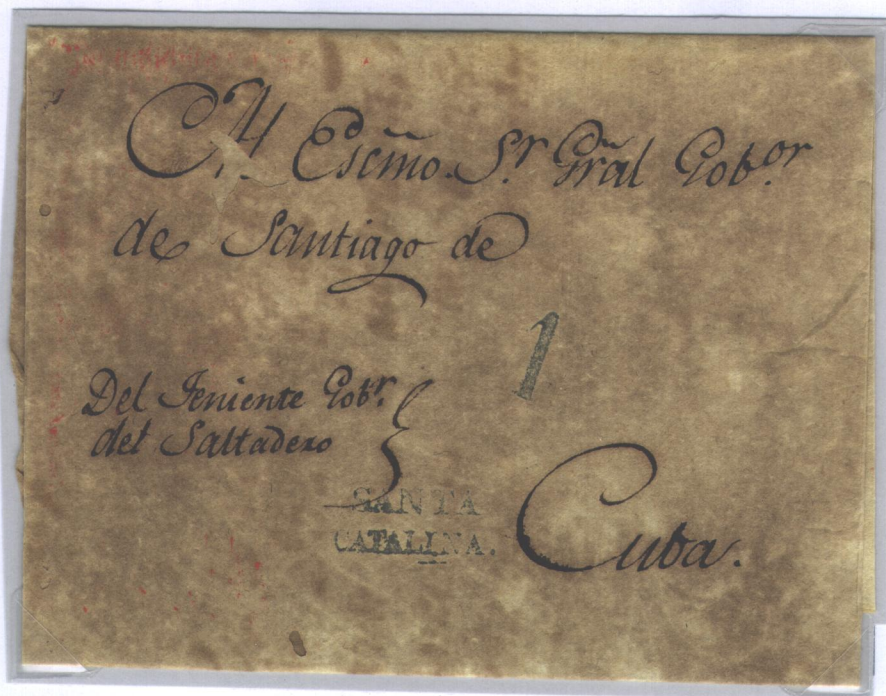


SANTA CATALINA
(Guantanamo)

Oriente Province
Third Class

1843. Santa Catalina del Saltadero (Guantanamo) to Santiago de Cuba. Unpaid single-weight letter. This is the first type of marking from this town, recorded between 1836 and 1844. EXT (in black).



Undated. Santa Catalina del Saltadero (Guantanamo) to Santiago de Cuba. This is the smallest known Cuban straightline stampless marking. RR (in red).

SANTA MARIA DEL ROSARIO

Havana Province
Fifth Class

SAN CRISTOBAL

Pinar del Rio Province
Fourth Class

1839. Prepaid letter from Santa Maria del Rosario to Havana. Its population was 1,600. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1839 and 1844. Prepayment was indicated by the large X. UNLISTED (in green).


Earliest reported example of this postmark.



1843. Official mail wrapper from Santa Cruz de los Pinos to Havana, posted in San Cristobal. Its population was 2,600. This is the only type of marking from this town, not previously recorded. It must have weighed no more than 3½ ounces. UNLISTED.

SABANILLA DEL ENCOMENDADOR

Matanzas Province
Carteria

Al Sr. Gen. Latorre
y Asesor Gral de la
Ciudad  2
Del Gen. Latorre de
la Villa del Cobre.
Cuba.

R. S.
Sr. Alc. Mayor S.^o
de esta Audiencia
del de
Matanzas

SANTIAGO

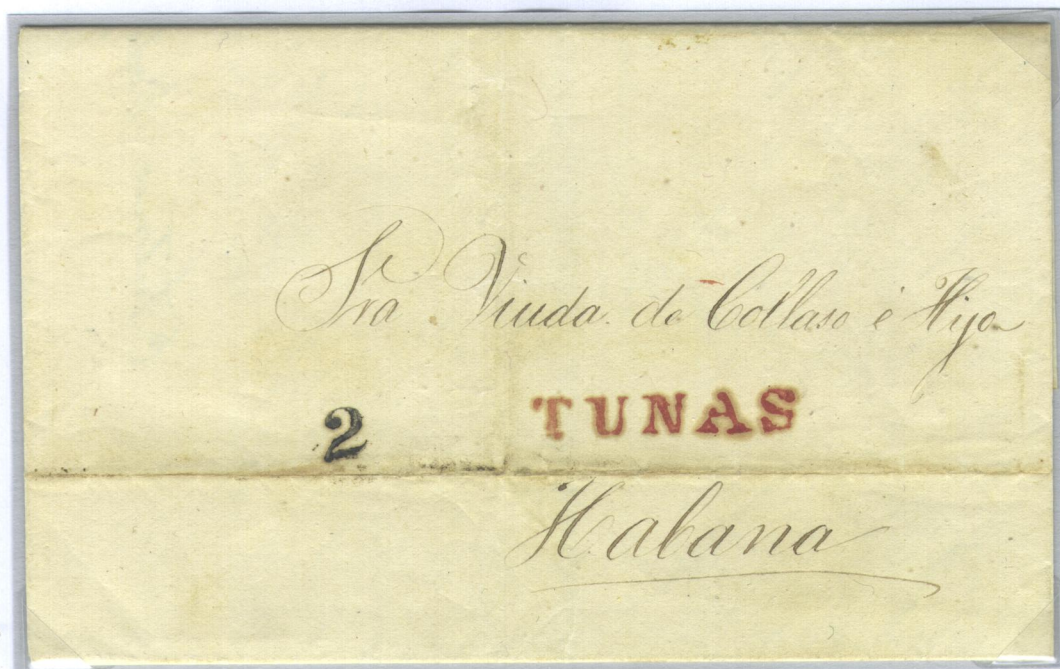
TUNAS

Havana Province
Fourth Class

Oriente Province
Second Class



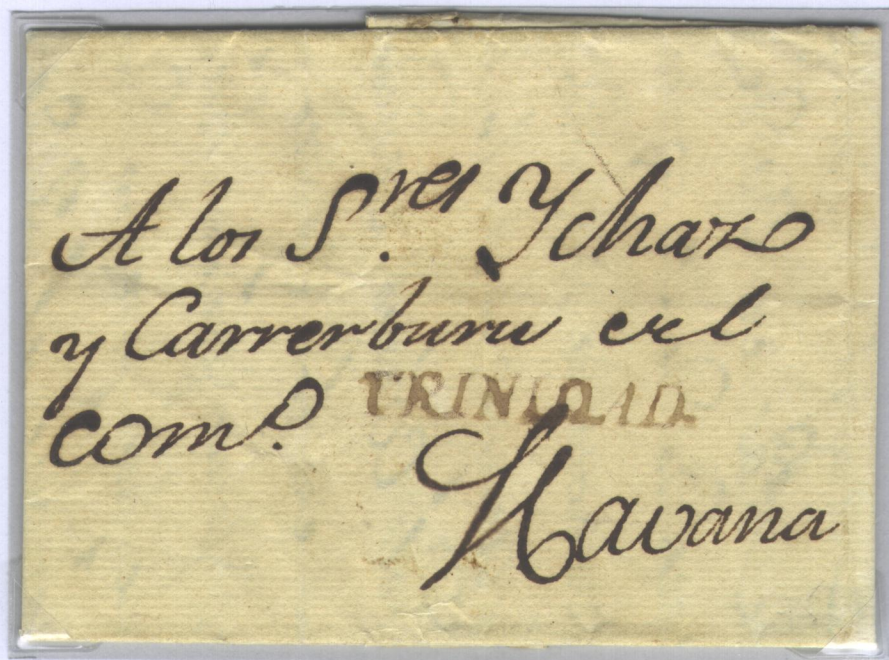
1843. Santiago de las Vegas to Havana. Unpaid letter of up to $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce. Its population was 2,300. This is the only type of marking from this town, recorded between 1838 and 1843. RR.



1841. Victoria de las Tunas to Havana. Its population was 1,300. This is the only type of postmark from this town, recorded between 1839 and 1841. RR.

1811. Trinidad de Cuba to Havana. Unpaid single- weight letter. This city had 13,500 inhabitants. This is the second type of marking from this city, recorded between 1811 and 1842. RRR (in black).

Earliest reported example of this postmark.

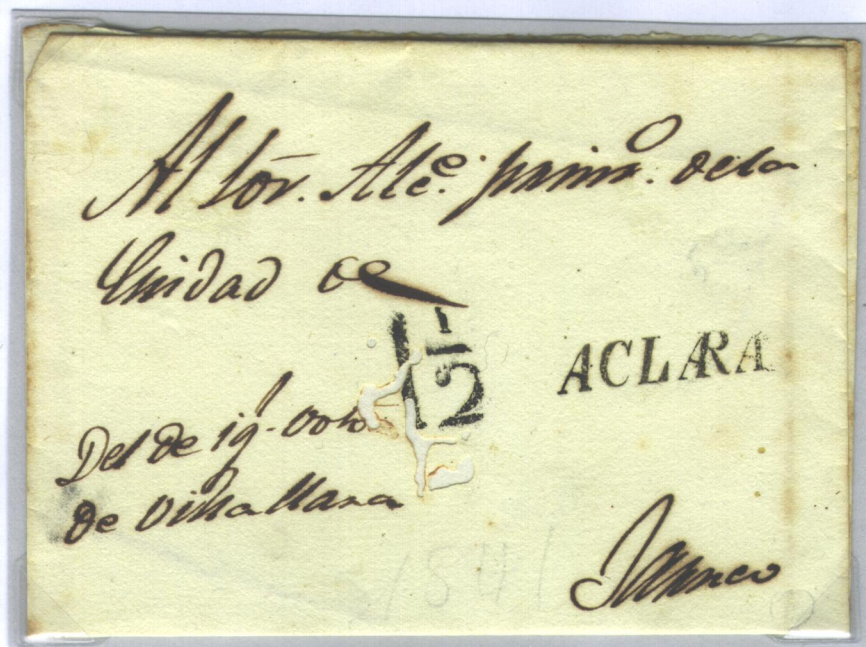
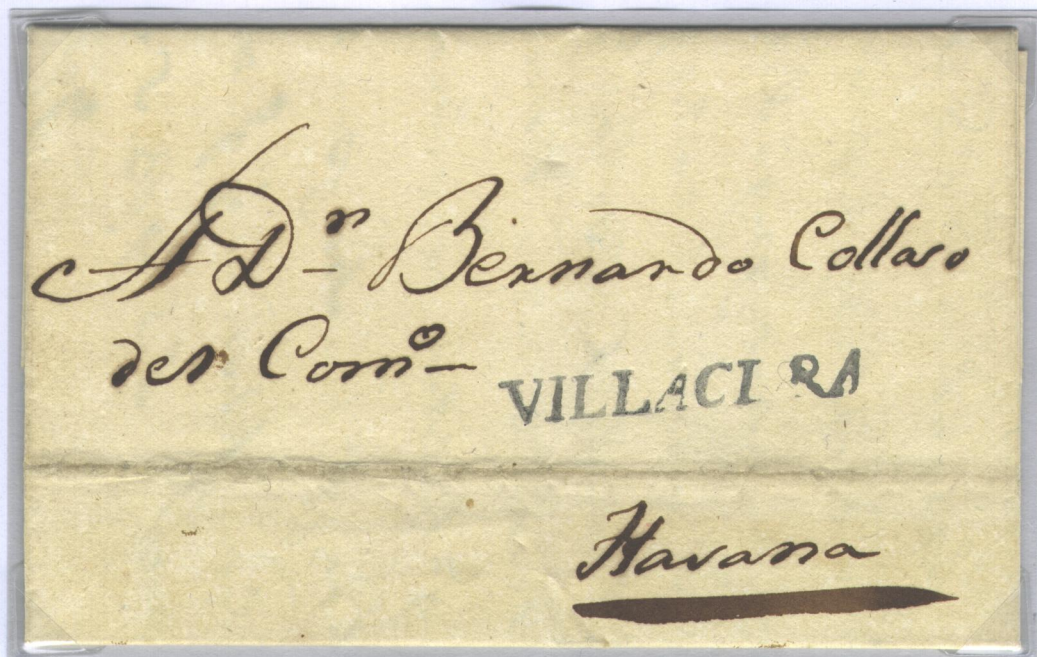


1837. Prepaid letter from Trinidad de Cuba to Havana. This is the only type of FRANCO (paid) marking from this city, recorded between 1837 and 1842. R (FRANCO).

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

*Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office*

1828. Villaclara to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter. Its population was 6,000. This is the first type of postmark from this city, recorded from 1802 to 1828. RRR.

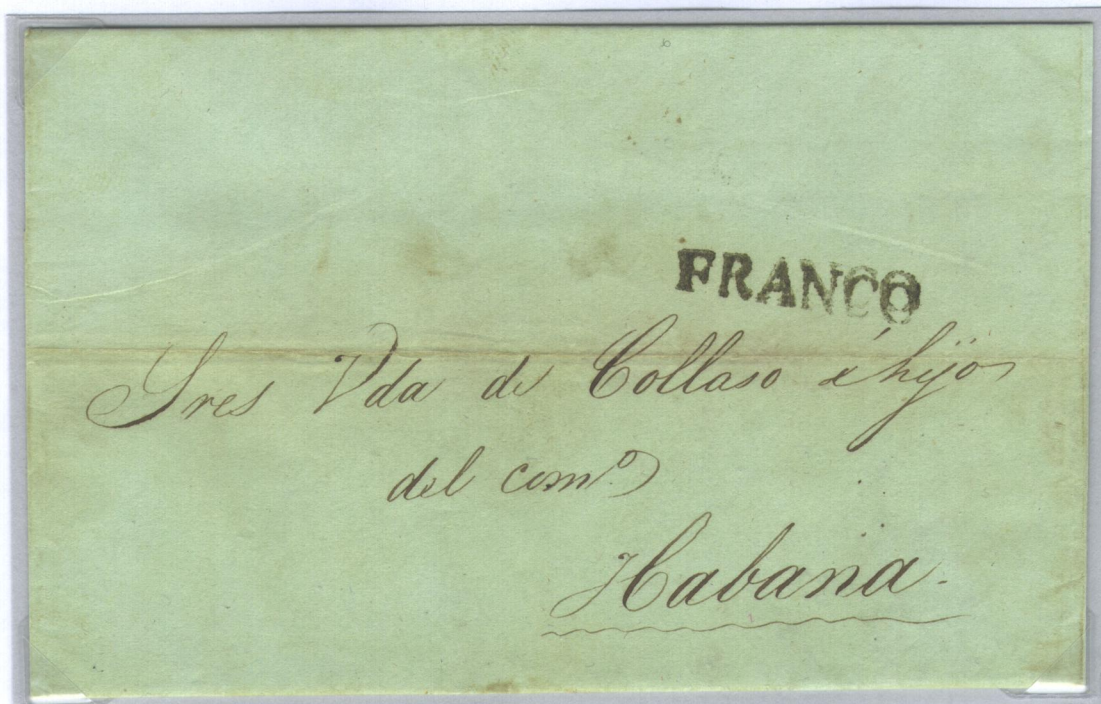


1841. Villaclara to Jaruco. Unpaid letter of up to ½ ounce. This is the only known example of the broken handstamp of the second type of marking from this city. UNLISTED.

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

*Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office*

1831. Prepaid letter from Villaclara to Havana. This is the second type of postmark from this city, recorded from 1822 to 1841, which is probably the most common of all Cuban straightline stampless markings. The FRANCO (paid) handstamp is known used between 1830 and 1841. RR (FRANCO).



1841. Prepaid letter from Villaclara to Havana. The use of FRANCO (paid) markings without town postmarks in Cuba is extremely rare.

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

*Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office*

c1842. Villaclara to Havana.
Unpaid letter of up to $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce. This
is the third type of postmark from
this city, recorded from 1841 to
1843. This is the only known
example of this type of red ink
variant. RRR.

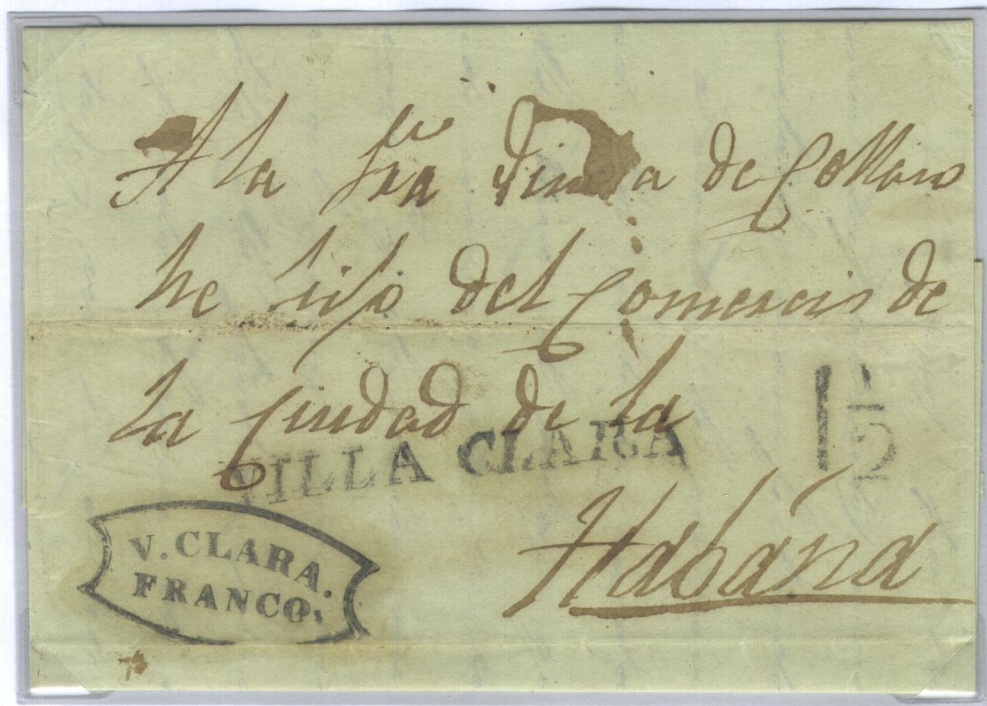


1842. Villaclara to
Havana. Unpaid
letter of up to $\frac{1}{2}$
ounce. This is the
more common type
of red-orange ink.
RRR.

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office

1842. Villaclara to
Havana. Unpaid letter
of up to ½ ounce. R.

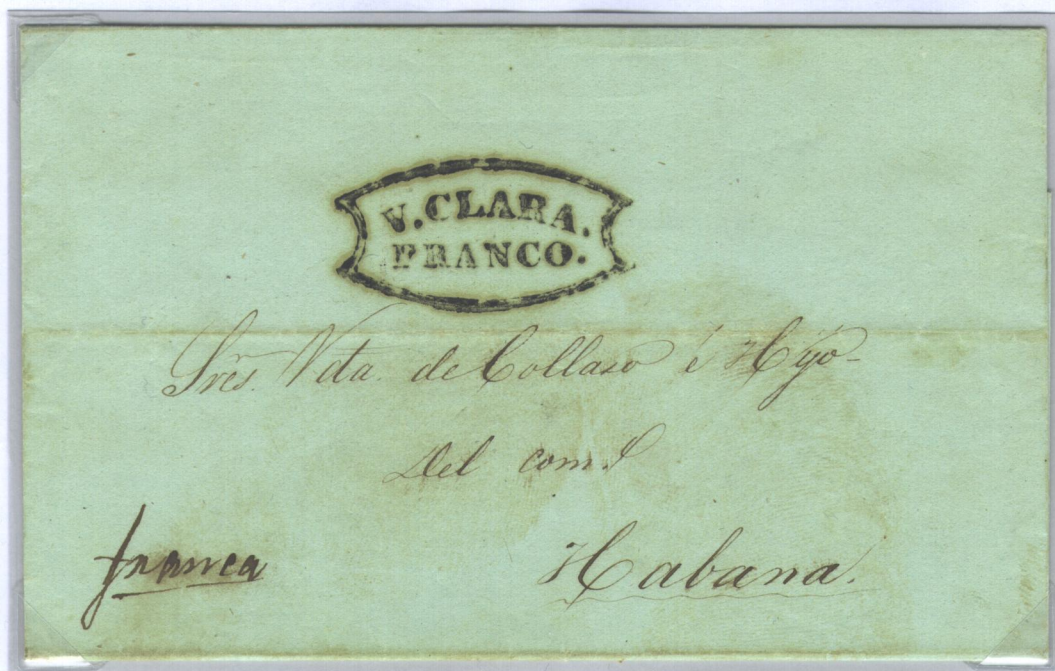
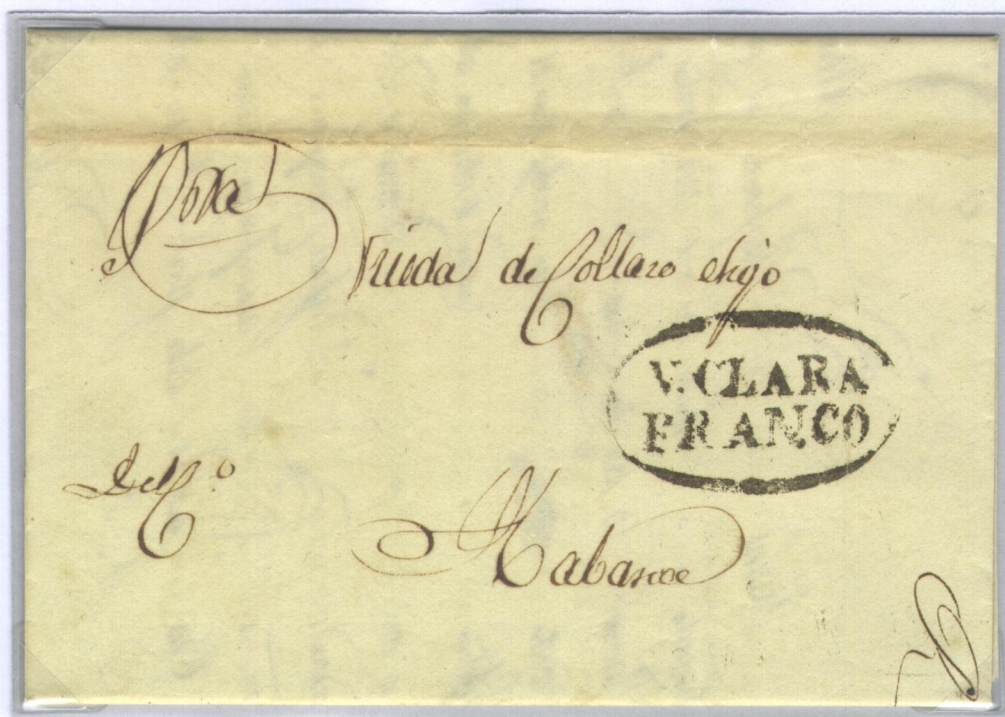


1841. Prepaid letter
from Villaclara to
Havana. Possibly
unique combination of
postmarks: third type of
town marking with
fourth type of FRANCO
(paid) marking. RR
(FRANCO).

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office

1837. Prepaid letter from
Villaclara to Havana.
This is the third type of
FRANCO (paid) marking,
recorded between 1837
and 1840. RRR.



1842. Prepaid letter
from Villaclara to
Havana. This is the
fourth and last type
of FRANCO (paid)
marking, recorded
from 1837 to 1840.
RR.

VILLA CLARA
(Santa Clara)

Las Villas Province
Principal Post Office

1837. Prepaid letter from Villaclara to Havana. Very unusual combination of markings in which the FRANCO oval was used to obliterate the rate handstamp.



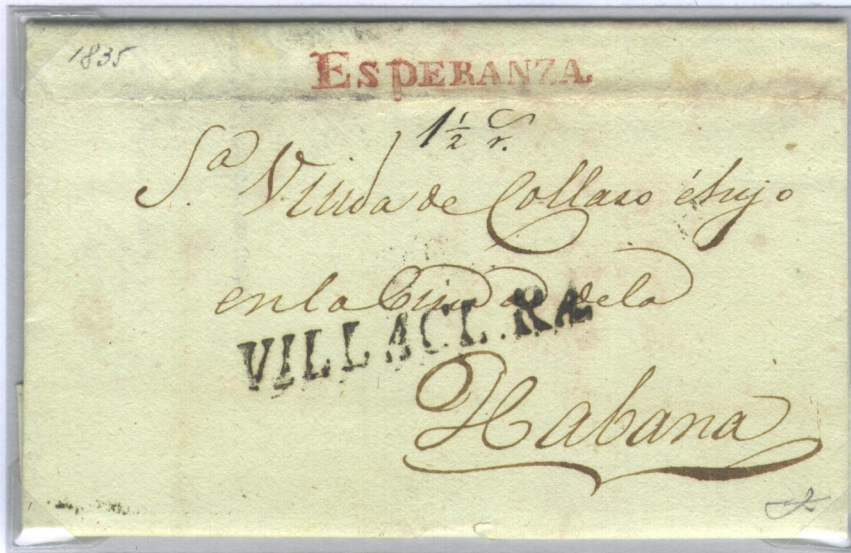
1837. Villaclara to Havana. The FRANCO oval was mistakenly applied to this letter of up to ½ ounce. Unusual combination of postmarks.

ESPERANZA and VILLA CLARA

VILLA CLARA and S. JUAN DE LOS REMEDIOS

Less than half a dozen Cuban covers have been reported with two different town markings, excluding the Havana / Franco (paid) ovals.

1835. Santa Clara to Havana via Esperanza. Unpaid letter of up to ½ ounce. Very unusual, possibly unique combination of markings.



1836. San Juan de los Remedios to Villaclara. The manuscript notation "Devuelto despachado" indicates that it was returned to its sender. Very rare combination of postmarks.

This is the only returned letter during the stampless era known to us.

ESPAÑA



1839. Barcelona to Havana via Nuevitas, in the northeastern coast of Cuba. The maritime mail marking ESPAÑA was applied in Havana. Unpaid single weight rate of four silver reales.

This is the only recorded example of a Cuban ESPAÑA marking in combination with a town handstamp.

ISLAS DE BARLOVENTO

1809. Santiago de Cuba to Tarragona, Spain, via Havana. The addressee was charged seven reales de vellon for a letter of up to seven *adarmes* (rates of 1807). The combination of ISLAS DE / BARLOVENTO markings with other postmarks is rare.



Undated. Large front from Santiago de Cuba to Madrid via Havana. This is one of the highest rates recorded on a mailed item from Spanish possessions during the stampless era.

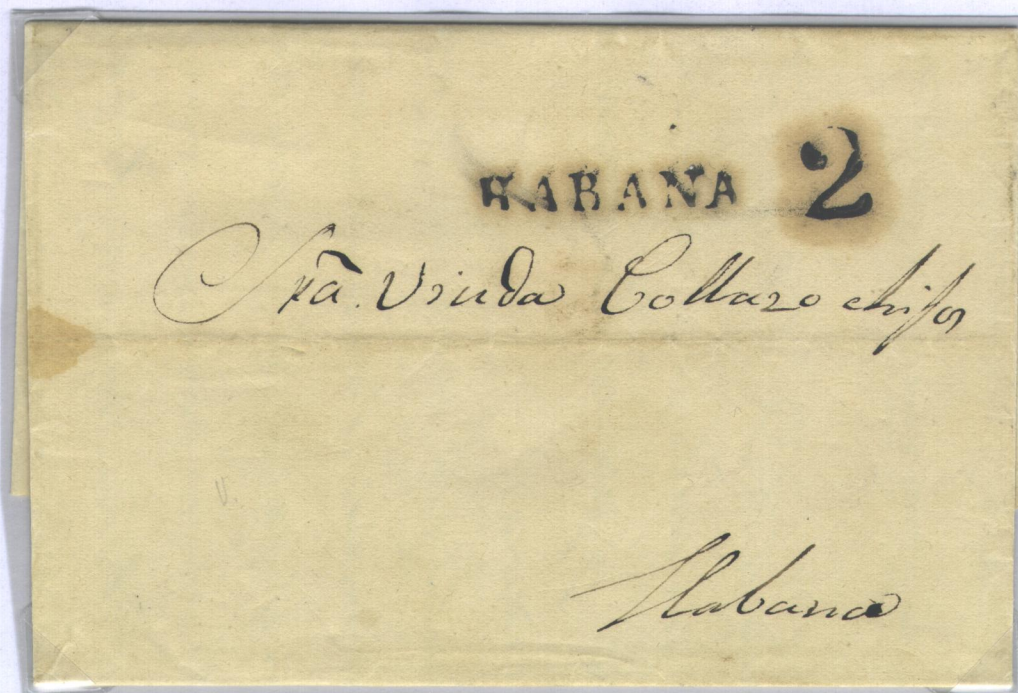


Coastal Mail :

Mail by steamers

Town markings

1840. Cienfuegos to Havana. Unpaid letter of up to ½ ounce carried by coastal steamer. Most of the straightline HABANA markings applied upon arrival are found on internal correspondence carried by coastal steamers.



1840. Santiago de Cuba to Havana. Unpaid single-weight letter carried by the coastal steamer Villanueva. This letter was posted in Santiago in contrast to the previous one which was handed directly to the ship's captain.

Coastal Mail :

Mail by steamers

VAPOR DE LA HABANA

1856. Havana to Santiago de Cuba. Unpaid single-weight letter charged one real postage due. It was carried by the steamer *Habanero*. This is the only recorded example of the oval VAPOR DE LA HABANA in green, applied in Santiago de Cuba. This oval handstamp was used on steamship mail from Havana.



1862. Havana to Santiago de Cuba. Single-weight letter prepaid with a postal forgery of the first issue of Cuba (type VIII). The stamp was cancelled upon arrival in Santiago with a late use of the oval VAPOR DE LA HABANA.