

Cambridge



Crystal Ball

ISSUE No. 1

MAY 1, 1973

Published monthly by the NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.
To encourage and to report the discovery of the elegant and boundless product
of the Cambridge Glass Company, Cambridge, Ohio

... by President, CHARLES UPTON

It is with the greatest pleasure that I present the "CRYSTAL BALL" to you for your reading pleasure and I extend a warm welcome to each and every member of the greatest organization in the world, The NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of the Board of Directors for their tireless efforts in helping in every way to see that the NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc. became a reality, and I am sure that it will continue to grow and become worthy of the representation of the Company and glassware that it represents.

On March 5, 1973, the first organizational meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the Community Room of the Cambridge Savings and Loan Co. in Cambridge, Ohio. The purpose of this meeting was to present the intent and purpose of the proposed organization to the persons who were chosen to serve on the original Board of Directors, and to confirm the list of names chosen. The persons chosen were picked for their individual abilities which were considered to be important for the success of the organization. Everyone could not be chosen to serve, so please do not feel left out, by any means. We will need the help and efforts of many people to assure the future of the organization.

The organization was formed at the first meeting and officers were elected and various committees appointed. The Board elected me to serve as the President; Ruth Forsythe of Plain City, Ohio as Vice-President; Richard Pavlov of Cambridge as Secretary; John Wolfe of Cambridge as Treasurer. The Constitution and By-Laws were read and discussed and were adopted at the next meeting of the Board, which was held April 3, 1973.

Members of the Board of Directors were asked to bring an item of Cambridge Glass to the meeting, that they considered to be rare, and we viewed some real "goodies". I will not elaborate on each item, but there were a couple of real desirable pieces that I would like to own. If we can organize an exhibit which everyone can display their goodies, for 1974, I am sure that a visit to Cambridge next year will be a must for anyone interested in Cambridge Glass. You will see pieces that you never knew existed.

The ultimate goal of this organization is to establish a permanent museum, here in Cambridge, Ohio for the preservation and study of Cambridge Glass. Everyone can come and study the many colors, shapes, cutting, etchings and decorations that were used on Cambridge Glass. We are all looking forward to this goal and realize that it
(continued on page 6)

CAMBRIDGE CRYSTAL BALL

P.O. Box 121,
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Official Publication of

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.

President Charles Upton
Vice President: . . . Ruth Forsythe
Secretary Richard Pavlov
Treasurer John Wolfe

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P.O. Box 121

Cambridge, Ohio 43725

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HOW IT BEGAN - Evelyn M. Allen

About three years ago, Charles Upton and John Wolfe, who are very avid Cambridge Glass Collectors, started talking NATIONAL CLUB. They began researching every means possible to get a complete history of the happenings of the Cambridge Glass plant and its origin. This is quite a feat to tackle, but they never seemed to "give up".

The two of them talked to many collectors, some encouraging and some feeling it could never be.

At a Columbus show in the Fall of '72, Charles walked into Ruth Forsythe's (Plain City, Ohio) booth and Ruth remarked - "When, Charlie, are you going to start a National Club?" This was the spark at the right moment. Charlie and John began to buzz around and find people as interested as they.

Robert Coyle and I, of Newark, both offered to help all we could. With the distance between Cambridge and Newark, this still left the leg work to Charlie and John.

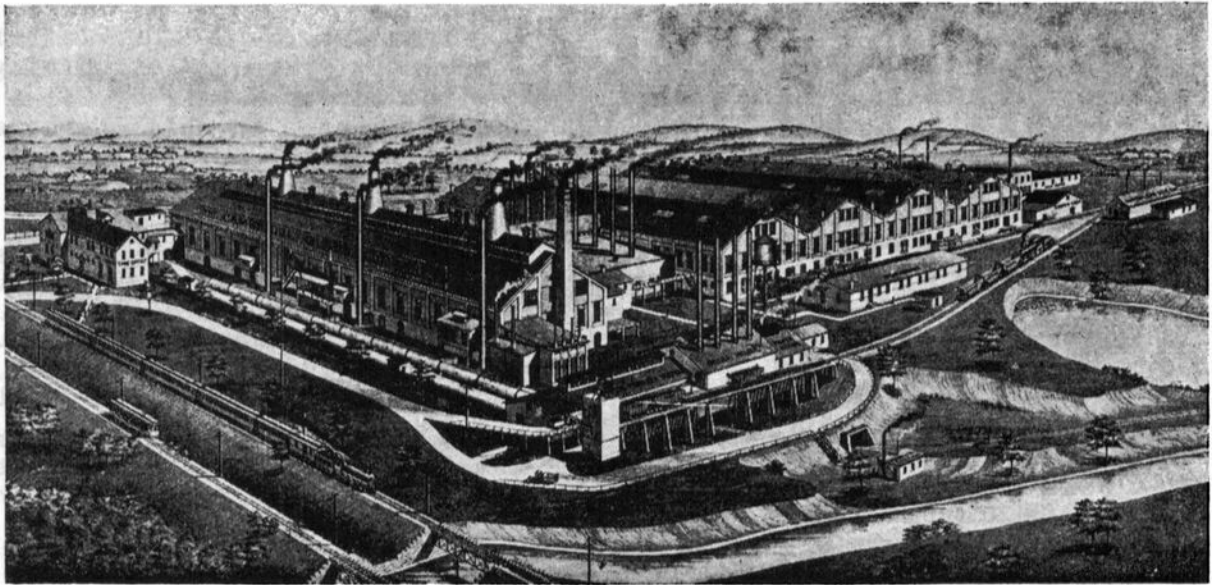
After several attempts for the four of us to meet, a day was decided - February 11. My husband, Harry, Bob and myself motored to the Upton home. Mary Alice (Charlie's wife) had fixed a very lavish dinner, which we ate with great delight. It was served on beautiful Cambridge Rosepoint dinner ware and the food matched it's eloquence-as Charles said - "A table befitting a King".

We spent all afternoon discussing, planning, and trying to do everything to please the majority.

The next trip was a meeting with twelve people whom Charlie and John had selected to constitute an eager Board of Directors.

The Constitution and by-laws were discussed and we were on our way. A fee of \$10.00 per membership was established and all twelve directors eagerly paid their fee at the very first meeting, putting the National Club immediately in existence.

Ads have been placed in several Antique papers and newspapers. At the time of the writing, there are 53 members.



THE CAMBRIDGE GLASS CO.
Capital \$750,000.00
Factory and Office
CAMBRIDGE, OHIO. U. S. A.

WELCOME TO THE HOW, WHEN AND WHERE COLUMN
by John C. Wolfe, Jr.

GENERAL HISTORY OF THE CAMBRIDGE GLASS
From 1873 until closing in 1954

It was in the year 1873 that the Cambridge Glass Company was first born. As glass was being successfully manufactured in neighboring cities and states, it was decided by a group of eight men to locate a glass factory in Cambridge, Ohio, due mainly to the abundant supply of the necessary natural resources needed to produce glass. Incorporation papers were drawn up by the group and a charter was granted by the State. After several meetings and the passing of time, nothing developed in the way of a factory and conclusions were that the promoters had difficulty convincing stock buyers and the financial requirements were not reached to finance the project, thus forcing abandonment of plans for the factory.

In later years, no other plans were circulated about the initial attempt to locate a glass house in Cambridge until 1901, when another group of men; Myron Case, Casey Morris, Addison Thompson,

Andy Herron and Fred Rosemond who were owners of the National Glass Company of Pennsylvania, decided that the Cambridge area was an ideal location for a glass factory. At this time, they applied to the State for a charter and was advised that the initial charter for the Cambridge Glass Co., granted in 1873 had never been cancelled and still existed. After some research and several obstacles overcome, the incorporators received the incorporation papers and began to search for a qualified man to manage the factory. Already being involved in the glass business, these men knew of all the glass factories and outlets in the East, which gave them a good selection of qualified men to choose from. After extensive searching, Arthur J. Bennett of New York City was the man chosen for management post. Mr. Bennett was from England and had served his apprenticeship there in the glass and pottery trade.

After all management and financial steps were completed, it was now up to A. J. Bennett to make a success of The Cambridge Glass Co. and this he did. It was in May of 1902 that the factory turned out its first piece of glass,

COLLECTORS CORNER

This column will appear in each issue of this paper, and will hope to inform you of; collector finds, current trends, rarities, and price information on Cambridge Glass.

By the time this newsletter hits the streets, the 1973 Cambridge Show will be making history. From what I am given to understand, it will be the best yet and loaded with "goodies" for all you Cambridge Collectors.

Over the past several months, a lot of Cambridge Glass has changed hands across the country, so I will therefore try to bring you up to date on some of the more interesting items.

A pair of Lion Bookends made their way across the Eastern part of the United States into the collection of Tony and Evelyn Allen, Newark, Ohio. I am told that they only need the #511 Block Bookends to complete their set. Congratulations!

A certain collector near Columbus just recently refused more than \$200. for his Carmen Flying Lady Bowl. I guess I would have also - how many have you ever seen?

At a recent auction in Newark, O. there was frantic bidding on an Ebony Rams Head Bowl and Doric Candlesticks. When the dust cleared, the lucky bidder had purchased it for \$175.00.

Perched in a niche in a Collectors home in Columbus, O. sits a Nude Stem Cordial with a Heather bowl. Wonder if it made it to this years Cambridge Show?

Cambridge Rosepoint seems to be going at full swing. There doesn't seem to be near enough supply for the great demand. When it was made, it was one of Cambridge's most popular patterns - and it still is!

The Charles Uptons, Cambridge, O. recently graced their dining room with a gorgeous pair of Crown Tuscan #278 Vases with gold encrusted Rosepoint. Better move a few more things, Charles, I hear there is more coming your way.

The same collectors that last year made headlines with their purchase of the #1222 Covered Turkey in Royal Blue and then one in Dianthus Pink, recently added the rare #1123/3 Dresden Figure Lamp to their collection.

A collector in New Jersey reports the purchase of a Lady Flower Frog in Ivory. What a rare find that was!

Cambridge Japonica wins this year's Award for scarcity. Where is it? If you have a piece in your collection, it's as good as gold. Perhaps 1973 will uncover more of it. We hope so, anyway.

Remember - all Cambridge is not marked - so know your patterns, shapes and colors and get out and hunt. There's probably a treasure just waiting for you around the next corner.

My address is included in this article for all of you readers that have newsworthy items to be included in future columns. Let's hear from you!

Robert Coyle
441 Mt. Vernon Road
Newark, Ohio 43055

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Next month will begin a
QUESTION AND ANSWER COLUMN
You

Next month will begin a
QUESTION AND ANSWER COLUMN
You may send in descriptions (with pictures, if you wish) and we will try to provide information concerning the article.

!!!!!!!!!!!!

a crystal water pitcher designed by Mr. Bennett. For the next five years, production went smoothly turning out a variety of heavy pressed items of which practically all were designed by Mr. Bennett. During the next two years, the National Glass Co. ran into financial difficulties and soon the Cambridge Co. followed, as the National Co. was the power behind it. Mr. Bennett managed to keep the plant in operation for three years and realized that if financial backing wasn't available soon, the factory would be forced to close. A proven businessman, Mr. Bennett decided to risk his life savings and singlehandedly invest \$500,000, financing the majority of it through a local bank. Within a short time, the Cambridge Glass Co. was again beginning to prosper and in 1910, they exoanded and opened another factory in Byesville, Ohio - under the name of THE BYESVILLE GLASS and LAMP Co. It was at this time that the first Cambridge trademark came into being, which was the Near Cut mark. Within the next few years, many of the first etched patterns came about, several of which got their names from the Bennett Family, such as the Marjorie, Martha, Betty, and Gloria Patterns

During the year 1916, things slowed down quite a bit and in 1917 it was decided to close down the factory in Byesville and transfer operations back to the Cambridge plant. Mr. Bennett decided to introduce a variety of opaque colored items into their line. Soon there were over 700 employees working 3 shifts a day, turning out the opaque colors, crystal tableware, transparent colors and pharmaceutical items from the 56 pots of glass.

The company operated its own coal mines, and consumed fifty tons daily in producing raw gas for the melting furnaces. Production went well and many new colors and designs were turned out by Mr. Bennett and his staff. By 1939, Cambridge Glass was known world wide and showrooms were maintained in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver, Philadelphia and Dallas, Texas. Representatives were in 15 different states and several countries; London, England; Havana, Cuba; Toronto, Canada; Sydney, Australia and Wellington, New Zealand

During the peak of the Cambridge Glass Co., Mr. Bennett served as President of the company, his son-in-law, W. L. Orme was vice president; Mrs. Bennett - Director; W. C. McCartney as secretary; G Roy Boyd as treasurer and J. C. Kelley as factory superintendent. In 1939, Mr. Bennett sold the controlling interest to his son-in-law, Mr. Orme continued to create many new designs and colors. The Cambridge Square pattern of 1950 won top honors across the United States for its modern design. During the early 50's, demand for fine hand-made glass was decreasing, while competition and cost of manufacturing were increasing. At the same time, the company was subject to poor management, and in 1954, Mr. Orme decided the best solution was to close the plant. So came an end to one of the best and most prosperous glass factories the world has ever known.

Shortly after closing, the company was sold to a firm headed by Sidney Albert of Akron. The plant re-opened in March of 1955. Sales were very poor and in 1956, Morrison Industries Ltd. of Boston, Mass. acquired possession. Sales continued to be slow and with management problems, the company closed its doors for the final time in 1958. In November of 1960, Imperial Glass Co. of Bellaire, Ohio acquired the Cambridge name along with all patents, trademarks, and any molds that were left.

Next issue - 1st. 10 years of production.

NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE



COLLECTORS INC.

(Continued from page 1)

is in the distant future and that it can only become a reality through the tireless efforts of the members of this organization.

We encourage the formation of local study clubs which will meet more regularly for the study of Cambridge Glass and we will furnish names of National members in your area to help you get organized. We will help with anything you wish if it is possible.

A convention is being planned for the May, 1974 meeting, and I am sure that it will be one to remember for years to come. The people that have been appointed to this task are very capable and have the knowledge to construct such a convention. You should, therefore, try to plan your vacations so that you will be here for the show and convention.

This publication will contain such information that is of interest to collectors of Cambridge Glass and will accept advertisements for publication. Any advertisement that contains reproductions will not knowingly be accepted for publication unless they are very clearly stated as such. All advertisements should be directed to Dale Snodgrass, R.D. #6, Cambridge, Ohio 43725. Rates for advertisements are published in each publication.

Please let us know of things that you would like to see in the publication in the future and we will try our best to satisfy your reading desires. Let us know of any good finds of rare Cambridge Glass so you can share your joy with everyone else. Send your letters to Richard Pavlov, 623 Wheeling Ave, Cambridge, Ohio 43725 and please send your SASE for return replies, so we can keep down expenses. Dick volunteered for the job of publishing our monthly letter and he has experience in this field and a great big THANK YOU! for Dick Pavlov. A big job with little thanks.

There is a beautiful museum being built here in Cambridge, to house the personal collection of Harold and Judy Bennett. It is to be open for the Sixth Annual Cambridge Antique Showsale which will be held at the National Guard Armory on the 5th. and 6th. of May. I am sure that you will be well pleased for the visit to Cambridge this year.

In closing, I would like to thank Ruth Forsythe, Evelyn Allen, Bob Coyle, and Loren Yeakley for the abundance of advice and counseling that they gave John Wolfe and myself in building this organization to this point. They are the persons that really fed the fuel to make the gears turn. John and I thank each of you.

We hope that you will find enjoyment and education from being a member of the NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc. and that you will encourage others to become members. Let us all be good representatives of the organization and let us try to live up to the quality of the Cambridge Glass Company and the beautiful product that it produced. With this thought in mind, let us now work together to make this organization one to be proud of.

Happy Collecting!

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Patterns

by Ruth Forsythe

Welcome to your brand new sparkling, unscratched and very healthy NATIONAL CAMBRIDGE COLLECTORS, Inc.

The closing of the Cambridge Glass Company was regrettable. However, like all happenings, there is an influence of good and bad. The bad being so many people left without jobs. The good was that a new beautiful and exciting glassware was handed to the ever expanding collecting world.

It is the hope of every present and future Cambridge glass collector that there will be no more patterns re-produced. The experienced collector of a pattern can almost always tell the difference between the original and the reproduction ten feet away. However, the novice is in trouble and will shy away from any reproduced patterns in glass.

The now extinct Cambridge Glass Company of Cambridge, Ohio, created so much beauty for the human eye to encounter that their imaginative and creative originality in glassware should be guarded and preserved to eternity.

NEAR CUT

Near Cut was the Cambridge trademark for glass made to resemble cut glass. The mark is usually found in the center of a piece and is in relief as it was part of the mold. The mark is two words: one above the other. A few pieces, however, have the two words with one following the other. The mark is also found on pieces with handles, near the handle. Sometimes at the base of the handle and sometimes near the top. Not all pieces of Near Cut are marked. There were many patterns made in Near Cut, which will be covered later.

NEAR CUT no. 2651 - FEATHER

There is no other pattern quite like the FEATHER, so it is not a confusing pattern. On a piece, you will find a row of feathers standing erect around the lower half of the body. Above the feathers, is a horizontal band of large Hexagonal buttons with pinwheels inside. Each of the buttons is inside a larger diamond, the points of which extend above and below the band. Most pieces have a rosette or rayed bottom and some have both. Bowls, cracker jars, etc., have scalloped tops. Drinking vessels such as wines, tumblers, etc. have plain edges at the top. On handled pieces, the handle is zippered down the back.

FEATHER pattern was made in four piece sets, (sugar, creamer, spooner, and butter), various sizes of vases, handled baskets, tumblers, various sizes in pitchers, pickle and celery vases, carafes, toothpicks, whiskey jugs, decanters, wines, goblets, candy dishes, footed sherbets, custard cups, punch bowls, many sizes of nappies and bowls, plates, two sizes of salvers, many sizes of footed compotes and probably other pieces at various times.

The wholesale price for tumblers was 80¢ per dozen.

An early pattern and possibly made in color as many Near Cut patterns were made in a beautiful emerald green.



Colors in Cambridge

... by Jabe Tarter

When Arthur J. Bennett came from New York to manage the glass house built in that city in 1901, by the National Glass Co., headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa., he already had had vast experience in selection of color and its combinations through his importing business in New York.

After he purchased the Cambridge Glass Co. from the financially shakey National Glass Co., he immediately started production of a wide and varied run of colored glass.

There was no one particular color or combination thereof to which Mr. Bennett was partial. He liked all colors, and was determined to use them in his factory.

The color with which we are concerned in this particular story is the famous ROYAL CROWN TUSCAN. Tradition has it that Mr. Bennett went to France in search of new art forms and colors for the Cambridge Glass Co. His association with Rene' Lalique, and the study of his methods of mold making and forms gave him the idea of using nudes in a pink opaque.

A trip to Italy gave the color for the first ROYAL CROWN TUSCAN. When the sun was setting in the mountains in Tuscany, Italy, there was a warm, flesh pink glow. Thus, was born the color dream and the name, taken from Tuscany.

It is general knowledge that his first piece was the so called "big X", as named by Minnie Watts Kamm in her book of pattern glass. But crystal was not Mr. Bennett's first love. And it was not long until he turned his attentions to a variety of colors in unique forms and shapes not here-to-fore used in the glass business.

It was up to his chemists to work out the formulas whereby the opaque, flesh colored pink could be achieved. But with some of America's finest chemists and glass workers, it was not long before the formula was worked out.

The combination of Feldspar (Field clay), Florspar, China clay and Selenium with silicas were the combinations of materials for ROYAL CROWN TUSCAN. Larger amounts of selenium gave a reddish glow while smaller amounts gave the flesh coloring desired.

The so-called Yardley's tan Tuscan was made with the additions of a small amount of ingredients for making amber glass.

ROYAL CROWN TUSCAN seems scarce on today's market. This can possibly be explained by the fact that the demise of the Cambridge Glass Company has not been long enough ago.

Many fine pieces of art glass of the latter day are not recognized as collectable, because they are not yet old enough.

When shown a piece of Crown Tuscan, Rubina or Mardi Grau, people have been known to exclaim, "Why I have that, I didn't know that was collectable now I'll get it out and show it off".

There is nothing like the written word, or photographs in color which reaches a maximum of people to bring all these goodies to the market place. Color is particularly important, if not in a photograph, then in graphic wording.

CAMPBELL'S

ANTIQUES & CURIOS

Cambridge Glass

General Line, Primitives

Main Street, Senecaville, O.

CRYSTAL, 6" Handled, 2 compartment Relish shape like Bennett Plate #38, R 3 - 2 decorated in gold etched Wildflower pattern. never used.....\$ 20.00
 CRYSTAL, Caprice, 6 piece water set, the pitcher is in Welker reprint, page #73, #183, Tumbler #9.....\$ 45.00
 CRYSTAL, Calla Lilly Candlestick, McLean reprint, pg. #151-P499, one only..\$ 10.00
 CRYSTAL, 10" Rock Crystal Bowl, cut Harvest pattern, McLean pg #108B-P427\$ 15.00
 CRYSTAL, Alpine, 4½" covered Caprice cigarette box, dolphin feet.....\$ 20.00
 CRYSTAL, 3½" Swan.....\$ 10.00
 CRYSTAL, 6oz. Oil, Cut Wedding Ring pattern, shape like McLean pg. #189-P290 a very neat cut pattern.....\$ 12.00
 CRYSTAL, pair 8½" Fan Vases, Heirloom pattern, McLean pg. 174-5000/77.....\$ 20.00
 CRYSTAL, 10oz. Rock Crystal Goblet, Laurel Wreath pattern.....\$ 5.00
 MANDARIN GOLD, Calla Lilly Candlestick, like one above, one only.....\$ 10.00
 EMERALD GREEN, 8" Bowl, Inverted Thistle, Gold decorated, marked NEAR CUT, shape like Bennett Pl#18, R1 - 2.....\$ 50.00
 DIANTHUS PINK, pair 6" Candlesticks, small Ram's Head under rim of top edge, shape like Welker Pl#12, R2 - 1&2.....\$ 25.00
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 AZURITE, Ftd. Comport, Bennett Pl#45, R3-4, medium size.....\$ 40.00
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 CROWN TUSCAN, 8½" Pillow Vase, Welker Pl #2, R 4 - 1.....\$ 55.00
 CROWN TUSCAN, 6" 2 Hdl. Ftd. Bonbon, Welk reprint pg #13, bottom row center.\$ 30.00
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XX

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

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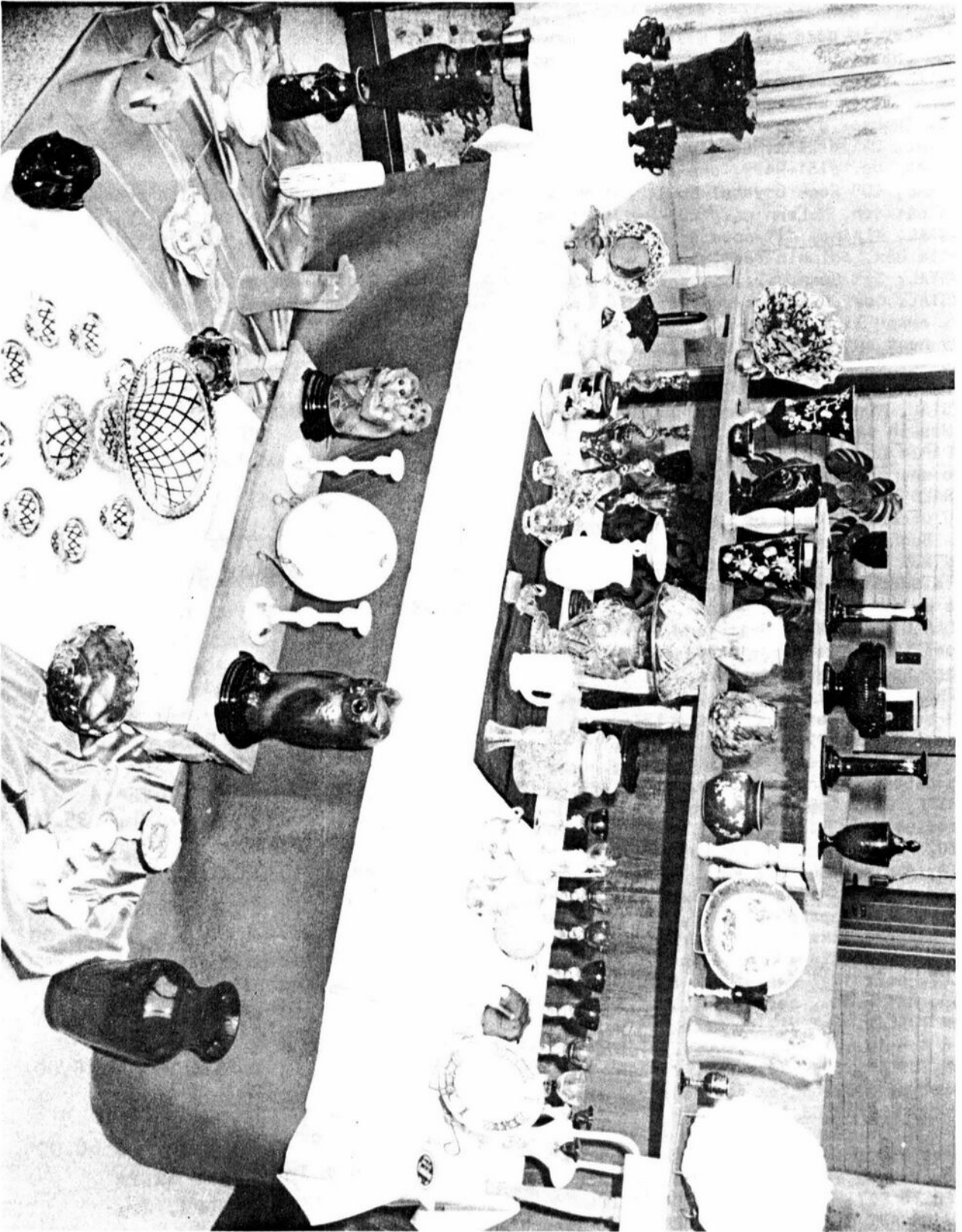
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1. Pair RUBINA Candleholders 9½" tall - Red shading to Blue to Green and back to Red \$100.00
2. RUBINA Compote, Honeycomb 4" tall 8" across . . . \$ 90.00
3. CROWN TUSCAN Shell Covered candy dish \$ 35.00
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5. HEATHERBLOOM 8" luncheon plate  \$ 12.00
6. PEACH BLO Sherbert etched and gold encrusted Hunt Scene \$ 16.00
7. CROWN TUSCAN 4" seashell plate \$ 15.00
8. CAMBRIDGE CATALOGUE - gray cover 159 pages, no date believe 1952 \$ 60.00

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A non-profit organization.

Benefits of the club will be a newsletter which will contain informative data on Cambridge glass; news of reproductions; a dealer directory; want and classified ads, along with articles on former Cambridge employers and many special articles of interest.

A convention of Cambridge Glass Collectors is being planned for May 1974.

Purpose of the club is to establish a museum in the city of Cambridge or Guernsey County so collectors can enjoy and study the beautiful glassware.

Announcing

Grand Opening of
**THE CAMBRIDGE GLASS and
POTTERY MUSEUM**

May 5, 1973

at 812 Jefferson Ave.

Cambridge, Ohio

10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

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