

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Broad 'H') / 1

Frescura lists the following as his GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot) ER & LR.

ER

LR

HC GRAHAMS TOWN blank or letter time code. 19 SP 1892 7 JA 1899

Kelly has identified two types of GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot) with either a 'Broad H' or a 'Narrow H'. This is a new area of distinction which Jurgens, Putzel, Goldblatt and Frescura do not cover. As in all things new, your advice, comments and examples will be greatly help our coming to terms with this.

A feature of the GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot) with 'Broad H' or a 'Narrow H' is the absence of an Asterisk, likely due to it being lost and not replaced. If true, it suggests that the Asterisk performed no vital function and was never very important, indeed neither was a fully-functioning or complete HCD.

Some suggest that the absence of the Asterisk indicates an 'early' Time Code. It may do but likely not in this case where all the mail between September 1892 and January 1899 lacked an Asterisk and cannot all have been 'early'. Also, most of the postmarks seen during this time include a Time Code letter, showing that they were received and recorded at specific times. An interesting feature of these Time Code letters is the seemingly random and disorderly placement of them in either the top or bottom segments.

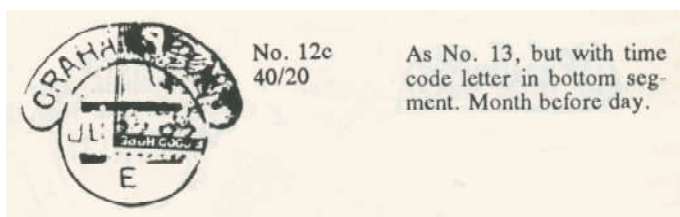
Putzel lists five GRAHAMS TOWN HCDs, all reproduced here. Importantly, his No. 12 shows the standard format that we have come to see in many early HCDs - Asterisk top, Date as DD/MM/YY and Time Code letter below. (See GRAHAMS TOWN (Dot) / 3.) However, he has missed a few things, specifically the 'Dot' and the 'No Dot' types and the size of the type (text). Despite presenting a reasonable and complete set of varieties, there is little to learn from his incomplete advice.



AU 22 90
TOP: Time Code Letter E
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Not visible, probably nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Hannath

Note: The year of this postmark is unclear but it appears to be '90'. It has no dot and the 'H' is broad. It defies Frescura's ER. Where are other examples?

Clearly, there is no dot. The 'H' appears broad-ish! Is this a new and much earlier No Dot ER.



JU 22 92
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Time Code Letter E
USED: Shown as listed illustration
SOURCE: R. Putzel. (Postmarks of SA Vol 3/261.)
HOOD LETTER SIZE: 3mm tall, the average of the three text sizes Kelly has identified. 'H broad'.
NO RAISED DOT: Blank between 'S' and 'T'.

- * No Dot
- * Larger Text: 3mm
- * 'H' broad
- * Diameter Circle: 18mm
- * Height Circle & Hood: 24mm
- * Width Hood: 28mm
- * Used 1892 - 1893
- * ER: JU 06 92 (Kelly)
- * LR: JA 26 93 (Kelly)

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Broad 'H') / 2



xU 7 92
TOP: Time Code Letter C
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Kelly



SP 30 92
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Unclear. Possibly Time Code Letter E or F
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Hannath



OC 14 92
TOP: Time Code Letter E
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Kelly



OC 31 92
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Time Code Letter E
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Hannath



JA 26 93
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Time Code Letter E
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: S. Kelly

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Broad H) / 3



**1893. Post Card. GRAHAMS TOWN 'AP 24 93' to LONDON, GB.
GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot) variable format - NO Asterisk either top or bottom;
Date as Month, Day, Year; Time Code letter ('O' or 'D') above.**

AP 24 93

TOP: Time Code Letter O nor D.

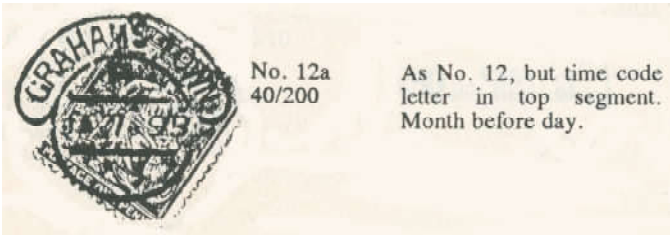
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch

SOURCE: Y. Larides.

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Narrow H) / 1



No. 12a
40/200

As No. 12, but time code
letter in top segment.
Month before day.

JA 27 93

TOP: Time Code Letter A or H

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Unclear.

USED: As listed illustration

SOURCE: R. Putzel. (Postmarks of SA Vol 3/261.)



JU 7 93

TOP: Time Code Letter **D** (bold)

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch.

SOURCE: S. Kelly



DE 7 93

TOP: Time Code Letter B

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing ???

USED: On dispatch.

SOURCE: S. Kelly



S. Kelly



OC 7 94

1st blank receiver!

TOP: Nothing

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On receipt

SOURCE: S. Kelly.....This is Putzel No. 12d



OC 8 94

TOP: Time Code Letter **D**

(bold)

BETWEEN BARS: Month

Day Year (bold)

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch

SOURCE: eBay



FE 11 95

TOP: Time Code Letter **F** (bold?)

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch.

SOURCE: R. Hill

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Narrow H) / 2



MR 26 95
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: R. Hill

Blank dispatch canceller



R. Goldblatt
 HCDS 3

AP 12 95
TOP: Time Code Letter A
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: Unknown. Example illustration ex 'Postmarks of the CoGH'.
SOURCE: R. Goldblatt



- * No Dot
- * Larger Text: 3mm
- * 'H' narrow
- * Diameter Circle: 18mm
- * Height Circle & Hood: 24mm
- * Width Hood: 28mm
- * Used 1895 - 1897
- * ER: AP 06 95 (Kelly)
- * LR: FE 15 97 (Kelly)

AP 16 95
TOP: Time Code Letter F
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: As illustration and on dispatch
SOURCE: S. Kelly



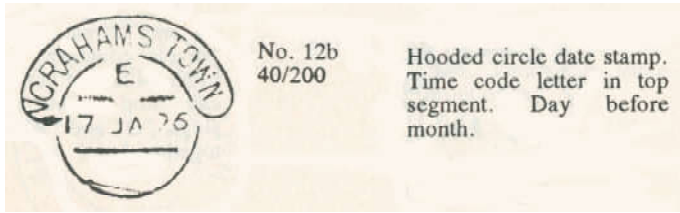
MY 15 95
TOP: Time Code Letter A
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: R. Hill



JY 7 95
TOP: Nothing
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year
BOTTOM: Nothing
USED: On dispatch.
SOURCE: R. Hill

1st blank on dispatch!

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Narrow H) / 3



17 JA 96

TOP: Time Code Letter E

BETWEEN BARS: Day, Month, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: As listed illustration

SOURCE: R. Putzel. (Postmarks of SA Vol 3/261.)



JU 29 96

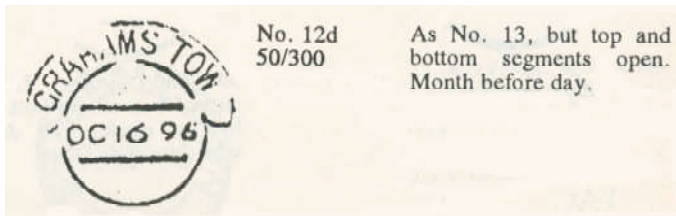
TOP: Time Code Letter F

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch.

SOURCE: R. Hill



OC 16 96 2nd blank - unknown

TOP: Nothing

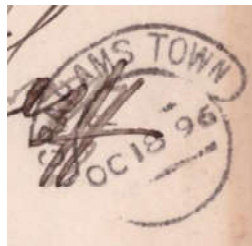
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: As listed illustration

SOURCE: R. Putzel. (Postmarks of SA Vol 3/261.)

“As No. 13” should be “As No. 12”.



OC 18 96

3rd blank - receiver!

TOP: Nothing

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: As illustration and on receipt ??? (receiver?)

SOURCE: S. Kelly



FE 15 97

Partial receiver with TCL

TOP: Time Code Letter F

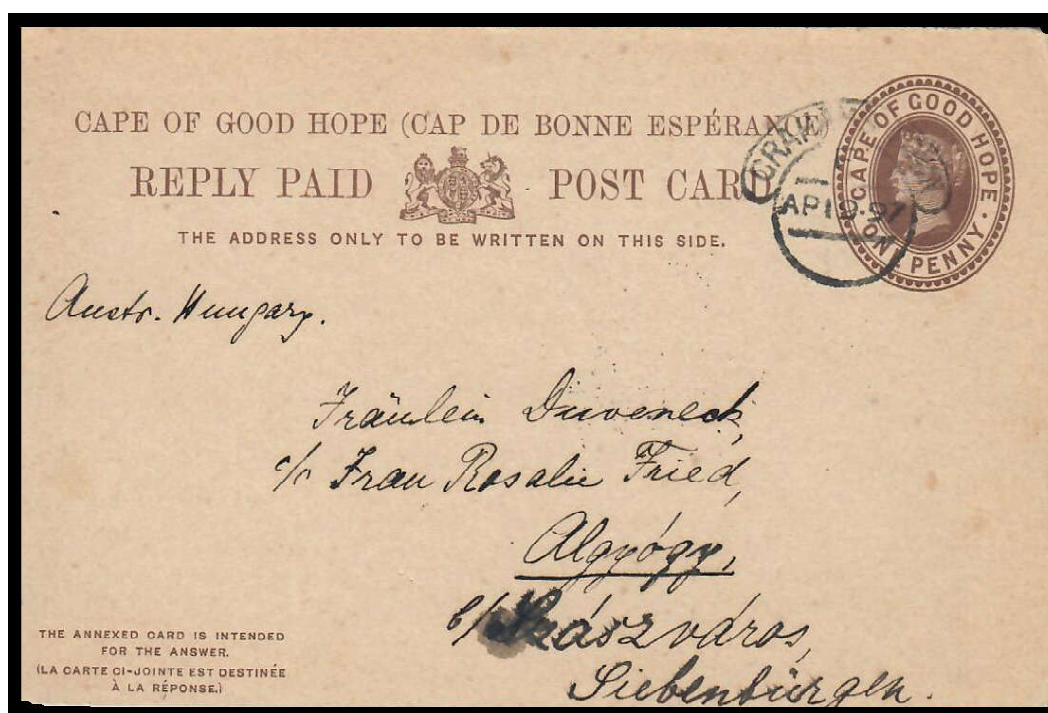
BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: Receiving & Forwarding.

SOURCE: S. Kelly

GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot, Narrow H) / 4



1897. Post Card. GRAHAMS TOWN 'AP 19 97' to AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.
GRAHAMS TOWN (No Dot) variable format - NO Asterisk either top or bottom;
Date as Month, Day, Year; Time Code letter ('C') above.

AP 19 97

TOP: Time Code Letter C.

BETWEEN BARS: Month, Day, Year

BOTTOM: Nothing

USED: On dispatch

SOURCE: Y. Larides.

That concludes a listing of all my and provided postmarks for Grahams Town. Please keep your images and comments coming. I am particularly keen to know if the Broad and Narrow 'H' has traction.

Just to keep you on your toes, I have received some dozen or so Port Elizabeth postmarks from Prof. Alex Visser. This will add greatly to that section which prior to his contribution was not doing too well except, of course, for Yannis Larides' magnificent PORT ELIZABETH ER '30 AP 88'. Will it now be replaced with an older example? Personally I hope not. It is so much nicer to have ERs on cover than on stamps.

Next up, KIMBERLEY in a day or so.