# Other O

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As with other letters, a few of the "O" logos and marks were not sufficiently large or long-lived to require their own sections, so we present them below.

#### **Containers and Marks**

## **O** in a **Diamond** (1890-1897)

Von Mechow (2018) listed and illustrated this logo embossed on bases of three champagne beer bottles used by brewers in Hudson and Waverly, New York, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Figure 1). He suggested that an "unknown manufacturer made beer bottles for a New York firm and Charles Joly, a Philadelphia based bottler, who dabbled with bottling supplies as a side line." Whitten (2018) reported an identical mark on the base of a "handmade older

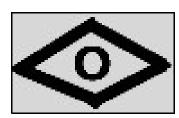


Figure 1 – Diamond O (von Mechow 2018)

American bottle marked "H.E. Bills Magic Relief, possibly circa 1890-1920" (Figure 2).

Roller (1993) noted that the Oakman Mfg. Co. of Cheshire, Massachusetts was listed under the green glass heading as using two continuous tanks in 1897. The Cheshire Glass Mfg. Co. succeeded Oakman in 1900 and remained in business for at least one more year, making green and amber druggists' ware at a single five-ton tank. Although we have no documentary connection between the Diamond-O logo and Oakman, the three bottles reported by von Mechow (2018) were all made for bottlers close to or in Massachusetts.



Figure 2 – Diamond O (Whitten 2018)

Oakman had been a bottle dealer prior to embarking on his manufacturing venture, so bottles were a logical product. In addition, his successor made druggist's ware, likely inheriting molds from Oakman. Thus, the Oakman Mfg. Co. was the logical user of the Diamond-O logo.

Dating the bottlers listed by von Mechow also supported this hypothesis – although we found nothing on Robt. Elting of Hudson, New York. Charles Joly was in business at Philadelphia from ca. 1884 to 1904, and Capt. T. Mills operated at Wavery, New York from 1880 to 1913. Oakman's firm existed comfortably within date ranges of these two bottlers.



Figure 3 – Diamond O (Whitten 2018)

Whitten also warned that much more recent bottles with a similar logo – albeit with a more rounded "O" (Figure 3) – were made by the Qinhuangdao Fangyuan Glass Co., Ltd., Duzhang, Funing County, Hebei Province, People's Republic of China from 2001 to the present).

#### Possible Manufacturer

#### Oakman Mfg. Co., Cheshire, Massachusetts (1890-1897)

Samuel Oakman had a long connection with the glass industry including 22 patents and official positions, such as being the president of the Massachusetts Glass Co. in 1867. He remained in Massachusetts or New York for his entire career. During 1885 and 1886, he was a bottle dealer at 219 State St. in Cheshire then added insulators to the business from 1887 to 1889. Oakman opened his Oakman Mfg. Co. in 1890, with the factory on Mercer St. in South Boston but the office was still at 219 State St. He remained in business until 1897 (McDougald & McDougald 1990:42; Roller 1993).

# **O** in a Triangle (1890-1897)

Von Mechow (2018) reported the Triangle-O mark, used by three different mineral water or beer bottlers in Danbury, Connecticut, Holyoak, Massachusetts, and Poughkeepsie, New York (Figure 4). The logo was embossed on the bases of two champagne beer bottles and one Hutchinson bottle. Although von Mechow declined to speculate on the manufacturer, we note that the cluster of bottlers suggest a plant in southern New York or Connecticut.



Figure 4 – Triangle O (von Mechow 2018)

Interestingly, the locations of the three bottlers noted by von Mechow (2018) to have used containers with the Triangle-O basemark all clustered at the edge of Massachusetts. The same arguments cited above for tying Oakman to the Diamond-O logo also hold true for the Triangle-O logo. However, our tracing the dates of these three do not support the hypothesis. Mount Holyoke Lithia Spring Water Co. was in business during the 1910-1916 period, and the only date we could find for F.R. Gilman at Poughkeepsie was 1905. We discovered nothing for BC&Co at Danbury, Connecticut. It is thus unlikely that Oakman made the bottles with the Triangle-O logo.

Figure 5 – OG & OG monogram (North American Glass)

# **OC monogram** (1870-ca. 1912)



Figure 6 – Putnam (North American Glass)

An OG monogram could easily be mistaken for the OC monogram used by the Oneida Community (see OG below). Oneida packaged its products in jars embossed with an OC monogram and occasionally just the initials "OC"

(Figure 5) The Putnam Glass Co. made most if not all of the jars with Lightning closures, most (or all) of which had the "PUTNAM" mark above a number on their bases (Figure 6). See the section on Henry A. Putnam (H Volume) for more information on that firm.

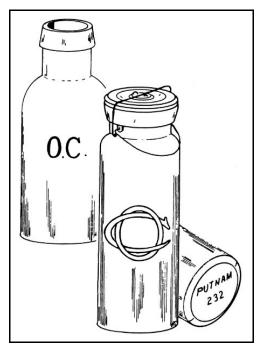


Figure 7 – OG & OG monogram (Creswick 1987a:165)

At some point, the Community began using paper labels that incorporated a slightly different OC monogram (Caniff 2005:8). Oneida received Trade Mark No. 35,859 for the "OC" initials on February 5, 1901, with first use claimed at 1870 (Creswick 1987a:259). Creswick (1987a:165) also showed the OC mark on an "old style Lightning seal" fruit jar (Figure 7). The Roller editors (2011:395) discussed two styles of jars with the logo – also the only two types we have located – citing Jerry McCann as noting that the one without the Lightning closure was probably the earlier jar, and we concur (see Figure 5).

#### User

#### Oneida Community, Oneida, New York (1881-ca. 1912)

Founded in 1838, in Putney, Vermont, the Oneida Community was an early experiment in communal living and industry. The group moved to Oneida, New York, in 1847 but later dissolved the community, reorganizing in 1881 as a corporation, formed to sell the farm products that had become well known in its earlier days. The community remained in business until at least 1912

but was absent from listings in 1915 (Caniff 2005:8). The company's OC monogram, however, was trade marked in 1905 but claimed a first use in 1870.

# OCo Monogram (unknown)

Although our example was probably a vase rather than a bottle, this monogram of "Co in an O" was certainly unusual (Figure 8). Unfortunately, we have not found the logo in any or our bottle, jar, or tableware sources.

# **O.D.** (1901-1927)

Jay Hawkins reported an OD mark on the base of a bottle embossed "HARPER'S CUFORHEDAKE BRAIN FOOD WASHINGTON, D.C." on the side. An eBay auction also noted "OD



Figure 8 – O Co (eBay)

... at bottom" of a Climax Ginger Ale bottle, filled by the Climax Beverage Co., Richmond, Virginia. A Hutchinson-finished bottle from the Robert Portner Brewing Co., Alexandria, Virginia, had "OD" embossed on its base, and we discovered a prescription bottle embossed "O.D." – also on the base. It is likely that all of the marks had periods after the initials. The logo was almost certainly used by the Old Dominion Glass Co., Alexandria, Virginia. Since bottles with the O.D. logo are hard to find, the firm probably did not mark most of its ware.

#### Manufacturer

#### Old Dominion Glass Co., Alexandria, Virginia (1901-1927).

Located at the corner of North Fairfax and Montgomery in Alexandria, Virginia, the Old Dominion Glass Co. incorporated ca. April 12, 1901, with a capital of \$25,000. Henry K. Field was the president with Lorenzo Wolford as vice president and George D. Hopkins as secretary and treasurer. O.R. Hopkins, M.L. Pierce, Jr., and H.E. Downham rounded out the board of directors. The plant began production on September 3, 1901, using sand from the Severn River in Maryland – arriving on three-masted schooners (Von Mechow 2018).

The plant operated an eight-ring continuous tank to make "bottles of various kinds proprietary goods and packers ware" when it burned to the ground on February 2, 1902 – with the loss estimated at \$15,000, only \$6,000 of which was covered by insurance. The firm amended its charter on May 2 of that year – increasing its capital stock to \$40,000 – and was reported as reopened in June. One of the tanks burst on June 14, 1903, disgorging its molten glass into a receptacle in the cellar, created for just such an eventuality – unfortunately stopping operations for the rest of the season. In 1904, Field remained as president with George D. Hopkins continuing as secretary and Lorenzo Wolford as manager. The plant used two continuous tanks with 16 rings to make prescription and liquor ware along with milk jars. In October, Old Dominion purchased the tools and molds from the Severn Glass Co. at Anapolis, Maryland (Alexandria Library 2008; Eggleston 1903:219; *Illustrated Glass & Pottery World* 1902:15; Roller 1998a; von Mechow 2018).

Hopkins was president by 1910, with Wolford as secretary and treasurer and George H. Schwarzman as superintendent. A cigarette butt set the plant's stables afire on March 12, 1911, but the blaze was confined to the destruction of the stable and the death of five horses. On

October 19, 1913, the *Washington Post* announced that the Old Dominion Glass Co. had purchased the defunct Belle Pre Bottle Co. factory, resuming the manufacture of milk bottles on November 3. Schwarzman was also listed as vice president in 1914, with John U. Schwarzman as superintendent. On May 12, 1914, part of the former Belle Pre factory was destroyed by fire – at a loss of \$10,000 – although the main building was saved (Roller 1998a; von Mechow 2018).

The Old Dominion Glass Co. bought the old plant of the Alexandria Glass Co. – idle for several years – at the corner of Fayette and First Streets – in early June 1916 and reopened the plant in late November. Unfortunately, fire destroyed the factory on the night of February 7, 1917 – just seven months later – for a \$75,000 loss. The Alexandria Glass factory had been intended to replace the former Belle Pre plant that was shut down when the new acquisition was opened. Old Dominion quickly refurbished the plant to return to production on February 28. In March, another fire destroyed the boiler room of the Belle Pre factory (Von Mechow 2018).

Due to a coal shortage in 1919, the plants only ran intermittently. If this were not trouble enough, a disgruntled employee, laid off because of the shortage, set fire to the plant on the night of November 3, 1920, destroying over a million bottles awaiting shipment. Apparently deciding that enough was enough, George D. Hopkins sold his share of the business to Lorenzo Wolford, George H. Schwarzmann, and Ralph Bottamas – although he remained as president. It was a smart decision. The Belle Pre plant again burned to the ground on October 24, 1921. The buildings had been used for storage since the coal shortage, so the loss was estimated at \$50,000 (Von Mechow 2018).

In 1923, Wolford remained president, but Chester G. Price had become vice president, George Schwarzman was treasurer, and Jacob S. Eggborn was secretary. The factory used 15 rings at the two tanks to make "Flint prescriptions, sodas, vials, minerals, patent, proprietary, glass jugs, olives, milk jars" by both machine and hand production. The company ceased operations after a final disastrous fire in 1927 – a total of five major fires in 26 years (Alexandria Library 2008; Roller 1998a; von Mechow 2018).

#### **OG** (ca. 1900-1913)

Toulouse (1969:229) noted the letters "OG" on the base of a green, mouth-blown fruit jar with a Lightning closure that he dated ca. 1900. We have found no other reference to an OG mark. The mark could have been an "OC" from the Oneida Community (see OC monogram and Histories section above). However, we discovered a machine-



Figure 9 – OG (Lynn Loomis collection)

made milk bottle in the Lynn Loomis collection embossed "OG" on the heel roll (Figure 9). The bottle was solarized to an amethyst color, likely made during the ca. 1900-1920 period. Of the glass houses in our sample with the correct initials, only the Olean Glass Co. made milk bottles, so the initials may have been used by Olean during ca. 1900 and 1913, when the firm sold to the Acme Glass Co.

# **O.G.R.** (1881-1900)

Toulouse (1971:402) noted the O.G.R. logo on "the center post of a post-mold oblong flask with corner seams. The bottle was handmade, with a smooth laid-on ring and a collar at the shoulder. Its shape resembled what was later called a 'French square.'" The logo did not match the initials of the user on the side of the bottle. However, he could find no manufacturer to fit the initials, and he concluded that "the bottom lettering may be that of a glass supplier."

At least one similar bottle (with the O.G.R. mark) has been offered at auction on eBay, and Lee Cramner reported a pharmacy or drug store bottle



Figure 10 – OGR (Lee Cramner)

with the logo on the HISTARCH listserve (Figure 10). Alan Vegotsky responded with a reply from Frank Sternad, a noted expert on pharmaceutical bottles:

Since his entry for "O.G.R." relates to a bottle user in Boston, I checked my 1896 Boston Directory (Sampson, Murdock & Co.) and found a listing for O. Gordon Rankine, a dealer in glassware and druggists' sundries. . . . [An ad from the directory] indicates that he was a drop-ship agent for glass factories in Baltimore and Philadelphia, and had only a postoffice box for a business address.

Oscar Gordon Rankine is listed in the 1880 federal census in Boston (res. 13 Howland St.) as a "clerk in glassware," and in the 1900 census at 76 Berwick Park, no occupation mentioned. He was born in New Brunswick, Canada (1854 or 1857), and immigrated to the U.S. in 1876.

We can deduce from this that Rankine was in business as a jobber no earlier than 1881 and had ceased operations by at least 1900 (Figure 11).

# **OGW** (1884-1885)

Arizona).

Although Toulouse (1971:400) attributed the OGW mark to the Olean Glass Works, Tim Higgins, a long-time collector from California, assigned the mark to the Oakland Glass Works, Oakland, California (Figures 12 & 13). The company was in business for about one year in

the early 1880s, and the mark was embossed on the bases of whiskey bottles in fifth, pint, and half pint (union oval) sizes as well as various pharmaceutical shapes, square bitters-style bottles, and demijohns (including one we observed at the Tucson Urban Renewal collection, Tucson,

The colors of the bottles vary, and all have applied finishes except for the half-pint flasks which have tooled finishes.

Although it was not until later that glass houses began to employ tooled finished on larger bottles and flasks, use of the process on smaller ware began much earlier, so this dichotomy would have

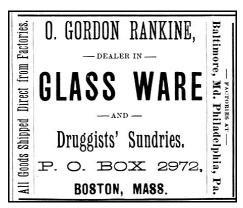


Figure 11 – O.G. Rankine ad (Boston City Directory 1896)



Figure 12 - O.G.W.

been practical for the 1884-1885 period. The only embossing on any of the bottles is the manufacturing marks on the bases. It is possible, of course, that the mark was used by both companies, but the consistency of the known bottles bearing the OGW mark – and that most if not all have been found in the far West – suggests that it was only used by the Oakland Glass Works. Bottles found east of the Mississippi, however, *may* indicate that both companies used the mark. More empirical study needs to be done.



Figure 13 - O.G.W.

#### Probable Manufacturer

#### Oakland Glass Works, Oakland, California (1884-1885)

William B. Lake, former secretary and manager for the California Glass Works, with others, began the Oakland Glass Works in 1884, after the older company had been sold. V.B Moody was the president of the Oakland Glass Co., with O.H. Burnham as vice president, William B. Lake as general manager, and W.F. Perry as secretary. The firm purchased beach-front property as a supply of sand. Isaac B. Wollard applied on February 28, 1884, for a ""Bottle-Stopper Clamp" and was awarded Patent No. 307,825 on November 11, 1884 (Figure 14). He assigned the patent to the Oakland Glass Works (Friedrich 2009:141-142; Roller 1998b).

The plant made bottles, demijohns, flasks, and fruit jars and actually began production on September 24, 1884. One specialty of the factory was the manufacture of claret

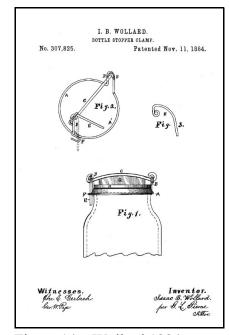


Figure 14 – Wollard 1884 patent

bottles, said to rival those made in France. The demand for claret bottles on the West Coast was strong. The group closed the factory in March 1885, after only six-months of production. By September, the firm was besieged by 15 lawsuits (Friedrich 2009:141-142; Roller 1998b).

A final article from the *San Francisco Alta California* of September 19, 1887, stated: "Oakland Glass Works to F. Dilger, 3.86 acres cor First and Linden sts." (Friedrich 2009:142). This almost certainly referred to the sale of the glass works property. This final report leaves questions unanswered. Did the firm survive the suits of 1885 and resume operations? Or did it close in 1885 and only make a final sale two years later?

## **OH&CO** (ca. 1906-1913)

We have discovered a single leather-covered flask embossed "109 OH&CO" on the base (Figure 15). The leather was labeled "F. ZIMMERMAN & CO. / 91-93 Front Street, / PORTLAND, ORE." on the front. The basemark was certainly not associated with the firm name on the leather. Based on a search of city directories, PrePro.com (n.d.) discovered that Ferdinand Zimmerman was listed between 1880 and 1905), with



Figure 15 – OH&CO

F. Zimmerman & Co. from 1906 to 1915. The firm was at the 91-13 Front St. address from 1906 to 1913, suggesting that "OH&CO" was almost certainly in business at some point during that period.

#### OHIO CREAMERY SUPPLY CO. (1941-ca. 1954)

According to Dairy Antiques (2016), this mark was used by the Ohio Creamery Supply Co. An example listed on a Worthpoint auction was shaped like a Christmas ornament (ball) and was used by Otto's Dairy of Sandusky, Ohio. The base was embossed "Thrift Jar (cursive – slight arch) / OTTO'S / SANDUSKY, OHIO / 3¢ (all horizontal) / DEPOSIT / PATD. – 128153 (both slight inverted arch) / OHIO CREAMERY SUPPLY CO. CLEVELAND O. (arch)." Another seller (also Worthpoint) had an example with "L52 C.C.S - E 1" on the heel. The seller noted that most examples were used by Ohio dairies. He or she also stated that Phillip Arnold, Cleveland, Ohio, received Design Patent No. 128,153 on July 8, 1941.

We have discovered very little information about the Ohio Creamery Supply Co. The *Cincinnati Enquirer* reported on September 7, 1912, that the firm was a new corporation with James F. Wilson. Jay P. Oakley. John J. Sullivan, Thomas F Walsh, William Mattson, and someone named Johnson as principals. The company remained in business until at least 1954. Since the only example of the bottle mark was on these cheese jars, the logo was probably used between 1941 and ca. 1954.

# OHIO QUALITY MASON (1924-1925)

Toulouse (1936:229) described this machine-made jar, embossed only "OHIO / QUALITY / MASON" on the front. Both Roller (1983:268) and Creswick (1987b:99-100) discussed and illustrated three variations of the Ohio Quality Mason jars. Two of these had both "Os" in "OHIO" larger than the central two letters (Figure 16). One had a ghosted "HI" in a slightly different position from the final "HI" (in "OHIO"). Both attributed the jars to the Ohio Glass Products Co., Massillon, Ohio, and dated the jars ca. 1924-1926. Creswick added that the Ohio Glass



Figure 16 – Ohio Quality (Creswick 1987b:99-100)

Products Co. received Trade Mark No. 199,909 on June 23, 1925, for the words "OHIO QUALITY." Roller (2011:397) added a variation that misspelled "QUALITY" as "QUALITIY."

#### Manufacturer

#### Stark Glass Co., Massillon, Ohio (ca. 1923-1924)

In late 1922 or early 1923, C.E. Stuart, E.H. Birney, H.S. Potter, H.C. Daubenspeck, and W.E.N. Hemperly incorporated the Stark Glass Co. to revitalize the former Rhodes Glass Co. factory at Massillon, Ohio (see the section of Rhodes for more on that firm). The group purchased a Winder-Daubenspeck bottle blowing machine in early 1924, but the last listing we have found for the firm was on March 24 (Roller 1997).

Samuel E. Winder and Henry C. Daubenspeck applied on April 15, 1916 for a patent for a "Glass Molding Machine" and received Patent No. 1,331,792 on February 24, 1920. This was a fully automatic machine, including a glass feeder system to introduce the gob of glass into the mold. This, however, was a press machine, intended to make tumblers, utilizing an ejection rod to remove the finished product. It would have had to be modified quite a bit to produce jars. Although the pair of inventors later patented improvements, none of those would have been in place by the time the machine was used by Stark Glass. However, as a member of the board of directors, Daubenspeck may have made unpatented improvements to allow the device to make fruit jars.

#### Ohio Glass Products Co., Massillon, Ohio (1924-1926)

The May 1924 issue of the *Glass Industry* announced that the firm reorganized as the Ohio Glass Products Co., with Harry S. Potter, W.E.N. Hemperly, C.E. Stuart, C.L. Baatz, Lee F. Graybill, Andrew Reese, H.C. Daubenspeck, C.P.L. McLain, C.E. Swanson, Arthur T. Ellis, E.M. Brickell, F.F. Taggart, F.W. Arnold, and S.M. Baltzly as directors – about half of whom were principals of the Stark Glass Co. Potter was the president, with C.W. Stuart as vice president, C.E. Stuart as chairman of the board, and Hemperly as secretary and treasurer. The group was in the process of installing two "Winder-Daubenspeck wide mouth bottle-blowing machines" (Roller 1997)"

Roller (1983:268) noted that a letter from the firm on March of 1924 included "Massillon Quality Mason Jars" and "Massillon Quality Sanitary Glass Top Jars" – but he noted that none of those had been discovered. The plant began production in mid-March of 1924 with three Winder-Daubenspeck machines. A 1925 factory directory listed Potter as president, treasurer, and general manager, while C.E. Swanson was vice president and Hemperly was secretary. The firm advertised "Ohio Quality crystal clear fruit jars at two continuous tanks with 16 rings (Roller 1997).

By early 1926, the firm was in receivership, and the November 1926 issue of the *Glass Industry* reported that W.E. Hemperley had purchased the company. Hemperly (or someone after him) offered the factory for sale in July of 1929, but it was probably not in production after late 1925. In Spring of 1933, the Puritan Glass Co. acquired the plant, but it was destroyed by fire in November. Puritan continued to be listed in the 1934 glass factory directory as making beverage,

liquor, and milk bottles at a single continuous tank, but we have found no other references to the operation (Roller 1997)

# **OI Monograms**

These monograms could be "IO" or "OI" or could be unrelated to the apparent letters. They were part of a series of three monograms that were all on jars embossed "MASON'S / {monogram} / PATENT NOV 30<sup>TH</sup> 1858" on the front. The initial monogram consisted of the letters "LGCo"— with serifs on the "G" and the "L" — and these were modified at some point into the "OI" or "IO" monogram (See the LGCo Monograms section for more information).

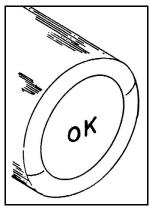


Figure 17 – OK (Creswick 1987a:138)

#### OK



Figure 18 – OPTIMUS (TUR)

Creswick (1987a:138) illustrated an "OK" logo on the base of a Mason jar embossed "MASON'S (slight arch) / PATENT / NOV. 30<sup>TH</sup> / 1858 (all horizontal)" on the front (Figure 17). The jar was mouth blown with a Mason shoulder seal, aqua in color. Beyond that, Creswick

provided no more helpful information, and we have discovered nothing else about this jar or logo.

# **OPTIMUS or OPT.** (ca. 1900-ca. 1930)

The "OPTIMUS" name is found on the bases of prescription bottles (e.g., Tucson Urban Renewal collection) and appeared on a paper label applied to a round Citrate of Magnesia bottle (Figures 18 & 19). The base of the mouth-blown prescription bottle had four vent marks, and one tiny bottle was only embossed "OPT." The term also



Figure 19 – OPTIMUS (eBay)

appeared on the side of a prescription bottle embossed "OPTIMUS" (upwardly slanted with a line above and below) / STEWART & HOLMES / DRUG CO. / SEATTLE, WASH." (Figure 20). Aside from the typical period when bottles of that type were used – ca. 1900-ca. 1930 – we have no clue as to the maker or the dates of manufacture.



Figure 20 – OPTIMUS (eBay)

#### **Discussion and Conclusions**

As with most of the "Other" sections, each topic above provided its own discussion and conclusions.

# Acknowledgments

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