

**Exhibit Name**

# **The Royal Palm**

**A study of the world's premier landscape  
palm in nature and in the urban environment.**

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**Awards:** A new one frame exhibit just being sent out.

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# THE ROYAL PALM

A study of the world's premier landscape palm in nature and in the urban environment.



A formal planting of *Roystonea oleracea*  
in Rio de Janeiro's Jardim Botânico.

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### 3. SOUTH AMERICA

The world's most spectacular display of royal palms (*Roystonea oleracea*) can be found in Rio de Janeiro's Jardim Botânico where the first royal palms were planted in 1808 by ...



Graf Zeppelin 2<sup>nd</sup> Pendelfahrt of 1935, Recife to Bathurst, Gambia



... the Portuguese Regent Dom Joao VI,



... who ordered that all remaining seed be destroyed. Too bad he did not know that all *Roystonea* sp. are monoecious, i.e., one tree can produce viable seed since male and female flowers are found on the same tree. Within 25 years, the original trees producing fertile seed. Note the Royal Palms by the Cathedral in Sergipe.

More *Roystonea boriuena* can be found outside the Mint Building in Rio de Janeiro.



Cancelled: Sao Paulo 22-May 1898 Received: London 27-June 1898



# 1. INTRODUCTION

Using the binomial system of nomenclature, first developed by Linnaeus, our royal palms can be classified as follows:

KINGDOM: Plantae  
 ORDER: Principes  
 FAMILY: Palmae (Arecaceae)  
 SUBFAMILY: Arecoidae  
 TRIBE: Areceae  
 SUBTRIBE: Roystoneae  
 GENUS: Roystonea  
 SPECIES: Ten different

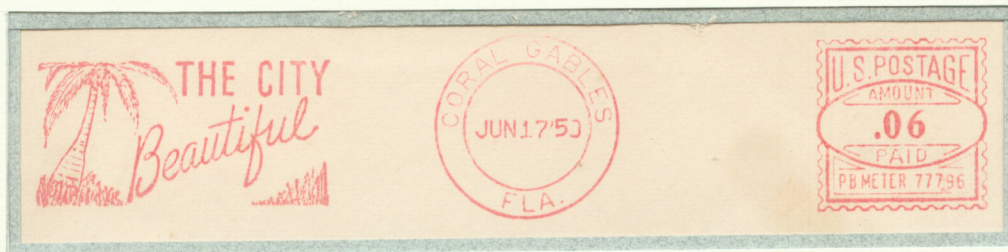
Coil Stamp

Sheet Stamp

The palm genus *Roystonea* consists of 10 large, solitary-trunked, pinnate-leaved, monoecious palms native to tropical America, principally in and around the Caribbean basin. The species are similar and are often difficult to distinguish from one another. Scientific differentiation is by inflorescence size, flower color, and other floral details, as well as height and color of trunk.

The northern limits are -  
 central Florida on the mainland and ....

Bermuda in the Atlantic.



# 2. THE CARIBBEAN BASIN

Let us now examine the various species of royal palms in and around the Caribbean, both in their natural habitat and in the urban environment.

Royal palms are found on almost every Caribbean island...  
 ... from the Bahamas in the north ...



... to these southern islands and beyond.





## 2.1 CUBA

Cuba is home to more species of royal palms than any other location in the world and has more royal palms than any other Caribbean island.



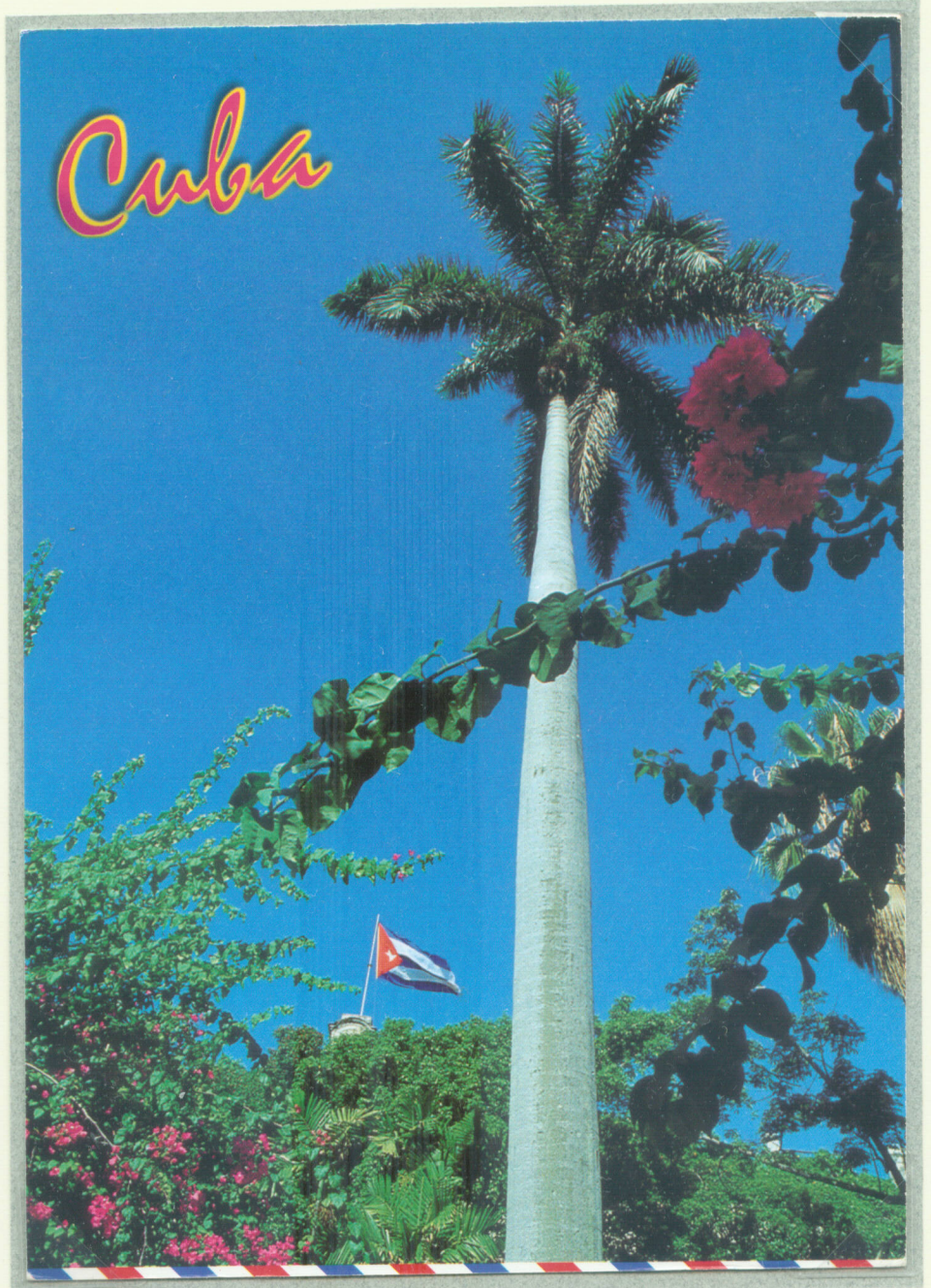
A natural grove of royal palms in the countryside.

Large Die Proof - Issued under U.S. Military Rule



## 2.1 CUBA

The *palma real* or royal palm is the national tree of Cuba.  
A single tree or a grove is an impressive sight in the countryside or an urban setting.



Undenominated Prepaid International Postal Card



U.S. Military Rule



Republic of Cuba



Indicium (COPY)



## 2.1 CUBA

The royal palm is an integral part of the Cuban landscape regardless of the island's politics...



... and can be found throughout the island.



A row of royal palms on each side of this country road near Cienfuegos breaks the monotony of endless sugar cane fields.



Undenominated postal card for international use.



## 2.1 CUBA

Royal palms can be found in the highlands of Cuba (50 centavos) and along the coast (5 centavos).



55 centavos airmail rate to Argentina Habana, Cuba July 12, 1945  
 Received Buenos Aires, Argentina July 28, 1945  
 Cuban Military Censorship - Circular Magenta Markings Front and Back  
 Trinidad Censor - IE/8067 Tape at left

The importance of the royal palm in Cuba is evidenced in paintings, both classical and modern, found in major Cuban art museums.

Paisaje Criollo by Carlos Enriquez



Carretas  
 by Eduardo Morales



Paisaje con Girasoles by Victor Manuel



La Carreta by Federico Americo



Paisaje by Gonzalo Escalante





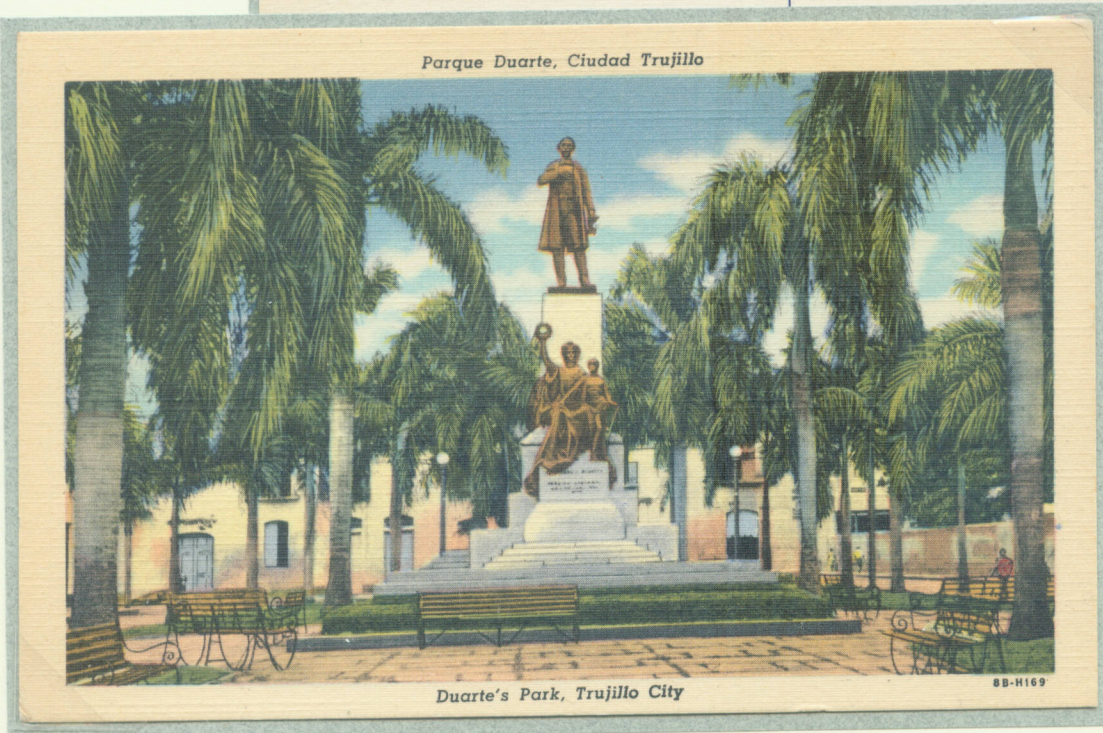
## 2.2 HISPANIOLA

The island of Hispaniola, along with Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, is home to *Roystonea boriqvena*....

...which are seen in the countryside and in the cities of the Dominican Republic.



Close inspection of the indicium reveals a solitary royal palm in front of the Hotel Jaragua, but the royal palms in Duarte Park are obvious to the most casual observer.



Postal card issued in 2 centavo value for local use and in 9 centavo air rate .



## 2.2 HISPANIOLA

Due to extensive deforestation and erosion on the Haitian side of Hispaniola, few royal palms can be found - except for those on the Haitian coat of arms.



Cancelled: Port au Prince, Haiti 1-July 1941

Despite the inviting slogan cancel above  
 TOURISTS, VISIT  
 THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI  
 we recommend you avoid any contact  
 or involvement with the General Police. ->

Royal palms around the Monastery  
 and Cathedral in Port au Prince.



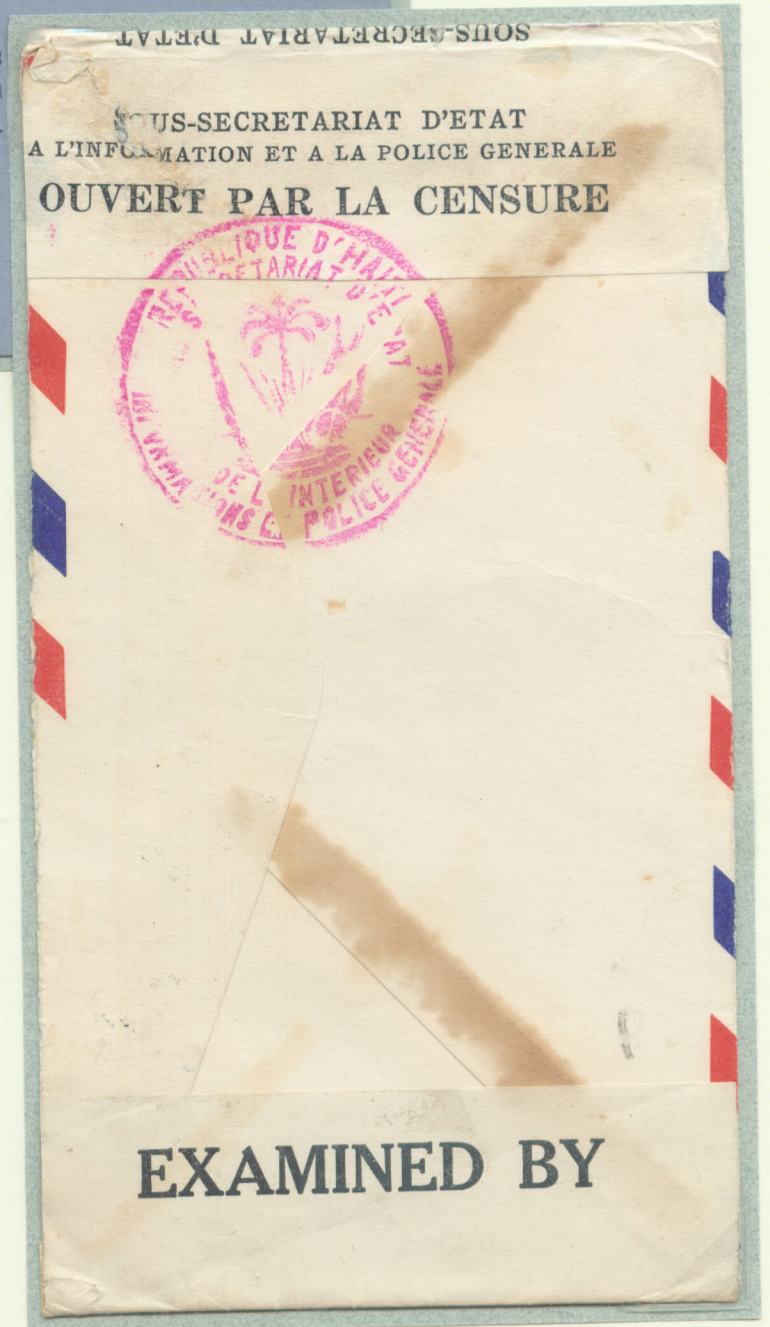
Another look at the coat of arms and its royal palm.



Erect Fronds



Droopy Fronds



Cancelled: Port au Prince, Haiti 26-May 1942  
 Haitian Censorship (top); US Censorship (bottom)  
 60 centimes air rate to USA



## 2.3 SMALLER ISLANDS

Royal palms of many species are found on most smaller Caribbean islands.

Jamaica is home to many royal palms including its own *Roystonea altissima* from the inland hills and mountains, and *Roystonea princeps*, from low-lying wet areas.

A solitary specimen on a golf course ...



... and at the Royal Botanical Gardens.



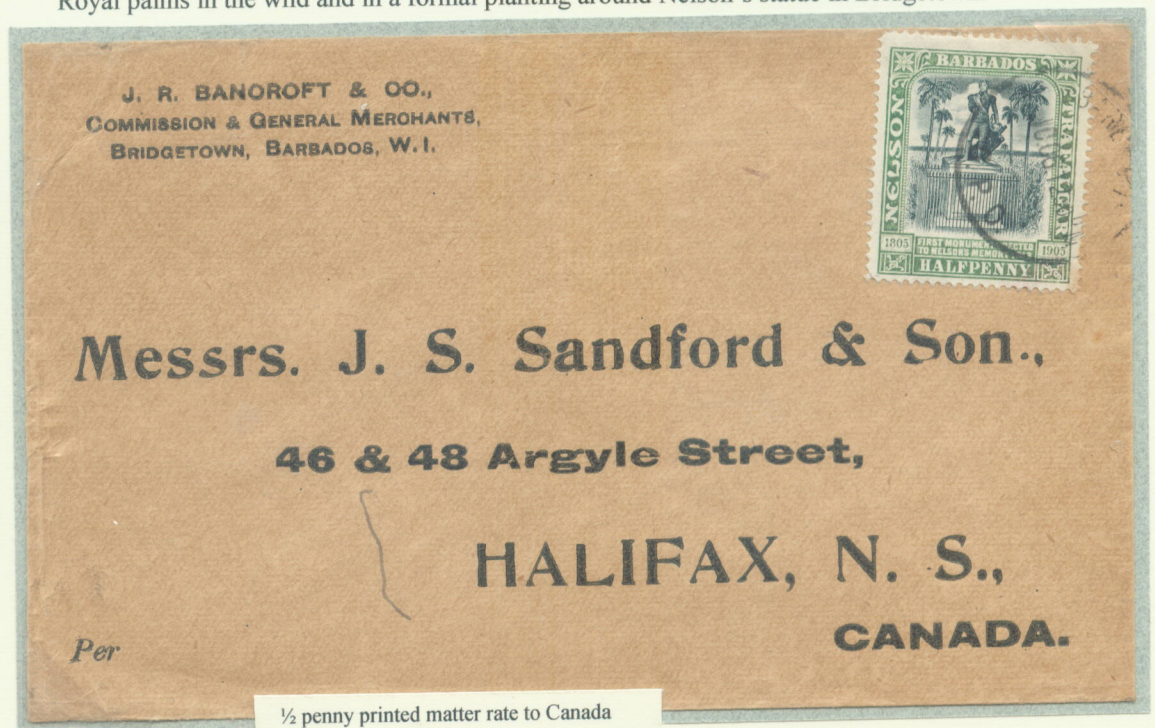
In the Lesser Antilles we find royal palms ...  
in public squares ... along rural roads...



... and in parks and botanical gardens.



Royal palms in the wild and in a formal planting around Nelson's statue in Bridgetown.



½ penny printed matter rate to Canada



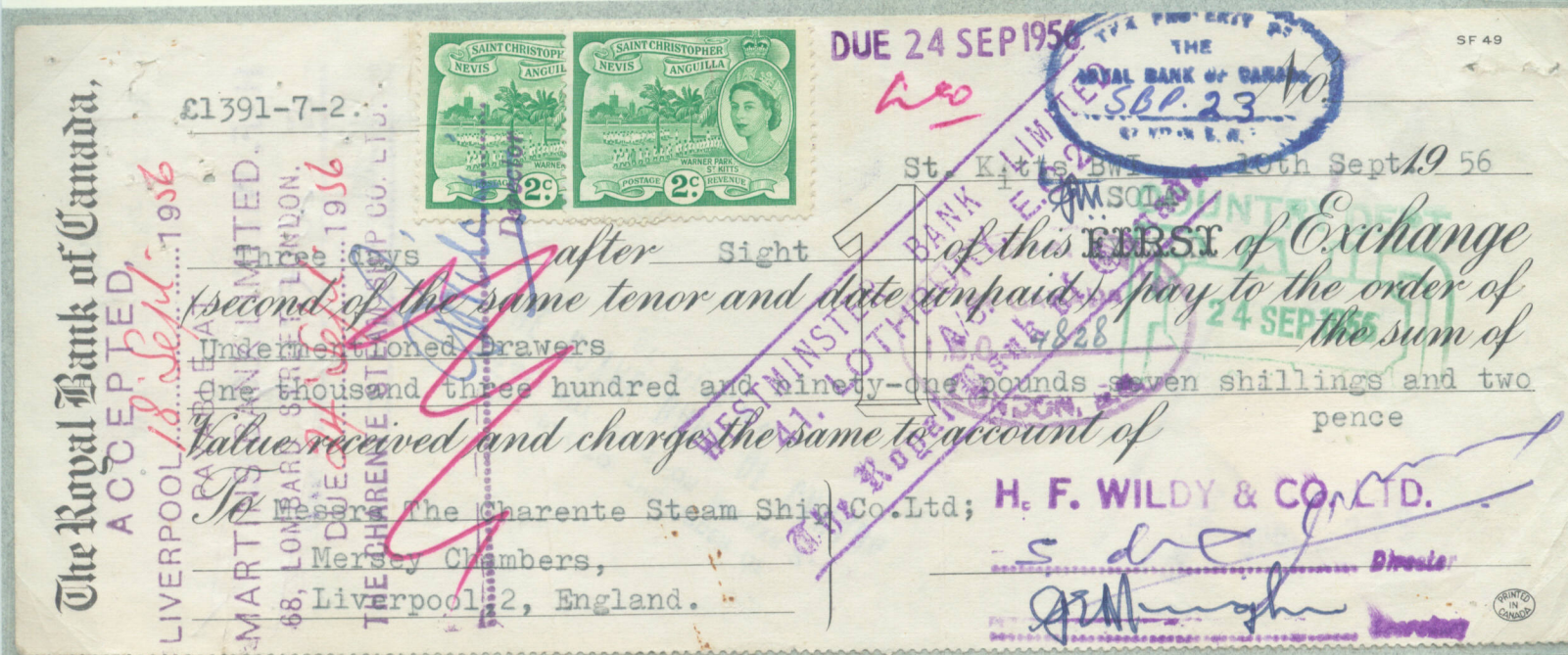
### 2.3 SMALLER ISLANDS

Royal palms were a favorite of the British in their Caribbean colonies.



Cancelled: G.P.O. Plymouth, Montserrat 9-Mar 1942  
 Transit: New York, N.Y. Registry Div. 31-Mar 1942  
 Opened and examined in accordance with Financial Regulations Vancouver, B.C.  
 Received: Vernon, B.C. 6 Apr 1942

At least the tax man on St. Kitts had the decency to use stamps with royal palms.





## 2.4 CENTRAL AMERICA

Central America is home to several species of Royal Palms...

... such as these *Roystonea oleracea* throughout Panama ...

by the Canal Zone Administration Building

Cervantes monument



Santo Tomas Hospital



... and especially these royal palms across  
from the Post Office and Telegraph Building.

TARJETA POSTAL



Edificio de Correos y Telegrafos - Ciudad de Panama. R. de P.  
Post Office and Telegraph Building - Panama City, R. of P.



## 2.4 CENTRAL AMERICA

Several royal palms, probably *Roystonea dunlapiana*, a native of Nicaragua, look out over the capital city of Managua.

PRIMER DOBLEZ AQUÍ - FISRT FOLD HERE



FOTOGRAFIA S. CORTESIA DE LA OFICINA DE TURISMO

VISTA PARCIAL DE MANAGUA, D.N.

\$1.20 Illustrated Air Letter Sheet

Cortesía de la Oficina de Turismo.

## 3. SOUTH AMERICA

The royal palm is a favorite landscape palm throughout tropical South America ...

... and along the East Coast in Guiana ...

... inland in the once thriving rubber city of Cobija, Bolivia...



<- British

French ->



... or independent Guyana.





### 3. SOUTH AMERICA

The formal appearance of the royal palm makes it highly suitable for street plantings ....

... as along the Paseo Montalvo in Guayaquil, Ecuador ...



Postal cards printed in green, brown, and blue.

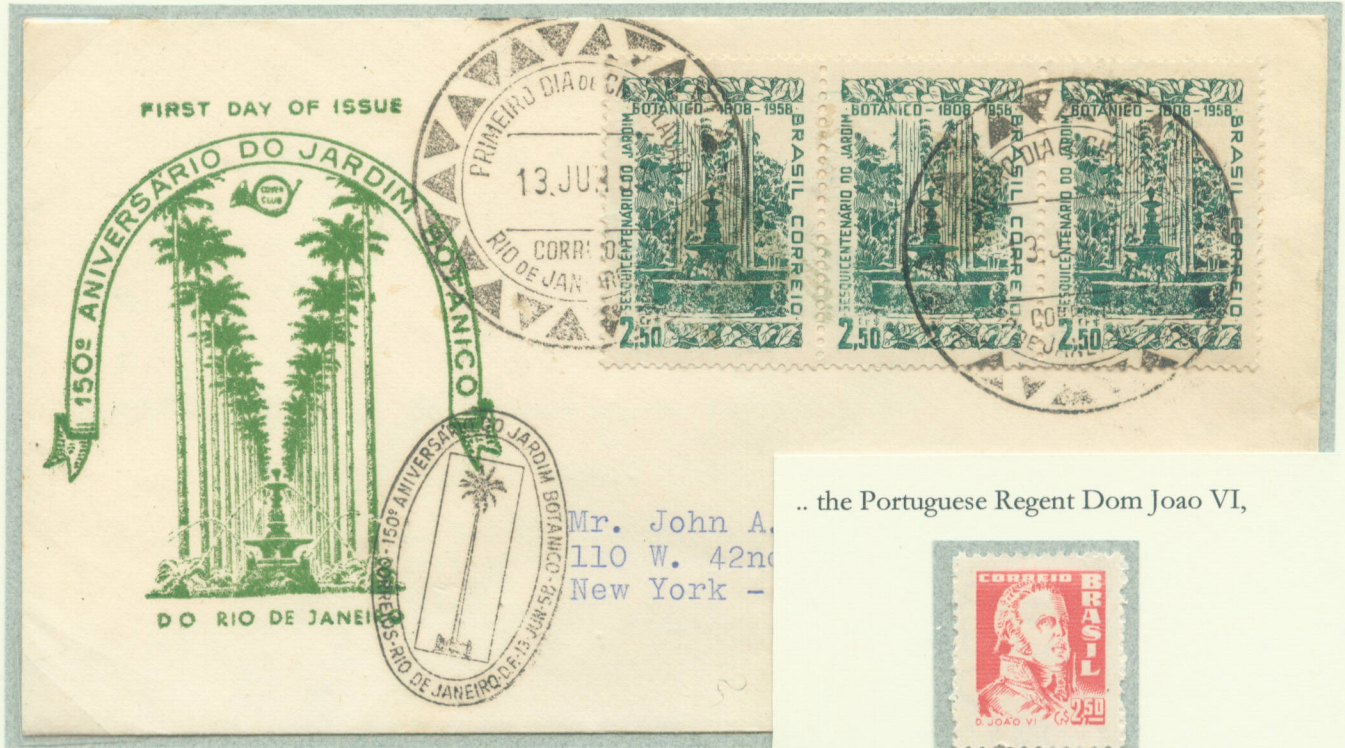
...or along the Canal do Mangue and Rua Visconde de Ituana in Rio de Janeiro  
with its magnificent *Roystonea boriquena*.





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## 4. PACIFIC AND FAR EAST

The royal palm quickly became a favorite in the landscape due to its rapid growth and elegant appearance.

Numerous royal palms grace the entrance to the only royal palace under U.S. jurisdiction, Hawaii's Iolani Palace and its famous statue of Kamehameha I.



Palakir on Pohnpei, the seat of government for the Federated States of Micronesia and the new Capitol complex are surrounded by majestic royal palms (*Roystonea oleracea*).



Stamp design on souvenir sheet also used as indicia design on 29 cent postal stationery.



## 4. PACIFIC AND FAR EAST

Singapore features royal palms in ...

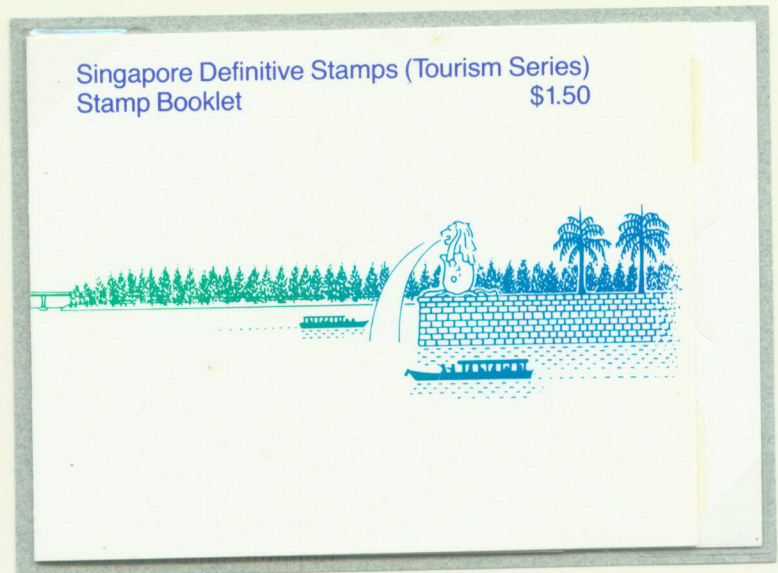
the Botanical Gardens



in front of Parliament House.



on the waterfront behind the Lion Fountain



The royal palm is a prized landscape plant in botanical gardens and street plantings.

Many royal palms line Poivre Avenue in the Pamplemousses Gardens in Mauritius.



A colonnade of royal palms line a major thoroughfare in Manila.



Royal palms provide shade and elegance for ...

.. a public school in Sargodha, Pakistan



.. and a public park in Tamatave, Madagascar.



Our brief study of the royal palm is now complete. From the Caribbean basin to Madagascar, the royal palm is a welcome addition to the local landscape.