

Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter



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Editor



“Go Fly A Stamp”



Click on a link below in order to go directly to the article

[Crawford County](#)

[Travel Kansas](#)

Take a trip to Sterling, Kansas

[Postal Identity of Governments in Exile During WWII](#)

[Bisects](#)

[Don't Sweat the Small Stuff](#)

69th in the series. This one posted in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire in 1907

[Doonesbury Cinderellas](#)

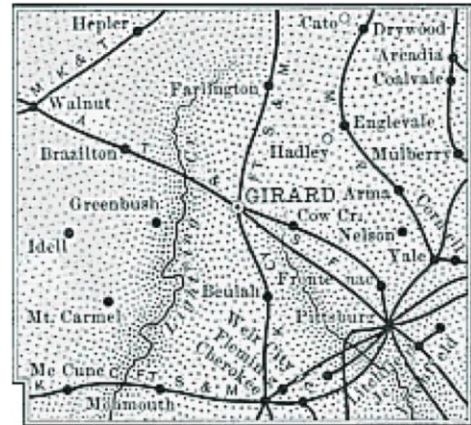
A little philatelic fun from a master cartoonist

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

Some of Crawford County's Postal History. Part I *by Jeff Lough*



Croweburg Mining Camp



Crawford County Railroad map circa 1890

Coal was heavily mined in Crawford County, Kansas. At one point 30% of the coal mined in the United States came from an area covering a third of Crawford County and some of the northwestern part of Cherokee County to the south. There were almost 300 coal mines and surface locations where coal was found. Croweburg was one of the many Crawford county towns that developed with the coal mining industry and was a station on the Joplin & Pittsburg electric railroad line. Nowadays Croweburg is only a street sign along a black top and about 4 homes. It was west of Arcadia. Croweburg's first post master was Isaac Dennis. A post office was opened in Croweburg in 1908 and remained in operation until 1972. The accompanying holiday wishes post card, addressed to a young lady in another Crawford County community, Englevale, a small unincorporated community a little to the southwest of Croweburg. Englevale was named for Dan Engle, the original owner of the town site. Its post office was established on 14 January 1891 and discontinued on 30 June 1954. Its name was originally "Calvin." The post card is stamped with the penny Franklin and cancelled by a four bar doane cancellation.

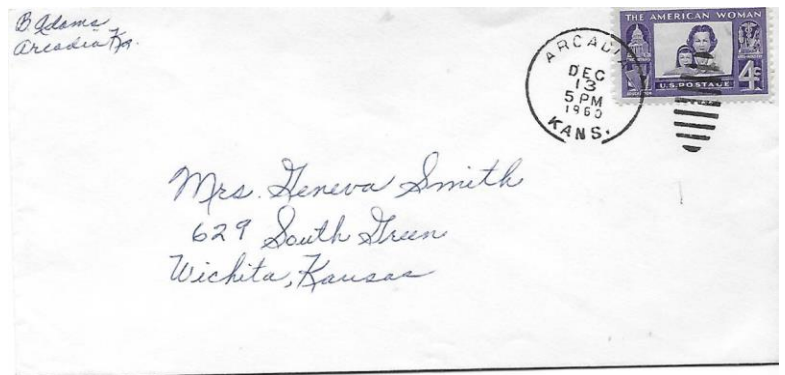


Arcadia is a small former coal mining town, in the far northeast corner of Crawford County. Its post office is still in operation and was founded April 23, 1867 with Charles W. Jewell as postmaster. At first it had been a stopping place on the Old Military Road between Ft. Scott, Kansas and Ft. Gibson in Indian Territory and later was on the Ft. Scott, Southeastern and Missouri Railway. Arcadia is fifteen miles northeast of Girard, the county seat, on Coxe's Creek. The name of the town and sometimes the post office

changed from Hathaway to Allington to Findlay City to Coxe's Creek to Arcadia. Findlay was a coal contractor. The town was named Arcadia after a mythological pastoral area in ancient Greece. A reference to the Grecian Arcadia is made in one of most notable of nineteenth century poems, Keats' *Ode on a Grecian Urn*: ".....the dales of Arcady...." The Scott # 1152 stamp, commemorating the American woman, was postmarked December 13, 1960 with a barred oval cancellation.

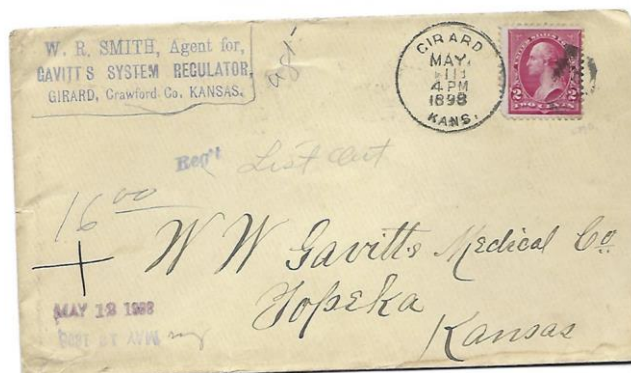


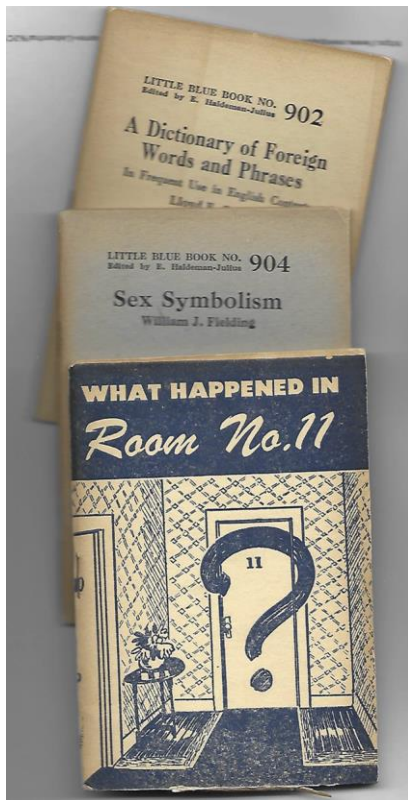
Arcadia Post Office



Girard is Crawford County's county seat, which is interesting since Pittsburg is significantly larger both geographically and in population. However Girard is in the center of the county. Legend has it that Girard was founded by Dr. Charles Strong who "...started from his cabin to obtain supplies and to locate a new town at a point where he shot and killed a deer." When that occurred Strong put down a stick, attached some grass to it, and named the town Girard after his Pennsylvania home town, Girard, PA. There is a monument in Girard to this effect. Girard was on the Missouri, Fort Scott and Gulf Rail Road. Its first postmaster was John Alexander and the post office was established Sept 30, 1868. In the opinion of this observer Girard is most notable for a chicken-serving restaurant, Chicken Annie's of Girard, a few miles east of town and for E. Haldeman-Julius. Haldeman-Julius was something of a marketing genius. He printed and distributed an estimated 500 million "Little Blue Books" from Girard. He was a socialist but printed many different titles including classic short stories, a large Upton Sinclair novel, risqué titles and subjects, how-to books and summaries of debates. They only cost a nickel. Haldeman-Julius also published a nationally distributed Socialist journal. Eugene Debs launched his Socialist Party campaign for the presidency in Girard in 1898. Examples of the Blue Books are illustrated to the left.

The accompanying cover was postmarked in Girard on May 4, 1898 with a Scott # 250a stamp and a simple circular date and location postmark and a well used crude canceler. It was addressed to a scientific/ medical supplies company in Topeka that has been the source of many extant older Kansas covers.





Girard's Post Office

[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

TRAVEL KANSAS—NORTH TO SOUTH—EAST TO WEST by *Neal E. Danielson*

Travel Kansas—Sterling, Kansas located in Rice County (Figure 1) along the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad that runs along the north side of the Arkansas River in the southern part of the County south of the County Seat of Lyons (Figure 2). Rice County was founded by the Kansas State government in 1867. The settlement of Peace was founded in 1872 and its name was changed to Sterling in 1876 as a result of two brothers honoring their father Sterling Rosan.

Jonathan S. Dillon operated a general store in Sterling in 1890s that sold groceries. He would open his first J. S. Dillon Cash Food Market in Hutchinson in late 1913, which would eventually expand into the Dillon’s grocery supermarket chain.

The post office in Peace opened on February 23, 1872 with Henry P. Ninde service as Postmaster. On April 28, 1876 the town name changed to Sterling as did the post office with Salmon P. C. Stubbs serving as Postmaster, having been appointed to the position when the town was called Peace on July 6, 1874. He served until April 28, 1876.



Figure 1



Figure 2

3

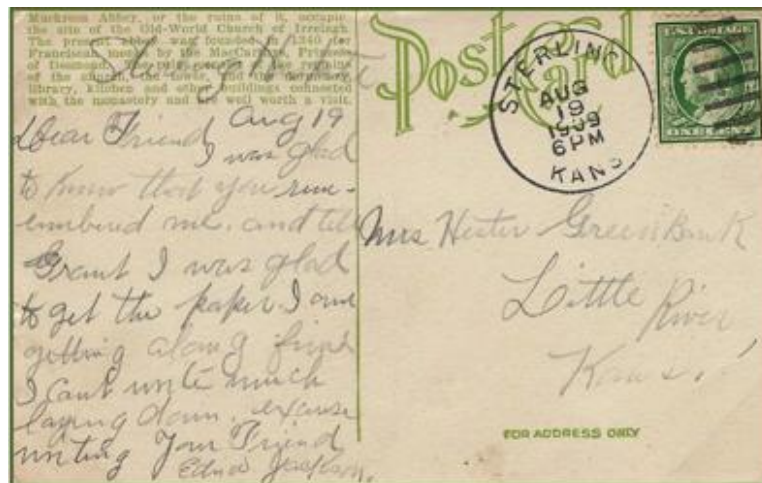


Figure 3

A picture post card (Figure 3) was mailed from Sterling, Kans, to an individual in Little River, Kansas, located along a railroad line that was leased by Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway (Figure 3). The town was originally called Fair Point when it was founded and a post office established February 11, 1874 and changed to Little River on June 1, 1880. Little River derives its name from its situation at the headwaters of the Little Arkansas River in the northeast part of Rice County. The post card is franked with a 1¢ Benjamin Franklin stamp (Scott #331) and tied to the card with a killer cancelation and circular date stamp postmarked Sterling, Kans. Aug 19 1909. What is unusual about the picture post card it is not a scene from the United States but rather an artist rendition of the Muckcross Abbey in Killarney National Park of Ireland's County Kerry (Figure 4) The description notes the following: "Muckcross Abbey, or the ruins of it, occupy the site of the Old-World Church of Irrelach. The present abbey was founded in 1340 for Franciscan monks by a Princess of the medieval southwestern Irish kingdom of Desmond The ruins consist of the remains of the church, the tower, and the dormitory, library, kitchen, and other buildings connected with the monastery and are well worth a visit." Figure 5 is a photo of the ruins and Figure 6 is a view of additional nearby structures and the cemetery.



Figure 4

The Franciscans immigrated to Ireland around the summer of 1226 ending up near Youghal, County Cork from there they expanded throughout the country with many Franciscan foundations. However, they were all suppressed during the Reformation years. The title of the Church links the Friary with its great predecessor, Muckross Abbey, actually called Irrelagh (Oirbhealach, Eastern Way). It is located on the shores of Lough Leane in the Killarney National Park. Founded around 1448 with assistance from the Dónal McCarthy Mór family and would become the residence of the Friars until 1698, except the years 1589 when their expulsion under Elizabeth I through Cromwell in 1652. This resulted in almost all going into exile in France or Spain, but there were plans to return under secrecy at the first opportunity. On May 1, 1698 the Penal Laws went into effect requiring all bishops and religious organization to leave the country under pain of imprisonment or transportation. The Friar Anthony O’Kelly the Franciscan Provincial at the time decided the law must be obeyed. This resulted in almost all going into exile in France or Spain, but would return under secrecy at the first opportunity. The formal ecclesiastical permission transpired around 1860 at the

present Franciscan foundation at Killarney. The construction of the Church started in 1864 and completed in 1867. The remaining Friary proper was constructed in various stages during the years 1865 through 1878. The Church is dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity. A tour around the grounds can inspire ones thoughts of how the Franciscan Friars viewed their residence (Figure 7).

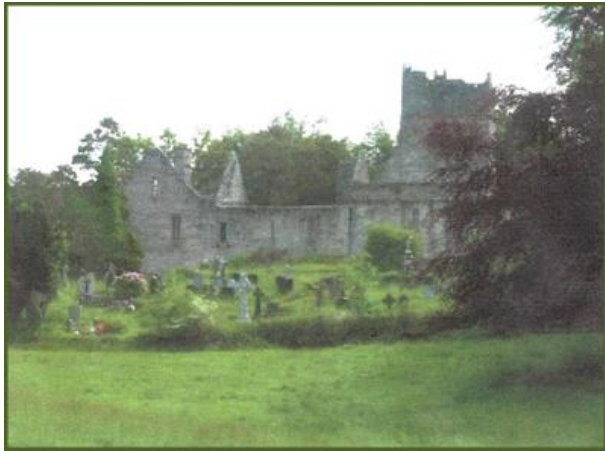


Figure 5



Figure 6



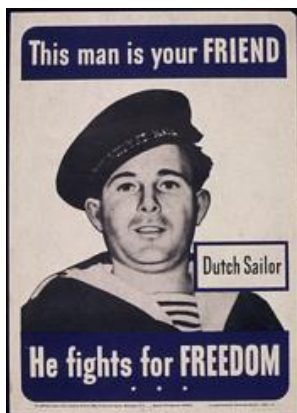
Figure 7

[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

Scott Catalogue's World War II Governments in Exile *by Jeff Lough*

During the Second World War several governments whose countries had been overrun by the German military fled their homelands and went to London. The Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogues have listed these as regularly used postal issues. Numerous other “governments in exile” have issued labels that are not generally accepted as postally valid stamps because they have never had officially sanctioned postal use. The three governments of The Netherlands, Poland and Norway were recognized by the Allies of World War II as legal and actual governments. The Free French movement established its own headquarters in the various French possessions it retained oversea and issued numerous stamps. There had been a report in the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* that a special cancellation was permitted the Czechoslovakian government in exile in Great Britain for use by its troops stationed in Great Britain. Each of the three governments based in London that issued stamps had naval components, soldiers or fighting aircraft that became important and integral parts of the Allied war effort. They also issued postage stamps that their nationals used in England and were accepted throughout the Allied controlled parts of the world. Below are illustrations of some of these stamps and a British poster asking for acceptance of Dutch loyalist sailors. The term “Dutch” has traditionally been a British word to describe the inhabitants of Germany as well as Holland and the language of The Netherlands is somewhat similar to the German languages and dialects. It is interesting that the term “Yankee” was derived from the Dutch names “Jan” and “Kee.”



Polish occupation stamps were issued by two different entities in London. The accompanying stamps were issued by the government in exile recognized by the British government and was the entity that controlled the Polish air units that played an essential role in winning the Battle of Britain. One of the Polish stamps shows resistance fighters destroying German railway tracks; another shows Polish infantry helping with the North African campaign in Libya/ Libii.

Note the special mark towards the corners of the Norwegian stamps. Other stamps issued and used by Norway's WW II Government in Exile include ones showing ships at war and soldiers fighting in the snow. The themes of stamps of all three Governments were similar, although Norway and The Netherlands portrayed their monarchs as well.



[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

Bisects by Jeff Lough

Bisects are stamps that have been cut (or have been made to be put into two or more pieces) to be postally used for the proportionate value of the entire stamp. Sometimes the use of bisects was authorized or required by an official governmental pronouncement. Often they were used with a local postal employee's authorization or simply by a user who thought that was the way to go. Generally speaking bisects have been used when there was a shortage of stamps of a required value and that value could be made by using half, a third, a quarter or less of a stamp to stand for that proportion of the value of the original stamp. Bisects have been used since the earliest days.

The first reported U. S. bisect was made with the 1847 10 cent Franklin stamp when it was available but the five cent Washington stamp was all used up in specific localities. During the Gold Rush to California six cents postage was required to be prepaid and ten cents was collected by the receiver of the letter so the San Francisco postmaster bisected the 12 cent stamp since there was no six cent stamp. The two cent "Black Jack" stamp of 1863 was used when the general postal rate was raised from 2 cents to generate Civil War revenue and the 3 cent reddish brown Washington was not consistently available. The wide variety of uses of bisected stamps in the U. S. in the later nineteenth century is reviewed in Stollnitz. Bisects were never authorized by U. S. postal regulations and, although postal regulations were inconsistently applied they were made illegal by a 1926 law (Kilpatrick). Figure 1 has 2 diagonal bisected (W/F) 2 cent stamps. This was illegal but it was accepted as payment for the 2 cent rate in 1915. Two of the covers illustrated below, Figures 2 and 3, have Washington/Franklin stamps that were used shortly after the 3 cent rate that started Nov 2, 1917. One is a bisect 6 cent and the other one is a regular 2 cent plus a bisect 2 cent. Another one is #537 bisect



Figure 1



Figure 2

(Figure 4) from the U.S.S. Rigel dated April 15, 1925, which is the 1st day of the 1½ cent Third Class rate. In 1925 the postal rate on printed matter and other third class mail (unsealed envelopes) was increased from one cent to 1½ cents and the announcement was made that new rates would be effective April 15, 1925. It was impossible to print the numbers of required ½ cent stamps in order to deliver them in time to smaller postal facilities.



Figure 3

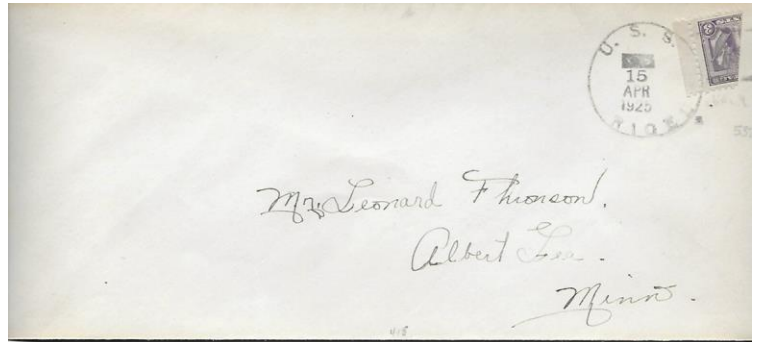


Figure 4

There is a report that Great Britain's 1849 2-penny-with-no-lines was used in bisected fashion and three covers exist. They were all sent by a solicitors'/ court attorneys' office in Hull, England to another attorneys' office in Lincoln. Before Prussia placed them into the North Germany Confederation the German states of Brunswick and Mecklenburg-Schwerin issued stamps which were one-quarter the size of ordinary stamps and these were used as bisects, etc. when necessary as well as in a still intact unit of 4. The Danish West Indies was responsible for the issuance of a set of classical bisect issues (Figure 6). In this case we find the Danish West Indies Post Office experienced 17 months without adequate stamp denominations in 1902-1903. At first provisional stamps were used but later the Post Office was forced to bisect four cent stamps to use for 2 cent and one cent stamps. They were used 14 months and were used in two towns on St. Thomas, Frederiksted and Christiansted. A local postmaster published a notice in a local newspaper indicating that bisects could be used on two islands. It is possible that there was a shortage for the entire period because many philatelic covers were created. Very detailed information with numerous tables and illustrations about the Danish West Indies precancels is available in Sorenson's articles.



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9

In 1951 Guatemala issued two stamps (Scott Numbers C168 and C181) in diagonally perforated form to be used as either an 8 centavos or 4 centavos or 2 centavos air mail stamp. One pictures San Cristobal Church. It was perforated gauge 14 with the diagonal "bisect perforation" in either gauge 12 or 12½. Scott C168 is illustrated with Figure 7. Of an original 600,000 issued of the 8 centavo value, 28,000 were bisected.

There were 38 major varieties of bisected stamps issued by Portuguese India in 1910 – 1911. These issues were, like the Guatemalan issues, perforated by postal authorities to allow their use as both a full stamp and as a "bisected" stamp. Figure 9 shows how the complete stamp was to have originally been used

as a 8 Tansas valued stamp but was surcharged so that each half would be worth 6 Reis after a currency change. It is easy to see how this type of issue resulted in numerous overprint and perforation errors and how it would be easy to forge this item. As Figure 8 shows after the monarchy was overthrown, Republican postal authorities continued the practice. Many, many countries have had their stamps used postally in a bisected form. All bisected issues are worth more, or worth something at all, when found on covers or at least on cut squares since they are so easily handmade and cancelled to order individually.

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Thanks to **Ralph Lott** who graciously loaned covers to illustrate 20th century American usage.

[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF by Neal E. Danielson

This is the 69th in a series of articles relating to small post cards and small covers so if you have any in your collection that you would like to share please let us know. This Small Stuff comes to you from Wolfeboro, New Hampshire by way of Brookline, Massachusetts. This Small Stuff measures 4 1/8 inch by 2 1/2 and is franked with a 2¢ ‘The Founding of Jamestown’ stamp (Scott #329) and tied to the cover with a killer footprint cancel and circular-date-stamp, postmarked from Wolfboro (Wolfeboro), N.H. on Sep 25, 1907 (Figure 1). The cover may have contained a birth announcement or an invitation to a special event based on its size. Wolfeboro is located in Carroll County near Lake Winnepesaukee and benefits from being a small town with beauty characteristic of Colonial New England. The town was granted by Governor John Wentworth (Figure 2), October 5, 1759, but not settled until 1768 and incorporated in 1770. The town was named to honor English General James Wolfe (Figure 3) the hero of the Battle of Quebec. The town considered itself the oldest summer resort in America. Wolfeboro's early settlers were farmers and it was on the stage route from Dover to Conway. Lumber and apple products were popular industries in those early days. The popularity of its wood products remained until the early 20th Century.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Sir John Wentworth was a British colonial governor at the time of the American Revolution. He was born in Portsmouth, N. H. in 1737 into the upper echelons of New Hampshire society. He attended Harvard College and one of his classmates and close friend was the future President of the United States John Adams. Sir John purchased and developed land in the Lake Winnepesaukee area and oversaw the settlement of the community, which investors named Wolfeboro. Wentworth was not popular during the Revolutionary War and in fact left New Hampshire after the revolutionaries pointed cannon at the front door of his estate.

The towns' namesake, James Wolfe, was an English general, born into a military household in 1727 at Westerham, Kent and became a volunteer to his father's regiment at the age of 13. He received his commission two years later and saw extensive service in Europe including the War of the Austrian Succession and the suppression of the Jacobite Rebellion. His career was brought to a halt with the Peace Treaty of 1748 that lasted eight years and his assignment to garrison duty in the Scottish Highlands. He received the status of brigade major at age 18 and lieutenant-colonel at age 23. The Seven Years' War in 1756 provided the opportunity for advancement and assisted in the aborted raid on Rochefort in 1757. Following the success of the Siege of Louisbourg he was made commander of a force that sailed up the Saint Lawrence River to capture Quebec City. He would defeat a French force under Louis-Joseph de Montcalm that allowed British forces to capture the city. Wolfe died from injuries at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. His fame endured beyond the battlefield by becoming the icon of Britain's victory in the Seven Years War and subsequent territorial expansion.

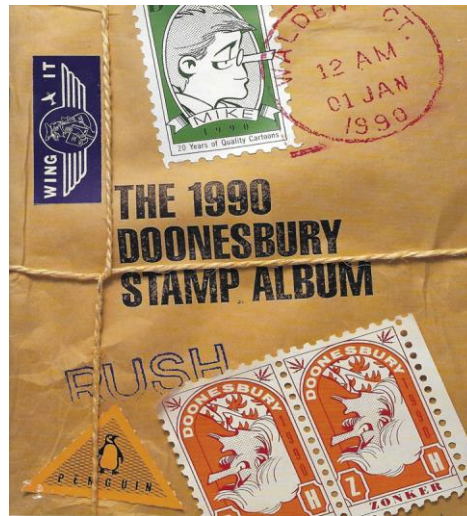
The Small Stuff cover was sent to Brookline, in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, a part of Greater Boston. Brookline was first settled in 1638 as a hamlet in Boston, but incorporated as a separate town in 1705. Both Wolfeboro, N.H. and Brookline, MA. were noteworthy during the Revolutionary War.

[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)

Doonesbury Cinderellas by Jeff Lough

In 1990 Gary Trudeau published a booklet of perforated cinderellas to raise money for a New York writer's charity. Fun was made of Dan Quayle, George Bush and smoking marijuana and tobacco. Notice the orange invert on the cover of the "album." sort of like the famous Swedish stamp. The item in the upper right corner of the first page of this issue of the Newsletter as well as the two items below are also part of this series.



[Return to January Contents](#)

[Go to WSC Home Page](#)