

Butterfly and Berry

by Robert Grissom

Butterfly and Berry was probably the longest produced pattern of any in carnival glass, extending over most of the classic era. Frank Fenton has said that the company shows an inventory listing for the Butterfly & Berry pieces from 1910 thru 1929. They were shown as the 1124, 1125, and 1126 patterns. The difference being the inside pattern. The Fenton Art Glass Company showed Butterfly and Berry pieces in their 1913 and 1914 colored catalogs. At that time they were only being made in marigold and blue.

The Butterfly and Berry pattern appeared in the Butler Brothers Mid Spring 1911 catalog. It was listed as a dining set assortment—two each, berry sets, table sets, and water sets. They were listed at \$.62 per set. Butterfly and Berry was still being shown in the March, 1924 catalog; the price at that time was \$1.39 per set. The Berry Set shown had the straight sides.

Pattern Series

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Water sets. Pitchers have a molded-in handle rather than an applied one. The pitchers and tumblers are the only pieces in this pattern that do not have ball feet. Water sets are found in amethyst, blue, green and marigold. Amethyst and green are the most difficult to find, marigold the easiest. One pitcher is known in white.



Four versions of Butterfly and Berry. In addition to large bowls with the Butterfly and Berry pattern on the inside, Fenton used the exterior design with several other interior patterns including Heart and Trees shown in this ice-cream-shaped centerpiece bowl (at right), most frequently seen as a ruffled bowl. No small bowls are known in Heart and Trees. The large green ruffled Panther bowl (center) is the most commonly seen shape in the pattern and small sauces or berry bowls are very common. Fantail (shown below) is known in ice cream bowls and a couple of examples of chop plates in blue and marigold. At lower right is a fernery with the Butterfly and Berry pattern on the interior—a rare shape with vertical sides. This pattern was used for the 1984 HOACGA Good Luck souvenir fernery in red (below, bottom). Six hundred were made.



Whimsies. Fenton glass craftsmen seemed to take special delight in working with the Butterfly and Berry pattern, as indicated by these unusual pieces. Above is a marigold hatpin holder made from a tumbler mold but using a different ring cap. Two of these are known. Above right is a blue master berry bowl with a plain interior and a three-in-one edge. A similar piece exists in green that rests entirely on

the collar base. Directly above is a cobalt spittoon made from a sugar bowl (it has a rim around the inside top where the lid was to fit). Next to it is another spittoon made from a small sauce, this one in amethyst. Also made from a small sauce is the marigold rosebowl/ hair receiver at

the right. These pieces were probably done by workmen on a whim and left the Fenton factory in their lunch pails.



Table sets. These are found in four colors: amethyst, blue, green, and marigold. Marigold is the most common followed by blue, green and amethyst. Green is considered rare and amethyst very rare.



Vases were made from tumblers, but unlike swung tumblers in other patterns with vases, these were not whimsies but production items. Butterfly and Berry vases were made in ten different colors including amber, amethyst, blue, green, marigold, red, teal, white and custard. Sometimes the vases are hard to identify because the pattern was obliterated during the stretching process.



Hatpin holders. Curiously, the hatpin holders are the only shapes in Butterfly and Berry that could be considered part of a lady's dresser set—no powder jars, cologne bottles or pin trays were made. Known only in blue and marigold, either color of the hatpin holder is highly desirable and invariably brings four figures at auction. Blue is the more common.

Butterfly and Berry in Fenton's 1913 and 1914 catalog. While many Fenton patterns are found in both carnival and crystal (uniridized) glass, Butterfly and Berry is known only in carnival.



Glass courtesy of Burns Auction Service, Bob Grissom, International Carnival Glass Association, Bob and Geneva Leonard, George and Mavis Loescher, and Grace Rinehart. Catalog reprint courtesy of Fenton Art Glass Company.

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