Plating Guide for the
T. G. Masaryk 125 H

**Knihtisk**
Series 3

Dr. A. Šnoflák and F. Žampach
Augmented by the work of Z. Ryvola and J. Chvalovský

Originally published as
T. G. Masaryk 125h vady a retuše 74-1991
and
Zdeněk Ryvola dodatek ke studii J. Chvalovského T. G. Masaryk 125h vady a retuše

Translated into English with the permission of the
Společnosti sběratelů československých knihtiskových známek
by Mark Wilson

**Knihtisk**

Winchester, Virginia
2007
This study is based upon notes compiled by Dr. A Šnofláš and published in the journal *Filatelie* 12/1975 which were later supplemented by F. Žampach’s lectures. Their observations determined that a printing block of 25 stamps was repeatedly used four times in each of the two etched 100-stamp plates. In addition to their descriptions and drawing of flaws in the plates, they described three flaws in the negatives. The core of their work was the determination of the identification marks for the Type I and Type II stamps, thus demonstrating that this issue was produced using two basic types of printing blocks. They called to our attention the fact that the POFIL catalog failed to characterize the variation of the denomination numerals 125.

Positions not described by the research noted above were added by Zdeněk Ryvola and J. Chvalovský at a later date, published separately in Czech, and incorporated into this English translation for the convenience of collectors.

**Types**

![Types](image_url)
Flaws in the negative (VN)

So far, ten flaws in the negatives have been discovered and confirmed, each of which occurs in a single place in the 25-stamp block.

★ VN A – Gap in the apple leaf on the left side of the stamp (Only for Type I).

★ VN B – Curved notch in the lower left corner, corrected on some stamps (Only for Type I).

★ VN C – Gap in the shading of the decoration to the upper right of the value tablet (Only for Type II).

★ VN D – White splotch under the letter K in ČESKO (Type II).

★ VN E – Colored splotches in the drawing above the Ź in the signature (Only for Type I).

★ VN F – Gap in the lower part of the frame around the image of Masaryk (Only for Type II).

★ VNG – Dot in the upper part of the P’s leg.

★ VNH – Notch from the inner right side of the O in PO.

★ VNI – Dot in the apex of the A in TA.

★ VNJ – Gap in the right end of the border of the right shelf.
Flaws in the Negatives Illustrated

VN A
Type I
Positions: 4, 9, 54, 59

VN B
Type I
Positions: 12, 17, 62, 67

VN C
Type II
Positions: 43, 48, 93, 98

VN D
Type II
Positions: 25, 30, 75, 80
**KNIGHTS**

Series 3: T.G. Masaryk 125h Blue

**VN E**
Type I
Positions: 35, 40, 85, 90

**VN F**
Type II
Positions: 34, 39, 84, 89

**VN G**
Type I
Positions: 3, 8, 53, 58

**VN H**
Type I
Positions: 5, 10, 55, 60
In the quartered illustration below are indicated the location on both plates of Type I stamps (light squares), Type II stamps (dark squares), and VN (lettered squares). The star [*] in position 80 refers to the short base on the numeral 2 found only on Plate II.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VN I</th>
<th>Type I</th>
<th>Positions: 42, 47, 92, 97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VN J</td>
<td>Type I</td>
<td>Positions 14, 19, 64, 69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>H</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>J</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>H</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>J</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>H</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>J</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>H</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>J</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Remaining Flaws
In addition to these ten flaws in the negatives, on each 100-stamp pane of stamps printed from both plates were a set of other flaws, those which occurred during the etching of the blocks as well as several that happened during the printing run.

 Corrections (Retouches, RVN)
Because corrected flaws in the stamps are not primary flaws, one may assume that each correction was done on the plates before they were used to print the stamps:

★  RVN, position 17, Plate I, Type I: Colored splotch on the shading left of the Numerals 125.

★  RVN, position 12, Plate II, Type I: White spot on the jacket’s lapel.

★  RVN, position 67, Plate II, Type I: White spot on the frame around the portrait.

★  RVN, position 77, Plate II, Type I: Colored mark over the head.

Pairs of Types
All 24 Type II stamps on both plates form horizontal or vertical parings with Type I stamps, so-called type-pairs, which are scarce in the vertical half. Along with the dominant paired types, it is possible to collect stamps from either plate, centered on the Type II in position 80 with a short numeral 2, paired in the horizontal direction with position 79. Collectors are also interested in vertical paired types from position 80 paired with position 70 or position 80 paired with position 90.

An evaluation of the stamps and paired types used to support the research behind the study of these stamps was given in the catalog published by the Society for Collectors of Typographic Stamps in 1991.
Postal Use
The stamps were most often used for registered mail between September 23 1920 and January 31 1923, normally with 60h stamps. Some, however, were used as regular postage stamps on package waybills and letters. On occasion, they may be found on postcards sent abroad.