The Tonkin Expeditionary Corps brought the first type B1 postmarks to Indochina in the early 1890s. These postmarks remained in use for 20 years. This example shows the type B1 postmark struck as a receipt mark on a postcard sent from France.

**POSTMARK TYPE: B1**
**PERIOD OF USE: 1884-1904**

**POSTAL MARKINGS**
HAI-PHONG TONKIN  17 DEC 94
REVERSE
PARIS 104  AV. BOSQUET  16 NOV 94
HAI-PHONG
TONKIN

After the Haiphong post office stopped using the type B1 postmark in 1904, it was not until the type G1 postmark came out in 1926 that the hyphen reappeared in the spelling of “HAI-PHONG.”

POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1926-43

PAR AVION
HANOI-MARSEILLE

Société d'Etudes et de Constructions
Spéciales Frode et Monvert
23, Boulevard d'Argonson
NEUILLY-S-SEINE

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN  11-11 38
HAI-PHONG
VIET-NAM

To present the territory as a unified country, type W postmarks deleted references to the geographical regions of Vietnam. Now, Haiphong was located in simply “VIET-NAM.”

POSTMARK TYPE: W1
PERIOD OF USE: 1951-55

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG VIET-NAM 17-4 1951
HAI-PHONG
TONKIN

Haiphong’s type W2 postmark, characterized by large format lettering, first appeared in 1951.

POSTMARK TYPE: W2
PERIOD OF USE: 1951-54

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG VIET-NAM 3-11 1951
REVERSE
HAI-PHONG VIET-NAM -2-11 1951
Starting in 1885, the type D1 postmark was the first to use the “HAIPHONG” spelling without a hyphen.

POSTMARK TYPE: D1
PERIOD OF USE: 1885-1905
HAIPHONG
TONKIN

Resembling type D1 postmarks, type E1 postmarks are larger with an outside diameter of 24-26 millimeters. Here the postmark was applied as a transit marking on a picture postcard addressed to Vienna, Austria.

POSTMARK TYPE: E1
PERIOD OF USE: 1901-25
HAIPHONG TONKIN

Haiphong’s long-lived type E2 postmark remained in service for over three and a half decades.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 6 FEVR 14
framed R with manuscript registration number
REVERSE
SHANGHAI CHINE 12-2 14

POSTMARK TYPE: E2
PERIOD OF USE: 1890-1927
At Haiphong, when the type G postmark replaced the long-lived E2 postmark, it remained in service for a decade and a half.
HAIPHONG TONKIN

In order to satisfy collector demand, dealers in picture postcards fabricated their own cancellers to tie low value stamps to the picture side of postcards. This particular postmark was from P. Dieulefils in Hanoi.

PERIOD OF USE: c. 1912

SIMULATED POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN E 12 (purple)
HAIPHONG
TONKIN

Another bogus postmark for Haiphong exhibited crude characteristics. In the spelling of “HAIPHONG,” there is a lower case “n.” In “TONKIN,” the first “N” is backwards.

POSTMARK TYPE: SIMULATED E2
HAIPHONG
TONKIN

When Haiphong’s type G1 format appeared for a short time in 1925, narrow lettering was employed. Later, when this style postmark reemerged, the lettering was much wider.

POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1925, 1947-49

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 28-5 25
REVERSE
GIA-LAM TONKIN 30-5 25
Type G1 postmarks employed some type of object to separate the city and territory names.

POSTMARK TYPE: G1
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-49

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 12-3 37
HAIPHONG TONKIN

Locally fabricated postmarks typically employed larger lettering giving rise to the type G3 variety. This postmark was in service for only two years, 1943-44.

POSTMARK TYPE: G3
PERIOD OF USE: 1943-44

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 27-12 43
REVERSE
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 28-12 43
HAIPHONG
NORD VIETNAM

Haiphong’s type V postmark is only reported for two years during 1949-50. The type V1 postmark replaced it in 1950.

POSTMARK TYPE: V
PERIOD OF USE: 1949-50

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG NORD VIET NAM 4-5 1949
HAIPHONG
NORD VIETNAM

Type V postmarks also used a two-digit format to report the year of mailing.

POSTMARK TYPE: V
PERIOD OF USE: 1949-50
HAIPHONG
NORD VIETNAM

Type V postmarks reflected the postwar names for the partitioned regions of Indochina. According to this type V1 postmark, Haiphong was in Nord Vietnam.

POSTMARK TYPE: V1
PERIOD OF USE: 1950-51

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG NORD VIETNAM 20-6 1950
REVERSE
HAIPHONG NORD VIETNAM 20-6 1950
HAIPHONG
NORD VIET-NAM

While a number of roller cancels appeared in the major cities, only a single roller cancel is known from Haiphong and only from a single year, 1950.

POSTMARK TYPE: R6
PERIOD OF USE: 1950

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG VIET-NAM  28-9 1951
REVERSE
QUANG-YEN VIET-NAM 28-9 1951
HAIPHONG
BUU DIEN CUC

A Viet Minh postmark for Haiphong favor-canceled examples of the original Pavie commemoratives as well as examples of overprinted varieties.

POSTMARK TYPE: VN1
PERIOD OF USE: 1946

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG BUU DIEN CUC 31-5 46
REVERSE
HAIPHONG BUU DIEN CUC 31-5 46
HAIPHONG-DOCKS
TONKIN

Haiphong’s harbor front had its own post office from 1923 to 1934. Only the type G postmark was used from this branch post office.

POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1923-34

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG-DOCKS TONKIN 2-6 25
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 2-6 25
HAIPHONG-AEROPORT
NORD VIET-NAM

Operating for five years, the Haiphong airport office closed on 30 March 1955. This example is the earliest known date for its only postmark, in the type V1 format.

POSTMARK TYPE: V1
PERIOD OF USE: 1951-55

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG-AEROPORT NORD VIET-NAM 24-6 1951
APRES LE DEPART handstamp
PARIS 81 26-6 1951
HAIPHONG-A
TONKIN

Open sporadically after World War I, Haiphong-A began regular operations on 16 June 1925. Its type G postmark is only known from 1925.

POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1925

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG–A TONKIN 20-19 25
plain “R” with manuscript registration number
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 20 OCT 26
HAIPHONG-B
TONKIN

The single postmark known for the Haiphong B auxiliary post office was the type G format. This post office only operated from 1925 until 1932.

POSTMARK TYPE: G
PERIOD OF USE: 1925-32

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG-B TONKIN 15-6 26
framed R with manuscript registration number
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 15 JUIN 26