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MEDIA RELEASE

31 August 2017

COMMEMORATING SINGAPORE'S FIRST SET OF POSTAGE STAMPS

*Exhibition of philatelic rarities and new commemorative stamp issue mark the 150th
Anniversary of Singapore's postal history milestone*

Singapore, 31 August 2017 – Over the next four months (1 September 2017 to 1 January 2018), visitors to the Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM) at Coleman Street will be able to view some of the rarest collections of stamps, covers and other philatelic materials that show how Singapore was connected to the rest of the world during the 19th century, including stamps that were issued for the first time by the Singapore post office 150 years ago. The exhibition, jointly organised with the Association of Singapore Philatelists (ASP), celebrates the postal milestone of the issuance of Singapore's first set of postage stamps. SingPost will also launch a new commemorative stamp issue on the same theme – *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* on 1 September 2017.

The exhibition, *150th Anniversary of the First Postage Stamps Issued in Singapore*, jointly organised by SPM and the ASP, will be launched this evening (31 August 2017) by Guest-of-Honour Mr Chan Yeng Kit (Chairman of Infocomm Media Development Authority), Mr Woo Keng Leong (CEO, Postal Services at SingPost), Mr Hong Tuck Kun (Chairman of the Stamp Advisory Committee), Mr Richard Tan (President of the ASP) and Professor Cheah Jin Seng (Chairman of SPM Board) at the Museum.

Ms Tresnawati Prihadi, General Manager of SPM, says, “This exhibition offers an important insight into Singapore’s postal history, as well as that of our history as part of the Straits Settlements. We hope that visitors, including our young, will gain useful insights into how the postal system supported the growth and development of Singapore’s economic and social life in the 19th century. Back then, the post was the primary channel for communication. Traders, shippers, bankers and government officers affixed stamps to their mail and to commercial and official documents. New migrants to Singapore relied on letters to stay in touch with their families back home in Europe, China, India, the Middle East and other parts of Asia.”

In 1867, the Straits Settlements, which comprised Singapore, Penang and Malacca, were transferred from the jurisdiction of the East India Company in India to British rule in London as a Crown Colony. Singapore assumed the seat of government of the Straits Settlements, and also took charge of its postal affairs.

To commemorate the change of governance, a new set of stamps was issued on 1 September 1867. These stamps were issued for the first time by the Singapore post office. They were existing Indian stamps used in the Straits Settlements but overprinted with a crown to denote the Crown Colony status. The values were changed from Indian to Straits currency by surcharging with Straits dollars and cents.

The exhibition will display exhibits from SPM’s collection and that of private collectors. Several exhibits are Grand Prix or Gold Medal winning collections at World Stamp Exhibitions. Some of the collectors behind the exhibits are world-renowned philatelists.

Each month will feature different award-winning collections of Straits Settlements philatelic material. Some of the exciting rarities include:

- The only known cover bearing all four values of the 1854 Indian stamps used in the Straits Settlements. It was sent from Singapore to Ireland in 1855. (*Singapore Philatelic Museum Collection*).

- A cover, dated 1 September 1867, sent from Singapore to Switzerland which had the first day release of the provisional issue of stamps - Indian stamps overprinted with a crown and denominations changed to Straits currency, making the cover a rare item. The back of the cover has a Singapore date stamp that has an error in the year – 1866 (instead of 1867). This error adds to the rarity of the cover. (*Mr Koh Seow Chuan Collection*).
- A cover sent from Singapore to Hong Kong on 28 December 1857 bearing a bisected “Two *anna*” Indian stamp. In the 19th century, most Indian stamps were printed in London and then shipped to India before being sent to Singapore. At times, shipments were disrupted which led to a shortage of stamps locally. Postmasters would then cut stamps into half to meet the demand for the necessary postage. In this case, the “Two *annas*” stamp was halved to create a “One *anna*” value. (*Mr Tan Ah Ee Collection*).
- A postal stationery card featuring stylised images of the orchid flower. Such cards were meant to advertise the life, people and places in Singapore. The card was sent from Singapore to Darmstadt, Germany in 1898. It is interesting how the illustrated postcard then had orchids printed on them to represent Singapore, and the words appropriately announce, “Greetings from Singapore”. (*Dr Chua Eu Tiong Collection*).
- A postal stationery card sent from the Raffles Hotel on 1 February 1894 and arrived at Malang, Indonesia on 7 February 1894. The card bore a rare Raffles Hotel cachet that was used only on mail sent by hotel guests. The postcard is the only known item with this type of cachet. (*Mr Wong Han Min Collection*).

Mr Richard Tan, President of ASP says “The Association of Singapore Philatelists has assembled one of the finest philatelic displays from pre-stamp to the end Queen Victoria period. These collections were passionately formed over decades by eminent philatelists, not just from Singapore, but also from Thailand. Over the next four months, visitors to the exhibition shall witness an array of unique stamps and blocks, only known covers and postal marking used on mail sent to all over the world. The

postal covers proved that Singapore was already a very significant little dot during the 19th century with international travellers setting foot in our homeland.”

For those wishing a keepsake of this key postal milestone, the following items will be available during the exhibition period:

- A limited edition, *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* exhibition catalogue. Price: \$50.00.
- A series of *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* exhibition picture postcards. Each month, a different set of four serialised picture postcards will be available. The pictures on the postcards are of the exhibits on display. Price: \$10 for a strip of four postcards.
- Special Exhibition Souvenir Covers
Bring home a special exhibition souvenir cover with 1st local stamp and the event date stamp (1 September 2017). Price: \$3.00.

150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore stamps



SingPost's 150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore stamps

The 1st Local stamp of the *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* features the “Half *anna* blue stamp” overprinted with a crown and the denomination of three half cents. On the 2nd Local stamp is a block of four “One *anna* deep brown stamps” overprinted with a crown and the denomination of three cents.

The 60¢, 70¢ and \$1.30 stamps depict three covers affixed with two other Straits Settlements stamps: the eight-cent “Two *annas* orange stamp” and the 12-cent “Four *annas* green stamp”.

One distinctive of the historical stamps is that they do not bear the name of the issuing country. This reflects their roots in the United Kingdom, which as the first country in

the world to use postage stamps, continues to issue stamps without the country's name.

Pre-cancelled First Day Covers affixed with the complete set of stamps are available at \$4.25. A Collection pack comprising the five SingPost stamps and three Pos Malaysia stamps commemorating the first Straits Settlements stamps will also be sold. Sale of the stamps commences on 1 September 2017 at the General Post Office, Philatelic Store, which starts operations at SingPost Centre, Jurong West Post Office, and online at shop.singpost.com.

Mr Woo Keng Leong, CEO (Postal Services), SingPost, said, "Since the Straits Settlements era, SingPost has been an integral part of the community, providing an affordable and reliable way for people to connect with one another. As we transform for the future, the heart of SingPost is our people and our commitment to deliver, come rain or shine – as it has been over the past 150 years."

Please refer to the attached fact sheets on *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* exhibition and stamps for more information.

ABOUT SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

The Singapore Philatelic Museum officially opened on 19 August 1995, showcasing Singapore's rich philatelic heritage using postal artefacts dating from the 1830s to today. The museum's family-friendly galleries use stamps as windows to introduce Singapore's heritage and culture, as well as the world's. From telling Singapore's story to showcasing pop culture themes, the museum has brought to life many of these philatelic wonders to the public. Exhibitions on show feature a wide range of stamps from the rare collections of world-class philatelists to contemporary collections from around the world. To complement these exhibitions, the museum runs educational programmes, guided tours, school holiday workshops and public programmes. Visitors can go on a journey of discovery on how significant and important the little stamp is in today's world.

The mission of the Singapore Philatelic Museum is to stimulate an interest in philately. The museum is a fully-owned subsidiary of the National Heritage Board and an institution of Public Charter (IPC) Status. For more information, visit www.spm.org.sg.

ABOUT ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE PHILATELISTS

The Association of Singapore Philatelists (ASP) was formed in 1989 by eminent philatelists with the objective to promote philately. It is the umbrella of local stamp clubs— comprising of Singapore Stamp Club, Kreta Ayer Stamp Society, Singapore Philatelic Society and Zui You Philatelic Society. The Association seeks to encourage members to participate in local and international stamp exhibitions. Because of its strong support, members have consistently achieved high medal awards at various exhibitions in Singapore and in the region.

One of ASP's main objectives is to groom members to exhibit at international competitions. ASP also trains and nominates its members to perform duties as a national commissioner, or as apprentice juror at national and regional exhibitions. They may then apply to the Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP) and subsequently Federation of Internationale de Philatelie (FIP) to serve their apprenticeship. ASP has a team of qualified jurors recognised to judge at FIAP and FIP stamp exhibitions.

Exposing members to international shows is an important role of ASP. ASP encourages exchanges and learning with international federations from more than 90 countries. ASP is proud to have organised and hosted three World Stamp Exhibitions in 1995, 2004 and 2015.

ABOUT SINGAPORE POST LIMITED

For over 150 years, Singapore Post (SingPost) as the country's postal service provider, has been delivering trusted and reliable services to homes and businesses in Singapore.

Today, SingPost is pioneering and leading in eCommerce logistics as well as providing innovative mail and logistics solutions in Singapore and around the world, with operations in 19 markets.

Building on its trusted communications through domestic and international postal services, SingPost is taking the lead in end-to-end integrated and digital mail solutions. The suite of SingPost eCommerce logistics solutions includes front end web management, warehousing and fulfilment, last mile delivery and international freight forwarding.

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150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore exhibition

Venue: Singapore Philatelic Museum
23-B Coleman Street, Singapore 179807

Date: 1 September 2017 – 1 January 2018



Opening hours: Monday – Sunday
10.00am – 7.00pm






Admission charges: Free admission for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents
Admission charges for foreigners:
Adult \$8
Child (3 – 12 years) \$6




Tel: 63373888

Website: www.spm.org.sg

Exhibition schedule

Date	Collection	Exhibitor	Frame Number & Highlight
1 Sep to 1 Oct 2017	Singapore – Early Social History & Philately	Mr Koh Seow Chuan	Frame 1 to 2 
	Singapore – The French Connection		Frame 3 to 4
	Straits Settlements Classic	Mr Tan Ah Ee	Frame 5 to 12
	Straits Settlements Cover with First Issue of 1854 Indian Stamps	Singapore Philatelic Museum	Philatelic Highlight 
	Straits Settlements First Day Cover with 1867 Provisional stamp	Mr Koh Seow Chuan	Philatelic Highlight

1 Oct to 29 Oct 2017	Straits Settlements Stamp Issue, 1867 – 1899	Mr Tan Ah Ee	Frame 1 to 4 
	Queen Victoria Revenue Stamps	Mr Vincent Ong	Frame 5 to 12 
	Straits Settlements Bisect Stamps on Covers	Mr Tan Ah Ee	Philatelic Highlight
29 Oct to 3 Dec 2017	Queen Victoria Postal Stationery	Dr Chua Eu Tiong	Frame 1 to 5 
	Straits Settlements – Singapore Hotel Postal History & Singapore Picture Postcards	Mr Wong Han Min	Frame 6 to 10 
	Straits Settlements Queen Victoria Postal Stationery Post Cards used in the Federated Malay States	Mr Henry Ong	Frame 11 
	Singapore – The Siam Connection	Mr Koh Seow Chuan	Frame 12
	1865 Large Wrapper from Singapore to Paris	Singapore Philatelic Museum	Philatelic Highlight

3 Dec 2017 to 1 Jan 2018	Straits Settlements from Pre-stamp to 1900	Mr Richard Tan	Frame 1 to 8 
	Straits Settlements used in Siam	Dr Prakob Chirakiti	Frame 9 to 11 
	The British Consulate Post Office in Siam	Mr Charnchai Karnasuta	Frame 12 
	1867 Indian Stamps Overprinted with Crown and Straits Values	Singapore Philatelic Museum	Philatelic Highlight

Highlights

Mr Koh Seow Chuan

Exhibit: Singapore – Early Social History & Philately 1 Sep to 1 Oct 2017

Exhibit never shown before. High value

The exhibit is a display of the philately of Singapore between 1819 and 1870, and how philately reflects its early social history.

The Europeans were the most literate and wrote the most letters during this period. Some of the most significant letters from its administrators, trading houses, missionaries, and soldiers are shown.

The Indians and their trading activities provided the second most significant group of letters, largely due to the fact that until 1867, the seat of government of the Straits Settlements was in Bengal. The Chinese and the Malay social history are reflected by commercial and legal documents.

The best of these examples are shown in the exhibit.



This cover, dated 1 September 1867, was sent from Singapore to Langnau, Switzerland. It was the first day release of the provisional issue of stamps - Indian stamps overprinted with a crown and denominations changed to Straits currency, making the cover a rare item.

The back of the cover has a Singapore date stamp that has an error in the year – 1866 (instead of 1867). This error adds to the rarity of the cover.

Mr Tan Ah Ee

Exhibit: Straits Settlements Stamp Issue, 1867 – 1899 1 Oct to 29 Oct 2017

Award

Grand Prix International
Grand Prix National
Grand Prix International

Exhibition

Thailand 2013 FIP World Stamp Exhibition
Singapore 2015 FIP World Stamp Exhibition
China 2011 (27th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

The exhibit is a study of stamps issued in the Straits Settlements during the reign of Queen Victoria. Initially the provisional issue were East India stamps surcharged with crown and cents (value). The permanent issue stamps were released on 1 September 1867. After this, stamp issues evolved from changes of watermarks – CC to CA. Surcharges were made because of changes in postal rates. Colour changes for different values were made to comply with Universal Postal Union requirements.

This display is organised chronologically.



Postage stamps were introduced in Singapore, then part of the Straits Settlements, in 1854. They were Indian stamps issued by the British East India Company, and were charged in Indian currency of *annas* and *pies*. The stamps were printed in London and shipped to India, and thereafter to the Straits Settlements. Sometimes, shipment of the stamps was disrupted. So the local postmaster decided to bisect the stamps to halve their value for the necessary postage.

This cover that was sent from Singapore to Hong Kong, on 28 December 1857, required a “One *anna*” stamp, but there was insufficient stamps of the correct value. Hence, the “Two *annas*” stamp was halved to create a “One *anna*” value. An interesting fact is that although Indian stamps were used in many of the British colonies (including the Middle East and East Africa), bisected stamps were only found in the Straits Settlements, and not even in India.

Mr Vincent Ong

Exhibit: Queen Victoria Revenue Stamps 1 Oct to 29 Oct 2017

Award

Large Gold

Exhibition

Singapore 2015 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

This is a specialised exhibit of the Victorian judicial and revenue stamps of the Straits Settlements which were issued between 1824 until 1903. The exhibit starts with the pre-stamp duty era (pre-1862) during the East India Company Administration, followed by the formation of the Crown Colony in 1867. The exhibit ends in 1905 when the Crown decided to combine the emission of a dual purpose King Edward VII which could serve both postage and revenue purpose.

The exhibit displays almost all known essays, proofs, specimens as well as largest known mint and used multiples used during the reign of Queen Victoria.

The exhibit traces the development of stamp and judicial duties and a series of short stories or “anthologies” based on actual historical records will show the rich taxation history in the Straits Settlements that has never been treated sufficiently in other exhibits. All major revenue and judicial procedures have been illustrated with documents and the scale of duties, indicated.

This exhibit also showcases every known printing essay, die, perforation and paper type of the various revenue and judicial stamp issues. In many issues, only 100 or 200 stamps were ever printed and this exhibit is proud to showcase all known largest stamp and document multiples.



These essays (designs) represent the origins of Straits Settlements revenue stamps. They were suggested by the East India Company (EIC) in 1866, before the Straits Settlements was transferred to the Colonial Office in London and became a Crown Colony (on 1 April 1867). They are the only known examples in private hands. They exceed the Royal Collection which belong to the Queen of England, in terms of completeness and varieties.

The EIC administrators, in a bid to retain some sort of legacy of the new Crown Colony, offered the use of their revenue stamps overprinted with “Straits Settlements” or with the crown design, printed in red, black and magenta. However, revenue stamps with such designs were not issued. The crown colony chose to print the stamps with ‘Straits Settlements’, with no mention or association of the “Government of India”.

Dr Chua Eu Tiong

Exhibit: Queen Victoria Postal Stationery 29 Oct to 3 Dec 2017

Exhibit never shown before

The exhibit illustrates the various postal stationery items issued by the Straits Settlements during the Victorian era. On 1 October 1869, the world's first postal card was produced by Austria - Hungary. The first postal card in the Straits Settlements came in 1879, twelve years after it had become a Crown Colony.

The highlights of this exhibit include the earliest use of the "Three cents" and "Four cents" overprinted on "Five cents" postal cards. The latter, cancelled 29 September 1879, is probably the earliest postal card used in the Straits Settlements. Other items include the scarce illustrated cards and the various reply cards of Switzerland, Italy, Belgium and Germany, used in the Straits. The reverse is also scarce, with cards of the Straits returned from Danzig, Germany, India, United Kingdom and France.

The only Straits card used in Bintulu, Sarawak, dated 1 March 1895 is also shown.



The cards feature stylised images of the orchid flower. Such cards were meant to advertise the life, people and places in Singapore.

The *Vanda Miss Joaquim* was recognised in 1893, and the card was sent from Singapore to Darmstadt, Germany in 1898. It is interesting how the illustrated postcard then (even if they were not the Miss Joaquim), had flowers printed on them to represent Singapore, and the words appropriately announce, "Greetings from Singapore".

Note: The Vanda Miss Joaquim was made the National Flower of Singapore in 1981.

Mr Wong Han Min

Exhibit: Straits Settlements – Singapore Hotel Postal History 29 Oct to 3 Dec 2017

Award
Vermeil

Exhibition
Singapore 2015 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

This one-frame exhibit shows the postal history of early Singapore hotels during the Queen Victoria period through these early hotels' postal cancellations, postal rates, postal routes and also the hotels' social history, which is part of Singapore's hotel industry, hospitality and tourism history. Contents include rare illustrated hotel covers, hotel sub-post office postal cancellations, hotel private postal cachet cancellations, postal stationery, postcards and mail of Singapore's grand old hotels from 1883 to 1902.

The first true hotel in Singapore was opened at Raffles Square (present-day Raffles Place) by John Francis in 1832. However boarding houses have already been in existence as early as 1820s and these were concentrated in Raffles Place and High Street. The early hotels featured in this exhibit are Hotel De L' Europe, Raffles Hotel, Hotel De La Paix, Adelphi Hotel and Trieste Hotel, which were opened during the Victorian era. All these grand old dames except Raffles Hotel were demolished in the course of Singapore's changing landscapes.

Singapore's grand old hotels were well known among travellers from all over the world during the golden age of travel. These grand old hotels greeted the travellers with their splendour and oriental warmth, which helped Singapore to become a favourite travel destination in the Far East. From this display, one could catch a glimpse of these old hotels' past grandeur and their glorious history.



Postal stationery postcards, produced by the post office, provided a cheaper and more convenient means of sending short messages as compared to a letter. This postcard, printed with "Two cents" postage, was used for sending overseas. It was sent from the famous Raffles Hotel in Singapore, on 1 February 1894, and it arrived at Malang, Indonesia on 7 February 1894.

The postcard has a rare Raffles Hotel cachet, which was used on mail sent by hotel guests. The postcard is the only known or seen item that has this type of cachet.

Note: Raffles Hotel post office, which catered to the general public and hotel guests, operated from 1910 to the late 1920s. The hotel's postmarks on mail during this period are not rare.

Mr Henry Ong

Exhibit: Straits Settlements Queen Victoria Postal Stationery Post Cards used in the Federated Malay States 29 Oct to 3 Dec 2017

Award

Gold

Gold

Exhibition

Jakarta 2008 (22nd Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

China 2009 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

The Federated Malay States (FMS) comprising Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak and Selangor, situated in the central region of the Malay Peninsula, were incorporated on 1 July 1896. Their unified stamps and postal stationery were issued in 1901, and FMS had a postal arrangement with the Straits Settlements that allowed their stamps and postal stationery to be valid for overseas destinations.

Prior to joining the Universal Postal Union, Straits Settlements post office sold their Queen Victoria stamp and postal stationery to the Malay States post office for sale to the public for overseas destinations from 1885 prior to their own issues.

The exhibits display the various issues of Straits Settlements postal stationery post card, that were known to be issued or used in the four Malay States that later formed the FMS.



This postcard was mailed from Kuala Pilah, a small town in Negri Sembilan to Switzerland in December 1892. Only official Straits Settlements postcards produced by the post office were authorised for overseas mailing. Switzerland was a scarce destination and very few mail were sent there. Majority of correspondences were sent to the United Kingdom.

The mail runner carried the postcard from the Kuala Pilah post office (14 December 1892) to Tampin, Negri Sembilan (15 December 1892). Another runner carried the postcard onward to Malacca (16 December 1892). From Malacca, the postcard travelled on the evening coaster steamer bound for Singapore (17 December 1892). From Singapore, the postcard was put on an ocean vessel bound for Europe.

Mr Richard Tan

Exhibit: Straits Settlements from Pre-stamp to 1900 3 Dec 2017 to 1 Jan 2018

Award

Gold

Gold

Gold + special prize

Large Gold

Grand Prix National

Grand Prix International

Large Gold

Exhibition

Joburg 2010 (26th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

PhilaNippon 2011 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

Indonesia 2012 FIP World Stamp Championship Exhibition

PhilaKorea 2014 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

Malaysia 2014 (29th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

Taipei 2015 (30th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

Singapore 2015 FIP World Stamp Exhibition

Straits Settlements postal markings were found dated 1806, the earliest known postal marking being used by a post office in Prince of Wales Island (Penang). Various postal markings were used in Malacca, Penang and Singapore. In 1837, the postal service was regularised by the Indian Post Office Act. Postage stamps of India were used in the Straits Settlements from 1854. The Straits Settlements was considered part of the "Bengal Circle", and from 1861 part of the "Burma Circle". After becoming a Crown Colony on 1 September 1867, the Straits Settlements issued nine stamps. These were overprinted with a crown and new values in cents, using stocks from Indian stamps. Thereafter, the first permanent issues were issued from 1867 - 1872 consisting a set of nine values from 2 cents to 96 cents. Various subsequent surcharges on stamps were issued to meet the ever changing rates of postage in the following years. Stamps of the Straits Settlements were also used in Malaya, Sarawak, North Borneo, Bangkok, the Philippines and East Indies.

This exhibit begins with early letters and rare postal markings from the three settlements of Penang, Malacca and Singapore. Indian stamps of 1854 and the 1855 - 1867 De La Rue issues were studied in detail. The first provisional issues, first permanent issues of 1867 - 1872 stamps, and all subsequent issues up to the final 1899 Queen Victoria four cents surcharged stamp. Covers with correct postage rates and rare postal cancellation are shown. This exhibit ends with Straits Settlements stamps used abroad.



This cover, dated 7 July 1889, was sent from North Borneo (present-day Sabah) to Colombo in Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka). It is the only known combination cover

(envelope showing a combined usage of stamps) in existence, that was sent from North Borneo to Colombo, Ceylon.

The North Borneo “2 cents” stamp, used to pay for postage to Singapore, was cancelled at the post office in Sandakan, a city in North Borneo. The Straits Settlements “Eight cents” stamp that was purchased in Sandakan, was to pay for the foreign postage to Ceylon. It was cancelled when it arrived in Singapore. The cover shows the postal route of the letter, and how Singapore was a transit point for overseas mail sent from North Borneo.

Dr Prakob Chirakiti

Exhibit: Straits Settlements used in Siam 3 Dec 2017 to 1 Jan 2018

<u>Award</u>	<u>Exhibition</u>
<i>Grand Prix International</i>	<i>China 2003 (16th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)</i>
<i>Grand Prix d'Honneur</i>	<i>Taipei 2008 (21st Asian International Stamp Exhibition)</i>
<i>Grand Prix National</i>	<i>Bangkok 2003 FIP World Stamp Exhibition</i>
<i>Grand Prix International</i>	<i>St Petersburg 2007 FIP World Stamp Exhibition</i>
<i>Grand Prix d'Honneur</i>	<i>PhilaKorea 2014 FIP World Stamp Exhibition</i>
<i>World Stamp Championship</i>	<i>PhilaTaipei 2016 FIP World Stamp Championship Exhibition</i>

When Siam started her own postal services on 4 August 1883, she was able to service locally in Bangkok only, and later joined the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.) on 1 July 1885. Before Siam joined the U.P.U., the foreign postal service was provided by foreign Consulates in Bangkok such as the British Consulate, the German Consulate or the French Consulate. The British Consulate had provided foreign postal service using her own stamps and also her colonial stamps such as the Straits Settlements stamps, the Hong Kong stamps, etc. The Straits Settlements stamps were used more than other stamps for foreign postal service from the British Consulate in Bangkok. At first, the Straits Settlements stamps were used without overprint. Later in 1882, the Straits Settlements stamps used in Siam were overprinted with “B” to reflect that they were used in Bangkok. The British Consulate in Bangkok had stopped her foreign postal service on 1 July 1885 after Siam had joined the U.P.U. and offered her own foreign postal service.

The usages of the Straits Settlements in Bangkok both with and without the “B” overprint were shown with different cancellations, the British Consulate Bangkok Royal Arms, the British Consulate in Bangkok circular date stamp and also the usages on cover from Bangkok.



This is a rare cover sent from Bangkok to Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1880. At that time, Siam (present-day Thailand) did not have a postal system.

To send the letter to Scotland, it had to go through the British Consulate Post Office in Bangkok – the letter therefore has the Bangkok Royal Arms cachet. Straits Settlements stamps were used to pay for the postage. The letter was then sent to Singapore before it was forwarded to Scotland by “Windsor & Redlick Co. Ltd”. The forwarder used the cachet to cancel the stamps.

Note: Siam issued its first set of postage stamps on 4 August 1883. It joined the Universal Postal Union on 1 July 1885, allowing mails to be sent overseas directly.

Mr Charnchai Karnasuta

Exhibit: The British Consulate Post Office in Siam_3 Dec 2017 to 1 Jan 2018

Award

Grand Prix International

Grand Prix National

Grand Prix d'Honneur

Grand Prix International

Exhibition

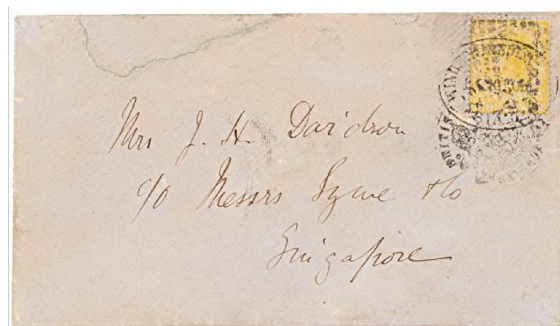
Taipei 2005 (18th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

Bangkok 2007 (20th Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

Jakarta 2008 (22nd Asian International Stamp Exhibition)

China 2009 (FIP World Stamp Exhibition)

The exhibit shows the use of Straits Settlements stamps with and without the ‘B’ overprint that was used in Bangkok, in 1883 - 1885. There are examples of stamps of various values and issues, as well as covers sent to different destinations.



This is a rare cover sent from Bangkok to Singapore on 4 December 1880. The stamp is the "8 cents" Straits Settlements stamp, cancelled with the British Consulate Royal Arms and "Windsor & Redlick Co. Ltd". The back of the cover has a Singapore arrival date stamp.

This cover is believed to be the only one from this period that has an original enclosure (letter).

Singapore Philatelic Museum

Exhibit: Straits Settlements Cover with First Issue of 1854 Indian Stamps

1 Sep to 1 Oct 2017

*Court-of-Honour
Permanent Exhibit*

*2004 Singapore World Stamp Championship
Room of Rarities*

In 1826, Singapore, Malacca and Penang came under the administration of the British East India Company (EIC) as part of the Straits Settlements. In 1854, the first postage stamps used in Singapore were British India stamps with Indian currency. These stamps were issued by EIC based in British India.



The only known cover bearing all four values of the 1854 Indian stamps used in the Straits Settlements. It was sent from Singapore to Ireland in 1855.

150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore souvenirs

150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore exhibition catalogue

Own a part of Singapore's philatelic history with this one-of-a-kind exhibition catalogue. This catalogue features highlights of *150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore* exhibition. A precious keepsake and reference material on Straits Settlements philatelic items.

Price: \$50.00



150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore exhibition serialised picture postcards

Each month, a different set of four serialised picture postcards will be available. The pictures on the postcards are taken from the exhibits on display.

Price: \$10 for a strip of four postcards



Exhibition souvenir covers

A special exhibition souvenir with the 1st Local stamp with event date stamp (1st September 2017) will be available for purchase.

Price: \$3.00 (inclusive of event date stamp)



Souvenir cover



Event date stamp

150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp Issued in Singapore stamps
Fact Sheet

Date of Issue: 1 September 2017
Denominations: 1st Local, 2nd Local, 60¢, 70¢, \$1.30
Stamp Size: 40mm x 40mm
Perforation: 13
Paper: Unwatermarked
Printing Process: Offset Lithography
Printer: Lowe-Martin Group
Sheet Content: 10 stamps per sheet
Designer: Wong Wui Kong

First Day Cover (without stamps): \$0.35*
Pre-cancelled First Day Cover affixed with stamps: \$4.25*
Presentation Pack: \$5.30*
Straits Settlements Stamps – 150th Anniversary Collection: \$12.80*

* Prices include GST for purchases within Singapore

Available at any Post Office and the Singapore Philatelic Museum

1st Local and 2nd Local stamps may be used to make up postage for overseas mail.
First Day Covers (without stamps) are available for sales one week before the issue date.

The designs were reproduced from rough visuals. Details may be subject to change.

Visit our website: www.singpost.com

Purchase online at shop.singpost.com