

## THE DE LA RUE ISSUES OF BRITISH GUIANA

The first issues printed by De La Rue in 1876 were still centred around the design of the three-masted sailing ship.



Master die proof of the vignette on glazed card mounted in a sunken card frame.



A cut-down master die proof of the design with blank value tablet mounted in a sunken card frame.



A block of twelve of the 2 cents showing the relative positions of the Plate No. '1' and the Current No. '1'.

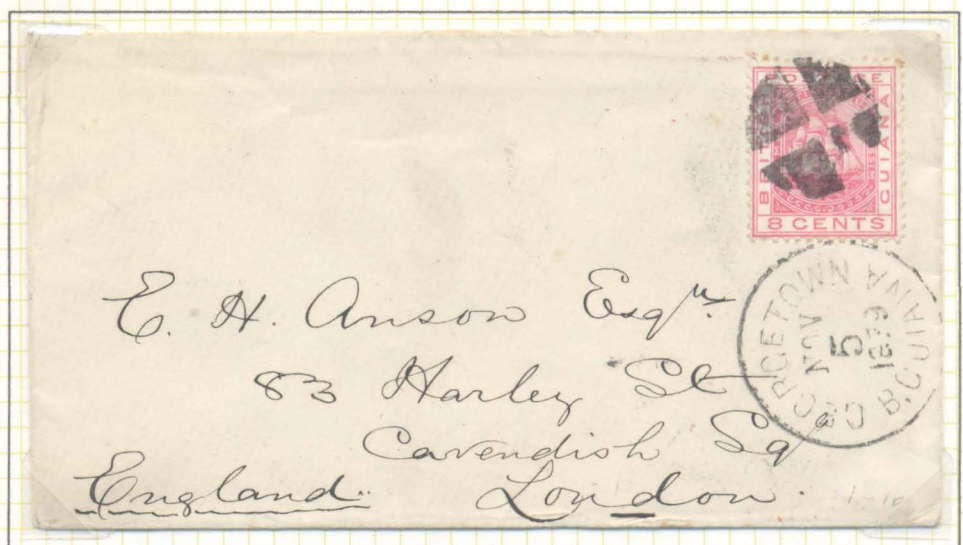


A marginal block of 4 of the 6 cents.





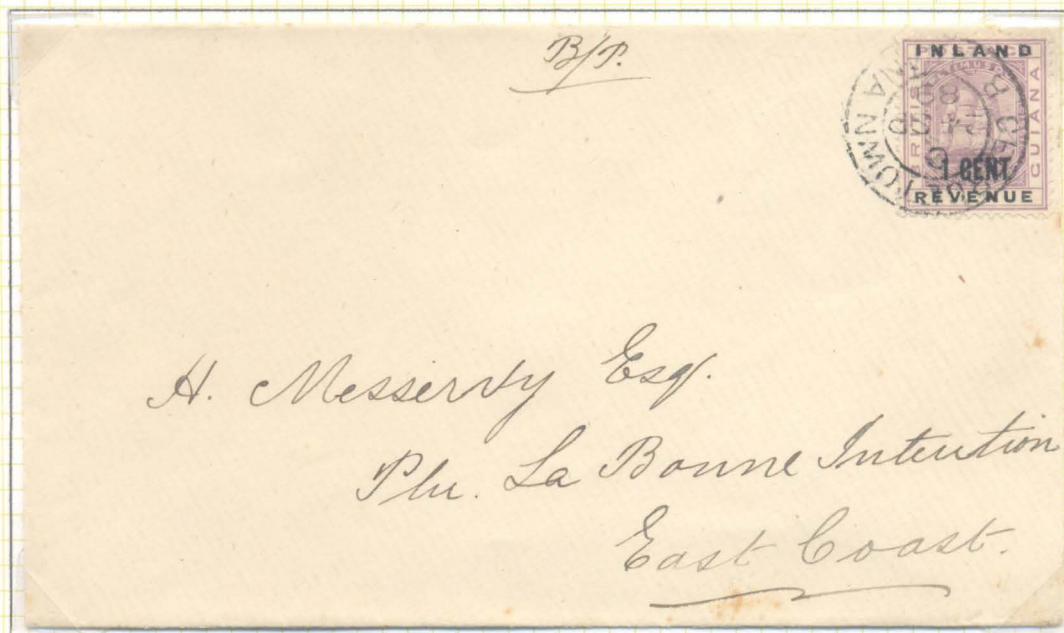
An entire dated 22 March 1880 bearing 4 copies of the 1876 2 cents to Suriname and showing the scarce Type 2 (American) Blairmont cds. Also, it bears a similar mark of Georgetown.



A cover to London with a 8 cents rose tied by a 'cork' cancellation, typical of the time, and also showing an American type Georgetown cds, '5 NOV 1879'.



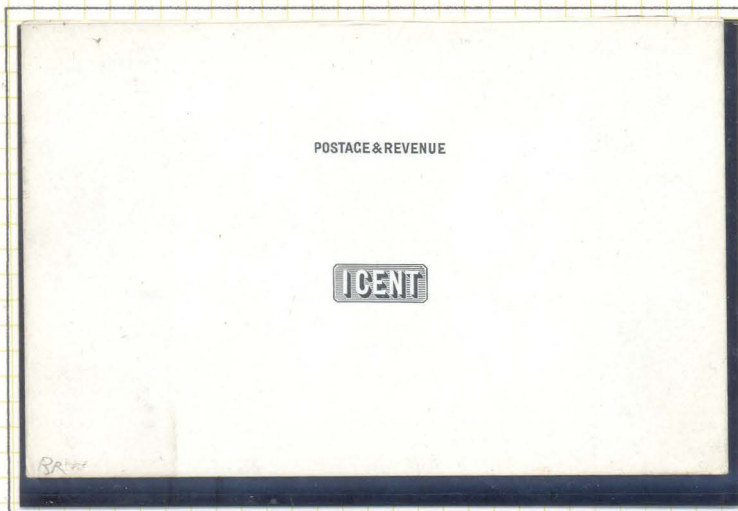
In 1888 the same design of stamp was used for revenue purposes; however there is plenty of evidence to show they were postally used.



A Book Post envelope franked with the Revenue 1 cent adhesive.



In 1889 a new design appeared; it was in many ways similar to the previous one, still incorporating the sailing ship and the motto of the Colony.



A die Proof for the '1 CENT' duty; although devoid of progress handstamps and verifying initials, this is taken to be the finished product.



Plate blocks of the 2 cents, one from Plate 1 and the other from Plate 2





PRIVATE BAG MAIL: Locked bags, for which a fee was paid, gave assurance that mails would not be tampered with and also that it would be delivered the same day.

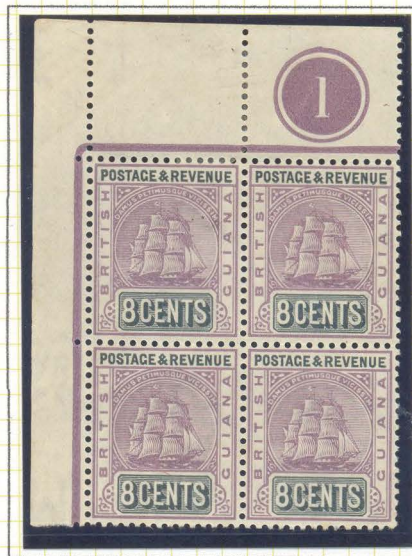


A postal stationery registered envelope bearing 2 x 2 cents adhesives with an Arakaka cds (T&H Type 9a).



In 1890 this design was issued in new colours.

1890-91 Perf. 14 Wmk. Crown CA

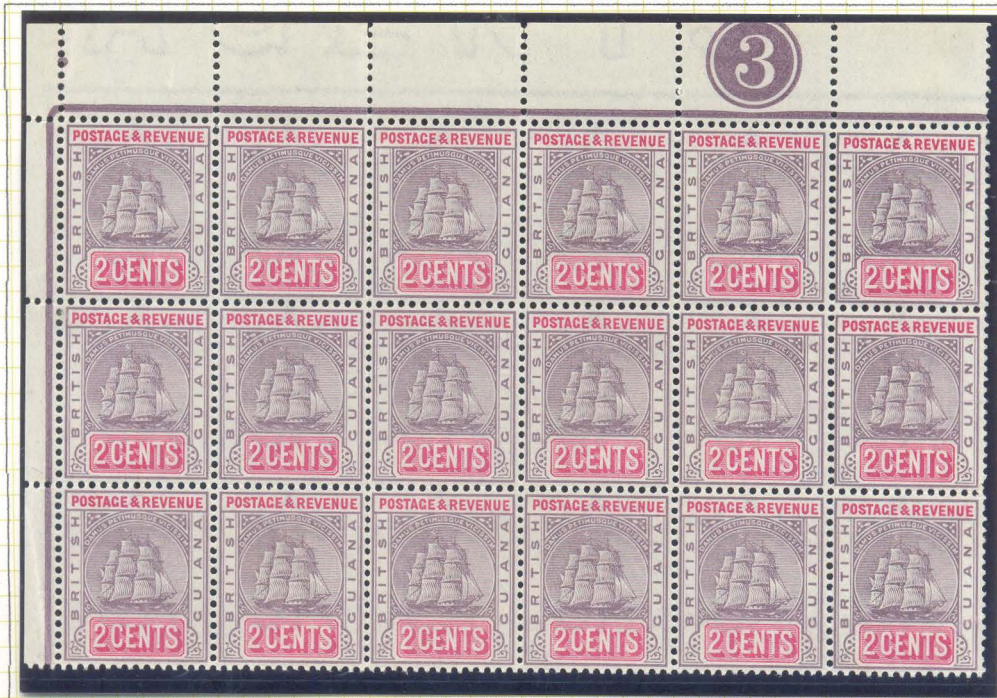


In 1898 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign, British Guiana decided on an unusual course insofar as they issued a pictorial set of five stamps depicting scenes of Mount Roraima and the Kaitetur Falls.





Over the next 10 years, British Guiana issued stamps of this same design in various colours. Here are a few plate blocks.



A Plate 3 block of 18 of the 2 cents dull purple and carmine, watermarked Crown CA.



A Plate 3 block of 15 of the 6 cents grey-black and ultramarine, watermarked Crown CA.



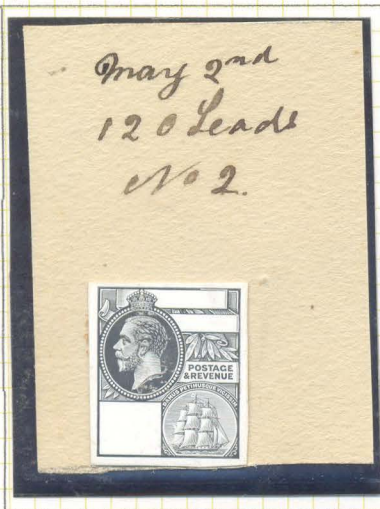
In 1910, although a new design of definitive stamp had been agreed, the Post Office again ran out of 2 cent stamps and it was decided to print the old design in one operation and so a new die was prepared.



The new die exhibited differences from the original: the differences appear in the flag at the top of the main truck where, in the redrawn version, the flag is close to the mast, whereas in the original type it appears to be flying loose. Also, there are two lines above the figure '2' whereas in the original there were three and the 'S' is further away from the end of the tablet.



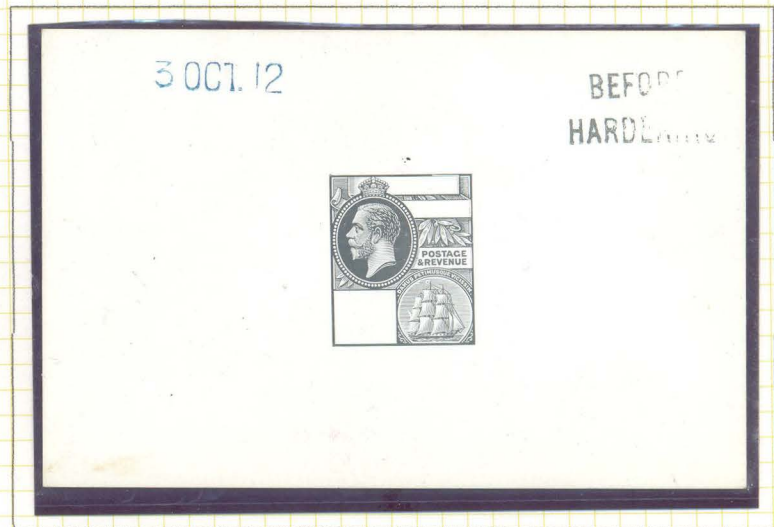
In 1913 it was decided to celebrate the accession to the throne of King George V by issuing a new set of definitive stamps. For the first time in its history, British Guiana wanted a design which incorporated the portrait of the monarch as well as the arms of the colony.



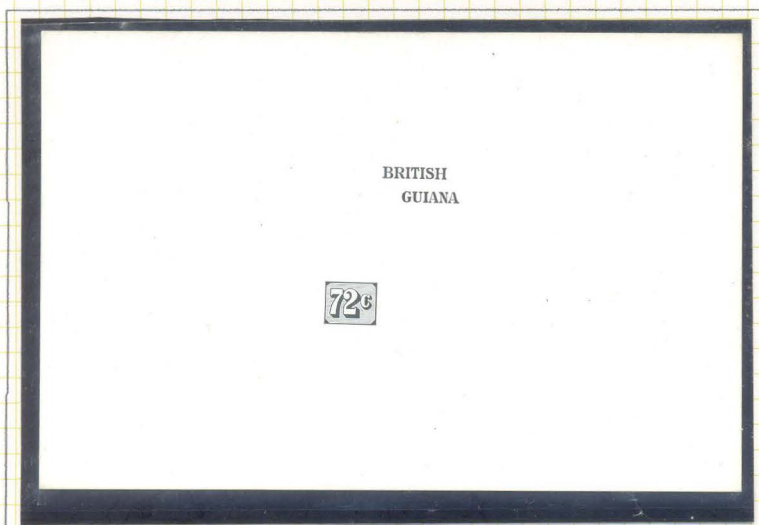
Master Die Proof of the Key Design with blank value tablet and colony name in black on card.

Marked 'May 2nd 120 Leads No 2'.

Ex-De La Rue Archives.



Die Proof of the Key Design dated '3 OCT 12' and marked 'BEFORE HARDENING' in black on white card.



Die Proof of the 72 cents duty in black on white card.



Plate Blocks from the 1913-21 issue watermarked Mult Crown CA.



2 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '033'.



48 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '007'.



60 cents, Plate 1



60 cents, Plate 2



96 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '116'.



Plate Blocks from the 1921-27 issue watermarked Mult Script CA.



1 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '078'.



2 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '059'.



2 cents, Plate 2.



4 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '083'.



4 cents, Plate 2.





6 cents, Plate 2.



12 cents, Plate 1, showing Sheet No. '068'.



12 cents, Plate 2.



A Plate 1 pair of the 24 cents; this plate number is not recorded by Townsend & Howe.



24 cents, Plate 2.