

PETUN AREA GLASS BEADS IN 1982

234 glass beads, in 62 types, are known from 17 Petun area archaeological sites. The beads are listed in Appendix "I" listed by type numbers as established in the Kidd and Kidd bead classification system. A number of the beads do not comply totally with the specifications.

Fourteen of the mentioned seventeen sites are presently interpreted as the remains of major Petun villages. Three other major villages have produced excavated artifact samples devoid of glass beads.

Petun glass beads have been previously described by Blair, Bell, Quimby, Kenyon, Garrad and Mason.

In his account of the salvage of four endowed historic graves on the Long BcHb-9 Site in 1952, Jay Blair described tubular, round, red beads occurring on this site and the nearby McEwen BcHb-17 Site. Within the four glass bead typology systems devised for Ontario, this type of bead is variously referred to as Type 1 (Quimby), Type 32 (Kenyon), Type 1C (Motykova) and Type 1a1 (Kidd and Kidd). Other typology systems are known, originating in the U.S.A. and elsewhere. These have been discussed by Kenyon <sup>Mason and Mason,</sup> and Motykova, and partially listed by Kidd and Kidd. These have not been found applicable to the Petun work.

W. D. Bell's 1953 report on the MacMurphy BcHb-26 Site includes mention of "... two glass beads ... one from the excavated sample, the other is in the MacMurphy family collection. Both of these are cylindrical, one half by three-sixteenths inches, of white glass." Neither of these beads have survived for further study and confirmation.

In 1966, George I. Quimby published the results of his study of

Huron and Petun glass beads in the Royal Ontario Museum (R.O.M.), but gave no site-by-site breakdown, nor a usable chronology. In 1974 the writer ascertained that four Petun sites are represented by glass beads in the R.O.M. collections:-

Haney-Cook BcHb-27 Site (donated by Mrs. Robert Adams);

Kelly - Campbell BcHb-10 Site (donated by Jay Blair);

McEwen BcHb-17 Site (donated by Jay Blair);

McLean BcHb-12 Ossuary or Glebe BcHb-1 Site (W. A. Campbell Collection, donated at the suggestion of Jay Blair).

In 1969, Ian T. Kenyon included details of 86 Petun area glass beads from seven Petun area sites in his bead study, establishing both a typology and chronology which has well stood the test of time, a remarkable achievement for an undergraduate term paper. Kenyon's approach was to cluster beads which were dissimilar in appearance but demonstrably contemporary with each other, being found together on securely dated sites such as Sainte Marie I. By contrast, the typology systems advocated by Kidd and Kidd, Motykova and Quimby relate beads by similarity of appearance. Only Kenyon's work proved adequate to establish a tentative chronology for Petun glass beads.

In 1970, "A Classification System for Glass Beads for the Use of Field Archaeologists" was published by Kidd and Kidd, offering the most detailed available typology and nomenclature, although not attempting chronology. This work prompted a further study of Petun glass beads with the hope that sufficiently large samples might be assembled to allow meaningful Coefficients of Site Similarity to be calculated. This work climaxed in 1978 with the production of a detailed list of 213 beads in 60 types from 15 Petun area sites, and

the conclusion that samples remained largely inadequate to be reliably meaningful.

The circa 1652 a.d. post-Dispersal Petun/Ottawa stratum of the Rock Island II site in Wisconsin has been identified. The glass beads found therein, presumably brought from Ontario, bear a reasonably satisfactory degree of correspondence with those reported from late-pre-Dispersal Ontario Petun sites.

The further study of Petun glass beads, as samples enlarge, promises to offer both absolute and relative dating of Petun sites. Given a date of circa 1610 a.d. for the first arrival of glass beads, and a Dispersal date of 1650 a.d., then the seventeen sites listed in the Appendix as having glass beads must date to this forty-year period. Conversely, the three sites listed as not having produced glass beads are interpreted as being of pre-1610 a.d. vintage. Kenyon's 1969 study assigned Melville BcHa-7, Glebe BcHb-1 and MacMurchy BcHb-26 Sites to his "Period 2" (circa 1610-1618 a.d.), and the Long BcHb-9, Kelly-Campbell BcHb-10, Plater-Martin BdHb-1 and Plater-Fleming BdHb-2 Sites to "Period 4" (circa 1630-1645 a.d.). With but a single exception, this complies with current interpretation. That there is an exception indicates that other factors exist to be considered in establishing chronology and dating from glass beads. Dr. George Hamell has suggested that certain beads may have been viewed as "other world" power objects, their acceptance favoured by pre-existing socio-religious beliefs of which white traders and even native middle men of other tribes may have been totally unaware. This might result in the selective removal of certain beads from wares destined for onward transmission by middlemen. It is noted that late Huron and Petun sites suggest a liking for red glass beads seemingly not shared by the Neutral. This may be evidence for cultural preference, or

alternatively, that the Neutrals found red beads equally attractive, but were under-supplied with them by the Petun and Huron middlemen who believed their possession for themselves to outweigh trade benefit. Further, beads consigned to graves to accompany the dead on the journey to the afterlife might well differ from those customarily worn by the living for adornment, because of inherent associated symbolism. Dr. Hamell's work, while principally directed to New York State, promises to benefit interpretation and understanding of the distribution of glass beads in the Petun area.

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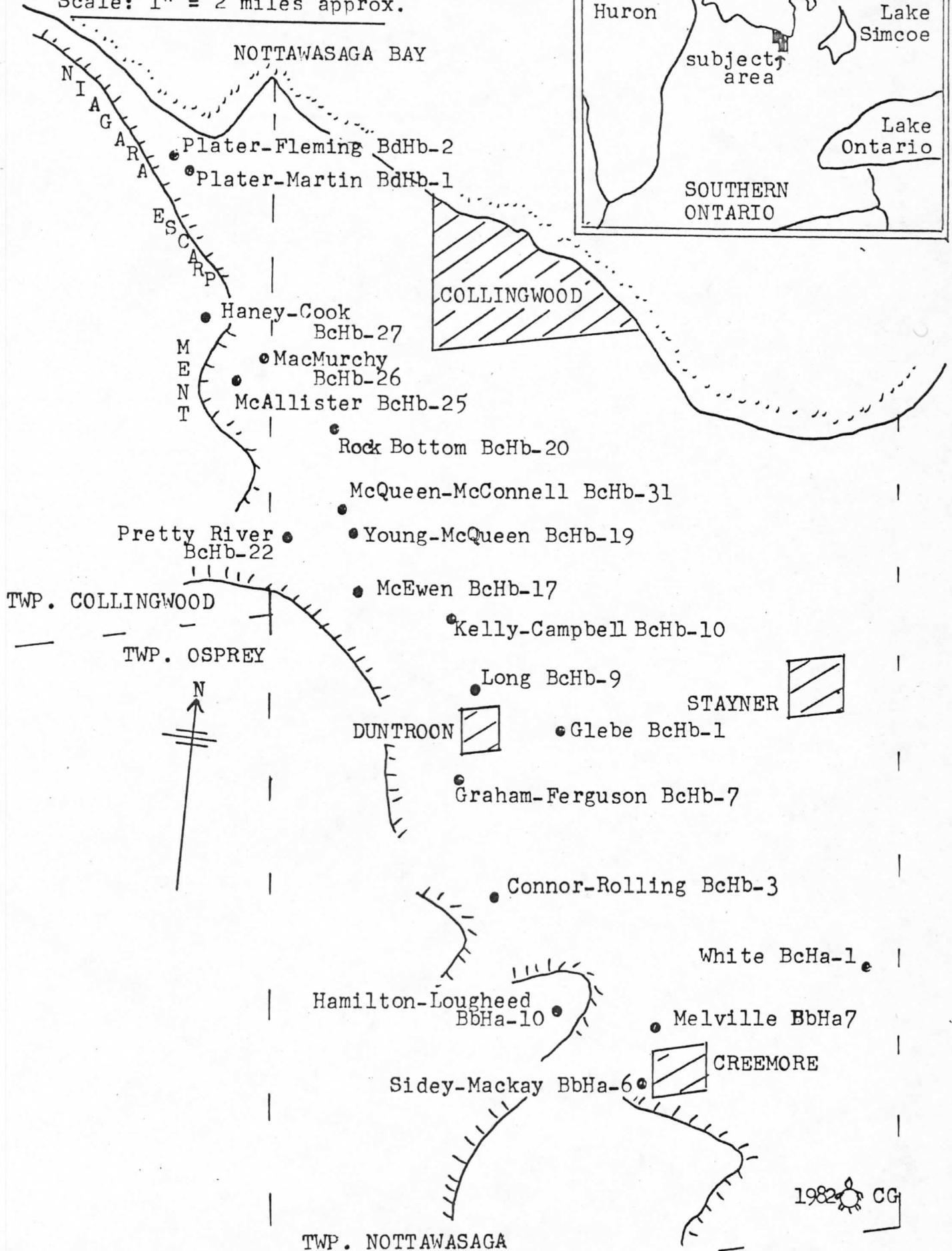
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MAP: Location of sites mentioned in the text.

Scale: 1" = 2 miles approx.





## APPENDIX "I" - GLASS BEADS

SEVENTEEN MAJOR VILLAGESWhite BcHa-1 Site

none

Sidey-Mackay BbHa-6 Site

none

Melville BbHa-7 Site (45 beads in 13 types)

Ia4	8	(type designation and number found)
Ia5	2	
Ia19	2	
IIa0	3	
IIa10	1	
IIa15	14	
IIa49	4	
IIa57	5	
IIbb2	1	
IIg4	1	
IIIbb2	1	
IIIml	2	
IVg1	1	

Hamilton-Lougheed BbHa-10 Site (18 beads in 15 types)

Ia1	1
Ia11	1
Ia20	2
IIa33	1
IIa36	1
IIa50	1
IIa55	1
IIa57	1



IIbb1	1
IIbb2	2
IIg0	1
IIIa12	2
IIIk3	1
IIIml	1
IVb36	1

Connor-Rolling BcHb-3 Site (13 beads in 8 types)

Ia12	1
Ibb1	1
IIa33	4
IIa39	2
IIbb1	1
IIbb2	2
IIIc1	1
IIIk3	1

Graham-Ferguson BcHb-7 Site (6 beads in 4 types)

Ia5	1
IIa15	2
IIa54	2
IIIbb3	1

Glebe BcHb-1 Site (9 beads in 3 types)

Ia4	6
Ia12	2
IIIbb3	1

Kelly-Campbell BcHb-10 Site (53 beads in 31 types)

Ia1	8
Ia9	1
Ia12	1

Ia13	1
Ia19	1
Ia20	1
Ib8	1
Ib20	1
Ic1	1
Ic'1	1
Id1	1
IIa1	1
IIa13	1
IIa33	2
IIa39	2
IIa43	1
IIa46	1
IIa55	4
IIb2	1
IIb56	1
IIbb2	2
IIIbb1	2
IIIc0	1
IIIc1	1
IIIc'3	1
IIIk1	1
IIIk3	4
IIIml	6
IVa2	1
IVa6	1
IVg1	1

Young-McQueen BcHb-19 Site

none

McQueen-McConnell BcHb-31 Site (4 beads in 4 types)

Ia19 1

Ibb1 1

IIIc0 1

IIIk3 1

Pretty River BcHb-22 Site (3 beads in 3 types)

IIa1 1

IIa46 1

IVk4 1

Rock Bottom BcHb-20 Site (1 bead in 1 type):

IIa39 1

McAllister BcHb-25 Site (1 bead in 1 type)

Ia4 1

MacMurchy BcHb-26 Site (2 beads in 1 type)

Ia4 2

Haney-Cook BcHb-27 Site (33 beads in 18 types)

Ib8 1

IIa2 1

IIa55 1

IIa57 3

IIa59 2

IIbb1 2

IIbb2 1

IIbb3 1

IIIa10 1

IIIa12 3

IIIb7	1
IIIb9	2
IIIbb3	8
IIIk1	1
IIIml	2
IIIIn0	1
IVk3	1
IVk4	1

Ont.

IIIb

Plater-Martin BdHb-1 Site (23 beads in 10 types)

- Ia1	12
Ib8	1
Ic1	2
- Ic'1	2
- IIa2	1
? IIa39	1
IIg5	1
- II Ia57	1
IIIc0	1
IVa1	1

IIIb

Plater-Fleming BdHb-2 Site (10 beads in 3 types)

- Ia1	5
- IIa1	3
? IIa39	2

TWO OTHER SITES

IIIb? Long BcHb-9 Site (7 beads in 1 type)

Ia1	7
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IIIb? McEwen BcHb-17 Site (6 beads in 3 types)

Ia1	4
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IIIbb3 1

IIIml 1

Total: 234 beads in 62 types from 17 sites

NOTE: A number of the beads do not correspond exactly with the type specifications. Where the deviation is minor, the bead has been lumped with the closest given type. This is felt justified because of the variances possible in hand-made products produced in batches. In more extreme cases, usually when the bead colour is not provided for, or, due to the poor sample condition, cannot be determined, the number "0" is given for the colour number.

It should also be mentioned that some of the beads were modified by the Petun to enhance the display of red. Flush eyes and white/blue stripes were ground off. A number of the larger beads were broken into fragments.

C.G.