

## Obliterator Listing

### From Potter 1996 with amendments.

With the introduction of postage stamps in 1858 it was decided that these should be cancelled with an obliterator rather than the circular date stamps then in use. These obliterators were introduced in 1858 at Kingston and in the following year 1859 at the other offices. They consisted of bars of varying thickness with a different code in the centre for each one. Before the provincial offices had their own obliterators they were told to leave the stamps and they would be cancelled with the obliterator coded 'A01' at Kingston. Several offices however did cancel stamps at this time with their date stamps (Flint River & Savannah-La-Mar are examples) others used manuscript cancels and Spanish Town used a "½" handstamp.

The style A 'A01' obliterator was available for the first stamp issue in 1858 and the 52 other obliterators were received in 1859. They were coded 'A27' through to 'A78' and were issued to the offices in alphabetical order Alexandria receiving 'A27' and Vere 'A78'. However G. B. stamps were officially withdrawn at the end of May 1860 therefore until the arrival of the first Jamaica stamps in November of that year the obliterators were little used just cancelling stamps which had been held in the community. Of course they were used extensively on the new stamps.

In November 1862 obliterators 'A38' to 'A59' were recalled and reissued to new offices to allow for closures and openings in the previous three years. The idea was to keep the numerical and alphabetic order of the obliterators constant. To this day this exercise causes great confusion for anyone trying to find the origin of any postal item from this period. Any of these cancels may have been used at either of two and sometimes more offices and unless it is on a cover with a named handstamp it is often impossible to say which.

After this any new offices were issued with obliterators with new codes or those from offices which had closed. The new codes used included a continuation of the 'A' series with 'A79', 'A80', 'A81', 'A82' & 'A83'. There was also 'E06', 'E30' and 'E58' and some in the 'F' and 'G' series. Then there were some issued with three digits and no letters and some with one letter and no digits. Besides all this some of the offices lost or damaged their original obliterators and had them replaced with others of the same code but with different shapes. The various styles are illustrated at the end of this chapter and I give a table of how they were used below.

Image	Code	Style	Office	Approx dates.	Notes
	A01	A	Kingston	1858 to 1863	
	A01	B	Kingston	1859 to 1870	Duplex of obliterator and K10 dated circle.
	A01	C	Kingston	1859 to 1870	Duplex of two obliterators.
	A01	D	Kingston	1860 to 1870	Small lettering with heavy bars
	A01	E	Kingston	1860 to 1875	Bigger with very oval "0"
	A01	F	Kingston	1870 to 1885	As E but very round "0"
	A01	G	Kingston	1870 to 1885	Between E and F.

	A27	H	Alexandria	1859 to 1890	
	A28	H	Annotto Bay	1859 to 1876	
	A28	M	Annotto Bay	1876 to 1885	
	A29	H	Bath	1859 to 1890	
	A30	H	Black River	1859 to 1882	
	A31	H	Brown's Town	1859 to 1882	
	A32	H	Buff Bay	1859 to 1892	
	A33	H	Chapelton	1859 to 1890	
	A34	H	Claremont	1859 to 1890	
	A35	H	Clarendon	1859 to 1876	
	A35	H	Four Paths	1876 to 1893	Office moved here from Clarendon.
	A36	H	Dry Harbour	1859 to 1860	
	A36	M	Dry Harbour	1860 to 1861	
	A36	L	Dry Harbour	1861 to 1892	
	A37	H	Duncans	1859 to 1880	See also 'B'
	A38	H	Ewarton	1859 to 1862	See also '196' Closed & reopened.
	A38	H	Falmouth	1862 to 1880	
	A38	N	Falmouth	1880 to 1882	
	A38	N	Up Park Camp	1884 to 1885	
	A39	H	Falmouth	1859 to 1862	
	A39	H	Flint River	1862 to 1893	
	A40	H	Flint River	1859 to 1862	
	A40	H	Gayle	1862 to 1893	Known in Blue ink
	A41	H	Gayle	1859 to 1862	
	A41	H	Golden Spring	1862 to 1885	Known in Violet - Blue ink.
	A41	H	Stony Hill	1885 to 1893	Office moved here from Golden Spring
	A42	H	Golden Spring	1859 to 1862	
	A42	H	Gordon Town	1862 to 1893	
	A43	H	Gordon Town	1859 to 1862	
	A43	H	Goshen	1862 to 1883	
	A43	H	Santa Cruz	1883 to 1893	Office moved here from Goshen

	A44	H	Goshen	1859 to 1862	
	A44	H	Grange Hill	1862 to 1893	
	A45	H	Grange Hill	1859 to 1862	
	A45	H	Green Island	1862 to 1890	
	A46	H	Green Island	1859 to 1862	
	A46	H	Highgate	1862 to 1869	Closed 1869 to 1895
	A46	H	Siloah	1869 to 1893	New office.
	A47	H	Highgate	1859 to 1862	
	A47	H	Hope Bay	1862 to 1893	
	A48	H	Hope Bay	1859 to 1862	
	A48	H	Lilliput	1862 to 1874	
	A49	H	Lilliput	1859 to 1862	
	A49	H	Lucea	1862 to 1890	
	A50	H	Little River	Not known used	office closed by 1860. See 'E58'
	A50	H	Malvern	1862 to 1893	New office
	A51	H	Lucea	1859 to 1862	
	A51	H	Manchioneal	1862 to 1890	
	A52	H	Manchioneal	1859 to 1862	
	A52	H	Mandeville	1862 to 1890	
	A53	H	Mandeville	1859 to 1860	Lost refound about 1885.
	A53	H	May Hill	1862 to 1885	Has taller fatter digits than original.
	A53	H	Spurr Tree	1885 to 1893	Office moved here from May Hill.
	A53	H	Spurr Tree	1885 to 1893	Refound original die as well.
	A54	H	May Hill	1859 to 1862	
	A54	H	Mile Gully	1862 to 1865	
	A54	J	Mile Gully	1865 to 1885	Replacement for type H.
	A55	H	Mile Gully	1859 to 1862	
	A55	H	Moneague	1862 to 1892	
	A56	H	Moneague	1859 to 1862	
	A56	H	Montego Bay	1862 to 1876	
	A56	K	Montego Bay	1876 to 1885	Replacement for type H.
	A57	H	Montego Bay	1859 to 1862	

	A57	H	Morant Bay	1862 to 1893	
	A58	H	Montpelier	1859	Only known used once then lost.
	A58	J	Bluefields	1866 to 1901	Replacement for type H in new office.
	A59	H	Morant Bay	1859 to 1862	
	A59	H	Newport	1862 to 1892	
	A60	H	Ocho Rios	1859 to 1876	
	A60	M	Ocho Rios	1876 to 1892	Replacement for type H.
	A61	H	Old Harbour	1859 to 1872	
	A62	H	Plantain Garden River	1859 to 1894	
	A63	H	Pear Tree Grove	1859 to 1899	
	A64	H	Port Antonio	1859 to 1889	
	A64	H	Lacovia	1891 to 1892	See also 'E30'.
	A65	H	Port Morant	1859 to 1890	
	A66	H	Port Maria	1859 to 1895	
	A67	H	Port Royal	1859 to 1895	
	A68	H	Porus	1859 to 1892	
	A69	H	Ramble	1859 to 1893	
	A70	H	Rio Bueno	1859 to 1893	
	A71	H	Rodney Hall	1859 to 1894	Office was renamed Linstead in 1868
	A72	H	Saint David	1859 to 1890	
	A73	H	St Ann's Bay	1859 to 1892	
	A74	H	Salt Gut	1859 to 1892	
	A75	H	Savannah- La-Mar	1859 to 1860	Appears to have been lost or damaged.
	A75	L	Savannah- La-Mar	1862 to 1892	Replacement for type H.
	A76	H	Spanish Town	1859 to 1874	
	A76	O	Spanish Town	1874 to 1892	Replacement for type H.
	A77	H	Stewart Town	1859 to 1889	

	A78	H	Vere	1859 to 1895	Office was renamed Alley in 1875.
	A79	H	Richmond	1863 to 1866	Only two examples known.
	A79	J	Richmond	1866 to 1892	
	A79	K	Balaclava	1876 to 1895	Note use at same time as Richmond.
	A80	K	Mount Charles	1876 to 1884	
	A80	K	Hagley Gap	1884 to 1885	
	A81	K	Pedro	1876 to 1892	Not known in use until 1889.
	A82	M	Middle Quarters	1876 to 1894	
	A83	M	Trinity Ville	1878 to 1898	
	E06	K	Newmarket	1869 to 1898	
	E30	K	Lacovia	1869 to 1890	New office. See also 'A64'
	E58	K	Little River	1869 to 1894	Reopened. See also 'A50'
	F80	O	Little London	1872 to 1894	
	F81	O	Clark's Town	1872 to 1894	
	F95	O	Watson's Hill	1872 to 1900	
	F96	O	Shooter's Hill	1873 to 1891	
	F97	O	Copse	1873 to 1891	
	F98	O	Chester Castle	1873 to 1894	
	G13	O	Half Way Tree	1873 to 1898	
	G14	O	Hampden	1873 to 1901	
	G15	O	Blue Mountain Valley	1873 to 1898	
	G16	O	Priestman's River	1873 to 1898	
	193	O	Cold Spring	1874 to 1897	
	196	O	Ewarton	1874 to 1898	See also 'A38'
	199	O	Guy's Hill	1874 to 1898	
	201	O	Milk River	1874 to 1894	See also 'A'

	598	O	Adelphi	1876 to 1900	
	615	O	Bull Bay	1876 to 1901	
	617	O	Hayes	1876 to 1899	
	622	O	Kings	1876 to 1892	
	631	O	Medina	1876 to 1890	
	631	O	Maidstone	1890 to 1892	Office re-located here from Medina.
	640	O	May Pen	1876 to 1898	
	642	O	Petersfield	1876 to 1896	
	647	O	Southfield	1876 to 1895	
	A	P	Milk River	1873 to 1874	See also '201'
	B	P	Duncans	1880 to 1895	
	C	P	???	1880 to 1885	Laughlands, one identifying copy on PPC tied with a T.R.D. of Laughlands TD 3, dated Feb. 25, '84
	D	P	???	1880 to 1881	Location not known, only 2 copies known
	E	P	???	1880 to 1885	Location not known, found mainly on CCs

The three letters so far known is the letter 'A' used for Milk River, and can be found in all Pines and CC stamps

The letter "B" is fairly common, and was used for DUNCANS.

The letter 'C' was not known until Mr. O'Connor in the 1950s purchased a bundle of post cards, one of these had a very fine strike of the letter 'C' tied with a T.R.D. of Laughlands TD 3, dated Feb. 25, '84.

Now only letter D and E remain to be established. The letter 'D' only two copies are so far known,