
Vanity Perforators - Where Are They Now?

In the July –August issue of the Perfins Bulletin, Floyd Walker ran an article on ‘lost’ US vanity perfins. He mentions significant research, lots of letters, and many recent and not-so-recent vanities still not located. Unfortunately, as a brief note from Dick Mewhinney (#LN60) caused me to realize, Floyd didn’t list the locations of all of the known US vanity perforators. I only realized this when I went to check on the two Dick reported to me. I don’t know if there was another article in the making or if Floyd has already reported the known locations (I have only gone back through the past year in trying to bring the index up to date) , but I do not have either his notes or the correspondence which he mentioned in that article.

So, using information provided by Dick, I’ll start a new set of notes reporting the location of the US vanities that we do know.



The two perforators Dick reported are those of the late John Needham (man in wheelchair; Des. 49IP) and that of the late Jack Gooding (JAG; J3.5P). Both are in Perfins Club members hands at the present time.

Dick owns Des. 49IP which he bought from John’s estate. He follows John’s precedent and will perforate only current stamps. And Rev.

A. Griswold, in a fortuitous match of initials, purchased the J3.5P perforator from Jack (John A.) Gooding’s collection.



Neither of these perforators are listed among the missing – but neither were they listed in the article. Are there other vanities out there still in use? If you have one, please let me know! I’ll try to pick up where the previous article left off and compile the opposite list – that of active vanity perforators.

And a Humorous Sidebar

Dick also included an eBay listing (now long closed) in which a “perfores – USA chaise roulante” stamp was offered (translation: perfin – USA wheel chair... [Des. 49IP]). With 34 hours left on the bidding the reserve of 9.0 EUR (approx. \$8.00) had not been bid. I don’t know if the item actually sold – but I’ll be glad to sell any of my copies of this unrated (but relatively common) perfin for \$8 each.
