

Hotel le Royal
Pnom-Penh

The sender, almost certainly a tourist, used stationery from Pnompenh's Le Royal Hotel for posting a letter from Angkor to London in 1933.



POSTAL MARKINGS

ANGKOR CAMBODGE 4-1 33
slogan handstamp and routing instruction
airmail label and canceling "X" handstamp

REVERSE

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 6-1 33
MARSEILL-GARE-AVION BCHES DURHONE 18 • I 1933

Hotel le Royal
Pnom-Penh

The corner card imprint on the Hotel Le Royal was partially obscured by one of the postage stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 17-8 38

airmail label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 18-8 38

MARSEILL-GARE-AVION BCHES DU RHONE 23 • I 1938

Royal Hotel
Pnompenh

A picture postcard posted in 1950 shows a view of the Royal Hotel in Pnompenh, Cambodia.



POSTAL MARKINGS (REVERSE)
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 21-9 1950

Hotel Manolis
Phnompenh

The reverse of stationery for Hotel Manolis provided a map of the hotel's location.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHNOM-PENH CAMBODGE 10-6-36
registration label

Grand Hotel Manolis
Phnompenh

A tourist embellished his envelope from Phnompenh's Grand Hotel Manolis with an array of contemporary postage stamps for a mailing to London in 1939.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 6-6 39
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6-6 39
PARIS • AVIATION SŒ ETRANGER 16 • VI 1939

Grand Hôtel Pnompenh

The early postcard at the top shows Pnompenh's Grand Hotel without any nearby vegetation while the later one below shows the hotel surrounded by dense trees.



Grand Hôtel Pnompenh

The view of Pnompenh's Grand Hotel shown in this postcard from the early 1900s includes a telephone pole in the foreground. While a horse-drawn carriage is still present, the postcard is evidence that Pnompenh had adopted modern communications typical of a major city.



Grand Hotel
Pnompenh

Early Grand Hotel stationery used in 1923 advertised its availability for festivals and marriages. The name of the proprietor was prominently displayed as part the hotel's identification.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMMPENH CAMBODGE 17-1 23
REVERSE
HONG-KONG 3 FEB 23

Grand Hotel
Pnompenh

Compared to earlier varieties, the Grand Hotel's 1930 envelope was considerably less ornate. The sender used the hotel's stationery for mailing a letter from Saigon to Ontario Canada.



Select Hotel
Pnompenh

Posted from Pnompenh, Cambodia, in November 1927, this envelop from the Select Hotel was handstamped with the "Found in the Box" marking. The loss of the stamp at the lower right happened after the markings were applied to the front of the cover and was not a factor in the mailing being singled out. The reason for the handstamp was that excessive postage had been affixed to the envelope. The implied message was "don't blame the post office for the sender overspending on postage."



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 28-11 27
Found in the Box handstamp

Hotel Sukhalay Pnompenh

Pnompenh's Hotel Sukhalay employed a unique pyramidal design for its baggage label.



Hôtel Clément Quang-Yen

The Clement Hotel at Quang-Yen appeared to be surrounded by water. Access to the hotel was via a causeway.



Quinehone Hotel Quinehone

Although this postcard does not specifically identify the hotel and villas, the complex is likely called the Quinhone Hotel.



Astor Hotel
Saigon

The baggage label for Saigon's Hotel Astor features an image of a lotus bloom.



Hotel Caravelle
Saigon



Continental Hotel Saigon

The elegant Terrace Restaurant of the Continental Hotel is depicted on a period postcard.



Continental Hotel
Saigon

An early version of Continental Hotel stationery was posted from Saigon to Boston in 1893. Foreign mail postage was paid with a 25-centime Commerce stamp. Commerce definitive stamps were being phased out with the arrival of Indochina's Navigation and Commerce stamps in 1892.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1 JANV 1893

REVERSE

BOSTON PAID FE 13 93
BOSTON SOUTH END A MASS. FEB 13 1893

Continental Hotel
Saigon

The sender of this mailing affixed a portion of the rear flap of a Continental Hotel envelope to the front of his Continental Hotel envelope. Sent to La Paz, Bolivia, the sender may have wanted to make certain the addressee knew where to send a response.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 19-3 31
REVERSE
LA PAZ BOLIVIA XXX 11 31

Continental Hotel
Saigon

Stationery for the Continental Hotel, which was presumably distinct from the "Continental Palace Hotel," shows its logo to have consisted of a rather complex combination of the letters "C" and "H."



CONTINENTAL HOTEL

SAIGON (Cochinchine)

Apr 22 - '31

Dear Roger

Here it is just-like the
the vicarage browser in
the Episcopal church
chanted that it was,
It is so hot that we
have cold feet and
are forsoaking the
Equator and sail
north Apr 24. Will spend
some weeks in China
and Japan, and then

Continental Palace Hotel Saigon

A picture postcard is labeled "Hôtel Continental" but the marquis in the picture says "CONTINENTAL PALACE HOTEL" indicating that they were one in the same.



Continental Palace Hotel
Saigon

According to the envelope's imprint, the main hotel for the "Société des Grandes Hotels Indochinois" was the Continental Palace in Saigon.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 10-12 28
REVERSE
PORT-TAUFIQ F.T. 29 DEC. 28
PORT SAID 30 DEC. 28

Continental Palace Hotel
Saigon

This version of the Continental Palace's stationery carried a simple identifying imprint on the back flap.



Continental Palace Hotel
Saigon

Dan Sweeney, a prominent period artist, designed a label for Saigon's Continental Palace Hotel.



Continental Palace Hotel
Saigon

The Continental Palace Hotel's oval label depicting a tiger evoked images of an exotic locale.



Continental Palace Hotel
Saigon



Grand Hotel Continental
Saigon

While Saigon had a Grand Hotel and a Continental Hotel, the back of this envelope promotes the Grand Hotel Continental. While the text includes a listing the amenities in the expected French, the right side lists the same in English. Furthermore, a note at the end of the list indicates "ENGLISH SPOKEN."



POSTAL MARKINGS (REVERSE)
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 16 FEVR 05

Grand Hotel Continental Saigon

The logo for the Grand Hotel Continental employs a red sunburst design. The address for telegraphic communication is identified as "CONTINENT-SAIGON." The hotel's stationery carries the same Grand Hotel Continental logo at the upper right.



REVERSE POSTAL MARKINGS
POULO-CONDRE COCHINCHINE 24 MARS 10

Grand Hotel Continental
Saigon

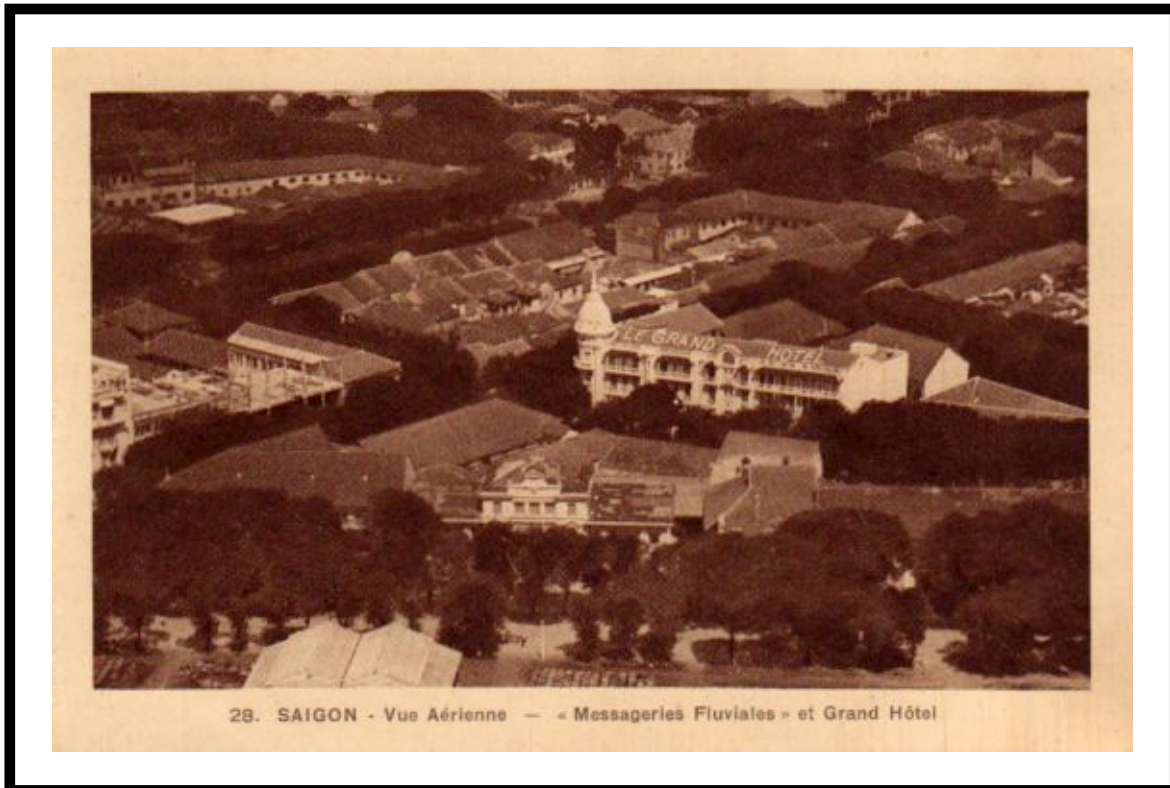
L. Benard,



Mme Chien Mien Bien de
neuf à vous dire
depuis 6 jours. Vous
allez bien et partez
vendredi pour Hanoi.
Pas merveilleux Saigon
trop vide d'Europe
pas ventillé.
J'en ai profité mon
temps à écrire une
série de lettres en
attendant depuis longtemps
de sorte que l'heure
presse — Vous savez

Grand Hotel Saigon

An aerial view of Saigon's Grand Hotel shows a prominent dome at the corner of the building. The Saigon Palace Hotel had a similar dome also located on the corner of the building where two streets intersected.



Hotel Majestic
Saigon

Stationery for the Hotel Majestic used in 1937 conveyed essential contact information including its street, telegraph address and telephone number.



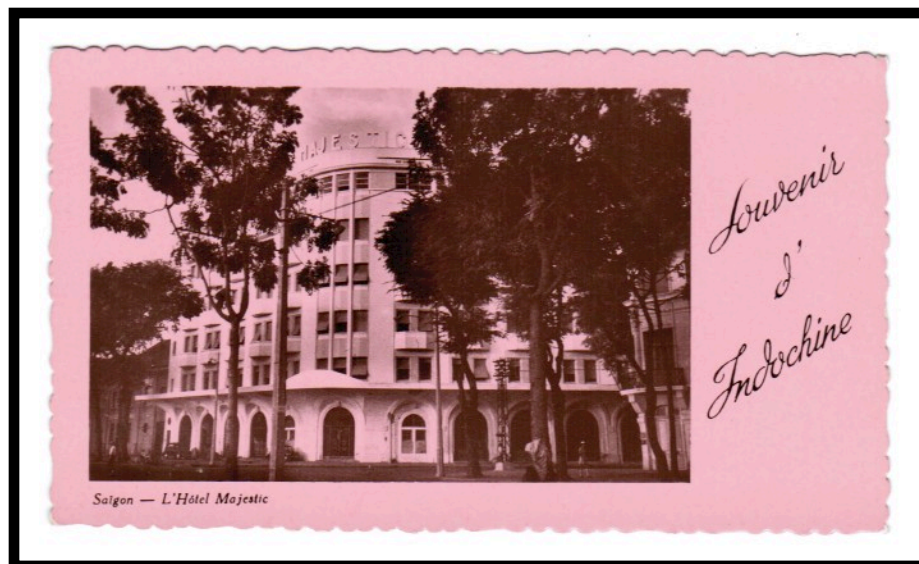
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 12-11 37
REVERSE
PARIS R.P. AVION 20 • XI 1937

L'Hôtel Majestic Saigon

With balconies on all rooms facing the street, the Hotel Majestic was another large building that mimicked the architecture of mother France.



A later souvenir card shows that the outside of the formerly ornate hotel had undergone extensive remodeling.



Grand Hotel Majestic Saigon

A picture postcard, likely from the early 1950s, depicts the renovated hotel now called the “Grand Hotel Majestic” according to the text printed on the card.



Hotel Majestic Saigon

The design elements for the Hotel Majestic's label showed that the establishment catered to guests arriving in Saigon by ship.



Hotel Majestic
Saigon

Another Hotel Majestic label more closely followed the format of contemporary labels.



Hotel Majestic
Saigon



Majestic Palace
Saigon

Stationery simply identified the establishment as “Majestic Palace” without the word “hotel.” Franked with 66 cents worth of postage, the mailing must have exceeded 5 grams as the letter was cited as with a handstamp that reads “insufficient postage for air transport.”



Majestic Palace
Saigon

This form was used for sending guests' hotel baggage to a ship in the port of Saigon. The form has entries for the passenger's name, the ship's name, the passenger's cabin number and his destination.

To ease travelers' concerns, the form notes "ENGLISH SPOKEN."

MAJESTIC PALACE
SAIGON
DANIEL CHAILLET, Directeur

ENGLISH SPOKEN

M _____

Navire _____

Cabine N° _____

Destination _____

Hotel Des Nations Saigon

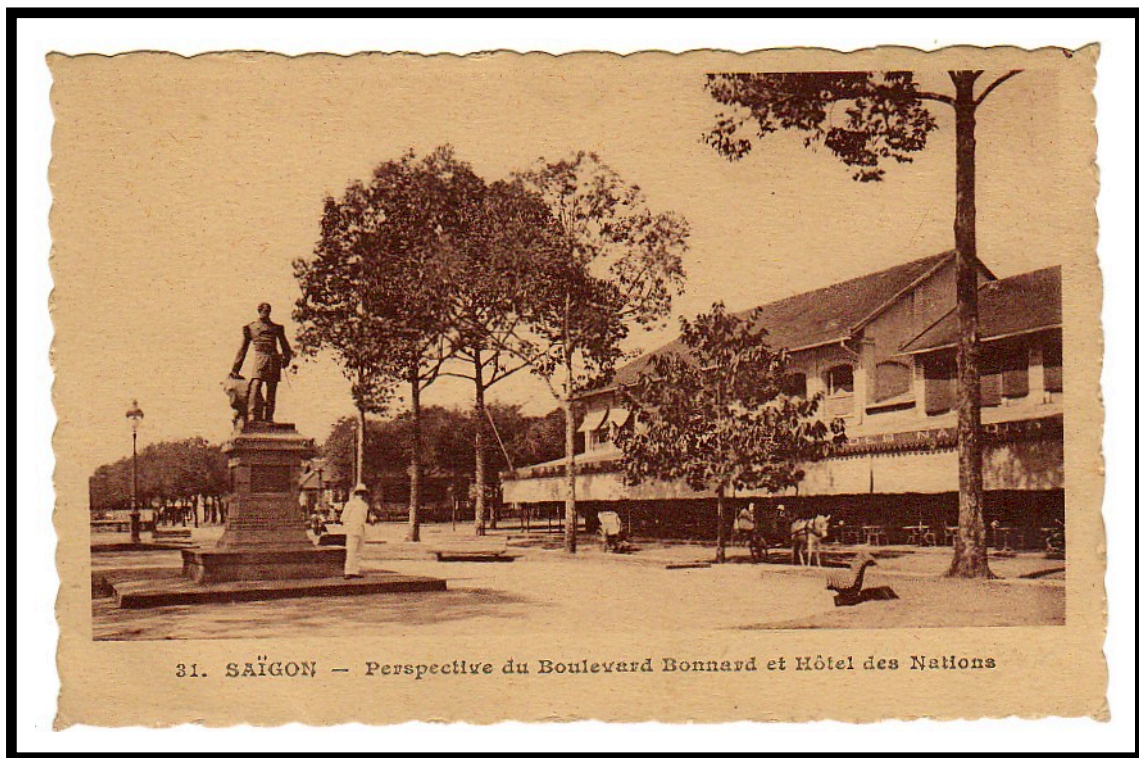
From the postcard description, the Hotel des Nations was located across the street from city hall.



POSTAL MARKINGS ON REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6 JANV 11
AVALON YONNE 31-1 11

Hôtel des Nations Saigon

The Hotel of the Nations faced a public square with Saigon's statue of Francis Garnier, the noted military explorer of Indochina.



Hotel des Nations
Saigon

Stationery for Saigon's Hotel des Nations was shared with its restaurant – Café des Nations.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 21 SEPT 01

REVERSE

JONZAC CHARANTE INFRE 23 OCT 01

Hotel des Nations
Saigon

GRAND HOTEL DES NATIONS
Boulevard Charner et rue d'Espagne
SAIGON
PANCRAZI, propriétaire

Saigon, le 21 septembre 1901

*deux cents
pour?
pour?
pour?
pour?*

*Quel est le
bateau la Tamise
le general Dadd
tout son mal avec la
moitié du personnel de
pour l'Etat la D. de P. d'Elip.
et la troupe nichole d'Hauv!!!*

c'est qui va être servi? Mes chers parents

Un mot seulement car il
est 3 heures et la Tamise
part à 5h. Cette lettre qui a
vraiment été écrite en ce jour n'est
que sa brièveté, n'a d'autre but
que de ne pas manquer le
courrier et ne pas vous laisser
17 jours sans nouvelles. La
Mauve qui est partie hier de
Haiphong nous rejoindra entre
Vha-trang et Smeu-ndou
je pourrai donc vous écrire
qu'à Haiphong par le
courrier qui devra arriver en
France vers le fin d'octobre
et vers les premiers de novembre
car ce n'est pas les M. M. qui ne peut former
par vis.

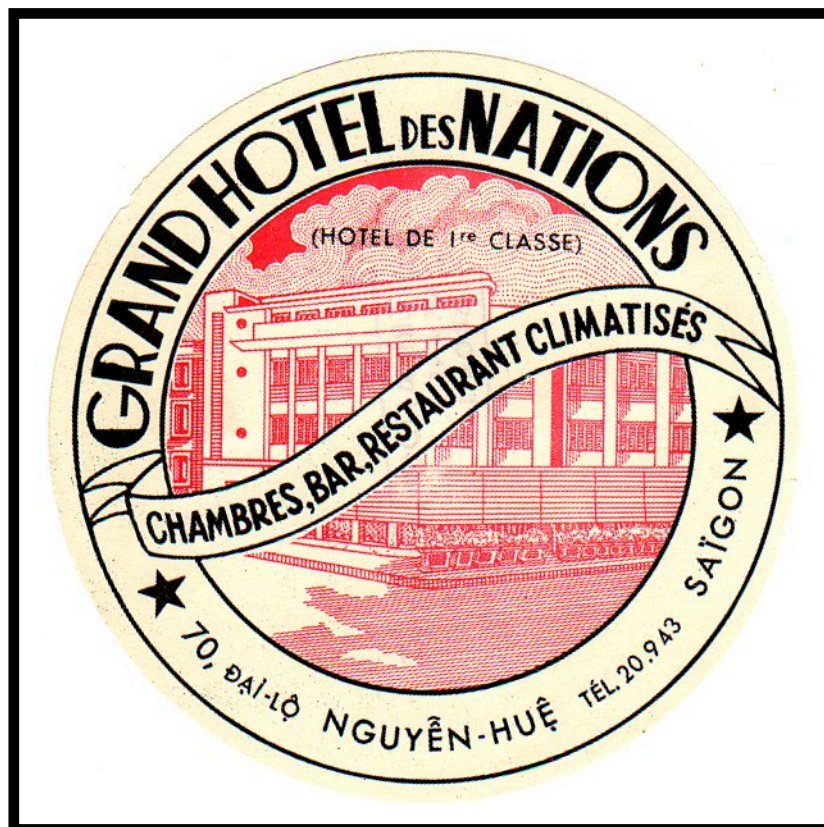
Hotel des Nations
Saigon

Declaration of the hotel's address on a baggage label indicates a more modern approach toward conveying information.



Hôtel des Nations Saigon

The Hotel of the Nations faced a public square with Saigon's statue of Francis Garnier, the noted military explorer of Indochina.



Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde
Saigon

In contrast to the traditionally sedate business stationery, this envelope for the Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde features large bold print in red ink.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 26-8 32
airmail label and Saigon-Marseille routing handstamp
rate certification handstamp

REVERSE

MARSEILLE ARRIVEE B^{CHES} DU RHONE 5 • IX 1932

Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde Saigon

Tables and chairs on wide sidewalks made Saigon's Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde reminiscent of Parisian hotels.



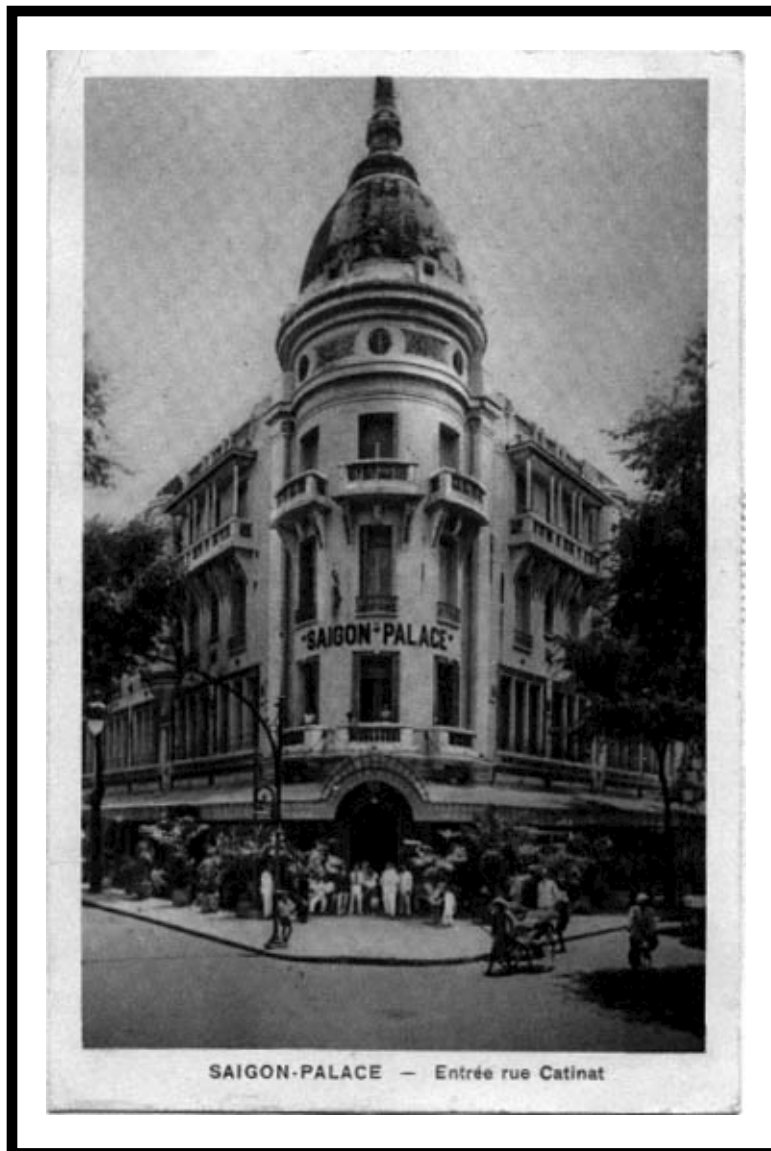
Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde
Saigon

The label for Saigon's Grand Hôtel de la Rotonde incorporated a blank area at the lower left where the name of the hotel guest could be entered.



Saigon Palace Hotel
Saigon

A postcard from 1933 depicts the Catinat Street entrance to the Saigon Palace Hotel.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 12-8 33

Saigon Palace Hotel
Saigon

With the advent of regular airmail service from Indochina to Europe, hotels included airmail envelopes among their stationery items available for guests.



POSTAL MARKINGS

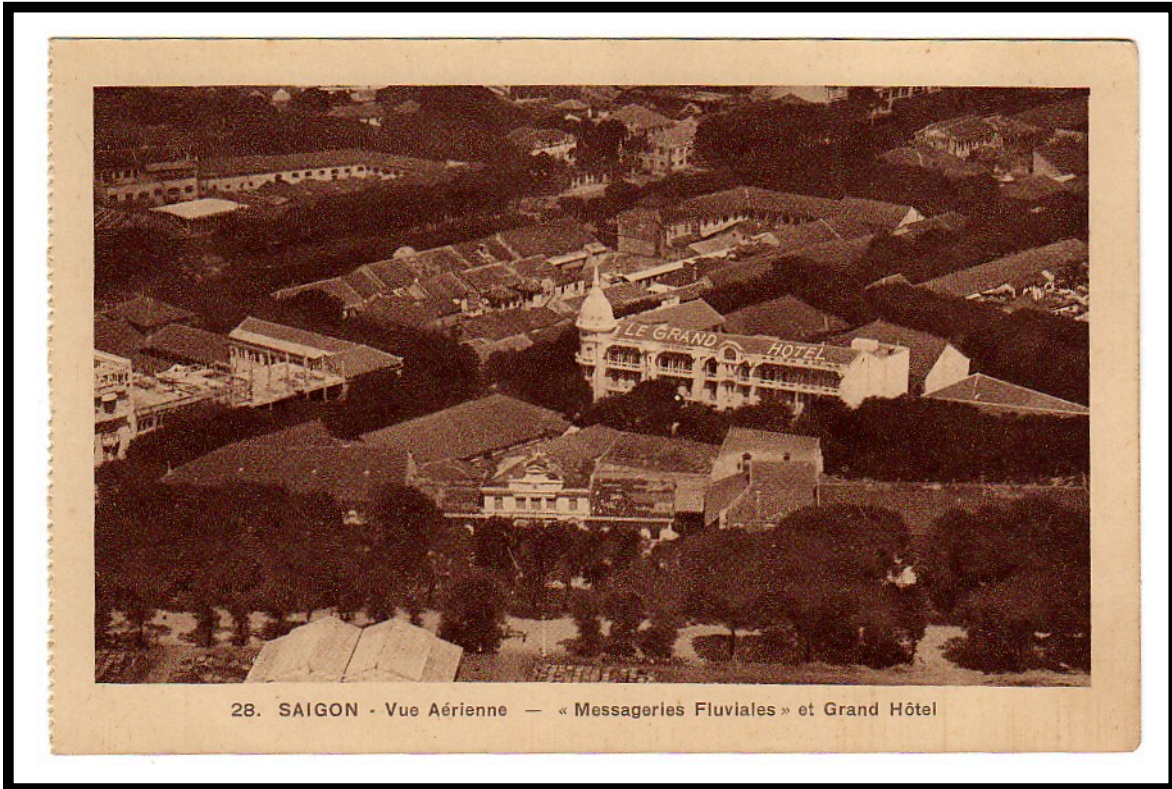
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 4-1 34
flight cachet

REVERSE

MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION BOCHES DU RHONE 17 • I 1934
ANNECY HAUTE-SAVOIE 18.1.34

Grand Hotel Saigon

An aerial view of Saigon's Grand Hotel shows a prominent dome at the corner of the building. The Saigon Palace Hotel had a similar dome also located on the corner of the building where two streets intersected.



Grand Café de la Terrasse Hôtel Saigon

This hotel apparently took its name from its restaurant – the Grand Café de la Terrasse (Grand Terrace Café).



Grand Café de la Terrasse Hôtel
Saigon

The Terrace Hotel's stationery also promoted its restaurant, Grand Café de la Terrasse, with a two-color corner imprint.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON A COCHINCHINE 13 AOUT 09
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

BANGKOK 1. 18. 8. 09
BANGKOK.2 18. 8. 09

Terrace Hotel
Saigon

The Terrace Hotel's stationery also promoted its restaurant with a two-color corner imprint.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON A COCHINCHINE 9 SEPT 09
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 9 SEPT 09
BANGKOK 2. 14. 9. 09

Hotel de l'Univers
Saigon

Saigon's Hotel de l'Univers fronted one of the city's many tree-lined streets.



Hotel de l'Univers
Saigon

Nineteenth century stationery for the Hotel de l'Univers employed a simple form of return address at the upper left of envelopes. As multiple streets are given in the return address, it is likely that the hotel was large and had multiple entrances.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 27 JUIL 95

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 27 JUIL 95
CHALON-S-SAONE SAONE ET LOIRE 24 AOUT 95

Hotel de l'Univers
Saigon

A Hotel de l'Univers envelope posted in 1900 advertises food and drink and promotes a related property located at Cap Saint Jacques.

Because the post office was unprepared for the turn of the century, digits for the year "00" had to be created by removing the central portions of the "99" date plugs.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29 MARS 00
REVERSE
COUTANCES MANCHE 23 AVRIL 00

Hotel de l'Univers
Saigon

Evidently, the Mottet & Company operated a general supply store as well as the Hôtel de l'Univers in Saigon and Grand Hôtel and Sanatorium in Cap Saint Jacques.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 DEC 05
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

CHALON- S/- SAONE SAONE-ET-LOIRE 28-12 05

Vien-Dong Hotel Saigon

A small format card picturing the Vien-Dong Hotel in Saigon was printed as a "Souvenir of Indochina." Perhaps the cards were given to departing customers. It is interesting to note that printed on the reverse is "Made in France" written in English

A Vien-Dong operates today in Ho Chi Minh City. Today's version is a high-rise design that differs greatly from the three-story structure depicted on the souvenir card.



Grand Hotel de la Plage
Sam-Son

Sam-Son was famous for its beautiful beach. The town's major seaside hotel took the name "Grand Beach Hotel."



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAM-SON ANNAM 24 OCT. 07

REVERSE

THANH-HOA ANNAM 24 OCT. 07
NANCY MIHE ET MLE 27-11 07

Hotel de Samson
Samson

Hotel de Samson stationery shows that it was once called the "Hotel Renaud." It is not known when the name change occurred, but certainly prior to 1944 when this letter was mailed from Thanh-Hoa, Annam to Hanoi.



POSTAL MARKINGS
THANH-HOA ANNAM 13-12 44
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 14-12 44

Grand Hotel d'Angkor Siemreap-Angkor

Stationery for the Grand Hotel d'Angkor exploited the most prominent local tourist attraction, the temple complex at Angkor, by depicting the Angkor Wat temple across the top of the envelope.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SIEMREAP-ANGKOR CAMBODGE 16-4 38

REVERSE

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-4 38

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 17-4 38

Grand Hotel d'Angkor and Hotel des Ruines
Siemreap and Angkor, Cambodia

Posted in 1935, this envelope shows that A. Messner controlled both the Grand Hotel d'Angkor at Siemreap and the Hotel des Ruines at Angkor. The reverse of the envelope depicts a large image of the Bayon.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SIEMREAP CAMBODGE 30-10 35

REVERSE

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 31-10 35

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1-11 35

Grand Hotel d'Angkor
Siemreap-Angkor

Another envelope shows that Grand Hotel d'Angkor at Siemreap and the Hotel des Ruines d'Angkor at Angkor were under the control of the same corporate entity.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SIEMREAP-ANGKOR CAMBODGE 14-12 36
slogan handstamp

REVERSE

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-12 36
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 17 DEC 36

Grand Hotel d'Angkor
Siemreap

A slogan handstamp promoting tourism for the Angkor temple complex was applied to an envelope from the Grand Hotel d'Angkor.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SIEAMREAP-ANGKOR CAMBODGE 14-4 39
slogan handstamp

REVERSE

PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 14-4 39
CHICAGO, ILL. AIR MAIL APR 29 1939

Grand Hotel d'Angkor & Hotel des Ruines
Siemreap-Angkor

One baggage label served the sister hotels of Grand Hotel d'Angkor and Hotel des Ruines both located in Siemreap.



Grand Hotel d'Angkor
Siemreap

The Grand Hotel d'Angkor made use of the prime tourist destination as the central design feature in its colorful baggage label.



Grand Hotel d'Angkor
Siemreap



Grand Hotel d'Angkor & Hotel des Ruines
Siemreap-Angkor

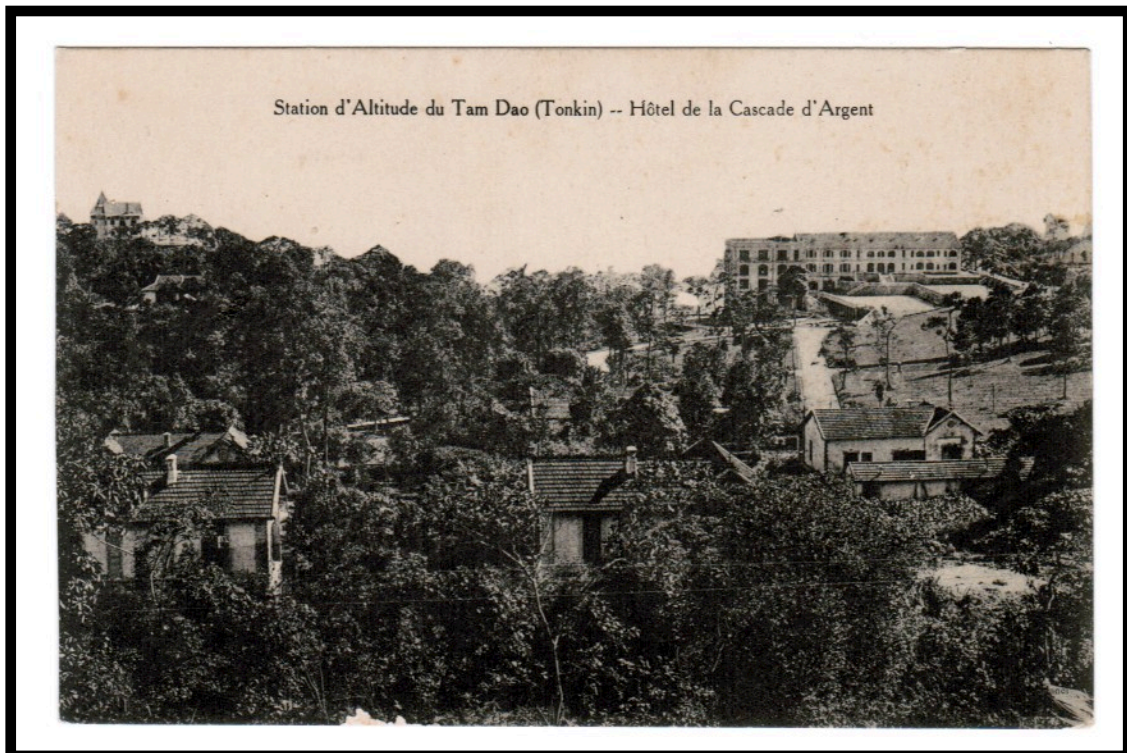
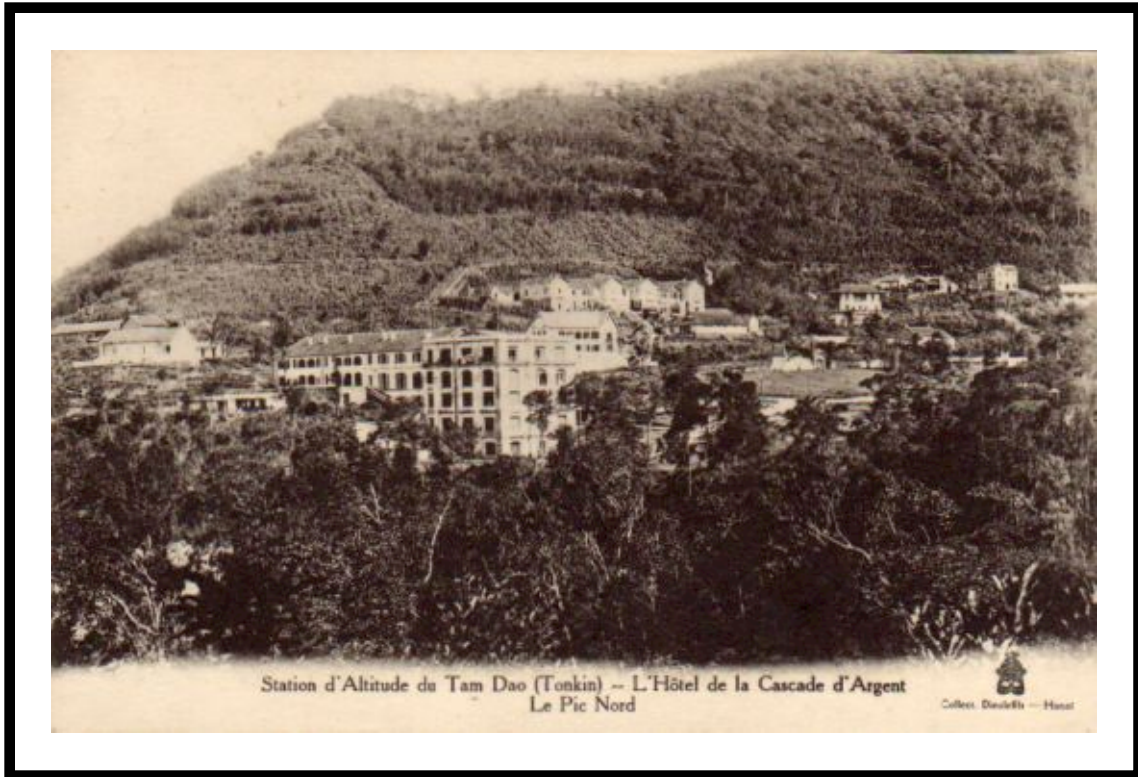
In 1933, an imaginative tourist cut off the top portion of the hotel's menu and fashioned a postcard from it. The unique mailing took a month to reach Paris.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PARIS XVII AVENUE WACRAM 4 FEVR 33
REVERSE
ANGKOR CAMBODGE 3-1 33

Hotel de la Cascade d'Argent Tam Dao

Panoramic views of the Hotel de la Cascade d'Argent at Tam Dao depict its mountainous setting.



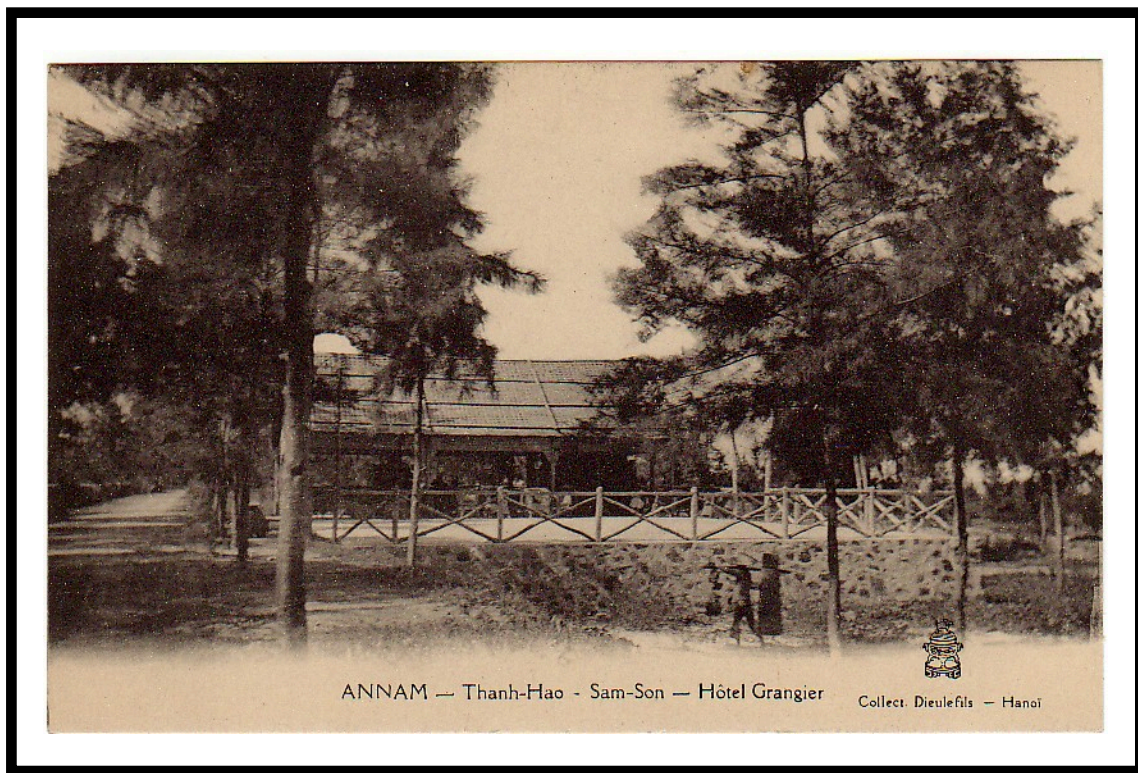
Hotel de la Cascade d'Argent
Tam Dao

The view shown on this picture postcard makes the Hotel de la Cascade Argent appear as an isolated building situated in a mountainous setting.



Hotel Grangier
Thanh-Hoa – Sam-Son

The roadside location of the Hotel Grangier likely indicates that I was located on the road between Thanh-Hoa and Sam-Son.

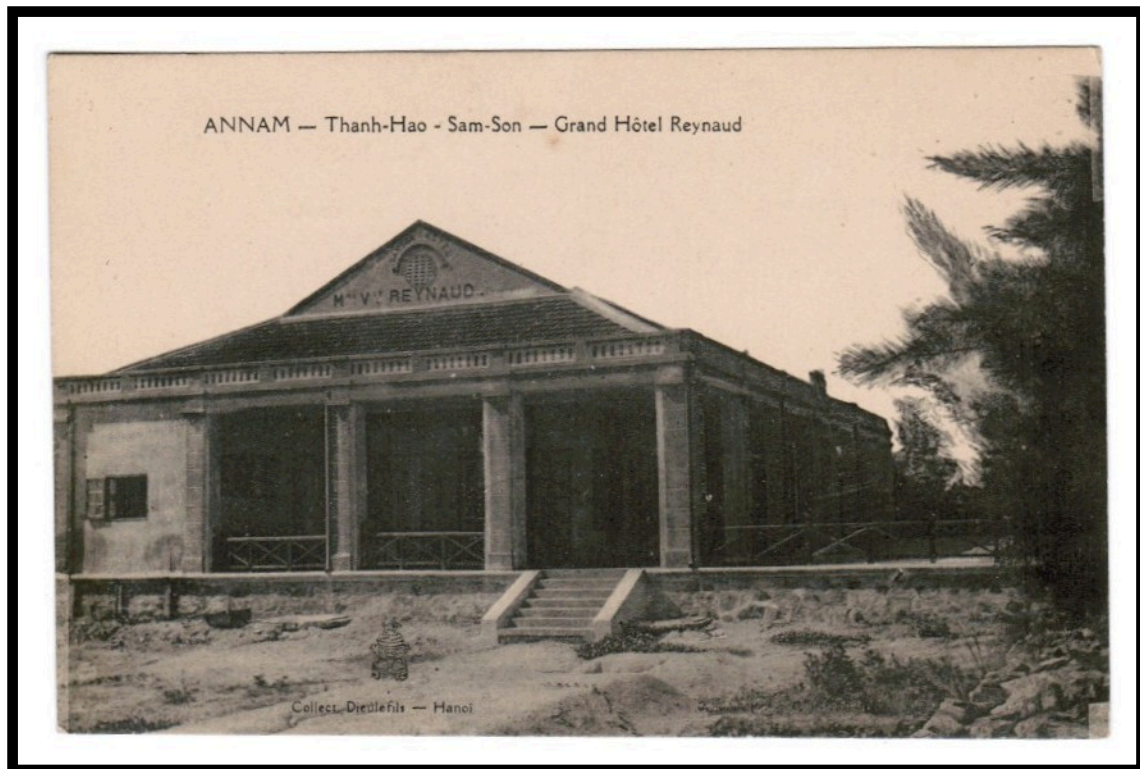


ANNAM — Thanh-Hao - Sam-Son — Hôtel Grangier

Collect. Dieulefils — Hanoi

Grand Hotel Reynaud Thanh-Hoa and Sam-Son

A picture postcard's caption is ambiguous as to where the Grand Hotel Reynaud in the image was located – either Thanh-Hoa or Sam-Son.



Hotel de la Terrasse
Tong

As the imprint indicates, the Hotel de la Terrasse was located at Tong, Tonkin. The major military airport in the North was situated Tong.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TONG TONKIN 2-12 38
registration and airmail labels
framed "Hanoi-Marseille" route marking

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 2-12 38
PARIS-V DISTRIBUTION 10-12 38

Hotel Morin-Freres Tourane

On a picture postcard, the location of the Hôtel Morin-Frères is identified unconventionally as “ANNAM-TOURANE.”



Hotel Baud Tuyen-Quang

The rural setting of the Hotel Baud was obvious from a period postcard.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TUYEN-QUANG TONKIN 28 JUIN 10

REVERSE

TUYEN-QUANG TONKIN 28 JUIN 10
HANOI TONKIN 29 JUIN 10

Hotel Baud Tuyen-Quang

A view of the Hotel Baud's Annex suggests that it was an addition to the original building.



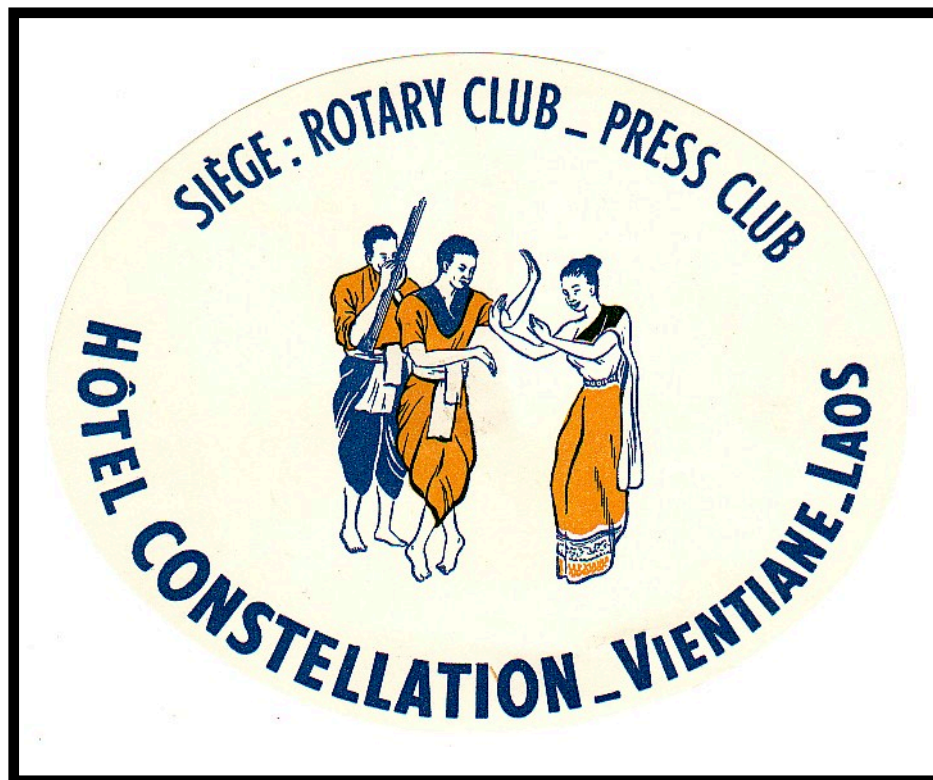
Hotel des Messageries Tuyen-Quang

While identifying the location as Tuyen-Quang, a period postcard fails to specifically identify the hotel pictured on it. Written below the eave, it appears to be the Hotel des Messageries.



Hotel Constellation
Vientiane

To demonstrate its hospitality, Vientiane's Hotel Constellation advertises what club's hold their meetings at the hotel.



Settha Palace Hotel
Vientiane

Built around 1932, Vientiane's Settha Palace Hotel remains in operation today.



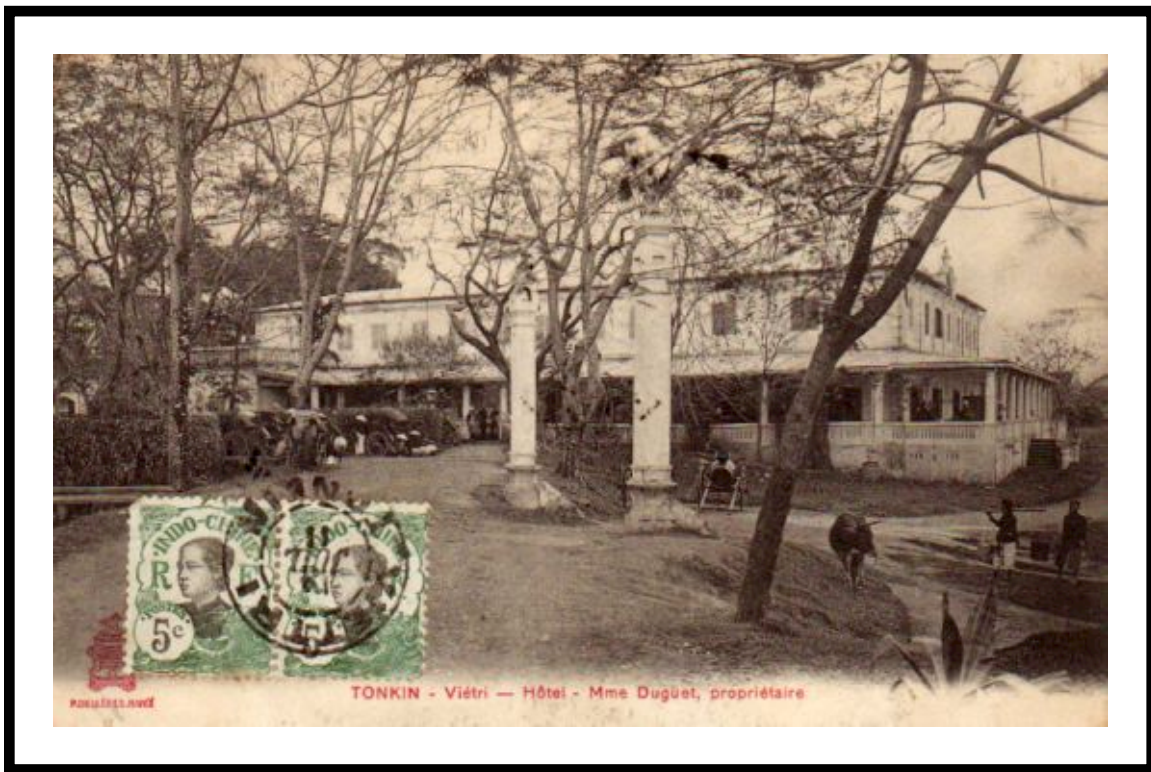
Lang Xang Hotel
Vientiane

The triangular shape of the Lang Xang Hotel's baggage label along with its image of an elephant made it distinctive among the hotel labels of Indochina.



Vietri Hotel
Vietri

Although not specifically identified as such, the hotel shown on this picture postcard was presumably called the Vietri Hotel.



POSTAL MARKINGS

VIETTRI TONKIN 14 JUIL 11

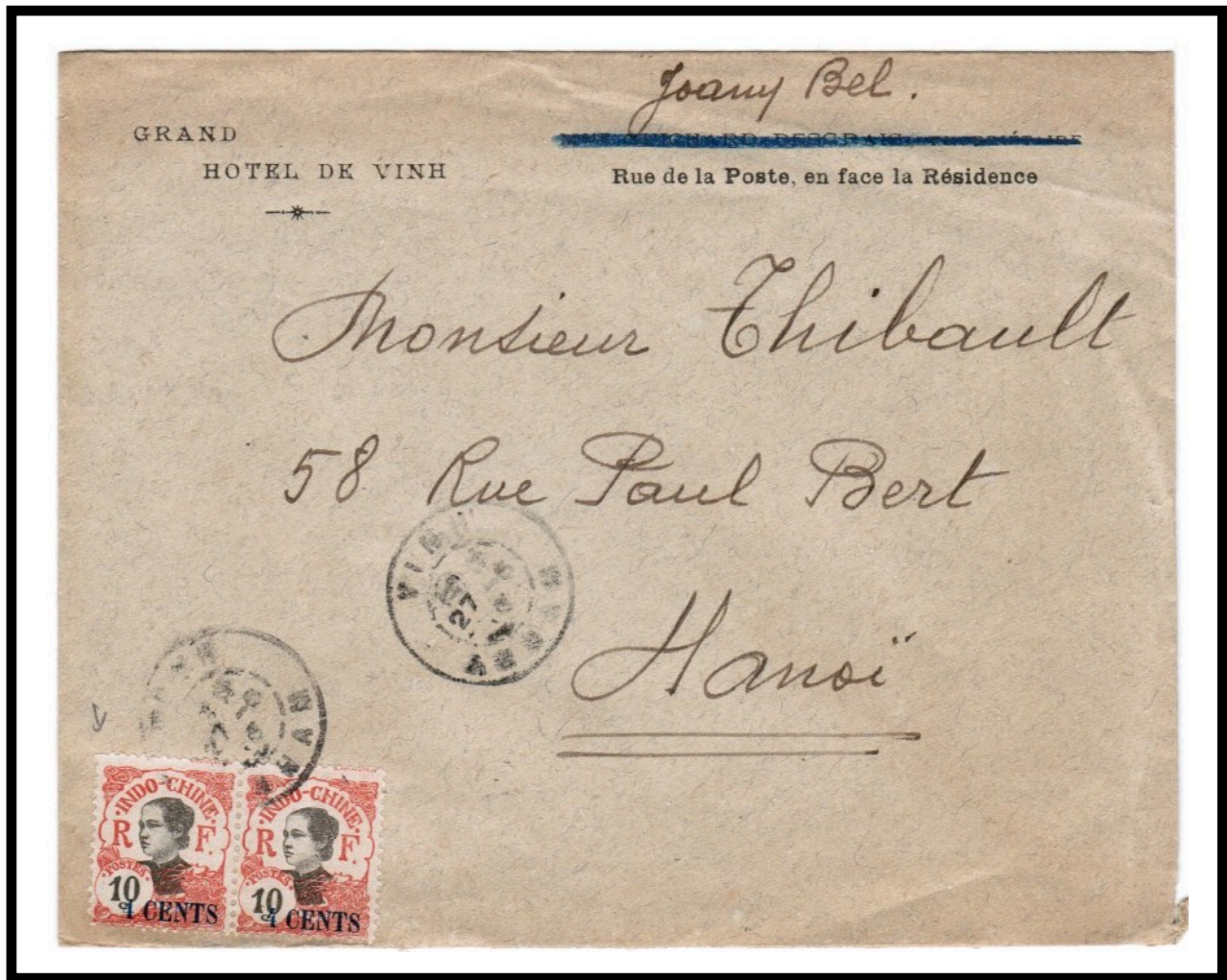
REVERSE

VIETTRI TONKIN 14 JUIL 11

BOULOGNE S-MER PAS DE CALAIS 17-8 11

Grand Hotel de Vinh
Vinh

Imprinted information shows the location of Vinh's Grand Hotel on "Rue de la Poste" opposite the Resident's building.



POSTAL MARKINGS
VINH ANNAM 27-6 21
REVERSE
HANOI TONKIN 28-6 21