THE TUSCOLA POST OFFICE 61953

The Tuscola Post Office has been located in many locations in town before the present structure was built. It was first located at the railroad store and depot, in a warehouse on West Sale Street. S. G. Bassett and J. M. Maris kept a store there. It moved to Davis and Ensey's dry goods store, near the southeast corner of South Central Avenue and South Washington Street. Some other locations were – West Wilson Street; east side of Parke Street, south of West Pembroke Street; 108 West North Central Avenue; from 1913 to 1933, it was located in the opera house building on West North Central Avenue; and the northeast corner of North Main Street and East North Central Avenue, from 1933 to 1940. Since May, 1940, the post office has been comfortably located in its own home at the northwest corner of East Sale and North Center Streets. The office, originally third class, became second class in 1895 and first class July 1, 1953.

In 1940, when the post office was built, the country was trying to get back on its feet from the Great Depression. In an effort to put millions of laborers back to work the government began many special projects. Tuscola's Post Office was a part of that effort in 1941, when an original oil painting was added to the interior of the new building. Artist Edwin B. Johnson was hired by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to bring art to federal buildings. The painting entitled "The Old Days," cost \$800 to create.



The Tuscola Post Office, located at the northeast corner of North Main Street and East North Central Avenue form 1933-1940.



Tuscola Post Office in 1940.



"The Old Days"

Edwin Boyd Johnson painted the mural on the interior west wall of the post office in 1941.



On June 21, 2005, Tuscola's first woman postmaster, Patricia Hicks, was sworn into office by Mike Pfundstein, manager of post office operations. Her husband Mike Hicks is on the right.

TUSCOLA'S POSTMASTERS

| <u>NAME</u> | TITLE | DATE APPOINTED |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| S. G. Bassett | Postmaster | 12/12/1857 |
| William T. French | Postmaster | 02/28/1859 |
| Thomas D. Craddock | Postmaster | 03/29/1860 |
| Ira J. Halstead | Postmaster | 01/03/1863 |
| George D. Miller | Postmaster | 10/24/1865 |
| Archibald Van Deren | Postmaster | 10/08/1866 |
| Joshua V. Brown | Postmaster | 04/06/1869 |
| Henry B. Evans | Postmaster | 04/02/1872 |
| Henry R. Ingraham | Postmaster | 12/09/1879 |
| Martin V. Daggett | Postmaster | 06/08/1885 |
| Alonzo C. Sluss | Postmaster | 05/07/1889 |
| Thomas A. McIlvaine | Postmaster | 02/27/1894 |
| Alonzo C. Sluss | Postmaster | 05/24/1898 |
| Charles B. Taylor | Postmaster | 03/24/1914 |
| Abraham L. Houk | Postmaster | 09/22/1922 |
| George A. Larimer | Postmaster | 03/07/1934 |
| Forest Wayne Neal | Acting Postmaster | 05/10/1950 |
| Forest Wayne Neal | Postmaster | 03/13/1952 |
| David D. Dillman | Officer-In-Charge | 07/05/1978 |
| Carl E. Quinn | Postmaster | 02/10/1979 |
| Daniel K. Liffick | Officer-In-Charge | 09/25/1992 |
| Daniel K. Liffick | Postmaster | 02/06/1993 |
| Patricia J. Hicks | Officer-In-Charge | 03/29/2005 |
| Patricia J. Hicks | Postmaster | 04/16/2005 |



Flag at the post office flying at half staff after November 22, 1963, when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

The Tuscola Journal, November 28, 1963.



Tuscola Postmaster Carl Quinn stands by the many bags of Christmas mail that flow through the post office each holiday season.

The Tuscola Review, December 15, 1981.