DESIGN ESSAYS IN BLACK ON GLAZED CARD











These Essays, printed on glazed card stock, imperforate and without gum, show the final design approved by Jose Topacio, the Philippine Director of Posts and Alejandro Garay, Superintendent of Works at the Government Printing Office. The Essays, which show the stamp design in detail far sharper than even the proofs, measure exactly 200% the size of the issued stamps and were printed with the pattern zinc plates used to prepare the copper printing plate line etchings for the background and center of the issued stamps.

Fifty prints were made of the Essays. They were pasted on a large sheet of cardboard in the final sheet format (5 x 10) and two photographic negatives at one-half size (the final stamp dimensions) of each denomination were prepared and a positive copied directly onto a copper sheet welded to a thick metal base. After the line-etching of each of the two copper plates was prepared, one of them had all the centers routed out and the other plate had the frame routed away leaving the centers only. For each denomination, there were then two plates, one having a complete sheet of frames and one having a complete sheet of central vignettes.