

MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY



IN 1891 THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL GRANTED THE MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY A FIFTY-YEAR CHARTER TO ADMINISTER A PORTION OF THE COLONY OF MOZAMBIQUE. THE COMPANY HELD SWAY OVER 52,000 SQUARE MILES (ABOUT ONE-SIXTH OF THE COLONY), AND NEARLY 400,000 PEOPLE. THE GOVERNMENT DECLINED TO RENEW THE CHARTER WHEN IT EXPIRED ON JULY 18, 1941, BUT THE COMPANY CONTINUED FOR SOME TIME TO ENJOY A MEASURE OF INFLUENCE IN ITS FORMER DOMAIN.

THIS EXHIBIT INCLUDES ALL OF THE MAJOR VARIETIES OF POSTAGE STAMPS ISSUED BY THE COMPANY, AS LISTED IN THE LEADING U.S. CATALOG.

1892



1894



THE COMPANY'S FIRST ISSUE CONSISTED OF OVERPRINTED MOZAMBIQUE STAMPS. THE KING LUIZ STAMPS OF 1886 AND THE NEWSPAPER STAMP OF 1893, ALL OF WHICH WERE TYPOGRAPHED, WERE OVERPRINTED BY THE COMPANY AND ISSUED IN 1892 AND 1894.

1895-1907



THE COMPANY'S FIRST REGULAR SET, CONSISTING OF 33 VALUES, PICTURED THE COMPANY'S COAT OF ARMS. THESE WERE THE FIRST STAMPS TO INCLUDE ELEPHANTS IN THE DESIGN. THE STAMPS WERE TYPOGRAPHED.

1895



1899 - 1900



PROVISIONAL OVERPRINTS OF EARLIER DESIGNS WERE ISSUED IN 1895 AND 1899 - 1900.

1898



THE SET MARKING THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF VASCO DA GAMA'S DISCOVERY OF THE ROUTE TO INDIA WAS UNUSUAL IN THAT IT WAS NOT OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES' COMMON DESIGN, AND WAS ISSUED WITHOUT GUM.

1906



THE COMPANY'S FIRST POSTAGE DUE SET WAS TYPOGRAPHED.

1911



THE PROCLAMATION OF THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC IN 1910 RESULTED IN THE LOCAL 'REPÚBLICA' OVERPRINTS, WHICH READ FROM UPPER LEFT TO LOWER RIGHT.



THE 15 VALUES WHICH HAD BEEN PROVISIONALLY OVERPRINTED, AS WELL AS THE DUES OF 1906, WERE OVERPRINTED IN LISBON FROM LOWER LEFT TO UPPER RIGHT TO CONFORM WITH PORTUGUESE OVERPRINTS OF 1910.

1916



1918



THE CURRENCY CHANGE OF 1916, FROM REIS AND MILREIS TO CENTAVOS AND ESCUDOS, RESULTED IN OVERPRINTS OF THE REGULAR STAMPS AND NEW PRINTINGS OF THE DUES, WHICH WERE AGAIN TYPOGRAPHED.

1917



THE COMPANY'S ONLY SEMI-POSTAL SET, WHICH WAS INTENDED TO AID THE RED CROSS, WAS IN USE FOR ONE DAY ONLY : JULY 31, 1917.

1919



THE COMPANY'S COAT OF ARMS APPEARED AGAIN ON THIS ENGRAVED SET OF POSTAGE DUES.

1918 - 1931 (CONTINUED)



1920



THE LARGEST AND LONGEST-RUNNING SET ISSUED BY THE COMPANY INCLUDED 44 VALUES ON THIS AND THE PRECEDING PAGE, AND ALSO FEATURED THE MOST EXQUISITE ENGRAVING. NINE VALUES WERE OVER-PRINTED IN 1920.

1918-1931



1931



TWO ADDITIONAL VALUES, WHICH WERE LITHOGRAPHED, AUGMENTED THE SET ISSUED BETWEEN 1918 AND 1931.

1935



THE FIRST COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE, A SINGLE ENGRAVED STAMP, MARKED THE OPENING OF A NEW BRIDGE OVER THE ZAMBEZI RIVER.

1932 - 33



THE FIRST POSTAL TAX STAMP WAS AN OVERPRINT OF A 1923 REGULAR. THIS WAS QUICKLY FOLLOWED BY A LITHOGRAPHED STAMP OF THE SAME FACE VALUE.



THE COMPANY'S ONLY AIRMAIL SET FEATURED THE SAME ENGRAVING OF A PLANE OVER BEIRA AS THE TRIANGULAR COMMEMORATIVES.

1935



THE SECOND COMMEMORATIVE SET, ALSO ENGRAVED, MARKED THE INAUGURATION OF AIRMAIL SERVICE BETWEEN BLANTYRE AND BEIRA, THE CAPITAL CITY.



PERHAPS THE PRETTIEST OF THE COMPANY'S STAMPS, THIS SET OF BI-COLORS WAS ENGRAVED BY WATERLOW & SONS OF LONDON.

1939



THE TRIANGLES FROM THE 1937 SET WERE OVERPRINTED TO MARK THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF PORTUGAL TO BEIRA.

1940



A SINGLE TYPOGRAPHED STAMP MARKED 800 YEARS OF PORTUGUESE INDEPENDENCE.

1941



ANOTHER SET OF WATERLOW & SONS ENGRAVINGS MARKED THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY.

1940



1941



TWO LITHOGRAPHED POSTAL TAX STAMPS WERE AMONG THE LAST ISSUES OF THE MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.