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Kenya: Imperial British East Africa Company 1890-1895

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African Studies Centre Leiden

African Postal Heritage

APH Paper nr 17, part 1

Ton Dietz

Kenya: Imperial British East Africa Company: 1890-1895

Version May 2017

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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Illustrations cover page:

ASC Leiden postage stamp Nederland (2011): ©African Studies Centre Leiden

Cape of Good Hope postage stamp 1853:

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/7c/Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg/400px-Cape_Triangular_Postage_Stamp.jpg

Egypt postage stamp 1914:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4b/Post_Stamp_Egypt.jpg

Table of Contents

Part 1	1
Imperial British East Africa Company 1890-1895	
Part 2	52
British East Africa 1895-1902	
Part 3	111
British East Africa and Uganda 1902-1921	
Part 4	152
Kenya and Uganda 1922-1935	
Part 5	172
East Kenya postmarks	
Part 6	248
Central Kenya postmarks	
Part 7	295
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

AFRICA

John Bartholomew & Co. circa 1900



[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/1/11/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 -
1964_b.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/1/11/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_b.jpg)

**EAST AFRICAN
BRITISH EMPIRE
&
COMMONWEALTH STAMPS
1890 – 1978**

British trade with East Africa developed in the 1840's and by 1875 dominated the region around Mombasa. In May 1887 The British East Africa Company under Sir William Mackinder secured formal lease of the coastal region from the Sultan of Zanzibar.

The **British East Africa Company** was granted a Royal Charter in 1888 with postage stamps being issued in 1890.

Sir Frederick Lugard arrived in Uganda in December 1890. He secured treaties with local rulers which allowed the British East Africa Company to open up the territory. Following severe financial difficulties the possessions of the British East Africa Company were taken over by the British Government stamps being issued for **British East Africa Protectorate** and **Uganda Protectorate** in 1895.

Administrations of the territory were merged in 1901 and in 1903 stamps were issued for **East Africa and Uganda Protectorates**.

The British occupied Mafia Island in 1915 and the Nyasa Rhodesian Force were engaged in German East Africa which surrendered in 1918. In 1916 Nyasaland stamps were overprinted **N.F.** and between 1917 and 1922 stamps of East Africa and Uganda were overprinted **G.E.A.** for use in the occupied territories. The treaty of Versailles (1919) assigned German East Africa renamed Tanganyika as a British Mandate, in 1922 stamps for **Tanganyika** were issued.

East Africa Protectorate was renamed Kenya in 1920. The combined administration of **Kenya and Uganda** issued stamps in 1922

Postal systems of the three territories were brought together in 1933. In 1935 stamps for **Kenya Uganda and Tanganyika** were issued. The three territories remained linked until gaining independence, **Kenya** (1963), **Uganda** (1962) and **Tanganyika** (1961).

Following independence the East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation issued stamps inscribed Kenya Uganda and Tanganyika (1965-1976) these were valid in all three territories. The United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar formed in 1964 was renamed the United Republic of Tanzania stamps being inscribed **Tanzania**. Postal co-operation continued until 1978 with commemorative stamps of the same designs issued by each territory.

[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/3/36/Kenya Uganda Tanganyika 1890 - 1964 a.jpg/640px-Kenya Uganda Tanganyika 1890 - 1964 a.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/3/36/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_a.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_a.jpg)

According to James Mackay's "The Story of East Africa and its stamps" (London: Philatelic Publishers Ltd, 1970, p. 29) the postal history of East Africa starts in the early years of the seventeenth century: "A Portuguese governor was installed in Mombasa in 1592 and official correspondence between that town and the outside world has been recorded from 1610 onwards, carried by ship to Arabia and India and transmitted to Europe by the overland route. Early letters from the interior date from about 1848, when the missionaries sent their correspondence by native runners to the coast for onward transmission. By 1877 letters from the coast were taken north to Aden by ships of the British Steam Navigation Company. The system of mail runners was developed and expanded by the British East Africa Association while individual traders and concessionaires organized their own service. That organized by the [German] brothers Denhardt at Witu even enjoyed the use of distinctive postage stamps in 1889-90... A regular postal service in British East Africa was introduced in May 1890 and post offices were opened in Mombasa, Kilindini-Mombasa and the island of Lamu".

Imperial British East Africa Company



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/33/Flag_of_the_Imperial_British_East_Africa_Company.png

Wikipedia

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_British_East_Africa; accessed 14/4/2017):

"Britain had interests in this area as early as 1824. Missionaries are known to have settled in the area in 1844. The Imperial British East Africa Company obtained a concession in 1887 to administer this area, from Sultan Bargash of the Sultanate of Zanzibar. The company started to experience financial difficulties in 1891. The situation was made more difficult in 1892 when Britain declared the Sultanate of Zanzibar part of the Congo Free Trade Zone and thus depriving the company of import duties...On 1 July 1895, the British government took over the administration of this area when the company was facing bankruptcy". "The Imperial British East Africa Company was the first company holding a Royal Charter allowing operation of a postal system, for both local and international mail, to use their company name on their stamps. They were also the first to create a series of surcharged

stamps with authorizing initials. Both of these led to the adoption of these practices by other countries such as the British South Africa Company and the Mozambique Company in 1892 and the surcharged Uganda typewritten stamps in 1895...The Imperial British East Africa Company set up post offices at Mombasa and Lamu in May 1890... The first stamps issued, on 23 May 1890, were surcharges on British postage stamps with values of ½, 1 and 4 annas and 'BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY'. During an acute shortage of stamps in August and September 1890 stamps of India were used and are known postmarked 'MOMBASA' or 'LAMU'. It is alleged that an agent of stamp dealer Whitfield King bought up all the stocks in the post offices...The British East Africa Company issued stamps, on 14 October 1890, using a symbolic sun and crown design and inscribed 'IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY', all valued in annas and rupees. Shortages, of some values, between 1891 and 1895 resulted in a variety of surcharges being produced”.



<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/British-East-Africa1.png>

“The British East Africa Company first establishes itself, through treaties with the sultan of Zanzibar, in the coastal region, from the border with German East Africa to Kipini further north – the region is part of the sultanate of Zanzibar. In 1890, when Zanzibar becomes a British protectorate, this region is also put under British government protection as the protectorate of Kenya. The protectorate of Kenya will be administered as part of British East Africa and later Kenya but retains its status as protectorate until it is transferred to Kenya after independence in 1963.”. “Also, in 1890, Witu is transferred to the British. Witu has been a German protectorate from 1885 but becomes part of the British sphere of influence in 1890, based on the treaty signed in that year with Germany. The British

East Africa Company, from its base in Mombasa, extends its activities along the coast to the border with the Italian sphere of influence in the north and to Lake Victoria in the west and, from 1890, across Lake Victoria further inland into Uganda. However, as the British East Africa Company does not manage to show a profit, it is forced to transfer its rights to the British government: in Uganda in 1893 and in the rest of British East Africa in 1895. The British subsequently form the protectorates of Uganda and British East Africa in 1894 and 1895 respectively”.

<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/country-profiles-2/africa/british-east-africa/>



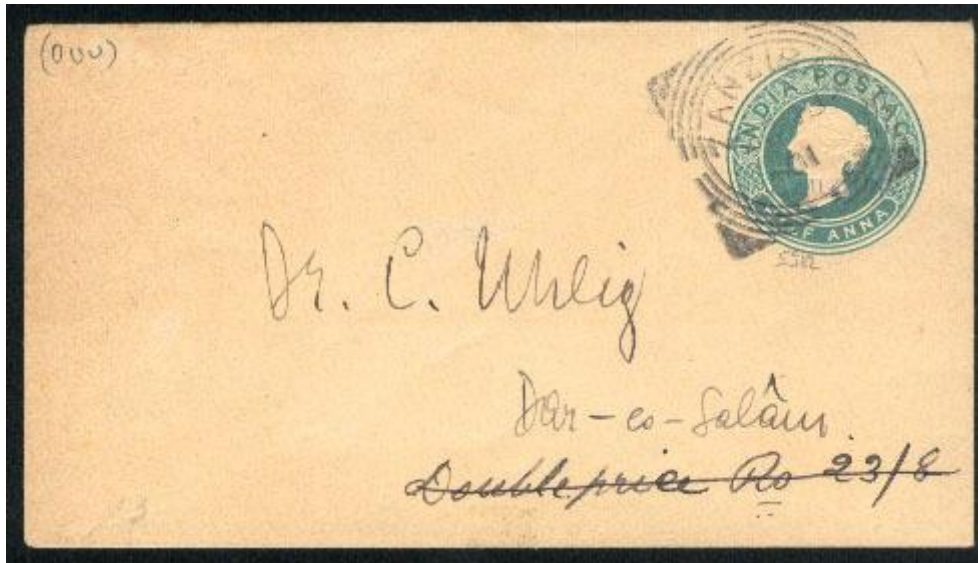
“British East Africa Company – Treaty making with the Kikuyu people”.

<http://www.stampworldhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/British-East-Africa-e1433672303528.jpg>

Pre-stamp era

“The early missionaries in British East Africa sent letters by runner to forwarding agents in Zanzibar. Letters are known from as early as 1848. From 1875 mail was sent via the Indian post office which had been opened in Zanzibar”

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



<https://driwancybermuseum.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/zanziba-used-india-postal-stationer1.jpg>: "Zanzibar under EIC east India Company rules and india stamp used in this country (India Used abroad)".



<https://driwancybermuseum.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/zanzibar-used-indi-qv-postally-used-cover.jpg>



<http://www.paulfrasercollectibles.com/upload/public/docimages/Image/w/y/f/British-East-Africa-Indian-Stamps-cover-410.jpg>: "The cover is unusual in that it bears Indian stamps, which would have been obtained from Zanzibar and used in the British East Africa Co. Post Office following the purchase of the Mombasa stock from the first issue by Whitfield King & Co. The 1890 Eastern Telegraph Company Limited printed envelope features a anna blue-green, 1 anna plum, 2 anna blue, 8 anna dull mauve and 1 rupee slate, resulting in a total of 51 annas, which would pay 11 times the 4 anna rate to the UK."

also: <http://www.rumseyauctions.com/auctions/chapter/68/77> : "British East Africa, India 1882-90, 1/2a Blue Green + 1a Plum + 2a Blue + 8a Mauve, Four Singles + 1r Slate, all but first with red manuscript "B.E.A." provisional overprint, on oversized registered cover to the Eastern Telegraph Co. in London, England, all tied by "Mombasa, Au 20, 90" cds's paying the 11x 4 1/2a rate to the U.K. plus 2a registry fee, matching "R" in oval handstamp and red London oval date stamp additionally tying 1/2a, reverse with Aden transit date stamp; some light cover wrinkling and a couple vertical fold not affecting stamps, Very Fine, one of the two earliest usages of the six covers recorded during the first period of use, ex-Col. Rose-Hutchinson, Hunt, Reynard, Krieger. A UNIQUE AND COLORFUL FIVE COLOR COMBINATION FRANKING OF INDIA STAMPS PROVISIONALLY USED IN MOMBASA. The Eastern Telegraph Co. was laying underwater cable between Mombasa and Lamu during this time and just previous had the same between Zanzibar and Mombasa".

1890

On 23 May 1890 The Imperial British East Africa Company started to issue postage stamps in the area under its trade influence, from Mombasa on the Kenyan Coast towards inland territories. It used official stamps of Great Britain (with Queen Victoria) and there were three values (in British-Indian currency).

Post offices (with their cancellations) existed in Lamu and Mombasa. Not in Kipini, or Witu.

1/2A(nna) on 1P (lilac) (Michel Katalog Nord- und Ostafrika 2005, for 'Britische Ostafrika-Kompanie' (pp 335-337) = M nr 1)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/8d/c4/3e/8dc43e59914c4cbaa02b394b071c979f.jpg>

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/74/8f/11/748f11e24a6f523f4e1b4c11bb9d410a.jpg>;
postmark Mombasa



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3275.jpg



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/3271237.jpg?111>: "Revenue usage of dual-purpose Postage and Revenue stamps. Note: for ease of reference, numbering follows the Stanley Gibbons Part 1 catalogue throughout this section. Values listed here are those recorded as having been used for revenue purposes. Picture. The stamp illustrated at right seems to be a fiscally used example of the first postage and revenue stamp for British East Africa, the provisional HALF ANNA surcharge on the 1d adhesive of Great Britain (SG1). However the stamp is a fake, produced by adding a forged overprint to a fiscally used GB stamp."

1A(nna) on 2P (green and carmine red) (M2)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/2b/85/6b/2b856bbc1c4245bddfacc6ae143a11f5.jpg>

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/da/eb/03/daeb03dbd503bba647e5f210728eb831.jpg>.

Postmark Mombasa

4A(nna) on 5P (lilac and blue) (M3)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/26/2c/3f/262c3fab856e9d8d9b4f0f59b98542c3.jpg>

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/83/10/ea/8310ea7229bbe65e174a4333615dd434.jpg>

Postmark Lamu.



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/18/6273.jpg: Postmark Mombasa.



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/18/8855.jpg

In October a new series was issued, with its own design, and many values, perforated (=A), but some values imperforate (=B).

1890 (13th October) - 1894
Lithographed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
Perf 14
Company's Administration

12 values were printed in 1890 with sheet edges imperforate. 2½s, 3s & 4½s values were printed in 1891
1s, 3s & 4½s once, and ½s & 2½s twice, reprinted with perforate sheet edges. 5s & 7½s values printed in 1894
Numbers printed per value: 1890 ½s to 1R 54,000, 2R, 3R, 4R & 5R 15,000, 8s Grey 1,500, 1R Grey 2,100
1891 2½s 15,000, 3s & 4½s 21,000, 1892 2½s 15,000, 1893 ½s, 2½s, 3s & 4½s 30,000, 1894 ½s, 1s, 5s & 7½s 60,000



http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/4/49/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-1964_c.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-1964_c.jpg

1890 (13th October) - 1894
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Numbers printed per value: 1890 ½s to 1R 54,000, 2R, 3R, 4R & 5R 15,000, 8s Grey 1,500, 1R Grey 2,100
1891 2½s 15,000, 3s & 4½s 21,000, 1892 2½s 15,000, 1893 ½s, 2½s, 3s & 4½s 30,000, 1894 ½s, 1s, 5s & 7½s 60,000



1890 ½s
Dull Brown



1893 ½s
Deep Brown



1894 ½s
Pale Brown



1890 1s
Blue-green



1894 1s
Deep Blue-green



1891 2½s
On Yellow-buff



1892 2½s
On Pale buff



1893 2½s
On Bright Yellow



1891 3s
On Dull red



1893 3s
On Bright red



1890 2s
Vermillion



1890 4s
Yellow Brown



1891 4½s
Dull violet



1893 4½s
Brown-purple



1894 5s
On Grey-blue



1894 7½s
Black



1890 8s
Blue



1890 8s
Grey



1890 1R
Carmine



1890 1R
Grey



1890 2R
Brick-red



1890 3R
Slate-purple



1890 4R
Ultramarine



1890 5R
Grey-green



<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/qWUAAOSwuLZY630A/s-l1600.jpg>



<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/7656.jpg>



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/2010977.jpg?381>: "S5, S16, S18. 1890-95. Sunburst type inscribed Imperial British East Africa Company. 18½ x 22½ mm (½a to 1r) or 24 x 26 mm (others). Perf 14. No watermark. S5. 1a blue-green; S16. 2r brick-red; S18. 4r ultramarine".

1/2A (brown) (M4 A and B)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/736x/18/88/71/1888715389d8f7a0d17942903e33322f.jpg>

http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/16/3010.jpg



http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/30/6762.jpg

1A (green) (M5A and B)



https://ebid.s3.amazonaws.com/upload_medbig/8/3/4/1449763882-18347-83.jpg

http://lot-images.atgmedia.com/SR/1141/2887370/49-201386153939_468x382.jpg: "British East Africa British East Africa Company Administration 1890-95 Imperial British East Africa "Sun and Crown" Definitive Issue Used 1a. blue-green imperforate horizontal pair, each cancelled by Mombasa squared-circle datestamp (27.12.92) with the left-hand stamp additionally cancelled by London c.d.s. (7.1.93) in red; crease between the impressions and the left-hand stamp with a small thin at top; most attractive. Two sheets (60 pairs) possible".

2A (orange red) (M6A and B)



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NTAwWDMwMA==/z/mQsAAOSwWC1Xplyl/\\$_12.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NTAwWDMwMA==/z/mQsAAOSwWC1Xplyl/$_12.JPG)

http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-LRxPwjS3laY/TiSiH7KBD3I/AAAAAAAAAsY/BnwM_KAQ3Fk/s1600/DSCN0939.JPG

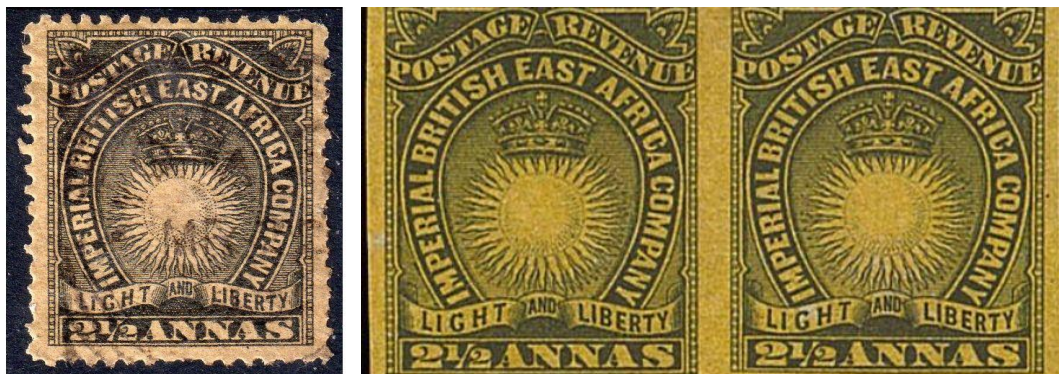


<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/5678.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1890 2a,4a,8a and 1r IMPERFORATE singles. 1890-95 2a vermilion, 4a yellow-brown, 8a blue and 1r carmine IMPERFORATE singles on gummed paper with wider margins than possible from a cut down stamp but probably coming from the 'larger type margin' variations as these values are the most difficult 'imperforates' to find. SG 6,9, 12 and 14.".



https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1890-sg6-proof_0.jpg: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1890 SG6 Proof. 1890(-95) 2a printer's sample in grey-blue on thick wove, printed directly from the original engraved die, perfin 'SPECIMEN' (type B1). One of only eight examples of this value recorded by Krieger and Minns, and unique in this colour".

2 1/2A (black on yellow) (M7A and B)



https://ebid.s3.amazonaws.com/upload_big/0/0/2/1426019419-29554-35.jpg

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/600x315/52/47/f4/5247f48a2246206f2e82ae2f7a8380d2.jpg>



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/5d/b0/4d/5db04dd697950caa6d12199876b8f8b5.jpg>



http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/94/7174.jpg

3A (black on red) (M8A and B)



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/97/Stamp_British_East_Africa_1890_3a.jpg

<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/6534.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1893 3a black and red IMPERFORATE single cancelled MOMBASSA. SG 8ab. 1893 3a black on bright red IMPERFORATE single cancelled by MOMBASA s/r cds. SG 8ab.".



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/97/a3/b0/97a3b0853b82040b718cc47a50019bf5.jpg>



https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1891-sg24-cover_0.jpg : "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1891 SG24 Cover. 1891 (JY 2) large part cover (with embossed royal arms on flap) from Mombasa to "H. L. Churchill Esq, H. M. Vice Consul, Zanzibar", bearing NINE EXAMPLES of the 1891 (May) "½ Anna/A.B." on 3a black/dull red MANUSCRIPT PROVISIONAL, all emanating from the lower right corner of a sheet, comprising a lower marginal single, a right marginal horizontal strip of 3, a lower marginal

block of three and the lower right corner horizontal pair, tied by individual strikes of "MOMBASA/A" cds, with a further superb strike at foot. On reverse, despatch cds and arrival cds of following day. The cover reduced at right (where a further pair was removed, leaving one of the remaining stamps with trimmed perfs) but a unique and extraordinary franking which represents the only known cover with this rare provisional, the only surviving multiples and indeed a large proportion of the recorded examples! Ex Krieger, Reynard (Spink 2009) and Hunt, with a history dating back to Nov 1899, when Mr Churchill wrote to the Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal to describe the circumstances under which he had sent the cover to himself, these being the ½a stamps available when he visited the Mombasa Post Office, and the last still in stock. A full description (of the cover in its present state) followed in the Dec 1899 MJ."

4A (brown) (M9A and B)



http://www.judnick.com/images/Stamps_BritishEastAfrica_19a_Unused_small.jpg



<http://www.groseducationalmedia.ca/vsc/britisheastafricacompany1.jpg>: "The motto "Light and Liberty" on the British East Africa Company's definitive of 1890-1894 reflects the company's belief in its role as the bearer of "the white man's burden.". Having secured concessions from the Sultan of Zanzibar on the east coast of Africa from Wanga to Kipini and having reached an agreement with German Empire defining their areas of interest in East Africa, in 1888 Britain granted a charter to the Imperial British East Africa Company under William Mckinnon to administer and develop the region. The company issued its first stamps on May 23, 1890. Its issues were replaced with those of the East Africa Protectorate on July 1, 1895."

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/DUoAAOSwcUBYFeHB/s-l225.jpg>

4A (grey) (M10B)

No illustration found yet.

4 1/2A (grey violet) (M11aA)



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/30/6763.jpg

4 1/2A (dark violet) (M11bA and B)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/01/89/4d/01894da44394eca7ccc1e3ba29239916.jpg>

5A (black on grey blue) (M12A, issued in 1894)



<http://www.sikh-heritage.co.uk/heritage/sikhert%20Africa/nostalgic%20EA/miscellaneous/anna-stamps2.jpg>

7 1/2A (black) (M13, issued in 1894)



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/3944128.jpg?109>: "1895. New value. S30. 7½a black".

http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/38/8506.jpg



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjMxWDEwNTk=/z/gbkAAOSw4CFYws8-/\\$_57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjMxWDEwNTk=/z/gbkAAOSw4CFYws8-/$_57.JPG)

8A (blue) (M14A and B)



<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/UEUAAOSwpkFY5ksd/s-l500.jpg>



<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/1634.jpg> : "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1890 8a blue mint block of four. SG 12.1890 8a blue in a fine mint block of four on thin paper. Blocks are scarce. SG12."

<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/1634-1.jpg>

8A (grey) (M15A)



https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/1800x/040ec09b1e35df139433887a97daa66f/b/r/british-east-africa-1890-sg12-proof_0.jpg: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1890 SG12 Proof. 1890(-95) 8a printer's sample in deep purple on thick wove, printed directly from the original engraved die, perfin 'SPECIMEN' (type B1). One of only four examples of this value recorded by Krieger and Minns, and unique in this colour."

1R(upee) (pink) (M16A and B)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/97/63/c7/9763c7b1a989331b73980ba6befacbb3.jpg>

http://stampforgeries.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/British_East_Africa_1890_1r_Forgery.jpg



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3271.jpg

1R (grey) (M17)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/42/b1/93/42b1935678e57c36b3ae5331d80114b7.jpg>

2R (red) (M18)



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/Nzg1WDc1Mg==/z/ziUAAOSwmgJY5mCX/\\$_12.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/Nzg1WDc1Mg==/z/ziUAAOSwmgJY5mCX/$_12.JPG)

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/mbQAAOSwvihY~dVR/s-l225.jpg>

3R (dark lilac) (M19)



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/ODAxWDc5Mw==/z/JAoAAOSw4CFY5mCh/\\$_57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/ODAxWDc5Mw==/z/JAoAAOSw4CFY5mCh/$_57.JPG)

4R (ultramarine blue) (M20)



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/ODAxWdc3Nw==/z/6OEAAOSwB-1Y5mC3/\\$ 57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/ODAxWdc3Nw==/z/6OEAAOSwB-1Y5mC3/$ 57.JPG)

http://stampforgeries.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/British_East_Africa_1895_4r_Fournier_Forgery-2.jpg

5R (olive green) (M21)



<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/~1QAAOSwfVpYsDFz/s-l500.jpg>

<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/wmEAAOSw4GVYF6cc/s-l1600.jpg>



<http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AA2245.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1900 5R grey green. Showing considerable upwards shift of perforations such that 'FIVE RUPEES' is now at the top of the stamp. Very fine mint, striking and most unusual. SG 19 var.".

1890 (October)
Lithographed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
Perf 14
Company's Administration

5 Rupee Green block of four
showing straight edge from bottom of sheet



[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/2/25/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 -
_1964_d.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 - 1964_d.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/2/25/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_d.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_d.jpg)

1890 (October)
Lithographed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
Perf 14

Company's Administration

Fournier forgeries



Genuine Stamp
seven lines in the scroll above light



Forgery
five lines in the scroll above light

[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/8/81/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 -
_1964 f.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 - 1964 f.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/8/81/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_f.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_f.jpg)

1890 (October)
Lithographed by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.
Perf 14
Company's Administration

Fournier forgeries
with forged Mombasa Squared Circle postmarks



Genuine Stamp
seven lines in the scroll above light



Forgery
five lines in the scroll above light

[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/b/b2/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 -
_1964_g.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 - 1964_g.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/b/b2/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_g.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_g.jpg)

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

Company Administration

1890 (14th October) – 1895
Perf. 14

Forgery

five lines in the scroll above light
there are seven in the genuine stamps

5 Rupee Green cancelled by what appears to be a genuine single ring
‘MOMBASA’/REGISTERED postmark
Proud R5 (22.11.08)-(12.4.16)



R5 (22.11.08)-(12.4.16)



Genuine Stamp



Forgery

[http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/5/59/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 -
_1964_h.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890 - 1964_h.jpg](http://www.stampsoftheworld.co.uk/w/images/thumb/5/59/Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_h.jpg/640px-Kenya_Uganda_Tanganyika_1890_-_1964_h.jpg)



<http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/2693.jpg> : "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1895 registered multi franked Hayman envelope addressed to London adhesives tied MOMBASA"



<http://www.chrisrainey.com/images/4231.jpg>

1891

Overprints

1/2A on 2A (January 1891; M22)



http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/31/10084.jpg

1A on 4A (February 1891; M23)



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/1049/1050.jpg>

1891 Mombasa emergency issue with overprinted values and initials of post master



http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/Tim%20H/20161116_Mombasaprovisionals1.jpg



http://www.stampcommunity.org/uploaded/Tim%20H/20161116_Mombasaprovisionals2.jpg



<http://www.rumseyauctions.com/lotphotos/68/182232.jpg>: "British East Africa, 1891, Mombasa Manuscript Surcharge, 1/2a on 2a Vermilion, Initialed "A.B.", initials of Archibal Brown (cashier of the company), full o.g., strong color, Very Fine, ex-Krieger; with 1996 D. ONE OF ONLY THREE RECORDED MINT EXAMPLES OF THE 1891 1/2A ON 2A MOMBASA MANUSCRIPT SURCHARGE WITH "A.B." INITIALS".

1/2A on 2A ; initials A.D. (MI-I; January 1891)



https://www.stanleygibbons.com/media/catalog/product/cache/1/image/9df78eab33525d08d6e5fb8d27136e95/b/r/british-east-africa-1891-sg20b-used_0.jpg: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1891 SG20b Used. 1891 (Jan) "1/2 Anna" on 2a vermillion, handstamped surcharge in dull violet with M/S initials "A.D." of Andrew Dick, from upper left corner of sheet with imperf margins and showing part papermaker's wmk, error "Original face value not obliterated" (the handstamped surcharge placed directly over the original face value), used with part LAMU cds and blue crayon line. Odd shortish or faintly toned perfs, still a fine and remarkable example of this rarity, with just five examples recorded by Minns."

http://www.grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3284.jpg

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/59/86/f6/5986f630ebc0d360b43bae232736e7d4.jpg>

1/2A on 2A ; initials A.B. (MI-II; January 1891)



<http://catalogue.klaseboer.com/vol1/html/brcol/easa1.jpg>

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/116/2062.jpg>

<http://i.ebayimg.com/images/g/f-UAAOSwTuJYuBIL/s-l500.jpgb>

1A on 4A; initials A.B. (MII, March 1891)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/16/cc/a5/16cca5430c6bca37d463e0d2eb196266.jpg>

[https://www.dorotheum.com/43S141111_143_39916_90/Bild/\(*\)--Britisch---Ostafrika-\(Imperial-British-East-Africa-Company\)-Nr.-II-\(Mombasa-Notausgabe\),.jpg](https://www.dorotheum.com/43S141111_143_39916_90/Bild/(*)--Britisch---Ostafrika-(Imperial-British-East-Africa-Company)-Nr.-II-(Mombasa-Notausgabe),.jpg)

<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/116/2066.jpg>



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/116/2061.jpg>



<http://www.rumseyauctions.com/lotphotos/68/182237.jpg> : "British East Africa, 1891, Mombasa Manuscript Surcharge, ½a on 3a Black on Dull Red, Initialed "A.B.", bottom margin block of three, right margin horizontal strip of three, right margin horizontal pair and bottom margin single, all tied by "Mombasa, Jy 2, 91" cds's on cover to H.L. Churchill, H.M. Vice-Consul in Zanzibar, reverse with receiving cds; cover reduced at right cutting away an additional vertical pair from cover and slightly cutting into bottom right stamp in block at lower right, otherwise Very Fine, still a remarkable franking of this rare 1891 Mombasa provisional issue, ex-Hunt, Reynard, Krieger. Scott No. 34b SG No. 24. THE UNIQUE ON COVER USAGE OF THE 1891 ½A ON 3A MOMBASA MANUSCRIPT SURCHARGE ISSUE INITIALED "A.B.". This cover was first noted in the "Monthly Journal" for December 1899..."Our correspondent (H.L. Churchill) tells us that he was British Vice-Consul at Zanzibar in 1891, and being at Mombasa on July 2nd in that year he went to the post office to get some British East Africa stamps. He asked for ½ anna stamps, and finding that there were only about a dozen on hand he bought them all, put them on an envelope, and addressed it to himself at Zanzibar."



<http://www.paulfrasercollectibles.com/upload/public/docimages/Image/i/k/p/1891-Mombasa-Provisionals-cover-410.jpg>: "The cover ... bearing "1 Anna" hand stamped in dull violet on a 4 anna brown horizontal strip of three. The cover is the only recorded multiple of the hand stamped provisionals, and one of only two covers recorded bearing this particular provisional. It is also the earliest recorded usage of the stamp, making it one of the most important of all provisional covers."

1/2A on 3A; initials A.B. (MIII, May 1891)

No illustration found yet

1/2A on 3A; initials T.E.C.R. (MIV, February 1895)



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/90/cb/2c/90cb2c1c88c80694142a05a0f6252c91.jpg>

<http://www.corbitts.com/auctions/stamps/140/images/0367.jpg>



<http://stampauctionnetwork.com/f/101/80.jpg>



http://grosvenorauctions.com/dyn_pages/stamp_images/21/3285.jpg

1A on 3A; initials V.H.M. (MV, June 1891)



http://www.davidfeldman.com/wp-content/uploads/items_treated/2016/11/152616_284042_1478022590.jpg

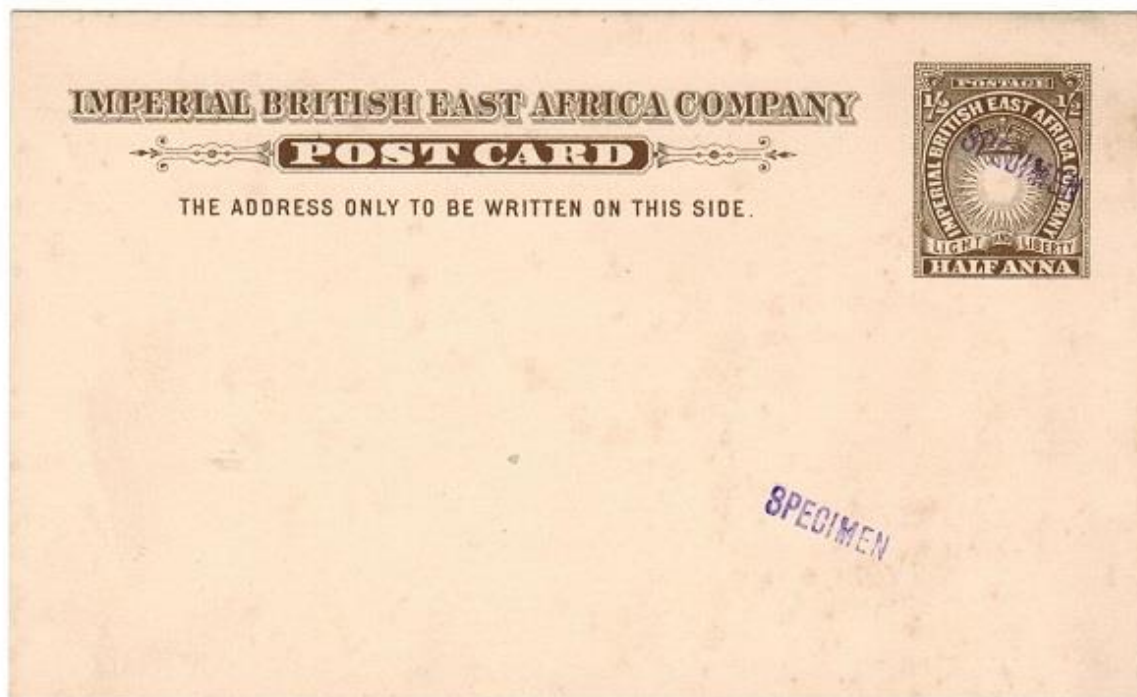
<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/236x/a1/ca/dd/a1cadde53cb1bbe418044d52aca2c32b.jpg>

1A on 3A; initials T.E.C.R. (MVI, February 1895)

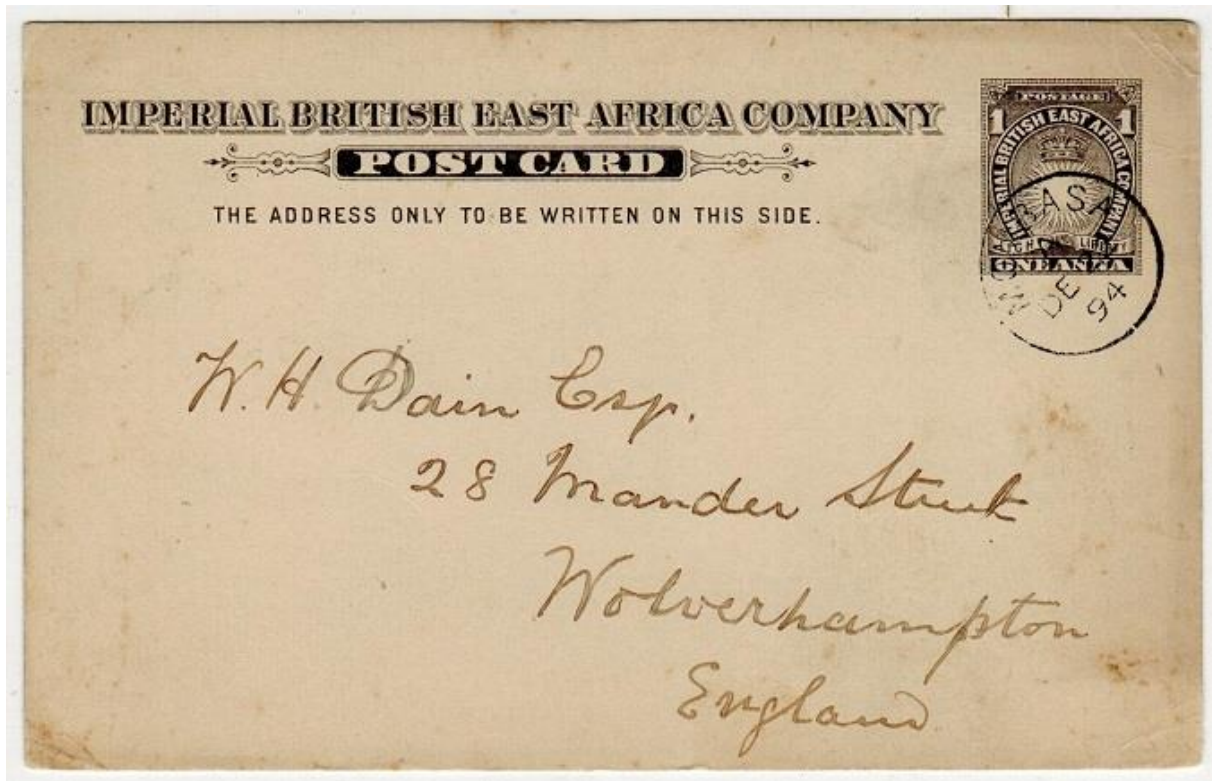


<http://www.paulfrasercollectibles.com/upload/public/docimages/Image/y/c/h/British-East-Africa-Stamp-410.jpg>: "Printed in 1895, the stamp originates from the Imperial British East Africa

Company's administration in the area that is now Kenya. The company was the first to hold a royal charter that allowed the operation of a postal system using the company name on its stamps, as well as the first to have a series of surcharged stamps with authorising initials. The stamp at auction is one such surcharge, sporting a one anna "TECR" initialed overprint. Originating from a provisional issue in February 1895, the surcharge was presumably added due to a shortage of one anna stamps at the time - a problem that affected the region's postal system from 1891 to 1895. The 3 anna was issued just a few months before the Imperial British East Africa Company's administration in the area was brought to an end in July 1895, and the remaining stamps were overprinted with British East Africa. The following year, a series of stamps with the familiar image of Queen Victoria were issued and the protectorate joined the Universal Postal Union", and "It is one of just five unused examples of its kind in existence and is undoubtedly among the finest, despite its poor centering".



<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/4130.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1893 1/2a brown PSC unused with SPECIMEN h/s. H&G 1.1893 1/2a brown on cream postal stationery postcard in unused condition handstamped SPECIMEN in violet. H&G 1."



<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/8641.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1893 1a PSC written at Rabai and posted at MOMBASA. H&G 2. 1893 1a grey black on cream postal stationery postcard addressed to UK. The card was written from Rabai and cancelled by s/r MOMBASA cds dated DE.22.94. H&G 2."



<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/25.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1891 2a RPSE mint. H&G 1a. 1891 2a ultramarine on cream registered postal stationery envelope (size F) in fine unused condition of the scarcer type II issue (64 1/2+66+66mm settings). H&G 1a.".

<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/25-1.jpg>



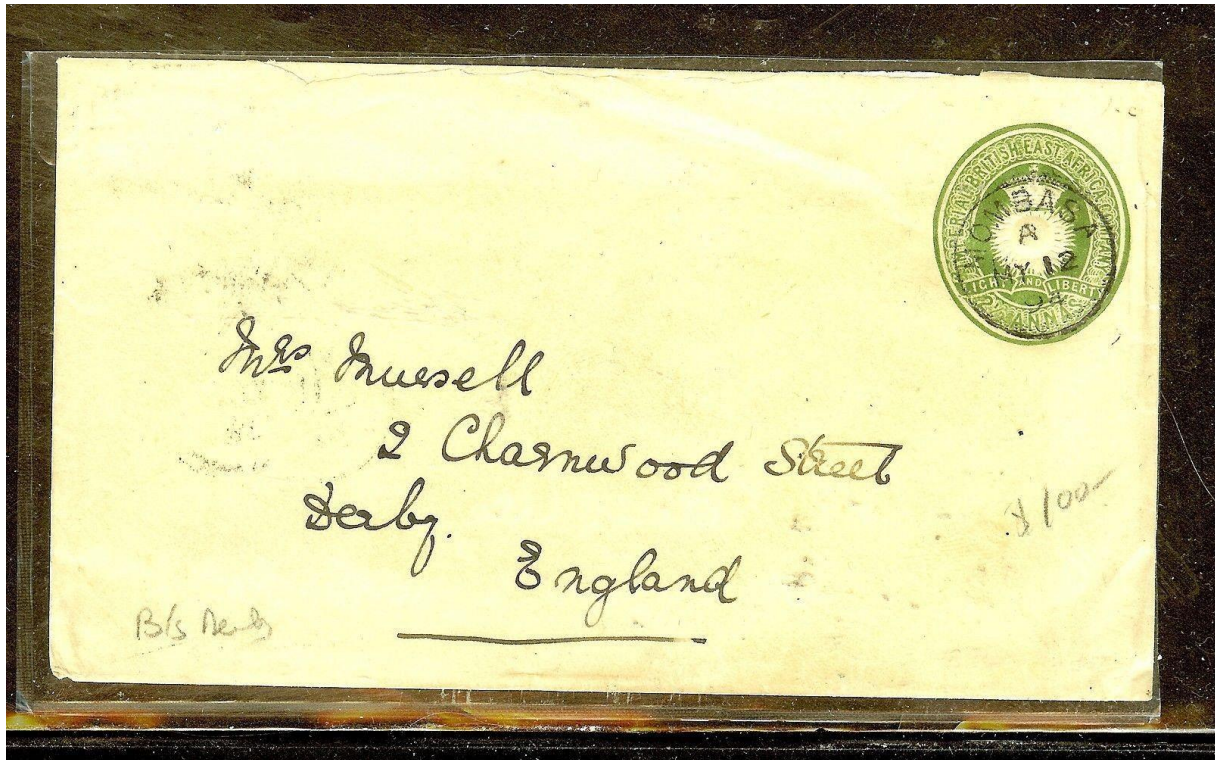
<http://www.stevedrewett.com/images/3981.jpg>: "BRITISH EAST AFRICA - 1893 2 1/2d PSE unused handstamped SPECIMEN in violet. H&G 1. 1893 2 1/2a green on cream postal stationery envelope (size a) with colourless 'Bradbury Wilkinson' imprint under flap in unused condition handstamped SPECIMEN in violet. Minor fault under flap from slight gum adherence. H&G 1."

"All postal stationery items were inscribed 'IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY'. Two different sizes of registration envelopes were issued in 1891; produced by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Three different sizes of pre paid 2½ annas envelopes were issued in 1893. Two postcards were made available in 1893; ½ anna and 1 anna" (source:

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



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTA2N1gxNjAw/z/SDQAAOxyjxITMeOG/\\$_57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTA2N1gxNjAw/z/SDQAAOxyjxITMeOG/$_57.JPG)



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTAwMVgxNjAw/z/rUQAAOSwabhUYF~O/\\$_57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTAwMVgxNjAw/z/rUQAAOSwabhUYF~O/$_57.JPG)

1891 Revenue



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/8961343.jpg?620>: "1891-92 (see note 1).

Sunburst types handstamped Inland Revenue in sans-serif capitals (INLAND 14 x 2 mm, REVENUE 18 x 2 mm). Stamps 18½ x 22½ mm (½a to 1r) or 24 x 26 mm (others). Perf 14. No watermark". "a) Handstamped in black. R1. ½a dull brown; R2. 1a blue-green; a. Handstamp inverted; R3. 2a vermilion; R4. 4a yellow-brown; R5. 8a blue; R6. 1r carmine; a. Handstamp inverted; R7. 2r brick-red; R8. 3r slate-purple; R9. 4r ultramarine; R10. 5r grey-green".



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/7240795.jpg?105>: "R2/2a se-tenant and R6a".



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/2607379.jpg?620>: "R11/25. b) Handstamped in violet; R11. ½a dull brown; R12. 1a blue-green; R13. 2a vermillion; R14. 2½a black on yellow-buff; R15. 3a black on dull red; R16. 4a yellow-brown; R17. 4½a dull violet; R18. 8a blue; R19. 8a grey; R20. 1r carmine; R21. 1r grey; R22. 2r brick-red; R23. 3r slate-purple; R24. 4r ultramarine; R25. 5r grey-green. Notes: (1). The stamps with black handstamp are thought to have been issued by early

1891, since they are presumed to predate the Mombasa provisional (R31 below), which almost certainly belongs to the first half of that year. The earliest recorded usage of the violet handstamp issue is a 4-anna stamp cancelled 29 January 1892. (2). The black handstamp is frequently found sideways or diagonal on the small format stamps, reading either up or down. The violet handstamp is normally close to horizontal on all values. Gibson notes that the black overprint is slightly larger than the violet and suggests that they were applied from different offices, though in my view the (very small) difference can easily be explained by the black ink diffusing more than the violet. (3). A postally used set (missing the 8a and 1r grey) is known on three philatelic covers from Mombasa to Paris dated 23 April 1895. The set consists of the black handstamp on the 1a, 8a, 2r, 3r and 4r, and the violet handstamp on the ½a, 2a to 4½a, 1r and 5r. Postal cancels of Lamu, Melindi and Mombasa are also known on loose stamps of this issue, probably representing philatelic use. (4). Forbin lists the 3a as having been handstamped in black as well as violet, and Morley lists the 3r with violet handstamp inverted. I have not seen either of these. (5). Barefoot lists the 2½a, 4½a, 8a grey and 1r grey as being handstamped in black not violet, which suggests that he may have simply miscoded the overprint colours. He also lists the overprint on a ½a grey-violet, though no ½a stamp was ever printed in that colour.”



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/7872537.jpg?205>: “1891. Mombasa provisional. Sunburst type handstamped INLAND REVENUE in black as R1/10 above, with surcharge '1 Anna' and initials 'AB' added in manuscript. R31. 1a on 4a yellow-brown Note: The initials are those of Archibald Brown, the Cashier of the Imperial BEA Company, who was one of the signatories of the Mombasa Provisional postage stamps (SG 21, 23/4, 26). The handstamp and the manuscript surcharge on R31 appear to have been carefully arranged to fit on the stamp, suggesting that handstamp and surcharge were applied at the same time. This would put this issue in the stamp shortage period of early 1891.”



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/8134673.jpg?510>: "1891? Provisionals?

Sunburst types either with or without previous INLAND REVENUE handstamp, now handstamped 'Re 2', possibly a provisional surcharge of 2 rupees. a) Without INLAND REVENUE handstamp. R41. ½a dull brown; R42. 1a blue-green; R43. 4a yellow-brown; R44. 4½a dull violet; R45. 8a blue; R46. 2r brick-red; R47. 3r slate-purple; R48. 5r grey-green".



<http://www.revrevd.com/uploads/3/2/2/0/3220955/2983665.jpg?335>: "R51/53. b) Handstamped INLAND REVENUE in violet. R51. 3a black on dull red; R52. 1r carmine; R53. 4r ultramarine. Note: until now it was presumed that 'Re 2' in this handstamp refers to a new value (2 rupees), though if this is the case, it is not clear why the surcharge is found on the 2-rupee stamp. It is also perhaps worth noting that the 'Re' part of the handstamp cannot be discerned on R51/53, and may in fact be absent. One possibility is that 'Re' is in fact an abbreviation for 'Revenue', and was therefore not required on stamps already overprinted to this effect. The significance of the '2' might then be 2 annas, since no 2-anna stamp is known handstamped in this way.".

1894

Overprints

5A on 8A (M24) and 7 1/2A on 1R (M25)



<http://stamps-plus.com/Scans/BEA0036S1.jpg>



[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjYwWDU2NA==/z/xbkAAOSwsW9Y3OV6/\\$_12.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjYwWDU2NA==/z/xbkAAOSwsW9Y3OV6/$_12.JPG)

[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTEwNFg3Mzg=/z/BvkAAOSwPe1UAing/\\$_57.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/MTEwNFg3Mzg=/z/BvkAAOSwPe1UAing/$_57.JPG)

<http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AA2760.jpg> : "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1894 5a on 8a surcharge. Very fine used on piece cancelled 'MOMBASA JA 10 95' datestamp. SG 27".



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/cncAAOSwOtBXTYS1/s-l225.jpg>

[http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjU5WDU2NA==/z/zRwAAOSwTM5Y3OYD/\\$_12.JPG](http://i.ebayimg.com/00/s/NjU5WDU2NA==/z/zRwAAOSwTM5Y3OYD/$_12.JPG)

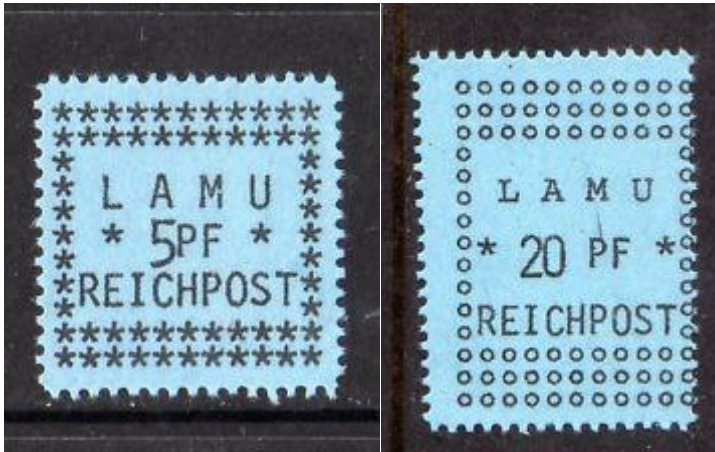
<http://www.rhodesia.co.za/Images/large/AA2759.jpg> : "BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1894 7½a on 1r surcharge. Very fine used cancelled 'MOMBASA AP 5 95' datestamp. SG 28".



<http://downies.com/aca/auction313/aca/images/lots/313/1881.jpg>

German 'phantom stamps' for Lamu

Germany also had a post office in Lamu between 1888 and 1891 (see APH 17-5: Postmarks East Kenya). However, some 'phantom stamps' exist as well.



<http://i.ebayimg.com/thumbs/images/g/DWoAAOSw9OFZG2VL/s-l225.jpg>: "LAMU REICHSPPOST LOCAL PHANTOM STAMP, GERMAN EAST AFRICA, DEUTSCHE OST AFRIKA, NHM".

<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/~xIAAOSw32lYqKX~s-l225.jpg>: "LAMU REICHSPPOST LOCAL PHANTOM STAMP, GERMAN EAST AFRICA, DEUTSCHE OST AFRIKA, NHM".



<http://thumbs.ebaystatic.com/images/g/kGIAAOSwt5hYcUml/s-l225.jpg> : “Lamu Kenya overprints on early stamps of Germany 5v - status unknown ex Jim Czul”.