

T1 R5 WELS Postal History

Aroostook County, Maine

Last update for this page: 23 June 2024

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

This township lies northeast of Medway, and south of Benedicta and Monarda (Silver Ridge).

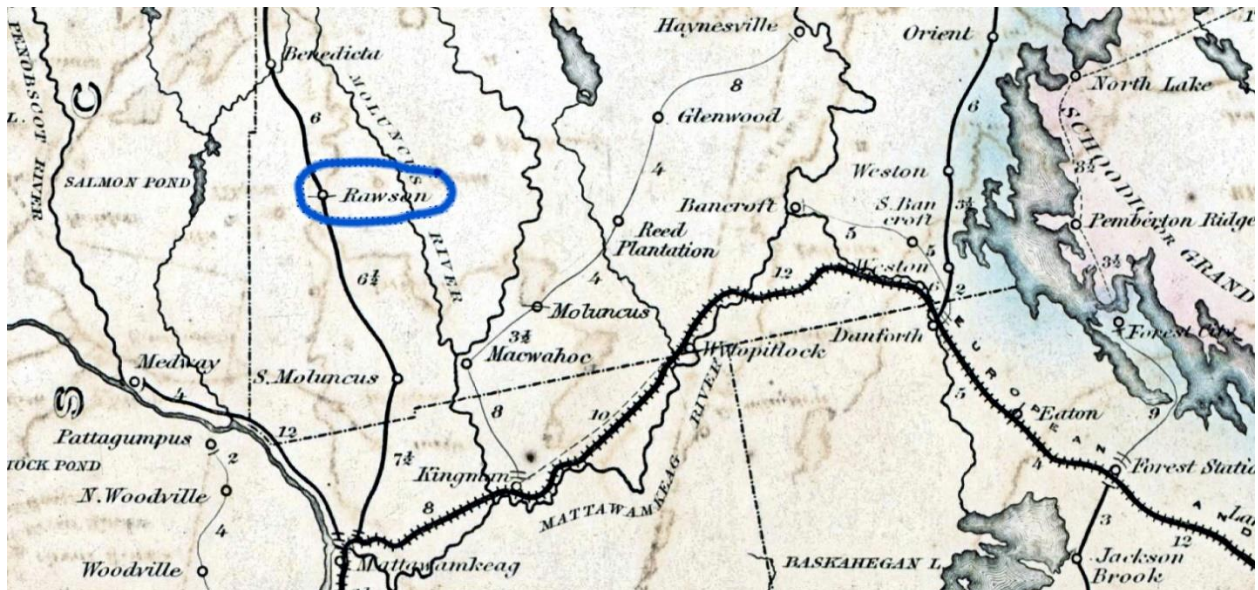
During the history of T1 R5 WELS, there have been two post offices.

Briefly, the history of these two is as follows:

1. [Number One](#) Post Office opened on 7 September 1839 and closed on 11 May 1842.
2. [Rawson](#) Post Office opened on 21 June 1853, closed on 26 July 1872, re-opened on 19 May 1906, and closed on 27 February 1909.

Post Route Map from 1869 shows Rawson, circled in blue. (Source: Post Route Map of the State of Maine, courtesy of the University of North Texas Libraries.

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph298381/?q=postal>.)



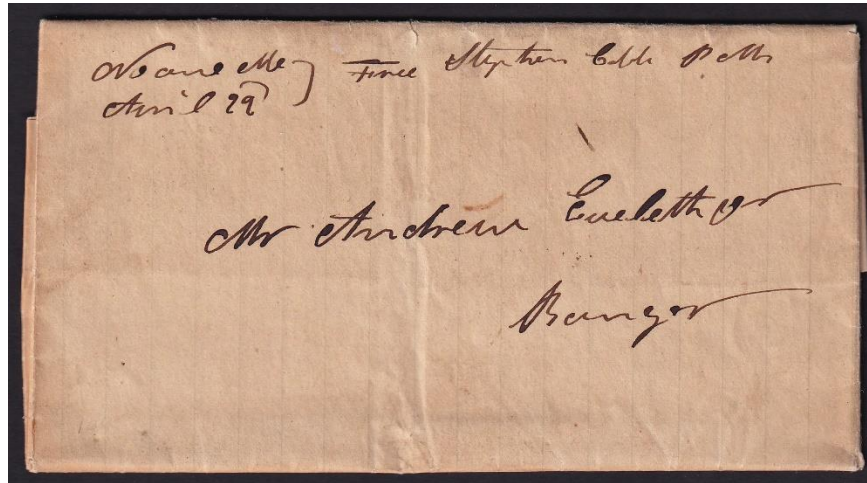
Number One (1) (Note: There were two post offices in Maine named Number One at different times and locations. The (1) is just a notation. It does not appear in the postmarks and is only used by postal historians and collectors to differentiate between the different post offices.)

7 September 1839:

Number One Post Office opened. (also seen as No. One)

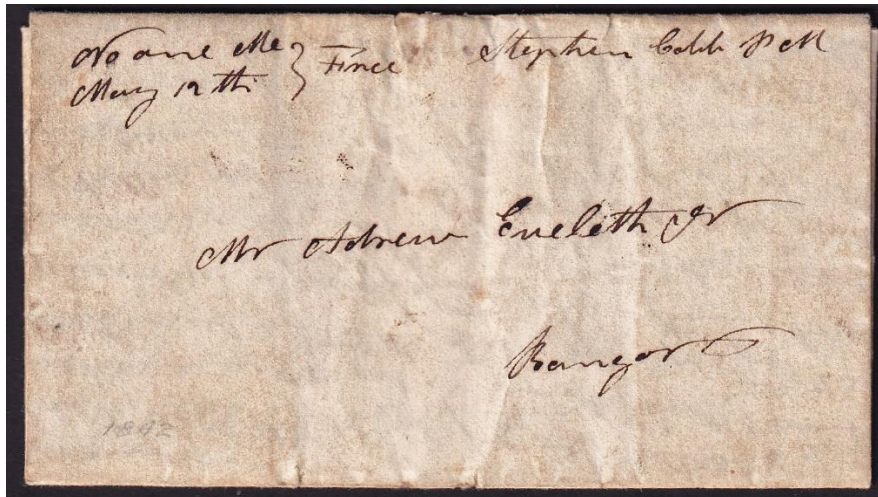
7 September 1839:

Stephen Cobb became the Postmaster of the Number One Post Office.



29 April 1841:

Manuscript postmark with Postmaster signature.



12 May 1842:

Manuscript postmark with Postmaster signature (note: postmarked one day after Post Office closed)

11 May 1842:

Number One Post Office closed.

Rawson

21 June 1853:

Rawson Post Office opened.

21 June 1853:

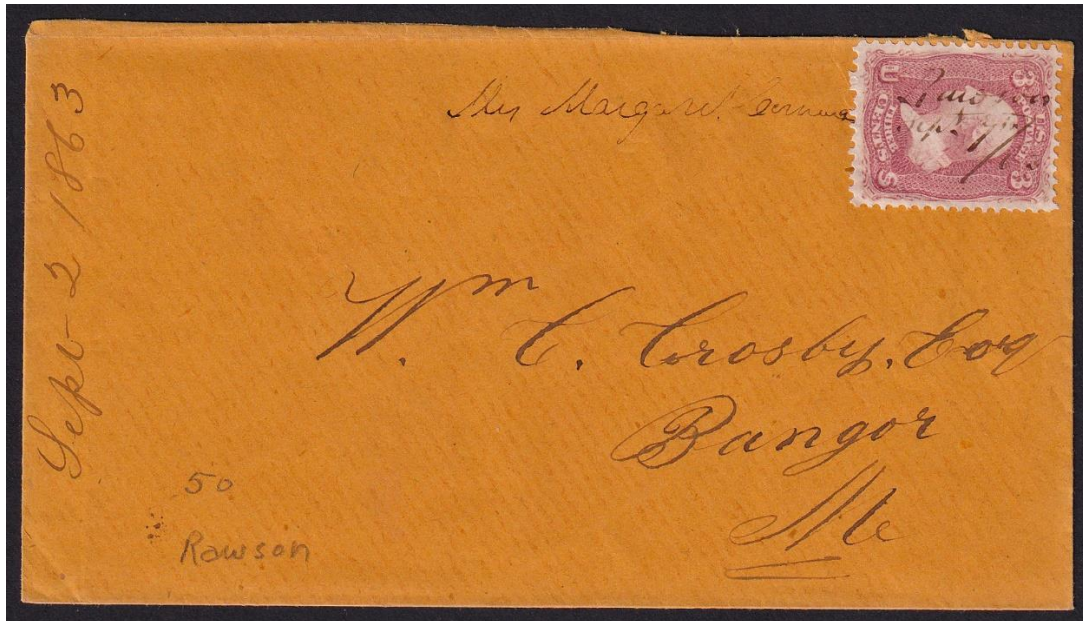
William Willey became the Postmaster of the Rawson Post Office.

5 April 1854:

George McEgan became the Postmaster of the Rawson Post Office.

19 December 1857:

George Jenkins became the Postmaster of the Rawson Post Office.



2 September 1863:
Manuscript postmark

26 July 1872:

Rawson post office closed.

19 May 1906:

Rawson Post Office re-opened

19 May 1906:

James C. Millmore became the Postmaster of the Rawson Post Office.



12 October 1906:
The circular postmark is 31 mm in diameter with a Doane 3/1 killer.

27 February 1909:
Rawson Post Office closed; service from Benedicta.

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 Max Lynds.

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>

USGS Topographic Maps of the area for 1940 reveal no hamlets with place names, and in fact only two small areas of cleared land with a total of six structures of any type in the entire township.

Mattawamkeag sheet:

https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=22b08b7923fa8ec784b99f5e98fc443d

Sherman sheet:

https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=af0b67fb16ba338805b490b14aa7ccec

National Archives Catalog: Postmaster Appointments for Aroostook County, Maine

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

Sanders, Christine, The 4-Bar Postmark of the USPS, PMCC Bulletin Reprinted Article, Original Publication Date: June, July & December 2012.

http://www.postmarks.org/resources/PMCC_FourBarCancelsUSPS.pdf

Maine Doane cancels; from the Doane Cancel website,

http://www.doanecancel.com/maine_doanes.html

<http://www.doanecancel.com/doane.html>

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>.