

Synopsis for Literature article titled:

Stamps and Postal History of British New Guinea/Territory of Papua, 1883-1952

Purpose

The purpose of the article is to briefly explain how the history of British New Guinea/Papua is reflected in the postal history of the colony/territory. 1883 to 1952 is a long timeframe including two world wars, and the intent is to give the reader a basis for understanding how and why stamp issues changed from Queensland issues to British New Guinea and Papua issues, while still telling the story of the development of Papua.

Treatment

Australia consisted of British colonies at the time of British New Guinea settlement. The nearest colony to German New Guinea was Queensland, and they administered the new British settlement, and used Queensland stamps for postage. Stamps changed beginning with the Australian Federalist Period (1901), and then again when the territory was given to Australia and changed to Papua (1906), which saw provisional issues before definitive issues.

The article attempts to describe the wide variety of aspects of collecting Papuan stamps, even though there are only five main themes – Queensland, British New Guinea, Papua Lakatoi, Papua Native Scenes, and Papuan Commemorative stamp issues.

As the Lakatoi issues and the Native Scenes issue lasted so long, the story is illustrated by different rate examples and the more unusual covers or the more uncommon usages, stationery or postal markings.

There is no new independent research claimed in the article.

References:

- Breckton, R., Australian Commonwealth Postal Rates 1901-1966 Part 1: Letters and Postcards, The Australian Philatelist, Nov/Dec 1987.
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- Lee, R., The Postal History of British New Guinea and Papua 1885-1942, The Pall Mall Stamp Co Ltd, 1983, ISBN0853973059
- Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Australia, Stanley Gibbons, 12th Edition, 2022