

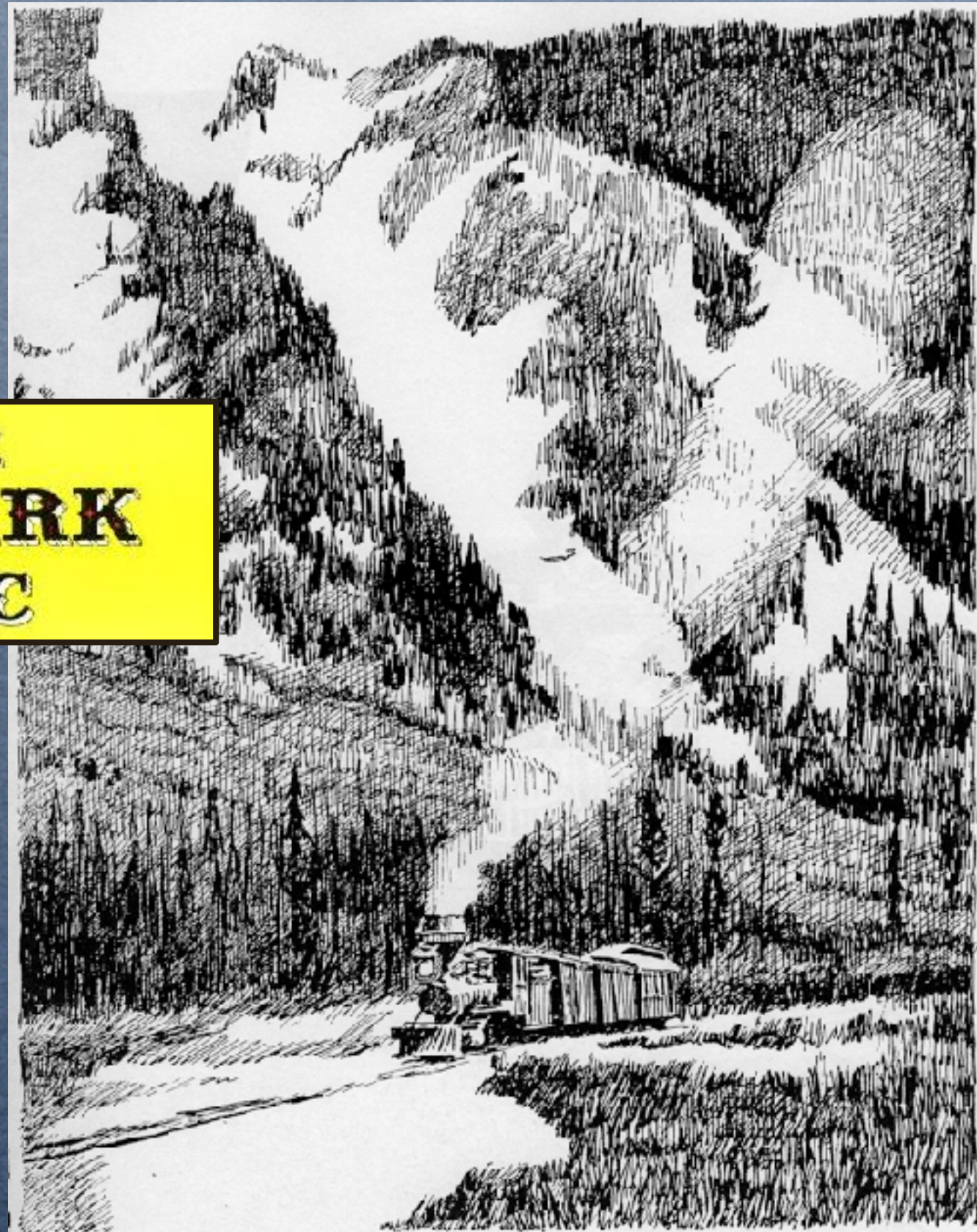
# A Collection of Postal History & Colorado Post Cards

1

*PowerPoint by Ronald Hill*



**DENVER  
SOUTH PARK  
& PACIFIC**





## Mail Delivery Along the Railroad



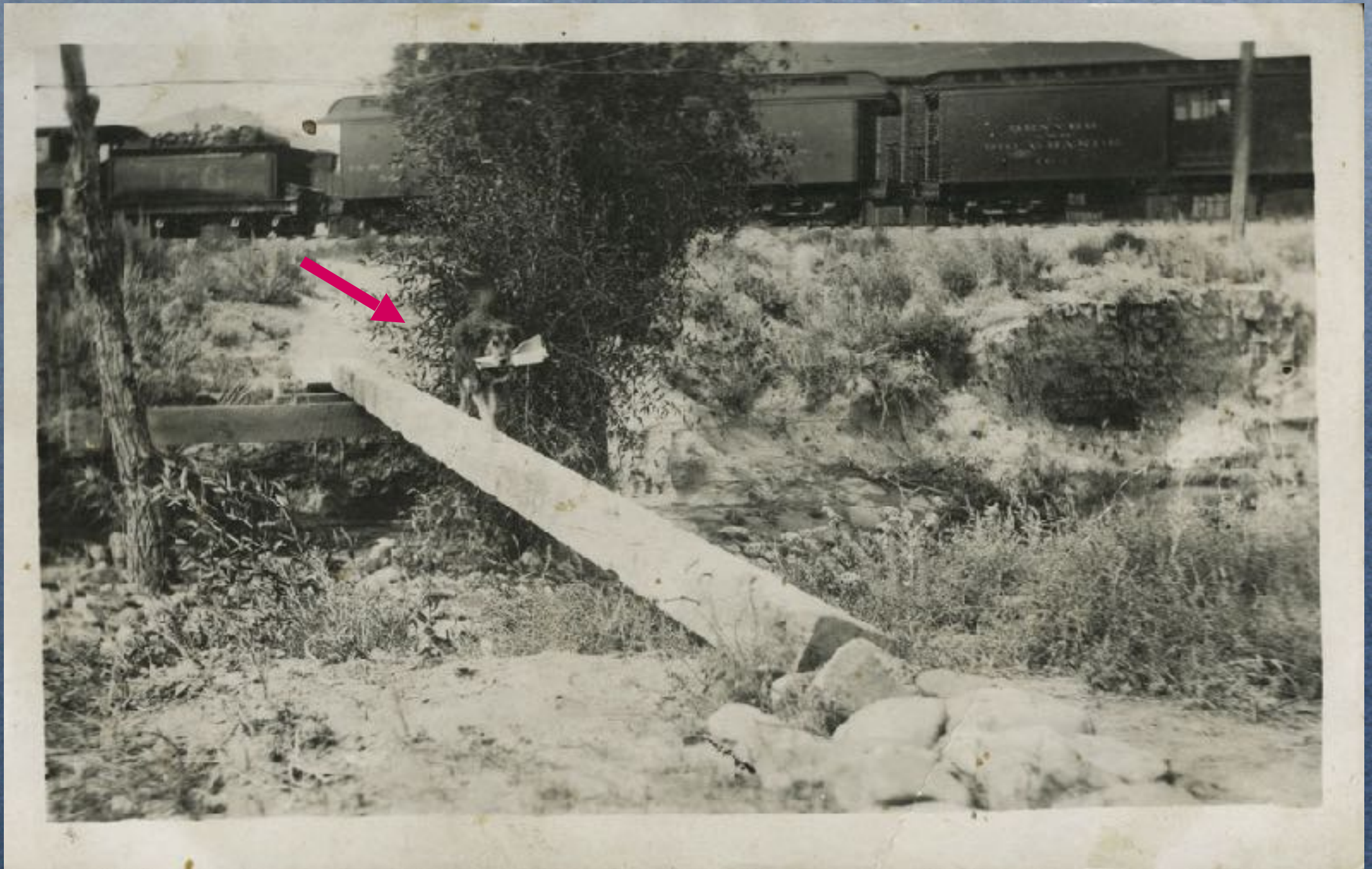


## Mail Delivery Along the Railroad



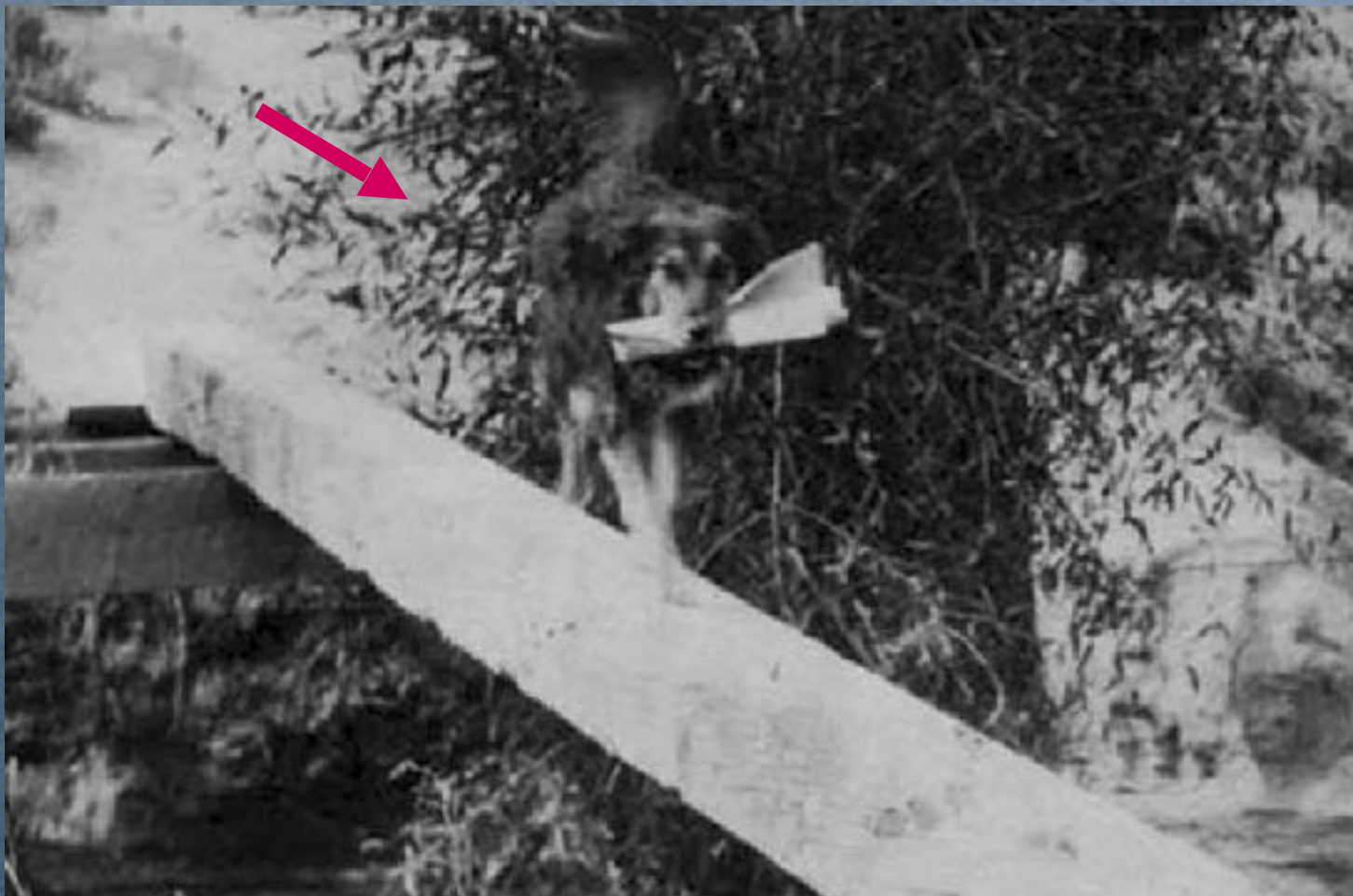


## Mail Delivery Along the Railroad





## Mail Delivery Along the Railroad



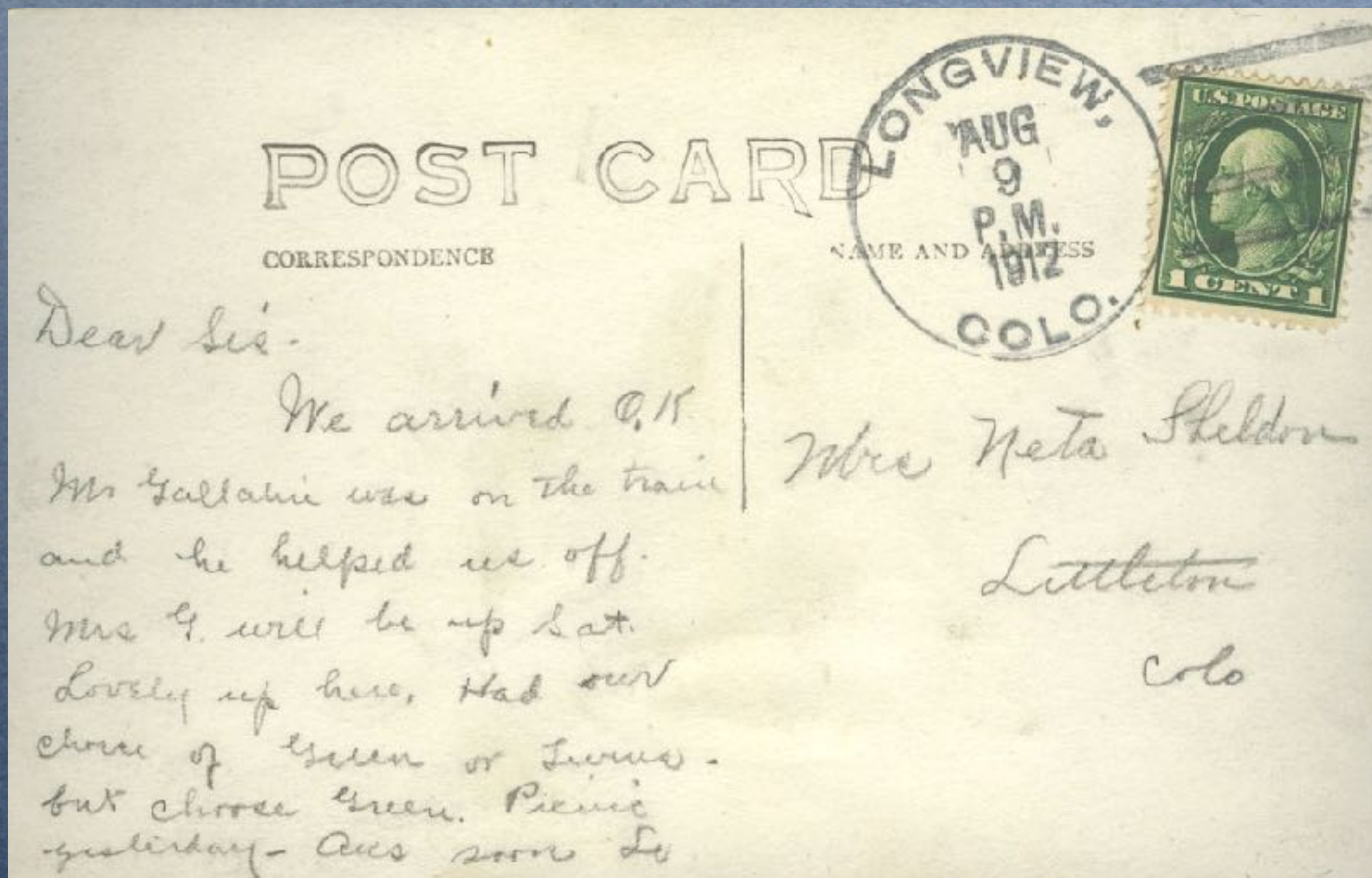


## Mail Delivery ... And Passengers



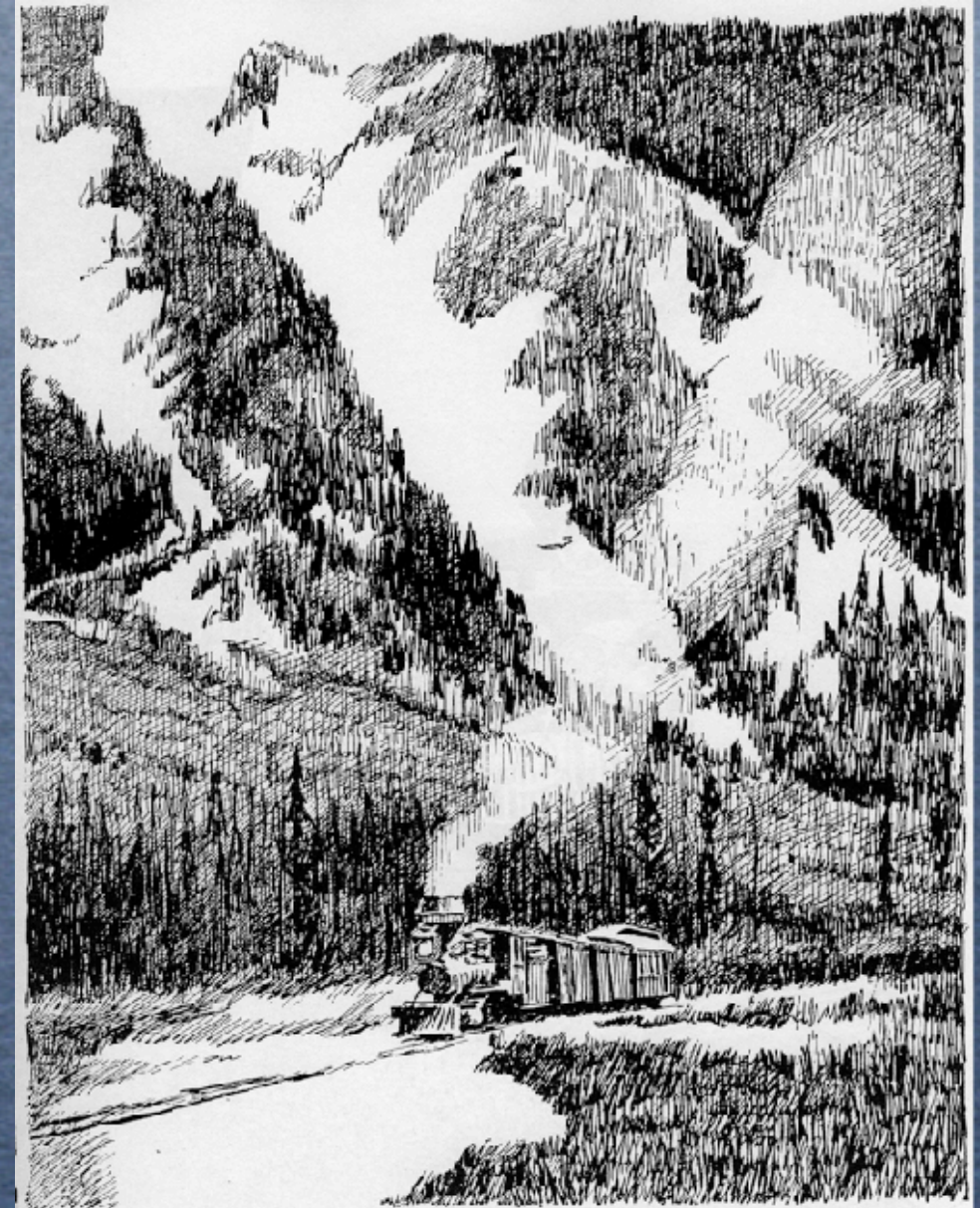


Postmark from Long View, Colorado





# BUT, first some history – Union Pacific Railroad





## Union Pacific Railroad

On July 10, 1865, track laying started west from Omaha, Nebraska and was completed to Julesburg, Colorado on June 26, 1867.

The railroad was completed to Cheyenne, Wyoming, on June 22, 1870





Denver Pacific R.P.O. (Railway Post Office)– December 23, 1870



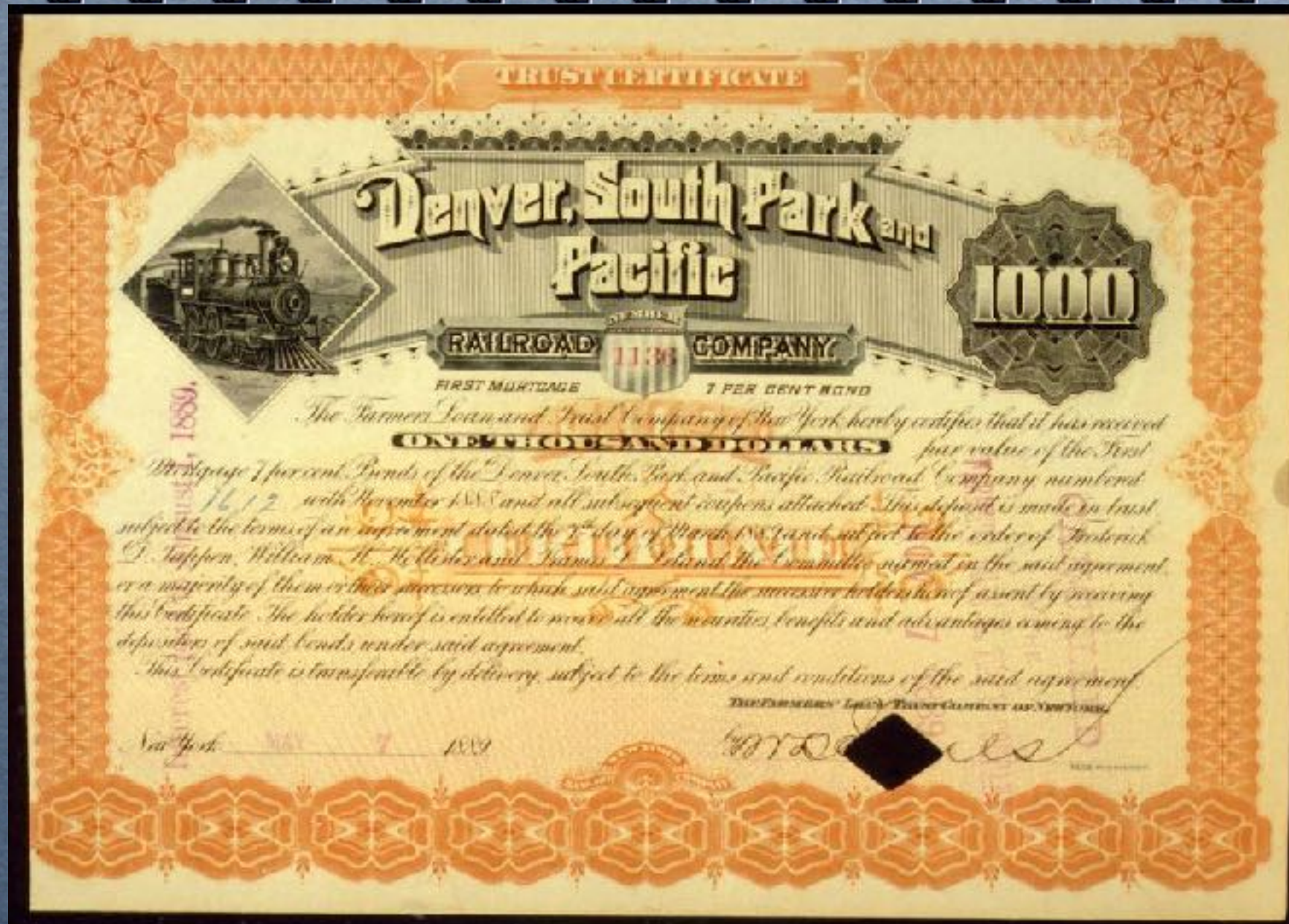


Denver Union Depot

The cornerstone for the Union Depot of the Denver and Kansas Pacific railroads was laid on June 24, 1870.







## Stock Certificate

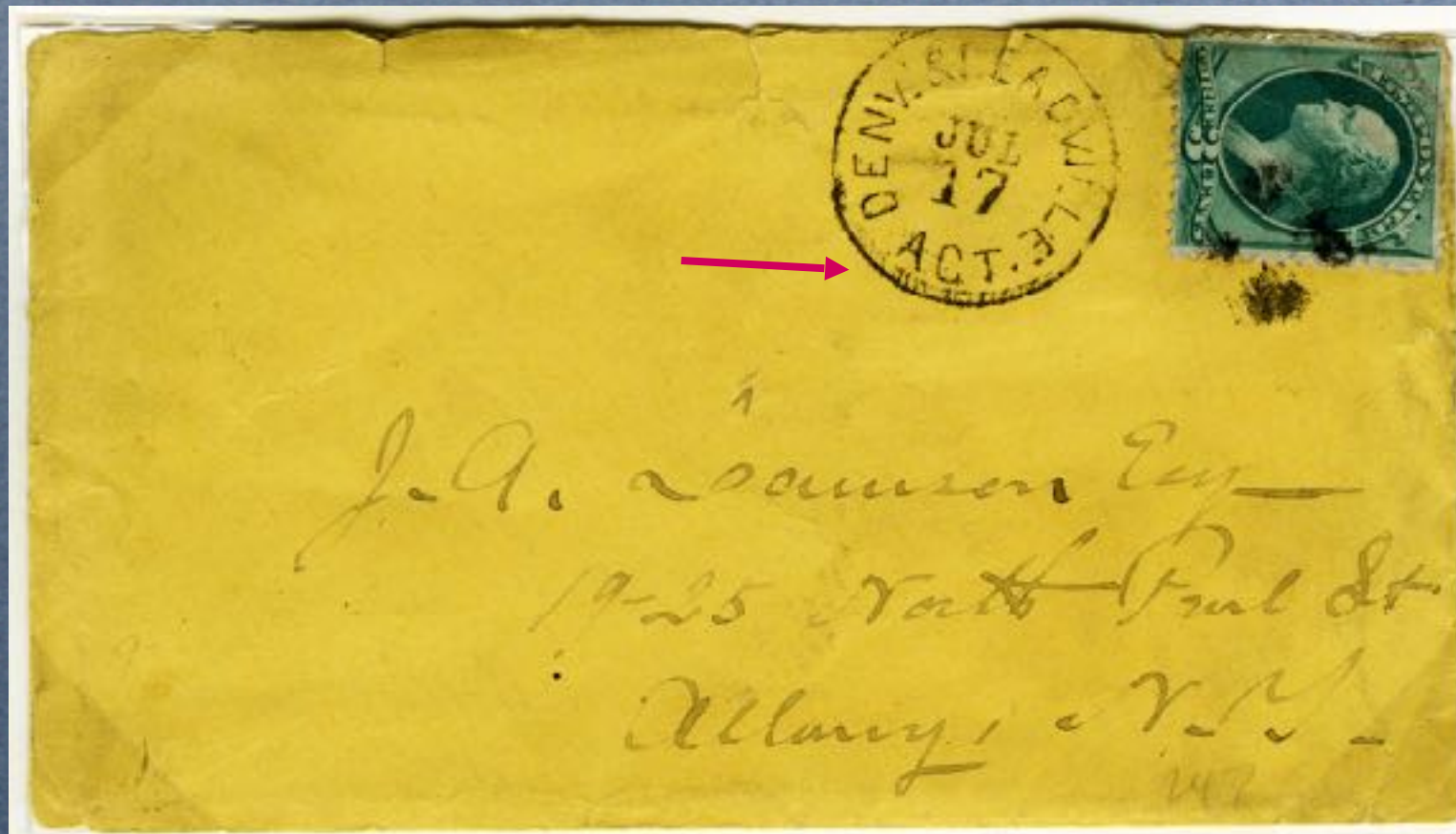
Denver South Park & Pacific Railroad

First Mortgage bond was \$1,000 @ 7%

John Evans was President.

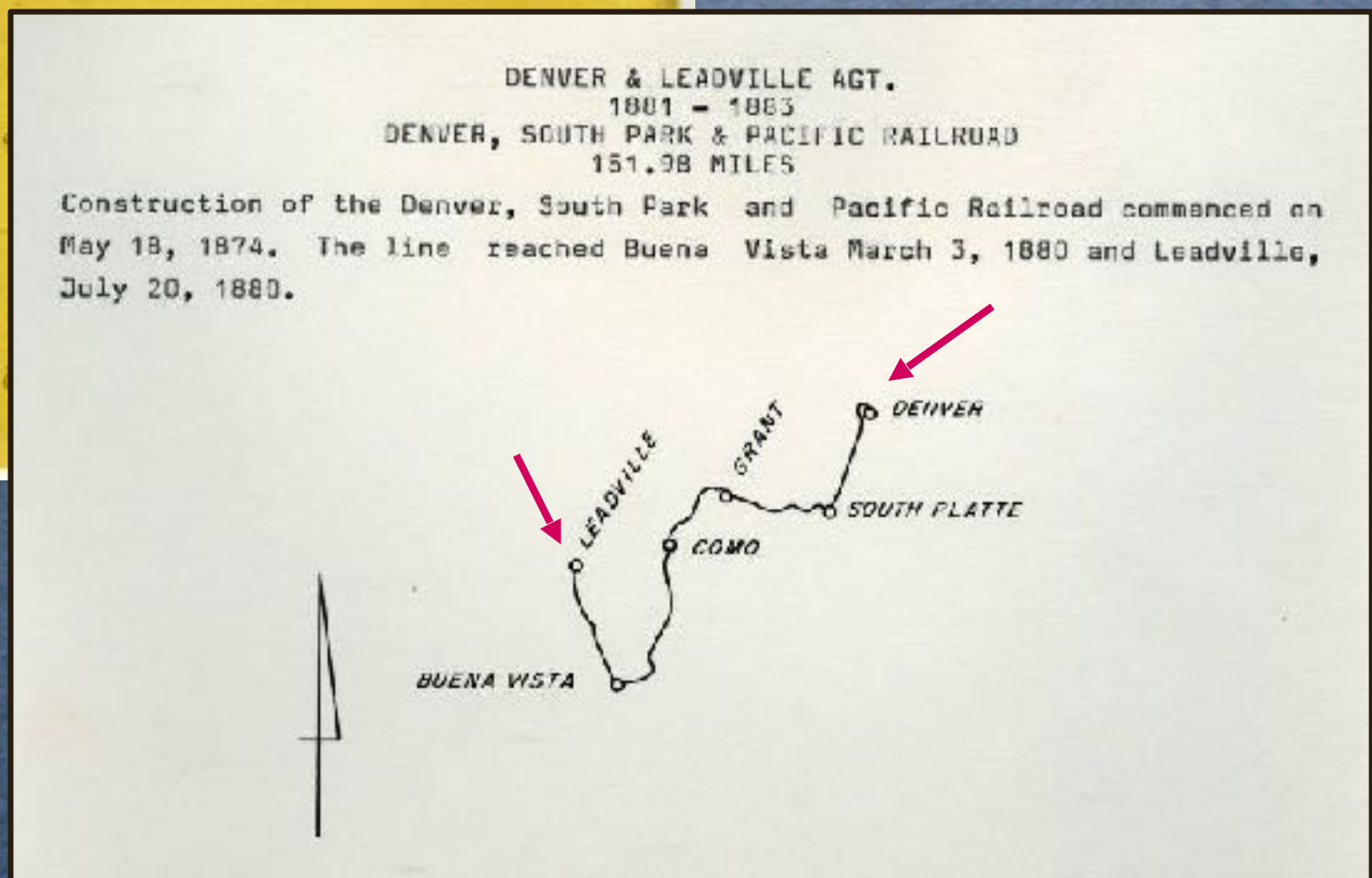
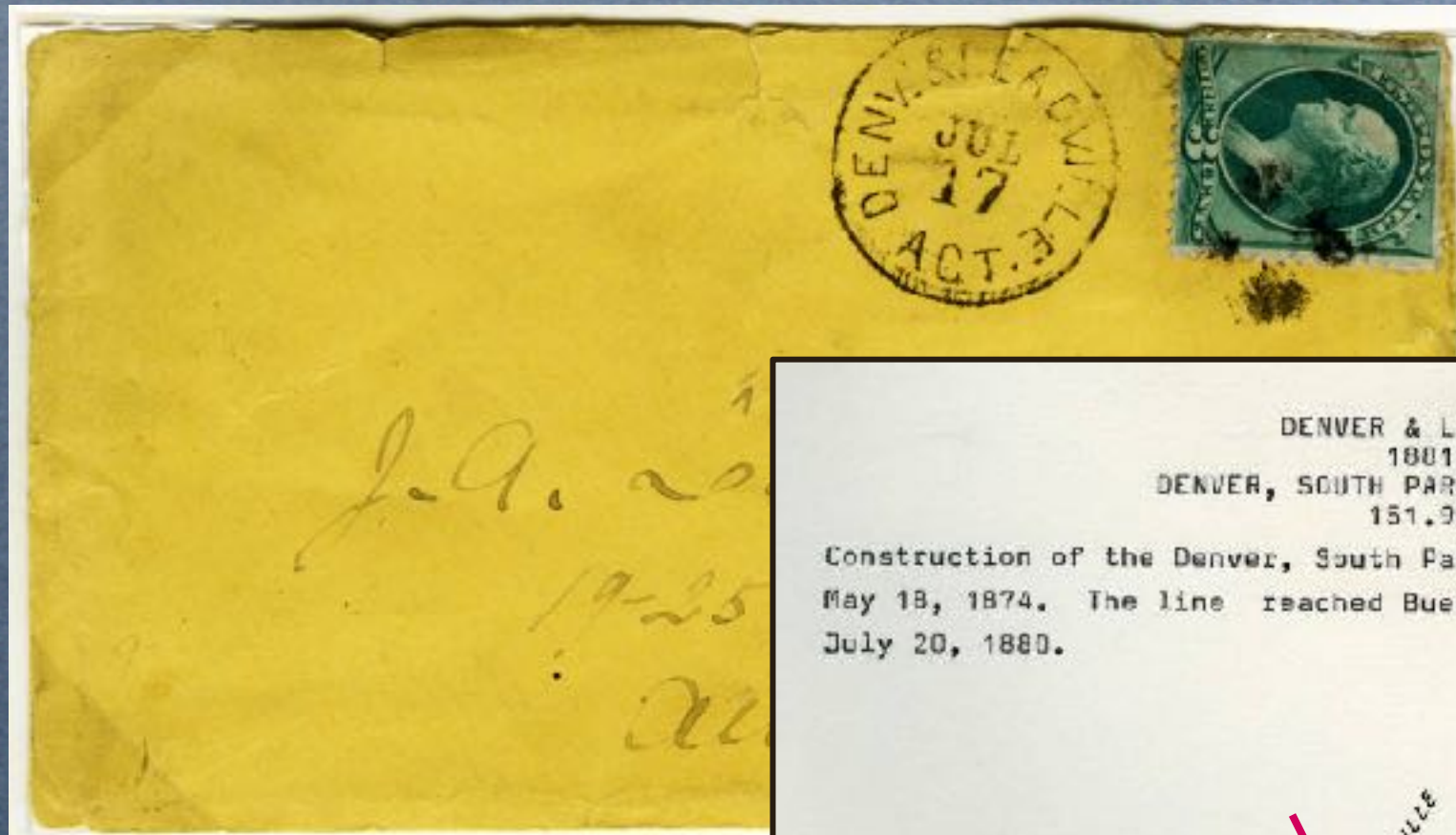


## Denver and Leadville Agent AGT. 1881-1883





## Denver and Leadville Agent (AGT). 1881-1883





Buena Vista, Colorado – July 15, 1880;

**Post Office** operated September 18, 1879 to present



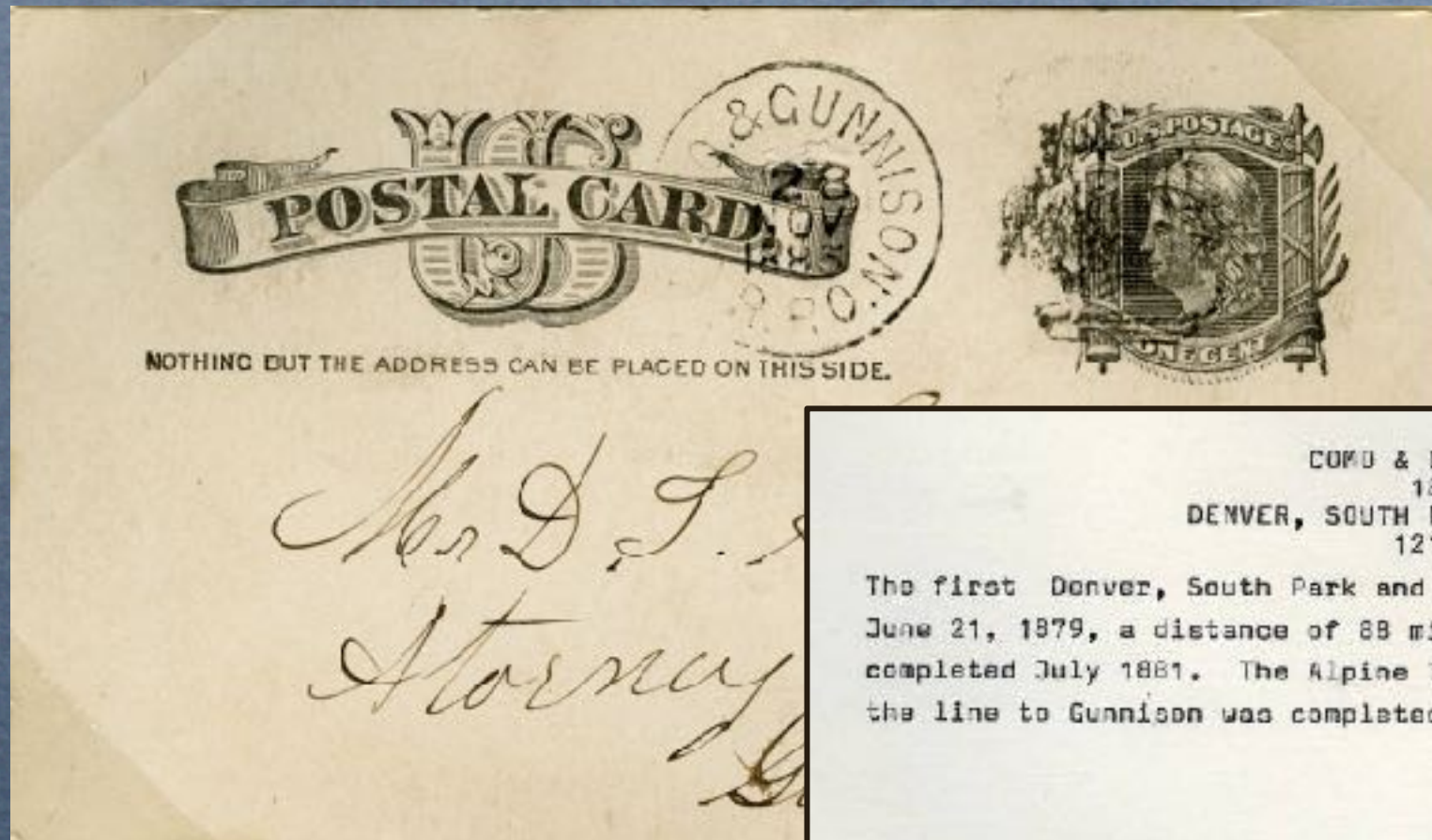


## Como & Gunnison, R.P.O., 1884-1887





## Como & Gunnison, R.P.O., 1884-1887



COMO & GUNNISON R.P.O.  
1884 - 1887  
DENVER, SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC RAILROAD  
121.60 MILES

The first Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad train arrived at Como on June 21, 1879, a distance of 88 miles from Denver. The line to Hancock was completed July 1881. The Alpine Tunnel was completed December 1, 1881; and the line to Gunnison was completed on September 1, 1882.





Denver & Leadville & Gunnison RPO, 1889-1898  
RR Sold to Colorado & Southern, November 1898, 151 Miles  
**Special Delivery Mailed from Buffalo Creek to Denver**





## Denver & Leadville R.P.O., 1889-1898



### DENVER & LEADVILLE R.P.O. 1889 - 1898 DENVER, LEADVILLE & GUNNISON RAILWAY 324.03 MILES

The construction of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad commenced on May 18, 1874. The line reached Buena Vista on March 3, 1880, Leadville on July 20, 1880, and Gunnison on September 5, 1882. This line was sold to the Union Pacific Railroad on July 6, 1886, which organized the Denver, Leadville & Gunnison Railway. The D.L. & G. Ry. was sold on November 18, 1898, to the Colorado & Southern Railway; however, operations of the line were not transferred until January 12, 1899.





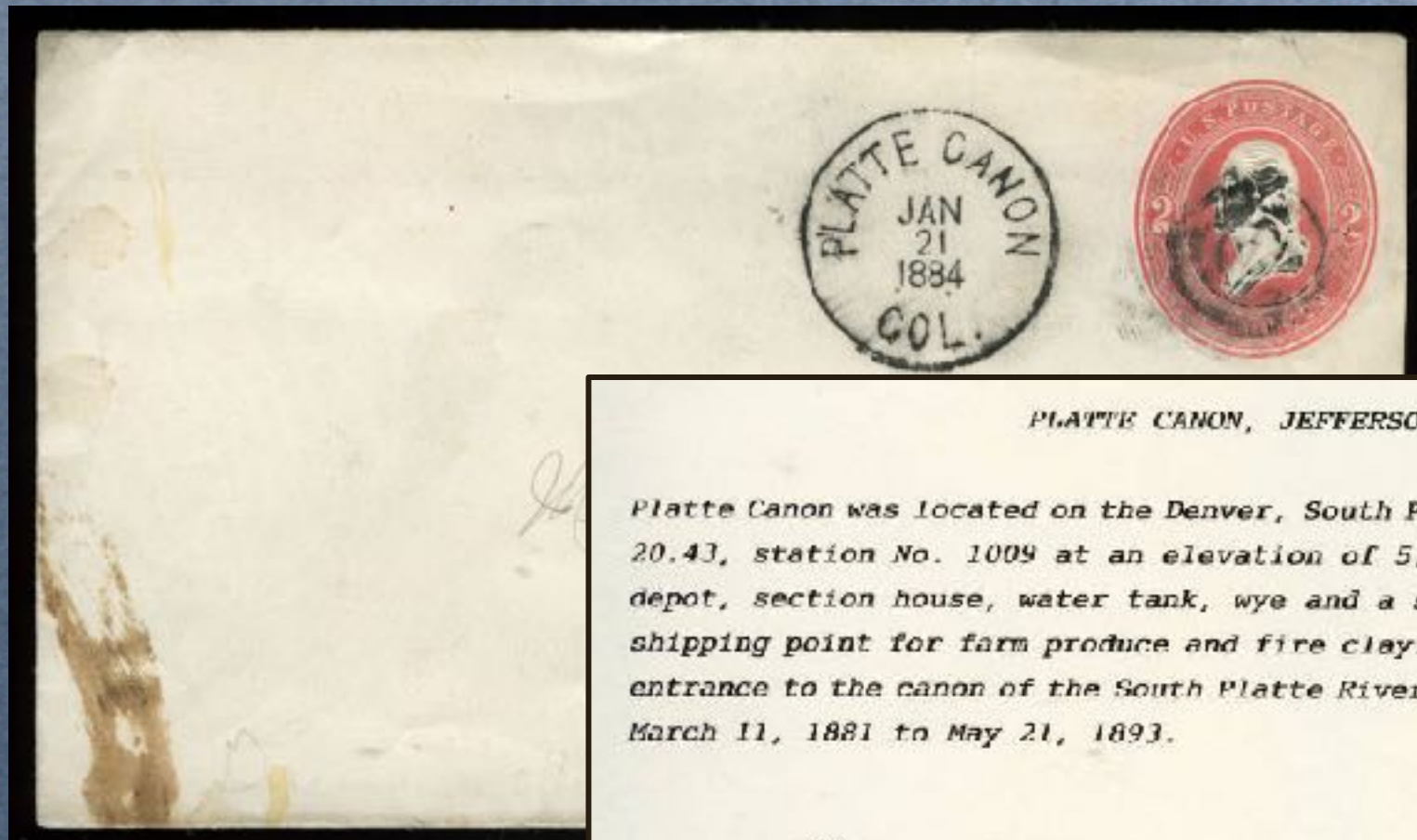
Platte Canyon, Colorado, Jan 21, 1884

**Post Office** operated March 11, 1881 to May 21, 1893  
(Waterton, today)



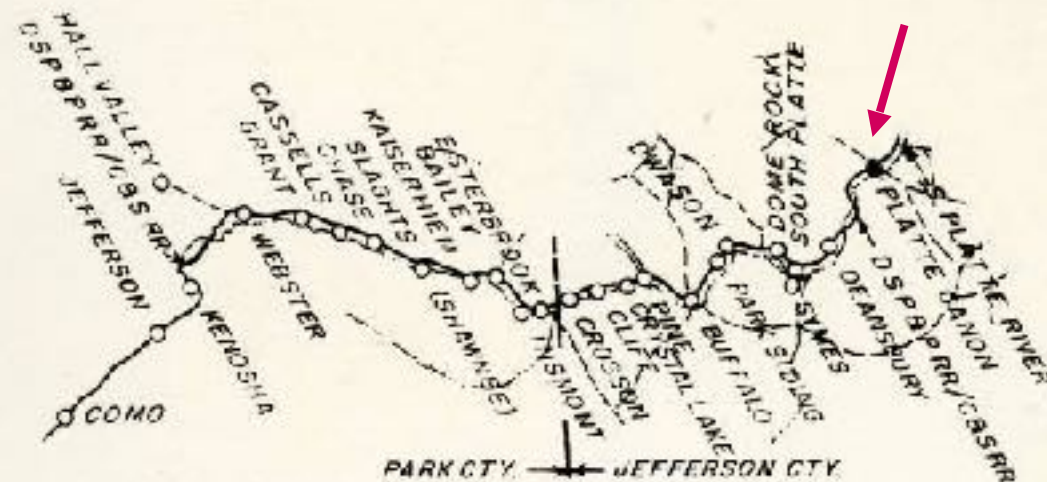


# Platte Canyon, Colorado, Jan 21, 1884



## PLATTE CANON, JEFFERSON COUNTY

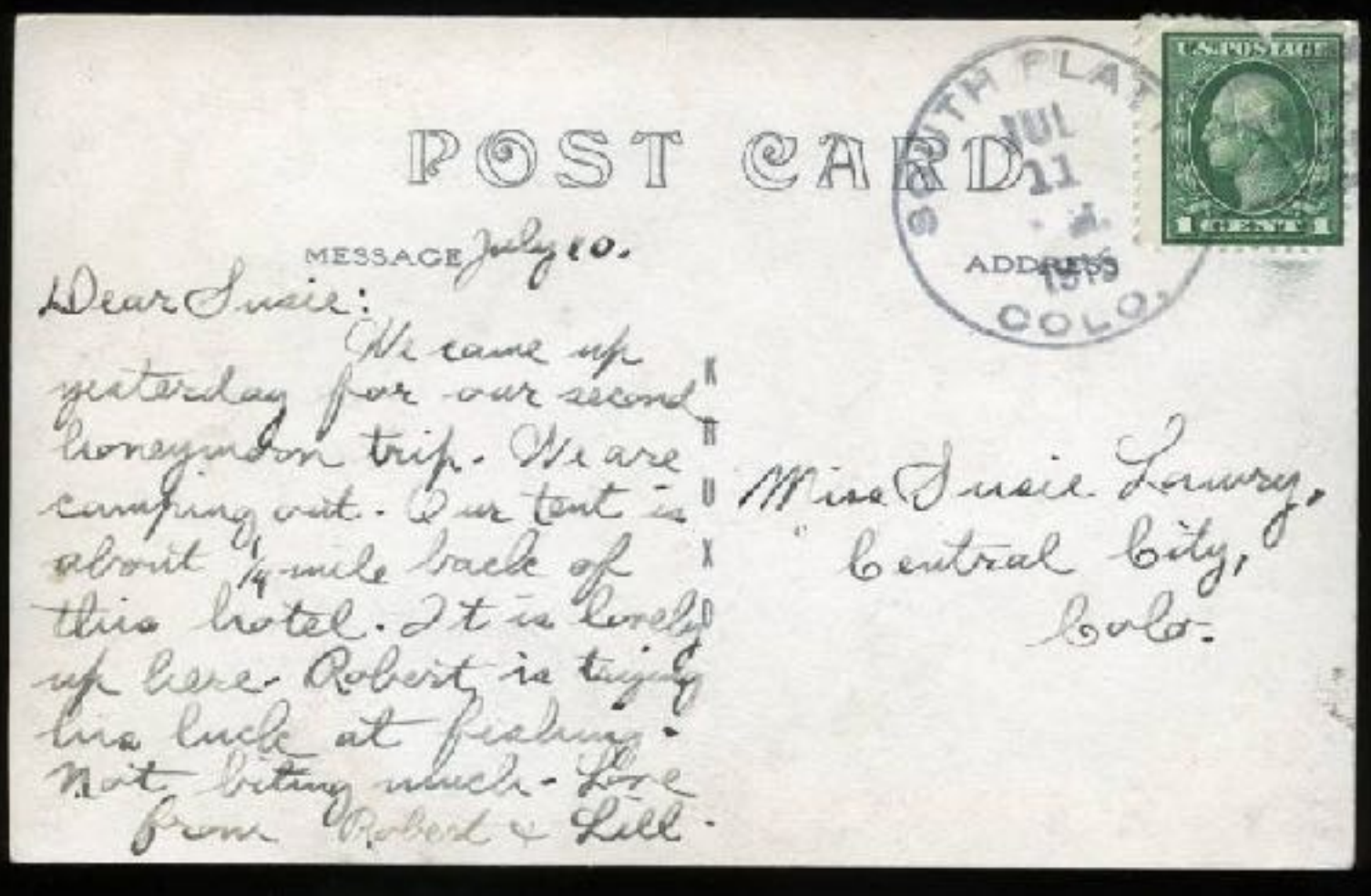
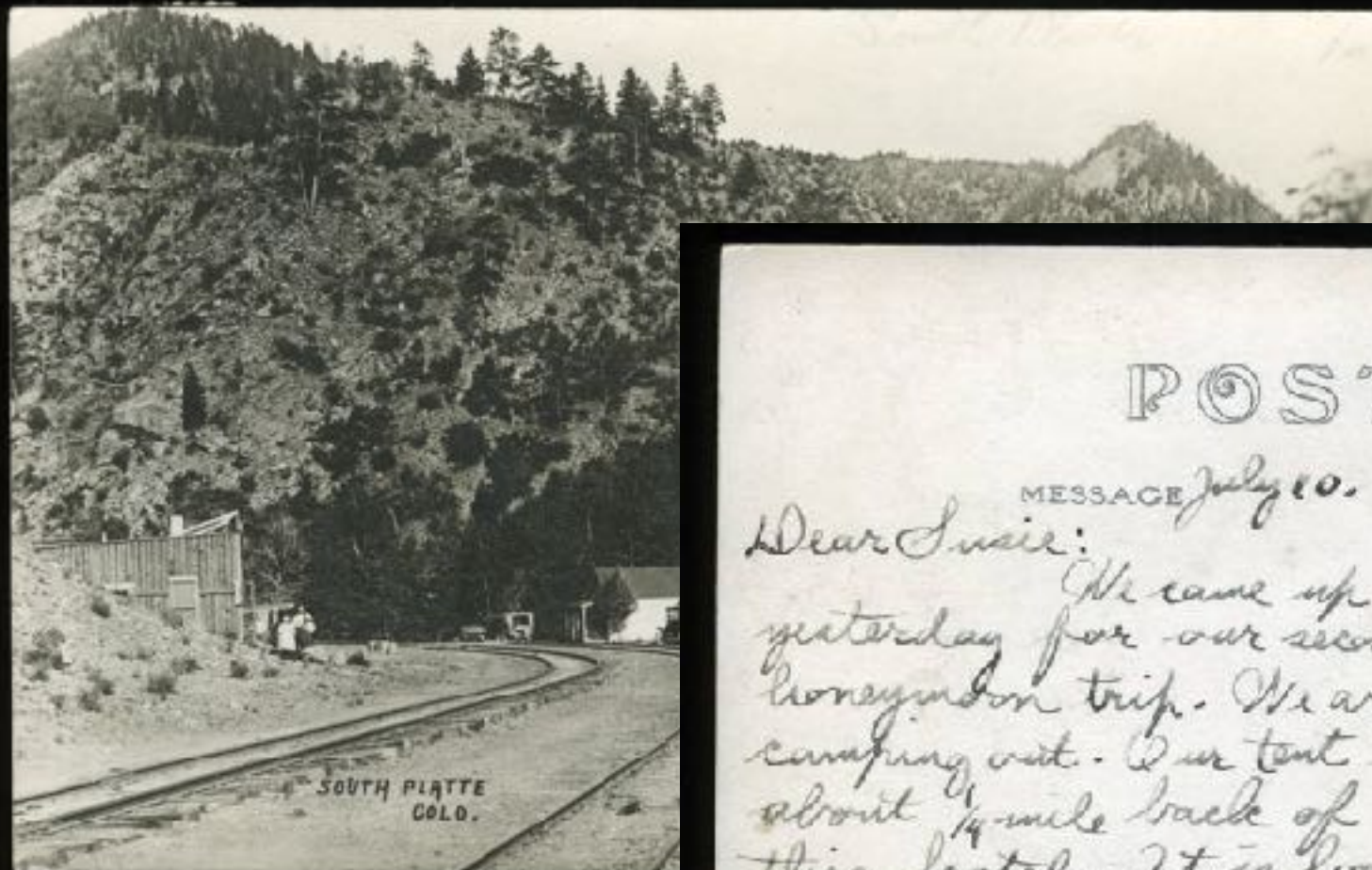
Platte Canon was located on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad at M.P. 20.43, station No. 1009 at an elevation of 5,062 feet. Platte Canon had a depot, section house, water tank, wye and a siding of 3,062 feet. It was a shipping point for farm produce and fire clay. Platte Canon was the point of entrance to the canon of the South Platte River. The post office operated from March 11, 1881 to May 21, 1893.





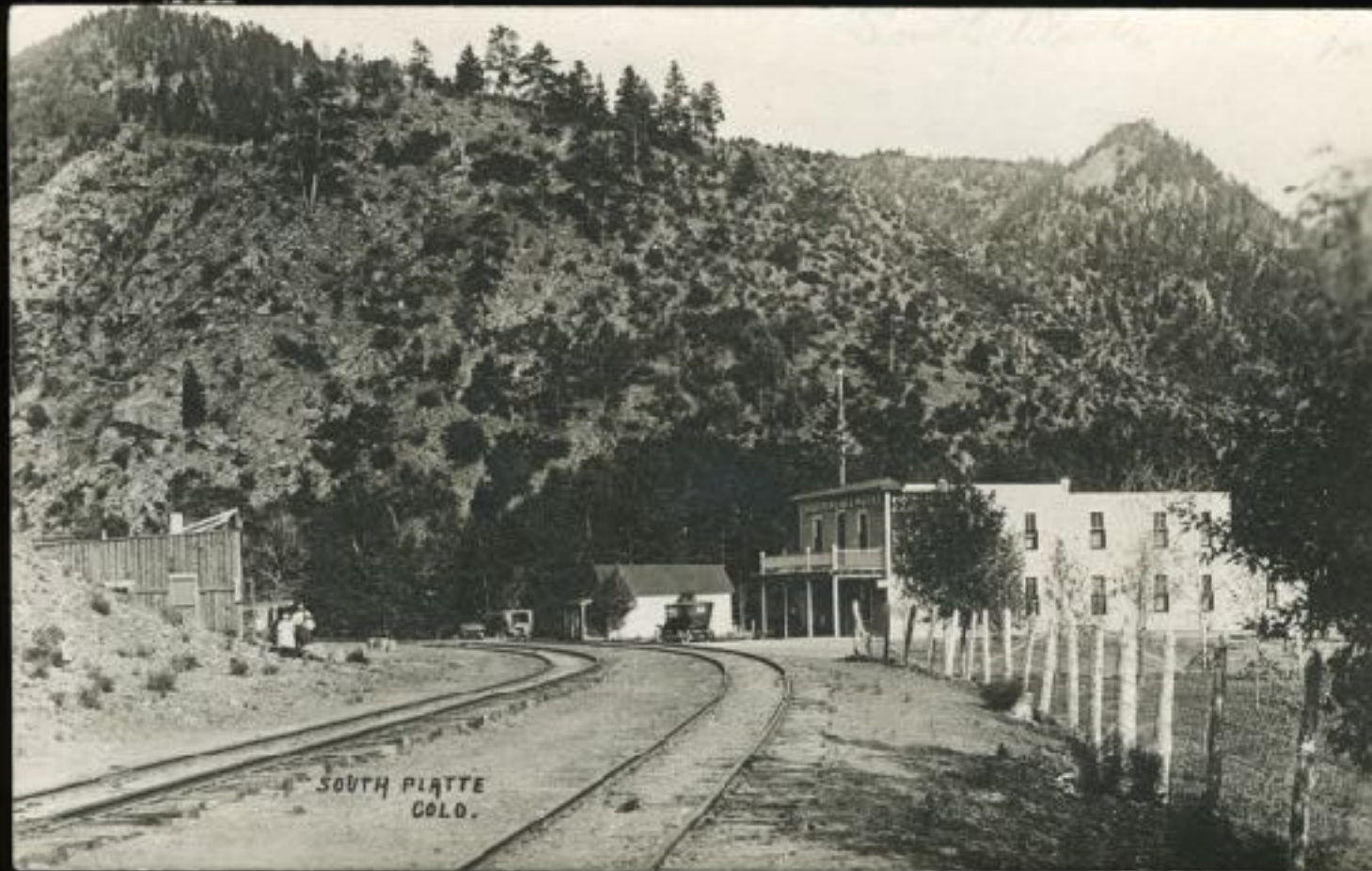
## South Platte, Colorado - July 11, 1916

**Post Office** operated January 31, 1899 to September 15, 1937





## South Platte Hotel – looking east



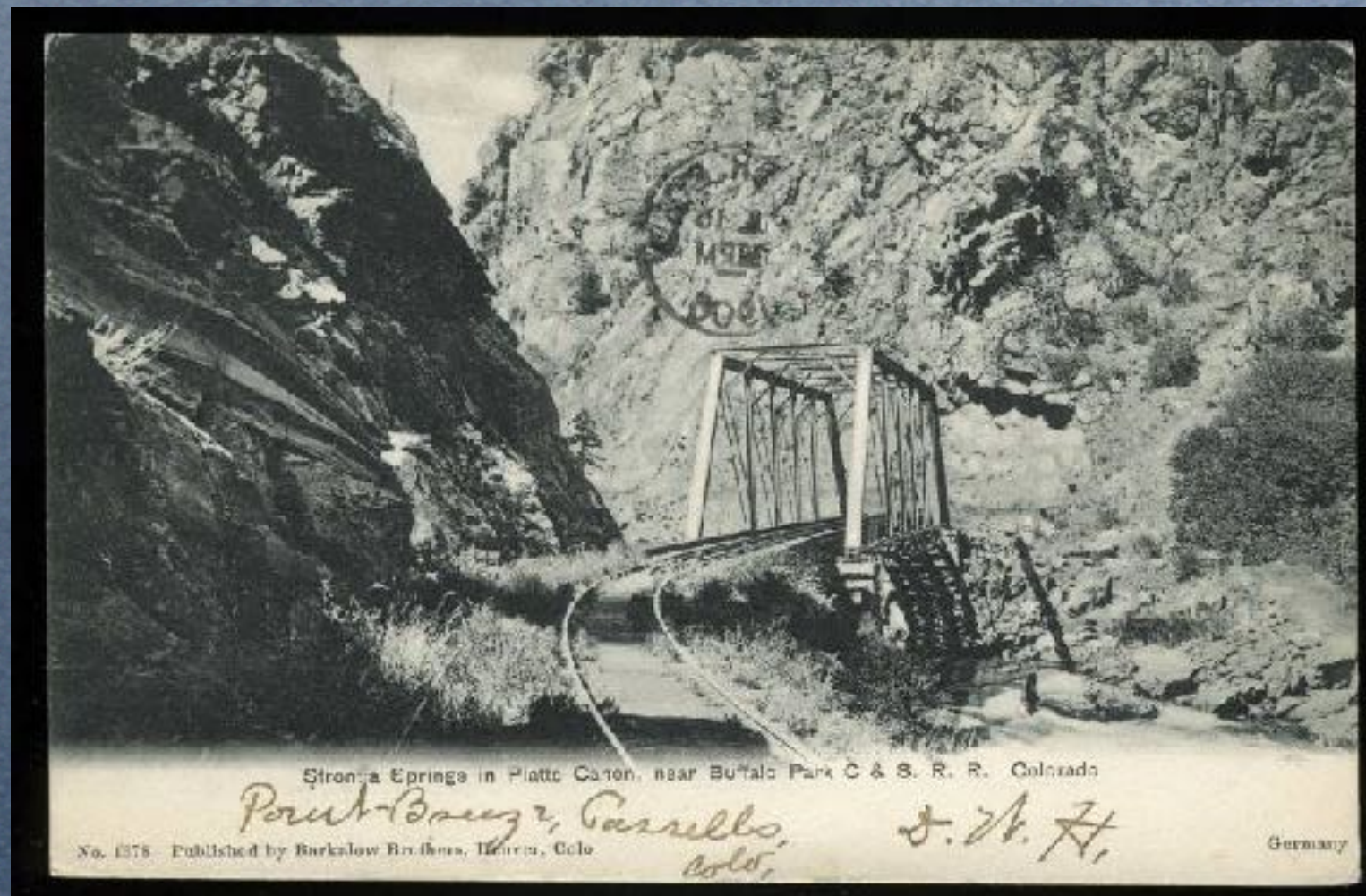


## South Platte Hotel and Depot – looking west





# Bridge crossing South Platte River near Strontia Springs





## Strontia Springs Resort



Strontia Springs—A private resting place close to Denver, Colo., round trip \$1.00.



Dome Rock, Colorado, April 10, 1910

**Post Office** operated June 25, 1907 to April 4, 1911

Post Office moved to **Long View**





## Colorado & Southern train at Dome Rock





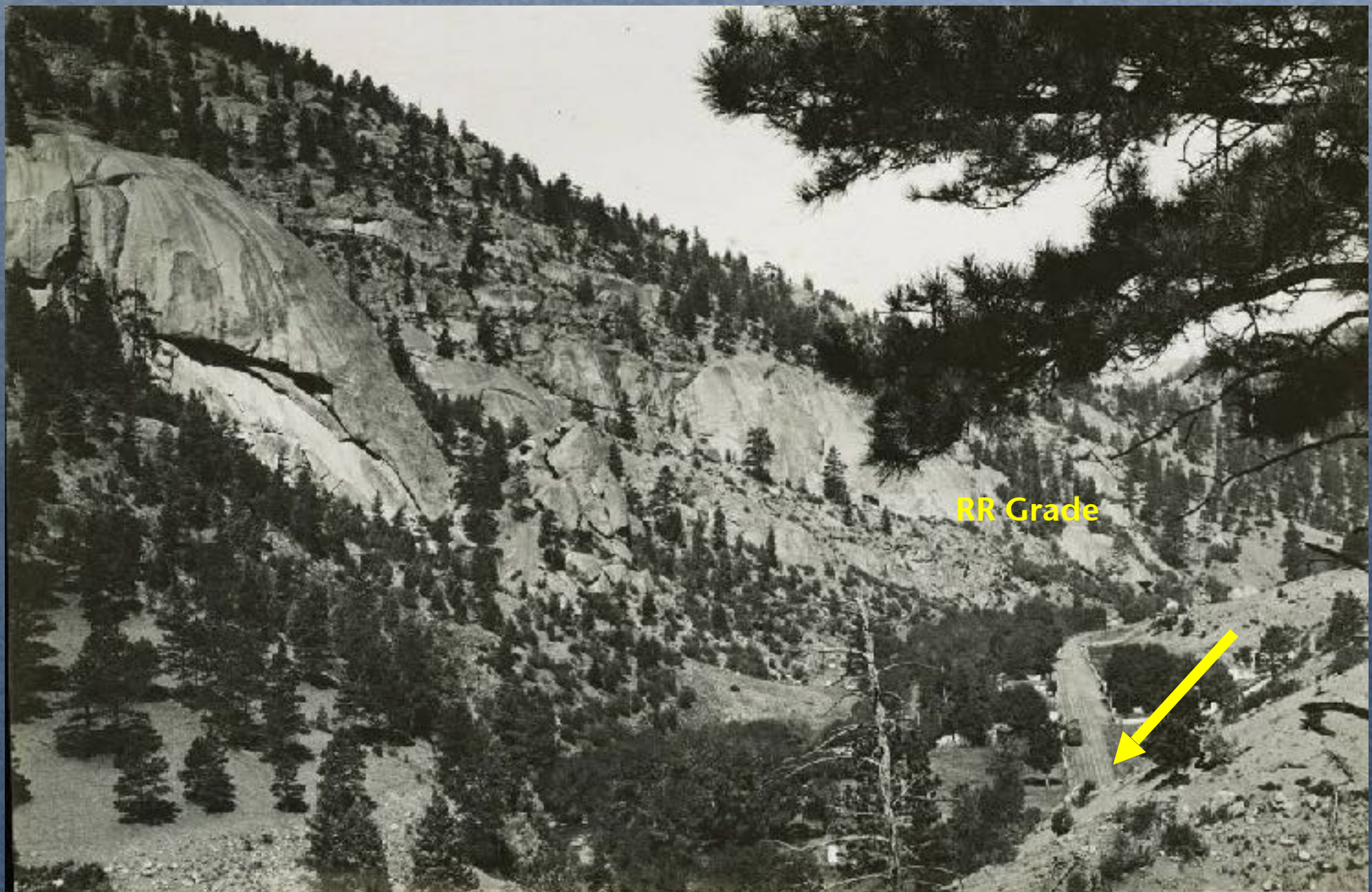
## Colorado & Southern Train in South Platte Canyon





# Dome Rock, Colorado –

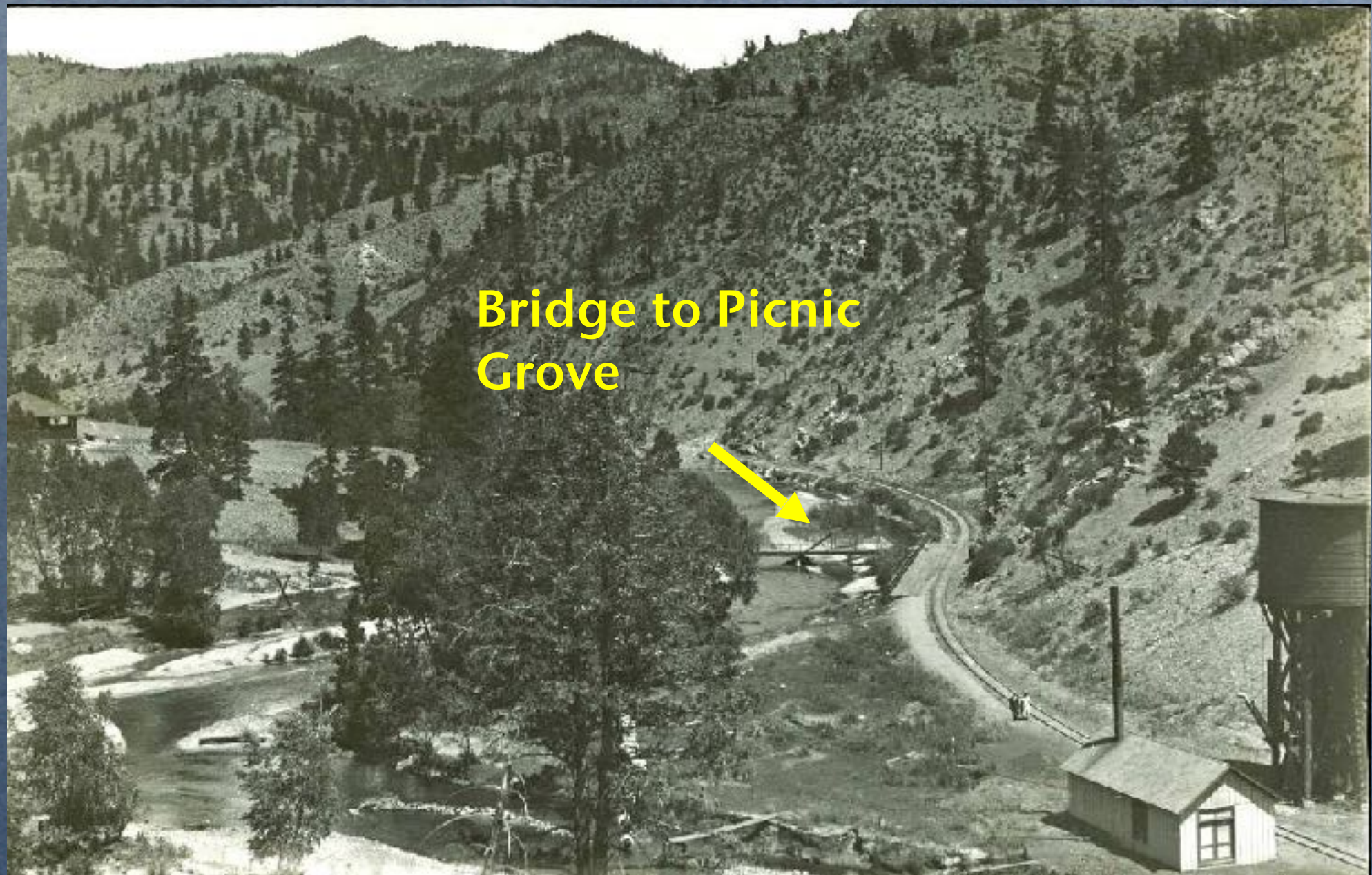
Post Office moved to Long View, April 1911





## Dome Rock, Colorado —

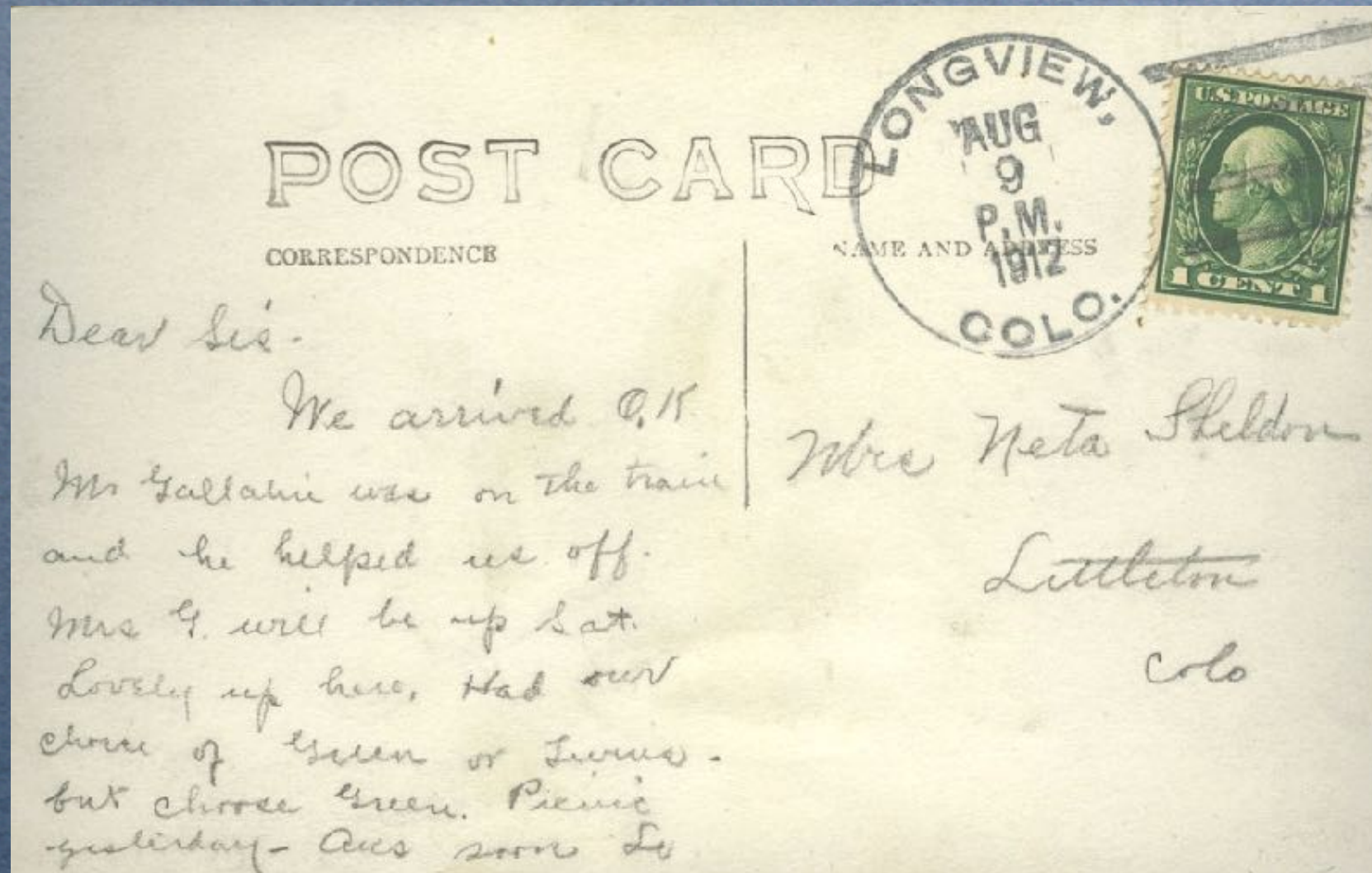
Post Office moved to Long View, April 1911





# Post Office moved to Long View from Dome Rock

## Long View Post Office - April 4, 1911 to Sept 15, 1937



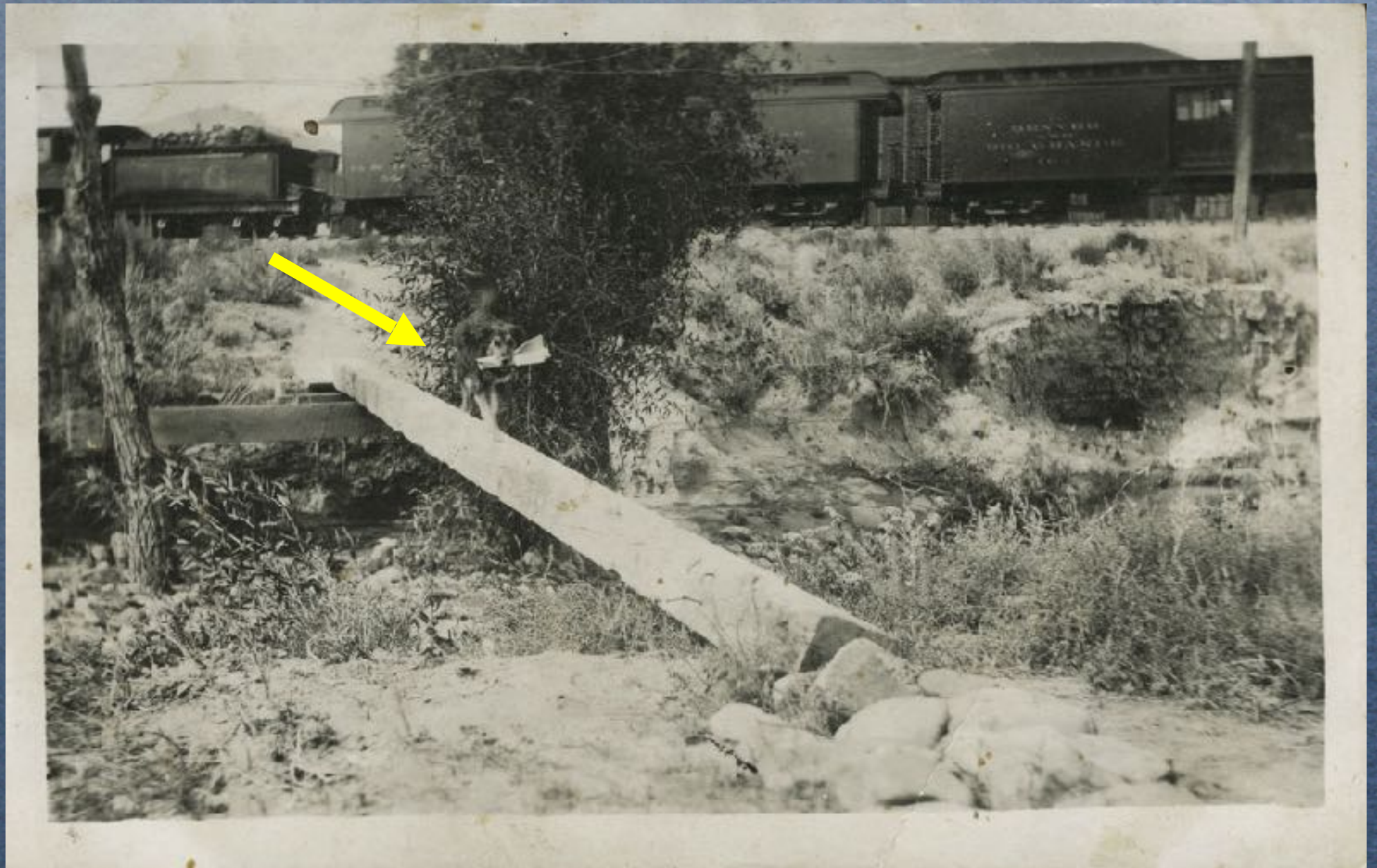


## Near Dome Rock and Long View Real Photo Post Cards





Long View, Colorado – (express mail car)  
Real Photo Post Cards – here comes the mail





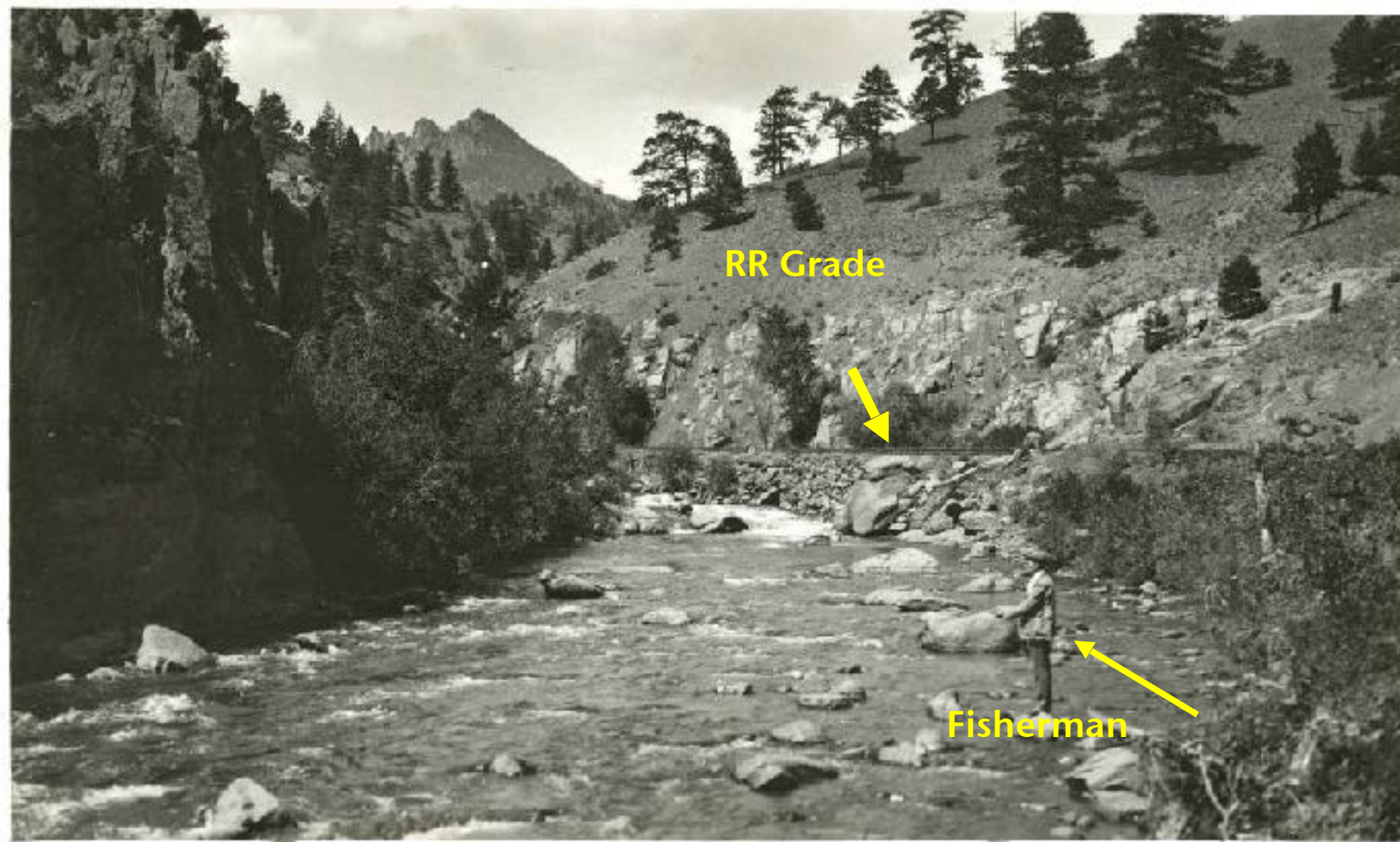
## Children taking the train from Littleton – Card mailed from Long View





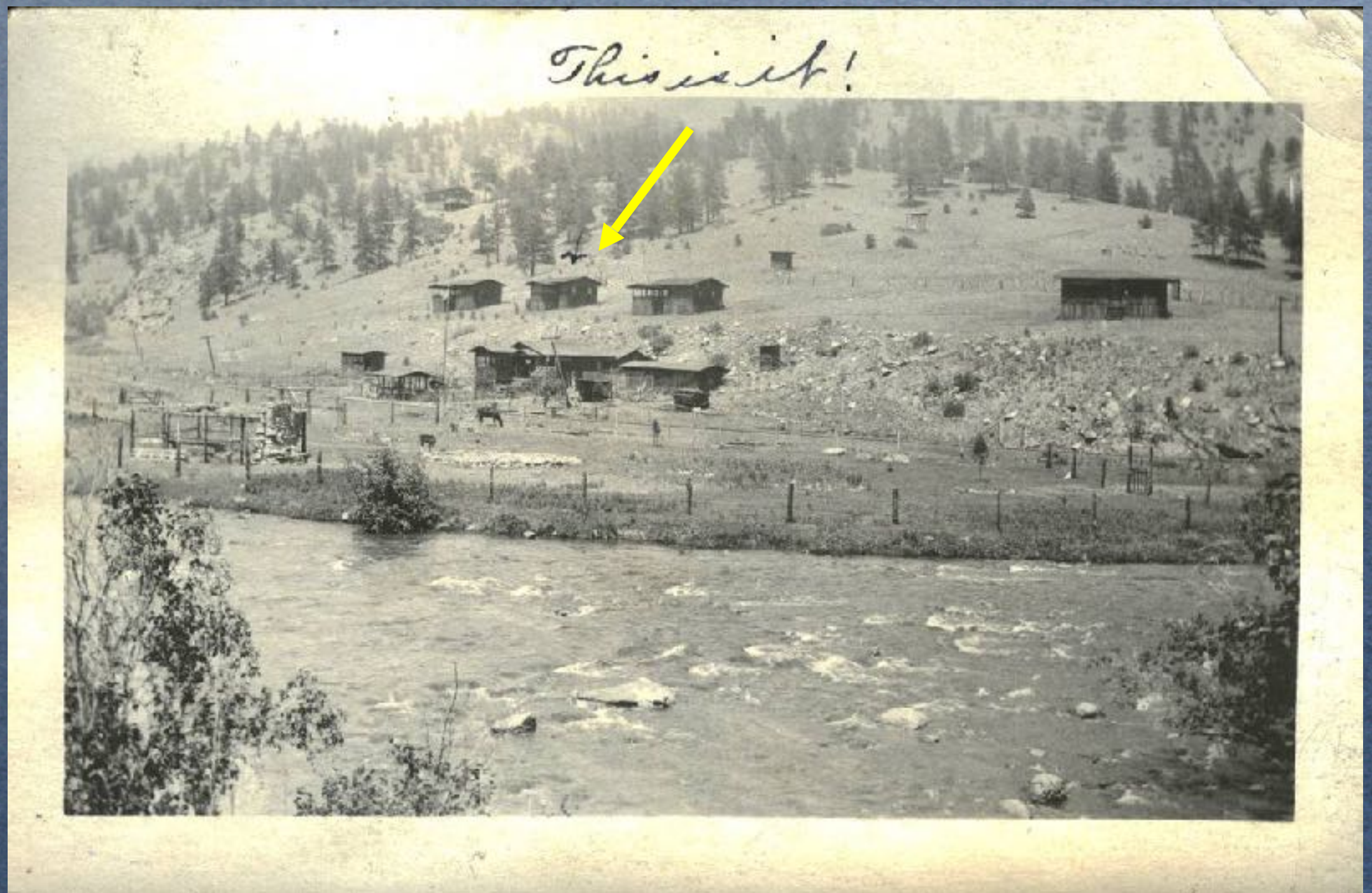
# Near Long View, Colorado

## Real Photo Post Card – Fishing on the South Platte



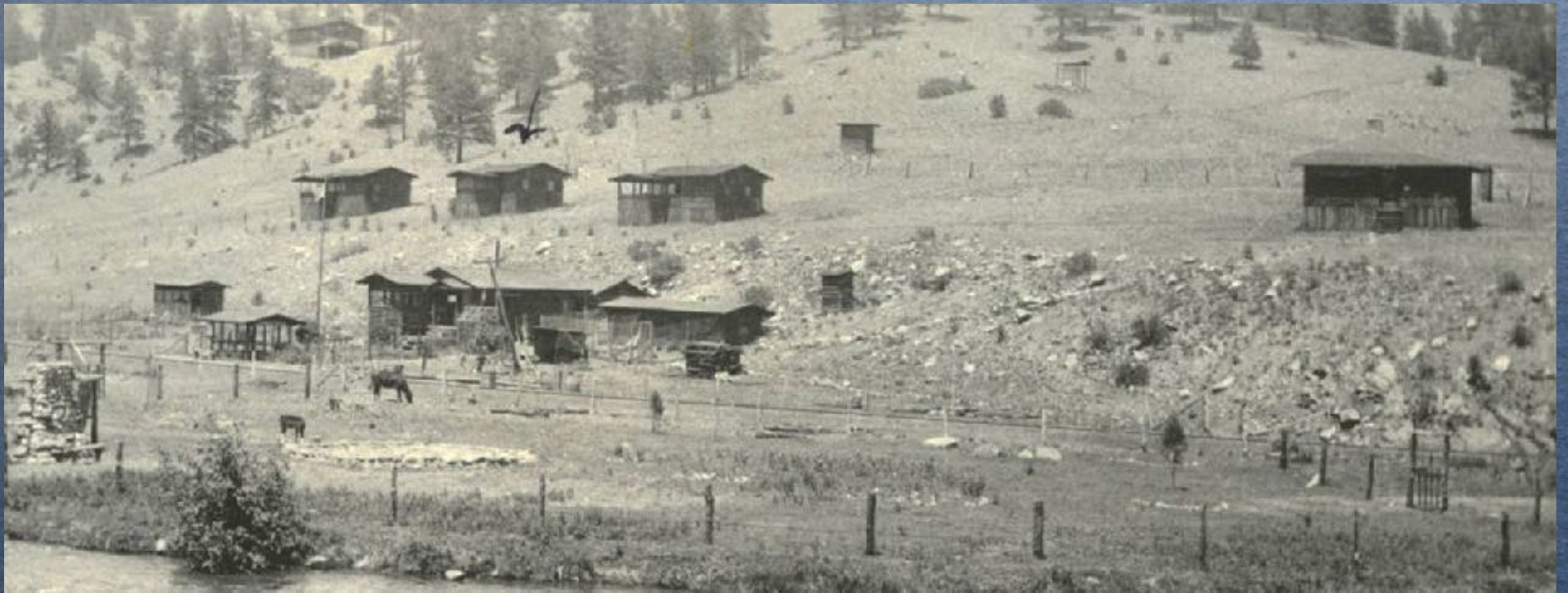


# Long View, Colorado – Real Photo Post Cards – Summer Cabins & Campground





## Long View, Colorado – Summer Cabins & Campground





## Long View, Colorado – Summer Cabins & Campground

“...Please keep a red ribbon on the  
leg of my chicken. It might be  
about the right size when I get  
back.”

Greetings from  
Longview! Hope you  
and Mervin are having  
a fine summer.  
Please keep a red  
ribbon on the leg of  
my chicken. It might  
to be about the right  
size when I get back.  
Hope you're getting  
the good rain. We are  
Love to Miss Turner and  
yourself. S. Hunn

Myrle Edith Young  
515 North Cedar  
Colorado Springs  
Colo.



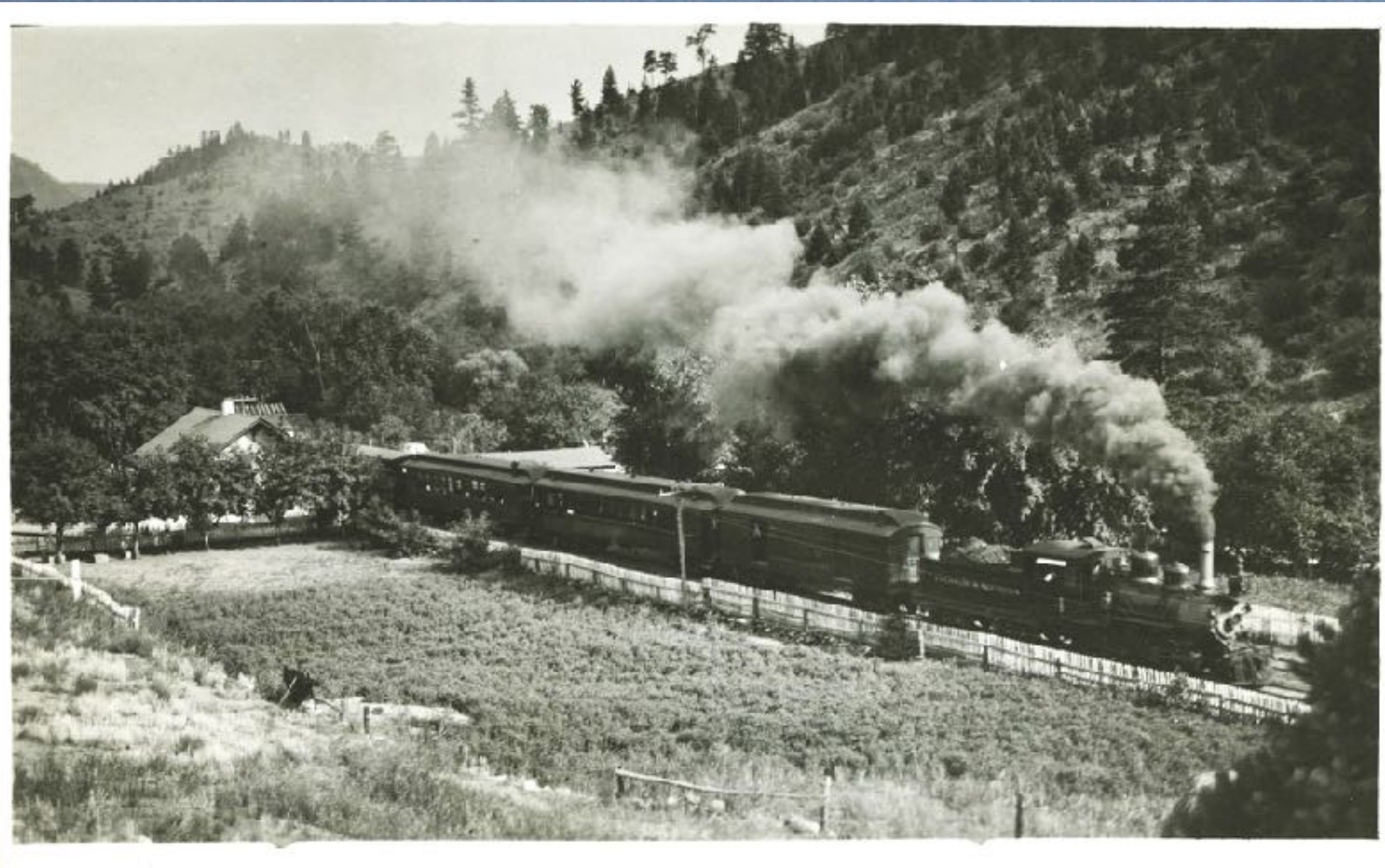


# Long View, Colorado – Real Photo Post Cards – Summer Cabins & Campground





## Near Long View, Colorado — Real Photo Post Cards





## Long View, Colorado – Real Photo Post Cards





## Denver & Leadville R.P.O. West - March 7, 1911

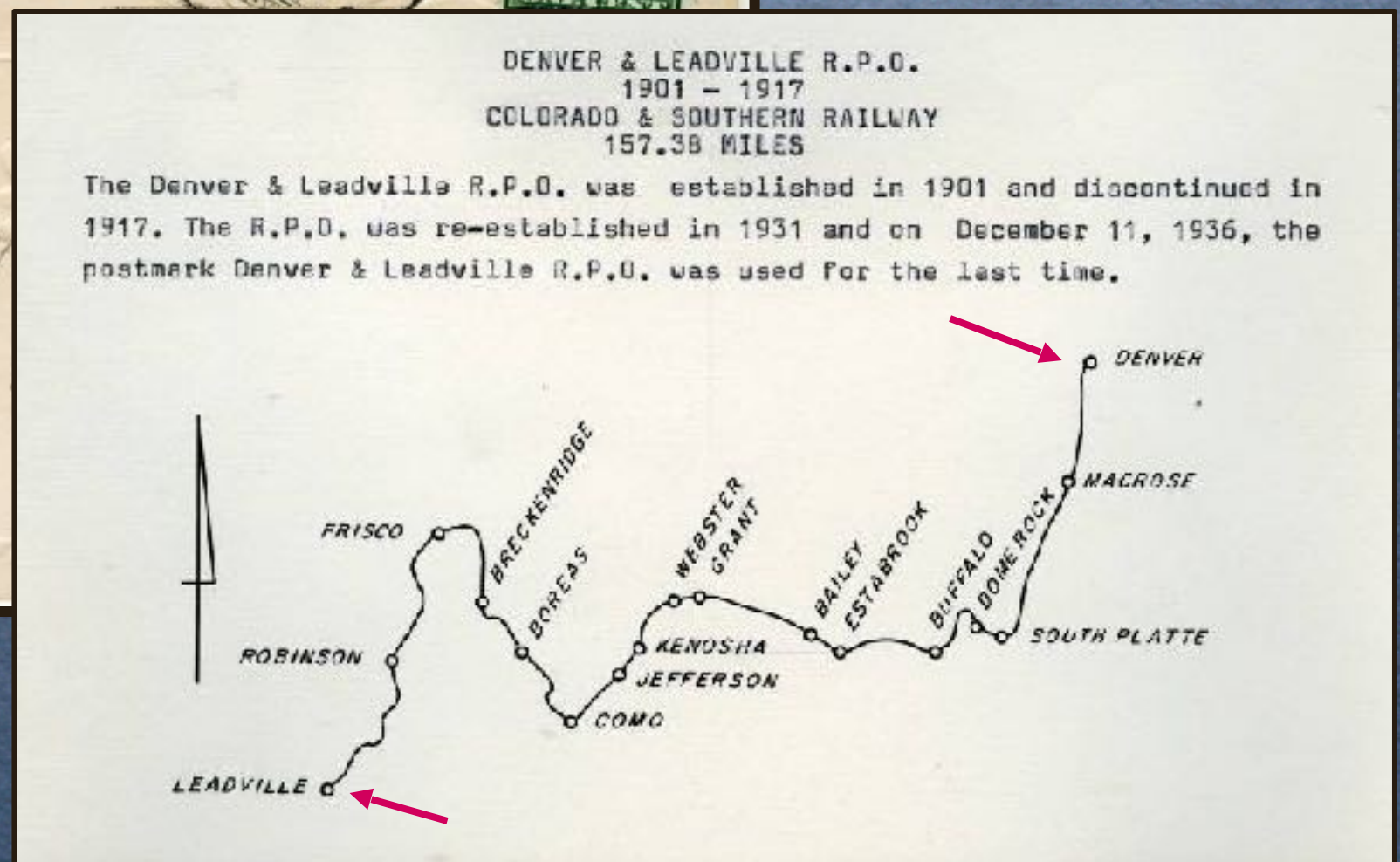
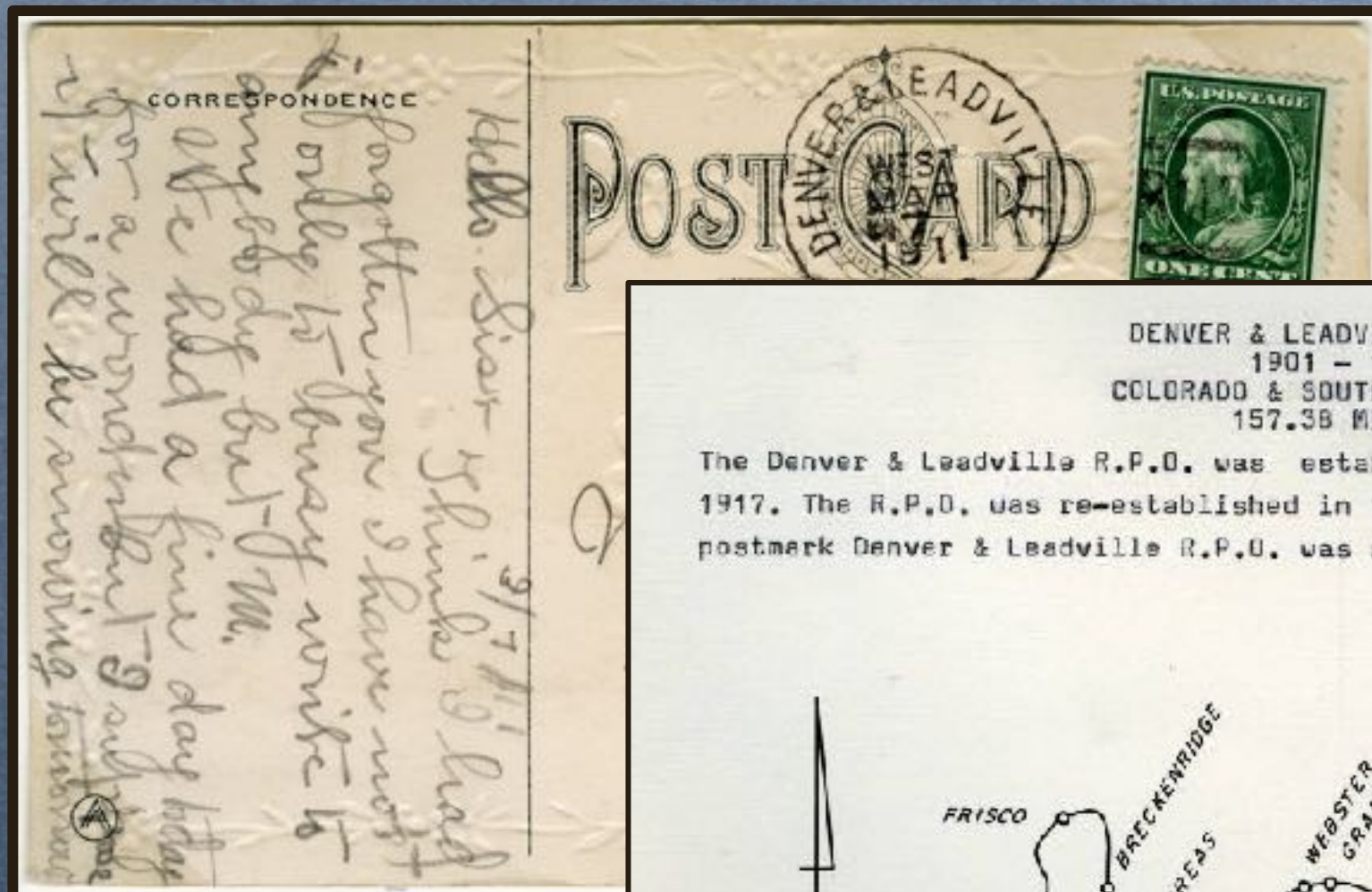
R.P.O. operated from 1901 until discontinued in 1917

Restablished in 1931 and used for the last time on December 11, 1936





## Denver & Leadville R.P.O. West - March 7, 1911





## Buffalo Creek, Colorado - 1897





## Denver South Park and Pacific - 1889

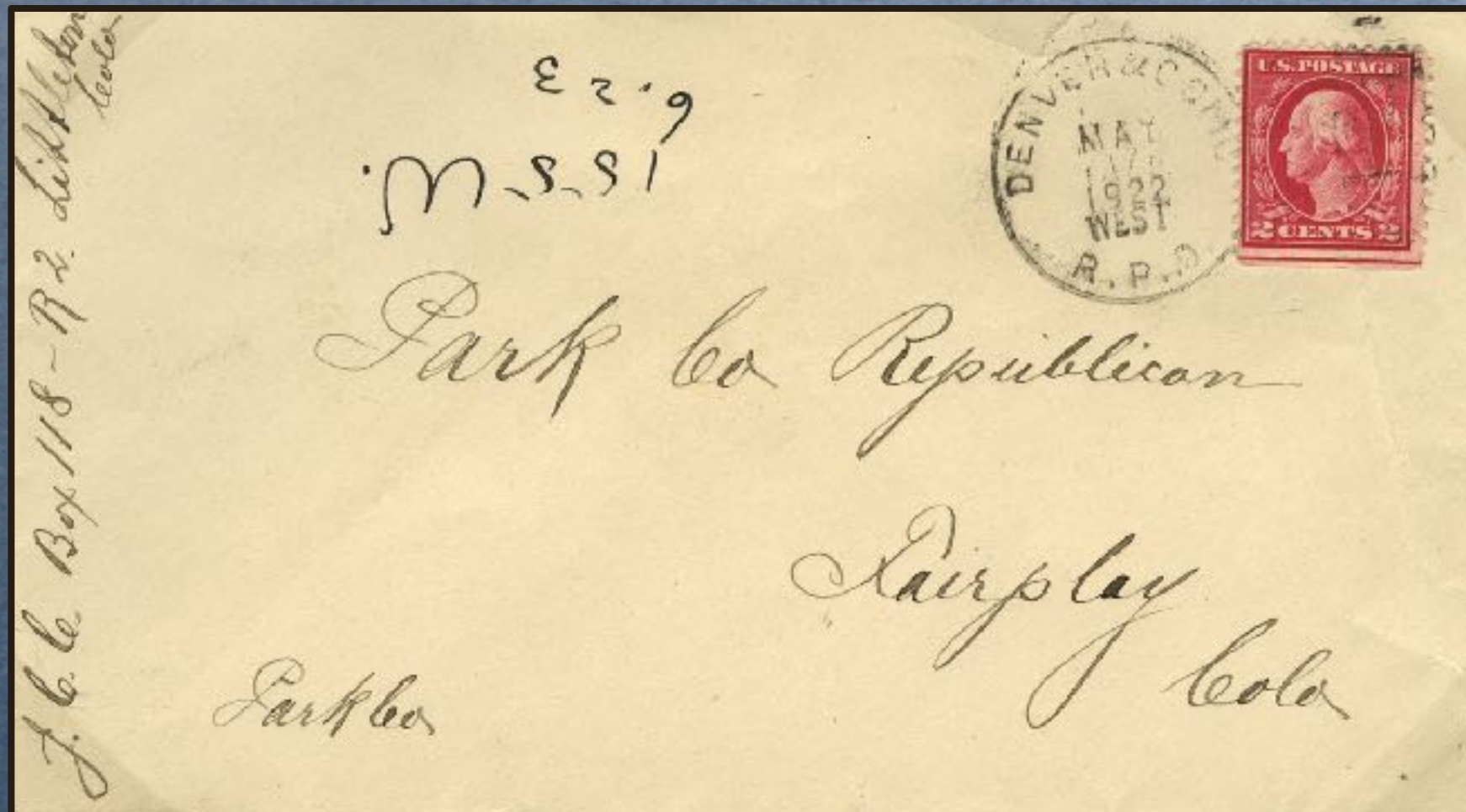




Denver & Como R.P.O. West – May 17, 1922

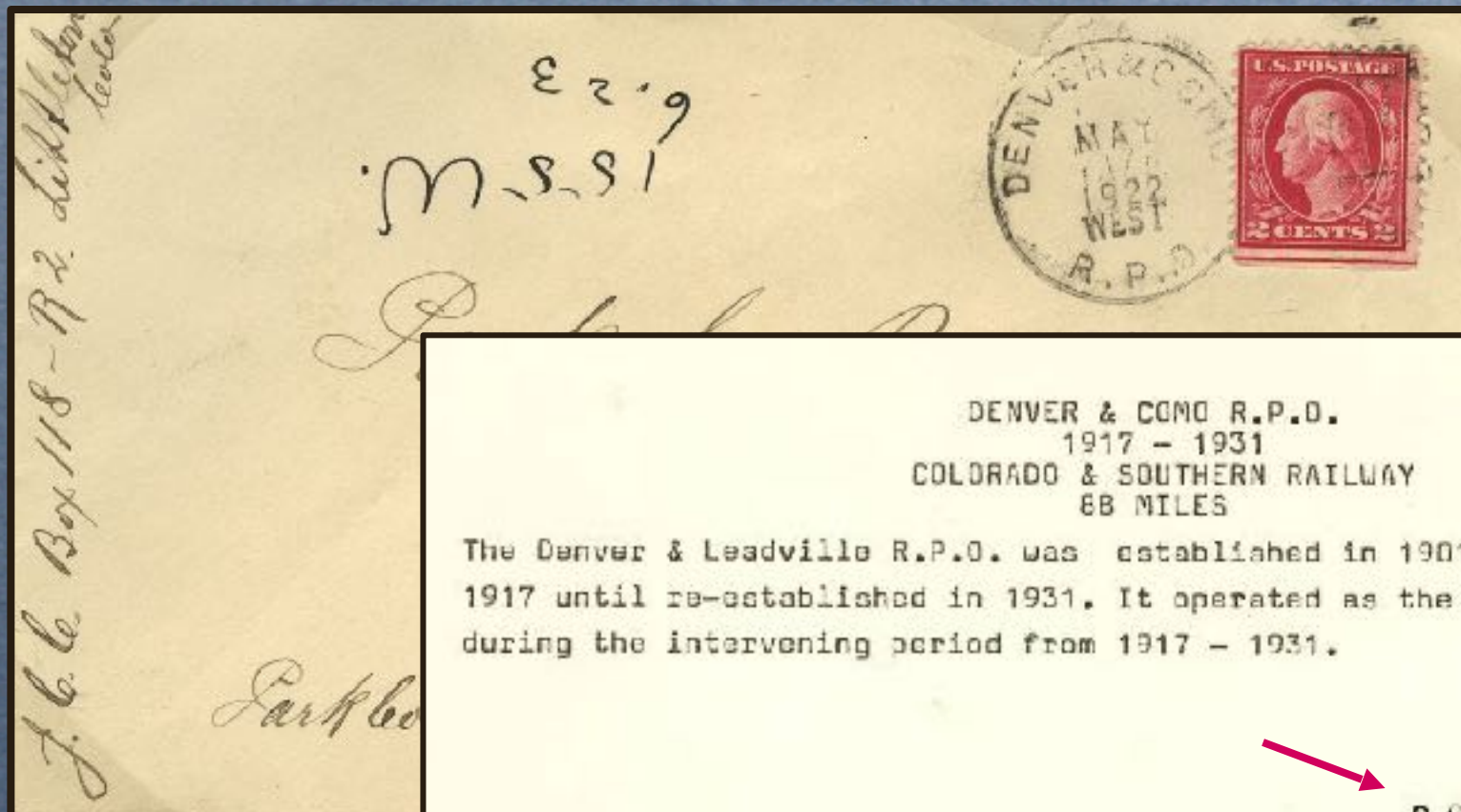
R.P.O. operated 1917 to 1931

Replaces Denver & Leadville R.P.O.



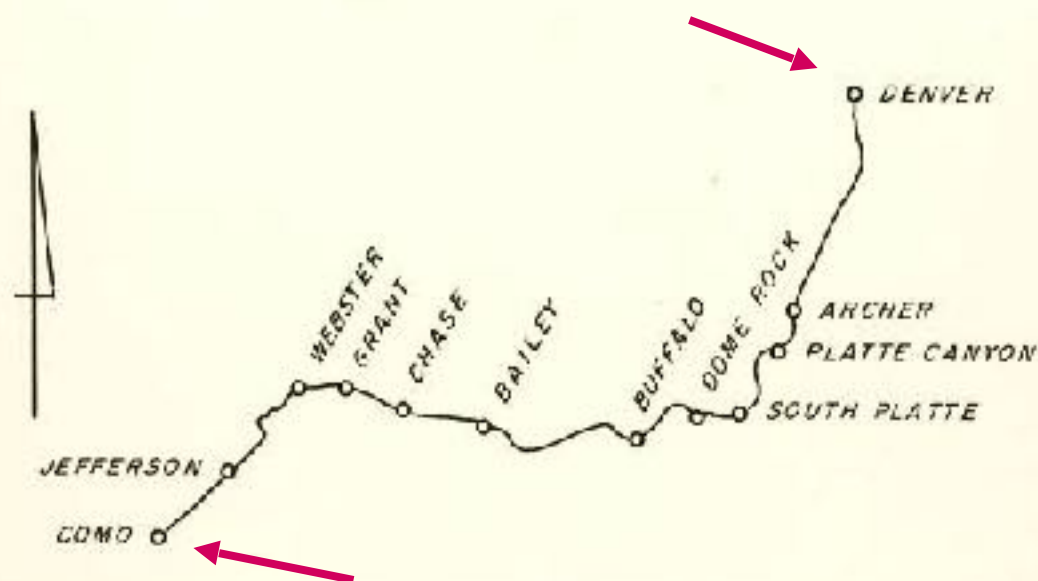


## Denver & Como R.P.O. West – May 17, 1922



### DENVER & COMO R.P.O. 1917 - 1931 COLORADO & SOUTHERN RAILWAY 68 MILES

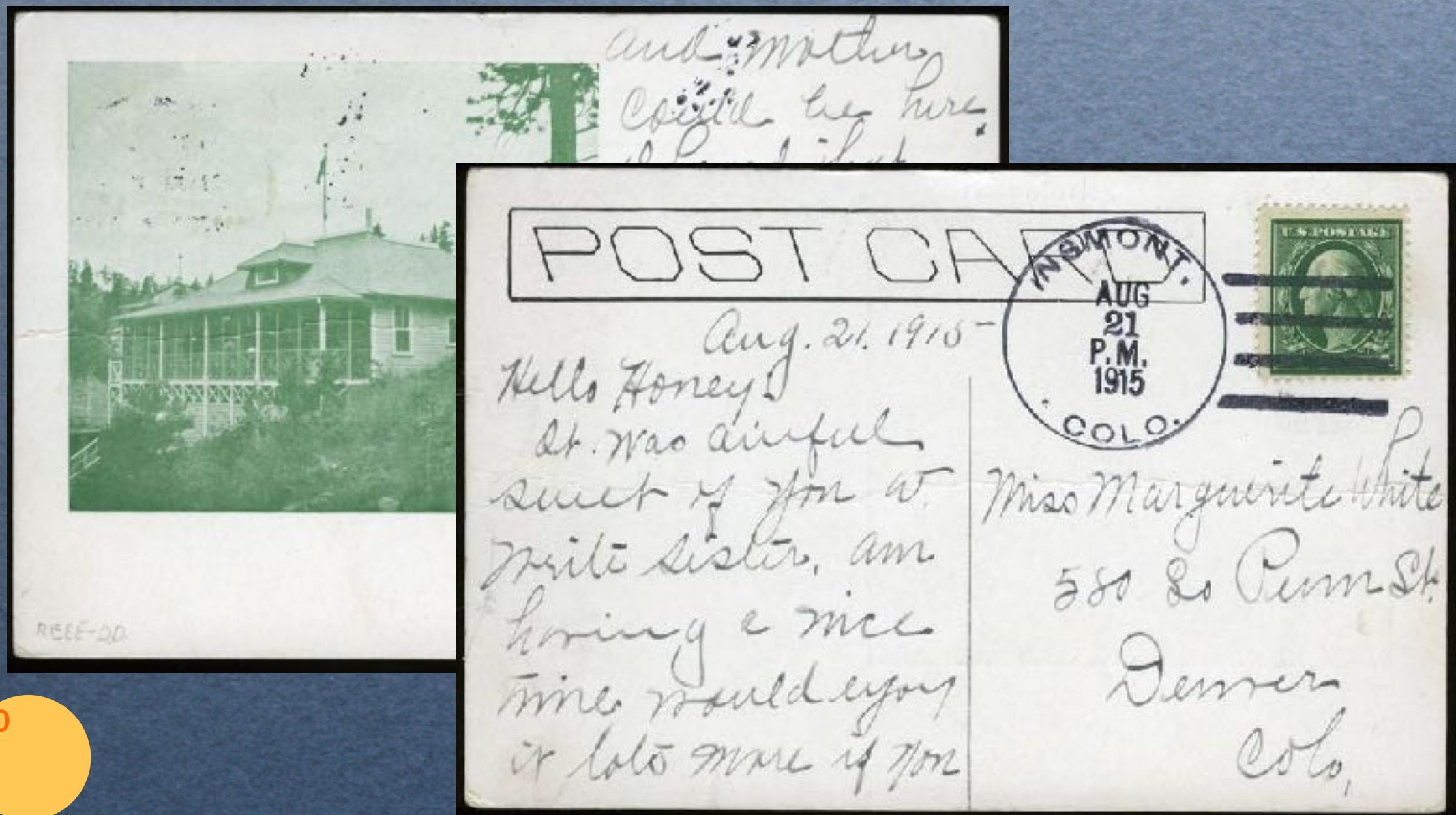
The Denver & Leadville R.P.O. was established in 1901 and discontinued in 1917 until re-established in 1931. It operated as the Denver & Como R.P.O. during the intervening period from 1917 - 1931.





# Insmont, Colorado, August 21, 1915

**Post Office** operated June 5, 1902 to December 15, 1917





## Insmont, Colorado, August 21, 1915

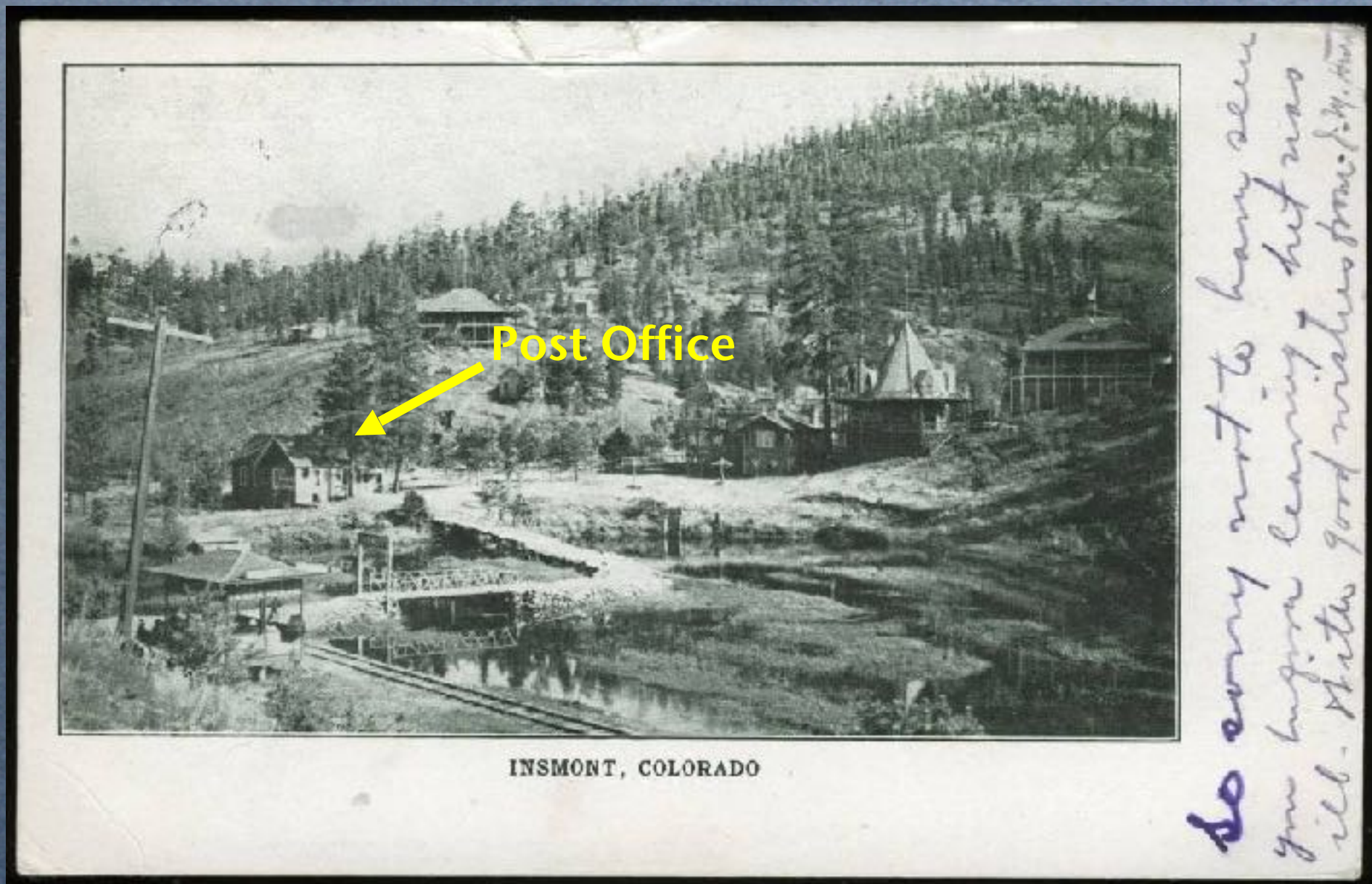


REEE-DD

and nothing  
could be here.  
I heard that  
school did not  
start until the  
1<sup>st</sup> of Sept.  
Be a good little  
girl and help  
mother. Lots of  
Love from  
Sister



# Insmont, Colorado

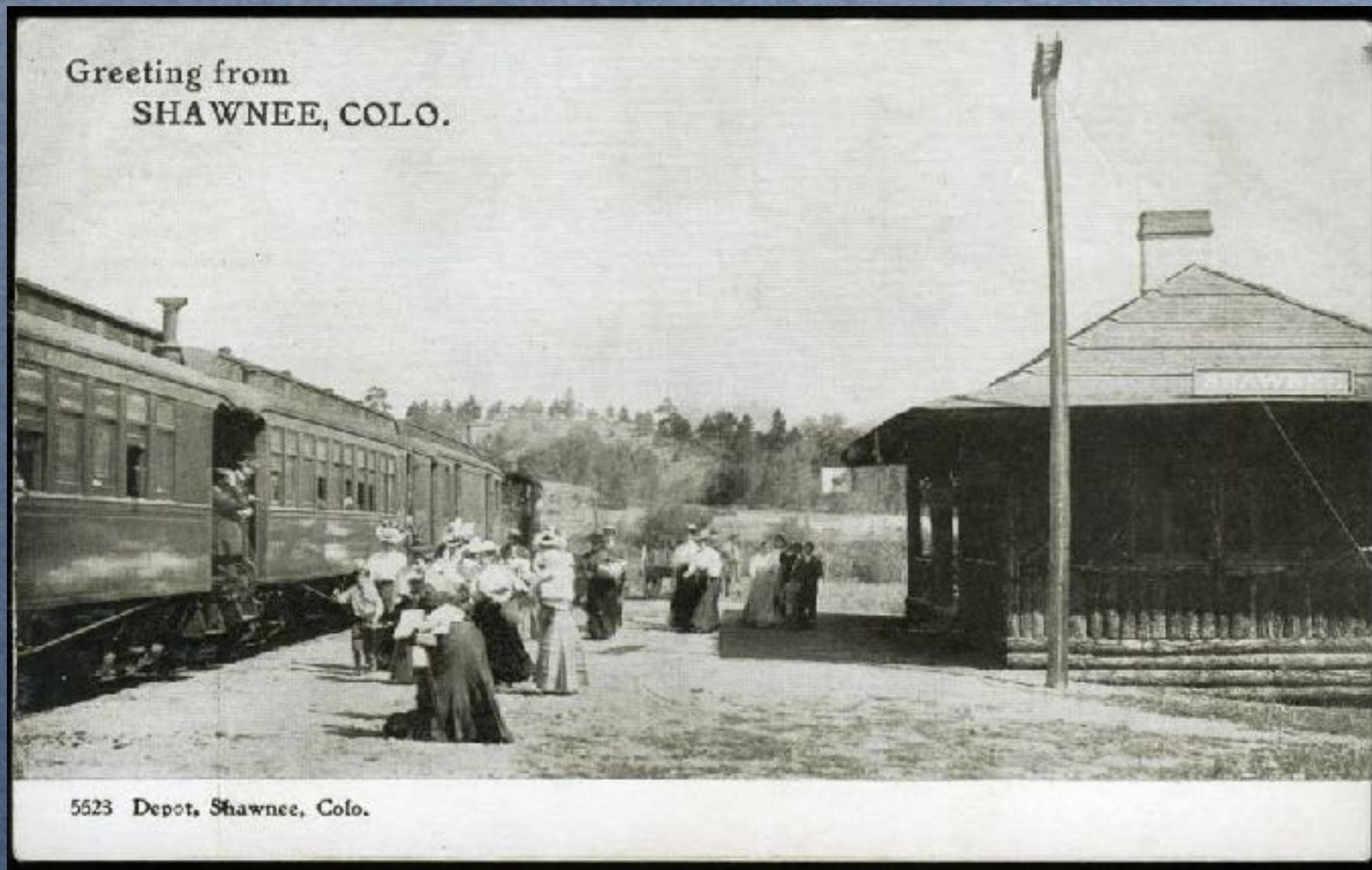


52

Insmont Post Office – Later the “Vavra House”



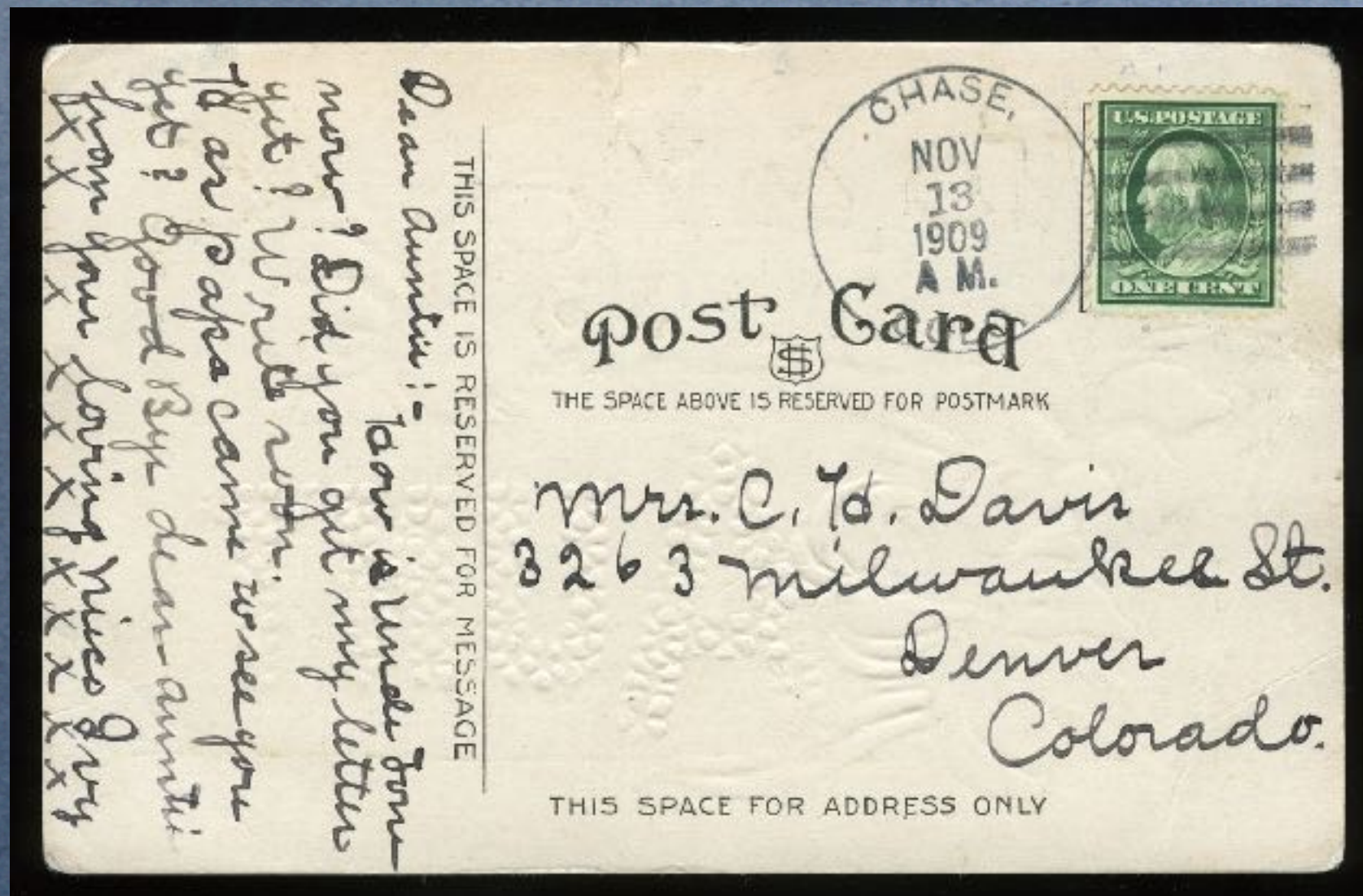
## Shawnee, Colorado, Depot





Chase, Colorado, November 13, 1909

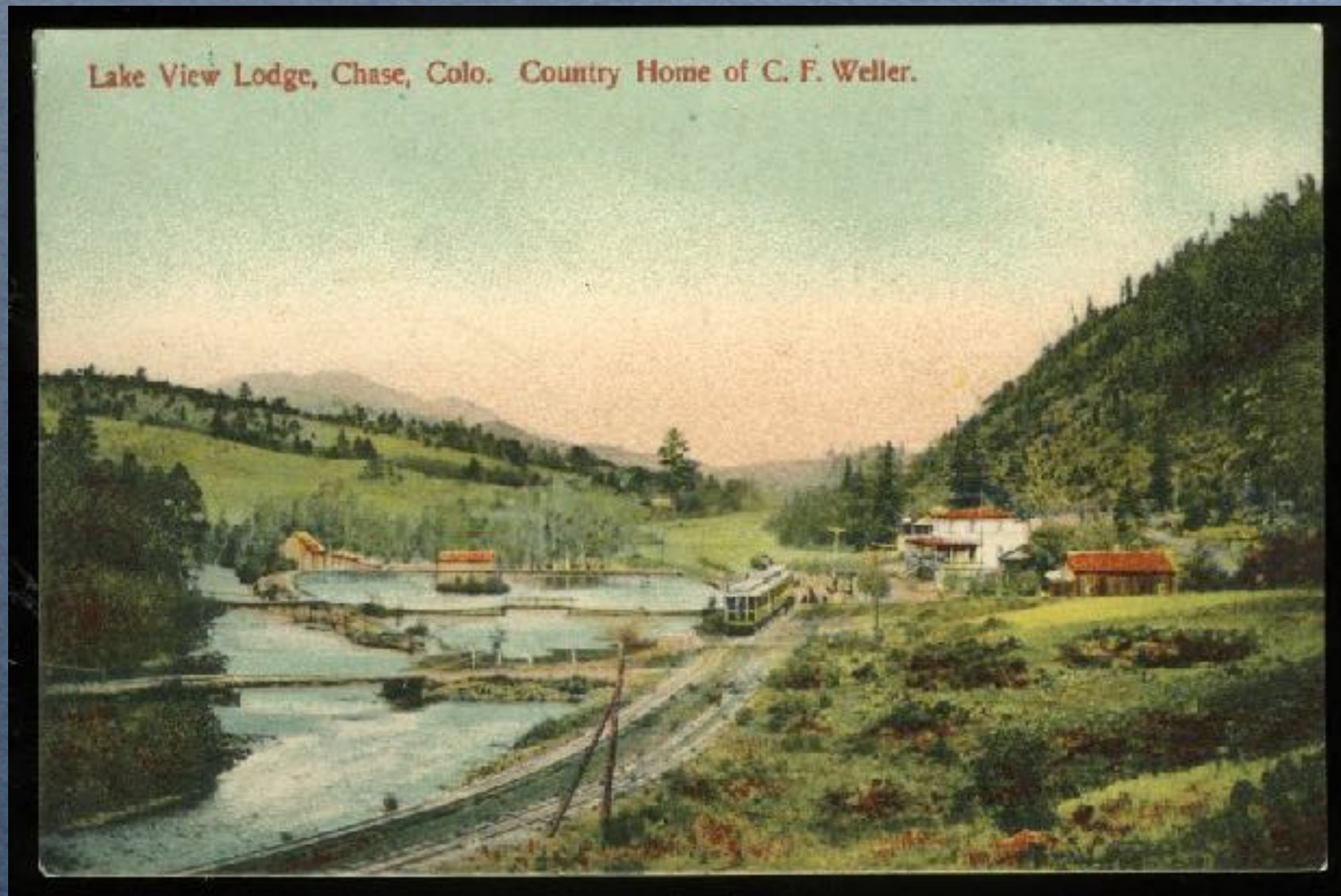
**Post Office** operated July 15, 1892 to October 31, 1911





# Chase, Colorado, November 13, 1909

## Lake View Lodge, Country Home of C.F. Weller





Cassells, Colorado – August 8, 1909

Wavy 5-bar Cancel

**Post Office** operated June 19, 1899 to September 30, 1929

Santa Maria resort; today is YMCA camp



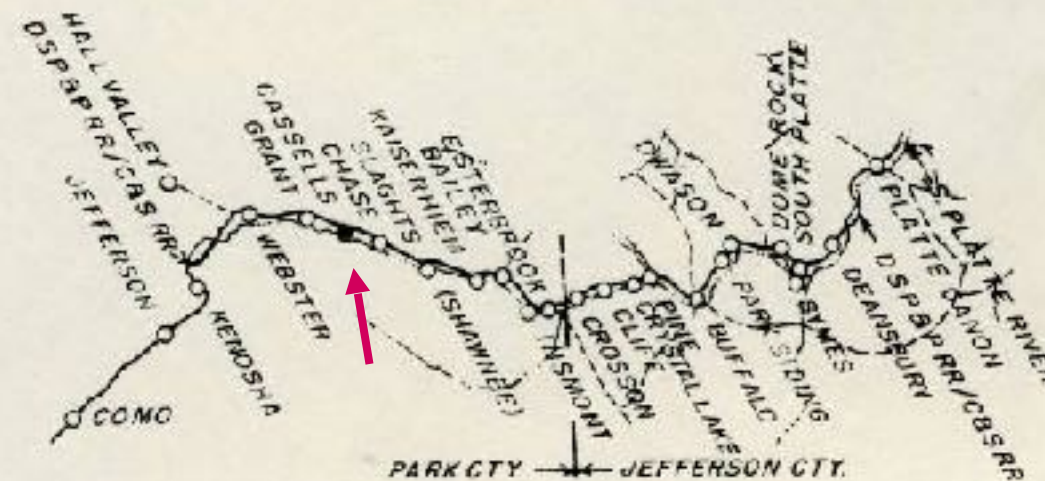


# Cassells, Colorado – August 8, 1909



## CASSELLS, PARK COUNTY

Cassells was a summer resort located at M.P. 64.50 on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad at an elevation of 8,419 feet. A five car railroad spur was connected at the west end. The post office operated from June 19, 1899 to September 30, 1929. The station was later called Santa Maria.





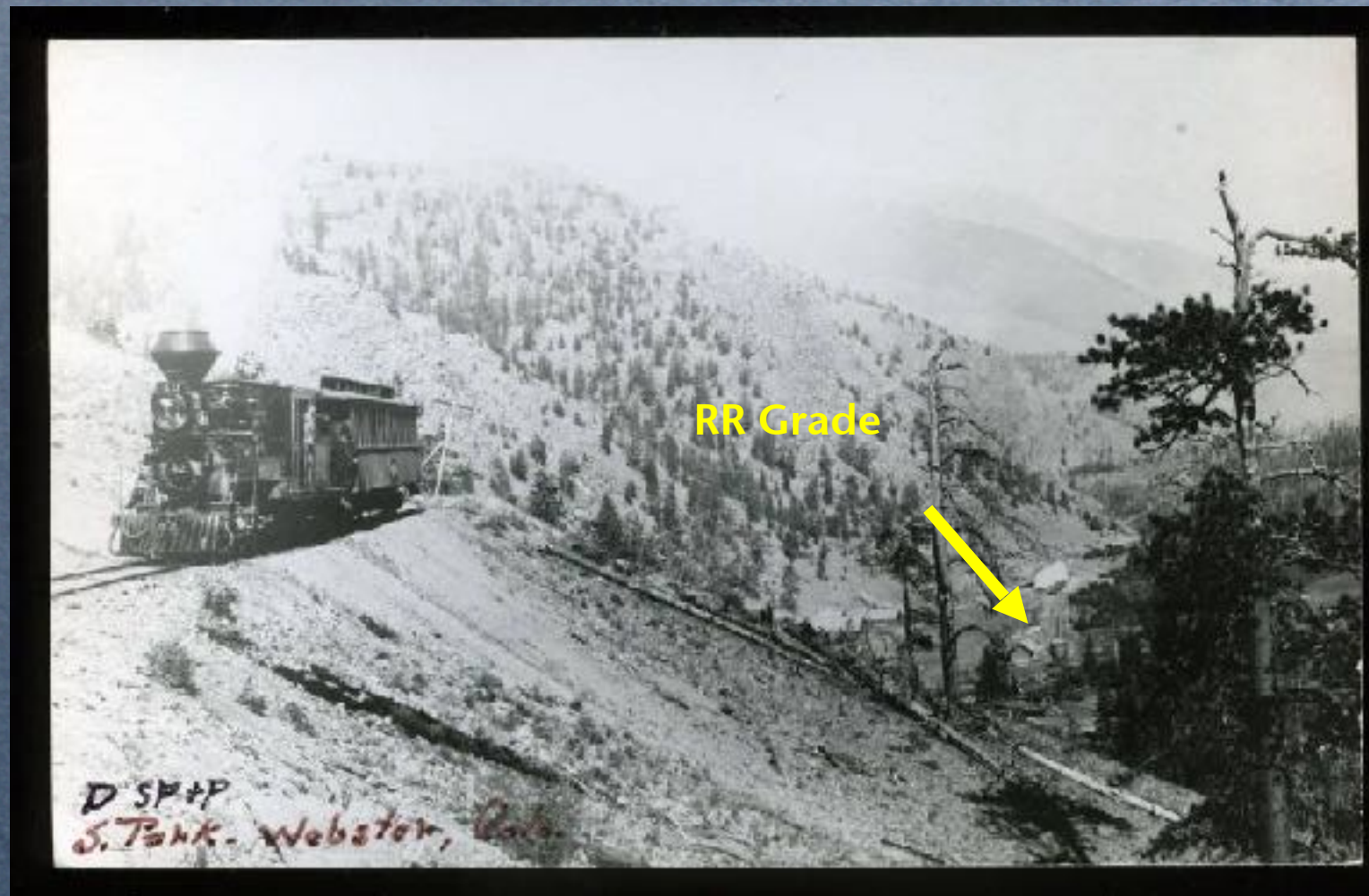
Webster, Colorado - November 29, 1883  
**Post Office** operated May 7, 1877 to May 31, 1904





Webster, Colorado - November 29, 1883

Train above Webster





Como, Colorado – May 10, 1883

**Post Office** operated July 23, 1879 to August 31, 1963;  
converted to a branch of **Fairplay** to present





## Como, Colorado – May 10, 1883





# Como, Colorado

## D.S.P. & P. Depot & Freight Office



(photo from *Betty & Jack Clark*)



# Como, Colorado – Hotel Depot and Freight Office at right



C-16 Train Time at Como, Photo about 1900

(photo from *Betty & Jack Clark*)



Boreas, Colorado – April 27, 1901

**Post Office** operated from January 2, 1896 to January 31, 1905

Depot was located in the snow shed

*When the registered letter or parcel accompanying this card is delivered, the Postmaster will require signature to the receipt on the other side, also on his record of registered deliveries, and mail this card without cover to address below.  
A penalty of \$300 is fixed by law for using this card for other than official business.*

**Post Office Department.**  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS. Post Office at

RETURN TO:

Name of Sender Den. Savings Bank

Street and Number, }  
or Post Office Box. }

**Post Office at DENVER,**  
County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado.

APR 27 1901  
DENVER CO

Station here name of Post Office  
and date of delivery.



Farnham, Summit County – February 25, 1894

**Post Office** operated December 2, 1881 to November 2, 1895





# Breckenridge, Colorado – November 4, 1884

**Post Office** operated 1861 to present





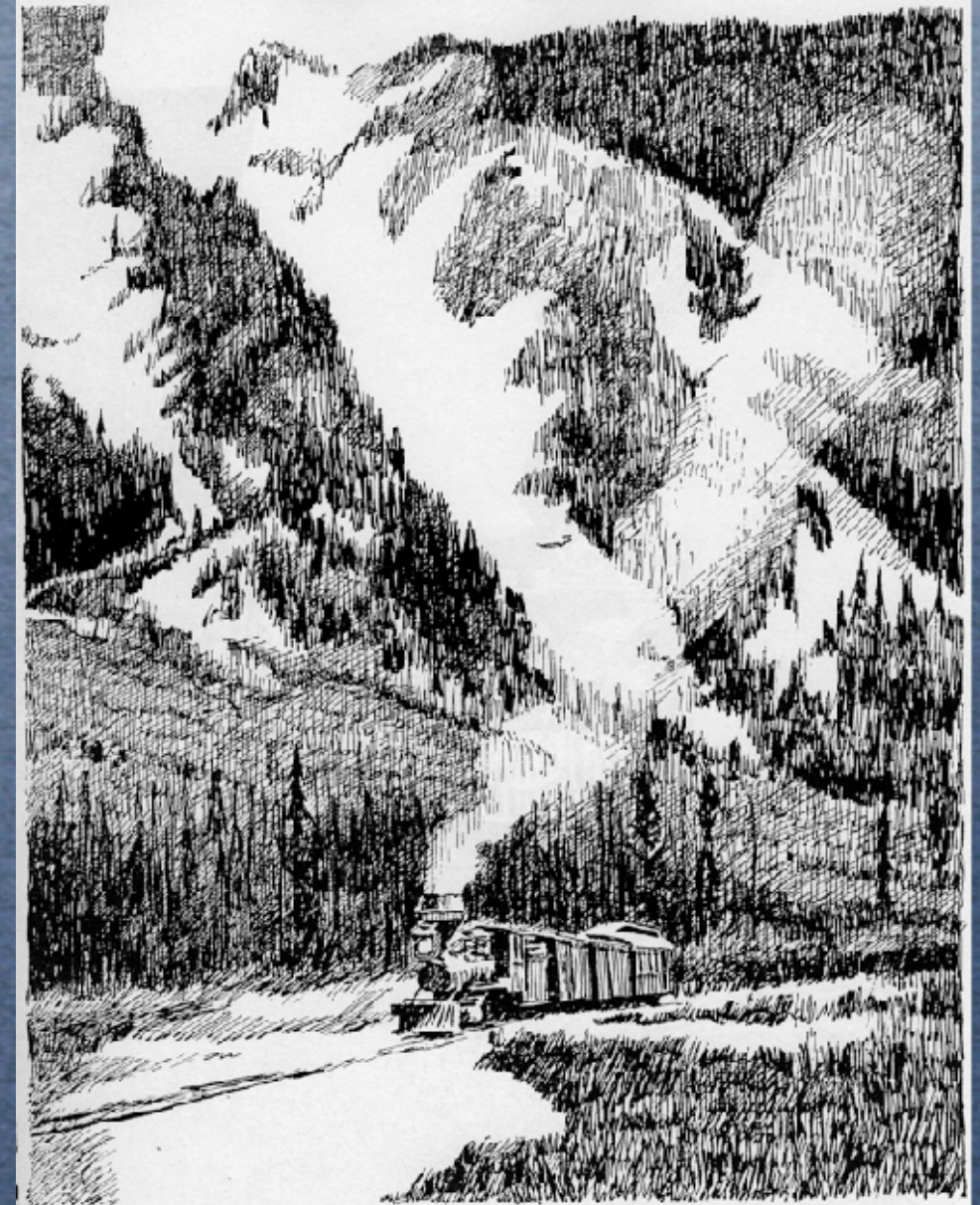
## Colorado & Southern Depot, Breckenridge, Colorado





# Beyond Park County

## Toward the Alpine Tunnel and Gunnison





Divide, Chaffee County – April 18, 1883

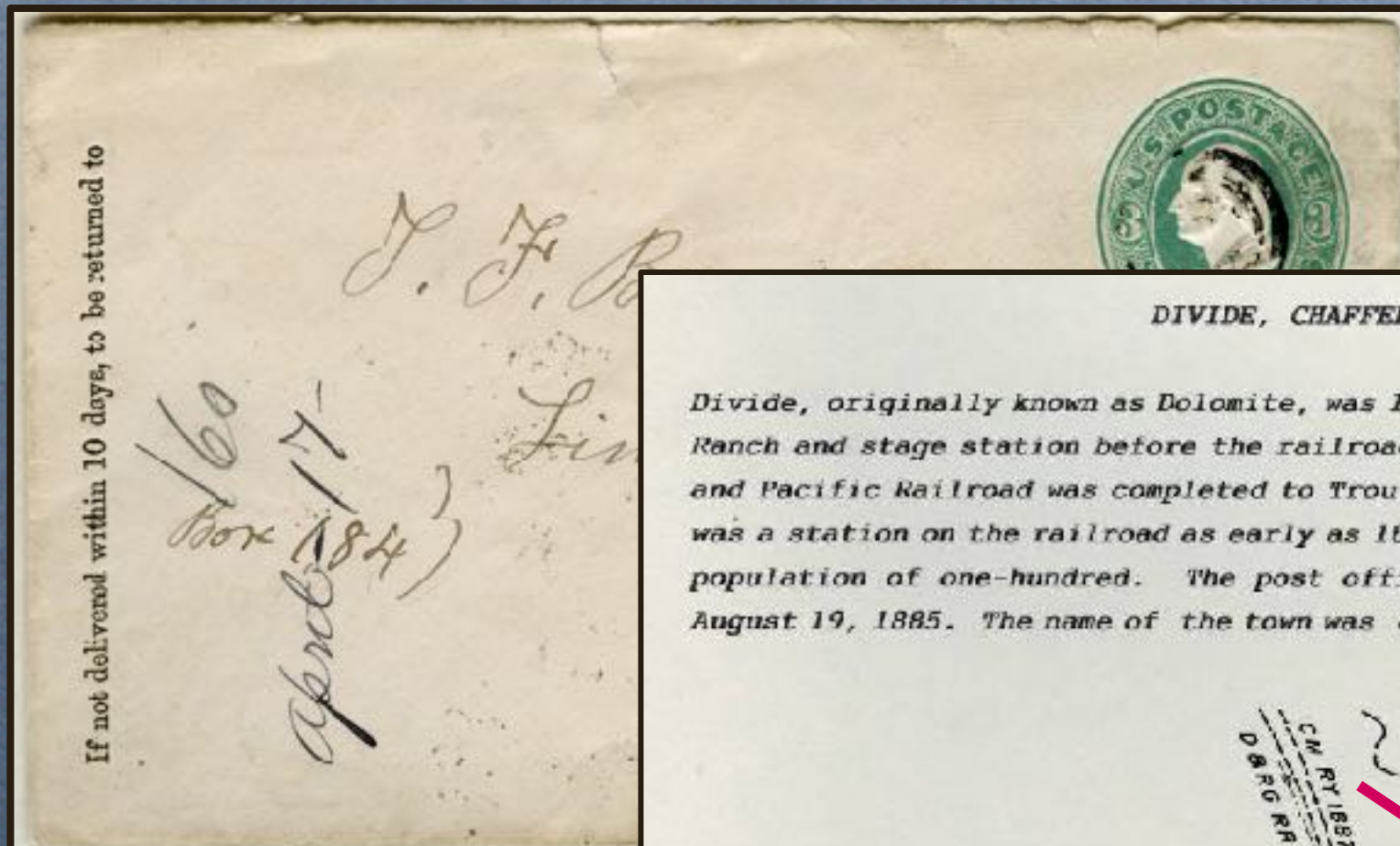
**Post Office** operated June 24, 1874 to August 19, 1885

Name changed to **Newett**, Colorado.



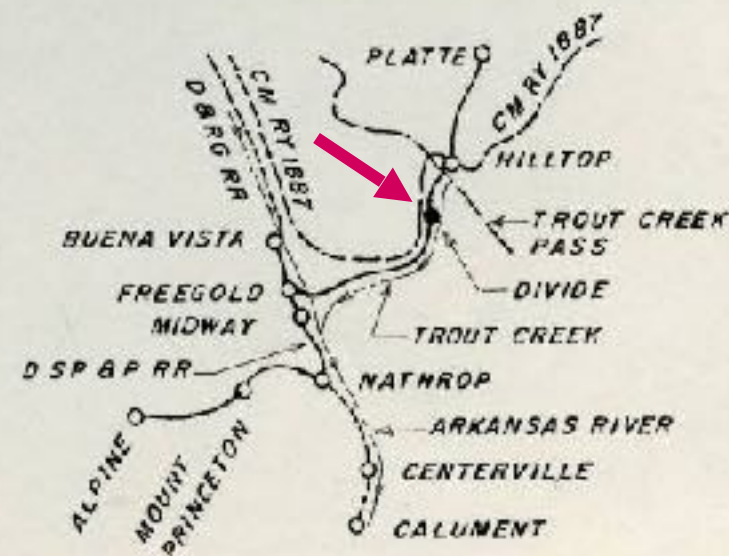


# Divide, Chaffee County – April 18, 1883



## DIVIDE, CHAFFEE COUNTY

Divide, originally known as Dolomite, was located on the site of the old Chubbs Ranch and stage station before the railroad was built. The Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad was completed to Trout Creek Pass August 1, 1879. Divide was a station on the railroad as early as 1882, located at M.P. 123.53 and had a population of one-hundred. The post office operated from June 24, 1874 to August 19, 1885. The name of the town was changed to Newett on August 1, 1900.





Newett, Chaffee County – November 13, 1906  
**Post Office** Operated April 30, 1905 to August 10, 1918





# Saunders Cañon, Colorado

From Trout Creek Pass



Saunders Canon, Colo. South Park Division C. & S.



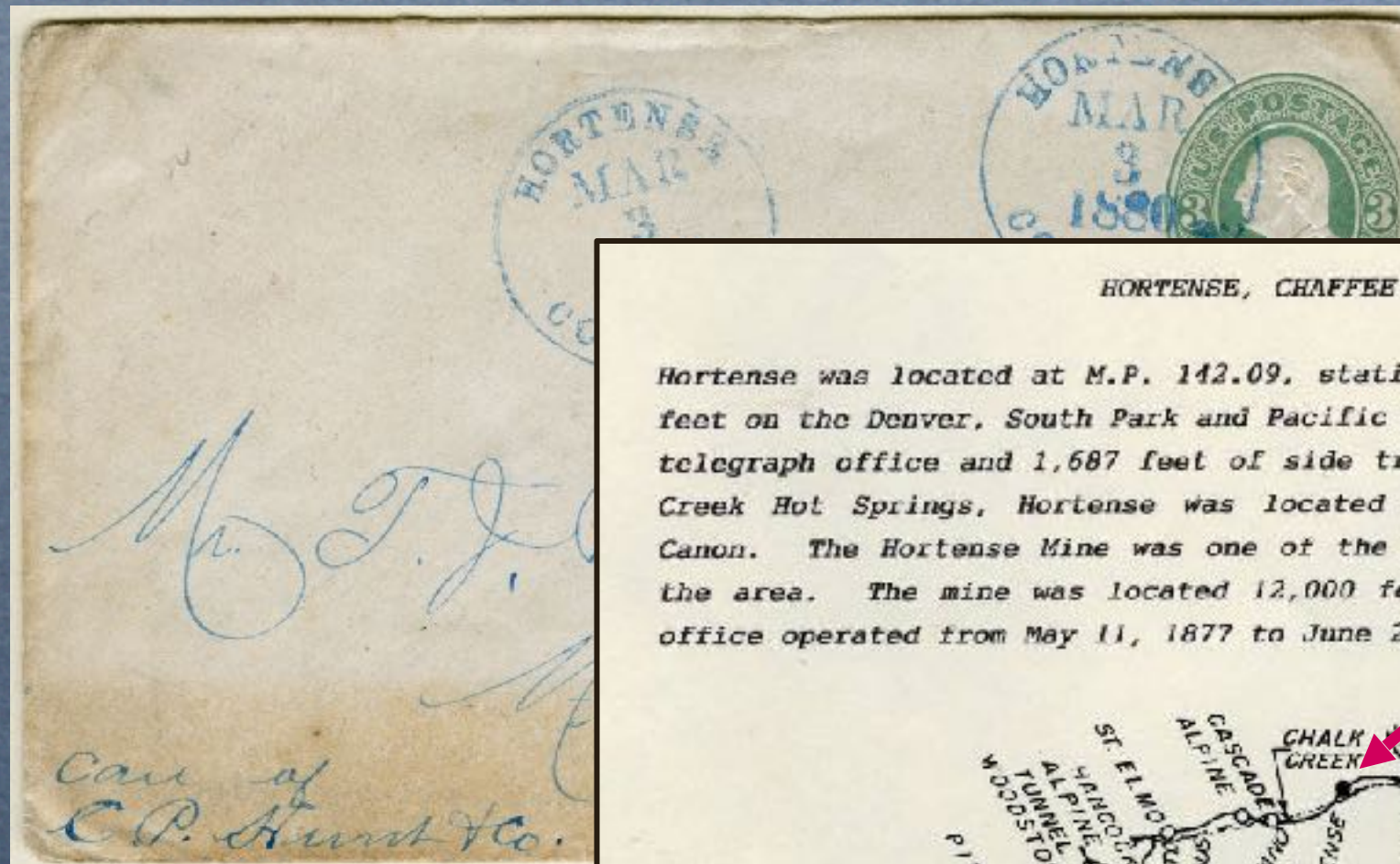
Hortense, Colorado – March 3, 1880

**Post Office** operated May 11, 1877 to June 20, 1884





# Hortense, Colorado – March 3, 1880



## HORTENSE, CHAFFEE COUNTY

Hortense was located at M.P. 142.09, station 1068 at an altitude of 8,190 feet on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad. Hortense had a depot, telegraph office and 1,687 feet of side track. Originally known as Chalk Creek Hot Springs, Hortense was located near the mouth of Chalk Creek Canon. The Hortense Mine was one of the first silver-producing mines in the area. The mine was located 12,000 feet up Mt. Princeton. The post office operated from May 11, 1877 to June 20, 1884.





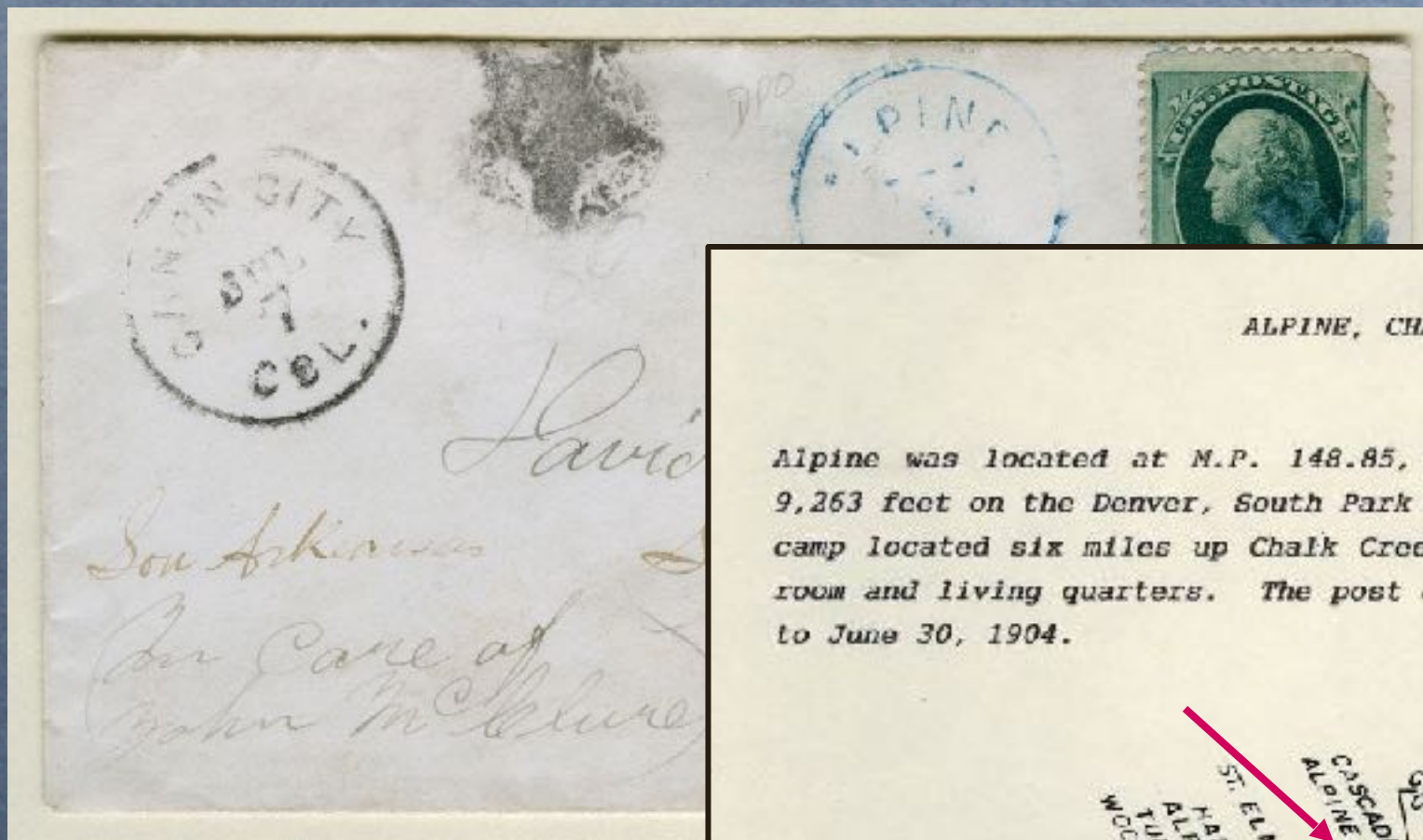
# Alpine, Colorado – July 5, 1876

**Post Office** operated October 26, 1874 to June 30, 1904



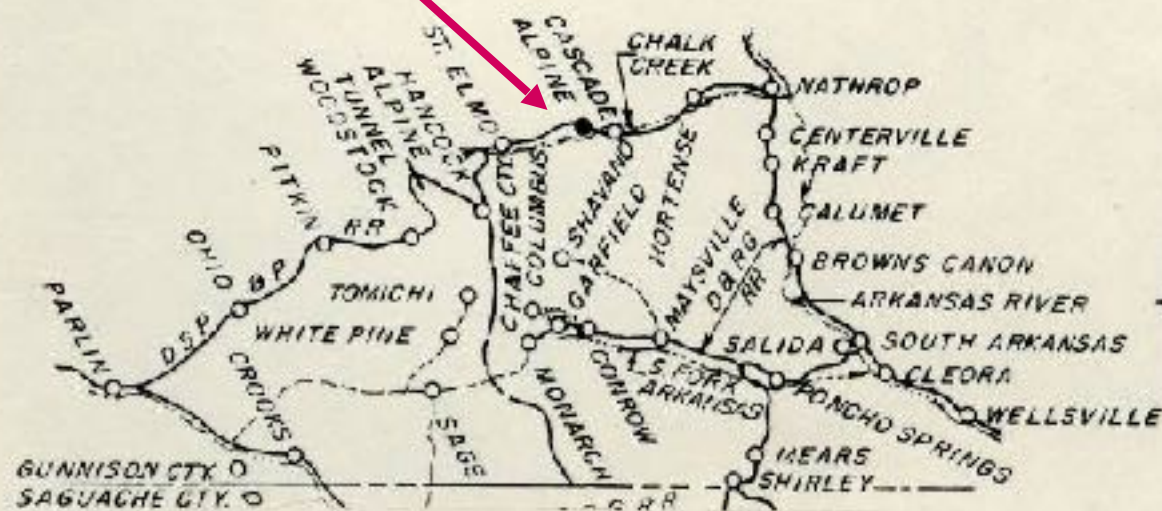


## Alpine, Colorado – July 5, 1876



### ALPINE, CHAFFEE COUNTY

Alpine was located at M.P. 148.85, station No. 1070, at an altitude of 9,263 feet on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad. It was a mining camp located six miles up Chalk Creek Canon. Alpine had a depot, freight room and living quarters. The post office operated from October 26, 1874 to June 30, 1904.





St. Elmo, Colorado – June 16, 1883

**Post Office** operated June 23, 1880 to October 15, 1952





# St. Elmo, Colorado - X shows Mary Murphy Mine, two miles up canyon

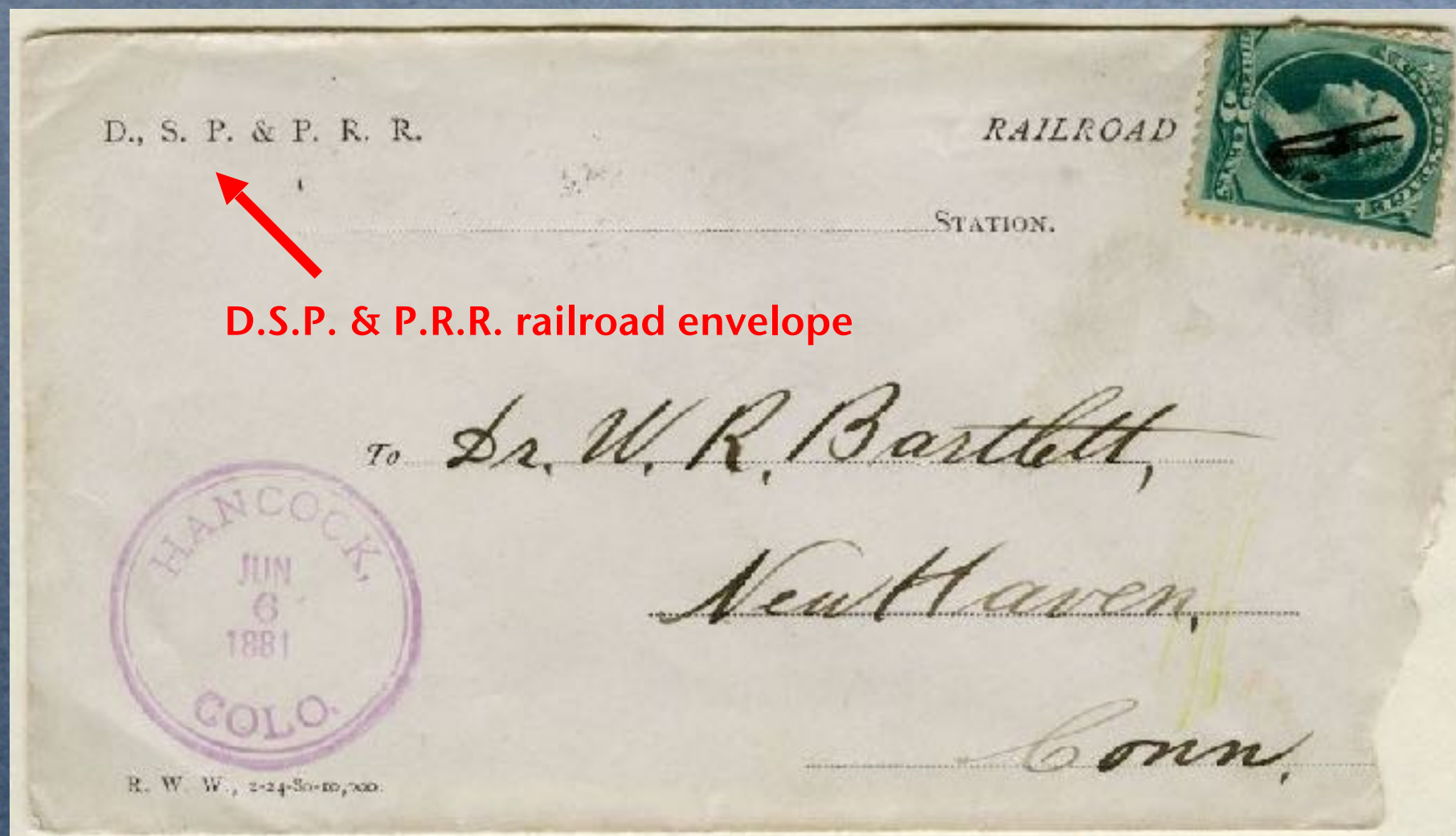




Hancock, Colorado – June 6, 1881

D.S.P. & P.R.R. railroad envelope

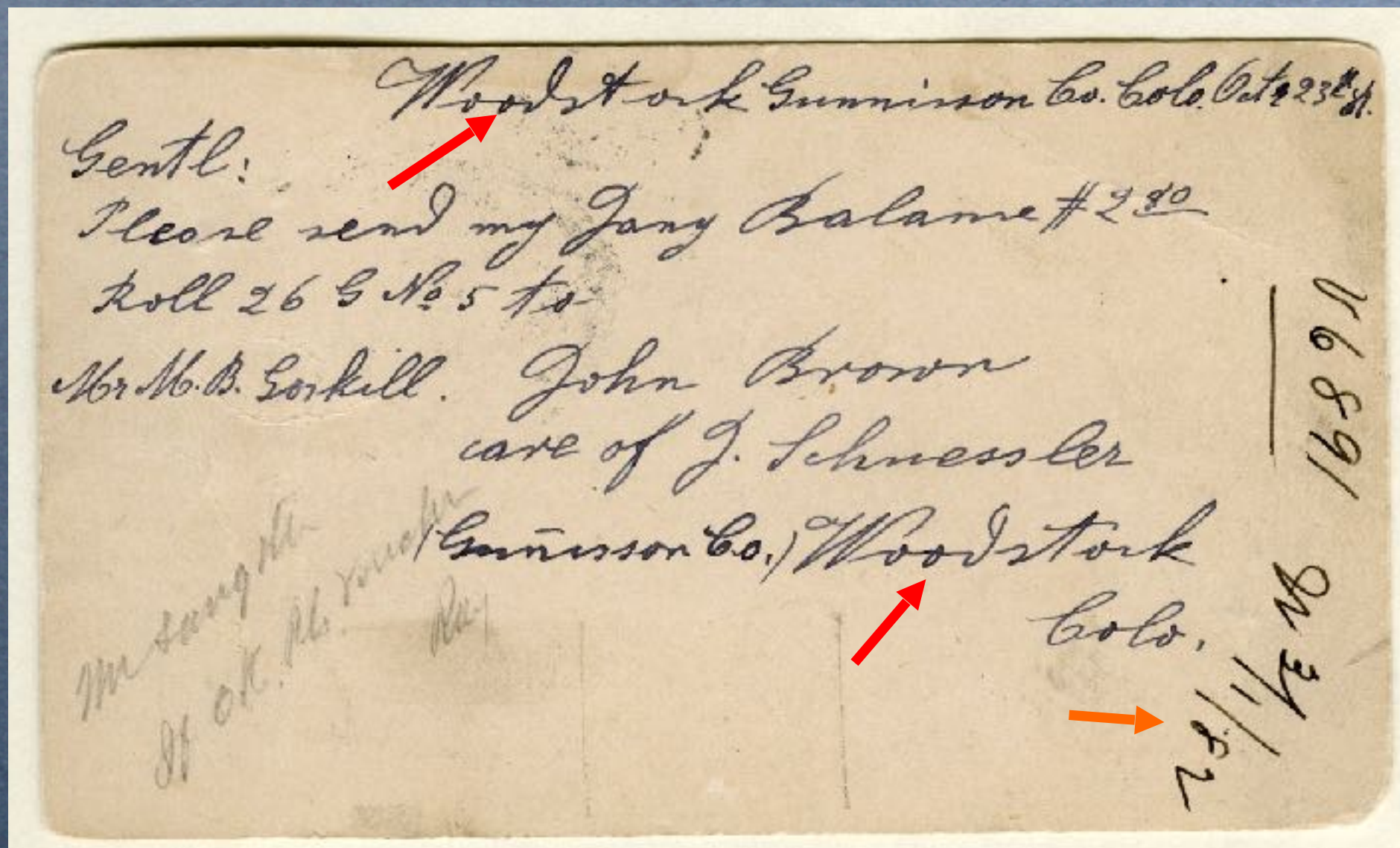
**Post Office** operated September 10, 1880 to June 24, 1887





Woodstock, Colorado – October 23, 1881

Post Office operated August 5, 1881 to May 9, 1882



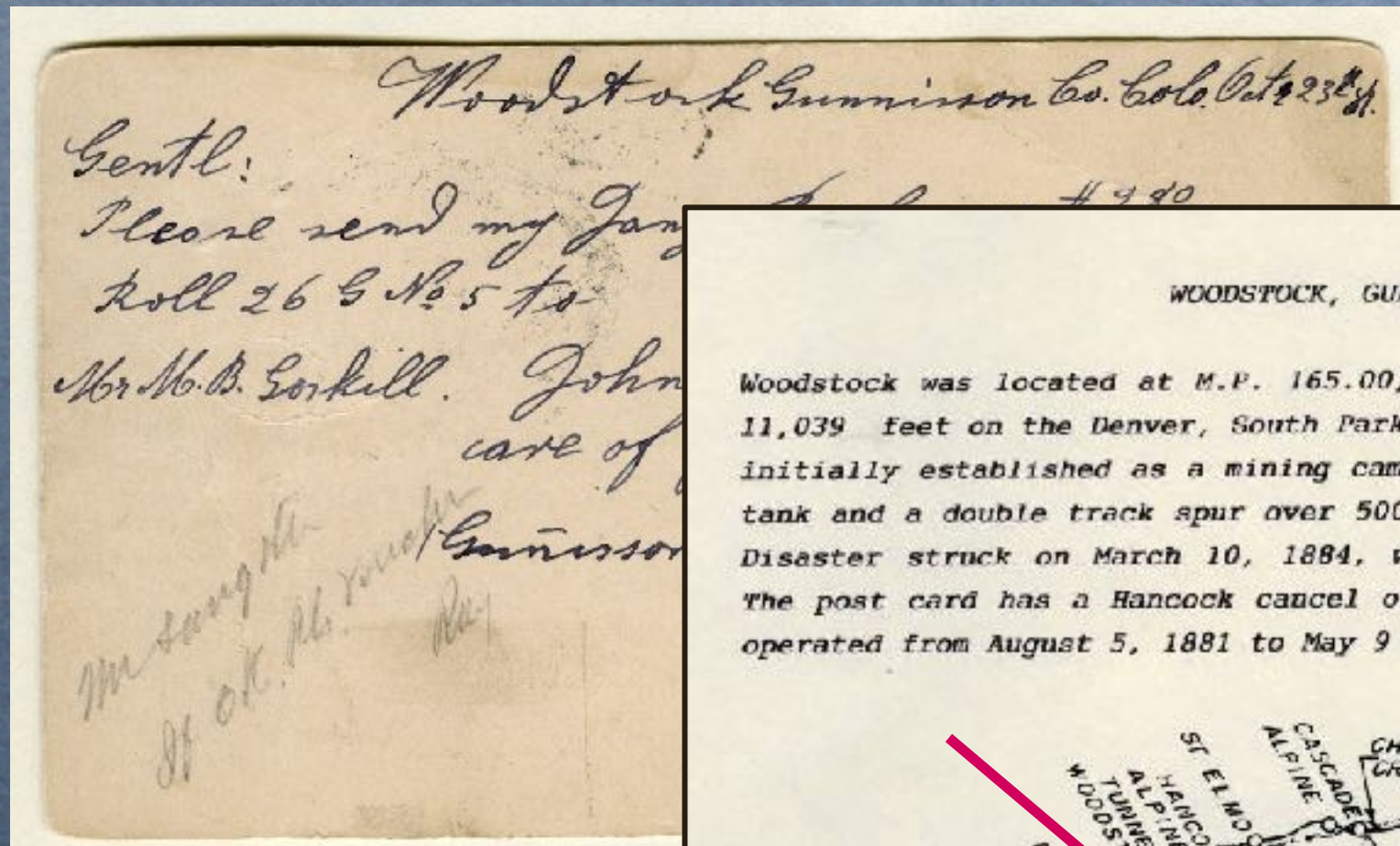


Hancock, Colorado — (front of postal card from Woodstock)  
Cancelled at Hancock, October 24, 1881  
after going through **Alpine Tunnel**



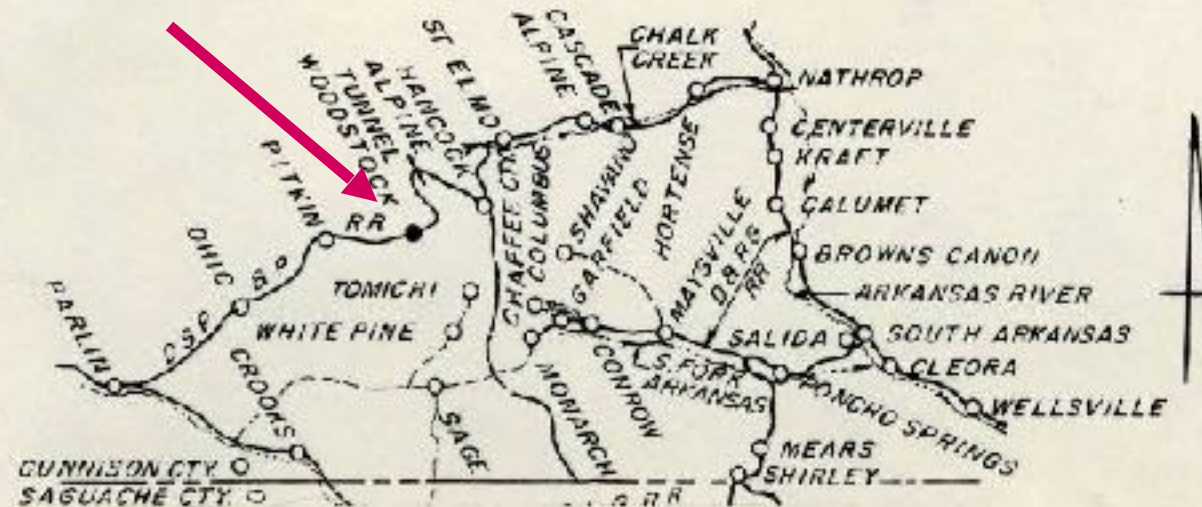


# Woodstock, Colorado – October 23, 1881



## WOODSTOCK, GUNNISON COUNTY

Woodstock was located at M.P. 165.00, station No. 1077 at an altitude of 11,039 feet on the Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad. Woodstock was initially established as a mining camp. It had a telegraph office, water tank and a double track spur over 500 feet long connected at the west end. Disaster struck on March 10, 1884, when an avalanche destroyed the town. The post card has a Hancock cancel of October 24, 1881. The post office operated from August 5, 1881 to May 9 1882.





# East Portal of Alpine Tunnel

Train Going East





Gunnison, Colorado – May 1, 1883

**Post Office** operated October 2, 1876 to present





# Abandoned Narrow Gauge – “South Park” Route

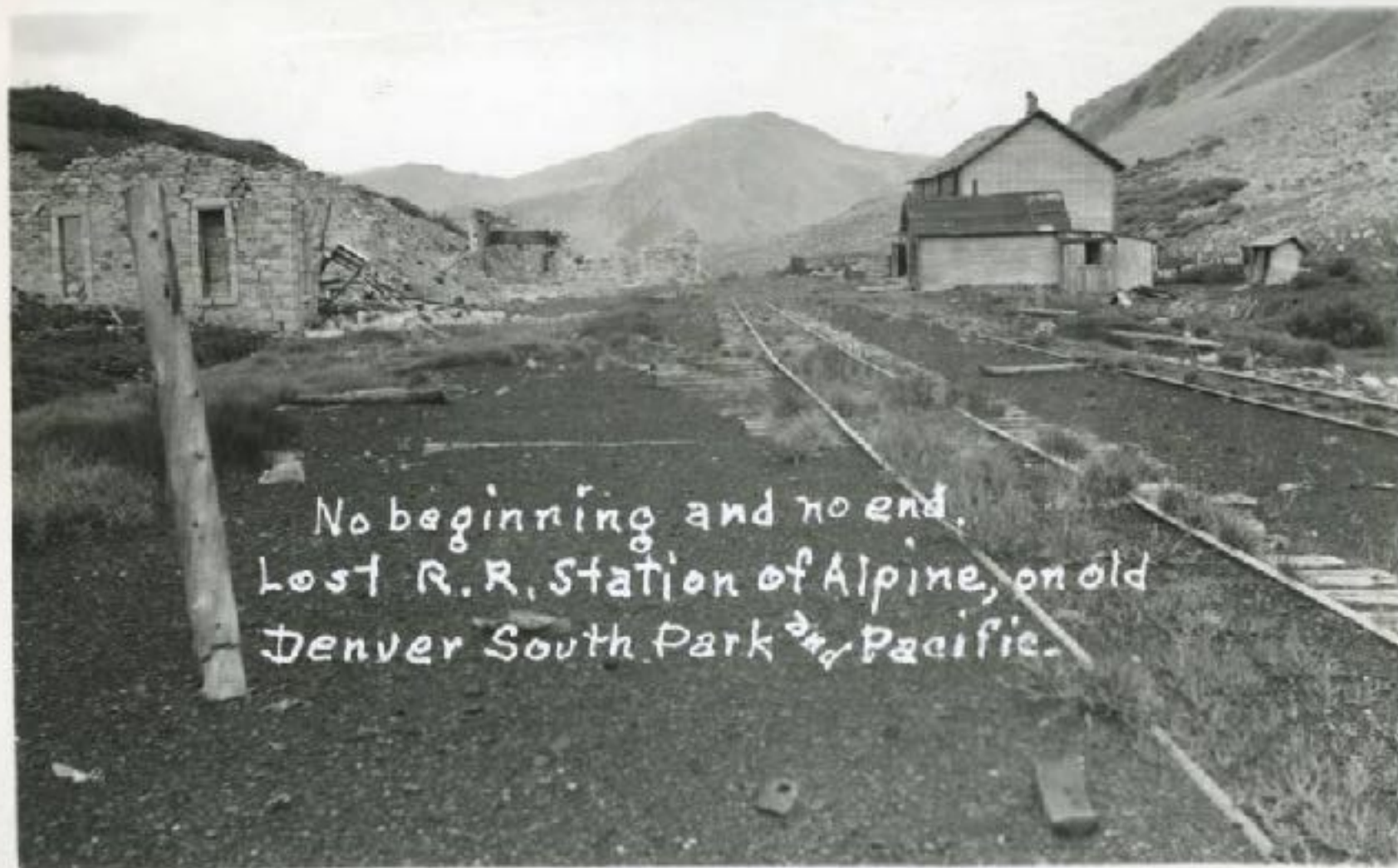
possible approach to east portal Alpine Tunnel





“No Beginning and No End ...”

Lost R.R. Station of Alpine

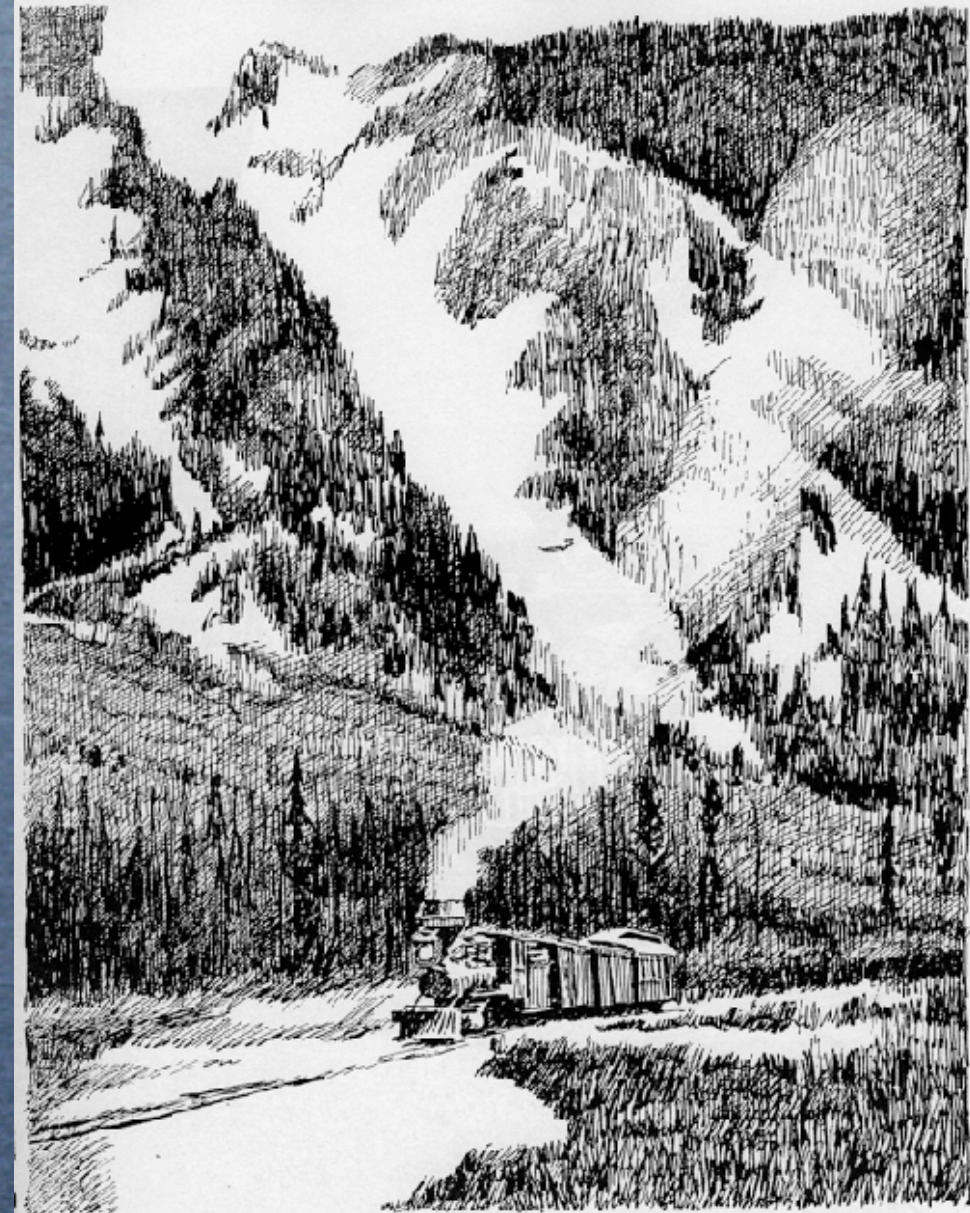


No beginning and no end.  
Lost R.R. Station of Alpine, on old  
Denver South Park & Pacific.



# NEXT

## A Few Short Subjects





Special friend,  
Jim Ozment,  
September 16, 1989

On the Private Car,  
"Kansas"  
at Denver Union  
Station

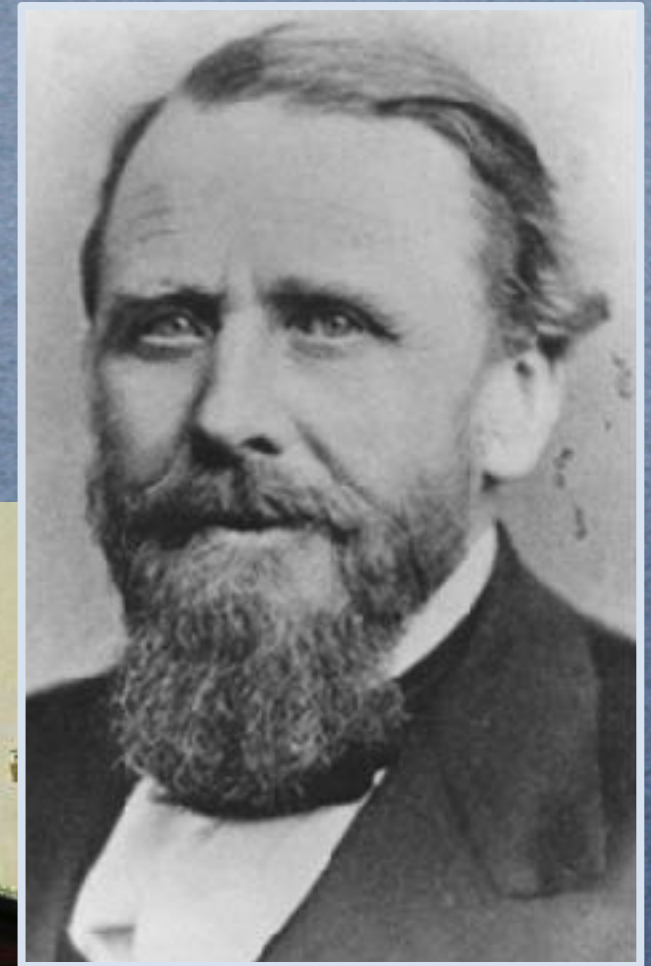




John Evans, Founder and First President, Denver, South  
Park & Pacific Railroad







Byers-Evans House Museum, 13<sup>th</sup> & Bannock, Denver





END

Byers-Evans House Museum, 13<sup>th</sup> & Bannock, Denver