

Query - Short F confirmed positions?

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LF

The well known constant flaw 'Short F' that appears on all the large format George V overprint issues has long been reported as existing at position 5-2.

Attending my first MSC meeting I posed the question 'does the 1922 5s Self-Government stamp exist with the short F variety'. At this point I had not seen or recorded this variety but I did have a corner plate example as well as recorded another that did not show the variety at 5-2. I soon acquired single copies so my question then became 'does the 1922 5s Self-Government short F variety exist at position 5-2'.

At first I thought the explanation may be that the 5s was the first value to be overprinted and the flaw developed during the 5s printing but as I recorded more and more positional examples without the flaw it became less of an explanation and more of a mystery.



Five positional examples without the short F Variety at 5-2.

I have recorded two more positional examples without the variety.

To date I have only noted two positional examples confirming the variety at 5-2, the 2s Mult Crown CA and 10s Mult Script CA.



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Dented Frame at 5-6



Short F at 5-7

This recently acquired block clearly shows the short F at 5-7 ! ?

Further more the MSC study paper positions the dented frame flaw at 5-1 .. but here it is at 5-6 !.



No signs of the dented frame at 5-1 on the recorded positional blocks

There has been many discussions related to the make up of the overprint 'plates' including that each unit was individually type-set and can occur in random places on different printings. Certainly the requirement of overprinting 60 and 30 format printed sheets would need a different preparation - possibly two blocks of 30 that could be combined for the 60 format printing and the two were transposed on the 5s printing? {pure guess work!}

Questions

- 1) Does the short F variety exist on position 5-2 for the 5s printing as well?
- 2) Does anyone have positional examples of the remaining 10s Watermark CC, 2s6d Mult Crown CA, 2s Mult Script CA confirming position 5-2? **{I'd really love a 600/1200DPI scan of any examples—please :-} }**
- 3) Is there any definitive information of how the overprint plates were made up?
- 4) Is there any more information regarding the order of printing? {I am doing a separate study}