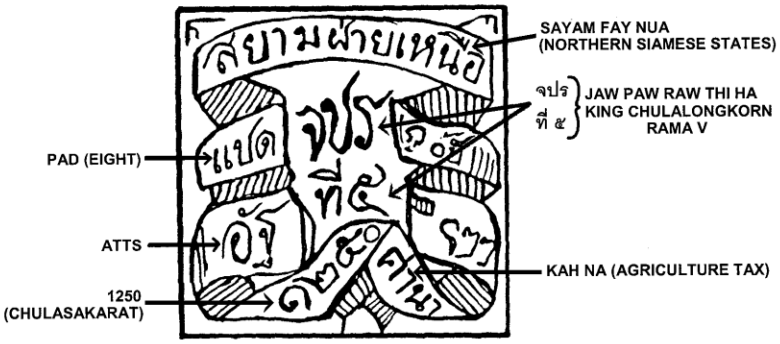
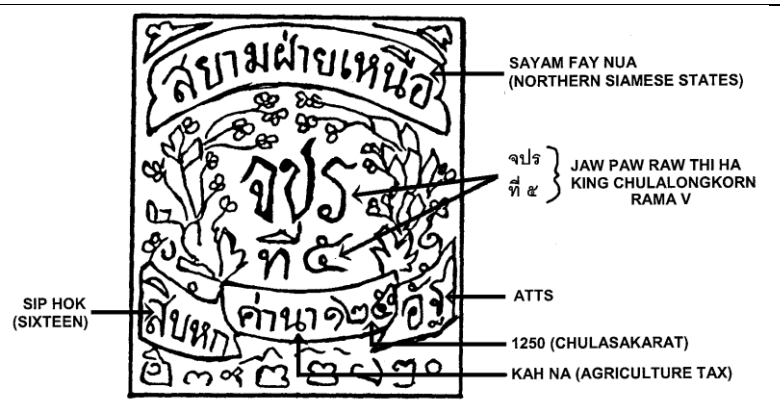
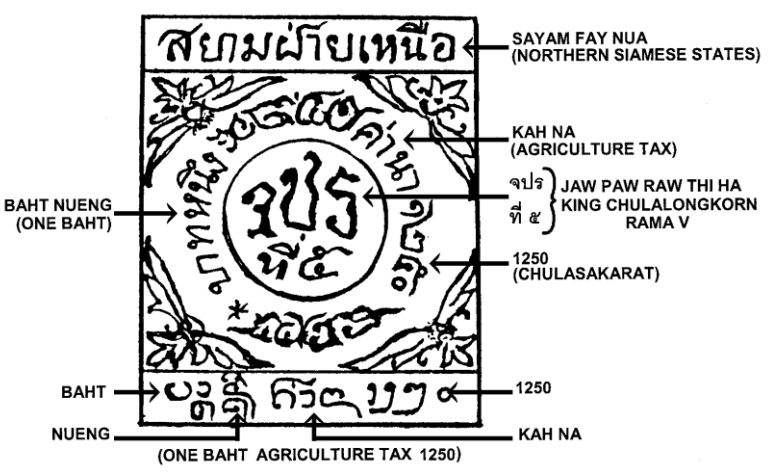
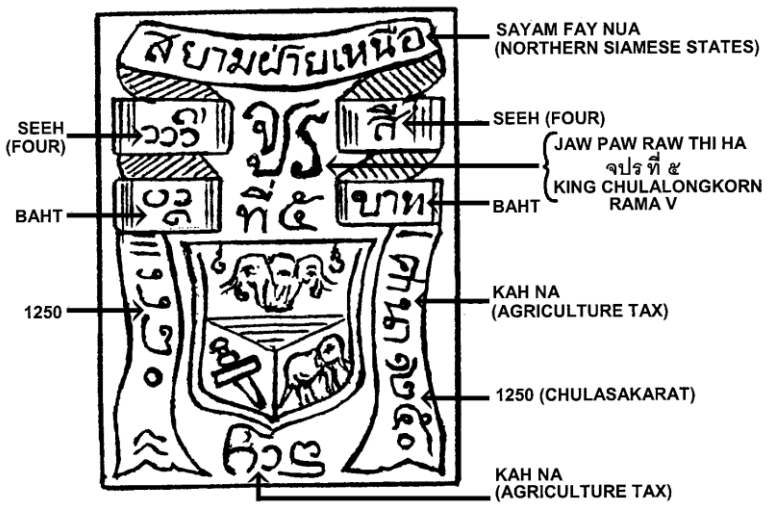
Chapter 18 - 1888 NORTHERN THAILAND AGRICULTURE REVENUE STAMPS.

This chapter was in the 2019 Revenue Stamp catalog wrongly named 1889 Chieng Tung Agriculture revenue stamps.

The four stamps below present one of the largest mysteries in Thai philately. The values were discovered by a Bangkok stamp dealer between 1987–1990. Only one set plus an extra 1-baht stamp is known to exist and they have never been seen used. Asking price for the complete set was baht 200,000

	
8 att, size 29 x 29.5 mm	
	
16 att, size 32 x 36.5 mm	
	
1 baht, size 33.5 x 44 mm	

	
4-baht, size 33.5 x 41.5 mm	

These stamps were printed in red on unwatermarked, light brown paper. The paper appears to be of local manufacture and is of quite poor quality. They are imperforate. The drawings, and the explanation of the translated text should be self-explanatory. The measurements shown above are for the frame size.

The language used on the stamps is not Thai, but Khoeun language. This is a very old language still used in some remote parts of Northern Thailand, and in the Chieng Tung area in the Shan state of Burma.

Whomever made these stamps was familiar with the agriculture stamps from Thailand. The stamps are dated Chula Sakharat 1250 which is 1889. Many details like the King Rama 5 monogram are quite accurate.
It is unclear if this were supposed to be provisional stamps or if they are just bogus or fantasy stamps. The status of these stamps is unknown

Much remains to be discovered about these mysterious stamps. In the 2019 Thailand Revenue Stamp catalog, these stamps were thought to have originated in Chieng Tung in the Shan States of Northern Burma. However, these states became part of British Burma on Jan 1, 1886, while the stamps are dated 1888. Also, the Shan states were independent before the British took over and did not belong to Thailand. Is unlikely for that reason that these stamps originated from Chieng Tung. So, I change the title of the chapter from Chieng Tung to Northern Thailand

These stamps were first reported in **THE THAI TIMES**, December 1987 and April 1990 by Kitti Damrongvadhana