

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850

RATE MARKINGS

In the early period of Spanish postal service, the postage was paid upon arrival. The amount to be paid was in manuscript on the front of the letter. About 1745, stamped rate markings appear. These indicate the postal fee due in Maravidis (MS.) or Reales (RS.). The colors of these markings are black, red, blue and sometimes greens. The actual numbers range from "1" to "12". According to most authorities, "0" indicated an early version of certified or registered service.

Letters, such as "A" or "R", also appear on pre-stamp covers. Their meaning is often debated among postal historians. However, most seem to have a relationship to the postal service the letter received before or after it departed from the original post office. And, some "letters" are foreign postal markings such as "PP" a French mark indicating postage paid.



1825 - 14th MAY - LETTER FROM BARCELONA TO TARRAGONA.
B. CATALUÑA STRAIGHTLINE WITH "6" RATE MARK. THE SIX
MARAVIDIS DUE WAS THE LOCAL DELIVERY CHARGE DURING
THIS TIME, SOMETIMES INDICATED 6MS.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1841 - 9th APRIL - LETTER FROM MADRID TO PARIS, FRANCE. CROWNED "M" OF MADRID WITH P.P. BELOW TO INDICATE POSTAGE PAID. FRENCH TRANSIT MARKS FRONT AND BACK AND "2" FOR FRENCH POSTAGE STILL DUE.



1835 - 31st JANUARY - LETTER FROM MADRID TO LONDON. SMALL CROWNED "M" WITH PTE. PAGADO HASTA LA RAYA. THIS MEANS POSTAGE WAS PAID TO THE SPANISH BORDER. 6/6 WAS STILL DUE IN LONDON. FPO ARRIVAL MARK ON BACK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850

A D^o Eugenio Lieber
Calle de Santiago
Convento de Quincalla
Valladolid

1841 - 3rd JANUARY - LETTER FROM MEDINA TO VALLADOLID.
POSTMARK UNCERTAIN BUT LARGE BLUE-GREEN "5" RATE MARK.

A D^o Felip Lluçà
B8 1/2
CATALUÑA
San Felip de Guixols

1825 - 4th JUNE - LETTER FROM TARRAGONA TO SAN FELIU.
TARRAGONA (T) CATALUÑA STRAIGHTLINE IN RED WITH B8½
RATE MARK (FROM BARCELONA?)

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1844 - 6th MARCH - RED, TYPE I BAEZA OF PALMA DE MALLORCA, ISLAS BALEARES (I. BALEAR.) POSTAL DISTRICT. LETTER WENT TO NEIGHBORING ISLAND PORT OF MAHON. RED, LARGE "5" RATE MARK.



1842 - 8th DEC. - ORANGE, TYPE I BAEZA OF PALENCIA, CASTILLA LA VIEJA PROVINCE, ON FOLDED LETTER TO VALLADOLID WITH LARGE "5" RATE MARK IN BLUE.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1845 - 13th FEBRUARY - GREEN, TYPE I BAEZA OF SALAMANCA, CASTILLA LA VIEJA PROVINCE; ON FOLDED LTR. TO ZAMORA. LARGE GREEN "5" RATE MARK. SALAMANCA WAS ON THE "GREEN ROUTE" TO GALICIA.



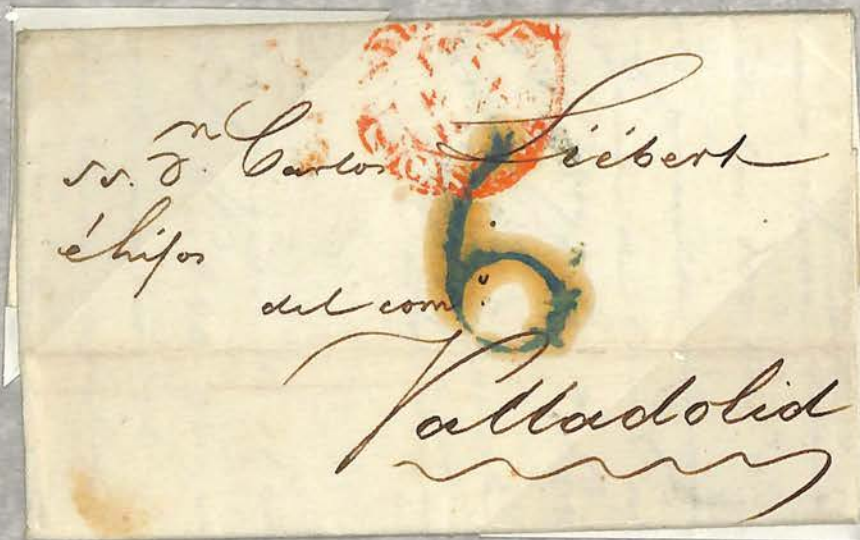
1842 - 29th OCTOBER - RED, TYPE I BAEZA OF SALAMANCA WITH LARGE BLUE-GREEN "5" RATE MARK. POSTMARK IS IN RED BECAUSE COLOR ROUTES WERE NOT ADOPTED UNTIL 1844.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1826 - 14TH JANUARY - FOLDED LETTER FROM MADRID TO VALLADOLID WITH LARGE "6" RATE MARK IN RED.



1843 - 16TH JANUARY - RED MADRID TYPE I BAEZA ON FOLDED LETTER TO VALLADOLID. LARGE BLUE "6" RATE MARK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1844 - 10TH OCTOBER - RED, TYPE II BAEZA POSTMARK OF BURGOS. SMALL BLUE "6" RATE MARK ON FOLDED LETTER.



1844 - 4TH MAY - RED, TYPE II BAEZA POSTMARK OF BURGOS. FOLDED LETTER WITH SMALL BLUE "6" RATE MARK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1842 - 8TH FEBRUARY - FOLDED LETTER FROM MADRID TO VALLADOLID. NOR POSTMARK BUT LARGE BLUE-GREEN "6" RATE MARK.



1842 - 12TH OCTOBER - RED-ORANGE BAEZA OF SANTANDER, POSTAL DISTRICT #9. VALLADOLID BAEZA ON REVERSE AS RECEIVING MARK. LARGE BLUE-GREEN "7" RATE MARK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1838 - 14th SEPTEMBER - FOLDED LETTER FROM TARRAGONA TO BARCELONA WITH "T.39" STRAIGHTLINE. SMALL RED "8" RATE MARK.



1818 - 26th DECEMBER - LETTER FROM MADRID TO BARCELONA. LARGE RED "8" RATE MARK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1818 - 7th NOVEMBER - LETTER FROM MADRID TO BARCELONA WITH LARGE "B.8." RATE MARK IN BLACK.



1821 - 21st JULY - FLD. LETTER FROM MADRID TO BARCELONA WITH DOUBLE STRIKE OF LARGE "B.8." RATE MARK.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1829 - 23rd MAY - FLD. LETTER FROM SEVILLA TO TORRELAVEGA, MONTAÑAS DE SANTANDER PROVINCE. BLURRED SEVILLA STRAIGHTLINE WITH BLUE "11" RATE MARK.



1828 - 23rd DECEMBER - FROM CADIZ TO BARCELONA WITH RED "13" RATE MARK AND CADIZ STRAIGHTLINE.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1847 - 2nd MARCH - RED, TYPE I BAEZA FOR PALENCIA, CASTILLA LA VIEJA PROVINCE, ON FOLDED LETTER TO VALLADOLID. BLUE "1R" RATE MARK, WHICH WAS THE BASIC POSTAGE FOR A LETTER THIS SIZE.



1849 - 11th JUNE - BRICK RED, TYPE II BAEZA OF LEON. BLUE "1R" RATE MARK ON SMALL FOLDED LETTER.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN
1750 - 1850

ORNAMENTAL AND DATED PRIMITIVOS

Apparently most town and provincial post offices were content with simple straightlines. Many continued in use for over 100 years, even used as cancellations in the stamp era. For some provinces and cities, however, simple straightlines were not enough.

Beginning about 1725, postal markings with decorations and dates begin to appear. Madrid, the Royal capital, began to use a simple "M", topped by a crown and later added the date posted. Boxes, ovals and symbolic figures adorn the markings of other provinces and towns.



VILLAGARCIA



RIVADEO



CORUÑA



POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1830 - COVER #3 - 1830 - FOLDED LETTER MAILED APRIL 24TH FROM VALENCIA
ARRIVE TO LONDON. LETTER ARRIVED MAY 10TH VIA FRENCH PORT OF ST. JEAN
VALENC DE LUZ. CIRCULAR PRIMITIVO WITH "VALENCIA DEL CID" AND OTHER
ORNAMENTS IN RED.



1839 - 6th JANUARY - LETTER FROM ZARAGOSSA TO TUDELA,
NAVARRA PROVINCE. RED ARAGON STRAIGHTLINE WITH CROWN,
OVERSTAMPED WITH LARGE RED "Z" FOR ZARAGOSSA.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1842 - 10th JANUARY - FLD. LETTER FROM SEVILLA TO LONDON. FANCY, CROWNED "SEVA, ANDALUCIA BAXA" IN RED.



1841 - 24th SEPT. - LETTER AND SHIP'S SCHEDULE FROM BILBAO TO LONDON. ORANGE-RED "BILBAO" IN SCRIPT SURROUNDED BY OVAL. ARRIVED OCTOBER 1st.

POSTAL HISTORY OF SPAIN

1750 - 1850



1827 - 15th SEPT. - BUSINESS LETTER FROM FERROL TO LONDON. BLUE GALICIA "FERROL" IN OVAL.



1835 - 22nd FEBRUARY - FLD. LETTER FROM ORENSE TO LONDON. LARGE "GALICIA ORENSE" IN ROPE OVAL.