



Hong Kong & Treaty Ports Forwarding Agents Markings during the XIX Century.

This list consolidates all the known records from Col. F.W. Webb, Peter Pugh, Fred Stubens, Kenneth Rowe and the undersigned author. Since, at my knowledge, the most recent published list is from K. Rowe in his "Postal History of the Forwarding Agents", I have kept the same presentation by city and the same numbering system.

All the markings not recorded by K. Rowe have been introduced in alphabetical order with an additional capital letter (i.e. 40A, 40B etc...). This may seem awkward, but it keeps from creating another set of numbers. Different markings shapes or color of the same company are now recorded separately with the addition of a lower case letter (i.e. 4, 4a, 4b). (use of the letter "L" is to give the possibility to include additional markings in the future while keeping the alphabetical order).

This list includes Hong Kong & its Treaty Ports of China and Japan, plus so-called Pseudo-Treaty Ports such as Bangkok and Manila. It excludes Singapore that is documented on the excellent website <http://www.michelhoude.com>

Most of the markings were used long before the introduction of adhesives. If a marking has been seen struck on a Hong Kong adhesive, it is deemed to having been used also as a Security Marking and corresponding security marking number is indicated in the "Security Marking Ref" column.

To automatically qualify, a marking must contain one of the words "Forwarded by...", "Encaminada..." or "Transmis par .." It may also display "Stamped by..." or "Postage Paid by..." terms used by some forwarding agents.

Many companies have forwarded mail, but without the above words, it is more difficult to detect if a marking indicates a forwarding intent or just an identification function. Therefore "Agent name only" markings are only included in this list if their forwarding function was clear.

Names are displayed with fonts, case and colors as similar as the original marking. They are highlighter in bold letter. Conversely a name not in bold letter means that there is a record of its existence but it is not illustrated and has not been seen by the author.

This list, with additional notes regarding the history of the corresponding companies, is generously hosted and available on the website: <http://rodsell.com/hksmsic/hksmsic.html>

Philippe Orsetti

(Initial listing January 12, 2001 with 180 records)

(Updated as of January 1, 2012 with 195 records)

(Updated as of May, 2015 with 299 records)

(Updated as of June, 2016 with 305 records, 78% being illustrated)

PS: Any comment, additional record, missing scan or reference will be greatly appreciated by email at ph.orsetti@gmail.com



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