Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world’s material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors’ organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editor: Ton Dietz (dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl). You are welcome!

Disclaimer: Illustrations and some texts are copied from internet sources that are publicly available. All sources have been mentioned. If there are claims about the copy rights of these sources, please send an email to asc@asc.leidenuniv.nl, and, if requested, those illustrations will be removed from the next version of the working paper concerned.

URL of this Working Paper: https://openaccess.leidenuniv.nl/handle/1887/32070
# Table of contents

## In part 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German postal services in SWA, Vorläufer, (1849-) 1888-1897 (-1901)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamps of German SWA, 1897-1914</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The military campaigns before 1914 (1903-1907 during the Bondelzwarts, Herero and Nama Wars)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## In part 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWA during the First World War, 1914-1919</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After the First World War</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## In part 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWA Stamps 1923-1931</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deutsch Südwestafrika Vignette after the War</strong></td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and stamps in South West Africa (1931-1990) and Namibia (1990-2016), a selection</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## In part 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post offices in German South West Africa (Deutsch Südwestafrika) with their own cancellations, 1897-1914.</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**South West Africa stamps, 1923-1931**

Postage stamps with overprint Zuid-West Afrika./South West Africa on South African Stamps

**1923**

![Stamps](https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/A1-i.jpg) "1923 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted "South West(14½mm wide) Africa" or "Zuid-West Afrika" - Overprint Spaced 14mm; 1. January WM: 1 Perforation: 14" [Not yet included: 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d]. Michel Südwestafrika nrs 1-12.

![Stamps](http://www.africastamps.co.uk/graphics/A952.jpg) "1923 Setting I ½d missing 't' in 'West' variety, VFM".

![Stamps](http://www.africastamps.co.uk/graphics/A2368.jpg) "1923 Setting I 1d, "Wes" for "West" variety, with certificate, VFM"
http://www.africastamps.co.uk/graphics/A766.jpg: “1923 Setting VI ½d green, broken ‘t’ in ‘West’ stamps UM”

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/A12-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/A14-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/A16-i.jpg

Also:

"1923 South African Postage Stamps Overprinted "South West(14mm wide) Africa" or "Zuidwest Afrika" - Overprint Spaced 14mm; 15. July  WM: 1  Perforation: 14”. [Not yet included: 1sh3d, 2Sh6d, 5sh, 1 pound]. Michel: nrs 43—54].
boxed registration handstamp with 'One' inserted in pencil is on the front of the cover. Surprisingly, there are no arrival cancels.”

1924


https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E1-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E2-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E3-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E12-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/E13-i.jpg

All: “1924 -1926 South Africa Stamps Overprinted "South West" (16 mm wide) or "Zuid West" - Overprint Spaced 9½mm, 9. December  WM: 1  Perforation: 14”. Michel Nrs 57-68, 3p in colour varieties.
all: “1924 -1926 South Africa Stamps Overprinted "South West" (16 mm wide) or "Zuidwest" - Overprint Spaced 9½mm, 9. December WM: 1 Perforation: 14”. Michel Nrs 69-80, 1 pound in colour varieties.

registration handstamp is on the front of the cover, on the back are De Aar 25 JUL, Durban JY 29 and a part 25 AUG arrival cancel. The back also has the violet cachet of the ‘R. Catholic Mission, Gibeon, S. W. Africa.’ The Victoria Mission in the Champaran District was at Bettiah. A very fine inter missionary cover to a very scarce destination from South West Africa.”


http://cat.auktionen-gaertner.de/GPKATAUK/1C/3E/1C3E96/s143518.jpg?PIC
http://stampauctionnetwork.com/cg/l5035.cfm

1934 1½d post card to Grootfontein cancelled WERBESCHAU WINDHOEK 24 VIII 34. This German datestamp was only used that one day. A Grootfontein 27 AUG 34 arrival c.d.s. is on the back.”

1926

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/F-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/F1-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/F2-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/F3-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/F5-i.jpg


https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/G-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/G1-i.jpg

both: “1926 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted “SOUTH WEST AFRICA” or “SUIDWES AFRICA”, WM: 2 Perforation: Imperforated”. Michel Nrs 87-88.
http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/vricbr014.jpg: “1926 4d Triangulatrs of South Africa, overprinted (SG 44A & 44B): Bradbury Wilkinson presentation card (108x164mm) bearing IMPERF PLATE PROOF / TRADE SAMPLE examples of the English and Afrikaans single stamps with the overprinting for SWA. A superior quality card free of any of the usual imperfections. Superb, rare & exceptional, being one of only two such which we record for South West Africa. An exhibition piece for connoisseur.”.

1927

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/H4-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/H5-i.jpg

both: “1927 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted - "SUIDWES" on "SOUTH AFRICA" and Reverse; WM: 2 Perforation: 14¼ x 14¾". Not yet included: 1/2p and 1p. Michel Nrs 89-94.

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J1-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J2-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J3-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J4-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J6-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J7-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J8-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J9-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J10-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J11-i.jpg

all: “1927 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted, April WM: 2 Perforation: 14 or 14 x 13½”/. Michel Nrs 96-107.
http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1675.jpg: “1928 South West Africa, 1928 registered envelope to Germany bearing a 4d and 3d, each tied by a KOLMANSKOP 7 SEP 28 datestamp. A boxed registration handstamp is at the upper left, on the back is a Berlin 3.10.28. arrival c.d.s.”.

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J12-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/J13-i.jpg

both: “1927 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted “SOUTH WEST AFRICA” or “SUIDWES-AFRIKA”, WM: 2 Perforation: 11½”.

87


Michel 110-111.

http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3183.jpg: “1928 South West Africa, 1927 £1 pale olive and red block of four with a central WINDHOEK COUNTER 3 MAR 28 datestamp. One missing perf. on the lower right otherwise a very fine and attractive used block.”
1/2d https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/L1-i.jpg

1d https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/L3-i.jpg

6d https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/L11-i.jpg

all: “1927-1928 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted “S.W.A.”, August WM: 2 Perforation: Different”. Michel 112-131. [2p, 3p, 4p, 15Sh, 2/6, 5Sh and 10 Sh not yet included].

1930

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/M-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/M1-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/M2-i.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/M3-i.jpg

http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/3173.jpg: “1929 South West Africa, 1929 ½d post card to Germany with a 1d added to correctly pay the 1½d rate, cancelled by two strikes of the uncommon DORDABIS 1 NOV 29 datestamp. Dordabis was a Postal Agency in the small village about 40 miles south east of Windhoek that opened in 1924.”

http://www.forpostalhistory.com/images/1322.jpg: “1931, 1931 cover to Otjiwarongo bearing a 1d tied by a fine strike of the rare OTJIKURURUME 11.3.31. datestamp. On the reverse are Okahandja 12 MAR and Otjiwarongo 14 MAR 31 transit and arrival cancels. This postal agency on FARM 213 in the Okahandja district opened in April 1925 and closed in August 1932. It is extremely rare and the only one I have ever seen.”


1931
“1932, 1932 cover to Windhoek franked with a 1d tied ZWERVELING 25 FEB 32. A Windhoek 26 FEB 32 arrival cancel is on the back. Putzel states that the Zwerveling cancel is "Scarce, hardly ever seen!" This is the first one I have recorded. Fine.”
Service stamps; 1926-1931

Government departments used service stamps, starting in 1926; there was an overprint of ‘Offisieel Suidwes Afrika’ or ‘Official South West Africa’ on postage stamps of South Africa.

1926
1/2d: Source: Stanley Gibbons website

1d: https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/A3-i.jpg

6d: https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/A7-i.jpg

[Michel nrs 1 and 2 (1/2d) and 7 and 8 (6d); not yet included: nrs 5 and 6 (2d).

1929

‘Official S.W.A.’ and Offisieel S.W.A.; Michel Nrs 9 and 10 (1/2d), 11 and 12 (1d), and 13 and 14 (6d), followed by nrs 15 and 16 (2d).

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/B1-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/B3-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/B5-i.jpg

all: “South West Africa/Official stamps/ 1929 South Africa Stamps of 1926 Overprinted in English "OFFICIAL - S.W.A." or Afrikaans "OFFISIEEL - S.W.A." - 17mm Between Overprints, May WM: 1 Perforation: 14¾ x 14¼ ½”

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/C1-i.jpg

both: “South West Africa/Official stamps/ 1929 South Africa Stamps of 1927 Overprinted in English "OFFICIAL - S.W.A." or Afrikaans "OFFISIEEL - S.W.A." - 13mm Between Overprints; WM: 1 Perforation: 14”.

Later during the year another version was launched, Michel Nrs 17-24 (1/2d, 1d, 2d, and 6d).
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/C3-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/C5-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/C7-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Official-stamps/C9-i.jpg

all: “South West Africa/Official stamps/ 1929 South Africa Stamps of 1926-1927 Overprinted in English OFFICIAL - S.W.A.” or Afrikaans “OFFISIEEL - S.W.A.”, August WM: 1 Perforation: 14¾ x 14¼”.

1931

New South African stamps with overprint, Michel Nrs 25-32 (1/2d, 1d, 2d, 6d).


Postage due stamps, 1923-1931

Michel Süd- und Zentralafrika 2007; Südwestafrica (p. 1131-1133)

Postage due stamps Zuid-West Afrika/South West Africa on Transvaal, 1923-1925
both: “1923 Transvaal Postage Due Stamps of 1907 Overprinted "South West(14½mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: 1  Perforation: 14”.

Michel Porto marken 1923: 1-4, 14.5 mm long; also Portomarken 19-20, 10 mm long;

1925: 27-28, 6p South West 14 mm long; Zuidwest 11 mm. Followed by versions South West 16 mm, and Zuidwest 12mm (nrs 35-36, 5p). In these versions the distance between ZW/SW and Africa was 14 mm). In another version that was only 12 mm: nrs 43-44, 5p). And in yet another one only 9.5mm: nrs 51-52, 5p.

1925 Transvaal Postage Due Stamps of 1907 Overprinted "South West(16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West (12mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: 1  Perforation: 14”. Earlier version “1925 Transvaal Postage Due Stamps of 1907 Overprinted "South West(14mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West(11mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: 1  Perforation: 14”, not yet included.
1925 Transvaal Postage Due Stamps of 1907 Overprinted "South West(16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West(12mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 9½mm; WM: 1 Perforation: 14”.

In 1927 it became ‘South West Africa/Suidwes Afrika’ (Nrs 67-68, 5p.).

Postage due stamps Zuid-West Afrika/South West Africa on the Union of South Africa, 1923 (examples)

Michel gives six overprints on South Africa De-la-Rue Buchdruck; nrs 5-10, 2p, 3p and 6p; four on Pretoria Steindrucke; nrs 11-14, 1p, 1p1/2; and four on Pretoria Steindrucke 1p1/2 and 2p. Here all overprints are 14.5 mm long. There are also narrower overprints, of 10 mm long: nrs 21-24, 2p and 3p; and nrs 25-26, 1p.
both: “1923 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922-1926 Overprinted "South West(14½mm wide) Africa." or "Zuid-West Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: None  Perforation: 14 ½". 

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/0025-b.jpg: “1923 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922 Overprinted "South West - Africa." or "Zuid-West - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 10mm; WM: None Perforation: 14 [mistake: should have been: ‘rouletted’].”

In 1925 new versions were made with South West 14 mm and Zuidwest 11 mm (nrs 29-30, 1p) and 31-34, 1/2p and 1p). Followed by versions South West 16 mm, and Zuidwest 12mm (nrs 37-42, 1/2p, 1p, 6p). In these versions the distance between ZW/SW and Africa was 14 mm). In another version that was only 12 mm: nrs 45-46, 3p) and nrs 47-50 1/2p, and 1p1/2. And in yet another one only 9.5mm: nrs 53-54, 3p de-la-rue print; nrs 55-66 Pretoria print: 1/2p, 1p, 1p1/2, 2p (different colour versions), 3p, and 6p).

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/C5-s.jpg: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922 Overprinted "South West(14mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West(11mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: None Perforation: Rouletted”. 
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D7-s.jpg: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922-1926 Overprinted "South West (14mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West (11mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm; WM: None Perforation: 14”. [1p not yet included]

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D12-s.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D15-s.jpg

Both: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922-1926 Overprinted "South West (16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West (12mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 14mm. WM: None Perforation: 14”. [1/2p not yet included].

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/B11-s.jpg: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1914-1915 Overprinted "South West(16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West(12mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 12mm; WM: 1 Perforation: 14".

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D21-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D23-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D25-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D27-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D31-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D33-s.jpg

All: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922-1926 Overprinted "South West (16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West (12mm wide) - Afrika.” - Overprint Spaced 9½mm; WM: 1 Perforation: 14”. [3p de la rue print not yet included: “1925 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1914-1915 Overprinted "South West (16mm wide) - Africa." or "Zuid-West (12mm wide) - Afrika." - Overprint Spaced 9½mm; WM: 1 Perforation: 14]. “

In 1927 it became South West Africa and Suidwes Afrika: nrs 69-78, 1p1/2, 2p (two colour versions), 3p and 6p, followed by 1p).
In 1928 the overprint became S.W.A. (nrs 79-80, 3p and 6p, two colour versions) and nrs 81-85, 81-85, 1/2p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 6p).

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D35-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D39-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D41-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D43-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/E1-s.jpg

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D44-s.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-due-stamps/D45-s.jpg

both: “1928 -1929 South Africa Postage Due Stamps of 1922-1926 Overprinted "S.W.A.", WM: None Perforation: 14”
In 1931 new postage due stamps were issued with figures and the country names: nrs 86-90, 1/2p, 1p, 2p, 3p, and 6p).

Revenue stamps
http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/9848.jpg

Deutsch Südwestafrika Vignette after the war

“Vignette zum Verlust der Kolonie Deutsch-Südwestafrika”

http://www.deutsche-schutzgebiete.de/deutsche-kolonien.htm

Politics and stamps in South West Africa (1931-1990) and Namibia (1990-2016), a selection

Postage stamps are miniature messages about societies, and their cultural and political identities, or, as far as postage services are state agencies, what the ruling elites want to show about those identities. In the next section some examples will be shown about the political history of the area that would become independent Namibia after 1990, but was ruled by South Africa on behalf of first the League of Nations, and later the United Nations before 1990. And until South Africa became a Republic in 1960, its sovereign was the King and later Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

These sovereigns were shown on postage stamps issued in 1935 (King George V), 1937 (King George VI; there was no stamp of King Edward VIII, who briefly ruled in 1936), and Queen Elizabeth in 1953.


Mostly, South African stamps were used, overprinted with ‘S.W.A.’, like the war stamps of 1941. And always there were stamps using the English language and stamps using Afrikaans, or combining the two languages on one stamp..

https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/BA8-i.jpg
https://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/South-West-Africa/Postage-stamps/BA9-i.jpg
both: “1941 -1942 South Africa Postage Stamps Overprinted "SWA",  WM: 1 Perforation: 15 x 14”.


In 1954 the first ‘own’ postage stamps were issued, no longer dependent on South African designs.
In 1964 the opening of the Assembly Hall in Windhoek (the capital city) was celebrated, and in 1965 the 75st anniversary of the foundation of Windhoek.

From 1961 onwards South Africa had become a republic, and hence some political developments in South Africa were also included in the designs of the postage stamps of SWA, like when Prime Minister Verwoerd was killed in 1966 (stamp in early 1967). Or the appointment of a new President (as in 1968; for the first time also in German). In 1971 stamps were issued to celebrate ten years of Republic.
In 1975, for the first time, the memory of the German Colonial period appeared on a series of stamps.

In 1977 the famous desert landscapes became objects of admiration on stamps, and in 1979 local people and situations became part of a series, followed in 1979 by a series about so-called Bushmen.

In 1978 universal political suffrage was announced.
In 1981 and later years, again, there was postal attention for the German heritage.


In 1982, for the first time, there was postal attention for the Herero, the most severe victims of German colonization.
In 1986, the Caprivi strip appeared on stamps, and in 1988 100 years of postal services was celebrated.

In 1989 elections were held about the future of the country, and in 1990 a last series was issued with flowers.

In March 1990 Namibia became independent, with Sam Nujoma as its first President.
The same year Windhoek celebrated its 100th anniversary, and in 1992 Swakopmund.

In 1992 The 100th Anniversary of Swakopmund, 2. July WM: None  Perforation: 14⅛ x 14”.

In 1994 Walvis Bay was incorporated in the Republic of Namibia, ceded from South Africa.

In 1997 Namibia issued postal stamp series with a lot of attention for China.
In 2004 the ‘war of anti-colonial resistance’ got postal attention.

In 2005 President Hifikepunye Pohamba was inaugurated, and in the third President, Hage Geingob.
In 2015 25 years of Independence was celebrated with a minisheet showing the three Presidents so far.

References:

Michel Deutschland Katalog 2004-2005, Schwaneberger Verlag, p. 213-214 (Deutsch-Südwestafrika) and Michel Süd- und Zentralafrika, 2007, pp. 1104-1133 (Südwestafrika)

Special thanks to: http://www.bennettstamps.com/cgi-bin/toc_auc.php?site=1&lang=1&sale=298


And of course also the stampworld website (www.stampworld.com) and www.forpostalhistory.com

Suggested references: