giving it the French spelling EGALITE - equality. I have recorded postmarks with both spellings.

The easiest way to visit the location of Eagalite is to start at Collbran on Colorado Highway 330. Go south on Mesa County Road 58.50 to Road DE.00 and turn west. It is a mile and a half to the intersection with Road 57.00. The Eagalite Cemetery is a half-mile south on the west side of Road 57.00. The surrounding countryside, looking north from the cemetery, is ranchland with an active ranch in the distance.

Latitude = 39:13:22 North Longitude = 107:59:22 West EAGALITE CEMETERY

**EAGALITE – Continued**



**EAGALITE / COLO.      November 2, 1895**  
**Note the spelling in the return address – EAGALITE**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

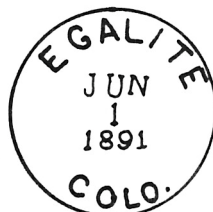
- Feb 26 1885 --- NW/4 Sec 3 T10S R95W One mile south of Plateau Creek  
Proposed postmaster - James Willis Hodgson
- Dec 3 1885      Established
- Dec 3 1885      Hodgson, James W.
- Mar 6 1890      Palmer, Asa
- Feb 26 1890      Palmer, Ellen
- Sep 21 1899      Maldrige, James P.
- Aug 26 1901      Post Office moved to Plateau City

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |   |                                 |                     |                         |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | EAGALITE / COL.<br>CI 10P 27.0  | Hstp Target, 4-ring | Jun 30 1887 Oct 21 1889 |
| 2 | EGALITE / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.0  | Hstp Not recorded   | May 28 1891 Jun 1 1891  |
| 3 | EAGALITE / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.0 | Hstp Target         | Feb 2 1893 Nov 5 1897   |



1



2



3

**ESCALANTE FORKS**

Escalante Forks was an appropriately named rural community at the junction of the North Fork and the South Fork of Escalante Creek. It may be a stretch to call this a community but it does appear that there was more than one ranch in the broader part of the Escalante Valley where the two streams join.

The name of course, is geographically descriptive, but originates from the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition of 1776 that passed through this portion of Colorado to be.

To make the trip to Escalante Forks, begin on US Highway 50 in Delta County at the intersection with Road 6.50 to the west. This is the road to Escalante Canyon and there is a small rest stop at the intersection. At two and seven-tenths miles you reach the Gunnison River and the tracks of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. The Escalante Post Office was at this location. At twelve miles from US 50 you enter Montrose County and at thirteen and four-tenths miles you enter Mesa County. At fourteen and seven-tenths miles from US 50 you are at Escalante Forks and shortly thereafter the end of the public road.

There are some ranch buildings scattered about the valley, which is rimmed with high sandstone cliffs. In 2003 the Escalante Forks road sign was still in place. From Escalante Forks you must return the way you came, back to US 50.

Latitude = 38:38:02 North Longitude = 108:23:35 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 27 1916	---	NE/4 Sec 2 T50N R14W 150 feet north of the North Fork of Escalante Creek	
		Applicant for postmaster - Zora L. Ward	
Oct 16 1916		Established	
Oct 16 1916		Ward, Zora L.	
Jan 7 1921	---	SE/4 NW/4 Sec 2 T50N R14W A move 1/2 mile southwest	
		12 miles west of the Gunnison 1/4 mile south of Escalante Creek	
Jan 21 1921		Musser, Shaw K.	
Mar 2 1931		Hendrickson, Lute H.	Acting
Mar 12 1931		Hendrickson, Lute H.	Appointed
Apr 9 1931		Hendrickson, Lute H.	Confirmed
Apr 30 1931		Hendrickson, Lute H.	Commissioned
May 14 1931		Hendrickson, Lute H.	Assumed charge
Oct 26 1941	---	NW/4 Sec 2 T50N R14W Escalante Creek north 1/2 mile	
		Delta northeast 29-1/2 miles "only one way out"	
Jan 18 1946		Hendrickson, Morgan B.	Confirmed
Feb 20 1946		Hendrickson, Morgan B.	Commissioned
Mar 31 1946		Hendrickson, Morgan B.	Assumed charge
Sep 6 1957		Discontinued	

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	ESCALANTE FORKS, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Feb 19 1917
2	ESCALANTE FORKS / COLO. CI 10P 33.5	4bars S-25x20mm	Aug 9 1941 Apr 1 1955





## **EXCELSIOR**

Excelsior was a small station on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. It is shown on 1885 and 1887 maps.

The settlement at Excelsior was short-lived and may not have been much more than the depot and a section house. The location is two miles east of the Colorado-Utah border.

From Mack, drive west on what was US Highway 6, now Mesa county Road M 80. Nine and one half miles from Mack you will be on the crest of a low ridge. There is a large tree next to the road (1997) and some slight depressions that may once have been locations for buildings. No structures remain and that is all there is to Excelsior.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

**No document found in the Mesa County Geographic Site Location Reports**

<b>Feb 18 1889</b>	<b>Established</b>
<b>Feb 18 1889</b>	<b>Moore, John</b>
<b>Oct 16 1890</b>	<b>Discontinued No papers</b>

### **Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM EXCELSIOR**

## **FRUITA**

In 1883 William E. Pabor established a community that took the name "Mesa" (I). He began promoting the region as a prime area for raising fruit, the climate being favorable, and the Grand (Colorado) River providing water for irrigation.

Originally the townsite was part of a ranch claim preempted by the Messers Steele, Ross, Sutton and Downer. Pabor and his associates purchased the claim and on July 23, 1884, as the Fruita Town and Land Co., filed a town plat for Fruita. In April 1894 Fruita was incorporated.

Two other names are associated with this location: Fairview and Fruitdale. These names may have been connected to the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad station at the location. It is my opinion that briefly the name Fruitdale was in use. However, I doubt that the place was ever called Fairview.

A mixture of apple, peach, plum, cherry, pears and quince trees were planted and the area soon developed into a significant producer of fruit. To a lesser extent grape vines and nut trees were planted and also contribute to the agricultural economy.

Fruita has continued to grow as an agricultural settlement producing a variety of fruit that is highly prized for its constancy and taste.

During the twentieth century Fruita became the western gateway to the Colorado National Monument, south of the Colorado River. Fruita has capitalized on the presence of dinosaur fossils and tracks in the sedimentary rocks of the region. In the town square there is a sculpture of a large, green dinosaur. The town has also experienced growth as a suburb of nearby Grand Junction and as a residential community for the Gary-Western gilsonite refinery three miles to the west. Fruita is a thriving, modern community. Fruita is northwest of Grand Junction on US Highway 6 with access from Interstate 70 at Exit 19.

Latitude = 39:09:32 North Longitude = 108:43:42 West

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Apr 4 1884</b>	<b>Formerly named Mesa</b>
<b>Apr 4 1884</b>	<b>Lane, Squire G.</b>

## FRUITA – Continued

Mar 28 1888 ---	S/2 NE/4 Sec 17 T2N R2W This office is at a distance 110 Rods from the Fruitvale Station of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, on the north side of the railroad	
Sep 22 1892	Sibley, Frank C.	
Dec 6 1893	Kiefer, Benjamin F.	
Jan 5 1895	Masser, Charles B.	
Jul 16 1898	Bruner, Mrs. Myra	
Apr 21 1900	Carpenter, G. J.	
May 12 1900	Bruner, Frederick S.	
Jan 15 1906	Bruner, Frederick S.	P&S
Jan 28 1910	Brumbaugh, William T.	P&S
Apr 25 1914 ---	NW/4 Sec 17 T1N R2W About 77 rods north of D&RG tracks	
May 29 1914	Sharpe, Andrew W.	P&S
Dec 29 1914	Sharpe, Andrew W.	P&S
Aug 5 1919	Sharpe, Andrew W.	P&S
Aug 5 1923	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Acting
Dec 18 1923	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Appointed
Dec 17 1927	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Appointed
Jan 4 1932	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Nominated
Jan 22 1932	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Confirmed
Feb 11 1932	Dewey, Lawrence H.	Commissioned
Apr 13 1936	Perkins, Joseph B.	Nominated
Apr 21 1936	Perkins, Joseph B.	Confirmed
Apr 24 1936	Perkins, Joseph B.	Appointed Presidential
May 24 1936	Perkins, Joseph B.	Commissioned
Sep 15 1938	Gore, Wade E.	Acting
Sep 16 1938	Gore, Wade E.	Assumed charge
Feb 4 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie E.	Acting
Feb 11 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie E.	Assumed charge
Jun 12 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie E.	Nominated
Jun 19 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie E.	Confirmed
Jun 22 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie	Appointed Presidential
Jul 15 1939	Arbuckle, Mrs. Mollie E.	Commissioned
Oct 20 1941 ---	NW/4 Sec 17 T1N R2W North side, adjacent to US-50	
Sep 30 1947	Kemper, Mrs. Blanche M.	Acting
Oct 1 1947	Kemper, Mrs. Blanche M.	Assumed charge
Apr 28 1949	Gore, Wade Ernest	Nominated
Jun 1 1949	Gore, Wade Ernest	Confirmed
Jun 2 1949	Gore, Wade Ernest	Appointed Presidential
Jun 2 1949	Gore, Wade Ernest	Commissioned. Deceased before taking charge
May 8 1949	Weaver, John T.	Nominated
Oct 31 1949	Weaver, John T.	Assumed charge
Jun 14 1950	Weaver, John T.	Confirmed
Jun 22 1950	Weaver, John T.	Appt'd Presid. & Commissioned
Sep 30 1950	Weaver, John T.	Assumed charge
Oct 18 1957	Warren, John C.	Assumed charge
Nov 12 1957	Warren, John C.	Acting
Feb 16 1959	Warren, John C.	Nominated
Jun 4 1959	Warren, John C.	Confirmed
Jun 5 1959	Warren, John C.	Appointed Presidential
Jun 22 1959	Warren, John C.	Commissioned
Jul 31 1970	Tuflly, Ivol M.	Officer in charge
Jun 26 1971	Tuflly, Ivol M.	Appointed
Jan 26 1979	Lynch, E. Kay	Officer in charge
Sep 22 1979	Pond, Ronald K.	Appointed

**FRUITA – Continued**



**R. F. D. / FRUITA, / COLO.**

**June 22, 1903**

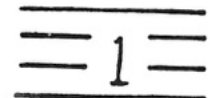
**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 0.1 | Fruita Col  | Aug 21 1886 MS  |
|     | Mscp  | Pen cancel  |
| 1   | FRUITA / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.0                       | Apr 16 188- Jul 3 1898  |
| 2   | FRUITA, / COLO. // R.F.D.<br>SL 00R 28.0x17.0       | Hstp Target, 4-ring 16mm<br>Jun 22 1903 May 25 1904   |
| 3   | FRUITA / COLO.<br>CI 10P 30.0                       | RFD 4 bars with 1<br>Mar 22 1907 Oct 31 1935  |
| 4   | FRUITA, / COLO.<br>CI 10P 29.5                      | Grid, 9-bar oval<br>Dec 1 1937 Jul 7 1954   |
| 5   | FRUITA / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0                       | Dplx Grid, oval with 1<br>Jul 11 1956 Jun 6 1961  |
| 6   | FRUITA, CO / 81521<br>CI 10P 21.0                   | Mach 7 wavy lines<br>Jun 12 1968 Sep 11 1973  |
| 7   | FRUITA, CO / 81521<br>CI 10P 33.0                   | Mach 7 wavy lines<br>Jul 26 1969 Jul 20 1977  |
| 8   | FRUITA, CO / 81521<br>CI 10P 21.0                   | 4bars S-24x19mm<br>Jun 1 1984   |
| 9   | FRUITA, CO 81521-9998 / U.S.P.S<br>CI 11P 28.0/19.0 | Mach Slogan in box with bars; FRUITA, COLORADO /<br>JULY 23 CENTENNIAL / 1884 - 1984<br>Nov 14 1985 May 29 1993 |
| 10  | FRUITA CO 81521 / USPS<br>CI 11P 29.0/18.0          | Hstp No killer<br>Feb 21 1995 Feb 8 2002  |
|     |   | Hstp No killer  |

*Fruita CO 81521*



R. F. D.  
JUN 22 1903  
FRUITA,  
COLO.

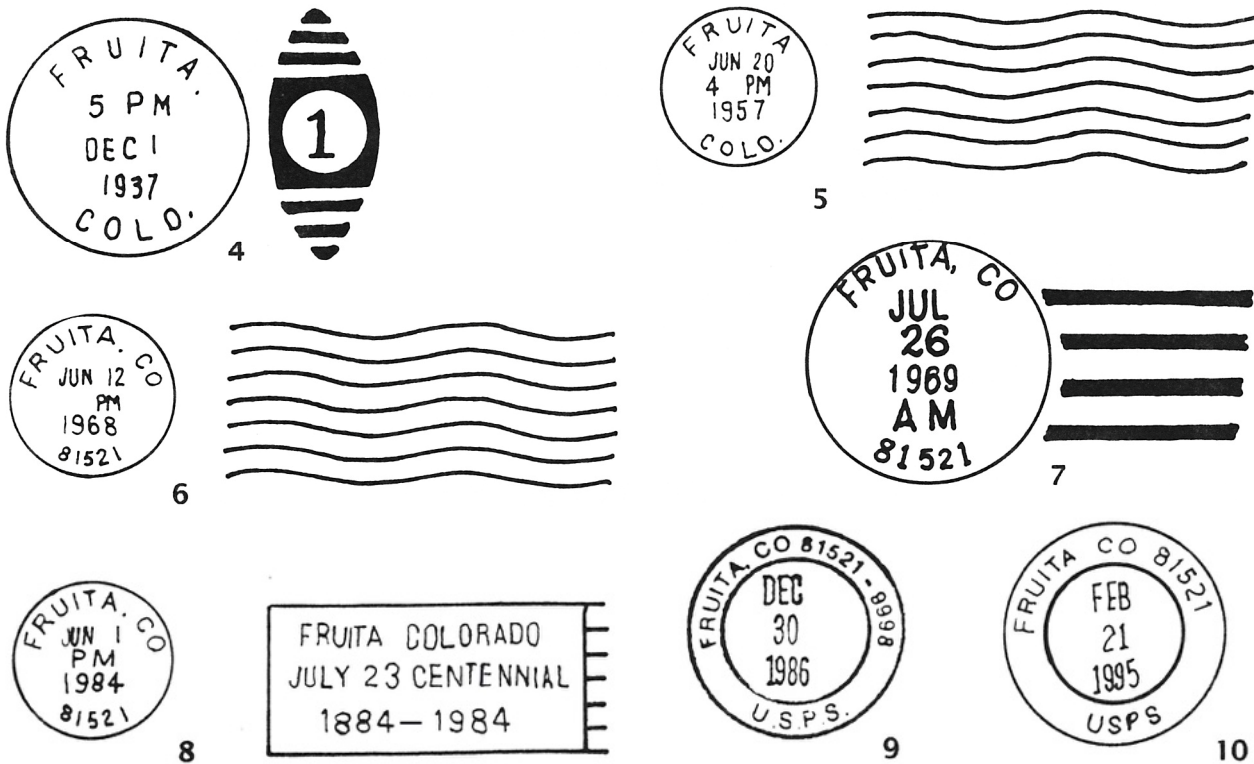


0.1

1

2

FRUITA – Continued



FRUITA STATIONS

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 25 1991 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 Fruita, Colorado 81521 :: Diamond Anniversary Station Aug 25 1991  
IR 00R 48.0x38.0 Pict Scene - Monument Rock, text frames pictorial;  
Colorado National Monument



**FRUITA STATIONS – Continued**

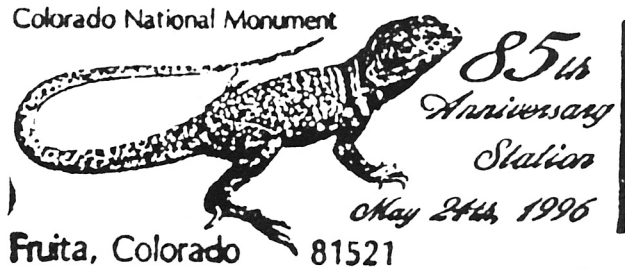
**85TH ANNIVERSARY STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 24 1996      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      Fruita, Colorado 81521 // 85th Anniversary Station      May 24 1996  
IR 00R 81.0x33.0      Pict Scene - Lizard; Text - Colorado  
National Monument



1

**GARY RURAL BRANCH/GARY COMMUNITY POST OFFICE**

When the Gary-Western Company assumed operation of the American Gilsonite Company refinery the name of the Gilsonite Rural Branch Post Office was changed to the Gary Community Post Office. The name change was indicative that the post office served surrounding residents as well as the refinery.

In 1997, twelve years after the Gary Community Post Office closed, I stopped at the refinery on the west side of US Highway 6. At the refinery office I was told that the post office had been located within the office. Although not stated, I suspect that the refinery management decided that operating a post office was a nuisance and not worth the expense.

I am not certain of the current status of the refinery. I believe it has been closed.

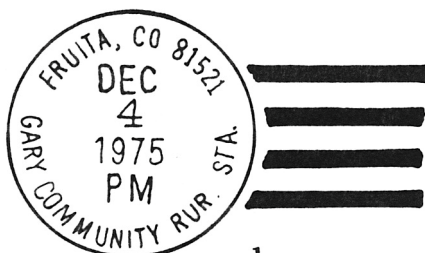
Please refer to the discussion of the Gilsonite Rural Branch for more information.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

--- 1974      Formerly named Gilsonite, Rural Branch  
Aug 30 1985      Discontinued Formerly named Gilsonite, Rural Branch of Fruita  
Located at the Gary-Western Refinery

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      FRUITA, CO 81521 / GARY COMMUNITY RUR. STA.      Dec 4 1975 Jun 18 1980  
CI 10P 31.0      4bars S-24x18mm



1

## FRUITA STATIONS – Continued

**GILSONITE RURAL BRANCH**

This post office was established as a Rural Branch of the Fruita Post Office. It was never an independent operation.

Gilsonite is the common name for the mineral uintaite, a type of natural asphalt. The mineral was named for the Uintah Mountains where it was found. Gilsonite takes its name from Samuel Gilson of Salt Lake City, who discovered the deposits in the late 1870's.

From 1905 to 1939 the Uintah Railway Company operated from Mack, on the Denver and Rio Grande, to the gilsonite mines at Watson in Utah. The transport of gilsonite was almost the only reason for the construction of this railway.

A refinery developed a short distance west of Fruita and in 1957, a Rural Branch Post Office was opened to serve the operations of the American Gilsonite Company.

In 1974 the post office name was changed to Gary Community Rural Branch to reflect the then current ownership of the refinery by the Gary-Western Company.

There was a small residential community around the refinery, which is on US Highway 6, west of Fruita.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 18 1957	Established as a Rural Branch of Fruita
--- -- 1974	Name change to Gary Community Rural Branch

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

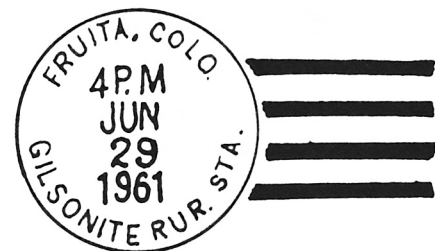
1	FRUITA, COLO. / GILSONITE RUR. STA. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	May 18 1957 Jul 28 1959
1.1	FRUITA, COLO. / GILSONITE RUR. STA. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	May 23 1957
2	FRUITA, COLO. / GILSONITE RUR. STA. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Jun 29 1961
3	FRUITA, CO 81521 / GILSONITE RUR. STA. CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-24x20mm	Aug 5 1969 May 27 1975



1



1.1



2



3

**GATEWAY**

Gateway was established about 1890. It is situated at a point where West Creek joins the Dolores River and where the canyon of the Dolores widens somewhat so that ranching is possible for a distance downstream.

The source of the name is controversial. Most frequently it is attributed to being a “gateway” junction of Ute Indian trails that went northeastward or southward to the San Juan Mountains. Another thought is that the large, sandstone butte, “The Palisade,” that dominates the skyline immediately north of the settlement was the inspiration for the name.

Initially Gateway served the scattered ranchers in this area along the Dolores River. To a small extent that is still true but more recently Gateway has become a small resort community catering to fishermen and other outdoor activities.

To visit Gateway take Colorado Highway 141 from Whitewater or the same highway from Nucla-Naturita. Please refer to the discussion of Unawep for my personal comments on this trip.

Latitude = 38:40:57 North Longitude = 108:58:28 West



**The Gateway, Colorado Post Office is located in the right end of this building.**  
Photograph by William H. Bauer September 27, 1994

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 25 1903	Established	
Apr 25 1903	Shaff, Anthony O.	Order rescinded Jul 29 1903
Jul 29 1903	Discontinued	
Apr 9 1904	---	SE/4 Sec 17 T51N R19W 1 mile north of Dolores River 1/4 mile north of West Creek Proposed postmaster - Mrs. Minnie Hall

## GATEWAY – Continued

Jul 16,1904	Re-established	
Jul 16 1904	Hall, Minnie	
Nov 6 1914	---	NE/4 Sec 15 T51N R19W 1 mile north of Dolores River 660 feet north of West Creek
Nov 6 1914	Mullineaux, Zetta	
Aug 5 1919	Parker, Georgia E.	
Feb 17 1920	---	SE/4 Sec 15 T51N R19W A move 160 rods south west of previous location 4 rods north of West Creek
Apr 18 1921	Buchanan, William R.	Confirmed
May 31 1921	Buchanan, William R.	Commissioned
Jun 30 1921	Buchanan, William R.	Assumed charge
Apr 1 1936	Bond, Mrs. Katie W.	Assumed charge
Apr 10 1936	Bond, Mrs. Katie W.	Acting
Apr 29 1936	Bond, Mrs. Katie W.	Confirmed
May 15 1936	Bond, Mrs. Katie W.	Commissioned
Oct 23 1941	---	SW/4 Sec 15 T51N R19W Dolores River 1/4 mile southwest West Creek southeast 300 feet
Jul 25 1942	Vaughn, Mrs. Jennie C.	Possession, Acting
Jul 26 1942	Vaughn, Mrs. Jennie C.	Assumed charge
Aug 10 1942	Vaughn, Mrs. Jennie C.	Acting
Nov 14 1942	Vaughn, Mrs. Jennie C.	Confirmed
Dec 8 1942	Vaughn, Mrs. Jennie C.	Commissioned
Jul 31 1957	Larsen, Clara T.	Assumed charge
Aug 31 1957	Larsen, Clara T.	Acting
Sep 5 1958	Larsen, Clara T.	Appointed
Jun 26 1972	Graham, Elda M.	Officer in charge
Sep 2 1972	Colcord, Elbert L.	Appointed
Nov 9 1973	Youngblood, Barbara A.	Officer in charge
Aug 3 1974	Muender, Mrs. Katherine	Appointed

## Confirmed types of postal markings

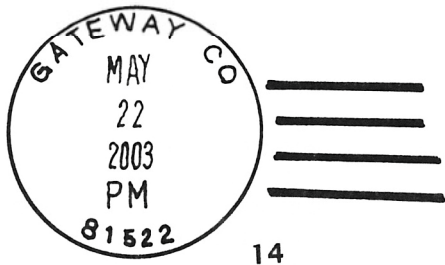
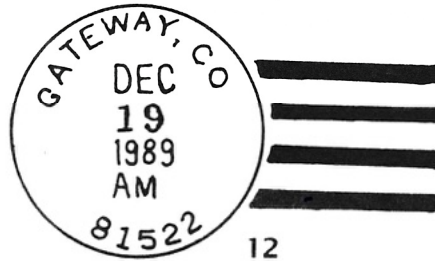
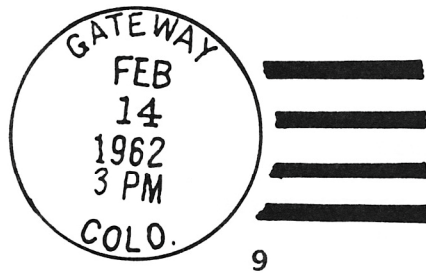
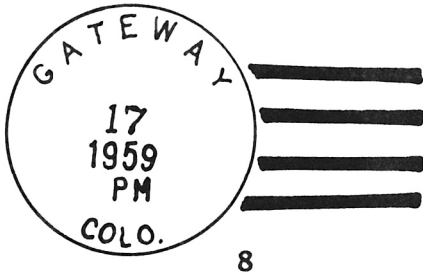
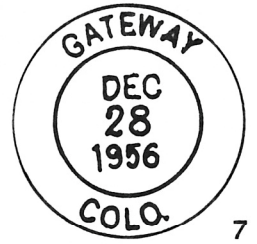
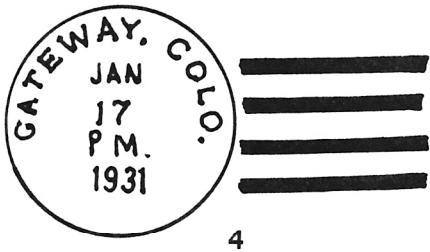
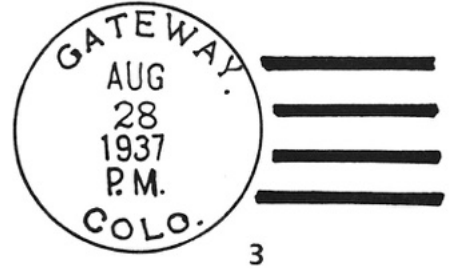
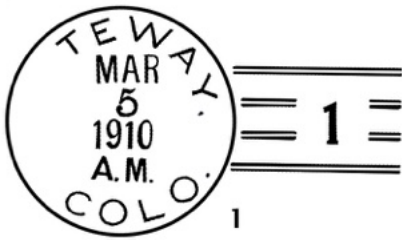
[SRM: Cancels B10-12 are very similar in size and letter spacing. Several of the cancels in the reference collection are badly distorted into ovals. Better examples and further study would be useful.]

1	GATEWAY, / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Doane Type 2 with 1	Mar 5 1910
2	GATEWAY, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	May 9 1914
3	GATEWAY, / COLO. CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-24x19mm	Dec 19 1913 Aug 28 1937
4	GATEWAY, COLO. CI 10P 30.0	4bars P-25x19mm	Jan 17 1931
5	GATEWAY / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Dec 16 1939 Mar 2 1953
6	GATEWAY, COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Nov 14 1952
7	GATEWAY / COLO. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	May 25 1956 Dec 28 1956
8	GATEWAY / COLO. CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-23x20mm	Jul 6 1957 Mar 17 1959
9	GATEWAY / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x20mm	Feb 14 1962 Jul 9 1962
10	GATEWAY, CO / 81522 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jul 30 1969 Nov 10 1975
11	GATEWAY, CO / 81522 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Oct 10 1972 May 30 1991



**GATEWAY - Continued**

12	GATEWAY, CO / 81522 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Dec 19 1989 Dec 4 1991
13	GATEWAY, CO / 81522 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Sep 27 1994
14	GATEWAY CO / 81522 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-20x15mm	May 22 2003



**GAVIN**

Gavin was a rural post office about twelve miles north of Fruita, near the foot of the Book Cliffs. Almost nothing has been written about this place. Leanne C. Boyd and H. Glenn Carson in *Colorado Ghost Towns, Volume II* refer to Gavin being near Garmesa. Garmesa is identified as a ranching project of the Quaker Oats Co.

If that is true, the operation was apparently soon abandoned and the post office closed.

From Fruita drive west on US Highway 6 to Mesa County Road 16.00 and turn north on Road 16. The road runs due north for about six miles. For the next six miles Road 16 follows an irregular course northward. At that distance, to the left, there is evidence for an old road going due north. The road is faintly visible, has been smoothed out, and is largely overgrown. If the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report is correct, Gavin was about a half mile north of Road 16. The ground is level and nothing but sagebrush is visible in the distance.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 8 1916	---	SE/4 Sec 22 T8S R102W 14 miles north of the Grand River 3/4 mile west of Salt Wash
		Applicant for postmaster - Mary M. Perry
Sep 26 1916		Established
Sep 26 1916		Perry, Mary M.
Jul 31 1917		Discontinued Mail to Fruita

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM GAVIN

**GLADE PARK**

In 1910 Mrs. Jennie France settled on Pinon Mesa west of Grand Junction and the Colorado River. The surrounding area is reasonably level and partially wooded. It was the setting that gave rise to the name Glade Park.

Initially this was a ranch post office. Gradually a community of scattered homes developed and a store was opened. In recent years the area is becoming popular for small summer homes.

In 1986 the Glade Park Post Office was converted to a Community Post Office of Grand Junction. It still operates from within the Glade Park Store.

From Grand Junction, go west on Colorado Highway 340 towards the Colorado National Monument. After crossing the Colorado River, turn onto the road to the south entrance to the monument. Of course there is an entrance fee but if you tell the attendant that you are going to Glade Park you should not have to pay the fee. I believe this is Mesa County Road DS.00. At the top of the mesa stay to the left on Road DS.00. It is sixteen miles to the Glade Park Store at the intersection with Road 16.50.

The building across the street from the store is interesting. Reportedly it was the original homestead but appears to have had added to it a structure that resembles an astronomical observatory. The post office is a neat, rustic style facility within the well kept and attractive store building.

Latitude = 38:59:37 North Longitude = 108:44:25 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 4 1910	---	NE/4 Sec 23 & NW/4 Sec 24 T12S R102W	
Nov 11 1910		Established	
Nov 11 1910		France, Jennie M.	
May 12 1914	---	NE/4 SW/4 Sec 24 T12S R102W	
Jan 31 1919		Charles, Ema P.	
Aug 24 1921		Lightner, John D. W. T.	Acting
Apr 14 1923		Lightner, John D. W. T.	Appointed

**GLADE PARK – Continued**

Apr 4 1922	Rownd, Vassar V.	
Apr 14 1923	Lawrence, Monard S.	Confirmed
Jun 1 1923	Lawrence, Monard S.	Commissioned & Assumed charge
Jun 10 1925 ---	SW corner NW/4 SE/4 Sec 24 T12S R102W	A move 150 feet east of previous location Reason for move: "Present location on public highway and building a new store."
Oct 24 1941 ---	SW/4 Sec 24 T12S R102W	
Feb 29 1960	Young, Mrs. Arlyne M.	Assumed charge
Mar 3 1960	Young, Mrs. Arlyne M.	Acting
Jul 28 1960	Young, Mrs. Arlyne M.	Commissioned
Mar 22 1961	Hook, Mrs. Jeanette L.	Assumed charge
Mar 24 1961	Hook, Mrs. Jeanette L.	Acting
Aug 9 1961	Hook, Mrs. Jeanette L.	Commissioned
Aug 14 1961	Hook, Mrs. Jeanette L.	Confirmed
Oct 5 1973	Fuller, Mrs. Eleanor K.	Officer in charge
Feb 2 1974	Fuller, Mrs. Eleanor K.	Possession
Aug 16 1986	Converted to a Community Post Office of Grand Junction	



**The Glade Park Store and Community Post Office**  
Photograph by William H. Bauer October 24, 1999

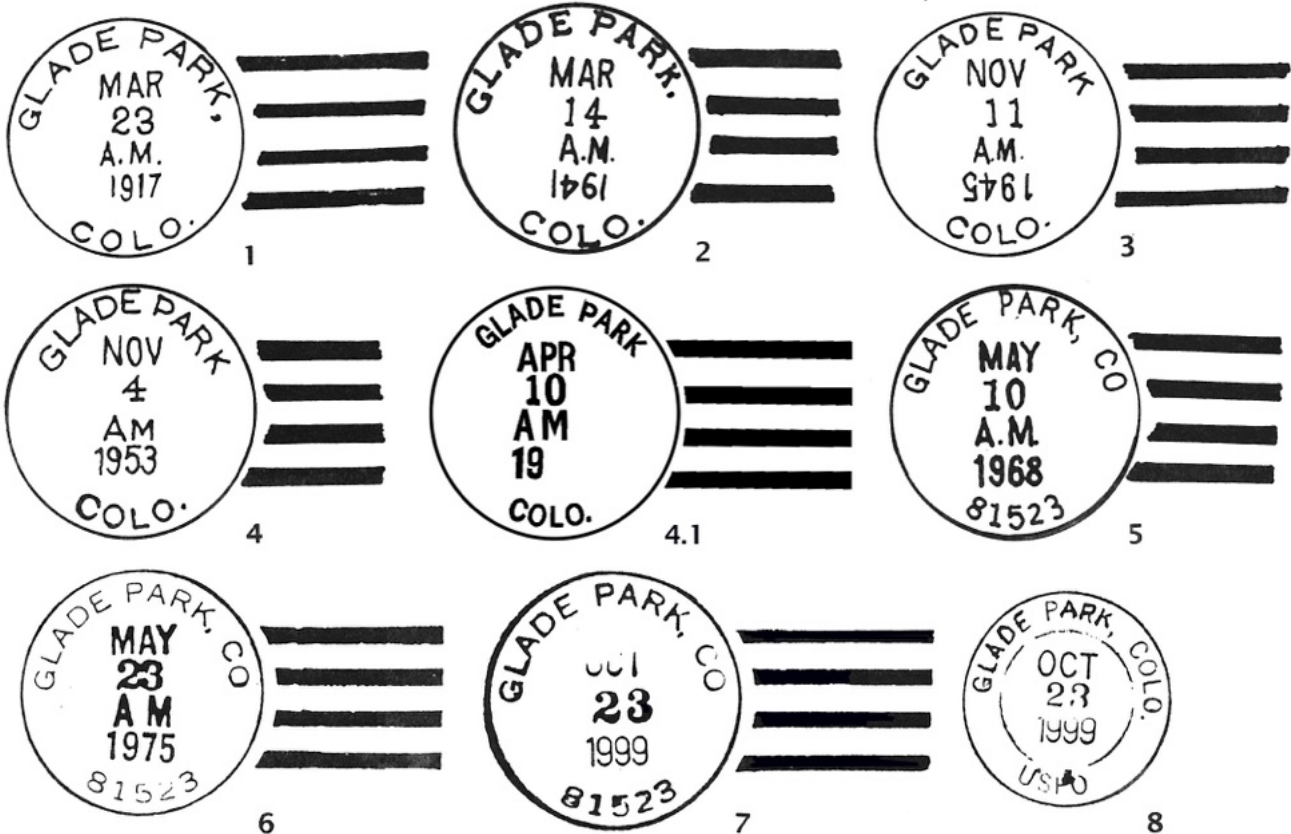
**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	GLADE PARK, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Mar 23 1917 Jan 31 1921
2	GLADE PARK, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Dec 15 1936 Sep 13 1941
3	GLADE PARK / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Feb 8 1943 Jun 27 1949
4	GLADE PARK / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Nov 4 1953

**GLADE PARK – Continued**

- |     |                                       |                 |                        |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 4.1 | GLADE PARK/ COLO.<br>CI 10P 33.0      | 4bars S-25x20mm | Apr 10 1960?           |
| 5   | GLADE PARK, CO / 81523<br>CI 10P 33.0 | 4bars S-??x19mm | May 10 1968            |
| 6   | GLADE PARK, CO / 81523<br>CI 10P 31.0 | 4bars S-24x18mm | Aug 11 1969 Nov 1 1985 |

SEE GLADE PARK RURAL BRANCH OF GRAND JUNCTION FOR SUBSEQUENT  
POSTAL MARKINGS LISTINGS, TRACINGS ARE ILLUSTRATED HERE

**GRAND JUNCTION**

On September 4, 1880 the area around the junction of the Gunnison and the Grand Rivers was opened to white settlement. On September 22, George Crawford, a former Governor of Kansas, with a party that included R. D. Mobley, M. R. Warner, Colonel Morris and S. A. Harper crossed the Grand River. On September 26 they formally located section 14 as a townsite and began constructing cabins. Section 14 is now the central portion of the city of Grand Junction. The Grand Junction Town Company was incorporated on October 10, 1881. On November 5, 1881 Grand Junction was accepted as the formal name of the new settlement.

On February 3, 1882 a post office was opened but with the name of Ute. In view of the name of the town company, the fact that Ute postmaster Richard D. Mobley was a member of the town company, and the acceptance of Grand Junction as the community name, it is strange that the post office would carry a different name. Apparently that name did not set favorably with the community and the post office name was soon changed to Grand Junction to agree with that of the developing community. It has been mentioned that the name West Denver was also suggested.

**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**

Grand Junction grew rapidly and was incorporated on July 22, 1882; however a patent validating land titles was not received until February 1890.

A major event for the future of Grand Junction was the arrival on November 22, 1882 of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. A few months later, February 14, 1883, the Colorado Legislature authorized the creation of Mesa County with Grand Junction as the county seat.

Grand Junction became an important railroad center for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, serving the lines from Salida via Gunnison and what is still the main line from Denver, down the Colorado River and on to Utah.

For many years Grand Junction’s development depended on agriculture. The surrounding countryside was prime grazing for livestock, the river bottoms could be irrigated for farming and the climate was suitable for fruit orchards.

There was no mining in the immediate vicinity of Grand Junction but there were early smelters to treat ore from mines in the northern San Juan Mountains.

During the Cold War in the second half of the twentieth century, Grand Junction was the center for the uranium mining and refining industry in western Colorado. That episode has passed, unfortunately leaving a mess to be cleaned up.

Today Grand Junction is the largest metropolitan area in Western Colorado. It still serves agriculture and the railroad. But it now has a growing focus on high tech industries. It is attractive to retirees familiar with the climate and the available recreational activities.

Latitude = 39:03:50 North Longitude = 108:33:00 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

--- -- 1882 ---	Center Sec 14 T1S R1W of Ute Meridian	
May 26 1882	Formerly named Ute	
May 26 1882	Mobley, Richard D.	
Jul 20 1882	Russell, Owen D.	
Nov 3 1882 ---	SW/4 Sec 14 T1S R1W	
May 16 1884	Price, Edwin	P&S
Jul 24 1885	Crawford, Thomas B.	P
Jan 12 1886	Crawford, Thomas B.	P&S
Oct 29 1889	Bridges, John W.	P
Dec 19 1889	Bridges, John W.	P&S
Dec 11 1890 ---	Sec 14 T1S R1W	
Sep 25 1891	Connely, William G.	P
Dec 16 1891	Connely, William G.	P&S
Jun 12 1893	Shores, Marcus M.	P
Sep 25 1893	Shores, Marcus M.	P&S
Oct 1 1897	Price, Edwin	P
Jan 10 1898	Price, Edwin	P&S
Jan 28 1902	Price, Edwin	P&S
Jan 31 1906	Price, Edwin	P&S
Jan 19 1910	Price, Edwin	P&S
Jan 27 1914	Price, Edwin	P&S
Apr 24 1914 ---	SW/4 Sec 14 T1S R1W	
Sep 5 1918	Price, Edwin	P&S
Dec 23 1922	Measure, Joseph A.	P&S
Dec 21 1926	Measure, Joseph A.	P&S
Apr 1 1932	Pond, Orissa B.	Nominated
Apr 27 1932	Pond, Orissa B.	Confirmed
May 28 1932	Pond, Orissa B.	Commissioned

## GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

Apr 13 1936	Moslander, Clyde D.	Nominated
Apr 21 1936	Moslander, Clyde D.	Confirmed
Apr 27 1936	Moslander, Clyde D.	Appointed Presidential
May 13 1936	Moslander, Clyde D.	Commissioned
May 16 1936	Moslander, Clyde D.	Assumed charge
Apr 15 1940	Moslander, Clyde D.	Nominated
Apr 24 1940	Moslander, Clyde D.	Confirmed
May 16 1940	Moslander, Clyde D.	Commissioned
Oct 22 1941 ---	SW/4 Sec 14 T1S R1W 402 Rood Avenue	
Nov 15 1946	Ellington, Rollin L.	Acting
Nov 16 1946	Ellington, Rollin L.	Assumed charge
Feb 17 1949	Ellington, Rollin L.	Nominated
Mar 16 1949	Ellington, Rollin L.	Confirmed
Mar 17 1949	Ellington, Rollin L.	Appt'd Presid. & Commissioned
Aug 31 1958	Cross, Howard W.	Assumed charge
Sep 2 1958	Cross, Howard W.	Acting
Jan 11 1960	Cross, Howard W.	Nominated
Aug 31 1960	Cross, Howard W.	Confirmed
Sep 2 1960	Cross, Howard W.	Appt'd Presid. & Commissioned
Jul 16 1965	Guadnola, James A.	Assumed charge
Jul 19 1965	Guadnola, James A.	Acting
Oct 22 1965	Guadnola, James A.	Nominated & Confirmed
Oct 23 1965	Guadnola, James A.	Appointed Presidential
Nov 1 1965	Guadnola, James A.	Commissioned
Feb 28 1973	Wooters, Nolan D.	Officer in charge
May 12 1973	Wooters, Nolan D.	Appointed
May 1 1980	Bowman, Donald R.	Assumed charge as postmaster



GRAND JUNCTION, / COLORADO. January 3, 1883

## Confirmed types of postal markings

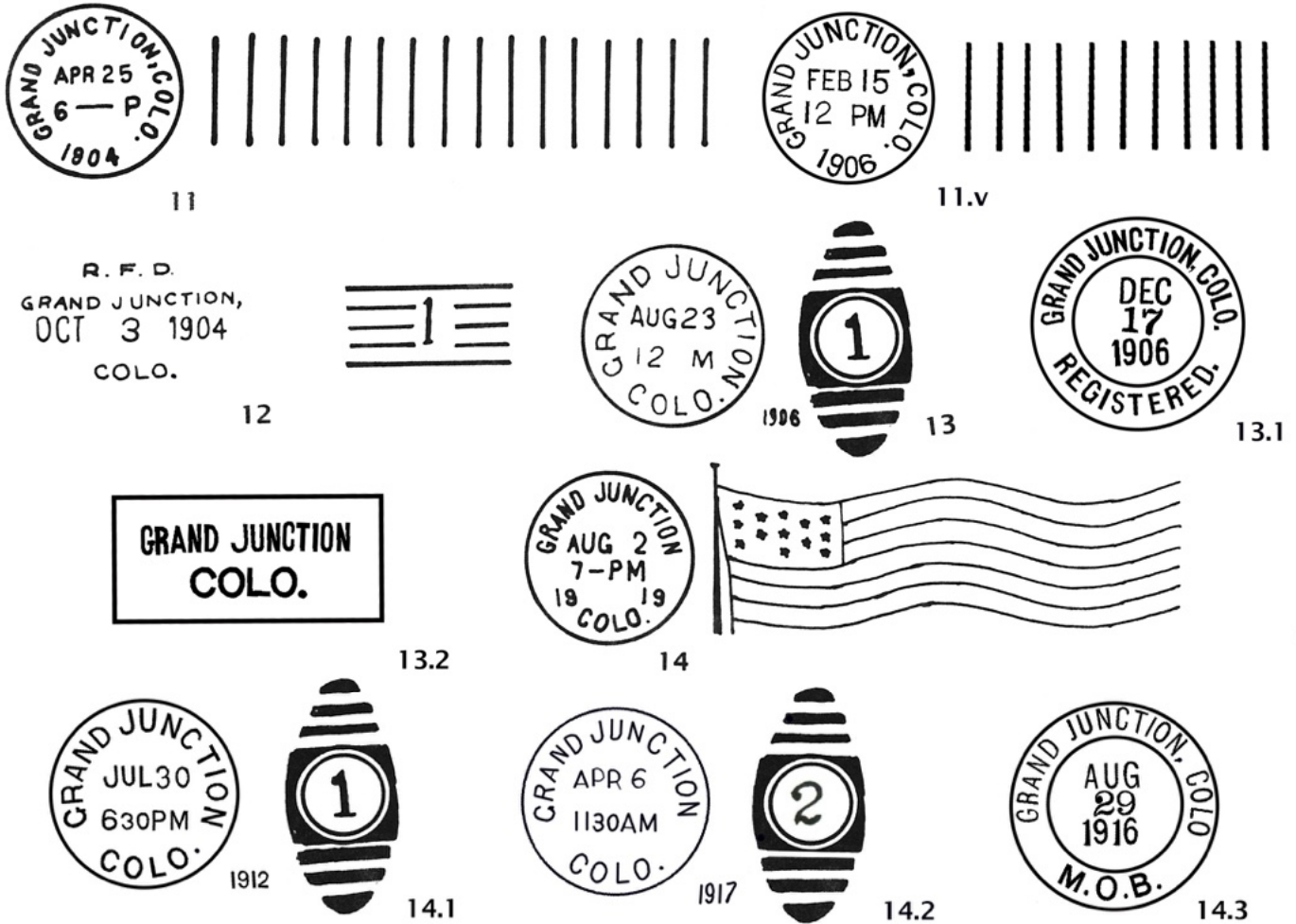
- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | GRAND JUNCTION, / COLORADO.<br>CI 20P 28.0/25.5 | Jan 3 1883 Sep 25 1883<br>Hstp Cork, 5-bar circular grid       |
| 2 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.0           | Oct 28 1883 Dec 10 1884<br>Hstp Target, 3-ring 17mm, quartered |

**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**

3	GRAND JUNCTION / COL. CI 10P 27.0	Nov 20 1885 Aug 6 1889 Hstp Cork, 8 piece pie, Smudge
4	GRAND JUNCTION / COLORADO CI 10P 28.0	Mar 24 1890 Jun 24 1891 Hstp Fancy, Shaded star
5	GRAND JUNCTION, / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Dec 16 1891 Feb 7 1894 Hstp Not present
6	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. CI 10P 26.0	Dec 11 1890 May 21 1896 Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads, Smudge
7	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO CI 10P 29.0	Feb 14 1893 Mar 15 1895 Hstp Cork, Smudge
8	GRAND JUNCTION. / COLO. CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Feb 15 1898 Hstp No killer
9	GRAND JUNCTION, / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Apr 10 1898 Oct 5 1901 Dplx Grid, oval with 1 and circle
10	GRAND JUNCTION, / COLO. // R.F.D. CI 00R 30.0x17.0	Aug 20 1902 Sep 17 1902 RFD 5 bars with 2
11	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. CI 10P 24.0	Nov 24 1903 Jan -- 1908 Mach 16 vertical bars
11.v	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. CI 10P 24.0	Feb 15 1906 Mach 16 vertical bars Larger letters
12	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. // R.F.D. SL 00R 26.0x18.0	Oct 3 1904 May 23 1904 RFD 5 bars with 1
13	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Dec 18 1905 Nov 30 1912 Dplx Grid, oval with 1 and circle
13.1	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / REGISTERED. CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Dec 17 1906 Hstp No killer
13.2	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. RC 10P 38.0 x 19.0	Mar 6 1910 Hstp Parcel Post Box style
14	GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. CI 10P 22.5	Apr 6 1908 Aug 2 1919 Flag 13 star waving flag, split year date



GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

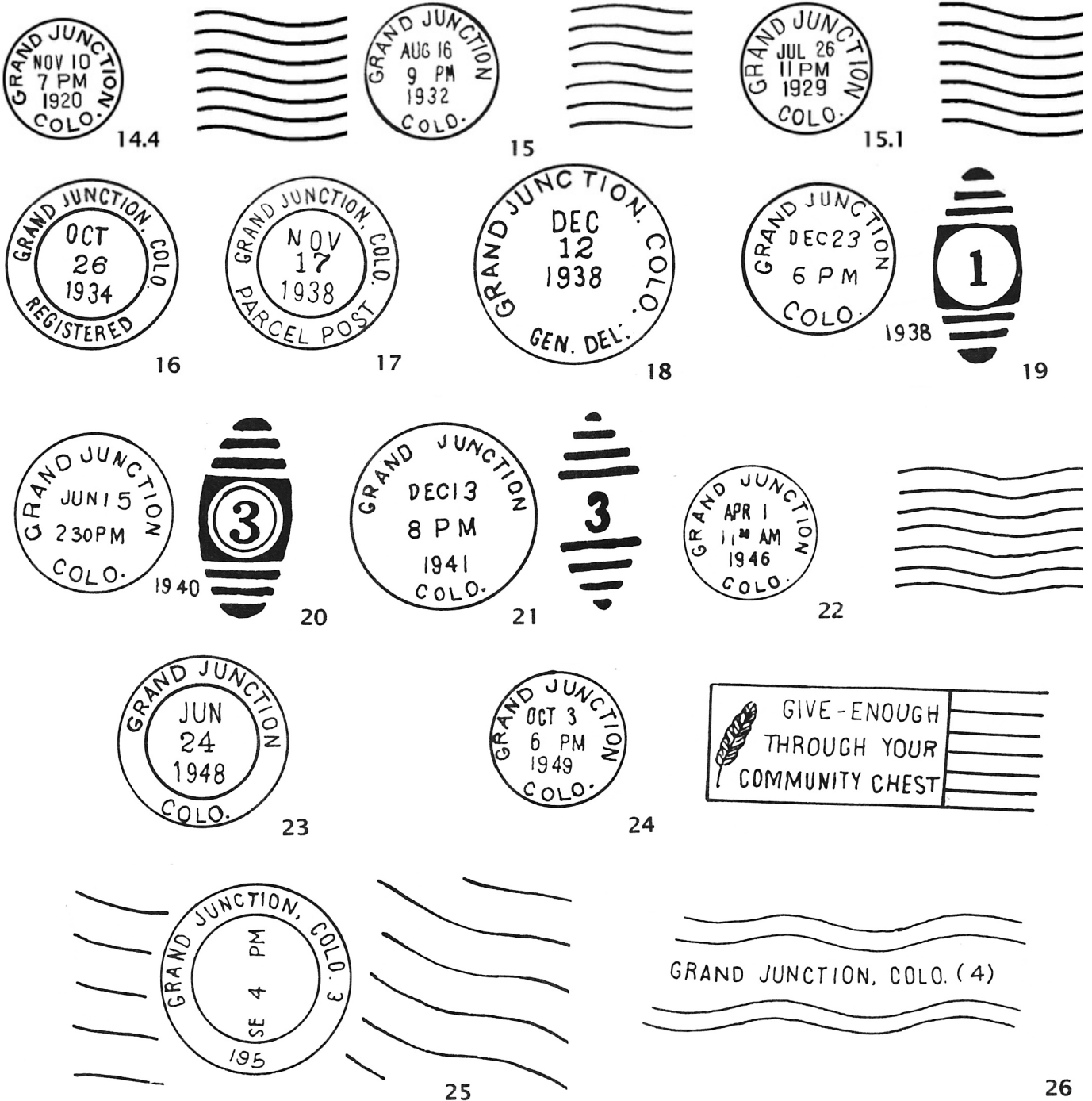


- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 14.1 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 26.0                   | Jul 30 1912 Jul 20 1915<br>Dplx Grid, oval with 1 and circle Town & State further<br>apart than B13 |
| 14.2 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 26.0                   | Apr 6 1917<br>Dplx Grid, oval with 2 and circle   |
| 14.3 | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / M.O.B.<br>CI 11P 29.0/19.0      | Aug 29 1916<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 14.4 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0                   | Oct 14 1920 Nov 10 1920<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 15   | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 22.5                   | May 24 1930 Nov 11 1952<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 15.1 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 21.0                   | Jul 26 1929<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 16   | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / REGISTERED<br>CI 11P 28.0/18.0  | Nov 27 1929 Mar 10 1941<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 17   | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / PARCEL POST<br>CI 11P 28.5/19.0 | Nov 17 1938<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 18   | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / GEN. DEL.<br>CI 10P 33.0        | Dec 12 1938 Oct 12 1940<br>Hstp No killer   |



**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**

- |    |                                       |                         |
|----|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 19 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 25.0 | Sep 20 1929 Dec 23 1938 |
| 20 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 26.0 | Jun 15 1940 Jun 19 1940 |
| 21 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 30.0 | Dec 4 1941 Dec 13 1941  |
| 22 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 23.0 | Apr 1 1946 Nov 11 1952  |
- Mach 7 wavy lines

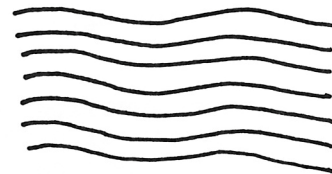


GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

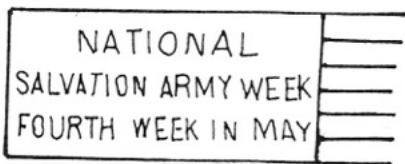
- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 23 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 11P 28.0/18.0   | Jun 24 1948 May 28 1955  |
| 24 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 22.0        | Hstp No killer<br>Oct 3 1949 Nov 7 1954  |
| 25 | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. 3<br>CI 11P 31.0/23.0  | Mach Slogan in box with bars; Feather at left:<br>GIVE-ENOUGH / THROUGH YOUR /<br>COMMUNITY CHEST<br>Sep 4 195-          |
| 26 | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. (4)<br>SL 00R 54.0x3.0 | Rolr 7 slanted wavy lines<br>--- -- 195-   |
| 27 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 31.0        | Rolr 2 wavy lines above and below<br>Mar 31 1954   |
| 28 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0        | Dplx Grid, diamond with 3<br>Feb 21 1955 Mar 29 1965   |
| 29 | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 21.0        | Mach 7 wavy lines<br>May 16 1956<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars; NATIONAL /<br>SALVATION ARMY WEEK / FOURTH WEEK IN MAY |



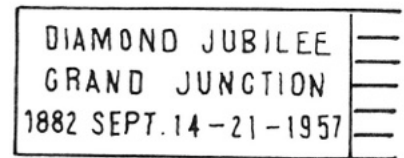
27



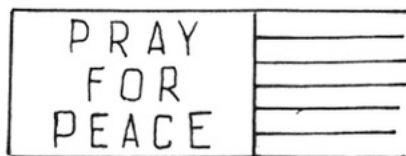
28



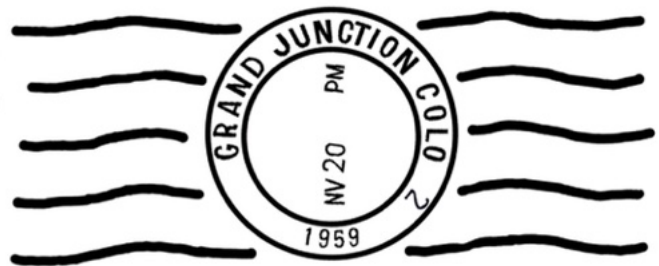
29



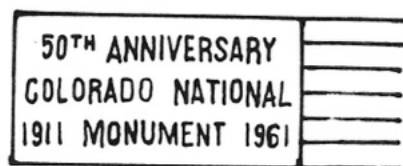
30



31



31.1



32



33

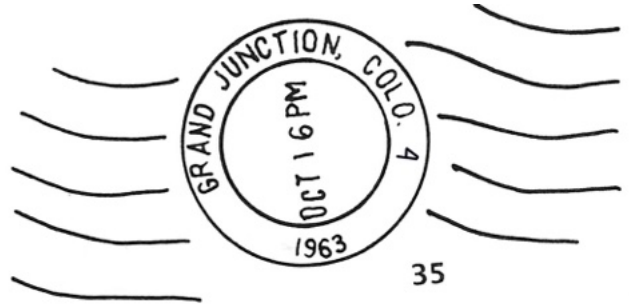
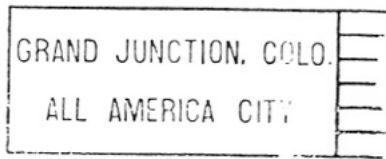
**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**

- 30 GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.  
CI 10P 20.0
- 31 GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.  
CI 10P 22.0
- 31.1 GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. 2  
CI 11P 32.0/24.0
- 32 GRAND JUNCTION, / COLO.  
CI 10P 20.5

Jul 15 1957 Sep 21 1957  
Mach Slogan in box with bars; DIAMOND  
JUBILEE / GRAND JUNCTION / 1882 SEPT. 14-21 - 1957  
May 12 1958 Feb 1 1959  
Mach Slogan in box with bars; PRAY / FOR / PEACE  
Nov 20 1959  
Rolt 5 wavy lines  
May 12 1961 Sep 25 1961  
Mach Slogan in box with bars; 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY /  
COLORADO NATIONAL / 1911 MONUMENT 1961



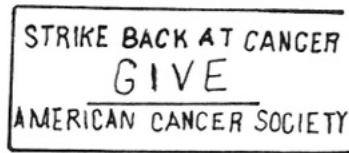
34



35



36



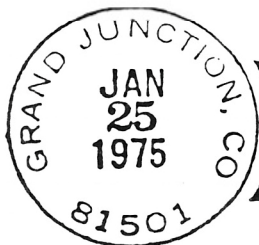
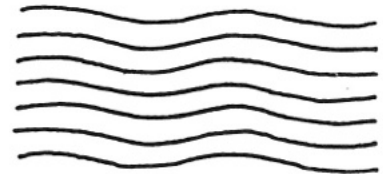
36.1



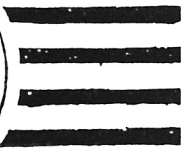
37



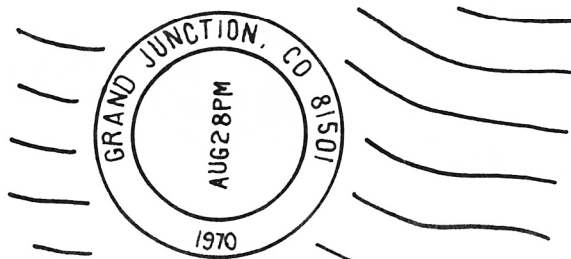
38



39



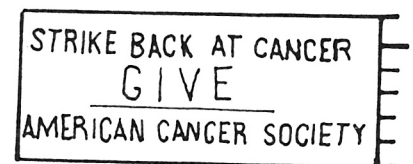
40



41



42



## GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

- |      |  |  |
|------|--|--|
| 33   | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. 1<br>CI 11P 36.0/27.       | May 17 1962<br>Hstp No killer  |
| 34   | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0            | May 17 1963 Dec 20 1963<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars; GRAND<br>JUNCTION. COLO. / ALL AMERICA CITY                             |
| 35   | GRAND JUNCTION. COLO. 4<br>CI 11P 31.5/23.0      | Oct 1 1963<br>Rolr Slanted wavy lines  |
| 36   | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0            | Apr 8 1965<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars; STRIKE BACK<br>AT CANCER / <u>GIVE</u> / AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY                     |
| 36.1 | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / USPO<br>CI 11P 29.0/19.0 | Jul 1 1965<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 37   | GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.<br>CI 10P 20.0            | Jul 14 1965<br>Mach Slogan with Smokey Bear; Remember /<br>Only you can / PREVENT / FOREST FIRES                                 |
| 38   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501<br>CI 10P 20.5        | Jun 10 1968 Dec 23 1972<br>Mach 7 wavy lines   |
| 39   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501<br>CI 10P 32.0        | Jun 11 1968 Mar 31 1978<br>4bars S-24x18mm   |
| 40   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501<br>CI 10P 20.5        | Jul 6 1970 May 8 1974<br>Mach Slogan with Smokey Bear; Remember /<br>ONLY you can / PREVENT / FOREST FIRES                       |
| 41   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 11P 32.0/23.0     | Aug 2 1970 Nov 11 1971<br>Rolr 7 slanted wavy lines  |
| 42   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 21.0          | Apr 8 1971 Apr 19 1974<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars; STRIKE BACK<br>AT CANCER / <u>GIVE</u> / AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY         |
| 43   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 815<br>CI 10P 20.5          | Jul 6 1976 Aug 11 1977<br>Mach 7 wavy lines [This may be Type 38<br>with the last 2 digits of "81501" removed]                   |
| 43.1 | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 815<br>CI 10P 20.           | Oct 20 1976<br>Mach Slogan in bars; COLORADO /<br>THE CENTENNIAL STATE/ 1876--1976   |
| 44   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501<br>CI 10P 34.0        | Sep 18,1978 Jul 14 1980<br>4bars S-24x20mm   |
| 44.1 | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 815<br>CI 10P 20.5          | Apr 27 1979 Jan 18 1980<br>Mach Slogan with Smokey Bear; Remember /<br>ONLY <u>you</u> can / PREVENT / FOREST FIRES              |
| 45   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 815<br>CI 10P 35.5            | Dec 4 1979 Oct 12 1990<br>Mach 9 straight lines  |
| 46   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 23.0          | Jun 3 1982 Jul 19 1982<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars: GRAND<br>JUNCTION AREA / CENTENNIAL 1882-1982 /<br>June 16 - July 4 1992 |
| 47   | GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81501<br>CI 10P 31.0         | Jan 6 1983<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 48   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 815<br>CI 10P 20.5            | Nov 26 1980 Sep 15 1986<br>Mach Slogan; United Fund emblem and text:<br>Give / The United Way                                    |
| 49   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>10P 24.0             | Sep 24 1985 Nov 15 1985<br>Mach Slogan: United Fund emblem and text:<br>Give / The United Way                                    |
| 50   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 815<br>CI 10P 21.0            | Nov 17 1985 Jun 21 1990<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars: WE MEET /<br>THE / CHALLENGE  |

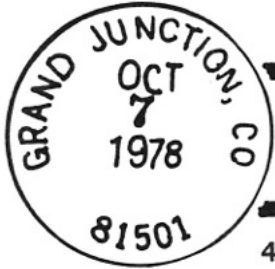
GRAND JUNCTION – Continued



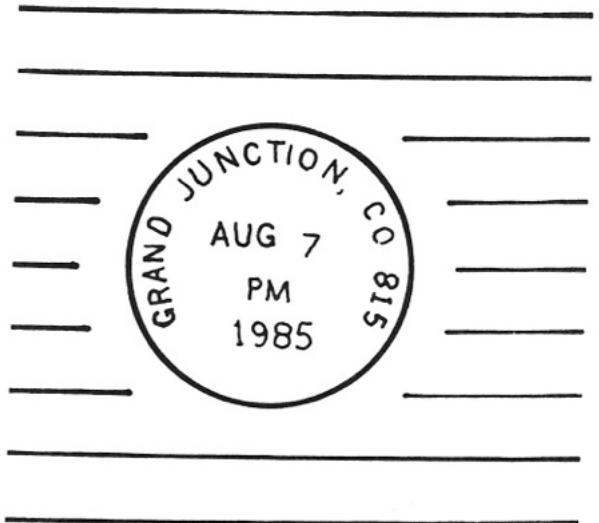
43



43.1



44



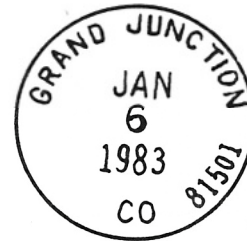
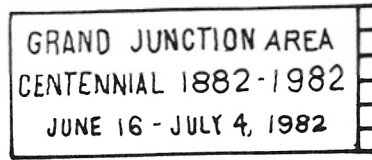
45



44.1



46



47



48



49



50



51



GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

51 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 24.0

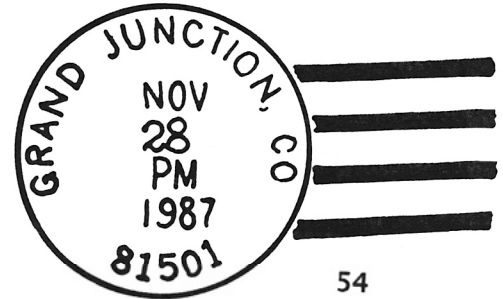
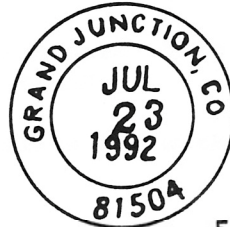
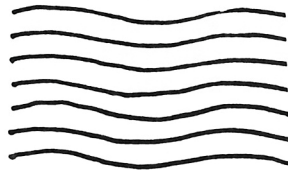
Jul 28 1983 Jun 12 1986

Mach Slogan in box with bars: WE MEET /  
THE / CHALLENGE

52 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 24.0

Apr 12 1982 Jun 3 1991

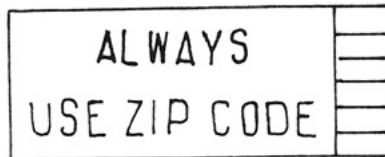
Mach 7 wavy lines



52

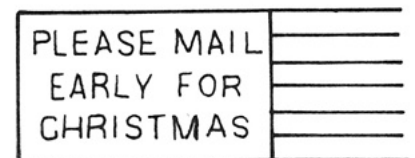
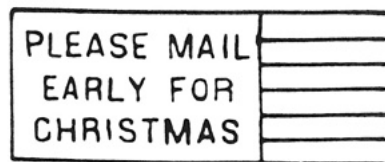
53

54



55

55.1



56

57

53 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81504  
CI 10P 29.5/18.5

Jun 18 1987 Jul 23 1992

Hstp No killer

54 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501  
CI 10P 38.0

Nov 28 1987

4bars S-27x22mm

55 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 815  
CI 10P 23.5

Oct 5 1985 Jul 3 1990

Mach Slogan in box with bars; ALWAYS /  
USE ZIP CODE No scan of 3 digit zip, all may be 5 digit Zip  
Sep 19 1988

55.1 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 23.5

Mach Slogan in box with bars; ALWAYS / USE ZIP CODE  
Dec 15 1988

56 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 815  
CI 10P 23.5

Mach Slogan in box with bars; PLEASE MAIL /  
EARLY FOR / CHRISTMAS

57 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 23.5

Nov 15 1985 Dec 16 1990

Mach Slogan in box with bars; PLEASE MAIL /  
EARLY FOR / CHRISTMAS

57.1 GRAND JUNCTION CO 815  
10P 23.0

Nov 26 1980

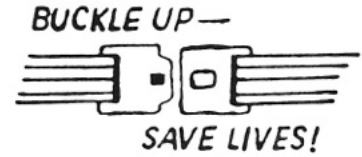
Mach Slogan; United Fund emblem and text; Give /  
The United Way

58 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 23.0

Jul 15 1991

Mach Slogan – Safety Belt; text – BUCKLE UP - /  
SAVE LIVES!

**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**



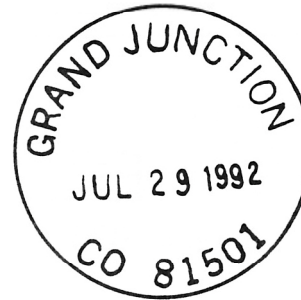
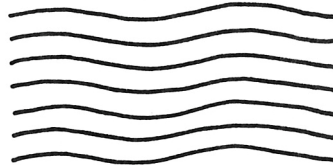
57.1

58



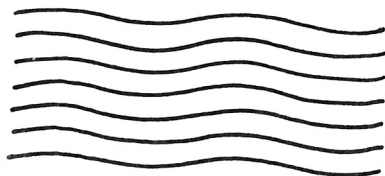
59

59.1



60

61



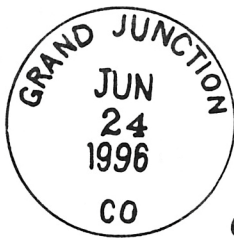
62

63

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 59   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 23.0   | Dec 20 1991 Jan 7 1992<br>Mach Slogan in box - Dolphin; Splash /<br>into an Ocean / of Fun! / Collect Stamps! |
| 59.1 | GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501<br>CI 10P 33.0 | Dec 28 1991<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 60   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 34.0   | May 15 1991 May 29 1993<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 61   | GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81501<br>CI 10P 39.0  | Jul 29 1992<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 62   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 23.0   | Dec 13 1993<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 63   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 23.0   | Dec 10 1994 Dec 14 1994<br>Mach Slogan in box with bars; PLEASE MAIL /<br>EARLY FOR / CHRISTMAS               |
| 64   | GRAND JUNCTION / CO<br>CI 10P 31.0        | Jun 24 1996 Jun 2 1999<br>Hstp No killer  |
| 65   | GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501<br>CI 10P 23.0   | Sep 3 1996 Jul 8 2000<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |

GRAND JUNCTION – Continued

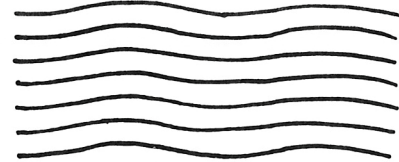
- 66 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501  
CI 10P 24.0  
May 1 1997  
Pict Text: THE WORLD / OF DINOSAURS /  
row of teeth / FIST DAY OF ISSUE (Dinosaurs -  
sheet of 15 stamps)
- 67.1 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501  
CI 10P 22.0  
Sep 3 1999 Sep 3 1999  
Pict Scene - Train and Celebrate the Century Logo;  
Text - Celebrate The Century Express
- 67.2 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501  
CI 10P 22.0  
Sep 4 1999  
Pict Scene - Train and Celebrate the Century Logo;  
Text - Celebrate The Century Express
- 67.3 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501  
CI 10P 22.0  
Sep 5 1999  
Pict Scene - Train and Celebrate the Century Logo;  
Text - Celebrate The Century Express
- 68 GRAND JUNCTION CO 81501 / USPS  
CI 11P 31.0/23.0  
Apr 28 2000 Feb 19 2002  
Hstp No killer
- 69 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501  
CI 10P 23.0  
Dec 10 2002  
Mach Slogan in box with bars; PLEASE MAIL /  
EARLY FOR / CHRISTMAS
- 70 GRAND JUNCTION CO / 81501  
CI 10P 41.0  
Nov 29 2005  
Hstp No killer



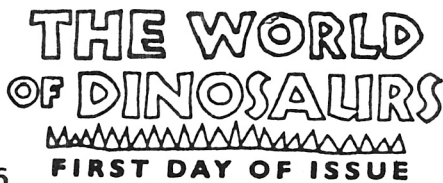
64



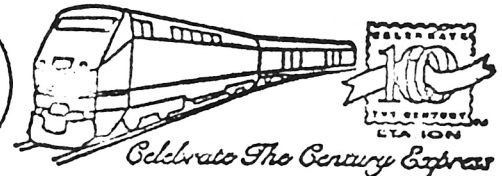
65



66



67.1



67.2



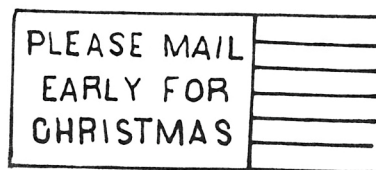
67.3



68



69



70



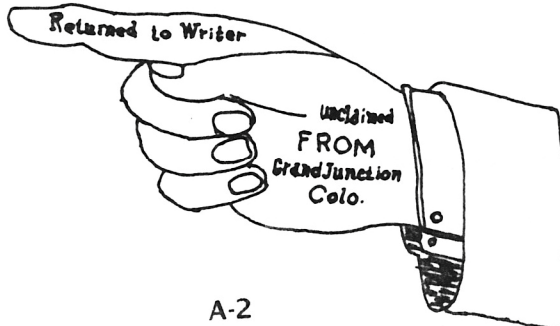
**GRAND JUNCTION – Continued**

**AUXILIARY MARKINGS**

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| A 1 | Grand Junction<br>SL 52.0x4.0                           | Dec 6 1918<br>Hstp Moved, Left no address  |
| A 2 | Grand Junction<br>IR 74X40.0                            | Dec 6 1918<br>Hstp Large pointing hand with text:<br>Returned to Writer / Unclaimed / FROM /<br>Grand Junction / Colo. |
| A 3 | GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / ADVERTISED.<br>CI 11P 29.0/19.0 | Aug 27 1910<br>Hstp No killer  |

Moved, Left no address

A-1



A-2



A-3

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 805**

During the mid-1970's the United States Postal Service instituted a policy whereby the postmarks applied at Sectional Centers no longer carried the name of the town in which they were located. The designation was in the form of U. S. POSTAL SERVICE and the three-digit zip code. Occasionally, this style of postmark appears at random from a Sectional Center somewhere in the country.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

There are no firm periods during which the following postmarks were in use

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

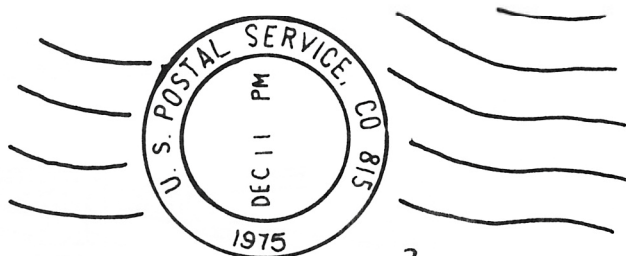
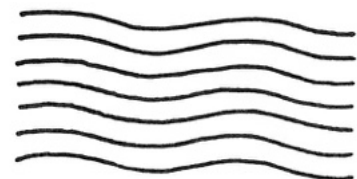
- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 0.1 | U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, CO 815<br>CI 10P 20.0      | Nov 2 1974<br>Mach Slogan with Smokey Bear; Remember /<br>Only <u>you</u> can / PREVENT / FOREST FIRES |
| 1   | U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, CO 815<br>CI 10P 20.5      | Jan 27 1975 Apr 24 1998<br>Mach 7 wavy lines   |
| 2   | U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, CO 815<br>CI 11P 31.5/23.0 | Dec 11 1975 Dec 11 1975<br>Rolr 6 wavy lines   |



0.1



1



2

GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES

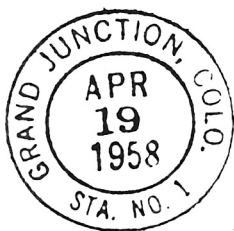
STATION NUMBER 1

Chronology of the Post Office

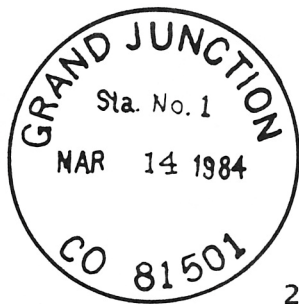
Jul 1 1913	Established as a Station of Grand Junction
---	901 Ouray Avenue
Dec 9 1915	Closed
Jan 1 1927	Reopened
---	723 North 12th Street
Feb 10 1946	Closed
Oct 1 1947	Reopened
Jul 7 1956	Ceased operations
Feb 14 1957	Officially closed
Apr 19 1958	Reopened
---	2140 North 12th Street
Apr 1 1960	Closed
Feb 16 1961	Reopened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction
---	2232 North 7th St., Plaza Pharmacy, Teller Arms Center
May 27 1967	Ceased operations
Aug 31 1967	Officially closed
Mar 27 1982	Reopened as a Contract station of Grand Junction
---	1710 North 12th Street

Confirmed types of postal markings

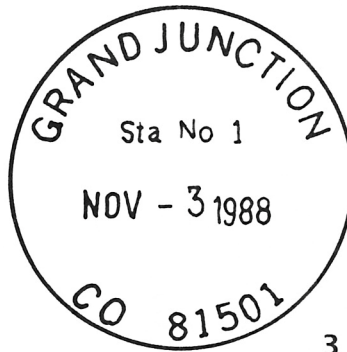
1	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / STA. NO. 1 CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 19 1958
2	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81501 (Sta. No. 1) CI 10P 38.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 14 1984 May 29 1991
3	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81501 (Sta No 1) CI 10P 45.0	Hstp No killer	Nov 3 1988
4	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81501 (STA. NO. 1) CI 10P 49.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 14 1993 May 28 1993



1



2



3



4

**GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued**

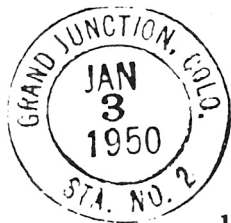
**STATION NUMBER 2**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

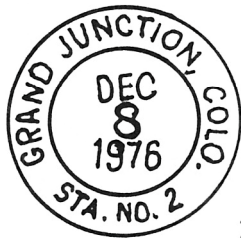
Jan 2 1948	Opened as a station of Grand Junction
---	956 UnawEEP Avenue
Jun 7 1948	Closed
Jul 1 1948	Reopened
---	2121 UnawEEP Avenue
Sep 30 1953	Closed
Nov 1 1952	Reopened
---	1624 US Highway 50
Mar 15 1956	Closed
Apr 7 1956	Reopened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction
---	1620 US Highway 50, Farmers Market
---	Moved to 1938 N First, Hillcrest Plaza
Aug 31 1967	Closed
Jun 22 1983	Reopened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction
---	Mesa Mall Shopping Center

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / STA. NO. 2 CI 11P 29.0/18.0 Hstp No killer	Jan 3 1950
2	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / STA. NO. 2 CI 11P 30.0/19.0 Hstp No killer	Dec 8 1976
3	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81505 (Sta. No. 2) CI 10P 43.0 Hstp No killer	Mar 15 1984 Sep 18 1985
4	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81505 (Sta. No. 2) CI 10P 45.0 Hstp No killer	Feb 12 1988
5	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81505 (Sta. No 2) CI 10P 49.0 Hstp No killer	Jun 3 1991 Jul 18 2000



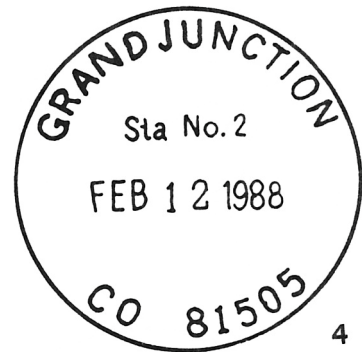
1



2



3



4



5

## GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued

## STATION NUMBER 3

## Chronology of the Post Office

May 16 1951	Opened as a Station of Grand Junction
---	902 North Avenue
Sep 30 1952	Closed
Sep 9 1953	Reopened
---	950 North Avenue
Jun 30 1957	Closed
Jul 1 1962	Reopened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction
---	2514 Broadway
---	Moved to 2516 Broadway, Western Auto
Mar 24 1967	Closed
Nov 28 1983	Reopened
---	2770 Highway 50, City Market

## Confirmed types of postal markings

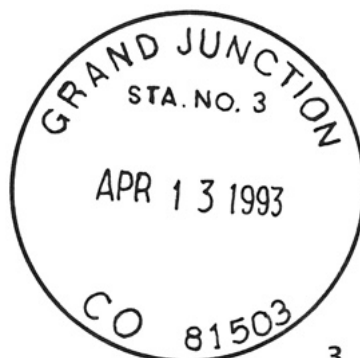
1	GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / STA. NO. 3 CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	May 16 1951
2	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81503 (Sta. No 3) CI 10P 41.0	Hstp No killer	Sep 18 1985 Jul 22 1992
3	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81503 (STA. NO. 3) CI 10P 46.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 13 1993



1



2



3

## STATION NUMBER 4

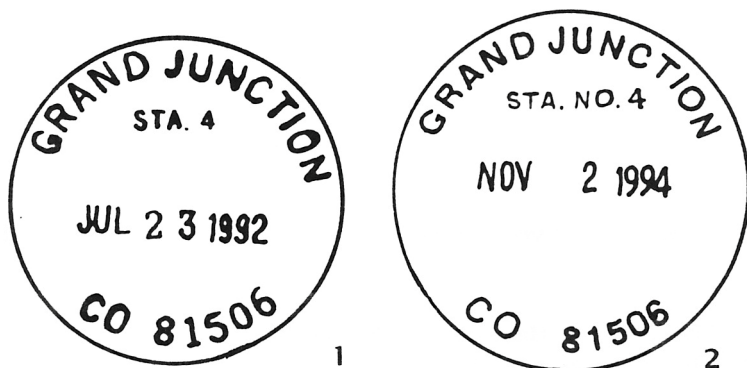
## Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 20 1956	Opened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction
---	2815 North Avenue
--- 1966	Moved to 2847 North Avenue
Apr 30 1966	Closed
Oct 17 1983	Reopened
---	759 Horizon Drive, # 2

## Confirmed types of postal markings

1	GRAND JUNCTION / CO 81503 (STA. 4) CI 10P 41.0	Hstp No killer	Oct 3 1988 Jul 23 1992
2	GRAND JUNCTION (STA. NO. 4) CO 81506 CI 10P 46.5	Hstp No killer	Nov 2 1994 Jan 31 1996

**GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued  
STATION NUMBER 4 – Continued**



**STATION NUMBER 5**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Aug 16 1986      Opened as a Contract Station of Grand Junction  
---      Glade Park Store See GLADE PARK COMMUNITY POST OFFICE

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM STATION NUMBER 5

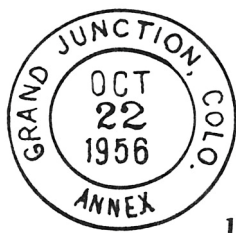
**ANNEX STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Before 1964      Opened as a Station of Grand Junction  
---      3rd and Grand

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / ANNEX      Oct 9 1956    Oct 22 1956  
         CI 11P 29.0/19.0      Hstp No killer



**C.O.D. STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jan 26 1924      Opened as a Station of Grand Junction  
---- 1951      Closed

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. (C.O.D.STA.) / M.O.B      Apr 16 1926  
         CI 11P 29.0/18.0      Hstp No killer

GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued  
C.O.D STATION – Continued

1

## FAX STATION

## Chronology of the Post Office

May 25 1990 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

## Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81501 / FAX STATION May 25 1990  
IR 00R 87.0x18.0 Pict Scene - Large FAX with arrow



1

## FRUITVALE RURAL STATION / FRUITVALE STATION

Although the name Fruitvale appears on maps, it was not a town in the normal sense. It was a district, taking its name from the primary agricultural product of the region along the Colorado River, east of Grand Junction.

In early years the “district” included a school, packing sheds and a dance hall scattered along US Highway 6.

The Fruitvale District is located just north of US Highway 6 - Interstate 70 Business, along Mesa County Road 30. It is a mixed residential and commercial area.

For two years the Fruitvale Post Office operated as a Rural Station of Grand Junction. It was closed in 1950 but some time later it reopened as a station of Grand Junction. As best I can determine, it is still in operation at 2923 North Avenue.

Latitude = 39:04:54 North Longitude = 108:29:46 West

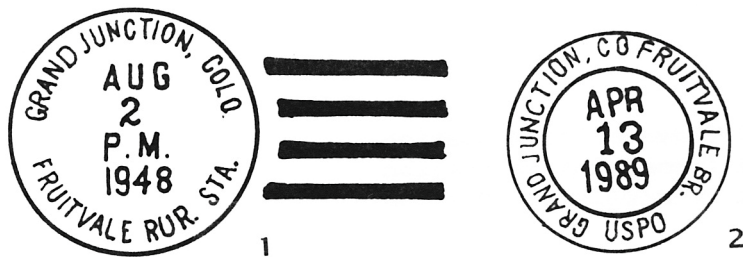
## Chronology of the Post Office

- Jul 1 1948 Established as a Rural Station of Grand Junction  
--- Corner of 30 Road and US Highway 6, Huckaby’s Market  
Aug 24 1950 Discontinued  
Before 1986 Reopened as a Station of Grand Junction at 2923 North Avenue

## Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 GRAND JUNCTION, COLO. / FRUITVALE RUR. STA. Aug 2 1948 Aug 2 1948  
CI 10P 32.0 4bars S-23x19mm  
2 GRAND JUNCTION, CO FRUITVALE BR. / USPO Apr 13 1989  
CI 11P 29.0/19.0 Hstp No killer

**GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued  
FRUITVALE RURAL STATION – Continued**



**GLADE PARK COMMUNITY POST OFFICE**

In addition to being listed as a Community Post Office, this was also called Contract Station Number 5.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Aug 16 1986      Designated a Community Post Office of Grand Junction  
---              Glade Park Store

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

SEE GLADE PARK INDEPENDENT POST OFFICE FOR EARLIER POSTAL MARKINGS.

7	GLADE PARK, CO / 81523	Jun 1 1991 Jun 18 2002
	CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-25x20mm
8	GLADE PARK, COLO. / USPO	Oct 23 1999
	CI 11P 28.0/18.0	Hstp No killer

SEE PAGE 34 FOR ILLUSTRATIONS OF GLADE PARK TYPES 7 & 8 POSTMARKS

**MAIL HANDLING ANNEX**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

1987              Opened as an Annex of Grand Junction  
---              602 Burkey St.

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM MAIL HANDLING ANNEX

**GRAND JUNCTION SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STATIONS**

**CELEBRATE THE CENTURY STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**


Jun 15 2000      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Grand, Junction CO 81501 // Celebrate the Century Station	Jun 15 2000
	SL 00R 107.0x3.0	Pict Text only - CENTENARIAN / -- 100 -- / The Life of a Century

GRAND JUNCTION STATIONS AND BRANCHES – Continued  
CELEBRATE THE CENTURY STATION – Continued

# CENTENARIAN



## The Life of a Century

June 15, 2000 – Celebrate the Century Station, Grand Junction, CO 81501

### DINOSAUR STATION

#### Chronology of the Post Office

- Jul 22 1989      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station
- Oct 2 1989      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station
- Jul 21 1990      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

#### Confirmed types of postal markings

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | GRAND JCT. CO 81501 // DINOSAUR STATION<br>CI 10P 30.5     | Jul 22 1989<br>Pict Scene - Dinosaur; Text - DINOSAUR /<br>CAPITAL / OF / THE / WORLD           |
| 2 | GRAND JUNCTION CO 81501 // DINOSAUR STATION<br>CI 00R 25.0 | Oct 2 1989<br>Pict Scene - Dinosaur; Text - SECOND DAY OF ISSUE<br>(for dinosaur block of four) |
| 3 | GRAND JCT. CO 81501 // DINOSAUR STATION<br>CI 10P 30.0     | Jul 21 1990<br>Pict Scene - Dinosaur below CDS  |





**GRAND JUNCTION SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STATIONS**

**GRAND JUNCTION STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 22 1996      Established

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      Grand Junction Station / CO 81501      May 22 1996  
IR 00R 40.0x30.0      Pict Text - Celebrating a / Century / OF CARING



**GRANJEX STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 27-28 1976      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Mar 26-27 1977      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Oct 8 1978      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Oct 6- 7 1979      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Oct 4- 5 1980      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Oct 3- 4 1981      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Apr 12 1986      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Apr 12 1987      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

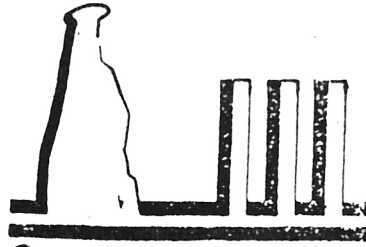
**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	GRAND JUNCTION, CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STA. CI 10P 28.0	Mar 27 1976 Mar 28 1976 Pict Scene - Rock pillar and three towers
2	GRAND JUNCTION CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STA. CI 10P 28.5	Mar 26 1977 Mar 27 1977 Pict Scene - 13 star waving flag
3	GRAND JUNCTION CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STA. CI 10P 26.5	Oct 8 1978 Pict Scene - Railroad track, CDS forms face of a steam engine
4	GRAND JUNCTION CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STA. CI 10P 24.5	Oct 6 1979 Oct 7 1979 Pict Scene - Monument style rock
5	GRAND JCT. COLORADO (GRANJEX STATION) 8150 FY 11P 27.0/20.0	Oct 4 1980 Oct 5 1980 Pict Scene - 4 open bars; CDS is a double triangle superimposed on a double circle
6	GRAND JUNCTION CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STA CI 10P 26.0	Oct 3 1981 Oct 4 1981 Pict Scene - 5 star waving flag
7	GRAND JUNCTION CO. 81501 // GRANJEX STATION CI 10P 28.5	Apr 12 1986 Pict Scene - Stegosaurus to right of CDS
8	GRAND JUNCTION CO 81501 // GRANJEX 87 STATION CI 10P 29.0	Apr 12 1987 Pict Scene - Mesa outline; Text - GRAND MESA - WORLD'S / LARGEST FLATTOP MOUNTAIN / OVER 200 LAKES / SKIING-FISHING-HUNTING

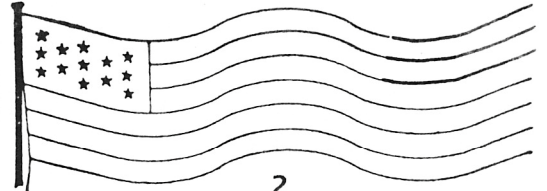
GRAND JUNCTION SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STATIONS – Continued  
GRANJEX STATION – Continued



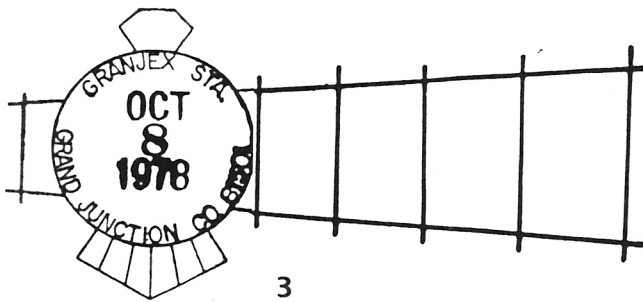
1



GRANJEX CENTURY III



2



3



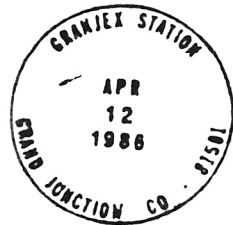
4



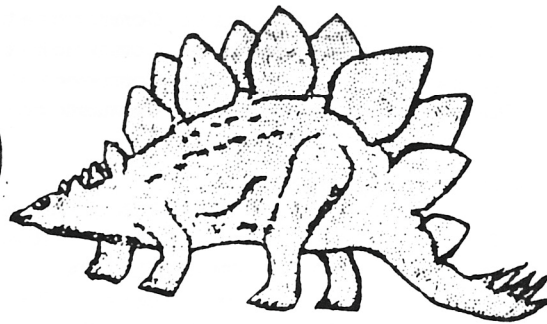
5



6



7

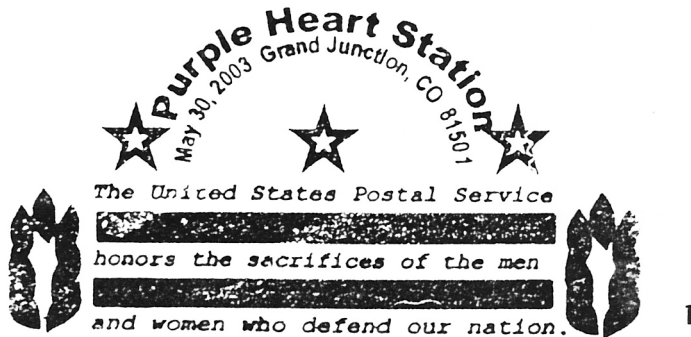


8





GRAND JUNCTION SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE STATIONS – Continued  
PURPLE HEART STATION – Continued



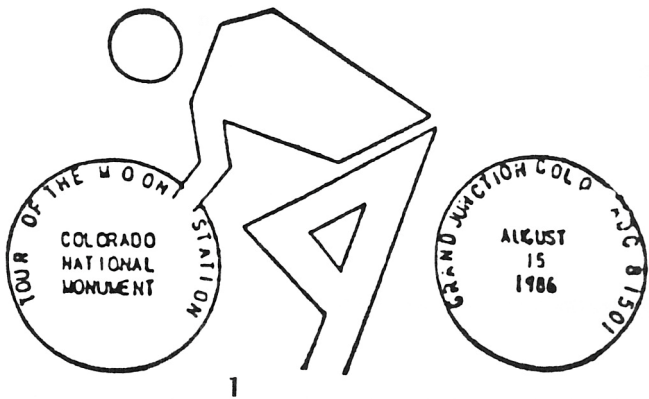
TOUR OF THE MOON STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 15 1986 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO 81501 :: TOUR OF THE MOON STATION Aug 15 1986  
CI 10P 27.5 Pict Scene - Stylized cyclist; Text - COLORADO / NATIONAL / MONUMENT



WAL\*MART STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Apr 17 1999 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 GRAND JUNCTION, CO / 81501 :: WAL\*MART / STATION Apr 17 1999  
10P 24.0 Pict Scene - Sylvester, Tweety, Daffy Duck, Bugs Bunny





**HAWXHURST**

Hawxhurst, at the junction of Grove Creek with Plateau Creek, was the first organized settlement in this portion of the Plateau Creek Valley. Settlement began in 1882 and when a post office was obtained, it took the family name of the first postmaster - George Hawxhurst. The Post Office Department records confirm that the proper spelling is Hawxhurst and not Hawkhurst or Hawhurst as spelled by some writers.

Hawxhurst developed adjacent to Grove Creek. Settlement was also taking place a little further to the east and by 1891 the competing settlement had become Collbran. Collbran would continue to develop and by 1892 had become the dominant settlement of the area. In January 1892 a post office opened in Collbran and in March of that year the Hawxhurst Post Office closed.

Initially Hawxhurst was the supply center for the farmers and ranchers of the Plateau Creek Valley. Soon Collbran assumed that role. Today Hawxhurst is a residential district along Colorado Highway 330 on the western edge of Collbran. There are several homes that likely date from the early days of settlement.

Latitude = 39:19:08 North Longitude = 107:53:32 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Aug 29 1882	---	Not surveyed Sketch map indicates it in Sec 35 Note: "I suggest George Hawxhurst for PM"; by David W. Parker Chief P.O. Inspector
Aug 25 1882		Hawxhurst, George
Aug 25 1882		Established
Mar 7 1888		Dunlap, Horace G.
Jan 14 1891		Hall, George H.
Jan 18 1892	---	NE/4 NW/4 Sec 35 T9S R95W 1/8 mile south of Plateau Creek 10 feet north of Grove Creek
Mar 3 1892		Discontinued Mail to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	HAWXHURST / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Sep 1 1890	Hstp Not present
---	----------------------------------	------------	------------------



1

**HEIBERGER**

The only mention of Heiberger that I have found in the literature states that it was, "A small settlement on Buzzard Creek, east of Collbran shown on a 1924 map." I suspect that the description as a settlement was generous and in reality Heiberger was little more than a ranch post office, perhaps with a small store to provide limited supplies to neighboring ranches.

The Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report that was submitted when the application for a post office was made proposed the name Linn. Linn was the family name of Caroline and Abraham Linn who were the first and second postmasters of Heiberger. The name Linn was rejected, perhaps because of its similarity to Linne in San Luis Obispo County, California.

**HEIBERGER – Continued**

From Collbran, drive east on what has become Mesa County Road 330E, to the junction with County Road 64.60. Stay on Road 330E for three miles. To the south of the highway there is an active ranch complex and some other buildings that I believe were the location of Heiberger.

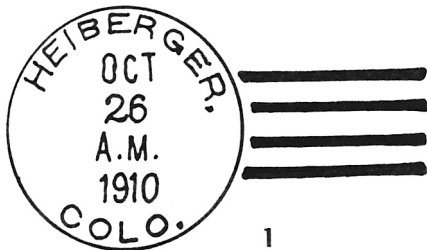
Latitude = 39:16:08 North Longitude = 107:48:06 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 22 1908 ---	SW/4 Sec 17 T9S R93W 500 feet north of Buzzard Creek Document submitted by Caroline Linn Proposed postmaster - John P. Harlow
Oct 30 1908	Established
Oct 30 1908	Linn, Caroline
Apr 8 1914	Linn, Abraham
Aug 7 1919	Johnson, Maggie M.
Jan 30 1922	Severson, J. Fletcher
Jan 28 1925	Ordered closed
Feb 14 1925	Discontinued Mail to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 HEIBERGER, / COLO. Oct 26 1910 Nov 25 1919  
CI 10P 31.5 4bars S-25x14mm



**HOPE**

In my study of the historical literature of Colorado I have found no mention of this place in Mesa County. Do not confuse this post office called Hope with the one in Lake County (1885-1890) that was renamed Snowden.

Hope was a rural post office; however there does appear to have been a loose community around the location. There was a school at the site of Hope-The Little Creek School. The surrounding countryside is best suited for livestock and today there are ranch buildings, old and new along the road.

From the site of Bernard continue east on Road KK.00 a half-mile to Mesa County Road 58.00. Turn north and go two and three-tenths miles to Road ME.00. Go east on Road ME.00 a mile and a half to Road 59.7 (to the south). Hope was located in the vicinity of this road junction. The Little Creek School was a short distance east of the junction on the north side of Road ME.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

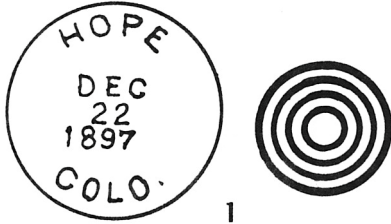
Mar 14 1896 ---	SE/4 Sec 12 T10S R95W One half mile west of Grove Creek Proposed postmaster - John McGlothain
Apr 22 1896	Established
Apr 22 1896	McGlothain, John
Jan 27 1898	Tower, Joseph D.
Dec 9 1899	Williams, Edward P.
Mar 3 1900	Discontinued Papers to Collbran

**HOPE – Continued****Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 HOPE / COLO.  
CI 10P 28.0

Dec 22 1897 Oct 18 1898

Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm

**IONIA**

This post office was established in 1898 as Copper. I have found no historical information about either Copper or Ionia.

Please refer to the discussion of Copper for a description of the location, a possible reason for its existence and directions to the site.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 20 1898	--	Not reported	Unsurveyed	100 yards north of East Creek	[This report was filed for Copper]
		Proposed postmaster - John W. Bidwell			
Mar 2 1899		Formerly named Copper			
Mar 2 1899		Brown, Jennie E.	Declined		
May 5 1899		Blaisdell, Francis E.			
Oct 1 1899		Discontinued Papers to Whitewater			

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM IONIA**

**JONES**

This post office was located along the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad and on the north side of the Gunnison River a short distance west of where Dominguez Creek enters the Gunnison River from the west.

When the post office was requested the suggested names were Elizabeth or Parker. Neither of those was acceptable, as there were already post offices with those names in Colorado. The office was named Jones, the family name of the postmaster.

For two months the post office operated under the name of Jones but in late May, for some reason the name was changed to Arlington and was moved to the south side of the river.

I have found no mention of Jones in the historical literature of Colorado and only a brief mention of Arlington. That post office lasted for little more than a year. It is also odd that the nearby railroad siding was, and still is, known as Bridgeport.

To reach this location start at the intersection of Mesa County Road 39.50 and US Highway 50, one mile north of the Montrose-Delta County line. This dirt road follows Deer Creek down to the Gunnison River. At the railroad turn left. You will be able to drive along the railroad and the river for about one mile before coming to a bridge and a securely locked gate. On the south side of the river there is a wide meadow and some well-maintained farm and ranch buildings. I believe that was the location of Arlington. At the point where Road 39.50 reaches the river and the railroad there are a couple of small brick structures related to the railroad. Jones may have been at or near there.



**JONES – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 7 1883	---	Unsurveyed 100 yards north of the Gunnison River 1/4 mile west of Dominguez Creek Proposed postmaster - Francis M. Jones NOTE: "This point, Bridgeport (on the D.& R.G.Ry) is located on the Gunnison river 1/4 mile west (by rail) of where the Dominguez enters the Gunnison."
Apr 3 1883		Established
Apr 3 1883		Jones, Arthur C.
May 25 1883		Name changed to Arlington

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM JONES**

**KANNAH**

Kannah was a small station on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad located where Kannah Creek joins the Gunnison River. Other than that brief description I have found no other information about Kannah.

The Kannah Post Office existed during the final stages of construction of the railroad from Gunnison to Grand Junction. That leads me to the conclusion that it was a temporary facility to serve the railroad construction crews. When construction moved on the post office was no longer needed.

I have made a couple of attempts to get to the site of Kannah. Although the name appears on the 1975 USGS Mesa County Topographic Map (Sheet 2) and there are "roads" shown on the map, I have been unable to get to the location or to even look down on the site. It might be possible to reach the location by hiking about three and a half miles up the Gunnison River along the railroad, from Whitewater. I doubt there is anything to be seen at the site.

Latitude = 38:56:21 North Longitude = 108:26:47 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 12 1882	---	SW/4 Sec 32 T2N R2E Ute is 12 miles northwesterly 3 miles north of the Gunnison River On the south bank of Kannah Creek The sketch map confirms this relationship. [Document filed under Gunnison County] Proposed postmaster - James Henry Tappan [SRM: T-R given in site report seems to be in error. USGS 1972 Whitewater topographical map gives location as NE/4 Sec 10 T2S R1E. This is at overlap with the Ute Meridian. Best available location data that fits from Google Earth is 38:56:21N 108:26:47W]
Jun 29 1882		Established
Jun 29 1882		Tappan, James H.
Sep 11 1882		Discontinued Mail to Grand Junction

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM KANNAH**

**LEON**

In my reading of Colorado historical literature I have found no reference to a place with the name of Leon.

There is a Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report for Leon. Also, the initial Site Location Report for Crawford in Delta County, which is dated three days after the one for Leon, appears to indicate that the preferred name for that town was Leon.

### **LEON – Continued**

The difficulty with connecting this Leon to Crawford is that the geographic descriptions do not fit. From the reference to Plateau Creek, Leon would have to be on the north side of Grand Mesa and in Mesa County - but where?

Louis N. Shanks was the second and final, postmaster for Leon during its four-month existence. From 1893 to 1898, Lewis N. Shanks was the postmaster at DeBeque. This was probably the same person but provides no clue as to the location of Leon.

Another factor in this mystery is that a short distance downstream from the Vega Reservoir, Plateau Creek is joined by Leon Creek. Perhaps Leon was near this junction, which would to some extent, fit with the Post Office Department Site Location.

For some reason, now forgotten, I had believed that Leon was on top Grand Mesa in the vicinity of the later Skyway Post Office. That no longer seems possible and thus puts Leon in the group of "location unknown" Colorado post offices.

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Mar 20 1883</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>1/4 mile south of Plateau Creek 15 miles south of the Grand River Proposed postmaster - Charles L. King</b>
<b>Apr 13 1883</b>		<b>Established</b>
<b>Apr 13 1883</b>		<b>King, Charles L.</b>
<b>Jun 28 1883</b>		<b>Shanks, Louis N.</b>
<b>Aug 3 1883</b>		<b>Discontinued Mail to Grand Junction</b>

### **Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM LEON**

### **LOMA**

In 1901 a post office with the name of Mainard was opened at this location. On August 2, 1905 the post office name was changed to Loma bringing it in line with the name of the village. The town was platted in 1910 with the impressive name of Orchard Town of Loma, and legally that is still the official name. Loma is a Spanish word meaning "hillock."

Loma was, and still is, a small community with an economy based on agriculture. Irrigation from the Colorado River allows farming near the river and there are fruit orchards in the area. Further away from the river the land is given over to raising livestock.

The Denver and Rio Grande Railroad served the community. US Highway 6 runs thru the town and Interstate 70 is a mile to the south of Loma. Access from the Interstate is at Exit 15.

There are some small businesses in Loma but it is more residential than commercial. In 1997 the abandoned Loma General Store was an impressive relic. From at least 1975 to 1997 the post office has occupied a small stand-alone building on US Highway 6.

Latitude = 39:11:45 North Longitude = 108:48:45 West

### **Chronology of the Post Office**

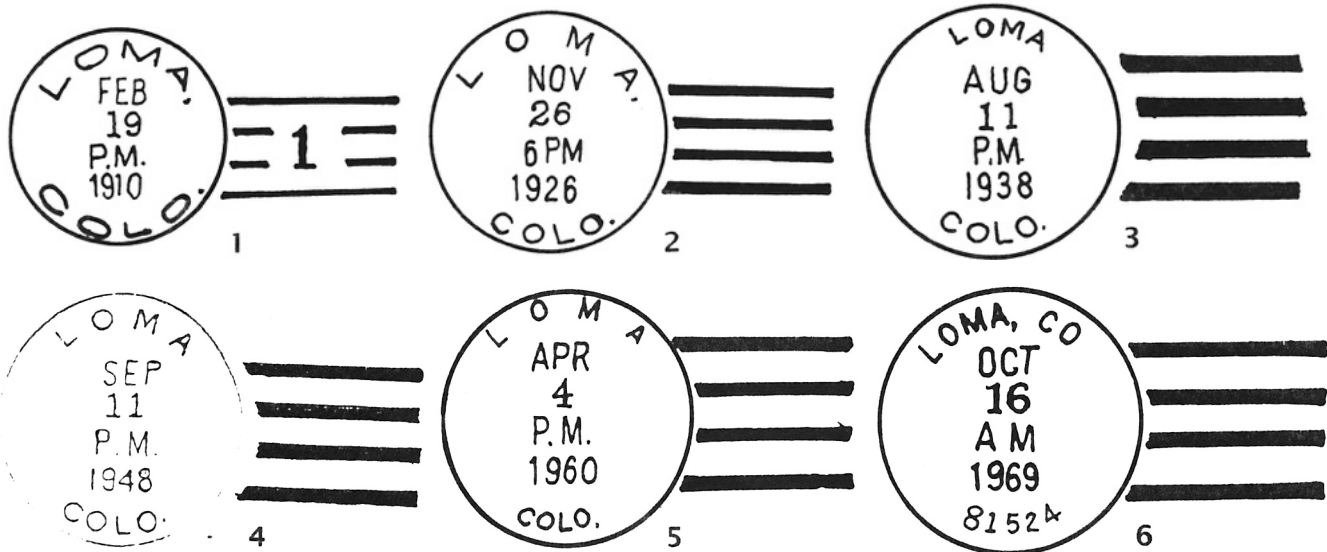
<b>Aug 2 1905</b>		<b>Formerly named Mainard</b>
<b>Aug 2 1905</b>		<b>Jacob, Ira N.</b>
<b>Apr 2 1906</b>		<b>Galyear, Samuel</b>
<b>May 21 1908</b>		<b>Brumbaugh, David M.</b>
<b>Dec 11 1911</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>SW/4 Sec 34 T2N R3W 1-3/4 miles west of Big Salt Wash</b>
<b>May 12 1914</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>SE/4 Sec 33 T2N R3W 1-1/4 mile west of Little Salt Wash</b>
<b>Jan 31 1919</b>		<b>Elliott, Nettie</b>
<b>Jan 1 1924</b>		<b>Office made Presidential</b>

**LOMA - Continued**

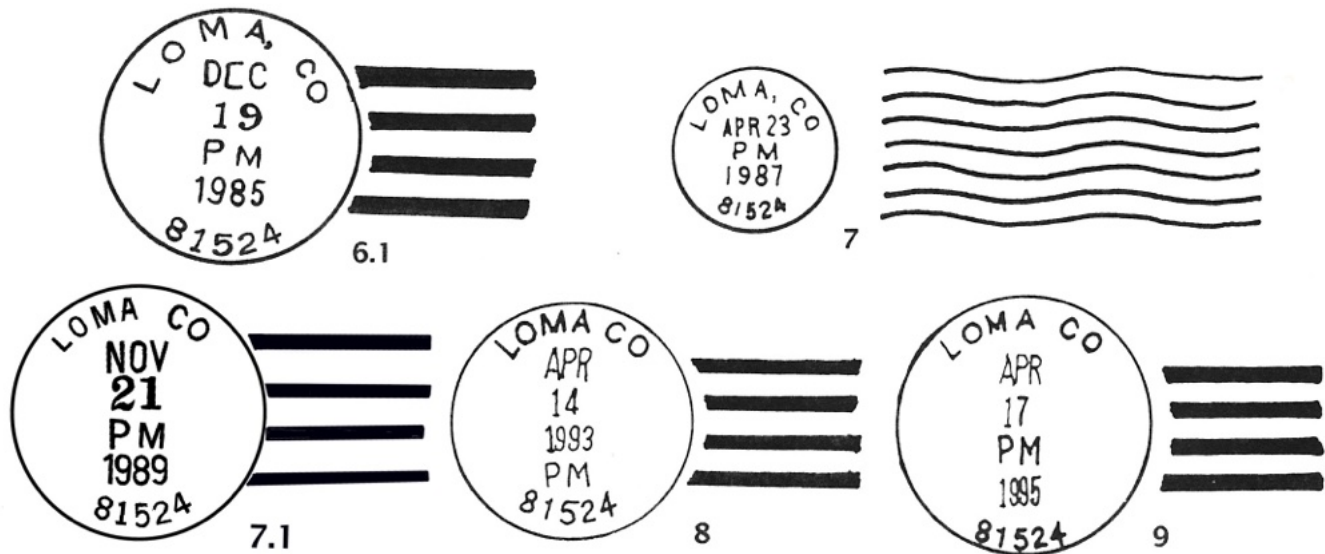
Mar 1 1924	Elliott, Nettie	P&S
Jul 1 1924		Office relegated
Aug 12 1924	Elliott, Nettie	
Mar 7 1927	Durham, Fay R.	Acting
Apr 29 1927	Durham, Fay R.	Confirmed
Jun 25 1927	Durham, Fay R.	Commissioned
Oct 30 1941 ---	SE/4 Sec 33 T2N R3W	
Apr 30 1954	Vanlandingham, Beatrice L.	Assumed charge
Jun 15 1954	Vanlandingham, Beatrice L.	Acting
May 20 1955	Vanlandingham, Beatrice L.	Confirmed
Jun 17 1955	Vanlandingham, Beatrice L.	Commissioned
Jun 30 1955	Vanlandingham, Beatrice L.	Assumed charge
Jul 1 1956		Office made Presidential
Aug 25 1975	Armour, Carolyn D.	Officer in charge
Nov 22 1975	Wells, Mrs. N. Laurene	Appointed

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	LOMA, / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Doane Type 3, with 1	Nov 7 1905 Feb 19 1910
2	LOMA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-22x13mm, wide spaced letters	Apr 24 1913 May 3 1938
3	LOMA / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Aug 11 1938 Jul 8 1947
4	LOMA / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Jun 21 1948 Sep 11 1948
5	LOMA / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Apr 6 1959 Oct 28 1963
6	LOMA, CO / 81524 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Oct 16 1969 May 4 1976
6.1	LOMA, CO / 81524 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Dec 19 1985
7	LOMA, CO / 81524 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jan 30 1987 Apr 23 1987
7.1	LOMA CO / 81524 CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-23x20mm	Jun 3 1989 Nov 21 1989
8	LOMA CO / 81524 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x17mm	Apr 14 1993 May 29 1993
9	LOMA CO / 81524 CI 10P 33.5	4bars S-20x16mm	Apr 17 1995



## LOMA – Continued



## MACK

Construction on the Uintah Railway began in January 1904. The town of Mack was created to house workers on the new railroad that was to connect the Denver and Rio Grande Railway to the gilsonite mines in the vicinity of Watson, Utah.

John W. Mack, for whom the town was named, was the president of the Barber Asphalt Company and the builder of the railroad. Gilsonite is a natural form of asphalt that was mined in Utah and processed at a refinery near Fruita.

The railroad ceased operations in May 1939. Mack has continued to exist with a number of residences and a few small businesses.

My first visit to Mack was in 1972. At that time the post office was in a building that was half post office and half residence. By 1997 the post office had moved to its own building, one of fair size for a small community.

Mack is on US Highway 6, with access from Interstate 70 at Exit 11. At this point US 6 joins Interstate 70 and US 50 going west to Utah. The old highway continues west from Mack as Mesa County Road 80 towards the site of Excelsior. Mack is also a starting point for a trip north to Atchee in Garfield County.

Latitude = 39:13:26 North Longitude = 108:51:52 West

## Chronology of the Post Office

Apr 1 1904	---	SW/4 Sec 19 T2N R3W Ute Meridian 3 miles east of West Salt Creek Proposed postmaster - William Albert Chapman
Apr 21 1904		Established
Apr 21 1904		Chapman, William A.
Apr 27 1906		Mitchell, Thomas L.
Nov 2 1906		Kennedy, Frank A.
May 5 1911		Baird, Fred B.
Apr 23 1914	---	SW/4 Sec 19 T2N R103 Salt Lake Meridian (??) [SRM: SL Meridian used in Utah] 1-1/4 miles west of East Salt Creek 120 feet east of D&RG tracks
Mar 20 1918		Wesner, John E.
Oct 10 1919		Lumpkin, James C. Declined

**MACK – Continued**

Mar 12 1920 ---	SW/4 Sec 19 T2N R3W 550 feet north of D&RG and Uintah tracks	
Mar 18 1920	Baird, Blanche I.	
Apr 21 1921	Boyden, Sarah W.	Appointed
May 6 1921	Boyden, Sarah W.	Commissioned
Jul 1 1921	Boyden, Sarah W.	Possession
Jul 1 1928		Office made Presidential
Dec 12 1928	Boyden, Sarah W.	P&S
Jul 1 1930		Office relegated
Jul 11 1930	Boyden, Sarah W.	Confirmed
Jul 25 1930	Boyden, Sarah W.	Commissioned
Jul 31 1930	Boyden, Sarah W.	Assumed charge
Feb 1 1940	Phillips, Clyde	Assumed charge
Feb 13 1940	Phillips, Clyde	Acting
Jul 19 1940	Smith, Mrs. Alta B.	Appointed
Aug 6 1940	Smith, Mrs. Alta B.	Commissioned
Aug 18 1940	Smith, Mrs. Alta B.	Possession
Oct 22 1941 ---	SW/4 Sec 19 T2N R3W	
Aug 31 1971	Likes, Mrs. Delores I.	Officer in charge
Dec 11 1971	Likes, Mrs. Delores I.	Appointed
Dec 11 1971	Likes, Mrs. Delores I.	Possession



**Mack, Colorado – Street scene along the former grade of the Uintah Railway  
Photograph by James L. Ozment  
September 20, 1998**

MACK – Continued

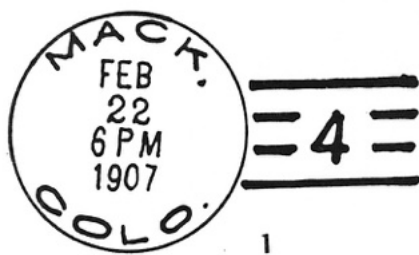


MACK, / COLO.

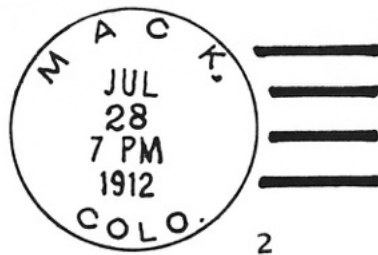
April 3, 1906

Confirmed types of postal markings

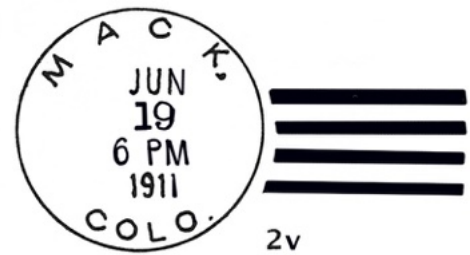
1	MACK, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3 with 4	Apr 3 1906 Aug 19 1909
2	MACK, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Jul 28 1912 Mar 13 1917
2.v	MACK, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x14mm	Jun 19 1911
3	MACK / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Bars placed differently Sep 27 1938 Dec 3 1962
4	MACK, CO / 81525 CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Nov 12 1965
5	MACK, CO / 81525 CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-24x18mm	Apr 30 1971 Oct 7 1987
6	MACK, CO / 81525 CI 10P 23.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	May 16 1989 Apr 13 1993
7	MACK CO / 81525 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-22x17mm	Oct 18 1991 May 29 1993
8	MACK CO / 81525 CI 11P 30.5/21.5	Hstp No killer	Jun 28 2005



1

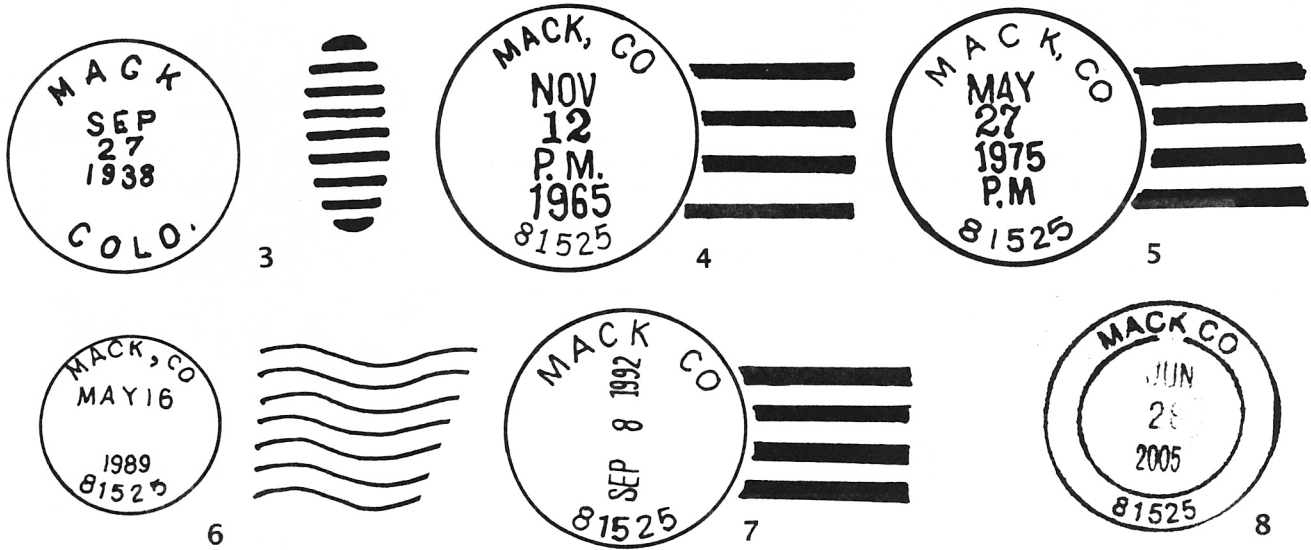


2



2v

**MACK – Continued**



**COUNTRY JAM STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 23 1994 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 MACK, CO 81525 // COUNTRY JAM STATION Jun 23 1994  
SL 00R 50.0x25.0 Pict Scene - Emblem at left; Text -  
COUNTRY / JAM with mountain profile

**COUNTRY JAM STATION**



JUN 23 1994

MACK, CO 81525

1

**MAINARD**

Three other names were suggested for this post office - Davis, Turner and Kiefer. The one chosen, Mainard, was the name of the first postmaster - Ethyl B. Mainard. The community was founded about 1900. It must not have been a thriving place as the Mainard Post Office was closed from October 1902 to January 1905 when it was re-opened. From the October 1904 Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report the village was known as Loma but when the post office re-opened in January 1905 it was with the previous name of Mainard. In August 1905 the post office name was changed to Loma.

Mainard was located in a region devoted to farming and raising livestock. Please refer to the discussion of Loma for addition details about this place.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Apr 15 1901 --- Center Sec 33 T2N R3W 250 feet north of D&RG track
- May 24 1901 Established
- May 24 1901 Mainard, B. Ethyl

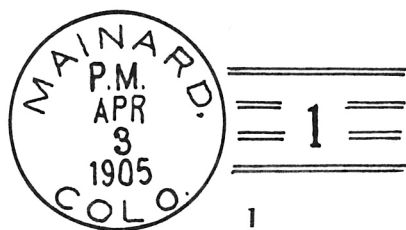
**MAINARD – Continued**

Sep 26 1902	Ordered closed
Oct 15 1902	Discontinued Papers to Fruita
Oct 3 1904	--- SE/4 Sec 33 T2N R3W 4 rods north of D&RG Station Village known as LOMA Proposed postmaster – Ira N. Jacob [SRM: Listed as Postmaster at Loma after name changed to Loma]
Jan 6 1905	Re-established
Jan 6 1905	Jacob, Ira N.
Aug 2 1905	Name changed to Loma

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 MAINARD, / COLO.  
CI 10P 28.5

Apr 3 1905 Jun 23 1905  
Doane Type 2 with 1, S-24x14mm

**MESA (I)**

Mesa was the first settlement and post office at what soon became the town of Fruita. In 1883 William E. Pabor selected the site and began promoting the area as a good region for growing fruit.

The name was a reference to the mesas that border the Colorado River Valley and to the name of the county. Less than a year after the post office was established, the name was changed to Fruita. Please refer to the discussion of that community for the subsequent history of this location.

The location of Mesa (I) was on the western edge of Fruita in the area south of Otley Road and west of Mesa County Road 17.00.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 26 1883	--- NE/4 Sec 18 T1N R2W 3/4 mile north of Grand River On east side of Salt Creek 80 rods north of D&RG tracks Proposed postmaster - George L. Steele
Apr 12 1883	Established
Apr 12 1883	Steele, George L.
Nov 14 1883	Lane, Squire G.
Mar 4 1884	Name changed to Fruita

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM MESA (I)

**MESA (II)**

The early sites of the Mesa Post Office were two miles south of the present day community of Mesa. Both of those locations were on the east side of Mesa Creek, as is the present site.

In 1887 Archie R. Craig is credited with taking up a 100-acre homestead on what would become the site of Mesa. It is not clear whether his homestead was at the present site or at one of the earlier sites. Mr. Craig was the Mesa postmaster in 1892, after the post office was reported to be in Section 5 (1891). A location in present day Mesa was not reported until 1914, therefore I believe Mr. Craig's homestead was south of modern Mesa.



**MESA (II) – Continued**

Mesa was one of several communities that developed on the northern slopes of Grand Mesa. The countryside is best suited for livestock but along the valley of Plateau Creek and its tributaries there is land suitable for farming. Fruit orchards also developed in those areas.

Today Mesa is an attractive, small community of residences and small businesses. It serves the surrounding ranches and farms and is a supply center for campers and others participating in outdoor activities on Grand Mesa.

In 1972 the Mesa Post Office was in an annex to a private residence. By 1999 the post office had moved to a stand-alone building of typical small post office architecture.

Mesa is located on Colorado Highway 65, twelve miles from Exit 49 on Interstate 70. From Mesa continue south two miles on Colorado 65 to Mesa County Road IE and go west to Road 48.50. At the end of Road IE there is a well-kept ranch complex situated on an area of relatively level ground. This would have been the 1891 site of Mesa. Road IE turns north and a short distance from the turn there is a large, white house and the remnants of several buildings. I have assigned the 1887 location of Mesa to this ranch.

Return to Colorado 65 and go south to the top of Grand Mesa and the location of Skyway.

Latitude = 39:09:59 North Longitude = 108:08:18 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

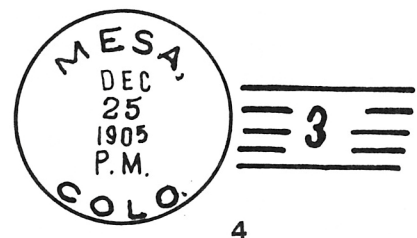
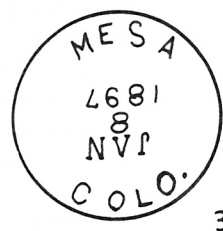
<b>Apr 29 1887</b>	<b>Established</b>	
<b>Apr 28 1887</b>	<b>Bannister, William H.</b>	
<b>Jun 24 1887</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>/4 Sec 31 T10S R96W On east side of Mesa Creek</b>
		<b>Proposed postmaster - William Henry Bannister</b>
<b>Jul 11 1887</b>	<b>Bannister, William H.</b>	
<b>Dec 15 1890</b>	<b>Cook, Mariner</b>	
<b>May 5 1891</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NW/4 Sec 5 T11S R96W 250 feet east of Mesa Creek</b>
<b>Aug 29 1892</b>	<b>Craig, Archie R.</b>	
<b>Jun 19 1893</b>	<b>McGeoch, Joseph</b>	
<b>Dec 13 1895</b>	<b>Rogers, Henry K.</b>	
<b>May 6 1899</b>	<b>Bales, George W.</b>	
<b>Feb 11 1901</b>	<b>Utterbach, Clyde E.</b>	
<b>May 28 1902</b>	<b>Carr, Firzah T.</b>	
<b>Dec 10 1904</b>	<b>Prewett, Lee L.</b>	
<b>Apr 28 1914</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NE/4 Sec 30 T10S R96W 600 feet east of Mesa Creek</b>
<b>Sep 10 1914</b>	<b>Moss, William S.</b>	
<b>Feb 1 1919</b>	<b>Dyer, William C.</b>	<b>Declined</b>
<b>Jun 11 1919</b>	<b>Moss, Shipley H.</b>	
<b>Apr 1 1922</b>		<b>Office made Presidential</b>
<b>Apr 1 1922</b>	<b>Utterback, Talitha</b>	<b>Acting</b>
<b>Aug 26 1922</b>	<b>Utterback, Talitha</b>	<b>P&amp;S</b>
<b>Jan 17 1927</b>	<b>Utterback, Talitha</b>	<b>P&amp;S</b>
<b>Jul 1 1927</b>		<b>Office relegated</b>
<b>Jul 1 1927</b>	<b>Utterback, Mrs. Talitha B.</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Aug 2 1927</b>	<b>Utterback, Mrs. Talitha B.</b>	<b>Commissioned</b>
<b>Oct 21 1941</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NE/4 Sec 30 (map says 29) T10N R96W On east side of highway 65</b>
		<b>Colorado Highway 65 is on the line between sections 29 and 30.</b>
		<b>If the post office was on the east side of the highway, it would be in the NW/4 of section 29.</b>
<b>Jul 1 1945</b>		<b>Presidential</b>
<b>Sep 26 1945</b>	<b>Utterback, Mrs. Talitha B.</b>	<b>Nominated</b>
<b>Oct 29 1945</b>	<b>Utterback, Mrs. Talitha B.</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>Oct 30 1945</b>	<b>Utterback, Mrs. Talitha B.</b>	<b>Appt'd. Presid. &amp; Commissioned</b>
<b>Jul 1 1947</b>		<b>Relegated</b>

## MESA (II) – Continued

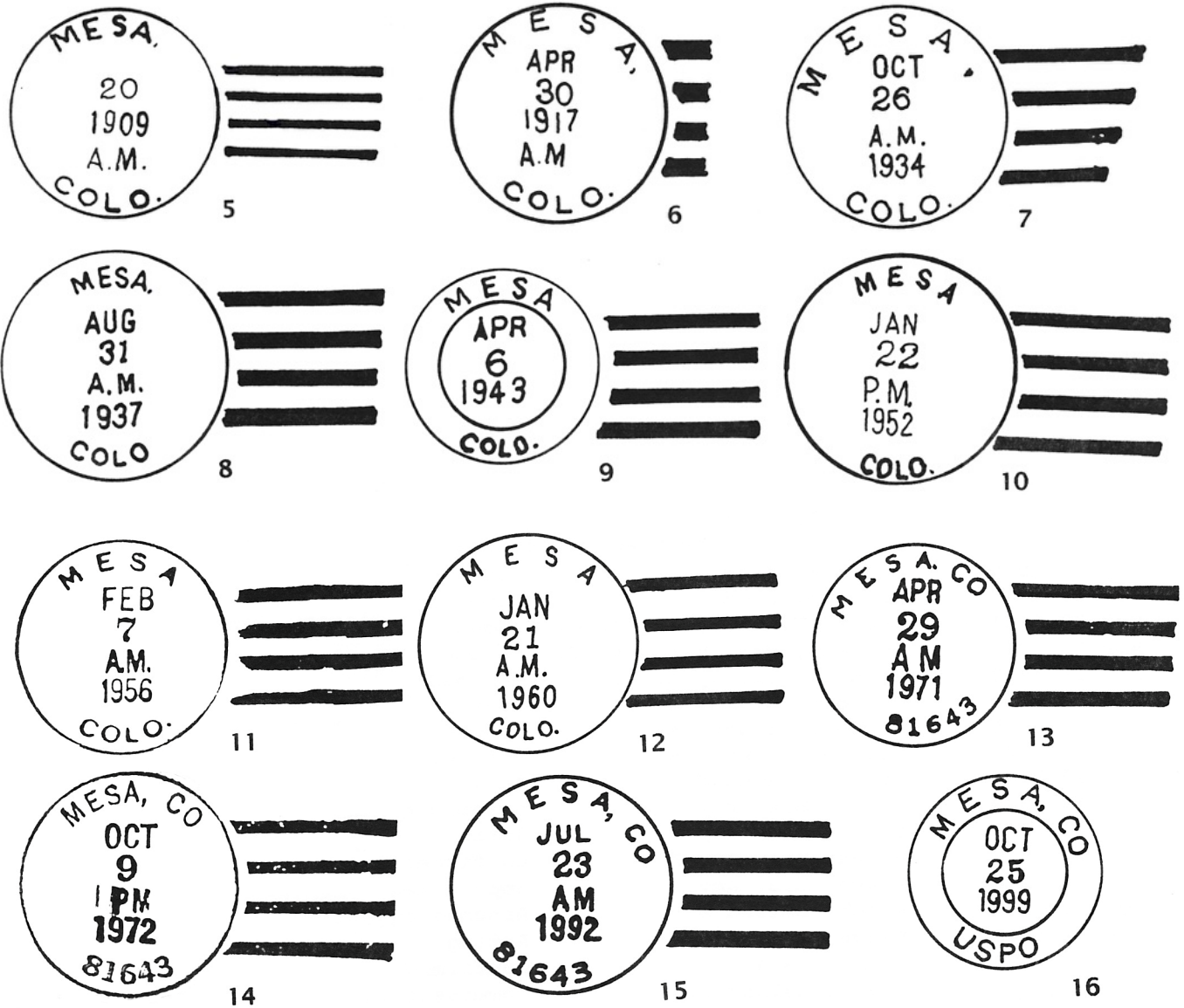
Aug 31 1947	Severson, Mrs. Addah L.	Assumed charge
Sep 21 1948	Severson, Mrs. Addah L.	Confirmed
Nov 2 1948	Severson, Mrs. Addah L.	
Jul 31 1954	Wyatt, Helen M.	Assumed charge
Aug 17 1954	Wyatt, Helen M.	Acting
Jan 27 1955	Wyatt, Helen M.	Confirmed
Feb 23 1955	Wyatt, Helen M.	Commissioned
Jul 1 1965		Office made Presidential
Jul 31 1975	Thornberg, Ms Carolyn B.	Officer in charge
Nov 22 1975	Crosby, Eldon L.	Appointed

## Confirmed types of postal markings

1	MESA, COLO. CI 20F 32.0/29.5	Hstp Not present	Jan 28 1888- Nov 3 1888
2	MESA / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring	Aug 27 1889 Jan 16 1894
3	MESA / COLO. CI 10P 27.5	Hstp Smudge	Jan 8 1897 Jan 31 1900
4	MESA, / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Doane Type 1 with 3,	Aug 11 1904 Feb 10 1909
5	MESA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x14mm	S-22x12mm Jun 29 1909 Jun 13 1911
6	MESA, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Apr 30 1917
7	MESA, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-??x20mm	Oct 26 1934 Feb 19 1936
8	MESA, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Aug 31 1937 Dec 20 1948
9	MESA / COLO. CI 11P 29.0/19.0	4bars S-22x19mm	Apr 6 1943
10	MESA / COLO. CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Jan 22 1952
11	MESA / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Feb 7 1956 Jun 17 1958
12	MESA / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jan 21 1960
13	MESA, CO / 81643 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Oct 16 1969 Aug 17 1977
14	MESA, CO / 81643 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Nov 4 1971 May 29 1990
15	MESA, CO / 81643 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Jul 23 1992 May 29 1993
16	MESA, CO / USPO CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Oct 25 1999 Jun 19 2001



**MESA (II) – Continued**



**MOLINA**

The community of Molina came into existence in the mid-1890's. It was centered around a flour mill on Cottonwood Creek, a short distance south of where that creek joins Plateau Creek. The name Molina is Spanish for "mill."

A post office was opened in early 1895 and lasted until September 1896 when it was discontinued. Four months later a post office reopened in the community but with the name Snipes, for the new postmaster John Snipes. The post office would continue to operate under that name until May 1906 when the name was changed to Molina, re-establishing the original name.

Molina is in an area of mixed agricultural pursuits. Grain is raised in the valley and there are fruit orchards. The slopes away from the valley are ranchland and there has been an active timber industry in the area.

**MOLINA – Continued**

The town of Molina sits scattered on the hillside south of Colorado Highway 330, where Mesa County Road KE.00 curves down to join Colorado 330. In 1972 the post office was in a two-story gray brick building that was also a combination store and Texaco gas station. In 1999 the post office was the sole occupant of a small, white, frame building a short distance downhill from the 1972 location.

Latitude = 39:11:21 North Longitude = 108:03:35 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 29 1895	---	NW/4 Sec 13 T10S R96W 1/4 mile south of Plateau River 100 yards north of Cottonwood Creek Proposed postmaster - Francis E. Jamison Applicant for postmaster - Roy Raymond Sisac
Apr 25 1895		Established
Apr 25 1895		Jamison, Francis E.
Sep 1 1896		Discontinued Mail to Mesa (II)
May 3 1906		Name changed from Snipes
May 3 1906		Skinner, Stewart C.
Oct 6 1906	---	NW/4 Sec 13 T10N R96W 1/2 mile south of Plateau Creek 20 rods east of Cottonwood Creek
Oct 15 1908		Harsh, Elmer L.
Feb 4 1909		Cole, George I.
Mar 4 1910		Skinner, Courtland H.
Jun 10 1914		Lasswell, Emma H.
Jul 11 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 13 T10N R96W 1/8 mile west of Cottonwood Creek
Sep 3 1920		De Camp, Fred Confirmed
Sep 20 1920		De Camp, Fred Commissioned
Oct 28 1941	---	Sec 13 T10N R96W 1/2 mile south of Plateau Creek
Apr 16 1946		De Camp, Mrs. Marjorie E. Assumed charge
Feb 15 1948		Nichols, Sidney A. Jr. Assumed charge
Jul 1 1948		Nichols, Sidney A. Jr. Confirmed
Dec 9 1948		Nichols, Sidney A. Jr. Appointment rescinded
Feb 19 1949		Branson, Howard E. Assumed charge
Mar 10 1949		Branson, Howard E. Acting
Apr 13 1949		Brown, Mrs. Amy E. Assumed charge
Apr 27 1949		Brown, Mrs. Amy E. Acting
Jul 19 1949		Brown, Mrs. Amy E. Confirmed
Aug 30 1949		Brown, Mrs. Amy E. Appointment rescinded
Oct 11 1949		Peugh, Leland M. Assumed charge
Oct 24 1949		Peugh, Leland M. Acting
Jan 31 1950		Peugh, Leland M. Confirmed
Mar 10 1950		Peugh, Leland M. Commissioned
Apr 24 1951		Walker, Mrs. Mabel C. Possession
May 10 1951		Walker, Mrs. Mabel C. Acting
May 25 1951		Walker, Mrs. Mabel C. Confirmed
Jun 26 1951		Walker, Mrs. Mabel C. Commissioned
Oct 18 1971		Brooke, Mrs. Pauline N. Clerk in charge
Dec 11 1971		Brooke, Mrs. Pauline N. Appointed & Possession
May 31 1979		Battison, Barbara Officer in charge
May 3 1980		Battison, Barbara Appointed

**MOLINA – Continued**



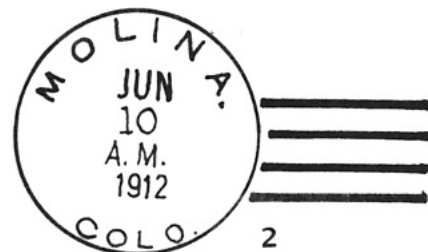
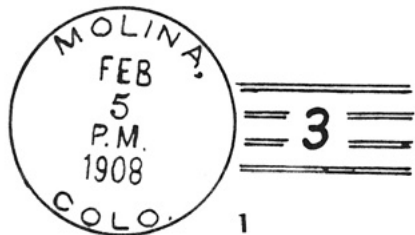
**Post Office – Molina, Colorado**

Photograph by William H. Bauer

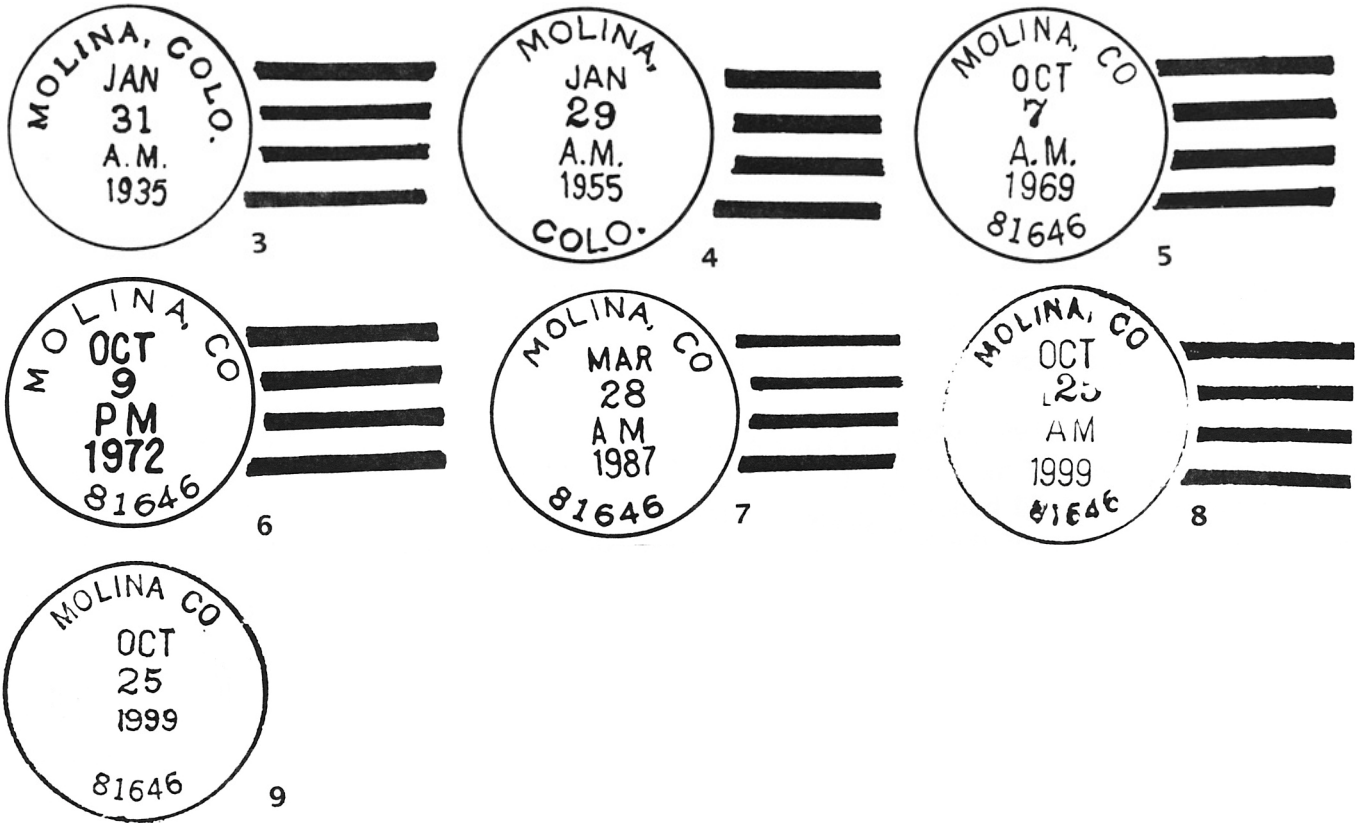
October 25, 1999

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	MOLINA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 2 with 3	Feb 5 1908 Feb 10 1910
1.1	MOLINA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3 with 2, S-??x13mm	Jan 18 1910
2	MOLINA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-23x13mm	Jun 10 1912 Aug 31 1914
3	MOLINA, COLO. CI 10H 32.0	4bars P-24x20mm	Jan 31 1935 Mar 8 1943
4	MOLINA, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Jun 14 1949 Aug 29 1960
5	MOLINA, CO / 81646 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Oct 7 1969 Jul 12 1978
6	MOLINA, CO / 81646 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Oct 9 1972 Mar 11 1976
7	MOLINA, CO / 81646 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x18mm	Dec 30 1985 Nov 5 1987
8	MOLINA, CO / 81646 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jul 23 1992 Oct 25 1999
9	MOLINA CO / 81646 CI 10P 35.0	Hstp No killer	Oct 25 1999



## MOLINA – Continued



## MOUNTAINVALE

Mountainvale is another of the rural post offices that have escaped mention in the literature of Colorado history. Mountainvale was the first post office in the remote mesa country west of Grand Junction. I have no reason to suspect that Mountainvale was anything more than a ranch post office.

The Post Office Department Geographical Site Location Reports provide two locations for the Mountainvale Post Office. The 1894 location was only about three miles east of the Colorado-Utah border. Four years later the post office had moved about five miles east-northeast to a location on the Little Dolores River.

Begin at the Glade Park Store and continue west on Mesa County Road DS.00. It is six miles to Road 11.50, the side road to the Pine Bluff location. From that intersection, go west another three and a half miles to where the road makes a sharp turn from due west to south. The 1898 location of Mountainvale was to the west of this corner, on the south side of the Little Dolores River. The ruins of a couple buildings can be seen in distance.

The 1894 location is a bit difficult to ascertain. In 1997 when Jim Ozment and I visited the area we chose a location that is three and six-tenths miles east of the Colorado-Utah State line. On the north side of the road there is an occupied conglomeration of old buildings, shacks, trailers and other stuff. Because of an Italian flag that was displayed from one of the buildings, we designated this as the "Mountainvale Italian Community Center."

The trip from Grand Junction through Glade Park and on to the state line is a very scenic one. The climb through the Colorado National Monument to the mesa top is spectacular and the drive west to the border is through scenic valleys. At one point, about eight miles east of the state line, and between the sites of Mountainvale, there is a rock formation in the face of the cliffs north of the Little Dolores River that Jim and I named "The Fickle Finger of Fate" - look for it.

**MOUNTAINVALE – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 14 1894 ---	NE/4 Sec 3 T13S R104W On the north side of Coates Creek The sketch map places it between the road (north) to Grand Junction and Coates Creek (south) Proposed postmaster - Kittie E. Cooke
Sep 14 1894	Established
Sep 17 1894	Cooke, Kittie E.
Mar 31 1898	Sieber, Charles R.
Apr 10 1898 ---	NE/4 Sec 28 T12S R103W 200 feet south of the Little Dolores Creek/River The sketch map marks it in the NW/4 Sec 28
Apr 23 1903	Cooke, Thomas B.
Aug 14 1903	Ordered closed
Aug 31 1903	Discontinued Papers to Grand Junction

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM MOUNTAINVALE**

**ORSON**

I have encountered considerable confusion in establishing where this post office was located and its history relative to the other post offices in the area - Mesa, Snipes and Molina.

The brief historical sources I have found provide a couple of possibilities. One source equates Orson with Molina, more properly with Snipes. That source states that the post office was named for the postmaster, but when he was forced to leave town, the place and post office were renamed Snipes. However, no one named Orson appears in the lists of postmaster for either Orson or Snipes.

A second source places Orson at the junction of Mesa and Plateau Creeks. This does seem reasonable as the *1884 Post Route Map of the State of Colorado* and the *1885 Nell's Topographical & Township Map of the State of Colorado* both locate Orson at that junction. However they do not agree on which side of Mesa Creek to place Orson.

An undated Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report does not provide a definitive location. It places Orson "near and on the south side of Plateau Creek." How near is "near"? Accompanying the Site Location Report is a small-scale map that places Orson between Mesa and what I think is Grove Creeks. Because of the scale of the map it is not possible to select a specific location for Orson.

An 1888 report locates Orson, "2 miles south of Plateau Creek. The 1891 report places it three-quarters of a mile south of Plateau Creek. None of these reports makes mention of Mesa Creek.

Until attempting to reconcile this information, I had placed Orson where Mesa County Road KE.00 crosses Spring Creek. Such a location could agree with the aforementioned map that accompanies the Site Location Report. That location is a mile south of Plateau Creek, about midway between Mesa and Molina (Snipes) and there is an active ranch at the location. Road KE.00 goes east from the town of Mesa and wanders around the north slopes of "The Beehive."

The end result is that I cannot with confidence say where Orson was located. If the literature references are correct they would place Orson near the intersection of Colorado Highways 65 and 330.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Undated ---	Not reported Hawxhurst 30 miles easterly Grand Junction 40 miles southwesterly South of the Grand River, near and on south side of Plateau Creek [Document filed under Gunnison County]
Oct 3 1882	Established
Oct 3 1882	Parker, Milton E.
Aug 6 1883	Long, Mrs. Ella

**ORSON – Continued**

Aug 27 1883	Long, William H.
Dec 1 1884	Hampton, Alfred K.
Apr 19 1886	Nichols, Miss Nellie J.
Jun 16 1886	Hampton, Alfred K.
Sep 22 1888 ---	Unsurveyed 2 miles south of Plateau Creek
Dec 15 1890	Reed, Frank
Jun 23 1891 ---	NW/4 Sec 22 T10S R96W 3/4 mile south of Plateau Creek
Jun 20 1894	Discontinued Mail to Mesa (II)

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

0	ORSON / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Jun 27 1887 Hstp Pen cancel (I question if this is really 'ORSON' COLO.) [NOT ILLUSTRATED]
1	ORSON / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Nov 9 1888 Jan 21 1893 Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm

**PALISADE (PALISADES)**

This town was originally established in 1891 as Palisades. In 1924 the name was simplified to Palisade. The history of this community is described under Palisades. Postmasters and postmarks prior to November 1924 are also listed under Palisades.

Latitude = 39:06:37 North Longitude = 108:21:01 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Oct 17 1924 ---	SE/4 SE/4 SE/4 Sec 9 T11S R98W	
Nov 1 1924	Formerly spelled Palisades	
May 20 1926	Bancroft, Roswell H.	
Jun 17 1930	Bancroft, Roswell H.	Confirmed
Jul 3 1934	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Acting
Jul 16 1934	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Assumed charge
Jan 10 1935	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Nominated
Jan 21 1935	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Confirmed
Feb 19 1935	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Commissioned
May 12 1939	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Nominated
May 23 1939	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Confirmed & Appt'd & Presid.
Jun 8 1939	Mulvihill, Edward R.	Commissioned
Jul 29 1940	Mulvihill, Mrs. Vida A.	Acting
Aug 1 1940	Mulvihill, Mrs. Vida A.	Assumed charge
Mar 20 1941	Huber, Michael C.	Nominated
Apr 1 1941	Huber, Michael C.	Confirmed
Apr 5 1941	Huber, Michael C.	Appointed Presidential
Apr 18 1941	Huber, Michael C.	Commissioned
Apr 22 1941	Huber, Michael C.	Assumed charge
Oct 24 1941 ---	Main St. between 3rd & 2nd	
Feb 28 1962	Hurst, Kermit R.	Assumed charge



**PALISADE – Continued**

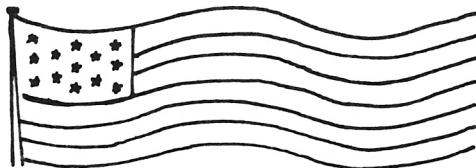
Mar 12 1962	Hurst, Kermit R.	Acting
Jul 25 1963	Hurst, Kermit R.	Confirmed
Jul 26 1963	Hurst, Kermit R.	Commissioned
Aug 10 1963	Hurst, Kermit R.	Assumed charge
Mar 1 1976	Blair, Mrs. Blanche L.	Officer in charge
Sep 23 1976	Armour, Ms Carolyn D.	Officer in charge
Nov 6 1976	Armour, Ms Carolyn D.	Appointed

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1   | PALISADE , / COLO.<br>CI 10P 22.0                  | Apr 12 1926<br>Flag 13 star waving flag; The "S" of Palisades has been removed to create this device    |
| 2   | PALISADE / COLO.<br>CI 10P 26.0                    | Sep 19 1929 Aug 13 1952<br>Dplx Grid, oval with # and circle  |
| 3   | PALISADE, / COLO.<br>CI 10P 21.0                   | Feb 9 1933 Oct 5 1963<br>Mach 7 wavy lines  |
| 4   | PALISADE / COLO.<br>CI 11P 29.0/18.0               | May 11 1956<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 5   | PALISADE / COLO.<br>CI 10P 21.0                    | Nov 21 1956<br>4bars S-??x18mm  |
| 5.1 | <b>Palisade / COLO</b><br><b>RC 10P 37.0x17.5</b>  | <b>1950s</b><br><b>Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box style</b><br><b>[NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION]</b> |
| 6   | PALISADE, CO / 81526<br>CI 10P 31.0                | Nov 13 1971 Oct 24 1973<br>4bars S-24x18mm  |
| 7   | PALISADE, CO 81526<br>CI 10P 21.0                  | Jun 8 1966 Aug 10 1976<br>Mach 7 wavy lines   |
| 8   | PALISADE, COLO. / USPO<br>CI 11P 30.0/19.0         | Mar 4 1988 Apr 15 1993<br>Hstp No killer  |
| 9   | PALISADE, CO / USPO<br>CI 11P 29.0/19.0            | Apr 15 1988<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 10  | PALISADE, CO / 81826<br>CI 10P 33.0                | Jul 23 1992<br>4bars S-25x19mm  |
| 11  | PALISADE CO 81826 / USPS<br>CI 11P 28.0/18.0       | Apr 15 1993 May 29 1993<br>Hstp No killer   |
| 12  | PALISADE CO 81826 / USPS<br>CI 10P 37.0            | Jun 29 2005<br>Hstp No killer, Bridge style, with partial arcs  |
| 13  | PALISADE CO / USPS-81526<br>CI 10P 33.0            | Jun 29 2005<br>Hstp No killer, Bridge style, with partial arcs  |
| 14  | PALISADE CO 81526 / USPS-81526<br>CI 11P 44.0/29.0 | Sep 27 2008<br>Hstp No killer, Bridge style, with partial arcs  |



1



1952



2



3



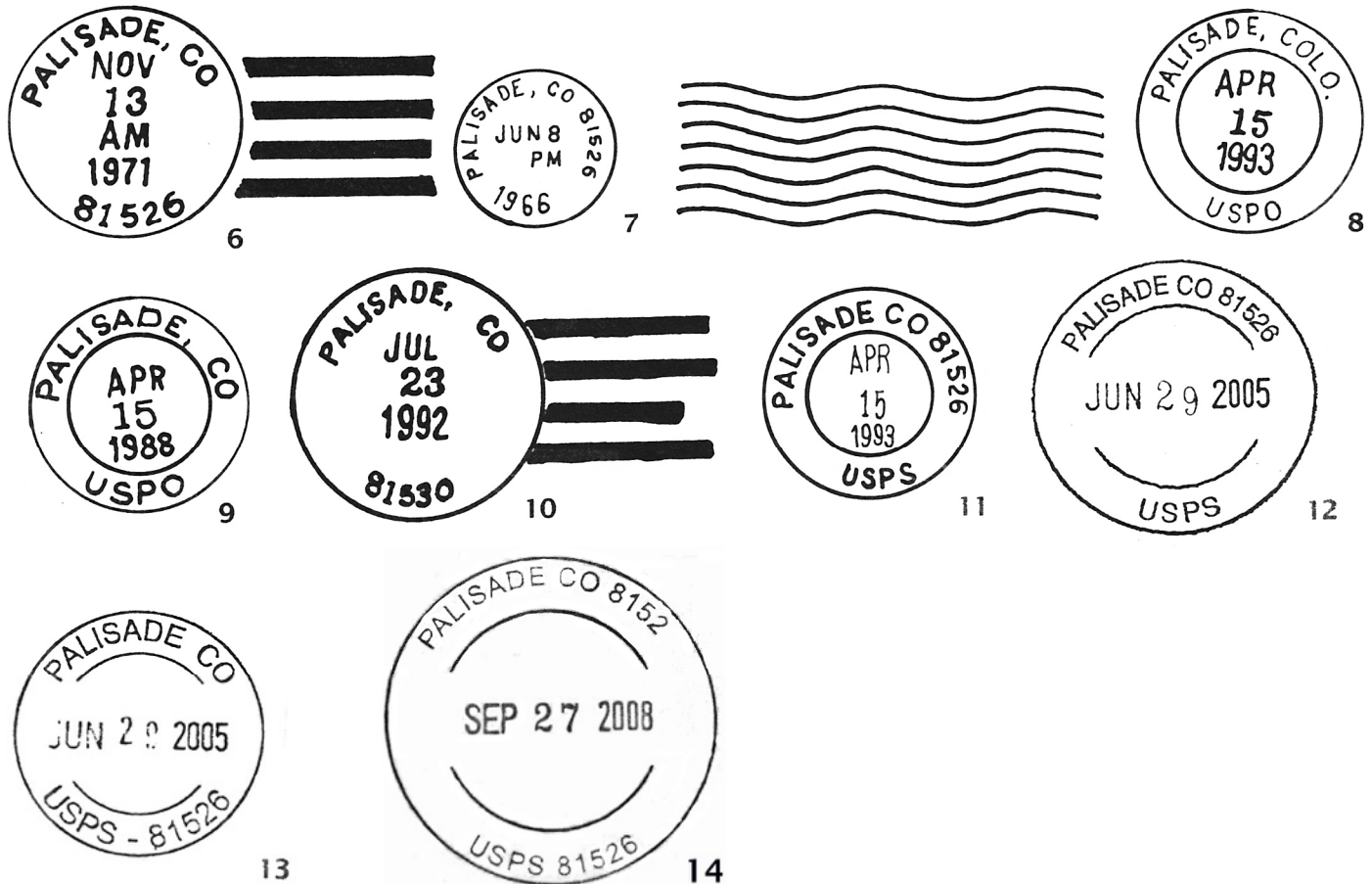
4



5



## PALISADE – Continued

**PALISADES (PALISADE)**

Historians have reported that Palisades was established in 1895. However, the post office opened on January 26, 1891, therefore it is obvious that there was activity at the site prior to 1895.

It is more logical to assume that the settlement began when the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built out of De Beque Canyon and on toward Grand Junction. Operations on the railroad began in 1890 and a station was opened under the name of Palisades. Palisades was incorporated in 1904. The name Palisades was a reference to the high sandstone cliffs that border the valley to the north of the town.

In 1924 the post office name was simplified to Palisade. In the mid-1890's the Post Office Department pursued an active campaign to simplify post office names. Why did the Post Office Department wait until 1924 to alter Palisades to Palisade?

Early homesteaders in the eastern portion of the Grand (Colorado) River Valley quickly discovered that the physical setting provided a spring climate in which late frosts were rare. That meant that raising fruit could be a very profitable occupation. Peaches from the Palisade area are much sought, and apples are also an important cash crop. In recent years vineyards have made an appearance along the Colorado River and Colorado has joined the list of wine producing states.

Palisade is a thriving community with a varied economy based on agriculture, outdoor tourism and a growing residential community for retirees.

Palisade is at the mouth of the De Beque Canyon of the Colorado River. Take Exit 44 from Interstate 70 south to US Highway 6, and then back east into the town.

**PALISADES – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

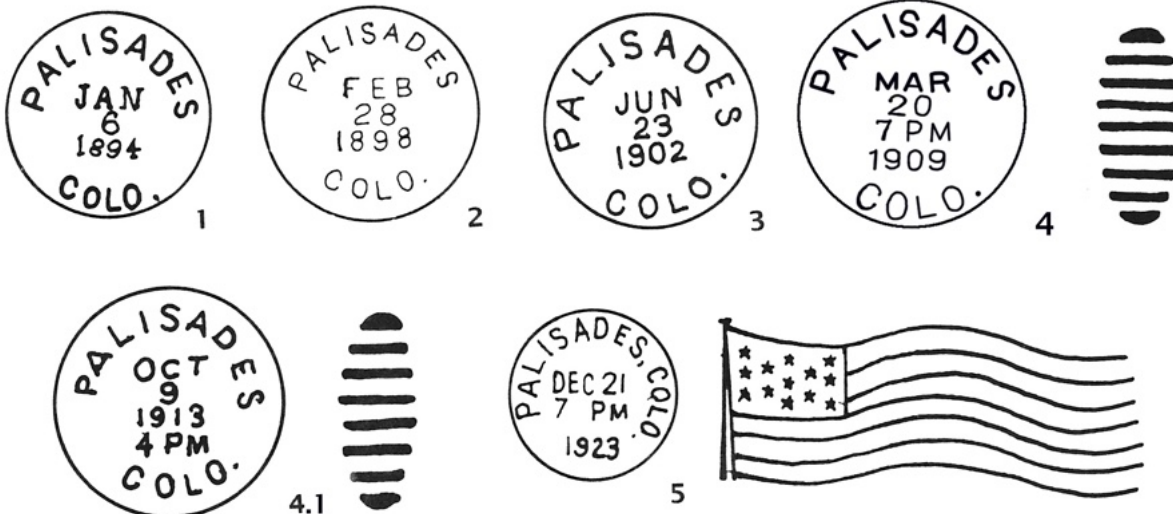
Jan 5 1891	---	Not reported	About 100 feet south of the D&RG Palisades Station
		Proposed postmaster -	William A. Pease
Jan 26 1891		Established	
Jan 26 1891		Pease, William A.	
Mar 20 1891	---	NE/4 SW/4 Sec 9 T11S R98W	At station
Oct 3 1893		Oliver, John L.	
Feb 25 1894		Hampton, Oliver A.	
Sep 23 1896		Parton, John H.	
Feb 8 1898		Hawthorne, Dennis C.	
Aug 2 1901		Songer, Grace	
Jun 11 1907		Strain, David F.	P
Dec 11 1907		Strain, David F.	P&S
Apr 30 1914	---	SW/4 Sec 9 T11S R98W	350 feet south of the D&RG tracks
Jan 5 1916		Newton, William D.	P&S
Apr 12 1917		Peck, Anna	Acting
Apr 6 1918		Bancroft, Edgar J.	P&S
May 8 1922		Bancroft, Roswell H.	
Nov 1 1924		Spelling changed to Palisade	

REFER TO PALISADE FOR THE CONTINUED LISTING OF POSTMASTERS.

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	PALISADES / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Jan 6 1894 Nov 21 1894 Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm
2	PALISADES / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Feb 8 1898 Feb 28 1898 Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm
3	PALISADES / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Jun 23 1902 Hstp Not present, backstamp
4	PALISADES / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Aug 30 1908 Aug 20 1914 Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval
4.1	PALISADES / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Oct 9 1913 Dplx Grid, 8-bar oval
5	PALISADES, COLO. CI 10P 22.0	Dec 21 1923 Flag 13 star waving flag

REFER TO PALISADE FOR THE CONTINUED LISTING OF POSTMARKS



**PINE BLUFF**

I have found no historical reference for this place in Mesa County. From the location provided to the Post Office Department and a visit to that site, I conclude that it was a ranch post office and that there was no organized community. The short life of the Pine Bluff Post Office leads me to believe it may have been a casualty of the expanding Rural Free Delivery System.

From the Glade Park Store, continue westward on Mesa County Road DS.00 six miles to Road 11.50. Turn north on that road and go two miles to the "T" intersection with County Road BS.00. Pine Bluff was located in the vicinity south of this intersection. The most logical location seems to be at the head of a small, shallow, rock-rimmed valley, a quarter mile south of the intersection. That area has the appearance of having once been inhabited. The surrounding area is now grazing land.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 10 1913	---	SW/4 Sec 7 T12S R102W Three miles east of the Little Dolores River Applicant for Postmaster - Hugh T. Sherman
Jun 6 1913		Established
Jun 6 1913		Sherman, Hugh T.
Dec 31 1914		Discontinued Mail to Glade Park

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM PINE BLUFF**

**PLATEAU**

Plateau was a remote ranch post office on the northern slopes of Grand Mesa. The location provided by the Post Office Department Geographical Site Location Report is not definitive. But, I think that it was located in section 21, Township 10 South, Range 94 West on the low ridge between Grove Creek and Spring Creek. I equate present day Spring Creek with Grove Creek East, which is mentioned in the Site Location Report.

From the location of Hope, at Mesa County Roads ME.00 and 59.7, go south on Road 59.7 to Road LE.00. Go east on Road LE.00. At first this road goes due east but then angles southeast before again going due east. From the final turn east Jim Ozment and I went two miles to the end of the road where we turned around. We drove back a hundred yards or so and stopped. From that point, on the ridge to the south, we could see a building, partially obscured by trees and we were looking down the road to the crossing of Spring Creek. The building on the ridge and whatever else might be there, is where I think Plateau was located.

However, there are contrary opinions. The road we were on had deteriorated to little more than a track and there were no buildings beyond our stopping point. As usual, I pulled to the side of the road to park, which promptly brought complaints from my travelling companion. "Why'd you do that? There hasn't been another car on this road in months!" As we walked over to the fence line to take pictures I happened to look down the road to see a pickup truck stop at the creek, then obviously seeing my Jeep the truck came on up the road, stopping in front of us. Out of the truck climbed a full-bearded cowboy with a cell phone on one hip and a pistol on the other. He wanted know what we were doing way out there. We explained and he accepted our explanation (It helps to have a marked up map of the countryside). It turned out that he ran a guest ranch down the road and was checking on some horses in the field along Spring Creek. He was concerned that we might be potential rustlers! After the initial concerns we had a pleasant conversation. When we mentioned Plateau he expressed an opinion that it was several miles further south and could only be reached by foot or horse.

In spite of his opinion I think we were at the right place. This became one more in the series of adventures of Bauer and Ozment, on the road, in the wilds of Colorado.

**PLATEAU – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Nov 11 1883 --- On unsurveyed government land Hawxhurst six miles northwesterly Orson about 12 miles westerly About 15 miles from the Grand River 100 yards south of Grove Creek East  
Proposed postmaster - Fred Stanley Rockwell
- Nov 23 1883 Established
- Nov 23 1883 Rockwell, Fred S.
- Aug 22 1886 Bertholf, John
- Oct 27 1887 Discontinued Papers to Egalite

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 Plateau / Col. MS Apr 21 1884  
Mscp Pen cancel
- 2 PLATEAU, / COLO. CI 10P 27.0 Aug 15 1887  
Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm



**PLATEAU CITY**

Plateau City is a small community on Colorado Highway 330, two miles west of Collbran. It has no relation to Plateau, which has been previously discussed.

Since the first post office in this area was opened at Hawxhurst in August 25 1882, there have been four different post offices in an area of only four square miles. The second post office to open was Egalite in December 1885. The third post office was Collbran, which opened two months before the Hawxhurst Post Office was officially closed on March 3, 1892. Plateau City was the final post office to open in this small area. It was created by the closing of the Egalite Post Office and the move of its operations to Plateau City.

The Plateau City - Hawxhurst - Collbran complex, strung along a two mile stretch of present day Colorado Highway 330, was a supply center for the farmers and ranchers of the Plateau Creek Valley. Gradually Collbran became the dominant community. In 1999 Plateau City was a small community with a few residences and a general store.

Latitude = 39:14:14 North Longitude = 107:58:52 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

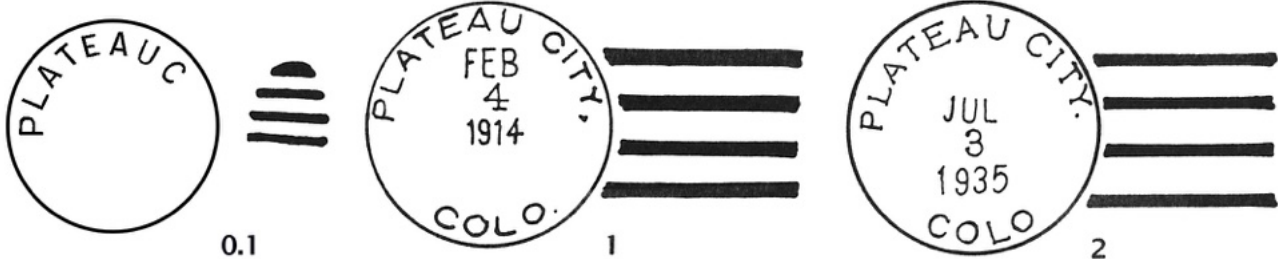
- Aug 26 1901 Post Office moved from Egalite
- Aug 26 1901 Baldrige, James P.
- Mar 1 1903 --- NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R95W 1/4 mile south of Plateau Creek
- May 23 1904 Watson, William V.
- Jun 5 1905 Dunaway, David
- Dec 30 1905 Carnahan, Fred F.
- Mar 11 1911 Bann, Frances A.
- Sep 26 1912 Donahue, Benjamin
- Apr 25 1914 --- SE/4 NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R95W One half mile south of Plateau Creek
- Sep 10 1914 Townsend, Lewis A.

**PLATEAU CITY – Continued**

May 3 1919	Hurd, Clarence E.	Confirmed
Jun 11 1919	Hurd, Clarence E.	Commissioned
Jul 1 1919	Hurd, Clarence E.	Assumed charge
Sep 29 1937	Pedigo, Mrs. Ruie	Confirmed
Nov 30 1937	Pedigo, Mrs. Ruie	Commissioned
Dec 12 1937	Pedigo, Mrs. Ruie	Assumed charge
Oct 24 1941 ---	Main St. NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R95W	A road map included seems to show it at the road intersection, west of Collbran, with a road going south over Grand Mesa
Dec 3 1942	Ordered closed	
Dec 31 1942	Discontinued	Mail to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

0.1	PLATEAU CITY / C---	Aug - 1908
	CI 10P 28.0	Dplx 9 (?) bar oval
1	PLATEAU CITY, / COLO.	Date from dateline on ppc
	CI 10P 32.0	Jun 22 1910 Dec 28 1916
2	PLATEAU CITY, / COLO.	Mar 6 1934 Dec 31 1942
	CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm

**RAVENS**

Dr. W. A. E. DeBeque was born in Canada and during the Civil War served with a Maine Cavalry Unit. Some time after the war he came to Colorado and by 1884 was in the Grand River Valley. He established a ranch on the Grand River, which he called Ravensbeque. In 1885 a post office was opened on the ranch with the simplified name of Ravens.

I confess to some confusion as to exactly where this ranch and post office were located. Historical reports, including one by W. A. E. DeBeque, refer to it as being on the north, or northwest bank of the Grand River. The Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report places the post office in the NE/4 of section 4, Township 9 South, Range 97 West. On modern maps that section is on the southeast side of the river - the Colorado River. There are two possible conclusions: The site location report is in error, or the river has changed course.

Little more than a year after the Ravens Post Office opened the name was changed to Ravensbeque, the name of the DeBeque ranch. Now arises a little more confusion. There is no separate site location report for Ravensbeque, merely an indication that the post office name was changed. It is known that in 1888 DeBeque relocated north to a new townsite that was named in his honor.

Until I have different information, I will accept the location from the site location report and conclude that the course of the river has changed to place the original DeBeque ranch south of the river.

To explore the possibilities of this site, take Exit 62 from Interstate 70 and go to the frontage road that parallels the eastbound lanes of the interstate. Turn south on the frontage road and go to the intersection with Mesa County Road 45.00. That intersection is at the northeast corner of Section 4. Unfortunately, it seems likely that if the ranch was in that corner of Section 4, it has been obliterated by construction of Interstate 70. However, there is a ranch to the west, between the interstate and the river.

**RAVENS - Continued**

Most of the buildings are hidden in trees and the ones visible are modern buildings. It is possible that that was the site of the original DeBeque ranch.

Do not confuse this Ravens with the later (1898-1935) Raven Post Office in Garfield County.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jan 24 1885 --- NE/4 Sec 4 T9S R97W On the northwest bank of the Grand River 2 miles south of Roan Creek Sketch map shows it where road crosses river.  
Proposed postmaster - Marie T. De Beque  
Feb 5 1885 Established  
Feb 5 1885 DeBeque, Mrs. Marie T.  
May 21 1886 Name changed to Ravensbeque

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM RAVENS**

**RAVENSBEQUE**

The Ravensbeque Post Office was on the ranch of W. A. E. DeBeque about two miles south of the present town of DeBeque. The post office was first known as Ravens. In 1888 W. A. E. DeBeque moved north to the town that bears his name and the Ravensbeque Post Office moved with him.

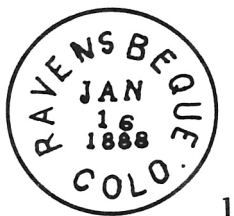
Mrs. Marie T. DeBeque was the only postmaster at Ravens and at Ravensbeque, and she was the first postmaster at DeBeque. For the early history of this post office and directions, refer to the discussion of Ravens.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jan 24 1885 --- NE/4 Sec 4 T9S R97W [See Ravens]  
On the northwest bank of the Grand River  
2 miles south of Roan Creek Sketch map shows it where road crosses river.  
Proposed postmaster - Marie T. De Beque  
May 21 1886 Post office Moved from Ravens  
May 21 1886 DeBeque, Mrs. Marie T.  
Mar 23 1888 Name changed to De Beque

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 RAVENSBEQUE / COLO. Jan 16 1888  
CI 10P 27.0 Hstp No killer



1

**RHONE**

In 1894 the spelling of the Roan Post Office was changed to Rhone. Colorado historical literature is silent on the reason for the change.

**RHONE - Continued**

A review of the postmasters of Rhone shows that Henry D. Rhone was the postmaster from 1895 to 1898. Thus it is possible that the spelling was changed to reflect that of his name. However, the spelling change took place seven months before Henry Rhone became postmaster. It may be that the post office was located in a store that he owned and/or operated.

Please refer to the discussion of Roan for more information about this post office location.

Latitude = 39:07:36 North Longitude = 108:40:40 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Sep 11 1894	Formerly spelled Roan
Sep 11 1894	Limpson, Jessie
Apr 24 1895	Rhone, Henry D.
Mar 2 1898	Hocbel, Fred
May 23 1900	Fonder, Victor J.
Aug 1 1901	Darby, Charles W.
Apr 8 1902	Fonder, John B.
Apr 29 1903	Cheely, James E.
Nov 18 1904	Ordered closed
Dec 15 1904	Discontinued Mail to Fruita

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 RHONE / COLO.  
CI 10P 27.0

Nov 29 1895 Jun 27 1899  
Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm



1

**ROAN**

Roan was a small station on the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad about five miles west of Grand Junction. There was a short siding and stock pens from which livestock were shipped to market.

Roan developed into a tiny community and social center for the surrounding countryside. There was also a school at Roan.

Apparently the name was a derivative from the Roan Cliffs, more familiarly the Book Cliffs, that border the northeast side of the Colorado River Valley.

In 1894 the spelling of the settlement and post office names was changed to Rhone. I have not found any explanation as to why this change was made. Please refer to the discussion of Rhone for a possible explanation.

From the intersection of Interstate 70 and US Highway 6, go northwest two and one half miles to the intersection with Mesa County Road 20.00. Roan/Rhone was in the area south east of this intersection. There are some scattered buildings along US 6 but much of the area is little more than sagebrush.



**ROAN - Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jul 17 1893	---	SW/4 Sec 26 T1N R2W Ute Meridian 1/2 mile north of the Grand River About 1000 feet from the D&RG (direction ?, however the sketch map shows it immediately on the south side of the tracks) Proposed postmaster - Mansir Stewart	
Aug 9 1893		Established	
Aug 9 1893		Stewart, Mansir	Not commissioned
Jul 3 1894		Limpson, Jessie	
Sep 11 1894		Spelling changed to Rhone	

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM ROAN**

**ROCKY**

The entry in the Post Office Department Records of Postmaster Appointments is the only reference that I have found to a place of this name in Mesa County. A postmaster was appointed but three months later the appointment was rescinded and the office closed.

I have no information as to the possible location of Rocky. This may be another example of expectations of development that were not met and thus the reason for having a post office disappeared. Any additional information would be appreciated.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

		No document was found in the Mesa County Geographic Site Location Reports	
Aug 12 1905		Established	
Aug 12 1905		Beer, Cora A.	Order rescinded Nov 25, 1905
Nov 25 1905		Discontinued	

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM ROCKY**

**SINBAD**

Sinbad is in the extreme southwestern corner of Mesa County in the Sinbad Valley, a breached anticline, similar to the Paradox Valley. Sandstone cliffs that reach as much as 2,000 feet above the valley floor surround the valley.

The name Sinbad is from the Arabian Nights story of *Sinbad the Sailor* and was deemed appropriate considering the remote location and the difficulty of travel to the valley.

The valley encompasses enough reasonably level land that it is suitable for ranching. During its history the Sinbad Post Office was at four different locations, two of which were in Montrose County. That amount of movement confirms Sinbad as a rural or ranch post office with no organized community. There was an attempt at copper mining high on the cliffs above the point where Salt Creek leaves the Sinbad Valley but it amounted to very little.

From the river crossing at Gateway, drive southwest on Colorado Highway 141 nine and one-half miles to Mesa County Road Z.6 (possibly labeled Road 7.2). This road follows Salt Creek through the escarpment and out into the Sinbad Valley. It is not one of the best roads but should be passable for most vehicles. Upon exiting from the canyon you come to a junction with County Road Z.9. The 1927 site of Sinbad was in the vicinity of this road junction but nothing is visible before you encounter a locked gate on Road Z.9.

**SINBAD – Continued**

Continue down Road Z.6 to the Mesa-Montrose County line. The 1925 site of Sinbad was a mile and a half west of the road but again nothing is visible from the road. The next obstacle is another locked gate, across Road Z.6. This is the entrance to the Sinbad Ranch Corporation and prevents access to the 1914 and 1926 sites of Sinbad that are in Montrose County. I suspect that somewhere down the road there are ranch buildings that were once the location of the Sinbad Post Office. North and east of this gate and a short distance off from the road are a couple abandoned buildings, but I can not connect them to any of the Sinbad Post Office locations. You will have to return to Colorado Highway 141 to continue your trip.

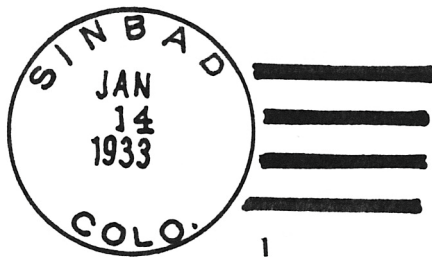
Latitude = 38:30:10 North Longitude = 108:59:50 West SINBAD VALLEY

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Oct 16 1914	---	NE/4 Sec 29 T49N R19W 8 miles east of the Dolores River 1 mile northeast of Rock Creek [Montrose County]
Dec 19 1914		Established
Dec 19 1914		Manning, Bertha
Dec 20 1916	---	NE/4 Sec 29 T49N R19W A move ½ mile east of previous location [Montrose County]
Jan 4 1917		Buchanan, Greta
Jul 28 1925		Delight, Ross Acting
Sep 11 1925	---	SW/4 Sec 17 T49N R19W A move 2 miles northwest of previous location [Mesa County]
Sep 22 1925		Delight, Ross Appointed
Jun 18 1927		Adams, Joseph C.
Jun 25 1927	---	SE/4 NE/4 Sec 9 T49N R19W 5-6 miles west of Dolores River 1,000 feet north of Salt Wash [Mesa County]
May 22 1929		Hogan, Flossie A.
May 25 1929	---	NW/4 Sec 28 T49N R19W 8 miles east of Dolores River 2 miles east of Rock Creek [Montrose County]
Jan 14 1933		Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 SINBAD / COLO. Jan 14 1933  
CI 10P 32.5 4bars S-23x19mm

**SKYWAY**

Skyway was a summer resort on Grand Mesa in the vicinity of the Mesa Lakes, in the heart of an area well-known for trout fishing. It was named for Skyway Drive, the original road that gave access to the top of Grand Mesa.

The present day Mesa Lakes Lodge and Resort is a few hundred feet north and west of the site of Skyway which was on the old highway, not on present day Colorado Highway 65 that crosses over Grand Mesa. I believe that Skyway was a short distance east of the resort, along a rough dirt road from the resort but it is blocked from direct access to or from Colorado Highway 65.

Skyway was a summer post office during the years when it was operational.

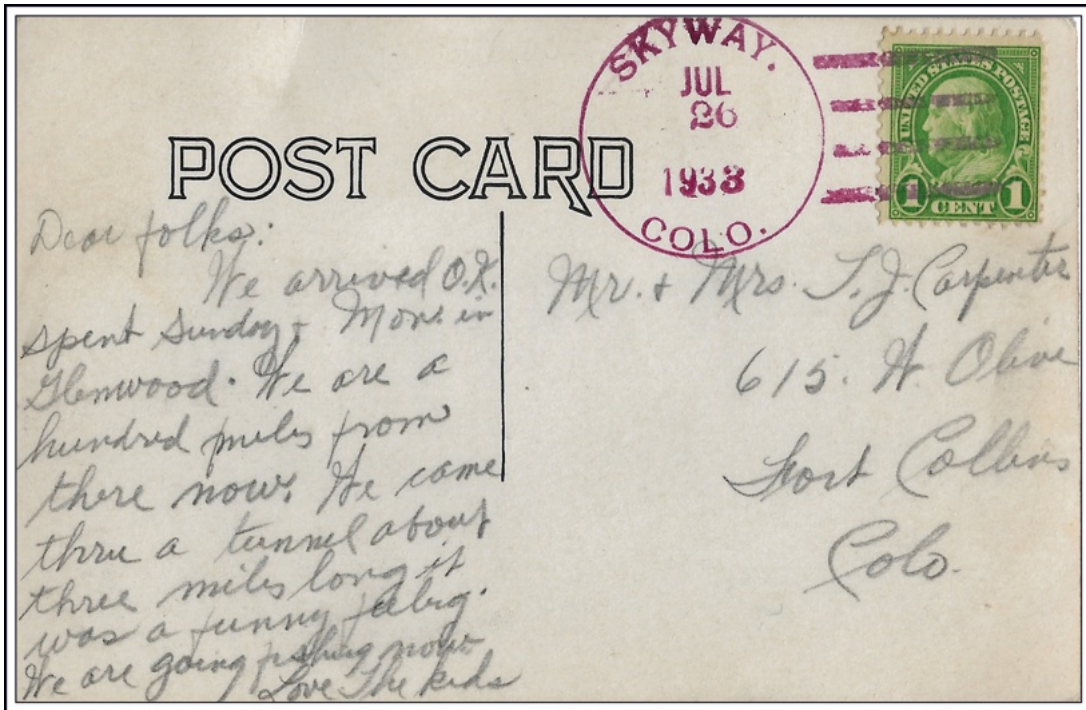
**SKYWAY – Continued**

The resort consists of the main lodge and a number of cabins, scattered around the group of lakes, and is easily accessible from Colorado Highway 65.

Latitude = 39:03:00 North Longitude = 108:05:30 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 2 1926	---	NE/4 Sec 35 T11S R96W	100 feet north of Mesa Creek
Jun 4 1927		Established	
Jun 4 1927		Sisac, Roy R.	Confirmed
Jul 13 1927		Sisac, Roy R.	Commissioned
Jul 26 1927		Sisac, Roy R.	Assumed charge
Nov 10 1941	---	Reported as T10S R97W Sec 35	Map shows as T11S R96W
		Map is probably correct as that puts it on the road over Grand Mesa	Mesa lake 1/4 mile south Mesa Creek 100 yards south
Jun 8 1945		Ordered closed	
Jun 30 1945		Discontinued	Mail to Mesa



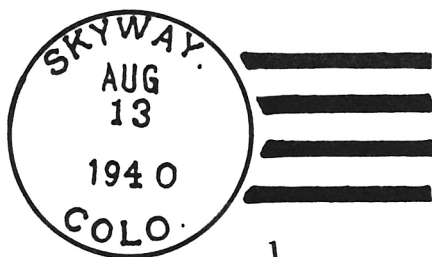
**SKYWAY, / COLO.**

**July 26, 1933**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 SKYWAY, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0 4bars S-24x19mm

Jul 26 1933 Jun 30 1945



**SNIPES**

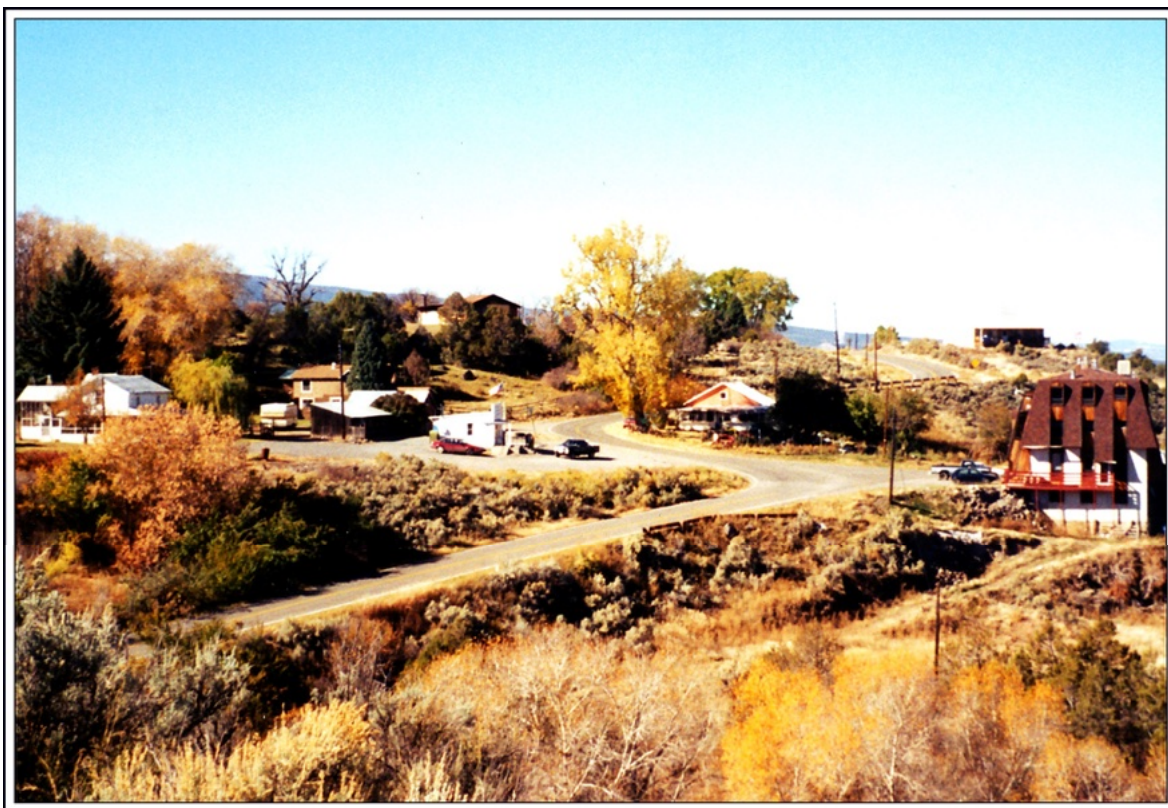
The original settlement on Cottonwood Creek, south of Plateau Creek was named Molina and it had a post office under that name from April 1895 to September 1896. When a new post office opened in January 1897 it was named Snipes for the postmaster John Nelson Snipes. It would continue with that name until 1906 when the name reverted back to Molina.

Snipes/Molina was an agricultural community with a flour mill, which was the source for “Molina”, the Spanish word for mill.

The post office locations for Molina are in the northwest quarter of section 13, while the location of Snipes was in the southwest quarter of section 13. The road through Molina (Mesa County Road KE.00) runs east-west along the centerline of the section thus I suspect the difference in locations was merely a move across the street.

Please refer to the discussion of Molina for more concerning this post office and community.

Latitude = 39:11:37 North Longitude = 108:25:17 West



**An overview of Molina (formerly Snipes) Colorado – The Molina Post Office is the small, white building to the left of center.**

Photograph by James L. Ozment

October 25, 1999

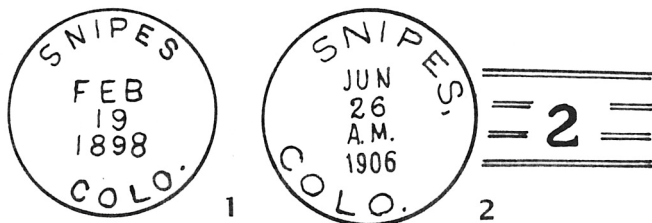
**Chronology of the Post Office**

Dec 12 1896	---	SW/4 Sec 13 T10S R96W 1/2 mile west of Cottonwood Creek Proposed postmaster - John Nelson Snipes
Jan 9 1897		Established
Jan 9 1897		Snipes, John N.
Jan 15 1901		Wood, Willis J.
Apr 23 1903		Skinner, Stewart C.
May 3 1906		Name changed to Molina

**SNIPES – Continued**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |   |                                |                     |                         |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | SNIPES / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.0  | Hstp Not present    | Feb 19 1898             |
| 2 | SNIPES, / COLO.<br>CI 10P 28.0 | Doane Type 2 with 2 | Jun 23 1904 Jun 26 1906 |



**TUNNEL**

Tunnel was a railroad station and siding in De Beque Canyon, on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad about a mile north of the railroad tunnel through Beavertail Mountain. It was another short-lived post office and for a brief time may have served railroad personnel. There was certainly no room for the development of a community at the location.

From Grand Junction go east on Interstate 70 into De Beque Canyon. Continue beyond Exit 49 (Colorado 65 to Mesa) and around the horseshoe bend of the interstate. There is a parking area east of the bend and Tunnel was on the north side of the Colorado River across from where a road from the parking lot rejoins I-70. There are no remnant structures but the grade of the siding is still visible.

Latitude = 39:12:35 North Longitude = 108:15:33 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Aug 27 1902 --- SW/4 Sec 6 T10S R97W 100 feet north of Grand River 2-1/2 miles east of Plateau Creek  
Proposed postmaster - George P. Rudd
- Oct 10 1902 Established
- Oct 10 1902 Rudd, George P.
- Dec 14 1903 Ordered closed
- Dec 31 1903 Discontinued Papers to De Beque

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM TUNNEL**

**UNAWEEP**

There is almost no mention of this place in the historical literature about Colorado. Also, it is necessary to avoid confusion with an unrelated UnawEEP station on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

The Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports provide two separate locations: one on East Creek and the other on West Creek. These two creeks combine to form the UnawEEP Canyon. The canyon is the route for Colorado Highway 141 from Whitewater to Gateway.

The site location report indicates that there may have been some copper mining in the vicinity of UnawEEP, and one mention in the literature refers to, "about 50 stock raisers in the vicinity." The divide between East and West Creeks is in a very steep and high-walled valley, about a mile in width.

Of the two locations provided for UnawEEP, I have not been able to determine a location for the site on East Creek. My best guess would place it not far from the divide between the two streams and four or five miles upstream from the site of Copper/Ionia.

**UNAWEEP – Continued**

I did choose a site for the second location of UnawEEP, on West Creek, thirteen miles from Gateway. At that point there is a side road that crosses West Creek to an older ranch. This ranch is practically the only one in the long stretch of the UnawEEP Valley that crosses the divide.

One of my favorite day trips in Colorado is to start from Grand Junction, go to Whitewater and then via Colorado Highway 141 to Gateway. From Gateway, continue up the Dolores-San Miguel River Canyon, through Nucla to Placerville. At Placerville you have a choice; to either go over Dallas Divide to Ridgway, or to go on south over Lizard Head Pass, eventually to Cortez. The scenery along the way is spectacular and the roads are good, far better than when I first made the trip in the mid-1950's. One interesting site along the way is near the East/West Creek Divide. It is the remains of the Driggs Mansion, a stone house on the south side of Colorado 141. A roadside sign recounts the history of the house. Be sure to have a full tank of gas when you start.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jul 7 1883	---	Unsurveyed 1/4 mile north of East Creek Proposed postmaster - Francis M. Anderson
Aug 21 1883		Established
Aug 21 1883		Anderson, Francis M.
Jan 28 1886		Tommey, Annie
Dec 13 1887		Rawlings, Joseph T.
Sep 18 1890		Discontinued Papers to Whitewater
Mar 22 1895	---	Unsurveyed 100 yards north of East Creek Proposed postmaster - Martin Woodring
Apr 25 1895		Re-established
Apr 25 1895		Woodring, Martin
Dec 24 1895	---	NE/4 Sec 8 T15S R102W 4 rods north of West Creek Apparently this was a move some distance to the west of the previous site and over the divide between East and West Creeks Proposed postmaster - Mary C. Booth
Apr 7 1896		Booth, Mary C.
Jun 28 1897		Cochran, Mollie N.
Jul 13 1898		Thomasson, John M.
Sep 22 1898		Discontinued Mail to Copper

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM UNAWEEP**

**UTE**

The first post office to open at the junction of the Gunnison and the Grand Rivers was named Ute. According to the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report it was located in what is now downtown Grand Junction, somewhere near the present day courthouse.

In little more than three months the name was changed to Grand Junction. Early 1882 was only a few months after the Meeker Massacre and the exile of the Ute Indians from the area to a reservation in Utah. Apparently the new residents felt a geographic based name was more acceptable and appropriate to a rapidly growing community for which the locally accepted name was Grand Junction.

Please refer to the discussion of Grand Junction for the subsequent history of the post office at this location.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

---	1882	---	Center Sec 14 T1S R1W of Ute Meridian
Feb 3	1882		Established

**UTE – Continued**

Feb 3 1882                      Mobley, Richard D.  
 May 26 1882                  Name changed to Grand Junction

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM UTE**

**VEGA**

Vega was a small settlement on Plateau Creek on the northern slope of Grand Mesa. As late as 1923 it was still shown on some maps of the area.

Vega was in a broader portion of the valleys where Park Creek joined with Plateau Creek. Vega is a Spanish word meaning “fruitful plain.” In Colorado it is more specific to “pasture land,” a description that would suit the location of this settlement.

The Vega Post Office was in existence from 1891 to 1914 and from the twenty-five year period it seems likely that here was some loose form of a community at the location.

Today the actual site of Vega is no longer visible as it lies near the center of the Vega Reservoir, which is fed by Plateau Creek from the south.

On July 3, 1952, an Act of Congress authorized the Vega Reservoir. A construction contract was awarded in 1957, the dam was completed in 1960, and all work was finished in 1962. The reservoir has a live capacity of 32,980-acre feet and its surface elevation is 7,976 feet.

From Collbran, drive east on Mesa County Road 330E to the junction with County Road 64.60. Follow Road 64.60 to the Vega Reservoir.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

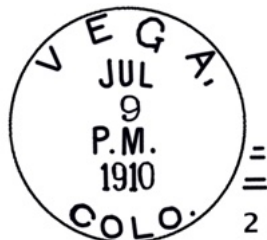
May 23 1891	Established
May 23 1891	Stephens, James S.
Oct 5 1894	Nichols, Charles J.
Mar 31 1897 ---	NW/4 Sec 5 T10S R94 (93) W Range 94 crossed out, 93 written in On north side of Plateau Creek Proposed postmaster - James Sampson Stephens
Apr 23 1903	Campbell, Henry N.
May 15 1905	White, George M.
Feb 13 1906	Pealer, Walter S.
Jun 20 1906	Carrington, Ida M.
Dec 30 1907	Campbell, Hannah
May 17 1909	Rathbone, Charles R.
Oct 10 1910	Rathbone, Fred L.
Dec 18 1911	Turner, William D.
Apr 15 1914	Discontinued Mail to Collbran

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |   |                              |  |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| 1 | VEGA / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.5  | Nov 29 1893 Aug 1 1902<br>Hstp Target, 4-ring 13mm       |
| 2 | VEGA, / COLO.<br>CI 10P 31.0 | Dec 25 1907 Jul 9 1910<br>Doane Type 2 with ? (likely 1) |



1



2

**WHITEWATER**

Whitewater was established in 1884 near the junction of Whitewater Creek with the Gunnison River. It was a station on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad and became the supply center for ranches to the southeast of Grand Junction.

The name of the town is attributed to Whitewater Creek, so-called because a high alkali content gives the water a whitish color.

Local legend claims that the first orchard in Mesa County was planted at Whitewater. There are fruit orchards scattered along the river between Grand Junction and Delta. South of Whitewater, the Gunnison River is in a rock-walled canyon with a small floodplain suitable for farming, where accessible.

Whitewater is a small town with some businesses and a pleasant residential district.

Whitewater is on US Highway 50 at the junction with Colorado Highway 141, the road through the Unaweep Canyon to Gateway.

Latitude = 38:59:28 North Longitude = 108:26:10 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Sep 9 1884	---	NE/4 Sec 14 T2S R1E	
		Proposed postmaster - J. Ross Penniston	
Oct 9 1884		Established	
Oct 9 1884		Penniston, John Ross	
Apr 2 1887		Page, James	
Sep 13 1913		Penniston, George W.	
Apr 27 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 14 T2S R1E	
Aug 25 1917		Peugh, George W.	Confirmed
Sep 27 1917		Peugh, George W.	Commissioned
Sep 30 1917		Peugh, George W.	Assumed charge
Feb 1 1940		Learned, Lawrence L.	Assumed charge
Feb 15 1940		Learned, Lawrence L.	Acting
Jul 19 1940		Learned, Lawrence L.	Confirmed
Aug 6 1940		Learned, Lawrence L.	Commissioned
Oct 29 1941	---	NE/4 Sec 14 T2S R1E	
Jun 6 1949		Learned, Mrs. Ruth S.	Assumed charge
Jun 21 1949		Learned, Mrs. Ruth S.	Acting
Mar 3 1950		Learned, Mrs. Ruth S.	Confirmed
Mar 28 1950		Learned, Mrs. Ruth S.	Commissioned
Sep 3 1963		Morris, Mrs. Ruth S.	Name changed
Jul 1 1955			Office made Presidential
Jun 30 1972		Armour, Mrs. Carolyn D.	Possession as postmaster
Jun 22 1973		Armour, Mrs. Carolyn D.	Officer in charge
Sep 23 1976		Swenson, Ms Darlene	Officer in charge
Mar 11 1978		Swenson, Mrs. Darlene A.	Appointed

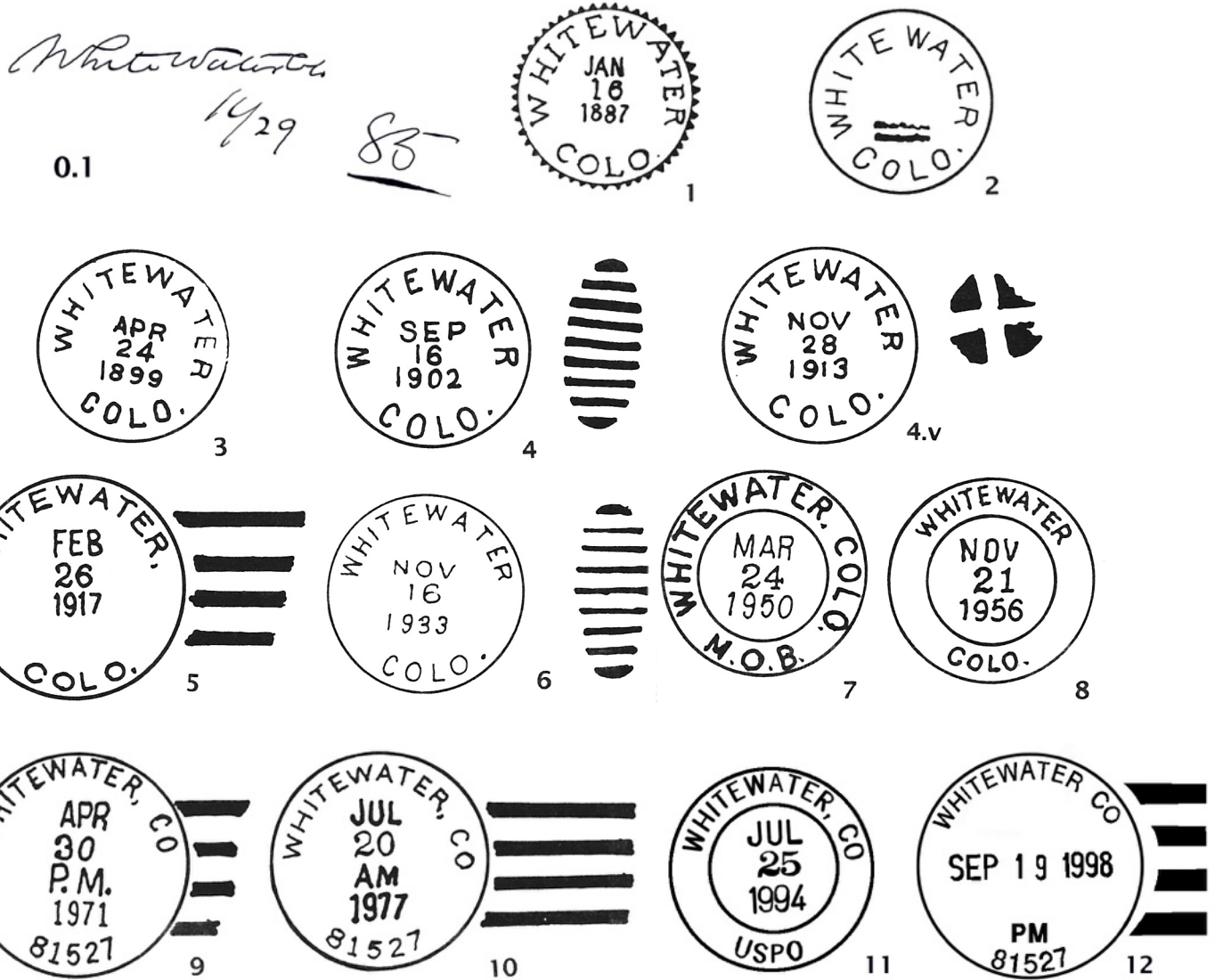
**Confirmed types of postal markings**

0.1	White Water Col MS		Oct? 29 1885
1	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 10T 28.0	Mscp Pen cancel	Jan 16 1887 Nov 24 1887
2	WHITE WATER / COLO. CI 10P 27.5	Hstp No killer	Oct 3 1894 Jul 18 1896
3	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm	Jan 10 1899 Apr 24 1899
4	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Hstp No killer	Sep 16 1902 Aug 11 1911
		Dplx Grid, oval 9-bar	



**WHITEWATER – Continued**

4.v	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Dplx Cork, Negative Cross roads	Nov 28 1913
5	WHITEWATER, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Sep 7 1915 Jul 10 1919
6	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Nov 16 1933 Dec 10 1962
7	WHITEWATER, COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 31.0/20.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 24 1950
8	WHITEWATER / COLO. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Nov 21 1956
9	WHITEWATER, CO / 81527 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Apr 30 1971 Nov 5 1973
10	WHITEWATER, CO / 81527 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Jul 20 1977 Jul 25 1994
11	WHITEWATER, CO / USPO CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Dec 5 1990 Jul 25 1994
12	WHITEWATER CO / 81527 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-13x22mm	Sep 19 1998 Jul 5 2001



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Prepared by the Colorado Writers Project; *Colorado Magazine*; Serialized in Volumes 17-20

## GEOGRAPHIC SITE LOCATION REPORTS OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

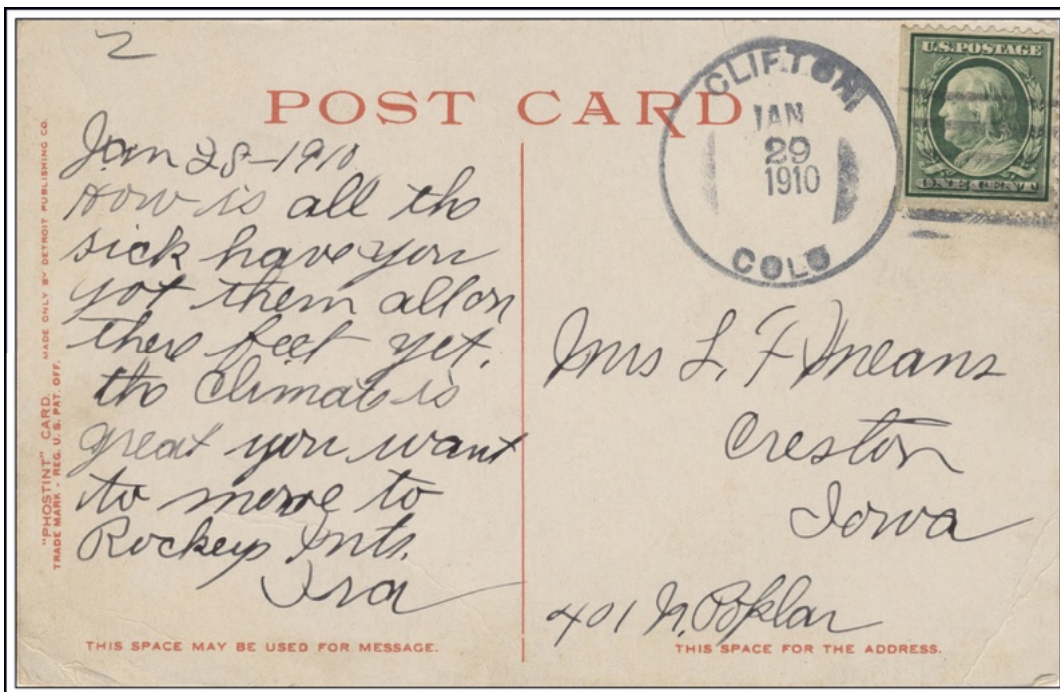
These are documents filed with applications for the approval of a new post office, at the time of a move of a post office and upon periodic requests of the Post Office Department. The documents may include a detailed location using the Federal Land Survey System, reference of distance to local streams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

A GALLERY OF MESA COUNTY COVERS



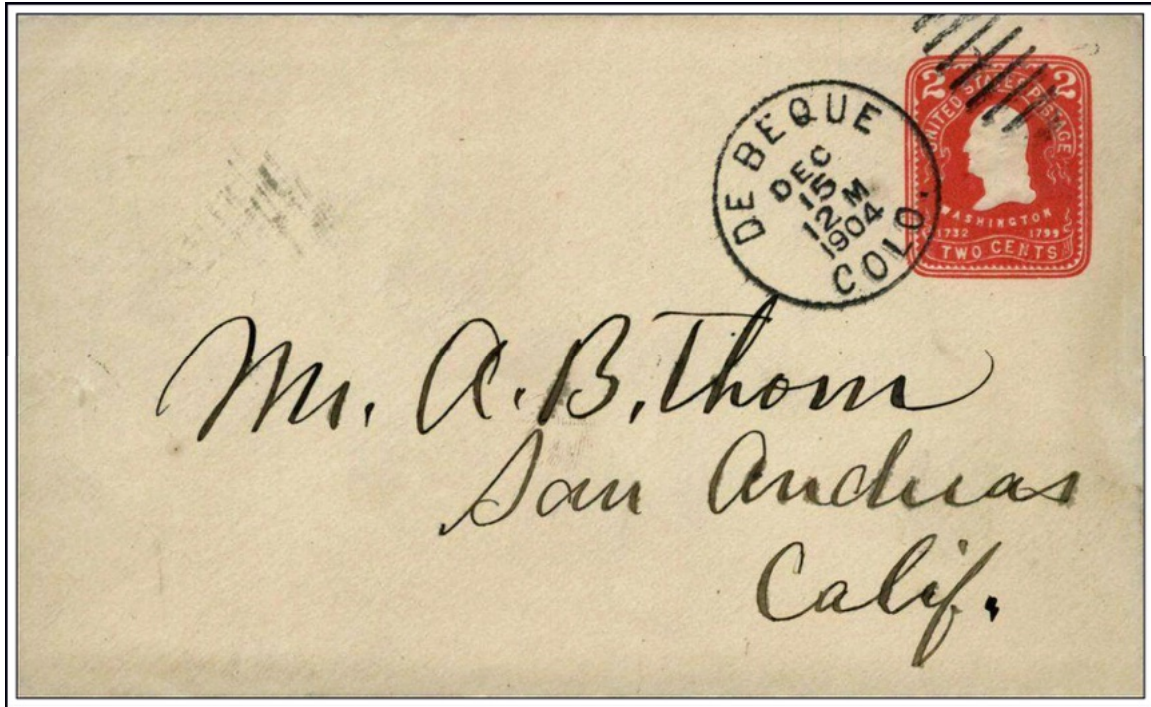
CAMEO, / COLO.

June 25, 1912



CLIFTON, / COLO

January 29, 1910



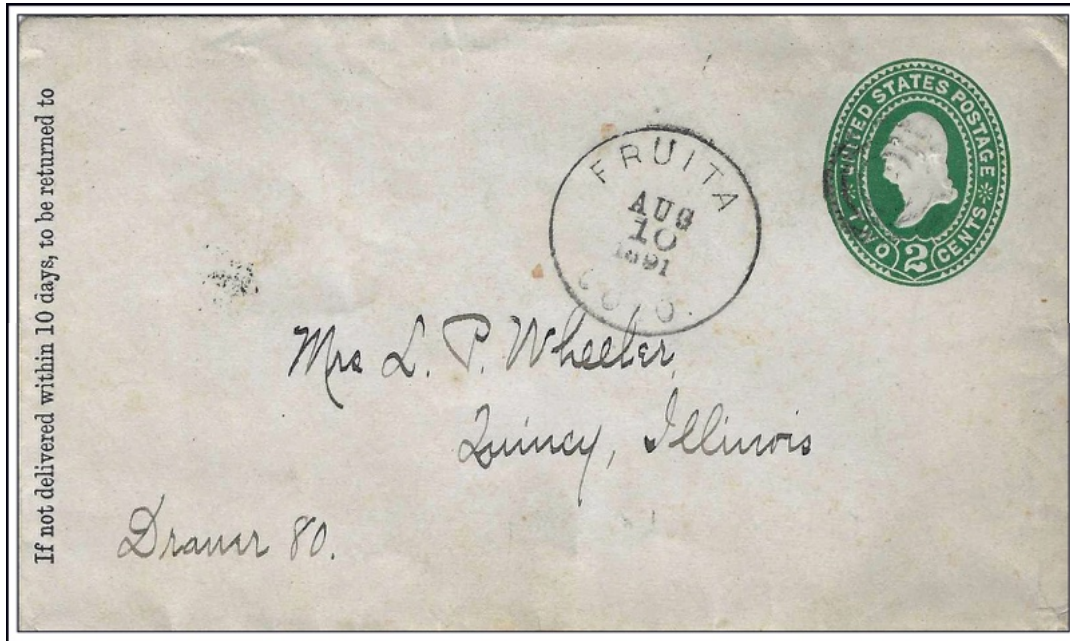
DE BEQUE / COLO.

December 15, 1904



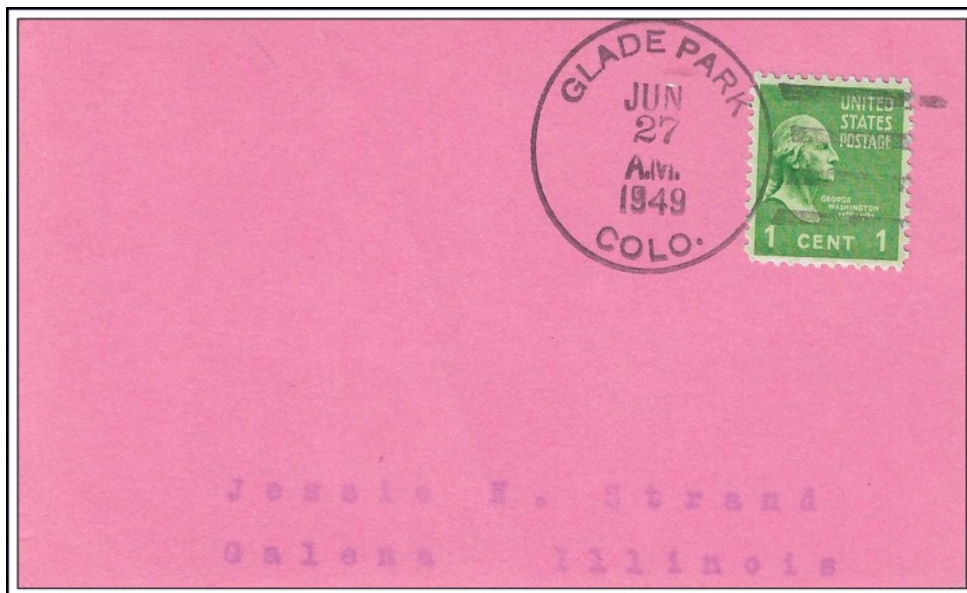
EAGALITE / COLO.

December 18, 1893



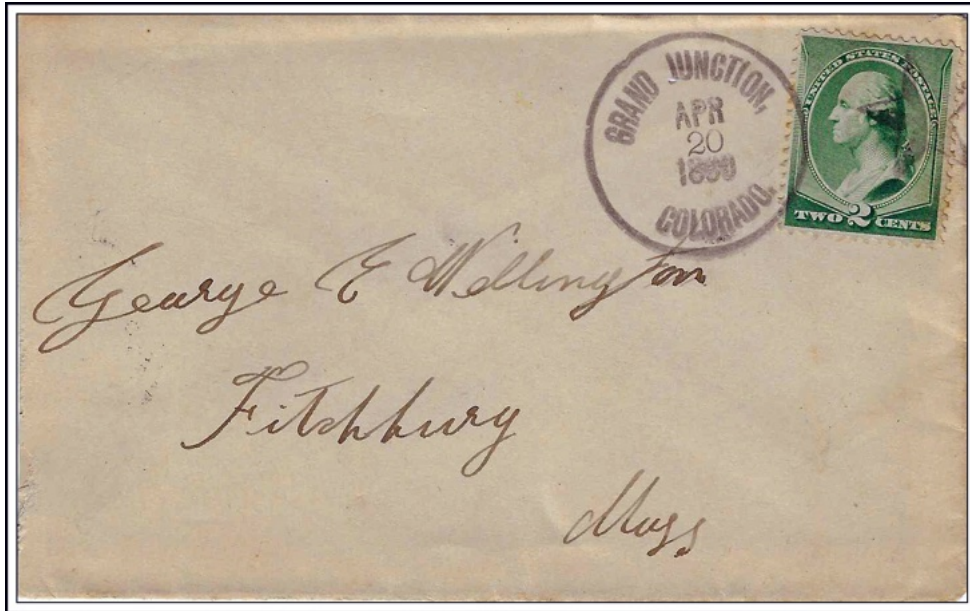
FRUITA / COLO.

August 10, 1891

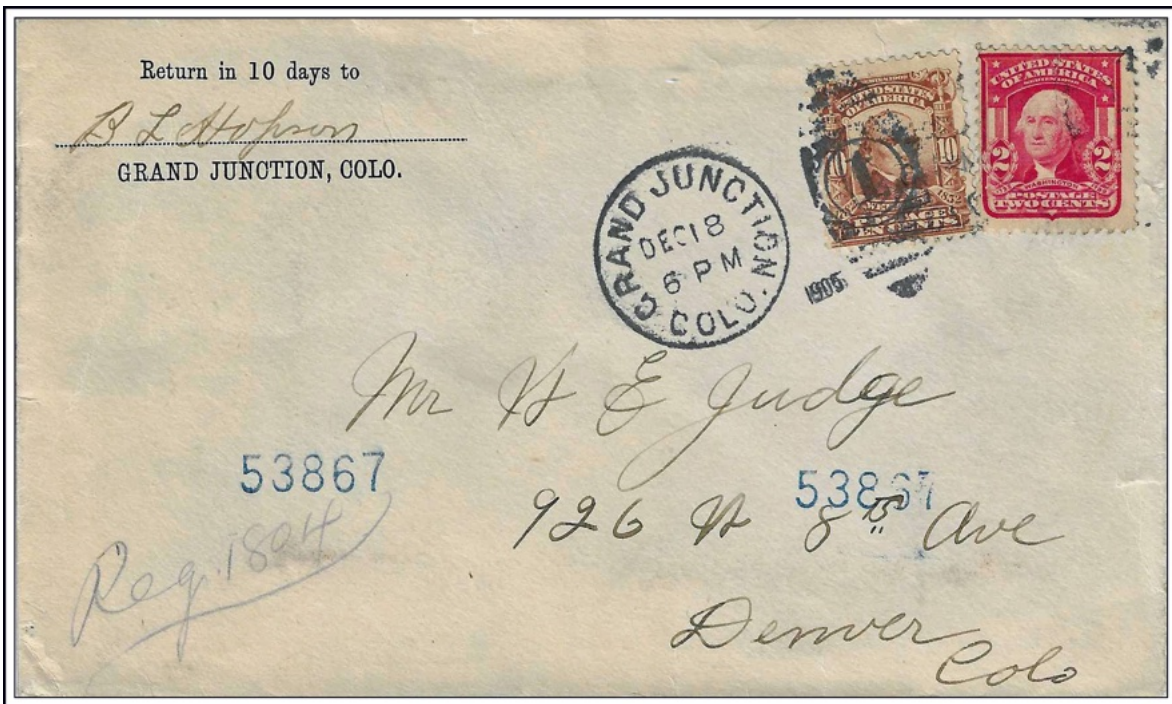


GLADE PARK / COLO.

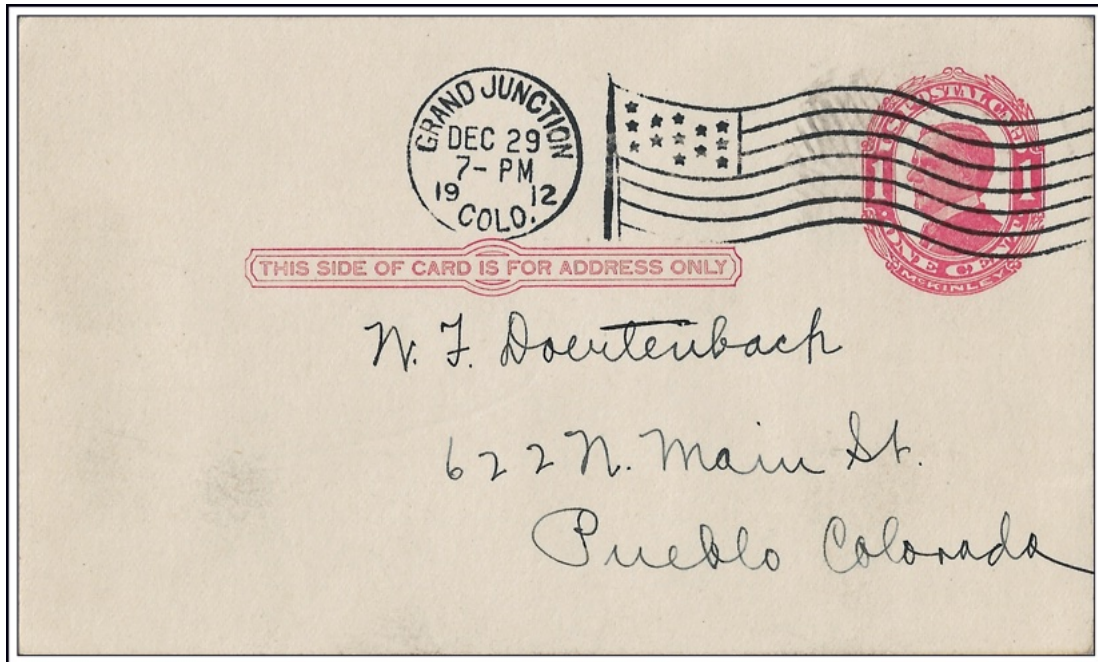
June 27, 1949



GRAND JUNCTION, / COLORADO. April 20, 1890



GRAND JUNCTION / COLO. December 18, 1905



GRAND JUNCTION / COLO.

December 29, 1912



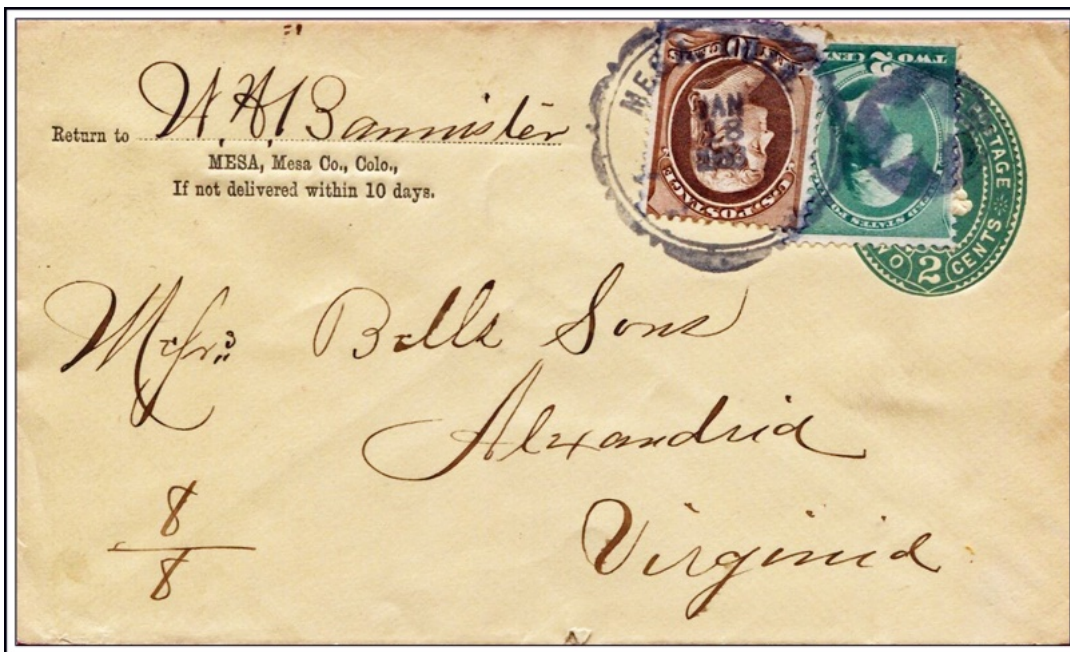
HOPE / COLO.

July 9, 1896



LOMA, / COLO.

March 10, 1916



MESA, / COLO.

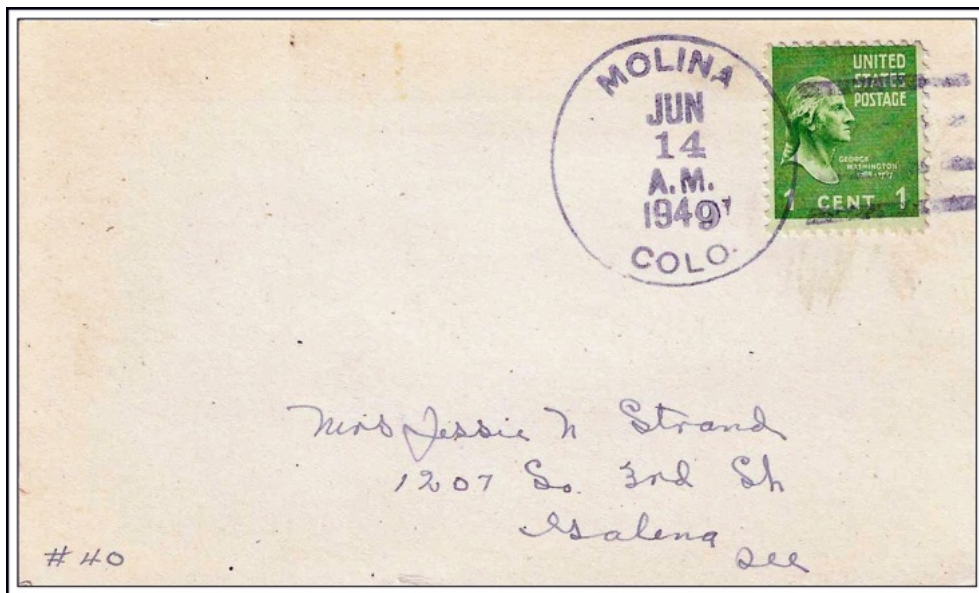
January 18, 189-





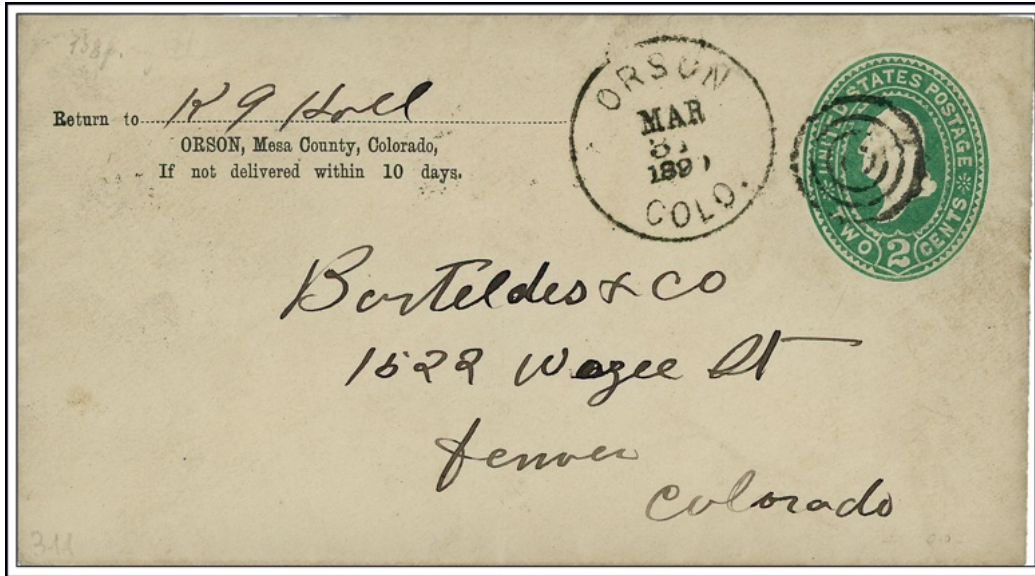
MESA, / COLO.

February 8, 1909



MOLINA / COLO.

June 14, 1949



ORSON / COLO.

March 31, 1890



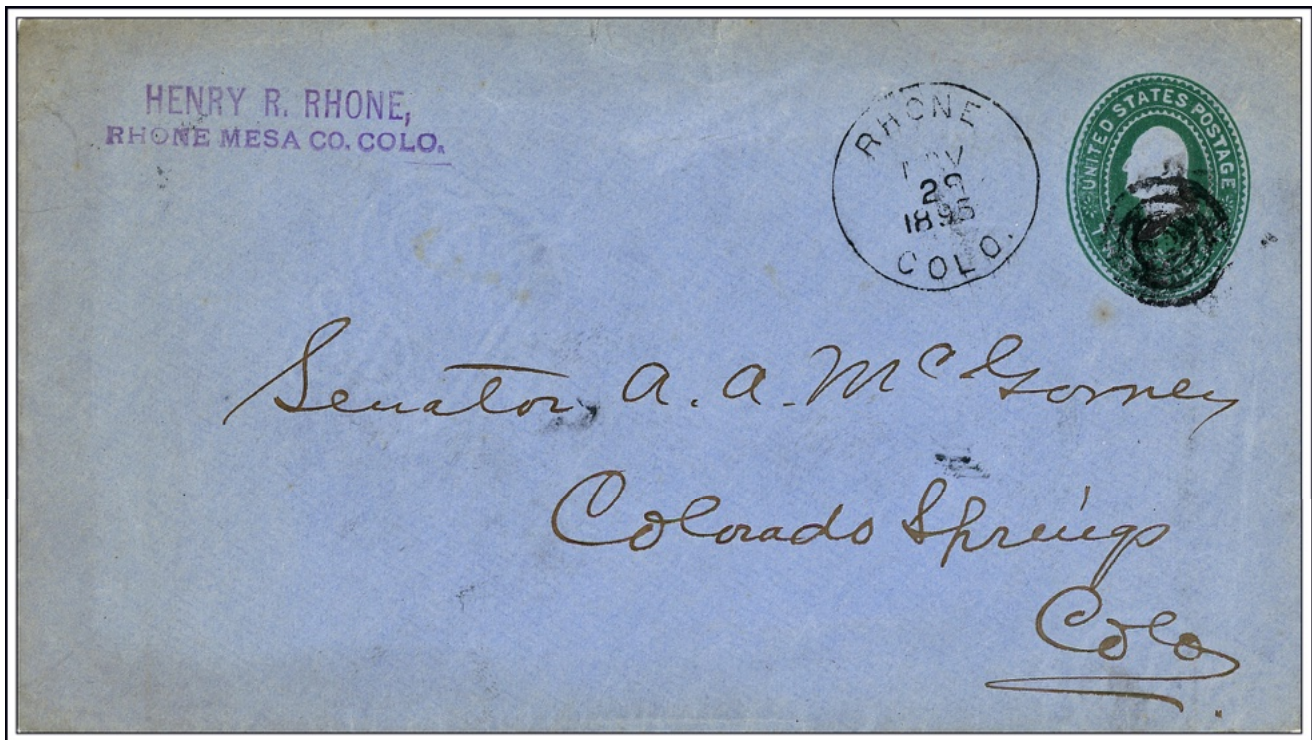
PALISADES / COLO.

September 6, 1908



PLATEAU CITY, / COLO.

April 6, 1914



RHONE / COLO.

November 29, 1895



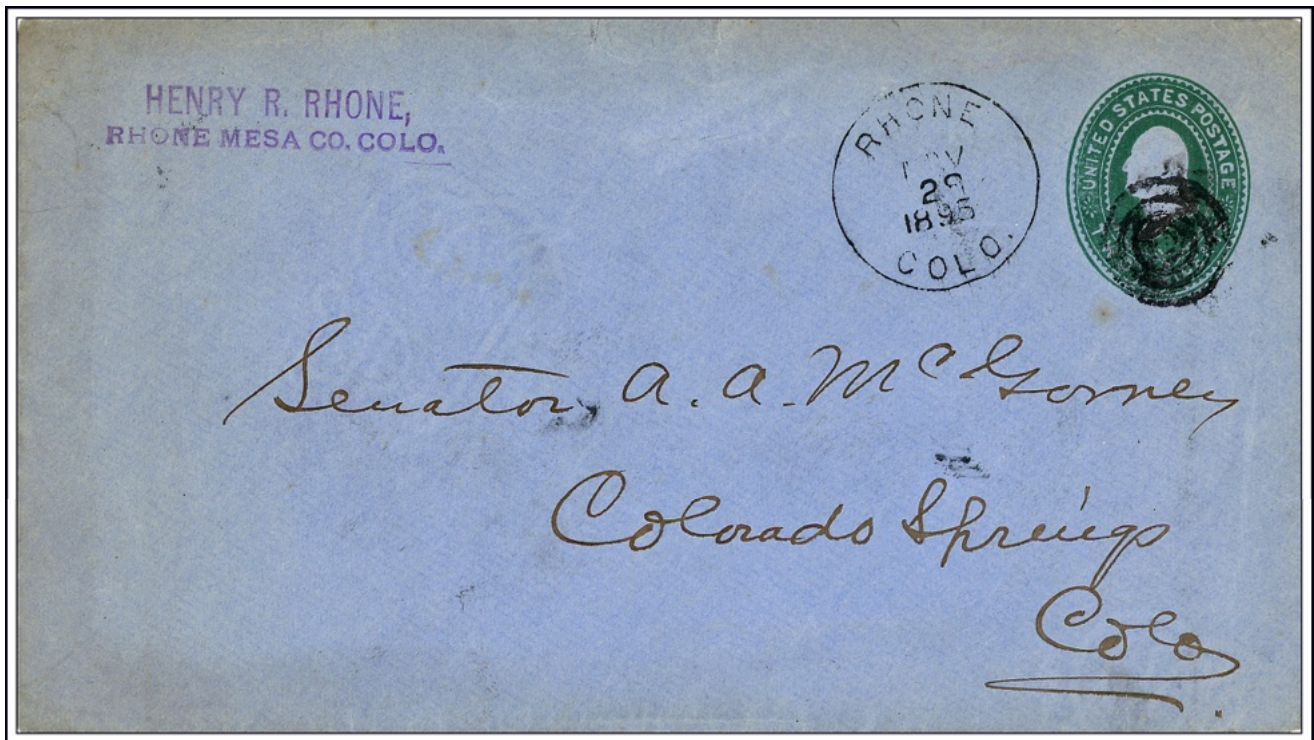
WHITEWATER / COLO.

July 18, 1896



PLATEAU CITY, / COLO.

April 6, 1914



RHONE / COLO.

November 29, 1895



WHITEWATER / COLO.

July 18, 1896