

1847, Honolulu, Hawaiian Kingdom via Manila to West Bridgewater, United States  
Stampless mail to the United States, 1840s

1849, Manila to Salem, United States



Dated Honolulu on March 31, 1847 to West Bridgewater, United States of America. The letter was carried to Manila on the British brigantine *Laura Ann* which left Honolulu on April 3. In Manila it was cancelled at the Spanish post office on May 11, 1847 with a small Baeza circular date stamp. The cover was forwarded by ship on the route via the Cape of Good Hope around Africa. Received in New York on November 27, 1847.

In the destination country the manuscript marking "Ship 12" was applied. The addressee paid 2 Cents captain's gratuity, plus the inland rate from the port of arrival. From 1845 on, single domestic postage was 5 Cents for a distance up to 300 miles. It was charged double postage, for a total of 12 Cents.

Of the very few stampless letters sent from the Kingdom of Hawaii to the United States via the Indian Ocean route, only two were sent via Manila. Among these **two known covers, only this one was postmarked at the Manila post office.**



Letter dated Manila March 13, 1849 to Salem, United States of America. Carried outside the mails via Suez to London. In London it was cancelled on May 25, 1849.

Afterwards the cover was sent by the *Europa* to Boston. It arrived in Boston on June 7.

The debit marking "19 Cents" was applied in the United Kingdom and it considers 3 Cents UK domestic transport as well as 16 Cents for transatlantic transport according to the U.S.-British Postal Treaty of December 15, 1848.

The transport from the port of arrival was 5 Cents, this was documented according to the "24" postmark struck in Boston.