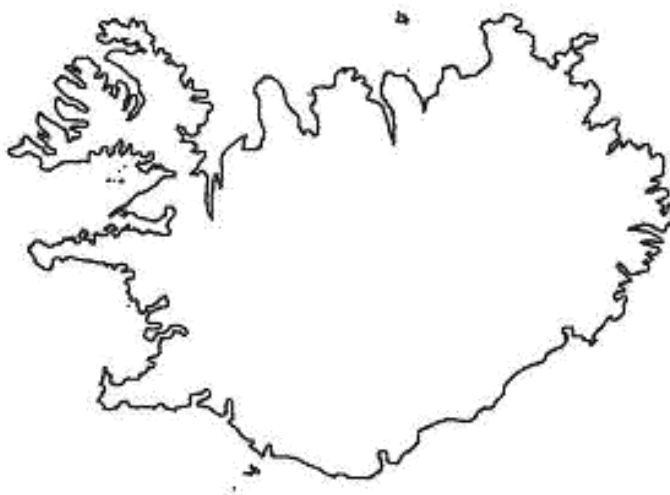
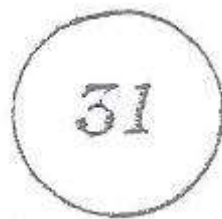


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine


Contents	Page
News/comment	3
Late use of numeral 110 (Issue 11)	3
Was this cancel ever used here (2) (Issue 11)	3
Registered Mail – Edinburgh cancellation in use from 1873 - possible on mail relating to Iceland (Part 1) <i>Jakob S. Arrevad</i>	4
Iceland Gazetteer Part 5 <i>David Loe</i>	9
Interesting messages on aerogrammes (2)	13
A Rolls Royce cover seen on Ebay (Issue 11)	13
Slogans used at OMK (artering) post office in Copenhagen - Part 2	14
Problems in China (Issue 11) <i>Brian Stwalley</i>	19
Imperforate Iceland Block Nordia '84 Thomas <i>Graungaard</i>	19
The PORTOBELLO “mystery” postcards! <i>Jakob S. Arrevad</i>	20
Can anyone say what this item is? <i>Leif Nilsson</i>	23
Analysis of how Iceland lots fared in two Postiljonen auctions... and What a difference a “Name Sale” makes <i>Roger Cichorz</i>	24
Too much and too late?	26
Was this cancel ever used here? (3)	27
World War II question <i>Ellis Glatt</i>	28

Please let me have your articles for the next issue which will be December. If you need help with translations, just ask, or leave it to the editors.
 flackbp@gmail.com



Post office news - courtesy of Vilhjálmur Sigurðsson of Íslands Póstur.

A new B8b1 Colop cancel came into use at Egilsstaðir from 4.10.2016.

 Another change came at Eskifjörður with effect from 5th October. The Íslands Póstur office closed and the postal service moved to another address in the town to link with Samkaup, the food store chain. This involves no change as far as the collector is concerned. Some of you may have noticed my careless mistake in Issue 11, when I gave Vilhjálmur the wrong surname, for which I have apologized profusely.

[illegible]

Late use of numeral 110 (Issue 11)



Brian Stwalley sent this fine example of a post-1930 use of 110 to add to the use on a 1930 Flag stamp shown in Issue 11. I asked Jørgen Steen Larsen to comment. This is what he said:-

Brian,

This is a very nice strike. It is a little unusual that it is with bluish ink, so I have compared with what I have got from Hesteyri in this period. I have got B1a Hesteyri with bluish ink on 2*5 aur Jochumsson 14.7.36 and on 20 aur Gullfoss 17.3.38 also with bluish ink.

This means the color of the ink on the Jochumsson stamp is correct for the period. We may have 2 commercial usages of N1a-110 from the period 1936 – 1939. When we find one more, we can add this to Facit.

Best, Jørgen

(Ed. Over to the readers - any more examples please?)

[illegible]

Was this cancel ever used here? (2) Issue 11



B2b Finnbogastaðir - Eivind Kolstad has come up with useful information, which probably denies the probability of this cancel being used at Bær at all. He has written confirmation from the postal official at Bær, who informed him that the B8b Bær Árneshreppur cancel was available from “October” 1995, (the office opened on 1.10.1995) and not 13.12.1995 as recorded in P.P.’s book). It is reasonable to say therefore that as the new cancel was probably available around the time of opening there is a good reason to discount the use of B2b Finnbogastaðir at Bær.

However there is a twist in the tale, which is that the B2b Finnbogastaðir was still in her table drawer (not untypical), and the kind Bær official took pity on Eivind and sent him the illustrated example of B2b Finnbogastaðir dated 20.4.1996. As Eivind says, we can hardly claim this to be evidence of proper use at Bær!

Images provided by Eivind

Registered Mail - Edinburgh cancellation in use from 1873 - possible on mail relating to Iceland (Part 1) Jakob S. Arrevad

In Iceland Philatelic Magazine Issue 10 on page 20 there is some information regarding Edinburgh cancellations under the heading: "Edinburgh at bottom".

The information is overall correct, but a "special type of postmark for registered mail" was used from the 1780s, and there are many different – here we are concentrating on examples from the time of Iceland mail. The registered cancellation was normally not used on the stamps but on the back of the letter/card.

James A. Mackay: Scottish Postmarks has in chapter 16 from page 97 descriptions of "REGISTERED" cancellations and different examples are shown as # 1150, 1153-1158, 1162 -1163.

1.1 Single ring

1.1.1 Single ring - No number – no letter.

Originally, from 1859 – Kirkwood proof book. Not used on mail from Iceland.



1.1.2 Single ring - No number but letter

- Originally Mackay 1162. (Later example from the Kirkwood proof book)



And in the proof book as late as 1915:



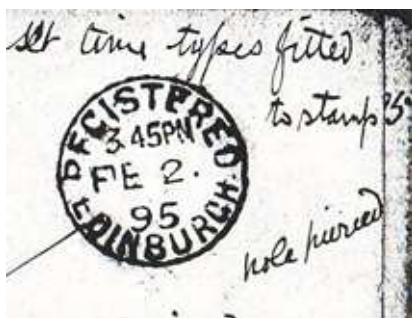
1.1.2.1 Single ring and only the letter R

From 1867 until 1880 there was a little single ring stamp with an R per Mackay 1193.



1.1.3 Single ring - No number but with time

– Mackay 1163 – from 1895



This cancel was refurbished in 1902.



Kirkwood

1.2 Double ring No 1-5 "REGISTERED" og "EDINBURGH" – number over the date.

Per Mackay they are from 1882/83 (Mackay # 1185), and they are combined with time code letter. Introduced in 1882

1.2.1 Stamp number 1:



Kirkwood proof

1.2.2 Stamp number 2:



Kirkwood proof

1.2.3 Stamp number 3



Kirkwood proof



1.2.4 Stamp number 4:



Kirkwood proof

1.2.5 Stamp number 5:



Kirkwood proof



1.2.6 Stamp number 6 and 7 – NB! One circle

Mackay: "In the early years of the century Edinburgh had a number of single stamps with identifying numerals flanking the inscriptions" (1167).

One could get the idea, that numbers 6 and 7 simply are additional to the above two-ring stamps with number one to five – and that is why I describe them here – and no 6 gets two rings.

The Mackay example (1167) is from November 1917 and with the number "6"

I have an example from 1911 – but also here number "6"



In the Kirkwood proof book, I have found a proof from 1914 – and here number "6", and the date/month was changed in 1916:



In 1948 no 6 has two rings – found on e-bay.



In addition, in the proof book there is number "7" - New proof in November 1917:



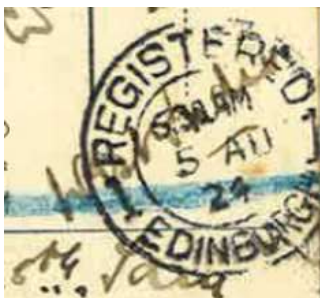
1.3 Two rings and a number between "REGISTERED" and "EDINBURGH".

It is # 1189 at Mackay. Used from 1895 (?) until 1930 (?)

1.3.1 Number 1



Kirkwood proof



To be continued

PART 5 – SNÆFELLSNES og HNAPPADALSSÝSLA

This county is a clearly defined peninsular in mid- west Iceland, dominated by the beautiful Snæfellsjökull volcano, perhaps better known to the general public as scene of Jules Verne's 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth'. The farms are spread along the coastal belt with the mountainous spine of the peninsular completely uninhabited and having only two road crossings.

The largest town is Stykkishólmur, on the north coast, and the total population of the region has only recently risen above 4,000 from 3,500 at the turn of the century.



5.1 KOLBEINSSTAÐARHREPPUR

On the main road around the south coast, just before it crosses the Eldborgarhraun lava field are the three farms of Ystu-Garðar, Miðgarður and Syðstu-Garðar (upper, mid and south respectively). The first office was opened at Miðgarður 14.5.1891 and closed 31.12.1892 but no cancels are known. The collecting office was opened at Ystu-Garðar 1.1.1917 and used number 178 in types N1a and N2 and Swiss type B2a. N1a broke or was destroyed around 1922 and was replaced by the new, smaller cancel. The office was moved to Syðstu-Garðar 31.12.1946, closed 31.12.1971 and number 178 (N2 – last known used 1948) and the old Swiss cancel from Ystu-Garðar.

Other spellings and references:

Ystu-Garðar known as Garðar (1) and Yztu-Garðar

Syðstu-Garðar known as Garðar (2)



5.2 EYJAHREPPUR.



Continuing along the main road, after a few kilometres it crosses the Haffjarðará where there is a small farming community. A collecting office was opened in 1.1.1874 (moved from Miklaholt 5.3) at Rauðkollsstaðir but was changed to post office status 31.12.1874 using the Miklaholt provincial cancel. However, in 1875 the post office was moved to Hjarðarholt and Rauðkollsstaðir reverted to its original status from 1.1.1877. The post office was reopened in 1.1.1881 and closed 31.12.1899 moving to Miklaholt and again using the Miklaholt cancel. This is despite a statement in S.T.I. (postal report) of 1884, that in 1875 the

Dalasýsla provincial postmark was used at Rauðkollsstaðir.

Finally the office moved from Dalsmynni (2) for the calendar year 1923 and again from 1.1.1925 to 31.12.1962 when it returned for the final time to Dalsmynni (2). Cancels used were number 185 and Swiss type B2a. Rauðkollsstaðir was known as Hnappadalssýsla in the post office record book of 1890.

Dalsmynni (2) was open 1.1.1919 (moved from Akurholt) to 31.12.1922 and again for the calendar year 1924 (from and returned to Rauðkollsstaðir), also using number 185.

Akurholt is the last office in the parish to mention and it was open as a collecting office from 1.1.1907 to 31.12.1918 when it was moved to Dalsmynni (2). 185 was used in this time.

5.3 MIKLAHOLTSHREPPUR.

The original post office was opened at MIKLAHOLT 1.1.1873 and used a provincial postmark until 31.12.1874 (see 5.2 above). The post office was moved from Rauðkollsstaðir to Miklaholt from 1.1.1900 to 30.6.1900 before being relocated to Gröf (1). Miklaholt is a farm as well as the parish church. Gröf (1) is situated back on the main road and was open as a collecting office until 31.12.1955. For such a tiny, single farm, it seemed to



have more than its fair share of postmarks. It started using the crown cancel type B2e inscribed BRJEFHIRÐING from 1900 to 1903 (one of the unassigned crown cancels). Gröf used numeral N1a 144 until late 1917 when fire damaged both the office and the cancel. N1a 96 was loaned to Gröf and used that cancel until N2 144 was delivered on 31.8.1922 (first known use 15.9.1924, and finally B1a inscribed GRÖF HNAPP.

Nearby, on the coast is the farm of Skógarnes, where there was a collecting office from 1.1.1916 to 31.12.1922 using numeral cancel no. 204.

Where the coast road and mountain road to Stykkishólmur diverge there is a co-operative store and snack bar called VEGAMÓT (2). A collecting office was opened here in 1.1.1956 and used Swiss-bridge cancel type B3e inscribed 'VEGAMÓT-SNÆF'. The office closed in 1980. A little further along the coast road is the farm of HOFSTAÐIR where a collecting office was opened 22.12.1928 using firstly no. 228 and later Swiss-bridge cancel type B1a, closing 31.12.1955. Some references spell this place Hofstaðir.

5.4 STAÐARSVEITHREPPUR

BÚÐIR (1) contains a cluster of small houses around a hotel and before the tourist trade used to be a small fishing community. A collecting office was open here from 1.1.1873 to 31.12.1888 without cancels and was then reopened 31.1.1894. It used a crown and posthorn cancel (in various forms with letters falling out) and no. 141 from 1903 and still later Swiss-bridge cancel type B1a; it closed 31.12.1938 and moved to Vatnsholt. The office was moved back to Búðir (1) from Vatnsholt on 1.6.1939 but finally closed 30.9.1945 and was moved to Böðvarsholt. Búðir is sometimes referred to as Hraunhöfn.



VATNSHOLT is a farm further East of Búðir on the ring road that hosted the collecting office 1.1.1939 to 31.5.1939 and used the same B1a cancel of Búðir.

BÖÐVARSHOLT opened 1.10.1945 (moved from Búðir) and remained open till 31.12.1968 using number 146 (1945-1952), B1a of Búðir and its own B2c2 cancel. Böðvarsholt is halfway between Vatnsholt and Búðir on the ring-road.

The remaining office in the parish and another original collecting office on the Snæfells branch route was opened in 1873 at STAÐASTAÐUR and used a crown cancel (spelt Staðarstaður), number 147 and then Swiss-bridge type B2a until 31.12.1969. It was closed 1.1.1875 to 1.1.1889 and again 1.1.1944 to 1.9.1944 when it was moved to TRAÐIR, nearby on the coast and using the same cancels.

5.5 BREIÐUVÍKURHREPPUR

Breiðavík is the last sheltered bay before the exposed western end of the Snæfellsnes peninsula and there are two small fishing villages of Arnarstapi and Hellnar.

HELLNAR was opened as a collecting office 1.4.1904 but was closed 31.12.1905. In that time it used number 175 and operated under the name of Gíslabær. It was reopened 11.6.1929 and closed finally 31.12.1969. In that time it used N2-233 (1929-1953), B1a (inscribed Gíslabær), N2-223 (1953-1956) and B3e (1956-1969).

A collecting office was opened at ARNARSTAPI (1) 1.1. 1907 and was upgraded to a post office 1.1.1970. From 1907 it used number 175 and later Swiss type B1a. It closed 30.4.1982.

At the head of Breiðavík lies STÓRI-KAMBUR (sometimes referred to as Kambur) where a collecting office was open 15.5.1957 to 30.6.1964 using Swiss-bridge type B8e.



5.6 NESHREPPUR

HELLISSANDUR is a fishing centre having a small cod-liver oil factory. It has an airstrip and nearby at Gufuskálar is a Loran navigation station guarding the Denmark Strait. The town is also notable for having been raided by British pirates in the 15th century. The present population is approximately 600 and the port is visited by the coastal steamer M/V Baldur which handles mail in Breiðafjörður.

The collecting office was opened 1.1.1902, when the village was known as Sandur, and was given post office status 1.1.1926 till closure 16.10.2009. Hellissandur is sometimes referred to as Hjallasandur, and also quite often misspelt Hellisandur. Cancels have been a temporary crown cancel inscribed BRJEFHIRÐING, N1a-145 (1903-1910) (destroyed by fire in January 1911), N1a-196 (24.2.1911-5.5.1911, N1c-145 (1911-1925), B3c (inscribed SANDUR), B8e (inscribed SANDUR), B8e), B8b and B8b1 (all inscribed HELLISSANDUR).

HELLA (1) was open for a brief period from 1.1.1946 to 1947 but no cancels are known used here. SAXHÓLL is the only other place to have an office, opened when Hella closed, but no cancel is known to have been used here either. Both these places are on the Neshraun lava field under Snæfellsjökull volcano.



5.7 ÓLAFSVÍKURHREPPUR



ÓLAFSVÍK is a substantial fishing village with a population of about 1000. It was made into a *kaupstaður* in 1983. M/V Baldur serves the port. The collecting office here was opened in 1.1.1878, used a crown cancellation until 1903 (misspelt ÓLAFSVÍK) when number 146 was used. In 1912 the office was made up to post office status (and the cancel moved to Brimilsvellir (see 5.8 below)) and received Swiss type B2c1. Other types used here were B7b, B8b and B8b1. The office is still open at the time of writing (July 2014).

5.8 FRÓÐÁRHREPPUR

The parish church is situated at BRIMILSVELLIR and it was here that a collecting office was opened 1.1.1913 using no. 146 (transferred from Ólafsvík), later Swiss type B2a was used until 31.12.1963, when the office was closed (see map above).

5.9 EYRARSVEITHREPPUR

Continuing along the north coast travelling east, the next place of any size after Ólafsvík is GRUNDARFJÖRÐUR, otherwise known as Grafarnes. A fishing village, population about 970, the office was opened 23.4.1892, used crown cancel and then 143 probably until about 1938 when Swiss type B2a was issued. The office was changed to a post office 1.9.1944 and until the end of 1966 was known as Grafarnes. A Swiss-bridge cancel inscribed 'GRAFARNES' (type B3e) was used from 1945 and later types B2a , B8by, B8bx, B8e and B8b1 all inscribed ' GRUNDARFJÖRÐUR '. The office was demoted to a postal agency situated at the office of Landsbanka Íslands from 8.6.2009 to 6.3.2011 when the bank changed its name to Landsbankinn hf. The office closed on 1.6.2012. .

The village is served by M/S Baldur and is dominated by the mountain Kirkjufell, which is better known than Grundarfjörður.



5.10 HELGAFELLSVEITHREPPUR

No offices in the parish

5.11 STYKKISHÓLMUR

STYKKISHÓLMUR is a busy fishing port and centre for Snæfellsnes peninsular, situated amongst scores of low islands making the area a favourite for ornithologists. The town was the situation of the earliest down cleaning factory in Iceland and also contains a Belgian Catholic Convent. Population increased from 525 in 1910, 471 in 1940 to the present population of 1100. It was created a *kaupstaður* 22.5.1987 and is a centre of services and commerce for the area. Most of the people make their living from fishing and tourism. A ferry called Baldur goes over the Breiðafjörður fjord to Vestfirðir. It also is the gateway to Flatey.



The original provincial post office opened in 1.1.1873 with a Stykkishólmur postmark. For a very short time (Oct. — Dec.) in 1903 used numeral cancel no. 200 but otherwise the provincial cancel was superseded by Swiss-bridge types B2c1a (29 mm. diam.) B2c1b (27 mm. diam.) B3e, B7b and two types B8b1. The office is still open at the time of writing (July 2014).

5.12 SKÓGARSTRANDARHREPPUR

A collecting office was opened at the rectory, BREIÐABÓLSSTAÐUR (1) 1.1.1873. The church here is the parish church for this area on the southern shores of Hvammsfjörður.

The office first used a crown and posthorn cancel and then number 140 and closed 31.12.1903 moving to VALSHAMAR, a farm on the main road two kilometres east. Number 140 continued in use here until 1.1.1907 when the office moved back to Breiðabólsstaður until 31.12.1917. The office was then moved to DRANGAR, a farm on the coast a little further north.

However, it was moved back in 1924 and in the period up to 31.12.1949 used a Swiss-bridge cancel inscribed ' BREIÐABÓLSSTAÐUR SNÆF ' (type B2a). Drangar then took over responsibility and from 1.1.1950 until 01.01.1978 used types B2c2 and B8b. The office closed 31.12.1977.



Interesting messages on aerogrammes (2)

Continuing with this series of interesting messages on aerogrammes, this one is from a Canadian missionary of the Baha'i faith, writing to his co-religionists in Canada, describing their progress, or lack of it in an attempt to establish their religion in Iceland in 1973. He mentions 3 months in Reykjavík, then Stykkishólmur, and a "street teaching campaign" in Hafnarfjörður. Six teams of missionaries claim to have contacted "at least 500 people in the street" explaining their faith. At the time he wrote, their only success was at the NATO base where a small group of 7 had become established. The objective was to launch a 2 year youth plan for Iceland, with the aim of gaining 1200 new believers and 10 Baha'i clubs in schools. He ends by describing the excitement caused by an impending volcanic eruption, following activity under the Myrdal glacier, and the Katla volcano is said to be about to erupt. The writer has managed to cram more than 600 words in clear handwriting using all the available space, not all shown here. It would be interesting to know if their efforts had any degree of success 40+ years after the events described. Perhaps our Icelandic readers might comment?



Hafnarfjörður B8e dated 14.1.1974 to Canada. The aerogramme rate was 15kr from 1.1.73 to 31.3.74. He has overpaid by 2kr.

[illegible]

A Rolls Royce cover seen on Ebay (Issue 11)



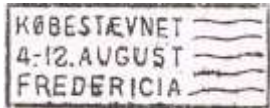
Maybe I should have relied on Wikipedia to provide some of the answers relating to this unusual card.

In 1964, Loftleiðir started operating its first Canadair CL-44D-4 aircraft, a design based on the Bristol Britannia, and two years later its four aircraft were stretched, to create the largest passenger aircraft crossing the Atlantic at that time. Loftleiðir was the only passenger operator of the turboprop, which was used as a cargo plane by other airlines. It was marketed under the name "Rolls-Royce 400 Jet Prop", which is the name shown on this postally used envelope. The chosen name led to confusion as it was sometimes referred to as the Canadair-400. The illustrated registered cover is cancelled 1968 and has a complimentary card enclosure. At the time of writing it has not sold on Ebay.

Henk Burgman completes the story -

This is a first flight cover. Loftleiðir's first flight with a RR 400 Jet Prop plane from Iceland to Scandinavia and return on 4-5-1968.

Slogans used at OMK (artering) post office in Copenhagen – part 2



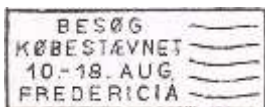
Used at OMK 1928



Used at OMK 1928



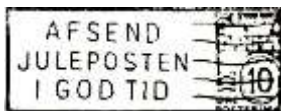
Postcard to Denmark cancelled 22 12 28. Text “INDMELD DEM.....”. Postcard rate was 15 aur



Used at OMK 1929



Used at OMK 1929



Used at OMK 1929-37, 39-40



Postcard to Denmark cancelled 21 12 33. Text “AFSEND”. FRA ISLAND type III. København N. is a district in Copenhagen having a street name”Slotsgade”. The card was addressed to Haderslev (overlooked by the post). Transit postmark København N dated 21 12 33. Postcard rate was 15 aur.

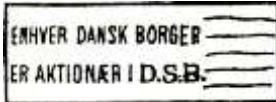


Used at OMK 1930





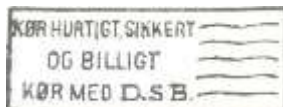
Used at OMK 1931



Used at OMK 1932-36



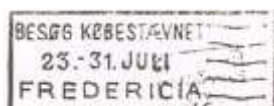
Postcard to Denmark machine cancelled 28 6 35. Text “ENHVER DANSK....”.
FRA ISLAND type III. 5 aur is from slot machine. Postcard rate 15 aur.



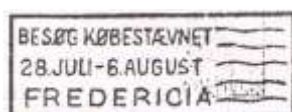
Used at OMK 1932-36



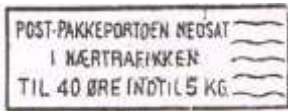
Cover to Denmark cancelled 28 7 32. Text "KØR HURTIGT, SIKKERT....". FRA ISLAND type III. Stamp is from slot machine. Postage 0-20 gr was 20 aur.



Used at OMK 1932



Used at OMK 1933



Used at OMK 1933



Used at OMK periodically 1934-46
Type II lower "F"'s vertically in line.



Type II



Type I or II



Used at Omk periodically 1934-46
Type I lower "F"'s vertically displaced



Postal stationery to Denmark cancelled 20 9 35 texted "KAMPEN MOD KRÆFTEN...".
FRA ISLAND type II. Slogan part of postmark is type I. Postcard rate 15 aur.

To be continued



I'm not sure I have a clear answer for your China cover, but I can provide another example from this sender dated Nov 1925 to Denmark. From what I can calculate using the updated pages from your book, I believe this one is correctly franked. (Please verify!). If nothing else, it does seem to indicate they enjoyed trying to cover as much real estate on the front of the cover as possible.

As a further follow-up, I just noticed a COD cover from this same sender to Sweden in the upcoming Islandssamlarna auction. That one confirms the source is a stamp dealer ("Iceland Stamps" has been stamped on the front) and has a similar approach to franking.

(Ed.) What a fine example of mixed franking, correctly stamped as follows:- 20aur letter to Denmark +30aur registration + 15aur COD fee + 15aur COD up to 15kr = 80aur.

oo

Imperforate Iceland Block Nordia '84. *Thomas Graungaard*



The second commemorative block issued on 6.10.1983. 192,650 issued.

Thomas Graungaard asks if any reader has come across this imperforate Iceland block before, and can tell us something about it.

The PORTOBELLO "mystery" postcards! Jakob S. Arrevad

A series of four – and one is still missing.

As far as I know, these four postcards are the only examples of mail from Iceland with the Portobello arrival cancellation. They are special – but mainly because of the history. When you have read the part of the story that I know, you can make your own, and add!



"Portobello is a coastal suburb of Edinburgh once famed as a beach resort located three miles (5 km) to the east of the city center, facing the Firth of Forth, in eastern central Scotland.

Although historically it was a town in its own right, and is often seen as such by its inhabitants, it is now a residential suburb of Edinburgh, with a promenade fronting on to the wide sand beach. It lies between the suburbs of Joppa and Craightenny." (Wikipedia).

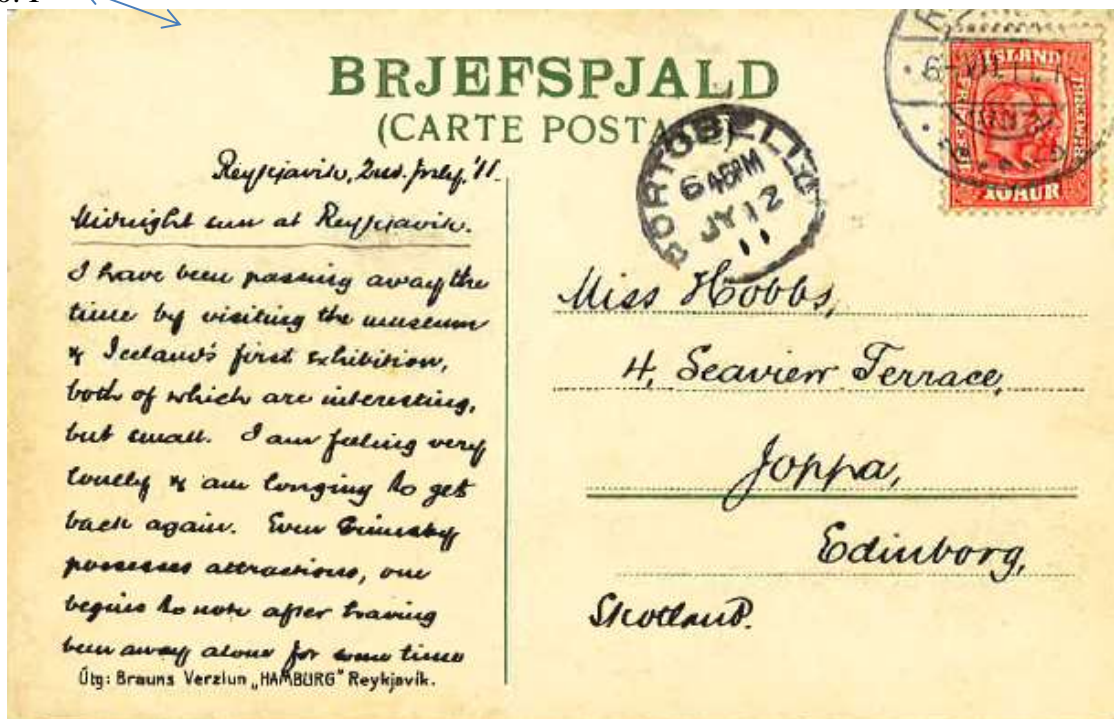
Based on the internet, John Charles Hobbs (1842-1917) lived in 1911 at 4 Seaview Terrace, Joppa and he presumably had a daughter "Miss Hobbs". She got four postcards from Iceland, sent "with all my love", written in Reykjavik on July 2, 1911, – sent on July 4, 1911 with SS *Gambetta*, leaving Reykjavik on July 7 bound for Leith, and the four postcards arrived in the post office in Portobello and were cancelled JY 12 11 – and I expect delivered to Miss Hobbs. If you try Google, the address is rather fashionable with a fantastic view over the shore.

With the exception of the first card which is unnumbered, the writer numbered the next 3 at the top of the message with II, III and IV. The four cards hold a continuous message from I to IV.

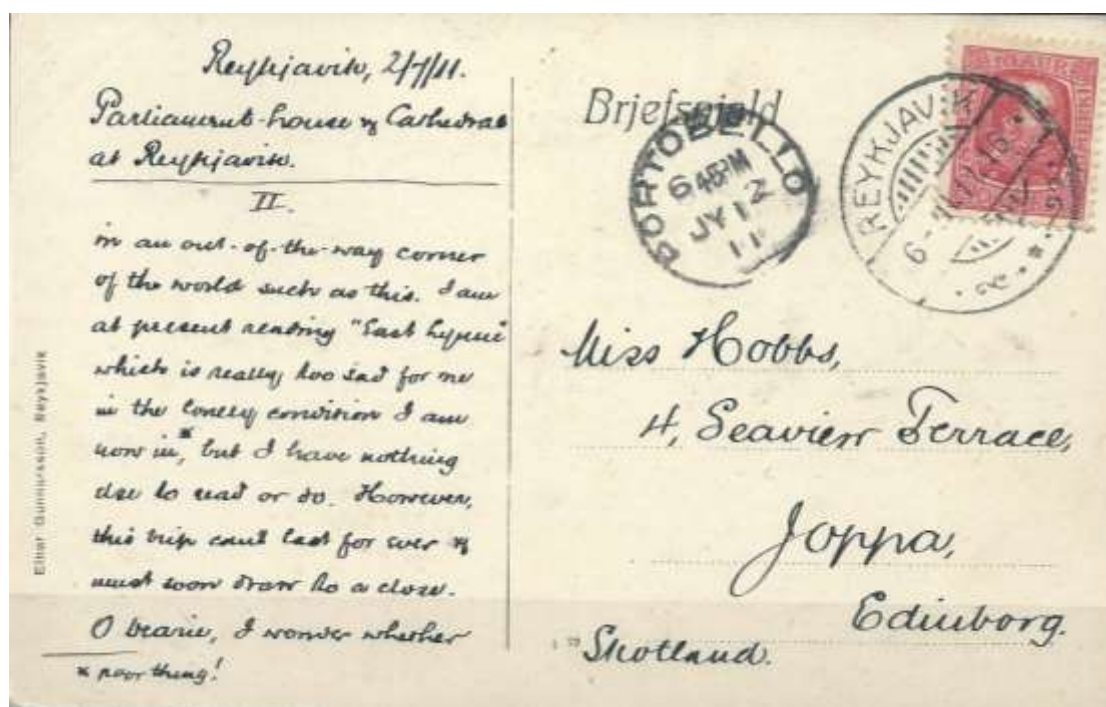
I have number I; Hallur Þorsteinsson has number II; Heinrich Schilling shows the text side of number IV in "*Fremde Anladestempel auf Islandpost*".

Both the picture side and the text side of Number III, and the picture side of number IV are missing, as you can see in the overview hereunder. (I happen to have a copy of the message side of number IV).

Text side No. I



Text side No. II



Text side No. III

III Unknown!



Until number III is found – Jakob invites to come up with suggestions for the missing text!

Text side No. IV



These are the two known picture sides:
Postcard # I



Postcard # II



The picture sides of Postcard # III and # IV are unknown to me.

Can anybody add to the story, and primarily reveal the picture sides of nos. III and IV?

(Editor: **East Lynne**, mentioned on postcard no. II, is an English novel of 1861 by Ellen Wood. A Victorian bestseller, it is remembered chiefly for its elaborate and implausible plot.

Jakob would like readers to imagine the content of the message on the missing card III, and suggest what it might have said. Not too difficult if your first language is English, but for the benefit of others, this is the message as we know it so far. It is not too hard to suggest a completion of the sentence on card II, and to start the sentence on card IV! I will keep my answer to myself for now.



2nd July '11

I (missing on card)

Midnight scene at Reykjavík

I have been passing away the time by visiting the museum and Iceland's first exhibition, both of which are interesting but small. I am feeling very lonely and am longing to get back again. Even Grimsby possesses attractions, one begins to note after having been away alone for some time

II

Reykjavík 2/7/11

Parliament House and cathedral at Reykjavík

*in an out-of-the-way corner of the world such as this. I am at present reading "East Lynne" which is really too sad for me in the lonely condition I am now in, * but I have nothing else to read or do. However, this trip cannot last forever and must soon draw to a close. O dearie, I wonder whether*
** poor thing!*

Card III missing

IV

Reykjavík 2/7/11

will write. ??? : you never write nearly enough about yourself, dearie, to satisfy me.

With all my love

[illegible]

Can anyone say what this item is? *Leif Nilsson*



Leif asked Ólafur Elíasson, who said:-

I might have a possible explanation. I think that this may be a receipt for the total postage for a number of shipments from one sender who was posting at the same time. Instead of sticking stamps on each shipment, you count the total amount, and stick stamps for the total amount on a form as a receipt from the post office, and cancel them. Thus the consignments were not stamped individually, but possibly stamped with a FRANCO stamp.

The form is a statement or report of shipments (registered letters, money letters, printed papers, unpaid letters) lying at the post office, that is shipments that need to be retrieved. The preprinted information has no connection with the strip of three stamps stuck on it.

I do not think this item is philatelic. 15 kr was quite a large amount in 1929 when the hourly wage for a docker was 1.2kr per hour. It was not everyone that could use stamps at 15kr "just for fun ". Best, Ólafur
(Ed. Any other opinions on what it might be?)

Analysis of How Iceland Lots Fared in Two Postiljonen Auctions...and What a Difference a “Name Sale” Makes Roger Cichorz

(Article originally published in the August 2016 *Posthorn* and is reprinted here by permission of the author).

Postiljonen Auction House International conducted two major auctions, #210 and #211, in Malmö, Sweden on March 18-19, 2016. #210 was a general sale of worldwide material featuring Denmark & Danish areas, classic Finland, Norway & Sweden, early German Empire, and an old dealer stock of largely 19th Century stamps, as well as a smattering of stamp lots from non-Scandinavian countries in alphabetical order. #210 also concluded with 79 lots of good Iceland stamps, postal stationery, collections, and mixed lots and accumulations.

Postiljonen #211 was a “name sale” comprising Part 1 of “The Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland” and had its own standalone catalogue. It comprised 207 lots of outstanding items, ranging from prephilatelic covers to the 1873 skilling issues through the aurar and overprinted “Þrir” and “Í GILDI” issues, along with a specialized section of Types C1 and C2 Crown cancellations on aurar stamps.

Frank Banke in his “Auction Marketplace” report in the May 2016 *Posthorn* mentioned and illustrated three of the Pálsson cover lots that sold for near astronomical amounts, so this article will not reiterate the outcome of those superlative items, but rather compare and contrast the sales of Iceland lots in the #210 and #211 auctions to show what a difference a “name sale” can be over items offered in a general sale.

Even though the auction of Iceland lots in #210 occurred immediately after those in #211, I will first present a summary of the #210 lots followed by a summary of the Pálsson Part 1 lots in #211. The #210 Iceland section was smaller in scale than #211 in that only 80 lots were offered — one, a collection as part of the “old dealer stock” that occurred before the #211 sale, and the other 79 that followed #211. The realizations in the text and three summary tables that follow are given in euros and do not include the 20% or 25% buyer’s premiums inclusive of Swedish V.A.T. as applicable. On the date of these two auctions, March 19, 2016, 1.00 euro (€) was at exchange-rate average of US\$1.1285.

For auction #210, of the 80 lots offered at cumulative starting bids of €50,480 (\$56,967), 56 (70.0%) sold, realizing €40,720 (\$45,953) against their cumulative starting bids of €42,530 (\$47,995), a modest 95.74% ratio of realizations to starting bids. The fact that the 70% of the lots that sold represented 81.0 of the cumulative starting bids indicates that more of the pricier items sold compared with the less expensive lots. A detailed summary of the Iceland lots in this general sale #210 is given in Table 1.

The results for #210 show that the sold lots realized less than their cumulative starting bids. However, these results were skewed because lot #1077, an extensive collection of 1240 items with numeral cancellations, sold for €20,000 (\$22,570), only 80% of its €25,000 (\$22,153) starting bid. According to Postiljonen’s Conditions of Sale, “*the prices indicated against each lot are starting prices and not minimum prices*” — so, lots that do not receive starting bids can be sold for less (presumably, provided their reserves are met). If this lot is removed from the #210 totals, the other 79 lots realized €20,720 (\$23,383) against cumulative starting bids of €17,530 (\$19,783), or a more reasonable 118.2% ratio of realizations to starting bids, about what one might expect for a general auction.

Now let’s examine how the lots fared in the Indriði Pálsson #211 auction, the “Name Sale” of the title of this article. 207 lots were offered at cumulative starting bids of €215,570 (\$243,271), and 206 (99.5%) at cumulative starting bids of €215,370 (\$243,045) sold for a whopping total realization of €491,000 (\$554,094), a superlative 228.0% ratio of realizations to starting bids! The only lot that did not sell consisted of four different Danish stamps with Reykjavík numeral “236” cancellations at a starting bid of €200. The four other lots of the Danish period that sold fared poorly compared to all the other of the lots, if a 93.9% ratio of realizations to starting bids can be considered a “poor” outcome. Most of the lots in other categories sold for double or more than their cumulative starting bids.

A summary of the Pálsson lots in this “name sale” #211 is given in Table 2. Akin to the breakdown of lots given in Table 1 for #210, the #211 lots have been categorized for ease of comparison. Because the most expensive Pálsson lots were covers rather than stamps, a summary of how the lots of “stamps, and proofs” compared with the “postal history” (covers and used postal stationery lots) is given in Table 3. Despite five superlative covers skewing the postal history totals, total realizations for these two categories were not that substantially different when you compare the ratio of realizations to starting bids. These five covers, lot #s 2025, 2032, 2046, 2080, and 2082, had cumulative starting bids of €112,500 (\$126,956) and realized an astronomical €284,500 (\$321,058), a ratio of realizations to starting bids of 252.9%. If these five covers are excluded from the postal history lots, the other 46 lots sold for €90,060 (\$101,633) against their cumulative starting bids of €47,850 (\$53,999), or a more modest ratio of realizations to starting bids of 188.2%, less than the 228.0% for the 156 stamp lots.

For the sake of accuracy in reporting the results of both sales, I need to mention that Postiljonen occasionally indicates “bid” for less-expensive lots rather than specifying starting bid amounts, indicating any bids for those lot are acceptable. In these instances, I arbitrarily used the lot realization as its starting bid amount in the three summary tables. For #210 there were five “bid” lots that realized €330 (\$372), or a mean realization of €66 (\$74) per lot. For #211 there were 25 “bid” lots that realized €3820 (\$4311), or a mean realization of €153 (\$172) per lot. Even in instances of these relatively inexpensive items, #211 (Pálsson) outperformed #210 (the general sale) by a factor of 232%!

When you examine the outcome of sale #211 compared to the Iceland lots in sale #210, you cannot help conclude “What a difference a ‘name sale’ makes!” When Part 2 of the “Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland” occurs in a future Postiljonen auction, I intend to summarize the results of Part 2 and compare that to Parts 1. Stay tuned!

As a postscript, Postiljonen has published a beautiful softbound book in English titled *Excellence in Philately: The Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland*, in which Pálsson’s entire collection is shown. Alan Warren reviewed this book in the May 2016 *Posthorn* (page 23), and it can be purchased for SEK550 or €60 (\$) + postage at the Postiljonen website, www.postiljonen.com. It is a limited edition of only 150 copies, so act quickly. The SCC Library has this book available for loan to members (request ICE B83E) as well as the Postiljonen Catalogs #210 and #211 (request E&C 288).

TABLE 1. Summary of Iceland Lots in Postiljonen’s #210 General Auction of March 19, 2016

<u>Category</u>	<u># Lots</u>	<u>Starting Bids</u>	<u># Sold</u>	<u>Starting Bids</u>	<u>Realizations</u>	<u>%R:SB</u>
skilling issues	6	€ 890	4	€ 540	€ 640	118.52
aurar issues	3	800	2	200	360	180.00
Þrir surcharges	2	1,400	0	0	0	---
Í GILDI overprints	2	330	2	330	350	106.06
two kings issue	5	1,750	4	1,350	1,830	135.56
silhouette issues	7	2,200	5	1,000	1,160	116.00
Christian X issues	11	2,680	11	2,680	3,440	128.36
later issues	4	1,200	2	450	560	124.44
officials	4	1,450	3	1,350	1,800	133.33
postal stationery	2	200	1	100	100	100.00
collections	9	30,250	9	30,250	26,420	87.34
mixed lots/accumulations	25	7,330	13	4,280	4,060	94.86
Totals	80	€ 50,480	56	€ 42,530	€ 40,720	95.74

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer’s premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

TABLE 2. Summary of Iceland Lots in Postiljonen's #211 "Name Sale" of March 19, 2016
Part 1 of the "Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland"

Category	# Lots	Starting Bids	# Sold	Starting Bids	Realizations	%R:SB
prephilately	4	€ 3,450	4	€ 3,450	€ 7,730	224.06
Danish period	5	10,700	4	10,500	9,860	93.90
skilling issues	33	106,200	33	106,200	258,950	243.83
aurar issues (p 14 x 13½)	60	43,570	60	43,570	100,330	230.27
aurar issues (p 12¾)	35	16,840	35	16,840	33,570	199.35
þrir surcharges	20	9,500	20	9,500	23,800	250.53
Í GILDI overprints	17	16,270	17	16,270	35,000	215.12
Crown cancels Type C1	19	4,950	19	4,950	13,050	263.64
Crown cancels Type C2	14	4,090	14	4,090	8,710	212.96
Totals	207	€ 215,570	206	€ 215,370	€ 491,000	227.98

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer's premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

TABLE 3. Summary of Iceland Postal History Versus Stamp Lots in Postiljonen's #211 Auction
Part 1 of the "Indriði Pálsson Large Gold Medal Collection of Classic Iceland"

Category	# Lots	Starting Bids	# Sold	Starting Bids	Realizations	%R:SB
postal history	51	€ 160,350	51	€ 160,350	€ 374,560	233.59
stamps and proofs	156	55,220	155	55,020	116,440	211.63
Totals	207	€ 215,570	206	€ 215,370	€ 491,000	227.98

Note: %R:SB is the percentage ratio of the total realizations to cumulative starting bids before the buyer's premium and applicable V.A.T. are added to the final costs of the lots.

Too much and too late?



Seen on Ebay - I can't read the year on the B5a Hveragerði cancel, but it might be 69? The cancel was used until 1969, but the stamp became invalid on 1.1.1947, so I gave up trying to work out a valid postal rate.

Was this cancel ever used here? (3)



B2c2 Látur (2) Norður Ísafjarðarsýsla

Recorded use 1950 -31.12.76

Eyri (4) 1.1.1977 - ?



Látur closed on 31.12.1976 and moved to Eyri (4). The B7b (Eyri-Mjóafirði) cancel is recorded at Eyri from 23.5.1977.

Is there any evidence of B2c2 Látur.Mjóaf used at Eyri between 1.1.1977 and 22.5.1977?



B2c2 Látur.Mjóaf dated 11.XI.72



B7b Heydalur Norður Ísafjarðarsýsla

Recorded use 6.10.1983 – 14.7.1987

Eyri (4) 15.7.1987 – 31.7.1988?

When Eyri (4) bréfhirðing reopened from 15.7.1987, after the closure of Heydalur, it is recorded in Þ.Þórstein's book that it used the Heydalur B7b. Presumably the B7b cancel Eyri.Mjóafirði which Eyri used from 1977 until 1983 during its first spell, was no longer available? It would be interesting if a copy turned up. Can anyone show a B7b Heydalur used at Eyri between 15.7.1987 and the date of final closure on 31.7.1988?



B7b Eyri.Mjóafirði Norður Ísafjarðarsýsla

Recorded use 23.5.1977 – 12.7.1983

Heydalur 13.7.1983 – 31.12.1983?

The first period of the bréfhirðing at Eyri (4) ended with closure on 12.7.1983. The office moved to Heydalur and it is recorded in Þ.Þórstein's book that it used the B7b Eyri.Mjóafirði until 31.12.1983 despite the availability of the Heydalur B7b cancel from 6.10.1983.

Can anyone show B7b Eyri.Mjóafirði used at Heydalur after 12.7.1983?

A World War II question *Ellis Glatt*

I came across a pair of early US Navy WWII covers tied to Iceland. Both are from the same sender and exhibit the same single-circle censor handstamp. The return address on the earlier cover (Jan. 3, 1942) mentions F.A.P., N.A.S. I thought this might stand for Fleet Air Post Office, Naval Air Squadron or Station. I have not seen a cover with such a return-address configuration before.

The second cover (May 13, 1942) references only Fleet Air Base. The cancellation type here is M-D-A-T (month-day-year-time), which is consistent with other Iceland Fleet Air Base covers I've come across. The cancellation type on the first cover is M-D-T-A, however.

So, I am hoping one or more of my fellow readers will be able to shed some further light on that earlier cover. One thought is that it may simply be an example of a mailing during the initial setup stage of Fleet Air Base.

