## CANCELLATIONS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS & DEPENDENCIES

### CANCELLATION TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1870</th>
<th>1880</th>
<th>1890</th>
<th>1900</th>
<th>1910</th>
<th>1920</th>
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<tr>
<td>Falkland Islands</td>
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<td>F.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Black frank</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Red frank</td>
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<tr>
<td>F.I. steel obliterator</td>
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<td>Cork obliterator</td>
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<td>F.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Parcel cancellation</td>
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<td>F.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government House Rec.d</td>
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<td>W.F.I. steel obl.</td>
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<tr>
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1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930
The main settlement and capital of the Falkland Islands is Port Stanley, which is situated on the east side of East Falkland and is the seat of the administration under a Governor. The population accounts for about half of the total population of the islands. It is named after Lord Stanley, the secretary of state for the colonies, when the settlement was transferred from Port Louis in 1844. Port Stanley is the location of the main post office and the seat of the Postmaster of the Falkland Islands. The first Postmaster was appointed in 1861 but it was not until 1887 that separate rooms were fitted up in the Government office for a post office. In 1917 the post office moved to the new town hall. The post office in Port Stanley was the only one in the islands up to 1899 when a sub-post office was opened at Fox Bay, West Falkland. This was to be followed by sub-post offices at New Island, South Georgia and the South Shetlands.
The first overseas mail contract was introduced in 1852 but it was not until 1861 that prepayment of postage on mails from the Falkland Islands was approved by the G.P.O. in London, and some years were to pass before a paid marking was used.

According to official sources the black frank was introduced on 11th March 1868. Besides the frank a circular datestamp was applied to the covers.

The earliest known use is 4 January 1869 and the latest 15 August 1876. (A usage in 1887 is also known.)
Because the black frank was not always distinct letters were sometimes treated as unpaid.
The G.P.O. in London received complaints about this in 1871 and again in 1875, and at the latter occasion it was suggested that the black frank should be replaced by a circular red paid handstamp. This idea was adopted and the red frank was introduced in 1876.
The earliest known use is 15 November 1876 and the latest 13 May 1878.

Piece of original cover with the red frank.

Souvenir strikes made in the 1890's.
1869-1900 FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type F.1)

This is the first datestamp used in the Falkland Islands postal service. The earliest evidence of operation is in 1869, but in all probability it was available before then, and maybe as early as August 1861 when the first postmaster was appointed and the prepayment of postage introduced. The earliest recorded date is 4 January 1869 and the latest 20 June 1900.
1869-1900 FALKLAND ISLANDS datetamp (type F 1)

VARIETIES

At the turn of the century there was no appropriate type-set available to make up the year "1900" so improvisation became necessary. This was at first achieved by using smaller numerals "19" followed by the letters "OC". The "OC" can be found in two type-set sizes; one almost equal to the height of the two numerals and the other appreciably larger.
In the latter part of May, and also in June, the "1900" was inserted in full using a smaller and altogether different type-set.

1900 (January - 8th February) "190C" uniform size.
FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type F.1) - VARIETIES

1900 (10th February - 8th May) "190C" with large "OC"
FALKLAND ISLANDS
cancellations

FALKLAND ISLANDS datetamp (type F.1) - VARIETIES

1900 (26th May - 20th June) Small "1900"
1890-99 FALKLAND ISLAND`s datestamp (type F.2)

On this datestamp there is an apostrophe between the D and S in ISLANDS.
The format of the year varies, in 1890-93 the year is in full and in the same type size as the date, in 1894-96 the year is in smaller and thinner type-set and usually placed off-centre, in 1897-99 the year is reduced to two numerals spaced widely apart.
The earliest recorded date is 20 October 1890 and the latest 15 December 1899.
FALKLAND ISLAND'S date stamp (type F.2) - VARIETIES

1897-99 Year reduced to two numerals spaced widely apart.
1896-1900 FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type F.3)

This datestamp also has an apostrophe between D and S in ISLANDS but it also has a dot placed on either side between FALKLAND and ISLAND'S.

It had a much shorter life than the other 19th century datestamps and it is met with less frequently. The earliest recorded date is 19 June 1896 and the latest January 1900.
FALKLAND ISLANDS

CANCELLATIONS 1900

FALKLAND ISLAND'S datestamp (type F.3) - VARIETIES

Just as with type F.1 there was no type set available to make up the year "1900" but instead of using "19" and "OC" as with type F.1 only "OC" was used, the space in the datestamp was probably not large enough for both "19" and "OC".

1900 (January) "OC" inserted for the year
1900-35 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4)

This group of datestamps have a cross between FALKLAND and ISLANDS and a code letter above the date. There is in fact six cancellers in the group.

1900-08 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4A)

Type F.4A arrived to the colony on 15 June 1900. It has very small crosses between FALKLAND and ISLANDS and the code letter is always C. Sometimes the code letter is found reversed or sideways.
The earliest recorded date is 25 June 1900 and the latest 19 May 1908.
In 1909 it was briefly used at the New Island post office.
1900-05 1919-35 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4B)

This datestamp was issued at the same time as type F.4A and it has slightly larger crosses. The code letter is normally C but in 1929 it is A and from 1933-35 it is B. The earliest recorded date is 5 July 1900 and the latest 7 November 1935.
1905–35 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datetamp (type F.4C)

The second pair of type F.4 datestamps was delivered in 1905. They have much larger crosses than the first pair. Type F.4C was in continuous use up to 1914, thereafter only occasionally used except in 1933 and 1935 when it was frequently used. The code letter is "A", "B" or "C". The earliest recorded date is 28 November 1905 and the latest 19 November 1935.
FALKLAND ISLANDS
cancellations 1912-15

FALKLAND + ISLANDS datetamp (type F.4C) - VARIETIES

Brown ink was sometimes used during this period, probably on registered mail.

1912-15 Brown cancellation ink

[Images of postage stamps showing the examples of the cancellation ink.]
1905-09 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4D)

The only way to separate type F.4D from type F.4C is that it has a shorter second arm to the "F". This canceller was in use from 1905 to 1909.
The code letter is always "C".
In late 1909 it was sent to South Georgia for a short period of service there. It was probably never used again.
1909-16 FALKLAND ISLANDS datetamp (type F.4E)

Type F.4E probably arrived at Stanley on 19 November 1907 but was not placed into service until 1909 and remained operative up to 1916 or thereabouts. It may not have been used again. The code letter is consistently "C".
FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4E) - VARIETIES

Brown ink was sometimes used during this period, probably on registered mail.

1912-15 Brown cancellation ink
1910-25 FALKLAND + ISLANDS datestamp (type F.4F)

Just like type F.4E, type F.4F was not brought into service immediately. It is usually found with dates in the years 1919-20. The crosses have a squashed appearance, particularly the one on the left side. The code letter is always "C".
1909-33 FALKLAND - ISLANDS datestamp (type F.5)

This datestamp arrived in Stanley 16 November 1909 and was brought into service directly. It was most frequently used 1910-16 but can be found with dates up to 1933. The code letter is "A", "B" or "C".
FALKLAND - ISLANDS datestamp (type F.5) - VARIETIES

Brown ink was sometimes used during this period, probably on registered mail.

1912-14 Brown cancellation ink

1911 Violet cancellation ink

A few stamps and one cover have been recorded with violet ink.
1913-37 FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type F.6)

This datestamp came into use in 1913 and was intermittently used up to 1937.
The code letter is always "C".
The earliest recorded date is June 1913 and the latest 26 June 1937.
FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type F.6) - VARIETIES

Brown ink was sometimes used during this period, probably on registered mail.

1913-15 Brown cancellation ink
In 1913 the post office at Stanley introduced the first pair of datestamps which showed not only Falkland Islands but also Port Stanley.

1913-44 PORT STANLEY + FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type PS.1A)

Type PS.1A appears to have been in regular service up to 1935 and in sporadic use thereafter until 1944. It shows the cross on the left in a higher position than the cross on the right. The code letter is either "A", "B" or "C".
PORT STANLEY datetamp (type PS.1A) - VARIETIES

Brown ink was sometimes used during this period, probably on registered mail.

1913-14 Brown cancellation ink
CANCELLATIONS

1913-44 PORT STANLEY + FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type PS.1B)

The second type was used in the same period and in concurrence with the first type. It shows the crosses horizontally opposite each other and the "0" of "PORT" is extremely and unmistakably narrow.

The code letter is either "A" or "C".
PORT STANLEY datetamp (type PS.1B) - VARIETIES

In 1932, the Postmaster found himself to be without the type for the year "32", and a small curly "2" was inserted during some January dates. A curly "32" was also in use, mainly from February onwards but also on 1 January.

1932 (January) Curly "2" for "32"

1932 (1 January + February onwards) Curly "32"
The second pair of Port Stanley datestamps was introduced in 1935. They are larger than the first pair.

1935-44 PORT STANLEY + FALKLAND ISLANDS datestamp (type PS.2A)

The most obvious identifying factor for this canceller is the very wide space between "FALKLAND" and "ISLANDS". The code letter is "A", "B" or "C".
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

POST OFFICE MAIL BAG SEAL

This cancellation was probably used for sealing mail bags and not at all meant for cancelling stamps. It was in use some time during the 1890s and only 3 stamps with it are recorded: 1891 2 1/2d., 1892 2 1/2d. and 1892 1/2d.
On 1 September 1888 the Imperial Parcel Post was extended to the Falkland Islands. Coinciding with this postal event is a parcel cancellation. It measures 82 mm in length and comprises 5 lines. Little is known about for how long it was in use; probably only for a few years; but it was used in the 1890's. Earlier it was believed to be a Canadian cancellation but it has been found in the Stanley post office archives.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

GOVERNMENT HOUSE REC.D datestamp

This marking is perhaps not a strictly postal one; but it was used in the Government House around the turn of the century. The earliest recorded date is 3 March 1899. Impressions are always found in red.
FAKLAND ISLANDS

OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

1899-

1899- OFFICIAL PAID marking

Mail from official sources in the Falkland Islands destined for overseas bears a circular "OFFICIAL PAID" marking. This handstamp was handed over by the G.P.O. in London on 19 July 1899. It is still in use but has never been used much except in recent years.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

POST OFFICE CROWN

This hand stamp was probably in the personal possession of the postmaster and primarily used for sealing mail bags. However it is known to have been used in 1906 as a postal cancellation on a number of parcels with minerals which came to London via Port Stanley from South Georgia. Impressions are usually found in violet.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

OVAL POST OFFICE CROWN

Nothing is known about this cancellation. However it might be related to the circular Post Office Crown, they show many similarities. The few known impressions all have the same date 5 FEB 14.
THE CROWN REGISTERED MARKINGS

1869-1907 THE FIRST TYPE, OLD TYPE CROWN AND LETTERS
Registration of letters and packets of printed papers was authorised from 1 June 1862 according to official sources. The earliest recorded example of this marking is on a cover from 1869. Registration labels were introduced in 1907 and replaced the marking.

1899-1914(?) THE SECOND TYPE, MODERN CROWN AND LETTERS
The second type has so far only been recorded on one cover and on one stamp. It was in use in the Fox Bay Post Office in the early part of its existence and was probably replaced by registration labels sometime between 1910 and 1914. The only known cover with this marking is dated 1902.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

Large R, FALKLAND ISLANDS and date

This is another early registration marking, thought to have been utilised for official registered mail. It had little use and there are only a few proof impressions from the 1880-s and 1890-s and two part covers from 1904. The piece below, struck in 1891, marks it as "obsolete".
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

REGISTRATION LABELS

The old Crown REGISTERED markings were replaced by registration labels soon after the turn of the century. The earliest recorded use of registration labels is: Port Stanley-1907, Fox Bay-1914, New Island-1915, South Georgia-1910, South Shetlands-1915.
TAX MARKINGS

The DEFICIENT POSTAGE, FINE marking (type T.4) was ordered in March 1868 together with the first datestamp and the piece below dated September 1891 marks it as "obsolete". However, it is known to have been used in 1904 and in the 1930's.

The T-marking (type T.1) was introduced in about 1890 and remained in use up to 1944. The piece below is also dated September 1891 and marks it as "now in use".

[Images of the markings are shown]
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

C W PERFIN

This is the only recorded perfin (security puncture) on Falkland Islands stamps. It was probably used by Charles Williams who operated a private banking, retail and trading business in Port Stanley. The period of use would be sometime between 1905 and 1915.
Stamps of the Falkland Islands are not seldom found with parts of British cancellations. Normally this would be the result of mail having been uncancelled by the Falkland Islands Post Office but it could also be stamps from mail posted on board a ship travelling on the high seas. London and other major ports are the ones mostly seen but some other towns may be found as well.
BRITISH CANCELLATIONS - LONDON

Stamps of the Falkland Islands are not seldom found with parts of British cancellations. Normally this would be the result of mail having been uncanceled by the Falkland Islands Post Office but it could also be stamps from mail posted on board a ship travelling on the high seas. Another category are stamps already cancelled in the Falklands which accidentally receive an additional cancellation or part of it, at some other place.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

BRITISH CANCELLATIONS - LONDON continued
FOREIGN CANCELLATIONS

Stamps of the Falkland Islands are sometimes found with parts of foreign cancellations. Normally this would be the result of mail having been uncancelled by the Falkland Islands Post Office but it could also be stamps from mail posted on board a ship travelling on the high seas. Cancellations of South American origin are the ones mostly seen but other countries may be found as well.
OTHER POSTAL MARKINGS

PAQUEBOT CANCELLATIONS

Stamps of the Falkland Islands are sometimes found with parts of Paquebot cancellations. They are the result of mail posted on board a ship registered in the Falkland Islands travelling on the high seas.

The mail was normally delivered to the Post Office at the first port of call and cancelled there with a Paquebot cancellation if such a cancellation was available. The ones seen on Falkland Islands stamps are mainly of British or South American origin.
FOREIGN STAMPS

Occasionally foreign stamps are found with Falkland Islands cancellations. This is much more unusual than Falkland Islands stamps with foreign cancellations and is normally the result of paquebot mail but could also be incidental. British stamps are the ones most frequently seen.
CANCELLATIONS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN

Stamps of the Falkland Islands are sometimes found with parts of obliteratorors or other kinds of cancellations without place names or some other kind of identification information. These cancellations could be from any country although South America and Great Britain would probably be the most likely places of origin. Some of them may also be of local origin but as such not yet identified.