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Hon. Sydney B. Corbett, Postmaster General of Bermuda, with BCPSG member William G. Bogg, following the selection of Philatelic Consultants, Ltd. as North American philatelic representative.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

'Arms of Jamaica' Issue, 1903-1920 .....	103
Postmarks of Grenada, Part I .....	107
"Not Ben Bow" .....	118
Antigua Civil Censorship, Conclusion .....	119
New Montserrat Discoveries .....	123
Barbados Forwarding Agents .....	125
Trinidad Censored Cover .....	126



## THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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## President's Message

My message this month is longer than I would have liked it to be, but I must use the space to explain some details the Group has formulated regarding our auction at LONDON 1980. It is imperative that all members intending to submit lots for sale at our London AGM follow exactly the instructions pointed out below.

Vendors **living in the U.K.** will submit their material to Malcolm Watts, "Good Intent", 18 Linden Way, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS22 4QU, England. **All other** vendors (in Europe, Canada, U.S., etc.) will forward their lots to Charles Cwiakala, 1527 South Fairview Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068. Under this procedure, customs difficulties likely to arise with the movement of valuable material into the U.K. will be eliminated, **insofar as the BCPSG as a unit is concerned.** All lots must be in Mal's or Chuck's hands not later than 1 October 1979, in order that the complete auction list, together with pertinent mail bidding instructions, may be published in the December 1979 **Journal.**

I realize that the 1 October date reflects a tight schedule for a lot submittal date cut-off, particularly with NOJEX taking place later that month. However, Mal and Chuck each need and deserve from four to six weeks to inspect, classify, describe, and otherwise process the material; prepare an auction list; and submit the list to our Editor by 15 November, the copy deadline for the December issue.

(Continued on page 106)

# The 'Arms of Jamaica' issue, 1903-1920

By Michael Vokins

In 1901 the Government of Jamaica was considering adopting stamps of a distinctive design for the colony but because of the death of Queen Victoria they were asked to consider first of all the Crown Agents' designs for a new Universal Plate incorporating the head of Edward VII. Eventually the Governor, Augustus Hemming, wrote from the King's House, Jamaica, on 28th May, 1902, to inform the Colonial Office of their decision.

Approval was given to the King's Head design for postal stationery, at an estimated cost for plates of £51. For the twopence halfpenny, the penny, and the halfpenny stamps the Arms of the Colony were preferred, in blue, red and green respectively to be in agreement with the practice of the Universal Postal Union. While for the remainder of the stamps the Governor wrote "I have decided that, with the view of avoiding unnecessary expense, the designs of stamps now in use should for the present be continued". Since this decision remained unaltered for the whole reign of Edward VII de la Rue found themselves printing from the original Queen Victoria plates for another nine years.

The request for a design incorporating the Arms of the Colony was passed to de la Rue on 4th July who responded by offering the original Arms Die as used for revenue stamps. However, on 12th July they were told to prepare a new Arms design as detailed in the Governor's letter.

De la Rue's offer of the original Arms die could be considered a little inept as considerable care had been taken in Jamaica to prepare for a new Arms design. The colour of the cross in the Arms had been variously shown in the past but application to Herald College had settled the matter as emblazoned red on a white shield. Mr. Cundall had 'drawn from nature' a crocodile and some pineapples and also had copied from "Among the Indians of Guiana" by Thum a picture of (Arawak) Indians. Finally the Governor was most particular about the **position** of the Indians: their arms were to be behind and **not** in front of the shield. The effect the Governor wished to avoid can be judged by comparing the 1½d revenue stamp with the ½d Arms (S.D. illustrations F2 and 14): a relaxed and amiable pair of Indians on the revenue stamp become stiff and formal when presented on the Arms stamp. Those familiar with 'Gems from Jamaica' by G. A. Higlett might wish he had taken these stamps as one of his themes: connoisseurs of crocodiles should extend their comparisons to the 1956 issue (S.G. illustration 80) and the 1964 issue (S.G. illustration 109). The biggest beast appears on the 1964 Scout issue (S.G. illustration 114) but in the catalogue is described as an alligator.

De la Rue forwarded their new Arms design to the Crown Agents on 10th August and 4th April, 1903, the design was officially approved in preference to the old revenue Arms. By 13th May an estimate for the necessary dies and plates had been prepared: £260 was quoted. The colour scheme, conforming with UPU practice, was sent for approval on 4th September and approved on 11th September. The dies and plates were invoiced on 11th September, 1903:

Making an original Arms die .....	£70
— a Postage and Revenue Key die .....	£45
— a Postage and Revenue Key plate, 240 set .....	£85
— three Border Duty plates, 240 set, for ½d, 1d and ½d .....	£60

The first printings of the halfpenny and twopenny halfpenny were invoiced on 8th October and included 727 Specimens of each value. The penny followed on 18th January, 1904, at the same time as the five-penny. The only mention of the fivepenny appears to be on 23rd November when de la Rue were instructed that 'the new 5d should be in yellow'; the Border Duty plate, 240 set, was invoiced at L20 at the same time as the stamps.

There then appears to be a lull in the correspondence until June, 1905, when there is a short burst of activity. A new 5/- design was submitted on the 7th and the colour scheme approved on the 14th; a request by the Government of Jamaica for single colour plates for the ½d and 1d arrived on the 22nd and designs were submitted on the 30th. The Government asked for the existing design to be printed in one colour or new border designs prepared. On 19th August the new designs were approved. Printing from two plates had typically cost 1s 8d per 1000 stamps but printing from one plate would cost only 5¼d per 1000 stamps; the Government were doubtless well satisfied with this economy. The dies and plates were invoiced on 28th December, 1905:

Taking two transfers from original Arms die and preparing two dies for ½d and 1d .....	£45 each
Making from each of the above dies a 240 set printing plate .....	£85 each

The first printing of the penny, in red, followed on 8th February, 1906, with 727 specimens but the halfpenny was delayed until 15th June by which time the number of specimens needed had changed to 732.

The SER.ET error was reported to de la Rue on 28th October, 1908, but unfortunately their reply, if any, does not appear to be in the correspondence books.

In 1909 on 11th February it was reported that the Government of Jamaica had decided to adopt the Universal Postal Union colour scheme and at its next printing the twopenny halfpenny is in monocolour blue.

The final phase in the use of the Arms design co-incided with the death of Edward VII and accession of George V in 1910. In an impressive letter of 29th June de la Rue wrote to the Crown Agents "3d postage: the above plate, which has been in use since 1863, is now unfit

for work. We assume that you will decide to make a border duty plate to be used with the Arms Keyplate”.

However the Philatelic Societies of Jamaica had raised a successful petition about the lack of a “King Edward” stamp (ref. 1) and as a consequence the decision sent to de la Rue on 28th October, was to use the Universal Edward Keyplate in conjunction with new three-penny and twopenny border plates. In practice, of course, only the two-penny value was prepared. However to replace the Victoria sixpenny value the Arms Keyplate was used and a new border plate was ordered therefore. A note of 7th November indicates that the sixpenny border plate was to be 60 set. The only printing of the sixpenny Arms was invoiced on 22nd May, 1911, and included 404 specimens.

### References

Day Books V to AE

Crown Agents volume 40 to 54

G. W. Collett et alia ‘Jamaica’ page 93

### Check List of Printings

In 1905 the paper used for the Arms issue changed from Crown CA to Multiple Crown C A and Specimen stamps occur with both papers. However when the Crown Agents were invoiced for the printings on Multiple Crown CA paper no specimens were charged for nor are any listed in ‘Colonial Stamps’ as being printed: indeed there is no mention of the change of paper so there is no direct evidence for date and numbers of specimens produced on Multiple Crown CA paper.

#### Arms of Jamaica, printed from the Keyplate and a Duty plate, all set 240

	Date of Account	No. of sheets/specimen stamps
½d, green and black	8 Oct. 1903	5038 (plus 727)
	18 Jan. 1904	5104
	18 July 1905	10303 (? 727)
1d, red and black	18 Jan. 1904	20477 (plus 727)
	18 July 1905	5008 (?727)
2½d, blue and black	8 Oct. 1903	606 (plus 727)
	18 Jan. 1904	5133
	8 July 1907	1008 (? 757)
	20 Aug. 1908	3087
2½d, blue	30 July 1910	3292 (plus 413)
	26 Aug. 1911	1993
5d, yellow and black	18 Jan. 1904	98 (plus 727)
	18 July 1905	50 (? 727)
6d, purple and black	22 May 1911	757 (plus 404)
5/-, violet and black	16 Aug. 1905	14 (plus 727)
	27 June 1906	5
	8 July 1907	25
	20 Aug. 1908	27

**Arms of Jamaica, printed from single printing plates, set 240**

<b>½d, green</b>	<b>No. of sheets/ specimen stamps</b>	<b>1d, red</b>	<b>No. of sheets/ specimen stamps</b>
<b>Date of Account</b>		<b>Date of Account</b>	
1906 15 June	5150 (plus 732)	1906 8 Feb.	40670 (plus 727)
1907 8 July	3034	15 June	10000
1908 20 Aug.	4160	27 June	15522
1909 26 July	5000	1907 8 July	5097
8 Sep.	5293	1908 20 Aug.	15411
1910 30 July	5208	1908 7 July	15000
1911 26 Aug.	5000	26 July	6000
16 Oct.	5263	2 Sept.	10000
1912 3 July	2565	8 Sept.	11567
3 Oct.	1000	1911 26 Aug.	5000
26 Oct.	512 (for bkls.)	16 Oct.	5228
1913 27 May	2500	1912 27 Jan.	1027 (for bkls.)
2 June	10000	15 April	500
25 July	1000		
12 Aug.	2721		
	358 (120 set)		
1914 27 July	513½ (for bkls.)		
1915 3 July	6721		
5 July	508 (for bkls.)		
1916 16 May	3853		
29 May	510 (for rolls)		
2 June	5000		
14 June	7680		
14 Sept.	500 (for bkls.)		
1917 5 July	15087		
1919 17 June	4149 (for war stamps, plus 381)		
16 Dec.	4209 (for War Stamps)		
1920 7 Oct.	500 (for bkls.)		

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)**

It is not anticipated that the lots sent to Chuck will ever physically be taken to London prior to the auction. However, they will be offered for sale there because of the probability of realizing better prices than they would in the United States. If any member living **outside** the U.K. desires to send his material to Mal instead of to Chuck, thereby insuring that his lots may be inspected at the auction, he is perfectly free to do so. But is highly recommended that he does **not**, since he may wind up personally responsible for considerable VAT and customs fees.

Only British Caribbean material (including the Falkland Islands, by popular demand) will be accepted for the LONDON 1980 sale. If lots outside the BCPSG sphere (e.g., United States, Great Britain, South America, etc.) are submitted, Mal and Chuck will accept them if (1) they each have an estimated net value of at least \$25.00 (£12.50), and (2) they are outright "donation" lots (all proceeds to the BCPSG treasury).

Remember, if you plan to sell material at our London meeting, please adhere to the above submittal dates. **Make it easy for Mal and Chuck.**

See you at NOJEX!

GEORGE

# The Postmarks of Grenada

By John A. Cronin and W. Danforth Walker

## FOREWORD

A series of articles under the above title appeared in the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* beginning in February 1973. Based largely upon comments received as a result, the authors have significantly altered the postmark numbering system, made numerous corrections and additions, and rewritten the entire work. Hopefully, additional corrections and new information will continue to be brought forth; upon completion of the present series of articles, the authors plan to publish their study in handbook format. Please help by sending comment to John A. Cronin, 35 Moors Close, Hurn, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 6AL, England, or to W. Danforth Walker, 4401 Lee Highway, Apt. 71, Arlington, Virginia, 22207, USA.

## CHAPTER ONE

### The Pre-handstamp Era 1650 to 1783

The French established the first permanent settlement by white Europeans in the spring of 1650 and continued to rule the Island until March 1762. During this first period of French rule no distinctive postal mark was issued for use on mail originating in Grenada. The only letters of this period known to the authors are two preserved at the Archives National (Archives Coloniales C10, A1) in Paris.

In March 1762 Commodore Swanton R. N. captured Grenada from the French and the Island was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris signed at Paris on February 10, 1763. The Island remained under British rule until July 4, 1779. Despite being listed as a Packet Station in 1764, no evidence exists of any packet mail during this period of British rule. All letters known to the authors were sent via the Captain of a merchant ship as a ship letter or carried by a passenger on a merchant ship as a private letter. The earliest item noted during this period is a ship letter dated May 22, 1764 from John Taylor to John Tarleton, Liverpool, rated 2 N 5 and backstamped with a 26 JY bishop mark. The latest is dated June 3, 1776, addressed to James Gordon of Madirea at the Jamaica Coffee House, London and rated 1/- with a 'DEAL/SHIP LRE' handstamp.

On July 4, 1779 the French admiral and commander-in-chief, Count d'Estaing overcame a small force of British residents and soldiers on Grenada under the command of Lord Macartney and captured the Island. This second and last period of French rule was, officially, to end on December 19, 1783 when the Island was to be restored to Great Britain by the Treaty of Versailles signed on September 3, 1783. The French hold on Grenada appears not to have been heavy handed as no letters to France can be discovered, while a number of letters and four Bills of Lading are known with Great Britain destinations. One of these letters

was forwarded by De Winck & Co. for a new British arrival on the island, while the other letters appear to be sent directly to Britain in British ships. The earliest letter is dated October 2, 1779, rated 1 N 4 and has a 'LIVER/POOL' shipletter handstamp. The latest letter of this period of French rule was written on December 27, 1783 and an extract from the letter explains why this letter can be classified as written under French rule "... our being still under French Government, notwithstanding the time stipulated by Treaty for the exchange of the Islands is expired the 19th instant."

Grenada received its first distinctive handstamp soon after the British assumed control of the island. What may be the last letter prior to the arrival of this handstamp is one written on April 26, 1784, rated 1/- and received a 'GREENOCK' and 'SHIP' handstamp. A companion Bill of Lading shows that 'Forty Hogshead Muscovado Sugar' was sent to David Crosse of Glasgow. It is interesting to note that Bills of Lading during the French control refer to the "Harbour of Fort Royall" and after 1783 when the British controlled the Island the Bills of Lading refer to the 'Harbour of St. George's'.

## CHAPTER TWO

### Handstamps, Handstruck Postage Stamps and Great Britain Postage Stamps Used in Grenada

Although Grenada received a distinctive handstamp in the first half of 1784, this handstamp A1 as well as A2 are only known used on shipladders, not on packet letters. The earliest recorded packet letter was written on January 25, 1786, with Grenada handstamp A3, rated 1/10 and addressed to George Dunlop, Air, N. Britain. After this date letters known to the authors with Grenada handstamps were sent by packet mail boats, with the single exception of the letter with handstamp A4, dated May 14, 1788, rated 3d to David Crofse, Glasgow.

A1

Grenada

30mm long  
'G' 6mm high  
lower case 4mm high

EKD 11 MY 1784  
LKD 17 JA 1785

A4  
GRENADA

A2

GRENADA

36mm long  
letters 4mm high

19 MR 1785

(Only recorded date)

27½mm long  
letters 4mm high

14 MY 1788

(Only recorded date)

A3



21mm diameter  
letters 3½mm

EKD 4 JU 1785  
LKD 17 DE 1798



37mm diameter outer rim (often partially  
or completely absent)

GRENADA 5mm high  
date 3½-4mm high

EKD 23 MR 1799  
LKD 18 JA 1829

Normally the date consists of only a  
three letter month, a space and the day.  
Exceptions known are as follows: MAR23·99  
with none of the rim visible, 2AUG1800  
and NOV4 1801 with only small parts of  
the rim visible, JUN20 14, JUN30 14 and  
OCT 9 14 with none of the rim visible,  
NOV10 (1828) and JAN18 (1829) with the  
three letter month in capital letters  
only 2½mm high. All strikes are believed  
to be from one handstamp.



## CARRIACOU

26mm diameter  
GRENADA 4mm high

Two separate handstamps of this type were  
sent out on 29 MY 1829. One has the two  
arcs at the bottom 22 and 16mm from one  
end of an arc to the other end and the  
other handstamp is 20.5 and 15mm. Since  
it is often difficult to distinguish one  
from another both have been grouped toget-  
her.

EKD 29 OC 1830  
LKD 2 AP 1842

CARRIACOU 4½ x 33mm  
The words SHIP LETTER  
measuring 4½ x 39mm  
were cut out of this  
handstamp to make  
Carriacou's first  
'packet' handstamp.  
See Chapter Ten.  
Sent out 27 AU 1841

EKD 14 FE 1842  
LKD 23 SP 1845

A8



29mm diameter  
 GRENADA 4mm high  
 date 3-3½mm high  
 Sent out 5 AP 1844

EKD 25 JA 1845  
 LKD 25 JY 1859

From 29 JA 1853 to 25 AP 1853 this handstamp is known with an inverted 'B' under the year 1853. From 26 SP 1853 to 10 NO 1853 the 'B' is upright under the year 1853. During the period that GB stamps were used in Grenada this cancel was not used to cancel the GB stamps, but one exception to this rule is known. One strike is known on a 6d. GB stamp with the letter 'D' above the month and day, 'DE 3', with only 185 of the year visible. This narrows the possible years to DE 3 1858 or DE 3 1859 since GB stamps were withdrawn on 1 MY 1860 and the original dispatch of GB stamps was April 17, 1858.

A9



26mm diameter  
 CARRIACOU 3½mm high  
 date 3mm high  
 Sent out 13 NO 1846

EKD 10 JU 1847  
 LKD 8 DE 1848

A10



26mm diameter  
 GRENADA 3½mm high  
 date 3mm high  
 Proofed in London 1 MY 1847

EKD 10 JU 1847  
 LKD 9 AU 1847

There are only two recorded dates for this handstamp as listed above. The 9 AU 1847 handstamp does not have the index letter A. It is probable that this handstamp was lost after a few months use as this type handstamp was in regular use in many other BWI islands for long periods of time.

On April 1, 1858 compulsory prepayment of postage was established for British Colonies. Prior to this, the normal practice was to send letters unpaid. As a convenience to the BWI the British Postmaster General agreed to send British stamps to the Islands and provided a distinguishing numbered obliterator to cancel the stamps. The obliterator numbered A15 was sent to St. George's, Grenada. The first shipment of stamps was sent on April 17, 1858 and was probably put into use in May 1858. A second supply of stamps equal to the first was sent on May 17, 1858 and it was requested that the first application for additional supplies of stamps should be made one month after receipt of the April 17th shipment and subsequent applications should be made every two months. The first two shipments probably consisted of the following:

1,440 ld. red on white paper, Die 2, Large Crown, Pf. 14  
 1,440 hd. rose, Large Garter, no letters in corner  
 2,800 6d. lilac, emblems, no letters in corners

At a later date a small supply of 1/- green, no letters, was sent to Grenada. Stanley Gibbons lists and Alfred Charlton (The Postal History and Postage Stamps of Grenada, Alfred Charlton, P.L. Pemberton & Sons, Ltd., 1955 on page 8) states that a small supply of 2d., blue, plate 7, were also sent, but the authors have seen no 2d. G.B. stamps genuinely used with the proper A15 obliterator. In preparation of Grenada assuming control of its post office from Britain, G.B. stamps were withdrawn from use on the Island May 1, 1860.

A11



18mm high, 22mm long  
 A15 6mm high  
 Sent out 14 AP 1858

EKD 12 MR 1859  
 LKD 9 AU 1859  
 On this device the number 5 is wide and set close to the number 1 and the 5 appears to lean to the right.

A12



18mm high, 22mm long  
 A15 6mm high  
 Sent out 28 AP 1858

EKD 8 JU 1858  
 LKD 9 NO 1859  
 On this device the number 5 is narrow and set wide of the number 1 and the 5 appears to be upright.

A13



19½mm diameter  
GRENADA 3mm high  
date 2½-3mm high  
Sent out 14 AP 1859

EKD 25 MY 1859  
LKD 10 DE 1859\*  
\*backstamp

B1



23mm outer diameter  
Sent out 24 OC 1850

EKD 15 MR 1852  
LKD 9 JA 1860

This mark is always found struck in red. A similar mark for Carriacou was sent to Grenada on 13 NO 1846, but the Carriacou mark has never been found used. An illustration of the Carriacou mark from the London proof book is found in Chapter Sixteen.

## CHAPTER THREE

### Postmarks Used at the General Postoffice 1860-1978

#### Part I

#### The Hand Struck Postage Stamp and Postmarks of the former British Packet Station used by the General Post Office

When Grenada passed the Act of Transfer on September 19th, 1860 and became responsible for her own postal affairs, no preliminary ground work had been done by the Legislature to ensure a smooth transition. The Administration, convinced that the project would founder, did not even attempt to obtain postage stamps until February of 1861.

The withdrawal of British adhesives left the Island without means of indicating prepayment of postage and the G.P.O. was forced to resort to temporary methods (a feature of Grenada's postal system for the first forty years). Fortunately the British had not withdrawn the current hand struck postage stamp of the old British Packet Office, so the Grenada Crown Circle was resurrected to show prepayment of postage until adhesives became available in June 1861. Also, several other handstamps were inherited from the old Packet Office, and although their use by the British is outlined in Chapter Two, these marks have been reproduced below and given new numbers prefixed G to show their use by the Grenada General Post Office.

G 1



23mm outer diameter  
Only known in red

EKD 12 OC 1860  
LKD ? MR 1861

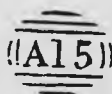
G 2



18mm high, 22mm long  
A15 - 6mm high  
5 wide, small space  
between 1 and 5.

EKD 9 OC 1861  
LKD 6d. deep verm.  
of 1878

G 2 A



18mm high, 22mm long  
A15 - 6mm high  
5 narrow, large space  
between 1 and 5.

EKD 1 JY 1861  
LKD 8 OC 1880

The postmark reading A15 in barred oval was originally a distinctive numeral killer cancellation issued for use on British adhesives used at Grenada. There are two A15 postmarks, G2 and G2A, and each saw considerable use under the local administration. Although there are slight differences between G2 and G2A, they are very difficult to distinguish on postally used stamps and covers and in the 1870's virtually impossible to distinguish. The A15 postmark is known in reddish-brown on the 1s. deep mauve of July 1875 and more frequently, although still uncommon, on the 1d. green to yellow-green of December 1875. It is also known in blue on the 1d. green of April 1881, but this single copy is probably an accidental usage. G2 and G2A ceased regular use prior to the April 1881 issues but occasionally is found on these issues and one strike is known on each of the following three stamps: 1s. of 1883, 1d. on 8d. of January 1891 and 2½d. on 8d. of December 1891.

G 3



19½mm diameter  
GRENADA - 3mm high  
date 2½-3mm high

EKD 10 NO 1860  
LKD 24 AU 1862  
Known-index letter C  
reversed.

G 4



19½mm diameter  
GRENADA - 3mm high  
date 2½-3mm high

EKD 1 AU 1862\*  
LKD 27 JA 1885  
On a registered letter  
receipt.

The postmarks G3 and G4 are found used in conjunction with G2 and G2A to indicate Grenada as the point of origin. Type G4 was used to cancel stamps in 1873 and is frequently used as a cancel from then on until the end of its use in the first quarter of 1885. From 1879 to early 1885 it was the main cancelling device used at the G.P.O. and is often found in blue ink in 1882 and 1883.

During the period that St. George's was a British Packet station, London records have examples of both postmarks, with index letters C and A. One example appears in the proof book and one in the dispatch book. This evidence plus the brief period of known simultaneous use lead the authors to believe that two separate

cancelling devices were sent to the Island. The EKD of G<sub>4</sub> is recorded on a registered letter receipt, possibly indicating that G<sub>4</sub> was originally used for registered mail only (G<sub>4</sub>'s EKD of 1 AU 1862 is the earliest registered item recorded from Grenada) and in 1862 G<sub>3</sub> was lost or became inoperative and G<sub>4</sub> was pressed into everyday service. This theory of G<sub>3</sub> and G<sub>4</sub> being two separate postmarks is advanced with the full knowledge that G<sub>3</sub>'s index letter C was removable, evidenced by the C being known reversed at times during both the British and Grenada administration of the postal service.

Type G<sub>4</sub> has been extensively forged and close attention should be paid when this cancel appears on provisional stamps and bisects. Comparison of the size, shape, thickness and spacing of the letters and numbers with a good strike on a regular issue can usually distinguish the genuine from the forgery. Also, all strikes of G<sub>4</sub> seen by the authors after March 1885 are forgeries.

## Part II

### Postmarks of the G.P.O. St. George's

These marks are presented in chronological order except for PO 12 to PO 16 which are considered to be of the same family. Unless otherwise indicated, the postmarks have been found only in black.

#### PO 1



Size-23x13mm  
G-8mm high  
Letters 2½mm high

EKD 6 FE 1862  
LKD 5 MR 1862

This postmark saw use at the G.P.O. as a back stamp between 1 OC 1861 and 31 DE 1862. Although two examples of PO 1 are known on stamps of this period, there is no evidence to suggest that these were other than accidents. Covers backstamped with PO 1 were either posted at St. George's to addresses within the Colony or received the PO 1 backstamp as a receiving mark for mail coming into the Colony, although this latter use is rare and often incoming mail received postmark G<sub>3</sub> rather than PO 1.

PO 2



Size-20mm  
Letters 2½mm high

EKD 27 MR 1885  
LKD 1 MR 1886

PO 2 replaced G. The index letter is nearly always found as illustrated until NO 1885 and then the index letter is missing.

PO 3



Size-21mm  
Letters 3mm high

EKD 30 MR 1886  
LKD 27 DE 1895

PO 3 replaced PO 2. It is normally found in blue during 1889 and late 1890. Mid-year 1889 the blue cancelling ink appears green on the 2½d. ultramarine of 1863.

PO 4



Size-23½mm  
Letters 2½mm high

EKD 11 MR 1904  
LKD 16 AU 1930

Generally used as a backstamp after 1911.

PO 5



Size-25mm  
Letters 3½mm high

EKD 10 MY 1907  
LKD 13 AU 1927

Three undistinguishable devices were sent out on 22 FE 1907.



PO 6



Size-27x16mm  
Letters 3mm high  
O of GPO circular, GRENADA.  
B.W.I. tall and wide, pin dot  
after O. and I.

EKD 6 AU 1916  
LKD 2 MR 1955  
Known without index '\*' in 1930's.

PO 7



Size-27x16mm  
Letters 2½-3mm high  
O of GPO elliptical, GRENADA.  
B.W.I. short and narrow,  
normal dot after O. and I.

EKD 27 JA 1917  
LKD 26 SP 1946

PO 8



Size-26x16mm  
Letters 3mm high  
Slugs approximately  
6mm long.

EKD 8 SP 1917  
LKD 24 SP 1931

PO 9



Size-26x16mm  
Letters 2½-3mm high  
Slugs 10½-11mm long.

EKD 4 SP 1918  
LKD 19 JA 1950

PO 10



Size-27x16mm  
Letters 2½mm high

EKD 14 MR 1930  
LKD 6 JY 1950  
Late use 6 JY 1960.

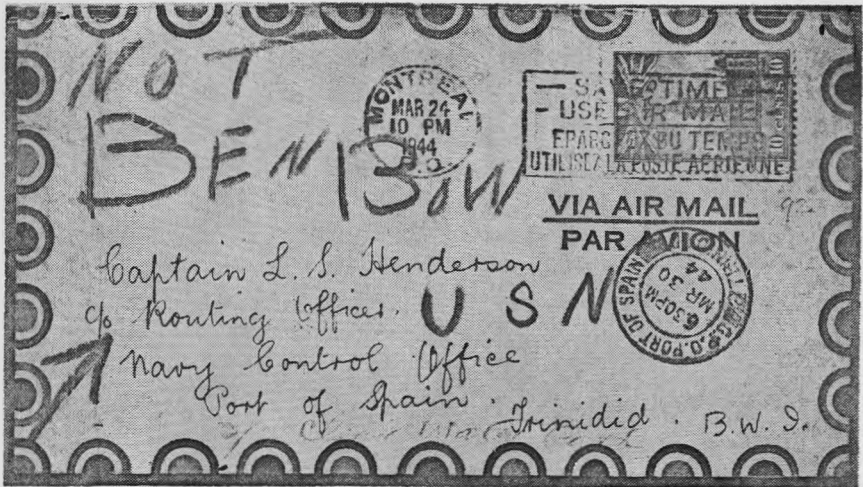
PO 11



Size-27x16mm  
Letters 2½-3mm high  
GPO letters small.

EKD 19 MR 1946  
LKD 20 JY 1956  
Known in blue in  
1956.

(To be continued)



### "NOT BEN BOW"

By Colin H. Bayley

The cover pictured here was given to me, shortly after WWII, by a Montreal dealer who was intrigued by the crudely-written notation "NOT BEN BOW USN" which it carries in blue wax pencil. As can be seen it is addressed to a naval officer care of Navy Control Office, Port of Spain, Trinidad, having been sent from Montreal (24 Mar. 1944) and showing the Port of Spain arrival mark of 30 Mar. On the reverse are the words "Clear Water Park".

Ben Bow was a British admiral who saw service in the West Indies in the late 17th and early 18th centuries having been sent in 1697 to track down and destroy the pirates who were harassing commerce there. In January 1702 he engaged in a naval battle with the French and was wounded, resulting in his death a year later. He was buried in the Parish Church at Kingston, Jamaica.

It seems that true to the tradition of not forgetting its illustrious dead, the Royal Navy gave the name "H.M.S. Ben Bow" to the Royal Naval Base established at Clear Water Park, Trinidad, and operating during 1941 - 47, this information being obtained from the Office of the Senior Research Officer, Dept. of National Defence, Ottawa.

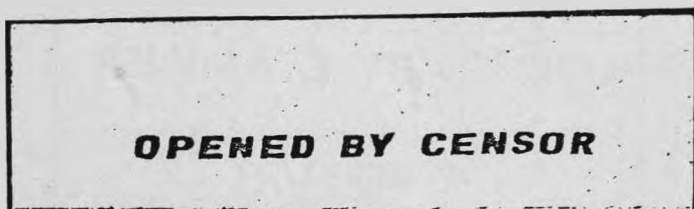
Apparently the person to whom the letter was addressed was a US Navy Officer, hence the "USN" at the end of the pencilled message.

It is of interest to note the listing of a shore station as one of His Majesty's Ships, the other instance of this, which comes to mind, being the case of Diamond Rock. This is a rock located a short distance off the south-west tip of Martinique. It was occupied and fortified by the British in 1794 and used to harass French shipping and is supposed to have been duly gazetted in the British Navy List as "HMS Diamond Rock". It was surrendered to the French in 1805, after a lengthy siege.

# A History of Antigua Civil Censorship

(Conclusion)

by George W. Bowman



Type 29, Type L12

In references 1 and 2 I suggested that two devices, Types S4 and L12, might have been used in Antigua. These items are shown in Figures 28 and 29. However, since then I have concluded that Type S4 was a St. Kitts handstamp and that Type L12 was used in Montserrat.

\* \* \*

On numerous occasions, whenever a shortage of labels occurred at a censor facility, devices would sometimes be borrowed from a neighboring colony. In such cases, the borrowing agency would cross out the printed code and inscribe its own distinctive letters. Two examples of this procedure used on Antigua P.C. 90 labels will make this clear:

In the Broderick collection is a cover posted at Plymouth, Montserrat, on 25 OC 44, and mailed to New York. Figure 30 shows this item's censor device, a Type L5 label with the B/132 scratched out and a new one applied in pencil. The new number is AA/29, a **Montserrat** code. Since there are no intermediate transit marks or backstamps on the envelope, it is obvious that Antigua censor labels were borrowed for a time by Montserrat censor personnel.

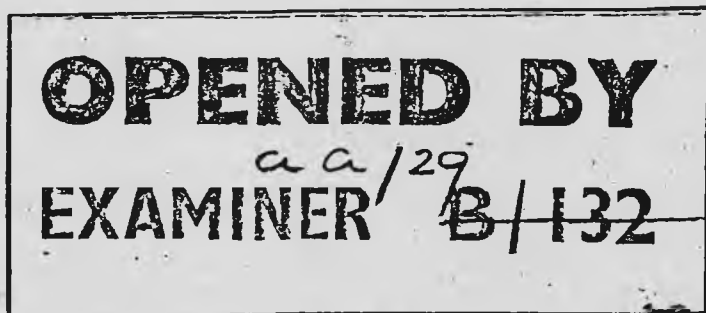


Figure 30

Bogg has shown me a cover mailed from Dominica to Canada and bearing the Type L8 label pictured in Figure 31. This item is posted at Roseau on 31 JA 45 and, like the Broderick cover above, shows no Antigua transit marks. The label has been re-identified with Dominica code RR/79.

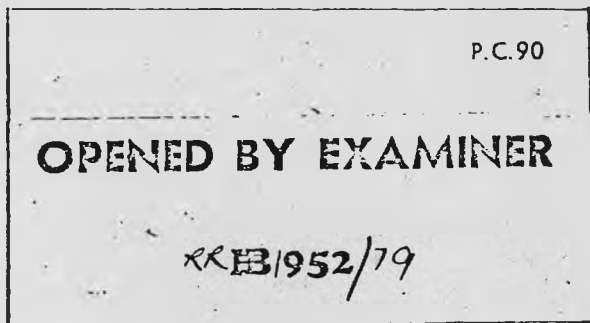


Figure 31

Clearly, this is another case of the utilization of a borrowed label, but in my mind a much more interesting question arises as to whether the **unaltered** Type L8 IB/952 label was ever used in Antigua. (See Footnote 9.)

\* \* \*

### CONCLUSIONS:

The following tentative conclusions can be drawn from this study. They are, of course, subject to revision based on the appearance of new information. I hope that members owning or knowing of censored covers which will extend the EDK or LDK dates noted, or which will prove or refute statements I have written, will either contact me or submit comments directly to the Editor.

1. "Local" censor-devices (Types L1, S1, and S2) were utilized in Antigua during the years 1939 through 1942, at which time they were replaced by devices incorporating the British-assigned code system. (Types L1 and S1 may not, however, have been **locally** made.)

2. For Antigua labels, the **printed** code letter B types (L2, L3, L5, and L7) were generally used in 1942/1943; the **printed** code IB types (L8 and L9) were generally used in 1944/1945. (Usage of L5, however, **did** extend into May of 1944, and L9 was used as early as October of 1943.)

3. The status of the four-digit labels (Types L4 and L6), and the significance of the IB handstamps, are subjects confusing almost to the point of hopelessness. It **is** apparent that, whenever the IB stamp **was** used, it was applied to a four-digit label.

4. The "write-in-your-own-number" label, Type L10, seems to have been used only from mid-July through early October of 1943, and only in conjunction with code numbers 235 and 493.

5. **Printed B** or **IB** code labels in Antigua included the following individual numbers: 100, 112, 132, 235, 246, 493, 524, 728, and (perhaps) 952. **Four-digit** examiner labels which **may** have been used in Antigua included only six numbers: 1044, 1894, 4113, 4179, 5212, and 6044. The I.B. "code" is represented by just one number — 6044.

6. EDK's can be summarized in the following list, arranged chronologically by date:

Use	Date Censored in Antigua
a. EDK in Antigua of any printed label of any sort (Type L1).	15 SP 39
b. EDK in Antigua of Type S1 handstamp.	1 NO 39
c. EDK in Antigua of Type S2 handstamp.	2 OC 41
d. EDK of a P.C.90 "Form 167" 6044, Type L6 label (probably not used in Antigua).	(Mailed 18 OC 41, Guadeloupe to Canada)
e. EDK in Antigua <sup>10</sup> of a handstamped IB mark added to any P.C.90 label (IB added to "Form 167" 6044, Type L6 label).	(Mailed 11 JA 42, Guadeloupe to New York)
f. EDK of a printed "I.B." 6044, Type L11 label (probably not used in Antigua).	(Mailed 28 MR 42, Guadeloupe to U.S.)
g. EDK in Antigua of a printed "B" label (Type L2).	13 AP 42
h. EDK in Antigua of a manuscript mark added to any P.C.90 label (/1 added to B/246, Type L2 label).	Between 2 and 23 JY 42
i. EDK in Antigua of Type S3 handstamp.	Approx. 23 DE 42
j. EDK in Antigua of a printed "IB" label (Type L9).	Approx. 22 OC 43

---

10. Assumed to have been censored in Antigua, due to IB handstamp.

\* \* \*

#### CONTRIBUTORS:

I wish to thank the following men for their kindness and enthusiasm in contributing covers, xeroxes, and data as inputs to this article:

- Bennink, Rev. Richard J. (Michigan)
- Bjork, Walter (New York)
- Bogg, William G. (Florida)
- Broderick, Wilfrid N. (Washington)
- Fox, Myron (Massachusetts)
- Kieffer, Lincoln E. (New Jersey)
- Larsen, Paul A. (Illinois)

Mayo, Dann (Missouri)  
Seifert, Col. Fred F. (New Mexico)  
Torrance, Tony (Scotland)  
Zwart, J. W. (The Netherlands)

**REFERENCES:**

1. *The Philatelist*, July, August, September, and December 1976.
2. *Roses Caribbean Philatelic Handbook Number 1*, "West Indian Civil Censorship Devices in World War II", 1976, and *Roses Caribbean Philatelic Handbook Number 2*, "West Indian Censorship Devices", 1977, both published by the *Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society*, Yorkshire, England.
3. "British West Indies Interlude", by Anne Rainey Langley, and "West Indies Links in a Defense Chain", by Edwin L. Wisherd, *National Geographic Magazine*, January 1941; "Americans in the Caribbean", by Luis Marden, *National Geographic Magazine*, June 1942.

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**CAYMAN ISLANDS — GLOVER'S FLAW**

By Harry T. Whitin

In the King Edward VII stamps of the Cayman Islands, there occurs a head plate flaw in the sixth stamp of the top row of the left pane, consisting of a small semicircular dent, or "u", in the frame line below the first "A" of Cayman. As the same head plate was used to produce stamps for Gambia, St. Helena, and Seychelles, this flaw can also be found in these stamps. E. F. Aguilar and P. T. Saunders in "The Cayman Islands" (1962) describe this flaw, attributing its discovery to Mr. L. V. S. Glover.

Aguilar and Saunders state that the flaw is known on the watermark MCA ½d, 1d, 2½d, 4d, and 2½D on 4d values, SG #8, 9, 10, 13, and 24. Recently I have acquired a used copy of the 6d olive and rose, SG #14, with the flaw, and I presume that it exists on all the MCA printings of 1907 and later. I now have a copy of the 1sh orange, watermark crown CA, SG #7, printed in 1902 with the flaw. The question arises as to whether it exists on **all** the 1902 printings. Can anyone shed light on this? I would appreciate hearing from anyone with more information.

HARRY T. WHITIN

---

John Ayre received the Reserve Grand Award at GRANDPEX in Cambridge, Ontario, for his classic Bahamas.

Dr. Walton van Winkle collected a Gold Medal at WESTPEX for Early Postal Markings of Jamaica, while Dr. M. Fitz Roett was awarded the top trophy at ORAPEX in Ottawa for the George V issues of Barbados. Colin Bayley exhibited in the Court of Honor at ORAPEX, showing 90 (Ed.:!) Bytown (now Ottawa) covers 1829-1851.



## EXCITING NEW EARLY MONTSERRAT DISCOVERIES

By John W. Willem

A surprising amount of scarce early Montserrat material has surfaced in recent months at auctions on both sides of the Atlantic and at various international shows. Rarities in Britnor's 1965 BWI Study Circle Monograph on Montserrat were available and quickly absorbed. Almost escaping notice were discoveries hitherto not reported.

For example, Britnor does not record a Montserrat postal mark until 1796 (the straight line variety). Britnor records an EKD for his Type N of April 3, 1796, and an LKD of September 17, 1796.

At hand, however, is an example dated January 10, 1791, with London receiving marks of April, 1791. The measurement of this handstamp is 40mm X4mm (Britnor N2). Pending reports to the contrary, this has to be the EKD of a Montserrat postal mark.

There is also at hand an example dated August, 1795, with measurements 39mm X 3.5mm (Britnor N1) with London receiving mark of November, 1795.

Even more exciting than this, however, is the surfacing of the hitherto unknown handstamp of the PF variety which had caused Britnor to write that "About 1800 a two-lined dated mark was introduced into most of the West Indies Colonies. So far no such marks have been discovered for Montserrat." Why the two-lined dated mark was introduced in the Colonies is explained by Britnor on pages 76 and 77.

Britnor added that "strangely enough, no postal markings have been recorded from Montserrat between 1796 and 1836, although obviously several letters emanated from that Island." Examples are cited.

In contradiction, not one but three examples have appeared of a handstamp used during this period. One is a clear PF dated DEC 23, 1801; a second is a questionable PF dated DEC 25, 1801, and the third is a PFb dated JAN 13 802.

The handstamp consists of three lines instead of two. The top impression is simply an "MT" and it is difficult to distinguish whether the "T" is large or small. The 1802 example most clearly defines the size. The "M" is 4½mm high X5mm wide including serifs. The "T" is a block "T" 1½mm high and 1½mm wide at the top. This example shows two hash marks below the "T" with a vertical line to the left stand of the second "R" in "SERRAT".

The second line is all SERRAT, with serif letters 4mm high and 32mm long.

The third and date line is 3½mm X26½mm long in Type PF and 28mm long in Type PFb. (See illustration).

All three examples are addressed to Thomas Gordon Esquire, Percy Street, London. The earliest of the three (DEC 23 1801) clearly shows the full year date, and one wonders why the second cover, dated DEC 25 (only two days later) should show only 801 of the year. Further examination of the piece shows that it was handstamped twice. The first strike is an albino (not inked), and the second is unevenly inked. The first digit of the year can be seen in outline under magnification.

The 1802 example is clearly of only the last three year digits.

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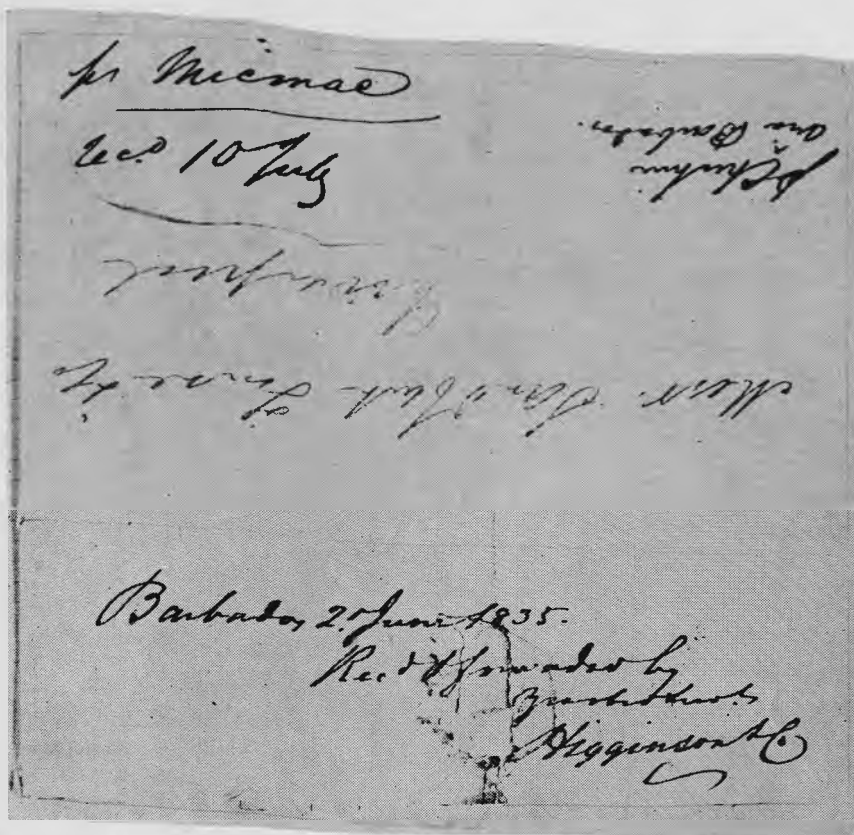
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### BARBADOS FORWARDING AGENTS

By W. Kenneth Watson

In the autumn of last year one of the London Auction Houses had a lot, described from memory, as follows:-

**British Guiana** — 3 pre-stamp covers 1835, 1838 and 1856 to Liverpool, no postal markings, one with manuscript Barbados f.a.c. . . . .

In due course I obtained the lot which included the cover illustrated, and which now adds a further name to the list which has already appeared in the B.C.P.J. of October 1977 by Charles Cwiakala with further information in October 1978 given by Colin H. Bayley.

The manuscript endorsement is inscribed "Barbados 2 June 1835/ Rec'd. and forwarded by/Your obed. Servts./Higginson & Co." and is written across the back flap of a folded letter. The letter dated Demerara 23rd. May 1835 was written by McInvoy Sandbach & Company, addressed to Sandbach Tinne & Company of Liverpool, and there is a note "rec'd. 10th. July". On the front there is a mailing instruction "p Cheshire via Barbados" and this would appear to have been added by the forwarding agent as the writing differs from the hand responsible for the address.

I only mention the auction lot as I was somewhat surprised on receiving these three letters to find them all addressed to Sandbach Tinne & Company of Liverpool quite apart from the absence of any postal markings and rates. But some light was thrown on this matter when I turned to "British Guiana" by W. A. Townsend and F. G. Howe (page 200) where reference is made to the "colonial firm of Sandbach Tinne & Co. who by 1840 had their own fleet and carried mails".

There is one other point worthy of mention about the cover illustrated. Mr. Bayley in his article makes reference to forwarding agents who facilitate the delivery of letters entrusted to them and collect a fee for so doing. The area of charges for forwarding has always appeared to me to be not very clear, it being difficult to designate those agents who made a charge and those who forwarded as a business courtesy or as a form of advertisement. As far as I know any ledger or record of such charges has yet to be found, though presumably the large business houses (Harndens of New York and Liverpool, Baring Bros. of London etc.) must have charged for their services as did those firms who appended reference numbers of their own cachets. In this case there is a postscript to the letter as follows:-

"We send this by way of Barbados to the care of Higginson & Co. to whose firm in Liverpool you will please tender the amount of any postage incurred by them."

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## **AN UNUSUAL TRINIDAD CENSORED COVER**

**By Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon**

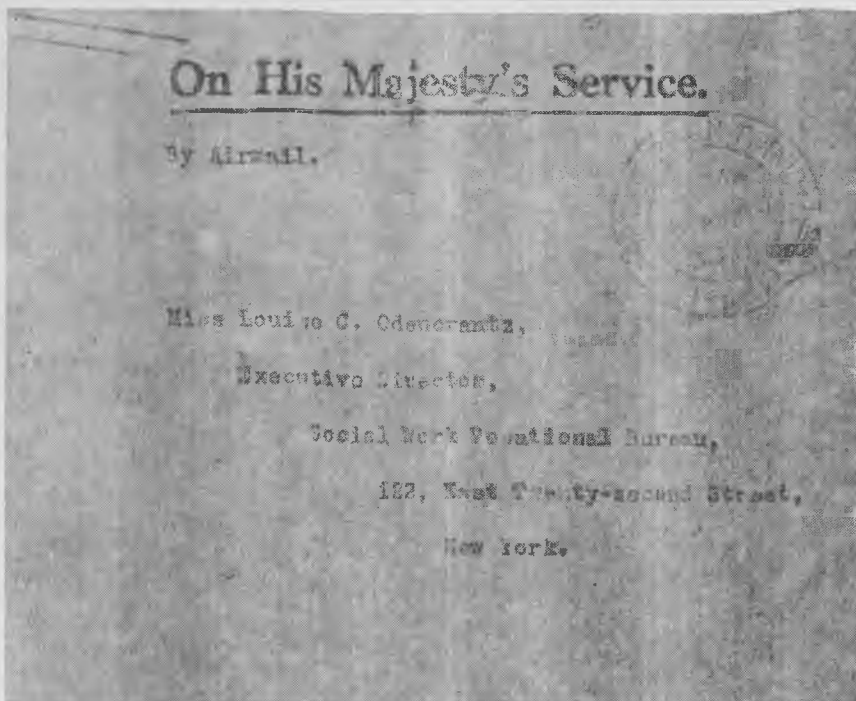
An official (OHMS) censored cover from Trinidad addressed to the New York office of the Executive Director, Social Work Vocational Bureau, bears a number of unusual handstamps.

On the front of the cover is a red 'PAID' strike of a handstamp, double ringed, 32 mm (outer diameter), and 21 mm (inner diameter). It reads Port-of-Spain, Trinidad/Paid between the circles, and within the inner circle space, three lines of text read: '1130 AM/5 Ap 43/30C.'

It is not clear what the code '30C' means. Similar strikes have been seen with dates of 3 JL 47 and 17 OC 61, with the code reading of 1C and 2C. It may be that these codes refer to various government departments using the paid meter handstamp, and that 30C refers to the Censorship Office itself. It is not likely that the code refers to actual numbers of letters cancelled or censored.

The double rectangular purple handstamp appears on the back of the cover. Its dimensions are 45 x 33 mm, with the rectangular borders separated entirely by a 1 mm space. The text appears in four lines, reading: 'IMPERIAL CENSORSHIP/CENTRAL REGISTRY/APR 3 1943/TRINIDAD'.

The handstamp belongs to the Censorship Department, and is similar to the numerous other handstamps used by other government departments on their mail, ie., Inland Revenues, Port Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, etc. They all appear in purple ink.



The cover to Miss Odencrantz had been intercepted in Trinidad, and found to contain something the censors could not let go through. Such intercepted letters may be impounded for long periods of time — as much as 4 or 5 years. The cover illustrated may be to tell Miss Odencrantz what had transpired — and why.

Other possibilities could be that her letter was returned in this envelope, or that she was being warned not to send similar information.

The IC/TRI handstamp is one of the two major varieties, and its use simply means that the cover had been censored. The strike served to inform others along its route that additional censorship was not necessary. However, this is not necessarily a guarantee that additional censorship would not be done. Perhaps this did occur periodically because of the unusual nature of the IC/TRI marking itself.

**References:**

1. Renshaw, E. B., Trinidad chapter, *West Indian Civil Censorship Devices in World War II*, *Roses Caribbean Philatelic Society Handbook No. 1*, 1976.
2. *Ibid*, personal correspondence, 18 March, 1979.

## OUR SECRETARY REPORTS

### New Members:

- ISHERWOOD, Howard, 112 Main St., Allenhurst, NJ 07711, Attorney, Collects British Commonwealth generally and British West Indies specifically. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- MOYE, Robert J., 1624 Holiday Place, New Orleans, LA 70114. Veterinarian, Collects Cayman Islands. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- AUGUSTINOVIC, Horst, Westmorland Apt. 3, Pembroke S-58, Bermuda, Manager of a Printing Company, Collects Bermuda. By Thomas Giraldi
- SEIDELMAN, Norman I., 9240 Quick Fox, Columbia, MD 21045, Computer Systems Analyst, Collects Stamps and Stationery of Bermuda, US, and Israel. By Thomas Giraldi
- KEENE, Douglas, 941 N. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89503. Baker, Collects British Caribbean. By Thomas Giraldi
- RUSSELL, Philip G., 15 Elliott Dr., Williamstown, MA 01267, Physical Chemist, Collects Leeward Is., US, Canada, Great Britain BWI. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- SMITH, James R., 1006 Green Acre Rd., Towson, MD 21204. Financial Manager, Collects British Caribbean, France and Greece. By Fred S. Seifert
- HELM, Leo, 62 Whitman St., Congers, NY 10920. Senior Clerk, Collects Canada and British Caribbean — all aspects. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- MIGLIAVACCA, Giorgio, P.O. Box 42 - 27100 Pavia, Italy, Postal History Dealer and Publisher, Collects British Virgin Is. including Leewards used in Virgin Islands. By Thomas E. Giraldi
- TRETHEWEY, Walter John, Chapel Road, Carpalla Cottage, Foxhole, St. Austell, PL26 7TY, Cornwall, UK. Accounts Clerk, Collects Postal issues of Barbados, Jamaica, and "Saints". By Al Branston
- NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM, Confederation Heights, Ottawa, Ont., Canada K1A 0B1. By Ben Ramkisson

### Address Changes:

- Leverton, Allan M., 24 Pall Mall, London, SW 1 5LP, England
- Rowan, Hugh, P.O. Box 24, Commerce Court Postal Station, Toronto, M5L 1A8, Canada
- Leslie, George F. Jr., 652 Fifth Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118
- Betts, Elmer C. Jr., 2800 Quebec St. NW #635, Washington, DC 20008
- Hanchell, Louis A., P.O. Box F5-8, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas
- Parker, King Jr., 1399 Ygnacio Valley #35, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
- Winand, C. P., The Old Malt House, High Street, Broughton, Hampshire, England
- Bond, Roy, 5, Holford Close, Tilehurst, Reading, Burks, RG3 5PB England
- Ashley, William B., Delphi Associates, Inc., 17 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803
- McCann, Peter, Merrell Research Center, 2110 E. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45215

West, Neil D., 5907 Dana Dr., Norcross, GA 30093  
Mays, Ronald, 114 Church St., Georgetown, Guyana, South America  
Elliott, Richard, 211 Central Park West, New York, NY 10024  
Adach, Dorothy, P.O. Box 21146, Jamaica, NY 11421

**Resigned:**

Tuffs, W. S.

**Deceased:**

Van Hoy, James H.

**Dropped for Non-Payment of Dues:**

Aman, P. M.	Dickinson, T. A.	Kufchak, G.	Morgan,
Alverontos, E.	Farthing, J.N.	Latham, A. H.	P. R. F.
Apfelbaum,	Hancock, P. D.	Sra. Dorotea	Nestor, J.M.
E. P. L.	Hinkley, R. E.	Margarita	Pratt, E. C.
Bendon, J.	Hughs, R. A.	Matasar, H.	Richards, E. B.
Brodie, F. N.	Kilpatrick,	Martin, G.	Rosow, L.
Buchanan, G. C.	James, A.	McNair, W. J.	Watkins, R.
Cross, M. J.	Knowles, A. R.	Message, C. A.	Werner, D.
Deicath, R. C.	M. E.		Wojtas, K.

---

## New Issue Reports

Antigua's Rowland Hill Issue will be released as sheetlets of 5 stamps and a label all within a decorative border. Labels are made up of old engravings showing various mail systems i.e. horseback, railroad, airplanes and ships.

### BARBADOS

Definitive featuring Birds

Release: August 13, 1979

Designer: John Waddington's Studio

Printer: Harris & Sons

Process: Photogravure

Pane: 50 (2 x 25)

Size: 28.45 x 42.58 mm

Perforation: 14

Watermark: CA Spiral

Designs: 1 cent-Grass Canary  
2 cent-Rain Bird  
5 cent-Sparrow  
8 cent-Frigate Bird  
10 cent-Cattle Egret  
12 cent-Green Gaulin  
20 cent-Hummingbird  
25 cent-Ground Dove  
28 cent-Blackbird  
35 cent-Green-Throated Carib  
45 cent-Wood Dove  
50 cent-Ramier

70 cent-Yellow Breast  
\$1-Pee-Whistler  
\$2.50-Christmas Bird  
\$5-Kingfisher  
\$10-Red-Seal Coot

### **BARBADOS-Space Themes**

Release Date: 2 October 1979

Values: 10c 12c 20c 28c 45c 50c and a souvenir sheet containing a \$1 stamp

Designer: G. L. Vasarhelyi

Printer: Format International Security Printers Ltd.

Process: Lithography

Pane: 50 (2 x 25)

Stamp size: 28.45 x 42.58mm

Souvenir Sheet size: 115 x 87mm

Watermark: CA

Exchange Rate: \$BS1 (100c) = £0.237

Designs: 10c-Gun Aboard Landing Craft at Foul Bay  
12c-Transporting Launcher Through Barbados  
20c-Firing of 16" Launcher in Daylight  
28c-Bath Earth Station and Intelsat IV-A  
45c-Intelsat Over the Caribbean  
50c-Intelsat IV-A Over Atlantic  
\$1-on Souvenir Sheet - Lunar Module

### **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

International Year of the Child

Release: July 9, 1979

Designer: R. Granger Barrett

Printer: The House of Questa

Process: Lithography

Pane: 50 (2 x 25)

Size: 30.56 x 38.00 mm

S/S Size: 115 x 92 mm

Watermark: CA Spiral

Designs: 5 cent-West Indian Children  
10 cent-African Children  
13 cent-Asian Children  
\$1-European Children

### **ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS ANGUILLA**

Centenary of the Death of Sir Rowland Hill

Release: July 2, 1979

Designer: John Waddington's Studio

Process: Lithography

Pane: 50 (2 x 25)

Size: 27.94 x 44.45 mm

Watermark: CA

Designs: 5 cent-1970-76 St. Christopher 1d Dull Rose  
15 cent-1970 50c St. Kitts Stamp Centenary  
50 cent-1841 2d Violet Blue  
\$2.50-1923 Tercentenary of the Founding of St. Kitts

## **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Centenary of Postage Stamps in Tobago

Release Date: 1 August 1979

Values: 10c 15c 35c 45c 70c \$1 and Souvenir Sheet

Designer: John Cooter

Printer: Format International Security Printers Ltd.

Process: Lithography

Pane: 50

Stamp size: 31.75 x 48.26mm

Perforation-Stamps: 13.9 x 13.6; Souvenir Sheet: 13.6 x 13.8

Designs: 10c-1879 1d Rose and Map of Tobago

15c-1d on Bisected 6d 1880 & 1879 3d

35c-½d on 6d of 1886 and 1879 6d

45c-½d on 2½d stamp of 1886 and 1879 1/-

70c-1856 GB stamp used in Scarborough, Tobago and 1879 5/-

\$1-General Post Office, Scarborough, Tobago & 1978 £1

## **ST. VINCENT**

### **Post Offices of St. Vincent — Definitive Series (Courtesy St. Vincent Philatelic Services)**

St. Vincent's postal history begins, officially, in 1762 when Abraham Shaw was commissioned as Postmaster and as such was one of the last Caribbean islands to become attached, however loosely at first, to the British postal system.

The first handstruck postal marking, a straight-line 'ST. VINCENT' was used from 1793 on overseas mail carried by packet ships and various postmarks were used at the 'Colonial Post Office' in Kingstown between then and 1858, when the so-called 'A10' obliterator was introduced to 'obliterate' initially the British postage stamps and, from 1861, St. Vincent stamps used on the island, 'A10' being Kingstown's code. The opening of thirteen village post office on 2 December, 1872, marked the inauguration of internal mail services which in 1979, are accepted as just a way of life, although over a century have developed and expanded to the needs of the community.

### **1c — BUCCAMENT**

The present post office of the Buccament valley is situated in the village of Vermont, although the original office which was opened on 2 December, 1872, was situated on the leeward coast of the valley and served by boat. The original postmark is of the so-called 'abbreviated village datestamp' type, bearing the first two letters of the name ('BU'). This first Buccament datestamp is very scarce and the earliest recorded date of use was nearly two years after its introduction. The current datestamp was introduced in 1952 and is still inscribed 'B.W.I.' (British West Indies), standard during the colonial period of British rule.

## **2c — SION HILL**

The post office of this village, on the southern outskirts of Kingstown, has since its opening in 1936 continuously used one handstamp, which after over forty years usage is now becoming somewhat worn. Still visible is the 'B.W.I.' inscription, which like the current Buccament postmark, is reminiscent of the colonial period.

## **3c — CUMBERLAND**

The Cumberland office was originally opened, like Buccament, in December 1872, at the start of rural postal services in Saint Vincent, brought in under the Inland Post Act of 1872 and detailed in the Government Gazette of 10 October 1872. The abbreviated datestamp was used until 1884, when it was replaced by one described as an extended village datestamp which read 'Cumberland' in full. The present postmark was introduced in 1957.

## **4c — QUESTELLES**

During the period that the Questelles Village post office has been in operation, only two postmarks types have been used, both inscribed 'Questelles St. Vincent B.W.I.', but in different positions. The first was used from 1932 to 1956, the second from 1956 to date.

## **5c — LAYOU**

The Layou post office began serving the fishing community of the area in 1872, from the local Police Station, and the first datestamp is of the 'abbreviated village' type. It is not known how often this marking was used between 1872 and 1884, when it was superceded with one inscribed 'Layou' in full. The service remained under Police control until 1911 when an official post office was opened. The current mark like those on the other low values in this series, has the letters 'B.W.I.' and was introduced in Layou in 1958.

## **6c — NEW GROUND**

New Ground, like Questelles, has only had two datestamps. The first, introduced when the post office opened on 1 December, 1932, is simply inscribed 'New Ground St. Vincent' and the second which superceded it in 1956, also bears the legend 'B.W.I.'

## **8c — MESOPOTAMIA**

The abbreviated datestamp ('MES') of 1872 is comparatively common, as the village is the centre of St. Vincent's most populated agriculturally productive Marriaqua valley. The mark is known in both red (1872 - 1878) and black (1879 - 1885) and was superceded by a type simply inscribed 'Mesopotamia'. The current postmark bears the letters 'W.I.' (West Indies), a style common to most postmarks introduced since 1959.



### **10c — TROUMACA**

When the Troumaca post office opened on 1 April, 1910, there was no village postmark ready and it seems that an 18.75 mm diameter 'St. Vincent' handstamp first used in 1873, was resurrected and used at Troumaca with the code-letter 'C' until one inscribed with the village name was introduced in 1931/32. The current datestamp introduced in 1967 is also unusual in that it has 'West Indies' spelt in full.

### **12c — ARNOS VALE**

Light-industrial and residential area which includes St. Vincent's national airport, Arnos Vale, was another post office opened on 1 May, 1936, and the first postal marking inscribed 'B.W.I.' remained in use from then until 1972, when it was replaced by one of the modern type simply inscribed with the village name and 'St. Vincent W.I.'

### **15c — STUBBS**

The post office of the village of Stubbs (named after a Scotsman who once owned an estate there), opened in 1872 and commenced operations with one of the now much sought after abbreviated village datestamp ('ST') which remained in use until April 1884. The modern postmark dates back to the abortive and short-lived "West Indies Federation" period (1958 - 1959) when all postmarks introduced were inscribed 'T.W.I.' (The West Indies).

### **20c — ORANGE HILL**

The post office at Orange Hill Estate commenced operations on 1 June, 1912, and the original instrument now distorted, battered and damaged, is still in use, sixty-seven years later, at this, one of the most distant and inaccessible post offices on the island.

### **25c — CALLIAQUA**

The original Calliaqua abbreviated village datestamp ('CA') is without doubt, the commonest of its kind (Kingstown excepted), and indeed its use has proved that St. Vincent's 1877 6d yellow-green stamps were issued in March of that year, not September as previously thought. The current datestamp was introduced in about 1933 and the 'T' of 'St. Vincent' is unusually small.

### **40c — EDINBORO**

Edinboro is situated in the northern corner of Kingstown Harbour and the post office opened on the same day as Sion Hill and Arnos Vale. It has, like the former, used the same postmark ever since. The unusual feature of this handstamp is that there is a small dash below the letter 'T' of 'ST' unique to this one office on St. Vincent.

### **50c — COLONARIE**

Colonarie was one of the thirteen original post offices to be opened on 2 December, 1872. No proof strike of the abbreviated village datestamp ('CO') exists to indicate when the instrument was forwarded to Colonarie, and the earliest recorded date of use is 24 March, 1873. The current postmark dates back to the colonial period and was introduced in 1957.

### **80c — BIABOU**

Biabou post office also opened on 2 December, 1972, and the abbreviated datestamp ('BI') of the 1872 - 1884 period has always been quite scarce and it appears that mail leaving this office remained uncancelled until it was sorted and postmarked at Kingstown. The modern Biabou cancellation is in an unusual format, with the village name and 'St. Vincent' around the top and 'B.W.I.' at the base. It was first used in 1954.

### **\$1.00 — CHATEAUBELAIR**

Like Biabou, the Chateaubelair abbreviated datestamp ('CH') is very scarce and is thought to have been used concurrently with an 'A10' obliterator in the possession of the post office at the time. This was one of the larger offices serving the whole north-west of the island and, as so little evidence of its early existence is left, it is possible that it almost always left its work to be done at the head office in Kingstown. The present postmark dates from 1957.

### **\$2.00 — HEAD POST OFFICE, KINGSTOWN**

The Crowned Circle "Paid at St. Vincent" postal marking was registered at the General Post Office on 30 January, 1852, and it was used for one purpose or another until 1873. It was generally applied to overseas mail to indicate that full postage had been paid through to its destination and is known to have been used as a "Postage Paid" marking between 1860 when St. Vincent took control of its own Post office, until 1861 when the first St. Vincent postage stamps were issued and also as as "Provisional" during times of shortages of various denominations of stamps. The 'G.P.O.' handstamp, still in use in 1979, like the Stubbs postmark, has the 'T.W.I.' inscription and dates back to 1958 in the Federation period.

### **\$3.00 — BARRAUALLIE**

The postal and revenue office of the important fishing centre of Barrouallie generally used its first datestamp ('BAR') as a postal marking on envelopes and not to cancel stamps. Cancellation was normally done in transit at Kingstown. Barrouallie, being one of the larger villages, has had several datestamps since then, although the latest is still of the colonial period and introduced in about 1938.

### **\$5.00 — GEORGETOWN**

Georgetown, the chief settlement on St. Vincent's surfbound windward coast, also has a postal and revenue office, and was also one of the first thirteen of 2 December 1872, with an abbreviated datestamp, inscribed with the letter 'G', which can be classed as the rarest in its category, due in part to Georgetown having its own 'A10' obliterator, which may have been used in its place. The current postmark is in the same style as Barrouallie, but was first used in 1957.

## **\$10.00 — HEAD POST OFFICE, KINGSTOWN**

The General Post Office, which naturally has had a number of handstamps since before postage stamps were introduced, also had an abbreviated datestamp ('K') which was used between December 1872 and 1885 and spasmodically until 1892, generally for mailing internal island mail. Various forms of Kingstown postmarks have been used over the years, the current type with 'W.I.' being first introduced in 1964.

The postal markings of St. Vincent have kept students active for many years and evidence of their usage are still revealing new facts about the island's extensive postal history. Only nineteen of the forty-one post offices in operation in 1979 are illustrated in this series and exclude some with such unusual names as Diamond, Owia, O'Briens Valley and Sandy Bay, all serving the postal requirements of the people of St. Vincent.

### **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

#### **Definitive issue of Postage stamps**

Research: C.V.A. Duggleby., Esq., London

Designer: John Waddingtons Studio, England

Printer: Harrison and Sons Ltd., England

Process: Multicolour Lithography

Paper used: CA watermarked

Sheet Format: 50 subjects (2 panes of 25 stamps)

Release Date: 1 September 1979 (original values)

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### **EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK**

I don't know about the rest of you, but the month of July seemed to evaporate rapidly and mysteriously — I have no idea where it went!!!

An interesting point has been raised by some of our GB members, regarding the requirement for the Durnin Memorial Award that the article be grammatically correct, with no spelling errors. Several gentle barbs have been fired in the direction of the Colonials, reminding us that spelling and usages do vary across the pond; at the risk of being arbitrary, I will rule that either the Queen's English or Standard English (American) is acceptable so long as (a) the spelling in question can be found in standard dictionaries on either side of the Atlantic and (b) grammatical constructions at least appear reasonable to this unreconstructed Tory!

Paul Larsen asks that I mention that we have plenty of BCPSG medallions on hand for NOJEX and beyond.

In case you didn't notice, Bob Topaz lives in WABAN, Mass., not Walton, Mass., although the Zip Code was correct and should get any auction bids sent safely to Bob. Thanks to all who sent clippings and notes for personal mentions in the Journal.

Dan

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