

# Mount Clemens Public Library

## Local History Sketches

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### Mount Clemens Post Office

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*This colonial-style building served as the Mount Clemens Post Office from 1912 to 1958.*

Postal service was established in Mount Clemens on January 15, 1821, only three years after the first village plat was drawn by Christian Clemens. The post office was located at various addresses through the years; one station was located at 53 North Walnut, and a later one was situated at 69 Macomb. Finally, in 1908, with assistance from Congressman Henry G. McMorran, an appropriation for the construction of a new post office building was secured.

Construction was begun on the site at the corner of Market and Walnut streets in March of 1911. The handsomely fitted, colonial brick structure was opened in the summer of 1912. It served the community well for more than 40 years, but by the mid-1950s it was too crowded and plans to replace it were undertaken. In the interim, a south branch of the Mount Clemens post office was opened at 145 Colonial Court in October of 1953. The sub-station featured a drive-up window for the convenience of the motoring public, and provided all of the services of the main post office.

A new, 40,000-square foot post office building opened to the public in October, 1958. Located at 155 South Gratiot [now South Main St.], between Church and Robertson, the new building offered twice the floor space of the old one and was constructed at a cost of \$500,000. The sub-station on Colonial Court was closed when the new facility opened.

The new Mount Clemens Post Office was dedicated on Saturday, November 1, 1958, with music provided by the Mount Clemens High School Band and the dedication address given by Sen. Charles E. Potter. Attempts were made to find an alternative use for the 1912 structure on Market Street, but none

came to fruition and the building was razed on July 1, 1962.

For further information, we recommend:

- *Centennial History of Mount Clemens, Michigan, 1879-1979*. Mount Clemens, Michigan : Bright Future for Mount Clemens Committee, c1980, p.34.
- "\$15,000 Price Fixed on Old Post Office," *Mount Clemens Monitor-Leader*, January 19, 1960.
- "Mount Clemens Postal Services Shift to New Gratiot Building Over Weekend," *Mount Clemens Monitor-Leader*, October 10, 1958.
- "P.O. Sub-station in City Now in Full Operation," *Mount Clemens Monitor-Leader*, October 1, 1953.
- "Uncle Sam's New Post Office is Ready For Occupancy...," *Mount Clemens Monitor*, June 28, 1912.