



SAGADAHOC
History & Genealogy Room

presents

HISTORY ROOM LIVE

POSTCARDS PAST &



1008 Washington
Bath, Me. Aug
Dear Belle
This is
Public Lib
situated in
Park and is
than the pic

you are the same. Bath is the
some handsome residences; faintly

Jill Piekut Roy

*Archivist & Special
Collections Librarian*

Sagadahoc History &
Genealogy Room,
Patten Free Library

May 8, 2020

Outline

Perspectives

Postcard History

Resources for Research

History Room Show & Tell

DIY Demo with Amanda

Q&A / More Show and Tell

Perspectives

The Librarian Perspective



I'm not an expert
on postcards



I help you find our materials



And the information
you need to use them

The Archivist Perspective

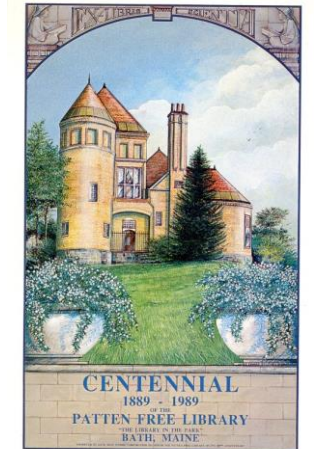
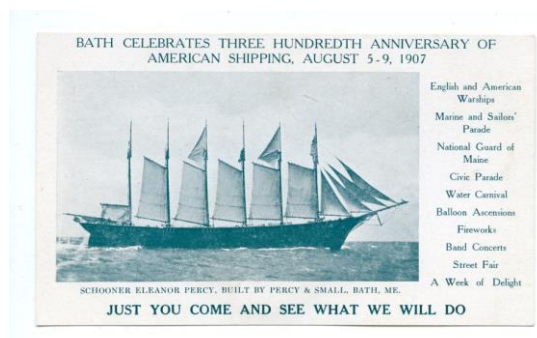
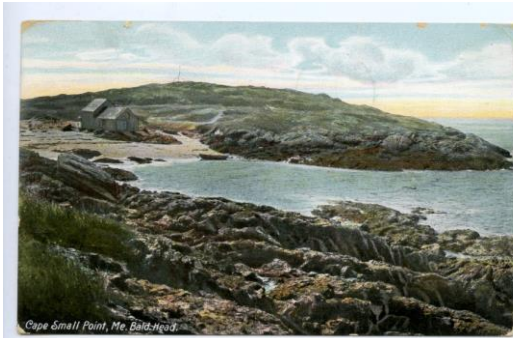
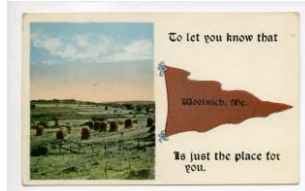
Not concerned with monetary value

Not so concerned with rarity

Most interested in informational value

Work with collectors and researchers

POSTCARDS ARE REALLY COOL





HOW'S YOUR WEEK GOING?

ARCHIVING YOUR COVID-19 STORIES
AT PATTEN FREE LIBRARY

Send us a postcard!

History Room
Patten Free Library
33 Summer Street,
Bath, ME
04530

[www.patten.lib.me.us/
history-room/
how-s-your-week-going/](http://www.patten.lib.me.us/history-room/how-s-your-week-going/)

Postcard History

Deltiology Timeline

1700-550 BCE: Formal postal systems develop in the Middle East

1775: First Postmaster General appointed in America

1796: Lithography invented

1845: First postage stamps issued

1850s: Alphonse Louis Poitevin invents collotype and photolithographic printing

1861: Act of Congress allows cards under one ounce to be sent by mail

1861: John P. Charlton copyrights the first postcard in the US

1870: Hymen L. Lipman popularizes postcards in the US

1872: Legislation approves production of postcards by US government

1876: Telephone invented

1898: Cost to send private cards reduced from 2 cents to 1 cent

1907: Messages allowed on address side

1914: Domestic printers replace German printers during World War I

1920: Golden Age of Postcards ends

1931: Curt Teich & Co. begins printing linen cards

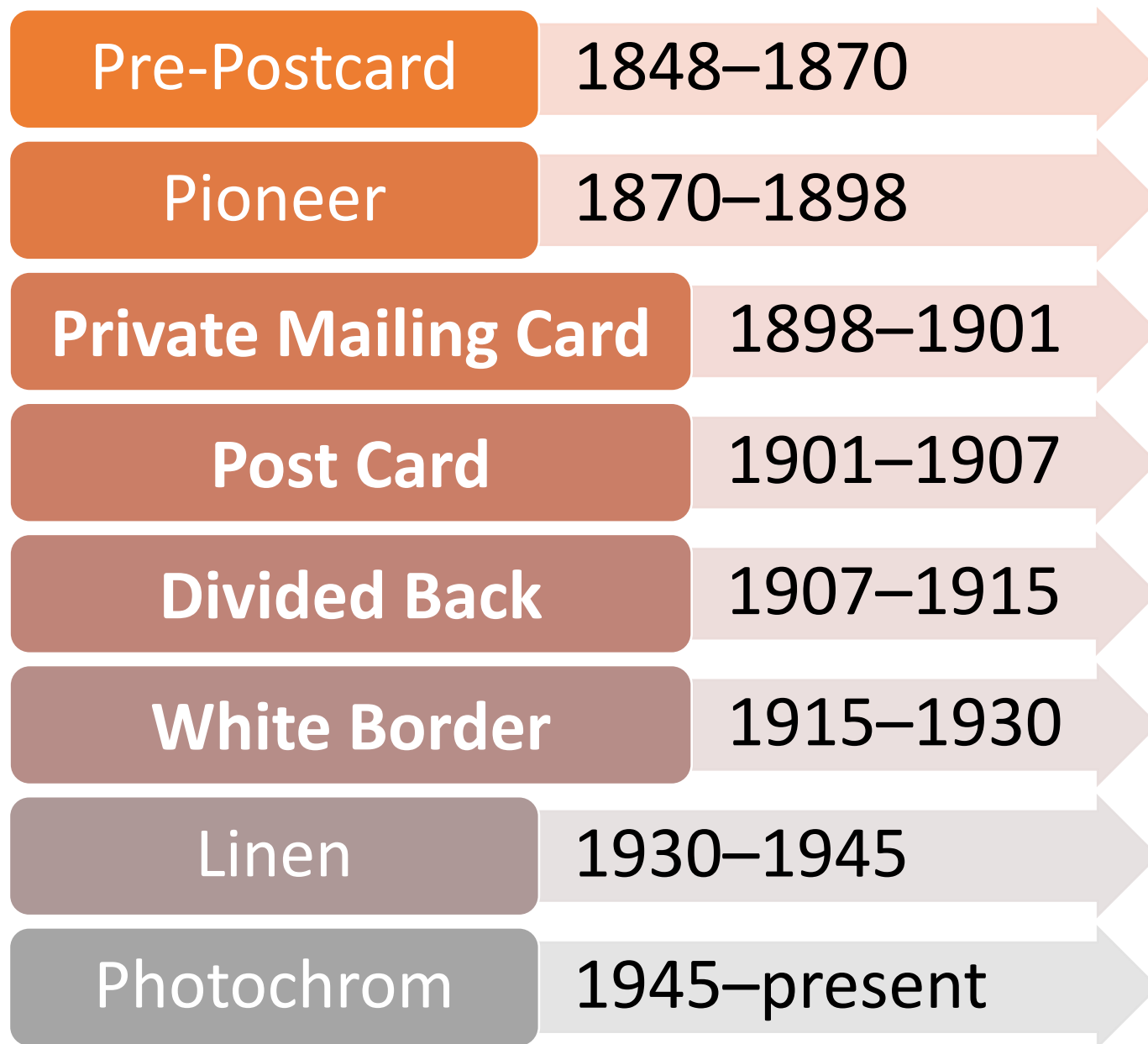
1943: Ray Johnson begins experimenting with mail art

1971: First email sent

1994: Judith Donath creates The Electric Postcard software at MIT

Postcards Periods

<https://siarchives.si.edu/history/featured-topics/postcard/postcard-history>



Types of Postcards

http://www.chicagopostcardmuseum.org/glossary_of_postcard_terms.html



View Cards



Historical Cards



Greeting Cards



Art Cards



Photographic Cards

More Types of Postcards



Message-Face Postcards



Advertising Cards



Political Postcards



Real photo postcards (1900-)



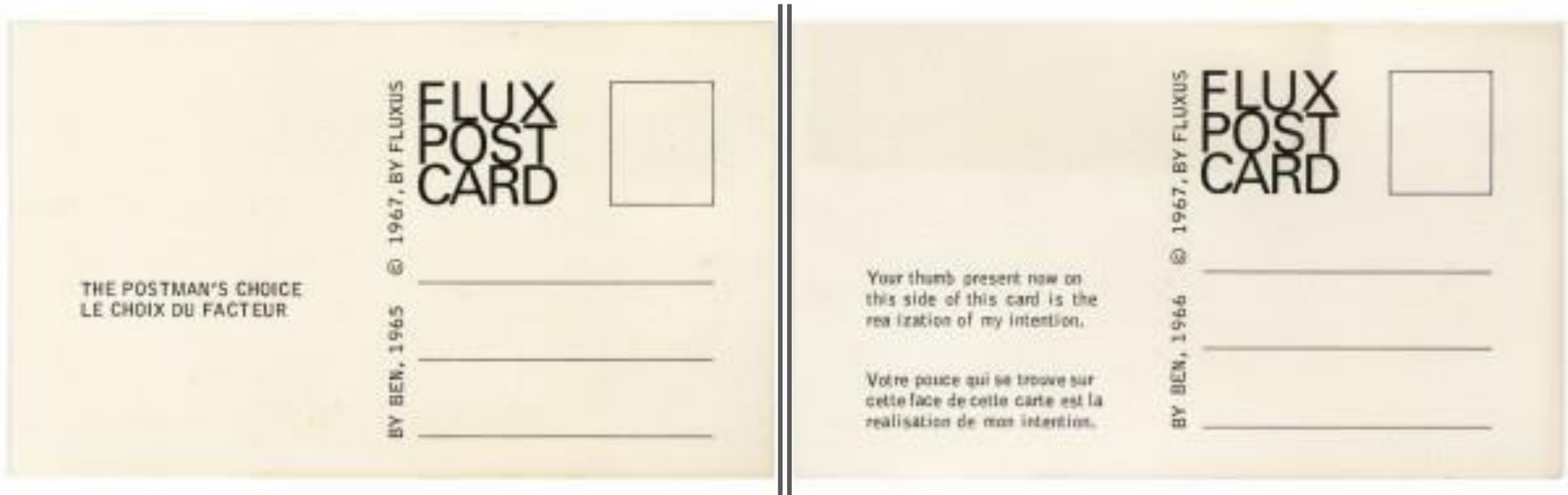
QSL cards (1916-)



Mail art (1949-)

Ben Vautier, *The Postman's Choice*, 1965

<https://www.moma.org/collection/works/131285>



Research

Postcard Collections in the History Room

PC-18 Postcard Collection

Oscar R. Marsh Postcard Collection

Patricia E. Bonner Collection

Frank Givens Collection

Edwin H. Pert Collection

Priscilla Cornish Collection

Ruth B. Mitchell Wood Collection

Books in the History Room

Library of Congress Subject Headings:

- Postcards
- Advertising postcards
- Erotic postcards
- Fabric postcards
- Mail art
- Maximum cards
- Panoramic postcards
- Photographic postcards
- Political postcards
- Real photo postcards

Godden, Geoffrey A. **Collecting picture postcards**. Chichester, West Sussex : Phillimore, [1996]

Harding, R. Brewster. **Greetings from Maine : celebrating America's bicentennial, 1975-1976**. Portland, Me. : Old Port Pub., c1975.

Helbock, Richard W. **Postmarks on postcards : an illustrated guide to early 20th century U.S. postmarks**. Scappoose, Oregon : La Posta Publications, [2002]

Klamkin, Marian. **Picture postcards**. New York : Dodd, Mead, 1974.

Nicholson, Susan Brown. **The encyclopedia of antique postcards**. Radnor, PA : Wallace-Homestead, c1994.

Ryan, Dorothy B. **Picture postcards in the United States, 1893-1918**. New York : C.N. Potter : Distributed by Crown Publishers, c1982.

Smith, Jack H. **Postcard companion : the collector's reference**. Radnor, PA : Wallace-Homestead Book Co., c1989.

Staff, Frank. **The picture postcard & its origins**. New York : Frederick A. Praeger, c1966.

Digital Collections & Exhibits

Maine Memory Network
www.mainememory.net

Maine Postcard Project
<https://www.instagram.com/themainepostcardproject/>

Digital Commonwealth
www.digitalcommonwealth.org/formats

Library of Congress
<https://www.loc.gov/search/?fa=subject:postcards>

National Postal Museum
<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/>

Curt Teich Postcard Archives
http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/nby_teich

Greetings From Vacationland, University of Maryland
<https://www.lib.umd.edu/postcards>

Chicago Postcard Museum
www.chicagopostcardmuseum.org/





Dating Postcards

- Knowledge of eras and forms
- Postmarks and stamps
- Size
- Publishers, printers, and serial numbers
- Style
- Subjects
- Vital statistics

<https://siarchives.si.edu/history/featured-topics/postcard/dating-postcards>

*Elle a gagné le match, et, triomphe complet,
Elle gagne à l'amour.... en gagnant au croquet!*

Show & Tell
