

THE FIRST ISSUE OF JAIPUR

Purpose: This traditional exhibit displays an in-depth study of the various printings of the 1904 Provisional lithograph issue of Jaipur that was produced locally while the State awaited receipt of postage stamps from Perkins Bacon.

Background: Jaipur was a Princely State (sovereign entity of India during the British rule that was **not** directly governed by the British, but rather by a local ruler under a form of indirect rule, subject to a subsidiary alliance and the suzerainty or paramountcy of the British Crown) of India from 1128 to 7 April 1949 when it became part of present day Rajasthan State. Jaipur was one of the larger Princely States in India with an area of 15,601 square miles (1931) and a population of 2,631,775 (1931).

Philatelic Background: The State run postal system ("Raj Dak" meaning "State Post") was started in 1773 A.D. Raj Dak (State Post). The Imperial (British-India) Post also operated post-offices within the State of Jaipur.

Following in the footsteps of other nearby Princely States such as Alwar & Bundi, Jaipur decided to issue postage stamps in 1904. An order was placed with Perkins Bacon, England for stamps in the denomination of ½ anna in blue, 1 anna in red and 2 annas in green. Rather than waiting for the arrival of these stamps from England the State decided to produce provisional stamps locally. A set of lithographic stones with 12 stamps were produced for all three denominations. The ½ anna stone saw the most duty (½ anna being the rate for a single weight letter). The ½ anna stone (Stone IA), shortly after being put to use, had to be extensively re-drawn (Stone IB). Shortly thereafter, the ½ anna stone of 12 was replaced by a ½ anna stone of 24

(Stone II); which was again replaced by another ½ anna stone of 24 (Stone III).

Each sheet had the number of stamps contained in it printed on the top and all sheets were gummed before being issued. All issued sheets also contain a manuscript sheet number in red on the top right corner.

Exhibit Layout:

Value	Stone	Color	Imperforate / Perf.
½ anna	IA	Pale slate-blue	Imperforate & Perf. 14
½ anna	IB	Pale blue	Imperforate & Perf. 14
½ anna	IB	Ultramarine	Imperforate & Perf. 14
½ anna	II	Grey-blue	Imperforate
½ anna	II	Grey-blue	Perf. 14
½ anna	II	Ultramarine	Imperforate
½ anna	II	Ultramarine	Perf. 14
½ anna	II	Ultramarine	Rouletted
½ anna	II	Greenish-blue	Perf. 14
½ anna	III	Pale blue	Perf. 14
½ anna	III	Deep blue	Perf. 14
1 anna	I	Dull red	Perf. 14
1 anna	I	Scarlet	Perf. 14
2 anna	I	Pale green	Perf. 14
2 anna	I	Emerald	Perf. 14

Highlights: Important pieces have been mounted against a brown-red background.



Registered internal homemade cover franked with all three denominations of Jaipur's first issue; ½ anna deep-blue (Stone III) + 1 anna pale red + 2 anna pale green making up the 3½ anna rate (½ anna postage for letters weighting under ¼ tola + 3 annas Registration fee) with boxed registration strike on the obverse.

Less than 6 such three denomination covers of the first issue have been recorded by the exhibitor.

Shortly after an order was placed with Perkins Bacon for the supply of postage stamps, Jaipur State postal authorities decided to produce a provisional issue to carry them over till the arrival of stamps from London. A hand-drawn essay was produced; the provisional first issue stamps of Jaipur were based on the design of this hand drawn essay.



On pink card - ex. Raja Amar Nath Atal's collection. Unique.

The very first stamp of Jaipur was not recognized & properly identified till 2014 (110 years after it was issued) when a detailed article by Jeffreys, Batia & Porwal appeared in *India Post* Vol. 48 which led Stanley Gibbons, in their 2015 catalog, to change their listing of Jaipur's first issue to include this new discovery (listed in their catalog as 1c and 1d). These stamps were produced from the first ½ anna lithographic Stone (Stone IA). They were printed in sheets of 12 and were issued both imperforate and with rough perforation 14. The stamps were printed in pale slate-blue with sharp clear printing. Distinguishing features: The inner white lines are thin and in all sheet positions there is a noticeable gap between the top of the umbrella and the inner frameline; narrow spacing (2 - 2.5 mm) between stamps.

½ Anna

Stone IA

Pale Slate Blue

Proof in black



Position 9 (R3/1)
Imperf



Position 2 (R1/2)
Imperf



Position 6 (R2/1)
Imperf



Position 12 (R3/4)
Imperf



Position 5 (R1/5)
Rough Perf. 14

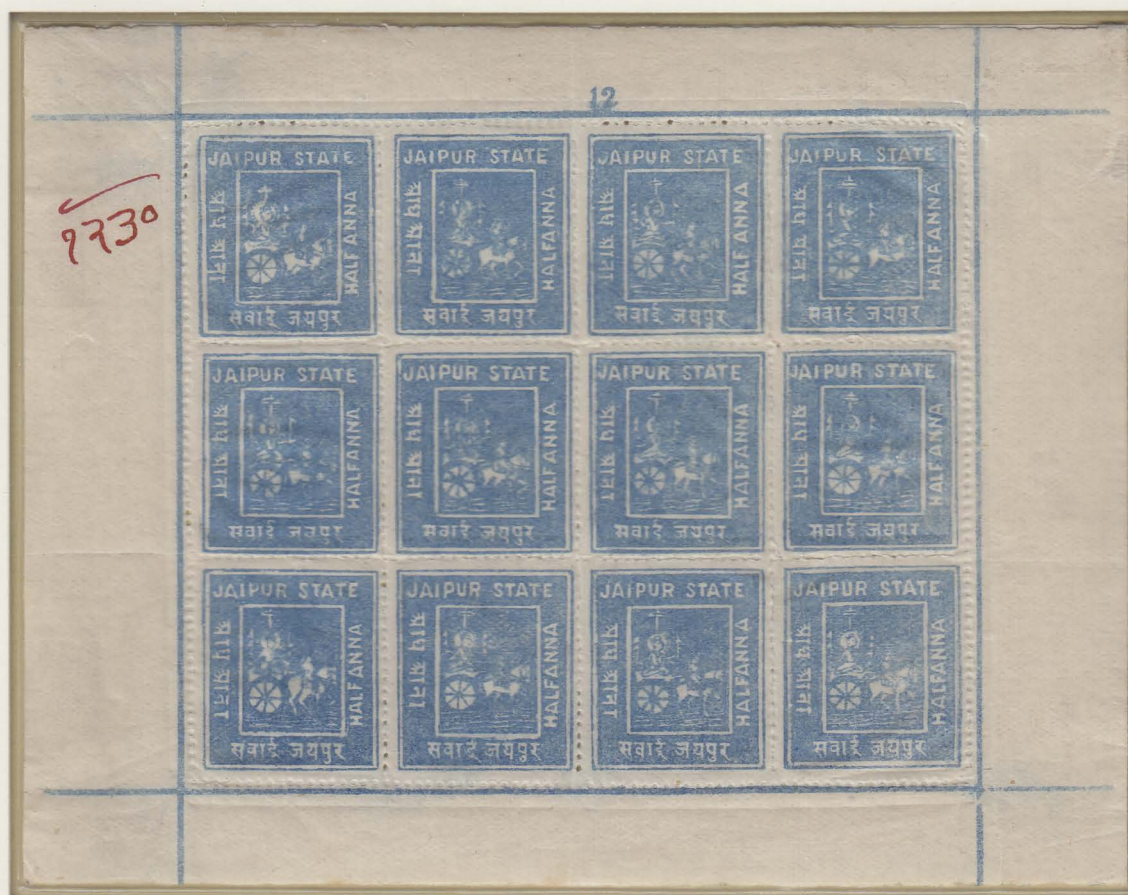
Stone IB resulted when the original Stone (IA) had to be extensively redrawn; possibly due to excessive wear. Printed in sheets of 12, issued both imperforate and with rough perforation 14. Stamps from this printing come in (a) pale blue and (b) ultramarine. Distinguishing features: The inner white lines are much thicker and on all positions except R 1/1 the top of the umbrella has been raised so that it touches the inner frameline"; narrow spacing (2 - 2.5 mm) between stamps.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Anna

Stone IB

(a) Pale Blue

Imperforate examples from Stone IB in pale blue were previously unrecorded (discovery copies displayed below).



Complete sheet in pale blue with sheet number "1230" in red manuscript



Position 5 (R 1/5)



Position 9 (R 3/1)



Position 10 (R 3/2)

Local cover bearing ½ anna imperf (Stone IB position 2 R1/2) dated 6 June 1904. Stanley Gibbons lists the earliest known date for this issue as 14 July 1904. This cover predates the date listed by Stanley Gibbons. BPA 82,080

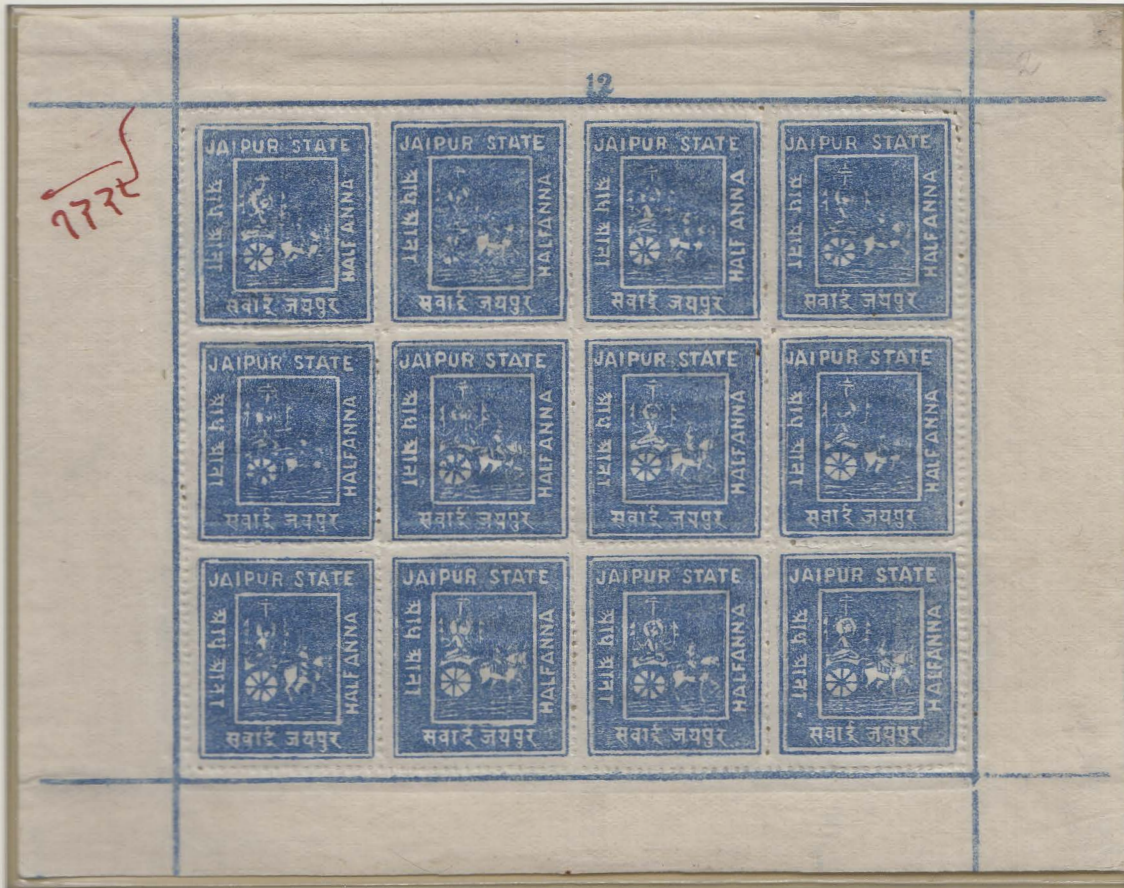
Earliest known cover bearing a Jaipur stamp. Only known cover bearing an imperf example from Stone IB.

½ Anna

Stone IB

(b) Ultramarine

Stamps from Stone IB printed in ultramarine are much scarcer than those printed from the same stone in pale blue. Imperforate examples from Stone IB are scarce in unused condition and previously unrecorded in used condition (discovery copy displayed below).



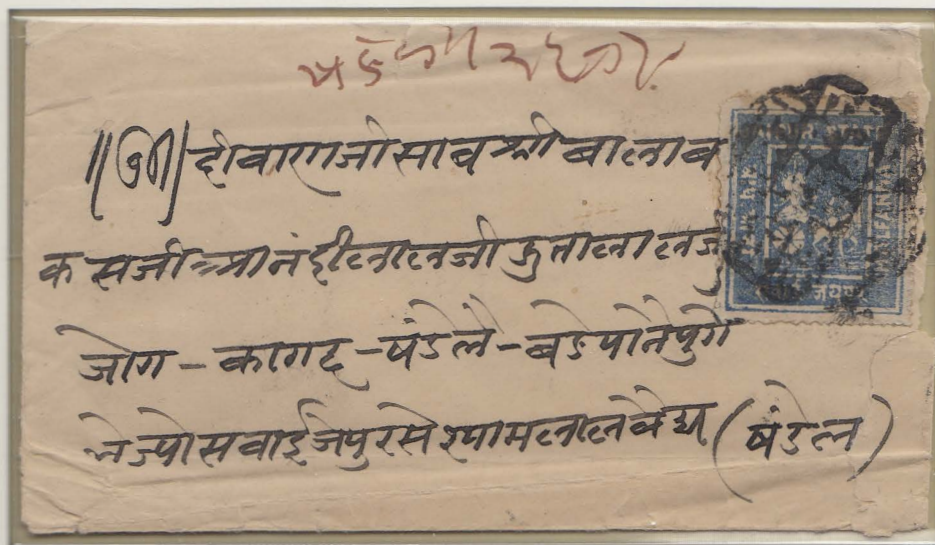
Complete sheet in ultramarine with sheet number "1229" in red manuscript



Position 1 (R 1/1)



Position 9 (R 3/1)
Imperf



Local handmade cover bearing ½ anna pale blue (Stone IB position 12 R3/4)



Position 10 (R 3/2)
Imperf

Increased demand of the ½ anna denomination and the wear and tear on the previous Stone of 12 (Stone IB) led to the production of a new Stone of 24 stamps. These were issued both imperforate and rough perf. 14. The exhibitor has discovered a single rouletted copy - most likely experimental. Stamps from this printing come in three distinct shades of: (a) Grey-blue, (b) Ultramarine and (c) Greenish-blue. Distinguishing features: Value in large letters measuring 14.5 - 15.5 mm and there is always a gap between the words "HALF" and "ANNA"; wide spacing (3 - 4 mm) between stamps.

½ Anna

Stone II

(a) Grey-blue - Imperf



Complete imperforate sheet of 24 with original gum. BPA 64,759

Proof



Position 5 (R 2/1)



Position 3 (R 1/3)



Position 7 (R 2/3)



Position 15 (R 4/3)



Position 20 (R 5/4)



Position 3 (R 1/3)



Position 10 (R 3/2)



Position 19 (R 5/3)



Position 23 (R 6/3)



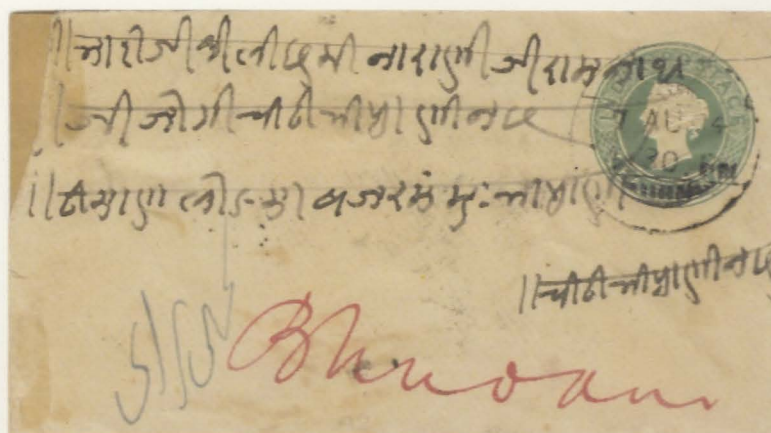
Position 15 (R 4/3)



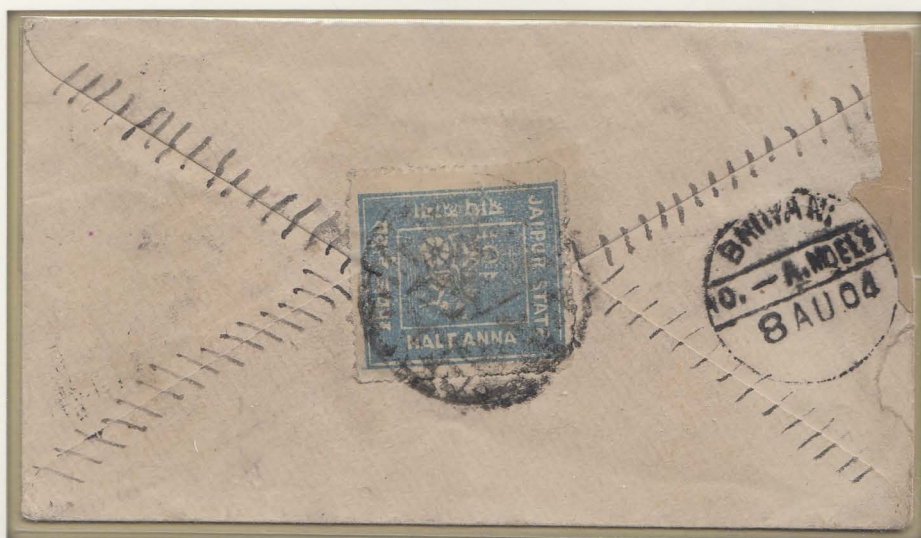
Position 11, 15, 19



Local homemade cover franked with ½ anna grey-blue perf. 4 (Stone II Pos 23 R6/3).



Photocopy of obverse



7 Aug 1904 British India ½ anna postal stationery envelope franked on reverse with Jaipur ½ anna grey-blue perf. 14 (Stone II position 23 R 6/3) cancelled by Jaipur intaglio seal strike from the State Post in Jaipur to Bhiwani (in British India).

1 of only 3 combination covers of Jaipur's first issue recorded by the exhibitor.

½ Anna Stone II (c) Ultramarine - Imperf ½ Anna Stone II (d) Ultramarine - Perf. 14

Stamps from Stone II in ultramarine with gum were also issued imperforate. These are not listed in Stanley Gibbons. Majority of the stamps printed from Stone II were in pale blue; only a handful of sheets were printed in ultramarine.



Position 1 (R 1/1)



Position 15 (R 4/3)



Position 15 (R 4/3)

½ Anna Stone II (e) Ultramarine - Rouletted

The exhibitor has discovered a rouletted example, most likely an experiment that was never implemented.

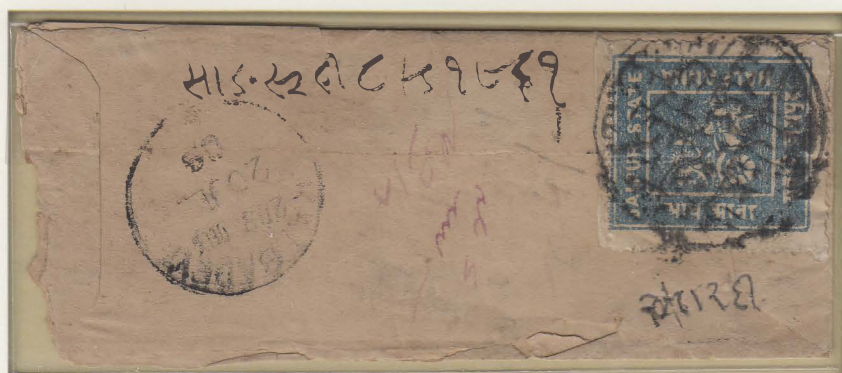


Position 15 (R 4/3)



½ Anna Stone II (f) Greenish-blue

Stamps printed from Stone II were also issued in a distinct shade of greenish-blue.

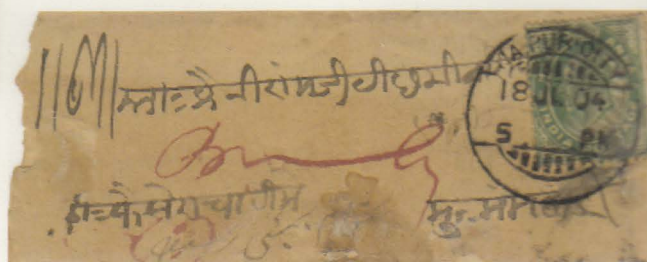


18 July 1904 homemade cover franked with British India King Edward VII ½ anna stamp additionally franked on reverse with Jaipur ½ anna greenish-blue perf. 14 (Stone II position 22 R 6/2) cancelled by Jaipur intaglio seal strike from the State Post in Jaipur to Kalhadevi (in British India).

1 of only 3 Jaipur's first issue combination cover recorded by the exhibitor.



Position 1 (R 1/1)



Photocopy of obverse

Increased demand of the ½ anna denomination and the wear and tear on the previous Stone of 24 (Stone II) led to the production of a new Stone of 24 stamps. These were issued both imperforate and rough perf. 14. Stamps from this printing come in a variety of shades as there several printings were made. Distinguishing features: Value in large letters measuring 16 - 17mm Both side inscriptions start below the inner frame line; narrow spacing (1.5 - 2 mm) between stamps.

½ Anna

Stone III

(a) Pale Blue

24



Imperforate Proof of complete sheet of 24. BPA 67,080

9929



Perf. 14 complete sheet of 24 sheet number "1121" in red

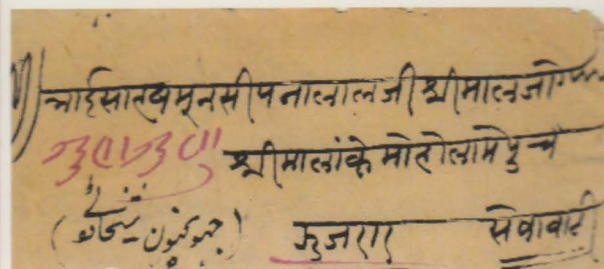


Three local homemade covers paying (i) the single rate, (ii) double rate and (iii) triple rate postage for ordinary letters.



Local homemade cover franked with an imperforate copy of 1/2 anna pale blue (Stone III Position 14 R 4/2) tied by 20 Nov 04 native cds.

The only known example of an imperforate copy from Stone III on cover.



Photocopy of obverse.

½ Anna

Stone III

(b) Deep Blue

24



Imperforate Proof of complete sheet of 24.



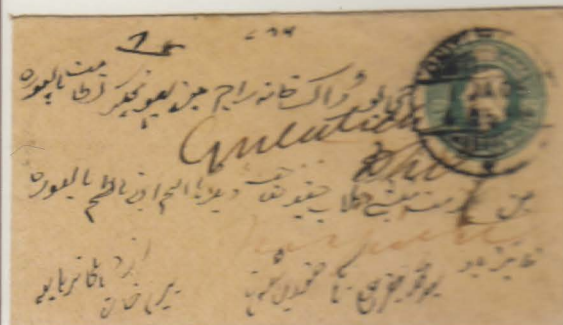
Perf. 14 complete sheet of 24
sheet number "442" in red



Position 10, 12, 14, 15
(R 3/2-3, R 4/2-3)



Position 1-8 (R 1/1-4 & R 2/1-4)
Largest known used multiple of the first issue of Jaipur.



1 Jan 1905 British India 1/2 anna postal stationery envelope additionally franked with Jaipur 1/2 anna deep blue perf. 14 (Stone III position 21 R 6/1) from Chitorgah (British India) to Jaipur. The sender knew that the Imperial Post would transfer the letter to the Jaipur State post for delivery (as there was no Imperial Post office in close proximity to service the addressee) and hence affixed the Jaipur 1/2 anna stamp to pre-pay for the Jaipur State postage charges thereby eliminating the recipient from having to pay twice the deficiency i.e. 1 anna upon receipt of the letter.

This is the only known incoming combination cover bearing the first issue of Jaipur.



Triple weight local handmade cover bearing three copies of the 1/2 anna deep blue.

1 Anna

All 1 anna stamps were printed from the original stone. The stamps were printed in sheets of 12 in two distinct shades (a) dull red (b) scarlet, the latter shade being considerably rarer. Issued with rough perf. 14; imperforate examples unknown with gum.



Complete imperforate Proof sheet of 12 - ex. Raja Amar Nath Atal's collection.
The exhibitor knows of only two such sheets.



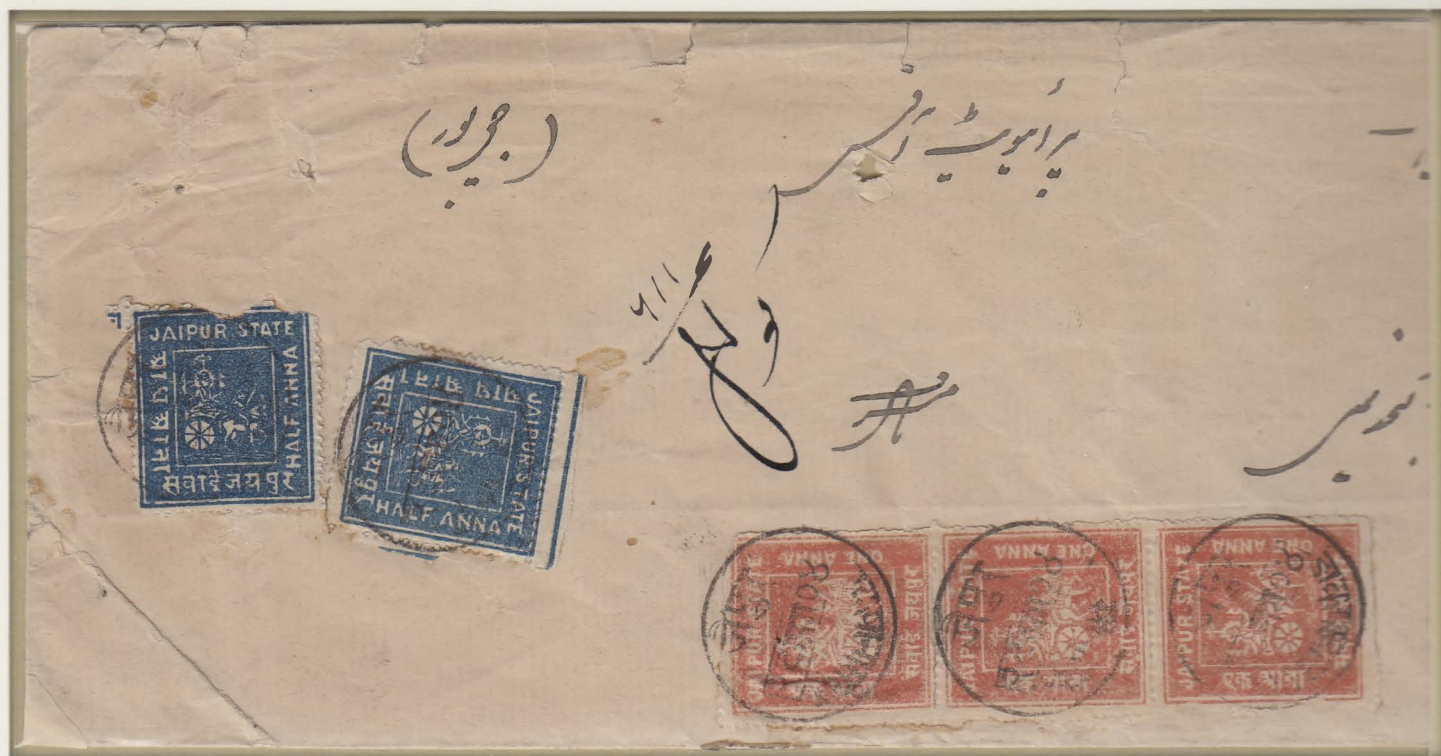
Complete imperforate Proof sheet of 12 in green (possibly an error of color) - ex. Raja Amar Nath Atal's collection.
The exhibitor, based on his research, believes this to be unique.



Position 11-12 (R 3/3-4)



Local double weight cover franked with 1 anna Position 7 (R 2/3). The exhibitor has recorded only three such 1 anna single franking cover.



28 Aug. 1904 local registered handmade cover franked with 1/2 anna Stone III x 2 and a strip of 3 of the 1 anna Position 1, 5, 9.

The exhibitor, based on his own research, has determined the ratio of all 1 anna stamps as 95% Dull red to 5% Scarlet



Triple weight cover bearing 1 anna scarlet + ½ anna (Perkins Bacon issue).
Covers bearing both first and second issue of Jaipur are rare.



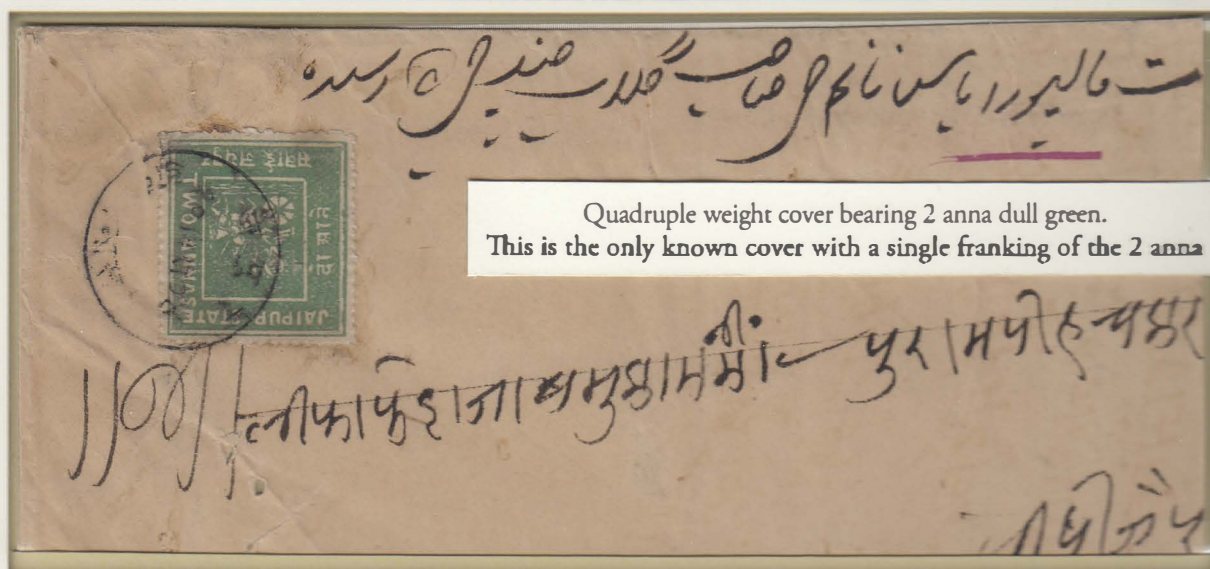
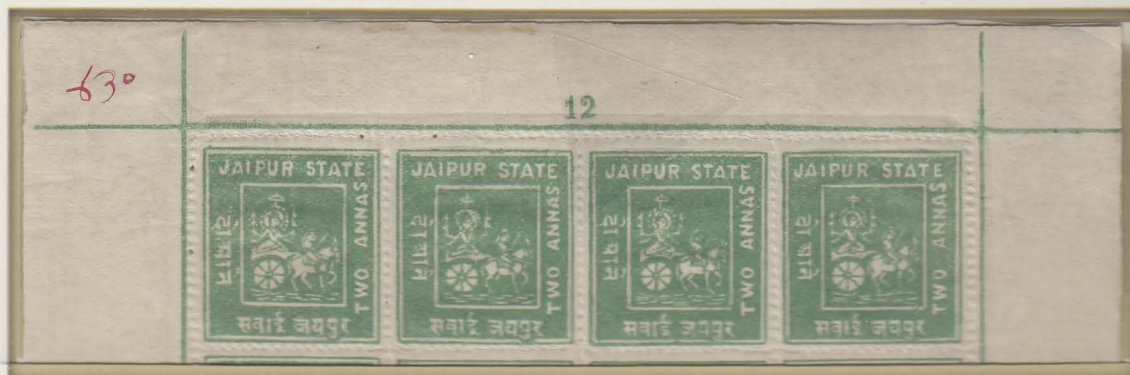
Registered letter bearing both shades of the 1 anna + ½ anna. The letter was been underpaid by 1 anna

All 2 anna stamps were printed from the original stone. The stamps were printed in sheets of 12 in two distinct shades (a) dull green (b) emerald. These stamps were issued with rough perf. 14; imperforate examples unknown with gum.

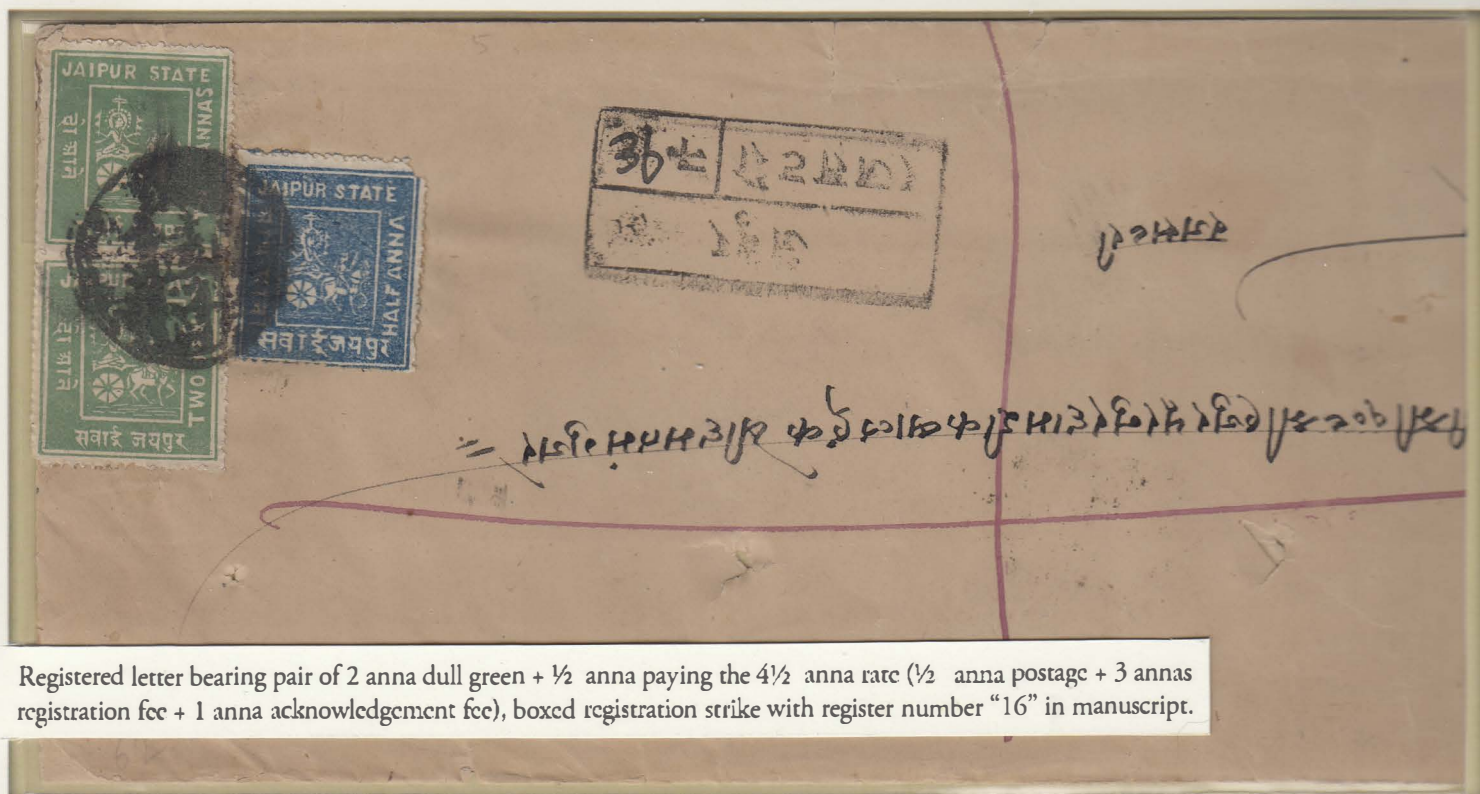
2 Annas

Stone I

(a) Pale green



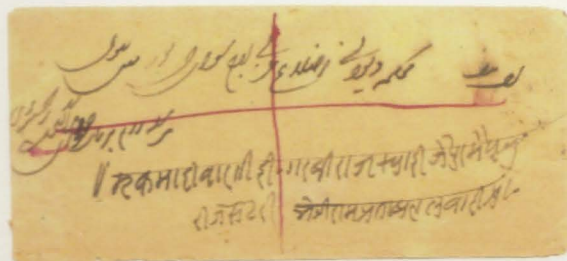
Quadruple weight cover bearing 2 anna dull green.
This is the only known cover with a single franking of the 2 anna



Registered letter bearing pair of 2 anna dull green + 1/2 anna paying the 4 1/2 anna rate (1/2 anna postage + 3 annas registration fee + 1 anna acknowledgement fee), boxed registration strike with register number "16" in manuscript.



Complete sheet of 12 with sheet number "102" in red manuscript.



Photocopy of obverse.



Registered letter bearing 2 anna emerald + $\frac{1}{2}$ anna + 1 anna x 2 ($\frac{1}{2}$ anna postage + 3 annas registration fee + 1 anna acknowledgement fee).
Less than 6 such three denomination covers of the first issue have been recorded by the exhibitor.