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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General information

In Southern Africa railways have been an important means to transport mail, and railway companies used their own ‘railway stamps’, to be used on mail transported by rail, although most rail-transported mail used the stamps issued by the postal authorities of the countries themselves. In this African Postal Heritage paper we will deal with the ‘railway stamps’ issued and used by the railway companies in the territories that are now South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, and Mocambique.

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

South Africa, 1892 The map seems fairly accurate, with one exception. The line shown from Grootfontein to Riversdale doesn't exist and never did. Montagu was never reached either. Riversdale was eventually reached by the New Cape Central Railway (NCCR) line from Worcester via Roodewal (Ashton, near Montagu) and Swellendam to Riversdale and on to Mosselbaai.”.

Also see: [http://www.transnetfreightrail-tfr.net/Heritage/150years/150YearsRail.pdf](http://www.transnetfreightrail-tfr.net/Heritage/150years/150YearsRail.pdf)

In 1998, H.S. Hagen and S.P. Naylor published a very detailed study about the ‘Railway Postal History of South Africa’, with a sub-title: ‘The close association between railway and postal services. It was published by the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, and can be found in the library of the African Studies Centre Leiden.

**Cape of Good Hope Railway Stamps**

Also in APH9 part 1; pp. 40-41, pp 58-60, and 86-87.

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/35/Cape_Colony_-_PE_railway_1877_-_SA_Railways_archives.jpg/800px-Cape_Colony_-_PE_railway_1877_-_SA_Railways_archives.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/35/Cape_Colony_-_PE_railway_1877_-_SA_Railways_archives.jpg/800px-Cape_Colony_-_PE_railway_1877_-_SA_Railways_archives.jpg) “a photograph of the Port Elizabeth – Uitenhage railway line in 1877”.

**1867 Cape Town Railway**
https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/62127336.jpg


1868 Cape Town Railway


1882 Cape Railways Service

http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/south/railways/cape.jpg: “Cape of Good Hope (Cape Railway Service) 1882”


http://www.geocities.ws/stamplink/ident/articles/sterling/parcel_files/cape.jpg: “Parcel Stamp of Cape Railway used on September 5th 1900.”

http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/56/8325.jpg: “Cape of Good Hope: Railways: Artists essay for an unadopted 1d. design, very well executed in pen and ink and grey wash on tracing paper, mounted on card (132 x 98mm)”.
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/MC78.jpg: “Railway Newspaper Stamp c1882 1d black and pale yellow-green (perf 11 x 10.5) inscribed ‘CAPE RAILWAY SERVICE / ONE PENNY / PREPAID PARCEL.’ Pale impression, very fine unmounted.”

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/808/2180808/2180808_140603204554_IMG.jpg

http://alphabetilately.org/TOC/SA-3.jpg
YEAR unknown: Cape Government Railways: C.G.R.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2a/Cape_Colony_railways_map_1910.svg
“Railway network of the Cape Colony in 1910, immediately before the formation of the Union of South Africa”
Natal Railway Stamps


ca 1880 Railway Parcel Stamps: N.G.R.
Also in APH 15 part 1, pp 52-53, 88-89 and 92-95.

And also see: https://grahamlesliemccallum.wordpress.com/2014/05/16/durbans-railway-stations/


http://i1199.photobucket.com/albums/aa464/mikestamp/2014-09-07/ngr1.jpg~original “Okay, they’re not going to win any awards for quality (few used railway parcel stamps do...) but they are remarkably scarce... The railway only operated from 1877 to 1912 before being subsumed into the South African Railways system”.
http://thumbs1. ebaystatic.com/images/g/bBQAAOSwwo1Xeidq/s-l225.jpg

Natal c 1905 Railways N.G.R.

1d: http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/NA358.jpg


6d: http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/NA357.jpg

1909 Parcels Stamp Railways N.G.R. = Natal Government Railways

“The Natal Government Railways (NGR) was formed in January 1877 in the Colony of Natal. In 1877 the Natal Government Railways acquired the Natal Railway Company for the sum of £40,000, gaining the line from the Point to Durban and from Durban to Umgeni. This move, inspired in part by the neighbouring Cape Prime Minister John Molteno’s 1873 establishment of the Cape Government Railways, was intended to drive the extension of Natal's railways inland, towards the Drakensberg and eventually the Orange Free State. The Natal Government Railways also adopted the Cape gauge. In 1910 the Union of South Africa was formed and in 1912 the NGR combined with the other colonies’ railway companies (Cape Government Railways and Central South African Railways) to form the South African Railways and Harbours (SAR & H)”.


http://pictures.philasearch.com/A09315/S201509/780.jpg : “1910 NATAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS OHMS envelope (size E697) franked KEVII 1d WITH OFFICIAL "NGR" PERFINS, BUT PERFINS NORMAL WAY (perforated in folded blocks). The letter from Durban (cds JA 23) to Johannesburg. F-VF, rare on cover thus”
Railway network of Natal in 1910, immediately before the formation of the Union of South Africa;


http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/south/railways/natal.jpg

http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/NLcAAOSwLEtYfipf/s-l225.jpg: “STAMPS SOUTH AFRICA, RAILWAY-NATAL GOVT RAILWAYS 1/2d PREPAID NEWSPAPER STAMP”.

1909 Parcels Stamp Railways C.S.A.R, with Natal postmark = Central South African Railways


1909 (?) Parcels Stamp Railways C.G.R. with Natal postmark = Cape Government Railways

http://www.postmarks.co.za/images/Dargle%20Road%201911.jpg
Orange River Colony Railway Stamps

Also in APH 14, part 1, pp. 94-95.


1905 Central South African Railways - C.S.A.R.

“In February 1905 a small number of the current Orange River Colony stamps were overprinted with the initials of the Central South African Railways - C.S.A.R. - for their sole use. Values: ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 1/-.

Following their withdrawal the Railway perforated their stamps CSAR. The Natal Government Railways also perforated their stamps which they used with the initials NGR.” http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/stampsorangeriver.aspx

CSAR overprints on ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 1Sh

http://www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk/images/ORC22.jpg

Not in Michel; Yvert: Y Timbres de Service 1-7
CSAR in ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 1Sh

1909 CSAR Parcels Stamp
Southern African Railway Stamps;

Not in Michel or in Yvert

**Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek/Transvaal Railway Stamps**

Also partly in APH 15, part 6, pp. 15-20.


**1887/1902 ZASM Spoorwegzegel Pakketvervoer**

[http://alphabetilately.org/TOC/SA-5.jpg](http://alphabetilately.org/TOC/SA-5.jpg)


http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/YGcAAOSw6btXTK0I/s-l225.jpg: “TRANSVAAL 1887 RAILWAY LOCAL STAMP, ZASM, ZUID AFRIKAANSCHE SPOORWEG MAASTSCHAPPIJ”.


Central South African Railways 1902 onwards

1902 Service stamps for C.S.A.R Railways (according to Yvert: 1905)

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NzQzWDExNDk=/%3AgWcAAOSwUKxYdil4/%3F_57.JPGc: “Transvaal 47 ° (4er-Block) Penny Tarif / Eisenbahn”.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7c/Transvaal_railway_map_1899.svg
½ p

M-D1 grün/Schwarz Wm one crown; Y-S1 vert et gris

M-D2 idem wm more crowns; Y-S8 vert et gris

1p
http://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/Transvaal/Official-stamps/A2-i.jpg

http://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/340/125/460_001.jpg


M-D3 scharlach/Schwarz Wm one crown; Y-S2 rouge et gris

M-D4 idem Wm more crowns; Y-S9 rouge et gris

http://images-00.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/333/868/586_001.jpg : “TRANSVAAL 1902 CSAR 1D PAIR DOUBLE OVERPRINTS WITH CERT”.
Southern African Railway Stamps; Version January 2018

http://i.imgur.com/0w9DLvB.jpg


2p

http://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/Transvaal/Official-stamps/A4-i.jpg
M-D5 Lila/Schwarz; Y-S3 violet-brun et gris

http://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/Transvaal/Official-stamps/A5-i.jpg

M-D6 olivgrün/schwarzgrau (1903); Y-S4 vert-olive et gris

http://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/Transvaal/Official-stamps/A6-i.jpg

M-D7 braun/schwarz (1903); Y-S5 brun et gris

http://www.stampworld.com/media/catalogue/Transvaal/Official-stamps/A7-i.jpg

http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/mpEAAOSwdGFYngRK/s-l225.jpg

M-D8 orange/schwarz ; Y-S6 orange et gris

1sh

Not yet found
M-D9 oliv grün/schwarz ; Y-S7 brun-orange et ardoise

1904-1907 Service stamps for Railways: CSAR (according to Yvert: 1909)

http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/south/perfins/transvaal/CSAR.jpg


½ p
http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/649/963649_110213145327_IMG_0021.jpg

M-D10 grün; Y-S10 vert

1p

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/704/239704_111121201206_NEW18.jpg

M-D11 scharlach; Y-S11 rouge

2p

M-D12 rotlila/grauschwarz; Y-S12 violet-brun et gris

3p

M-D13 olivgrün/schwarzgrau ; Y-S13 vert-olive et gris

4p

M-D14 braun/schwarz ; Y-S14 brun et gris

6p

M-D15 orange/schwarz ; Y-S15 orange et gris

1 Sh

M-D16 orangebraun/grauschwarz ; Y-S16 brun-orange et ardoise
South African Railway Stamps


Central South African Railways > 1910

https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTqLxCX5O0HfQod6C79bsICV6k4lf4a4_p8jmkGP3U4zOUFgdh9
Union Railways Parcel stamps CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA RAILWAYS (x2) stamps scarce, usual condition odd short perforation still scarce.”

South African Railways

1914?

https://cdn.globalauctionplatform.com/9179490b-87f2-4f58-a7bf-a58500ad3ed0/99044295-2ad8-4a92-9531-1cbf84127045/540x360.jpg

http://alphabetilately.org/TOC/SA-4.jpg
South African Railways/Suid-Afrikaanse Spoorwee; SAR/SAS

http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/CT8AAOSwdGFYyqyg/s-l1600.png

http://thumbs1.ebaystatic.com/m/mhY0Xkk4U8sVvqeHZOJccgQ/140.jpg

http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/south/railways/southAfrican.jpg

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/582/2348582/2348582_160102145258_SARA15.jpg

“The Railways & Harbours contribution to the GOVERNOR GENERAL’S FUND. During 1919, the ‘Big Push’, was described in various issues of the SAR & H magazine. Besides raising money through the sale of the 1d ’BIG PUSH’ label. Street collections also assisted the cause as may be seen from this ‘Street Flag’.
http://www.southafricacollector.com/11_Collect_Southern_Africa/21_Poster_Stamps_Labels_Cindefrellas/01_WWI/16_1918_Big_Push_on_Postcard.jpg: “The date of issues appears to be late 1918 derived from a known copy cancelled STANDERTON 24 SEP 18. And the illustrated Postcard below is dated GABERONNES 4 DE 18. From the imperforate sides on the labels it suggests they were part of booklet panes. At the foot, below the value tablet’ there is an inscription ‘E. G. SMART’ followed by three letters that appear to be ‘DRI’ Very few examples of this splendid Railway thematic are known”.


http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/OOkAAOSw0UdXs4hE/s-l500.jpg: South Africa, 1960 100 years railways in SA.
http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/Cb8AAOSw44BYdhto/s-l500.jpg; South Africa: 1983 issue of locs used in the past.


http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/NvcAAOSwdGFYuaiw/s-l500.jpg; South Africa 1999
http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/XsAAAOSwHaBWlqHP/s-l500.jpg; Transkei 1989

1932?

http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/twwAAOSwSlBYyq0x/s-l500.png; “RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS-SOUTH AFRICA HALF-PENNY PREPAID NEWSPAPER STAMP FROM 1932”.

http://a5.tbn.bidorbuy.co.za/image/fetch/dpr_1.0,f_auto,t_btxn/http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/808/2180808/2180808_150703180159_IMG_0001.jpg; “South Africa Railway Prepaid Newspaper 1/2d stamp(1932) , used (roulette)”
http://i1.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/pvUAAOSw4A5Yyq2c/s-l225.webp: “RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS-SOUTH AFRICA HALF-PENNY PREPAID NEWSPAPER STAMP FROM 1940”

1940s?

Of the SAR and mostly also SAS versions so far values have been found for 1/2d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 9d, 1/, 1s, 2/, 2s, 2/6, 5s, 10s, 20/, and 1 pound.

The following station abbreviations have been found so far:

For the pre-1961 stamps: CBE, CLN, DGF, DNR, EL, ELL, FYN, GMR = Germinston; GN, GT, GTN, HH, MBN, MIV, MZR, NE, NLR, PE = Port Elizabeth, PPW, QT = Queenstown, RET, RPR, TBD, TOW, TR, VIC

For the post 1961 period: DR, EPG, FFT, ODN, S/M (= Specimen Monster).
https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/64200711.jpg

https://tbn.bidorbuy.co.za/image/fetch/dpr_1.0,f_auto,t_bbtbnx/http://img.bidorbuy.co.za/image/upload/user_images/073/1145073/1145073_140925082553_image132.jpg
Southern African Railway Stamps; Version January 2018

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MzQ5WDEwMDI=/z/Kw0AAOSwdGFYn0Gu/$_57.JPG: “SA Railway P-Stamp, Waybill 1942 Station GMR = Germinston, very fine”.

https://images-02.delcampe-static.net/img_large/auction/000/328/588/582_001.jpg?v=0

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/808/2180808/2180808_141215103216_IMG_0001.jpg
A modern successor to the GM class, no less than 150 of these Garratts were delivered 1954-56. The orders were split between Beyer, Peacock, the North British Locomotive Co and Henschel. The extra M indicated when the loco was intended for main-line use - the main-line engine would only differ in having a larger coal and water capacity. Like the GM's these locomotives trailed an auxiliary water tank. These ubiquitous engines saw service on most secondary
lines in the country. They were the last class of Garratt in service with the SAR and were being withdrawn from regular service in 1984. The Class GMA/M is also depicted on a 25 June 2010 stamp release by the South African Post Office. (SAPO). This image is published here by kind permission of SAPO.”.

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/808/2180808/2180808_140531202133_IMG.jpg: “Union of South Africa Bantam railway parcels stamps 1s, used (Thomas River)”.

http://thumbs4.picclick.com/d/l400/pict/361788221311_/I8-South-Africa-Railways-Parcel-Stamp-11d.jpg
After 1961: SAS and SAR Cent and Rand values

For both SAR and SAS versions, so far illustrations of 14 different values have been found: 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 8c, 10c, 20c, 25c, 50c, 1R, 2R, 5R, and 10R.

https://encrypted-tbn1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSZFvrt4MahXmpr0et2GNZyHf8C3XFZBTe6PobH7m5gg3zc_4iA


http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/~s0AAOSwA3dYfUmi/s-l225.jpg

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NzAyWDg1Mg==/z/CbgAAOSwOgdYn0E5/$_57.JPG: “SA Railway Parcel Stamps 1961, 3c pair & block of 10, used”.

http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/2041.jpg
SAR/SAS 1980-84?

http://thumbs4.picclick.com/d/w1600/pict/122074620487_South-Africa-Railway-Parcel-stamp-selection-used.jpg

http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/q6IAAOSwJ7RYXWsx/s-l500.jpg
http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/OOAAAOSw0YXWst/s-l500.jpg

http://www.sa-transport.co.za/trains/maps/passenger_services_2006.GIF
Rhodesia Railways Ltd Railway Stamps

See a.o.: [http://www.rhodesia.co.za/NEWSPAPER_RAILWAY_STAMPS_43.html](http://www.rhodesia.co.za/NEWSPAPER_RAILWAY_STAMPS_43.html)

[http://www.philatelicdatabase.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Rhodesia-Railway-Parcel-Stamps.jpg](http://www.philatelicdatabase.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Rhodesia-Railway-Parcel-Stamps.jpg) “Railway Newspaper Parcel Stamps of Rhodesia ; This article was written by American philatelist C.C. Lance in 1938 and was originally titled “Railroad Stamps of Rhodesia”. … “In any study of Railroad stamps, many unusual varieties are encountered, and investigation into their uses frequently develops interesting information. A large number of stamps exist, which are the issues of
Government railways, but not of the respective Post Office Departments. These are consequently unlisted in the regular Postage Stamp catalogues, although they appear to have the status of either semi-postals or locals. Many different stamps are used by the railways of various British colonies and dominions, some are used for parcel post, whilst others are for newspaper parcels exclusively. The designs in a number of instances include locomotives or trains, but the great majority have large numerals of value as the most prominent feature of their designs. In Southern Rhodesia, the Post Office Department has facilities for Parcel Post matter as well as regular mail matter. The Rhodesia Railways also handled Parcel Post but such shipments are way-billed and not franked with any stamp. The mail and parcel stamp matter handled by the Post Office is, of course, franked with regular postage stamps of the country. The Rhodesia Railways, however, issue their own stamps for newspaper parcels, only; these stamps are used under regulations detailed below. One value, the 1d, is the only stamp, as the one penny rate covers the cost of such shipments, distance making no difference in this charge.” And “The lines south of Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia are under the administration of the South African Railways and harbours and service is provided between several British Colonies and the Dominion of South Africa. The regulations covering the use of these stamps are as follows: “Single newspapers enclosed in wrappers, open at both ends, are carried at one penny per copy, irrespective of distance, when franked by stamps, which can be obtained by application to the Chief Accountant, Bulawayo.” Philatelic Database would like to thank Alan McGregor Stamps of South Africa for the kind use of their railway stamp images. It is much appreciated.”

Also:

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1631.jpg
“1947 1st April, the following items are the additional eight values prepared for issue, but apparently not released. Their exact status is not known, but most probably for bulk postings. No examples have been recorded in used condition. The values are: 2d in black, 3d in violet, 4d in green, 5d in light brown, 6d in purple, 9d in grey, 1/- in brown and 1/6 in blue. Also included with these eight values is the 1d in orange, and although essentially the same as the previous issued stamp, (slightly deeper shade), it was together with the new values when they first came to light. The 1d is sheet no. ‘B 19465’, all the new values being sheet no. ‘1’. These sheets were presented to the Chief Accountant of the Railways, Mr. L. A. W. Hawkins. Other than these sheets, the only other known examples are the top two rows with sheet no. ‘2’, and two further sets in singles. All are gummed and very fine.”


“Single used on piece in conjunction with Mocambique 5c (?) definitive, that cancelled with Beira cds dated 28 OUT 1942, the newspaper stamp cancelled ‘R. Rly Ltl / 20 OCT 2942 / BEIRA PARCELS’.”


ED
http://i193.photobucket.com/albums/z273/orafs/Rhodesian%20Heritage/The%20Years%20in%20Between/Page22.jpg


http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/7999.jpg

Also see:
“Northern Rhodesia Railway Parcel Stamps. NORTHERN RHODESIA”; 1d. MUF - Mufulira Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 1d. CB - Chisamba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”. Both in Northern Rhodesia.

http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/B-0AAOSw44BYcTG0/s-l1225.jpg; “(I.B) Rhodesia Railways: Parcels Stamp 1d”.

http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/KUAAAOSwhDdXD9Ff/s-l225.jpg, ZD = Zimba Railway Station, Northern Rhodesia.

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-mqXTs-eC3q0/VYxaJPzZEMI/AAAAAAAABF6/xgG4IJJrXs/s1600/2d%2BEP%2BK.jpeg; “2d. EP - Pemba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 2d. KP - Kapiri Mposhi Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”. Both in Northern Rhodesia.
http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-TbGbK_K9zxZI/VYxbpfggfJI/AAAAAAAABF8/p80pwC8Nx4U/s1600/2d%2BKl%2Ep%2BCB%2BP.jpeg: “2d. KL - Kalomo Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 3d. EP - Pemba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 3d. CB - Chisamba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 3d. KP - Kapiri Mposhi Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”. Kalomo = Northern Rhodesia; Pemba = Northern Rhodesia; Chisamba = Northern Rhodesia; Kapiri Mposhi = Northern Rhodesia.

http://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/NeAAOSwTglYmc00/s-l225.jpg: LU = Luanshya, Northern Rhodesia
http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-ic_surY0PiU/VYxc-gPFByI/AAAAAAAABGI/199mS8tl4eg/s640/4d%2BCB%2BLU%2BCBJ%2BNKA.jpeg: “4d. CB - Chisamba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 4d. LU - Luanshya Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 4d. CBJ - Chambishi Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 4d. NKA - Nkana / Kitwe Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”.

http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-5ICmz4rgd_A/VYxegWKSlgI/AAAAAAAABGU/x5M_wkHT9nU/s640/4d%2BNKA%2B5d%2BZD%2B6d%2BZD%2BEP.jpeg: “4d. NKA Nkana / Kitwe Railway Station - Purple Rubber Handstamp - Obliterated HRD (Hunters Road Railway Station, Southern Rhodesia) - margin block of 4 (MNH); 5d. ZD - Zimba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 6d. ZD - Zimba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH); 6d. EP - Pemba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”.

Nkana Kitwe = Northern Rhodesia; Zimba = Northern Rhodesia; Pemba = Northern Rhodesia;
CBJ = Chambishi Railway Station

PLT = Plumtree, Southern Rhodesia

PLT = Plumtree
http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-CxW3u2HYYa/cVYxgMvKZMUL/AAAAAAAAABGg/HTOx3l3Ba5c/s320/9d.jpeg: “9d. CB - Chisamba Railway Station - margin block of 4 (MNH)”. Chisamba = Northern Rhodesia

http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-fDYdloQDNq8/cVYxhH0KRII/AAAAAAAABGs/k3Q_1J2NdI/s640/cbj.jpeg: “Shillings Singles - CBJ - Chambishi Railway Station (Mauve rubber handstamp)- all MNH”. Chambishi = Northern Rhodesia

http://images.bidorbuy.co.za/user_images/033/1688033/1688033_150222185121_RR_7.jpg
RS=Rusapi

https://encrypted-tbn2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRqN-LgV7vEs4xx4PkJeB8N27DaEjawURIH3oM5uFPnry0N65u PLT = Plumtree
LU = Luanshya

PLT = Plumtree, Southern Rhodesia.

SZ = Shamva, Southern Rhodesia.

PLT = Plumtree, Southern Rhodesia.
https://www.sandafayre.com/stockimages/57252407_1.jpg

PLT = Plumtree, Southern Rhodesia

SZ = Simba, Northern Rhodesia

SHG = Shangani, Southern Rhodesia

EP = Pemba, Northern Rhodesia
http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/~eMAAOSw44BYcSAe/s-l225.jpg  CN = Chingola, Northern Rhodesia

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NzA4WDg0MQ==/z/EnMAAOSwnHZYUtVk/$_57.JPG: 1962 issue

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NzA4WDg0MQ==/z/EnMAAOSwnHZYUtVk/$_57.JPG: 1962 issue

https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/37/f2/65/37f265190349009adf68d06034a23af9.jpg
### Rhodesia railway parcel stamps

#### Station codes

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http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-4T7q9KlI0Wk/TVxXigcdMrI/AAAAAAAABFY/e494zrvpv1Y/s1600/RHODESIA%2BRAILWAY%2BSTATION%2BCODES.jpeg

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1639.jpg: “1961 23rd March, first 'ONE CENT' overprint, for the sole use at the Mafeking Station due to the change to decimal currency. Sheets of 48 (12 x 4). A total of 501 sheets in one printing, giving 24 048 stamps.”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1641.jpg: “1965 15th April, second 'ONE CENT' overprint, printed in sheets of 50. Due to the change from sterling to decimal, the previous format of 48 stamps proved ineffective from an accounting point, so the sheet format was changed to 50 for decimal use. The printers accomplished this by adding an additional 1st vertical column and then removing the lower two rows. This 1st vertical column is noticeable as it is heavier and deeper in impression, and each stamp is slightly out of alignment to the stamp in vertical row 2. In addition, the first printing (of 48) shows two constant flaws, being an orange dot left of the 'R' of 'RAILWAYS' on both stamps 1 / 2 and 1 / 4. With the addition of a new 1st vertical column, this now moves to stamps 1 / 3 and 2 / 5 on the second printing. 500 sheets printed, giving 25 000 stamps. For use in Mafeking.”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1645.jpg: “The complete sheet of 50, sheet 'No 781', this then handstamped below '291' and altered in manuscript '220' (although printed in one batch, sheets
were released in groups and additionally numbered then, this sheet possibly another release). Sheet with all characteristics as detailed above”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1652.jpg: “1966 7th March. third 'ONE CENT' overprint. For this printing the production was the same as for the second, but for some unknown reason instead of placing the additional extra row at the left (or 1st vertical column), it was placed at the right (5th vertical column). The dot flaws now are stamps 1 / 2 and 2 / 4, and the 5th vertical row stamps are now lighter in impression and also out of alignment to those of the 4th vertical row. A further defining feature is the introduction of a six-spoked star after the sheet number”. .

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/featured/RA1661_f.jpg: “c1970 provisional One cent trials and overprints. With the impending introduction of decimalisation in Rhodesia, and to use up existing stocks, temporary measures were taken. 1970 13th February, Manuscript endorsement. A few sheets from the original printing (48 stamp format) were used, these being sheet numbers 591, 595, and 597 and possibly 598. Several others around these numbers may have been used or are not accounted for. The method adopted was to delete in blue ink the ‘d’ of ‘1d’ and insert ‘CENT’ in manuscript. These are very scarce.”.
A rubber handstamp double ring in violet '1c' was applied to the remaining sheets numbered 599 to 800. These were likewise the original printing (48 stamps), and used through to December that year. A total of 9696 stamps being issued.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1676.jpg: “1971, Decimal printings. The printers decided to change the process to offset lithography from letterpress. A baryta pull of five impressions in horizontal format was taken and pasted into the required format of ten rows of five. A simple but
effective method was used from the '1d' impressions for this changeover, whereby the downstroke of the 'd' of '1d' was carefully deleted in orange ink, leaving a 'c' for '1c'.


http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/PhsAAOSwTA9X3svp/s-l1600.jpg

Zimbabwe Railway Stamps

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1687.jpg: “ZIMBABWE. The change of name to Zimbabwe brought a new design and an increase to 3c. No examples of this value are included in this group. A number of handstamps applied over the 3c were issued, increasing in value and starting around 1986, however only the 4c on 3c and 10c on 3c values are represented here. c1986, violet boxed 'N. R. Z. / 4c' handstamp on 3c”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/featured/RA1694_f.jpg

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1703.jpg: “c1993 ?, original 3c value, firstly with green boxed ‘N. R. Z. / 15c’ handstamp then with second black boxed ‘N. R. Z. / 10c’ handstamp over that. Why this rate reduction occurred is not known.”.


http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/RA1709.jpg: “Second printing ?, shade pale orange at to previous deep orange, single”.

**Beira and Mashonaland Railway Stamps**
Both the Rhodesia Railways and the Beira and Mashonaland Railways are government owned and operated, and connect with other lines of the British African rail system as well as with foreign railways. At the south boundary of Congo, connection made with the Katanga Railway, and at Dondo, in Mozambique Company, the Beira & Mashonaland railways make connection with the Portuguese East African Railway. This is the railway which operates over the Lower Zambesi River Bridge, about 130 miles north of this junction, which has been pictured in both 1935 and 1937 on the stamps of the Mozambique Company.


Note: There were two types - both penny values only - but nothing is known of the dates of issue although a used example of the type above has been seen dated 1903.
Beira, Mashonaland and Rhodesia Railway Stamps

http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/zimbabwe/railways/beira&mashonaland.jpg

http://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/wj8AAOSw241Yl38I/s-l225.jpg

http://www.ebay.ie/sch/i.html?_pgn=1&LH_PrefLoc=2&_sop=3&isRefine=false&_nkw=railway%20parcel%20stamp


Beira, Mashonaland and Rhodesia Railway Stamps

Rhodesia Railways Stamps for Bechuanaland

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB270.jpg: FT = Francistown
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB855.jpg: “RAILWAYS ‘FT’ (Francistown) on 10c light blue and 20c magenta ERRORS OF COLOUR, lower marginal pairs, superb mint.”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2230.jpg. FT = Francistown, Bechuanaland. “RAILWAYS 1968 (10th October), Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (355x139mm, folded for display) for a carton of ball bearings sent to Bulawayo. Bearing Rhodesia Railways 4c, 5c and 10c each with printed station code ‘FT’ (Francistown), the 10c being the ERROR OF COLOUR (light blue (5c colour) instead of bright blue). All tied by R.R. / Francistown (10 Oct) double circle datestamps struck in violet. With a large R.R. Bulawayo Parcels (10 Oct) oval receiving datestamp struck in purple. Note: thirteen different station codes are believed to have been applied to Rhodesia Railways stamps for use in Bechuanaland / Botswana: ART (Artesia), DEB (Debeeti), FT (Francistown), GS (Gaberones), LI (Lobatsi), MAG (Mahalapye), PY (Palapye), PIN (Pilane), RAB (Ramatlabama), RSA (Ramoutsa), SR (Seruli), SHI (Shashi), TES (Tsessebe).”.
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB273.jpg: “RAILWAYS 1968 (29th October), Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (355x138mm, folded for display) with description of goods ‘1 Ctn Speed Odometer’ sent to Bulawayo. Bearing Rhodesia Railways 2c and 5c (damaged) stamps, each with printed station code ‘FT’ and a 10c with printed station code ‘PY’ (Palapye) further handstamped ‘FT’ in violet for use at Francistown, all tied by R.R. / FRANCISTOWN (29 Oct) double circle datestamps struck in violet.”.

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2235.jpg: “RAILWAYS - Rhodesia Railways Parcel Stamps with Botswana Station Codes. AB2235”. PY = Palapye; Bechuanaland. Also: “RAILWAYS 1968 (16th October), Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (355x140mm, folded for display) with description of
goods ‘1 Envelope’ sent to Bulawayo. Bearing Rhodesia Railways 2c, 5c and 10c stamps with printed station code ‘PY’ (Palapye), each further handstamped ‘GS’ in violet for use at Gaberones and tied by a Gaberones (16 Oct) oval datetamp struck in violet. With large R.R. Bulawayo Parcels (17 Oct) oval receiving datetamp struck in purple. Some edge faults, otherwise fine.”


http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2232.jpg : “RAILWAYS 1968 (19th October), Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (355x139mm, folded for display) for ‘1 Large Envelope’ sent to Bulawayo. Bearing Rhodesia Railways 4c with printed station code ‘FT’ (Francistown) and a 10c with printed code ‘PY’ further handstamped ‘FT’ in violet for use at Francistown. Both tied by R.R. / Francistown
(19 Oct) double circle datestamps struck in violet. With large R.R. Bulawayo Parcels (20 Oct) oval receiving datestamp struck in purple.”

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2233.jpg: “RAILWAYS 1968 (31st October), Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (355x139mm, folded for display) for two packages ‘for cleaning’ sent to Bulawayo. Bearing Rhodesia Railways 4c, 5c and 50c stamps with printed station code ‘FT’ (Francistown) and a pair of 20c with printed code ‘PY’ (Palapye) further handstamped ‘FT’ in violet, all tied by R.R. / FRANCISTOWN (31 Oct) double circle datestamps struck in violet. With large R.R. Bulawayo Parcels (1 Nov, altered to 31 Oct in manuscript) oval receiving datestamp struck in purple.”
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/images/large/AB2227.jpg: “RAILWAYS 1969 (21st March), Rhodesia Railways’ Parcels Waybill’ (reduced to 161x136mm). Bearing Rhodesia Railways 4c with printed station code ‘FT’ (Francistown) and a 2s with printed code ‘OZ’ (Odzi, Rhodesia) further handstamped ‘FT’ in violet for use in Francistown. Both tied by R.R. / Francistown (21 Mar) large oval datetamp struck in violet. With a R.R. Stationmaster Shashi (21 Mar) violet boxed cachet, presumably applied on arrival. Unusual use of a Rhodesian station code in Botswana, especially as Rhodesia had not yet switched to decimal.”.

http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/botswana/railways/mag.jpg. MAG = Mahalapye, Bechuanaland
http://zenius.kalnieciai.lt/africa/botswana/railways/tes.jpg. TES = Tsessebe, Bechuanaland

http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2231.jpg. “RAILWAYS 1969 (3rd February), part of a Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (reduced to 151x139mm). Bearing ten Rhodesia Railways stamps with various printed station codes: 3c and 4c ‘TES’ (Tsessebe), 5c and R1 ‘PY’ (Palapye), 10c single and strip of three ‘MAG’ (Mahalapye), 2s and £1 ‘OZ’ (Odzi, Rhodesia). All stamps further hand-stamped ‘GS’ in violet for use at Gaberones and all tied by R.R. Gaberones (3 Feb) oval datestamps struck in purple. A most unusual combination of codes, values and currencies and use of non-decimal Rhodesian values / station codes in Botswana.”.
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AB2228.jpg: “RAILWAYS 1969 (5th February), part of a Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (reduced to 68x139mm). Bearing Rhodesia Railways 4c (pair) with printed station code ‘TES’ (Tsessebe) together with 2s, 5s and £1 each with printed station code ‘OZ’ (Odzi, Rhodesia), all stamps further handstamped ‘GS’ for use at Gaberones. All tied by R.R. Gaberones (5 Feb) oval datestamps struck in violet. Unusual use of Rhodesian station codes in Botswana, especially as Rhodesia had not yet switched to decimal.”.
http://www.rhodesia.co.za/images/large/AB2229.jpg: “RAILWAYS 1969 (23rd May), part of a Rhodesia Railways ‘Parcels Waybill’ (reduced to 113x139mm). Bearing Rhodesia Railways 3c with printed station code ‘TES’ (Tsessebe) together with 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s each with printed station code ‘OZ’ (Odzi, Rhodesia), all stamps further handstamped ‘GS’ for use at Gaberones. All tied by R.R. Gaberones (23 May) oval datestamps struck in violet. Unusual use of Rhodesian station codes in Botswana, especially as Rhodesia had not yet switched to decimal.”.
“RAILWAY STAMPS 1951-69 MINT ACCUMULATION, we see sterling denominated values for use in Rhodesia with values to £1 inscribed "PLT" and "SZ" plus couple of further oddments, decimal denominated values were produced for use in Bechuanaland (Rhodesia Railways took over running the line from Bulawayo to Mahalapye in 1959) and we see "MAG" inscribed values to R2.00, "SHH" to 50c, plus several other oddments incl. "TES" R1.00 & R2.00 values, also incl. "Single Newspaper Railage" 1c labels in orange. Generally very fine (80+ labels).“.

MAG = Mahalapye

SHH = Shashi

FT = Francistown

PY = Palapye

TES = Tsessebe

GS = Gabarones

LI = Lobatsi.

All Bechuanaland/Botswana.

South West Africa Railway Postage stamps

http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/4563-1.jpg

http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/4563.jpg

http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/2468-1.jpg

“SOUTH WEST AFRICA 1939 envelope franked horizontal pair 11/2d adhesives tied boxed "S.A.R.".

http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NDQ4WDcwNw==/z/W9QAAOSwDNdVgyws/$_12.JPG. Namibia 1994, Locs used in the past.