

Log Post Office

The Franklin post office was established on April 1, 1805 when President Thomas Jefferson appointed John N. C. Schenck postmaster for the City and Township of Franklin, Ohio. It was in his store at 310 S. Front (River) Street. This was a major trading post between Hamilton and Dayton.

Schenck remained Franklin's postmaster from 1805 until August 7, 1829. In 1812, he moved his house/store/post office to 119 S. Front Street where he could erect a pier to the river.

Through the years, the first log post office building was covered with siding and used as a home with the additions of a large room to the north, a kitchen to the back, two other rooms and a bath. It was occupied by the Richard Emerson family from 1859 to the 1950s.

In 1974, Judge J. Tom Riley, owner of the building, offered to donate it to FAHS so he could erect apartments on the site. After study, the gift was accepted.

The old log post office is now located in the park (or Commons) on the east bank of the Miami River at the end of Fifth Street. It was moved December 6, 1974 and restored by the Franklin Area Historical Society and the Optimist Club. Much of the work was done by Architectural Reclamation, Inc., of Franklin, Ohio.

In 1976 the Log Post Office was entered in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior.

About 2001, the Junior Historical Society, restored the log post office as a major project. The Ohio Historical Marker for The Old Log Post Office was erected in front of the building on March 16, 2003.