



Great Seal of the United States



President Bill Clinton

*HRPC 138: 1993 .999 silver (1 oz) Condition: Proof.
Designer: Hal Reed. Mint: New Queensland Mint. Mintage: ?
Diameter: 39 mm. Denomination: \$10. Edge Type: reeded, edge-
marked and serial-numbered*

In its representation to the court the USPS contended that the Hutt River Province was not a legitimate coin-issuing authority, that its coins were not legal tender, and that Continental's advertising claims to the contrary therefore constituted a fraudulent use of the US postal system. These contentions were not particularly strongly founded, and certain of the evidence used to support them was of questionable validity—however the defense was even more poorly conducted, and in the end the judge's ruling favoured the USPS; Continental was forced to stop referring to any Hutt River issues it might market from that time onwards, as coins.

4. 1995-the Present Day

The court ruling dealt a serious blow to the perceived legitimacy of Hutt River coins, and coinciding with the sudden unexpected death of Kevin Gale, resulted in a complete and immediate cessation of the Principality's numismatic ventures.

The four year coin drought that ensued was broken with the release in 2000 of a limited-mintage \$100 gold piece commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Province's secession (manufactured by an Australian mint)—but no further issues have been made since then, and it is uncertain if a regular minting programme is ever likely to be reinstated under the current Administration of the Hutt River Province.



Hutt River Province State Crown



Biblical Gateway Monument

*HRPC 197A: 2000. 24 carat gold (8g) Condition: Proof.
Designer: Allan Sterling. Mint: Wyndham Mint. Mintage: 25.
Diameter: 24 mm. Denomination: \$100. Edge Type: unreeded*

George Cruickshank is the self-styled Emperor George II of Atlantium, an 'aspirant non-territorial global state' based in the centre of Sydney and claiming citizens in over 60 countries (see *CAB* July 2002). George has devoted his considerable numismatic skills to the collection and study of the coins of other secessionist states. His near-complete collection of the vast "coinage" of Hutt River Province is displayed and detailed at http://www.imperial-collection.net/hutt_river_coins_01.html

The Hutt River Province "coins" were issued over a period of 24 years (to date) and they constitute now an interesting area for the collector of numismatic curiosities. *CAB* expresses thanks to George Cruickshank for providing this story and its accompanying illustrations. **Ed.**