

Freeport Postal History

Cumberland County, Maine

Last update for this page: 8 October 2024

This page is part of the Maine Postal History website, a project of members of the Maine Philatelic Society. For more information, see <http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph>.

First settled in the late 1600s, Freeport was created by combining part of North Yarmouth with Prout's Gore. The area that became Freeport had been called Harraseeket after the Harraseeket River. It was incorporated as Freeport in 1789. There are conflicting reports on why the name Freeport was adopted. Part of Freeport was carved off to create the Town of Pownal in 1808.

During the history of Freeport, there have been six post offices. Briefly, these are:

1. [Bustins Island](#) Post Office (formerly Seeket) opened on 26 August 1908 and closed on 19 May 1967. Changed to Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport.
2. [Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport](#) (formerly Bustins Island) opened on 19 May 1967, closed on 30 June 2013, and became Bustins Island CPO.
3. [Bustins Island CPO Freeport](#) (formerly Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport) opened on 1 July 2013 and is still operating.
4. [Freeport](#) Post Office opened on 1 August 1796 and is still operating.
5. [Seeket](#) Post Office opened on 16 July 1897 and closed on 26 August 1908.
6. [South Freeport](#) Post Office opened on 17 June 1854, closed on 11 December 1854, reopened on 22 March 1856, and is still operating.



In 1903, there were three post offices in Freeport: Freeport, South Freeport, and Seeket (on Bustins Island.) This 1903 map reveals that Seeket was served directly by boat from Portland.

Source:

Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1903

Map reproduction courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library

<https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82km77v>

Bustins Island

26 August 1908:

Bustins Island Post Office opened. (summer office)

11 April 1904:

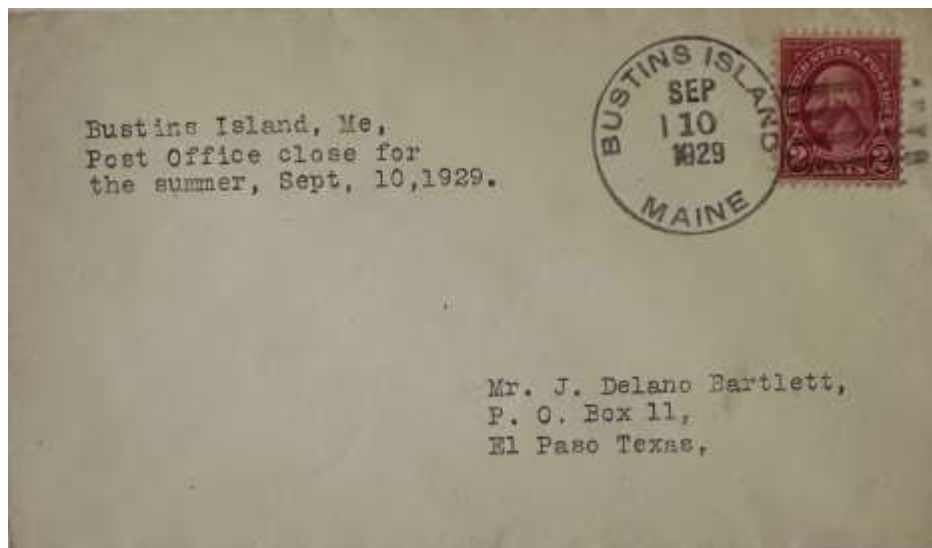
Una H. Wilson became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office and remained Postmaster when Seeket Post Office became Bustins Island Post Office on 26 August 1908.

6 October 1916:

Sarah A. Cole became the Postmaster of the Bustins Island Post Office.

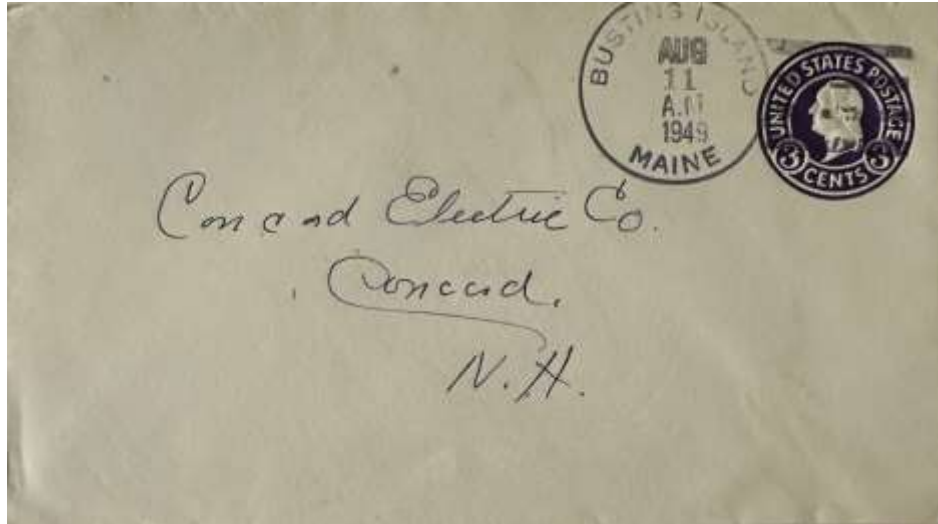
7 August 1924:

Eugene J. Smoker became the Postmaster of the Bustins Island Post Office.



10 September 1929:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar A/2 killer.



11 August 1949:

The circular postmark is 33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (F/1) killer.

30 October 1959:

Clyde M. Campbell became the Acting Postmaster of the Bustins Island Post Office.

6 October 1960:

Clyde M. Campbell became the Postmaster of the Bustins Island Post Office.



Date unknown:
Bustins Island Post Office.

19 May 1967:

The Bustins Island Post Office closed and changed to Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport Post Office.

Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport

19 May 1967:

Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport Post Office (formerly Bustins Island Post Office) opened.



July 2011 Window and post office boxes at Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport

30 June 2013:

Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport Post Office closed and became Bustins Island CPO.

Bustins Island CPO Freeport

1 July 2013:

Bustins Island CPO Post Office (formerly Bustins Island RS/CPO South Freeport Post Office) opened.



Bustins Island Post Office. Photo credit:
Seasider53, CC BY-SA 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>
via Wikimedia Commons

1 March 2024:

Bustins Island CPO Post Office remains open at Bustins Island Road, Bustins Island 04013.
A summer office, it did not open for the 2020 season due to the Covid pandemic.

Freeport

1 August 1796:

Freeport Post Office opened.

! August 1796:

Nathan Wesson became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

18 March 1816:

Samuel Holbrook became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

9 June 1824:

Robert R. Kendall became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

8 June 1829:

Seth Bailey, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



12 January 1830:
Manuscript postmark



3 August 1840:
The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a manuscript "killer."

24 May 1841:

Samuel Thing became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



5 August 1841:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a manuscript "killer."

9 June 1849:

Ebenezer Wells became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



13 June 1849:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a hand-stamped PAID and manuscript "killer." Similar postmarks dated 25 May, 28 May, and 28 May circa 1850 are known.

3 May 1853:

Seth Bailey, Jr. became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

15 December 1853:

Samuel Thing became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

:



18 October 1855:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a circled PAID 3 as a "killer."

11 July 1861:

Ebenezer Wells became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

30 April 1877:

James H. Banks became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



1 March 1879:

The circular postmark is 25.5 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer.

18 January 1886:

Edward S. Soule became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

10 May 1889:

Henry C. Brewer became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



1 May circa 1890:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter, and the CDS is also used as the killer.

11 April 1890:

Freeport Post Office became a Presidential Post Office.



30 March 1894:

The circular postmark is 28.5 mm in diameter with a cork smudge killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 5 April 1894 is known.

11 April 1894:

Ernest E. Pinkham became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

5 May 1898:

Henry C. Brewer became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

21 May 1902:

Winthrop C. Fogg became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

19 March 1914:

Monroe V. Curtis became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

17 October 1916:

Levi T. Patterson became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

23 October 1916:

Edmund B. Mallett became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

20 December 1916:

Alice I. Curtis became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

1 November 1919:

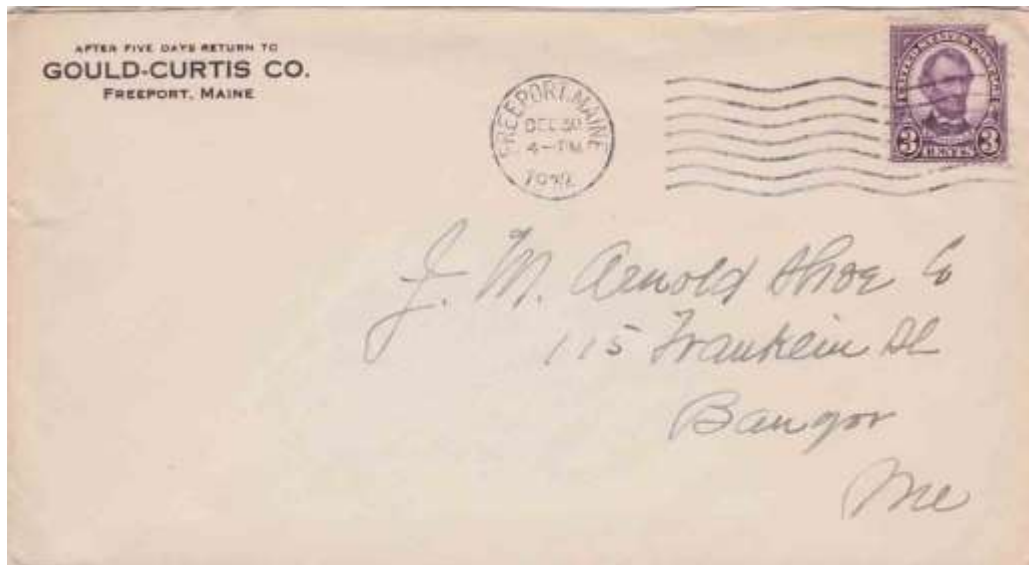
William W. Titcomb became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

5 June 1920:

Sumner G. Brewer became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

6 June 1924:

Luther G. Cushing became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



30 December 1932:

The circular postmark is 20 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line International Machine killer. A similar postmark dated 4 February 1946 is known.

25 May 1936:

Guy C. Bean became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

24 February 1937:

Guy C. Bean became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



Circa 1940:
Freeport Post office. L.L. Bean was upstairs.



12 May 1941:
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a six-bar elliptical duplex/1 killer.

31 August 1948:

Mrs. Phyllis M. True became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

13 February 1953:

Ellwood H. Stowell became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

18 March 1954:

Ellwood H. Stowell became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

31 August 1960:

John R. Lavers became the Acting Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

1963:

U. S. Post Office Department introduces the ZIP Code system. L. L. Bean, which received the overwhelming amount of its orders via the U. S. Mail, was assigned its own ZIP Code, 04033.

25 April 1963:

Ervin D. McCluskey became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

24 May 1963:

Ervin D. McCluskey Jr. became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

30 December 1977:

Robert Mosher became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

6 May 1978:

Wesley G. Oliver became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



10 May 1982:

The circular postmark is 21.5 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line International Machine killer.

30 March 1985:

Robert E. Chamberlain became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

Date Unknown:

William E. Penley became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

6 March 1986:

Marc A. Scheele became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

30 September 1986:

Vincent W. Cormier became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

7 October 1986:

Richard H. Loubier became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

20 December 1986:

Arnold V. Rosario became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

28 September 1992:

Alicia Kin Doughty became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

9 January 1993:

William E. Penley became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

12 April 1999:

Norm Davidson became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

4 December 1999:

Audrey L. Johnson became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

28 April 2003:

David M. Sawtelle became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

26 June 2004:

David M. Sawtelle became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

9 January 2012:

James Cressey became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

6 October 2012:

Joyce L. Champagne became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

1 October 2013:

Pamela Erickson became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

29 October 2013:

David Worthley became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

7 February 2014:

Steven Pardue became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

2 June 2014:

Richard Seamon became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

28 August 2014:

Theophilus Smith became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

1 November 2014:

Theophilus Smith became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

15 January 2015:

Pamela LaChance became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

4 April 2015:

Brian Vye became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

10 November 2016:

Lori Goddard became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

22 February 2017:

Susan Keene became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

27 May 2017:

Susan Keene became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

27 November 2019:

Caley Allen became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

21 December 2019:

Darin R. Baker became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.

Unknown date:

Unknown person became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

9 April 2022:

Catherine M. Forsyth became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office

Unknown date:

Unknown person became the Officer-In-Charge of the Freeport Post Office.

13 January 2024:

Sherry Barter became the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office.



July 2023:
Freeport, ME Post Office – Photo Credit Dennis Dixon

2 March 2024:

The Freeport Post Office remains open at 141 Main Street, Freeport, ME. 04032, GPS 43° 51' 33" N 70° 06' 08" W.

Seeket

16 July 1897:

Seeket Post Office opened.

16 July 1897:

Harold W. Merrill became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office.

13 June 1899:

Nowell F. Sawyer became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office.

(3 March 1900):

(Miss Georgia Sawyer) was appointed Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office but declined.

29 March 1900:

William G. Merrill became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office.

25 May 1903:

Arthur W. Mitchell became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office.

11 April 1904:

Una H. Wilson became the Postmaster of the Seeket Post Office.



August 1907:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a four-circle target killer.



9 July 1908:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A/2) killer.

26 August 1908:

Seeket Post Office closed and was renamed Bustins Island Post Office.

The postmark of Seeket has been seen used for several days after the Seeket office was renamed Bustins Island.

South Freeport

17 June 1854:

South Freeport Post Office opened.

17 June 1854:

Charles Paine became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

11 December 1854:

South Freeport Post Office closed.

22 March 1856:

South Freeport Post Office reopened.

22 March 1856:

Gershom Bliss became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

6 September 1856:

Richard A. Belcher became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

15 October 1860:

Charles Bliss became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

12 September 1870:

Joseph E. Davis became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.



11 February 1876:

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

20 April 1880:

Paul C. Pinkham became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

29 March 1883

Charles W. Jones became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

31 December 1883:

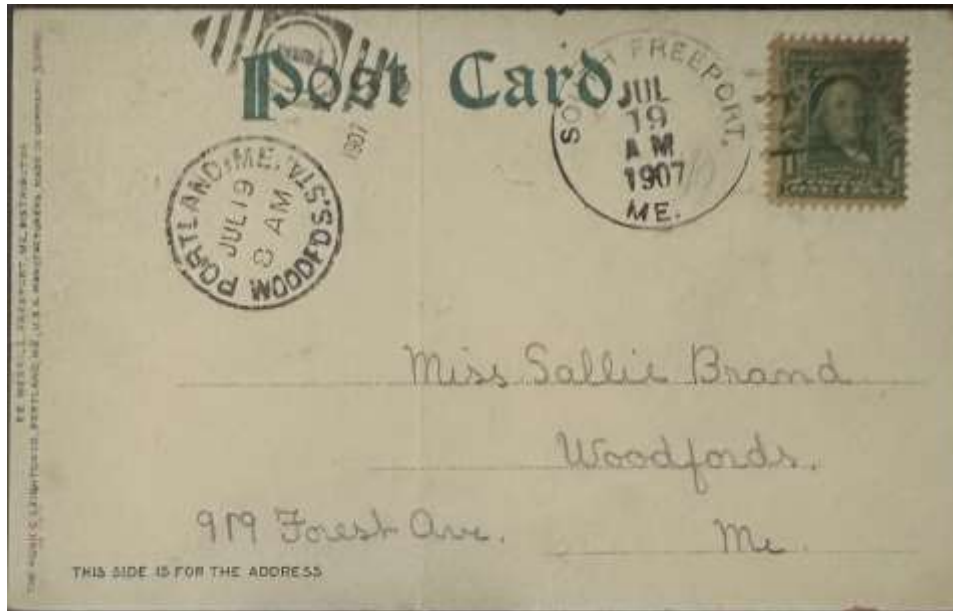
Willis H. Soule became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

27 August 1886:

Charles W. Jones became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

25 August 1899:

Eben E. Jones became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.



19 July 1907:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a Doane 2/3 killer.



21 July 1913:

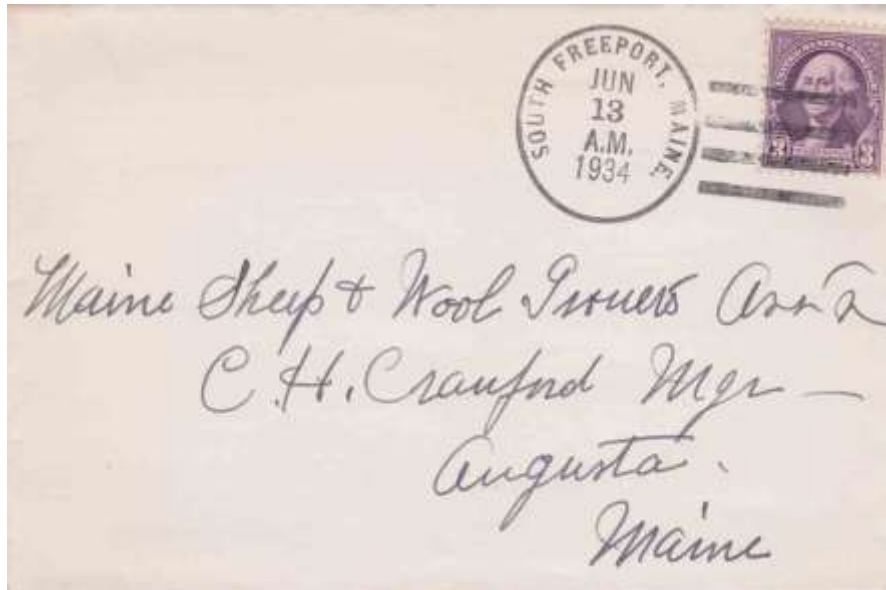
The circular postmark is 31 mm with a four-bar (A/2) killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 26 July 1910 is known.

10 May 1930:

Eugene B. Butler became the Acting Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

20 August 1930:

Eugene B. Butler became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.



13 June 1934:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (E) killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 25 November 1939 with the Postmaster's signature is known.

31 March 1946:

Mrs. Dorothy E. Brown became the Acting Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

28 January 1948:

Mrs. Dorothy E. Brown became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.



23 December 1949:

The circular postmark is 32.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar (F/1) killer.

31 October 1969:

Mrs. Elsie M. McKenzie became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

14 August 1971:

Mrs. Elsie M. McKenzie became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

28 May 1983:

Ronald S. Estes became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

3 September 1983:

Vincent W. Cormier became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

30 December 2005:

Joan E. Laughlin became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

7 December 2006:

Paula Monaghan became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

22 May 2006:

Paula A. Farmer became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

7 September 2006:

Regina R. Dunning became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

2 May 2007:

Amanda L. (Dailey) Sawyer became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

6 November 2007:

Richard L. Seamon became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

12 March 2008:

Erikka A. Also became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

27 June 2008:

Regina R. Dunning became the Officer-In-Charge of the South Freeport Post Office.

11 October 2008:

Angeline E. Palestini became the Postmaster of the South Freeport Post Office.

27 July 2013:

South Freeport Post Office was converted to a Level 6 (6-hour) Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Freeport Post Office. The Postmaster position remained until ultimately vacated.



September 2022:
South Freeport Post Office – Photo Credit James Husson.

2 March 2024:

The South Freeport Post Office is still operational at 95 S Freeport Rd. South Freeport, ME 04078. GPS 43° 49' 23" N 70° 06' 44" W

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 (2024).

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mpb>

Thank you for the contributions to this page by the Strout Family and James Husson.

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

Sources:

The Post Offices of Maine 2022, Maine Philatelic Society:

<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/books/TPOOM>

National Archives Catalog: Postmaster Appointments for Cumberland County, Maine

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746483>

Postmaster Finder by City:

<https://about.usps.com/who/profile/history/postmaster-finder/postmasters-by-city.htm>

Freeport [map] from the Atlas of Cumberland County, Maine, 1871

https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_cumberland_1871/45/

Freeport, Maine. U. S. Geological Survey Topographic Map, 1957

https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=27c130947e53569720bcbef38df81c2a

“Freeport,” article in *Maine, An Encyclopedia*. <https://maineencyclopedia.com/freeport/>

“Freeport,” article in *History of Cumberland County, Maine*, by W. W. Clayton, 1880, p. 278+

<https://www.loc.gov/item/01008888/>

<https://www.loc.gov/resource/gdcmassbookdig.historyofcumberl00clay/?sp=454>

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