



USBC Supplement: Can Sets - Rainier

From the beginning, we selected three can sets that we would focus on down the road to capture their data separately from the bulk of both the books and database. Otherwise, the sheer volume and numbers of cans in the Rainier, Esslinger and Schmidt series would dwarf the overall project. Each of these categories would require a specialist (or three) to do them justice. While we don't have all of the information we would like, our focus is long overdue relative to documenting what we **do** have. That is the topic of this article.

The Rainier Jubilee series, with thousands of known variations, and possibly more still, is probably the best documented in the USBC series. In the past nine months, there have been articles about this series in both the ABA and the NABA magazines. I believe that the USBC documentation is the most thorough and up to date. The USBC work was developed several years ago by John Page #24671 with the collaboration of Stephen Reames #30985 and Eric Claussen #30148 from the Pacific Northwest.

The Can Sets section can be reached on the USBC site from either the dropdown menu at the top center of the opening page [1] or by clicking on the Can Sets image on the lower center of the page [2]. This allows you to select any one of the three.

The following information covers the Set List, Panels, Scene Layout, and Search Page list which can be found at the bottom of the page that comes up when you click on Rainier [3]. The Set List identifies 25 total sets (flats only, all sizes) covering the years 1953 through 1962 in sizes 11, 12, 15, and 16 ounces. The Panels selection divides the images into three categories: Party series (14 designs and variations, less three currently missing images), Cartoon series (6 designs) and Brewery series (7 designs with two missing). The images displayed are from Sicks' company flat sheets, showing the various design panels produced. The next in the sequence is Scene Layout, which shows the panels as they appear on the actual cans. Scene Layouts are reached by selecting from a Set list and then from a Scene list. A good number of Set/Scene selections either don't exist or haven't been discovered yet. My belief is that it is mostly the former. These selections can also be reached by clicking on any of the panels shown in the Panels section.

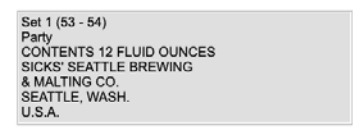
There's an 8-digit Rainier numbering system as follows based on can # 301011330:

Rainier Can	3	Specific Can Set Number
Set Number	01	1 thru 25
Scene Number	01	1 thru 27
Metallic or Enamel	1	Represents Can Finish (either a 0 or 1)
Color	330	Light Green (Not all colors have a number)

By clicking on the Search Page the default lists "All" for each of the documented mandatories. This displays the 50 cans currently in the database and gives a very qualified process on laying out the Rainier Series. There is a chart under the displayed images that displays a list of Can Identifier, Set Number, Scene Number, Finish, and Color Name. While it is relatively easy to identify metallic versus enamel, color is very subjective. That is why three digits have been provided to cover this parameter. The database currently labels about ten colors.

The Rainier Christmas Can Sets are covered in the Volume 1 Flats Section of the USBC, 1 118 17 0 thru 1 118 22 9.

A lot of work has been done in developing this numbering system for the Rainier cans. That being said, there is still a lot that could be done in the future such as a numbering system for can colors and a lot more photography of Rainier cans. Currently we have maybe 0.3 % of the photos. However, with the system now in place, collectors have the basis of categorizing all of their Rainier cans in their collection.



301011330
SetNumber: 1
SceneNumber: 1
Green

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Tom Waggoner at jkid96@msn.com and/or Bruce Gregg at btgregg@earthlink.net.