

Peru

Prior to World War II, the preeminent collection of Peru was formed by Thomas William Hall, who was president of The Royal Philatelic Society of London from 1923 to 1929 and the recognized authority on a number of lithographed issues of South American countries.

After World War II, that distinction passed to Dr. A. J. E. Magonette of Belgium, whose collection was sold in 1957 by the Swiss firm of Corinphila. At that time Dr. Joseph Schatzkes seriously collected Peru, and Paul Morgoulis, a major European dealer, purchased most of the Magonette collection at the auction. These purchases became the foundation of the Schatzkes collection, which was the finest holding of Peru throughout the 1960's and won international Gold medals in the days when judging standards were more rigorous.

In 1971 Paul Morgoulis and Robert Lyman broke up the Schatzkes collection into individual items and remainder lots for private sale. Islander had first pick from the entire Schatzkes Peru collection and purchased most of the major pieces of the early issues. This became the foundation of the Islander collection of Peru.

The rest of the Schatzkes collection was offered to a second party, then a third party, and this part of the Schatzkes collection became the basis of the Peru collections formed from 1971 up to the present. However, none of the collectors active during the past four decades has had an opportunity to acquire the major pieces of Peru, which have been in the Islander collection since 1971.

With the exception of occasional covers or pieces from the Consul Weinberger collection, which have been discovered in various safe deposit boxes, hidden away since before World War II, there has been very little fresh classic imperforate Peru material to work with. The majority of the Islander lots have not been on the open market since Schatzkes obtained them in 1957.