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The University of the State of New York
The State Department of Education

Visual Instruction Division

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State Department of Education*

SLIDES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

List II

(Revised and enlarged, 1916)

THE BERMUDAS

The Bermudas are becoming essentially a tourists country. The chief interest of the islands for the people of the North Atlantic States lies in the fact that they have a salubrious climate and, while well out in the ocean, are still near enough to offer a short and inexpensive sea voyage. The following pictures are of interest to those who have visited these islands or who contemplate doing so, and also to all those who desire to understand the peculiar conditions and life found on this remarkable group of coral islands belonging to Great Britain and situated off the North Atlantic coast of America south of the Gulf stream.

For school classes in elementary geography several of the illustrations are useful as showing vegetation characteristic of sub-tropical countries, a peculiar type of buildings and some unusual customs.

The islands are connected with the early history of the Virginia colony. During the Civil War in the United States, they were used as a harbor for blockade runners. They now constitute a naval base and coaling station for the British empire.

Commercially, the Bermudas are not important. They have been rather generally known for their potatoes, onions and Easter lilies. The development of new areas of cultivation of early potatoes and onions in the United States and of lily bulbs in Japan has affected trade between the United States and the Bermudas.

Thirteen additional views are included in this revised list, amplifying the points previously illustrated and introducing some new features.

A. W. ABRAMS

Chief, Visual Instruction Division

Albany, N. Y., February 12, 1916

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LIST OF SLIDES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Means of reaching the Bermudas

Most of the pictures of this list were made in July. The sail from New York to Hamilton requires about two days. The steamer usually lies over at the islands three days. In this time by constant traveling one can obtain a good general idea of the islands, but can not see all their attractions.

Call no.

Fv Ab Sailing on a Quiet Sea, View from Rail of Steamer Bermudian. On the Atlantic. (July 1911)

Sometimes the entire trip is made with no more motion of the water than shown here. Contemplate sailing hour after hour on such placid water bounded only by the distant horizon. During the voyage the Gulf stream with its deep blue water is crossed. Flying fish are seen frequently darting out from the water at the side of the ship.

Fv Ab2 A "High Sea" on the Trip from New York to the Bermudas. (February 1914)

Sometimes the ocean is very rough and the ship rolls and plunges. Here one end of the vessel has sunk far down into the trough of the waves and the other stands high apparently throwing the horizon line much out of its normal position.

Fve Be7 Promenade Deck of Steamer Bermudian Bound for the Bermudas. On the Atlantic. (July 1911)

Sometimes the passengers sit on the deck in this manner restfully enjoying the bracing air and extended sea view; at other times games of various kinds are played.

Fve Tc2 Steamer Tagus in Grassy Bay, from Deck of Steamer Bermudian. (July 1911)

This vessel is lying at anchor in the outer bay of Hamilton harbor. Its draught is too great to allow it to enter the narrow channel leading into the inner harbor. Passengers must be landed by a lighter.

Ew HB5 Steamer Bermudian at the Dock, City in the Background. Hamilton. (July 1911)

The Bermudian is the only vessel that docks at Hamilton. Hamilton is the seat of government of the islands. The various points of interest are most conveniently reached from here. The cathedral rises above the surrounding buildings.

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General topography of the islands and harbor views

Call no.

Ew 3 Map of the Bermudas with Insert Showing Position in Relation to the American Coast. Prepared by the Visual Instruction Division. (1911)

Note the many islands — 100 or more, not 365 as oftèn stated — the principal roads, the steamer route, etc. The general shape of the group is that of a fish hook. Their united area is 20 square miles. The islands are 700 miles from New York.

Ew A2 Northeast Shore of St George Island, First Land Passed on Approaching the Bermudas, as Seen from Port Side of Steamer Looking Aft. (July 1911)

There are dangerous shoals north of the islands. These protect the islands from attack and help make the Bermudas a naval station. Vessels from New York approach the islands by a circuitous course, sailing east and south of the most northern point of the islands before reaching the main ship channel along the coast. Observe the general appearance of the land and the white or gray buildings, some of which are fortifications.

Ew A3 Panorama Northeast from Sugar Loaf Hill over St George Island; Rose Hill, the Highest Point on Horizon; Part of Mullet Bay at Right. (July 1911)

Most of the islands are small. Even the largest are narrow and much indented by bays and inlets. The white roadway along Mullet bay, the dazzlingly white houses and the dark foliage of the cedar trees are characteristic features of the islands. The color of the water surrounding the islands varies greatly and defies description. It is very striking and often beautiful. For colors see Hayward, p. 108.

Ew A4 Ireland Island, Navy Yard and Dry Dock, Grassy Bay, from Outgoing Steamer Bermudian. (July 1911)

This view should be studied in connection with the map. The western end of this "hook" of islands appears from Hamilton harbor as a mere fringe of land. The portion shown in the picture is almost completely occupied by the navy yard and barracks.

Ew A5 View Looking West from Deck of Steamer Bermudian Passing Out through Two-rock Channel; Great Sound and Sandys Parish in Distance. (July 1911)

For position of the two-rock channel, see the map. The channel is only 20 feet deep and is very narrow.

Ew HB3 Sunset on Hamilton Harbor. (February 1914)

Call no.

Ew HA Hamilton Harbor Looking West; American Flag at Point Pleasant Hotel to Welcome Steamer from New York. (July 1911)

This view is seen from the dock. Account for the display of the flag on arrival of steamer.

Ew A6 Panorama Nearly East from Gibbs Hill Lighthouse. (July 1911)

Gibbs hill is in Southampton parish. See map. In this view the inner Hamilton harbor can be seen in the distance on the left. A little of the ocean appears on the opposite side indistinctly through the notch on the horizon. The narrowness of the island is thus shown. Note the hilly character of the surface, the cedar woods and the scattered houses.

Ew A62 Panorama North from Gibbs Hill Lighthouse, Showing Ireland Island, Spanish Point, Many Small Islands, Great Sound and Stag Channel. (July 1911)

This view is toward Grassy bay. Ireland island is in the distance on the left. Note especially the numerous small islands.

Ew A65 Hamilton and the Shore of Main Island as Seen from Warwick Parish across the Harbor. (May 1915)

Ew B7 Two Mile Causeway across Castle Harbor Leading to St George Island. (July 1911)

One can travel by carriage from island to island all the way from St George to the navy yard. Most of the bridges are short. This causeway, built in 1871 and reconstructed in 1899, is two miles long. It connects Main with St George island, which lies in the distance.

Coral formations

Ew Y8 Coral Rocks and Surf on South Shore. Warwick parish. (July 1911)

These rocks are of coral formation and plainly show the effects of wave action. Often a heavy sea breaks upon this shore. Not all of the south shore is like the picture. Along much of it there are sand hills. Barrier reefs lie close to the shore. Because of this fact and the absence of good harbors on this side of the islands, few vessels are seen off this coast.

Ew Y82 Cathedral, or Temple, Rock. Sandys parish. (About 1904)

For location, see map. The rock is of coral formation carved out by ocean waves.

Ew Y84 Five Atolls along the South Shore, near Elba Beach. Warwick parish. (May 1915)

Find out how the coral rings are formed.

See also coral blocks and quarries, Ew Y48, Ew Y5 and Ew Y54, p. 10.

Public roads

Call no.

Ew C3 A Typical Road; Fine Road Bed Bounded by Stone Wall, Trees, Shrubs and Vines. Paget parish. (July 1911)

There are no railroads or trolley cars on the islands and automobiles are not allowed. But there are excellent roads like this one throughout the islands. They are made of coral rock and are smooth, hard and very white. This view is entirely typical. Note oleanders in blossom. In meeting a vehicle the driver turns to left, as in England.

Ew C4 Up-and-down-hill Road around the Head of Ely Harbor; Stone Walls; White Houses. Sandys parish. (July 1914)

The roads are not only narrow, but pass up and down the many small hills winding in and out affording many pleasing views. The road here skirts Ely harbor. See map.

Ew C5 A Beautiful Road through Cedar Woods (*Juniperus bermudiana*). Near Hamilton. (1911)

Further example of good roads. But note especially the trees. Cedar trees grow all over the islands. This view is seen in going from Hamilton to Prospect barracks.

Ew C6 Road Cut through Coral Rock of Government Hill. Pembroke parish. (February 1914)

Kyber pass is another cut similar to this but still larger.

Trees, streets and residences

Ew HA2 Panorama of City and Harbor of Hamilton from Fort Hamilton. (July 1911)

The population of Hamilton is about 2500. Hence, though the largest town on the islands, it is not larger than a fair sized New York village. The harbor is on the south. The building near the right margin is the cathedral. The high building at the left of the cathedral is the city government building. Note the oleanders and the white houses. The snowy whiteness of the houses is due to frequent whitewashing. Gibbs hill is on the horizon at left, distant four miles. The settlement across the harbor is Salt Kettle. Note also the islands.

Ew SA Panorama of St George and Its Harbor. (February 1914)

St George was the capital of Bermuda until 1815. Why was the capital transferred to Hamilton? The present population is about 1000. Should the channel leading into the harbor be enlarged, it would tend to restore the town to its former prominence.

Call no.

Ew SC Public Square; Pride of India, or China, Trees (*Melia azedarach*).
St George. (July 1911)

Ew SC₃ A Narrow Street; a Typical House Showing Gutter on Roof;
Pickaninnies. St George. (1911)

The streets of St George are narrow and irregular. Many of them are very picturesque. The picture is an excellent illustration of the common type of dwelling house; built of native coral rock, gray white in color, outside chimneys, roof provided with gutter for carrying water to the cistern. Nearly all the houses of the island appear neat and clean. Nothing in external appearance suggests whether a house is occupied by a white or a black family.

Ew SC₄ Street Scene; Wall around House and Yard. St George. (May 1915)

Such walls are common in Bermuda.

Note the shadows under the window blind and the cart. What do these tell about the latitude of the Bermudas? At what time of the year was the picture made?

Ew SC₅ A Narrow Street, Bordered by Walls and Trees. St George.
(May 1915)

Ew X₄ A Fine Country Residence. Paget parish. (July 1911)

Across the harbor from Hamilton; a modern house, more pretentious than common, but built of the same material as others.

Ew HP Driveway and Terrace of the Person Estate; Norway Pines and Palms. Hamilton. (May 1915)

J. C. Person, a wealthy Philadelphia manufacturer, spends a large part of each year here.

Ew X₅ An Old House; Characteristic Vegetation. Paget parish. (About 1904)

Compare house with Ew SC₃, above. Palms (palmettos) are found here and there in the islands. Note also the small screw palms.

Churches, school and hospital

Ew HF Episcopal Cathedral. Hamilton. (July 1911)

Began in 1885; still uncompleted. It is of the Church of England. State, naval or military services are held here from time to time.

Ew SF St Peter's Church. St George. (July 1911)

The oldest church on the islands; on the site of a cedar church built by Governor Moore in 1612. About the middle of the eighteenth century, a stone church replaced an earlier structure. In 1908 the building was thoroughly renovated.

Call no.

Ew SdF St James's Church and Burying Ground. Sandys parish. (July 1911)

Compare with St Peter's as to structure of nave and aisles. Each church has a burying ground beside it. Graves are excavated very deep and several coffins are placed one upon the other. As a rule these are cut into the coral rock underlying the thin layer of soil.

Ew DF Old Episcopal Church and Burying Ground. Devonshire parish. (About 1903)

Quaint and primitive. Parts of it date from 1719. Most of the churches on the island are Episcopal. Note screw palm and cedars.

See also St Mary's Church Ew WF, p. 9.

Ew X7 A Rural Schoolhouse; Cistern for Water. Warwick parish. (July 1911)

Educational system of the islands is not well developed. The schools are private, some of them receiving government aid. "Teachers are poorly trained and underpaid." Many of the schools are conducted in rooms of buildings used in part for other purposes also. There are separate schools for negro children. Note cistern at left, flag pole at right and cedar trees in rear. Building very plain in structure.

See note under Ew X8, p. 10 about the water supply of the islands.

Ew PH Cottage Hospital. Pembroke parish. (May 1915)

This is the only hospital on the islands. It was opened in 1893. Small as it is, it has contributed much to the welfare of both residents and visitors. It is on the road from Hamilton to Prospect barracks.

Note the white roofs on the right.

Characteristic vegetation

Ew SD Corner of Public Gardens; Fine Specimens of Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*). St George. (July 1911)

These gardens are small, but well kept and interesting.

Nm Ce6 Century Plant (*Agava americana*) in Blossom. (July 1911)

A common plant on the islands. This specimen was about 15 feet high.

Nm Sp6 A Clump of Spanish Bayonets, or Yuccas (*Yucca aloifolia*), in Blossom; Pickaninny in Foreground. (July 1911)

To be seen all over the island. Leaves are stiff and very sharp.

Nm Sd8 Screw Pine in Fruit. Hamilton. (July 1911)

The leaves are spirally arranged. Note the adventitious roots.

Call no.

Nn Mc2 Mangroves (*Rhizophora mangle*). Walsingham. (July 1911)

The mangrove, because of its habit of sending out aerial prop roots, continually advances the shore line. It grows abundantly in shallow water in several places about the islands. Locate Mangrove bay. Mangrove lake is in Hamilton parish.

Nm Bc8 Banana Plants (*Musa cavendishii*) in Fruit. (July 1911)

The fruit of the banana plant is small here and there are no plantations of commercial importance, but nearly every land holder has a patch.

Ew WF Rubber Tree (*Ficus elastica*) and Other Vegetation; St Mary's Church; Burying Ground; Roadways. Warwick parish. (July 1911)

There are only a few rubber trees on the Bermudas. The one partly shown in the picture on the left is one of the largest. The walls along the roads and the burying ground are characteristic.

Ew Y2 Hibiscus Tree and Sago Palm at Corner of Porch Overlooking Castle Harbor. (July 1911)

These hibiscus blossoms are fully 6 inches across. They are showy and readily attract the attention of the visitor.

Ew Y3 Hedge of Oleander (*Nerium oleander*) in Blossom; Country Houses. (July 1911)

The oleander is very common throughout the islands. It is seen everywhere. It grows in clumps and in hedges. The roadways are often lined with it. The height to which it grows may be judged by comparing the height of the boy.

Nm LiE6 Field of Easter Lilies in Blossom. (About 1904)

Many lilies are shipped each spring to New York and other cities of the United States. The Bermudas are sometimes called the "Land of the Lily and the Rose."

Products

The products of the Bermudas can hardly be spoken of as "commercial," for they are very limited in volume and do not enter largely into general trade.

Ew Y4 A Typical "Farm"; Banana Plants in Foreground; Cedar Woods. (July 1911)

A "farm" is very small, rarely containing more than 3 or 4 acres of tillable land. A succession of crops can be raised. The leading crops are onions, potatoes, lilies, celery and arrowroot. The soil is rather thin, much of it brown or reddish in color.

Call no.

Ew Y42 An Onion Farm at Harvest Time. (May 1915)

Compared with onion raising in certain sections of New York, the yield here shown is very light. The Bermuda onion now has a rival in the Texas onion, which is sometimes sold under the former name.

Ew Y43 A laborer Gathering Potatoes; a Patch of Melons. (July 1911)

The second potato crop for the year is being gathered (July). The potatoes are not very large. At the left watermelon vines are shown. This laborer is a Portuguese.

Ew Y48 Sawing Blocks of Coral Rock at a Quarry. (February 1914)

The entire group of islands is made up of coral rock. Before this rock has been exposed to the air it is quite soft and can be readily sawed into blocks, but it becomes very hard after it has been left for a time in the air. Nearly all the houses on the islands are made of such blocks. Almost any hillside yields building material. A man may buy a small plot of ground and cut out of it sufficient coral rock to build his house.

Ew Y5 Sawed Blocks of Coral Rock Used for Building Houses. (July 1911)

When first sawed, the blocks are very white, but they soon become darker with weathering. The houses generally look white and clean because they are frequently whitewashed.

Ew Y54 Coral Rock Quarry. Hamilton. (July 1911)

Coral rock has no cleavage. The vertical lines indicate places where the saw has cut the rock.

Manners and customs of the people

Ew HC3 Corner of Front and Queen Streets; a Native Truck Cart, Building Blocks of Coral. Hamilton. (July 1911)

A common type of dray.

Ew HC4 Barnaby, or Step, Street; Negroes with Donkey and Cart. Hamilton. (May 1915)

Imagine the glare of light that comes from such a white, unshaded street.

Ew X8 Large Cement Catch Basin ("rain catch") on Side of Hill for Collecting Rain Water; Church. (July 1911)

There are no springs or wells. People depend altogether upon rain water, which is gathered from nearly every roof and run into a cistern. Catch-basins like this one are often constructed to give added surface for gathering water.

Call no.

Ew X2 Cricket, the Bermudian Game, in Progress on Shore of Ireland Island. (July 1911)

Cricket is played at all the barracks and wherever men of any leisure assemble. It is the English national game. See Fo SX2, page 10 of Australia list.

Ew HB2 Yachting in Hamilton Harbor, View Looking West. (July 1911)
Yachting is a common sport.

Ew HB6 Passengers Boarding Steamer Bermudian for Departure; Negro Boys Diving for Coins. Hamilton. (July 1911)

The boys are expert divers. This diving for coins is a practice somewhat common in warm waters.

Ew HB7 People on Dock Having Bidden Adieu to Departing Passengers of the Bermudian. Hamilton. (July 1911)

This is the only steamer that lands passengers directly at the Hamilton dock. Its arrival or departure is a matter of much interest to those in the city.

Points of historic or literary interest

Ew SE Sir George Somers Tablet, Wall Covered with English Ivy. St George. (July 1911)

This tablet is in the Public gardens. See reference books for the interesting early history of the islands.

Ew HM Tom Moore, or Walsingham, House; a Cove of Castle Harbor. Hamilton parish. (July 1911)

See reference books, especially Hayward, Chapter IX on Literary Associations. Thomas Moore arrived in Bermuda in January 1804 and remained only until the April following, but he is called "the true poet of Bermuda." He lived in St George, but spent much time at the Walsingham house. The famous calabash tree still stands a few rods to the left of this house.

Ew SG St George Military Barracks. Near St George. (July 1911)

Ew A8 View of Watford Island Looking Northeast; Boaz Island with Military Barracks beyond Dividing Channel between Islands on Right, Sea on Left.

The islands of this western part of the group are very small. Practically the entire width of Boaz island is shown.

Ew IB Dry Dock and Breakwater off Ireland Island; Grassy Bay and Pembroke Shore in Distance. (July 1911)

Consider the Bermudas as a naval base for Great Britain.

Ew IB1 Battle Ship "H. M. S. Dominion" in Dry Dock. Ireland island. (About 1906)

Ae M Merchant Flag of Great Britain.

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