

Long Island Postal History

Cumberland County, Maine

Last update for this page: 17 September 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>.

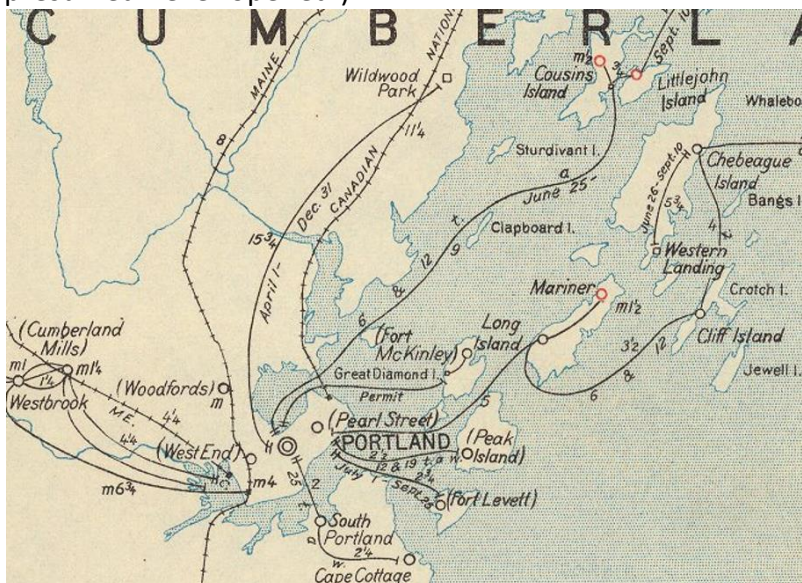
The Town of Long Island, located in Casco Bay, was legally established in 1993 when the island separated from the City of Portland. Long Island, which is approximately three square miles in area, is six miles from Portland via the Casco Bay Lines ferry.

During Long Island's history, there have been three post offices (and one that never opened).

Briefly, the history of these three is as follows: (The town was Portland before 1993)

1. [Little Chebeague](#) Post Office opened on 1 July 1889 and closed on 20 November 1889.
2. [Long Island](#) Post Office opened on 25 February 1878, closed on 18 December 1878, reopened on 29 September 1884, and is still operating.
3. [Mariner](#) Post Office opened on 23 July 1907 and closed on 8 May 1942. (Summer Office)

Navy 10238 S Portland Post Office opened on 12 November 1943 and closed on 28 December 1943. (Navy Post Office for Navy Fuel Oil Annex, Long Island; establishment order canceled, presumed never opened.)



In 1941, there were two post offices in operation in what is now the Town of Long Island: Long Island, and Mariner.

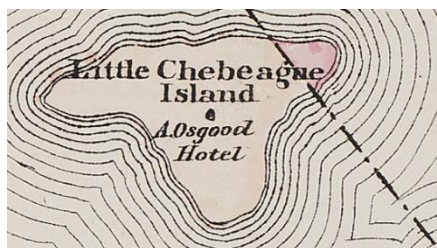
Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1941.

Map reproduction courtesy of David Rumsey Map Center, Stanford Libraries, Stanford University.

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/s/zrc923>

Little Chebeague

It may seem odd that the Little Chebeague Post Office was in what is now the Town of Long Island. However – Little Chebeague Island is split by a town line. The post office was opened to serve summer visitors at a resort that was on the western portion of Little Chebeague – an area that was then within the City of Portland but is now within the boundaries of the Town of Long Island.



From the *Atlas of Cumberland County, Maine 1871*, Portland, pp. 45-46. In 1889, the area of Little Chebeague west of the town line was part of the City of Portland, but since 1993 *has been part of the Town of Long Island*. The area east of the town line was in 1889 part of the Town of Cumberland but is now part of the Town of Chebeague Island.

source: https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_cumberland_1871/31/

1 July 1889:

Little Chebeague Post Office opened.

1 July 1889:

Joseph B. Reed became the Postmaster of the Little Chebeague Post Office.

20 November 1889:

Little Chebeague Post Office closed with service from Portland.

Long Island

25 February 1878:

Long Island Post Office opened.

25 February 1878:

Mary E. Witham became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

18 December 1878:

Long Island Post Office closed.

29 September 1884:

Long Island Post Office reopened.

29 September 1884:

Thomas M. Glendenning became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

1 September 1893:

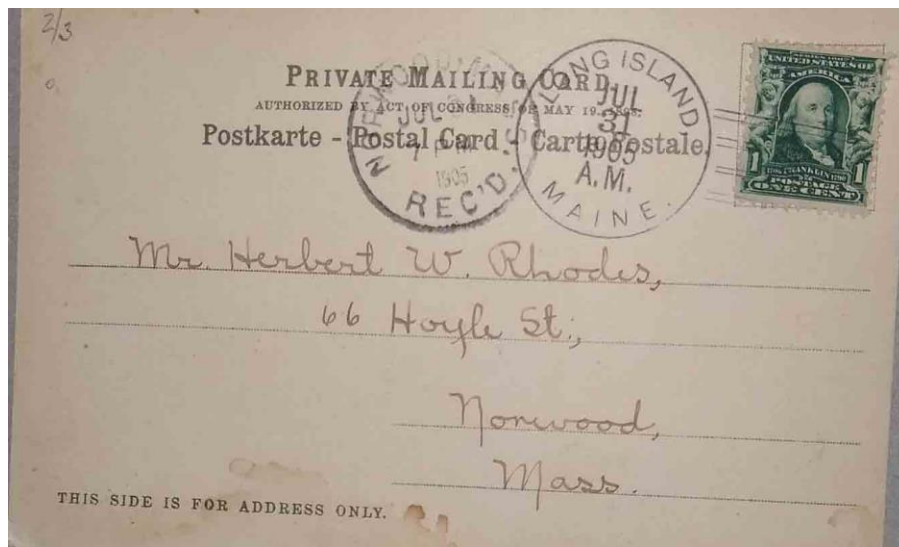
John W. Hughey became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

10 April 1895:

George H. Hughey became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

1 December 1896:

Samuel H. Marston became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.



31 July 1905:

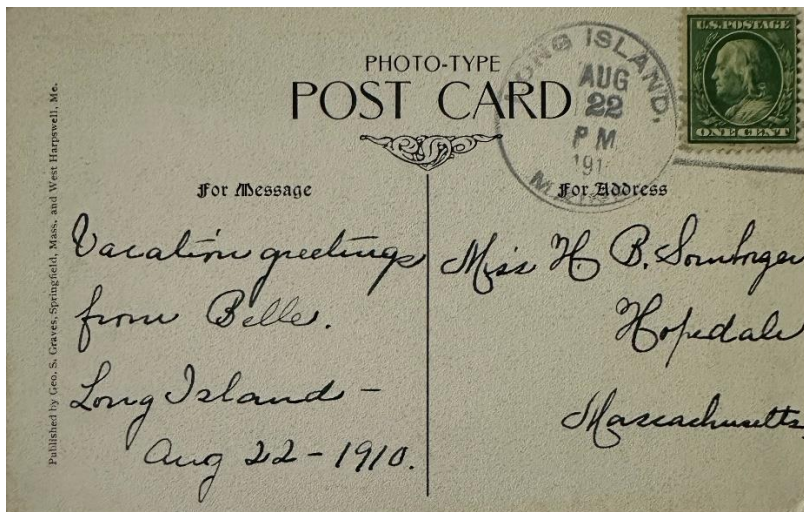
The circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter with a Doane 2/3 killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 24 August 1907 is known.

23 October 1907:

Thomas M. Glendenning became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

21 October 1908:

Henry J. Clarke became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.



22 August 1910:

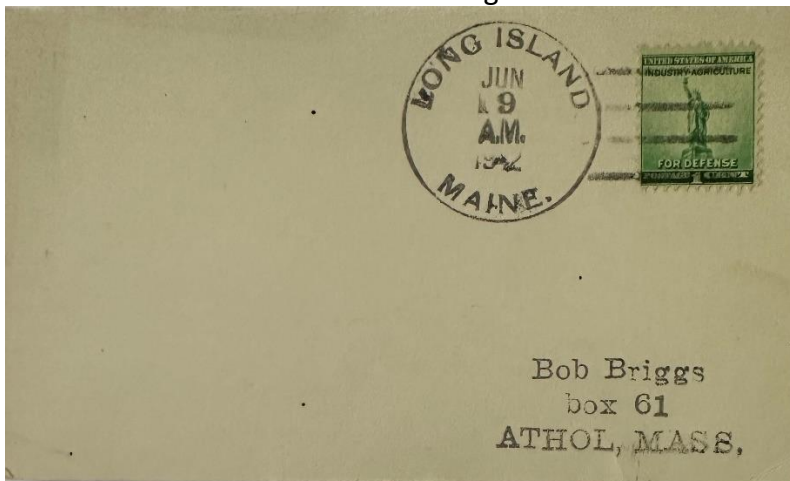
The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A/2) killer.

12 January 1923:

Everett E. Clarke became the Acting Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

19 March 1923:

Everett E. Clarke became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.



9 June 1942:

The circular postmark is 35 mm in diameter with a four-bar (C/1) killer.

1 July 1944:

Long Island Post Office became a Presidential Post Office.



22 June 1950:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an eight-bar Duplex/1 killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 4 January 1961 is known.

30 April 1964:

Irving James Coolbrith became the Acting Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

26 June 1967:

Irving James Coolbrith became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

1 December 1988:

Kathleen M. Floyd became the Officer-In-Charge of the Long Island Post Office.

17 December 1988:

Helen H. Hammond became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

29 July 1999:

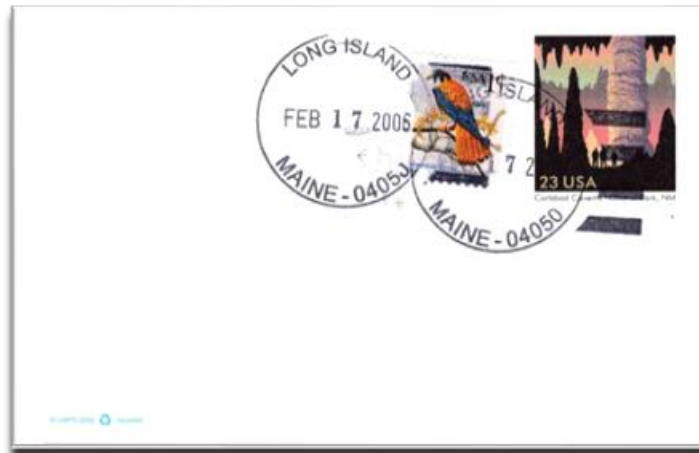
Evelyn Gail Wood became the Officer-In-Charge of the Long Island Post Office.

26 February 2000:

Pamela Joy Parker became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.



Long Island Post Office in June 2002. Photo credit: Kelvin Kindahl



17 February 2006:

The circular postmark is 34.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar (G) killer.

23 May 2013:

Kim A. MacVane became the Officer-In-Charge of the Long Island Post Office.

16 May 2015:

Kim A. MacVane became the Postmaster of the Long Island Post Office.

2018: A photo of the new Long Island Post Office, taken by a Google user, can be viewed at:

https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/p/AF1QipOgVCcfCAJkOe_sDj5I16PxNmK4FP3qFv-m4K5p=s1360-w1360-h1020

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

10 March 2024:

Long Island Post Office is still operating at 280 Island Ave. Long Island, ME 04050 GPS 43° 41' 20" N 70° 10' 04" W.

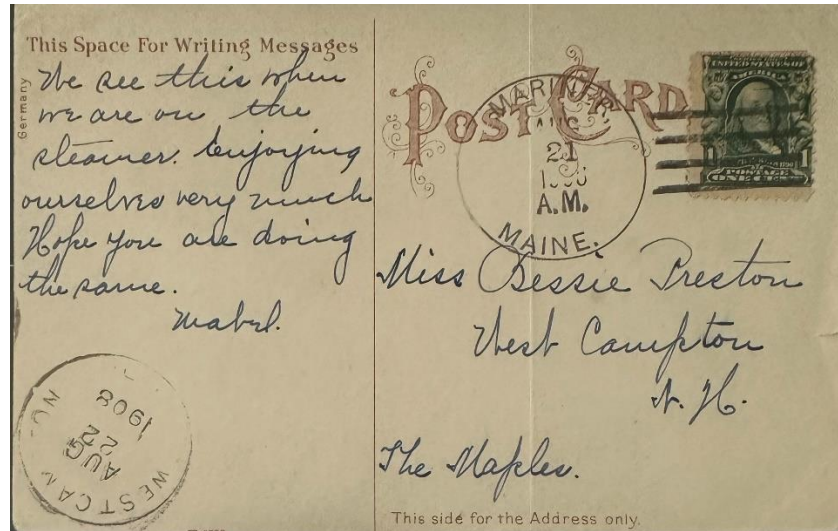
Mariner

23 July 1907:

Mariner Post Office opened. (Summer Office)

23 July 1907:

Flora I. Eloritte became the Postmaster of the Mariner Post Office.



21 August 1908:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A/1) killer.

10 January 1916:

Pauline Johnson became the Postmaster of the Mariner Post Office.

1 March 1920:

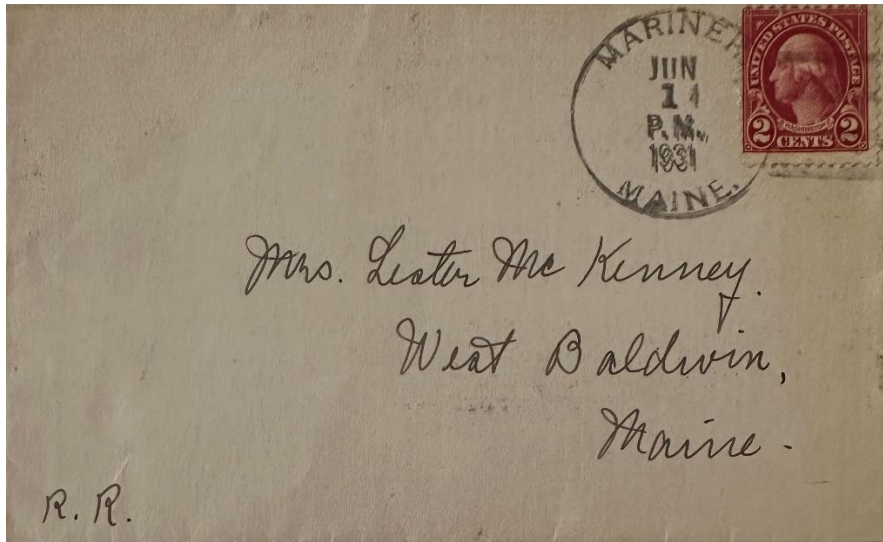
Eva M. McVane became the Postmaster of the Mariner Post Office.

8 July 1921:

Mimmie E. Doughty became the Postmaster of the Mariner Post Office.

1 November 1922:

Phoebe A. Clark became the Postmaster of the Mariner Post Office.



14 June 1931:

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

8 May 1942:

Mariner Post Office closed with service from Long Island.

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).

Thank you for the contributions to this page by the Strout Family, Roland Simard, 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>

Maine Philatelic Society Postal History Gateway:

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

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

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>

Portland [map] from the Atlas of Cumberland County, Maine 1871 (includes Long Island which was part of the City at that time.) (https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_cumberland_1871/31/)

“Long Island,” article in Maine: An Encyclopedia <https://maineencyclopedia.com/long-island>

Town of Long Island, Maine website <https://townoflongisland.us/wp/>

U. S. Post Office Department Site Location document for Little Chebeague, Maine:

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/68415085?objectPage=308>

U. S. Geological Survey Topographic Quadrangle Map, Portland East, Maine 1956

https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=e279e103a03c27f2ce9932344f3b8cfe