Native Scenes

In 1927, the long-lived Native Women series was replaced by a new definitive issue. The new stamps portrayed various cultural, geographical and historical aspects of Indochina.

FARMER PLOWING AT TOWER OF CONFUCIUS
Native Scenes

Following the precedent of preceding issues, the lower values of the Native Scenes set were printed in two small-size formats. Also consistent with past practice, the higher values employed larger formats.

BAY OF ALONG

![Image of stamps]

![Image of stamps]
Native Scenes

ANGKOR RUINS

WOOD CARVER

THAT LUANG TEMPLE

FOUNDING OF SAIGON
Native Scenes
Farmer Plowing at Tower of Confucius

The lowest values of the Native Scenes stamps depict a farmer plowing with a water buffalo. Within Indochina, this method of farming was a common sight. It was the only practical method for the poor to till the land.
Native Scenes
Farmer Plowing at Tower of Confucius

In the background of the lowest values is the Tower of Confucius. Although the majority of temples in Indochina were Buddhist temples, Confucian temples played an important role in training for the civil service.
Native Scenes
Farmer Plowing at Tower of Confucius

There was more than one Tower of Confucius in Indochina. It is uncertain whether the Native Scenes definitive stamps honored one specific temple.
Native Scenes
Farmer Plowing

With its 5 cent stamp, this picture postcard combination approaches a maximum card. The central aspect of both the stamp and postcard image is a farmer using water buffalo for plowing a field.
Native Scenes
Bay of Along

The central portion of the middle value stamps pictures a boat among rocky islets in the Bay of Along. Located near the port city of Haiphong, the bay is notable for the scenic cliffs on the many small islands.

TOURISM LABEL
Native Scenes
Angkor Ruins

Built in the twelfth century, Angkor Wat was the largest and best preserved temple in the Angkor complex. After its discovery in the jungle in the nineteenth century, it became a major cultural attraction.
Native Scenes
Woodcarver

The 25 and 30 cent denominations of the Native Scenes definitive series feature a woodcarver as the central design element. Indochina has had a long tradition of craftsmanship excellence in this area.

POSTCARD DEPICTS ANNAMITE WOODCARVERS’ WORKSHOP.
Native Scenes
Thạt Luang

A “thạt” is a building that is constructed over a relic of Buddha or a highly respected abbot. More precisely, it is a mound constructed from earth and stone with a spire or umbrella on top containing the chamber for a Buddhist relic, thus making it a memorial shrine.

King Setthathirat I built Thạt Luang in 1566. Thạt Luang is the most sacred Buddhist monument in Laos and annually, it is the focus for the country’s most important religious festival.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON A COCHINCHINE 18 AOUT 11
Native Scenes
Low Value Essays

Essays were prepared as various steps in the printing process to ensure that the stamps fulfilled expectations. These essays differ in the denomination portion of each design.

ENGRAVER’S ESSAY

PRINTER’S ESSAY

ENGRAVER’S ESSAY

PRINTER’S ESSAY
Native Scenes
Angkor Essays

PRINTER’S ESSAY WITHOUT DENOMINATION

PRINTER’S ESSAY OF 15 CENTS

ENGRAVER’S ESSAY
15 CENTS
Native Scenes
Angkor Essays

PRINTER'S ESSAY OF 20 CENTS

PRINTING MISREGISTRATION OF 20 CENTS
Native Scenes
Wood Carver and That Luang Essays

PRINTER’S ESSAY

ENGRAVER’S ESSAY

PRINTER’S ESSAY
Native Scenes
High Value Essays

ENGRAVER'S ESSAY

ENGRAVER'S ESSAY
Native Scenes
High Value Varieties

MISSING YELLOW ERROR

ESSAY SHOWING COLORS OF 1 PIASTER
LACKING DENOMINATION

IMPERFORATE
Native Scenes
High Value Essay
In addition to regular panes, the 5 cent and 6 cent values were also sold in booklet form. For the booklets, the stamps were arranged in two panes of ten stamps. Marginal inscriptions in the selvedge promoted the post office.
Native Scenes
5-cent Booklet Pane Variety

This pane from the 5-cent booklet was printed correctly and perforated properly. However, when the pane was positioned incorrectly cut when it was cut from the printed sheet. As a result, the selvedge elements along the margins vary considerably in shape and size.
The post office took advantage of the covers on the booklets by presenting rate information for letters, packages and telegraph services.
Native Scenes
Use from 6-cent Booklet

When the selvedge is intact, the wording in the top and bottom margins can immediately identify stamps that originated from booklets.
Native Scenes
Millesimes
Native Scenes
Millesimes
Native Scenes
Millesimes
Native Scenes
Millesimes
Native Scenes
Use of 1-cent Millesime

An unsealed mailing at the calling card postage rate only required 2 cents postage in 1929. In this case, the postage was paid with a pair of 1-cent Native Scenes stamps with the millesime “7” in the central gutter separating the two stamps.
Native Scenes
Use of 1-cent Millesime
Enclosure

The enclosure to the unsealed 1929 envelope was an announcement that a financial company was changing the location of its office.
Native Scenes
Use of Millesimes

Two millesime pairs, both from 1927 printings, contributed to the postage on a 1937 mailing to French India.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 28-5 37
REVERSE
CALCUTTA G.P.O. D.B.N. 30 MAY 37
Native Scenes
Perfins

Banque de l'indochine (Saigon Branch)

Banque de l'indochine (Hanoi Branch)
Native Scenes
Perfins

LJC
L. J. Chaffanjon

G.M.R.
Grand Magasins Reunis

HS
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
Native Scenes
Use of BIC Perfin

The Hanoi branch of the Bank of Indochina utilized the “BIC” perfin as demonstrated by the 40 cent and 50 cent stamps on this airmail cover to the Paris branch of the bank.

**BIC**

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 22-6 31
airmail label
black “X” handstamp
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 25-6 31
Native Scenes
Use of HS/BC Perfin

The 1 piaster value from the Native Scenes series was perforated twice with "HS" over "BC", which stood for Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The letter was addressed to the bank's branch office in Zurich, Switzerland.

POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 20-5 32
"Saigon-Marseille" route handstamp
airmail label with black "X" handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 20-5 32
MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION BCHANES DU RHONE 29 • V 1932
Native Scenes
Use of HS/BC Perfin

The high-value of the Native Scenes definitive series perforated with the HS/BC initials was affixed to a letter posted from Saigon to London in 1933.

HS
BC

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 9-9 33
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 9-9 33
Native Scenes
Use of LJC Perfin

Each of the four stamps on this 1931 mailing to Paris has been perforated with the initials “LJC.” The meaning of the letters was recently found to stand for “L. J. Chaffanjon,” proprietor of the store “Magasins Chaffanjon” located in Haiphong.

LJC

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN  29-931
airmail and expedited service labels
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE  1-10 31
MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION BOHÈS DU RHONE  12 • X 1931