

New Martinsville / Viking Art Glass

Est. 1901

The **New Martinsville** Glass Manufacturing Co. operated between 1901 and 1940 in West Virginia. They made glass for the boudoir such as perfume bottles, vanity jars, dresser sets, etc. They also made a whole line of lamps, smoking and liquor sets. New Martinsville began making distinctive colored glassware in 1923.



Rare Ruby Red Split Vase

In approx. 1940, the company redirected to concentrate on modernization and hand-made quality glassware which the company called "Swedish Type". The factory's name was changed to the **Viking Glass Co.** to reflect the modern attitude in the early 1940's. In 1986 the company's name was changed to **Dalzell-Viking**.

Viking made a variety of colorful art glass items and competed with the likes of Blenko, Pilgrim, Kanawha, Bischoff, etc. Rainbow Art Glass, another popular glass maker of the mid-century, was a subsidiary of Viking. It is interesting that Viking did not "copy" its competitors styles as readily as the others did, and Viking products are usually easily recognizable.

The popular "Epic" line began production in the early 1960s and featured modern shapes and designs. Viking produced giant floor vases with the trademark pulled tips. They produced very little crackle glass, but the Viking crackle fairy light was a gem.

Viking Glass Co. closed its doors in the 1990's.

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