



ISLANDS *Kontakt*

SPECIAL # 17 – 2020 V2 – BO'NESS

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This is a part of a series published online which summarizes, supplemented by recent discoveries, information published over the years in IslandsKontakt and elsewhere. We must all be grateful for the sustained efforts of all those who, over the years, as Editors or Authors have contributed to the gathering and dissemination of information relevant to the philately of Iceland.

Borrowstounness commonly known as Bo'ness (/boʊˈnɛs/ boh-NESS) is a coastal town and parish in the Central Lowlands of Scotland. It lies on a hillside on the south bank of the Firth of Forth within the Falkirk council area, 16.9 miles (27.2 km) north-west of Edinburgh and 6.7 miles (10.8 km) east of Falkirk – near Grangemouth.

One ring cancellation

In 1890 and 1891:



Used as late as 1908 on this card send from Denmark to “somebody” on a ship, “S/S ??” in Bo'ness – but he was not found.



Duplex 255

Thereafter number stamp with two barrels (probably duplex cancelation) and number 355 can be found (Iceland Philatelic Magazine Issue 7 - page 21) from 1887 probably until 1906.



SHIP	DEPARTURE	FROM	ARRIVAL	TO	KOMMENTS
TJALVE	14.06.1907	REYKJAVIK		BO'NESS	2KR.
RINGFONE	03.08.1908	REYKJAVIK		BO'NESS	2KR.

Twin-arc 35

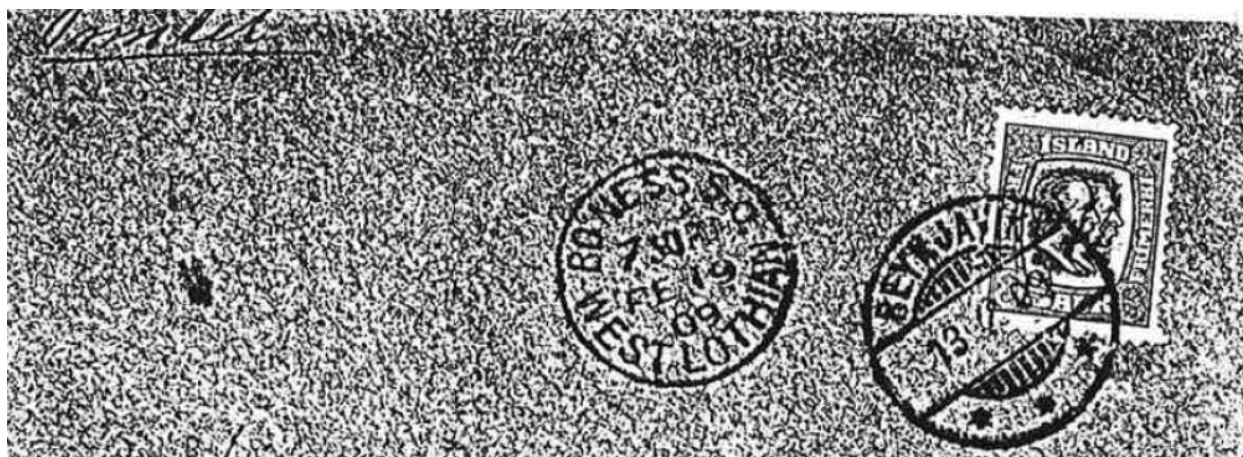
Here is an UK example from 1908 with the number 355 in the bottom of a twin-arc



BO'NESS S.O. WEST LOTHIAN

Transit cancellation is with a round stamp with the text "BO'NESS S.O. WEST LOTHIAN" as the ones shown below.

ELISABETH	13.02.1909	REYKJAVIK	19.02.1909	BO'NESS	1KR.
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Shilling show this example – a letter send to USA. Indicating use of the cancellation from 1909 until 1913, but also used in 1915 as shown in the following.



Mike Tuttle in Scandinavian Contact, June 2001 page 363. A Brjefspjald send from Reykjavik 9/2 '09

ELIZABETH	25.11.1909	REYKJAVIK		BONNESS - GRANGE- MOUTH	3KR.
	None	?	16.10.1912	BONNESS	Islandsklubben Sverige 2002 lot # 1482 og 2017 # 1639



	28.03.1913	REYKJAVIK	03.04.1913	BO'NESS	
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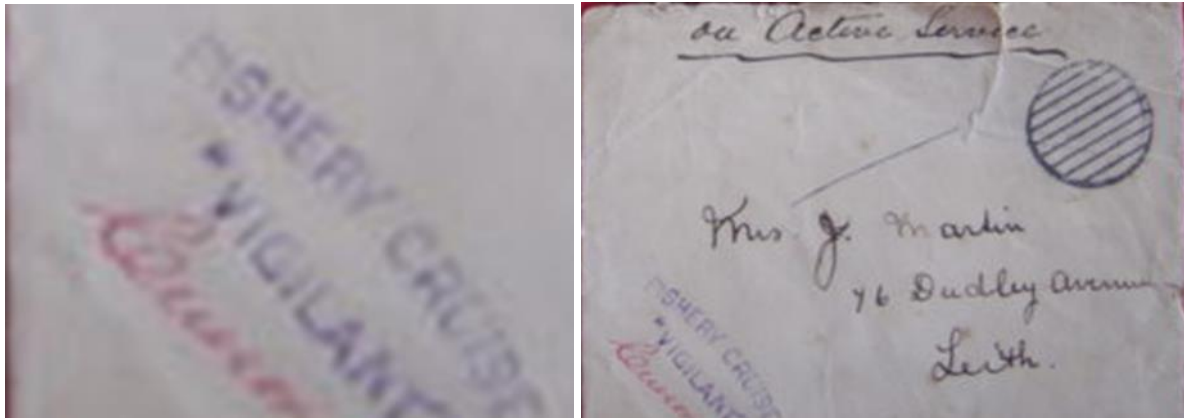


It must be noted that the recipient is the well known H.N. Hviid – known for “special” cancellations etc.

“Silent”

The following is not directly known on mail from Iceland, but as it is “silent”, and - as cancellations like that is known on Icelandic stamps – it is possible, that they have been around VIGILANT during WW1.

VIGILANT	?	?	07.09.1915	BO'NESS	
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The E-bay tekst: WW1 FISHERY CRUISER ' VIGILANT ' STAMPED WW1 ENVELOPE - LEITH – EDINBURGH.

The interesting part of it is the silent cancellation and the connection to Bo'ness and the vessel Vigilant used for examination.

VIGILANT (II) (In the fleet from 1897 to 1936) Iron screw steamer – patrol ship. Official No: 91905, Tonnage: 134grt, 44nrt; Dimensions: 105 x 20 x 9 feet. Main Machinery: Compound, 2-cylinder, constructed by Ramage & Ferguson, Leith, 240ihp, 11½ knots.



History: The vessel was built in 1886 by Ramage & Ferguson, Leith for Lord Alfred Paget, London as yacht VIOLET. In 1888 she was sold to French owners and renamed VIOLETTE and then sold again in 1893, when she was re-named VIOLET. After being sold once more in 1893, she was acquired by the

Fishery Board for Scotland in 1894 and renamed VIGILANT. In 1914 she was requisitioned by the Royal Navy for service as an examination vessel and continued in that work until 1919 when she resumed service with the Board. The vessel remained in fishery protection service until being sold for breaking up in 1936.

Silent cancellations were used other places.

For the WW1 mail and “silent” cancellation see: IslandsKontakt # 31 page 9-22 (Jørgen Steen Larsen from Nordia 1998); IslandsKontakt # 39 page 18; (Wilbur Jónsson, Mike Tuttle and Roger Patridge – with supplement from Jørgen Steen Larsen); IslandsKontakt # 41 page 5; (Thor Thorsteins, Roger Patridge and Mike Tuttle); IslandsKontakt # 53 page 19 (Jørgen Steen Larsen); IslandsKontakt #82 page 7 (Mike Tuttle og Ole Svinth).