

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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Please let me have your articles if you want them in the next issue which will be July 2021.
 If you need help with translations let me know.
 The editor will help with the English if necessary.
 flackbp@gmail.com

Regrettably, Roland's obituary reached me just too late to be included in the March issue. I am grateful to Matthias Hapke for providing it and also to Peter Sondhelm for the translation.



Roland Daebel 1951-2020.

Incredibly for all of us, and as a complete surprise, Roland Daebel died on 23rd December 2020, one day before Christmas Eve. For decades "our Roland" worked with full commitment using his excellent specialist knowledge across a wide range of areas for our research community.

Roland Daebel, who had previously been awarded the Honorary Prize of the Research Association of the Nordic States for special services to philately, was also made an honorary member in 2019.

From 1972 Roland joined the working groups of the Nordic countries of the GDR, first as deputy and later as lead. In 1991 he became a member of the board of the FG Nordic States and has been its managing director since 1992. From 1991 he was a co-designer of the Philatelic News, responsible for the FG website and for many years auctioneer for two internal auctions each year, which unfortunately he had not been able to do in recent years, for health reasons.

Since 1986, Roland Daebel has also received many awards from the Philatelist Association of the GDR and the Association of German Philatelists.

Without exaggeration, he was the good soul of the Research Association of Nordic States.

In addition to his work as a specialist author, translator and juror, for more than 45 years, since 1984, he worked as an auditor and association auditor for the Iceland audit area.

His philatelic expertise, and knowledge of posts beyond Iceland was enormous, so that he was able to support many members of our association again and again.

Iceland philately is losing one of its best specialists, if not best expert in Germany!

We are losing a very good friend, an outstanding member of our board of directors and a funny, open and lovable person, whom we will miss forever.

Everyone who knew him well is very sad and deeply moved and our thoughts are with his partner Inge Beckmann and his family during these difficult hours.

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Hot off the presses - Facit Special Classic 2022



Many Iceland collectors will be excited to know that this just released version includes a wealth of updates as well as some new additions to the Iceland section. Below are some of the new or revised sub-sections:

Crown Cancels - This part has now been extensively revised and updated with the findings of the Islandsklubben Postmark Committee after a survey of known copies of all higher rated cancels. This resulted in quite a few cancels with changed rarity rating, upwards or downwards, as well as increased catalogue values due to the strong market for such cancels. Prices for crown cancels now apply to usages on Aurar or Christian X issues, later usages are treated in a separate table. The Islandsklubben Postmark Committee would like to express their thanks to all those that contributed with images of material for the survey.

Military Mail - David Loe has now done extensive revisions to this section including the revision of prices. David has also written an extensive and very detailed chapter on the postal history of the American Forces in Iceland in World War II, this part with updated prices as well.

Tollur Cancelled Stamps - All previously listed stamps with Tollur cancels as well as some new ones have been combined into a comprehensive table with updated pricing for the most unusual ones.

Orlof and Sparimerki Savings Stamps - The part with Orlof stamps has now been extended to include the later specially printed issues. State issued sparimerki are now also listed and priced in a separate section.

Postal Stationery - The section of Í Gildi overprints has now been expanded significantly by Ellis Glatt.

Í Gildi Issue - Informative text by Ellis Glatt about the "missing Í" varieties including information on how to differentiate authentic examples from the clandestine ones. Also some updates here and there throughout the section.

The catalogue is available at the price of SEK 500 plus postage (postage is: SEK 120 within Sweden, SEK 200 EU-countries, 160 non-EU countries). For your order please visit the website of Facitstamps in Sweden:

<https://www.facitstamps.se/en/>



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Islandsklubben/Islandssamlarna January 2021 - some auction results

On January 9 the Islandsklubben/Islandssamlarna yearly internal club auction took place with around 90 bidders fighting over the material of 11 different consignors. The offered material was a good mixture of the various collecting areas Icelandic philately has to offer. Out of the auction's 1911 lots, 1570 were sold, which must be considered a success as it translates to a sales percentage of over 82%. Total sales amounted to SEK 447.825 against a total initial starting price of SEK 270.540 (including that of unsold lots). Many high prices were achieved, especially for items of exceptional quality or rarity, below are some examples of the results:

The next auction is scheduled to take place in October, the exact date is to be announced later.

For those members of the club interested in consigning material for the next auction please contact Steinar Fridthorsson, chairman of Islandsklubben at: steinar.fridthorsson@gmail.com or 0046-70744 4020.



No.84 SEK12,200
(start 4,500)



No. 481 SEK 1750
(start 600)



No, 573 SEK 310
(start 100)



No. 623 SEK 525
(start 100)



No. 703 SEK 2,100
(start 300)



No. 704 SEK 875
(start 250)



No. 756 SEK 1,100
(start 75)



No. 778 SEK 1,500
(start 300)



No. 914 SEK 460
(start 225)



No. 939 SEK 1,300
(start 100)



No. 1029 SEK 1,060
(start 60)



No. 1047 SEK 180
(start 20)



No. 1170 SEK 430
(start 30)



No. 1095 SEK 210
(start 30)

Pin holes in high value stamps

I found a good way to occupy time during this period of pandemic lock downs was to work through the issues of the postman's' newsletter *Póstblaðið* and its successor *Póst og Símatíðindi* for items which might interest postal history addicts. Here is one from a 1920 issue containing an instruction which I find quite amusing. I asked Steinar Fridthorsson for his help in translation. This is what the postal authorities had to say about curbing the annoying enthusiasm of some stamp collectors.

Due to the fact that 1 krónur stamps and values there above are currently being sold at a high price in used condition, people have started sending heavy parcels during the winter containing various commercial goods for which there is little or no need. This is both causing harm to the postal fund as well as problems for postmen.

To avoid such misuse of the postal system, stamps used to frank parcels or accompanying parcel cards being sent with overland posts should have holes put through them by a pin or needle, especially during the winter season.

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Can anyone identify this manuscript cancel?



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The fun is not over yet for postal rates collectors (Issue 25)



consists of a 50gm innanlands "Ísafjörður 150 anniversary" sold for the then current inland rate of 195kr, + 875kr in stamps + 10kr supplementary value = 1080kr, cancelled Reykjavík 1 dated 28.2.2017. It shows the correct rate for an inland registered letter up to 100gm for delivery to anyone at the address.

Sadly, I do not recall much reaction to the article. I doubt if anything has changed a lot since. I suspect that few people in Iceland went to the trouble of combining nvi and kr stamp issues to achieve correct postal rates. In all fairness, I suppose it would have taken some courage to annoy postal officials by presenting such a cover as above for posting! I have not come across more than a couple of similar covers, and a few pieces off packages. So, here is one last appeal to our readers to show more examples.

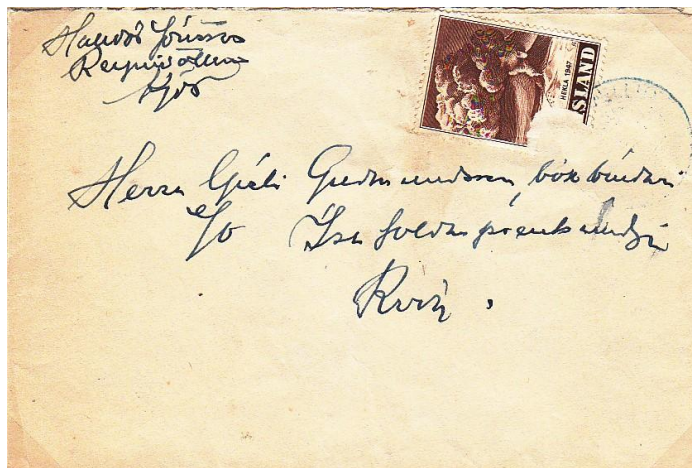
Answers to 6-Review of the series “Was the cancel used here?” (Issue 43)

Jørgen Steen Larsen

Reykjaborg:- I have no usages from the Laugarholt period.

Reynivellir.

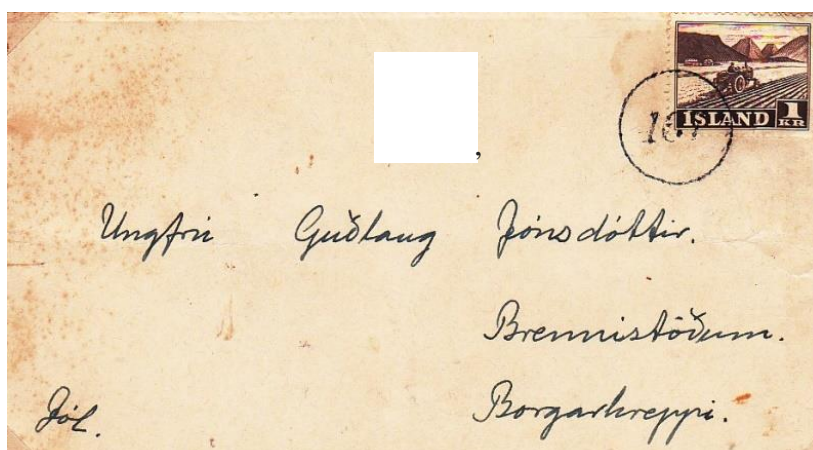
The copies in my collection seem to fit with your theory, that the cancel was not used in Neðri-Hals. Instead N1a-167 was reused.



B2a Reynivellir on Letter to Reykjavík 50 aur Hekla violet, probably sent 3.12.48 – 14.11.49



Piece 2*50 aur Hekla probably from the period 1.7.1950 – 31.12.1951



Letter to Borgarhreppi 1 kr. Occupation issue, note “Jól” Hekla, probably from Christmas 1950 or 1951. After that Neðri-Háls is used



Piece 25 aur Fish red brown + 50 aur probably from the period 1.7.1950 – 31.12.1951

A better method to separate the Reykjavík cancels G1a, G1cI and G1cII

Jørgen Steen Larsen

In the Swedish crown cancel handbook the cancels G1a, G1cI and G1cII are shown with a description of how to separate these three cancels. I have always felt that it is difficult to separate these cancels.

In my opinion the only way to separate is to look for

- the vertical line through R
- the vertical line through the last K
- the line through the left leg in A

All other lines you can draw are in my opinion placed in the same way on the three cancels.

Guide to separate	G1a	G1cI	G1cII	Comment
Vertical line through R	Between I and K	Hits the foot of K	Hits the left foot of K	G1a can be separated
Vertical line through the last K	Hits just right of R	Hits just right of R	Hits between R and E	G1cII can be separated
Line through the left leg in A	Short distance left of R	Left of but close to R	Left of but close to R	G1a can be separated

Out of these three lines the best are the lines through R and K.

Through the years I have collected Brjefspjald without stamps with clear strikes of the three cancels. This is a cheap way to get fine strikes and in addition it often gives you a year of use on the back that can help to identify the cancel. You have probably got similar objects in your collection.

G1a was used 1883 – 1891. G1cI was used 1891 – 1894.

G1cII was used 1891 – 1894 and reused at Tollpóststofan Dec. 1934 – July 1935.

(I have seen an early re-use dated 8.12 (1934) and a late re-use 26.7 (1935).)

Here you have scans of G1a. The cancel was used 1883 – 1891.

Brjefspjald Reykjavík 5.8 (1887).



Brjefspjald Reykjavík 12.5. On the back there is a text written in German but without a date. The mixed figures show that the Brjefspjald is from the period 1889/1891.



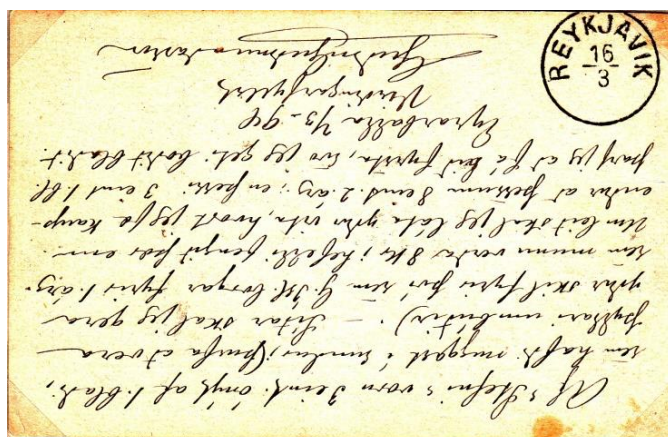
Pair 20 aur from 2. Print 1885. Date 26.7.

Here you have scans of G1cI used 1891 – 1894.

Brjefspjald Reykjavík 4.6 (1892). Kbh. K 28.6.92.
København F (++) . 6.92. Line through K – hits
foot of R.



Back of Brjefspjald from A Hraungerði 6.3 (1894),
Reykjavík 16.3 (1894).



Here you have scans of G1cII used 1891 - 1894.

Brjefspjald. On back dated Reykjavík
25. Júlí (1893). Back. Edinburg AU 9, 93.
Svendborg 12.8.93.



Brjefspjald 22.8 (1894). This is 17 days
after B1a was taken into use



Small picture with line through K – between R and E



Postal rates puzzles

I can't resist publishing questions about unusual postal rates. Here are a few more to amuse (or irritate) you.



This attractive Hvammstangi cover was offered for auction. My guess is that probably either the sender Sig Pálmason, or the Hvammstangi postal official, wrongly applied the 20aur plus 20aur Nordic rate on this registered letter to Norway via Newcastle in January 1921. In fact, UPU rates applied to Norway at that time as the country did not enter the Nordic Postal Union until 1.9.22. I would welcome any other explanation of the 40 aur rate on this nice cover.



Henk Burgman offers this very attractive cover for opinions on the postal rate used on 7.X.22 at Hafnarfjörður. The front seems to provide plenty of clues which require interpretation. Can anyone offer any advice on how the post office arrived at the 50 aurar postal rate shown?



Akureyri to Sweden in 1939.

The franking is 120aur, which would be correct for (a) 20aur Nordic surface letter + 20aur airmail

+ 50aur Express + 30aur registration. Or (b) 40aur surface for 21-125gm letter + 50aur Express + 30aur registration. There is no Icelandic registration label. If we assume it was not registered, then I cannot justify 120aur franking. There is no evidence the cover went via GB, but the British post office used blue crayon to indicate registration, although normally a large cross on the envelope. It clearly

says "Expres", therefore, what are the purpose of the blue crayon lines at top left? .

Unusual destinations ~ U

UGANDA

Ísafjörður B2c1 dated 16.XII.47. The first cover is likely to have travelled via Britain and onwards by British air services. The 3 x 30aur franking placed at the bottom left was probably intended for the 90aur airmail supplement up to 5gm to Uganda, current from 1.10.47 to 14.11.49. The surface letter rate of 60aur, or at least the 12aur printed matter rate should have been added, instead of which we have the unexplainable 3aur fish stamp instead. The arrival date in Uganda is probably the handstamped 29 DEC 1947.



Reykjavík 8 B7b unclear date, Kampala arrival on reverse dated 26 AU 93.
55kr airmail plus 250kr Express – correct 305kr rate applied 1.11.92 to 15.11.95

URUGUAY



B1c1 Reykjavík dated 21.I.53. 590aur all in rate up to 10gm current from 23.3.50 to 30.9.53

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C2e Brjefhirðing Questions



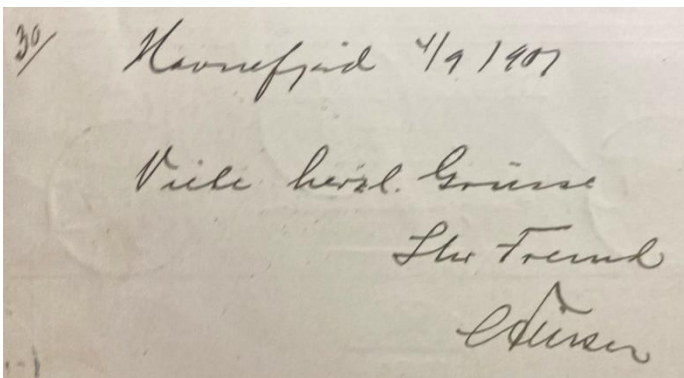
The numeral handbook records that 5 cancels of this type were delivered in 1899. The problem has been to identify which collecting offices they were allocated to, presumably as temporary emergency cancels. Occasional attempts have been written to suggest possible allocations, but no firm conclusions have resulted. Over the next few months, or maybe it may take longer, Jørgen Steen Larsen is making a determined effort to go as far as possible to solve this mystery.

In the meantime, I would like to ask our readers two questions.

1. Do you know of any crown cancel covers with the BRJEFHIRÐING cancel? There are none in our database, so I am not optimistic, but you never know!
2. Are there any examples known of stamps with both the brjefhirðing cancel and another cancel alongside? Such a thing might give a clue of a locality.

Philatelic cards and covers: Stamp dealer Otto Bickel, Germany (37/2020)

(Ed.) The series on famous dealers by J. Arrevad & E. Eldrup brought this interesting contribution from Leif Fugslig.



I found on Ebay recently a 8aur spc. (Facit 25) upfranked with a 3 aur 2 kings, sent from Rvík 5-9-1907, Copenh. 12-9-1907, Munich 13-9-07. sent to Otto Bickel, Munich. On the backside dated 4-9.1907 is written: Viele herliche grusse - Ihr freund O. Finsen. Referring to the essay in issue 43 about Kinze letters, I find it interesting, that the postmaster apparently was on good terms with another receiver of many "dubious" overfranked and often very early Í GILDI letters. Best Leif

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Superb example of the Kúludalsá B1a (Facit cat *)



They do not come better looking than this superb strike which sold at auction for \$241. It is probably C.T.O.. Brian Stwalley wrote about the use of this cancel in IPM Issue 1. The incidence of CTO examples of this rare cancel was also covered at some length in an article in IslandsKontakt 95 "**Advarsel om CTO afstemplinger med brotypestemplet fra Kúludalsá**" by Jørgen Steen Larsen.

I confess that my own rather less fine copy may also be of dubious origin.

More on those philatelic covers from Iceland to stamp dealer Julius Kinze, Dresden

Ellis Glatt

There may be more to the story presented in IPM Issue 43 (March 2021) by Jakob Arrevad and Ebbe Eldrup regarding those Kinze philatelic covers.

For example, also posted from Reykjavik on the same day as some of the Kinze covers highlighted in that earlier article was a group of five very similar registered covers sent to the Hague. The covers, all posted on 1-12-1903 and bearing consecutive registration numbers, are addressed to one Volkert Kleyn van Willigen. The group is pictured below in Figures 1a through 1e, while one of the corresponding Kinze covers is shown in Figure 2.

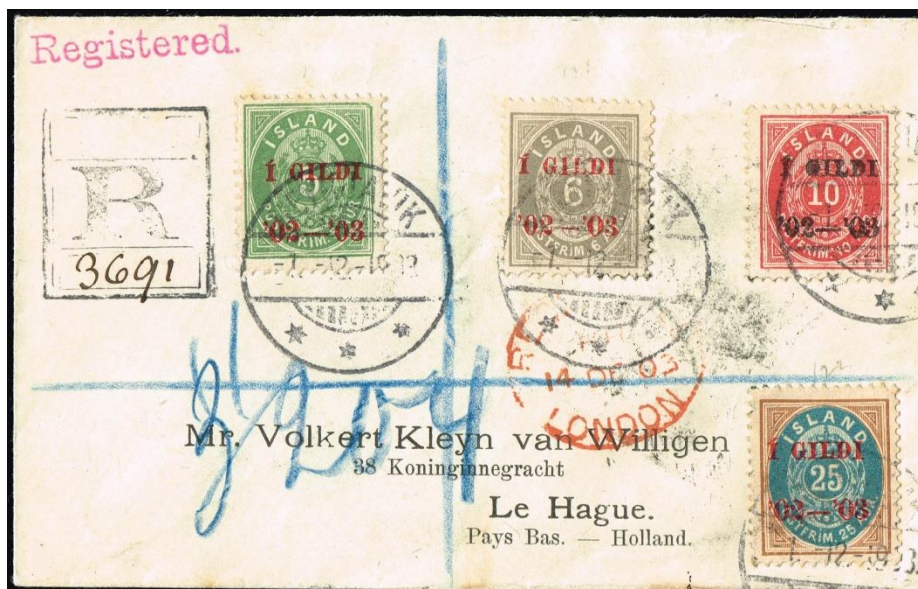


Figure 1a – van Willigen No. 3691

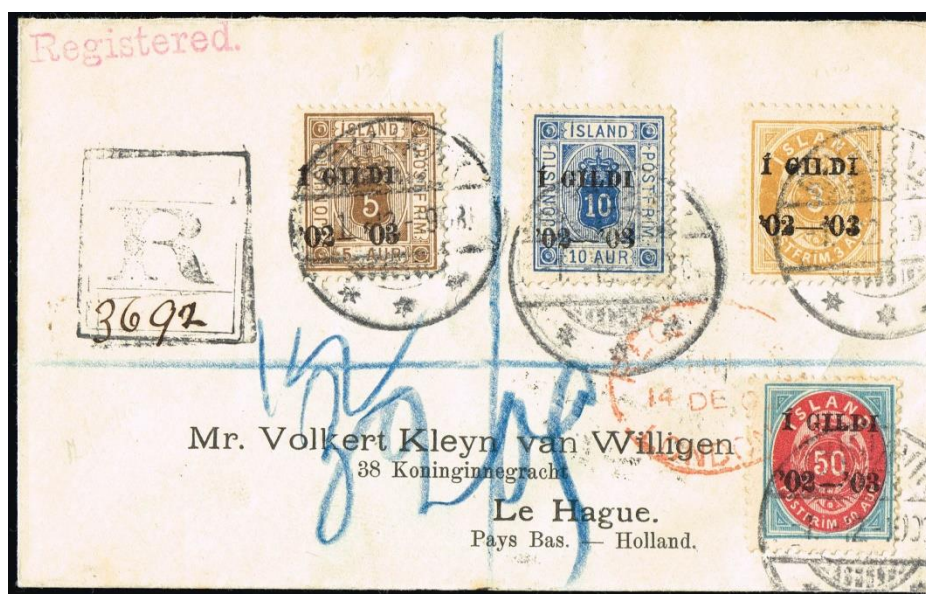


Figure 1b – van Willigen No. 3692

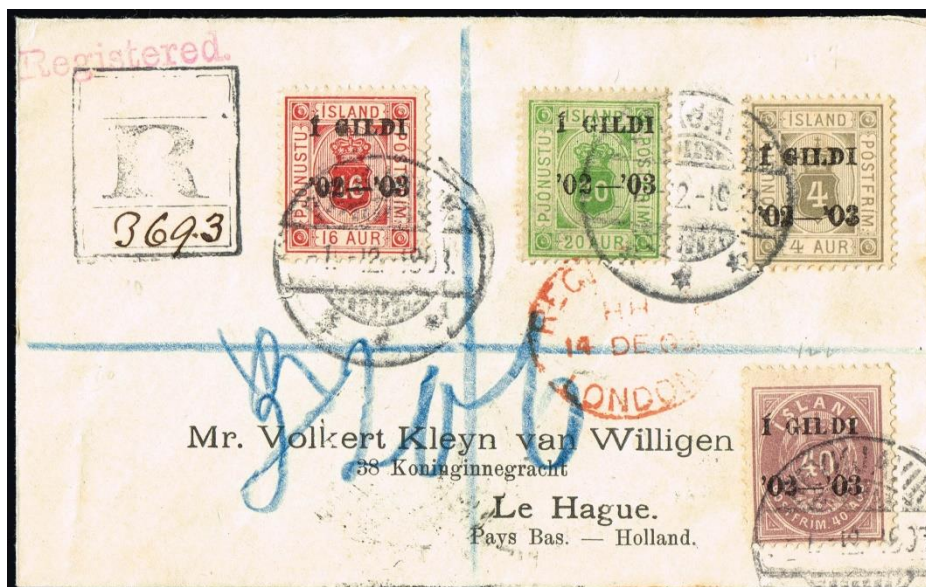


Figure 1c – van Willigen No. 3693

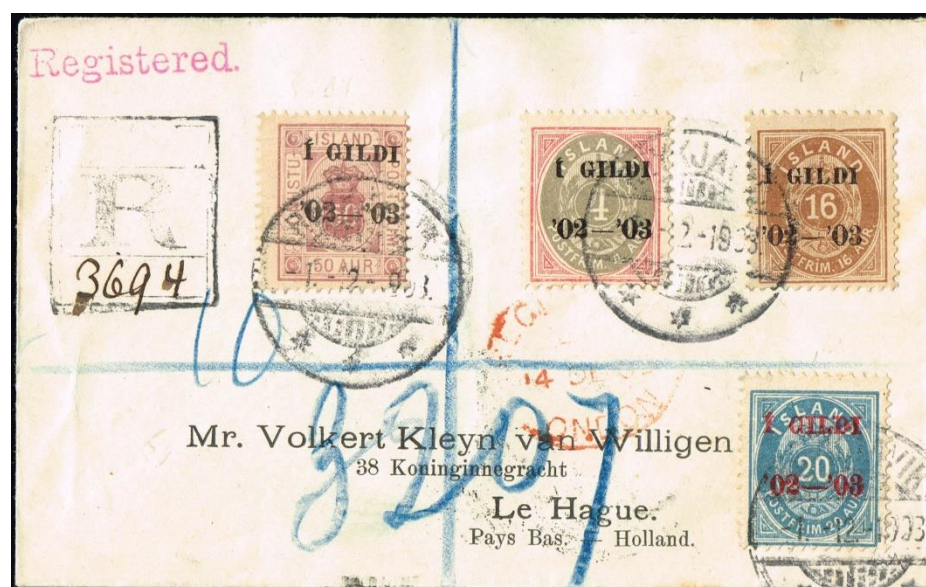


Figure 1d – van Willigen No. 3694



Figure 1e – van Willigen No. 3695



Figure 2 – Kinze No. 3688

Note that the van Willigen registration numbers follows that found on the Kinze example, with only a two-number gap. Moreover, the covers were all sent using the same petite envelopes and are virtually identical in nearly all other respects.

So, the first question that arises is: Who posted the van Willigen covers (and the Kinze covers, for that matter)? Was it a dealer in Iceland accommodating other dealers in Germany and Holland, assuming van Willigen was also a dealer? Or was van Willigen merely a client of one of the dealers? These questions aside, from a cursory inspection of these covers, a few facts do arise.

The first thing that stands out is that each of the covers is franked with sufficient (albeit excessive) regular postage to cover the 35-aur UPU rate for a registered letter up to 15 grams. Therefore, any official stamps affixed in addition to those regular postage stamps were merely philatelic additions, but NOT illegal, at least in this writer's opinion, since they were not being used for payment of postage. As to those official stamps on the letters receiving cancels, one can assume these were merely considered favor cancels by the Reykjavik postal clerk to apparently accommodate a valued customer.

Finally, there is another very interesting and possibly unique feature of these van Willigen covers that make them highly collectible as a group. The five covers collectively exhibit the full set of regular and official service Í Gildi stamps (all 18 values in total, but ignoring perforation variants). My guess is that if one pulls together enough of those related Kinze covers, another full set or two might materialize. Happy hunting!

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Distorted Numeral 78?



Spotted on Ebay. Has anyone seen this before? It might be Numeral 78 with some spectacular damage to the outer ring. I have no recollection of seeing this variety.

Iceland Coils – Revisited *Ron Collin*

This is in reference to the article on Iceland Coils that was originally written by Jay Smith and reproduced with the author's permission, in the Iceland Philatelic Magazine Issue #41.

That was an excellent article on the coils of Iceland, and contained quite a bit of information. I was rereading it this afternoon, and thought that with such a lot of text involved, possibly some images would help to show some of the points brought out in the article.

Jay mentioned for collectors to check the mint Gullfoss stamps in their collections. They may find some examples of stamps with part of the tab attached to the back. This is caused by what is also referred to as a "pasteup". That is where a strip of stamps is attached to another strip of stamps by attaching a trimmed down portion of the selvage to the back of the last stamp in the previous strip.

Here are the backs of some of my Gullfoss singles, so you can familiarize yourself with what the little pasteup tabs look like.

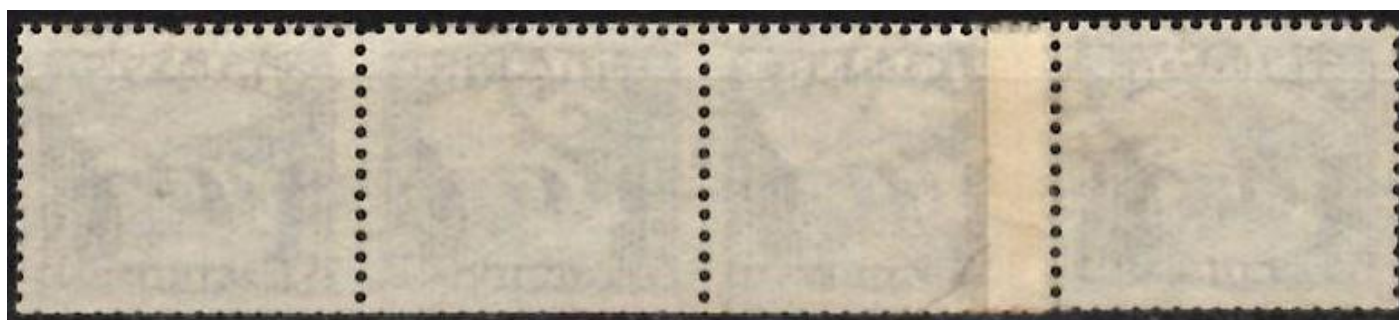


Coil strips also exist. Here below are scans of the front and the back of a strip of four of the 5 aur Gullfoss. This happens to be a pasteup strip of four. You will notice the attached tab to the back of stamp 1 in the strip. If you look at the top and bottom perfs of the front of stamp #1 in the strip, you can also see the tab protruding beyond the perforation tips.



Now generally speaking, Jay was correct that it is difficult to find loose used stamps with the pasteup tabs still attached. This would normally be caused by the soaking of the stamps. This is something we have all experienced in soaking stamps; some things just float away.

However, the adhesive sometimes made a bonding connection at the pasteup intersection that was sufficient to sometimes even overcome the soaking. Here is the front and back of a used pasteup coil strip of four of the 35 aur Gullfoss.



Jay suggests looking at covers in order to sometimes find a coil stamp that was used to pay the postage. Here is a scan of my cover with a 20 aur Gullfoss coil stamp that shared the postal rate with a 10 aur Charity stamp of 1933, canceled in Reykjavik on 9. VII. 33. I cropped the 20 aur stamp so that you can see all four clipped sides of the coil stamp.



I hope that these images have helped with following along with Jay's excellent article.

Seyðisfjörður Post Office 1.3.1870 to 7.11.1870 *Leif Fuglsig*

Many years ago I got from the Danish postal museum copies of a correspondence between Mr. O. Smith former postmaster in Seyðisfjörður and the Danish postal authorities. It is from 1871-72, and the topic is about returning the remaining stamps from his time in Seyðisfjörður. It shows which stamps the post office had, and how many they used. Inspired by the reprint of Indriði Pálsson's essay in Issue 43, I have attempted to translate the correspondence, which is handwritten of course, is hard to interpret and is in the old official language which is no longer used.

As you probably know, Lemvig is a little town in northwest Jutland. Smith was the bailiff. It was like a mayor, but not elected by the citizens but by the state.

Lemvig 15 oct. 1871

To the Director General,

According to the lately delivered account from me as postmaster on Seydisfjord in 1870, there were still in stock postage stamps to an amount of 22 Rd. As I, from that time, still have stamps to an amount of 16 Rd., I take the liberty respectfully to ask, if the local post office might be given an order to receive these as well as the amount, that I will have to pay in cash, it would probably amount to 6 Rd. 64 Sk.

(the rest of the letter deals only with the shipping back to Denmark of the equipment from the post office)
signed O. Smith

10. jan. 1872 (answer from the directorate)

To town bailiff, Smith, Lemvig,

According to your letter of 15 Oct. 1871 about the delivery of postage stamps in your possession from the time you were in charge of the post office in Seydisfjord, I should request you to send the stamps (to an amount of 16 Rd.) here, but to deliver the amount of money (6 Rd.) coming from the sale of the rest of the stamps remaining, when you made your last post-account, to Lemvig post office, which I today have given the necessary order.

Lemvig 12. jan 1872

To the Directorate

In accordance with your welcome letter of 10. this month, I have today paid to Lemvig post office 6 Rd., and I herewith send the stamps.

<i>1 sheet 4 Rd.</i>	<i>4 Rd.</i>	
<i>51 pc.s 16 sk.</i>	<i>8 - 48 sk.</i>	
<i>18 - 8 -</i>	<i>1 - 48 -</i>	
<i>1 - 4-</i>	<i>4-</i>	
<i>8 - 3-</i>	<i>24-</i>	
<i>82- 2-</i>	<i>1- 68-</i>	
<hr/>		
<i>total</i>	<i>16 Rd.</i>	

O. Smith

Comments.

It is documented (1. sept. 1869) that the Danish post office in Reykjavik received 5 sheets of each of the current Danish stamps (2, 3, 4, 8 and 16 skilling). The quantity of stamps sent to Seyðisfjörð in 1870 is not known, but it was supposedly smaller. According to Ib Krarup Rasmussen's study of the post-route to the Faroes and Iceland (brought in NFT 1988-89), the sendings from Seyðisfjörð were: Letters: 44 to Reykjavík,

10 to Thorshavn, 320 to Copenhagen, 44 ship letters to English or Scottish harbours. 17 Postal money orders to Copenhagen, 5 Money letters to R.vík, 2 to Copenhagen, 8 Packages to R.vík, 4 to Copenhagen. Rasmussen assumed that stamps for ca. 80 Rd.(Rigsdaler) were used. 3 sheets of each stamp value would make 99 Rd. Deducting the 22 Rd. leftover it makes 77 Rd., not far from his assumption.

The 320 letters sent to Copenhagen include letters to addresses in Denmark, as well as letters to foreign destinations. Letters to Denmark had to be franked with either 8 or 16 sk. weight up to 15 gr. or over. The Bøgh cancellations are nearly all on 4 sk. I remember having seen only one 8 sk. with 237. Not a single sending has survived, as strange as it may seem. If Mr. Smith had been able to look into the future, he surely would have sent letters to family and friends with strict orders to preserve.

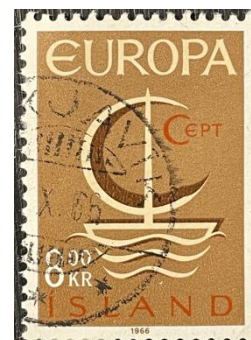
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Unresolved mystery – false B5c Reykjavík

I will start with a question previously asked by Eivind Kolstad. If you possessed a fake cancelling device, why would you use it on ordinary common stamp issues? Assuming the motivation is to deceive collectors and make money, would you not select expensive stamps to enhance the selling value? Articles have been written in IslandsKontakt 82 and Rapport 141 about a false B5c, illustrated clearly below on a 5kr CHX issue. The false canceller was apparently used on the more exotic stamps, e.g. Hopflug, CHX blocks, 10kr on 50aur Fred VIII and the 2kr 1940 New York issue. The accepted conclusion was that all Reykjavík B5c strikes before 1951 are false. The false cancel was originally listed in the 1993 edition of Þór Þorstein's book *Íslenskir Stimplar Brúar-, Rúllu og Vélstimplar*, as B5c R37. It was withdrawn in the 2003 edition.



Obvious fake on expensive 5 kr CHIX issue



Eivind's B5c on a "common" Europa issue

The partial strike of B5c on Eivind's Europa stamp is sufficiently clear to show the extended letters of Reykjavík common to the B5a canceller, but with a roman month as befits a B5c. The legitimate B5c Reykjavík cancels shown below are R33 and R34 in the 2003 edition of Þór's book. The positioning of the letters of Reykjavík illustrate the difference.



As far as we know, nobody so far has offered an explanation for why the false B5c should appear on the Europa stamp, which Eivind says shows all the signs of having been postally used in October 1966. Your opinions are most welcome, and of course any images you can provide of other late examples of the false B5c on R34, R35 "ordinary" issues.

I know it may be unlikely, but there is a remote possibility that the fake canceller somehow came into the hands of the post office, and whether deliberate or not, went into general use. Examples of it on ordinary stamps and of course on cover would support that theory. However, as far as I am aware, we only have the example on Eivind's Europa issue.

Customs clearance paid by stamps from 1.12.1938. Jørgen Steen Larsen.

Þór Þorsteins states in GJALDA OG SÖFNUNARMERKI AUK STIMPLA Á ÍSLANDI at page 67, that:
"With the passage of the new Customs Laws in 1938 the Post and telegraph authorities found possibilities to change the method of handling receipts and on 1 December 1938 the confirmation of paying duties on parcels with stamps was discontinued."

ÞP writes on page 66 in his handbook, that "Payment of handling fees continued when paying duty. After the close of the customs stamping period in 1938, stamps in payment of the fee were affixed to the customs invoice handed to the recipient; after 1941 this was no longer permitted and the stamps were retained by the post office. Shortly afterward this use of stamps was discontinued, although the exact date is unknown."

Based on these statements it has been a mystery for a long time that I have a number of usages of the B5a cancel that was used at Tollpóststofan on stamps from 1939 and until 1951.



B5a (R-32) used at Tollpóststofan, "I" points to corner of pillars.

R. 76

Tollreikningur

fyrir greiddum gjöldum af böggli/bréfi

til *Þorsteins Þorsteinsson*

Verðtollur,	6 % af	kr.					
	10 % af	—					
	15 % af	—					
	19 % af	872.56			145.75		
	38 % af	—					
	63 % af	—					
	125 % af	—					
Viðskiptagjald,	2 % af	kr.					
	8 % af	872.56			69.80		
	10 % af	—					
	15 % af	—					
	30 % af	—					
Vörutollur, af	tolleiningum, 10 kg á	60 aura					
	af	10 kg á 180					
	af	10 kg á 100					
	af 1 böggli (minnsta gjald)	100 aurar			160.236.55		
Gjaldandi 12 % af kr.					28.89		
Tollgjöld samtals					264.97		

Tollstimpill og númer þessa reiknings var sett á *17.1.1939*

Þetta skjal er því að eins fullgild kvittun fyrir tollgjöldunum, að því fylgi tilheyrandi innkaupsreikningur, tollskýrsla eða annað skjal, sem póstaðgreiddandi stimplaði tollstimpli og tölusetti því númeri, sem reikningur þessi ber.

Fyrir tollmeðferð á *1* bgl., 50 au. fyrir hvern bgl. *150*

Geymslugjald, 5 aura á dag fyrir böggul frá *17.1.1939*

Umboðsgjald (Droit de commission)

Póstgjöld samtals *150*

Greitt.

Tollpóststofan Reykjavík *17.1.1939*

Friðr. limis með *150*

TOLLÞÓSTSTOFAN REYKJAVÍK

On page 70 in his handbook ÞP shows a "Tollreikningur fyrir greiddum gjöldum af böggli/bréfi" used 17.1.1939.

In the lower right corner there is printed "13920000" meaning that the form was printed in January 1939 in 20.000 numbered copies.

Here 2*20 aur Gullfoss and 2*5 aur M Jochumsson, total 50 aur, was paid and cancelled with B5a "Fyrir tollmeðferð á (1 - handwritten) bgl., 50 au. fyrir böggul ..."

All other customs fees for this package were paid in cash.

Tollreikning cancelled with B5a at Tollpóststofan 17.1.39.

I have or have seen similar forms, or pieces from similar forms dated 3.2.1940, 9.12.1940, 15.6.45, 28.2.1952 and 31.12.1952.

Number of dates with usages of the B5a Tollpóststofan cancel on loose stamps.

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
0	4	6	4	0	2	1	8	7	1	0	1	0



Example with 23 * 25 aur Fish, cancelled with B5a at Tollpóststofan 21.5.47.

I believe that all the usages of B5a on loose stamps come from the front and back of forms “Tollreikningur fyrir greiddum gjöldum af böggli/bréfi” and “Tollreikningur” but the dates of my usages of the B5a cancel above do not seem to fit with ÞÞ’s statements.

If ÞÞ was right, I should not have been able to find any usages from after 1941!

ÞÞ also wrote that according to Póstblaðið the following duty handling fees are known:

<u>Starting date.</u>	<u>Fee for each parcel.</u>
June 1922	25 aur.
1.April 1930	40 aur.
1 February 1935	50 aur.
March 1940	75 aur.

From the Tollreikningur cancelled 31.12.1952 we know, that the fee had been increased to 200 au. at the latest in 1952.

When did additional increases (in one or more steps) from 75 aur. to 200 aur. take place?

When did the fee stop?

(Editor) Jørgen’s interesting article allows me this opportunity to add the customs handling charges as a supplement below. A few non-customs related services are also added where shown. The answer to JSL’s first question is shown below. The date customs clearance fees ceased is difficult to identify, except it appeared to be still there in 1996).

Steinar assures me that “*Gjald fyrir að búa um böggla á ný*” does indeed translate as “fee for repackaging parcels”. Can any of our Icelandic readers explain why such a service with fees was necessary? Has anyone seen an example with fees paid for this service as shown on the following table?

Date	<u>Letter and parcel customs clearance</u>
15/11/42	85aur
15/11/49	125
1/5/50	200
1/4/56	300
1/7/58	500

	<u>Customs clearance fee for Letter, printed matter and small packet</u>	<u>parcel</u>	<u>delivery fee for small packets</u>	<u>fee for repackaging parcels</u>
1/1/63			7kr	
1/1/66	8kr,	14kr	7	7
1/1/68	9	18		
1/1/69	10	20	10	14
1/7/73	15	30	**	20
1/4/74	20	40		25
1/1/75	27	54		34
1/10/75	35	65		40
1/5/76	45	80		50
1/1/77	60	105		65
1/2/78	90	150		90 100 (15/2/78)
1/5/78	100	170		100
1/1/79	100	190		110
1/3/79	120	210		120
1/2/80	150	270		140
1/5/80	170	310		170
1/8/80	190	340		190
1/11/80	210	370		210
1/2/81	230aur now in aurar	410aur		230aur
1/6/81	300	500		250
1/9/81	400	600		270
1/12/81				290
1/3/82	500	700		320
1/6/82	600	800		350
1/9/82	700	900		400
1/12/82	800	1000		500
1/3/83	900	1100		600
1/6/83	1100	1400		750
1/9/83	1300	1700		900
1/7/85	1700	2000		1100
1/2/86	21kr now in new kr	25kr		14
1/2/87	23	28		15
1/7/87	25	30		17
1/1/88	35	40		20
16/7/88	50	55		25

** service discontinued from 1/4/74 when small packet inland rates were established

	<u>letter printed matter, small packet and parcel</u>	
1/9/89	100	30
1/11/90	120	35
1/2/91	125	36
1/10/91	145	45
16/11/95	155	55
1/6/96	180	65

*** service appears to have been discontinued around this time.

An African safari in 1946



Posted in Akureyri 26.4.46. 60aur overseas surface rate to the Belgian Congo.

Fortunately, a full set of remarkably clear transit marks show its journey across the Belgian Congo. The cover is re-addressed in crayon to "Costville", presumably shorthand for Costermansville, now Bukavu on Lake Kivu on the border with Ruanda-Urundi, although not visible on this map.



1. Kinshasa formerly Leopoldville
15/7/46

2. Kindu
8/8/46

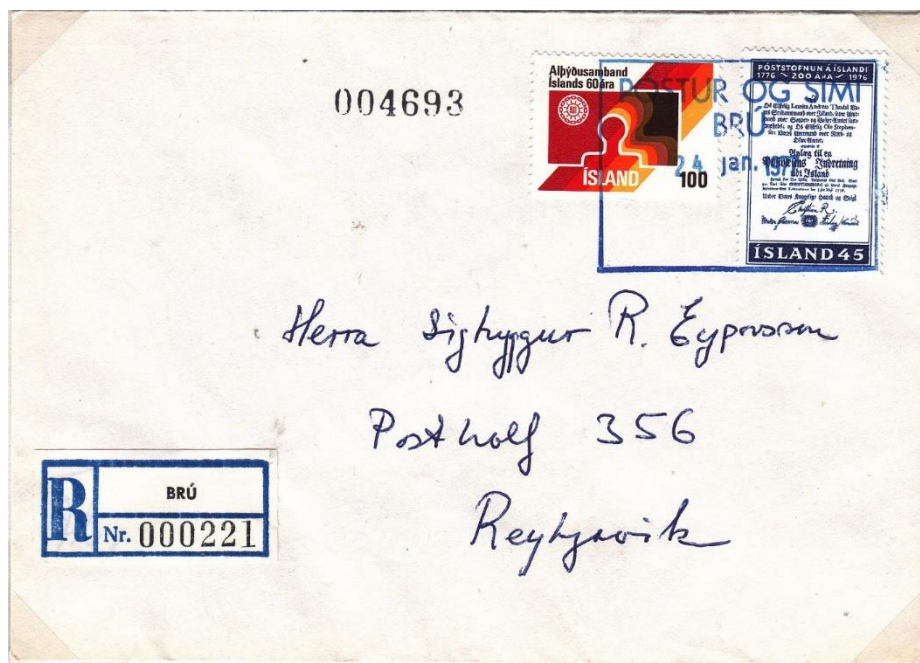
3. Kasongo
9/8/46

4. Bukavu formerly Costermansville
17/8/46 Not on this map but located above near where Nya Lukemba is shown.

Where was the B-postmark? Ole Svinth

Once upon a time I was a keen postmark collector inspired by Folmer Østergaard. I sent covers containing franked covers to the Icelandic post offices. These covers were addressed to some philatelic friends all over the world. Sometimes covers were returned directly with inscription "Office closed", but normally I had covers returned from my friends after 2-4 weeks.

Now and then I had covers with "surprise postmarks" like the 2 covers shown. They are both now in possession of Jørgen Steen Larsen. Jørgen has asked me to raise the question of "Why was the office cancel used on these two covers?"



Inland registered cover sent from Brú 24 JAN. 1977. Postage letter 0-20 gr was 45 kr. Registration fee 100 kr.



Registered airmail cover to Australia sent from Brú 24 JAN. 1977. Postage 0-20 gr. was 85 kr. Registration fee 100 kr.



The B8e was sent to Brú 12 9 1960 and was according to Thor Thorsteins used 1960-1976.



The B7b postmark was sent to Brú from Reykjavik 18. 10. 1976, and should according to Thor Thorsteins be known from the end of 1976. The earliest known cover held by Jørgen Steen Larsen is dated? 3. 1977.

It looks as if the B7b was not in use until after 24 I 1977. Was the postmark in fact delayed on its way from Reykjavik to Brú? Dear readers, "Is anyone able to show a copy of B7b with a date earlier than Jørgen's? 3 1977?"

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An odd airmail rate designed for only a small group of countries

This is the title of Ole Svinth's article in the very first issue of IPM in 2015, in which he described the difficulty in finding properly used examples of the 1956 230aur Telegraph stamp. In Issues 4 and 5/2016 Mike Schumacher followed up with examples, and here are two more from Mike. One a FDC 230aur airmail rate to Denmark, and the last one, although not a 230aur rate, is nevertheless an example of an unusual use of the stamp as a filler to make up the 255aur Scandinavian airmail rate from 1.4.57 to 30.6.58. This is a fair assumption given that the postmark and date are unfortunately illegible.



Ink cancellation from R. 2/7 1931 Ole Svinth

I met this cancellation years ago. Many explanations are at hand, but as usual you need two copies. The “R” represents multiple possibilities.

- 1 A bridge cancel was shortly broken. Only around 10 offices start with an “R”.
- 2 Many Brejfhirdings had numeral cancels. Again, we have close to 10 starting with “R”.
- 3 Could it be a fiscal marking?

We do not have that many “cancellation specialists”. Has any collector ever seen a cancellation like this? If so, let readers know through editor. I turn to my favorite “professor” Jørgen Steen Larsen to have his opinion. I am quite sure it is not Reykjavík. If so, I am quite sure we would have known about it. It is hard to imagine Reykjavík Post office without a cancel available.



Cancelled with ink R. 2/7 31. Year somewhat weak.

I have offered this item to Jørgen Steen Larsen. His reaction was as follows,

“I have now investigated the item carefully. I am sure it says R. 2/7 31. I am sure it will be almost impossible to locate the origin. I shall think about it, and will let you know my conclusion - if any.”

Here follows Jørgen’s conclusion:-

Here you have “Reykia...” and “Reykja...” on Gullfoss.



These are only from a few years later than Ole’s “R” manuscript cancellation.

Especially the Reykja... cancellation seems to me to have an “R” similar to the “R” on the 10 aur stamp.

Where could these three manuscript cancellations come from?

In Bæjatal 1930 the official abbreviation for

Reykjavík is “R”. Sigurður H. Thorsteinsson wrote about “Reykj.” and believes that it is from Reykjaskóli, Hrótafirði.

He also reported about “Reykir” and believes that it is from the same place.

Hans von Strokirch wrote about “Reykja” on Gullfoss (the same as shown above) and believes that it is from Reykjaskóli.

Besides Reykjavík and Reykjaskóli, there seem to be many other possibilities such as: Reykir, Reykjadalur, Reykjalíð, Reykjanes, Reykjarfjörður and Reykjanesbær.

Can any of our readers help?