

by
May & David Lu, FRPSL



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青島老明信片

Historical View Of Qingdao

◎ 陆游 徐晓梅 编著 ◎ 青岛出版社

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■ 前 言

陆游君是来自青岛的一位精力旺盛、生气勃勃的年轻集邮家，他在集邮方面的成就为其个人及其国家赢得了声誉。两年前在中国绵阳市举办的2003年第16届亚洲国际邮票展上，其展品《中国的航邮及其史前》赢得了令人十分羡慕的国家大奖。

陆君从不躺在荣誉的桂冠上沾沾自喜，他又开始收集早期青岛的风景明信片了。读者将在本书的章节里欣赏到这些优美的藏品。

我认为陆君的这部关于青岛的“画册”，其内容是包罗万象和丰富多彩的。他先是介绍了青岛的风土人情，接下来展示了青岛的城市和建筑，然后展现的是青岛的城市建设情况，最后一部分向读者展示了青岛在德占时期的明信片以及对该时期邮戳的研究。

陆游君因他的这部杰作受到了人们的赞誉。他无疑为读者提供了更多青岛的画面，尤其是德占时期青岛邮政发展的历史。我喜欢翻阅这部明信片的收藏集，希望读者也能喜欢。

郑炳贤, AMN, RDP
国际集邮联合会理事
亚洲集邮联合会荣誉会员

Foreword ■

David is an up and coming young Philatelist from Qingdao who has made a name for himself and his country with his philatelic achievements. He won the much coveted Grand Prix National with his China Airmail collection two years ago at the 16th Asian International Stamp Exhibition in Mianyang City, China 2003.

Never one to rest on his laurels, David, began a collection of postcards on Views of Tsingtau (Qingdao). This beautiful collection can be enjoyed in the ensuing pages.

I think David has composed his "picture" book of Qingdao in a most comprehensive manner. He begins with the city's scenery followed by its buildings, then the traditional view of the Qingdao. This postcard collection concludes its story with postcards of the German Occupation of Qingdao and a study of postal markings during the German Occupation.

David deserves a commendation for this masterpiece he has created, it certainly provides its readers with an added perspective of Qingdao's scenery especially her postal developments during the German Occupation. I enjoyed perusing this postcard collection and I hope you do too.

Tay Peng Hian, AMN, RDP
Director, FIP
Honorary Member, FIAP

■ 序 言

19世纪末和20世纪初最流行的时尚之一就是邮寄来自异国他乡的风景明信片。邮件是当时主要的通讯方式，这些卡片不仅带来了远方的信息，而且也传达了那些地方的视觉印象。的确，这些“缩影”是通过邮寄明信片的人眼中所反映的关于生活的社会记录，一直保存至今。正如陆游和徐晓梅伉俪的书中描绘的那样，这些画片代表了青岛在德国影响下的殖民地特征以及城市的发展历程。

两年前我访问过那个美丽而充满活力的海滨城市，期间有两件事情给我留下了深刻的印象。一是这个城市的老城区（过去欧洲人的住宅区）的建筑及环境与德国和瑞士的建筑与环境是何等相似；二是（也是更具普遍性的）这样一个事实，那就是我们都共同生活在一个多元文化的社会里。最好的例证就是最初建造的德国邮政大楼，始建于1898年，至今仍在，现已成为一座清真寺。

旧时的明信片已成为过去一个时代的象征。以青岛为例，该区域已有6000年历史，自1898年殖民地时期是德国在胶东半岛的租借地。与此同时，中国其他一些地区也同样沦为英国、法国和俄国的租借地。在德国人的影响下，当时的城市规划和布局对在青岛居住的德国人和中国人来说，是有益于城市繁荣的。后来，山东铁路的修建使得青岛成为中国最重要的港口之一。

仔细翻阅这本有趣的画册，读者会发现书中的画面反映出青岛在殖民者入侵前的历史景观，同时也展现了在1898至1914年间青岛如何形成了欧洲的风貌。日常生活的场面既有德国军队的写照（青岛当时毕竟还是德国的海军基地和贸易口岸），同时又反映了中国人民的生活方式，而这种生活方式几个世纪以来都未曾有过多大变化。两种不同文化的聚合，从某种程度上来说，促进了今天这座充满活力的城市的繁荣。

陆游和徐晓梅伉俪的杰出藏品通过旧时的明信片记载了那一时期的历史，为我们提供了那些积极参与创造历史的人们的真实记录。

舒耐特
苏黎士亚洲主席
2004年12月

Preface ■

One of the great fads of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the sending of picture postcards from exotic places. The mails were the primary means of communication, and these cards not only brought news of those in far away lands, but also conveyed a visual impression of those places. Indeed, these “miniatures” are a surviving sociological record of life as seen through the eyes of the sender. In the case of the cards depicted in May and David’s book, these represent the colonial perspective and growth of Qingdao under German influence.

During my visit to that beautiful and vigorous coastal city two years ago, I was struck by two things. Firstly, how much the architecture and setting of the older part (formerly European Quarter) of the city was reminiscent of parts of Germany and Switzerland. Secondly, and more universally, was the fact that we live in a multi-cultural society. The best illustration of this was the fact that the original building of the first German Post Office, built in 1898, which still stands today, is now an Islamic temple.

Old picture postcards are icons of a bygone era. In the case of Qingdao, which has a history dating back 6000 years, it was the principal city of the German leasehold of Kiaochow, established in 1898 during a period of colonial influence over China when similar leasing arrangements were made with Great Britain, France, and Russia. The planning and layout of the city under German influence was conducive to a prosperous environment for both German and Chinese residents. Finally, the construction of the Shantung Railway heralded Qingdao’s position as one of China’s most important ports.

A perusal of the cards illustrated in this lovely book yields a historical view of the city before the colonial incursion, as well as the development of the European aspect of the city from 1898 to 1914. Everyday scenes abound both from the German military standpoint (after all, Qingdao was both a naval base and trading port) and Chinese lifestyle, which was largely unchanged for centuries. The meeting of these two opposing cultures may, in some small measure, have contributed to the making of what today is a truly dynamic city.

May and David’s excellent book chronicles this period through the old picture postcards, which offer us a documentary record from those who were active participants in the making of history.

Jeffrey S. Schneider, Ph.D.
December 2004

■ 历史风貌，旧梦重惊 (自序)

社会的发展越来越趋向多元化，人们越来越讲求个人的偏好及个性。随着时代的变化、社会的前进及城市的变迁，那些老街旧景及人文旧貌已物是人非、不复存在，而记录这些历史风貌的旧明信片势必将成为人们怀旧典藏的珍品。

本人多年来致力于中国早期邮政历史的收藏与研究。在过去的搜集岁月中，特别是近年来客居海外期间，每当在国际邮肆中见到与自己故乡青岛相关的残封断笺，都油然而生他乡遇故旧的感觉，便情不自禁地将其集中珍藏。不曾料到，因为一次偶然的机缘，竟令自己踏入一个全新的收藏领域——老明信片 (View Card) 的收集。

尤记得七年前，我为收集早期美国在中国海军军邮局的资料而加入美国环球船邮戳研究会 (USCS, Universal Ship Cancellation Society)，事后不久，收到加州一位 Detlef · H · Clausen 先生的来信，他自称是专事于德国在海外殖民地邮政历史的收集者与经营者，因在 USCS 新会员名录中见到我的地址有“Qingdao”字样，即德国在中国胶州湾前殖民地“Tsingtau”，故特致函，洽询余对当时的旧明信片是否有兴趣。我即复函，谓因个人收集兴趣是邮政史，对那些确曾寄过的明信片当然有意购藏。此后，Detlef 数度来函，且每次都夹寄 2~3 件青岛旧明信片，每次开信展赏，余爱不释手，理所当然照单付款。转瞬至翌年 2 月，余因参加一年一度在圣地亚哥市举办的 SANDICAL 国家邮展而赴美，行前曾与 Detlef 联系，希望与其在展场内晤面。虽然我们均曾在展厅内逗留，却惜因彼此互不相识，而失之交臂。数月后，余拟往加州迪斯尼乐园附近的安那罕市会展中心，参观在那里举办的全美邮票博览会而再次与 Detlef 电话联系，希望借此机会见面并参观其青岛老明信片的藏品，我们终于如约在事先商定的邮商摊位前相逢。在展厅的休息区，Detlef 出示他的藏品，共两册，百余片，对此余赞赏不已。作为一个在青岛出生并在青岛生活多年的本土人，竟然对存世如此之多的百年旧物全然不知，惭愧之余，我试着回答了 Detlef 所提出明信片上的街道现名为何，上面的建筑物今安在之类的问题。承 Detlef 相告，他乃日耳曼后裔，所以对青岛有着浓厚的兴趣，能够去青岛旅游则是其向往已久的心愿。业邮是其目前工作的一部分，换言之其为 part time 的邮商。我借势相问，对他这两册明信片藏品，我很感兴趣，是否可以作价转让给我？他犹豫了一下，或许

是未曾料到我这突如其来的问题，但仍很快做出肯定的表态，终令该片集得以如此迅速地易主成功。余大喜过望，在握手道贺之时，我邀请他日后来青岛一游，不料 Detlef 黯然神伤地表示，既然片集已去，亦无意再为之做一番实地采风，真是人物情感交错，聚散两依依。此后，我开始潜心收集德占青岛时期老明信片，欧洲许多拍卖行是我的寻宝地，后复承一位客居德国的华人邮商朋友大力协助，使我在这方面的藏品愈加丰富。

闲暇时，欣赏之余，我们发现这些 1898~1914 年间德国占领青岛时期的“古董”片，其图像所反映的除当时的街景或建筑物外，尚有一些内涵丰富的市景风情与民俗图片。尤为难能可贵的是，有少量图片是德军入侵之始的岛城原始风貌及德军入侵青岛过程的真实记录，诚属历史镜头再现的难得文献资料。虽然我们无法确知这些明信片全套枚数、发行单位及发售的具体时间，但估计其原始照片系由在青的德籍人士甚至是随军人员所拍摄的，所以其中多反映了洋人对中国风情的特殊视角和自以为是的观点和趣味。我们甚至能发现，其中竟然有青岛当地百姓与德国士兵“亲密”合影的景象，或许这是由西方基督教社会所固有的文化特征所决定的。从这些图片中可以看到德国在对青岛进行殖民侵略的同时，也伴有殖民文化的渗透及大规模的殖民建设。这些明信片大概是一些德国或本地的洋印刷商，为满足侨民书写邮寄明信片的习俗而印制的，并在书店或旅馆中供应，发售时间应与实寄片的使用时间为近。一些较为知名的建筑物或街道，均存在多款从不同角度所拍而成的明信片。而实寄片上所书文字内容，不外乎是问候、报平安及介绍异乡生活之词等等。对集邮者而言，最关心的莫过于实寄片上的邮票及邮戳，特别是这一时期不同戳型及地名邮戳的使用最为引人入胜，也是那个时期青岛邮政史的真实记录（书末附《德占青岛时期邮戳志》一文，供参考）。

余素知吾友毛兄公强偏爱地方史之研究，在一次聊天时曾提及拙藏之片集且有意出版，供作考据地方史志之参考。毛兄不以余之敝帚自珍而见笑，却对此报以极大兴趣，并力荐余于青岛出版社致力于地方文化出版的编辑刘咏先生，该社领导本着出版高尚文艺作品的经营理念，以弘扬本地文化为己任，正是他们的独具慧眼，本书得以付梓。在本书的编辑过程中，首先我要感谢青岛地方史专家、前青岛市图书馆馆长鲁海先生为本书图片的考释工作所给予的支持与帮助。同时，更要感谢青岛市档案馆吴坚先生对本书图片考证与注释工作所付出的艰苦而繁琐的劳动。此外我还要特别感谢国际集邮联合会理事、卓越集邮家郑炳贤先生及著名拍卖公司苏黎士亚洲公司主席舒耐特博士（Jeffrey S. Schneider, PhD.）为本书作序。最后还要感谢我太太 May 对我集邮活动的支持与协助，她是本书的第二作者，并以作为青岛的媳妇为荣。

在此，我也向所有支持与帮助该书出版的朋友们深表谢意！

陆游 谨识于青岛
甲申年夏

■ A Glimpse of the Historic Scenes and Social Life of Qingdao

Diversification in the development of our society turns personal preference and likes into fashion. With the changing times, the progress of society moves forward at the same pace as urban transformation, thus obliterating traditional city street and life scenes. As a result, outdated postcards recording historical city styles and features have become a much sought-after and cherished philatelic offshoot.

For quite a number of years, I have devoted myself to the study and collecting of early Chinese postal history. Throughout these years, and particularly during my recent stay overseas, whenever I found old covers or cards relating to my hometown, Qingdao, from stamp dealers or at international philatelic exhibitions, I could hardly refrain from buying these. It felt like meeting an old friend in a foreign land and a warm feeling of being back at home would immediately flood through my body. Unexpectedly and by accident, I stepped into a totally new field of collection: old and obsolete View Cards.

I remember it began seven years ago. To assist with my collecting interest in the early US Navy Post Office in China, I joined the Universal Ship Cancellation Society. Not long after, I received a letter from Mr. Detlef. H. Clausen from California, introducing himself as a collector and dealer specialising in the history of the German Colonial Post. He had written to me because he had noticed that my home address on the new member list of USCS was Qingdao, known as Tsingtau, a former German Colony facing Kiaochow (Jiaozhou) Bay. He asked if I was interested in postcards from the German colonial period. In reply, I wrote him that my main interest was postal history, and, therefore, I was interested in buying such cards. From then on, in each of his letters to me, he would enclose two or three old Qingdao postcards. On each occasion, I always held the cards admiringly and paid him in full. In February of the following year, I was going to the U.S. to attend the annual SANDICAL exhibition in San Diego. I contacted Detlef to arrange a meeting; however, we missed each other because we did not know each other by sight. Months later, I phoned him again to arrange a meeting at a National Stamp Fair held in Anaheim near Disney Park in California, proposing to review his collection of early Qingdao postcards. We met at a dealer's booth as planned, and in the refreshment area of the hall he showed me his collection of

postcards, which comprised over a hundred pieces housed in two albums. I was taken aback by his collection. At the same time, I felt ashamed of my ignorance about the existence of such rich materials, which were over a hundred years old. This feeling was even more poignant since I was a native of Qingdao. I tried my best to answer Detlef's questions relating to the cards, the streets and names of buildings depicted, and if these still existed today. Detlef was of German descent and had a very strong interest in Qingdao. It had long been his dream to visit the city. He was a part-time stamp dealer, so I asked him if he would sell to me the two postcard albums at a price he would name. As I told him, I was infatuated with the collection. He hesitated at first, but took no time in giving me a definite answer. As a result, the albums changed hands, and, overjoyed, I invited him to visit Qingdao at a future date. To my utter astonishment, he told me that since his collection had gone, it would be pointless for him to go there for an on-the-spot review. Since then, I have immersed myself in the collecting of early Qingdao postcards. I have sought them from many European auctioneers, and, also owing to the help of a Chinese dealer residing in Germany, my collection has been greatly enriched.

Upon reviewing the collection, I discovered that the postcards of the German Occupation period in Qingdao from 1898 to 1914, apart from showing street scenes and old buildings, also reflected the urban style and features, as well as the customs and habits of the time through their design. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that there are a few pictures in my collection which record the truly primitive features of the island city at the beginning of German Occupation, and during the Occupation itself. These historic snapshots on the card are of precious documentary value. Although we still cannot ascertain the number of items which comprised a complete set of cards, who printed them, and when these were placed on sale, we are certain in our assumption that the original photos were taken by Germans or persons attached to the military, since the pictures reflect a typical foreigner's outlook and viewing taste exuding self-importance. Surprisingly, one could find photos of aggressive German troops mingling with local residents in a harmonious atmosphere. Perhaps this was determined by the colonial culture advocated by Western Christian society. It also demonstrated the fact that the German colonial aggression in Qingdao was accompanied by the penetration of colonial culture as well as local construction. The vendors of these early postcards were most probably German or local foreign publishers who printed the cards to satisfy the habit of the overseas population in the city of sending postcards. The cards were on sale in bookshops or hotels, and the date of issue should be close to the actual postal despatch dates on the cards. Some well-known streets and buildings were pictured from different angles on many cards while the text consisted mainly of greetings, report of safe arrival, or life in a strange land. To the normal collector, the interest lies mostly in the stamps and cancellations on the cards. The various types of cancels and local address chops used are of special interest and form a true record of the postal history of Qingdao (Please refer to the article at the end of the book entitled *A History of Postal Cancellations during the German Occupation Period in Tsingtau*).

Knowing that my good friend Mr. Gong-Qiang Mao loves the study of local chronicles, I mentioned to him my intention of publishing a book based on my postcard collection study. Instead of casting aspersions on my proposal, Mao expressed great enthusiasm for my proposal and recommended it to the Qingdao Publishing House for their consideration. Based on their tradition of publishing high level works of culture and the responsibility of presenting to the public our local traditional culture, the management of the publishing company decided to publish my book. I wish to express my gratitude first of all to Mr. Lu Hai, former curator of Qingdao Municipal Library and an expert local chronicler, for his assistance in the identification and interpretation of all the pictures in this book, and also to Mr. Wu Jian, Director of Qingdao Municipal Archives Bureau, for his hard work in research and verification of the pictures. Furthermore, I would like to express my special thanks to Mr. Tay Peng Hian, RDP, Director of FIP, and Dr. Jeffrey S. Schneider, Director of the well-known philatelic auctioneer Zurich Asia in Hong Kong, for writing a preface for the book. Not least, I also owe a debt of gratitude to my wife, May, for all her help and support. She is co-author of this work and is proud to be the wife of a Qingdao native.

Finally, I would also like to extend my deepest apology for any omissions of gratitude to all those worthy of praise who have helped bring this book into being.

David Lu, FRPSL
July 28, 2004

一次穿越百年的神奇旅行 ■

有一些东西是可以长久保持温度的，比如和陆游的会面。大约在两年以前，经青岛出版社刘咏编辑的引荐，我见到了旅居美国的青岛籍著名集邮家陆游先生和他珍藏的部分青岛老明信片。毫不夸张地说，直到今天，我对这次相会依然感到兴奋。这种持续了两年多的亢奋，并非仅仅是因为我意外地结识了一位绅士般的温文尔雅的老乡，而是源于他积经年心血搜集的珍藏。当400多张斑驳的青岛老明信片被陆先生一一展示开的时候，我的确被深深震撼了。在青岛，在我们的城市，这些穿越百年又神奇地回到起点的老明信片，让我经历了一次超越自身经验的发现之旅。

作为档案工作者，我们常用“珍贵”来评价馆藏档案文献的价值。所谓的“珍贵”，大致表现在四个方面：一是其原始记录性，二是存世时间长，三是副本少（有些甚至无副本），四是承载的历史信息价值高。陆先生收藏的这批明信片，给我的第一感觉是“弥足珍贵”。这一判断，绝非是对现存的档案文献价值的贬低，而是因为这些明信片不仅具备了上述的内涵，同时还极大地丰富了已发现的档案储备，填补了现存历史档案中的许多空白。

这400多张老明信片，承载了包括青岛早期城市地理中最富代表性的标志物和典型的社会民俗景象在内的大量历史信息。一个新兴城市几乎所有的阶段性资讯，都被有意无意地记录了下来。这里不仅聚焦了德国胶澳租借地的地理、建筑、人文、风俗，还刻写下了城市曾经遭受的压抑和屈辱。这些早期青岛的历史画面，展示出许多我们城市生长旅程中不可复制的片段，虽然它们不可能将历史完全还原在我们眼前，但却无疑让我们有了许多新的发现，拉近了我们与自己城市在时空跨度上的距离。

这些凝固在张张纸片上的景象，大致呈现了20世纪第一个10年前后的青岛。这个时期，正是青岛形成城市雏形和独特城市性格的关键期，也是其成为中国东部沿海重要通商口岸的奠基期。这个时期，青岛打开了近代化的闸门，拥有了通往世界的港口和伸入腹地的铁路网络，成为了一座带有鲜明个性的美丽宜人的城市。显然，这种奠基和发展的动力，是德意志帝国通过武力侵入而为自己构筑东方乐园的图谋，是基于一个不平等现实之上的嫁接移木，其对中华民族的伤害，百年后我们依然没齿不忘。然而，在经历了

更多风风雨雨后的今天,当这种伤害更多地转化为一种历史警示的时候,这些弥足珍贵的明信片便成了一段记忆的携带者,成为注释或衔接我们这座城市早期历史的物理图标。

这一张张百年前后寄发于青岛的老明信片,百年后的今天又叶落归根地回到了起点,应该是我们城市的幸运。这一切,自然应该感谢陆游先生。现在,青岛出版社决定将这批弥足珍贵的历史文献付梓,更体现出他们对青岛人文历史的尊重和服务社会的文化理念。

承蒙陆先生及青岛出版社抬爱,把编辑和注解任务委托于我。因为工作的便利,自己经手并研究过许多青岛老照片,而这批老明信片上的许多景象,却多为第一次谋面。为了能较为准确地把握这些老照片,几个月来,我搜索找寻了照片上记录的所有地方,努力把自己置身于当年的情境中,以期最大限度地接近历史真实。遗憾的是,许多地方已面目全非,甚至许多区域已经成为另类,这为老明信片的释读和鉴定工作增加了很大的难度。在对这些明信片的后期鉴别、整理和分类工作中,有许多问题,我请教了鲁海先生等一些地方史的专家,我的朋友、人文历史研究者李明先生和王栋先生也给予了很大的帮助。同时,夏树忱和周萍老师的翻译,也拉近了我们和这些明信片的距离。我相信,正是包括上述各位在内的许多热心人士的无私支持,为我最终完成释读工作铺垫了坚实的基础。

陆先生在收集青岛老明信片过程中,并没刻意地按类别收藏,故虽内容涉及广,但编辑难度大。为了便于读者欣赏和研究,我们尝试将这些老明信片大致分为“乡土遗风”、“欧韵城市”、“城市建设”、“殖民统治”和“其他”五个部分。这种划分方式自然有许多不合理之处,有些照片的分类与注解也不十分准确。另外,由于照片拍摄年代与当今存有时空上的差距,当年摄影师或明信片发行人对这些图片的说明文字与我们现在的解读也有若干认识上的不同,所以,在注解和编辑过程中,我只是部分参考了原说明,而绝大部分的注解,是个人的判断和认知,若有解读上的误差,自应由本人承担。

值得注意的是,这里收集的明信片,多是当年栖息青岛的德国驻军和欧洲侨民向家乡亲友传达的问候。相信对这些百年的简短个人信息的解读和破译,可以使我们在今天对一个城市的开拓史的许多细节变得清晰和可触摸,然而由于个人能力及时间所限,对于这些信息的全面解读只好留给文史工作者进一步深入研究了。

吴 坚

2005年4月9日

A Miraculous Journey Through A Century ■

Some events can be kept vivid and lively for quite a long period of time, and my meeting with David is one of them. About two years ago, Mr. Liu Yong, an editor at Qingdao Publishing House, introduced me to Mr. David Lu, a famous philatelist from Qingdao who is now living in the U.S.A. I saw some of his view cards about Qingdao. I am still very much delighted by the meeting with him, which is not an exaggeration. For two years I have been excited, not only because I had met a gentleman-like and debonair fellow countryman, but also because of his treasures that had been collected for many years. I was deeply touched when David displayed, one by one, more than 400 old and mottled Qingdao postcards. In our city of Qingdao, these old view cards, which have returned to their home country after a hundred years of traveling, have enabled me to enjoy the journey of discovery beyond my own experience.

As archivists, we often use the word “preciousness” to appreciate the value of the archive documents. The so-called “preciousness” can be illustrated in the following four aspects: first, the documents should be original records; second, they should be existent for a long period of time; third, they should have very few duplicates (some of them even have no duplicates at all); fourth, they should contain a high value of historical information. “Extreme preciousness” is my first impression of the view cards collected by Mr. David Lu. When I make such an assumption, I am not depreciating the extant archives, but stating that these postcards not only possess the above-mentioned “preciousness”, but also enrich the collection of the archives discovered and fill in many a gap in our existing historic records.

These 400-odd view cards contain large amount of historical information, including the most typical landmarks and the characteristic social tradition and customs in early urban geography of Qingdao. Information at different stages of development of a rising city had been recorded, consciously or unconsciously. In the postcards, you can see not only the topography, buildings, cultural activities, cultures and customs, but also the oppression and humiliation the city had experienced in the leasehold of Kiaochow (Jiaozhou) Bay. These pictures of Qingdao at early age have displayed some of the historical scenes that cannot be duplicated in the course of the city development. Though they can, by no means, make the history reappear, they do provide us with many new discoveries that narrow down the gap in time and space between our own city and us.

The scenes fixed in these cards generally depict Qingdao around 1910s, when Qingdao was in the crucial period of shaping itself into a city with its unique characteristics. It was during this period of time that Qingdao had laid its foundation to become an important port of trade in China's east coastline. Since then, Qingdao, with the support of the outside world and the railway network linking other parts of the county, opened up its door to embrace the modernity, and had gradually developed into a unique city with beautiful scenery and agreeable climate. The progress of the city was obviously motivated by the intention of the German Reich to build a paradise in orient for the Germans themselves by means of invasion. It was like standing the facts on their heads when it was based on an unequal reality, which hurt our Chinese nation and we will never forget this period of history. Until now, after years of vicissitudes, this scar has become a historic revelation, and these precious postcards have become a memory carrier as well as an icon to disclose or connect our city at early stage of its development.

It should be the good fortune of our city that the postcards sent out from Qingdao a hundred years ago have now come back to their birthplace, just like 'falling leaves returning to their roots'. We should attribute all these to Mr. Lu. Now Qingdao Publishing House has decided to turn over these precious historical documents for printing, which has indicated their respect for the cultural history in Qingdao as well as their cultural philosophy of serving the society.

I am deeply appreciative of their trust in me when Mr. David Lu and Qingdao Publishing House gave me the commission to edit and interpret this book of postcards. I have availed myself of the advantages of my work in the archives and studied numerous old photos of Qingdao. Most of the views in these postcards, however, are new to me. In a bid to understand these old pictures well, I have, in the past few months, searched and looked for all the locations mentioned in the pictures. I have tried my best to put myself in the context of those years so as to approach as close as possible the truth of history. Unfortunately, many of those places have changed their appearances. In addition, quite a few of those areas have been changed into different functions. All the changes have made it more difficult to appraise and explain those old postcards. I came across many problems in appraisal, identification and classification of these view cards, and I consulted such expert local chronicler as Mr. Lu Hai. Both Mr. Li Ming and Mr. Wang Dong are cultural history researchers and also my friends who offered me great assistance. And the translation by Xia Shuchen and Zhou Ping has brought us closer to the postcards. Thanks to the selfless support from all the enthusiasts including the above-mentioned ones, I have laid the solid foundation for the research on and explanation of these old pictures.

When collecting the old postcards of Qingdao, Mr. David Lu did not intentionally arrange them in different categories; therefore, it makes editing work more difficult, as the pictures cover a wide range of different aspects. In order to make it easy for the reader to appreciate and study these old postcards, we have

attempted to divide these photos into such five categories as “Local Tradition and Old Customs”, “Urban Construction”, “The European-styled City”, “Colonial Rule” and “Sundry Other Postcards”. Of course, categorization of this kind may not be professional, and the classification and interpretation of some photos may not be accurate. Moreover, there is always a gap in terms of time and space between the early years when the photos were shot and our modern times when the photos are edited, thus the photographers and the postcard publishers may have their own understanding and interpretation, which are different to a certain extent from ours. Therefore, we have only consulted parts of the original texts whereas most of the notes to the pictures were made according to our own analysis and understanding. Should there be any errors, I shall be held responsible for them.

Particularly noteworthy is the fact that most of the old postcards are the warm greetings sent from Qingdao to their home country by the German troops stationed in Qingdao and the Europeans who resided in Qingdao during the German Occupation. We believe that further studies on and decoding of those short personal messages sent a hundred years ago will help us better understand many details involved in the development of a pioneering city. Due to my limited time and capability, I am not able to do the studies on and decoding of these texts at this moment.

Wu Jian
April 9, 2005