

Gone Wild



#1236 Eagle—
Plate, moongleam, 8"

In the late 1920's, there was sesquicentennial fervor, including the 1926 celebration of independence. Reproductions of 19th century patterns made for a short-lived revival of fancy bottoms.

Another technique of the time, popularized by Lalique, included the “intaglio” or “cameo” bottom, actually a molded bottom that was frosted and then ground. This method was used by Heisey for only a few small items.



#1286 Cupid & Psyche—
Ash tray, moongleam



In the 1930's, Art Deco overtook much design, making for innovative new shapes, often most fully expressed in the design of the base or foot.

#1415

Twentieth
Century—

Soda, footed,
Stiegel blue,
12oz.



Which way is up? The left side shows the concave side used to support the roly poly cocktail rest. The right shows the piece turned over for the side used as a coaster. Two bottoms or two tops?

#1469 Ridgeleigh— Cocktail rest

Ridgeleigh possibly had more bottom types than any other pattern. Many pieces had “Ridgeleigh bottoms,” where the ribs continued underneath. There were classic round or square Heisey stars and plain marie bottoms. Space prohibits showing them all.



#1503 Crystolite— One-handled jelly

The “spiderweb” bottom, seen only in the two one-handled jellies. Often unmarked, and sometimes not very good quality glass.



#1510
Square on
Round—
Floral bowl,
12”

We might call this pattern “Ridgeleigh run amok.” Just as in much Ridgeleigh, the ribs of #1510 continue underneath to dramatic effect. Unlike most Ridgeleigh, however, the piece actually sits on four feet. The candlesticks from this pattern were used in Satellite and Lodestar.

#1521 Quilt— Covered candy box



Another example of 1940's wrap-around design. The glass is extraordinarily heavy and brilliant. Contrary to usual, every #1521 Quilt candy box I have seen has an unmarked bottom, but lids have always been marked.



In the 1940's and 50's, Heisey experimented with simple ways to make shapes distinctive while remaining sleek. Here, the plain round #2351 Newton soda was converted to a new pattern simply by adding a sham and hand-tooling the bottom with a four-way pincer.



#2355
Cloverleaf
—
Soda, 13oz.



An innovative sham. Heisey called it a torpedo sham, for obvious reasons. As with most barware of the time, the bottoms were highly polished. Being blown, they are never marked.

#5087
Comet—
Bar, 2oz.



#6006 Hourglass—
Cocktail (possibly a look-alike)

I'd like to think this is genuine Heisey, and some days I can almost talk myself into it. The glass in #6006 varied greatly from very thick to very thin; this one is rather thin. While the shape and capacity are right, the unusual cone in the bottom is blunt, rather than sharply pointed. The bottom of this piece is not ground, another strike against it, Heisey-wise. All the same, this serves to show another innovative bottom treatment in the severely sleek designs of the last decade of the company.

What's It
All About,
Alfie?



#300 Peerless (left) and #136 tumblers

Which pattern is which? Well, I've taken all the fun out of it above. But how do we know? Bottoms can sometimes be used to distinguish patterns.



#136 (left)
& #300
(below)

The tumblers are
shaped the same and
have the same capacity,
but one has the classic
“skirt” of #300.





#337 (#586), Lead (Harvey) amber, & look-alike

Both of these are narrow optic and have the same number of optics. Amber varied to include these two extremes of shades. There is a slight difference in the shape at the bottom, but barely enough to distinguish them. One isn't marked, but that isn't enough.



The marked one has a typical marie bottom, while the unmarked one has an unusual treatment not seen on other Heisey.

#337 Touraine (left) & look-alike (below)

Incidentally, Tom Bredehoft put the genuine piece in pattern #586, but Neila B. found a price list for the 5oz. juice which put it in #337. Were these truly two distinct patterns, or did Heisey use them interchangeably?





Soap dish or puff box? They looked alike from the outside. Once again, I've spoiled the surprise, but see the next page for how we can tell.

#353 Medium Flat Panel—
Soap dish, covered

The beautifully polished top is the same for both pieces, but the soap dish has ridges inside. The puff does not.



#353 Medium
Flat Panel—
Soap dish,
covered





#353 Old Williamsburg oval jelly & look- alikes



An unusual, un-Heisey-like star. Looks old but not shown in old catalogues. Vogel called it #331, but he guessed at it. Looking for something else, I stumbled across it in a newer catalogue (212). Shown under O.W., it is labeled with #353. The un-marked one (top right) has subtle differences, so may be from a different mold.



#355 Quator— Nappy, 4½”

The #355 square nappies were re-issued as #1463 Quaker. A large <H> and ground and polished bottom are said to indicate #355, while a small <H> and a fire-polished bottom is #1463. In this little nappy, the bottom is ground and polished, but the <H> is small. The <H> is the old-style mark (more delicate lines) with an “H” that is relatively small compared to the diamond. The old-style <H> varied in size according to the piece, so this is most likely #355.



A few years ago, an HCA article about Prison Stripe included a list of pieces for #357½, but noted we had no pictures of it so didn't know what it looked like. Why, then, did I put this piece in #357½ and not #357?

**#357½ Prison Stripe—
Deep flange nappy, 10"**



#357 (left) & #357½ Prison Stripe— Nappies, 4”

There were a number of nappy shapes listed for #357½ that were not listed for #357. The deep flange nappy is one of them. Because of the possibility of unlisted hand-tooling, I needed more proof. Some nappies were listed in both patterns, such as the 4” ones shown above. We have catalogue illustrations of the #357 4” nappy, so we know what it looks like. By elimination, the one on the right must be #357½. Other patterns of the era (such as #400, #300, and #341) had nappies in both “½” and whole-numbered patterns. #400 and #400½, in particular, exactly parallel the two nappies above. So, if your nappy is round bottomed, it is #357½, but if it is square bottomed, put it in #357. (But punch bowls, always round bottomed, are always #357, also same as in #400.)



#1121 Octagon (left) & look-alike—
individual salts



The look-alike has 24 points in its star. Heisey's has 20 points.

#1506 Provincial
(Imperial)—
Footed tumbler,
ruby, 9oz.



Sometimes,
Imperial
ground their
bottoms...





#1506
Whirlpool—
Footed tumbler,
limelight, 9oz.

...and Heisey
did not.





Unmarked (left) and marked
**#1565 Leaf—
Jelly, dawn**

The marked one has the flat ground bottom. Reportedly, the marie bottoms are never marked. Possibly, they are not Heisey, but no evidence either way, so far as I know. Dawn had different shades, and all I've seen had amethyst highlights, but not this marie piece.





#1951 Cabochon juice (left) &
#6092 Cabochon footed juice

#1951 Cabochon were the pressed pieces. #6091 included stemware and massively footed ware with blown bowls. #6092 was the same footed ware (no stems) but with Sultana-colored feet. Once again, only the foot distinguishes one pattern from the other.

I've Looked
at Glass
from Both
Sides Now