

SALTY COMMENTS - #2
Observations and Opinions on Open Salt Collecting

Open salt collecting is a relatively new field. As yet, it is not very organized. More traditional areas such as stamps and coins have many publications, numerous specialized dealers and regular auctions which set realistic values for the various items. Salt collecting has made a start in this direction. We have a series of books - first by Clark Brown, then later by the Neals, the Smiths and by Heacock and Johnson. Each has taken the hobby one step further, providing a means for collectors and dealers to communicate and starting to provide definitive information on the little dishes that we accumulate.

Because the field is new, much of the information on open salts must be sought in publications on other collecting specialties, such as Sandwich glass, Cambridge glass or Goss china. Enough work has been done in many of these areas to develop a great deal of knowledge, including some about salts. Collector Societies are often active, and museums have been established in some cases. These other groups are our competition in one sense, because they are looking for the same things we are in a field where the supply is limited. We are glad they exist, however, since their efforts provide us with much of our knowledge about our dishes, even though some of the prices we have to pay are consequently higher.

One of the more organized areas we overlap is Pattern Glass. This is a well-established category that focuses on sets of glassware, all with the same pattern, which were popular until the early 1900's. Many individual and master salts were made as a part of a tableware set. Books on pattern glass often list salt dishes among the items produced, although their illustrations usually show a larger piece such as a goblet. This can be a problem. Since the salt is small, sometimes only part of the pattern can be carried over to it, and identification becomes uncertain. The more productive sources of information on pattern salts are catalog pages from the original manufacturers and the Heacock and Johnson book (H&J) which has identified the patterns of about 400 of them. We do not know how many pattern glass salts exist in total - the Bennington Museum has a collection of over 1200 different pattern glass goblets, so perhaps this is an approximation. Building a list of all known pattern salts would be a very challenging project for anyone who has the time and interest to undertake it.

In researching our salt dishes, we have put together a list of pattern names for those of ours listed in the Smith books. The majority of these are taken from the H&J listing; the rest come mainly from catalog page reprints. For those of you that have the Smith set but not H&J, most of these identifications will be new information. Everyone may find it interesting to look up the basic pattern in a pattern glass book to compare the design of the salt with the larger pieces.

The following is a list of pattern identifications for about 200 Smith listings, which are given as plate-row-number:

Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	Co. Code	Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	Co. Code
1-3-1	2708	Homestead	BH	9-3-3	2749	Lacy Daisy	
1-4-3		Colonial(Heisey)	H	10-2-3	2939	Banded Star	K
4-3-2	2652	Flute	L	10-3-1	2792	Picket	K
4-3-3	2689	Liberty Bell	G	10-4-2	2972	Hartford	F
5-1-3	2642	Candlewick	I	11-1-2	466	Old Sandwich	H
5-2-2	2804	Puritan	F	11-1-3	462	Cabinet	A,U
5-3-1	2611	Hermitage	F	11-3-2	3388	Button Arches	D,U
6-1-3	2527	Prism	R,U	12-1-3	2567	Electric	U
6-4-3	2522	Beaded Grape Medallion	Bo	12-4-2	2635	Hobnail	
6-5-3	2526	Panel & Diamond Point	Ce	13-2-2	2852	Persian	F
8-2-1	2520	Cable	S	13-3-2	2809	Daisy & Button	
8-3-1	2560	Plain Band	H	14-2-3	2548	Bow Tie	T
9-1-1	2741	Ridgeleigh	H	14-4-1	2618	Kahlbach	
				15-1-3		Carman	F

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Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	Co. Code	Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	CCo. Code
15-2-1	2934	Applied Bands		31-4-1	2538	Harvard	Ta
15-2-2	3409	Paneled Thistle	Wr	31-4-2	2540	Scalloped Six Point	DM
15-4-3	3351	Grape Leaf	F	33-6-2	423	Diamond Quilted	U
16-1-1	2954	Lady Hamilton	R				
16-2-1		Old Moon & Stars	S	36-3-3	515	English Hobnail	W,Mo
17-1-1	2966	Sprig in Snow		36-4-2	905	Daisy & Button	De
17-2-2	2959	Plain Panel Recess	H	36-5-1	426	Jersey Swirl	
17-3-3	2962	Colonial (Cambridge)	C	37-2-2	442	Triangle	
17-4-2	865	English Hobnail	W				
18-1-2	2663	Ada	O,C	37-2-3	548	Pressed Diamond	Ce
18-3-3		Honeycomb		37-3-1	351	Lacy Daisy	W
18-4-1	2948	Cape Cod	I	37-5-3	435	Leaf & Rib	
18-4-3	2980	Colony	F	40-6-3	329	English Hobnail	W
19-4-3	2640	Lotus	W	46-1-2	841	Daisy & Button	
20-3-2	2642	Candlewick	I	46-4-2	843	Cathedral	B,U
20-4-3	2647	Inverted Strawberry	C	53-3-3	2100	Fine Cut & Block	Po,K,U
21-1-1	2620	Pattee Cross	U	53-4-1	2573	Long Buttress	F
21-4-2	2621	Late Panelled		53-4-3	2933	Atlas	B,U
		Diamond Point	Hi	55-4-3	374	Revere	H
22-1-1	2591	Noonday Sun	K	56-1-3	4429	Three Face	
22-1-2	2572	Brazilian	F	56-2-2	844	Daisy & Button	
22-3-1	2545	Westmoreland	G,U	75-4-1	2794	Daisy Rosette	D
22-4-2	2699	Diamond Ridge	D	76-5-3	2776	Kings Crown	A,U
22-4-3	2574	American	F	77-5-1	2719	Ridgeleigh	H
23-2-1	2549	Torpedo	T	79-4-3	2967	Frosted Eagle	Cr
23-4-1	2541	Teutonic	M,Gu	80-1-3	3406	Homestead	DM
23-4-3	2656	Snail	D	80-2-3	2963	Lucere	F
24-1-1	2670	Pineapple & Fan	U	80-5-1		Stratford	C
25-4-2	2632	Colonial (Higbee)	Hi				
24-2-2	2678	Pavonia	Rp,U	80-5-3	3555	Mount Vernon	C,I
24-3-3	2637	Style	Hi				
24-4-1	2680	English Hobnail	W,Mo	82-1-3	2969	Urn	H
25-2-1	3028	Sunray	F	82-4-1	2629	Plain Scalloped Panel	U
25-3-3	2671	Prismatic	P	83-1-3	2673	Fandango	H
26-1-1	2626	Fine Diamond Point	H	83-4-2	2674	Fancy Loop	H
26-1-2	2667	Hickman	M	84-4-3		Cut Block	H
26-1-3	2648	Lacy Daisy	W	85-5-3	2935	Prism & Block Band	BH
26-2-1	2660	McKee's Rainbow	M	91-4-3		Excelsior	A
26-4-2	2623	Wheat Sheaf	C	96-3-3	196	Beatty Rib	Be
26-4-3	2633	Colonail (Cambridge)	C	99-4-2	444	Wreath & Shell	MF
27-2-2	3364	Fine Prism		105-3-1	541	Loop Optic	F
28-2-2	2938	Empress	Ri	108-5-3	3636	Viking	Ho
28-3-3	3044	Moon & Stars	A,Wr	115-1-3	4486	English Hobnail	W,Mo
29-1-2	2541	Teutonic	M,Gu	115-3-1	4481	Grape Leaf	F
29-2-2	2542	Palm Leaf Fan	Hi	116-3-1	4646	Thousand Eye Band	Gr
29-3-2	2659	Two-Ply Swirl	DM	117-1-2	2566	Star Galaxy	Ce
29-4-2	2537	Sunk Honeycomb	M	121-1-2	2568	Amazon	U
30-1-3	2534	Mardi Gras	DM	122-3-3	2778	Panel, Rib & Shell	Ce
30-2-2	2554	Pitcairn	K	124-1-1	2526	Panel with Diamond	
30-3-2	2543	Medallion Sunburst	Hi			Point	Ce
30-4-1		Box Star	Hi	124-5-1	570	Block	D
30-4-2	2698	Mardi Gras	D	125-2-2	531	Two Panel	R,U
31-2-1	2676	Marjorie	C	135-5-3	2666	Shoshone	U
31-3-2	2539	Teepee	D	164-5-3	2697	Pillows	H

Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	Co. Code	Smith No.	H&J No.	Pattern Name	Co. Code
165-4-3	3051	Pineapple & Fan	H	362-4-3	3601	Harp	BR
169-4-3	2672	Beaded Panel & Sunburst	H	380-5-1	580	Lotus	W
171-3-2	2780	Melrose	Br	380-5-3	893	Eyewinker	Wr
173-1-1	3063	Winona	Gb	397-2-3	2043	Daisy & Button	Ho
173-5-2	2624	Nevada	U	399-4-1	3494	Diamond Shield	
180-1-1	908	Jersey Swirl	Wr	401-4-1	3605	Scalloped Tape	
183-2-2	2043	Daisy & Button	Ho	407-5-2	3742	Good Luck	A
196-1-1		Puritan(Early)	H	408-3-1	3580	Jacob's Ladder	B,U
196-1-3	2631	Alexis	F	408-4-3		Panelled Grape Band	
196-2-3	2876	Vulcan	F	408-5-2		Beaded Chain	
196-4-2	332	Flemish	F	428-4-3	2107	Yutec	M
197-4-3	2662	Sunbeam	M	444-1-1	442	Triangle	
198-5-1	2532	Josephine's Fan	Ro,C	444-3-1	507	Flemish	F
203-2-1	4452	Williamsburg	U	448-3-1	420	Portland	U
203-2-3	4458	English Hobnail	W	457-6-1	3662	Leaf	Ba
209-5-3	833	Revere	H	464-5-3		Beaded Raindrop	
261-2-3	2107	Yutec	M	465-4-1	2574	American	F
262-6-1	898	Wildflower	Wr	467-3-2	2961	Colonial	M
265-5-2	881	Stippled Star	Wr	467-5-1		Diamond Rosette	
271-4-2	3833	Fancy Loop Celery Dip	H	467-5-2	3589	Stippled Bowl	
272-5-2		Adams	A	468-1-1	3621	Tulip with Sawtooth	BR
275-4-3	3526	Amazon	B	468-5-1	777	Decagon	C
290-2-2	2518	Washington	U	469-3-1		Triangular Prism	
				469-5-1	2970	Beaded Triangle	F
299-3-2	2986	Powder & Shot	Po	470-6-1	2535	Serrated Rib & Fine Cut	
305-2-1	512	Fine Cut & Block	Po,K,U	471-1-1		Palmette	
307-3-2	285	Candlewick	I				
316-3-3	3662	Leaf	Ba	472-4-1		Punty Band	H
317-3-1	899	Wildflower	Wr	474-5-3	3566	Diamond Mirror	F
325-5-3		Daisy & Button		474-6-1	869	Jersey Swirl	Wr
333-5-1	2567	Electric	U	474-6-3	2533	Button & Star Panel	Hi
340-5-1	3649	Sunburst & Bar	Ho	475-1-3	2552	Tile	T
342-3-1		Hartford	F	475-4-2	3058	Fancy Arch	M
342-4-3	3623	Horizontal Framed Ovals		477-4-1	2577	Hawaiian Lei	Hi
342-5-3	3604	Pressed Leaf	M	477-4-3	3059	Allover Diamond	D,U
344-1-1	3585	Grape Band	BW	477-6-1		Vernon	
344-3-2	3584	Barberry	M	478-1-3	2523	Silver Queen	Rp,U
344-4-1	3530	Arched Leaf		478-3-2	2643	Cannonball	
344-4-2		Loop & Dart, Diamond		478-5-2	2730	Stippled Band	
		Ornament Band		478-6-2		Scalloped Lines	
345-2-2	3537	Palmette		480-5-3	2835	Mason	M
345-4-1	3529	Cabbage Rose	Ce	484-1-2	2657	Duncan's Clover	DM
345-4-2	3381	Lincoln Drape	S	484-1-3	3052	Lenox (early)	M
345-5-3	3845	Stippled Swag	Ce	484-5-2	2581	Cane	D
361-2-3	2563	Strigil	Ta	487-4-2		Sprig	

In making the list, we have not addressed the issue of multiple names. Manufacturers often gave their lines only numbers, or a tableware pattern may be found without any clue as to who made it. In such cases the pattern glass researcher will often invent a name when writing about it. This can result in two or more names for a given design, especially when the maker's catalog is found at a later date. Which one you use then becomes a matter of personal preference. As an example, the Greentown Thousand Eye Band pattern is called Honeycomb in the Greentown Glass books. We have used the former because there are other Honeycomb patterns around. Frequently a manufacturer will copy another's name but not his design. The Colonial pattern is an example - this name does not identify a design unless you specify which Company you mean.

The Company Codes are:

A - Adams	De - Degenhart	Mo - Mosser
B - Bryce	F - Fostoria	N - New Martinsville
Ba - Bakewell, Pears	G - Gillinder	O - Ohio Flint Glass
Be - A.J. Beatty	Gb - Greensburg	P - Pittsburgh Lamp
BH - Bryce, Higbee	Gr - Greentown	Po - Portland
Bo - Boston Silver-Glass	Gu - Guernsey	R - Richards & Hartley
BR - Bryce, Richards	H - Heisey	Ri - Riverside
Br - Brilliant	Hi - Higbee	Ro - Robinson
BW - Bryce, Walker	Ho - Hobbs, Brockunier	Rp - Ripley
C - Cambridge	I - Imperial	S - Sandwich
Ce - Central	K - King or King, Sons	T - Thompson
Cr - Crystal	L - L.E. Smith	Ta - Tarentum
D - Duncan	M - McKee	U - U.S. Glass
DM - Duncan & Miller	MF - Model Flint	W - Westmoreland
		Wr - Wright

As we said earlier, this list includes only salts that are in our collection. It is not an attempt to research all the 4400 salts shown in H&J or the 7400 in the Smith books. If you are able to add to the list, we would be happy to issue a supplement in future Salty Comments. In the meantime, if you are interested in focusing your collection into a narrower area, the field of Pattern Glass Open Salts, either individual, master size, or both, is one you might want to consider.

If you want to dig deeper, we recommend books which reprint manufacturer's catalog pages (Cambridge, Fostoria, Heisey, McKee), Warman's "Antiques and Their Prices" which illustrates many patterns, Metz "Early American Pattern Glass" (2 vol.), McCain "The Collector's Encyclopedia of Pattern Glass", and of course "5000 Open Salts" by Heacock and Johnson. The latter book has an extensive bibliography, which gives many other references. If your local library does not have these, they can often get them through the Inter-Library Loan service.

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References: "Salt Dishes" by Clark W. Brown, Mid-America Book Co. 1968
"Pressed Glass Salts of the Lacy Period 1825-1850" by L.W. & D.B. Neal, 1962
"Open Salts Illustrated", ten books by Allan & Helen Smith, 1972-1984
"5000 Open Salts" by W. Heacock & P. Johnson, 1982

FOOTNOTE TO SALTY COMMENTS #1:

Another Heisey salt has been found in a catalog. A 1940's wartime brochure sent to salesmen shows a dish listed as "#5012 Blown Salt or Ash". The picture is very small and is reproduced at the right. The salt is the center one, with a mustard pot on the left and an ash tray on the right. It looks about 3" in diameter and 1-1/2" high, scaling the measurements from the adjacent dishes. Since the dish is blown, it requires no expensive mold and could be made to order. It is not known whether any were ever sold - in fact even the Heisey museum has never seen one. If you happen to have one like this, or know of one, please let us know.



48	5012	Blown Mustard
49	5012	Blown Salt or Ash
50	1536	Military Cap Ash Tray