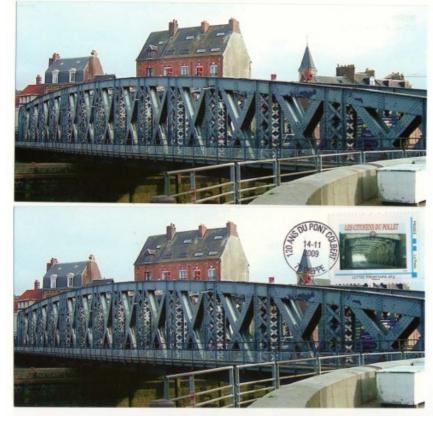
## **Citizens of Le Pollet district Association**

The citizens of Le Pollet district Association in Dieppe feels concerned about the future of the Colbert Bridge as part of their everyday life. In order to show how much they are attached to this bridge and to celebrate its 120th anniversary the association has edited commemorative stamps and postcards with agreement of La Poste (French Mail) services.

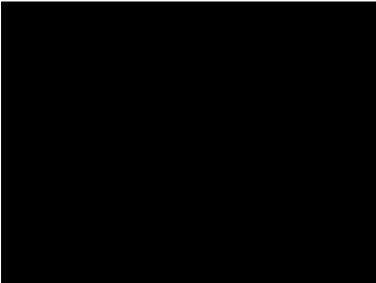




## September 1944 – July 1946 : rebuilding the bridge

Blown up during the August, 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>th</sup> night, 1944 by the German army a few hours before Allies arrived in Dieppe, the Colbert Bridge was restored and was operational again on July 1946.









**The Colbert bridge on September 1944** The main structure was destroyed on a 12 meters length, the mechanism has partly suffered. After the quay being strengthened by Allies, the bridge reconstruction begun. It took nearly two years to achievement because of the shortage of raw materials after the war. Below, rare photos showing the bridge rebuilding site. Note that the original operating instruments stayed intact.





## The Gustave Eiffel mystery

The Colbert Bridge was designed by the Ponts et Chaussées (Dpt of civil engineering). Many civil enginnering companies were asked to tender in 1887. The most famous of them all was Gustave Eiffel's Workshops ! He was probably on the list of tenders thanks to his celebrity but he had also designed a first bridge in 1870 in Dieppe (destroyed during the Second World war).

His name was mysteriously added in handwriting at the botton of the official list the same year he conceived the world famous tower. Another company, la Société des Ponts et Travaux en fer was commissioned to build at a much cheaper cost -21% less than the Eiffel's company.

Senstructions metalliques z Entreprises les de Gravaux publics. GRAND PRIX A L'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE DE 1878. 1012 l'anei, linger Pierr 11 42. Rue Touques 188f. seralla EMULIEN CRU Adreese telegraphague EIFFEL, LEVALIOIS-PERRET 1 1343 75-2 vous accuser rue honneur diession ornez 5 m au dernur ete admi oller an n. assu mus remenuer unt fasse exen ne vous aver bun me voulu 602 45 IELEPHONE Bureau B. came les char cet du deta Consideration P.Pº

Letter from Gustave Eiffel sent on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1887 to Paul Alexandre, civil engineer in Dieppe. It is written that Eiffel has well received the all adjudication documents concerning a local swing bridge project.

## **Artists views**



Postcard -1900.



Harold Gilman « The swing bridge » , oil on canvas – 1911, private collection.



Marti Folio « Le pont Colbert », acrylic on - 2005, private collection.



Bertrand Legros « Le pont Colbert », photography – 1984.



Paul Bonmartel « Le pont », photography - 2009.



*Olivier Mériel « Le pont tournant de Dieppe », photography – November 2002 – 12h15* ©