

APS & SPA Perfins

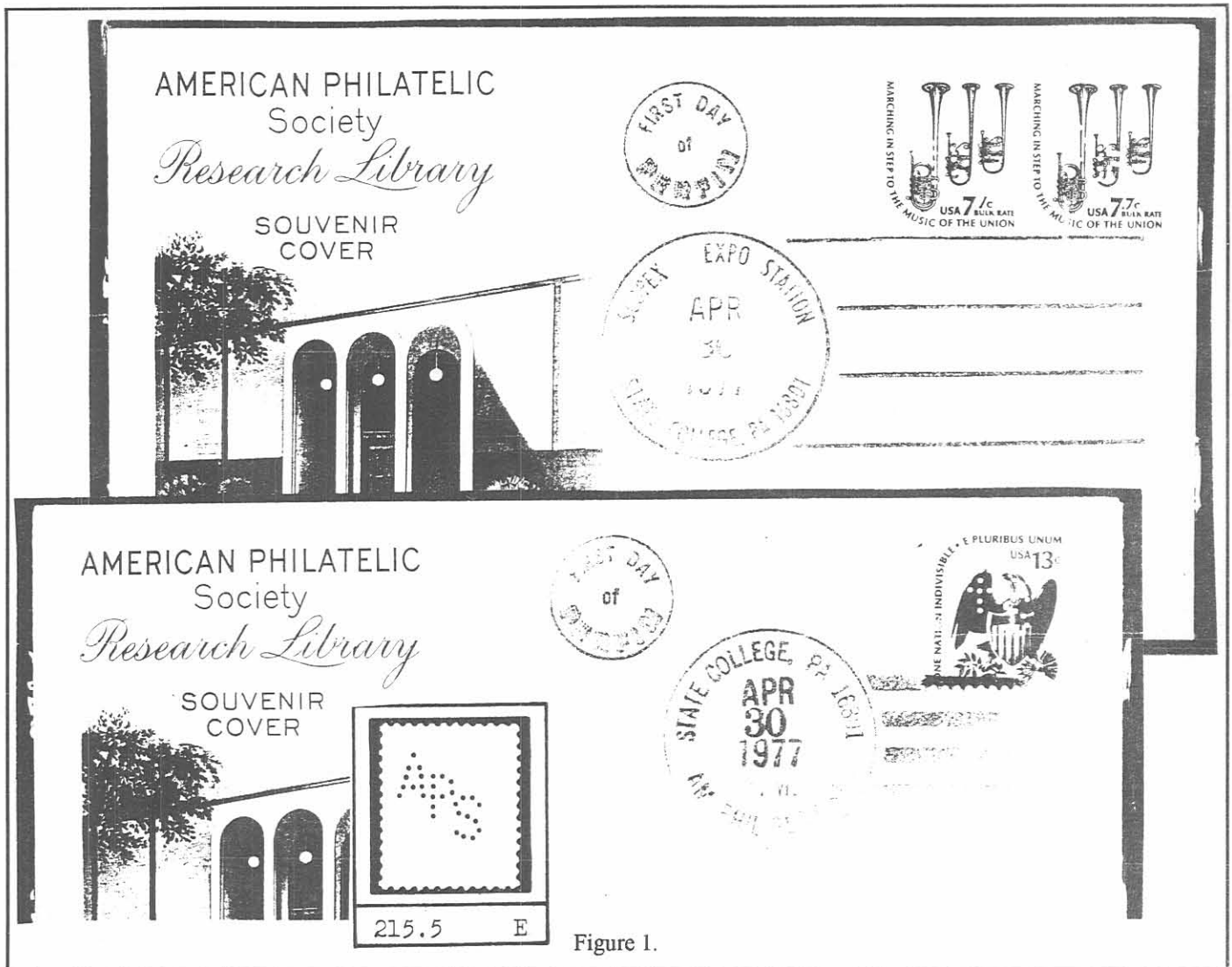


Figure 1.

Floyd A. Walker (L105)

After reading John Lyding's editorial comments (TPB, June 1997, page 102) about his visit to the American Philatelic Research Library and using the American Philatelic Society (APS) perforator (A215.5), I decided to fill out the story a bit.

The perforator was purchased in 1977 from Baddeley Brothers of London, the same folks who made my WALKER pattern. In fact the APS perfin is a direct result of my pattern. Colonel James DeVoss and I discussed my plans to acquire a personal perfin and proceeded to order the perforator for the APS.

The APS perfin was first used in April

1977. Figure 1 illustrates one of the covers used to mark that event. One (partially shown) was postmarked at the SCOPEX Expo Station and the other carries the postmark of the American Philatelic Society Building. Some months after the first use of the perfin, I wrote to the APS to urge them to use the perfin on some of the mailings to members. I received a nice reply saying that perforating stamps in the quantities they use was impractical and that the perfin would be used "for selected special events."

I'm not sure if it has had much use since then other than during the summer seminars. I am delighted to know that it still exists and that members can perforate stamps on the machine if

they wish. Our editor, John Lyding has offered to punch a quantity of stamps and offer them to our members when he makes his next trip to State College.

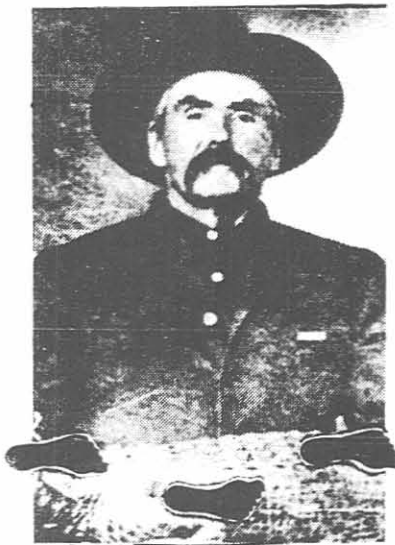
Now, I have a question about another society perfin, the SPA pattern of the Society of Philatelic Americans (SPA). The SPA perforator was acquired in 1980 and first used on April 18, 1980, during the SPA conference in Punta Gorda, Florida. The Stamporee 80 cover with the perfin canceled on April 18, 1980 is shown in Figure 2. (on page 19). This much I know. The perforator was acquired at the behest of the late Jim Harris, who was president of the Perfins Club and later

(Continued on page 19)

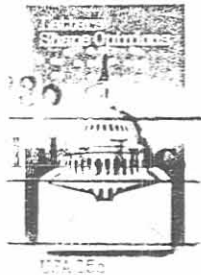
(Continued
 president
 of SPA. I
 believe
 the device
 is a Bad-
 deley
 Brothers
 machine
 made in
 England.
 Jim Har-
 ris closed
 his last
 album
 years ago.
 Does any-
 one know
 the cur-
 rent
 where-
 abouts of
 the perforator?
 I'm curious to

know if anyone can add to our store of knowledge about the SPA perfin. On a personal side, I would be delighted to perforate current U.S. postage with the WAL/KER pattern if any members would like examples for their collection. Just send me the mint stamps along with return postage and

Charles Mitchell (Acrefoot) Johnson
 1853 - 1922



(See story inside)



APR 13 1980



Figure 2 - SPA Cover

I'll do the perforating on my machine. It is a single-die Baddeley Brothers perforator. It had its first use at Grandview, Missouri, on April 8, 1977. You can reach me at PO Box 82, Grandview, MO 64030-0590.

ED's Note: One of the interesting as-

pects of this article is that neither Floyd nor I have been able to find the SPA perfin in The Catalog of United States Perfins. Perhaps John Randall, the US Catalog Editor will be able to advise us if the SPA perfin will be included in the new catalog on the perfin's catalog number.