Circa October 1894 — July 1897 Phoenix, Arizona Territory

Spectacles cross the Arizona Territory upon 6 Different Railroads

From Chicago this spectacles case entered the Arizona Territory on the westbound Santa Fe Railroad, disembarking with the Phoenix mails at Ash Fork. The Santa Fe, Prescott & Phoenix Railroad carried the case to Phoenix and its destination Vantilburg & Davidson 33 W. Washington St. This optical company then reversed and addressed the lid and mailed the case to Lochiel, Ariz. From Phoenix, the Maricopa & Phoenix Railroad provided closed bag mail service to the main line at Maricopa. From Maricopa the eastbound mail was placed on a Southern Pacific Railroad mail coach for Benson. This spectacles case, and other mails, were transferred to the Arizona and Southeastern Railroad in Benson for the short trip to Fairbank. Once again the mails were transferred to a different railroad, the sixth, The New Mexico and Arizona. 40 miles east of Fairbank this spectacles case and other mails were unloaded from the mail coach at Crittenden for the 26 mile stagecoach postal route #68180 south to it's addressee in Lochiel Arizona Territory on the US-Mexico border.

Dates of possible use October 16, 1894 earliest known use 4 cent Lincoln stamp (Sc. 254) to July 28, 1897 business name change to H.F. Vantilburg Co.