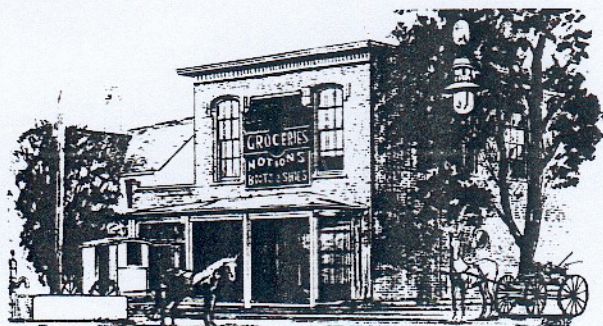
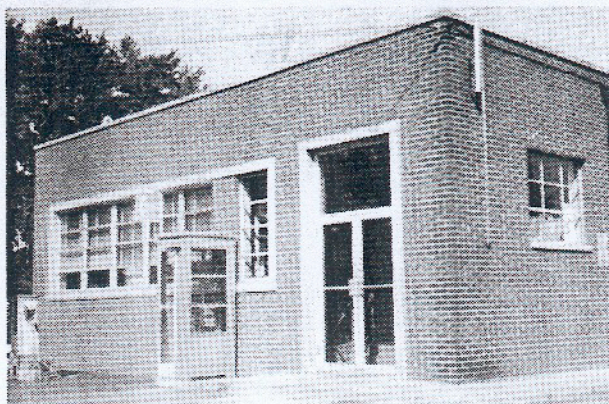


# Postal Service

With the coming of the railroad, postal service was established. Norwich Township's first post office was in the home of David Smiley. The Smiley Corner Post Office was located on Dublin Road near Wesley Chapel and operated from 1852 to May 20, 1854 when an office was opened in Hilliard's Station. At this time the 's and the word Station were dropped from the town's name and the post office was listed as Hilliard. Elisha Wright was the first Hilliard Postmaster. He operated the post office out of his home, the second lot east of Main Street on Center Street. Orange Sells, postmaster 1870 and 1874, used a building located on the northwest side of Main Street, between Center and Norwich.



In 1885 the office with John G. Koehler, postmaster, was located in the Winterringer Building, located on the northwest corner of Center and Main Streets. In 1889 John Scott relocated it in his drugstore, southwest of tracks on Main Street. John VanSchoik, in 1893 had it in the same place. In 1897 Frank Winterringer moved it back to his store. In 1914, O. Perry VanSchoik moved it across the street about half-way between Center and Norwich Street. In 1921 when Frank Winterringer again became postmaster, he moved it back to his store. It remained there until 1936 when Mrs. Clarence (Florence) Wilcox became postmistress. This time it was located in a grocery store on the second lot from the southwest corner of Main and Norwich Streets. In 1942 the office was again moved southwest of tracks where it had been in 1893. In 1957 a new brick building was constructed on the west side of Main Street, the third lot north of North Street. Howard VanSchoik is the present postmaster, having been appointed in 1966. Postmasters not listed in the above include: Thomas W. Dobyns - - 1854; Clark Glover - - 1861; James S. Wright - 1862 and 1873. They probably had the post office in their homes.

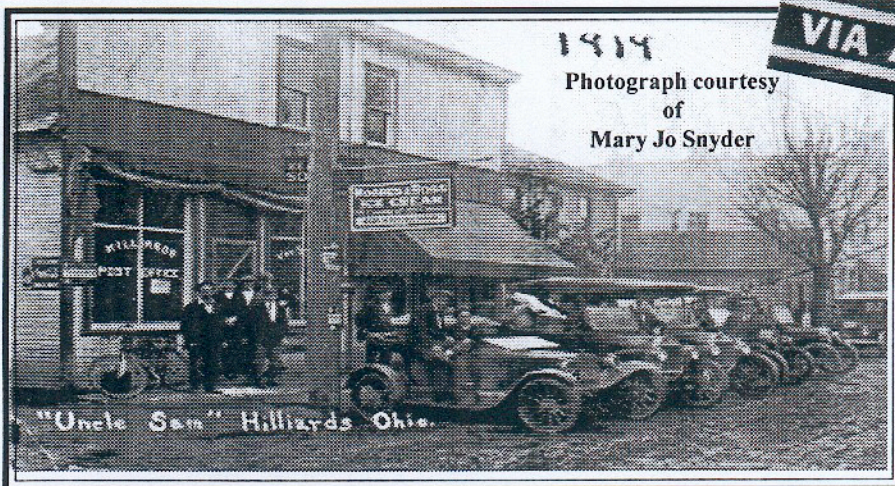


At first mail delivery was made by horse and buggy. With the coming of motorized transportation the area serviced could be increased. In the 1890's there were six mail carriers using horse drawn vehicles (names



unknown). In 1917 there were five rural routes, each carrier traveling about twenty-four miles per day. In 1953 there was one rural carrier who traveled about seventy miles per day. In 1960 the Hilliard office became an Associate Office under the Columbus Management Sectional Center, serving approximately 25,000 persons in an area about nine square miles. As the number of homes and businesses increased there was a certain amount of confusion as to street numbers. Some had numbers given to them by utilities, others used what they thought might be the right number and still others had no number at all. In 1974 a uniform county-wide numbering system was established. This was based on Broad and High Streets in Columbus being the dividing lines. Hilliard was one of the first suburban areas to adopt this new system. Today, in addition to the postmaster there is a staff of fifteen (carriers, both city and rural, and window clerks). During the year 1977 receipts were \$560,000 - - more than thirty times those twenty-five years ago.





1919  
Photograph courtesy  
of  
Mary Jo Snyder

VIA AIR MAIL



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Since 1854 the Hilliard Postal system has had 18 postmasters and nearly that many locations in several areas and businesses over the years. As each new postmaster assumed his position as head official they moved the postal system to places such as the Fishinger Building and Winterringer's Dry Goods Store to name some.

The Hilliard Post Office serviced an area north as far as O'Shaughnessy Dam, east to Dublin Road, west to Madison County and south to the Route 40 area.

Hilliards's first female postmaster, Florence Wilcox, announced the Post Office Department had an option for the Hoffman property on the west side of Main Street and one block north of Norwich Street for a 3,000 square foot building in the 1950s. This would cause the postal service to be removed from the Fishinger Building.

It was about this time the population explosion was beginning to expand in Hilliard. This location serviced the area for many years. People who just wanted to mail a letter found it convenient to drop them in the box at the end of the "drive around area to exit". A drop off box was installed on the driver's side just short of driving onto Main Street.

The first mail carrier to deliver daily mail on foot was Ellis Vernon Gray. He was hired by Postmaster Wilcox in February 1957 and delivered mail in the Avery Addition. He had perfect attendance until his death on February 24, 1963.

The 1980s brought a new idea in the postal service area in Hilliard. The Hilliard Pharmacy, previously the Hilliard Rexall Drugstore, became a satellite post office.

The small post office on Main Street began to bulge at the seams due to the influx of new residents and more buildings. By 1984 it was announced that a new site had been found to build a new facility. The 11, 300 square foot appurtenance would be located at the northeast corner of Leap Road and Brown Commerce Road. A new feature would be that this parking lot would accommodate 24 cars. The lobby of the new building would have a self-service postal unit and 800 post office boxes. The new postal facility opened on February 14, 1987.

Submitted by Patricia L. Garbrandt



## Postage Per Ounce for Letters

1863....	2	cents
1933....	3	cents
1959....	4	cents
1963....	5	cents
1968....	6	cents
1971....	8	cents
1974....	10	cents
1975....	13	cents
1978....	15	cents
1981....	18	cents
1981....	20	cents
1985....	22	cents
1988....	25	cents
1991....	29	cents
1995....	32	cents
1999....	33	cents
2001....	34	cents
2002....	37	cents



1873.....	Penny Post cards
1885.....	Special Delivery
1913.....	Parcel Post
1913.....	C. O. D.
1918.....	Air mail program
1920.....	Metered Mail
1925.....	Special Handling
1942.....	V Mail
1955.....	Certified Mail
1963.....	Zip Code Program
1977.....	Airmail abolished
1983.....	Zip plus four
1987.....	Stamps by phone
1992.....	Stamps sold in machines

## Hilliard Postmasters and Dates of Appointment

Elisha Wright.....	May 20, 1854
Thomas W. Dobyns.....	November 27, 1854
Clark Glover.....	July 13, 1861
James S. Wright.....	March 15, 1862
Orange Sells.....	April 17, 1870
James S. Wright.....	January 13, 1873
Orange Sells.....	April 1, 1874
John G. Koehler.....	October 29, 1885
John Scott.....	January 30, 1889
John H. VanSchoick.....	April 10, 1893
Frank Winterringer.....	July 15, 1897
O. P. VanSchoick.....	May 12, 1914
Frank Wilcox.....	April 22, 1921
Florence Wilcox.....	January 20, 1936
Started November 15, 1935	
Retired December 1964	
Howard "Chris" VanSchoick.....	April 6, 1966
His appointment as postmaster was signed by President Johnson with advice and consent of the Senate*. His retirement was signed December 7, 1986, but was extended to February 5, 1987.	
Charlie Boren.....	1988
Retired 1993	
Carl Braddock, Jr.....	Started 1944
Retired April 1998	
Roy King.....	1998

\* This type of appointment was discontinued due to the re-organization of the United States Post Office Department to the United States Postal service.