

NEW JERSEY SUMMER POST OFFICES

by Arne Englund



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[Excerpted from the pages of *NJPH*, journal of the New Jersey Postal History Society]

Between the 1890s and the 1960s, there existed throughout the United States almost 1600 post offices which operated only during the summer months (there were also about 100 POs which were only open during the winter). Open only 3 or 4 months a year to provide mail service to vacationers, the first of these seasonal POs probably began operating during the 1880s. However, definite documentation is only available between 1891 and 1967. This documentation is contained in the various issues of the *Postal Bulletin 1892-1966* (one reference is also found in the Oct., 1971 issue), the *U.S. Official Postal Guides 1896-1954*, the *Directory Of Post Offices 1955-1966*, and the *Register Of Money Order Post Offices 1905-1932*. After 1966 opening and closing dates were not published.ⁱ

New Jersey had, at various times during this period, a total of 44 POs which operated during the summer months only (there were no winter only POs in N.J.). A number of these had been in operation year round before becoming seasonal. Others, however, started as summer only POs, and were later expanded to year round operations. Several others were summer only during their entire existence.

As may be expected, examples of cancels from these N.J. seasonal post offices are not easy to find. A few of the towns, such as Harvey Cedars and Keswick Grove were summer only for just a couple of years. The post office at Culvers Lake also only existed for a couple of years. The post office at Colliers Mills was seasonal only during its last year of operation in 1912. Again, remember the dates on the list on the following page are only for the years during which a particular PO was seasonal.



(Further information on all NJ post offices is available in Kay & Smith's *New Jersey Postal History*.ⁱⁱ)

ⁱ Smith, Chester M., Jr., "Summer And Winter Resort Post Offices Of The United States, 1891-1966," *American Philatelist*. July, 2000. pp. 626-649.

ⁱⁱ Kay, John L. & Smith, Chester M. Jr., *New Jersey Postal History: The Post Offices and First Postmasters 1776-1976*, Lawrence, Mass.: Quarterman Pub. Inc., 1977.



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	NJ SUMMER PO'S	County	Yrs as summer PO
1	Asbury Park Station 1	Mon	1932-40
2	Asbury Park Station 5	Mon	1908-37
3	Asbury Park Station 8 "The Arcade"	Mon	1918-31
4	Awosting	Pas	1915-30
5	Beach Arlington	Oce	1921-30
6	Berkeley	Oce	1926-7
7	Brant Beach	Oce	1916-24
8	Byram Cove	Sus	1928-57
9	Caviar	Cum	1904-21
10	Cedar Beach	Cap	1900-03
11	Chadwick	Oce	1895-1908
12	Colliers Mills	Oce	1912
13	Cranberry Lake	Sus	1926-60
14	Cranberry Lake - Rural of Andover	Sus	1961-63; 1964-70
15	Culvers Lake	Sus	1914-15
16	Flatbrookville - Rural of Columbia	Sus	1959-63
17	Fortescue	Cum	1905-29
18	Glasser	Sus	1933-52
19	Grassy Sound	Cap	1910-22; 1924-32
20	Green Pond	Mor	1910-58
21	Green Pond - Rural of Newfoundland	Mor	1959-65; 1966-77
22	Greenwood Forest	Pas	1925-26
23	Harvey Cedars	Oce	1909-10
24	Highland Lakes	Sus	1951-57
25	Keansburg Station 1	Mon	1925-30
26	Keswick Grove	Oce	1919-20
27	Lakeside	Pas	1906-24
28	Lake Wawayanda	Sus	1916-18
29	Lavallette	Oce	1901-05
30	Manasquan Park	Mon	1924-33
31	Metedeconk	Oce	1941-48
32	Normandy Beach	Oce	1929-48
33	Ocean City Station 2	Cap	1917-31
34	Ocean Grove Station 1	Mon	1914-31
35	Ocean Grove Station 2	Mon	1914-31
36	Ortley	Oce	1904-16
37	Palisades Park	Ber	1913-14
38	Somersetin	Som	1898-1909
39	Sperry Springs	Sus	1922-66
40	Spray Beach	Oce	1939-40
41	Townsend's Inlet	Cap	1904-14
42	Treasure Island	Hun	1931-53
43	West Orange Station 1	Ess	1919-21
44	West Orange Station 2	Ess	1919-21

Based on Chester M. Smith's Listing, American Philatelist. July, 2000. pp. 626-649