

Jamaica Postal History Volume II (unpublished)
Section 23 The Modern 'UNPAID' and 'TAX' Markings

Introduction

Tom Foster published Volume 1 of his master work, 'The Postal History of Jamaica to 1860' in 1968. Before his death in 1978 he had been working on volume 2, the story for the next 100 years-ish. Drafts of sections of this book had been sent to collectors and this document seeks to publish their contents.

In some cases the draft available is the master with his annotations – so we can assume he approved them, in other cases they are drafts annotated by others which may not be verified and hence have only been included with a health warning.

VOLUME II.

The Postal History, Postmarks, Post Offices and Agencies of Jamaica 1860—1967

PART V.

The Postmarks of Jamaica 1860-1967.

Section 23 – The Modern 'UNPAID' and 'TAX' Markings (1975)

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Section 23 The Modern 'UNPAID' and 'TAX' Markings

Prior to November, 1858, prepayment of postage on letters within Jamaica was not compulsory and the postage was usually paid by the recipient. When prepayment did occur - and the proportion of paid correspondence to unpaid was exceedingly small - the amount was marked in m/s on the obverse¹ of the letter, usually in red ink.

After November, 1858, a penalty of 4d per letter was enforced by Treasury Warrant on all inland mail not prepaid in either cash or postage stamps, this penalty being in addition to the normal postage. Prepayment of inland mail was made fully compulsory with from 1st January, 1872, when all unpaid letters were charged double the normal postage.

Prepayment of postage on letters originating in the island for destinations overseas had been compulsory from 1st February, 1858, and on such letters, the inland postage prepaid was inscribed separately from the packet or ship letter postage.

All 'Paid Letters' bore either or both Post Town and Kingston paid markings. In the case of the latter, it was usual for a paid letter originating from a Post Town or received from sources outside the island to be stamped with one of the date stamps inscribed 'JAMAICA/PAID' - types PD2, PD3, PD5, or PD5A. If, however, the letter was posted in Kingston, it received a strike of the 'KINGSTON/PAID' date stamp - types PD4, PD6 or PD6A. This practice simplified internal accounting and enabled the Kingston G.P.O. to keep a check on the numbers of paid letters sent from the various Post Towns or posted at the G.P.O. itself.

Certain prepaid letters received at the G.P.O., usually though not always from abroad, were often underpaid paid through error on the part of the despatching post office. Such letters would be returned to the sender for the additional postage required if this was practicable, otherwise, they would be held at the G.P.O. to await the additional postage from the recipient or his agent, who would be notified on a special post office form or postcard that there was a letter or postcard for him that awaited postage.

Prior to February 1858, all letters for foreign destinations sent by the packet service from Jamaica via London, had to be fully prepaid as far as that city. Unless all Imperial Postage had been paid, the letter would not be allowed to leave the country (as there were no postal exchange facilities at that time) and would be held there pending the arrival of the deficient postage, the procedure being the same as in the previous paragraph.

To explain the delays occurring with underpaid mail, a series of handstamps were introduced into the Kingston G.P.O., explaining why the letter had been held up or delayed. These were the first 'Unpaid' markings of Jamaica.

Prepayment of mail for addresses in Great Britain and the Colonies were never entirely compulsory, although prepayment was encouraged by means of a system of fines which later became known as 'Postage Due'. At first the recipient had to pay the missing postage plus a fine of the full postage rate, or a little later, the missing postage plus a fine of twice the missing postage, and finally, just twice the missing postage as is customary at the present time.

With the advent of this system, it became necessary to mark the fine or 'Postage Due' to be collected on the obverse of the letter, usually in m/s in coloured ink or crayon. In later years, handstruck 'Tax' markings were introduced for the same purpose.

Units of deficient postage, are, by U.P.U. agreement, always assessed in gold centimes, and the handstamps bearing these amounts are always applied at the Kingston G.P.O. In the case of letters entering the island, these handstamped 'Tax' markings would have already been applied.

In order to make this deficiency charge readily understandable to the Jamaican counter clerk or postman, it became necessary to convert it from gold centimes into 'pence' and the m/s endorsement doing this was usually applied at the office of delivery.

During the past few years, considerable evidence has accumulated suggesting that the larger district post offices were instructed to manufacture, or had been supplied with handstamps made from wood or rubber, which were to be used for facilitating 'pence' endorsements of 'Postage Due' on letters received from smaller offices under their control or from the Kingston G.P.O.

In all cases, the 'Postage Due' collected would be paid in cash by the recipient. Special postage due stamps have never been used in the Jamaican Post Office although letters going out of the island would naturally bear foreign 'due' markings and stamps on receipt.

A few words of warning, silly though they may seem! 'Postage Due' markings in m/s should not be mistaken for normal m/s rate inscriptions on early letters which had not been prepaid, nor should

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such letters bearing 'To Pay' handstamps be thought part of the system. 'To Pay' handstamps were merely used to speed up the marking of the normal postage rates on certain letters prior to 1860 and in all cases indicated the normal correct postage to be collected [See Section 8, Part II, Volume I].

Although this section is complete in itself, it should be mentioned that the first four handstamps listed are those included in Section 12, Part II, Volume I. That volume deals mainly with pre-stamp markings and the handstamps have been included here only so that a correct progression can be more clearly seen.

The system of classification adopted throughout these two corresponding sections, allocates a different 'D' number to each class of handstamp. Where more than one handstamp exists in a particular class, they are distinguished by using sub-lettering, i.e. D1, Dia etc.

Interest in 'Unpaid' and 'Tax' markings is not so great as with normal postmarks and it is possible that other marks of this type exist. There is little doubt that the known dates of use could be extended appreciably and the author will be pleased to acknowledge any omissions and amendments in the normal way.

Any method of assessing the individual value of these handstamps would be entirely unworkable as it could not possibly take into account the value of the letter or cover on which they are struck. The author has therefore resorted to the modern practice of giving a Rarity Value for each handstamp,

But it should be stressed that this rating applies only to the handstamp and not to the cover itself.

This system of rating is standard throughout the entire work and is based on the author's own records and research, with the valued co-operation of many specialist collectors in this country, the U.S.A., Canada and the West Indies.

None of these notes or lists may be reprinted or reproduced in any form whatsoever without the express permission of the author.

Type 'D01'

MORE-TO-PAY

This type consists of the hyphenated working 'MORE-TO-PAY' set up in a straight line 47mm in length, the lettering being in sloping serif capitals with a height of 5½mm.

It was sent out to Jamaica on 28th September, 1843.

MORE-TO-PAY

Type 'D01a'

MORE TO PAY

A similar type of handstamp but not hyphenated, the sloping serif capitals being 4½mm in height and 45mm long.

It is usually seen on letters bearing adhesive postage stamps and the date of its despatch to the island is not known.

MORE TO PAY

Red

1851

1867

R

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Type 'D02'

*No
Detained for Postage*

A neat brass handstamp comprising the legend 'No Detained for Postage' set up in two straight lines, the fancy script lettering being 2mm and 5½mm in height with an overall measurement of 45 x 11mm.

The abbreviation 'No' for 'number' is set at one side to allow for the insertion of a manuscript number by a postal official as described below. The handstamp was sent out to Jamaica on 26th August, 1845.

No
Detained for Postage

Black

30 Jan 1852

U

One example of this marking is known on a part paid letter from New York to Vera Cruz in Mexico via New Orleans and Jamaica. The letter carries various American and British paid markings, including Kingston K7a of 30 January 1852 and Kingston Paid PD6a of 12th February 1852.

In the absence of a reciprocal postal agreement with a foreign country, the British Post Office refused to allow letters to pass from its possession unless all postage due to the British Post Office had been paid. Where this had not been done, the letter was handstamped with type D3 and returned to the sender for the additional postage, the amount required being added to the handstamp in m/s.

This action was not always possible, especially when a letter originated in a foreign country and in that case, the letter was handstamped with type D2 and detained at the post office until the necessary postage had been paid. An advice note was then sent to the sender or his local agent if known, telling him that a letter had been detained at Kingston for further postage, and that on quoting the number on the advice note which corresponded with the number inserted in the handstamp on the letter, and paying the additional postage, the letter would be sent on its way.

Type 'D03'

RETURNED
For
POSTAGE

A brass handstamp comprising the legend 'RETURNED FOR POSTAGE' set up in three straight lines with an overall measurement of 30 x 8½mm. The serif capital letters are about 4½mm in height and the word 'For' is antique.

The handstamp was sent to Jamaica on 26th August 1845 and it is always struck in red ink.

It can be found struck on letters bearing unofficially bisected postage stamps, which had been returned to the sender for the correct postage.

RETURNED
For
POSTAGE

Red

6 Aug 1851

12 Jul 1895

R

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Type 'D03a'



Another handstamp of a similar nature that may have been intended for the same purpose as type 'D3', but which has never been seen used in that way. The absence of a space for the m/s insertion suggests that it was intended to be used differently, though in what way has yet to be discovered. By this time, the necessity of returning letters for unpaid postage has passed.

It consists of the words 'RETURNED FOR/POSTAGE' set in two straight lines, surrounded by a single rectangular frame line, measuring 32 x 8½mm.

The date of despatch to Jamaica is not known but it was prior to 1907 – an example is known used on a piece of a cover addressed to the late Mr Astley Clerk and bears his notation 'used during and after the 1907 earthquake'.

No special postal arrangements were necessary because of this emergency, but it is possible that some individuals attempted to pass unfranked material through the post. It may well be that this handstamp saw considerable use in that way, especially as Mr. Clerk's various notes on little known matters concerning postal markings can be relied upon.

RETURNED FOR
POSTAGE

Black

circa
Jan 1907?

VR

'Stamp Removed' markings.

Type 'D04'

STAMP REMOVED BEFORE RECEIPT
AT THE G. P. O. JAMAICA.

This handstamp has the words 'STAMP REMOVED BEFORE RECEIPT / AT THE G.P.O. JAMAICA.' set up in two straight lines and has an overall measurement of 71 x 9½mm. The sans serif capital lettering is 3mm in height and there is a period after the word 'JAMAICA.' There is no outer frame line.

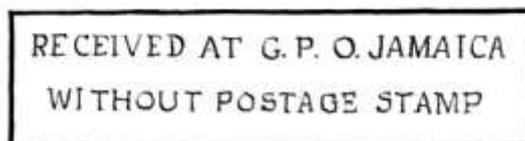
'STAMP REMOVED BEFORE RECEIPT
AT THE G.P.O. JAMAICA.'

Colour?

Prior to and
circa 1948

*

Type 'D04a'



A handstamp consisting of the words 'RECEIVED AT G.P.O. JAMAICA/WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMP' set up in two straight lines of serif capital letters about 2½mm in height. The legend is surrounded by a single lined, rectangular frame measuring about 68 x 18mm.

'RECEIVED AT THE G.P.O. JAMAICA
WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMP'

Colour ?

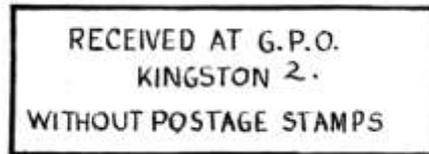
Prior to and
circa 1948

*

Details of types D4 and D4a are taken from courtesy strikes provided by the Kingston G.P.O. and they are not known used on mail. They were probably provided to apply to letters from which stamp had been removed, in order to show that such letters were not Unpaid Mail.

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Type 'D04b'



A handstamp consisting of the legend 'RECEIVED AT G.P.O. / KINGSTON/WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMPS' enclosed in a single lined, rectangular frame line measuring 55 x 20mm. The sans serif lettering is set up in three lines and has a height of 3mm.

RECEIVED AT G.P.O.
KINGSTON
WITHOUT POSTAGE STAMPS

Violet

28 Sep 1965

c

The only example of this handstamp seen to date is struck on an unstamped Letter to the U.S.A., probably posted in Kingston. It may have been posted at or collected by the Windward Road Post Office, as there is a c.d.s. of that office for 28th September 1965 struck on the front alongside type D4b.

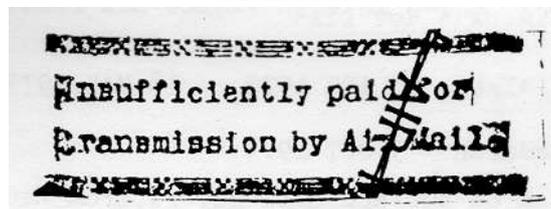
Type D4b was almost certainly applied at Windward Road Post Office, which comprises Kingston Postal District 2, as the specimen of type D4b seen has a m/s '2' inserted after the word 'KINGSTON'. It is logical to assume therefore, that the other Postal District Offices have similar handstamps to this and it will be interesting to see whether further examples carry a m/s Postal District number.

'Insufficiently Paid for Transmission by Airmail' Markings.

This class of Unpaid Marking is found struck in violet ink on underpaid letters intended for transmission by air, or on letters sent by surface mail but posted in error in airmail envelopes. They are often accompanied by various Tax Markings which denote that Air Mail Postage Due has to be paid.

Other mail on which they are found has not been surcharged but has been forwarded surface mail instead of by air. According to Jamaica Post Office regulations, airmail correspondence should be fully prepaid or it is not acceptable for transmission by air, but in actual fact, underpaid airmail is usually despatched accompanied by a Tax Mark. In certain cases, letters are returned to the sender for the full postage to be paid before being transmitted.

Type 'D05'



This was a rubber handstamp, consisting of the words 'Insufficiently paid for / transmission by Air Mail' set up in two straight lines in upper and lower case type. Above and below the legend is a fancy border comprised of alternate groups of five dots in the shape of a letter 'X' and five short horizontal lines. The ends of the handstamp are open and the overall dimensions are 62 x 19mm.

Insufficiently paid for
transmission by Air Mail

Violet

Jul 1948

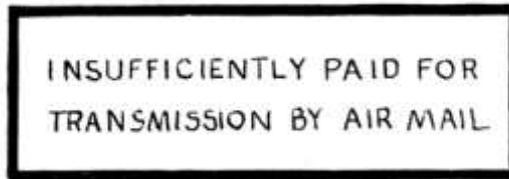
23 Oct 1960

N

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All letters on which this type appears have been forwarded by surface mail and do not carry a Tax Marking.

Type 'D05a'



Another rubber handstamp with a similar legend in sans serif capital lettering, 3mm in height, surrounded by a thick single-lined, rectangular frame approximately 66 x 23mm.

INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR
TRANSMISSION BY AIRMAIL

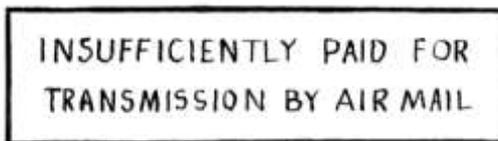
20 Oct 1953

5 Nov 1955

UN

This handstamp is known struck on fully prepaid Second Class Airmail correspondence to England probably in error but often because the item has been sealed. None of the examples seen bear Tax Markings and there is nothing to suggest that they were not transmitted by airmail.

Type 'D05b'



A rubber handstamp with the same legend and format as the previous type. The sans serif capital lettering is 3mm in height and the single, thin, rectangular lettering frame line has dimensions of 65 x 18mm.

INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR
TRANSMISSION BY AIRMAIL

Violet

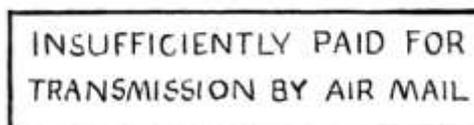
26 Oct 1956

22 May 1957

N

This handstamp always appears on underpaid letters which have been forwarded by surface mail and bear no Tax Markings.

Type 'D05c'



Another rubber handstamp with the same legend and format as the previous one. The lettering is the same, but the frame-line has dimensions of about 61 x 15½mm.

It was used for a number of years at the Kingston G.P.O. and can be found with slightly larger dimensions due to 'spread'. The author is of the opinion that more than one handstamp of this type exists.

INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR
TRANSMISSION BY AIRMAIL

Violet

20 Oct 1953

7 Jul 1965

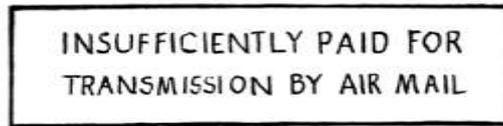
VC

This handstamp is often found on letters to England and Pakistan etc that, because of underpayment they have been conveyed by surface mail and bear no Tax Markings. It is very often

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found on underpaid letters to the U.S.A. which carry various Tax Markings and have been despatched by Air Mail.

Type 'D05d'



A similar handstamp with the same legend and format. The lettering is the same but the frame-line measures 70-71 x 16mm and there is more space at the ends than in the previous types.

INSUFFICIENTLY PAID FOR
TRANSMISSION BY AIRMAIL

Violet

9 Dec 1964

11 Mar 1972

c

This handstamp is known used in conjunction with type D4b and may have been applied at the Windward Road Post Office. It is also known used without Tax Markings.

Returned for Additional Postage Markings.

Type 'D06'



A handstamp with the words 'RETURNED FOR/ADDITIONAL POSTAGE _____' set up in two straight lines, surrounded by a single rectangular frame-line with dimensions of 49 x 12mm, as type 'D06A' below; but spacing is different.

RETURNED FOR
ADDITIONAL POSTAGE_____

2 Nov 1951

19 Feb 1954

Seen on underpaid airmail to the United Kingdom from Santa Cruz, returned from Kingston for additional postage and then transmitted by air.

Type 'D06a'

A handstamp with the words 'RETURNED FOR/ADDITIONAL POSTAGE_____ ' set up in two straight lines, surrounded by a single, rectangular frame-line with dimensions of 49 x 12mm. All the lettering is in sans serif capitals, that of the top line being 2½mm in height and that of the bottom line about 2mm high. The initial letters being slightly taller

RETURNED FOR
ADDITIONAL POSTAGE_____

Violet

28 Feb 1949

11 Dec 1957

C

The reason for the use of this handstamp is not apparent, since its use on surface mails would be a reversion to a practice abandoned before 1900.

It has been seen on letters to destinations outside the island (England, Australia, U.S.A. etc.}. The author believes that it may have been confined to underpaid mail originating from the large business houses in Kingston which were easily returned to the sender for additional postage, but this is only a supposition.

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The amount required (in pence) was inserted in m/s in the space provided on the handstamp. In many cases the stamp required is stuck over the handstruck mark. Letters are known as singly sent back to the office of origin from Kingston, with the additional stamp postmarked with the office of origin, letters have been seen from Liguanea.

Returned for Additional Air Mail Postage Markings.

As mentioned earlier Post Office regulations required that airmail correspondence should be fully prepaid or it was liable to be sent by surface mail or otherwise delayed.

The practice of returning 'Air Mail' for additional postage does not seem to have carried out very thoroughly and it was probable more convenient to apply 'Additional Tax markings'.

The handstamps issued for use on this class of unpaid mail allowed for the insertion of the amount of additional postage required and for the current airmail rate per half ounce etc.

Type 'D07'

Returned for additional postage of _s _d
 Air Mail must be fully prepaid
 Weight of letter _ ounces _s _d for each
 ½ ounce.

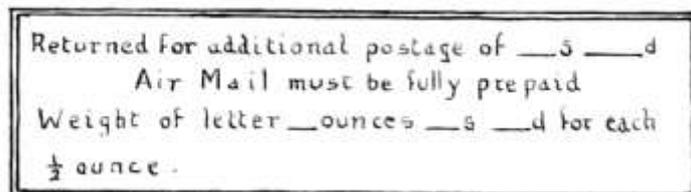
(Composed from description and
 not correct in all details).

A rubber handstamp with the legend set up in four lines in upper and lower case sans serif type, about 3mm in height. The handstamp reads 'Returned for additional postage of s d/Air Mail must be fully prepaid/Weight of letter ounces s d for each / ½ ounce. The distance from the letter 'R' of 'Returned' to the symbol 'd' for 'pence' is 72mm and the handstamp has a depth of 17mm. There is no outer frame.

Applied at Kingston G.P.O. ?, although letters from other offices seldom bear Kingston postmarks. After additional postage was affixed letter was then forwarded by air in the normal way.

Returned for additional postage of s d				
Air Mail must be fully prepaid				
Weight of letter ounces s d for each	Purple	11 Oct 1954	14 Mar 1955	R
½ ounce				

Type 'D07a'



A handstamp similar to the previous type but enclosed by a thick, rectangular frame-line measuring 79 x 24½mm. The lettering is slightly larger and the distance between the 'R' and is now 74mm.

Returned for additional postage of s d				
Air Mail must be fully prepaid				
Weight of letter ounces s d for each	Violet	13 Jul 1955	22 Oct 1955	UN
½ ounce				

Single, Triangular 'T' for Tax Markings.

These markings were the first attempts made by the postal authorities at a standard handstamp indicating a postal deficiency. They are always accompanied by the 'charge' expressed either in m/s or by an 'Amount Due' handstamp. Occasionally, the 'Amount Due' is applied by the country of receipt but usually it is applied at the Kingston G.P.O.

They were probably made from steel or brass and may possibly have been issued to all the larger offices, as were the oval 'R' handstamps which indicated 'Registration£'. Only the main types are indicated here but there are slight differences to be found in each type which bear out this theory.

Type 'D08'



A handstamp consisting of a sans serif capital 'T' enclosed in a single, triangular frame with 14mm sides. The 'T' has a height of 6½mm and its components are about 1mm in width.

T

Black

13 Mar 1879

12 Oct 1938

VC

This type was used for a considerable time and was almost certainly issued to the post towns, as several dies appear to exist. It is known on letters from many towns and it was post office procedure to apply the warning 'T' handstamp, indicating that there was a deficiency, at the point of mailing. Type 'D8' is known used in conjunction with types 'D10', 'D10a', 'D11a', and 'D11c', but is usually found with the 'Amount Due' expressed in m/s, often in blue crayon. Examples commonly occur where this mark has been applied in error and then has been cancelled by striking out the marking with blue crayon.

Type 'D8a'



A similar handstamp with a larger format. The heavily seriffed 'T' is 10½mm in height with much thicker components and the triangular frame has 17½mm sides.

T

Black

2 Jan 1899

28 Apr 1912

S

It is usually accompanied by the 'Amount Due' inscribed in m/s. On overseas items, often in gold centimes in blue crayon; but many examples, generally from the post towns, are used in conjunction with type 'D10a' which was applied at Kingston. Like 'D08', several dies exist of this handstamp and it was probably used by many of the larger offices.

Single, Circular 'T' for Tax Markings.

This new type was used in the same way as the previous class of handstamp and the fact that it is circular, is possibly because it was a modern version. They are always accompanied by the 'Amount Due' expressed either in m/s or by handstamp.]

Type 'D09'



A handstamp consisting of a serif 'T' about 10mm in height, with long points to the serifs from the cross-bar and a base to the letter of 6mm, Enclosed in a single circle with a diameter of about 16mm. This type was used at Kingston.

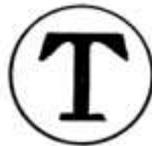
T

Black

20 Dec 1905

VR

Type 'D09a'



A handstamp consisting of a heavily seriffed 'T' about 11mm in height, enclosed in a single circle with a diameter of 17-18mm.

Black

31 Mar 1906

9 May 1916

C

This type can be found used in conjunction with type 'D10a' or a m/s 'Amount Due' and often only with 'Amount Due' handstamps of the Foreign Branch of the London G.P.O. and the Liverpool and British Post Offices at ports of entry.

Several dies appear to exist and it was probably used by some of the post towns in addition to the Kingston G.P.O. who probably had several dies in use. Have this marking from Montego Bay, it differs from 'D 9' mainly in the height of the letter and the length of the serif at the base.

Type 'D09b'



Very similar to the previous types of this class, but the 'T' has a height of 12mm and its base line is very thick. The single circle has a diameter of 18mm.

T

Black

25 Oct 1912

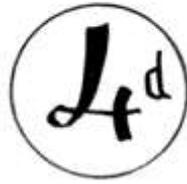
1 Apr 1920

C

This type has been seen used on a letter from Maggotty to the U.S.A. accompanied by type 'D10a'. It was possibly a variation of this classification and originally thought only have been used at that office (but Tom Foster subsequently located similar markings from Christiana and Spanish Town).

Single, Circular and Unframed 'Amount Due' Markings

Type 'D10'



A Handstamp consisting of a fancy '4d' about 16mm in height, enclosed in a single circle with a diameter of 23 mm.

4d

Black

20 Nov 1889

VR

This marking is known used on an underpaid letter to England accompanied by Type D08.

Type 'D10A'



A rubber handstamp resembling the right-hand portion of a duplex marking.

It consists of a single circle about 18mm in diameter, with the word 'CENTIMES' curved inside the top in 2mm serif capitals and the 'Amount Due' placed in the centre and expressed in serif arabic figures 3¼mm in height.

Several values of this handstamp are recorded and all are separate handstamps.

10 CENTIMES	Violet	1910	20 Apr 1912	R
30 CENTIMES	Violet	1910	25 Oct 1912	S
40 CENTIMES	Violet	2 Dec 1909	30 Apr 1912	R

This was the first of the 'Gold Centimes' handstamps and it is always accompanied by the warning 'T' marking, types 'D08', 'D08a', 'D09a' and 'D09b'.

It was applied at the Kingston G.P.O.

Duplex Tax Markings.

The Duplex Tax Markings, issued in accordance with U.P.U. regulations, were intended to provide an understandable system for the collection of postage due to the Jamaica Post Office, by whom they were applied.

They were issued primarily for use on underpaid mail going overseas and as a standard unit of currency for exchange was essential, the Gold Centime was established, 5 Gold Centimes being considered equal to ½d Sterling. The assessment ensured that the correct fee was collected from the recipient of the letter and more important, that the correct amount of postage due was remitted to the Jamaica Post Office.

As the handstamps were applied to mail that had already been posted and inspected, it was not necessary to include the date of use in their make-up, but the markings always include the word 'JAMAICA' and a 'T' signifying that tax and postage to the amount stated is due to be collected and placed to the credit of the Jamaica Post Office.

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Type 'D11'



A duplex rubber handstamp, consisting of two single circles, each 17½mm in diameter, but often slightly distorted due to wear or uneven strikes.

In the Left-hand circle is a large, thick, seriffed 'T' about 10mm in height, below which is curved the word 'JAMAICA', in small, serif capitals 2mm high concluding in a full point.

In the Right-hand circle, the word 'CENTIMES' is curved inside the top in 2mm serif capitals and in the centre is placed the 'Amount Due' in 3½mm serif arabic figures.

Four values are known and others may exist, all being separate handstamps.

10 CENTIMES	Violet	11 Jun 1918	22 Sep 1919	N
20 CENTIMES	Violet	9 May 1916	11 Mar 1918	N
30 CENTIMES	Violet	5 Mar 1914	18 May 1918	N
40 CENTIMES	Violet	2 Sep 1914	26 May 1915	UN

Type 'D11a'



Similar in format to D11 but with circles about 16½mm in diameter, sometimes slightly distorted. Three values are known to exist and others may yet be found.

Left-hand circle – has sans serif 'T' about 8¼ - 9mm in height with the cross-bar about 2mm from the circle. 'JAMAICA' is in 2mm serif capitals concluding in a full point, the letters practically touching the circle.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2¼mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in serif figures about 3½ - 4mm in height.

10 CENTIMES	Violet	18 Oct 1923	8 May 1929	V
20 CENTIMES	Violet	14 Oct 1927	4 Oct 1929	N
30 CENTIMES	Violet	5 Oct 1927	15 Jan 1928	S

This type can sometimes be found used in conjunction with type 'D08'.

Letters to the U.K. bearing these handstamps can often be found handstamped in black with a framed 'INSUFFICIENTLY PAID' marking, 62 x 9mm, in sans serif capitals 5½mm high.

Type 'D11b'



Has the same format with 16mm circles. Only one value has been recorded but others may exist, and may probably be a former marking of the D11a series.

Left-hand circle – sans serif 'T' with height of 8¼mm and cross-bar about 1¼mm from circle. 'JAMAICA' is in 2¼mm serif capitals without full point and the lettering is well clear of the circle.

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Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2¼mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in 3¼mm serif figures.

20 CENTIMES
 40 CENTIMES

Violet 20 Nov 1920
 Violet 17 Oct 1936

VR

Type 'D11c'



Similar in format with 16mm circles; three values have been recorded but others probably exist.

Left-hand circle – has fancy serif 'T' about 7mm in height with an outlined periphery but in late strikes the whole letter appears in solid colour due to wear. 'JAMAICA' is in 1¼mm serif capitals without the full point.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 1¼mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in serif figures 2½mm in height.

10 CENTIMES
 20 CENTIMES
 30 CENTIMES

Violet 10 Aug 1929
 Violet 13 Jul 1929
 Violet 20 Jul 1929

16 Apr 1940
 13 Jun 1933
 16 Mar 1939

VC
 VC
 C

10 CENTIMES
 20 CENTIMES

Black 23 Oct 1939
 Black 16 Jun 1933

2 Dec 1939

UN
 R

This type is sometimes found used in conjunction with type 'D08'.

Type 'D11d'



Same format with 20 – 21mm circles. Three values have been recorded but others almost certainly exist. The outline of the handstamp holder shows as an oblong on some strikes of the 40 Centime value.

Left-hand circle – has serif 'T' about 6mm in height. 'JAMAICA' is in 2½mm serif capitals without full point.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2½mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in 5½mm serif figures.

10 CENTIMES
 40 CENTIMES
 60 CENTIMES

Violet 1 Apr 1946
 Violet 22 Jan 1949
 Violet 21 Jan 1947

28 Jun 1949

C
 S
 S

The 10 Centimes was evidently known in Jun 1949 as covers are known which show only the outline of a frame for the value.

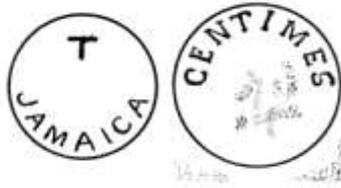
On 18th September 1949, the Pound Sterling was devalued and the corresponding rise in the value of the Gold Centime caused all the existing duplex handstamps to become obsolete.

The new exchange value was settled at 4 Gold Centimes = ½d or 7 Gold Centimes = 1d Sterling. New duplex markings for the new amount soon began to appear.

Theory ! Until this time duplex tax handstamps showed double the deficiency, i.e. the straight rate to be converted. After, the handstamp showed the deficiency only and this had to be doubled and converted on arrival.

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Type 'D11e'



A provisional handstamp having the same format but with circles of different sizes. Only one value has been recorded but others may exist.

This handstamp may have been an unused duplex marking expressed in the old currency, used with the value erased.

Left-hand circle – 19mm. Has sans serif 'T' about 3½mm in height, situated towards the top of circle. 'JAMAICA' is in 2¼mm sans serif capitals.

Right-hand circle – 21mm. 'CENTIMES' is in 2½mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in indistinct figures about 7½ - 8mm in height and has the figure '4' superimposed upon it in blue crayon.

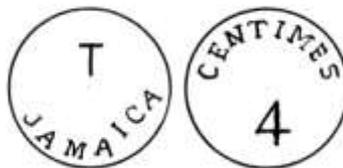
4 CENTIMES

Violet
 In Red crayon

8 May 1951
 1952?
 (on 2d University
 College cover)

U
 U

Type 'D11f'



Has the same format with 21mm circles. Seven values have so far been recorded and others may exist.

Left-hand circle – has thin, sans serif 'T' about 3½ - 4½mm in height, according to value handstamp, situated towards top of circle. 'JAMAICA' is in 2½mm serif capitals, often misplaced or distorted.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2½mm serif capitals, often misplaced or distorted. 'Amount Due' is in sans serif figures about 6mm in height. In later strikes the '7' handstamp often appears as a 'Z' due to wear.

4 CENTIMES
 7 CENTIMES
 14 CENTIMES
 21 CENTIMES
 28 CENTIMES
 42 CENTIMES
 70 CENTIMES

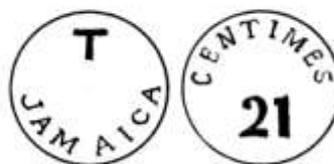
Violet
 Violet
 Violet
 Violet
 Violet
 Violet
 Violet

4 May 1951
 6 Apr 1957
 11 Jan 1954
 25 May 1958
 21 Sep 1960
 6 Jun 1955

17 May 1961
 10 Dec 1961
 13 Jun 1961
 7 Nov 1959

VC
 VC
 VC
 N?
 ?
 ?
 R

Type 'D11g'



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Similar in appearance to previous type and has 20 – 20½mm circles. Six values have been reported so far and others probably exist.

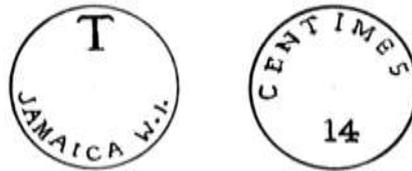
Left-hand circle – has sans serif 'T' about 3½mm in height, situate higher than in type 'D11f'. 'JAMAICA' is in serif capitals about 2½mm in height.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2¼mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in sans serif figures 5½mm in height, at times an arc appears below the word 'CENTIMES'

14 CENTIMES	Violet	14 Dec 1953		?
21 CENTIMES	Violet	4 Sep 1957	1962	N
28 CENTIMES	Violet	7 Feb 1960	19 Mar 1962	N
35 CENTIMES	Violet	16 Dec 1960		R ?
42 CENTIMES	Violet	13 Jun 1960	28 Sep 1965	UN
63 CENTIMES	Violet	2 Jun 1854		VR ?

The 63 Centime handstamp is known used on a Second Class Air Mail letter to England, that was underpaid and carried 'SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL/MUST NOT BE SEALED handstamp, type 'D15'.

Type 'D11h'



Similar in format to previous types with circles measuring 213/4mm in diameter. Only one value has been recorded.

Left-hand circle – serif 'T' about 4½mm in height. 'JAMAICA W.I. at bottom is in 2mm serif letters.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in 3mm serif figures.

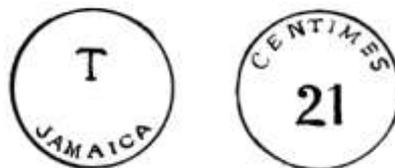
14 CENTIMES	Violet	29 Oct 1957	8 Mar 1063	C
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For examples of this handstamp used with m/s to indicate deficiency marks in the new style, see under Fractional System Postage Due Markings.

Type 'D11i'

[Type omitted]

Type 'D11j'



Similar in format to the previous types, but has a wider space between the two circles, which have a diameter of about 21mm. Only one value has been recorded so far.

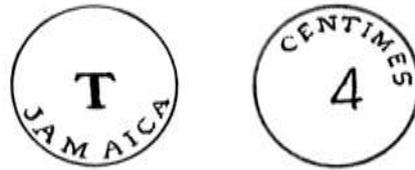
Left-hand circle – has 'T' about 4½mm in height, situated higher in circle than in the following type. 'JAMAICA' is in irregular, 2mm serif capitals.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in 2mm sans serif figures about 5mm in height.

21 CENTIMES	Violet	10 Oct 1964	31 Dec 1965	S ?
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Type 'D11k'.



Another type with a wider space between the two circles, which have a diameter of 22mm. Only one value has so far been recorded.

Left-hand circle – serif 'T' about 5mm in height, centrally situated in the circle. 'JAMAICA' is in serif capitals about 2¼mm in height.

Right-hand circle – 'CENTIMES' is in 2¼mm serif capitals. 'Amount Due' is in sans serif figures, and the one value seen has this figure off centre to the right.

4 CENTIMES

Violet

28 Apr 1965

25 Aug 1965

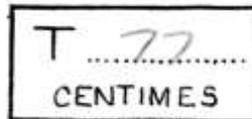
UN ?

The possibility must be considered, that types 'D11j' and 'D11k' are two values of one group of handstamp.

Rectangular Framed Tax Markings.

These were a new form of Gold Centime handstamps, applied at the Kingston G.P.O. in the same manner as the duplex markings and allowing for the insertion of the postage due in m/s, thus eliminating the need for a different handstamp for each 'Amount Due'.

Type 'D12'.



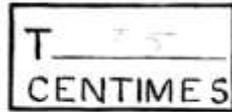
Consisting of a single-lined rectangle measuring 32 x 15mm, enclosing the legend 'T...../CENTIMES set up in two lines.

The sans serif 'T' has a height of 4½mm and is followed by a row of dots, provided for the insertion of a m/s 'Amount Due', usually in blue or red crayon or blue/black ink. 'CENTIMES' is in sans serif capitals measuring 21 x 23/4.

The reason for the use of the 15 and 20 Centimes values is not apparent to the author.

4 CENTIMES	Violet	? Sep 195?	?
7 CENTIMES	Violet	14 Jul 1967	?
14 CENTIMES	Violet	2 Mar 1954	?
15 CENTIMES	Violet	14 Jul 1962	?
20 CENTIMES	Violet	8 Jul 1964	?
28 CENTIMES	Violet	14 Apr 1950	?
70 CENTIMES	Violet		?
77 CENTIMES	Violet	21 Oct 1953	24 Feb 1954 ?
84 CENTIMES	Violet		?

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Type °D12a.



Similar in format to the previous type, but having a frame- measuring only 29 x 14 mm.
 The sans serif 'T' is 4¼ mm in height and is followed by a continuous line for the insertion of the 'Amount Due'.
 'CENTIMES' is in sans serif capitals measuring 25 x 2¾ mm.

14 CENTIMES	Violet	22 Jan 1965	20 Nov 1965	?
21 CENTIMES	Violet	Jun 1964	6 Aug 1965	?
35 CENTIMES	Violet	23 Nov 1965		?
42 CENTIMES	Violet	27 Jun 1964		?

"WOODBLOCK', POSTAGE DUE' Markings.

When underpaid letters were received in the island bearing Gold Centime charges applied by other postal administrations, it was necessary to convert these charges into Sterling, in order that the Jamaica Post Office could collect the proper fee.
 Collection of these charges was the responsibility of the Office of Delivery, who inscribed the equivalent amount, in Sterling on the letter.
 Some of the larger offices however, appear to have manufactured rough 'Amount Due' handstamps from wood in order to save time and give the conversion an authoritative appearance.
 These 'woodblocks' exist in many forms as follows :-

Type 'D13'.



Used at KINGSTON. Height of '1' is 17½ mm. It has no 'd' pence sign or full point. Known on letters from Montego Bay and Sandy Bay to Kingston.-

1	Violet	1 Feb 1916	6 Oct 1916	VR2
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Type '13a'



Used at KINGSTON. Height of '1' is 20 mm. Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Known used on letter from Black River to Kingston. Also on incoming Post cards from GB underpaid

1d	Purple	Aug 1925	5 Mar 1927	VR2
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Type 'D13b'



Used at Kingston. Height of '1' is 17½mm.

Has no 'd' pence sign or full point. Portion of holder shows at right. Very similar to 'D13'. Known used on letter from U.K. to Harry Watch. Another copy exists (author's collection) on an underpaid letter from Montego Bay to the UK.

1d

Violet

22 Nov 1940

21 Feb 1941

VR4

Type 'D13c'



Used at MANDEVILLE.' Height of '1' is 18½ mm.

Has 'd' pence sign and full point. Traces of holder sometimes appear. Known used on letters from Kingston and Manchioneal to Mandeville.

1d.

Violet

6 Aug 1945

10 Aug ?

VR3

Type 'D13d'



Used at MONTEGO BAY. Height of '1' is 18 mm.

Has 'd' pence sign and full point. Known used on letter from Tacoma to Rhode Island, re-directed to Montego Bay, date unknown.

1d

Violet

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Type 'D13e'



Used at KINGSTON ? Height of '2' is 18 mm. Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Known used on letter from Bath to Kingston.

2d

Violet

2 Sep 1926

U

Type 'D13f'



Used at KINGSTON. Height of '2' is 16½ mm. Has upper case 'D' pence sign but no full point. All strikes seen show portion of octagonal holder. Known used on letters from Montego Bay, London, Eng., and Illinois, to Kingston.

2D

Violet

27 Aug 1936

21 Aug 1939

VR6?

Type 'D13g'



Used at MANDEVILLE ? Height of '2' is 18 mm.

Has 'd' pence sign and full point. Known used on letter from Danvers Pen to Mandeville accompanied by m/s '2d' in blue crayon.

2d

Violet

11 Aug 1945

U

Type 'D13h'



Used at MONTEGO BAY ? Height of '2' is 18 mm.

Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Appears to have bar below 'd' and level with base of '2', but this may be part of the holder.

Known used on letter from Providence to Montego Bay, date unknown.

2d

Violet

U

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Type 'D13i'



Used at KINGSTON. Height of '3' is 19 mm. Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Known used on letters from Michigan, Boston and Brooklyn to Kingston.

3d

Violet

2 Oct 1911

13 Dec 1919

VR5 ?

Type 'D13j'



Used at KINGSTON. Height of '3' is 21 mm. Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Known used on letters from New York to Kingston.

3d

Violet

24 Aug 1921

4 Sep 1921

VR2 ?

Type 'D13k'



Used at KINGSTON ? Height of '3' is 14 mm. Has 'd' pence sign with full point. Known used on letter from Pennsylvania to Kingston.

5d

Violet

14 Apr 1932

U

Type 'D13l'



Used at MANDEVILLE ? Height of '3' is 19 mm. Has upper case 'D' pence sign but no full point. Small portions of holder on only known copy. Known used on letter from Cross Roads to Mandeville.

3D

Violet

9 Nov 1943

U

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Type 'D13m'



Used at KINGSTON ? Height of '4' is 24 mm. Has 'd' pence sign but no full point. Known used on local letter to Kingston, date unknown.

4d

Violet

U

Type 'D13n'



D13n

Used at MONTEGO BAY ? height of '4' is 17 mm, Has 'd' pence sign with full point. Known used on letter from New Mexico to Montego Bay, date unknown.

4d

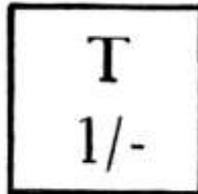
Violet

'SQUARE FRAMEDPOSTAGE DUE' Markings

Permanent handstamps for the payment of inland postage due were not issued for a considerable time and so far, have only been seen used by the Kingston G.P.O. in the same way as the previous classification.

These handstamps replaced the woodblock items which had been in use until then and other types will probably appear for some of the larger offices, Both 'woodblock' and permanent types were also used to indicate postage due to be paid on local letters as well underpaid items from overseas.

Type 'D14'



These handstamps consist of a single-lined 25mm square, enclosing a serif 'T' with a height of 6½mm, placed above the 'Amount Due', which is in serif figures about 6mm in height. Six values have been recorded so far and others may exist.

1d	Violet	28 Apr 1965		?
2d	Violet	21 Feb 1955	10 Jan 1961	VC
2d	Black	? Jun 1955		VR ?
3d	Violet	19 Jul 1965		VR ?
7d	Violet	30 Apr 1967		VR ?
1/-	Violet	? Nov 1955		VR ?
1/1	Violet	30 Jan 1964		VR ?

Most of these markings are accompanied by a m/s blue crayon 'T', 'Amount Due' in blue or red crayon. Many items dated between 1960 and 1965 also carry a small, single-lined date-stamp i.e. '10 Jan 1961', struck in the same coloured ink as 'D14' and probably applied at the same office.

Examples of these marks in violet, blue and purple exist from the early 1970's with value erased and fractional charges inserted in red ink. Seen on an air letter to the UK, Strathbogie to Chicago with 4/9 and also inland 18/9.

'Second Class Air Mail Must Not be Sealed' markings.

Handstamps applied to letters explaining why they have been classed as underpaid. They are always accompanied by Tax Markings.

Type 'D15'

Consists of the legend 'SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL/MUST NOT BE SEALED' set up in two straight lines, in sans serif capitals about 2½mm in height. Used at the Kingston G.P.O.

SECOND CLASS AIR MAIL MUST NOT BE SEALED'	Violet	2 Jun 1954	VR?
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This handstamp is known used in conjunction with type 'D11g'.

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Type 'D16'.

SECOND CLASS MAIL
MUST NOT BE SEALED

Used in the same manner as the previous classification and intended to accompany the relevant Tax Marking. This handstamp consists of the legend 'SECOND CLASS MAIL/MUST NOT BE SEALED' set up in two straight lines and has overall measurements of 69 x 12mm. The lettering is in sans serif capitals about 4mm in height.

SECOND CLASS MAIL
MUST NOT BE SEALED'

Violet

28 Dec 1956

1967

UN

One example has been recorded used on a letter from Mandeville to Chicago, accompanied by type 'D5b'. Used in the Mail Sorting Room of the G.P.O.

Fractional System Postage Due Markings.

As a result of proposals approved by the U.P.U. in 1964, a new procedure for indicating postage due on international mail became effective from 1st January 1966. This is known as the 'Fractional System'.

The practice of using the 'Gold Centime' as a standard unit of exchange ended, and in its place the Despatching Office applies a handstamp consisting of a letter 'T' followed by a fraction. The 'T' indicates that postage due has to be collected, whilst the Numerator of the fraction represents the deficiency doubled, the Denominator being the correct rate for the item.

On receipt, the Receiving Office determines the postage due to be collected in its own currency by multiplying the entire fraction by its own rate for the item travelling in the reverse direction, the result to the nearest coin being the 'Amount Due' to be collected.

For example, a surface letter from Jamaica to the United Kingdom (rate 3d per 2ozs), would be marked T 2/3. In the U.K., this fraction would be multiplied by 4, (the equivalent U.K. rate being 4d) and the 'Amount Due' to be collected would therefore be 2½d.

This procedure does not apply to short paid mail entering the island from Canada – the Canadian Post Office marking the letter with the actual number of Canadian cents to be collected, which would need converting to Sterling in Jamaica. The only other exception is Mexico, who would charge all underpaid mail entering Mexico from Jamaica, by multiplying the double deficiency by the equivalent Mexican rate overseas.

Type 'D17'.

This handstamp consists of a fraction T6/6 enclosed in a 22mm single circle, thus indicating a deficiency of 3d on a 6d rate.

The dimensions and style are at present unknown to the author and only one value has so far been recorded. Applied at the Kingston G.P.O.

T6/6
T12/6

Violet

12 Mar 1966
22 Feb 1966

14 May 1966

C

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Miscellaneous

Air Letters from Jamaica to the UK, one known dated 14 Dec 1962 struck in purple on the obverse with a framed 'ARTICLE ENCLOSED'. Presumably this was applied in Kingston to indicate that the letter had to be sent by ordinary mail instead of by air.

TABLE OF RARITY.

It is difficult to confer ratings on many of the items included in this section, but it must be remembered that some modern items are seldom used and are therefore just as scarce as little-used earlier markings. The author intends to adjust this coding from time to time if members will keep him informed of further items that come into their possession.

	Known to have been issued <u>but no example yet recorded</u>	*
<u>Unique</u>		
<u>Very Rare</u>	up to 10 examples exist, the digit indicating number of copies recorded. A + following the digit shows that other examples are believed to exist	VR5+
<u>Rare</u>	not more than 20 exist	R
<u>Scarce</u>	not more than 50 exist	S
<u>Uncommon</u>	not more than 100 exist	UN
<u>Normal</u>	not more than 150 exist	N
<u>Common</u>	not more than 200 exist	C
<u>Very Common</u>	more than 200 examples exist	VC
<u>still current</u>		c

Acknowledgements.

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Much information has also been gathered from the many collections in the United Kingdom including those of Dr. R.H. Blackburn, Mr. L.A. Courtney, Mr VNF Surtees, Mr LP Voller, Mr. W.K. Watson and the late Mr. J.E. Patrick.