

What are “Star Routes” and Why were They Created?

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This is an overview of the Star Route system, in an effort to understand when and why it was created, and what it has become today. This document was written for the New Jersey Postal History Society journal, and therefore its emphasis is on New Jersey.

- Reasons for creation – a money-saving postal reform
- Methods of operation
 - Bidding for route
 - Choice of transportation method
 - Problems within this new system
- “Tools” of the trade – Illustrations of Star Route paraphernalia
- Box service along Star Routes
- Star Routes vs. RFD
- Evolution of Star Routes to Highway Contract Routes