

Dating Guide for Detroit Company Postcards (DPC)

The Detroit Publishing Company of Detroit, Michigan printed postcards from 1898-1932. Its name appears as the Detroit Photographic Company, The Detroit Photochrom Company, and the Detroit Publishing Company. The Detroit cards often feature a small painter's palette with the name of the firm. The company held the rights to the Photochrom and Photostint processes which are often indicated on the cards. Cards printed during the latter years of the company often have small Roman numerals printed by the dividing line on the back of the card that indicate the year when the card was printed (i.e. xvii = 1917).

The dates on this list represent the time of the first printing. Many of the images were reprinted for several years after the initial run—some into the 1930s—using the original numbers.

All the Detroit cards in the Teich Archives begin with “DPC” followed by the number printed on the card.

F1-F92.....	1898
G1-G35	1899
H1199-H4160	1907-c. 1931—many H-numbers correspond with another number
1-522	c. 1899-1901
5000-5999	1901-1902
6000-6999	1902-1903
7000-7999	1903-1904
8,000-8999	c. 1904-
9000-9999	1905-1906
10000-10999	1906-1907
11000-11999	1907-1908
12000-12999	1908-1909
13000-13999	1909-1910
14000-147--.....	1905-
14800-14999	1910
60000-60112	1905-1906
60113-60130	1907
60131-60358	1908-1911
60500-60557	1912-1915
70000-70999	1911-1913

Continues to 71000

Continued from 70999

71000-719991913-1918

72000-722751918-1932

79000-798901910-c. 1921—printed for other publishers, such as Fred Harvey

80017-80992c. 1921—printed for other publishers

81001-81999c. 1925

82000-82149c. 1931

C1-C597—Contract Series, these cards often have a regular number (82341, 72006, etc.)

printed on them, in addition to the C number, that can be used for dating the image.

Other Detroit Series are the Miscellaneous Art Series (MA), the O, OP and P Series, the PX Series, the Q Series, mechanical action cards known as Multiple Post Cards (MPC), Panoramic views (PAN), Sets (1-25) that contain ten cards each, and the Little Photostint Journeys (LPJ): boxed sets of forty postcards sold together starting in 1912.

(This guide was established based on information found in *The Detroit Publishing Company Postcards* by Nancy Stickels Stechschulte, 1994 edition, and *Detroit Publishing Company Collectors' Guide* by James L. Lowe and Ben Papell, 1975 edition.)