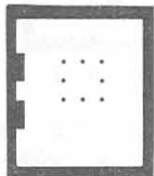


NEW SCHERMACK DISCOVERY?

Charles Schoeps (#1315) has submitted the following photos, front and back, of a most interesting find - a Type III Schermack, Perfin #5, on the 1906 two-cent imperforate (Scott #320):



While this Schermack Type III vending machine perforation is not uncommon on Scott #320, it may represent a new discovery as far as a Schermack Perfin on #320 is concerned. Former secretary and long-time Club member Dick Mewhinney says it is the first such Perfin he recalls seeing on #320. Does any member know of other Schermack Perfins on this issue?

Incidentally, do you know why the perforated version of this particular two-cent stamp (Scott #319) was issued in the first place? According to Alvin Harlow's remarkable book on the history of stamp collecting ("Paper Chase," published by Henry Holt & Co., New York, 1940), it was issued to replace the two-cent value (Scott #301) of the 1902 definitive set, which drew many objections from the public on the grounds that it was "inartistic and clumsy" and that it appeared to give Washington a toper's nose.