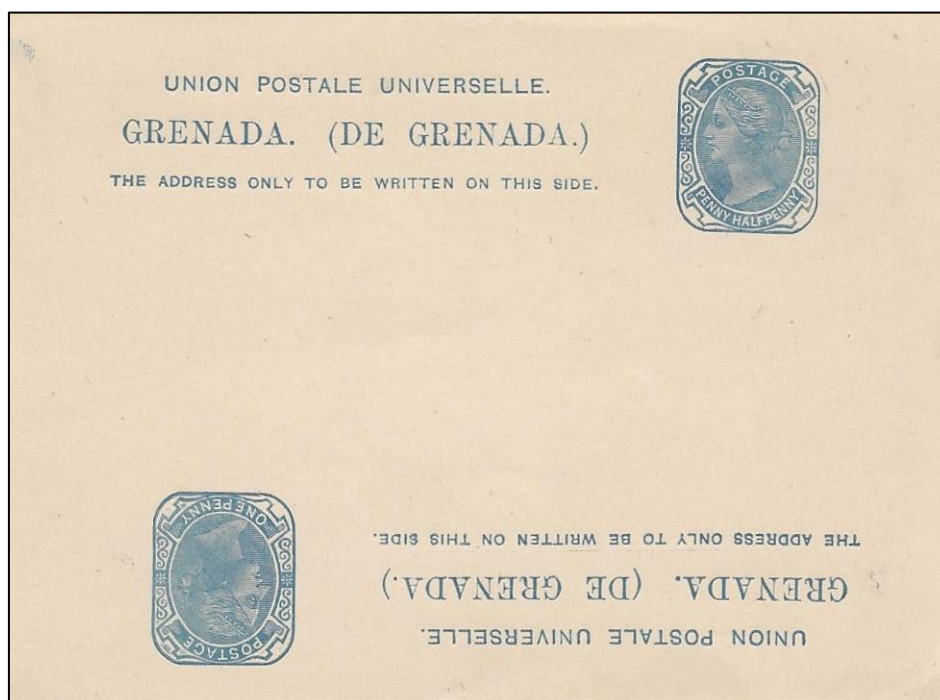


## STUDY CIRCLE

### Grenada, Perkins Bacon First Surface Printed Postal Stationery



**See Simon Richards' article.**



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**BULLETIN No. 256 March 2018**

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## **BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- 1 TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history of the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that they were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.
- 2 TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features of BWI interest. The BWISC BULLETIN was presented with the ABPS Specialist Society journal Award in 2004.
- 3 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks, monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aims of the Circle. The BWISC has published over 20 books or Study Papers over the last 12 years, some of which have received prestigious awards.
- 4 TO hold an annual auction for the sale of members' material.  
Normally, prior to the auction, the BWISC holds its Annual General Meeting.
- 5 TO organise occasional display meetings including a biennial weekend Convention and bourse.  
This offers further opportunities for members to buy and sell material.
- 6 TO maintain an internet website where information about Circle activities is publicised and where much other relevant information is posted.
- 7 TO maintain a specialised library from which home members can borrow books.

**Opinions expressed in articles in this Bulletin are those of the authors  
and not necessarily those of the BWISC, its Editor or its Officers.**

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## SOCIETY PROGRAMME OF EVENTS & INFORMATION

### MEETINGS & EVENTS

**Saturday 28 April 2018** AGM & Auction at Spink, 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London, WC1B 4ET. Auction viewing from 12 noon, AGM at 1:15pm, followed by auction at 2:15pm finishing at 5:30pm.

**Thursday 3 May 2018** 1pm James Podger will be presenting Cayman Islands (Jamaica used-in to QE2) at the Royal Philatelic Society London, guests can attend, so please book your places via James at pee-j-aggie-boo@ntlworld.com.

**Saturday 12 May 2018** Circle Table at WORPEX, Perdiswell Leisure Centre, Worcester, WR3 8DX

**Saturday 9 June 2018** Circle Table at SWINPEX, St Joseph's RC College, Swindon, SN3 3LR

**Wednesday 12 to Saturday 15 September 2018** – Autumn Stampex, BDC Islington, London, N10 0QH  
Saturday 15 September, Informal Study Circle meeting & displays (Time and location to be confirmed).

**Congratulations** to the following for their achievements with BWI entries at Royalpex in Hamilton NZ, November 2017:-

Russell Boylan won Large Gold and Special Prize for his 8 frames of 'St Vincent – the De La Rue period'.

Patricia Capill won Gold, Felicitations and Special Prize for 5 frames of 'Barbados – The George V Line Engraved Definitive Issue'.

Simon Richards won Large Gold and Special Prize for 5 frames of 'Mail by British Packets from the West Indies 1663–1863'.

### STUDY CIRCLE AUCTION 2018 USE OF PAYPAL

Paypal is not to be used without the prior permission of Simon Goldblatt.

## BWISC Website Update

By Steve Jarvis

Hopefully, many of you will have noticed that our website has been given a makeover. This was necessary due to my web design software having been discontinued. I therefore needed to rebuild everything from scratch and took the opportunity to re-implement using industry standard Wordpress, offering up-to-date features (and is less likely to be discontinued during my lifetime).

Although the structure has similarities to the old site, the 'look and feel' are different. I have taken the opportunity to make it easier to find information with text filter capabilities on several pages. The site is also 'responsive' – it can recognise that you are viewing on a mobile phone etc. and can automatically adapt the presentation.

Perhaps the biggest change relates to security. Everyone now has their own individual log-in and password, which automatically allows access to member-only pages, such as the recent Bulletins. It has also enabled me to hold member details in the secure Wordpress database. This information can now be viewed and updated by the member themselves, without my intervention. I have also installed an SSL certificate which provides a secure connection to the web server. You should now see in the address bar a green padlock and 'https' to confirm this.

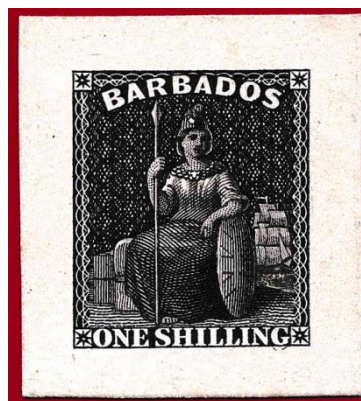


A topic related to this is Data Protection. New regulations come into force in May to which the Society must adhere. A separate insert to the Bulletin explains the details.

### JOHN & MARK TAYLOR

#### BARBADOS 1858 1s. Original Perkins Bacon Die Proof

An elusive proof of which, probably 6 were struck.



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## AROUND THE CARIBBEAN 3

BY MICHAEL HAMILTON



Back in the early 1950s, whilst living in Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire, I just loved my daily bowl of Quaker Puffed Wheat cereal with longer lasting, as no fridges, sterilised milk which came in a tall slim necked bottle (unlike the one in the picture); but the big excitement of the week was waiting for the 'Dandy' and 'Beano' comics. I could tell you, but I can't, but I will if I ever own it, about the most thrilling classic cover in my current research. It is from St. Vincent and is linked to elephant soup, but that is all you will get for now! In the interim be fascinated by a prestamp posted by penny coin. I am sure each of you have an unusual or wonderful item which you could write about in 3 or 4 lines which will both delight our Editor and readership, and which will make the BWISC Bulletin a journal you almost cannot wait to receive and read!



**ANTIGUA:** It's almost beyond imagination to find a coin attached to a letter instead of an adhesive, or instead of a prestamp red crayon rate mark in this instance! The 1795 Soldiers and Sailors Act allowed letters paid or unpaid at 1d rate (headed and countersigned) from England, Scotland, Wales (Ireland later) to any of Her Majesty's Dominions by naval vessel, packet or private ship. The 1806 amendment made it compulsory to prepay the 1d rate, and an 1811 amendment stipulated that letters must be carried by the Packet, and that the 1d concession rate would no longer apply to and from places without a regular packet service. Only about three dozen Soldiers Letters are recorded from the British West Indies prior 1850 without adhesives at the 1d rate. This complete entire written May 26 1845 from John King, Master at Arms, H.M.S. Pique, Antigua (a naval soldier responsible for discipline and law enforcement aboard a ship) seems to be the only recorded accepted stampless Sailors Letter from the BWI prior 1850, and instead of the customary manuscript '1d paid' in red ink (applied on land) it travelled with his last GB QV 1d coin sewn alongside the address panel to his wife in Bath with London PAID transit (not deemed overweight or subject to additional charge). A scan of the entire has been mounted on card and an actual 1845 1d coin has been sewn on with hemp, using the original 7 in and 7 out needle holes, to simulate how it could have looked, although it was on reverse in actual transit. Only one other BWI prepayment by sewn 1d coin entire is known written 24 January 1847 and posted on land with ANTIGUA double arc 'JA 27 1847' on a Soldiers Letter (ex Gerald Sattin) to a shoe maker in Edinburgh. The coin evidently was also sewn to the reverse as the circumference of the sewing holes obscure the frontal addressing. (My special thanks to Mary, Finishing Touch, Folkestone for her meticulous hemp needlework)



**ANTIGUA:** I failed to notice at the time that the two illustrated BETHESDA covers, illustrated in the last Bulletin, were addressed to A.W. Morley and F.G. Marshall both at the same address of 46 Carnforth Avenue, Castleton, Rochdale with the latter supposedly forwarded to 179 Dickenson Rd, Manchester 13. It might be interesting to look at the chronological order of covers addressed to these two people (or single person) to see if they have tripped up with their dating or address sequencing.



**BARBADOS:** Perhaps you can suggest a reason for someone singling out St. Christopher for bogusly addressed covers with fabricated postmarks! Two are known from Barbados; the first dated 'JA 4 87' with diagonally perforated QV 1d bisect showing 'HALFPENNY' reading up on left edge and 'R' of 'Revenue' at base to The Highway (1988 B.P.A. certificate stating 'a complete fake'), the second dated 'JA 11 87' with QV 1d strip of three, one being diagonally bisected to South Plantation ex Ralph Hart, Frank Deakin, 'Britannia' (1965 B.P.A. certificate stating genuine). The bootheel duplex on each is a fake.



**BARBADOS:** You could probably buy this ingoing cover (scan courtesy BWISC member Stefan Heijtz) locally forwarded with 1d deep blue (SG.66) dated 'MY 15 1874' to Messel's 'Maddox' for a few hundred pounds but the house will set you back umpteen millions. Oliver Messel (1904–1978) was a leading British theatre, film and set designer additionally famous for his mask and costume design. He was commissioned to design the décor of the penthouses at the London Dorchester hotel and one became the favourite stay of Elizabeth Taylor when in town. Other achievements included designing the sets for the Royal Ballet's production of Tchaikovsky's 'The Sleeping Beauty'. His family were wealthy and connected; his nephew Anthony Armstrong Jones married Princess Margaret. When aged 55, and suffering from arthritis, he moved to Barbados where he bought Maddox, a run-down beach house on the coast of St. James which he extravagantly renovated; and commenced a new career as an architect and interior designer. He was commissioned by the Hon. Colin Tennant to design some 18 houses on Mustique, Grenadine island of St. Vincent which included Princess Margaret's home, Les Jolie Eaux.



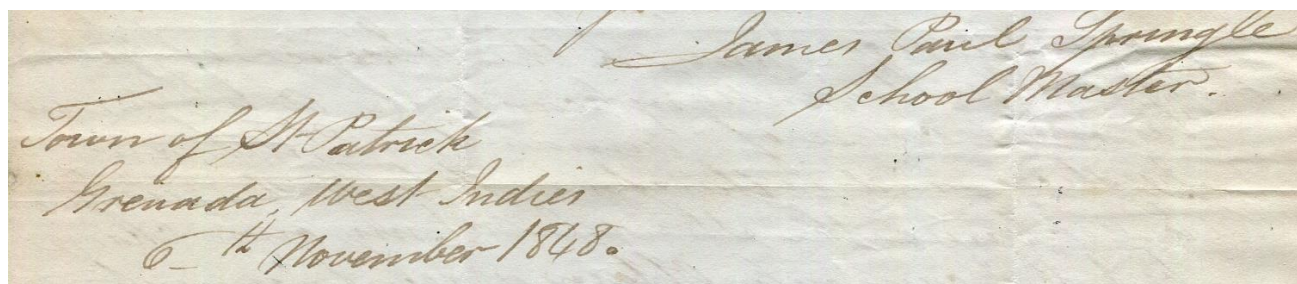
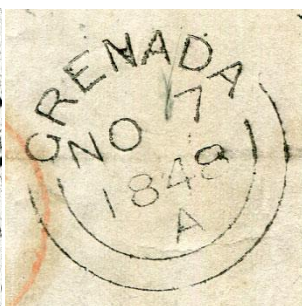
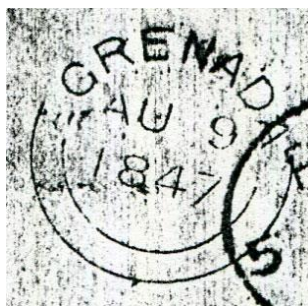
**BERMUDA:** The Ludington handbook was unable to supply a precise date of use of re-introduced HAMILTON without dates (PM4 in black) giving band of use as (1897)? to (1898)? This QV 4d orange-red Crown CC wmk shows probably unique combination PM4 plus 'ST. GEORGES B/(DE)C 11 1897' arrival.



**GREAT BRITAIN USED ABROAD:** The current count for the BWI of entires/large part entires bearing GB used abroad adhesives stands at approx. 170 pmk'd 'A01' at Kingston, Jamaica plus approximately 811 further entires/large part entires used at the Jamaica Post Towns pmk'd 'A27' to 'A78'. Of these approximately 981 entires only about 10 are registered or marked money letter. For the whole of the rest of the BWI only three entires bearing GB used abroad adhesives are registered from a count of approximately 283 entires.



**GRENADA:** The British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group (BCPSG) published Dan Walker's exhibit entitled 'Grenada's Postal History 1764–1913' with his introduction penned August 1982. His 'DE 8 1848/A' sans-serif 'CARRIACOU' double-arc entire is illustrated, and he writes 'Four examples of this handstamp are known, the earliest dated 10 June 1847 and the latest shown on this page, all examples have the code letter 'A' below the year'. As the mail was bagged on the island these entires do not have the mainland 'GRENADA' dbl-arc applied at St. Georges.



**GRENADA:** In the same BCPSG publication Dan Walker illustrates his sans-serif GRENADA dbl-arc dated 'AU 9 1847' and writes that only two examples are recorded 'the first is dated 10 June 1847 with the letter 'A' below the year, while the second is shown above. I have not yet located auction references to the former and this may be a mistaken reference to the 'CARRIACOU JU 10 1847/A' illustrated above. Dan further wrote that 'in all likelihood this postmark was lost or destroyed after only a few months use and the post office reverted to the everyday use of the large 'GRENADA' dbl-arc with serified letters'. Confirmed examples for this sans-serif 'GRENADA', sent from the GPO London May 1 1847, are AU 9 1847 no code, NO 7 1848/A, MR 10 1849/A showing it had a much longer life than just a few months. No one has questioned its location of use, and the assumption has always been that it was applied at GPO St. Georges which may still prove correct. However access to the 'NO 7 1848/A' entire shows it was written to John Scoble, Anti-Slavery Office, London by James Paul Springle, School Master, Town of St. Patrick, Grenada 6 November 1848. There is no suggestion yet that it had out of town use, but my first thoughts were that the instrument may have been applied to out of town mail leaving the island, but that is somewhat dashed by, within the timeframe, 'DE 23 1848' entire to Edinburgh headed 'Duquesne' (St. Patrick Parish) most certainly tied by the serified 'GRENADA' dbl-arc.



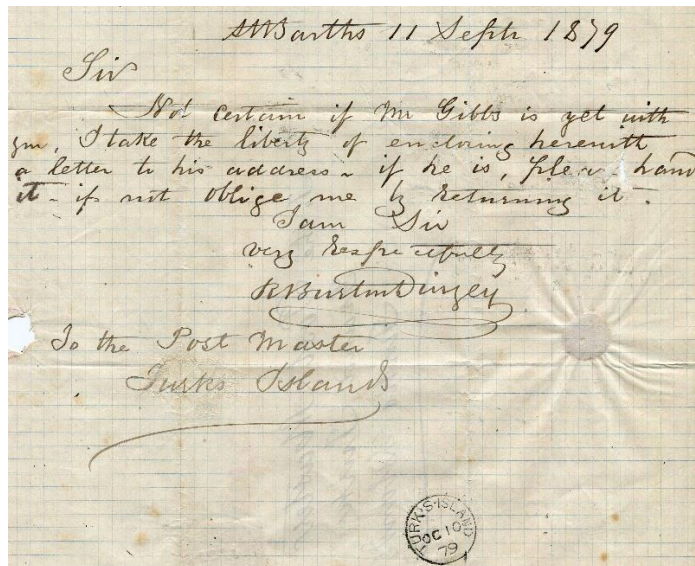
**GRENADA:** At the BWISC Redditch Convention Peter Fernbank was asked to confirm that a full sheet of 240 stamps printed in four units of 60 stamps with interpanneau gutters would show every plate plug printed in the upright position. This 1883 QV ½d tête-bêche block of four has the lower two stamps with inverted Crown CA watermark and top pair with normal upright watermark. Should you find a lower marginal Plate 1 single with upright watermark that would confirm you have an inverted watermark! Whilst on this issue Alfred Charlton, in his 1955 handbook, illustrated a prominent plate flaw in the form of a white diagonal line below the ninth diamond in the right border which may be found on all values. Positioned as No.31 of the bottom left-hand pane the normal stamp should have inverted Crown CA watermark by my calculations.



**JAMAICA:** There is only one complete entire with GB used in Jamaica pmk'd 'A36' (H) which packs a surprise punch in that the 'DRY-HARBOUR DE 2 1859' dbl-arc has previously unlisted '2' code at base. The wrapper, with letter within, bears GB QV 4d rose for the 58 mile journey to Spanish Town. The only other known 'entire' is the top portion of a wrapper to Messrs. Barclays & McDowell, (Kingston) dated SP 2 1859, also code 2, which has GB QV 6d lilac for the 71 mile distance (over 60 miles rate). The 'A36' (H) had a short life being either lost or mislaid as the earliest Pine watermark Jamaica stamps are cancelled by manuscript '36'. The best explanation probably comes from Bill Atmore in his January 2000 'Land of Wood and Water' publication where he wrote 'It is known that stocks of imperial stamps had begun to run out at several offices as early as 1859, even before their official withdrawal from use on 1st August 1860. In these circumstances, the obliterations at most, if not all, offices became temporarily redundant, possibly leading to their loss or damage'.

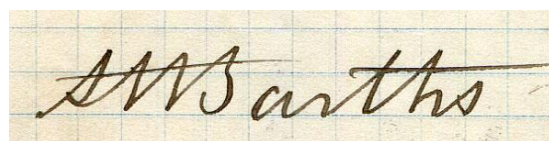
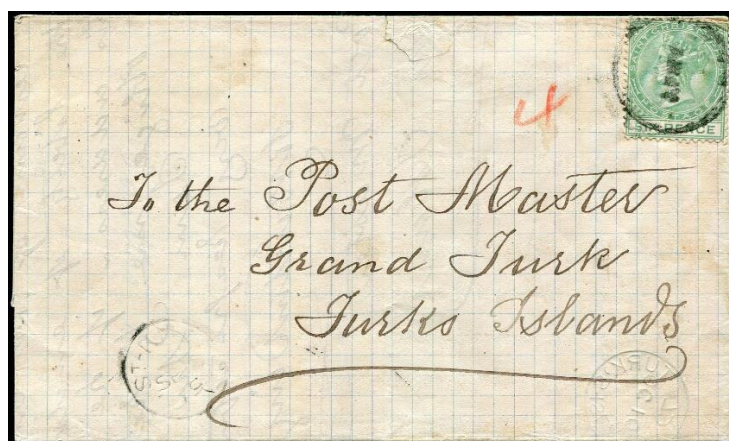


**SAINT BARTHELEMY:** This small volcanic island known as St-Barth in French and St. Barths or St. Barts in English lies about 22 miles southeast of St. Martin and north of St. Kitts. The population of about 2,300 from an 1875 census remained static to about 1974 but subsequent steady growth has come from development and holidays, especially from the rich and famous; and the height of the tourism is New Years Eve with celebrities and the wealthy converging on the island in yachts up to 550 feet (170 metres) in length. Last year a beach front property was sold for \$65 million despite Hurricane Irma damage.



Back in time on 'NO 26 1781' St. Eustatius was captured by the French under Marquis De Bouille, St. Martin was seized the following day, and Saba and St. Bartholomew soon after. The latter island remained French until 1784 when it was suddenly sold by one of Louis XVI's ministers to Sweden in exchange for trading rights in the Swedish port of Gothenburg. In 1877 France bought back the island from Sweden for 400,000 francs and as of 'MR 16 1878' the French officially reoccupied St. Barthelemy. With no official Post Office on the island the mail during the Swedish and early French reoccupation period was handled by an agent and sent via St. Kitts. Once into the French period St-Barth became part of the Guadeloupe mail system using French Colonies stamps with St. Barths postmark; and later using

Guadeloupe stamps. This triple Caribbean island adhesive period entire is headed 'St. Barths 11 Sept 1879' and written by a member of the Dingey family (possibly the agent) to the Postmaster at Turks Islands enclosing a letter for a Mr. Gibbs (presumed George Gibbs, the Salt Merchant, and Commission and Forwarding Agent at Grand Turk). It was conveyed to St. Kitts, during the 2nd year of reoccupation, where a QV 6d green was affixed and tied with weak 'ST. KITTS' despatch cds (thought 'SP 12 79'). On arrival the internal letter was most unusually handstruck by pristine 'TURK'S-ISLAND OC 10 79' datestamp probably as a record of receipt to show date acted upon for any future reference. St. Christopher joined the UPU on 'JY 1 1879' but Turks Island did not join until 'JA 1 1881' making this both the only known St. Christopher entire showing the UPU to non-UPU 6d inter-island rate, and the only recorded French period cover conveyed through British Colonial Post Offices. (Note: this is similar to the expectation of how a Cayman Island cover for the period would travel, if one existed, and equally as rare).



**ST. VINCENT:** Finding a single QV 1d red (SG.48b) on cover paying the inland local rate will prove frustratingly difficult. Finding it paying the 1895 special 1d Windward Island rate will be nigh impossible; but you do get one further chance with a tight window when it pays the Empire Penny Post rate introduced DE 25 1898 as its replacement, the QV 1d Keyplate (SG.68), was supposedly placed on sale eight days later. I have kept no record for earliest use SG.68 at Kingstown but at Barrouallie last use of SG.48b is 'AP 4 99' and earliest use SG. 68 is 'AP 17 99'.

**TOBAGO:** I often surmise that Cayman Islanders didn't just learn to write the moment that Jamaica sent adhesives to the Georgetown Post Office in 1889 (only the odd Cayman pre-stamp found earlier). Surely the inhabitants of Tobago didn't stop writing in the interim period between 'FE 28 1872' when the twice monthly visits by Royal Mail Steamers terminated and 'JA 1 1875' when, under a new contract, Tobago was to have a single monthly visit by Royal Mail Steamer. Any mail written during that 34 month period would surely have travelled via Port of Spain, but of the 92 outgoing letters recorded from Trinidad during that period none seemingly have associations with Tobago. Any thoughts?



**TRINIDAD:** Re-allocation of the 'T.6' duplex (used Arouca 'SP 18 82' to 'MR 3 86') for temporary use at Cap De Ville is now recorded on QV 1d Post Card to Castletown, Strabane, Ireland dated 'B/DE 16 91'. The two towns have a north-south divide and are 104km apart or about two hours drive. The Cap De Ville Post Office opened OC 9 1891 and the Proud handbook earliest use for the extended 'CAP-DE-VILLE' cds is 'DE 12 92' allowing a potential 14 month period for the re-allocation of a temporary numeral until the extended cds was to hand.



**TRINIDAD:** There must be 100s, perhaps 1,000s, of SG listed but unpriced British Commonwealth watermark varieties and errors which continue to remain unpriced year after year. Illustrated is the 'red shading of cross omitted', with normal for comparison, on the 1916 1d red Cross issue, SG.175c. A proving scan for a used example on or off cover would be welcomed by our Editor.

**VIRGIN ISLANDS:** The insurrection of 1853 was one of the most defining events in the islands' history. In June a head tax on cattle was introduced, the burden of which would fall on the rural coloured community. On 1 August labourers came to Road Town to protest. Violence erupted, constables and magistrates were badly beaten, and the greater part of Road Town was burnt down. Large numbers of plantation houses and sugar mills were destroyed, and cane fields set alight. Almost all the white population fled to St. Thomas and by 3 August the only four white people said to be remaining were the President John Chad, the Collector of Customs, a Methodist missionary, and the island's doctor. The riots were eventually suppressed with assistance from St. Thomas and British troops from Antigua, but the period thereafter was of decline and disorder as the white population essentially refused to return. In 1854 a cholera epidemic exploded across the Caribbean and at Tortola there were not enough survivors to bury the dead. All this is reflected in surviving postal history as I record 'TORTOLA' dbl-arc dated MY 15 1853 to Annan, Scotland but nothing further until 'PAID AT TORTOLA' to London 'DE 26 1863'. The period impacts on the supplied GB QV 1d, 4d, 6d and no doubt accounts for their rarity.



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## BRITISH WEST INDIES OFFERS FROM STOCK

<b>ANTIGUA.</b> 1922 £1 purple and black/red. Very fine used with BOLANS c.d.s. SG 61. <b>£200</b>	<b>GRENADA.</b> 1892 1d on 6d 'SURCHARGE POSTAGE' in tete-beche pair. Unmounted mint. SG D4a. <b>£2500</b>
<b>BAHAMAS.</b> 1862 6d lavender-grey. Very fine unused. An extremely rare stamp. RPS Cert. SG 11. <b>£5500</b>	<b>JAMAICA.</b> 1873 1/- marginal block of nine with part inscription. Very fine mint. Ex Baillie. <b>£275</b>
<b>BARBADOS.</b> 1861/70 (1½d) green in lower-left corner block of twelve. Very fine mint. BPA Cert. SG 21. <b>£300</b>	<b>JAMAICA.</b> 1951 5/- (Line Perf) lower marginal with part De La Rue imprint. Very fine mint. SG 132a. <b>£4000</b>
<b>BRITISH GUIANA.</b> 1951 \$1 (Perf 14 x 13) in corner block of four with Sheet No '090'. Unmounted mint. SG 317a. <b>£1750</b>	<b>LEEWARDS.</b> 1944 £1 Keyplate with 'missing pearl'. Very fine used with Montserrat c.d.s. Rare. SG 114ba. <b>£900</b>
<b>CAYMANS.</b> 1907 ½d on 5/-. A top marginal example with Plate No '1'. Unmounted mint. SG 18. <b>£400</b>	<b>ST. LUCIA.</b> 1935 2½d Jubilee block of four including the 'dot to left of chapel'. Unmounted mint. SG 111g. <b>£125</b>
<b>CAYMANS.</b> 1901 1d Stationery Die Proof in black on glazed paper (37mm x 63mm). Ex Cooley and Maisel. <b>£375</b>	<b>ST. VINCENT.</b> 1883 4d ultramarine-blue with watermark reversed. Very fine mint. SG 43x. <b>£300</b>
<b>GRENADA.</b> 1906 2/- 'SPECIMEN' (Type D9). Very fine mint. Very rare DLR trial for the chalky papers. SG 74a sp. <b>£375</b>	<b>TRINIDAD.</b> 1900 1d (Type II : Oval 'O') in corner Plate '1' block of four. Very fine mint. Rare piece. SG 116. <b>£1100</b>

*The above is a selection from my extensive British Commonwealth stock. All items available on approval (subject unsold). Major credit cards accepted. Illustrated lists on request (please advise collecting interests). Wants lists invited.*

**MARK HARVEY**

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## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

### NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE

BY ROD VOUSDEN

Members may be interested to learn that a donation of philatelic material took place in St John's, Antigua on 13 October 2017 when my wife and I presented a collection of early postcards of these islands to Mrs. Rosa Greenaway, the Permanent Secretary to the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, and Mr. Joseph Prosper, Director of the National Archives of Antigua and Barbuda. Also presented was a copy of 'Antigua, The Stamps and Postal History' by Charles Freeland FRPSL & John M. Jordan, plus various related philatelic and scientific journals. The presentation was our way of paying tribute to Charles Freeland, who died earlier this year, and an opportunity to return some of his research to the island to be shared with the community.

While carrying out research we became interested in the work of José Anjo, a local photographer, and this led to the discovery of Charles Freeland's collection of postcards of Antigua being auctioned by the Victoria Stamp Company. Before they could be displayed it was necessary to identify, write up and mount these items.



Sent by Teacher, Vera Estex, to her brother Howard from St John's, Antigua, posted 30 June 1904

We felt that, with Charles' and John's book, this collection would be of great value to the Community of Antigua and Barbuda as a reference point for their postal and social history. The material would also provide a stimulus for a proposed project in local schools to research old family records and a letter writing campaign. We also believed that it was a novel way of bringing the social history and geography of the islands to the current school population.

Mr. Prosper announced that the collection was to be publicly exhibited in the Central Library in St. John's during November. After that time it would be located in the National Archives Building, and would be available to researchers for reference purposes.

Any member who is interested in perusing this material, for their own research, should, in the first instance, contact Mr. Joseph Prosper, Director of National Archives of Antigua and Barbuda, by email at [antiguabarbudanationalarchives@gmail.com](mailto:antiguabarbudanationalarchives@gmail.com).

**Barbuda under the censor****By Simon Goldblatt and John Jordan**

A WW2 Barbuda cover, received for inclusion in the Circle's 2018 auction updates the recently published Antigua handbook in two respects significant to the specialist collector.

The cover (Fig. 1.) is postmarked 6 September 1943, registered to Griswold in Bridgeport, Connecticut by air, and franked with Barbuda's own issued 1s unsurprisingly, usage is philatelic, as is the address of the recipient, for the post office in Barbuda had run out of its own issued stamps in 1925, so that the actual stamp would have come from a collector or dealer of the period. It remained valid for use, of course and is the latest usage of a 1922 Barbuda stamp now on record (see handbook p 128).

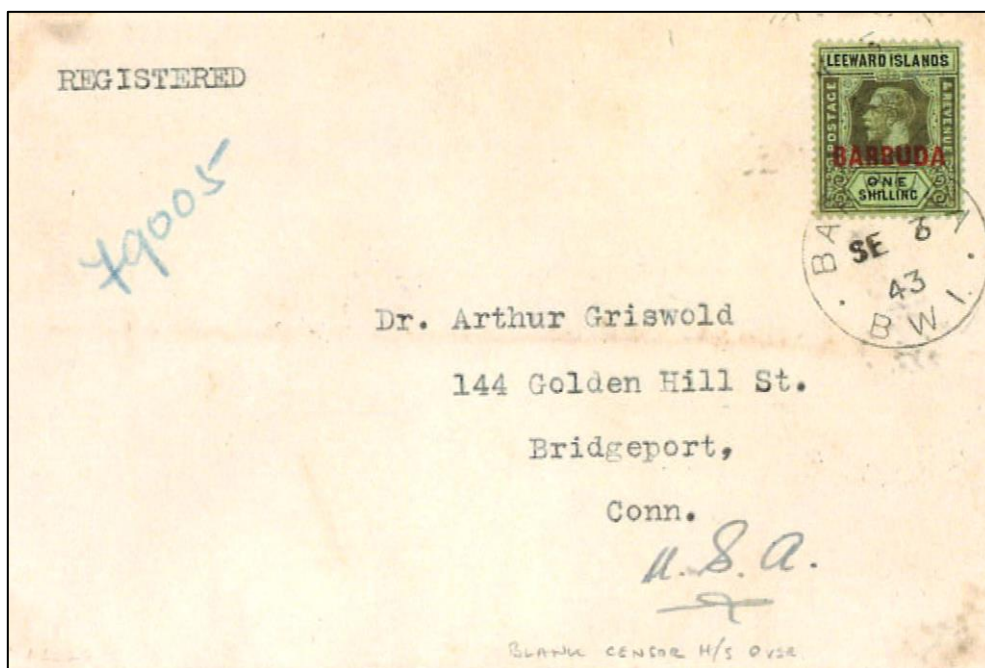


Fig. 1. Photocopy of cover front



Fig. 2. Photocopy of cover reverse



The cover was posted unsealed, not in itself a feature to preclude examination by a censor, and it is here that the major interest emerges. The censor mark that it bears (Fig. 2.) is itself a mark that is not on record in our handbook. It turns out to be CH2 in a modified form. According to the handbook (see p 232) the latest usage of CH2 in its illustrated known form was late in 1941, and the reason for its being taken out of use is evident. The text included the name ANTIGUA, a censorship practice which became frowned upon, for security reasons, by 1942.

When CH2 re-emerges on the 1943 cover, the name of Antigua has been excised. Written in pencil in the vacant space is the code 'IB/112', which identifies by its numeral one of the five censors regularly working in St. John's, in connection also with the information that the item was in transit from one of the islands for which examination was carried out centrally in Antigua. The B part of the code stood for Antigua, and it would not need a stroke of bureaucratic genius for I to stand for incoming, but I have not enquired whether this was the actual intention. Indeed, as 1943 is well beyond my own cut-off date for any personal collection, I write about WW2 censorship with diffidence and thankfully acknowledge the help given by John Jordan over the contents of this article.

The one element that has constantly caused me surprise is that no one appears previously to have recorded the reappearance of CH2, which I suppose should now be designated CH2a. Antigua censored covers from the period are by no means a rarity, and it seems hard to believe that once the old handstamp was made fit for reuse and, as we can now see, actually was reused, there are not a good few others around waiting to be discovered. If not, why not? Perhaps this revelation that CH2a exists will open the floodgates so that the cover's date will be neither ERD nor LRD, but IRD (I for intermediate).



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## BARBADOS

### THE 1921 SMALL BADGE PLATE NUMBERS – AN UPDATE BY PATRICIA CAPILL & MICHAEL MEDLICOTT

Subsequent to writing my article on this topic, published in the December 2017 BWISC Bulletin, pp 25–26, I came across the Barbados listing in Sir John Wilson's 1952 work: *The Royal Philatelic Collection*. This listing records a block of 4 of the 1921 ¼d brown with plate number 1 and another block of 4 with plate number 2. This substantiates Huber's report of the ¼d having been printed from plates 1 and 2. In addition, Michael Medlicott further substantiates this by providing the illustration shown here (Fig. 1.), which has the 10 mm spacing. The only other denomination recorded by Wilson as having a plate number is the 1d red, with plate number 1 (of which I have an example).



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

So, until any further evidence comes to the fore, we can say that:–

- The ¼d brown was printed from 2 plates, numbered 1 and 2.
- The 1d red was printed from 2 plates, numbered 1 and unnumbered – this latter plate having a different and unique positioning of the marginal Jubilee lines.
- All the other denominations appear to have been printed from only 1 unnumbered plate.

De La Rue's enigmatic plate identification methods in the 1920 Victory issue certainly continued on into these 1921 definitives!

Michael also tells us that as a matter of interest the 1921 Small Badge issue displays several curiosities which are worth recording:–

Three Shillings deep violet (MSCA): the illustrated block from the bottom of the sheet (Fig. 2.) shows a distinct double impression, the second a faint print at right angles to the first. (The ghost impression is unlikely to merit a certificate and may not show well in the illustration).

Three Pence purple/pale yellow: Four Pence red/pale yellow(MCCA): both stamps occur on whitish and clear white paper, neither of which suggests fading of the pale yellow paper.  
Comments on the foregoing will be welcomed by the Editor.



## BRITISH GUIANA

### THE D8 SPECIMEN OVERPRINT ANOMALY

BY RICHARD MAISEL

The D8 Specimen overprint was usually applied by De La Rue to stamps kept in their archive, though occasionally it was applied to stamps used for special purposes. The overprint has been described as being 15mm in width and 2.5mm in height and produced by a handstamp that was used in the period 1863–82. The image of the D8 as it appears in the literature is reproduced in Fig. 1. (ref.1).

SPECIMEN

Fig. 1. D8 overprint, from Samuel.

Note in this reproduction the N in 'SPECIMEN' has a normal appearance. Yet all the examples I have seen of the D8 overprint, which are limited to the two stamps reproduced in Fig. 2. and Plate 7 in Samuel's classic study of specimens (Fig. 3.) (ref.2), have truncated Ns.



Fig. 2. D8 with truncated N



Figure 3. D8 with truncated N, Part of Plate 7 from Samuel.  
See reference 1.

There are four possible explanations that would explain this N in 'SPECIMEN' anomaly:

1. There were two different Handstamps used to overprint the term 'SPECIMEN', one that produced the D8 as described in the literature and the other, not recorded in the literature, which produced a similar overprint, with the truncated N as seen in Figs. 2. and 3.
2. The handstamp that produced the D8 overprint was altered during the course of its life in such a way that it produced two different overprints, one before the changing event and the other after the event.
3. The illustration of the D8 in the literature is incorrect and should appear as the truncated N.
4. The overprint was not produced by a handstamp but was printed from a Form that printed a sheet of stamps that had normal Ns in some positions and truncated Ns in other positions.

I am not sure if any of these explanations is true but I am inclined to accept the third as it has been pointed out to me that every example of the D8 in *The De La Rue Collection* by Frank Walton et.al. has a truncated N (ref.3).

#### References

1. Samuel, Marcus, *Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies 1857–1948*, London: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 1976, pp. 39 and 41.
2. Ibid p39
3. Walton, Frank W. et.al., *The De La Rue Collection*, London: The Royal Philatelic Society London, 2013



## CAYMAN ISLANDS

### CENSORED HANDSTAMPS

BY GRAHAM BOOTH

I know nothing about the activities of MI5 in Jamaica during WW 2; but Raymond Murphy's article in the September Bulletin (No. 254) has caused me to contribute the following. He suggests that there is circumstantial evidence for the use of Cayman censor marks by MI5 in Jamaica. But such evidence needs to be evaluated against the background of how the marks were used, or not used, in the Caymans in the first place, and was much more casual than one might imagine.

Mrs. Olive Miller, a former Government Information officer is the source of the statement in Giraldi's handbook that the Rev. Hicks collected every letter from Georgetown and the surrounding districts, except Sunday, reading every one and working until late in the afternoon. This is pure hyperbole.

- 1) I have never seen a local censored letter.
- 2) Censored mail to Jamaica is very scarce.
- 3) Most early mail received a manuscript 'OK' mark or a sticky label, or both, and show no sign that they were ever opened and resealed. Both methods were used irrespective of the destination of the letter.
- 4) From the end of 1943, through 1944 to the end of the war there is an increasing tendency for letters to show no sign of censorship. What is not known is whether this was the result of a formal instruction from outside, or just the normal Caymanian response to perceived bureaucracy.
- 5) So, whilst there is no reason to question Mrs. Miller's statement about the Rev. Hicks' diligence it is very clear that he relied on his knowledge of the personalities involved, and where he judged them to be sound the letter was not opened.

On Cayman Brac the principal censor was A.S. Ruddy who was also Postmaster and Asst. Commissioner. The total volume of mail would have been much smaller than on Grand Cayman and at least half of it would have emanated from sources over which he had executive control, so like in Grand Cayman it was never opened.

Perhaps the most extreme example of the Cayman attitude to censorship is a cover in my collection that suggests unused envelopes carrying a censor mark were issued in bulk to the principal merchant in Georgetown, and possibly other big users of the post (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1.

A cover from H.O. Merren & Co addressed to Tampa, Florida struck with a D 41 octagonal handstamp franked with 2 x 3 cents and a 25 cents British Honduran adhesive, cancelled in Belize on 11 August 1942. The cover was opened and resealed in the U.S by examiner 2124. There are no arrival or transit dates. The only possible explanation for this is that it was given unfranked, but struck with D 41, to a passenger or captain of a turtling schooner leaving for the turtling grounds off British Honduras, with instructions to frank and post it on arrival.

Putting overseas mail on the first schooner to present itself irrespective of its destination had been established practice in the Cayman Post Office for 50 years.

If anybody can think of an alternative, credible explanation I would be happy to hear from them.

So, when I look at Raymond's examples I come up with different, possible explanations. I have an almost identical VE day cover with a D 41 handstamp which in my view was struck to celebrate the occasion and was never intended as a serious censor mark. Much more typical at this time is Fig. 2.

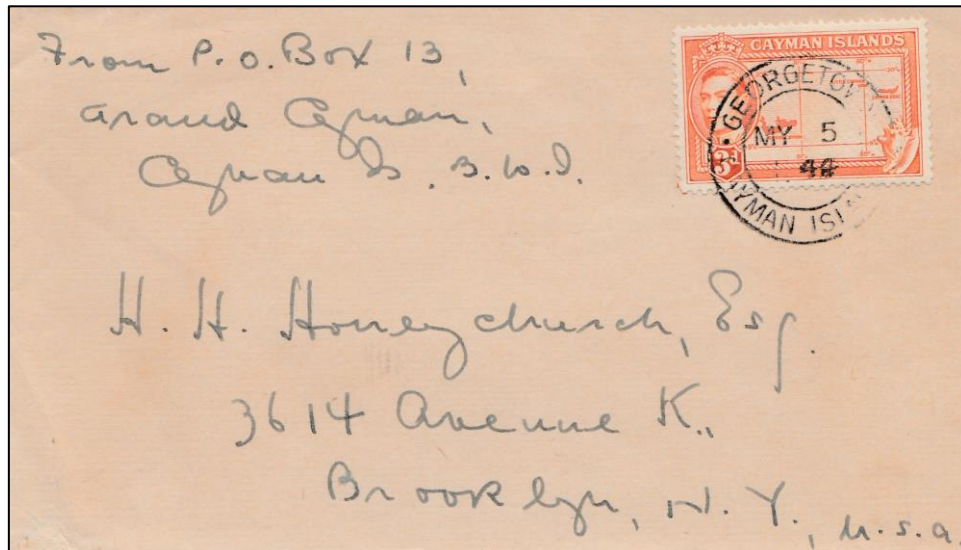


Fig. 2.

A cover from Georgetown franked 3d, paying the surface mail rate to Brooklyn, New York which was cancelled on 5 May 1944 and reached destination apparently without any censor laying a hand on it.

The D 40 and D 41 marks used on Turks mail are much more difficult to explain. I can imagine the Censor's Office in Jamaica having a duplicate set made of the subsidiary offices that came under its control. I can't discern a date, but based solely on the printed image in the Bulletin the difference seems entirely within the normal limits of distortion of rubber stamps in hot climates. In addition, one wonders why, if duplicate sets were kept in Kingston, they were used incorrectly instead of D/43.

One possible explanation which does not rely on two different sets of handstamps lies in the routing of 'CIMBOCO', the Cayman mail boat, during the war. Raymond is wrong when he implies that it terminated in Kingston. In fact, it plodded all over the northern Caribbean and the Gulf of Florida. One established terminus was Tampa, and the story goes, although it may be apocryphal, that she only survived the war because German U boats found her more useful as a radar shadow under which they could shelter than torpedoed at the bottom of the sea. It is possible to imagine letters franked and cancelled in Grand Turk being given to the captain shortly before leaving, and after being landed in Georgetown struck with D 41.

Finally of Fig. 8. Raymond asks, 'if we assume that the person who applied the label with the boxed square D/42 was the postal censor, then who was responsible for applying the octagonal stamp' I would suggest two possible answers. The cover is obviously philatelically inspired, franked, as it is in 1944, with a complete set of the Coronation issue from 7 years earlier. So, the correspondent may have requested that the cover should be treated with the current censor marks. Secondly, I have never been totally persuaded that PC 90s were sent to the Cayman Islands. If not, then Ratty struck the cover with the octagonal mark in the Brac and the PC 90 was used in Kingston.

The article is a valuable insight into the political sensitivities in Jamaica during the war and an interesting speculation about the use of censorship marks, but speaking personally I need more evidence to be convinced.

## GRENADA

### A BOOK ABOUT GRENADA PHILATELY

BY TIM PEARCE

Some ten years ago at Stampex, I encountered Michael Hamilton and we talked about the need for a new book about Grenada. He added, perhaps unwisely, that if I didn't write it nobody else would. I am really a collector of postmarks and mainly of European countries. It was an accident which led me to the alphabetic cancels on Grenada issues and to the work on them by Peter Jaffé and others. As a result, I had assembled a reasonable collection of the stamps and postmarks, so I set out on the book.

When Charlton published his book on the island in 1955, he had previously published it chapter by chapter in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* between 1951 and 1954. This was clearly a good method as it enabled other collectors to comment and no doubt improve the work. Chapter One follows and is for obvious reasons not very philatelic. Charles Freeland had been helping me, but sadly this is the only chapter which he revised for me.

Please do send any comments, corrections, omissions, or any other information I should have to:

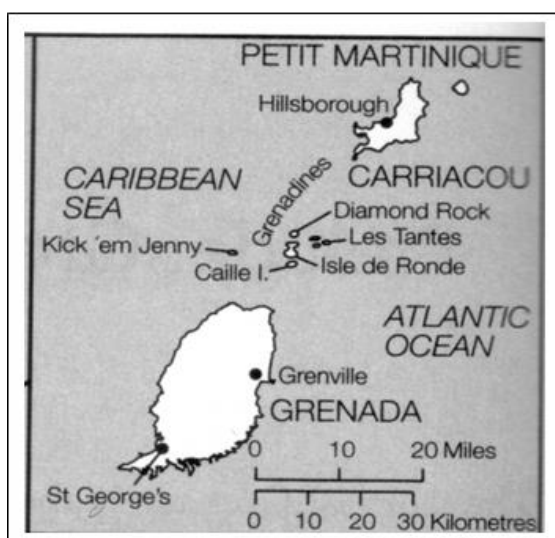
Tim Pearce, [timothy770@btinternet.com](mailto:timothy770@btinternet.com)

Flat 3, Clarendon Court, 9 Granville Road, Sevenoaks, TN131ES, UK

### Chapter 1 The Island of Grenada

From the earliest days, the islands between the north and south continents of America have been stepping stones for the indigenous peoples. Early travellers by sea needed land to steer by and in this region wherever you are it is often possible to see another island to aim at.

The island now known as Grenada was first visited by hunter-gatherers and expert canoeists from the Orinoco delta in about 2000 BCE. The first real settlers, some time before 700 CE, are known as the Arawaks and came from the north and then, between 900 and 1300 CE, another wave of settlers came from South America. They were known as Caribs, from which the whole region derives its name. In fact, recent research suggests that all these people were of similar ethnic origin and spoke similar languages. The later and more aggressive group knew themselves as the Kalinago. They gave Grenada the name Camerhogne (perhaps meaning Land of Abundance) and the smaller island twenty miles to the north of it Kayryöüacou (Island surrounded by Reefs).



Grenada is the most southerly of the Windward Islands group, 70 miles south of St Vincent, to which it is linked by the chain of small islands, some volcanic and some coral cays, known as the Grenadines, and about 90 miles north of Trinidad. From north to south it is 24 miles long and 12 miles across at its greatest breadth, coming to approximately 133 square miles, somewhat smaller than the Isle of Wight. Three of the Grenadines are inhabited, Carriacou, Petit Martinique and the Isle de Ronde.

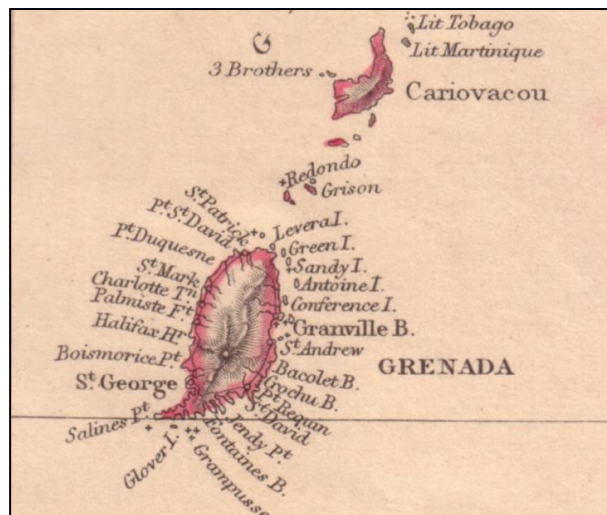
The island is mountainous with several peaks, the highest, Mt St Catherine rising to 2,749 ft (840 m), and its slopes and ridges are covered with vegetation. It has generally been regarded as picturesque. It has many springs and streams and three lakes in old

volcanic craters. All the forty craters of volcanos which form a crescent from the south-west to the north are dormant, but there is one undersea active volcano off the north coast and near the Isle de Ronde which is called Kick 'em Jenny, reputedly so named because the sea action around it makes boats behave like a kicking donkey. The prolific fishing grounds, plentiful supply of birds and game, abundant fertility and healthy climate have rendered the island attractive to settlers from the earliest times.



A map of the Caribbean Sea and surrounding regions, titled "1498-1500". The map shows the coastline of Central America to the west and South America to the south. The Caribbean Sea is labeled in the center. To the north, the Atlantic Ocean is labeled. The Tropic of Cancer is marked with a dashed line. The map includes the following locations and features:

- Florida**: Labeled in the upper left.
- BAHAMAS**: Labeled in the upper center.
- CUBA**: Labeled in the upper center.
- Santo Domingo**: Labeled on the northern coast of Hispaniola.
- JAMAICA**: Labeled south of Hispaniola.
- HISPANIOLA**: Labeled in the center.
- PUERTO RICO**: Labeled to the east of Hispaniola.
- St. Croix**: Labeled near Puerto Rico.
- GUADELOUPE** and **DOMINICA**: Labeled further east.
- TRINIDAD**: Labeled south of the Guadeloupe/Dominica area.
- Paria Peninsula**: Labeled on the northern coast of South America.
- CENTRAL AMERICA**: Labeled on the western coast.
- SOUTH AMERICA**: Labeled at the bottom.
- PACIFIC OCEAN**: Labeled at the bottom left.
- ATLANTIC OCEAN**: Labeled at the top right.
- TROPIC OF CANCER**: Labeled on the left side, indicating the latitude line.
- Scale**: A scale bar at the bottom right indicates "500 STATUTE MILES AT 20°".

[illegible]

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There is actually some doubt whether he really did see Grenada some ninety miles to the north of Trinidad and the name in any case did not last though it has got itself attached to the ship in the badge of the colony. The island has also been called Mayo by a group of explorers, possibly including Amerigo Vespucci, in 1499, and both these names appear in a list of Spanish possessions in the region in 1511.

By 1523, however, in Spanish records, the island was firmly named Granada and that, in one form or another, has lasted. The origins of this name are vague, but possibly derive from Spanish sailors in the early sixteenth century, who may have passed or even visited it, and thought its mountains resembled the Sierra Nevada above Granada in Andalusia. In that period, there was a good deal of Spanish maritime traffic to and around Trinidad, which remained a largely unsuccessful Spanish colony until 1797, and there was a settlement called New Andalusia in Venezuela. The present name of Grenada (Grenayda, with the stress on the second syllable) arrived via the French version La Grenade.

Nearly a hundred years passes before there is any further historical record of European involvement. In 1609 a company of London merchants attempted unsuccessfully to colonise the island but were driven off by the existing inhabitants. In 1626, the island was included theoretically among the possessions of the French Company of the Islands of America and in 1627 it is also granted to the Earl of Carlisle by Charles I, though neither nation made any attempt to develop the island at that time.

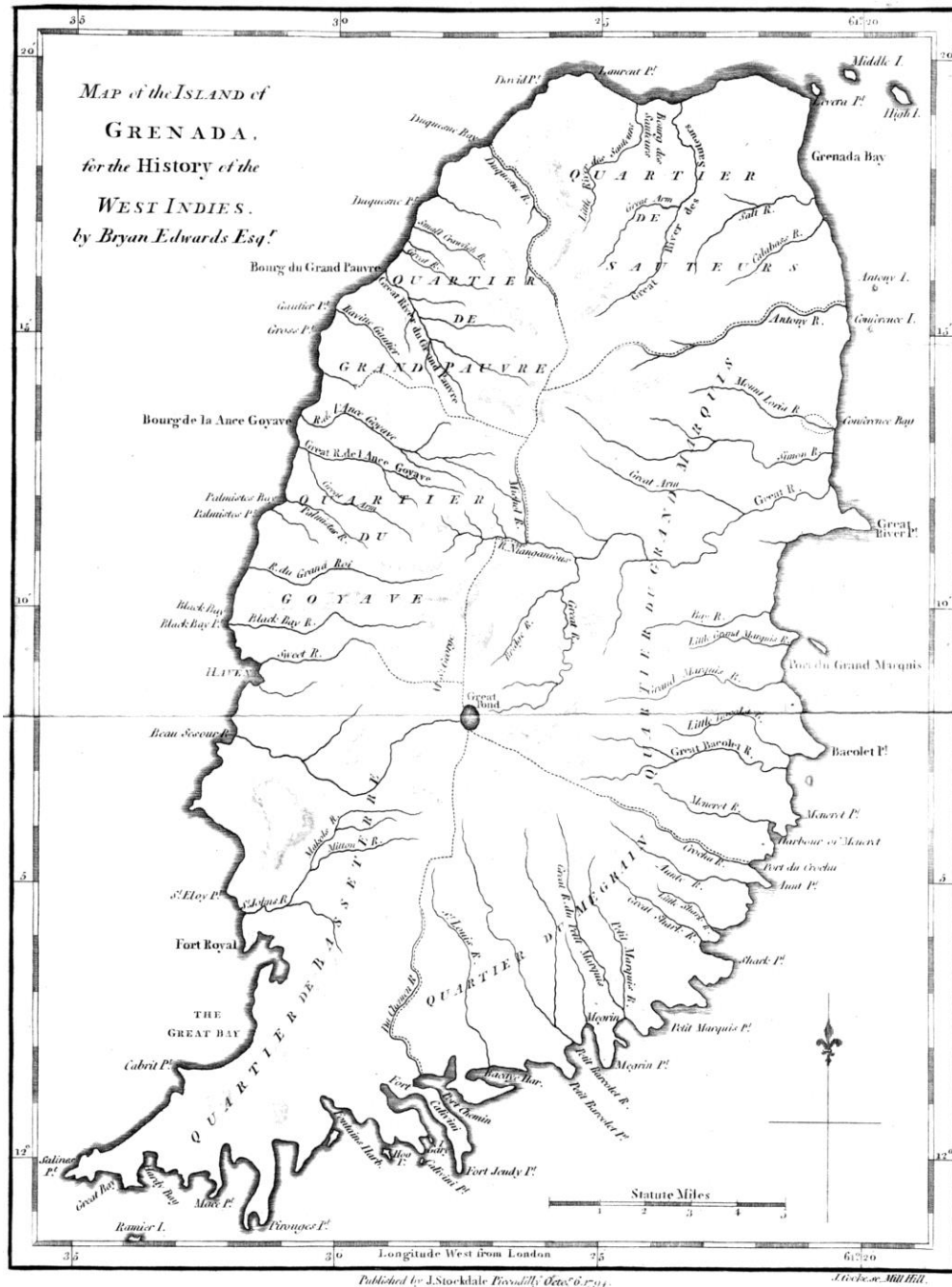
In 1650, two French settlers, Houel and Du Parquet, who were shareholders in the Company, bought Martinique, St Lucia and Grenada from the French Company. Du Parquet had already made an expedition to Grenada in 1649 and negotiated what would now be described as a dodgy deal with the Amerindians, proposing peaceful co-existence, whereas he always intended to exploit the island and its residents as the work force. The colony was founded at a natural harbour on the south-west corner of the island and the area around it and the west of the island was known as Basseterre. The hinterland and eastern part of the island, about three-quarters of the whole, was known as Cabesterre. Although the resident Amerindians were not hostile at first, they became more so in 1651, when they realised that the French had arrived as settlers not as visitors, and du Parquet determined to drive them from the island.



They made a last stand at the northern end of the island, from which the name and legend of Le Morne des Sauteurs or Leapers' Cliff derives, where a group of 40 survivors are said to have thrown themselves into the sea. The details of these encounters are not very clear in the historical records, but the name was certainly known in 1664, when the Capuchin order was established there. The Amerindians were not in fact driven from the island, but retreated into the interior and for a while left the settlers alone. By 1654, however, there had been many anti-French disturbances on other islands and in that year the indigenous people of the island were effectively massacred. Any that escaped with their lives fled to Guiana, St. Vincent or Dominica. Of the Kalinago, now only about 2,500 remain in a reserve on Dominica

After a troubled period of warfare and disease, in 1664, the King of France passed an order in Council transferring the rights of the Company of the Islands of America to the French West India Company and then in 1674 that Company was dissolved and Grenada became a possession of the French crown. There was, however, no significant improvement to the conditions of the inhabitants until around 1714, when the prosperity of Martinique led to more active trading and an improvement in the cultivation of tobacco. In 1700 there were 257 white inhabitants, 525 slaves and 53 mulattos. There were also still some Amerindians. The slaves were employed on three sugar estates and 52 indigo plantations. By 1753, shortly before the outbreak of the Seven Years War, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the population of Grenada consisted of 1,262 white people, 179 free Negroes and 11,991 slaves. There were 83 sugar plantations, and the other produce was coffee, cocoa, cotton, indigo, cassava, bananas, sweet potatoes and yams.

Grenada was divided into six parishes: Basseterre (St George's), Gouyave (St John's), Grand Pauvre (St Mark's), Sauteurs (St Patrick's), Megrin (St David's), and Marquis (St Andrews), separated by rivers or streams. The principal parish was Basseterre and the principal town was first named Fort Louis. It was relocated in 1705 to the west side of the harbour and was renamed Fort Royal. It became St George's in 1763 when the British took over.



On 4 March 1762, with no resistance from the residents, Grenada was captured by a British squadron commanded by Commodore Swanton, serving under Admiral Rodney, and was formally ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, signed on 10 February 1763. It was combined into a single government with the island of Dominica, St Vincent and Tobago and the first Governor arrived in 1764. Any mail up to 1762 would have been conveyed to France via Martinique, though none is known to postal historians. A few inbound letters are known from 1751. The Postal History of Grenada really begins after 1764.



**PERKINS BACON FIRST SURFACE PRINTED POSTAL STATIONERY****BY SIMON RICHARDS**

Perkins Bacon had lost many of their stamp printing contracts to De La Rue in 1862, following the provision of Cancelled stamps to Rowland Hill's family. However some Caribbean islands had contracted directly with Perkins Bacon and continued to obtain their stamps from them – one such island was Grenada.

Grenada was due to join the Postal Union in 1881 and so required new values of postage stamps – ½d, 2½d and 4d and postcards of 1d and 1½d denomination. James Anton, PMG in Grenada, wrote to the Colonial Secretary on 7 December 1880 with his requirements. This was passed to the Crown Agents the next day and the Crown Agents wrote to both De La Rue and Perkins Bacon on 5 January 1881 requesting an estimate.

Perkins Bacon's estimate was the cheaper as they could supply overprinted stamps and so was accepted on 13 January. As a result Perkins Bacon now had to produce surface printed postal stationery for the first time and they were requested to submit designs in colour for approval.

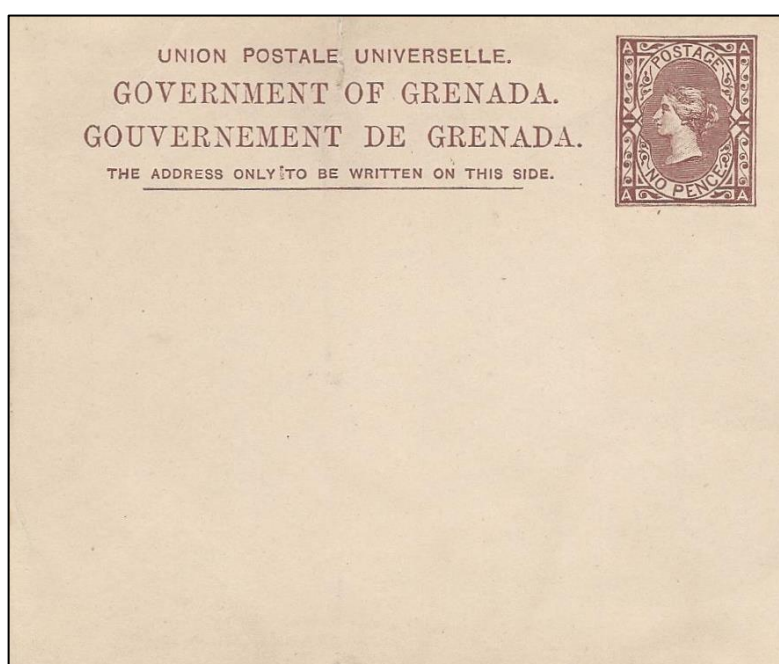


Fig. 1. (reduced)



Fig. 2.

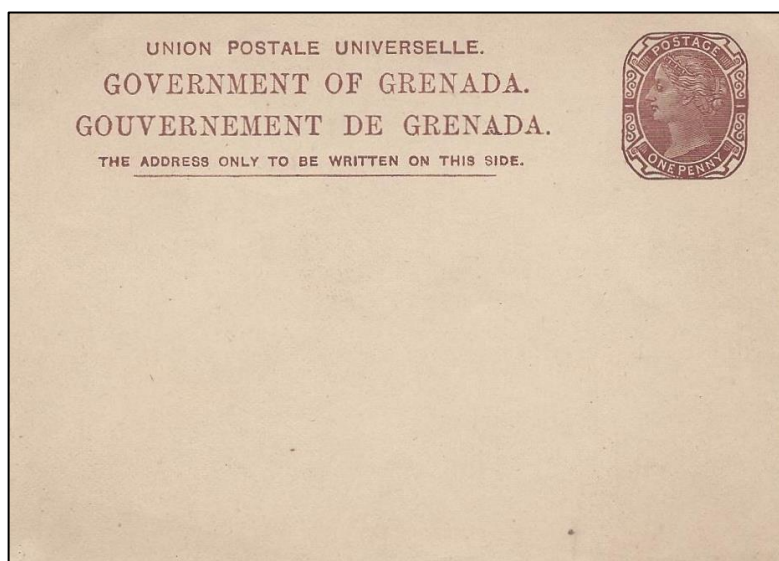


Fig. 3. (reduced)

Two designs were considered. The first (Fig. 1.) has a smaller Queen's head and corner letters. The wording is in English and French with the territory described as Government of Grenada/Gouvernement de Grenada, the value is No Pence. Two copies are recorded. The second design seems to be based on a larger Queen's Head design engraved by William Ridgway for Perkins Bacon in February 1879 (Fig. 2.). This design was modified by doing away with the corner letters and rounding the corners, the text is the same as the first design (Fig. 3.).

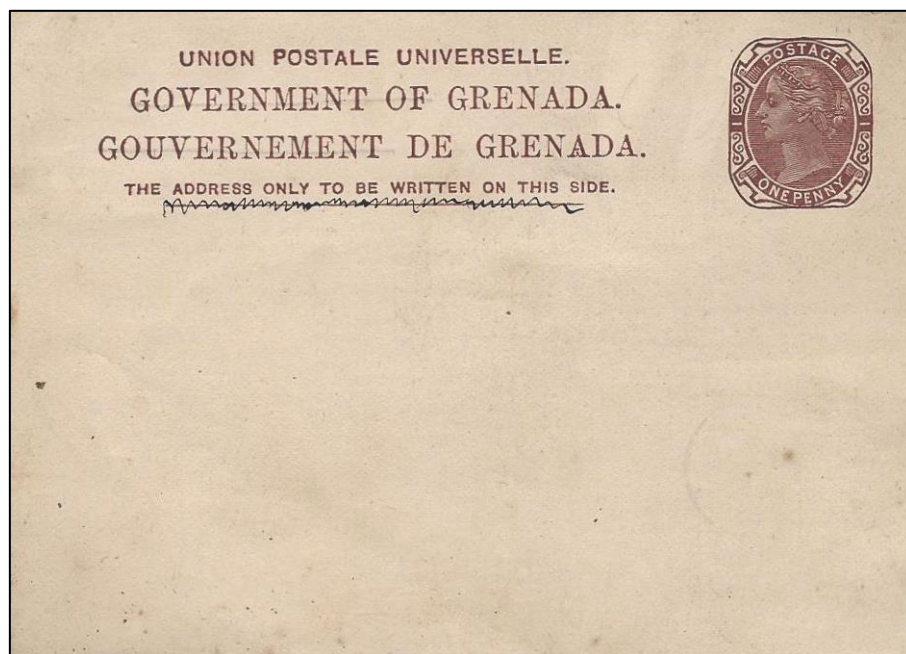


Fig. 4.

The second design was the one favoured but the wording was considered to be excessive and a proof removing the words 'Government of' and 'Gouvernement' as well as the line, has recently surfaced (Fig. 4.). With the final design approved various essays were struck, including tête-bêche (Fig. 5.) of both the 1d in blue and the 1½d in red brown and a proof of the 1d on one side and the 1½d on the other.

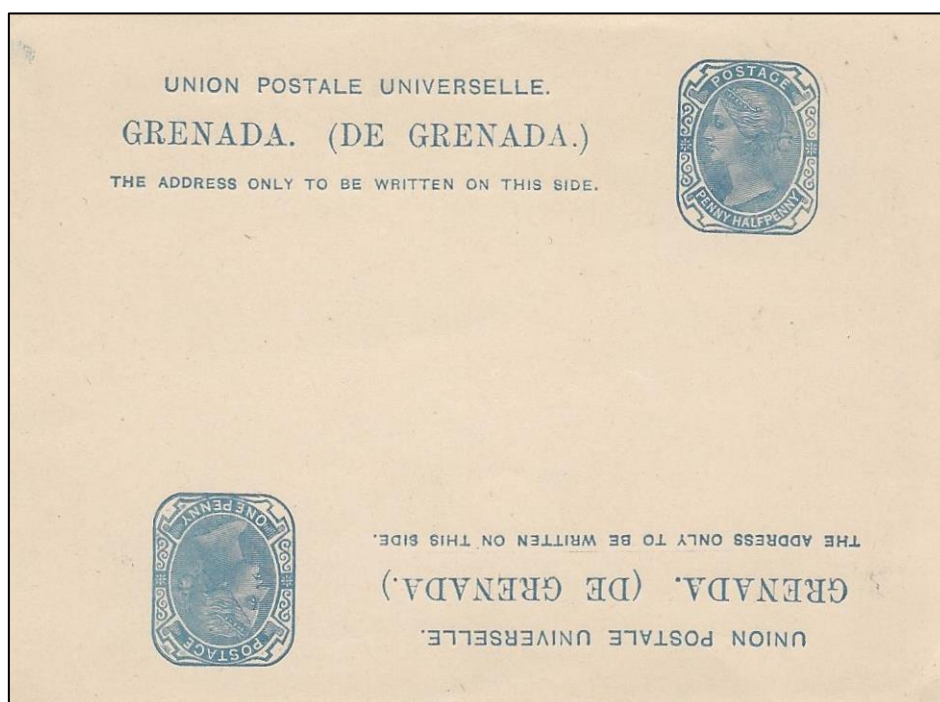


Fig. 5.

This was approved on 3 February but the Crown Agents were not quite comfortable with Perkins Bacon and insisted that their inspector, Mr Dale, supervise. 500 cards of each value were printed and sent to the island. Used examples are scarce – of the 1d only one example is known used without uprating and only a couple uprated. Fig. 6. shows a card sent to England in November 1885 when there was a shortage of 1½d cards. Fig. 7. shows the earliest recorded use of the 1½d card.



Fig. 6.

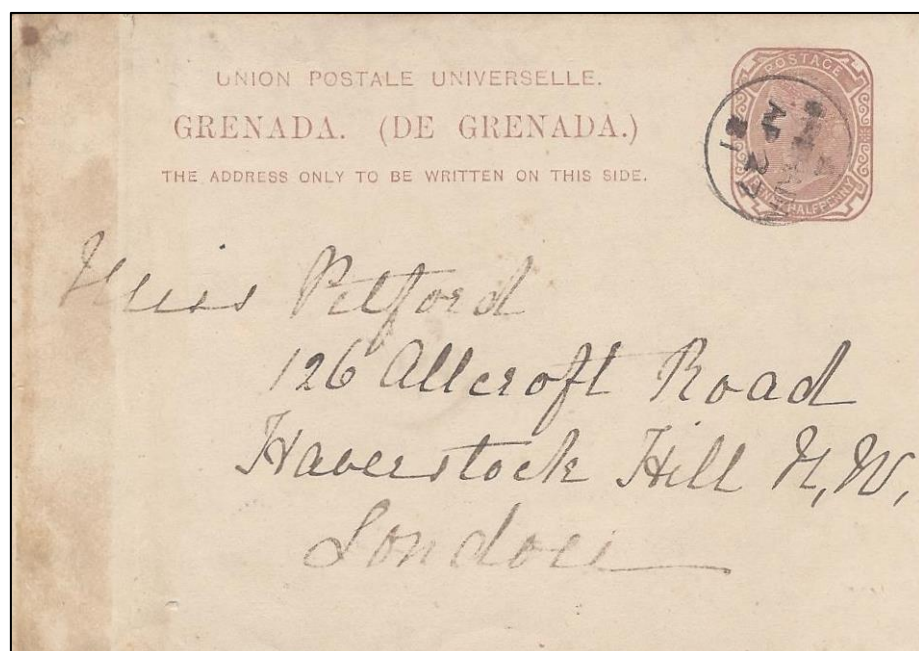


Fig. 7.

By 1883 De La Rue had supplanted Perkins Bacon for the production of both stamps and cards – thus Grenada has the distinction of being the first recipient of surface printed postal stationery produced by Perkins Bacon.



## LEEWARD ISLANDS

### THE MISSING (ALMOST) PRINTING OF THE KING GEORGE V 1S DEFINITIVE

BY PETER BROOKS

10 NOV 31	Requisition 683	257 sheets	Key Plate 23	DIE 1
19 MAY 36	Requisition 3136	503 sheets	Key plate 28	DIE 2
25 NOV 38	Requisition 894/1	491 sheets	Key Plate 1	

Of these three easily distinguished printings, the last two of the King George V issues and the first issue of the reign of King George VI, the middle one might be expected to be the commonest with the largest number of sheets printed. However, the first and third of these printings are quite common, but the Plate 28 printing of May 1936 is very scarce indeed. There were 2,012 plate number examples but only one single is known (see Fernbank p.230). Plate number examples from the other two issues, including blocks, are not rare. The lower right corner blocks with the plate numbers are sought after as the stamp at RP9/6 shows the listed duty plate 'DI' flaw. Again this flaw should be found readily enough from the Plate 28 printing with 503 examples printed, but only one single example is known. It is listed by Stanley Gibbons as SG73a but is not priced.

The duty plate at this period showed much damage and up to 20 flaws exist both on the Plate 23 printing and also the KGV stamps but which have never been seen on the Plate 28 printing which obviously should show them all. Is there an explanation for the scarcity of this printing?

The illustrations are of the 'DI' flaw from the three printings and of some other flaws found on the two commoner printings but never seen on the Plate 28 issue.



Plate 23



Plate 28



Plate 1 1938



RP 1/4



RP 1/6



RP 5/4



RP 5/6



RP 6/6



RP 7/3

**Caveat emptor!** RP5/4 and RP7/3 are sometimes offered as the 'DI' flaw. An example of RP5/4 has been known to be offered with the certificate stating that it is 'an early state of the 'DI' flaw'. There was no early state of this flaw.

## ST. VINCENT

### 'St. Vincent 1899–1965 by Freeland, Bond & Boylan' *Addenda et Corrigenda*

by Michael Medlicott

An admirable book (Note 1), a worthy addition to Peter Ford's canon of Study Circle books and, as it transpired, Charles Freeland's final bow.

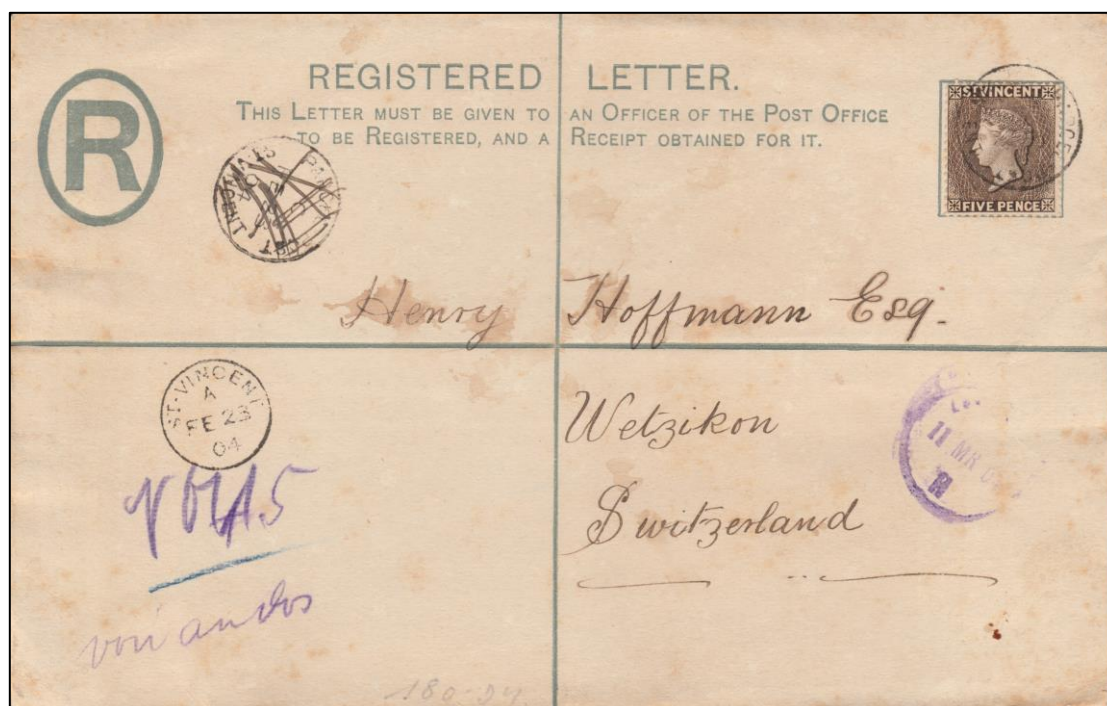
It is the fate of every handbook to send collectors to their albums to find additions and corrections; here are a handful to set the ball rolling.

### Stamps

- a) 1913–17 definitives, watermark MCA; numbered SG112ba in Part I, but not recorded in the book is the three pence purple/yellow with 'A' of 'CA' missing from the watermark. It was discovered, surprisingly, in Italy in 2015.
- b) 1916 War Tax issues; contrary to the assertion in the book, a certificated used copy (RPSL) of the third setting does exist. Only one has been reported and it remains unpriced in SG Part I.
- c) 1921–32 definitives, watermark MSCA; not recorded in the book or in SG Part I (2017), there exists a used copy of halfpenny green SG 131 with watermark reversed.

### Postal Stationery

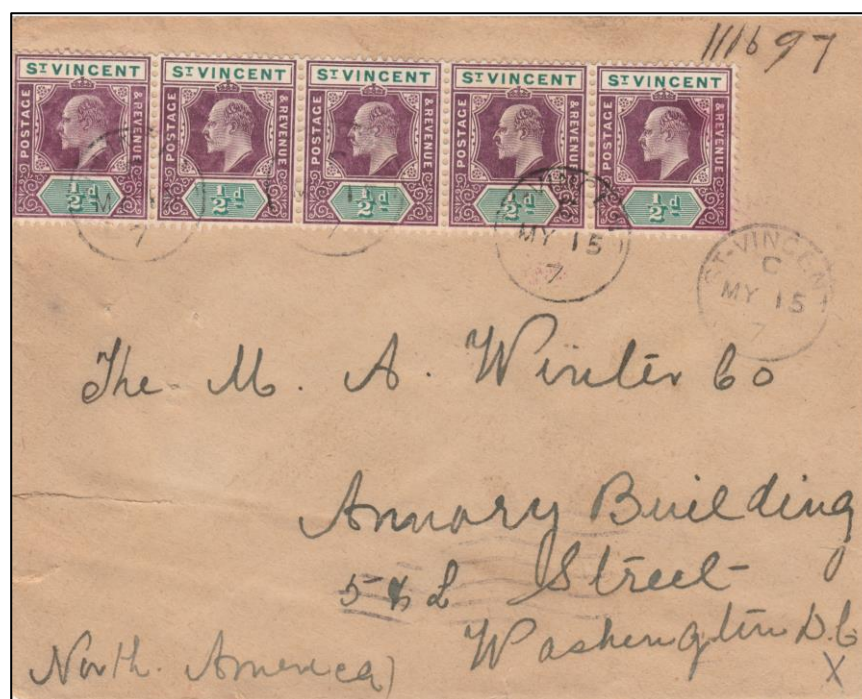
1902 series of Registered Envelopes: according to my learned friend Nigel Chandler, just two examples exist (not recorded in the book) of the envelope measuring 202 x 125mm, one mint, one used. The used example is franked for postage with SG62 five pence sepia inappropriately tied by Parcel Post cds (PML No.80) dated FE 23/04. A supporting strike has been struck out with pen strokes and supplanted by a St. Vincent 'A' code cds (PML No.17) (Note 3), clearly back in use at GPO Kingstown following its spell of duty at Chateaubelair (1898–1900). The cover is addressed to Wetzikon, Switzerland, and is commercially used.



## Postmarks

- a) SHIP LETTERS/C/ST. VINCENT; new ERD FE15/05  
 b) Small St. Vincent cds code 'C' (PML No. 15)  
 The authors assign the small St. Vincent cds code 'A' to Bridgetown in the period from the opening of this office (on 21 July 1905) until the arrival of the first Bridgetown extended cds in 1908. This assumption may be based on covers available to the authors, but may on the other hand simply be lifted from Proud's 2006 book (note 2). Earlier authorities, including PML, Joe Chin Aleong and Michael Hamilton, assert that this period at Bridgetown was occupied by the very scarce PML No.15, the small St. Vincent cds code 'C', a view which I favour. PML No. 15 did duty earlier at Peruvian Vale 6 June 1888 to 3 September 1894 and later at Troumaca 2 July 1910 to 22 November 1930, and so was a peripatetic postmark of choice for outlying Post Offices.

The illustrated cover of 15 May 1907 to the USA shows on reverse a Kingstown transit mark of even date, indicating that the small St. Vincent code 'C' cds was indeed located at a village office at this time.



## Revenues

Understandably, the authors shy away from attempting an updated listing of the overprints on the five shillings revenues. Their statement (p. 218) 'It appears possible that for each of the three' (?) 'different printings of the 5s overprints there was a complete series of five higher values, the £1, £5, £25 and £50' must be contested. The £50 duty was produced, probably ad hoc, to levy tax on banking licences; there were two licensed banks and, after four years at £50, the duty was reduced. Of the eight examples so used, only two are known to this writer. It is beyond rational bounds that the £50 duty was revived for any purpose, but a certifiable find would be treasure trove indeed.

*Note 1. 'St. Vincent 1899–1965' by Charles Freeland, Roy Bond and Russell Boylan; BWISC Publications 2017.*

*Note 2. 'The Postal History of St. Lucia and St. Vincent' by Edward B. Proud and J. Chin Aleong; Proud Publications Ltd. 2006.*

*Note 3. 'St. Vincent' by Arthur D. Pierce, J.L. Messenger & Robson Lowe: Robson Lowe Ltd. 1971.*



## TRINIDAD

### A SOMEWHAT MORE THAN UNUSUAL COVER TO TRINIDAD

BY NIGEL CHANDLER

Destination mail is a relatively new trend in the sphere of postal history. Your scribe, who indulges somewhat capriciously in this, has given two short papers on this subject at regional meetings of the RPSL. Mail to Trinidad is far from uncommon, likewise mail emanating from Russia even under the communists is no great rarity, however the combination of the two is something that I and others feel will take some considerable time to find another.

Franked with a 28 Kopek stamp on the reverse sealing the flap in typical Russian manner this cover originated in Taganrog on 10 May 1930. Taganrog is located in the Rostov Oblast.



Rostov area highlighted in red.



Taganrog within the Rostov Oblast.

Taganrog first rose to importance under Peter the Great in 1698, however archaeological evidence shows settlement on the site from around the 7th century BC (BCE for the politically correct).

The 'Via Torino', instructional mark in blue crayon was presumably applied by a postal clerk. Quite possibly on arrival in Naples. The transit marks bear testament to it having travelled west to its destination. In Cyrillic, from the writer's hand, at the top are 'Via England', and 'Registered'. The residue of what was once a Registration label can be viewed on the face of the cover.

On 17 May 1930 10(00) hrs it is receipt cancelled 'NAPOLI PORTO RACCOMANDATE'. The same day this time at 14(00)hrs it receives the 'NAPOLI FERROVIA' (railway) cancel. The following day 18 May 1930 24(00) hrs it is again backstamped, this time with the 'TORINO FERROVIA RACCOMANDATE' cancel. It also receives the railway route cancel 'TORINO-MODANA' thus arriving at the Franco-Italian border.

There is also a further strike over the stamp which is somewhat overwhelmed by the surrounding strikes, and underwhelming in its parlous application. A lack of enthusiasm on the behalf of a postal clerk, or a lack of ink quenching the pad or implement, or a combination of the three.

In the absence of anything that can remotely be ascribed to either the French or British post offices it is assumed (dangerous I know) that it most likely joined ship in Marseilles for onward transmission to Trinidad (Bordeaux is also a possibility). Upon arrival it received a 'REGISTRATION GPO TRINIDAD' c.d.s. of 12 June 1930.

Obverse and reverse are illustrated below.



The practice of affixing the stamp to the reverse was a commonality in Russia and was done to make censorship of mail difficult. However Metternich' nefarious methods had long been widely disseminated.

This cover will be offered in the 2018 Auction. All the work is done for you, you'll just need to mount it up!

## STEVEN ZIRINSKY

MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA

Stamps - Revenues - Postal History - Commercial Mail

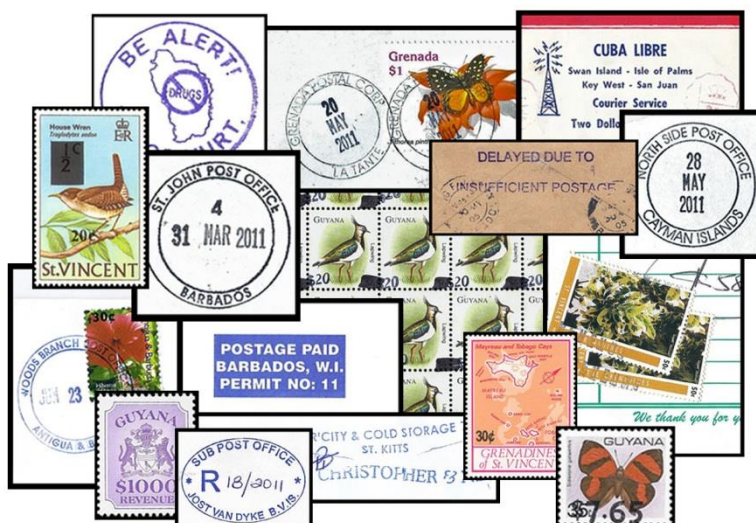
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## TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO DEFINITIVES 1935 ON

BY PETER FORD

As many of you will already know, I intend writing a book on the stamps of Trinidad and Tobago as a follow-on to our two previous books, one on Trinidad and the other on Tobago. I apologise for the fact that this article, with the permission of both editors, will appear in both the journals of the BWISC and the BCPSG. The reason for this is that information regarding these issues is scant, to say the least, and I need to reach the biggest audience I can, as the past records of Bradbury Wilkinson (BW) concerning Trinidad & Tobago seem to have been mislaid since the company was taken over by De La Rue.

In 1935 T&T decided to issue stamps showing scenes from the islands and these were designed by BW. Sheets so far seen do not have any plate numbers visible and it may be that, as these stamps were only used for around two years, only one plate was used and no plate number appeared. Some, but not all, sheets were numbered in the top right hand corner. Luckily we have had sight of a sheet of the 8 cents with a sheet number. There was only one printing of the 8 cents, so we can imagine that numbering was applied to all sheets. But unfortunately there also exists a sheet of the 6 cents which does not have a sheet number. Perhaps it was one that was supplied to London dealers directly and not numbered. Some information on this would be welcome.

The same vignette die seems to have been used for the design of the next issue of King George VI stamps but this time the head of the monarch was included. Stamps of this size were normally printed in a sheet of two panes of 60 (10 x 60). However, the T&T set were printed in panes of 60 (12 x 5). Now were the two panes printed one on top of the other or side by side? The latter seems the more likely, but there isn't yet any evidence to that effect. Now we come to plate numbers. I have been sent scans of quite a number of plate blocks and there are several questions that need to be answered. Firstly what is the significance of the plate numbers with an 'a' after the number. Was, for instance, one (left?) pane annotated with plate number 1, 2, 3 etc. and the other pane with 1a, 2a, 3a etc.? If this is so, where is there any proof? The monocoloured values had only one number and that was under Stamp 59 of the pane (R12/4). The bi-coloured values had the frame plate number under the same stamp and the vignette plate number under the adjacent stamp to the right (R12/5). Now, it seems that on some of the earlier printings, the vignette plate number is missing. Did this, as was the case with Waterlow's contemporary printings, indicate Plate 1?

The Queen Elizabeth 2 issue was very similar to the previous King George VI issue but with a new frame design which now included the portrait of the new queen. The vignettes were the same, only the frame was changed.

The Stanley Gibbons now-defunct listing of Elizabethan stamps shows the printing dates and the plates used for the QE2 issues, but little information exists of the KGV issue. I am trying to research all these issues and would be grateful for any information pertaining to these stamps, especially the numbers printed. Examples of scanned plate blocks would be appreciated

### AUCTION UPDATE

BY GRAHAM BOOTH

The volume of material coming onto the market continues to run the risk of drowning the remaining collectors. Those of us who collect across the West Indies are begging for a rest. Siegel in New York had been entrusted with what would appear to be the liquidation of an investment holding including a handful of expensive classic issues from a number of different West Indian Colonies, which they sold on 15 November. The principal Colonies concerned were the Bahamas, Barbados, British Guiana, Nevis, St. Vincent and the Turks and Caicos. Bidding must have been particularly difficult because for some lots there were no estimates, only Gibbons catalogue values, translated into dollars at \$1.29, for some there was only the Gibbons catalogue value in sterling and for some there were dollar estimates which varied from being substantially lower than the Gibbons catalogue value to marginally above. So, the nine lots of Bahamas were 100% sold for a total of just over \$10,000 against a catalogue value of \$30,000.

Was this a success or not? Probably! SG 6 (6d grey lilac with some original gum) sold for \$2,800 against a catalogue value of \$5,500; another but SG 11 this time realised \$4,750 versus catalogue value of \$13,500 and a used block of 12 of the 8d Landfall of Columbus with the CIOYMBUS error fetched \$2,700 against catalogue of \$5,450. The 3 Barbados items sold, with SG 84 from 1875 with full original gum aking \$3,250 against catalogue of \$9,000. Perhaps the cream of the crop was the rare unused Turks Islands surcharges from 1881 all 13 of which sold. The ½d on 1s slate blue (SG 20a) made \$5,500 against an estimate of \$11,000, the 2½d on 6d grey black (SG25) \$20,000 against an estimate of \$16,000, the 2½d on 6d grey black (SG 32) \$3,000 against \$9,500, the 2½d on 1s slate blue (SG 39) \$1,900 against \$2,200 and the 4d on 1s violet (SG 46) \$1,900 against \$2,750. Trying to report the results of the sale in a meaningful way is as difficult as it must have been for a sterling holder to decide how much to bid, so I am going to stop.

Spink New York sold the first part of Federico Borromeo's general Caribbean collection covering 16 different territories on 6 December. The decision to go to New York must have been a difficult one but was no doubt influenced by the gems of some of the non-British territories for sale. So, a sale in which 78% of the 101 lots sold must have been a relief especially considering the relative lack of publicity the sale was given on this side of the Atlantic. It is pointless to speculate whether individual items would have done better in London, but the unique, but badly torn, 'Antigua Ship Ler' (RL1) from the Codrington correspondence at \$5,000, the 'Paid at Nevis' and 'Paid at Tobago' crowned circles, both at \$2,700, all sold above or close to the high estimate. There were almost 30 British adhesives used abroad on offer, most of which sold. A pair of 3d rose (Z55) used in Naguabo which achieved \$1,700 against catalogue of £2,200 and a 1d red on piece cancelled 'A13' in the Virgin Islands, which made \$2,500 compared to catalogue of £4,250 were the gems. St. Lucia continued to be soft; but all four St. Kitts items sold at broadly the same kind of price they might have achieved at the Brookes sale in London.

In the Foreign West Indies Guadeloupe performed well. A 1762 letter from the first British occupation realised \$3,750 against a high estimate of \$3,000, a 1783 letter from the second occupation reached \$800 versus a top estimate of \$1,000, a 1849 crowned circle \$1,200 and a very attractive cover to Lima with five copies of Maury 2 and one of Maury 5 reached \$1,450, just below its high estimate. Martinique was less successful. A 1779 letter from the second British occupation did not sell as did three others of the eight lots, but the 1799 cover with two lovely dated strikes of 'FORT ROYAL', the name for Fort de France prior to 1802, sold for \$1,350, well above its low estimate. Finally the Royal Mail Steam Packet die proof achieved \$850; but the mint sheet of 30 adhesives did not sell, being over estimated at \$750.

In contrast the Peter McCann collection of Montserrat which was sold by Feldman in Switzerland on 7 December was not a success. Of the 197 lots of postal history 122 were unsold (62%), despite opening at 80% of the low estimate. This was a good collection with each item individually lotted. Maybe there are not many Montserrat collectors out there but many items, particularly the more modern covers, might have done better if they had been lotted in small groups, because as they were, they were over-priced and at their true value as single lots the auctioneer wasn't going to make much of a profit on them. At the other end of the price range there were some successes. The three-line date stamp (N4) sold for £8,000 and the beautiful large fleuron from 1804 for £6,000, both at the low estimate. But the GB 6d lilac cancelled 'A08' on not much more than a front at £10,000, the 'Paid at Montserrat' crowned circle in red (P2) at £8,000, another at £6,000 and another in black at £7,500, an 1882 envelope to London with four Antiguan 1d reds overprinted 'Montserrat' at £5,000 and another from 1884 with twelve at £12,000 (all low estimates) did not sell. One can only conclude that today's market is not prepared to sustain these kinds of prices. Perhaps the most cogent example is that the straight-line handstamp from 1790 with a low estimate of £2,000 did not sell, while a similar but not identical version from 1796 in the Borromeo sale sold for \$1,000. The Tobago, Nevis and Montserrat Crowned Circles are all difficult, and Montserrat may be the most difficult of the three; but in my view, one cannot justify a multiple of four times for the Montserrat over the other two.

Spink in London sold the Brian Brookes collection of St. Kitts on 23 January. This was by far the most comprehensive collection to come onto the market in many years, and represented 40 years of dedicated collecting. In total there were 704 lots and before the sale I thought it might fall over under its own weight, particularly as it appeared that Brian had never sold anything, and some items were represented multiple times, with some, probably his earlier purchases, being of inferior quality.

In the circumstances a 70% sold would seem to have been a qualified success. However, post sale purchases have pushed the percentage sold to a much higher figure, and the fact that during the sale there were more than 90 successful bidders bodes well for the future interest in the Colony. As per usual the room was fairly empty. Those present included, Simon Richards, Hugh Wood, Maurice Porter and myself. Surprisingly there was little interest on the telephone, but there were about 30 successful bidders on the book and 40 on the net.

In the first part of the sale there were 179 lots of early documents, maps and pre-adhesive covers, of which only half sold, the main problem being the fleurons, which had 37 different lots on offer, the small and medium versions being relatively common. In contrast, the first two-line handstamp from 1746 sold for £2,400, a shade off its high estimate, the 1779 straight line (RL type 2 from the Codrington correspondence) comfortably exceeded the top estimate at £2,900 and the same mark from the Tudway correspondence, but in red in 1784, equalled it at £1,800; all to bidders in the room.

A lovely example of RL type 11 from 1796 went to an internet bidder at £2,400, double its low estimate, whilst a book bid obtained the 1689 document appointing Christopher Codrington as Governor for £2,300. The GB used abroad were fairly ordinary with the exception of two covers, one with a 4d rose to New York at £2,700 and another with four penny reds to Trinidad at £4,800, well over the top estimate of £4,000. Adhesives, both mint and used did well. The 1d magenta block of 6, ex Dale Lichenstein, from the 1870 issue went for £1,300 against an estimate of £300 and the 6d green with a corner block of 4 with plate number, ex Frazer and Vestey, made £2,800 against a top estimate of £600, both to the same telephone bidder. The 4d block of four from the 1875 set achieved £1,300 against a top estimate of £400 and a complete mint sheet of twenty of the 1s bright mauve from the 1882 set fetched £2,300 against estimate of £1,200. But these results paled into insignificance when we came to the surcharges. A used example of the 'One Penny' on 2½d with the original value un-obliterated achieved £14,000 against a top estimate of £9,000, and the four lots of the same stamp with the surcharge inverted achieved £28,500 between them, the palm going to an unused example, ex Charlton Henry, at £16,000 (£20,000 with the uplift). Less successful was the complete sheet of un-severed pairs of the 'Halfpenny on 1d' carmine rose, ex Frazer, and the same stamps on cover were nothing like so popular as they once were. Most of the adhesives on cover sold but few exceeded their estimates. Exceptions were a double rate mourning envelope with a block of 12 x 1d magenta to the USA in 1874, which sold for almost four times its top estimate at £3,200 and a green vertical pair from 1877 to Demerara at £1,200, both from the 1870 set, and 6d greens from the 1875 set to Nova Scotia at £1,300 and the Turks at £1,000. A large OHMS envelope to Barbados franked with 11 versions of the 1s magenta from the 1882 set made £2,200. Manuscript cancels on cover were mixed, as were revenues. Most lots sold but not at exciting prices. In the Twentieth Century most covers including the postal stationery had been lumped together in medium sized lots and sold reasonably well; but adhesives were relatively listless. A page from the Madagascar archive with three complete sets of the 1920 issue only made £650, though a companion piece from the Tercentenary set reached £1,600 whilst another with a different cancellation realised only £850. Fine mint marginal blocks of four from the same set made £1,700, more than twice its top estimate. The essay for the 2d Tercentenary sold for £1,200 well below its low estimate as did the 13 colour trials at £2,000.

Proofs throughout the sale were very weak. A reasonable percentage of the 1870 Crown CC sold, principally to one internet bidder; but the four coloured master die proofs at £750 were much cheaper than when last on the market. The St. Kitts-Nevis Columbus and Medicinal Spring proofs sold, but at low prices. Thereafter from the 1920/22 issue through to Queen Elizabeth very few sold, though I understand many have gone post sale. The exceptions were the beautiful 1d and 6d imperf plate proof blocks of 20 from the 1871 set (ex Bessemer and Latto) which sold for £7,000.

As usual the sale was winding down towards the end with 18 out of 21 censored lots being unsold. but a master die proof of the Silver Jubilee exceeded its estimate at £5,200, a set of four Specimens of the same set equalled its top estimate at £1,800, a Coronation Specimen set achieved £2,100 and a Silver Wedding Specimen 5s, £1,500. Finally, a lot of 117 postcards tripled its high estimate and 13 lots of mint 'Independent Anguilla' adhesives from 1967 were all sold, all but one to the same book bidder. The 50 cents made £1,700, the 60 cents £2,200 and the \$2.25, £1,200 (all prices without the uplift). So, the sale finished with a bang.



**ARTICLES OF BWI INTEREST IN OTHER JOURNALS 2017**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Article</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Month</b>
BWI	British Colonial postmarks made in America	David Horry	BCPJ	January
Anguilla and Antigua	New Anguilla and Antigua Registration Labels	Steven Zirinsky	BCPJ	July
Antigua	Visiting Antigua & Barbuda	Bob Lamb	AP	January
Antigua	The Tudway Letters: Port of Entry Markings	Mary Gleadall	BCPJ	April
Antigua	Antigua Auxiliary Markings	Steven Zirinsky	BCPJ	April
Antigua	Antigua General Post Office Circular Datestamps	Steven Zirinsky	BCPJ	April
Antigua	A visit to the Antigua post office	Steven Zirinsky	BCPJ	October
Bahamas	The Royal Philatelic Collection: West Indies – Bahamas, Jamaica & Cayman Islands (Display given 14 September 2017)	Michael Sefi	LP	December
Barbados	Different pigments, perforation devices, modifications, and watermarked paper.	Noel Davenhill	AP	March
Barbados	Barbados Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers: Analysis of Supply and Demand	Dr. John K. Courtis	BCPJ	July
Barbados	The Royal Philatelic Collection: From South America and the Caribbean - British Guiana & Barbados (Display given 15 September 2016)	Michael Sefi	LP	October
Barbados	Correcting mistakes – Kingston relief fund 1d inverted overprint	Christer Brunström	SCM	December
Bermuda	Arthur Rowe Spurling of Bermuda: A World War I hero (Part 2),	Hap Pattiz	BCPJ	April
Bermuda	Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd: Unadopted designs: Photographic essays pictured from Spink 2013 sale		Geosix	September
Bermuda	Arthur Rowe Spurling of Bermuda: A World War I hero (Part 1),	Hap Pattiz	BCPJ	January
Bermuda	Mapping Bermuda in 1953	Roger Baxter	LP	June
British Guiana	The Royal Philatelic Collection: From South America and the Caribbean - British Guiana & Barbados (Display given 15 September 2016)	Michael Sefi	LP	October
British Guiana	The Printings of the King George V Stamps, Part 1: The 1913-1921 Issues	Richard Maisel Peter Ford	LP	October
British Guiana	The Printings of the King George V Stamps, Part 2: The 1921-1927 Issues	Richard Maisel Peter Ford	LP	November
British Honduras	The heat in British Honduras – stamps and postal history of Belize.	Ed Fletcher	SCM	February
Cayman Is	Cayman Clippings	Tom Giraldi	BCPJ	January
Cayman Is	<i>HMS Dragon</i> was an important ship in the Caribbean	Ivan Burges	BCPJ	April
Cayman Is	New Cayman Is. missent mark found on eBay	Tom Giraldi	BCPJ	April
Cayman Is	The Royal Philatelic Collection: West Indies – Bahamas, Jamaica & Cayman Islands (Display given 14 September 2017)	Michael Sefi	LP	December
Dominica	Nature Isle of the Caribbean: Post Office Wrappers of Dominica	Dr. John K. Courtis	BCPJ	October
Grenada	1938 1d and 2d Waterlow Printings	Andrew Hoare	Geosix	June
Grenada	Operation 'Urgent Fury, (reprint)	Dr. Gale Raymond	BCPJ	October

Guyana	A study of Guyana postmarks,	Steven Zirinsky	BCPJ	July
Haiti	The Republic of Septentrionale	Mike Parker	PH	March
Jamaica	Cascade effect (Llandovery Falls issue)	John Winchester	SM	March
Jamaica	Help needed to identify Jamaica flaw	Peter Ford	BCPJ	July
Jamaica	Information needed on Hectors River Docket	David Horry	BCPJ	July
Jamaica	Jamaica's First Pictorials	Ed Fletcher	SCM	November
Jamaica	The Royal Philatelic Collection: West Indies – Bahamas, Jamaica & Cayman Islands (Display given 14 September 2017)	Michael Sefi	LP	December
Leeward Is.	Newspaper Wrappers Brooks, P. (2017) 'Leewards Islands 10s: Constant Flaw?'	P. Brooks	Geosix	December
Montserrat	Hope with a Harp: Newspaper Wrappers of Montserrat	Dr. John R. Courtis	BCPJ	January
Montserrat	Current proof cancellations of Montserrat	Klaus Hahn	BCPJ	January
Montserrat	Montserrat Musings, 1971	Bob Stewart.	BCPJ	April
St Lucia	Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd: Unadopted designs: Photographic essays pictured from Spink 2013 sale		Geosix	September
St Lucia	The provisional overprints of 1891 and 1892	Alister Kinnon	GSM	September
Trinidad	The Venezuelan Crisis of 1902-03 seen through the window of Trinidad postal history	Edward Barrow	BCPJ	July
Trinidad	The "Registered" Ovals of Trinidad	David Horry	BCPJ	October
Trinidad & Tobago	Trinidad & Tobago Postage Dues: Shades and Flaws	Edward Barrow	BCPJ	January
Trinidad & Tobago	Bradbury Wilkinson issues of Trinidad & Tobago	Peter Ford	BCPJ	April
Trinidad & Tobago	Trinidad & Tobago: Sir Walter Raleigh and the Discovery of Lake Asphalt Stamp Design	John Wynns	BCPJ	July
Trinidad & Tobago	Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd: Unadopted designs: Photographic essays pictured from Spink 2013 sale		Geosix	September
Turks Islands	Turks Islands 1867-1900: Trouble in Paradise	John Winchester	SM	April
Turks & Caicos Is	The M/V Kirkland in the Turks & Caicos Islands	David Horry	BCPJ	July
Turks & Caicos Is	Historical overview	Noel Davenhill	AP	September

### Journal abbreviations

AP American Philatelist

BCPJ, British Caribbean Philatelic Society Journal

GSM, Gibbons Stamp Monthly

LP, London Philatelist

PH, Postal History, Postal History Society Journal

PS, Postal Stationery (USA)

PSSJ, Postal Stationery Society Journal (UK)

RJ, The Revenue Journal

SL, Stamp Lover

SM, Stamp Magazine

SCM, Stamp & Coin Mart

NB Articles in Bermuda Post are not referenced as it is assumed all members interested in Bermuda receive the journal as members of the Bermuda Collectors Society.

**Articles wanted for future Bulletins**  
**Anything West Indies related considered**



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