

The ½d Rhodesia Double Head used on Postcards

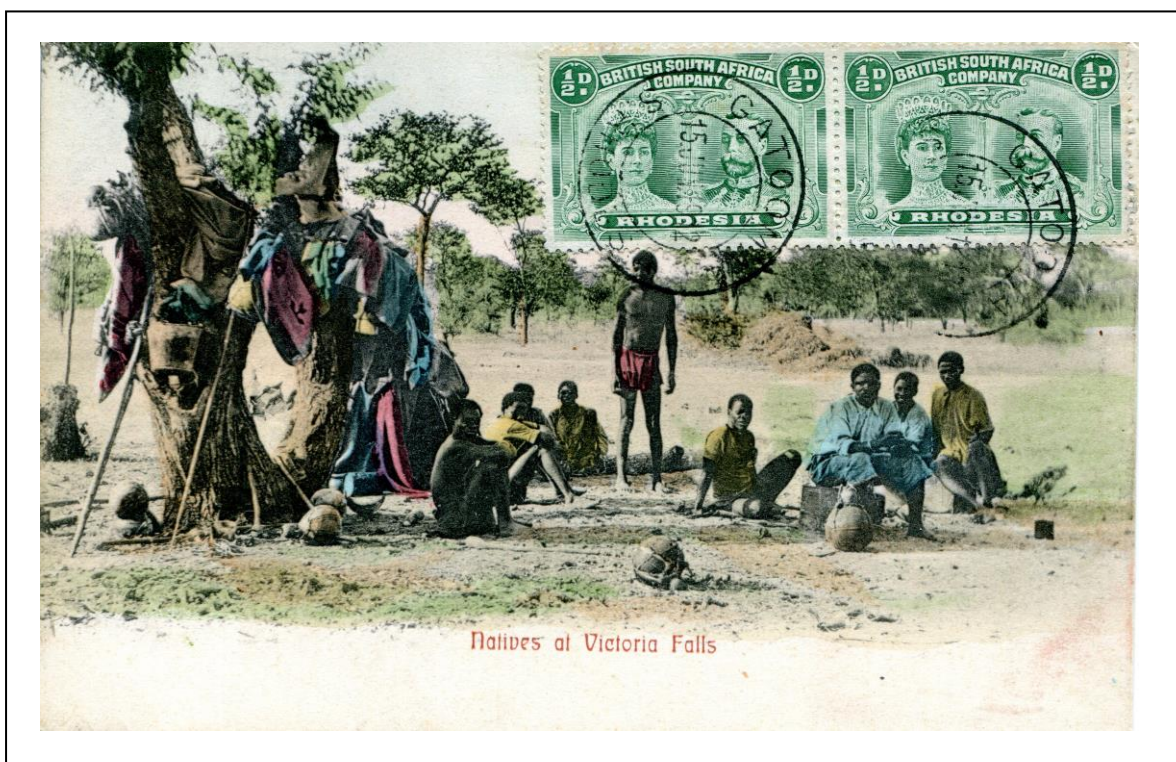
The 11 November, 1910 a new issue of stamps was made the British South Africa Company – seventeen values in total – to coincide with the Royal Visit of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught; the issue is now known as the Rhodesia Double Head Issue.

This exhibit examines the use of postcards from Rhodesia during the Double Head Issue 1910-1913 period. The vast majority of postcards that are now to be found contain the use of the 1d Double Head (sometimes referred to as *the greatest stamp of the British Empire*). 1d was the rate for postcards at the time to nearly all places in the Empire and the World. A much smaller percentage of the postcards are found with the ½d Double Head. The rate for use within Rhodesia and Southern Africa was ½d. This exhibit features examples where the ½d value was used on postcards.

1. This exhibit will feature a number of cards with one ½d Double Head – the rate for within Rhodesia and Southern Africa.
2. An even rarer group are those cards with two ½d Double Heads – the rate for the Empire and the World.
3. In addition, attention will be drawn to cancels. Most postcards at this time only contained one or two cancels – departure and, sometimes, arrival. To have more cancels - transit cancels, - is rare. A recent study revealed that only 4% of postcards used from Rhodesia during this time period had more than one Rhodesian cancel.
4. Where appropriate and relevant, attention will be drawn to the publisher of the postcard and the rarity of the postcard.

References:

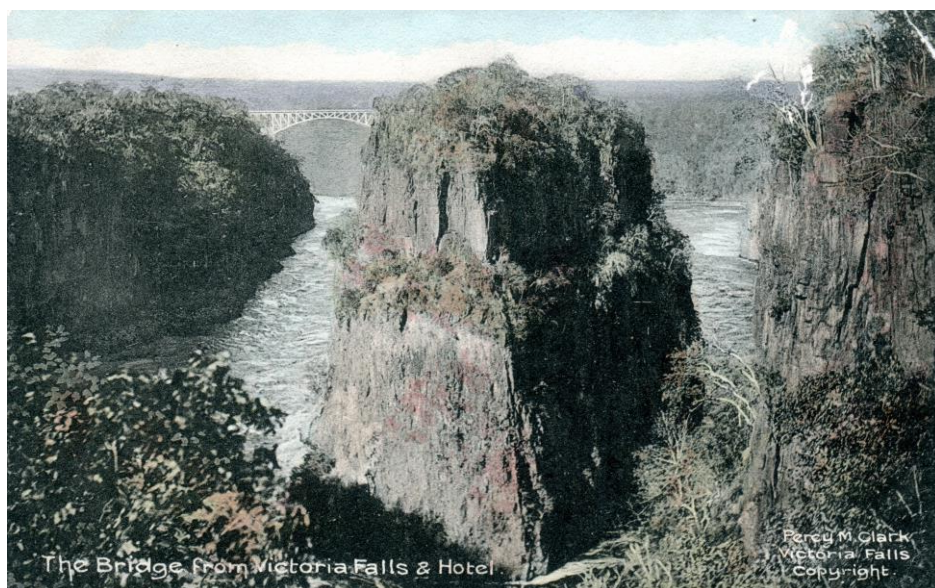
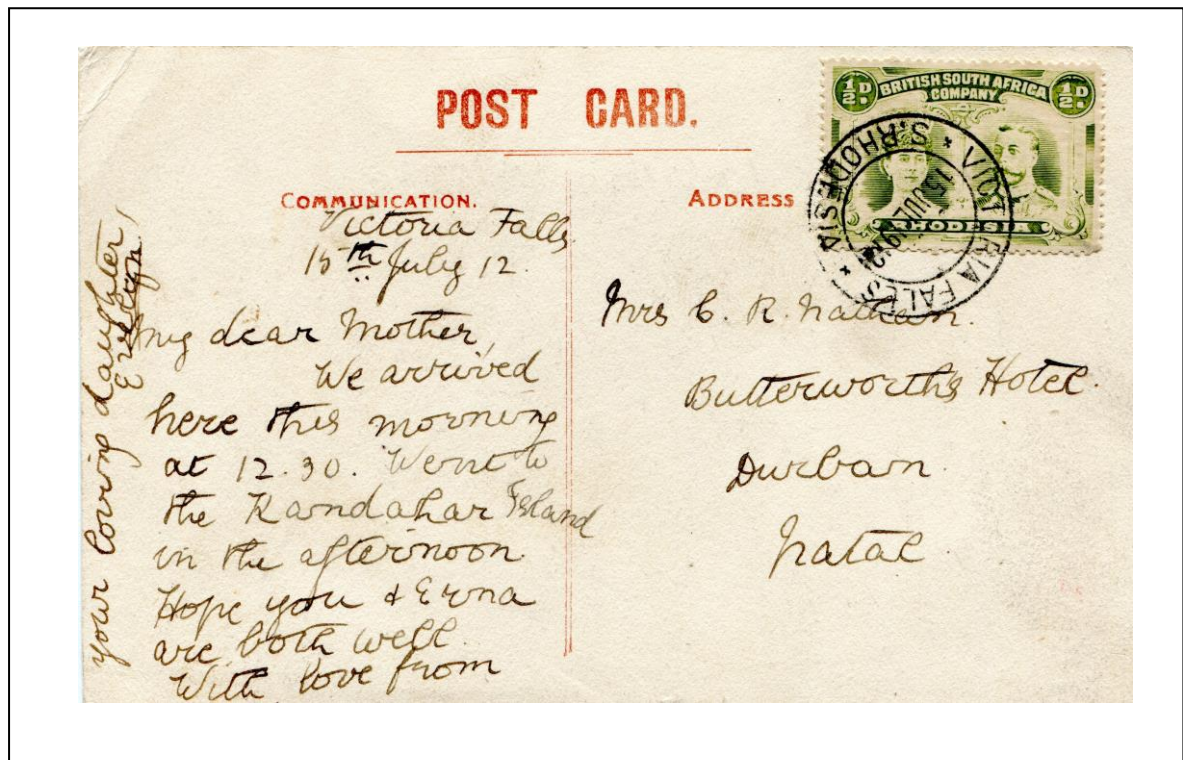
1. Various issues of the *Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle*.
2. The Rhodesian Study Circle Website: www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk



A rare postcard published by Paul Schaefer & Co., Cape Town, cancelled at GATOOMA 15 JUN 1912 to Belgium

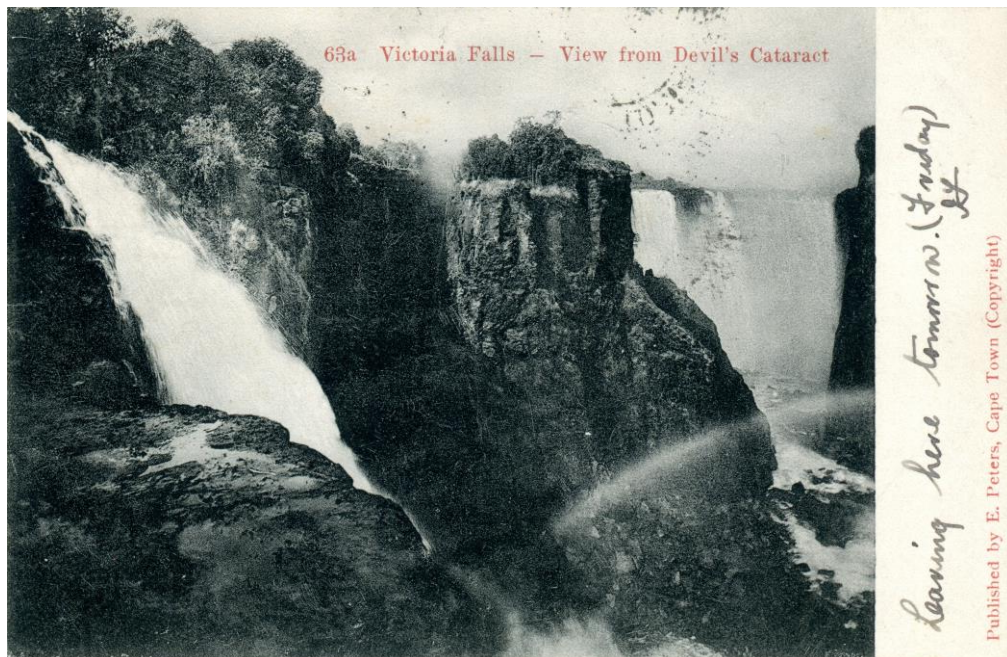
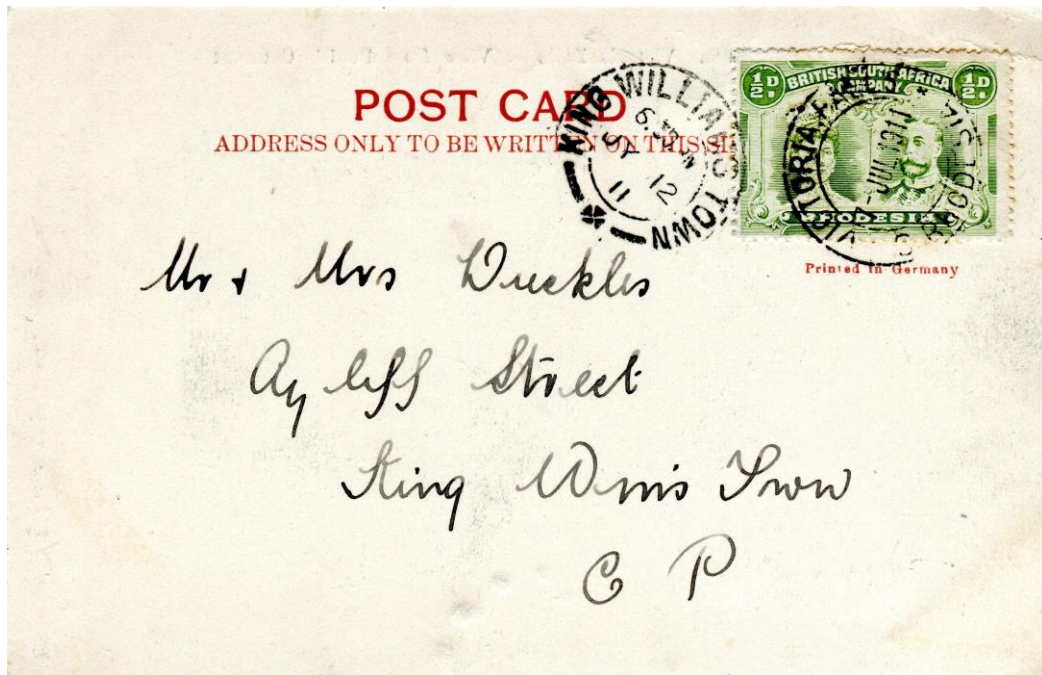
Victoria Falls to Durban, Natal, South Africa

The usual use of the half penny on postcard – cancelled VICTORIA FALLS 15 JUL 1912. Incidentally, almost 50% Of all postcards from Rhodesia at this time depicted scenes from the Victoria Falls and its surrounds. The Falls were the main, and still are, tourist attraction in the country. The card was published by Percy M. Clark who was a resident at the Victoria Falls. Percy Missen Clark (b.1875) arrived from Cambridge, England in Rhodesia during the Boer War where he met Rhodes during his stay in Bulawayo. During this stay in Bulawayo he shared lodgings with another well-known publisher of Rhodesian postcards – Ellis Allen. Clark established the first curio, or souvenir, shop, Clark's Curios, in 1903 at Victoria Falls. He was also a photographer with many postcards bearing his images.



Victoria Falls to King William's Town, Cape

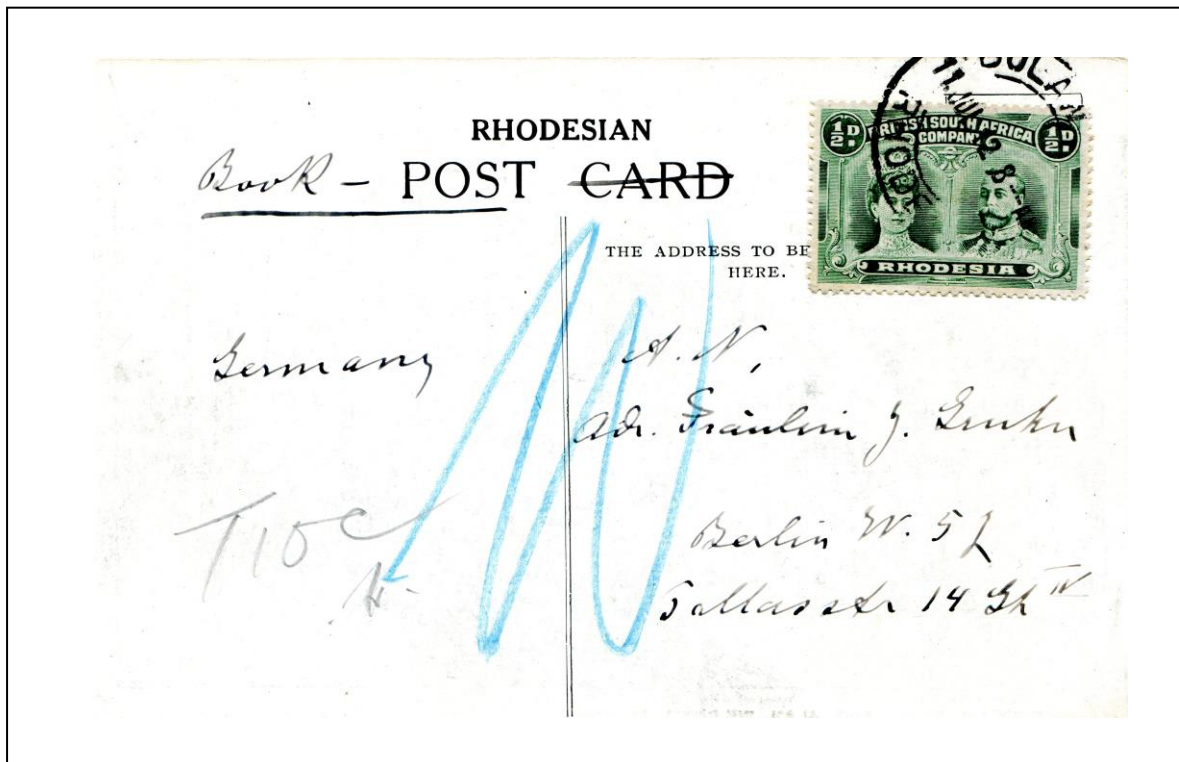
Paying the internal rate of ½d to the South Africa. This card was cancelled at VICTORIA FALLS 7 JUL 1911. It was published by E. Peters of Cape Town from a series of over 200 cards (colour and black and white with undivided backs) circa 1905.



Bulawayo to Berlin, Germany

This card should have 1d and because of this has been taxed 10 centimes. The postcard was published by Ellis Allen, Bulawayo. Cancelled at BULAWAYO 11 JUL 12. Owen Ellis Allen was born in Cambridge, England in 1867. From Cambridge he emigrated to Cape Town, South Africa, where he joined the old established firm of booksellers and newsagents, Messrs Maskew Miller & Company.

In 1897, when his employers decided to open up a branch of their business in Rhodesia, he took the opportunity to move to Bulawayo. Coming from Cambridge, he was friends with Percy Clark. Allen, Clark and Harold Smart all studied at Cambridge and were associates in Rhodesia. By coincidence, Maskew Miller's shop was next to Harold's Smart & Copley's shop on the corner of 8th Avenue and Fife Street, Bulawayo. In the early 1900's, Ellis Allen set up in business on his own account from a rented shop in Willoughby's Building (Built 1902), below Blackler's clock. He remained in this shop until death in 1930.

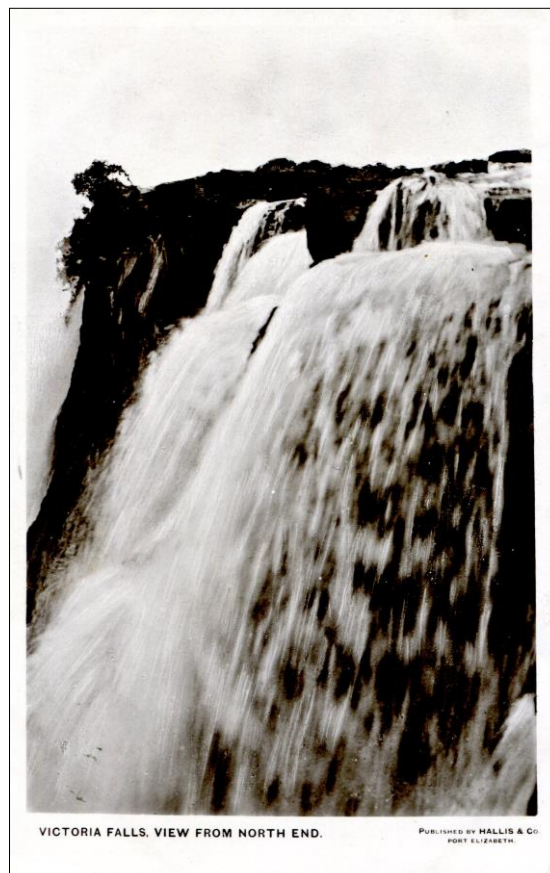


RHODES' TOMB AND ALAN WILSON'S MEMORIAL.

Ellis Allen, Box 204, Bulawayo.

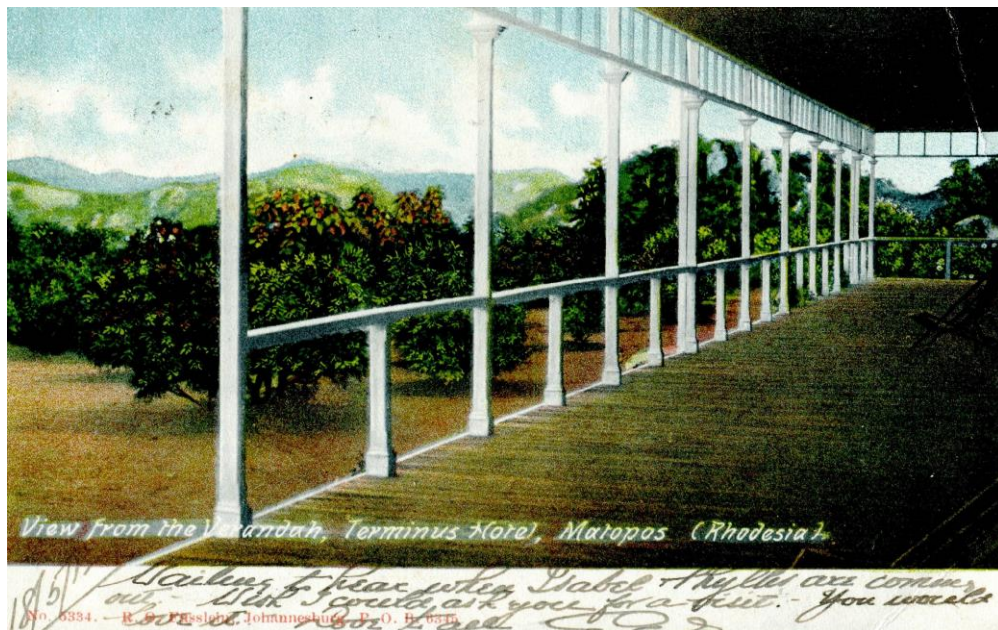
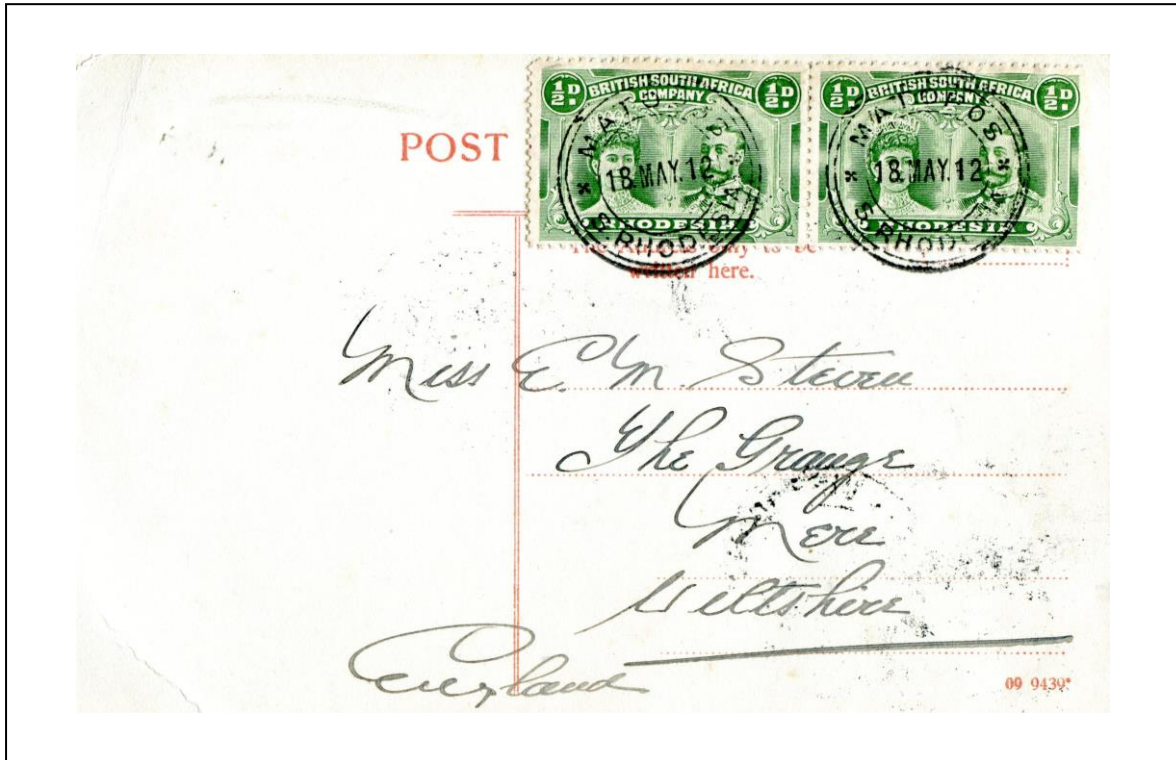
Salisbury to Cheltenham, England

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the UK. Cancelled SALISBURY 19 DEC 1910. Published by Hallis & Co., Port Elizabeth. An example of very early use of these stamps which is complemented by the comment thereon: *You had better keep the stamps on these cards as there are only a temporary issue.* Many assumed that the issue was a commemorative. It turned out not to be so.



Matoppos to Wiltshire, England

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the UK. Cancelled MATOPPOS 18 MAY 12. Published by R.O. Fuesslein - South African postcard publisher based in Johannesburg. He was an independent trader, manufacturer and importer of pictorial postcards and albums. The postcard is particularly rare featuring the Terminus Hotel.



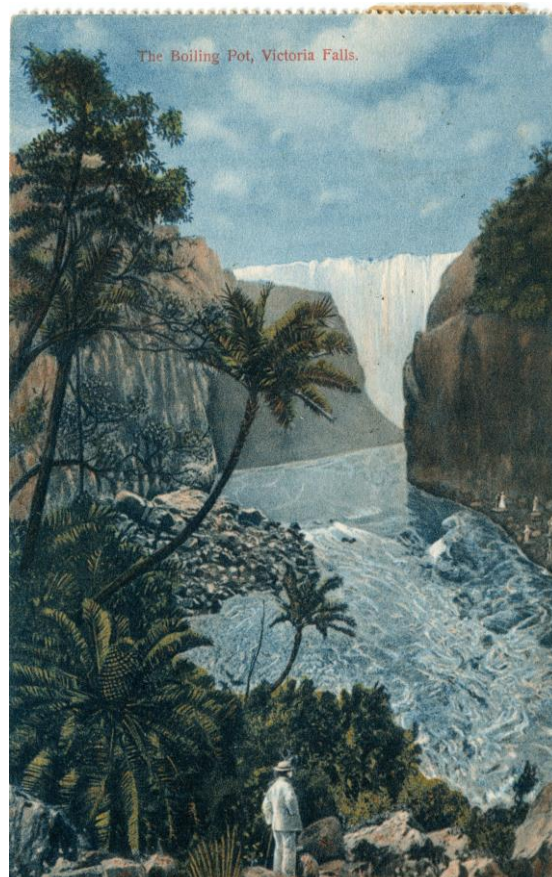
Christmas Greetings: Bulawayo to Alveston, Gloucestershire, England

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the UK. A real photograph postcard used from BULAWAYO 3 DEC 1911 to Alveston, a small village in South Gloucestershire. These real photograph postcards were mainly published by chemists onto pre-printed cards.



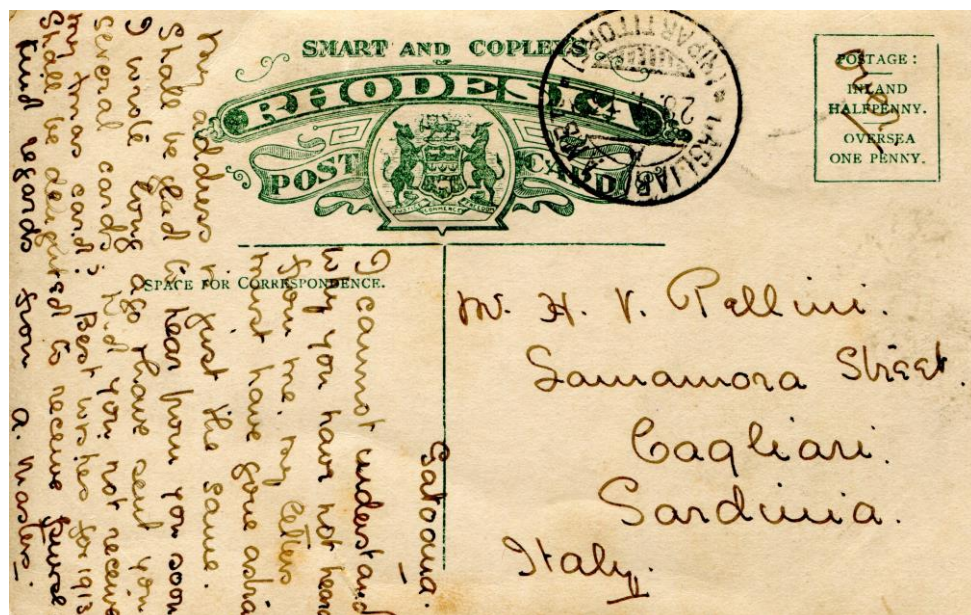
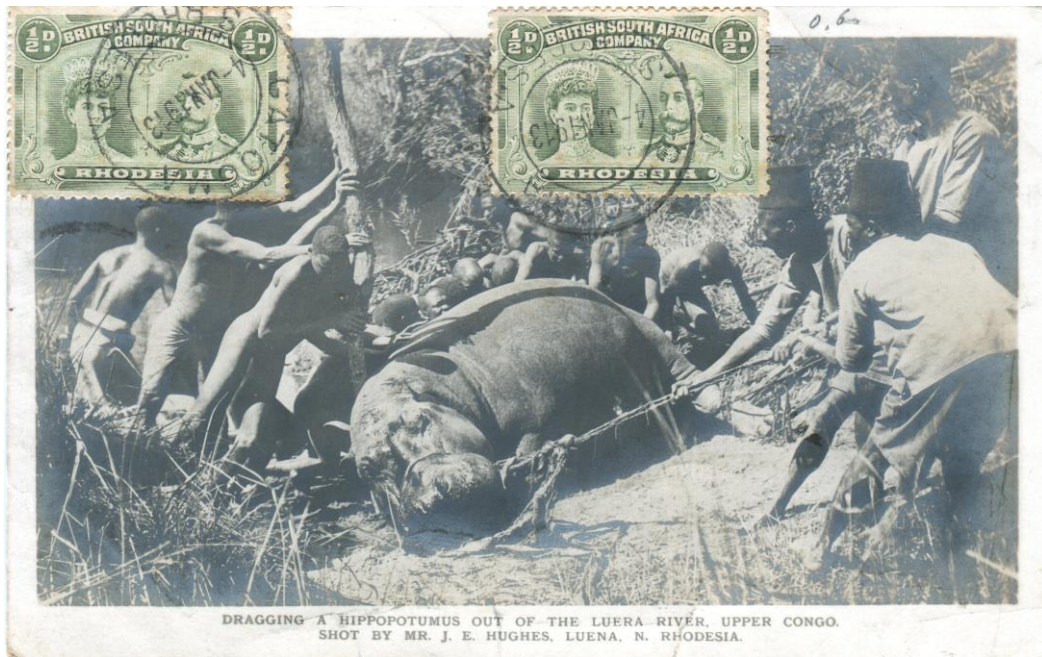
Victoria Falls to Belgium

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the Europe. Cancelled at VICTORIA FALLS 28 MAR 1911 to Sint-Mariaburg is a quarter in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium - named after Mary of Hungary, governor of what was then the Habsburg Netherlands. The card was published by G. Budricks & Co (G.B. &Co.), also known Budrick's Art Galleries, Cape Town.



Gatooma to Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the Europe. Cancelled at GATOOMA 4 JAN 1913 to Calgliari in Sardinia, Italy – most unusual destination mail. The card was published by Smart & Copley, Bulawayo. Harold Smart was born in Cambridge, England in 1873 and arrived in Bulawayo in 1896, having travelled by rail and coach from Port Elizabeth. William Dawn Copley was born in Long Clawson, Leicestershire, England in 1871. He arrived in Cape Town in 1895 and, after 15 months, travelled up to Bulawayo. It was in Bulawayo that those two men later met. Their first Wholesale and Retail Chemist's shop was opened in August 1897. In 1900 they set up a Photographic Department which was believed to be the most advanced in Bulawayo at that time. Both Smart and Copley were keen amateur photographers which, no doubt, added impetus to this expansion of their chemist's business. Consequently, a few years later, when picture postcards came into vogue as a means of communication, they were well placed to publish their own photographic products.



Bulawayo to Chelsea, London, England

The 1d postal rate for postcards to the UK. Cancelled at BULAWAYO 14 JUL 1914 – an example of late usage of this issue on postcard. The card was published by Percy M. Clark, a resident of the Victoria Falls. Clark established the first curio, or souvenir, shop, Clark's Curios, in 1903 at Victoria Falls. He was also a photographer with many postcards bearing his images. On 25th April, 1910, Clark was accepted as Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society (F.R.G.S.) after recommendations by British Archaeologist, Henry Balfour.

In 1924 he became a member of the Royal Photographic Society and in 1925 gained the title of Associate. This was reflected on a number of his postcards, bearing the title A.R.P.S. He also exhibited in their Annual Exhibitions. It appears he remained a member until 1928.



Victoria Falls to Belgium

Paying the 1d rate to Europe. Cancelled at VICTORIA FALLS 23 MAR 1911 to Ste Mariaburg in Belgium. The card was published by S.C. Turner. Samuel Clover Turner was one of the early pioneer photographers in Rhodesia, having arrived in Bulawayo in 1897. Very little is known of his early life other than he was from Lancashire, England and was born about 1866. By profession, he was a picture framer which, we can only assume, led to his interest in photography. In any event, he had with him a camera on his arrival in Bulawayo and set up in business as a photographer. It is not known for certain if Turner published his own picture postcards but photographic images used on two types of anonymously published postcards (circa 1905) can be, in part, attributed to him. However, it is known that he supplied photographs to Percy Clark at Victoria Falls who published a series of postcards using those images. It would also appear that Turner supplied his photographs to other postcard publishers both in Rhodesia and South Africa but those can only be identified for certain from those cards which show Turner's imprint.



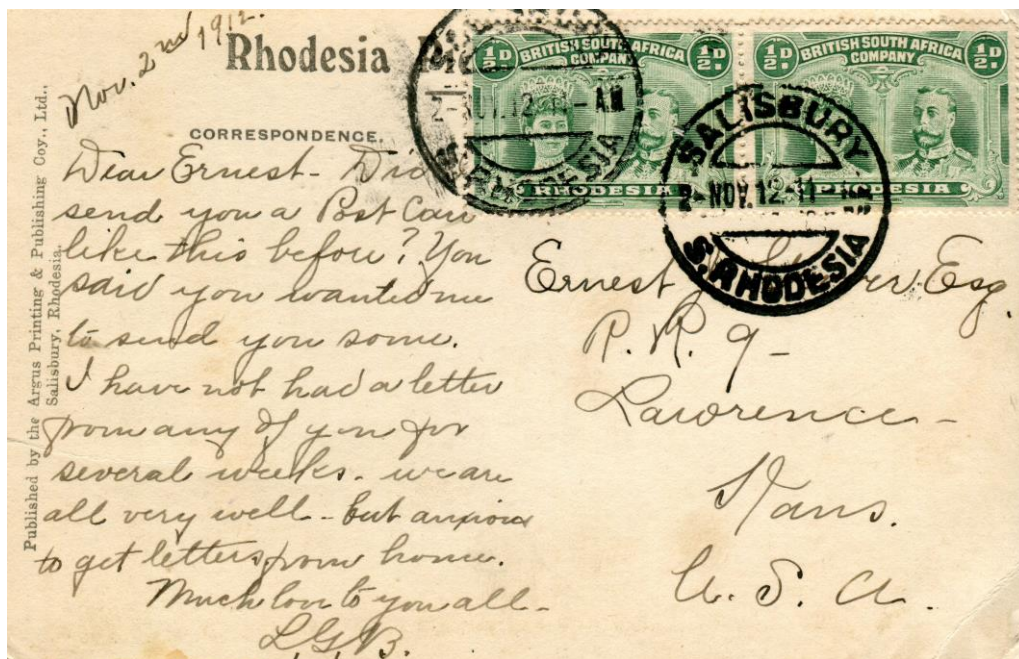
Selukwe to Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

Paying the 1d rate to the Empire. Cancelled at SELUKWE SP 1 11 to Tasmania, this postcard was published by G.S. Wilkins, Selukwe. In 1904, G.S. Wilkins took over the pharmaceuticals business of Moore & Co. The business went became a chemist, bookseller and photographic business. In 1918 he sold the business to Robert Hamilton. A rare card going to an unusual destination.



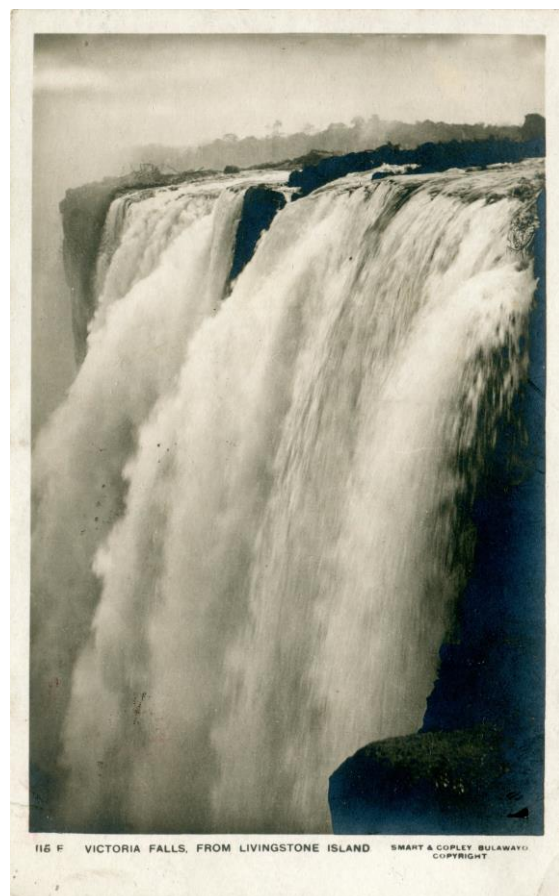
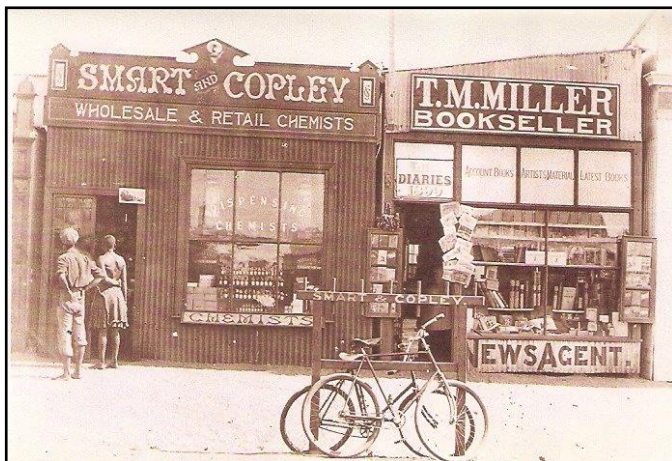
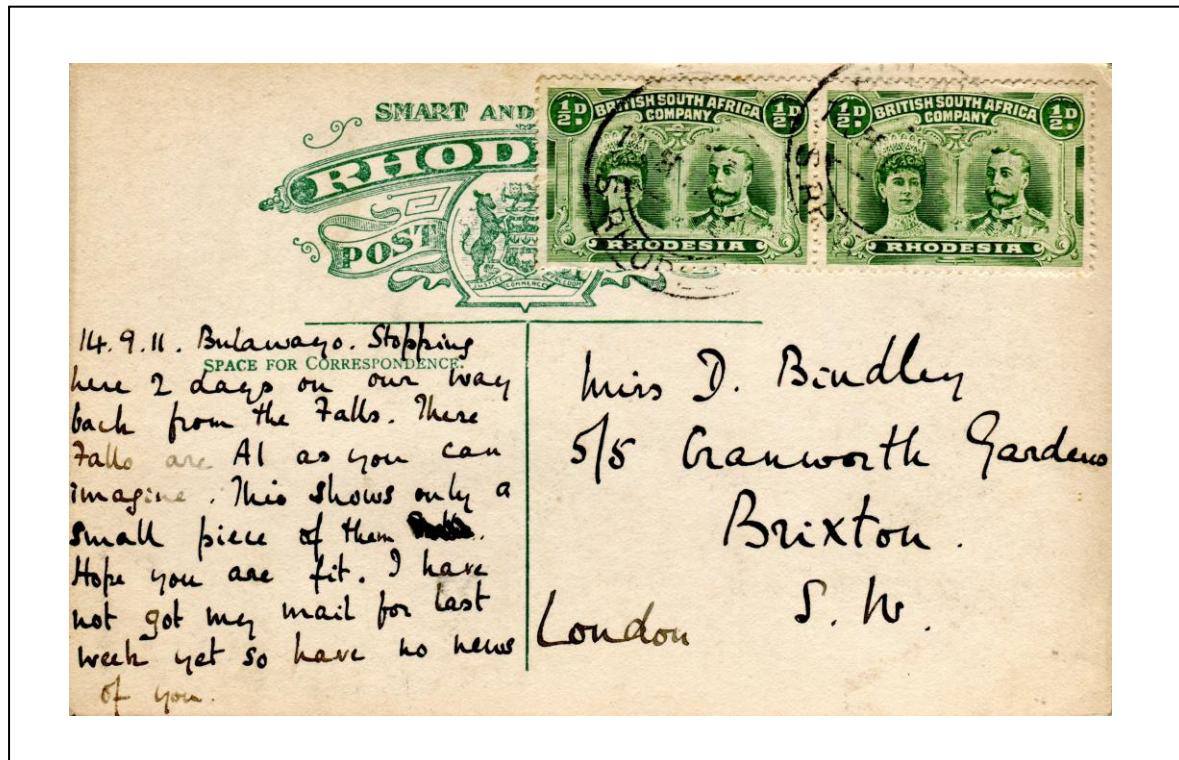
Salisbury to USA

Paying the 1d rate to the USA. Cancelled at SALISBURY 2 NOV 12, this postcard was published by the Argus Printing & Publishing Coy., Ltd., Salisbury. The Argus Printing & Publishing Company Ltd. was a subsidiary of the Argus Company of South Africa who were based in Cape Town and Johannesburg. The card features a statue of Alfred Beit, 1853 – 1906) who was an Anglo-German gold and diamond magnate in South Africa. Inspired by Rhodes's imperialist vision, he took part in the planning and financing of the unsuccessful Jameson Raid of late 1895 which was intended to trigger a coup in the South African Republic in the Transvaal. As a result of this debacle, Rhodes resigned as Prime Minister of the Cape, and both he and Beit were found guilty by the House of Commons inquiry. During his lifetime, Beit made generous donations for scientific work and education. In his will he set up the Beit Trust through which he bequeathed large sums of money (£1,200,000) for infrastructure development in the former Northern and Southern Rhodesia, later modified to university education and research in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.



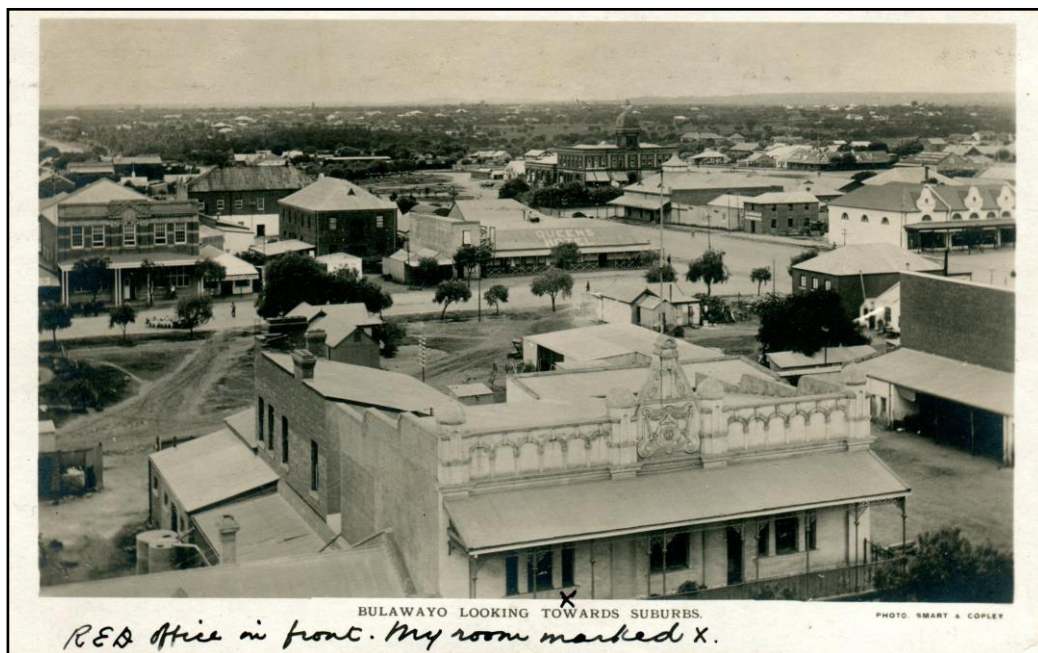
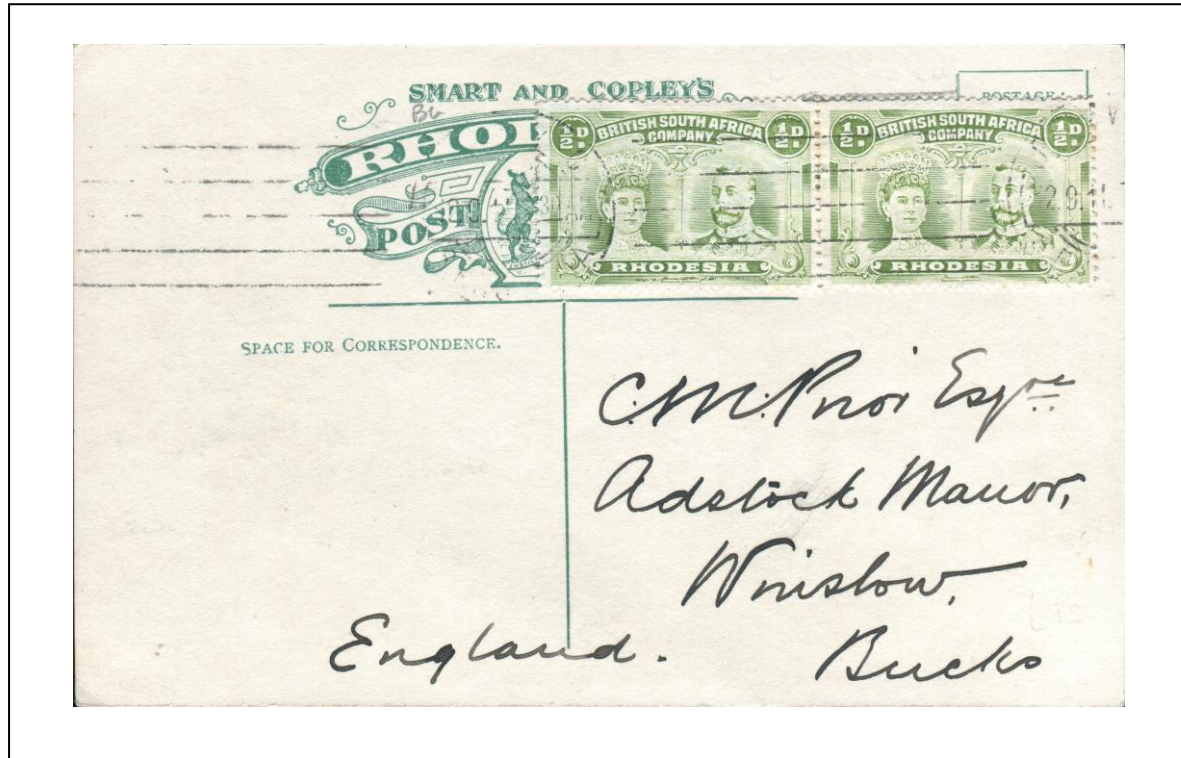
Bulawayo to London, England

Paying the 1d rate to the UK. This card was cancelled at BULAWAYO 14 SEP 11 and was published by Smart & Copley, Bulawayo.



Bulawayo to Winslow, Buckinghamshire, England

Paying the 1d rate to the UK. This card was cancelled at BULAWAYO 2.9.11 and was published by Smart & Copley, Bulawayo.



Bwanamkubwa to England and Victoria Falls to Belgian Congo

Two most rare postcards because of their cancels. Most postcards of this time only have ONE cancel from Rhodesia – i.e. no transit cancels. Finding examples with two (or more) cancels is extremely rare. The first card is cancelled at BWANAMKUBWA 11 JUL 1912 and BROKEN HILL 12 JUL 1912. The second, showing the much more common use of the 1d Double Head, has THREE Rhodesian cancels and an arrival mark in the Belgian Congo. This is the only reported use of three Rhodesian cancels on a postcard during the Double Head era – in fact, any era! Here we find: VICTORIA FALLS 25 JAN 11, LIVINGSTONE 28 JAN 1911 and BROKEN HILL 29 JAN 1911.

