PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE

LE CARON SITE

NORTHERN SIMCOE COUNTY

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AUGUST 1972

Bead Analysis

This year an attempt was made not only to classify the European beads, but also to analyse the beads according to the lots in which they were recovered in order to obtain a relationship between the native and European beads. This analysis was conducted only with the material obtained from the central midden. In addition to the lot analysis a horizontal distribution was obtained to see whether there was a differentiation in the distribution of beads across the central midden.

A total of 280 beads were recovered this year, 71 of which were of a native type. These native beads consisted of shell, bone, slate, copper, one stone and one iron bead. 195 glass

The copper beads appear to have been manufactured from sheets of copper rolled into a tubular form. One of the beads appeared to be extremely delicate, thin, and of a high quality unlike the others which were of a wider diameter and showed a much poorer quality of craftsmanship. Also, the iron bead had been rolled but was in a highly corroded condition.

Two hundred and nine European trade beads were recovered and classified according to the system proposed by K. E. and M. A. Kidd (1970). The beads were first divided into two groups, the drawn beads and the wire wound beads.

In order to produce a drawn bead, a bubble of glass is drawn out into a long, slender tube. The beads are then cut from this tube which may be either monochrome or polychrome. If it is to assume a spherical shape, the cut bead is reheated and tumbled. The wire wound beads are produced by winding a thread of glass around a previously chalked piece of wire. After the bead is complete, the wire is removed. These beads are individually produced whereas the drawn beads may be mass-produced.

This may be one reason why the number of drawn beads is significantly higher than the number of wire wound beads found on the site. Also there are more classifications of drawn beads than wire beads.

Of the 165 classified drawn beads, 65.4% were of the class IV type. Type IVa5 was the most common individual type of all the drawn beads found. It is a redwood seed bead with a green opaque core. This bead has not been found in the previous two years.

Cahiague, a Huron village dated at 1615, revealed a great quantity of oval shaped seed beads of the IIa type. It has been suggested by Dr. N. Emerson (personal communication), the director of the Cahiague site, that the beads may be dated in a chronological order according to the quantity in which they are found on the various sites. Using this hypothesis, the oval shaped seed beads would be placed in an earlier period of 1615 and the redwood seed-beads would be placed in a later period of 1620; however, this would be an extremely difficult task to undertake owing to the problems of trade between the villages, beads brought in by a member of another tribe, sample amounts and excavation techniques.

The abundance of one particular type of bead may also the preference for that bead by a particular tribe. This would account for the large number of varieties of beads with a greater quantity in one particular type. As the trade with the French increased, so did the number of different types of beads. Thus the Indians may have had enough categories of beads to express a preference. Again, however, there is the problem of the interference of another tribe and the amount of the sample.

It has been suggested for this site that the IVa5 beads were brought in by another group. These people may possibly have been the Neutral since Neutral pottery and pipe fragments have

in Lot I. The native beads appear in Lot V, reach a peak in Lot 3 and decrease in Lot 2, when European beads are at their highest. In Lot 2 the European beads represent 82% of the total number of beads found. This would suggest that the native beads were being replaced by the European beads.

In the horizontal analysis of the central midden it was found that the majority of the native beads were recovered in the row of double squares running north-south. This may result from the fact that these squares are located in the deepest part of the midden and were taken down to 30" whereas some of the outlying squares were only taken down 14". There is, however, a definite increase in the number of beads recovered in the North-south squares.

Conclusion: In order to make the analysis of the European beads easier, it is suggested that perhaps a standard colour chart be included in Kidd's classification book. Also, a size chart or a description as to how the measurement of the bead was taken would be extremely helpful in determining the size of the beads.

Table 1 Analysis of Native Beads

Type	Quantity	Percent
Bone	8	11.3
Shell	33	46.5
slate	19	26.7
Stone	1	1.4
Iron	1	1.4
Copper	9	12.5

Table 2 Analysis of European Trade Beads (Drawn Type)

Type	Quantity	Percent
1a2-S	1 3 Indigo - ~~tube~~ blank.	
1a2-M	1	
1a9-L	3 - green tube	
1a11-M	3 - blue tube	
1a15-VL	1 - blue tube	
1a19-S	1 - indigo tube *	
1a21-S	1 - red tube	red tube

Type	Quantity	Percent
11a1-Vs	2	
11a1-S	3	Red R. solid
11a1-M	7	
11a9-M	1	white R.
11a10-S	2	white Ovoid
11a13-S	1	white R.
11a31-M	1	Thurg. Red
11a32-S	1	Thurg. Ovoid
11a39-M	1	Thurg. Red.
11a40-M	1	Thurg. Red.
11a43-S	4	Thurg. Red
11a43-M	2	
11a55-S	1	Ind. Red.
11a55-M	1	
11a57-S	1	Ind. Ovoid
11bb1-L	3	Red - 3 blue in white
11bb2-L	4	" " - flattened
		18.0
111bb1-L	2	red tab w. stripes
111c1-L	1	one Sw
111c'3-L	1	
111c'4-L	1	" not red core
111m1-M	5	star
		4.1
IVa1-S	2	
IVa1-M	24	
IVa1-L	1	
IVa2-S	1	redruped
IVa5-VS	1	
IVa5-S	17	
IVa5-M	58	
IVa5-L	2	
IVk3-M	1	star.
IVk4-L	1	
		65.4 — 165
	Total:	100.0

Table 3. Variations of Drawn Beads

Type	Quantity	Variation	Percent
1a9-L	3	size-M	42.8
1a11-L	1	size-M	14.3
11a11-M	2	size-S	28.6
11g1	1	shape-r	
		size-M	
		glass-op.	
		body-redwood	
		flusheye-3brite	
		-navy dots	
		core-black	14.3
		Total:	100.0

white round

Red R 118 92.
TR 9
Rw TWH

Table 4: New Beads

Type	Quantity	Description	%
Ia	1	shape-R size-L glass-Cl. purple	9%
IIa-M	2	shape-O size-M body-purple	18%
IIIc	1	shape-R size-L glass-Cl body-brite blue glass-op. core-applegreen glass-op middle-white	9%
IVa	7	shape-R size-M glass-op. body-redwood glass-op. middle-black	64%
		Total:	100%

Table 5: Twin Beads

Type	Quantity	Description	%
IVa1-M	1	-joined at ends -cavity in centre where beads join -cavity surrounded by black ring	25%
IVa1-M	1	-joined at end -no cavity where two are fused	25%
IVa5-M	1	-fused at end -cavity where fused	25%
IIa1-M	1	-fused on side -has appearance of one bead turned on side and going through other bead	25%
		Total:	100%

Table 6: Analysis of European Trade Beads-Wire Wound

Type	Quantity	Percent
IIIb10-M	1	12.5
IIIb11-Vs	1	12.5
IIIb12-M	4	50.0
IIIb14-L	1	12.5
IIIb16-?	1	12.5

Table 7: (New Beads)

Type	Quantity	Description	%
M1b-M	1	S-M body-purple	100
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *			
(Metal Beads)			
Copper	1		100
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *			
(Unclassified)			
unclassified	6		100