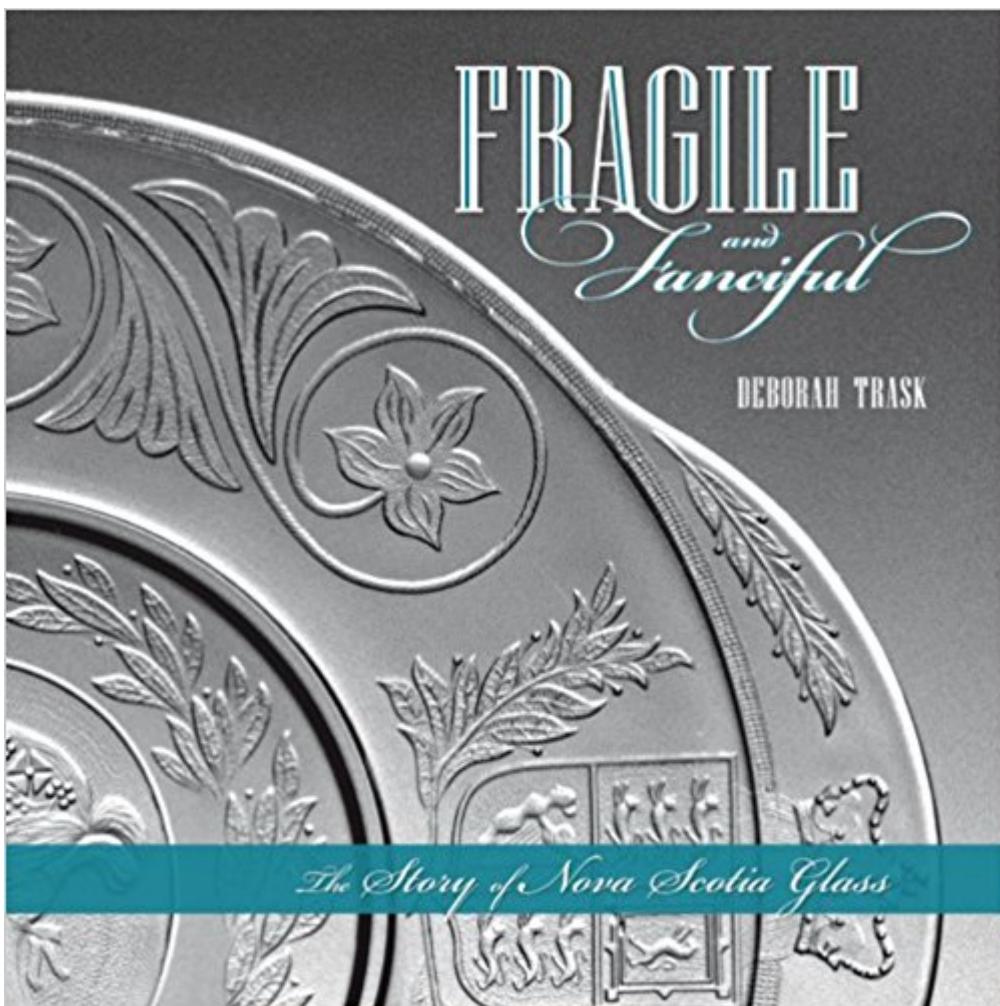


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# Fragile And Fanciful: The Story Of Nova Scotia Glass



## Synopsis

In the last two decades of the 19th century and the first two decades of the 20th century, glass manufacturing was a unique enterprise in Canada. Beginning with the founding of the Nova Scotia Glass Company in 1881, the glass factories of Nova Scotia made clear tableware at a time when it was not made anywhere else in Canada. By the 1800s, people had been making glass for more than 4,000 years. Before that, however, the mass production of glass was not technically possible. Pressing machines to produce glass shapes were invented in the 1830s in New England. As mechanization improved, decorated glassware could be produced relatively quickly and affordably. By the late 1880s, moulded and pressed glass was produced in Pennsylvania and Ohio, in New England, and, perhaps not surprisingly, in Nova Scotia. In this beautifully illustrated book, featuring photographs of the highly collectable patterned tableware produced during this 40-year period, Deborah Trask tells the story of Nova Scotia glass during this golden age of pressed-glass production. Employing her skills as a curator and a detective of sorts, she tells the story of the major glass factories — the Nova Scotia Glass Company, the Humphrey Glass Company, and the Lamont Glass Company — and provides crucial information on patterns and moulds, allowing readers and collectors to identify what remains of this glittering enterprise.

## Book Information

Paperback: 120 pages

Publisher: Goose Lane Editions; First edition edition (May 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0864926553

ISBN-13: 978-0864926555

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #6,585,560 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Canadiana #1125 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Houseware & Dining > Glass & Glassware #10136 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Decorative Arts

## Customer Reviews

Glass has existed for more than 4,000 years, although it was not mass produced until the 1830s, when pressing machines that produced glass shapes were introduced. As mechanization improved,

decorated glassware began to be produced relatively quickly and affordably. By the 1880s, glass was most commonly used for bottles, lamp chimneys, and lantern globes. At the same time, moulded and pressed glass was being manufactured in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New England, and, surprisingly, in Nova Scotia. In this beautifully illustrated book, featuring photographs of the highly collectable patterned tableware produced between 1881 and 1892, Deborah Trask examines the history of the glass industry in Nova Scotia during the golden age of pressed-glass production. Employing her skills as an historian and detective of sorts, she tells the story of the glass factories — the Nova Scotia Glass Company, the Humphrey Glass Company, and the Lamont Glass Company, as well as the modern Nova Scotian Crystal — offering a bevy of information on their distinctive glass patterns and products.

Deborah Trask was on the curatorial staff of the Nova Scotia Museum for 30 years, among many other responsibilities, she curated the glass and bottle collections. Upon her retirement as curator of buildings and operations, she was named a curator emeritus of the Nova Scotia Museum. She lives in Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

Excellent resource of Nova Scotia Glass Co. patterns and history of the glass industry in Trenton! Very well researched, authoritative and still honest. Builds on and compliments MacLaren's work. The only thing I felt wanting for is spectragraphic analysis to correlate attributions.

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