

87 Cleveland Road,  
West Ealing,  
London W.13.

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British West Africa Study Circle.

Notes on the types of cancellation found on the issues of Gold Coast from King Edward VII to Queen Elizabeth II and prior to independence in March 1957, to be read in conjunction with the check list of normal cancellations circulated in November, 1960, are herewith.

In view of the large number of offices concerned and the difficulty of attaining completion it has been found impracticable to compile check lists of most of these types, as was done for the Queen Victoria cancellations.

Amendments to and amplification of the earlier notes on Types 1 to 11 are also enclosed.

Once more I wish to express my thanks to all members who have assisted by furnishing information.

J. Cameron.

Type 12

Similar to Type 5 but measuring 26/28 mm. No code letter; year in full and two letter month preceding day or in some cases three letter month following day. In this type I also include the branch offices with small lettering i.e.

O'Connors Hill B.O.	Cape Coast
Ussher Fort B.O.	Accra
Victoriaborg	Accra

Found on Q.V. Key Plate (late use circa 1903) and on K.E. VII issues. The cancellation has been noted for some 20 offices, the earliest date recorded being 17.3.03 and the latest 21.3.12.

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Type 12a

Single circle measuring 28 mm with large letters and one line date: town - Gold Coast or alternatively - N.T. (Northern Territories). This c.d.s. was used in only a few offices but is found on K.G.V, K.G.VI, and Q.E.II issues.

Check List

Adjuah	Gold Coast	Bole	N.T.
Maasi	Gold Coast	Salaga	N.T.
Tafo	Gold Coast		

Tafo is recorded on all three issues, the earliest date being 30.8.20 : Adjuah and Bole on K.G.V. (circa 1920-23) : Maasi on K.G.VI and Q.E.II : and Salaga on K.G.VI

Tafo and Maasi (a sub-office of Tafo) are also found on early Ghana issues).

Type 12b

Single circle measuring 30 mm. Town - Gold Coast; two line date with day before month or month before day; and, on occasion, the year missing. This is a provisional skeleton type and was probably used pending the issue of a normal c.d.s. (or while the normal c.d.s. was being repaired or renewed) - c.f. Sierra Leone and Nigeria Skeleton types. Found on K.G.V : K.G.VI : and Q.E.II issues.

The Mampong date stamp has "Ashanti" in lieu of "Gold Coast". Earliest date noted 16.12.18.

Check List

Agona Ashanti	Fante Nyankumasi
Akropong	Kraichi
Asuoya	Liati Agbonyra
Bondaye	Mampong (Ashanti)
Borada	Saltpond
Efiduasi	

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Type 13

Single circle measuring 25/27 mm. Town - Gold Coast Colony : two line date. In use on K.E. and K.G.V issues, though an example is recorded for Aburi on K.G.VI d. 16.3.40.

The earliest date recorded is 24.1.05 and the latest (apart from Aburi) 3.9.38.

Check List

Abosso	Dunkwa
Aburi	Kumasi
Accra	Prestea
Akropong	Sekondi (KE)
Axim	Seccondee (KGV)
Cape Coast	Winnebah
Dodowa	

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Types 14 and 14a

Double circle measuring 28 mm. Town - Gold Coast with dates between : Crown above two line date (three letter month) : month before day (Type 14) or day before month (Type 14a). There are at least two (or possibly three) different strikes of the Crown - small and large - in both types. Struck in black though "Dunkwa" is also found in blue or violet : In use on K.E. and K.G.V. issues; as a general rule Type 14 is on K.E. issues. Noted for some 36 offices. (Exceptionally this c.d.s. is found on early Ghana issues for "Nungoa" - type 14a).

	Earliest date	Latest date
Type 14	13.8.06.	10.10.23.
Type 14a	9.6.14.	30.12.39.

The use of a Crown in this c.d.s. is not considered to have any special significance - the Postmaster General, Gold Coast has suggested that it indicates that the article franked was "Royal Mail" but as the cancellors were supplied from the United Kingdom this is only surmise. It is, however, a handsome cancellation seen at its best on an entire or piece.

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Type 15 and 15a

Double circle measuring 28 mm : as Type 14 but without Crown : normal setting "month before day" but found also with day before month (Type 15): three line date including time (Type 15a). In use on K.E.VII (15) and K.G.V (15 & 15a) issues and recorded for some 35 offices.

	Earliest date	Latest date
Type 15	5. 8.05.	2.2.26.
Type 15a	13.11.13.	2.5.27.

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Type 16 and 16a

Double circle measuring 28 mm : Town - Gold Coast : single line date in central panel with vertical bars above and below (Type 16) : date amplified to include time (Type 16a). In a few instances a number or a letter is inserted in the middle of the bars above the date e.g. '2', '3' (16) and 'A' (16a). Both types were concurrently in use.

There are also variations where the "Town" name normally appears such as T.P.O. (q.v.) : Registered (q.v.) Parcel Post e.g. Accra : Axim : Cape Coast : Coomassie : and Sekondi : also Telegraph e.g. Obuasi or Money Order e.g. Keta. In the case of Agona - "Ashanti" replaces "Gold Coast".

In use, both types, on K.G.V : K.G.VI : and Q.E.II issues and on the early issues of Ghana. Recorded for over 200 offices, the earliest dates being 13.5.22 (Type 16) and 10.5.20 (Type 16a).

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Type 16b

As Type 16a but with smaller lettering and measuring 26 mm. The letter inserted in the bars is normally 'A' (or 'T' for Elmina only). In use on K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana the earliest recorded date being 5.10.48.

Check List

Abasa	Elmina
Abura Dunkwa	Kisi
Aiyiribe	Ntronang
Ashanti Newtown	Ofuasi
Ayensuaka	Sekondi
Bedum	Techiman
Brakwa	Tsito
Ebiram	

(For registered marks of this type see Type R3).

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Type 17

Double circle measuring 30 mm. Town - Gold Coast with date between, and two line date.

In use on K.G.V. K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues.

Recorded for some 26 offices - earliest date 10.12.18.

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Type 17a

As type 17 but with three line date including time. Recorded only on K.G.V issues - earliest date 19.3.20 latest date 25.1.24.

(This c.d.s. may be in fact a variation of Type 15a).

Check List

Accra	Akropong	Cape Coast
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Type 18

Similar to Type 17, with dots, but measuring 32/33 mm. In use on K.G.V K.G.VI and Q.E. issues.

Recorded for some 35 offices - earliest date Sept. 1919.

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Type 18a

Similar to Type 18 but three line date including time. Recorded only on K.G.V issues - earliest date 23.4.23. latest date 4.3.25.

Check List

Abetifi  
Hunisu

Mamfe  
Mepom

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Type 19

Double circle measuring 34 mm. Town - Gold Coast : no dots : two line date. Generally the inner circle measures 22 mm but some are 24 mm. There is a special type for "Coomassie" which has a three line date, including time (August, 1923).

Some of these cancellations are apparently of a temporary nature with irregular lettering.

In use on K.G.V. K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana.

Recorded for some 90 offices - the earliest date being 10.9.23.

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Type 19a

Double circle measuring 32 mm. Town - G.C. spaced (G.C. may be found inverted) : no dots : two line date. Probably a provisional cancellor, in use on K.G.V, K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues. Recorded for some 45 offices - earliest date being 16.9.23.

The following cancellations, found only on K.G.V issues, may also be included in this type.

- (i) Town Gold Coast at top of c.d.s. e.g. Anyinam : Awunegah : Bompata : Oniso : Tekiman.
- (ii) Town only e.g. Navorro : Mampong Ashanti.
- (iii) Town and date both inside inner circle : outer circle blank or with "30 Gold Coast" at top - recorded only for Ho.

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Type 20

Double circle measuring 26 mm. Town Gold Coast, with curved line between. Two line date or three line date including time, the latter being the normal setting. In use on K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana. Recorded for some 40 offices - the earliest date being 24.4.50.

(A similar cancellation but with "Ghana" instead of Gold Coast was introduced in December, 1957).

There are several variations of this cancellation:-

- (i) Town name and Gold Coast at top and letter or number at bottom e.g. Accra Gold Coast - '2' or - 'A'.
- (ii) Sub.Office name at top : town and Gold Coast at bottom e.g. Jamestown - Accra Gold Coast.
- (iii) As ii but without curved line between e.g. Market Circle - Takoradi Gold Coast.

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Type 21

Single circle measuring 24 mm. Town - Gold Coast with or without star above two line date. In use on K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana. The use of this c.d.s. was widespread and it has been recorded for at least 340 offices. Earliest date 31.3.50.

(A similar cancellation but with "Ghana" instead of "Gold Coast" was introduced in December, 1957.)

There are several variations of this cancellation:-

- (i) Town and Gold Coast at top and a number at bottom  
e.g. Tamale Gold Coast - 3 : Accra Gold Coast - 5.
- (ii) '19' in lieu of star above date e.g. Prasu : Asin.  
Akropong.  
'c' in lieu of star e.g. Takoradi.

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Registered Cancellations

These cancellations do not appear to have been introduced in the Gold Coast until circa 1921 and were first used on K.G.V issues. This is much later than in other West African Colonies.

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Type R1

Double oval : "Registered" at top : Town - Gold Coast at bottom with \* before and after "Registered". This c.d.s. is found in two sizes measuring 32 x 25 mm or 34 x 28 mm. The normal setting has a single line date without time but in a few cases the time is added, the inner oval being proportionately larger e.g. Hohoe : Mpraeso.

In use on K.G.V : K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana. It has been recorded for over 100 offices.

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Type R2

Double oval measuring 34 x 32 mm (almost circular) : used at Takoradi only from 1928 - 46. Single line date with or without time.

Type R3

As types 16, 16a or 16b - double circle with bars - Town name and Registered at top - Gold Coast at bottom. In use on K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues and on early issues of Ghana.

A cancellation of this type (16) with Coomassie at top and "Registered" at bottom was used in 1923.

Check List

Akrokeri  
Tafa  
Takoradi (No.1)

Takoradi Market Circle  
Winnebah  
Coomassie



Type R4

Large fancy double oval with bars measuring 50 x 32 mm.  
"Town Registered" at top : Gold Coast at bottom : large stars at sides :  
single line date. In the case of Sekondi, the letter 'A' is in the  
bars above date and the number '2' below date.

In use on K.G.VI and Q.E.II issues from about 1950 and on early  
issues of Ghana.

Check List.

Aboso  
Bibiani  
Half Assini

Kumasi  
Sekondi

N.B. A single circle measuring 30 mm with "Accra Rcs" at top and  
Gold Coast at bottom, apparently a temporary cancellation, was  
introduced after 6th March, 1957. It has, however, only been  
noted as an arrival marking on Registered Ghana covers routed  
through Accra and should perhaps be regarded as a Ghana cancell-  
ation, despite the inscription.

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Amendments to Notes on Types 1-11

- Type 2 Offices with reversed date. Add "Akuse" : "Saltpond" :  
Addah C. This cancellation has now been recorded as late  
as 21.12.1910.
- Type 3 (1) Earliest date 23rd Dec. 1875.  
(2) " " March 11th, 1881
- Type 4 Check List. Addah. Add "red".
- Type 5 Notes on Check List. "Obuasi". Add "the normal which replaced  
the above temporary c.d.s. was probably first used in 1903 and  
is fairly common on King Edward issues. It has also been  
recorded on Q.V. Key Plate Stamps dated March 1903
- Type 6 Check List. 'Cape Coast'. Earliest date 15.3.94.
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Check List Type 2 (Amendments)

Black		Earliest Date	Latest Date	Black		Earliest Date	Latest Date
Accra	A		15. 1.96	Dixcove	nil	5. 7.76.	16.11.78
"	C	17. 1.83	21. 1.90	Elmina	A		31. 8.96
Addah	C	23. 9.84		Mumford	nil	30. 5.76	
Adjuah	A		1. 5.02	"	A	14. 8.83	22. 7.89
Akuse	C	4.11.89		"	C		14. 9.04
Anamaboe	A		2. 7.01	Pram Pram	A	11. 9.81	
"	B	22. 6.94	22. 9.96	"	C		19. 7.88
Appam	A		18.12.93	Quittah	nil	27. 9.75	
Axim	B	4. 6.86		Saltpond	C	2. 5.86	12. 6.94
"	C	18. 5.88		Secondee	A		KE 02
"	nil		11.11.80	Winnebah	B	3. 5.83	
Cape Coast	A		13. 5.96	"	C		17.12.02
Chamah	C	5. 1.85		"	nil	3. 3.76	2. 9.77
<u>Red</u>				<u>Blue</u>			
Dixcove	B		6.11.84	Addah	C	5. 5.87	
Elmina	A	24. 9.81		<u>Black 2b</u>			
Pram Pram	A	3. 4.88	25. 8.88	Central Office	A		29. 1.89
"	nil	13. 2.81					

Check List Type 5 (Amendments)

Black		Earliest Date	Latest Date	Black		Earliest Date	Latest Date
Accra			6. 3.97	Dixcove		11. 4.93	
Ada		27. 2.91		Half Assinie	C		9. 1.02
Appam	A	5. 7.91	20.10.96	Kintampo			21. 5.02
"	C		4. 3.01	Kwitta		11. 7.94	5. 9.01
Attuabu	C	18. 4.94		Odumasie	A		18. 9.95
Axim		7. 8.93		Prahsu			3.10.01
Berraku		8.10.92		†Pram Pram			24. 4.01
Beyin		18. 5.19(00)	27.6.01	Saltpond		8. 1.96	
Cape Coast			7.11.01	Sekondi		14. 7.01	
Chama		29. 8.92		Purple Bole			22. 8.19(00)

Erratum

Type 5a Cape Coast Code letter should read 'A'