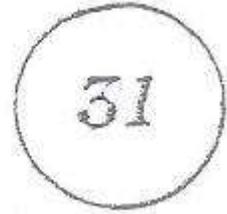


ICELAND PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

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 February. If you need help with translations let me know.

The editors will help with the English if necessary.

flackbp@gmail.com

News/Comment

New inland postal rates were announced, effective from 1st June 2016. With the exception of “Advice of Receipt” (AR), the overseas rates remain unchanged since May 2014. I am not going to repeat my old gripe about the use of non-denominated stamps, because that battle has been lost; but for as long as it remains possible, I will not resist the temptation to suggest valid denominated stamps which might be used for the new inland rates by diligent Icelanders. Unfortunately there is no current single 175kr stamp, but the post office currently issue 10 and 5kr stamps as makeup values. These can be used with lots of different 165kr stamps for the new 175kr letter rate. Also there are a large number of 90kr stamps, which used in pairs, make up the 180kr second weight step. On the subject of modern postal rates, I cannot understand the apparent lack of recent registered covers for sale on Ebay. Typically these must use combinations of nvi stamps, often with the current 10 and 5kr makeup values. Perhaps our Icelandic readers might comment on this.

+++++

Received from **Stan Rehm**, Madison, Wisconsin



I'll use this opportunity to ask your opinion of the item scanned in the attachment. I don't know where I got it; it has been sitting in the back of my album for some years. It appears to me to have begun life as postal stationery. I have seen cut squares of postal stationery affixed to envelopes for use as "postage," but in this case someone apparently went to the considerable trouble of re-perforating the item (and it is gummed on the back).

The "cancel" - if you want to call it such - looks distinctly “fakey”, so perhaps the entire item is some type of cinderella concocted by a philatelic club for a special event.

Editors' opinion: “Stamp” and “postmark” are both fakes.

+++++

Late illegal use? (Chapter I)



These stamps were invalid as postage since December 31st 1921. They were cancelled on arrival at Copenhagen 16 6 24.

Furthermore the letter rate was 20 aur since July 1st 1920.

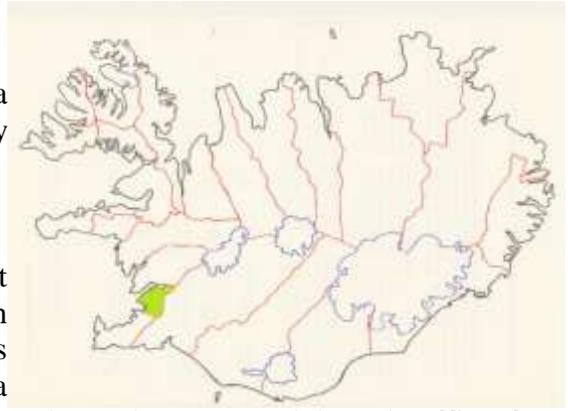
The use of stamps with expired validity is mostly known on the Alþing issue of 1930. In these cases the shipment was always delivered

directly to the ship, and the Icelandic post was not able to catch and charge the shipment. Accordingly these late cancellations are always found with foreign cancellations. If it was a printed matter the postage is correct as printed matter rate up to 50 gr. was 10 aur.

Can you imagine a problem in this case and solve it? Have a look on the last page.

PART 2 – KJÓRSARSÝSLA.

Kjósarsýsla is a county with few villages and three towns and is a mixture of lava fields, mountains and fjords. It is greatly overshadowed by the proximity of the Reykjavík urban area.



2.1 SELTJARNARNESHREPPUR

A collecting office in Seltjarnarnes was first opened at Mýrahúsarskóli on 22.4.1929 and closed 31.12.1960. Between opening and 1952 it used numeral 232 and concurrently with Swiss type B2a from 1.7.1930. It was closed 31.12.1960 but reopened as a collecting office 1.12.1962 and 10.10.1968 at the Steinnes store, changed to a postal branch office from 11.10.1968 to 20.11.1985, then a post office between 21.11.1985 and 6.3.2005. It changed to a postal agency at Hagkaup Eiðistorgi from 7.3.2005 to 8.10.2006, reverted to a post office within the same store till 22.7.2008 and since then has been located at new premises at Eiðistorgi 15. Seltjarnarnes is now a township created in 1974 and located within the Greater Reykjavík area.

Viðey had a collecting office open between 1.10.1926 and 31.12.1942. It used the cancel 200 between opening and June 1930 and then Swiss type B1a till closure. Viðey is the largest island of the Kollafjörður, and is a short ferry ride from Reykjavík. It is the location of the Imagine Peace Tower, which is a "Tower of Light" envisioned and built by Yoko Ono and pictured on a stamp issued in 2008 (F1239) and issue 4 of the island stamps features an outline of Viðey (2005, F1115).



2.2 MOSFELLSHREPPUR

Some 20 Km from Reykjavik, where the main road to the north and the road to the north and the road to Pingvellir branch, is the town of Mossfellsbær that was previously a group of farming hamlets, the oldest of which is Mosfell (1) where a collecting office to service the Northern and Eastern Postal route was opened 1.1.1873, closed 31.12.1886 but had no cancel to its name. The office was then moved to LEIRVOGSTUNGA where it remained till 31.12.1908. In that period it used a single ring crown cancel from 1894 and then number 165. From 1.1.1909 to 31.12.1917 Lágafell (1) used 165 and then the office was moved again, this time to Varmá otherwise known as Mossfellsbær. Again the office was on the move, this time to Álafoss on 23.12.1926.



Here both the numeral cancel 145 (perhaps because the 165 cancel was either lost or damaged) and Swiss type B1a were used concurrently from 1.7.1930 till 1.4.1937 when the office was moved yet again, this time to Brúarland which used number 145 till 1964 and Swiss type B1a. Here it was upgraded to post office on 1.1.1976 and renamed Mossfellsbær where it remains to this day. Mossfellsbær was promoted to a kaupstaður from 9.8.1987. The office became a postal agency operating out of Nóatún at Þverholti 6 from 14.7.2003

till 30.10.2006. It reopened as a post office at Háholt 14 from 1.12.2006. The various Swiss cancels are:

B1a	Álafoss	1.7.1930 – 31.3.1937
B1a	Brúarland	1.4.1937 - 1969
B8e	Brúarland	20.3.1970 – 8.8.1978
B7b	Varmá	9.11.1978 - 1987

B8e	Mossfellsbær	
B8b1	Mossfellsbær	7.10.1987 -
R8a	Varmá	22.8.1979 -
R8ab	Mossfellsbær	
M8	Mossfellsbær	

There is a large wool factory at Álafoss and the area supplies Reykjavik with its hot water. Two famous Icelanders have lived in Mosfell, Egill Skallagrímsson the Viking and poet, and latterly Halldór Laxness the Nobel prize-winning author. Present population of the parish is about 9000 up from the 900 when I first wrote this piece in 1980.

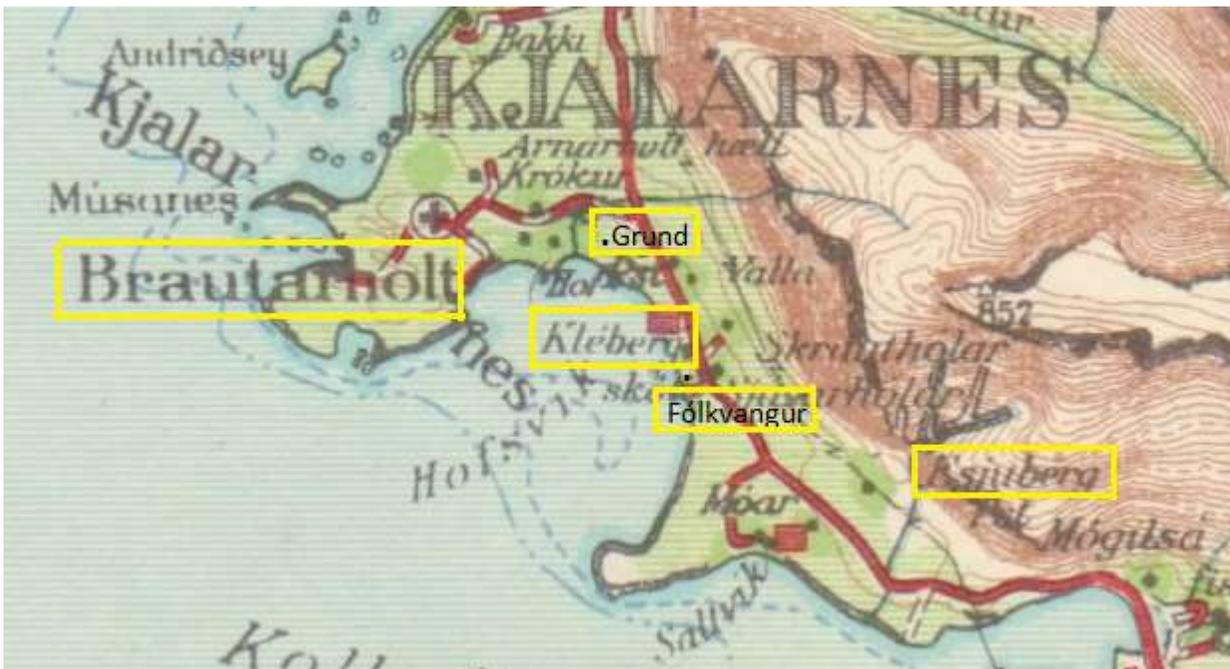
2.3 KJALARNESHREPPUR

Underneath the mountain Esja lie a series of farms strung along beside the main road to the north. Esjuberg was the first to receive a collecting office 1.1.1907 and used number 162 until 1919 when the office was moved to Brautarholt (1), containing the parish church. Brautarholt was open until 30.6.1936 and used 162 and then Swiss type B2a from 1.7.1930. From 1.7.1936 the office was situated at Grund (2) and used the old Brautarholt cancel and number 162 till the office was closed in 1951 and moved again to Kléberg where there is a school. Kléberg used the old B2a Brautarholt cancel, number 162 (till 1955) and then a new Kléberg cancel. It was closed in 1979 and moved to Fólkvangur (actually just across the road from the school) but no cancel is known from here in the 12 months it remained open.

KÓPAVOGUR Kaupstaður

Kópavogur is a *Kaupstaður* or town and was incorporated in 1955. The town lies immediately to the South of

Reykjavík. Two collecting offices were opened at both Fossvogur and Kópavogur on 1.9.1945. Kópavogur office was located at:



- Óskar Eggertsson bústjóri, Kópavogsbús 1945-53 using numeral cancel 243 then Swiss type B2C2 from 1951
- Bensínsalan á Kavogshálsi, Borgarholtsbraut 53 1954-58 using B2C2

Fossvogur office was located at:

- Braggabúð í herskála á Sæbólslandi, Kársnesbr. 3 1945-47 cancel?
- Fossvogur hf, Kársnebraut 1 1948 cancel?
- Guðna Þorgeirssonar, Kársnebraut 1 1949-50 cancel?

- Fossvogur hf , Kársnebraut 1

1950-1952 using B2C2 from 1951



The office then moved to a combined facility at Neðstrutröð 4 from 1.9.1958 till it was upgraded to post office on 1.1.1960. The B2C2 cancel was used in addition to the M3a machine cancel.

The post office was then located at:

- Neðstrutröð 4 1.1.1960 to 2.1965 using B2C2 and B8e from 16.2.1959 and M3a
- Digranesvegur 9 2.1965 to 9.10.2003 using B2C2 till 1974, B8e to 1976 and B8b from 9.4.1970. There is a second type of this cancel (perhaps the altered first type) without the three crosses at the bottom of the cancel used from 23.5.1973. B7b was also used from 1.4.1987. The M3a machine cancel was replaced by M3b on 14.4.1981.

Postal agencies were located at

- Hamraborg 18 10.10.2003 to 28.10.2010 using -?
- Fururgrund 3 1.12.2003 to 8.11.2004 (no cancel known)
- Smáralind 1.12.2003 to 5.11.2004 (no cancel known)

The post office was reopened at

- Hamraborg 1-3 8.2.2007 to 28.10.2010 using B8b1?
- Dalveg 18 29.10.2010 onwards using B8b1?

Finally under Kópavogur, Vatnsendi lies just to the west of Elliðavatn. A collecting office was opened here 1.6.1947 and used cancel B2C2 till it was moved to Melstaður (3) 31.12.1962. Here it remained using the same cancel till 31.12.1966 when it was moved back to Vatnsendi. The office was closed 31.12.1968. Melstaður is by Efri-stíflu near Elliðavatn.

2.4 KJÓSARHREPPUR



On the southern shores of Hvalfjörður lie the farms of Neðri-Háls (also known as Háls (2)) and Reynivellir (2). Neðri-Háls was the first opened as a collecting office in 1901 and from 1903 used 167 until 11.10.1921 when the office was moved to Reynivellir (2).

Reynivellir (2) was open until 01.07.1950 using 167 and Swiss-bridge cancel type B2a. Please note that the Reynivellir crown cancellation was never used at either Reynivellir office. On 1.7.1950 the office was moved back to Neðri-Háls and from there to Eyrarkot 01.01.1962, for that period using Swiss-bridge cancel types B2a (Reynivellir) and B2C2 (Neðri-Háls). Eyrarkot used number 167 (1962-1964), the old B2C2 (Neðri-Háls) (1962) and B8e inscribed Eyrarkot (17.4.1962-11.1.1983). The office was upgraded to post office on 1.1.1976 and closed 11.1.1983.

In the same parish, but further east is the farm of Fossá which was open (and closed) as a collecting office in 1896 but no cancels are known.



Icelandic Charity Part 2

Ten years elapsed following the 1953 Holland Relief stamps before the next charity set was produced.

1963 Centenary of the Red Cross

Once again the choice of values seems to have been badly chosen. Their only use as singles was 300kr for overseas postcards and 350kr for the inland local letter rate. I have never seen examples of these. Can anyone show an example used singly? All mine are in multiples, and two of those are 10 years after the date of issue.



Pair of 3kr cancelled Reykjavík 8.VI.64 from Karl Þorsteins, Consul for Portugal addressed to the Portuguese ambassador in Oslo. 6kr Nordic airmail rate from 1.10.63 to 31.12.65



Pair of 3kr50 cancelled B8e Bifröst 19.X.1972.
7kr surface printed matter rate to Denmark from 1.4.72 to 30.6.73



Dated Reykjavík 15.12.1972. 3 x 3kr for the 9kr inland rate 1.4.72 to 30.6.73

1965 Ptarmigan

The 4kr50 fitted the inland and Nordic letter rate for 11 months, and yet in my experience it is a difficult stamp to find on cover. This is despite reports that they were popular and sold well. The 3kr 50 could only be used for the local letter rate. I have not seen an example. I would be interested to know readers' opinions on the scarcity of these stamps used on cover, or even better send the editor examples of their use.



On reverse



Sheriff's office
Seyðisfjörður

4kr50 cancelled B2c1 Seyðisfjörður 5.X.65. Rate valid 1.10.63 to 31.12.65

1967 Birds' Nests

At the time of issue the 5kr was good for the inland and Nordic letter rate for just over one year, and once again the 4kr was only useful for the local letter rate. Is there a deliberate pattern forming here, or is it pure coincidence? I regret that I have never seen either stamp used as a single on cover. I can however show them on collector prepared covers, both correctly franked.



Toronto



Oshawa

Reykjavik B3e dated 3.VII.1969. 19kr for 15gm letter flown to Canada plus 19kr registration. Rates applied 1.1.69 to 31.10.70



The addressee needs no introduction to most readers. It shows the 5kr Birds Nest plus both the Red Cross charities, cancelled by B8e Stóri Lambhagi 5.1.1969. 650aur surface rate to Denmark plus 1200aur registration. Rates applied 1.1.69 to 31.10.70

1972 The final Charity issue, the Arctic Tern.

At the outset of this two-part series on charities used on cover, I did say that my original purpose was to collect only commercially used examples. Already, through lack of material, I have strayed into collector prepared examples, and the following must fall into that category. At least I have managed correctly franked covers. At the time of issue the 9kr was useful for 7 months of the inland and Nordic letter rate, and the 7kr for printed matter and postcards, also the overseas printed matter rate. Were the public reluctant to use them, as once again I have struggled to find single usage?



Four copies of the 7kr

Vestmannæyjar B8e dated
26.I.1974 to Australia.

23kr up to 10gm airmail outside
Europe plus 25kr registration =
48kr.

Rates applied 1.1.73 to 31.3.74.

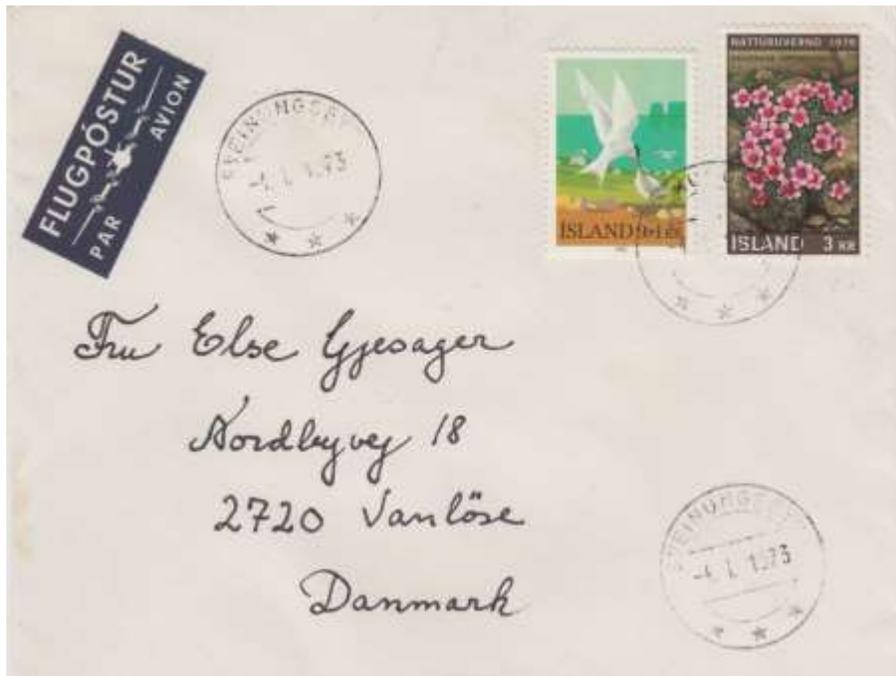


2 copies of each to South Africa

Stokkseyri B8e dated 28.1.1975

40kr outside Europe letter rate up to
20gm.

Rate applied 1.1.75 to 390.9.75



Sveinungseyri B8e dated 4.1.1973. 12kr Nordic airmail 21-50gm, valid 1.5.72 to 30.6.73

This one was nearly correctly franked! Addressed to a well-known collector.



B8e Vestmannaeyjar dated 26.IV.1974

To South West Africa (now Namibia)

24kr airmail up to 5gm plus 30kr registration= 54kr.

2kr underfranked



Windhoek and Swakopmund strikes

The editors would be pleased to hear from readers who can share their charity covers, particularly the 1965 Ptarmigan, 1967 Bird Nests and 1972 Arctic Tern, and of course any issue used as a single.

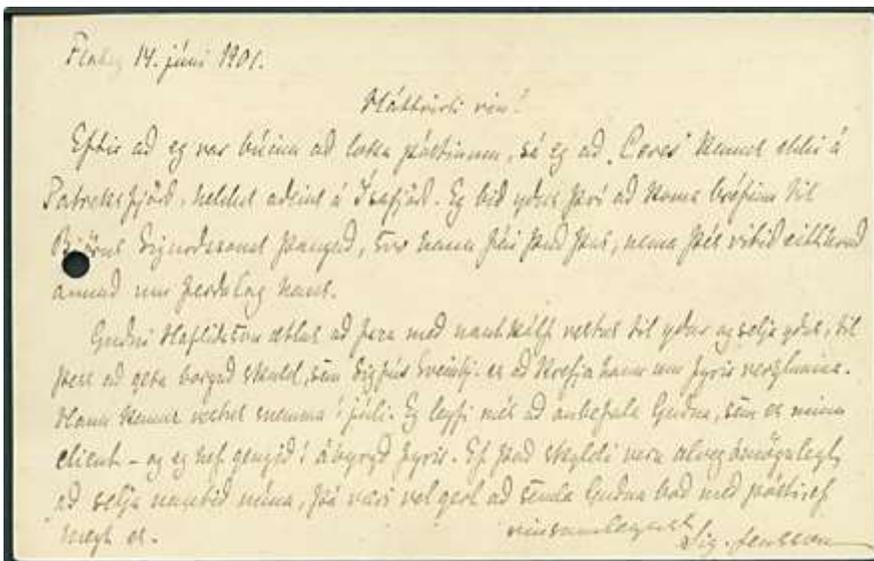
Rare ink cancellation Flatey?

This postal stationery was for sale at an auction held by “Fyns Frimærke Service”. It was offered at 3.000 DK but remained unsold.

We have a card ink written June 14th and ink-cancelled June 1901. No doubt it is a normally used card. The only question is, did the card go through without cancel and the “Flatey” added later? I don't know if handwritten Flatey is seen on other cards/letters/stamps. Can readers add anything to the subject?



When we find this kind of ink cancellation we often try to get opinions on beforehand. We have presented the item to Jørgen Steen Larsen for an answer.



Hello Ole,

Through the times 3 letter collecting offices have had the name “Flatey”.

Flatey (1) in Austur-Barðastrandasýsla. Der var regelmæssig postforbindelse til denne ø.

Flatey (2) in Suður-Þingeyjarsýsla. There was no regular contact to this island.

Flatey (3) in Austur-Skaftafellssýsla.

We can immediately exclude Flatey (3) as this collecting office was established June 1st 1945.

Flatey (1) is a small island situated between Stykkishólmur towards south and Brjánslækur to the north.

Flatey (2) is an even smaller island somewhat north of Akureyri. From the text on the card about ships to Patreksfjörður and Ísafjörður, I assume that this card is connected to Flatey (1)

Patreksfjörður - situated a little to north-west of Flatey - could be next port for a ship leaving Flatey towards north.

Flatey (1) had crown/posthorn cancel C1 FLATEY. This is a rather common cancellation and is found on both oval-stamps and Chr. IX. Copies in my collection do not suggest that the cancel has been damaged.

I have until now not met any other ink cancellations from Flatey (1).

My view is accordingly that the marking is non-postal.

It would be interesting to hear if the crown-cancel-specialists agree!

Jørgen Steen Larsen

A Study of Iceland's King Christian X Silver Anniversary Stamps & Block

Part 3 *Mike Schumacher*

Other town cancels, late use and forgeries.





TOWN CANCELLATIONS



Slogan Cancel

University Lottery



Cds. HORNAFJORDUR 14.I.38



Slogan cancel

University Lottery



NIC 95



Cds. STYKKISHOLMUR 11.IV.38



cds. EINARSSTADIR



Cds. ISAFJORDUR on parcel card fragment 27.IV.38.



Philatelic Usages and Extensions (Forged Cancellations)



Blocks of 4 with Swiss type B1a cds. HAGI 14.4.40 – Cancelled After the Validity of the Stamps

Silver Anniversary Stamps of the Reign of Christian X were Valid from 15.V.1937 to 30.IV.1938



Block 1 cancelled with **FORGED** B1a-like Type of REYKJAVIK Cancel **REYKUAVIK** (Misspelled Reykjavik).

Large stamps make nice/full postmarks

An advantage is when one collects e.g. Geysir stamps compared to the fish issue. The bigger area the more information can be given concerning place and date. Having collected for some years I have ended up finding the shown cancels. None of them being scarce, that's why I found them. You can see from the number of question marks that even if we have a large stamp, information can be missing.



Akureyri
17 6 38



Ás Hún
8 9 39



Bíldudalur
? IV 39



Blönduós
31 5 39



Bólstaðarhlid
10 4 39



Borðeyri
4 4 39



Breiðdalsvík
9 10 38



Bót
? 4 41



Eiríksstaðir
9 5 4?



Eyri Strand
15 12 38



Flatey
6 XI 39



Grundarfjörður
11 5 38



Hafnarfjörður
18 V 42



Hólmur
17 3 49



Grímsstaðir
15 12 38



Hvammstangi
8 X 38



Patreksfjörður
7 9 38



Sandgerði
13 3 38



Selfoss
19 8 39



Sveinseyri
6 3 39



Þingeyri
17 3 40

Quick Identification *Ron Collin*

This stamp was recently offered on the internet. The listing description of the stamp, along with a photo certificate identified the stamp as Iceland Scott O1, which would be Facit Tj1. The photo didn't look right to me, so I counted the vertical perf tips, and determined that the stamp is actually Scott O3, (Facit Tj3). Many years ago I realized that if I counted the perforation tips on a stamp, I could determine the identity of the stamp via a photo, when the stamps are from similar designs but different perforations. I would not actually need the item to check with a perforation gauge.



The Philatelic Foundation
501 Fifth Avenue • Suite 1901
New York, NY 10017
EXPERT COMMITTEE

No. 0310182
4/15/97

We have examined the enclosed item, of which a photograph is attached, and *described by the applicant* as follows:

Country: **ICELAND**

Cat. No.	Issue	Denom.	Color
01	1873	4s	green

Scott's unless otherwise specified.

USED

AND WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT:

IT IS GENUINE WITH A LARGE SEALED TEAR INTO THE NUMERAL "4" AT CENTER * * * * *



D 000409

Ron Collin
For The Expert Committee
Chairman

Photocopies of this Certificate are not valid.

Submitted by **NICHOLAS DEWITT**

It is unfortunate that the certificate is from The Philatelic Foundation, in New York. They are a preeminent expertising committee. I know that their knowledge of classic U.S. material is outstanding. So perhaps they are not as strong on Iceland material, or perhaps the certificate contained a typographical error of O1 instead of O3. The point I am trying to make, is that just because a stamp has a certificate, does not relieve the collector of knowing what he or she is actually buying.

I contacted the internet seller and suggested that they correct the listing. The listing is still for a used copy of Scott O1, and priced as such. The listing hasn't been changed.

WHY? Because it has a certificate!!!! Irrespective of whether the stamp has a certificate, if you are not completely confident that the stamp is actually as described, do not purchase it.



Tj 1 (V16 - H14) 14 x 13 ½



Tj 3 (V15 - H13) perf 12 ¾

I had realized long ago that a stamp perforated 14 x 13 ½, has 16 vertical perf tips and 14 horizontal perf tips. A stamp perforated 12 ¾, has 15 vertical perf tips and 13 horizontal perf tips.

This system works well with the Skilling issue as well as the Numeral of Value issues.



Facit #13
(V16 - H14) 14 x 13 ½



Facit #27
(V15 - H13) perf 12 ¾

You can also use this system with both of the Two Kings issues, but you'll have to change the numbers based on the perforations of each issue.

Whenever I am viewing an image of a stamp on the internet or in an auction catalog, by counting the perf tips, I can confirm whether the stamp is identified properly. And of course, this has nothing to do with condition; this is merely to properly identify a stamp. Rough perforations caused by soft paper or the misalignment of a perforating pin, can possibly alter the perf tip count, but I have been using this system for years, quite satisfactorily.

Ron

Missing dot after CARTE POSTALE Ellis Glatt



to Fru Schaum
Nørrebro Gade - 29 -
Copenhagen Denmark.
6th Sept.
Here we are enjoying lovely weather
beginning to be cold as Sept. should
The house been one day at Thorvaldsen
museum of Sculpture must go again.
This is a very enjoyable city much
to see the morning market of fruit
veg. flowers very attractive in the morning
Our lodging looks onto botanical garden
The trees are a great pleasure after
the Ireland bareness. We intend to
stay till 27th. The steamer "Laura" should
bring us back in time to receive handbag
at Nordalen on 30th. Hope you are all
well. I daresay you are all home again.
Shall be glad to hear from you. Love to
all. C.C.

Hi Brian,

Came across this 10-Aur single card posted from Denmark to Scotland in 1901 by someone vacationing in Copenhagen (see interesting message on reverse). From the message, we learn that the sender had just come from Iceland and must have acquired the postal card while there.

This card was of further interest to me because it exhibited the scarce "missing dot after CARTE POSTALE" variety, which only recently was listed (in Schilling's 1994 Island Ganzsachen handbook, but missed earlier by Ringstrom). So, I felt compelled to purchase it (for a relatively nominal sum on eBay).

Best,

Ellis Glatt

IS YOUR ICELAND COVER WRONGLY FRANKED?

A couple of enquiries have been received concerning apparently wrongly franked covers, and have prompted the following warning to readers who own a copy of the earlier Iceland Postal Rates publication of 1998. This was the first attempt at a comprehensive coverage of Icelandic postal rates. Although the bulk of the information was accurate, there were many errors, partly due to the unavailability of reliable data at that time. It is difficult to remember exactly, but maybe 140+ copies were sold, and I guess a number are still around. After a 10 year gap, the second publication appeared in 2009, which not only greatly extended the coverage, but also corrected many inaccuracies and misconceptions. The process of improvement has continued since, with additional pages and corrections made available by email to owners of the later book. The latest updated version is probably as close to being complete as it is ever likely to be. The last copy (of a 100 printing) was sold in 2015. The Scandinavia Society of GB owns the copyright, and nothing has been decided regarding the possibility of a further printing. If you have a doubt concerning the correct franking of a cover, and have the earlier 1998 edition, by all means please contact the IPM editor who will be glad to assist.

oo



From Brynjólfur Sigurjónsson.

Regarding the "erist" cancel on the 1940 Fish stamp. (IPM Issue 8 P.14), my theory is that it might be "berist til" (b.t.) or "delivered to".
All the best, Brynjólfur.

oo

Which crown cancel is it?

As collectors are well aware, many crown cancel strikes are partial and some can be difficult to identify. Ron Collin has pointed out that the illustrations of the cancels in the Islandssamlarna handbook are artist's renditions and should not be relied on for correct identification, where the exact position of a particular letter is critical in relation to the crown or posthorn design. As Ron says, the Swedish club handbook is excellent and is a must for every C & P collector. However it must be used carefully in this respect.

oo

Out of date



This item was seen on a net auction.
The postmark type with OMK at bottom and time shown 22,30 was in use after 1931!

Crown cancels on cover (Part 3)

These are actually on cards but, are further examples of routes, to continue the series started in Issues 5 and 7. The editor has permission from the owner to show these examples.



Hafnarfjörður crown - the message is dated 8/6/1906 and addressed to Denmark. The crown and posthorn have almost disappeared which lends credibility to the possibility that the centre was not excised, but simply disintegrated. The intended route was via Norway but instead it found its way to the Faroes and received a Thorshavn transit mark.



Holt crown showing the “stunted” letter ‘o’- the message date appears to be 24/12/17. The card was allowed to pass with a 3aur Jólamerki label in lieu of a postage stamp, just a short distance within Vestur Skaftafellsýsla from Kirkjuból to Veðrará. Pity it did not get the Veðrará C2b receiving cancel!



Húsavík crown - message is dated 25/6/1900 and addressed to Leipzig via Norway, with Stavanger 10.VII.00 transit cancel.

More on Bo'ness *Andrew Riddell*

I've seen Ole Svinth's note on Bo'ness in IPM.7. As (an expatriate) Scot, I can only agree with Ole's comments about Glenborrodale! As to the other comments, my mother came from Grangemouth!

Ole's Bo'ness identification does make sense. Bo'ness (the proper name is Borrowstounness, but it's never used in practice) is a coastal parish on the south bank of the Firth of Forth (currently within the Falkirk council area). Bo'ness was a recognized port from as early as the 16th century. A harbour was authorized by an Act of Parliament in 1707 and (constructed progressively during the 18th century) was extended and complemented by a dry dock in 1881. The commercial port (heavily used for the transport of coal and pit props) eventually closed in 1959, badly affected by silting and the gradual downturn of the Scottish coal mining industry. Thereafter, it was used for shipbreaking from 1902 - 70.

I think that it is very likely that mail from Iceland could have come into Bo'ness.

Forgive my ignorance, but is Grangemouth also a recognized arrival port for Icelandic mail? If so, Bo'ness is only a few miles further west up the Forth estuary.

I hope these comments may help.

Best wishes, Andrew

(Editor It is not my area, but I believe I have seen Grangemouth cancels on Iceland mail?)

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50 Aur 2 Kings Issue Follow Up *Ron Collin*

In Issue #7, of the Iceland Philatelic Magazine, I questioned when the damage might have taken place to the tail portion of the airplane overprint cliché. This cliché showed up as positions #12 and #62 in the printed sheet of Facit #161.

At the time my article appeared in IPM #7, it was not known when the damage took place to the tail section of the airplane overprint cliché. Upon further research, I discovered that some examples of Position #12 and Position #62 of Facit #161, do exist *without* damage to the tail section. I have included an example of Position #62 showing no damage to the tail section of the plane.

This can only lead to one conclusion, and that is the fact that the damage to the cliché happened during the overprinting process, and not beforehand, as speculated. This fact obviously could greatly reduce the possible number of "broken tail" varieties, since we now know that the varieties were not printed on each and every sheet. Therefore, the "broken tail" variety would have been created on fewer examples than originally could have been the case.



Late illegal use (chapter II)



The letter was sent from Akureyri (sender on back).

This is not a cut. We have part of back as well. The Copenhagen postmark was wrongly adjusted. This is a letter correctly showing the letter rate to Denmark which was 10 aur in 1915. Luckily we can spot an arrival postmark on back dated Rønne??1915.

In my collection I have several copies of this Kjøbenhavn postmark used only 1914-16. Furthermore the FRA ISLAND is type I which was only used until 1920. Conclusion is obvious 1924 should be 1915.



During WW I the mail seldom went via Great Britain. In this period the “15 B 15” postmark of Copenhagen is far the most common Danish foreign postmark. Other no’s in postmark are seldom seen.

“B” stands for Banegaard.

Banegaard = Railway station



All No “15”



Unusual No “2”. Only number on right side of “B”



Postcard to Denmark cancelled 21 6 14. Unusual No “11” in postmark. FRA ISLAND type I. Postcard rate to Denmark was 5 aur. Note marking “ Pr. / S/S “BOTNIA””.