# Dakota Collector

## A Research Journal of North and South Dakota Postal History
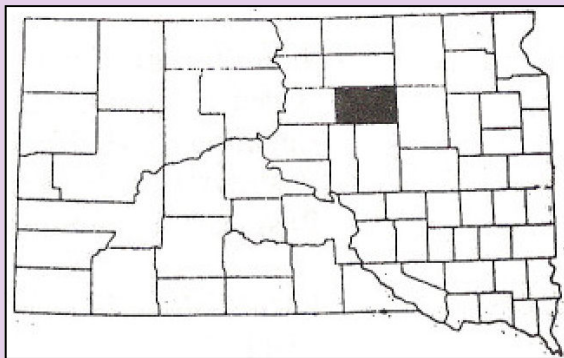
## Table of Contents

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# Editorial Comments

## from the President
Submitted by Ken Stach

In this issue, we continue our series on the postal history of South Dakota's counties, featuring Faulk County this time.  As you will see in reviewing this article, Faulk County had a rich postal history, with many small offices located therein.  Only five post offices remain in operation today.

As usual, we would welcome any articles from our members for future issues.  I didn't hear from anyone after the "Irvine" article in the last issue, so I guess no one wants a transcription of the letter that was once contained in the "Mrs. M. L. Irvine" covers in their collections!  It's not too late.  Drop me an email if you want to see the contents that your Irvine cover once held.

## from the Secretary/Treasurer/Editor
Submitted by Gary Anderson

We are  still going strong with 66 members.  With the next issue you will receive your renewal slip if it is time for you to renew.  Hopefully we will not lose any members this time around..  While many postal history societies are struggling and have almost no membership, we continue to maintain our membership for the most part.  I hope we can keep it interesting enough to keep our membership entertained.

Any and all articles pertaining to any part of North or South Dakota postal history are always welcome.  Write about your favorite cover, post office or almost anything of interest to you in North or South Dakota.
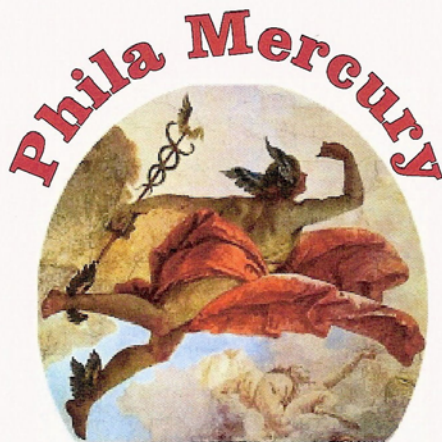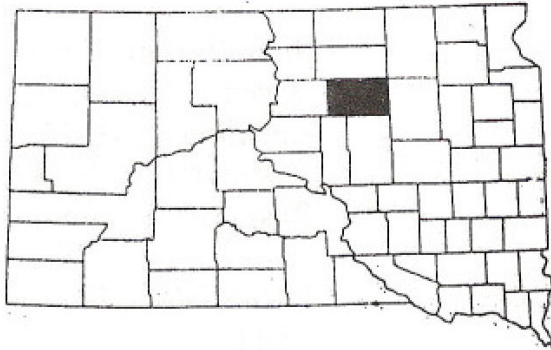
# A Study of Faulk County, South Dakota

*By Ken Stach*



Faulk County is located in north-central South Dakota, to the east of the Missouri River. It is bounded on the west by Potter County, to the north by Edmunds County, to the east by Spink County, and on the south by Hyde and Hand Counties. Its ethnic settlement was mostly by those of Scandinavian descent. [1]

Faulk County, created in 1873 and organized in 1883, was named for Andrew J. Faulk, third governor of Dakota Territory. The son of a soldier of the War of 1812, Faulk was born in Milford, Pennsylvania in 1814 and, as a young man, learned the printing trade. He also studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1866. He came to Dakota in 1861 after being appointed Indian trader at the Yankton Agency (Greenwood post office) by President Lincoln. Later, he returned to Pennsylvania and became superintendent of a coal company. When notified that he had been proposed as a candidate for the governorship of Dakota Territory, he at first declined the honor, not wishing to give up his business prospects for an uncertain political future. He was finally persuaded to accept and thus began a long career of service to Dakota. At various times, he was mayor of Yankton, clerk of the Federal and Territorial Courts, trustee of the Dakota Asylum for the Insane, and for many years president of the Dakota Bar Association. One of his greatest contributions to the Territory and State was the unceasing struggle he carried on for the opening of the Black Hills to settlement, and for their subsequent development. He died in Yankton in 1898. A city and township in Faulk County are also named for him. [2]

A detailed map of Faulk County is provided below, showing the location of the various post offices that once existed within its borders, and s taken from the 1990 book *South Dakota Post Offices*. [1]

The remainder of this article will focus on the post offices that were at one time located within the boundaries of Faulk County.
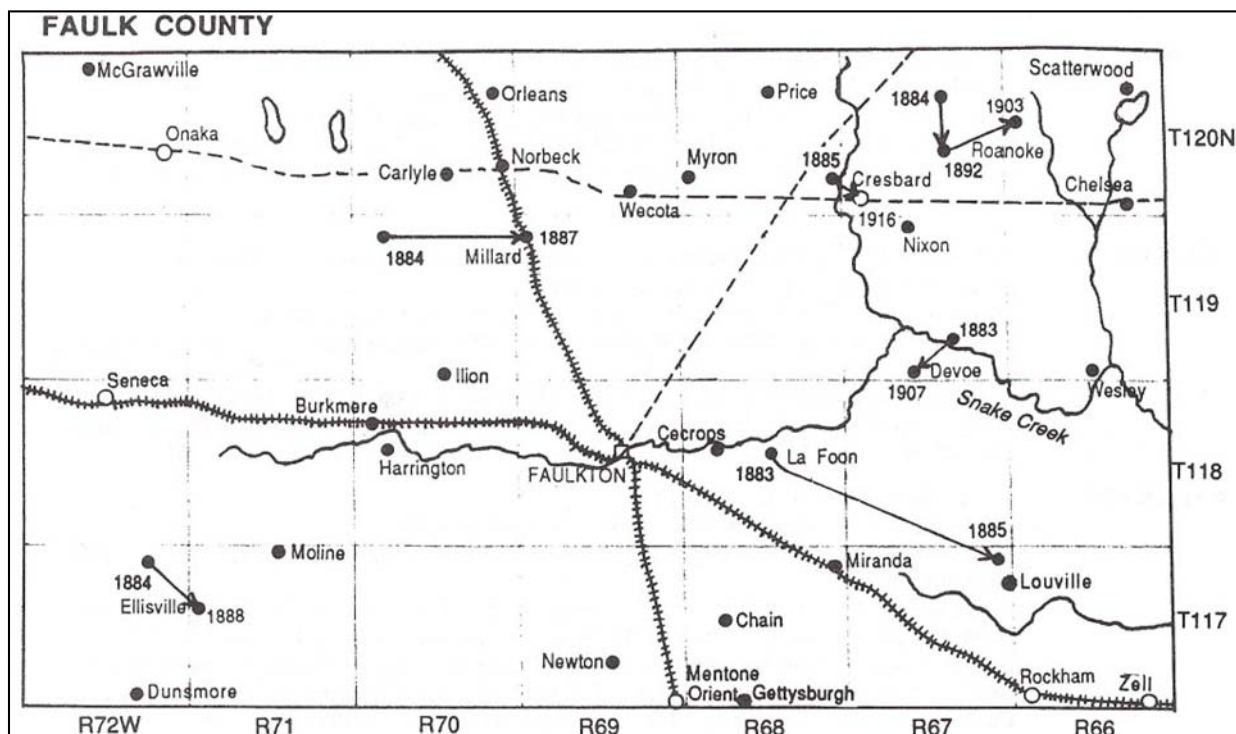
## Burkmere 1889/1951

The post office at Burkmere was originally established as Harrington Jul 3, 1883 and officially changed to the name Burkmere on Feb 18, 1889. The cover shown above is clearly postmarked Aug 31, 1888; thus, the post office must have already changed its name (albeit unofficially) prior to the Feb 18, 1889 date. Burkmere's first postmaster was William J. Jackson. It operated as such until it was discontinued Jul 15, 1896. The office again opened and closed twice further: from Oct 3, 1896 to Jan 31, 1905, and from Aug 31, 1905 to Apr 30, 1951. Mail was forwarded to Faulkton upon the final closure. [1]

Burkmere has a name for which two derivations have been advanced. According to one, it was named for Captain John D. Burke and his wife, whose maiden name was Molly Mere. They were the first settlers where the town was founded in 1887 and donated a quarter section of land to the North Western railroad for the town site. Another, and perhaps more reliable, source indicates that it was named for John M. Burke, a director of the North Western Railroad Company and that the last part of the name was added for euphony only. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| William L. Jackson | 1887 | $78.47 |
| William L. Jackson | 1889 | $79.15 |
| Samuel D. Peck | 1891 | $34.69 |
| Samuel D. Peck | 1893 | $32.13 |
| William K. Jacquith | 1895 | $29.53 |
| Amos Conley | 1897 | $25.33 |
| Charles H. Peck | 1899 | $27.31 |
| Charles H. Peck | 1901 | $23.91 |
| Charles H. Peck | 1903 | $44.30 |
| John G. Meyers | 1905 | no returns |
| Julia A. Smith | 1907 | $61.00 |
| Glen L. Bowman | 1909 | $119.00 |
| Glen L. Bowman | 1911 | $220.00 |

West Side Main Street, Carlyle, S. D.

## Carlyle 1907-1921

Carlyle's post office was in operation from Nov 31, 1907 to Feb 21, 1921. Its first postmaster was Walter H. Henze. Mail was forwarded to Norbeck upon closure of Carlyle. [1]

Doane Robsinon, in his 1925 "Encyclopedia of South Dakota" states that "Carlyle is a village in northern Faulk County. The banking point is Onaka, 10 miles west." However, no source could be located that shed any light on the source of the name for this post office. [3]

Even, the 1909 book *History of Faulk County, South Dakota* (by Captain C. H. Ellis) provided no insight, only noting that:

"Carlyle is located on the Minneapolis & St. Louis railway in the town[ship] of Enterprise, eight miles west of Wecota. On April 23d, 1907, the town was started by Mr. Peavey and Mr. Ward. Since then Mr. Peavey retired, selling his interest to T. R. Kenderdine; Messrs Ward and Kenderdine now own the townsite and while they are in the banking business, do not neglect their townsite and other interests. With the telephone and their general land business and the newspaper, (The *Carlyle Gazette*) they find themselves among the busiest men in Faulk County." [4]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Walter H. Henze | 1909 | $331.00 |
| Clara Cottrell | 1911 | $170.00 |

## Cecrops 1882-1882 - NKC

Cecrops was established Oct 26, 1882 with Nora Reppy as postmaster. The name of the office was changed to La Foon on Dec 27, 1882 and operated as such Jan 4, 1883. La Foon re-opened Apr 2, 1883 and operated until Feb 14, 1891 with mail to Faulkton. The initially proposed name for the Cecrops post office was "Mentor" but the name was not formally adopted. [1]

No reference could be located to indicate why the office received this name.

## Chain 1885-1888

The post office at Chain was only open for a little more than three years, from Feb 9, 1885 to Apr 10, 1888. Its first and only postmaster was Samuel Loy. Mail went to nearby Orient upon closure.

As for many other Faulk County post offices, no specific source could be located to indicate why the post office was named "Chain". However, a couple of references were located regarding the name Chain in the "History of Faulk County, South Dakota" (1909, Captain C. H. Ellis) in which he wrote:

"On Sept. 18, 1884, the first convention for the election of county officers was held at LaFoon composed of the following citizens:"…[Precinct] "No. 11: H. Chain, H. Pool, Orin Strevel and H. Metz." Later, on the same page, it goes on to say, "John L. Chain was nominated for county commissioner for the second commissioner district." [4] It is quite likely that the Chain post office was named for one of these individuals.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Samuel Loy | 1885 | $2.86 |
| Samuel Loy | 1887 | $13.65 |

## Chelsea 1906-1974

The Chelsea post office was in operation from Dec 22, 1906 to Apr 27, 1974. It became a Community Post Office (CPO) of Northville (Spink County) on Apr 28, 1974 and remained open as such until Dec 21, 1982. The first postmaster at Chelsea was Adelaide M. Evans. [1]

Chelsea is said to have been named by the town site company in 1907 for a borough of London, England. The fact that W. F. Vilas, for whom the town of Vilas was named, was born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, suggests that it may have been named for the Massachusetts city. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Adelaide M. Evans | 1907 | $120.00 |
| Howard Africa | 1909 | $378.00 |
| Howard Africa | 1911 | $880.00 |

## Cresbard 1883-Open

Cresbard post office opened Aug 28, 1883 and continues to operate. Its first postmaster was George Frederick Baird. [1]

The town of Cresbard derived its name from a combination of the names of two early settlers, John Cressey and Fred Baird. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Margery E. Wentworth | 1885 | $43.15 |
| Margery E. Wentworth | 1887 | $31.21 |
| Margery E. Wentworth | 1889 | $53.54 |
| Margery E. Wentworth | 1891 | $65.05 |
| Frank Ward | 1893 | $51.24 |
| Frank Ward | 1895 | $37.86 |
| Frank Ward | 1897 | $42.85 |
| Mack Baker | 1899 | $43.60 |
| Mack Baker | 1901 | $42.80 |
| Sarah M. Baker | 1903 | $50.46 |
| James R. Whitton | 1905 | $45.19 |
| Frank B. Bryant | 1907 | $230.00 |
| Frank B. Bryant | 1909 | $817.00 |
| Frank B. Bryant | 1911 | $850.00 |
| William A. Hodson | 1920 | $1600.00 |
| William A. Hodson | 1930 | $1800.00 |
| Doris L. Stewart | 1941 | $1600.00 |

## DeVoe 1883/1908

The De Voe post office began operating Mar 9, 1883 with William J. Abbott as its first postmaster. The spelling of its name was condensed to one word "DeVoe" Dec 1, 1895 until it was discontinued Feb 28, 1901. The office reopened as "DeVoe" from Mar 2, 1901 until Nov 21, 1908. [1]

De Voe, nine miles southeast of Cresbard, was named for John H. De Voe, who, according to one version was an early settler in the community. Another source states that he was a shoe merchant at Huron and the community was named for him by friends who helped locate the town. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Charles I. Crowe | 1883 | $36.74 |
| Charles I. Crowe | 1885 | $361.11 |
| Robert G. Young | 1887 | $123.55 |
| Nelson E. Howes | 1889 | $92.41 |
| Hiram De Wolf | 1891 | $97.32 |
| Chauncey J. Cooper | 1893 | $83.70 |
| Chauncey J. Cooper | 1895 | $60.56 |
| Chauncey J. Cooper | 1897 | $77.71 |
| Chauncey J. Cooper | 1899 | $104.56 |
| Walter P. Cilley | 1901 | $113.00 |
| George P. Brown | 1903 | $112.05 |
| George P. Brown | 1905 | $105.87 |
| Kate B. Clifford | 1907 | $120.00 |
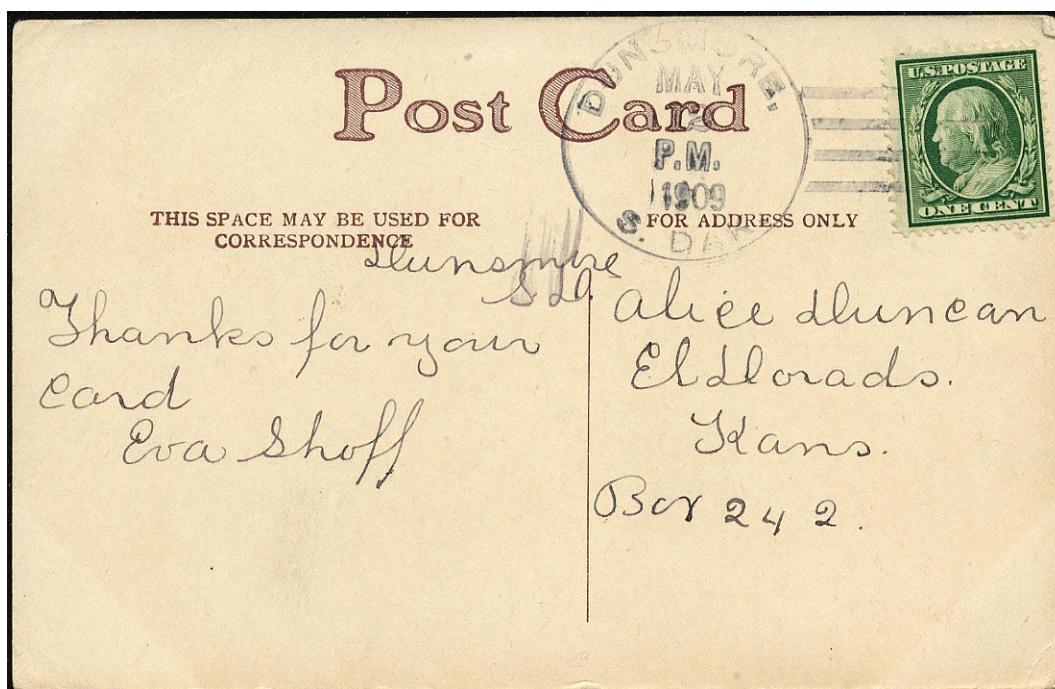
## Dunsmore 1891-1916

Dunsmore post office was in operation from Jul 15, 1891 to Jul 15, 1916. Its first postmaster was Richard Frayn, who served in that capacity for the office's first 20 years of operation. Mail was processed at Goudyville upon closure. [1]

Doane Robinson's "Encyclopedia of South Dakota" (published in 1925) states that "Dunsmore is a discontinued post office in southern Faulk County. Banking and shipping point is Seneca, 12 miles north." [3]

James M. Dunsmore is noted as being a "dealer in ice" in Faulkton in 1909. In addition, Ada Dunsmore (likely his wife) is shown as treasurer of the "Lily Rebecca Lodge No. 116" in Faulkton at the same time. [4] It is very likely that the Dunsmore post office was named for these folks.



James M. Dunsmore

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Richard Frayn | 1893 | $36.20 |
| Richard Frayn | 1895 | $61.60 |
| Richard Frayn | 1897 | $41.76 |
| Richard Frayn | 1899 | $65.47 |
| Richard Frayn | 1901 | $52.64 |
| Richard Frayn | 1903 | $66.52 |
| Richard Frayn | 1905 | $81.23 |
| Richard Frayn | 1907 | $48.00 |
| Richard Frayn | 1909 | $77.00 |
| Gustaf T. Swan | 1911 | $80.00 |

## Ellisville 1884/1916

The Ellisville post office was in operation from Aug 11, 1884 to Dec 14, 1887. Its first postmaster during this period of operation was Caleb H. Ellis. The office reopened from Mar 21, 1888 to Nov 15, 1916 with mail to Seneca upon closure. [1]

Ellisville was obviously named for its first postmaster, Caleb H. Ellis.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Caleb H. Ellis | 1885 | $119.57 |
| Edward Eusch | 1887 | $156.32 |
| Adam Sangster | 1889 | $33.38 |
| Adam Sangster | 1891 | $28.27 |
| Adam Sangster | 1893 | $31.73 |
| Adam Sangster | 1895 | $33.71 |
| Adam Sangster | 1897 | $20.26 |
| Adam Sangster | 1899 | $27.42 |
| Adam Sangster | 1901 | $21.56 |
| Adam Sangster | 1903 | $23.06 |
| Adam Sangster | 1905 | $28.59 |
| Adam Sangster | 1907 | $19.00 |
| Adam Sangster | 1909 | $24.00 |
| Adam Sangster | 1911 | $20.00 |

## Faulkton 1881-Open

The Faulkton post office opened Oct 17, 1882 with Preston B. Durley as postmaster. It continues to operate and is the county seat of Faulk County. [1]

Faulkton was named in honor of Andrew Faulk, third governor of Dakota Territory. It was platted in 1886 by the Western Town Lot Company, per Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve in her book "South Dakota Geographic Names." [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Preston B. Durley | 1883 | $123.64 |
| Preston B. Durley | 1885 | $417.16 |
| Frank P. Smith | 1887 | $897.47 |
| Frank P. Smith | 1889 | $1088.32 |
| William H,. Race | 1891 | $912.72 |
| William H. Race | 1893 | $957.67 |
| Sheldon J. Steele | 1895 | $866.32 |
| Fremont Young | 1897 | $744.78 |
| Fremont Young | 1899 | $975.63 |
| Fremont Young | 1901 | $1100.00 |
| Eva M. Young | 1903 | $1400.00 |
| Eva M. Young | 1905 | $1300.00 |
| Eva M. Young | 1907 | $1500.00 |
| James P. Turner | 1909 | $1500.00 |
| James P. Turner | 1911 | $1600.00 |
| A. D. Griffee | 1920 | $2000.00 |
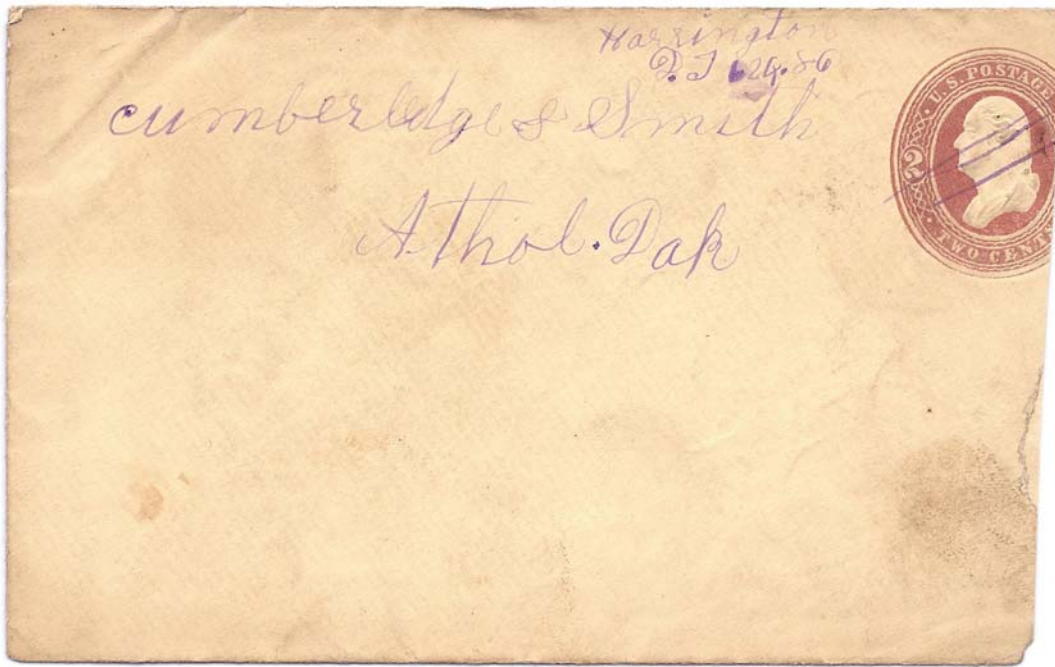
## Gettysburgh 1883-1883 - NKC

The book "South Dakota Post Offices" shows an office by this name as having been established in Faulk County Jun 18, 1883 with Menzo M. Benster as postmaster.  The office, supposedly located on Section 33, T117N, R70W,  shows to have been discontinued on the same day!  An office of the same name (and with the same postmaster) is shown to have been established in adjacent Potter County some two months later, on Aug 14, 1883 (in Sec 23, T118N, R76W).  Even though I am one of the co-authors of the referenced 1990 book, I strongly suspect the Faulk County listing is an error.  It is nonetheless listed here as it is referenced in the original book. [1]

Its is assumed that this Gettysburgh derives its name from the same source as that of the Potter County post office, which, according to Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve in her book "South Dakota Georgraphic Names," states it was named for the famous battle of Gettysburg from the Civil War. [2]

## Harrington 1883-1889

Harrington post office was established Jul 3, 1883 with Angeline Harrington as postmaster.  The name of the office was changed to Burkmere on Feb 18, 1889 and operated as such until closure on Jul 15, 1896.  It was reopened as Burkmere from Oct 3, 1896 until Jan 31, 1905...and again from Aug 31, 1905 to Apr 30, 1951 (with mail to Faulkton upon closure). [1]

The Harrington post office was obviously named for its first postmaster, Angeline Harrington.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Angeline Harrington | 1885 | $28.48 |

## Ilion 1886-1890 - NKC

The Ilion post office operated for nearly five years, from Jan 25, 1886 to Oct 15, 1890.  Its first and only postmaster was George B. Dyer.  Mail went to Burkmere upon closure. [1]

No reference could be located to indicate why the office was named "Ilion".

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| George B. Dyer | 1887 | $19.83 |
| George B. Dyer | 1889 | $32.86 |

## La Foon 1882/1891

This post office was first established as Cecrops on Oct 26, 1882. The name of the office was changed to La Foon on Dec 27, 1882 with Nora Reppy as postmaster. La Foon was discontinued Jan 4, 1883, only to be opened (and closed) again from Apr 2, 1883 to Feb 14, 1891. Mail was processed at Faulkton upon closure. [1]

LaFoon was the first county seat of Faulk County; however, Faulkton became the county seat when the railroads converged on that location. [4] The town and post office were named for Alexander LaFoon, one of three government surveyors who came into the area in April, 1882. [4]

Postmaster Compensation:
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Lee M. Sprowls | 1883 | $56.00 |
| Alexander H. Sprowls | 1885 | $379.69 |
| Alexander H. Sprowls | 1887 | $239.56 |
| Alexander H. Sprowls | 1889 | $18.24 |

## Louville 1885-1887 - NKC

The Louville post office operated for only about one and one-half years, from Nov 25, 1885 to Jul 21, 1887. James M. Miles was the first and only postmaster of Louville. Mail went to Miranda upon closure. [1]

Even the book "History of Faulk County, South Dakota" (1909, by Captain C. H. Ellis) had nothing regarding this office. [4]

Postmaster Compensation:
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| James M. Miles | 1887 | $7.76 |

## McGrawville 1887-1892 - NKC

The McGrawville post office was established Jul 12, 1887 in Edmunds County (or so the postmaster thought). The actual legal location of the office, however, places it in Faulk County. McGrawville was discontinued Jun 30, 1892 with mail to Seneca. Its first and only postmaster was George R. McGraw, for whom the office was named. [1]

Postmaster Compensation:
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| George R. McGraw | 1889 | $25.12 |

## Mentone 1887-1887 - NKC

The post office was established under the name Orient on Feb 23, 1886 in Hand County. The office moved across the county line later in 1886 and its name was changed to Mentone on Mar 22, 1887. It operated as such for only about three months with John C. Conway as postmaster, with the name being changed back to Orient Jun 21, 1887. Orient continues to have a post office to this day. [1]

It is not clear why the office was named Mentone, as nothing has been located in any references. Even the book "History of Faulk County, South Dakota" (1909, Captain C. H. Ellis) had nothing on Mentone. [4]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John C. Conway | 1887 | $84.05 |

## Millard 1884-1931

The Millard post office operated from Dec 23, 1884 to Mar 31, 1931 with mail to Norbeck upon closure. Its first postmaster was Morgan G. Millard, for whom the office was named. [1]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Morgan G. Millard | 1885 | $24.25 |
| William H. Elliott | 1887 | $125.52 |
| Lean Stewart | 1889 | $237.96 |
| Edward B. Littlefield | 1891 | $174.66 |
| Edward B. Littlefield | 1893 | $149.34 |
| Edward B. Littlefield | 1895 | $80.86 |
| Edward B. Littlefield | 1897 | $87.67 |
| Edward B. Littlefield | 1899 | $114.20 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1901 | $118.11 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1903 | $99.22 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1905 | $99.51 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1907 | $99.00 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1909 | $124.00 |
| Nicholas Wik | 1911 | $130.00 |

## Miranda 1887/1985

The Miranda post office was open the first time from Mar 25, 1887 to Nov 14, 1896. Its first postmaster during this period was George F. Linesly. The office was open a second time from Sep 18, 1897 to Dec 21, 1985 with mail to Faulkton upon closure. At that time, it was designated a "Place" for address purposes. [1]

Miranda was platted by the Western Town Lot Company in 1886 and was named for the mother of the president of the North Western railroad. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| George F. Linesly | 1887 | $13.97 |
| Harry Y. Scarborough | 1889 | $100.40 |
| William Byrne | 1891 | $107.39 |
| William Byrne | 1893 | $71.00 |
| William Byrne | 1895 | $91.10 |
| Joseph J. Byrne | 1899 | $109.88 |
| Joseph L. Byrne | 1901 | $146.90 |
| Henry W. Metz | 1903 | $139.22 |
| Harriett Kimball | 1905 | $171.05 |
| Adam G. Finders | 1907 | $139.00 |
| Orson C. Riedlinger | 1909 | $290.00 |
| August C. Paul | 1911 | $350.00 |

## Moline 1886-1887 - NKC

Moline post office was open for less than two years in Faulk County, operating from Feb 13, 1886 to Dec 31, 1887. Its first and only postmaster was

Sarah Hillman. Mail went to Burkmere upon closure. [1]

Nothing could be found regarding why the office was called Moline, although one could speculate that it was named for the town of the same name in Illinois, as many early settlers to Dakota came from that part of the country.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sarah Hillman | 1887 | $9.04 |

## Myron 1884-1888

The Myron post office operated for a little under four years, being open from May 28, 1884 to Jan 20, 1888. Myron's first and only postmaster was Gertrude M. Walker. Mail went to Millard when this office closed. [1]

One cover with an Aug 5, 1886 ("8-5-'86") manuscript postmark from Myron is known. No suitable illustration is available for use herein.

There is also a Myron township in Faulk County, and there was a Myron Congregational Church. However, nothing could be located to say why the said locations were named Myron. [4]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gertrude M. Walker | 1885 | $29.95 |
| Gertrude M. Walker | 1887 | $51.40 |

## Newton 1883-1887 - NKC

The Newton post office operated from Oct 17, 1883 to Oct 15, 1887 with George Landon as its first and only postmaster.  Mail was processed at Orient upon closure.  An attempt to open the office a second time was made, with an authorization Mar 17, 1888 with James Dyer as postmaster.  However, the official records of Dec 6, 1893 indicate that the office "never operated" the second time. [1]

R. G. Newton is listed as one of the officers of the Faulkton Congregational Church in 1909.  He was listed as clerk of the same church in 1884, so that would place him in Faulk County at the time this post office was established. [4] Thus, it is quite possible that the post office was named for him.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| George Landon | 1885 | $49.56 |

## Nixon 1883-1883 - NKC

Nixon post office operated for only about five months in 1883, being open from Mar 9, 1883 to Aug 3, 1883.  Its only postmaster was Enoch B. Davisson.  Mail was processed at Roanoke upon closure of the Nixon post office. [1]

The post office as named for the Nixon River, the original name for Snake Creek, which flows through Faulkton.  Snake Creek rises in western Faulk and Edmunds Counties, in separate branches, and flows through Brown and McPherson Counties to join the James River in Spink County.  This creek, as it flowed through the town of Faulkton, was formerly known as "Nixon River", but the reason for this is not known. [2]

## Norbeck 1920-1971

The Norbeck post office was open from Dec 16, 1920 to Aug 31, 1971.  Its first postmaster was Elvin Victor Brown.  Mail went to Wecota upon closure of the Norbeck office. [1]

Norbeck was named for Peter Norbeck (1870 to 1936), former governor of the State and United States Senator for many years. [2]
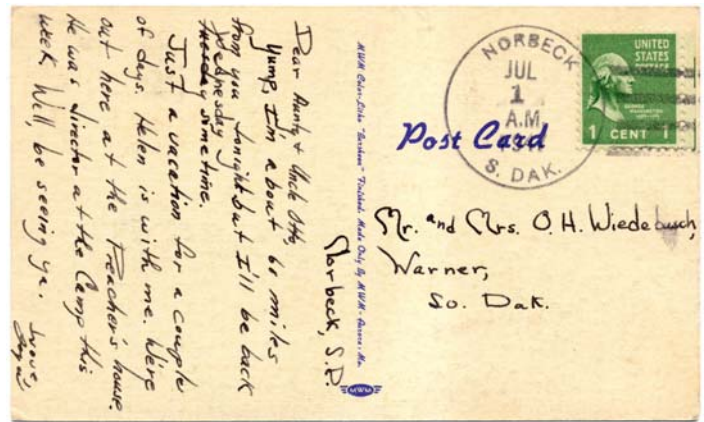




## Onaka 1907-Open

Onaka post office opened Apr 26, 1907 with May Crom as its first postmaster.  The office continues to operate. [1]

Onaka derives its name from a Sioux Indian word which means "places," or "inserts." [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| May Crom | 1909 | $397.00 |
| May Crom | 1911 | $450.00 |
| Elmer N. Rasmussen | 1930 | $1100.00 |

## Orient 1886/Open

Orient post office was established Feb 23, 1886 in Hand County with Corwin J. Sawyer as its first postmaster  It was located on Sec 5, T116N, R68W.  The proposed name of the office was "Reevalley."  The office was moved into Faulk County later in 1886 to Sec 36, T117N, R69W.  Its name was changed to Mentone for about three months, from Mar 22, 1887 to Jun 21, 1887, after which it was changed back to Orient.  The Orient post office continues to operate. [1]

Orient was founded in 1887 when the Milwaukee railroad purchased a town site from J. C. Campbell and named the town Campbell in his honor. Campbell refused to approve the name, however, thinking it would give him too much publicity. The name "Orient" was selected by Donald McKay and L. L. Jones from a list of five names submitted by the Milwaukee Railroad Company. [2]
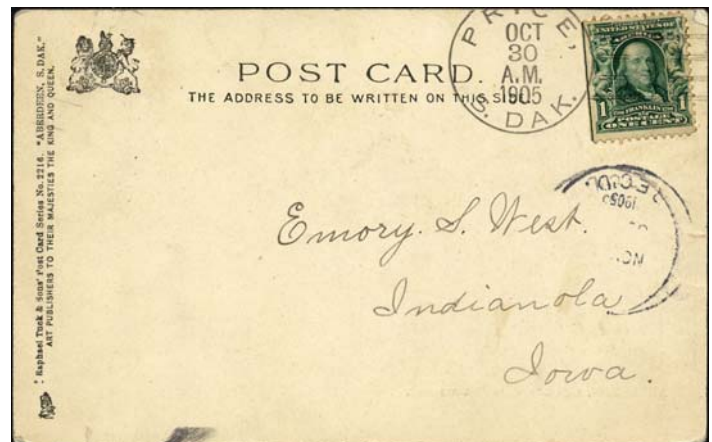
Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Andrew J. Porter | 1889 | $225.92 |
| Andrew J. Porter | 1891 | $279.51 |
| John J. Conway | 1893 | $267.12 |
| John J. Conway | 1895 | $257.04 |
| Edwin Gooder | 1897 | $229.09 |
| Edwin Gooder | 1899 | $268.57 |
| Leno Salomo | 1901 | $298.87 |
| Lena Salomo | 1903 | $387.27 |
| Lena Salomo | 1905 | $451.63 |
| Lena Salomo | 1907 | $581.00 |
| Lena Salomo | 1909 | $694.00 |
| Lena Salomo | 1911 | $800.00 |
| Lena Salomo | 1920 | $1600.00 |
| Patrick J. Dunn | 1930 | $1700.00 |
| Mrs. Joseph C. Eggerling | 1941 | $1500.00 |



## Orleans 1890-1920

The post office at Orleans was open from Apr 14, 1890 to Jan 31, 1920 with Erick Olson as its first

postmaster. Mail went to the newly opened post office at Norbeck upon closure of Orleans. [1]

No reference could be located as to why the office was so named.

Postmaster Compensation:

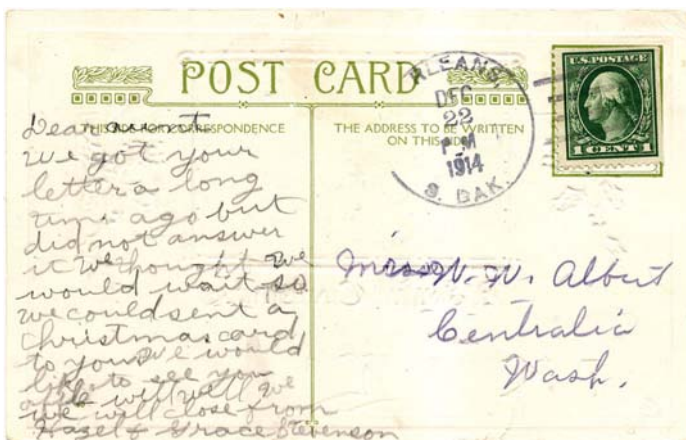| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Erick Olson | 1891 | $27.05 |
| Erick Olson | 1893 | $29.21 |
| Erick Olson | 1895 | $24.89 |
| Erick Olson | 1897 | $39.78 |
| Erick Olson | 1899 | $44.64 |
| Erick Olson | 1901 | $38.22 |
| Erick Olson | 1903 | $31.61 |
| Erick Olson | 1905 | $25.82 |
| Erick Olson | 1907 | $40.00 |
| Edward N. Olson | 1909 | $51.00 |
| Edward N. Olson | 1911 | $70.00 |



## Price 1905-1908

The Price post office operated for less than three years, being open from Oct 14, 1905 to May 31, 1908. Its first and only postmaster was Thomas B. Scott. Mail went to Cresbard upon closure. [1]

An 1884 issue of the DeVoe (Faulk County) newspaper listed a Mr. J. J. Price as one of the pioneers in the area. Mr. Price went on to become a county commissioner for the first district in 1896 and Justice of the Peace for Emerson Township in 1908. [4] Thus, he was an early citizen of Faulk County and remained prominent in its early political history. It is possible that this short-lived post office was named for him.
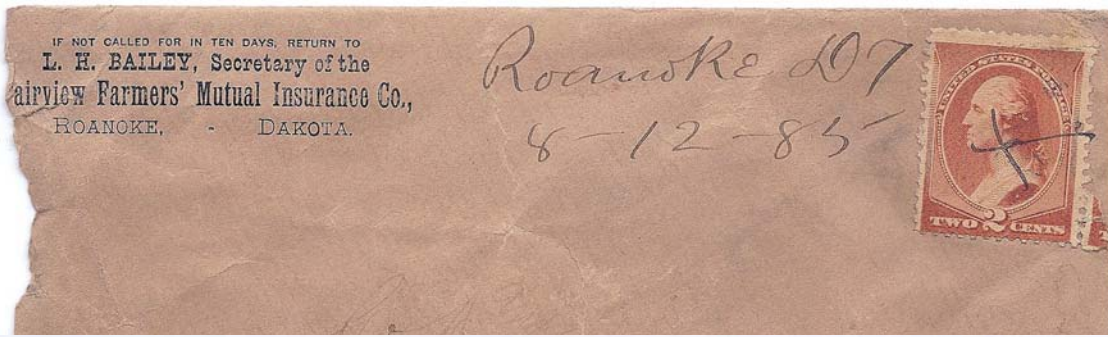
Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Thomas B. Scott | 1905 | $9.21 |
| Thomas B. Scott | 1907 | $29.00 |

## Roanoke 1883-1907

Roanoke post office operated from Mar 9, 1883 to Nov 15, 1907. Its first postmaster was Adelbert E. Lapham. Mail was processed at Cresbard after the Roanoke office closed. [1]

No reference could be found as to why the office was so named.

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Charles B. Chambers | 1885 | $53.17 |
| Charles B. Chambers | 1887 | $114.82 |
| Charles B. Chambers | 1889 | $116.81 |
| Zimri S. Hain | 1891 | $94.95 |
| Zimri S. Hain | 1893 | $60.76 |
| Edwin McComb | 1895 | $55.88 |
| Edwin C. Clifford | 1897 | $28.17 |
| Charles H. McComb | 1899 | $19.63 |
| Henry P. Bechtel | 1901 | $20.95 |
| Thadeus C. Schoonover | 1903 | $21.43 |
| Thadeus C. Schoonover | 1905 | $21.86 |
| Thadeus C. Schoonover | 1907 | $25.00 |

## Rockham 1887-Open

The post office at Rockham opened Jun 21, 1887 with Charles E. Mower as its first postmaster. The office continues to operate to this day. [1]

Rockham was platted in 1886 and is said to have been named for Rockhampton, Australia. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Elias K. Abbott | 1889 | $150.43 |
| Elias K. Abbott | 1891 | $132.22 |
| Henry F. Schoenig | 1893 | $126.29 |
| Bernhard C. Hagmann | 1895 | $124.35 |
| Bernhard C. Hagmann | 1897 | $157.01 |
| Bernhard C. Hagman | 1899 | $162.00 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1901 | $124.36 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1903 | $257.12 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1905 | $311.00 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1907 | $484.00 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1909 | $787.00 |
| Charles A. Buss | 1911 | $860.00 |
| Curtis J. Padmore | 1920 | $1500.00 |
| Harry M. Bardon | 1930 | $1700.00 |
| Charles R. Dean | 1941 | $1100.00 |

## Scatterwood 1883-1900

Scatterwood post office was open from Apr 16, 1883 to Jul 14, 1900. Its first postmaster was John H. Smith. Mail went to Mansfield upon closure. [1]

Scatterwood, six miles north of Chelsea, was named for the lake on which it is situated. The lake was named in 1839 by Fremont and Nicollet, who called it the "Lake of the Scattered Small Wood," evidently because of the scattered trees along the shores. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John H. Smith | 1885 | $34.96 |
| John H. Smith | 1887 | $42.13 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1889 | $63.98 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1891 | $70.00 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1893 | $32.33 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1895 | $29.05 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1897 | $20.05 |
| Byron N. Smith | 1899 | $25.19 |

## Seneca 1886-Open

The post office at Seneca was established Jan 18, 1886 with Abraham D. Griffee as postmaster. The office is open to this day. [1]

Seneca was named for Seneca Falls, New York. [3]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Abraham D. Griffee | 1887 | $103.61 |
| Fred Reynolds | 1889 | $335.15 |
| Fred Reynolds | 1891 | $215.57 |
| Fred Reynolds | 1893 | $203.05 |
| Lella Hamill | 1895 | $157.19 |
| Ellerson D. Smith | 1897 | $181.34 |
| Ellerson D. Smith | 1899 | $202.82 |
| Ellerson D. Smith | 1901 | $248.53 |
| William Kellett | 1903 | $290.84 |
| William Kellett | 1905 | $357.13 |
| William Kellett | 1907 | $614.00 |
| William Kellett | 1909 | $699.00 |
| Lawrence E. Kellett | 1911 | $830.00 |
| Mary V. Breene | 1930 | $2500.00 |
| Mary V. Breene | 1941 | $1600.00 |

**RECOVER BODY OF
MAILMAN LOST
IN SNOWSTORM**

Wecota, S. D., Feb. 11.—(AP)
—The body of Roy Kimball, 51,
Wecota rural mail carrier, missing
since Thursday night's snowstorm,
was found late Saturday a mile
and a half north of Wecota.

The body was found by Victor
Holsing, Wecota farmer, near a
line fence leading into the Gott-
lieb Kleffman farm, within 50 rods
of the house.

Searchers who spent most of
the day working the territory
south of town where his mail
truck had stalled said Kimball
had walked more than five miles
before succumbing to the cold.

Discovery of the body climaxed
two days' search by more than
100 men from Wecota, Faulkton
and Cresbard following his dis-
appearance.

*Clarence B. Roethler
Postmaster
Wecota
S. Dak.*

Fred A. Lund,
2109 Wilkes Av.
Davenport, Iowa

# Wecota 1907-1976

The Wecota post office was in operation from May 10, 1907 to Feb 28, 1976. Its first postmaster was James McIntyre. The 1977 "Postal Guide" shows it as a CPO; however, at the time "South Dakota Post Offices" was published (in 1990) it was shown only as a "place" for address purposes. [1]

The Feb 12, 1976 "US Postal Bulletin" shows that the office would become a CPO of Faulkton on Feb 29, 1976, which was confirmed in a March issue of the same publication. However, no date for the discontinuance of the CPO could be located.

Wecota derives its name from a Sioux Indian word meaning "many" or "crowd." [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| James McIntyre | 1909 | $244.00 |
| James McIntyre | 1911 | $280.00 |

# Wesley 1883-1907

Wesley post office was in operation from Jan 2, 1883 to Apr 30, 1907. Its first postmaster was

Samuel P. Clark. The proposed name for the office was "Elmer". Mail went to DeVoe when Wesley closed. [1]

The book "History of Faulk County, South Dakota" notes that, The Honorable S. Wesley Clark moved to Dakota Territory in July, 1882 from Plattville, Wisconsin and that he was one of the most active and influential of the Faulk County pioneers. It goes on to state, "A post office was promptly established and he became the first postmaster. A legal township organization was effected. Both the postoffice and township were named after the subject of this sketch, (Wesley)." [4] Interestingly, Samuel P. Clark is shown as its first postmaster. [1]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Samuel P. Clark | 1883 | $7.26 |
| Samuel P. Clark | 1885 | $39.31 |
| Samuel P. Clark | 1887 | $39.35 |
| Samuel P. Clark | 1889 | $50.23 |
| Samuel P. Clark | 1891 | $35.40 |
| Samuel P. Clark | 1893 | $41.21 |
| Henry Joynt | 1895 | $45.87 |
| Henry Joynt | 1897 | $53.82 |
| Henry Joynt | 1899 | $52.54 |
| Henry Joynt | 1901 | $67.86 |
| Henry Joynt | 1903 | $60.71 |
| Henry Joynt | 1905 | $38.02 |
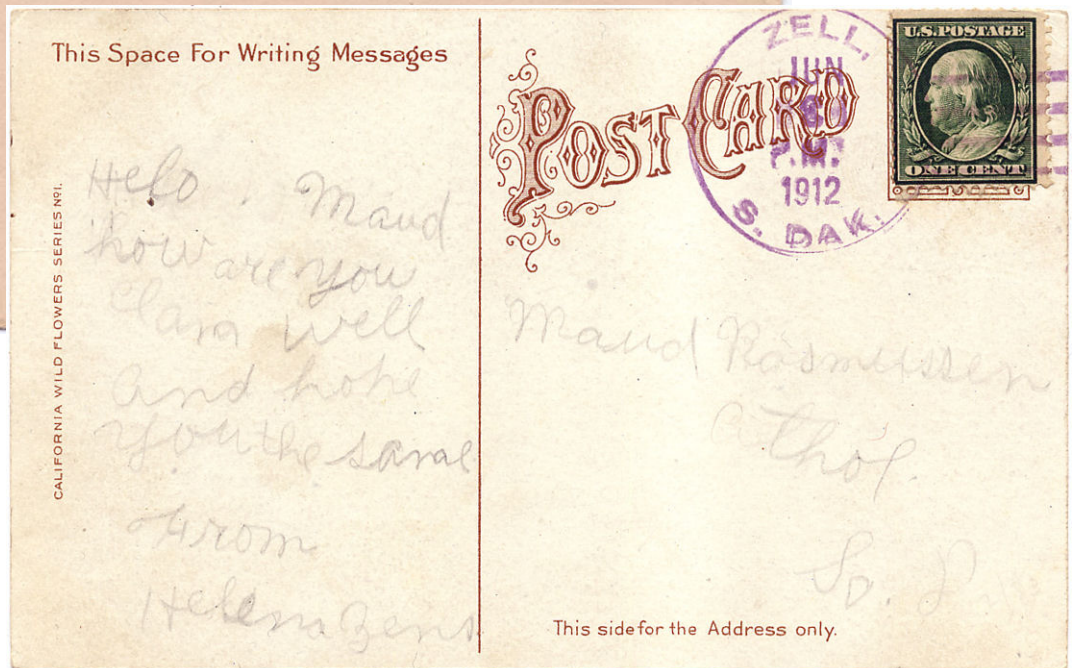
## **Zell 1885-Open**

The Zell post office was officially established on Mar 3, 1885 with George Panion as postmaster. It continues to operate to this day. [1]

Zell was named for the Zell family, German immigrants. It was platted in 1886. [2]

Postmaster Compensation:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| George Panion | 1885 | $9.65 |
| George Panion | 1887 | $130.02 |
| George Panion | 1889 | $156.20 |
| George Panion | 1891 | $163.76 |
| George Panion | 1893 | $139.85 |
| George Panion | 1895 | $116.53 |
| Elias K. Abbott | 1897 | $100.11 |
| Henry A. Faugman | 1899 | $129.33 |
| Henry A. Faugman | 1901 | $134.06 |
| Mathias Mullenberg | 1903 | $162.83 |
| Mathias Mullenberg | 1905 | $195.30 |
| Mathias Mullenberg | 1907 | $215.00 |
| Chris Lutz | 1909 | $307.00 |
| Chris Lutz | 1911 | $340.00 |

**References:**

1.) Patera, Alan H, John S. Gallagher and Kenneth W. Stach, *South Dakota Post Offices,* 1990, The Depot, Lake Oswego, OR, 400 pages.
2.) Driving Hawk Sneve, Virginia, *South Dakota Geographic Names*, 1973, Brevet Press, Sioux Falls, SD, 639 pages.
3.) Robinson, Doane, *Encyclopedia of South Dakota,* 1925, Published by the Author, Pierre, SD, 1003 pages.
4.) Ellis, Captain C. H., *History of Faulk County, South Dakota*, 1909, Reprinted by North Plains Press, Aberdeen, SD, 1973, 508 pages.

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