

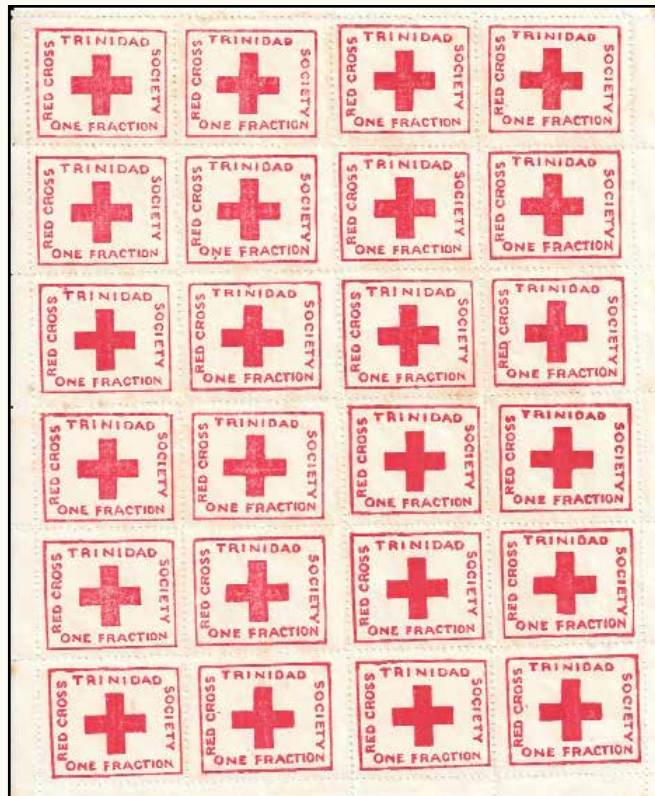
BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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

Vol. 62, No. 4

October - December 2022

Whole No. 285



*We get an introduction to semi-postals of Trinidad & Tobago!
See page 16-17.*





The *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal* is published four times a year (January, April, July and October) by the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group. It is available only by subscription through membership in the BCPSPG. Membership is based on the calendar year. Current dues are: \$30 per annum in U.S. funds for members in the United States, \$30 in Canada, and \$35 (£28) for those in other areas. Paperless memberships, where the *Journal* will be sent to you electronically, are available at \$15.00 or £12.

Life membership is available, with the following rates being applicable:

- Age 50 or less, \$450, U.S. and Canada; \$550, other countries;
- Age 51 to 60 years, \$400, U.S. and Canada; \$500, other countries;
- Age 61 and over, \$300, U.S. and Canada; \$400, other countries.

Payment terms are available, please contact the Membership Director or Treasurer for more details.

Membership application forms and additional information (including £ Sterling rates) may be obtained from the Membership Director, International Director or from our web page. Membership renewals and donations may be made through PayPal (www.PayPal.com), and follow the easy instructions).

BCPSG Website: <http://www.bcpsg.com>

(Opinions expressed in articles in this journal are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group or its officers.)

The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group Officers and Trustees

PRESIDENT	Mr. John Seidl, 4324 Granby Way, Marietta, GA 30062 USA; email: john.seidl@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Mr. Nigel Mohammed, 1900 Windette Dr., Montgomery, IL 60538 USA; email: trিনিবুয়@yahoo.com
SECRETARY	<i>Vacant</i>
TREASURER	Mr. John Seidl (<i>address above</i>)
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR	Mr. David N. Druett, 1 Brewerton St., Knaresborough, N. Yorkshire, HG5 8AZ, U.K. Tele & fax (01423) 865962; email: pennymead@aol.com
EDITOR	Dr. Everett L. Parker, 207 Corinth Road, Hudson, ME 04449-3057 USA. Tele: (207) 573-1686; email: everettparker1245@gmail.com
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Mr. Ivan Burges (2019), P.O. Box 1543, Grand Cayman KY1-1110 CAYMAN ISLANDS; email: ivanburges@yahoo.co.uk Dr. Peter P. McCann (2019), 8335 Abingdon Ct., University Park, FL 34201-2024 USA; email: ppm103226706@aol.com Mr. Steve Zirinsky (2019), P.O. Box 230049, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023 USA; email: szirinsky@cs.com Mr. Maurice D. Wozniak (2021), 1010 Berlin St., Waupaca, WI 54981-1919 USA; email: mwoz@live.com Mr. John P. Wynns (2021), 3518 Mission Rd., Unit 4, Tucson, AZ 85713-5682 USA; email: jwynns96@cox.net

Past Presidents of the Group are honorary members of the Board. They include:

Mr. George W. Bowman, Mr. Charles E. Cwiakala, Mr. Paul A. Larsen, Dr. Peter P. McCann, Mr. W. Danforth Walker, Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, Mr. Jack Harwood, Mr. Edward W. Waterous, Mr. Duane Larson.

Study Group Leaders and Other Appointees

APS REPRESENTATIVE	Mr. Edward W. Waterous, P.O. Box 1105, Homewood, IL 60430-0105 USA; email: ewwaterous@hotmail.com
ATTORNEY	Mr. Thomas F. Olson, P.O. Box 937, Berkeley, CA 94701-0937 USA. Tele: (510) 558-6939; fax (510) 527-7152; email: kriegsmar@aol.com
AUCTION MANAGER	Mr. John Seidl (<i>address above</i>)
AWARDS CHAIRMAN	<i>Vacant</i>
HISTORIAN AND ARCHIVIST	Dr. Juan L. Riera, P.O. Box 522942, Miami, FL 33152; email: juanr337@gmail.com
LIBRARIAN	Mr. Dale Wade, P.O. Box 491, Hayesville, NC 28904 USA. Tele: (478) 737-2373; email: pyrowade@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR	<i>Vacant</i>
PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN	Dr. Everett L. Parker, 207 Corinth Road, Hudson, ME 04449-3057 USA Tele: (207) 573-1686; email: everettparker1245@gmail.com
PUBLICATION ORDERS	Order through the American Philatelic Society (APS) at www.stamps.org
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN	<i>Vacant</i>
U.K. REPRESENTATIVE	Mr. Ray Stanton, The Old Rectory, Salmonby, Lincs. LN9 6PX United Kingdom; email: ray.stanton114@gmail.com
WEBMASTER	Mr. John Seidl (<i>address above</i>)
ANGUILLA	<i>Vacant</i>
ANTIGUA	Mr. John M. Jordan, Flat 3, 1 Riverdale Road, Twickenham TW1 2BT UNITED KINGDOM; email: johnmjordan@msn.com
BAHAMAS	Mr. Edward W. Waterous (<i>address above</i>)
BARBADOS	<i>Vacant</i>
BARBUDA	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra, 1104 S. Garfield Ave., Urbana, IL 61801-4936 USA. Tele: (217) 367-9802; email: wynstra@uiuc.edu
BERMUDA	Mr. Bill Charles Gompel, P.O. Box 547183, Orlando, FL 32854-7183 USA; email: BGOMPTEL@cfl.rr.com
BR. GUIANA/GUYANA	Mr. Bernie Beston, P.O. Box 5513, Bundaberg, WQ 4679 AUSTRALIA; email: bernardbeston@gmail.com
BR. HONDURAS/BELIZE	Dr. Ian Matheson, P.O. Box 756, Witkoppen, 2068, SOUTH AFRICA; email: ian@cdi.biz
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	Dr. Giorgio Migliavacca, P.O. Box 7007, St. Thomas, VI 00801-0007 USA; email: giorgiomigliavacca@hotmail.com
CAYMAN ISLANDS	<i>Vacant</i>
CENSORED MAIL	Mr. Ray Murphy; email: raymurphy@prodigy.net
DOMINICA	Dr. Peter P. McCann (<i>address above</i>)
GRENADA	Mr. W. Danforth Walker, 8403 Abingdon Ct., University Park, FL 34201 USA; email: danforthwalker@comcast.net
JAMAICA	Mr. Duane Larson, 2 Forest Bl., Park Forest, IL 60466 USA. Tele: (708) 503-9552; email: dl Larson283@aol.com
LEEWARD ISLANDS	Mr. Peter Brooks, 165 Spencefield Lane, Leicester LE5 6GG UNITED KINGDOM; email: bandp165@yahoo.co.uk
MARITIME MAIL	Mr. Simon Richards, Heathercombe House, Drayton St. Leonard, Wallingford OX10 7BG U.K.; email: Simon@sidebell.co.uk
MONTserrat	Dr. Peter P. McCann (<i>address above</i>)
NEVIS	Mr. Federico Borromeo, Via Torquato Taramelli 32, I-00197 Rome, ITALY; email: comneno@tiscali.it
ST. CHRISTOPHER/ST. KITTS	Mr. Robert J. Wynstra (<i>address above</i>)
ST. LUCIA	Mr. Guy Kilburn, 100 Mira Loma St., Vallejo, CA 94590-3434; email: guykilburn@hotmail.com
ST. VINCENT	Mr. Peter C. Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427 USA; email: peter@pcelias.com
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	<i>Vacant</i>
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS	Dr. Peter P. McCann (<i>address above</i>)

British Caribbean Philatelic Journal

Vol. 62, No. 4 October - December 2022 Whole No. 285

© British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group

Editor: Dr. Everett L. Parker, 207 Corinth Road, Hudson, ME 04449-3057 USA

Telephone: (207) 573-1686; email: everettparker1245@gmail.com

Please address correspondence regarding articles in this publication to the Editor.

Membership Director: Position Vacant

Please address membership questions to the Membership Director (this includes address changes).

Advertising Manager: Position Vacant

Please address advertising questions to the Advertising Manager.

Awards Editor: Position Vacant

Please address information about show awards to the Awards Editor.

CONTENTS

FEATURES

British Guiana/Guyana Queen Elizabeth II Serial Sheet Numbers in Red, <i>by Nick Halewood</i> ..	4-6
A Medley of Virgin Islands covers, <i>by Juan L. Riera</i>	7-9
Barbados offers many exciting collecting venues, <i>by Noel Davenport</i>	10-15
Introduction to Trinidad & Tobago semi-postal stamps, <i>by Daniel Maddalino</i>	16-17
Early Cayman Islands postcards found, <i>by Tom Giraldi</i>	18-19
Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 7, <i>by Juan L. Riera</i>	20-21
The Bahamas: The Postmarks of Long Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador, <i>by Malcolm D. Watts</i>	22-23
Antigua and Barbuda postmarks, 2022, <i>by Steve Zirinsky</i>	25

COLUMNS AND REPORTS

Officers and Trustees, Study Group Leaders & Others	2
Membership Director's Report	27
President's Message, <i>by John Seidl</i>	29
Our faithful advertisers	26-32

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

British Guiana/Guyana Queen Elizabeth II Serial Sheet Numbers in Red

By Nick Halewood

An Englishman resident in Ashiya, Japan

The serial sheet numbers on the British Guiana 1954-63 and 1963-65 issues were generally printed in black ink but can occasionally be found in red ink (*Figures 1 and 2*). Unusually, the sheet of the 12¢ on Multiple Script CA paper with the London (De La Rue) Guyana independence overprint shown in Figure 1 has two different numbers, one in black and one in red.¹



Figure 1

12¢ stamp, MSCA, London overprint.



Figure 2

\$2 stamp, block CA upright, London overprint.

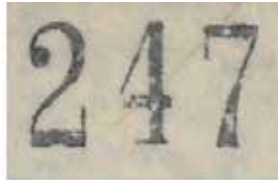
De La Rue (DLR) applied the “GUYANA/INDEPENDENCE/1966” overprint to:

- Stock returned to DLR by Crown Agents.
- Stock DLR had in hand, if any.
- Stock returned to DLR from British Guiana already numbered in black by them.
- Stock on paper with the Multiple St. Edward’s Crown Block CA sideways watermark specially produced for overprinting by DLR.

Because both examples of red numbers I have seen are on Guyana independence sheets overprinted by De La Rue, the only explanation I have is that some overprinted stock sent to Guyana by De La Rue had red numbers. Therefore, the 12¢ sheet was sent out before independence with “020” in black, returned to London for overprinting, and then sent to Guyana with the new sheet number, “054” in red. The \$2 sheet had never been sent to British Guiana but was overprinted and then sent with “102” in red. It could have

been in stock returned by Crown Agents to De La Rue for overprinting or that De La Rue had in hand. Does anyone have another explanation for two different numbers on the same sheet?

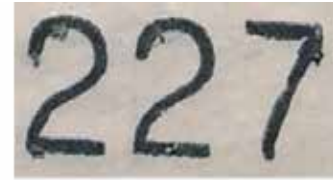
It appears that three typefaces/fonts were used by De La Rue for the serial sheet numbers, which were probably used in the following order: a) Tall serified, because all examples seen are on Multiple Script CA paper; b) short serified; and c) sans-serif. Here are examples of the three fonts:



Tall serified



Short serified



Sans-serif

Here are the serial sheet numbers in the three fonts I have recorded so far:

<i>Tall Serified</i>		
Watermark	Overprint	Value/ serial sheet number
Multiple Script CA	--*	3¢/406 497
Multiple Script CA	Local	3¢/145 243 246 247 248 251 313
* = not overprinted		

<i>Short Serified</i>		
Watermark	Overprint	Value/ serial sheet number
Multiple Script CA	--*	3¢/006; 48¢/163; 72¢/083
Multiple Script CA	London	12¢/020**
Multiple Script CA	Local	3¢/247; 6¢/500
Multiple St. Edward's	Local	48¢/108; 72¢/105; \$1/091;
Crown Block CA upright		\$2/047; 251
* = not overprinted; ** = See Figure 1		

<i>Sans-Serif</i>		
Watermark	Overprint	Value/ serial sheet number
Multiple Script CA	London	6¢/293***; 12¢/054****
Multiple Script CA	Local	1¢/170*****; 371 4¢227
Multiple St. Edward's	London	\$2/102*****
Crown Block CA upright		
*** = London overprint but number black; **** = See Figure 1; ***** = See Figure 4; ***** = See Figure 5; ***** = See Figure 3		

I have never seen an example with the Multiple St. Edward's Crown Block CA sideways watermark bearing a serial sheet number.

Here is a comparison of the numerals in the three fonts:



Tall serified font.



Short serified font.



Sans serified font.

Here are examples with traces of the preceding or subsequent numbers:

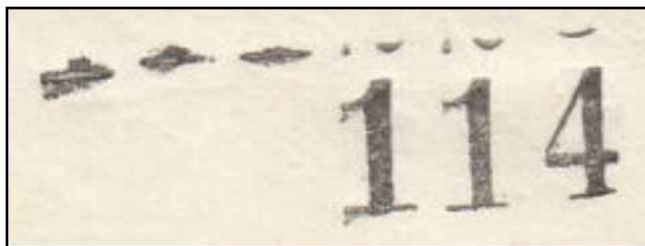


Figure 2

24¢, watermark unknown, not overprinted. The bases of the next numeral (“225”) can be seen above “114.” The numbering machine had six rings so it could number up to “999999.”



Figure 3

\$2, Block CA upright, London overprint. The bases of the other numerals can be seen above “102.” They are not “213” but could be “091.” The numbering machine had three rings so could number up to “999” (see Figure 2).

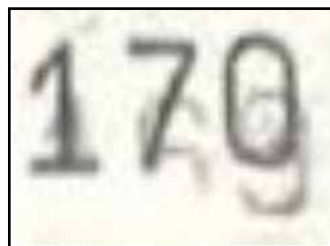


Figure 4

1¢, MSCA, local overprint. Serial sheet number “170” with displaced kiss-print of “169.”

A Medley of Virgin Islands covers

By Juan L. Riera

Recently I bought a box of mixed covers at a local stamp club in South Florida with about 10 covers from the British Virgin Islands, which led me to learn a bit more about these islands. Officially, and I presume legally, known as the Virgin Islands, are a British Overseas Territory in the Caribbean, to the east of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and northwest of Anguilla.

These islands are part of the Virgin Islands Archipelago and are located in the Leeward Islands of the Lesser Antilles and part of the West Indies. It is unclear why the area is referred to as the British Virgin Islands. The common belief is that it is done to distinguish these islands from the U.S. Virgin Islands, bought from the Danes in 1917 for \$25 million (U.S. dollars) and renamed, but some historians point out that there are documents dating back to the mid-1850s that refer to these islands as the British Virgin Islands.

So not for me to become involved in the debate, just to let you know that there is a debate and the reasons why are unclear. Even semi-official gov-

ernment departments use the prefix “British” even though it is not official, from a governmental point of view.

The British Virgin Islands consist of the main islands of Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada, and Jost Van Dyke, along with more than 50 other smaller

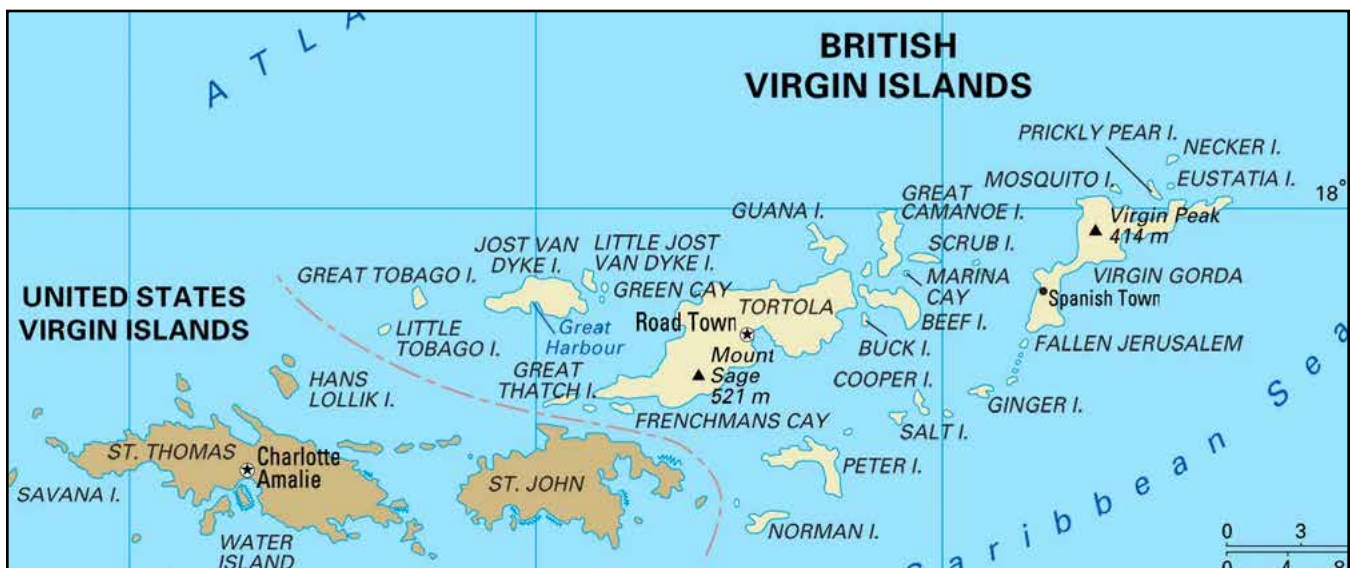


Figure 1

Interesting in that it is going from Cruz Bay, St. John, U.S.V.I., to Boston, Massachusetts, using a British Virgin Islands 50¢ stamp depicting mangoes.

islands and cays (or “keys” as commonly referred to in U.S. English). About 16 of the islands are inhabited, but based on the 2010 census, about 83 percent of the population lived on Tortola, a little more than 23,000 people out of about 28,000 people.

Continued on page 8



Map showing British Virgin Islands and adjacent U.S. Virgin Islands (left).

The islands were encountered by Christopher Columbus on his second voyage and named “Saint Ursula and the eleven thousand virgins,” later shortened to the Virgin Islands. Although claimed for Spain by Columbus, these islands that at the time were apparently unpopulated were not occupied by the Spanish. Subsequently, the English, Dutch, French, Spanish, and Danes competed to exert control over the region because of its strategic importance. In the meantime the area became notorious for pirates, such as Sir Francis Drake and Sir John Hawkins- at least from the Spanish point of view.

Tortola had a permanent Dutch settlement by 1648, but the island was captured by the British in 1672. By 1680 Anegada and Virgin Gorda had been annexed by the British. Subsequently, between 1672 and 1733 the Danish gained control of nearby St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix, until sold to the U.S. in 1917. The Virgin Islands under British control until the 19th century prospered economically with sugar plantations that used slave labor. The economy dipped with the end of slavery in the British Empire and the increased use of sugar beets in the U.S. and Europe. Since the mid-20th century, the British Virgin Islands have prospered on two economic pillars -- financial services (nearly 60 percent of the GNP) and tourism (estimated to be 40-45 percent of GNP). This is supplemented by a small, or tiny, percentage of GNP based on agricul-

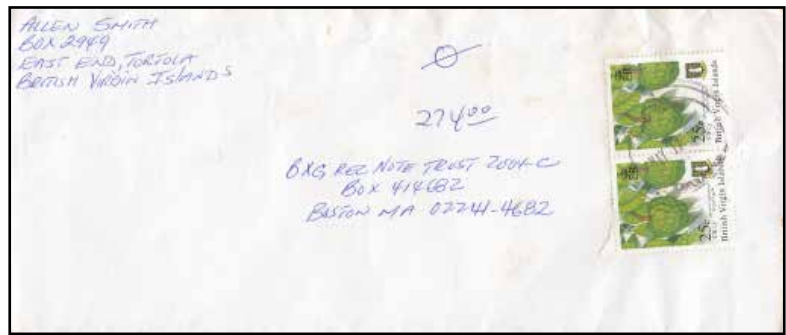


Figure 2

Two 25¢ stamps depicting a sugar apple, issued August 25, 2005 (2004 design type), from East End, Tortola to Boston, Massachusetts.



Figure 3

T&L Auto Service to BlueGreen Properties, ironically a timeshare property company in Boston.

ture and industry. Interestingly, in 1959 the British Virgin Islands adopted the U.S. dollar as the official currency of the islands and stamps reflected their price in U.S. monetary values.

A few highlights of each of the main islands are as follows:



Figure 4

Sent from Palm Grove Shopping Centre in Road Town, Tortola, B.V.I. to Boston, Massachusetts using a 50¢ stamp and a 10¢ stamp. The latter was issued on August 25, 2005, based on a 2004 design type.

Tortola: the largest (21.5 square miles) and most populated (23,908 souls in 2010). The capital of the Virgin Islands, Road Town with 9,400 residents, is located on Tortola. Some notable people of Tortola are: J’maal Alexander, Olympic sprinter, born in Tortola; George French (1817-1881), born and raised in Tortola, was Chief Justice of Sierra Leone and the British Supreme Court for China and Japan; and Jon Lucien (1942-2007), a vocalist and musician, born Lucien Harigan on the island of Tortola.

Anegada: The second largest and northernmost of the British Virgin Islands, about 15 miles north of Virgin Gorda. It is the only inhabited island formed from coral and limestone, making it low and flat, unlike the other inhabited islands that are volcanic, and mountainous. It is the most sparsely populated of the British Virgin Islands with a population of 285 people (2010 census) and only one village, known as The Settlement. The economic mainstay of Anegada is fishing, providing the majority of fresh fish and lobster to the rest of the British Virgin Islands. Also, Horseshoe Reef has caused many shipwrecks, including HMS *Astraea* in 1808, the *Donna Paula* in 1819, and MS *Rocus* in 1929, which caused scuba diving to be important here at one time.

Virgin Gorda: The third largest (eight square miles) and second most populous of the British Virgin Islands. An unusual geologic formation known as “the Baths” is found on the southern end the island and consists of huge granite boulders on the beach, even though the island is volcanic. In 1595 a fleet led by Francis Drake and John Hawkins met up at the anchorage off Bitter End. The 26 ships assembled practiced for the attempted capture of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Shortly after this fleet rendezvous, both admirals met their end, mak-



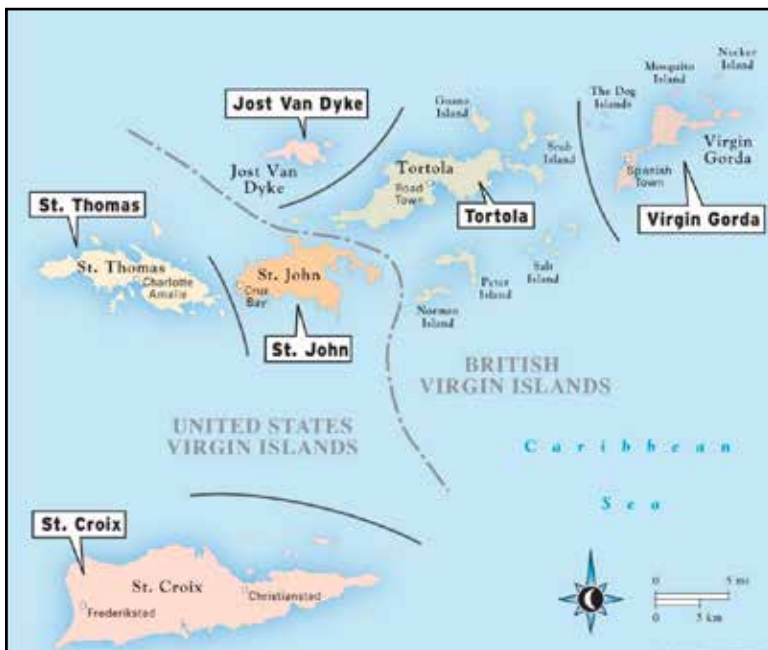
Figure 5
May 8, 2007, cancellation with a 50¢ mangoes stamp.



Figure 6
East End, Tortola, to Boston, Massachusetts, with a 50¢ stamp celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley, issued on May 1, 2008.

ing this spot the last time each set foot on British soil.

Jost Van Dyke: Occasionally referred to as “JVD” or “Jost,” it is the smallest of the four main islands, three square miles. For a long period the island was an ignored member of the British Virgin Islands. There is some evidence of sugar and cotton production on the island, but in small amounts. Many island residents regularly sought work at the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company’s coaling wharves in St. Thomas (five miles to the south), before the 1917 acquisition by the United States. The population of the island is currently about 300 people. The island’s most noteworthy resident is John C. Lettsome, of Little Jost Van Dyke, who founded the Medical Society of London.



Map of general Caribbean area including B.V.I.

Touring the British Caribbean

Barbados offers many exciting collecting venues

By Noel Davenhill

The tropical island of Barbados lies about 300 miles north of Venezuela and is the most eastern island in the West Indies. The first English settlers arrived in 1627, settling in what was earlier called James Town, now known as Holetown in the parish of Saint James on the sheltered west coast of the island.

Barbados was a British colony until gaining independence within Commonwealth in 1966. The island's buoyant economy is based on tourism, sugar and by-products of molasses and rum. In fact, the world-renowned Mount Gay rum has been produced since 1747. Textiles and electronic parts are among increasing export industries.

FIRST ISSUES

Unlike many other West Indies colonies, there was no need for British stamps in Barbados prior to introduction of the Perkins, Bacon & Co. imperforate "seated Britannia" design. For economic reasons, printing plates previously made for Trinidad in 1851 were modified to read "Barbados," and in 1854, Mauritius. The first shipment to Barbados, intended for delivery in 1851, was lost at sea, delaying the issue date until April 1852.

Denominations were originally defined solely by color, with green for the 1/2d, and blue for the 1d. Sales of the 2d greyish-slate were restricted until 1853 because it resembled the 1d stamp. A 4d

brownish-red was added in 1855. New clearly denominated 6d and 1/- values were placed on sale in 1858. Primitive "pinprick" perforations for the "no value" 1/2d and 1d stamps in 1860 were progressively improved in subsequent printings.



The earliest stamps from Barbados had their denominations indicated by color. Clearly denominated issues, such as this three pence value, were printed later.

Large and small "star" watermarks were introduced in 1870, along with color changes for the 6d and 1/- values. Additional 3d and large-format 5/- values (primarily for posting heavier packages) were issued in 1873.

CHANGE OF PRINTER

De La Rue and Company, which produced all subsequent stamps until 1927, inherited the printing plates in 1875 following the Crown Agents' termination of the Perkins, Bacon & Co. contract due to unacceptable activities. Several printings of the 1/2d to 1/- Britannias were delivered until 1878 with Crown CC watermarks, color changes and some perforation varieties.

Delays in shipping the 1d denominations from London in 1878 prompted numerous sheets of the 5/- to be locally surcharged. Individual stamps were overprinted "1D" twice before vertical perforations produced two 1d denominations.

Three distinctive typeface fonts reading either upward or downward provided collectors with several se-tenant varieties. Post office staff removed lower panels inscribed "5 SHILLINGS" from all sheets before the bisects were placed on sale. Records indicate that 9,600 1d stamps were created.



Non-denominated 1852 Barbados imperf pair, Die I.

An amusing account relates to an English dealer's order for a quantity of surcharges. After a delay of several months, a packet containing basic 1d stamps was accompanied with an apology from Bridgetown's postmaster for the late arrival while he awaited delivery of regular stamps from London. He was sure his client would not appreciate the "ugly makeshifts."

Thirty years of the Britannias ended with the release from 1882-86 of eight 1/2d to 5/- stamps from the initial Queen Victoria key type common to many Caribbean colonies. The 4d was altered from grey to brown because of allegations that under some light conditions it was mistaken for the 1/2d stamp.



Use of the Britannia design ended in 1882 with the adoption of the Queen Victoria key type.

Following an increase in postal rates in 1892, a surfeit of redundant 4d stamps was partially reduced with locally applied "HALF-PENNY" surcharges. To clear remaining stocks, the public was encouraged to use as many overprints as possible while awaiting the imminent release of an exciting design, which would monopolize the colony's stamps for more than 60 years.

THE BADGE OF BARBADOS

This is the badge (or emblem) of Barbados, derived from the Great Seal of 1663, believed to portray Neptune, or perhaps Britannia, driving a Conch shell chariot drawn by two seahorses. Royal protocol required the reigning monarch's portrait on all stamps, flags and documents featuring the emblem.



This stamp design, derived from the Great Seal of 1663, was issued in 1892 featuring an image of Queen Victoria seated in a chariot drawn by two seahorses.

The striking design inspired Bertram Mackennal's acclaimed Great Britain 1913-1914 high values.

The first unmistakable image of Queen Victoria seated in the chariot appeared on eight stamps from 1/2d to 2/6, issued in 1892. Subsequent postal rate increases required additional 1/4d and 2d denominations. An unfortunate choice of colors for the new 2d necessitated a replacement 2/6 in violet and green. Multiple Crown CA watermarks introduced in 1905 for all except 2d, 5d and 10d denominations were followed in 1909-10 with a final printing of lower values, some with revised colors plus a new 1/- value.

Meanwhile, back in 1897, Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee called for nine larger-format stamps from 1/4d to 2/6 showing the emblem in a diamond



Larger format stamps were produced for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897.

frame surrounded by insignia representing Great Britain. A smaller quantity was printed on blue tinged paper. Jubilee commemoratives were also issued by British Guiana, Leeward Islands and Mauritius.

COMMEMORATIVES & RELIEF STAMPS

Stamps for the centenary of Lord Nelson's death in 1805 were issued belatedly in 1906. Seven values from 1/4d to 1/- featured the memorial statue in Bridgetown. It was erected in 1813, some 27 years before London's world-famous column in Trafalgar Square -- a statistic frequently pointed out to visiting Britons!

Collectors may acquire two sets printed on both thick opaque and thinner bluish white paper. Diminishing supplies of Crown CA watermarked paper may account for supplementary printings in 1907 of 1/4d, 2d and 2 1/2d values with Multiple Crown CA watermarks.

In 1906, a highly praised 1d design featuring the trading vessel *Olive Blossom* marked 300 years of annexation by Britain in 1605. It was later realized that the event took place in 1625, 20 years later, when the ship arrived in James Town to claim Barbados for King James I. The vessel *William and*

John brought the first English settlers to the same port in 1627.

Eleven days after a massive earthquake struck Jamaica in January 1907, several sheets of Barbados 2d definitives were overprinted "Kingston / Relief / Fund/ 1d." by local printer T.E. King & Co. The stamps were sold for 2d, providing 1d as a donation to Jamaica.



The trading vessel Olive Blossom was depicted on the 1d stamp to mark 300 years of annexation by Britain in 1605.

The hurriedly applied overprint inevitably created many typeface varieties, the most significant being a single sheet from Bridgetown with the overprint inverted. Speculation was prevented by quickly printing a quantity of faulty sheets for sale to the philatelic market and delivery to the post office for general use. This ensured continuing availability of the inverted surcharge to collectors at little cost. Similar action was taken in 1898 for the comparable New Zealand "Wakitipu" error.

The brief reign of King Edward VII ended without showing his portrait. From 1912-1916, 11 stamps from 1/4d to 6d, plus larger format 1/-, 2/- and 3/- denominations, all with the ubiquitous seahorses emblem still featuring the long-deceased Queen, were issued with an inset portrait of King George V. A levy on overseas mail was implemented from 1917-1918 with "WAR TAX" overprints on separate printings of 1d stamps.

Larger format 1/4d to 3/- denominations were issued in June 1916, with the iconic badge modified to clearly identify the bearded King. The colony's



Between 1912 and 1918, 11 different stamps, in two different sizes, were issued with a portrait of King George V.

Latin motto: "ET PENITUS TOTO REGNANTES ORBE BRITANNOS" was added for the first time. Re-engraved 4d and 3/- stamps with revised colors were placed on sale in 1918.

The end of World War I was marked in 1920 with 11 stamps from 1/4d to 3/-. Two symbolic designs representing "Victory" were adapted from sculptures in the Louvre Museum in Paris (1/4d to 6d), and Queen Victoria's statue outside Buckingham Palace (1/- to 3/-).



This is one of two stamps issued in 1920 to mark the end of World War I.

The significance of two grotesque gargoyle heads on the lower denominations is not clear. The series is notable for numerous variations (particularly missing lettering) in the Multiple Crown CA watermark.

The 1d was reprinted in 1921 with Script CA watermark. Victory was also commemorated with stamps from Bermuda and British Honduras.

In 1921, almost identical small-format definitives differed only with the exclusion of the Latin motto. All except the 3d, 4d and 1/- were printed with the new Script CA watermark.

A new printing of the 1/- with Script watermark appeared in 1924. The seahorse motif was retained for larger 1/4d to 3/- stamps from 1925-33. Increased postal rates in 1931 created extensive stocks of redundant farthing stamps.

A public appeal to use this denomination in multiples was joined by a request for an urgently needed 11/2d surcharge.

The plea was refused by Whitehall, presumably because brown 1/4d stamps were considered unsuitable for overprinting. Additional 11/2d and 2/6 stamps, along with 1/2d, 1d, 21/2d, and 1/- perforation changes were released in 1932.

UNRECORDED PERFORATION

The tercentenary of settlement was marked in 1927 with a 1d (perforation 12) portraying King Charles I and George V flanked by palm trees. A previously unrecorded perforation 12x12½ reported in 1940 remained generally unknown until eventually listed by Stanley Gibbons in 2014.

Because of the long delay since discovery, it is not known how many were produced; however, latest catalogue pricing suggests that considerably fewer are available. Substantial numbers are nevertheless likely to exist unidentified in collections and in dealer stockbooks.

The Crown Agents' 1945 Silver Jubilee and 1937 Coronation omnibus issues were followed in 1938 with definitives matching the previous issue. There was little change other than the omission of "POSTAGE & REVENUE" and the introduction of the clean-shaven image of King George VI.



This 1/- value shows King George VI in the chariot in a similar design used for the earlier Queen Victoria stamps.

Postal increases required additional 2d and 5/- denominations in 1941; the 8d was added in 1946. UPU regulations led to ½d, 1d and 3d color revisions. The change from claret to carmine for the 2d in 1943 has always puzzled me. I find it difficult to accept the negligible color change was officially requested; a more likely scenario is that this very col-



King George VI and Charles I are shown on this 1939 issue commemorating the tercentenary of the first General Assembly.

lectible shade was the result of wartime cuts in ink supplies or other setbacks caused by severe bomb damage to De La Rue's London plant. Several perforation varieties from 1938 to 1944 and significant plate flaws in lower values continue to attract specialist collectors.

King George VI and Charles I are portrayed on the 1939 issue commemorating the tercentenary of the first General Assembly (Barbados Parliament) in 1639. Five uniform designs from ½d to 3d feature the debating chamber and ceremonial mace.

Heavy demands on 1d stamps, mainly for posting publicity material prior to the General Election in 1947, prompted "ONE PENNY" surcharges by the Barbados Advocate Company. Both perforations of the 2d carmine were overprinted with a typeface susceptible to breaking up, providing many malformed and broken letters.

OMNIBUS ISSUES

Omnibus issues from 1946-1949 marked victory in Europe, Royal Silver Wedding and 75th anniversary of the UPU. For many years, the 10/- and even £1



Barbados issued two stamps in recognition of the Royal Silver Wedding in 1948, part of a British Commonwealth omnibus stamp issue.

stamps had been available in most British colonies. Barbados remained restricted to the highest value of 5/- until 1950, when a new set of decimal currency definitives with a top denomination of \$2.40 was issued. The 12 pictorials printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. comprised Nelson's statue (4¢), St. Michael's Cathedral (48¢), the Careenage (60¢) and other Bridgetown scenes.

Also included were a flying fish (12¢), cast net fishing (6¢), and sugar cane (2¢). The superb \$2.40, printed in black, features the Great Seal of 1663 with the GVIR cypher, replacing the King's

portrait included on other denominations. In 1951, two stamps from the British Caribbean “minibus” series to mark the inauguration of the West Indies University College in Jamaica preceded the “seated Britannia” motif to commemorate the centenary of the colony’s first issue in 1952.



The same design was used on the 1¢ low value of the King George VI issue of 1950 ...

... and the 1¢ low value of the Queen Elizabeth II issue of 1953.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The King’s sudden death in February 1952 led to the release of a 1¢ Queen Elizabeth definitive using the 1950 Dover Fort definitive design. This was issued just two months before the 4¢ Coronation stamp. The remaining definitives of the 1950 set, revised with the Queen’s portrait, a few color changes and the updated EIR cypher (\$2.40), were placed on sale intermittently from 1954-57. The new \$1.20 failed to correct an oversight on the 1950 map design. The omission of a crucial boundary line separating the parishes of St. Michael and St. George, all but obscured by the dominant radio mast, may be revealed by close scrutiny. In 1954, an additional 5¢ value featured Harbour Police dressed in the uniform of British sailors in Nelson’s period.

Block CA watermarks were introduced for new printings of 1¢, 4¢, 8¢, 12¢, 24¢, 48¢, 60¢ and \$2.40 stamps from 1963-65. Release of the 8¢ and \$2.40 values was delayed until just weeks before new definitives were issued. It seems likely that excess stocks of existing 12¢ stamps did not warrant delivery of the new watermark, implying that postmarked copies can only be cancelled-to-order (CTO) or philatelically initiated.

Marine life photogravure definitives from 1¢ to \$2.50 were issued in July 1965. Although very at-

tractive, Harrison’s colorful images fail to match the outgoing series. A single imperforate sheet of the 4¢ Sea Urchin stamp was discovered in Bridgetown by renowned local philatelist, the late Edmund Bayley. Collectors were astonished when new printings of all denominations appeared with sideways watermarks from 1966-67; a similar unheralded adjustment occurred for British Solomon Islands in 1966. The wrong spelling of the Latin name *Hippocampus* for the 3¢ Seahorse was corrected to *Hippocampus* in the new printing. A \$5 Dolphin fish design was placed on sale in 1969.

The 5¢ Staghorn Coral was locally surcharged in March 1970 to alleviate a temporary shortage of 4¢ stamps. The printer was equipped to surcharge only four blocks of 25 stamps in each run, leading to repetitive typeface errors on sheets of 100 stamps.

QUEEN ELIZABETH COMMEMORATIVES

Between 1952 and Independence Day in 1966, Crown Agents omnibus stamps were restricted to ITU centenary and death of Winston Churchill, with no explanation why Freedom from Hunger, Red Cross, ICY centenary and WHO issues were excluded.

Barbados joined participating colonies for the ill-fated West Indies Federation in 1958 and Royal Visit in 1966. Opening of the Deep Water Harbour (1961) and Golden Jubilee of Barbados Scouting (1962) were also commemorated. Subsequent non-definitives are omitted from this review.

A return to depicting local landmarks was welcomed in 1970 with 16 De La Rue photogravure definitives from 1¢ to \$5.00. Two stamps warrant special attention. The wording on St. James monument in Holetown (4¢) marks 300 years since annexation and subsequent English settlement in 1605 and 1607. Both milestones were, however, mistakenly celebrated 20 years too early! This prompted an updated plaque to be affixed to the monument in 1977. As previously noted, the 1906 1d *Olive Blossom* arrival in James Town commemoration was, of course, also premature.

The modest structure inscribed “GEORGE WASHINGTON HOUSE” (25¢) is certainly not the dwelling occupied by Washington in 1795 while on holiday with his convalescing brother. This astonishing error was perpetuated on a 1982 commemorative. The correct house may be viewed on the

internet.

Another intriguing image is the lion on the 1¢, carved in 1868 from a large stone by an officer at the former Gun Hill signal station. All denominations except the 6¢ (old sugar mill) were reprinted on glazed paper in 1971. From 1972-74, the series, excluding the 1¢, 2¢ and 3¢ values, appeared with watermarks changed from upright to sideways and vice versa! A shortage of 4¢ stamps in 1974 was met with a local surcharge on 25¢ (Washington House error). Several sheets (Plate 1A) were placed



Modern Barbados stamps cover a wide ranging variety of topics. The visit of American President William Clinton to the island in May 1997 was commemorated with a set of two stamps and a se-tenant label.

on sale with surcharge omitted on R10/1.

After a sale period of only four years, the stamps were replaced in 1974 with orchid definitives printed in photogravure by Harrison. In 1975, a repeat of the earlier debacle delivered a series of reversed watermarks. Tinkering continued in 1976 with related changes for seven denominations from 1¢ to \$1. In 1977, a new orchid design appeared on a 20¢ stamp, along with a 45¢ value, exactly replicating the existing 50¢ design and colors. Although with-

Old-time views of street scenes were also commemorated in modern times.



drawal from sale was expected, continuing availability of the 50¢ alongside the identical 45¢ is likely to have caused confusion at post offices.

This stamp is one of several issued in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Barbados Cadet Corps.



Having closed my non-definitive collection after independence, my intention to disregard future releases was hijacked by a superb bird series in 1979. Seventeen denominations from 1¢ to \$10 were again printed by Harrison, thankfully without the irritating watermark manipulations.

Postal rate increases in 1981 prompted an additional 55¢ stamp (Golden Plover), plus 15¢, 40¢ and 60¢ surcharges on the now redundant 28¢ (Carib Grackle), 45¢ (Red-necked Pigeon) and 70¢ (Bananaquit). The surcharges were withdrawn when matching 15¢, 40¢ and 60¢ designs were released in 1982.

Thanks to the late Fitz Roett for scans of early Barbados stamps.

Illustrations are not shown at exact size.

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!

Introduction to Trinidad & Tobago semi-postal stamps

By Daniel Maddalino

The Scott Catalogue¹ listed Trinidad & Tobago (Trinidad) semi-postal stamps (#B1-#B3) shown in *Figure 1* can be confusing to those new to Trinidad. However, with this short review, the collector should quickly gain comfort in knowing of their purposes and varieties. They will also have a new world for philatelic adventure revealed.



Figure 1
Trinidad (left) and Trinidad & Tobago semi-postal stamps, Scott's #B1-B3.

The list is short with only three semi-postal stamps issued under British administration. The first was a charity fundraising label intended to be used as a letter seal (*Figure 2*). In the summer of 1914, the Trinidad Red Cross Society had these seals (*Figure 3*) locally printed and needed to sell them quickly. Using a technique still employed today, they created an appeal letter and mailed this letter and stamps out to all landowners. Over 900 appeal packets were stuffed and addressed in early September by the La-



Figure 2
Scott's #B1 used as envelope seal.

dies of the Red Cross. Next, the Ladies pitched their fundraising activity to Governor Sir George Ruthven Le Hunte² (1852-1925) at Port of Spain (Trinidad's capital) requesting that these appeal packets be mailed without the expense of postage. They would use one of their labels on each letter to authenticate the fund drive.

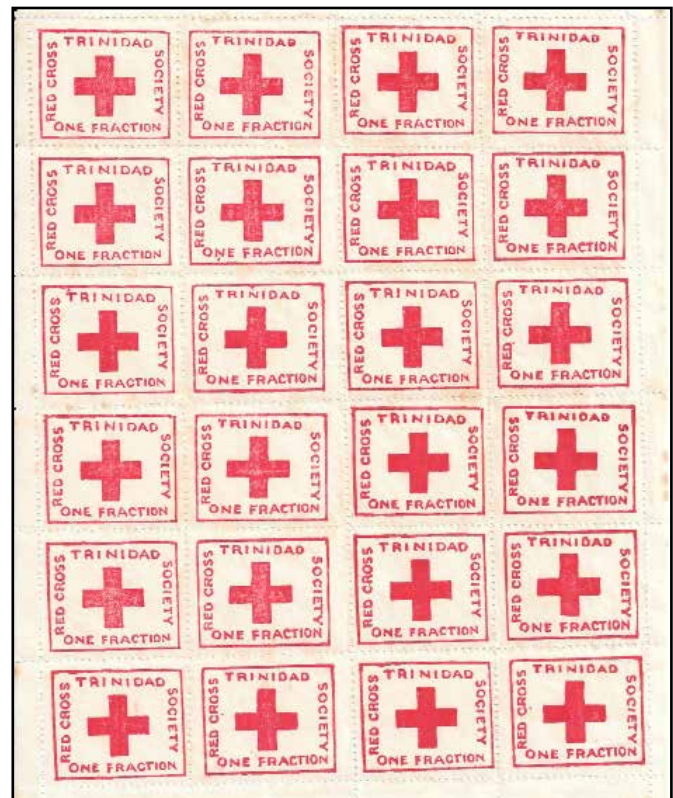


Figure 3
Full sheet of Scott's #B1.

Governor Hunte enthusiastically approved the Red Cross mailing, provided each envelope was endorsed (authenticated) by a Society official, and for one day only: September 18, 1914 (*Figure 4*).

Philatelically, was this just a label? The debate over this label's status as a postage stamp raged for 60 years. Then in 1974, Stanley Gibbons added it to their catalogue. Interestingly, the London-based *D. Field Stamp Catalogue* issued May 1923 had it already listed as a valid postage stamp all along.³ When adding #B1 to a Trinidad & Tobago stamp album, a collector will also need to seek all six major



Figure 4

Scott's #B1 on first day cover.

varieties.⁴ Don't worry, each variety is easy to spot.

The second semi-postal was also created to again aid the Trinidad Red Cross Society. This occurred one year after the issuance of #B1. The #B2 was created by overprinting the-then current 1d definitive (Stanley Gibbons #150)⁵ currently in use. This overprint is seen in **Figure 1**. It was overprinted with the Red Cross symbol outlined in black and placed below the date "21.10.15" which was also in black. These were extremely popular and the first day sales (October 21, 1915) sold out the entire 100,000 stamps available (**Figure 5**). Varieties to seek include broken frame lines around the red cross, missing stop, and overprint shifts.

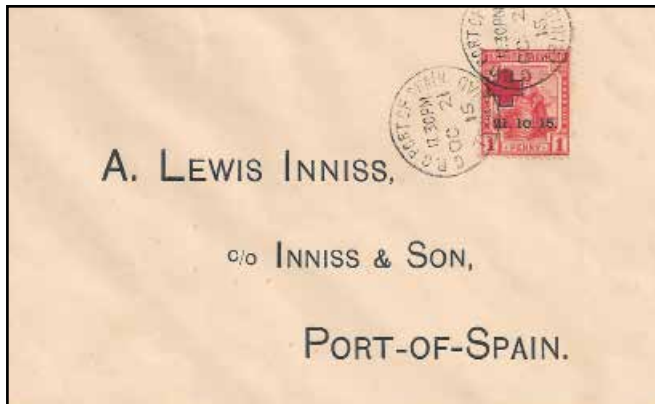


Figure 5

Scott's #B2 on first day cover.

Trinidad's third semi-postal (#B3) is a repeat of the 1915 issue with a new date and layout rearranged. This overprint has the Red Cross symbol outlined in black and placed above the date "19.10.16" also in black. As with the 1915 issue, this 1916 issue was in very high demand. The first day sales (October 19, 1916) again saw a sellout of all 120,000 stamps printed (**Figure 6**)! Varieties include those like #B2.



Figure 6

Scott's #B3 on first day cover.

This short review should have given the new collector confidence to identify the differences of the first semi-postal stamps of Trinidad & Tobago. Putting it all together (**Figure 7**) helps to visually reinforce the historical significance of each stamp.



Figure 7

Registered/Censored cover utilizing all three semi-postal stamps, February 2, 1917.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Jay Bigalke (ed.), *Scott 2021 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers*. (Sidney, Ohio: Amos Media, 2020), n.p.

² Internet: www.worldstatesmen.org (accessed July 3, 2022).

³ D. Field, *Allied Postage Stamps of the Great War and After, 1914 – 1923*. (London, England: D. Field, May 1923), n.p.

⁴ Ian Jakes, *Study Paper No. 6, The Trinidad Red Cross Label*. (Alicante, Spain: The British West Indies Study Circle), 2014, n.p.

⁵ *Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue*. (London, England: Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 2016).

All stamps and covers are from the collection of the author.

Early Cayman Islands postcards found

*By Tom Giraldi
Cayman Islands Study Group Leader*

We recently came across several previously unreported Cayman Islands Real Photo Postcards (RPPC) showing various scenes not reported before. All have AZO backs and are unused. Scans are number coded to go along with brief description of each card.



1035 Government House



1037 Regatta, 1935.



1038 Regatta, different view.



*1039
Commissioner.*



*1036 Government House
(different view).*



1040 Commissioner with Sea Scouts.



1041 Cayman Band (card trimmed).



1042 One of our streets.



1043 Entrance to North Side, opening new road, 1935.



1044 Cable & Wireless.

Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 7

By Juan L. Riera

Foreign Air Mail Route 7 (FAM-7) was awarded to Pan American Airways on January 2, 1929, but was actually being flown for the previous five years as an adjunct, or add on, to FAM-4 between Miami and Havana, by Aeromarine West Indies Airways.

This was a merger of Aeromarine Sight-seeing and Navigation Company, a subsidiary of the Aeromarine Plane and Motor Company, and Florida West Indies Airways that merged in October of 1920. Florida West Indies had been awarded the FAM-4 contract, but did not have the planes necessary to operate the contract. The new merged company began the first scheduled international passenger and mail service in the U.S. on November 1, 1920, between Miami and Havana.

The aircraft used were converted U.S. Navy Curtiss F5L flying boats modified for civilian use and re-designated Model 75 by the Aeromarine Plane and Motor Company based in Keyport, New Jersey. These flying boats were advertised as being at the height of safety because they carried their landing field with them and the pilots were skilled former Navy pilots. These planes were named the *Santa Maria* and the *Pinta*.

A couple of years later, without a formal FAM



FAM #1 Aeromarine 75 with tail markings "Miami-Bimini-Nassau."

contract in hand, Aeromarine extended its flying boat service from Miami to Nassau, beginning on December 20, 1922. The Model 75 was named the *Cordeaux* in honor of the Bahamian Governor, Sir H.E.S. Cordeaux. The mail on the first flight does not have FAM status.

Before inaugural flights in January 1929, Pan American did three pre-inaugural flights on October 9, 16, and 19, 1928. Pan American also used Fokker F-7 land based aircraft for FAM-7. The Pan American pilot for the inaugural round trip flight was Harry Rogers.

FAM-7 Facilities

Airmail on FAM-7 on the Miami end of the route would go to one of two airports. One would be to Pan American Field, also referred to as the 36th Street Airport, which opened on September 15, 1928 for land-based aircraft. It consisted of 208 acres of land bought from the Seminole Fruit Co. After World War II, Dade County bought this airport and combined it with the Army Air Corps Airfield to the south, and some land to the east and west. Miami International airport currently consists of about 2,000 acres.

The other facility would be the International Pan American Airport located at Dinner Key. It was the first continental naval air station in the U.S., opening in 1918,



FAM #3 Aeromarine 75 in Nassau.

and was vacated by the Navy in 1919 and then used by seaplane operators. The New York, Rio & Buenos Aires Airline (NYRBA) began service at the airport in 1929 and merged with Pan American in 1930, using the airport starting in December 1930, and operating it from 1932 until 1945, alongside Coast Guard Air Station Dinner Key. Pan American opened an art deco terminal building at the airport in 1934, which now serves as Miami City Hall.

In Nassau, located on New Providence, Oakes Field, named after Sir Harry Oakes, was the first and main airport in the Bahamas due to its close proximity to downtown. It closed at midnight on November 1, 1957. It is now Thomas Robinson Stadium and in the interim was a five-mile racetrack, apparently for motorcycles, cars, and perhaps motorized carts of various types.

On December 30, 1942, a Royal Air Force (RAF) station, Windsor Field, named in honor of the Duke of Windsor, opened. It reverted to civilian use on June 1, 1946 with the withdrawal of the RAF, becoming the second airport in the Nassau area. On November 1, 1957, Nassau International Airport at Windsor Field was brought into full operation. On July 6, 2006, the name was changed to Lynden Pindling International Airport to honor Sir Lynden Pindling, the father of the nation.

In 1955, financier Wallace Groves concluded a contract with colonial officials to economically develop 50,000 acres of land on Grand Bahama Island, northernmost of the Bahama Islands, located 64 miles east of Palm Beach, Florida. What was developed was the city of Freeport as a tourist and center of light industry. By the early 1960s, Freeport had probably the second most important airport in the Bahamas, Grand Bahama International Airport. Airmail was sent on what had been FAM-7 from this airport in the early to mid-1960s.

I would also like to introduce you to “second class airmail,” a term you may not be familiar with (see the illustrated cover). Second Class airmail refers to a segment of the mail that is transported by air and a segment that is not transported by air. The cover shown is from Long Is-



FAM - 5 Landing site in Havana, Cuba.



FAM #6 Pan American Fokker F-7 at Pan American Field in Miami. In 1947, the field was bought by the county along with an adjacent military field to become Miami International Airport.

land, Bahamas, being sent to Hollywood, Florida. While the cancellation is not clearly indicating which airport was used to send the airmail, it had to travel by boat either to Nassau or Freeport to be placed on an airplane for airmail.



Airmail cover with “Second Class” handstamp.

The Bahamas: The Postmarks of Long Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador

By Malcolm D. Watts

All three of these islands have one thing in common: all were visited by Christopher Columbus. That daring navigator first set foot on San Salvador on October 12, 1492.

LONG ISLAND, situated some 200 miles southeast of Nassau, is a narrow, snake-like island stretching some 60 miles from Cape Santa Maria on the northernmost tip (where Columbus landed) to South Point. At no point does the width of the island exceed four miles. It straddles the Tropic of Cancer, with most of its 130 square miles lying within the tropics. Unlike the other Bahamas islands, it has bold headlands, towering cliffs, and, in the south, gentle hillsides rolling into the salt country. This island is noted for its caves (situated at Deadman's Cay), some of which are more than 600 feet deep, with stalactites and silvery-white limestone walls.

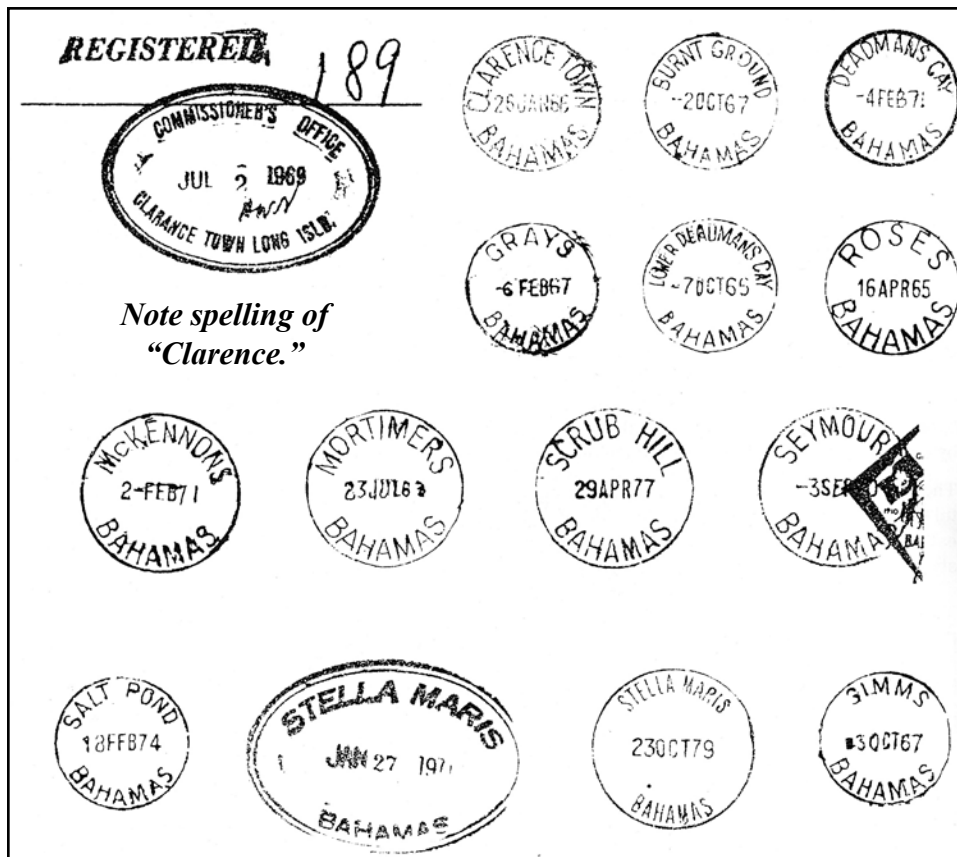
The architecture of the island goes back to the early 1800s. Each main house is usually small, and

built of stone with a thatched roof. At the rear, and completely separate, is a hut with a huge chimney where the cooking is done. In order to ward off evil spirits, each house has a sign on the roof-top in the form of a bird, crown, scroll, or boat.

Long Island first began to prosper in the late 18th century from the enormous cotton plantations established there. In more recent times, the island, sometimes known as the "land of salt," became famous for this product, the industry being established in the south of the island by the Diamond Crystal Salt Company.

Today, Long Island is famous for its farming. It ranks number one among the Bahamas for the raising of sheep, hogs, goats and horses. Corn, peas, avocados, bananas, and other fruits and vegetables are grown, which are sold to the Nassau market and throughout the other islands.

The method of farming there is most unusual and of great interest to the island's visitors. Originated



at Deadman's Cay, it involves the blasting of pot-holes out of the rocky soil, or using natural holes, in which to raise bananas and some types of vegetables. Further prosperity has been brought to Long Island by a multi-million dollar real estate development at Stella Maris.

The population is just under 4,000. Clarence Town, by far the largest settlement, has pastel-painted houses built around a wide blue lagoon and a picturesque harbor. Also of interest are the two quaint churches, one Anglican and the other Catholic, each having Moorish-style towers. The District Post Office is also located there.

For the postmark collector, trying to obtain a collection of cancellations from the island's post offices presents a challenge (*this was 1983*). Many of these offices have interesting names, and commercially used covers bearing most of the cancellations are quite scarce; this includes the modern ones.

The post offices and opening dates are:

Clarence Town D.P.O.*

Burnt Ground, 1910?

Deadman's Cay, 1910.

Grays, 1942.

Lower Deadman's Cay, by August 1948.

McKennons, October 23, 1958.

Mortimers, 1950.

Roses, January 1, 1922.

Salt Pond, February 3, 1951.

Scrub Hill, July 17, 1958.

Seymours, October 23, 1958.

Simms, by 1897 (?)

Stella Maris, ?

* Clarence Town was opened as Long Island originally, possibly as early as July 1849. It was renamed Clarence Town by May 1888.

RUM CAY was originally named Santa Maria de la Concepcion by Columbus. It derives its present name from the wreck upon its shores of a West Indiaman which was said to be laden with rum.

This small island of some 30 square miles is situated off the northeast coast of Long Island. It is flat with a few rolling hills occasionally rising to 100 feet. The island was formerly prosperous from the export of salt and the raising of cattle and pineapples, but today it is primitive and sparsely populated with no more than 80 inhabitants



(1983). Rum Cay is noted for its winter duck shooting on the old salt pans, and its fishing is incomparable.

The only real settlement is at Port Nelson, where the only post office is located. Commercially used covers bearing the cancellation are thus very scarce.

The post office and opening dates:

Rum Cay, April 21, 1860? Definitely by 1889.

SAN SALVADOR lies some 20 miles northeast of Rum Cay and is a much larger island, being 12 miles long and six miles wide. It is generally accepted that Columbus made his first landfall here on October 12, 1492. Four separate monuments, all spread about the island, mark the spot of his landing, although it is generally accepted that he landed first at Long Bay.

Until 1925, the island was known as Watlings Island. It is so isolated from the rest of the Bahamas that it is completely surrounded by very deep water. By Bahamian standards, the island is quite high; Mount Kerr rises to 140 feet. Lakes cover most of the interior of the island; the largest, Great Lake, is 10 miles long and two miles wide at its broadest part.

The population is less than 900 and the main settlement is Cockburn Town, the location of the District Post Office. The only other post office is at United Estates. This is a very scarce cancellation to obtain, and the writer has yet to see a commercially used cover from this office.

The post offices and opening dates are:

San Salvador (D.P.O.), opened as Watlings Island, December 20, 1864. Renamed San Salvador, 1927.

United Estates, July 1, 1956.

Watlings Island, see San Salvador.



This article is reprinted from the July 1983 issue of the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal because we do not have original articles to publish.

Illustrations not included in earlier article

In the article on *St. Vincent Handbook 1899-1965* updates included in the July issue of the *British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, several images were not included in the text received by the editor. The illustrations, with the appropriate section listings, are shown here.



Section 9.2.25: 1961 DLR Archive Specimens



Section 10.6.2



Section 10.6.3



Section 10.6.4

Antigua and Barbuda postmarks, 2022

Steve Zirinsky has provided the following list of postmarks in use in Antigua and Barbuda in early 2022.

General Post Office



Branch Offices

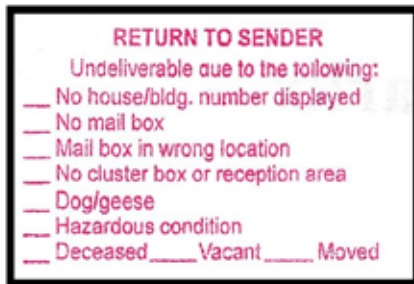


Barbuda



Recent Bermuda Post Office cancels

Steve Zirinsky reports the following new cancels in use at the Beermuda Post Office.



01



Used at
Philatelic Bureau

05



Used for
All Mails

Errata

In Nick Halewood's article in the July 2022 issue, on page 16, information about the lower three illustrations was inadvertently omitted. They are examples with the brown color printed twice; the second print being displaced slightly downwards and very slightly to the left. Also, the illustrations at the top of the page are reversed, left to right.

STEVEN ZIRINSKY
MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA
Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

Local Mail

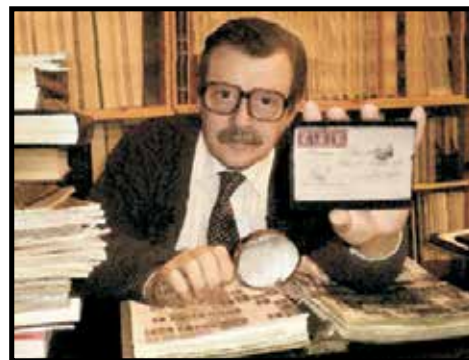
Recent commercial mail, with local usages, including meters, governmental stampless, inter-island, and instructional markings from many of the Caribbean countries.



PO BOX 230049, Ansonia Station
New York, NY 10023 USA
szirinsky@cs.com (t):718-706-0616

www.zirinskystamps.com
@ZirinskyStamps

EXPERTIZATION WORLD CLASSICS



You can expect:

*Detailed and Accurate
High Quality Certificates*

*Fast Service * Reliable * Affordable*

Liane & Sergio Sismondo

P.O. BOX 10035
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13290-3301
U.S.A.
TEL. (315) 422-2331 * FAX (315) 422-2956
SISMONDO@DREAMSCAPE.COM

Membership Director's Report

New Members

None this quarter

Reinstated

None this quarter

Address Changes

Jerald E. Haas, 7220 Muirfield Rd., Dublin, OH
43017 USA

Resigned

None this quarter

New Email Address

None this quarter

Deceased

William "Bill" Tatham of California, BCPSG
Member #54, died in late 2021.
Beyond Bermuda, Bill had an amazing collection
of California postal history.

Donations

Arthur W. Snoke, Patricia Hoppe,
Peter Colwell

If any member has information, such as a change of address, to be included in the Membership Director's Report, please contact John Seidl, either by mail (see inside front cover of the *Journal*) or by email at john.seidl@gmail.com. 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.

A special Thank You to all members who have included donations to the BCPSG in their 2023 dues payments – your contributions make a huge difference in the ongoing viability of our society.

BRITISH EMPIRE EXCLUSIVELY



REQUEST A CATALOGUE FOR OUR NEXT PUBLIC AUCTION.
PLEASE SPECIFY YOUR INTERESTS.

WANT LISTS INVITED FOR PRE-1935 MATERIAL.
REFERENCES PLEASE.

WE ARE BUYERS OF BETTER BRITISH COMMONWEALTH STAMPS,
POSTAL HISTORY AND SPECIALIST ITEMS.

Victoria Stamp Company



PHOEBE A MACGILLIVARY
P.O. BOX 335, SHARON SPRINGS, NY 13459, U.S.A.
PHONE 201-652-7283 FAX 518-776-1764
Email: VictoriaStampCo@aol.com Website: VictoriaStampCo.com



The Stuart Rossiter Trust announces

Crises in the Cayman Islands Post Office by Graham Booth, FRPSL

From his research in the local archives of the Cayman Islands and Jamaica, the author takes a look at how local, regional and colonial politics conspire to make the setting-up and running of a post office on a small group of islands a frustrating and time-consuming endeavor. The author paints a picture which may have resonance with the challenges faced by other smaller colonies of the time. Add in the demands of stamp dealers and collectors, we get a picture of how challenging the bureaucratic British colonial system could be in the early 20th Century.

260 pages, A4, hardback

Price £30 plus p+p

Order from www.rossitertrust.com

CRISES IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS POST OFFICE

(UNDER THE BRITISH COLONIAL SYSTEM 1889 - 1939)

GRAHAM BOOTH FRPSL



The British Commonwealth of Nations



We are active buyers and sellers of stamps and postal history of all areas of pre-1960 British Commonwealth, including individual items, collections or estates.

Want lists from all reigns are accepted with references

We are active buyers ...



L.W. Martin Jr.

CROWN COLONY STAMPS

P.O. Box 1198 • Bellaire, Texas 77402

Phone: 713-781-6563 • Fax: 713-789-9998

E-mail: lwm@crowncolony.com



President's Message

By John Seidl

As summer wraps up a very hot run here in Georgia the stamp show season seems to be ramping up. We've had a couple of local shows and the Great American Stamp Show from the APS just concluded in Sacramento. I find stamp shows of any size an enjoyable way to not only grow my collection but to interact with like-minded philatelists. Philately is one of those things that can be enjoyed in both a group social setting and alone in my stamp room.

By the time you see this column you should have received your ballot on the merger of the BCPSG with the BWISC to form the West Indies Philatelic Study Group. Each of the two legacy societies are conducting a full membership vote to determine if the majority believe consolidation is the best way to energize our efforts and support collectors interested in West Indies philately. The new society would have a slightly expanded scope and a larger group of members from which to draw expertise in support of the journal. By having a single society that spans the Atlantic we should also have a broader group of volunteers to support the evolution of our new group.

A new larger single society could stem the tide of slow decline both legacy groups have been experiencing as we grapple with an aging membership. Energy and effort could lead to more knowledge contributions which in turn could lead to new members. This is certainly the hope at least; but all this comes with a tinge of sadness around the end of two societies each with a long history of contribution to our hobby. But a new and truly global society with participants from all over the world should lead to the best possible outcome for the BCPSG. Many BCPSG members also belong to the BWISC and a new single society will equate to one less dues payment.

Please make sure you have submitted your ballot on the merger and, of course, BOTH the BCPSG and BWISC members must vote in support of the merger in order for it to occur. Final timing of a merger, if so voted, will be determined based on when the voting process is concluded for each group.



We desperately need articles!

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

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!

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,

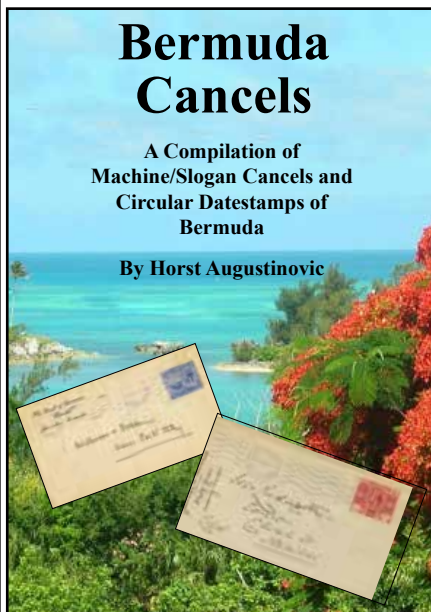
High Springs, FL 32655

Email: vkisling@ufl.edu.

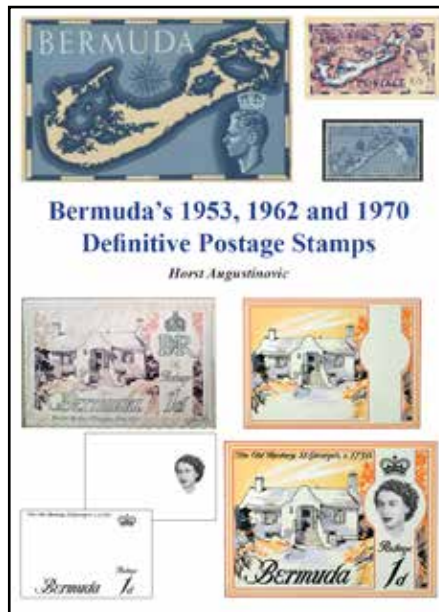
Website: www.pisg.net

Collect Bermuda?

Three new philatelic books now available!



Bermuda Cancels
A Compilation of
Machine/Slogan Cancels and
Circular Datestamps of
Bermuda
By Horst Augustinovic



**Bermuda's 1953, 1962 and 1970
Definitive Postage Stamps**
Horst Augustinovic



**The Bermuda Post Office
and the Handling of Mail**
Horst Augustinovic

Bermuda Cancels
\$20 U.S.; \$25 Canada,
\$30 elsewhere
POSTPAID

*Bermuda's 1953, 1962 and 1970
Definitive Postage Stamps*
\$25 U.S.; \$30 Canada,
\$35 elsewhere POSTPAID

*The Bermuda Post Office
and the Handling of Mail*
\$35 U.S.; \$40 Canada,
\$45 elsewhere POSTPAID

Prolific author Horst Augustinovic has completed three new books on Bermuda philately, and they are a must for collectors!

Bermuda Cancels is the first comprehensive study of often elusive postmarks and contains exhaustive information on design, earliest and latest known usages, subtypes and more. Each cancel is shown in detail in the 83 page book.

Bermuda's 1953, 1962 and 1970 Definitive Postage Stamps is an in-depth look at three of Bermuda's most interesting definitive series. Each of the sets has long provided collectors with questions now answered for the first time in this 76 page book.

The Bermuda Post Office and the Handling of Mail is an exhaustive look at postal history and development of the mails from 1784. Each post office is described with encyclopedic information on rates, markings and more in the 96 page book.

All three books are soft-covered and comb-bound.

ALL BOOKS SHIPPED POSTPAID! Send check or money order today to:

Moosehead Communications, Inc.
207 Corinth Road, Hudson, ME 04449-3057

SPINK

Where History is Valued

THE GRAHAM BOOTH COLLECTION OF WEST INDIES

TBC 2022 | LONDON

*Including inter-island and
Transatlantic mail. Shipping
Companies and British Isles
Ship Letter markings*



For more information please contact

Nick Startup | +44 (0)207 563 4073 | nstartup@spink.com

Josh Barber | +44 (0)207 563 4080 | jbarber@spink.com

SPINK LONDON | 69 Southampton Row | WC1B 4ET | United Kingdom

WWW.SPINK.COM

Follow us on social media: #SPINK_AUCTIONS



British Empire
A-Z 1840-1935 Mint & Used
The Largest & Most Valuable
WANTLIST STOCK in America.



Visit www.ColonialStamps.com today!



George W. Holschauer and Son
COLONIAL STAMP CO.

5757 Wilshire Blvd., PH#8
 Los Angeles, CA 90036
 Ph: (323) 933-9435
 Fax: (323) 939-9930
 Email: info@colonialstamps.com
 Website: www.colonialstamps.com



CCNY, CSDA, IFSDA,
 INTERNATIONAL
 SOCIETY APPRAISERS