

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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*Is this St. Vincent
"SPECIMEN" overprint on cover genuine?*



*Your help is needed.
See page 20*





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January issue: Deadline November 15, mailing December 30

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Bermuda Post Office trims staff, but philatelic bureau still active

By Steven Zirinsky

Bermuda has a population of about 60,000 people. It's not quite the size of Antigua at 100,000 folks, or the 170,000 of St. Lucia, but it has 12 post offices compared to Antigua's three. It is reasonable to assume that this is because of geography: Antigua is an island, but Bermuda is more like a chain of connected sandbars.

A couple of years ago the government realized they were top-heavy in government and needed to find ways to reduce staffing. The Bermuda Post Office felt the impact: the postal staff went from 250 employees about 10 years ago to 125 people today.

This was done by not replacing people as they retired. This means that the knowledge retires with

the employee, and there are no younger folks to take over. At some point this may cause a governance administrative problem.

And it leads to other issues: students who graduate are no longer being employed in the government and thus, since the local economy can't absorb the work pool, folks leave and go to the United States or elsewhere.

The Philatelic Bureau, which used to have five people is now down to three. Government services have been tightened, and there are complaints about bus services and that post offices have been closed.

At the moment, mail delivery is to the door. There is discussion of changing this, shifting instead to mail boxes on the road (in St. Lucia and Nevis mail delivery is to post office boxes and there is no door-to-door mail delivery). But I think residents will be very resistant to this change.

There used to be 16 post offices in Bermuda, but four have been closed this decade: Bailey Bay closed in 2013, Paget, Somerset Bridge, and St. David's in 2016, or thereabout.

Recently, I visited the philatelic bureau at the main post office in Hamilton. The post office uses steel cancelers, and all were made in 2005 and put into use then. The Philatelic Bureau holds onto all the ones labeled (1). Higher numbers (2), (3), etc., were distributed to the post offices. At Flatts, (3) is used on the mails and (2) is kept in reserve for special occasions (first day of use, etc.).

Local mail is mailed and postmarked at the local office, but mail destined internationally is postmarked at the Bermuda Mail Centre (BMC). I have seen two postmarks used there.

On the following page are photographs of the historic Perot Post Office, located in Hamilton and still in use. It's well worth a visit to this historic post office when you are in Bermuda.



Staffing the philatelic bureau at the Bermuda Post Office in Hamilton are Stanley Taylor, left, and Mia Foggo. Steven Zirinsky is in center.

The historic Perot Post Office in Bermuda



This is a front view of the historic Perot Post Office in downtown Hamilton, Bermuda, provided by Steven Zirinsky from a recent visit to the islands.

Steel canceller used at the Philatelic Bureau has identifier "01" at top center.



Steel canceller used at the Perot Post Office in Hamilton has identifier "02" at top center.



A view of some of the artifacts on view at the Perot Post Office in downtown Hamilton, Bermuda.

Photographs by Steven Zirinsky

Apartheid in the Jamaica posts following World War II

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

When Ian Potter went to Jamaica in the late 1980s, he was determined to locate all the post offices that had been in use. He did extremely well, missing only a handful.

The ones he missed were Grey Ground, which is actually in the village of Royal Flat, Manchester (it was gone by the summer of 1970). He could not exactly locate Georges Valley, which was close by to Grey Ground, near Mount Nelson, Mandeville (*Figure 1*). However, the post office which gave him the most trouble was Kingston North West (*Figure 2*).

Potter bemoaned, “Obviously in northwest Kingston. But where?” The problem was that Potter was a decent bloke and had little idea of what was going on politically at the grass roots. “Kingston North West” was a euphemism for “Kingston Non-Whites,” exactly mimicking the system that had been introduced in South Africa – apartheid post



*Figure 1
Map of Eastern Mandeville, Jamaica showing Grey Ground,
Georges Valley and Broadleaf.*

offices (*Figure 3*). During the apartheid era, the abbreviation “NW” became more widely used on non-European handstamps (*Figure 4*). “Kingston NW”



*Figure 2
Kingston North West TRO* ERD, December 14, 1955
on self-addressed Aguilar cover.*



*Figure 3
Pretoria (N-E) South Africa
LDC April 1, 1943.
(Courtesy of Robert Hill)*



*Figure 4
Kempton Park
(NW) South
Africa LDC
June 10, 1969.
(Courtesy of
Steve Hannath)*



Figure 5
Mandeville 2 sSC*
(September 10,
1960).



Figure 6
Montego Bay
No. 2 TRO*
July 11, 1961.

was indeed a “blacks only” counter at the northwest entrance of the GPO in King Street! Mandeville 2 was another office that Potter missed, and it was just a separate counter at the GPO in the center of Town (**Figure 5**). Montego Bay No. 2 was, I believe, similarly used (**Figure 6**).

On my first visit to Jamaica in March 2015, I had, like Ian Potter, no idea that such a state of affairs was even possible in this colony. I had won a Julian Shepherd Scholarship via The Royal Philatelic Society London to go to the island and study the so-called “Registered” Ovals which were introduced on April 4, 1950. When I arrived at Bailey’s Vale, just to the south of Port Maria, St. Mary the story was told to me by Brimmer Hall guide Lorna Jankie-Benton. The Bailey’s Vale Postal Agency (**Figure 7**) stood at the gates of Brimmer Hall since November 11, 1949, when it gained a brand new TRD (**Figure 8**). It received a “Registered” Oval in 1950 (**Figure 9**). Bailey’s Vale PA was only permitted for use by “Major” Vaughn and



Figure 7
Baileys Vale Postal Agency (Rego/Jarvis).

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Figure 8
Bailey’s Vale TRO*(1) November 17, 1949
on early Aguilar cover.



Figure 9
“Baileys” (no apostrophe)
Vale purple “Registered”
Oval, November 27, 1950.

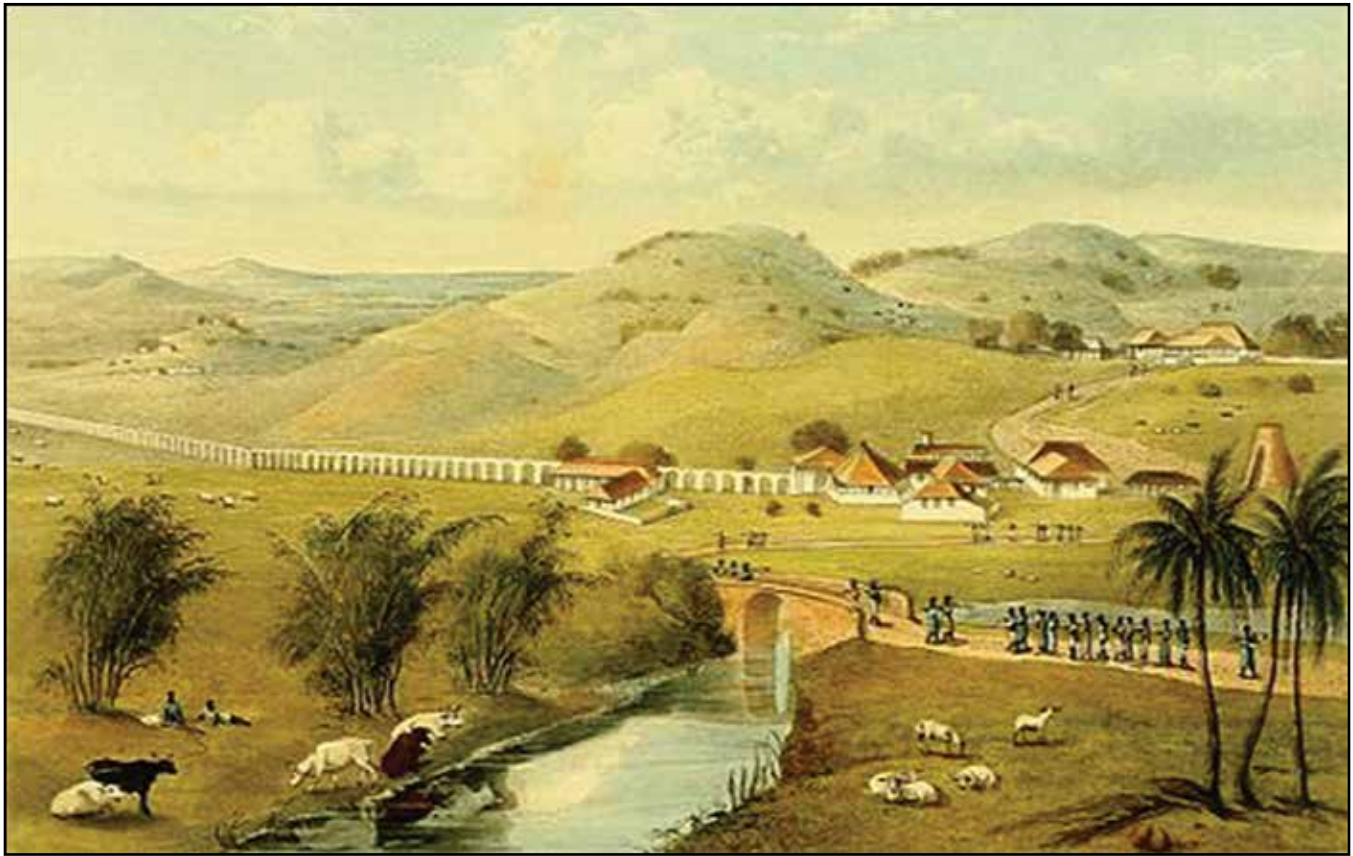


Figure 10

The property of C. N. Bayly, Trinity Estate, St. Mary's by Thomas Sutherland (after James Hakewill), 1824. Today it is the fully operational Brimmer Hall Estate.

his immediate family. Vaughn paid for it, it was his property; all Kingston GPO had to do was supply stamps and pay his postmistress a peppercorn sti-

pend. He was, allegedly, terrified of the locals setting fire to "The Big House" and few who worked on the estate were allowed within 50 yards of his property (**Figure 10**).



Figure 11

Denticulated Vaughansfield tTRO April 7, 1951 to Dr. H. Burnett New Guinea, from J. M. Nethersole, Cross Roads, Kingston, Jamaica.

The local black villagers had to use the Free Hill post office a couple of miles up the road. When the self-styled "Major" rode on horseback, with his family, from Brimmer Hall to Port Maria, villagers at the gates were expected to stand completely still and salute the Vaughns: that was in 1955! Vaughn's son-in-law, Major Geoffrey Gordon-Creed, in his autobiography, *Rogue Male*, said he was friendly with Ian Fleming and for a time worked as the manager of the Reynolds Bauxite Wharf, Ocho Rios.

Even though they were married, Vaughn's daughter and Gordon-Creed were not welcome to live at Brimmer Hall, but occupied a cottage on the estate. The entire family went to London in 1953 for the Coronation, and whenever they visited Lon-

Text continues on page 10



*Figure 12
Flamstead
Garden TRO*
December 11,
1956.*



*Figure 13
Kingston
(N.W.) sSC*
March 27,
1957.*



*Figure 14
Postcard from the 1930s of the Myrtle Bank Hotel Swimming Pool.*



*Figure 15
Later 1950s postcard of the Myrtle Bank Hotel Swimming Pool.*

don, which was fairly frequently, the office was closed. In her book *The Grown-Ups Wouldn't Like It*, Delia Despair describes him very unflatteringly: she noted that near neighbor Noël Coward likened “people like him to pigs.”

On April 2, 1951 Vaughn opened an apartheid post office at Vaughn(a)nsfield, St. James, receiving a late denticulated TRO (*Figure 11*). As Anthony Wilkinson had noted, this postal agency was just 50 meters from Maroon Town, a “blacks only” post office by then. In late 1956 GPO Kingston put an end to it all and closed Vaughnsfield, moving it to Flamstead Garden (*Figure 12*) as a mixed-race office. The Jamaican apartheid experiment was over for the self-styled “Major” Vaughn!

There were plenty of Major Vaughns in Jamaica, including Lord Ronald Graham, who lived at Landfall, St. Ann's Bay and Lord Brownlow up at Roaring River, once the property of John Pringle. I do not know how extensive this abhorrent system was in Jamaica; however, I am certain there were more offices where this practice went on in the 1950s as the non-whites became better educated and started to share postal facilities, far more than they had before World War II. The Kingston N.W. sSC* (*Figure 13*) was last used on February 18, 1977 when its relevance had drifted away into the mists of postal history.

The post office and swimming pool at the Myrtle Bank Hotel (*Figure 14*) were only intended for the use of white guests. A couple of days before Christmas 1948, as tourists and local whites lounged by the hotel pool, a local black reporter who championed racial equality, Nathan Blake, arrived by car at the entrance to the hotel. He stripped down to his shorts and then proceeded to dash helter-skelter through reception past the astonished staff, into the rear garden and finally plunged into the water. The hotel owner, Abe Issa, ordered him out and the pool to be drained forthwith. The task of emptying the pool took two days and two more days to refill!

So Christmas 1948 at the Myrtle Bank Hotel did



Figure 16
Myrtle Bank Sk December 17, 1956 on cover to Miss Owen, Hectors River.

not go swimmingly! No charges were laid and *The Daily Gleaner* declined to cover the story! A later postcard shows a few black ladies in the hotel pool (*Figure 15*)! How times have changed – or have they!? On Sunday, February 27, 1966, the Myrtle Bank Hotel was the victim of arson – no one was ever charged with the offense and *The Daily Gleaner* remained rather quiet about the whole incident. The hotel was completely destroyed and never rebuilt. I am looking into it (*Figure 16*).

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Hannath, Steve. “The Great Divide.” *Stamp Magazine*, Vol. 18, No. 8, August 2015.

Horry, David. “The Enduring Myth of the Temporary Rubber Datestamps of Jamaica.” *BWISC Bulletin*, September 2018: 17-27.

*With many thanks to Lorna Jankie-Benton,
Anthony Wilkinson, Robert Hill and
Matthew Parker.*

St. Vincent Handbook 1899-1965

Amendments, corrections, additions & footnotes

By Roy Bond & Russell Boylan

In 2017, the British West Indies Study Circle (BWISC) published a substantial book by the late Charles Freeland, FRPS, Roy Bond, and Russell Boylan titled *St. Vincent Handbook 1899-1965*. The purpose of the book was to supplement the outstanding handbook on St. Vincent philately by Pierce, Messenger and Lowe, published by Robson Lowe in 1971. The earlier book's coverage ended in 1897, so the new book followed on from 1899 to 1965 with the early definitives of the Queen Elizabeth II period. It endeavored to cover all aspects of philately between these two dates, including definitives as well as commemoratives and war stamps carried by all means of transport: surface, maritime and air.

The book also covered the history of the island, primarily because of frequent misnomers and inaccuracies from other sources. Essays and Specimens for each and every issue were provided, and also such things as plate numbers plus order and consignment quantities and dates for every issue. A full list of rates and charges was also included, plus, finally, a chapter of updates to the original 1971 PML book.

In fact, everything required by the serious St. Vincent collector was covered. In discussing the book, Bond noted, "As a long time St. Vincent collector, I found that there was a wealth of information on the early issues courtesy of the Pierce, Messenger, Lowe (PML) handbook, up to 1898. It then became rather a desert because there was nothing from 1899 onwards. I decided it was time something was done about it, so I did some research and came up with quite a bit of information up to 1951. I then approached Charles Freeland, who turned my thoughts into a project with the backing of BWISC. Charles also brought in Russell Boylan from Queensland and so the three of us produced a handbook to follow on from the original PML handbook; hence, our book is dated 1899 to 1965 and is designed to cover all aspects of St. Vincent philately."

If the reader does not yet have a copy of this

book, contact David Druett, Pennymead Books, 1 Brewerton Street, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8AZ United Kingdom. The book is available in both hardcover and soft.

The reason for the updates included in this article is that authors Bond and Boylan thought it would be beneficial to all collectors to be kept up to date with the latest findings. "The whole idea from Russell and I is to bring out updates from time to time to keep interest alive, not only in the handbook itself, but also in St. Vincent as a collecting interest," Bond said. "So we hope to be able to continue to provide updates and amendments every so often, say once every 12 to 18 months. It also means that both Russell and I are open to suggestions and any other pieces of information that come to members from time to time. This would then allow the handbook to be kept up to date in the future and for the information to be promulgated to all the members of BCPSG, as well as BWISC, via Terry Harrison."

With that premise in mind, what follows is a chapter-by-chapter listing of updates, changes and additions. If a chapter is not listed, it means no changes or updates were made.

Chapter 1

Page 14

Additional notes are based on Christopher Taylor's book *The Black Carib Wars* covering the period after March 9, 1797 and the shipment of some 2,000 Caribs to Ruatan in the Bay of Honduras. They only stayed on this island for a few months and then the Spanish authorities shipped them across to the mainland of Central America, to the east coast of Guatemala, Honduras, Belize and Nicaragua, where they prospered.

Then in the 1890s a large number of them travelled to the U.S. for work, especially to Chicago, Detroit and New York. They now number a total of some three million souls spread out about 50 percent in Central America and 50 percent in the

USA; however, many of them have maintained their own language and proudly refer to themselves as the “Garifuna,” the name the Black Caribs called themselves. They still consider St. Vincent as their ancestral home and are very proud of the fact that they remained a free people, in spite of the efforts of Caucasians. In 2009, 16 of them returned to St. Vincent to erect a monument to Joseph Chatoyer, their national hero who led the resistance to the British near Sion Hill, and where he died in battle (see Appendix A, page 223).

Chapter 2

Page 26

In Check List: 1d SG#68, Quantity Invoiced should read 374,880, to bring it in line with Appendix B Consignments.

1/- SG#74, Quantity Invoiced should read 24,000, to bring it in line with Appendix B Consignments.

Chapter 5

Page 55

In Varieties add “and Flaws.”

Insert the following:

THE GEORGE V MULTIPLE CA ONE PENNY SCRATCH FLAW

By Vincent Duggleby

A cursory glance at copies of the St. Vincent Multiple CA 1d red of 1913 will sometimes reveal a pronounced scratch or scratches running across part of the stamp, and the flaw becomes especially apparent when examining the war stamps; both the locally produced and London issues. The flaw was spotted by researchers and noted in *Stamp Collecting* as early as 1917 (Vol. IX, No. 12, p. 183), and in 1919, Charles R. Smith of Leeds prepared a drawing of the various positions affected in the sheet. Unfortunately, *Stamp Collecting* chose not to publish the drawing.

The only other reference I have been able to trace was contained in a *British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Journal* in November 1963 (Vol.

3, No. 6) where Stanley B. Ineson illustrated an irregular block of 10 stamps and sought further information (which was apparently not forthcoming). In fact if one pencils in the adjacent stamps on each row of Mr. Ineson’s piece to make a block of 28 stamps (four across and seven down), the block shows rows three to nine in the sheet, stamps 33-36, 45-48, 57-60, 69-72, 81-84, 93-96 and 105-108.

Having had the opportunity for studying several sheets both with and without the flaw, it is with confidence that the complete pattern of flaws is now illustrated for the first time (see **Figure 1**), so copies can be positioned. It would appear that the flaws first showed up on the second printing of the 1d value. The original printing on November 6, 1912 (released for circulation on January 1, 1913) does not appear to have been damaged, and since the flaw appears on the first locally overprinted war stamp (June 1916), it must have come out before the third printing of the basic 1d stamp on September 15, 1916.

So the second printing is the first one affected, on the January 9, 1915 issue of 2,063 sheets (120 set), which is 247,560 stamps (245,000 being the actual order), all line perforated. The next question to be asked is whether the damage occurred during storage of the plate or during the actual printing process

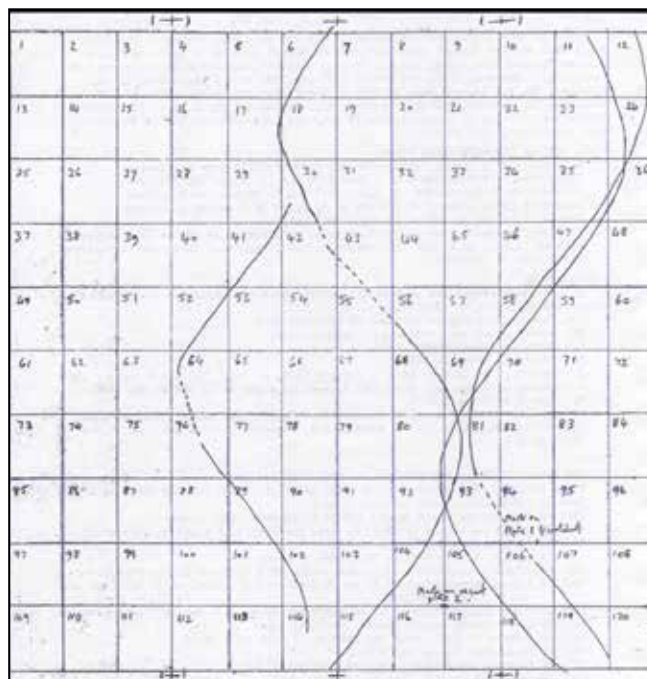


Figure 1

Note: The dotted lines indicate points at which the scratches all but disappear and are certainly not visible on single stamps.

itself. I am inclined to the latter view, because the flaws are considerably scarcer on the un-overprinted stamps, but it is impossible to be sure.

The flaws vary in intensity on the locally overprinted War Stamps, but they can be traced with the help of magnification. Where the “tramlines” occur they are particularly marked.

The next problem is to establish at what date the plate was repaired. A printer who has examined sheets of the London issue War Stamps both with and without the flaws has pronounced that the plate was “stoned” to remove the flaws and the guide marks also underwent this process, except for those in the center of each side of the sheet. There is also a pronounced mark that was put on the “stoned” sheet between the bottom two rows of stamps and between stamps 116 and 117. It may be that this was to indicate the extent to which future wear on the plate would be acceptable.

In any event, when we look at the schedule of printings, we find that the fourth delivery of the ordinary 1d value was not made until after the second local overprint (May 1917), so that particular delivery could not have been used. There are two sections of the fourth printing: 834 sheets on June 12, 1917 and 1,667 sheets on July 2, 1917. My view is that the flaws had been stoned out before that date, otherwise they would have been extremely common on the basic stamp.

We are thus left with the London War Stamps, of which I have complete sheets both with and without the flaws. In fact, it is extremely difficult to verify by shade which printing is which. There are six London printings in all. The first printing of June 26, 1916 must by definition have the scratched plate, and so must the second printing of September 15, 1916. This second printing was executed on the same date as the third printing of the basic stamp, the printing used for the second local overprint, issued May 15, 1917.

Then we come to the three 1917 printings: on January 31, May 2, and June 21, where there must be room for debate. The final printing is on April 4, 1918, and whatever else is the case, this must be the “stoned” plate. It will be noticed that the June 21 printing comes between the two sections of the fourth printing of the ordinary stamp mentioned above, and I must tentatively conclude that this also is from the “stoned” plate. So what about the print-

ings of January 31 and May 2? Evidence from covers has not been forthcoming as yet and even if it was, it would not necessarily prove the stamps had not been carried over from an earlier printing, so the matter must remain obscure for the time being.

To summarize, however, the scratched plate varieties will be found in considerable numbers on the London issue and also on the two local overprints (including the rare third setting). I believe the plate damage happened during the second ordinary stamp printing in January 1915 and was repaired sometime during the first six months of 1917.

The relevant dates are as follows:

- **November 6, 1912:** Printing of basic 1d stamp, 245,400 stamps.
- **January 19, 1915:** Printing of basic 1d stamp, 247,560 stamps.
- **June 1, 1916:** Issue of local War Stamp, 20,000 overprinted.
- **June 23, 1916:** Printing of London War Stamp, 49,800 stamps.
- **September 15, 1916:** Printing of London War Stamp, 53,760 stamps.
- **September 15, 1916:** Printing of basic 1d stamp, 104,520 stamps.
- **January 31, 1917:** Printing of London War Stamp, 46,560 stamps.
- **May 2, 1917:** Printing of London War Stamp, 51,240 stamps.
- **May 15, 1917:** Issue of local War Stamp, 36,000 overprinted.
- **June 12, 1917:** Printing of basic 1d stamp, 100,080 stamps.
- **June 21, 1917:** Printing of London War Stamp, 103,320 stamps.
- **July 2, 1917:** Printing of basic 1d stamp, 200,040 stamps.

• **April 4, 1918:** Printing of London War Stamp, 92,400 stamps.

• **August 26, 1920:** Last printing of basic 1d stamp, 92,760 stamps.

Chapter 7

Page 84

In Check List:

Against SG#159. Quantities Invoiced should read 40,160 instead of 6,780.

See also Page 243 in Appendix B under “£1 purple and black (SG#159)” and add two extra printings: “Mar 24, 1943: 10,400” and “September 20, 1945: 22,980” and change the “Total” to read “40,160.”

Page 87

Against SG#164 1¢ insert 1 and 1 for frame and vignette respectively.

Against SG#166 3¢ insert 1 and blank for frame and vignette respectively.

Against SG#167 4¢ insert 1 and 1 for frame and vignette respectively.

Against SG#173 48¢ insert ? and 1 for frame and vignette respectively.

Plate Numbers,

Chapter 10

Page 129

In “1902 Envelopes” third line “Only the H size is” should read “Both the H and H2 sizes are.”

Chapter 11

Page 152

Paquebot Section

Add: One ounce letter; posted at sea to Indianapolis, USA on January 23, 1939 carrying 1d and 2d stamps to cover 2½d rate, was posted on board S.S. *New Northland* with “PAQUEBOT” handstamp (50mm x 8mm) in large seriffed capitals, but not listed in Proud/Chin Aleong (see *Figure 2, end of article*).

Chapter 12

Page 158

“Section 12.1 The Handstamps”

First sub-heading, “H1 Straight line ‘Passed by Censor No. 3’ should read “H1 Straight line ‘Passed by Censor No. 2, No. 3 or No. 4’, 4 ½ x 74mm. Passed by Censor No. 3; ERD: October 7, 1939 for No. 2; LRD: March 31, 1943; ERD October 20, 1939 for No. 4 LRD Unknown.”

Chapter 14

Page 193

Reference Figure 14.5 “NORTH ATLANTIC SERVICE” was a separate device 66mm x 2.5mm applied in violet ink, which was used specifically on airmail letters and was probably applied in New York to differentiate from the “ONWARD BY STEAMER” letters. Actual ERD and LRD are not yet known, but two instances seen are “27 Feb 46” and “25 Apr 46” (see *Figure 3, end of article*).

Page 196

Airmail markings

Further information has now come to hand to the authors:

Proud/Chin Aleong, page 371, shows large “AIR MAIL” AM3 handstamp with usage duration March 2, 1944 to January 20, 1952, but this LRD can now be extended to December 4, 1954, rated at 40¢ (see *Figure 4, end of article*).

Also Proud/Chin Aleong, page 371, reports AM5 handstamp with “N.Y. AIR STEAMER ONWARD.” However, the authors can now report a new two line handstamp with “TO NEW YORK BY AIR AND ONWARD BY STEAMER” (58mm x 18mm), could be classed as AM6, applied multiple times on August 23, 1951 (see *Figure 5, end of article*).

A further recent discovery is a boxed “BY AIR MAIL” (33mm x 8mm) appearing in concert with Proud/Chin Aleong AM3 on a cover dated March 7, 1950 (see *Figure 6, end of article*).

Any further information would be gratefully received.

Chapter 16

Page 212

Reference PML, page 62. There is no reference to the fact that there was a second printing of the 1d Drab SG#39, invoiced December 21, 1882 for 120,000, some of which had reversed watermark.

Page 213

Reference PML, page 72. Some years ago Peter Jaffe provided a write up on the subject of the SG#54 2½d overprint on the 4d Lake Brown stamp. Here is what he had to say:

“This stamp was issued because the milky-blue issued the previous year had run out. The reason being that yet again the Post Authority had grossly underestimated the island’s requirements for this value.

“Thus it was that the Postal Authority having placed an order on De La Rue, during July, ran out of the 2½d milky-blue in August. So to tide them over, a quantity of the 4d Lake Brown stamps were sent to a local printer in Kingstown with the instruction to cancel the existing value and surcharge, in numerals, with 2½d.

“There were just 1,500 stamps (50 sheets) issued during the second half of August, which lasted until the next shipment of milky-blue stamps was released in November.

“Examination of a complete sheet of 30 (three rows of ten) and a number of smaller multiples (blocks of nine and four) indicate the use of a single typeset setting for the whole of the small printing of 50 sheets. The “d” to “d” space varies little from 20mm; the bars are 24mm apart and tend to bow upwards (rows 1 and 2) or run upwards to the right (row 3). The third row is set slightly to the left. The bars are continuous, square cut, and would, if any sheet were set perfectly on the machine, cancel all value tablets.

“An interesting feature of the surcharge is the fraction bar. These are variable in size and shape and seem to have been sheared from a long length of printer’s rule, with the result that a number show the ends bent as a result of the cutting process. Nos.

7 and 14 show the well-known fraction bar omitted variety. The plating of the surcharge is as follows, concentrating mainly on the shape and position of the fraction bar:

Row 1	1.	2mm long, centered left.
	1.	2.5mm long, central.
	2.	2.1mm long, central.
	3.	2.1mm long, thin and centered left.
	4.	2.1mm long, central.
	5.	Missing except for trace at left.
	6.	Missing.
	7.	2.5mm long, broken in center.
	8.	2.1mm long, only ends printed.
	9.	2.5mm long, centered right.
Row 2	11.	2.1mm long, centered.
	1.	2.3mm long, centered right.
	2.	2.1mm long, sloping up to right, top curve of “2” broken.
	3.	Missing.
	4.	2.1mm long, slightly “wavy.”
	5.	2.5mm long, sloping up to right.
	6.	2.5mm long, thin and “wavy.”
	7.	2.6mm long, centered to right, break in large “2” just above foot.
	8.	2.2mm long, sloping up to right.
	9.	2.8mm long, centered to right.
Row 3	21.	2.5mm long, centered to right.
	1.	2.5mm long, centered to right.
	2.	2.1mm long, centered to right.
	3.	2.6mm long, centered to right.
	4.	3mm long, central.
	5.	2.5mm long, central.
	6.	2.6mm long, centered to right, top of small “2” has small break.
	7.	2.1mm long, centered to left.
	8.	3mm long, and “wavy,” top of small “2” has small break.
	9.	2.2mm long, sloping up to right.

“The stamps were line perforated 14 and one unused copy is known showing the last vertical row of perforations missing, an unusual occurrence on a De La Rue product.

“Covers are not especially rare, but nearly all are philatelic, being overfranked and often late. The bulk of the stamps seem to have moved from the post office to Hazell or Proudfoot, just as did many of the 1915 1d on 1/-. The Griffith family was also

involved in distribution; which seemingly included A Churchill Emerson, late secretary of The Royal Philatelic Society London.

“How was this 1890 reduction in face value balanced? A write-off of 1,500 1½d (*i.e.*, £9-7s-6d), or was the 1892 “5 PENCE” on 4d surcharge involved? The reported issue of 5,000 of that stamp is too high for a simple balance (*i.e.*, £20-16s-8d), and we must assume that the Niger Coast balance system of face value reductions and postally useless face value increases was not the case in St. Vincent. The local revenues never fell into post office accounting, being Treasury controlled, as were post office stocks before issue.

“The ‘SPECIMEN’ overprints on this stamp are interesting. Both a typeset overprint and a handstamp in the same type are recorded. The large majority of copies are typeset, with multiples very rare, but of the handstamp the Jaffe collection included a block of six and a single. The typeset forme was apparently of 30, with the famous “SPICEMEN” error occurring once on No. 23.”

Page 213

Reference PML page 74. Peter Jaffe also gave a write up on the “5 PENCE” in purple on the 4d lake brown SG#59 now repeated below.

“This provisional stamp was overprinted by a local printer in Kingstown, St. Vincent in November, one month before the order for 5d stamps was placed with the Crown Agents. Though issued for only four months there must have been much speculative buying by the philatelic fraternity, because it is not even scarce.

“Sheets exist and based on two of these the setting is:

M M M M C C C C U
M M M M C C C C U
C C C C U U U U L

Based on the first downstroke of the “N” of “PENCE” where:

- M “N” is under center of lower curve of “5”
- C “N” is close to immediately below the ball of “5”
- U “N” is under the ball of “5”
- L “N” is under left of ball of “5.”

“A minor variety of surcharge is the raised second “E” of “PENCE” on Nos. 25 and 26 (on one author’s sheet and No. 3 on the other author’s sheet). One sheet exists with surcharge slightly double, one inverted, best seen as double “EN” on No. 11 (belonging to one of the authors), but also on Nos. 9 and 20.

“The watermark interpane vertical lines fall on No. 5, or in margin between Nos. 5 and 6. One sheet from bottom of lower pane has the horizontal watermark frame line in the center of the bottom row. The other sheet, from the bottom of the upper pane, shows marginal watermark ‘CROWN AGENTS’ in the lower margin. As a result of such positioning, the watermarks on stamps Nos. 1-4, 11-14 and 21-24 are displaced to the left, while Nos. 5, 15 and 25 show vertical lines. The remaining 15 stamps have watermarks centered vertically. This would also assist in positioning. We conclude that De La Rue provided modest margins at left and right, and secured six sheets of 30 (180 stamps) out of the full sheet of four panes of 60 watermarks each.

“The overprint, in purple ink, includes a pair of ornaments, these are a bunch of dates, which appear over the ‘X’s in the top corners, and were probably used to set the register of the overprints on the original stamps.”

Page 213

Reference PML, page 78. PML state that there were no varieties. The authors have found that there is an error on the overprint at stamp 3. In rows 1 and 2, the “THREE” is printed as “THRF.” However, it is not at this time known if this was consistent throughout the whole issue or not.

Appendix B

Page 243

(See Chapter 7 above for details).

Bibliography

Our express thanks go to Vincent Duggleby, Joe Chin Aleong and Geof Kellow, for much of the above information.

Illustrations are shown on following pages.



Figure 2
 Cover to U.S. posted on board the SS New Northland on January 23, 1939. Notice also the large “PAQUEBOT” handstamp, not listed in Proud/Chin Aleong.



Figure 3
 Cover to England with “NORTH ATLANTIC SERVICE” handstamp, struck in violet, in center above address. Enlargement of the marking is shown at left.



Figure 4
 Cover to England dated December 4, 1954 with large “AIR MAIL” AM3 handstamp. This is a new latest known use for the handstamp.



Figure 5

Cover to England with unrecorded “TO NEW YORK BY AIR AND ONWARD BY STEAMER” two-line handstamp at upper left. An enlargement of the unrecorded marking is shown at right.



Figure 6

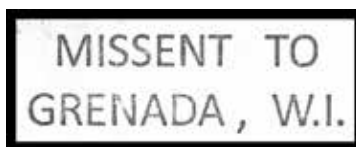
A cover to Switzerland dated March 7, 1950 has a previously unrecorded box “BY AIR MAIL” handstamp in upper left.

New "MISSENT TO GRENADA" markings

By Steven Zirinsky

A new "MISSENT TO GRENADA" marking in two lines has been appearing on recent mail. It is shown at the upper left center of the cover at right, which was sent to the island of Bequia, part of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

It appears the new marking replaces the older two-line marking which was beginning to deteriorate. It is shown on the lower cover. Notice the "I" of "W.I." (West Indies) is almost gone.



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!***

Questions arise about validity of 1949 St. Vincent cover with "SPECIMEN" overprint on UPU stamp

An Australian philatelist, Russell Boylan, has uncovered an interesting St. Vincent cover which raises a number of questions about its validity, and he'd like to hear from members who have an opinion on whether the item is genuine.

The front-only cover was sent from Kingstown, St. Vincent, to Manchester, England, and is dated October 22, 1949. The two stamps on the cover are tied with one impression of the circular datestamp, and there is a separate strike to the left of the stamps.

The corner card of the cover indicates it is from "The Acme Agencies" and it was sent by airmail. The stamps are a King George VI four-cent definitive plus the 24 cent UPU commemorative, issued on October 10, 1949 (less than two weeks before this cover was mailed). The total of 28 cents in postage is the appropriate amount for a half-ounce airmail letter to the United Kingdom.

The questionable part of the cover is the use of a "SPECIMEN" overprint on the 24 cent value. Why would a "specimen stamp," by definition a sample and not an "actual" valid stamp, be used for postage? Notice in the enlargement that the inking in "SPECIMEN" is not uniform, with the letters "I" and "E" underinked and the letter "S" overinked.

Any thoughts about the use of the overprinted stamp on cover would be appreciated. Is it indeed genuine, or someone's fantasy creation? It has been submitted to The Royal Philatelic Society London for expertising.

(Mr. Boylan can be reached by electronic mail at: rjboylan@bigpond.net.au.)



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Passing of Jamaican Philatelic Society President Ewan Campbell

Ewan Campbell (1942-2018) was the long-standing president of the Jamaica Philatelic Society. He was born in a Japanese Prisoner of War camp on the Indonesian island of Bali. A dapper Scotsman, he had lived in Jamaica for some 40 years, during which time he was involved in the cement/asbestos industry.

His philatelic interests were the Dutch East Indies (he spoke fluent Dutch) and Jamaica. In March 2015, I visited him at his home on Chester Avenue, Kingston. I was pursuing one George Odom who Ewan did not know, but he had done quite a bit of research on L. Barrington Smith. He pointed out that LBS had been photographed at his wedding back in 1938 as a thrusting young Kingston businessman: the photograph showed him as a black man.

The previous day I had visited Patrick Smith, the JPS's oldest member, who claimed to have met L. Barrington Smith on two occasions. Patrick Smith, who was black, assured me that L. Barrington Smith was indeed a charming gentleman, but white!

Ewan Campbell was mystified as he had tried to find out more about LBS via the files of the JPS and was struck by a letter received by the-then President G.C. Gunter from L. Barrington Smith, way back in 1942 (see below).



Example of L. Barrington Smith's letterhead.

JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY
APPLICATION FORM.

<p>BENEFITS to be derived from joining the <i>Jamaica Philatelic Society</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Monthly Exchange Packets, to which each Member is expected to contribute Sheets. The Monthly Meetings to which all members are welcomed. The Monthly Meeting Exhibitions. Open to Members only. The J. P. S. Library. Free. For members only. The broadening of your Philatelic knowledge. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a)—Companionship with keen philatelists. (b)—The "Papers" read at our Monthly Meetings. (c)—The Circulation of "The Jamaica Philatelist". (d)—The circulation in the Exchange Packet of an English Stamp Journal. Etc., Etc. <p>Entrance Fee 2s. Annual Subscription, 2s. Life Member's Fee £1 1s. (Payable in Advance.)</p> <p>Secretary's Address Mr. G. C. Gunter, Government-Post-Office, Kingston, Jamaica.</p> <p>Enclosed in mint new issues. What do you charge over Face value? Values to £1. O.K.</p>	<p>TO THE SECRETARY, JAMAICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY, Halfway Tree, KINGSTON, P.O.</p> <p>Dear Sir</p> <p>I hereby apply to be admitted to Membership of the Jamaica Philatelic Society, and agree, if elected, to be bound by all the Rules and Regulations now existing, or as the same may be modified or added to from time to time.</p> <p>I enclose the sum of <u>two</u> shillings, to pay the Entrance Fee of Two Shillings, and <u>three</u> being balance of One Year's Subscription to the Society to April 13th, 1942.....</p> <p>(Signed)* <u>L. Barrington Smith</u> Full Address <u>127 Haxloy Park Road</u> <u>Halfway Tree P.O.</u></p> <p>(Member: British Philatelic Association, 40, Abchurch Lane, London E.C. 4, England)</p> <p>Proposed by <u>[Signature]</u> Seconded by <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>*If the Applicant is a Junior, the application must be signed on his or her behalf by the Parent or Guardian.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u></p>
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L. Barrington Smith's application to join the Jamaica Philatelic Society.

For eight years the JPS had tried to recruit the well-known *Daily Gleaner* contributor on things philatelic, to their ranks. But, he never used a phone and refused to speak to or meet anyone! He finally joined, but was never seen by anyone other than Patrick Smith. I showed him some photographs of LBS, but the 87-year-old was unable to recognize him.

Ewan Campbell was president of a philatelic society that had once flourished but had now dwindled, and not because of a lack of enthusiasm on Ewan's part. His wife served us English tea on the verandah overlooking his lovely garden. I wonder what will happen to the vast files he held for the Jamaica Philatelic Society? Perhaps Andrew Fowles could enquire.

It was Ewan Campbell who first suggested that George Odom, MC was the real L. Barrington Smith, the man behind the Jamaican World War II patriotic covers.

-- David Horry

BCPSG meeting in Bermuda November 7-10

The 2019 BCPSG meeting will take place in Bermuda from November 7 through 9. That is Thursday through Sunday, with the actual meeting happening on Saturday, November 9. I suggest traveling to Bermuda on November 6, to be there for the start of activities the next day.

We chose the first week of November because that was when the off-season rates kick in at some hotels. The weather is usually good then, with the ocean temperatures starting to cool down, but being tolerable, especially for Canadians.

We are currently working on philatelic activities for Thursday and Friday, and plan to hold the meeting on Saturday morning in order for the Bermudian members who work to be able to attend. With that thought in mind, it is suggested that members plan to arrive in Bermuda on Wednesday, November 6 so they can participate in the Thursday activities.

Our Meeting hotel is the Grotto Bay Hotel, 11 Blue Hole Hill, Hamilton Parish, Bermuda.

- The hotel is full-service, offering breakfast (full buffet & continental), lunch, and dinner on site.
- Each room has a safe and refrigerator.
- Located on the water, with beautiful views, and a heated pool, it is also not far from beautiful Clearwater Beach at the old U.S. Navy Base.
- On the major bus route, with a stop directly across from the entrance.
- Less than a \$10 cab ride from the airport.
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- It is also a short distance to the Crystal Caves attraction. However, Prospero's Cave is on the hotel property and open to guests at no additional charge.
- It has an Oleander Cycle livery on site, and by 2019 will be offering electric vehicles for rent.
- Immediately next to the famous Swizzle Inn, serving lunch, dinner, and of course Rum Swizzle.
- There is another fine dining option, Tom Moore's Tavern, which is a short cab ride away.

COST: \$200/room/night, plus Government Tax (11.75%) \$23.50/room and Service Charge of \$12.50/person/day. So, a single room with all fees is \$236.00 per night, and a double is \$248.50. For members not familiar with Bermuda's hotel pricing, that is a very good price. The hotel has agreed to offer the same rates for a few days either before or after our official schedule so you may extend your "vacation."

RESERVATIONS: Hotel rooms MUST BE BOOKED DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL. The rates we are given do NOT include any agent commission, so you need to book yourself. Our rooms will be "run-of-the-house," so you can request whichever location and/or level you wish.

HOTEL CONTACT INFO:

Phone: 1-441-293-8383 or toll free from the U.S. at 1-855-447-6886.

WEBSITE: <https://www.grottobay.com>

TRANSFERS: Do NOT bother! Just take a cab from the airport to Grotto Bay.

I can answer questions and/or provide some photos for anyone interested. I would also appreciate knowing if you are attending so I can adjust the number(s) for our blocked rooms. So please let me know if you book at Grotto Bay. Thanks in advance.

John Puzine

puzine@comcast.net or 941-979-8117.

Isn't this reason enough to attend Bermuda meeting?



Grotto Bay Hotel, taken from the causeway. This is our meeting hotel.



View from room at Grotto Bay Hotel.



Grotto Bay Hotel, Front Entrance.



Typical room at Grotto Bay Hotel.

There is so much to see in Bermuda!



Gibb's Hill Lighthouse.



"Springfield" - National Trust Buildings.



St. Peter's Church, St. George's.



Perot Post Office: original and still operating.



St. George's Post Office. Photos by John Puzine.



Another view along the South Shore near Mangrove Bay.

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.

Milcopex 2018
September 14-16
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

John Paré

*The 1948 Wisconsin Statehood Issue:
Production, First Day Covers, Postal Uses*
Gold, Collectors Club of Chicago Award
*The 1940 Bermuda 1/2d on 1d Provisional
Overprint & Its Postal Uses*
Vermeil (SF)



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*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 now found at the bottom of page 3.

Please take note of these dates!

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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 John Seidl

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

Robert F. Hammond, 10 Devonshire Place, Guelph, ON N1E 1C6 CANADA. Email: robhammond@hammfg.com.

Matthew W. Kewriga, 1811 Castro St., Apt. 6, San Francisco, CA 94131 USA. Email: matt@kewriga.com. Philatelic interests: Danish West Indies transit mail (via St. Thomas).

Address Changes

Mr. Darryl Fuller, P.O. Box 267, Georgetown, TAS 72253. Email: dibsfuller@iinet.net.au

Resigned

David Wilson, Roger Nailer, Mrs. Lee Addiss

New Email Address

None this quarter

Deceased

None this quarter

Donations

(And thanks!)

None this quarter

Alas, our long-serving Membership Director Bob Stewart has tendered his resignation. Please contact President John Seidl (contact information on page 2) with membership changes. We also desperately need someone to take over this position, so if you are interested, or can be talked into it, contact President Seidl.

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

This is a good news and bad news column for the BCPSG. First the good news: in this issue you will find the auction catalogue for our BCPSG auction. Thank you to our sellers for participating in this event. There are some great lots of stamps and postal history at some great prices. Please take a few minutes to review the list and get your bids submitted. You can email me for a scan of any lot.

The other bit of good news is our 2019 meeting in November 2019 in Bermuda! John Puzine is doing a great job with the organization of this meeting. We will be staying at the Grotto Bay Hotel and we are hoping the agenda will include such things as:

- 1) Tour of the General Post Office in Hamilton.
- 2) A special machine slogan cancel to be used at the GPO during and commemorating our visit.
- 3) A van trip to each Bermuda Post Office branch to get covers serviced.
- 4) And maybe resurrecting the closed Bailey's Bay hand cancel -- to be used ONE DAY only at Grotto Bay (in Bailey's Bay) on whatever covers we provide.

Time will tell which of the above can actually happen, but the more confirmed reservations we receive the greater the likelihood. There are 10 rooms held at the hotel from November 6th to the 10th. If you have questions, or would like to volunteer to help, you can contact John at puzine@comcast.net.

Now for the bad news. We've lost another very long serving volunteer with Bob Stewart resigning as our Membership Director. Thank you, Bob, for your service to the group! This now leaves me trying to be President, Treasurer, Web Master, Auctioneer and Membership Director. That is not going to work. Combine this with the challenges we have getting articles for the *Journal* and our future is bleak. **If we don't get volunteers to take on these roles in 2019, I will be asking the Board to dissolve the BCPSG due to a lack of support from the members after our Bermuda meeting.**



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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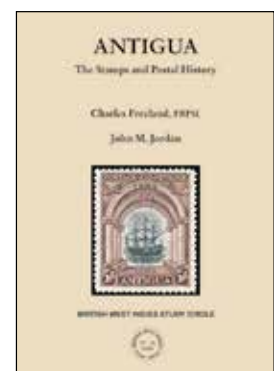
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'ANTIGUA - THE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY'

by Charles Freeland, FRPSL and John Jordan

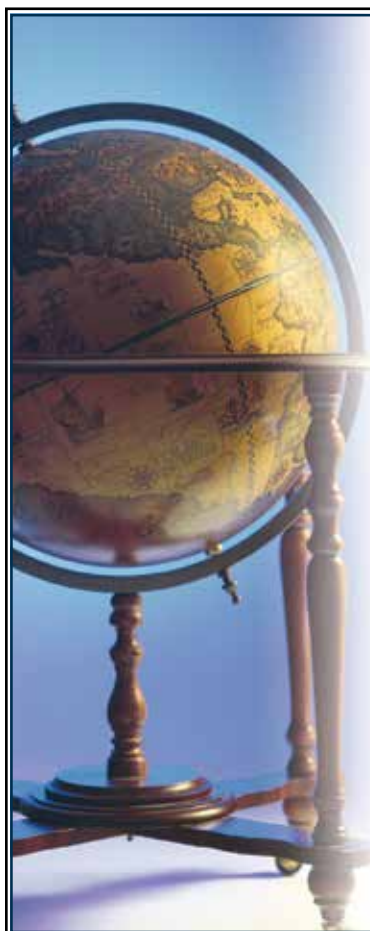
Coming so early in the alphabet Antigua has always been one of the most popular of the small Caribbean islands. It has an interesting mix of early stamps printed by Perkins Bacon and De La Rue including a number of rarities. On the postal history front Antigua is especially well endowed, with the Codrington 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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PRICE: £37.00 (approx. \$48.00). BWISC/BCPSG Members' Price: £33.00 (approx. \$43.00).

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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)
 (stamps.org/Publications)

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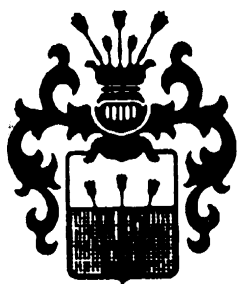
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