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THE INVERTED POST OFFICE STAMP OF 1911

By Michael Bloom ISGC 1010

One of the rarer errors of Guatemala is the 1911 American Bank Note Company 25c blue and black "post office" design with the center inverted (Scott 141a, G2 163b). After acquiring a used single and a cover bearing the invert, I decided to research these items and to have them expertized. Much of the information in this article was published in 2004 by Brian Moorhouse in the last issue of *The Mainsheet* on pages 2-3 of the August 2004 issue.

The Mainsheet was published by the Spanish Main Society from 1971-2004 for collectors of Latin America and Caribbean islands. It was based in the UK, and Brian Moorhouse was the editor of the publication for over 20 years.

According to the *Guatemala-2* handbook it is believed that only one sheet of 100 copies ever existed and that this was sold unwittingly over the post office counter in Guatemala City sometime around early December 1911. All



Note the grayish paper and centering to the lower left

known copies of the stamp tend to be centered low and printed on the greyish paper of the first printing, which consisted of 100,000 copies. Additional printings of this value were made in 1917.