Benedicta Township Postal History Aroostook County, Maine

Last update for this page: 17 February 2024

This page is part of the Maine Postal History website—hosted by mainephilatelic.org, the website of the Maine Philatelic Society. For more information, see http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph

Benedicta was originally established in the 1830s in the western half of Township 2, Range 5 W.E.L.S. as a settlement sponsored by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Boston, Benedict Fenwick (1782-1846). It was incorporated as a town on 29 June 1873. In 1987, its voters surrendered its status as a town, and it became an unorganized township administered by the State.

During the history of Benedicta Township, there has been only one post office.

Briefly, the history of this one is as follows:

1. **Conway** Post Office opened on 7 September 1839, closed on 15 February 1847, re-opened on 14 May 1847, and on 8 September 1873 was renamed **Benedicta** Post Office, which is still in operation.

In 1914, there was only one post office in Benedicta Township: Benedicta. (To view or download entire map: <u>http://www.mainephilatelic.org/PostRouteMaps/MainePostRouteMap1914.pdf</u>)

Macwaho Sherman Mills Sherma • Monarda enedicta

Post Offices from Benedicta are listed below. In addition, postmarks that collectors have provided from the town of Benedicta for this project have been included.

Benedicta

<u>Conway</u>

Benedicta

Named in honor of Bishop Benedict Fenwick, founder of the community.

8 September 1873:

The former Conway Post Office was renamed Benedicta Post Office.

26 July 1869:

John D. Doyle became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office and remained as Postmaster when Conway Post Office became Benedicta Post Office.

28 April 1874:

Michael Leen became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

asso - countra -
POSTAL CARDO /Sunsich 7
WRITE THE ADDRESS ONLY ON THIS SIDE - THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER
To Homan & Badger.
Anousta,
Maine

7 June 1874: Manuscript

22 March 1878:

John J. Curran became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

Benedicta, Maine Postal History page 3

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE-THE MESSAGE ON THE OTH ngor

8 June 1878: The outer ring of the circular postmark is 24 mm in diameter.

Mr W & Crosby. Bangor maine 4 hory Da 2 3

1 December 1879:

The outer ring of the circular date stamp is 24 mm in diameter with a fancy hollowed star in a circle killer. The Maltese crosses tucked in between the rings of the circular date stamp reveal the community's religious origins.

18 December 1884:

The outer ring of the circular date stamp is 24 mm in diameter with a fancy hollowed star in a circle killer.

13 February 1886:

John D. Doyle became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

5 August 1886:

John J. Curran became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

	1 1. 19 All and a state of the	
eries, and mail this card without cover	I accompanying this card is delivered, the Postmaster the other side, also on his record of registered deliv- to address below. or using this card for other than official business.	
Host Office Departme official business. RETURN TO: Name of Sender	ent. Post Office at and date of deliver,	
treet and Number, }		
Post Office at BANGOR,		
	County of Penobscot, State of Maine.	

15 May 1886:

The double-ring circular postmark has an outer ring diameter of 26 mm and an inner ring diameter of 17.5 mm with a fancy solid star in a circle killer.

Pou helers

1 December 1887: The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

12 July 1889:

Frank Allingham became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

23 March 1891:

Patrick R. Owens became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

Return to B. R. Owens, BENEDIOTA, Aroostook County, Maine, If not delivered within 5 days.
Herses Clark and Blake
Bangon Maine

19 July 1894: The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with an eighteen-line oval grid duplex killer.

Return to. BENEDIOTA, Aroostook County, Maine, If not delivered within 5 days. black and Blake

23 July 1894: The circular postmark is 27.5 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

24 September 1901:

John F. McDonald became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

20 November 1903:

Sarah A. Rush became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

23 December 1904:

John T. Murphy became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

16 October 1905:

Rosana C. (Qualey) Shannon became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

3 June 1909:

Mary E. Qualey became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

Benedicta, Maine Postal History page 7

rom B. a. Rivers d.s.postage C. H.

24 May 1934:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.

31 January 1941:

Annie G. Brennan became Acting Postmaster.

21 July 1941:

Annie G. Brennan became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

31 May 1958:

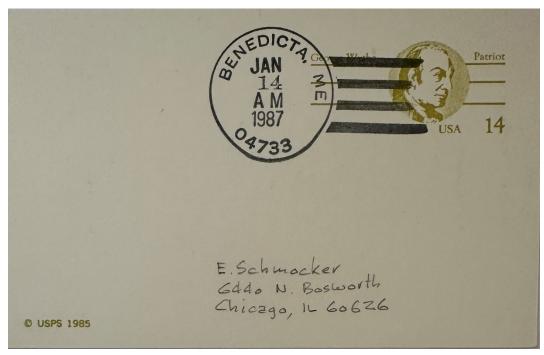
Terese C. Albert became Acting Postmaster.

15 May 1959:

Terese C. Albert became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.



3 March 1965: The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a non-std four-bar killer.



14 January 1987: The postmark is 32 x 35.5 mm with a four-bar killer.

1 March 1988:

Melinda F. McNally became Officer-in-Charge.

6 April 1991:

Paulette J. Stubbs became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

8 November 2000:

William P. Mehrhoff became Officer-in-Charge.

10 February 2001:

William P. Mehrhoff became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.

31 October 2003:

Danielle M. London became Officer-in-Charge.

- 7 February 2004: Danielle M. London became the Postmaster of Benedicta Post Office.
- 21 February 2007: Gayleen Leavitt became Officer-in-Charge.

20 May 2008: Desiree Harrison became Officer-in-Charge.

18 June 2013: Lois Eash became Officer-in-Charge.

8 March 2014:

Benedicta Post Office converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Patten Post Office.



2020:

Benedicta Post Office. 6 School Street; Benedicta, Maine 04733. Lat./Long.: N 45°48'20" x W 68°24'44"

Today:

Benedicta's Post Office is still operating, with a Zip Code of 04733.

Conway

(Apparently named in honor of Father James Conway, the first priest to serve the settlement.)

7 September 1839: Conway Post Office opened.

7 September 1839: John McNamara became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

6 September 1842:

Maria McNamara became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

To the Clerk of the Judicial Courts for the County of Aroostook This contains a List of Votes given by the inhabitants of the plantation of Benedicto in the County of Swortook for COUNTY TREASURER, on the second Monday of September, 184 6 Sealed up in open plantation meeting, by ATTEST : Necholas Plantation Clerk

18 September 1846: Manuscript

- 15 February 1847: Conway Post Office closed.
- 14 May 1847: Conway Post Office re-opened.
- 14 May 1847: William H. Smith became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.
- 19 November 1849:

Maria McNamara became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

6 January 1851:

Patrick Farmer became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

1 May 1852:

Maria McNamara became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

18 July 1854:

Owen Doyle became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

8 November 1855:

Eleanor Doyle became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

26 July 1869:

John D. Doyle became the Postmaster of Conway Post Office.

Shug ho. H.M. Bangos Me Falisardin

1 December 1870: Manuscript

8 September 1873:

Conway Post Office was renamed Benedicta Post Office.

Credits:

This document is based on the original web page compiled by the V. F. Thomas Co. (2021), with revisions and additions by James Husson and Brian Damien (2023).

Thank you for the contributions to this page by James Husson, The Strout Family, and Max Lynds.

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

Sources:

The Post Offices of Maine 2022, Maine Philatelic Society: http://www.mainephilatelic.org/books/TPOOM

Benedicta and Silver Ridge [map] from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine: <u>https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_aroostook_1877/8/</u>

National Archives Catalog, Postmaster Appointments for Aroostook County, Maine: <u>https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746425</u>

Postmaster Finder by City: https://about.usps.com/who/profile/history/postmaster-finder/postmasters-by-city.htm

Additional material, including links to official records of postmaster appointments, can be found at Sources for Researching Maine Post Offices, Postmasters, and Postal History: <u>http://www.mainephilatelic.org/books/post-office-sources.pdf</u>.