

Historical Question

Question: Who was the first constable and postmaster in Butlerville?

Answer: William McGhie, Jr. became Butlerville's first constable when Butler Precinct was created in 1877. He was also Butlerville's first postmaster. The post office was located in his home and mail was delivered in Butlerville and also to residents in Big Cottonwood Canyon twice a week via horse and buggy. The service continued from 1892 until 1900, when a free rural delivery route from Sandy began.

William McGhie, Jr. was the son of John Kellie and Elizabeth Collins and was given the name of William Kellie when he was christened on Feb. 5, 1830 in Scotland. He was adopted by William McGhie, Sr. when he and Elizabeth Collins were married in 1831, and his name was changed to William McGhie, Jr.

On the McGhie property in Butlerville, seven large streams of pure water flowed out of the hillside, and they later became known as McGhie Springs. Murray City acquired ownership of McGhie Springs in 1919, and the springs are now a major source of Murray's water supply.