

George V Issues

The British stamps used for overprinting were the George V typographed issue in the case of the low values, and the engraved series for the high values.

The low values, perforated 15x12, watermark Royal Cypher, were printed by Harrison and Sons, except for the 6d which was printed at Somerset House. They were made up in sheets of 240 stamps, consisting of 2 panes of 120 stamps separated by a gutter margin, and with Jubilee lines all round the panes.

A control number appears below the second stamp of the bottom row, except for the 1d where it is below the eleventh stamp.



1/2d



1d



1 1/2d



2d Die 1



2d Die 2



2 1/2d



3d



4d



5d



6d



9d Agate



9d Green



10d



1/=

High Values

The George V Sea Horses high value issue was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson and Co from engraved plates designed by Sir Bertram Mackennal. They were printed in sheets of 40 stamps (4x10) without control numbers.

In 1934 a re-engraved issue was printed by Waterlow and Sons Ltd in which the lines behind the Kings Head were crossed.

Bradbury Wilkinson printing.



2/6



5/=



10/=

Waterlow printing.



2/6



5/=



10/=

The Low Value Overprinted Issues of Ireland.

When the Irish Free State came into being in January 1922 the Provisional Government ordered the overprinting of current British stamps until a new issue of Irish stamps could be designed.

Contracts for overprinting the low values were given to Dollard Printing House Ltd and Alex Thom Ltd both of Dublin, and to Harrison and Sons Ltd of London for overprinting stamps for use in coil machines.

The Postmaster General Mr JJ Walsh chose the following 5 line overprint

*Rialtas
Sealadac
na
hÉireann
1922*

*Provisional
Government
of
Ireland
1922*

Four settings of this overprint are found.



Dollard



*Thom
Narrow*



*Thom
Wide*



Harrison

In December 1922 the 5 line overprint was changed to 3 lines, overprinted only by Thom and Harrison.



Thom



Harrison

Dollard Overprint on Low Values.

On 28th January 1922 Dollard Printing House Ltd of Dublin were invited by the General Post Office to submit a bid for overprinting eight of the low value stamps of the George V issue. Their bid was accepted on February 2nd, delivery of stamps to the firm began on February 11th, and by February 17th the overprinted stamps were available at all Post Offices in the Irish Free State.

The Dollard overprint is easily recognised by the type used for the date.

First day of issue. 17th February 1922.



Dollards ceased overprinting on June 12th 1922. No reason for discontinuing the contract was given by the GPO, but Alex Thom took over the overprinting of those values previously overprinted by Dollard.

Dollard Proofs

A number of "proof" Dollard overprints were issued by the firm. Although most were probably philatelic proofs produced for stamp dealers, a block of eight is known in blue ink which was stamped as received by the GPO Stores Dept in Dublin. Some authority therefore seems to exist for the issue.

Examples of the proof overprints in red and black are below.



Many of the proofs were stamped on the back with a hand stamp and initialled by the Dollard manager Mr B.J. Brennan. Two types of backstamp were used, one with large type and one with small type, as shown.



Thom proofs exist backstamped in similar typeface, "Original/ Proof/ Supplied by/ Thom to/ Dollard/ 17.2.22" showing a connection between the two firms.



Dollard Printing.

Black Overprints.

The early Dollard printings used black ink on all eight values. The ink varies considerably in shade from deep black to faint grey as shown below. It is possible that both black and grey-black ink were used but it has been suggested that the grey appearance was due to the use of solvent for cleaning the plates which was not properly removed afterwards.



Red Overprints.

Soon after the first issue the printers suggested that the black overprint did not show up well on the 2 1/2d, 4d and 9d values. The suggestion was accepted and on April 1st the three values were on sale in the new colour. Again the shade varies from vermilion to carmine.



Dollard Issue

17th February 1922. Overprint in black.



1st April 1922. Overprint in red.



Overprint in carmine.



Dollard Issue

17th February 1922. Overprint in black. Used.



1st April 1922. Overprint in red. Used



Overprint in carmine. Used.



Dollard Printing

Dollards were not experienced in overprinting stamps and printing flaws were therefore frequent. The two most common are described below.

Overprint shift

Many overprints are not properly centred because the sheets were misplaced in the press. An extreme case is shown here.



Inking flaws.

Faulty inking resulted in many incomplete letters, as in this example.



Dollard Controls

Some Dollard settings are found only with particular controls. Finding the setting of control blocks may therefore be simplified.

The GB sheets may have the lower selvage perforated (P) or imperforate (I).

1/2d Controls.

Control	R21 I	R21 P	S21 I	S21 P	S22 I	S22 P
Setting	1	1	1 2 3	2 3	1 2 3	1 2 3



Dollard Controls

1d Controls.

Control	S21 I	S21 P	S22 I	S22 P	T22 I	T22 P
Setting	1	1	1 2 3	1 2 3	2	2



2 1/2d Controls

Control	S21 I	S21 P	S22 I	S22 P
Setting (B)	1	1		
Setting (R)	1	1	1 2	1 2



Dollard Controls

Higher Value Controls.



Value	Control Number						
	Q21 P	R21 I	R21 P	S21 I	S21 P	S22 I	S22 P
3d				1	1	2 3	1 2
4d (B)		1		1	1		1
4d (R)		1	1	2		2	2
5d				1	1	1 2	
9d (B)				1	1		2
9d (R)				1	1	2	2
10d	1			1	1		2

Dollard Plate Layout

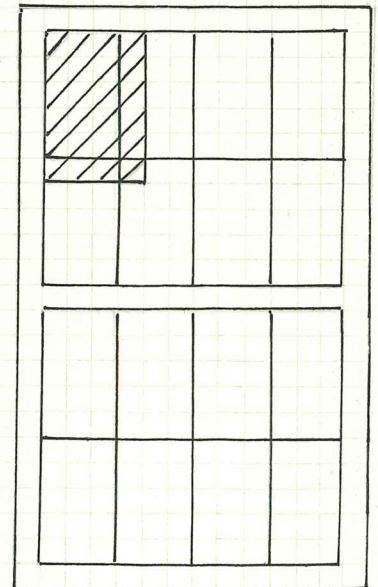
To make a complete plate of 240 overprints Dollards first made a master stereo 3 overprints wide by 5 deep. Sixteen stereos then made up the overprint plate.

This can be seen below from the difference in spacing between the overprints.

→ 11 ← → 11 ← → 10 ←



↓ 6.5
↑
↓ 6.5
↑
↓ 6.5
↑
↓ 6.5
↑
↓ 8
↑



Dollard Plate Settings

Close examination of the Dollard overprint shows that the relative position of the overprint lines varies considerably. It is clear that the original stereo (Setting 1) was reset, possibly to improve the centering of the overprints.

The new stereo is found in two states (Settings 2 and 3) which are sufficiently similar to show that they came from the same master.

Setting 1

The original stereo was accurately set up and there are no noticeable differences in the relative positions of the overprint lines. The overprints of Setting 1 can be easily recognised in blocks since all the stamps in the block will be similar.



More accurate measurement is required to distinguish the setting of a single stamp from Settings 2 and 3. This can be done by comparing the distances between the start of each overprint line, as shown on the next page.

Dollard Plate Settings

Setting 1 Measurements.



The relative distance between the start of the **S** of **Sealadac** and the start of the other overprint lines can be found by taking a vertical line down the stamp (in this case a halved stamp mount which can be seen with a magnifier) and taking the following measurements,

Distance from line to start of S	6.6 mm
Distance from line to start of R	4.9 mm
<hr/>	
Relative distance between S and R	1.7 mm

Setting 1 Measurements

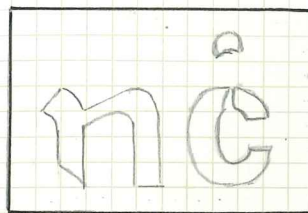
	1	1.7
	2	5.8
	3	0.3
	4	4.9

Dollard Plate Settings

Setting 2 Stereo Flaws.

Although Dollard overprints have many damaged letters, very few are stereo flaws which appear on every 3x5 stereo, in the same position.

The stereo flaws found in Setting 2 are illustrated below.



Dollard Plate Settings

Setting 2 and 3 Measurements

As can be seen from the Setting 2 block below the position of the overprint lines varies considerably. The measurements for Settings 2 and 3 are made in the same way as for Setting 1.



Setting 2

		Measurements			
		1	2	3	4
S t e r e o	1/1	1.6	5.4	0.1	4.3
	1/2	1.8	6.1	0.3	4.5
	1/3	1.3	5.1	0.0	5.1
	1/4	1.8	5.9	0.2	4.5
	1/5	1.6	5.8	0.5	4.6
P o s i t i o n	2/1	1.5	5.2	0.0	4.8
	2/2	1.3	5.3	-0.1	4.1
	2/3	1.6	5.3	0.3	4.9
	2/4	1.2	5.8	0.4	4.8
	2/5	1.8	6.1	0.6	4.7
	3/1	1.4	5.4	0.2	5.1
	3/2	1.5	5.6	0.2	4.5
	3/3	1.3	5.3	0.1	4.3
	3/4	1.2	4.9	0.2	4.1
	3/5	1.3	5.1	0.5	5.1

Setting 3

		Measurements			
		1	2	3	4
S t e r e o	1/1	1.3	5.0	-0.2	4.2
	1/2	2.0	6.3	0.4	4.6
	1/3	1.4	5.1	1.0	5.0
	1/4	1.9	5.0	0.1	4.4
	1/5	1.1	5.3	0.0	4.0
P o s i t i o n	2/1	1.3	5.0	-0.3	4.4
	2/2	1.5	5.3	-0.1	4.0
	2/3	2.0	5.7	0.7	6.2
	2/4	1.3	5.9	0.6	4.9
	2/5	1.9	6.2	0.9	5.0
	3/1	0.9	5.1	-0.2	4.6
	3/2	1.9	6.2	1.1	4.8
	3/3	1.9	5.7	0.2	4.7
	3/4	1.2	4.8	0.2	4.0
	3/5	1.2	4.9	0.3	4.9

Dollard Plate Settings

Setting 3 Stereo Flaws.

It is clear from a comparison of the stereo flaws of Settings 2 and 3 that the two settings are so similar that they must have been formed from the same master stereo.



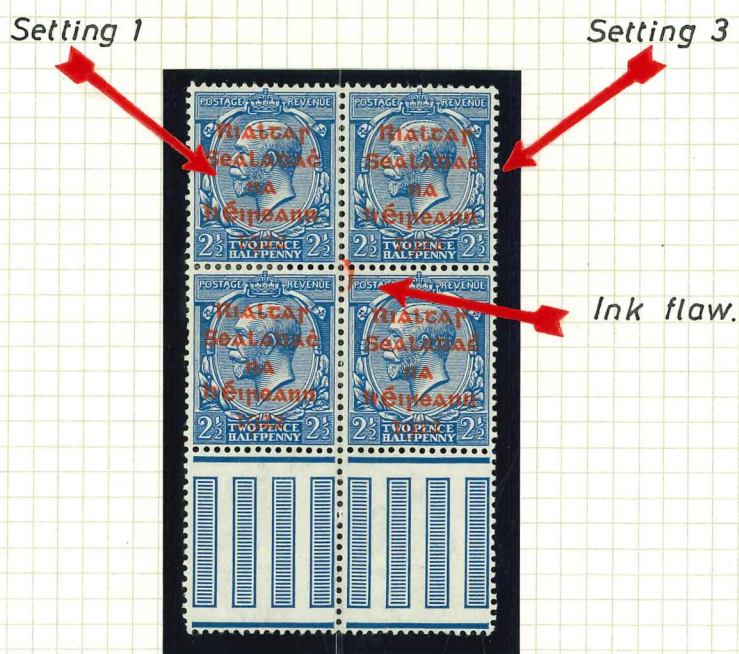
Probably Setting 3 came about when the Setting 2 stereo was repaired to replace the damaged **c** in **Sealadac** in Stamp 1/1. In doing so some of the type in the stereo was disturbed, giving rise to the differences between the settings.

Dollard Plate Settings

Composite Setting.

The red overprints are the product of two plates ; one plate was made up of all Setting 2 stereos and the other of alternate Setting 1 and Setting 3 stereos. The latter is known as the Composite plate. Sometimes a heavy dot appears between the stereo junctions as shown in the diagram opposite.

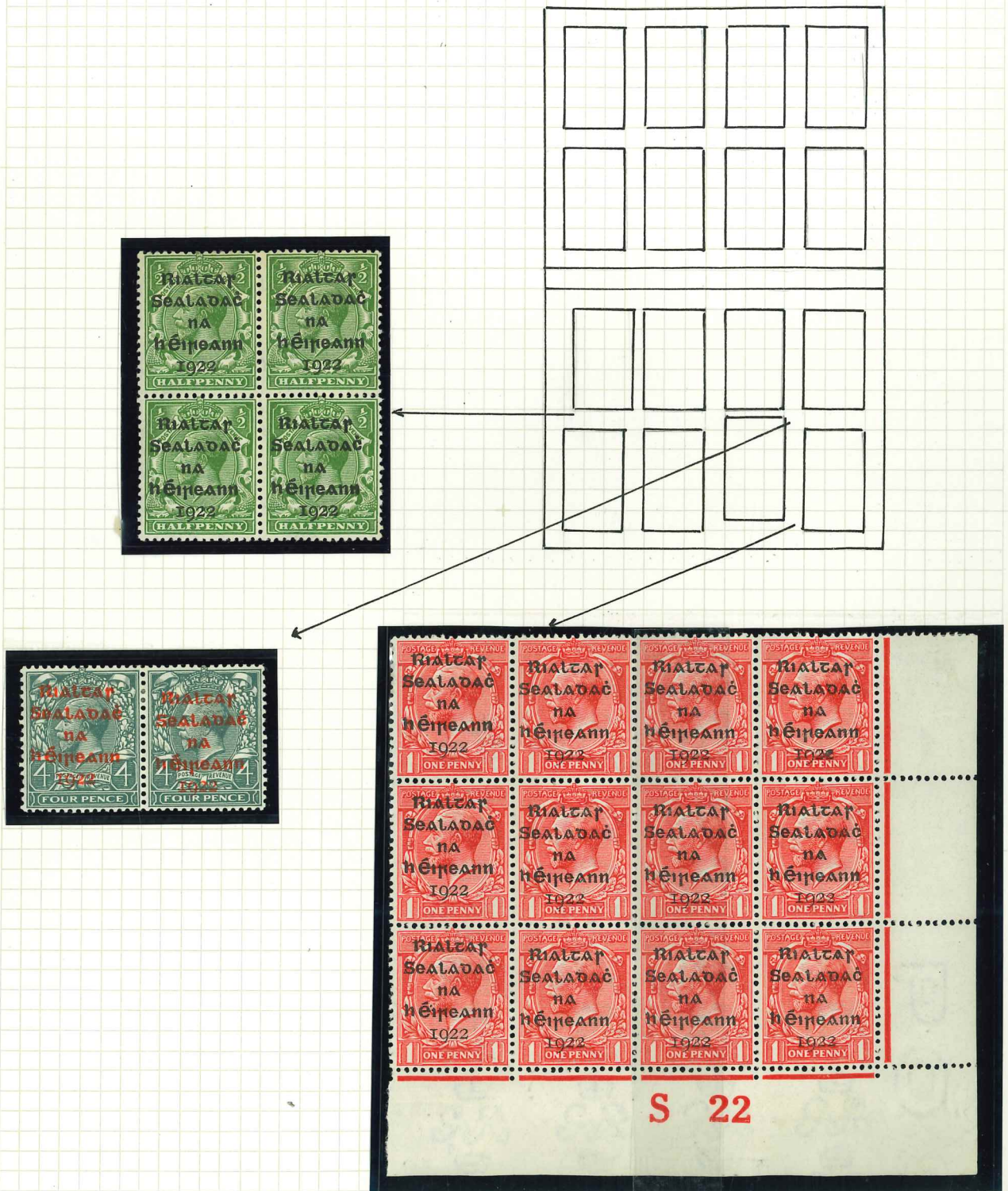
The example below is from the composite plate, the left hand pair are Setting 1 and the right hand pair Setting 3. The ink mark in the centre is a characteristic flaw occurring between Stamps 9 and 10 of Rows 9 and 10.



Dollard Plate Layout

Stereo Misalignment.

When stereos were inaccurately positioned on the plate, overprints appear at different levels either vertically or horizontally as illustrated.



Frame Break Flaw on 4d Value.

An unusual variety occurs on the 12th stamp of Row 5 of British Plate 1E. Ten distinct breaks can be seen in the lower frame.

This variety was reported in Stamp Weekly in the article below on March 12th 1970. The stamp described is, however, overprinted by Thom; the same variety with a Dollard overprint has not previously been recorded.



'Frame break' flaw found after nearly 50 years

AN interesting variety has recently been discovered on the George V 4d Great Britain issue 1912-22 with the second overprint for use in the Irish Republic. Frame breaks appear on the stamp at row 5/12 on plate 1E.

Ten distinct frame breaks can be seen on the left side of the bottom frame line extending from the corner to the "R" of "FOUR". This variety will be catalogued by Gibbons in future editions.

It is surprising that this variety has not been noticed before and just goes to show that there are plenty of varieties still to be discovered by the research philatelist.



Dollard Meredith Varieties.

Varieties among the overprinted issues are of four types

- 1.Errors on the original GB stamp.*
- 2.Varieties due to misplacement of the overprint.*
- 3.Stereo flaws occurring several times on a sheet.*
- 4.Type flaws occurring once on each sheet due to damage after the plate had been assembled.*

In his book The Postage Stamps of Ireland, W G Meredith listed the important recurrent varieties then (1928) known in the Irish overprinted issues. These are known as Meredith Varieties. The V (Variety) number is taken from the list in his book.

Many of the Dollard varieties shown here were obtained from Mr Meredith himself.

Varieties due to overprint misplacement.

Part date at top, part at bottom.



V 127



V 128

Overprint on reverse of stamp.



V 634



V 638

Dollard Meredith Varieties.

Varieties due to stereo flaws.

Raised c in Sealadac.

This is a constant stereo flaw which occurs in the top right stamp of each 3x5 stereo in Settings 2 and 3. It is therefore found sixteen times on each sheet.



V 196



V 197



V 198

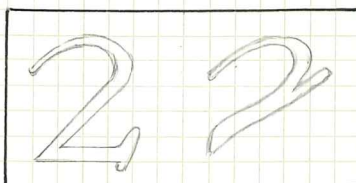


V 199



V 203

In the two examples below it is interesting to note additional recurrent flaws showing that the two stamps also came from the same sheet position.



Dollard Meredith Varieties

Varieties due to stereo flaws.

These examples show the value of having several stamps of the variety since the two different flaw positions could be similarly described, except for the small dot in Type B.

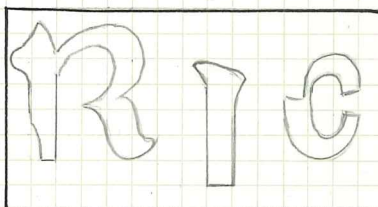
Note that both plate positions are correct stereo positions for the raised **c** stereo flaw.

No dot on raised **c** of **Sealadac**, **r** of **Rialtar** damaged

Type A. Setting 2 Row 1 Stamp 9.



V186

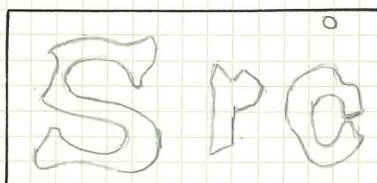


V186



V187

Type B. Setting 2 Row 11 Stamp 3.



Dollard Meredith Varieties

Recurrent type flaws

To be sure that a flaw is recurrent it is desirable to have more than one example of the variety so that other letters may be compared. Non-recurrent inking flaws may otherwise be confused with the true variety.

i of *Rialtar* broken



V 153

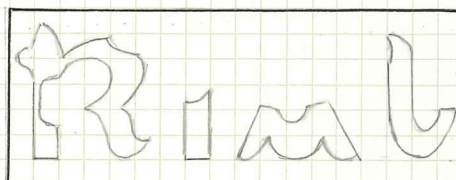


V 154

i and first *a* of *Rialtar* damaged.



V 161



V 161

Rial of *Rialtar* damaged. Setting 1 Row 6 Stamp 4



V 172



V 171



V 172



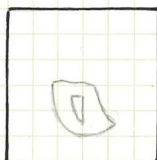
Dollard Meredith Varieties

Recurrent type flaws.

c of *Sealadac* damaged. Setting 2 Row 14 Stamp 9.

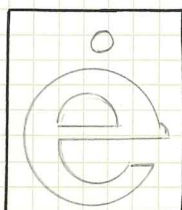


V206



V207

Dot over *e* of *Éireann*
Setting 2 Row 8 Stamp 5.

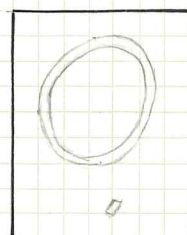


V220

Short tail to *9* in *1922*
Setting 2 Row 20 Stamp 1.



V226



Meredith also lists commoner varieties which occur in several places.

Scaladac



Éircann



Broken *l* in *Rialtar*



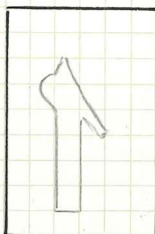
Dollard Meredith Varieties

Recurrent type flaws

r of *Rialtar* damaged. Setting 1 Row 18 Stamp 5.



V179



V179



V180

Flat tail to *9* in *1922*. Setting 1 Row 15 Stamp 12.

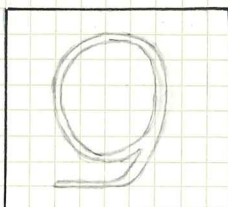
The selvage on the first example confirms the position as Stamp 12.



V239



V238



V239

Dollard GB Plates

The George V GB sheets of stamps were given distinguishing plate marks by the printers Harrison and Sons. These consisted of cuts and dots in the Jubilee line at the outside of the sheet.

The sheets issued to Dollards for overprinting were from particular GB plates, and some are illustrated below.

1/2 d GB Plates.

Plate 71. Large oval dot breaking top and bottom under PE of 2nd stamp.



1d GB Plates.

Plate 87b. Dot 20th right side breaking inner. Dot under PE of 10th stamp.



Dollard GB Plates

2 1/2d GB Plates.

Plate 10. Cut under E of first stamp.



Plate 11b. Cut under F of second stamp.



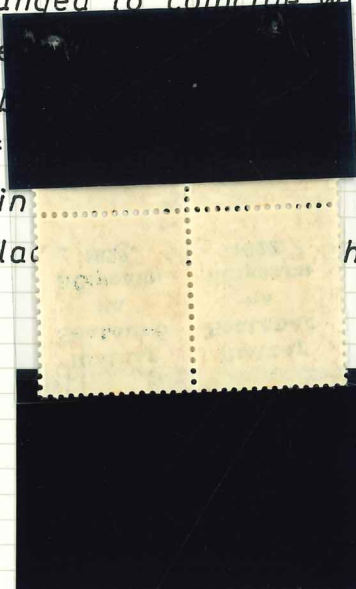
Thom 5 Line Narrow Setting.

Alex Thom Ltd of Dublin were awarded a contract to overprint four of the low values which was arranged to coincide with the date of issue of the Dollard stamps. The [redacted] can be distinguished from the Dollard by the [redacted] the date. The overprint has a maximum width of [redacted]

The early issues were overprinted in [redacted] but this was replaced in July 1922 by blue-black [redacted] the overprint more outstanding.



Black



Blue-Black

The blue black ink has a shiny appearance and under 40 times magnification blue granules can be seen in the ink.

In July 1922 when the Dollard contract was terminated, Thom became responsible for overprinting all the low values. Red ink was used for the 2 1/2d, 4d and 9d values.



Red

Thom 5 Line Narrow Setting

February 17th 1922. Overprint in black.



July - November 1922. Overprint in shiny blue-black.



Thom 5 Line Narrow Setting

July - November 1922. Overprint in shiny blue-black or red.



Thom 5 Line Narrow Setting

February 17th 1922. Overprint in black. Used.



July-November 1922. Overprint in shiny blue-black. Used.



Thom 5 Line Narrow Setting.

July - November 1922. Overprint in shiny blue-black or red. Used.

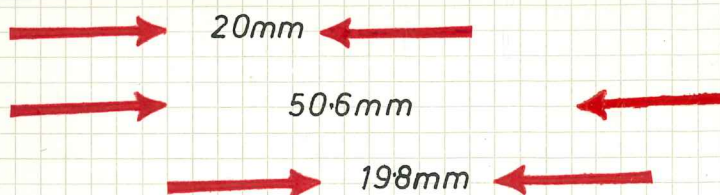


Thom Narrow Setting Plates

There are ten plates in the Thom narrow setting which differ in the spacing between overprints. They can be identified by recurrent flaws, particularly the *e₁/1* variety which occurs in known positions on all except Plate 1, and by control block measurements.

Plate 1

On a complete sheet of this plate it can be seen that the two panes have similar flaws and that the plate stereo was therefore the full size of the pane. On all other plates the stereo appears to be 4x4.



Characteristic flaws

Row 19 Stamp 3. Damaged *c* in *Sealadac*.

Plate 2

There are two states in this plate both with similar measurements but different type flaws.

Type A



Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 2. Stop after **1922** damaged.

Row 20 Stamp 3. Overprint heavier.

e/1 Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 5, 6, 10, 11, 12.

Type B



Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 2. No damage to stop.

Plate 3



Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 1. *ir* of *Eireann* damaged.

Row 20 Stamp 2. Damaged *9* in *1922*.

e/*1* Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 5,6,10,11,12.

Plate 4



199mm

205mm

514mm

e1/1 Positions

Row 19 Stamps 1,2,9,10.

Plate 5



Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 1 First *a* in *Sealadac* damaged.

e/1 Positions

Row 19 Stamps 2,3,4.

Plate 6



20.5 mm

19.8 mm

51.2 mm

e/1 Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 11,12.

Plate 7

In this complete Row 20 both sets of plate measurements can be seen. The abrupt change in spacing between stamps 8 and 9 is an indication of the 4x4 stereo layout.

Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 1 Damaged **S** in

Sealadac

$e_1/1$ Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 10, 11, 12.

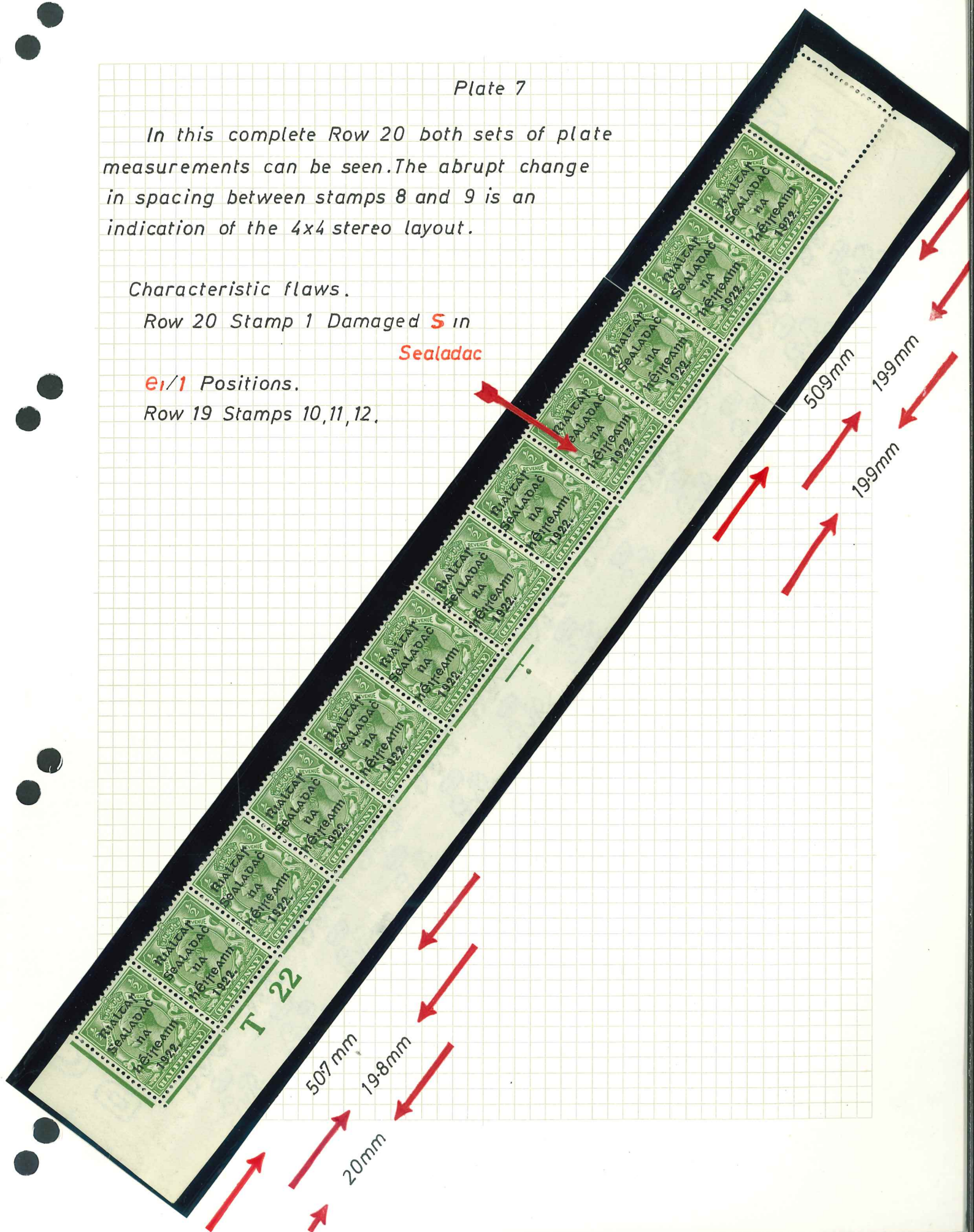
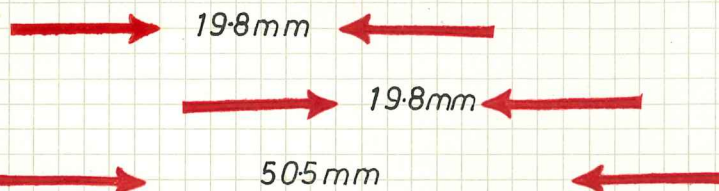


Plate 8



Characteristic flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 1 Damaged **S** in **Sealadac**
Damaged **9** in **1922**

e1/1 Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 10, 11, 12.

Plate 9



20.5mm

19.8mm

50.9mm



20mm

20.5mm

51.5mm

Characteristic Flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 1. Damaged *R* in *Rialtaí*.

Row 20 Stamp 3. Damaged *a* in *Rialtaí*.

ei/1 Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 11, 12.

Plate 10



198mm

204mm

508mm

Characteristic Flaws.

Row 20 Stamp 2. Damaged *a* in *Sealadac*

ei/1 Positions.

Row 19 Stamps 3,4,10,11.

Ireland

Thom 5 Line Plate Varieties

Among the varieties found in the Thom narrow setting issue those due to the method of plate manufacture are the most interesting. They are known generally as *R/Se* varieties and can be seen as variations in the relative position of the overprint lines.

The two types of line movement are shown below.

R/Se and *R/S*

Normal *R/Se* *R/Se* *R/Se* *R/S* *R/S*



e₁/1

Normal *e₁/1* *e₁/1* *e₁/1*



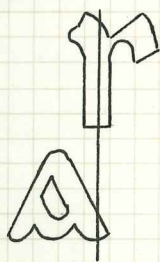
This study was undertaken to measure the amount of movement which had taken place in different examples and thereby to identify from which of the many known plate positions of the variety the examples came.

R/e R/Se and R/S Varieties.

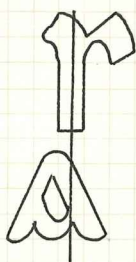
These varieties are caused by the movement of the second line of the overprint. In the **R/e** variety **Sealadac** has moved to the left relative to the other lines. In the **R/Se** and **R/S** varieties **Sealadac** has moved to the right.

The examples below are compared by noting the relative position of the **r** of **Rialtar** and the third **a** of **Sealadac**.

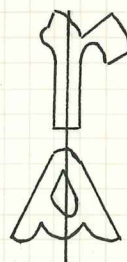
R/e



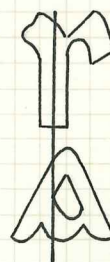
Normal



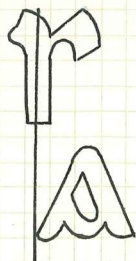
R/Se(1)



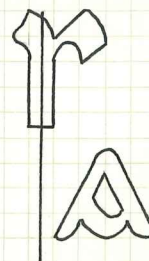
R/Se(2)



R/Se(3)



R/S



Distribution of setting flaws. R/Se variety.

The distribution of the **R/Se** and **R/S** varieties and the plates on which they appear are shown below. The detail of these varieties and the flaws associated with them are shown on positional blocks on subsequent sheets.

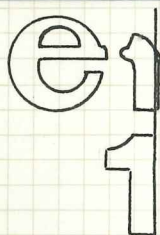
[illegible]

i/1 e₁/1 and e₁/19 Varieties.

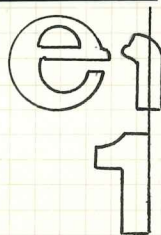
Movement of the fourth line of the overprint causes these varieties. The *e₁/19*(2) and *e₁/19*(3) varieties are only found in conjunction with *R/Se*(3).

In the *i/1* variety *hEireann* has moved slightly to the left. In the *e₁/1* and *e₁/19* varieties *hEireann* has moved to the right.

i/1



Normal



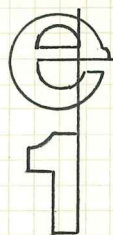
e₁/1



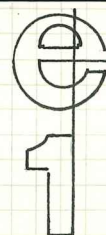
e₁/19(1)



e₁/19(2)



e₁/19(3)



Distribution of setting flaws. $e_i / 1$ Variety.

The sheet positions of the e₁/1 variety have been recorded for all the ten plates of the Thom narrow setting issue. The chart below is useful in locating the sheet position of any block containing several examples of the variety. Figures indicate the plate number.

[illegible]

Setting flaws associated with **R/Se** varieties.

There are some flaws in the Thom narrow setting issue where the spacing between letters is changed. Strangely these occur only in conjunction with **R/Se** varieties.

R/Se and wide **ac** in **Sealadac**

The normal length of the word **Sealadac** in the Thom narrow setting is 14 1/2 mm. In the wide **ac** variety the spacing between the last three letters is greater than normal making **Sealadac** 15mm long.

Stamps 8 and 12 Row 1 Plates 7 and 8.

Wide **ac**

Wide **ac**



Wide **ac**



Setting flaws associated with *R/Se* varieties.

R/Se and wide *ac* in *Sealadac*

This flaw occurs in another position but the separation between the *a* and the *c* is 0.2 mm greater.

Stamp 4 Row 17 Plate 3.

Wide *ac*



Wide *ea* in *hÉireann*

A setting variety which was unnoticed for many years is the wide *ea* variety. In this stamp the length of the word *hÉireann* is increased from 14 to 14 1/2 mm.

Stamp 4 Row 12 Plate 2.



Wide *ea*

R/Se and *ei/19* Sheet Positions

Plate 2 Row 12

	Stamp Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Row 12	<i>R/Se</i> (2)	<i>R/Se</i> (2)	<i>R/Se</i> (2)	<i>R/Se</i> (3)	<i>R/Se</i> (3)	<i>R/Se</i> (3)
				<i>ei/19</i> (1)	<i>ei/19</i> (2)	<i>ei/19</i> (2)



R/Se(2) *R/Se*(2) *R/Se*(2) *R/Se*(3) *R/Se*(3) *R/Se*(3)
ei/19(1) *ei/19*(2) *ei/19*(2)



R/Se(2) *R/Se*(2) *R/Se*(2) *R/Se*(3) *R/Se*(3) *R/Se*(3)
ei/19(1) *ei/19*(2) *ei/19*(2)

Plate 2 Row 17

Stamp Number					
1	2	3	4	5	6
	R/Se(1)	R/Se(2)	R/Se(3)	R/S	R/S



R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(3) R/S R/S



R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(3) R/S R/S



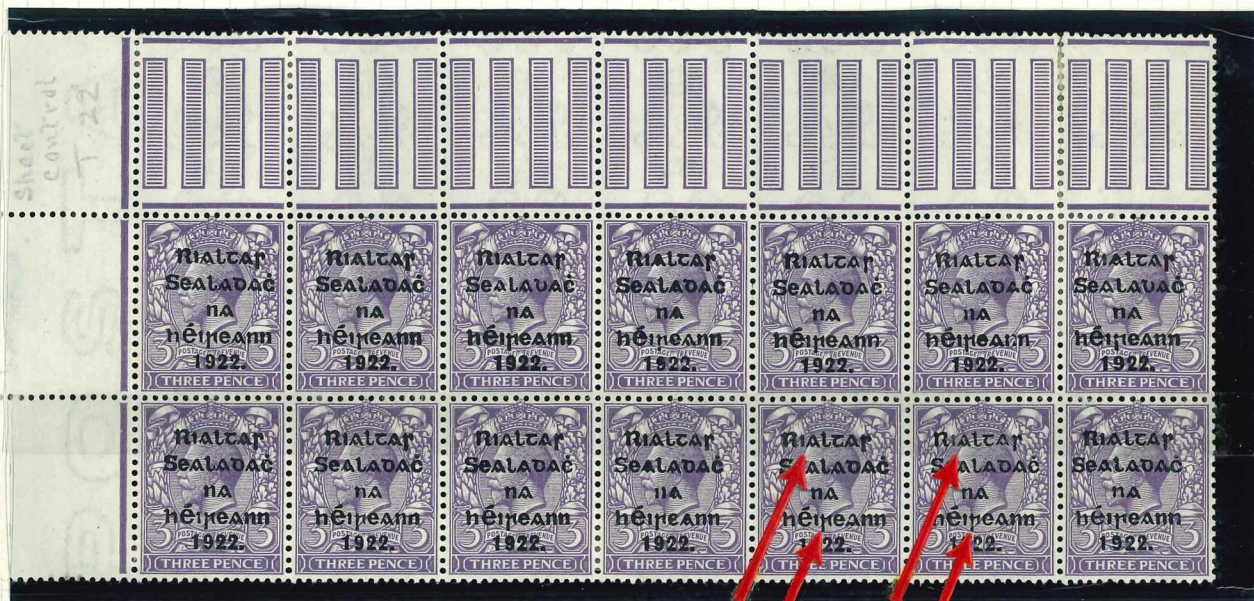
R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(3) R/S R/S



R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(3) R/S R/S

Plate 3 Row 12

	Stamp Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Row 12					R/Se (3) ei/19 (3)	R/Se (3) ei/19 (2)



R/Se (3) R/Se (3)
ei/19 (3) ei/19 (2)



R/Se (3) R/Se (3)
ei/19 (3) ei/19 (2)

Plate 3 Row 17

	Stamp Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Row 17		R/Se(1)	R/Se(2)	R/Se(2) Wide ac	R/S	R/S

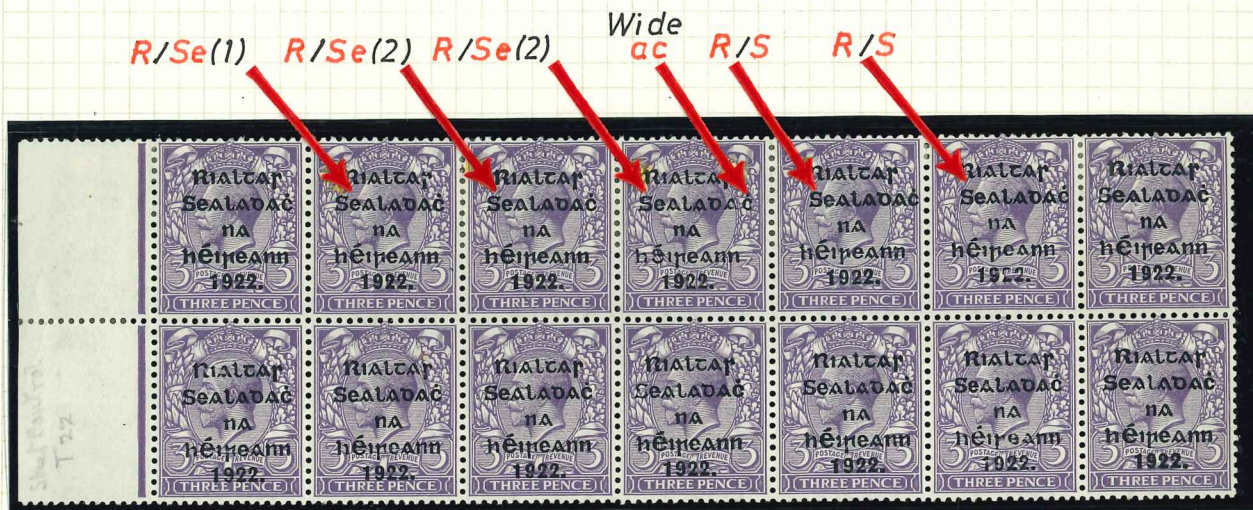


Plate 5

	Stamp Number					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Row 6	R/Se (2)	R/Se (2)	R/Se (2)	R/Se (2) e ₁ /19 (1)		
Row 9					R/Se (3) e ₁ /19 (3)	R/Se (3) e ₁ /19 (2)

Row 6



R/Se (2) R/Se (2) R/Se (2) R/Se (2)
e₁/19 (1)



R/Se (3) R/Se (3)
e₁/19 (3) e₁/19 (2)



R/Se (3) R/Se (3)
e₁/19 (3) e₁/19 (2)

Plates 7 and 8 Row 1

	Stamp Number					
	7	8	9	10	11	12
Row 1	R/Se(2)	R/Se(2) Wide ac		R/Se(1)	R/Se(2)	R/Se(2) Wide ac



R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac



R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac



R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac

Plates 7 and 8 Row 1

	Stamp Number					
	7	8	9	10	11	12
Row 1	R/Se(2)	R/Se(2) Wide ac		R/Se(1)	R/Se(2)	R/Se(2) Wide ac



R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac R/Se(1) R/Se(2) R/Se(2) Wide ac

Blind perforation variety.

The 6d value of the George V issue was printed at Somerset House. At some stage one pin became broken on the second perforating wheel and a number of sheets containing the blind perforation variety below Row 1 were issued before the fault was corrected.

The example below is interesting since it also includes the R/Se and wide ac varieties of Plates 7 and 8.



Blind perforations

Plate 2 Varieties

During this study it became apparent that there are two settings of Plate 2 with identical *R/Se R/S* and *e₁/19* varieties but quite different recurrent type flaws.

Row 12 Recurrent Flaws

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Setting 1	<i>S</i> in Sealadac	<i>a</i> in Eireann			<i>l</i> in Sealadac	<i>e</i> in Sealadac
Setting 2			<i>e</i> in Eireann	<i>e₁</i> in Eireann		

Setting 1



Setting 2

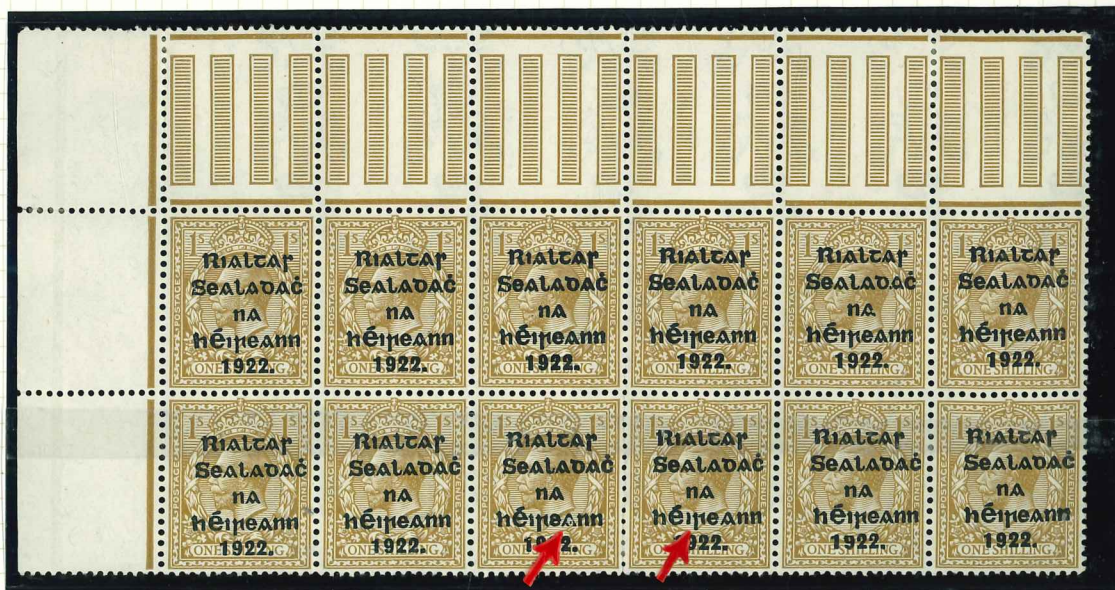


Plate 2 Varieties

The difference between the recurrent flaws of the two settings of Plate 2 is also clear in Row 17.

Row 17 Recurrent Flaws

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Setting 1			<i>R</i> in <i>Rialtar</i>	First <i>a</i> in <i>Sealadac</i>		Second <i>2</i> in 1922
Setting 2			<i>i</i> in <i>Eireann</i>	Second <i>a</i> in <i>Sealadac</i>		

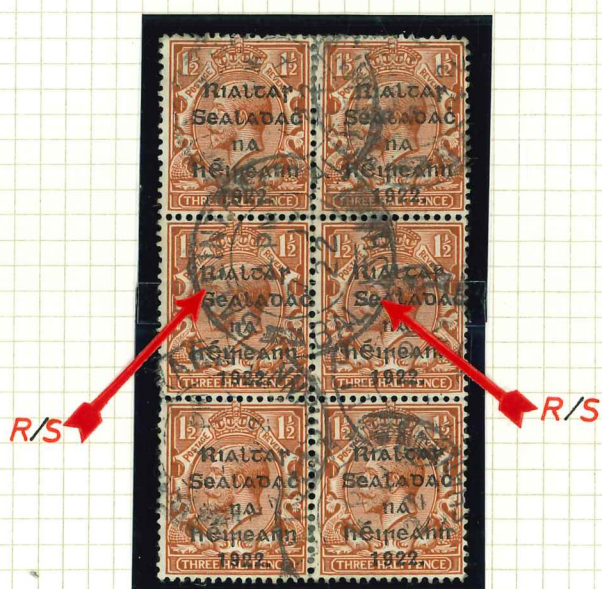
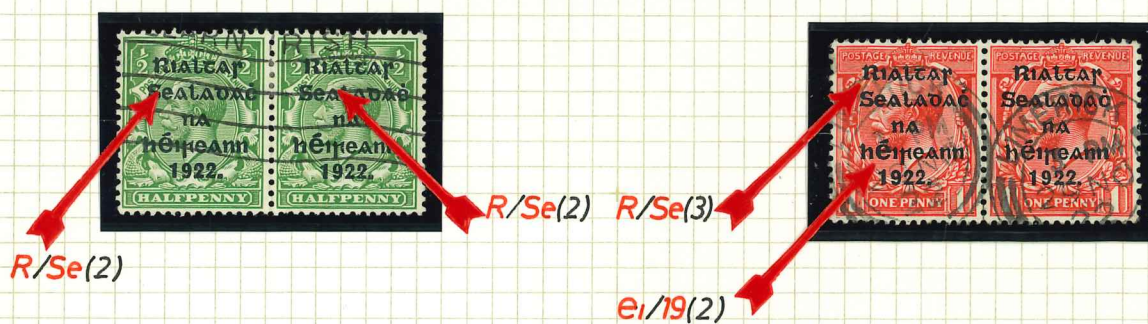
Setting 1



Setting 2



R/Se and *ei/19* used multiples.



R/Se Type Flaws.

Many of the **R/Se** varieties have associated type flaws as shown in the chart. The plate position of single copies of these stamps can therefore be identified.

Plate 2 Setting 2

Row 12 Stamp 3



Plate 2 Setting 1

Row 17 Stamp 3



Plate 2 Setting 1

Row 17 Stamp 4

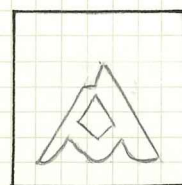
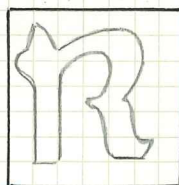
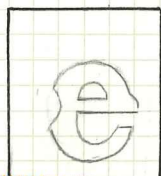
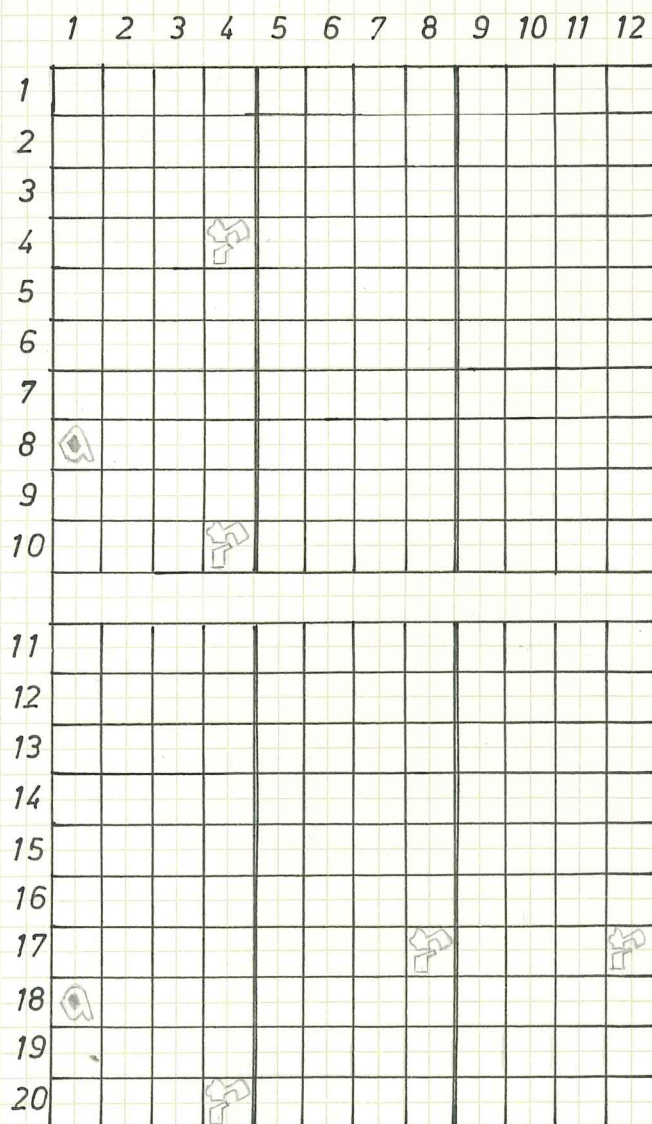
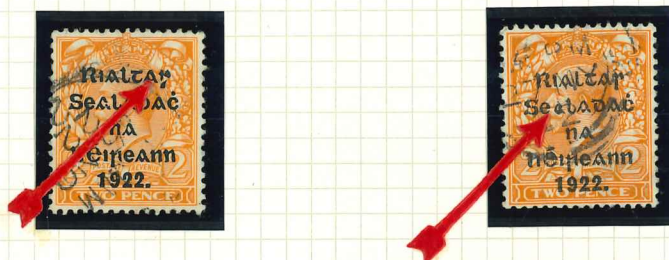


Plate	2 Setting 1		2 Setting 2		3		5		7,8
Row	12	17	12	17	12	17	6	9	1
Stamp	1	S							
	2	A ₇				I			
	3	R	e ₂	i ₂ *				2 ₂	
	4	A ₃	e	A ₄ *				i ₁	
Number	5	i ₂				A ₇		i ₂	
	6	e ₁	2 ₂			e		i ₁	
	7							i ₁	

Distribution of type flaws.

Certain type flaws were recorded occurring in a number of places on different plates. By displaying the sheet positions on the chart below, a stereo four stamps wide seems to be indicated.



Thom 5 Line GB Plates.

2d Die 1 GB Plates

Plate 6. Large dot 20th left side 12 mm.



Plate 18b. 1/2 dot(inner) 20th left side 8 mm.



2d Die 2 GB Plates.

Plate 2 Dot (outer) 20th left side 14 1/4 mm. 1/2 dot (base) under P of 1st.



Thom Narrow Setting Controls

Black Overprint Plates and Controls

Value	Control Numbers												
	Q20	Q20	Q21	Q21	R21	R21	S21	S21	S22	S22	T22	T22	U22
	I	P	I	P	I	P	I	P	I	P	I	P	I
1 1/2d	2 3	1 2	1 2	1 2							9	9	
2d Die 1							1 2	2	1 2 3	1 2 3	2	2	
2d Die 2									1 2 3	1 2 3	2		
6d							1 2				2 3		
1/-					1 2	1 2	2	2	1 2 3	2 3			



Plate 1



Plate 2



Die 1, Plate 2.



Die 1, Plate 2

Thom Narrow Setting Controls

Blue-black Overprint Plates and Controls

	S22 I	S22 P	T22 I	T22P
1/2 d			5 6 7 8 9 10	5 6 7 8 9
1d	4 5 6 7 10	4 5 6 7 9	4 5 6 7 9 10	4 5 6 7 9 10



Thom Narrow Setting Controls

Blue-black Overprint Plates and Controls

	S22 I	S22 P	T22 I	T22 P
1 1/2d			2 3 4 5 6 8 9	2 3 4 5 6 9
2d Die 1	2 3 4 5	2 3 4 5	2 3 4 5 7	2 3 4 5
2d Die 2	2 3 4	2 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Thom Narrow Setting Controls

Blue-black Overprint Plates and Controls.

	S221	S22P	T221	T22P	U221
3d			2345 6 9	3 5 6 8910	
5d			5 678 10		
6d			234		5 6 8910
10d	9	5			
1/-	2	2	5 6 89	5 6 89	



Thom Narrow Setting Controls

Red Overprint Plates and Controls

	S22 I	S22 P	T22 I	T22 P
2 1/2d			8	9
4d		9	9	8
9d Agate	4 8	4		
9d Green			9	9



T 22

Major Thom 5 Line Varieties.

Inverted overprint. 2d Die 1.

The history of this variety was given in the December 1922 issue of the Stanley Gibbons Monthly Circular, by Mr Stafford Johnson.

"A friend of mine bought two stamps at the Grand Parade Post Office, Cork, on 17th February. Noticing that the stamps were 'upside down' he asked if there were any more. He was given a few more including the Control (S221). The assistant said there was another complete sheet 'upside down' and he bought the whole lower pane, also Control S221. On one of these sheets many of the stamps showed the overprint definitely to the left."



This example is likely to have come from this source because of the clear overprint displacement.

Thom Meredith Varieties

Varieties due to defective type.

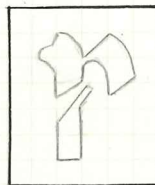
Split *p* in *Rialtap*.

Stamp	4	4	8	12	4
Row	20	4	17	17	10
Plate	5	7/8	7/8	7/8	9

This is one of the most interesting varieties. Its distinctive appearance and the plate positions in which it is found are strong evidence that it is a stereo flaw, and that the Thom stereo layout is likely to be as shown.



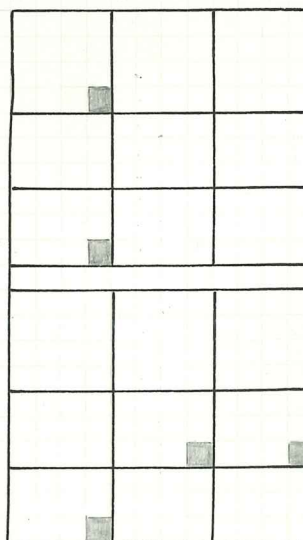
V299



V301



V302



V306



V303



V311

Thom Meredith Varieties

Varieties due to defective type.

Flaws which occur in the same position on the upper and lower pane or in the same position on different plates, are probably stereo flaws.

Serif at foot of *r* of *Rialtar*

Stamp 2 Row 6 Plate 1

Stamp 2 Row 16 Plate 1

Stamp 2 Row 6 Plate 3



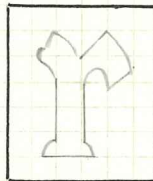
V319



V317



V319



First *a* in *Sealadac* damaged and full of ink.

Stamp 1 Row 18 Plate 1

Stamp 1 Row 8 Plate 3



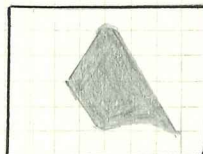
V 326



V327



V328



Thom Meredith Varieties

Varieties due to defective type.

Broken l in Rialtar. Stamp 9 Row 17 Plates 7 and 8.



V277



V280



V279

Meredith sometimes listed similar varieties occurring in several plate positions under the same variety number. Unless they were stereo flaws they were in fact different varieties.



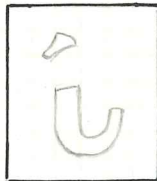
V279



V279



V280



V282

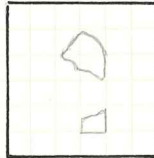
Thom Meredith Varieties.

Varieties due to defective type.

i in Rialtar broken. Stamp 9 Row 11 Plate 9.



V253



V254



V256



V255

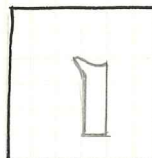


V257

Short i in Rialtar. Stamp 4 Row 8 Plate 2.

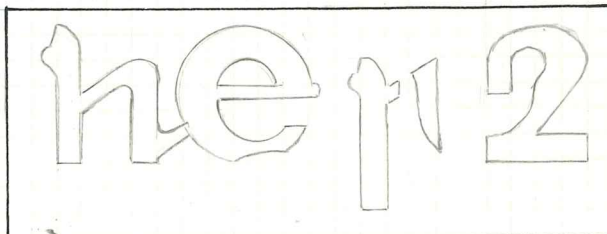


V269



V270

Associated Flaws



Thom Meredith Varieties

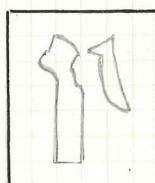
Varieties due to defective type.

Split *r* in *hEireann*

Stamp	5	6	6
Row	1	9	12
Plate	5	5	3



V381

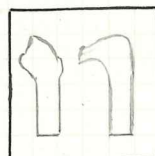


V381

First *n* of *hEireann* broken.



V388



V388



V390

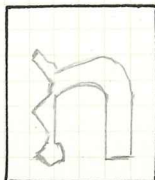
Thom Meredith Varieties

Varieties due to detective type.

h of *hEireann* damaged, Stamp 9 Row 9 Plate 5.



V356



V358



V360



V361

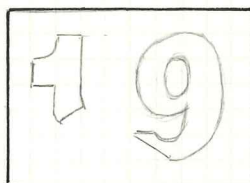


V366

Short *1* in *1922*. Stamp 5 Row 20 Plate 9.



V394



V396



V393



V395



V397



V398

Thom Meredith Varieties.

Varieties due to defective type.

Certain varieties were included which showed the constant addition of marks to the overprint caused by plate damage.

Dot after 9 of 1922, Stamp 12 Row 3



V406



V407

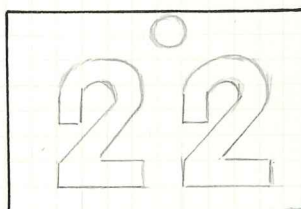


V408

Dot after first 2 of 1922, Stamp 12 Row 10 Plate 3.



V409



V409

Thom Meredith Varieties.

Errors due to shifted overprint settings.

R/S



V65



V66



V67



V69



V68



V70



V73



V76



V80

R/e

This variety is not listed by Meredith, but is due to an opposite shift.



Thom Meredith Varieties

Errors due to shifted overprint settings.

R/Se



V63



V64



V65



V66



V67



V69



V68



V70



V71



V73



V76



V77



V79



V80



V81

Thom Meredith Varieties

Errors due to shifted overprint settings.

R/Se and wide *ac* in *Sealadac*.

This variety occurs in two plate positions.

Stamp 8 and 12 Plates 7 and 8.



V100



V102

Stamp 4 Row 17 Plate 3.



V 89

Thom Setting Varieties

Meredith did not list setting varieties due to movement of the fourth overprint line, although these are just as obvious as the *R/S* and *R/Se* varieties. Often they occur together.

e₁/1.



e₁/1 and R/e.



e₁/19 and R/Se.

