

Bermuda Postal Stationery 1880 - 1952

The purpose of this exhibit is to show Bermuda Postal Stationery from the first issue of formula cards in 1880 through the different types of Stationery ending with those in use at the end of the reign of King George VI.

The structure of this exhibit is chronological within each of the four types. Essays and proofs are followed by the issued items in varieties.

Content	Period	Page
I: Formula cards	1880 - 85	2 -
Postal Cards	1885	- 40
II: Registered Envelopes		
McQuondale	1890?	
De la Rue		
III. Newspaper Wrappers		
IV. Air Mail Wrappers		

The content of this exhibit . This exhibit includes most of the significant essays, proofs, specimens and varieties

The rarity statements are based on research over a number of years in putting together the Bermuda Stamp Catalog and the exhibitors auction records for the past 50 years.

Bermuda joined the Universal Postal Union in April 1877 and membership required postcards to be provided for the public. However, nothing was done until after the reorganization of the post office in 1878-79. The Post Office Regulation Act, Amendment Act of 1879 on July 22nd allowed that postcards would be procured. It was not until a year later that postcards were finally made available for public use.

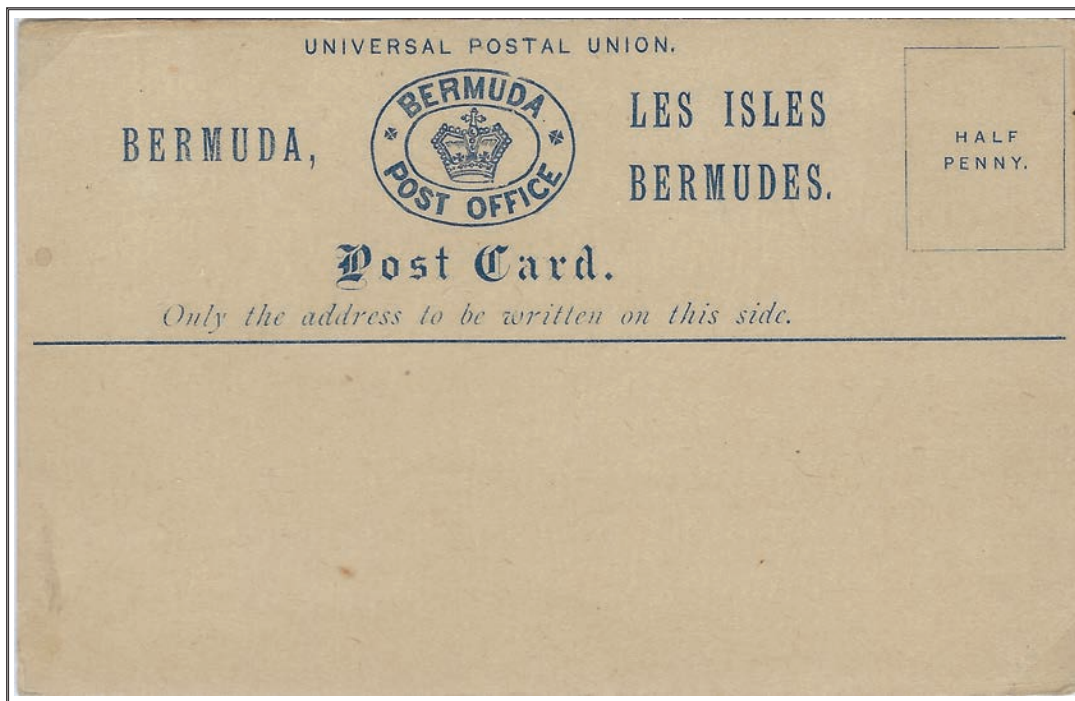
References:

Higgins & Gage

Ludington, M. H. The Postal History and Stamps of Bermuda

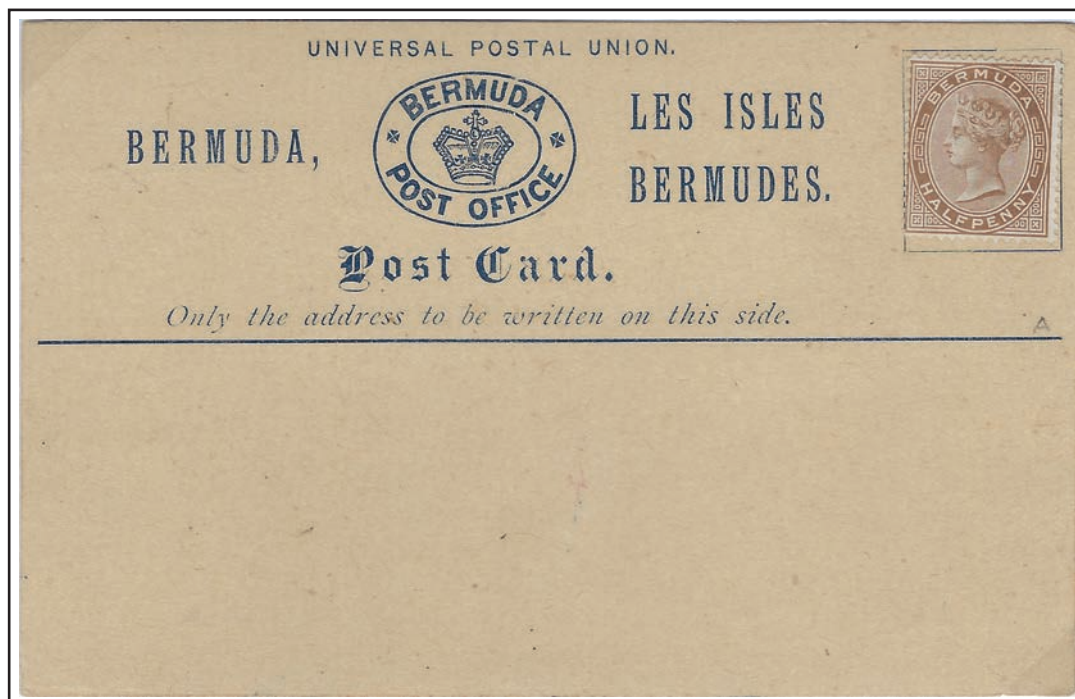
Bermuda Collectors Society, Bermuda Post 1986 - current

David Cordon & Michel Forand: The Bermuda Specialized Stamp Catalogue



Unissued with divided opinions whether this is a proof or a provisional prepared because of the non-arrival of the ½d postal cards from De La Rue in 1885, but never issued

Ex. Tucker, Ludington



With 1880 stamp attached giving credence to a proof for the 1880 issue

Ex Ulrich

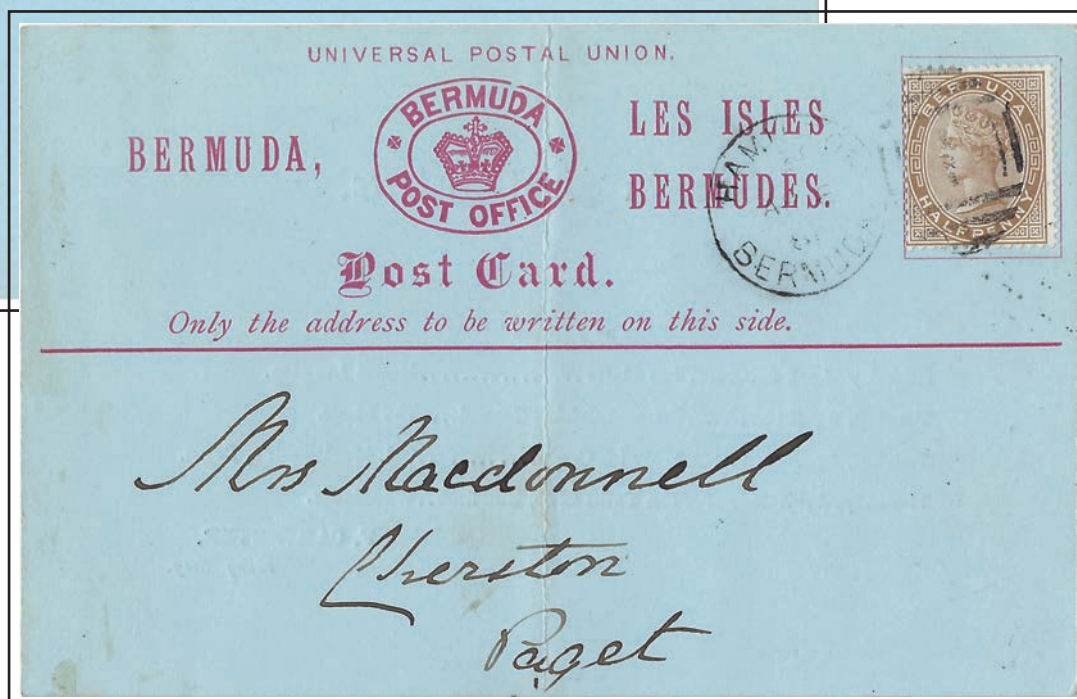
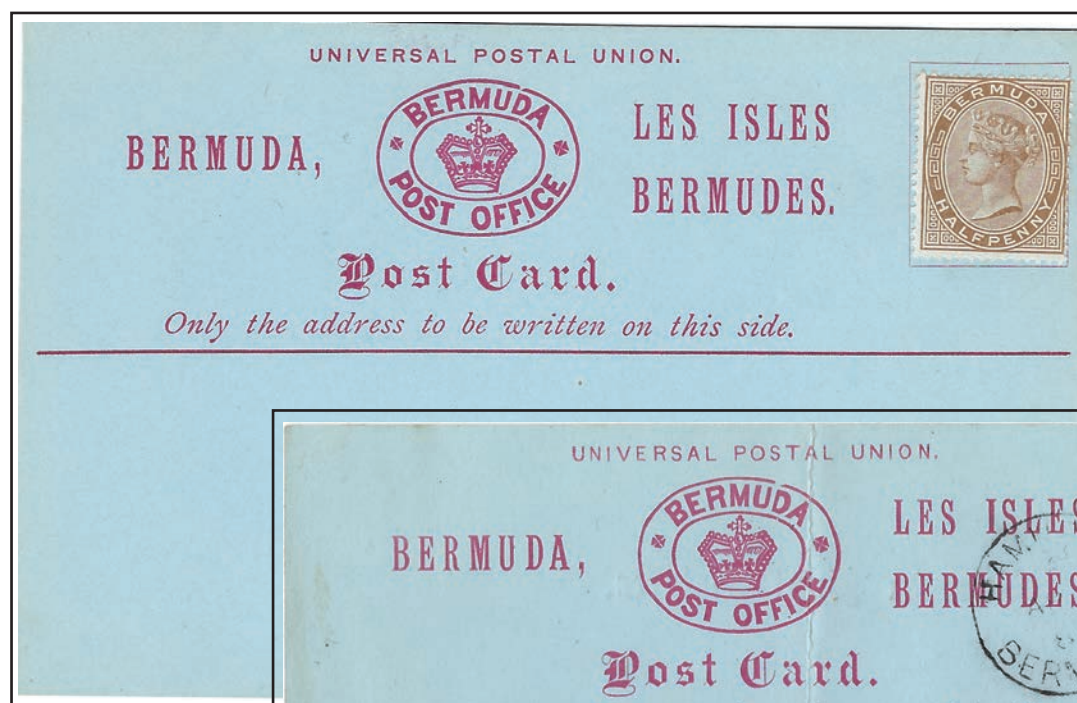
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

2,000 local rate cards

Half Penny
1880 Setting A

Printing: The first postal cards were printed by Donald McPhee Lee, Queen's Printer and publisher of the Royal Gazette. Postage was paid by affixing stamps to the pre-printed spaces on the card prior to sale. The 1/2d (Inland) and 11/2d (Foreign) card were released by the Post Office on July 1, 1880 and August 1, 1880, respectively. Lee also printed surcharges on the Provisionals in 1893. Regular cards with a pre-printed indicum, were ordered from De la Rue in 1884 and were received on 1885. De La Rue continued to produce all cards between that date and about 1960.

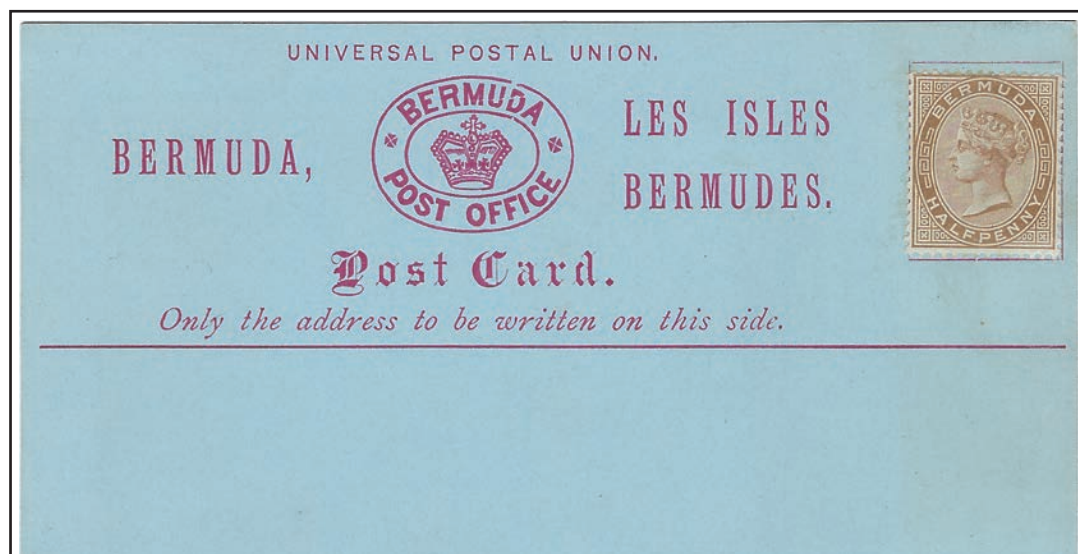
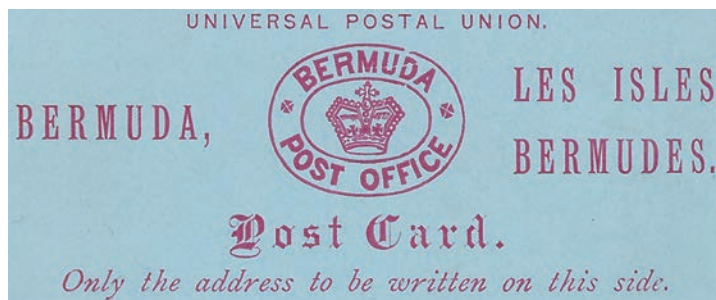
Feature	Setting A
Break in oval above "UD"	Large
Hairline flaw through "MUD"	None
"BERMUDA" measures	23.5mm
"BERMUDES" measures	25.0mm
"UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION"	47.0mm
"U" of "UNIVERAL" IS ABOVE	“ ” (comma)
Colour	Carmine



Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Half Penny
1880 Setting B

Feature	Setting B
Break in oval above "UD"	Medium
Hairline flaw through "MUD"	Strong
"BERMUDA" measures	24.5mm
"BERMUDES" measures	26.0mm
"UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION"	47.5mm
"U" of "UNIVERAL" IS ABOVE	"A" (comma)
Colour	Carmine



uprated with 1d stamp so paying the 1½d foreign postcard rate

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Half Penny
1880 Setting C

Feature	Setting C
Break in oval above "UD"	Small
Hairline flaw through "MUD"	Faint
"BERMUDA" measures	25.0mm
"BERMUDES" measures	27.0mm
"UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION"	48.25mm
"U" of "UNIVERAL" IS ABOVE	Between D&A
Colour	Rose



Local rate to Prospect
(just outside Hamilton
in Devonshire).

Uprated postcard
with extra ½d and
2d stamps paying
3d. 1½d for the
foreign rate and 1½d
supplement rate for
late mailing



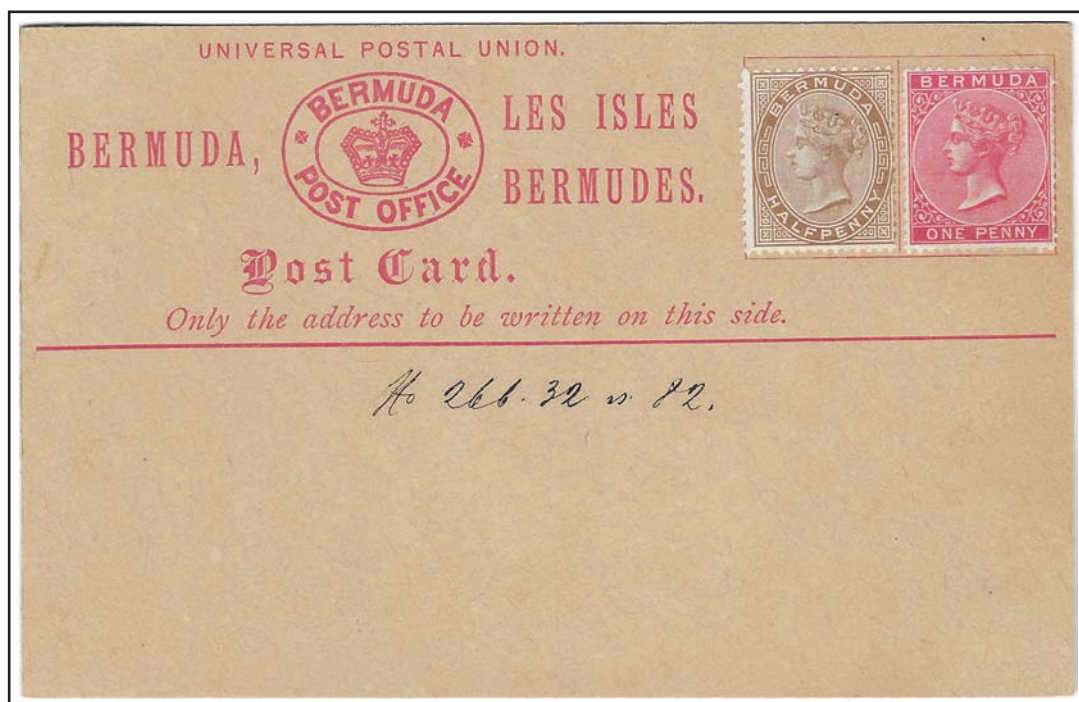
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

3,000 foreign rate cards

One Penny Half Penny
Setting A

Post
the addr

Setting A
The "t" of Post is
above the "r" of
address



Example ex Bern archives



Card stock ranges from buff to cream

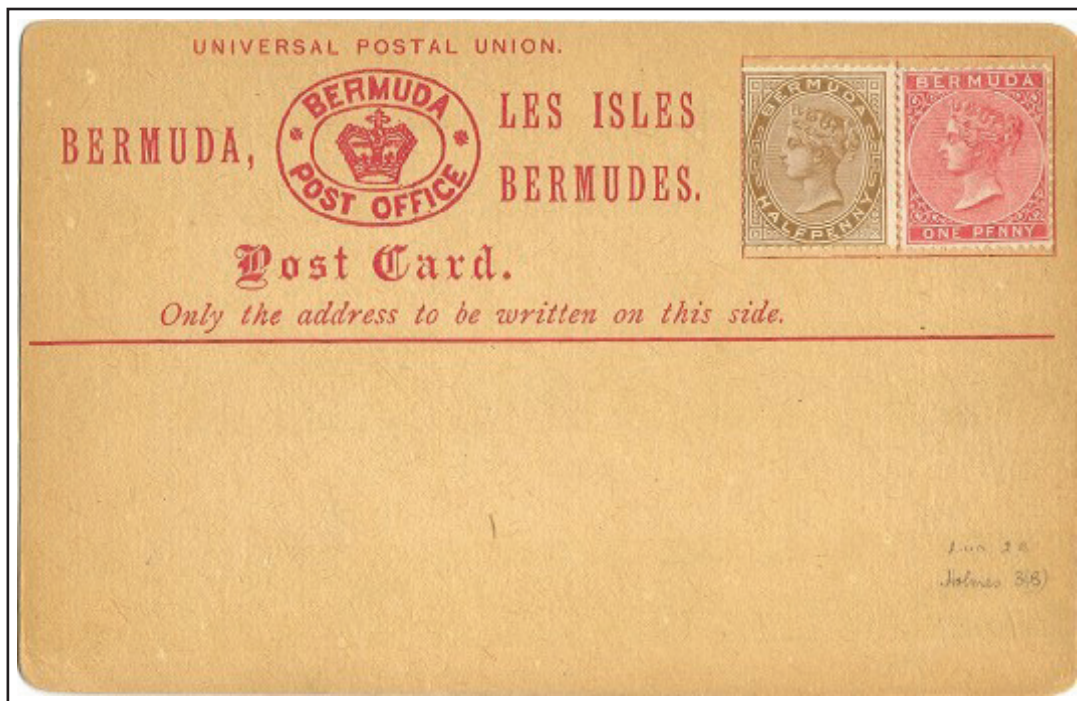
Setting A is the scarcest of the three settings, reportedly there is only one used example recorded.

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny
Setting B

Post
the addr

Setting B
The "t" of Post is
above the second
"d" of address



Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

To USA



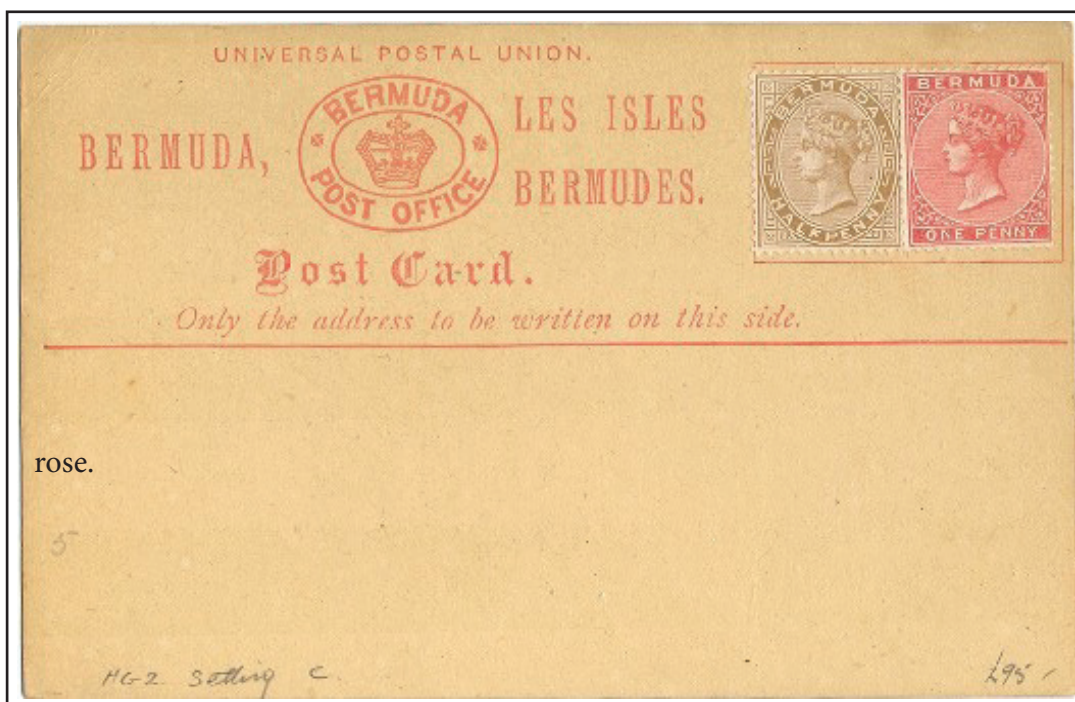
To England

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny
Setting C

Post
the addr

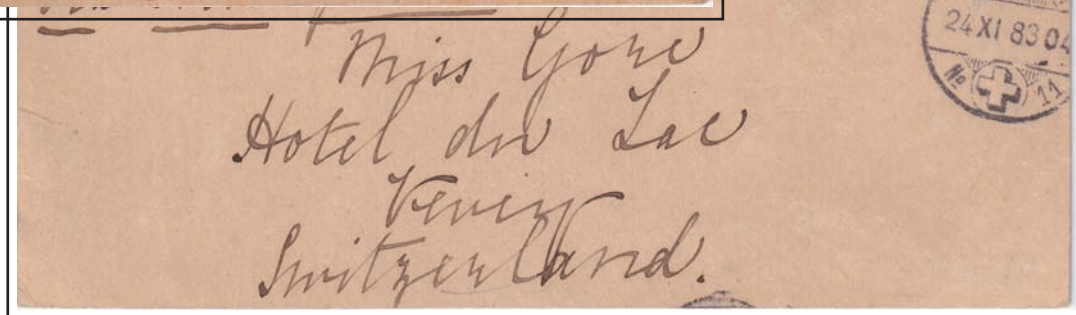
Setting C
The "t" of Post is
between the "d"
and "r" of address,
and printed in



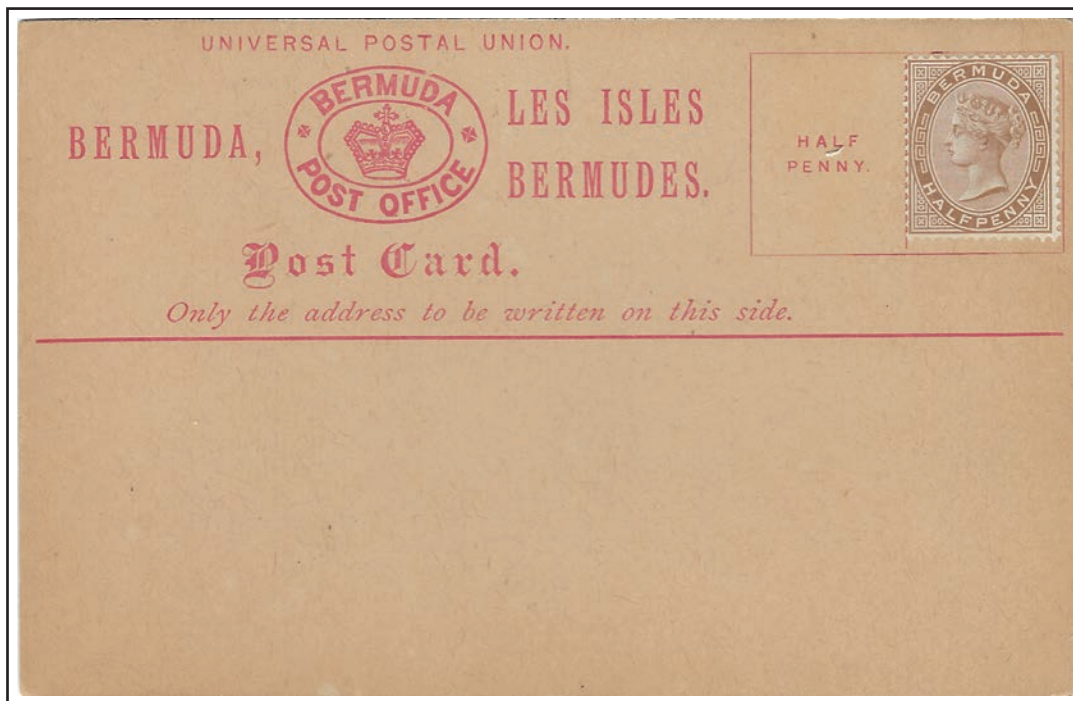
rose.



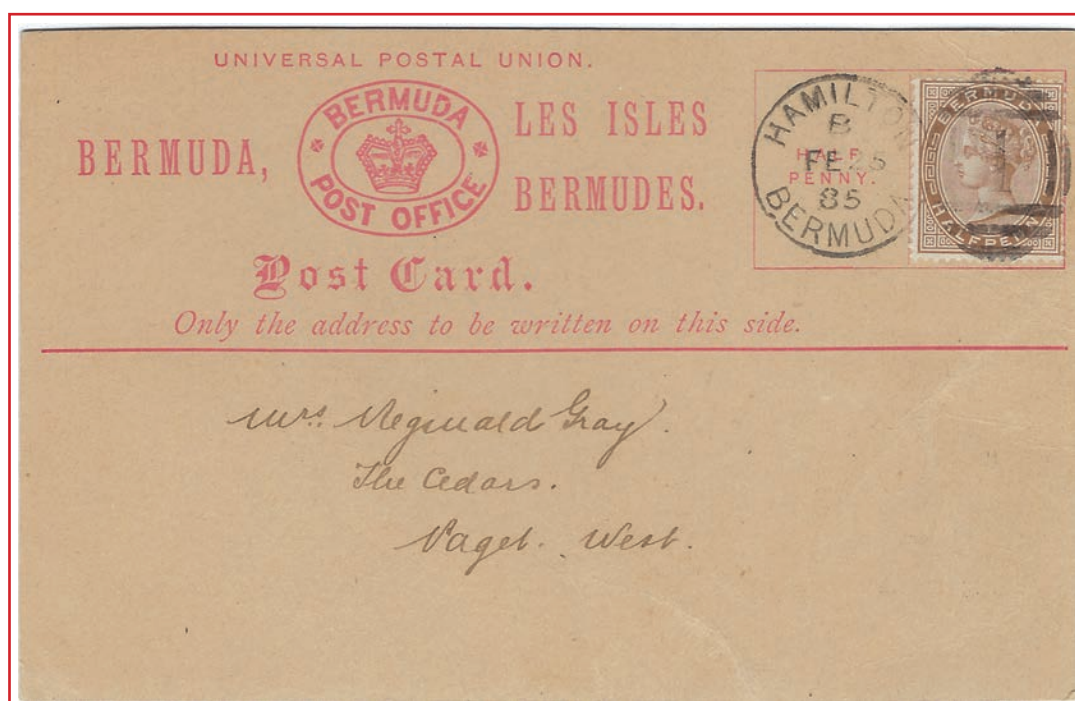
To Jersey,
Channel Islands



To Switzerland



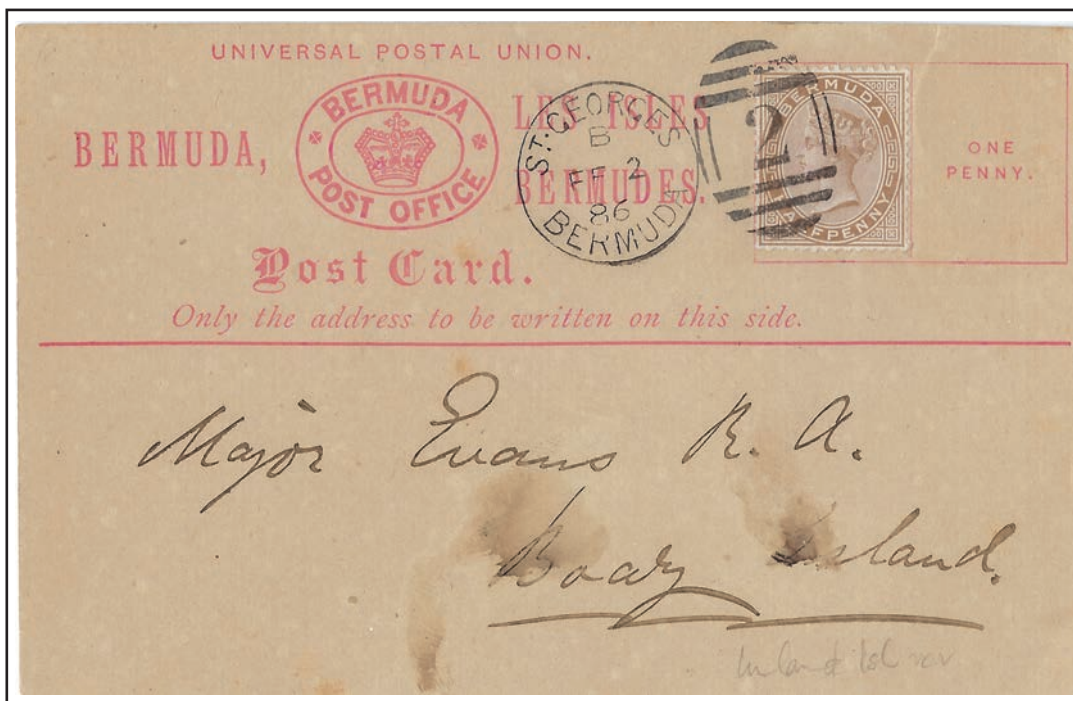
Due to a shortage of the blue card stamp it was necessary to use the 1½d stock but placing the ½d stamp on the right over the space of the 1d. First issued in 25 Feb 1885 and officially used until 25 March 1885.



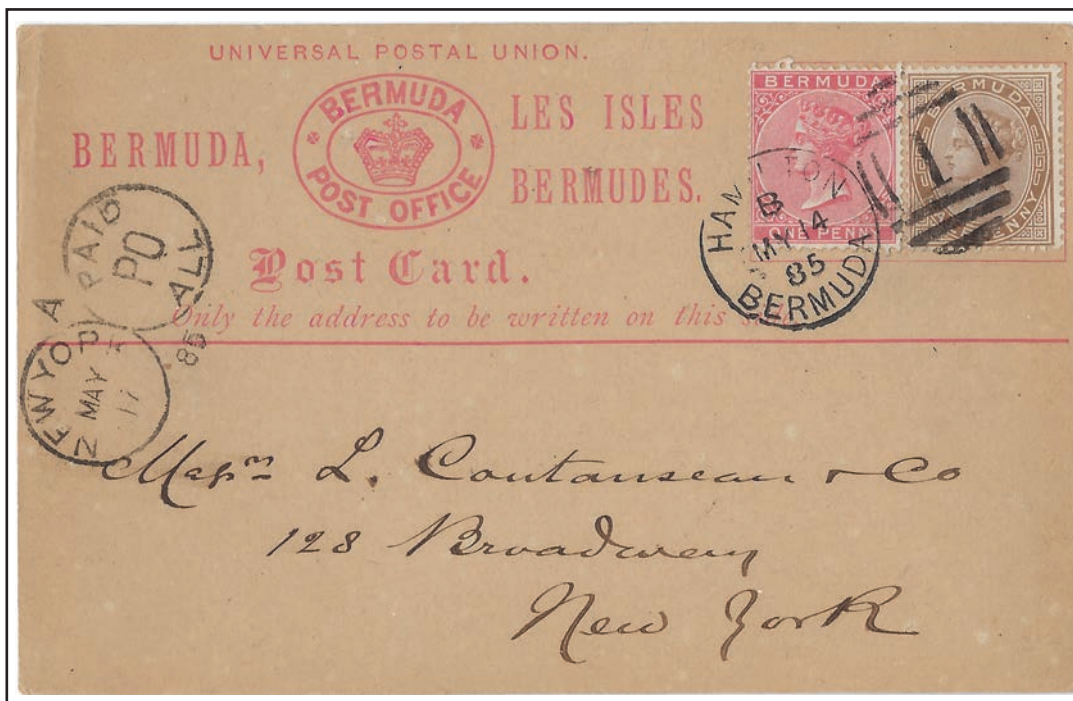
First Day of Issue

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

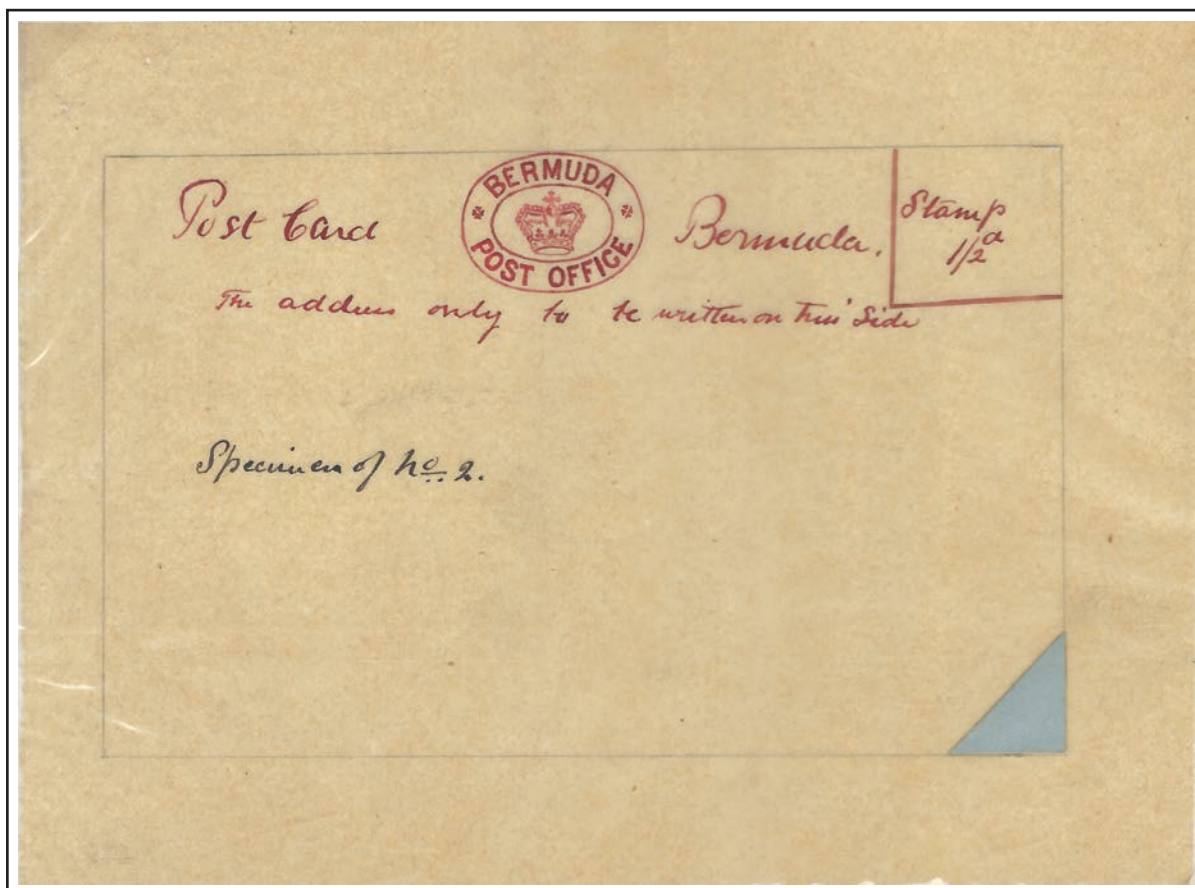
Half Penny
1885 Provisional



1½d foreign rate stock card used with only the ½d stamp for local use at the local rate..



Apparently a ½d provisional local card, shown by the ½d stamp on the right. Up-rated with a 1d stamp for foreign postage to New York. Used on May 14, seven weeks after the end of the official dates for the ½d provisional so using left over stock?



1884 Artist's drawing in red ink on tracing paper for an Inland ½d Postal Stationery Postcard endorsed "Specimen No. 2". This drawing, which is ex De La Rue records was prepared locally and sent to them by Bermuda as the suggested design for the 1885 issue of the Postcards to be undertaken by De la Rue to replace the 1880 series of Formula Cards, but omits several mistakes made in the original 1880 issue - namely the wording "Universal Postal Union" and the French inscription "Les Isles Bermudes" both of which are not required for an Inland Card! The drawing still incorporates the Bermuda Post Office and Crown in a double oval and bears a small sample of the desired blue stock in the lower right hand corner. Neither of these suggestions were adopted by De la Rue in their 1885 issue.

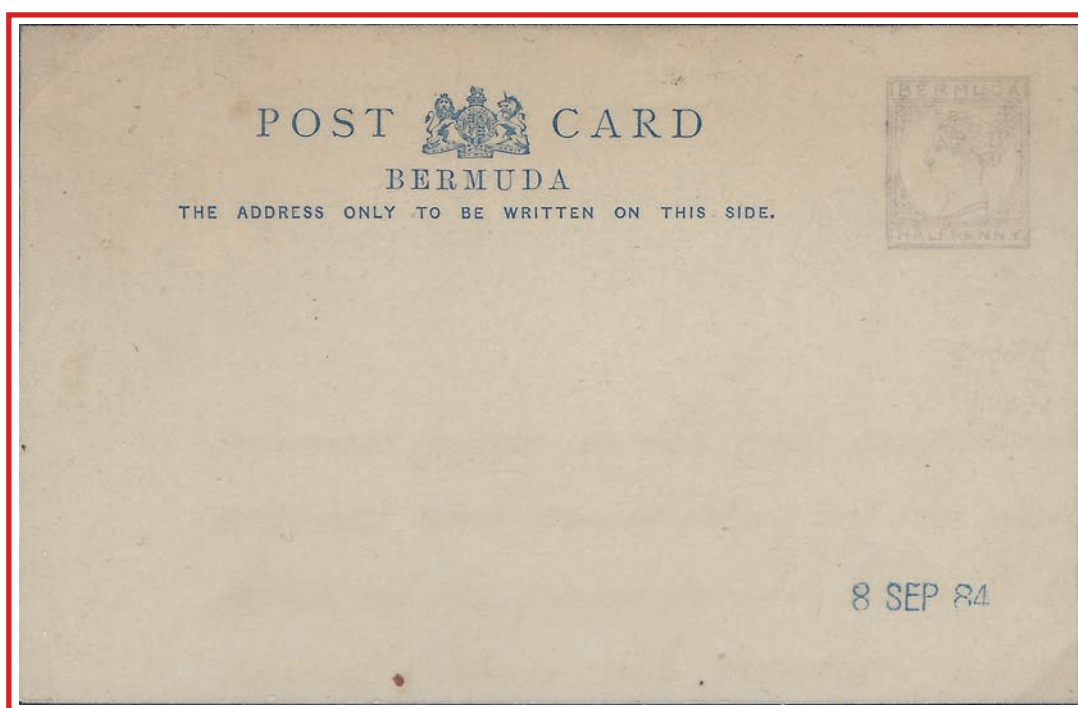
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Die Proof



Colonial head sunk in a thick card.
The design used by Bermuda was common to several colonies

Half Penny
Essay



DLR essay for the 1885 QV ½d blue Postal Stationery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".

Unique

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Half Penny

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

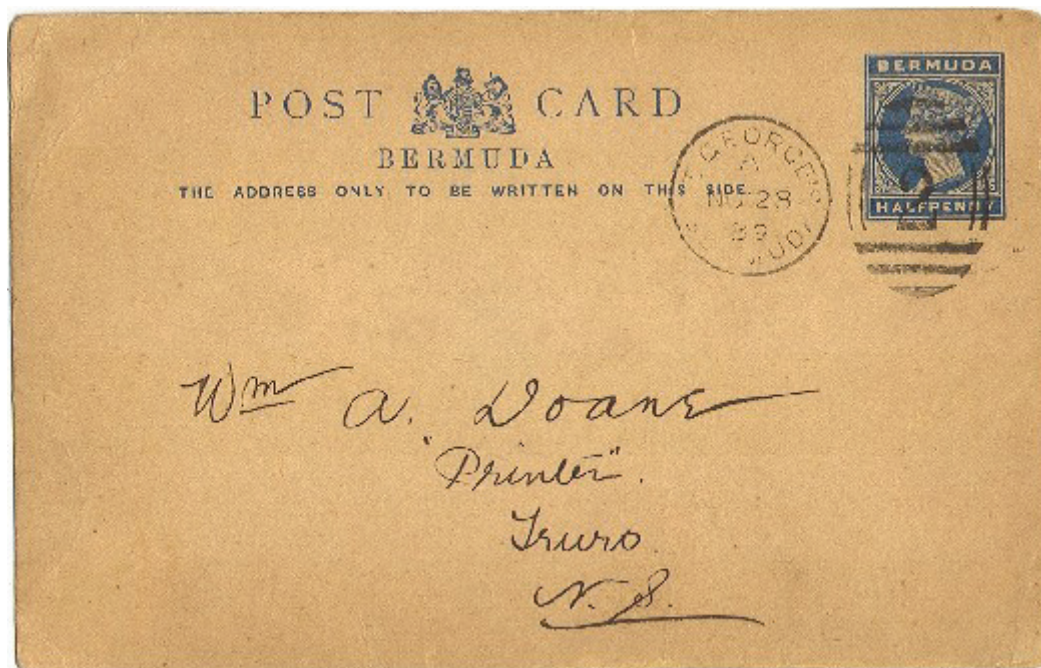


Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

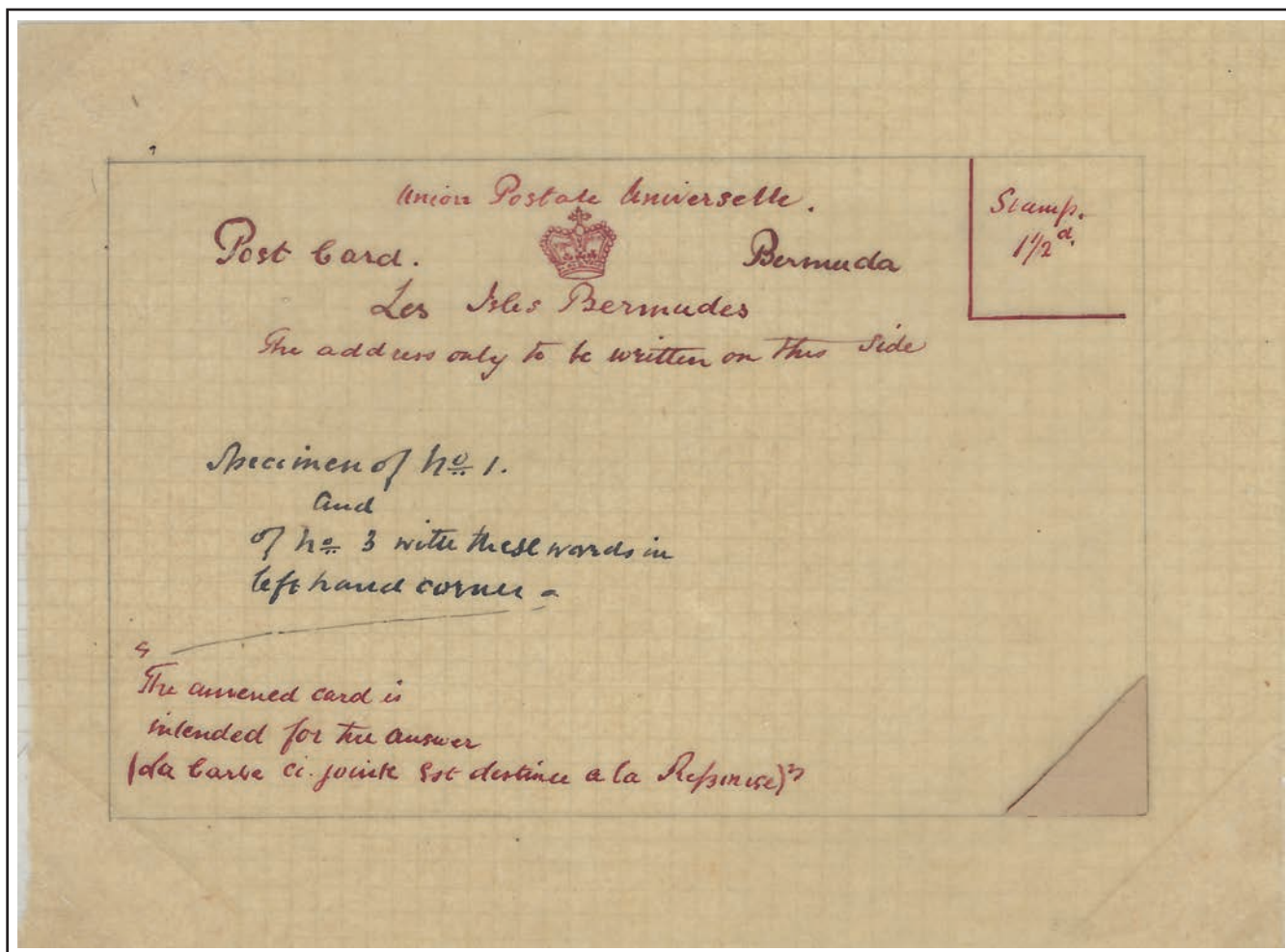
Half Penny



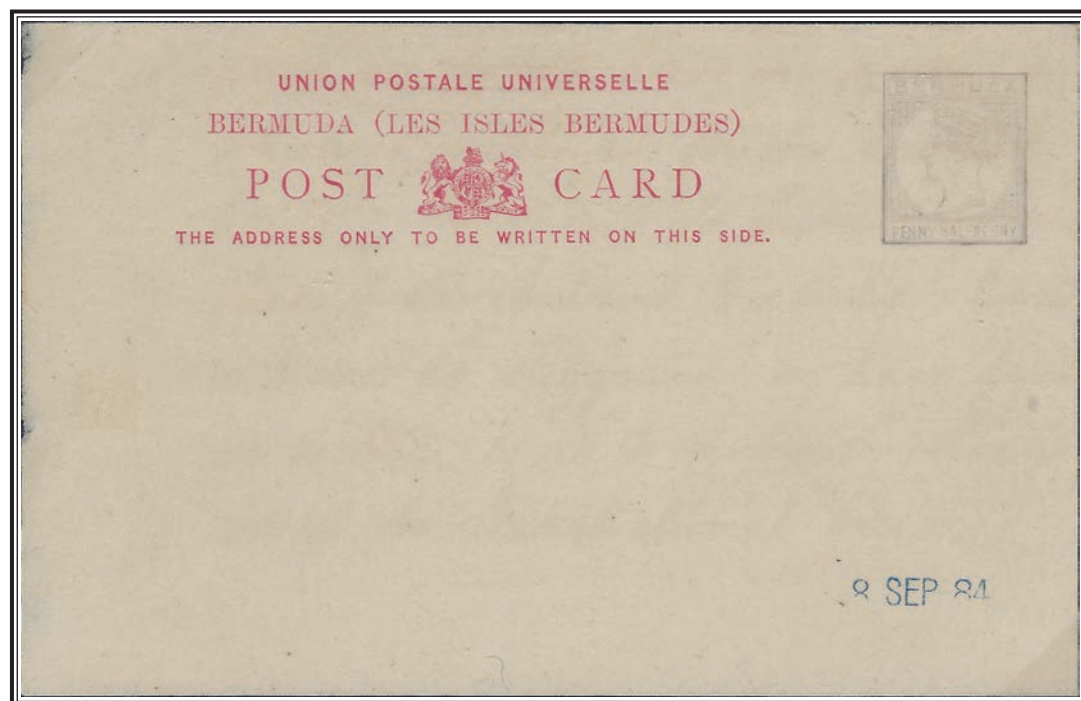
View from Belterre. (local guest house)
One of the earliest Bermuda "picture" postcards



A number of inland rate cards have been seen sent overseas without any additional postage or taxes applied. This card being sent to a printer in **Nova Scotia**



1884 Artist essay from Bermuda and the DLR essay for the 1885 QV 1½d carmine Postal Stationery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".



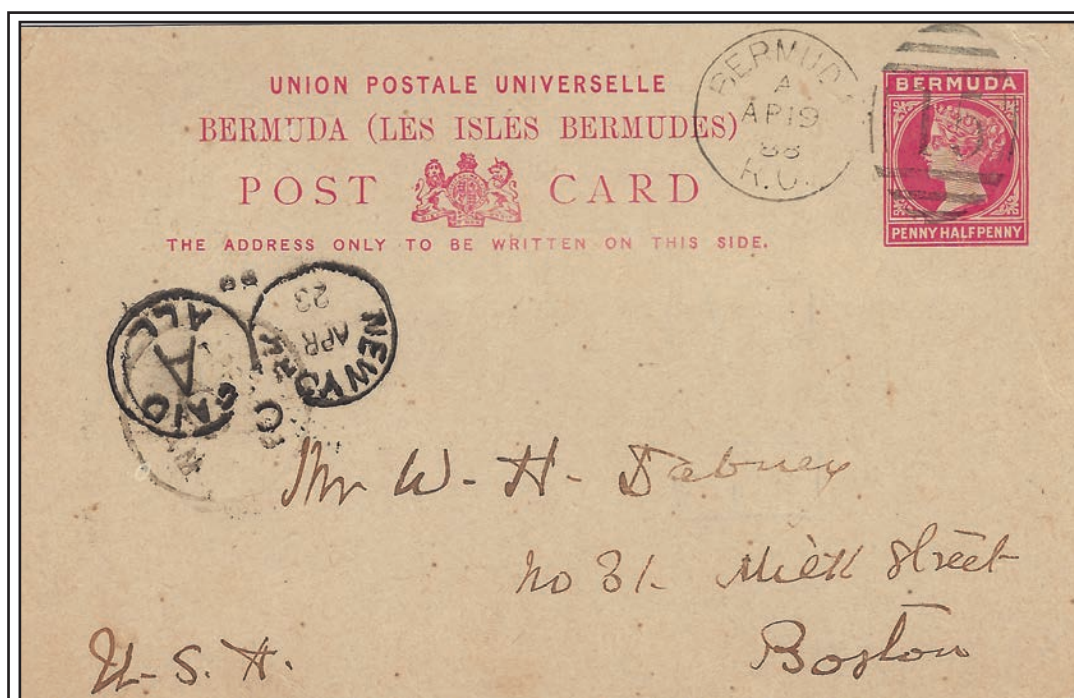
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
5,280
issued 27 October 1885

One Penny Half Penny



Carmine with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

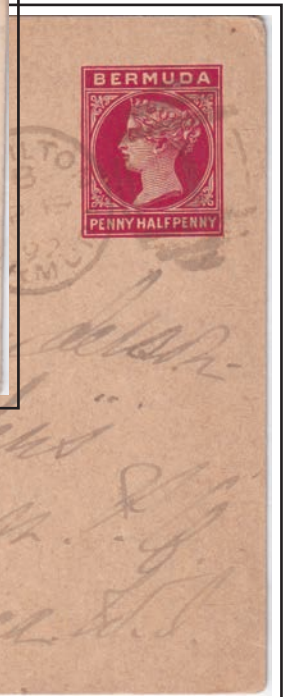


To Boston,
MA, USA

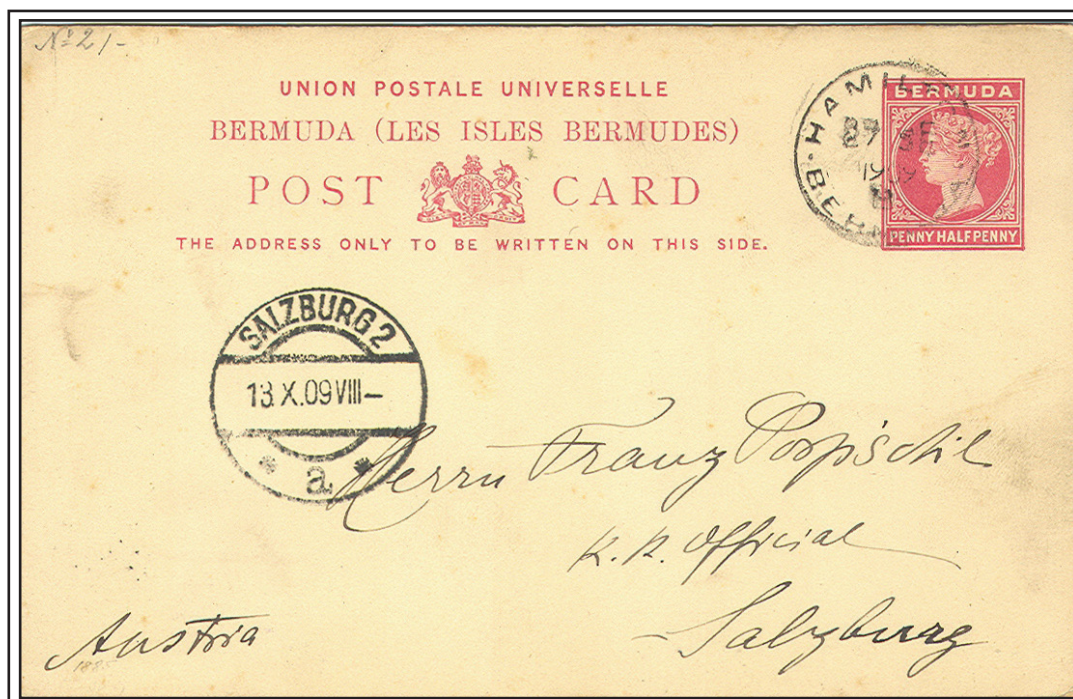
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny Half Penny

To Germany



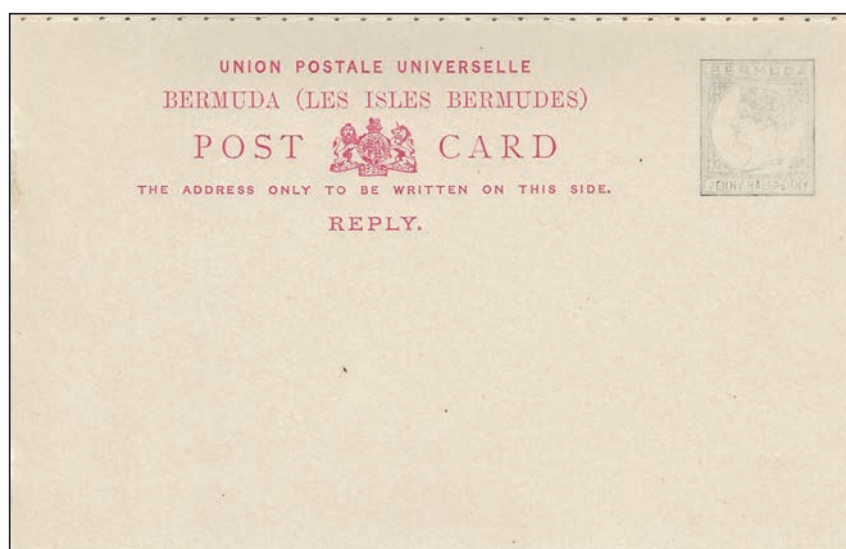
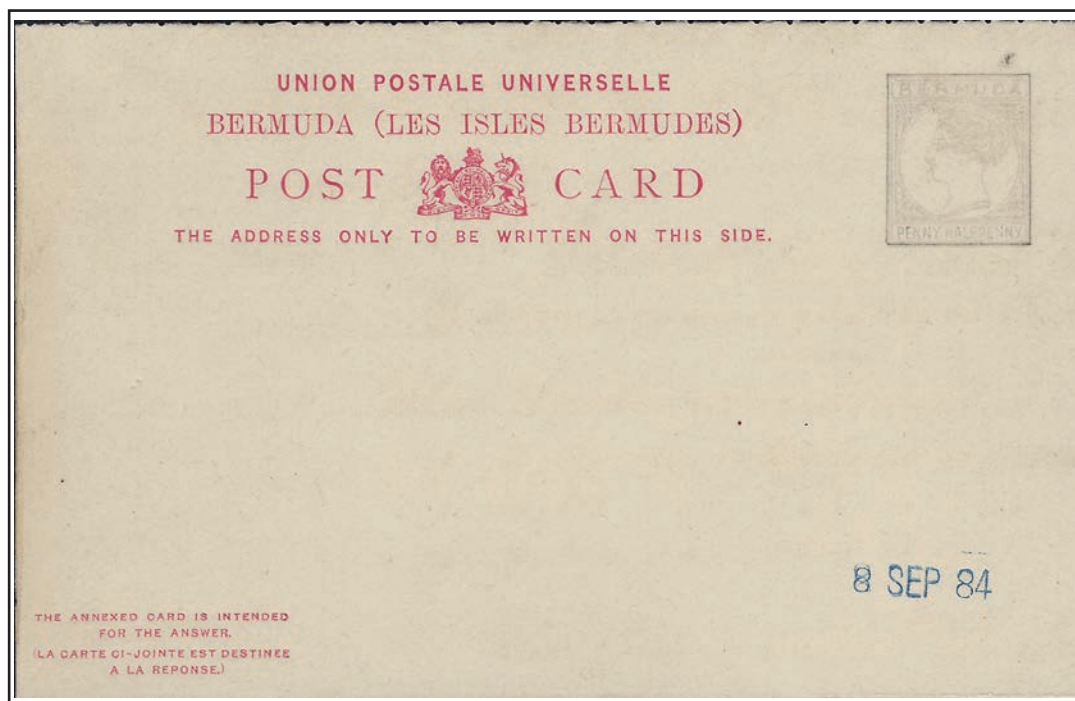
To Jamaica



Foreign rate card to Austria

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Penny Half Penny + Penny Half Penny
Reply Card



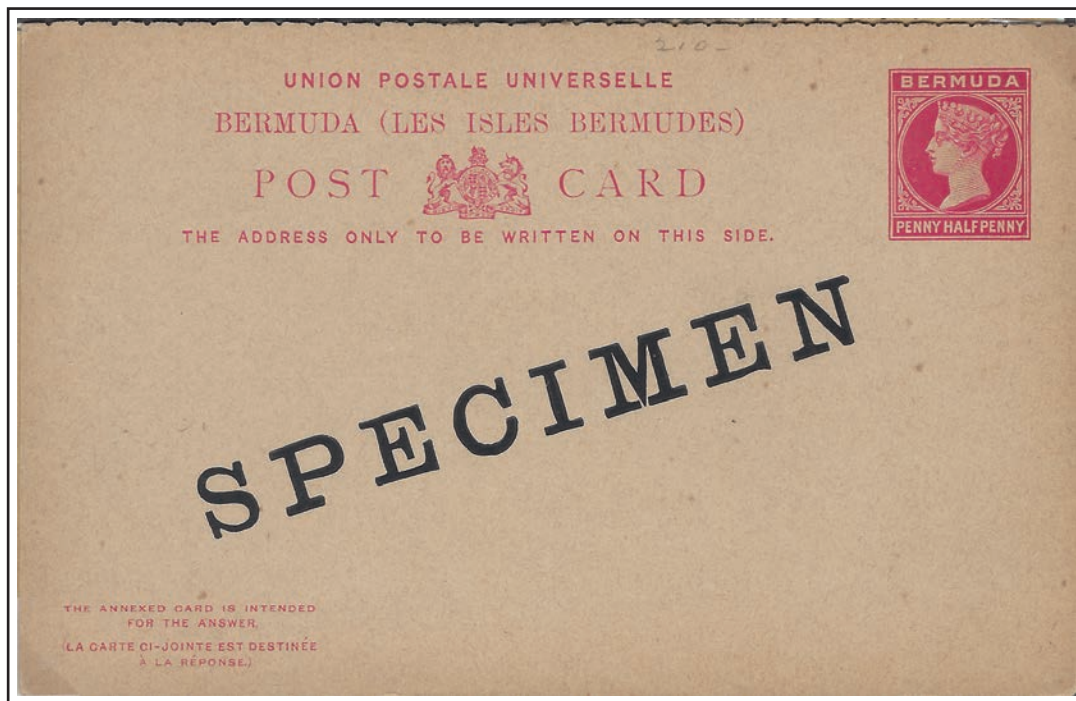
Scan of REPLY card

DLR essay for the 1885 QV 1½d carmine Postal Stationery Card comprising proof impression of the legend with Artist's pencil drawing of the stamp, dated "8 SEP 84".

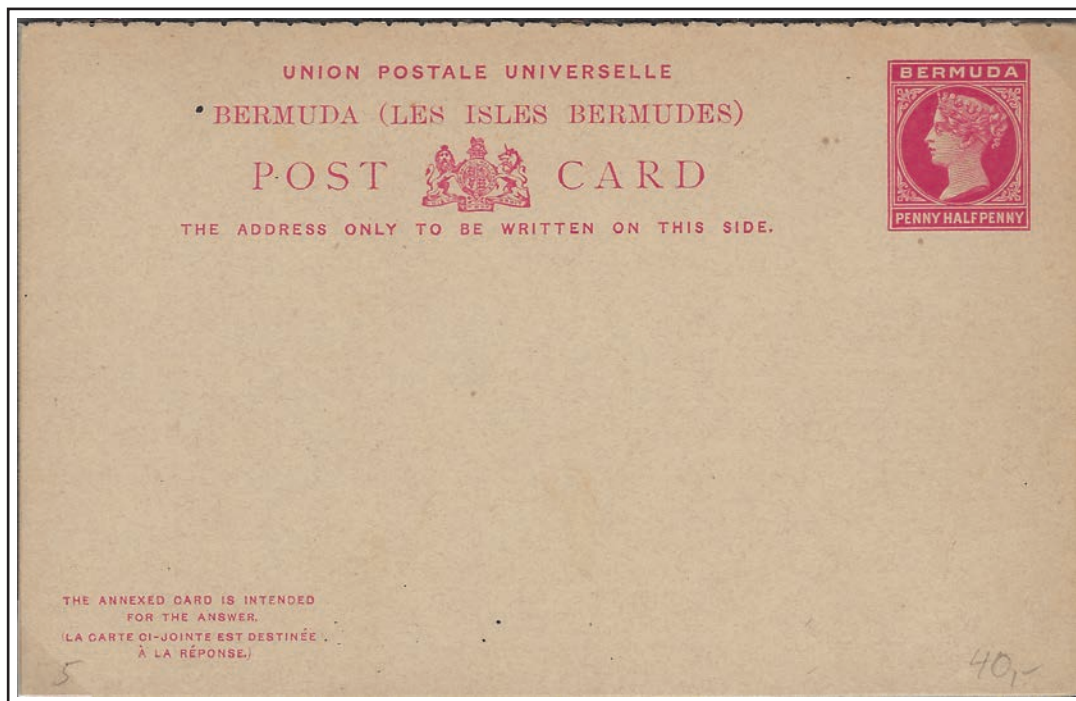
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

Penny Half Penny + Penny Half Penny
Reply Card

One printing, received 25 Feb 1885.
20,340



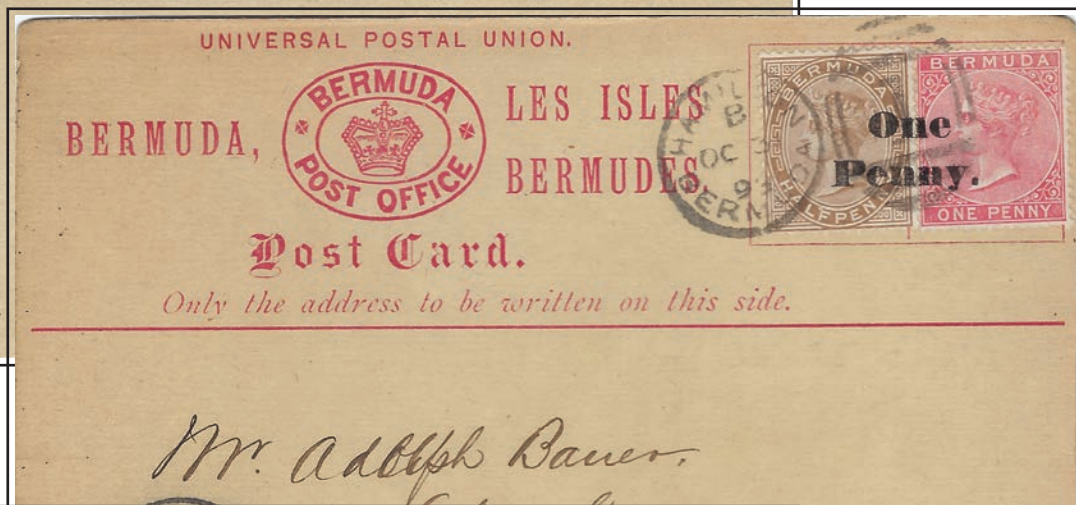
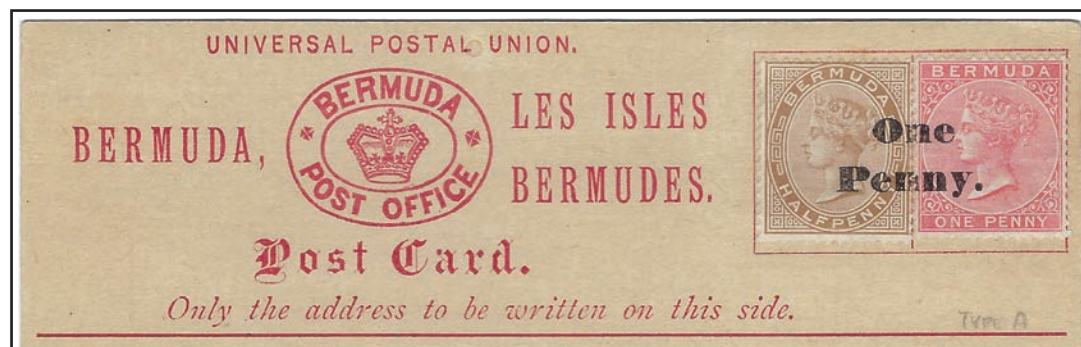
Carmines with 1½d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

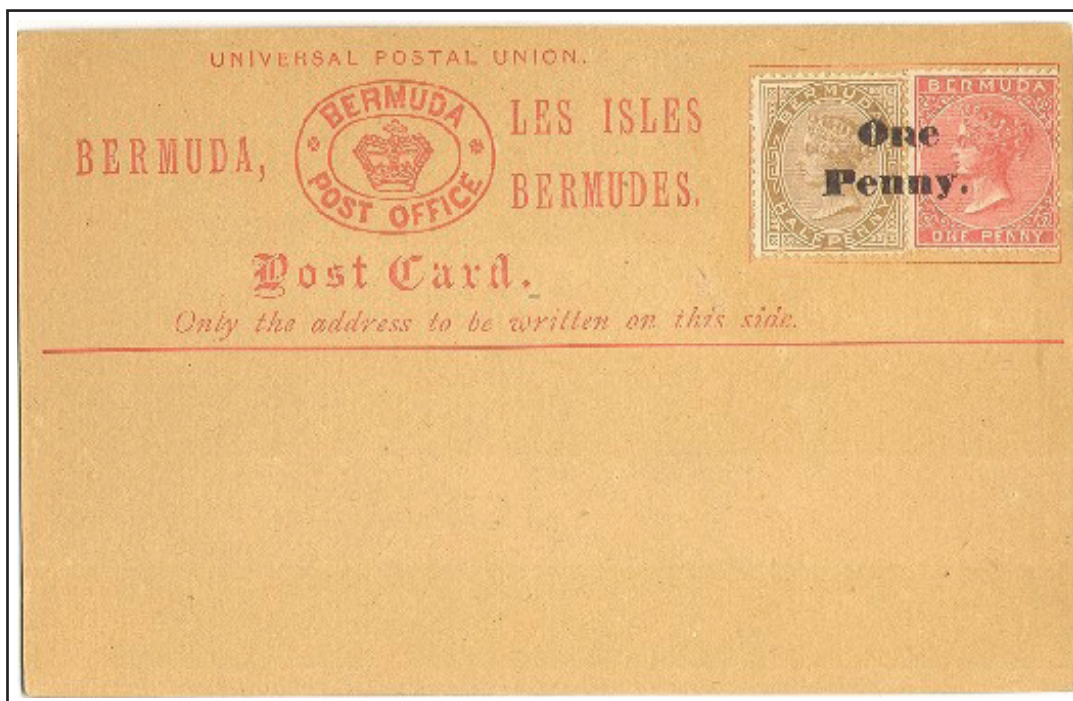
One Penny Provisional
Setting A

1893
87 cards were surcharged



Two registered
examples are
recorded.

All of the surcharged cards were purchased by a Arthur Cleveland Cox Jones, clerk at the Hamilton Post Office. Approximately twenty used examples are recorded of which about 3 are known of type A.

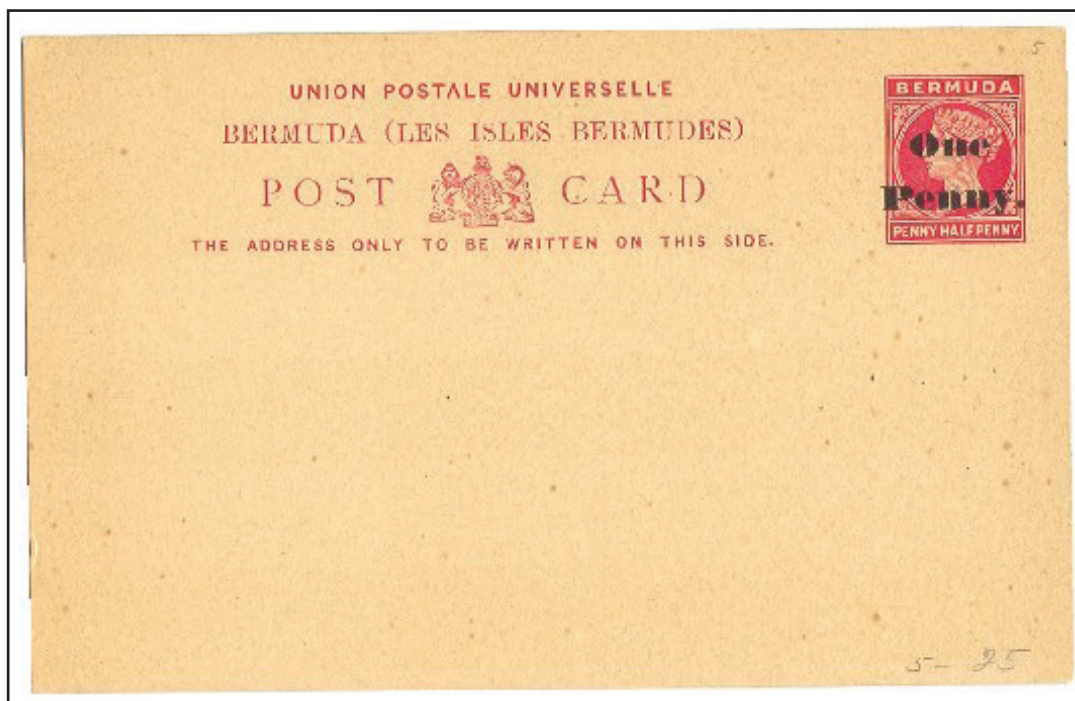


Most used examples are recorded to Germany

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny

1893
6,116 cards overprinted

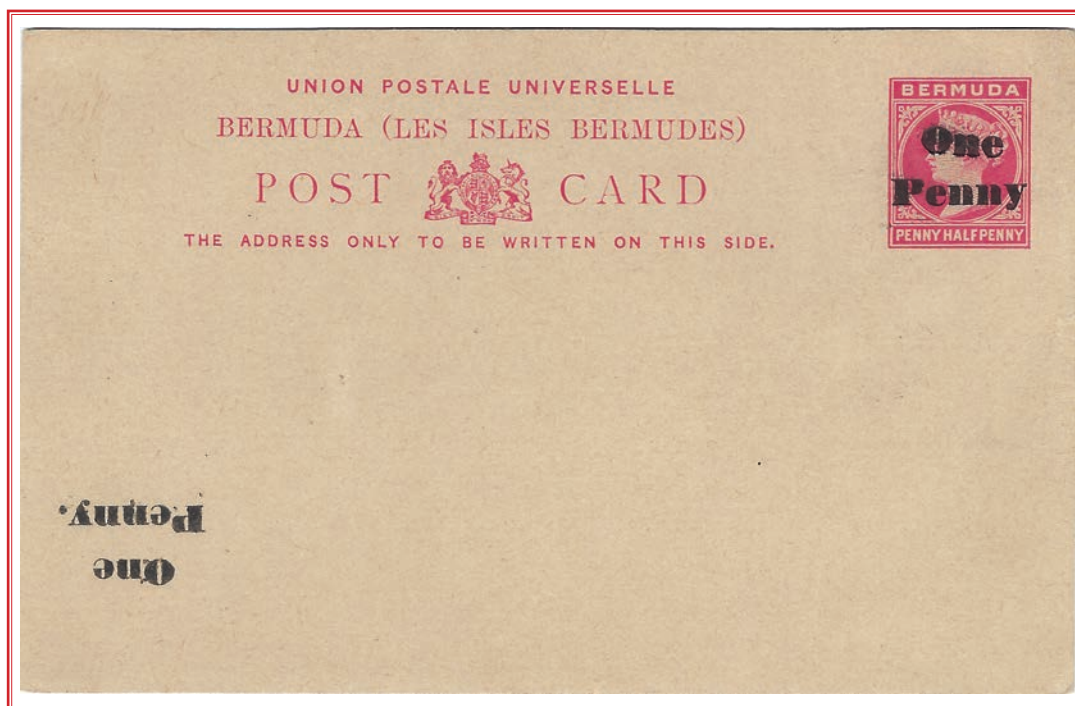


Two main settings are recorded with the spacing between "One" and "Penny" of either 4mm (which appears to be more uncommon) or 4.5mm

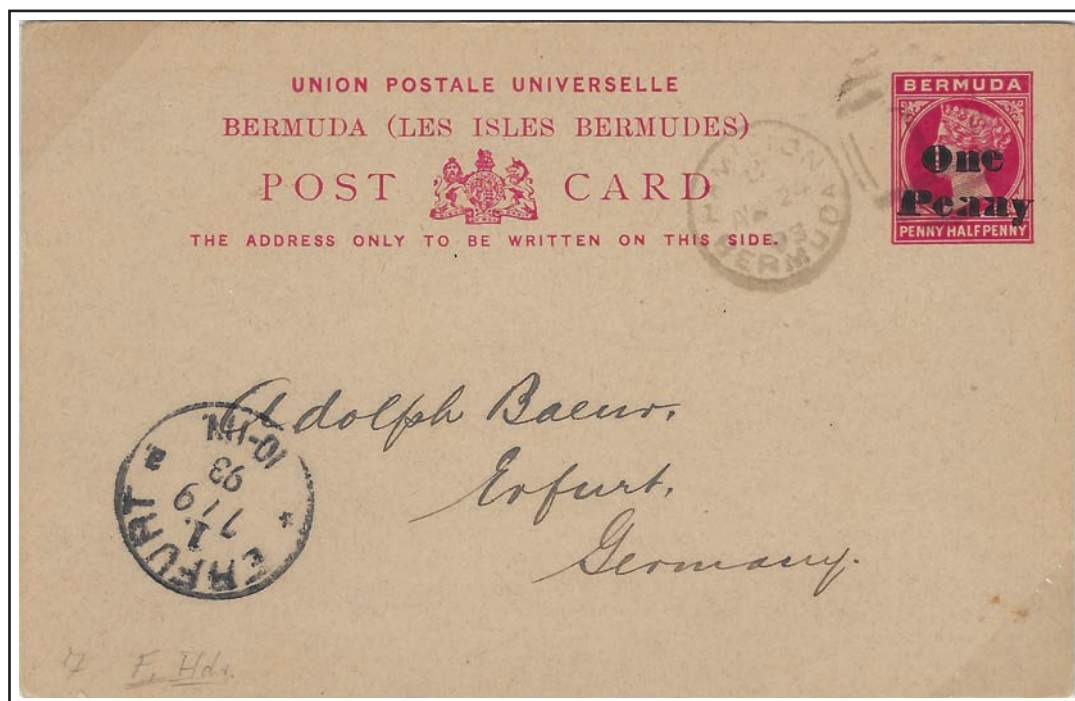


Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny



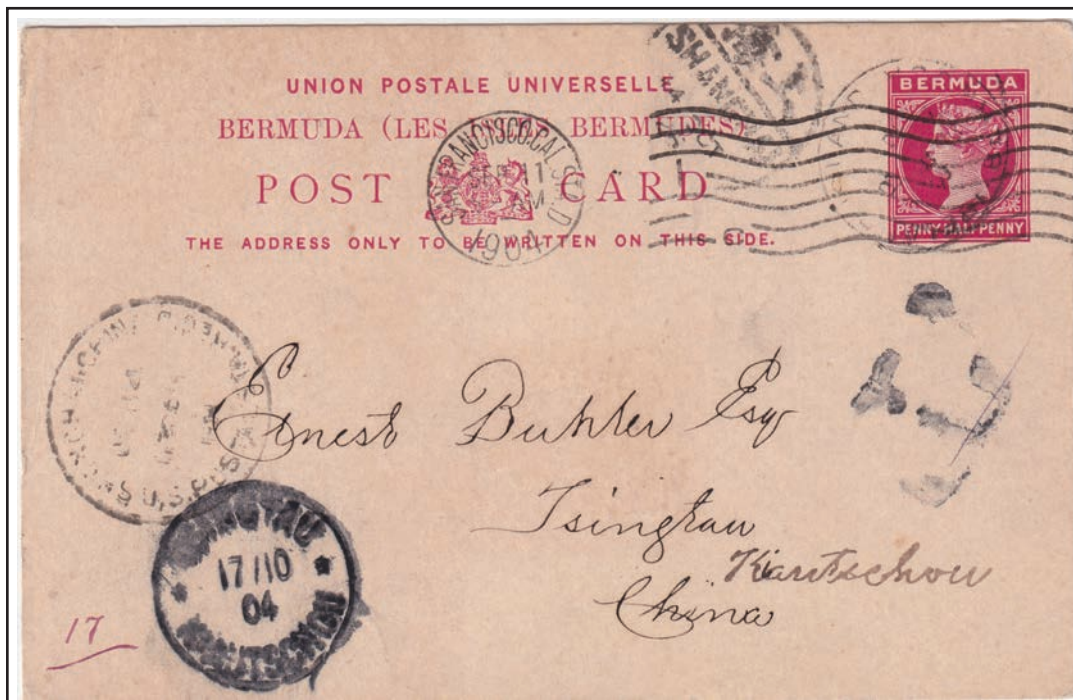
Double overprinted the surcharge one the indicum measures 4mm and has no stop, one inverted surcharge measures 4.5mm
Only recorded example



Ssurcharge measuring 3mm and has no stop. Only recorded used.
Less than 10 recorded examples

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny



Two late use 1½d postal stationery cards with and without surcharge to China.
"I am forwarding your cards and stamps as requested."

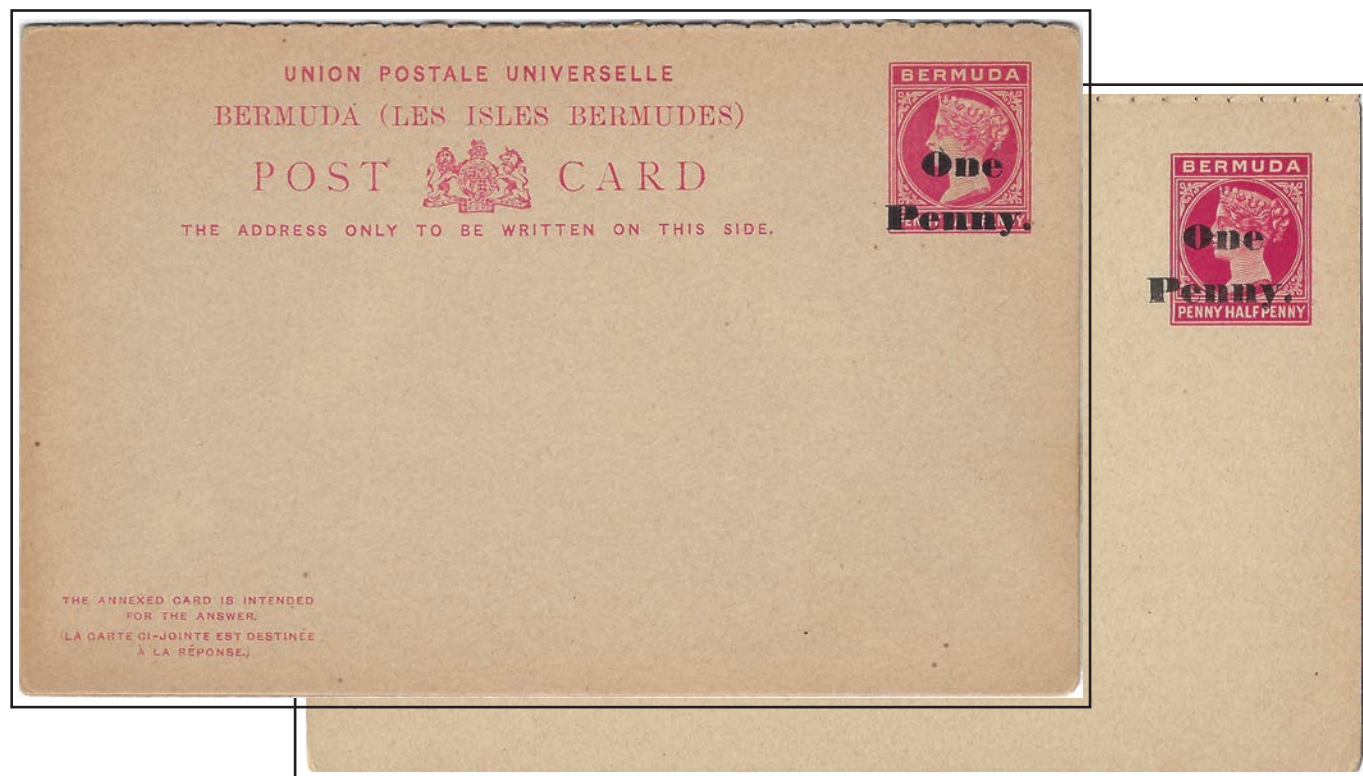
I am forwarding your cards and stamps as requested



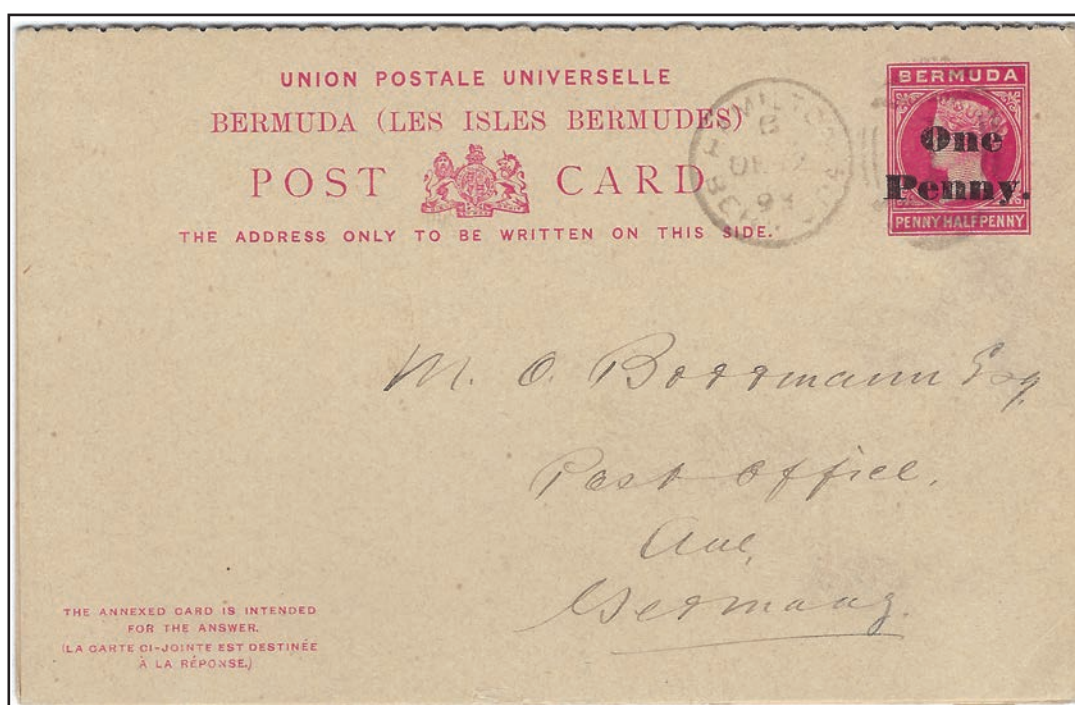
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

1893
414 cards overprinted

One Penny + One Penny



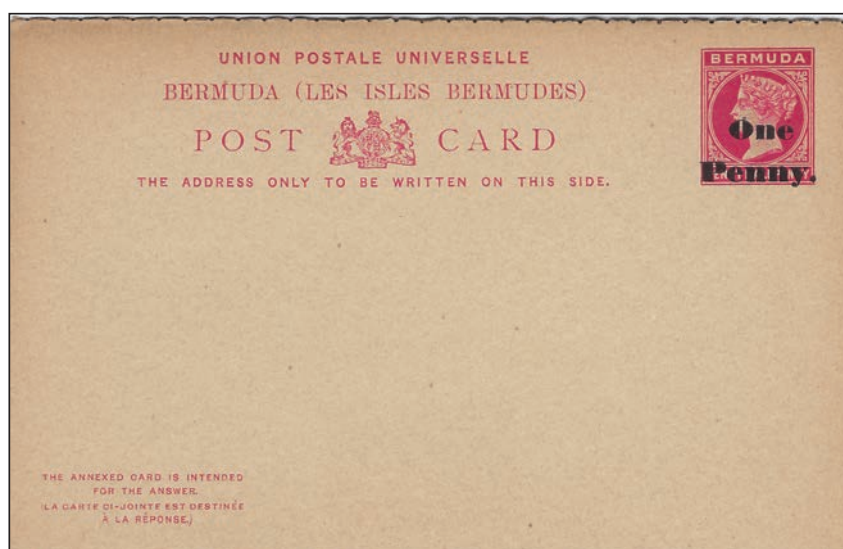
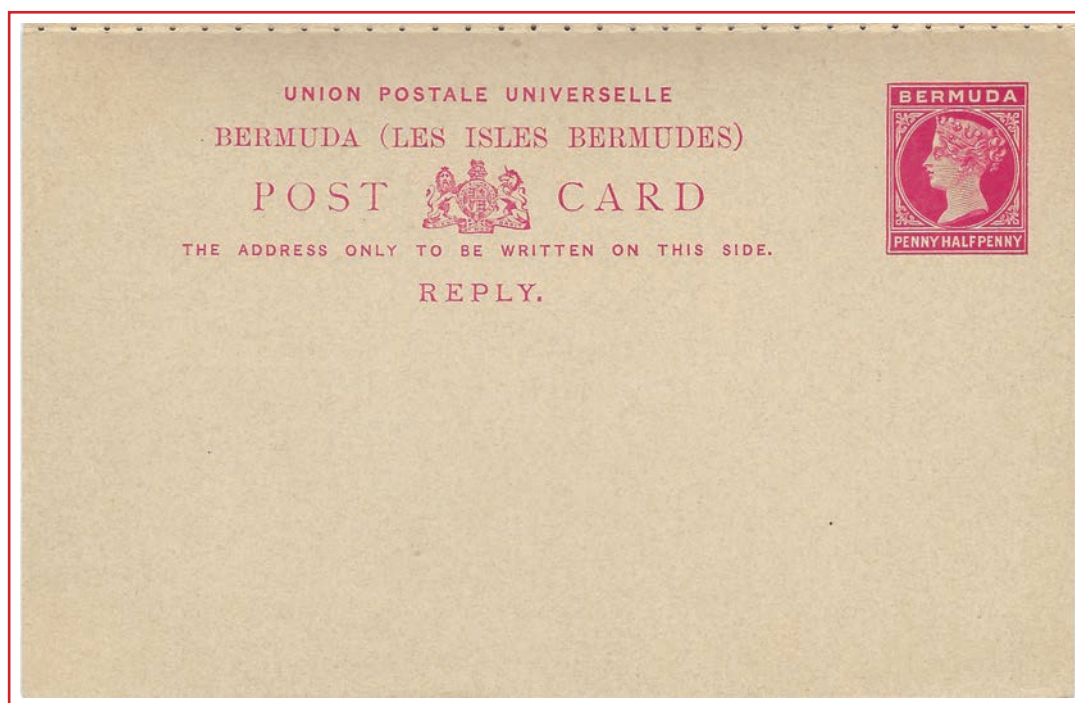
Shades



Less than ten used examples

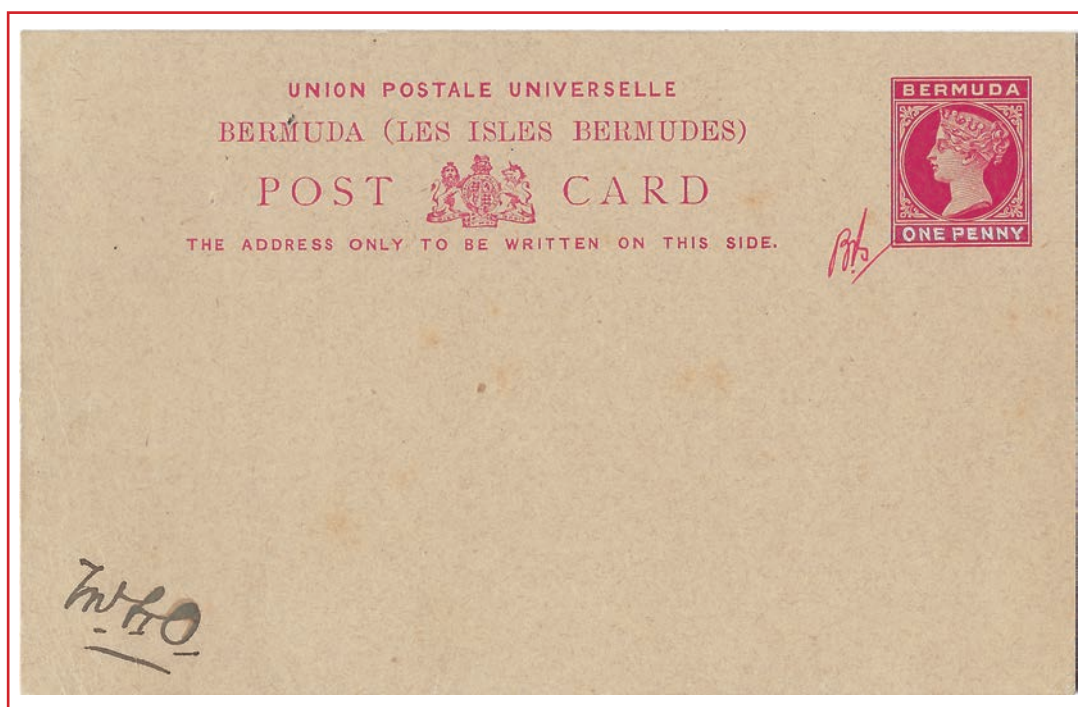
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny + One Penny
Reply card

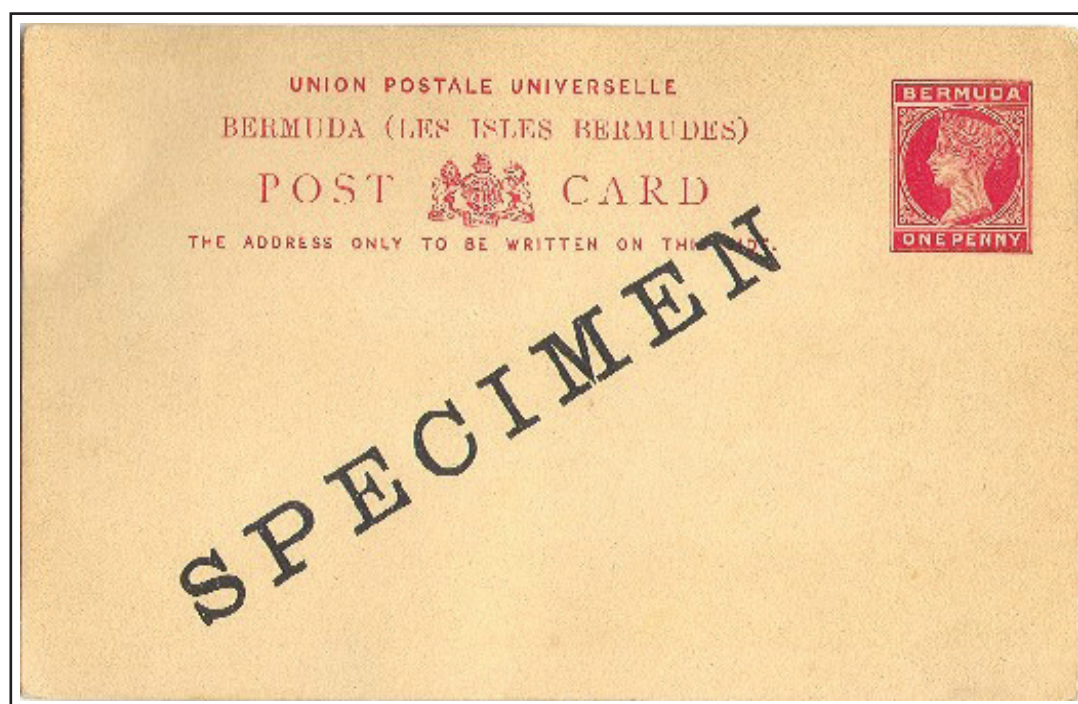


reduced image of the out-
ward portion

Surcharge omitted on the "REPLY" portion of the card
Three examples recorded



Essay with hand painting showing the new value of ONE PENNY in chinese white

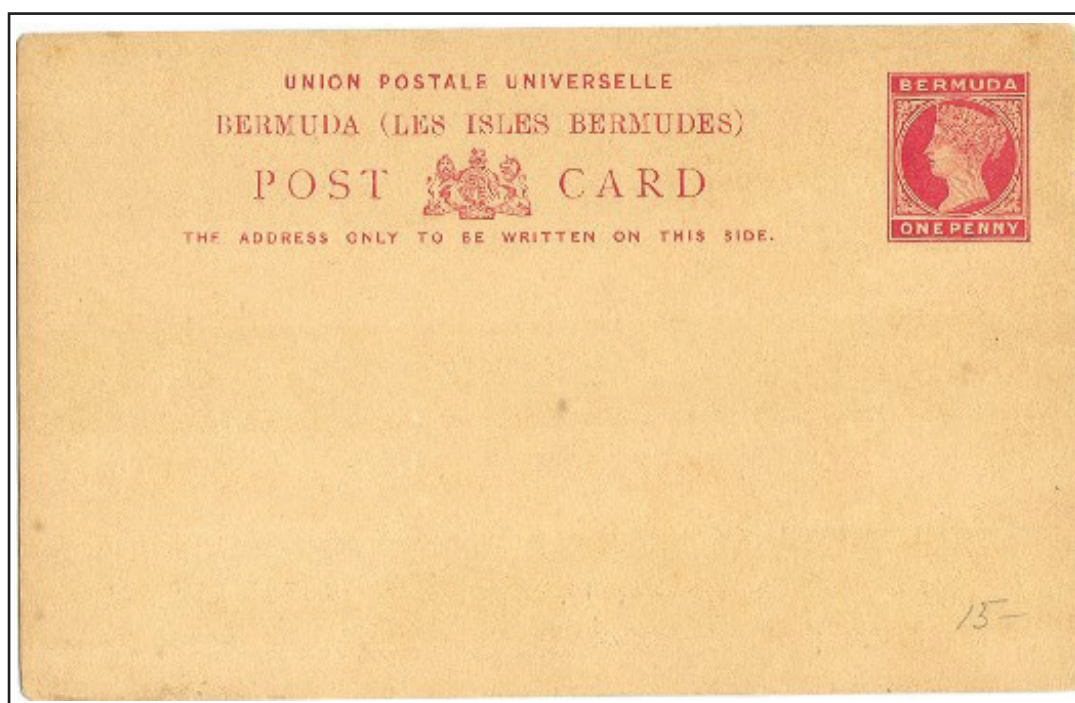


SPECIMEN

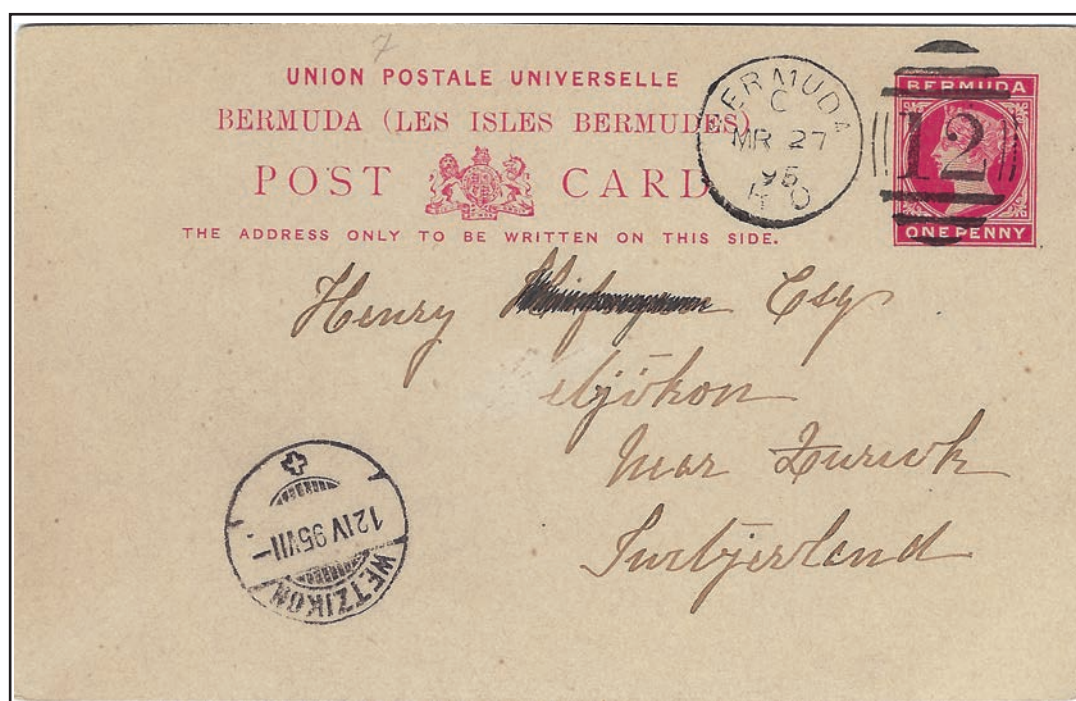
Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny

One printing, received Sep 1893.
quantity unknown



Carmine with 1d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



Used to Switzerland

Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

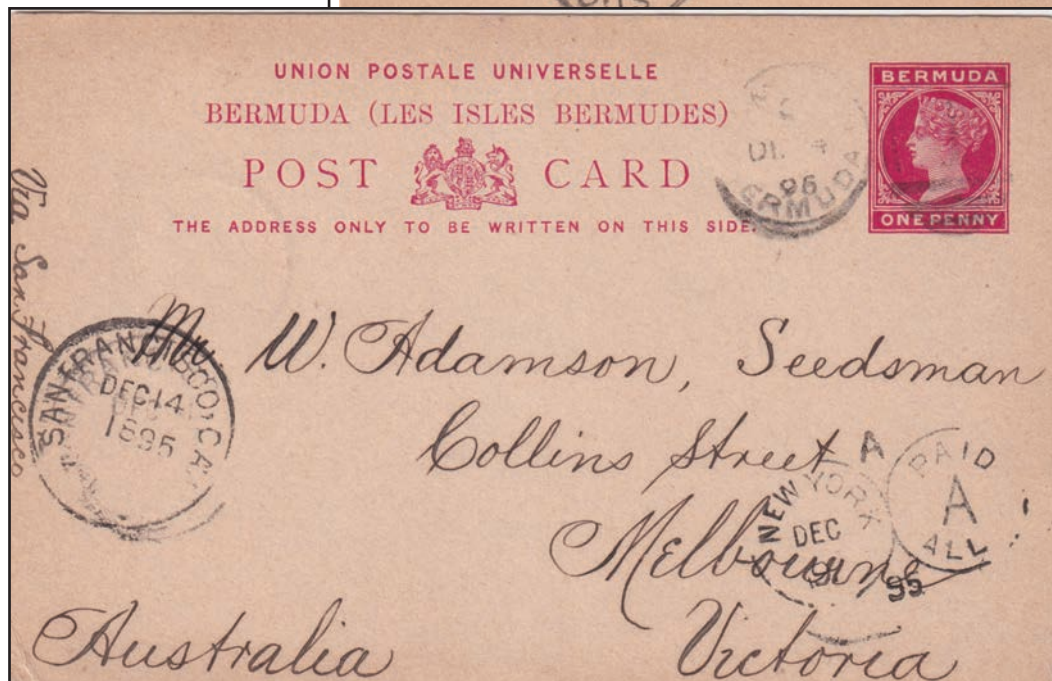
Interesting destinations!

One Penny

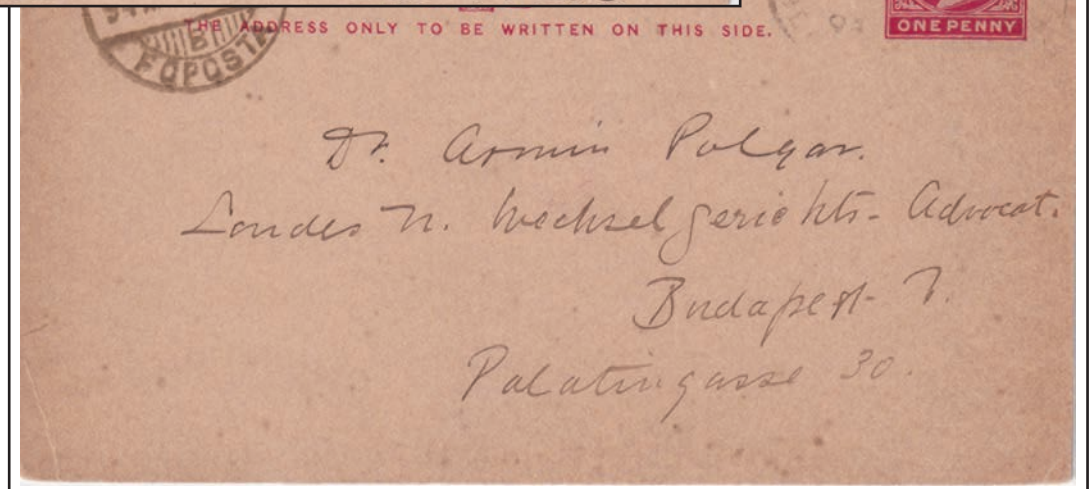
Used to
Grenada



Used to
Australia



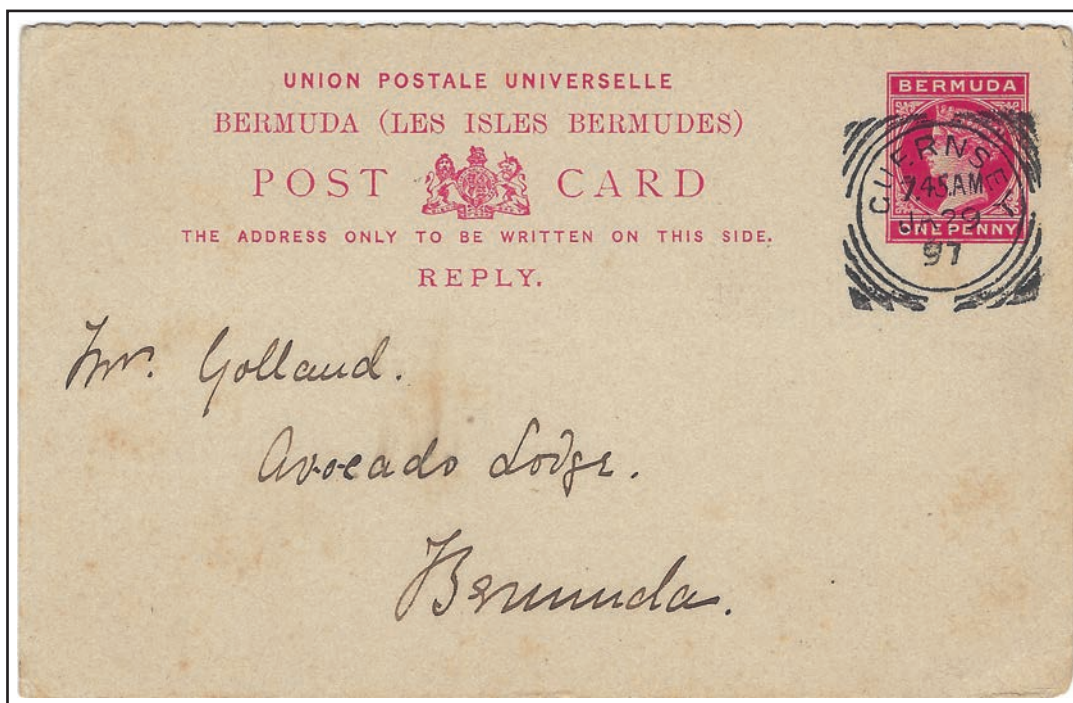
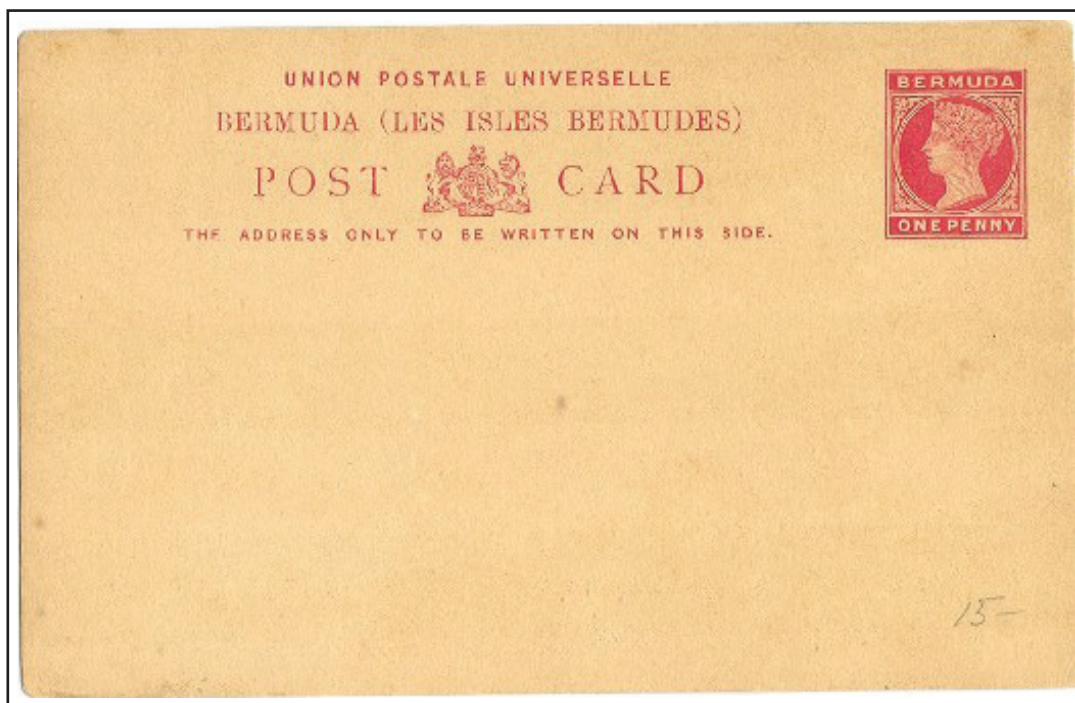
Used to
Romania



Section: I: Cards
Queen Victoria

One Penny + One Penny
Reply card

One printing, received Sep? 1893.
quantity unknown

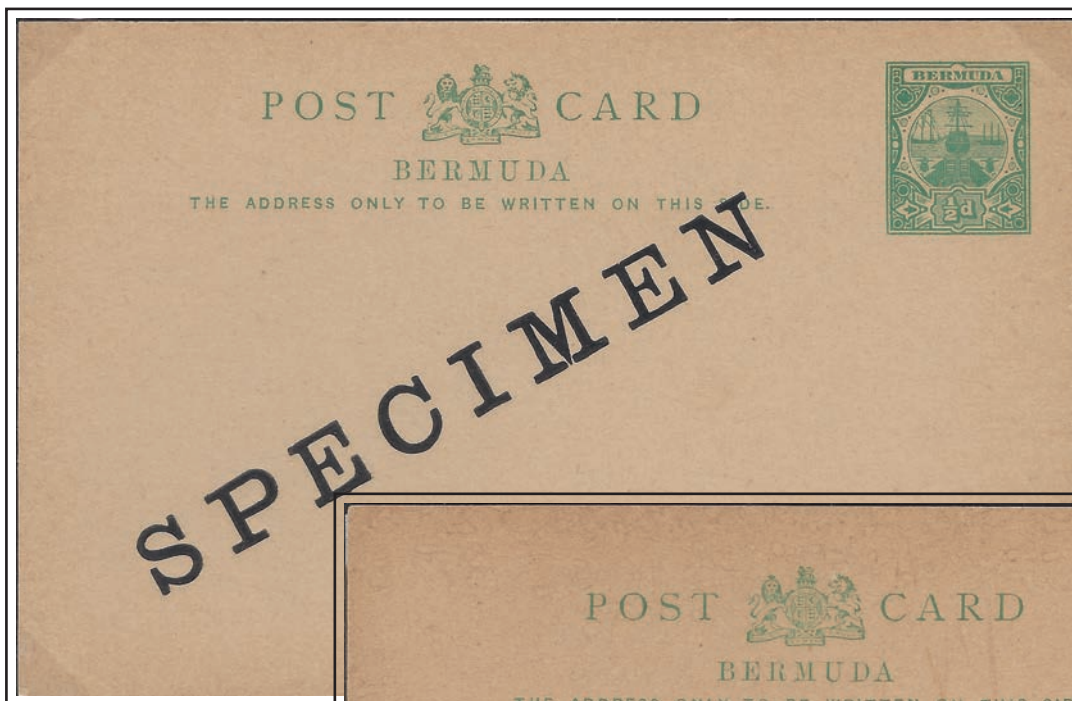


Reply portion sent prepaid back to **Bermuda from Guernsey** - very few used reply cards are recorded!

Section: I: Cards
King Edward VII

One printing
Issued on 24 February 1903
Unknown quantity

Half Penny

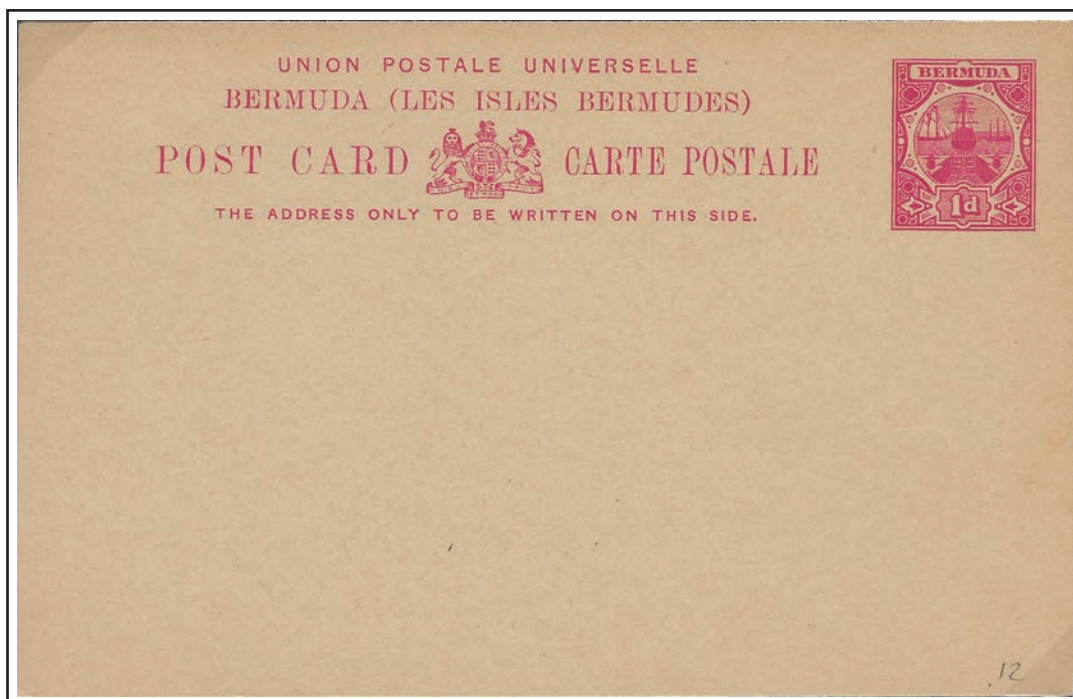
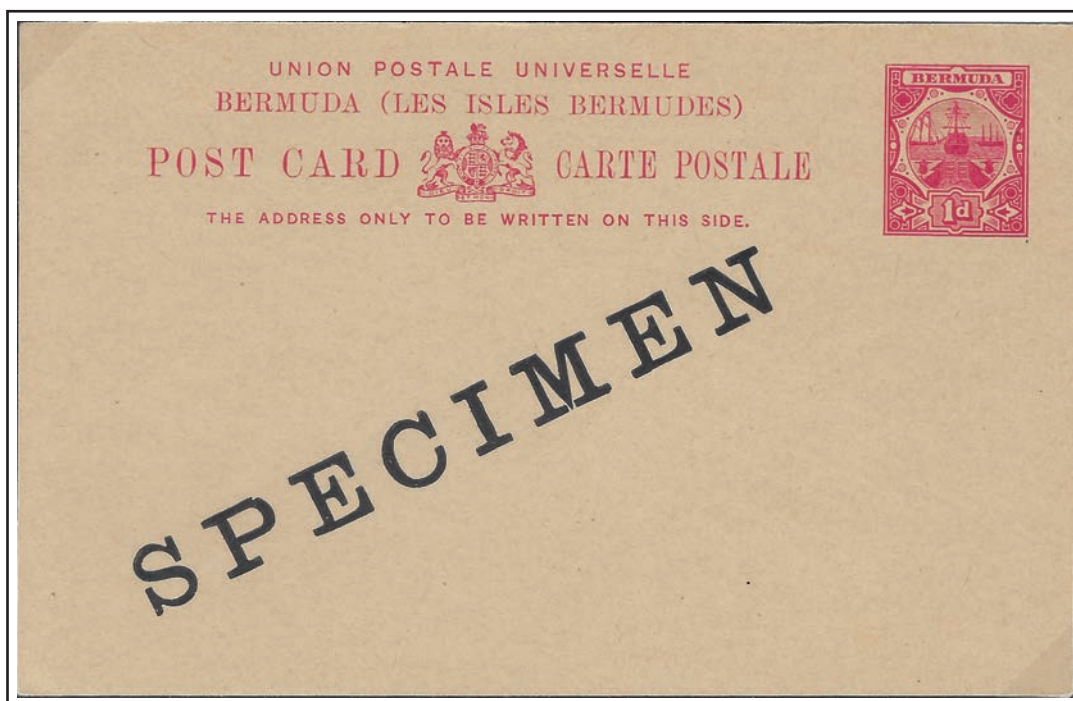


1/2d local rate sent
from St Georges to
Hamilton

Section: I: Cards
King Edward VII

One printing,
Issued on 19 July 1909.
12,168

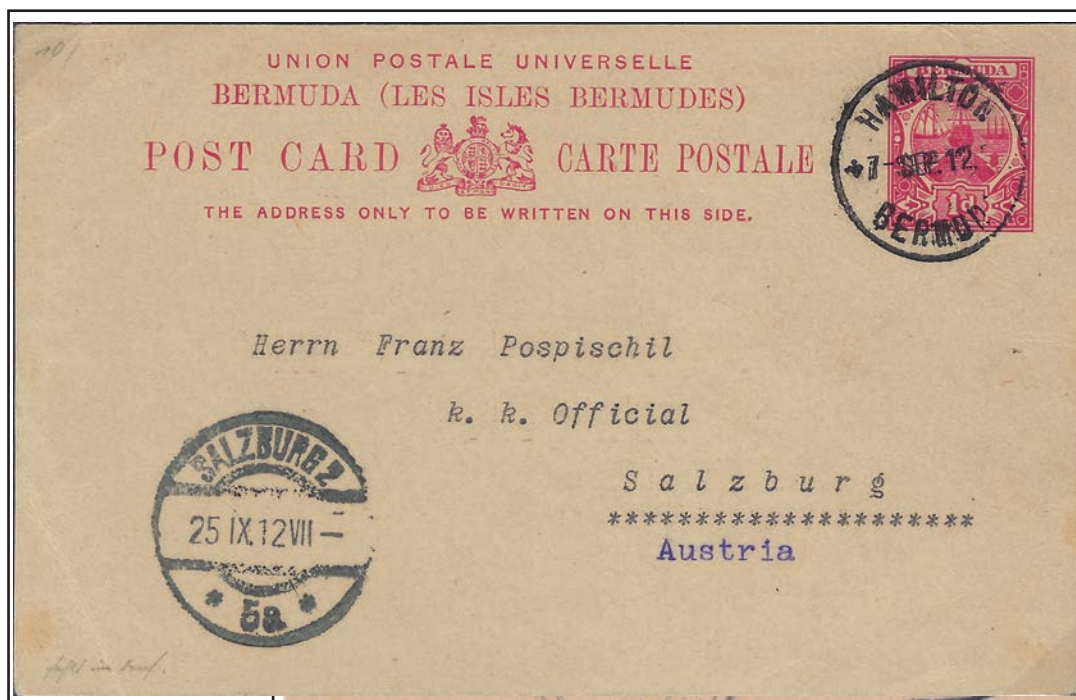
One Penny



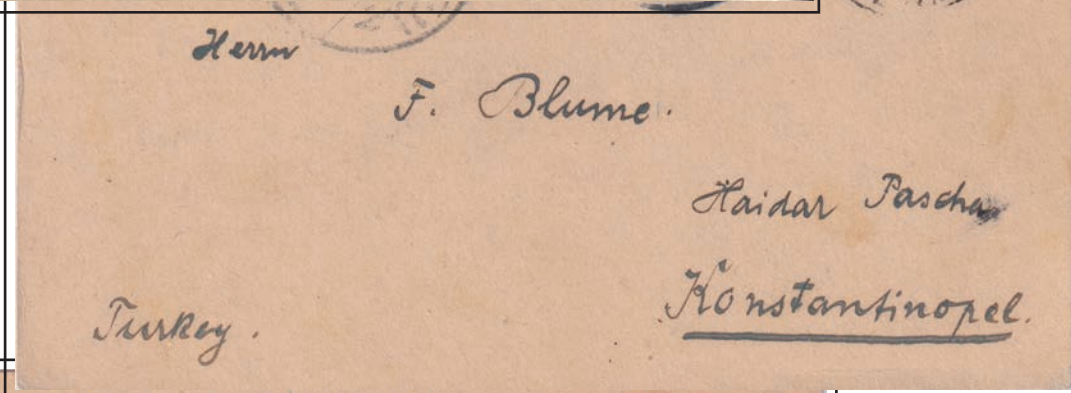
Section: I: Cards
King Edward VII

Interesting destinations!

One Penny



Used to
Austria



Used to
Turkey

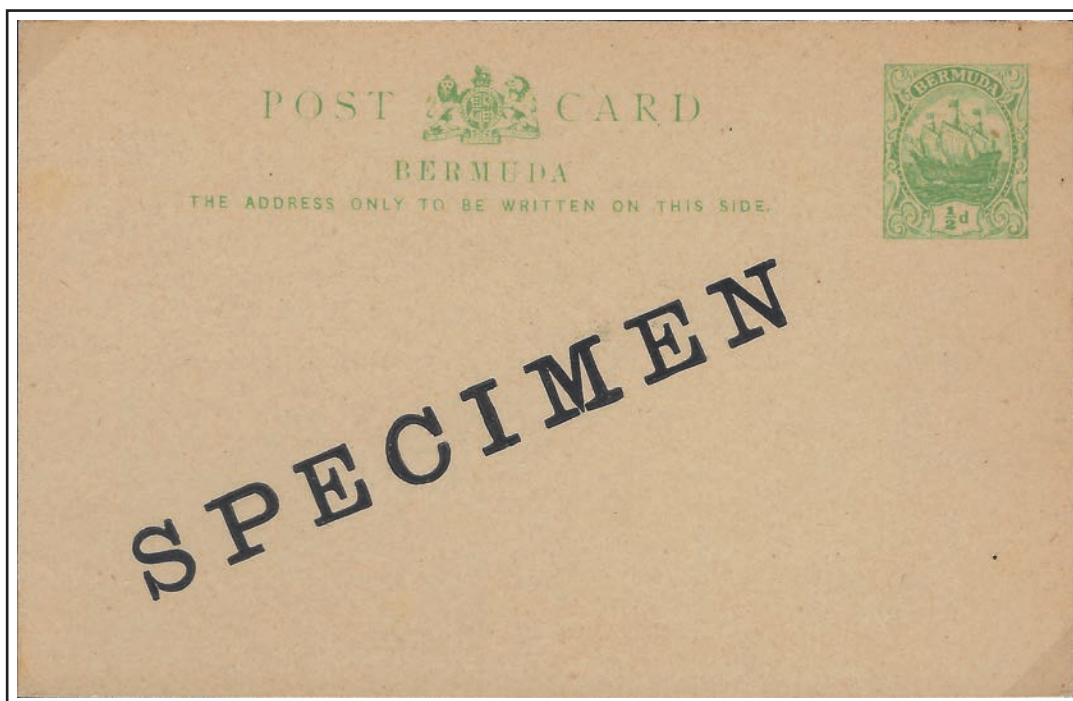


Used to
Germany
plus 2d
registration fee.

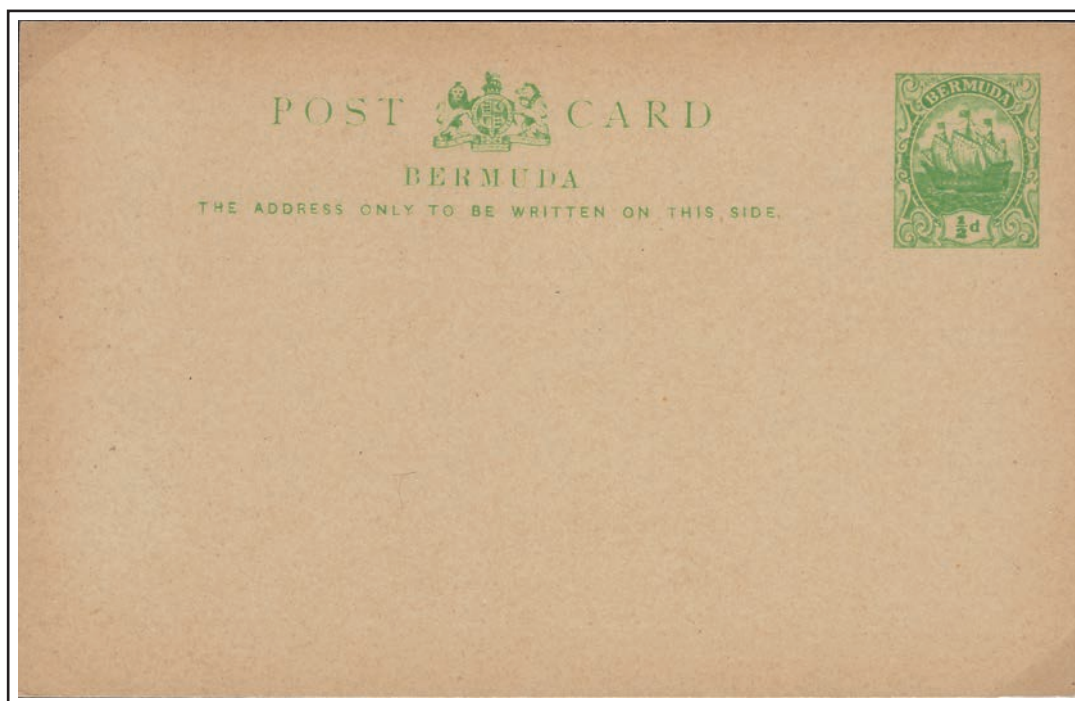
Section: I: Cards
King George V

Half Penny

One printing, received 1912
quantity unknown



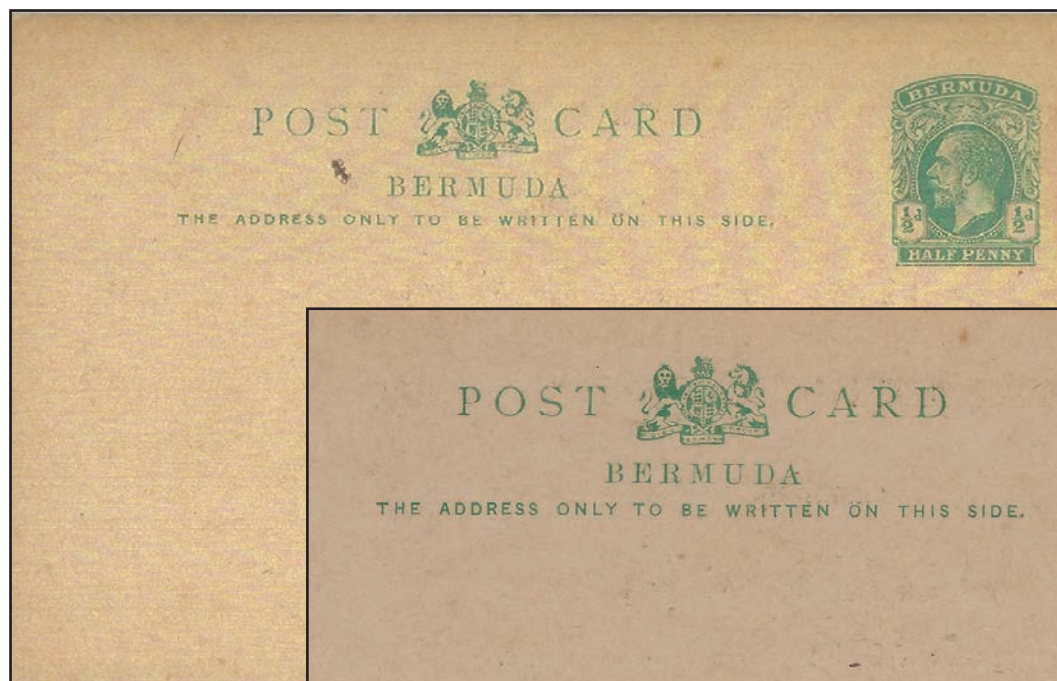
Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



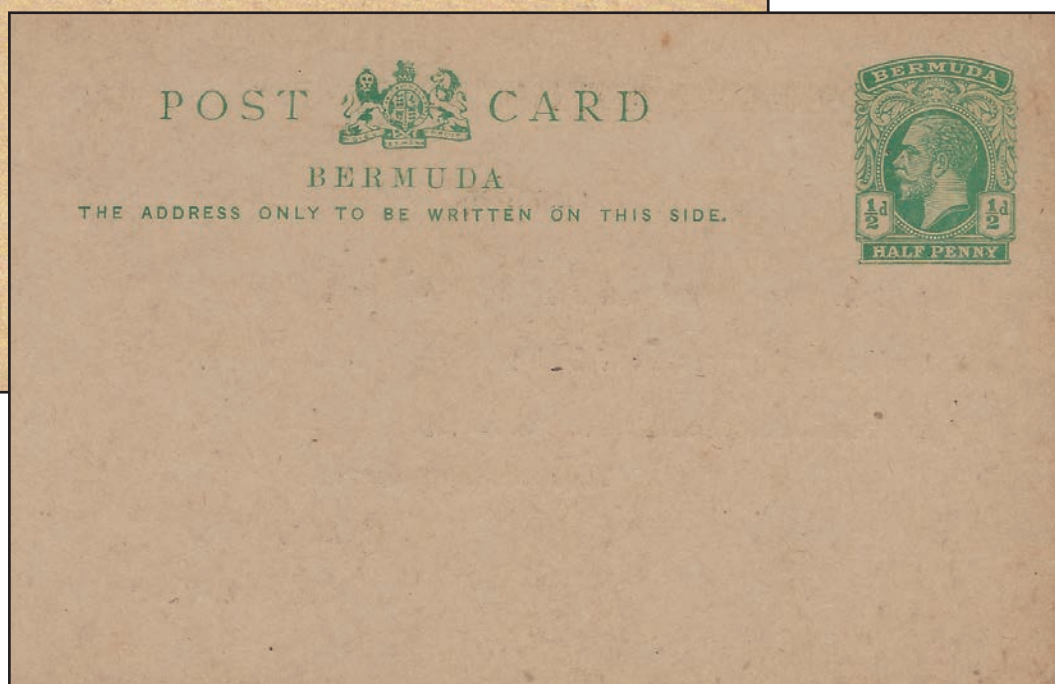
Section: I: Cards
King George V

Half Penny

One printing, received 1913
quantity unknown



Yellow-green



Green

Section: I: Cards
King George V

Half Penny



Yellow-green
Purple cancel used
for 20 days only.

Green

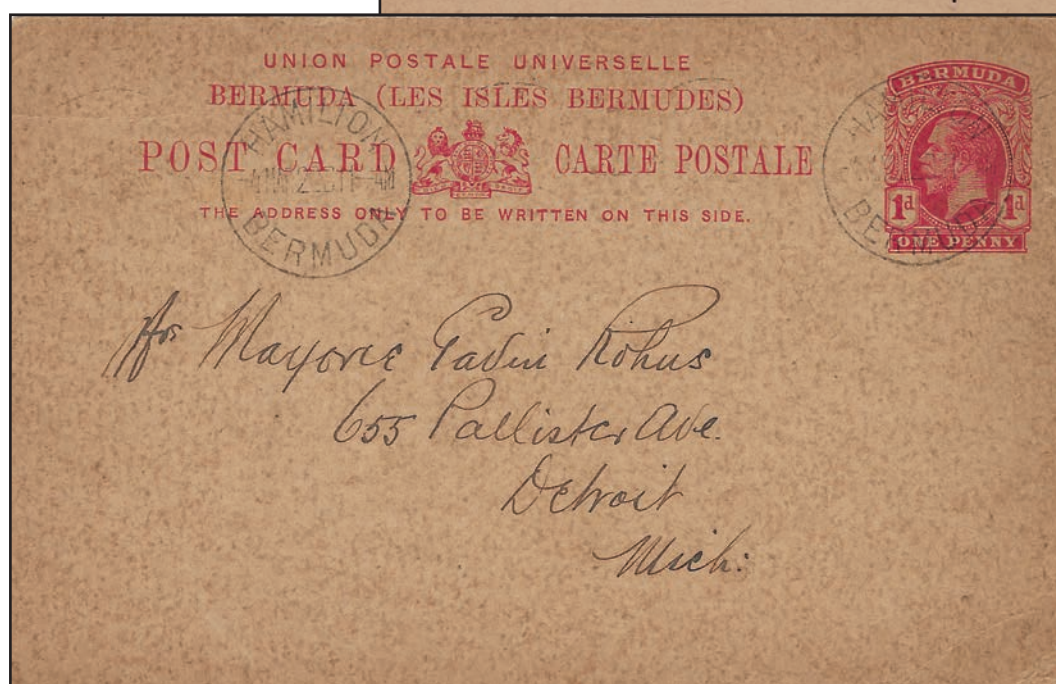


Up-rated to pay the
1d postcard rate to
Romania

Section: I: Cards
King George V

One Penny

One printing, received 8 Nov.1912
quantity unknown

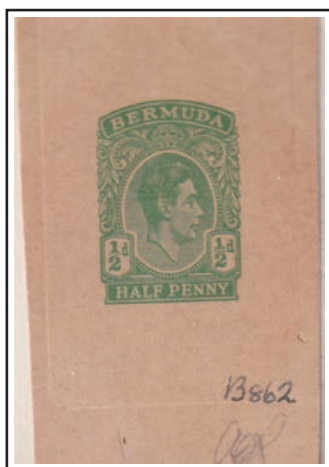


Used to
Romania

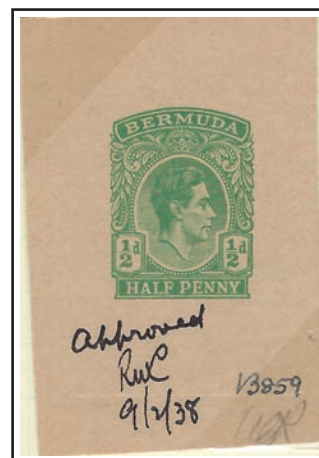
Section: I: Cards
King George VI

Half Penny

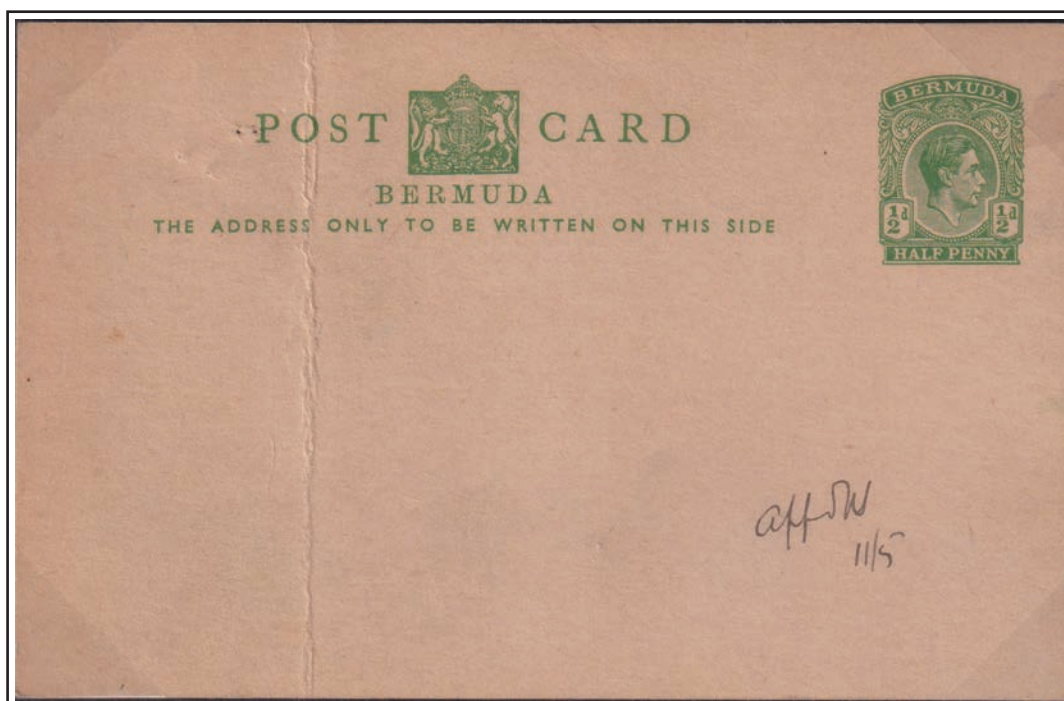
Seven printings, Jun 1938 - Apr 1940
76,836



Die Proof



1938 die proof in green of post card
on buff (issued colour) showing albino
impression of die surround.

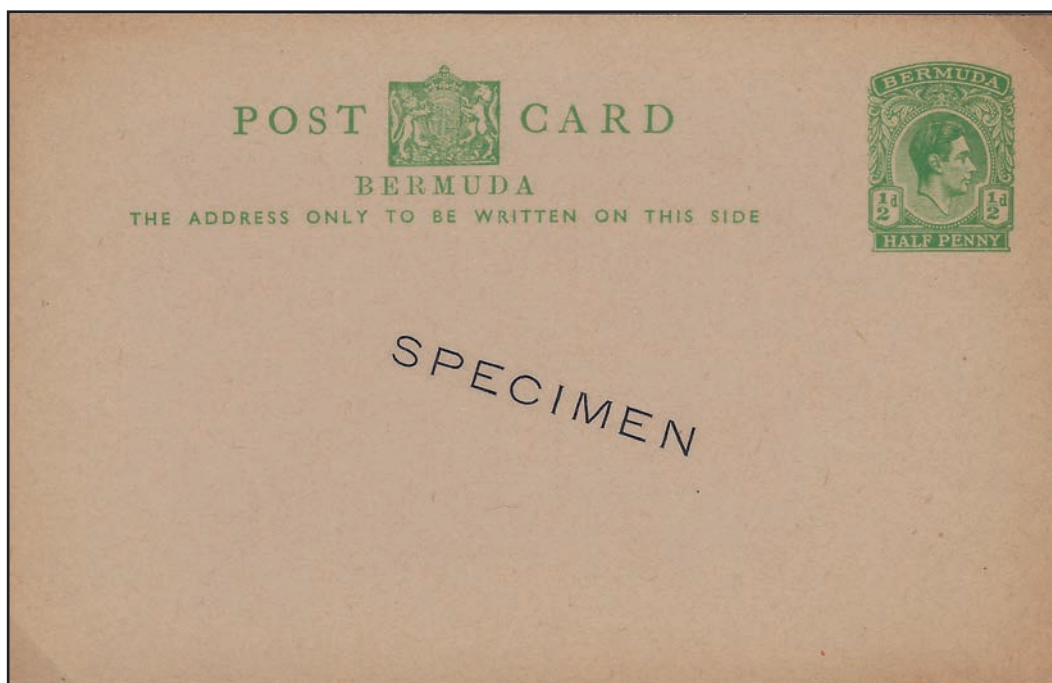


Printers file copy
ex De la Rue archives

Section: I: Cards
King George VI

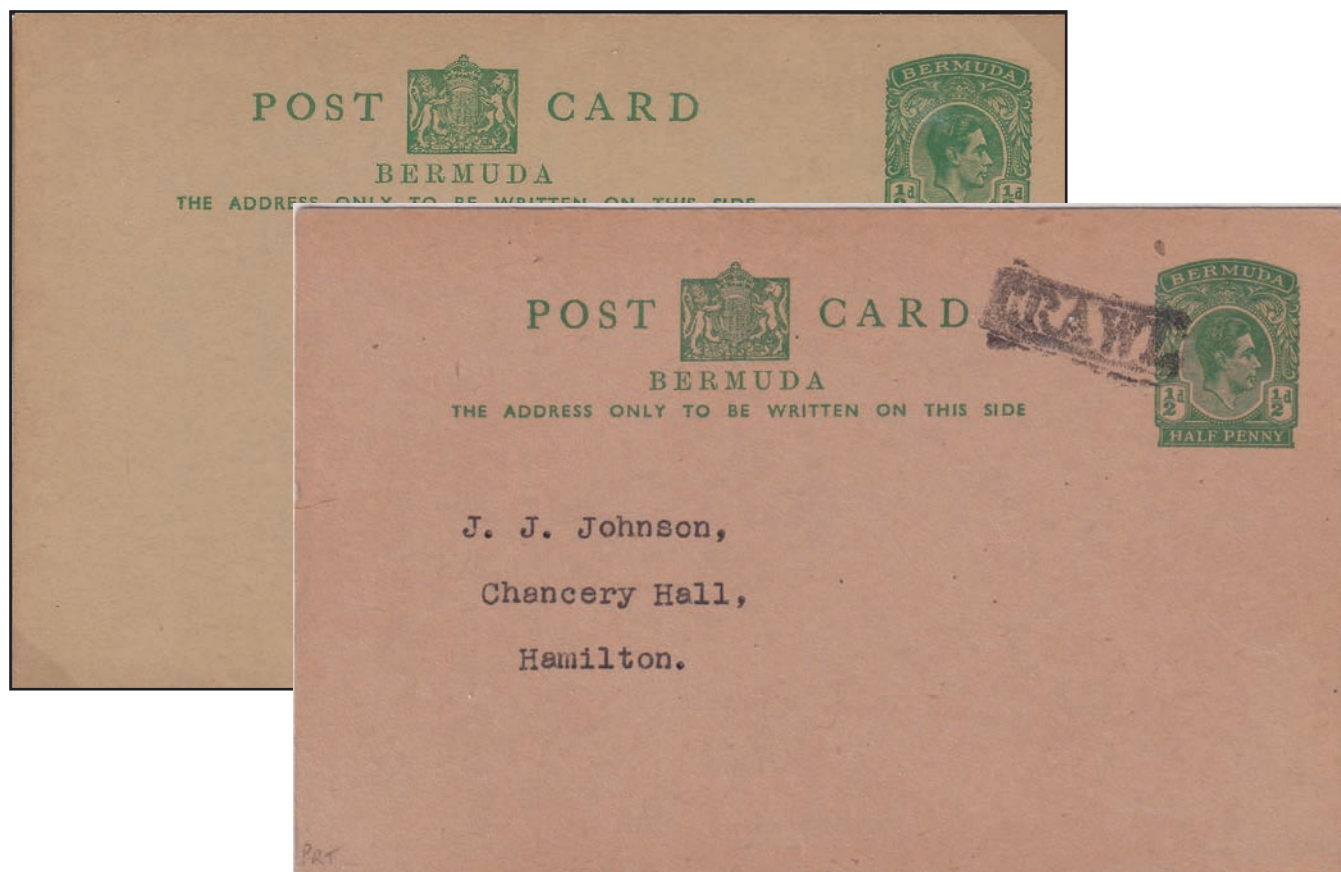
Seven printings, Jun 1938 - Apr 1940
76,836

Half Penny



SPECIMEN
392 printed

“THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE” measures 83mm



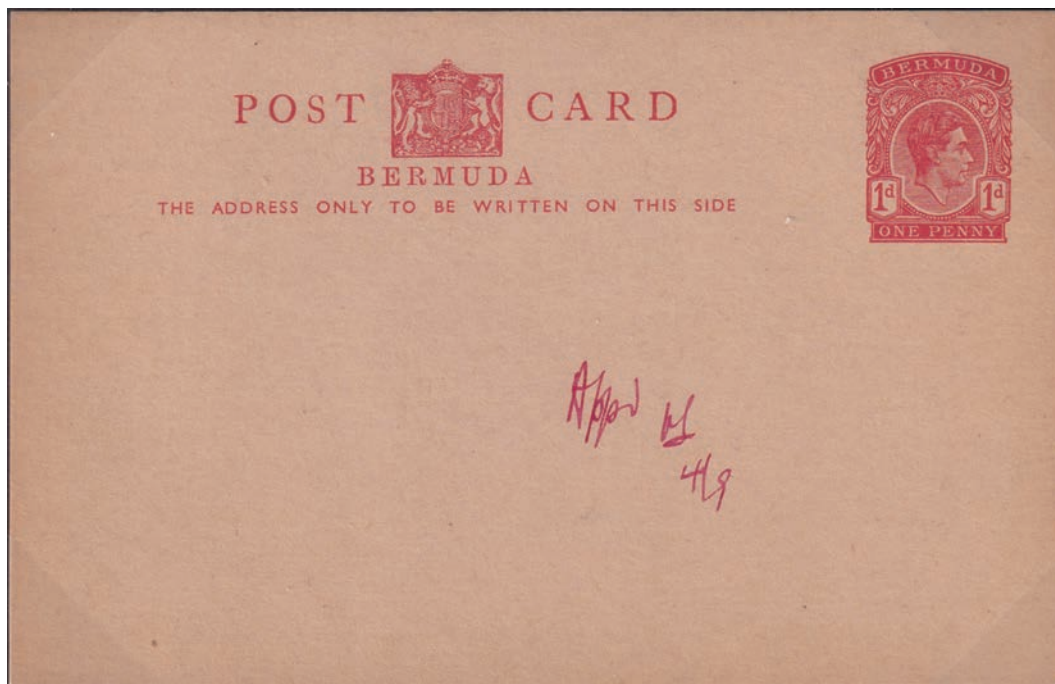
“THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE” measures 75.5mm

Section: I: Cards
King George VI

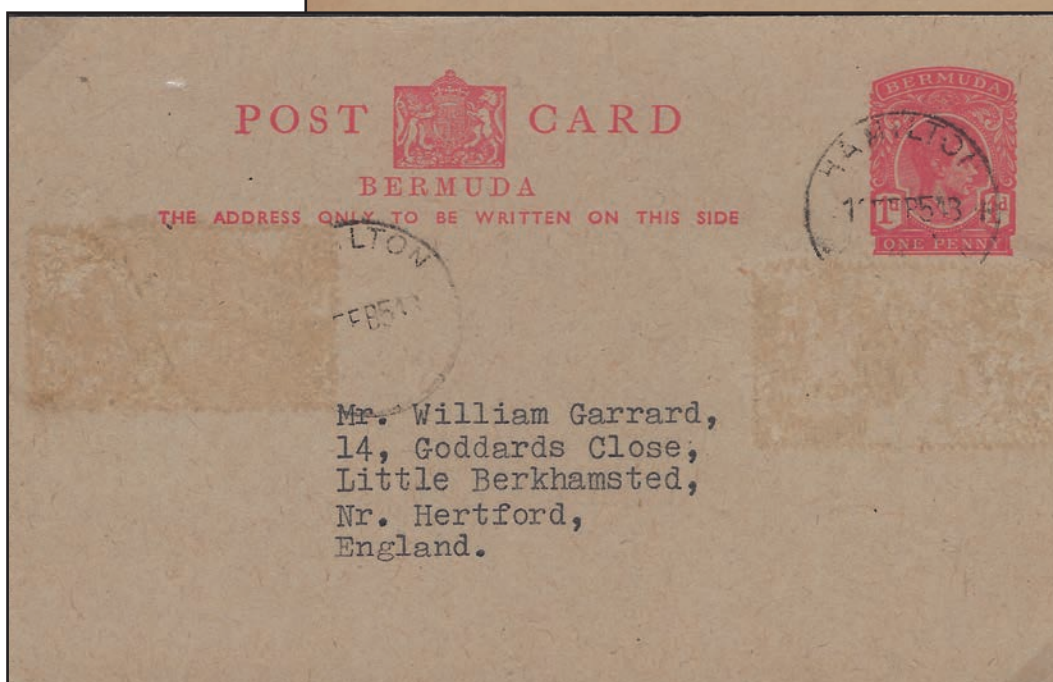
Thirteen? printings, Nov 1940 - Aug 1959
459,032

One Penny
DLR

Printers file copy
ex De la Rue archives



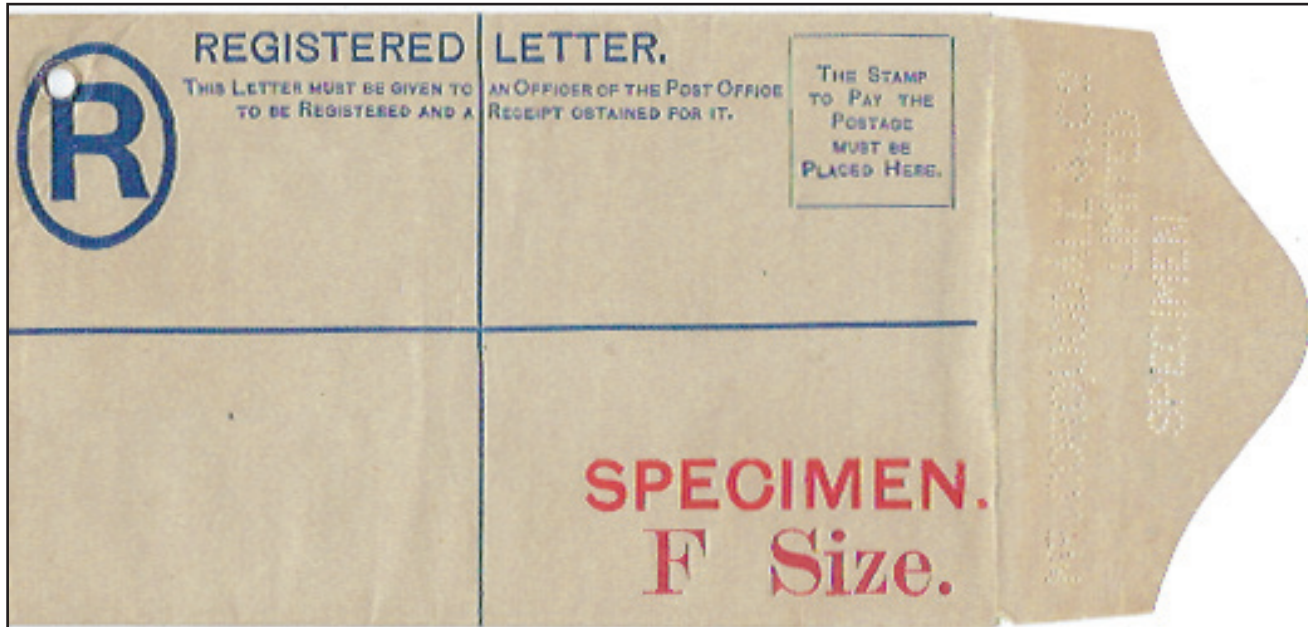
SPECIMEN
392 printed



**Section: II: Registered Envelope
Queen Victoria**

McCorquodale

The four specimens on this and the following page were sent to Bermuda by McCorquodale and Co., Limited Contractors. They were attempting to compete with De la Rue for producing registered envelopes. The used example is the only recorded use of a McCorquodale envelope in Bermuda.



Only recorded-
McCorquodale
envelope used in
Bermuda.



Section: II: Registered Envelopes
Queen Victoria

McCorcondale



Section: II: Registered Envelopes Queen Victoria

Die Proof

Registration dates to 1556 during the reign of Queen Mary the current system from 1841 where the letter was enclosed in a green sheet that was used as a receipt and returned to the sender. This developed into the use of a ribbon followed by tape and string. The introduction of registered envelopes in 1878 the string was replaced by printed blue crossed lines that survived into the modern era.



Hand painted essay for the registered envelopes
with 2d indicium.
Ex Ludington



Die proof with 2d indicium in vermillion.
Ex Ludington

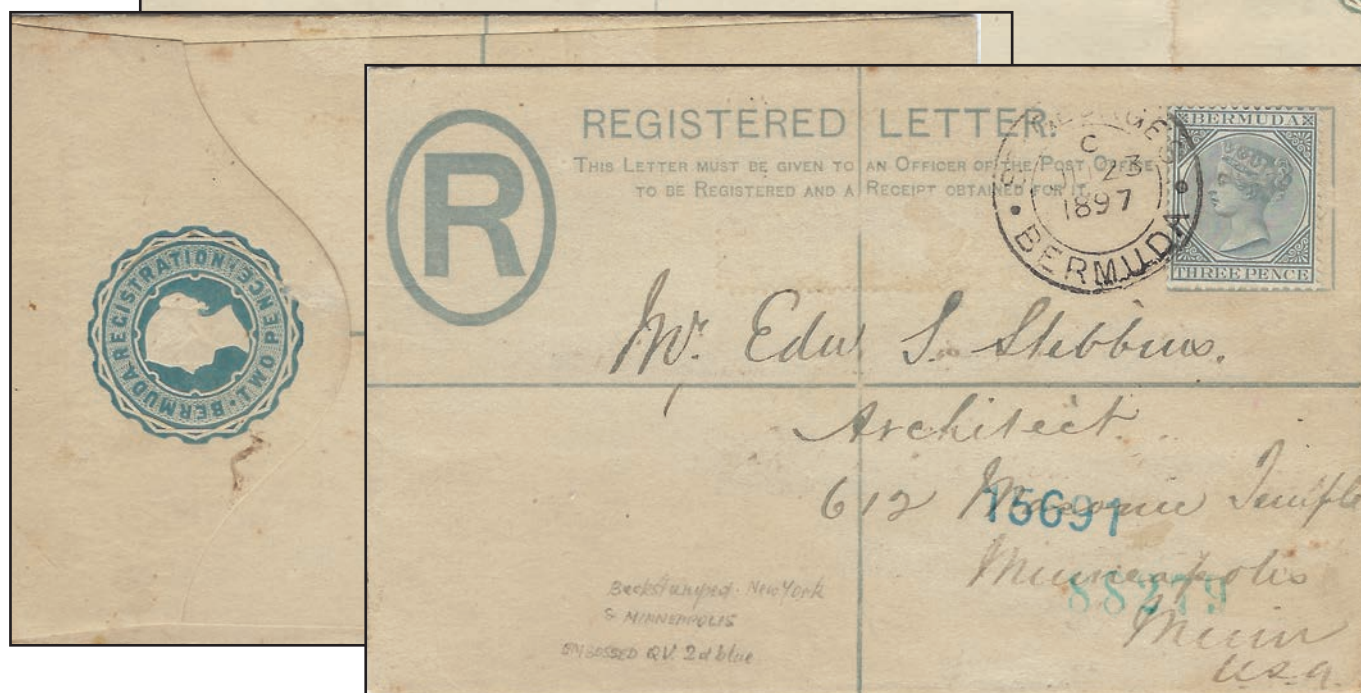
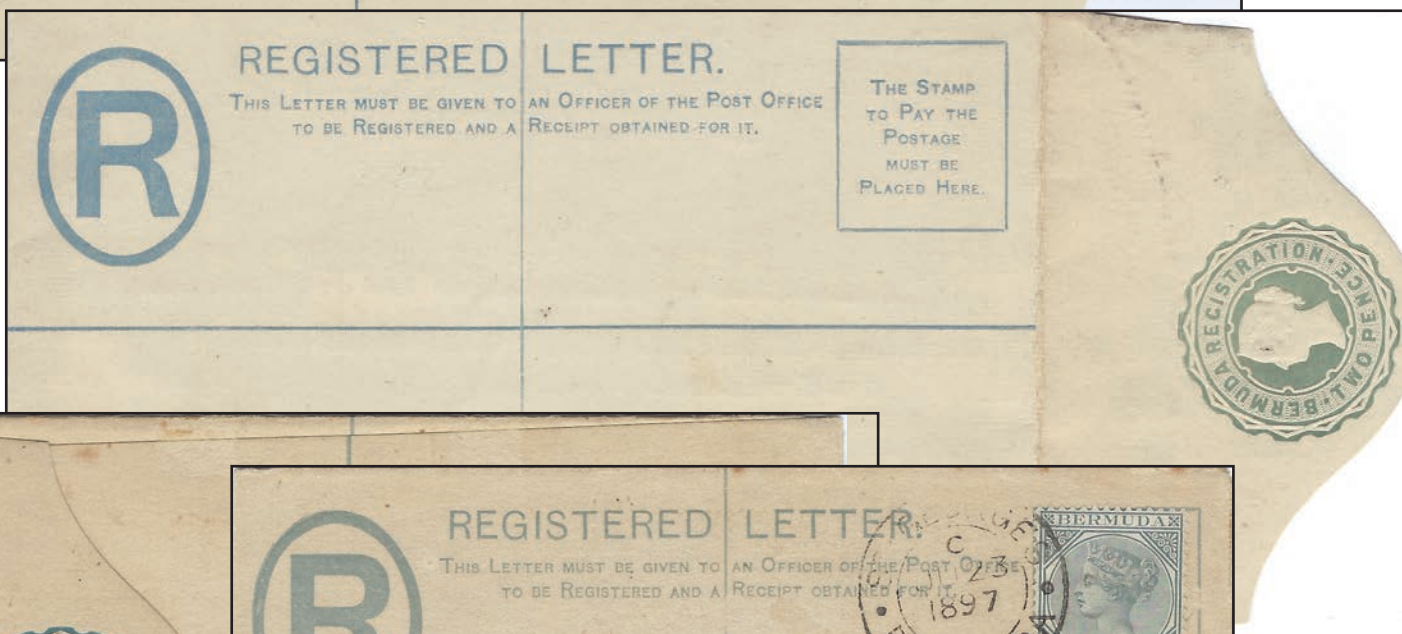
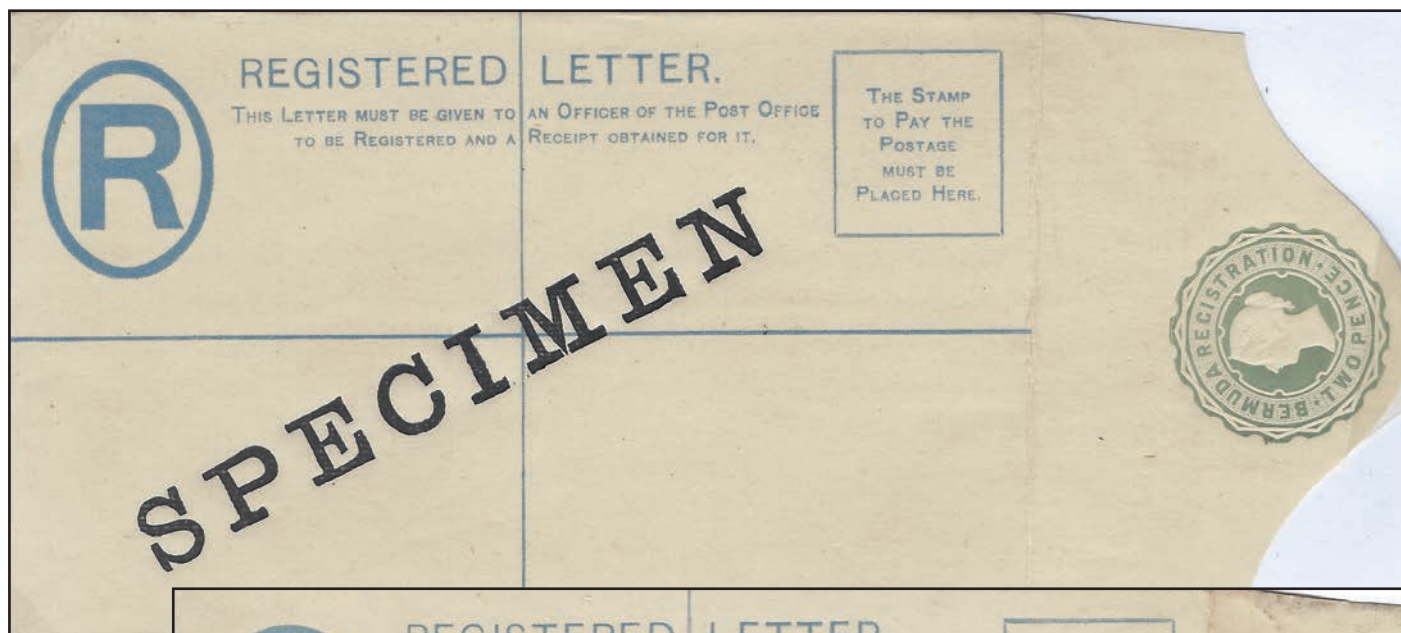
Registered envelopes were produced with a printed indicium showing the prepaid cost of registration and in four standard sizes with letter codes as follows:

F	5"	x	3"
G	6"	x	3 1/2"
H	7"	x	5"
H2	9"	x	4"

Section: II: Registered Envelopes
Queen Victoria

One printing, received May 1892.
1,000

Two Pence
Size F

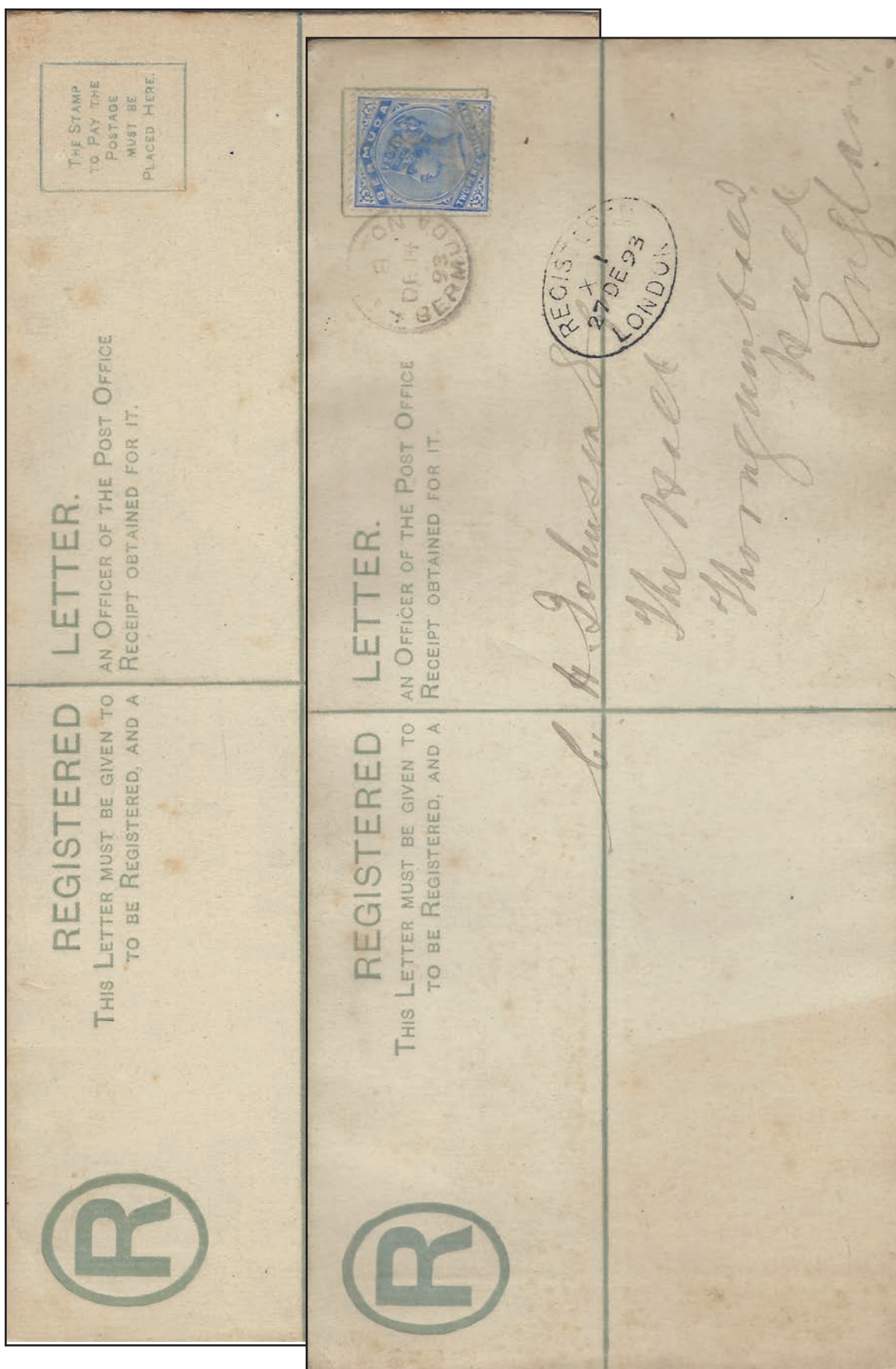


The Queen Victoria registered envelopes were only produced in two sizes F and H2

Section: II: Registered Envelopes
Queen Victoria

One printing, received May 1892.
1,000

Two Pence
Size H2

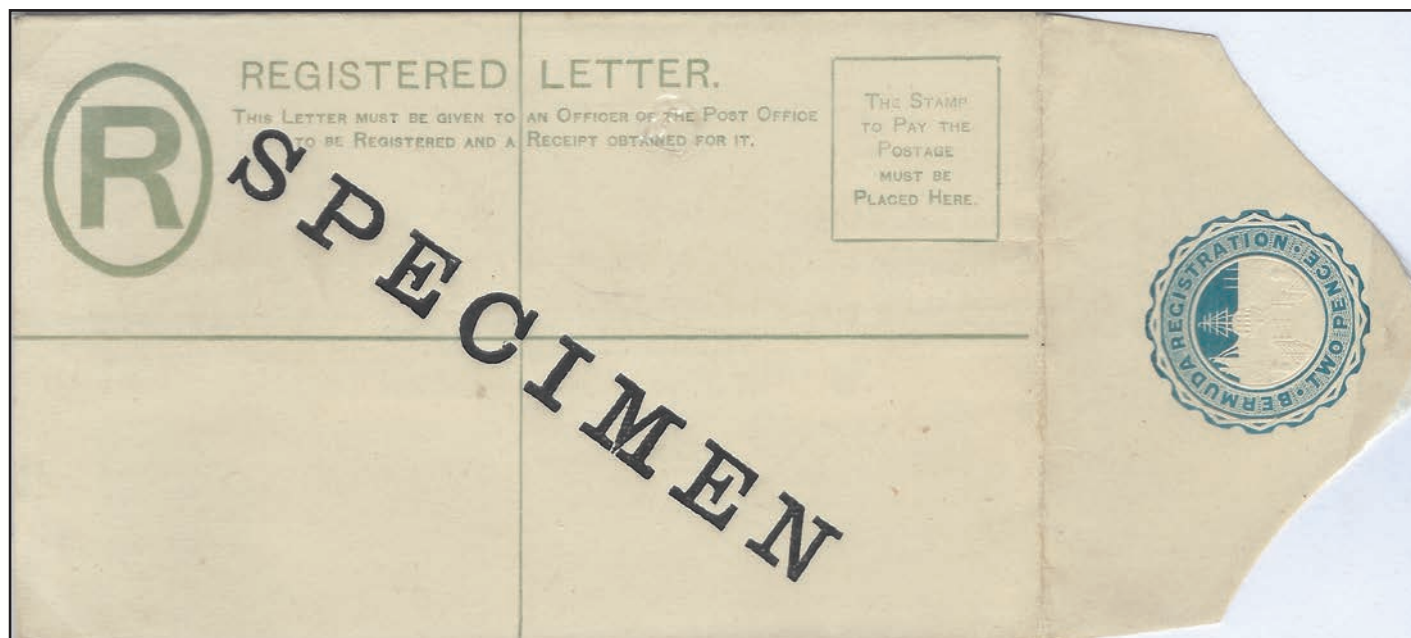


Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King Edward VII

Two Pence
DLR



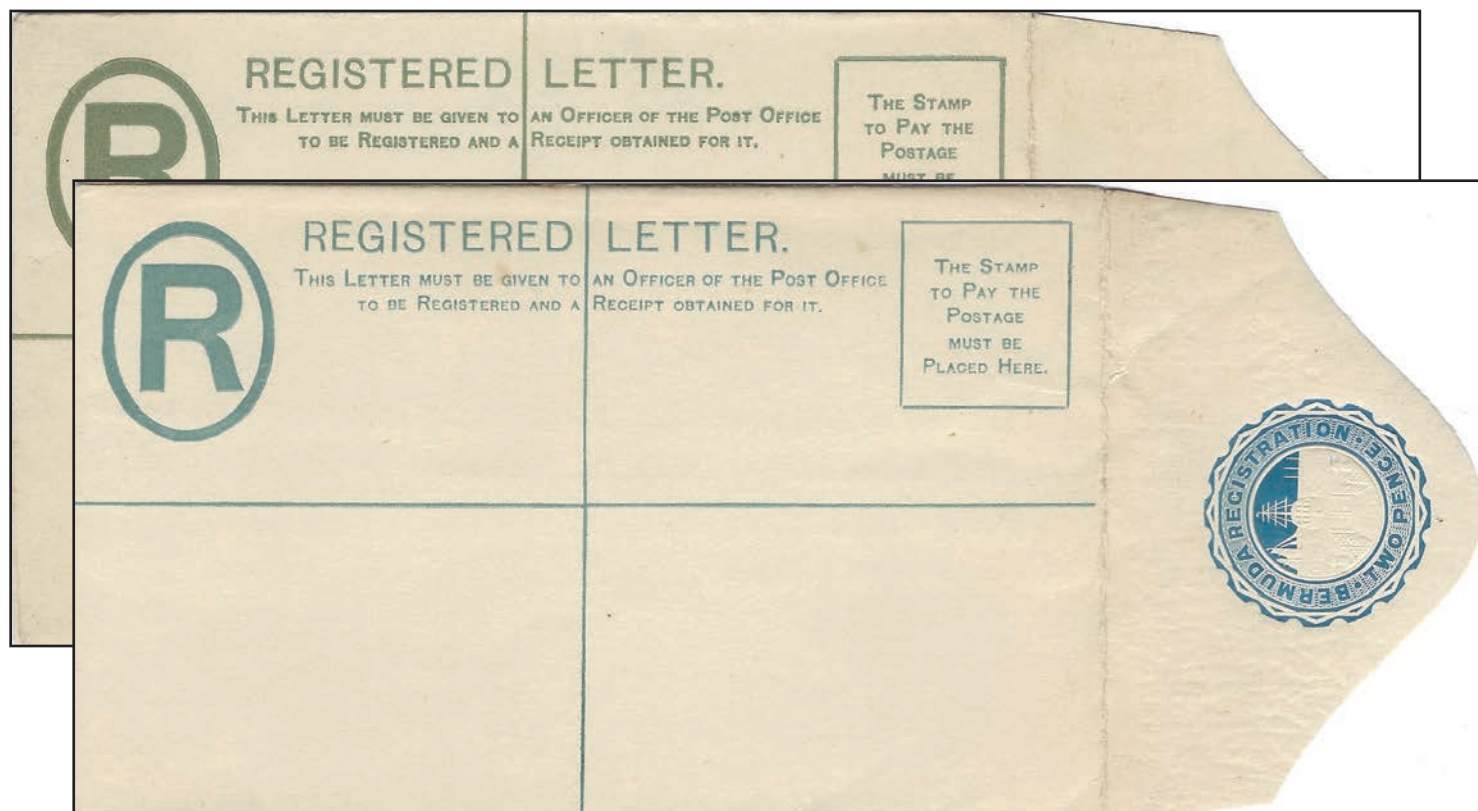
Uncleared embossed die proof with Docks indicium in vermillion.
Ex Ulrich, Leuhusen



Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King Edward VII

Two Pence
DLR

One printing, received February 1903.
less than 5,000



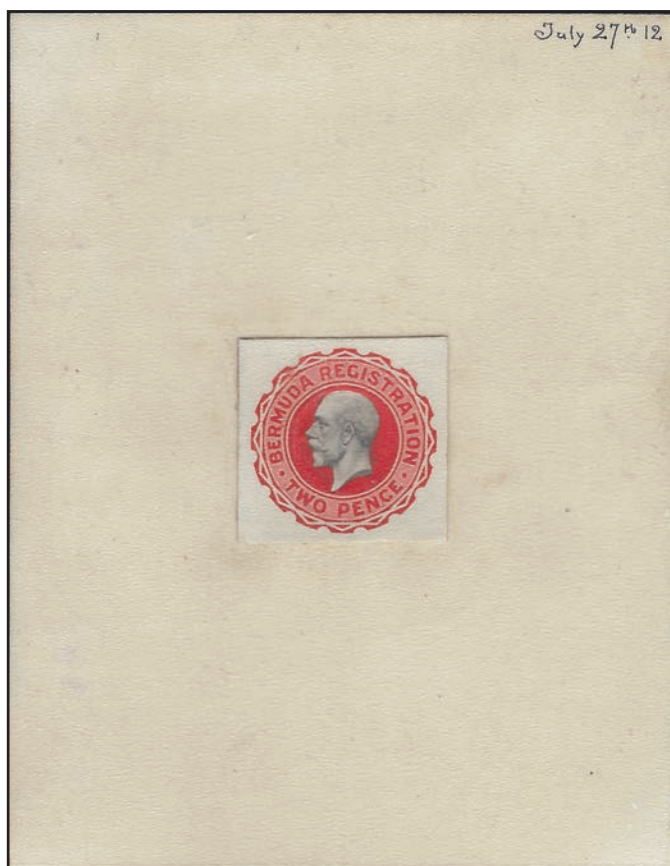
Type is known in grey and blue-grey



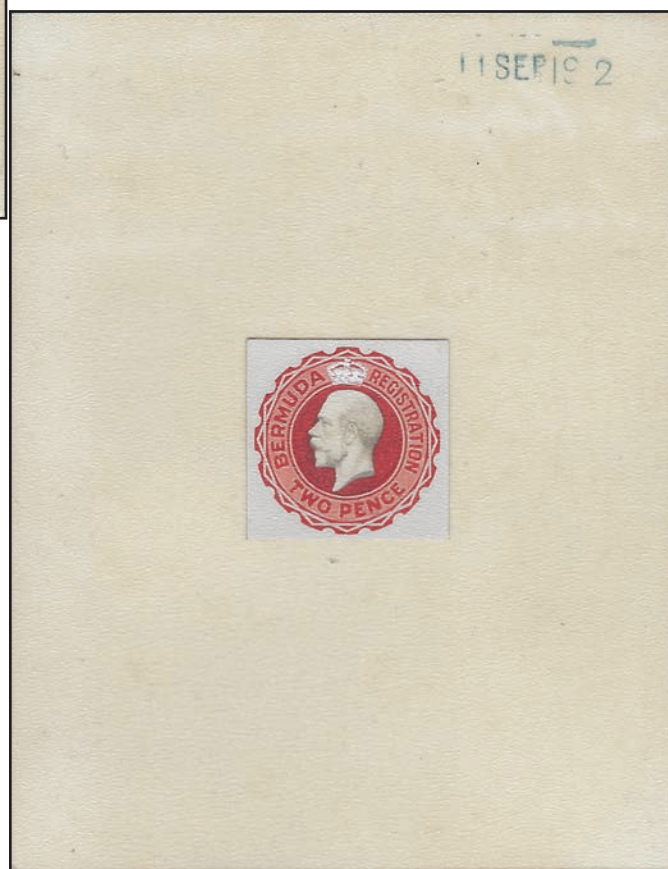
Only the one size envelope was prepared

Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

Two Pence
Essay



Hand painted essay
The unadopted design dated July 27 12 has stops at the sides and the word "registration" in the same size as the rest of the lettering, unlike the design adopted for the issued envelopes.

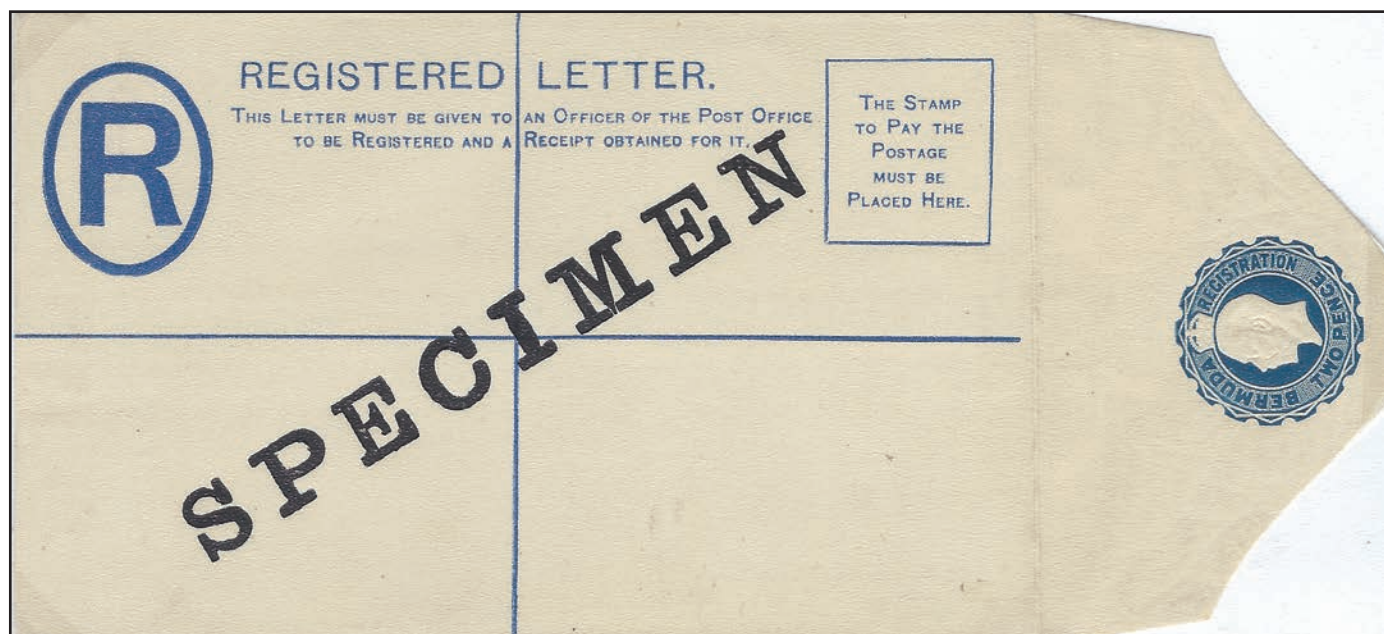


Hand painted essay
The stops are no longer present and "registration" is in thinner letters. This design dated 11 Sep 12 was adopted for the issued envelopes.

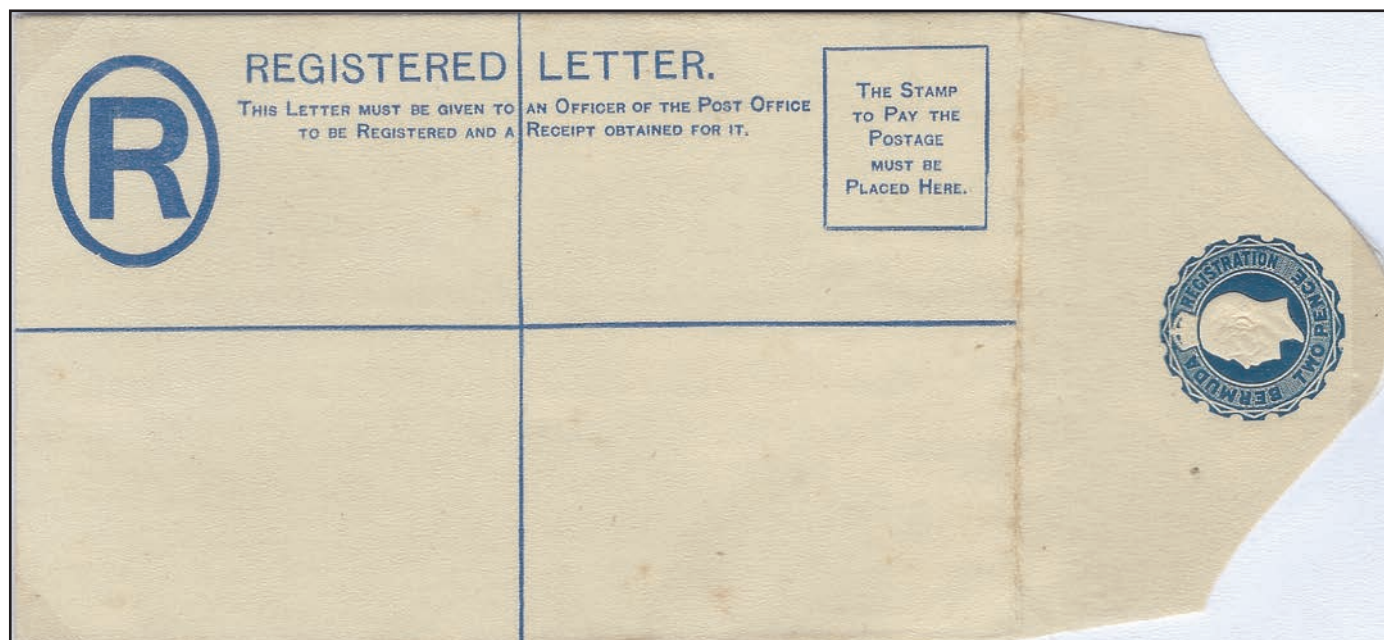
Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

Two Pence
DLR

One printing, received 1912
quantity unknown

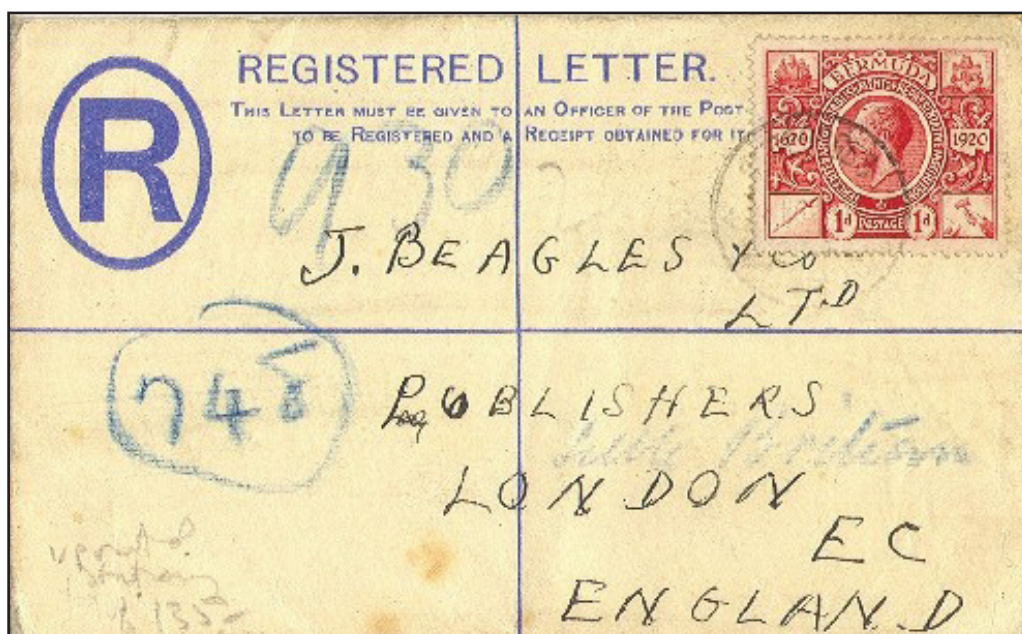


Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff

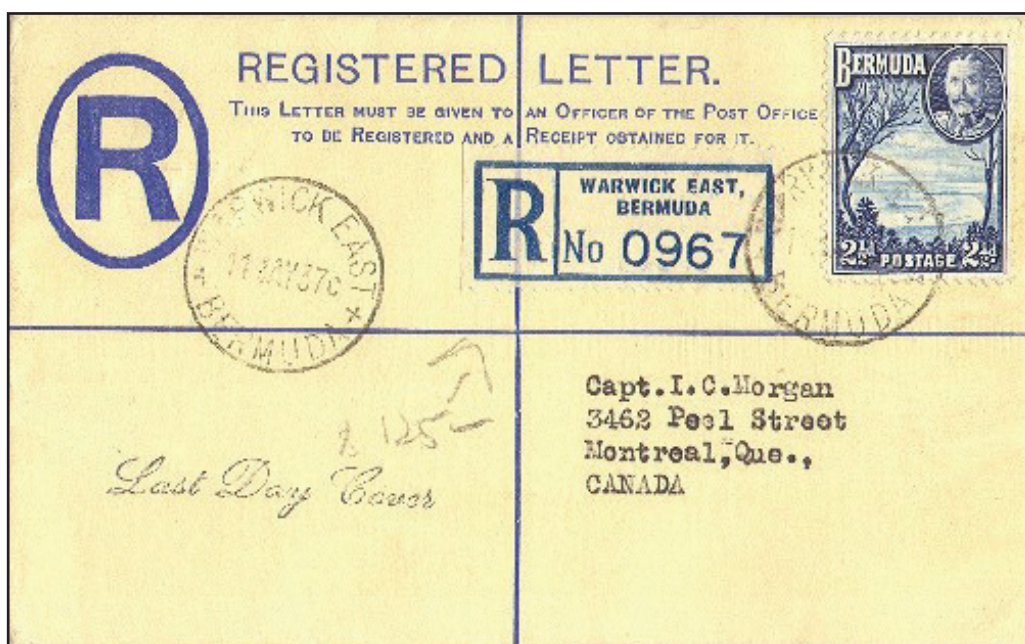


Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

Two Pence
DLR



Blue with 1/2d QV indicium. Card ranges from white to buff



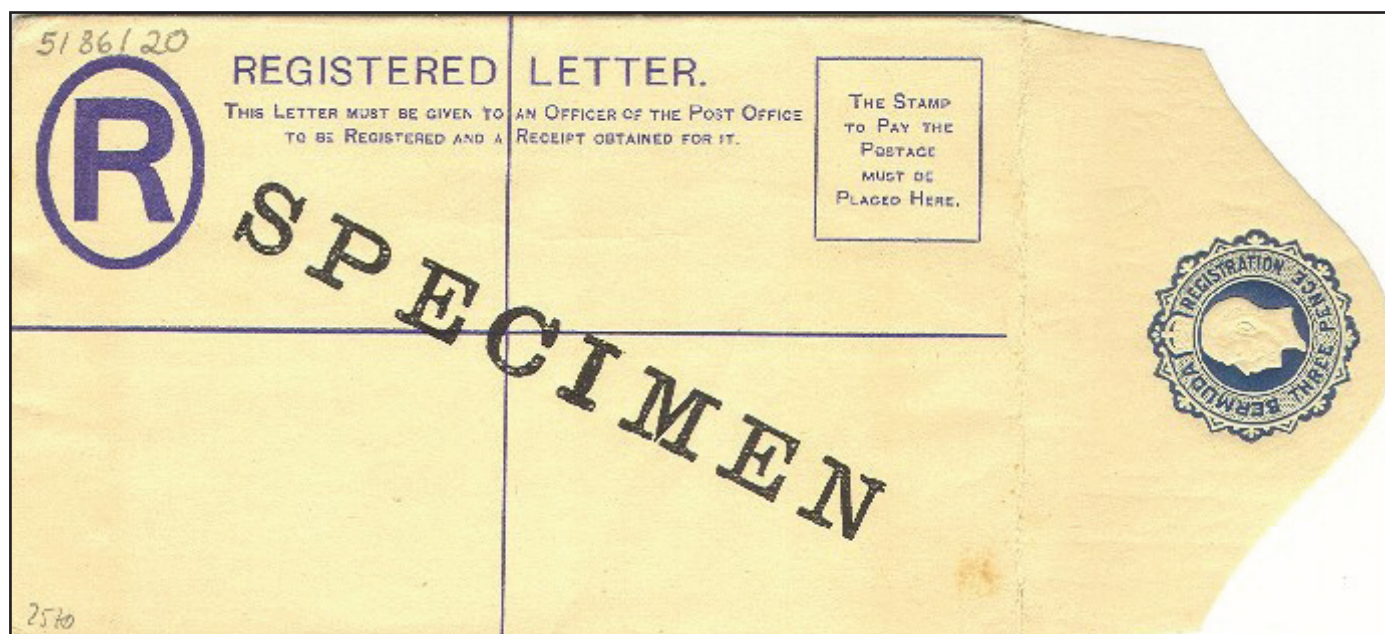
Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received 1922.
quantity unknown



Reduced die proof on thin card



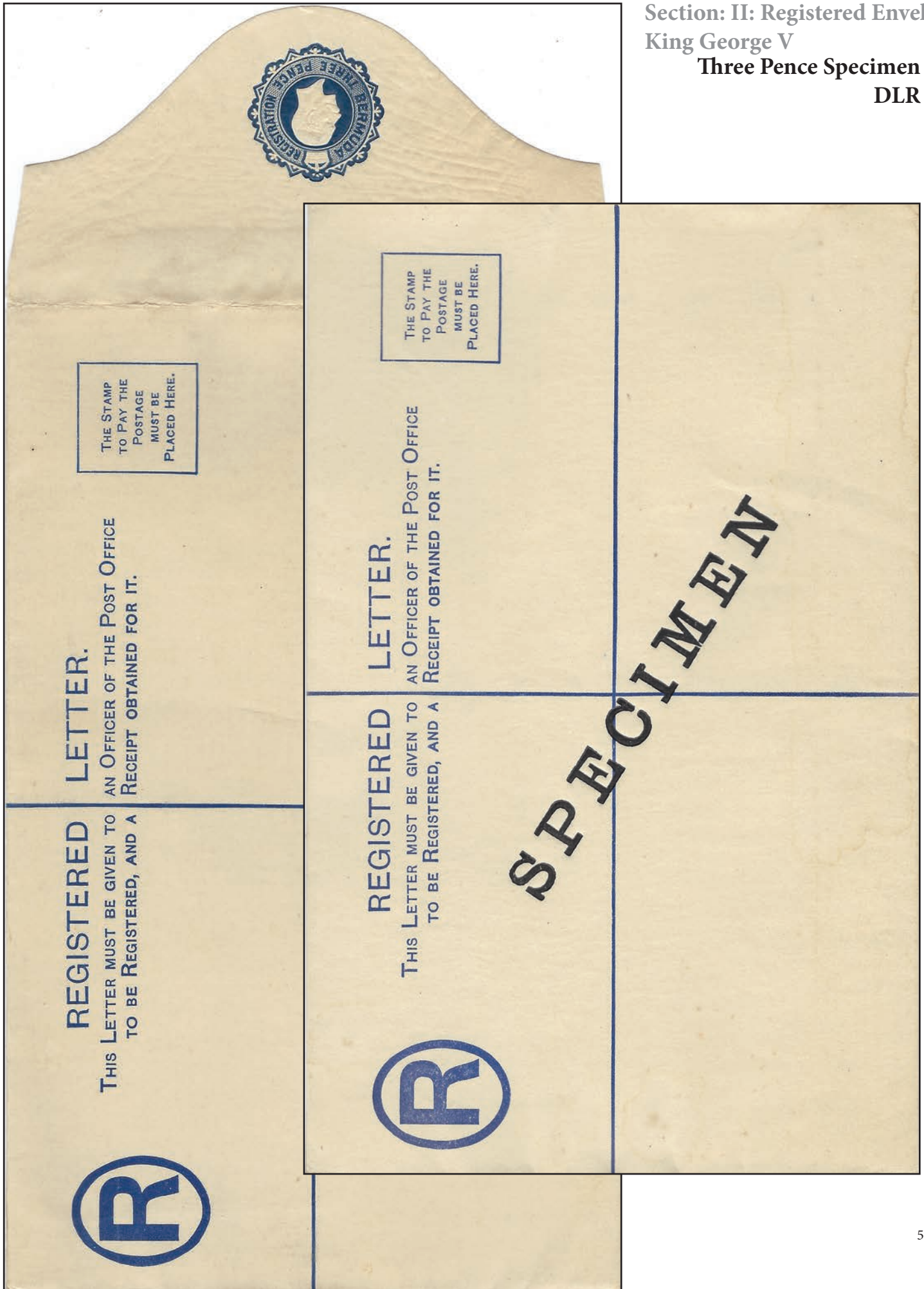
Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

Three Pence
DLR



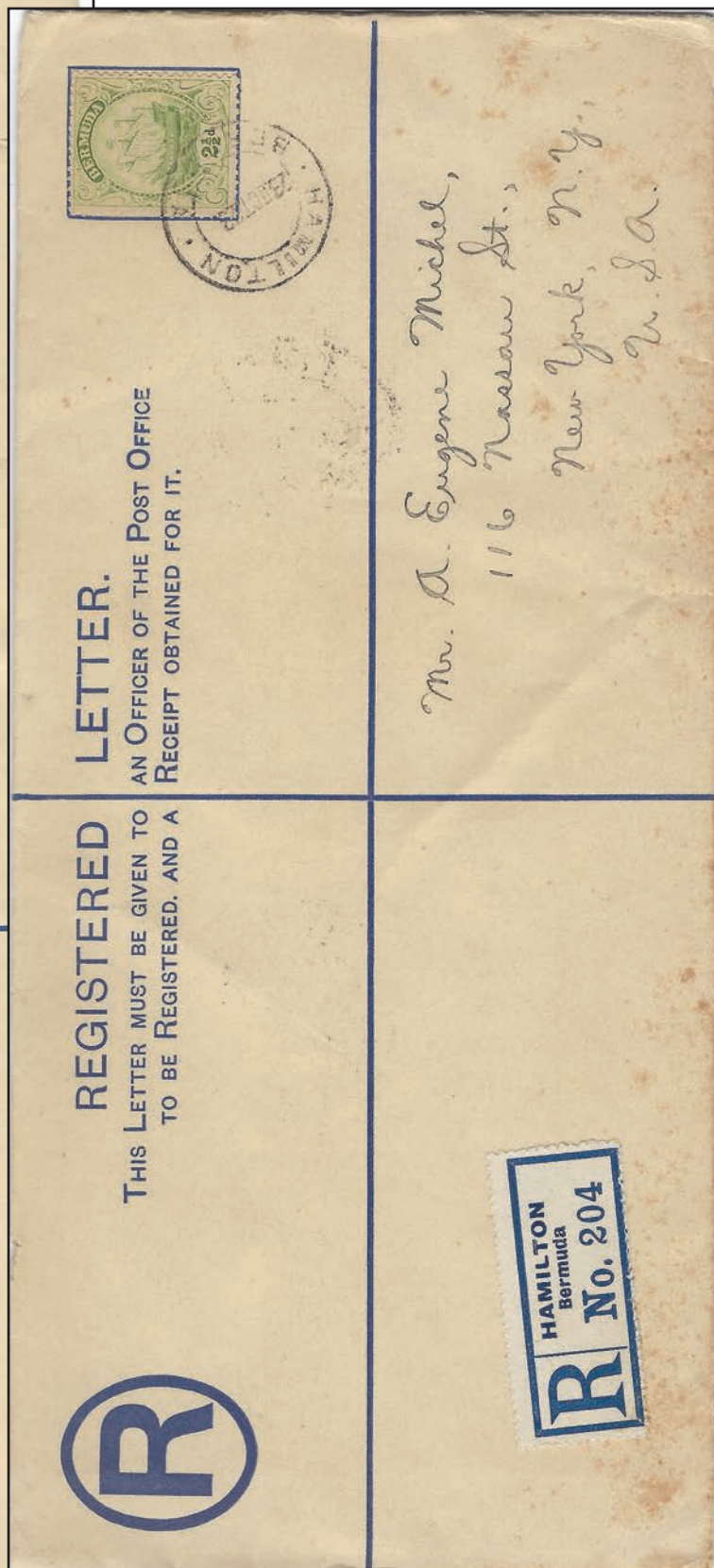
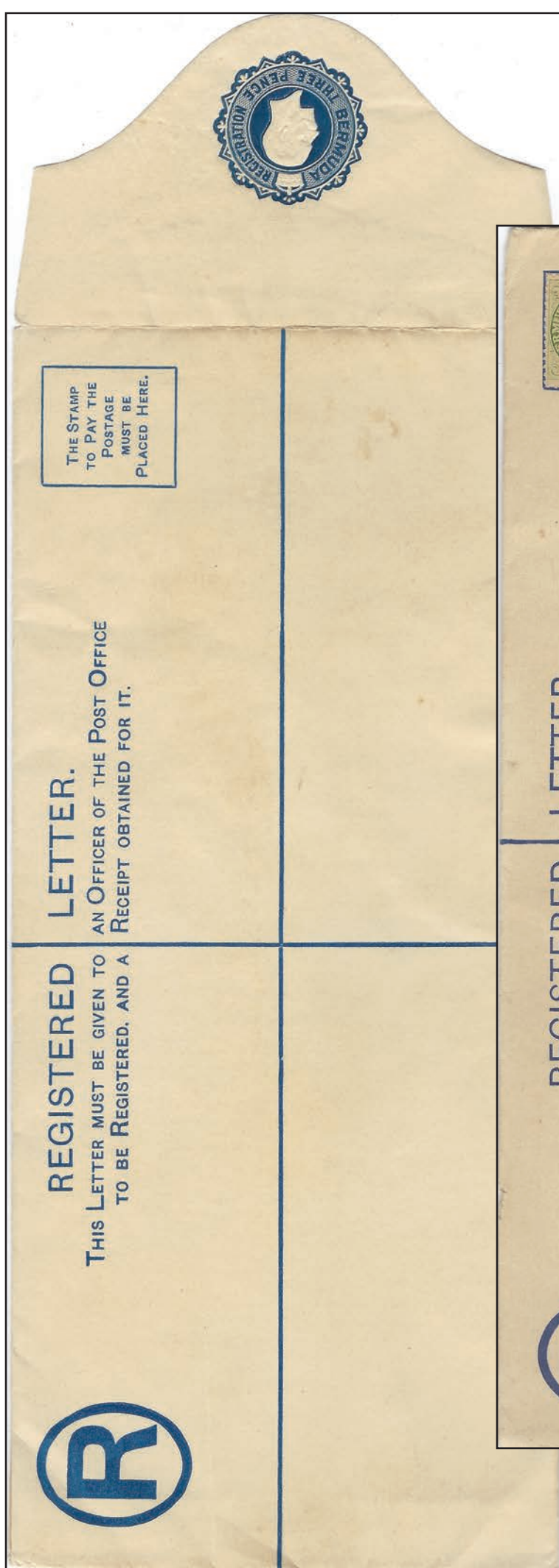
3d registration envelope with 1d caravel paying the single rate to England

Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V
Three Pence Specimen
DLR



Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George V

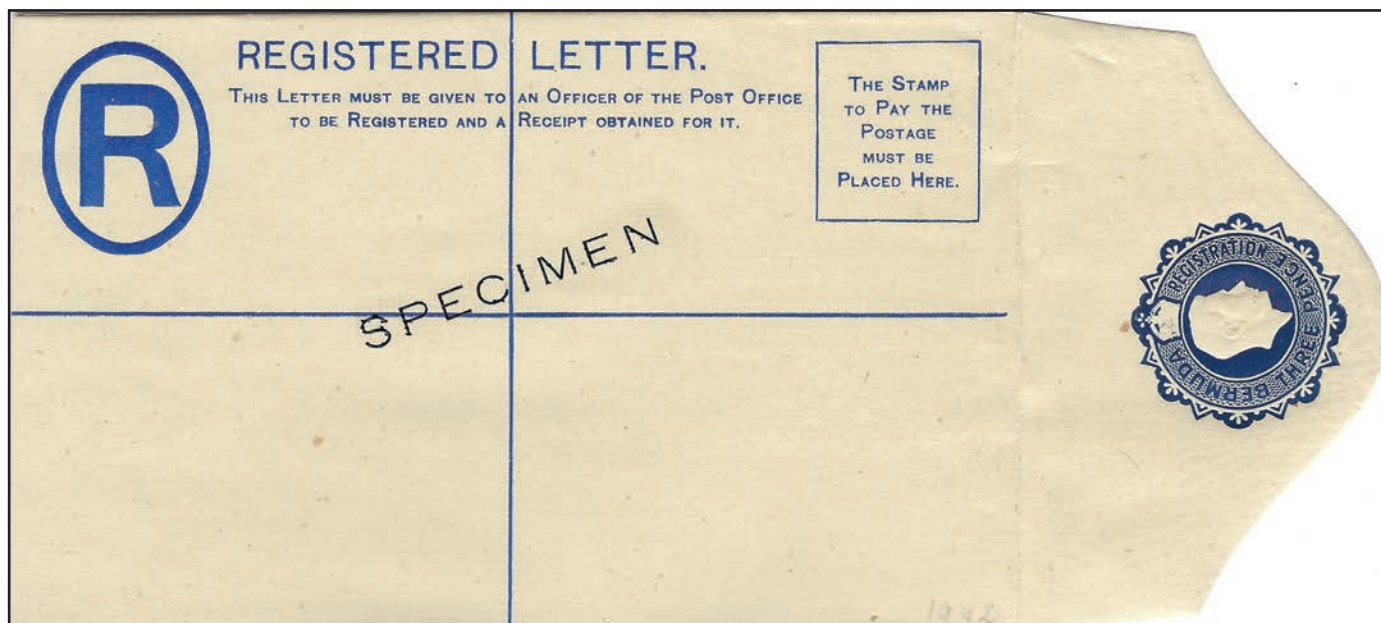
Three Penny
DLR



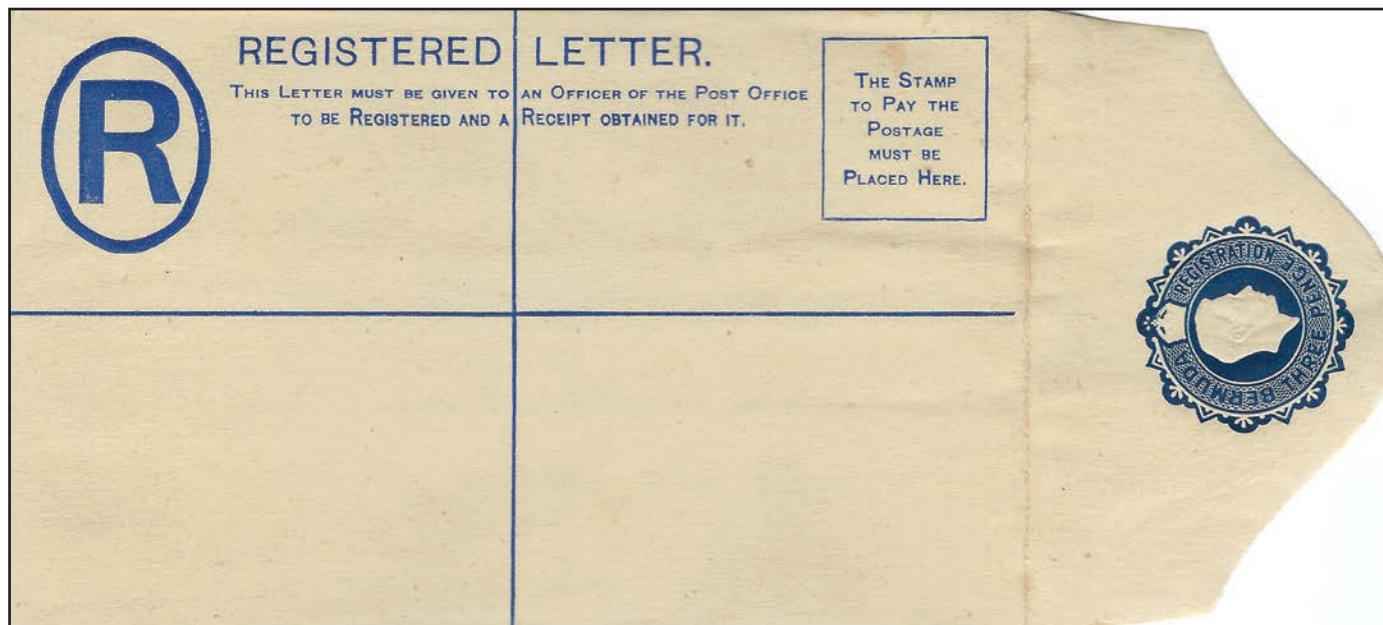
Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George VI

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received May 1942.
29,950



SPECIMEN
348 produced



Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George VI

Two printings, received Jun 1946 & Apr 49.
55,650

Three Pence
DLR



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.

SP



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

THE STAMP
TO PAY THE
POSTAGE
MUST BE
PLACED HERE.



REGISTERED

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO
TO BE REGISTERED, AND A

LETTER.

AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE
RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.

354
AIRMAIL

AIRMAIL



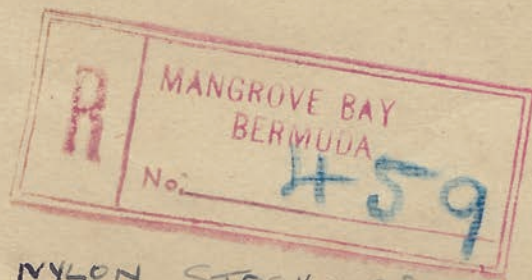
Mrs. S. Bloomfield.

1, ALBERT ROAD

Bromley.

KENT

ENGLAND

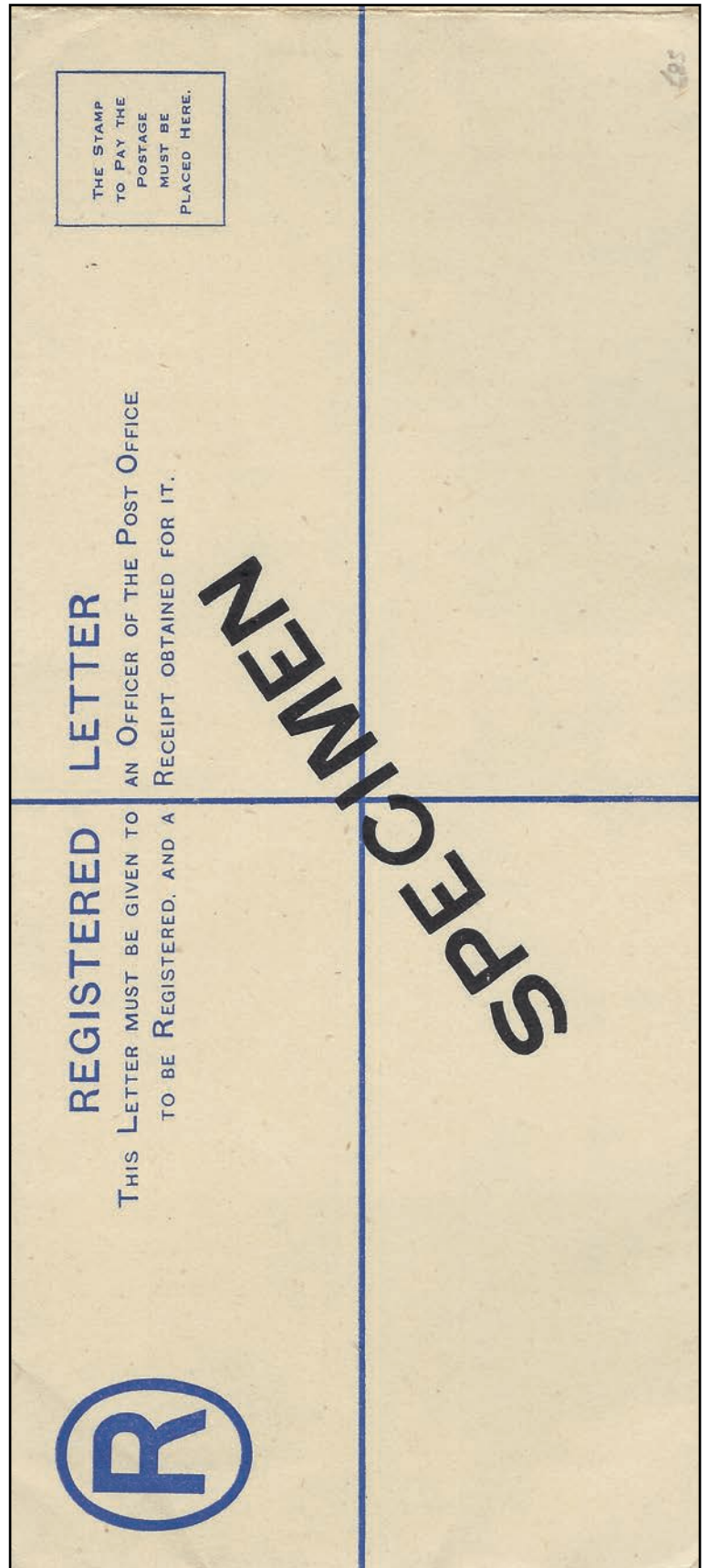
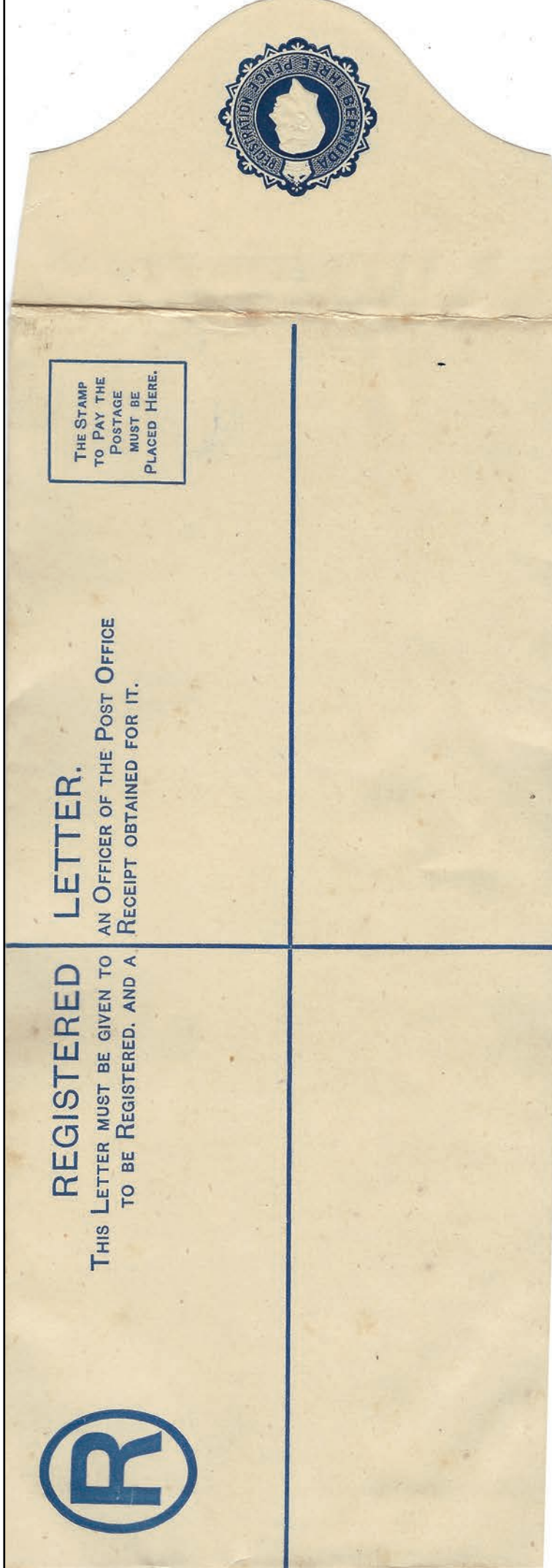


NYLON STOCKINGS.
VALUE 10/-.

Section: II: Registered Envelopes
King George VI

Three Pence
DLR

One printing, received Oct 1941.
5,000



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

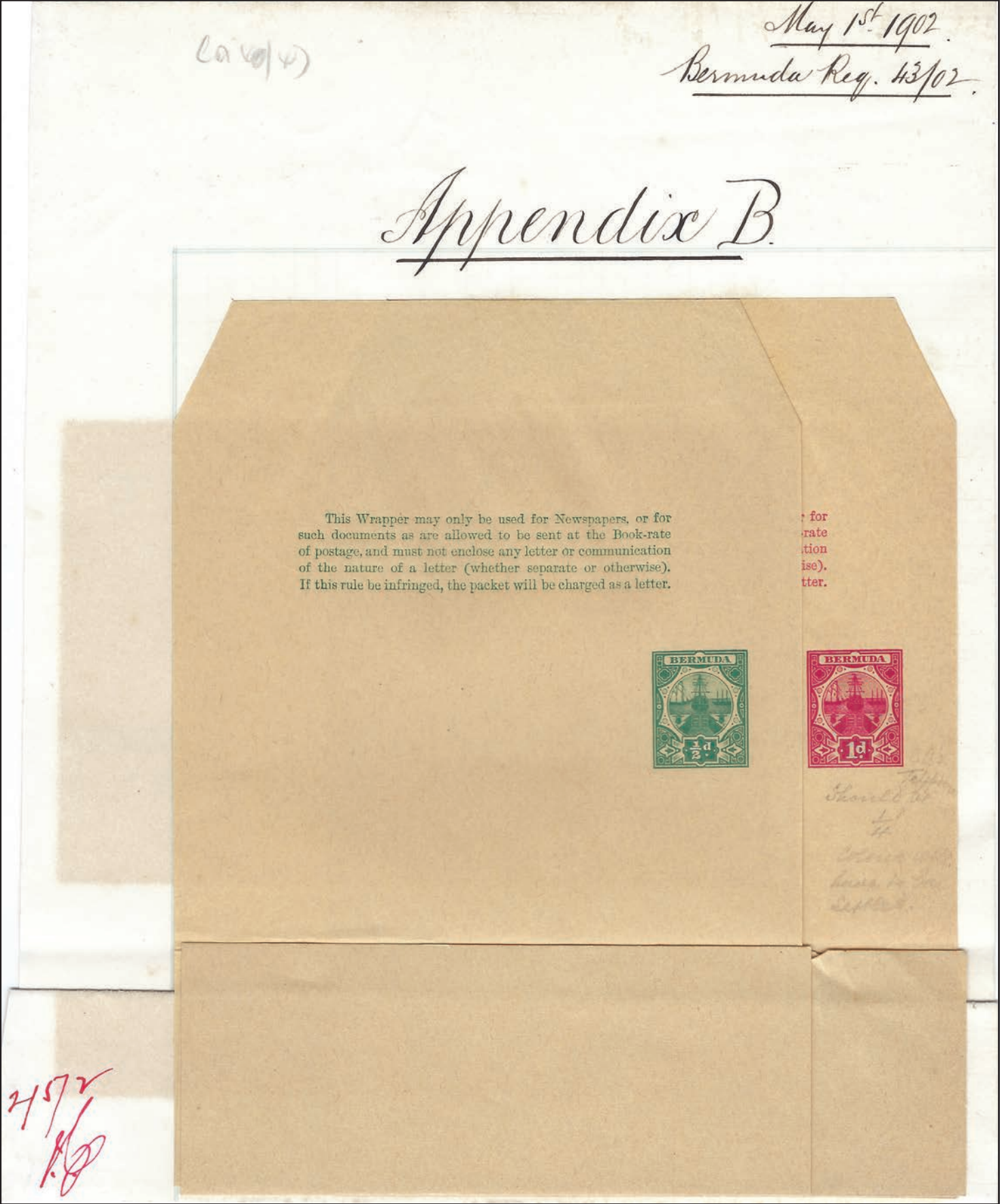
Die Proof
DLR



Reduced die proof on piece from
DLR archive sheet. Marked "For
news Paper"



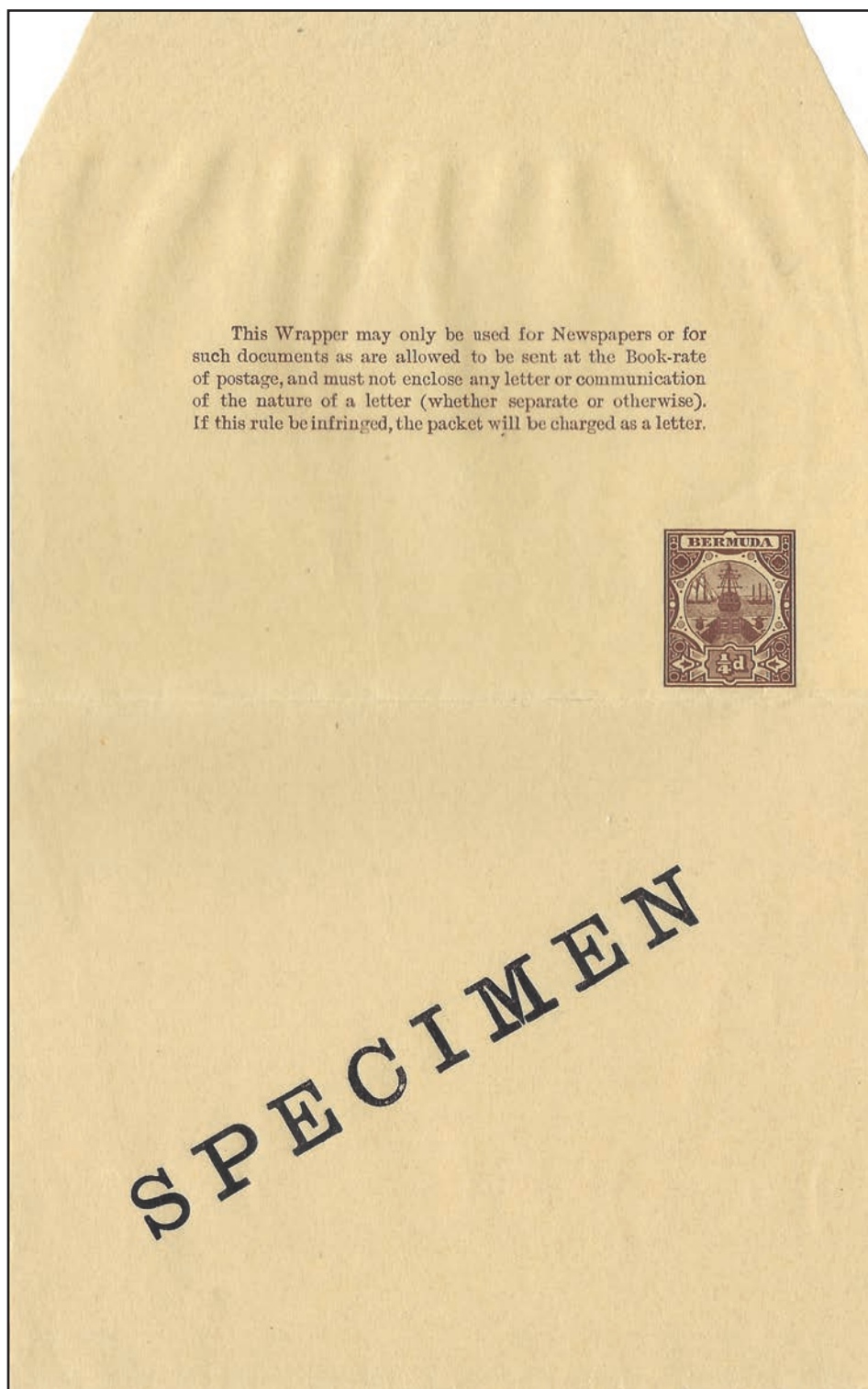
The ¼d sheet for printing the stamp was not prepared until 1905 and the stamps only printed in 1906. It is therefore likely that this die was prepared solely for preparation of the News Paper or Postal Stationary cards.



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

One Farthing
DLR

One printing, Feb 1903



SPECIMEN

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

One Farthing
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.
201,510

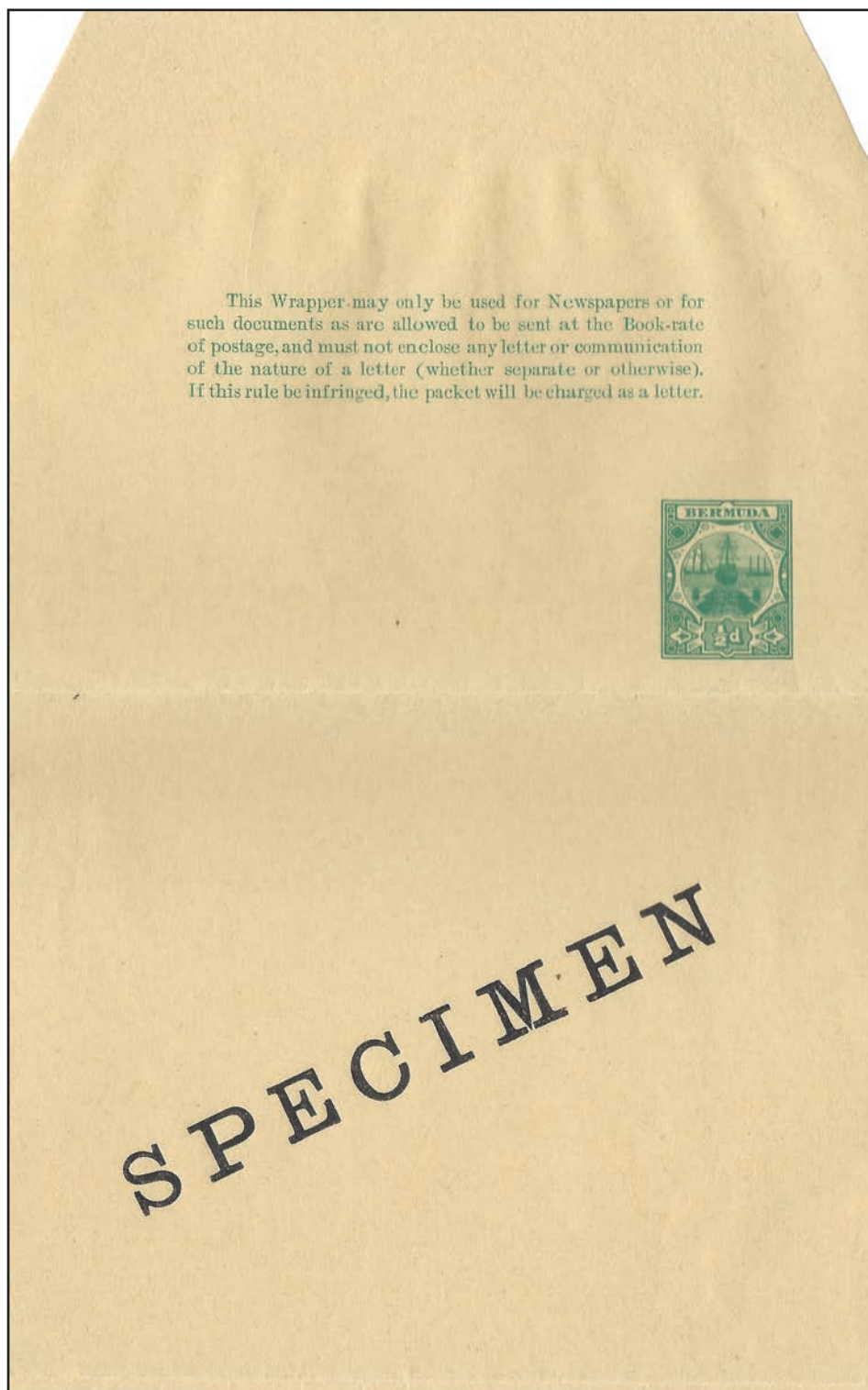


Printed on cream buff paper with varying shades of brown

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.

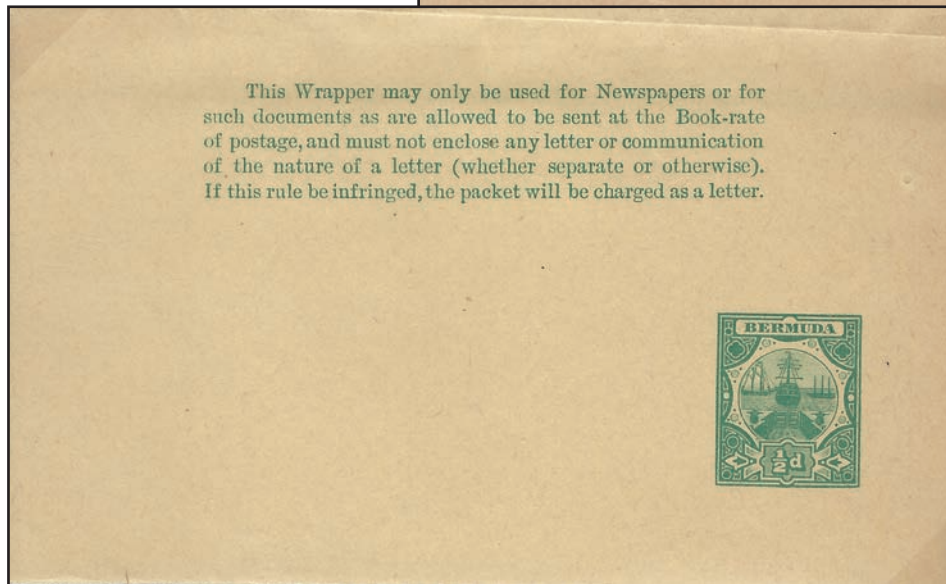
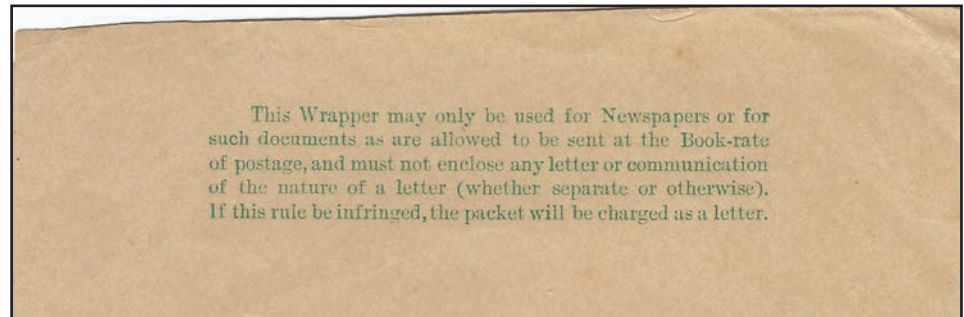


Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King Edward VII

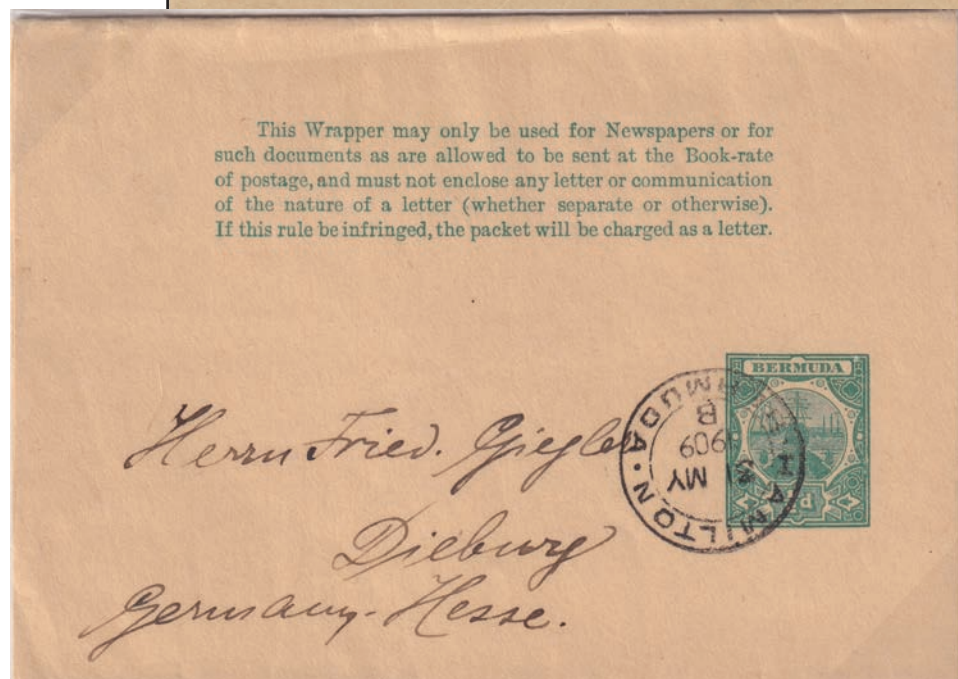
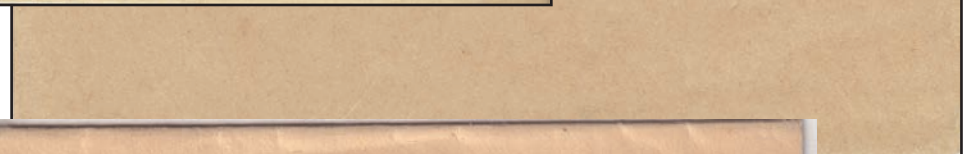
Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received Feb 1903.
99,730

Distance from information to
top of indicium is 14.5mm



Distance from information to
top of indicium is 15.5mm



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

Caravel - One Farthing
DLR

One printing, received 1912.
quantity unknown

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for
such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate
of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication
of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise).
If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



SPECIMEN

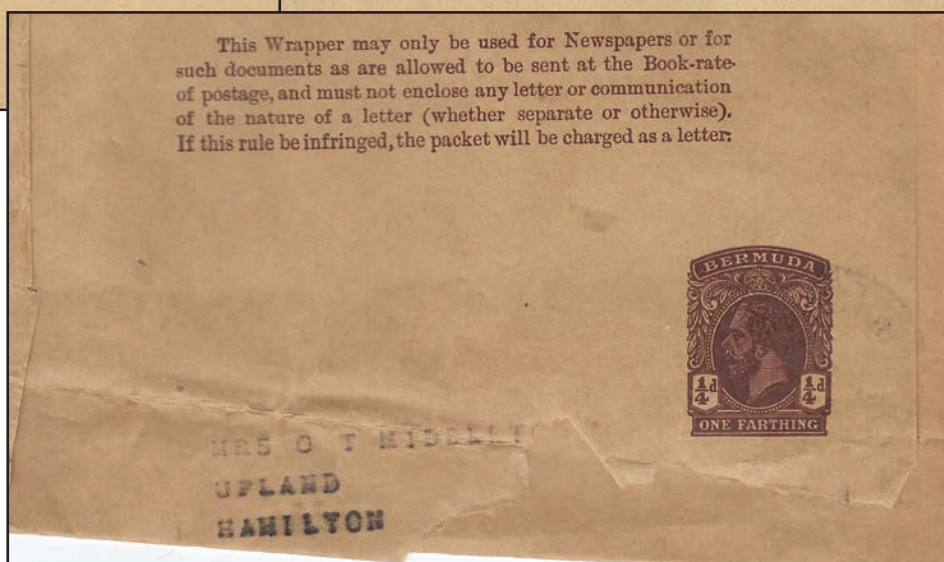
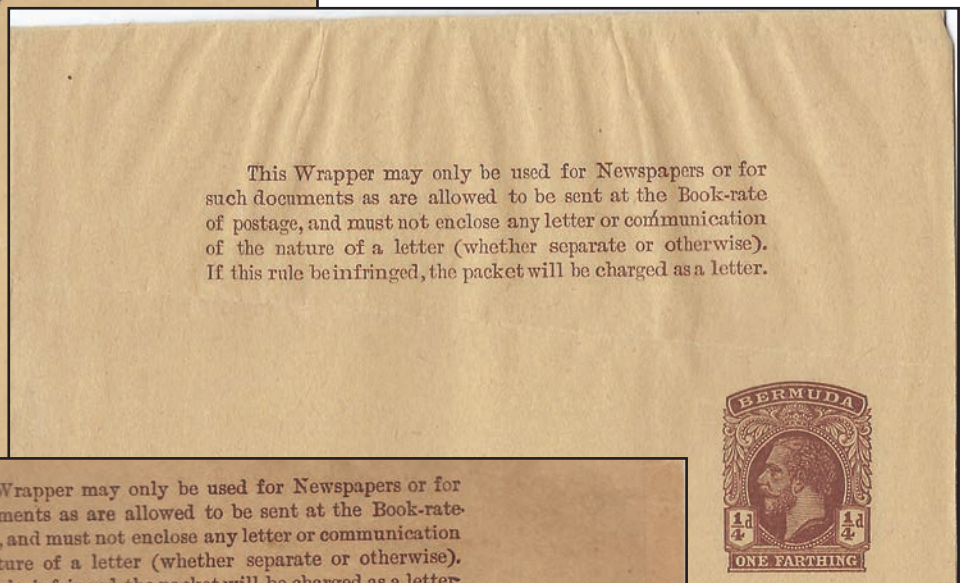
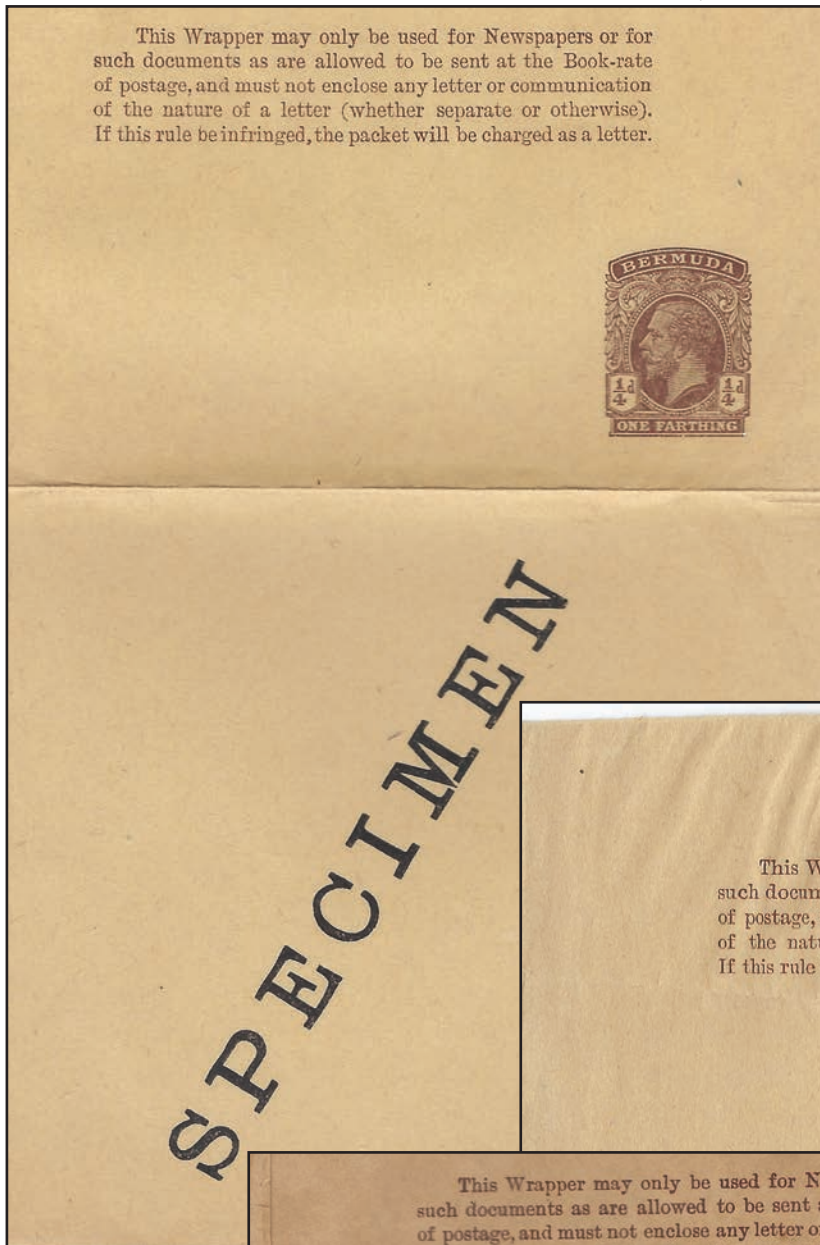
This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for
such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate
of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication
of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise).
If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

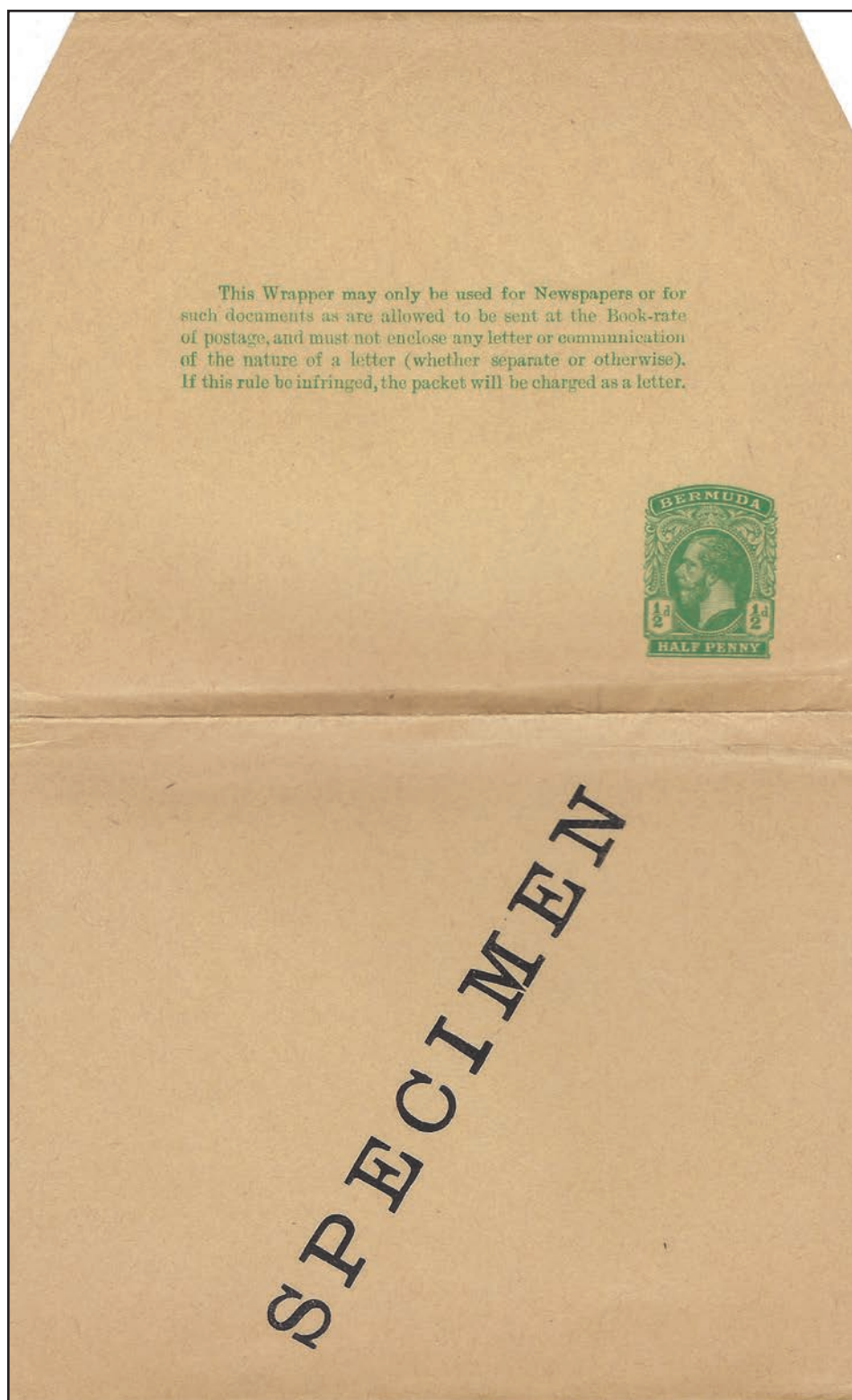
One Farthing
DLR

One printing, received 1913
quantity unknown



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

Half Penny
DLR



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George V

Half Penny
DLR

One printing, received 1913.
quantity unknown

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

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R. P. Matthews, Esq.
Assistant Circulation Manager
Tulsa Daily World
Tulsa, Okla. U.S.A.



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

19 printings,

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



SPE

This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.

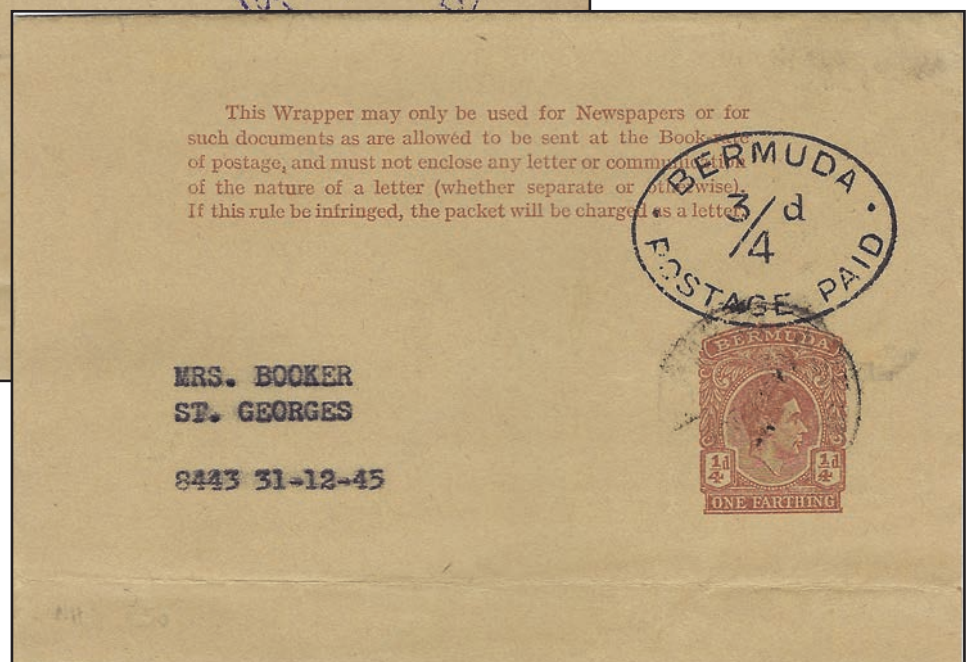
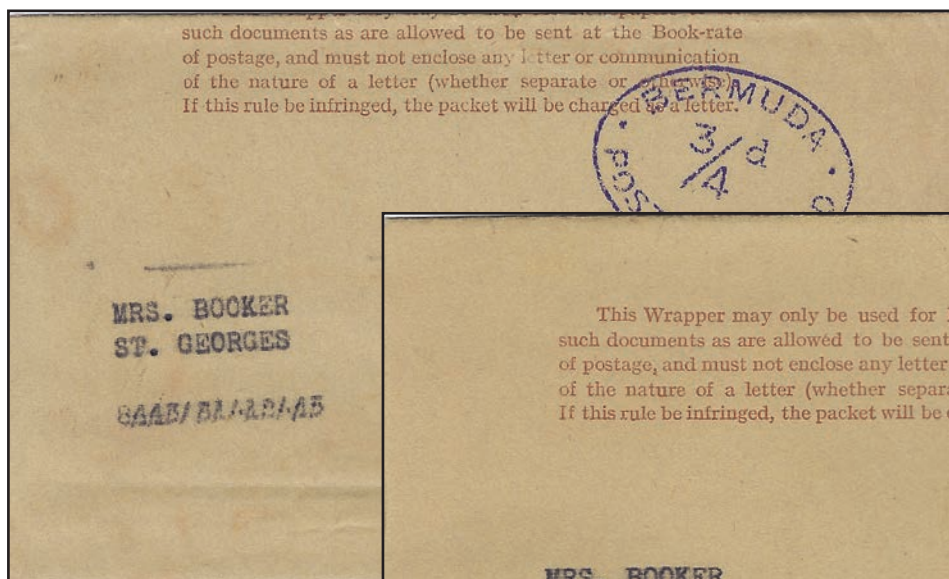
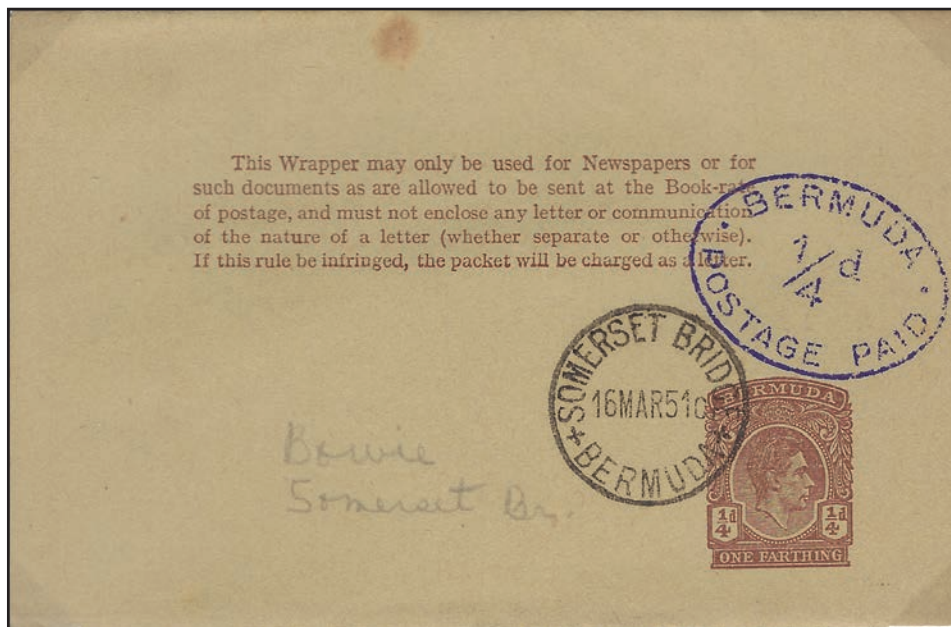


This Wrapper may only be used for Newspapers or for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will be charged as a letter.



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR

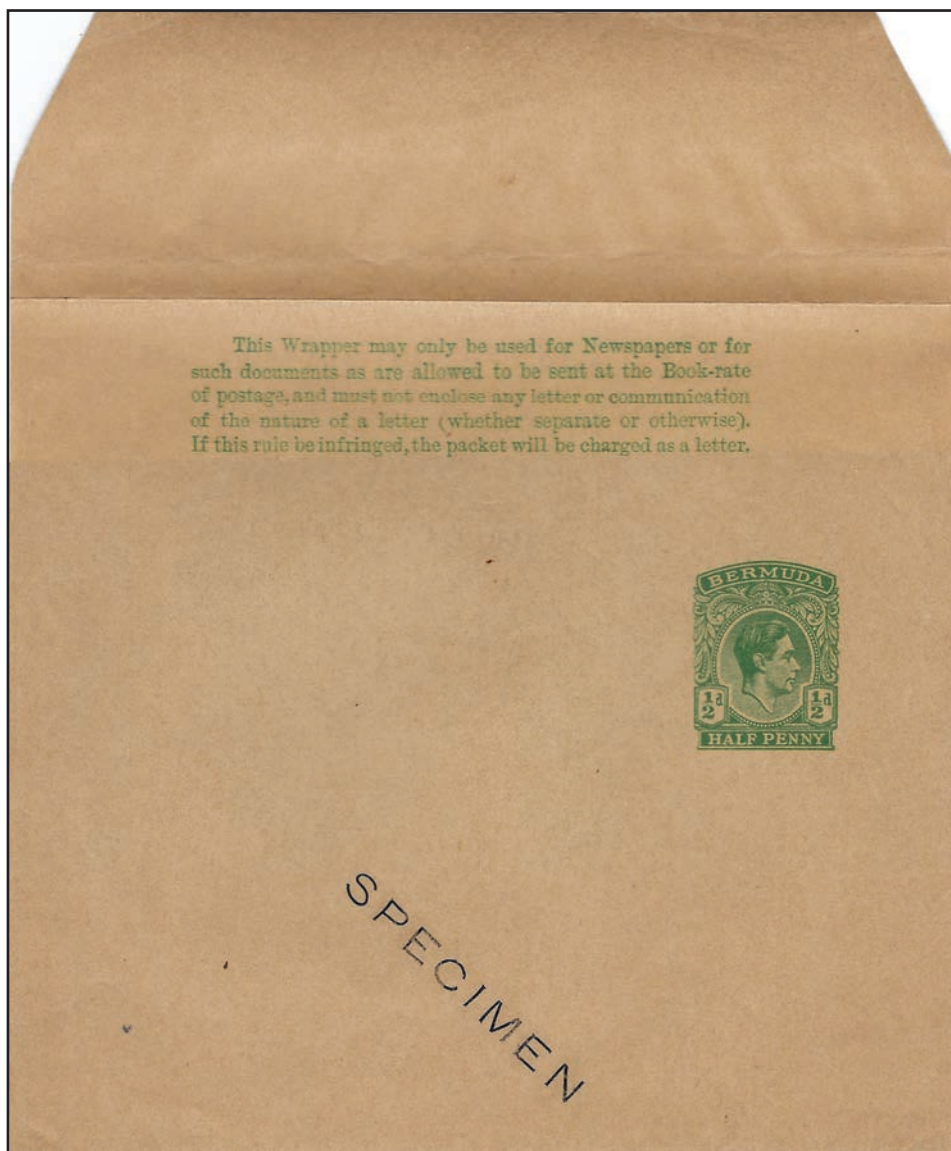


Grenada wrapper overprinted stamped with Bermuda provisional handstamp
One of three recorded

Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

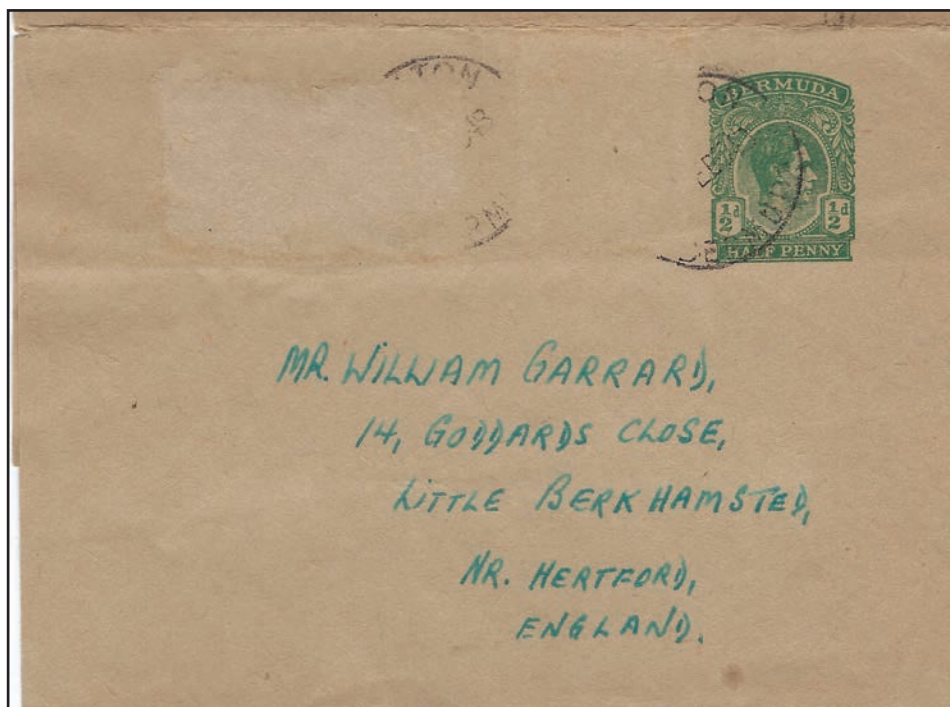
Half Penny
DLR

22 printings,

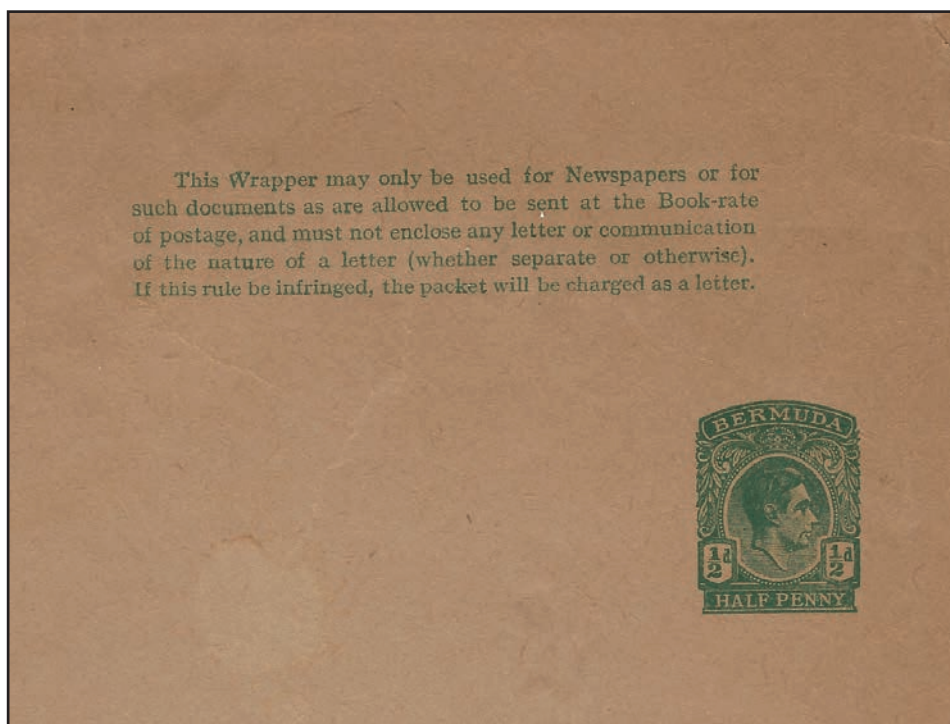


Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR



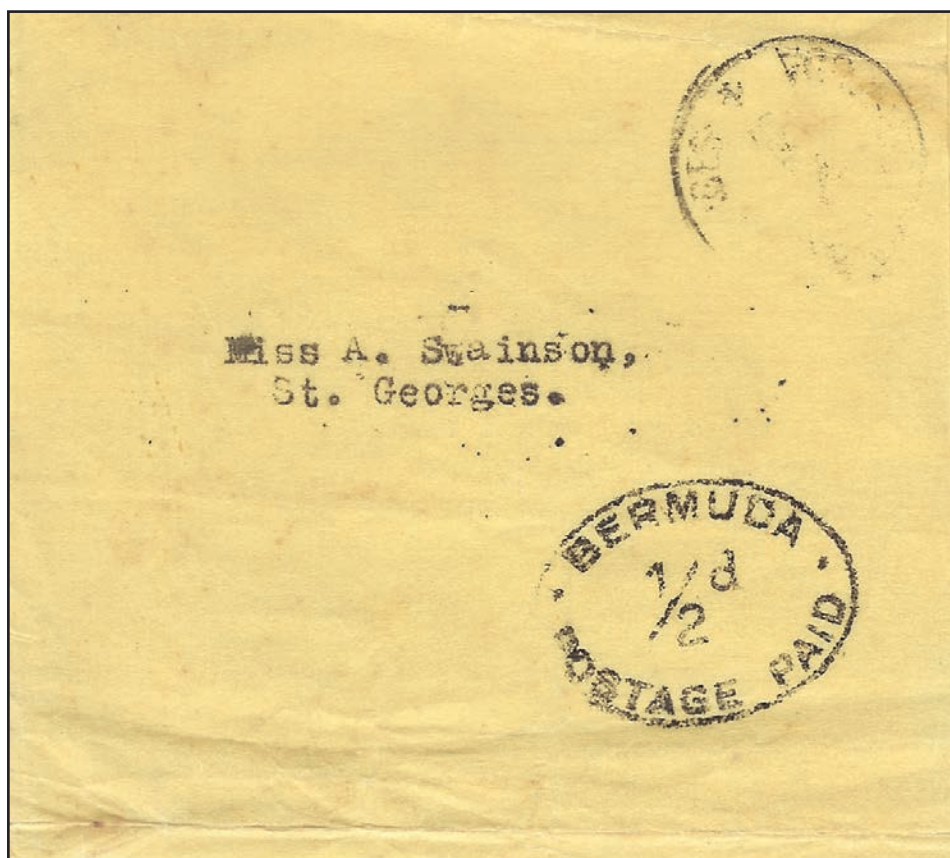
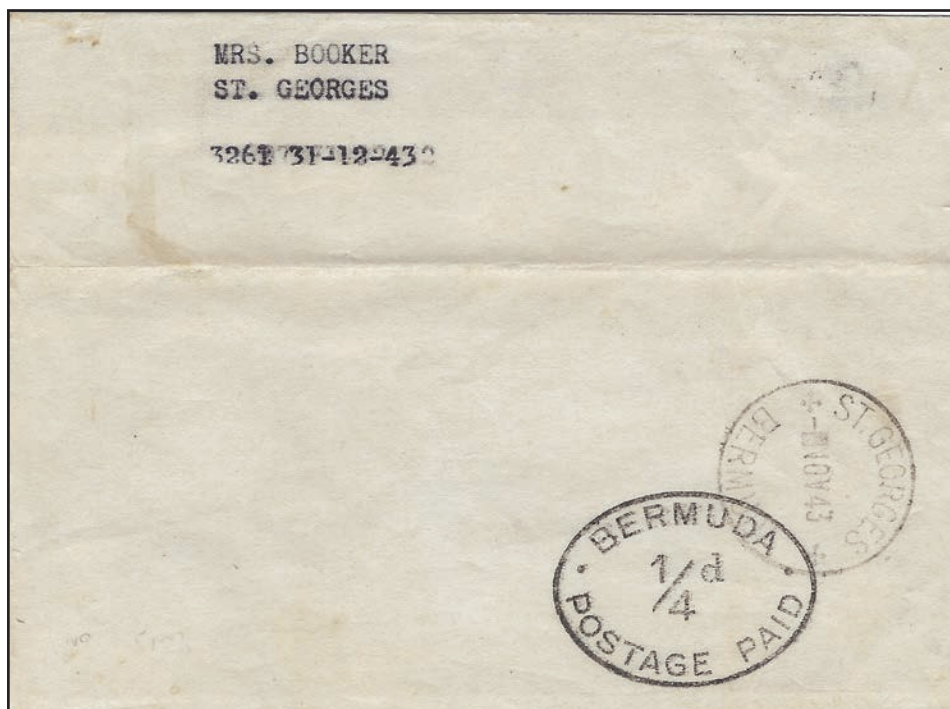
37mm



38mm

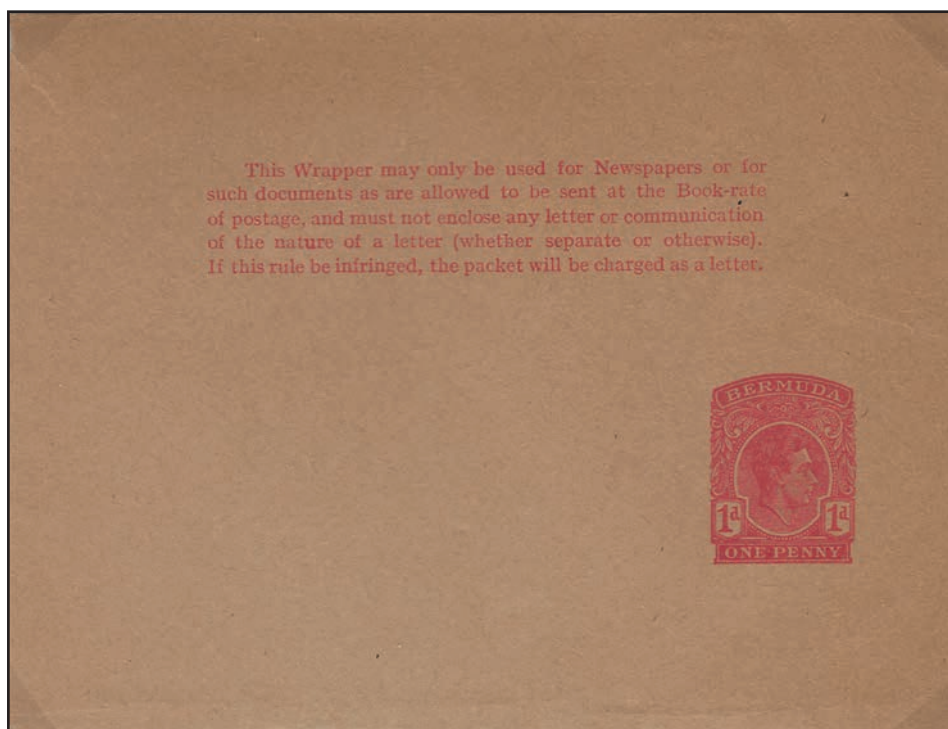
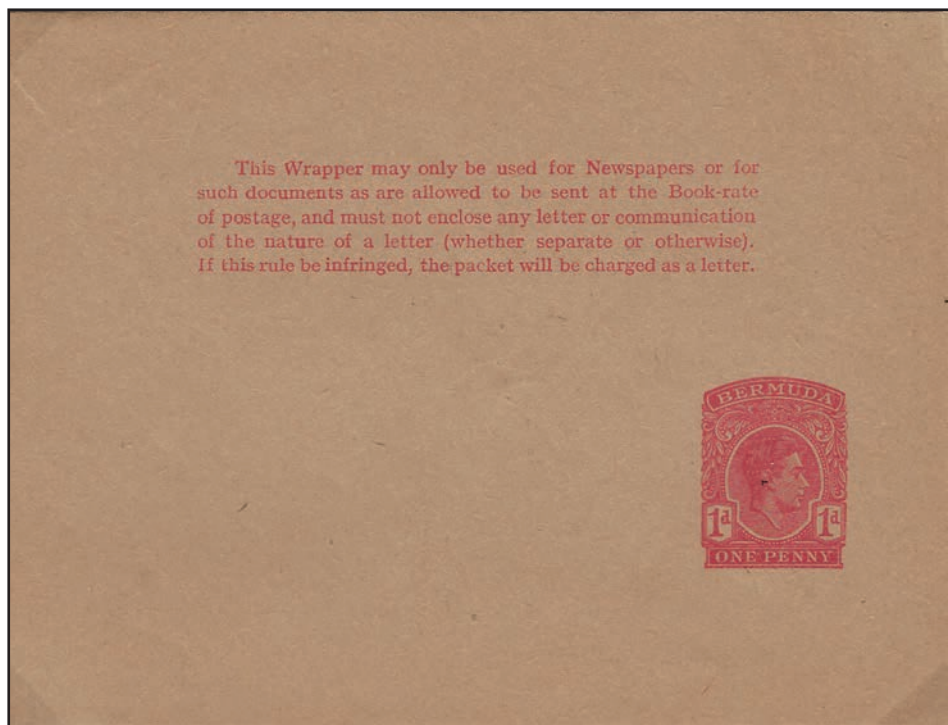
Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

Provisional



Section: III: News Paper Wrapper
King George VI

One Penny
DLR

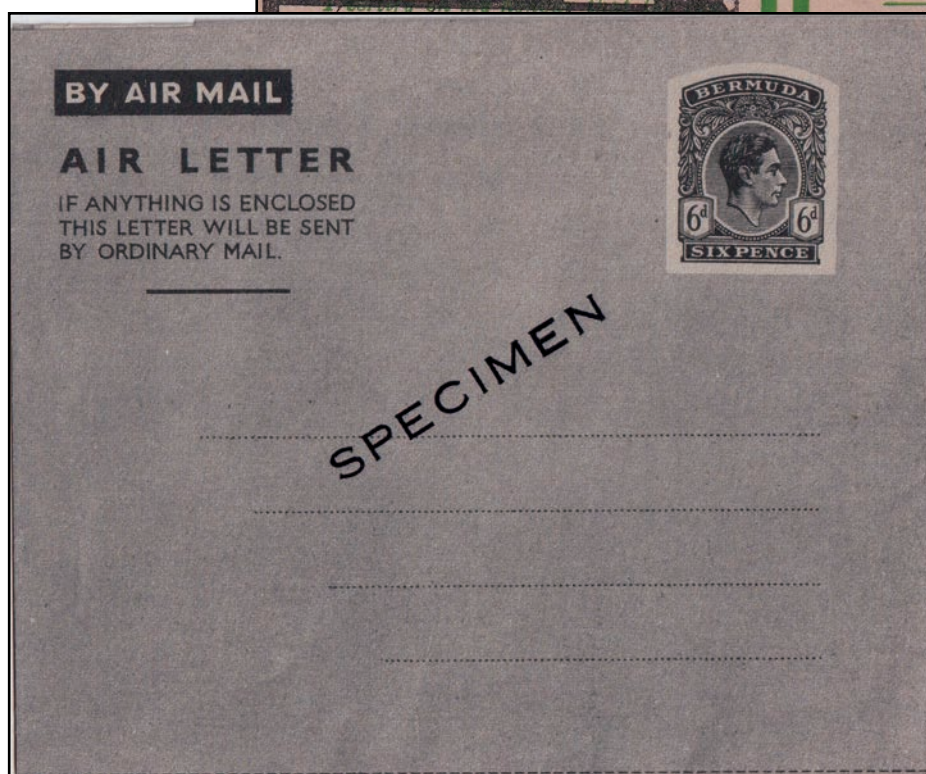
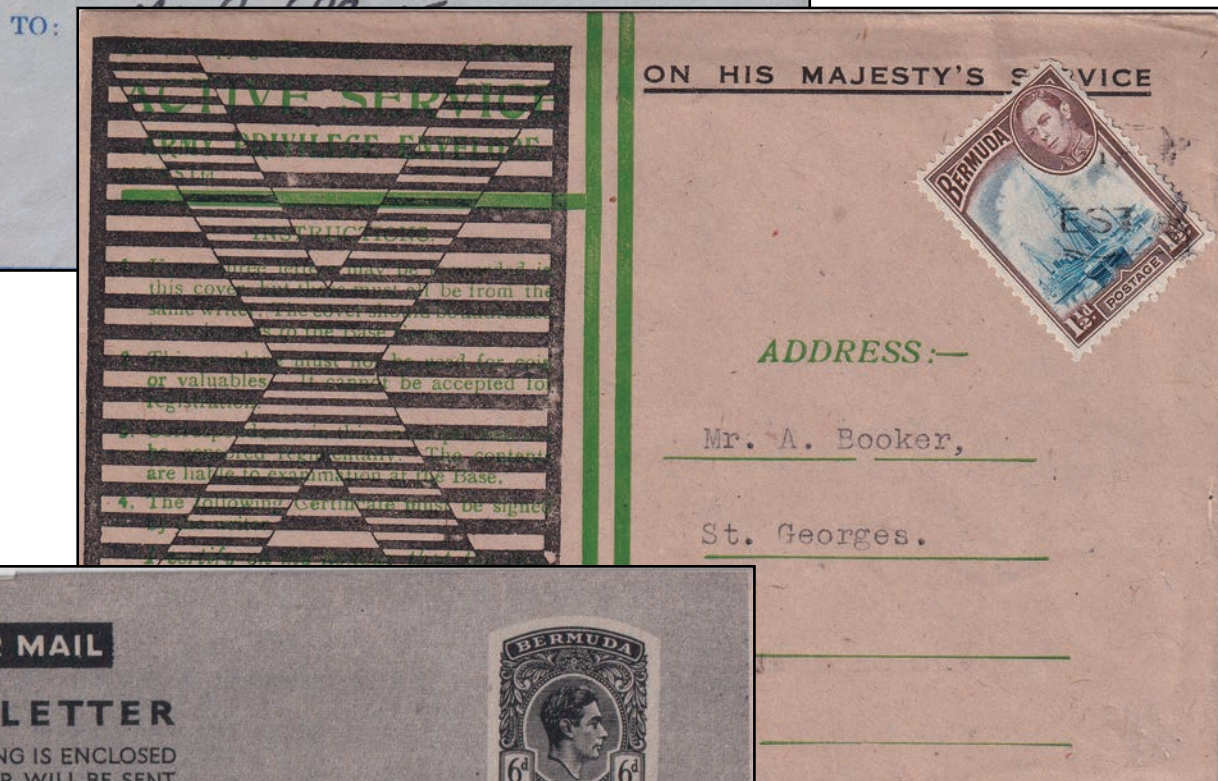


Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

1945 Six Pence



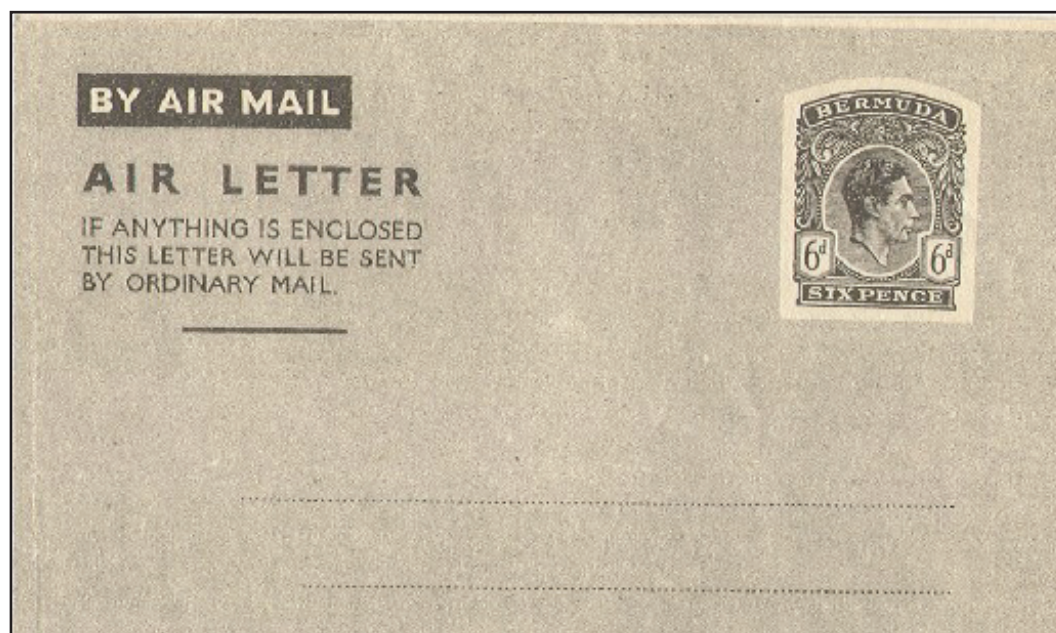
British Armed Forces air mail letters used in Bermuda



1945 Six air mail letter for Bermuda overprinted Specimen

Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

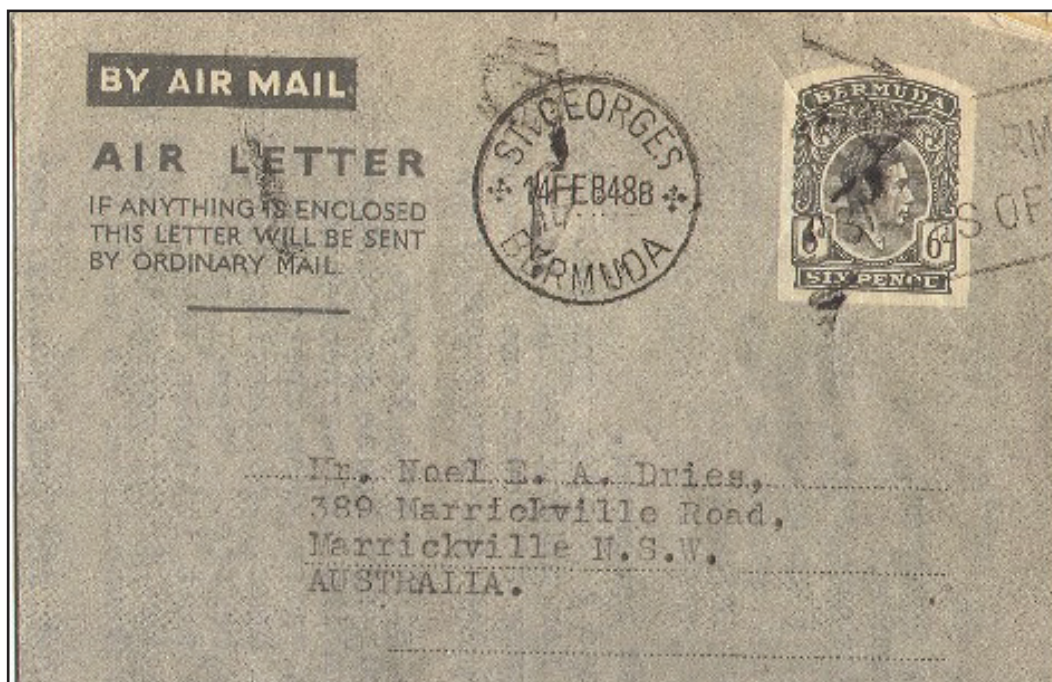
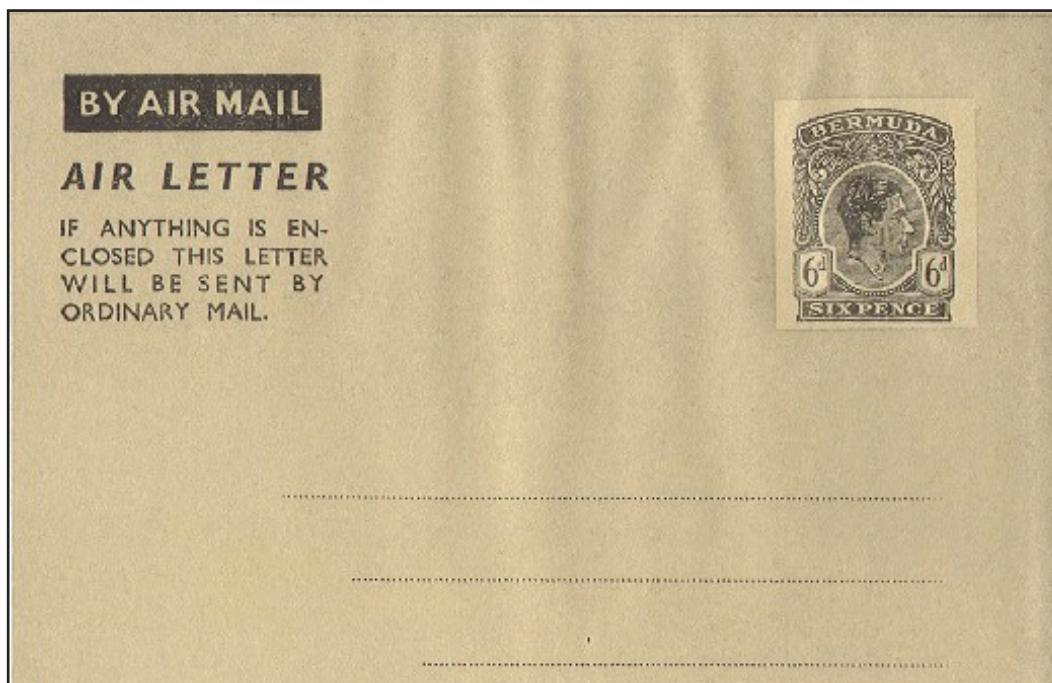
1945 Six Pence



6d black grey on white, grey overlay. Head in an arched format, clear space measures 22.5mm in width

Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

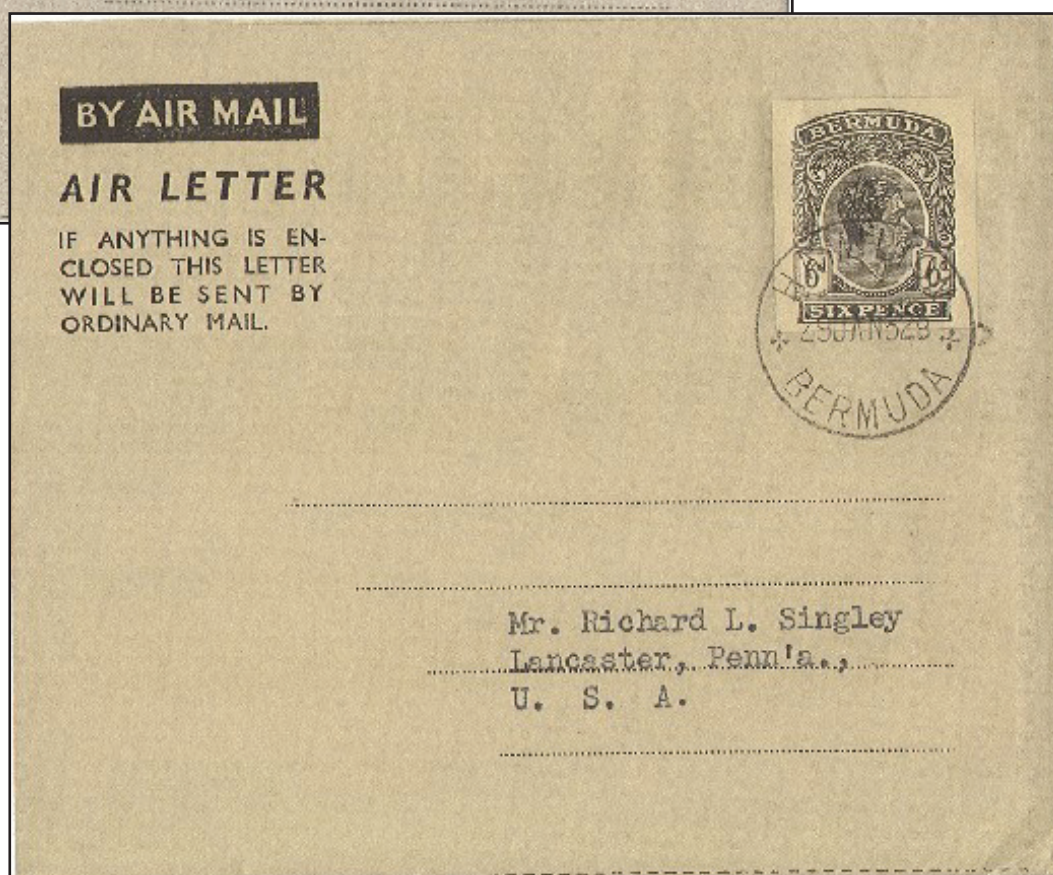
1948 Six Pence



6d black on greyish paper, grey overlay. Head in an arched format, clear space measures 24.0mm in width

Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

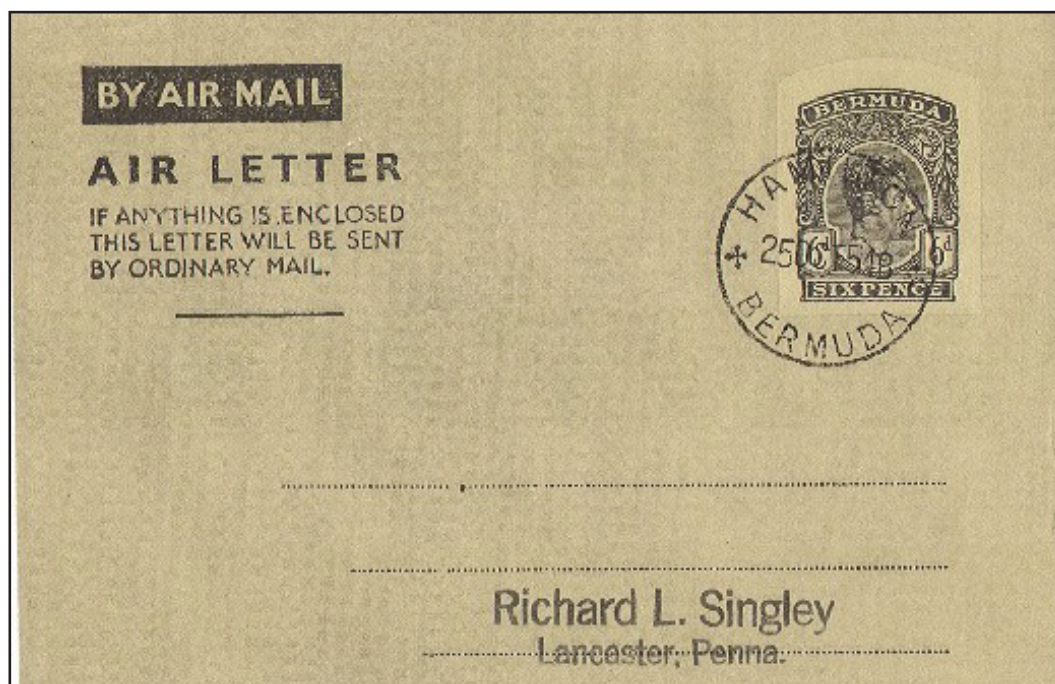
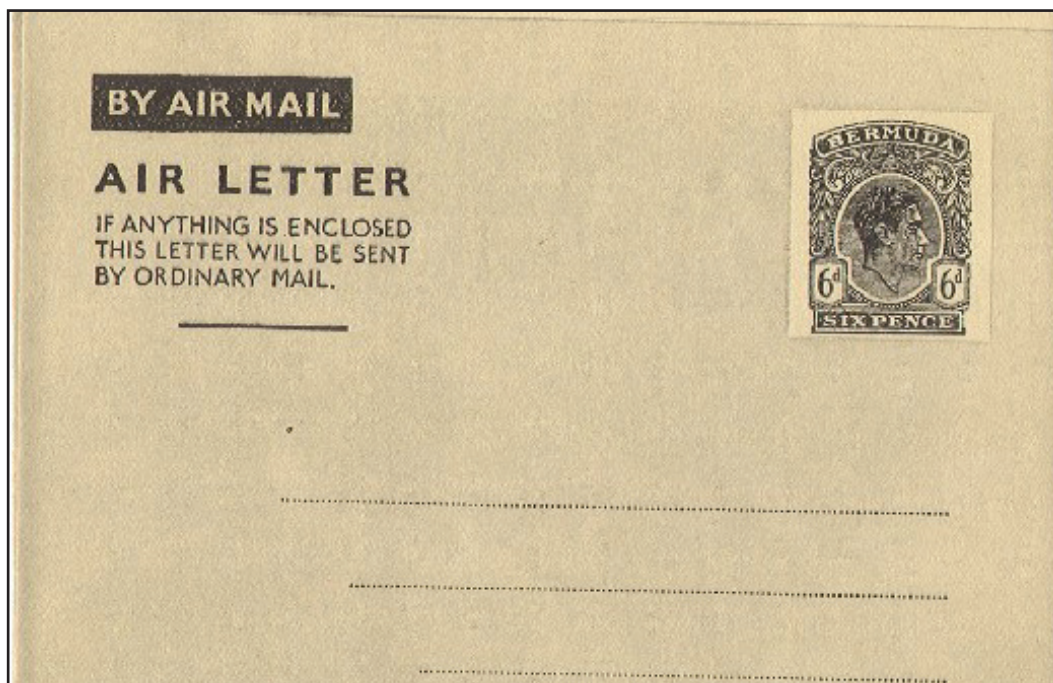
Half Penny
DLR



6d black on greyish paper, grey overlay. Head with flat edge at top,

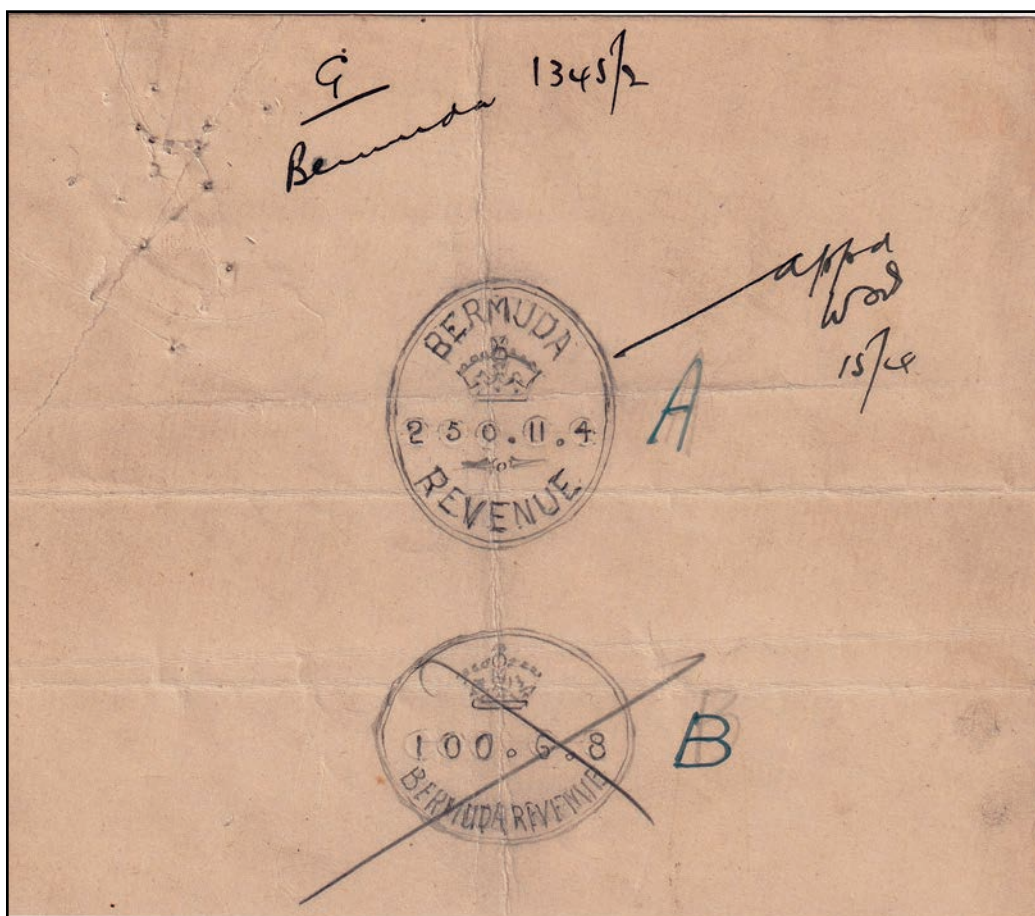
Section: IV: Air Mail Wrapper
King George VI

Half Penny
DLR



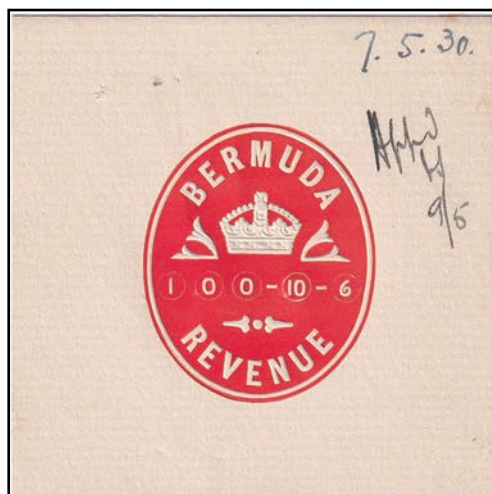
6d black on greyish paper, grey overlay. Head with flt edge at top and new four line tablet.

Section: V: Bermuda Revenue



Ex Ulricj,
Ex Dickgiesser

In 1930 a de La Rue artist sketched essays for an undenominated revenue stamps. The vertical oval was developed further into an engraved die. No examples are known to have been printed.



Ex Leuhusen

Dated 7 May 1930