

Known Towns & Villages in Berkeley County with Post Offices ~

In 1783, the US Post Office Department was created at the Federal level, and it soon established guidelines on how towns and villages were to be named, what criteria must be met to be granted a US Post Office, and how each PO would be managed. Over the next two centuries the criteria were modified to include just who would be appointed as postmaster - some requiring Presidential appointment, some requiring US Senate confirmation.

Early in its existence the US Post Office Department decided that each state could not have two towns with the same name - zip codes had not yet been invented, so this mandate helped mail carriers to avoid confusion. However, it caused considerable consternation with the many small communities that sprang up - many opting not to get a US Post Office because they didn't want to change their town's name. Many others chose to change their names immediately after another Post Office was closed down - they had been waiting for years (or months) for the specific name that was already in use.

The US Post Office Department was abolished in 1971 and replaced with the US Postal Service (USPS), which remains in existence to this day. From 1783 to 1971, the US Post Office Department retained comprehensive records of ALL US Post Offices in the entire country. These records were not very detailed between 1783 and 1824 - merely a list of all POs in each state that did not even annotate in which county a particular PO was located. After 1824, these records included state, county, first postmaster, subsequent postmasters (if any), and later would include Presidential appointments as well as Senate confirmations of postmasters. After the Civil War, money orders (MOs) were introduced, and the records indicate which towns were authorized to issue MOs.

In the early 1800s, the US Post Office Department realized that it needed better maps of each state for its mail carriers to determine where to deliver the increasing amount of mail across the country. The earliest found map created specifically for the US Post Office Department in the Carolinas is dated 1822 for South Carolina - and, it does not even show all the recorded towns with POs at that time (duh?). There may have been others that were issued earlier, but I have not located them as yet. These US Post Office Department maps continued throughout the department's existence, and they provide a lot of information. However, as with all maps, there are plenty of inaccuracies included therein.

The data provided herein is derived from official US Post Office Department records obtained from the US National Archives on microfilm.

*towns/villages that I have not been able to locate on any maps.

Post Office history courtesy J.D. Lewis, Little River, S.C.

Edited by Keith Gourdin

Alphabetical Order

Post Office	Original county	Final county	1 st US Postmaster	Date started	Date d'cont'd	Comments
*Melphin	Berk	-	Pompey Pinkney	4/13/1909	3/31/1910	---
Midland Park	Berk	-	Joseph P. Clarke	1/17/1909	-	Was Ashley Phosphate
Mixen	Berk	-	Rebecca J. Smith	7/9/1898	3/31/1910	---
Moncks Corner	Chas	Berk	Thomas H. Wallace	7/21/1881	-	BC in 1882
Mount Holly	Chas	Berk	Daniel T. Middleton	12/8/1881	-	BC in 1882
Mount Pleasant	Chas	Chas	Mary O. Pepper	4/17/1882	-	BC in 1882, Bac to Chas Co 1897
Mowry	Berk	-	William E. Nelson	4/22/1891	-	---
Mullet Hall	Berk	-	Francis Y. Legare	5/18/1893	-	Chas Co 1897
Oakley Depot	Chas	Berk	Peter Nelson	5/13/1869	-	BC in 1882, Oakley 10/31/1943
Ophir	Berk	-	Morton A. Waring	6/23/1887	1/31/1901	---
Otis	Berk	-	Orie E. Baxter	10/10/1903	5/31/1904	---
*Owendaw	Berk	-	Henry Ives	6/1/1883	12/6/1883	---
Palmerville	Chas	Berk	Robert M. DeBarry	3/20/1883	-	BC in 1882
Pecks Station	Berk	-	John W. Mellard	8/28/1888	3/5/1898	Chng'd to Bowyer 3/5/1898
Pineville	Berk	-	Ella M. Gourdin	5/19/1892	-	Was Crawl
Pinopolis	Berk	-	Elizabeth P. Ravenel	2/10/1894	-	---
*Prioleau	Berk	-	Porter W. Anderson	3/23/1904	1/31/1918	---
*Remleys	Berk	-	Washin'n W. Berangia	10/17/1917	10/28/1944	---
Roadville	Chas	Berk	George W. Shingler	6/10/1878	2/29/1908	BC in 1882
Russellville	Berk	-	Simon T. Russell, jr	4/1/1907	-	---
*Saint Andrews	Berk	-	Moses Tucker	6/15/1888	9/17/1889	---
St Stephens Depot	Chas	Berk	William M Larey	11/13/1876	-	BC 1882, St Stephen 11/28/1892
Sand Ridge	Chas	Berk	Edward H. Cuttino	5/19/1879	4/15/1911	BC 1882, Sandri'e since 1894
*Seele	Chas	Berk	Charles Seele	3/27/1882	12/19/1882	BC 1882
Shulerville	Berk	-	Elizabeth Shuler	6/23/1927	-	
Stono	Chas	Chas	Benjamin F. Ford	6/7/1882	-	BC 1882, bac to Chas Co 1897
Strawberry	Chas	Berk	Carl Wagner	5/12/1881	10/31/1936	BC 1882. Dorchester Co 1897
Summerville	Chas	Dorc	Elijah H. Davis	7/23/1873	-	BC 1882. Dorchester Co 1897
Ten Mile Hill	Chas	Berk	William N. Wallace	6/6/1879	7/21/1913	BC 1882. The Farms 7/21/1913
The Farms	Berk	-	William D Garrison	7/21/1913	1/10/1915	Was Ten Mile
Trial	Chas	Berk	Peter F Murphy	4/1/1880	2/15/1912	BC 1882
Wando	Berk	-	Mary L. Lucas	5/5/1886	-	---
Witherbee	Berk	-	Clyde D. Umphlett	11/2/1927	2/27/1943	---
Wren	Chas	Berk	John J. Wren	5/18/1882	6/27/1916	BC 1882. Jamestown 6/27/1916

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