The George VI Definitive issue 1937



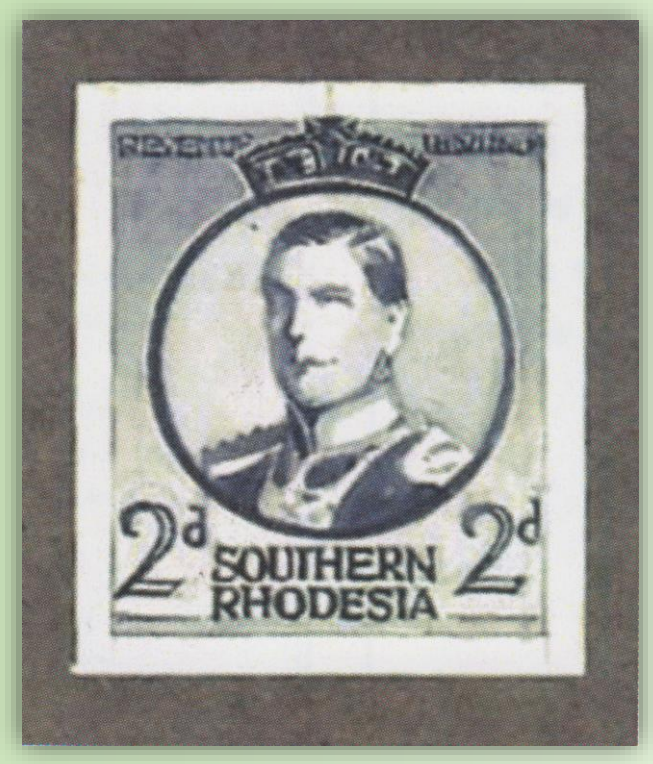
Patrick Flanagan

March 2018

……. after Stewart & Hoffman, Memoir 21

- George VI – coronation – 12th May 1937
- Essays

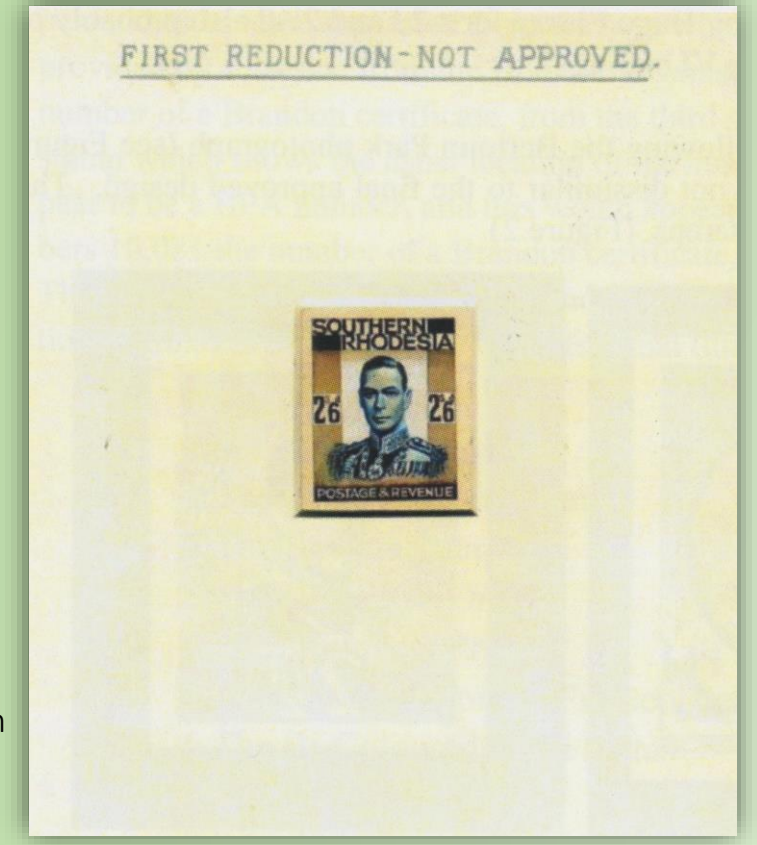




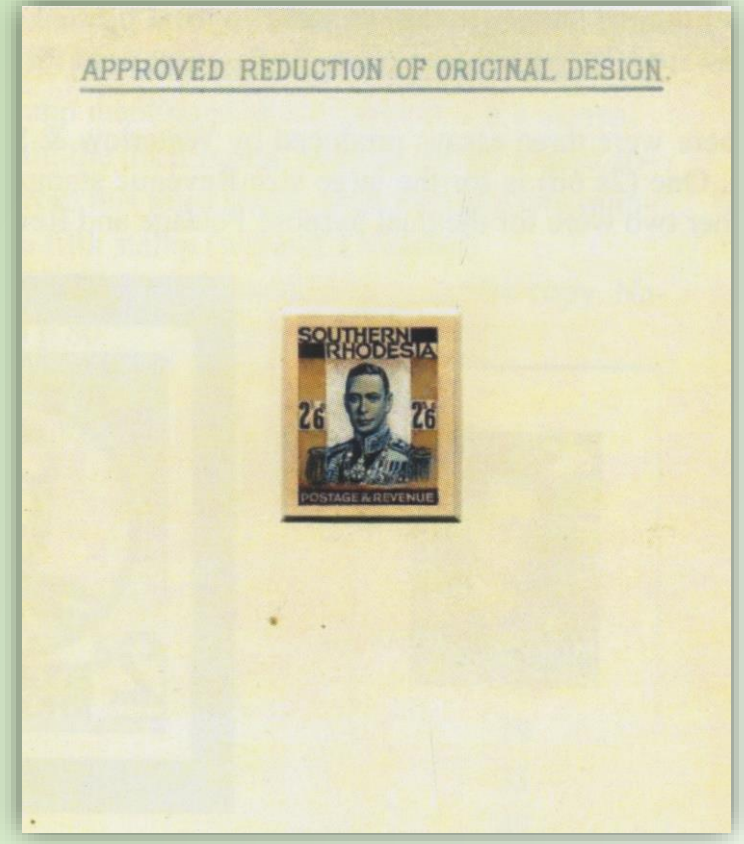


The Designs

- After Bradbury Wilkinson ……
- Waterlow & Sons Limited ……..
  - Hand Painted essays



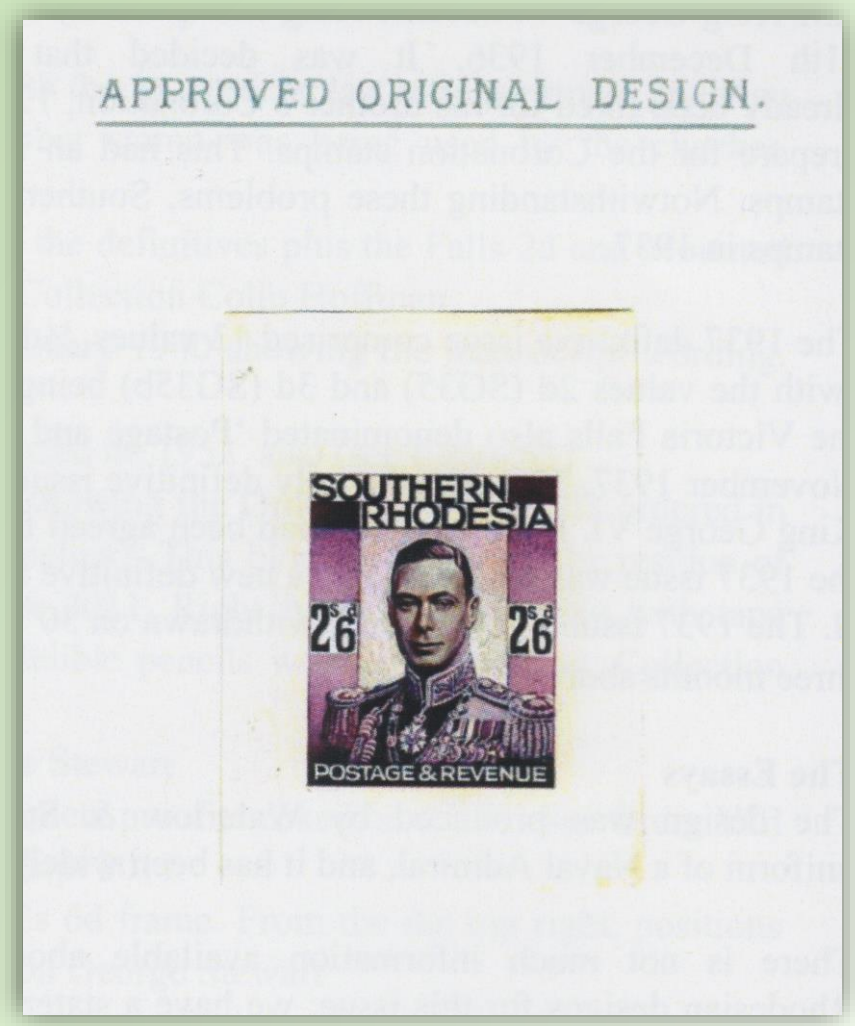
Collection H M the Queen



Collection H M the Queen

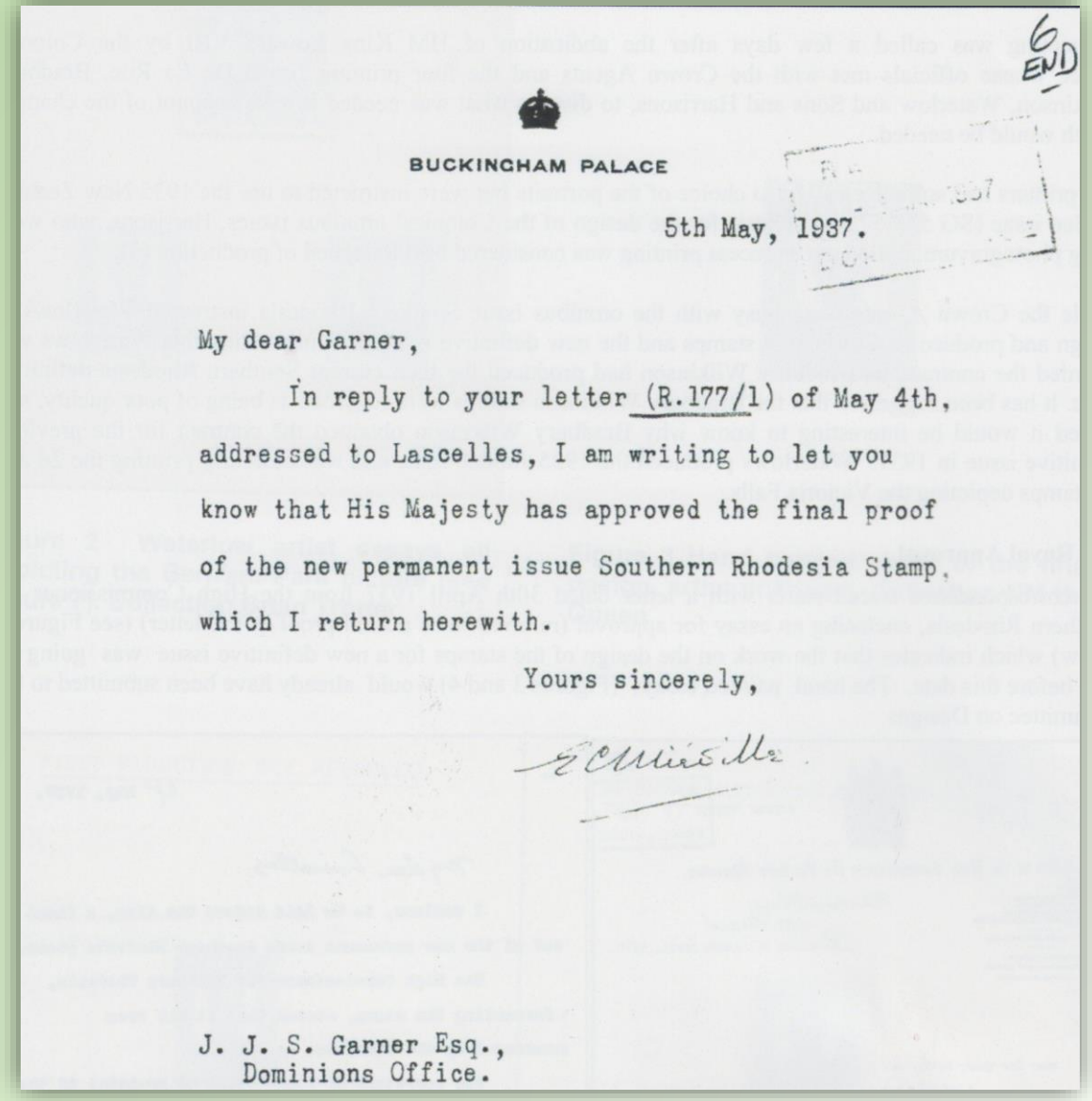
Essays depicting the Bertrand Park photo





Collection H M the Queen

5th May 1937
Buckingham Palace Approval letter
(National Archive Kew)



6
END

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

5th May, 1937.

My dear Garner,

In reply to your letter (R.177/1) of May 4th, addressed to Lascelles, I am writing to let you know that His Majesty has approved the final proof of the new permanent issue Southern Rhodesia Stamp, which I return herewith.

Yours sincerely,

E Millis

J. J. S. Garner Esq.,
Dominions Office.

The Head Die……

- Photo by Bertram Park used as base
- Engraved by J A C Harrison of Waterlows after addition of Admiral's uniform
- Head Die 15520 (used for S R Coronation stamp & this issue)







Derivation of Head Die…..

- Photo of Edward VIII used and head removed and replaced by George VI
- Two different Heads…….
- A second Head Die……. unseen







The Head Plate distinguishing features

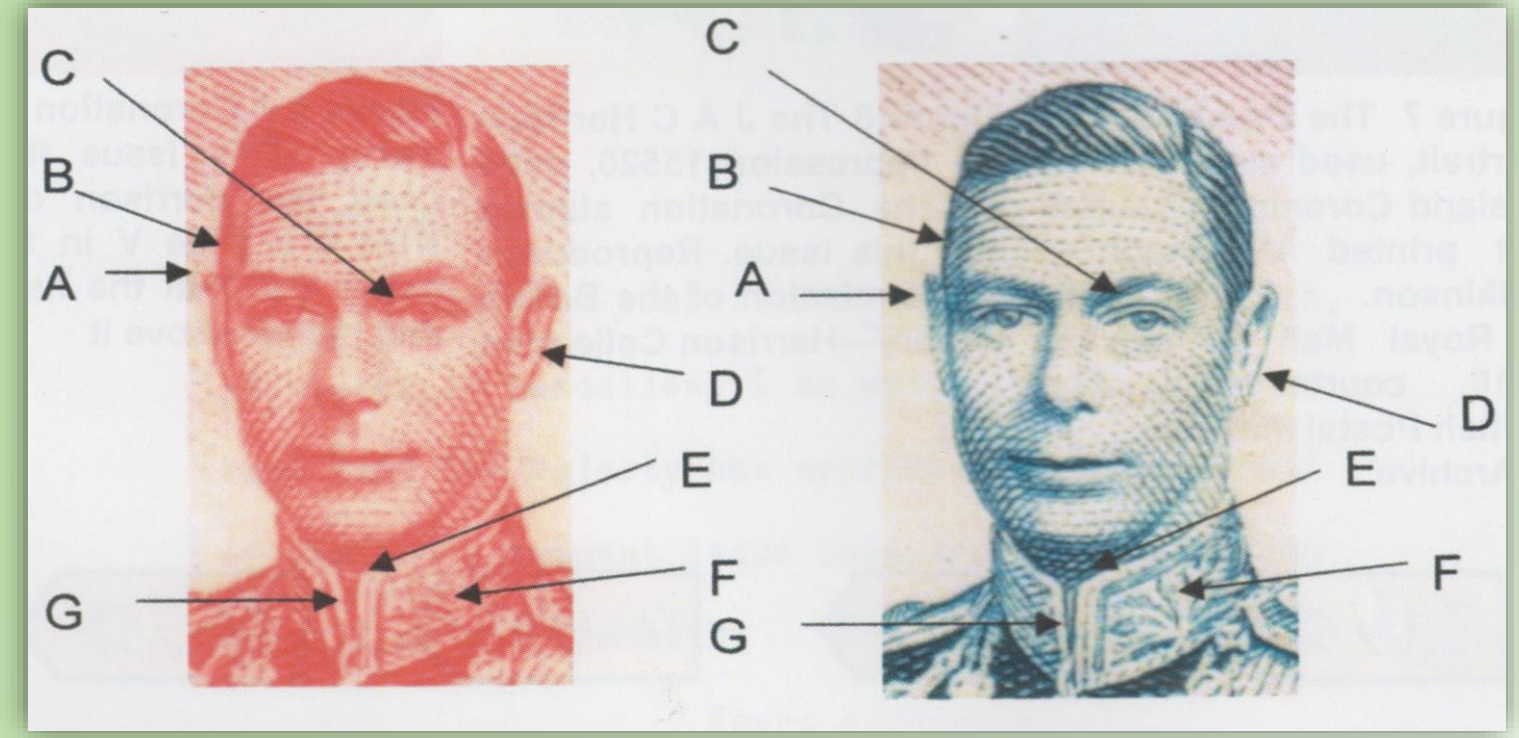


Figure 12 Left: 1d Right: 2s 6d—A and G are the two most obvious changes in the dies

A. The ear turns out at the top in the 1d but flatter in the 2s 6d
B. The shading is heavier than the 2s 6d
C. The eye is "bloodshot" and clear in the 2s 6d
D. The ear is engraved more than the 2s 6d
E. Line on top of collar gap, none in the 2s 6d
F. Better detail of the collar in the 2s 6d
G. "Double Cloth" on collar of 1d not on 2s 6d

Die Proofs……..

Few have survived – few were produced

Head Plate Die 15520 (British Library)

Imperforate Plate Proofs mounted on card (Zimbabwe National Archives)

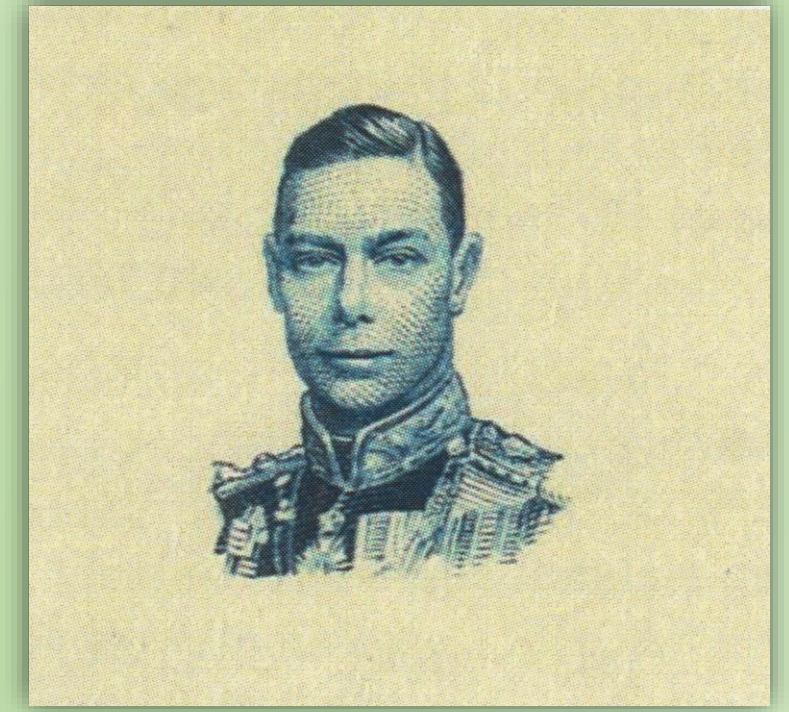
Waterlow clean and dirty book die proofs

The three Harrison Head Plate dies recorded:

Harrison Die 15520 (British Library)

Die 15520 with Roller number 11207 (RPSL archives)

Impression 15730 (RPSL Archives)




15520
11207


P.N. 7400

Die proof of head of George VI – Full face where the issued stamps have a three-quarter face facing slightly left.

Die proof with embossed and reversed number
17550

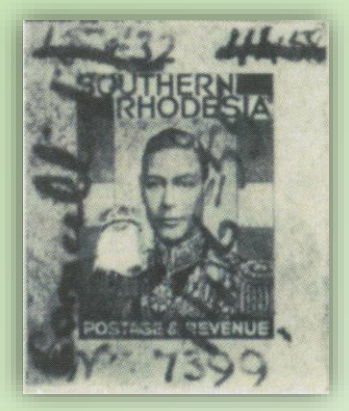
Thought to be the initial head on which the final design was predicated

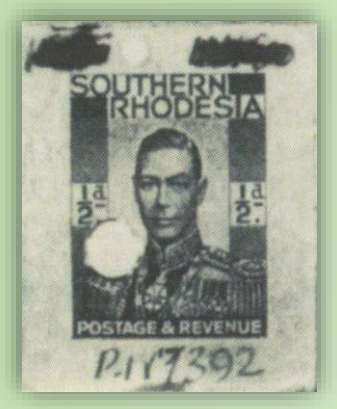


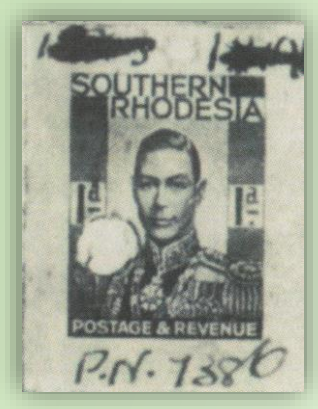
Die Proofs as illustrated by Fraser & Lowe (Page 32).

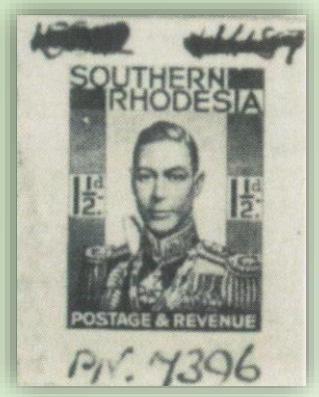
The numbers are:
Top left – Die number
Top right - Roller number
Bottom – Proof number









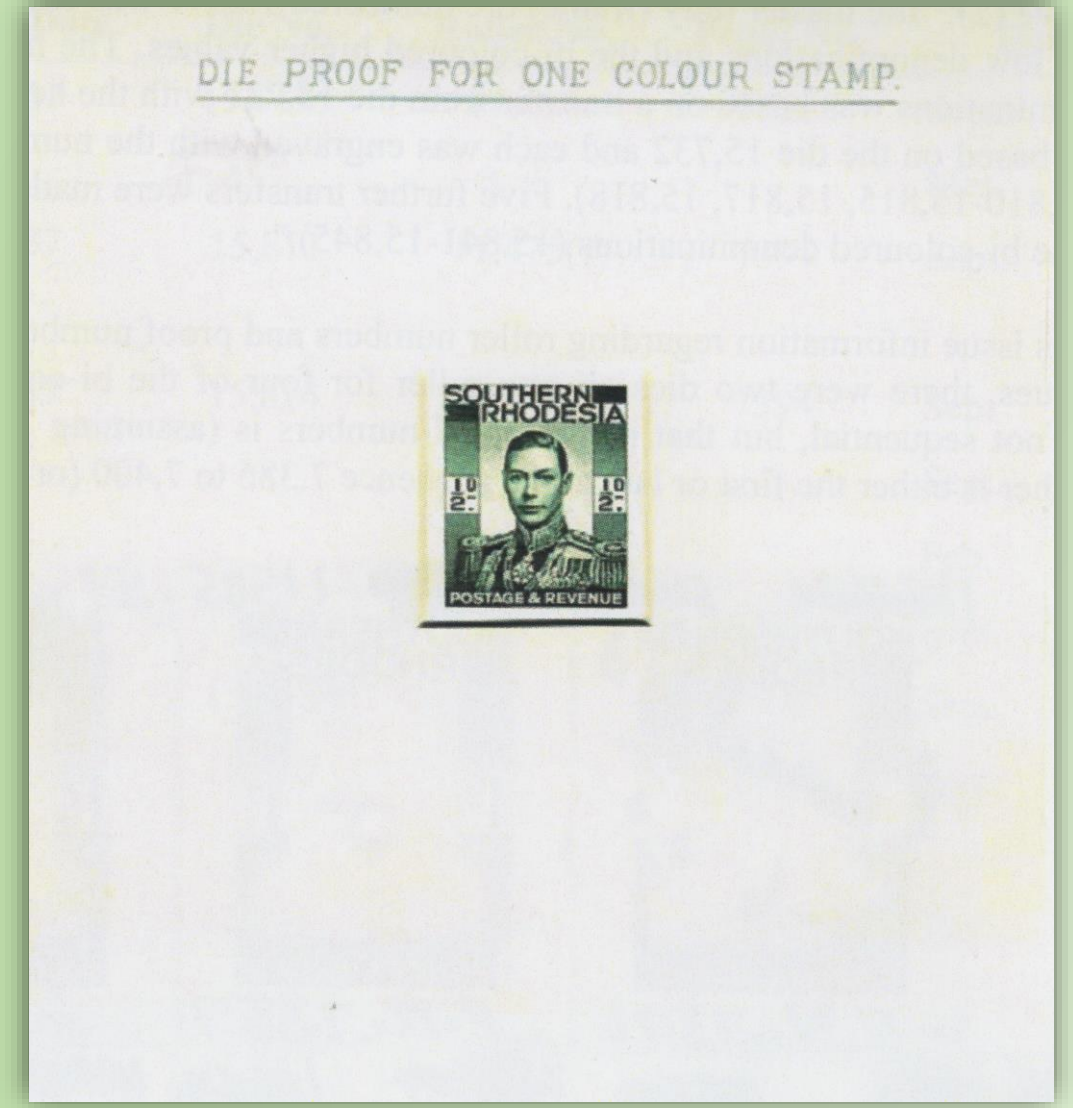






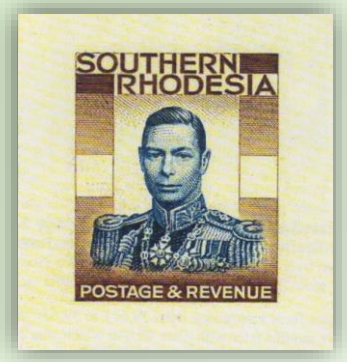


Die proof of the mono colour ½ duty



H M QE II Collection

Die proof of the bi-coloured stamps with blank value tablet



H M QE II Collection

Plates …….

Large number of plates were needed for the 22 orders

Duties 1/2d to10d mono colours – fairly simple – single plates (some duties more than one such plate)

Duties 1s to 5s – bi-coloured – only one frame plate per value (except for 1s duty)

Colour trials
Using the die proofs of the 1/2d to 5s in different colours, marked to show accepted stamps and rejected colours, including the colours for the Revenue stamps



H M Queen Elizabeth II collection

Colour Trials ……



H M Queen Elizabeth II collection

Set of Imperforate proofs, mounted on card , described as: “Sheet of hand pulled proofs from the dies of each of the “Postage and Revenue” in the colours selected” sent with a letter from London Office to Salisbury dated 11 October 1937.



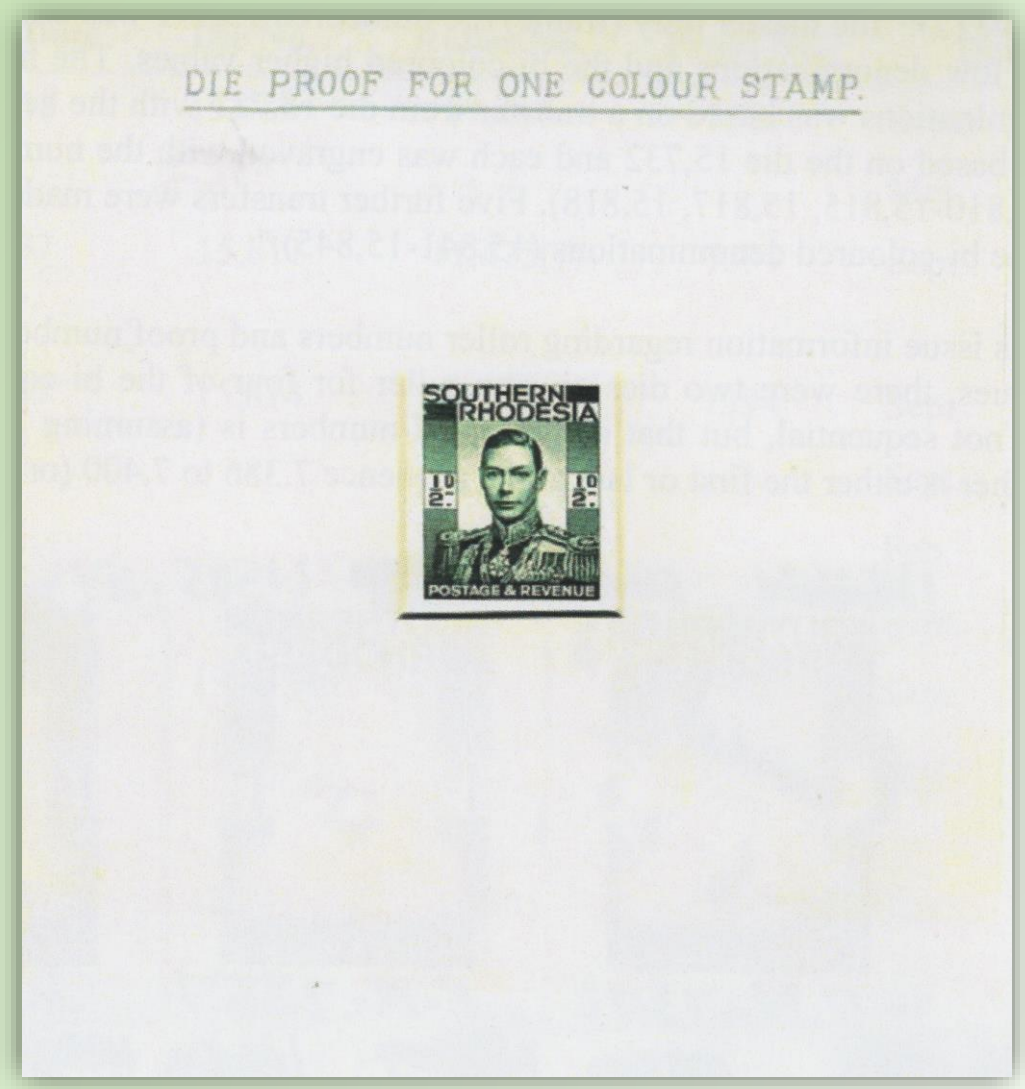
National Archives of Zimbabwe

Postage & Revenue…….

Stamps were produced for “Postage and Revenue” purposes and the stamps were inscribed as such.

A separate issue of “Revenue” stamps were produced, inscribed as such

Illustrated is the Die Proof for the mono colour stamps, in this case for the 1/2d duty in the issued or close to issued colours



H M QE II Collection

Specimens ……..

- SR stamps seemed to have been distributed as mint stamps and can only be identified as SPECIMENS if they contained a receiving office cancel

- Samuel and Bendon do not have records of any SR UPU specimens

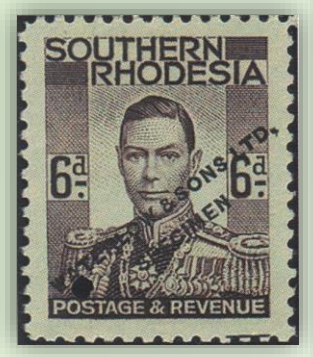
U P U Specimen stamps – cancelled
Postal Services Department - HMB



Imperforate Colour Trial
sample stamps in
unissued colours



WATERLOW SAMPLE STAMPS
In unissued colours, perforate & imperforate
with diagonal and horizontal overprints





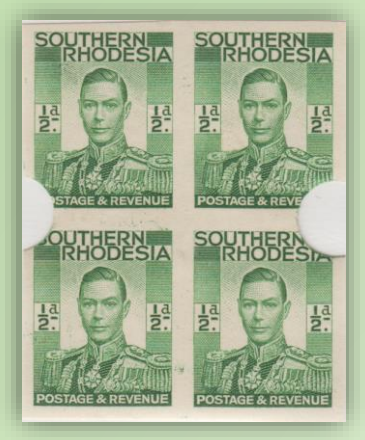
Waterlow Printer's File Proofs……

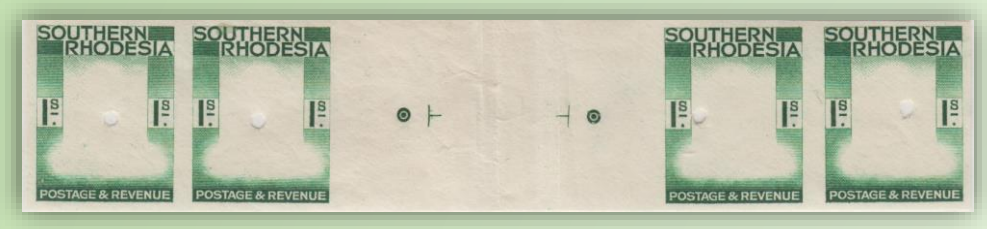
Waterlow & Sons Limited of London, the printers of this issue, prepared both imperforate and perforate proofs – "The Printer's File Proofs". These were stored in the Waterlow basement during the war and were damaged by water, following the damage caused by the bombing of London during the 2nd World War





Examples of the mono colour and bi colour Printer's file proofs showing punch holes (of different sizes – why? – not known). The bi-colours were printed from two plates and the file copies consist of File proofs of the frames and the full stamp

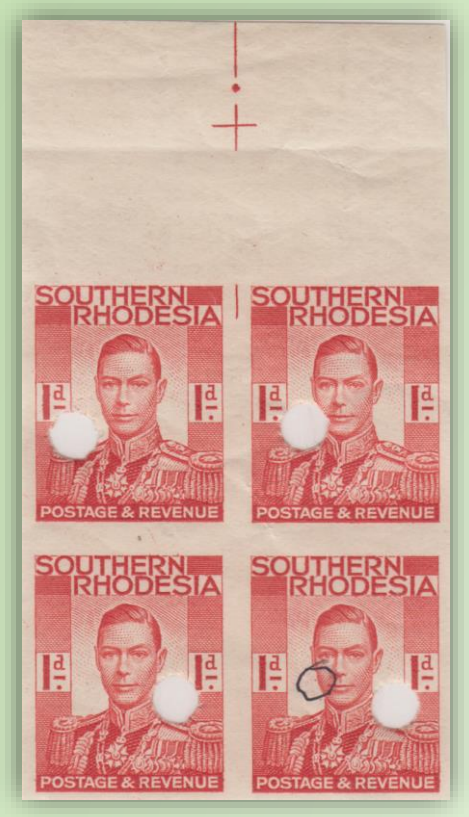






The mono -colour printer’s file proofs, imperforate, showing the registration marks at the top of the selvedge





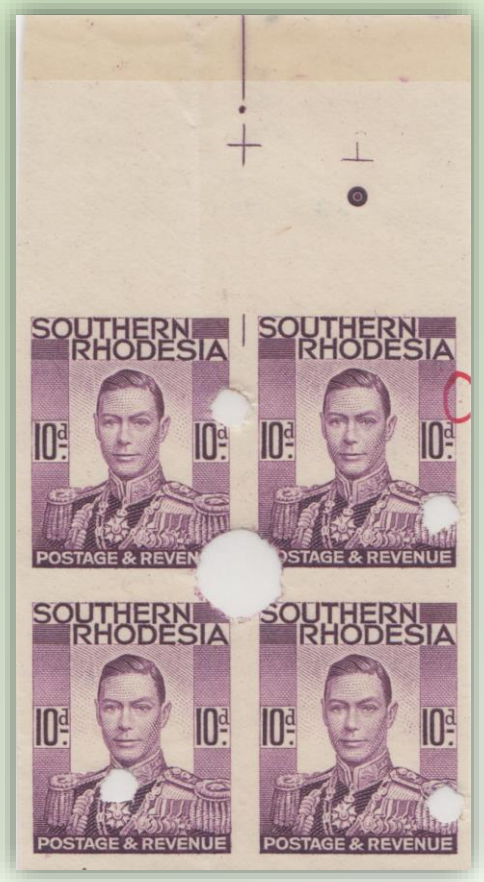



SOUTHERN RHODESIA
4d
POSTAGE & REVENUE

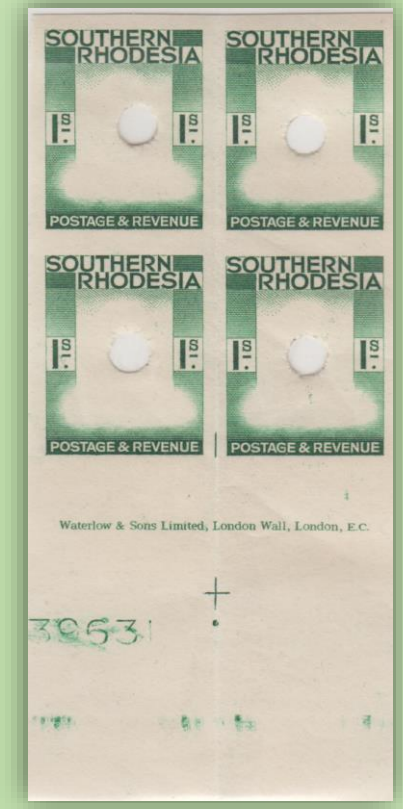

SOUTHERN RHODESIA
6d
POSTAGE & REVENUE


SOUTHERN RHODESIA
8d
POSTAGE & REVENUE

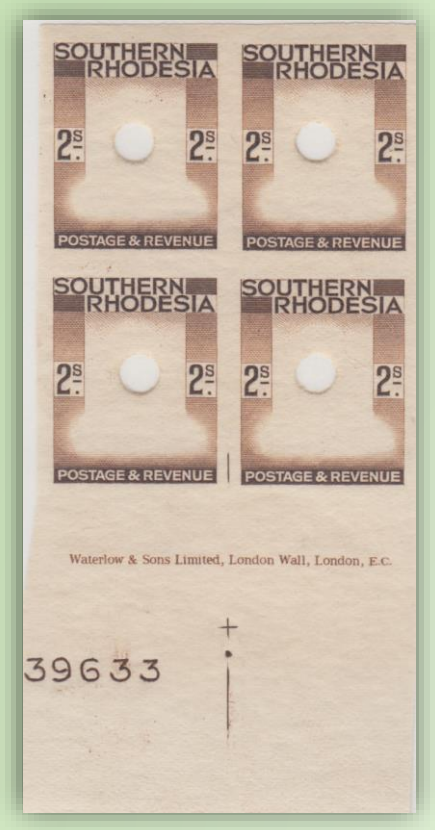

SOUTHERN RHODESIA
9d
POSTAGE & REVENUE


SOUTHERN RHODESIA
10d
POSTAGE & REVENUE

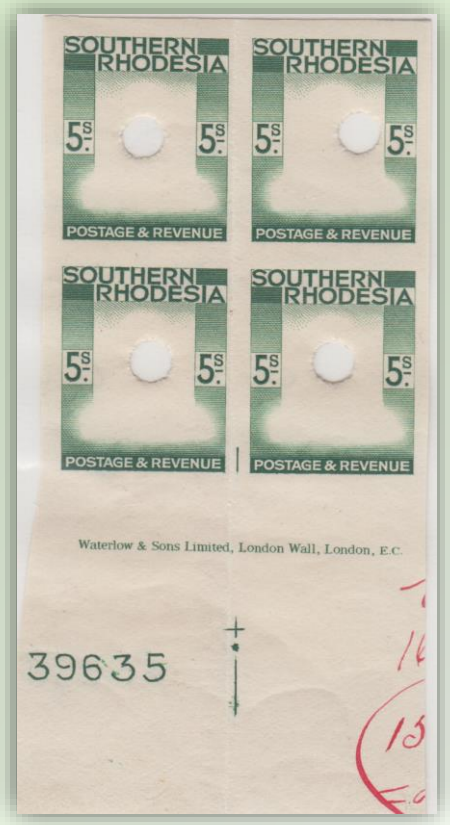
The Imperforate printer's file copies of the frame plates of the high value bi-colour stamps, which were set 60 and had the printer's imprint central to the pane in the bottom margin. The Printer's plate number for the frame plate, in the colour of the frame is shown on each











The Imperforate printer's file copies of the full stamps, of the high value bi-colour stamps, which were set 60. The Printer's plate number for the head plate, in the colour of the head is shown on each



The File proofs of the 1d duty, showing the side by side pane layout. This duty and the 1/2d and 1 1/2d duties were set 240 in 4 panes of 60 each, the example showing the left and right pane with the printer's imprint central to the vertical gutter, in the bottom selvedge. Die number 39623 shown in bottom margin



The File proofs of the 1 1/2d duty, showing the side by side pane layout. This duty and the 1/2d and 1d duties were set 240 in 4 panes of 60 each, the example showing the left and right pane with the printer's imprint central to the vertical gutter, in the bottom selvedge. Die number 40046 shown in bottom margin



The George VI Definitive issue of Southern Rhodesia consisted of 13 duties and EXCLUDED 2d and 3d values – such exclusion relating more to the design than to the issue of duties in those denominations, than to the exclusion of the values.

The Large Falls design was in fact used for 2d and 3d duties, and they may realistically be regarded as part of the issue, albeit in a different design. The 2d was produced in brown and green and the 3d in blue.

A precedent was set in the second definitive issue of the territory, the so called Field Marshal issue. In this case 2d and 3d duties in the design depicting the King's head were not produced. The duties – 2d and 3d – were produced but in the Small falls design - the 2d in black and grey brown and green and the 3d in blue.

The 2d and 3d Large Falls design have not been covered in this presentation which concentrates on the issue and duties bearing the head of King George VI. The 2d and 3d Large Falls afford an opportunity for a considerable study on their own.

Printer’s file copy sheet of the 4d duty, perforated 14 , with printer’s imprint and manual
nscription “File copy 16567”



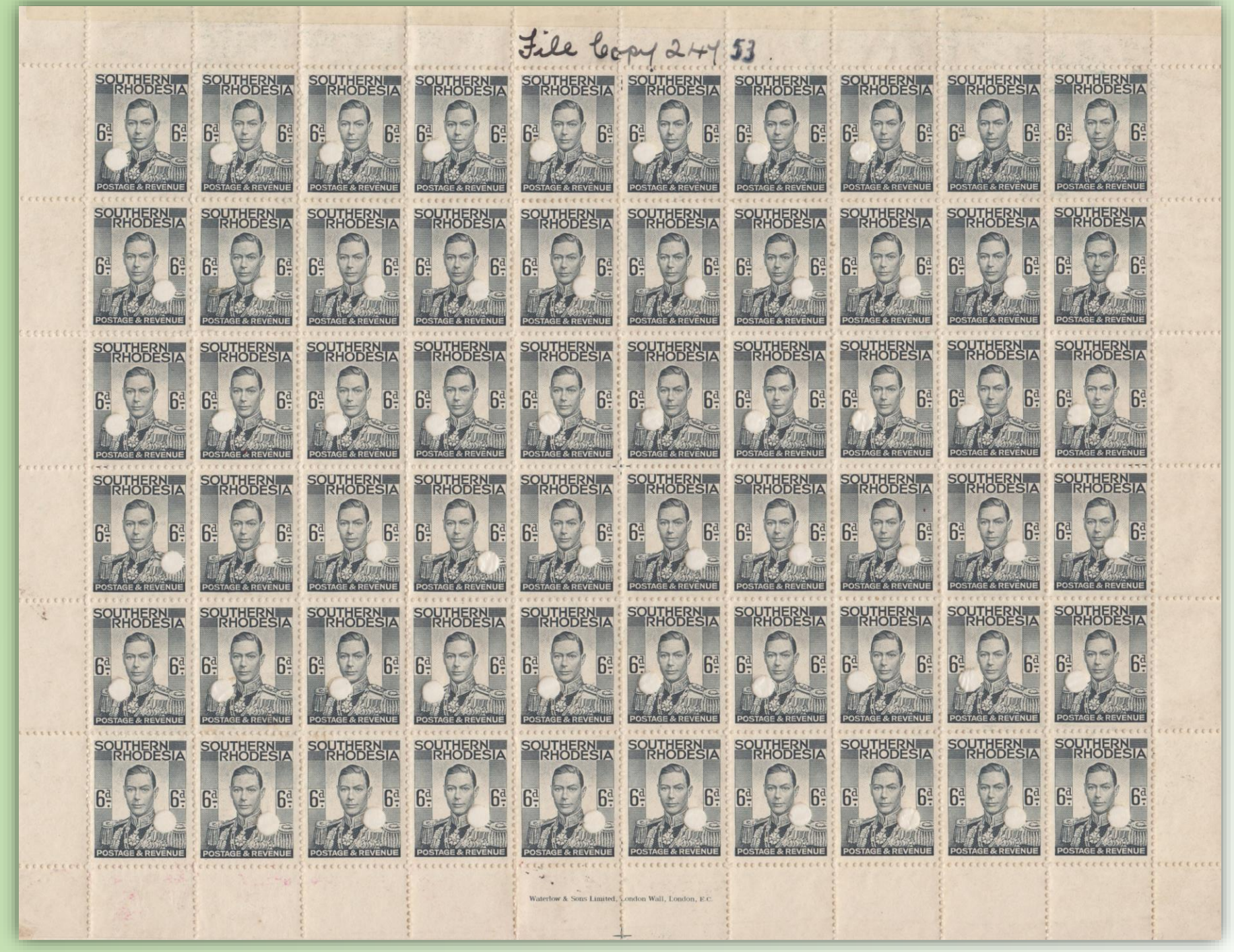
The 6d duty was an anomaly, having been set 120 and 240, with the file proofs below proving the 4 Pane setting. Note that there is no printer's imprint central to the vertical gutter. The side pieces also indicate the printer's registration marks







Printer’s file copy sheet of the 4d duty, perforated 14 , with printer’s imprint and manual
Inscription “File copy 16567”



File copies of the 1s; 1s6d; 2s and 2s6d duties



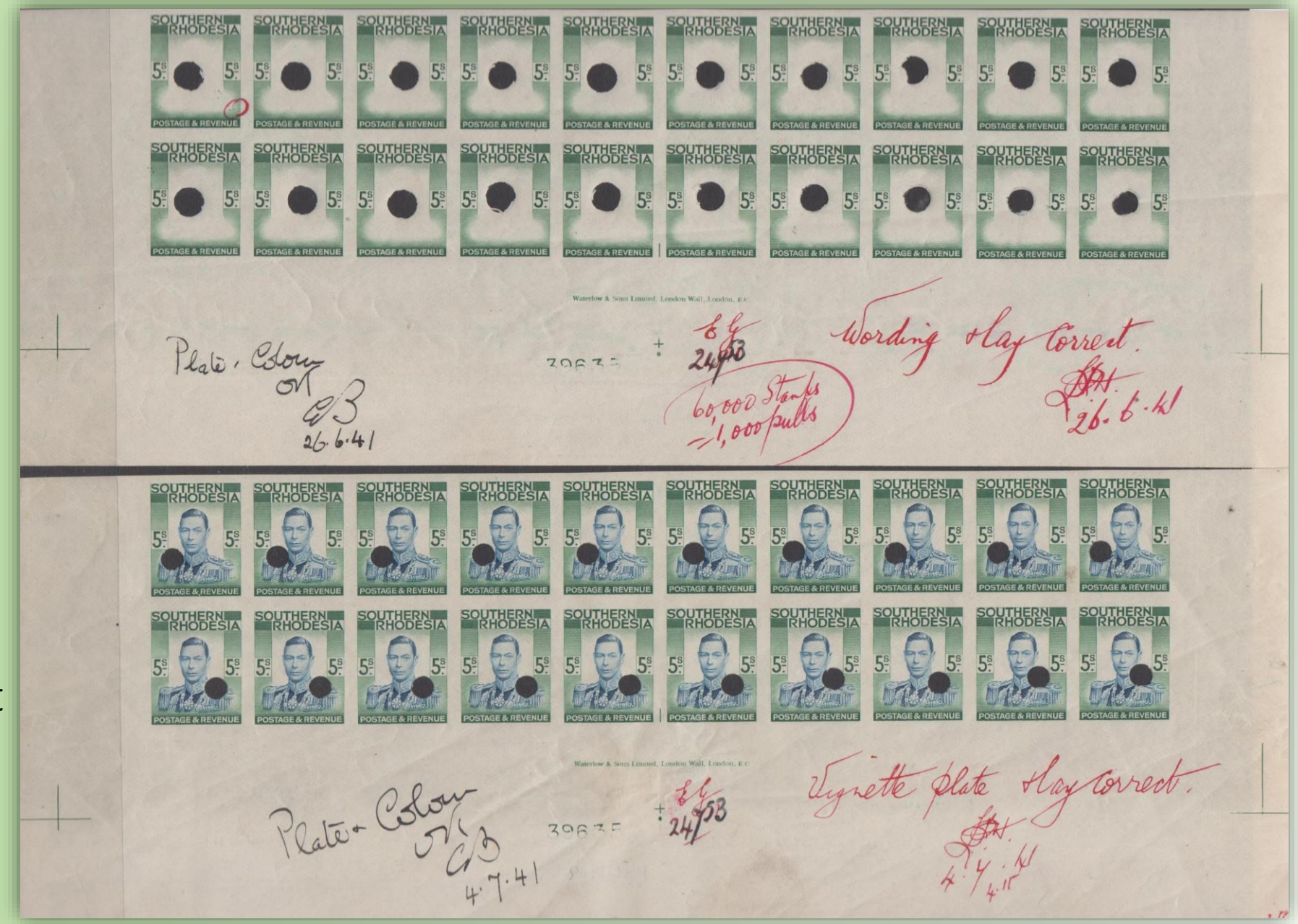






Printer's proofs of the 5s in Imperforate bottom double rows of the 60 set pane.

The manuscript notes are from the print shop and all form part of the approval process



"60,000 stamps = 1,000 pulls"

This denotes the number of stamps to be printed. A "pull" is a 60 set sheet of stamps

The black ink number is the Requisition or Order number – 24703.

Both proofs are for the 1941 printing

This printer's proof, is imperforate and was ERRONEOUSLY PRINTED ON THE GUMMED SIDE.

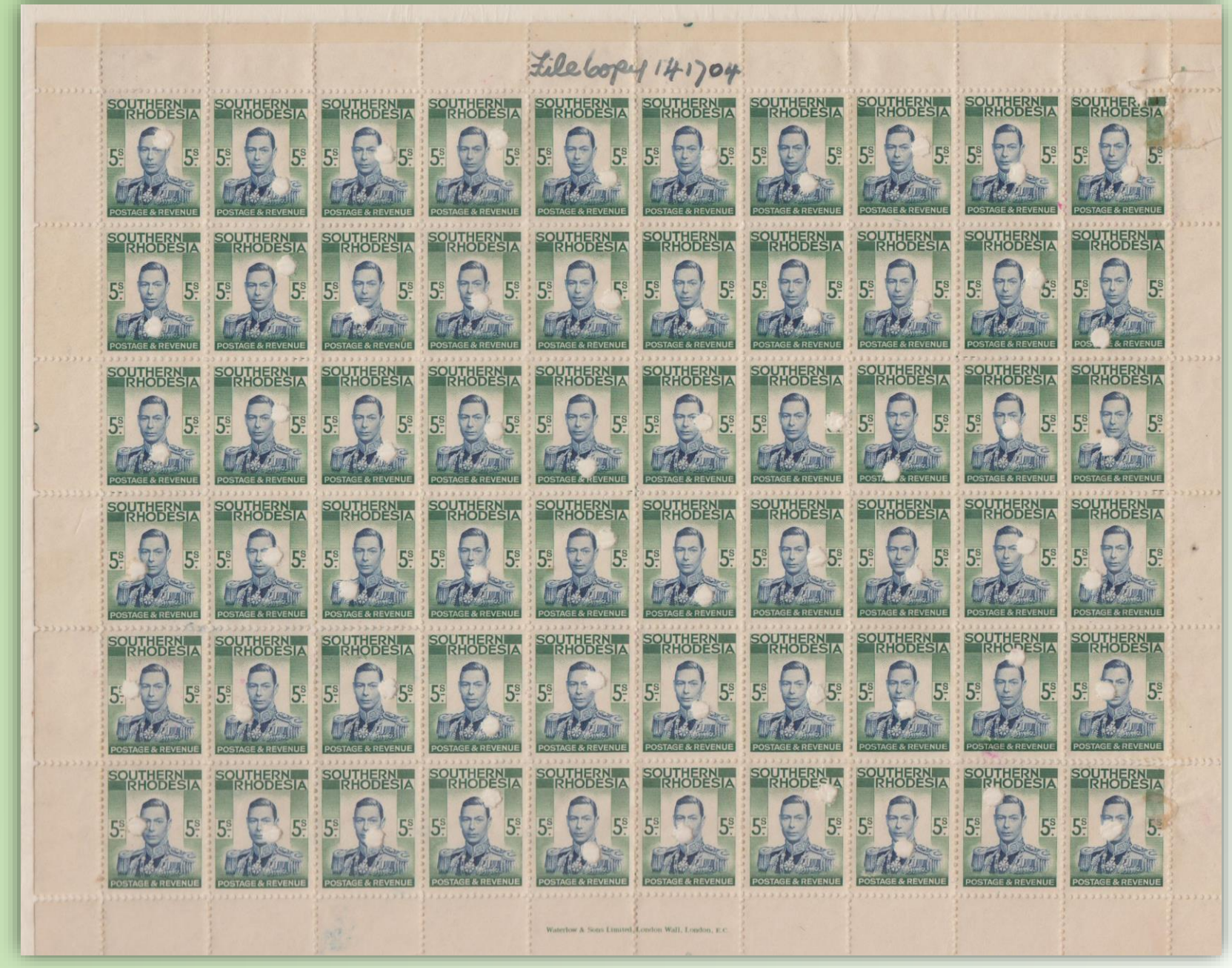
Contains endorsements and the frame and head plate frame numbers – 39635 and 39636



Printer’s file copy of full sheet of the 5s duty, perforated 14 and with security punch holes

File Copy 141704.

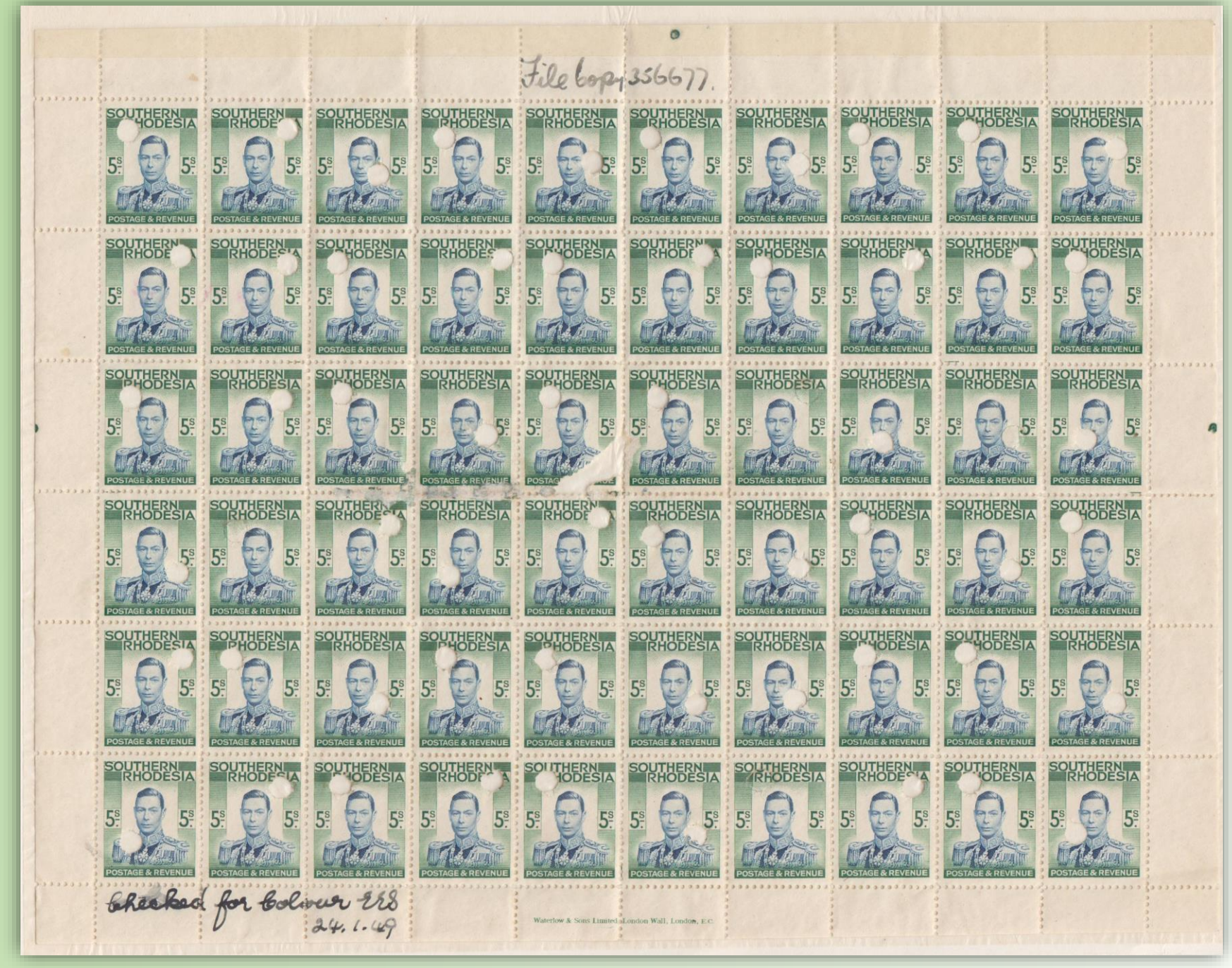
The tape used for sticking the sheet into the printer’s record books can be seen at the top of the pane



Printer’s file copy of full sheet of the 5s duty, perforated 14 and with security punch holes

File Copy 356677.

The tape used for sticking the sheet into the printer’s record books can be seen at the top of the pane



Headplates…….

- More complicated

- At least 5 different head plates

    - Headplate 39636 – 1937
    - Headplate 40942 – 1941
    - Headplate 43592 – 1947
    - Headplate 43958 – 1948
    - Headplate 45003 - 1952

Plate settings…….

- 1/2d and 1d…..
  - Set 240 in 4 panes of 60

  - 1 1/2d
  - First Set 60 followed by Set 240 in 4 panes of 60

    - 4d to 5s
    - Set 60 – 4d in 1951 mono colour set 120
- 6d Set 240 (1952)

–

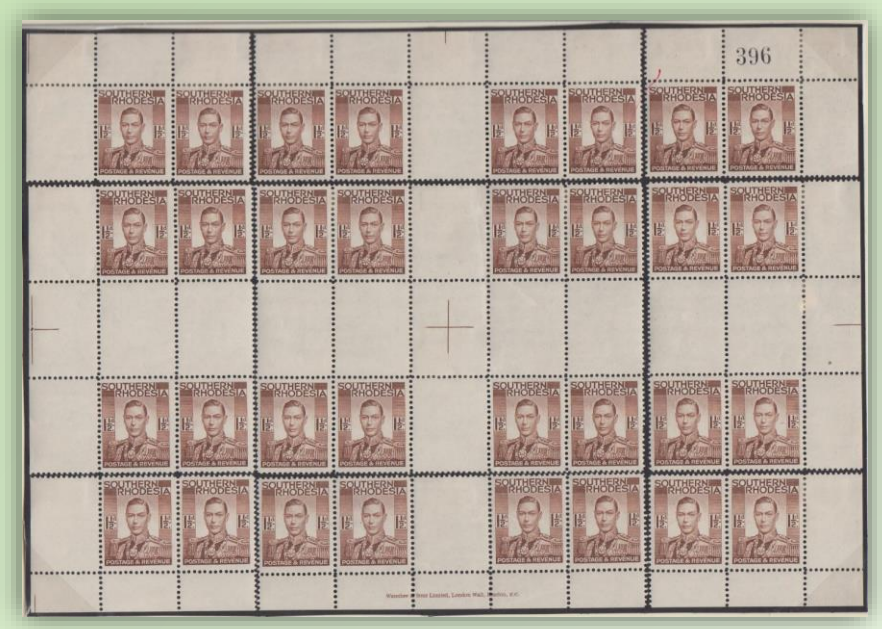




Plate markings…….











Plate markings……







Three different printings show three different central registration marks





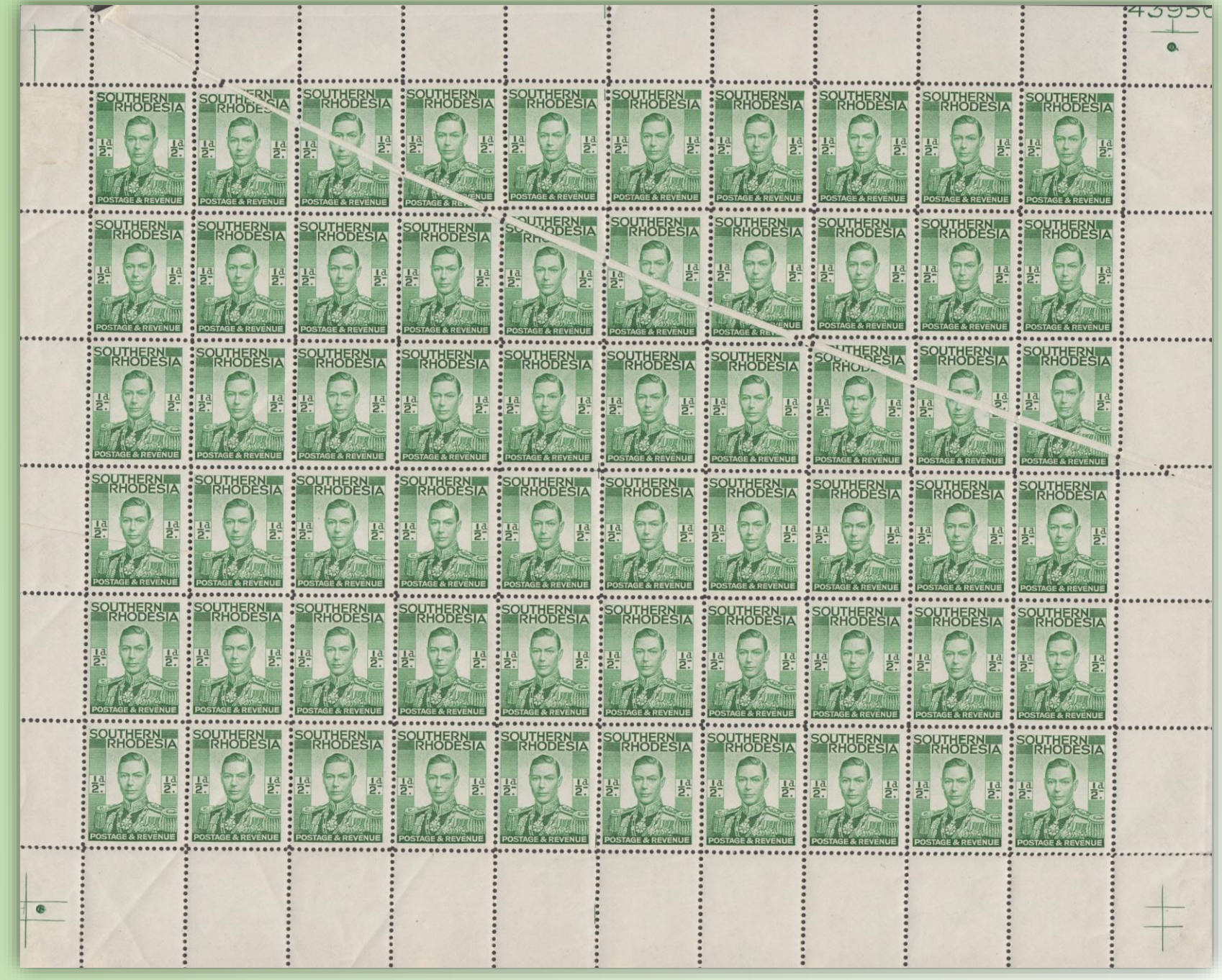
The central gutter junction, proving the 240 set sheet (4 panes of 60)



Top left Pane of 60 from the 240 set sheet, showing pre-printing paper crease, which caused misaligned perforations

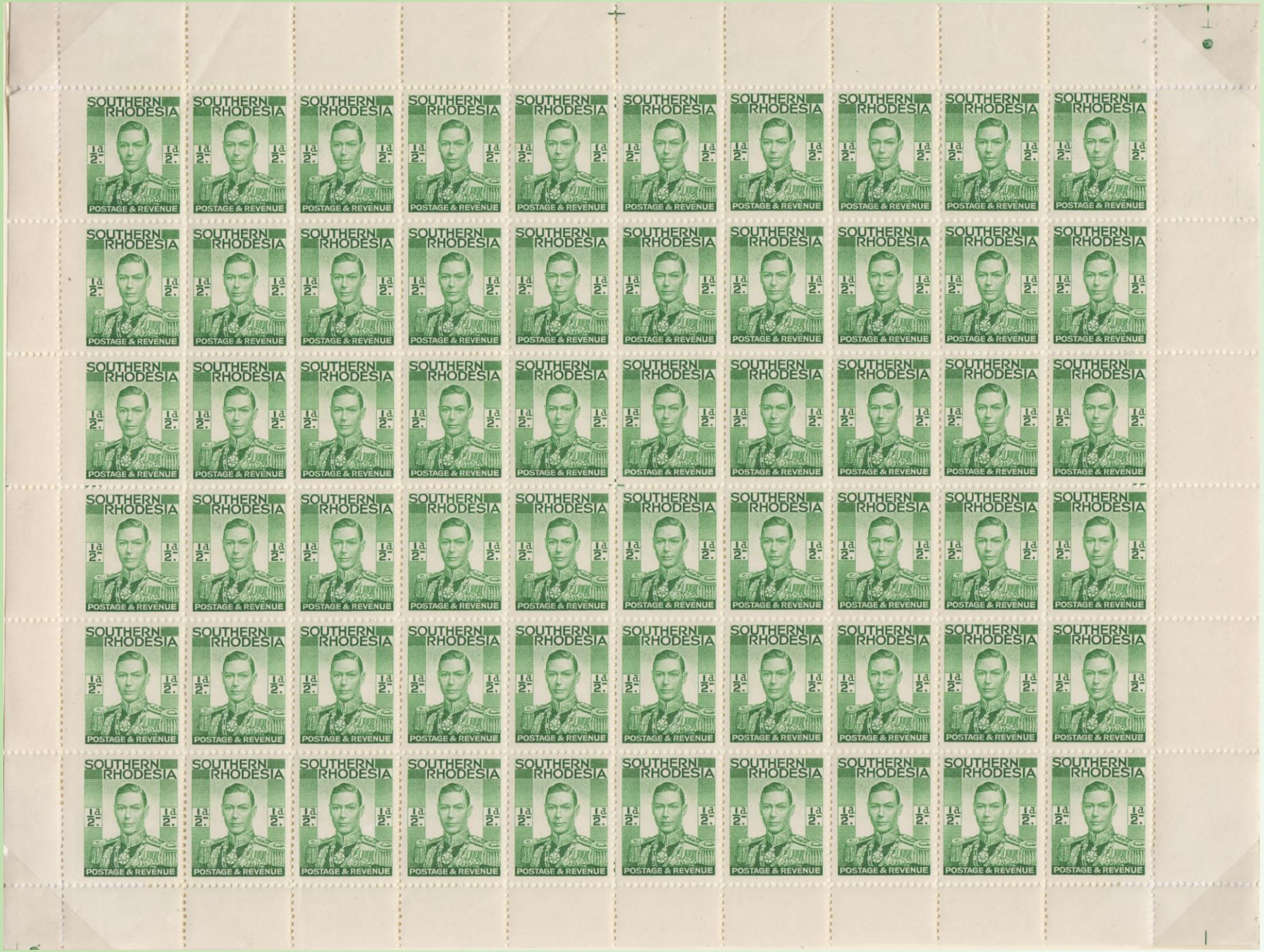
Plate number 43958 partially visible in top selvedge

Printer’s registration markings at corners



Top left pane of 60, perforated 14

Pale yellow green



Top left pane of 60, perforated 14

Pale yellow green

Different printing from last as evidenced by central junction registration marking

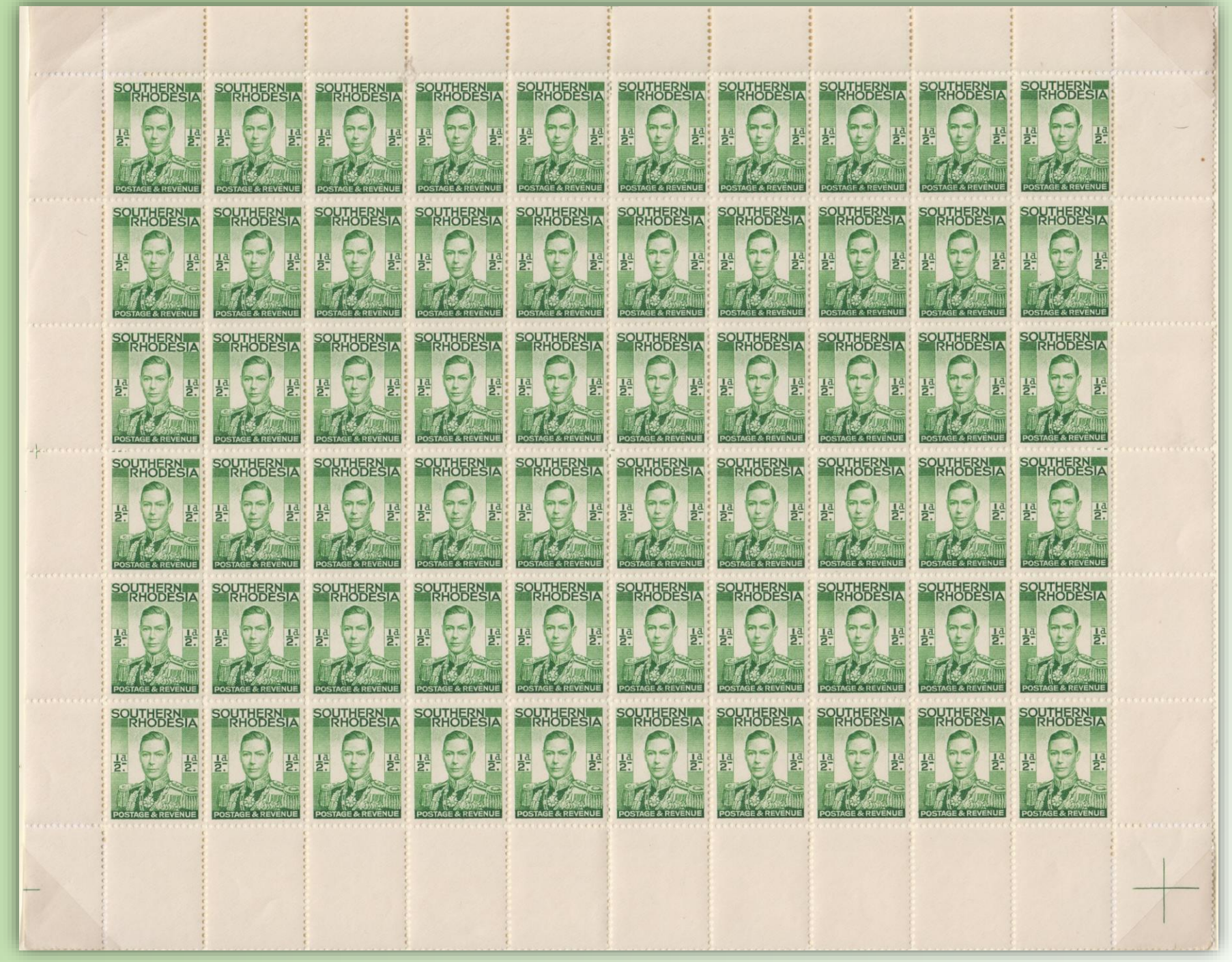
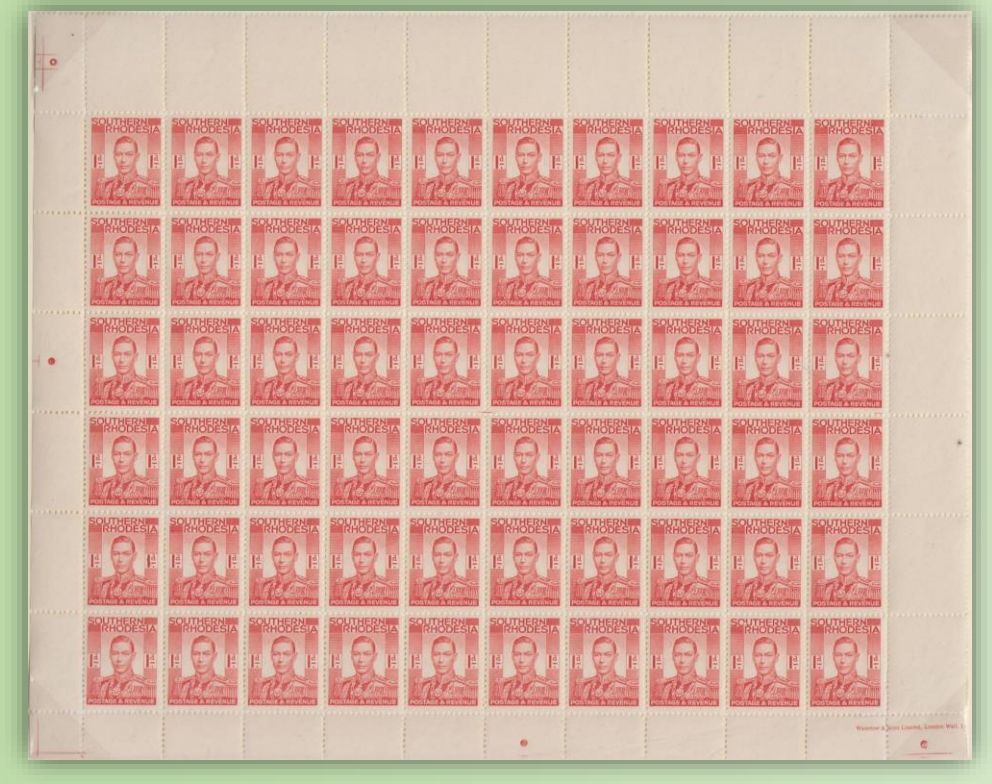
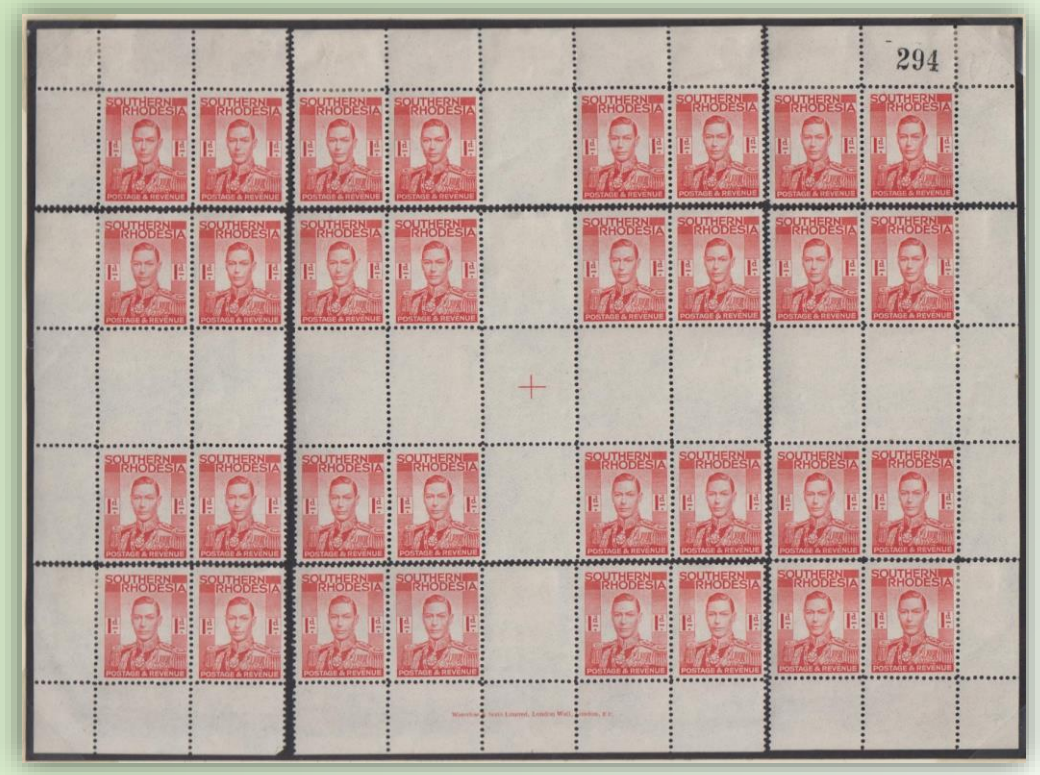


Plate markings……

Bottom left pane of 60 showing printer's markings in selvedge and printer's imprint at central gutter junction – pale red shade



Reconstructed illustration of a 240 set sheet showing printer's registration marks and imprint – deeper shade



Top marginal interpanneau block showing printer's markings and part of plate number 43629



Proving piece from centre of 240 set sheet (4 panes of 60) , without any printer's registration at centre of gutter intersection



Central gutter junctions of 249 set sheet, showing different printer's registration crosses at gutter junction – together with one printing without marks, this proves at least three separate settings of printings





These two blocks show Printer’s Imprint set 6mm below the stamps





These two blocks show the Printer’s Imprint set 8mm below the stamps





Pre-printing paper crease results in interrupted printing



Pre-printing paper crease results in interrupted printing





Mis-perforation results in wide white band at bottom of stamp

Mis-perforation results in wide wing on left hand stamp – one sheet known – only 12 copies possible





Foreign body intrusion results in interrupted printing

Pre-printing paper crease results in interrupted printing



Dragged smudged printing



Evidence of part plate number 43957



Paper join





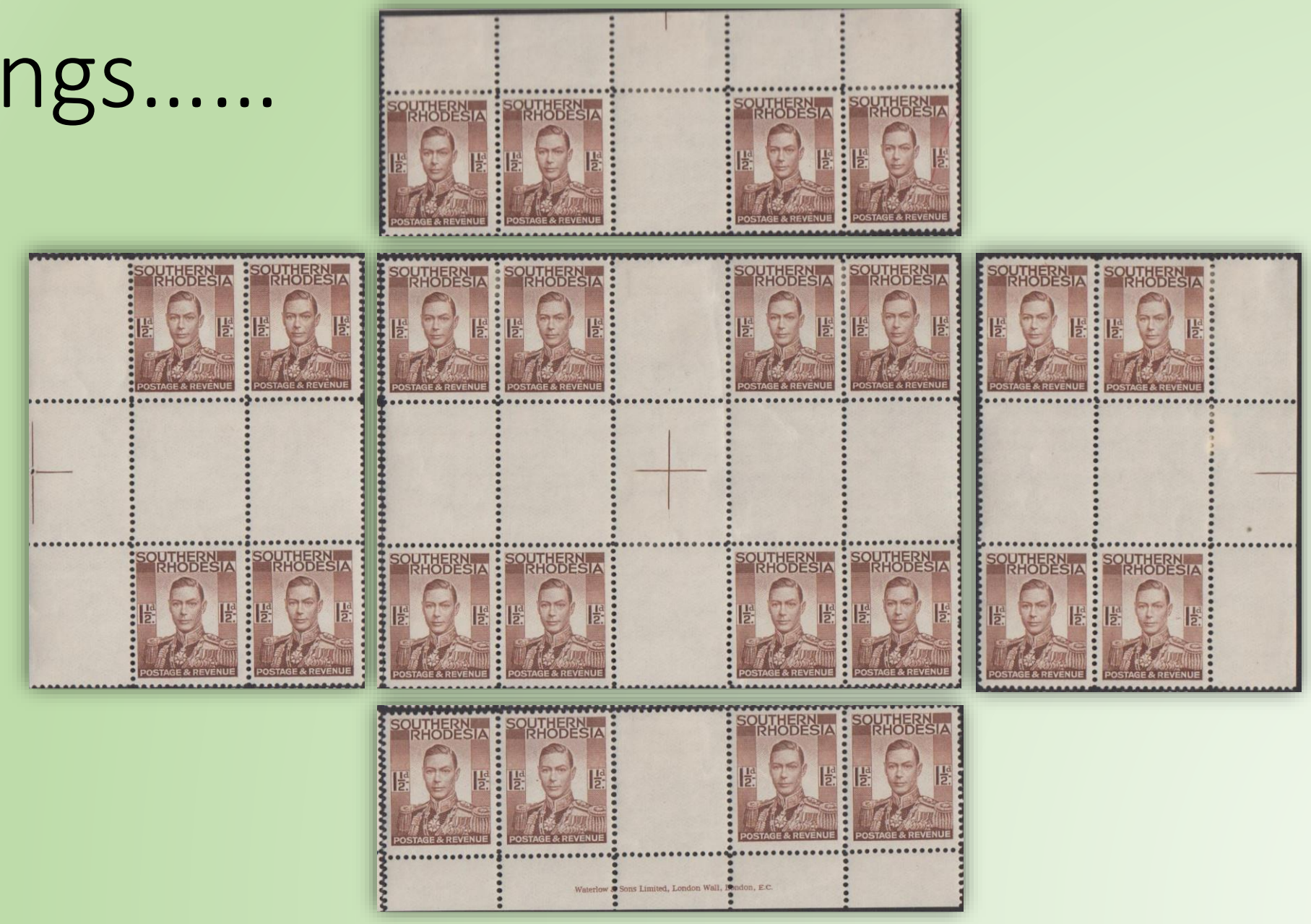
Coil stamps



Paper join



Plate markings……



Proving piece – Central gutter junction of 240 set sheet – 4 panes of 60
Imperforate printer's proofs



Proving piece – Central gutter junction of 240 set sheet – 4 panes of 60
Issued stamps – Perf 14



Printer’s Imprint 8mm below stamps – Printers Imprint central to vertical gutter





The Issued stamps…….

First Day of issue – Set of 13 franked Umtali 25 NOV 1937



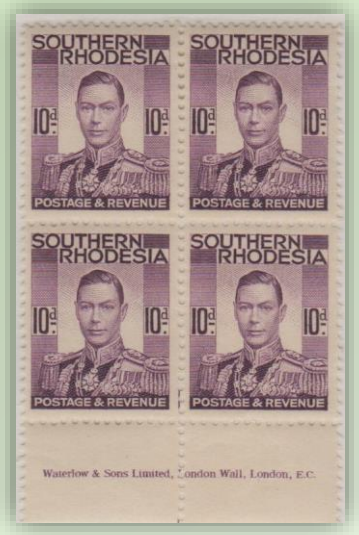
The Issued stamps……





















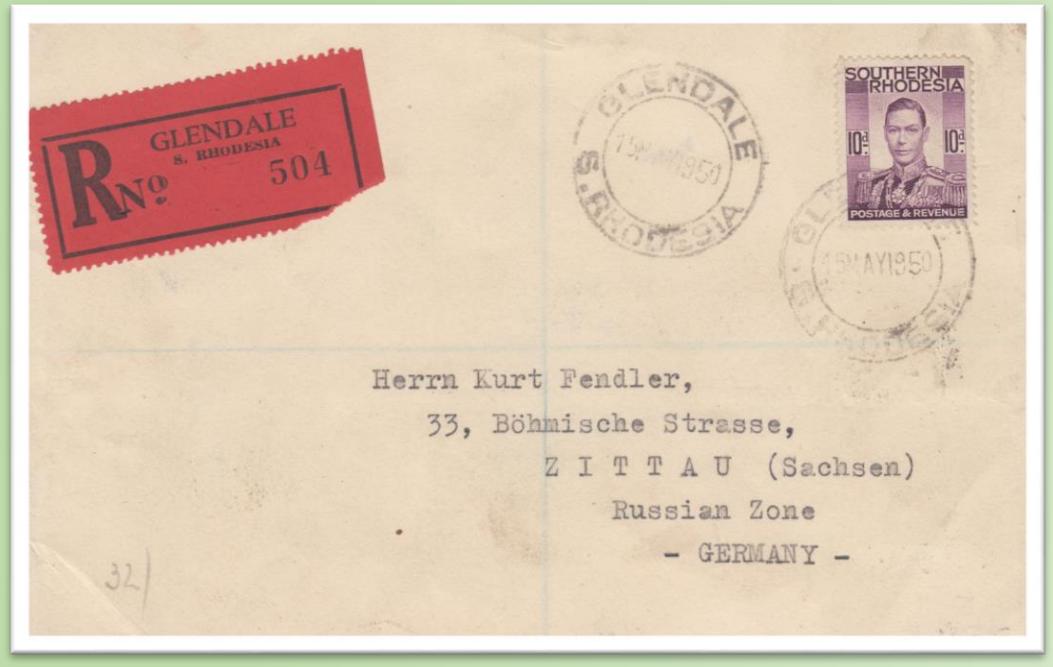
1/2d open letter rate

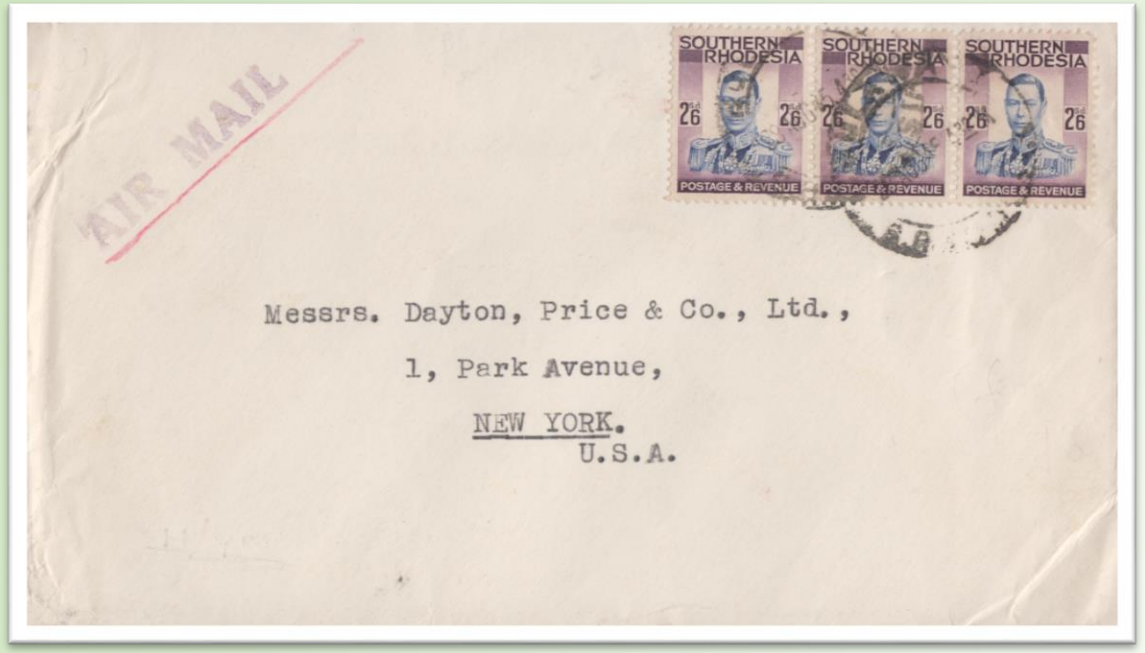


1s 6d air mail rate to Chekoslovakia



4d registration and 6d postage to Germany

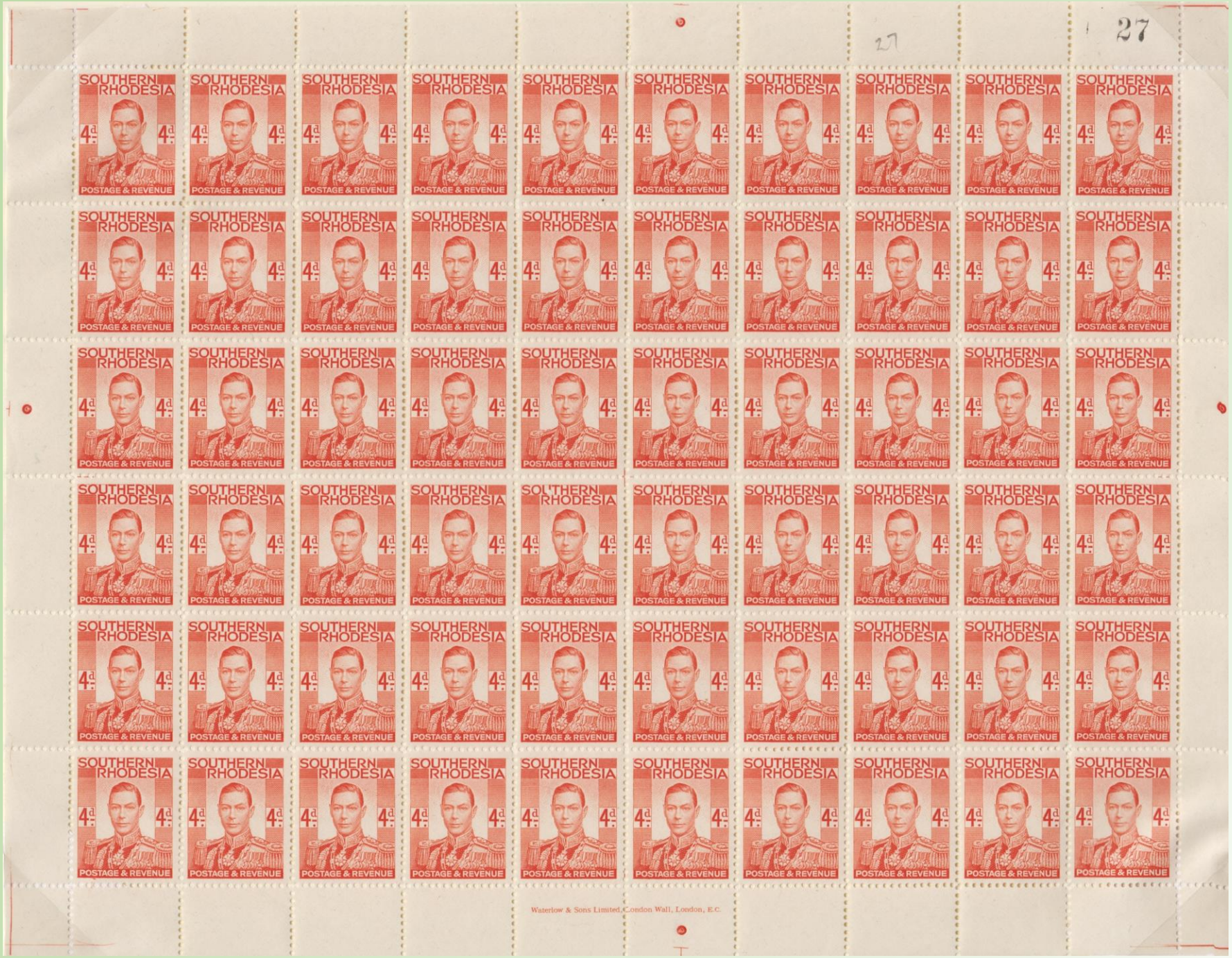




4d Duty set 60.

Perforated 14.

Printer’s Imprint in bottom margin central to sheet – 8mm below stamps



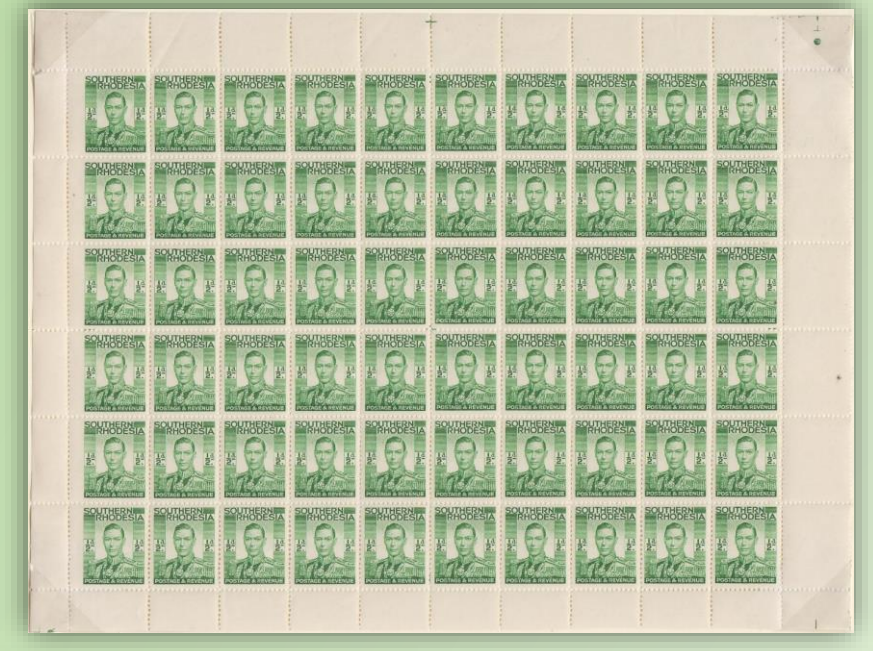
Printer’s Imprint
8mm below stamps

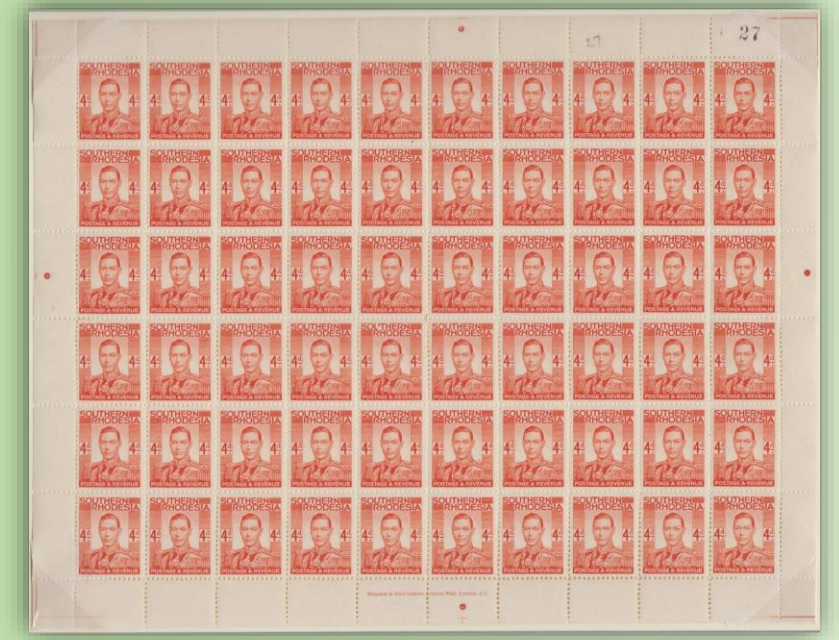


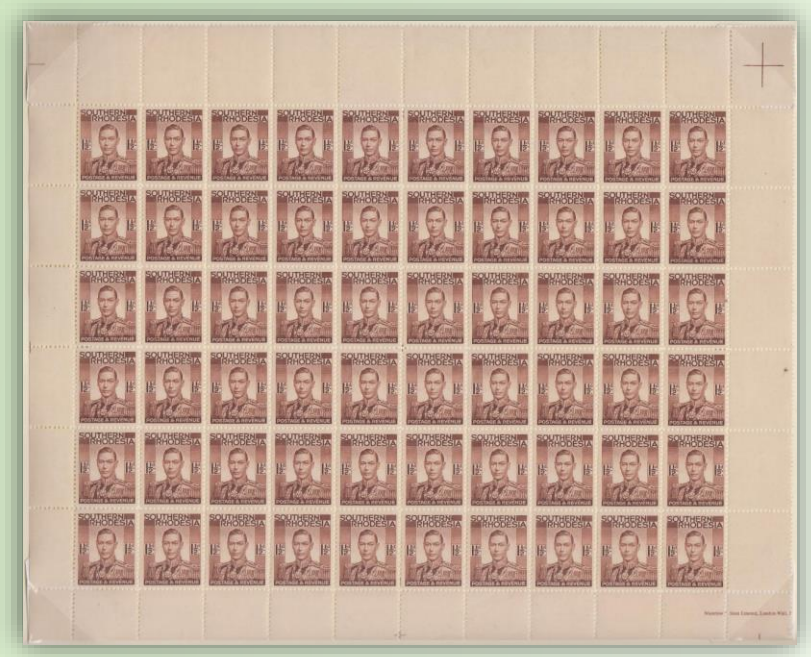
Printer’s Imprint
5,5mm below stamps



Full panes of the 1/2d, 1d and 1 1/2d Stamps from the sheets set 240







Printer’s Imprint 5,5mm below stamps

Printer’s Imprint 8mm below stamps





Printer’s Imprint 5,5mm below stamps



Usage of 6d duty



G.P. & S.—D.608 S.B. 26

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

25/-

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

5/- OR OVER **STAMP SAVINGS CARD** 5/- OR OVER

Name of Owner Rozelle Tarlton

Address Grasslands, Marandellas

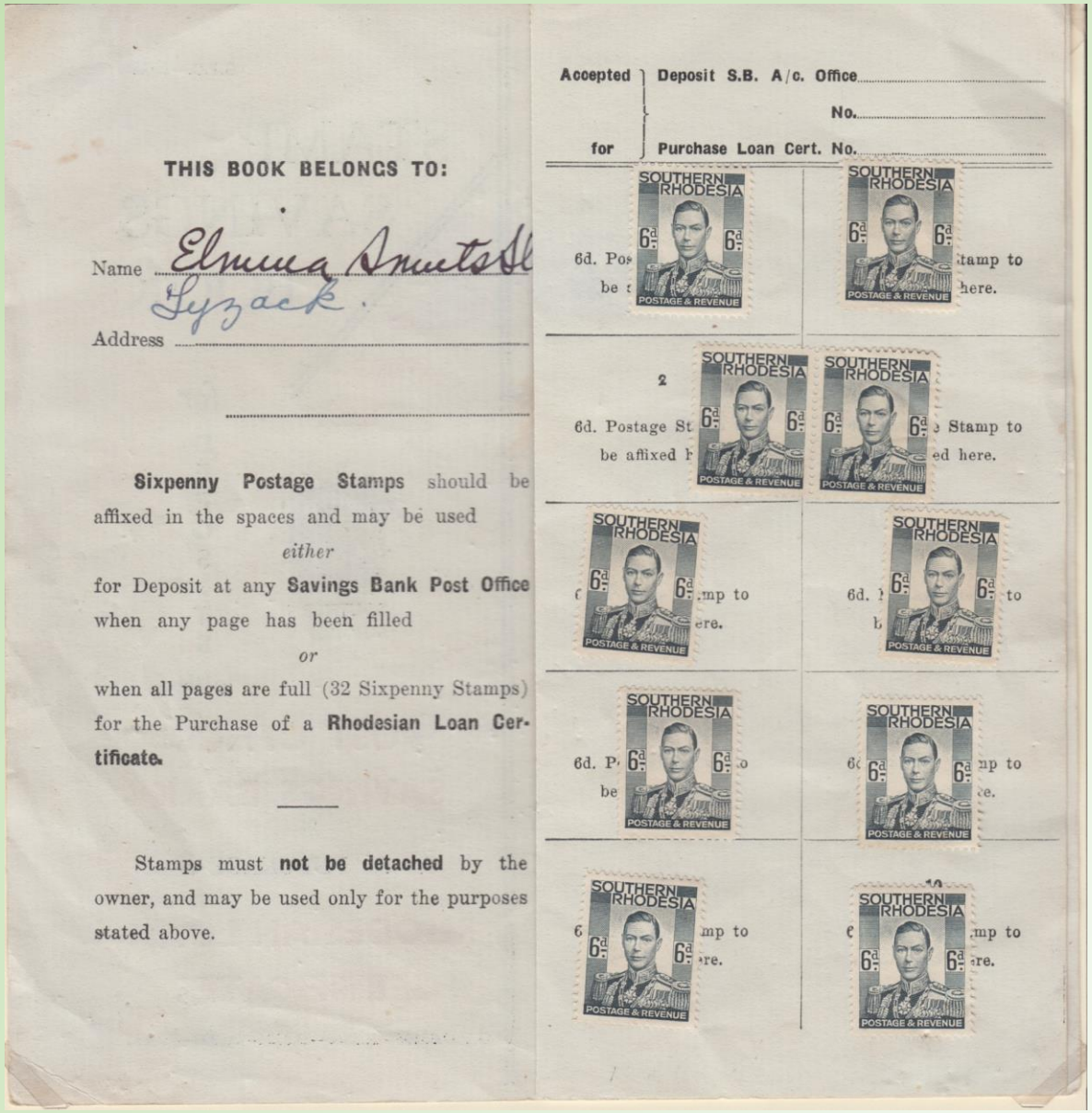
DEPOSITOR'S BOOK:

Office Marandellas No. 3764

nt issue sixpenny postage
other denominations, have
e accepted as a deposit to
epartmental Post Office in
ly have an account, your
nted with the card.

this card be lost. SEE OVER.

Usage of 6d duty



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

Name Elmina Smuts St
Syzack.

Address

Sixpenny Postage Stamps should be affixed in the spaces and may be used

either

for Deposit at any **Savings Bank Post Office** when any page has been filled

or

when all pages are full (32 Sixpenny Stamps) for the Purchase of a **Rhodesian Loan Certificate.**

Stamps must **not be detached** by the owner, and may be used only for the purposes stated above.

Accepted for Deposit S.B. A/c. Office No. Purchase Loan Cert. No.

Printer’s Imprint 8mm below stamps



Printer’s Imprint 5,5mm below stamps



The Controversial 1s double print…….

More akin to “doubling”



More akin to “over-inking”



The so-called variety :
“Double printing of frame”
This is contentious in my view as the impressions tend to support over -inking of the frame rather than a double print

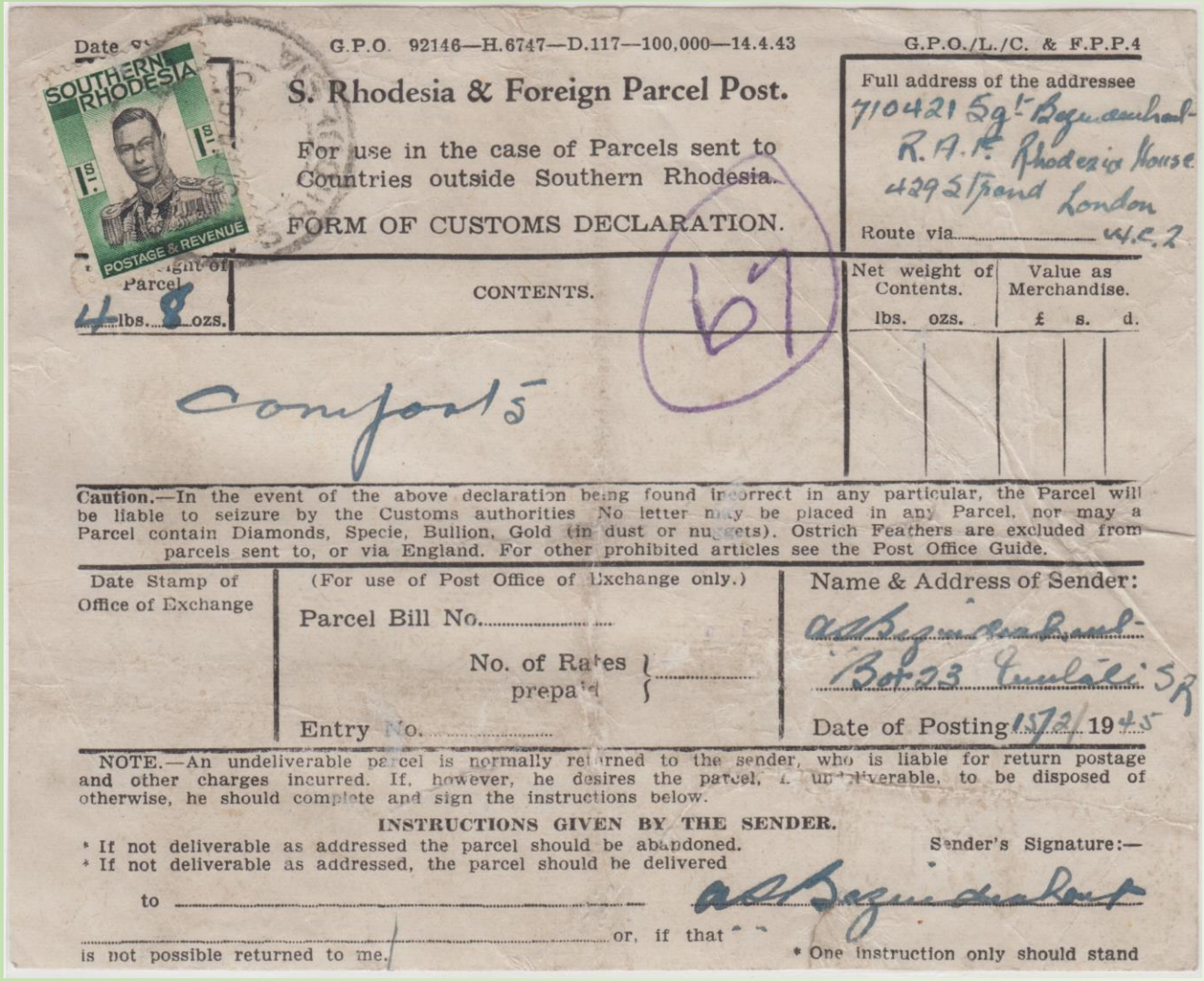








Use of 1s duty on Foreign parcel label – Umtali to London



Full pane of the 1s 6d duty, set 60



The 1s 6d duty saw more registration varieties than most of the other duties.

The head plate moved around a lot and examples show the head plate having moved up and down, and to a lesser degree sideways



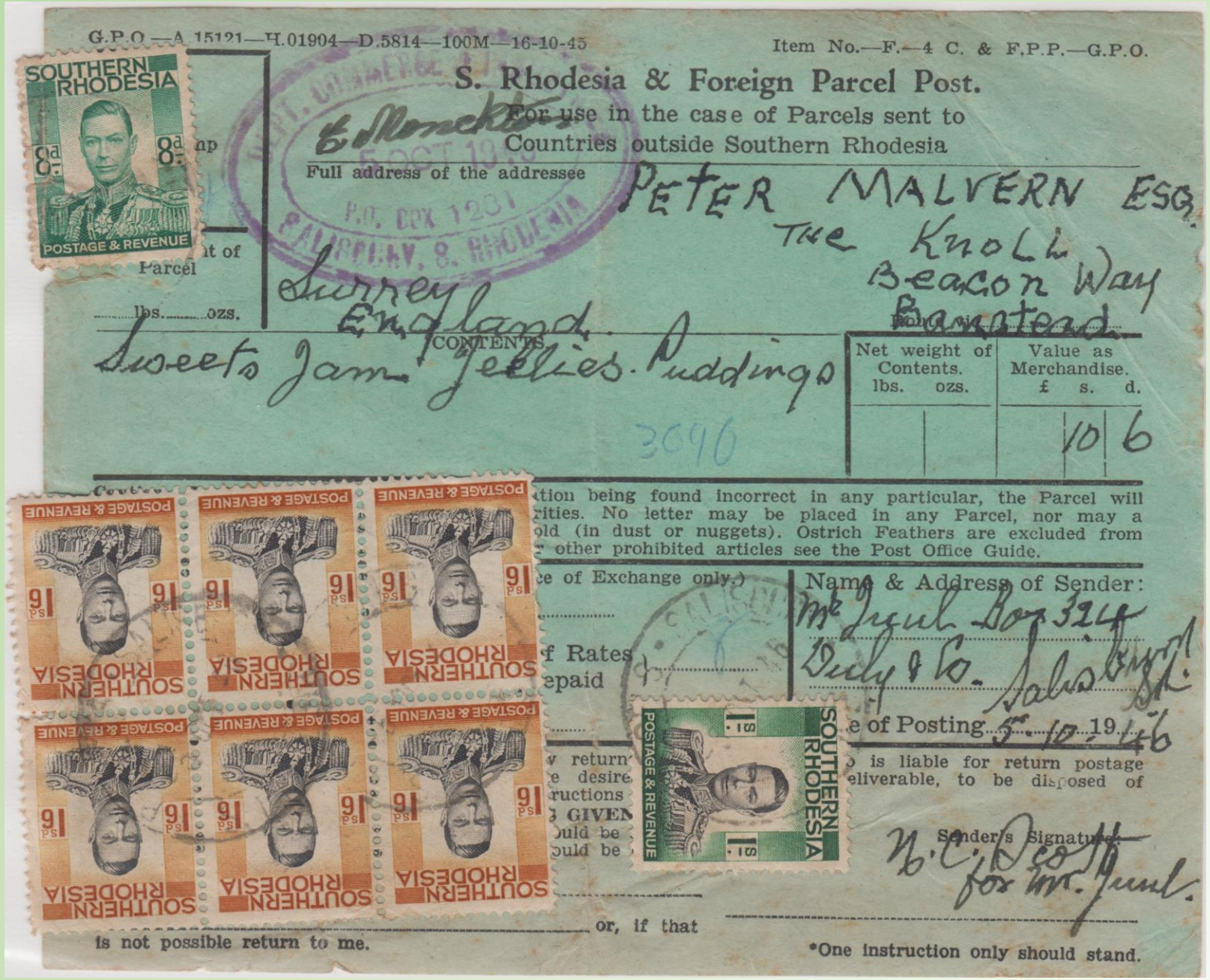




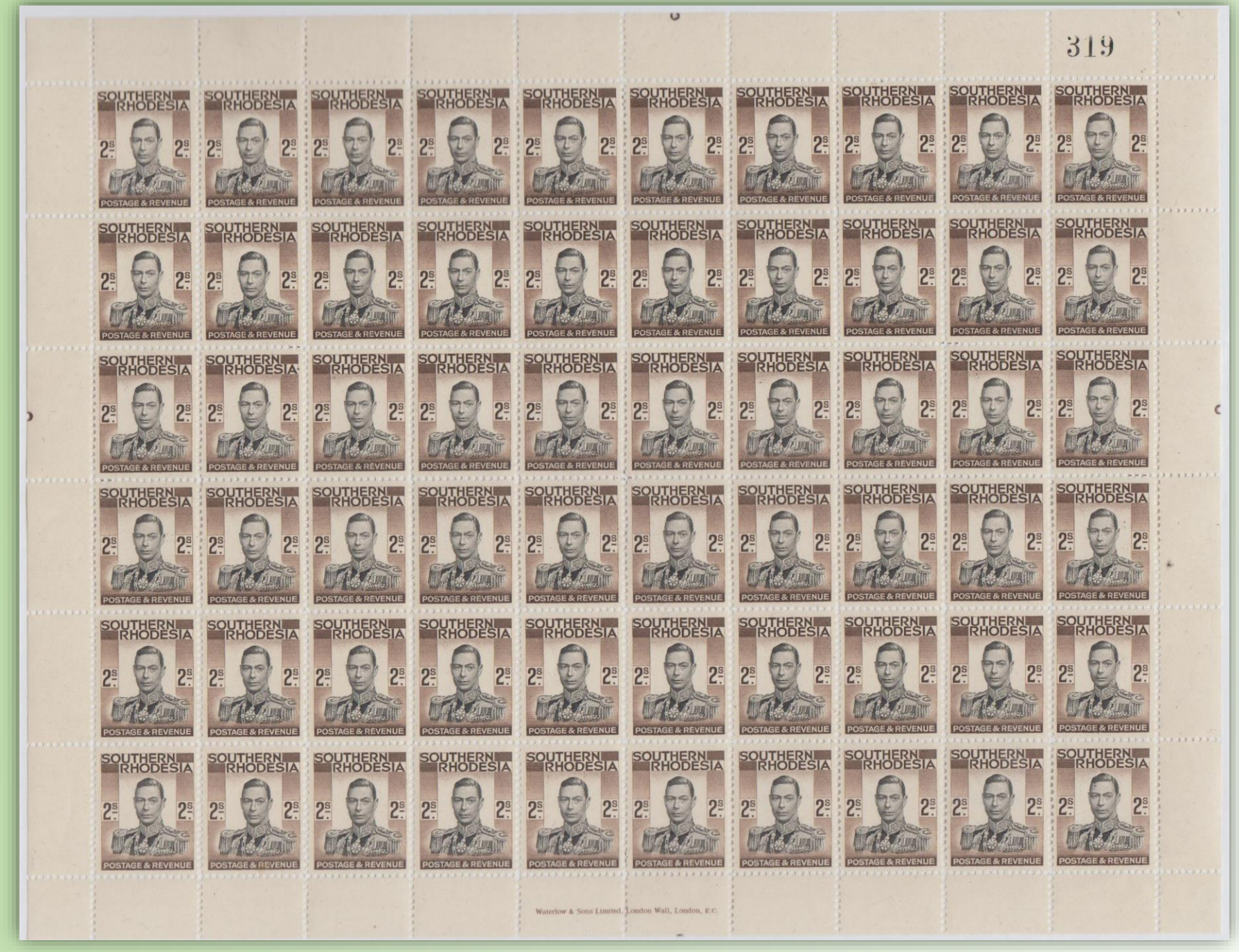




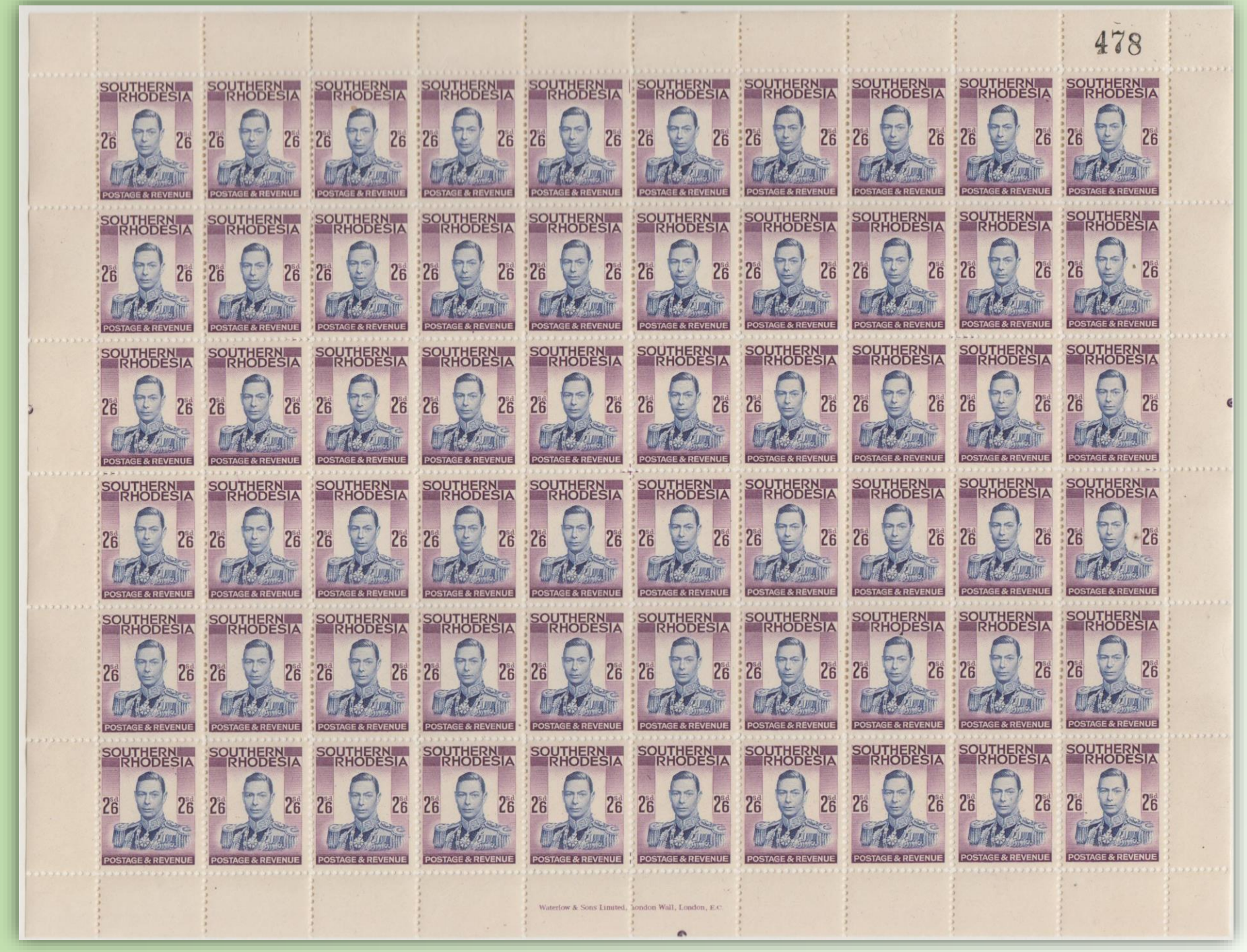
"Rhodesia & Foreign Parcel Post" label to England – a good example of a War Time food parcel franking – 10s 8d – block 1s 6d duty



Full pane of the 2s duty, set 60



Full Pane of the 2s 6d duty, set 60



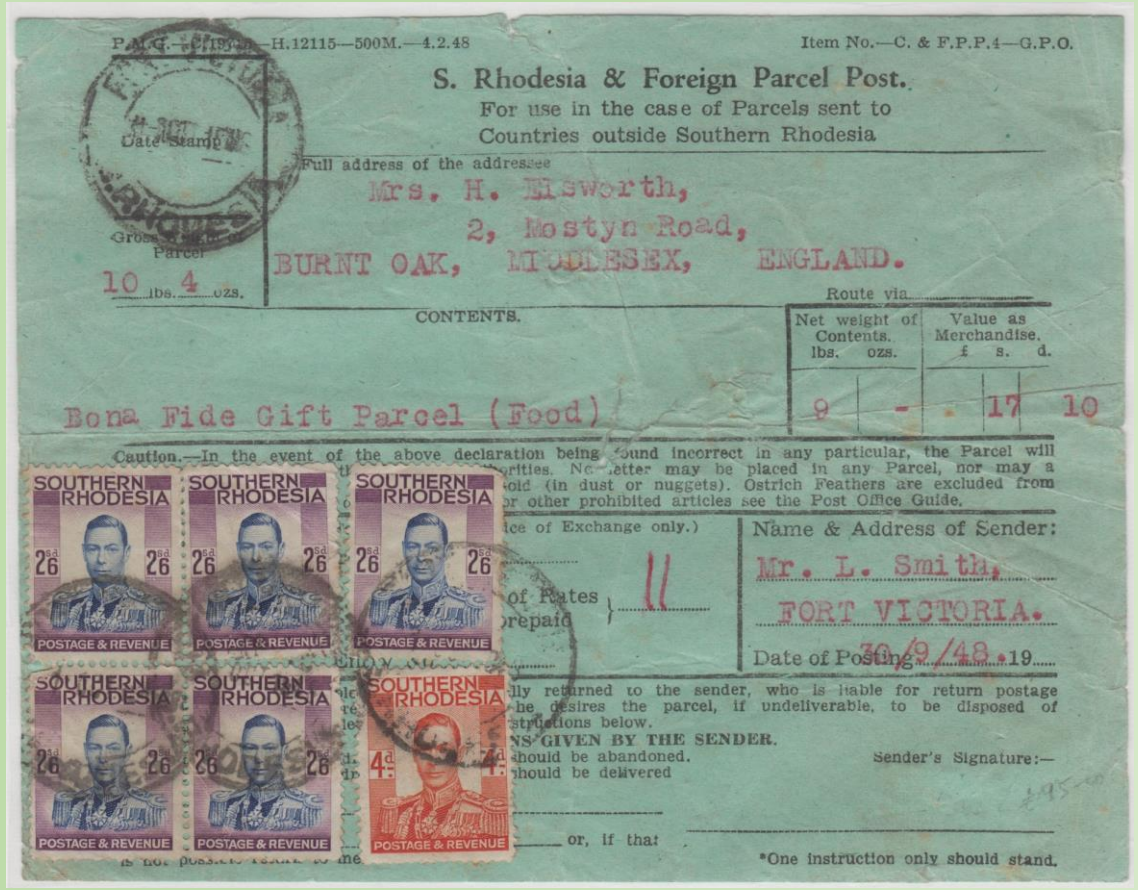
The vagaries of sheet numbering







High franking Parcel Labels - 2s 6d duty stamps used for War Time food parcels





Examples of “dragged” and “over inked “ printings



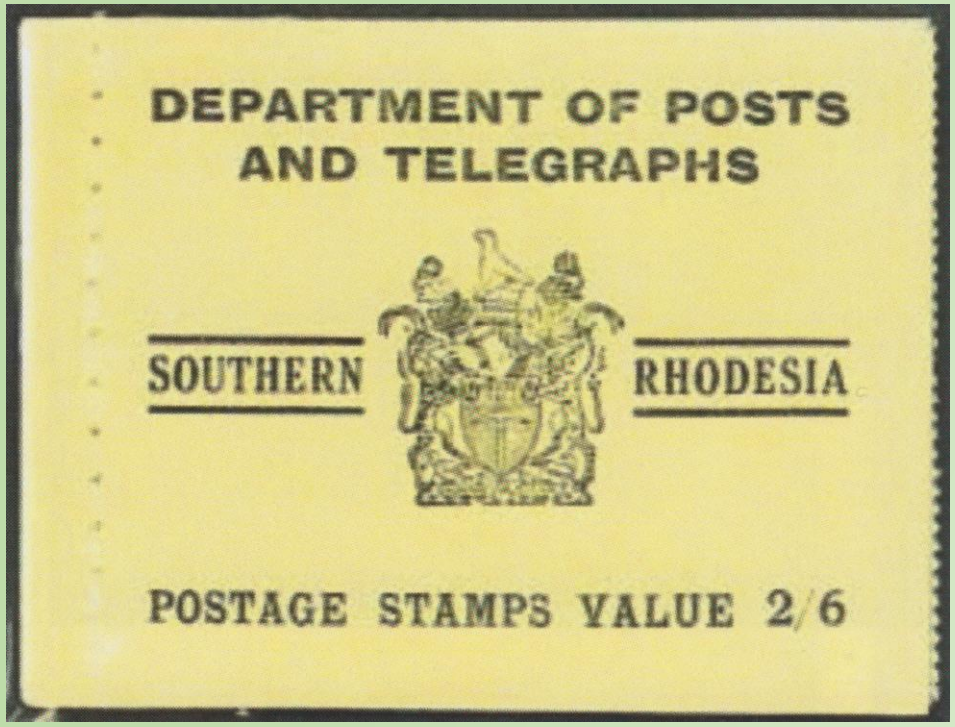




Jute bag parcel, high value franking – 119 shillings (5 Pounds 19 shillings) – a remarkable franking – possibly containing tobacco



Booklets……

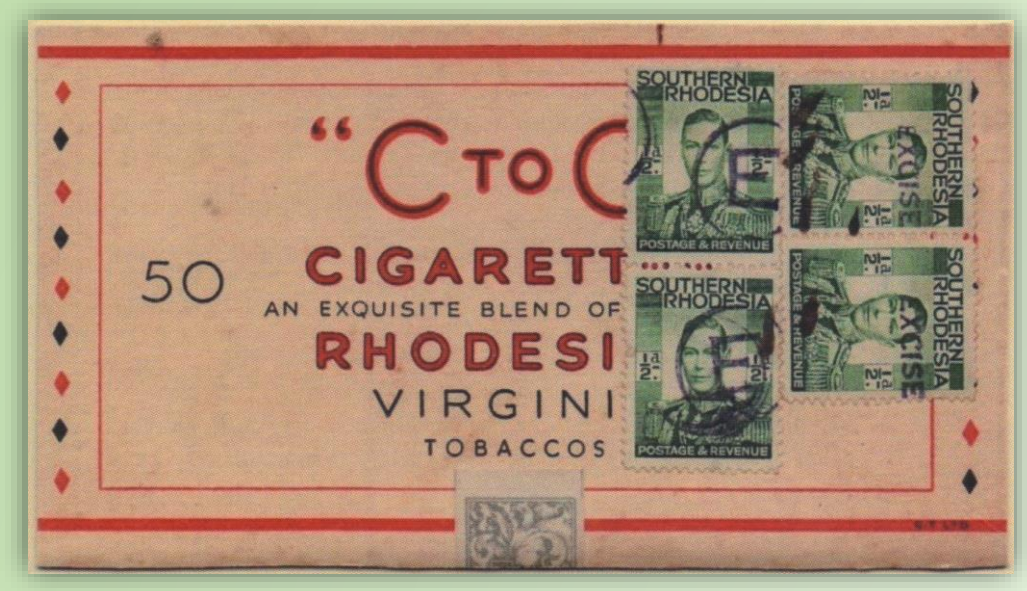

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS
AND TELEGRAPHS
SOUTHERN
RHODESIA
POSTAGE STAMPS VALUE 2/6


SOUTHERN RHODESIA
½d
½d
POSTAGE & REVENUE

Overprints for Revenue purposes ……



















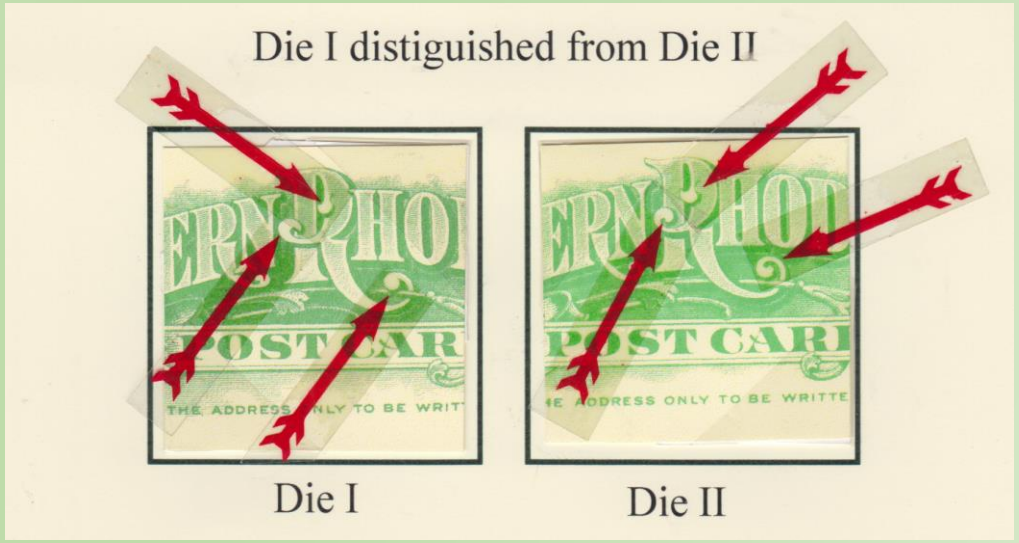
Largely used as a tax on cigarettes and tobacco

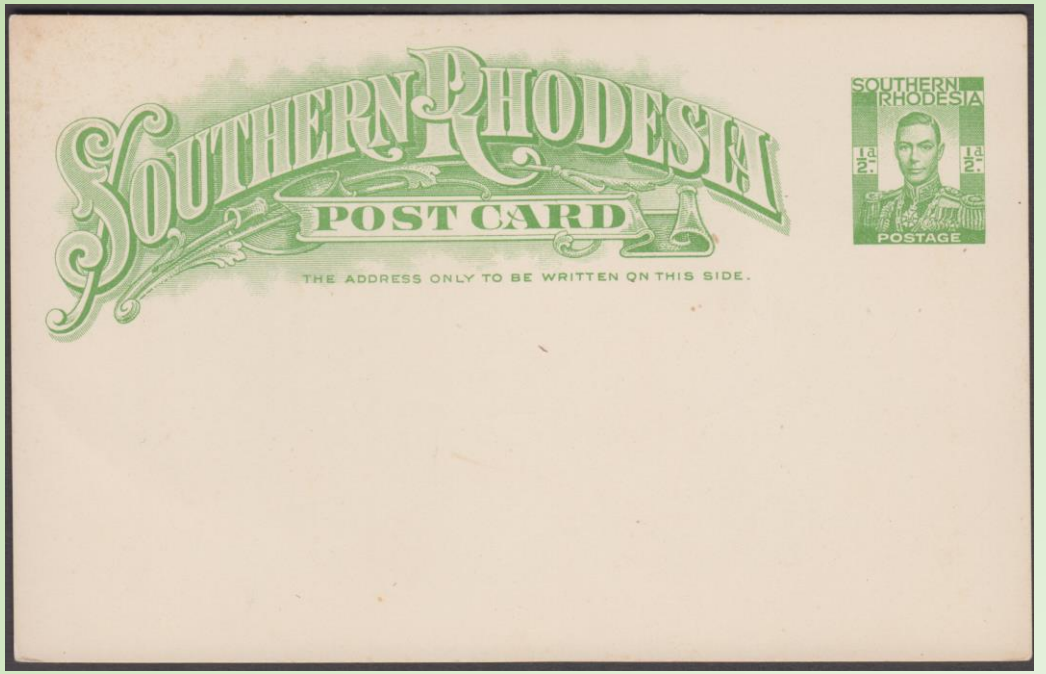


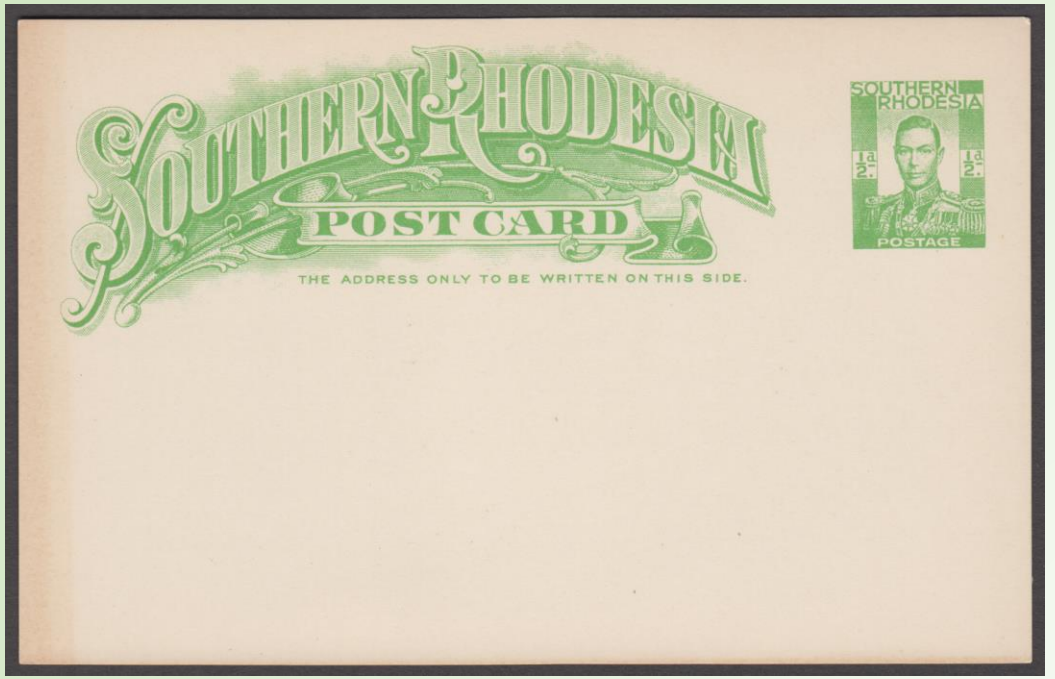


Postal stationery….

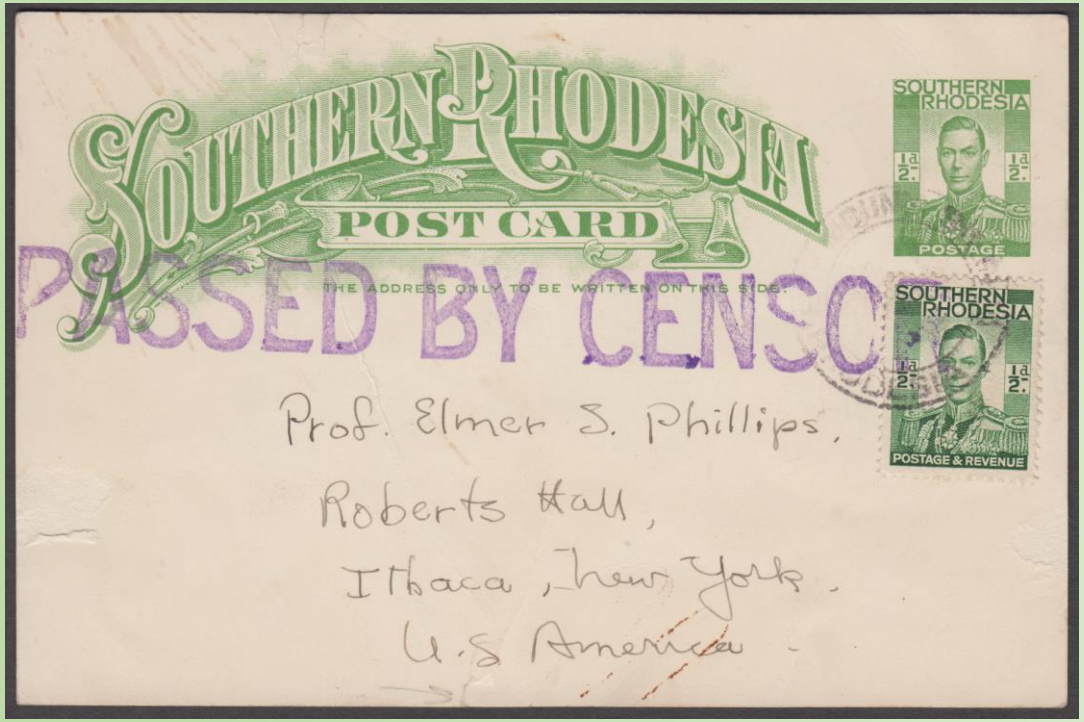
1/2d post cards



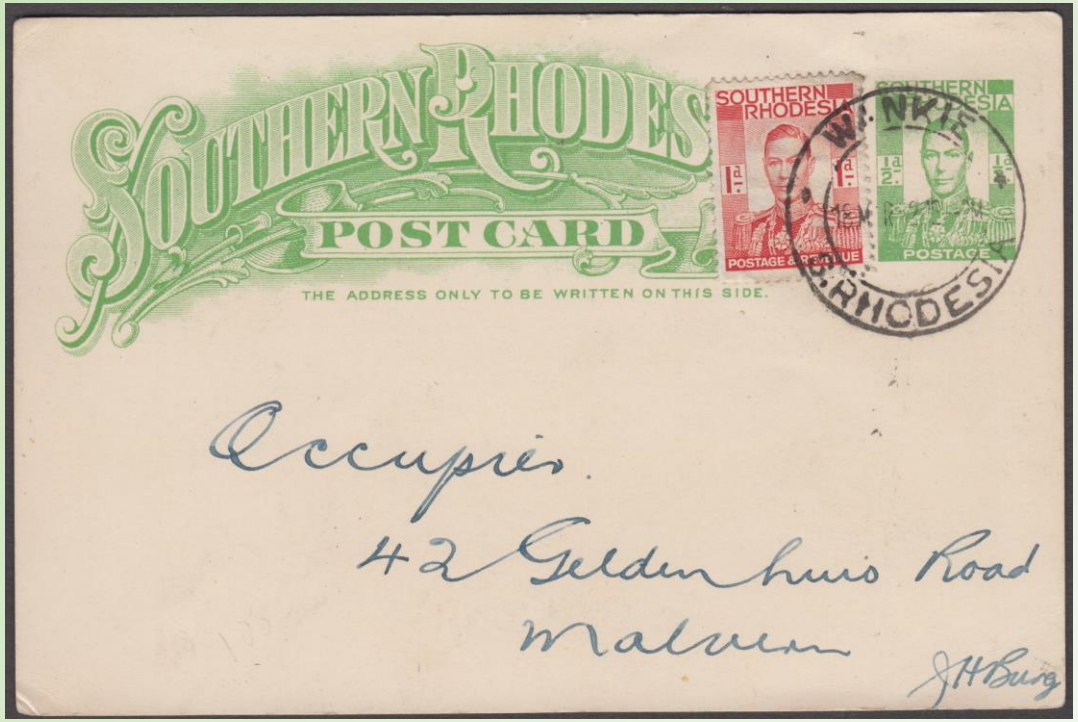




Die I

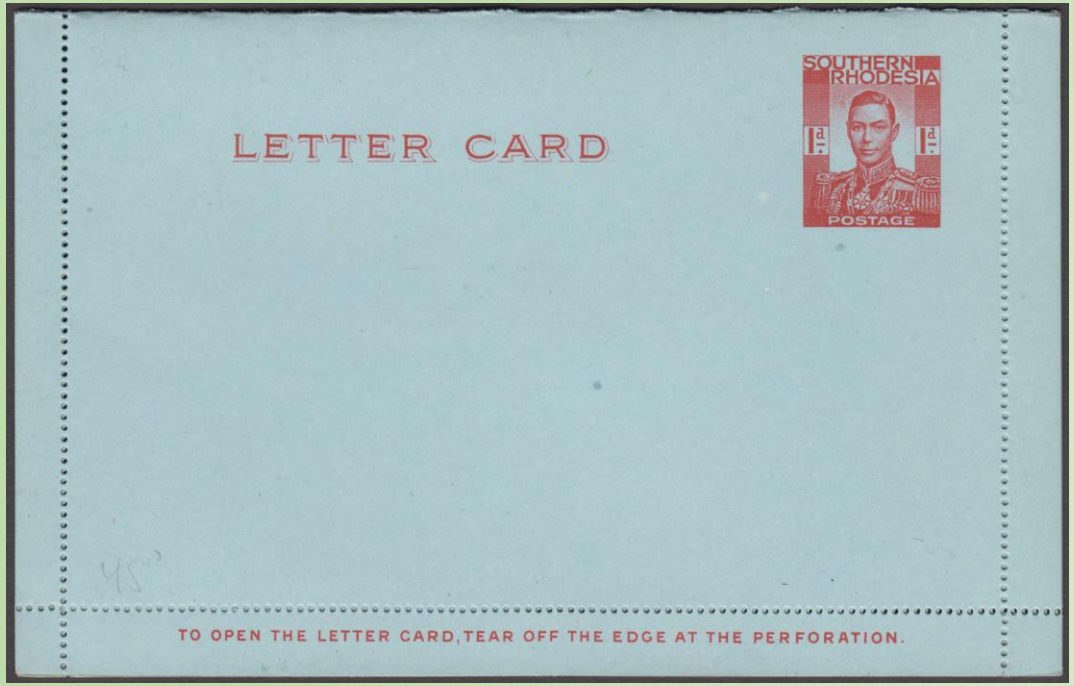

SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POST CARD
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.
PASSED BY CENSOR
SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POSTAGE
SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POSTAGE & REVENUE
Prof. Elmer S. Phillips,
Roberts Hall,
Ithaca, New York.
U.S America.

Die II


SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POST CARD
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.
SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POSTAGE & REVENUE
SOUTHERN RHODESIA
POSTAGE
Occupier.
42 Geldenhuis Road
Malvern
J H Burg

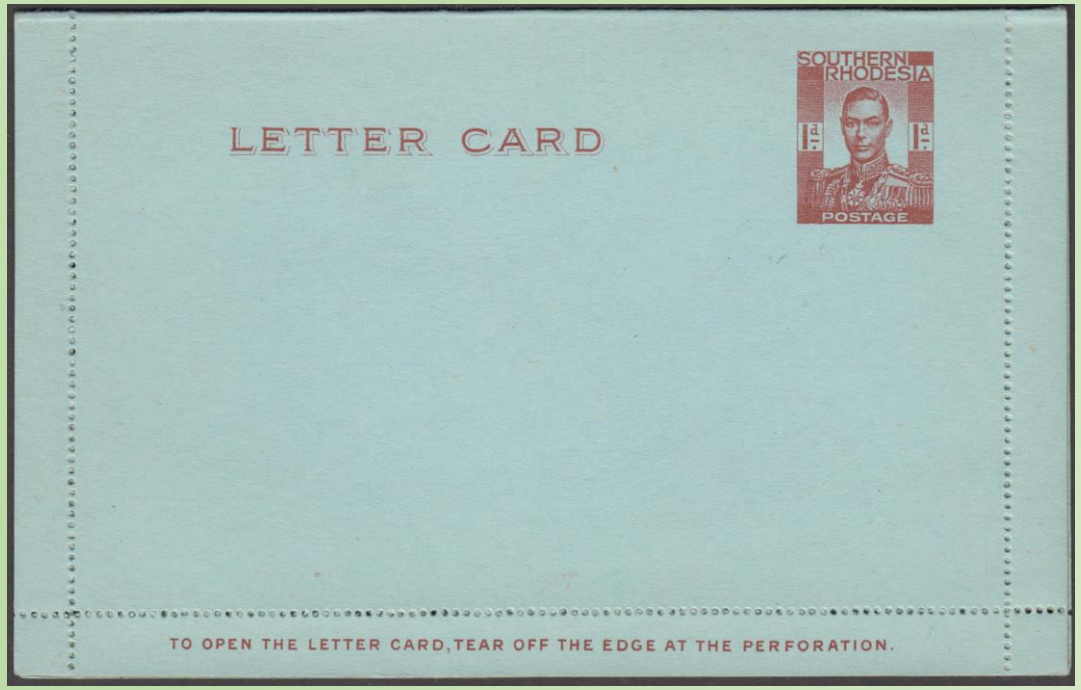
1d Letter Cards

Pale blue smooth card





Grey blue coarse card



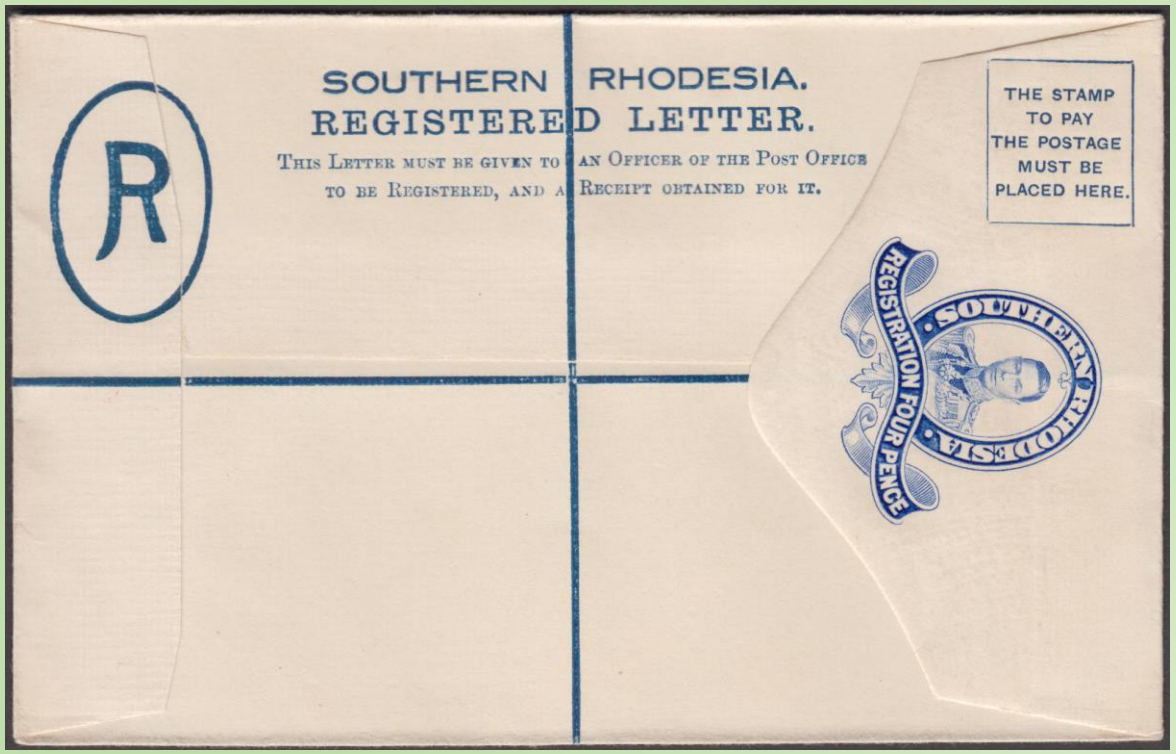


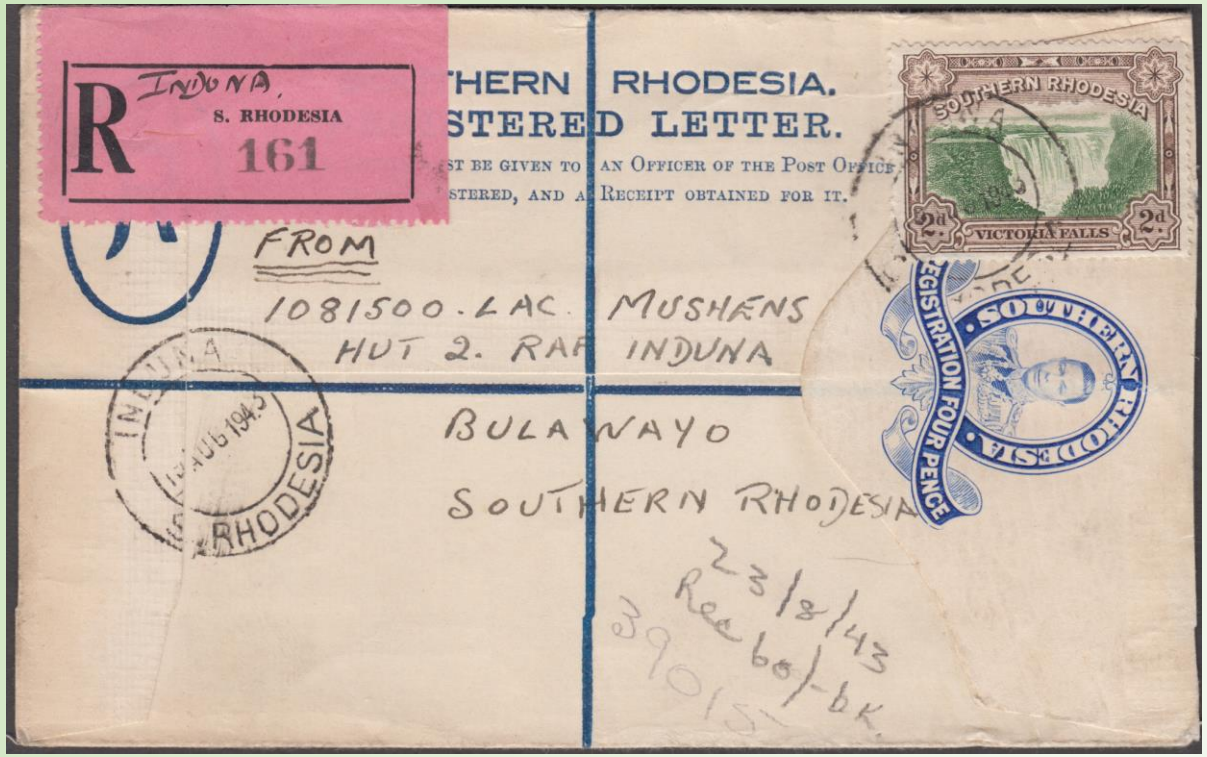
1d Postal stationery envelope



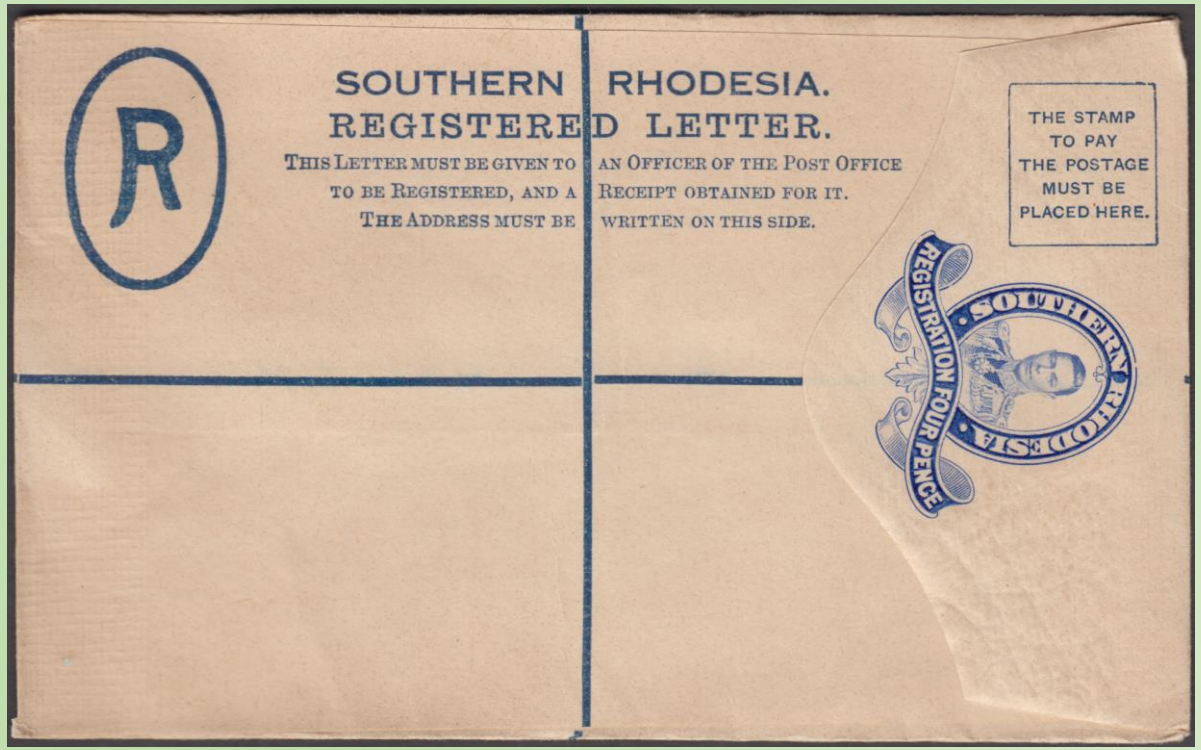


Formula Registered envelopes 153mm x 95mm
Two lines beneath “REGISTERED LETTER”



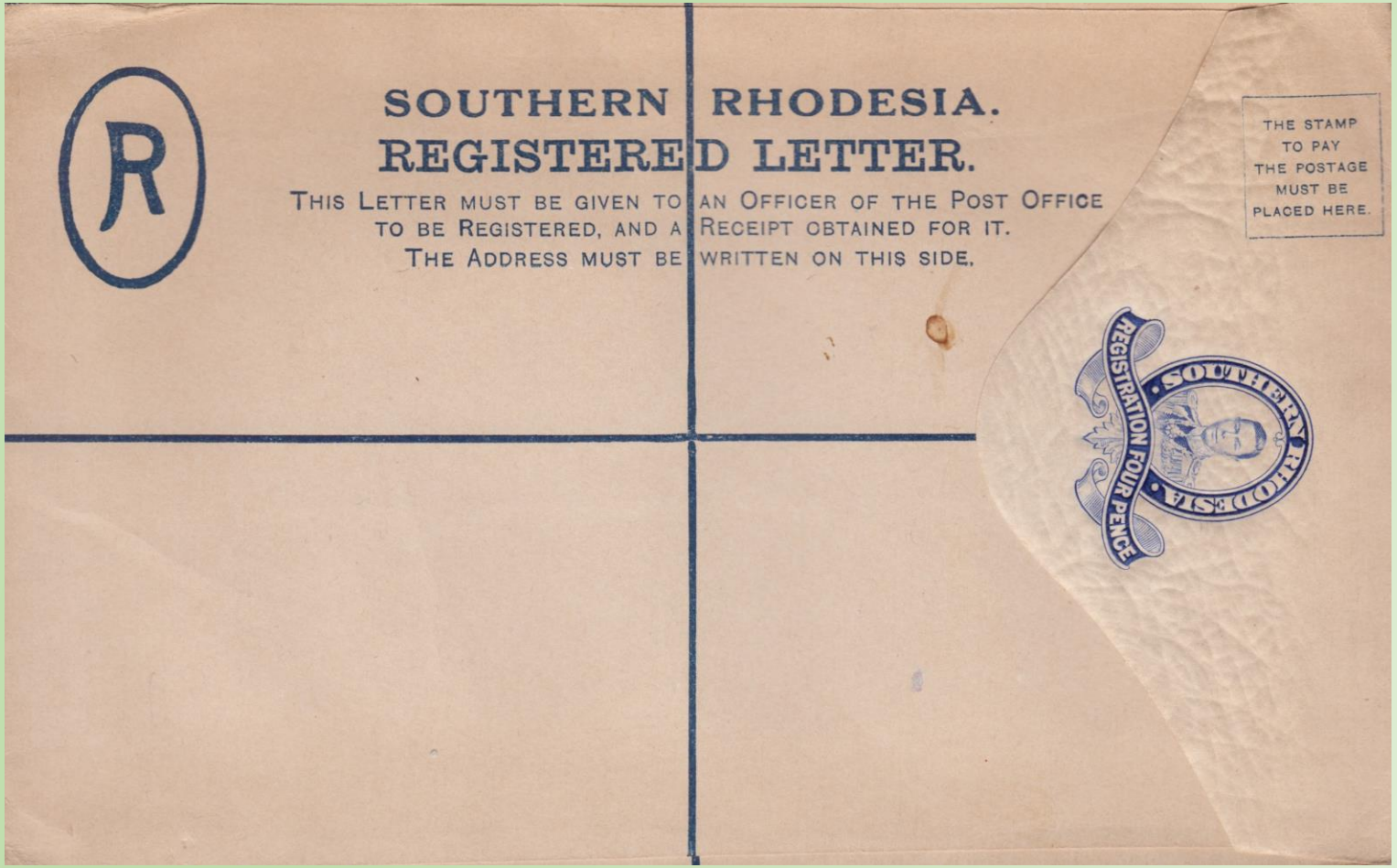


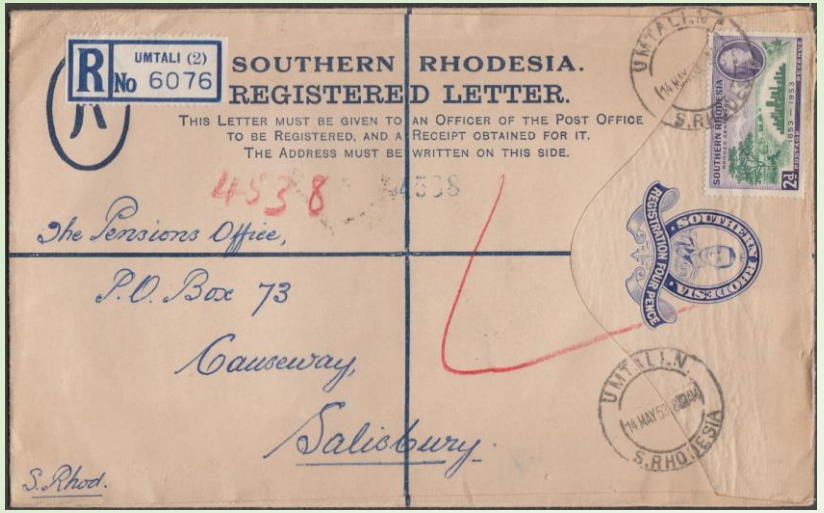
Formula registered envelopes 153mm x 95mm
Three lines beneath “REGISTERED LETTER”





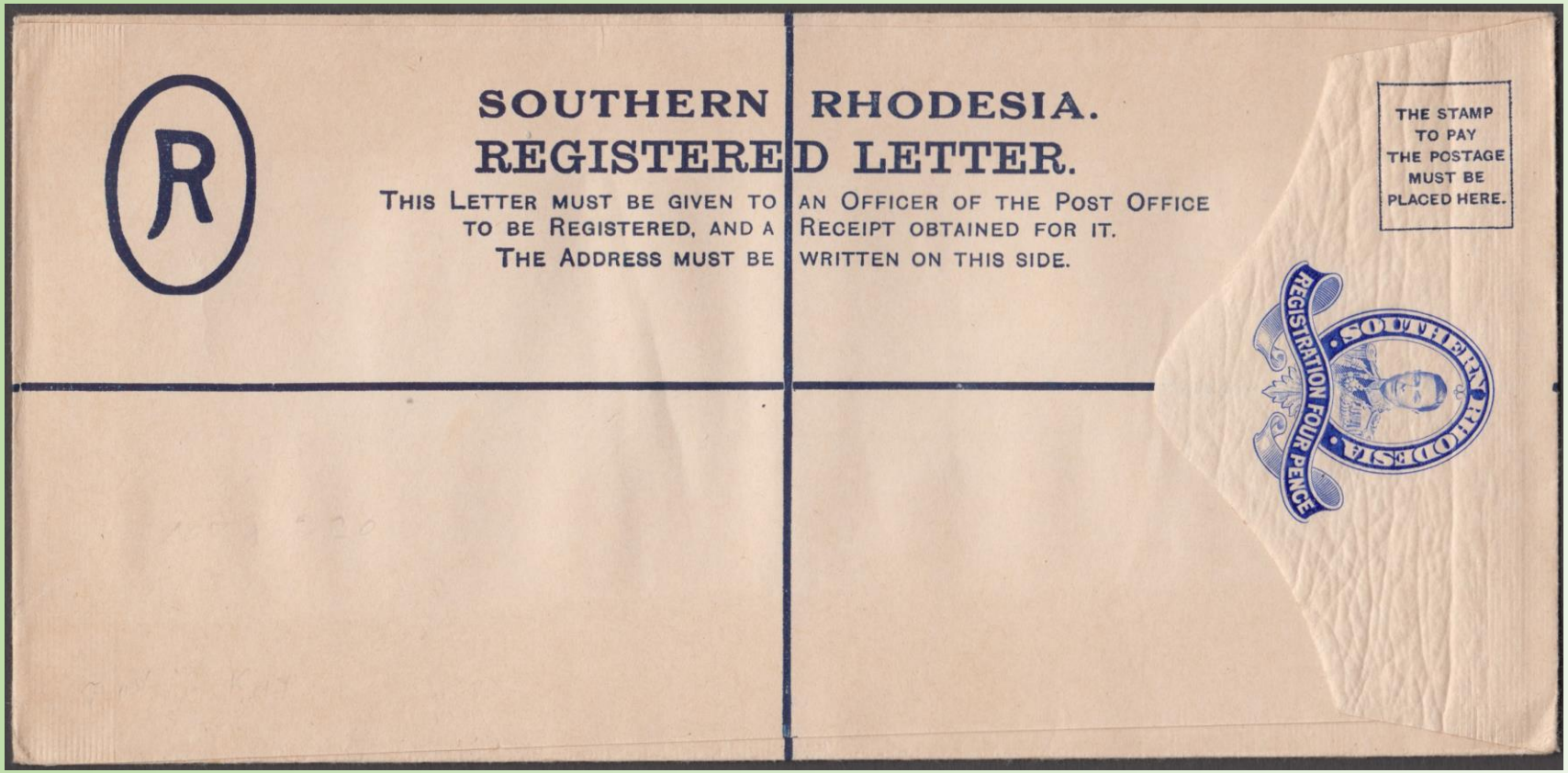
Formula registered envelope – 203mm x 122



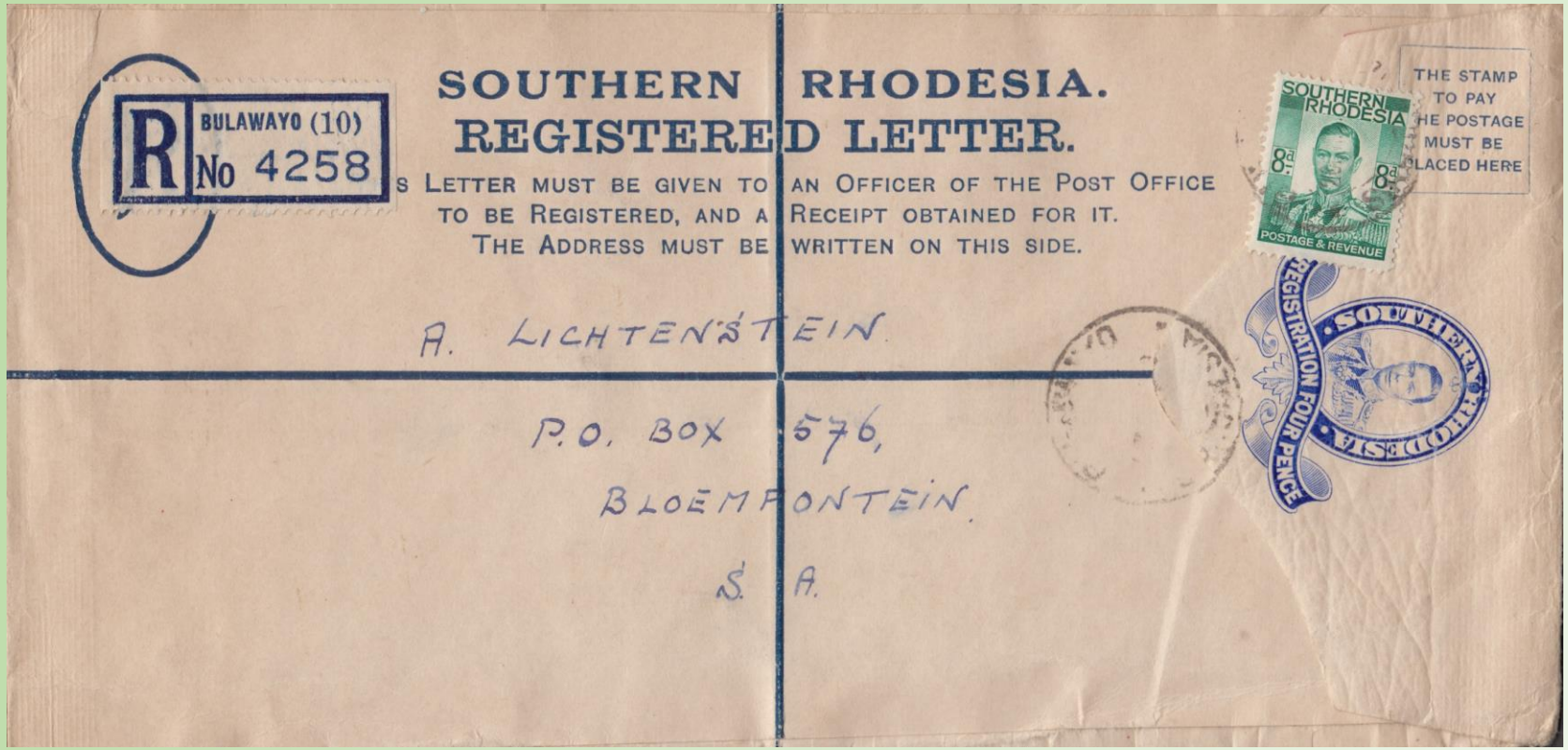


Reduced for display

Formula registered envelope – 222mm x 113mm
Three lines below “REGISTERED LETTER”



Formula registered envelope – 222mm x 113mm
Three lines below “REGISTERED LETTER”



This presentation is my work, based to a large degree on the work and research into the issue by George Stewart of New Zealand and our Life President, Colin Hoffman, both of whom have graciously granted permission to use the material from Memoir 21, which they co-authored.

Illustrations are either from Memoir 21 or from my personal collection.

Opinions are mine, based on my understanding of the issue and the work of others and my own research – others having been duly acknowledged.

Any omissions or failure to recognise any authority, are not wilful and all inputs are hereby acknowledged.

J P D Flanagan FRPSL RDPSA
Life Vice President
Rhodesia Study Circle
Johannesburg 2018