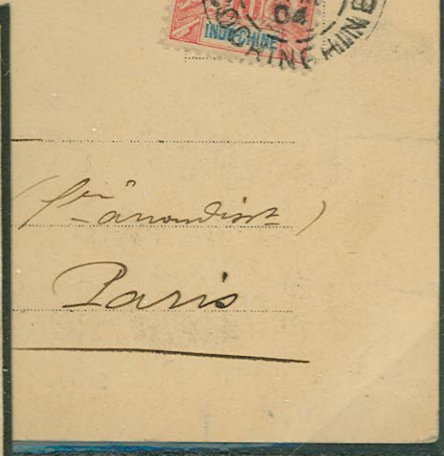


COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

During the period of the Group Type's use there were numerous small village offices in Cochinchina. At best material from these villages is scarce – a number of the covers are the only ones seen by the exhibitor in over thirty years of collecting. The presentation in this part of the exhibit is generally alphabetical, with the covers arranged on the page for presentation. It should be noted that most of the relevant rates have already been discussed earlier.

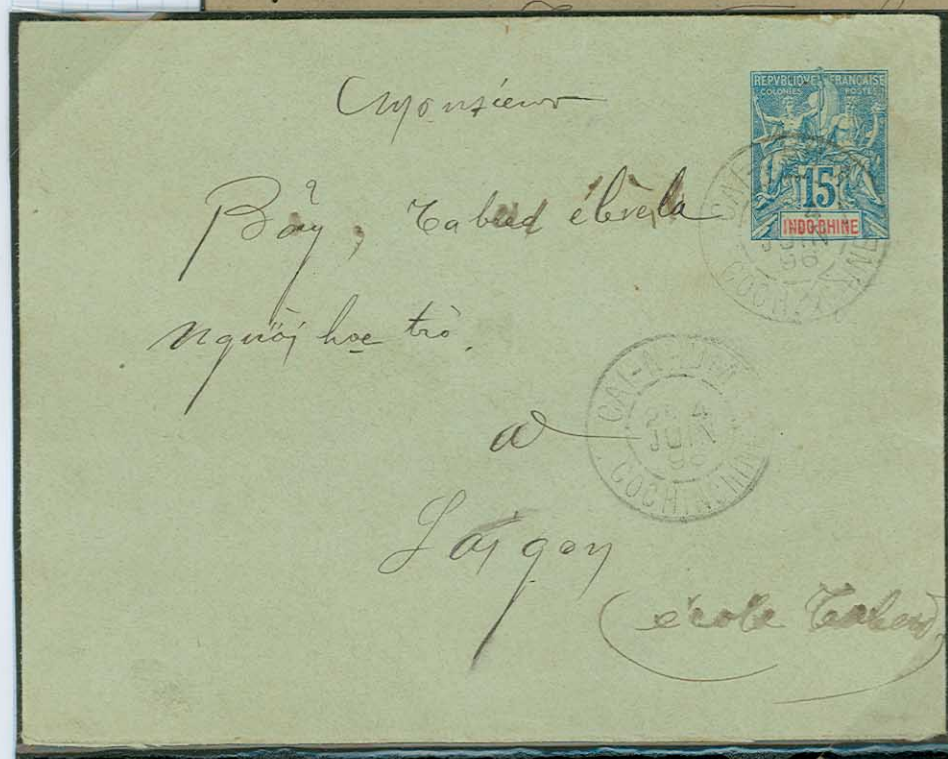
Bienhoa
Bentré
Baclieu



Official letter from Baclieu, at left, with village governmental cachet, signature and manuscript S.L. (Service Local), expecting government franchise which was not accepted at the post office, and the letter was marked with a T in triangle for due and charged 30c due at its destination at Soctrang.

COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Cailay
Caibé
Cai-nhum
Cairang



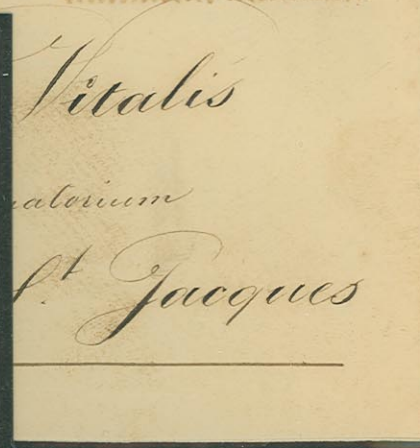
COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Cantho
Cap St-Jacques



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Cap St-Jacques



Valeur 7500.—

Sept. Mille cinq cents Francs



250
Monsieur Ly-Vinh (Ly Keng)

Carte de séjour N° 141235.

Employé de la Maison Cai-You Chan.



Ladec

CHARGE N° 25	
DATE	21/11/07
BY	20097
COCHINCHINA	CAMBODGE

Caractères
Chinois
Cai-You Chan

COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Chogao
Chaudoc

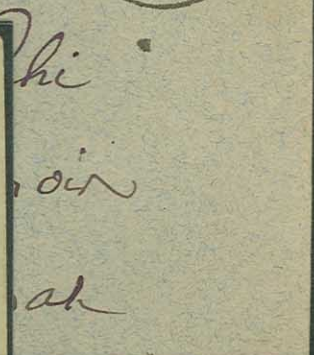


SEE COVER ON NEXT PAGE: Declared value front from the small village of Chlon-Binh Tay on April 21, 1900. The postage for declared value letters was comprised of three components: regular postage based on weight; 25c for registration; and an insurance charge based on the declared value and the destination. The declared value was written in manuscript on the front of the envelopes (**Valeur 7500.- Sept Mille cinq cents Francs**) with a **CHARGÉ** handstamp indicating that the letter was insured. A declared value cachet, normally on the reverse, contained specific information regarding the letter. In this case the cachet is on the front and is of a design specific to Cochinchina and Cambodia. It contains the following information: date of posting – 21/4/00; weight in grams of the letter – 200g; number of wax security seals on the reverse – 7; color of the security seals – R (rouge); and security initials pressed into the wax – Chinese characters in this case.

This letter was posted from the small village of Chlon-Binh Tay to the small village of Sadec, also in Cochinchina. A total of 2F35c in stamps is present on the front. However, with a weight of 200g, 2F10c was required for postage and 25c for registration leaving nothing for insurance. Undoubtedly, there were additional stamps on the reverse to prepay the insurance charge. However, as this is only a front, the amount for insurance on 7500 francs is uncertain. Documentation on Colonial insurance rates is seriously lacking in the literature, and the view that they mirrored those of France is incorrect based on this exhibitor's personal observations. Additional declared value letters are present in this exhibit.

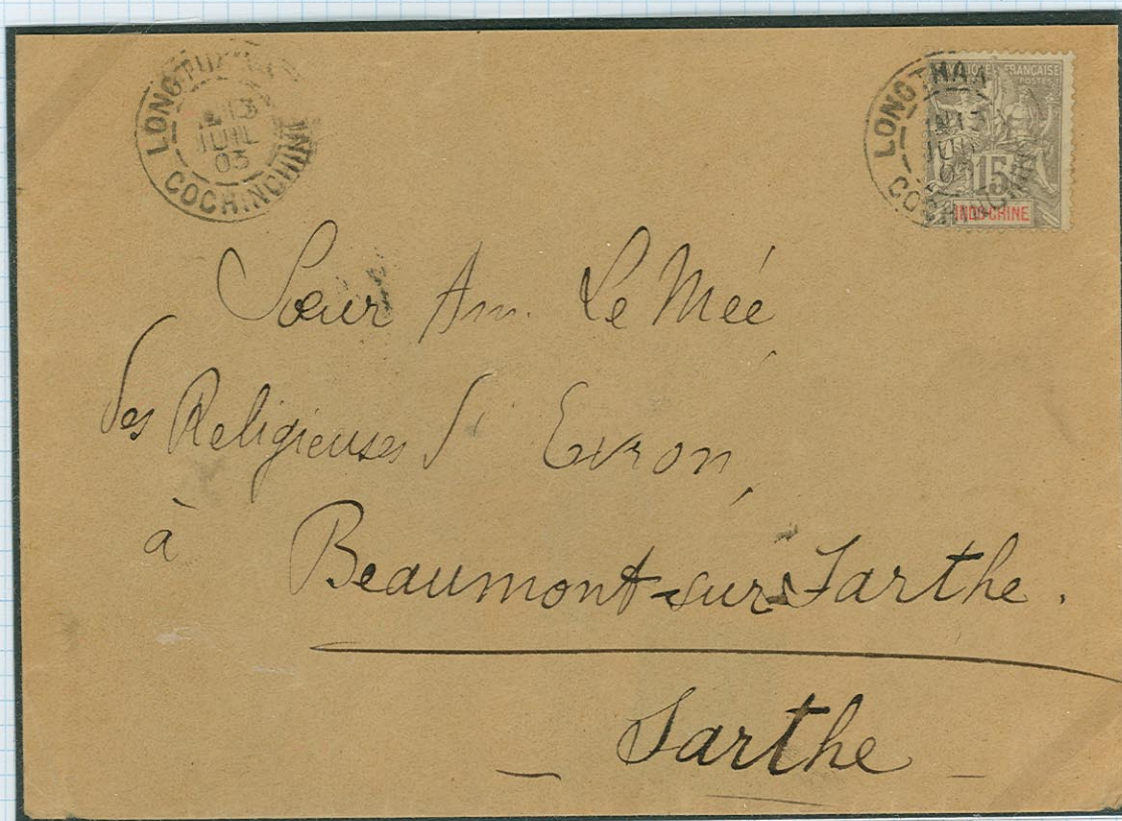
COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Culaogien
Chua Chan
Daingai
Gocong
Hatien



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Hong-chong
Long-thanh



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Longxuyen



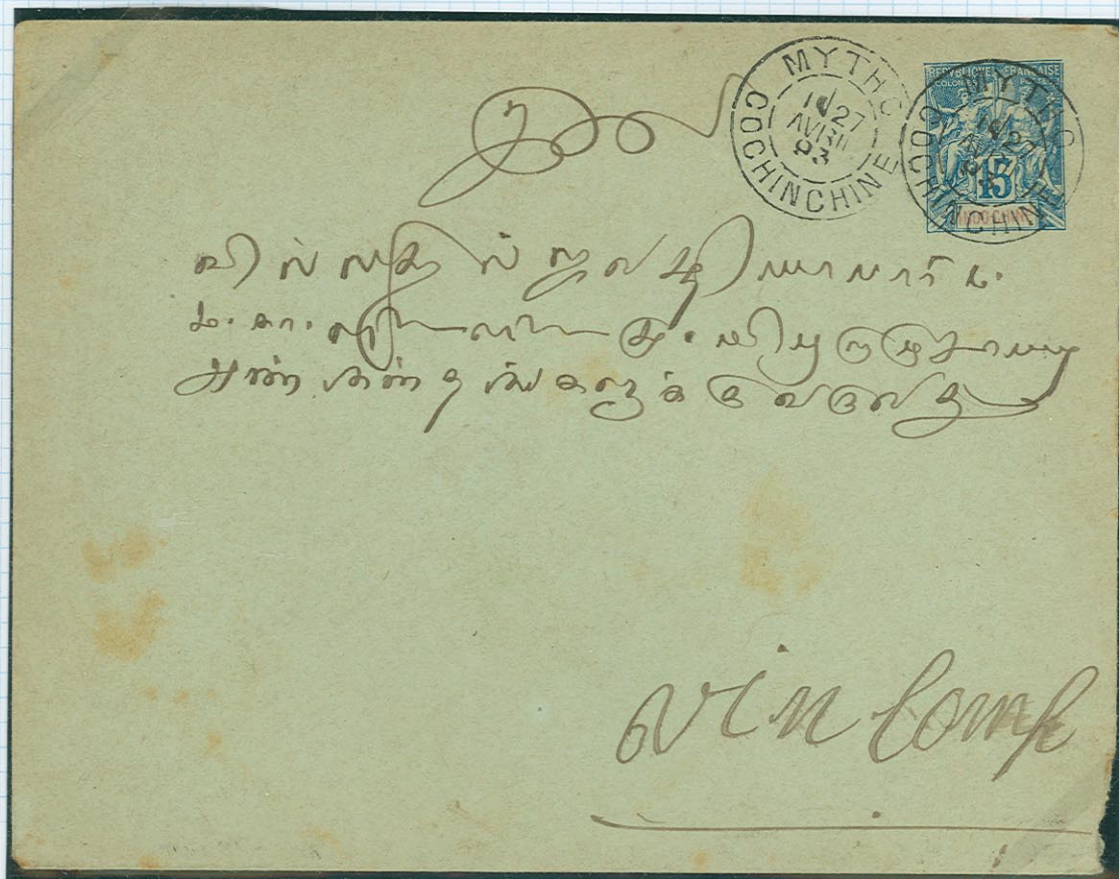
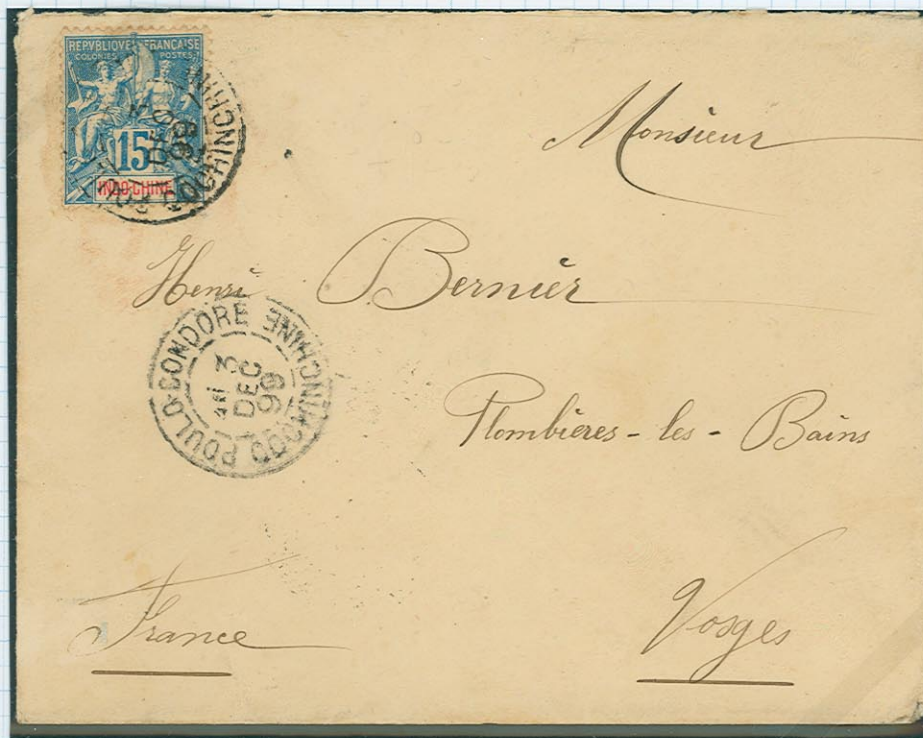
Saigon



Letter at the 15c local rate from the small village of Longxuyen to Saigon with the rare colonial **APRES LE DEPART** (Too Late) handstamp, followed by properly used letter card posted to Buenos-Aires, an unusual destination. Also, a registered letter from the same office on a 15c postal stationery envelope raised to the 50c rate with low value Group Types and a 30c Type Dubois stamp in 1893.

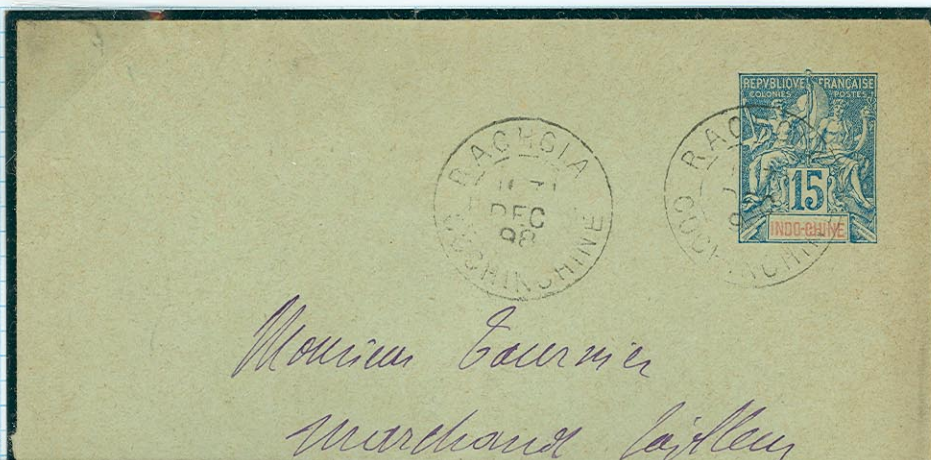
COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Poulo-Condore
Mytho



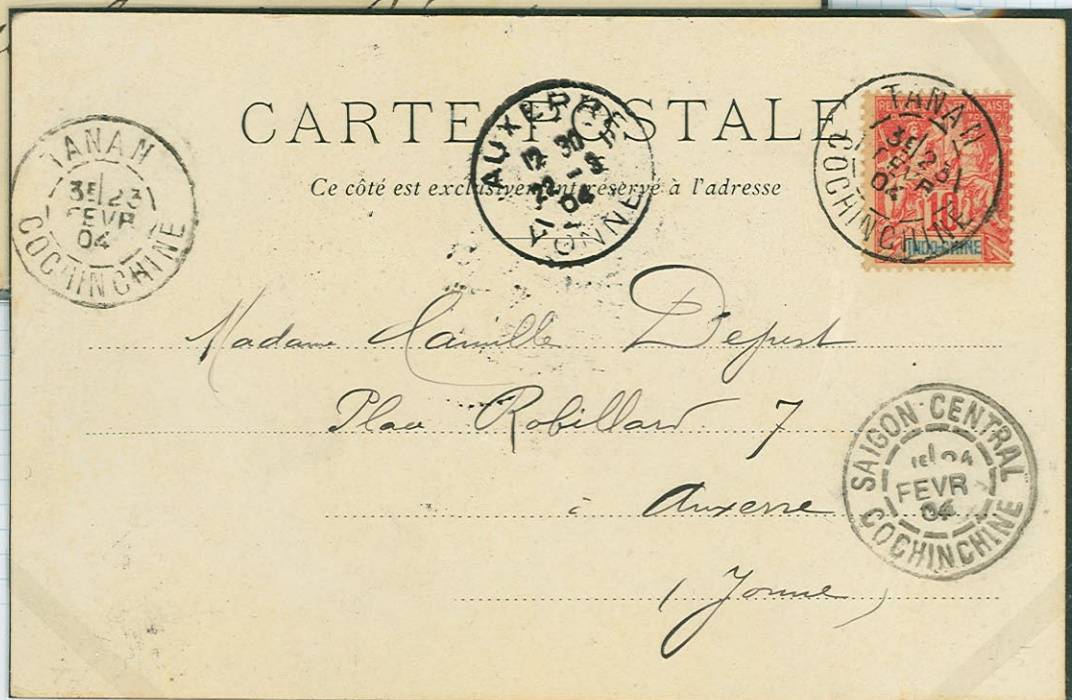
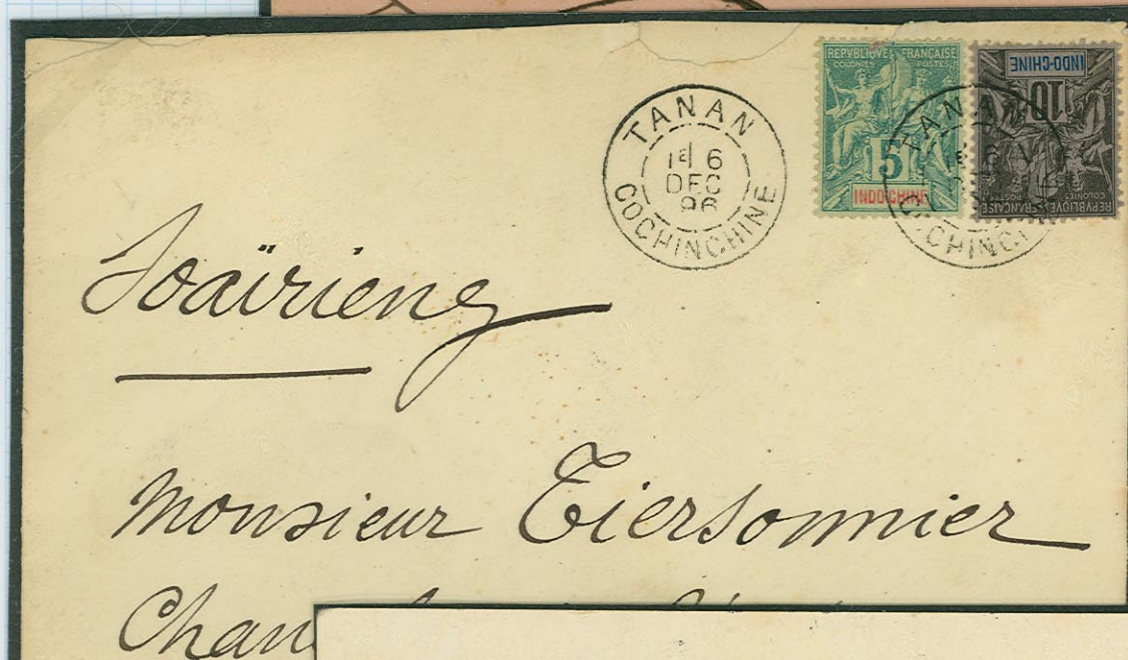
COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Rachgia
Soctrang



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Sadec
Tanan



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Tanchau

Unusual registered letter posted from the small village of Tanchau to the small village of Rachgia on September 21, 1912. At this time the basic rate was 10c per 15g. With a 75c stamp this suggests that this was a fifth level local registered letter. However, the manuscript endorsement: *affranchie par l'expéditeur* (franked by the sender) indicates that this was an over franked philatelic letter. This manuscript endorsement was used by postal clerks to protect them from charges of overcharging postal customers.



However, a closer inspection of the stamp suggests reasons for its philatelic origins. It is in fact an example of a variety of the 1901 overprint from the French Office at Hoi-Hao, wherein the **HOI HAO** portion of the overprint is missing and only the Chinese characters are present. This is shown in the blow-up of the stamp. These overprint varieties of the French Offices stamps are often seen on off-cover stamps, but rarely on any type of cover. They are not listed in any of the catalogs. This cover traveled through the mails as evidenced by a Longxuyen transit on September 23rd and a Rachgia arrival on the next day. The combination of the overprint variety used on a cover from a small village to a small village is exceptional. A full section on the French Offices is presented in a later part of the exhibit.

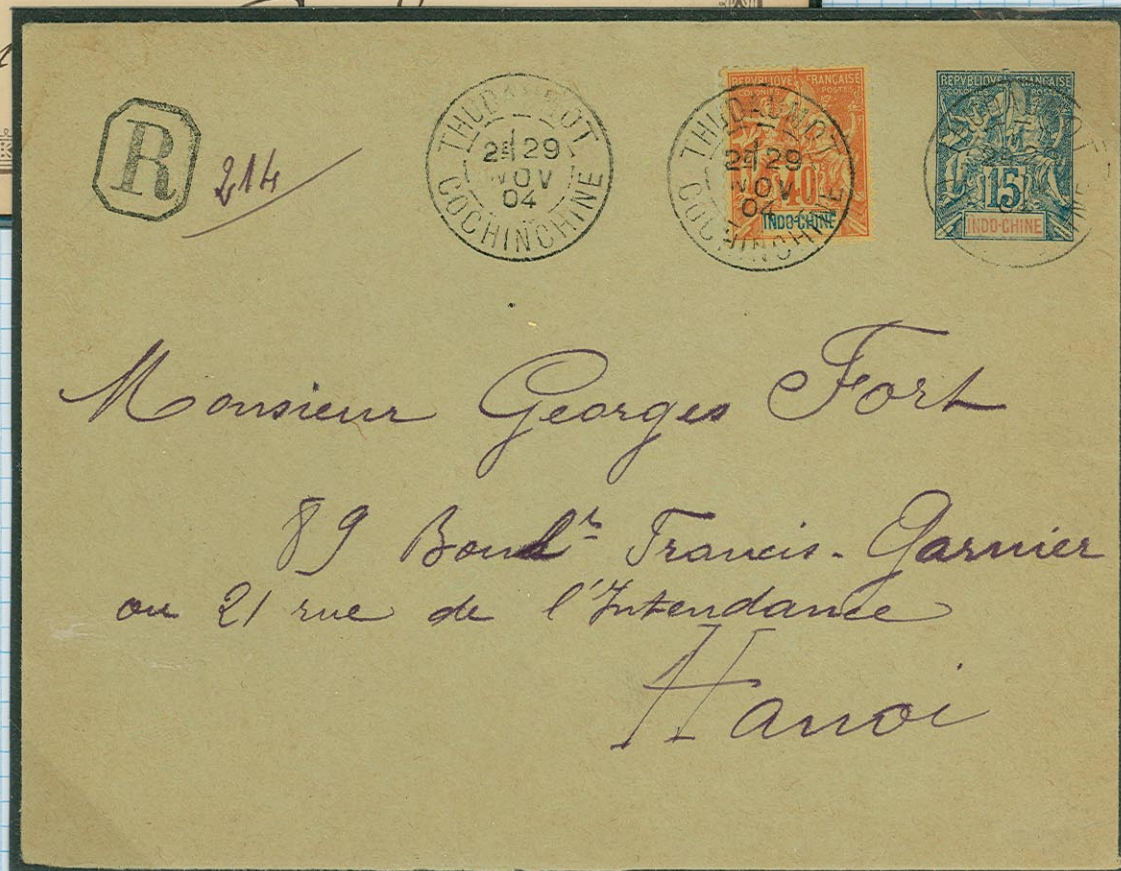
COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Tay Ninh
Tieucan



COCHINCHINA – Small Village Use

Vinlong
Thudaumot

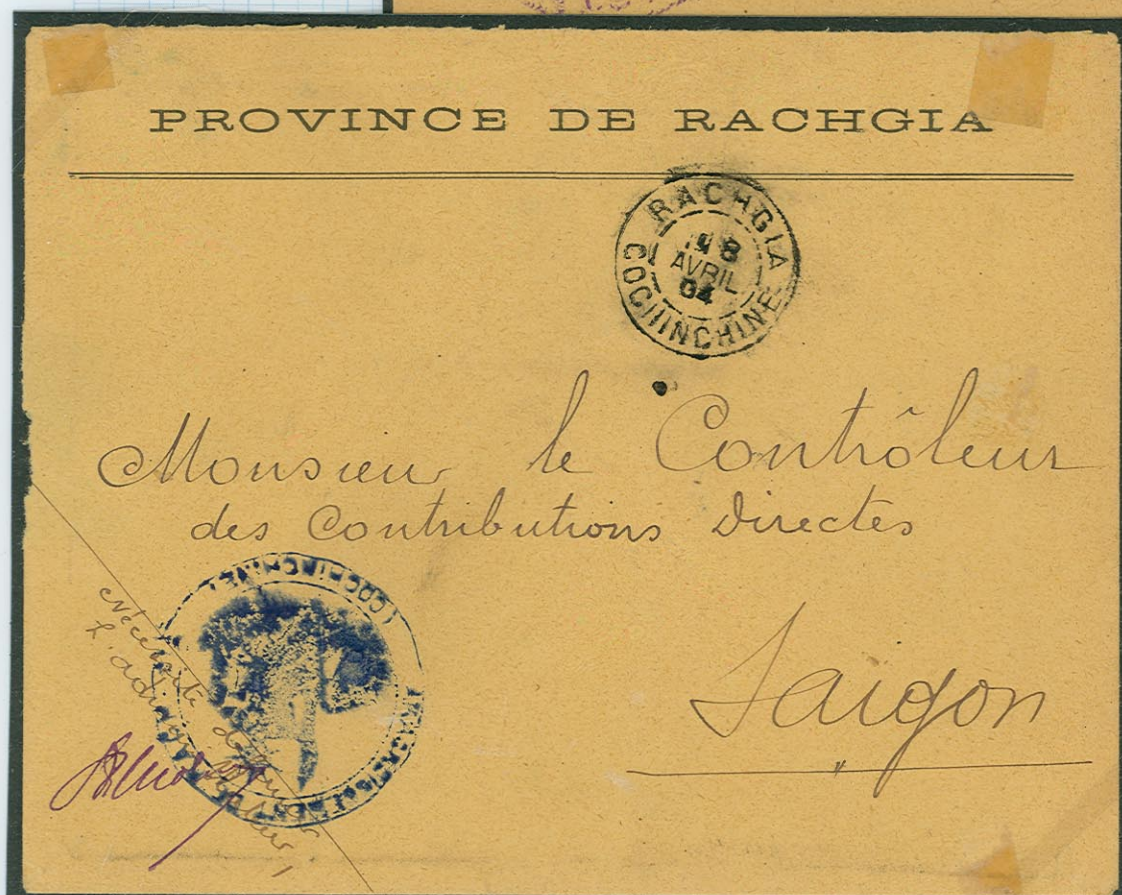


French community and post card rates from Vinhlong followed by a double weight registered local letter (2 x 15c + 25c) from the small village of Thudaumot to Hanoi in 1904 based on a 15c postal stationery envelope raised to the 55c rate with a 40c Group Type stamp

COCHINCHINA – Government Franchise Mail

Small Village Use

Giadinh
Rachgia



In addition to the military franchise mail shown later in the exhibit, government franchise letters also exist in Indochina for this period. To validate government franchise mail, preprinted franchise envelopes were required, and an official seal and signature were applied to the envelopes. Examples from the small villages of Giadinh and Rachgia are shown.