

The misplaced postcard

Standalone demo · Your mini-investigation

A 1912 postcard was supposed to remain on the reading stand at Valombre museum. It was put into a locker without an entry in the register. The film shows one person taking the card and carrying it directly to their locker, without handover; their coat hides the number. A small note gives the location as a code. Find the locker, then the person.

This story is independent of the full case. All the clues are on these two pages. No outside knowledge is required. Target duration: 5-10 minutes.

Evidence 1 · Two photographs

Photo	Actual time	Observation
Check photograph	12:17	The postcard is on the reading stand.
Next photograph	12:22	The postcard has disappeared from the reading stand.

There was only one move. The card left the reading stand strictly after 12 h 17 and before 12 h 22. Every time in the demo is exact; no clock adjustment is needed.

Evidence 2 · Automatic deposit log

Access control recorded the locker actually opened by the postcard's carrier: code 32. The log was linked to the postcard through continuous footage. Instructions: the first digit gives the row, the second the column. A coordinate gives the locker letter. Example: 13 means row 1, column 3, or C.

Row / column	1	2	3
1	A	B	C
2	D	E	F
3	G	H	I

The log identifies locker:



Atmospheric illustration of the fictional Valombre postal museum.

Who stored the postcard?

Standalone demo · Cross-check the clues

Éva, Malik and Nora are the only people who had access to the reading stand. The times below are verified by cameras, not reported by those people. Badges remained with their owners; they open only the listed lockers. No lock was forced.

Person	Presence near the reading stand	Authorised lockers
Éva	12:18-12:21	H / I
Malik	12:24-12:28	G / H
Nora	12:16-12:23	F / G

The same person must be able to take the card during the interval and open the decoded locker. Locker access is not enough if someone arrives too late; presence at the right time is not enough if their badge cannot open that locker.

Who stored the postcard?

Why are the other two people ruled out?

Read the solution only after giving your verdict. This demo illustrates cross-checking evidence; the full case adds a timeline with offset clocks and a reconstruction of the boxes.



Atmospheric illustration of the fictional Valombre postal museum.

The demo solution

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Hint 1

For 32, first find row 3, then the second cell in that row.

Hint 2

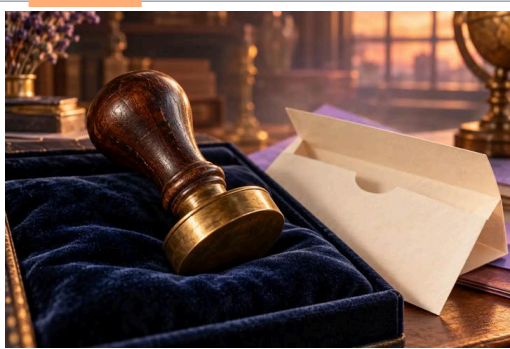
The letter is H. Two people can open H; only one was near the reading stand when the card disappeared.

Verdict: Éva, locker H

Code 32 identifies H. Éva could reach the reading stand from 12 h 18 to 12 h 21, within the interval, and her badge opens H. Malik can open H but arrives after 12 h 22; Nora is present at the right time but cannot open H. Éva is therefore the only person compatible with the whole chain. The continuous camera record and absence of badge swaps rule out a handover.

The card is found in H. Éva explains that she had put it somewhere safe during cleaning, without thinking to tell reception. The museum corrects its register: good intentions do not prevent misfiling.

This solution reveals neither the locker nor the person in the full case, Vanished at Valombre.



Atmospheric illustration of the fictional Valombre postal museum.