



ISLANDS *Kontakt*

SPECIAL # 6 2018 v.3 - ARDROSSAN

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Ardrossan is a town on the North Ayrshire coast in southwestern Scotland SW of Glasgow north of Troon and Air, where River Clyde from Glasgow reach the see Firth of Clyde).

Mentioned by Robertson E.10, where you can see and old ship letter –too old to be on an Icelandic mail!

I "Scottish Twin-arc Postmarks with stampers' Numbers" by Mackay there are shown tree versions of the same stamp – stampers # 1. (Mackay's # 759, 760 and 761). # 759 was delivered 16.11.1906, renovated (# 760) 29.05.1911 and totally renewed (# 761) from 26.01.1915.

Pór Þorsteins has compiled the list of sailings paid for caring mail from Iceland, and that is the basis for the registration – but other dates can appear, but then there are no amount registered for caring the mail.

There is some unused space if you print, but to clarify each transport they are separated.

Before known use om mail from Iceland:



The different transports with mail are recorded in the following system:

Ship	Departure	From	Arrival	To	Payments - remarks
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1906

The first one is "another way round": Trangisvaag - Copenhagen and then Reykjavik:

SS Modesta	25.09.1906	Trangisvaag	SP 29 05	Ardrossan	01.10.1906 arrived in Copenhagen
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And:

??	01.10.1906	Copenhagen		Reykjavik	
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1907

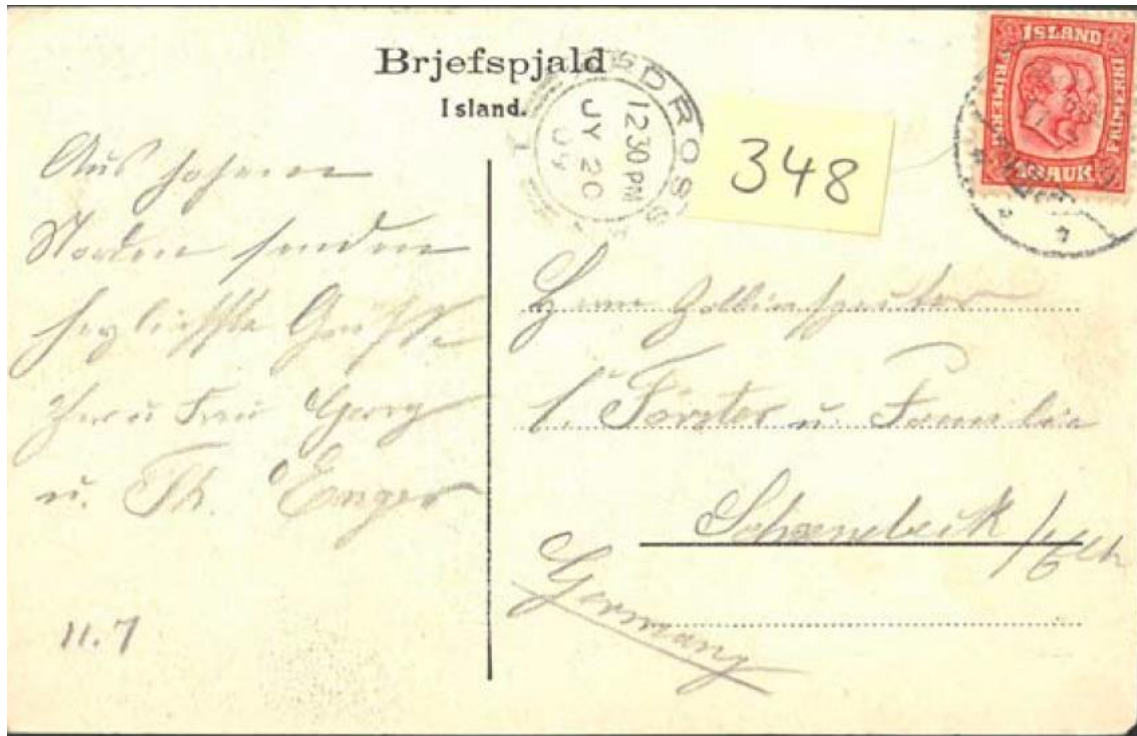
RAU	22.08.1907	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	4KR.
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MODESTA	17.09.1907	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	2KR.
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1909

MODESTA	14.07.1909	REYKJAVIK	20.07.1909 Type 759	ARDROSSAN	3KR.
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A copy has also found its way to Iceland Philatelic Magazine Issue 3: "Ardrossan – An unusual transit mark" Ole Svinth





Ardrossan is rather uncommon as a transit mark on mail from Iceland. The postcard is over franked by 3 aur as the postcard rate was 10 aur. The Ardrossan postmark July 20th 1909 is very nice and clean on this card which was seen on the internet. The price 400 USD looks a little too high to find a customer. The card was cancelled Reykjavik July 11th 1909. A 9 days journey seems to be quite long. Yet to be seen is a letter cancelled at Ardrossan as the first treatment by postal authorities. Hitherto only known as a transit mark."

The copy is from eBay – and on the back of the card is and old friend: OCEANA.



Oceana is a part of the story of Queenstown – and now a part of the story of Adrossan – but she did not go to Queenstown and not to Adrossan. She took two summercruise from 1906 until 1910 (only one in 1908). She went to Spitsberg so that stamp must have been awalabel on bordt¹.



OCEANA was on cruise:



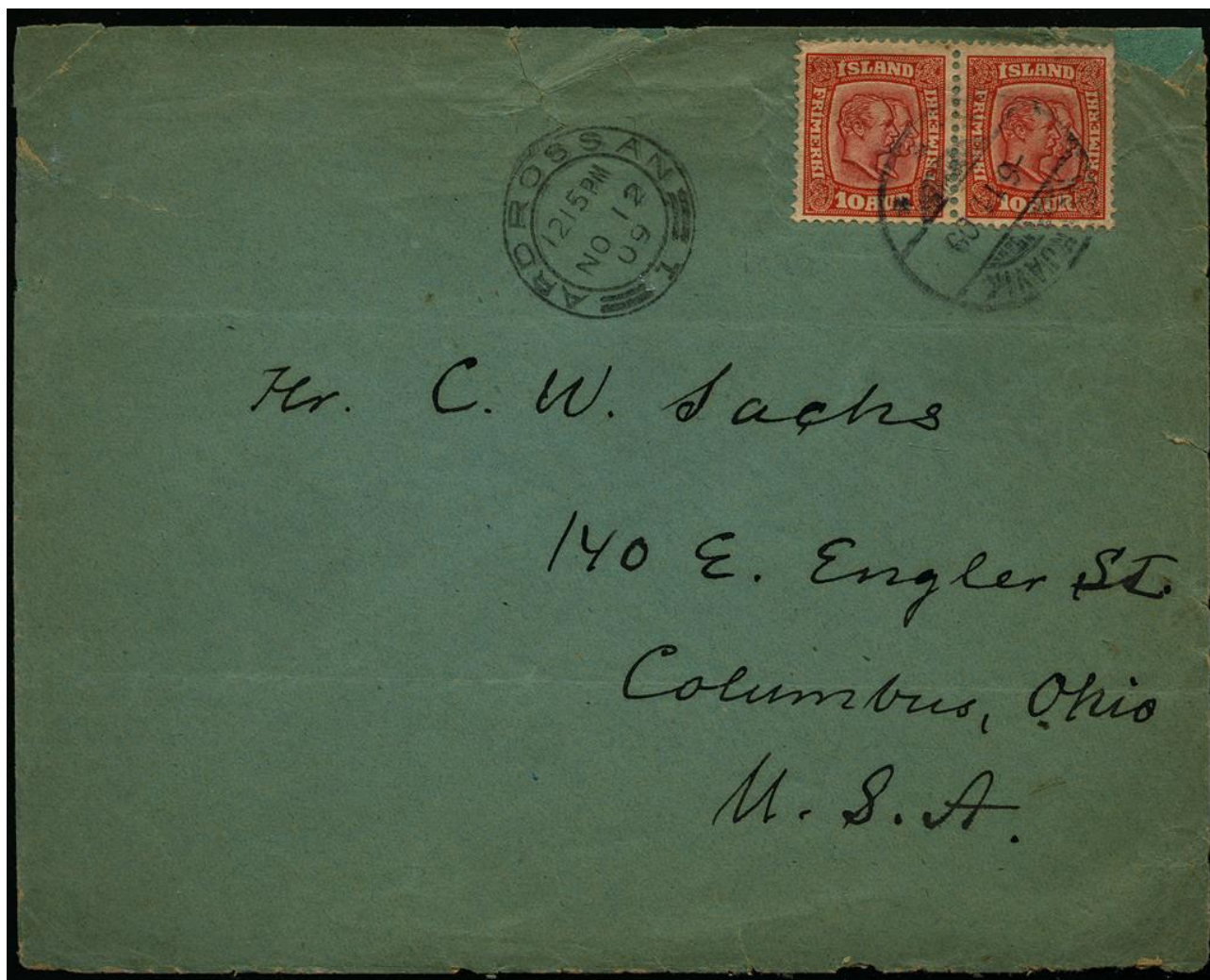
The "Oceana" in Adventfjorden.

¹ Same kind of franking is known from 1910 canceled in Blyth – but from SS Grosser Kurfürst

And going back – the mail is all adressed to germany – and that gives sense.

She arived in Reykjavik 11th of July 1908 and Modesta took over carring the mail from the passengers.

CONDOR ²	17.08.1909	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	1KR.
MODESTA	06.11.1909	REYKJAVIK	NO 12 09	ARDROSSAN	2KR.



MODESTA	23.06.1910	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	2KR.
MODESTA	24.06.1910	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	50AUR.

²Probably the one built in 1895 as the British cargo ship LESTRIS by Wigham Richardson, England for the Cork S.S.Co Ltd, Cork. In 1904 she was bought by Argo Dampfschiffahrts Gesellschaft - Richard Adler & Söhne and renamed **CONDOR**. In 1913 she sold and renamed EUGINIE.

1910

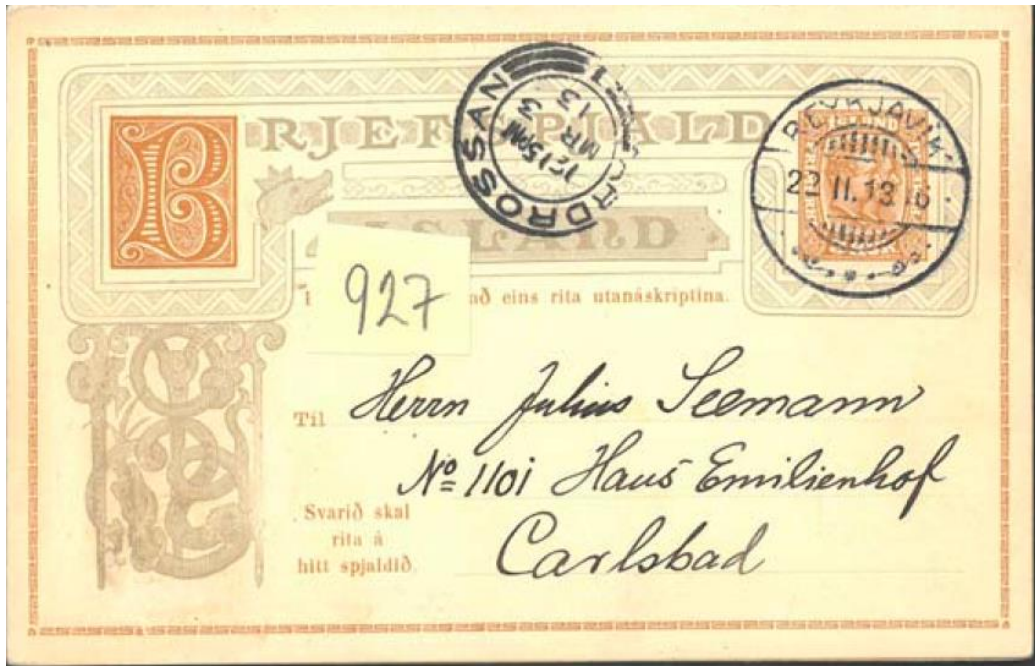
EROS	12.07.1910	REYKJAVIK	18.07.1910 Type 759	ARDROSSAN	1KR. til USA
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MODESTA	26.09.1910	REYKJAVIK		ARDROSSAN	1KR.
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1913

?	22.02.1913	REYKJAVIK	03.03.1913 type 760	ARDROSSAN	Til Carlsbad
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Heinrich Schilling also show a copy cancelled MR 3 1913 and send to Herrn Julius Seemann. It might be the Julius Seemann born June 30, 1890 in Frankfurt, Hesse, Germany, who died October 9, 1914. Killed in WW1. I have not seen the text on the cards, so the sender is unknown.



There are properly more examples – please respond with your supplements.

References:

Alan W. Robertsson: A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles (volume II) – reprinted edition by Colin Tabart 1983.

Mackay: "Scottish Twin-arc Postmarks with stampers' Numbers".

Heinrich Schilling: "Fremde Anlagesstempel auf Islandpost" 1996.

Ole Svinth: Iceland Philatelic Magazine Issue 3.

Copies from auction catalogs.