

EGYPT

The First Portrait Issue



A Compilation Since 1928

John Sears

THE FIRST FUAD PORTRAIT ISSUE

The Perforations (Single Comb Perforator used throughout)

Perforation trials for the small format stamps are printed on gummed paper, those below each having Watermark 3



Blocks showing vertical and horizontal perforations, but in each case they measure 14, whereas the issued stamps (1m - 15m) were $13\frac{1}{2}$.

As far as is known, no trial perforation proofs exist for the 20m - £1 stamps. However there is something of an oddity about their perforation which measures 14. Like the smaller stamps, a single comb perforator with sideways travel was used.



Because the pins of the perforator were spaced too closely for the width of the stamp there is a space of about twice the usual distance between the last hole of the left hand stamp & the 1st hole of the right, ie at the left hand corner. If the sheet was fed in in the opposite direction, the gap came at the right hand corner of the stamp. The wider space made separation more difficult resulting in an "ear" being found at top and bottom corners. This feature is found on all the large format stamps.