

Cambridge Carnival Glass

This article was taken from *Antique Trader Weekly*, March 1983

by Don Moore

Not many people associate Cambridge with the production of Carnival glass. Mrs. Kamm even states in Volume Seven of her pattern glass series that, "Cambridge never made Carnival glass." The fact is, however, they got into the act in a major way even though their principle line was always fine crystal and non-iridized tableware.

The Cambridge Glass Co. sprang from a conglomerate of some nineteen glass factories in 1898 which was called the National Glass Co. A few years later and after a new factory was built at Cambridge, Ohio, they took on the Cambridge name by which we have known them for so many years. In 1906 they adopted the "Near Cut" trade-mark. Most, but not all, of their Carnival production carried this logo. For several years prior to 1906 they had used a "C" in a triangle. The company was in continuous operation until 1959 when they ceased operations and their molds were sold to the Imperial Glass Co. Mr. Harold Bennett now maintains The Cambridge Glass Museum where crystal and rare pieces of Carnival are on display.

With this brief history, let's now take a look at the various Cambridge patterns that were used for their Carnival production. The known shapes and colors will be listed along with a price estimate. I find it interesting that no pastels have been reported to my knowledge. Marigold, green and purple were the standard colors used with a blue piece turning up now and then.

INVERTED STRAWBERRY

This is, no doubt, the most famous and most popular of the Cambridge patterns. It was used for a wide range of crystal as well as the Carnival items listed here.

1. *Water set* (Photo #1): marigold, (\$2,000); purple, (\$1,850); and green, (\$2,500). This set is rare in any color but the green is extremely limited. A



Photo #1



Photo #2

tumbler or two is reported in blue.

2. *Milk pitcher*: purple (\$1,000). Only 6 or 8 are known.

3. *Giant compote* (Photo #2): marigold, (\$450); purple (\$600). These used to turn up now and then but I have not seen one offered for sale in recent years.

4. *Table set* (Photo #3): marigold, (\$1,000); purple, (\$1,250); and blue (\$1,400). These pieces are all rare and a complete set is seldom seen.

5. *Spittoon*: marigold, (\$500); purple, (\$600); green (\$600). These were not whimsies but a very limited production line item. Seldom offered for sale.

6. *Candlestick 7"* (Photo #4): marigold, (pr. \$250); green (pr. \$350).

7. *Powder jar* (Photo #5): marigold piece but also the easiest to find. This is the only dresser set item in this pattern.

8. *Berry set*: marigold, (\$250); purple, (\$350); green, (\$350). A complete set is seldom seen. Its desirability is lessened by the fact the pattern is on the exterior only. This makes these bowls difficult to display effectively.

9. *Tall compote* (Photo #6): marigold, (\$400). This is an unlisted shape and is the only one I've seen. It stands 6" high and is just under 5" in diameter. There is also one of these in marigold with a ruffled top.

10. *Celery*: blue, (\$400); I have seen a number of these in pressed glass but only one example in Carnival. It is owned by the Harmons of North Vernon, Indiana.

11. *Jelly compote* (Photo #7): blue, (\$150). This is one of the two that I have learned about. It stands 3 1/2" tall and is a miniature version of the giant compote shown in Photo #2. At one time it was thought they might have been designed as a berry set. This appears unlikely, however, since so few of the small ones have turned up. This small size was made in pressed glass and came with six miniature cups as a child's punch

set.

12. *Stemmed sugar & creamer*: blue, (pr. \$400). Very rare.

The tumblers in this Inverted Strawberry pattern have been heavily reproduced in many colors in Carnival by Hansen, Bennett, Westmoreland, Crider and Guernsey. They are all signed, however, by these various makers and should cause no real problem for collectors. About 30 blue pitchers were iridized in 1972 by Guernsey and an additional 100 in purple in 1977. These pitchers are smaller and shaped much differently than the old tankard which makes them easy to spot.

INVERTED FEATHER

Cambridge introduced this pattern in a wide range of crystal in 1906. They called it their "Feather Design No. 2651." A few shapes were later carried into their Carnival line. Whereas the crystal pieces still turn up from time to time, Carnival items are very hard to find. The crystal line was produced for some ten years following its introduction in 1906 but we don't know the precise year or years the Carnival items were offered.

1. *Tankard water pitcher* (Photo #8): marigold, (\$3,500). Only the one pitcher (Corrother's collection) is known in marigold. One is also reported in purple but I have not confirmed it. The Corrother's pitcher carries the Near Cut trade-mark on the handle. This pitcher is perhaps the rarest of all the known Cambridge pieces that were made in Carnival.

2. *Tumbler*: marigold, (\$500); green, (\$500). Only a handful of these are known. Most tumbler collectors would not doubt rank it among the ten rarest Carnival tumblers.

3. *Milk pitcher* (Photo #9): marigold, (\$750). Only the one example is known. It is signed "Near Cut" on the interior of the base. I find it interesting that the water pitcher and this milk pitcher are shaped differently. This is not often the case where both pieces were made in the same pattern such as the Inverted Strawberry for example.

4. *Punch set* (Photo #10): marigold, (\$2,000); green (\$2,750). Only the one complete set is known in marigold. A second bowl and base exists but the bowl is cracked and there are no cups. One very rare bowl and base and 2 or 3 cups are known in green. Illustration No. 11 is from a 1908 Butler Bros. catalog where it was offered in crystal. It is interesting that the set included both cups and footed sherbets.

5. *Table set* (Illustration No. 12): marigold, (\$1,250); purple, (\$1,500). These pieces are extremely rare. It would be a real challenge to put together a complete four piece set. The set shown in Illustration No. 11 is from an old trade catalog where the entire set, in crystal, sold for \$6.00 per dozen sets or an incredible 50 cents a set.

6. *Parfait glass*: marigold, (\$40). This is sometimes called a compote. It is the most available of any of the Carnival pieces in this pattern.

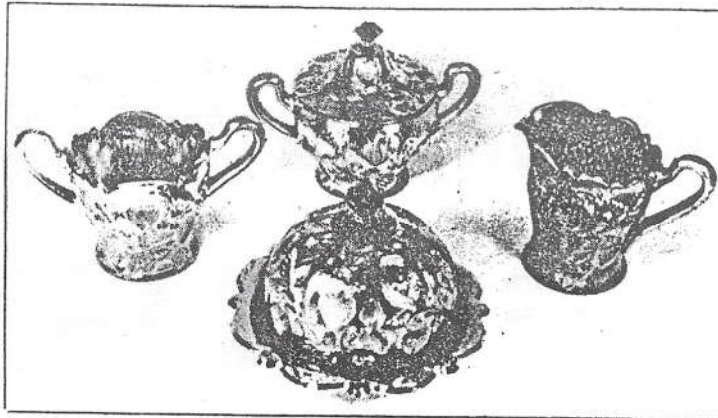


Photo #3

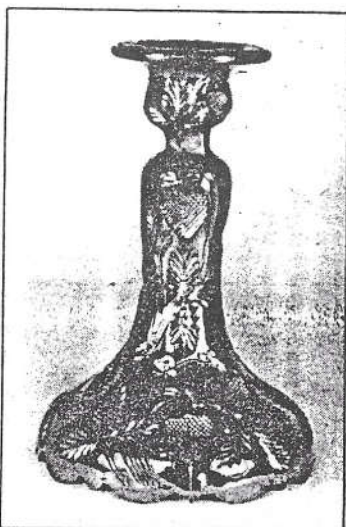


Photo #4



Photo #7

7. *Cracker jar* (Photo #13): green, (\$250); purple, (\$750). No doubt more collectors relate to the green cracker jar in this pattern than any other piece made in Carnival by the Cambridge Co. It is not rare but like most covered pieces it is popular and brings a good price. The same piece in purple is extremely rare.

INVERTED THISTLE

Like most Cambridge patterns, this is an intaglio (cut in) design. It was made in a wide range of crystal shapes but not many were carried into Carnival. I feel that most pieces in this pattern are harder to find than either Inverted Strawberry or Inverted Feather.

In 1977, Mosser Glass Inc. reproduced the tumbler and the



Photo #5



Photo #6

covered butter in ice blue. I know of no other reproductions and these should cause no real problem if it is remembered that no pastels were made by Cambridge in old Carnival.

1. *Water pitcher* (Photo #14): marigold, (\$2,500); purple, (\$2,000). It is doubtful if more than 9 or 10 purple pitchers exist and only 3 or 4 are known in marigold. It is a beautiful addition to the rarest of collections.

2. *Tumbler*: marigold, (\$400); purple, (\$300). Only 4 or 5 are known in marigold and perhaps a couple of dozen in purple.

3. *Milk pitcher*: green, (\$1,500); purple, (\$1,500). Extremely rare. Two are confirmed in green. Purple is reported but not confirmed.

4. *Table set*: marigold, (\$1,350); purple, (\$1,500); green (\$1,500).

Even more rare than the Inverted Strawberry. Very few pieces are known and a matched, full set is an extreme rarity.

5. *Compote*: green, (\$600). Only the one example of this piece is known. It stands about 3" tall unlike the Inverted Strawberry compotes, it is ruffled around the top. It has also been reported in blue and green but not confirmed.

6. *Chop plate* 11": purple, (\$1,200). I have been able to confirm only this one rare chop plate. It is owned by Curtis Knight, Atlanta, Georgia. The inside of the plate is smooth with the pattern cut in on the back side.

7. *Bowls*: Various sizes and shapes in both purple and green. These are rare but less desirable than the other pieces in this pattern. The pattern is on the reverse side and they are difficult to display. Prices will range from \$50 to \$150.

8. *Tri corner whimsey*: green (\$650). Very rare. Made from celery. The one known is owned by the Gordon Williams of Lodi, California.

DOUBLE STAR — BUZZ SAW

Carnival collectors do not always realize that these are the same pattern and in crystal both are called "Buzz Saw." The original Cambridge pattern number was 2699. The Double Star name for the water set, however, is so well established in the Carnival world that any attempt to change it would be confusing and unproductive.

1. *Spittoon whimsey*: green, (\$1,500). This rare piece was shaped from a tumbler. Only the one known. It is owned by the Britts of Manhattan, Kansas.

2. *Water set* (Photo #15): marigold, (\$800); green, (\$500); purple, (\$950). In green this is no doubt the most easily found of any of the Carnival Cambridge water sets. It is rare, however, in marigold or purple. The pitchers in this pattern carry the Near Cut trade-mark but the tumblers do not.

3. *Cruets* (Photo #16): The large 6" size as shown is found in marigold (\$350) and green (\$450). The small 4" size is known only in green (\$400). They are all scarce but the large green cruet is the most difficult to find. Some of these carry the Near Cut trade-mark on the inside just below the neck and above the pattern design. Even when it is there, it is hard to find.

SWEETHEART

This pattern was used extensively in crystal but very few items were carried into Carnival.

1. *Cracker jar*: marigold, (\$900); green, (\$750). Only 2 or 3 of these are known in green and one in marigold. It is of generous size, measuring 8½" tall, 6½" at the widest point and 4" at the base.

2. *Tumbler*: marigold, (\$600). Only some half dozen of these are known. A pitcher has never been found.

VENETIAN

1. *Vase [sometimes called giant rose bowl]* (Photo #17): marigold, (\$950) or green (\$750). This is a heavy, impressive piece of glass.



Photo #8



Photo #10

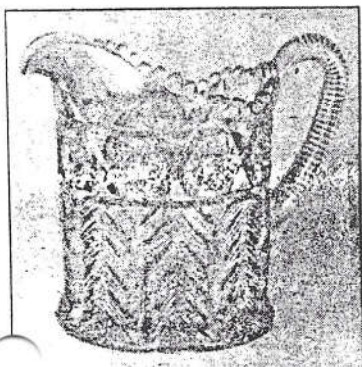


Photo #9

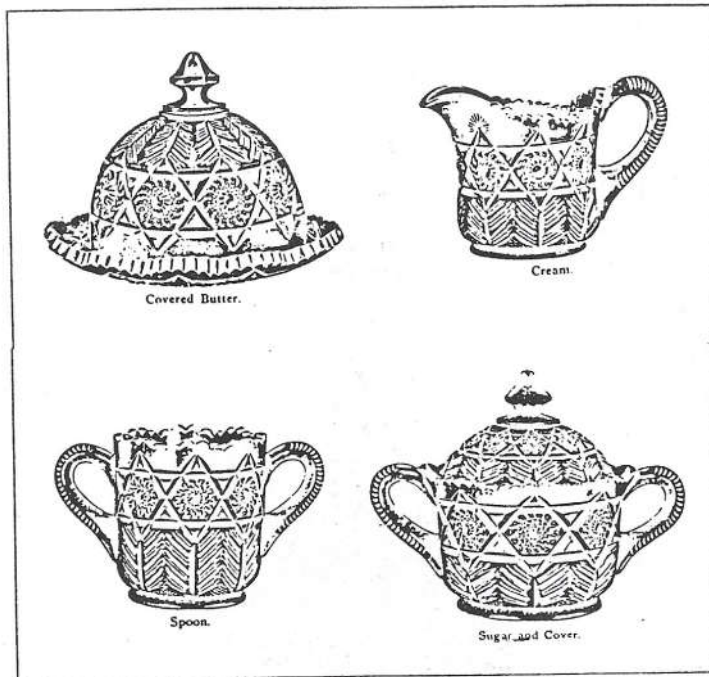


Photo #12



Photo #11

C1394. "Jewel" — Near cut pure crystal, rich medallion star and feather cut design, extra heavy, brilliantly fire polished. One 12 in. bell shape with 12 handled sherbet cups; one 11 in. fancy shape, 12 footed sherberts. Both on fancy stand. Full ht. 10 in. 2 sets in bbl., 50 lbs. **\$1.20** Per set.



Photo #13

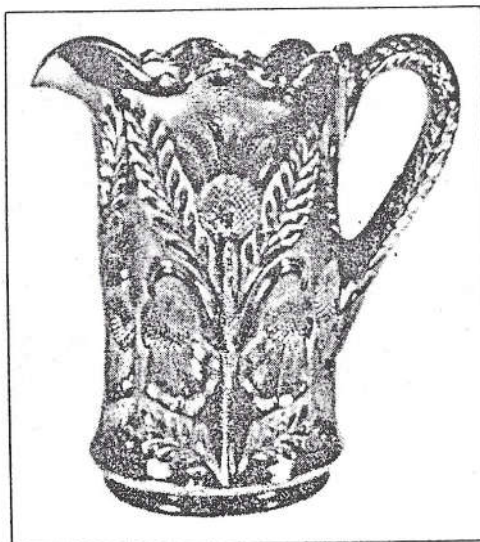


Photo #14

There are a dozen or so known in green but only 2 or 3 in marigold. It stands 9" in height. These are unsigned. Before they were confirmed as Cambridge, many collectors thought they were Millersburg pieces.

2. *Creamer & sugar:* marigold, (\$150 each). Only this one rare set is known.

WHEAT SHEAF

This is a heavily cut pattern and was known as Cambridge's "Wheat Sheaf No. 2660."

1. *Cologne* (Photo #15): marigold, (\$650); green, (\$450). This piece stands 8 1/4" to the top of the stopper and the base measures 3 1/4". Green is the color usually seen but at least one has been confirmed in marigold.

2. *Covered cracker jar:* purple, (\$950). Very few of these have turned up and most are missing the lid. It stands a bit higher than the better known Inverted Feather cracker jar but is not quite as wide. It is much more rare.

3. *Decanter:* green, (\$1,200). Only one of these is known in Carnival. It stands 12" high to the top of the stopper and is shaped much like the Buzz Saw cruet. It is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Woody Funk of Lititz, Pa.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. *Tomahawk:* This novelty item (Photo #19) is known in both blue (\$1,350) and marigold (\$1,350). Only 2 or 3 have been confirmed. It is my understanding that Mr. Degenhart purchased this mold from the Cambridge Co. and took it with him when he retired. He had worked for Cambridge for many years. This Tomahawk has been reproduced in purple Carnival.

2. *Cambridge Hobstar punch cup:* marigold (\$50). Only a couple of these are known. They were recently found and named by Mr. John Britt of Manhattan, Kansas.

3. *Nearcut whiskey decanter* (Photo #20): green, (\$2,000). Only two of these are known in Carnival. They are extremely rare and desirable. They would rank near the top of the list of rare Cambridge Carnival. One of these is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Garner of Fresno, California and the other by Dr. and Mrs. Jack Adams of West Salem, Wisconsin.

4. *Nearcut Souvenir* (Photos #21 and #22): These pieces are all marigold. This pattern has been found in a tumbler, (\$250), mug, (\$150) and creamer (\$150). Nearly all of these items carry flashed on lettering which indicate it was sold as a souvenir from various cities throughout both the U.S. and Canada.

While I have made every effort in this article to list all the Cambridge Carnival that is known, I'm sure there are pieces that have eluded me. Any additions or corrections will be appreciated.

(more photos follow)



Photo #15 Cover photo

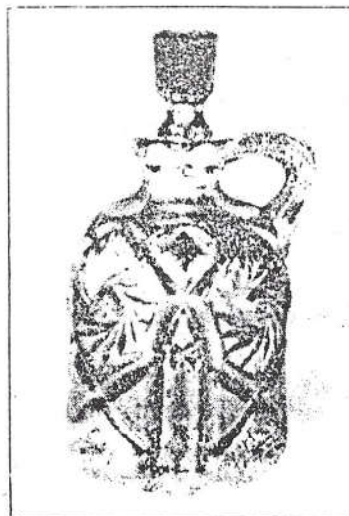


Photo #16



Photo #17

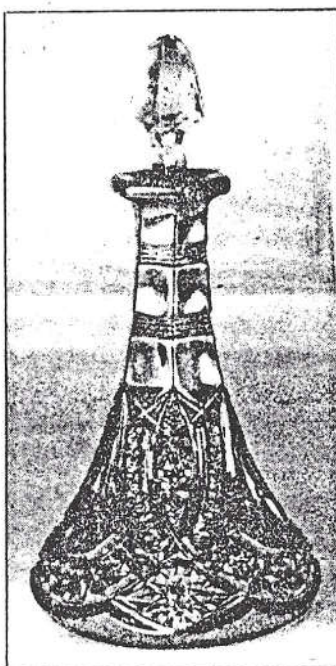


Photo #18

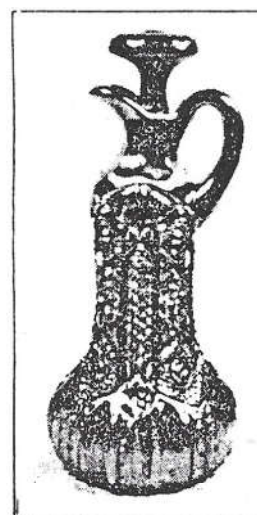


Photo #20

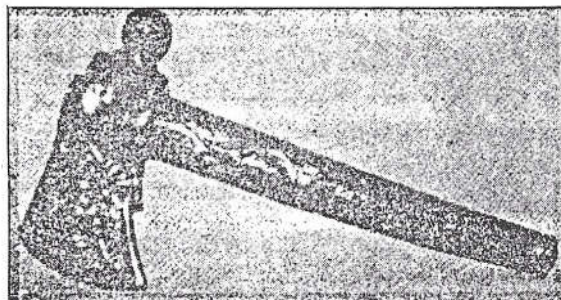


Photo #19



Photo #21

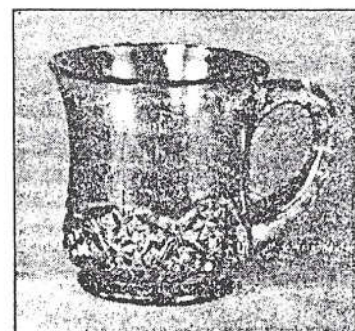


Photo #22

Cambridge Carnival Glass

by Dr. John M. Adams

Member of the National Cambridge Collectors, Inc. and
Vice-President International Carnival Glass Association

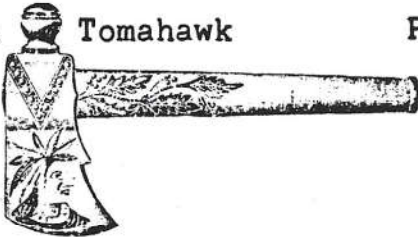

Some of the more beautiful pieces of Carnival Glass that we have seen were produced by the Cambridge Glass Company, Cambridge, Ohio.

Old Carnival Glass was made approximately between the years 1907 and 1925. The exact years of production by the Cambridge Glass Company is not known at this time.

Carnival Glass is pressed glass that is sprayed with a solution of metallic salts, then reheated to give an iridescent finish. The use of different metals or combinations of metals, resulted in variations in the look of the finished piece. Iridescence that is multihued and strong in the red, green and blue colors is regarded as much more desirable than a primarily silver or gold iridescence.

In the following listing, "color" refers to the color of the glass before the iridizing was done. The only exception to this is the Marigold color which was applied to pieces of clear glass.

COLOR CODE: M - Marigold G - Green P - Purple B - Blue

Cambridge Number	Cambridge Name	Description	Color	Comments
#2340		Vase	M-G	This vase is the base to the lamp shown on pg. 117, Welker II.
#2561	Tomahawk	 Tomahawk	P	This mold is presently owned by Elizabeth Degenhart of Crystal Art Glass. Some were made in Carnival before the 1970's, but we are not sure just when they were made.
#2631	Marjorie	 Squat Cracker Jar	M-G	Carnival name for this pattern is Sweetheart.

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Cambridge Number	Cambridge Name	Description	Color	Comments
#2651	Feather	1/2 gal. Pitcher Qt. Pitcher 8 oz. Tumbler Punch Bowl/Foot Hdld. Custard Parfait type Butterdish Sugar Creamer Spooner Squat Cracker Jar	M M M-G M-G M-G M P M-P M-P P G-P	<p>The Carnival name for this pattern is Inverted Feather. The base for the Punch Bowl has been seen in green, but not the bowl. However, it must have been made in that color</p> <p>In Green, the squat Cracker Jar is perhaps the most common Cambridge Carnival piece.</p>

#2658



No. 2658 4 oz. Creamer
Packed 12 dozen in a barrel
Price, \$10 per doz.
Capacity, 4 oz.

8 oz. Tumbler
4 oz. Mug
4 oz. Creamer

M
M
M

These pieces are usually found with souvenir lettering of various cities and states.



No. 2658 4 oz. Mug
Packed 24 dozen in a barrel
Capacity, 4 oz.
Price, \$5 per doz.



No. 2658 8 oz. Tumbler
Packed 12 dozen in a barrel
Price, \$10 per doz.

#2660

Wheat
Sheaf

Cologne

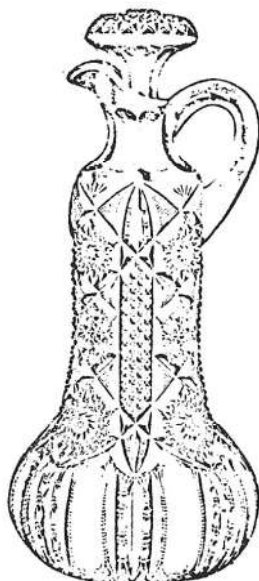
M-G

Original stoppers are very difficult to find.

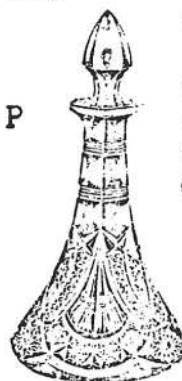
Cracker Jar
and Cover

P

Color slide has been seen. Jar is reported to be somewhere in Ohio.



No. 2666 35 ounce Decanter
Packed 12 dozen in a barrel
Price, \$15.00 per doz.



No. 2660 6 ounce Cologne
Packed 12 dozen in a barrel
Price, \$1.00 per doz.

#2666

Decanter

G

Have seen only one in Carnival. Several have been seen in clear crystal pressed glass.

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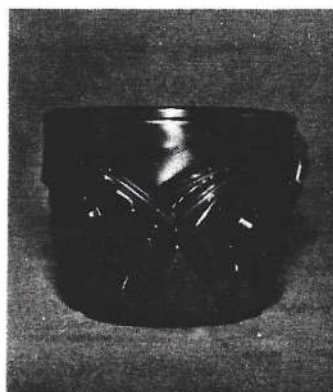
WE GET LETTERS

CAMBRIDGE CARNIVAL UPDATE!

"First, I would like to correct a mistake which I have made in my previous study of Cambridge Carnival Glass. Last year I wrote that we had found a Wheat Sheaf cracker jar base in green. (C.B. issue #77, Sept. '79, pg. 5) I did this because I thought it was the same as the one in Bennett's Color Book, plate #52, row 2, #1. Then I saw your article (Phyllis) on this in the January '80 "Glass Review" and thought we might have the "Forks" pattern instead. Recently I have seen for the first time an old Imperial Catalog which contained the illustration of the pattern which is very similar to the "Forks" Cracker Jar. After studying our Cracker Jar base and the illustration for some time, I have become convinced that we have the Imperial product, not the Cambridge one.

A knowledgeable Carnival Glass friend of ours in Illinois has told us he has seen, and tried without success to buy a Cambridge Cologne Bottle (#2660 Wheat Sheaf) in purple. That is the only purple one we have had reported.

Enclosed are pictures of a punch cup which we just have seen in marigold and green. When I first saw the marigold one it didn't impress me. Then I saw the green one and immediately thought "that looks like Cambridge". I looked through my books and in Welkers Catalog Reprint Book II, page 101, #2351 Design, there is a cup (handled custard) which appears to me to be exactly the same, although it's not the greatest illustration. I would appreciate your opinion on this. Perhaps you might even have a better illustration among your catalogs. The cup is not marked NearCut.



NEARCUT #2351 Punch/Custard Cup

I have recently seen for the first time a #2780 Strawberry Handled Celery Holder in cobalt blue. When I first heard of it I thought perhaps someone just was mistaking a Handled Spoon Holder as that is the same basic shape and the design is arranged identically on the pieces. However, the Celery Holder is clearly from a different mold and is larger than the Spoon Holder.

My wife and I gave talks on Cambridge Carnival Glass at two meetings recently. First was the Lincoln Land Carnival Glass Club Convention, South Beloit, IL in June, then at the International Carnival Glass Association Convention, Perrysburg, OH in July.

I really like the Lion Bookend. I hope you use a variety of colors for future bookends.

Best Wishes, Jack Adams, WI
President, I.C.G.A."

Dear Jack,

How nice to hear from you again. Before commenting on your letter, let me congratulate you upon your recent election to the office of President of the International Carnival Glass Association. It's nice to have a carnival glass authority in our midst!

Sorry to hear that your cracker jar is not Wheat Sheaf after all. But can easily understand how you could have been fooled - that Imperial pattern is confusing, in that it looks so much like the Cambridge. Your error only serves to point up the fact that STUDY, is necessary in identifying these old NearCut patterns. I'm just glad to know that I'm not the only one making mistakes!

In studying some of our research material recently, the following bit of information "jumped out" at us. It's strange how you can read something, and yet not have it make an impression. We've had this information for several years and didn't realize what it was.

In the June 25, 1908 edition of "Crockery & Glass Journal", page 11, the following appeared: "The Cambridge Glass Co. has made a new departure in the presentation to the trade of a full line of pressed iridescent stemware. It has all the beauty of the blown article, and stands as an accomplishment of merit for the Cambridge plant. William Dealing, the New York agent to the company, has the goods on display in his sample room, 25 West Broadway."

Later, in the January 11, 1912 edition of "Crockery & Glass Journal", page 13, was the following excerpt: "Four iridescent glass oil lamps, shade and bowl to match, are also new offerings."

We have also uncovered the following dates of introduction for these NearCut patterns that are known to have been produced in Carnival Glass: #2631 Marjorie, December, 1904; #2651 Feather, November, 1906; #2660 Wheat Sheaf, November, 1907; #2766 Thistle, January, 1911; and #2780 Strawberry, June 1911. We are not positive as to a date of introduction for #2699 Buzz Saw, but we do know that it was being produced in August, 1914.

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It is my feeling that this bit of information should prove that the Cambridge Glass Company did, in fact, produce what we all refer to as Carnival Glass, beginning in 1908 and continuing for several years, at least until 1914, and possibly longer.

Your punch, or custard, cup is the #2351 Design as far as I can tell. We have several of these, plus a bowl in crystal in our collection and none of them are marked. We have nothing further in the way of an illustration, than the one you have made reference to in your letter.

Hearing about the Strawberry handled Celery Holder is exciting. The fact that one has been found regardless of color is great news by itself, but the fact that it has been found in cobalt blue makes it better still!

Thanks for your comments on the Lion Bookend. Everyone who has seen them feels the same as you, it seems. I believe it is the intention of the Project Committee to complete the Bookend series by producing each bookend in a different color.

Phyllis

(Members interested in past articles on Carnival Glass, by Dr. Jack Adams, may order the following back issues at 60¢ each: #57 and #77.)

CAMBRIDGE CARNIVAL GLASS UPDATE

by MARY L. ADAMS

Carnival glass is among the Cambridge Glass Company's earliest efforts, with production dates of 1908, 1916-17, and perhaps the late 1920s. Judging by the number of pieces available today, Cambridge produced very little carnival glass in only a few patterns. Many pieces are marked "Near Cut."

Carnival glass is pressed glass that is sprayed with a solution of metallic salts, then reheated to give an iridescent finish. It is classified by the color of the base glass, not that of the iridescence with the exception of marigold which is on a clear base glass. Cambridge made marigold, purple, green and blue carnival glass.

The relative scarcity of Cambridge Carnival glass is indicated by the few additions to our 1977 list of known items published in the January 1978 CRYSTAL BALL. Many of these additions are single known examples.

Nevertheless, most Cambridge Carnival glass has not appreciated as much as many less rare products of other companies, nor does it command as high of a price. This is partly a matter of taste. Carnival glass collectors tend to prefer realistic patterns to the imitation cut glass patterns used by Cambridge. Carnival glass collectors also prefer multi-hued iridescence, yet many Cambridge pieces carry silver or gold iridescence. There is also a cyclic nature in the carnival glass market. Thus, in the early 1970s water pitchers were perceived to be undervalued, yet desirable and eagerly collected, prices shot up, and soon collectors moved on to other items. Hence, a gorgeous, multi-hued, purple Thistle (#2766) water set was offered for \$3,300 in 1976 and the pitcher sold for \$2,100 in 1983.

At the other end of the spectrum, a green Strawberry (#2780) cuspidor with silver iridescence sold for \$305 in 1971 and \$500 in 1982. Yet, when a multi-hued example of Cambridge carnival in a rare shape does appear on the market, it can set record prices as did the second known green, #2666 decanter when it brought \$3,500 in May 1983.

The main collectors of Cambridge Carnival glass are Carnival Glass collectors, not Cambridge collectors.

COLOR CODE: M = Marigold G = Green P = Purple B = Blue

Cambridge Number	Cambridge Name	Description	Color	Comments
2340		Vase Butter Creamer Sugar	M-G M M M	This vase is the base to the lamp shown on pg. 117, Welker II. Carnival name for this is Venetian.
2351		Handled Custard	M-G	
2561	Tomahawk	Tomahawk	P	Some were made in Carnival before the 1970s, but we are not sure just when.
2626		Wine	M	
2631	Marjorie	Squat Cracker Jar heavy pressed Tumbler	M-G M	Carnival name for this is Sweetheart.

Cambridge Number	Cambridge Name	Description	Color	Comments
2651	<u>Feather</u>	1/2 gal. Pitcher Qt. Pitcher 8 oz. Tumbler Punch Bowl/Foot Handled Custard Parfait Butter Sugar Cream Spooners Squat Cracker Jar Goblet Tall special ftd. Sherbet Special Vase	M M M-G M-G M-G M M-P M-P M-P P G-P M M M	Carnival name for this is <u>Inverted Feather</u> . Purple Water Set has been reported, but not seen. Wine glass size. Crimped top.
2658		8 oz. Tumbler 4 oz. Mug 4 oz. Cream	M M M	These pieces are usually found with souvenir lettering of various cities and states.
2660	Wheat Sheaf	Cologne Cracker Jar/Cover 32 oz. Decanter	M-G-P P G	Original stoppers are very difficult to find. One known, gorgeous multi-colored iridescence.
2666		Decanter	G	Two known, one has original stopper.
2693		Nappy E shape	G	
2696	Forks	Squat Cracker Jar base	G	
2699	Buzz Saw	1/2 gal. Tankard 8 oz. Tumbler 4 oz. hld. Jug 2 oz. Jug Whimsey	M-G-P M-G-P M-G G G	The Carnival name for this pattern is Double Star for the water set and Buzz Saw for the jugs. Whimsey is from Tumbler.
2766	Thistle	2 qt. Pitcher 1 qt. Pitcher Tumbler Sugar Spooners Cream Butter Tall Compote Nappy (bowl) 4" Nappy 11" (app.) Plate 3-toed Nut Bowl	M-P G-P M-P M-P M-G-P M-P M-P G G-P P P G	The nappy (bowl) has been seen in various shapes. The Carnival name for this is Inverted Thistle. Tumblers and other pieces have been made from new molds in this pattern. This listing is for old glass only.

continued on page 8

Cambridge Number	Cambridge Name	Description	Color	Comments
2780	<u>Strawberry</u>	1/2 gal. Tankard Qt. Tankard Table Tumbler 7" Candlestick hdd. & ftd. - Berry Cream & Sugar Sugar Bowl/Cover Spoon Cream Butter 5 1/2" ftd. Jelly Puff Box/Cover Cuspidor Nappy (bowl) 4" Nappy 9 1/2" low ftd. Bowl Sweet Pea Vase	M-G-P P M-G-P-B M-G B M-G-P M-G-P-B M-G-P-G M-P B M-G M-G M-G-P M-P-B M-P M-G	Pitchers, Tumblers and other pieces have been made from new molds in this pattern. This listing is for old glass only. Various shapes made. This shape is called a "Com- pote" by Carnival collectors.
2833		Candy Horn	M	Very light Marigold.

We would appreciate hearing from any member about any information they might have concerning Cambridge Carnival Glass.

CAMBRIDGE CARNIVAL GLASS

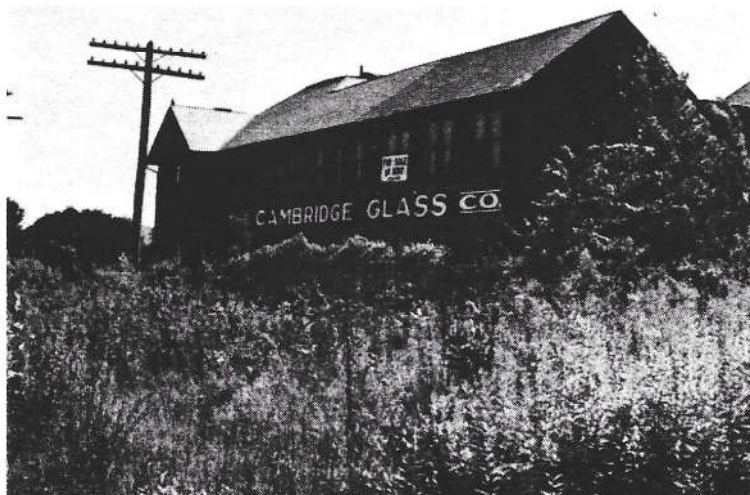
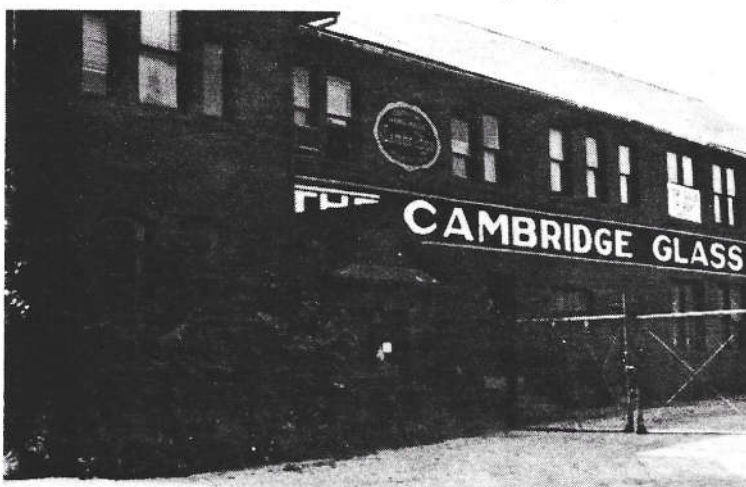
by - Charles Upton

The question, "Did The Cambridge Glass Company make Carnival Glass?" seems to be one question being asked frequently. The most recent being from a fellow club member in Indiana. This member asked if the Millersberg Glass Company did the irridizing for the Cambridge Glass Company. The answer to this question is "No", with one exception.

In questioning knowledgeable, former employees of the Cambridge Glass Company, I was able to learn that the Millersberg Glass Company did some experimental irridizing on some three or four dozen pieces for the Cambridge Glass Company. The pieces used were all "Nappy or Bowl type" items. These employees reported that the Cambridge Glass Company did their own irridizing and that it was done while the items were still hot from the mold. This work was done from around 1910 to around 1920. Needless to say, it is quite scarce and demands a high price tag when found. Most of the pieces being found are the Near-Cut pattern such as Inverted Strawberry, Inverted Feather, Inverted Thistle, Buzz Saw and Wheat Sheaf. Any of the other patterns of Near-Cut that are Carnival would be classes as rare.

It was reported by this member that a Green Carnival, Inverted Strawberry pattern Powder Box was sold at an auction for a mere \$100.00. A Mari-gold tumbler in the same pattern brought \$110.00 while an Amethyst, 8½" bowl was topped off at a tidy \$110.00. It was also reported that the asking price for a Marigold pitcher in the Inverted Strawberry Pattern was \$1,800.00. \$450.00 was being asked for a Green pitcher in the Buzz Saw pattern and a Marigold punch bowl demanded \$1,200.00. The above items were being represented as Millersberg Glass. The chances that these items are irridized by the Millersberg Glass Company are quite remote and even if they were, this does not make them Millersberg Glass.

The Trade Name "NEAR-CUT" belongs to the Cambridge Glass Company and was the name used on many heavy, pressed pattern glass designs of the Cambridge Glass Company and should never be associated with any other company.



Cambridge "Near-Cut" Carnival

by Russell Vogelsong

Near-Cut Carnival is one type of carnival glass that has been avidly sought by carnival collectors for many years, but is rarely attributed to the correct maker, The Cambridge Glass Company.

Some carnival experts have credited it to Millersburg, and some to Imperial, yet all agree it is of the highest quality.

Without a doubt the most famous piece of carnival made at Cambridge was the Buzz-Saw cruet made in marigold and green carnival. Most of these cruets were marked Near-Cut on the inside, directly below the bottom of the handle. Most of the experts still list the cruet as maker unknown. This piece demands and brings \$250.00 to \$300.00 at auctions and sales.

Another beautiful piece made by Cambridge was the #2651 Near-Cut covered cracker jar, given the pattern name of Inverted Feather. These are known to exist in marigold, green and purple carnival.

Water sets in Inverted Strawberry and Inverted Thistle may be found in green purple or marigold, but the set is usually \$350.00 to \$550.00

Some pieces of Near-Cut carnival will be found lightly iridized and other pieces will have extremely heavy iridizing applied to them.

Marion Hartung, author of several books on carnival glass, is the only author-expert to credit Cambridge with producing Near-Cut carnival.

Also popular in carnival is the Inverted Strawberry covered powder jar. I haven't seen one marked Near-Cut but it is not an impossibility. Can you imagine a person collecting Near-Cut carnival for years and suddenly finding out he or she is a full fledged Cambridge collector?

When examining an Inverted Thistle or Inverted Strawberry piece you will always find extremely fine detail work in the pattern, a tribute to the fine mold workmanship and high standards used in every Cambridge mold. I have yet to see a poorly pressed piece of Inverted Thistle or Inverted Strawberry carnival.

Don't be too depressed if you can't run out to your favorite antique shop and find Near-Cut carnival. I don't believe the number of existing pieces is that great.

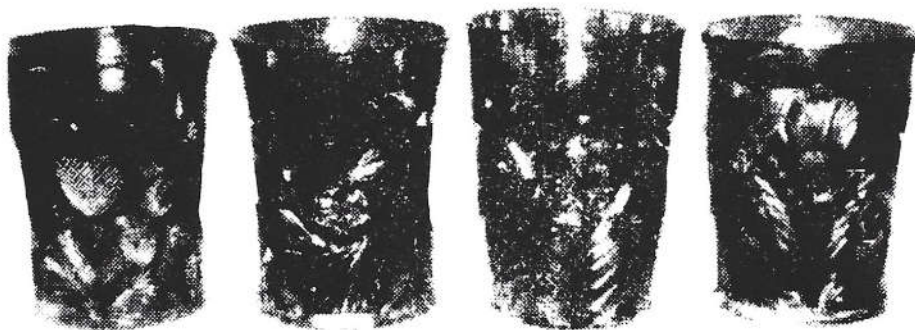
(Reprinted from Vogelsong Newsletter, Vol. I, No. 4, October 26, 1971)

EDITOR'S NOTE: During the past year we have been fortunate enough to learn some current prices on Near-Cut carnival glass. The Inverted Thistle and Inverted Strawberry water sets are currently bringing \$3,300 for Thistle and \$1,800 for the Strawberry, both in purple. As most of us can attest, these past six years have certainly made a difference in the price of Cambridge glass, carnival and otherwise.

CARNIVAL GLASS TUMBLERS BY CAMBRIDGE

The Cambridge Glass Company made much more carnival glass than it was once thought a few years back. If you had a piece of everything they made, you indeed would have a fabulous and beautiful collection. I will discuss here only the five Cambridge patterns that were made in carnival glass tumblers. Cambridge also made some beautiful tumblers in colored pressed glass and in ruby stained pattern glass. Many of the "Cambridge pieces, but not all, are marked with the "NEAR CUT" mark. This "NEAR CUT" signature is found on the inside and on the base of the tumblers. But again, not all of their tumblers are so marked. It is interesting to note that the Cambridge patterns are all of the so called "inverted" or "near cut" designs. This not only applies to the tumbler patterns featured here, but to all the other carnival glass patterns that were made by Cambridge, of which I am aware.

DOUBLE STAR - I will start with the one that is the easiest to find. This pattern is sometimes called Buzz Saw, but to the tumbler or water pitcher collector it is generally known as "Double Star". The green "Double Star" tumbler is by far the most common of the Cambridge carnival glass tumblers. It is interesting to note that the tumblers are not signed in this pattern, or at least I have never seen one with the "Near Cut" mark. Some of the water pitchers are signed, however, and I have also seen some without the mark. The marigold "Double Star" tumbler is a different story, as it is quite scarce and indeed rather hard to find. I would class the purple tumbler as being very rare. It has been my experience that only occasionally do you ever see this one in the purple color. The accompanying photograph shows "Double Star" in all three colors. My purpose of showing this picture is to show you both sides of this tumbler. Note the opposite side, which is shown on the center tumbler in the photograph.



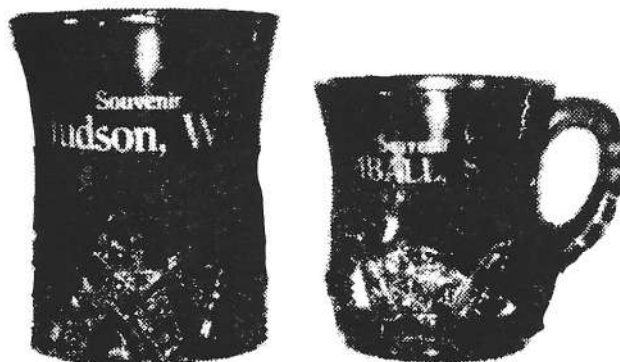
INVERTED STRAWBERRY - In this pattern the amethyst or purple is the most common tumbler, if indeed you can call any of them common. This is a very desirable pattern and I have seen them in four colors including cobalt blue. In this pattern all of the tumblers I have seen, carry the "Near Cut" mark. I have seen only a few of these in marigold and even less in green. The complete water set in any color is a prized possession. The only sour note to this otherwise magnificent tumbler is that it has been reproduced. A little study on your part, however, should make it rather easy to tell the difference. First, the new ones have that new look and are of a heavier feel when you handle them. The old tumblers definitely feel lighter when you handle them. Another distinctive difference, and in my opinion an important one, is that the leaves and strawberries on the new tumblers are cut or pressed much deeper than they are on the old tumblers. This fact of deeper pressing and the new look along with the heavier feel are probably the best distinguishing factors between the new and the old. Some of the first of the new inverted strawberry tumblers have the letter "B" on the outside of the tumbler just above the base and along the bottom of the tumbler. This "B" is not very distinct, however, and sometimes it is quite hard to find. You will also find some of the new ones signed "Terry Crider" on the bottom of the base. Hanson also signed some of the inverted strawberry tumblers. Some also have the "B" in the base instead of the "Near Cut" mark. The "B" is the mark for Bennett. The latter three are not confusing at all and offer no problem whatsoever. On all of the new "Inverted Strawberry" tumblers, just remember that they have that new carnival look; they are and feel quite a bit heavier; and that the leaves and berries are much deeper cut or pressed into the tumbler. If you will remember these factors, you should not be fooled by the new tumblers on the market today. Some say that the "Near-Cut" mark is neater and more distinct on the old ones. I would probably agree with this, but they are so much alike that I would not recommend this method of telling the difference, especially if you are a new collector.

INVERTED THISTLE-LATE THISTLE - This is a very fine pattern. The water pitcher and tumblers are both quite rare. This is one of Lucile's favorite tumblers in our collection. Here is one of those cases where the marigold tumbler is much harder to find than the purple one. The purple one doesn't come up for sale very often either, so if you have a purple one it is also a "goody". I have never seen this tumbler in green, even though other pieces of this pattern such as bowls are known to exist in green. It is possible that a green tumbler might show up in this pattern some day. I have seen some of these tumblers that were marked, although most of them do carry the "Near Cut" mark in the base. The Inverted Thistle tumbler rates high on everyone's list. It is not only rare, but it is also a beautiful and most desirable tumbler. Many tumbler collections are missing this pretty tumbler. The pitcher is very rare and would rate in the top twenty water pitchers in carnival glass collections.

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INVERTED FEATHER - This is the most rare of the Cambridge pattern tumblers. It is known in green and amberish marigold. A purple tumbler has not been reported in this pattern, even though it is possible that few might exist. Most pieces in this pattern are very rare. The most common pieces are the little marigold sort of flared out parfait type stemmed glass and the green cracker jar. I have seen and know of only one water pitcher. It is interesting to note that the "Near Cut" mark is on the handle of this pitcher. The few tumblers I have seen, and that would be only 10 or 12, do not have the "Near Cut" mark. This is indeed a most desirable and rare tumbler and would surely rank in the top ten in most everybody's carnival glass tumbler list.

This tumbler is often confused with the Millersburg "Feather and Heart" tumbler. I have talked with a number of collectors that call the "Feather and Heart" the "Inverted Feather" tumbler. Both tumblers do carry the feather like motif, and also there is hob stars on both tumblers. The "Inverted Feather" is the third from the left in the accompanying photograph. Note that there is no hearts whatsoever on this tumbler. On the "Feather and Heart" tumbler there is a band of four hearts that are upside down along and around the bottom of the tumbler. The feathers are at the top of the tumbler whereas on the "Inverted Feather" the feathers are at the bottom of the tumbler.



NEAR CUT SOUVENIR - The above photo shows the "Near Cut Souvenir" in both the tumbler and the mug. These pieces were souvenir pieces and usually carry the name of a city in United States or Canada such as Pierre, S.D. The tumbler does not have the "Near Cut" mark as does the mug. This tumbler is not easy to come by and is quite desirable. The marigold color is rich and beautiful, and the iridescence is exceptionally nice on both the inside and out. I have never seen a water pitcher to match the tumblers to this pattern. Collecting this tumbler with different cities engraved on them could be quite interesting.

If you are interested in other carnival glass pieces and patterns that were made by Cambridge, I recommend that you read the article written by Jack Adams in the June issue of the "Carnival Pump" newsletter of the I.C.G.A. This is a fine article and has a complete listing of carnival Cambridge patterns. Jack and Mary Adams have done considerable research work on Cambridge Glass and it was through their efforts that old advertising data was found to designate such patterns as "Venetian" and "Sweetheart", once thought by some to be Millersburg, to definitely be Cambridge patterns.

John & Lucile Britt
Manhattan, KS