Introduction

Postage stamps and related objects are miniature communication tools, and they tell a story about cultural and political identities and about artistic forms of identity expressions. They are part of the world’s material heritage, and part of history. Ever more of this postal heritage becomes available online, published by stamp collectors’ organizations, auction houses, commercial stamp shops, online catalogues, and individual collectors. Virtually collecting postage stamps and postal history has recently become a possibility. These working papers about Africa are examples of what can be done. But they are work-in-progress! Everyone who would like to contribute, by sending corrections, additions, and new area studies can do so by sending an email message to the APH editor: Ton Dietz (dietzaj@asc.leidenuniv.nl). You are welcome!

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Table of Contents

Part 1
Imperial British East Africa Company 1890-1895

Part 2
British East Africa 1895-1902

Part 3
British East Africa and Uganda 1902-1921

Part 4
Kenya and Uganda 1922-1935

Part 5
East Kenya postmarks

Part 6
Central Kenya postmarks

Part 7
West Kenya postmarks

Uganda before 1902 and Uganda postmarks see APH 18
Tanganyika and Tanzania postmarks see APH 19 (German East Africa and follow up see APH 3)
Zanzibar see APH 20
Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika 1935-1963 see APH 21
British East Africa

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/e/e2/Flag_of_British_East_Africa.svg/1200px-Flag_of_British_East_Africa.svg.png


“On 9 July 1895 stamps of Imperial British East Africa Company were overprinted reading 'BRITISH / EAST / AFRICA' and overprints of 'British / East / Africa' on stamps of India were also issued.[3] The protectorate joined the Universal Postal Union at this time. In 1896 a series of stamps depicting Queen Victoria was issued, inscribed 'BRITISH EAST AFRICA', these ran short in 1897 and stamps of Zanzibar were overprinted as the stamps of India had been previously. A number of additional post offices were opened along the Uganda Railway, which was started in 1896 at Mombasa and reached Kisumu on Lake Victoria in 1902. In 1901 the postal administration was merged with that of Uganda,
and in 1904 stamps issued for the combined East Africa and Uganda Protectorates came into use”.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_British_East_Africa

**1895 British East Africa overprint (9 July)**

½ A brown (M26) and 1A green (M27) and 2A orange red (M28)

[Images of stamps]

https://encrypted-tbn2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQsmsQwQnolVhlsy0i1RsCKJbJEaSZt_Q_FGv1SUboNO0wleTu2A

https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1895-sg35-used_0.jpg

Forgery:
http://stampforgeries.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/British_East_Africa_1895_2a_Forgery.jpg

http://www.rumseyauctions.com/lotphotos/68/182234.jpg: “British East Africa, 1895, "British East Africa" on ½a Dull Brown, Overprint Double, Mombasa squared circle date stamp and blue crayon cancels, strong color, natural s.e. at left and scissor separated perfs at bottom, Very Fine, an exceptionally rare shade, ex-Krieger; signed Holcombe as "double". Scott No. 38 var. SG No. 33b. ONE OF TWO KNOWN EXAMPLES OF THE PROTECTORATE HANDSTAMP 1895 ½A IN DULL BROWN. There are no unused examples of this color variety known”.

http://www.rumseyauctions.com/lotphotos/68/182231.jpg: “British East Africa, 1895, "British East Africa" on 1a Blue Green, "Anl" (Broken "D") Variety, in lower scroll between "Light" and "Liberty", Lamu town cancels, rich color, natural s.e. at bottom (as always) and a couple slightly short perfs at upper right of little consequence, Very Fine, ex-Krieger. Scott No. 39b. SG No. 34b ONE OF TWO KNOWN USED EXAMPLES OF THE PROTECTORATE HANDSTAMP 1895 1A BLUE GREEN "ANL" FOR "AND" PLATE VARIETY”.

2 ½ A black on yellow (M29)
https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/9df78eab33525d08d6e5fb8d27136e95/b/r/british-east-africa-1895-sg36-cancel_0.jpg; “BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1895 SG36 Cancel 1895 (9 July) 2½a black/bright yellow, type 6 handstamp, neatly cancelled by large part Lamu cds, dated 'JY 25 95'. One short perf but only 4020 issued and scarce with this cancel.”

3A black on red (M30)

https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/48145756.jpg

4A light brown (M31)
4 ½ A grey violet (M32a)

4 ½ A dark violet (M32B)
http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NTEwWDQ2MQ=/z/no8AAOSwQItUAip3/$_12.JPG

Forgeries:

http://stampforgeries.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/British_East_Africa_1895_4.5a_Forgery2.jpg

http://stampforgeries.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/British_East_Africa_1895_4.5a_Forgery.jpg

5A black on grey blue (M33)
7 ½ A black (M34)

8A blue (M35)
1R pink (M36)

Illustration not yet found

2R red (M37)

Illustration not yet found

3R dark lilac (M38)
4R ultramarine (M39)
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AA1343.jpg: “BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1895 4A ultramarine, a forgery of both the stamp and overprint, cancelled. SG 46 forgery”.

5R olive green (M40)

http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/89/14105.jpg
1895 red overprint (29 September)
2 ½ A on 4 ½ A grey violet

https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66fb/r/british-east-africa-1895-sg48-used_0_1.jpg

1895 Revenue

http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/136392.jpg?463: “R61/67. c1895. Sunburst types handstamped BRITISH EAST AFRICA further handstamped INLAND REVENUE (usually sideways) in violet as R11/25 above. R61. 4a yellow-brown; R62. 8a blue; R63. 1r carmine; R64. 2r brick-red; R65. 3r slate-purple; R66. 4r ultramarine; R67. 5r grey-green. Note: the 4a is known postally used.”.

1895 Postage stamps British East Africa overprint on British India (27 October)

http://www.matthewbennettauctions.com/lotphotos_large/284/149805.jpg

½ A dark green (M42)
1A lilac brown (M43)

1A6P dark oliv brown (M44)

2A light blue (M45)
British East Africa, 1895, "British East Africa" on India 2a Blue, "Britlsh" For "British", light Mombasa squared circle date stamp cancel, strong bright color, Very Fine, ex-Krieger; with 1997 D. Brandon certificate. Scott No. 57a SG No. 52a THE ONLY RECORDED USED EXAMPLE OF THE 1895 "BRITISH EAST AFRICA" ON INDIA 2A BLUE WITH "BRITLSH" FOR "BRITISH" OVERPRINT ERROR. 
This is one of two known examples, the other which resides in the Royal Philatelic Collection.

http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/5527.jpg

2A6P yellow green (M46)

http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/EAUAAOSwc-tY67RV/s-l225.jpg
http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjQxWDYwNw==/z/8aEAAOSwhOVXf-5d/$_12.JPG

3A brown orange (M47)

4A olive green (M48)


6A light brown (M49)
8A lilac (M50a)

8A reddish lilac (M50b)

12A lilac on red (M51)

http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3301.jpg

1R grey (M52)
BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1895 SG59, var Mint. 1895-96 1r slate, type 8 opt on India, horizontal pair, the right stamp variety 'sh' spaced, and the 'h' dropped, o.g. Trivial gum tones (insignificant on variety), still lovely fresh appearance. A rare variety. Ex Beauchamp Vialou.

1R pink/green (M53) 1896

2R yellow brown/pink (M54)
3R blue green/dark brown (M55)

5R violet/ultramarine (M56)
http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTA2N1gxNjAw/z/HClAAOSw1ZBUtVJx/$_57.JPG: "British East Africa India 1 1/2a QV Postal Card Overprinted One Anna 1896 Lamu"

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTA2N1gxNjAw/z/HClAAOSw1ZBUtVJx/$_57.JPG
African Postal Heritage; African Studies Centre Leiden; APH Paper 17, Part 2; Ton Dietz
Kenya: BEA; Version May 2017

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-FAWdCK3Xp7I/VowyBstM-SI/AAAAAAAAqvk/lboxTh_e8c/s1600/Screenshot_31.jpg


1895 red surcharge

2 ½ A on 1A6P dark olive brown (M57)
https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/9df78eab33525d08d6e5fb8d27136e95/b/r/british-east-africa-1895-sg64var-specimen_0_1.jpg

https://www.geocities.ws/stamplink/ident/bea05.jpg

http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/jCsAAOSwlaxWN6Sa/s-l300.jpg

1896 postage stamps (26 May)
Imperial Administration

1896 (19th May) - 1903
Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14

Carmine-rose  Bright Rose-red  Rosine

Deep Blue  Violet-blue

Pale Dull-blue  Ultramarine

1896-1901. Queen Victoria stamps inscribed British East Africa Protectorate. 18½ x 22½ mm. Perf 14. Wmk Crown CA. S65. ½a yellow-green; S66. 1a carmine-rose; S67. 2a chocolate; S70. 4a deep green; S74. 8a grey-olive; S75. 1r pale dull blue; S76. 2r orange; S77. 3r deep violet; S78. 4r carmine-lake; S79. 5r sepia.

1/2A yellow green (M58)
1A carmine red (M59a)

1A red (M59b)
1A carmine pink (M59c; 1901)

2A dark red brown (M60)
http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-18WtCIR0FD4/UHJnP9tc0NI/AAAAAAAADDk/0K32IzfnQE/s640/IMG3.jpg

http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/103/14005.jpg

2 ½ A dark blue (M61)
British East Africa, 1896, Queen Victoria, 2½a Deep Blue, Inverted "S" in "Annas", tied by blue "Mombasa, 12 Oc, 98" cds with second strike below on cover from the White Fathers to their leader in Algeria, in combination with Uganda 1896, 2a black, marginal pair (S.G. 56) canceled by purple "Smith Mackenzie & Co., Mombasa" oval handstamp, reverse with Zanzibar and Suez transit and Algeria (13.11) arrival cds; some minor cover staining, otherwise Very Fine, the earliest recorded use of the Smith Mackenzie & Co. oval handstamp, ex-Krieger. Scott No. 76a. SG No. 68b. A VERY RARE BRITISH EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA COMBINATION FRANK USAGE TO ALGERIA. Uganda postage was only valid within the colony until it joined the UPU in 1901. Foreign mail required postage of a UPU member, British East Africa (BEA). The Uganda mail rate to BEA was 4 annas per oz. while the BEA and UPU rates were 2½a per ½oz. Initially the BEA postage was added in Mombasa requiring mailers to maintain accounts there.

3A grey (M62)

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NDE1WDE2MDA=/z/zokAAOSwc49Y66r4/$_57.JPG

4A dark green (M63)
4 ½ A orange (M64)

5A olive yellow (M65)
7 ½ A lilac (M66)


8A grey olive (M67)

1R ultramarine (M68a) and 1R blue (M68b)

http://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/Bt4AAOSwAYtWlzTD/s-l225.jpg
2R orange (M69)

3R violet (M70)

4R carmine (M71)

5R dark brown (M72)

http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3296.jpg
http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/5529.jpg: “BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1902 ½a stationery postcard, with message, up-rated 2½a adhesive”
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.

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTMwOVgxNjAw/z/Zy8AAOxyCGNTMeKb/$_57.JPG
1896 Revenue stamps

http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/3346650.jpg?282: “1896 (earliest recorded usage). India QV adhesives overprinted British East Africa handstamped INLAND REVENUE in violet as R11/25 above. R71. 1a plum; R72. 2a blue; R73. 1r slate. Note: the earliest recorded usage of this issue is an example of R73 with a Melindi postal cancel dated 24 September 1896”.

1897 postage stamps (2 January)

½ A red/light green (M73) and 1A red/dark blue (M74) and 2A red/red brown (M75)
http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/qssra125.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/19/Stamp_British_East_Africa_1897_2a.jpg

4 ½ A red/orange (M76) and 5A red/yellow olive (M77) and 7 ½ A red/lilac (M78)
http://i1292.photobucket.com/albums/b564/kiranoukid/ZanzibarRichter_zpsa7cf86c5.jpg

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/ODAwWDY4NA==/z/x3YAAOxy-NVSVUFy/ST2eC16hHJIMFHJF7iuvfBSFUfylclg~~60_57.JPG : “British East Africa 1897 SG 84 Unlisted "Br1tish" Error FU".
2 ½ A on 1A red/dark blue type I (M79-I); 2 ½ A on 1A red/dark blue type II (M79-II); 2 ½ A on 1A red/dark blue type III (M79-III)

https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97da66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1897-sg86-8-specimen_0.jpg : “BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1897 SG86/8 Specimen. 1897 'On Zanzibar' '2½' on 1a indigo and red, special overprint with stop after 'Africa' for UPU distribution, horizontal strip of 3 showing type 14, 12 and 13 surcharges se-tenant (in that order), brilliant o.g. Exceptional condition and very rare in this form. Ex Minns.”.

2 ½ A on 3A red/dark blue type I (M80-I); 2 ½ A on 3A red/dark blue type II (M80-II); 2 ½ A on 3A red/dark blue type III (M80-III)
http://www.filat.ch/images/pictures/ygukb096.jpg


1897 postage stamp (November)
http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/8933185.jpg?390: “1897-1903. As previous issue but larger format (25 x 30 mm) and wmk Crown CC. S92. 1r grey-blue; S93. 2r orange; S94. 3r deep violet; S98. 20r pale green; S99. 50r mauve”.

1R ultramarine (M81)

https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1897-sg92-a-used_0.jpg: “BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1897 SG92/a Used. 1897-1903 1r used, two examples in grey-blue and dull blue, respectively with "MOMBASA" (20 MA 1900) or "FOREIGN-PARCEL-DEPARTMENT" (4 SE 1903) dates. Second with minor creasing but an attractive pair. “.
https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1897-sg92-used_0.jpg

2R orange (M82)

http://www.corbitts.com/auctions/stamps/151/images/1017.jpg

3R dark violet (M83)

https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1897-sg94-mint_0.jpg

4R carmine (M84)
5R dark brown (M85)

10R yellow olive (M86) and 20R light green (M87)
http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3297.jpg

https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/b2/8b/b3/b28bb38e8a8b71f7f9f762eaf006139d.jpg

50R lilac (M88)
Kenya: BEA; Version May 2017

1897 Consular service

1897 Judicial Fee

http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/116869.jpg?546: “1897-1901. Queen Victoria stamps inscribed British East Africa Protectorate (4a small format, others large), overprinted Judicial Fee in sans-serif capitals in red, by De La Rue. Perf 14. Wmk Crown CA (4a) or Crown CC (others). J1/2, J2a, J3/4. a) JUDICIAL 14½ x 3 mm, FEE 5½ x 3 mm;  J1. 4a deep green (red); b) JUDICIAL 22 x 3 mm, FEE 8½ x 3 mm;  J2. 1r grey-blue (red);  a. Dull blue (red); J3. 5r deep sepia (red); J4. 10r yellow-bistre (red)” “Notes: 1. Stamps as J1 but overprinted in letters only 2⅛ mm high in either orange or deep red are unadopted overprint trials, as shown above right. The 4a and 1r values are also known with trial overprints in black. 2. Morley includes a 20r and 50r in this set, implying that these values exist with red overprint, but Hoffman (quoting a 1986 article by John Minns) notes that this is unlikely since they do not appear in the De La Rue archive. Both values are known with local black overprint (see J16/17)”.

http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/8576316.jpg?234: “Unadopted overprint trial (left) and issued stamp (right)”.

108
http://www.revrevid.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/725714.jpg?409: “J11/17. c1900. As previous issue but new values, locally handstamped Judicial Fee in violet capitals (JUDICIAL 20 x 4 mm, FEE 9 x 4 mm). Perf 14. Wmk Crown CA (4r) or Crown CC (others). a) Handstamp sideways reading upwards on small format adhesive J11. 4r carmine-lake; b) Handstamp upright on large format adhesives J16. 20r pale green; J17. 50r mauve; Note: Barefoot also lists the 3r value similarly overprinted but I have not seen this.”.

**1898 Revenue**

http://www.revrevid.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/3088054.jpg?212: “R81 and R86. c1898. Queen Victoria stamps inscribed British East Africa Protectorate handstamped INLAND REVENUE in violet as R11/25 above. R81. 4a deep green; R86. 3r deep violet”.

**See:**


**1900 Impressed revenue stamps**
http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/4308735.jpg?311: “Artist's essays for BEA impressed revenue stamps. No impressed revenue stamps for British East Africa are known to have been issued, though a set of five artist's essays is known ex De La Rue archives. The stamps, denominated from 1a to 1r as shown here, are individually hand-painted in vermilion with the lettering and design picked out in Chinese white. Each essay is dated Jan 18th 1900. It is possible that their issue was cancelled due to the imminent amalgamation of BEA with Uganda, which took place on 1st April 1901.”