

# Hampshire County West Virginia Post Offices

By Len McMaster

## Part 1

### Introduction

Several people have previously cataloged the Hampshire County West Virginia post offices, generally as part of a larger effort to list all the post offices of West Virginia. Examples include Helbock's United States Post Offices<sup>1</sup> and Small's The Post Offices of West Virginia, 1792-1977<sup>2</sup>. Confusing this study is that Hampshire County was initially split off from Virginia with the establishment of many early post offices appearing in studies of Virginia post offices such as Abelson's *Virginia Postmasters and Post Offices, 1789-1832*<sup>3</sup> and Hall's "Virginia Post Offices, 1798-1859"<sup>4</sup>; and that Hampshire County was itself eventually split into all or parts of five West Virginia counties, including its present day boundaries. Two other lists warrant mentioning: Forte's comprehensive list of post offices on his postal history website<sup>5</sup> and Lisbeth's study of Virginia Postal Markings Colonial - 1865, which, while not comprehensive, has the advantage of including postal markings as well as early postmasters<sup>6</sup>.



Map 1 1754 Map of Hampshire County with current county boundaries.

Thus I will attempt to identify the approximate location and dates of operation of the post offices established in Hampshire County, explaining, where possible, the discrepancies or possible confusion that exists in the other listings; recognizing that I too may create my own errors no matter how cautious my attempt.

Because of the length of the material, it is broken up into three parts. The first part will include an introduction to the history of the county, describe the sources of the data and the conventions used in the listings, and conclude with the description of the Hampshire County post offices from Augusta through Green Valley Depot. The second part will include the balance of the Hampshire county post office descriptions, and the third part will include descriptions of the post offices in Mineral County today that were established in Hampshire County before Mineral County was split off, and tables of all the post offices established in Hampshire County.

### General History

Hampshire County is the oldest county in West Virginia, being created by the Virginia General Assembly

on December 13, 1753 (effective May 1, 1754) from parts of Frederick and Augusta counties (Virginia) with over twenty-six hundred square miles, including parts of present day Hardy, Morgan, Mineral and Grant counties. Since it was the western frontier of the Virginia Colony it became Virginia's route to the upper Ohio River valley, an important gateway to the developing west. In 1762 Romney was incorporated as the county seat and on April 1, 1796 the first post office in the county was established at Romney. Other early post offices included Springfield established in 1800, Blommery established as Sherrard's store in 1814, Capon

Bridge established as Glencoe in 1826, Yellow Spring in 1839 and Capon Springs in 1841. There were other

early post offices established, which have since been discontinued. In total over 80 post offices have been established in Hampshire County, several of them merely reflecting changes in the names of the communities they served.

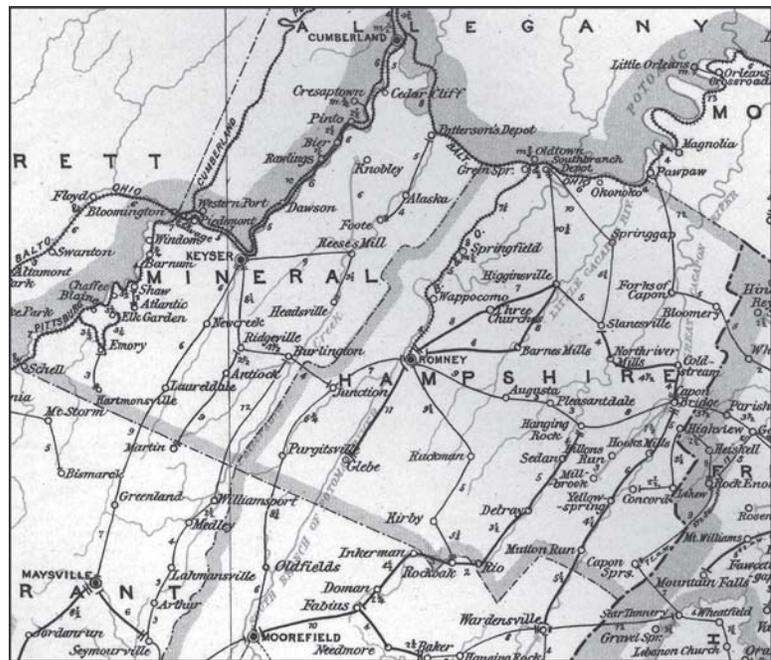
Hardy County was created by the Virginia General Assembly on December 10, 1785 from the southern part of Hampshire County and in December 1787 an adjustment was made in the boundary between Hardy and Hampshire. Since Hardy County was created prior to the establishment of the first post office in Hampshire County, there can be no confusion of post office names appearing in both counties. Morgan County was created by an act of the Virginia General Assembly in March 1820 from parts of the northwest most corner of Hampshire County and Berkeley County. The only post office established in what is now Morgan County prior to its creation was Berkeley Springs in 1802, but this community was originally in Berkeley County such that there can be no confusion of post office names appearing in Morgan and Hampshire counties.

On June 20, 1863 West Virginia was officially established as a state. Then on February 1, 1866 Mineral County was formed by an act of the General Assembly from the western part of the County with Hampshire County becoming its present size. (Shortly thereafter Grant County was formed from the western part of Hardy County.) Different than Morgan and Hardy counties, however, there were numerous post offices established in Hampshire County prior to 1866 that are in present day Mineral County.

The topography of the County is a series of low mountains and rivers in the intervening valleys running from southwest to northeast. The major rivers, all part of the Potomac River watershed, include the South Branch (of the Potomac), Cacapon, Little Cacapon, and North rivers, with numerous other streams feeding them from the mountains. As an example a detailed description of the topography of Mill Creek Mountain in the western part of the County and Levels in the northeast part of the County can be found in Maxwell and Swisher's 1897 history of the County<sup>7</sup>. There was some mining initially, e.g., Bloomery got its name from the iron furnaces constructed as early as 1770, but most of the County then and now consists of rural farmland and numerous small communities widely spread about the County.

Given this rather rugged topography, the development of its roads and later the railroad, were important to transportation and the postal system in the County. By 1786 a state road had been completed from Winchester, Virginia to Romney, but the building of the Northwestern Turnpike (U.S. Route 50) in the 1830s from Winchester to Parkersburg on the Ohio River in the western part of the state, was critical to further development. When completed, the turnpike crossed the County from east to west through the communities of Capon Bridge, Loom, Hanging Rock, Pleasant Dale, Augusta, Frenchburg, Shanks, Romney, Vanderlip and Moorefield Junction, each with their own post offices.

In early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the Baltimore and Ohio railroad was built across the northern part of the state connecting Wheeling with Baltimore. In 1884 the South Branch Railroad was built connecting Romney with Green Spring on the main B&O line, and in 1910 the line was extended along the South Branch River through Moorefield (Hardy Co.) to Petersburg (Grant Co.), crossing the County from north to south through the communities of Green Spring, Donaldson, Wapocomo, Romney, Vanderlip, Pancake, and Sector (Glebe Station), each with their own post offices. In the eastern part of the state the Winchester and Western Railroad, a shortline railroad, operated from Winchester, Virginia north to Maryland and south to West Virginia. The company's original line opened in 1917, extending west from Winchester to Rock Enon Springs, the location of a resort known for its mineral springs



Map 2 1896 Post route map of the state of Virginia and West Virginia, Postmaster General, Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3881p.ci000776>

similar to Capon Springs. The line was later continued through the communities of Shiloh, Capon Springs and Intermont West Virginia with post offices at Capon Springs and Intermont.

## Description of the Listings

A brief history of each post office established in Hampshire County, including approximate location and name changes, is provided in the following sections. A list of the post offices with dates of operation is provided at the end in Table 1 (those established within the current boundaries of Hampshire County) and Table 2 (those established in Hampshire County, but located in Mineral County today).

Different than some studies, I started with the secondary listings of post offices in West Virginia by Small, Helbock, and others, to develop a list I could use for collecting Hampshire County postal history, but quickly discovered discrepancies in the listings that led me back to the United States Post Office Department's "Records of Appointments of Postmaster" and other sources to resolve them. In 2000-2002 Alyce Evans published a series of articles describing several West Virginia counties in *La Posta* under the title of "West Virginia Research Papers", but Hampshire County was unfortunately not among them. While I have noted Hall's work<sup>4</sup>, I should also note that of the listings of post offices established in Hampshire County, I found this to be the least reliable with dates often conflicting both with the other secondary sources and the National Archive records.

Even though I live in Hampshire County, I have not lived here long, and the biggest problem I experienced was in not being able to determine the location of the post offices, i.e., determine what communities they served given the similarity in names and change in community names over the years. Examples of the problem include there being two communities, one called Hanging Rock, which had a post office, and another called Hanging Rocks, which did not have a post office; and the name New Creek being used by two separate communities during more than one period of their operations. As mentioned previously it was also occasionally difficult to determine which post offices were in present day Hampshire County since many post offices in present day Mineral County were established in Hampshire County before Mineral County was formed.

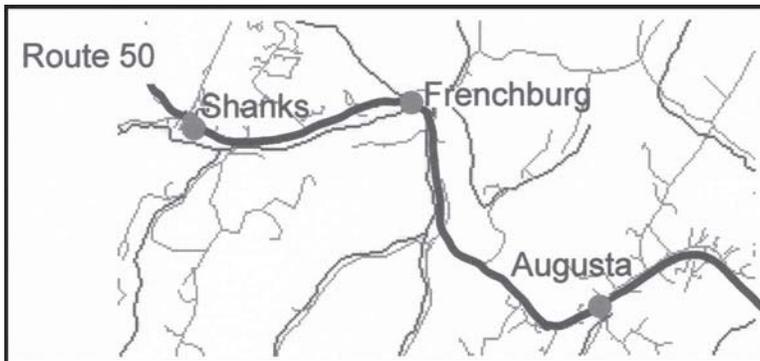
A comparison of numerous old maps on which previous community names could be found in the same location as present day communities with different names

was the key to locating the old post offices in most cases. When this approach failed, discussions with local residents were invaluable in locating post offices based on postmaster names by knowing where these families' original farms were located. In a few cases the physical location found in the Post Office Department Records of Site Locations, 1837-1950 was also helpful. Information in these records included not only the post office's proximity to nearby rivers, creeks, postal routes, railroad stations, and other post offices, but provided information on proposed names that were rejected. For example, a 1882 letter concerning the application for re-establishing a post office at Barrettsville, which had been discontinued for five years, states "As there is now an office in W.Va. called Basnettville [Marion County], the name Barrettsville will not answer. Please select a new name." The form indicates "Junction" was the next choice, but this is scratched out and "Augusta" added in its place<sup>8</sup>. The Post Office Department (POD) forms used for locating proposed and existing post offices, including changes in location of existing post offices, will all be referred to as POD "site location" forms.

As has been noted by others it was not uncommon for these early, small post offices to change locations with the appointment of postmasters and I have found letters from new postmasters requesting such changes immediately upon their appointment. For example, it is noted in *Historic Hampshire* that the Augusta post office moved from one side of the road to the other depending on the political party in power, during Democratic years it was in the old George Riley store on south side of US Route 50 (at the intersection with Ford Hill Road) and during Republican years in the Berry and Rogers building on the north side of US Route 50<sup>9</sup>. Thus the post office locations provided should be considered as pointing to the communities they served and not necessarily the precise location of the building housing the post office.

Typically the change in location was nearby as in the Augusta example, but occasionally the distance could be a few miles, as in the case of the Frenchburg post office (1857-60) "re-established ... to Barrettsville" approximately two miles away as noted in the "Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-Sept. 30, 1971". The first Barrettsville entry in the same records also describes the post office as "late Frenchburg"<sup>10</sup>. The post office at Barrettsville was later re-established as Augusta in 1882 (see discussion above concerning the application for re-establishing a post office at Barrettsville); then in 1897 another post office was

established at Shanks less than four miles away, both of which are still operating today. When the periods of operation overlap, it's easy to treat two or more post offices in the same vicinity as separate, but the question becomes how to treat nearby post offices with name changes and non-overlapping periods of operation. While I do not claim to have been fully consistent throughout, in the case of Frenchburg, Barrettsville and Augusta, I have treated them as the same community served because of the notations in the "Records" even though there was a break in their periods of operation and they exist as separate place names today.



Map 3 Location of Shanks, Frenchburg and Augusta today

In the description of post office locations, I have attempted to show how the names of the post offices serving essentially the same community changed over the years, but have kept the different post office names and their periods of use intact. If the name of a post office serving the same community changed over its lifespan, the details are provided only under the name used today or the last post office name used. For each entry, reference is made to the last post office name used, e.g., "**Frenchburg** ... See Augusta for more detail." The different names, including misspellings, which I have seen and believe refer to the same community are also indicated, e.g., "**Little Cape Capon** (Little Cape Capot, Little Cacapon)." While nearby roads and County Route numbers are identified in locating a post office, it should be noted that the County is going through the process of renaming roads for 911 compatibility and may change.

One interesting post office name change was Davy which was established in 1902 with Rada B. Davy serving as the first postmaster; in 1911 the post office name was changed to Rada with Rada Davy continuing to serve as postmaster until replaced by a Maud Davey in 1912. Why some proposed names were rejected or the names of existing post offices changed

over the years may be at least partially explained by Order No. 114 of the Postmaster General, dated April 1894 which stated:

To remove a cause of annoyance to the Department and injury to the Postal Service in the selection of names for newly established post offices, it is hereby ordered, that from this date only short names or names of one word will be accepted. There may be exceptions when the name selected is historical, or has become local by long usage, but the Department reserves the right in such cases to make the exception or not as it sees proper. Names of post offices will only be changed for reasons satisfactory to the Department.

The prefix of "East," "Old," "New," "North," "South," or "West," to the name of a post office is objectionable; as also is the addition of "Burg," "Center," "City," "Corners," "Creek," "Cross Roads," "Depot," "Hill," "Hotel," "Hollow," "Junction," "Mill," "Mound," "Peak," "Plains," "Point," "Port," "Prairie," "Rock," "River," "Run," "Ridge," "Store," "Station," "Springs," "Town," "Vale," "Valley," or Village," and

all other prefixes or additions, as such prefixes or additions are liable to lead to confusion and delay in transmission of the mails.

Delay may often be avoided by here submitting in order of preference several names as the one first selected may be rejected by the Department.

The name listed is based on US Post Office Department's "Records of Appointments of Postmaster"<sup>10,11</sup> spelling, but I have occasionally found a different spelling used in the postmark. Similarly, the dates of operation are those listed in the "Records of Appointments of Postmaster." I will refer to cities, towns, and other localities, whether incorporated or unincorporated, as communities without any distinction. In cases where I am uncertain as to a name, spelling, location or other information provided that uncertainty will be discussed. Where the post office appears to have been named for the postmaster, I have listed the postmaster name.

Smith and Patera in their discussion of primary and secondary sources for U.S. postal history information<sup>12</sup>, point out that in the absence of other information, the earliest of postmaster appointment dates is generally considered the establishment date of the post office, and I have followed this guideline. The information prior to 1832 is not as helpful as the information available thereafter, e.g., in many cases the dates recorded

are the “date of first return” suggesting the post office was established within the preceding 12 months. Where I found no better information than this, I have used only the year to suggest this uncertainly. Interestingly Smith and Patera do not mention the use of the site location records<sup>8</sup>, but I found these records to contain helpful information on post office names and establishment dates as well as the site location.

In some cases a “discontinued” date is given a few days to weeks prior to an “effective” date and I will use the “effective” date if available. Occasionally the discontinuance will be rescinded prior to the effective date or the discontinuance lasts only a few months, and in such cases no discontinuance will be indicated. Some records indicate that service was suspended several years prior to the post office being discontinued; in such cases both dates will be provided.

There are instances where the First and Second World Wars clearly impacted the operation of these small post offices. In the case of Three Churches, for example, the post office was discontinued during the Second World War from April 30, 1941 to August 18, 1947. At some post offices it appears other individuals served as acting postmaster while the postmaster served in the military, for example at Kirby the postmaster’s wife was acting postmaster from January 1, 1944 to December 31, 1946 when her husband returned; at Springfield another individual was acting postmaster from April 22, 1944 to July 10, 1946 when the postmaster returned.

While most 19<sup>th</sup> century records give only one date for postmaster appointments, later records provide several dates to choose from. As an example of the entries, one Augusta postmaster was “nominated” September 27, 1945, “confirmed” October 9, 1945, “President appointment” October 10, 1945, “commission signed and mailed” October 10, 1945, and “assumed charge” January 1, 1946. The question is what date to use. In comparing previously compiled lists, the “appointment date” listed is the “confirmed” date and to be consistent with those tabulations, I will use this date for post office establishment if it exists. Dates that are **bolded** suggest a change in the year previous reported by Helbock and/ or Small.

## Individual Post Office Location and History of Name Changes

### **Augusta** (Frenchburg, Barrettsville)

Augusta is located in central Hampshire County on the Northwestern Turnpike (U.S. Route 50) near the intersection with Ford Hill Road (County Route 7) between Pleasant Dale and Frenchburg. According to the ap-

pointment of postmaster records<sup>10</sup> the post office was originally established as Frenchburg May 2, 1857 and discontinued March 10, 1860. The post office was re-established as Barrettsville May 15, 1866, with William Barret as the postmaster. It was discontinued from January 18, 1875 until re-established November 9, 1875, and discontinued again May 22, 1877. A POD “site location” form dated February 25, 1882 associated with an application to re-establish a post office at Barrettsville,” states “as there is now an office in W.Va. called Basnettville [Marion County], the name Barrettsville will not answer. Please select a new name.” The form indicates “Junction” was the next choice, but this is scratched out and “Augusta” added in its place. The post office was thus re-established as Augusta April 17, 1882, which continues to this day, zip code 26704.

### **Bache**

Bache was located in the central part of the County on North Texas Road (County Route 7/1) between the intersections of Mack Road (County Route 7/5) and Dunmore Ridge Road County Route 50/18) south of Augusta. The post office was established April 10, 1903 and discontinued September 15, 1913 with the mail routed to Hanging Rock.

### **Barne’s Mills** (Barnes Mill, Belt)

Established September 30, 1879 and discontinued April 30, 1911, this post office was re-established as Belt. See Belt for more detail.

### **Barrettsville** (Frenchburg, Augusta)

Established May 15, 1866 and discontinued May 22, 1877, this post office was originally known as Frenchburg and later became Augusta. See Augusta for more detail.

### **Belt** (Barne’s Mills)

Belt was located in central Hampshire County on Little Cacapon North Road (County Route 50/9) near where it crosses the Little Cacapon River north of Frenchburg. The post office was originally established as Barne’s Mills September 30, 1879 with Isaac Barnes serving as the first postmaster, and was discontinued April 30, 1911 with the mail routed to Romney. November 24, 1928 the post office was re-established as Belt with Coleman Belt serving as the postmaster, and was discontinued August 15, 1934 with the mail routed to Higginsville. Although current maps show Barnes Mill at this location, the community of Belt is shown on a 1933 map at the same location<sup>13</sup>.

**Bloomery (Sherrard's Store)**

Bloomery, reflecting the local iron smelting work, is located in the northeast corner of the County on the Bloomery Pike (State Route 127) near the border with Virginia. Bloomery was settled in 1737 and the first post office, known as Sherrard's Store, was established on December 28, 1814. On May 13, 1852 the post office name was changed to Bloomery, which continues to this day, zip code 26817.

**Cacapehon (Neals Run)**

Established May 8, 1901, the name was changed to Neals Run on April 15, 1925. See Neals Run for more detail.

**Cacaponville (Okonoko)**

Established March 18, 1843, the name was changed to Okonoko on June 6, 1853. See Okonoko for more detail.

**Capon Bridge (Cacapon Bridge, Glencoe)**

Capon Bridge is located in eastern Hampshire County on the Northwestern Turnpike (U.S. Route 50), west of Winchester, Virginia. The records suggest the post office was originally established as Glencoe March 23, 1826 and continued operation until the name was changed to Capon Bridge July 13, 1841. For example, Maud Pugh in her book *Capon Valley, Its Pioneers and their Descendants 1698-1940* notes that Jesse Pugh, the first Glencoe postmaster, "lived south of



*Figure 2* Capon Bridge postmark circa 1865

Capon Bridge" and that William Odell, the third Glencoe postmaster, "lived at Capon Bridge"<sup>14</sup>; and both an 1863<sup>15</sup> and 1865<sup>16</sup> map of the County continue to show Glencoe, but not Capon Bridge, in the general area. The town of Capon Bridge was incorporated in 1902 and the Capon Bridge post office continues as a working post office

**Capon Springs (Frye's Spring, Watson)**

Capon Springs is located in the southeast corner of the County on Capon Springs Road (County Route 16). Originally known as Frye's Springs for Henry Frye who is credited with discovering the springs that appeared to have medicinal qualities around 1765. In October 1787 the General Assembly of the State of Virginia established the town of Watson, named for Joseph Watson who had been the spring's most recent owner. The Capon Springs post office was established June 18, 1841, but both an 1863<sup>15</sup> and 1865<sup>16</sup> map of the County continue to show the town as Watson. Capon Springs is still a working post office today, zip code 26823.

**Cold Stream (Cold Stream Mills)**

Cold Stream was located in eastern Hampshire County on Springfield Grade Road (County Route 15) between Slanesville and Capon Bridge. The post office was originally called Cold Stream Mills, established December 27, 1813 and discontinued from June 1819 until September 24, 1827 when it was re-established as the Cold Stream post office. The Cold Stream post



*Figure 1* Former Capon Bridge general store and post office from 1913 to 1967 (courtesy of David McMaster)

office was discontinued for a short period from June 17 to December 4, 1856, and discontinued for good December 27, 1968 with the mail routed to Capon Bridge.

**Cold Stream Mills** (Cold Stream)  
Established December 27, 1813 and discontinued in June 1819, this post office was re-established as Cold Stream. See Cold Stream for more detail.

### **Concord**

Concord was located in the south-east part of the County along Elridge Road (County Route 23/2) northeast of Yellow Spring and southwest of Lehew. The post office was established March 8, 1876 and discontinued March 15, 1933 with the mail routed to Lehew.

### **Creekvale** (Creek Vale)

Creekvale was located in the north-central part of the County along the Little Cacapon River southeast of Levels on Little Cacapon-Levels Road (County Route 3/3) south of the intersection with Edward Kidwell Road (County Route 2/2). Originally proposed as "Creek Vale" on a POD "site location" form the post office was established as Creekvale October 23, 1917 and was discontinued June 30, 1936 with the mail routed to Slanesville.

### **Critton**

Critton was located in the northeast part of the County along Critton Run on Critton Owl Hollow Road (County Route 29/1) southwest of the intersection with State Route 29. The post office was established May 22, 1907 and discontinued May 31, 1908 with the mail routed to Paw Paw, Morgan County.

### **Davy** (Rada)

Established August 20, 1902, the name was changed to Rada on January 24, 1911. See Rada for more detail.

### **Delray** (Smith's Gap)

Delray is located in the south-central part of the County in the North River Valley on Delray Road (State Route 29S) between Sedan and Rio. The post office was originally established as Smith's Gap February 17, 1848. A POD "relocation" form dated December 15, 1885 suggests the continuation of the use of the name Smith's Gap as well as changes to "Grover" or "Vilas," which were all rejected, and on May 13, 1886 the name was



*Figure 3 Delray post office today (courtesy of David McMaster)*

changed to Delray. The post office was discontinued December 8, 1897 with the mail forwarded to Sedan, then re-established May 8, 1901. It was discontinued again May 31, 1913 with the mail forwarded to Sedan. The post office was re-established January 18, 1917 and is still a working post office today, zip code 26714.

### **Dillon's Run** (Luptons Mill, Dillons Run)

Dillons Run was located in eastern Hampshire County near the intersection of Dillon's Run Road (County Route 50/25) and Haines Road (County Route 50/37) along Dillons Run stream from which it takes its name. Originally known as Luptons Mill, the Dillons Run post office was established July 13, 1830 and discontinued December 31, 1938 with the mail routed to Capon Bridge.

### **Donaldson** (Green Spring Valley)

Donaldson was located in the northwest corner of the County on Springfield - Green Spring Road (County Route 1) near the intersection with Donaldson School Road (County Route 1/3) between Green Spring and Springfield. The post office was established June 15, 1877 with Kate Donaldson serving as the first postmaster, and was discontinued March 26, 1883 with the mail routed to Springfield.

### **Dunn's Store**

Dunn's Store is not listed by Helbock<sup>1</sup> or Small<sup>2</sup>, but is listed by both Axelson<sup>3</sup> and Hall<sup>4</sup>. Axelson notes that the first postmaster was Thomas Dunn, Jr., and a search of the 1820 Hampshire County, Virginia census found a Thomas Dunn, Sr. listed as a head of household with two additional males and the 1830 census

lists a Thomas Dunn, Jr. as a head of household<sup>17</sup>. While I found no reference to this post office in any of the Postmaster Appointment Records, I did find it listed in the 1822 Post Office Department List of Post Offices in the United States, located a distance of 100 miles west of Washington, DC and 178 miles northwest of Richmond. I have been unable to locate this post office more precisely, but it appears to have been in the eastern part of Hampshire County by comparison with the distances listed to other Hampshire County post offices, e.g., in the 1831 List of Post Offices Dillon's Run is listed a distance of 100 miles west of Washington, DC and 179 miles northwest of Richmond. The post office appears to have been established on May 18, 1820 and discontinued in 1821.

#### Extract

Extract was located in southwestern Hampshire County on the east side of the South Branch River on South Branch River Road (County Route 8), between Romney and Glebe. The post office was established November 2, 1900 and discontinued July 31, 1906 with the mail routed to Glebe.

#### Fordhill (Ford Hill)

Ford Hill was located in south-central Hampshire County along Tear Coat Creek on Ford Hill Road (County Route 7) near the intersection with Mack Road (County Route 7/5) south of Augusta. A POD "site location" form dated March 16, 1902 filed by the proposed postmaster, Granville Park, notes that "the name Fordhill has become local by usage to this point but should it be rejected the name "Park is respectfully submitted. Fordhill much preferred"<sup>8</sup>. The post office was established as Fordhill April 2, 1903 and discontinued September 30, 1920 with the mail routed to Augusta.

#### Forks of Capon (Forks of Cacapon)

Forks of Cacapon, named for its location at the confluence of the North River and Cacapon River, was located in the northern part of the County near the intersection of State Route 29 and Owl Hollow Road

(County Route 45/7). The post office was established December 6, 1869 and discontinued May 31, 1908 with the mail routed to Paw Paw, Morgan County.

#### Forks of Potomac (South Branch Depot, South Branch)

Established July 11, 1851, the name was changed to South Branch Depot December 20, 1865, and later to South Branch. See South Branch for more detail.

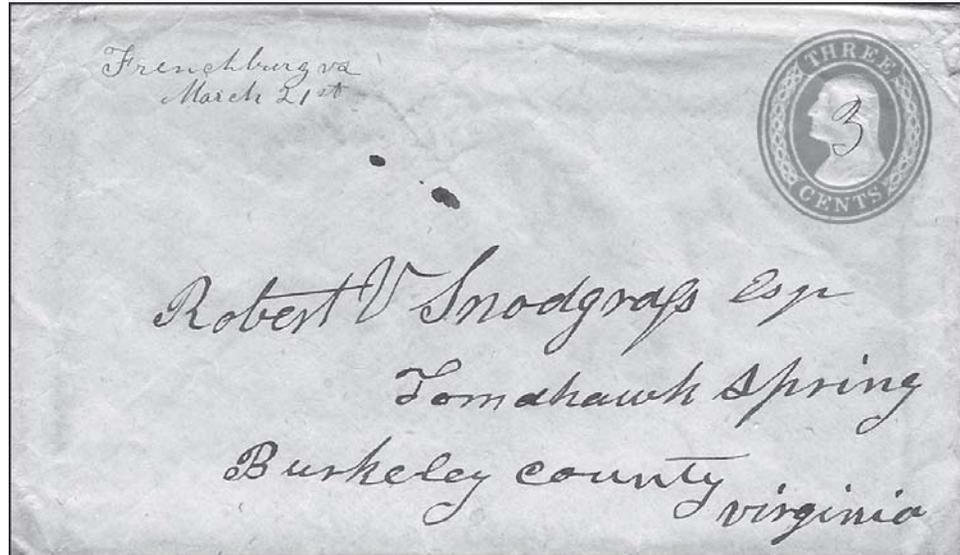


Figure 4 Frenchburg manuscript postmark circa 1858 (courtesy of Wayne Farley)

#### Frenchburg (Barrettsville, Augusta)

Established May 2, 1857 and discontinued March 10, 1860, this post office was re-established as Barrettsville and later became Augusta. See Augusta for more detail.

#### Glebe

Glebe is located southwest of Romney on the east side of the South Branch River on South Branch River Road (County Route 8), southeast of Sector, which lay on the west side of the South Branch River and was at one time connected to Glebe by a bridge across the River. Sector was also known as Glebe Station because it served Glebe. The 1922 USGS Moorefield Quadrangle map shows "Glebe PO" approximately 2 miles southeast of "Glebe Sta. / Sector PO." The Glebe post office was established August 31, 1881 and discontinued December 31, 1936. with the mail routed to Moorefield.

#### Glencoe (Glenco, Capon Bridge)

Established March 23, 1826, the name was changed to Capon Bridge on July 13, 1841. See Capon Bridge for more detail.



Figure 5 Green Spring Run postmark circa 1865

### Gloydsborough (Gloydsboro)

Gloydsborough is not listed by Small<sup>2</sup>, and although it was supposed to have existed from 1814 to 1821, I found no reference to it in the 1817, 1819, or 1822 Lists of Post Offices in the United States. However, it is listed by Helbock<sup>1</sup>, Axelson<sup>3</sup> and Hall<sup>4</sup>; and I found the appointment of James Gloyd as the postmaster in the Record of Appointment of Postmasters, Oct. 1789-1832<sup>10</sup>. I also found a James Gloyd listed as living in Hampshire County in the 1810 census<sup>17</sup>. So while the records seem to confirm its existence, established March 14, 1814 and discontinued 1821, I have found no information on its location.

### Good

Good was located in the northeast corner of the County on the Bloomery Pike (State Route 127) at I.L. Pugh Road (County Route 6/2) east of Bloomery and just south of the Virginia border. A POD "site location" form dated March 6, 1908 suggests the proposed post office name was "Laurel Hill", which was rejected<sup>8</sup>. The post office was established as Good April 20, 1908 and discontinued November 4, 1936 with the mail routed to Bloomery.

### Green Spring (Green Spring Depot, Green Spring Run)

Green Spring is located in the northwest corner of the County on Springfield - Green Spring Road (State Route 1) near the confluence of the North and South Branches of the Potomac River north of Springfield. The post office was originally established as Green Spring Depot February 17, 1843. On June 6, 1849 the name was changed to Green Spring Run. Then on December 6, 1880 the name was changed again to Green Spring, which is still a working post office today, zip code 26722.

### Green Spring Run (Green Spring Depot, Green Spring)

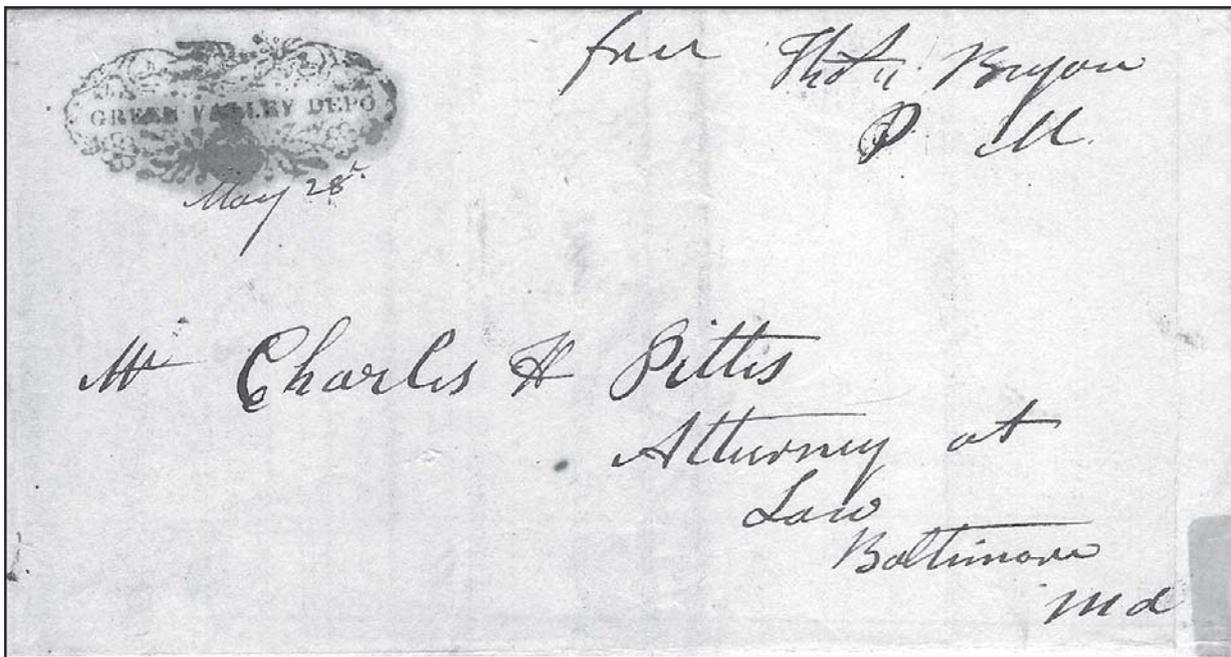
Established June 6, 1849, this post office was originally known as Green Spring Depot. The name was changed to Green Spring on December 6, 1880. See Green Spring for more detail.

### Green Valley Depot (Green Spring Run, Green Spring)

Established February 17, 1843, the name was changed to Green Spring Run on June 6, 1849 and later to Green Spring. See Green Spring for more detail.

## References

1. Helbock, Richard W., 2004, *United States Post Offices, Volume VI – The Mid-Atlantic*, La Posta Publications
2. Small, Richard E., 1998. *The Post Offices of West Virginia, 1792-1977*
3. Axelson, Edith F., 1991, *Virginia Postmasters and Post Offices, 1789-1832*, pp. 85-88, Iberian Publishing Company, Athens, Ga.
4. Hall, Virginius Cornick, Jr., 1973, *Virginia Post Offices, 1798-1859, The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, January, Vol.81, No.1, pp. 49-97
5. Forte, Jim, Postal History website, <http://www.postalhistory.com/>
6. Lisbeth, Robert L. *Virginia Postal Markings and Postmaster Colonial – 1865*, Virginia Postal History Society, published from November, 1984 - August, 1992 in the Society's journal *Way Markings*
7. Maxwell, Hu and H.L. Swisher, 1897. *History of Hampshire County, West Virginia*, A. Brown Boughner, Morgantown
8. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1126, *Post Office Department Records of Site Locations, 1837-1950*
9. Brannon, Selden W., ed., *Historic Hampshire*, McClain Printing Co., Parsons, WV, 1976
10. National Archives Microfilm Publication M841, *Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-Sept. 30, 1971*
11. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1131, *Record of Appointment of Postmasters, Oct. 1789-1832*
12. Smith, Chester M, Jr. and Alan Patera, 1979, *U.S. Postal History: Primary Source, Secondary Sources, and Problems with Both*, *The American Philatelist*, January, p. 19-26



*Figure 6 1843 Green Valley Depot fancy blue postmark with postmaster's free frank (courtesy of Wayne Farley)*

13. Ice, John R., 1933. Hampshire County, West Virginia Map, Clarksburg Publishing Company
14. Pugh, Maud, Capon Valley, Its Pioneers and their Descendants 1698-1940, Gateway Press, Baltimore, 1982
15. Seat of War in Virginia Map, Illustrated Loudon News, 1863
16. Coulton's Map of the State of West Virginia, J.H. Coulton, New York, 1865,
17. Michael, , Major Glen E. 1976, Heads of Families and Index to the U.S. Census, Hampshire County, Virginia (1782-1850), Shenandoah Publishing House, Strasburg, Virginia