

# Minot Postal History

## Androscoggin County, Maine

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February 18, 1802, the northeastern part of Poland was set off and incorporated as Minot. Minot was part of Cumberland County until 31 March 1854, when it became part of Androscoggin County. The southeast corner of what is now Minot was originally part of the Pejepscot Purchase. Some of Minot land was set off to form Auburn in 1842; that boundary was altered in 1844; more Minot land was set off to Auburn in 1873; and Minot land was set off to form part of Mechanic Falls in 1893.

Researchers looking for records for the various post offices in Minot before 18 March 1854 should be aware that the information for that time frame may also be found under Cumberland County, not Androscoggin, and before 1802 in the town of Poland. Also, note that the East Minot Post Office, which became the Centre Minot Post Office, both located in Minot before the land was taken to become part of Auburn, became part of Auburn in 1842.

During the history of the town of Minot, there have been four post offices.

Briefly, the history of the three is as follows:

1. **East Minot (1)** Post Office was established on 23 December 1817 and was renamed **Centre Minot** Post Office on 3 December 1825. For East Minot (1) Post Office and Centre Minot Post Office, also see Auburn. [\*\(What does it mean when there is a \(1\) or \(2\) after the name of a post office? See the explanation near the end of this document.\)\*](#)
2. **East Minot (2)** Post Office opened on 14 March 1826, closed on 9 April 1835, re-opened on 7 September 1839, and closed on 13 April 1842.
3. **Poland (1)** Post Office (before the land was taken to make Minot). It was renamed **Minot** Post Office on 1 January 1801 and is still operating.
4. **West Minot** Post Office was established on 9 February 1825 and is still operating.



In 1914, there were two post offices in Minot: Minot and West Minot.

Extract from Post Route Map of the State of Maine 1914, via Maine Philatelic Society website:  
<http://www.mainephilatelic.org/PostRouteMaps/MainePostRouteMap1914.pdf>

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Postmarks that collectors have provided from the town of Minot have been included and are highlighted in Blue.

Centre Minot

East Minot (1)

East Minot (2)

[Minot](#)

[West Minot](#)

**Centre Minot** (see also – Auburn)

3 December 1825:

Centre Minot Post Office opens as part of Cumberland County:

29 December 1817:

Oliver Pollard became Postmaster for East Minot and remained Postmaster when the name was changed to Centre Minot on 3 December 1825.

13 February 1835:

Stephen Packard became Postmaster for Centre Minot.

18 June 1841:

Oliver Pollard became Postmaster for Centre Minot again.

7 June 1845:

Centre Minot Post Office's name was changed to North Auburn.

**East Minot (1)** (see also – Auburn)

29 December 1817:

East Minot (1) Post Office opens while still part of Cumberland County. (Note: There was another post office named East Minot at a different time and location. The (1) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

29 December 1817:

Oliver Pollard became Postmaster for East Minot (1) Post Office.

3 December 1825:

East Minot's name was changed to Centre Minot.

**East Minot (2)**

14 March 1826:

East Minot (2) Post Office opened as part of Cumberland County.

14 March 1826:

Daniel Crockett became Postmaster for East Minot (2) Post Office.

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1 November 1827:

Martin Leavitt became Postmaster for East Minot (2) Post Office.

9 April 1835:

East Minot (2) Post Office closed:

7 September 1839:

East Minot (2) Post Office is re-established.

7 September 1839:

John A. Dunning became Postmaster for East Minot (2) Post Office.

13 April 1842:

East Minot (2) Post Office is closed.

## **Minot**

1 January 1801:

Minot Post Office opened, formerly Poland (1), as part of Cumberland County.

1 January 1801:

Samuel Swett became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

1 October 1804:

Daniel Cash became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

29 July 1805:

Joshua Wingate, Jr became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

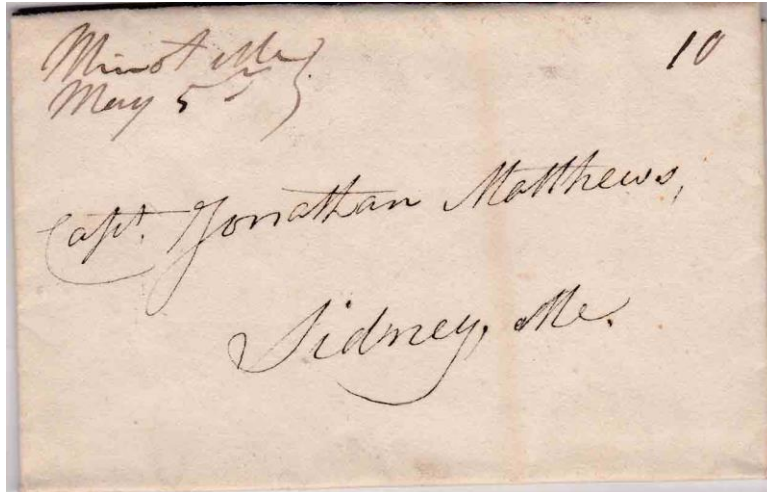
1 October 1805:

Nathan Woodbury became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

Note: one reference indicates the name change from Poland Post Office to Minot Post Office occurred around 1911 (Doubleday).

2 January 1818:

William H. Woodbury became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.



5 May 1825:  
Manuscript  
([letter](#))  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

2 November 1832:

Nathan L. Woodbury became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

20 July 1841:

Jabez C. Woodman became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

23 December 1843:

Nathaniel P. Woodbury became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

29 June 1847:

Willard H. Woodbury became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

28 June 1849:

William Dale became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

30 March 1853:

Josiah D. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

31 March 1854:

Minot Post Office becomes part of the newly formed Androscoggin County.

14 November 1854:

John Freeman, Jr. became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

31 March 1854

Minot becomes part of the newly formed Androscoggin County.

11 December 1855:

Cyrus Green became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

28 January 1857:

Abizor S. Freeman became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

6 January 1862:

Seth M. Milliken became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

26 December 1862:

Joseph Freeman became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

18 September 1865:

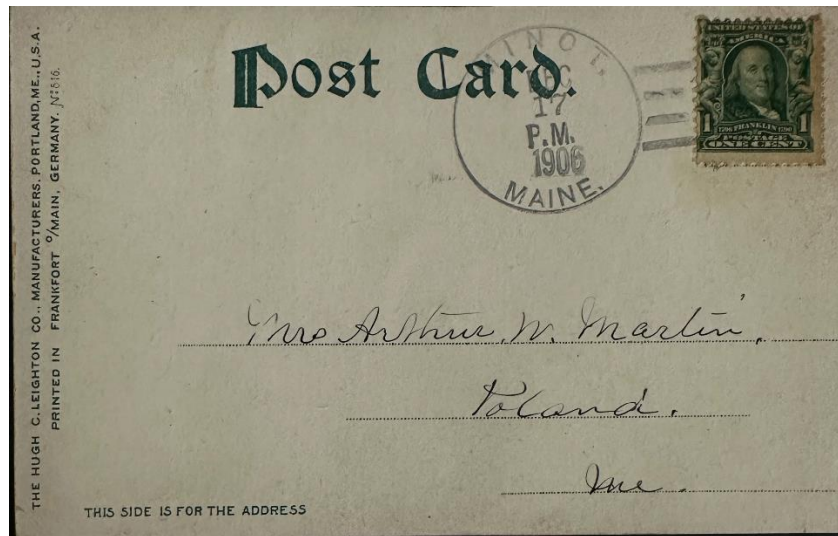
Lyman M. Cousens became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

27 July 1868:

William H. Rounds became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

10 December 1880:

Rebecca F. Rounds became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.



17 December 1906:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter, probably with a Doane 3/2 killer.

20 November 1908:

Seldon E.A. Wakefield became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

24 July 1911:

Warren L. Churchill became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

5 November 1920:

Andrew H. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

17 March 1923:

Benjamin F. Pulsifer became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

15 May 1923:

Benjamin F. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

14 September 1925:

Andrew W. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

3 September 1931:

Edwin G. Pulsifer became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

9 December 1931:

Edwin G. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.



11 July 1935:

The circular postmark is 32.5 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.  
Other similar postmarks are known, dated 19 November 1935 and 13 March 1940.  
(Click on an image to enlarge)

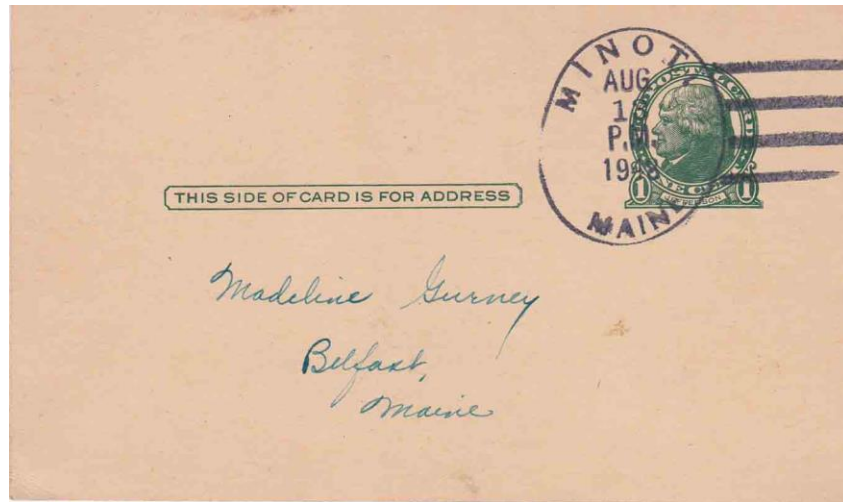
11 February 1938:

George E. Leadbetter became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

15 March 1938:

George E. Leadbetter became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.





13 August 1948:

This misshapen circular postmark is 30–46 mm in diameter with a non-standard four-bar killer.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

28 February 1953:

Everett A. Trask became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

30 April 1953:

Everett A. Trask became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

11 July 1958:

Lynwood W. McKinley became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

7 May 1959:

Lynwood W. McKinley became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

14 May 1971:

Robert E. Handy became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

25 January 25:

Ruth B. Ladd became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

27 April 1974:

Ruth B. Ladd became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

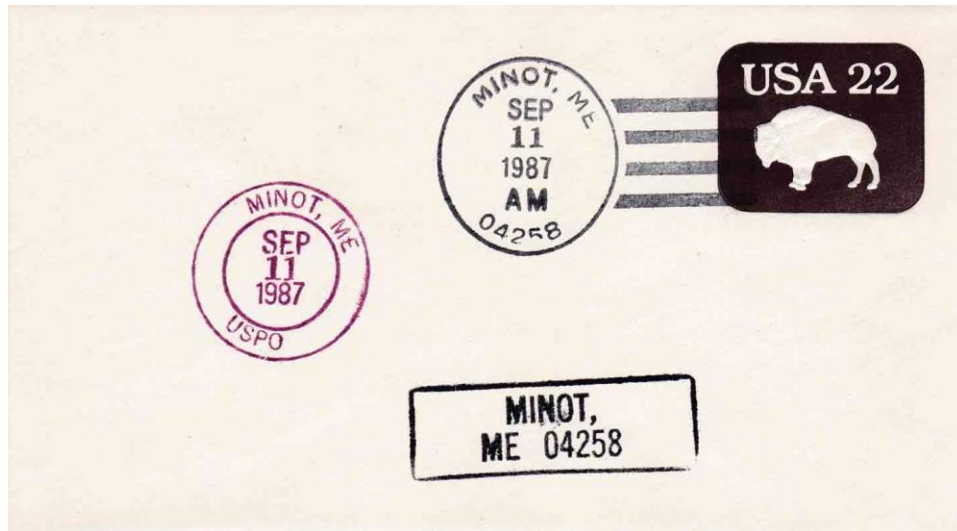
Date?:

Eleanor Inman became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

30 March 1985:

Wayne P. Penley became Acting Postmaster for Minot Post Office.





1987 September 11:

The postmark with a single circle is 30–34 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A) killer. The outer circle of the double-circle postmark is 30–31 mm; the inner is 19–20 mm. The rectangular postmark is 48–49 mm wide by 15 mm tall.

(Click on the image to enlarge)

30 December 1989:

Edwin West became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

10 March 1990:

Gwendolyn Jordan became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

28 August 28:

Janice E. Slattery became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

23 January 1993:

Carmela J. Hewitt became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

1 May 2003:

David Eaton Sr. became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

17 April 2004:

Brian S. Carrier became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

15 March 2007:

Russell E. Merrill became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

6 September 2007:

Lisa M. Munster became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

7 December 2007:

Wendy L. Murphy became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

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15 March 2008:

Donald B. Mendell III became Postmaster for Minot Post Office.

21 June 2011:

Rudolph Kyllonen III became Officer-in-Charge for Minot Post Office.

19 November 2011:

The Minot Post Office was converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Great Falls Post Office.

2023:

The Minot post office is currently in operation with a Zip Code of 04258.

## **Poland (1)**

5 September 1800:

Poland (1) Post Office opens while still part of Cumberland County. (Note: There was another post office in Maine named Poland at a different time and location. The (1) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

5 September 1800:

Samuel Swett became Postmaster for Poland Post Office.

1 January 1801:

Poland (1) Post Office name is changed to Minot. (One reference {Doubleday} indicates that the post office name change occurred later. See Minot.)

## **West Minot**

9 February 1825:

West Minot post office opened as part of Cumberland County.

9 February 1825:

Calvin Bridgham became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

3 June 1841:

William Lowell became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

21 July 1845:

Levi Whittemore became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

15 August 1846:

Calvin Bridgham became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

23 April 1849:

William Lowell became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

30 March 1853:

David B. Sawyer became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

31 March 1854:

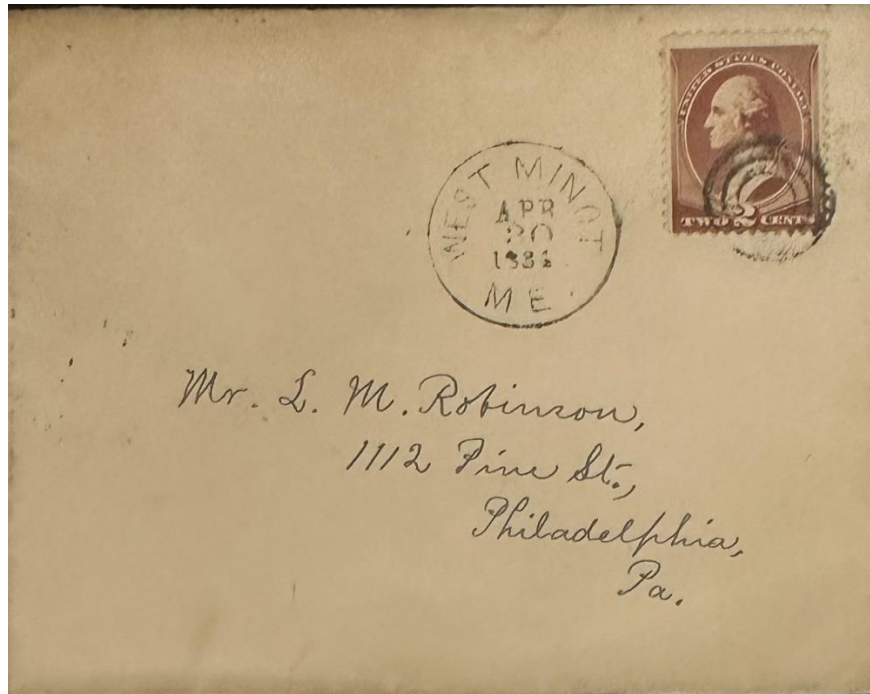
West Minot Post Office becomes part of the newly formed Androscoggin County.

23 June 1856:

Joshua Parsons became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

16 September 1861:

Gideon Bearce became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.



20 April 1884:

The circular postmark is 26 mm in diameter with a three circle target killer.

16 November 1885:

Samuel T. Millett became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

29 April 1889:

Gideon Bearce became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

20 June 1893:

Jeffrey Parsons became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

4 November 1903:

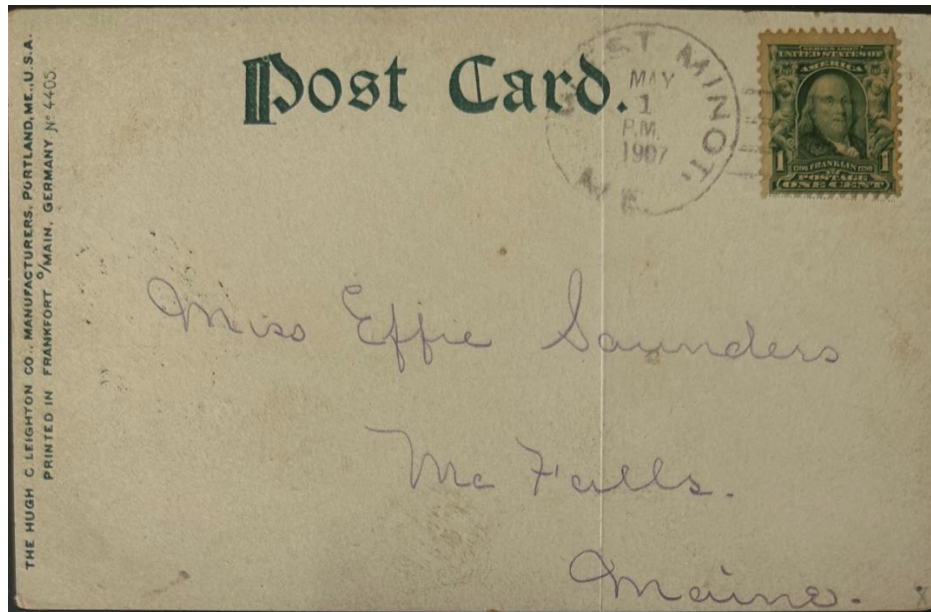
Charles E. Allen became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

8 March 1905:

Harry W. Bearce became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

17 April 1906:

H. Clifton Young became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.



1 May 1907:

The circular postmark is 28.5 mm in diameter with a Doane 2/3 killer.

26 March 1913:

William J. Slattery became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

19 September 1913:

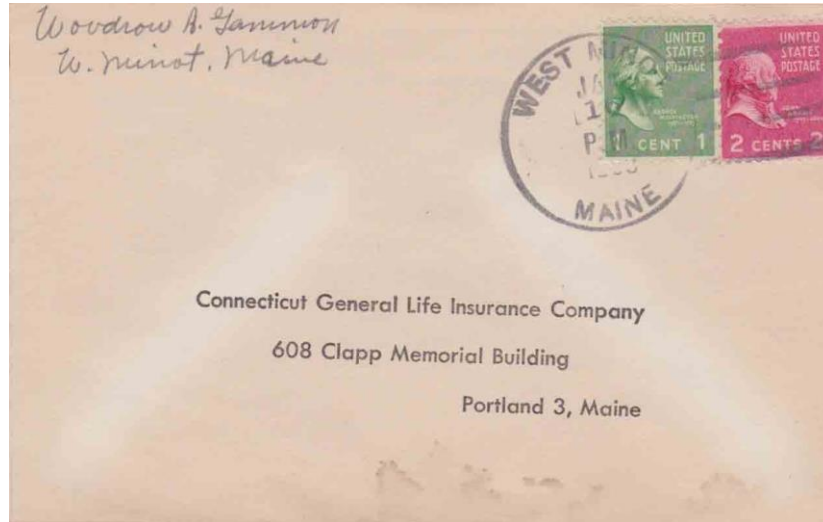
Gertrude E.S. Young became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

22 December 1915:

Frank A. Lowe became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

20 January 1919:

Mrs. Hester A. Verrill became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.



17 January 1938?

The circular postmark is 33–34 mm in diameter with a four-bar killer.  
(click on the image to enlarge)

Other similar postmarks dated 4 March 1940 and 23 November 1914 are known.

23 June 1938:

Mrs. Doris E. (Slattery) Murray became the Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.  
Another postal record states the Maiden name was Record.

25 February 1972:

Mrs. Leona M. Gammon became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

24 June 1972:

Mrs. Leona M. Gammon became Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

5 May 1978:

Janice E. Slattery became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

13 January 1979:

Janice E. Slattery became Postmaster for West Minot Post Office.

3 February 2000:

Marc A. Demers became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

24 October 2001:

Leon E. Morse became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

19 July 2005:

Michelle A. Grimbilas became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

24 August 2005:

Robert R. Labbe became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

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7 August 2007:

Darlene Thompson became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

23 October 2009:

James E. McKinley became the Officer-In-Charge for West Minot Post Office.

20 September 2014:

West Minot Post Office is converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Auburn Post Office.

13 September 2021:

West Minot Post Office is suspended due to a fire.

2023:

West Minot Post Office has yet to reopen.

***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. 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 are *not* the same as the post offices we call Auburn (1), Auburn (2), etc.

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

Credits:

This document is based on the original Auburn Postal History 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 Kelvin Kindahl, James Husson, and the Strout family collection.

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>

Minot [map] from the 1873 Atlas and History of Androscoggin County, Maine:  
[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_androscoggin\\_1873/33/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_androscoggin_1873/33/) This is very useful for identifying the locations of some old post offices.

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>.