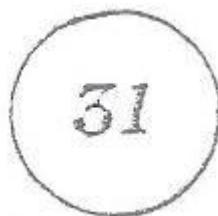


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine

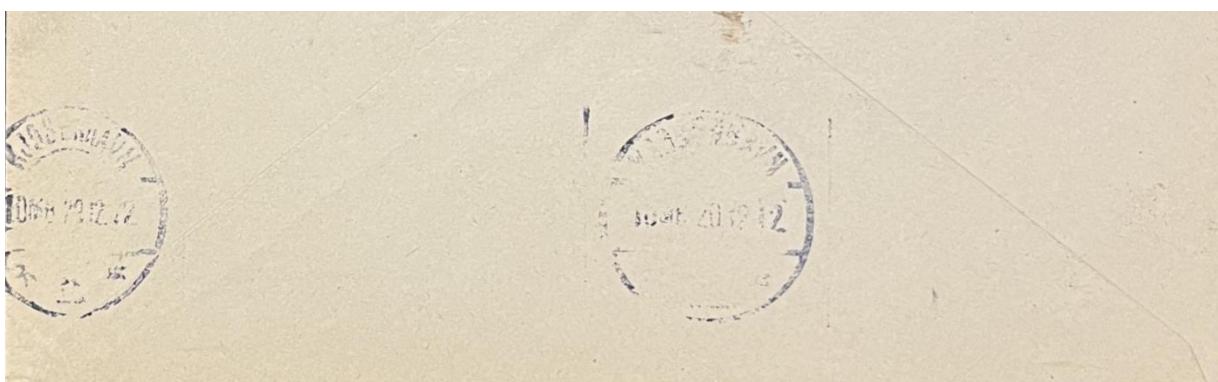
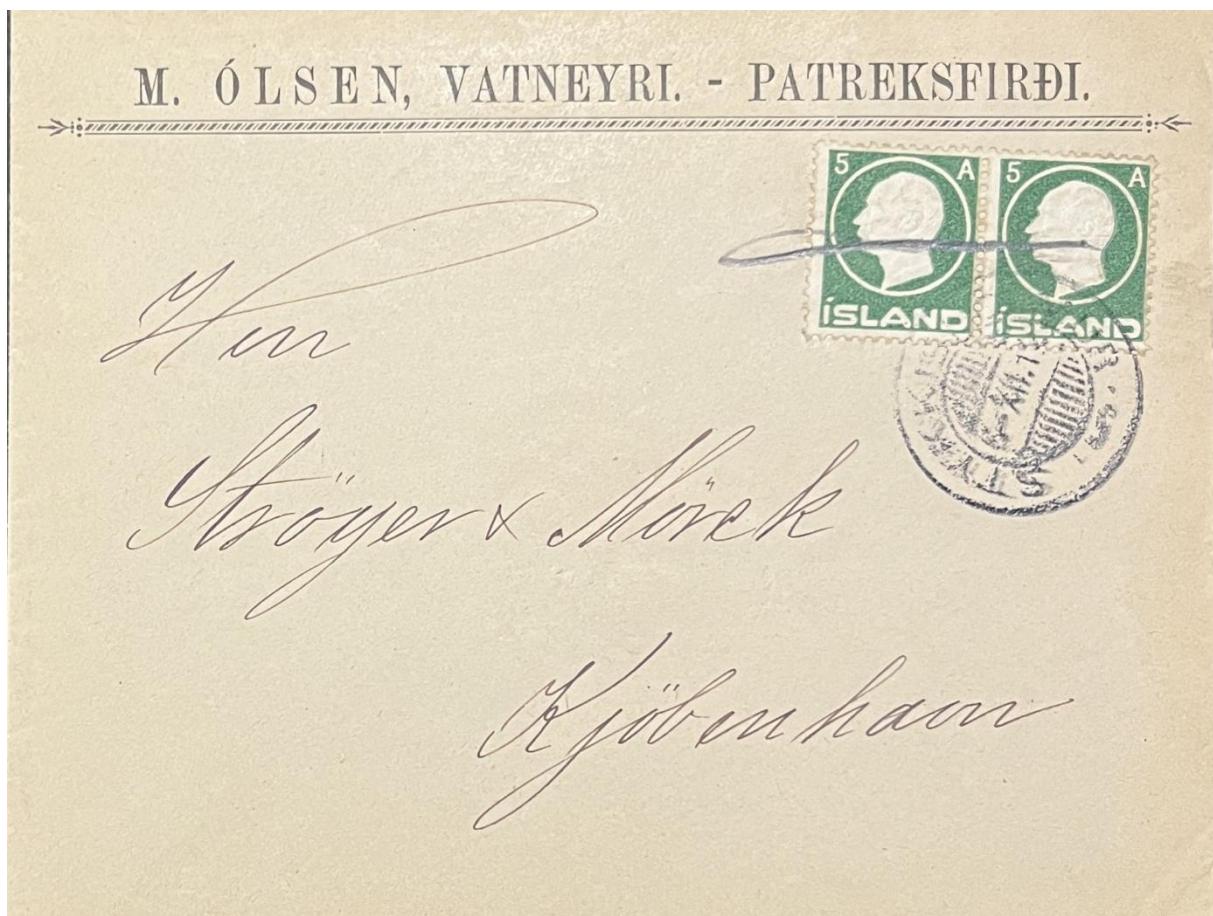
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Wishing all our 211 readers

GLEÐILEGT ÁR 2026

Interesting domestic ship mail cover *Steinar Fridthorsson*

Franked with a pair of 5 aur Frederik VIII and sent to Copenhagen in 1912. The cover originating as a domestic ship letter in PATREKSFJÖRÐUR and either posted at the dockside there or onboard a ship after a stop there, the stamps cancelled with two heavy lines by pencil, presumably onboard the ship. The cover was then cancelled upon the ship's stop in SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR on December 6th 1912, finally receiving an arrival cancel in Copenhagen on December 20th (on back).



Two cinema covers described only by text *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

For decades, two specific Petersen covers were known to collectors only through written descriptions. These covers from a) Seyðisfjörður and b) Starmýri were first written about by Eivind Kolstad in the Swedish philatelic newsletter *Rapport* (No. 124, 2001).

In the forthcoming third edition of the Petersen book, I attempted to reconstruct these covers based on Eivind's text. Image 1 shows the result of the Seyðisfjörður reconstruction. However, in a remarkable turn of events in November 2025, the original Seyðisfjörður cover surfaced at the Bruun Rasmussen auction. This discovery now allows for a comparison between the reconstruction and the actual historical artifact.



Image 1. Reconstructed cover of Seyðisfjörður

Image 2. The actual Seyðisfjörður cover auctioned off in Bruun Rasmussen in the autumn



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Late re-usage of C1 Valþjófsstaðir (Issue 71) Ron Collin

I am showing a late use on an earlier stamp. Actually, this is the 29mm diameter Valþjófsstaður on an Í Gildi, but probably from that 1911 period.



That is the period you were talking about in IPM Issue #70, Page 8. You were discussing the late use examples of C1 Stakkahlíð, thought to be circa. 1911, and usually on invalid Í Gildi issues.

The missing cancels of Hóll (3) (Skaga)

Hóll is one of five collecting offices listed with that name. This is about Hóll (3) in Skagafjarðarsýsla which opened on 1st August 1949 and closed in 1983.

The mystery begins with the N1c Numeral 209 which is listed by þór þorstein in his book Pósthús og Bréfhirðingar á Íslandi 1870-2011 as being at Hóll (3). Can anyone show any evidence of this? My only copies of 209 are shown below on a Two Kings 15 aurar (office unknown) and a 1925 Views from the Bakki (2) period.



The second mystery is the bridge cancel B2c2 said to be at Hóll from 1953 until 31.10.1957. I have never seen one. The image is taken from þór's 2003 manual.

Has any evidence yet emerged of this cancel? It is extraordinary that the numeral 209 and the bridge B2c2 covering the period of opening from 1.8.1949 to 31.10.1957 should be absent from collections,

Finally, just to bring Hóll cancellations back to reality here is the B3e cancel used from 1957 until closure in 1983.

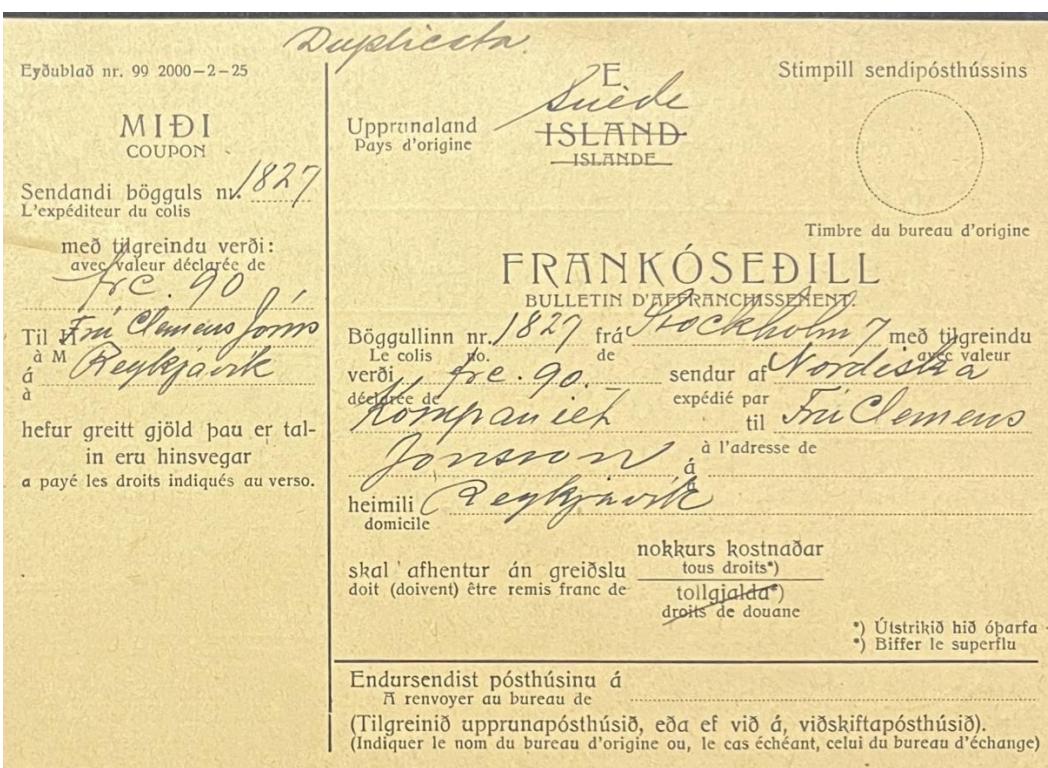
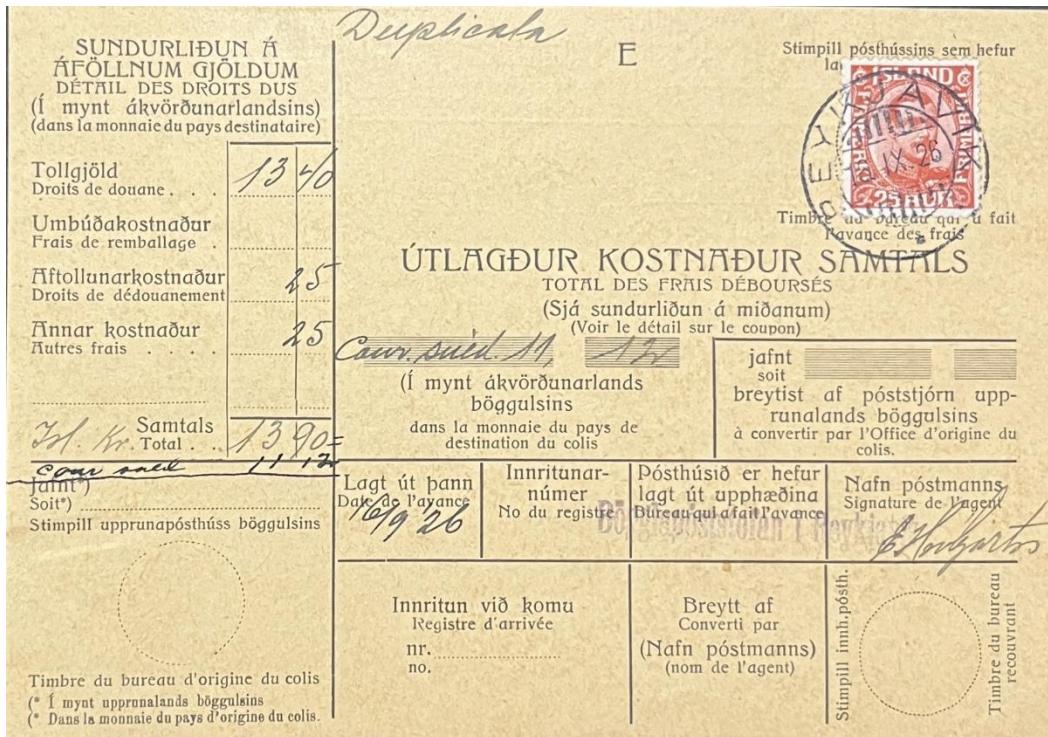


Dated 29.XII.1968 - 9kr inland rate for 21-100gm letter valid from 1.1.1966 to 31.12.1968.



Exceptionally rare postal form - FRANKÓSEÐILL (BULLETIN D'AFFRANCHISSEMENT) Steinar Fridthorsson

Listing the total of fees to be paid to the Post Office for the import processing and customs charges of a package sent from Sweden to Reykjavik in 1926. The card franked with a single red 25 aur Christian X stamp and cancelled with the Reykjavik cds cancel of the customs Post Office (Tollpóststofa)



Numeral 178 on Danish stamp *Torben Petersen*



Examples of N1a 178 are scarce enough on Icelandic stamps, but Torben Petersen has sent this amazing strike of N1a 178 used on a Danish pair of 3 øre issued October 1905. As Torben says, the DFDS ships returned to Denmark via Faroe Islands each year after the season ended. From research we know that the N1a Numeral 178 was allocated for use on two DFDS ships in two periods, 1905 (or 1906) to 1908 on S/S Laura and 1912 to 1914 on S/S Botnia. Mailboxes were installed on the ships. The following background information is extracted from an article by Þór Þorsteins in *Frímerkjablaðið* nr.3.

An advertisement from September 26, 1872 states that letters placed in letterboxes of mail ships, with Icelandic or Danish stamps, shall be unused at the post office where the ship arrives. After this release, a mailbox is first mentioned in Landshöfðingar's letter to Póstmeistar on 9 May 1896, which states that s / s Vesta, which was issued by the National Treasury, had received a temporary letterbox with a key. It is also known about the purchase of two ship mailboxes from Denmark on 8 February 1899, which were delivered to Iceland on 20 May this year. These boxes were intended for the coastal cruise ships s / s Hólar and Skálholt, which sailed regular coastal trips around Iceland from April to October according to an agreement with the United Steamship Association,

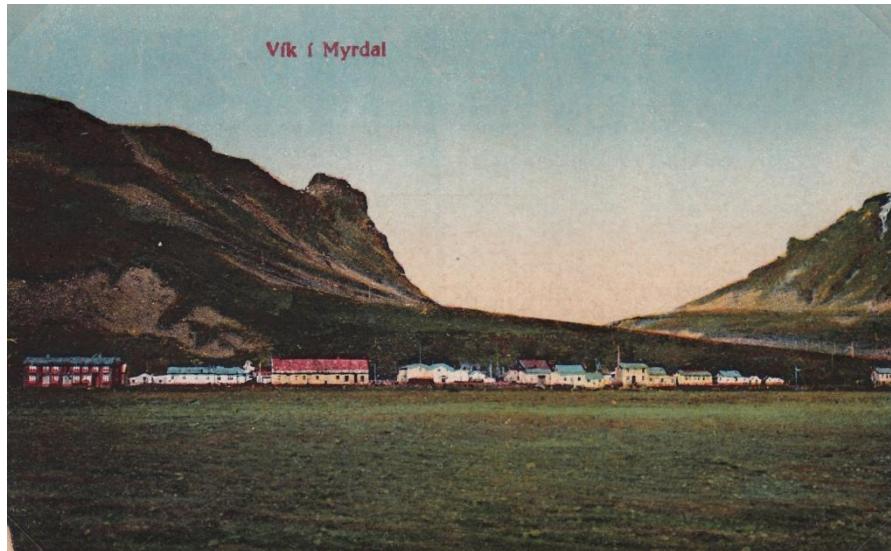
Finally, I found these two statements from articles:-
You could only use Danish stamps from Iceland to Denmark if the ship is Danish,

The UPU rule was that mail handed in on board can be franked with stamps of either the country of departure, of registry or of arrival.

The opinions of readers are eagerly anticipated.

Late re-usage of C1 Vík

The ring road from Herjólfssstaðir cuts across the Mýrdalssandur desert and down to the sea at Vík. This is by far the largest village in the county, and the southernmost in Iceland. There is no natural harbour and agriculture has taken over from fishing as the main occupation. It is known as Vík í Mýrdalur.



Late use of the crown cancel is known between 1903 and 1909 in place of the numeral cancel.



1908 issue



1920 issue



The last two examples shown are from Ron Collin. Jørgen Steen Larsen made the interesting observation that although Vík office received its numeral 21 in 1902, the Vík officials clearly showed a preference for using the named crown cancel instead. This would not be the only example of local postal officials naturally preferring a named cancel to an anonymous number. In the case of Vík the numeral is scarce on CHIX issues.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

An amazing parcel card sent to Borðeyri in 1915 *Páll Pálsson*

(Editor) On Christmas Eve, I had the pleasure of receiving this image of a fascinating 1915 parcel card from Páll, along with his greetings to share with IPM readers.



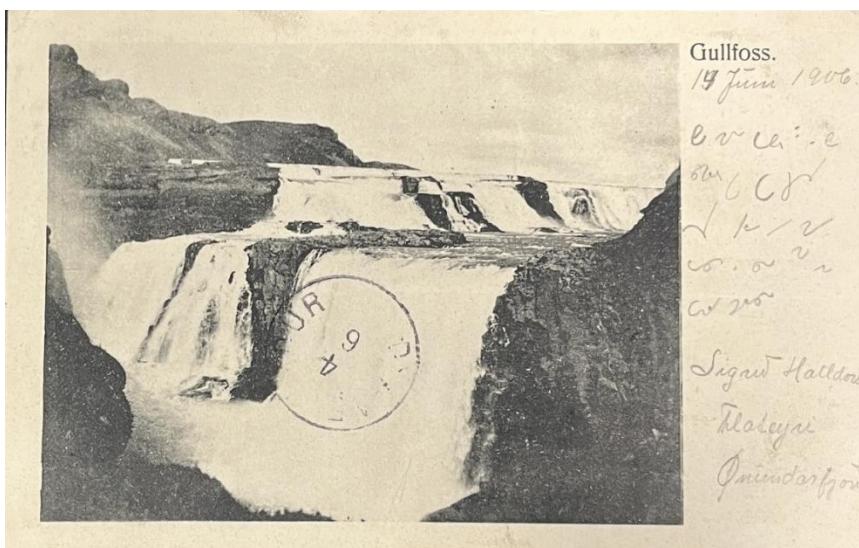
A domestic value declared cover cancelled REYKJAVÍK 16.IX.15. Value was 25,000 kr and weight 1,512g.

Parcels sent overland. Summer rate applied between April 14th to November 14th. This parcel rate was in effect in the period from 01.08.1876 to 25.10.1917. Postage for ½ kg was 30 aur, total 4 x 30 = 120 aur. The Value declared insurance fee was 5 aur for each 100kr in effect between 01.08.1876 to 25.10.1917. So, 25,000 kr. for 5aur for each 100kr = 1250 aur. Total postage with registration = 1370 aur.

The five krónur stamp is unique in a pair.

Three different cancels at the FLATEYRI collecting office in 1906 *Steinar Fridthorsson*

A very interesting postcard franked with a pair of 5 aur Christian IX stamps dated on June 14th 1906, sent to Denmark. The stamps themselves cancelled with the "FLATEYRI" crown cancel (type C2) while there also being clear strikes both of the "ÖNUNDARFJÖRÐUR" crown cancel (type C1) as well as of numeral cancel no. "108" (that had already been delivered to the office back in 1902) alongside. Both the "DÝRAFJÖRÐUR" (Lapidar) transit cancel on the card's reverse (despite the date seemingly having been set to June 4th instead of the 14th by mistake) and the "REYKJAVÍK" CDS transit cancel on front (dated June 16th) support the assumption of the card actually having travelled through the postal system at the time. The fact that the two aforementioned crown cancels seem to have been simultaneously present in good working order at the Önundarfjörður/Flateyri collecting office on that date leads me to believe that the reason behind the office receiving the "FLATEYRI" cancel of type C2 may be very simple. The reason not having been that it was needed as a replacement for the earlier delivered "ÖNUNDARFJÖRÐUR" of type C1 due to wear or damage but simply the fact that the use of the Flateyri name for the office having prevailed after the office having been interchangeably referred to as either Önundarfjörður or Flateyri ever since the office was established in 1884.



Early flown commercial cover

Very early example of a commercial flown cover addressed to Barcelona, commenced in Reykjavík and went by sea to Britain and from there by air service to Spain. Reykjavík type B1d dated 5.IX.28, Edinburgh registration section transit cancel 10 SP 28, and an indistinct Espagne Certificado cancel 18 SP.28. 35 aurar surface rate plus 30 aurar registration plus 20 aurar airmail supplement for European destination up to 20gm, which applied between June 1928 and July 1929. Total 85 aurar.



Iceland cover to St. Pierre et Miquelon Siggi Óli

Reproduced from Frímerkjaspjall August 2025.



Halfdan Helgason wrote the following:-

The letter is sent from Reykjavík 30.1.1945 to St. Pierre & Miquelon and the reception stamped there 28. March. Correct carrying fee - surface rate - was 60 aur (from 1. Jan. 1943-14.11.1949). The letter is then sent to New York by registered air mail on the 18th. April (R 68). The big CONTROL stamp probably needs the warranty label. What the dull rubber stamp on the right side says is unclear but could be e.g. FIRST NOTICED (and then) FORWARDED or something in that direction. It is a really fun letter.



Stock Clearance by the provisional measure of up franking *Leif Fugslig*

(Previously published in IslandsKontakt Nr.84 December 2011, translated from the Danish

The rate for local printed matter lowest weight and local postcard from 1st March 1919 rose from 3 to 5 aurar, leaving the post office with a considerable unsold stock of 3 aurar single and double lettercards. Now it was 5 aurar cards that must be used, and in Reykjavík there was a popular demand for another printing. Consumption was apparently large and in October 1919 the supplies were supplemented by 10,000 5aur overprint on the old 8 and 10 aurar í Gildi cards. In February 1920 there arrived 11,399 CHX 5aur cards, and in October the same year further supplies arrived with 15,489 cards with a 5aur overprint on the invalid 8aur single and double cards.

But in 1921 there appeared yet another provisional. They took the whole remaining stock of 3aur single (1,400 cards) and double (2,100 cards), split the double cards and upfranked all 5,600 cards with a pair of CHX 1 eyr postage stamps. This appeared in the post office stamp accounts for 1921 as cards for “gluing on” (which had probably been the young counter clerks’ job to “lick” the 11,200 postage stamps) between 17th October and 19th December 1921.

The cards seem to have been chiefly used in the first half of 1922, and presumably almost entirely in Reykjavík. Now one would imagine that the rest of the 3aur stock would consist of the later Two Kings wood grain watermark, which appeared in the period 1913-18, both as single and double cards, but it seems that the stock also contained various older issues including some decidedly “long on the shelf”. A pair of examples are illustrated.



Old double reply card from 1905 stock

Reykjavík M1 12/1/1922

Provisionals can be found on a great large number of types, so great it is impossible to know, but the possibilities are given here.

	Single	Double
Chr. IX 1902	9000	2000
Chr.IX 1905	6000	2000
Chr.IX 3 on 5aur. On 1905 stock	5000	
On 1907 (emergency stock)	17500	
Two Kings no wmk 1907-13	39000 (4 printings)	17000 (3 printings)
Two Kings wmk woodgrain (1913-18)	50000 (5 printings)	15000 (3 printings)

If one counts double cards as two units, the total number is 198,500 pieces. The 5,600 overprinted cards amount to hardly 3%.



Also, this “old timer”. 3 on 5aur overprint from 1907, here on an emergency impression of 5aur from the same year.

Reykjavík M1 6.2.1922

From 1.1.1922 postage stamps from before 1920 plus Chr X 5,10,20,25 and 40 aurar were invalid, on account of colour changes required for higher postage rates.

Such postal stationery is not mentioned in post office notices, which is understandable when all the post office wished to do was make use of the stock. If a private man in 1922 up rated a 3aur card with e.g. 2 x 1 eyr stamps two kings, the card would be charged a penalty because of the stamps but not the stationery, although the royal portrait was the same.

That ended Leif's article

However, Ole Svinth, the ISK editor, can supply an “up-franked card”, which was used for a foreign mailing. For me, until now it was unknown that it was the post office which up-franked this postal stationery. The cards were naturally not used for the original intentions (local printed matter). From what I understood of Leif's article, should not this postal stationery have been declared invalid, maybe later? I would also like to know how many of these up-franked postal stationery were sold, as it was indeed a large stock. A brief call to Leif gave these answers to the two questions:

Postal stationery (as Leif remembers from an old correspondence) became invalid in 1924. Concerning the remaining stock, he can say that the total stock of postal stationery was very small by the end of 1922. One can conclude that the whole stock was probably sold.



Left:- 3 on 5 aur stock overprinted by the post office with 2 aur and 10 aur added for mailing. 15 aur rate, cancelled Reykjavík M1 20/2/1922.

When I was first aware of this up-franked series, it caused me to look for similar examples. I found this fine example of an answer card. As far as the previous items are concerned we have up-franking by the post office. This card, however, is not printed matter but a hand-written summons to a meeting. Here the postage rate is 8 aur from 15/5/1921. It must have had a further 3 aur (added). I wonder if this variant was also up-franked by the Post Office? Can Leif answer this question? (he did, the up franking was privately done)



Tengdir orðir hælliru í lokur
 Rokur mánuð. f. 12. f. 4. kl. 8^½
 síðlegi að vanalegum stað.
 Áðugðum:
 1. Landlæknir Guðr. Björnsson
 Hljóður með: með "Stofnun
 Berklaðarnefnaþjelðs" Íslensk.
 2. Þóru með. Skj.

Front of a double letter card cancelled Reykjavík M1 7/12/1921. Up-franked by the post office with 2 x 1 leyr and a 3 aur (possibly by the P.O.). This was a common handwritten request to attend a meeting. The local letter card rate was 8 aur.

Very conveniently I have now found information about the ban on the use of the old cards. It was Hálfdan Helgason who gave me this many years ago, and now fortunately reported in Frímerkjablaðið Nr.22.

Iceland bridge cancels from Sigurður Þormar collection (Part 1) Jørgen Steen Larsen

In the final two issues of that excellent magazine IslandsKontakt, Jørgen Steen Larsen showed a selection of bridge cancels formed by the great collector, the late Sigurður Þormar. Over the next few issues of this magazine, I am including an English translation of the ISK articles for the benefit of readers who may have had no access to the original which was in Danish. In this issue I show bridge cancels from B1a.

B1a Brekka Gull on large clip dated 24.2.43.

Stamp replaced N1A-157 in the summer of 1930. (Note that N1A-157 is very common in Hafnarfjörður period and rarely in the Brekka period.)

B1a Brekka Gull replaced in 1956 by the equally rare bridge cancel B3e Sviðholt.

The bridge cancel has been identified on a Joseph Jaeger letter from 1941. JSL possessed strikes on loose stamps and clips from 1938/39, 1941, 1948, and 1953.



B1a Brúsholt dated 15.08.37

Missing some letters although this is less important here, as there probably is no other use known of this cancel. JSL had it used in 1931 and on a philatelic Folmer Østergaard clip from 1952, when the year of the cancel was mistakenly inserted as 1942. The bridge cancel replaced N1A-198 in the summer of 1930.



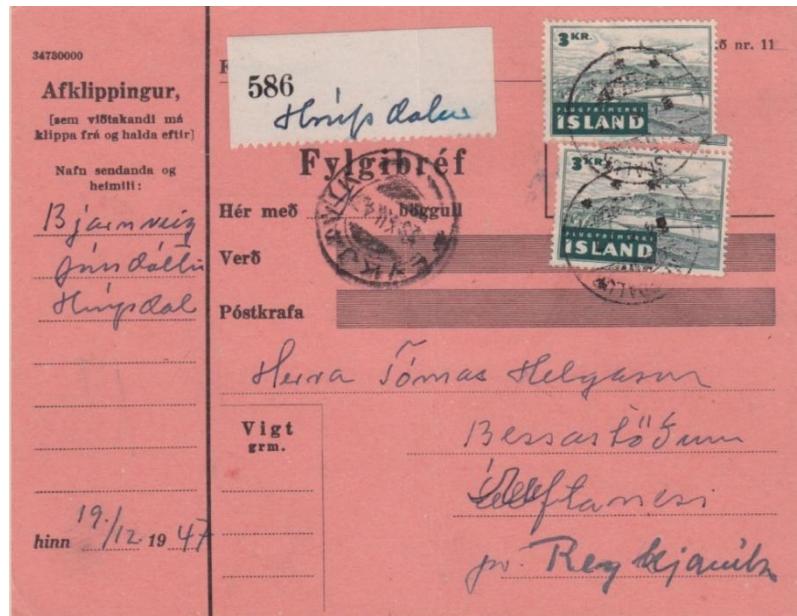
B1a Grimsey on official money letter from 20.04.33.

Bridge cancel replaced N1A-63 in the summer of 1930. Late applications of this numeral stamp from the 20s seem rare.

Similarly, early applications of the B1a cancel from the 30s and 40s are also rare. JSL's earliest uses of bridge cancel are from 1932 and 1933.

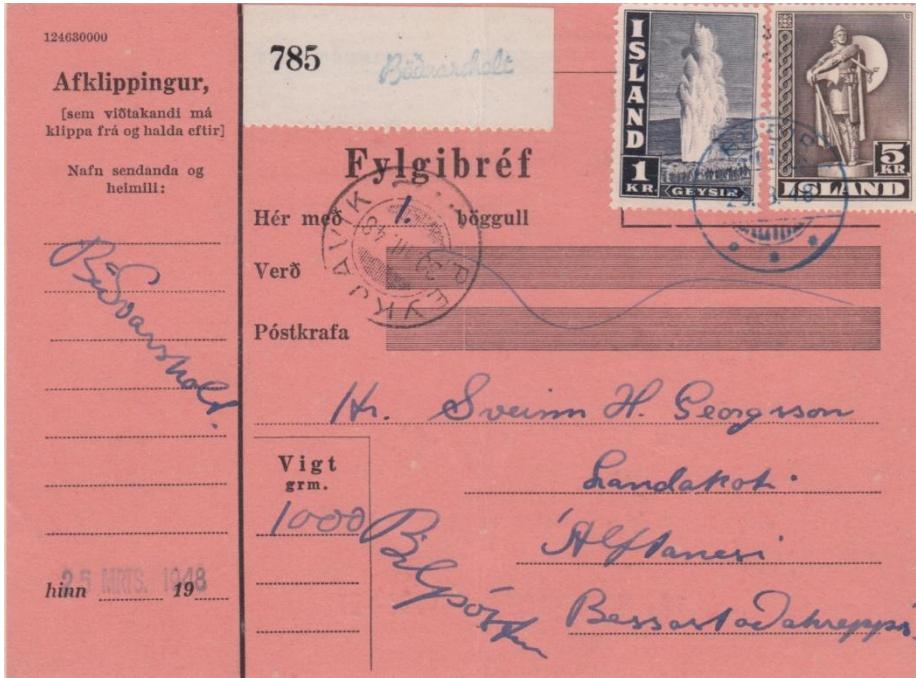
B1a Hnífsdalur used in December 1947. The bridge cancel replaced N1A-191 in the summer 1930. However, according to Þór Þorstein the bridge cancel is known from 1947

The question I am asking readers to answer is, which cancel was used in Hnífsdalur in the period from summer 1930 until late 1946?



B1a Hraukur on a letter from 07.12.45. The bridge cancel replaced N1A-15 after moving to Hraukur 01/10/1930 and was used here until 31/12/1945, alongside the continued use of N1A-15.

JSL had N1A-15 reused Chr X 10 aur fine engraving, 20 aur Gullfoss and Geysir 20 aur and B1a Hraukur used 07/03/33, 27/03/36 and -4.4.43 and a Bio P letter from 21.05.38. The IPM editor would like to be contacted by other collectors who may have a used cover with B1a Hraukur.

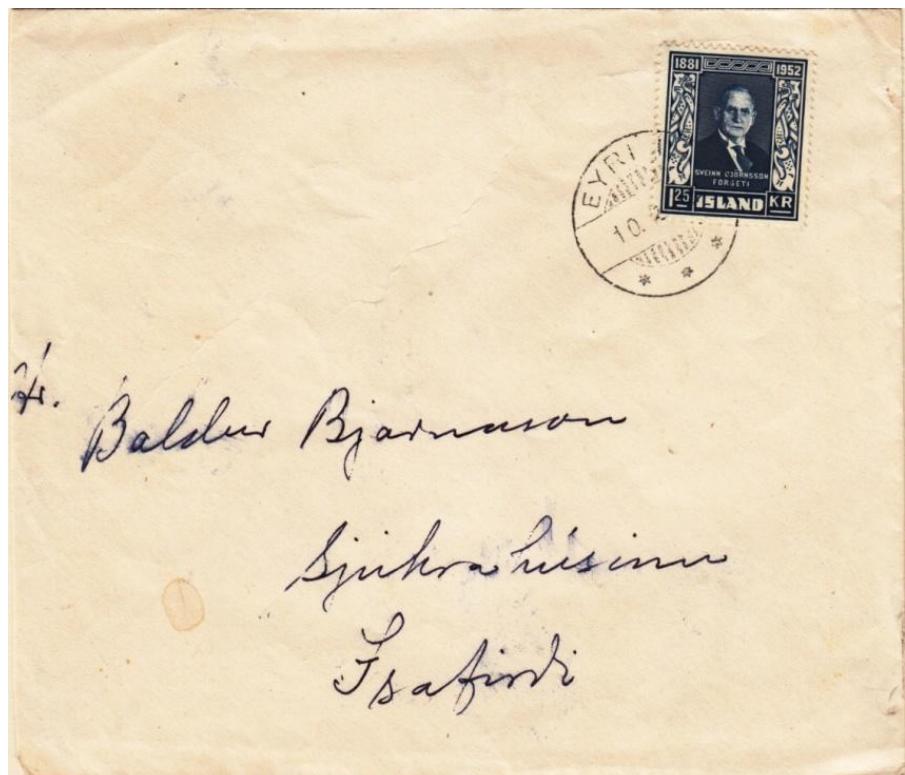


B1a Búðir on Fylgibréf dated 25/03/48.
Parcel card endorsed "Bilpostur" and transit stamped in Reykjavík 30/03/48.

The Búðir bridge cancel was transferred from Búðir on 10/01/1945 in a local move to Böðvarsholt, where later, in 1951, it was replaced by B2c2 Böðvarsholt. Another question for IPM readers, is that JSL had not seen other uses of B1a Búðir from Böðvarsholt. In the period from 1948 to 1951 it used N1A-146 as a spare cancel for B1a Búðir.

B1a Eyri on a letter dated 10.2.5 (3?). The last digit of the year cannot be read, but since the stamp could only be used from 01/09/1952 to 12/31/1953, it would seem to be "3".

From the same period, JSL possessed two pre- paid service letters sent to Eyri and with receiving stamps dated 13/06/48 and 06/04/54



Part 2 of this series on the rare Sigurður Þormar bridge cancels will appear in Issue 73

Postal Stationeries of Iceland Part 1

Single Postcards (Brjefspjald) 1879-1932 Jonas Persson

Introduction

Editor: The subject title above is what Jonas chose for what eventually became an unfinished project. He had intended to create an illustrated catalogue of the different types and varieties that exist. Sadly, after 9 years have elapsed he says it is unlikely that that his catalogue will appear. At his suggestion, I am offering for the benefit of readers illustrations from his work performed over a period of time. In this first issue I am beginning with the cards issued between 1880 and 1900. I will assess the reaction from IPM readers to this first instalment and will decide whether or not to continue with the rest of Jonas' research in later issues.

Jonas says there are some blanks in the projected handbook, where he didn't have an example in his collection. He hopes that IPM readers will help him to fill those blanks by making high resolution pictures available to him at 50 CVVBFGT. Jonas says we can use the images and data and present it as a reference to identify different postcards. (Credit for permission to publish according to Creative Commons).

Jonas:-

Designation and numbering

I have chosen to use Facit and the numbering as reference there. However, the numbering of Ringström and Schilling is given for the different cards. Since there exists different types, I use capital letters (A,B et cetera) in addition. Varieties are shown with lowercase letters (a,b, et cetera). Overprints are given as roman numerals (I, II, III, and IV).

There is some confusion between what should be counted as a special type or as a variety. In some cases, type and variety are used differently depending on the issue. The first issue with three types are most probably better described as three varieties. Where to put the line between type and variety is something that should be defined properly and is not something I would like to do on my own. I have therefore used the basic designations of Schilling.

I have come across a number of varieties not listed in Schilling, some are included here but marked as unconfirmed, until I find more samples. If you find a variety not listed please send me a picture so that I can include it in any future the handbook.

Postal Stationary – Single Postcard		
1880.	Numeral	10 aur
Corners of the value stamp coloured.		ALSHERJAR with one L
Carmine	wm:	19700 issued incl. "Í Gildi"
Grey carton, rough		
FACIT: 3	Ringström: 7,6,5	Schiller: 3



Three types:

A: Last parenthesis in second line is over centre of D in Island.

First textline is 69 mm.

Fifth textline is 54.5 mm.

(Union postale universelle.)
ÍSLAND.
(DANMARK.)

Varieties

a) mutilated "e" in "postale"

(Union postale universelle.)

b) Mutilated "e" in "postale" and without dot after "universelle".

(Union postale universelle)

<p>B: Last parenthesis in second line is over end of D in Island.</p> <p>First textline is 69 mm.</p> <p>Fifth textline is 55.5 mm.</p>		
Varieties		
<p>a) Accent over I shifted to the right.</p>		
<p>C: As Type B with the 6th frame element from bottom on the left is a corner element.</p> <p>First textline is 69 mm.</p> <p>Fifth textline is 55.5 mm.</p>		
Varieties		
<p>a) Colon in front of "(DANMARK.)</p>		

Postal Stationary – Single Postcard		
1889.	Numeral	5 aur
Corners of the value stamp coloured.		Large dot in value-stamp "5"
T in Til approx. 2 mm to the left of H in Hjernamegin		
Blue	wm:	8200 issued incl. "Í Gildi"
Grey carton, glazed		
FACIT: 4	Ringström: 8	Schiller: 4



Two types:

A: Value-stamp with incomplete vertical border line top left.

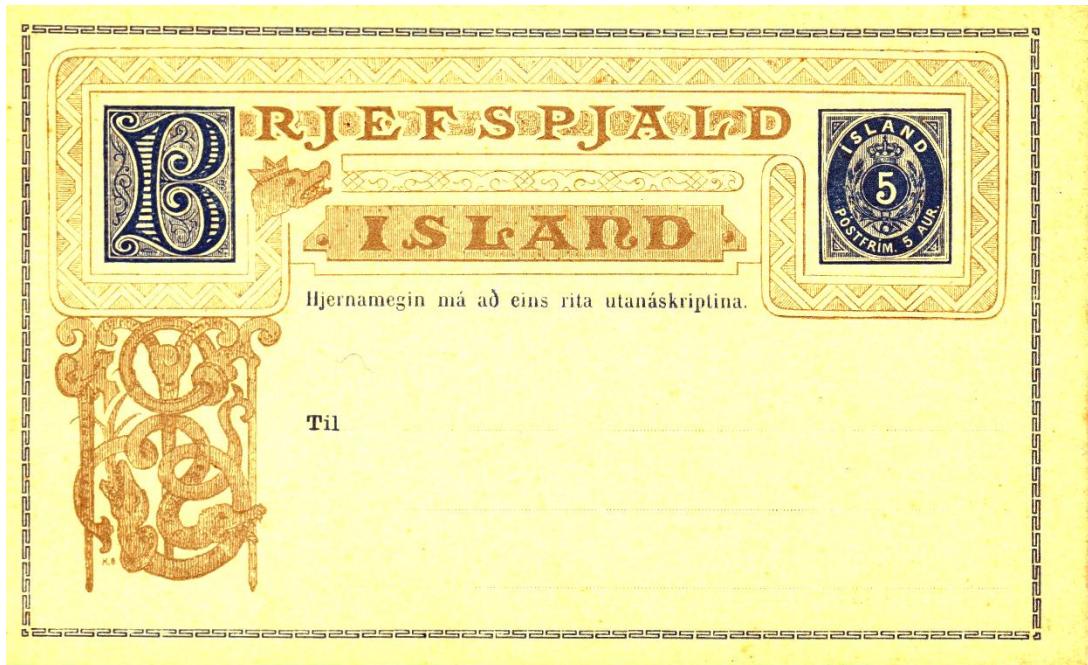


B: Value-stamp with truncated upper left corner.



Postal Stationary – Single Postcard

1895.	Numeral	5 aur
Corners of the value stamp coloured.		Short crossline on ð in a ð.
T in Til under H in Hjernamegin		
Blue	wm:	8200 issued incl. "Í Gildi"
Grey carton, glazed		
FACIT: 5	Ringström: 10	Schiller: 5



Postal Stationary – Single Postcard

1900.	Numeral	5 aur
Corners of the value stamp coloured.		Long crossline on ð in a ð.
T in Til under H in Hjernamegin		
Blue	wm:	10000 issued incl. "Í Gildi"
Grey carton, glazed		
FACIT: 6	Ringström: 11	Schiller: 6



Postal Stationary – Single Postcard

1900.	Numeral	10 aur
Corners of the value stamp coloured.		ALLSHERJAR with two L
Carmine	wm:	10000 issued incl. "Í Gildi"
Grey carton, glazed		
FACIT: 7	Ringström: 9	Schiller: 7



Varieties

a) Without dot after “POSTALE”		
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To be continued:-