

# Poland Postal History

## Androscoggin County, Maine

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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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Poland was incorporated in 1795. It was initially part of Cumberland County until 31 March 1854, when it became part of the newly formed Androscoggin County. It set off land to form [Minot](#) in 1802 and ceded other lands to the following: Danville (1851), [Otisfield](#) and [Casco](#) (1858), and [Mechanic Falls](#) (1893).

Researchers looking for records for the various post offices in Poland before 18 March 1854 should know that the information for that time frame may also be found under Cumberland County, not Androscoggin.

During the history of the town of Poland, there have been seven post offices. Briefly, the history of these seven is as follows:

1. **East Poland** Post Office opened on 4 September 1826, closed on 30 September 1828, re-opened on 28 January 1834, closed on 29 June 1836, re-opened on 23 June 1837, closed on 22 April 1842, re-opened on 4 September 1849, and is still operating.
2. **Empire** Post Office opened on 23 April 1894 and closed on 15 November 1907.
3. **Poland (1)** Post Office was established on 5 September 1800 and was renamed on 1 January 1801 as Minot Post Office (in Minot). *[\(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.\)](#)*
4. **Poland (2)** Post Office operated from 3 May 1813 until 25 June 1994.
5. **South Poland** Post Office was established on 4 June 1862 and was renamed on 31 May 1939 as **Poland Spring** Post Office. (The last day of operation for South Poland was 31 May 1939, and the first day of operation for Poland Spring was 1 June 1939.) Poland Spring Post Office was renamed on 1 January 1996 as Poland (3) post office and is still operating.
6. **West Poland** Post Office was established on 19 May 1837 and is still operating.
7. **Worthley** post office operated from 8 August 1882 until 12 November 1884.

In 1897, there were five post offices in Poland: East Poland, Empire, Poland (2), South Poland, and West Poland.



Extract from the 1897 Post Route Map of Maine. Map reproduction courtesy of Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center at the Boston Public Library.  
<https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:cj82kk95k>

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

[East Poland](#)

[Empire](#)

[Poland \(1\)](#)

[Poland \(2\)](#)

[Poland \(3\)](#)

[Poland Spring](#)

[South Poland](#)

[West Poland](#)

[Worthley](#)

## **East Poland**

1826 September 4:

East Poland post office opened as part of Cumberland County.

1826 September 4:

John H. Bartlett became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

30 September 1828:

East Poland Post Office closed.

28 January 1834:

East Poland Post Office was re-established as part of Cumberland County.

28 January 1834:

Reuben B. Dunn became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

29 June 1836:

East Poland Post Office closed.

23 June 1837:

East Poland Post Office was re-established as part of Cumberland County.

23 June 1837:

Jonas W. Strout became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

22 April 1842:

East Poland Post Office closed.

4 September 1849:

East Poland Post Office was re-established as part of Cumberland County.

4 September 1849:

Gilman Martin became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

31 March 1854:

East Poland Post Office becomes part of the newly formed Androscoggin County.

21 September 1855:

Jonas W. Strout became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

23 December 1861:

William H. Rounds became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

18 September 1865:

Luther B. Knight became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

8 January 1872:

Miss Agnes M. Walker became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

14 May 1877:

Daniel W. Bailey became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.



1893 October 16: [year determined from reverse]

The circular cogged wheel postmark has an outer circle (including the “teeth”) of approximately 31 mm in diameter with probably a four-bar (A) killer.



1908 October 12:

The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a four-bar (A) killer. ([image side of the card](#))

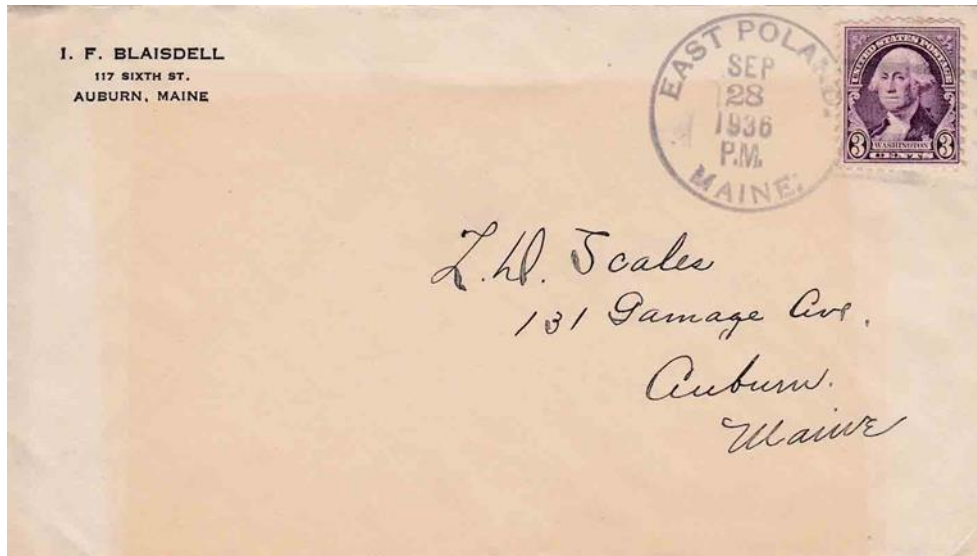
Other examples of this postmark dated 4 April 1916, 3 November 1914, and 9 June 1916 are known.

15 September 1913:

Ralph W. Stone became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.



East Poland Post Office, date unknown.



1936 September 28:

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

3 May 1940:

Mrs. Josie A. Stone became Acting Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

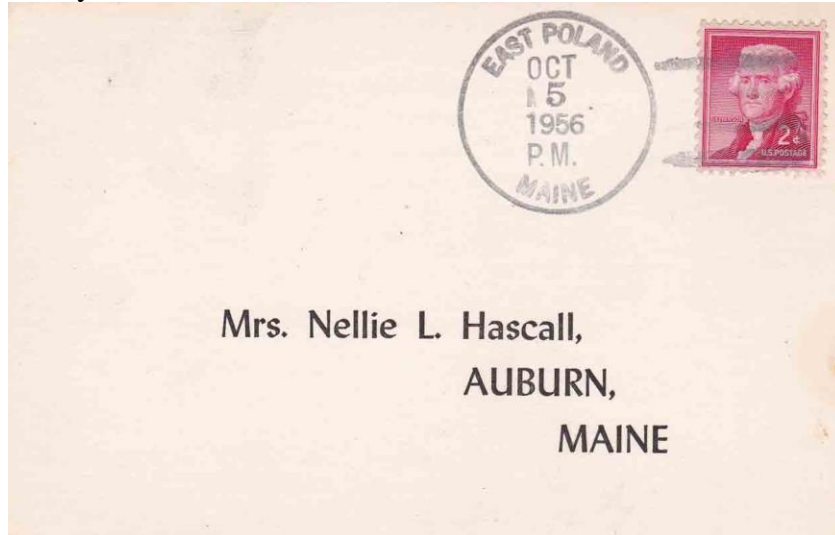
8 October 1940:

Mrs. Josie A. Stone became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

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

18 May 1956:

Mrs. Annie P. Gary became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.



1956 October 5:

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

15 February 1976:

Donald J. Johnson became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

16 July 1976:

Mrs. Marion P. Rowe became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

25 November 1977:

Roland J. Kearley became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

25 March 1978:

Mrs. Marion P. Rowe became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

30 October 1984:

Gwen Jordan became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

21 February 1985:

Maurice Castonguay became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

11 May 1985:

Jeanne C. Biden became Postmaster for East Poland Post Office.

26 November 2008:

Robert Labbe became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

14 November 2011:

Susan M. Marin became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

26 April 2013:

Robert Labbe became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

30 October 2013:

George Tardif became Officer-In-Charge for East Poland Post Office.

19 April 2014:

East Poland Post Office is converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the postmaster of the Great Falls Post Office.

19 March 2021:

East Poland Post Office with a Zip Code of 04230 is suspended.

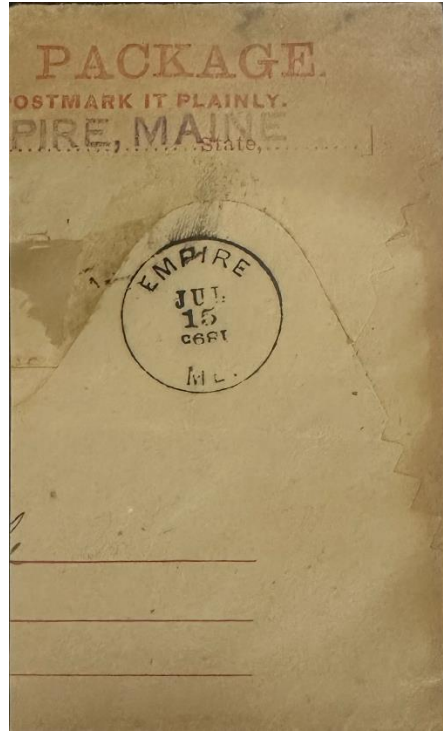
## **Empire**

23 April 1894:

Empire Post Office opened.

23 April 1894:

Erastus M. Strout became Postmaster for Empire Post Office.



15 July 1895: (note the year is inverted)  
The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter.

13 February 1902:

Charles S. Strout became Postmaster for Empire Post Office but declined.

5 March 1902: Carrie S. Strout became Postmaster for Empire Post Office.

15 November 1907:

Empire Post Office closed.

## **Poland (1)**

5 September 1800:

Poland (1) Post Office opens in Cumberland County. (Note: There were two other post offices in the area named Poland 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.)

5 September 1800:

Samuel Swett became Postmaster for Poland (1) 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.)



## Poland (2)

3 May 1813:

Poland (2) post office opened in Cumberland County. (Note: There were two other post offices in the area named Poland 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.)

3 May 1813: (one reference {Doubleday} states opening and first postmaster for 8 April 1813)  
Robert Waterman became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

7 June 1817:

James Hackett became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

8 November 1819:

Jabez True, Jr. became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

16 May 1823:

Josiah Jordan became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

12 December 1838:

David Dunn became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

29 June 1841:

William Cousins became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

7 June 1845:

David Dunn became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

29 July 1845:

Freeland Marble became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

30 December 1847:

David Dunn became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

28 April 1849:

William Cousins became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

30 March 1853:

George Bridgham became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

31 March 1854:

Poland (2) became part of the newly formed Androscoggin County.

21 December 1854:

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

Otis West became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

5 July 1856:

David Dunn became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

10 September 1857:

Cyrus Briggs became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

18 June 1861:

Charles Lane became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

24 October 1865:

Levi N. Estes became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

17 June 1867:

Charles Lane became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

31 March 1871:

George E. Houghton became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

3 October 1872:

Charles Lane became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

22 July 1880

Sumner J. Rowe became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

27 July 1883:

Charles Rowe became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

8 February 1894:

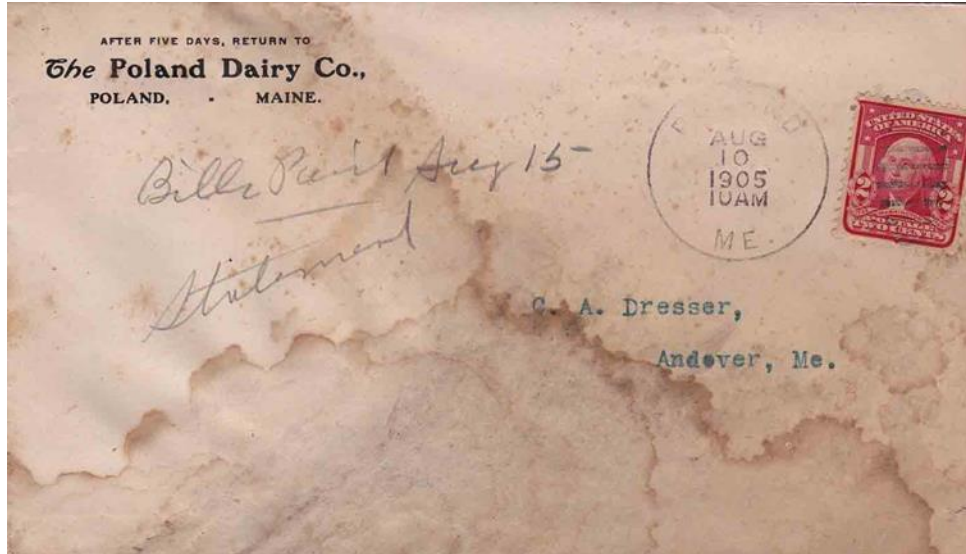
Josiah W. Mitchell became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

27 July 1897:

George W. Kimball became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

29 November 1899:

Robert L. Kimball became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.



27 September 1904

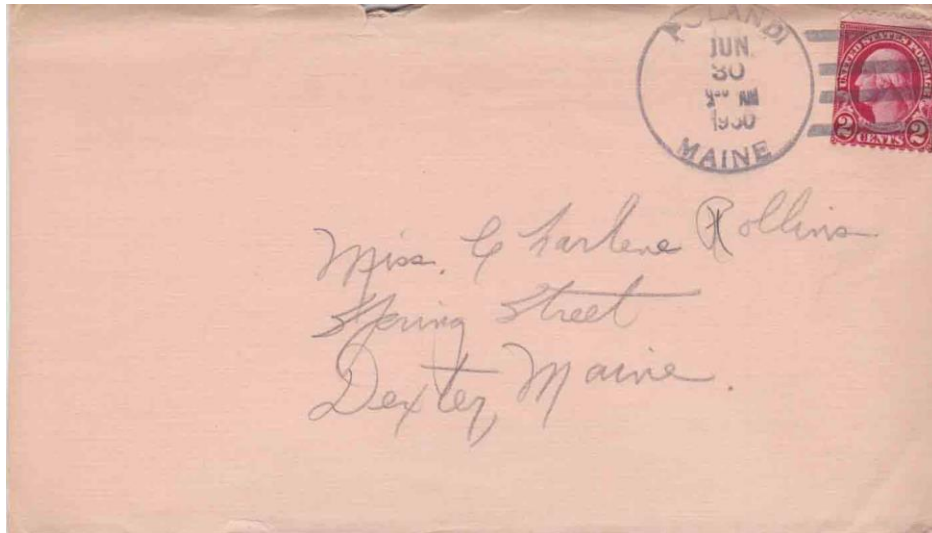
The circular postmark is 29–30 mm in diameter, with a duplex killer.

12 December 1907:

George P. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

18 December 1929:

George P. Pulsifer became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.



1930 June 30:

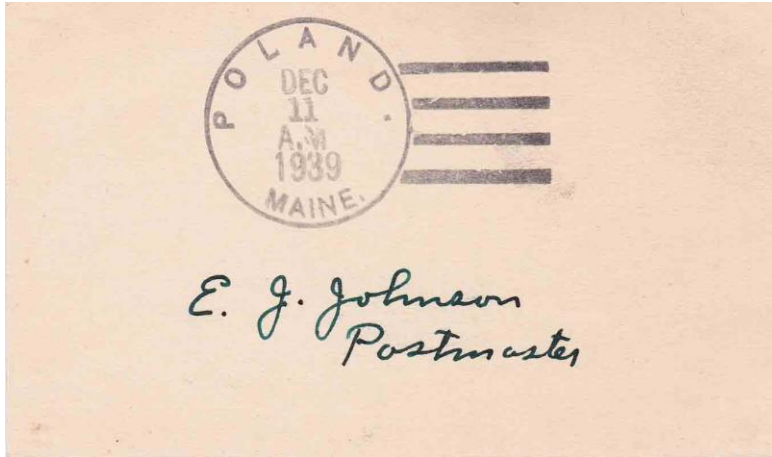
The circular postmark is 32–33 mm in diameter with a four-bar (B) killer.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

22 January 1934:

Eber J. Johnson became Acting Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

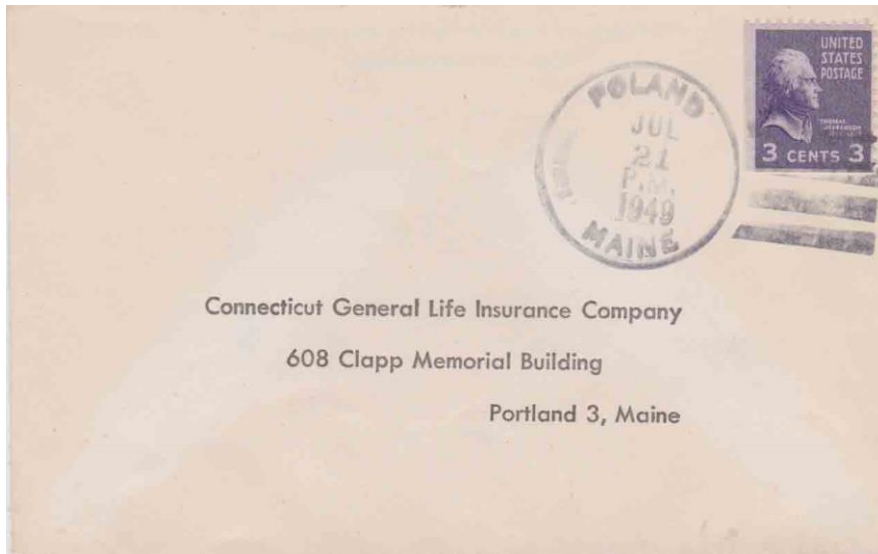
24 May 1934:

Eber J. Johnson became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.



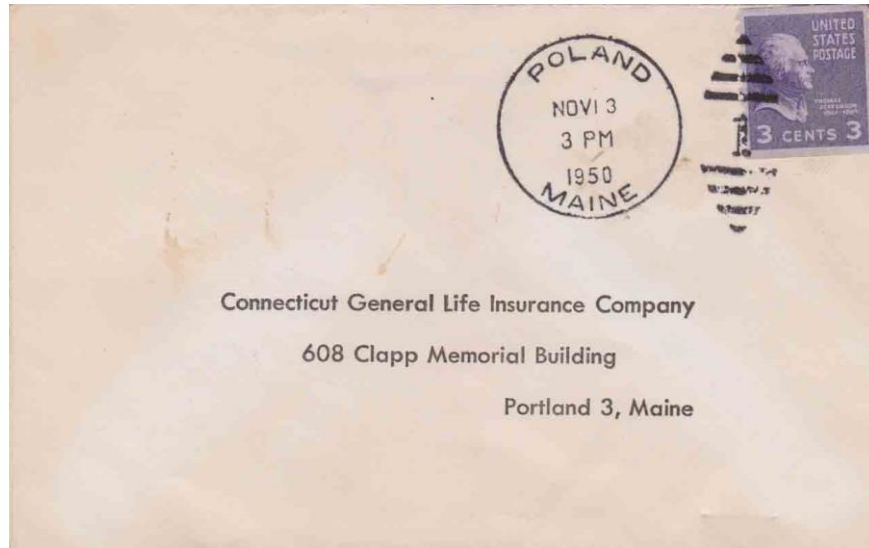
11 December 1939:

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



1949 July 21:

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



13 November 1950:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an elliptical duplex/1 killer. Another similar postmark dated 29 March 1950 is known to exist.  
(Click on an image to enlarge)

30 June 1955:

Pauline C. Nason became Acting Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

20 June 1956:

Pauline C. Nason became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

30 June 1983:

Claire R. Breton became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

3 September 1983:

Terrence P. King became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

8 October 1985:

Francis G. Drovin became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

18 January 1986:

Deborah W. Preble became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

1 March 1986:

Gwendolyn Jordan became Postmaster for Poland (2) Post Office.

15 March 1990:

Carol Kimball became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

10 July 1990:

Arnold Jordan became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

14 November 1990:

Paul Foster became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

22 March 1991:

Pauline Jordan became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

15 November 1991:

Cynthia A. Rogers became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

9 October 1992:

Joseph W. Marsden became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

7 January 1993:

Millie Pelletier became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

29 December 1993:

Anna Snowdale became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (2) Post Office.

23 July 1994:

Poland (2) post office closed.

### **Poland (3)**

1 August 1995:

The former Poland Spring post office was renamed Poland (3) Post Office. (Note: There were two other post offices in the area named Poland at different times and locations. The (3) 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.)

4 February 1995:

Wayne P. Penley became Postmaster for Poland Springs Post Office and remained as Postmaster when Poland Springs Post Office name was changed to Poland (3)

1 February 2012:

Michael E. Thurston became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (3) Post Office.

30 June 2012:

Mitchell C. Curtis became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

2 October 2012:

Barbara Menzel became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (3) Post Office.

9 March 2013:

James E. Fitzsimmons became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

21 May 2013:

Michael Thurston became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (3) Post Office.

11 January 2014:

Darin R. Baker became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

25 January 2015:

Kathleen Stetson became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (3) Post Office.

31 March 2018:

Kathleen Stetson became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

14 September 2019:

Angela M. Thompson became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

10 January 2021:

Dustin Clifford became Officer-in-Charge for Poland (3) Post Office.

18 December 2021:

Andrew Saucier became Postmaster for Poland (3) Post Office.

Today:

Poland (3) post office is still in operation with a Zip Code of 04274.

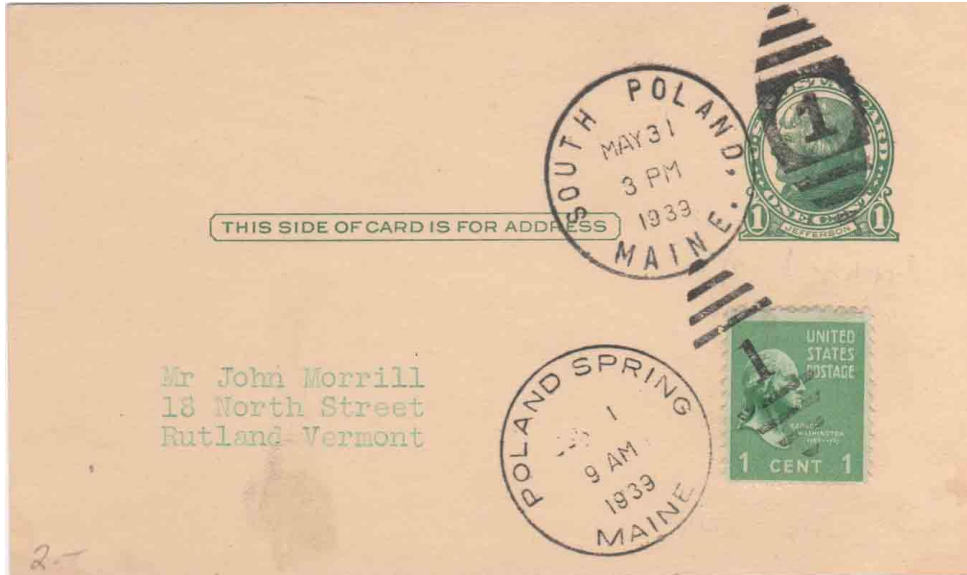
## **Poland Spring**

1 June 1939:

Formerly South Poland Post Office name was changed to Poland Spring Post Office.

1 June 1939:

Paul J. Cody was Postmaster for South Poland Post Office when the name changed to Poland Spring Post Office.



1 June 1939:

Last day of operation (LDO) for South Poland Post Office postmark with a first day of operation (FDO) for Poland Spring Post Office. The circular postmarks are 30 mm in diameter with elliptical duplex/1 killer.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

31 March 1942:

Charles W. Ricker became Acting Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office. (Paul Cody was on Military Leave).

30 June 1945:

Paul J. Cody became Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office.

1 July 1969:

Dorothy C. Coffin became Officer-in-Charge for Poland Spring Post Office.

12 December 1970:

Dorothy C. Coffin became Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office.

28 January 1988:

Horace P. Rowe became Officer-in-Charge for Poland Spring Post Office.

12 March 1988:

Anne M. Trottier became Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office.

20 March 1993:

Edward A. Baxter became Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office.

30 November 1994:

Donna L. Gacetta became Officer-in-Charge for Poland Spring Post Office.



4 February 1995:

Wayne P. Penley became Postmaster for Poland Spring Post Office.

1 July 1995:

Poland Spring post office was renamed as Poland (3) post office.

## South Poland

4 June 1862:

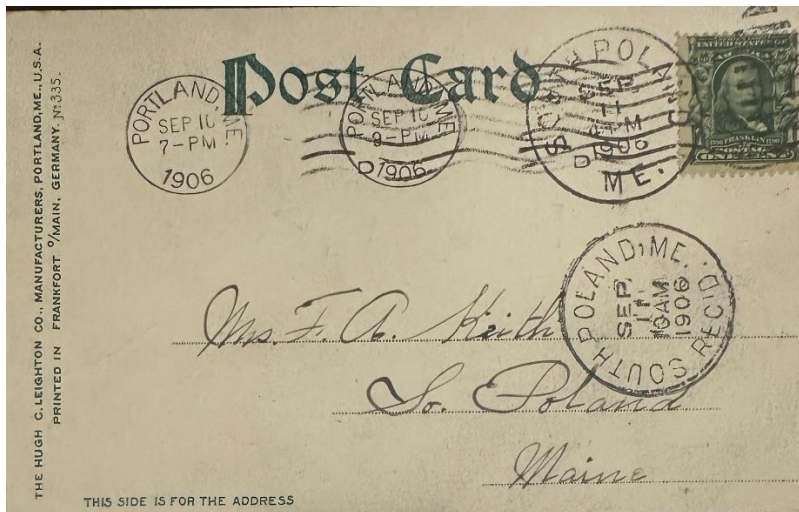
South Poland post office opened.

4 June 1862:

Hiram Ricker became Postmaster for South Poland Post Office.

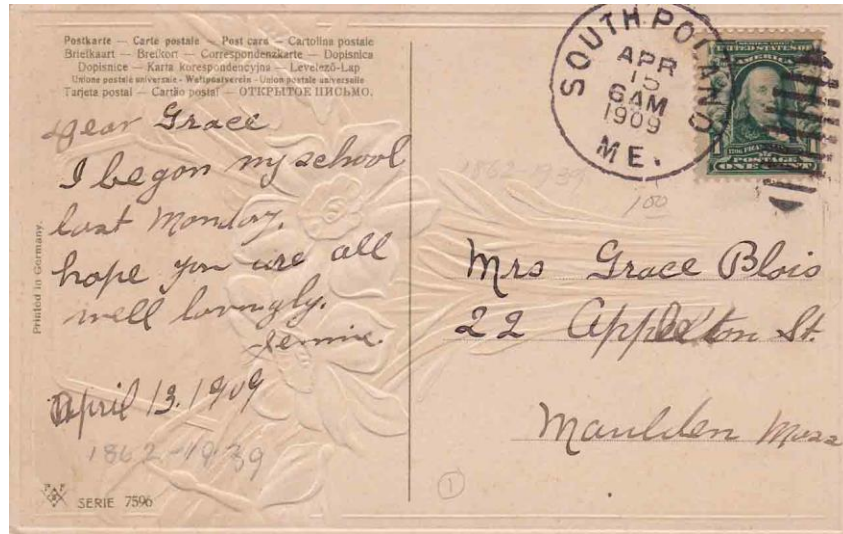
17 July 1893:

Hiram W. Ricker became Postmaster for South Poland Post Office.



11 September 1906:

The circular received postmark is 30 mm in diameter, and the circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an elliptical duplex killer.

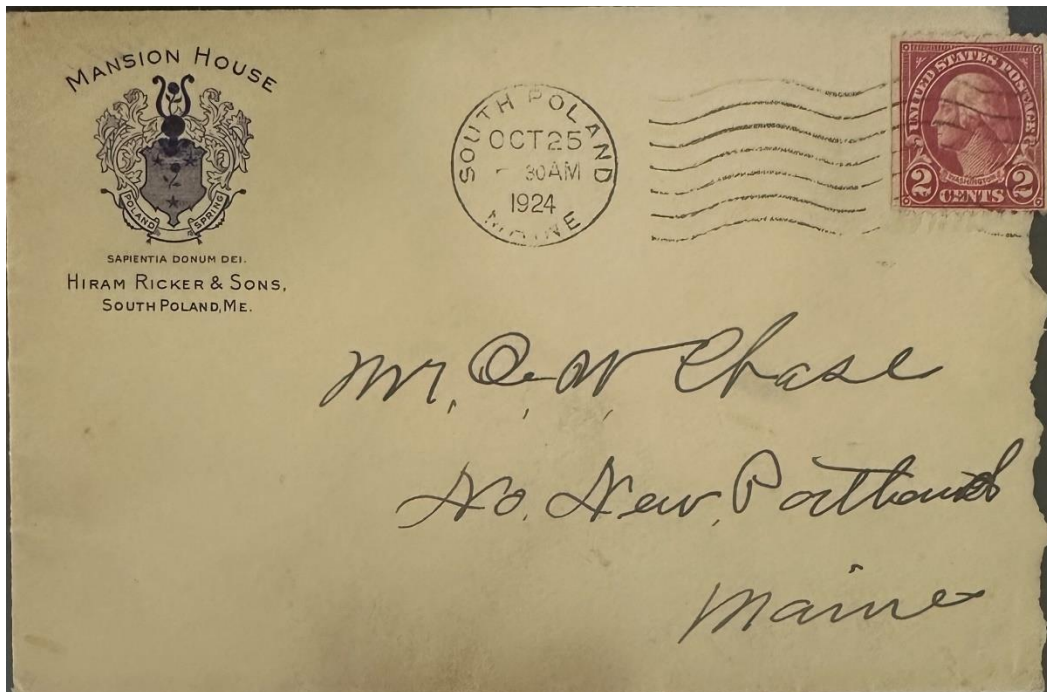


15 April 1909:

The circular postmark is 30 mm in diameter with an elliptical duplex killer. Similar postmark dated 28 July 1906 and 11 September 1906 exists.  
(Click on the image to enlarge)

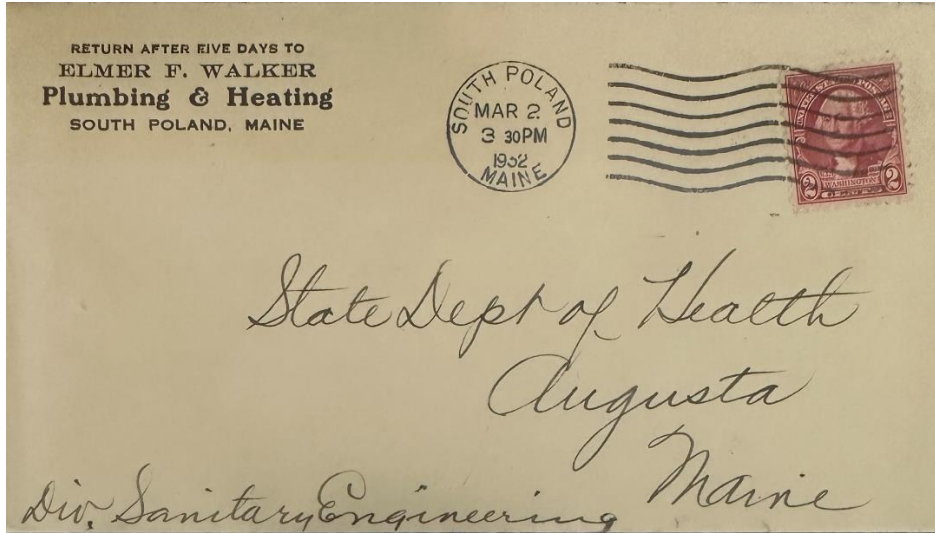
1 March 1924:

Hiram W. Ricker Jr. became Postmaster for South Poland Post Office.



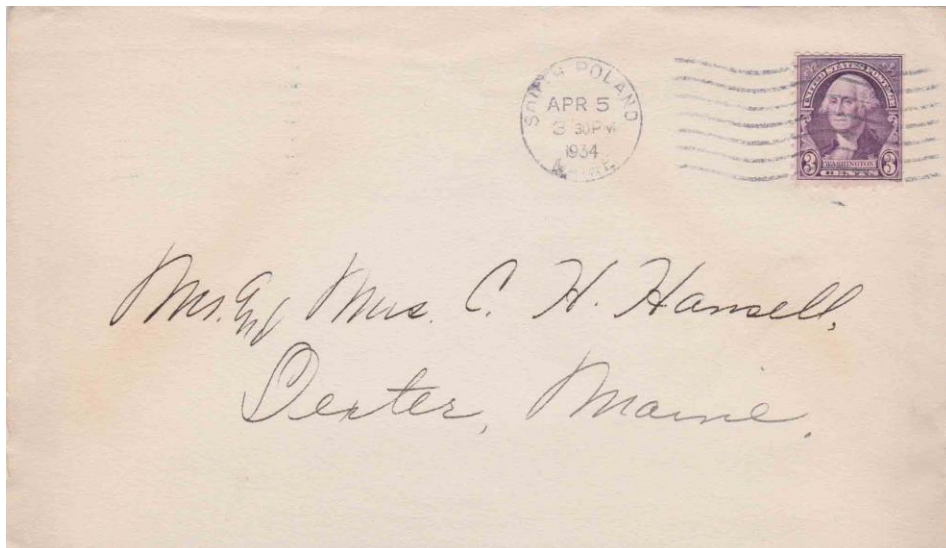
25 October 1924:

A corner card and/or an advertising cover that includes the name of the Postmaster. The circular postmark is 22 mm in diameter with a wider-spaced seven-way line machine killer.



2 March 1932

A corner card cover. The circular postmark is 22 mm in diameter with a closer-spaced thick line, seven-wavy line machine killer.



5 April 1934:

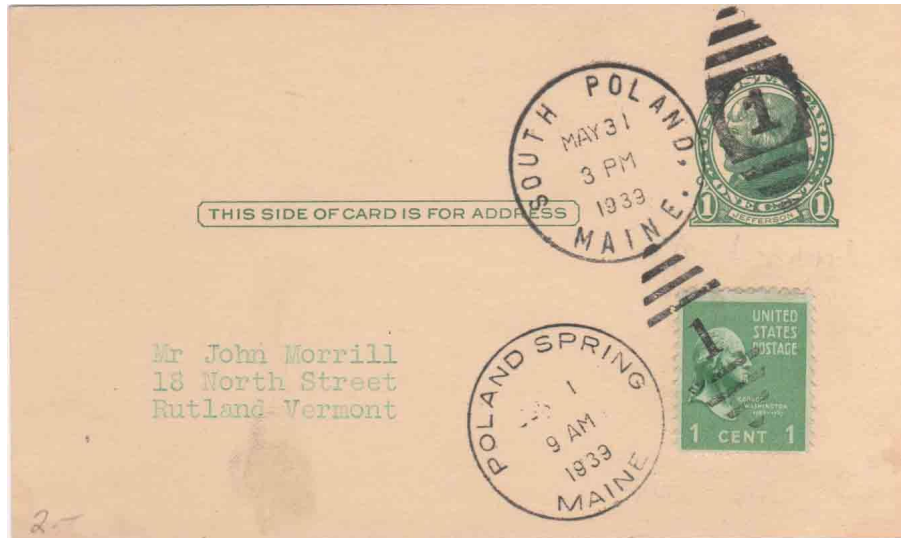
The circular postmark is 22–23 mm in diameter with a closer-spaced seven-wavy line machine killer.

26 April 1937:

Paul J. Cody became Acting Postmaster for South Poland Post Office.

18 December 1937:

Paul J. Cody became Postmaster for South Poland Post Office.



1939 May 31:

Last day of operation (LDO) for South Poland Post Office postmark with a first day of operation (FDO) for Poland Spring Post Office. The circular postmarks are 30 mm in diameter with an elliptical duplex/1 killer. (Click on the picture to enlarge)

31 May 1939:

Last day of operation with South Poland postmark. South Poland post office was renamed as Poland Spring post office.

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**Post-Office Name Changed**  
**South Poland, Androscoggin County, Maine.**  
**Changed to Poland Spring. Effective June 1,**  
**1939.**

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## West Poland

19 May 1837:

West Poland Post Office opened as part of Cumberland County.

19 May 1837:

John Megquier became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

25 September 1845:

James H. Fernold became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

15 June 1852:

William M. Perkins became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

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

31 March 1854:

West Poland Post Office became part of the newly formed Androscoggin Post Office.

11 January 1854:

Francis Storer became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

18 January 1870:

Owen S. Keen became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

29 December 1871:

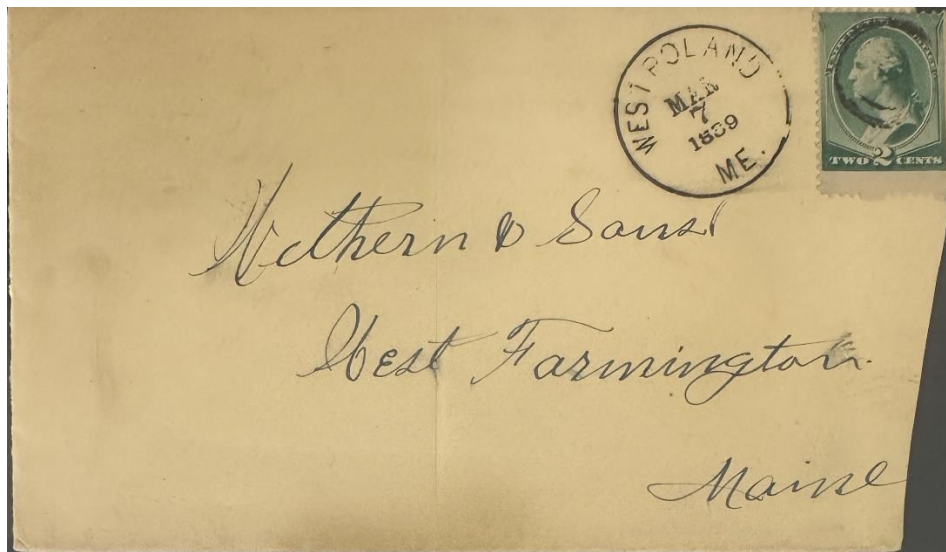
George O. Goodwin became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

14 January 1881:

Silas A. Megquier became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

14 October 1885:

George O. Goodwin became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.



7 March 1889:

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

25 March 1889:

Silas A. Megquier became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

26 June 1893:

George O. Goodwin became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

12 June 1897:

Silas A. Megquier became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

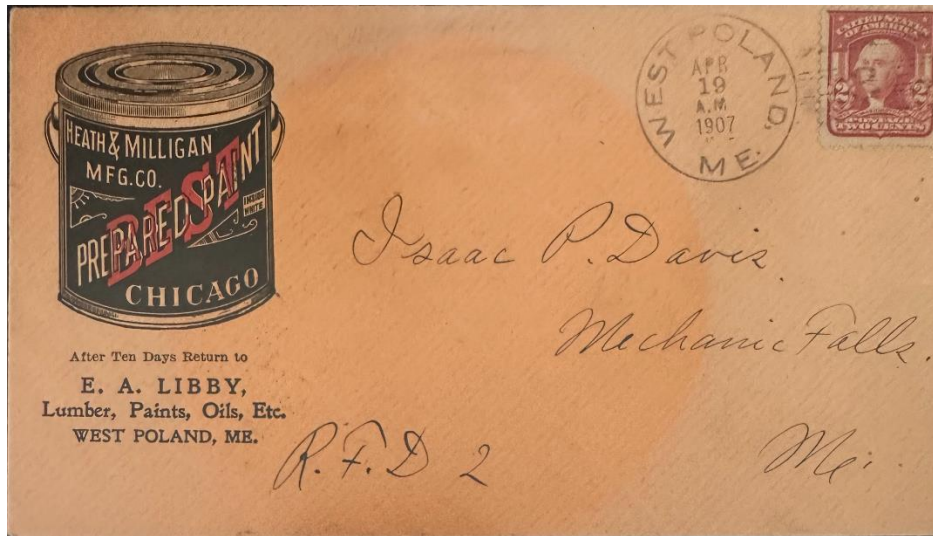
6 January 1898:

Rilla K. Megquier became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

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

2 March 1903:

Clarence E. Storer became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.



19 April 1907:

The circular postmark is 28 mm in diameter with a Doane 2/2 Killer.



23 December 1915:

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

13 October 1936:

Miss Gladys E. Korn became Acting Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

4 January 1937:

Miss Gladys E. Korn became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

1 May 1939:

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

Mrs. Rebecca Tripp became Acting Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

2 December 1939:

Mrs. Rebecca Tripp became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

26 April 1974:

Diane M. Russell became Officer-In-Charge for West Poland Post Office.

25 May 1974:

Roland J. Kearley became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

1 July 1978:

Janice L. Kearley became Officer-In-Charge for West Poland Post Office.

2 December 1978:

Craig M. Carey became Postmaster for West Poland Post Office.

1 August 2011:

John Lyon became Officer-In-Charge for West Poland Post Office.

21 September 2013:

West Poland Post Office converted to a Remotely Managed Post Office under the direction of the Postmaster of the Oxford Post Office.

2023:

West Poland Post Office is still operating with a Zip Code of 04291.

## **Worthley**

8 August 1882:

Worthley Post Office opened.

8 August 1882:

Hamlet L. Bass became Postmaster for Worthley Post Office.

20 September 1882:

Charles S. Strout became Postmaster for Worthley Post Office.

12 November 1884:

Worthley Post Office closed.

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 Poland 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>

Poland, Minot Corners, and Poland Village [map] from the 1873 Atlas and History of Androscoggin County, Maine:  
[https://digitalmaine.com/atlas\\_androscoggin\\_1873/36/](https://digitalmaine.com/atlas_androscoggin_1873/36/)

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>.