4D for Everyone

Before 1979, there were only 28 districts in Singapore. Postal codes in Singapore comprised only two digits then. For example, Toa Payoh was in District 12 so the postal code was "12."

Source: SPSD (now Singpost), courtesy of NAS

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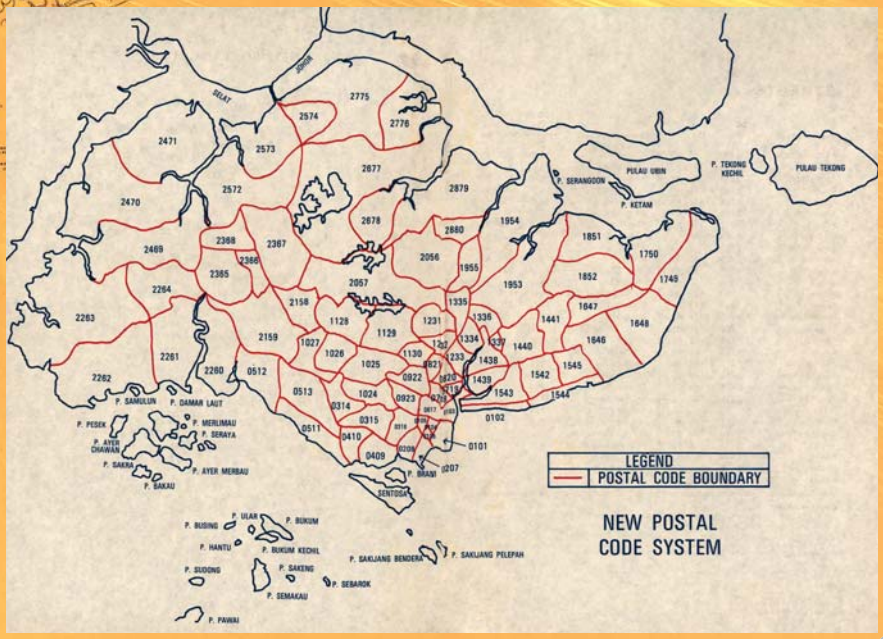
On 1 July 1979, two additional digits representing a sector in a district were added to improve accuracy and efficiency. The 28 districts expanded into 81 sectors, illustrating the growth in Singapore's population as well as the boom in the number of new buildings. To commemorate the new postal system, special stamps were issued in denominations of 10 cents and 50 cents. Posters and mail franking slogans were also widely publicised to remind the public to adopt the new system. To find out more about the history of stamps in Singapore, do visit the Singapore Philatelic Museum at Coleman Street.

Source: Singapore Street Directory 1969

Sectional map of Singapore in 1969 with 2-digit postal codes.



Source: Singapore Street Directory 1979

Sectional map of Singapore in 1979 with new 4-digit postal codes.