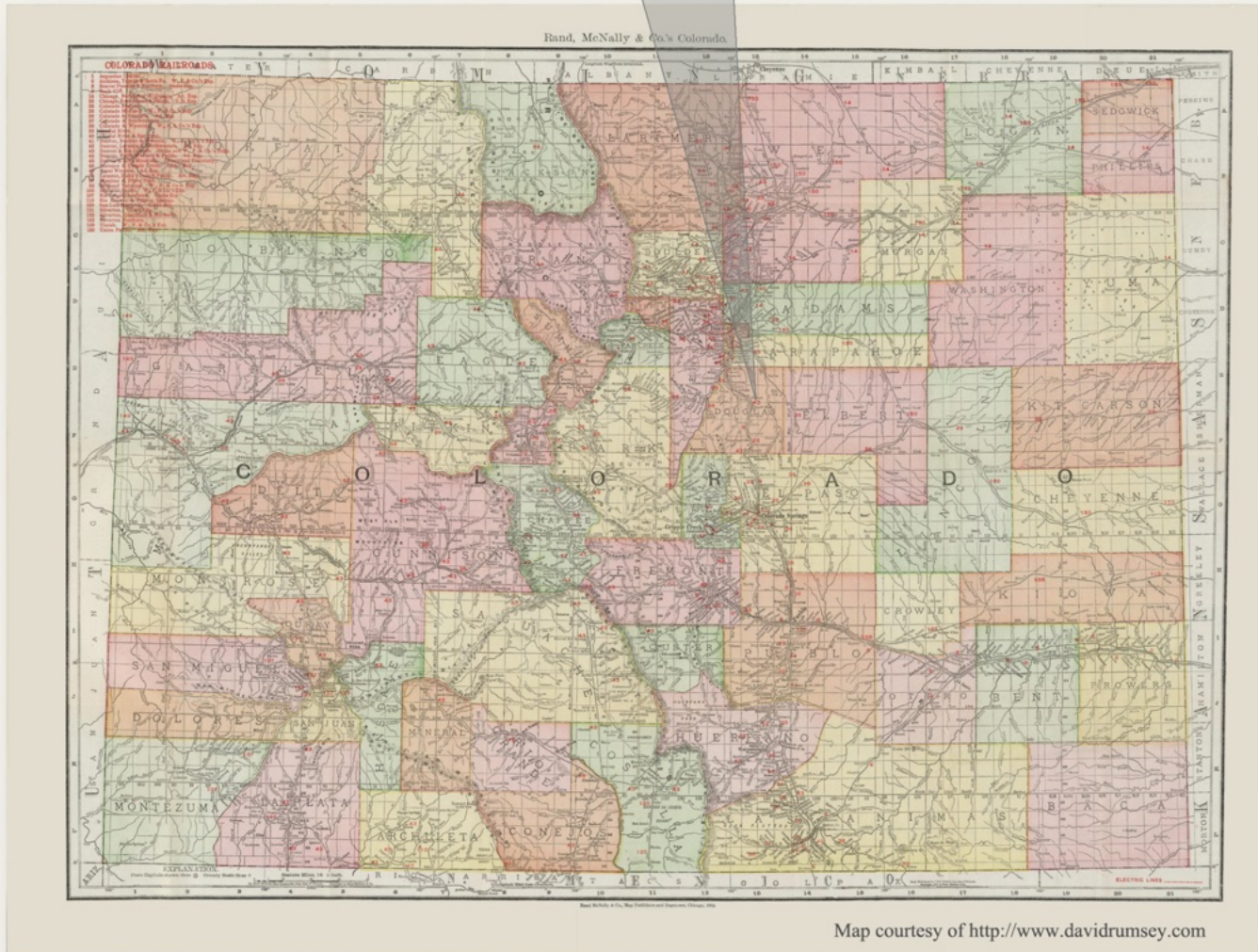


# Douglas County



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

*Established: November 1, 1861*

*County Seat: Castle Rock*



## **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

Douglas County is one of the sixteen counties that were organized with the establishment of Colorado Territory in 1861. At first the county extended from the South Platte River in the mountains eastward to the boundary with Kansas. However, on February 2, 1874, Douglas County was reduced to its present boundaries with the severing of much of the eastern portion to create Elbert County. Eventually that area would be further divided to form present day Elbert County and portions of Lincoln, Kit Carson and Cheyenne Counties (April 11, 1889).

Douglas County is roughly rectangular in shape, approximately 35 miles east-west by 30 miles north-south. The western boundary, contiguous with Jefferson County, is the South Platte River and the boundary follows the river from the southwestern corner of Arapahoe County southwestward to the northwestern corner of Teller County. Arapahoe County forms the northern border and Elbert County the eastern border of Douglas County. The southern border is shared with El Paso and Teller Counties. Each of these three boundaries is a straight east-west or north-south line.

Douglas County varies widely in its topography. The western third is a portion of the rugged Front Range of the Rockies with the prominent Devils Head rising to 9,348 feet. The central portion of the county includes the valleys of East Plum Creek and West Plum Creek, which merge near Sedalia and then continue north to join the South Platte River. The eastern portion is drained by Cherry Creek, which also flows northward reaching the South Platte in downtown Denver. To the south, Douglas County rises to the broad east-west ridge known either as the Monument or Palmer Divide. Scattered through the central portion of the county are a number of rhyolite-topped mesas such as Dawson, Raspberry, Larkspur and other buttes. The famous Castle Rock is another of these remnant structures.

The principal drainage is the South Platte River. All but a few small streams along the crest of the Divide eventually contribute to the South Platte. A tiny portion of the county drains south to the Arkansas River.

For most of its existence, travel in Douglas County has been primarily north-south. In recent years that has changed somewhat as the spread of urban development has created a need for more, or at least better east-west roads. The major road is Interstate 25 from Denver, south through Castle Rock to Colorado Springs. US 85, for many years the principal north-south road, runs south from Littleton through Sedalia and now joins Interstate 25 a short distance north of Castle Rock. Gradually this highway is being converted to a long needed four-lane road. Colorado Highway 83 follows Cherry Creek from Parker through Franktown and over the Divide to Colorado Springs. Other important roads are Colorado 67 from Sedalia through the Front Range to the South Platte River and then south to Woodland Park; Colorado 86 goes east from Castle Rock through Franktown and Elbert County, eventually intersecting Interstate 70 north of Limon in Lincoln County.

The Denver and Rio Grande (now Union Pacific) and the Santa Fe Railroads both follow portions of the Plum Creek drainage south from Littleton through Castle Rock and over the Divide to Palmer Lake and on to Colorado Springs. Another famous railroad, the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad followed the South Platte River to the junction of the North and South Forks at the community of South Platte and then continued west up the North Fork. At South Platte the short-lived Nighthawk Branch followed the South Fork to a point just south of Bethesda. Another railroad, the Denver and New Orleans, crossed the northeastern corner of the county passing through Parker and Hilltop.

Settlement in Douglas County began with the early gold rush to Colorado. There were minor gold discoveries on the upper portion of Cherry Creek at Russellville. The production of lumber and agricultural products for the booming settlements of Denver and the mountain communities west of Denver contributed to the early growth of the county.



Douglas County was on the major routes of pioneer travel: the Cherokee Trail and the Territorial Road from Denver south to the Arkansas River. The Smoky Hill Trail came through Parker (Pine Grove) and the northeastern corner of the county.

The construction of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad shifted development west from settlements on Cherry Creek to Castle Rock and other places along Plum Creek. This was supported when the county seat was moved from Franktown to Castle Rock.

Economically, for most of its existence, Douglas County has depended upon agriculture in one form or another. Potatoes were a major crop on portions of the Monument Divide until blight destroyed the crops and the industry. Livestock production, including dairy farms, dominated much of the central and eastern portions of the county. While there are still cattle ranches in Douglas County, recreational horse-raising has become an important activity.

Lumbering was an early, important activity in Douglas County. The pine forests on the Monument Divide produced much of the lumber used in the early construction of the city of Denver. Some of the early communities along Plum Creek had large sawmills. In the late nineteenth century and the twentieth century timber production shifted more to the forests of the Front Range.

Another product of Douglas County has been building stone, quarried from several of the mesas in the vicinity of Castle Rock. This activity continues even today but at a reduced level.

Mining was of some interest in Douglas County, unfortunately none of the discoveries proved to be significant. Mining districts developed briefly near Russellville, Dakan and the Tyler-Pemberton area.

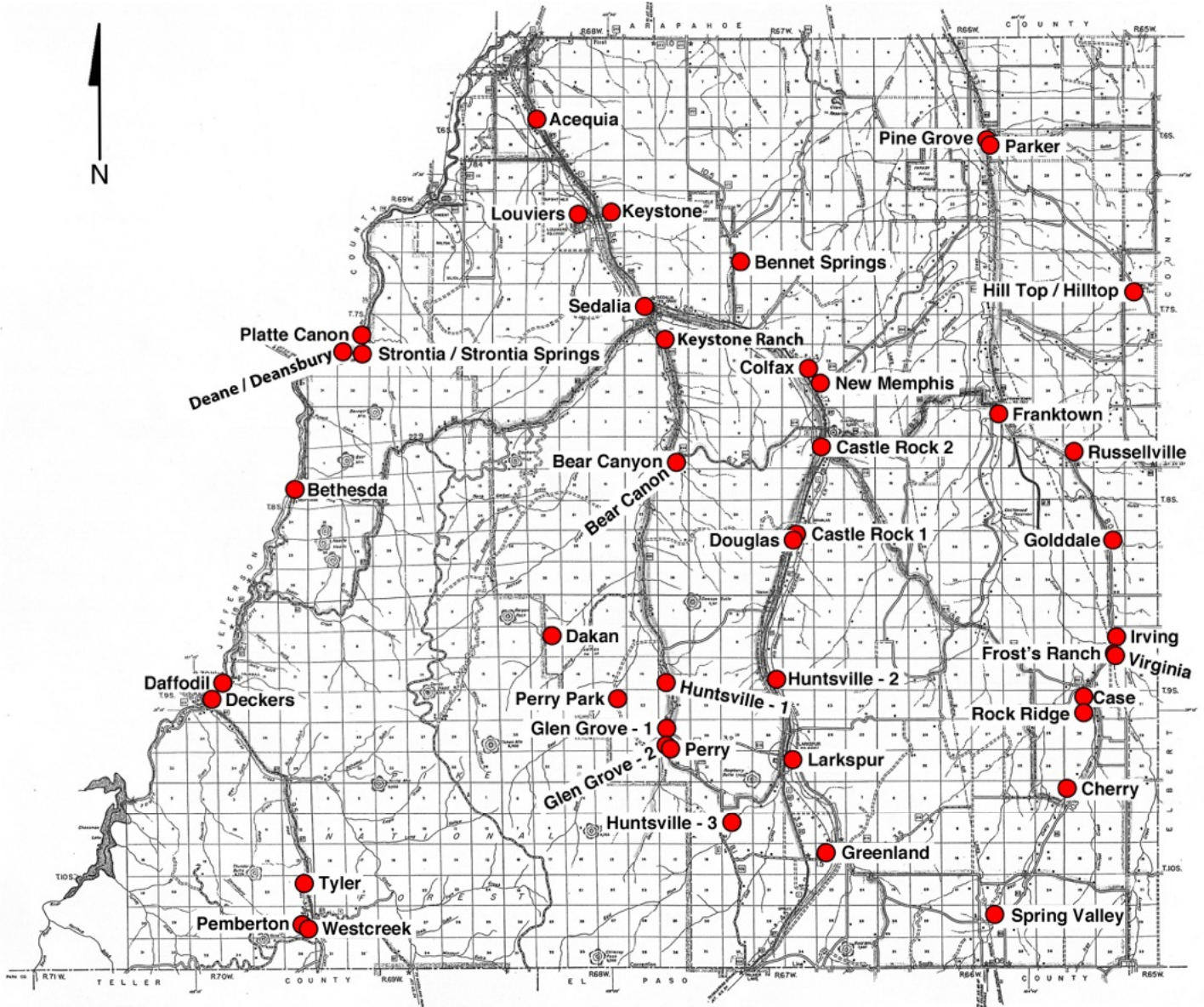


**Keystone – Ranch/Buildings Overview**

Photograph by William H. Bauer

October 15, 1996





Post Office Location Map – Douglas County

For the first one hundred plus years of its history Douglas County was a rural county that fed agricultural products north to Denver. In the final quarter of the twentieth century all that changed. The construction of Interstate 25 through the county opened the area to suburban development and suddenly Castle Rock and Parker became rapidly growing cities. Douglas County became one of, and at times the fastest growing, counties in the whole United States.

My personal experience has been with the West Plum Creek Valley and Perry Park. In the mid-1950's, when I was doing my thesis in that area, I doubt that the population of some 50-60 square miles exceeded 500. Today 5,000 may be closer to the total population of the same area. Castle Rock, at that time a small village, has expanded its corporate limits six miles east to just short of Cherry Creek on the west side of Franktown and similarly in other directions. If it is only a few weeks since between visits to Douglas County, you will find new subdivisions and new apartment complexes have risen on land that a few days earlier had been open range. In spite of this intense development Douglas County still remains an attractive place to live and one of my favorite areas of Colorado.

I want to thank Johanna Harden of the Douglas County Public Library for reviewing this manuscript and for the suggestions, corrections and additional information she supplied. Johanna and the Douglas County Public Library are to be commended for their dedication to preserving the history of their county and the willingness to assist those studying the history of Douglas County.

**ACEQUIA**

The townsite was one of those acquired for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad by the National Land and Improvement Company. It was a siding on the railroad about seventeen miles south of Denver and later was also the site of a siding for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Acequia was in existence by 1874 and had a railroad station by that name; however, the plat for Acequia was not filed until June 28, 1881. A small community with a boarding house and a store developed. By 1900 the post office had closed but the Acequia name remained on maps until late in the twentieth century. During the summer of 1957 I drove by the location almost every day and I remember an Acequia signpost was still present on the east side of US Highway 85.

No buildings remain at Acequia; however portions of the sidings are still present and are used for rail car storage. In 1991 there was access to the sidings.

The name is Spanish meaning, "ditch" or "drain" and was a reference to an irrigation ditch that brought water to the area.

The location of Acequia is on the west side of US 85, approximately two and one half miles south of the Douglas/Arapahoe County line. I believe that it was at milepost 17.4 (measured from Denver) on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

Latitude = 39:31:25 North Longitude = 105:01:39 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Mar 21 1874 --- SW/4 Sec 17 T6S R68W 1/4 mile NE of Plum Creek 150 feet from  
Acequia Station of D&RG RR on east side of railroad
- Jan 30 1874 Established
- Jan 30 1874 Bennett, John
- Dec 22 1874 Barton, Nelson M.
- Mar 20 1876 Babcock, Charles
- Jul 26 1878 O'Brien, Thomas C.
- Aug 23 1878 Farrell, Thomas
- Jun 2 1879 Clark, Jonathan D.
- Jun 9 1881 Discontinued
- Feb 8 1887 --- SW/4 Sec 17 T6S R68W 1/2 mile east of Plum Creek 150 feet east  
of Denver & Rio Grande RR  
Proposed postmaster Miss Lizzie O'Brien
- Apr 22 1887 Re-established
- Apr 22 1887 O'Brien, Miss Lizzie
- Jul 6 1900 Ordered closed
- Jul 14 1900 Discontinued Papers to Sedalia

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 ACEQUIA, / COLORADO. Jul 1 1887 Sep 24 1890  
CI 20P 30.0/28.0 Hstp Fancy, Wheel of fortune





**BEAR CANON**

The Bear Canon Post Office was located at a ranch on the Territorial Road between Denver and Colorado City that paralleled West Plum Creek. In the early 1870's, due to the development of a road eastward over the ridge to East Plum Creek and the original (1871) Castle Rock settlement, the location became a significant early crossroads. It was one of the stopping points on the stage road from Denver to Colorado City. Mail was delivered there once a week.

The construction of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad up the East Plum Creek Valley and over the Plum Creek (Monument) Divide to Colorado Springs greatly lessened travel on the Territorial Road and Bear Canon was reduced to a ranch post office serving residents along the middle portion of West Plum Creek.

The post office opened in 1863 but was closed in 1869. It reopened in 1869 but with the spelling altered from Canon to Canyon and continued to operate during the 1870's.

The crossroads is near the site of St. Phillip in the Field Episcopal Church. This original community church, to the southwest of the intersection, was founded in 1872 and in 1889 became an Episcopal Church which is still in use.

The ranch where the Bear Canon Post office was located has been developed into a rural subdivision of ranchettes of thirty-five acres or larger. The homestead portion, named the Big Bear Ranch, is on the west side of Big Bear Drive, a short distance from Wolfensburger Road. This was the site of the Bear Canon Post Office. Two of the original buildings are still present at the ranch: the homestead cabin and the stage building. In May 2003 I met the current owner and was graciously allowed to enter the ranch and photograph the buildings.

The name of the post office is a probably a reference to Bear Creek and the canyon from which the stream exits from the Front Range some distance south at Perry Park.

No document for Bear Canon was found in the Douglas County section of the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports.

Refer to Bear Canyon for a later location of this office.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 7 1863	Established
Apr 7 1863	Dawson, Thomas H.
Jan 8 1867	Flinton, Charles H.
Aug 29 1867	Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Bear Canon	Jan 17 1867
	MS	Mscpl Pen cancel (Year dated from enclosure)

*Bear Canon*  
*Jan 17* 1

**BEAR CANYON**

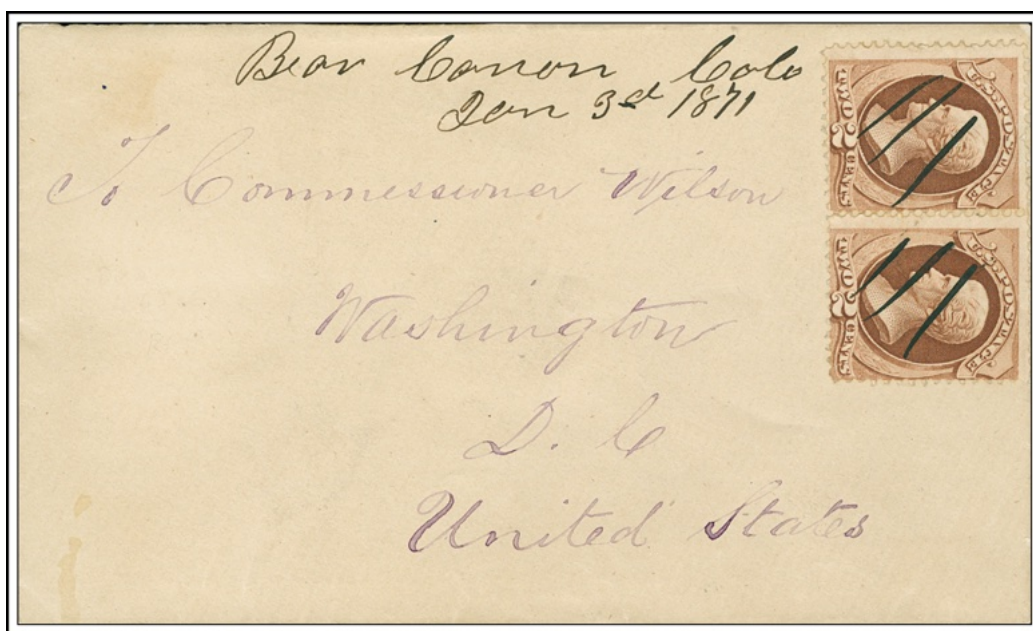
When this post office on West Plum Creek opened, it was in effect, a re-establishment of the earlier Bear Canon Post Office at or very near the same location. Refer to Bear Canon for a discussion of this post office.

Latitude = 39:22:05 North Longitude = 104:57:36 West BEAR CANYON CHURCH

**BEAR CANYON – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 8 1869	Established Same location as Bear Canon
Apr 8 1869	Stevens, Lewis G.
Oct 26 1870	James, Marcus L.
Feb 6 1871 ---	SE/4 Sec 12 T8S R68W One mile east of Plum Creek Keystone is 8 miles northerly, Huntsville 7 miles southerly Postmaster - M. L. James
May 13 1873	Smith, Albion
Nov 12 1873	Smith, T.
Jan 23 1874	Stevens, Lewis G.
Aug 4 1879	Discontinued



**Bear Canon Colo**

**January 3, 1871**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Bear Canon Colo	Jan 3 1871
	MS	Mscp Pen cancel

*Bear Canon Colo  
Jan 3<sup>d</sup> 1871* 1

## BEAR CANYON – Continued



**This log cabin is said to have been the stage station and post office at Bear Canon, Colorado.**

Photograph by William H. Bauer

May 13, 2003

**BENNET SPRINGS**

Bennet Springs has caused some confusion in historical reports. Several authors have equated Bennet Springs with Benham Springs, the latter a stage station on the Smoky Hill Trail. However, the site of Benham Springs is in Elbert County, some thirty miles or more east of the site of Bennet Springs in Douglas County.

It is now generally recognized that Bennet Springs was along the Territorial Road from Denver to Colorado City and was in the vicinity of D. C. Oakes sawmill in northern Douglas County. Another name that has been applied to the site is Pretty Woman Ranch.

Even when the confusion with Benham Springs is eliminated, the historical descriptions of the site are inconsistent. There are references to Richardson's Hill, Riley Hill, Daniels Park, and the Plum Creek Divide Wagon Road.

The reference that I have chosen to accept is one that states: "This long steep hill that leads to Wildcat Point and later Daniels Park, became Riley's Hill." It is stated that Sylvester Richardson and his wife came from New York to the region in 1860 and in June 1861 moved to Douglas County opposite Oake's sawmill. Richardson was the one and only postmaster for Bennet Springs.



**BENNET SPRINGS – Continued**

To reach the accepted site of Bennet Springs, turn north from US 85 on to Daniels Park Road. 2.4 miles from US 85 there is the entrance in to a large horse ranch, with a very large residence on the hill below a rock bluff. The private entrance road crosses a small creek and on the north side of the road and west of the creek there is an old, two-story ranch house partially hidden by trees. This was Richardson’s Ranch and the site of the Bennet Springs Post Office. The building is in a reasonable state of repair and there is a functioning windmill within a few feet of the house. If you choose not to drive in on the private road, you should be able to find a viewpoint on Daniels Park Road or it is only a short walk to the bridge over the creek.

No document for Bennet Springs was found in the Douglas County section of the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Dec 20 1862</b>	<b>Established</b>
<b>Dec 20 1862</b>	<b>Richardson, Sylvester</b>
<b>Sep 12 1865</b>	<b>Discontinued</b>

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM BENNET SPRINGS**

**BETHESDA**

This settlement was platted in 1896 as Nighthawk and is more commonly known by that name. The name was from a species of hawk, the Bull Bat.

A railroad, the Nighthawk Branch, was built along the South Fork of the South Platte River from South Platte to about three miles south of Nighthawk. There may have been intentions to continue that railroad on to Cripple Creek but that was not done. The Colorado and Southern operated the Nighthawk Branch from 1902-1916.

With a lack of success of the mining, lumbering became important. Another factor in the life of the settlement was the development of mineral wells and springs, similar to those at Strontia Springs and the establishment of a small resort.

With the development of the resort, a post office was authorized but with the name of Bethesda, for the biblical pool in Jerusalem which was believed to have healing properties. Like the mining activity, the resort lasted for only a few years.

The site of Bethesda is on the east side of Platte River Road (County Highway 97) a little more than three miles south of the point where the road crosses the Platte River from Jefferson County into Douglas County. The location is an open hillside field of several acres, but no structures remain. There is an historical information sign for Nighthawk.

Latitude = 39:21:17 North Longitude = 105:10:08 West NIGHTHAWK (BETHESDA)

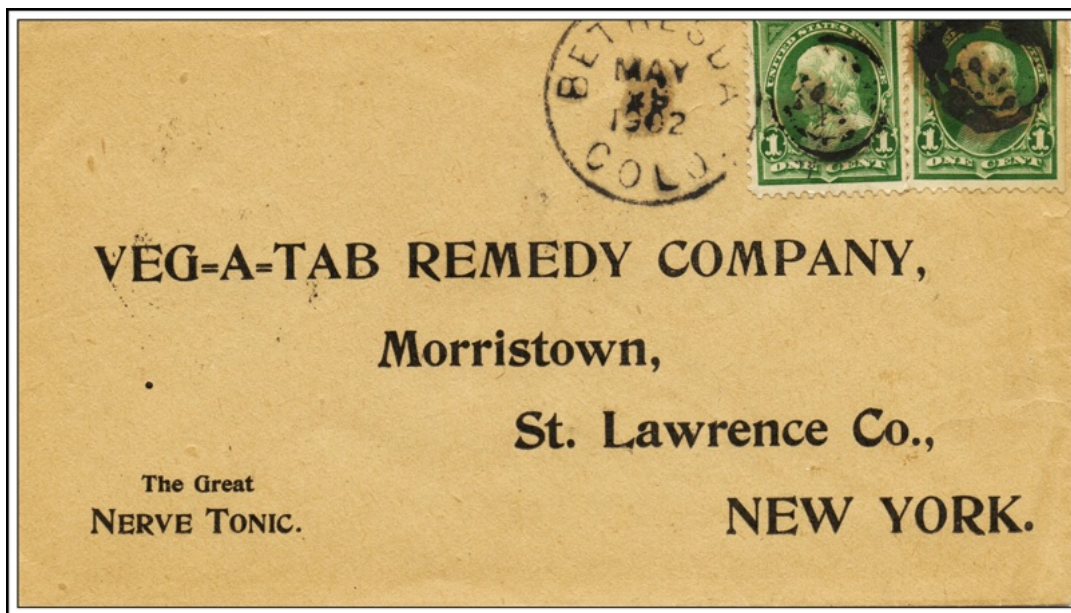
**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Feb 18 1902</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>NW/4 Sec 13 T8S R70W On east side of the South Fork of the Platte On south side of Pine Creek Sketch map places it in the SE corner of the two streams</b>
<b>Mar 28 1902</b>	<b>Established</b>	
<b>Mar 28 1902</b>		<b>Hanna, Mary E.</b>
<b>May 6 1907</b>		<b>Moore, Marie A.</b>
<b>Sep 15 1909</b>	<b>Discontinued</b>	<b>Mail to South Platte</b>

**BETHESDA – Continued****Confirmed types of postal markings**1 BETHESDA / COLO.  
CI 10P 27.5

May 29 1902 Jul 2 1908

Hstp Target, 4-ring



BETHESDA / COLO.

May 29, 1902

**CASE**

Case was one of a group of small ranch communities that were located along Cherry Creek south of Franktown. It has become confused with the earlier Rock Ridge Post Office, which was located within a short distance of Case.

From the junction of Russellville Road with Colorado Highway 83 it is one-half mile to the first of two ranches on the east side of Colorado 83. East of the ranches is a low, intermittent rock ridge which is the source of the name for the area and for the northerly of the two ranches, the Rock Ridge Ranch. Most reports claim this to have been the site of the Rock Ridge Post Office. However, the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports clearly state that the Case Post Office was in the northeast quarter of Section 19 and that the Rock Ridge Post Office was in the southeast quarter of section 19. Therefore, I have concluded that the Case Post Office was at what is today called the Rock Ridge Ranch, and that the Rock Ridge Post Office was at the next ranch to the south.

Both of these ranches are active ranches. The name Case, was to honor Jonathan A. Case who managed a general merchandise store in the area and also the nearby Case Creamery.

**CASE – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

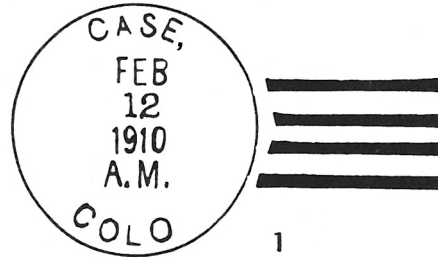
Jul 24 1897	--	NE/4 Sec 19 T9S R65W 1/4 mile east of Cherry Creek Proposed postmaster - Washington J. Whittier
Aug 7 1897		Established
Aug 7 1897		Whittier, Washington S. [J.?)
Feb 10 1900		Schrieber, Mamie
Apr 8 1903		Wheeler, Flora A.
Mar 25 1905		Whittier, Washington I. [J.?)
Nov 23 1911		Whittier, Sarah
Jun 24 1913		Moved to Irving

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

0.1	CASE / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target	Sep 11 1906
1	CASE, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x13mm	Jul 20 1907 Dec 21 1912



0.1



1

**CASTLE ROCK (I)**

The Castle Rock, although not the largest, is one of the most prominent and well-known geographic features in Douglas County. Located on the east side of Interstate 25, at the foot of the grade south to Plum Creek Divide, it rises above the modern community of Castle Rock.

The modern community was not the site of the first settlement to be named Castle Rock. The original location was three miles to the south, on the east side of Interstate 25.

When the Denver and Rio Grande built south from Denver to Colorado Springs, two settlements came into existence along lower East Plum Creek: New Memphis and Castle Rock. Both received post offices and were stations on the railroad.

In February 1874 the Territorial Legislature created Elbert County from the eastern portion of Douglas County. An election was held in Douglas County to determine the location of the county seat. Sedalia, Frankstown, Glade, Douglas and Castle Rock competed for the designation.

With this change in the county boundaries, much changed. A new community was platted between New Memphis and the existing Castle Rock. The Post Office Department Records produce a shuffle of names. The original Castle Rock Post Office was renamed Douglas and the New Memphis Post Office closed or moved to the new community and adopted the name Castle Rock. Land for this new Castle Rock was donated to Douglas County by Jeremiah Gould; the new town became the county seat of Douglas County.

New Memphis would quickly disappear as the residents moved to the new town. Douglas lasted longer but eventually it too faded to obscurity.



**CASTLE ROCK (I) – Continued**

It has been frequently reported that Dr. Edwin James, botanist, who was a member of Major Stephen H. Long's expedition of 1820, is to be credited with naming the Castle Rock formation. However, a sketch of the "rock," by Samuel Seymore in *Captain Bell's Journal* of the Long expedition, is of what is now known as Elephant Rock near Monument, Colorado and not of the butte at Castle Rock.

The earliest known reference to the geologic formation that overlooks the town of Castle Rock is found in the December 1858 diary of miner David Kellogg. Returning from prospecting near the confluence of Cherry Creek and the South Platte Kellogg and companions camped at the base of the butte, climbed to the top and christened it Castle Rock.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 5 1871	Established
Apr 5 1871	Garrison, William
May 15 1871 ---	NE/4 Sec 27 T8S R67W 1/4 mile east of East Plum Creek Accompanied by an interesting sketch map that shows Bear Canon, Glen Grove and Huntsville, all in the West Plum Creek Valley
May 18 1874	Name changed to Douglas

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM CASTLE ROCK (I)**

**CASTLE ROCK (II)**

In 1872 Jeremiah Gould homesteaded between the railroad communities of New Memphis and Castle Rock. On April 25, 1874 together with J. D. McIntyre, P. P. Wilcox and John H. Craig he filed a town plat for a new community that somehow managed to acquire the Castle Rock name from the existing community to the south.

The Board of County Commissioners, after an election held to determine a county seat, on April 7, 1874 recognized the new town of Castle Rock and authorized the immediate erection of public buildings for county use. It thus appears that the new community not only stole its name, but also the county seat (from Franktown), all of this before it was firmly established. Castle Rock has remained the Douglas County seat.

The growth of Castle Rock was slow, as in fact was true for all of Douglas County. In the mid-1950's, Castle Rock was a small town providing basic services to surrounding ranches and farms and acting as the seat of county government.

In addition to being an agricultural center, Castle Rock was the shipping point for building stone from a number of quarries in the surrounding area. Stone from these quarries was used for the Union Depot and other important buildings in Denver.

The construction of Interstate 25 from Denver south signaled a change. With the new highway, northern and central Douglas County became easily accessible to an expanding Denver population. The result was that in the late twentieth century Douglas County became one of the fastest growing counties in the entire United States. That growth has slowed a bit but still continues at a frantic pace. The city limits of Castle Rock now extend several miles in all directions from the original community. Commercial development and the original site (Douglas) have swallowed the site of New Memphis; although still somewhat rural it is surrounded by residential developments.

CASTLE ROCK (II) – Continued



CASTLE ROCK. / COLO.

April 11, 1881

With star fancy cancel

*BLAST IN CASTLE ROCK DESTROYS POST OFFICE*

*4/5/1959 - A violent explosion ripped open the building of Castle Rock post office Saturday.*

*The wrecked building also housed district offices of the State Highway Department, and the Castle Rock Dry Good's Store.*

*Nobody was injured in the explosion, though two persons were in the building when the roof was lifted by its force. The postmaster, Glenn Daniels, declared the building a total loss.*

*Preliminary investigation indicated the explosion was caused by a gas leak.*

*G. V. Brendlinger, district manager of the Plateau Natural Gas Co., said his engineers found a crack in the 1-1/4 inch main serving the building. The crack could have been caused by passage of a heavy truck in the adjoining street, he said.*

*The explosion occurred at 8 a.m. Daniels and his clerk, Mrs. Elizabeth Lowell, had been sorting mail for half an hour before then.*

*Daniels said he first heard an explosion that seemed to take place in the highway offices next door. A few seconds later, he said, a second explosion occurred, apparently directly underfoot.*

*The roof was lifted several feet he said. The floor buckled, pieces of wall collapsed, and all windows and doors were blown out.*

*The two postoffice workers got out uninjured. Volunteers streamed from the headquarters of the Castle Rock Fire department across the street, and from nearby houses, to put the resulting fire out in a few minutes.*

*Daniels said no postoffice equipment or supplies were lost. With volunteer help he had it moved across the street to a garage where he went on with his sorting.*

*By 10:15 a.m., Daniels proudly said, two pouches of mail were ready for delivery.*

*A number of papers -- records and blueprints -- in the highway office were lost. The store's damage was confined to a cracked wall. --- Rocky Mountain News.*

*From the COLORADO PROSPECTOR, Volume 10, Number 10*

## CASTLE ROCK (II) – Continued

### Chronology of the Post Office

Dec 20 1871	---	NW/4 Sec 35 T7S R67 50 yards east of the D&RG RR 1/4 mile east of East Plum Creek An accompanying sketch map shows: New Memphis - NE/4 Sec 35 T7S R67W, east of RR Castle Rock - NW/4 Sec 11 T8S R67W, west of RR Douglas - SE/4 Sec 22 T8S R67W, east of RR	
May 16 1874	---	NW/4 Sec 11 T8S R67W 80 rods east of East Plum Creek, east side of D&RG RR Document indicates that New Memphis will be, "left out" by this change Also indicates that "Castle Rock" is 2-1/4 miles southerly and New Memphis is 2 miles northerly of this location The accompanying sketch map shows: New Memphis in center of N/2 Sec 35 T7S R67W Proposed Castle Rock in NW/4 Sec 11 T8S R67W Present Castle Rock in center of E/2 Sec 22 T8S R67W	
May 18 1874		Moved from New Memphis	
May 18 1874		Grimes, Charles Jr.	
Oct 21 1874		Randel, John N.	
Feb 17 1876		Cantril, Simeon W.	
Mar 1 1876		Cantril, Simeon W.	
Feb 26 1879		Latimer, Marion A.	
Apr 16 1879		Higgins, Jonathan W.	
May 9 1879		Latimer, Marion A.	
Apr 16 1880		Sellars, John C.	
May 10 1883		Webster, Mrs. Phila A.	
Feb 5 1886		Howerton, William H.	
Apr 19 1887		Ross, Frank B.	
Sep 3 1887		Moore, Tilghman B.	
May 11 1889		Webster, Mrs. Phila L.	
Oct 6 1893		Scott, Alfred F.	
Nov 20 1897		Conant, Rufus P.	
Apr 1 1899		Webster, Phila L.	
Dec 6 1910		Potter, Ellen E.	
Jan 1 1912			Office made Presidential
Jan 24 1912		Potter, Ellen E.	P&S [Apptd by President & confirmed by Senate]
Jan 11 1916		Alford, Agnes H.	P&S
Apr 24 1916		Vaughn, Anna C.	P&S
Apr 3 1920	---	Third street, between Wilcox and Perry Streets (N/2 Sec 11 T8S R67W) 900 feet east of Plum Creek	
Jul 1 1920		Rose, Forest B.	Acting
Jan 18 1922		Rose, Forest B.	Appointed
Sep 15 1925		Johnson, Hattie G.	Acting
Feb 27 1926		Kroll, Elizabeth M.	
Feb 6 1930		Kroll, Elizabeth M.	
May 17 1934		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Nominated
Jun 6 1934		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Confirmed
Jun 29 1934		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Commissioned
Jul 15 1934		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Assumed Charge
Jun 7 1938		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Nominated
Jun 8 1938		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Confirmed
Jun 23 1938		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Appointed Presidential
Aug 24 1938		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Commissioned
Aug 31 1938		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Assumed Charge
Oct 17 1941	---	Third street; SE/4 Sec 1 T8S R67W	
Feb 4 1943		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Nominated
Mar 17 1943		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Confirmed
Mar 18 1943		Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Appointed Presidential

**CASTLE ROCK (II) – Continued**

Mar 31 1943	Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Assumed Charge
Apr 16 1943	Hier, Mrs. Flora G.	Commissioned
Apr 30 1956	Daniels, Glenn A.	Assumed Charge
May 17 1956	Daniels, Glenn A.	Acting
Feb 7 1957	Daniels, Glenn A.	Nominated
Apr 8 1957	Daniels, Glenn A.	Confirmed, Apptd. Presid. & Commissioned
Apr 19 1957	Daniels, Glenn A.	Assumed Charge
Nov 21 1971	Swearingen, Mrs. Betty J.	Officer in charge
Feb 5 1972	Swearingen, Mrs. Betty J.	Appointed
Feb 5 1972	Swearingen, Mrs. Betty J.	Assumed Charge
Dec 12 1973	Smith, Kenneth W.	Officer in charge
Apr 13 1974	Smith, Kenneth W.	Appointed
Jun 12 1980	Knapp, Lyle	Officer in charge
Dec 27 1980	Rucken, Billy R.	Appointed

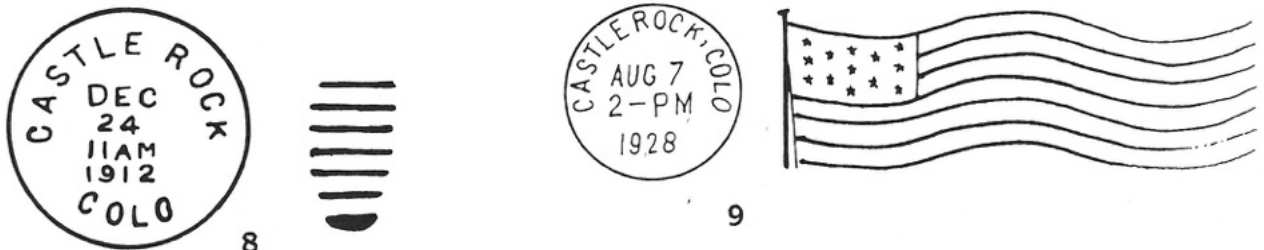
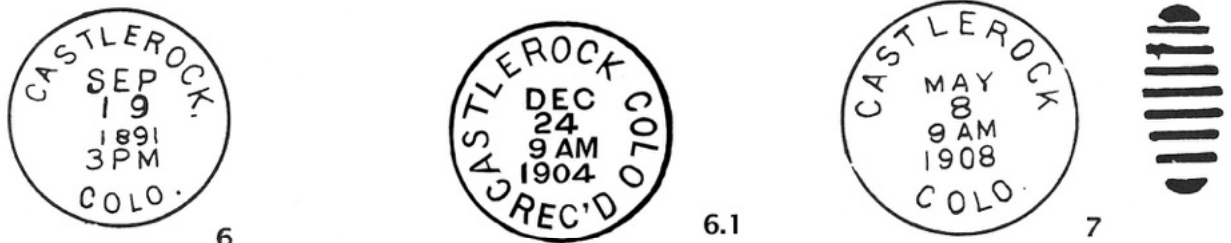
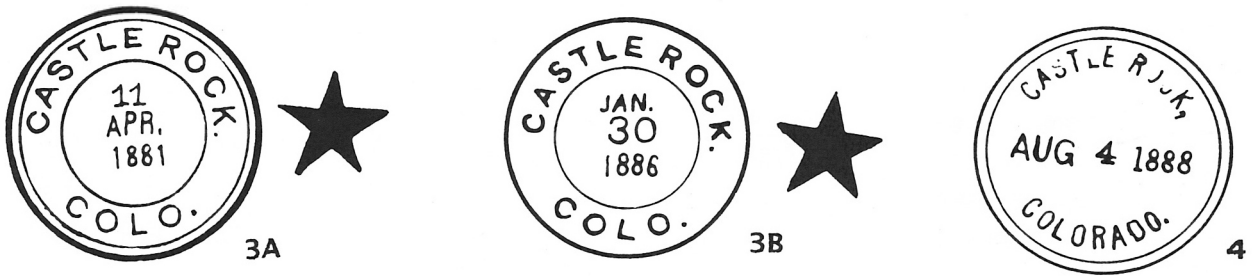
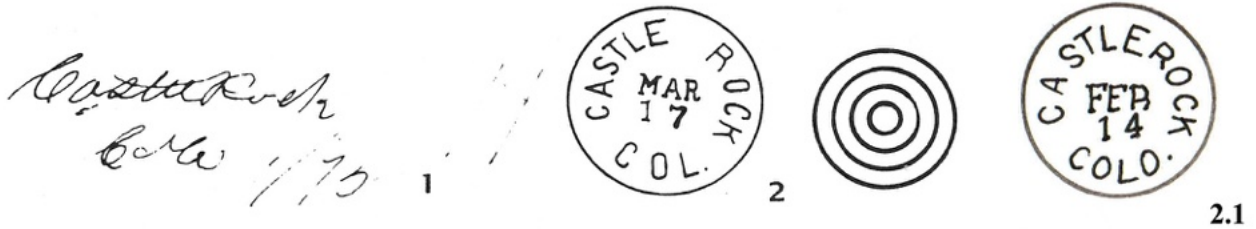
**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Castle Rock / Colo MS	Jan 30 1875 Mscp Pen cancel
2	CASTLE ROCK / COL. CI 10P 25.0	Mar 17 187- Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm
2.1	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Feb 14 187- Hstp Target, Negative X-roads
3A	CASTLE ROCK, / COLO. CI 21H 32.0/29.5/19.0	Jul 18 1878 May 3 1886 Hstp Fancy, positive star; Cork, smudge
3B	CASTLE ROCK, / COLO. CI 11P 33.0/19.5	Jan 30 1886 Oct 16 1887 Hstp Fancy, positive star; Cork, smudge
4	CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO CI 20P 32.0/28.5	Feb 23 1888 Jun 9 1889 Hstp Target, 4-ring 20mm
5	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 26.0	Nov 17 1889 Hstp Cork, Double grid [NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION]
6	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Sep 19 1898 Sep 6 1899 Hstp Cork, negative X-roads
6.1	CASTLE ROCK, COLO. / REC'D CI 10P 28.0	Nov 2 1898 [1891?] Dec 24 1904 Hstp Cork, smudge
7	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 29.5	Jun 22 1907 Aug 30 1910 Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval
8	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 29.5	Dec 24 1912 Dec 20 1916 Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval
9	CASTLE ROCK, COLO. CI 10P 23.0	Jul 9 1928 Aug 7 1928 Flag 13-star waving flag
10	CASTLE ROCK / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Jun 24 1927 Nov 28 1938 4bars S-24x14mm
11	CASTLE ROCK, / COLO CI 10P 22.5	Nov 16 1936 Feb 28 1957 Mach 7 wavy lines
12	CASTLE ROCK / COLO CI 10P 30.0	Apr 8 1941 Jun 15 1967 Dplx Grid, diamond with 1
12.1	CASTLE ROCK, / COLO. RC 10P 38.0x19.0	1950s Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box
13	CASTLE ROCK, COLO. CI 10P 21.0	Jun 15 1960 Dec 13 1961 Mach 7 wavy lines
14	CASTLE ROCK, / COLO CI 10P 21.0	Aug 20 1964 Mar 1 1966 Mach 7 wavy lines
15	CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 CI 10P 21.0	Jul 20 1967 Dec 10 1975 Mach 7 wavy lines

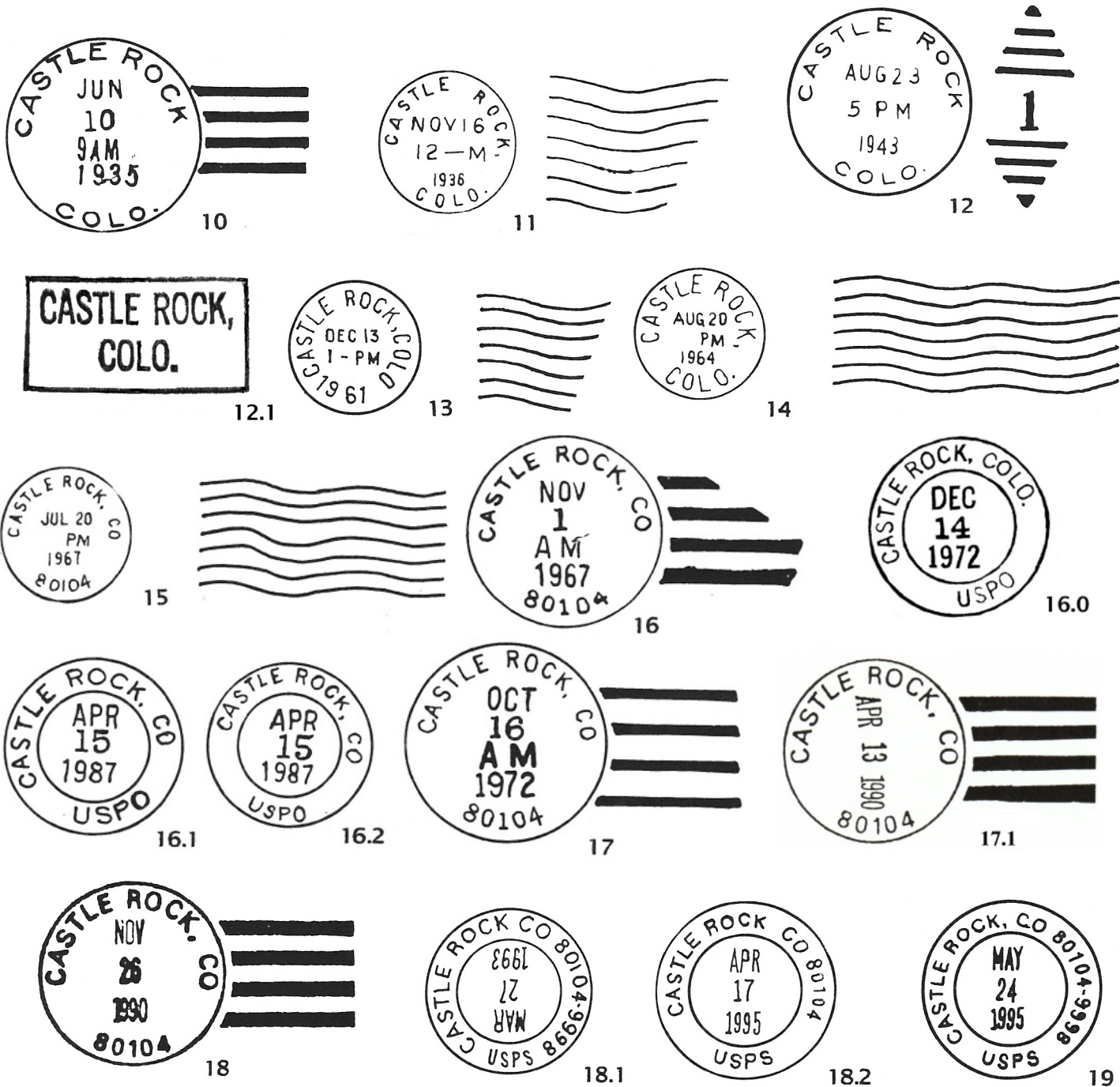


CASTLE ROCK (II) – Continued

16	CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Oct 1 1967 Feb 12 1968
16.0	CASTLE ROCK, COLO. / USPO CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Dec 14 1972
16.1	CASTLE ROCK, CO / USPO CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Hstp No killer; narrow space with USPO	Apr 15 1987
16.2	CASTLE ROCK, CO / USPO CI 11P 27.0/17.0	Hstp No killer; wide space with USPO	Sep 20 1976 Apr 15 1987
17	CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Nov 29 1971 Oct 16 1972
17.1	CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 CI 10P 30.0	4bars S-23x17mm	Apr 13 1990
18	CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 CI 10P 30.5	4bars S-23x18mm	Nov 26 1990 Nov 26 1990
18.1	CASTLE ROCK CO 80104-9998 / USPS CI 11P 27.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 27 1993
18.2	CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 17 1995
19	CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104-9998 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	May 24 1995 Jul 9 2005



**CASTLE ROCK (II) – Continued**



**CASTLE ROCK (II) STATIONS**

**STATION NO. 1**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 2 1988      Established as a station of Castle Rock

Confirmed types of postal markings

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM CASTLE ROCK STATION NO. 1  
CASTLE ROCK (II) STATIONS – Continued

125TH ANNIVERSARY STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 12 2006 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 Castle Rock, CO 80104 // 125 / Anniversary / Station Aug 12 2006  
CI 10H 50.0 Pict Scene - Railroad tracks and Castle Rock profile;  
Text - Town of Castle Rock / 1881 - 2006 /  
Celebrating our past, present and future



1

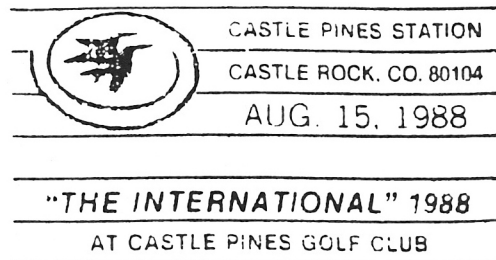
CASTLE PINES STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Aug 15 1988 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station  
Aug 21 1988 Operation terminated

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104 // CASTLE PINES STATION Aug 15 1988  
IR 00R 64.0x34.0 Pict Bars, text and emblem; "THE INTERNATIONAL"  
1988 / AT CASTLE PINES GOLF CLUB



1

DOUGLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

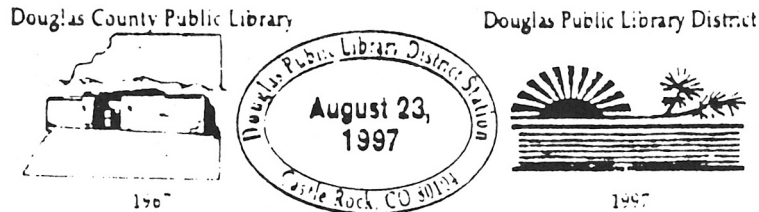
Aug 23 1997 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**CASTLE ROCK (II) STATIONS – Continued**

**DOUGLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT STATION – Continued**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 Castle Rock, CO 80104 // Douglas Public Library Dist Aug 23 1997  
OV 11P 33x24/27x17 Pict Scene - map & building at left, stylized scene at right; Text - at left, Douglas County Public Library / 1967; at right, Douglas Public Library District / 1997; below, 30 Years and Still Bookin' Good!



30 Years and Still Bookin' Good! 1

**MAIN STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 18 1989 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 CASTLE ROCK, / COLORADO 80104 // MAIN STATION Nov 18 1989  
IR 10P 52.0x43.0 Pict Scene - Castle Rock outline on star; Text – STARLIGHTING CEREMONY



**PHILIP S. MILLER LIBRARY STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Sep 27 2003 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 // Philip S. Miller Library Station Sep 27 2003  
IR 00R 62.0x44.0 Pict Scene – Castle Rock, wagon wheel, horse, steam locomotive, book; Text – A Moving History \* A Grand Opening



CASTLE ROCK (II) STATIONS – Continued  
PHILIP S. MILLER LIBRARY STATION – Continued



1

STARLIGHTING STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Nov 19 1988 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 Castle Rock, CO 80104 // Starlighting Station Nov 19 1988  
SL 00R 47.0x18.0 Pict Scene - Star and text at left; 52nd Annual Starlighting



Starlighting Station  
52nd Annual Starlighting  
November 19, 1988  
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Castle Rock Year Star  
1988

Chamber of Commerce

1

WAL\*MART STATION

Chronology of the Post Office

Apr 17 1999 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 :: WAL\*MART / STATION Apr 17 1999  
CI 10P 25.0 Pict Scene - Sylvester, Tweety, Daffy Duck, Bugs Bunny
- 2 CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 :: WAL\*MART / STATION Apr 17 1999  
CI 10P 25.0 Pict Scene - Sylvester, Tweety, Daffy Duck, Bugs Bunny; Not known if this is from a different device, or a damaged version of the original.



1



2

**CASTLE ROCK (II) STATIONS – Continued**

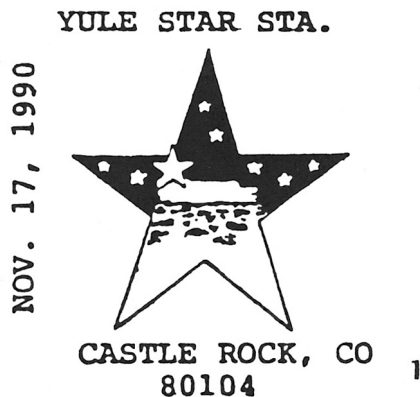
**YULE STAR STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 17 1990      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      CASTLE ROCK, CO / 80104 // YULE STAR STA.      Nov 17 1990  
IR 00R 43.0x50.0      Pict Scene - Star emblem, dateline is vertical at  
left, Station above, Town below star



**CHERRY**

D. R. Williams purchased 320 acres on the upper reaches of West Cherry Creek. He continued to expand his property eventually accumulating 1,180 acres. A small community developed in the vicinity of his ranch, which Williams called Williamsville. When application for a post office was made in 1900 the name Williamsville was rejected. It is claimed that another choice, Lawton, was also turned down. The accepted name was Cherry, for the nearby creek.

The area around the site of Cherry has always been and still is agricultural country. But the urbanization of the Denver to Colorado Springs corridor is beginning to affect the surrounding countryside.

From the intersection of Russellville Road and Colorado Highway 83, drive four and one quarter miles south on Colorado 83. A private road goes west from the highway and into a good-sized ranch complex on the west side of the creek. There is visual evidence that this is an old ranch and its location fits that given for Cherry in the Post Office Department Geographical Site Location Reports. The ranch is visible from Colorado 83.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Feb 23 1900 --- NW/4 Sec 6 T10S R65W Case is 4 miles northerly 10 rods north of West Cherry Creek  
Apr 7 1900      Established  
Apr 7 1900      Williams, Elvira O.  
Oct 29 1906      Williams, Nellie M.  
May 10 1909      Pouppirt, Mary E.  
Mar 29 1911      Gray, David D.  
Mar 24 1919      Lambert, Ida R.  
Aug 31 1920      Discontinued Mail to Castle Rock

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

- |   |                               |  |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 | CHERRY / COLO.<br>CI 10P 29.0 | ? ? 189-<br>Hstp Target [NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION] |
| 2 | CHERRY / COLO.<br>CI 10P 27.5 | Jun 1 1907 May 1 1910<br>Hstp Target                     |
| 3 | CHERRY / COLO.<br>CI 10P 31.0 | Apr 25 1911 Dec 25 1915<br>4bars S-25x18mm               |



2



3

**COLFAX**

The location of Colfax is in question. There is no mention of such a place in any of the historical literature that relates to Douglas County and there is no document in the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports. This early 1860's post office should not be confused with the Colfax that was in Custer (Fremont) County in the early 1870's.

The only references to this Colfax that I have found are the record of a postmaster appointment and a very small scale map locating the territorial period post offices of Colorado. From this map, I would place Colfax in the vicinity of the later New Memphis.

I suspect that Colfax was an early settlement that failed to last and that the approximate site was later occupied by the settlement of New Memphis. If this supposition is correct, the site would have been in the vicinity of the former, but now closed Exit 183 from Interstate 25.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jul 14 1862	Established
Jul 14 1862	Jones, Antoine
Oct 21 1863	Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**DAFFODIL**

Daffodil is another of the settlements on the South Fork of the South Platte River that is more commonly known by another name: Trumbull. It is less than a mile north of Deckers where Douglas County Road 67 intersects Colorado Highway 67. Post Office Department records indicate that the Daffodil Post Office had locations in both Douglas and Jefferson County. Today the community of Trumbull is almost entirely on the west side of the river. There is a reasonable large, level area on the east side of the river and that would have been a likely location for the Daffodil Post Office when in Douglas County.

**DAFFODIL – Continued**

The settlement is accredited to Steve Decker who settled on an old mining claim at the junction of Trout Creek and the South Fork of the South Platte River. He built a general store and operated a saloon in a small settlement he named Daffodil. The settlements of Deckers and Daffodil are less than a mile apart so there may be some confusion of the two places.

The location of Daffodil was the old site of Mouat’s lumber mill and the town was built on both sides of the river. In later years, the Trumbull Inn, a large rustic structure became a well-known place of entertainment.

Today Daffodil/Trumbull is the site of several small cabins that serve as permanent fishing camps for those chasing the wily trout in the South Platte.



**Overview of the community of Trumbull situated on the South Fork of the South Platte River  
The Post Office here was called Daffodil. During its existence, according to the Post Office  
Department Geographic Site Location Reports, it occupied locations on both sides of the river.**

Photograph by James L. Ozment

May 1998

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Feb 10 1896 --- SW/4 Sec 15 T9S R70W West side of the South Platte River  
Note: This location is in Jefferson County
- Apr 11 1896 Established
- Apr 11 1896 Hibbard, Robert H.
- Dec 4 1896 White, Josiah
- Dec 31 1897 Mitchell, Cora L.
- May 21 1903 Decker, Hannah A.
- Jul 27 1907 Ordered closed Mail to Bethesda effective Aug 15 1907
- Aug 12 1907 Closing order rescinded

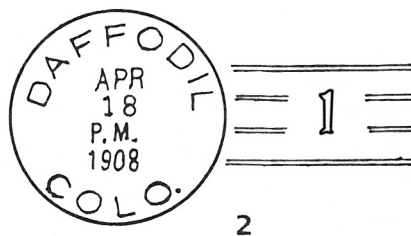


**DAFFODIL – Continued**

May 21 1903            Decker, Hannah A.  
 Nov 29 1907           Decker, Stephen D.  
 Feb 19 1908           Moved to Deckers

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |   |                                 |   |
|---|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 | DAFFODIL / COLO.<br>CI 10P 28.0 | Feb 4 1898    Apr 19 1899<br>Hstp Target, 4-ring 17mm         |
| 2 | DAFFODIL / COLO.<br>CI 10P 28.0 | Jul 18 1905    Sep 25 1909<br>Doane Type 2, with 1; P-24x14mm |

**DAKAN**

In late 1896 George Dakan staked several claims and his brother Allen platted twenty acres on his adjoining ranch in the shadow of Dakan Mountain opposite Dawson Butte, on the western side of West Plum Creek Valley. A settlement developed with stage connections to Sedalia, Castle Rock and Palmer Lake. A number of buildings and a hotel were erected.

A post office opened December 30, 1896 and the plat was filed on January 29, 1897. By August 1898 the post office was closed and the mining excitement had ended.

The site of Dakan is located in a level area where Dry Gulch exits from the Front Range. To reach the vicinity turn west from Perry Park Road onto Dakan Road. Follow the winding road around the low hill and into the area of a large horse ranch. Go past the main buildings to where Dakan Road makes a sharp turn to the north. Before making the turn, you will be looking in the direction of the site of Dakan.

This is all private property with no access. In the summer of 1957 this area was within the boundaries of my Master's Thesis for the Colorado School of Mines. I often parked my car in the area to hike out into the surrounding area. At the time there was a considerable amount of old lumber scattered around. I had no idea that this had once been a settlement. In my geological explorations, I discovered several small mine dumps up the Dry Gulch ravine. The entrances to the tunnels were all filled in with granite wash. One day, with a friend, we re-opened one of the tunnels to see what was being mined. We found a small vein, 8-10 inches wide, composed largely of barite and fluorite with a small amount of sulfides. Such a vein would not have been economic and that is evident from the short life of Dakan.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 25 1896 ---        NE/4 Sec 8 T9S R68W Perry Park is 4 miles southerly Directly on  
                                  both sides of Dry Creek  
                                  Proposed postmaster - John C. Garrison  
 Dec 30 1896        Established  
 Dec 30 1896        Garrison, John C.  
 Aug 2 1898        Discontinued Papers to Perry Park

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**DEANE**

Cecil A. Deane operated lumber camps that primarily cut ties for use by the railroads building throughout Colorado. He made an arrangement with John Evans to provide 200,000 ties for the Denver and New Orleans Railroad.

Deane selected a site for his tie camp on the south side of Bear Creek Gulch where it joins the South Platte River. The cut ties would float down the river to Denver where they were retrieved and shipped to the railhead.

The site selected for the tie camp offered other opportunities. It was close to the Strontia Medicinal Springs, it was along the newly constructed Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad and the South Platte was gaining a reputation as an excellent trout stream.

In 1877 Deane constructed a hotel, modeled after a European health spa. Water from the Strontia Springs was piped to the hotel to provide mineral salt water and vapor baths free of charge to the hotel's guests. There was also a small store at the site.

This location on the South Platte River has had post offices known by several different names. First it was known as Platte Canon. The Platte Canon Post Office moved a short distance and became Deane. The Deane Post Office was discontinued in 1884 and when it was re-established in 1890 it took the longer name of Deansbury. The Deansbury Post Office closed in 1892. In late 1903 an attempt was made to open a post office with the name of Strontia but that order was rescinded and it was not until 1912 that the Strontia Springs Post Office opened and remained open until 1932. All of these offices were located in the vicinity of the junction of Bear Gulch with the South Platte River.

The complex of sites is now covered by the Strontia Springs Reservoir and the area is not accessible by motor vehicle.



**DEANE, / COLO.**

**October 3, 1881**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

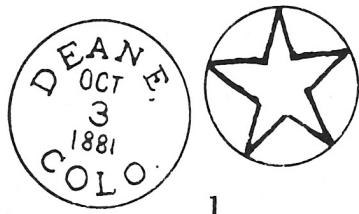
Oct 1 1877 --- SE/4 Sec 20 T7S R69W North side of the Platte River, on the east side of Bear Gulch (according to sketch map, which shows it opposite the mouth of Bear Gulch)

**DEANE – Continued**

Dec 19 1879	Moved from Platte Canon
Dec 19 1879	Deane, Cecil A.
Aug 15 1881	Steers, Charles R.
Mar 16 1882	Deane, Cecil A.
Oct 16 1884	Discontinued Mail to Dome Rock

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	DEANE, / COLO. CI 10P 24.0	Oct 3 1881 Hstp Fancy, star-in-circle
---	-------------------------------	--



1

**DEANSBURY**

Please refer to Deane for the discussion of this post office location.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 7 1890	---	Sec 20 T7S R69W On the Denver & South Park RR 100 feet west of South Platte and about 80 feet from Vans Creek About 75 feet south of the RR Proposed postmaster - William G. Nevin
Jun 23 1890		Established
Jun 23 1890		Nevin, William G.
Feb 3 1892		Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM DEANSBURY

**DECKERS**

In 1908 the Daffodil Post Office became known as Deckers. This actually involved a move of a short distance, approximately a half-mile, from what is now better known as Trumbull. Although the post office moved, the community continued to extend along the South Platte River where Horse Creek (or Trout Creek) joins the river. The new name of Deckers was applied to the segment around the store and saloon that Steve Decker had established on his early mining claim. With time, the area has come to be considered as two separate communities: the original Daffodil now Trumbull and the later Deckers.

Guest cabins were added to the settlement and it became known as Deckers Mineral Spring Resort.

It is obvious that this office was named for the Decker family and probably for Steve Decker, as he was the last postmaster at Daffodil and the first at Deckers. Steve Decker was preceded as postmaster at Daffodil by his wife Hanna and was followed at Deckers by Henry S. Decker.

It has been reported that this settlement was also known as Pemberton, however, the Pemberton Post Office existed coincident with Daffodil and the Post Office Department records indicate that Pemberton was about seven miles further south and eventually it became Westcreek.

**DECKERS – Continued**

It has also been reported that the change in name occurred in 1912, or officially in 1918. The Post Office Department records show the change took place in 1908 but perhaps that was not made the legal name until later.

Trumbull (Daffodil) is still a small community of cabins, now mostly privately owned, which are used for weekend and summer recreation. The Deckers store continues to operate having survived two major forest fires that ravaged the area.

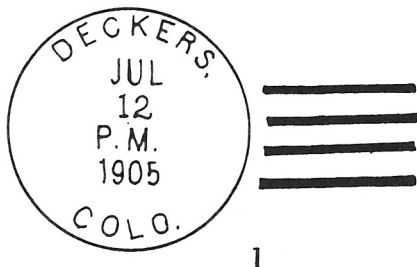
Latitude = 39:15:17 North Longitude = 105:13:35 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Feb 19 1908</b>	<b>Name changed from Daffodil Moved from the town of Trumbull Summer post office only before December 1916</b>
<b>Feb 19 1908</b>	<b>Decker, Stephen D.</b>
<b>Jan 18 1909 ---</b>	<b>Sec 15 T9S R70W 300 feet east of the South Fork of the South Platte River and 500 feet east of Trout Creek</b>
<b>Nov 6 1911</b>	<b>Decker, Henry S.</b>
<b>Jan 9 1913</b>	<b>Conner, Albert B.</b>
<b>Apr 7 1914 ---</b>	<b>N/2 NE/4 Sec 21 T9S R70W On east side of North Fork of the South Platte River and on the west side of Trout Creek (However, sketch map shows it east of Trout Creek)</b>
<b>Nov 25 1916</b>	<b>Weinberger, Maurice</b>
<b>Jun 23 1920</b>	<b>Alkire, Francis</b>
<b>May 19 1924</b>	<b>Howell, William A.</b>
<b>Jun 25 1925</b>	<b>Lee, Mrs. Mildred A.</b>
<b>May 15 1929</b>	<b>Wilson, Mabel M.</b>
<b>Oct 25 1933</b>	<b>Ordered closed</b>
<b>Nov 15 1933</b>	<b>Discontinued Mail to South Platte</b>
<b>-----</b>	<b>Modified Mail to Sedalia</b>

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |          |                         |                                |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>DECKERS, / COLO.</b> | <b>Jul 12 1908 Aug 17 1916</b> |
|          | <b>CI 10P 31.5</b>      | <b>4bars S-23x13mm</b>         |
| <b>2</b> | <b>DECKERS / COLO.</b>  | <b>Sep 9 1930</b>              |
|          | <b>CI 10P 31.5</b>      | <b>4bars S-24x19mm</b>         |



1



2

**DOUGLAS**

The first settlement at this location began with the arrival of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad in 1871. The community was first called Castle Rock, however it appears that the railroad siding was known as Douglas. In 1874 the present-day town of Castle Rock was established three miles to the north and the original settlement and post office adopted the name of Douglas.



**DOUGLAS – Continued**

The siding at this location had been secured through the influence of Silas W. Madge in 1871, who operated a rhyolite quarry on a nearby mesa. The siding provided a shipping point for the quarried stone. On July 28, 1880 the town of Douglas was platted by the National Land Improvement Company. A depot and a boarding house were constructed and the town assumed an industrious appearance. By the late fall of 1881 a spur railroad had been built to the quarry. Rhyolite continues to be quarried from the Castle Rock area but it is no longer a major product.

With the growth of the nearby Castle Rock and the eventual loss of the railroad siding, Douglas no longer exists as a distinct community. The Douglas site is about three miles south of Castle Rock and two and one-half miles north of Tomah Road. It is east of the Interstate 25 frontage road and the Union Pacific Railroad on both sides of East Plum Creek, south of Douglas Lane. A few small, older homes are in the area, but the modern development has taken place on the east side of East Plum Creek.

The community took its name from the county, which in turn was named for Stephen A. Douglas.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 15 1871 ---	NE/4 Sec 27 T8S R67W 1/4 mile east of East Plum Creek Accompanied by an interesting sketch map that shows: Bear Canon, Glen Grove and Huntsville, all in the West Plum Creek Valley
May 18 1874	Name changed from Castle Rock
May 18 1874	Garrison, William
Jan 9 1877	Madge, Silas W.
Aug 13 1883	Garrison, William
Dec 12 1884	Discontinued Mail to Castle Rock

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**FRANKTOWN**

Franktown is yet another of the Douglas County towns whose origins and early location have become confused. Perhaps part of the confusion results from the move of the early post office from Russellville to Frankstown. Further complications involve the California Ranch, which never had a post office by that name.

James Frank Gardner was one of the early settlers in the Cherry Creek area of Douglas County. It is claimed that in 1859 he was working at a sawmill owned and operated by Thomas Bayard. On May 2, 1862 Gardner was appointed postmaster for the new post office of Russellville. The Russellville Post Office lasted only four months. Russellville was closed but a new post office opened at Frankstown with James Frank Gardner becoming the postmaster there. According to Josephine Lowell Marr (*Douglas County, A Historical Journey*) the post office was at Gardner's ranch, approximately four miles north of present day Franktown. Gardner remained postmaster until July 9, 1863.

Another early settler in the Franktown area was Charles F. Parkhurst. He built a ranch, which was a short distance south of modern Franktown. He had a large hotel with rooms on the first floor and a dance hall upstairs. The building also included a general store. When James Frank Gardner's stint as postmaster ended, he was succeeded by Charles F. Parkhurst. It seems likely that at that time the Frankstown Post Office moved south to Parkhurst's California Ranch and was housed in the hotel.

On June 18, 1866 James Frank Gardner once again became the postmaster for Frankstown. According to Josephine Lowell Marr and other authors, Gardner was now in possession of the California Ranch. He continued to operate the ranch and the post office for another nine to ten years. In addition to the hotel, the California Ranch included several barns, a saloon and a nearby jail. The hotel burned in January 1875 and was not rebuilt. By that time a larger community had begun to develop slightly to the

**FRANKTOWN – Continued**

north of the California Ranch and that would become modern Franktown where over the years the post office has occupied several different buildings.

The spelling of the name of this town and post office has changed with time. Originally it was Frankstown. However, the Post Office Department eventually dropped the “s” from the name and the shorter version of Franktown became the accepted spelling.

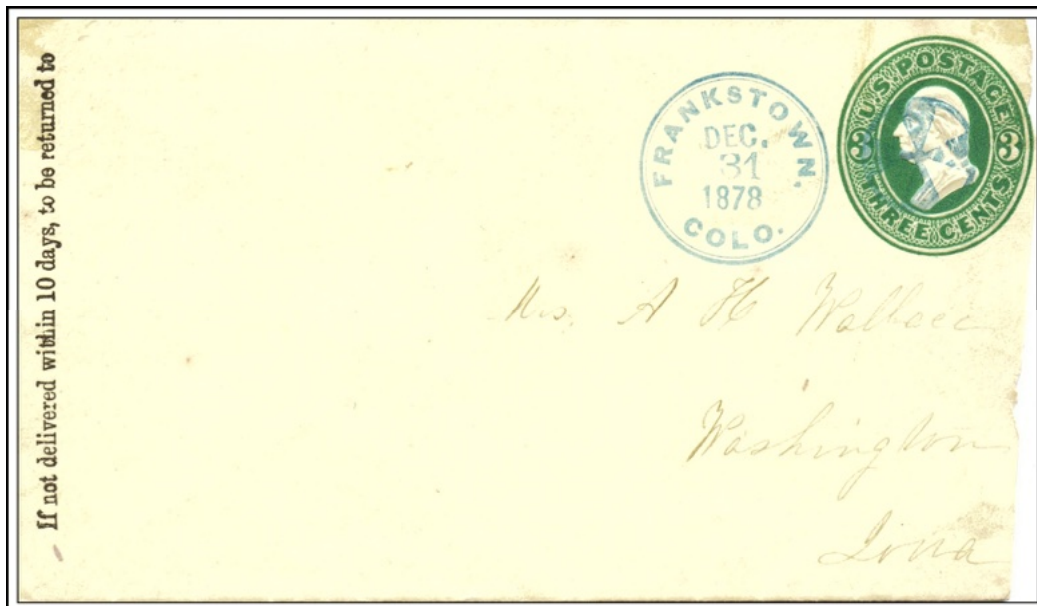
Barnum and company [SRM: probably referring to Cottrill, Vickroy, Barlow, Vaile, & Barnum] ran weekly stages between Denver and Pueblo with a stop at Franktown. In 1868 the mail was delivered three times a week by hack. A tri-weekly stage, operated by A. Jacobs & Company, serviced the mail contract from 1869 to 1871. In 1871 when the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad built along East Plum Creek, the mail was left at Douglas or New Memphis, and later at Castle Rock; it was carried by horseback to Franktown.

In 1874 the county seat was moved from Franktown to Castle Rock. The absence of a railroad and the loss of the county seat slowed the growth of Franktown.

Franktown was for a long time a center of dairy farming with a number of creameries supplying milk, cream and butter to Denver and the surrounding area. Today Franktown is a modest sized commercial center at the junction of Colorado Highways 83 and 86. Residential growth has overwhelmed the dairy industry and the city limits of Castle Rock are now about a mile to the west of Colorado 83.

The pinewoods east of Franktown have been extensively developed for homesites. As Douglas County continues to develop it is conceivable that some day it will be difficult to tell when you cross the boundaries between Castle Rock, Franktown and Parker.

In the 1970’s the post office was on the northeast corner of the intersection of Colorado Highways 83 and 86. In the 1990’s it moved a short distance east to a small strip mall on the north side of Highway 86. It is still at that location in 2003.



**FRANKSTOWN, / COLO.                      December 31, 1878**  
**Note the spelling as Frankstown, not the modern Franktown**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

- Sep 8 1862                      Moved from Russellville
- Sep 8 1862                      Gardner, James F.

## FRANKTOWN – Continued

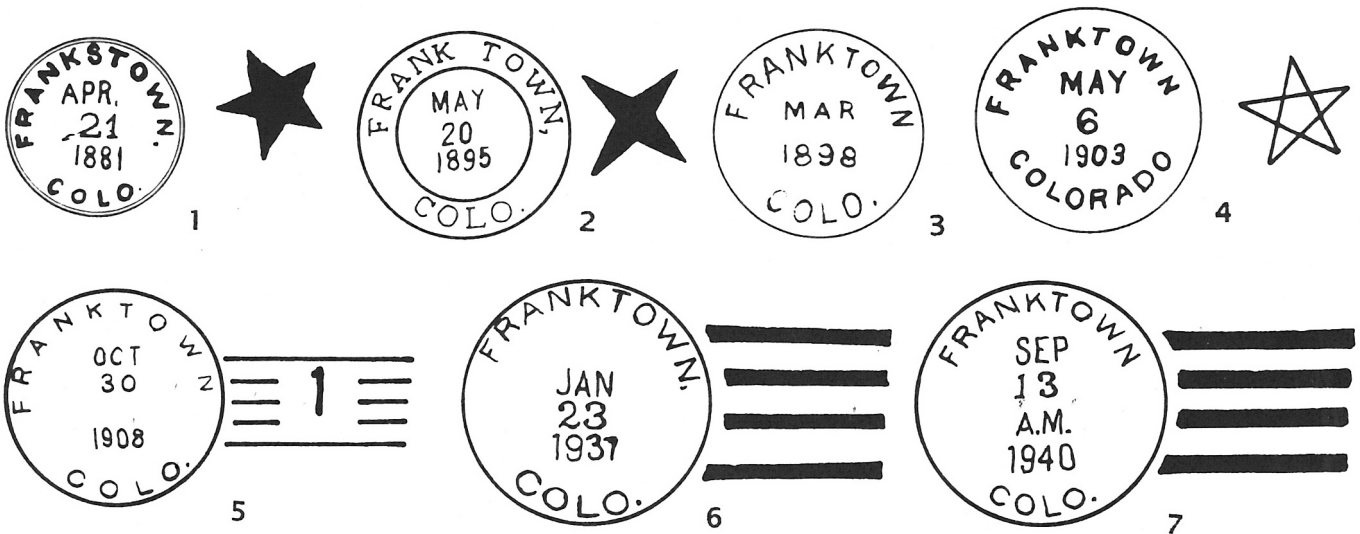
Jul 9 1863	Parkhurst, Charles F.	
Jan 22 1866	Eggleston, ?H.	
Jun 18 1866	Gardner, James Frank	
Feb 15 1877 ---	NW/4 Sec 2 T8S R66W	On east side of Cherry Creek
Aug 1 1877	Kracau, Austin L.	
Sep 8 1880	Kracau, Charles E.	
Mar 17 1882	Gardner, James F.	
Jul 3 1882	Campbell, John R.	
May 31 1883	Anderson, Charles	
Jul 23 1883	Schutz, Benedict	
Mar 28 1898 ---	NW or NE of Sec 2 T8S R66W	Very poor sketch map
Jan 29 1902	Binkley, Mrs. Elizabeth	
Sep 23 1910	White, Jessie H.	
Feb 11 1913	Butts, Mrs. Rettia	
Dec 9 1913	White, Jessie H.	
Apr 24 1916	Cantril, May P.	
May 18 1918 ---	SE/4 Sec 34 T7S R66W	The sketch map shows it in SE/4 of the NE/4
Oct 11 1919	Tiedman, Mignetta	
Sep 9 1920	Keasey, Samuel W.	
Jun 25 1921	Elliott, Claude	
Mar 30 1922	Orcutt, William D.	Acting
Aug 11 1922	Orcutt, William D.	Appointed
Nov 9 1922	Martin, Charles H.	Acting
May 18 1923	Martin, Charles H.	Appointed & Confirmed
Jul 5 1923	Martin, Charles H.	Commissioned
Apr 1 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Assumed charge
Apr 9 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Acting
Mar 31 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Possession
Apr 26 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Appointed
May 18 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Commissioned
May 31 1938	Martin, Samuel F.	Possession
Jan 18 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Designated acting
Jan 27 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Appointed acting
Jan 31 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Possession
Feb 1 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Assumed charge
Feb 14 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Appointed & Confirmed
Mar 2 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Commissioned
Mar 10 1939	Larreau, Emery E.	Possession
Jul 1 1964		Office made Presidential
Jan 22 1968	Spence, Harold T.	Acting
Feb 20 1971	Spence, Harold T.	Possession

## Confirmed types of postal markings

1	FRANKSTOWN, / COLO. CI 20P 24.5/23.0	Dec 31 1878 May 3 1881 Hstp Fancy, positive star
2	FRANK TOWN, / COLO. CI 11P 27.0/18.0	Feb 28 1895 Mar 26 1898 Hstp Fancy, 4 pointed star
3	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Dec 18 1897 Nov 2 1898 Hstp No killer
4	FRANKTOWN, / COLORADO CI 10P 29.0	May 6 1903 Hstp Fancy, skeleton star
5	FRANKTOWN, / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Oct 31 1904 Aug 22 1910 Doane Type 1, with 1; S-25x12mm
6	FRANKTOWN, / COLO. CI 10P 32.5	Aug 15 1932 Feb 1 1939 4bars S-24x20mm

**FRANKTOWN – Continued**

7	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Oct 17 1939 Sep 13 1940
8	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Feb 14 1948 Jul 18 1951
9	FRANKTOWN, COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Hstp No killer, backstamp	Feb 14 1948
10	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 20 1950
11	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-??x20mm	Dec 26 1962 Nov 20 1965
11.1	FRANKTOWN / COLO. CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Jul 22 1964
12	FRANKTOWN / CO 80116 RC 10P 49.0x17.0	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box	Feb 4 1969
13	FRANKTOWN, COLO / USPO CI 11P 30.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Feb 4 1969
14	FRANKTOWN, CO / 80116 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Jun 24 1965 Mar 29 1976
14.1	FRANKTOWN, CO / 80116 CI 10P 35.0	4bars S-25x21mm	Jun 20 1984
14.2	FRANKTOWN CO / USPO CI 11P 29.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 28 1987
14.3	FRANKTOWN, CO 80116 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 14 1989
14.4	FRANKTOWN, CO / 80116 CI 10P 30.0	4bars S-24x18mm	Dec 21 1971 May 2 1971
14.5	FRANKTOWN, CO / 80116 CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-20x15mm	Apr 12 1993 Jul 12 1995
14.6	FRANKTOWN CO 80116 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/29.0	Hstp No killer	Apr 15 1993
15	FRANKTOWN, CO / 80116 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x17mm	Oct 15 1996 Nov 14 2000
16	FRANKTOWN CO 80116 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Oct 15 1996



FRANKTOWN – Continued



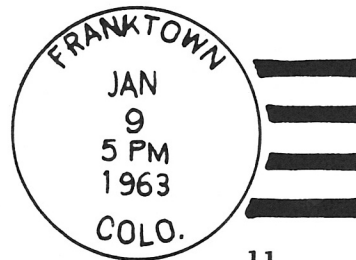
8



9



10



11



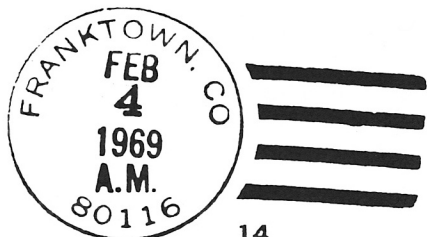
11.1



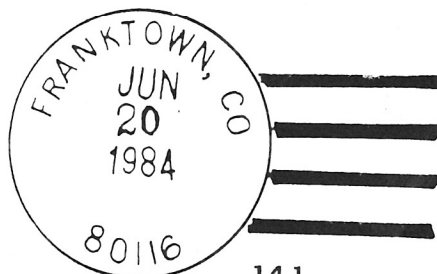
12



13



14



14.1



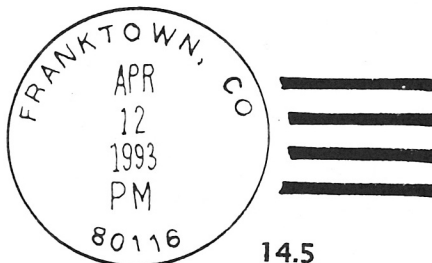
14.2



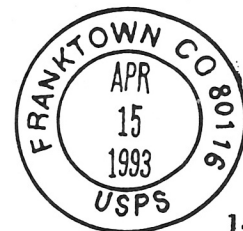
14.3



14.4



14.5



14.6



15



16

AUXILIARY MARKINGS

A-1 Missent to: Franktown, Colo.  
SL 00R 43.0x3.0

Aux No killer

--- 1940s

Missent to: Franktown, Colo.

A-1



## **FROSTS RANCH**

There is no evidence that this was more than a simple change of the post office name from Virginia to Frost's Ranch, particularly since Amos K. Frost was also the postmaster of Virginia.

It would be of interest to know if Mr. Frost was originally from Virginia, hence the first name of the office. One can speculate that with time the location became better known by his name and hence the change in name of the post office.

In 1872 the post office moved two miles south and became the Rock Ridge Post Office. Later the post office would move a short distance back north and become Case. Finally in 1913 it would move to a location a short distance north of the original location and take the name of Irving.

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

Feb 8 1871	Name changed from Virginia
Feb 8 1871	Frost, Amos K.
Feb 12 1871 ---	NW/4 SE/4 Sec 8 T9S R65W 50 yards north of the East Fork of Cherry Creek
Feb 12 1872	Name changed to Rock Ridge

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

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM FROSTS RANCH**

## **GLEN GROVE**

Very little information is available about Glen Grove. In 1869 a post office was established on a ranch belonging to George Robinson near the upper (southern) end of West Plum Creek. The ranch was one of the stage stops on the Territorial Road from Denver to Colorado City and Pueblo. It is doubtful that there was any organized community at this location, but the office would serve a few nearby ranches.

The construction of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad up East Plum Creek reduced travel on the older road and provided a more convenient route for mail to be brought to the area, probably to Larkspur, from which it would then be delivered to the outlying communities and ranches.

The site of Glen Grove is located on the east side of what is today Perry Park Road, where the road makes a sharp bend to the east and less than a hundred yards from the entrance to the modern development of Perry Park. This site is a little less than three miles south of the intersection of Tomah Road with Perry Park Road.

A number of buildings still stand at Glen Grove. The ranch house was unoccupied in 1993 but is now occupied. The ranch outbuildings appear to be in use but are showing their age.

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

Aug 24 1869 ---	NW/4 Sec 25 T9S R68W 1/8 mile east of West Plum Creek
Nov 29 1869	Established
Nov 29 1869	Goodwin, Charles C.
Feb 25 1871 ---	SW/4 Sec 25 T9S R68W 1/16 mile east of West Plum Creek
Apr 3 1871	Goodwin, David H.
Feb 8 1875	Saunders, James H.
Oct 2 1876	Kruger, C.
Jul 24 1877	Discontinued

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

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM GLEN GROVE**

**GOLDDALE**

Golddale was a rural post office about halfway between Franktown and Rock Ridge. The Golddale site is near the upper end of the same drainage as Russellville and it is possible that there were attempts at placer gold mining in the area and hence the name.

Even if the name was chosen to reflect the earlier placer mining at Russellville, Golddale was in an area devoted to the raising of livestock.

No document for Golddale was found in the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports for Douglas County.

In 1993 Jim Ozment and I attempted to locate the site of Golddale. At that time we felt that the best possibility was a ranch a mile or so east of Russellville Road. In May 2003 we revisited the area and using the Trail Map prepared by Glen W. Scott, we now believe that Golddale was at a ranch in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Russellville Road with Anderson Road (County Road 52). Most of the buildings at this ranch are reasonably new but a couple appear to be quite old. The intersection is 3.3 miles south of Tomichi Road, the road to the site of Russellville.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Jun 29 1882</b>	<b>Established</b>
<b>Jun 29 1882</b>	<b>McCracken, George S.</b>
<b>Aug 29 1882</b>	<b>Hutchinson, Marion</b>
<b>Apr 24 1884</b>	<b>Binkley, Henry M.</b>
<b>Dec 1 1884</b>	<b>Kain, A. L.</b>
<b>Feb 12 1885</b>	<b>Discontinued Mail to Franktown</b>

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**GREENLAND**

By September of 1871 the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad had reached the site of Greenland and a station was established there. At first the depot was a boxcar set on a foundation. Greenland became a trading and shipping center for the potato and grain districts on the Monument Divide. Livestock and dairy products were shipped from Greenland. Lumber was another product of the surrounding countryside, shipped to the growing cities of Denver and Colorado Springs.

The first settlers at Greenland are claimed to be Charles and Mary Riggs. Three different Riggs would serve Greenland as Postmaster but Charles Riggs was not the first postmaster and his name does not appear in the Post Office Department list of Postmasters for Greenland.

Greenland grew into a small community with a store, hotel/boarding house and other facilities. In 1875 Fred Z. Saloman laid out a twenty-acre townsite. In the twentieth century Greenland slowly declined, losing its trade to larger Castle Rock and other nearby towns. The decline began in the mid-1920's with the moving and paving of the highway to the west, now known as Spruce Mountain Road. The post office closed in 1959 and the final blow to the settlement was the construction of Interstate 25 to the east of the town. Although there is an interchange at Greenland, Exit 167, the community is largely bypassed.

A number of buildings still stand; the large ranch that recently included Greenland has been acquired for open space protection.

The naming of Greenland is attributed to Helen Hunt Jackson, writer and poetess. While passing through on the train she was impressed by the verdant countryside and suggested that the community should be named Green Land. The Post Office Department contracted the name to a single word.

**GREENLAND – Continued**

The easiest access to Greenland is via Interstate 25 to Exit 167 then west on County Road 74 (Noe Road). The site can also be reached by driving south on Perry Park Road to County Road 74 and then east. Another choice is south from Larkspur on Spruce Mountain Road (County Road 53) to County Road 74 and then east to Greenland.

Latitude = 39:10:57 North Longitude = 104:51:17 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

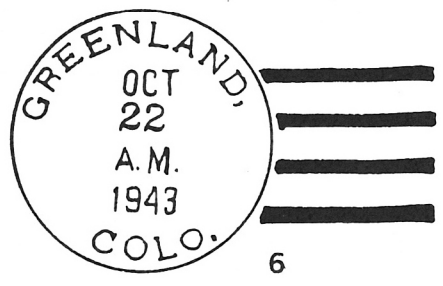
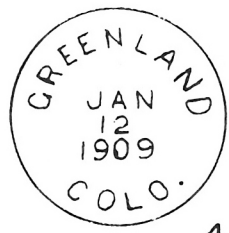
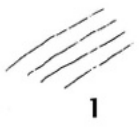
May 24 1873	---	Sec 14 T10S R67W On west side of railroad, Greenland Station The document gives some indication this was to be GREEN LAND, changed to one word	
Jun 3 1873		Established	
Jun 3 1873		Arnold, Alvarado	
Aug 12 1874		Hunter, Henry W.	
Jun 19 1876		Foster, Horatio M.	
Jan 23 1877		Boyvin, Louis	
Nov 17 1877		Riggs, Bazil W.	
May 15 1899	---	NE/4 Sec 14 T10S R67W On west side and 20 feet from D&RG track	
Feb 24 1902		Riggs, James P.	
Apr 27 1909		Riggs, Mary C.	
Jul 2 1911		Higby, Louis R.	
Feb 20 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 14 T10S R67W 100 feet east of D&RG track	
May 18 1923		Norwood, Paul	
Oct 1 1927		Taylor, Mrs. Lucy C.	Confirmed
10 18 1927		Taylor, Mrs. Lucy C.	Commissioned
10 30 1927		Taylor, Mrs. Lucy C.	Assumed charge
Mar 28 1929	---	E/2 SW/4 of NE/4 & W/2 SE/4 of NE/4 Sec 14 T10S R67W East side of Santa Fe and D&RG RRs about 300 feet from the tracks	
May 31 1955		Taylor, Mrs. Dorothy M.	Assumed charge
Jul 29 1955		Taylor, Mrs. Dorothy M.	Acting
Oct 28 1955		Taylor, Mrs. Dorothy M.	Confirmed
Feb 10 1956		Taylor, Mrs. Dorothy M.	Appointment rescinded
Mar 30 1956		Allis, Mrs. Julia I.	Confirmed
Apr 2 1956		Allis, Mrs. Julia I.	Commissioned
Mar 31 1959		Discontinued	

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Greenland Col MS		May 7 1875
1.1	GREENLAND / COLO. CI 10P 25.0	Mscp Pen cancel	(May) 15 1879 [dated from back cancel]
2	GREENLAND, / COLO. CI 21P 34.0/32.0/21.0	Hstp target	May 14 1885 Mar 16 1888
3	GREENLAND / COL. CI 10P 26.5	Hstp Grid, 10-bar circular	Oct 10 1888 Oct 14 1893
4	GREENLAND / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 3-ring 17mm	Mar 21 1899 Oct 23 1911
5	GREENLAND / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	Hstp No killer	Jun 17 1913 Jul 26 1932
6	GREENLAND / COLO. CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-25x19mm	Mar 20 1934 Jul 14 1944
7	GREENLAND / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Sep 19 1948 Mar 31 1959
		4bars S-24x19mm	

GREENLAND – Continued

*Greenland col  
5-17-95*



The former store and post office location at Greenland, Colorado  
Photograph by James L. Ozment July 16, 1997

**HILL TOP / HILLTOP**

Originally known as Bellevue, Hill Top came into existence with the arrival in 1882 of the Denver, Texas and Fort Worth Railroad. The name was a logical choice as the site was located on a pine-clad ridge about five miles southeast of Parker and about a mile west of the Elbert County line. The post office has recognized the town as both Hill Top and Hilltop. When a post office was requested the desired name was Hamilton. For an unknown reason that choice was rejected. A few years later a Hamilton Post Office was authorized in Routt (Moffat) County.

With the advent of the railroad and the change in name from Bellevue to Hill Top, several sawmills were established in the area and Hill Top became the shipping point for large quantities of lumber, railroad ties and charcoal. In 1899 a small brick factory was built at Hill Top. Prior to the arrival of the railroad, livestock raising was the principal activity.

Hill Top became a prominent shipping point and the railroad facilities included a boxcar freight-house, car scales, mail crane and a cattle chute. The ticket office was in the Hill Top Store. The railroad and the store are gone but Hill Top is still a recognized community with several scattered residences and the Faith Baptist Church and the Hilltop United Church of Christ.

To reach Hill Top, drive southeast from Parker on Hilltop Road (County Road 71) to the intersection with Flintwood Road (County Road 65). The community is scattered along Hilltop Road east of Flintwood Road.

Latitude = 39:27:06 North Longitude = 104:40:51 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 2 1889	---	NW/4 Sec 16 T7S R65W 2 rods east of the Denver, Texas & Fort Worth RR Original request for HAMILTON - Not accepted Proposed postmaster - Fannie M. Law (?)	
Feb 17 1890		Established	
Feb 17 1890		Laur, Fannie M.	
Jan 5 1891		Quein, William B.	
---	---	1896	Spelling changed to Hilltop Day and month not known
Apr 8 1898		Leeman, Carl C.	
May 20 1899		Grimes, Jacob C.	
Aug 27 1903		Underwood, John W.	
Nov 21 1906		Fine, James H.	
Dec 2 1907		Myers, Abraham Y.	
Dec 16 1908		Doyle, William H.	
Sep 27 1909		Leyo, Edmund E.	
Mar 17 1911		King, Floyd L.	
Apr 20 1912		Davis, Nellie O.	
Sep 11 1913		Mikolizik, Julius P.	
Feb 24 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 16 T7S R65W	
Oct 14 1920		Moser, Albert L. B.	
Nov 15 1924		Green, Roy	
Jul 8 192		Zinn, Harry A.	
Sep 8 1925		Conlson, Mrs. Lillian V.	
Feb 12 1930		Pope, Mrs. Corinne	Acting
May 1 1930		Pope, Mrs. Corinne	Appointed
Jul 1 1930		Surbur, Mrs. Grace	Possession
Jul 21 1931		Surbur, Mrs. Grace	Acting
Aug 12 1931		Surbur, Mrs. Grace	Appointed & Confirmed
Aug 16 1931		Surbur, Mrs. Grace	Commissioned
Jan 26 1939		Wallden, Lennart	Assumed charge
Mar 2 1939		Wallden, Lennart	Acting
Mar 7 1939		Wallden, Lennart	Confirmed



**HILL TOP / HILLTOP – Continued**

Mar 30 1939	Wallden, Lennart	Commissioned
Jan 10 1942 ---	NW/4 Sec 16 T7S R65W	
Feb 22 1942	Wallden, Lennart	On Military Leave
Feb 22 1942	Wallden, Emil R.	Assumed charge
Mar 28 1942	Wallden, Emil R.	Acting
Dec 20 1943	Ordered closed	
Dec 31 1943	Discontinued Mail to Parker	

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	HILL TOP / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring	Nov 21 1895
2	HILLTOP / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target	Jul 22 1901 Dec 4 1905
3	HILL TOP, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x13mm, narrow letters	Apr 25 1910 Nov 20 1911
4	HILL TOP, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x19mm, wide letters	Nov 12 1913 Dec 17 1917
5	HILL TOP, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Dec 22 1930 Oct 27 1943



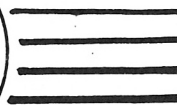
1



2



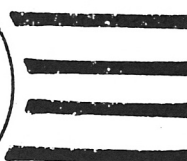
3



4



5



**HUNTSVILLE**

Discussion of the three distinct locations of Huntsville is included in the following paragraphs.

The Huntsville Post Office had an erratic history. First established in 1860 it was the first post office within the original boundaries of Douglas County.

The initial location was on West Plum Creek a short distance south of where Tomah Road now intersects Perry Park Road. It was very short-lived. The settlement was intended to be the site of a lumber mill but it soon became obvious that for much of the year West Plum Creek did not carry an adequate supply of water to operate the mill. As best as I can determine this location was at what is now called Plum Creek Hollow an active horse ranch at 7335 Perry Park Road.

The operators of the mill decided to move east over the ridge about three miles to a location on East Plum Creek that offered a more reliable flow of water. This second location was on the east side of

**HUNTSVILLE – Continued**

Interstate 25 about a mile and a half south of the connection of the east end of Tomah Road to the Interstate frontage road. No structures remain at this location; frequent floods have removed any evidence of the sawmill and settlement.

There was perhaps a third location for Huntsville; however, this move may have been aborted and the post office moved and the name changed to Larkspur. This third location would also have been along present day Perry Park Road, a short distance south of Perry Park Avenue. It is identified on a document dated November 8, 1871 and filed with the documents for Larkspur. It may also have been planned for a sawmill operation. The move to Larkspur was obviously a move to a location and a station on the newly constructed Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

The January 14, 1862 Geographic Site Location Report includes some additional information that is descriptive of the two early sites of Huntsville. The following is a transcription of a note on the side of the report and of a letter that accompanies the report.

Note on side of the document:

*An office was formerly established in but it was discontinued in July last the mail bag been returned by the Denver City postmaster with that the office was not in operation and from present never should be.*  
This would refer to the first location of Huntsville on West Plum Creek.

Accompanying letter:

*Some two years ago the little town of Huntsville was laid out some two miles west of this present point & a post office was established there as I have been informed, but as parties failed to make a watermill that they erected \_\_\_\_\_, they abandoned the site and the settlement went over the mountain on the East Branch of Plum Creek and immediately on the mail route from Denver to Colorado. This is a great lumbering region and there are not only 25 or 30 families in the neighborhood but there are a good many more engaged in the two steam mills there and in making shingles close by. The contractor, Mr. H. G Niebling has a half way station there and it would not discommode him in the least to supply this office. I will guaranty that he will take pleasure in supplying it gratis for he has written me to that effect. This settlement is as large as I have before stated and it is increasing all the time. There is no rival point nearby this office as the old Huntsville site is entirely abandoned, not a soul living there. I trust you will give that point an office immediately for I assure you that there is no reason whatever legal or otherwise in my knowledge why they should not have one. Very respectfully*

*Yours*

*H. P. Bennet MC*

*Colorado*

This letter is from Hiram P. Bennet, the Territorial Representative to Congress from Colorado. It is in reference to the request to establish a Huntsville Post Office at a new location, on East Plum Creek.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Mar 24 1860</b>	<b>Established</b>
<b>Mar 24 1860</b>	<b>McAfee, Henry H.</b>
<b>Jul 9 1861</b>	<b>Discontinued</b>
<b>Jan 14 1862</b>	<b>--- No T-R-S on document Denver 38 miles northerly, Colorado City 40 miles southerly On the west side of Plum Creek</b>
<b>Jan 22 1862</b>	<b>Re-established</b>
<b>Jan 22 1862</b>	<b>Oakes, Daniel C.</b>
<b>Feb 3 1864</b>	<b>Sprague, Leander M.</b>
<b>Jan 15 1866</b>	<b>Crull, William M.</b>
<b>Aug 29 1867</b>	<b>Discontinued</b>
<b>Apr 8 1869</b>	<b>Re-established</b>
<b>Apr 8 1869</b>	<b>Crull, William M.</b>

**HUNTSVILLE – Continued**

Apr 19 1869 --- E/2 NW&SW of NE&SW of SE/4 Sec 16 T9S R67W  
On west side of Plum Creek  
Document Annotated: "Na. & Si (name & site). to Larkspur"  
Aug 9 1869 Blodgett, George W.  
Feb 6 1871 Thompson, William J.  
Dec 13 1871 Name changed to Larkspur

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 Huntsville MS Dec 30 186? Jul 7 1869  
Mscp Pen cancel

*Huntsville  
Dec 30*

1

**IRVING**

Irving was the name of the last post office to serve the area along Cherry Creek near the junction of modern Russellville Road and Colorado Highway 83.

The site of Irving was approximately a half-mile north of the site of the first post office in the area, Virginia. The area is now open field and pastureland with no remaining structures.

The post office at Irving was established in 1913 when the post office at Case was moved north to this new location and the name changed to Irving.

The area, from the site of Irving south to that of Rock Ridge was and still is ranch and farm land. The upper Cherry Creek Valley was noted for the production of dairy products. In the twenty-first century this area is gradually being developed for homesites but agriculture still dominates this stretch of the valley.

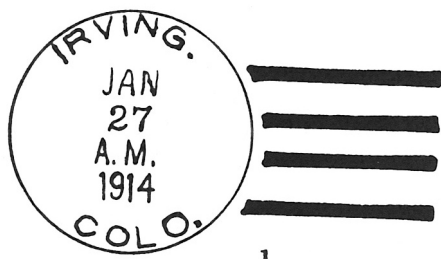
For additional information refer to the discussions of Virginia, Frost's Ranch, Rock Ridge and Case.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 24 1913 Moved from Case  
Jun 24 1913 Hill, John W.  
Feb 28 1914 --- NE/4 Sec 8 T9S R65W 300 feet north of East Cherry Creek  
Document annotated: "Late Case"  
Sep 18 1915 Hagspiel, Joseph  
Jun 7 1918 Merriman, Edwin J.  
Apr 15 1920 Discontinued Mail to Cherry

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 IRVING / COLO. Jan 27 1914 Mar 11 1916  
CI 10P 31.5 4bars S-24x19mm



1

## **KEYSTONE**

Two more of the Douglas County post offices that are difficult to separate are Keystone and Keystone Ranch. The Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports for Douglas County do not contain a specific document for Keystone Ranch. However, two of the three documents for Keystone report locations separated by approximately 5 miles. And by its date (1862), the third document appears to be for Keystone Ranch, although no definitive location is given. From the historical literature the following statements refer to Keystone and/or Keystone Ranch.

1. They (Christian and Sarah Manhart) came to Douglas County in 1866 and settled a claim on Garber Creek, "Where it winds its way out of the mountains," and called it Keystone Ranch [Marr, p221].
2. Another well-known ranch during the territorial days was the Keystone Ranch of Jonathan and Ester Kelly. It, like the Cook Ranch, served as a stagecoach station and also one of the earliest post offices in the county. The post office was one of five stations on the Territorial Road between Denver City and Colorado City; Little's Mill at Littleton and Bear Canon and Glen Grove flanked it to the south.

Keystone Ranch began as a squatter's claim of 160 acres four miles north of Round Corral (Sedalia) in 1860. The following year, Jonathan Kelly served in the Colorado Home Guards, Company B and acquired the reputation as a superb marksman, which he put to good advantage when he returned to his family, supplying them and others with deer and antelope. He like many of the early settlers, hauled wood to Denver to secure the hard cash needed to survive in this beautiful but rugged wilderness. His steam mill for grinding grain saved himself and others around him, the two day journey to Little's Rough and Ready Mill in Littleton. When the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad advanced southward it placed a siding on his ranch, which was called Keystone or Kelly's Station. In later years the railroad also placed a telephone-telegraph station for its block system here and called it Toluca.

3. On July 27, 1871 the first spike of the Denver and Rio Grande was driven in Denver and marked the laying of the first narrow three foot gauge seen on this continent. One month later the track reached Acequia in Douglas County; on September 1st, the side track at Keystone (Louviere); and on September 6th Plum Station (Sedalia).

Taking these facts into consideration, together with the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports, I draw the following conclusions.

From 1863 to 1865 a post office named Keystone Ranch was in operation at or near present day Sedalia.

In 1869 a new post office was established in the same area but was given the simpler name of Keystone. This was located on the ranch of John H. Craig. Craig did not have title to the property.

In 1870 Jonathan P. Kelly became the postmaster for Keystone but he moved the post office some four or five miles north to his ranch east of present day Louviere. That is where the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built the Keystone siding in 1871, later Toluca.

Thus the Keystone Post Office was at two separate locations, one of which may or may not have been coincident with Keystone Ranch. At times both locations have been referred to as Keystone Ranch.

The first location for Keystone plots along Perry Park Road about one mile south of the Jarre Canyon Road (Colorado Highway 67). At that location there are several buildings of an older ranch on the western side of the road partially hidden by trees and a low ridge.

The second location of Keystone plots on US 85, a quarter mile north of the road west to Louviere. Until mid-May 1999 there was a log house, barn, silo and small outbuilding at this location on the east side of US 85. About May 15, Jim Ozment and I passed by there on our way south and the buildings were still standing. When we returned on May 20 the buildings had been demolished and only the concrete and stone silo remained standing. In 2003 the silo still stands to mark the site and an elaborate entrance to a new development, Cherokee Ridge Estates, is under construction. It appears that the developers plan to incorporate the silo into the entrance, how is a puzzle. The old house would have been more attractive and significant if it had been saved.

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

Apr 8 1869	Established
Apr 8 1869	Craig, John H.
Jun 3 1869	--- Local name - Craigs Ranch SW/4 Sec 24 T7S R68W 1/2 mile north of Plum Creek, 7 miles north of Bear Canon The sketch map seems to show it near the junction of East and West Plum Creeks
Sep 14 1870	Kelly, Jonathan P.
Mar 28 1871	--- NW/4 SE/4 Sec 34 T6S R68W 1/4 mile east of Plum Creek 8 miles north of Bear Canon
Oct 28 1872	Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM KEYSTONE

**KEYSTONE RANCH**

The confusion surrounding Keystone Ranch and Keystone has been discussed above under Keystone.

The location of the Keystone Ranch Post Office is uncertain. It may have been at the “Round Corral,” which later became Sedalia or it could have been at Craig’s Ranch a short distance south of Sedalia on Perry Park Road.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Feb 1862	--- 15 miles southerly from Denver, 25 miles northwesterly from Huntsville Annotated: “There are two roads from Denver to the head of Plum Creek. This office will be on one - there is little or no difference in them. I don't know on which the mail is now carried. Contractor H. G. Niebling”
Apr 7 1863	Established
Apr 7 1863	Gregory, David
Nov 21 1863	Babcock, Charles
Aug 1 1864	Stearns, Byram W.
Jun 16 1865	Discontinued

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM KEYSTONE RANCH

**LARKSPUR**

The first settlements in the vicinity of Larkspur were made in 1865. The small settlement and stage stop on the Denver to Pueblo road was first known as Clay Pit. In late 1871 construction of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad reached the site and a station was built and given the name of Larkspur.

The name Larkspur is for the flower *Delphinium geyeri*, which is abundant in the area. Although beautiful, it is poisonous to livestock.

In late 1871 a post office still existed at Huntsville. It is not clear if this was at the site some three miles north of Larkspur or at a new site three miles to the southwest (Refer to the November 8, 1871 site location report that is quoted below). In December of 1871 the Huntsville Post Office closed and was moved to Larkspur. This change was obviously made to provide mail delivery to a station on the new Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

The country surrounding Larkspur was primarily ranchland but there was some farming and lumbering was another local activity.



**LARKSPUR – Continued**

Larkspur enjoyed the status of a summer resort at the beginning of the twentieth century, supporting numerous small cabins for city dwellers to escape the summer heat. Larkspur continues to exist as a small community on the west side of Interstate 25, accessible from Exit 172. It serves the surrounding ranches and a growing number of residential developments in the southern portion of Douglas County.

Latitude = 39:13:43 North Longitude = 104:53:12 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 8 1871	---	NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R67W On east side of East Plum Creek accompanying sketch map shows Huntsville P.O. about three miles southwest in NW/4 Sec 8 T10S R67W Document annotated: "Dis Jul 92, Rest Sept 92" to D&RG RR, east 200 feet west of East Plum Creek	
Dec 13 1871		Name changed from Huntsville	
Dec 13 1871		Sloan, Robert E.	
Jun 28 1877		McConnell, Jonathan S.	
Jun 1 1880		Evans, William B.	
Jan 25 1886		Ross, Frank B.	
Mar 16 1887		Stoddard, Alex	
Nov 14 1891		Allan, Hiram B.	
Jul 27 1892		Discontinued Mail to Perry Park	
Aug 26 1892		Re-established	
Aug 26 1892		Evans, James E.	
Nov 24 1894		Lownsbury, Matilda	
Aug 5 1896	---	NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R67W 50 feet west of D&RG tracks	
Dec 4 1897		Alford, Susan E.	
Aug 31 1901		Ashby, Hattie L.	
Oct 7 1904		Murphy, Florence A.	
Aug 29 1907		Whitehead, Charles E.	
Nov 20 1907		Ruebel, Philip	
Dec 4 1909		Dobbuteen, Henry J.	
Mar 9 1914	---	NW/4 Sec 34 T9S R67W 250 feet west of East Plum Creek 25 feet west of the D&RG Railroad	
May 31 1919		Reed, Grover W.	Confirmed
Jun 18 1919		Reed, Grover W.	Commissioned
Jul 1 1919		Reed, Grover W.	Assumed charge
Oct 10 1941	---	T-R-S not reported 400 feet east of East Plum Creek	
Jun 30 1948	---	NW/4 NE/4 Sec 34 T9S R67W 597 feet to AT&SF depot, west: 1025 feet	
Jul 1 1948		Mixer, Mrs. Caroline	Assumed charge
Mar 12 1949		Mixer, Julius U.	Appointed
Mar 28 1949		Mixer, Julius U.	Confirmed
Apr 26 1949		Mixer, Julius U.	Commissioned
May 1 1949		Mixer, Julius U.	Assumed charge
Jul 1 1954			Office made Presidential
Sep 30 1958		Best, Harold W.	Assumed charge
Oct 2 1958		Best, Harold W.	Acting
Jan 11 1960		Best, Harold W.	Nominated
Apr 29 1960		Best, Harold W.	Apptd Presidential, Confirmed & Commissioned
May 27 1960		Best, Harold W.	Assumed charge
Sep 28 1973		Allis, Alford C.	Officer in charge
Feb 2 1974		Allis, Alford C.	Appointed
Mar 25 1977		Kirkman, Mrs. Carol M.	Officer in charge
Mar 11 1978		Rumney, Dion W.	Officer in charge
Mar 20 1981		Kirkman, Mrs. Carol M.	Officer in charge

## LARKSPUR – Continued

## Confirmed types of postal markings

1	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 24.0	Hstp Fancy, Negative star in circle with outer circle	Oct 14 1872 Feb 24 1874
2	Larkspur Colo MS	Mscp Pen cancel	Jun 14 1875 Dec 1 1878
3	LARKSPUR, / COLORADO CI 21C 31.0/28.0/18.0	Hstp Indistinct, smudge	Mar 22 1881 Jul 27 1881
4	LARKSPUR / COL. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4 ring 18mm	Sep 24 1886 Sep 29 1886
4.1	LARKSPUR / COLO CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4 ring 17mm	Jan --, 1897
5	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, smudged	Jan 6 1897 Jun 12 1899
6	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Jul 27 1907 Dec 25 1910
7	LARKSPUR, / COLO. CI 10P 30.5	4bars S-23x19mm	Jan 30 1912 Dec 29 1914
7.1	LARKSPUR, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-25x14mm	Sep 13 1922 Apr 17 1925
8	LARKSPUR, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Feb 15 1933 Aug 18 1959
9	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Sep 1 1947 Oct 7 1949
10	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x19mm	May 26 1954 Apr 27 1962
10.0	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-??x19mm	Apr 13 1960
10.1	LARKSPUR / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-25x18mm	Sep 7 1968
10.2	LARKSPUR, / COLO. CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Oct 27 1964 Jan 5 1966
11	LARKSPUR, CO 80118 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	May 12 1966 Apr 30 1976
12	LARKSPUR, CO / 80118 CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Oct 25 1967 Oct 16 1972
13	LARKSPUR, CO / 80118 CI 10P 31.5	4bars S-??x19mm	Jul 19 1977 Aug 18 1978
14	LARKSPUR, CO 80118 / USPS CI 10P 28.5/19.0	Hstp No killer	Jun 10 1987
14.1	LARKSPUR, CO / 80118 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Mar 6 1987
14.2	LARKSPUR, CO / 80118 CI 10P 34.0	4bars S-20x16mm	Apr 20 1990
14.2.1	LARKSPUR CO / 80118 CI 10P 30.0	4bars S-23x17mm	May 29 1993
14.3	LARKSPUR CO / 80118 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 6 1995
15	LARKSPUR CO 80118 / USPS CI 10P 35.0	5bars attached to cds, no year date	Jul 6 1994
16	LARKSPUR CO 80118 / USPS CI 10P 36.0	5bars attached to cds, 13x28mm, with year date	Aug 10 1994 Jul 16 1997
17	LARKSPUR CO 80118 / USPS CI 11P 27.5/17.5	Hstp No killer	Jan 10 1995 Nov 13 2000

LARKSPUR – Continued

18 Larkspur, CO 80118  
IR 00R 78.0x50.0

Jun 8 1996

Pict Scene - Knight with falcon. Text: Colorado /  
Renaissance Festival / 20th Anniversary / 1996 /  
OPENING DAY

19 LARKSPUR, CO 80118 / USPS  
CI 11P 30.5/21.0

Nov 12 2005

Hstp No Killer



1



*Larkspur Colo*  
6-14-75

2



3



4



4.1



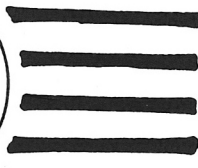
5



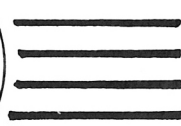
6



7



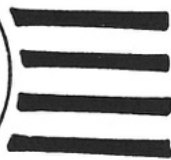
7.1



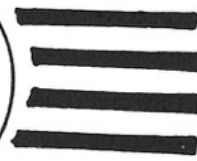
8



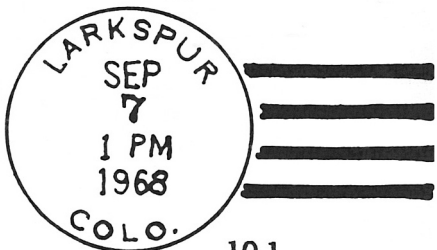
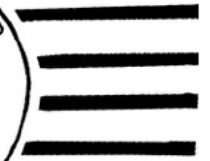
9



10



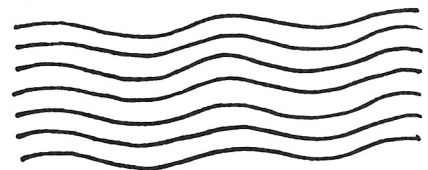
10.0



10.1



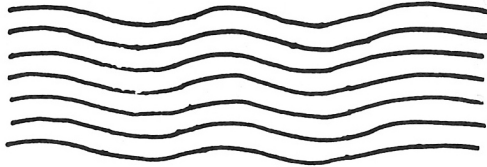
10.2



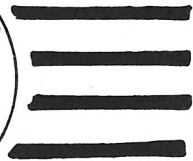
LARKSPUR – Continued



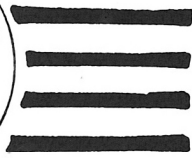
11



12



13



14



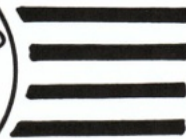
14.1



14.2



14.2.1



14.3



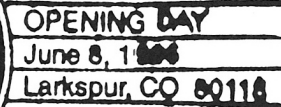
15



16



17



18



19

RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL STATION

The Renaissance Festival is a commercial operation near Larkspur that is active on summer weekends. In 1985 and 1986 a special postal station operated on the festival grounds.

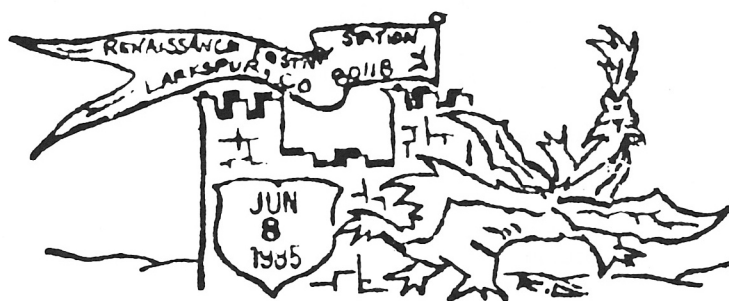
Larkspur postmark type 18 was issued in connection with the Renaissance Festival. It is likely that it was used at the festival similar to the 1985 and 1986 postmarks. However, there is no indication in the postmark that it was a station of Larkspur, therefore I have chosen to list it under Larkspur proper.

**LARKSPUR – Continued  
RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL STATION – Continued  
Chronology of the Post Office**

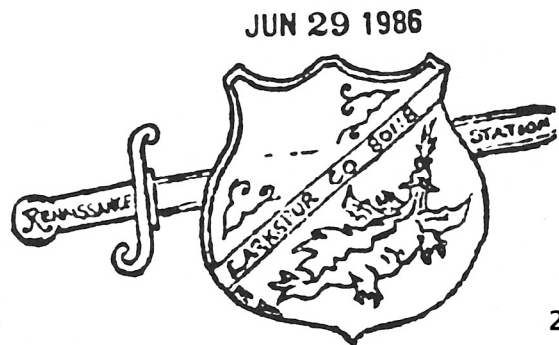
- Jun 8 1985            Operated as a Special Commemorative Station
- Jun 29 1986        Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1      LARKSPUR, CO 80118 // RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL STATION      Jun 8 1985 Jul 7 1985  
        IR 00R 85.0x40.0    Pict Scene - Castle, dragon, pennant
  
- 2      LARKSPUR CO 80118 // RENAISSANCE STATION      Jun 29 1986 Jul 5 1986  
        IR 00R 75.0x38.0    Pict Scene - Sword and shield



1



2

**LOUVIERS**

In 1906 the DuPont de Nemours Co. purchased 1,000 acres of land along Plum Creek from Jacob C. Jones. Over the next year they constructed an explosives factory and a company town with housing and amenities for workers at the factory.

The name Louviers, was first that of the town in the state of Delaware which, was the home of the DuPont family and the site of their primary industrial operations. The name traces back to Louviers, France. The original Louviers was a center of the woolen industry in France and that was the initial business of the DuPonts' when they came to America.

The explosives factory began production in 1908 and was initially served by the railroad siding at Keystone (Toluca). Eventually two railroad spurs were built to Louviers. The north spur was used to bring in supplies and raw materials. The south spur was used to move the manufactured explosives to the main line of the railroad.

Among the structures built was a large Village Club. At various times during its existence the building housed an assembly hall, theater, pool and billiards room, writing and ladies' room, bowling alley, mercantile store, post office, barbershop, shooting range, snack concession, and a library and reading room. In 1975 the Du Pont Company transferred ownership of Village Club to Douglas County and soon thereafter explosives production at the plant ceased. The Louviers Village Club, the centerpiece of one of the best preserved company towns in the west, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the community is a Historic District, also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Louviers is located about one mile west of US 85 at the end of Douglas County Road 16. Many of the original company owned homes are now private residences. By 1997 a new brick post office building had been constructed next to the small, frame residence that housed the Louviers Post Office for many years.

Latitude = 39:28:40 North    Longitude = 105:00:24 West



**LOUVIERS – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 25 1907	Established	
Jun 25 1907	McColley, R. Y.	
Nov 18 1907	---	SE/4 Sec 33 T6S R68W
Nov 21 1907	Haight, Arthur W.	
Oct 11 1911	---	SE/4 Sec 33 T6S R68W
Apr 13 1914	---	NE/4 Sec 4 T7S R68W
Aug 11 1919	Ball, Addison L. C.	
Sep 18 1914	Ball, James	
Jun 1 1918	Callisons, George E.	
Sep 10 1919	Aulger, Lucille	
Jan 7 1921	Stewart, Lucille	
Nov 6 1931	---	NE/4 Sec 4 T7S R68W 1/2 Mile West of Plum Creek 1.1 miles west of D&RG Office was moved as, "present building being dismantled"
Oct 23 1941	---	NE/4 Sec 4 T7S R68W
Jul 1 1948	Office made Presidential	
Jun 1 1949	Stewart, Mrs. Lucille	Confirmed
Jun 2 1949	Stewart, Mrs. Lucille	Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Jun 30 1949	Stewart, Mrs. Lucille	Assumed charge
Jul 1 1950		Relegated
Jul 1 1952		Office made Presidential
Feb 29 1956	Kidder, Mrs. Ella A.	Assumed charge
Mar 28 1956	Kidder, Mrs. Ella A.	Acting
Jan 11 1957	Woolley, Mrs. Eva G.	Assumed charge
Jan 23 1957	Woolley, Mrs. Eva G.	Acting
Feb 7 1957	Woolley, Mrs. Eva G.	Nominated
Apr 8 1957	Woolley, Mrs. Eva G.	Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Apr 19 1957	Woolley, Mrs. Eva G.	Assumed charge



**Louviers, Colorado – For many years the building on the left was the post office.  
The new post office building is at the right of the photograph.**

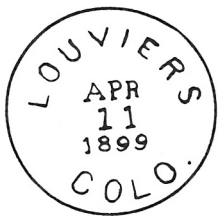
B/W photograph by James L. Ozment

March 25, 1997

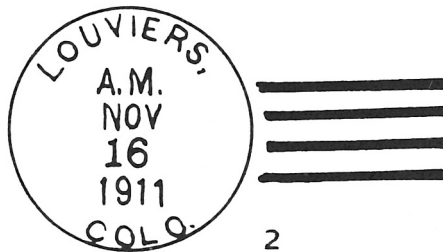
**LOUVIERS – Continued**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

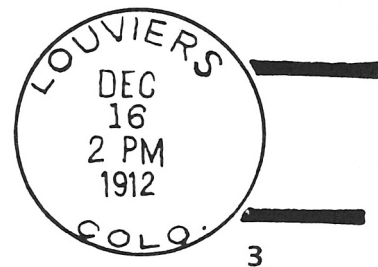
1	LOUVIERS / COLO. CI 10P 27.5	Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm	Apr 11 1899
2	LOUVIERS, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x13mm	May 7 1909 Apr 2 1912
3	LOUVIERS, / COLO. CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-??x??mm	Dec 16 1912
4	LOUVIERS. / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-??x??mm	Jan 14 1917 May 2 1917
5	LOUVIERS, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Apr 9 1926
6	LOUVIERS, / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Jul 29 1932 Jul 1 1935
7	LOUVIERS / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Dec 18 1938 Aug 4 1948
8	LOUVIERS / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Apr 9 1947 Jul 19 1949
9	LOUVIERS / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, diamond with 1	Jun 1 1951 Nov 21 1962
10	LOUVIERS, CO / 80131 CI 10P 32.5	4bars S-??x20mm	Jul 9 1965 Oct 17 1969
11	LOUVIERS, CO / 80131 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-25x18mm	Nov 12 1969 Feb 10 1977
11.1	LOUVIERS, CO / 80131 CI 10P 23.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	May 6 1971 Jul 5 1975
11.2	LOUVIERS, CO / 80131 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Mar 30 1987 Oct 7 1991
12	LOUVIERS, CO 80131 SL 61.0x3.0	Pict Scene - AIDS ribbon at left, text - above dateline: WORLD AIDS DAY	Dec 1 1993
13	LOUVIERS CO 80131 / USPS CI 11P 28.0/19.0	Hstp No killer	Dec 28 1993 Dec 19 1994
14	LOUVIERS CO / 80131 CI 10P 33.5	4bars S-20x15mm	Dec 2 1991 Dec 28 1993
15	LOUVIERS CO 80131 / USPS CI 11P 27.0/17.0	Hstp No killer	Dec 31 1999



1



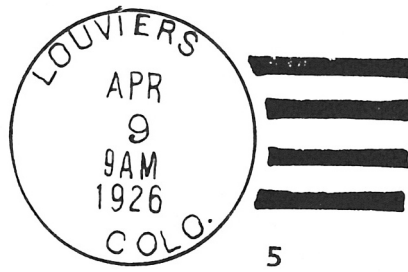
2



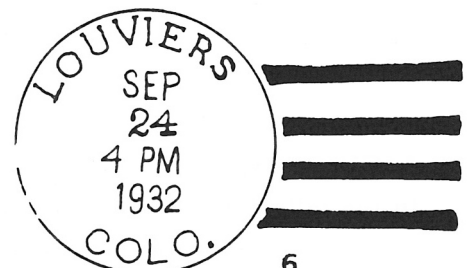
3



4



5



6

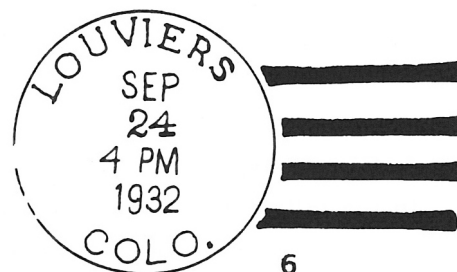
LOUVIERS – Continued



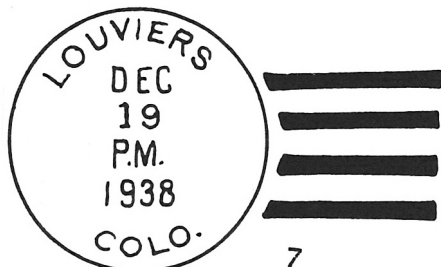
4



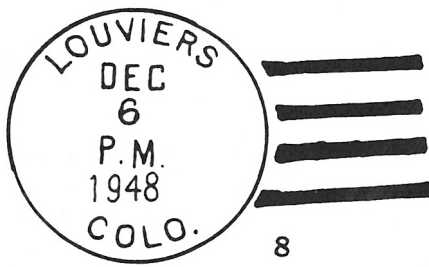
5



6



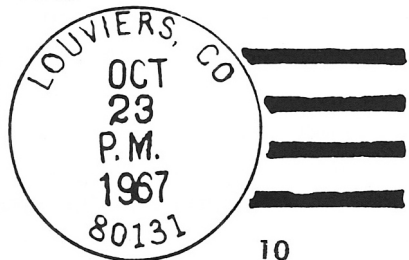
7



8



9



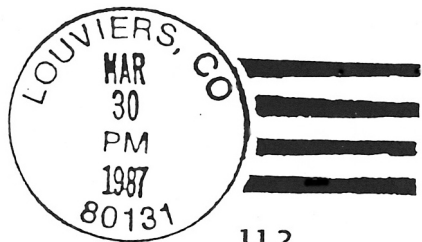
10



11



11.1



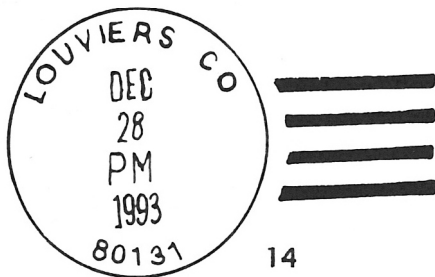
11.2



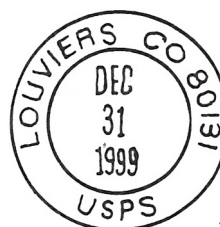
12



13



14



15

**WORLD AIDS DAY STATION**

The status of this “station” is uncertain. The postmark does not include the designation of station and it was used only at the Louviers Post Office. It is a special postmark, but may not be a special station.

**WORLD AIDS DAY STATION – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Dec 1 1993      Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1      LOUVIERS, CO 80131  
         SL 61.0x3.0

Dec 1 1993

Pict Scene - AIDS ribbon at left, text - above  
dateline: WORLD AIDS DAY  
[For illustration, see Louviers type 12]

**NEW MEMPHIS**

In the fall of 1871 David S. Green with the backing of the Denver and Rio Grande's National Land and Improvement Company founded the town of New Memphis. This community was a short distance from an earlier settlement, supposedly established by John Harris and named Citadel. There was also a Citadel Station on the railroad.

Various accounts attribute the name of New Memphis to having been the native city of David Green or Thomas Harris, the brother of John Harris.

The growth of the "new" Castle Rock and its success in taking the county seat from Franktown spelled the failure of New Memphis; soon it was little more than a few scattered ranches as most of the people moved a mile south to Castle Rock. In 1874 the post office also moved to Castle Rock.

In the late twentieth century the area that was once New Memphis underwent a renaissance. It is now the site of a large outlet retail mall, a good-sized strip shopping mall, a school and the Douglas County Justice Center. Surrounding this commercial activity is a growing number of residential developments, apartment complexes and condominiums.

The site of New Memphis was largely in the triangle bounded by Founders Parkway, US 85 and Interstate 25. Access is from any of these roads and from Exit 184 on Interstate 25. Unfortunately with all the modern construction, no original or older buildings remain. A thorough site survey of the area prior to the construction of the Justice Center found no trace of New Memphis.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Dec 20 1871 ---      NW/4 Sec 35 T7S R67 50 yards east of the D&RG RR 1/4 mile east  
                                 of East Plum Creek An accompanying sketch map shows:  
                                 New Memphis - NE/4 Sec 35 T7S R67W East of RR  
                                 Castle Rock - NW/4 Sec 11 T8S R67W West of RR  
                                 Douglas - SE/4 Sec 22 T8S R67W East of RR

Jan 8 1872      Established

Jan 8 1872      Proffit, C. A.

Feb 1 1872      Craig, John L.

May 18 1874      Moved to Castle Rock

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM NEW MEMPHIS**

**PARKER**

The Twenty Mile House, first operated by Nelson Dowd and then by James Sample Parker, was the beginning of the town of Parker. At first the Post Office was called Pine Grove. In 1882 the name was changed to Parker to honor the postmaster. James S. Parker served as the postmaster from at least 1873 (Pine Grove) until January of 1899.

**PARKER – Continued**

The Twenty Mile House was located at the junction of the Cherokee Trail and the Smoky Hill Trail, twenty miles from Denver. It was also a station on the stage line from Denver south to Colorado City. In 1881 the Denver, Texas and Fort Worth Railroad (Denver and New Orleans) built through Parker and continued to serve the area until the line was discontinued in 1936.

It appears that the change in name from Pine Grove to Parker was brought about by the similarity of the name to that of a community on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad in Jefferson County (Pine). This caused confusion in the delivery of mail which was solved by changing Pine Grove to Parker. Parker apparently first suggested the name Edithville for his daughter, but that was rejected by the Post Office Department.

A number of references claim that James Parker served as postmaster for thirty-three consecutive years, however it is well documented that he did not take over the operations at Twenty Mile House (Pine Grove) until 1873, thus he was postmaster for twenty-six years, not thirty-three.

In 1963 *The Silver State Record* included the following statement in a brief recap of the history of Pine Grove / Parker:

*The quiet, attractive town of PARKER never had a large population, but it was bigger and busier in other days than it is now. It had a hotel, saloons, a large mercantile store, schools and churches. It was a major supply center for the farmers in the wide, rich Cherry Creek Valley. PARKER has never faded away: it still has its stores, schools, churches, and today, it is the center of a swiftly growing area of new homes. (Original source of article was unreported.)*

For those familiar with the Parker of the twenty-first century, this is a charming description but far from the modern truth. Parker has become a major commercial and residential center and suburb of Denver in northern Douglas County. It continues to grow and its boundary is scarcely distinguishable from the Arapahoe County suburbs. Also, Parker is growing to the south and impinging on Franktown.

To visit Parker, take Parker Road (Colorado Highway 83) southeast from Denver. The restored stage stop and post office of Twenty Mile House can be found in a small historical park on Main Street, a short distance to the west of Colorado 83, near the center of Parker.

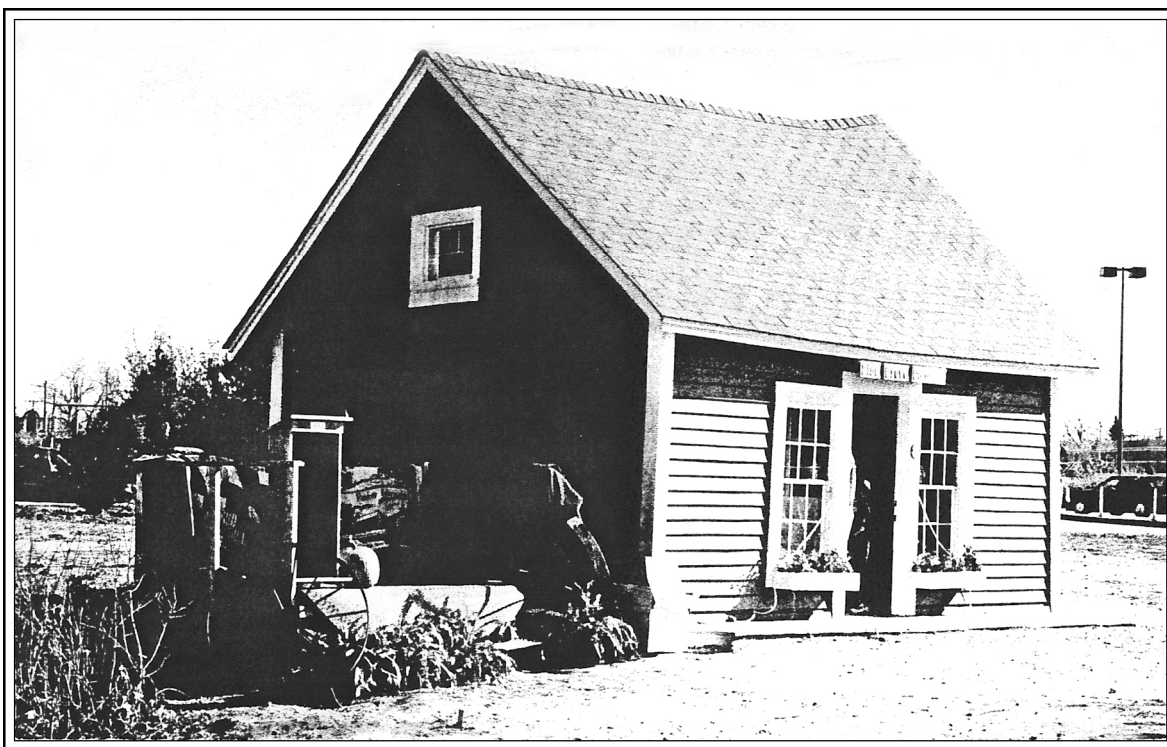
Latitude = 39:31:07 North Longitude = 104:45:39 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 1 1871	---	Local name 20 Mile House NW/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W	
Sep 27 1948	---	Sec 22 T6S R66W	
Mar 17 1882		Name changed from Pine Grove	
Mar 17 1882		Parker, James S.	
Jan 12 1899		Steves, Mary L.	
Mar 14 1899	---	NE/4 SW/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W	
Jun 28 1899	---	NE/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W 175 feet south of Colorado & Southern RR	
Aug 23 1905		Schroer, Nellie E.	
May 15 1908		Herzog, Albert F.	
Sep 19 1913		Newcomb, Victoria	Confirmed
Oct 13 1913		Newcomb, Victoria	Commissioned
Oct 19 1913		Newcomb, Victoria	Assumed charge
Mar 5 1914	---	NE/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W 1/2 mile east of Cherry Creek	
Oct 21 1941	---	NE/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W	
May 31 1947	---	Sec 22, T6S R66W	
Jun 30 1947		Stewart, Norma J.	Assumed charge
Mar 1 1948		Taylor, Mrs. Norma J.	Name changed by marriage
May 28 1948		Johnson, Mrs. Sophia C.	Acting
May 29 1948		Johnson, Mrs. Sophia C.	Assumed charge
Jun 28 1948	---	Sec 22 T6S R66W Being moved 500 feet southeast	
Dec 1 1948		Johnson, Mrs. Sophia C.	Appointed & Confirmed

**PARKER – Continued**

Dec 17 1948	Johnson, Mrs. Sophia C.	Commissioned
Mar 31 1949	Johnson, Mrs. Sophia C.	Assumed charge
Jul 1 1949		Office made Presidential
Jul 31 1963	Shewfelt, Robert W.	Acting
Oct 22 1965	Shewfelt, Robert W.	Nominated & Confirmed
Oct 23 1965	Shewfelt, Robert W.	Appointed Presidential
Nov 1 1965	Shewfelt, Robert W.	Commissioned
Nov 5 1965	Shewfelt, Robert W.	Assumed charge
Nov 13 1974	Smith, Dorothy R.	Officer in charge
Feb 1 1975	Smith, Dorothy R.	Appointed
	Smith, Dorothy R.	Known as "Isabel"
Mar 2 1985	Nix, Carol	Appointed
May 9 1990	Apuzzo, Alphonso	Appointed



**Twenty Mile House at Parker, Colorado. This was the location of a stage station on the Smoky Hill Trail and the Pine Grove, later Parker Post Office.**

**The building was restored and is located near the new Parker Post Office.**

B/W Photograph by James L. Ozment

November 14, 1998

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	PARKER. / COLO. CI 20P 33.5/31.0	Jan 2 1883 Dec 10 1887 Hstp Fancy, Negative star; Target, 4-ring 18mm
2	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Apr 9 1895 Apr 1 1889 Hstp Cork, smudge
3	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Dec 18 1898 Jul 4 1901 Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads
4	Parker Colo MS	Feb 19 1899 Jun 11 1899 Mscp Pen cancel



PARKER - Continued

5	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 28.5	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Aug 1 1904 Aug 12 1906
6	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-25x14mm	Dec 20 1907 Dec 22 1926
6.1	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9 bar oval	Jan 7 1924
7	PARKER, / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x20mm	Apr 3 1923 Jul 7 1927
8	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Dec 2 1933 Oct 18 1939
9	PARKER. / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Sep 6 1940 Jun 18 1945
10	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Apr 4 1946 Dec 2 1949
11	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 33.5	4bars S-24x19mm	Nov 14 1950
11.1	PARKER / COLO. MS	RFD Manuscript marking on stamp	Feb 3 1954 Feb 24 1954
12	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	May 10 1955 Dec 19 1957
13	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x20mm	Feb 19 1962 Apr 28 1962
14	PARKER / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x18mm	May 9 1960 Mar 10 1965
14.1	PARKER, / COLO CI 11P 32.0/23.5	Rolr 7 slanted wavy lines	Mar 10 1965 Mar 29 1965
15	PARKER, CO / 80134 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-25x20mm	Apr 2 1965 Apr 24 1971
16	PARKER, CO / 80134 CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-23x18mm	Jul 8 1970 Jun 8 1977
17	PARKER, CO / 80134 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jun 4 1966 Feb 28 1974
17.1	PARKER, CO / 80134 CI 10P 37.0	4bars S-??x21mm	Mar 10 1987
17.1.1	PARKER, CO / 80134-9998 // RECEIVED CI 11P 49.0/37.5	Hstp No killer	May 29 1990
17.2	PARKER, CO / 80134 CI 10P 35.0	4bars S-26x21mm	May 31 1991 Jun 1 1993
18	PARKER CO 80134 / USPS CI 10P 36.0	Hstp No killer	Mar 17 1998



1



2



3

*Parker Colo  
4-2-99*



4

PARKER - Continued



5



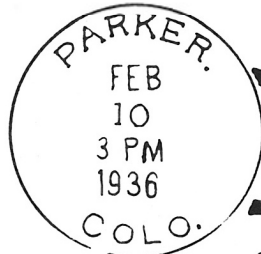
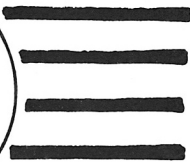
6



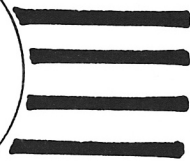
6.1



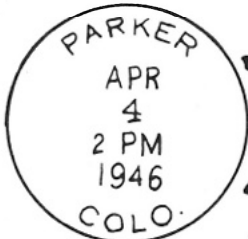
7



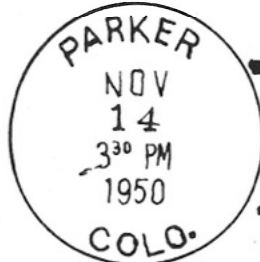
8



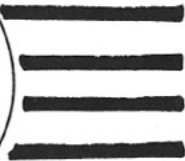
9



10



11

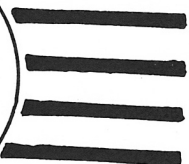


*2-3-54  
Parker Colo  
M*

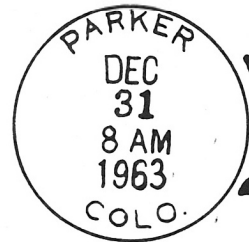
11.1



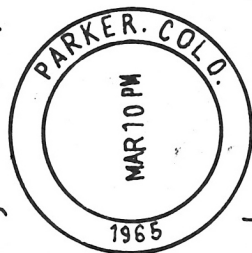
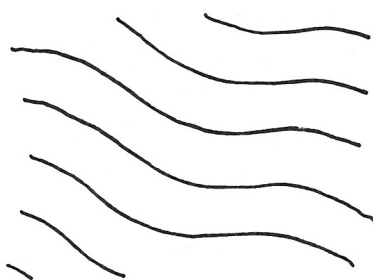
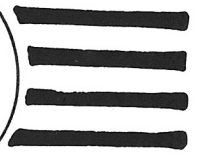
12



13



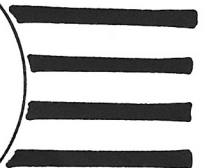
14



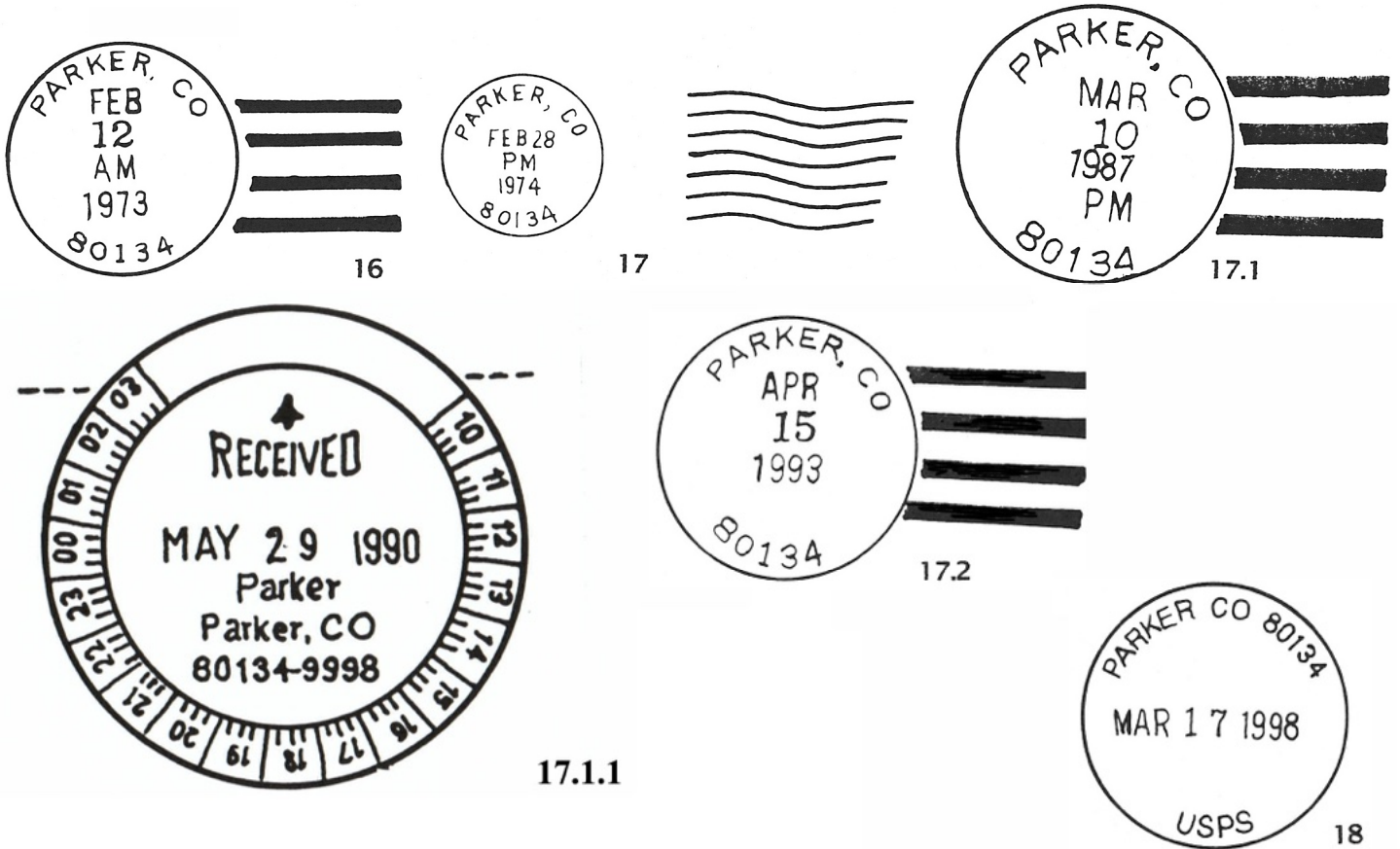
14.1



15



PARKER – Continued



PARKER 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 Parker, CO 80134 // Celebrate the Century Station Jun 15 2000  
SL 00R 99.0x3.0 Pict Text only - CENTENARIAN / -- 100 -- / The Life of a Century

NOTE Postmark announced but not used

COTTONWOOD STATION

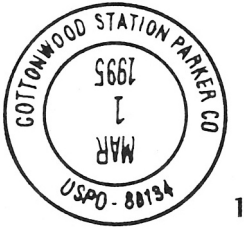
Chronology of the Post Office

Mar 1 1995 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

Confirmed types of postal markings

- 1 COTTONWOOD STATION PARKER CO / USPO 80134 Mar 1 1995 May 5 1997  
CI 11P 30.0/19.0 Hstp No killer

**PARKER STATIONS – Continued  
COTTONWOOD STATION – Continued**



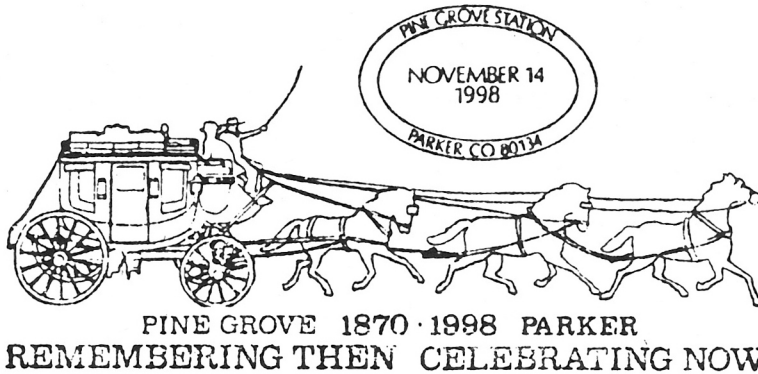
1

**PINE GROVE STATION  
Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 14 1998 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 PARKER, CO 80134 // PINE GROVE STATION Nov 14 1998  
IR 00R 100.0x49.0 Pict Scene - stagecoach and horses; text - PINE GROVE 1870 - 1998 PARKER / REMEMBERING THEN CELEBRATING NOW



1

**PEMBERTON**

Pemberton began as part of a mining district that eventually included Tyler to the north and Westcreek to the south. All three communities were within a two-mile stretch along West Creek, a north flowing tributary to the South Platte River.

The mining activity began in 1895 when Captain George F. Tyler sent his son to Denver with samples from outcrops he found on his property. By 1896 the area was booming and competition between the three communities was escalating. It is claimed that by 1897 some 5,000 people populated the West Creek District. I believe this is a gross exaggeration. Unfortunately even though there was considerable mining activity in the area, continuing until after the turn of the century, rich discoveries were never made. The mining activity soon died and the area became one of a few ranches and summer residences. In 1902 the Pemberton Post Office moved a mile south and adopted the name of Westcreek.

Pemberton was named for Marsh Pemberton, an early resident and cattleman on whose land the community was situated.



**PEMBERTON – Continued**

To reach the site of Pemberton, drive south from Deckers on Colorado Highway 67 to the side road that leads to Westcreek. There are three possible entrances to Westcreek. The first (northern) is to the left and closely parallels the highway as it descends to West Creek. Pemberton was about a half-mile from the main highway and along a now closed side road to the west. In 1998 there were still a few disintegrating log buildings along this road, easily visible from the road into Westcreek. By the fall of 2002 all that remained were piles of ashes and metal. The disastrous Hayman Fire of the summer of 2002 had burned all the remaining structures at this location. Those fighting the fire devoted their efforts, successfully, to saving the several residences that still comprise Westcreek.



**Abandoned cabins at the site of Pemberton, Colorado. This picture was taken in May 1998.  
The massive Hayman Fire destroyed them all in the summer of 2002.  
The Woodland Park Community, less than a mile to the south, escaped with minor damage.  
Photograph by William H. Bauer May 13, 1998**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Dec 31 1895	---	SE/4 Sec 25 T10S R70W Tyler 1-1/2 miles northerly Woodland Park 16 miles southerly On West Creek Document annotated: "ch. n. to Westcreek May 20, 02" Sketch map shows Tyler and Pemberton in close proximity
Jan 23 1896		Established
Jan 23 1896		Briscoe, Cole
Nov 19 1897		Griffen, William
Apr 14 1902		Moved a short distance to Westcreek

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Pemberton, COLO	Mar 16 1896
	SL 00R 55.0x16.0	Hstp Cork, smudge

**PEMBERTON – Continued**

- 2 Pemberton Colo : Geo. W. Oliver Dec 14 1897  
MS Mscp Cork, smudge
- 3 PEMBERTON / COLO. Jun 9 1896 Mar 2 1897  
CI 10P 27.0 Hstp Not present

Pemberton, COLO

MAR 16 1896

1

*Geo W Oliver Pemberton Colo*

2



3

**PERRY**

The proposed settlement of Perry must not be confused with the better known Perry Park. Although relatively close together, they were not the same place and the operation of post offices at the two places overlapped. However, it is quite possible that the Perry Post Office was never in operation.

The town of Perry was planned by the Red Stone Land and Mining Company and was designed to be a place for the company's workers of modest means, to live. The business office of the company would be in Perry. A general store and post office were built and put into operation by the company. The building also served as a small hotel for travelers. The town of Perry did not advance beyond this single building.

The site selected for Perry was on the east side of present day Perry Park Road (County Road 105) and opposite George Robinson's ranch, the site of the Glen Grove Post Office (1869-1877).

This location is also at, or very near to the entrance into the modern Perry Park development. The area is presently one of open fields and pine woods.

No document for Perry was found in the Post Office Department Geographic site Location Reports.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jun 21 1890	Established	
Jun 21 1890	Broaddus, Charles P.	Not commissioned
Mar 23 1895	Discontinued	No papers sent

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**PERRY PARK**

The area that is today known as Perry Park was originally named Pleasant Park by the 1869 Hayden Survey. George Ratcliffe was one of the early settlers. In 1872 Ratcliffe sold his ranch to John Dietz Perry, president of the Kansas Pacific Railroad. Perry proceeded to build a large working ranch and to rename the place Perry Park. By 1871 he had acquired some 4,000 acres.

In addition to the ranching that dominated the area until the late twentieth century, quarrying of the red sandstone and of gypsum took place in the vicinity of Perry Park.

By 1882 a Mr. Rickard was in possession of Perry Park and began to develop it as a potential resort. In 1889 the Red Stone Town, Land and Mining Company, General Bela Hughes President, built a two-story hotel with 18-20 rooms and opened it to the public. In addition to the hotel, a dam was built across Bear Creek forming the 20-acre Lake Yuanup or Lake Wauconda. The combination of the lake and the dam made Perry Park a favorite place for outings from Denver. During the bicycle craze around



**PERRY PARK – Continued**

the turn of the century, cyclists would cycle from Denver to Perry Park, spend the evening dancing and stay overnight at the hotel to return to Denver the next day.

In the early twentieth century the Perry Park property passed into the hands of a select few and became a private enclave where uninvited visitors were not particularly welcome. In the later part of the century Colorado Western Development announced plans for a subdivision that would encompass the area from Interstate 25 west to the foothills and from Tomah Road south to the Larkspur/Perry Park Road. The private holdings were subdivided and the park is now home to a large number of people and has its own golf course and clubhouse. The main buildings of the old ranch now serve as an equestrian center.

Perry Park itself is a small basin of perhaps 1,000 acres along Bear Creek where it exits from the granite of the Front Range. Erosion has carved the underlying Fountain Formation into fantastic shapes similar to those of the Garden of the Gods and Roxborough Park. This has made Perry Park a most desirable residential area.

In the summer of 1957 as a thesis for a Master's degree at the Colorado School of Mines, I studied the geology of the area of Douglas County from Jarre Canyon south to Perry Park. I had been unable to get permission to enter the Perry Park Basin. By late summer, I had developed a number of questions that I felt could only be resolved by looking at the geology in a portion of the Perry Park. So, one day I hiked down what is now Perry Park Road, cut cross country and began following the outcrops northward. After about an hour I suddenly discovered that I had company. A cowboy on horseback and armed, to boot. I explained what I was doing but was informed that I was to get out of there as fast as I could. I headed north, a little faster than before but still making some needed observations. The cowboy followed me all the way to the boundary fence. Perhaps some of the rumors of involvement in Perry Park of an unsavory element from Kansas City did have an element of truth.

From Sedalia drive a short distance west on Douglas County Highway 67 (Jarre Canyon Road) and turn south on Perry Park Road. It is about thirteen miles to the well marked entrance to the Perry Park development. An alternative is to take the Tomah Road exit from Interstate 25 and drive west to Perry Park Road and turn south.

Latitude = 39:15:18 North Longitude = 104:59:17 West

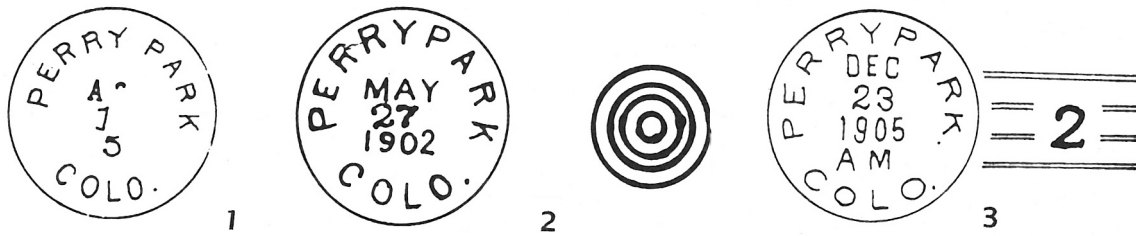
**Chronology of the Post Office**

Undated	---	NE/4 Sec 22 T9S R68W 1-1/2 miles west of West Plum Creek
Mar 11 1892	Established	
Mar 11 1892	Gilpin, Frank	
Oct 29 1892	Garlinghouse, Arthur B.	
Feb 20 1896	Robinson, Milton J.	
Jan 13 1900	Gray, John	
Feb 7 1902	Douthett, Matthew	
Apr 10 1903	Hastings, Helen E.	
Nov 16 1903	Barrett, Ida M.	
Feb 5 1904	Bardell, Lawson T.	
Jan 3 1906	Ordered closed	
Jan 31 1906	Discontinued	Mail to Larkspur

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	PERRY PARK / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring	May 2 189- Aug 12 1895
2	PERRY PARK / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Target, 4 ring	17mm, large letters Jul 15 1901 May 27 1902
3	PERRY PARK. / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Doane Type 2, with 2;	S-22x13mm (enlarged to approx. scale) Dec 23 1905

**PERRY PARK – Continued**



**PINE GROVE**

Pine Grove was the name of a stage station and post office on the Lord Ranch in 1863. The building was erected by Alfred Butters who soon traded it to a Mr. Goldsmith. Goldsmith sold it to George Long who moved the building about a mile to a location on the Smoky Hill Trail where it became known as Twenty Mile House. The Twenty Mile House and Pine Grove Post Office were acquired by Nelson Dowd and then by James S. Parker, who operated both establishments for a number of years.

The Twenty Mile House grew to include several buildings including a two-story annex. It was a well-known stopping point twenty miles south of Denver. The only remaining building is one that is claimed to have been the post office. The site has recently undergone renovation and is being developed as a small historical park. It is located just west of Colorado Highway 83 on Main Street, the principal east-west street leading into the Parker business district.

A special Postal Station and cancel (see Parker, Pine Grove Station), noted completion of the renovation project on November 14, 1998.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Jul 25 1863	---	No T-R-S on document
Undated	---	(torn off) NW/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W Office on bank of Cherry Creek
Dec 8 1870		Established
Apr 1 1871	---	Local name 20 Mile House NW/4 Sec 22 T6S R66W
Dec 8 1873		James S. Parker
Nov 7 1877		Discontinued
Dec 18 1877		Re-established
Dec 18 1877		James S. Parker
Mar 17 1882		Name changed to Parker

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- |   |                   |                         |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Pine Grove / Colo | May 29 1876 Sep 22 1881 |
|   | MS                | Mscp Pen cancel         |

*Pine Grove Colo*  
*May 29/76*

1

## **PLATTE CANON**

Platte Canon was one of the group of post offices that operated on the South Platte River in the vicinity of where Bear Gulch joins the river. The other offices at this location were Deane (Deansbury) and Strontia Springs (Strontia).

If the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Report is correct, this Platte Canon office was actually in Jefferson County, although the Post Office department considered it to be in Douglas County. It is certain that it was the first office at this location and in a little more than two years the name was changed to Deane, the name of the postmaster for both Platte Canon and Deane.

The site of this office is not accessible by vehicle. It requires a hike from South Platte, down the canyon or from Waterton up the canyon. Even if you make the hike the site is under the waters of the Strontia Springs Reservoir.

Do not confuse this with a later Platte Canon that was located in Jefferson County near Waterton at the mouth of the canyon.

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

Oct 1 1877	---	SE/4 Sec 20 T7S R69W North side of the Platte River, on the east side of Bear Gulch (According to sketch map, which shows it opposite the mouth of Bear Gulch)
Oct 11 1877		Established
Oct 11 1877		Deane, Cecil A.
Dec 19 1879		Moved to Deane

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

**NO POSTAL MARKINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED FROM PLATTE CANON**

## **ROCK RIDGE**

In 1872 Rock Ridge became the third name applied to a post office serving the area along Cherry Creek near the junction of the modern Colorado Highway 83 and Russellville Road. It was located a mile south of the intersection of those two roads, two miles south of its predecessors in the area: Virginia / Frost's Ranch.

When the Rock Ridge Post Office closed it was moved a half-mile north to another ranch where it took the name of Case. To confuse matters, that ranch is now called the Rock Ridge Ranch but it was not the site of the Rock Ridge Post Office. The confirmation of these locations is the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports that clearly place Rock Ridge to the south of Case.

The name of the office is derived from a low rock ridge that is located just east of the ranch buildings at the Rock Ridge and Case sites.

Please refer to the discussions of Virginia, Frost's Ranch, Case and Irving for additional information on this group of post offices.

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

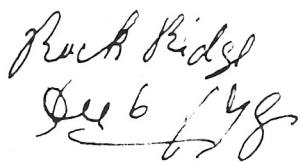
Feb 13 1872		Name changed from Frosts Ranch
Feb 13 1872		Case, John A.
Aug 7 1872	---	SE/4 Sec 19 T9S R65W 1/4 mile east of Cherry Creek
Nov 6 1877		Cozard, B. F.
Jan 17 1878		Martin, R. F.
Feb 26 1878		Cozard, Mrs. Sarah M.
Dec 6 1878		Shroyer, Mrs. Jennie
Apr 27 1880		Thompson, Brady S.
Aug 22 1881		Potter, Samuel C.
Feb 16 1882		Kaempfer, Anton
Jul 26 1882		Hedgpeth, Mrs. Caroline

**ROCK RIDGE – Continued**

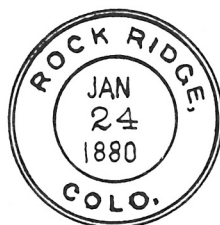
Jan 4 1883	Kaempfer, Anton
Dec 10 1884	Whittier, Washington J.
May 12 1888	Cummings, Joanna E.
Nov 14 1891	Long, Alice
Mar 22 1892	Discontinued Mail to Castle Rock

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	Rock Ridge MS	Dec 6 1878
2	ROCK RIDGE / COLO. CI 21P 27.0/26.0/18.0	Jan 24 1880 Hstp Fancy, US MAIL monogram



1



2

**RUSSELLVILLE**

On a tributary gulch (Wild Cat Canyon) to Cherry Creek, William Green Russell and his party from Georgia panned some “color.” This came to be known as Russellville Gulch and a small mining community grew along the stream. Russellville was the second post office to be established in what became Douglas County.

In addition to the minor production of placer gold, one of the first sawmills in Colorado was nearby and the site was a stage station on the Cherokee Stage Route and the Jimmy Camp Trail.

The difficulty of obtaining sufficient water to work the placers together with reports of richer deposits on Clear Creek at the Gregory Diggings contributed to a quick decline in the activity at Russellville.

Even though Russellville began early in the history of Colorado it was not until 1862 that a post office was authorized for Russellville. James Frank Gardner was the first and only postmaster, and within four months he moved the post office to his ranch four miles north of present day Franktown; the name was changed to Franktown.

By the late 1860’s the mining activity at Russellville was over and it was slowly developing into ranches and farms.

To reach the site of Russellville, drive south from Franktown on Colorado Highway 83. Turn east on Russellville Road to Tomichi Road and turn east again. A half-mile further is the Russellville Ranch. Visible from the road is a barn with a lower portion built of stone and to the right of the barn, a small stone spring house. It is claimed that these two buildings date from the early days of Russellville. Like much of Douglas County, the area that was once Russellville is rapidly becoming a rural, residential area.

Latitude = 39:20:49 North Longitude = 104:41:47 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 8 1862	---	No T-R-S on document On northeast side of Cherry Creek 35 miles southerly from Denver 80 miles northerly from Pueblo
May 22 1862		Established
May 22 1862		Gardner, James F.
Sep 8 1862		Moved to Franktown

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

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

**SEDALIA**

In the winter of 1859 John H. Craig left the Happy Canon area and traveled to the junction of East and West Plum Creeks where he staked a claim and built a, “circular corral on a flat near East Plum” which was soon known as The Round Corral. John H. Craig is also connected to the early post office of Keystone Ranch. In 1869 John Craig sold the Round Corral to Jonathan House. House renamed the site Plum. This was the beginning of what would eventually become Sedalia. Please refer to discussion of Keystone for additional details on the early settlements in the vicinity of Sedalia.

In 1871 the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad built south into Douglas County. As it approached Plum or the Round Corral, activity began to pick up. William Greenwood purchased the homestead of Euphemia Atchison for \$1,250. The National Land and Improvement Company put up a small station for handling railway supplies and planned a townsite. The business that had occupied the Round Corral moved the short distance north to the new location.

Henry M. Clay, who in 1859 had come to Colorado from Sedalia, Missouri, arrived with a stock of goods to supply the railroad workers. With the completion of the railroad through the settlement it became known as Plum Station. In 1872 a post office was authorized, with Henry Clay as the first postmaster. The name selected by Clay for the post office was Sedalia for his hometown.

There are sufficient references to indicate that although the post office was called Sedalia, the town continued to be known as Plum until the town plat for Sedalia was filed on May 15, 1882 by the National Land and Development Company. There never was a post office named Plum or Plum Station in Douglas County.

Sedalia was located in an area of ranching and farming and also served as a shipping point for lumber and timber products from the pine forests of western Douglas County. By the mid-twentieth century the town, on US Highway 85 and Colorado Highway 67, had become one with service stations, cafes and other highway supported businesses. Sedalia also became a gateway for tourists, sportsmen and campers going west to the South Platte River and the Pike National Forest in western Douglas County.

In the late twentieth century, Sedalia had not yet succumbed to the explosive growth of Castle Rock and other areas of Douglas County. However, in 2003 the Sedalia Post Office moved from the small, street corner building it had occupied for many years to a large new building. And it appears that the State of Colorado is at last acknowledging the heavy traffic flow on US 85 and moving to convert the highway to a four-lane road. That will only accelerate the progress of residential growth northwards from Castle Rock.

Sedalia is located at the junction of US Highway 85 and the Jarre Canyon Road (Douglas County Highway 67).

Latitude = 39:26:13 North Longitude = 104:57:43 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

<b>Mar 26 1872</b>	---	<b>SE/4 Sec 14 T7S R68W Keystone 4 miles northerly Bear Canon 5 miles southerly from Sedalia</b>
<b>Apr 8 1872</b>		<b>Established</b>
<b>Apr 8 1872</b>		<b>Clay, Henry M.</b>
<b>Jul 26 1878</b>		<b>Manhart, Christian</b>
<b>Jan 19 1883</b>		<b>Manhart, George</b>
<b>Mar 21 1894</b>		<b>Cann, Robert</b>
<b>Aug 22 1898</b>		<b>Green, Hattie M.</b>

**SEDALIA – Continued**

May 25 1899 ---	SE/4 Sec 14 T7S R68W	
Aug 9 1901	Manhart, George	
Feb 26 1914 ---	Part SE/4 Sec 14 T7S R68W 742 feet north of East Plum Creek 100 ft from D&RG 1386 feet from AT&SF Shown in lot 13 block 7 (2nd south of NW corner)	
Sep 18 1914	Krager, John A.	
Apr 22 1920	Gelvin, D. Maude	
Sep 3 1921	Metzler, Mary A.	
Feb 24 1922	Couch, Edmund	
Feb 18 1924	Manhart, Albert W.	Acting
May 2 1924	Manhart, Albert W.	Appointed & Confirmed
May 14 1924	Manhart, Albert W.	Commissioned
May 31 1924	Manhart, Albert W.	Assumed charge
Jan 20 1942 ---	SE/4 Sec 14 T7S R68W Location shown as in lot 9 (SW corner) of Block 8, facing D&RG RR	
Jul 1 1945		Office made Presidential
Sep 26 1945	Manhart, Albert W.	Nominated
Oct 29 1945	Manhart, Albert W.	Confirmed
Oct 30 1945	Manhart, Albert W.	Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Jan 31 1946	Manhart, Albert W.	Assumed charge
Jun 30 1947	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Acting
Jul 1 1947	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Assumed charge
Apr 28 1949	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Nominated
Jun 1 1949	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Confirmed
Jun 2 1949	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Appointed Presidential & Commissioned
Jul 15 1949	Stewart, Charlie Paul	Assumed charge
Oct 22 1971	Corbin, Mrs. L. B.	Officer in charge
Jan 18 1972	Anderson, John	Officer in charge
Mar 18 1972	Smith, Kenneth W.	Appointed
Mar 18 1972	Smith, Kenneth W.	Assumed charge
Dec 12 1973	Smith, Dorothy R.	Officer in charge
Jun 29 1974	Wagner, Mrs. Margaret E.	Appointed



**C. MANHART, P. M. / SEDALIA, COLORADO.**

**December 27, 1881**



SEDALIA – Continued

Confirmed types of postal markings

1	Sedalia Colo MS	Mscp Pen cancel	Feb 18 1873
2	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 24.5	Hstp Target, 4-ring	Sep 16 1874 Nov 17 1874
3	SEDALIA, COLORADO. // C. MANHART, P.M. CI 21P 34.0/32.0/22.0	Hstp Fancy; Positive star in circle	Nov 14 1878 Jan 31 1883
4	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm	Nov 25 1884 Mar 18 1886
5	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 20P 32.0/29.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring 18mm	Mar 11 1888 Mar 29 1888
6	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4-ring 16mm	Jun 10 1890 Sep 4 1890
7	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	Hstp Cork, Negative X-roads	Jun 17 1898 May 8 1899
8	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	Doane Type 3, with 5; S-23x14mm	Apr 8 1906 Dec 22 1909
9	SEDALIA, / COLO. CI 10P 31.0	4bars S-24x19mm	Jan 1 1911 Oct 12 1915
10	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 29.0	Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval	Apr 25 1934 May 14 1951
10.1	Sedalia / COLO. RC 10P 37.0x17.0	Hstp No killer, Parcel Post Box [NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION]	1940s
11	SEDALIA / COLO. CI 10P 30.0	Dplx Grid, pointed oval with 1	May 16 1956 Jan 25 1964
12	SEDALIA, / COLO. CI 10P 22.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Jun 8 1960 Nov 6 1964
12v	SEDALIA, / COLO. CI 10P 22.0	Mach 7 wavy lines; inverted dial	Jun 14 1963
13	SEDALIA, CO / 80135 CI 10P 23.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Mar 30 1962 Jun 13 1969
13.1	SEDALIA, CO / 80135 CI 10P 21.0	Mach 7 wavy lines	Mar 21 1972 Dec 10 1973
14	SEDALIA, CO / 80135 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-24x19mm	May 16 1966 May 28 1982
15	SEDALIA, CO 80135 / USPS CI 11P 29.0/20.0	4bars S-24x19mm	May 1 1998
16	SEDALIA CO / 80135 CI 10P 33.0	4bars S-19x16mm	Apr 14 1992 Dec 31 1999
17	SEDALIA CO / USPS 80135 CI 11P 33.0	4bars S-19x16mm [NOT AVAILABLE FOR ILLUSTRATION]	May 3 2005

*Sedalia Colo*  
*2-18-73*

*MS*

1



2



3



SEDALIA - Continued



4



5



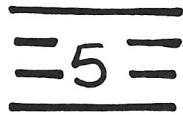
6



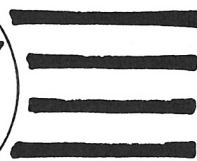
7



8



9



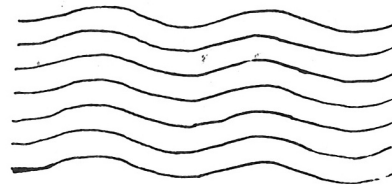
10



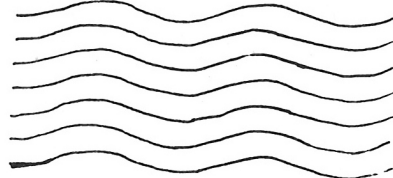
11



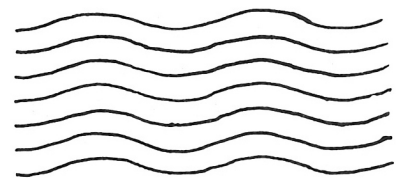
12



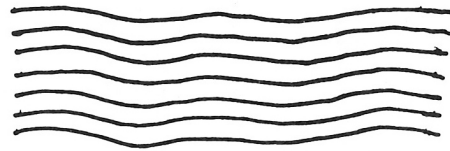
12v



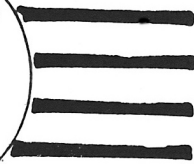
13



13.1



14



15



16



**SEDALIA STATIONS**

**PLUM AVENUE STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 14 2002 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 SEDALIA CO / 80135 :: Plum Avenue / Station Nov 14 2002  
CI 10P 18.0 Pict Scene - Post Office building; Text - 1922- / 2002 / 80 Years of Service



**SEDALIA STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 8 1997 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 SEDALIA / CO 80135 :: SEDALIA STATION Apr 8 1997  
IR 00R 55.0x33.0 Pict Scene - Columbine in circle; Text - 125th ANNIVERSARY (Station name and text encircle the scene), date stamp between bars at right



**SYLVESTER & TWEETY STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Apr 27 1998 Operated as a Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

- 1 SEDALIA CO / 80135 :: SYLVESTER & TWEETY STATION Apr 27 1998  
CI 10P 25.0 Pict Scene - Sylvester chasing Tweety



**SEDALIA STATIONS – Continued**

**WOODBINE RANCH STATION**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

May 7 2003 Special Commemorative Station

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1 Sedalia CO / 80135 :: Woodbine Ranch Station May 7 2003  
IR 00R 36.0x17.0 Pict Scene - Ranch buildings; Text - 37th Annual /  
Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast



**SPRING VALLEY**

Spring Valley began as a station on the stage route from Denver to Pueblo. The first settlers were men by the names of Redman, Lincoln, Giles, Sheldon, Spence and a small boy. The station was at Gile's ranch. It is claimed that a small fort for protection from Indian attacks was built nearby. If the story is true, the fort was a necessity as the first postmaster, George W. Redman a fancier of purebred horses and the first postmaster of Spring Valley, is said to have been killed by Indians.

The area was mostly devoted to stock raising and dairy products although some hay was marketed. Potatoes were raised successfully until the potato blight ended production in the area. Spring Valley was also the site of a well-known creamery that continued operation for many years.

The stage station at Spring Valley was located on the west side of West Cherry Creek, and the north side of East Lorraine Road (County Road 72) where that road crosses the creek. From the junction of Russellville Road with Colorado Highway 83 it is eight and one-half miles south to East Lorraine Road.

In her book, *Douglas County, A Historical Journey*, Josephine Lowell Marr relates the following tale:

*In March of 1884 a young girl, Janey Richey (Richie), died from smallpox at Jacob Geiger's store...Lorenzo Leppart...contracted the same disease. Leppart is postmaster and no one goes to the office. The inconvenience necessitates the leaving of our mail matters at Greenland. Lorenzo Leppart died of the disease on the 27th of January...three months later the Spring Valley post office burned down.*

There are some difficulties with this recollection. There is no record of a Lorenzo Leppart as postmaster at Spring Valley and Jacob Geyer, not Geiger was the final postmaster. But the Spring Valley Post Office did close in July 1885, so perhaps a fire was the reason for closing the post office. Another source claims the store and post office was intentionally burned because of the fear of smallpox.

The name Spring Valley was apparently chosen as indicative of numerous springs in the valley area.

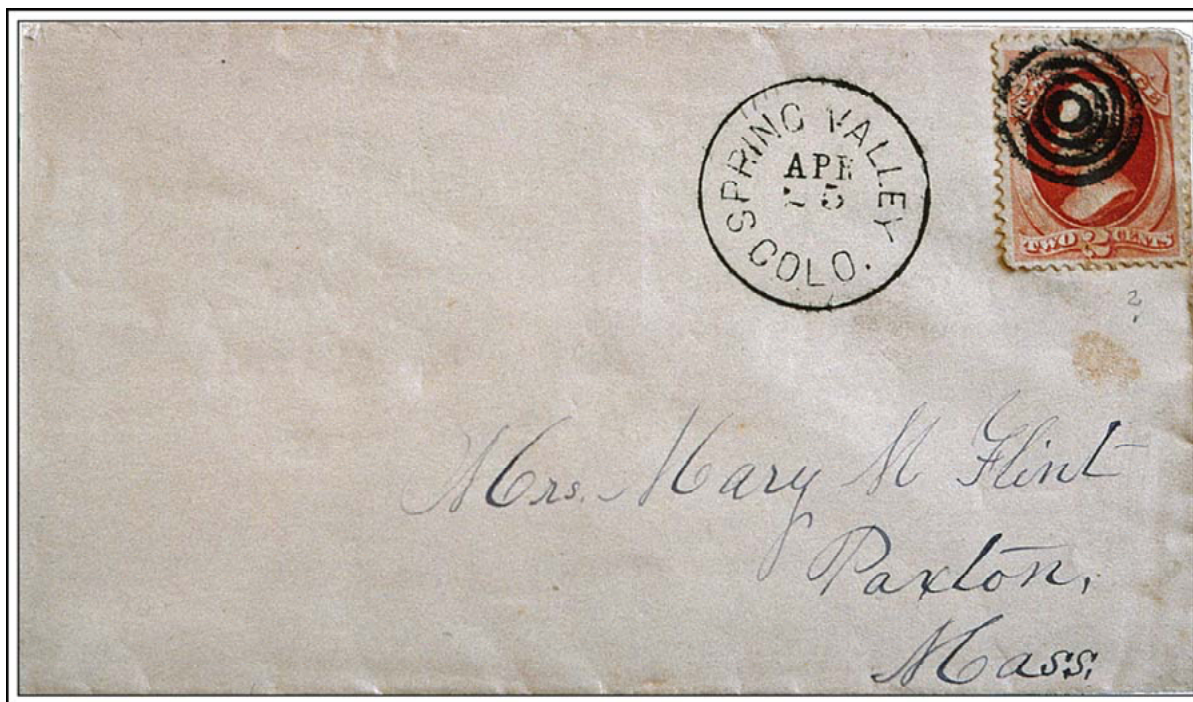
Three-quarters of a mile west of Colorado 83, East Lorraine Road intersects South Spring Valley Road. In the northeast corner of the intersection is the Spring Valley Church and less than a mile north is the Spring Valley Cemetery. There are some scattered residences in the area and a couple of small, older buildings, partially screened by trees, can be seen on the west side of Cherry Creek, some distance north of the road.

Latitude = 39:09:36 North Longitude = 104:46:04 West SPRING VALLEY CEMETERY  
Latitude = 39:09:08 North Longitude = 104:46:11 West SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL

**SPRING VALLEY – Continued**

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Mar 27 1865	Established
Mar 27 1865	Redman, George W.
Dec 13 1865	Gile, Joseph F.
Mar 1 1869	McGuire, Thomas P.
Sep 29 1869	Iron, Robert A.
Jan 28 1870	Gile, Joseph F.
Feb 7 1871	--- NE/4 Sec 27 T10S R66W Sketch map shows on Cherry Creek
Apr 5 1877	Cranshaw, Sarah C.
Jul 29 1880	Atkinson, James
Sep 14 1880	Cranshaw, Sarah C.
Jun 13 1881	Pratt, Gideon C.
Oct 17 1881	Cranshaw, Sarah C.
Apr 26 1882	Geyer, Jacob
Jul 31 1885	Discontinued



**SPRING VALLEY / COLO.                      April 25, (188-)**

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1.A	Spring Valley MS	Mscp Pen cancel	Jan 22 18--
1.B	Spring Valley / Col MS	Mscp Pen cancel	Mar 19 1867 Feb 11 1868
1.C	Spring Valley / Colo. MS	Mscp Pen cancel	May 8 186- Jan 2 1868
2	SPRING VALLEY / COLO. CI 10P 27.0	Hstp Target, 4 ring 17mm	Apr 25 188?

**SPRING VALLEY – Continued**

*Spring Valley  
Jan 22*

1.A



*Spring Valley  
cut near 19/67*

1.B



*Spring Valley  
Jan 22  
colo*

1.C



2

**STRONTIA**

An attempt was made to open a post office of this name in 1903. That would coincide with the acquisition of the Strontia Springs Resort by the Strontia Medicinal Springs Company.

Please refer to Platte Canon, Deane and Strontia Springs for the history of the post offices at this location.

No document for Strontia was found in the Post Office Department Geographic Site Location Reports for Douglas County.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Oct 3 1903	Established
Oct 3 1903	Wilson, Isabel
Dec 1 1903	Establishment rescinded

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**STRONTIA SPRINGS**

In the fall of 1911 a new post office named Strontia Springs opened at the junction of Bear Gulch with the South Platte River. This location had been the site of the early Platte Canon Post Office and of the later Deane/Deansbury Post Office. In 1903 a request to open a post office named simply Strontia was first authorized and then rescinded.

In 1903 the Strontia Medicinal Springs Company purchased the resort originally established by Cecil A. Deane. With a station on the railroad to bring customers to the resort, it became popular as a daytime resort and a vacation spot for longer stays by visitors. There were ample recreational opportunities for fishing, hiking, mountain and rock climbing or just picnicking. Of course the supposedly curative powers of the Strontia Springs were an attraction.

Although the popularity of “taking the waters” at medicinal spas declined, the post office remained open. On April 21, 1984 the Denver Water Board closed the gates on the new Strontia Springs Dam and the site of Strontia Springs was flooded.

Please refer to the discussions of Platte Canon and Deane for the early history of this location.



**STRONTIA SPRINGS – Continued****Chronology of the Post Office**

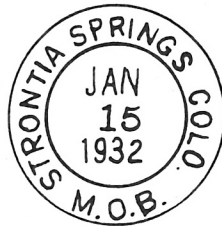
Sep 27 1911	Established
Sep 27 1911	Thompson, William G.
Feb 28 1912	--- NE/4 Sec 29 T7S R70W On west side of Platte River, Bear Gulch runs through it South side and 100 feet from RR track (Colorado & Southern)
Undated	--- Platte River 50 yards north Bear Creek 100 yards east The sketch map shows this and also shows Platte Canon in the NW/4 Sec 8 T7S R??W
Feb 28 1914	--- S/2 NE/4 Sec 20, T7S R69W 300 feet east of Bear Gulch 200 feet south of Platte River
Dec 22 1931	Ordered closed
Jan 15 1932	Discontinued Mail to South Platte

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

1	STRONTIA SPRINGS, COLO. CI 10P 32.0	4bars S-23x19mm	Aug 14 1912 Jun 10 1930
2	STRONTIA SPRINGS COLO. / M.O.B. CI 11P 28.0/18.0	Hstp No killer	Jan 15 1932 Jan 15 1932



2



1

**TYLER**

Tyler was one of the small mining camps that came to life during the mid-1890's mining boom along the headwaters of West Creek. The community developed on the ranch of George F. Tyler. It was George Tyler who sent ore samples to Denver and thus triggered the short-lived mining excitement in the West Creek Mining District.

Tyler arranged to have a townsite surveyed on his ranch with the center near his original home. The *Castle Rock Journal* wrote: Tyler, Tyler City, or Bunker Hill as the new town was called, "is destined to be a central location in the great camp (mining) at West Creek." No rich discoveries followed and the excitement and Tyler soon died.

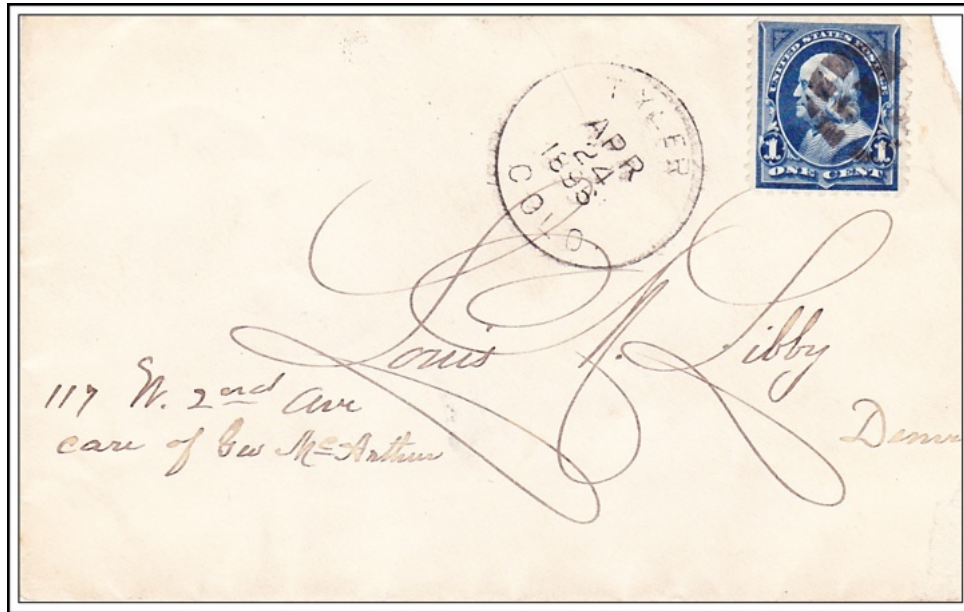
The location reported to the Post Office Department is a half mile north of the location for Pemberton, a short distance before the first road from the north leaves Colorado Highway 67 to enter the area of Pemberton and the Westcreek community of today.

In 1998 two small buildings, a cabin and an outbuilding, were present on the north side of West Creek in the mouth of a small draw. The disastrous Hayman Fire of 2002 destroyed the outbuilding, but the cabin was saved and still stands. From its condition, it appears that it is still in use, perhaps as a summer or fishing cabin.

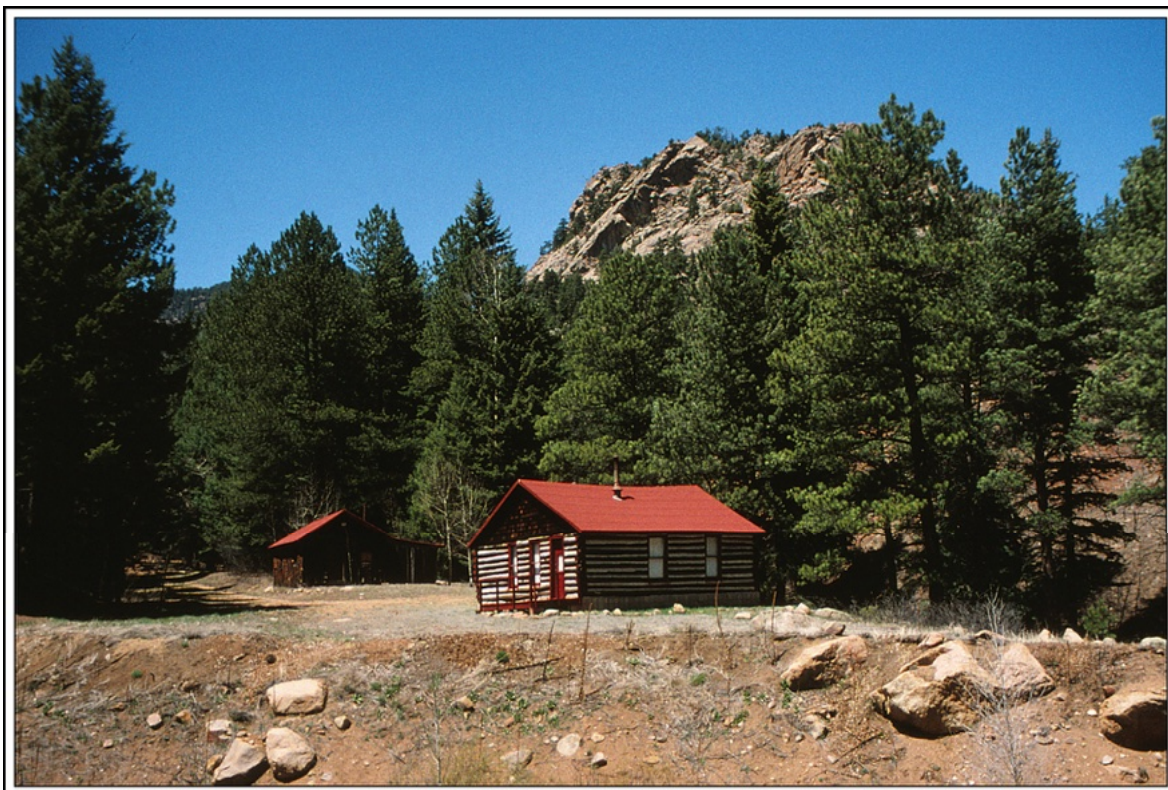
**Chronology of the Post Office**

Nov 19 1895	--- NE/4 Sec 24 T10S R70W On West Creek
Nov 27 1895	Established
Nov 27 1895	Floyd, Frank G.
Jun 6 1896	Gibbs, Thomas H.
Jul 30 1897	Discontinued Mail to Pemberton

TYLER – Continued



TYLER / COLO. April 24, 1896



The remaining cabins at or near the site of Tyler. This photograph was taken in May 1998.  
The small building in the background was destroyed by the Hayman Fire in the summer of 2002.  
Photograph by W. H. Bauer May 1998

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

1 TYLER / COLO.  
CI 10P 27.0

Apr 24 1895

Hstp Cork, circular double grid



1

**VIRGINIA**

Virginia Ranch was one of the isolated ranches along the Cherokee Trail and the stage route from Denver to Pueblo. It was a stage stop and by 1869 had become significant enough to be granted a post office. This post office under several different names and at different locations would serve the area until 1920.

Virginia Ranch was located on today's Russellville Road, one mile north of the junction with Colorado Highway 83. The ranch buildings are on the west side of Russellville Road. The stage buildings were on the east side of the road. The ranch is still there and occupied. The stage buildings are gone.

In 1871 the post office name was change to Frost's Ranch. The later post offices in the area were Case, Rock Ridge and Irving.

Please remember that the original name for the Tin Cup (Gunnison County) Post Office was also Virginia from 1879 to 1880.

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Sep 29 1869	Established
Sep 29 1869	Frost, Amos K.
Feb 8 1871	Name changed to Frosts Ranch
Feb 12 1871 ---	NW/4 SE/4 Sec 8 T9S R65W 50 yards north of the East Fork of Cherry Creek

**Confirmed types of postal markings**

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

**WESTCREEK**

Westcreek was the final community and post office to come into existence on the headwaters of West Creek as a result of the short-lived mining boom of the mid-1890's. It was anticipated that the area would become another Cripple Creek. Although a number of prospects were located, none of them proved to be of sufficient richness to sustain extensive mining and by the turn of the century the mining excitement had ended.

Prior to the mining activity this area in southern Douglas County was one of cattle ranches. When the mining ceased cattle ranching once again became the principal activity. In recent years the surrounding countryside has seen some residential development but it is still strongly rural in nature. The record Hayman Fire of 2002 swept through the area and although outside the confines of the Westcreek community many homes were destroyed, Westcreek escaped almost physically unscathed.

**WESTCREEK – Continued**

The mining development brought about the establishment of three communities: Westcreek, Pemberton and Tyler. In February 1896 the three communities filed a petition with the county commissioners calling for an election of incorporation. The new town would be known as Westcreek. The election was held on March 16, 1896 and Westcreek became the second incorporated town in Douglas County.

Apparently Tyler and Pemberton continued to have some individuality as the Tyler Post Office lasted until July 1897 and the Pemberton Post office was not moved and/or renamed Westcreek until April 1902.

Although there is no doubt that the present community of Westcreek is the successor to Pemberton, there is a question as to the existence of a West Creek community prior to the mining boom.

During the 1940's, when Muriel Sible Wolle was doing research on the ghost town of Pemberton she drove about a mile south from the Westcreek community (FR 200) to a fork in the road, where she found a road sign pointing up one of the forks to West Creek. Continuing up that road she encountered a deserted false front store in the middle of field. From a nearby resident she learned that the building was an old hardware store and was all that remained of the original town of West Creek. Apparently the original town had been deserted so the name was available for the newer community.

Latitude = 39:09:09 North Longitude = 105:09:47 West

**Chronology of the Post Office**

Dec 31 1895	---	SE/4 Sec 25 T10S R70W Tyler 1-1/2 miles northerly Woodland Park 16 miles southerly On West Creek Document annotated: "ch. n. to Westcreek May 20, 02" Sketch map shows Tyler and Pemberton in close proximity	
Apr 14 1902		Name changed from Pemberton	
Apr 14 1902		Griffin, William	
Jun 14 1903	---	SE/4 Sec 25 T10S R70W	
Dec 5 1907		Smith, Jessie M.	
Jun 18 1909		White, Sarah J.	
Nov 6 1911		Hargh, Uriah	
Jan 20 1913		Stapish, Goldie	
Aug 13 1915		Long, Robert B.	
Feb 15 1915		Closed Mail to Deckers Order rescinded	
Aug 31 1918		Discontinued	
Oct 26 1918		Re-established	
Oct 26 1918		Johns, Aletha D.	
Jun 14 1919		Discontinued Mail to Deckers	
Aug 4 1934	---	200 yards north of West Creek SE/4 Sec 25 T10S R70W	
Jan 9 1935		Re-established	
Jan 9 1935		Hancock, Mrs. Margaret	Confirmed
Jan 21 1935		Hancock, Mrs. Margaret	Commissioned
Feb 25 1935		Hancock, Mrs. Margaret	Assumed charge
Oct 22 1941	---	20 yards east of US 67 [probably Colorado 67]	
Feb 28 1945		Kidneigh, Francis R.	Assumed charge
May 28 1945		Kidneigh, Francis R.	Confirmed
Jun 26 1945		Kidneigh, Francis R.	Commissioned
Oct 31 1946		Froese, Gustav V.	Assumed charge
Feb 11 1947		Froese, Gustav V.	Confirmed
Jun 27 1947		Froese, Gustav V.	Commissioned
Nov 30 1948		Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Assumed charge
Dec 1 1948		Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Assumed charge
Jan 13 1949		Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Acting
Jun 3 1949		Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Appointed & Confirmed

WESTCREEK – Continued

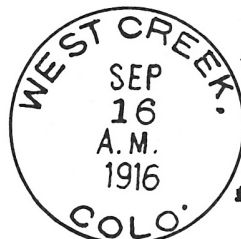
Aug 3 1949	Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Commissioned
Sep 30 1949	Hallenbeck, Mrs. Jamie E.	Possession
Sep 15 1950	Simmons, Cora A.	Assumed charge
Sep 25 1950	Simmons, Cora A.	Acting
Jan 22 1951	Simmons, Cora A.	Appointed
Feb 9 1951	Simmons, Cora A.	Commissioned
Jun 30 1951	Simmons, Cora A.	Assumed charge
Mar 31 1954	Stapish, Mrs. Margie J.	Assumed charge
May 6 1954	Stapish, Mrs. Margie J.	Acting
Nov 29 1954	Stapish, Mrs. Margie J.	Appointed
Feb 14 1955	Stapish, Mrs. Margie J.	Commissioned
Mar 31 1955	Stapish, Mrs. Margie J.	Assumed charge
Nov 6 1968	Discontinued Mail to Sedalia	

Confirmed types of postal markings

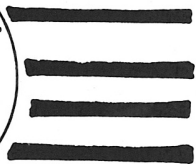
1	WESTCREEK / COLO. CI 10P 28.0	(May 6) 1908 Apr 2 1910 Dplx Grid, 9-bar oval (m/d dated from dateline)
2	WESTCREEK, / COLO. CI 10P 31.5	Mar 6 1911 Sep 16 1916 4bars S-24x20mm
3	WESTCREEK, / COLO. CI 10P 33.5	Feb 21 1938 Sep 10 1956 4bars S-24x20mm
4	WESTCREEK / COLO. CI 10P 32.0	May 14 1958 Mar 29 1965 4bars S-??x20mm
5	WESTCREEK, CO / 80138 CI 10P 32.5	Apr 12 1965 Oct 16 1968 4bars S-24x20mm



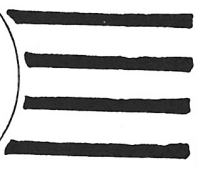
1



2



3



4



5

**BIBLIOGRAPHY - DOUGLAS COUNTY**

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Johanna Harden of the Douglas County Public Library who took time from her busy schedule to review this section of the *Encyclopedia*. She clarified many points, corrected a number of misconceptions and suggested changes to improve the understanding of some statements. Her input improved the quality and reliability of this report.

**REFERENCES - BOOKS**

- ANONYMOUS *Pine Grove Post Office - 20-Mile House Historic Park*; 1998; Trifold brochure for opening of new post office in Parker, Colorado
- BENSON, Maxine *1001 Colorado Place Names*; 1994; University Press of Kansas; Lawrence, Kansas; 237pp; sketches
- CORBETT, Ethel Rae *Western Pioneer Days, Biographies and Genealogies of Early Settlers With History of Elbert County, Colorado*; 1974; Reliable Graphics, Denver, Colorado; 354pp; illus.
- DAWSON, J. Frank *Place Names in Colorado*; 1954; J. Frank Dawson Publishing Co.; Denver, Colorado; 52pp
- EBERHART, Perry *Ghosts of the Colorado Plains*; 1986; Swallow Press; Athens, Ohio; 253pp; illus.; maps
- EICHLER, George R. *Colorado Place Names*; 1977; Johnson Publishing Co.; Boulder, Colorado; 109pp; illus.
- JONES, James R. "Jim" *Denver & New Orleans, in the Shadow of the Rockies*; Sundance Publications Ltd.; Denver, Colorado; 376pp; illus.; maps
- LAVELETT, Lucille *Monument's Faded Neighbor Communities and Its Folk Lore*; 1979; ABC Printing; Colorado Springs, Colorado; 110pp; illus.
- LONG, Margaret, *The Smoky Hill Trail*; 1943; W.H. Kistler Stationery Co.; Denver; Colorado; 336pp; illus.; maps
- MARR, Josephine Lowell *Douglas County, A Historical Journey*; 1983; B & B Printers, Gunnison Inc.; Gunnison, Colorado; 276pp; illus.; maps
- POOR, M. C. *Denver South Park & Pacific (Memorial Edition)*; 1976; Rocky Mountain Railroad Club; Denver, Colorado; 493pp, illus.; maps
- SHAFFER, Ray *A Guide to Places on the Colorado Prairie 1540-1975*; 1978; Pruett Publishing Co.; Boulder Colorado; 386pp; illus.; maps
- WEBB, Ardis *The Perry Park Story*; 1974; Ardis & Olin Webb; Denver, Colorado; 59pp; illus.

**REFERENCES - COLORADO MAGAZINE**

- THE SMOKY HILL TRAIL by Margaret Long; November 1932; Vol. 9 No. 6; pp 218-231
- HISTORY OF TWENTY-MILE HOUSE ON CHERRY CREEK by Edith Parker Low; July 1935; Vol. 12 No. 4; pp 142-144
- JAMES FRANK GARDNER AND FRANKTOWN by J. F. Gardner, Jr.; September 1937; Vol. 14 No. 5; pp 187-190
- EARLY HISTORY OF PARKER AND VICINITY by Mrs. Elizabeth Tallman; July 1946; Vol. 23 No. 4; pp 184-186
- THE QUARRIES OF THE CASTLE ROCK AREA by Mr. & Mrs. James Rose Harvey; May 1946, Vol. 23, No. 3; pp 114-128
- Place Names in Colorado* [Alternate Title: *The Names of Colorado Towns*]  
Prepared by the Colorado Writers Project; *Colorado Magazine*; Serialized in Volumes 17-20



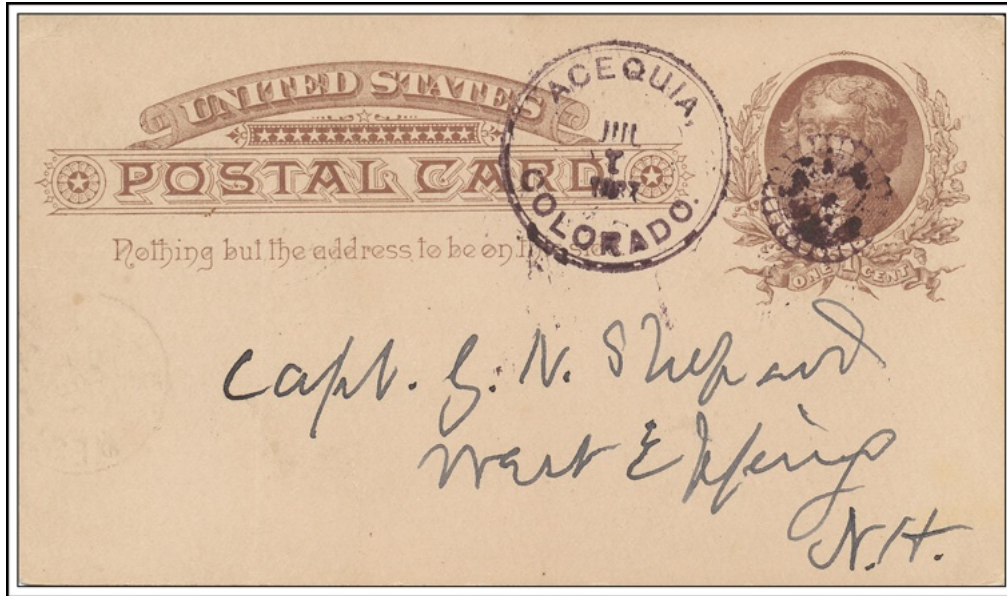
**BIBLIOGRAPHY - DOUGLAS COUNTY – Continued****ROGERS FILE**

This is a card file of information on places and place names in Colorado, collected by James Grafton Rogers. It is available on microfilm in the reference library of History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

**GEOGRAPHIC SITE LOCATION REPORTS OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**

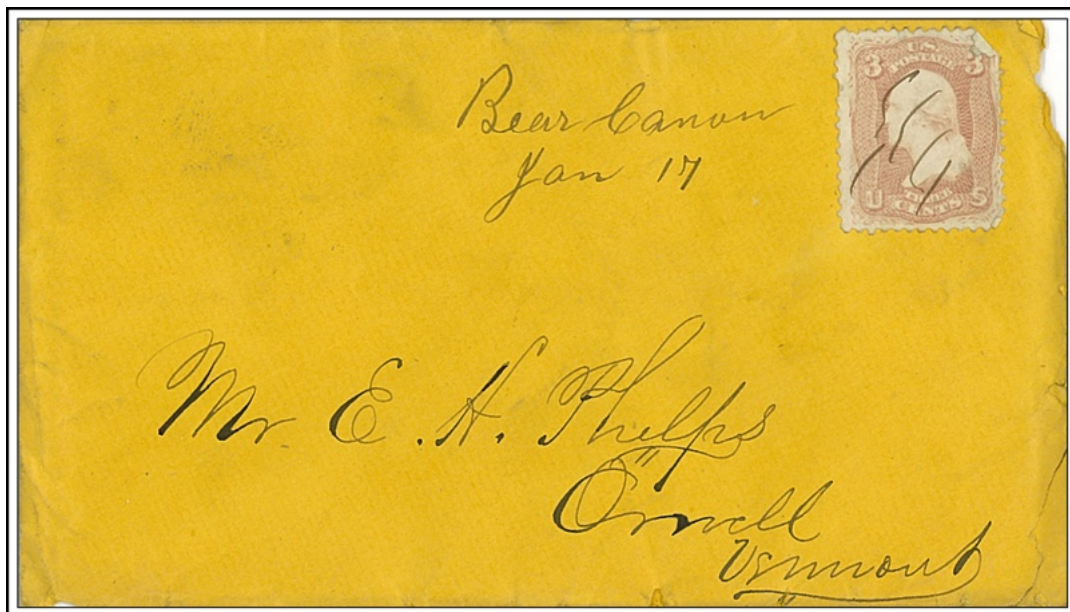
These are documents filed with applications for the approval of a new post office, at the time of a move of a post office and upon periodic requests of the Post Office Department. The documents may include a detailed location using the Federal Land Survey System, reference of distance to local streams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

A GALLERY OF DOUGLAS COUNTY COVERS



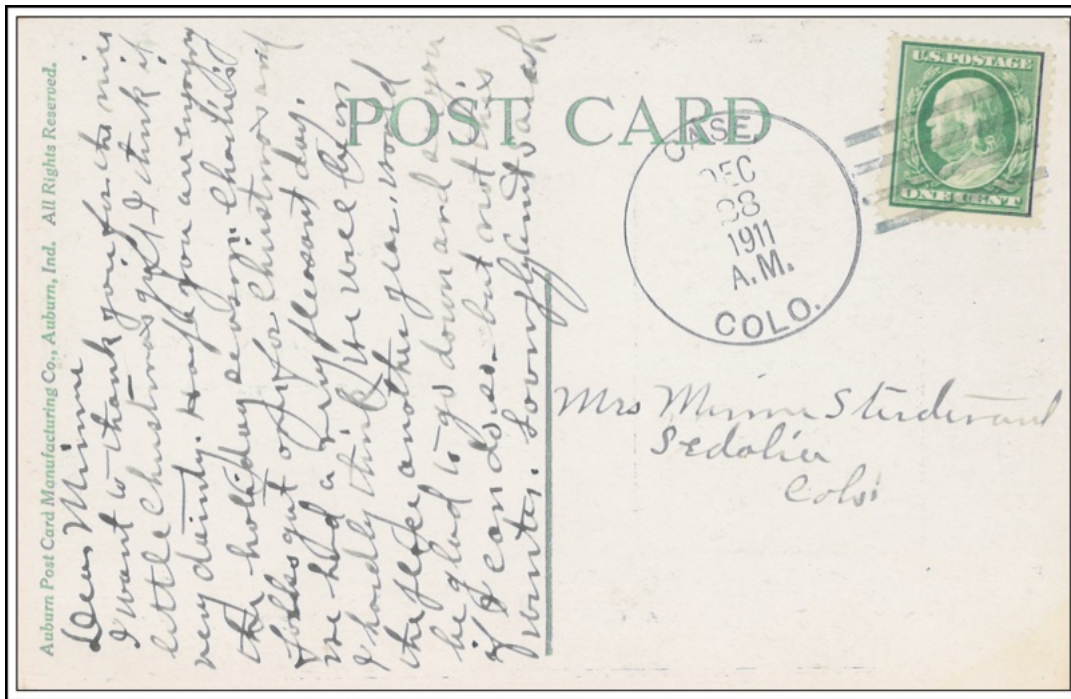
ACEQUIA, / COLORADO.

July 1, 1887



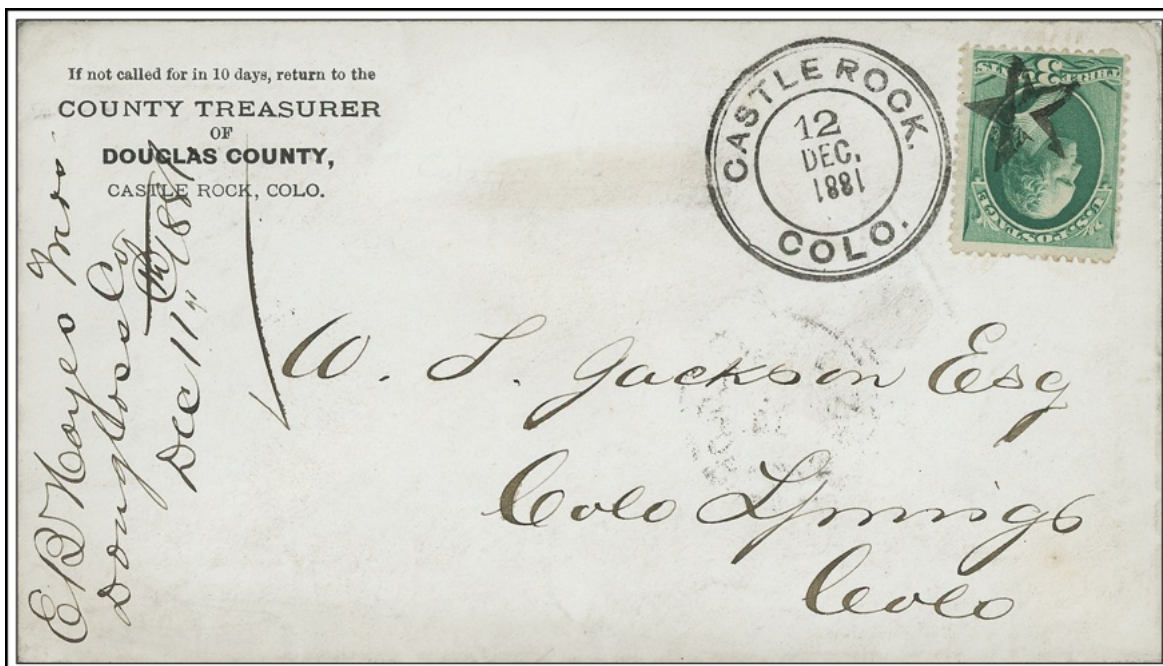
Bear Canon

January 17 (1867)



CASE, / COLO.

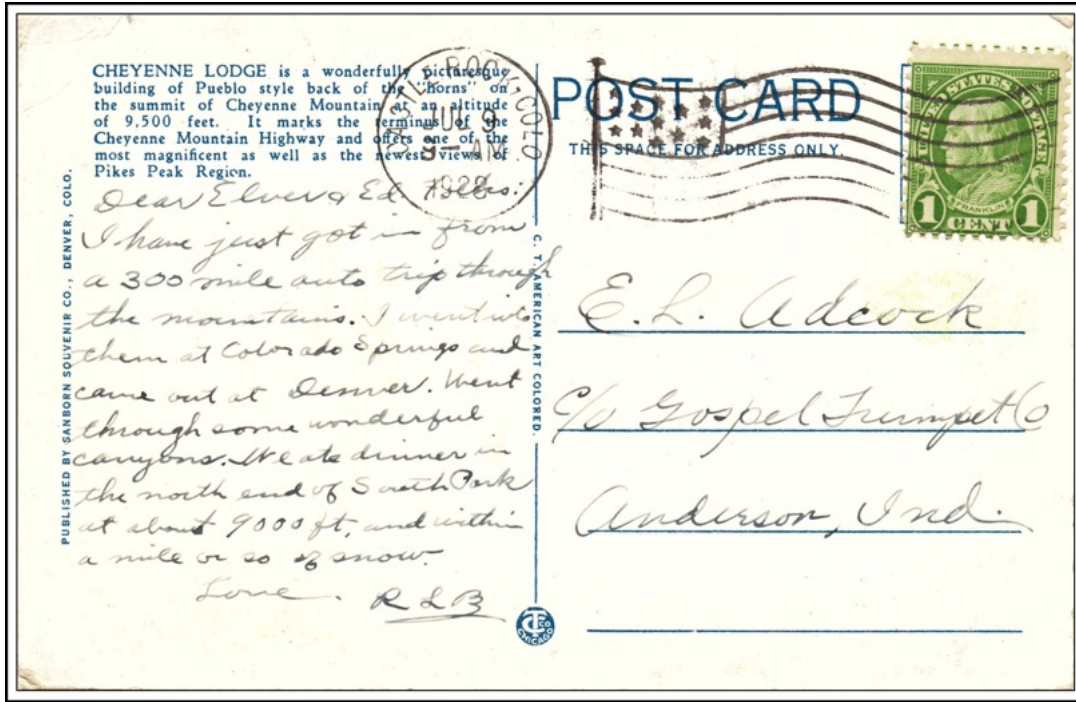
December 28, 1911



CASTLE ROCK. / COLO.

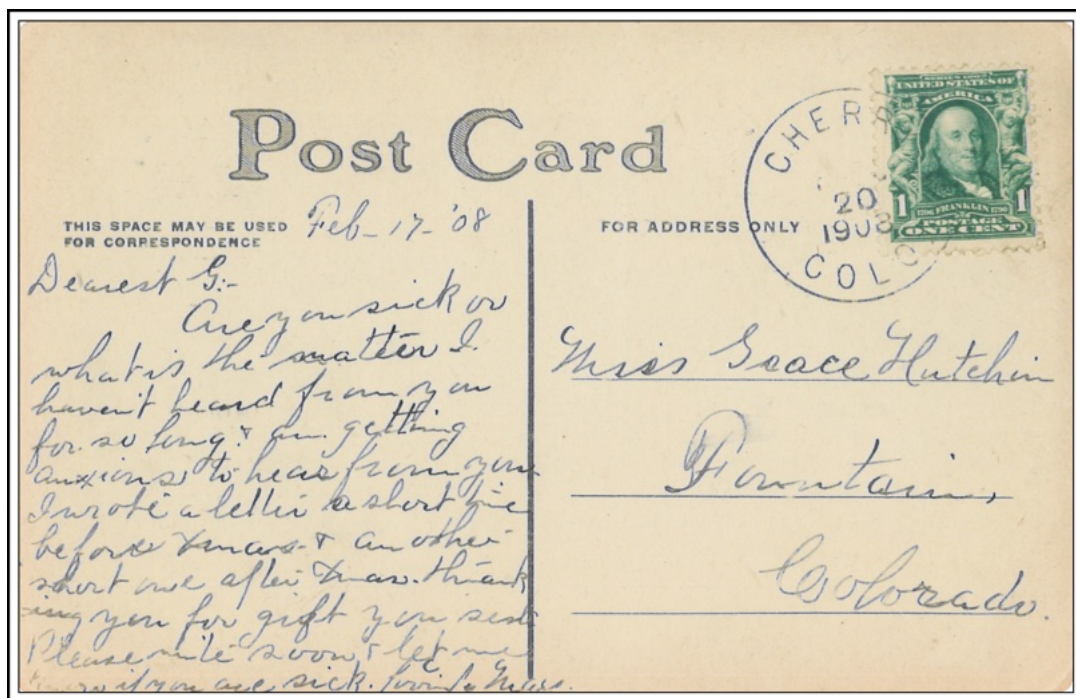
December 12, 1881





CASTLE ROCK, COLO.

July 9, 1928



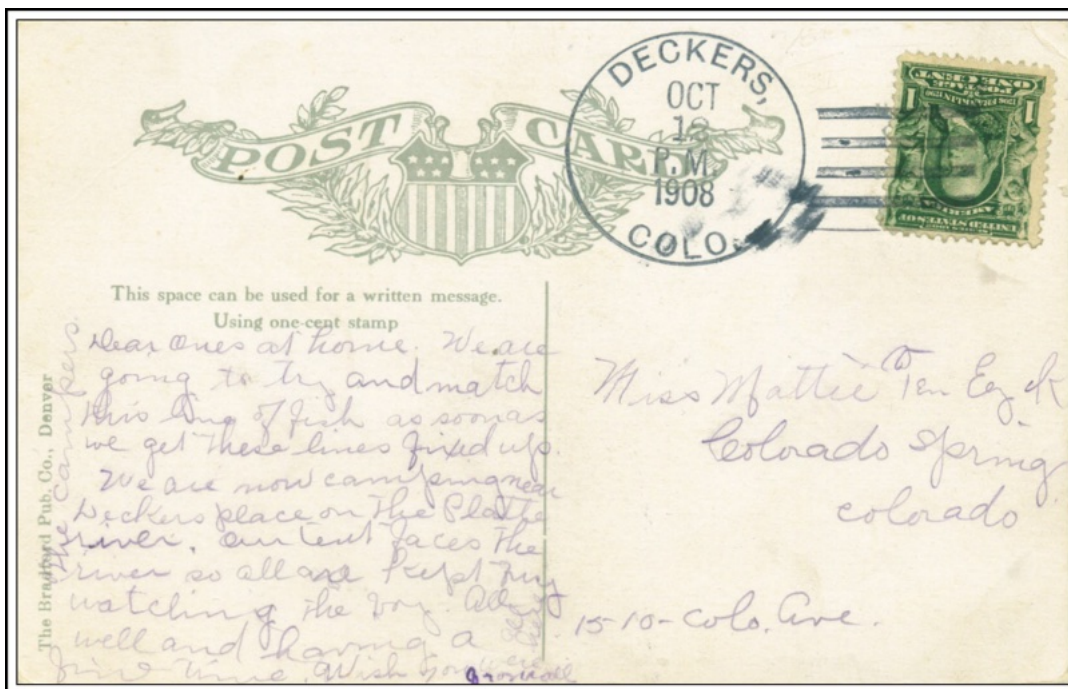
CHERRY / COLO.

(February) 20, 1908



DAFFODIL / COLO.

September 26, 190(7)



DECKERS, / COLO.

October 12, 1908





GREENLAND, / COLO.

July 11, 1885



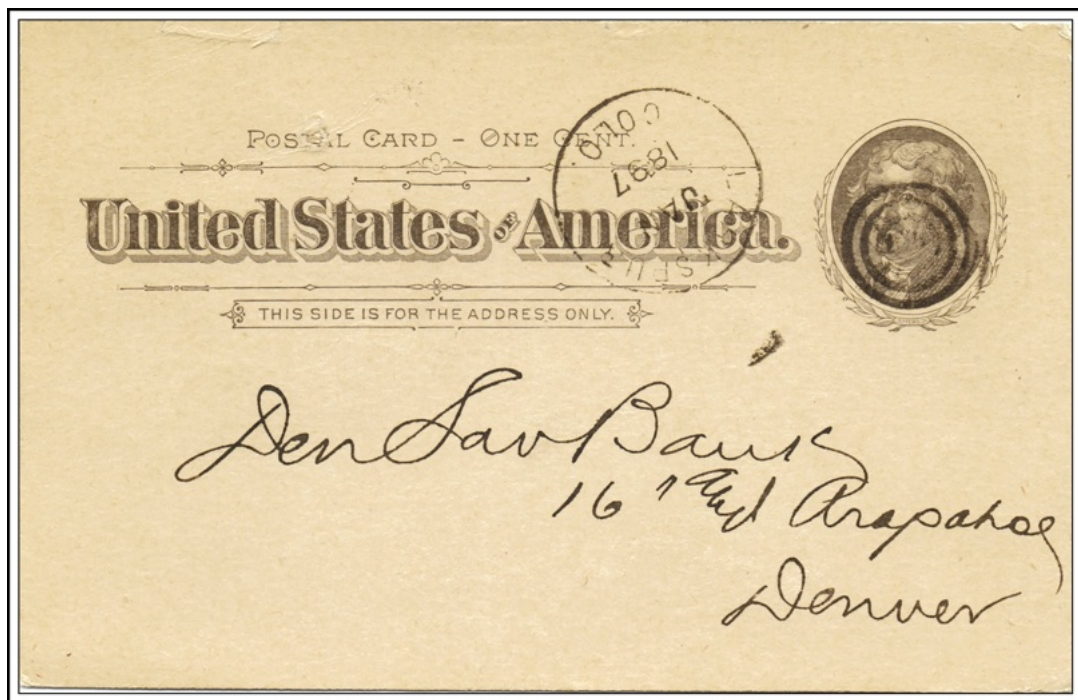
HILLTOP / COLO.

July 22, 1901

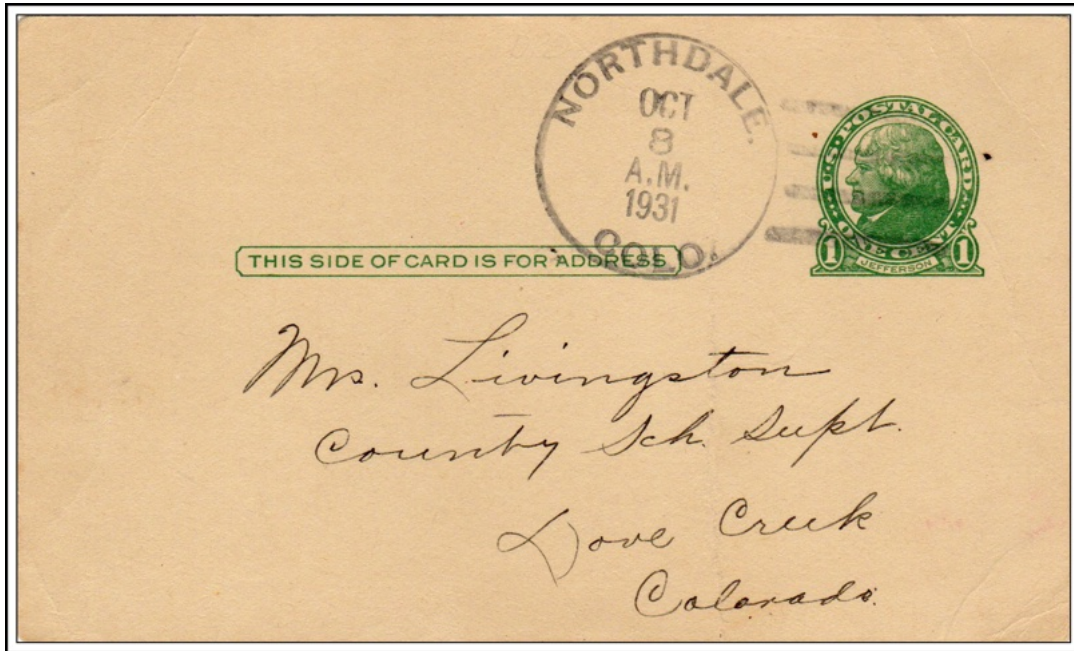




LARKSPUR COLO.      June 14, 1875



LARKSPUR / COLO.      January --, 1897



NORTHDALE, / COLO.

October 8, 1931



PARKER, / COLO.

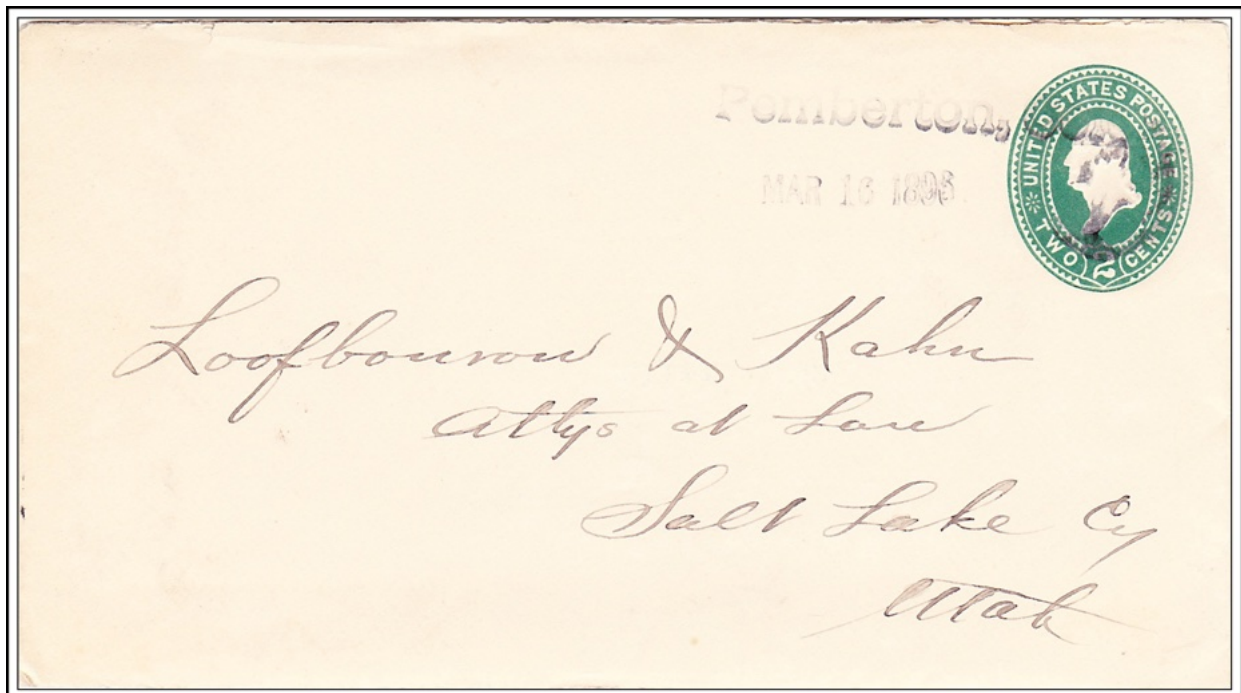
February 26, 1883





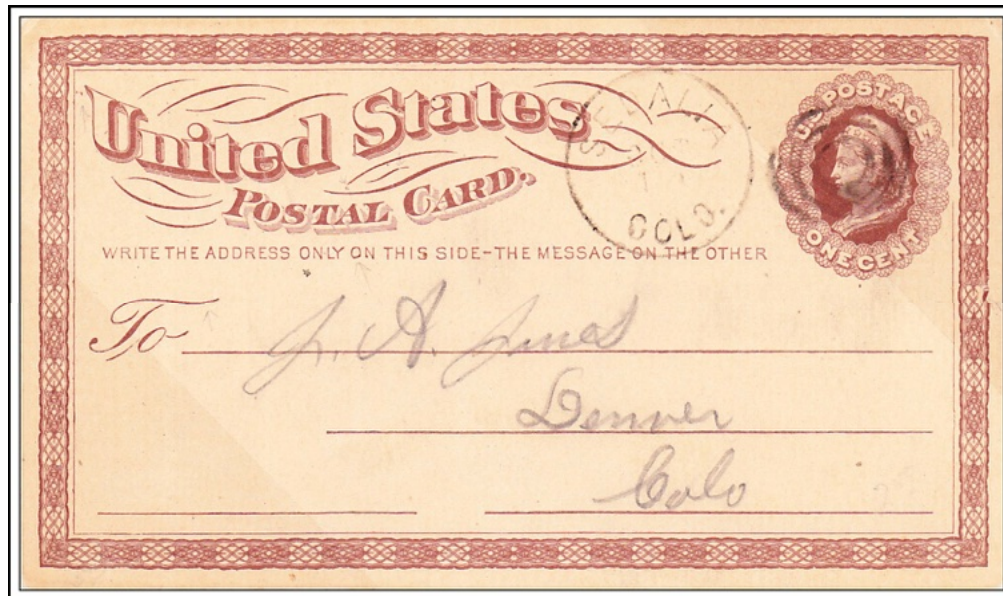
PARKER COLO

April 2, 1899



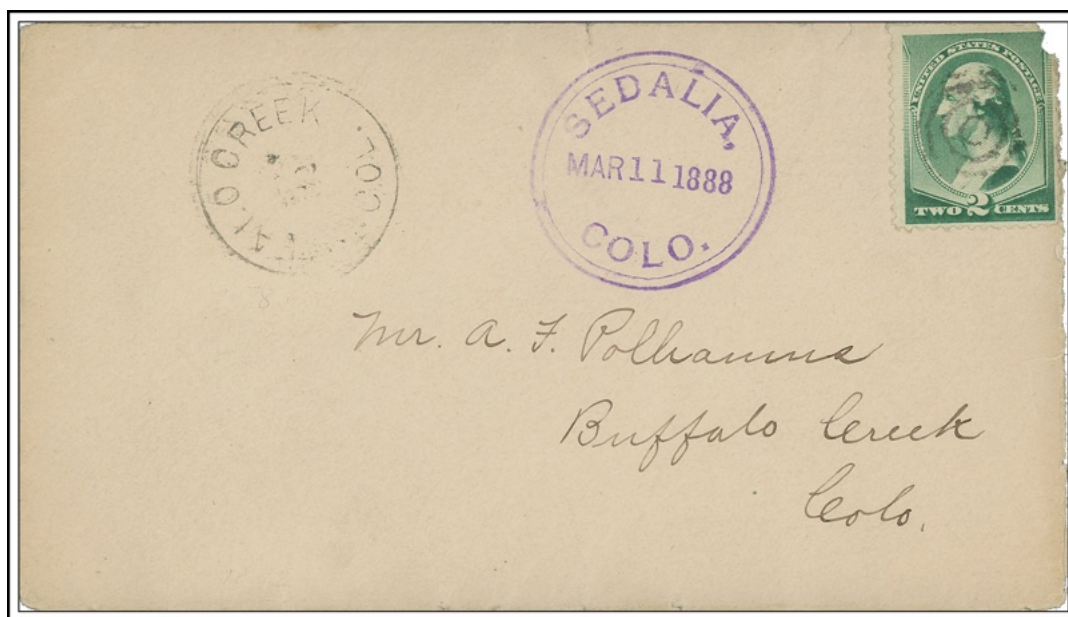
Pemberton, COLO.

March 16, 1896



SEDALIA / COLO.

October 1-, (1874)



SEDALIA, / COLO.

March 11, 1888



WESTCREEK, / COLO.

March 24, 1911