

Maritime Mail Markings:

YNDIAS

(Applied in Havana)

*Transatlantic Mail
Central America to Spain*

1855. Veracruz, Mexico, to Madrid, via Havana. Sent prepaid (one shilling) by the RMSPC steamer *Conway* to Havana, where it was charged 3 silver reales. When the Cuban transit fee was paid, the 3 was obliterated and the letter was forwarded to Spain. In Madrid it was treated as an unpaid letter and charged again 4 reales (vellon) postage due.

There are two other examples of the rubrica marking used only in May 1855 to indicate intervention by postal authorities in Havana.



1858. Cordoba, Mexico, to Madrid, via Veracruz and Havana. Handled by a forwarding agent in Veracruz who sent it prepaid (one shilling) by the RMSPC steamer *Solent* to Havana. In Havana it was forwarded free of charge to Spain thanks to the Anglo-Spanish postal treaty of October 1858. In Madrid it was treated as an unpaid letter and charged 4 reales (vellon) postage due.

Latest known use of all the YNDIAS markings.

Maritime Mail Markings:

INDIAS

(Applied in Havana)

*Hemispheric Mail
Cuba to Central America*

c1811. Havana to Trujillo, now in Honduras, Central America. Five silver reales were due from the addressee.

One of the two recorded examples of the INDIAS marking on stampless covers applied by the Havana post office and the only one in red.



c1810. Havana to Omoa, now in Honduras, Central America. Unpaid single weight letter carried by the *Ana Maria*.

One of the two recorded examples of the INDIAS marking on stampless covers applied by the Havana post office and the only one in black.

Maritime Mail Markings :
INDIAS
 (Applied in Havana)

Hemispheric Mail
(by Steamship)
East and West Coast of South America to Cuba

1865. Caracas, Venezuela, to Havana, via La Guayra and St. Thomas. Posted in Caracas and carried on board the steamer *Robert Todd* from La Guayra to St. Thomas. It was then sent prepaid (4 pence) to Havana by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. steamer *Solent*. Three silver reales was the single weight local fee due from the addressee.



Only reported cover with a "St. Thomas - La Guayra - Puerto Cabello" private steamship company stamp addressed to Cuba.



1861. Guayaquil, Ecuador, to Havana, via Panama and St. Thomas. Single weight letter prepaid by British steamers (2 shillings). Cuban local fee of 3 silver reales postage due.

Maritime Mail Markings :

INDIAS

(Applied in Havana)

Hemispheric Mail

(by Steamship)

Mexico to Cuba

1867. Tampico, Mexico, to Havana. Sent prepaid (120 centimes) from the French Consular postal agency in Tampico to Havana. Charged the local fee of 3 silver reales. It was a double weight letter to the French (7½ grams) but only single to the Spanish (10 grams).



1869. Tampico, Mexico, to Havana. Mailed at the Mexican post office in Tampico and sent prepaid (4 pence) by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. steamer *Tamar*. Charged three reales postage due.

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D. JOSEPH ANTONIO DE ARMONA, CABALLERO PENSIONADO DE LA DISTINGUIDA REAL ORDEN ESPAÑOLA DE CARLOS III: DEL CONSEJO DE S. M. EN EL TRIBUNAL de la Contaduria Mayor de Cuentas, Administrador General de Rentas de la Isla de Cuba, y principal de la de Correos maritimos de España à las Indias Occidentales, Islas y Tierra Firme con Residencia en el Puerto de San Christoval de la Havana.

EL Capitan de *la Balandra*. de la Renta nombrada *el Postill. n. de la Havana*. que sale con el Correo de esta Isla p.^a *Sto. Rico, y Cartajena*. recibirá à Bordo à *D. Ramon Maldonado Marq. de Lizis, D. Fran. de Solon, y un criado. de Camara hasta Cartajena* que va en el de Passagero, por quanto me ha presentado las Licencias necesarias del Señor Governador de esta Plaza, y dexa satisfecho el importe de su passage en la .Caxa general de este Oficio Havana 2. de *Junio* de 1773.

80.
Dexa satisfecho en la *Pres.*
de esta *Pres.* p.^{al} de *estip.*
en q.^e se han combenido.
por su transporte

Armona
[Signature]

Armona
[Signature]

Document signed by Don José Antonio de Armona on June 2, 1773. Armona was the first Postmaster General of Cuba after the creation of the Royal Maritime Mail Service between La Coruña, in Northern Spain, and Havana at the end of 1764. It is a receipt for the passage from Havana to Cartagena de Indias on board the ship *Postillon de La Habana*. This was the first vessel purchased in 1766 by the Royal Maritime Mail Service to carry the mails within the Spanish possessions in the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico.

Demarcation and Maritime Mail Markings:

ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO (Applied in Havana)

Demarcation and Town Markings:

ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO

(Applied in Havana)

1776. Havana to La Guayra, now Venezuela, via Puerto Rico (San Juan). It was an unpaid single weight letter (one silver real). There is only one other known combination of these two handstamps in the 18th century.

Earliest recorded example of all the styles of ISLAS DE / BARLOVENTO, partially covered by one of the strikes of the YNDIAS marking, which is also the earliest copy of this type of handstamp used in Cuba.



1779 (May 1). Ship Register of the Paquebot *Nuestra Señora de la Merced* (Our Lady of Mercy) that sailed from Havana to Cadiz, Spain. It was signed by Raimundo de Onís, Postmaster General of the Island of Cuba from 1777 to 1788.

Second earliest ISLAS DE/BARLOVENTO known from Cuba, earliest reported Spanish ship register, and only recorded example of the oval HA / VA NA. This oval is the second oldest town marking from Cuba (the earliest one, from 1760, is in the Cuban Postal Museum in Havana).

Demarcation and Maritime Mail Markings: ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO and ESPAÑA. (Applied in San Juan and Canary Islands)

Transatlantic Mail

Demarcation Marking: ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO and FRANCA (paid) Marking. (Applied in San Juan)

1802. San Juan to Tenerife, Canary Islands. Unpaid single-weight letter. There are five recorded *ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO* markings used in Puerto Rico. The *ESPAÑA* was applied in Tenerife.

One of three known combinations of these two postmarks.



c1779-1787. San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Rome. Prepaid 40 silver reales, 20 for the transatlantic crossing and another 20 from Spain to Rome. Juan Henry was postmaster of San Juan from 1773 to 1787. The *ISLAS DE/BARLOVENTO* handstamp was sent from Madrid to San Juan on February 24, 1779. This letter must have weighed up to one and a quarter ounces.

Earliest recorded cover with a postmark from Puerto Rico and earliest example of the *ISLAS DE/BARLOVENTO* from this island. One of two reported examples of the *FRANCA/HENRRY* marking.

Demarcation and Town Markings:

ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO (Applied in Havana and Trinidad de Cuba)

Maritime Mail and Demarcation Markings:

YNDIAS and ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO

(Applied in New Orleans and in Havana)

1783. Portobelo, now Panama, to Bristol, England, by way of Trinidad de Cuba, Havana, La Coruña, and Bordeaux. Sent to Trinidad, in the southern coast of Cuba, and then by ground mail to Havana. Carried by Royal Mail Packet into La Coruña and by overland mail to Bordeaux. Initially charged 16 sous, the single weight letter rate from Spain to Bordeaux, but later re-rated in England to 2N2 (1/6 from Spain to England via France, plus 8 pence for the inland rate from London to Bristol). Reached the addressee nearly five months after it was written and was only delivered after the peace treaty of September 1783.



Only recorded TRINIDAD marking and the earliest handstamp from this town.



1784. New Orleans, Spanish Louisiana, to Bordeaux, France via Havana and La Coruña, Spain. The YNDIAS marking was applied in Spanish New Orleans and the ISLAS DE / BARLOVENTO in transit at Havana. Sixteen sous was the single weight rate from Spain to Bordeaux. This is one of two reported covers with the combination of a maritime mail and a demarcation marking in the 18th century.

Earliest recorded postmark from Spanish New Orleans.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Havana)

1785. Havana to Barcelona, Spain. Sent by Royal Mail Packet via La Coruña. Four reales de vellon postage due.

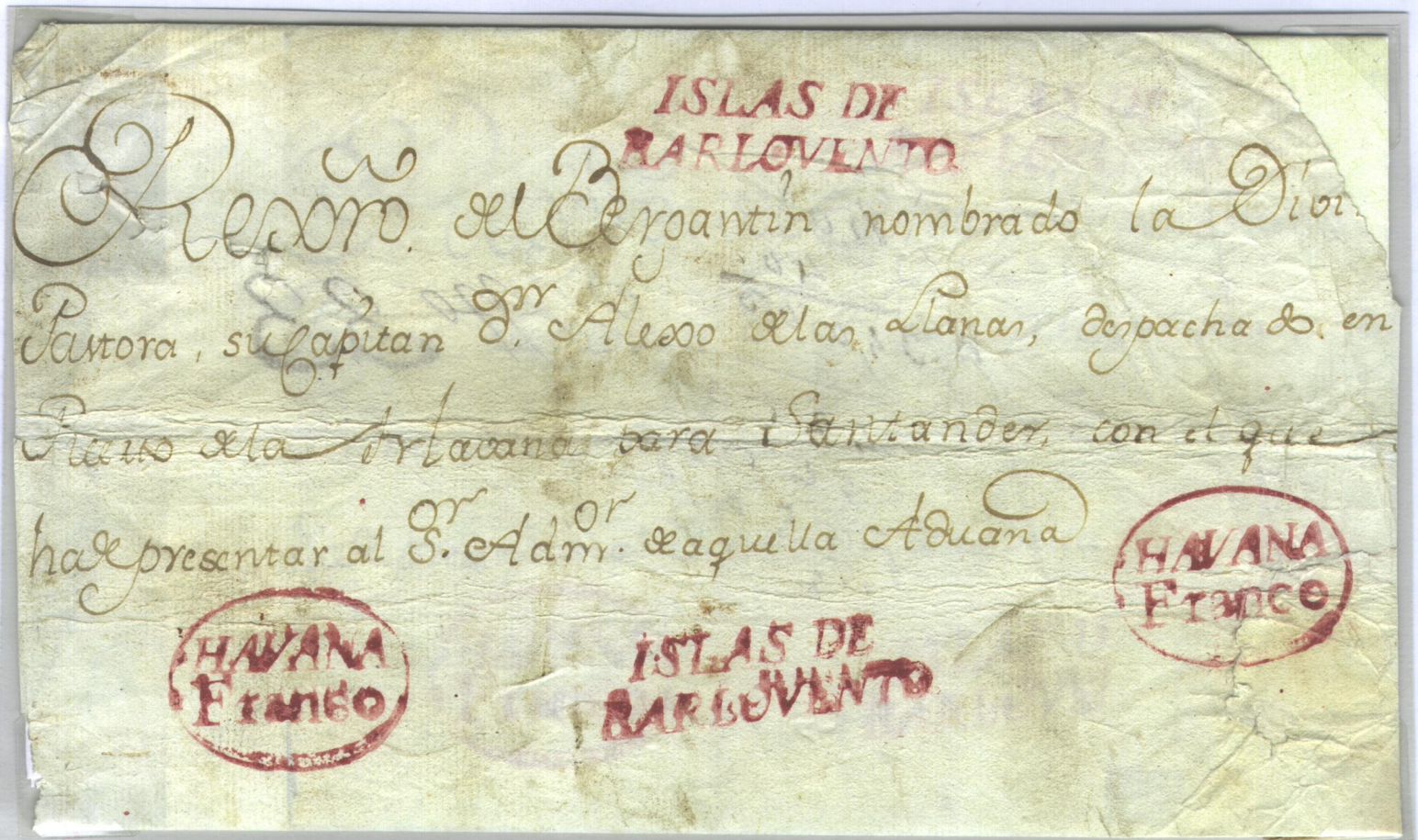


1792. Corn Island (off the coast of Nicaragua) to Bristol, England, via Havana, La Coruña, and Bordeaux. Sent directly to Havana, then by Royal Mail Packet into La Coruña, and by overland mail to Bordeaux. In France it was censored by an interpreter who wrote "No. 880." and "G.", and applied an oval censorship marking of the French Republic. It was detained for three years until the end of the war. In England it was charged one shilling but later crossed out and re-rated to one shilling and five pence.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Havana)

Transatlantic Mail

1785. Havana to Bordeaux, France. Sent by Royal Mail Packet via La Coruña in northern Spain. Single-weight rate of 16 sous postage due.



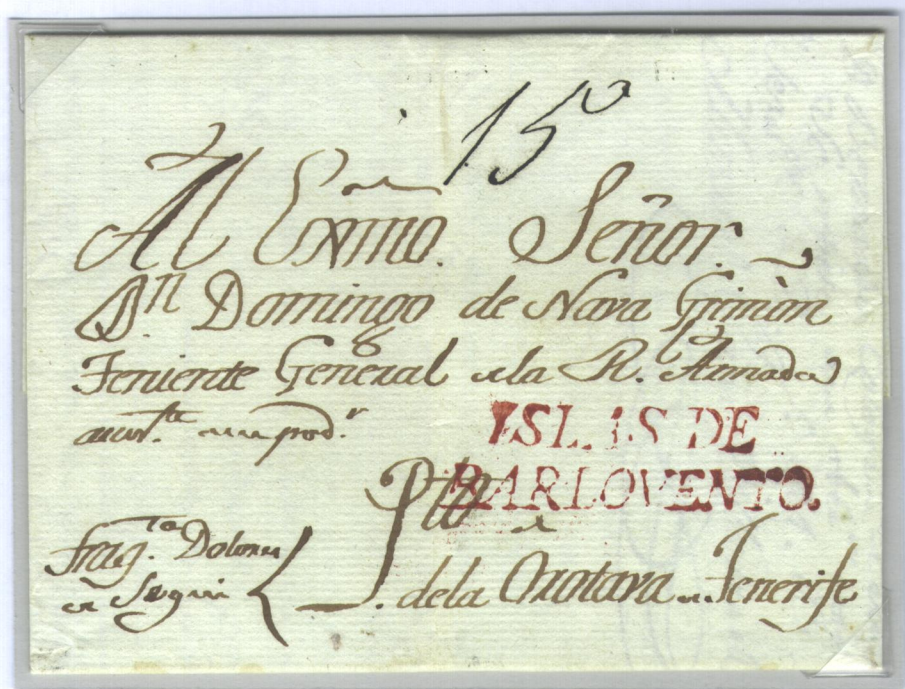
1796 (September 3). Ship register of the Brig *Divina Pastora* (Divine Shepherdess) that sailed from Havana to Santander, northern Spain. Sent prepaid as required of ship registers after 1784.

This is the earliest of the seven reported examples of the oval HAVANA / Franco.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Havana)



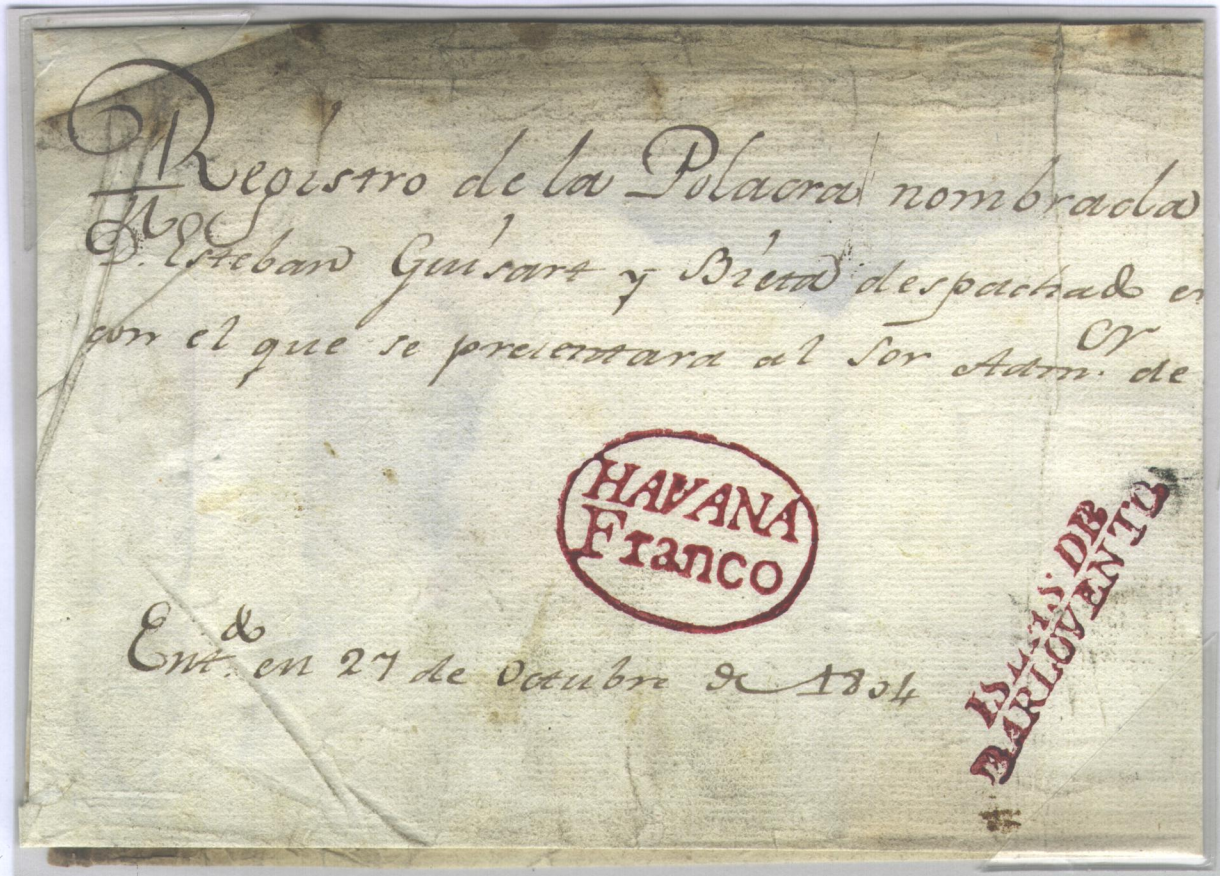
1792. Bluefields, now Nicaragua, to Bristol, England, via Havana, La Coruña, and Bordeaux. Sent privately to Havana, by Royal Mail Packet to La Coruña, and by overland mail to Bordeaux. Rated 16 sous in France and corrected to 1/11 in England. Received five months later on September 7.



1811. Havana to Orotava, Canary Islands. carried on board the frigate *Dolores de Segui*. The addressee was charged fifteen reales de vellon for a letter of up to fifteen *adarmes* (1/16th of an ounce).

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Havana)

Transatlantic Mail
West Indies to Spain



1804. Ship register of the Spanish vessel *Nuestra Señora del Carmen* which sailed from Havana to Barcelona. It was sent prepaid, 12 silver reales, for a triple weight "letter".

This is the only recorded combination of these two markings.

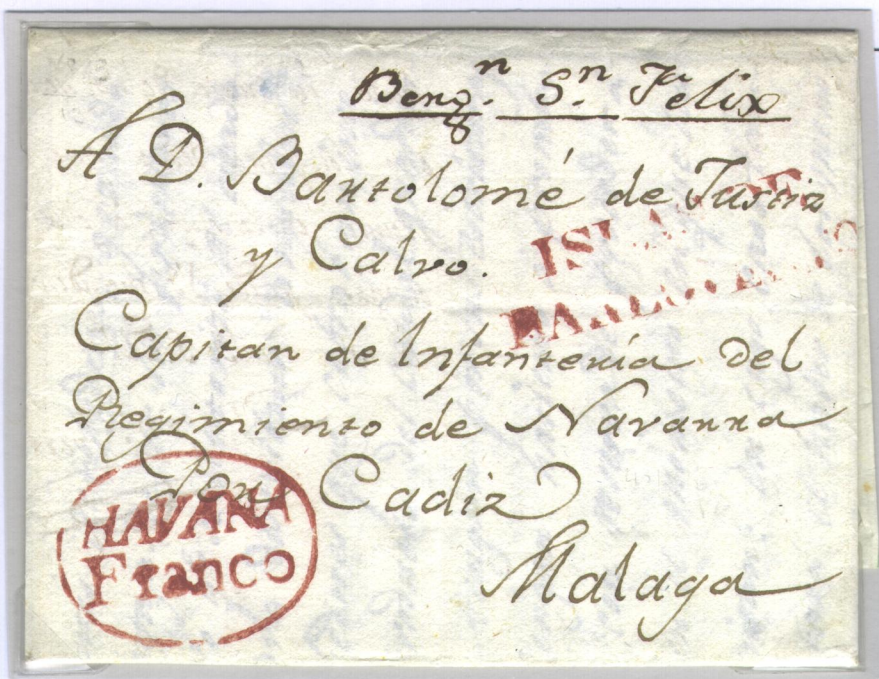


1808. Havana to San Sebastian, Spain. Carried on board the merchant ship *San Justo*. Unpaid single weight letter.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Havana)

1808. Havana to Malaga, Spain.
Sent prepaid (4 silver reales),
which is quite unusual during this
period, on board the brig *San
Felix*.

There is one other known
combination of these two
postmarks. Only about six
examples of the HAVANA /
Franco marking have been
reported.



1816. Havana to Loudon, France.
Double weight letter sent prepaid (8
silver reales), but only for the
Spanish portion. It crossed the
Spanish/French border at Bayonne
and was charged 11 decimes, for a
distance between 400 and 500 kms
(rates of 1806). Disinfected,
probably in Spain.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Cadiz)

Transatlantic Mail
United States to Europe

1806. New York to Toulouse, France, via Havana and Cadiz. Sent privately to Havana, by merchant vessel to Cadiz, and then by overland mail to France. It was rated 8 decimes and corrected to 10 for a single weight letter and a distance between 800 and 1,000 kms (rates of 1806).

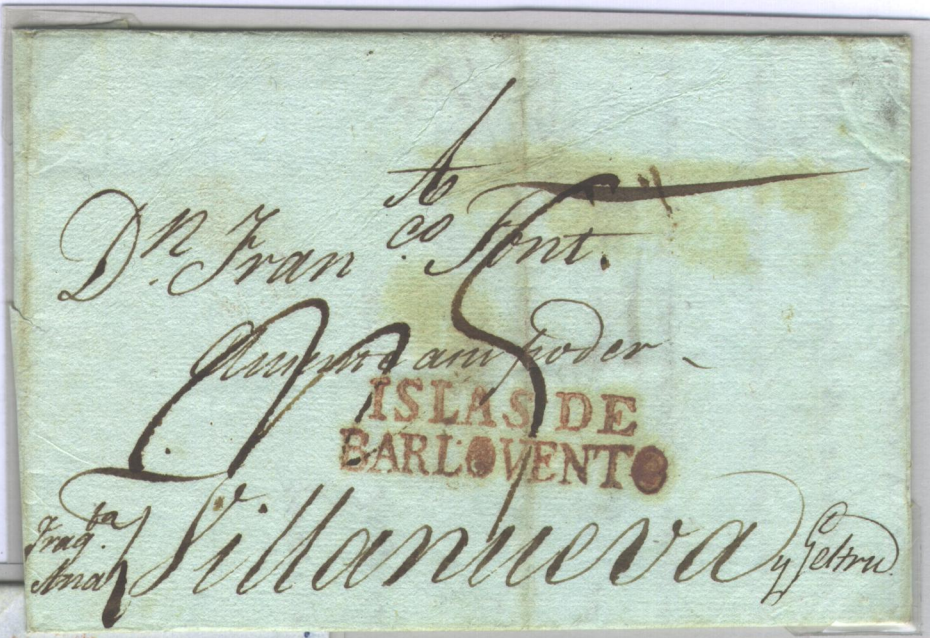
There are less than a dozen reported covers from the U.S. with ISLAS DE / BARLOVENTO markings.



1841. Baltimore to Cadiz, probably sent via Havana. The addressee was charged five reales for a single weight letter.

Demarcation Marking:
ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO
(Applied in Cadiz)

1814. Havana to Villanueva y Geltru, Catalonia, via Cadiz. Sent on board the frigate *Ana*. Charged five reales (vellon) for a letter of up to five *adarmes* (rates of 1807).



1838. Havana to Madrid, via Cadiz. The addressee was charged 17 reales (vellon) for a letter weighing up to one ounce (rates of 1807).

1841. Havana to Genoa, Italy, via Cadiz, St. Jean de Luz, and Nice. The small 2 (decimes) was applied as a credit to Spain at the French border (St. Jean de Luz) for the foreign leg of the route. The addressee was charged 27 decimes for a single weight letter. Sardinian states paid France the bulk rate of 36 decimes per 30 grams on incoming transit mail through France.

