

## Third Home: The Post Office



Frank Eno was instrumental in getting the library changed from being a membership library to a tax-supported free library. This action saved it, and in 1874 the library re-opened with a new name: Pine Plains Free Library.

Although no longer having to rely on membership dues to keep it going, the amount of public funds that the library received varied year to year.

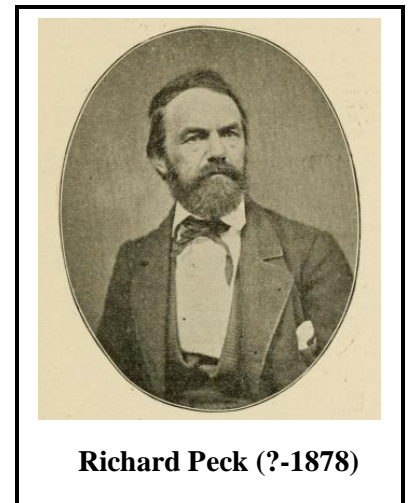
In 1861 Richard Peck had become the postmaster of Pine Plains and the post office was relocated to his law office on South Main Street, which he had built around 1840 next to the big hotel on the corner (later the Ketterer Hotel). The post office now also became the home of the Pine Plains Free Library.

### The “Old Post Office”, mid-1920s

Frank Eno continued as librarian for many years, but the library would only be at this location for about a decade.

It is interesting that in Pine Plains the library, the post office, and the town offices never had what could be considered permanent homes until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A hundred years ago the postmaster changed every time a new political party was elected in Washington, so the post office often moved to wherever the postmaster had his business.

Although Richard Peck died in 1878, the post office remained here until around 1899, and after it moved this building was affectionately called “The Old Post Office” for many years even as it was used for other things, including as a pool hall for the Ketterer Hotel. Now we call it “The Old Library”. Read on to find out how that came about ...



**Richard Peck (?-1878)**