



Post Office Department,

OFFICE OF THE FIRST ASSISTANT P. M. GENERAL,

WASHINGTON, D. C., 15 May, 1884

Be careful to answer the inquiries fully and accurately, or the case will not be acted upon.

See, Before the Postmaster General decides upon the application for the establishment of a post office at Galatin, County of Gallatin, State of Montana, it will be necessary for you to carefully answer the subjunct questions, get a neighboring postmaster to certify to the correctness of the answers, and return the location paper to the Department, addressed to me. If the site selected for the proposed office should not be on any mail route now under contract, only a "Special Office" can be established there, to be supplied with mail from some convenient point on the nearest mail route by a special carrier, for which service a sum equal to two-thirds of the amount of the salary of the postmaster at such office will be paid.

You should inform the contractor, or person performing service for him, of this application, and require him to execute the inclosed certificate as to the practicality of supplying the proposed office with mail, and return the same to the Department.

Very respectfully, A. E. Stearns
First Assistant Postmaster General.

To Mr. The Chief, who will please forward to him, care of the Postmaster of Harlow.

STATEMENT.

The proposed office to be called Bladen Ethridge

Select a short name for the proposed office, which, when written, will not resemble the name of any other post office in the State.

It will be situated in the township of Bladen, County of Gallatin, State of Montana. (If the office is in a city or town, give the name of the city or town.)

It will be about 3 miles west of Harlow, on which the mail is now carried. (If the office is in a city or town, give the name of the city or town.)

The contractor's name is Thomas Ethridge. (If the office is in a city or town, give the name of the contractor.)

How much will it increase the burden of the mail one way each trip? none

Where will the mail leave the present route to supply the proposed office? Harlow

What post office will be left out by this change? none

If not on any route, is a "Special Office" wanted? Yes. To be supplied from Harlow.

The name of the nearest office to the proposed one on the same route, on the same side, is Bladen. Direction from the proposed office to the same office is None.

The name of the nearest office on the same route, on the other side, is Markland Ind. Direction from the proposed office to the same office is North West.

The name of the nearest river upon which the mail is carried is None.

The name of the nearest creek is Orange Creek.

The proposed office will be one mile from the nearest creek, on the west side of it, and will be one mile from the nearest road, on the west side of it.

If on the line of or near a railroad, on which side will the office be located? how far from the track? and what is, or will be, the name of the railroad? None

What will be the distance from the proposed site to the nearest flag station? 9 miles

What will be the distance from the proposed site to the nearest station at which mail trains make regular stops? 9 miles

State name of station? Harlow

If the proposed office is located where it can be supplied from a cross or flag station, or located near the station where mail trains make regular stops, will the mail be carried to and from the proposed office without expense to the Department? Yes

If it be a village, state the number of inhabitants. County town and thickly settled

Also, the population to be supplied by the proposed office. not over 200

A diagram, or sketch, from a map, showing the position of the proposed new office, with neighboring river or creek, roads, and other post offices, or villages near it, will be useful, and is therefore desired.

A correct map of the locality might be furnished by the county surveyor, but this need be without expense to the Post Office Department.

I, Thomas Ethridge, certify to be a citizen and true, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the above is a true and correct statement of the facts as to the proposed office, and that I am a resident of the town or place in which the proposed office is to be established.

Witness my hand and seal, this 15 day of May, 1884.

Thomas Ethridge
First Assistant Postmaster General.

To S. Chambers
Postmaster

Harlow
Gallatin Co

Montana
KENTUCKY

Galatin Co
(OVER)

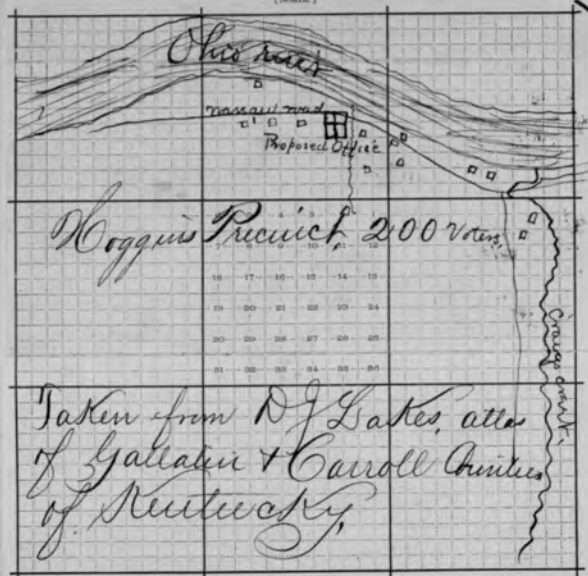
Diagram showing the site of the **Bladen** Post Office
 in Township _____ (R. or S.), Range _____ (E. or W.) of
 _____ County of **Gallatin** State
 of **Kentucky**, with the adjacent _____ Post Offices.



Chapman
by

It is requested that the exact site of the proposed or existing Post Office be marked on the maps, the roads to the adjoining offices, and the larger streams or rivers, be marked on this map as soon as possible to the Post Office Department.

(Scale)



(Scale)

[Faint handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom of the page.]