Mr. Tuffy Peach and the Last Pony Mail Route in Arizona Territory

Postal Route
Payson, Arizona Territory
Pine, A.T. 14 miles
Strawberry, A.T. 5 miles
Camp Verde, Arizona Territory 28 miles
Postal Route distance 47 miles

December 21, 1911
Payson, Arizona Territory
Postmark Pitzer-Meyer Type 6
Postmark Census 1 of 16 known
Latest known Territorial postmark from Payson.

Westbound mail to and from Payson was carried on horseback to Camp Verde until 1914, the trail too steep and narrow for wheeled vehicles. The last Pony Rider to service this postal route was Mr. Tuffy Peach. The postal route frequency was six days a week with Mondays off. Two fresh horses were exchanged along the route.

From Payson the postal route trail followed Sycamore Creek 14 miles, crossing several times, to Pine. From Pine the trail passed under Milk Ranch Point then up Strawberry Hollow 5 miles to Strawberry. From Strawberry the trail went around Nash Point then followed Fossil Creek to The Corral, a horse exchange point. The trail continued up the very steep Mud Tank Canyon to the top of the mesa, past Wingfield Mesa, through Clear Creek, across the Verde River into Camp Verde.