

Hobstar Preview: June, 2009

“California Cut Glass Company & Anoakia”, by Karen Kemper relates how she and her husband purchased the decanter in Figure 1 and the footed ewer in Figure 2 which lead to an interest in the California Cut Glass Company (CCGC).

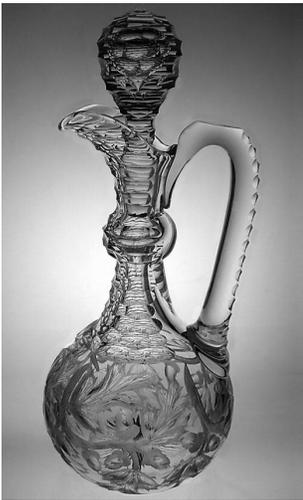


Fig. 1 Decanter with honeycomb and engraved oak leaves and acorns.

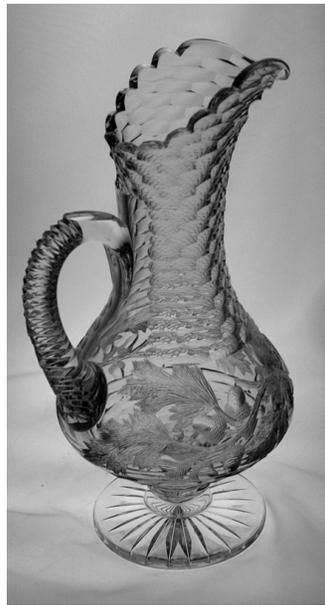


Fig. 2 Footed ewer with honeycomb, engraved oak leaves and acorns.

She learned that some other oak leaves and acorn pieces came from the Lucky Baldwin Estate. Baldwin's daughter, Anita, built a huge home, called Anoakia, on Baldwin's estate two years after his death in 1909. In the decoration of the chandelier globes in the dining room, Mr. Sommans of the Pasadena Cut Glass Company was instructed to use the California poppy. On the table glass-ware, he used the oak leaf with the same striking and individualist result. Henry Benner, an employee/trainee of John J. Sommans, owner of CCGC, was commissioned to design and cut the exquisite peacocks on the glass doors at the exclusive girls school, Anoakia, established by Anita.

It seemed unlikely that the tableware survived in the mansion following Anita's death in 1939. The mansion had become a school and had a new owner. It sat empty for many years and was bulldozed in 2000. Do the chandelier, glass doors, or any of the table ware still exist? That is the question that Karen continues to research.

“After 36 years, Pattern Identified”, by Maurice Reece commenting on a cut glass bowl, a Christmas present for his wife, and their first piece of cut glass.



Bowl purchased in 1971.

The piece was not signed, and so a quest was begun. After locating other people having pieces with the same pattern, and searching books and catalogs, he has determined the pattern to be **Paris**, by John A. Nelson, a cut glass manufacturer in Brooklyn, NY. See Ad Book 3, p. NEL-2.

“Its Crystal Clear”, by Barbara Meek. Is a rose bowl by any other name still a rose bowl?

Roses were the most fashionable flowers with which to set a table. Harper's Bazaar mentioned different forms for long stem roses and for short stemmed roses. For the most fashionable table, a flower center was a rose bowl.



A rose bowl with insert to hold the water.

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