

THE STONE QUARRY SITE (MSV 4-2)
 A Mid-seventeenth Century Oneida Iroquois Station in
 Central New York
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 Bulletin Volume 21 No. 2
 August 1984_b

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The story we appear to piece together at this late date is that anyone who had knowledge of the burials from the site, and did then investigate what remained, found that almost all of the burials had been previously disturbed. The bones were mixed up and not in the proper position, many bones were broken and yet many artifacts had been left in the grave fill. The few burials that were excavated in the past and found to be undisturbed were, in two instances, supposed to have yielded large silver shoe buckles and silver crosses. It has been argued that the burials may have been dug for the articles of silver only. It would seem that articles like these would not have been present until, at least, the coming of the missions. Member Gilbert Hagerty, reminded me, the writer, that items of silver were not trade items until after 1700, but many silver items could have been stolen by the Iroquois as well as brought back as loot from raiding parties during the mid-seventeenth century. We do note some items of silver as coming from the site; one which was reported in the Chenango Chapter Bulletin, Vol. 6 No.1, 1964, that article being a silver needle and we know of two other items, one a small knife with a silver ornament at the pivot point and a silver button on a chain.

Through the courtesy of member, Gilbert Hagerty, we do have some information on two of these burial areas. He was, fortunately, made aware of their presence and was able to make these on the spot notes of these past activities.

Burial, Locus # 1.

As I have already mentioned, this was the largest burial locus noted. During 1962, four burials were found in this area largely by the use of a metal detector.

#1 Grave shaft 20' in depth-38" in length and 21" in width.

A brass kettle was found at 12"- some flecks of charcoal were present. - A bell (looks to be silver) in the fill over the kettle- a couple of glass beads found (red cane bead and a yellow bead with red stripes) -the skull was present.

#2-Charred corn found over the skull- 15" from the surface. No other bones were present. An iron axe and large brass kettle were found at the area where the feet would have been. A cluster of blue cane beads about 10" from the skull and wampum beads underneath and around the skull. Appeared to have been an infant.

#3-Grave shaft was 5' in length. 21" in depth and 27' in width. Sterile burial found in flexed position, A number of large stones were found covering the burial. No skull was present, the bones were firmly embedded into the grave floor with no evidence of being disturbed. One tooth was found at the upper end of the vertebrae probably could be indicating that the skull had been there a considerable length of time before it lost this tooth.

All of the above burials had been disturbed in the past. A latten spoon (Plate 5) was found in one brass kettle. Beads were scattered in all the burials. The dirt in the kettles had not been examined by earlier excavators. The shell wampum were of the usual type, but a few examples have been found which have a flange on them; this similar to two examples that have recently been found on the Marshall site.

Burial locus # 3.

During the same year 8 burials were found near the center of the plowed field just north and slightly east of the site itself:

- #1- This was an extended burial at a depth of 27"-running from north to south with the skull being at the southern end of the grave. Lumps and flecks of charcoal were found throughout the grave fill. A brass kettle was found resting directly over the legs. Some evidence of fire prior to the burial itself. Other artifacts found: 2 large perforated elk teeth, 42 shell wampum (all white except for 2 purple), 22 black beads with a white layer surrounding the core, 5 opaque red round beads, 7 red cane beads and a brass thimble.
- #2- Two flexed individuals and these both appeared to be adults. Grave shaft measured 68" in length 40" in width and 27" in depth. Charcoal noted at all levels throughout the burial. The leg bones of both individuals were folded back so very tightly that a bundle burial would not have been out of the question. A quantity of badly disintergrated wampum was found in the area of the neck of one individual. Blue cane beads were present. The bottom of a brass kettle was over the leg bones with a fragment of a wooden ladle present, no doubt preserved by the brass. This burial was evidently nondisturbed.
- #3 Only the location was noted.
- #4- The grave shaft measured approximately 60" in length, 35" in width and 24" deep. This was found by chance when checking subsoil depth and only a few bone splinters and a few teeth plus one finger bone were noted. In artifacts there were one Jesuit button, some small white shell wampum and one blue cane bead noted.
- #5,6,7 These were but discolorations in the soil with a few pieces of bone remaining. No doubt this was the base of the grave in each case. A pot near the surface had been run over by a tractor or some heavy piece of machinery and flattened.
- #8- The grave shaft measured approximately 15" by 24" indicating another flexed burial. The skull was noted 9" below the surface and the bottom of the grave measured 14" from the surface. Charcoal was again scattered throughout the grave, very few vertebrae were present, no foot bones and only a few bones from the hand were noted. No rib bones remained. Two bear jaws near and slightly beneath the skull may have been the remains of a robe or headpiece buried with this individual.

the triple layer screen (hardware cloth of 1/2", 1/4", and 1/8") we obtained a large sample of wampum. Most of these shell beads have a straight hole drilled through them from end to end. I am sure the Iroquois also made a very few wampum the old fashioned way but the greater percentage was European made for trade with the Indians. Our sample contained the following colors: 1071 white, 91 black, 163 purple, 4 grey, 1 grey wampum with two sides ground flat, and one white wampum with four sides ground flat. We also did recover 24 shell disks of varying sizes.

Of the 1630-1650 period, Charles Wray noted, " Shell was the reigning style of the day, even overcoming glass beads in quantity." (Wray, 1953, p.57).

We have often heard the story of Herbert Bigford, an early collector, recovering and selling some 25000 wampum beads during the early days. As we arrive on the scene rather late, it is easy to imagine the quantities of wampum that must have existed originally, just by our small sample alone. The period of shell pendants that resembled flying geese, so familiar on the Sullivan (Moot) site of the 1660's and 1670's is not as yet present in our sample or in any collections from the Quarry site that we know of.

" Their money consists of certain little bones made of shells or cockles, which are found on the seaboard , wampum beads, and they are strung upon thread, or they make belts of them as wide as a hand or broader, and hang them on their necks or around their bodies. They have, also, several holes in their ears where they likewise hang some. " (NNN:176)(Grassman, 1969, pp. 91,92).

Glass Trade Beads

Only the glass beads found during our excavations have been typed and counted with the following exceptions: There was a small string in the late Fred Chesebro collection which we acquired a few years ago. The information on the following numbers on the following charts came from the notes and photographs supplied by Gilbert Hagerty. These are numbered # 65, #66, #67. There were surely many more beads in collections; we did not feel that these beads would add enough to the described types beginning on page 27 to pay for the effort involved in searching them out.(See also Plate 19).

Additional Comments

The Indian name for the Quarry site may have been Ononjote.

" The Jesuit records for 1644 relate that ' one of the two captives escaped on the journey to the Huron country. He belonged to Ononjote, an Oneida village whose inhabitants were angered to the highest degree against the Hurons because the latter in a battle wiped out all the men of that village, which compelled it to appeal to the Mohawk for men to marry the girls and women who were left without husbands so as to prevent the Oneidas from becoming extinct. This is why the Mohawks called the Oneidas their child.' " (Hagerty, 1975, p.1)

No.	DESCRIPTION	Size	Kidd No.	No. found	g
1	Brite Navy opaque cane bead with a brite navy opaque core with a thin layer of opaque white surrounding the core.	S	111a12	1	
2	Black opaque cane bead with 3 white opaque stripes.	S	1b4	1	
3	Grey opaque cane bead with 4 red stripes.	M	-	1	
4	Dark Blue opaque cane bead with 2 white opaque stripes.	S	-	1	
5	Black opaque cane bead with 3 red stripes alternating with 3 white opaque stripes.	S	1b5	1	
6	Red opaque cane bead with an apple green translucent core- tumbled.	S	111a3	12	1.9
7	Red opaque cane bead with a dark to black core - tumbled.	S	111a1 111a2	30	4.9
8	Red cane bead opaque with a dark to black core - untumbled.	S	111a1 111a2	26	4.2
9	Red opaque cane bead - no core-untumbled.	S	1a1	30	4.9
10	Red opaque cane bead with a black opaque center with 3 white opaque stripes centered on each white stripe	S	111bb1	1	
11	Red opaque cane bead - no core-untum.	S			
11B	Red opaque cane bead - black core - untumbled.		*	23	
12	Red opaque cane bead with a lt. grey translucent core.	S	111a2	7	
13	Dark Blue opaque cane bead with what appears to be silver lines running the length of the bead - untumbled.	S	-	9	
14	Brite Navy opaque cane bead - untumb.	S	1a19	175	28.8
15	Red opaque cane bead with a black opaque center with 3 white opaque stripes with 3 brite navy stripes centered on each white stripe.	S	111bb2	1	
16	Red opaque twisted cane bead-loose twist	S	1c'1	31	

No.	Description	Size	Kidd No.	No. found	%
17	Black opaque cane bead with what looks like silver lines running the length of the bead.	S	1a2	14	
18	Black opaque cane bead - untumbled.	S	1a2	1	
19	Surf-Green opaque cane bead-untumbled.	S	1a10	1	
20.	Shadow Blue opaque cane bead -untumb.	S	1a16	6	
21.	Oyster White opaque cane bead with 3 red & dark palm green alternating stripes.	M	like 1b9	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
22.	Oyster White opaque cane bead with 3 ultramarine & red alternating stripes.	M	like 1b7	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
23.	Black opaque cane bead - untumbled- with 3 red opaque stripes.	E	1b3	5	
24	Black opaque cane bead - tumbled.	S	1a2	47	7.7
25.	Orange opaque seed bead	Seed	-	2	
26.	Dark Palm Green translucent seed bead	Seed	11a28	2	
27.	Emerald Green translucent seed bead	Seed	11a27	11	
28.	Brite Navy translucent seed bead with 6 white opaque stripes with a brite navy core with a white layer surrounding the core.	Seed	1vb31	3	
29.	Violet opaque cane bead with 3 red & 3 black opaque alternating stripes	M	-	1	
30.	Medium Blue opaque seed bead with a dark blue core.	Seed	-	3	
31.	Shadow Blue opaque seed bead.	Seed	11a47	1	
32.	Dark Blue translucent bead with 6 white opaque stripes	S	-	1	
33.	White opaque oval bead.	M	11a15	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
34.	Red opaque seed bead with black center	Seed	1va1	3	
35.	Red opaque seed bead with lt. grey center.	Seed	1va2	2	
36.	Gold translucent round "melon " type bead- with 5 ridges on the bead.	S	-	1	

No.	Description	Size	Kidd No.	No. found	%
37.	Clear translucent round "melon" type bead with 8 ridges on the bead.	M	-	1	
38.	Shadow Blue opaque oval bead with 3 white stripes with 3 red stars on 3 white dots spaced between the stripes.	M	11h1	1	
39.	Gold "Corn" bead.	M	w11a1	1	
40.	Marbled effect oval bead with numerous irregular stripes- lt. gold, red, ultra-marine and opaque blue.	M	11b'4	1	
41.	Dark Navy opaque bead with 12 white stripes - dark navy opaque core with a thin white layer of glass surrounding the core.	XL	1vb36	1	
42.	Lt. Aqua Blue opaque bead with 3 lemon-yellow opaque stripes with a lt. aqua blue core with a white middle surrounding the blue core.	XL	like 1vb22	Frag.	
43.	Grey opaque oval bead- hollow on the inside- almost as if silver lines are running the length of the bead.	S	-	2	
44.	Dark Blue translucent faceted (9) bead	S	-	1	
45.	White opaque bead "melon" type with 5 ridges on the bead.	S	-	1	
46.	Dark Shadow Blue opaque bead with 8 red opaque stripes.	S	like 11b62	4	
47.	Amber (Yellow) translucent bead.	S	11a19 11a18	23 11) 5.6
48.	Red opaque bead-round.	M	11a1	1	
49.	Robin's Egg Blue opaque bead.	M	11a40	5	
50.	Robin's Egg Blue opaque bead with 3 white opaque stripes.	M	11b56	1	
51.	Black opaque round bead.	M	11a6	1	
52.	White opaque seed bead with a trans. lt. aqua blue core with 3 brite navy & 3 red opaque alternating stripes.	Seed	1vb16	14	
53.	White opaque bead with 6 alternating brite navy opaque & red stripes- red core with star like white opaque layer surrounding the red core.	XL	1vnn4	2	

No.	Description	Size	Kidd No.	No. found	%
54.	Grey opaque bead with 8 red opaque stripes.	M	-	1	
55.	Mustard Tan opaque round bead with 8 red opaque stripes.	M	11b46	1 ¹ / ₄	
	Mustard Tan opaque oval bead with 8 red opaque stripes.	M	11b49	1	
56.	White opaque seed bead with a clear translucent center.	Seed	1va13	52	8.5
57.	Dark Rose Brown translucent seed bead (these beads have 3 small flattened spots on the side of each bead).	Seed	11a61	3	
58.	Black opaque seed bead (round & cir.)	Seed	11a6 11a7	19	3.1
59.	Ultramarine translucent seed bead	Seed	11a52	11	
60.	Brite Navy translucent seed bead.	Seed	11a55	2	
61.	Robin's Egg Blue opaque seed bead.	Seed	11a41	5	
62.	Lt. Gold opaque cane bead with 3 dark palm green & red alternating opaque stripes.	S	1b15	2	
63.	Lt. Gold opaque cane bead.	S	1a7	1	
64.	Lt. Gold opaque cane bead with 3 red opaque stripes.	S	-	1	
65.	Shadow Blue opaque bead with 3 white opaque stripes.	L	-	1	
66.	Red opaque bead with 8 white opaque stripes--red opaque core with a white opaque line surrounding the red core.	XL	1vnn1	1	
67.	White opaque bead with 3 dark palm green stripes alternating with 3 brite navy stripes.	M	11b41	1	
68.	White opaque cane bead -untumbled.	S	1a5	1	
				506	

" This would strongly suggest that at this time there could be but one Oneida village. Just what year the near extermination of the Oneida Village by the Hurons took place is not clear, but it could not have been much before 1644, only ten years after the Van Den Bogaert visit. " (Hagerty, 1975, p. 1)

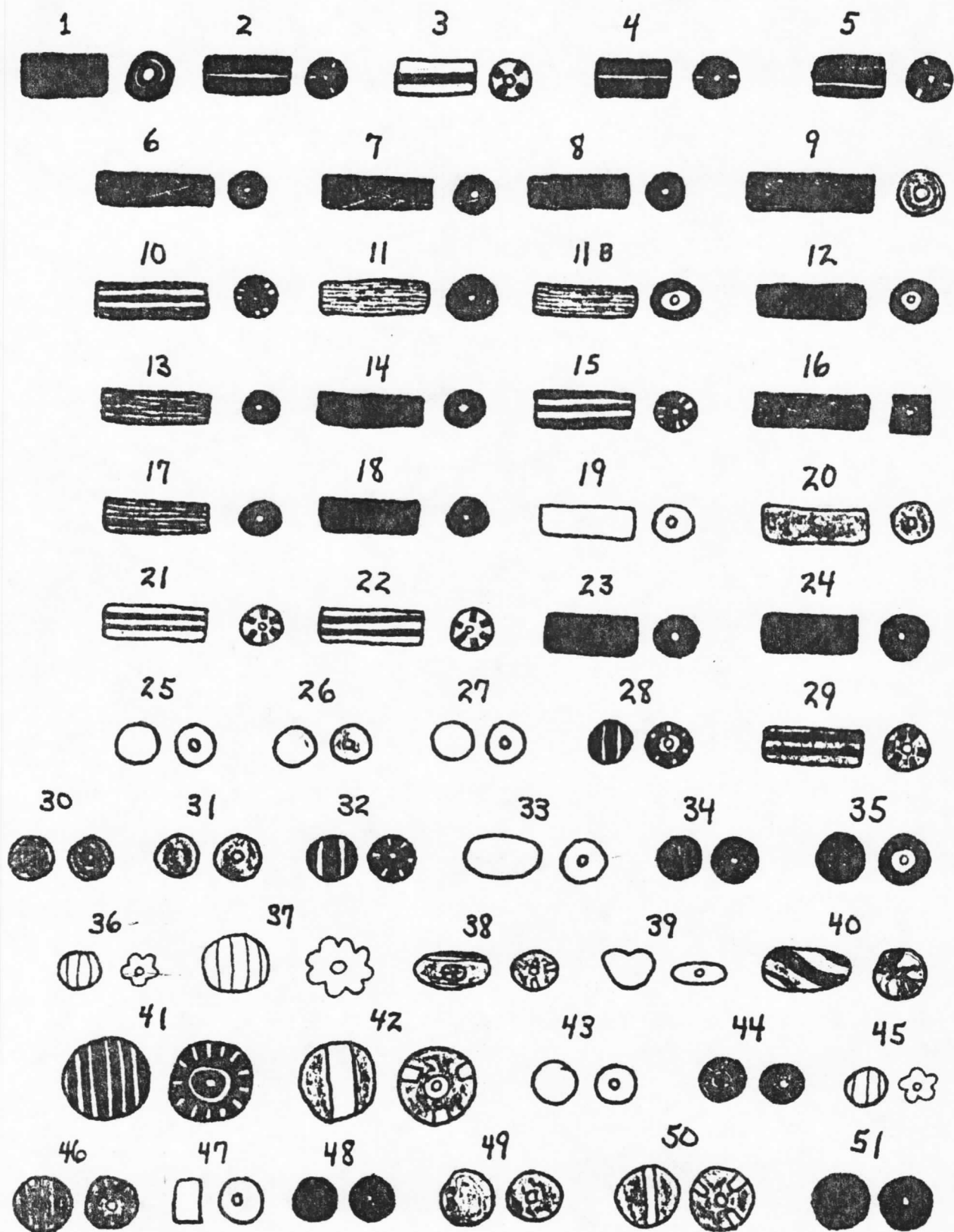
Although our excavations have not exposed any complete long-house structure, to date, our Wednesday afternoon group did expose a house pattern on the Dungey Site, thought to be the next site in the sequence. It measured 36 feet in length and 19½ feet in width. This is quite a bit smaller than some of the earlier examples in Oneida country and we suspect that the house structures were getting smaller as time progressed. .

Dr. William Engelbrecht also made somewhat the same conclusion: " Decreasing attribute association (ceramics) through time suggest there was a decrease in the frequency of matrilineal residence through time. If we assume that Iroquois longhouses were matrilineal units, then on the basis of this trend we would predict that Iroquois longhouses decreased in size through time. There is some evidence to support this. All of the largest Iroquois longhouses excavated are pre-contact. By the mid seventeenth century, historic accounts will suggest relatively small structures on Iroquois sites." (Engelbrecht, 1972, p.4)

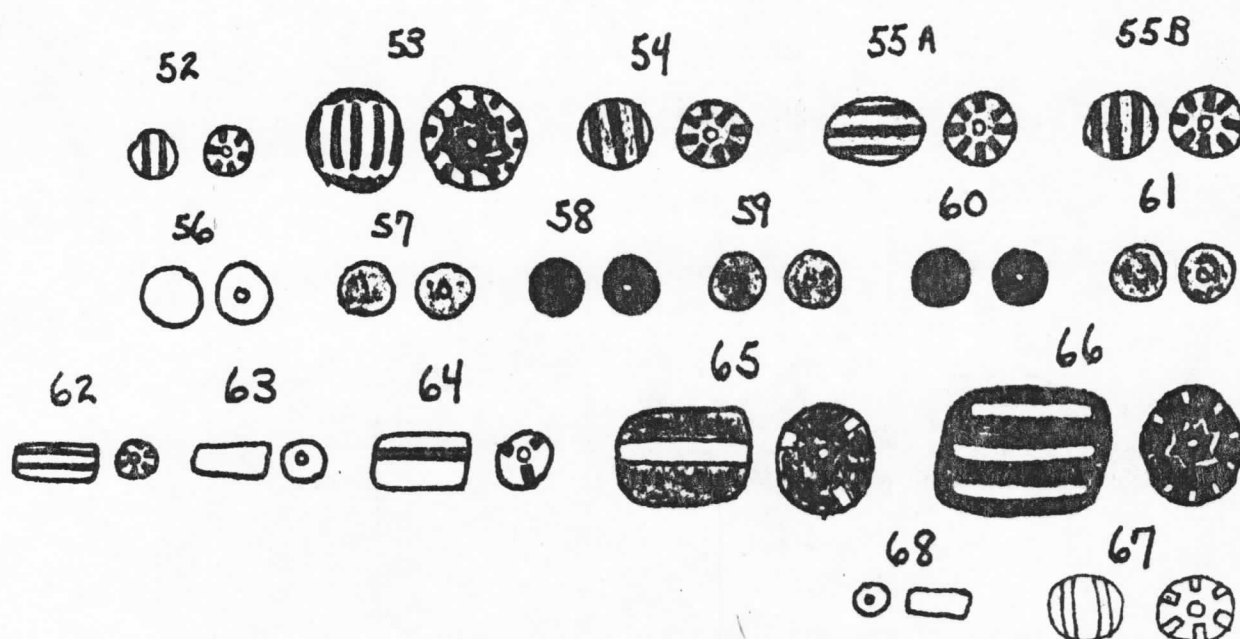
Observations

- (1) A few "Jesuit" finger rings appear; varieties of the IHS and L.V.
- (2) As bead styles changed again, the era of the blue and red tubular glass trade bead was at its peak, predominantly untumbled. Some large round polychrome varieties were present but in small numbers.
- (3) Firearms appear for the first time in Oneida country in goodly numbers.
- (4) There was an increase in the number of clay ball pipes; fleur-de-lis heel mark present, with a bore diameter date of 1649.
- (5) Brass projectile points, many being perforated, are becoming quite common, while the flint point is fast disappearing.
- (6) Of the known burial situations, most were disturbed with some being flexed and some extended.
- (7) A large and sudden increase was evident in the amount of the shell wampum present.
- (8) Native made circular gun flints were present in quantity with no European gun flints found , to date.
- (9) Native tools, especially of bone, have now been replaced by the European examples.
- (10) Pottery is still present, especially in the burials, but it is now in sharp decline. The brass kettle has been accepted as a much better cooking utensil.

Glass Trade Bead Types Found



Glass Trade Bead Type Found



Glass Trade Beads

"The glass trade beads that we have found to date show a dramatic change to the tubular drawn bead. Three-quarters of the sample consist of the following bead varieties: tubular opaque and translucent dark blue (1a*); Tubular opaque red (1a1 & 11a1); tubular opaque black (1a2); in various sizes, with both rounded and unaltered ends. The remainder of the sample are round seed beads of blue and white and an occasional large drawn bead of the earlier polychrome example. One other glass bead appearing fairly regularly is the round to oval blue variety with 5 to 8 red opaque stripes (11b61). Member Allen Owen has also noted that the short tubular yellow (1a7) bead appears quite often." (Bennett, 1982) The writer would like to amend the above statement given at the Glass Trade Bead Conference in Rochester in 1982. Excavations were not complete at that time, and since then, we have had the opportunity to study the beads from this site very closely. Approximately 60 percent of the sample that we excavated consisted of the blue, red, and black varieties of tubular drawn types. and the short tubular yellow bead makes its appearance but is not common. A larger sample from viewing older collections would push the percentage of blue, red, and black tubular varieties much closer to the 75 % of the entire sample. These tubular varieties are without question, the dominant bead varieties for the period of the site.

Although not glass, we did recover 48 bone round beads, resembling what most historic archeologists consider to be rosary beads of the period.