

CENTENARY OF BIRTH OF CECIL JOHN RHODES and MATABELELAND DIAMOND JUBILEE

Issued 15th April 1953

In recognition of the birth centenary of the founder of Rhodesia, the Southern Rhodesia Government, led by Godfrey Huggins, agreed to commemorating the event and set up a Rhodes Centenary Committee to oversee all aspects of the celebrations.

The Committee set up a sub-committee to consider how the celebrations could be depicted in postage stamps. The subcommittee comprised Councillor R. M. Cleveland (Chairman), J. Davenport (Mashonaland Philatelic Society), Major P. T. van der Walt (Government Stationery Office), C. J. Cripwell (Assistant Postmaster-General) and Sir Philip Gaisford (Organising Secretary Celebrations Committee).¹

The design was held by competition with a prize of £25 for each design for the five stamp issue. The designs could be submitted in black and white or in colour, and had to be not less than 10 in. wide by 8 in. deep, or more than 12 in. wide by 10 in. deep and had to contain, in addition to the main theme: The dates '1853-1953'; provision for the words 'Southern Rhodesia'; and a figure or value tablet denoting the denomination of the stamps. Competitors could submit multiple designs.¹

The final choice of designs was made by the sub-committee on 1st February 1952, with J M English of Bulawayo being successful with four designs and Alan R Winter also of Bulawayo the final design. No record has been found as to which of the designs are attributable to which designer.¹

It is assumed that the designs were sent off to Waterlow & Sons for printing, the proof copies of the stamps of the Waterlow archive suggest that printing took place in October to December 1952 (see Dies & Proofs section below). R C Smith states "One of the difficulties faced at the time was the acute shortage of paper in the United Kingdom, and early representations had to be made in regard to the provision of supplies." This suggests that the order was placed well over a year prior to the stamps' release the following year.



Waterlow presentation cards with imperforate stamps
(Source: Zeboose.com)

The Stamps

The design competition did not have a stated central theme, as can be seen from the less successful entries (see below). The successful designs appear to have a central theme based on what could be expected within the country prior to European occupation and how the country had developed over the 60 odd years since. Each design has the historic element within the frame/casement plate, and the modern equivalent in the vignette. The Mashonaland Guide suggests that each of the stamps represents scenes in 1853 and 1953.⁶

Stamps celebrating Rhodes' Centenary

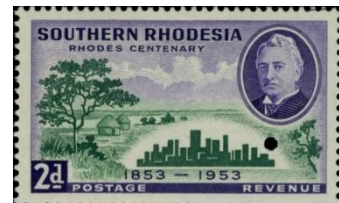
Halfpenny: The design is purported to show Dr David Livingstone administering to the sick in mid-1880s, against the modern hospital, in this case Bulawayo Hospital



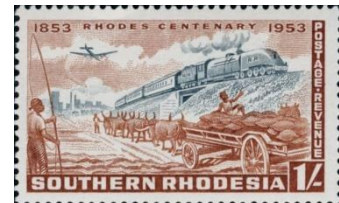
One Penny: Illustrating the change from a countryside with wildlife and little or no agricultural activity, to a modern commercial farm with what appears to be stacked sheaves of maize.



Two Penny: Showing the traditional huts in a rural village or kraal against the skyline of a modern city. The modern skyline was more reminiscent of New York rather than what was the case for either Salisbury or Bulawayo at the time. There is also the portrait of Cecil John Rhodes, one of the two stamps released for Southern Rhodesia with his image

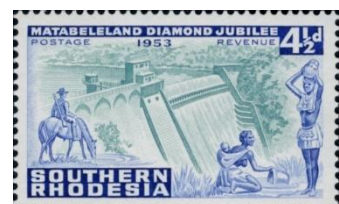


One shilling: The design shows the change in transport from oxen pulled wagons in the 19th century, with the modern means of mass transport of steam trains and aeroplanes. The oxen drawn waggons were still in use in the early 1950s, although they were few and far apart.



Diamond Jubilee of the occupation of Matabeleland.

Four pence halfpenny: Illustrating the change from drawing water from rivers, either by local women or horse riders, to the development of dams for water storage.



Catalogue listings

SG ⁴	RSC ⁵	Value	SG colours first/ <i>RSC colours in italics</i> , where different
71	C33	½d	Pale blue and sepia
72	C34	1d	Chestnut & blue-green (<i>Light brown & dull emerald</i>)
73	C35	2d	Grey-green & violet
74	C36	4½d	Deep blue-green & deep ultramarine (<i>Blue-green & deep blue</i>)
75	C37	1sh	Black & red-brown (<i>Black & chocolate brown</i>)

Technical details

Stamp size: 44 x 26 mm

Sheet sizes: Two panes of 60 stamps: 10 rows of 6 stamps

Printing method: Recess printed by Waterlow & Sons

Plates: Each value with a vignette and frame plates

Plate numbers: ³	Vignette	Value/casement
½d	45644	45667
1d	45703	45701
2d	45702	45700
4½d	45646	45645
1sh	45648	46543

Guide marks:⁶ Short dashes are found between stamps on two sides of each pane of stamps, and perforation guide dots with crosses through are found in the margins of the printing sheets. The guide marks indicated below are shown as been between certain stamps in rows and columns. Guillotine guide marks are found both down and across at the corners of all the panes, together with 'T' marks opposite the perforation guide dots.

Vertical guide marks in frame/casement colours between
 All values R1/C3 & 4 top
 R10/C3 & 4 bottom

Horizontal guide marks in in frame/casement colours between R5&6/C1 & R5&6/C6

Horizontal lines and dots in vignette colours:
 ½d between R7 & 8/C2 & R7 & 8/C5
 1d between R7 & 8/C2 & R7 & 8/C5
 2d between R7 & 8/C1 & R7 & 8/C2
 4½d between R7 & 8/C2 & R7 & 8/C5
 1sh between R7 & 8/C5

Perforation holes/circles in left and right margins

½d, 4½s & 1sh opposite R6

1d & 2d opposite R5

Small cross

In frame/casement colours at the intersection of R5 & 6/C 3& 4

Perforations: Comb perforations: Perf 14 (SG) and 14 x 13¾ (RSC)

Margin perforations: Bottom margin: Imperforate
Other margins: Fully perforated

Imprint: “Waterlow & Sons Limited, London Wall, London E.C.” below
R10/C3 & 4

Sheet number: Sheet numbers are found above the top right hand corner stamps
(R1/6)

Print numbers:	Printed ²	Sold ⁵	Percentage sold
½d	5,300,000	900,343	17.0%
1d	15,200,060	4,437,389	29.2%
2d	20,600,060	6,005,251	29.2%
4½d	2,720,060	294,279	10.8%
1sh	2,300,060	580,491	25.2%

Somewhat overordered, so much for the paper shortage!

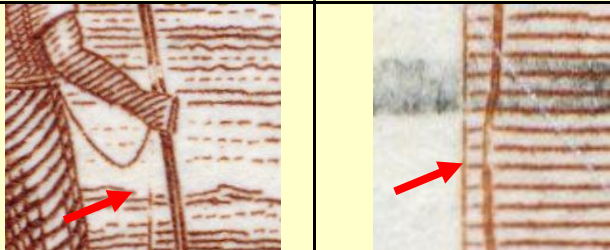
Date of issue: 15th April 1953 (Postal Notice 3 of 1953)

Withdrawn from sale: 15th October 1953 (Postal Notice 3 of 1953)

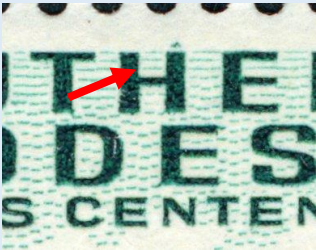
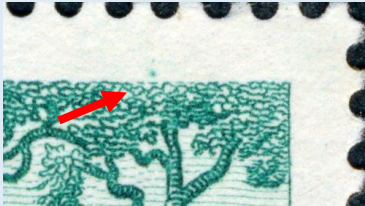
Demonetarised: 1st January 1954 (Postal Notice 7 of 1954)

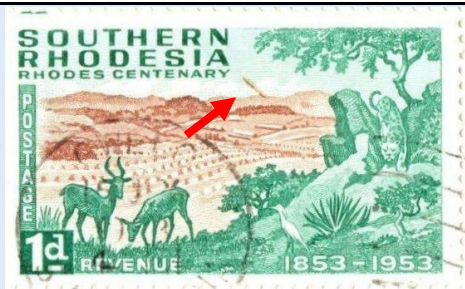
Listed varieties

The only listed varieties are those shown in the Mashonaland Guide for the one shilling value, unknown pane.

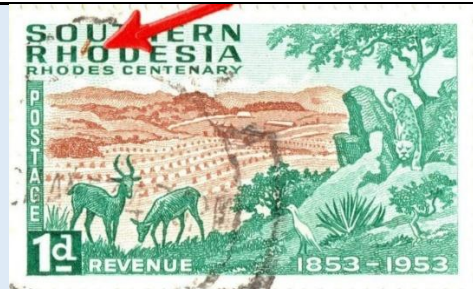
Position	Description	Scans
R1/C1 R25/C1 R36/C1	Broken whip (Various breaks in the whip have been seen, uncertain stamp positions)	
Frequent	Broken whip-stick (Various breaks in whip stick seen, uncertain stamp positions)	
R1/C2	Sloping 'R' of Rhodesia (stated not to be constant, but that may be because it only appears in one pane)	

Non-listed varieties

 1/2d: Smudges to bottom right corner margins	 1d: Green dot in margin above 'H' of Southern	 1d: Green dot in margin above tree
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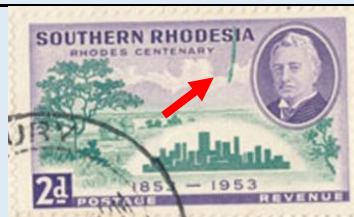
1d: brown line on horizon
(Source eBay September 2025)



1d: Brown mark between 'HO'
(Source eBay September 2025)



1d: Various marks in value table and margin



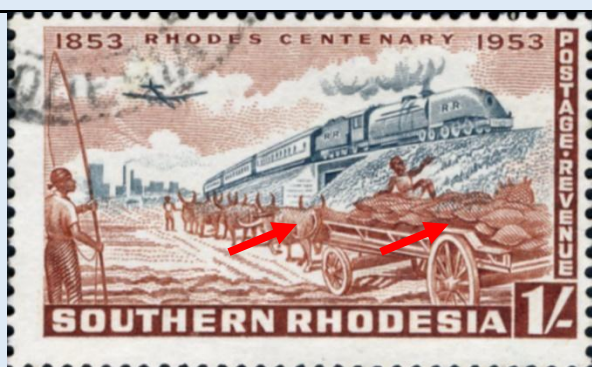
2d: Green vertical smudge (ex first day cover)
(Source Rhodesia.co.za)



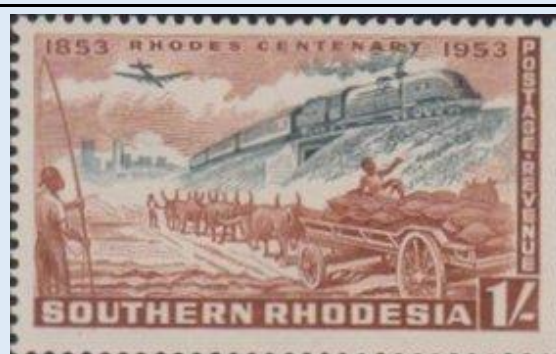
4½d: Large blue spot below value tablet



1sh: Brown dot between '53'. May be constant, R5/C1



1sh: Downward movement of vignette downward onto wagon and oxen



1sh: Upward movement of vignette into top wording
(Courtesy of Dave Cooper)

First Day Covers

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear. No first day covers were produced by the Post Office.

Cover 9.1.1 (Dark brown)  194 x 128 mm	Cover 9.1.2 (Light yellow brown)  194 x 128 mm
Cover 9.1.3  194 x 128 mm “First Day cover 15th April 1953” missing from base of envelope	Cover 9.2  189 x 124 mm
Cover 9.3 (Matabeleland Jubilee)  152 x 90 mm	Cover 9.4  229 x 101 mm

Cover 9.6.1 (White cover)

The image shows a white envelope cover for the Rhodes Centenary. On the left, there is a red stamp that reads "RHODES CENTENARY" and a small illustration of a statue. Below the illustration, it says "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE 15th APRIL". On the right, there are several postage stamps, including a 24p stamp and a 20p stamp, both featuring scenes from Rhodes. There are also two circular postmarks from Rhodes. The address is handwritten in blue ink: "Mrs J K Whyte; 26, Downie Avenue, Salisbury".

228 x 102 mm

(Note above statue reads “Rhodes Centenary”)

9.6.2 (Blue cover)

228 x 102 mm

(Note above statue reads “Rhodes Centenary”)

[illegible]

Cover 9.8 (Alvo Stamp Co)

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

RHODES' CENTENARY

ALVO STAMP CO.
P.O. Box 7273,
JOHANNESBURG

192 x 127 mm

COVER 9.8 (WALTER J STERN)

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

RHODES' CENTENARY

Mr. WALTER J. STERN,
P.O. Box 10826,
JOHANNESBURG

2219

192 x 127 mm

Cover 9.9

RHODES CENTENARY EXHIBITION

J. Thunias Esq.
P. O. Box 1604.
SALTICITY
S. Rhodes.

20th MAY - 28th AUG. 1953

10p

10p

10p

10p

The image shows a first-day cover (FDC) for the Rhodes Centenary Issue, dated 15th April, 1953. The cover is cream-colored and features several stamps and markings:

- Postmark:** A circular postmark from Salisbury, dated 15 APR 1953, is stamped over the top left.
- Stamps:** There are four stamps on the cover:
 - A 1s green stamp featuring a landscape scene.
 - A 1s purple stamp featuring a portrait of a man.
 - A 1s green stamp featuring a landscape scene.
 - A 1s green stamp featuring a landscape scene.
- Postage Meter:** A red postage meter stamp is located in the bottom left corner, with the number 2036.
- Address:** The address is handwritten in black ink: "R. S. G. Reals, Box 2203, Salisbury".
- Text:** The text "FIRST DAY COVER" and "15th April, 1953" is printed at the top left. The text "Rhodes Centenary Issue" is printed at the bottom left.

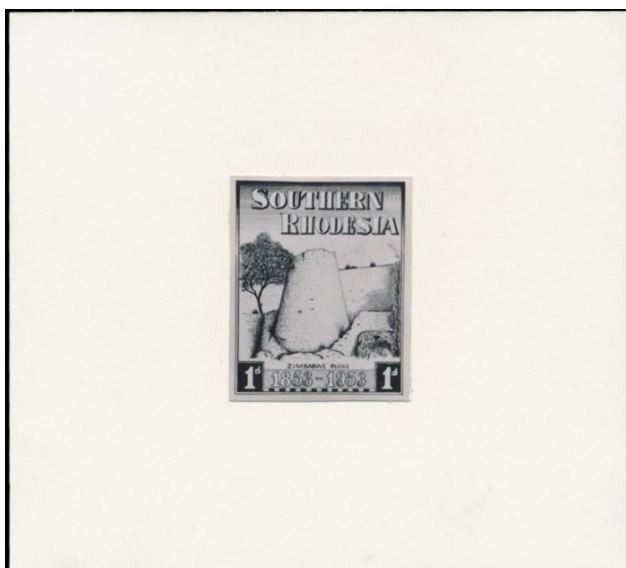
Cover 9.11



Competition Artwork

Unadopted essays by A G Konya, source RSC Journal No. 225 of December 2007, pages 121-22, collection of Patrick Flanagan. Images supplied by James Gavin





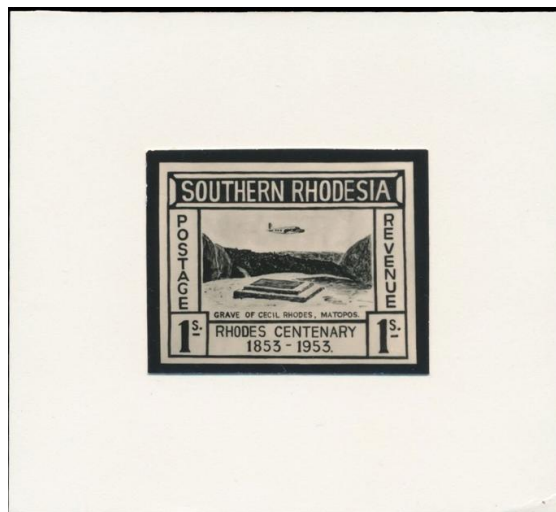
Item SR3370 within rhodesia.co.za website, described as follows:

1953 Birth Centenary of Cecil Rhodes, essay for the proposed issue, photographic black and white, stampo sized applied to card. The image of Zimbabwe Ruins, denominated at 1d and '1853-1953' at base. Highly unusual

Item SR3371 within rhodesia.co.za website, described as follows:

1953 Birth Centenary of Cecil Rhodes, essay for the proposed issue, photographic black and white, stampo sized applied to card. The image of Grave of Cecil Rhodes with a small aeroplane anove, denominated at 1s amd '1853-1953' at base.

This design by W G Nodder. President of the RSC



Related material

Northern Rhodesia issue

On 30 May 1953, Northern Rhodesia also issued a set of stamps commemorating the birth centenary of Cecil Rhodes



Philatelic cover

Cover 9.1 (see above) was reproduced but without the words “First Day Cover” printed on the bottom. This cover is dated 1 June 1953 and has the “Rhodes Centenary Exhibition” postmark.



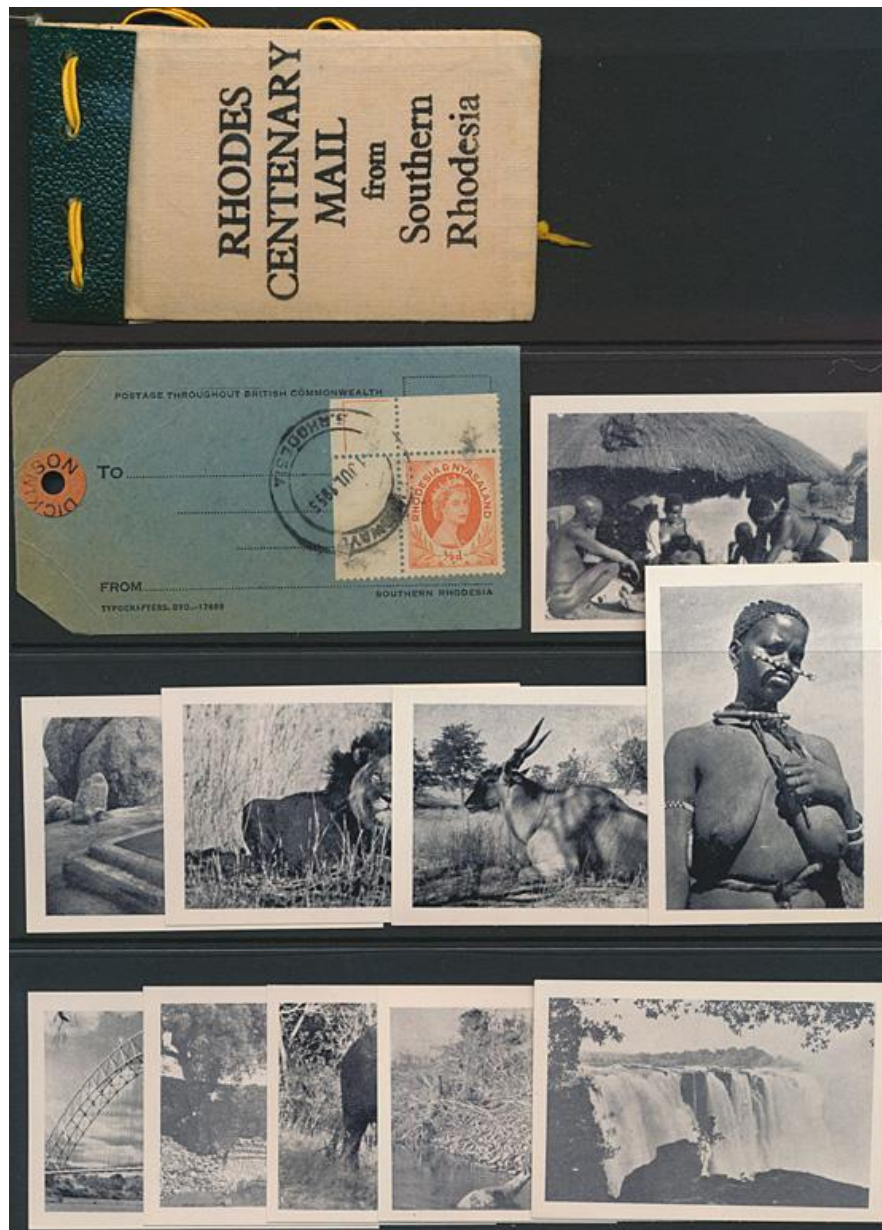
Southern Rhodesia Rhodes Centenary coin

The commemorate the birth centenary of Cecil Rhodes a crown (5 shillings) coin of issued for the occasion. This was the only commemorative coin issued in southern Rhodesia, it was also the first to bear the head of Queen Elizabeth II. Only two other coins were released in southern Rhodesia with the Queen's head, the 2sh and 2sh6d, both released in 1954. After 1954 cons of the Federation were used.



(Courtesy of Terry Cowland)

Rhodes Centenary Mail



“1955 1st July RHODES CENTENARY. Miniature printed ‘Rhodes Centenary Mail from Southern Rhodesia’ cloth mailbag, green refine at top and with gold tie cord. Internally containing ten small black and white images from around the country with glassine interleaving. Together with printed black on blue parcel label ‘Postage throughout British Commonwealth’ applied with QEII ½d cancelled Bulawayo, 1 JUL 1955.”
Description from www.rhodesia.co.za.

Dies & Proofs

In 1981 the Waterlow die proof books were discovered and shown to Robson Lowe at Basingstoke; this discovery led to the emergence of about 14 “dirty” books (the proofs used by the printers as an index in the print shop) and about the same number of “clean” books (the proofs used in the design department). In 1982 Robson Lowe estimated that the Waterlow Archives record sheets amounted to about 14,000 sheets. Since that time the 28 volumes of die proofs have been found to contain about 20,000 die proofs.⁵ In studying the Federal issues printed by Waterlow reference, with examples, will be made to this material.³

In addition, David Fortnum had an opportunity to take extensive notes of the proof material held in the Waterlow archives, and included this in the RSC Journal in March 1988.

This section will start with the dies produced, and progress through the supply of proof material available to study. Little of this material has been found in the research for this publication, examples of the marginal notes would be much appreciated.

The archive material comes from the dirty books which were kept as an index in the print room, these contain unperforated proofs, with markings for improvements in the printing of the stamps and various other handwritten annotations.

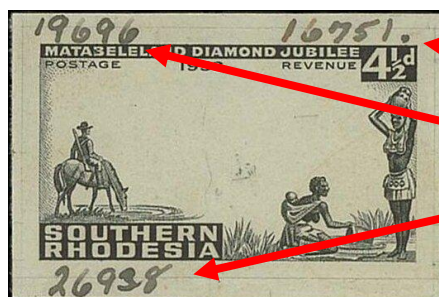
The material from the clean books, which were kept in the design department, are perforated stamps with the only annotation being “File Copy” followed by an order number.

Dies

Sources of images for dies:

1. “The Die Proofs of Waterlow & Sons – Part 1: Great Britain and the Empire to 1960” by Colin Frazer and Robson Low, published 1985
2. Spink & Co archive. Auction 21147, Collection of William Hallett.

Prints were taken of the dies for the proposed stamps. With master dies being produced as the base die for the individual value stamps dies. The images shown below of each of the master and stamp dies have a series of numbers around for record purposes. These being die, roller and proof numbers, all of which were placed in a preselected position, see opposite



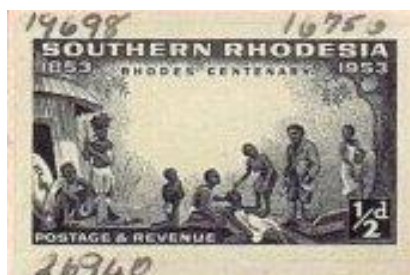
Roller Number

Die Number

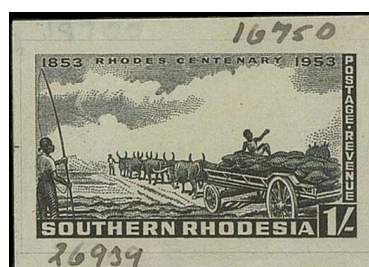
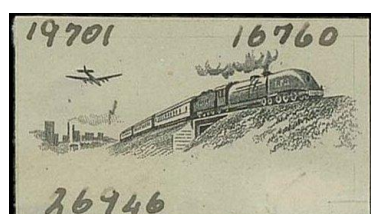
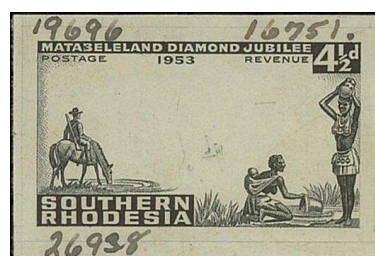
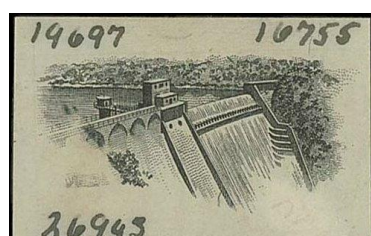
Proof Number

Vignette plate

Duty plate



(All images above supplied by James Gavin)



(All images above ex Spink archives)

		Dies nos	Roller nos	Proof nos	Plate nos
½d	duty	19698	16756	26940	45667 @
	vignette	19699	16788	26943	45644
1d	duty	19693	16752	26942	45701
	vignette	19692	16749	26944	45703
2d	duty	19695	16753	26941	45700
	vignette	19694	16748	26945	45702
4½d	duty	19696	16751	26938	45645
	vignette	19697	16755	26943	45646
1sh	duty	19700	16750	26939	45643#
	vignette	19701	16760	26946	45648

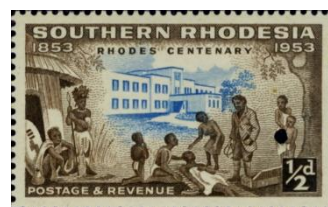
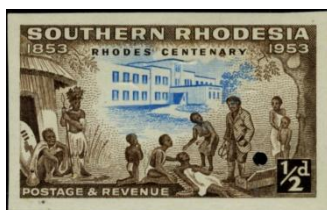
Notes: # not recorded by Frazer/Lowe. @ recorded as 45647 by Fortnum



Only proof block with plate number examined to date

Proofs of individual stamps

Proofs of the vignettes and imperforate sheets from the “dirty books”, together with perforated proofs from the “clean books”, can be found in singles, pairs and blocks. The examples below are of single stamps with a small punch hole.





Analysis of the annotated proof material

This analysis is based on the work of David Fortnum.²

Halfpenny

The archive held two vignette sheets, two complete design sheets (imperforate) and a perforated “File Copy” sheet

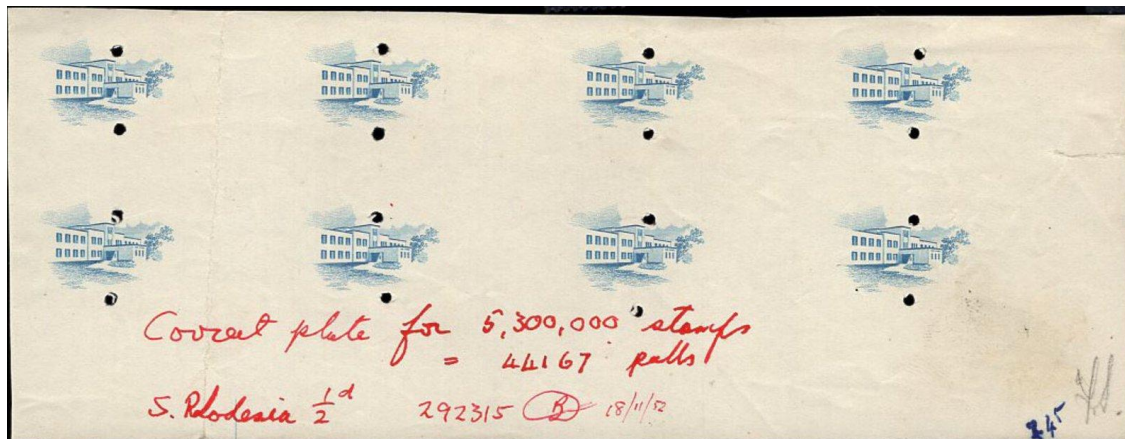
1st vignette “Insert register lines. Lay as marked. Correct plate for 5,300,000 stamps + 44,167 pulls. S Rhodesia ½d 292,315. B. 18/11/52”

Examiner noted six flaws:

- R6C1 (left pane): A dot just above the clouds at left and in line with the third pair of windows.
- R6C2-R7C2 (left pane): A 2mm dash and dot at right end of the margin between
- R9C5 (left pane): A dot above the cloud at right almost in line with the edge of the building
- R1C5 (right pane): A dot above the trees at the extreme right of the design
- R6C2/R7C2 (right pane: a 4mm dash and a dot at the right end of the margin between) *

- R6C5/R6/C5 (right pane): A dot and a 2mm dash at the left of the margin between.*

*These obviously misplaced registration guides intended for R7C2/R8C2 and R7C5/R8/C5 (both right pane)



(Source Delcampe August 2022)

2nd vignette “Colour correct, plate correct except X. A.B. 18/11/52”

‘X’ being the flaws on R6C1, R9/C5 (left pane) & R5C1 (right pane) which A.B. has marked, the erroneous registration guides (* above) were ignored.

1st complete sheet “Test for comb perf. x 292,315. 5,300,000 = 44,168 pulls. Casement wording and lay correct L.F.H. 1/12/52”

The six vignette flaws are still visible, although R1C5 has been reduced. Although L.F.H. appears unconcerned about the vignette faults, he has ringed R6C2/R7C2.(right pane)

He also drew attention to the duty plate weakness in the upper portion of the left edge om R1C3, R3C1, R3C3, R4C1, R5C1 & R6C1 (all right pane).

In addition, there were two other faults

- R1C6 (left pane): A dot in the margin just below the ‘E’ of Postage
- R4C3 (left pane): a dot 1mm from the upper left corner of the upper left window.

2nd complete sheet “Correct colour. Plate correct M.J.W.S. 2/12/52. Remove X”
X being the R4/C3 (left pane) fault

The R1C6 fault is still present and unmarked as are the sic vignette faults. R3C1, R4C1, R5C1 & R6C1 are ringed again.

File Copy “File copy 292,315”

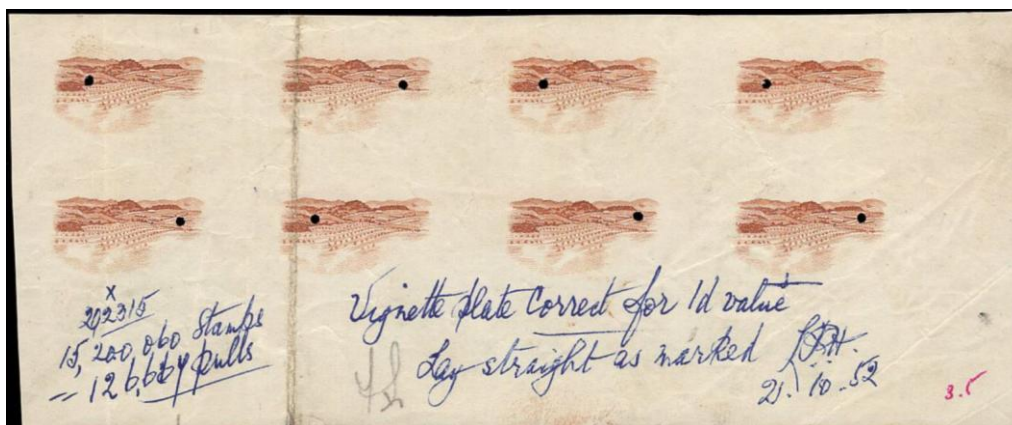
One Penny

The archive held two vignette sheets, two complete design sheets (imperforate) and a perforated “File Copy” sheet

1st vignette “X 292,315. 15,200,060 stamps = 126,667 pulls. Vignette plate correct for 1d value. Lay straight as marked. L.F.H. 21/10/52”

The registration guide dot ‘_’ is omitted between R7C2 & R8C2 (right pane) and is marked for insertion.

R4C1, R7C6 and R8C5 (left pane), R6C1, R6C4 & R7C4 (right pane) have been circled for no apparent reason.



(Source Delcampe August 2022)

2nd vignette “Colour correct. Plate correct M.J.W.S. 29/10/52”.
The missing registration guide R7C2 & R8C2 has been added

1st complete sheet “X 292315. 15,200,000 stamps = 126,667 pulls. Casement wording and lay correct. L.F.H. 29/10/52. Test for comb perf.”
The examiner has noted and ringed weaknesses in the left edge of R6C2 & R7C1 (right pane), and similar weaknesses in the right hand edges of R1C4, R1C5, R2C5, R3C5, R3C6, R6C2, R7C4 & R7C6 – left pane and R10C4 – right pane.

R4C1 has a 10 mm vertical scratch in the gutter left

2nd complete sheet “Colour correct, Plate correct. M.J.W.S. 29/10/52”

The weaknesses have been strengthened except R1/C5 and R2C5 (Left pane).

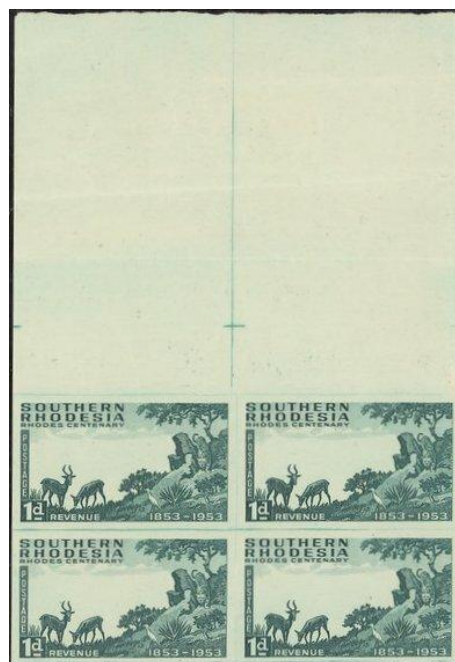
The R4C1 (right pane) has been marked again

File Copy “File copy 292,315”. It is the right hand pane and the R4C1 (right pane)

Robson Lowe reported in the Rhodesian Study Circle Journal No. 113 of March 1981, that he had been shown a progressive proof of the 1d duty. The sheet was in the issued colour for the duty/casement plate and on thick, unwatermarked paper.

The printed plate was for 60 impressions, but this sheet only had 43 images, with rows 9 & 10 and stamp R1/C6 missing (17 stamps). In addition to the 17 stamps still to be rocked, the printer's guidelines and marginal burrs were still to be burnished from the plate.

This was, within his knowledge, one of two instances of a proof of a duty plate from a bi-coloured plate being printed before completion of the plate.



(Source Spink archive in sale of the William Hallett collection in 2021)

Two Pence

The archive held two vignette sheets, two complete design sheets (imperforate) and a perforated "File Copy" sheet

1st vignette "Correct vignette, plate for 20,600,060 2d stamps = 171,668 pulls (*sic*). Add plate number and register lines. Qy side margins for perforation. Lay as marked. 292,315 A.D. 17/10/52."

There are only two clear registration guides line dot "._." At the right of the margin between R7/C2 & R8C2 (left pane), and dot line "._2 between RR7C5 & R8C5 (right pane.)

There is a faint 2mm line in the left of the margin between R7C5 & R8C5 (left pane) which is plainly intended as a guide and the examiner has marked this for attention, presumably strengthening.

A pencil dash in the margin between R7C2 & R8C2 (right pane) draws attention to the absence of a guide in that position.

R9C4 (right pane) - 1mm line of colour at the lower left corner in line with the tree trunk has been marked for removal, but a strong diagonal scratch through the shading below the left end of the building has escaped notice.



(Source Delcampe August 2022)

- 2nd vignette “Plate and colour OK. M.J.W.S. 20/10/52. Remove X”
- ‘X’ is a line on R9C4 (right pane) and also defective registration also the defective guide on left pane between R7C5 & R8C5, Scratch on right pane R9C4 is overlooked.
- 1st complete sheet “Lay lower as marked. Wording correct for 20,600,060 stamps = 171,672 (*sic*) pulls. X 292,315 6/11/52”
- R5C3 (left pane): a 1 mm line just outside and about half way up the right edge which is very weak and broken at that point
 - R7C7 (right pane): The clouds and Rhodes head are ringed for no noticeable reason.
- 2nd complete sheet “X 292,815 (*sic*). Casement wording correct. Improve register. L.F.H. 13/1152.” Colour correct, Plate correct M.J.W.S. 13/11/52”
- There are no correction markings and the left pane R5C3 fault no longer appears.
- The registration guide line “_.” Has been unskilfully added to the right pane at the right end of the margin between R7C1 and R8C1, instead on a column right, with a thin but distinct 3½mm scratch extending to the right.
- On both complete sheets the vignette R7C5 & R8C5, left pane, is still unstrengthened and the R9C4, right pane fault remain.
- File copy “File copy 292,315”. The R7C5 & R8C5, left pane, registration vignette guide line remains weak

Four Pence Halfpenny

The examiners were only able to inspect one of each of the vignette and complete sheets. No corrections were marked on either.

Vignette sheet “X 292,315. 2,720,060 stamps = 22,668 pulls. Vignette correct. Plate correct. A.B. 31/10/52.



(Source Delcampe August 2022)

The description on this vignette proof, whilst incomplete, differs from the description above. This description probably read “(Correct) for 4½d value”, and “(Lay as) marked”. It is dated on the same date as described above, namely 31.10.52, and has the order number of 292315.

Complete sheet “X 292,315. 2,720,060 stamps = 22,668 pulls. Casement wording correct. Lay a shade lower as marked. L.F.H. 18/11/52” and “Plate and colour correct. M.J.W.S. 18/11/52”

Copy sheet “File copy 292,315”

One shilling

The examiners had a single vignette and one each of the complete design

Vignette “292,315 A.D. 7/11/52. Lay as marked. Vignette correct for 2,300,060 stamps = 19,118 pulls. Add plate number and register line” and “colour correct. Plate correct M.J.W.D. 7/11/52”



(Courtesy of Paulo Guglielminetti)

Marked for attention:

- R8C2 (left pane): A dot just below the design in line with the junction between the tender and carriage.
- R8C4 (left pane): a dot in a position similar to one above
- R8C6 (left pane): Two dots in the sky to the right of the plane.
- R6C4 (right pane): A dot in the sky above the tender in line with the second 'R' of the 'RR' on the engine.

1st complete sheet

"X 292,315. 2,300.060 stamps = 19,168 (*sic*) pulls. Casement wording and lay correct. L.F.H. 26/11/52"

Marked for attention

- Weaknesses in left edges of R9C6, R10C1, & R10C6, left pane
- Weaknesses in left edges of R5C2, R5C5; R7C7, R8C1, R8C2, R10C1 & R10C3, right pane
- R2C1 (left pane): A colour smudge in the margin at the upper right corner.
- R4C2 (left pane): A colour smudge in the margin at the lower right corner
- R7C1 (left pane): Colour smudges in the margins above and below the subject
- R7C2 (left pane): A dot in the upper part of the right legs of 'H' of Rhodesia.
- Vignette faults remain

2nd complete sheet

"Plate and colour OK. M.J.W.S. 26/11/52. Remove X"

'X' being the faults on R2C1, R4C2 & R7C1, left pane.

Vignette faults remain

File copy

"File copy 292,315". It is of the left pane and all the vignetter and frame plate flaws are still present.

Bibliography

- 1 “Rhodesia – A Postal History”. R C Smith, published 1967 pages 386-87
- 2 “1953 Rhodes Centenary and Rhodes Exhibition Issue”, David Fortnum, Rhodesian Study Circle Journal No. 141, March 1988 pages 20 to 23.
- 3 “The Die Proofs of Waterlow & Sons – Part I – Great Britain & the Empire to 1960”, Colin Frazer & Robson Lowe, published 1985, pages 38-39.
- 4 Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue – Southern & Central Africa, 2nd Edition 2014
- 5 The Rhodesia Stamp Catalogue, 1983/84 published by Salisbury stamp Company, Zimbabwe (last edition)
- 6 “A Guide to the Postage Stamps of the Rhodesias & Nyasaland” published by the Mashonaland Philatelic Society in 1965.

Additions/Changes since August 2022	
12-2022	Vignette proofs sourced from Delcampe
	1sh: upward movement of vignette
3-2023	Rhodes centenary commemorative coin
8-2023	Colour images of unsuccessful artwork
	Images of die proofs of three duties replaced
12-2023	Amendment to printer’s marks, vignette line for ½d
	Rhodes Centenary Mail
8-2025	Vignette proof of 1sh with notations
	2d green smudge
12-2025	1d – 2 x brown lines varieties
4-2026	Photos of submitted unsuccessful artwork