

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

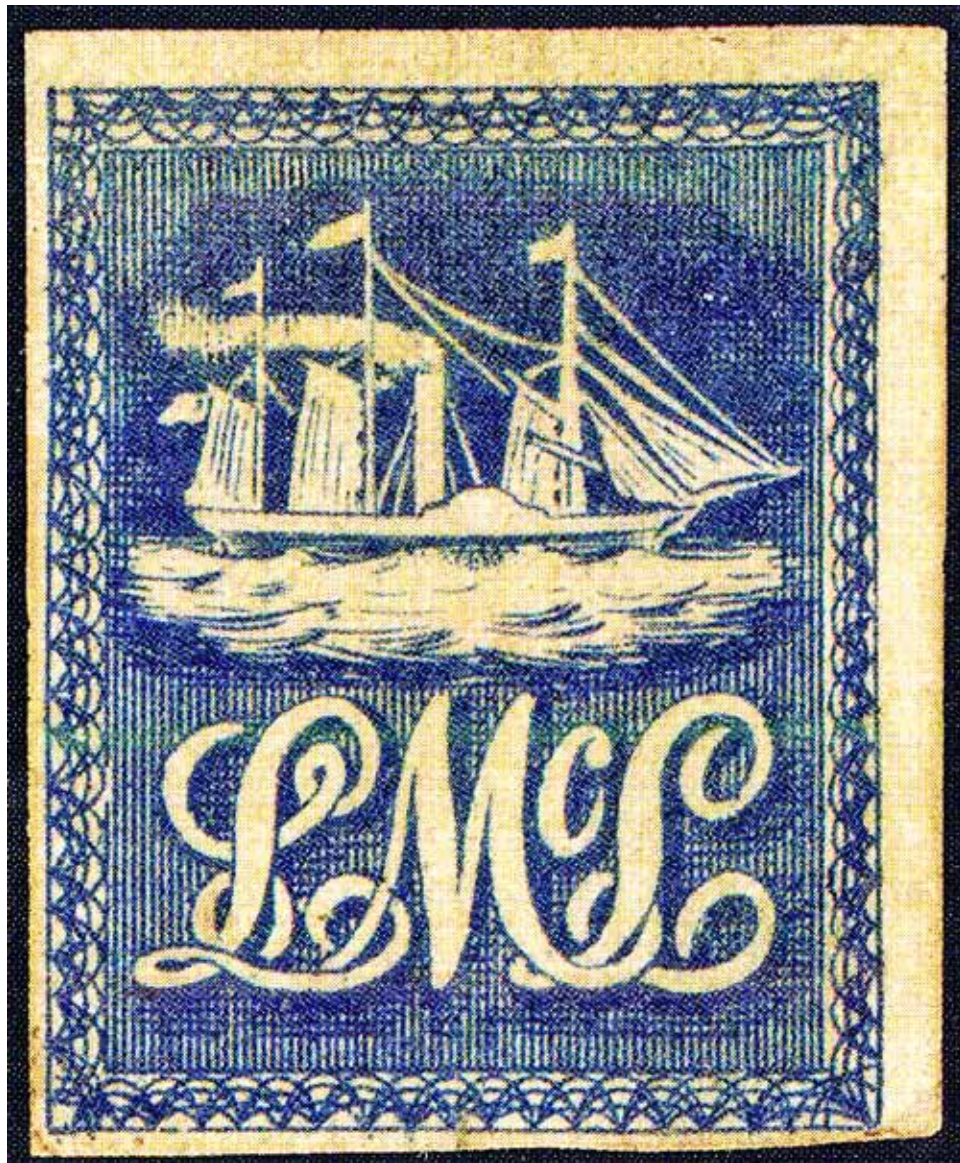
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New Research on the Lady McLeod of Trinidad





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The “Lady McLeod” History and Research

By Gregory Frantz

The *Lady McLeod* was a paddle steamer which sailed regularly from late 1845 to 1852 between the Trinidad cities of Port of Spain and San Fernando. The blue stamp that depicts the “Lady” and the mysteries of this first stamp issued in a British colony is the focus of this article. There will be two parts: Part I will cover the historical and political facts surrounding the stamp issue. Part 2 will cover the stamp itself: pre-production, die make-up, sheet format and use; why they were issued and why were they taken out of service. We will also examine who printed the stamps and the likely size and make up of the sheet. Part II will be printed in the July 2016 *Journal*.

Part I

“For several years before this stamp was issued, the people of Trinidad had been agitating for a postal service. Long verbose reports passed between the Governor of Trinidad and the Postmaster-General in London, but to no avail. As late as 1844 the island was without mail service.”¹ Mail was often carried by an old ship named the *Paria*. The governor complained about the inefficient and costly service. Lord George Harris, a British peer, was appointed governor for the years 1846-54 and then governor of Madras. Historically, he is considered the most progressive and best administrator of the colony. He set up the present system of education, established seven primary schools and a school for teachers.

In 1849 he divided the island into counties and wards to spur development. He established the first public library, and a railroad for the export of sugar, coffee and cocoa. He promoted the export of asphalt and an island road system and in 1851, instituted a water system for Port of Spain. Lord Harris had been advocating self government and an island post, but the Colonial Office was unsympathetic. This is noted in a petition to Queen Victoria on June 5, 1850 from the Planters & Merchants: “the Queen was informed by a report and we are unfit for self-government.” Hawes and the Colonial Office saw some benefit in early concessions to moderate and rationalize demands, but there is no evidence or assurance

that Lord Harris had general support.²

In September 1845, Turnbull, Stewart & Co. bought the SS *Lady McLeod* from the Napier ship yards. David Bryce is listed as the first captain of the *Lady McLeod*, named after Governor Henry McLeod’s wife. He sailed her from Glasgow on September 5, 1845 and arrived 48



The Lady McLeod stamp of Trinidad.

days later in Port of Spain. This was a long transatlantic voyage. There were coaling stops and perhaps time in other ports of call in England. This may have given Bryce a chance to observe the postal system in England. The *Lady McLeod* made her first trip out of Port of Spain on November 3, 1845. Turnbull, Stewart & Co. announced: “Letters, money and small parcels will be carried from this date for Subscribers only, at one dollar per month from each Subscriber or estate, payable quarterly in advance. Letters of Non-subscribers will be charged 10 cents each.”³

One year later, in November 1846, they sold the ship to her captain. Bryce subsequently placed the following notice in the *Port of Spain Gazette* on April 16, 1847: “The Subscriber, experiencing inconvenience in collecting the money from Non-subscribers, has procured

Labels, which may be had of him or the Agents for the Steamer, at five cents each, or four dollars per hundred. No other letters but those of Subscribers who have paid in advance, or such as have these labels attached, will be carried, from and after the 24th instant."⁴

"Inconvenience" was used as a ploy to bring people around to the system of prepayment with stamps, the same pre-payment plan the governor proposed in his report of December 1847. The subscriber is the one paying the \$1 a month, who as an agent is having difficulty collecting from people dropping off letters. It is the merchants acting as agents at both ports of call that receive and hand over the letters that need to be paid. David Bryce is not having trouble collecting, but his agents are.

In January 1848, George Baille, agent general for the Crown Colonies, made a request to Perkins Bacon for postage stamps. He suggested three surface printing methods. Perkins Bacon's response was thus: "June 9 1848: that a postage stamp could be prepared in Letter-Press, wood-cut or Lithography at a cheap rate so as to produce 10,000 for a few Pounds. But an Engraved plate etc. + 75 guineas + 9p per 1000 stamps." That would be about £83.⁵ Perkins Bacon also noted, in response to the first request for colonial stamps, "... the need for only 10,000 stamps is so small the preparation for a safe stamp would not be feasible."⁶ It is claimed that Perkins Bacon only did recess printing and indeed that was their stock in trade. They were familiar with all printing processes of the time and would have used these processes for in-house work such as letterheads and invoices. But, he is saying that for a small production, engraving is too costly, but one of the other methods would suffice.

Governor Harris had been campaigning for an island post and had written to the Colonial Office in January 1847. He outlined a scheme for an island post and provided a list of nine proposed post offices. He also proposed to use the steamer *Paria*. "It is well that the *Lady* arrived in Nov 1845 ... unlike the *Paria*, will go once a week to the ends of the island."⁷ Both ships had arrangements for private mail. Lord Harris was looking to establish an official island post rather than a private one. The Colonial Office Postmaster-General had no objection to an island post if totally separate from the empire post. The empire post only existed for foreign mail. Governor Harris's committee report of December 1, 1847 recommended all letters be pre-paid and that stamps in the English format be procured from England with a Trinidad overprint. He obviously didn't want the expense of his own stamp production. The Government Post Office would not allow an overprint on Great Britain stamps for Trinidad. Things dragged on until the parties came up with the



Figure 1
George Harris in the 1840s.

common design for Trinidad, Mauritius and then Barbados and thus saving each colony the expense of its own stamp production.

We can safely assume some relationship between David Bryce and Governor Harris as the *Lady McLeod* was named after the previous Governor's wife. It is possible -- even likely -- that David Bryce, the major local transporter and the governor knew each other quite well being the two most important men on the island. Perhaps they worked together on the stamp idea. Bryce saw the practicality of postage stamps. Governor Harris perhaps saw this as an opportunity to prod the taciturn Colonial Office to embrace an island post. Perhaps the governor contacted Perkins Bacon to make it happen, and thus to move toward his goal of the island post. It is possible that Bryce saw stamp use as a way to enhance his business and the governor wanted to show the Colonial Office just how practical such a service would be for Trinidad and its development.

When the governor attempted to acquire Perkins Bacon overprinted stamps from the Colonial Office he was rejected. By this time the governor, Perkins Bacon and the Colonial Office were all known to each other. In Lord Harris's assumed contact with Perkins, the governor probably brought up the idea of staging the introduction of stamps for Trinidad; first a private issue followed by (hopefully) a government issue. Perkins Bacon might have responded they could make up some samples without a country designation, and there would not be

Continued on page 6

concerns about security, but if the trial works, Trinidad could order something finely engraved and secure.

On May 29, 1848, Lord Harris again asks for stamps to be forwarded in such shape as the commissioner of stamps may direct. Perkins Bacon then commissioned Edward Corbould to prepare a sketch for the use of the engraver. The Trinidad stamps were ordered December 21, 1848 and 25,000 of blue and lilac were sent. In July 1848, Great Britain introduced a bill enabling an island post. Lord Harris' idea was island control of the post at a one-pence rate; this was not acceptable. Great Britain wanted control, profit and no loss at a four-pence rate. By April 1850, the local council voted money to establish a penny post with 14 offices. The two main offices served by ship and the others at police stations. The island post was finally opened on August 14, 1851, at a one-pence rate per letter.

Lady McLeod Story Dateline

1913: Fred Melville wrote in his book, *Stamps of the Steamship Companies*, just three short lines about the stamps: "the stamps were recess-plate printed. Deep blue, 5¢ or \$4 per 100." (Stamps were not recess-plate / same as engraved printed.)

1949: L. N. & M. Williams in the book *Stamps of Fame* noted that in late 1845: "letter boxes were at Michael Marwell's, San Fernando; and Turnbull, Stewart & Co., Port of Spain ... there is no doubt that the ship ... is supposed to be the Lady McLeod ... it has never been discovered who printed the stamp or how many impressions there were in a sheet. Probably the printing was done at either of the principal towns ... at the local newspaper ... For 2½ years the steamer plied between the two ports and presumably the stamps were used during the whole of this time. Towards the end of 1849 David Bryce decided to sell his ship. The embargo against foreign ships was lifted. And this reduced the mail carried." (Stamps only used one year, ship sold in 1852).

1963: Sir John Marriott in *The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862* gave a good account of the *Lady McLeod*, its history, and the companies that owned it, and summaries of newspaper articles concerning the mail service and stamp use.

1983: S. Ringström and H.E. Tester wrote in *The Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World* that "the stamps are on unwatermarked paper, lithographed in sheets of 100." We now know the stamps were not in sheets of 100.

2010: Sir John Marriott, Michael Medlicott and Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon authored *Trinidad: A Philatelic History to 1913*. They noted that the quoted price of the *Lady McLeod* stamps does not necessarily mean the sheets were of 100 stamps. Its blue color is similar to, but milkier than the lithographed 1852 Trinidad govern-

ment issue. Earlier authors suggest that Charles Petit (an artist living in the Caribbean) could have been responsible for both the *Lady McLeod* stamps and the 1852 lithographed stamps. This is unlikely given the disparity in quality of the design and printing of the two issues.

FOOTNOTES

¹ John B. Marriott, *The Philatelic History of Trinidad to 1862*. (London: British West Indies Study Circle, 1963), n.p.

² Frederick Madden and David Fieldhouse, *The Dependent Empire and Ireland. Advance and Retreat in Representative Self-Government. Select Documents on the Constitutional History of the British Empire and Commonwealth Volume 5*. (New York: Greenwood Press, 1991), pp. 330-338.

³ S. Ringström and H.E. Tester, *The Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World, Part I, The Caribbean*. (No place of publication [but Trelborg], 1979), p. 10-11.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Percy De Worms, *Perkins Bacon Records* [Two volumes, published posthumously]. (London: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1953), p. 332.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Marriott, *op. cit.*, n.p.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the September 1989 *Journal*, James F. Stern continued with the second part of his series titled "Cayman Philatelic Holiday" in which he reported on visiting various island post offices. Also, Horst Augustinovic wrote about Elizabethan postage stamps of Bermuda (lots of useful statistics), and the president, Dr. Ben Ramkissoon, reported results of the 1989 annual meeting. A.E. "Buzz" Jehle contributed an informative article on Guyana varieties.

Attributes of the Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers of Trinidad & Tobago and Trinidad

By Dr. John K. Courtis, FRPSL

Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, with its natural harbor, attracted steamships from the rest of the world where cargoes were exchanged for cocoa and sugar, etc. Port-of-Spain quickly became a major coaling destination during the late 19th century. The coal, apart from an inferior local quality, was imported from England and the U.S. Julian H. Archer, patriarch of the English-creole Archer family, was heavily involved in coaling activity. The Archer family used their fleet of small tugs and barges to ferry coal out to the larger ships in the harbor. These steamships had been unable to tie up at the St. Vincent Street Jetty because the water was too shallow. Archer's extensive interests extended to acting as a Forwarding Agent for newspapers.

Examples of his forwarding agent handstamp appear on post office postal stationery wrappers. There does not appear to be any evidence that this handstamp appeared on letter mail. That it appeared on wrappers raises the question whether Archer may have had some arrangement with the post office to convey bags of newspaper mail to steamers of the Royal Mail Steamship Packet Company routinely berthed in the Port-of-Spain harbor. Most wrappers showed an additional handstamp "Per ROYAL MAIL" directly beneath the forwarding hand-



Figure 1a

Forwarded by Julian H. Archer; Coaling Activity.

stamp. However, Archer's name does not appear as a Forwarding Agent in Rowe (1984).

An example of the two-line handstamp found on wrappers is shown in *Figure 1a* as well as a photograph of a typical dockside coaling activity (*Figure 1b*) [from Flickr]. A total of 25 post office postal stationery wrappers in the author's database showed this handstamp with wrappers addressed to London (JU 24 97; MY 2 1900); Rotterdam, Holland; Hamburg, Germany (MY 1900); Lisbon, Portugal (OC 28 97); USA - Ohio, (FE 2 99), Texas, New York, Kansas City; and Georgetown, St. Vincent (DE 4 94).



Figure 1b

Dockside coaling activity.

The diversity of 32 country destinations of newspapers and other printed matter shipped from Trinidad bears testament to the business and other connections established at the time. Of a sample of 516 post office postal stationery wrappers of Trinidad and Trinidad & Tobago, 80% were mailed to overseas addresses and 56% were addressed to companies and other organizations.

Post Office Issues

Trinidad issued its first wrappers on February 18, 1884 depicting the

Continued on page 8

diademed profile of Queen Victoria ½d green and 1d carmine (E1 and E2, using the Higgins & Gage “E” type catalogue numbers), designed and printed by De La Rue and Co., size 125x300mm. The ½d rate was for inland use for Grenada, Barbados, St. Vincent and Tobago. One year later, on February 11, 1885 a shortage of ½d wrappers necessitated that copies of E2 be overprinted “HALF-PENNY.” with four obliterator bars (E3b); two and five bar (E3c) varieties exist. These overprints appear to have been added locally.



Figure 2
Indicia used on wrappers of Trinidad and Trinidad & Tobago.

King Edward VII profile key-plate issues were printed by De La Rue and issued in 1902: ½d green (E4) and 1d green (E5). Specimen overprint copies of these types were sent to the U.P.U. for distribution to member countries.

Trinidad was united with the island of Tobago in 1889 and became known as Trinidad & Tobago. It was not until 1915 that the first wrappers were printed with Trinidad & Tobago: King George V indicia were issued in the same ½d green (E1) and 1d carmine (E2) values. In 1924 there was a change in the postal rate and a 1d brown was issued (E3). The color change followed the change to brown for the 1d definitive in 1922. A change in sovereign was met with two new issues in 1937: 1¢ green (E4 – not shown) and 2¢ brown (E5), King George VI facing right. King George V and VI issues were overprinted “Specimen” for U.P.U. In 1952 the last two issues appeared with the head of Queen Elizabeth II facing left: 1¢ green (E6) and 2¢ brown (E7).

Availability of wrappers

Collectors have a diversity of sources from which to acquire wrappers, but high-end philatelic auction houses and some sellers do not deal in the less expensive mate-

rial. An appropriate forum for the sale of wrappers is the Internet site eBay because of its ability to connect with collectors in all manner of nooks and crannies of the Internet-serviced world. The author’s database of listings of used examples of post office postal stationery wrappers shows there are 453 copies of Trinidad and 63 copies of Trinidad & Tobago. The distribution of these cases together with demographics of addressee details and destinations are summarized in Table 1.

These quantities of 453 and 63 wrappers comprise a sample of the 35,000 images in the author’s database. Since September 2003 the author has hand-collected daily the images of used worldwide wrappers listed on eBay. There were five wrapper types issued for Trinidad. Three types -- E1, E2 and E5 -- account for 98 percent of the extant wrappers. Two types, E3 and E5, had two and seven copies listed in 11 years. For the seven wrapper types issued for Trinidad & Tobago, only E1 has appeared regularly and this wrapper accounts for slightly more than half of the extant copies. The other six issues appeared with a listing incidence of less than one per year, while E5 has never appeared. By the time the

Table 1: Incidence of Listing of Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers of Trinidad & Trinidad & Tobago on eBay: September 2003 – October 2014

TRINIDAD			Address Destinations		Addressed to:	
H&G E#	Quantity Listed	Up rated	Local	Overseas	Companies/ Organizations	Individuals
1	189	9	60	129	92	97
2	80	12	12	68	38	42
3	2	0	2	0	0	2
4	175	17	22	153	108	67
5	7	2	0	7	2	5
	453	40	96 (21%)	357 (79%)	240 (53%)	213 (47%)
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO						
1	33	21	2	31	29	4
2	10	0	0	10	9	1
3	9	3	0	9	8	1
4	4	0	1	3	0	4
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	4	3	2	2	1	3
7	3	1	1	2	2	1
	63	28	6 (10%)	57 (90%)	49 (78%)	14 (22%)
O'all Totals	516	68	102 (20%)	414 (80%)	289 (56%)	227 (44%)

Queen Elizabeth issues appeared, the use of newspaper wrappers was in a decline and they are therefore difficult to find.

An analysis of the demographics of these 516 wrappers shows that 20% were mailed to local addresses while 80% were addressed to destinations beyond Trinidad & Tobago. There were 32 countries identified, the most dominant being the United Kingdom (79) and Germany (64). Trade relationships underlie the connection between this British colony and the rest of the world and the movement of wrappers mirrors much of this network. Other countries in descending order were: U.S. (43), Belgium (41), Holland (38), Venezuela (25), Danish West Indies (21), France (20), Curacao and Canada (12 each), Barbados (10), Denmark and Nova Scotia (6 each), Suriname (5), Newfoundland (4), Switzerland and Turks Islands (3 each), Norway, Austria, Italy, Jamaica, Panama and Dominica (2 each), and Grenada, British Guiana, Uruguay, Argentina, Natal, Montserrat, India, Portugal, St. Vincent, and New Zealand (1 example each).

Further evidence of commercial activity is the relationship between advertising agencies in London and local

newspapers. Clients in London (and elsewhere) placed orders for their merchandise to be advertised in local newspapers. When these advertisements subsequently appeared, the relevant issue of the newspaper was mailed to London to the advertising contracting firms of Bates Hendy & Co., Clarke Son & Platte, F. A. Algar and "Professor" Holloway. These newspapers contained proof that the advertisement had been placed, and the wrappers were frequently retained by the client as additional source documentation of the transaction (Courtis, 2014a). There are several wrappers bearing these names.

Additional evidence of the strength of business connections between the colony and elsewhere can be seen from an analysis of the named recipients on the wrappers. Overall, 289 wrappers (56%) were addressed to named companies and institutions. From this analysis the phenomenon of "clustering" can be detected. Clustering is a term used to describe the appearance of groups of extant wrappers addressed to the same recipient. Its observance arises when a group of wrappers addressed to the same person or organization has become obvious on the philatelic market, with each wrapper appearing for sale usually one-at-a-time over a period (Courtis, 2014b).

Continued on page 10

With regard to the wrappers examined, there were four obvious clusters: 12 wrappers addressed to the Antwerp Portland Cement Works, nine wrappers to El Imparcial, Curacao, 21 wrappers to Les Archives de la Presse, Brussels, Belgium, and 14 wrappers addressed to Mrs. L. E. Legge, Exeter, England. Collectively these clusters account for slightly more than 10% of the extant wrappers examined.

Taxed Wrappers

Four wrappers were identified with postage due markings including two with postage due adhesives attached and these are shown as **Figure 3**. There are many taxed wrappers but unusually there is a low occurrence of postage dues attached to wrappers paying the fine in the destination country. The author has found only 98 examples from the 35,000 images in the database.

The first wrapper illustrated was mailed to Switzerland. This E4 wrapper was underpaid 1/2d, the newspaper rate to Switzerland being 1d for up to 4 ounces. The "T in circle" handstamp was applied in Trinidad; the double deficiency charge was applied in Switzerland, the "10"

in blue crayon representing 10 Swiss centimes and paid with a 10 Swiss centimes postage due (J24).

The second Trinidad & Tobago E6 wrapper was mailed for local delivery on April 20, 1955 and addressed to the Royal Bank Trust Co., Port-of-Spain. The 1¢ rate for internal use implies underpayment of 1¢, probably because of the wrapper contents falling in the second weight scale. Taxed double deficiency at 2x1¢=2¢ and paid with a 1947 2¢ black postage due stamp (J9).

Wrappers three and four show local and destination postage due markings. Wrapper three addressed to Port Natal, South Africa was underpaid 1/2d as the newspaper rate in 1882 to Natal was 1d. The "T in circle" was applied at the departure post office, Port-of-Spain. The 1d in circle handstamp was applied in South Africa.

The fourth wrapper was mailed to the advertising agency Frederick Algar, Clements Lane, London. An examination of the Port-of-Spain, Trinidad circular datestamps suggests this wrapper had been uprated (the stamp is now missing). The role of F. Algar was discussed earlier

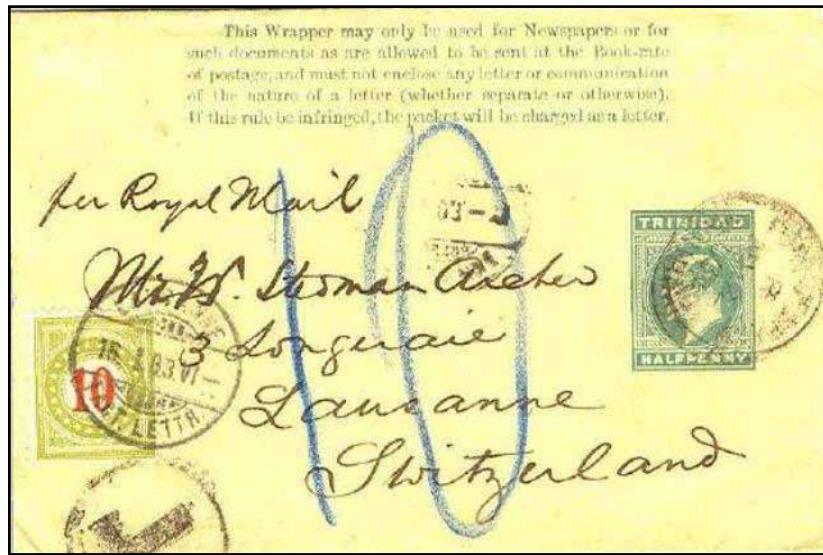


Figure 3
Examples of postage due wrappers.



regarding the placing of client orders for advertising in Trinidad newspapers; Algar subsequently received packets of these newspapers being proof that the advertisement had been placed. The presence of an uprating suggests the packet was above the first weight scale. Each of the other nine extant uprated E1 wrappers to England was examined: eight were uprated 1d and one was up-

whether this is a generic marking requires corroboration as it, too, does not appear in Rowe (1984). One wrapper showed a censor marking, one had a "MISSENT" handstamp, one stated: "HAVE YOUR MAIL DELIVERED TO YOUR DEPT." Five wrappers showed the handstamp "BESTELLEN" (order), and there were four readable merchant markings: "GEO. R. ALSTON



Figure 4
Postage due adhesives from Chinkiang (China) on Trinidad E2.

rated 2d. It is reasonable to assume this Algar wrapper was uprated 1d. The readable (transit?) marking shows the date was "FE 23 1893" (February 23, 1893). There is a London Foreign Branch postage due handstamp 1d.

After this paper had been written but before it was sent to the editor, a remarkable Trinidad E2 wrapper appeared on eBay that must be recorded. It is shown as **Figure 4** and demonstrates that any account of what has been listed and sold on the eBay auction market is more a work-in-progress as the market is a continuous flow. The wrapper in question is almost certain to be unique. It is addressed to Chinkiang (China) with "To Pay" oval handstamp markings on the front and back of the wrapper. The postage due is paid on the reverse with a tied "CHINKIANG POSTAL SERVICE" on Chinkiang Half Cent overprinted "POSTAGE DUE" and a 6¢ Chinkiang adhesive. The wrapper sold for \$563 with a record 13 bidders who bid 23 times. Snipe bids increased the price from \$162 to \$500 and ultimately \$563 in the last few seconds of the listing period. (This sale is not recorded in Table 2 later in the paper, nor is it discussed in the Conclusion.)

Auxiliary & Other Markings

The "Forwarded by" markings of Julian Archer have already been discussed. There was another handstamp, "Forwarded by J.N. NATHMAN & Co.," Trinidad but

& Co., Port of Spain, Trinidad, EDGAR TRIPP & Co., Merchants, Trinidad," "BUST? TROWBRIDGE & Co.," and a purple oval "From the Colonial Company Trinidad Agency Limited."

In addition to "Per RMS" on a number of wrappers, there were several named ships in manuscript advising the mail sorting clerks as to which mail bag to place the wrappers for overseas destinations. The list contained: SS *El Callao*, SS *La Plata*, SS *Mariana*, SS *Grenada*, SS *Guiada*, SS *Eleallen* (?), SS *Berlin*, SS *Sinepene* (?) and SS *Grenson*. Inspection of the actual wrappers would corroborate the spelling. By contrast, one wrapper was marked "By First Opportunity." There was a smattering of "Via" directional markings: "Via Jamaica to Prince Edward Island," "Via Plymouth-Brindisi to New Zealand," and "Via New York" on wrappers to both Canada and Holland. Transit postmarks on wrappers would corroborate "Via" directional markings.

There was only one incidence of a registered wrapper listed on eBay -- to Leipzig, Germany, and this is shown as **Figure 5**. The listing price on eBay was \$104, but the item did not sell. Registered wrappers are uncommon because the content is usually an inexpensive newspaper or other printed matter and the wrapper is open at both ends to enable inspection of the contents. The postmark

Continued on page 12

is “ME 12 91.” There is a “Carl Born” (the addressee) noted in the list of philatelic experts (<http://www.filatelia.fi/experts/firstnames.html>) in which case this wrapper might have been philatelically inspired.

Private Overprinting

Only two of the 516 wrappers showed the addition of private printing. These were Harness & Saddlery Dept., The Caledonian House and Agricultural Society of Trinidad & Tobago. These two wrappers are shown as **Figure 6**. The former was addressed locally to Pembroke Street while the second was addressed to the Botanical Museum, Berlin, Germany. The Caledonian House (**Figure 7**) was one of four stores conducted by Messrs. Smith Bros. An early advertisement reads: “The Saddlery Department has a full stock of Riding & Driving Harnesses – single and double sets – and stable require-



Figure 5
Registered wrapper, Trinidad to Germany.

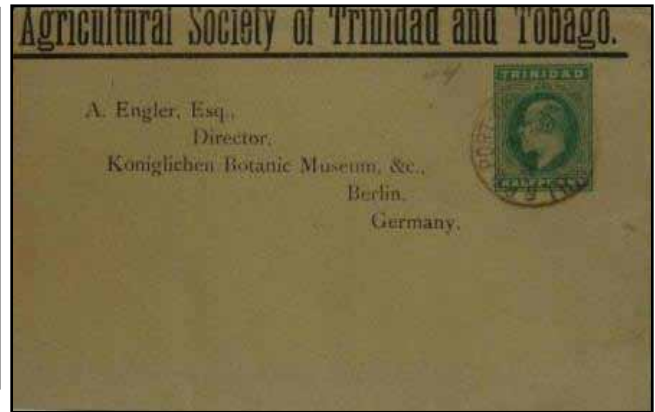
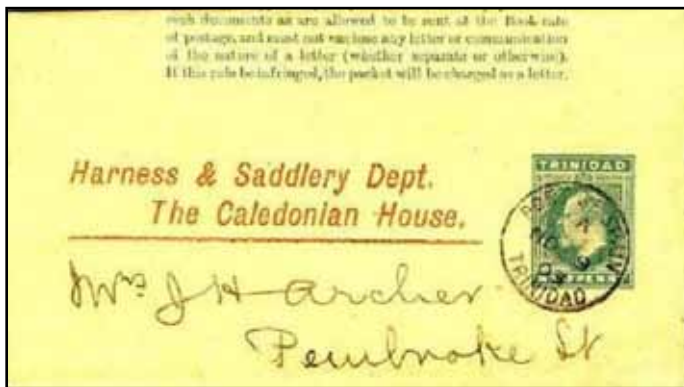


Figure 6
Trinidad wrappers with private overprinting.

ments.” The second wrapper, the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago, was founded in 1839 and is the only national organization representing farmers.



Figure 7
View of the Caledonian House.

The Buyers

Who were the buyers of these wrappers and how much did they pay? The author has hand-collected daily the sales transactions data of used post office wrappers since March 2006. To date there are 13,800 sales recorded, of which 146 are of Trinidad and Trinidad & Tobago. A summary of these transactions is shown in Table 2. Of these 146 recorded transactions, only six sold for sums of \$20 or more. In other words, most wrappers sold for less than \$20 with an average price of just over \$6. This implies that collector interest in Trinidad postal stationery is minimal or that used newspaper wrappers from Trinidad are readily available for collector needs.

There were 104 transactions with one or two bidders (76%). A rule of thumb metric used to determine the strength of the buyer market is the average number of bidders for each post office type and overall. The overall average score for Trinidad is 1.94 and for Trinidad &

Table 2: Summary of Sales transactions of Trinidad/Trinidad & Tobago

H&G #	Number of Sales	Low-High Prices (USD)	Average Realized Price	Average No. of Bidders
Trinidad				
1	52	0.99-30.00	4.46	1.67
2	18	1.04-16.00	5.22	1.04
3	2	28.85-32.69	30.72	3.00
4	48	0.99-36.00	4.68	2.29
5	1	14.99	14.99	1.00
	121		5.19	1.94
Trinidad & Tobago				
1	12	0.99-5.65	2.76	2.12
2	6	0.99-7.19	3.19	1.83
3	3	0.99-9.00	3.66	1.00
4	1	9.00	9.00	1.00
5	No sales recorded			
6	2	15.50-60.00	37.50	3.00
7	1	7.00	7.00	2.00
	25			
	Total 146	Weighted Overall Averages	6.17	1.96
Trinidad Specimen				
4	2	6.59-13.76	10.18	1.50
5	1	5.99	5.99	1.00
Trin. & Tobago Specimen				
3	1	0.99	0.99	1.00
5	1	0.99	0.99	1.00

Tobago is 1.96, both falling well below the 2.5 rule-of-thumb tipping point. Only two of the 12 post office types show a score above 2.5 but even in these cases only two transactions apiece are involved.

The postage due E4 wrapper bearing a postage due adhesive of Switzerland (shown in *Figure 3*) sold for \$36 with four bidders. The E3 copy with four obliterator bars sold for \$28.85 with three bidders and the copy with five obliterator bars sold for \$32.69 also with three bidders. The wrapper with private printing, "Agricultural Society of Trinidad & Tobago," had six bidders but sold for a modest \$13.19. By contrast The Caledonian House wrapper sold for only \$4.99 with one bidder.

There were five sales of specimen overprint wrappers. Without the guidance of a catalogue to price these speci-

men wrappers, a good deal of variance in realized prices can be seen ranging from 99¢ to \$13.76.

Conclusion

An analysis was undertaken of 453 used post office wrappers of Trinidad and 63 used post office wrappers of Trinidad & Tobago. This sample was extracted from the author's database of 35,000 images of worldwide wrappers hand-collected daily from eBay listings since September 2003. Only one of the 12 post office issues has not appeared on eBay in the past 11 years (E5), although the latter issues of Trinidad & Tobago have only few examples. A dominant quantity (80%) of extant wrappers bears overseas addresses. Of these, 289 are addressed to companies and other institutions in 32 countries, emphasizing the strong business connections

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Seminar on West Indies Philately & Postal History

The British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) will sponsor a seminar on West Indies philately and postal history on Wednesday, June 1, at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York City, in association with the 2016 New York International Postage Stamp Exhibition. Here is a list of activities:

10:00 a.m.: Welcome and introduction by Charles Freeland (Moderator).

10:15-10:45 a.m.: "Barbados Postal History 1656-1881" by Stefan Heijtz (Sweden).

10:45-11:15 a.m.: "American Civil War Blockade Letters 1861-65" by Richard Maisel (USA).

11:15-11:45 a.m.: "British Guiana – the classic domestic issues, 1850-1860" by Simon Greenwood (UK).

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: "British Guiana – the surface printed issues 1876-1921" by Peter Ford (Spain).

12:15-12:45 p.m.: "The Postal Stationery of the British West Indies" by Wayne Menuz (USA).

12:45-1:45 p.m.: Lunch available at the venue.

1:45-2:15 p.m.: "A series of five minute presentations" by various speakers.

2:15-2:45 p.m.: "The 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue stamps" by Gary Loew (USA).

2:45-3:15 p.m.: "The War Tax in the West Indies" by Peter Elias (USA).

3:15-3:45 p.m.: "Dominica" by Simon Richards (UK).

3:45-4:15 p.m.: "Bermuda Rarities and their History" by David Cordon (Bermuda).

4:15-4:45 p.m.: Closing comments by Moderator and discussion.

7:30 p.m.: No host dinner at the Peking Duck Restaurant; Speaker Richard Maisel (USA).

Wrappers of Trinidad & Tobago and Trinidad ————— *Continued from page 13*

between Trinidad and the rest of the world, especially the U.K., Germany and U.S.

There was a smattering of wrappers with postal history interest. Two wrappers have private overprinting. These are particularly desirable in building an exhibit. Four wrappers have postage due markings and two of these have postage due adhesives. One wrapper was registered. In addition, there were auxiliary and merchant handstamps on several wrappers and manuscript named ships and "Via" directional markings.

An analysis of the 146 sales recorded in the author's database revealed a modest interest by bidders. The overall bidder interest score of 1.96 is indicative of a weak bidder interest. In fact, 76% of sales had only one or two bidders. This low interest was evident, too, in the realizations reached with 96% of sales reaching less than \$20. Specimen wrappers did not fare much better with 80% of sales having a sole bidder and modest realization amounts.

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Acknowledgment

Allan Gory once again kindly read and commented on an earlier draft. I give my sincere thanks to Allan for giving me his continued support over the years. My thanks, too, to our editor, Dr. Everett Parker for his encouragement in my preparation of these analyses of post office postal stationery wrappers of several Caribbean nations.

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St. Lucia's rare mixed currency frankings

By Guy Kilburn

On January 1, 1948 St. Lucia changed its currency from £ sterling to the decimal British West Indies dollar, and one can only imagine the sigh of relief from school children who no longer had to calculate math assignments in pounds, shillings, and pence. This change was not, however, immediately reflected in the stamps. That had to wait until October 1, 1949 when the new King George VI decimal definitive set was issued, SG #146 - 159.

While the school children had their lives made easier, there then arose the problem of what to do with some times large stocks of sterling stamps held by individuals and commercial houses on the island. The victory set was issued on October 8, 1946, and the Royal Silver Wedding on November 26, 1948, and many people had supplies of those stamps as well as those from the 1938 definitive set, all of them sterling.

Curiously, while the currency was now nominally decimal, St. Lucia still managed to issue a set of stamps, the Royal Silver Wedding, in sterling. My notes tell me that the government allowed sterling stamps to continue to be valid for postage until November 20, 1951; that was two years and one month after the new decimal stamps appeared. And with a special dispensation, the Royal Silver Wedding stamps, St. Lucia's last sterling stamps, were valid until February 25, 1954, a period of four years and four months.

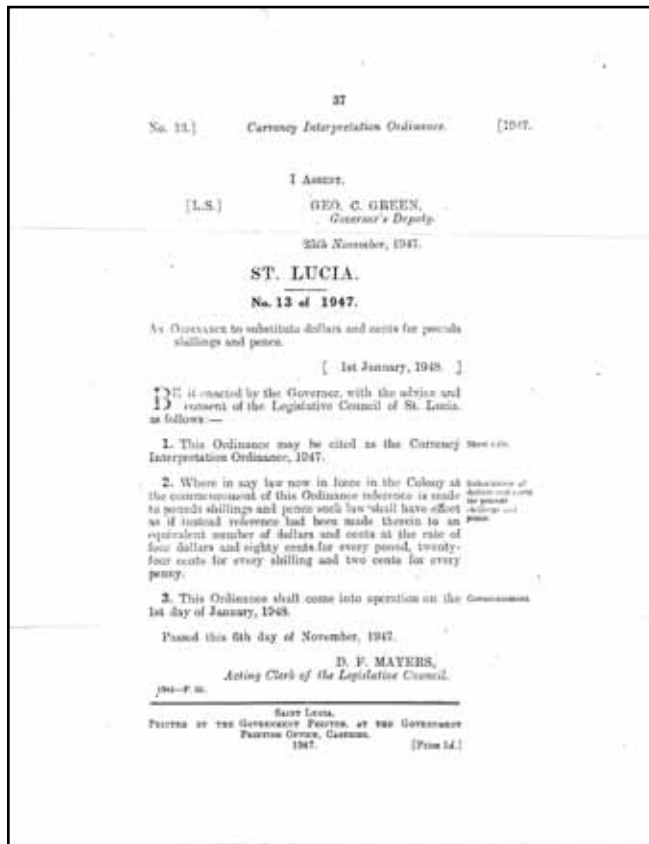


Figure 1
Notice of rate of conversion established by The Currency Interpretation Ordinance, passed on St. Lucia on November 25, 1947.



Figure 2
Cover from GPO Castries in 1951 with the equivalent of 10 cents postage.

In both cases that seems a very long time and one would think that combination covers bearing both sterling and decimal stamps should be easy to find, but that is not the case at all; they are modern St. Lucia rarities and I have no explanation for this, only speculation. My best guess is that the vast majority of the low value sterling stamps continued to be used for revenue purposes and not for postage. (Perhaps David Horry will have a theory to explain the very long life of those Royal Silver Wedding £1 stamps).

The rate of conversion was established by The
Continued on page 16

Currency Interpretation Ordinance passed in St. Lucia on November 25, 1947 (*Figure 1*). The £ Sterling was to equal \$4.80, the shilling was to equal 24 cents and the penny was two cents; thus the cover shown in *Figure 2* has the equivalent of 10 cents postage. The 3½ d stamp equals seven cents, plus three cents decimal = 10 cents. The airmail cover in *Figure 3* has 34 cents on it, 28 cents for the four 3½d adhesives plus the six cents decimal = 34 cents.

In the 45 years I have collected St. Lucia postal history, I have acquired just four of these covers and only one in the last 20 years. Hap Pattiz has two and Alister Kinnon one. All are very similar and are from banks or businesses and bear one of the victory stamps as well as a stamp from the new decimal set (Figures 2 and 3). Hap Pattiz has a cover with the 1½d definitive and a two-cent decimal. Dates of usage are: October 25, 1949, March 25, 1950, September 7, 1950, September 18, 1950, October 27, 1950, March 22, 1951, April 9, 1951, and August 29, 1951.

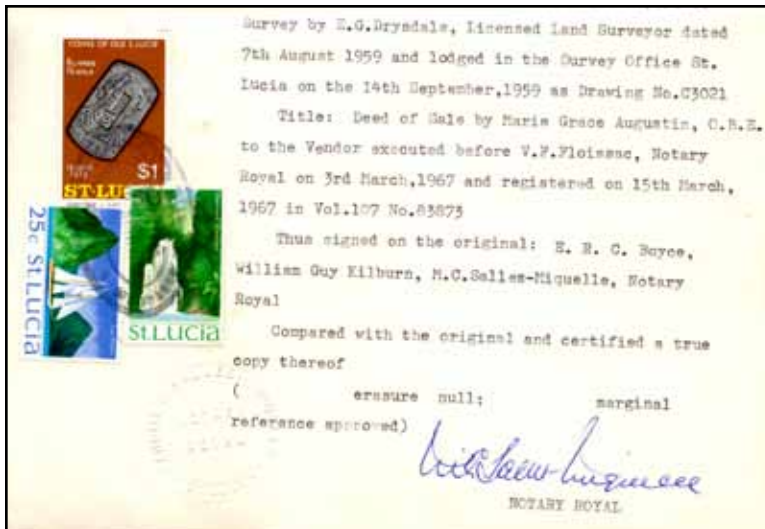


Figure 4

Every receipt, document, deed and bill of sale (and many other categories) required a stamp or stamps be affixed as a form of revenue collection.

It is easy to understand why businesses had very large stocks remaining of low value stamps from the old currency. Every receipt, every document, every deed and bill of sale, even marriage licenses, required a stamp or stamps to be affixed as a form of revenue collection (*Figure 4*); for commercial transactions it was a form of sales tax. If you bought a pound of nails or a shirt at Minvielle and Chastanet, the receipt for your purchase had a 1d or 2d stamp affixed to it. Remember that the victory stamps, and earlier stamps from most colonies, bore the inscription "Postage and Revenue." (This is the



Figure 3

Cover to Electrolux in England with 34 cents in postage affixed for airmail.

same kind of taxation that helped drive the Americans toward revolution in 1776.) From *The St. Lucia Philatelist*, Number Three of 1950, we learn that 305,681 of the victory stamps and 96,639 of the Royal Silver Wedding were sold locally, and the totals include 286,162 1d stamps. That's a lot of stamps.

At about the same time there were other Caribbean territories that transitioned from sterling to decimal currency and stamps. The first to do it was Trinidad and Tobago in 1935 followed by Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent in 1949. Barbados joined the club in 1950 and in 1951 it was Antigua, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and St. Kitts-Nevis. The late arrivals in 1969 were Jamaica, The Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos. No doubt they all allowed a transition period when both currencies were valid for postage and in the process they created an interesting subject for the collector of postal history.

So, why decimal stamps and currency? The answer to the question seems to be only a matter of easy calculations. A visit to the U.S. Metric Association's website gives us a wonderful quotation from Robert Morris, the U.S. Superintendent of Finance. Writing to Congress in 1782, he said decimal currency is desirable "because by that means all calculations of interest, exchange, insurance, and the like are rendered much more simple and accurate and, of course, more within the power of the great mass of people. Whenever such things require much labor, time and reflection, the greater number who do not know, are made the dupes of the lesser number who do."

There is one other interesting St. Lucia mixed currency usage that warrants mention. In *Figure 5* we see a 3d

“... And now, the rest of the story”

By Raymond H. Murphy

Paul Harvey, a radio newscaster, often finished his program by taking a mundane piece of information and pointing out why it was significant. Here we have a patriotic cover from the USS *Tuscaloosa*, dated December 13, 1940, with a three bar cancel with the words “HRH Duke of Windsor.” The *Tuscaloosa*, a heavy cruiser, was of interest to Jamaican collectors since it took President Franklin Roosevelt on a “working vacation with a little fishing.” What the Commanding Admiral thought of using a 10,000 ton warship as a fishing yacht is unrecorded, but, after all, this was the President of the United States! The cruise left Miami on December 3, went to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba then to Kingston where the President debarked and toured construction sites of American bases. The permission to site American bases in British colonies was the result of the “Destroyers for Bases” Act wherein the U.S. gave Britain 50 World War I destroyers in exchange for base rights. The President reviewed the sites, and the cruise continued on to St. Lucia. It then turned northward, and finished in Norfolk on December 16.



En-route, the ship rendezvoused with a US Navy PBV seaplane bearing the Duke of Windsor, the Governor of the Bahamas, who was also the former King Edward VIII of England, brother of the then-present King George VI, and a close friend of Winston Churchill. After a meeting with the President, the Duke was flown back to the Bahamas. Coincidentally, on his next radio “Fireside Talk” to the American people in January 1941, the President announced he was sending legislation to Congress for aid to Britain, not to be paid in cash, but rather in exchange for facilities and service. This was the “Lend-Lease” Program. This aid consisted of materials of war making the U.S. the “Arsenal of Democracy.” This was the result of his meeting with the Duke and British officials on the President’s trip. This cover commemorates this important meeting. And now ... you know the rest of the story!

sterling GVI registration envelope sent from Soufriere on October 25, 1949 to the U.S. franked with four-cents and 24 cents stamps from the new definitive set. The issue date of the new six-cents registration envelope is given only as 1949, nothing more precise. In this case the 3d registration fee was converted to six cents. Although there is no return address, it is easy to recognize the handwriting of Col. Hector Reid, FRPSL, a resident of Soufriere.



Figure 5a
Front of an October 25, 1949 registered cover to the U.S. with mixed currency.



Figure 5b
Back flap of cover shown in Figure 5a with 3d registration.

Acknowledgment

With thanks to my friend Hap Pattiz, and to my friend Alister Kinnon who is the author of Piton Post, Notes on the Philately of St. Lucia.

A visit to St. Lucia is never complete without visiting post offices!

By Andrew W. Mitchell

I have been fortunate to visit St. Lucia three times in the past dozen years or so. A long-time friend and diving enthusiast organizes group excursions to the island and arranges package deals at the Anse Chastenet resort on the west coast. Most of the group is content to dive, swim, relax on the volcanic sand beach under



A dramatic view of St. Lucia from Anse Chastenet with Petit Piton at right.

the palm trees, and sample the various dining options. But I'm not a diver, and while I have no objection to the other activities listed, I was also interested in exploring the island, and its postal system.

The nearest town to the hotel is Soufriere, in the shadow of the Pitons, St. Lucia's iconic twin peaks. I visited the



This is the Jacmel Post Office. Jacmel is located on St. Lucia's west coast.

post office there and was able to get a list of all the island's postal facilities. Next step was to hire a taxi for a morning, then plan my route. St. Lucia has a varied topography, with scenic coastal areas, but also with lush forest vegetation, agricultural areas, and impressive hill/mountain ranges. These trips were a delightful way to explore the island, often getting off the tourist trail to visit obscure villages away from the coast.



Vanard Post Office. The settlement is located in the north central part of St. Lucia.

As a postmark collector, mail fan and stamp enthusiast, I wanted to actually visit the post offices. In general, I



A view of the Anse La Raye Post Office. The town is located on the west side of the island and near Marigot Bay.

found the postal staffs to be friendly and cooperative, happy to sell me what I needed, provide hand-back cancels, and answer questions about their operations. On my last visit two years ago I noted that the postal service had introduced new uniform signage for its offices, making them easier to spot.

Here are some examples of the postmarks and photos I gathered on my excursions. They never fail to bring back great memories of this Caribbean gem.

The Marigot Post Office is located in the Highway Liquor Store in Marigot, which is located at Marigot Bay.



The Canaries Post Office is located in the community center.



The Gablewoods Mall South Post Office.



This is the distinctive Micoud Post Office.



The Desruisseaux Post Office is housed here.



This small building is the Debrueil Post Office.



The post office at Fond St. Jacques.

St. Lucia Post Offices ...



Two views of the Soufriere Post Office. The main entrance is shown in photo at left, while exterior patron post office boxes are shown at right.



This building is the Pierrot Post Office.



You can't miss this distinctive post collection box!



A sea view of the Pitons, St. Lucia's most famous landmark.



Trinidad: The use of cut-outs as stamps

By Ed Barrow

One benefit of focusing on collecting one country is you tend to see more material from that country and so have the opportunity to obtain numerous examples of quite scarce usages. This not only allows you to build a deep collection, it also means you can spot patterns of usage.

The use of “cut-outs” from postal stationery to pay postage on ordinary mail is fairly well known for large countries such as the U.S. and the U.K., and much of it was generated specifically for collectors.¹ But cut-outs are rarely seen on mail from smaller countries and even less so on commercial mail.

So was the use of cut-outs officially sanctioned by the post office or were these the product of sloppiness and/or collusion of postal officials? If we look at policy in the U.K., we find that they were banned from 1870 until 1905, after which they were accepted as postage,² and it is reasonable to believe that this applied to British Colonies as well. The examples shown in Figures 2-6 all seem to be genuine non-philatelic usages and show that the practice was widely used and accepted.

In conclusion, there is a well-known adage called the Duck Test that goes: if it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck. If this is applied to the cut-outs shown here, you should conclude that these were stamps, and if so should be listed in a catalogue somewhere.



Figure 1
A typical airletter from which the cut-outs were removed.



Figure 2
“26 FE 1953” commercial cover to the U.K. with a KGVI 12¢ removed from a 1952 airletter; 36¢ airmail rate.



Figure 3
“17 AP 1958” Registered airmail commercial cover to U.S. with QEII 12¢ removed from 1954 type airletter; 40¢ rate.

FOOTNOTES

¹ When the imprinted stamp is cut out from a piece of postal stationery and used to pay postage, this is called a cut-out.

² Colin Baker, “Stamp Dealers Mail,” *The Postal Stationery Society Journal*, August 2010. See also website: http://www.postalstationery.org.uk/GreatBritain/Stamp_Dealers_Mail.htm.



Figure 4
 "11 DE 1959" cover to the US with QEII 15¢ removed from a 1958 type airletter 25¢ airmail rate.



Figure 5
 "26 FE 1962" cover to U.S. with a pair of QEII 15¢ removed from 1962 type airletters; 30¢ airmail rate.



Figure 7
 "14 FE 1968" Registered airmail cover to the U.S. from Point Fortin with a pair of QEII 15¢ removed from 1965 type airletters; 40¢ rate.



Figure 6
 "22 DE 1966" cover from Tunapuna to Czechoslovakia with a pair of QEII 15¢ removed from 1965 type airletters; 40¢ airmail rate.

WORLD STAMP SHOW
NEW YORK 2016
MAY 28 - JUNE 4
SOCIETY TABLE
 May 28 – June 4
 BCPSG, BWISC and Bermuda Collectors Society will be sharing the society table.
HOTEL
 Fairfield Inn East Rutherford and our hospitality suite will be there.
SEMINAR -- June 1
 Arranged by Richard Maisel and Colin Fraser and will take place 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 (Show Venue – IE07)
SOCIETY DINNER -- June 1
 Peking Duck House, 236 East 53rd St., (located between Second and Third Ave. on the south side of the street, half a block from the Lexington Ave. subway, Third Avenue exit)
Time 7:30 p.m.
 Please email Colin Fraser to confirm attendance: FraserStamps@cs.com (Please use the capitalization) or call him on +1 917 496 1188.
 Richard Maisel will be the speaker.
MEETINGS -- June 2
Executive Board Meeting: 10 - 11 a.m. (Show Venue – IE06)
Annual General Meeting: 1 - 2 p.m. (Show Venue – IE06)

APS Stamp Cruise at Grand Cayman Post Office

By Douglas S. Files

This past October I signed up for the American Philatelic Society (APS) Stamp Cruise in the Caribbean. After passing through the Panama Canal, the *Coral Princess* anchored off the coast and tenders ferried the passengers to and from the shore.

Ivan Burges runs the Penny Black stamp shop on Grand Cayman, so many of us stopped in there. Customers squeezed around each other to see his British Commonwealth stamps. The Georgetown Post Office held a reception for our group, then offered a tour. Perhaps 60 people crowded the lobby. A trainee was sitting at the philatelic counter, and he got more training than he bargained for that day.

I bought some stamps and sent letters and aerogrammes to friends in the U.S. The purser on board the ship had sold me 20¢ Cayman Islands stamps but those were inadequate for international mail. Two items arrived in the U.S. with postage due. Both of the two items pictured show a blue single circle cancel with a violet date stamp. Around the inside of the circle is printed "Cayman Islands Post Office." In the center of the cancellation is the



Figure 2

One of the helpful postal employees in the Georgetown Post Office displaying some of the current stamps available.



Figure 1

The front of the Cayman Islands Post Office in Georgetown. There are several other post offices in the islands, but this is the main office.

October 27, 2015 date and "A.P.O."

Another passenger, philatelist Paul Bondor of Louisiana, took several photographs of our stop at Grand Cayman Island, and some of those are shown here.

Figure 1 shows the front of the main post office in Georgetown, Grand Cayman Island. There are several other post offices on the islands, but this is the administrative center of the postal service.

Continued on page 24



Figure 3

The Cayman Islands Postal Service logo is shown on display in the Georgetown Post Office.

Figure 2 shows a helpful postal employee at the Georgetown Post Office showing some of the philatelic items available at that time. **Figure 3** shows the Cayman Islands Postal Service logo in the Georgetown Post Office.



Figure 5

A tour of the Georgetown Post Office was offered to the APS group. The group was privileged to see the inner workings of the post office.



Figure 4

A display of postcards on sale at the Georgetown Post Office is found in the section with post office boxes.

Figure 4 shows a portion of the post office boxes in the Georgetown Post Office, with a display offering postcards to visitors. Finally, **Figure 5** is a photograph showing our group taking a guided tour of the Georgetown Post Office.

Figure 6 features an airmail letter I sent to some family members in the U.S. Franked with a corner copy of this year's Christmas stamp, it took two weeks to arrive in Ohio.



Figure 6

Letter sent to U.S. from Cayman Islands took two weeks to arrive.

Figure 7 shows an aerogramme I sent to the United States. The indicia shows the Queen on a visit to the Caribbean. The cachet in the lower left corner depicts a colorful parrot superimposed on a Cayman Islands flag.

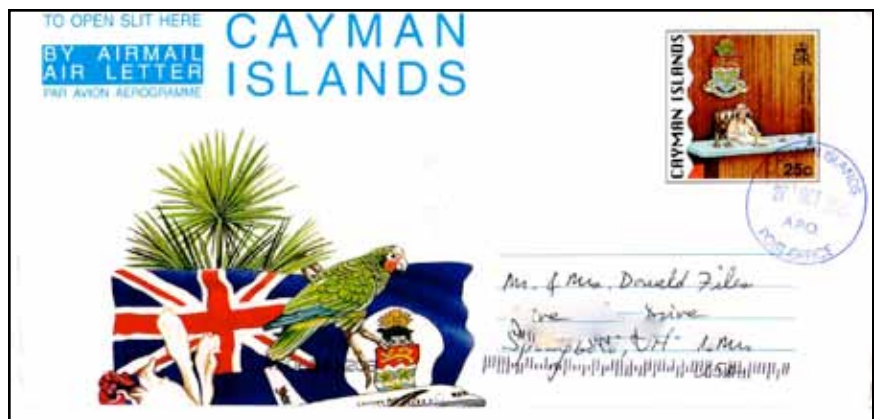


Figure 7

Cayman Islands aerogramme sent to the United States by the author.

Willoughbyland *England's Lost Colony*

Willoughbyland: England's Lost Colony

By Matthew Parker. Published by Hutchinson, London.
Available in bookstores or at Amazon.com.

Matthew Parker is fast becoming an established historical author. His last two books *Golden-Eye – where Bond was born – Ian Fleming's Jamaica* and *The Sugar Barons* have been bestsellers.

Being born in El Salvador in 1970 and spending his childhood in the West Indies has given Matthew Parker an insight into Caribbean life. His latest book is the story of "Willoughbyland" situated at the mouth of the Surinam River in the Guianas.

In 1595 Sir Walter Raleigh (*sic*) decided to claim the "Rich and Bewtiful Empire of Guiana" for the English Crown and to find the legendary city of El Dorado. A group of Cavaliers, expelled by Oliver Cromwell, had established a new settlement named after its founder, Sir Francis Willoughby.

This is the untold story of Willoughbyland's spectacular rise and fall. Here is a dramatic tale set at a pivotal moment in British and world history, when thousands of men and women set sail across the seas, lured by the promise of lush new lands. As the planters and traders followed explorers and mercenaries, the spies followed. Willoughbyland would become a place of terror and of empire, its heady attractions and fatal dangers. It is an interesting point that only the descendents of the poor slaves remain in Surinam today, the English gone.

Additional French and Dutch intrigues against "Willoughbyland" make this book a must for pre-stamp philatelic historians. There is a wealth of information about the early British Colonies particularly Barbados with Reformation dissenters sailing south. I commend to you *Willoughbyland*.

Review by David Horry, FRPSL

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS



NEVIS



'NEVIS – THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY (1661–1890)' by Federico Borromeo, FRPSL and Charles Freeland, FRPSL. This is the first definitive handbook on Nevis to be published since the slim booklet by Fred Melville in 1910. Despite its small size, this island has attracted collectors from the earliest days. The book traces the pre-stamp history and examines the early Nissen & Parker issues in great detail and goes on to describe the evolution of the De La Rue printings. It also includes chapters on postal stationery, revenue issues and forgeries. This book is a must for all BWI collectors.

A4 size, hardbacked with dust jacket, (viii) + 208 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-19-2

Price: £35.00 (approx. \$52.00). BWISC Members' Price: £32.00 (approx. \$48.00).



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BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By Paul Larsen
Awards Chairman

Following is a listing of recent British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) member exhibit participants and awards.

CHICAGOPEX 2015
November 20-22
Itasca, Illinois

John Paré
*The Wisconsin Issue: Production,
First Day Covers, Postal Uses*
Gold

David Pitts
*Bermuda: Postal History from the
Early Days to the UPU*
**Reserve Grand, Gold,
Postal History Society Award**

Paul Larsen
*Leeward Islands Federal Postal Stationery of the
King George V Reign: Registered Envelopes (SF)*
Gold

Raymond Murphy
*Official Mail of the Provisional Government
of the Irish Free State (SF)*
Vermeil, Best Single-Frane Irish Exhibit

FLOREX 2015
December 4-6
Orlando, Florida

Dan Walker
Soruth: A Princely Indian State
**Gold, Collectors Club of Chicago Award
for Exhibiting Excellence**

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Membership Director's Report

By Bob Stewart

New Members

All new applicants listed in the last issue of the Journal have been accepted as members of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. Congratulations and welcome to the Group.

New Applicants

Simon Richards, Heathercombe House, Drayton Street, Leonard, Wallingford OX10 7BG UNITED KINGDOM
Email: simon@sidebell.co.uk. Collecting interests: Dominica, Maritime Mail, Jamaica and British Guiana. Sponsored by Ray Stanton.

Gary Liddell, 336 Glebeholme, Toronto, ON M4C-1V1 CANADA. Email: g.liddell@sympatico.ca. Collects Bahamas. Member of BWISC. Sponsored by Bob Stewart.

Resigned

Nigel Shanks, Gene Fricks, Jack Schultz, John Gardner, Mel Fillmore, Neil DeWitte

Donations

(And thanks!)

Patricia Capill, Paul Bondor, Gerald Schroedl,

Ernest Roberts, Stephen Peters, Bruce Aitken, Keith Moh, Peter Colwell, Sam Partain, John Paré, Alan Wheeler, Terrence Gamble, Raymond Paley, Steven Berlin, Steve Pacetti, Charles Cwiakala, Andrew Mitchell, Michael Oliver, Jerald Haas, John Hallam, Charles Kennard, Richard Ward.

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact me, either by mail (see inside front cover of the Journal)

or by email at stewartlbi9@comcast.net.

If I do not have your correct mailing address, you will not get your copy of the Journal.

Also, if you have friends who might be interested in joining, let me know and I will send them a complimentary issue of the Journal.



Please help...
us find new members!



We need YOUR help in this important mission today!

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY, VOLUME 9

MILITARY MAILS

by Paul Farrimond and Raymond Murphy

This book is based on the original written by the late Derek Sutcliffe; it has been thoroughly revised and largely re-written. It continues the aim of presenting the Jamaica Encyclopaedia in a new softback format with many illustrations now in full colour. **WINNER OF GOLD MEDAL AND GRAND AWARD FOR LITERATURE AT CHICAGOPEX 2015!**

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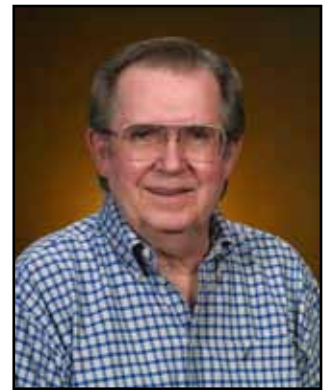
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President's Message

By Duane Larson

"If I've said it once, I've said it 100 times." I'm sure you've heard that before, but this time I really mean it (you've heard that, too). Well, it's the last time I'm going to say this: in a few short months, we will be headed to the "Big Apple" for the 2016 New York World Stamp Show, and if you haven't reserved your room at the Fairfield Inn of East Rutherford, New Jersey (the BCPSG show headquarters), space is going fast! Our hospitality suite will be located there for after-hours fellowship and libations. Opening day is Saturday, May 28 and we will be sharing a table with the Bermuda Collectors Society and the British West Indies Study Circle. I'm still looking for a few members to help set up and staff the table the first weekend. If you can help, email me at dlarson283@aol.com or phone at (708) 503-9552. It's very important that we have a BCPSG presence at the table for the entire show, even though we are sharing the table. Colin Fraser and Richard Maisel have done a wonderful job putting together our BCPSG West Indies seminar at the show on Wednesday, June 1. Our society dinner will be held that same evening at the Peking Duck House, located mid-town at 236 East 53rd St. Please email Colin Fraser (FrasersStamps@cs.com) at your convenience to confirm if you anticipate attending the society dinner. More show and AGM information is posted on our website: <http://www.bcpsg.com>.



It was recently brought to my attention that there is an eBay seller currently offering quantities of British Caribbean stamps with forged postmarks. The seller is from Canada and apparently has been in the forged postmark business for years. Here is a link to StampBoards forum where the activities of this seller "manyik" are being carefully watched and documented: <http://stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=21&t=64456>. I hope to see you at the upcoming 2016 New York World Stamp Show in May!

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

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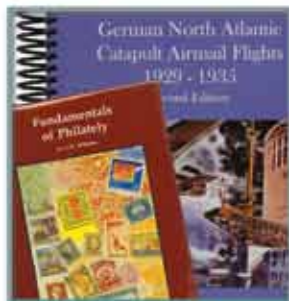
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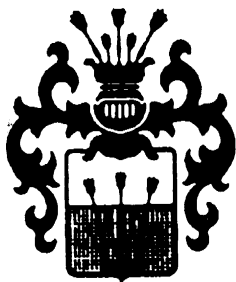
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