

c1842. Madruga to Havana. Unpaid official mail. Its population was 3,500. This is the only type of marking from this town that has been recorded only in 1842. EXT.

Matanzas Province Principal Post Office

1844. Mariel to Havana. Its population was 1,548. Unpaid letter of up to <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> ounce. This is the only type of straightline marking from this town, which has been recorded between 1842 and 1845. RR.





1814. Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. The third largest city in Cuba had a population of 33,000. This is the first of four types of straightline markings, in use between 1810 and 1814. RR.

**1823.** Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. Second type of straightline marking from this city, recorded between 1818 and 1825. RRR.





**1823.** Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. RR.





1839. Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid official mail not exceeding 1.25 ounces. Third type of straightline marking from this city, recorded between 1828 and 1842. C.

1839. Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. The oval FRANCO (PAID) handstamp was mistakenly applied and then obliterated with the straightline marking. Only recorded use of this postmark to correct a clerical mistake.

1835. Prepaid letter from Matanzas to Havana. This is the first type of FRANCO (PAID) marking from this city, recorded between 1828 and 1835. RR (FRANCO).





**1841.** Matanzas to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. This color was in use between 1841 and 1842. R.

1842. Official mail wrapper from Matanzas to Havana. Its weight was 4½ ounces. There are only a handful of examples of this marking in blue on official correspondence. Although it was not certified mail, the sender wrote the time and date in which it was posted (see arrow). R (in blue).



1837. Prepaid letter from Matanzas to Havana. This is the second of two types of FRANCO (PAID) markings from this city, recorded between 1836 and 1842. ME.





**1841.** Prepaid letter from Matanzas to Havana. RR.

Oriente Province Third Class

1841. Mayari to Santiago de Cuba. Unpaid official mail of up to 1.25 ounces. It had a population of 1,500. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1842 and 1845. RRR.





**1843.** Moron to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. Its population was 1,480. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1837 and 1842. RR.



**1844.** Palmillas to Havana, posted in Nueva Bermeja (Colon). Unpaid official mail of up to ½ ounce. Its population was about 190. This is the only type of marking from this town that has been recorded in 1844. UNLISTED.

This is the largest and perhaps most beautiful of all the Cuban stampless town markings.

**PALMA DE SORIANO** 

Oriente Province
Third Class

1837. Palacios to Havana. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1832 and 1839. Its population was 250. Unpaid letter of up to ½ ounce. RR.





1844. Palma Soriano to Santiago de Cuba. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1841 and 1845. Its population was about 180. Unpaid single-weight letter. RRR.

**1833.** Prepaid letter from Pinar del Río to Havana. This is the only type of marking from this city, recorded between 1830 and 1845, and the only known example of the FRANCO (PAID) handstamp. Its population was 1,500. RR and EXT (FRANCO).



Alos Il Vinda de colleno e hijo del Como PINAL DEL RIO (Carbana)

**1838.** Pinar del Río to Havana. Unpaid letter not exceeding ½ ounce.



**1843.** Puerta de la Güira to Havana. Unpaid official mail of up to 1 ounce. Its population was about 165. This is the only type of marking from this town that has been recorded in 1843. UNLISTED.

**1803.** Certified official mail from Puerto Principe (now Camagüey) to Bayamo. The multiple XXX in the periphery are characteristic markings of certified mail which had to be prepaid. This is the first type of postmark from this city, recorded between 1803 and 1840, and also the first type of FRANCO (PAID) handstamp, recorded between 1803 and 1839. Its population was 20,000. EXT and RRR (FRANCO).

Earliest markings from this city.
Only example of the town postmark in black.
Earliest known certified mail from Cuba.

1833. Puerto Principe (Camagüey) to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. Note the significant wear on the corners of this postmark. C.





1834. Prepaid letter from Puerto Principe to Havana. Unpaid letter not exceeding ½ ounce. R (FRANCO).

1840. Puerto Principe (Camagüey) to Havana. Unpaid letter of up to ½ ounce. This is the second type of postmark from this city, recorded between 1840 and 1843. R.





1840. Prepaid letter from Puerto Principe to Havana. This is the second type of FRANCO (PAID) postmark from this city, recorded between 1840 and 1843. RR.

## PUERTO PRINCIPE (Camagüey)

Paid manuscript notation & used in combination with an *Empresa* ship marking

Undated. Puerto Principe to Santiago de Cuba. Unpaid letter not exceeding ½ ounce. This is the only reported Cuban cover form the stampless era with a paid (*Pagados*) manuscript notation applied at the destination to indicate payment by the addressee.





1842. Prepaid letter from Puerto Principe to Madrid via Havana. The two number "2" indicate the prepaid land rate from Puerto Principe to Havana, and the maritime fee from Cuba to Spain (two silver reales each). From Havana it was carried by the *Empresa* steamer *Correo Maritimo No. 1*. Possibly unique combination of postmarks.