

EARLY SUSQUEHANNA IROQUOIS
COLORED TRADE BEAD CHART

1550

Volume III

A descriptive chart of 160 of the earliest types of trade beads from a site
in Lancaster County, Pa. near the Susquehanna River.



by
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To the reader:

This is the third volume in a continuing series of pamphlets devoted to trade beads. We feel that the material presented is beneficial to the trade bead collector and researcher.

September 18, 1974
Nathan C. Buckwalter



GERALD B. FENSTERMAKER LANCASTER, PA. 1974

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Those readers who are familiar with Volume I in this series are aware of the tremendous variety of trade beads found on Susquehanna River sites. The chart in this pamphlet, Volume III, pictures beads which were collected from only one site. Also, copper, stone and shell beads were found in conjunction with these rare and early trade beads. This evidence supports the theory that this is an extremely early historic period site.

Keller site: 1600-1620

	BEAD NO.	DIAMETER (in mm.)	LENGTH (in mm.)	DESCRIPTION
ROW 1				
IIa1	1, 2	2	1	Brick red sand beads
IIa7	3, 4	2	1	Black sand beads
IIa13	5, 6	3	2	White seed beads
IIa40	7, 8	3	2	Sky blue seed beads
IVa19?	9	3	2	Dark blue/white center seed beads
IVa	10, 11	3	2	Brick red/white center seed beads
IIa7	12, 13	4	3	Black seed beads
IIa6	14, 15	7	4	Black pony beads
IIa6	16, 17	10	9	Large black
IIa28?	18	12	11	Large dark green

The term "sand beads" coined by Mr. Fenstermaker denotes a bead of extremely small size. It does not pertain to the composition of the bead.

ROW 2				
IIa40	1, 2	3	2	Sky blue
	3, 4	4	4	Sky blue
	5, 6	7	5	Sky blue
	7, 8	9	6	Sky blue
	9	9	18	Sky blue
	10	8	16	Sky blue
	11	7	12	Sky blue
ROW 3				
IIa40	1, 2	10	10	Sky blue
	3, 4	10	11	Sky blue
	5, 6	11	10	Sky blue
IIb*(l)	7, 8	3	2	Gray/3 red stripes
IIb*(m)	9	8	8	Gray/8 red stripes
IIb*	10	13 (width)	10	5 mm. thick; gray/8 red stripes; a flat sided bead
ROW 4				
IIa40	1	11	6	Sky blue
	2, 3	10	10	Sky blue/3 white stripes
IIb56	4, 5	12	10	Sky blue/3 white stripes
	6, 7	12	12	Sky blue/3 white stripes
	8	15	12	Sky blue/3 white stripes

The sky blue beads are really French blue trade beads.

ROW 5

BEAD NO.	DIAMETER (in mm.)	LENGTH (in mm.)	DESCRIPTION
IIb 1	8	8	Gray/8 white stripes
IVb 2, 3	8	6	Dark blue/8 white stripes
" 4, 5	8	8	Dark blue/8 white stripes
IVb*(c) 6, 7	8	7	Dark blue/16 white stripes
" 8, 9	10	9	Dark blue/16 white stripes
IVb 10, 11	11	8	Dark blue/7 white stripes

Note the variations of stripes on the beads in this row.

ROW 6

IIbb2 1	9 (width)	12 flat	4 mm. thick; Brick red/3 white stripes
IIIa3 2, 3	5	7	Brick red/green centers
IVab 4, 5	4	3	Brick red/green centers
IVa5 6, 7	5	5	Brick red/green centers
" 8, 9	8	6	Brick red/green centers
IVb 10, 11	5	5	Brick red/3 white stripes
IIb/IVb 12	9	8	Brick red/13 white stripes
" 13	7	6	Brick red/13 white stripes
IIbb 14	11	9	Black 8/red and white stripes

The first bead is flat - unusual for this type of bead.

The first paired beads are an early type of dark center straw bead.

ROW 7

III m 1	3	7	Dark blue straw bead
" 2	4	7	Blue/dark blue stripes
" 3	6	8	Blue/dark blue stripes
IVk 4, 5	5	4	Blue/dark blue stripes
" 6, 7	7	6	Blue/dark blue stripes
" 8, 9	9	9	Blue/dark blue stripes
I 10	7	42	Sky blue/3 red stripes

The first two beads are chevrons. The seventh bead is a very rare and early type of English bugle or straw bead.

ROW 8

IV 1, 2	7	5	Red and white stripes - rare
IVp*(e) 3	6	6	Red, white and blue stripes - rare
IVp*(f) 4	8	7	Blue, green and white stripes - rare
IVp*(a) 5	8	7	Red, white and green stripes - rare
IVp 6	9	7	Purple, green, white and gray stripes - rare
IVp 7	9	7	Light and dark green stripes - rare
IVp 8	11	10	Red, white, blue and green stripes - rare
IIb 9	7	5	Long white; blue eye/white center
IIb 10	7	6	Sky blue; red eye/white center
IIg 11, 12	6	8	White; blue eye/red and white center

The first pair of beads are red chevrons with blue stripes edged in white. The last pair of beads are known as horn or tear type. Black eye, white eye and blue star/red eye are also found on Susquehanna River sites.

ROW 9

BEAD NO.	DIAMETER (in mm.)	LENGTH (in mm.)	DESCRIPTION
IIa15 1, 2	4	5	White: olive shape
" 3	7	7	White: olive shape
IIa13 4	4	3	White
" 5	5	3	White
" 6	6	3	White
IVa13 7	6	4	White
IVa14 8	4	5	White/pale blue-green center
" 9	5	5	White/pale blue-green center
" 10	6	5	White/pale blue-green center
IIa42 11, 12			
IIa57 13, 14	4, 4, 5, 4	6-9	
IIa10 15, 16	6	7-9	

The last six beads are wheat or seed beads and are sky blue, dark blue, clear, purple and the last two sky blue in color.

The first pair of beads are white "olive" beads.

ROW 10

IIa52 1, 2	4	4	Medium blue
IVb15 3, 4	3	3	White/red, white and blue stripes
IVb16 5, 6	5	3	White/red, white and blue stripes
IIb 7	4	3	Medium blue/5 red stripes
IVb 8, 9	4	4	Dark blue/5 white stripes
IIb*(n) 10	4	5	Dark blue/3 white and 3 red stripes
" 11	8	7	Dark blue/3 white and 3 red stripes
IIa40 12, 13, 14	4 & 5	8	Sky blue

The last three beads are doubles or uncut beads. They are not single specimens fused by heat.

ROW 11

IIa19 1	3	8	Dark blue straw
IIa56 2	4	3	Dark blue straw
IIa55 3	5	6	Dark blue straw
" 4	8	8	Dark blue straw
" 5	9	9	Dark blue straw
IIbb? 6, 7, 8	5 & 8	6 & 7	Medium blue/red and yellow stripes
IIIc' 9	8 (square)	37	Blue slow-twist straw/red center covered with white layer

The first bead is an early straw bead. The dark blue beads are known as "war" beads. The color yellow is unusual for beads from this area.

ROW 12

IIb18 1	9	8	Gray/white stripes
IIbb1 2, 3	8	6-9	Brick red/3 white stripes
" 4, 5	11	10	Brick red/3 white stripes

BEAD NO.	DIAMETER (in mm.)	LENGTH (in mm.)	DESCRIPTION
IIbb1 6, 7	13-14	12	Brick red/3 white stripes
IIb10 8, 9	13	13	Black/3 white stripes

The first bead is a "gooseberry" bead.

ROW 13

IIb 1	12	10	Yellow bead/black and white stripes; brick red center
IIbb7 2	10	12	Black bead/red and white stripes
IIb4 3	9	14	Oval bead/gray, blue, pink and purple spirals
III m 4	8	10	Red chevron bead/blue stripes; white center
IIb15 5, 6	8 & 9	8	Black/3 red and 3 white stripes
IIIa12 7	6	15	Dark blue straw bead/blue center
IIc3 8	12	12	Milkwhite faceted - rare
IVb*(j)9	15	16	Dark blue/16 white stripes; green center

Note the yellow color appearing again.

ROW 14

IVm4 1, 2	14	11	White outside/red and blue stripes; center of main body brick red/white star ends
III m/n.3	22	29	Rare red chevron/blue and white stripes; light green center; in row 13 is a smaller example of same type bead
III m/n.4	18	34	Sky blue body/red, white and blue outer stripes; green center
IIb15 5, 6	11	9	Black/3 broad red and 3 white stripes;

The third and fourth beads are very rare and early. Their size is remarkable.

ROW 15

Ib*(q)1	5	22	Dark blue/6 white stripes
Ia4/5 2	4	16	White straw bead
" 3	3	17	White straw bead
Ic 4	6	16	Dark blue square straw bead

These straw beads are of a very early type.