

## THE ALDERDALE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

## FINAL REPORT

A Final Report on Archaeological Site Survey and Excavation during Summer 1964 in the Alderdale Region of South-Central Washington, under the Sponsorship of the Washington State Highways Commission.

Prepared by R. S. Kidd  
Field Archaeologist

with the assistance of

David Browman  
Assistant Field Archaeologist

and

Nancy McQuinn  
Laboratory Assistant

Submitted by R. E. Greengo  
Project Director

Department of Anthropology  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

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## SHELL ARTIFACTS

Shell Bead

A single shell bead was recovered. It is round in outline and concavo-convex in section, with part of the periphery squared, part brought to a sharp edge. The perforation is relatively large and round, but not clearly biconical. Material may be river mussel shell, but more likely it is salt water clam shell. Size: L. 8; W. 7; Th. 3. Inside diameter of perforation 2. (Fig. 25 d)

## HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS

A quantity of European goods was recovered on and near the surface of site 45KL5. These included glass, particularly a green-tinted jar or bottle glass, all of which appeared fairly recent; metal, including many fragments of tin cans; leather scraps and buttons. The only artifacts that could be associated with some assurance with Indian occupation, however, were trade beads. Thousands of these beads, most of them of the "seed" variety of extremely small size, have been recovered by collectors from the surface sands of the site.

Mr. Browman's and Miss McGuinn's examination of the trade beads revealed the following information. A total of 1419 beads was recovered by the field party, all but 13 of which fall into the size category of "seed beads" (beads that do not exceed two millimeters in either length or width). A group of 541 of these beads was discovered in a cache or firepit intrusive into the upper part of the A fill unit (Fig. 25 a). Most of this group consisted of transparent, slightly blue tinted specimens. The remaining 860 beads were separated into three large size upper and small,

cylindrical beads, less than 1 mm. in length; (2) medium-sized cylindrical beads, less than 2 mm. in length; and (3) medium-sized beads, with hexagonal sides instead of the cylindrical form of the two previous categories. Sub-groups 1 and 2 comprise 5/6 of the total group. While 3/4 of the cylindrical beads in categories 1 and 2 were opaque rather than translucent, only 1/4 of the hexagonal beads (category 3) were opaque rather than translucent. Two thirds of the group as a whole were in shades of blue, green, and white, while a second major group comprising 1/4 of the total was colored pink, orange, and tan. Most of the beads recovered were probably of relatively recent varieties (Garland Grabert, personal communication). (Fig. 25 b)

Table 2  
Trade Bead Analysis

	Small Seed		Medium Seed		6-Sided Seed		All 3 Groups
	Opaque	Translucent	Opaque	Translucent	Opaque	Translucent	Color Total
Blue	32	9	118	49	1	12	221
Green	66		30	47		40	183
White	22	1	98	18		11	150
Pink	9		56				65
Red	3	1	17	7	25	10	63
Orange	4	1	28	3		19	55
Tan	6		30				36
Black	1		20		10	3	34
Yellow	1	2	9	5		2	19
Cornaline d'Alleppe		16		2			18
Colorless				4		2	6
Totals:	144	30	416	135	36	99	860
	174		551		135		

Of the 18 larger beads (Fig. 25 c) there are four major groups

(measurements in millimeters):

Group I (2) "Cut" Beads. Specimens are multi-pentagonally faceted.  
Red: Th. 4.3; Diam. 5.0. Clear: Th. 3.7; Diam. 4.4.

Group II (3) "Pound" or "Pony" Beads. Specimens are essentially spherical in form. Green: Th. 3.2; Diam. 3.9. Blue: Th. 4.3; Diam. 6.1. Blue: Th. 6.5; Diam. 8.7.

Group III (5) "Short Bugle" Beads. Specimens are of hexagonal form. Red, black, pink (3): L. 7.0; Diam. 2.0. Clear: L. 7.0; Diam. 2.0 (broken ends). White: L. 25.5; Diam. 4.0 (broken ends).

Group IV (8) Specimens are of short, cylindrical form. White: Th. 1.8; Diam. 3.5. White, orange (2): Th. 3.7; Diam.:4.5. Blue, yellow, white (5, 3 blue): Th. 4.9-5.5; Diam. 7.0.

### Discussion

At least four distinguishable cultural units may be discerned at the Alderdale site. Three of these are derived by classification and comparison of stratified materials. These are internally homogeneous units, and might be conceived on the order of components of phases (Willey and Phillips 1958: 22-5), the temporal and spatial dimensions of which, however, are insufficiently known. Provisionally, they are designated as "assemblages." A fourth unit has been tentatively formulated on the basis of materials from 45KL5 contained in the Bergen Collection. This collection may ultimately be seen to contain materials from several phases.

### The Bergen Collection

An excellent collection of specimens, primarily of chipped stone, was loaned to the University of Washington by Dr. Harald Bergen of Yakima. Many of the specimens in this collection were recovered from the river gravels, or the sands immediately overlying them, on the riverward