

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP
Unit No. 27 of the American Philatelic Society

Vol. 58, No. 3

July - September 2018

Whole No. 268

St. Vincent Post Office Update



The Campden Park Post Office.



The Layou Post Office.

See article by Peter Elias on page 11!



This interesting building houses the Questelles Post Office.



The Vermont Post Office is located in the Vermont Multi-Purpose Center, which also houses the library.



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British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

Vol. 58, No. 3 July - September 2018 Whole No. 268

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DEADLINES FOR THIS PUBLICATION

January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30

April issue: Deadline February 15, mailing March 30

July issue: Deadline May 15, mailing June 30

October issue: Deadline August 15, mailing September 30

U.S. Army censor marks used in St. Lucia

By Alister Kinnan

Following the passing by Congress of the Lend-Lease Act in 1941, United States forces established bases in territories from Newfoundland to British Guiana in order to provide increased protection to the eastern seaboard of the United States. Two of these bases were in St. Lucia in the Caribbean. In the north of the island, the U.S. Navy set up a seaplane base and in the south, the Army Air Force set about building an airfield capable of handling bombers and reconnaissance aircraft.



APO 867 datestamp on cover addressed to Indiana.

Army bases were incorporated into the scheme and Army post offices with numbers initially allocated from APO 801 to 807, with St. Lucia being APO 805. From the date of opening of the Army base post office on August 17, 1941, mail was censored even though the United States was not at war at this point.

The design of Army unit censoring devices takes the general form of a rectangle, approximately 37 cm x 26



APO cover to stamp dealer in Portland, Maine.

cm enclosing an oval within which is the number. These marks are sometimes referred to as “racetrack” marks and several minor variations are known.



APO 867 datestamp on cover to New York.

Each unit appears to have been allocated its own number and its designated censor(s) had an individual numbered censorship handstamp, but the story is not that simple. The majority of the mail was censored by unit censors; often the chaplain or medical officer, but all officers were allowed to censor their own mail, often by just signing the envelope, and some mail shows base censorship.

All of the unit censor stamps used in St. Lucia are numbered in a series starting from 800 and were part of a larger group allocated to the Trinidad sector. In the early days of the base, some mail was forwarded to Trinidad or Puerto Rico for onward transmission and was censored there, using Trinidad or Puerto Rico numbered handstamps.

Much of the mail, particularly from civilian employees of the construction companies, was censored at the base post office, which was allocated two “unit” handstamps, numbers 800 and 801.

The main unit assigned to the base was the 5th Bomb Squadron of the 9th Bomb Group, which took up residence in October 1941. But they were supported by many other units ranging from coastal artillery and military police to a hospital.

I am not an expert on the structure of the United States armed forces, and I seek guidance from more knowl-

edgable members on matters of fact or interpretation. I have records of 14 different censor numbers used between numbers 800 and 828, a few of which were used on mail from more than one unit and, conversely, mail from some units, notably the 5th Bomb Squadron, shows marks from different censors.

Here is a checklist of censor numbers recorded: 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 811, 813, 815,



Another APO 867 cover to New York.

816, 820, 828.

And here is a checklist of units known to have used unit censor marks in St. Lucia:

- 5th Bomb Squadron, 9th Bomb Group
- 9th Weather Squadron
- 28th Separate Battalion Coastal Artillery
- 434th Infantry, companies "A" and "H"
- 197th M.P. Company
- "Prov Air Base Detachment"
- Base Command or Forces Headquarters
- 59th Bombardment Squadron
- 309 SUC Squadron Detachment
- Field Artillery Detachment
- Station Hospital
- 248th M.P. Company
- 22nd Signal Service Company



Cover to New York with APO 867 datestamp in 1943.



Cover to a Hollywood star with APO datestamp.

In addition to the "unit" handstamps, there were "base" handstamps used where a unit either did not have a unit handstamp or for other reasons. These took the form of a circle enclosing the words "Passed by Army examiner," the base and a number. I have records of three of these handstamps used on mail from St. Lucia: numbers 1251, 1252, 1253, but there is a possibility that number 1261 was also used.

I cannot find any publication that lists the allocation of Army censor marks to units or locations. Perhaps I have not been looking in the right place? I would welcome any information which would enhance our knowledge of this byway in the philately of St. Lucia.

Nuggets from the past ...

In the December 1978 *Journal*, W. Danforth Walker reported on Grenada's early *tete-beche* stamps. He noted that the 1883 issue was Grenada's first and the stamps were produced by De La Rue. The "peculiar method of printing" was the final chapter in a long struggle between De La Rue and Perkins, Bacon, he said.

Also, John M. Willem provided notes from the Tudway Correspondence, and Alfred J. Branston offered a look ahead to London 1980, the huge international stamp show. He also provided a three page reminiscence of meeting with BCPSG members and officers during a visit to the United States.

Walton Van Winkle wrote about the "Commercial Rooms" of Kingston, Jamaica, and the role they played in early philatelic history. There were several other interesting and informative articles in the journal.

Post Office Wrappers of St. Vincent

By Dr. John K. Curtis, FRPSL

St. Vincent is an island in the Lesser Antilles island arc and the southern portion of the Windward Islands. The capital is Kingstown which is also the main port and main commercial center. The population of St. Vincent and the Grenadine Islands was approximately 42,000 at the time of the first issue of wrappers in 1893.

By 1902, when the King Edward VII issue appeared, the population had risen to 45,000, dipped slightly thereafter as a consequence of a disastrous earthquake in 1902, and remained around the 44,000 level when the last two issues were produced. With such a small population base, the demand for post office postal stationery wrappers may have been low. A map of the islands is shown in *Figure 1*.



Figure 1
Map of St. Vincent & Grenadines in the Caribbean.

Post Office Issues

There were 42 copies of the 1893 first issue ½d green Queen Victoria and six copies of the 1d carmine wrappers listed on eBay that have appeared in the author's daily hand-collected database of 37,500 images of used worldwide wrappers. In 1902, King Edward VII wrappers of the ½d green were issued and there are six copies. However, not once in the past 11 years has a used copy of the 1913 King George V ½d green post office postal stationery wrapper of St. Vincent been listed for sale on eBay. Furthermore, only two copies of the 1915 redesigned King George V ½d green wrapper have been listed. The indicia are basic key plate images printed by De La Rue in London for use in several British colonies, including those located in the Caribbean. The five indicia are shown in *Figure 2* with the kind permission of Jan Kosniowski (2015). The ½d rate was the basic printed papers rate from 1893 (Furfie 2010).

“SPECIMEN” overprinted copies were prepared for U.P.U. distribution for each of the five issues, the overprint reading up from left to right and is applied at an angle. The first issue is also extant with a horizontal specimen overprint for purposes other than UPU distribution. For the 1902, 1913 and 1915 issues the juxtaposition of the overprint to indicium differs with variations in the angle of the setting. These types are shown as part of Figure 2.



Figure 2
Post Office Indicia (above) and Specimens of Postal Stationery Wrappers (below).



Postal History Interest

There were 50 wrappers addressed to 12 non-St. Vincent locations: U.S. (18), U.K. (11), Germany (8), Barbados, Canada, Holland and Switzerland (2 each) and Dominica, Austria, France, Tobago and Belgium (1 each). There were six wrappers bearing local addresses in St. Vincent.

The postmark date range recorded is June 16, 1893 (QV ½d green; local address) to February 20, 1911 (QV 1d scarlet; Holland address). The year-end profile of the 44 readable postmarks was: 1893 (2), 1894 (10), 1895 (3), 1896 (1), 1897 (3), 1898 (8), 1899 (6), 1900 (5), 1902 (3), 1906 (1), 1910 (1), 1911 (1). For E1 the earliest/latest date range recorded is June 16, 1893 to January 13, 1902; for E2: October 11, 1894 to February 20, 1911; for E3: December 2, 1902 to May 19, 1910. Dates for E4 and E5 could not be read from eBay Internet images.

There were few auxiliary markings on the 56 wrappers. One showed a handstamped “T” tax mark, another handstamp showing the reason for a U.S. non-delivery, and there was an example of a handwritten “via” directional marking. Otherwise the wrappers of St. Vincent are unremarkable.

Six wrappers have been selected for brief discussion and these are shown in *Figure 3* (next page). The first wrapper is addressed to Clarke, Son & Platt. Newspapers were an especially important part of early colonial life in shaping political opinion, providing news items, reporting on sporting events, and advertising merchandise. London clients saw lucrative markets for their wares in overseas colonies and engaged advertising agencies to place advertisements in newspapers in these locales for their products. One of the major London-based advertising agencies was Clarke,

Continued on page 8



Figure 3

Examples of St. Vincent Wrappers with Postal History Interest.

Son & Platt. Wrappers addressed to this firm contained newspapers or cuttings containing advertising inserted by agents of this firm on behalf of London-based clients (Courtis, 2015).

Wrapper two is addressed to the ubiquitous Rev. Leonard Meister. As noted by Bateson (2011), while Rev. Meister was a priest and a stamp collector, at one time he was also a part-time stamp dealer; he placed an advertisement in *Mekeel's Stamp Weekly* seeking want lists from customers for certain issues. The author's database has 15 examples of Meister addressee wrappers from Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Leeward Islands, Trinidad and St. Vincent. The Reverend was one of many philatelic cover providers.

The third wrapper is addressed also to a philatelic cover provider, this time in Germany. Postal stationery pre-addressed to Paul Kiderlen is not difficult to find. There are seven examples of the 1893 issues of St. Vincent pre-addressed to this stamp dealer. The dates of usage can be read on five of these wrappers and all are postmarked either October 11, 1894 or December 19, 1894.

Auxiliary markings applied in Kingstown are shown on wrapper four: a black handstamped "T" and a pencil "1d"

being double deficiency payment for the second weight scale of four ounces. There is a British-applied postage due handstamp "1d." A numeral obliterator "466" for Manchester was then applied when the postage due was received and the postman's signature is a record of the receipt.

Central Valley, New York is the address on the fifth wrapper. The interest in this wrapper is in it being the only wrapper noted with "via" directional marking, namely "via Grenada." The via Grenada route travelled clockwise from St. Vincent directly to St. Kitts and onward to St. Thomas and New York. The alternative route was the slower island-hopping to Barbados, St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Antigua, St. Kitts, St. Thomas and New York (Britnor 1976).

The last wrapper illustrated is one of two recorded in the database of a used copy of the final 1915 issue. It is addressed to New York. The street address has been crossed out and an explanatory handstamp applied in New York with the reason why the wrapper was undeliverable.

A record of daily eBay sales of used post office postal stationery wrappers has been hand-collected since March 2006. There have been 18 sales of St. Vincent wrappers over the 113 month collection period. There were no recorded sales of the 1893 1d red QV or of the 1913 and 1915 issues. No recorded sales of the 1902 1d red QV is a surprise given that only six copies have appeared for sale on eBay in 11 years. The 17 sales of the ½d green QV and the single example of a ½d green KEVII are summarized in the accompanying Table 1. There were 15 sales of "Specimen" overprint wrappers and these, too, are shown in the accompanying table. It is noteworthy that while there were no sales of used examples of the 1893 1d red QV, there were two sales of this wrapper overprinted "Specimen."

	Sales Details (Ranked Low to High in USD) & Number of Bidders per Sale	# of Sales	Mean Sale Price	Mean # of Bidders
1893 ½d QV	0.99 (1), 1.59 (2), 1.66 (1), 1.95 (1), 3.00 (1), 3.04 (2), 4.72 (1), 4.99 (1), 5.00 (1), 6.10 (2), 6.10 (2), 6.13 (1), 7.07 (2), 7.51 (3), 9.99 (1), 19.99 (1), 28.00 (1)	17	6.93	1.41
1893 1d QV	No recorded sales			
1902 ½d KEVII	29.99 (1)	1	29.99	1.00
1913 ½d KGV	No recorded sales			
1915 ½d KGV	No recorded sales			
Sales of Specimen overprint Wrappers		18	8.21	1.38
1893 ½d QV	0.99 (1), 0.99 (1), 4.25 (3), 9.00 (1), 11.09 (2), 15.04 (2)	6	6.89	1.67
1893 1d QV	1.96 (2), 9.00 (1)	2	5.48	1.50
1902 ½d KEVII	1.63 (2), 7.05 (2), 7.05 (3), 9.00 (1)	4	6.18	2.00
1913 ½d KGV	No recorded sales			
1915 ½d KGV	6.93 (3), 9.00 (1), 24.99 (1)	3	13.64	1.67

Table 1

eBay sales of wrappers of St. Vincent: March 2006. In a number of country-specific studies of supply and demand features of wrappers on eBay, an average bidder score of 2.5 bidders has been used as a rule of thumb tipping point to argue strength of collector interest. All scores for St. Vincent sales, both regular post office issues and specimen overprints, are well below 2.5 which implies that there is either a low bidder interest in the wrappers from this country or collectors are obtaining examples from other sources.

Conclusion

There were five post office issues of wrappers between 1893 and 1915. Of the 56 copies in the database collected over more than 11 years, 86 percent were of the 1893 QV issues. There have been no listings of the 1913 issue and only two examples of the last issue in 1915. Specimen overprints in five settings were produced overall for all issues.

Most of the extant wrappers of St. Vincent were mailed to locations elsewhere in the Caribbean or to the U.S., U.K., Germany and elsewhere. In fact, wrappers addressed to U.S., U.K. and Germany account for almost three-quarters of extant overseas wrappers. One quarter of wrappers mailed outside domestic addresses was to either philatelic providers (Meister and Kiderlen) or to an advertising agency in London.

By-and-large the wrappers of this postal entity are unremarkable. Other than a sole example of a "T" tax marking, there were no auxiliary markings applied in this colony on the sample examined. There was a sole case of "via" directional marking to guide the selection of a faster sea route.

With regard to sales of these wrappers on eBay, only 11 percent (two sales) realized more than \$20, the highest recorded sale being \$28 and the lowest recorded sale being 99¢. There were 17 sales of the 1893 ½d green QV and one sale of the 1902 ½d green KEVII. There were 15 sales of specimen overprint wrappers. The overall average number of bidders for post office issues and specimen overprints was modest and below a rule-of-thumb tipping point, suggesting that there is a small collector base for these wrappers or collectors have been obtaining their wants from sources other than eBay.

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Acknowledgment

*Allan Gory kindly read and commented on an earlier draft
and I thank him for his time and insights to strengthen the paper.*

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PLEASE HELP!

Have you asked a friend to join the BCPSG?

If not, why not?

We need new members to help grow the society.

Like many other groups, our membership is in decline, and we must turn that around!

Please encourage someone to join, TODAY!

St. Vincent Philatelic Update

By Peter Elias

Over the past 20 years I have occasionally written to the main and village post offices on St. Vincent and the Grenadines asking about current postmark and cancellation devices currently in use. In April 2017, I decided it was time to do so again. About 10 years prior, the St. Vincent Postal Corporation decided to consolidate the many smaller village post offices and have mail go through “hubs.”

According to the most recent list I had (which I got from their website), I sent off requests to the postmaster of the following post offices: Ashton, Union Island, Barrouallie, Belair, Biabou, Calliaqua, Canouan Island, Chateaubelair, Colonarie, Evesham, Georgetown, Kingstown, Layou, Lowmans Windward, Mayreau Island, Mesopotamia, Mustique Island, Port Elizabeth (Bequia Island), Questelles, Sandy Bay, Spring Village, Stubbs, Troumaca, Vermont.



St. Vincent Post Office postmarks and auxiliary postal markings in use in 2017 at Barrouallie.

Each request included a brief letter requesting a nice strike of the current postmark in use (plus any auxiliary markings on hand), along with a 4 x 6 inch piece of paper (to apply the postmark) and a return envelope of European C6 size (and using mostly 1980s St. Vincent stamps as postage).

These 23 requests were mailed in late April 2017. So far, I've received six of them back: Georgetown, double circle, April 20, 2017; Belair, double circle, April 24, 2017; Port Elizabeth, Bequia, double circle, April 25, 2017; Mustique Island, double circle, May 5, 2017; Barrouallie, single circle, December 29, 2017 (received on January 25, 2018), Mesopotamia, single circle (30mm diameter), ?? January 2018 (received February 13, 2018). In almost all cases, it takes three to four weeks for these envelopes to make it back to me (in Texas) from St. Vincent!



Postmarks in use at Belair in 2017.

It appears that the double-circle postmark is the most common in use, measuring 31mm in diameter; the single circle postmark is 29mm in diameter. Unfortunately, some of the postmarks have a rather “smudged” look, although some are fairly clean (especially Barrouallie and Mustique).



This postmark was in use during 2017 at Georgetown, St. Vincent.

Only the sheet from Mustique Island showed an auxiliary marking, a “returned to sender” handstamp.

What I find most amazing is that apparently my requests have simply sat on someone's desk for over eight months (and I have not yet heard back from 18 post offices at all). It could be, of course, that some of them aren't open any longer. A list of all “postal codes” is on

Continued on page 12

the interest at

http://www.svgpost.gov.vc/postoffice/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3&Itemid=7

but that doesn't mean that there are actual post offices at each of those towns and villages. The list of actual hub and district post offices is at

http://www.svgpost.gov.vc/postoffice/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12&Itemid=9

and coincides with my list. For example, the "Lowmans Windward" post office serves Greggs, Lauders, Lowmans and New Grounds (all of which had their own post offices prior to 2007). Colonarie also serves Byera, South Rivers, Park Hill, Mt. Grenen (Grenan?) and Diamond (Diamond Village).

The St. Vincent Postal Corporation website also gives other useful information such as the current postage rates (which are EC\$2.20 to the USA).



Postmarks in use at Port Elizabeth, Bequia Island, St. Vincent in 2017.



Cover (left) from Mustique Island, St. Vincent in 2017 showing postmark in use. Above is a "return to sender" marking also in use.



This is the Calliaqua Post Office on St. Vincent.



The "Bequia Revenue Office," which includes the post office.

When did the Accelerated Air Mail Service from Bermuda stop?

By Darryl Fuller

According to Charles Cwiakala in his book on Bermuda air mail,¹ United States Post Office Department regulations allowed the carriage of international mails within the U.S. air mail system if the mails were franked with the proper U.S. postage in addition to the postage of the country of origin. Mail is known from as early as 1918, not just from Bermuda but from many countries worldwide. Such covers are very popular, and although a number are philatelic in origin, commercial mail is known and highly sought after. In the early years, the additional U.S. postage paid for air mail within the U.S. However, as the air mail routes out of the U.S. expanded to Canada, Central and South America and across the Pacific, Bermuda-origin mails to foreign destinations via the U.S. air mail services (FAM or Foreign Air Mail routes) could be pre-paid using U.S. stamps for the additional air mail service.

Figure 1 illustrates an excellent commercial air mail cover posted from Bermuda to Brazil in early 1937. The cover is franked with a Bermuda 2½d King George V stamp, cancelled “MAR 09 37” (March 9, 1937) which pays for surface mail to New York. The cover is also franked with 50 cents in U.S. air mail stamps cancelled with a New York duplex cancel dated “MAR 12 1937” (March 12, 1937). There are no backstamps. According to Wawrukiewicz and Beecher,² this is the correct air mail postage for a half ounce letter from New York to Brazil. The U.S. stamps used on this cover were available in Bermuda at the time. This cover illustrates the accelerated service available from Bermuda prior to through air mail from Bermuda, which started just three months later, on June 16, 1937. It was known as FAM 17 initially.



Figure 1
*Accelerated air mail service cover from
Bermuda to Brazil, March 1937.*

Cwiakala also notes that this accelerated service stopped on June 16, 1937 as air mail could be pre-paid from Bermuda using all Bermuda stamps. However, he also notes that the accelerated service was reintroduced for a brief period in early 1939 following the crash of the RMA *Cavalier*. In addition, he observed that covers exist from the early 1940s which have combinations of Bermuda and U.S. stamps, even though the U.S. stamps were superfluous and are often cancelled with a smudge of ink rather than a postmarker. These are not genuine accelerated air service covers.

Despite what Cwiakala states about the accelerated air mail service stopping, I wonder whether the

Continued on page 14

cover shown in *Figure 2* illustrates that this accelerated service was in use beyond June 16, 1937. The cover has a Bermuda 1937 Coronation 2½d stamp, cancelled Hamilton “24 NOV 37” (November 24, 1937), paying for surface mail to New York. The 15 cents U.S. air mail stamp is cancelled “November 26” by a New York duplex cancel with the cover having no backstamps. However, according to Wawrukiewicz and Beecher, the airmail rate from New York to Jamaica was only 10 cents per half ounce at the time, so this letter appears overpaid. Despite the overpayment, I think this is commercial mail because of the address. The writer may have used this stamp because it was what he had available, knew it more than covered the cost, and was cheaper than the alternative.



Figure 2
Accelerated air mail service cover from Bermuda to Jamaica in November 1937.

The issue with this cover is whether it was flown from Bermuda to New York and then to Jamaica or whether it went by ship to New York and then by air to Jamaica by FAM 6. Luckily there is a website³ available that has images of early airline timetables including one for the Baltimore-Bermuda service of Pan American Airways (PAA) from November 1, 1937. During winter, due to adverse weather conditions, flights from Bermuda landed at Baltimore rather than New York. Therefore, it seems quite unlikely that a cover posted in Bermuda on this date would have travelled from Baltimore to New York before the U.S. air mail stamp was cancelled. The question also arises as to whether such payment would have been accepted because the air mail rate from Bermuda to Jamaica, by air throughout, was 1/9d.⁴ This is considerably more than 2½d plus 15 cents U.S.

November 24, 1937 was a Wednesday and according to the PAA timetable, PAA flew out of Bermuda on Thursdays and Sundays while Imperial Airlines Limited (IAL) flew out on Fridays and Mondays. They shared the service initially. The correspondent may have posted the letter late on November 23 or very early on November 24, assuming it would catch the next mail steamer to New York. This trip would likely take 48 hours or less so the dates of November 24 and 26 make this a real possibility. It would also explain the New York cancel on the 15 cents air mail stamp.

What I believe happened was that the sender had the stamps available and decided to use the (still available) accelerated service rather than the more expensive air mail throughout option. It makes some sense because if posting late on the Tuesday or early Wednesday the letter would still have to wait until Thursday to be flown. This may have been 24-36 hours plus the 5½-6 hours flying time and processing time in New York. By ship was probably about 48 hours, so overall the letter may not have taken much longer by ship than waiting for the air service.

Given the above scenario fits the cover, whilst the alternative appears improbable, I believe that the cover is a genuine accelerated air mail service from Bermuda in November 1937, and it proves this service still existed after the through air mail service from Bermuda started. It makes sense to have a cheaper service with a small time penalty available, especially when compared with the relatively expensive all

The TDRs of Blackstonedged, Jamaica

By David Horry, FRPSL
An Englishman resident in Shanghai, China

In March 2015, on my quest to find the “Registered” Oval Post Offices of Jamaica, Delroy Murray drove me through the village of Blackstonedged, St. Ann. (*Figure 1*). Little did I realize at the time that this village had history -- important history. It is always the case that



Figure 1
Map of Blackstonedged, Jamaica.

the sudden use of unusual postmarks are a reasonable guide to events that otherwise might dissolve into history.

It has been averred that the Temporary Rubber Date-stamps (TRDs) were always used to open new post offices in Jamaica. This is not exactly so, as between January 1931 and July 1939, a total of 51 offices opened their doors and only two Temporary Rubber Boxes (TRBs) were used. Blackstonedged opened in early August 1935; the other TRB was at White Sands Beach in early 1936, which I will deal with in a separate article (*Figure 2*).

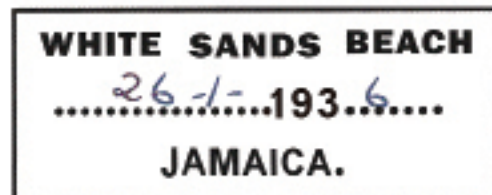


Figure 2
White Sands TRB, 1936.

As many readers will know, I have always specialized in the postmarks of the KGVI and early QEII periods. My knowledge of earlier TRDs was somewhat woolly, but after much enquiry, a clearer picture has begun to emerge. My study of the aforementioned ROs (1950-1964) showed that private individuals and commercial interests could lobby Kingston for the opening of a postal agency in many of the remotest parts of the island. It

Continued on page 16

Accelerated Air Mail Service from Bermuda ——— *Continued from page 14*

air service. I would be interested to hear from others with similar covers from Bermuda in the 12 months after the Bermuda FAM 17 air service started, or if you have an alternative theory. Please send images or suggestions to Darryl.fuller@home.netspeed.com.au.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Charles E. Cwiakala, *Bermuda by Air: A Handbook and Catalog of Bermuda Philately*. (Killen, Alabama: Bermuda Catalog Project, 1996).

² Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher, *U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996*. (Portland, Oregon: Cama Publishing Co., 1996).

³ Website: <http://www.timetableimages.com/timages/pa37bb11.htm> (viewed October 23, 2017).

⁴ Edward B. Proud, *The Postal History of Bermuda*. (East Essex, England: Proud-Bailey Co., 2003).



Figure 3
RMS Lusitania label, 1915.

was further apparent that the 30 ROs were sent to remote offices and not by the GPO. Who, therefore, was behind this intriguing question first posed by Tom Foster



Figure 4
Munro College
TRB(1), 1923.

and Hugh James and later by Ian Potter. It would appear that these Jamaican ROs and another 11 from Trinidad were the responsibility of George Crawford Odom, a Crown Agent. He was working closely to Ian Fleming, who in 1948 became the Security Liaison Officer for Jamaica.

**New Post Office
Opened At Guy's Hill**

(From Our Correspondent)
Guy's Hill, June 27.—After many years of patient waiting and persistent clamouring for a Post Office at Blackstonedged, a village about two miles from here, to-day the populace of that village can boast of a wish accomplished.
On Thursday, 23rd inst, quite a neat little function marked the opening of the Blackstonedged Post Office. At about noon a small gathering assembled in front of the office and Mr. Rock of the Postal Department took over the building from Mr. E. Schliefer and handed over to Miss N. Boothe, the Post Mistress, the keys and necessary books for the Office.
In the afternoon a large number of children and grown-ups assembled in the open square of the village. Some of the children went through a few physical exercises after which the Rev. A. A. McKenzie addressed the gathering.
Mr. W. H. W. Westmoreland then treated the gathering to a few selections from his Victrola; after this the crowd dispersed feeling well satisfied about the office.
The Office will be a great boon to those people who used to travel four or more miles to receive and send away their letters and from a financial point of view the office will surely pay its way judging from the size of the district and the progress it has been making since recent years.
On Friday, 24th inst., Dr. Escoffery, D.M.O. of Gayle, was around these parts. He had a very busy time in treating the large number of persons who availed themselves of the opportunity of his visit.

Figure 5
Blackstonedged Post Office
opening notice,
June 23, 1927.

Security in Jamaica has been *a priori* in Jamaica ever since the rise of the German Empire in the early 1880s. In those days, security in Jamaica was the concern of the War Office, but mainly Naval Intelligence. In 1909, the Secret Intelligence Service was inaugurated and MI5 and MI6 were formed. They were specifically created to keep surveillance on Germans. At that time there was a large “colony” of Moravian farmers and preachers scattered across Jamaica.

They had arrived in 1834 and tended to center

around Seaford (St. Leonards) in Westmoreland. When hostilities broke out in November 1914, many of the 2,500 Germaicans (as they were known), were interred at Up Park Camp for the duration.

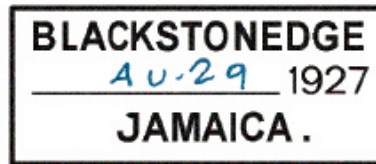


Figure 6
Blackstonedged
TRB(1), August 29,
1927.

The sinking of the British passenger liner RMS *Lusitania* was one of the most controversial incidents of World War I. On May 1, 1915 the *Lusitania* set sail from New York bound for Liverpool, with over 1,900 passengers and crew on board. Six days later a German submarine, the U-20, sank her as she approached southern Ireland. A total of 1,200 lives were lost, including 128 Americans, causing general global outrage (**Figure 3**).

Many streets in England were forced to change names as happened in Leicester; the British royal family of Saxe-Coburg became plain Windsor. In Jamaica, Pott-

sadam College became Munro College (**Figure 4**). But Haddo, Pispah, Westphalia, Bohemia still remind us of the German past. The Maroons had always been a source of trouble ever since the Spanish departed. Surveillance was deemed essential by Kingston and British Police and junior Army officers were used to keep an eye on things.

On June 23, 1927 a post office at Blackstonedged was opened on the property of a local Justice of the Peace, William E. Schliefer (**Figure 5**), with its very own locally manufactured Temporary Rubber Datstamp (TRD) [**Figure 6**]. This was not supplied by the post

**Weights For The
Blackstonedged
Gymkhana Races**

The following are the weights for the Blackstonedged Gymkhana Races.

1st. Race—Welcome Handicap.

	st.	lbs.
Dutch May	8	5
The Hawk	8	0

2nd. Race—Planters' Purse.

Jazz Master	9	0
Dutch May	8	0
Miss Duchess	7	5
Dancer	7	5
Cherry Park	7	5
Burmald (late Daisy)	7	5
Ruby May	7	0
Brown Boy	6	5
Prince Alladin	6	0

3rd. Race—Champion Pony Handicap

No entries.

4th Race—Cow Boy Purse.

Radio	9	9
Jazz Master	8	10
Burmald	7	4
Ruby May	7	0
Lady Wood	6	9
Gaudor	6	5
Brown Boy	6	4
Garden Boy	6	0
Detinator	7	0

5th Race—The Maiden Purse.

Hawk	9	0
Adina	7	11
Dancer	7	11
Gaudor	7	0
Miss Vera	7	0
Brown Boy	6	7
Lady Wood	7	0
Prince Alladin	6	0

6th Race—2nd. Planters' Purse.

Jazz Master	8	10
Dutch May	8	5
Miss Duchess	7	5
Cherry Park	7	5

Figure 7
“Weights For The Black-
stonedged Gymkhana Races,”
The Daily Gleaner,
July 20, 1927.

office in Kingston, but was almost certainly used for surveillance and reporting by the police. Thus, it was issued under the auspices of the Crown Agents, that agent being George Odom. The reason it was issued was the drunken crowds at the local horse racing (*Figure 7*).



Figure 8
Blackstonededge
JDC(1), August
24, 1928.

Gymkhanas, in aid of poor children, had been held at Blackstonededge since January 1925, but slowly things began to get out of hand; sometimes disputes ended up in the Linstead Courts. On September 17, 1927 a telephone station was added to the new post office (*Figure 8*). It was followed in late August 1927 by a steel canceller sent from London (*Figure 9*). Letters could now be sent and received as well as telephone calls which helped improve life by ever small degrees. With the local school apparently flourishing, Blackstonededge was on its way.

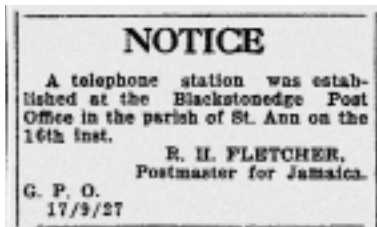


Figure 9
Blackstonededge Post
Office Telephone
station opening,
The Daily Gleaner,
September 17, 1927.

All appeared well until the morning of May 10, 1928 when thieves struck Mr. Schliefer's yam field. The suspect, Uriah Brown, escaped the constabulary (*Figure 10*). There was further disquieting news in June when the beloved pastor, the Reverend A. A. Williams, gave notice that owing to his health, he was leaving St. George's Church to go to Guy's Hill. He had ministered in Blackstonededge for over seven years and would be sorely missed (*Figure 11*). The "road keeper," Mr. Schliefer also handed in his notice. The roads in the area were at that time in a pitiful state.

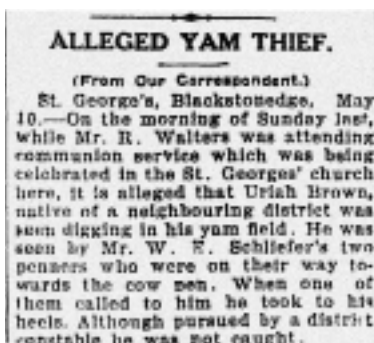


Figure 10
Alleged yam thief,
The Daily Gleaner,
May 14, 1928.

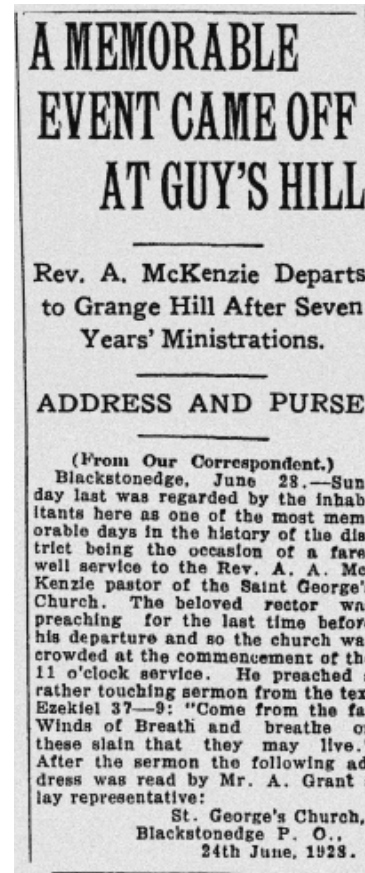


Figure 11
Announcement St. George's
Church, The Daily Gleaner,
June 24, 1928.

Then on July 19, 1928 a letter sent to *The Daily Gleaner* from The District of Blackstonededge reads:

Sir, Allow me space in your worthy paper to insert these remarks regarding the low standards of some of our districts in spite of the many improvements for the uplifting of the people. Take for consideration the district of Blackstonededge. In the parish of St. Ann. The nearest police station in the parish is nine miles off. There are two rum shops. Some people conduct themselves in a manner lower than the inferior animals. They use the most disgraceful expressions. They are so terrible that the district constable cannot control them as they agree with one another in every vice. Would the authorities use their voice to see if they could cut down on the lawlessness? Thanking you for space. I am etc. "A RESIDER" – July 3, 1928 (Figure 12).

I believe that "A RESIDER" was almost certainly the aforementioned Mr. Schliefer.

Continued on page 18

The District of Blackstonedged.

THE EDITOR:
 Sir,—Allow me space in your worthy paper to insert these remarks regarding the low standard of some of our districts in spite of the many improvements for the uplifting of the people. Take for consideration the district of Blackstonedged. In the parish of St. Ann. The nearest police station in the parish is nine miles off. There are two rum shops. Some of the people conduct themselves in a manner lower than the inferior animals. They use the most disgraceful expressions. They are so terrible that the district constable cannot control them as they agree with one another in every vice.
 Would the authorities use their voice to see if they could cut down this lawlessness?
 Thanking you for space,
 I am, etc.,
 "A RESIDER,"
 July 3, 1928.

Figure 12
Letter from "A RESIDER,"
The Daily Gleaner, July 16, 1928.

The Daily Gleaner remained quiet until August 23, 1934, when there was literally a free-for-all fight in a Chinese shop on the Gloucester Estate on the evening of Friday, August 17,

Melee in A Shop Near Blackstonedged: Four Are Injured.

Portion of Girl's Nose cut off; Butcher Struck With Bottle Taken to the Hospital.

(From the Correspondent.)
 BLACKSTONEDGED, August 18.—There was literally a free-for-all fight in a Chinese shop not many miles from here on Friday night.

Sticks, stones, broken bottles and other weapons were used in the battle and four persons were injured, two of whom are now in the St. Ann's Bay Hospital.

The melee followed the payment of labourers on the Gloucester Hall property on the Friday evening, when many were feeling "sweet." And it all started when a butcher of the village walked between two people who were in a conversation. One of the persons, a woman, reproved the butcher who retorted with some unbecoming words. The woman retaliated by boxing him twice, and then pandemonium reigned in the shop. The crowd was in favour of the woman and during the chaos another woman named Coward, received a cut on her left arm, and a little girl was unfortunate enough to have a portion of her nose neatly cut off.

The district constable soon heard that there was a "riot" in the shop and he ran to the scene and succeeded in bringing about some order.

By this time the butcher had become most irate and while he was walking about the place with his knife he was hit in the forehead with a bottle, flung by an unseen hand.

The butcher and girl were taken to the hospital.

after workers were being paid, and many were feeling rather "sweet." Four people were injured including a little girl who had the tip of her nose cut off by a butcher's cleaver. The butcher, who appears to have been Chinese, was "boxed" and hit over the head with a glass bottle by a woman. The district constable ran to the scene to quell the "riot." After the melee, the girl and the butcher were taken to St. Ann's Bay Hospital and order was restored (Figure 13).

Then came the serious stuff: on the morning of Friday, August 7, 1935 most

Figure 13
Melee at Blackstonedged, The Daily Gleaner, August 23, 1934.

BLACKSTONEDGED, VILLAGE IN ST. MARY IS RAZED BY BIG FIRE

Blaze, Early Yesterday Morning Wiped Out Principal Buildings on Main St.

POST OFFICE GONE

Origin of Fire Not Known. Loss Sustained Not Known In City Yesterday

FIRE RAZED the village of Blackstonedged, in St. Mary very early yesterday morning, wiping out entirely four buildings on the main street, including the local post office. The amount of damage, though extensive, is not known in figures. Fortunately, there was no loss of life.

News was brought into Kingston yesterday afternoon by Mr. J. M. Ryan of 165½ Windward Road, driver of the Gleaner motor car service from Kingston to Port Maria. On the route there in the morning he drove in Blackstonedged at about 10.30 o'clock to see the disaster.

"The premises involved are said to be the Post Office a druggist's shop, an unoccupied Chinese shop and a shop kept by one Mr. Gardner a native. All have been burnt down "smack smooth", with not a post left upright, but a mass of charred and smoking ruins—a blot on the town's appearance.

Mr. Ryan naturally could not say when or how the fire started, as he got there hours after it had started and run its course of havoc. When he arrived he says he saw the Inspector of Police and a few of the men on the scene and learned that attempts had been made in vain to fight the flames.

The Gleaner 8 August 1935

Figure 14
Blackstonedged Fire, The Daily Gleaner, August 8, 1935.

of the village of Blackstonedged was destroyed in a fire (Figure 14). It wiped out most of Main Street in minutes. The post office, a druggist store, a vacant Chinese shop and a shop kept by Mr. Gardner ("a native") were burned down "smack smooth," with not a post left upright, but a charred mass of charred and smoking ruins, a blot on the town's appearance. It is noted that the fire had started on Gardner's property. He was asleep at the time and he was lucky to escape with a badly damaged

POSTMISTRESS' LOSS.

It is stated that the postmistress Miss Boothie was the greatest sufferer. Everything including her household things, is said to have been destroyed by the fire, while her efforts were taken up in saving her mother, a sick old lady, whose safety counted more than anything else.

The origin of the fire is said to have been in the shop kept by Mr. Gardner who was awakened by someone when the flames were seen in his haste, he jumped through a window and into some bottles on which he cut his foot. Thus temporarily disabled, he was unable to save anything.

The druggist, a Mr. Kelly whose shop was the last on the line was the least sufferer, as while the flames travelled down to him, he was able to move out most of his belongings to safety. Next door was a garage of zinc which because of its construction was able to escape the flames.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

BLACKSTONEDGED, St. Mary, (Monday)—(By telegraph) At 3 a.m. today watchmen at Blackstonedged gave an alarm of "fire". P. B. Gardner awoke first to find an attempt to save his money failed and nothing was saved. Gardner was seriously injured. His wife children and servants escaped in their sleeping clothes.

The postmistress escaped through the flames with her sick mother. Dispenser R. C. Kelly and wife with much help saved a little of their goods and furniture. Schriener's garage was broken in a rush and a truck pushed out by the people who were on the scene in hundreds.

The flames started in Gardner's and continued on both sides to the Post Office, dispenser's shop, garage dwelling houses Chismann's grocery, produce house, dwelling which were all burnt. A shop opposite Marysvalle property caught fire twice but the flames were put out.

foot, after he jumped through an upstairs window.

The fire seems to have taken hold rather quickly and the flames engulfed the post office entirely. The post-mistress, Miss Boothe, escaped through the flames with her sick mother, but she lost everything as all she tried to save was her mother. The Marys vale Property Company on the opposite side of the street was aflame twice but the fire was restricted on two occasions. Mr. Schliefer's garage was broken into in a rush and a truck pushed out by the hundreds of people who were on the scene.

A new TRB(2) was used in the month of August (*Figure 15a*). The only copy I have seen is dated in manu-

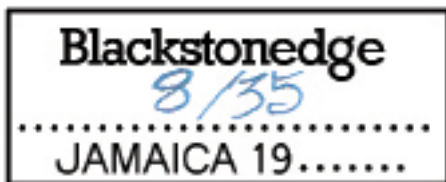


Figure 15a (top), 15b (bottom) Blackstonedged TRB(2) on Silver Jubilee 1d stamp, August 1935. (Courtesy of Michael Hamilton.)

script "8/35" (*Figure 15b*). Thus the late Ted Proud's Earliest Recorded Date (ERD) of July 31 is just not possible. He also records and illustrates a Last Recorded Date (LRD) for the JDC as August 16, 1935. Bob Topaz notes are unreliable as he states that the JDC is found first recorded August 24, 1928 and states, "This mark apparently recut." Neither is that possible, and a second JDC was released in June 1937 (*Figure 16*). Shown in *Figure 17* is a computer overlay comparing JDC(1) and JDC(2). Thomas Foster notes the first JDC earlier on January 6, 1928 (*Figure 18*). I believe that the TRB(2)



Figure 16 Blackstonedged JDC(2), June 24, 1937.

was used by the police security in order to separately protect their own mails. This was a devastating fire that surprisingly gained no more reporting in *The Daily Gleaner* and therefore whoever was responsible is unknown. Suspicion could well have fallen on the Chinese man with the cleaver, especially as his shop was, at this juncture, reportedly empty. Arson was never mentioned,



Figure 17 Computer overlay JDC(1) on JDC(2) show they are two different cancellers.

but was perhaps revenge the motive for a custodial sentence back in 1934?

Whatever the story, it is hard to believe that either of the TRBs -- 1928 or 1935 -- were used to open the Blackstonedged Post Office as traditionally believed. They were both issued at a time when the social fabric of this remote and occasionally lawless town was being sorely tested, by those who frequented the "rum shops."

On the 1941 map, the area to the south of Blackstonedged is marked as "Boozy Ridge." After 1935, the Gymkhana ceased and as far as can be seen life returned to normal, except in 1939 when Mr. W. E. Schliefer was arrested at Kingston Post Parcels Office for stealing a parcel. He was found guilty but leniently treated at the

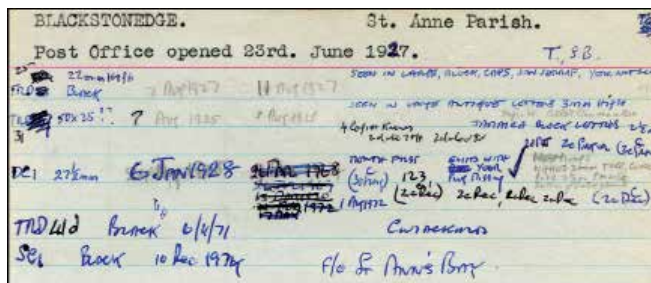


Figure 18 Thomas Foster's notes on Blackstonedged. (Courtesy of Steve Jarvis.)

request of his accuser. Whether Schliefer was of German stock is unknown, but it does seem likely.

In June 1939 there was talk of closing the office at Middle Quarters and moving to a new office at Giddy Hall. In October 1937, the Middle Quarters JDC failed to function and the 1894 sJDC was resurrected (last used in 1914) and used until the arrival of the Birmingham from London. That was issued on July 18, 1939. One would have thought that the GPO would have issued a TRD but these were nothing to do with them *per se*. The issuance of TRDs was the prerogative of the security services, which in this case had no cause to intervene.

By October 1939 the Kingston GPO issued a state-

Continued on page 20

ment that however small, remote and unprofitable, all the postal offices in Jamaica would be maintained as part of an ongoing public service -- even if the transactional business was less than £20 per annum.



Figure 19
Blackstonedge TRO(3) 1971.
(Computer reconstruction.)

A third TRD was issued in 1971 (**Figure 19**). And to complete the story, in 1974 a small Single Circle post-



Figure 20
Blackstonedge sSC, 1992.

mark was employed at this post office (**Figure 20**).

The Jamaica TRD story, which started in 1881, is hardly told. I am well on my way to correcting that with a new book on the subject, to be published next year by the British West Indies Study Circle.

My thanks to Steve Jarvis and Michael Hamilton for their assistance in the preparation of this article.

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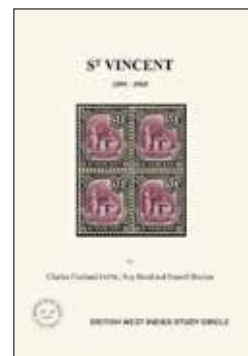
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Softbacked Price: \$30.00. BWISC/BCPSG Members' Price: \$27.50.



'BAHAMAS - STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY TO 1970'

Edited by Peter Fernbank FRPSL

Collectors of Bahamas have long awaited a successor to Harold G. D. Gisburn's slim handbook of 1950 in which he briefly touched on most aspects of Bahamas philately. Since then many of the philatelic disciplines within Bahamas have benefitted from scholarly and detailed publications but stamps and postal stationery have remained substantially neglected. This book, a joint project between the Royal Philatelic Society London and the BWISC, attempts to remedy this situation.

Each series of stamps is examined in detail, from its inception and development through to its issue and eventual demise. The various archive items that exist in both private and public domains are examined and listed, including artists' essays, die and plate proofs, colour trials and Specimens, etc.

A4 size, hardback, (xii) + 344 pages. ISBN: 978-0-900631-85-6

PRICE: £40.00 (approx. \$52.00). BWISC/BCPSG Members' Discount: £4.00 (approx. \$5.20).

These two books, and other publications can be bought from Pennymead Books (pennymead.com).

For members in North America, the St. Vincent (softbacked only) can be bought through the American Philatelic Society (stamps.org/publications).



Bahamas: King Edward VII Queen's Staircase Issues

By Tom Cusick

The Queen's Staircase issues of the Bahamas date back to the time of King Edward VII. You will find them with three different watermarks: Crown CC, Multiple Crown CA, and Multiple Script CA. Identifying the Bahamas Edward VII Queen's Staircase issues is primarily a matter of determining the difference between the watermarks, finding the difference between black and grey-black color shades, and determining the two paper varieties. This set was in use from 1901 until it was replaced with the KGV MCA Issues in 1911.

I find it is easiest to see the watermarks by placing the stamps against black paper and looking at them under a strong light. If you can't see the watermark under these conditions, feel free to use safe watermark fluid. The various catalogues have good examples of these watermarks, but if you just look for either the difference in the shape of the crown, or the font used. The Crown CC and Multiple Crown CA use a sans-serif style font. The Multiple Script CA watermark uses an italic style of font. Reverse scans of these watermarks are shown below. They appear as you would see them when looking at the back of the stamp.



The 3/- Queen's Staircase issue of the Bahamas.



Watermark
Crown CC



Watermark
Crown CA



Watermark
Multiple Script CA



CW E1 - SG 58 - ST 33
1d Black & Red



CW E2 - SG 58 - ST 33
1d Grey-Black &
Carmine-Red



CW E3 - SG 58 - ST 33
1d Black &
Carmine-Red
Thinner Paper

The earlier versions of these stamps were printed on paper that appears thicker and has yellowish gum. The later versions (about 1908) appear thinner and tend to have whiter gum. The best way to see this is to look at the back of the stamps against black paper. The grey-black version of the 5d, 2/- and 3/- stamps are on this thinner paper, so if you find one of them it will help you isolate this paper.

The catalog numbers are from the 1980 *Commonwealth Five Reigns Catalogue* (CW), 2011 *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue* (SG) and the 2011 *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* (ST). The description is from the Commonwealth Catalogue.



CW E4 - SG 59 - ST 34
5d Black & Orange



CW E5 - SG 59 - ST 34
5d Grey-Black &
Bright Orange
Thinner Paper



CW E6 - SG 60 - ST 35
2/ Black & Blue



CW E7 - SG 60 - ST 35
2/ Grey-Black &
Dull Blue
Thinner Paper



CW E8 - SG 61 - ST 36
3/ Black &
Deep Green



CW E9 - SG 61 - ST 36
3/ Grey-Black &
Green
Thinner Paper

Nuggets from the past ...

In the October 1982 issue, King Parker Jr., Dr. Peter P. McCann and Thomas E. Giraldi teamed up to present an article on "The REAL Cayman Islands First Flight." Also, William H. Matthews wrote about the "Lady McLeod," the vessel and the stamp Trinidad issued. Michael R. Rego discussed postal markings of Georgetown, Guyana, and Dr. Gale Raymond wrote about the Belize Forces Post Office. Finally, Edward F. Addiss, Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon and Walter Van Winkle co-authored an article on town cancels of Trinidad & Tobago.

PITCAIRN ISLANDS STUDY GROUP



The PISG is devoted to *all things* pertaining to Pitcairn Island, including its history, islanders, the HMAV *Bounty* mutiny (the mutineer descendants still live on Pitcairn), stamps and postal history. Our award winning journal, the *Pitcairn Log*, is published quarterly.

For information and a membership form, contact Dr. Vernon N. Kisling Jr.

P.O. Box 1511,

High Springs, FL 32655

Email: vkisling@ufl.edu.

Website: www.pisg.net

BCPSG Exhibits and Awards

By **Frederick Lutt**
Awards Chairman

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

Aripex 2018
February 16-18
Phoenix, Arizona

Gregory M. Frantz
Stamp Issuing Steamship Companies
Gold, Lighthouse Stamp Society Award

John P. Wynn
Peru's 12 Centavos Issue of 1905 (SF)
Gold

Jamaica: Uses of the 1901 Llandoverly Falls Stamps
(SF)
Gold

Canada: The 1927 Confederation and Historical Issues
Large Vermeil

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Issues of
British Guiana
Vermeil

Garfield-Perry March Party 2018
March 22-24
Cleveland, Ohio

Paul Larsen
Leeward Islands Federated Postal Stationary of the
King George V Reign: Registered Envelopes (SF)
Gold, BCPSG Gold, UPSS Award



Please help...
us find new members!

We need **YOUR** help in this important mission today!



We desperately need articles!

The situation continues to be critical as we desperately need material to fill these pages!

PLEASE provide articles!

Several of our long-time writers are no longer sending in material, and we cannot continue a journal without input.

It's not just us -- a British journal recently announced there would be no further issues until articles are submitted! Please don't let this happen to us!

Deadlines

Deadlines

Deadlines

We've all got them, and this journal is no different!

Deadlines for receiving material for publication (and that means in the editor's hands, not mailed) and the anticipated mailing date for each of the quarterly issues of this publication are found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates! Please keep in mind, too, that by deadline date, most of the issue is finished (if there is enough material), so please send early!

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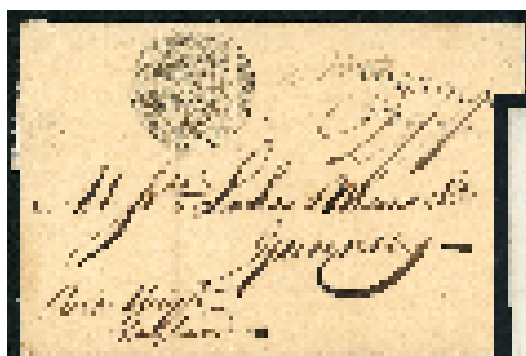
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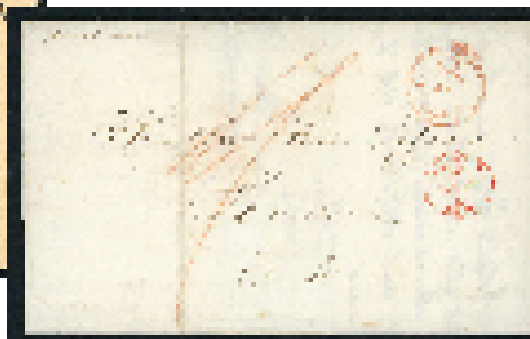
17th Feb 1841 letter from London to England



The original 18th Feb 1841 handwriting on envelope to Canada



18th Feb 1841 letter from Canada to Glasgow via Toronto, sent during the British Campaign



18th Feb 1841 letter from St. John's to London with fine Charles oval handwriting

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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).



These books and others published by the BWISC can be ordered from:- David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. YORKS. HG5 8AZ. Tel:- 01423 865962 or E-mail: Pennymead@aol.com. Orders will be dispatched with invoice and prompt payment is requested. Payment may be made by cheque or credit card. Orders from outside UK for heavy books will be dispatched per airmail M Bag. This service requires a street address and is not available to PO Boxes. All books published by the British West Indies Study Circle are displayed on www.bwisc.org and on www.pennymead.com.

'Enjoy this book as a thought provoking 'ripping yarn' that will make you consider a new geo-political dimension to postal history.'

Steve Jarvis



Starring Commander Ian Fleming, George C. Odom, Trevor Mitteljohn, Roger Wells, Norval Marley & Everard E. Aguilar.



David Horry FRPSL

The Royal Philatelic Society London (RPSL) will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2019. For this occasion an international exhibition will be held in Stockholm. H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be the Patron.



STOCKHOLMIA 2019

29 MAY - 2 JUNE

THE INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

The exhibition will comprise philatelic dealers and auction houses from all over the world. The exhibition will have an extensive philatelic and social program. Only Fellows and Members of the RPSL will be allowed to exhibit. The competitive classes will be judged by an international jury appointed by the Council of The RPSL.



STOCKHOLMIA 2019 will be organised at "Waterfront Congress Centre", Nils Ericsons Plan 4. It is Sweden's newest and most versatile venue for large-scale meetings and events.



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

Dr. Danial C. Warren, 1512 Stuben Rd., Gloucester Point, VA 23062 USA. APS member. Collects Trinidad, Montenegro and Morocco. (Former member has rejoined.)

Address Changes

None this quarter

Resigned

None this quarter

New Email Address

None this quarter

Deceased

None this quarter

Members Who Have Not Renewed

Willard Allman, Graham Booth, Charles Briggs, Robert DeKeyer, Roger Edghill, Terry Harrison, Stephen Hopwood, Giorgio Migliavacca, Kristy Ramasir, Lallye Thiery, Charles Adams, John Garlick

Donations

(And thanks!)

None this quarter

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 stewart1bi9@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.

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 softbacked format with many illustrations now in full colour. **WINNER OF GOLD MEDAL AND GRAND AWARD FOR LITERATURE AT CHICAGOPEX 2015!**

A4 sized, perfect bound, (viii) + 458 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-24-6

Price: \$38.00. BWISC/BCPSG Members' Price: \$34.00.



This book can be ordered from the American Philatelic Society (APS) (stamps.org/Publications)

President's Message

By John Seidl

By the time you see this column I will have just returned from my 20th (more or less) time attending the American Philatelic Society Summer Seminar. What is amazing is there are several participants who have been there just as many years as I have, if not more. The APS does an incredible job with this program and students not only attend their chosen classes and electives but have time to make use of the amazing American Philatelic Research Library. The wealth of material on the West Indies would impress any collector.



In our last issue I announced that our 2018 meeting would be held at SESCAL October 12-14. I hope you are making your plans to join us and enjoy this great show held in Ontario, California. You can learn more about the show at <http://www.sescal.org/index.html#>. We will hold an auction at the SESCAL meeting, so please feel free to send me your auction lots at any time. The cut-off for lot submission will be September 1. The organizers of the show would very much like to have some great exhibits from the BCPSG so PLEASE put those together and contact the show organizers to make your submissions.

It appears I jumped the gun on the 2019 meeting in Bermuda message in the last *Journal*. We'd hoped to convince the Bermuda Collectors Society to have a joint meeting with us but they have decided that they need to focus on membership growth and to do so by having their meeting at a show in the U.S. Let me know if you have any suggestions for a new 2019 destination, or if you also believe we should focus closer to home.

If you have a PDF of your West Indies exhibit and would be willing to post it on our BCPSG website, please send me a copy. We are always looking for ways to make our website of more value to the group. You will note we have several vacancies in the BCPSG. PLEASE take a look and volunteer to help us out. We need your support to improve the society. Thank you. Don't forget to send your articles to Everett also!

The little society with the long name



St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Philatelic Society

Are you interested in the stamps or postal history of Tristan da Cunha, Ascension or St. Helena? If so, you are very welcome to join our society. Membership benefits include a quarterly illustrated journal, annual auctions, special interest discussion groups, etc.

A sample journal is available on our website, www.shatps.org, or a printed copy may be requested from Secretary Klaus Hahn, P.O. Box 14, D-71145 Bondorf/Germany, Email: secretary@shatps.org

annual membership dues: North America \$27, international \$32, paperless \$15

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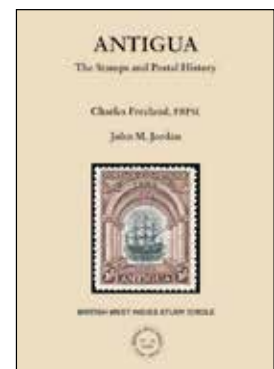
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'ANTIGUA - THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY'

by Charles Freeland, FRPSL and John Jordan

Coming so early in the alphabet Antigua has always been one of the most popular of the small Caribbean islands. It has an interesting mix of early stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue including a number of rarities. On the postal history front Antigua is especially well endowed, with the Codrington and Tudway estate correspondences. There is also a rich variety of early postal markings, including some unique marks. The original inspiration for this book was the Antigua Monograph published in successive issues of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal over a 15 year period between 1973 and 1988. This book collates all this information, updates it and presents it in a most readable form. **WINNER OF LARGE GOLD MEDAL AT NEW ZEALAND 15TH NATIONAL PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION!**



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BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE PUBLICATIONS

CAYMAN ISLANDS POSTCARDS

(and QSL CARDS)

'CAYMAN ISLANDS POSTCARDS' by Thomas E. Giraldi. This long awaited book is here at last. Tom has over many years collected information on all aspects of Cayman Islands philately and has written this catalogue which is and will remain a steadfast guide to the cards of these islands. Lavishly illustrated in colour it will be a book which collectors of BWI picture postcards will refer to as a standard work for many years.

A4 size, softbacked, perfect bound, (iv) + 210 pages. ISBN: 978-1-907481-10-9

Price: \$21.00. BWISC/BCPSG Members' Price: \$18.50).



This book can be ordered from the American Philatelic Society (APS)
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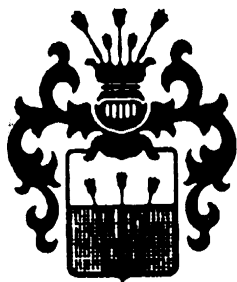
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