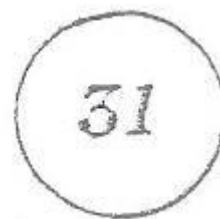


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

An independent journal for collectors of Iceland stamps and postal history



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Iceland Philatelic Magazine

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Cliché wedges on Icelandic stamps *Steinar Fridthorsson*

10 aur Official stamp with Í Gildi overprint, note the imprint of a wedge in the upper margin, in blue printing ink. Such wedges were used to secure the value part of each individual printing cliché of the printing plate; in some rare cases these could become loose during the printing process.



Related occurrences on Icelandic stamps, while slightly more common, are when a wedge used to secure a specific part of an Í Gildi overprint cliché has become loose and made an imprint during the overprinting process, see 16 aur Official Í Gildi stamp.



Iceland booklets HM1, HM2 and HM3 John Kuin

A few years ago, I acquired a collection of booklets of Iceland which held a specialized section of the booklets **HM1**, **HM2** and **HM3** issued between 1987 and 1990. It concentrated on printing variations on the white sheet tab at the end of the stamps and the spine prints at the back/reverse of the booklets. These booklets have either blank “tabs” a cylinder number a control number a combination of cylinder and control number and each of these can have a spine print (or counting bar) on the reverse of the cover of the booklet.

12 possible variants could exist which are listed in the table and shown in the images below. Upon this conclusion I informed Facit who briefly mentioned them in their next catalogue. But not every booklet exists in the 12 known variants. Since it is fairly modern (and cheap) material most dealers and collectors do not yet concentrate on this material, consequently it is very hard to come by. On Ebay for instance, those booklets are listed with an **example picture** (the booklet sold is not the actual booklet sold) and when bought, the booklet is not the variant one hoped for, based on the image of the object in the sale because it is not the variant illustrated.

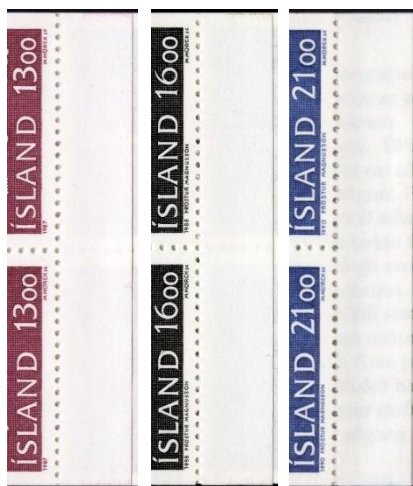
I am trying to find out the following and hope there are readers that can help me. First of all, do variants exist of the booklets I have not found yet? Second, does anyone know how these booklets were printed, so conclusions about how common or scarce a variant might be? I have some estimates.

There should be some logic in the division between blank tabs, Cylinder numbers and control numbers. A few things I know for sure. Each booklet has been printed in 100.000 copies. Every 50th booklet (so 2.000 in total of each number) has a spine print (counting bar) on the reverse. The booklets are printed in Sweden the same way Swedish booklets where printed. The archive of the factory is gone. So that leaves us with looking at the existing booklets and “count” the remaining copies of the variants. All 12 known variants have gotten “letters (**A** to **L**)” to distinguish them. That lists as follows:

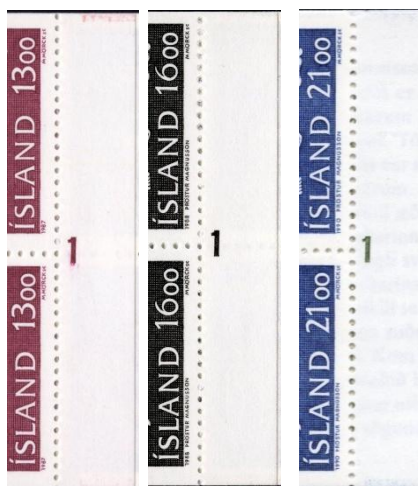
Table of the variants

- | | |
|----------|--|
| A | Blank tab |
| B | Blank tab with spine print / counting bar |
| C | Control number |
| D | Control number with spine print / counting bar |
| E | Cylinder number 1 |
| F | Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar |
| G | Cylinder number 1 with control number |
| H | Cylinder number 1 with control number and spine print / counting bar |
| I | Cylinder number 2 |
| J | Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar |
| K | Cylinder number 2 with control number |
| L | Cylinder number 2 with control number and spine print / counting bar |

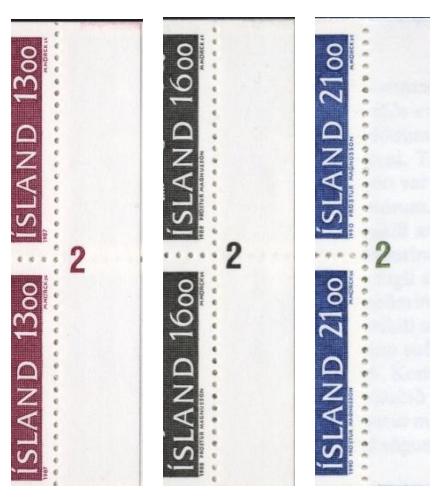




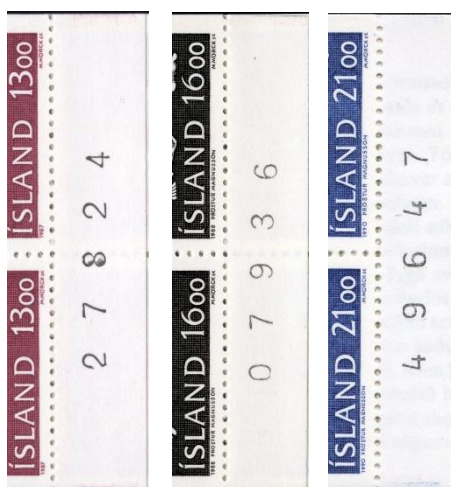
A) Blank tab



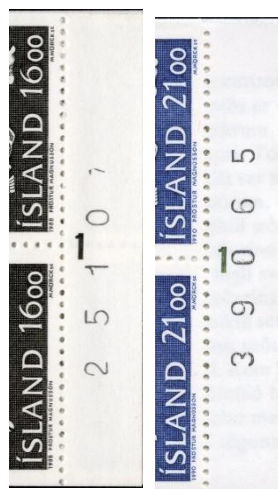
E) Cylinder 1



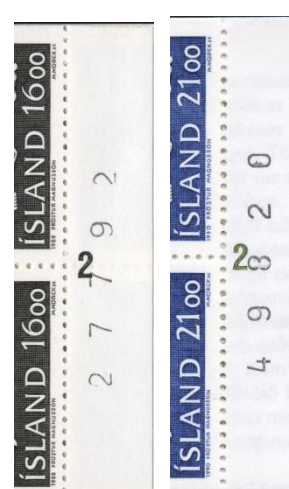
I) Cylinder 2



C) Control number

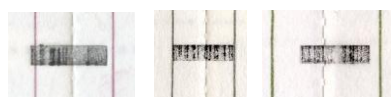


G) Cylinder 1 + Control number



K) Cylinder 2 + Control number

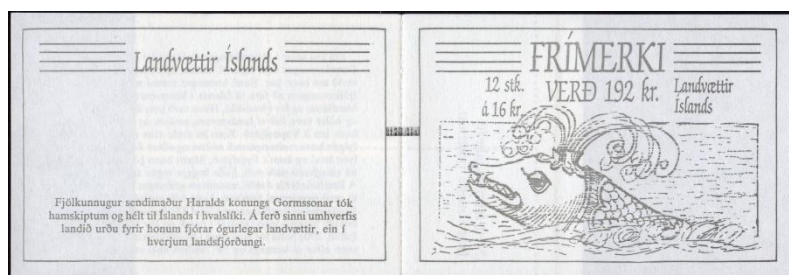
Spine prints / Counting bar



HM 1

HM 2

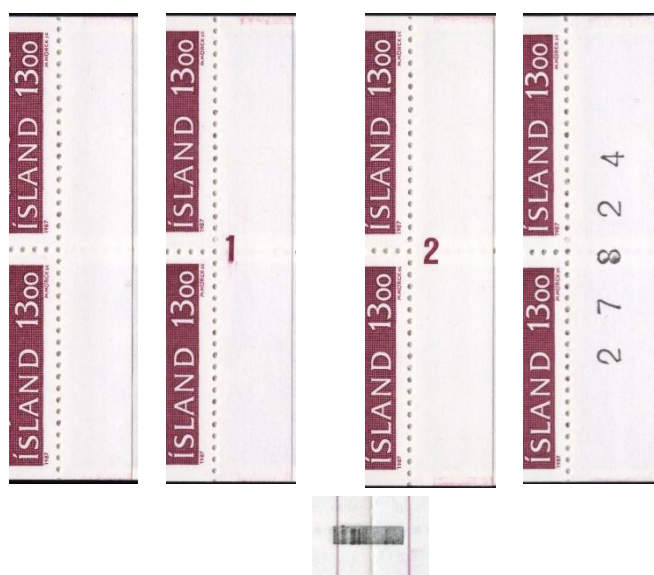
HM 3



General impressions of the occurrence of the variants.

- Blank tabs seem to be the most common variant
- Cylinder 1, Cylinder 2 and control numbers are less common than blank tab's but about equal amongst each other and occur at about a 3rd of the blank tab ones.
- Combinations of cylinder numbers and control numbers are hard to find.
- Spine prints are most often found on blank tab booklets
- Cylinder 1, cylinder 2 and control numbers with spine prints are very hard to find

Booklet HM1



Indications

- Not known to me
- Known to me

HM1) Of booklet HM1, **8** of the 12 variants are known to me.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A) Blank tab | ● |
| B) Blank tab with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| C) Control number | ● |
| D) Control number with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| E) Cylinder number 1 | ● |
| F) Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| G) Cylinder number 1 with control number | ○ |
| H) Cylinder number 1 with control number and spine print / counting bar | ○ |
| I) Cylinder number 2 | ● |
| J) Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| K) Cylinder number 2 with control number | ○ |

L) Cylinder number 2 with control number and spine print / counting bar

○

Booklet HM2



Indications

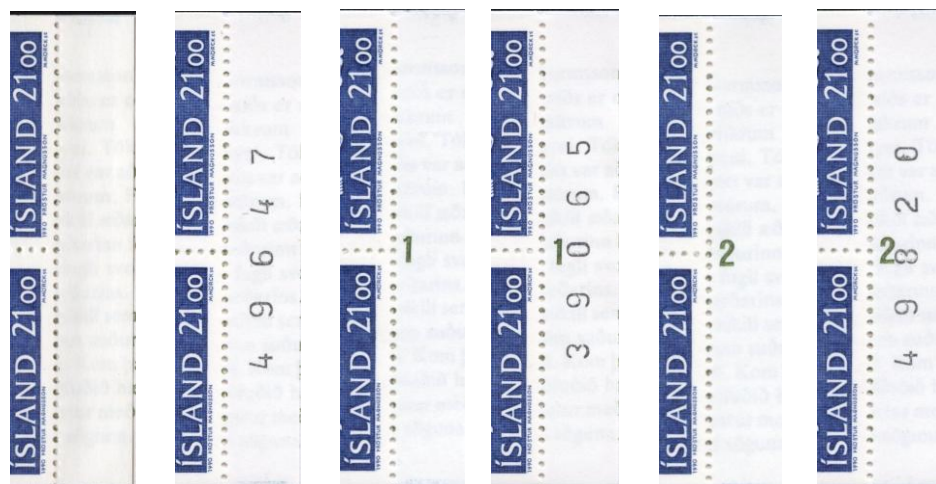
○ Not known to me

● Known to me

HM2) Of booklet HM2, 9 of the 12 variants are known to me.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A) Blanc tab | ● |
| B) Blanc tab with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| C) Control number | ● |
| D) Control number with spine print / counting bar | ○ |
| E) Cylinder number 1 | ● |
| F) Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| G) Cylinder number 1 with control number | ● |
| H) Cylinder number 1 with control number and spine print / counting bar | ○ |
| I) Cylinder number 2 | ● |
| J) Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| K) Cylinder number 2 with control number | ● |
| L) Cylinder number 2 with control number and spine print / counting bar | ○ |

Booklet HM3



Indications

- Not known to me
- Known to me



HM3) Of booklet 3 all 12 variants are known to me.

- | | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| A) | Blank tab | ● |
| B) | Blank tab with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| C) | Control number | ● |
| D) | Control number with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| E) | Cylinder number 1 | ● |
| F) | Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| G) | Cylinder number 1 with control number | ● |
| H) | Cylinder number 1 with control number and spine print / counting bar | ● |
| I) | Cylinder number 2 | ● |
| J) | Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar | ● |
| K) | Cylinder number 2 with control number | ● |

L) Cylinder number 2 with control number and spine print / counting bar

HM1		%	Number	Suggested CV SEK
A	Blanc tab	39,200%	39.200	50
B	Blanc tab with spine print / counting bar	0,800%	800	250
C	Control number	19,600%	19.600	100
D	Control number with spine print / counting bar	0,400%	400	500
E	Cylinder number 1	19,600%	19.600	100
F	Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar	0,400%	400	500
I	Cylinder number 2	19,600%	19.600	100
J	Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar	0,400%	400	500
Total		100,000%	100.000	

HM2		%	Number	Suggested CV SEK
A	Blanc tab	39,200%	39.200	45
B	Blanc tab with spine print / counting bar	0,800%	800	250
C	Control number	16,000%	16.000	120
E	Cylinder number 1	16,000%	16.000	120
F	Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar	0,200%	200	1.000
G	Cylinder number 1 with control number	5,800%	5.800	240
I	Cylinder number 2	16,000%	16.000	120
J	Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar	0,200%	200	1.000
K	Cylinder number 2 with control number	5,800%	5.800	240
Total		100,000%	100.000	

HM3		%	Number	Suggested CV SEK
A	Blanc tab	39,200%	39.200	60
B	Blanc tab with spine print / counting bar	0,800%	800	250
C	Control number	16,470%	16.470	120
D	Control number with spine print / counting bar	0,330%	330	700
E	Cylinder number 1	15,660%	15.660	150
F	Cylinder number 1 with spine print / counting bar	0,340%	340	600
G	Cylinder number 1 with control number	5,376%	5.376	300
H	Cylinder number 1 with control number and spine print / counting bar	0,224%	224	900
I	Cylinder number 2	15,660%	15.660	150
J	Cylinder number 2 with spine print / counting bar	0,340%	340	600
K	Cylinder number 2 with control number	5,376%	5.376	300
L	Cylinder number 2 with control number and spine print / counting bar	0,224%	224	900
Total		100,000%	100.000	

Calculations based on:

40% blank tab

20% control number

20% cylinder 1

20% cylinder 2

2% spine print / counting bar

The are **5** main distinguishable characters that form the **12** variants. I have put them in a schematic for an overview. When circles overlap then both characters are present in a booklet. Within the schematic the letter of the variant is then present. It seems the printing process of each booklet has varied because of the variants found and variants not found. For **HM3**, the only booklet in every variant, it should be about:

	<u>Estimated</u> numbers	+ Controlnumber	+Spine print	+ Spine print
• Blank tab (A)	• 40% (40.000)	-	2% (800)	
• Control number (C, D)	• 20% (20.000)	12% (12.000)	2% (400)	
• Cylinder 1 (E, G, F, H)	• 20% (20.000)	4% (4.000)	2% (320)	0,8% (80)
• Cylinder 2 (I, K, J, L)	• 20% (20.000)	4% (4.000)	2% (320)	0,8% (80)
• Spine print / counting bar (B)	• 2% (2.000)	-	-	
	100% (100.000)	20% (20.000)	2% (1840)	+ (160) = 2000

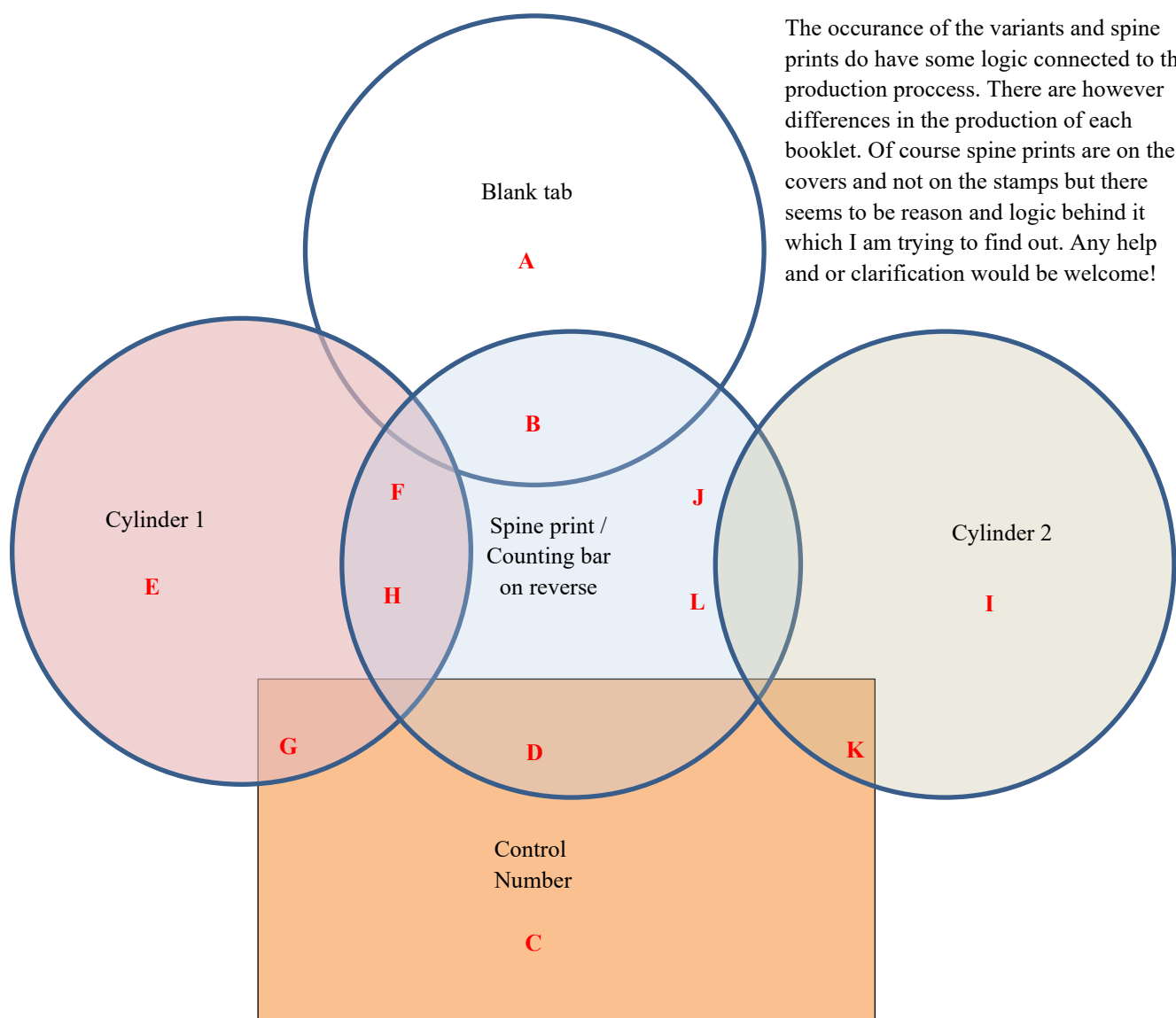
Booklet **HM1** **lacks** the

combination of **control numbers** and **cylinder numbers**.

Variants **G, K** and therefore **H** and **L** do not exist. But variant **D** (control number and spine print **does** exist.

Booklet **HM2** **lacks** the **combinations** of the **control numbers** and **spine prints**.

Variants **D, H** and **L** therefore do **not** exist.



The 1911 first day cover that was cancelled a day early *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*



In IPM issue number 74, I wrote an article about early Icelandic first day covers. In it I said about the 1911 issue: „*The Jón Sigurðsson stamps were issued 17.6.1911 and several first day covers exist according to the first day cover database*“.

However, while going through photos on my computer, I came across a card that was unusually cancelled a day early, on 16.6.1911.

On the back of this card is a meeting invitation and it translates as follows: *The Icelandic Literary Society will hold a meeting in memory of the centennial of Jón Sigurðsson on June 17th at 4 pm in the high school's celebration hall. The president will remember Jón Sigurðsson's work for the literary society. At the meeting:*

- 1. A commemorative publication of the centennial will be presented.*
- 2. A draft of new articles of association from the Hafnardeildar's legal committee, along with a resolution of our department's legal committee on the matter.*

Björn M. Olsen, acting president

This ticket is valid as an admission ticket.

It is possible that an exception was made specifically for this mailing, as the invitations needed to be delivered before the meeting took place the following day. I am aware of an early date for the Christian X Jubilee issued 15.5.1937, but do readers know of other such early dates for other first day covers? Please send Brian photos of such first day covers if you have them in your collection.

How did the Stóra-Seyla cover look? A digital reconstruction from a text description *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

(Editor: I am amazed to see that the registration label shown on the cover below clearly reads Stóra-Seíla and not Stóra-Seyla which is the name in the cancel manual and the place name on the map of Iceland. Any comments please?).

While reading through older issues of the Swedish philatelic newsletter Rapport, I found clues about another potential Petersen cover. There are no known photos of this cover, but it is described in the text as coming from Stóra-Seyla with the numeral cancel 262. The original text description reads:

"Cancelled with N2 262 and bearing a registered label reading "Stóra-Seyla". Postage: Facit nr. 146, 204, 206, 210 and 214 with the following postage: 1+10+25+10 +7, total = 53 aur".

According to the Petersen database there are only two other covers known with this franking: the Guðlaugsvík cover and the Silfrastaðir cover.

The reconstructed cover was modeled after the Silfrastaðir cover (see image 1 below). If anyone owns this actual cover, please send a scan to Brian for the next issue of IPM, even if it is just to prove how close or far off this guess really is.



Image 1. The Stóra-Seyla cover as imagined from a text description from the Swedish philatelic newsletter Rapport number 106.

More on Fáskrúðsfjörður Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson

Earlier in 2026 I wrote an article about when in 1906 the Fáskrúðsfjörður cancel was taken in use. In that article I showcased a postal stationery that was cancelled 6 November 1906 and theorized if that might have been the month that the cancel was taken in use. Since then, I have been sent three items that showcase earlier usage. The first item is a postcard cancelled before 30 August 1906. It has an unreadable date on the Fáskrúðsfjörður bridge cancel but was cancelled with „Leith“ 30 August 1906. The second item is a postal stationery which dates from 7 July 1906 and comes from the collection of Páll A. Pálsson. The last item is also a postal stationery that dates from 7 June 1906 which as of today is the earliest known usage of the bridge cancel Fáskrúðsfjörður.



Image 1. A cover with the bridge cancel Fáskrúðsfjörður with an unreadable date but at least cancelled before 30 August 1906 as is seen on the Leith cancel.



Image 2. A Spjaldbrjef from Fáskrúðsfjörður cancelled 7 July 1911.
From the collection of Páll A. Pálsson.



Image 3. Now the earliest known cover with the bridge cancel Fáskrúðsfjörður dating from 7 June 1906.

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Very early Keflavík B1b



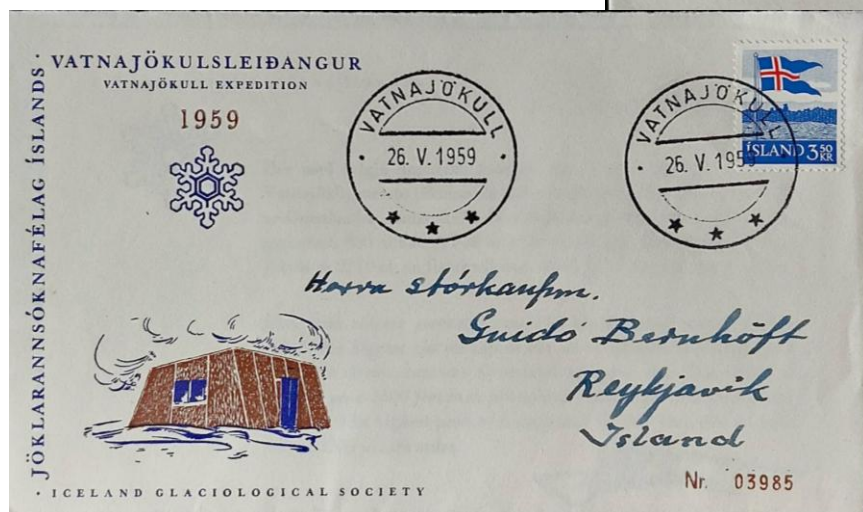
On Frímerkjahúsið, Magnús Sigurðsson showed this fine early example of the B1b bridge cancel dated 13.6.1906. I show it here with his permission. Can readers show an earlier example of this cancel issued on 1.1.1906? Below is my earliest copy dated 26.11.1906.



Two Generations - Two Letters *Kári Elíson Catzilla*

Kári Elíson Catzilla published this interesting story on Frímerkjaspjall.

With her permission here it is for IPM readers.



There is no need to introduce the Bernhöftani to people in Iceland, but they have become integrated with society after they became famous immigrants in the nineteenth century.

These two letters that 31 years separate between stamps are a little fun united almost a whole century after the upper letter was sent. The letters are in my possession at the moment. The upper letter is sent 28-7-1929 to the Dentist Bernhöft (1869-1939) but he was the father of Guido Bernhöft (1901-1997) that is registered on the lower letter 26 May 1959 in Vatnajökull expedition number two.

-

Guido was not only a wholesaler but also a great stamp holder like his father who taught him the teachings. Guido was the first chairman of the Stamp Association founded on a good day June 11, 1957. He was known as a modest creature who lived above wisdom that he was always ready to pass on like in fact all his descendants in the chairman's chair of the association.

-

Although these letters are now combined, they were not created but to understand as it is said. I have now renamed one of the major letter-collectors of Vatnajökull in Hveragerði Égi Bjarni Kristins the lower letter and he will get it in his hands soon.....

Bjarnarnes antikva cancel on a service stamp *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*



Reynir Sverrisson approached me recently with an interesting stamp. He had in his possession a 4 skilling service stamp with the postmark "Bjarnarnes" (see image 1). A table from Jón Aðalsteinn Jónsson's book „Icelandic stamps in 100 years“ (see image 2) shows how many 4 skilling service stamps were sold each year

between 1874-1876. When added up we get a total of 50+50+10 = 110 stamps used on service mail these three years. According to my Facit catalog from 2016, Bjarnarnes is valued at R4 (2.000 Skr.) but the question is, should it be valued higher when on a service stamp? I would welcome comments from other collectors of Icelandic antikva cancels

BJARNARNES Póstafgreiðsla frá 1874							
	Almenn frímerki					Þjónustufrím.	
	2 sk.	3 sk.	4 sk.	8 sk.	16 sk.	4 sk.	8 sk.
1874							
Móttekið	400	300	400	100	100	100	100
Selt			75	30	20	50	
Eftirstöðvar	400	300 ¹	325	70	80	50	100
1875							
Móttekið						100	
Selt	50		200			50	
Eftirstöðvar	350	100	125	70	80	100	100
1876							
1/1—31/7							
Móttekið							
Selt	11		45		11	10	
Eftirstöðvar og sent til Rvíkur ..	339	100	80	70	69	90	100
Póststimpill: BJARNARNES. Bjarnarnes er oft misritað Bjarnarnes, og slæddist sú villa inn í póststimpilinn.							

Image 2. A table from Jón Aðalsteinn Jónsson's book „Icelandic stamps in 100 years“ showing how many 4 skilling service stamps were sold each year between 1874 and 1876.

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“.....FUSSKOLAH..? Árnessýsla”

Sigurður Haraldsson sent this unusual postal marking/slogan/advert? on a 1929 20aurar Views and asks if readers can identify it. The visible letters appear to be ...FUSSKOLAH... Árnessýsla. I tried Google and got nowhere!



When the parts are worth more than the whole

The potential story of the Daðastaðir Petersen cover *Brynjolfur Sigurjónsson*



Image 1. The Daðastaðir „223“ clipping that was sold around 2010 for a whopping 4,000 Euros. It was sold again in 2021 for the hammer price of „only“ 1,300 Euros.

The destruction of interesting covers is usually a source of grief for us philatelists. It is well known that many Petersen covers have been cut up. One can ask why so many covers have been cut up over the years. The driver behind this action is usually simple: the sum of the parts is worth vastly more than the whole. In 2015, a single clipping bearing a clear strike of the rare „223“ fetched a staggering 4,000 Euros at an auction (see image 1).

At the time of this writing (2026) four cancels from Daðastaðir have been discovered (image 2) which all might originate from the one and same Petersen cover. Had that cover been preserved intact, a simple calculation (five times 4,000 Euros) places its theoretical value at 20,000 Euros. A 20,000 Euro price tag would push such an item into the territory of a rare Icelandic skilling cover. Such a valuation could never realistically materialize for a standard Petersen cover even though it bears a rare cancel.



Image 2. Four „223“ clippings known today which are considered to originate from a Petersen cover.

By dividing the potential Petersen cover into five individual piece clippings the stamp dealer bypassed this psychological price ceiling. By fragmenting the cover down to five pieces the seller lowered the entry price for individual collectors who only needed one example of „223“ to fill the gap in their collection.

There are 29 covers that have the four clippings seen above in image 2 together on them and they are: Ægissíða, Bær, Breiðabólstaður, Breiðavík, Brekka, Brjánslækur, Egilsstaðir, Eiðar(1), Einarstaðir, Eiríksstaðir, Eskifjörður, Gröf, Hjalastaður, Hjalteyri, Höfn, Hvanná, Kleifar, Kolkuós, Kópasker, Miklibær, Núpsdalstunga, Reyðarfjörður, Saurbær(1), Skjöldófsstaðir, Sleðbrjótur, Stafafell, Starmýri, Strönd and

Þórshöfn. It is assumed that the missing stamp is the 3 aur Matthías Jochumsson stamp. Other potential stamp on this cover according to these 29 covers (instead of the 3 aur Matthías Jochumsson (F-212) might be 5 aur Matthías Jochumsson (F-213). Fifteen other Petersen covers have the postage combination shown on the reconstructed cover (see image 3).

Image 3. Reconstructed Petersen cover made from the clippings seen in image 2. Only the 3 aur Matthías Jochumsson (F-212



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Private cancellation in 2026? Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson,

Árni Gústafsson showed me the following cancellation that apparently has been taken in use, possibly early in 2026 from Póstdreifing which is a private company. The cancel seems to be similar to the Íslandspóstur cancels of type B8b1 issued in 1998 although the bridge extends all the way to the outer edge.



Editor: I think the focus on collecting modern cancellations has been reduced due to the apparent attitude/policy of Ísland Póst at the present time, but it would be interesting to know what „unofficial“ cancels are being used these days and where they fit in to the general scene. Perhaps we need to start a new catalogue of various types?

What did the Goðdalir Petersen Cover look like? *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

The story of the Goðdalir Petersen cover demonstrates how philatelic research evolves through successive discoveries.

When the Petersen book was first published in 2021, only two stamps bearing N1a-76 were documented (image 1). At that time, the possibility was raised that these stamps might have originated from a Petersen cover, though evidence remained inconclusive.



Image 1. Only two stamps were known with N1a-76 in September 2021.

The 2025 edition brought some progress. A third stamp had emerged, a 7 aur Christian X (Facit-150), strengthening the case considerably. With three documented examples, the existence of a Goðdalir Petersen cover appeared relatively likely (image 2).



Image 2. Three stamps known with N1a-76 in the beginning of 2025.

The breakthrough came during the 2025 autumn auction, when a fourth stamp surfaced: a 25 aur Airmail issued in 1934 (Facit-206), also bearing N1a-76. This fourth stamp makes it certain that these pieces once made up a complete Petersen cover from Goðdalir. But what did the original Goðdalir cover look like?



Image 3. Four stamps known bearing N1a-76 in the beginning of 2026.

To answer this, I consulted the database of all documented Petersen covers, searching for covers containing at least these four stamps. The database returned four covers that matched: Brún, Garður (1), Reynistaður, and Skógar (2), see image 4.



Image 4. Here are three of the four covers that the database tells us has the four stamps above seen on image 3.

Analysis of these four reference covers reveals a consistent pattern. Based on their franking combinations it seems likeliest that the missing stamp is the 4 aur Christian X (Facit-148).

This reconstruction was built and can be seen in image 5 below. The bridge cancel type B1a „Goðdalir“ was added for visual interest.



Image 5. Based on other covers it is likeliest that the missing stamp was the 4 aur Christian X (Facit -148).

Unusual bridge cancel spelt REYKJAVIE (Issue 73) *Valery Efremov*

In the May issue of IPM magazine, I had an article about my stamp with the REYKJAVIE cancellation. I wonder if it received any comments from readers?

Eivind's opinion expressed in the article left me very dubious. To verify it, I used the standard Paint program. You can see what I got in the "reconstruction" file. Using Paint, I first restored the missing section of the stamp's cancellation. This section should contain the letter "R" and part of the first "E." The perfect circle created by the program, when superimposed, shows that the restored section maintains the overall proportions. The first "E" was easily completed using the existing fragments. Then, as a sample, I found a well-printed RVK B1 stamp (file "sample"). If you compare these stamps, you can see that the letters are positioned identically relative to the segment lines on both stamps. I took the letter "R" from the sample and moved it into its place. Contrary to Eivind's opinion, the letter "R" fits perfectly on the reconstructed part of the stamp. After placing the letter "R" in its proper position, we can see that the line parallel to the upper bridge is the line connecting the beginning of the "R" and the end of the last "E" in the inscription "REYKJAVIE." Contrary to Eivind's opinion, the line from the first to the last "E" is not parallel to the upper bridge at all. In my opinion, the inscription "REYKJAVIE" on the cancellation exactly matches the inscription "REYKJAVIK" on the cancellation. This inscription cannot serve as proof that the cancellation is a fake; other evidence is needed.

Recently, I've been looking through a huge number of images of Icelandic stamps from that period, searching for a similar cancellation. I only came across one that supposedly has the same cancellation mark "REYKJAVIE" on a 10 aur service stamp. The last letter is missing, but it's definitely not a "K." I've attached a photo.

P.S. The main question: Why would anyone make a fake stamp with such an error?



The Likely Printing House for the 1938 Cinema Covers *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

A new cover sold at the 2026 Postiljónen autumn auction potentially reveals by whom the cinema covers were printed. The cover in question is addressed to Peter Petersen and dated 15 March 1938, just one week before Peter Petersen sent his 310 covers out to various post offices and postal stations throughout Iceland. It is tempting to assume that in this cover was an invoice with the cost of producing these covers. What makes this piece informative is its sender: “Fjölritun Finnboga Jónssonar”, a printing house based in Akureyri. This strongly suggests that Finnbogi Jónsson firm was the facility responsible for photocopying the covers in preparation of their distribution.

Finnbogi Jónsson (1904–1964) was by trade a postman who operated a small copying business in Akureyri alongside his regular postal duties. He was originally from Húnavatnssýsla and is recorded in Íslendingabók as working as a postman in Akureyri as early as 1930. His copying work was by no means limited to philatelic material. An anonymous manuscript preserved among the papers of composer Björgvin Guðmundsson reveals that Finnbogi copied all the sheet music for the Akureyri Kantötu choir in 1932 to 1933 and in the following year accounts mention him as a newcomer to the tenor section of the choir. Telephone directories place Finnbogi at Oddeyrargata 19 in Akureyri in 1939. His copying business Fjölritun Finnboga Jónssonar, appears to have operated roughly between 1932 and 1947.

References: <https://prentsogusetur.is/fjolritun-finnboga-jonssonar-1932-1947/>

Thanks to: Andreas Lindevist working at Postiljónen, for providing me with photocopies of the cover below (figure 1).



Figure 1. The Finnbogi Jónsson cover that potentially reveals where the 310 cinema cover were printed

Figure 2. At least 310 covers were photocopied for Peter Petersen before he sent his cover out to all post offices in Iceland in 1938.



What did the Stóra-Fjarðarhorn Petersen cover look like? *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

When one looks for the first time on the Stóra-Fjarðarhorn Petersen cover something feels off. On closer inspection there seems to be a missing stamp below the 40 aur stamp. Furthermore, one asks himself if the 20 aur service stamp seen on the cover as it looks today, was on the cover from the beginning. An older black-and-white photo of the cover shows the cover without the 20 aur service stamp. If we follow the postage combination that we are sure were on the cover as seen on the older photo (image 1), that is the 5 aur Matthías Jochumsson, 4 aur Christian X and the 40 aur Jubilee then only two covers seems to have this core postage and that is Gerðar and Sauðlauksdalur (image 3). The Gerðar cover has additionally two 1 eyrir Christian X stamps (Facit-146) making the postage 51 aur while the Sauðlauksdalur cover has additionally 1 aur Christian X (F-146) and 3 aur Matthías Jochumsson (F-212) making the total postage 53 aur. Image 4 shows two stamps (1 eyrir and 3 aur) found in an old Islandssamlarna auction catalog. Both cancelled with numeral cancel 104 and likely belong to this cover. This brings the total postage to 53 aur, not including the 20 aur service stamp. Having all that in mind a reconstructed image of the cover as it might have looked like is presented on image 5.

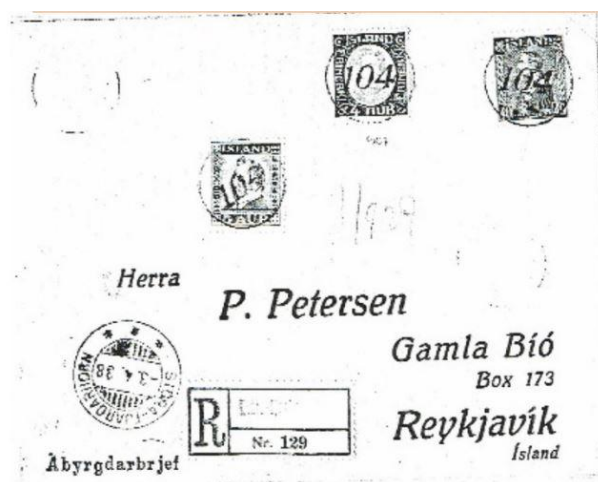


Image 1. An older photo of the original Stóra-Fjarðarhorn cover.



Image 2. This is how the Stóra-Fjarðarhorn covers looks like today.



Image 3. When we follow the core postage of the original Stóra-Fjarðarhorn cover shown on image 1 and ask the Petersen database what other covers look the same, we get these two covers; Gerðar and Sauðlauksdalur.



Image 4. Two stamps (1 eyrir and 3 aur) found in an old Islandssamlarna auction catalog cancelled with numeral cancel 104.



Image 5. A reconstructed image of the Stóra-Fjarðarhorn Petersen cover showing how it probably looked in the beginning.

The transit point Þyrill *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*



Official money letter sent from Akranes on January 4, 1921 to the transit point Þyrill.

In the autumn of 2005, I came across this letter addressed to the transit point Þyrill. When one's own knowledge of postal history falls short, it is wise to consult those with deeper expertise in the field. I therefore asked Þór Þorsteins about this transit point, specifically why it was not mentioned in “Pósthús og bréfhirðingar” (Post Offices and mail collecting farms), last published in 1991.

Þór's reply came immediately.

"Greetings. Þyrill was merely a transit point (viðkomustaður) for postal routes, though I do not have the exact years. It was the level below a mail collecting farm—usually entirely unpaid and without any official postmark."

Only one farm in Iceland is known by this name: Þyrill in Hvalfjörður. This particular item is an official money letter sent from Akranes on January 4, 1921.

In Jörgen Steen Larsen's "Handbok över Ísländska Nummerstämplar", the description of numeral postmark 31 (Fossvellir in Múlasýsla) explains the term "viðkomustaður". It states that these transit points held a similar postal status to mail collecting farms which means they received mail and passed it on to rural postmen—but they appear to have been more informal than the farms registered as mail collecting farms.

Do readers know of any other postal transit points? Creating a comprehensive registry of them remains a task for the future.

Bréfapóststofa (Post office for letters) in Issue 74

From Harald Thoma: - In addition to the Bréfapóststofa (Post office for letters) in IPM issue 74/May 2026, I can show that this cancellation was still used in the beginning of the 1950's. (Activities 1,25 Kr was issued in 1952).

In the meantime, the letters became nearly unreadable ... and the crown was removed.



XXXXXXXXXXXXX

Anyone recognize this Cinderella ? *David Loe*

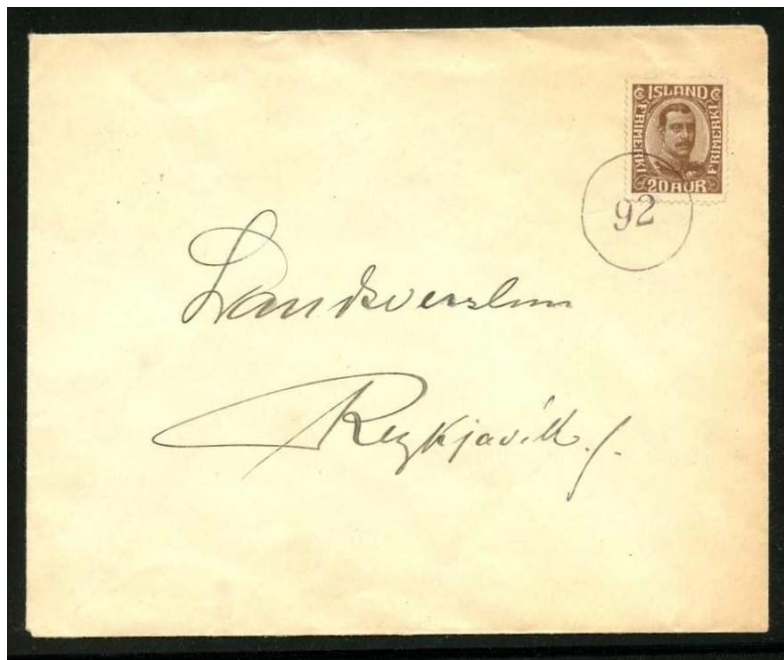
Arrived in a bag of office mail, mostly sent from Seyðisfjörður, was this cinderella. I have no idea what it might be trying to promote. It is possibly a graffiti artist. Can anyone shed any light on this? It is crudely printed.



Landsverslun (1919-1927) and numeral cancel 92 *Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson*

When looking over the Postiljonen catalog I stumbled on one cover that was addressed to Landverslun. Sometimes it can help to date covers cancelled with numeral cancels if one knows more about the address. In this instance we know for example that Landverslun only existed between the years 1919 to 1927. The stamp itself was issued 17 June 1922, which tells us that this cover must have been cancelled between the years 1922 and 1927.

For those that are curious, I translated an Icelandic wiki page about Landverslun, back to English and here it comes: Landsverslun was a state-owned trading company operated by the Icelandic government from 1919 to 1927. Founded in 1914 as an emergency measure, it did not fully begin operations until late 1917. During its active years, it became the most powerful enterprise in Iceland for importing and exporting goods. The company was established to address potential shortages and manage goods distribution during World War I. By 1917, it controlled one-fifth of all imported goods, rising to one quarter the following year. Landsverslun gained monopoly rights in 1920, over wheat and sugar imports, and later tobacco and petroleum sales in 1925. The company operated from government offices, managed primarily by Héðinn Valdimarsson who was a Social Democrat. Merchants strongly opposed Landsverslun's monopolistic practices. Public dissatisfaction grew as people resented concentrated economic power in few hands. Critics argued the company, created for wartime necessity, should have ended with the war. The Conservative Party finally dissolved Landsverslun in 1927, ending Iceland's experiment with state-controlled trade.

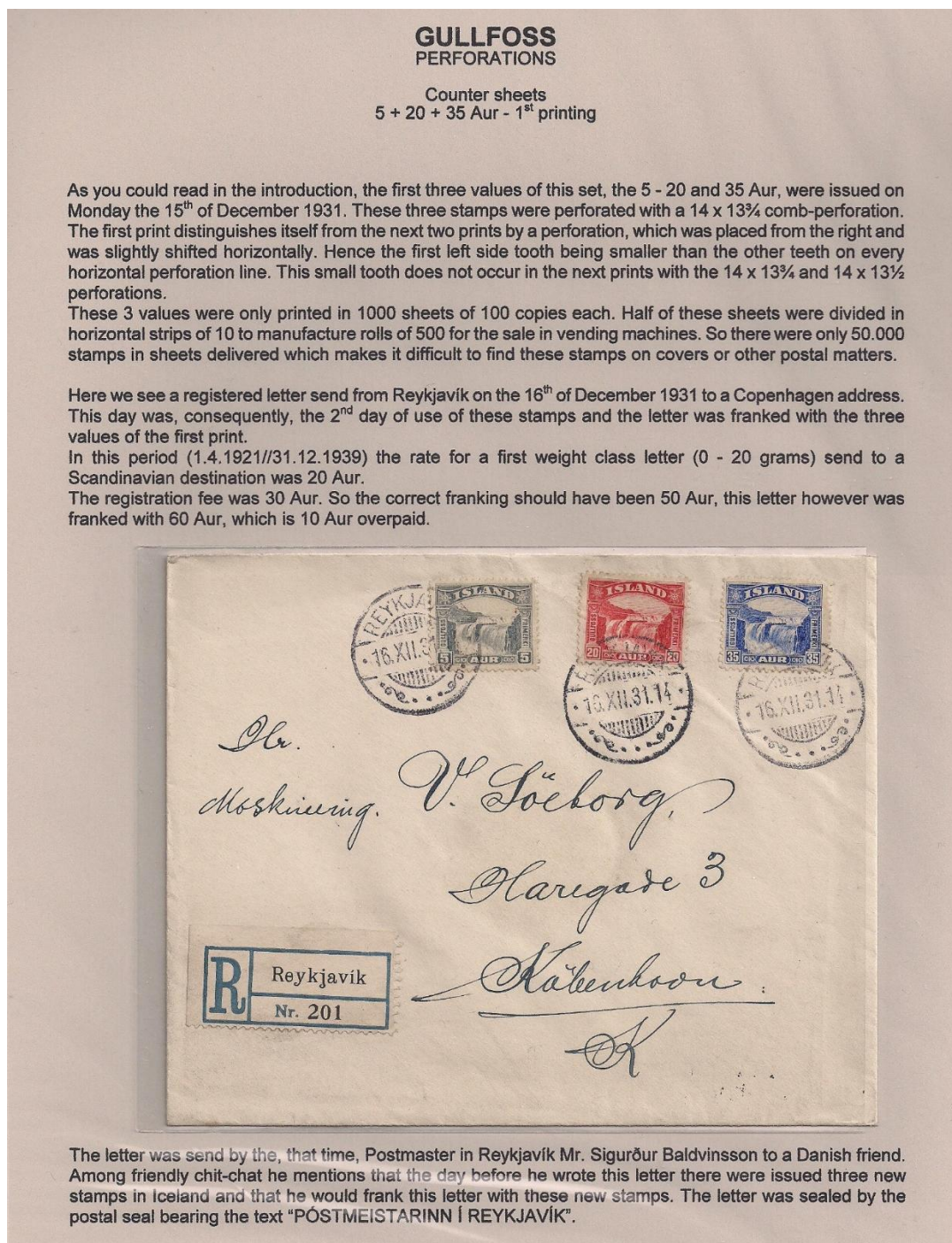


First day covers from 1879 to 1932 (Issue 74) *Henk Burgman*

In reaction to the Second Day Covers with Gullfoss stamps, the following two pages are from my Gullfoss collection. The Second Day Covers from 16-12-1931 are, I think, pretty unique!

So, to see, the Second Day Covers from the three higher values have been sent by the same sender and to the same addressee (maybe the same person?), and they both were sent registered.

The cover in the magazine has Registration number 87, and the one in my collection has number 99. So, in my opinion, it is more than a possibility that about 13 Second Day Covers were made with these stamps.



GULLFOSS PERFORATIONS

Counter sheets
60 Aur – 1st printing

Of the three high values (the 60, 65 and 75 Aur) there was only one print. The order for these three "high" values was placed on the 23rd of March 1932. The stamps were ready on the 25th of May. They were sent that same day from Hull with the s/s "Dettifoss" and were available at the Reykjavik post office on the 30th of May 1932. From each of these three values there were 600,000 stamps (6,000 sheets of 100 stamps) printed.



An over franked, philatelic inspired, 2nd day cover, 1.VI.32 send registered from Reykjavik to Seyðisfirdi.



This Registered cover was sent from Hafnarfjörður 03-01-1933, via Reykjavik 03-01-1933 (transit cancel on backside), to Hong Kong, China. Rate calculation: Surface letter to a non-Scandinavian destination up till 20 Grams was in the period 01-10-1925 // 31-12-1939: 35 Aur, R-fee was: 30 Aur. This makes a total of 65 Aur.