

King George VI Definitive Issue

1938

Surface Printed by De La Rue Wmk Mult. Crown, Script CA

Perf. 13.7 x 14

Following the death of King George V and abdication of Edward VIII new definitive stamps were required depicting the new monarch. The design of the existing George V head type issue was used as a template with some minor changes made and new stamps issued in three tranches during 1938 to complete the set.



Changes in postal rates required the following values to be re-issued in different colours.

1941

1943



1946

1951



NOTE - ALL 1ST PRINTINGS.

1941 Striated Paper Printing

1/- Brownish-grey & Scarlet



The second printing of the 1/- value was completed under emergency conditions. Stamps were printed on an unusual paper with horizontal ribbing or striated paper which was also used on stamps of Malaya at the same time. The stamps were despatched in July 1941 although the earliest date for postal use is 27th March 1942.

1,014 sheets printed
Most used for Landfall overprint

Block of eight largest known multiple.



Pair of the 1/- 1941 striated paper printing

10th August 1942. Registered cover from Nassau to Washington DC. The 2/8 rate being the 4oz air mail rate plus the 5d airmail registration fee annotated in manuscript separately.

Striated Paper Printing



Pair of the 5/- 1941 striated paper printing

17th March 1942. Registered airmail packet from Nassau to Litchfield Staffordshire.

This registered airmail packet from the Belmont School Nassau to the Belmont School in Litchfield Staffordshire was charged 16/8, which represents a 25oz rate (8d per oz) plus a 2d registration fee which has been paid separately, as a "2" is noted in manuscript next to the registration label. The stamps used to pay the 16/8 include a pair of the 5/- 1941 striated paper printing.

Only three recorded multiples known and the only examples known on cover

1938 Kings Head Type

Head Plates

Two head plates were used throughout the printing of this issue. Head plate 1 was used from 1938 until February 1951, where up on it was scrapped and replaced by the head plate 2. This was only used from August 1951 until the last printing in December 1952.



Head Plate 1
5/- printed February 1951



Head Plate 2
5/- printed September 1951

White spot on neck flaw

Right Pane Row 3 stamp 1

A circular white flaw appears on the nape of the king's neck. This only occurs on printings completed between September 1946 and April 1948 after which it was corrected. It has been suggested that this may have been a deliberate printers mark. As De La Rue used a common head plate this flaw can be found on any value printed during this period.

Perforating Machines.

All of the head type stamps were comb perforated and I have identified two different perforation combs, both are gauge 13.7 x 14. The first comb (P1) shows a continuous horizontal row of perforations that extend across the central gutter margin separating the two panes of stamps. The second comb (P2) has only one single perforation

Comb P1

Examples from September to December 1946, each with perforated central gutter.



Comb P2

No printings were completed in 1947.

Examples from April to June 1948, each with an un-perforated central gutter (comb P2)



1938 Kings Head Type - Varieties

Two Pence Variety "Short T"

Right Pane Row 3 stamp 6

The foot of the T was significantly damaged as it has a shorter vertical, the base of the O is shaved. Contrary to published details this flaw was not corrected or retouched and becomes less obvious with age.



August 1940



Early state,
T very short



July 1941



mature state,
T short, stunted appearance



November 1946



late state,
T fish tailed appearance



August 1951

Five Shillings "Y" for "V" flaw

Row 10 stamp 2

An interesting flaw that occurs on both panes, indicating that the five shillings value plate remained in a sixty set format. A strike orientated from left to right results in the misalignment of the lower half of the letters "IVE". A small tick appears at the base of the I; impaction of the lower half of the V resulting in the appearance a Y; and the lower half of the E is misaligned to the right. First identified on the 1935 George V printing and remains uncorrected throughout the George VI issue.



1935 George V
205 sheets printed



1938 1st GVI printing
410 sheets printed



1941 2nd printing
Striated paper
two recorded



1948 printing
491 sheets printed



Left pane



Right pane

450th Anniversary of the Landfall of Columbus Issue

1942

Wmk Mult. Crown, Script CA

Perf. 13.7 x 14

To commemorate the 450th anniversary of the arrival of Columbus, the Colonial authorities decided against having a specifically designed set of stamps issued, but had existing stocks of stamps overprinted. Overprinting was completed in the offices of the Nassau Guardian newspaper.



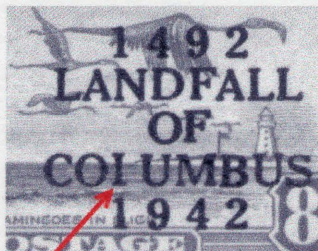
1942 Landfall of Columbus

Overprint Varieties

"COIUMBUS" flaw

Row 5 stamp 2

This flaw only occurs on the horizontal pictorial stamps. The horizontal of the L was broken to display an I. The damage occurred early in the overprinting as only the first overprint completed in October 1942 show the error. It was later corrected and the damaged letter replaced.



1942 Landfall of Columbus

Overprint Varieties

Broken UM of Columbus flaw

Row 2 stamp 2

This variety only occurs on the "seal" type pictorial stamps. The top of the UM of COLUMBUS is broken away. In more evolved forms the letters are nearly missing.



"stop" after Columbus flaw

Row 2 stamp 12

A full stop appears after the S of COLUMBUS.

This occurred early in the first print run in October 1942 as stamps were found missing from sheets where identified by the inspectors and subsequently corrected.



Less than 15 known

c 81.112

c 24.228

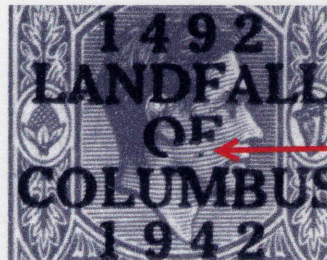
1942 Landfall of Columbus

Overprint Varieties

"OF" flaw

Row 2 stamp 6

Significant damage occurs to the letter OF on the overprint. Later states also show some damage to the US of Columbus. This appears only on stamps printed in December 1942 and must have occurred during a January 1943 overprint re-print. As the overprinting was completed on panes of sixty this flaw appears on either pane of stamps.



Later state



Early state



Early state

King George VI

Other varieties

"2 1/2 PENNY" printed double

The value tablet was printed twice, the first print being lighter in contrast, with the second print being just below and to the right of the original print.



less than 10
known



normal

1/2 PENNY Landfall of Columbus

Overprint printed double

It is believed that one pane of sixty stamps received a second misplaced overprint. Examples so far identified have confirmed that this was a left pane.



THREE PENCE "RENCE" Flaw

Right pane row 9 stamp 3

An adhesion to the duty plate became inked and resulted in the P resembling an R.
A short lived flaw with very few examples known.

