

PAC-HIN-BOUN
LAOS

The post office at Pac-Hin-Boun opened in 1898, but the first recorded usage of its type E2 postmark was in 1903.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-28



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAC-HIN-BOUN LAOS 22 JUIN 03
LIGNE N. PAQ. FR. N° 7 4 JUIL 03

REVERSE

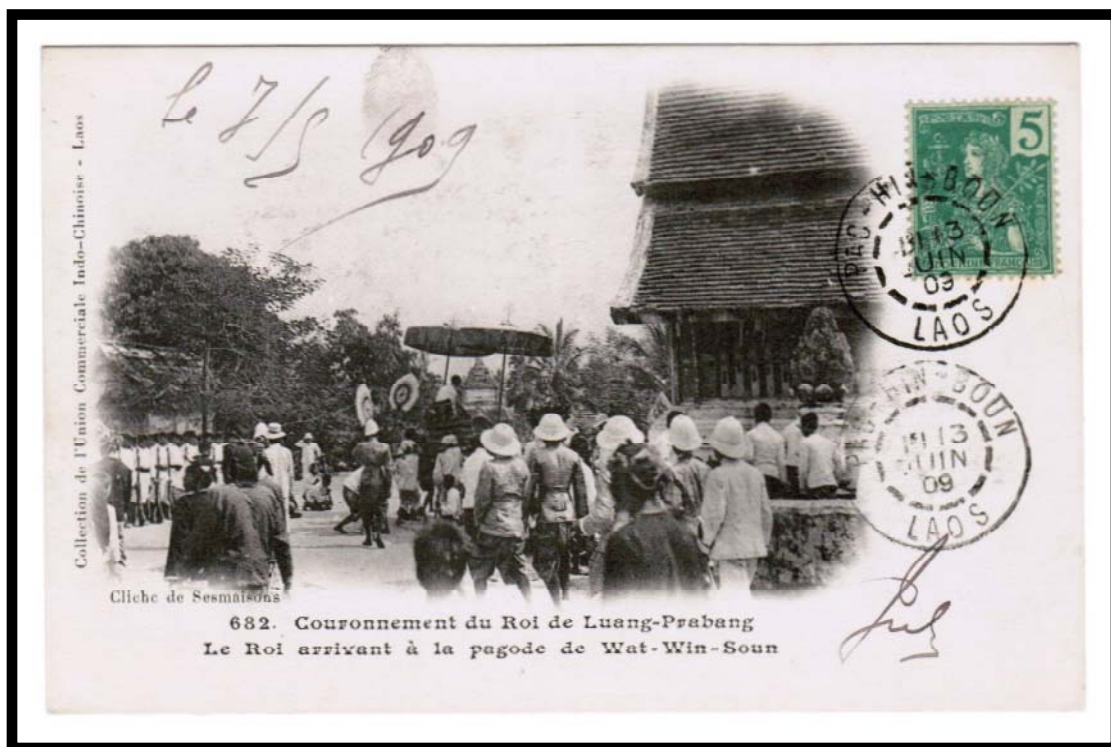
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 23 JUIN 03
BASEL BR. DISTR. 29.VII.03

PAC-HIN-BOUN LAOS

Pac-Hin-Boun's type E2 postmark remained in service for a quarter of a century.
It was replaced by a type G postmark in 1931



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-28



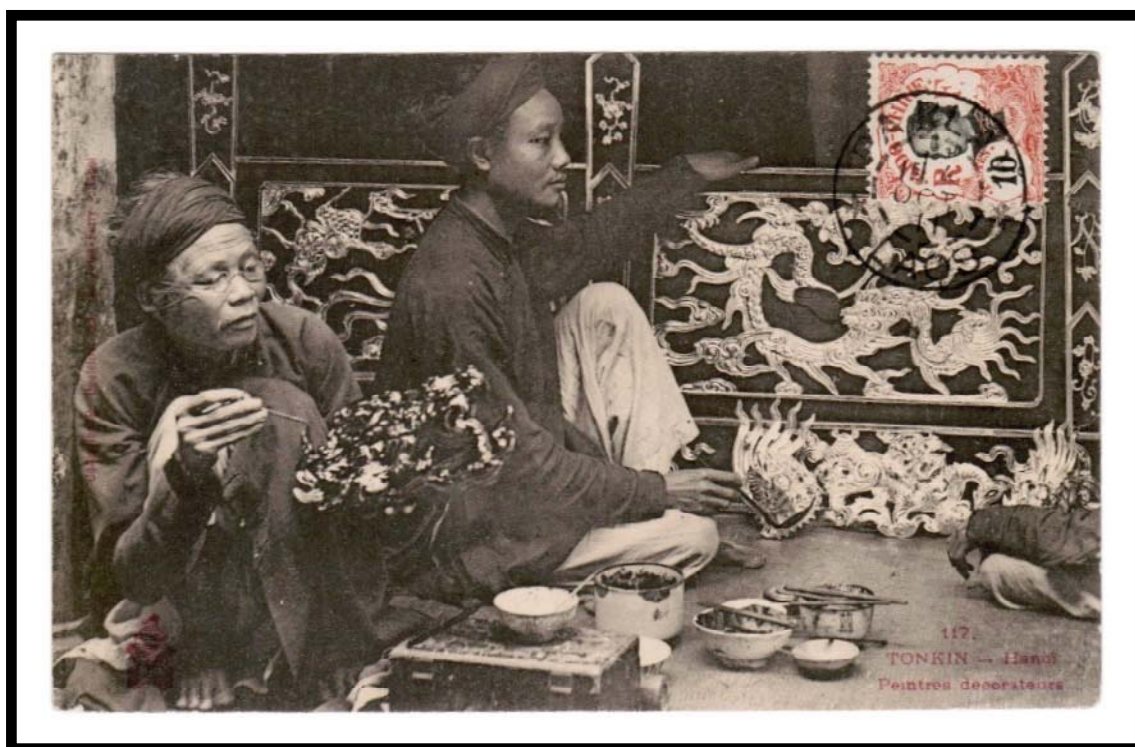
POSTAL MARKINGS
PAC-HIN-BOUN LAOS 13 JUIN 09

PAKLAY
LAOS

When under French control, Paklay's post office operated during the periods 1909-13 and 1919-41. Paklay's type F2 postmark is only known from a single year, 1911, during the first period of the post office's operation.



POSTMARK TYPE: F2
PERIOD OF USE: 1911



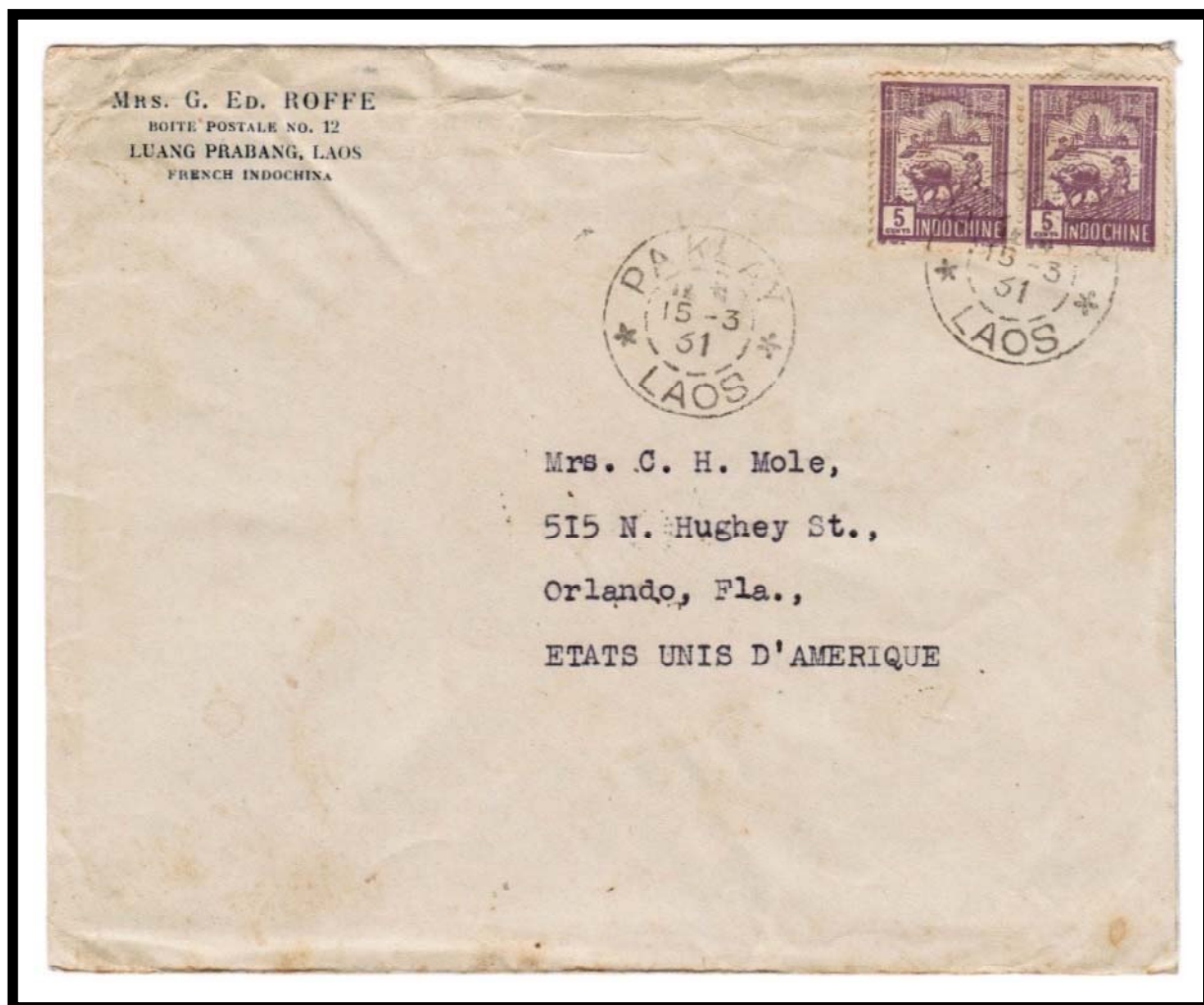
POSTAL MARKINGS
PAKLAY LAOS 4 OCT 11
REVERSE
PARIS 2 DISTRIB^{ON} 22 NOV 11

PAKLAY
LAOS

Located on the border with Thailand, Paklay was in disputed territory that reverted to Laos in 1906. Its type F2(ch) postmark was distinctive because of the five-pointed stars that served as dividers on the outer ring.



POSTMARK TYPE: F2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1919-32



POSTAL MARKINGS
PAKLAY LAOS 15-3 31
REVERSE
VIENTIANE LAOS 19-3 31

PAKLAY
LAOS

In 1941, Paklay was ceded to Thailand. Paklay's type G postmark was the last known format used by the Paklay post office. The earliest known use of the type G postmark is 1934.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1934-40



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAKLAY LAOS 6-9 34
airmail label

REVERSE

PAKLAY LAOS 6-9 34
VIENTIANE LAOS 10-9 34
SAIGON CENTRAL. COCHINCHINE 20-9 34

PAKSANE
LAOS

The Paksane post office came from Patchoum on 3 July 1902. Its first known postmark was a type E2 device. The first year of recorded use of the type E2 postmark is this example letter sent to Saigon in 1912.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1912-28



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAKSANE LAOS 12 FEVR 12
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS 15 FEVR 12
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1 MARS 12

PAKSANE
LAOS

This postal envelope bears the first known example of the type F1 postmark from Paksane. The post office was established in 1902 and Paksane's type E2 postmark is only known starting in 1912. Hence, this newly discovered type F1 postmark predates the type E2 postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: F1
PERIOD OF USE: 1911



POSTAL MARKINGS
PAKSANE LAOS 18 AVRIL 11
REVERSE
SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS 20 AVRIL 11
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 5 MAI 11

PAKSANE
LAOS

Paksane's type G1 postmark was in service for only two years, 1948-49. This registered letter addressed to Paris took 10 days to travel from Paksane to Saigon.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1948-49



POSTAL MARKINGS
PAKSANE LAOS 24-2 48
registration label
REVERSE
VIENTIANE LAOS 27-2 48
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 5-3 48

PAK SE DONE LAOS

Opening in 1901, the Lao post office was first called Pak Se Done, which later evolved into Pakse around 1920.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1902



POSTAL MARKINGS

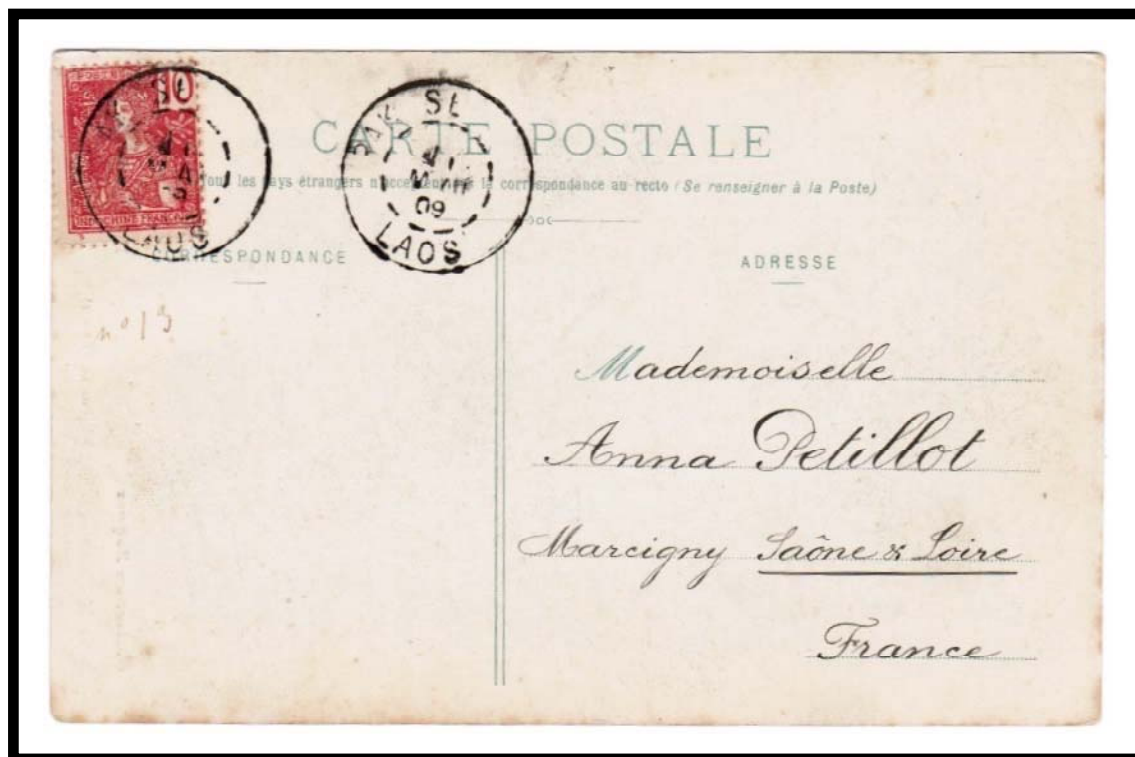
PAK SE DONE LAOS 15 AVRIL 02
PERPIGNAN PYRENEES OR^{LES} 28-5 02

PAK SE
LAOS

The first postmark to use the "PAK SE" spelling was a type E2 device. Only type E postmarks employed the spelling with a space in "PAK SE."



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1908-12



POSTAL MARKINGS
PAK SE LAOS 1 MAI 09

A circular postmark from Pakse, Laos. The text "PAKSE" is curved along the top-left inner edge, and "LAOS" is curved along the bottom-left inner edge. In the center, the date "27 NOV 06" is printed, with a small vertical line to the left of the "27".

POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1904-12



PAK SE LAOS 27 NOV 06
BASSAC LAOS 30 NOV 06
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6 (DEC) 06
SCEAUX SEINE 8-1 07
MONTPELLIER HERAULT 11-1 07

PAKSE
LAOS

Pakse's type G postmark was in service for two decades. Pakse was the chief town of Bassac Province.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1928-48



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAKSE LAOS 13-4 38

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 15-4 38

PAKSE LAOS

The G1 version of Pakse's postmarks, with the separators in the outside circle, remained in service until 1956 until well after the independence of Laos.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1930-56



POSTAL MARKINGS
PAKSE LAOS 11-2 30

PAKSE
LAOS

The earliest use of Pakse's type G1(t) postmark, with its characteristic dashes in the outer circle, is 1950. This postmark continued in service after independence was granted to Laos.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1(t)
PERIOD OF USE: 1950-58



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAKSE LAOS 19-9 1950

REVERSE

PAKSE LAOS 19-9 1950

SAIGON R.P. SUD VIET-NAM 20-9 1950

PHONTIOU
LAOS

Opening relatively late on 31 January 1926, Phontiou's only postmark was a type G1 device.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1926-43



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHONTIOU LAOS 10-8 33
registration label
REVERSE
BONENG LAOS 10-8 33

PAKSE – LAOS

Pakse employed the rare type G5 format with its characteristic “PAKSE–LAOS” appearing at the top of the circular date stamp. Use of this layout is first recorded from 1939.



POSTMARK TYPE: G5
PERIOD OF USE: 1939-43



POSTAL MARKINGS

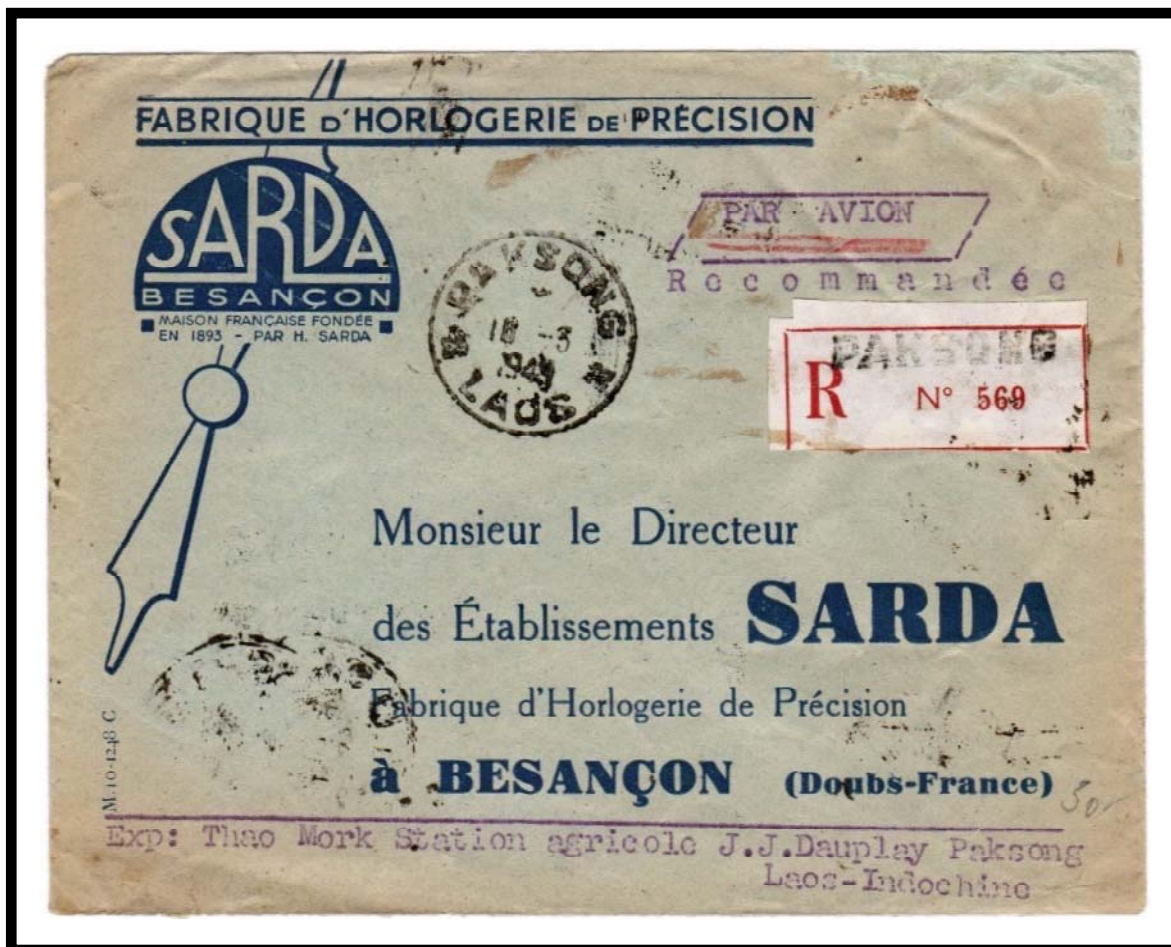
PAKSE – LAOS 16-8 39
CONTOLE POSTAL COMMISSION C INDOCHINE
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 18 AOUT 39

PAKSONG
LAOS

The former rural post office at Paksong became a secondary post office in 1942.
The post office's only postmark was a type G1 device.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1942-52



POSTAL MARKINGS

PAKSONG LAOS 18-3 1949
registration label

REVERSE

PAKSONG LAOS 18-3 1949
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 20-3 1949
BESANCON DOUBS 26-3 1949

PHONGSALY LAOS

Phongsaly was the chief town of the Fifth Military Territory. Its post office opened on 29 June 1919 and operated through 1945. Phongsaly's first postmark was a type E1 device that was used as late as 1927.



POSTMARK TYPE: E1
PERIOD OF USE: 1920-27



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHONGSALY LAOS 7 OCT. 27
plain R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

LAICHAU TONKIN 18 OCT 27
LAO-KAY TONKIN 23 -10 27
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 25-10 27

PHONGSALY
LAOS

A variation of Phongsaly's type E1 postmark includes a hexagonal border that surrounds the traditional double-circle format.



POSTMARK TYPE: E1 var
PERIOD OF USE: 1920-27



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHONGSALY LAOS 3 JUIL 21

REVERSE

DIEN BIEN PHU TONKIN 13 JUIL 21

SONLA TONKIN 14 JUIL 21

AUBIN DU JURA JURA 7-8 21

PHONGSALY LAOS

The Phongsaly post office closed in 1945. Its last postmark was a type G device that was in service for a decade.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1930-40



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHONGSALY LAOS 27 MAI 36
registration label
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 10-6 36
ARRIVEE MARSEILLE 22-6 36

PHONTIOU
LAOS

Opening relatively late on 31 January 1926, Phontiou's only postmark was a type G1 device.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1926-43



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHONTIOU LAOS 1-10 40
censor resealing tape with boxed 72 censor's signature
REVERSE
THAKHEK LAOS 2-10 40

PHONTIOU
LAOS

Opening relatively late on 31 January 1926, Phontiou's only postmark was a type G1 device.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1926-43



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHONTIOU LAOS 10-8 33
registration label
REVERSE
BONENG LAOS 10-8 33

SAM-NUA
LAOS

The first postmark that employed the hyphenated "SAM-NUA" spelling was a type F2 device. To reach Paris sooner, the sender specified routing via the Trans-Siberian Railway for this letter.



POSTMARK TYPE: F2
PERIOD OF USE: 1912-18



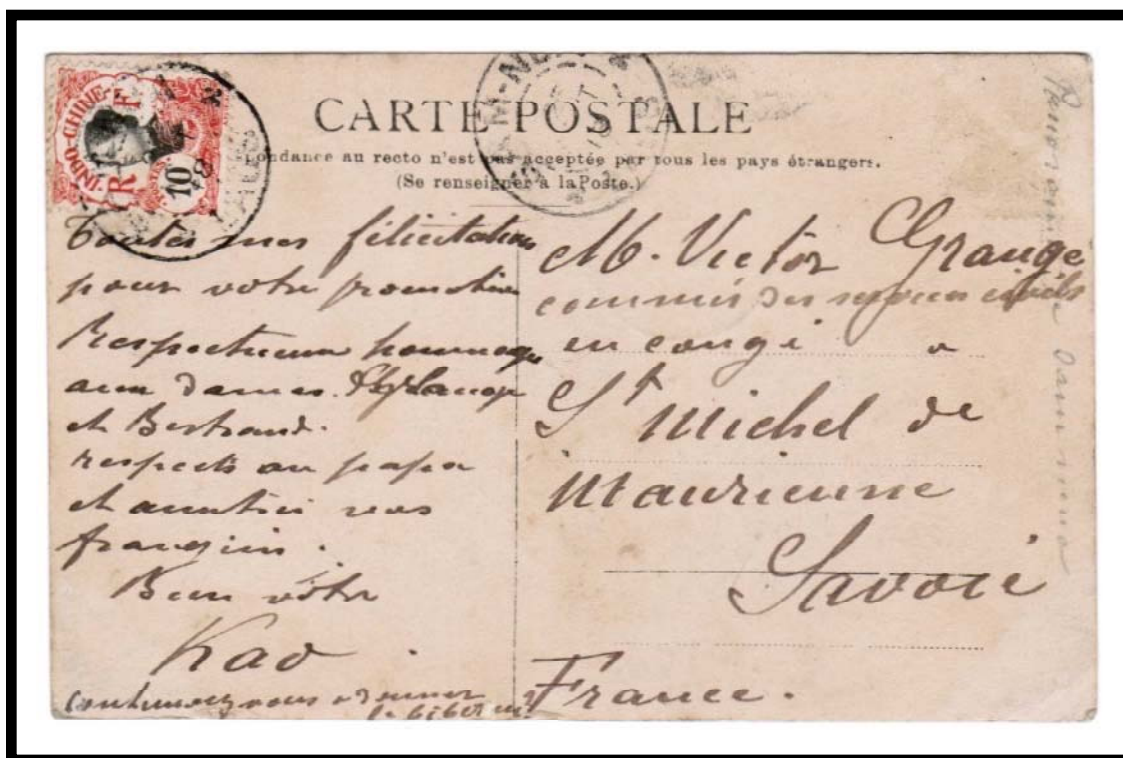
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAM-NUA LAOS 7 SEPT 13
REVERSE
SONLA TONKIN 11 SEPT 13
HANOI TONKIN 17-9 13

SAM-NUA LAOS

The Sam-Nua post office opened on 21 May 1908 and the type F2 device is its earliest known postmark. The latest known use of the F2 postmark is this example from 1918.



POSTMARK TYPE: F2
PERIOD OF USE: 1912-18



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAM-NUA LAOS 23 AOUT 18

SAM-NUA
LAOS

The last recorded postmark from Sam-Nua was a type G device. Entering service in 1933, it remained in use for two decades.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1933-52



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAM-NUA LAOS 16-8 34
REVERSE
THANH-HOA ANNAM 24-8 34
PARIS VII R. CLER 10 • IX 1934

SAM-NUA LAOS

Sam-Nua's last postmark, a type G device, was in service for two decades. This example is from the last year of reported use, 1952.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1933-52



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAM-NUA LAOS 15-1 1952

SAMNUA
LAOS

The only postmark that used the unhyphenated "SAMNUA" spelling was a type E2 device. It was in service for five years before type G postmarks with the hyphenated spelling displaced it.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1921-26



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAMNUA LAOS 25 FEVR 24

REVERSE

HOI-XUAN ANNAM 7 MARS 24

THANH-HOA ANNAM 9-3 24

HANOI TONKIN 9-3 24

SARAVANE LAOS

The Saravane post office began operations on 1 October 1897. Its first known postmark was a type E2 device. The first year of recorded use of the type E2 postmark is this example letter sent to Sweden in 1902.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1902-12



POSTAL MARKINGS

SARAVANE LAOS 27 JUN 02
LIGNE T PAQ. FR. N° 4 28 JUN 02

REVERSE

BASSAC LAOS 4 JUIL 02
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 10 JUIL 02
STOCKHOLM 2.TUR. 9 8 02
STOCKHOLM C. AFG. H. 14 8. 02

SARAVANE LAOS

The Saravane post office began operations on 1 October 1897. The first known postmark was a type E2 device. The first year of recorded use of the type E2 postmark is this example from 1902.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1902-12



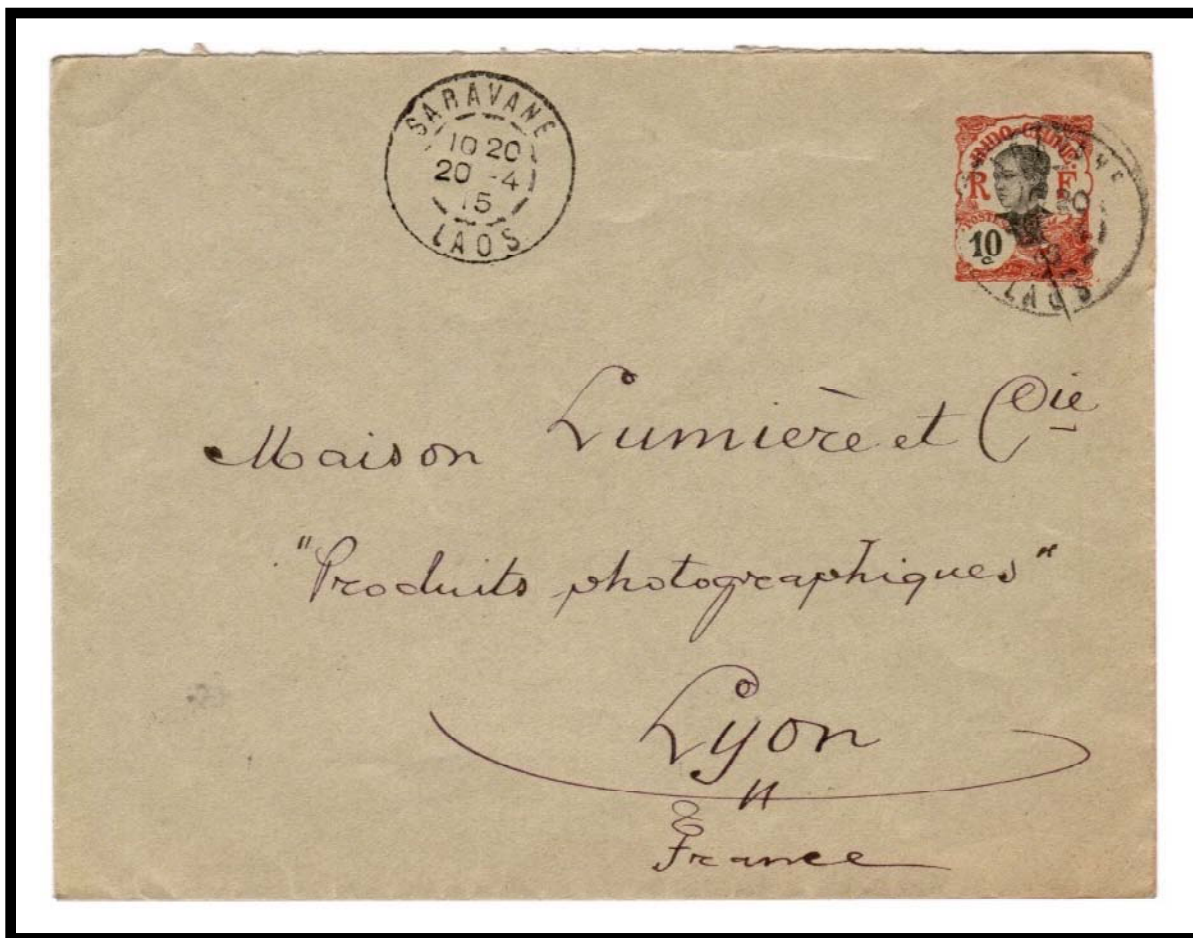
POSTAL MARKINGS
SARAVANE LAOS 2 AOUT 02
BASSAC LAOS 10 AOUT 02
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 14 AOUT 02

SARAVANE
LAOS

For the format of Saravane's type E2(ch) postmark, the month was indicated with a numeral instead of an abbreviation as in the type E2 postmark. It was in service for a decade and a half.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1914-28



POSTAL MARKINGS
SARAVANE LAOS 20-4 15
REVERSE
PAK SE LAOS 22-4 15
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 7-5 15
LYON RHONE 9 JUIN 15

SARAVANE LAOS

Introduced in 1928, Saravane's type G1 postmark served the post office for nearly three decades extending well after Laos's independence.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1928-56



POSTAL MARKINGS
SARAVANE LAOS 28-11 38
REVERSE
PAKSE LAOS 30-11 38
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 DEC 38

SAVAN-NAKHET
LAOS

Although the Savannakhet post office began operations in 1895, its earliest known postmark was in the E2 format with the hyphenated "SAVAN-NAKHET" spelling.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1901-26



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS 11 OCT 04
REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 17 NOV 04
LA GOULETTE REGENCE-DE-TUNIS 21-12 04

SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS

Although the Savannakhet post office began operations in 1895, its earliest known postmark was in the E2 format with the hyphenated "SAVAN-NAKHET" spelling.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1901-26



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS 8 AVRIL 09
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

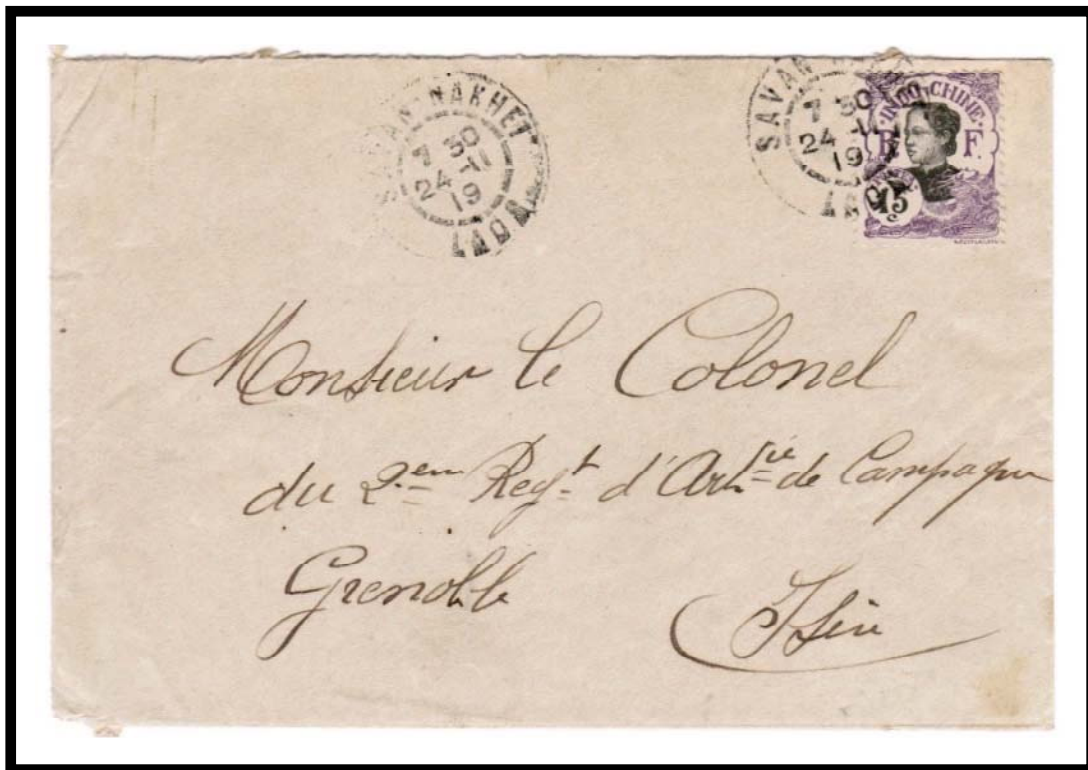
TOULOUSE H^{TE} GARONNE 26-5 09

SAVAN-NAKHET
LAOS

Savannakhet's type E2(ch) postmark coexisted with the hyphenated spelling variant. Both postmarks were used during the period 1914-27.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1914-27



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVAN-NAKHET LAOS 24-11 19
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 3-12 19
GRENOBLE ISERE 19 JANV 20

SAVANNAKHET
LAOS

Opening in 1895, the Savannakhet post office's first postmark format was a type D1 device. Savannakhet's D1 postmark is only known from the year 1896.



POSTMARK TYPE: D1
PERIOD OF USE: 1896



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAVANNAKHET LAOS 28 DEC 96
MODANE A PARIS 18 FEVR. 97 (red)

REVERSE

KAMTONG IAI LAOS 6 JANV 97
BASSAC LAOS 8 JANV 96
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 14 JANV 97
LILLE NORD 15 FEVR 97

SAVANNAKHET LAOS

Beginning operation in 1908, Savannakhet's type E2 postmark served the post office for fifteen years. Like elsewhere in Indochina, E2 style postmarks were displaced by type G postmarks by the 1930s.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1908-23



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 16 DEC 11
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 21 DEC 11
PARIS XI DISTRIBUTION 11-2 12

SAVANNAKHET LAOS

Savannakhet's type E2(ch) postmark coexisted with the hyphenated spelling variant. Both postmarks were used during the period 1914-27.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1914-27



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 10-8 21

SAVANNAKHET
LAOS

In service for two decades, Savannakhet's type G postmark saw use through the 1930s and 1940s.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1928-49



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 15-5 32
REVERSE
LE MANS SARTHE 19 • VI 1932

SAVANNAKHET
LAOS

For a short period of two years, the Savannakhet post office operated with type G(I) postmarks, with the month indicated by an abbreviation rather than a numeral,



POSTMARK TYPE: G(I)
PERIOD OF USE: 1928-29



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 18 NOV 28
registration label
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 28-11 28
BREST FINISTERE 23-12 28

SAVANNAKHET LAOS

Introduced in 1928, Savannakhet's type G postmark was in service for two decades. This cover from 1949 represents the latest known use of this Savannakhet postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1928-49



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 3-6 1949

SAVANNAKHET LAOS

Starting in 1932, the post office at Savannakhet employed a type G1 postmark for a quarter of a century until well after Laos's independence from France in 1950.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1932-58



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAVANNAKHET LAOS 2-9 33
registration and airmail labels
framed Saigon-Marseille route handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 7-9 33

SAVANNAKHET LAOS

This example from 1950 is the earliest known use of Savannkhet's 24-millimeter type G4 postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: G4
PERIOD OF USE: 1950-54



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 8-5 1950
registration label
REVERSE

SAVANNAKHET LAOS 8-5 1950
SAVANNAKHET
LAOS

This example from 1950 is the earliest known use of Savannkhet's 24-millimeter type G4 postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: G4
PERIOD OF USE: 1950-54



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 16-12 1950

SAVAN NAKHET
LAOS

This example is the only reported example of the "SAVAN NAKHET" lacking the hyphen in the E2 format. This dual-word spelling is also known in the F1 (ch) format.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2 (ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1915



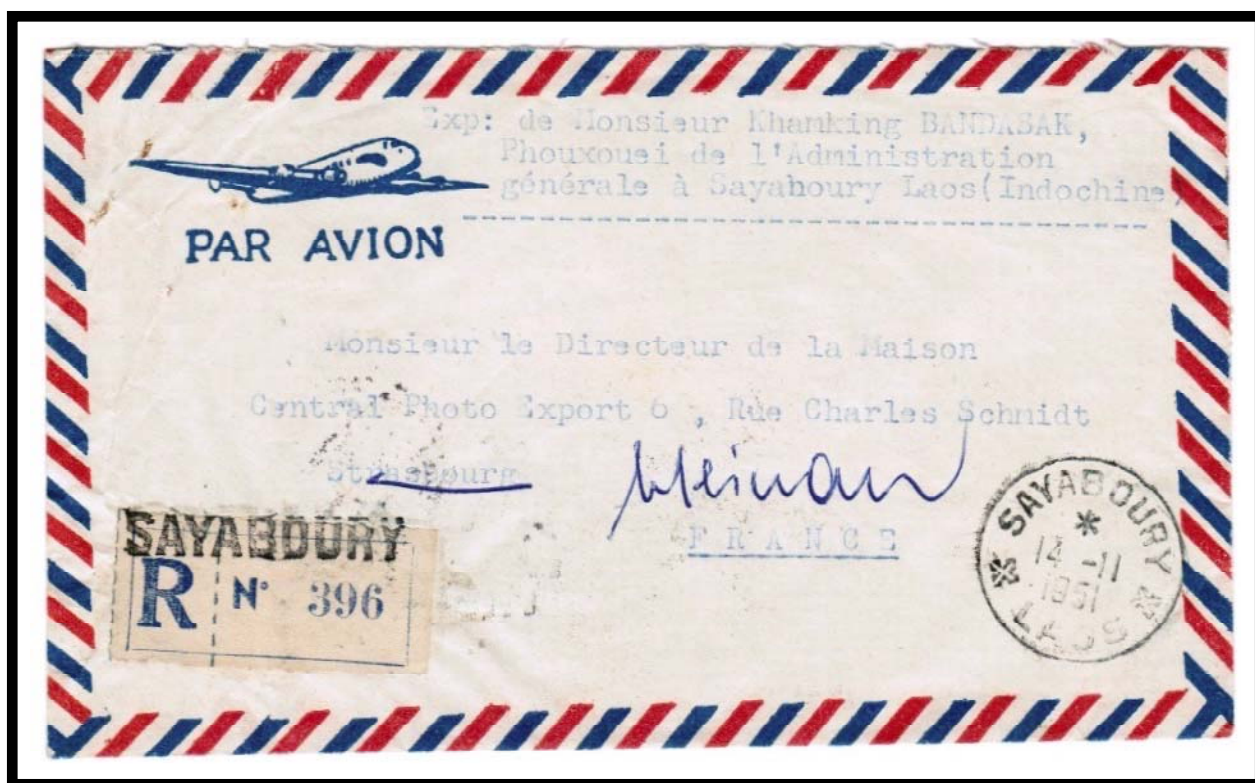
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAVAN NAKHET LAOS 9-4 15
REVERSE
RIEHEN 25. V. 15

SAYABOURY
LAOS

Previously unrecorded, the only postmark known with the "SAYABOURY" spelling is a type G1 device used in 1951.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1951



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAYABOURY LAOS 14-11 1951
registration label

REVERSE

SAYABOURY LAOS 14-11 1951
VIENTIANE LAOS 22-11 1951
STRASBOURG R.P. BAS-RHIN 27-11 1951

SAYABOURY LAOS

Sayaboury became a part of Laos in 1947 because of the border adjustment stipulated in a treaty with Thailand. Sayaboury's only known postmark was a type G1 device. Its first reported year of use is 1949.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1949-56



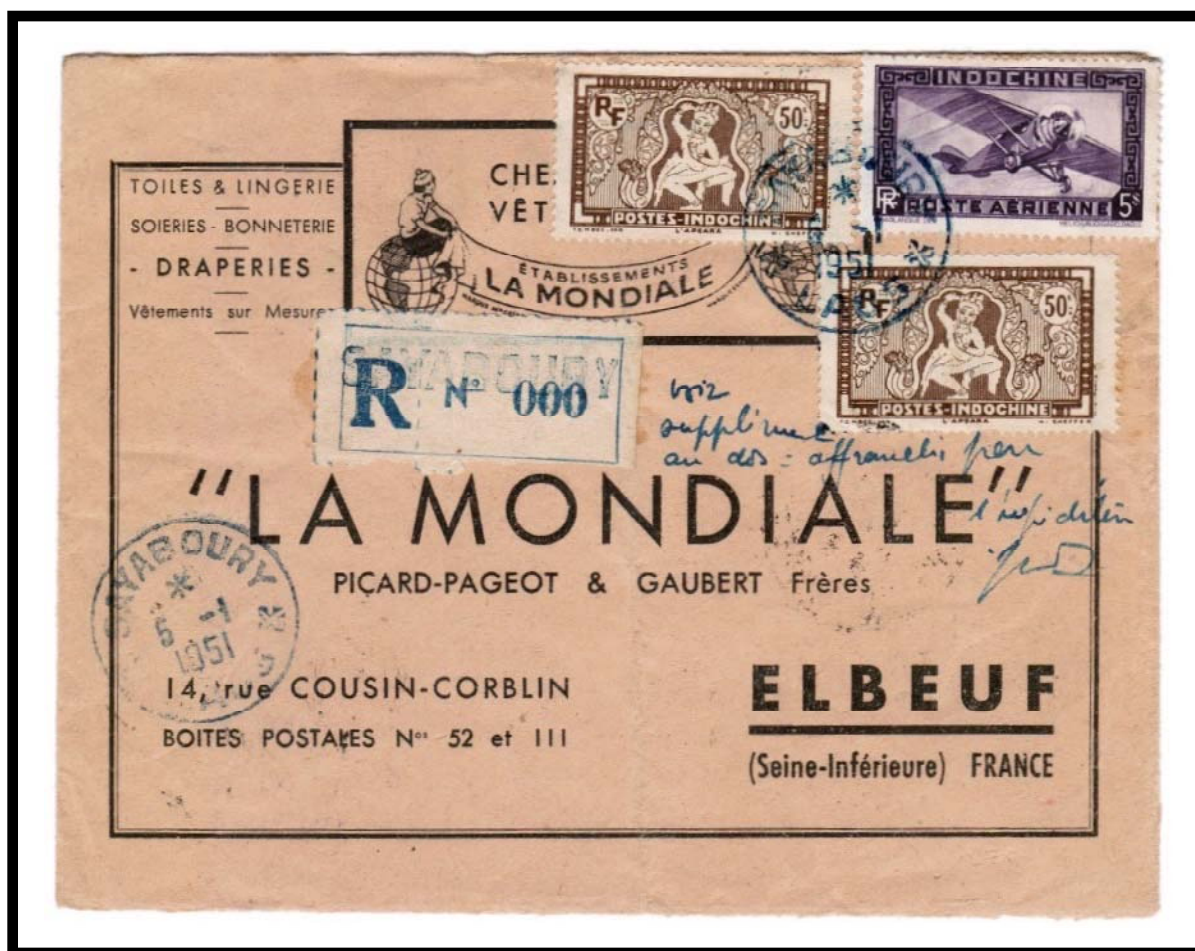
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAYABOURY LAOS 2-9 1949
REVERSE
VIENTIANE LAOS 8-8 1949

SAYABOURY LAOS

While postmarks were normally applied with black ink, blue ink was occasionally used as in the case of this return mailing to a French department store in 1951.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1 (blue)
PERIOD OF USE: 1896-1925



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAYABOURY LAOS 5-1 1951 (blue)
registration label

REVERSE

SAYABOURY LAOS 5-1 1951
SAIGON RP SUD VIE-NAM 23-1 1951
ELBEUF SEINE INFÉRIEURE 2-2 1951

SONG KHONE LAOS

The post office in the small town of Song-Khone operated from 1896 to 1910. Its first postmark was a type D1 device that is only known from one year, 1897. Here two type D1 postmarks were applied on consecutive days as transit markings.



POSTMARK TYPE: D1
PERIOD OF USE: 1897



POSTAL MARKINGS

SONG KHONE LAOS 16 JANV. 97
SONG KHONE LAOS 17 JANV. 97
KAMTONG IAI LAOS 20 JANV 97
BASSAC LAOS 22 JANV 97
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 4 FEVR 97

REVERSE

SAVANNAKHET LAOS 14 JANV 97

SONG-KHONE LAOS

The post office in the small town of Song-Khone operated from 1896 to 1910. Its last postmark was a type E2 device that is only known from two years.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-04



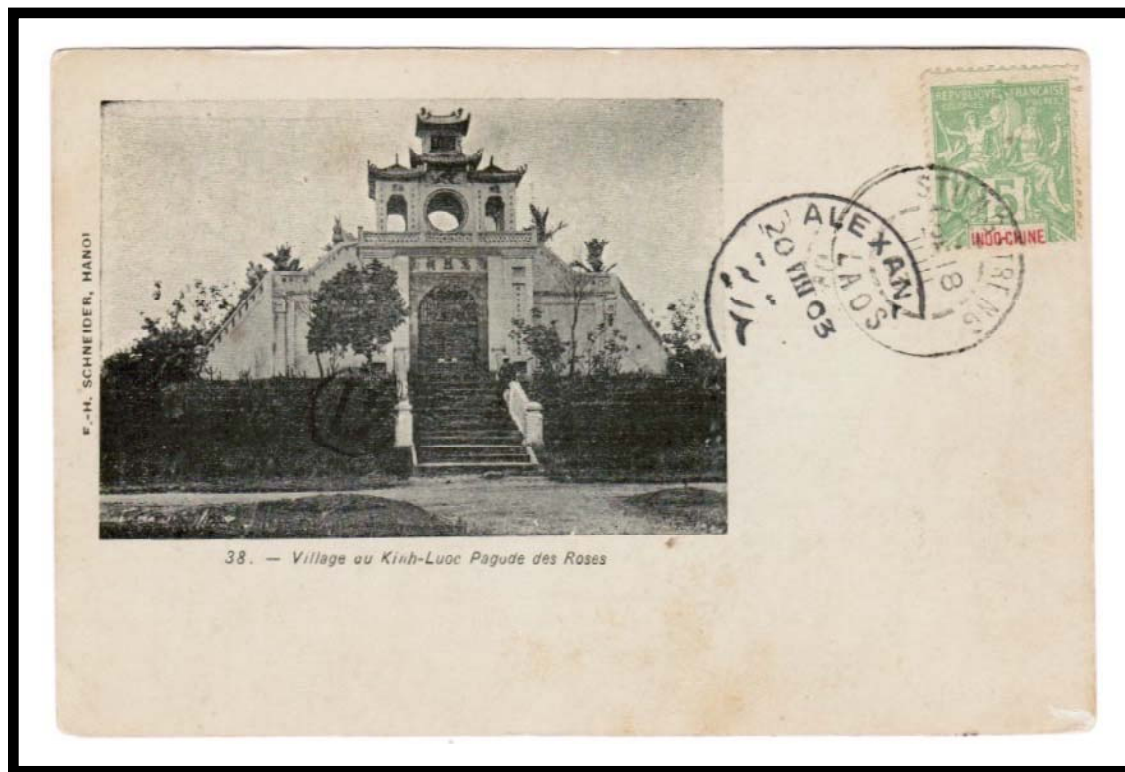
POSTAL MARKINGS
SONG-KHONE LAOS 26 SEPT 04
REVERSE
BASSAC LAOS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6 OCT 04
CHUR BR. EXP. 1.XI.04

STUNG-TRENG LAOS

For a short period (1893-1904), Stung-Treng was a part of Laos before it was reinstated as part of Cambodia. Its only postmarks was a type E2 device that was in service up to the time that the town reverted to Cambodia.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-05



POSTAL MARKINGS

STUNG-TRENG LAOS 18 JUIL 03
ALEXANDRIA 20 VIII 03

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 23 JUIL 03
LIGNE N PAQ. FR N° 5 1 AOUT 03
SUEZ 19 VIII 03

STUNG-TRENG LAOS

The post office at Stung-Treng, Laos only operated from 2 May 1893 to 6 December 1904 when the territory was ceded to Cambodia.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-05



POSTAL MARKINGS

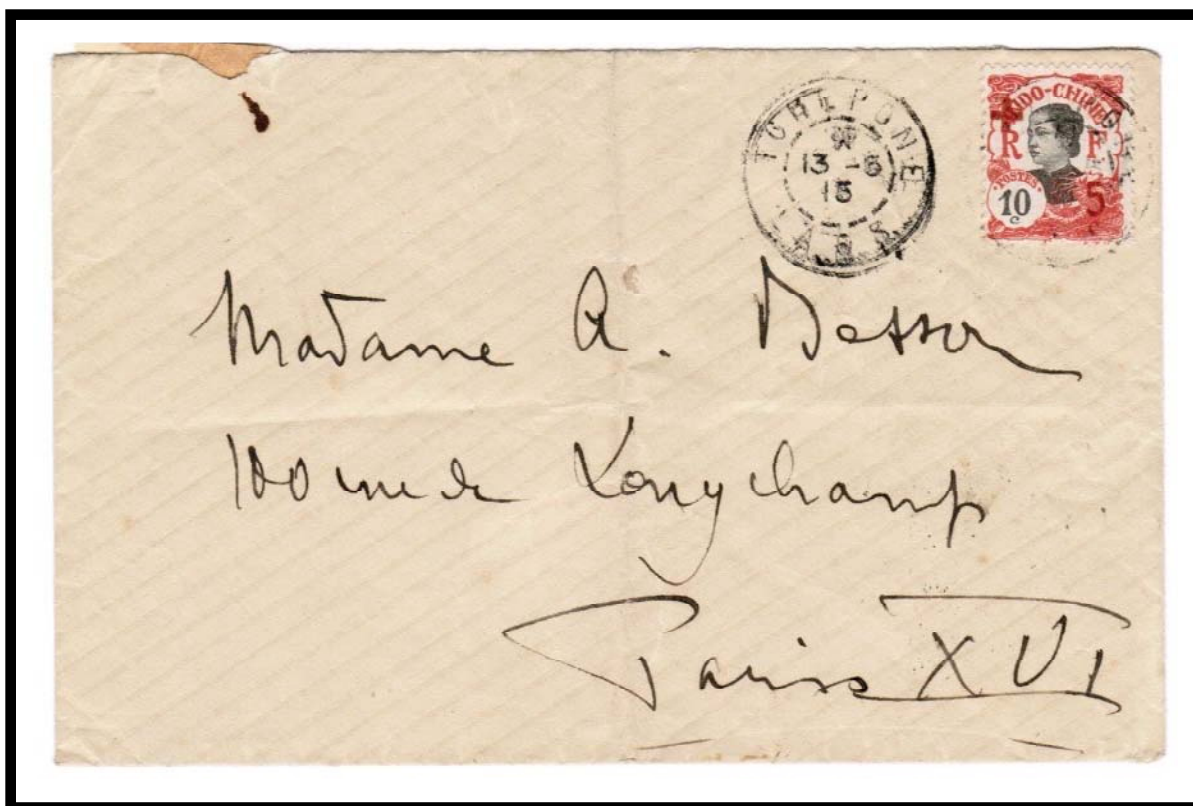
STUNG-TRENG LAOS 29 MAI 04
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 JUIN 04

TCHEPONE LAOS

Effective 15 November 1904, the Muongphine post office transitioned to Tchepone. Tchepone's first postmark was a type E2(ch) device that has a first reported use in 1915.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1915-31



POSTAL MARKINGS
TCHEPONE LAOS 13-5 15
REVERSE
QUANGTRI ANNAM 17-5 15
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 24-5 15

TCHEPONE LAOS

Subsequent to the type E2(ch) postmark with a numeral indicating the month, Tchepone adopted the type E2 device with an abbreviation for the month. Its first reported use was in 1922.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1922-30



POSTAL MARKINGS
TCHEPONE LAOS 26 JUIN 22
REVERSE
TCHEPONE LAOS 26 JUIN 22
QUANGTRI ANNAM -6 22
VINH ANNAM 30 JUIN 22
HA NOI TONKIN 1-7 22

TCHEPONE LAOS

Type G postmarks supplanted Tchepone's E2 postmarks. This style postmark served Tchepone from the 1930s into World War II.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1930-44



POSTAL MARKINGS
TCHEPONE LAOS 30-4 38
REVERSE
QUANG-TRI ANNAM 3-5 38
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 4-5 38

TCHEPONE
LAOS

The type G postmark used by the Tchepone post office has been recorded from 1930 through World War II.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1930-44



POSTAL MARKINGS
TCHEPONE LAOS 27-10 37
airmail label
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 31-10 37

TCHEPONE
LAOS

The type G1 postmark added adornments in between the town name and the protectorate's name. The first reported use of Tcheppone's type G1 postmark is 1950.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1950-51



POSTAL MARKINGS
TCHEPONE LAOS 26-6 50
REVERSE
SAVANNAKHET LAOS 30-6 1950

THADO LAOS

The Thado post office opened on 19 July 1905 and closed on 21 July 1917 when operations were transferred to Muongsen. Thado's only known postmark was a type F1 device. This example from 1907 is the earliest known use of Thado's postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: F1
PERIOD OF USE: 1907-11



POSTAL MARKINGS

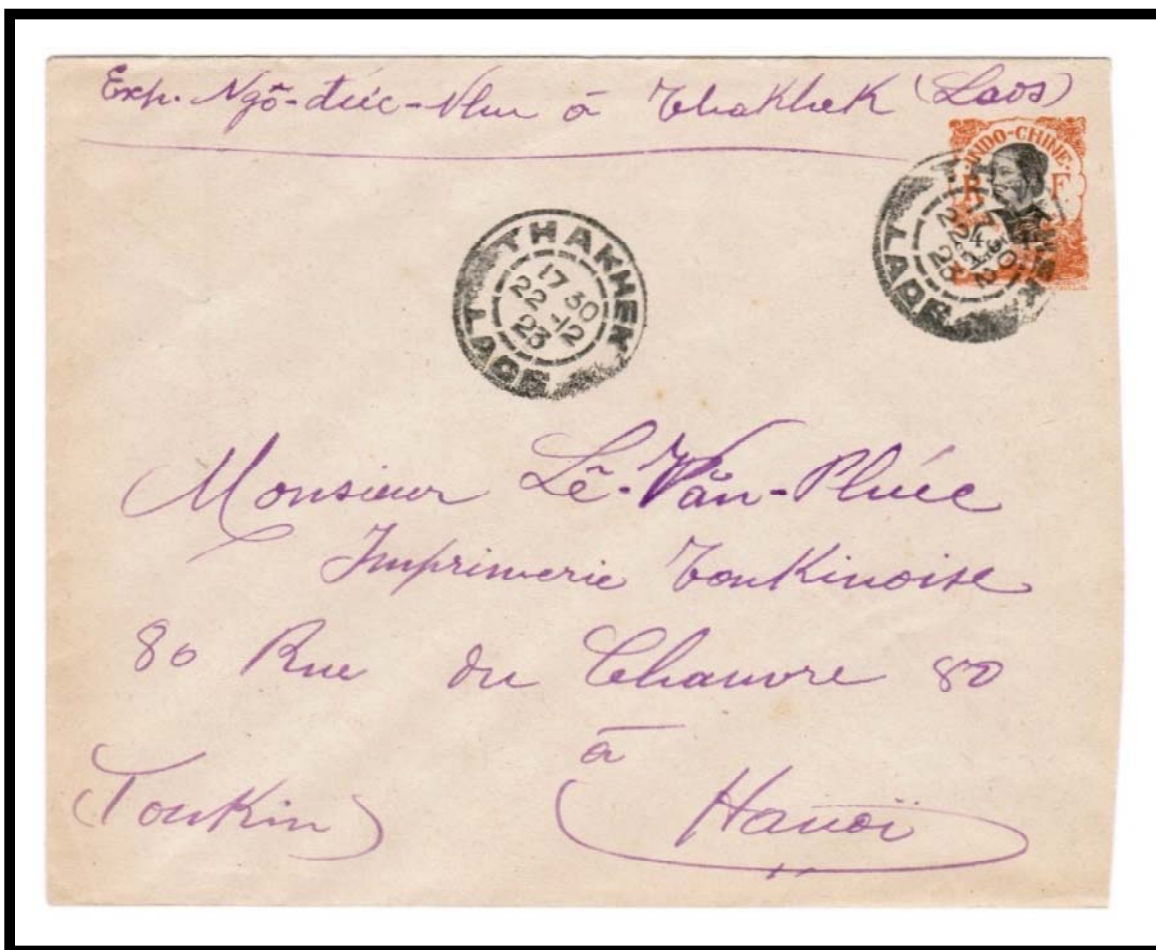
THADO LAOS 19 OCT 07
CUARAO ANNAM 21 OCT. 07
VINH ANNAM 25 OCT 07
HANOI TONKIN 26 OCT 07

THAKHEK
LAOS

For a short time, the Thakhek post office used the type E2(ch) postmark that substituted a number for the month's abbreviation. The type E2(ch) postmark is first reported used in 1923.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1923-25



POSTAL MARKINGS
THAKHEK LAOS 11 OCT 04
REVERSE
HANOI TONKIN 25-12 23

THAKHEK LAOS

In use for over three decades, Thakhek's type G postmark continued to be applied on mail after Laos gained independence from France.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-56



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAKHEK LAOS 28-4 41
censor's resealing tape

REVERSE

HUE ANNAM 1-5 41
HANOI R.P. bis TONKIN 2-5 41

THAKHEK
LAOS

Thakhek's last colonial period postmark was in service until 1959. The first reported year of use for the type G1 postmark was 1925.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-59



POSTAL MARKINGS
THAKHEK LAOS 3-7 25
REVERSE
HANOI TONKIN 8-7 25

THAKHEK
LAOS

Thakek's type G1 postmark had a 35-year service lifetime. The postmark is first reported used in 1926 as in the case of this letter posted on the final day of 1926.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1926-59



POSTAL MARKINGS
THAKHEK LAOS 31-12 26
REVERSE
HA NOI TONKIN 4-1 27

THAKHEK
LAOS

Normally, postmarks were applied with black ink. However, in this case, both the postmarks and the handstamp on the registration label were applied with blue ink.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1 (blue)
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-59



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAKHEK LAOS 1-6 29 (blue)
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 8-8 29
LE MANS SARTHE 7-7 29

THAKHEK
LAOS

For this later version of Thakhek's type G1 postmark, the lettering was more slender and the year was indicated with four digits instead of two digits.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-59



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAKHEK LAOS 19-1 1951
registration label

REVERSE

THAKHEK LAOS 19-1 1951
SAIGON-CENTRAL RP SUD VIET-NAM 23-1 1951
ELBEUF SEINE INFERIEURE 2-2 1951

THAPHAN LAOS

The Thaphan post office opened on 16 May 1907. Its first reported postmark is a type E2 device. This example from 1910 is the latest known use of Thaphan's type E2 postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1908-10



POSTAL MARKINGS
THAPHAN LAOS 16 SEPT 10

VANG-VIENG
LAOS

Effective 1 December 1927, the post office at Bannnaamone moved to Vang-Vieng. The only reported postmark from this post office is a type G device and the only known year of use is 1928.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1928



POSTAL MARKINGS

VANG-VIENG LAOS 13-8 28

ST ETIENNE LOIRE 6-10 28

REVERSE

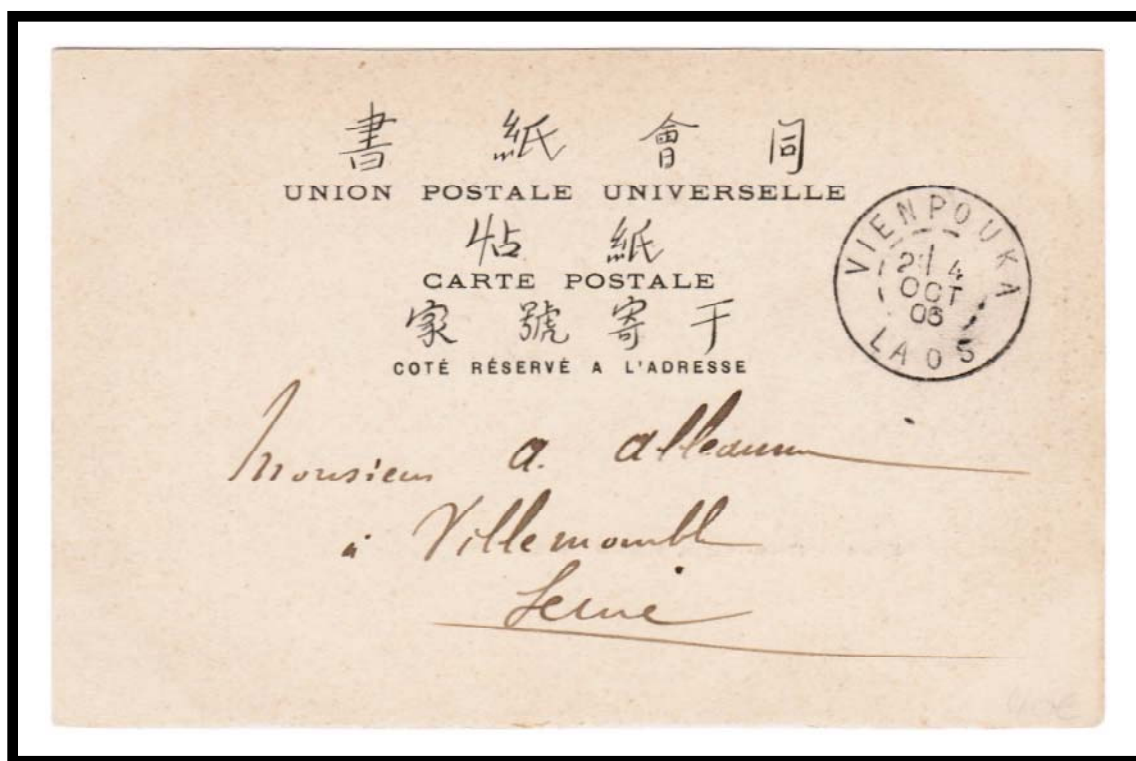
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE

VIENPOUKA
LAOS

The Vienpouka post office opened in 1896 and closed in 1935. The only postmark that used the unhyphenated "VIENPOUKA" spelling was a type E2 device.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1905-22



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENPOUKA LAOS 4 OCT 05

VIEN-TIANE
LAOS

The Vientiane post office opened on 1 April 1900. Its earliest reported postmark is a type E2 device from 1901. This example is from the first reported year of use.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1901-27



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIEN-TIANE LAOS 15 DEC 01
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 JANV 02
BASEL BRf. DISTR. 27.1.02

VIEN-TIANE
LAOS

Vientiane was the administrative capital of Laos. Its post office opened 1 April 1900 and its first recorded postmark, a type E2 format, was in 1901.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1901-27



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIEN-TIANE LAOS 29 JUIN 01
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 11 JUIL 01
BASEL BR. DISTR. 17.VIII.01

VIEN-TIANE LAOS

Most of Vientiane's postmarks used both the hyphenated and non-hyphenated spellings. One exception was the type E1 postmark that was in service during the first decade of the twentieth century. Type E1 postmarks are only found with the hyphenated spelling.



POSTMARK TYPE: E1
PERIOD OF USE: 1900-11



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIEN-TIANE LAOS 29 JUIL 05
LIGNE N. PAQ. FR. N° 7 10 AOUT 05
REVERSE
DIJON COTE D'OR 3-9 05

VIEN-TIANE LAOS

The last year of use of Vien-Tiane's type E1 postmark was 1911. With a few exceptions, later postmarks used the non-hyphenated "VIENTIANE" spelling as opposed to the "VIEN-TIANE" spelling in the E1 postmark.



POSTMARK TYPE: E1
PERIOD OF USE: 1900-11



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIEN-TIANE LAOS 19 JANV 11
REVERSE
VIEN-TIANE LAOS 19 JANV 11

VIENTIANE
LAOS

A type F1 postmark with the non-hyphenated spelling was employed in the 1920s.
Here the dated cancel was struck with blue ink.



POSTMARK TYPE: F1
PERIOD OF USE: 1921-26



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 3 NOV 23 (blue)
REVERSE
HANOI TONKIN 14-11 23

VIENTIANE LAOS

This combination of characteristics (ornaments in the circle and numerical month) is rarely found in Indochina's postmarks. Vientiane used the F1(ch) style for five years.



POSTMARK TYPE: F1(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1924-29



POSTAL MARKINGS

VIENTIANE LAOS 23-10 24
framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 4-11 24
ST ETIENNE R.P DE NEFET 5-12 24

VIENTIANE
LAOS

Vientiane's type G postmark was in service for a quarter century. In this example, the geographic identification is rotated with respect to the central date plug.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1924-49



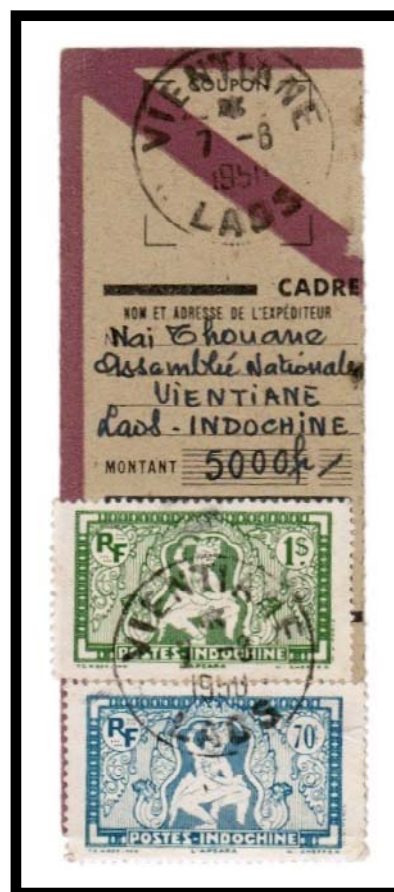
POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 4-7 31

VIENTIANE LAOS

These two examples are the latest known uses of Vientiane's type G postmark. The postmarks were applied to money order receipts sent on the same day in 1950.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1924-50



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 7-6 1950

VIENTIANE
LAOS

Vientiane's type G1 postmark appeared for two years (1929-30) before going idle and being revived two decades later.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1929-30/ 1951-57



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 30-4 38

VIENTIANE LAOS

Vientiane's type G1 postmark was originally in service during 1929-30. The G1 format was returned to service during the period 1951-57



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1929-30, 1951-57



POSTAL MARKINGS

VIENTIANE LAOS 27-1 1951
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 29-1 1952
PARIS X DISTRIBUTION 2-2 1951

VIENTIANE
LAOS

A type G1 postmark, with dashes for separators, was introduced in 1951.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1(t)
PERIOD OF USE: 1951-57



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 25-9 1951
REVERSE
SAIGON R.P. SUD VIETNAM 25-9 1951

VIENTIANE PHON-XAY LAOS

The Vientiane Phon-Xay post office opened around 1954 and continued operations in independent Laos. Its only reported postmark was a type G1 device whose first year of use was 1955.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1955-58



POSTAL MARKINGS

VIENTIANE PHON-XAY LAOS 10-2 1955
plain "APRES LE DEPART" ("too late") handstamp

XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS

Xieng-Khouang was the chief town of Tranninh Province. Its post office opened in 1901 and its first postmark was a type E2 device. Xieng-Khouang's type E2 postmark remained in service for a quarter century.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1903-29



POSTAL MARKINGS
XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS 30 MAI 08
REVERSE
VINH ANNAM 12 JUIN 08
HAIPHONG TONKIN 14 JUIN 08

XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS

A variation of Xieng-Khouang's type E2 postmark with the month expressed as a number instead of an abbreviation was in use up to World War II.



POSTMARK TYPE: E2(ch)
PERIOD OF USE: 1927-39



POSTAL MARKINGS

XIENG-KHOUANG 5-7 32
registration and airmail labels

REVERSE

VINH ANNAM 10-7 32
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 14-7 32

XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS

This example from 1933 is the earliest known use of Xieng-Khouang's type G postmark. This style of postmark disappeared during World War II.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1933-44



POSTAL MARKINGS

XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS 21-11 33
airmail label and routing instruction handstamp

REVERSE

VINH ANNAM 20-11 33
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 9-5 1950

XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS

Xieng-Khouang's type G postmark remained in use during World War II. It was the penultimate colonial postmark for the town of Xieng-Khouang.



POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1937-44



POSTAL MARKINGS
XIENG-KHOUANG LAOS 10-11 41
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. BIS TONKIN 13-11 41

XIENG KHOUANG LAOS

This postmark is the only known example of the "XIENG KHOUANG" spelling with a space separating the parts of the name. No matter the spelling, the G1 format was not previously used by the Xieng-Khouang post office.



POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1950



POSTAL MARKINGS
XIENG KHOUANG LAOS 19-4 1950
REVERSE
SAIGON R.P. SUD VIET-NAM 29-9 1951