



Small Categories Series

Ethnic Restaurants

Lots of people collect Restaurants; lots of people collect Chinese Restaurants; lots of people collect specialty restaurants, such as T.G.I.F.'s or Hard Rock Cafes...but how about Ethnic Restaurants?

Mexican and Chinese restaurants are almost always separated out into their own categories, so they don't count in our discussion here. That still leaves a variety of other ethnic restaurant types, the biggest being Italian restaurants, then Japanese restaurants, then French, then all the rest. The most notable of the latter group would include Greek, German, Vietnamese, Thai, Russian, and Mongolian. There are others, of course, but they're minor participants, as far as numbers are concerned—Korean, Polish, Moroccan, Lebanese, and so on.

If you were to collect all Ethnic Restaurants (Mexican and Chinese excluded), we'd be talking big numbers. But, remember that "Small Categories" refers not to numerically small categories but rather *less-collected* categories. Thus, even if you collected just Italian Restaurants, it would be a small category...even though you'd eventually end up with thousands of different covers.

I could see collecting Ethnic Restaurants, even though I don't, myself, especially if the collector was from that certain area or of that particular ethnicity. Most of these covers don't have great graphics (not like the Crown Chinese Restaurant covers), but I wouldn't think collectors in this area would be looking for such, per se. The attraction would have to be something else, perhaps personal history; perhaps the collector is a gourmet!

