

THE ELK POINT BURIAL
"AT THE PLACE OF THE WILLOWS," ALBERTA

By
Stuart J. Baldwin
University of Alberta

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the canine hair. The cluster of seven was associated with the small leather "wad" (F10r-1/42) according to one of the persons interviewed. The remaining fifteen cones are now separate and only one of these falls into the lowest length grouping. In addition to a leather cord, most cones also contain a tuft of canine hair.

(b) Copper or Brass Awl (F10r-1/3): This awl or punch is made from a rod of copper (Fig. 7) with the distal end flattened and pointed by cutting, and with the point bent 24° . This bend may be the result of an attempt to imitate the offset of iron awls (Russell 1967:318, Kidd 1970:119). The proximal end is covered with a bark sheath. The bark could not be specifically identified, but Dr. B.P. Dancik, Department of Forest Science, University of Alberta, states that it is most likely birch or alder (Betula pumila, B. occidentalis, Alnus tenuifolia, or A. crispa) but possibly Prunus pennsylvanica or P. virginiana. These trees and shrubs are widespread in Alberta (Hosie 1969).

(c) Copper or Brass Buttons (total of 2): These are both two-piece, circular, domed buttons with soldered eyes, similar to Olsen's type F (Olsen 1963:553). One (F10r-1/43) gives these measurements: 16 mm dia., 5 mm max. thickness; eye is 5.5 mm high. This same button has fragments of "duck" down adhering to its reverse and eye, while the other (F10r-1/51) was found pressed down into the mass of "duck" down.

(d) Iron Projectile Point (F10r-1/24): This point (Fig. 8) is heavily corroded. Measurements are: 28.5 mm max. length, 18.0 mm max. width at shoulder, 7.0 mm stem length, 7.0 mm stem width, 2.0 mm thickness of body, 3.3 mm thickness of stem. This is almost identical to the triangular stemmed points from Fort George (Kidd 1970:77).

(e) Two Blue Glass Beads (F10r-1/35): These two beads are identical (Fig. 9) and, indeed, were joined at one time but later cut or broken apart. Measurements are: 8.0 mm dia., 8.0 mm long; hole is 2.5 mm dia. Both beads were subjected to X-ray fluorescence tests (samples B18 and B19) which show them to be chemically identical, with major constituents in the following descending order: arsenic/lead, iron, copper, calcium, manganese and potassium. Strontium is also strongly present. Trace elements include cobalt, nickel, bismuth and yttrium.

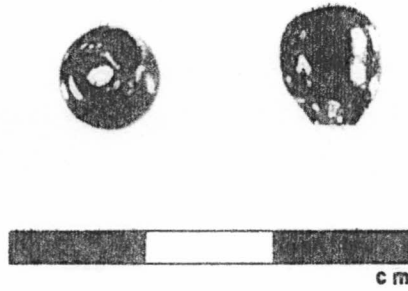


Figure 9. Blue glass beads.



Figure 10. Eagle claws.