

## **ARTISTS' DRAWINGS, ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF THE 1948 DO'AR IVRI ISSUE OF ISRAEL**

This exhibit traces the DEVELOPMENT of the designs for Israel's first postage stamps. When these stamps were designed, the name of the new country and its currency had not yet been decided. Three artists were asked to submit designs but only the identity of two have been determined. In late 1947, OTTO WALLISH submitted designs showing symbols of the Jewish settlement of Palestine and inscribed in Hebrew YEHUDA. These designs were not accepted, and, in late March, April 1948, he submitted a series showing ancient Jewish coins from the time of Macabee Revolution (167-160 BC ). From the 15 mil value, a silver shekel, showing a ritual cup (later incorporated in the 20 mil definitive stamp) a block of four was made in black, then blue and red.

Next, the coin designs of the Yehuda Essays were redrawn with the inscription changed to ERETZ ISRAEL in Hebrew and Arabic and the figure 15 changed to 5. The SHAMIR BROTHERS also submitted four designs; one represented a large photoessay; a second previously unknown stamp size photoessay with symbols of agriculture, industry and production, and also two menorah designs, one of which has not been illustrated until exhibited by this collector. WALLISH'S coin design was accepted and was produced in four types and seven colors. In addition, they exist imperf, perf 10.8, and pinperf.

On May 2, 1948, the designs of seven stamps, 3 mil- 250 mil, all using different coin designs were selected. The stamps were simply inscribed DO'AR IVRI in Hebrew at the top, meaning Hebrew Post, and the same, in Arabic, at the bottom. The value is expressed in numerals only. Descriptive tabs were attached to the stamps at the bottom row of the printing plate in order to render the ancient coin description in modern Hebrew. The designs for the 500 and 1000 mil were chosen several days later. Printing began May 4, 1948; the first issue went on sale on May 16, 1948 as Independence, declared May 15 was a Saturday.

**Frame 1:** Yehuda and Eretz Israel essays

**Frame 2:** Eretz Israel essays continued; Do'ar Ivri triangular drawing and work sheet

**Frame 3:** Black photoessays proofs, including First Printing; 500 mil drawing and proof

**Frame 4:** High value black proofs; Broadway color proofs; low value proofs

**Frame 5:** Low and high value proofs; experimental rouletted, FD cachet and cover designs

**References :** Do'ar Ivri Issue of Israel –Stephen L.G. Rothman and Yakov Tschor, 1985  
Bale Israel Catalogue 2013



2117



ל.ו.ל.ע

**Shield of David and Olive Branch**  
**Only one known.**

Ex Otte Wallish Archive • Original Artwork  
Two photo essays the size of a stamp are recorded.  
Inscription "O. Wallish" added later.





*L.I.Ic*

**Water Tower**

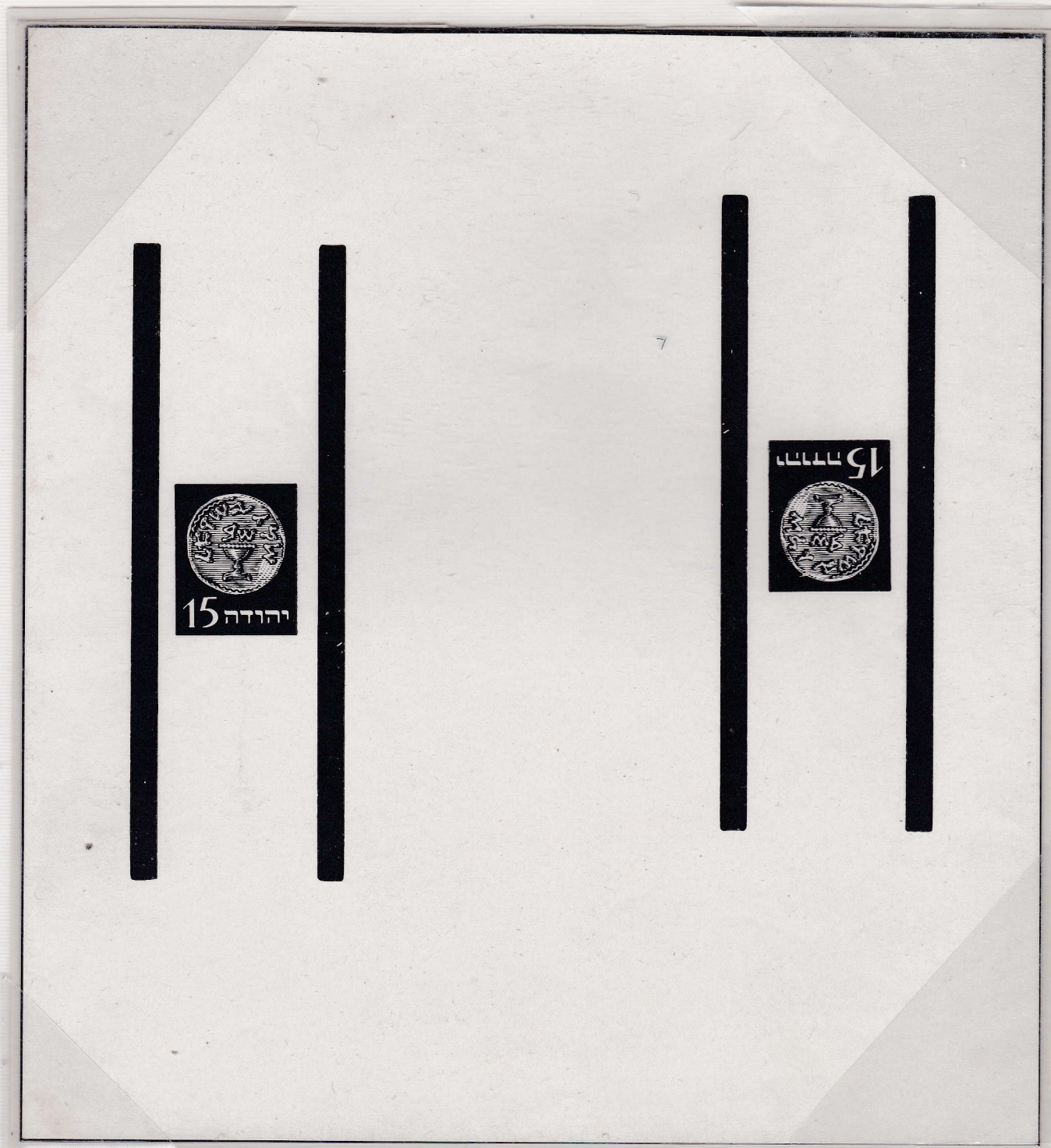
**Only one known**

Ex Otte Wallish Archive-Original Artwork

Two photoessays, size of a stamp, exist from these original designs

Inscription "O. Wallish" added later





On April 1, 1948, designers were asked for their immediate proposals.  
Otte Wallish selected an ancient Hebrew coin design showing a ritual cup.  
Typographed. Ungummed Paper. State Name Not Chosen.  
Three Recorded.  
(Silver Shekel from second year of First Jewish War of Liberation, 67-70 A.D.)



**Yehuda Essay and Die Proof Strike**

Thin Whitish Paper



Not the usual white glazed paper—Previously unknown

Very intense black color smeared in places due to relatively poor paper quality

Probably led Wallish deciding to make another printing on superior white glazed paper (Per Tsachor) S





7 recorded  
Ex: Muentz



Four recorded  
Final Stage- No larger unit recorded C





Cream colored paper





Presentation sheets in black, blue and red prepared somewhat later  
Black on white glazed paper  
It is believed that 100 sheets of each color printed given to high officials  
Hebrew Inscription: Designer O. Wallish  
April 5, 1948



Color Proof



Blue Presentation Sheet on Cream Colored Light Card, ungummed

Only example known at present

Presentation Sheets in light blue, orange red, and chocolate brown (The Mosden examples) but without an inscription are forgeries.

This block is a brighter shade of blue than the normal blue on thin yellow paper. It's size is slightly larger than the issued sheet and under high magnification (8x) the following differences are noted:

- a. the Hebrew Font has a very sharp dark margin rather than a fuzzy edge
- b. The semicolons are very sharp and diamond shaped rather than tear drops.



# Yehuda Presentation Sheets



Dark Blue-Unlisted

Thin yellow paper identical to that used for first printing of Doar Ivri





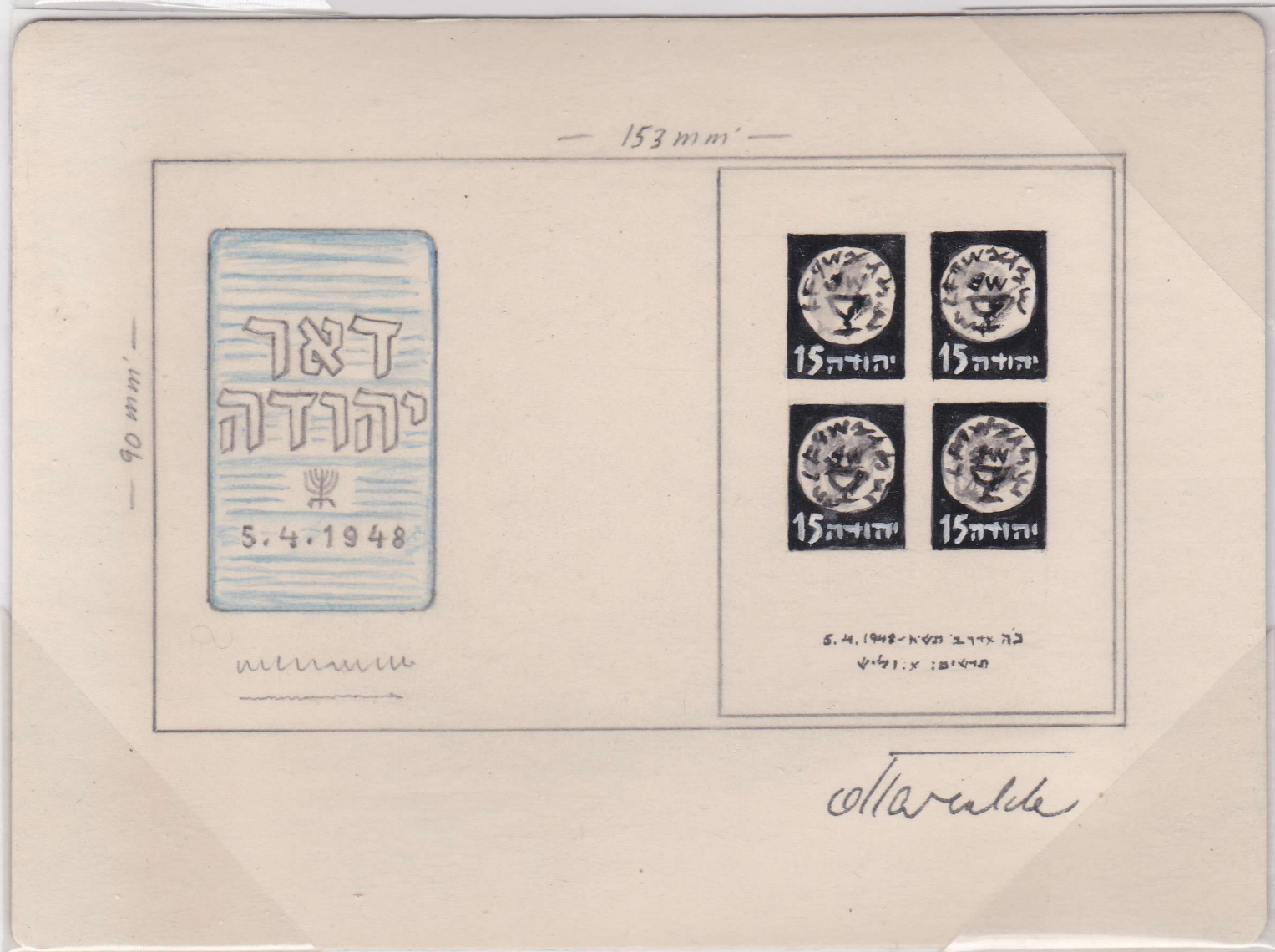


*O. Wallish*

**Yehuda Essay Vignette for First Day Cover**  
**Only one known**  
Ex Otto Wallish Archive-Original Artwork  
Signed: O. Wallish



Yehuda Essay for First Day Cover



Original Art Work

Note Vignette dated April 5, 1948

Pencil measurement 153 x 90 mm, the exact size of officially issued F.D.C.

Signed by designer Otto Wallish in English





# Yehuda Essay for Proposed Minister Sheet

Hand drawn sketch of David's Tower  
and 3 proposed stamp designs.

*Otte Wallish*

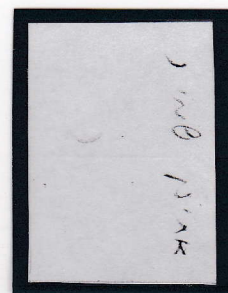
Signed: Otte Wallish  
Only one recorded.



PHOTOESSAY UNKNOWN UNTIL 1997

Found in suitcase under Heskey's bed after he died

Supervisor for the printing of Israel's first stamps



Reverse

Symbolic Features:

Ear of Corn-Agriculture

Cogwheel-Industry

Two tablets-Religion or the Jewish State

Mounted on Cardboard with "SHAMIR" in capital English Letters and in Hebrew scrawled on reverse





ע.א. 11.12

Coin Design of Yehuda Essay Redrawn

Inscription changed to Eretz Israel in Hebrew and Arabic.

Figure "15" replaced by "5".

Ex Otto Wallish.



ארץ-ישראל



25 ארץ ישראל

*Otto Wallish*

Eretz Israel Essay  
Coin Design for 25mil value-hand drawn  
Signed: Otto Wallish





Enlarged Photoessays which allow checking for minute details  
Marked by the designer "17mm" (actual size printed stamps 16  $\frac{3}{4}$  mm)  
Used for the production of the Printing Plate for the bottom blocks of 4  
in the double sheetlet with the narrow spacing  
Ex: Otte Wallish Archives



Type 1



Yehuda Essay Redrawn

Plate description: Dots—Shading under Cup. Inscription changed to: “Eretz Israel” in Hebrew and Arabic Figure “15” replaced by “5”. Gummed paper. Sheet margins trimmed

Type 2



Plate description: Lines---Shading under Cup. Thin white gummed paper  
Both Type 1 and Type 2 printed by Lewin -Epstein, in photolithography, size 16.5mm X 20.75mm in shades of blue, yellow and red  
Note wider margins on lower blocks

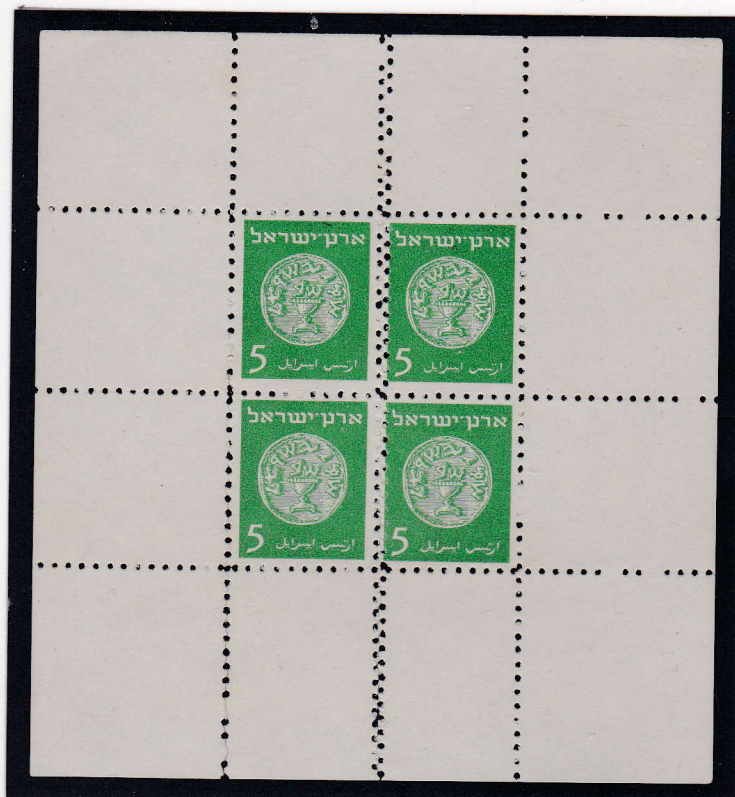


Type II a





Type II a  
Perforation Varieties  
Thin White Paper used for June Printing



C  
Double Vertical Perf



Triple Vertical Perf



Quadruple Vertical Perf in Center



Major Shift to left



Type III  
Imperforate Sheetlets with Wide Margins



Printer: HaAretz Newspaper Company and Government Press  
Gummed Paper



Type III



Size of sheetlets: 75mm x 87-90mm  
Lateral margins: 19.5-20.5mm  
Ex: Hesky



Type III

Perf 10.8





Type III



Type IIa



5 Recorded Examples in Blue



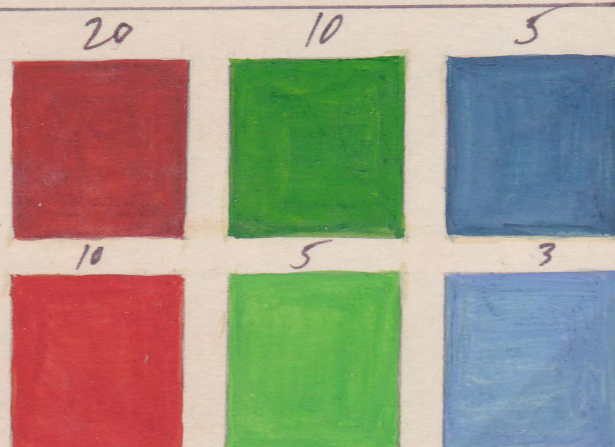
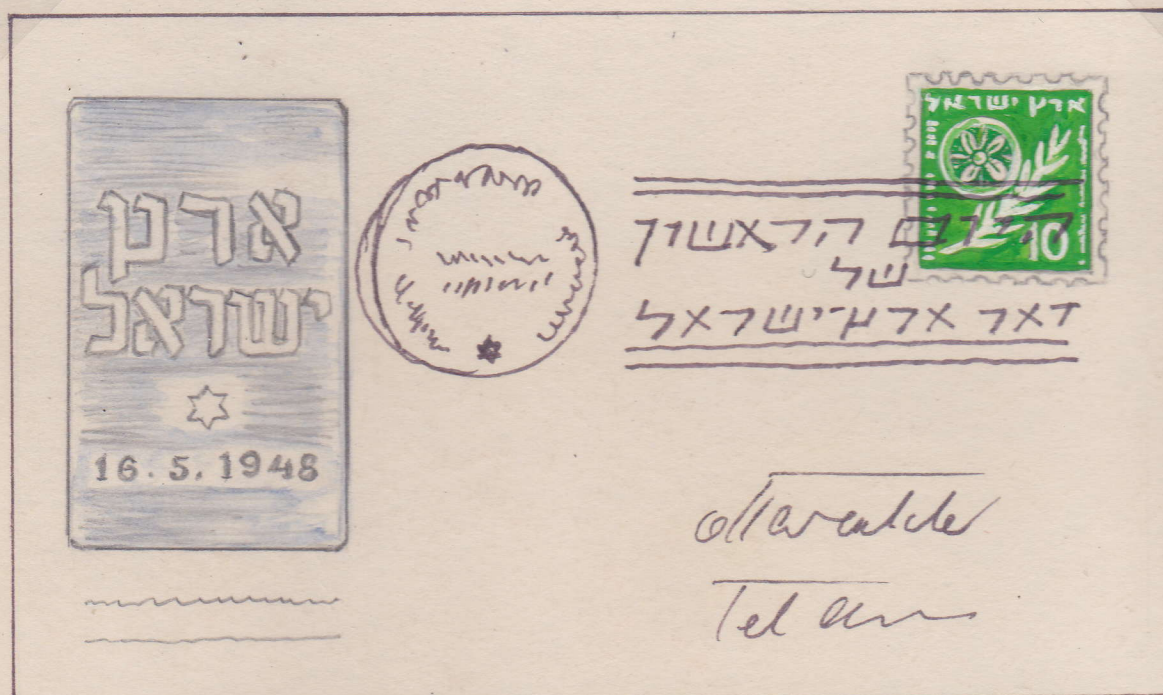
Type III



Type IIa







Proposed colors for various values  
Stamp design not accepted.  
Original drawing  
Signed: Otte Wallish



ERETZ ISRAEL ESSAY FOR FIRST DAY COVER



Note date on cachet : 16-5-1948

No design in center of stamp

Signed: Otte Wallish



## Eretz Yisrael Essay for First Day Cover



Original artwork  
Signed: Otte Wallish



# ארץ-ישראל



ארץ ישראל ERETZ-ISRAEL

Eretz Israel Essay  
Proposed Minister Sheet  
Designed for 3 values with common Olive Branch Theme





Original Otte Wallish Drawing

Black ink on cream paper.

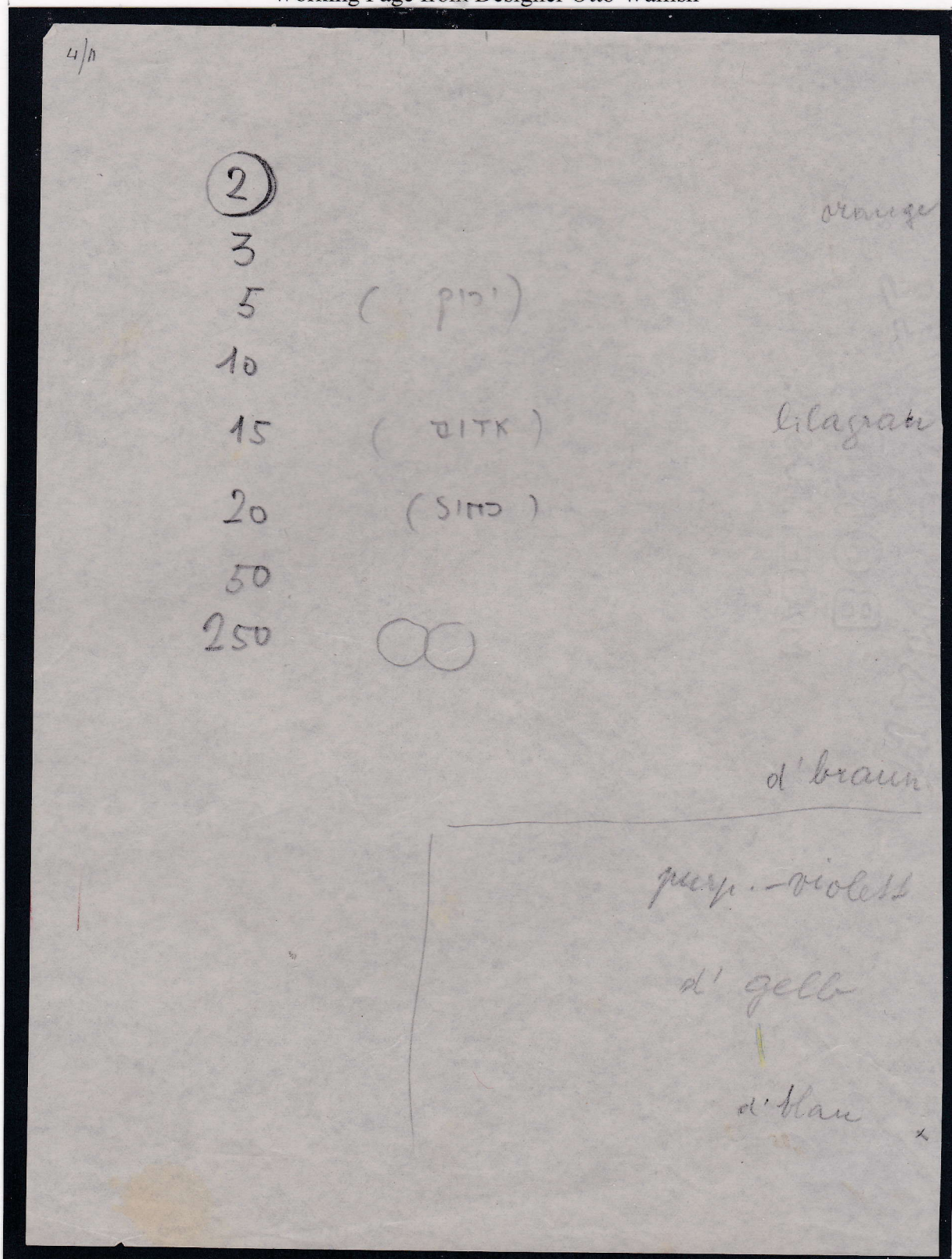
Inscription "O. Wallish" in Hebrew done later.

A similar drawing with appropriate coins exists for each low value.



# Proposed Colors

Working Page from Designer Otto Wallish



Proposed Colors (in Hebrew or German) opposite the figures of seven values-3mil to 250mil  
Figure "2" encircled on top of list of denominations-unknown significance----Unique





10 mil accepted design, approximately ten times size of issued stamp

Plate 2

Ex: O Wallish





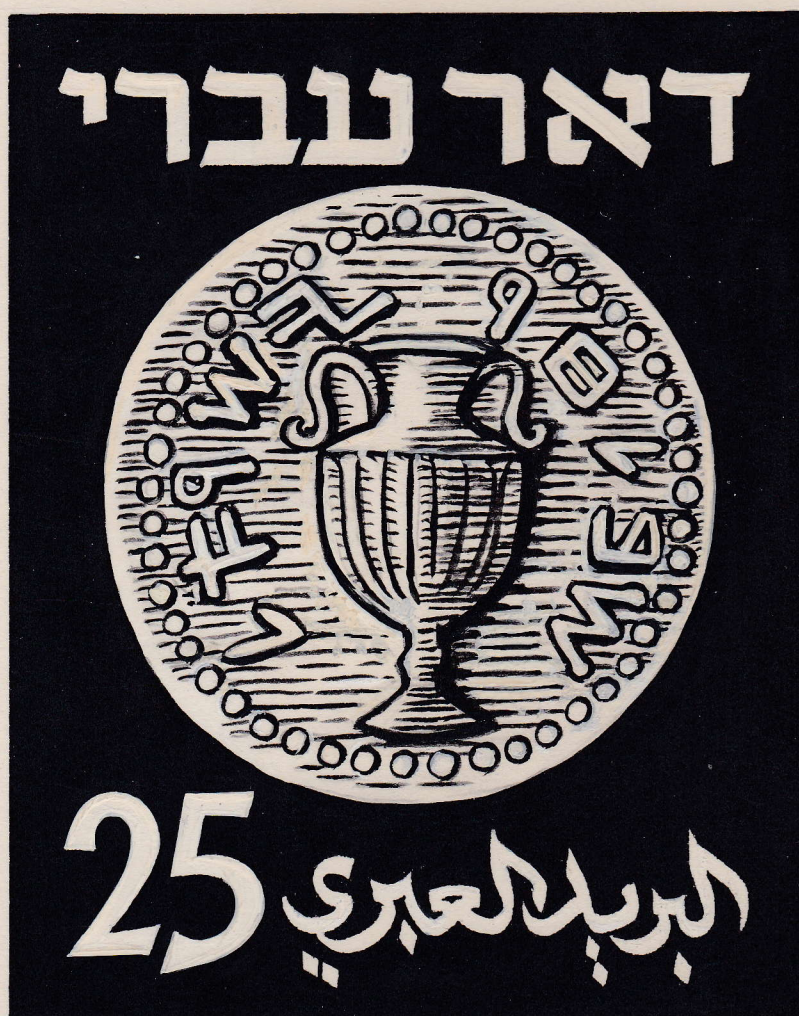
20 Mil accepted design, approximately 6x size of issued stamp

Redrawn design for Plate 2, with thicker Arabic inscription

Figure of value cut out

Ex: O. Wallish Archives





coll/walsh 48

### Doar Ivri Essay

Unaccepted design and value  
Original artwork  
Only one recorded to date.  
Signed: Otte Wallish





5 mil accepted design, approximately six times size of issued stamp  
Redrawn design for Plate 2, with figure value cut out . Thicker Arabic  
Ex: O. Wallish





Block of four of the 5m adopted design.  
Photo essay from the artist's drawing.  
Approximately 2 1/2 times size of issued stamp.  
On matte paper.  
Ex O. Wallish.





Ex: Hesky



**Doar Ivri Issue--Proofs Without Black Frame**

Glazed white paper—ungummed

Similar prints were later made from the plates of all the other values



5



Ex: Hesky





Ex: Hesky



Doar Ivri Issue--Proofs Without Black Frame



Glazed white paper, ungummed  
Plate 1-clear impressions



Proofs with Black Frame



C

White glazed ungummed paper. Uncleared Plate

Only one sheet printed with black frame for this value



Do'ar Ivri Issue—Without Black Frame



S

Plate Number on left !



S



Some proof sheets were printed without plate numbers

Glossy white ungummed paper





↑ ↑  
Albino inverted print of Plate 1 triangle on bottom margin twice  
Ex: Hesky





Original Artwork for 500 Mil

Only one recorded to date.  
Ex: Otte Wallish



## Essay

### Final Design and Color of the 250 mil Denomination



Approximately 1.5 x issued size

Printed on white glazed paper used for the proofs of this issue

Frame and coins printed in green

Background and part of the coins hand painted in green

Lettering and denomination hand painted in white

Artwork is typical for the designer Otto Wallish

Only Example known at the Present Time.





Enlarged approximately 2 ½ x issued size  
Guidelines on all four sides for centering in preparation of printing plates

S



White glossy paper





Final Adopted Design on Yellowish Wrapping Paper





White Glossy Ungummed Paper



Enlarged black prints  
From redrawn plates  
Note large borders





Without plate number



Ex: Hesky





Ex: Hesky



# Proofs Without Black Frame

Without plate number



Ex Hesky





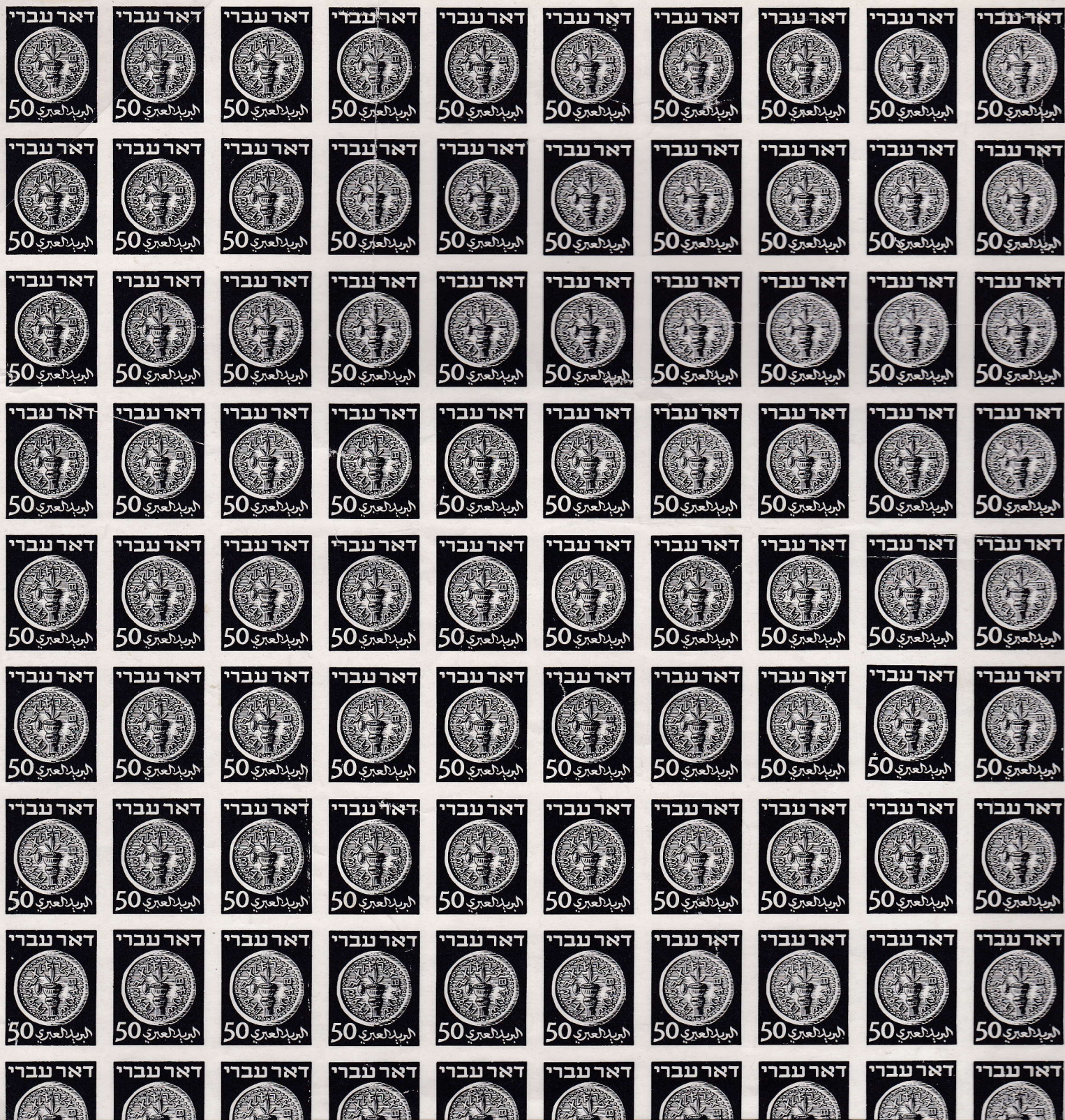
On Newsprint, Ungummed.  
 In order to check the layout and alignment, plate proofs in black on  
 newsprint were pulled even before tabs were added.  
Only one sheet of each high value on newsprint.  
 No low values printed except 5 mil.





On chalky paper  
 Date of printing top right corner 7 October 48  
 Date of issue April 1949





Complete proof sheet  
Only recorded example 50mil Plate 2



Original color proof of the Doar Ivri set on Broadway Cigarette paper. Handwritten remarks of Mr. Otte Wallish, the designer of the stamps in the margin.



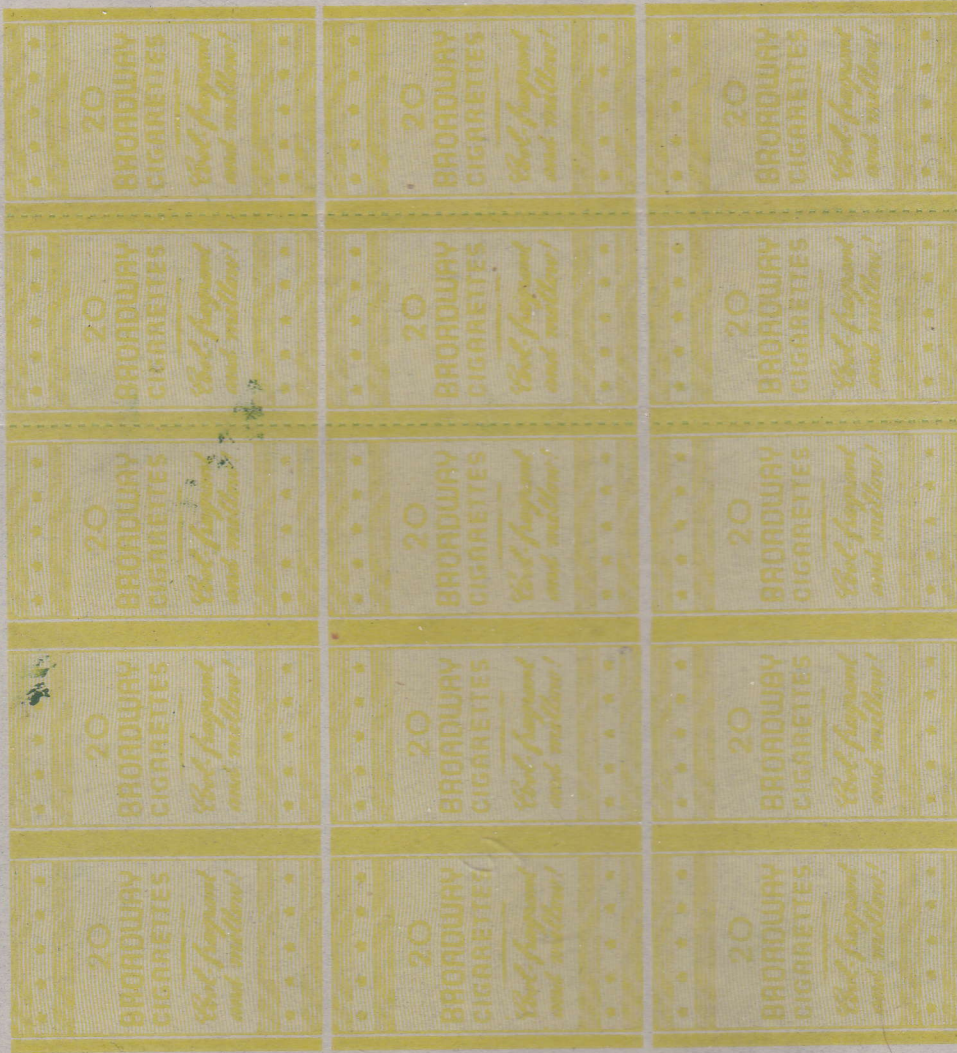
*Marshall  
3  
trial*

*One Orange Sp 6*

For security reasons, the color proofs were first run on Broadway Cigarette paper. These exist in several shades as well as the final colors. Handwritten remarks of the designer, Otte Wallish, are in the margin.



Mander Primrose Chrome Yellow (Light Shade) for 3 Mil Value-"Broadway Sheet"



8

Mander Primrose Chrome yellow 8



Magenta Doar Ivri Color Trial of 10 mil Value  
"Broadway Sheet"  
Signed: Wallish

Original color proof of the Doar Ivri set on Broadway Cigarette paper



38 - Marked  
(10) *Wallish*



*+ per*

(6)

*Winstone Magenta*



Red Doar Ivri Color Trial of 15 mil Value

"Broadway Sheet"

Signed: Wallish



Marked

15

Wallish



(3)

~~Handwritten~~ ~~Glenn~~ ~~Cramer~~

Coates signal Red



Winston Oriental Blue Colored Trial for 20 Mil Value-"Broadway Sheet"

Issued color for 20 Mil Value  
Signed: Wallish



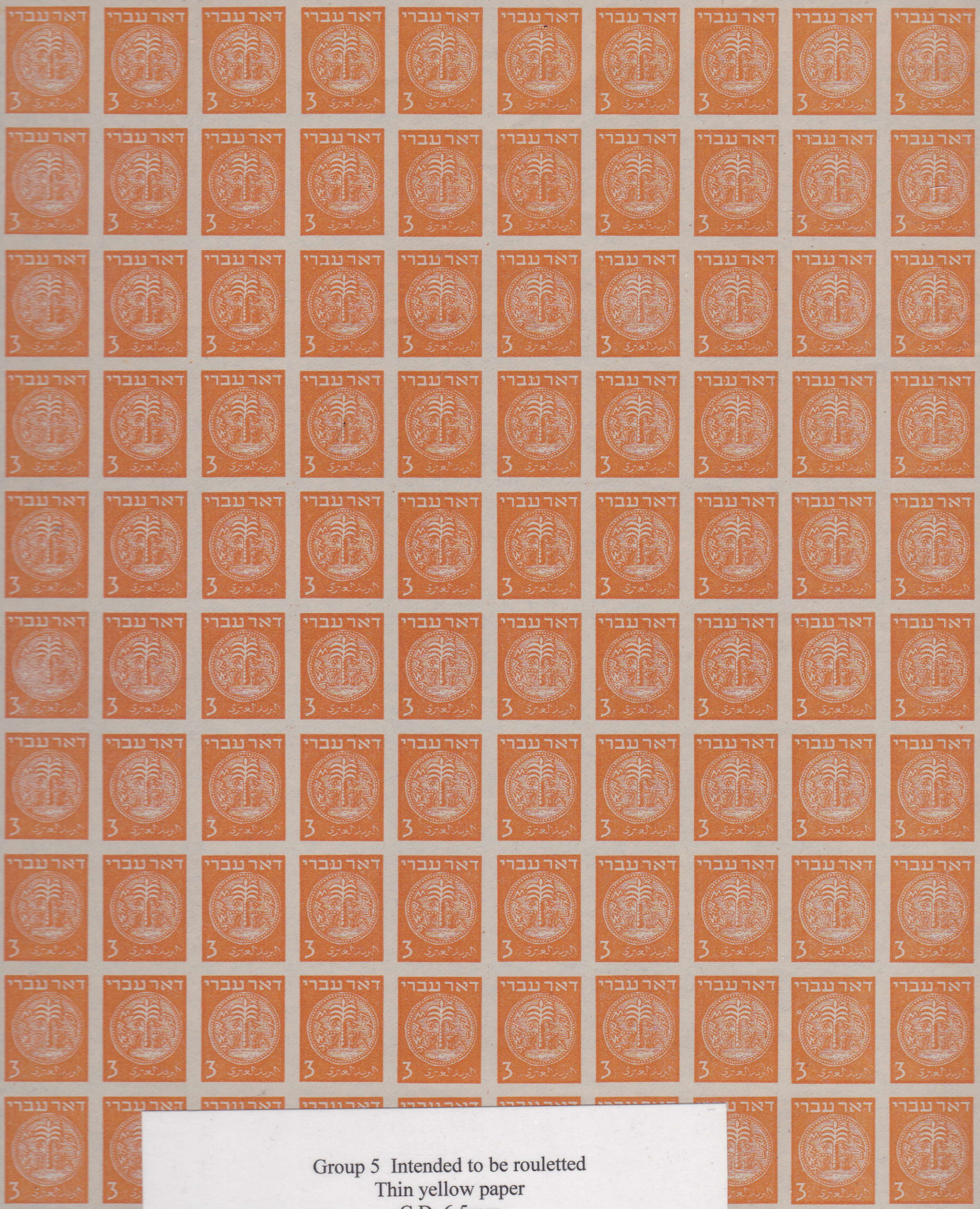
Universal  
20 value



(4)

Winstone Oriental Blue





Group 5 Intended to be rouletted  
Thin yellow paper  
C.D. 6.5mm  
Printed May 1948

מטבע ברונזה  
המכבים  
או המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"לגאלת ציון"

מטבע ברונזה  
מתקופת המכבים  
או המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"לגאלת ציון"



Proof -5ml

Early Printing  
Light green



Underinked



Canal Variety



Horizontal black line across pairs, never seen previously reason unknown-perhaps indicating rejection  
Ex: Hesky

Star Control Printed on LEFT Margin!

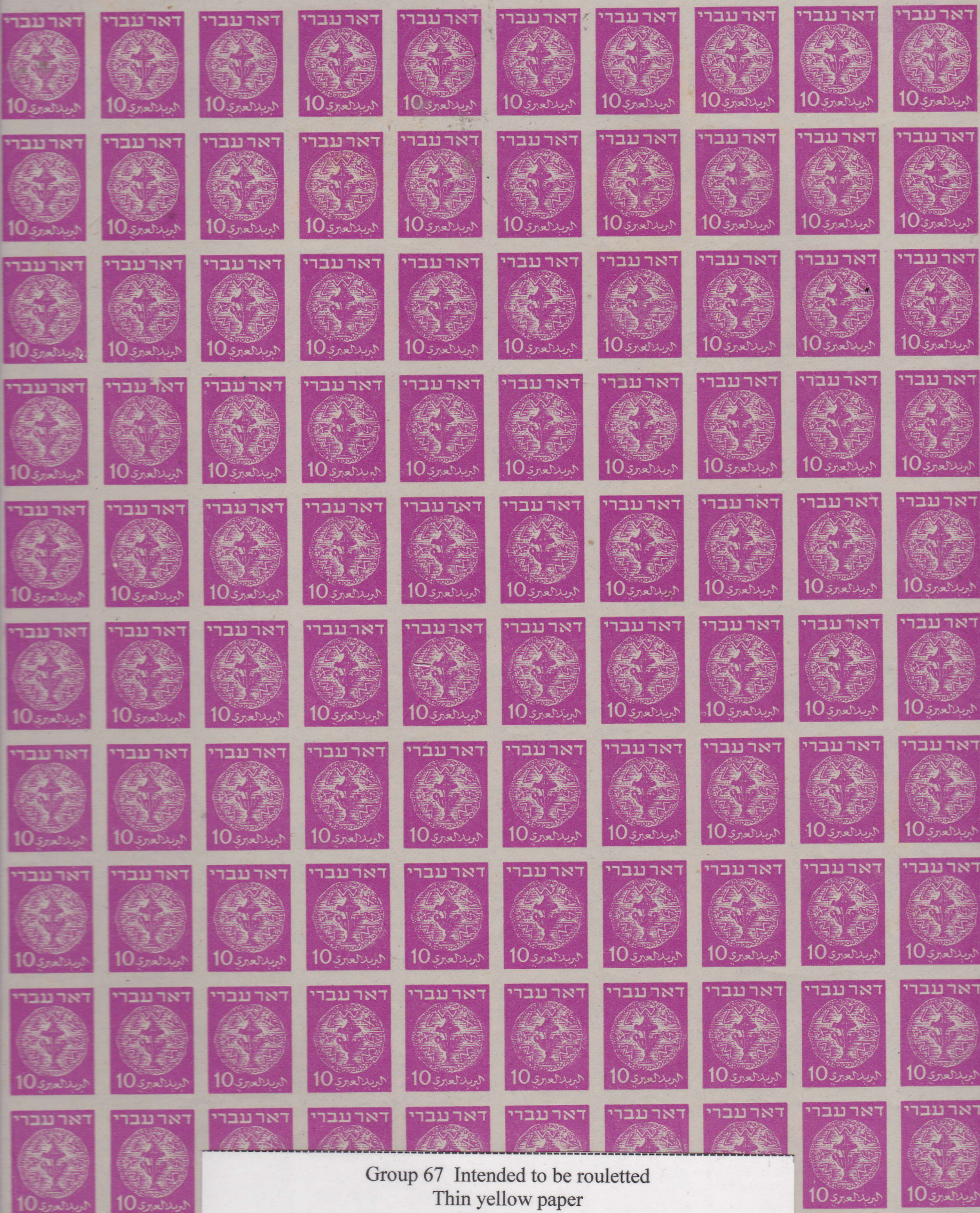


No Star on Margin  
With 4 small slugs holding star  
(Negative Print)  
Never seen previously

Setting A -TD 5.75mm  
Types 1,2

C





Group 67 Intended to be rouletted

Thin yellow paper

C.D. 21mm

Printed May 19, 1948

מסבע ברוגזה  
מתקופת  
המור הראשון  
הכתובת :  
"שנת שלוש"

מסבע ברוגזה  
מתקופת  
המור הראשון  
הכתובת :  
"שנת שלוש"

מסבע ברוגזה  
מתקופת  
המור הראשון  
הכתובת :  
"שנת שלוש"

מסבע ברוגזה  
מתקופת  
המור הראשון  
הכתובת :  
"שנת שלוש"



79



For Perf. 11

Star Right CD: 13

June, 1948

Transparent

Two sheets recorded.





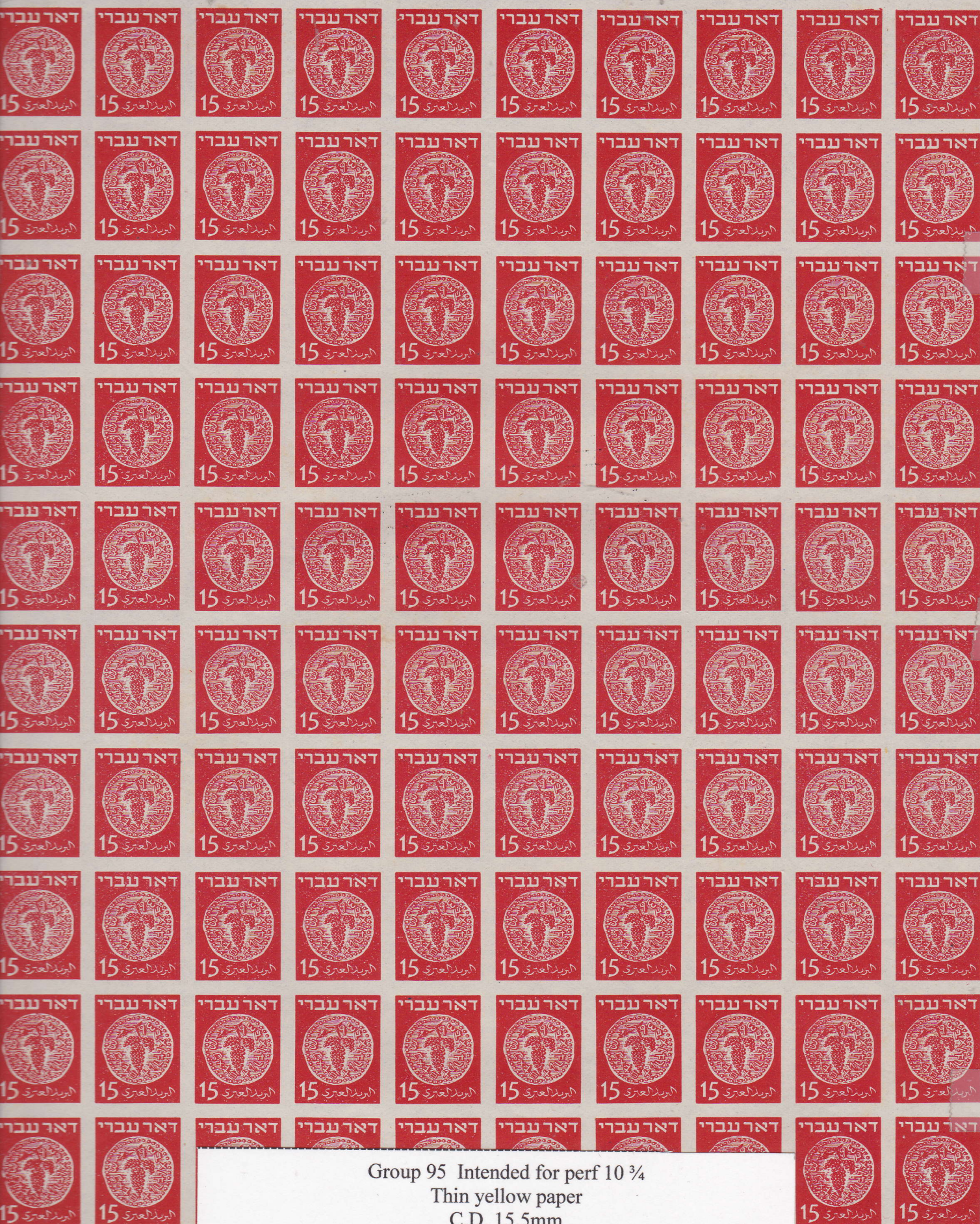
**Proof-10 Mil Magenta Violet**

On Thin Paper Without Gum



Only second item known on this type of paper  
Most proofs were usually on thin yellow or white glazed paper





Group 95 Intended for perf 10  $\frac{3}{4}$

Thin yellow paper

C.D. 15.5mm

Printed May 16, 1948

מטבע מתקופת  
המדר השני :  
"שנת אחת"  
לגאולת ישראל

מטבע מתקופת  
המדר השני :  
"שנת אחת"  
לגאולת ישראל





Numbering Machine with Slug Inverted in Press running from bottom to top

Approved shade from finished plate

Thin yellow paper-Original gum

Very Rare



Brownish Red



S



Proof Group 95  
Red

One sheet Recorded Imperf  
Two sheets recorded Perf 10  
One sheet recorded Perf 10  
Printed on gum side



Offset



C.D.15.5 Perf 10.75 Group- thin yellow  
Slug on reverse First Printing May 1948





No tabs

Block of 24. Largest piece known.  
Only one sheet known in Blue Violet.  
 Plate Block has red slug.



# Colored Trials and Proofs

122



S,C



S,C

Perf 10 X 11 Slug 21  
Thin Yellow  
Highest Plate No. for group 122 Imperf 3988



Light blue



C

Printed on gum side

4 Pairs recorded

Central stamp with printing variety

"Bet" and "Resh" joined, "Resh" with blob at foot

Carmin Red – On Thin Light Yellowish Ungummed

Less than 15 copies recorded

Blue-Adjacent Blocks on very light yellowish paper ungummed



Plate 1---Setting A---May 1948  
Thin Yellow Paper  
Sheets 001-4999



Types 2, 2

T.D. 5.5 mm

Setting arrangement: 1,2,2,2,1,2,3,2,2,4

Ex: Hesky





May 16, 1948

Slug 15 1/2  
Dark Green

Medium White

Signed: Perzleman

Color Proofs

Thin Yellow Paper



May 16, 1948

Slug 15 1/2



Dark Green



Inadvertently printed on Thin Yellow Paper used for first printing of the six low value.  
Four sheets recorded imperf.



Colored Trial-500 Mil

May 16, 1948 Yellow  
SR 14 ½  
155.1



Control Distance 15

\$

Proofs  
SR 14  
155



Control Distance 15 ½



Control Distance 15 ½ (Normal is 14)  
Brown



Thin Yellowish Card, Ungummed

C



ONLY ONE KNOWN  
No Star - No Running Number



Dark Blue-2nd Part



Color Trial

SR 17

Blue



Proof

SR 17

Blue





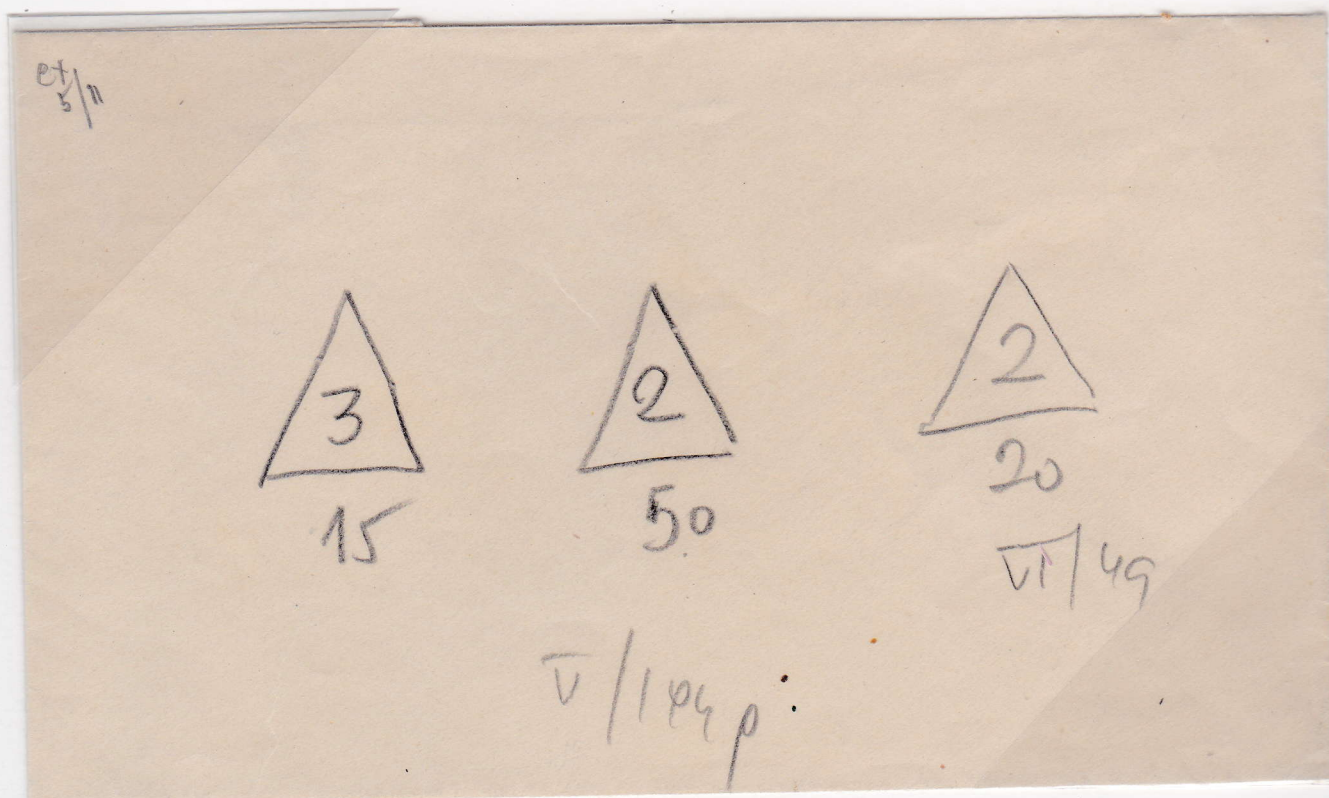


Heavy strong impression from second part of printing (darker)  
 Strong offset on reverse. Largest piece known to date  
 Ex Hesky

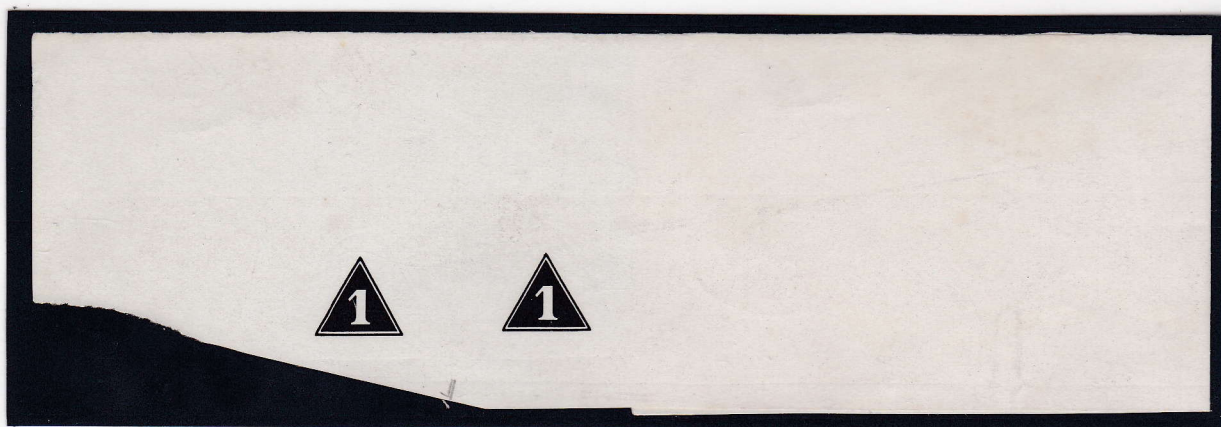


**Plate No. Designs and Proof**

Pencil Sketch of Three Plate Numbers with Denominations



Presumed month of issue marked beneath, all on front of white envelope



Proof Impression of Plate Number "1" in black on the ungummed white glazed paper used for plate proofs  
Unique-from Otto Wallish's files



Mandate Postmarks

Kefar Behadruga

EXPERIMENTAL VERTICAL ROULETTING



Perforated 11 with experimental vertical rouletting  
Addressed to Tel Aviv  
Mandate Postmarks Kefar Behadruga C 15 JU 1948  
Backstamped: Same x 2

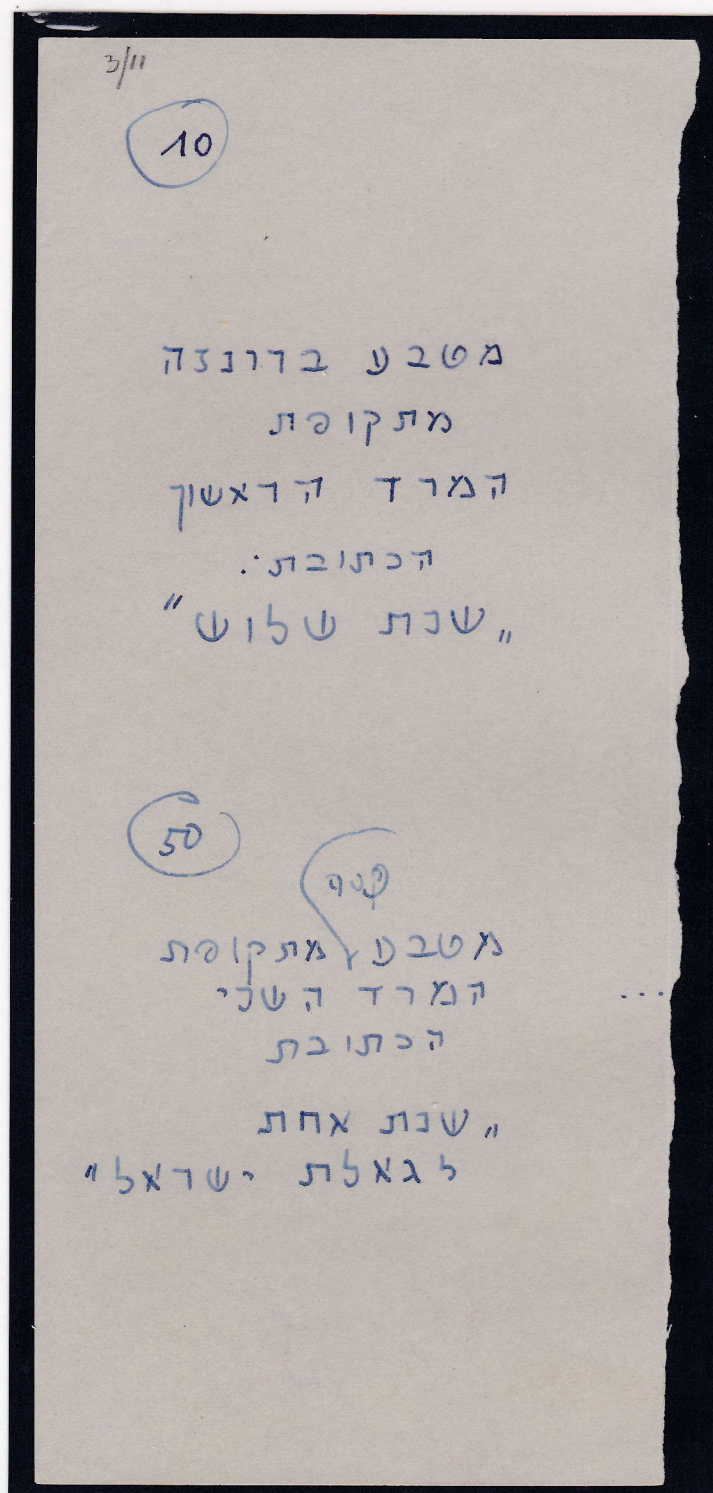


Imperf experimental vertical rouletting  
Signed: Otte Wallish



## Tab Inscriptions

Working Page from Designer Otto Wallish



Tab Inscriptions for 10mil and 50mil denominations  
Hand written in Hebrew in blue pen  
Unique



# stamps with tabs



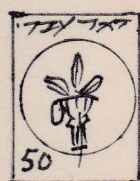
מטבע ברונזה  
מתקופת  
המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"שנת שלוש"



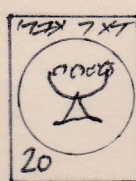
מטבע ברונזה  
מתקופת  
המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"חרות ציון"



מטבע ברונזה  
מתקופת המכבים  
או המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"לגאלת ציון"



מטבע מתקופת  
המרד השני  
הכתובת:  
"שנה אחת  
לגאולת ישראל"



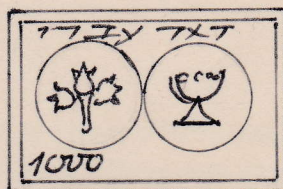
שקל כסף  
מהשנה השניה  
של  
המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"שקל ישראל שב"



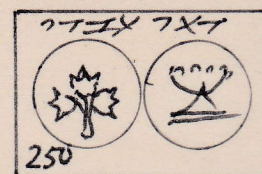
מטבע מתקופת  
המרד השני:  
"שנה אחת  
לגאולת ישראל"



שקל כסף מהשנה השלישית  
של המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"שקל ישראל • ירושלים  
הקדושה" "שב"



שקל כסף מהשנה הרביעית  
של המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"שקל ישראל • ירושלים  
הקדושה" "שב"



שקל כסף מהשנה השניה  
של המרד הראשון  
הכתובת:  
"שקל ישראל • ירושלים  
הקדושה" "שב"

TAB PROOFS 3-1000 Mils

Artist's hand drawing in black cream on cream colored card

Approved tab inscriptions typewritten on small pieces of thin card stock below drawings of each value

Signed: Otte Wallish Previously unrecorded

C



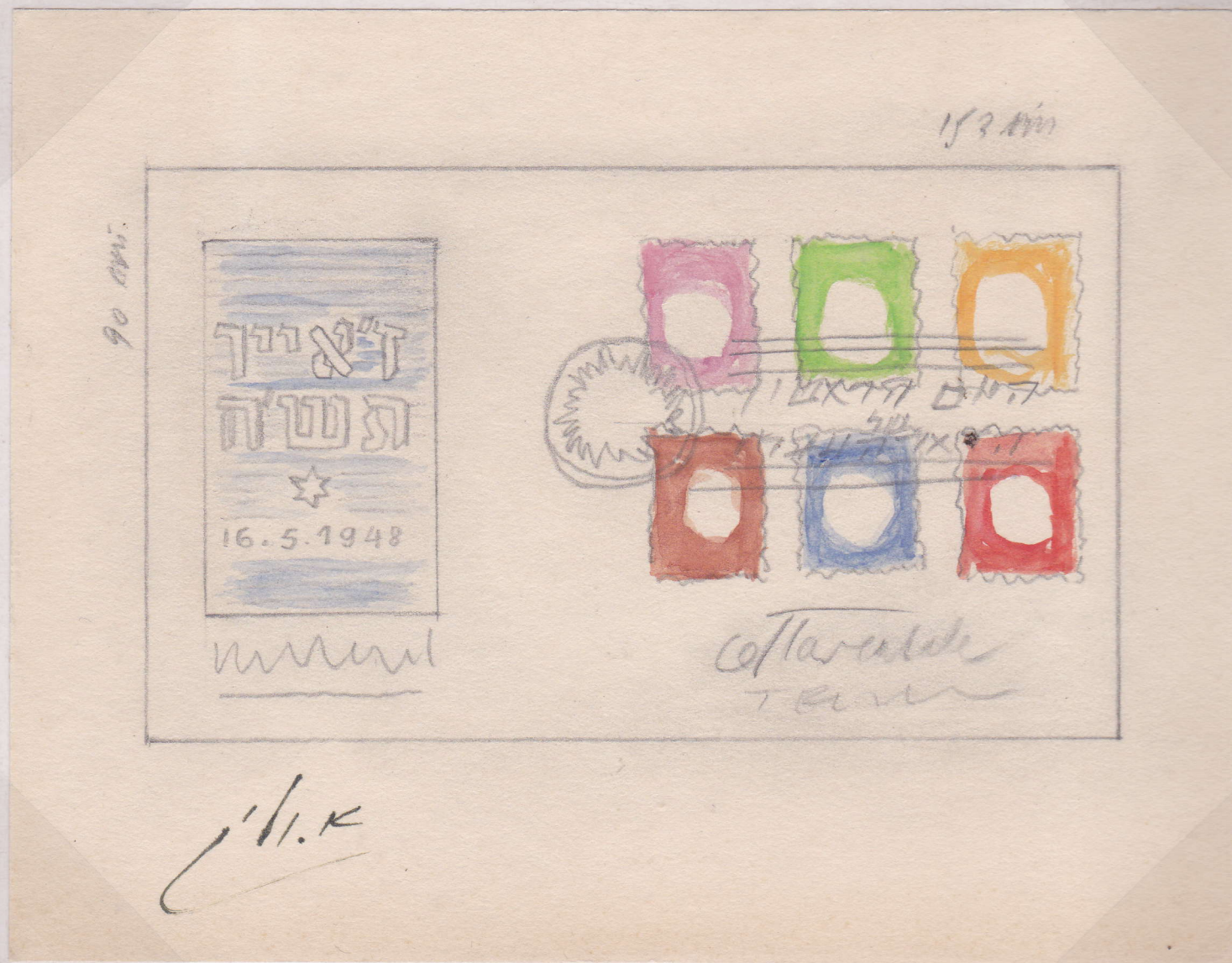
Vignette for First Day Cover



Original Drawing of Cachet  
for First Day Cover  
Final Adopted Design  
Inscribed O. Wallish  
Only one recorded.



Essay for First Day Cover Showing Stamp Colors



Vignette different from final version and other early design.

Original artwork

Only one recorded to date.

Signed: Otte Wallish