Remote mining town serviced by New Mexico postal route

Postal Route 40115
Clifton, Arizona Territory
Silver City, New Mexico Territory
Postal Route distance 135 miles

June 19, 1876
Clifton, Arizona Territory
Postmark Pitzer-Meyer Type 1 manuscript
Postmark Census 1 of 3 known
Latest known manuscript postmark

Settled in 1872 by miners and prospectors from Silver City, New Mexico Territory, Clifton, Arizona Territory lies upon one of the world's largest copper deposits. Freight, passengers and mail from Clifton during this period were conducted east to Silver City N.M., thence to destinations East and West. No other towns with Post Offices were serviced on this two day stagecoach postal route.

The postal route from Clifton Arizona Territory departed Monday at 7:00AM heading southwest along the San Francisco River. At Smugglers Canyon a waterless cutoff was made to join the Gila River road East. Approximately 70 miles from Clifton the New Mexico border was crossed. The postal route then continued generally southeast to Silver City, New Mexico Territory arriving no later than Wednesday by 6:00PM.