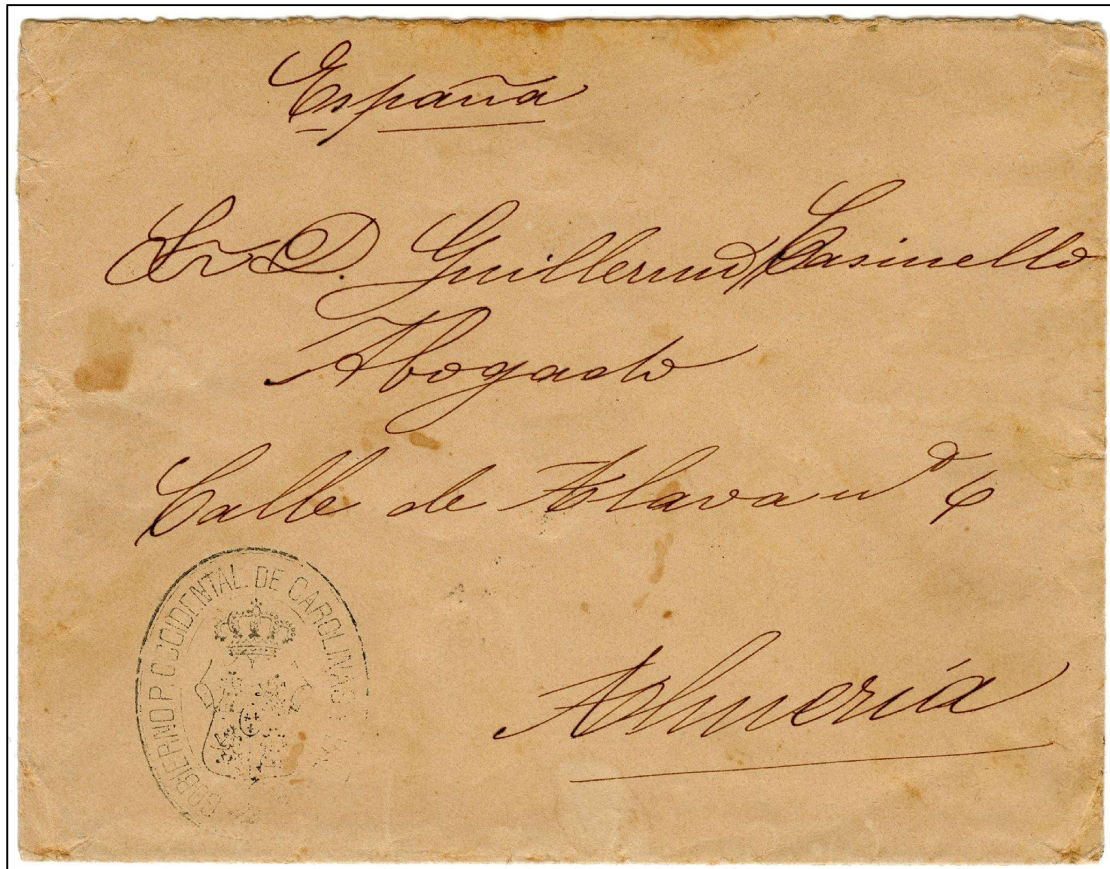


The Spanish East Indies included not only the Philippines but also other Pacific islands. The territories included present-day Guam and the Mariana Islands, as well as Palau and part of Micronesia.

On the one hand, the islands were administered locally, for example from Yap and Ponape. Postally, they belonged to the Spanish Philippines and were therefore administered from Manila.



Envelope sent by the government of the western Carolinas and Palau to Almería, Spain. The government was seated on the island Yap from where the cover was sent.

An official seal "GOBIERNO P. OCCIDENTAL DE CAROLINAS Y PALOS" identifies the cover as an official cover. Therefore, no franking was needed due to the free franking privilege which was granted to government and ecclesiastical offices.

It arrived in Almería on June 11, 1897. An arrival postmark was applied on the back.

Less than 10 covers are known from the western Carolinas and Palau during the Spanish period.