

THE CHARM OF POSTING

Introduction: The term 'Posting' or 'Post' has varied meanings. The word Post is derived from Old French word 'Poste', which ultimately stems from the past participle of the Latin verb 'Ponere' meaning to 'to lay down or place'. In relation to mailing, 'Post' or Posting' is used in varied connotations.

Purpose: The Purpose of this exhibit is to show the various usage connotations of the words POST/POSTAL/POSTAGE

Treatment and Presentation: Picture Postcards from 20th and 21st century are used in this exhibit. General Information is in Black. Information about the card printing, publisher, usage is in Blue. Details about the picture on the Picture Postcard is in Brown.

Research: Internet and Personal study are the primary research modes.

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"What a lot we lost
when we stopped
POSTING letters.
You cannot reread a
phone call"

"The most interesting
thing about a POSTAGE
stamp is the
persistence with which
it sticks to its job"



No Profession brings out the Charm of Posting better than the profession of a Letter Writer. Many communities in Asia and Africa had letter writers who assisted those who could not write. Shown above is a Letter Writer from Cairo. Coloured Halftone Divided Back. Published by Tucks. "Oilette" Series XV. Postcard 8941. Artist Unknown. Printed in England.

The Charm of Posting: POSTBOX

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The first post boxes were introduced in the 17th century. By the 19th century, public post boxes became common. They have evolved over time, with different designs, shapes and materials used. Today, post boxes are a familiar sight in many countries.

Small Cement Post Box from Thailand mounted on Metal Pole from 1953. Offset printed divided back postcard published by Organisers of Thailand 2013 World Stamp Exhibition.

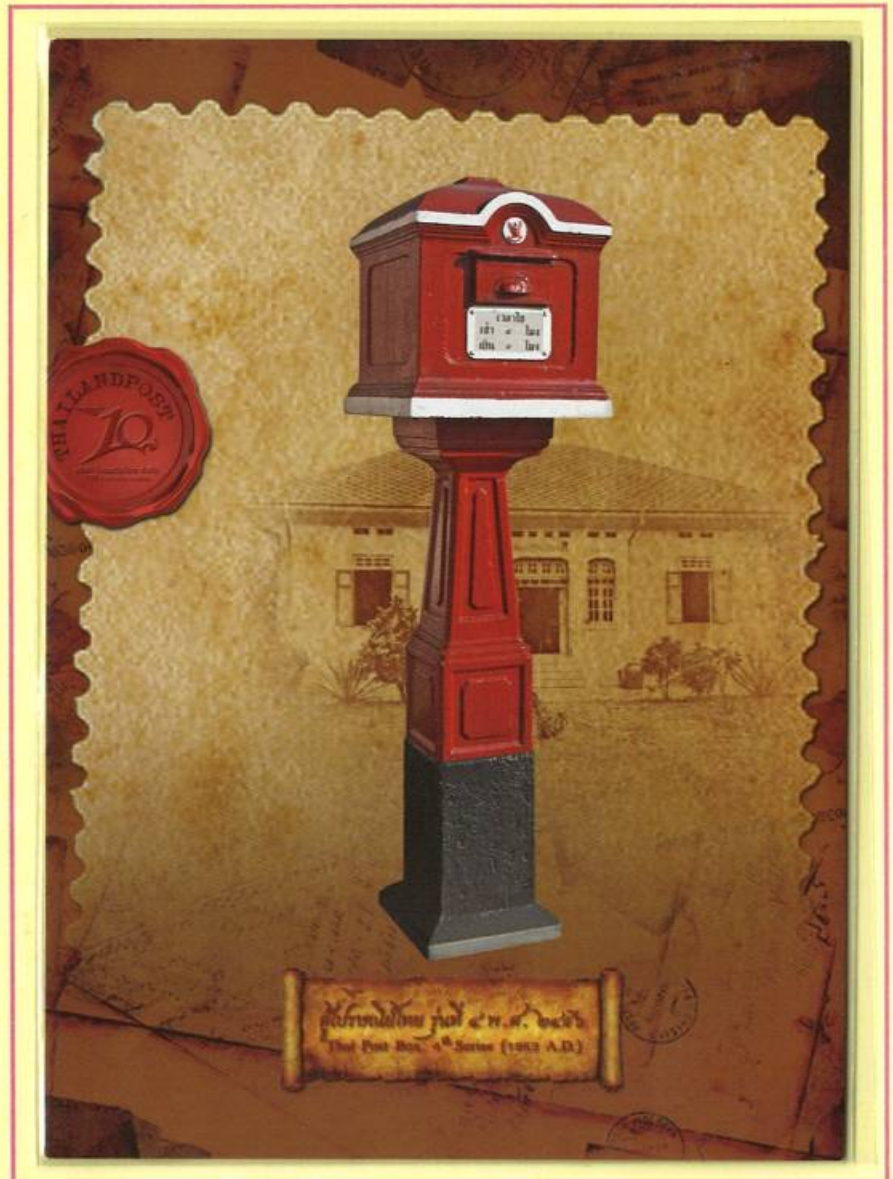


Photo of children lining up to post letters in a letterbox in London in 1926. Digital print divided back postcard, postmarked to order during Diamond Jubilee celebration of Shravanabelgola post office in India in 2018.

The first postmen were messengers who delivered messages on foot. In the 19th century, postal systems developed and postmen became responsible for delivering letters and packages. Today, postmen continue to play an important role in last mile mail communication.

French Postman delivering letters from his leather bag holding flowers. Hand tinted Real Photo Picture Postcard. Published by AS, France. Card No 478. Divided Back. Used in 1907.



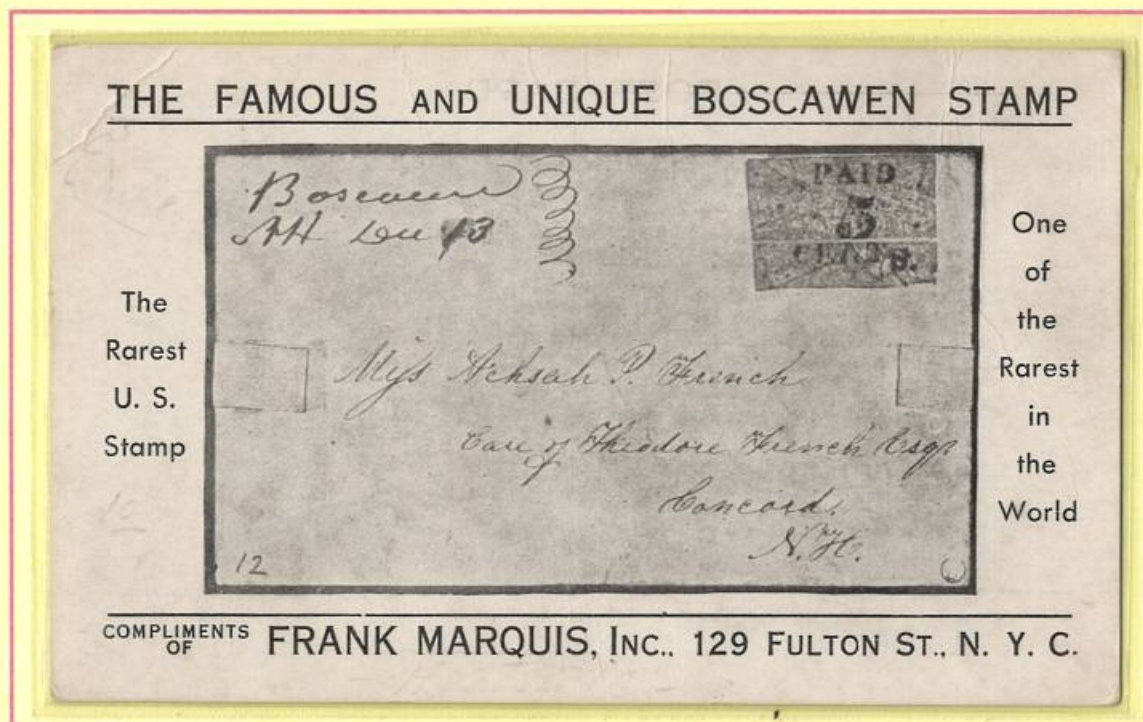
Swiss Postman delivering letters. Embossed coloured collotype picture postcard. Divided back. With extra writing space given on the picture side. Artist: Atelier . Publisher: H Guggenheim & Co, Zurich. Card No 12909

The Charm of Posting: POSTCARD

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Postcards were invented in the 19th century as a way to send quick and informal messages. They became popular due to their convenience. Postcards could refer to official postal stationary or picture postcards.

A Typical French picture postcard from 1960s. Words on the Card mean "The Language of Stamps". It shows French Postage Stamps. Offset printing. Publisher: G.Picard. Card No 237. Divided Back.



A postcard advertising a stamp dealer in the USA. Offset printing. Publisher: Frank Marquis Inc, USA. Divided Back.

Postmarks were first used in the 17th century to indicate the date and location of a letter. They were originally hand-stamped, but later mechanical postmarking machines were developed. Postmarks have evolved over time, with different designs and technologies used. Today, postmarks are still used to track the movement of mail.



A picture postcard showing a German Stamp vending machine from 1982. Offset printing. Publisher: Deutsche Maximumkarte. Published and postmarked to order in 1982. The postmark shows a picture of the stamp vending machine from which stamps were printed. Divided Back.

A picture postcard showing early Swiss Postmark from 1850s. Offset printing. Publisher: PTT Museum Bern. Card No 10. Divided Back.



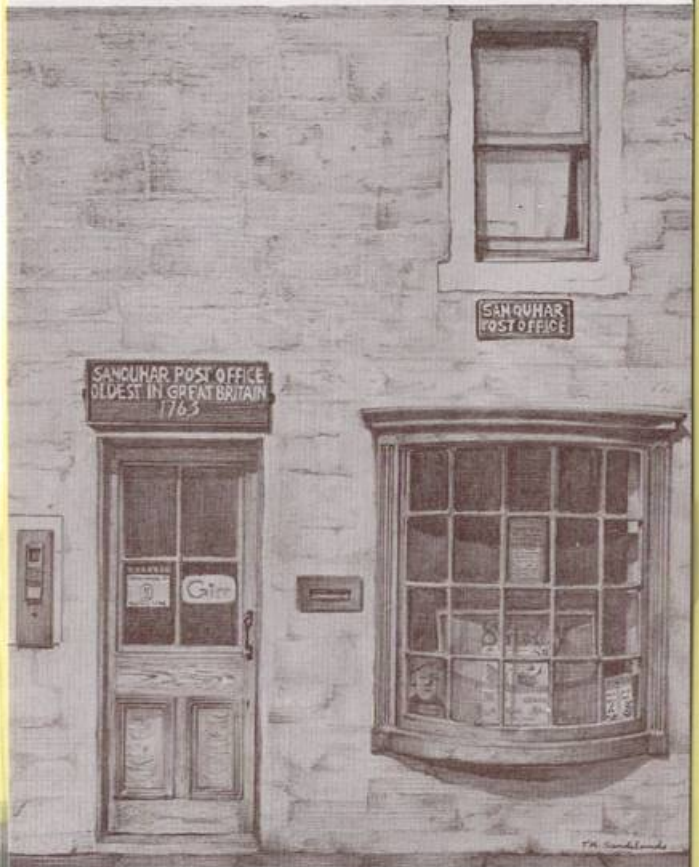
The Charm of Posting: POST OFFICE

6

In the 19th century, organised postal systems developed, leading to the creation of post offices. Today, post offices continue to play a vital role in communication and logistics, although their functions have evolved with technological and need based changes.

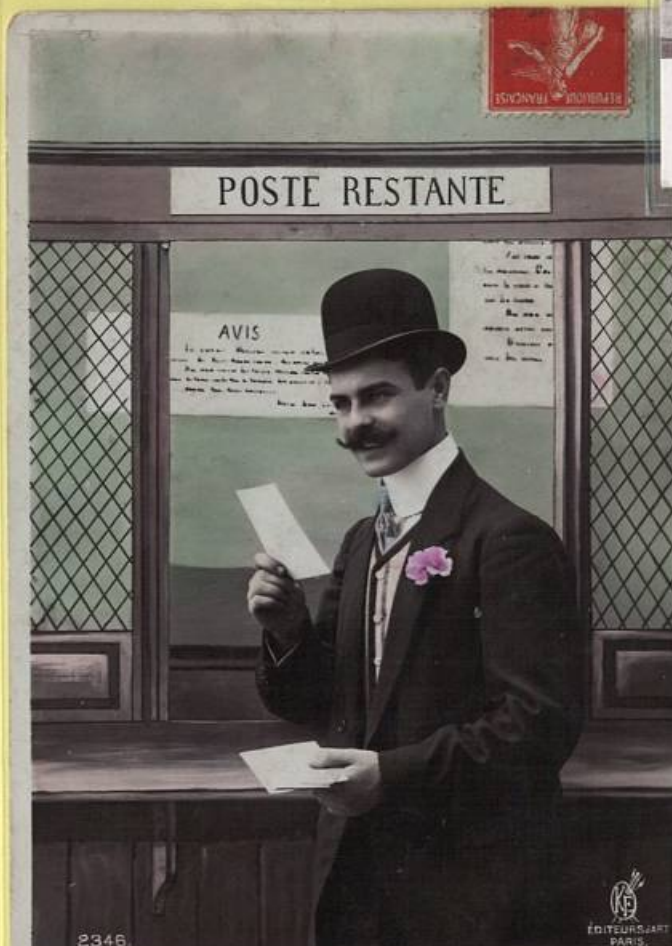
A picture postcard showing the oldest post office in Britain - Sanquhar Post Office estd 1763. Offset printing. Publisher: S&UN Ltd. Printed in 1979 . The picture is a drawing by TM Sandilands. Divided Back.

The Oldest Post Office in Britain - Est. 1763



Sanquhar Post Office.

Reproduced from a drawing by T. M. Sandilands.



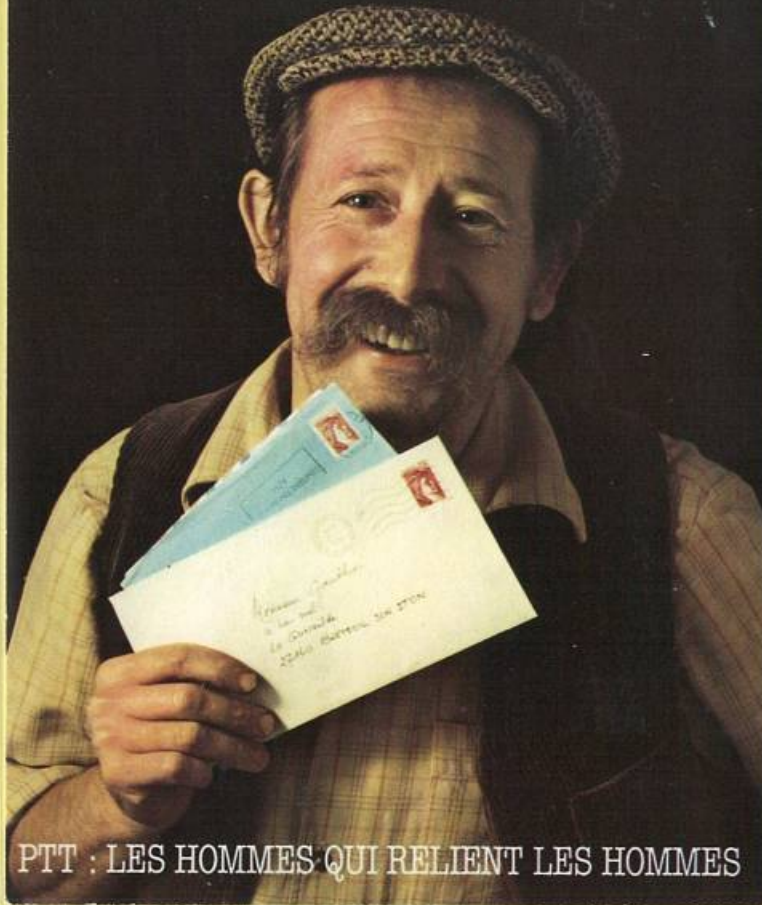
2346

ÉDITEURS D'ART
PARIS

*La poste restante des coeurs
Délivre à tous mille bonheurs!*

Inside a French Post Office in 1909.
Real Photo Picture Postcard.
Published by Editeusdart, Paris. Card
No 2346. Used in 1909. Divided Back.

**ça passe mieux
avec le code postal**



PTT : LES HOMMES QUI RELIENT LES HOMMES

The first postal codes were introduced in the 19th century to help organize and sort mail. They were initially used only in large cities. In the 20th century, postal codes became more widespread and standardized. Today, postal codes or zip codes or pin codes are used in most countries to identify specific locations for mail delivery.

French Picture Postcard
encouraging the use of Postal
Codes. Offset printing. Published
by PTT, France. Printer: Didot SA.
Divided Back.

French Picture
Postcard
encouraging
the use of
Postal Codes
as it makes
delivery faster.
Offset printing.
Published by
PTT, France.
Printer: Grafy
Studio.
Divided Back.



The Charm of Posting: POST WOMAN

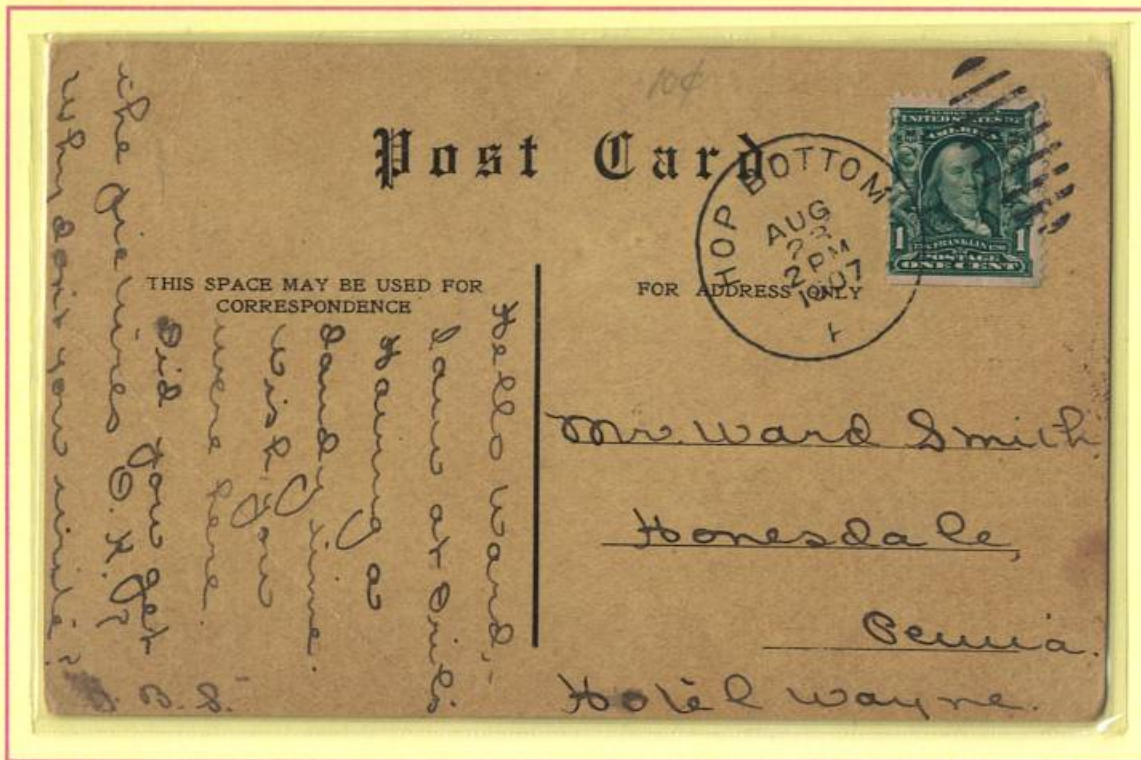
8

Women first held positions as postwomen in the late 19th century. It is difficult to say which country, France or Italy, first offered them this opportunity, as there are historical records of postal women in both countries in the late 19th century.

French Postwoman from early 20th century. Real Photo Picture Postcard. Publisher: EN. Card No 179. Divided Back.



French Postwoman in a lighter mood. Offset Printed. Published by PTT, France in 1986 as a part of the "Get moving with the post office" series. Divided Back.

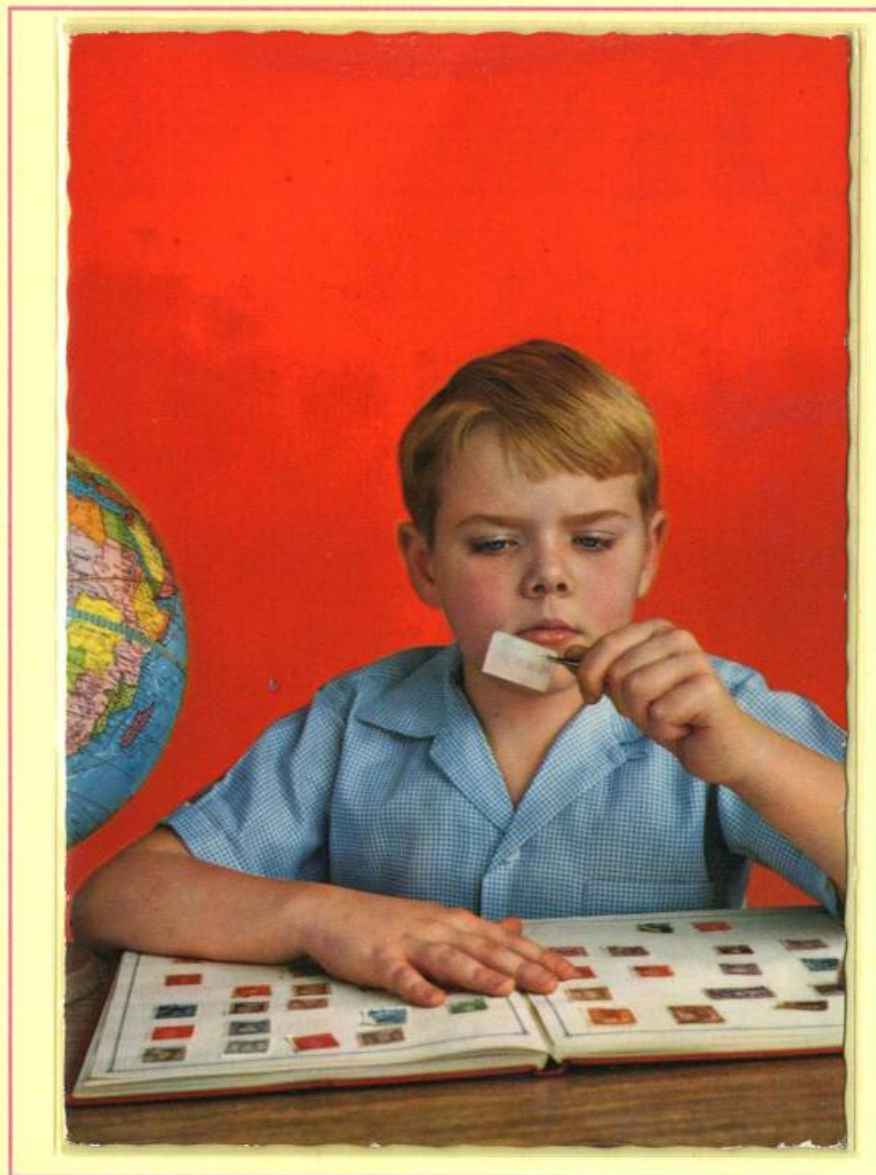


Address side of a Typical Postally Used US Picture Postcard from 1907

The term "postally used" refers to mail that has been processed and delivered by a postal service. It is often used to describe stamps or envelopes that have been used for postage.

Postally used items are of interest to stamp collectors, who study and value them based on their condition, rarity, and historical significance.

Young collector studying his stamps. Real Photo picture postcard. Publisher: P3, Italy. Card No 1811/1. Divided Back.



The Charm of Posting: POSTAL HISTORY

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Postal history is the study of the development of postal systems, including the design and production of stamps, the transportation of mail, and the social and economic impacts of postal services. It's a fascinating field that explores the evolution of communication and its role in shaping societies.

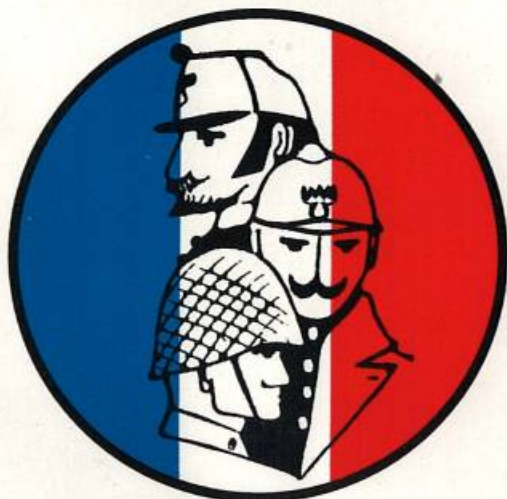
An Important figure in postal history is William Mulready who designed the first postal stationary. Offset printed picture postcard showing a self portrait drawing of William Mulready. Published by National Postal Museum, UK. Series 3. Card No 1. Divided Back.

William Mulready RA (1786–1863). Self portrait. He designed the first Postal Stationery of 1840.

National Postal Museum.



1870
1970 **HISTOIRE
ET PHILATÉLIE**
DU 30 AVRIL AU 12 MAI 1970
AUX HALLES DE PARIS



NOM

ADRESSE

Picture
Postcard having
the words
"History and
Philately".

Offset Printed.
Released during
History and
Philately
Exhibition,
Paris, 1970.



Picture Postcard showing the World's First Stamp Penny Black. Issued to commemorate its 150th Anniversary. Offset Printed. Published in 1990 by David Shaw Post Card Shop, Malton, UK. Designed by Rosalind Wicks.

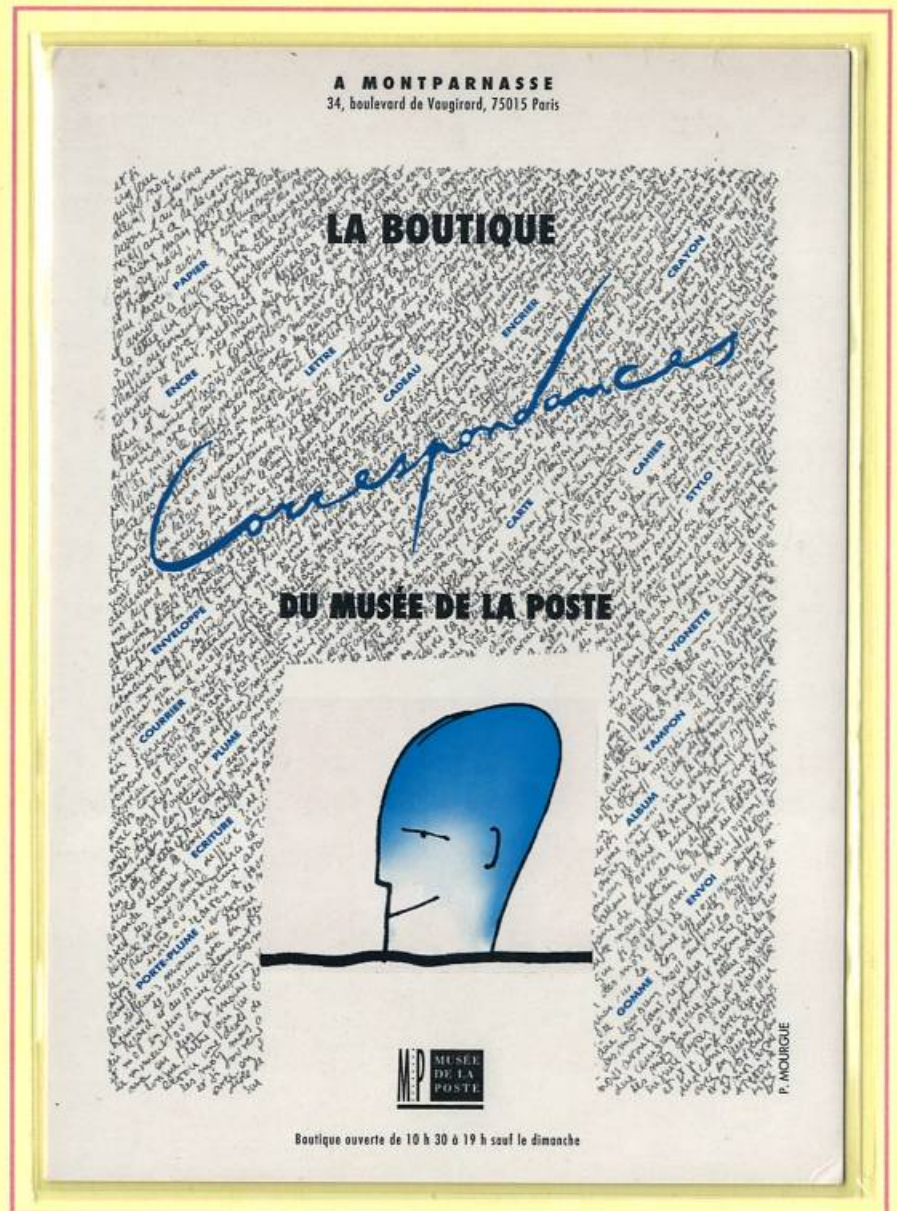
A postage stamp is a small, adhesive paper label that is affixed to mail to indicate that postage has been paid. Stamps are often decorated with designs or images that represent a country, culture, or historical event. They are not only functional but also collectible items

Picture Postcard showing the famous Philately shop Stanley Gibbons in London. Colotype printing. Published by Stanley Gibbons themselves. Divided Back.



A postal museum is a place where visitors can learn about the history and development of postal services. These museums often have exhibits showcasing stamps, postal equipment, and historical documents related to the postal system. They may also offer educational programs and workshops for visitors of all ages.

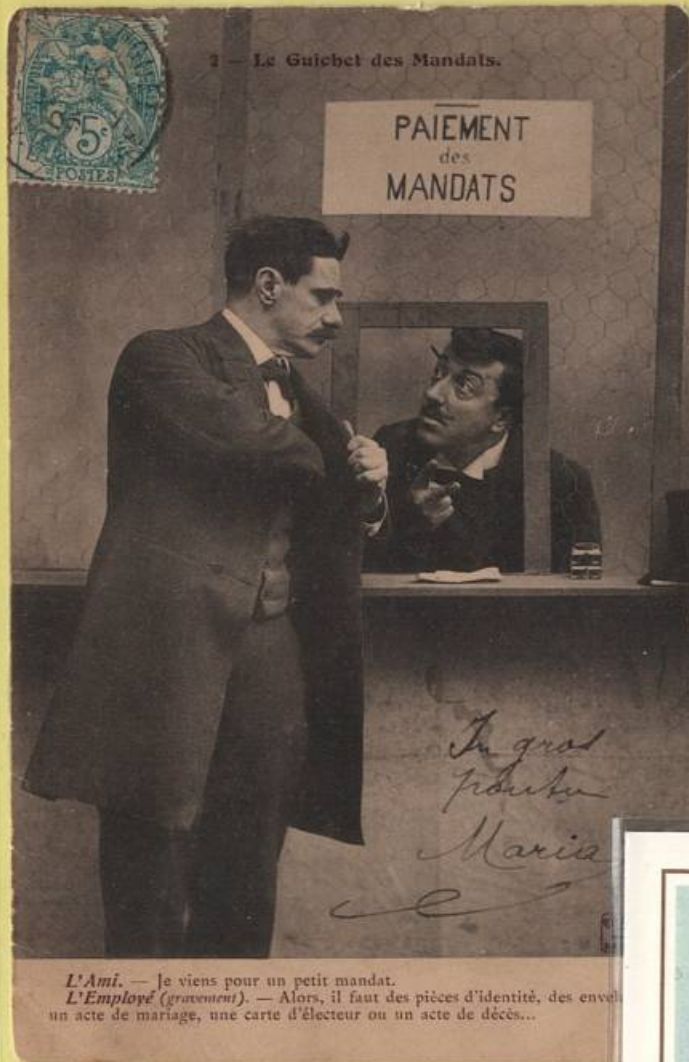
Picture Postcard about the Postal Shop in Postal Museum, Paris. Offset Printed. Published by Postal Museum, Paris. Artist: P.Mourgue. Divided Back.



Temperance Envelope
engraved and printed by
J Valentine of Dundee
posted St. Andrew's
on 11th February 1851.
The design was based
on William Hogarth's
'Gin Lane'.

A reduction from the
original in the
National Postal Museum
R M Phillips Collection
Vol. IX P.46.

Picture Postcard
about the
Temperance
Envelope from the
Collection of
National Postal
Museum , London.
Published by
National Postal
Museum , London.
Series 3. Card No
4. Offset Printed.
Divided Back.



Postal services are essential for communication and commerce, providing a reliable and efficient way to send and receive letters, packages, and other items. They are often government-run or regulated entities that operate a network of post offices and delivery services. Postal services have played a crucial role in the development of societies and economies throughout history.

Postal Services at French Post office.
Collotype Printing. Undivided Back.
Used in 1905.

Air Zeppelin Services provided
by German Post in 1908.
Offset Printed. Published by
German Postal Department in
2008. Divided Back.



The term "Hotel des Postes" which literally translates from French to English as Postal Hotel was used extensively on early 20th century French Picture Postcards. This did not refer to any specific hospitality establishment, as the French Postal Department i.e PTT never operated any hotels. These were infact General Post Offices more akin to the French phrase "Hotel de Ville" which means town hall or city centre rather than anything to do with the English meaning of hotel.



Hotel des Postes in Marseille. Collotyped Printed. Card No 68.
Published by JND Hot. Divided Back.



Hotel des Postes in Reims. Collotyped Printed. Card No 602.
Published by Jacques Freville. Divided Back.



Port Louis. General Post Office.

Port Louis General Post Office, Mauritius where one of the world's rarest stamps i.e Mauritius "Post Office" stamps were released in 1847. Collootype printed, Divided back.

A General Post Office (GPO) is the main post office in a city or region. It handles a large volume of mail and parcels, provides various postal services like stamps, money orders, and often serves as a sorting hub for other post offices in the area. GPOs are typically located in central locations for easy accessibility.



Colombo, Ceylon General Post Office. Coloured Halftone Printing. Card No 3, Published by Plate Ltd, Ceylon. Divided Back.

Posting on social media means sharing content digitally with your online community. This can include text, images, videos, or links. It's like putting up a message board for others to see and interact with digitally. You can post your thoughts, experiences, or anything you want to share with the world.

Card showing a digital artist's impression of the symbol @ used in digital communication
Published by PTT, France in 2001. Designed by Composite Impressions. Offset Printed. Divided back.



Card showing women messaging and using social media. Reverse reads "The year 2008 marks the beginning of fourthwave feminism shaped by social media". Published by Abramamas Noterie. Offset printed. Artist: Aura Lewis. Divided Back.