

# Blaine Postal History

## Aroostook County, Maine

Last update for this page: 25 September 2023

This page is part of the Maine Postal History website—a project of the Waterville Stamp Club. For more information, see <https://www.thewatervillestampclub.com/mph>.

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Blaine was incorporated on February 10, 1874, from the former Alva Plantation, which was organized on April 21, 1862.

During the history of the town of Blaine, there have been two post offices. (Note that the business district of Blaine is directly adjacent to the Mars Hill town line, and the business district of Mars Hill. In 2023 the post offices of Blaine and Mars Hill are only 4/10 of a mile apart.)

Briefly, the history of these two is as follows:

1. The former **Mars Hill (1)** post office was renamed on 21 September 1861 as **Alva** post office, which was renamed on 6 April 1874 as **Blaine** post office, which is still operating. (See the [Mars Hill Postal History page](#) for information on the Mars Hill (1) Post Office.) [What does it mean when there is a \(1\) or \(2\) after the name of a post office?](#)
2. **Robinsons** post office operated from 21 February 1895 until 29 January 1965.



In 1914, there were two post offices operating, Blaine and Robinsons.

Source:

Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1914

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/PostRouteMaps/MainePostRouteMap1914.pdf>

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Post Offices from Blaine are listed below. In addition, postmarks that collectors have provided from the towns/villages associated with Blaine for this project have been included.

[Alva](#)

[Blaine](#)

[Robinsons](#)

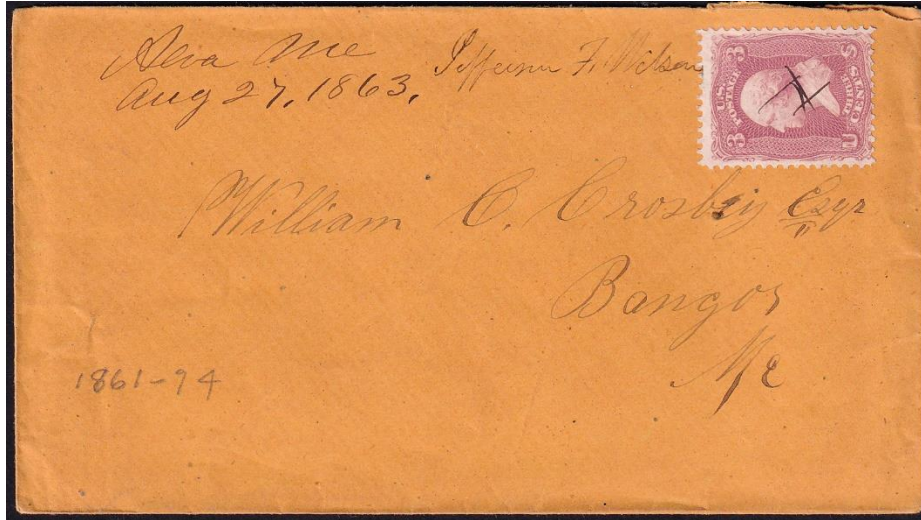
## **Alva**

21 September 1861:

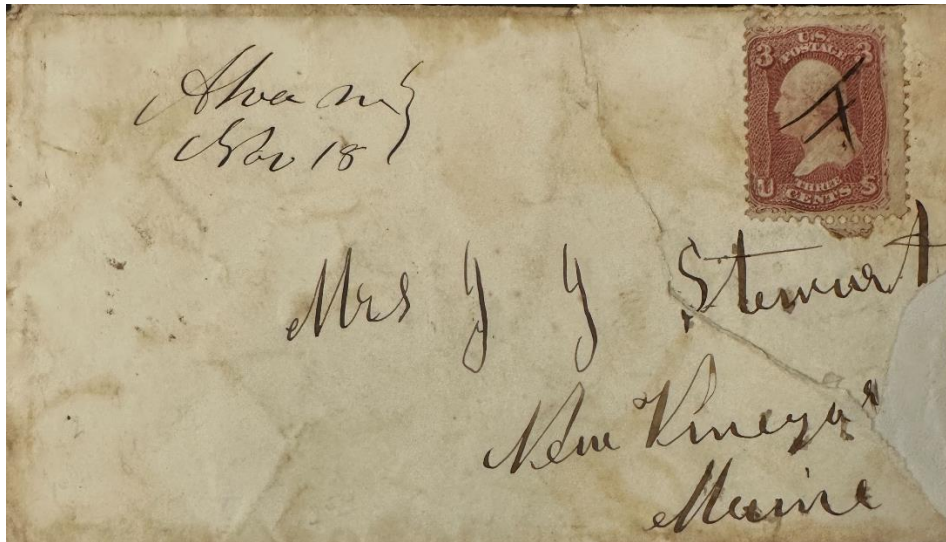
The former Mars Hill (1) Post Office was renamed as Alva Post Office.

21 September 1861:

Joel Valley became the Postmaster for Alva Post Office.



27 August 1863:  
Manuscript



18 November Circa 1865:  
Manuscript

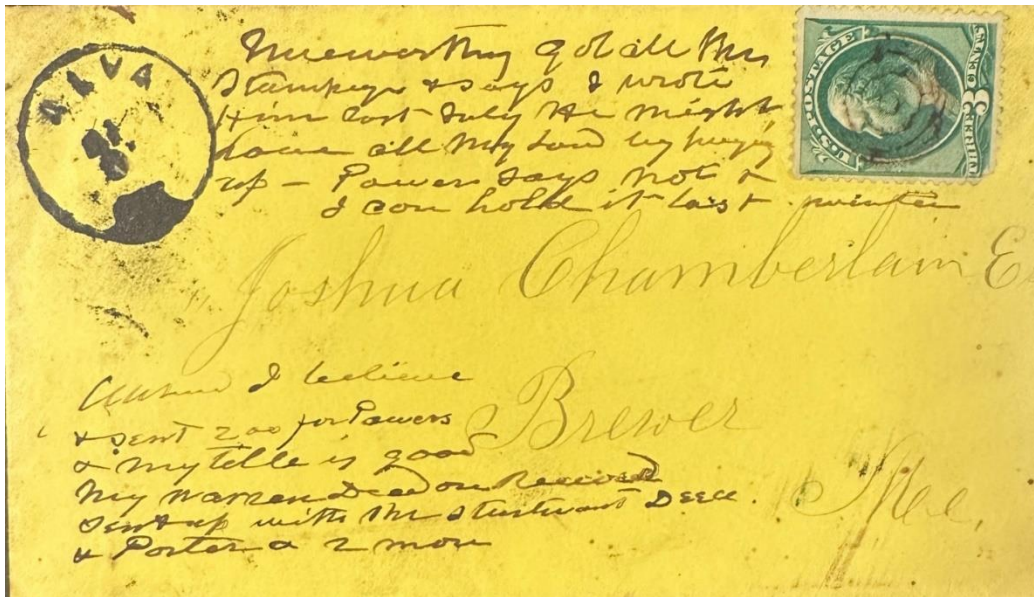
19 February 1872:

Henry O. Perry became Postmaster for Alva Post Office.



30 May 1873:

The circular postmark is 25 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.



Circa 1873-74:

The circular postmark is 25 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

6 April 1874:

Alva Post Office was renamed as Blaine Post Office.



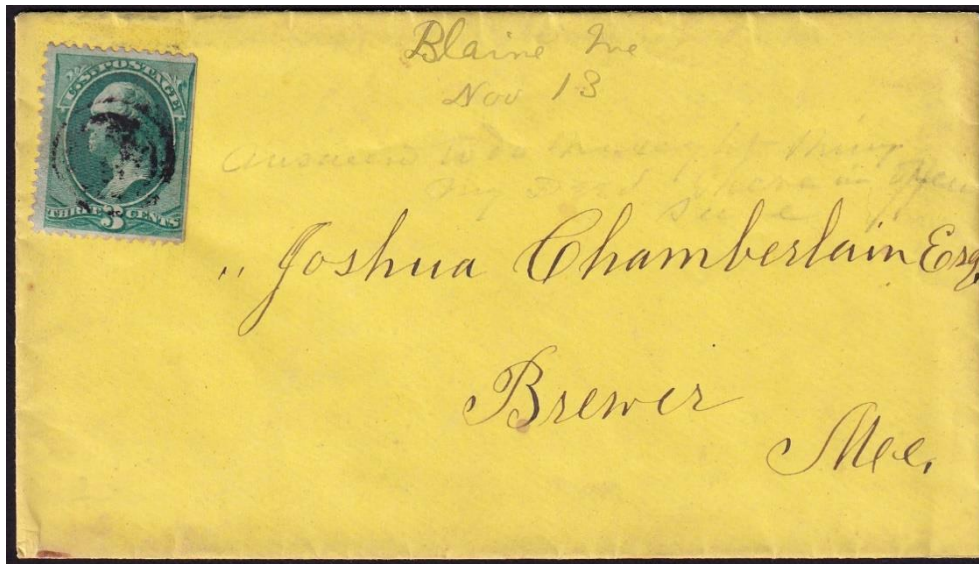
## Blaine

6 April 1874:

The former Alva Post Office was renamed as Blaine Post Office.

19 February 1872:

Henry O. Perry became Postmaster for Alva Post Office and remained as Postmaster as Alva Post Office was renamed Blaine Post Office on 19 February 1872.



13 November 1874: Manuscript postmark



16 April 1875: The circular postmark is 26 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

28 November 1876:

Orlando P. Robinson became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

2 October 1878:

Joel Valley became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.



11 May 1880:

The circular postmark is 27 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.

13 August 1885:

Samuel E. Brown became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

7 July 1888:

Almon O. Nutter became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

19 September 1890:

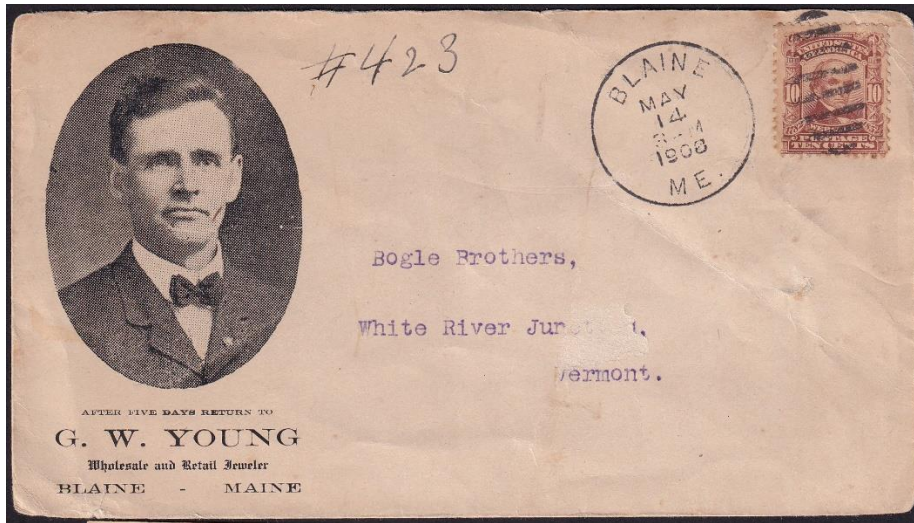
Jonathan Hersom became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

12 July 1893:

Almon O. Nutter became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

15 May 1895:

George W. Young became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

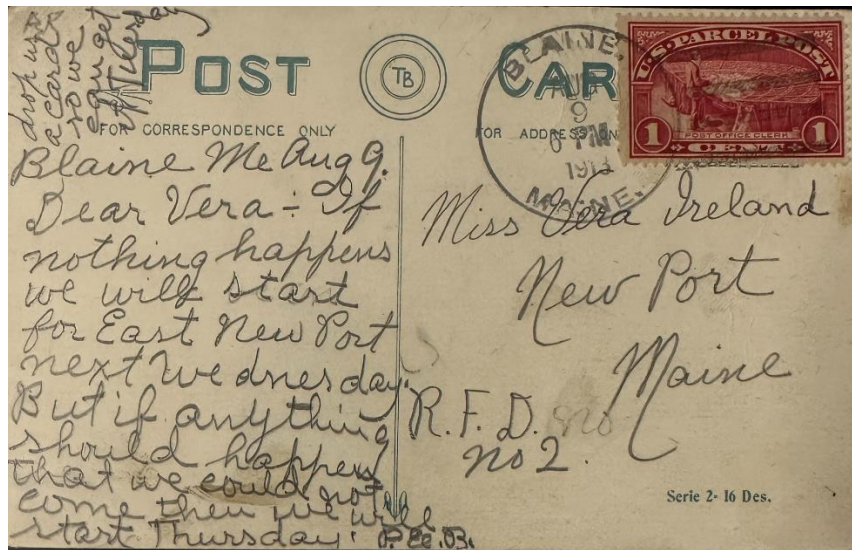


14 May 1908:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an eight-bar elliptical duplex killer.

25 October 1912:

Fay B. Ramsay became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.



9 August 1913:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer. Another similar postmark dated 27 November 1913 is known.

14 December 1915:

Ina M. Kinney became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

19 July 1918:

Mrs. Alberta L. Bell became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.



29 January 1920:

Ethel F. Husset became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

11 February 1921:

Mattie F. Joslyn became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

10 November 1922:

Velma E. Briggs became Acting Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

24 January 1923:

Velma E. Briggs became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

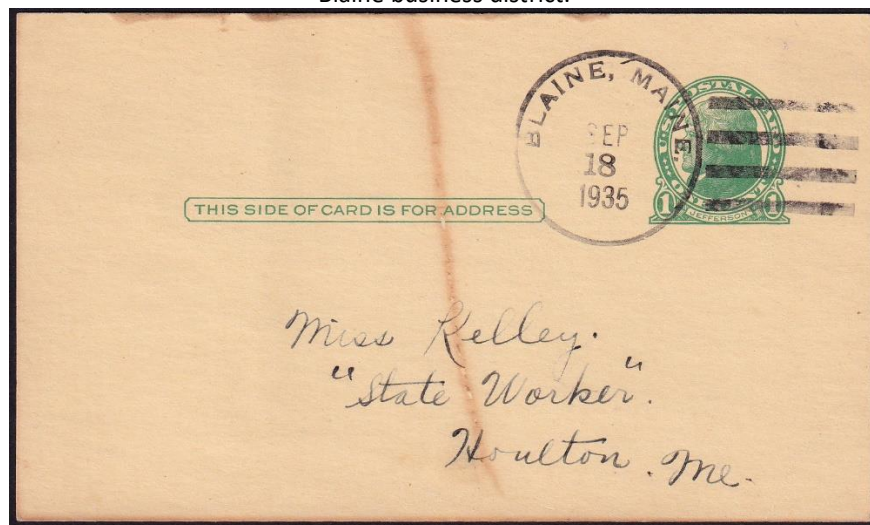
1 September 1923:

Alberta L. Bell became Acting Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

29 October 1923:

Alberta L. Bell became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

Blaine business district.



18 September 1935:

The circular postmark with serif font is 30 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.

5 March 1939:

John H. Watterson became Acting Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

20 October 1939:

G. Douglas Van Tassell became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.



14 January 1942:

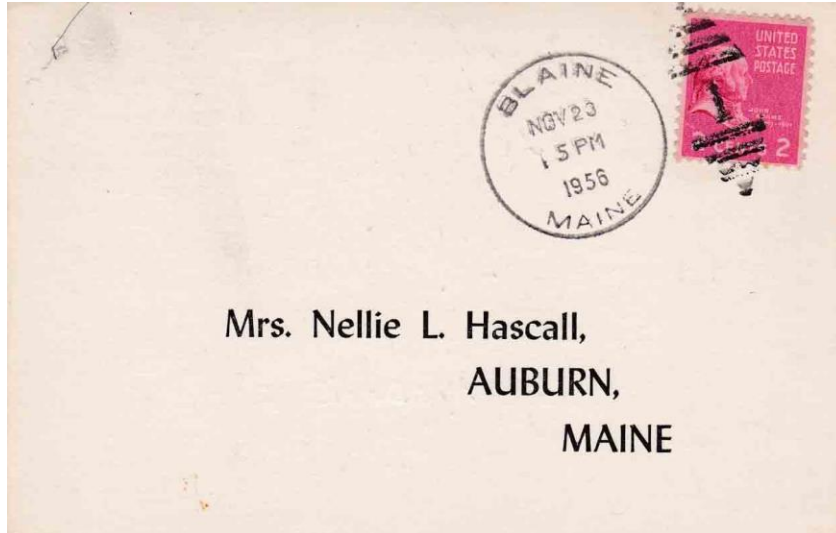
John H. Watterson became Acting Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

9 October 1942:

John H. Watterson became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.



Blaine Post Office. Date unknown, 1940s or 1950s?



1956 November 23:

The circular postmark is 29–30 mm in diameter with an eight-bar elliptical duplex/1 killer.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

6 June 1973:

Stella K. Larrabee became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

26 January 1974:

Stella K. Larrabee became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

Date?:

Rowena S. Porter became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

6 June 1987:

Timothy D. Taylor became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

6 August 1992:

Brenda J. Grass became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

29 January 1993:

Barbara A. Brown became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

30 June 1993:

Jean Johnson became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

20 October 1993:

David Schools became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

5 February 1994:

Barbara A. Brown became Postmaster for Blaine Post Office.

3 January 2012:

Jill S. Rusby became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

5 January 2012:

David P. Gagne became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

29 May 2012:

Amyee L. Pryor became Officer-in-Charge for Blaine Post Office.

27 July 2013:

The Blaine post office was converted to a Level 6 (6-hour) Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Mars Hill Post Office.

2023:

Blaine Post Office, Zip Code 04734, is still in operation.

## Robinsons

21 February 1895:

Robinsons Post Office opened.

21 February 1895:

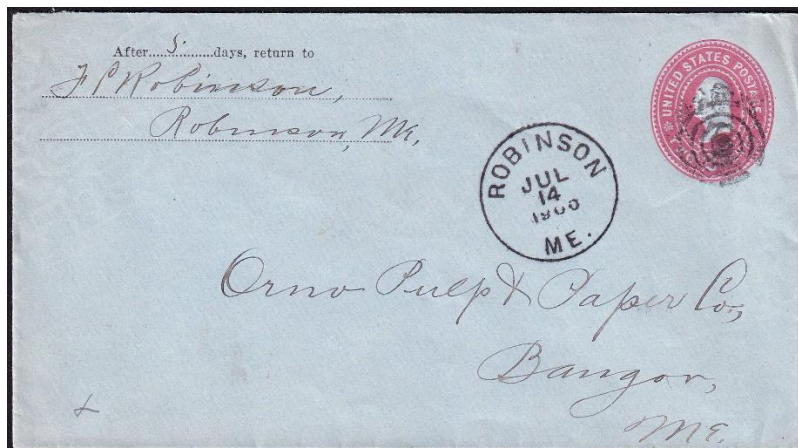
John F. Ketchum became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.

16 April 1897:

Willie E. Robinson became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.

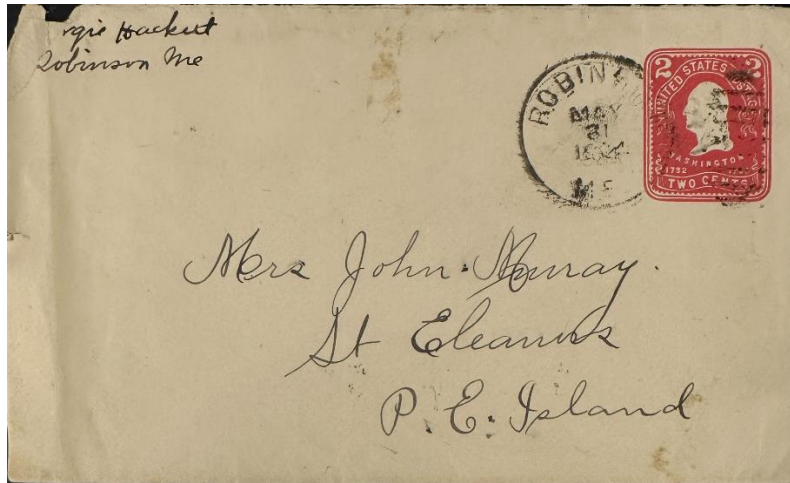
4 April 1899:

Charles E. Robinson became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.



14 July 1900:

The circular postmark is 24 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer. Note that the spelling is Robinson with no s at the end.



31 May 1904:

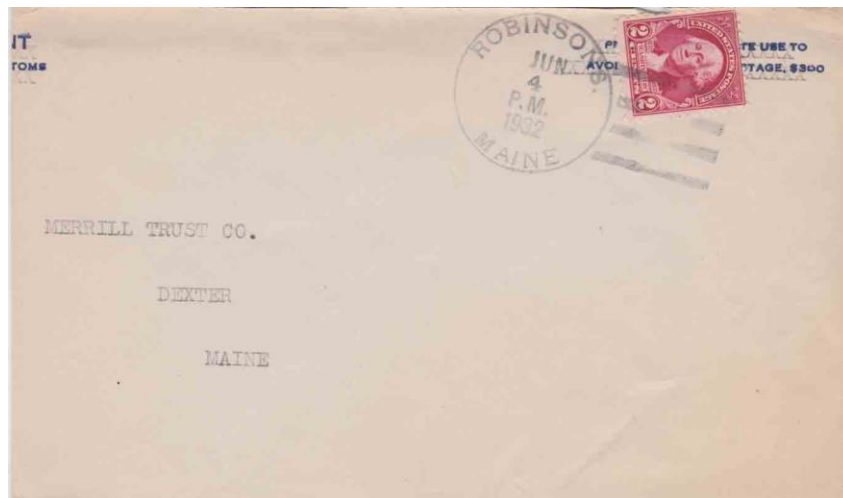
The circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter with an elliptical nine-bar duplex killer.

22 June 1915:

Alice E. Purdy became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.

5 March 1920:

Mrs. Amber E. Robinson became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.



4 June 1932:

The circular postmark is 31–32 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

20 February 1940:

Fred V. Tapley became Acting Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.



5 October 1940:

Fred V. Tapley became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.

21 January 1955:

Walter B. Dearborn became Acting Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.



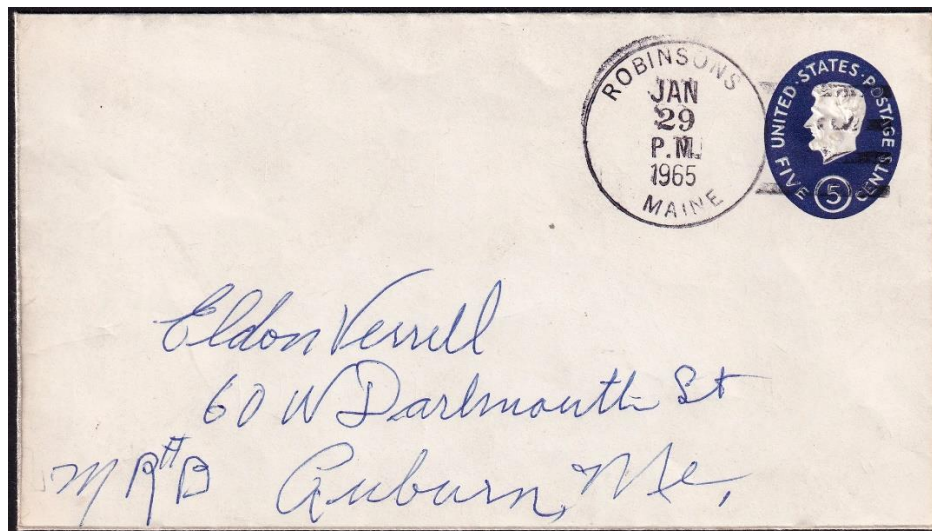
Robinsons Post Office Date unknown, 1950s?

1 July 1955:

Walter B. Dearborn became Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.

10 January 1964:

George W. Barrett became Acting Postmaster for Robinsons Post Office.



29 January 1965:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer—last Day of Operation Cover.

<https://www.thewatervillestampclub.com/mph>

29 January 1965:

Robinsons Post Office closed.

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*What does it mean when there is a (1) or (2) after the name of a post office?*

Sometimes the numbers (1) and (2) appear after the name of a post office. These numbers indicate the (first) and (second) localities of post offices of the same name. For example, if the post office name is used for two separate post offices in two respective villages at different times, they will be identified in this manner. These numbers do not necessarily indicate time periods.

These numbers do not represent numbered stations. Some larger places, like Auburn, have postal stations with numbers. These differ from the post offices we call Auburn (1), Auburn (2), etc.

Also: the numbers do not appear in postmarks or official post office publications. However, they are used by postal historians and collectors to refer to different post offices, as noted above.

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.

And thank you to the Waterville Stamp Club <https://thewatervillestampclub.com> for hosting this project.

Sources:

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

Blaine [map] from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine:  
[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_aroostook\\_1877/32/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_aroostook_1877/32/)

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