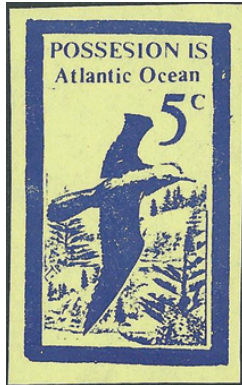


## *Cinderella Time:* **Where is Possession Island?**

By Christer Brunström, AIJP

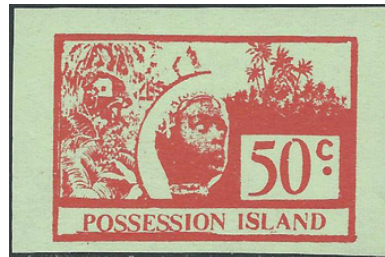
For many years I have had a couple of imperforate stamps from Possession Island. According to the inscription on the 5c stamp it is to be found in the Atlantic Ocean.



There actually is a tiny Possession Island located off the coast of Namibia in Africa. However, a careful study of the stamp's design reveals a landscape which rather points to the northern hemisphere. The stamp certainly is of interest to bird topical collectors provided that the species can be identified.

The people who designed the stamp probably weren't too good at spelling as Possession on the 5c lacks one "s".

The second stamp from Possession Island has the name correctly spelt. The 50c denomination has a design which reminds us of a jungle landscape somewhere in the tropics judging from the high palm trees.



It is highly unlikely that this pair of stamps has anything to do with the Namibian island. Instead they are yet another contribution to the vast field of bogus stamps from lands which only exist in the vivid imagination of the people who design and print them.

It is my guess that the two stamps were produced by some philatelic joker many years ago.

The 50c value appears to be rather elusive today. I have seen a few offers of the 5c value on electronic auction sites asking for some \$5.

We will probably never find out who had these two Possession Island stamps printed. As far as I know only these two values exist. At least the 5c stamp has also been seen cancelled.