

Hungarian Overprints 1918-21

By the end of WW1 the Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy had collapsed.

The contentious Trianon Treaty (1920) reduced the 1000 year old Magyar Kingdom (in yellow) to a rump.

The victorious Entente powers forced Hungary to cede two-thirds of its territory, two-thirds of its inhabitants, eight of its ten largest cities, its forests, its mountains, its mines, and its access to the Adriatic Sea.

Most tragically of all, Hungary lost 'Erdély' (Transylvania) with its large Hungarian population. Not surprisingly the 'Trianon' continues to provoke great resentment amongst the displaced Hungarians of Transylvania.



POSTAL SERVICES

During these years legitimate occupying forces and illegal invading armies took control of postal services in large areas of the old Kingdom. Existing stocks of Hungarian stamps were overprinted with the aim of securing both political legitimacy and much needed revenue.



1fo Postal Codes 1973

The map shows the borders of the Kingdom before and after 'Trianon'; the stamp shows the boundaries of the modern Republic.

Sheets 1-8: Howard Fee; Sheets 9-16: Mark Lendon