

PAPELES SELLADOS UPDATE

By Douglas K. Lehmann



In the July-December 1978 issue of this journal, Mario Que presented a comprehensive look at "The Philippine Stamped Papers 1640-1904". These stamped papers or Papeles Sellados still remain un-cataloged but research continues.

At the time of Mario Que's article, it was not known when the first-design series was replaced by the second-design series. Illustrations in the 1978 article show that the first-design series was at least used through 1757 while the second-design series at least began by 1838.

The enclosed photograph reduces this 81 year span down to 37 years. The Spanish inscription on the pictured paper is dated 1800-1801. This means the first-design was used at least up to 1801 and the second-design began sometime between 1802 and 1837. This particular paper was a remainder that was later used for the 1806-07 biennial. Based on the latter, it is possible the first design series was used through the end of the reign of King Charles IV in 1808 but at this time that is only my guess. More documents are needed to determine the exact biennial the design series was changed.