

1898

Issued Under British Sphere of Administration, District of Heraklion (Candia)

handstamped, unwatermarked, imperf

**20pa
violet**

high value stamp

1

1898 -1899

Numeral Design

Litho, perf 11-1/2

1898



2

1898



3 (probably forgery)

1899



4 (probably forgery)

1899



5 mint / used
(mint is probably forgery)

There were only five different stamps issued by the British post offices in and all have been heavily forged. This note looks at the design shared by the four lithographed stamps (#2-5).

There are three main types of forgery:

1. Stamps with correct paper, perforation and colours (produced by the original printers)
2. Stamps similar to 1 but with different perforation and minor differences in color and paper
3. Stamps with poor perforation and printing, usually on toned paper

In all cases the key test is whether the small circle above the central value is complete or not. In the genuine stamp it is complete although usually a bit distorted. *The forgeries only show the top part of the circle*