

KIJIK:  
AN HISTORIC TANAINA INDIAN SETTLEMENT

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(Hunt, 1959, pp. 9-10; Jones, 1962, vol. 2; Ferraro, 1964, p. 79). The only exception to these turn-of-the-century bottles is the catsup container bearing the stamped imprint of the California Packing Co. Here the seam can be clearly seen extending to the edge of the lip.

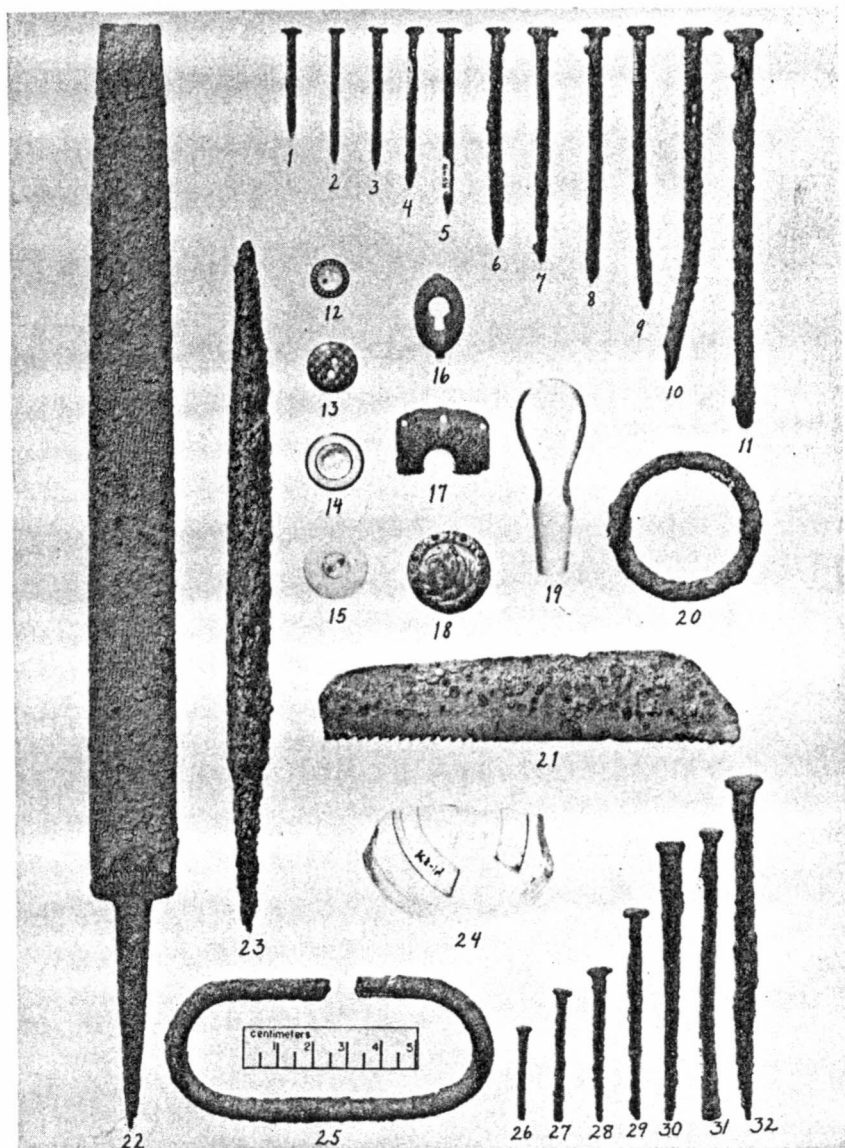
In addition to the reconstructed bottles and identifiable fragments just described, there are 99 fragments too small to be definitely associated with any particular shape or style of bottle. Among them, however, are three lip fragments of ground glass presumably from bottles similar to the so-called pharmaceutical type previously described. There are also four basal fragments from round bottles, one of which has part of a design on the bottom that includes a horseshoe with a five-pointed star in the middle (Pl. 18, 24).

A single ground glass *stopper* is for a pharmaceutical-type bottle but much smaller than the reconstructed specimen previously described (Pl. 18, 19).

*Miscellaneous glass:* In addition to buttons, window glass, and bottles, there are a small number of additional glass items represented in the collection. These include fragments of at least three large flat bottomed *drinking glasses*, a nearly complete round milk glass *jar* of the type usually associated with cosmetics, four *mirror* fragments, and a round piece of tinted glass which may be a lens from a pair of *sun glasses*. There are also numerous fragments from what appear to be the bases of at least three kerosene *lamps*. These are not chimney fragments, but rather pieces of the hollow container for the kerosene into which the wick extends. Most of the fragments are of plain, clear glass but nine, obviously from a single lamp, are a decorative combination of clear and milk glass with uneven surfaces.

Glass *trade beads* of various shapes, sizes, and colors were found in 11 structures and two test trenches at the Kijik site. They form the most numerous category of artifacts in the collection and their great variety and distinctive qualities make typological analysis possible. Unfortunately, their value as dating aids is limited and it will be possible to make only the most general statements about the chronological position of the Kijik beads.

The collection consists of 1,229 beads. For study purposes these were first separated into groups based on color alone. The colors are given as they appeared to the authors and not through comparison with a standard color chart. Variation in the basic colors listed is often considerable and some of the beads described also appear to be discolored as a result of changes caused by exposure or chemical



## PLATE 18

### *Metal and Glass Artifacts*

1-11. wire nails (p.98); 12. button (p.86); 13. button (p.87); 14. button (p.86); 15. button (p.87); 16. key-hole plate (p.99); 17. key-hole plate (?) (p.99); 18. button (p.87); 19. glass stopper (p.92); 20. iron ring (p.100); 21. saw blade (p.100); 22. file (p.100); 23. file (p.100); 24. bottle fragment (p.92); 25. iron ring (p.100); 26-32. square cut nails (p.98).

actions of the soil. It was found that there were 707 white beads, 110 blue, 62 blue faceted, 111 white-lined red, 12 brown-lined red, 19 yellow, 5 clear, 18 green, 44 red, 22 polychrome, 99 pink, and 20 black beads.

Next, the beads were separated according to shape within each color category and it was found that ten different shapes are repre-

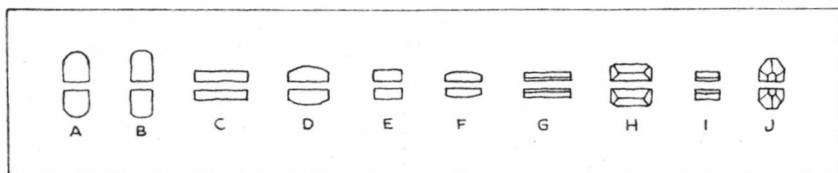


FIG. 26. Bead types according to shapes, showing cross-sections of each.

sented (fig. 26). Sizing came next and out of the total there are 299 of the "seed" form, those that are less than 2 mm. in diameter. All of these belong to the type A shape. White, blue, white-lined red, clear, red, pink, and black are the colors represented. These beads are identical with those sold in tubes in stores throughout rural Alaska today for sewing into beadwork designs on cloth or skin garments.

Of the 707 white beads, 365 belong to type A, 315 to type B, 1 to type C, 24 to type D, and 2 to type E. The color varies considerably from an extreme hard whiteness which is characteristic of more than half the 121 seed beads to a grayish white which is typical of this color category as a whole. A large number of those beads belonging to the type A and B shapes exhibit a variation between exterior and interior color. Both are opaque, but the interior is whiter than the exterior. Of particular interest in this color category are the opaque ovoid beads which are similar in shape to an olive pit (type D); these have a "stony" surface texture. Fifteen of the 25 beads of this type are fragmentary suggesting that this variety was especially liable to breakage in handling. They are much larger than any of the other white beads, averaging 3 to 5 mm. in diameter at either end and 15 to 18 mm. in length. Another interesting form is the single specimen belonging to type C which is really a bead separator rather than a bead; it is 13 mm. in length.

Blue beads are represented in four shapes: 90 of type A, including 67 of the seed category, 12 of type B, 5 belonging to type E, and 3 to type F. Here again the color range is great, from very light blue to a deep marine blue, and there are several beads that are almost green.

This is particularly true of the three specimens belonging to type F. Beads in the seed category are mainly very light, while those belonging to the type E shape are of such deep color as to appear almost black until closely examined.

The blue faceted beads were considered distinctive enough to be placed in a separate category. They are the only examples in the collection where a color is so closely associated with a particular shape. Yet even here there is some color variety, with a range from a light to an extremely deep, marine blue. Two shapes are represented: type H with 55 specimens and type I with seven. The type H beads exhibit considerable variation in size ranging in length from 5 to 11 mm. with corresponding diameters. Most of them appear to have been cut from hexagonal canes and the facets created by rubbing each small section against some abrasive object thus creating a number of irregular facets over the entire surface. The beads belonging to the type I shape are uniformly of a rich, dark color and are hexagonal. None are more than 5 mm. in length and they doubtless indicate what the type H specimens looked like before being faceted.

The white-lined red beads are the most uniform of the various color categories. All the specimens have a bright, semi-translucent red exterior and an opaque white core. There are 95 belonging to type A, including 13 of the seed form, 11 to type B, 2 to type D, and 3 to type E. The two type D beads are distinctive because they have extremely thick white interiors with a very thin covering of red glass on the exterior. They are similar in size to the type D white beads. This white-lined red form is a variety of the famous Cornaline d'Aleppo bead, the significance of which will be discussed presently.

Another form of Cornaline d'Aleppo bead has a dull, reddish brown exterior and a translucent dark green or dark brown interior. In some cases this interior core is so dark as to appear black. There are only 12 of these beads in the Kijik collection, five belonging to the type A shape and seven to type B. They are uniformly small but slightly larger than the seed category.

The yellow beads are clearly divided on the basis of color. The six specimens which belong to type A and the three belonging to type B are opaque and light yellow. The five of type H and a similar number belonging to type J are translucent and more of an amber color. The type J specimens are particularly interesting. They are characterized by extremely steep facets which have resulted in a pronounced ridge running around each bead at right angles to the thread-hole.

The five colorless beads include one of the seed form. Three belong to type A and two to type B.

Eighteen green beads all belong to type A and exhibit considerable color variation. All except one are opaque; some are a very bright, yellowish green while others are much darker. The single translucent specimen is the deepest shade of all.

Of the 44 red beads, 23, including one seed bead, belong to type A, eight to type B, 10 to type E, and three to type F. Many of the smaller beads belonging to type A are wine colored and translucent. Those belonging to type B are, for the most part, of a dull, reddish brown color and opaque. The larger beads in this color category appear to have been affected by soil conditions or exposure because their surfaces are badly corroded. Those specimens belonging to type E are the darkest but are nevertheless clearly translucent.

Although only 16 polychrome beads occur in the Kijik collection, there are a number of different designs and a great many color combinations. The most common design is a basic color of black, white, or blue with a series of parallel lines of a different color running around the beads parallel to the stringing hole. Frequently too, the beads exhibit three color layers; a white or blue core, a thin red layer, and an outer layer. The horizontal stripes on the exterior are often edged in white if they are dark, or dark red if they are a light color such as yellow. All are opaque. There are no seed beads in this color category and ten belong to type A while six are the type B shape.

The pink beads exhibit remarkable uniformity of color and shape. All are a very light pink and all belong to type A. Another noteworthy factor concerning this color category is that all except four specimens belong to the seed category.

Opaque, shiny black beads are uniform in color but show a variety of shapes. Eight, including two seed beads, belong to type A, three to type B, and three to type E. In addition there are six hexagonal bead separators designated as being of the type G shape.

The only type of bead in the Kijik collection that has any diagnostic value at all is the form known as *Cornaline d'Aleppo* which derives its name from the fact that it was associated in the Italian export business with the city of Aleppo in Syria. This type of bead was widely distributed among Indians of North America in the first half of the nineteenth century (Orchard, 1929, p. 87; Woodward, 1965, pp. 19-20). The dark brown-lined red *Cornaline d'Aleppo* beads occur chronologically earlier than those with white cores but

it seems clear that both forms were introduced into Alaska after extensive use elsewhere. Unfortunately, the exact time of introduction cannot, at present, be determined.

The large, deep marine blue faceted beads are of some interest in the present context because they are frequently referred to as "Russian" beads and are thought to have been widely circulated by the Russian-American Company. It is unlikely that these beads were manufactured in Russia since "original packages . . . , wrapped in grey course paper, were found unopened in the warehouse of the Russian American Fur (sic) Company at Sitka in 1867, marked 'Brussels' " (Woodward, 1965, p. 9). Nevertheless, these beads seem to have been particularly common in southern Alaska and British Columbia and as far south as Washington and Oregon. Along the Columbia River, such beads are thought to be the oldest of any in the area because they are found in sites which represent a transition from the prehistoric to the historic period (Strong, 1965, pp. 33-34). It may very well be that they are also the oldest beads at Kijik but there is no way of telling for certain whether they belong exclusively to the Russian period.

Little can be said of the rest of the beads in the collection. They presumably represent a nineteenth century assemblage of European and Syrian made trade beads which, like the Cornaline d'Aleppo, were used extensively in the Plains and in other parts of North America prior to being introduced into Alaska where, for some uses, they have persisted down to the present day.

### *Metal*

Objects of metal form the largest and most important category of imported goods from the Kijik site. Their abundance demonstrates graphically the extent to which the Tanaina Indians had access to European manufactures. Because of the numbers and variety of imported metal artifacts, it seems advisable to describe them under the following headings: building hardware, tools and implements, household articles, firearms and ammunition, personal possessions, subsistence, and unidentified.

#### Building Hardware

*Nails.*—A total of 291 nails were recovered from the Kijik site most of them heavily rusted and corroded. Of this number, 109 could be identified as square cut nails, while 141 were wire nails, the common variety in use at the present time. Forty-one specimens were