

# New Sweden Postal History

## Aroostook County, Maine

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For more information, see <http://www.mainephilatelic.org/mph>

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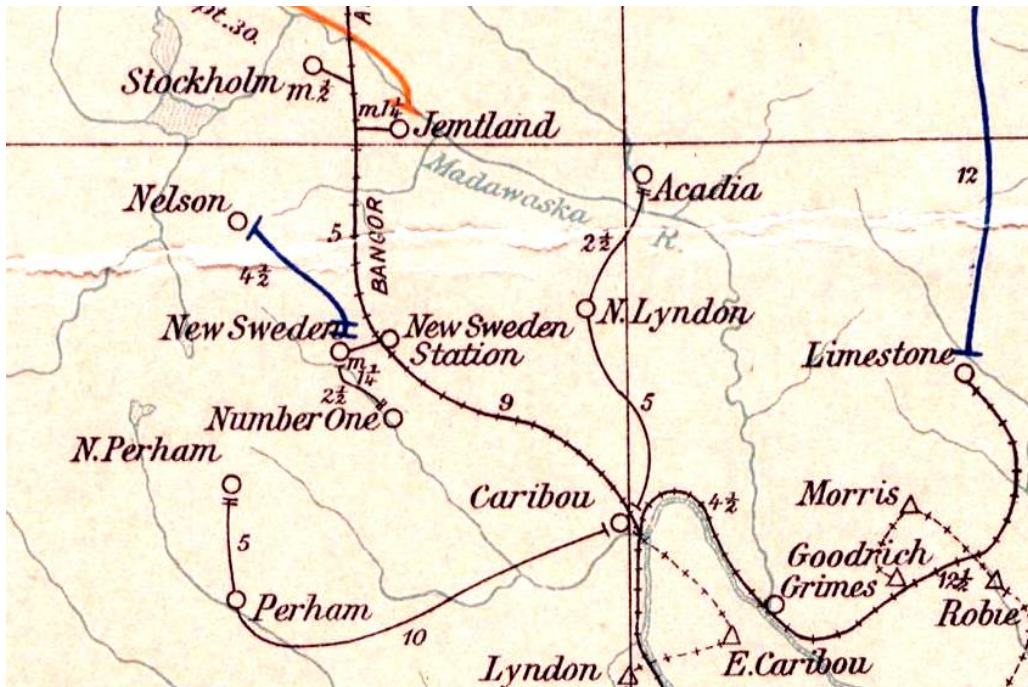
Starting and being incorporated in 1870, New Sweden is a Swedish-immigrant colony established by the State of Maine in Aroostook County.

During the history of the town of New Sweden, there have been five post offices.

Briefly, the history of these four is as follows:

1. Jemtland Post Office opened on 10 July 1888, closed on 3 June 1896, re-opened on 29 October 1896, and closed on 15 November 1928.
2. Nelson Post Office opened on 21 April 1899 and closed on 31 July 1908.
3. New Sweden (1) Post Office opened on 30 March 1871 and closed on 31 January 1914. [What does it mean when there is a \(1\) or \(2\) after the name of a post office?](#)
4. New Sweden (2) Post Office was renamed from New Sweden Sta. Post Office on 1 June 1920.
5. New Sweden Sta. Post Office was established on 3 June 1902 and closed on 21 May 1920, being renamed New Sweden (2) Post Office

In 1903, there were four post offices in New Sweden: Jemtland, Nelson, New Sweden, and New Sweden Sta.



Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, 1903

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

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

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

[Jemtland](#)

[Nelson](#)

[New Sweden \(1\)](#)

[New Sweden \(2\)](#)

[New Sweden Station](#)

## Jemtland

10 July 1888:

Jemtland post office opened.

10 July 1888:

Jacob Hedman became the Postmaster for Jemtland Post Office.

3 June 1896:

Jemtland post office closed—service from New Sweden.

29 October 1896:

Jemtland post office re-opened.

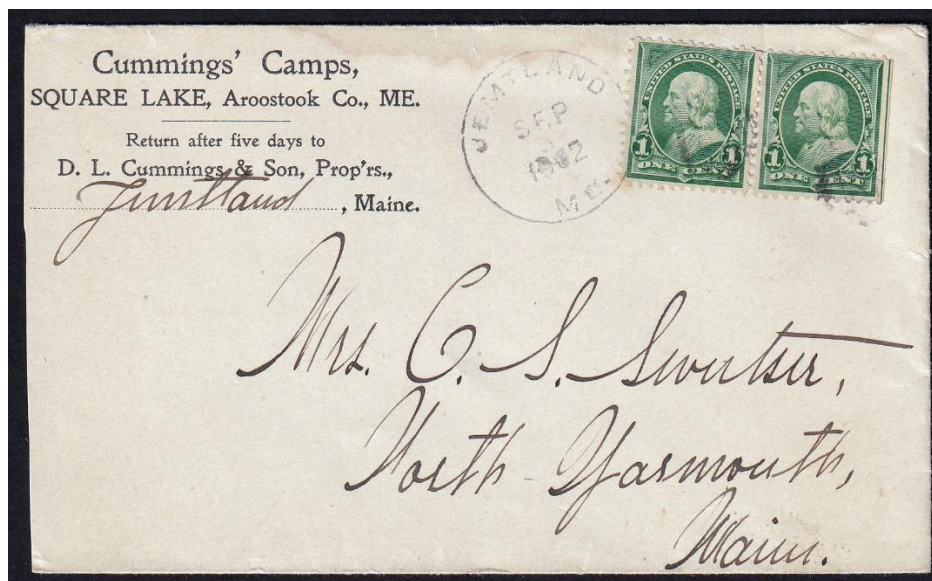
29 October 1896:

Jacob Hedman became the Postmaster for Jemtland Post Office.



March 1901:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with no killer.

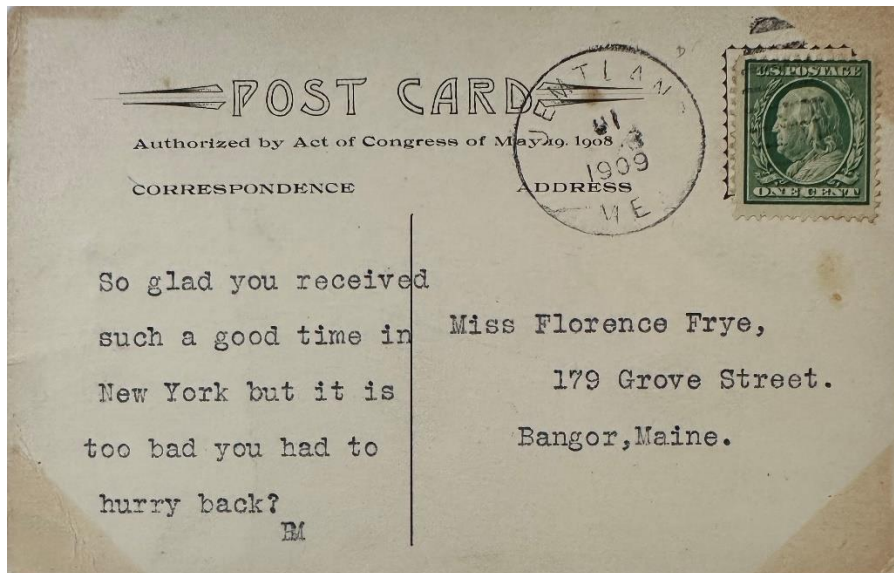


3 September 1902:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a partial target killer.

6 October 1903:

Jonas Peterson became the Postmaster for Jemtland Post Office.



23 July 1909:

The circular postmark is 29 mm in diameter with a nine-bar oval duplex killer. A similar postmark dated 30 December 1907 is known.

19 July 1909:

Ada Hedman became the Postmaster for Jemtland Post Office.



24 December 1919:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.

15 November 1928:

Jemtland post office closed—service from Stockholm.

## Nelson

21 April 1899:

The Nelson Post Office opened.

21 April 1899:

Andrew Nelson became the Postmaster of the Nelson Post Office.



5 July 1899:

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

19 July 1908:

The Nelson Post Office was discontinued effective 31 July 1908. Service from Jemtland.

**New Sweden (1)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named New Sweden at different times and locations.

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.)

30 March 1871:

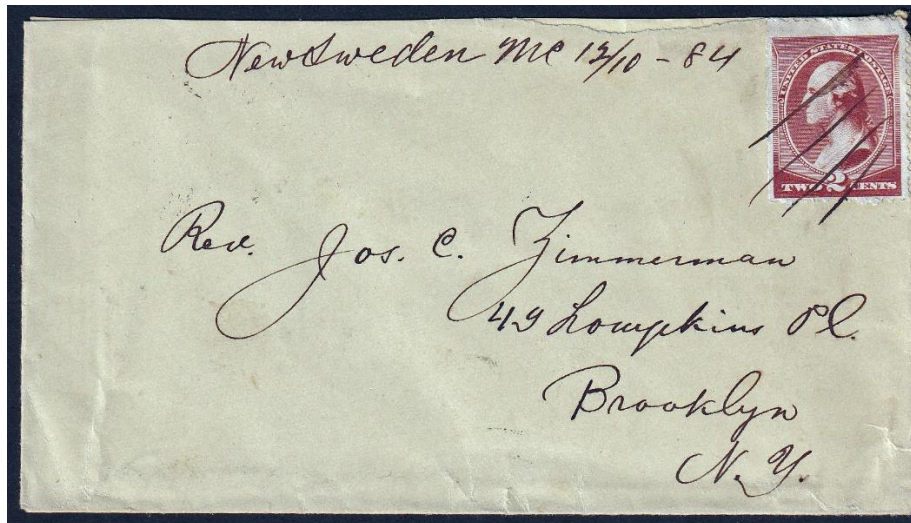
The New Sweden (1) Post Office opened.

30 March 1871:

Nicholas P. Clase became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.

19 October 1883:

Carl A.A. Johnson became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.



10 December 1884:  
Manuscript postmark and killer.

7 April 1887:

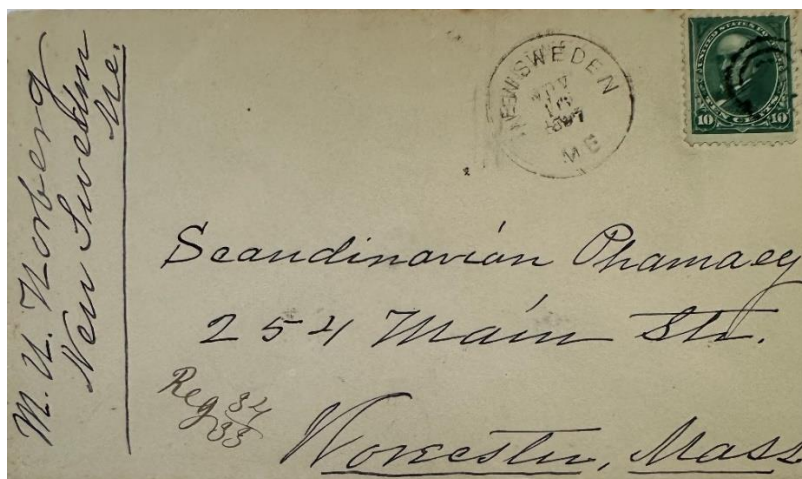
Carl Ulrich became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.

9 October 1889:

Adolf L. Ulrich became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.

7 February 1891:

Mrs. Abia A. Wiren became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.



16 November 1897:

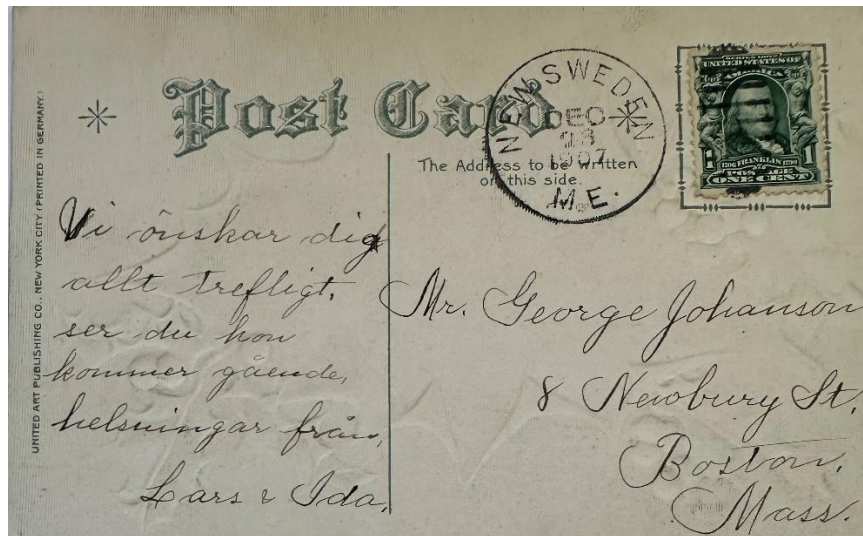
The circular postmark is 27.5 mm in diameter with a target killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 10 December 1897 is known.

1 February 1901:

Axel H. Tornquist became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.

15 April 1905:

Bernard Pearson became the Postmaster for the New Sweden (1) Post Office.



23 December 1907:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with a nine-bar oval duplex killer. A similar postmark used as a received cancellation dated 6 August 1907 is known.

31 January 1914:

New Sweden (1) Post Office closed—mail service from New Sweden Station Post Office.

**New Sweden (2)** (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named New Sweden at different times and locations.

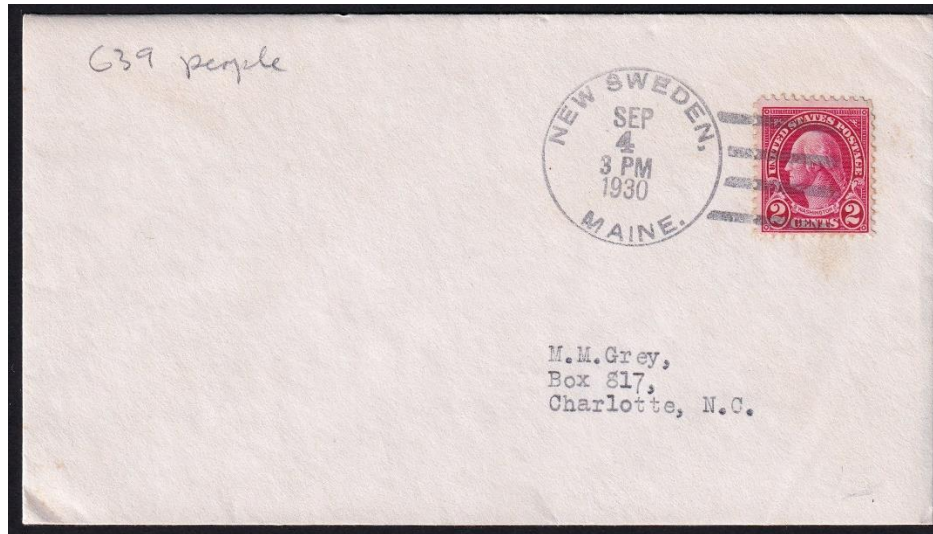
The (2) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

1920 May 21 per Postmaster records or 01 June 1920 per Postal Bulletin PB 12274:

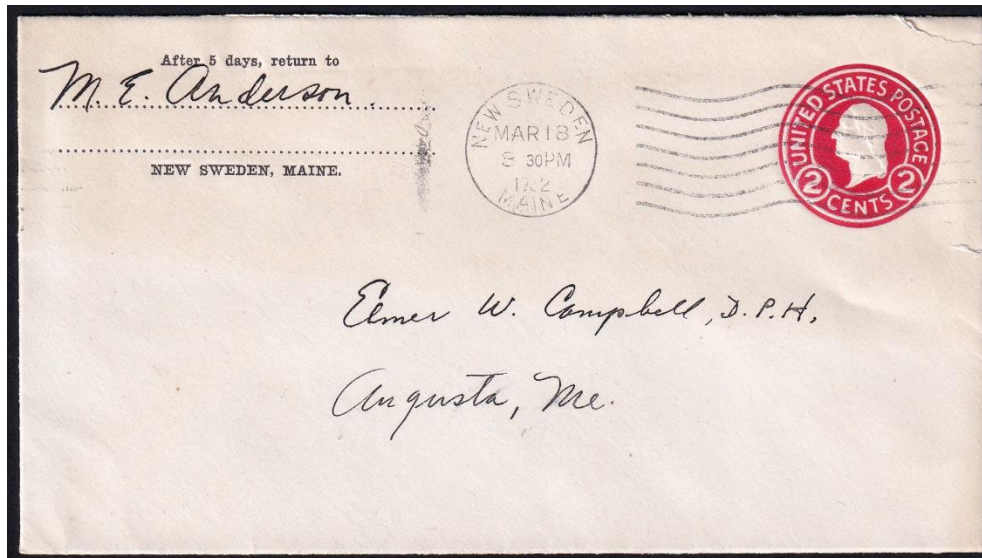
The former New Sweden Station Post Office was renamed New Sweden (2) Post Office.

21 May 1920:

Walter W. Anderson became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.



4 September 1930:  
The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar (D) killer.



18 March 1952:  
The circular postmark is 25 mm in diameter with a seven-wavy line Universal Machine killer.

31 October 1958:

Charles H. Anderson became the Acting Postmaster for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

6 July 1960:

Hartley O. Nelson became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.





Circa 1970:  
New Sweden Post Office.

5 December 1980:

Eric D. Anderson became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

7 February 1981:

Patricia C. Roy became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

27 February 1991:

David A. Armstrong became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

20 April 1991:

Gregory A. Voisine became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

17 March 1993:

Norma A. Alward became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

10 July 1993:

Frederick A. Myers became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

3 January 1997:

Artheline Bernier became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

12 March 1997:

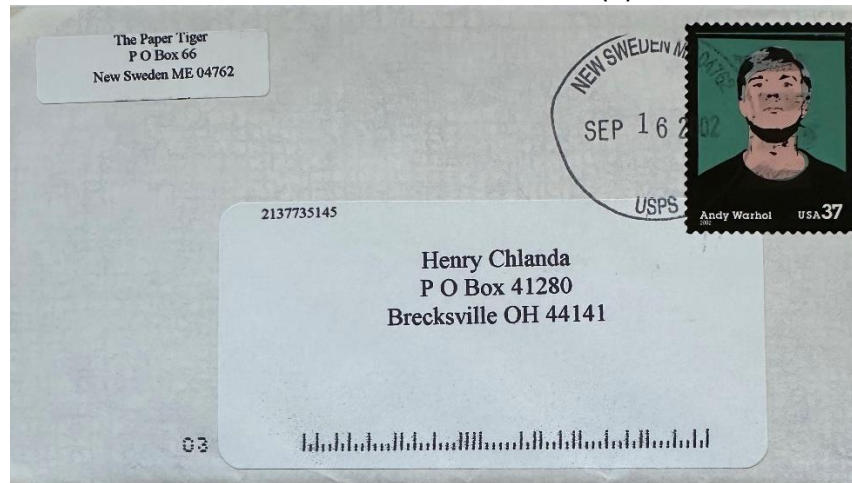
Donna Cyr became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

26 June 1997:

John E. Fraser became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

25 October 1997:

John E. Fraser became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.



16 September 2002:

The misshapen circular postmark is 37 mm in diameter with a weak four-bar killer.

31 May 2005:

Cheryl A. Dubay became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

1 October 2005:

Roger P. Plant became the Postmaster of the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

30 June 2010:

Michelle Beaulieu became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

23 November 2010:

Ricky Adams became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

25 March 2011:

Rita G. Anderson became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

8 April 2011:

Rick Adams became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

8 August 2011:

Rita G. Anderson became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

15 August 2011:

Ricky became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

12 December 2011:

Rita G. Anderson became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

23 April 2012:

Shawn R. Rogers became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

5 June 2013:

Clifton Foster became the Officer-In-Charge for the New Sweden (2) Post Office.

27 July 2013:

New Sweden (2) post office was converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Caribou post office.

27 January 2024

New Sweden (2) post office is still operating at 414 Station Road, New Sweden, Maine 04762.  
GPS 46° 57' 14" N 68° 05' 57" W.



1995

New Sweden Post Office. Photo Credit Kevin Kindahl

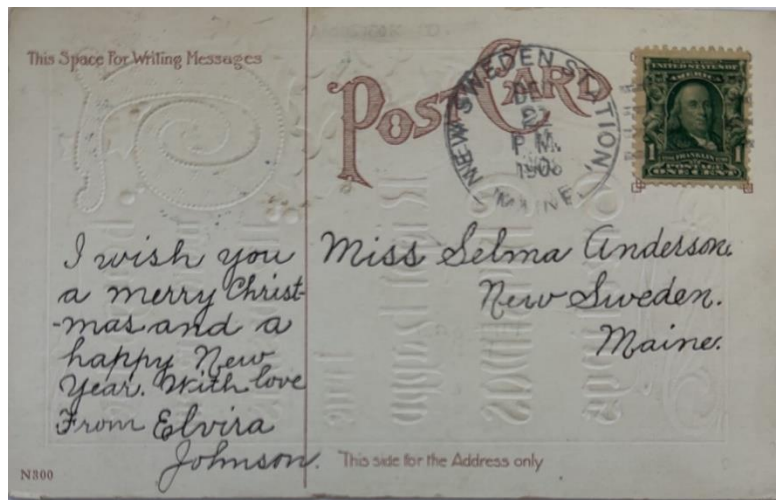
## New Sweden Station

3 June 1902:

New Sweden Station Post Office opened.

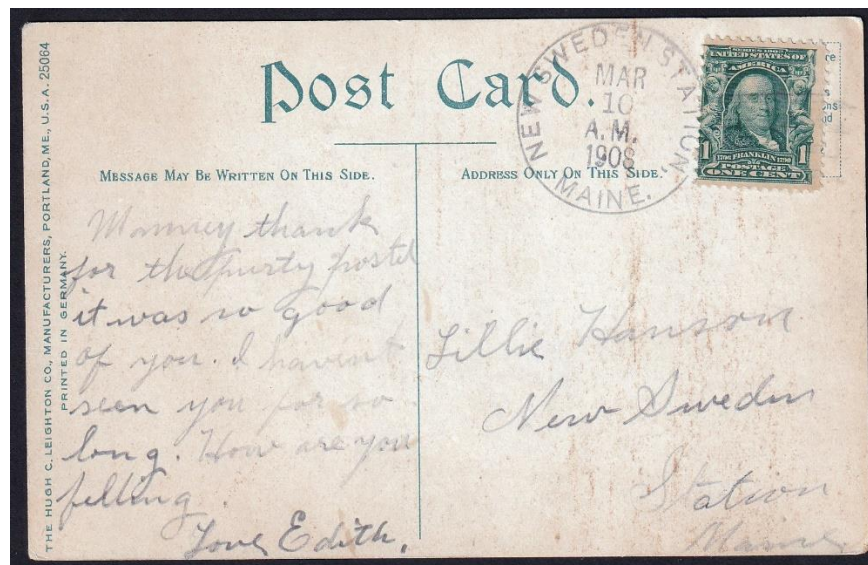
3 June 1902:

John Hemberg became the Postmaster for the New Sweden Station Post Office.



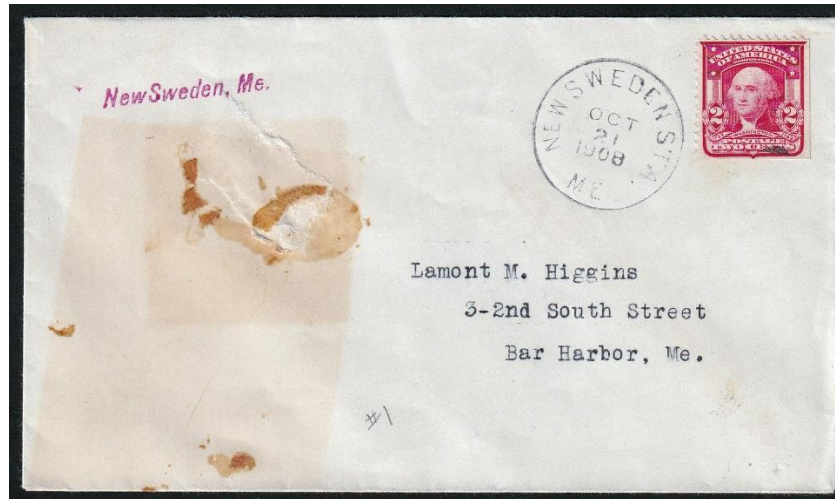
21 December 1906:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A) killer. A similar postmark and killer dated 25 August 1909 is known.



10 March 1908:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar killer (A/1) killer.



21 October 1908:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with an unidentifiable killer.

28 April 1914:

John J. Ringdahl became the Postmaster for the New Sweden Station Post Office.



14 February 1916:

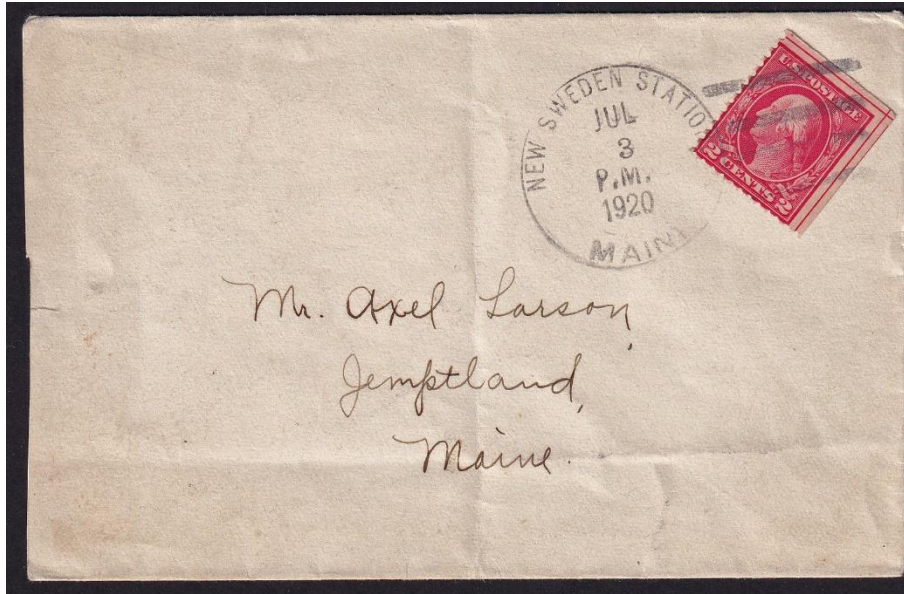
The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter with a four-bar (C/1) killer.

20 September 1919:

Walter W. Anderson became the Postmaster for the New Sweden Station Post Office.

01 June 1920 per Postal Bulletin 12274 or 21 May 1920 per Postmaster records:

New Sweden Station Post Office closed and was renamed as New Sweden (2) Post Office.



3 July 1920:

The circular postmark is 32 mm in diameter and has a four-bar (B) killer. Note that this postmark is outside the date range for the New Sweden Station's existence. New Sweden probably used this New Sweden Station postmarking device, whether because New Sweden hadn't gotten the new device yet or because they had a new one but still had the old one sitting around, and it got used.

*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 (2024).

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Thank you to the Waterville Stamp Club (<https://www.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>

Perham & The Swedish Colony (New Sweden T15R3 & Woodland Plantations) [map] from the 1877 Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine:

[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_aroostook\\_1877/45/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_aroostook_1877/45/)

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>

National Archives Catalog Postmaster Appointments for Aroostook County, Maine

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/78746425>

Postmaster Finder by City:

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