




The Story of Lloyd's: From Coffee to Commerce

This exhibit relates highlights of the 300+ year history of the world-famous insurance market, interspersing details about the interaction of Lloyd's with postal authorities along with more conventional historical details.

Treatment

This exhibit provides a thematic treatment of an open class exhibit to present its story. Within each chapter, information is organized chronologically but, as the timeline on the title page illustrates, there is considerable overlap in the times when various activities began and continued. The legend repeated here (right) illustrates how additional information about individual items is concisely conveyed within the exhibit.

	Denotes item with Certificate
	Denotes significant items
	Denotes original research

Knowledge, Study and Research

This exhibit includes five frames of widely varied philatelic elements, including stamps and covers from around the globe as well as archival materials. Covers range from entire pre-stamp letters to more modern examples of ship mail, U-boat mail, military mail, wreck and crash covers, and censor covers. [Please note that, despite extensive research, no rail disasters have been identified as relating to Lloyd's.]

Commercially used examples of registered mail, official mail and air mail covers bear slogan cancels, machine cancels, several special hand cancellations, Newspaper wrappers include dates that span nearly a century. A few postally-used picture post cards have been selected for inclusion because of their usefulness in illustrating key events. First-day covers and maximum cards are used primarily to display the special hand stamps that were used but are included occasionally where research indicates no stamps have ever been issued on the topic.

Rarity and Condition

In all, philatelic material originating from over seventy countries is presented. The items of greatest philatelic significance (in the order of their appearance in the exhibit) are

- a photographic essay acknowledged in July 2006 by the artist as a lino cut design he created around 1979
- 1747 entire letter, bearing a Dockwra marking, written by the second owner and master of Lloyd's Coffee
- a 1773 stampless letter to New Lloyd's Coffeehouse
- 12x12 perf variety of the John Paul Jones issued in U.S. in 1976 (Sc.#1789 - 200 known copies)
- Two pre-stamp Antigua letters: 1791 with (undated) straightline cancel; 1806 with dated straightline cancel
- An 1809 letter with Sir Francis Freeling signature for free franking and free delivery postmark unlisted by Lovegrove (1978) prior to 1811.
- Two pre-production elements for U.S. steamship issue (Sc.#923), viz. a large die essay of an unadopted version and a small die proof.
- wallpaper adversity cover from the U.S. Civil War
- wreck covers from the *Carnatic*, *Freshfield*, and *Empress of Ireland*
- 1822 entire letter with rare double-ring forwarding mark from *Goodwin Curling & Co.*
- 1812 letter bearing Warren, Rhode Island CDS cancel with the initials for that state reversed to "I.R."
- Original hand-painted artwork for 1969 Gibraltar stamps signed by artist A G Ryman
- Plate proof of Canada #65 (one of 800)
- Cover bearing fifteen 5c Canada Small Queens, one of the largest multiples known to exist on cover.
- Imperf block of four 1980 Olympics issue from the U.S. showing two plate numbers
- U.S. block of four sea creatures with black color-omitted error (Sc. #2508-11b)
- Airmail cover signed by first U.S. airmail pilot that also bears postage due markings.
- Two air crash covers, Canadian official mail from 1954 crash and from 1970 Swissair bombing
- Bicolor encased postage ("Timbre-monnaie") from 1920
- Punched block of Newfoundland four plate proofs (1941-44 issue)
- New Zealand 2005 inverted die cut error.

Key display items incorporated in the exhibit are a Lloyd's medal from 1898 and a glass slide from the 1936 movie.

Presentation

In this exhibit, the story of Lloyd's is presented in Times Roman text; philatelic information appears in Arial Narrow. The navy blue of the mats used throughout was chosen because it is the color of Lloyd's modern logo and messaging.



Earlier versions of this exhibit have won multiple national level gold awards, best thematic exhibit awards, creativity awards, and title page awards. Its best performance was receipt of a Reserve Grand Award at NTSS. Please note, it has been completely revised for StampShow/NTSS 2019 but otherwise has not been exhibited since the Large Gold awards were introduced. [Apprenticeship and judging has precluded exhibiting competitively at many shows in the last few years.]

Bibliographic References

The story presented in this exhibit has been aggregated from a variety of sources, including these:

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- Fry, Henry. *Lloyd's: Its Origin, History, and Methods*. (Quebec: Dawson & Co.) 1895.
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- Jones, Daniel H. *SS Empress of Australia* online at <http://smmlonline.com/articles/empressaaustralia/empressaaustralia.html>
- Lloyd's Register Foundation Heritage and Education Centre <https://hec.lrfoundation.org.uk/archive-library/digital-resources>
- Lloyd's website at <https://www.lloyds.com/about-lloyds/history> and <https://www.lloyds.com/~media/images/news%20and%20insight/news%20and%20features/2012/titanic%20slip.pdf>
- Maffeo, Steven E. *Most Secret and Confidential: Intelligence in the Age of Nelson*. (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press). 2000.
- Paine, Lincoln P. *Ships of the world: an historical encyclopedia* (Houghton Mifflin). 1997.
- Philips C.J. "A Great Attempted Swindle on Lloyds Insurance Corporation." *Collectors Club Philatelist* 5 (1926), p. 58 and 7 (1928), p. 39.
- Riese, Randall. *The Unabridged James Dean: his life and legacy from A to Z*. (Chicago: Contemporary Books), 1991.
- Soames, Mary. *Clementine Churchill*. (London: Doubleday), 2002.
- Straus, Ralph. *Lloyd's: A Historical Sketch*. (London: Hutchinson & Co.) 1938.

The philatelic information contained in this exhibit came from a variety of sources including stamp catalogs, auction catalogs, and publications of the Ships on Stamps unit of the American Topical Association. Below is a sampling of a portion of the sources that have provided specific information:

- Chandler, J.H. *The newspaper and Almanac stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*. (London: G.B. Philatelic Publications Ltd.). 1981.
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- Hurdeman, Anton A. *The Worldwide History of Telecommunications*. 2003.
- "Private Sender Marks" in *Post Office in Paradise* online at <http://www.hawaiianstamps.com/prifirms.html>
- Rowe, Kenneth. *The Postal History and Markings of the Forwarding Agents*, 2d edition. 1996.
- Torrance, A. R. and K. Morenweiser, *British Empire Civil censorship Devices, World War II*, Section 2. (Civil Censorship Study Group). 1991.
- Whitney, J. T. *Collect British Postmarks*, Seventh ed. (Hemel Hempstead, Herts: British Postmark Society). 1997.