

# WILLIAM M. BEAUCHAMP CHAPTER

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## NO. 1

THE POMPEY CENTER SITE

THE IMPACT OF EUROPEAN TRADE 1600-1620

JIM BRADLEY

AN HISTORIC ONONDAGA HOUSE AT

INDIAN HILL (Cza 8-1)

DR. A. GREGORY SOHRWEIDE

NEW SITES IN THE PREHISTORIC ONONDAGA SEQUENCE

FERDINAND LAFRANCE

THE CHASE SITE (Cza 5-3)

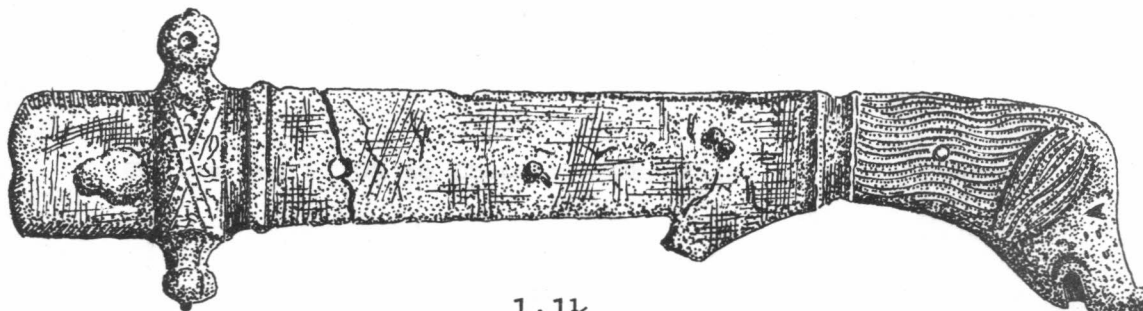
ALBERT D. LAFRANCE



1:2

SPRING 1977

LOT 18 SITE



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LOT 18 SITE

## THE POMPEY CENTER SITE:

### THE IMPACT OF EUROPEAN TRADE GOODS 1600 - 1620

James W. Bradley

The Pompey Center site, one of the better known proto-historic Onondaga sites, is located on the west branch of Limestone Creek in the southern part of the Town of Pompey. Much of the site had already been excavated when Beauchamp examined it, but none of these early collections are presently available. Beauchamp dated the site's occupation about 1640 and based this on two factors, the relative abundance of European trade material and the lack of diagnostic mid-17th century artifacts such as firearms and religious ornaments. He also noted that the village had been fortified with a palisade roughly triangular in shape (Beauchamp, 1900:123 and Figure 77). Though both Parker and Tuck mention the site, neither added any significant new information (Parker 1922:244 and Tuck 1971:175-6). Both concurred with Beauchamp's initial estimate of the site's date, however, Tuck felt it should be re-examined.

Recent investigations confirm Tuck's suspicion. In fact, the dates for the Pompey Center site can be comfortably pushed back to approximately 1600 - 1620. This estimate is based on three considerations:

1. Where this site fits into a more carefully drawn sequence of proto-historic and historic Onondaga sites (Bradley, 1976 B).
2. Comparison with the better defined Oneida and Seneca sequences.
3. Inferences from the trade materials found on the site.

The Pompey Center site is not the first Onondaga site where European trade materials are present. Ornaments and utensils of brass first occur more than a half century earlier on the Temperance House and Atwell sites. Iron axes and adze blades were introduced a few years later. Even glass beads, though not common, were available to the Onondaga for several decades before 1600. What is different about the Pompey Center site is that all these European goods are suddenly present in quantity. The purpose of this report is to examine these trade materials in detail and see what they suggest about both the trade in general and its impact on Onondaga material culture.

It should be added as a methodological note that the artifactual material used in this study is from several collections and was either surface collected from the village site or recovered from previously excavated middens. While this may raise some question as to the exact provenience of the artifacts studied, I believe that all the material presented in this report is from the site's period of occupancy.

### Glass Beads

The Pompey Center site is the first Onondaga site where European glass beads occur with frequency. In general, these are polychrome beads of high quality manufacture. In describing this sample, Kidd's terminology is used (Kidd, 1970).

Size - measured as bead diameter

- VS - very small, less than 2 mm.
- S - small, 2 - 4 mm.
- M - medium, 4 - 6 mm.
- L - large, 6 - 10 mm.
- VL - very large, over 10 mm.

### Shape

- rd - round
- c - circular (ring)
- o - oval
- f - flattened
- tb/ut - tubular untumbled (sharp ends)
- tb/t - tubular tumbled (smoothed ends)

### Glass

- op - opaque
- tr - translucent
- cl - clear

### Color (abbreviations only)

- RD - redwood
- WH - oyster white
- BK - lamp black

Of the total of 692 beads (including broken ones), 14 types accounted for nearly 70% of the sample. These are listed on the following page by frequency.

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Glass</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
1.	IV K 3	M-L	rd	op	"star" with RD core	98	14.2
2.	IV a 19	S	C	op	bright navy blue with light core - "seed bead"	88	12.7
3.	IV b 31	S	C	op	bright navy blue with light core and 6 WH stripes	54	7.8
4.	IV b 33	L	rd	op	bright navy blue with light core and 16 WH stripes (in 8 pairs)	40	5.8
5.	II a 2	S	C	op	RD "seed beads," no core	35	5.1
6.	II a 48	S-VL	rd	op	dark shadow-blue, no core	31	4.5
7.	II a 55	M & L	rd	tr	bright navy blue, no core	31	4.5
8.	II a 50	S-L	rd	tr	dark shadow-blue, no core	23	3.3
9.	II bb 1	L & VL	rd	op	RD with 3 bright navy on WH stripes, no core	20	2.9
10.	II a 11	M & L	rd	op	RD, no core	13	1.9
11.	II a 57	S-VL	o	tr	bright navy blue, no core	13	1.9
12.	IV a 1	S-L	rd	op	RD with BK core	13	1.9
13.	II a 40	M-VL	rd	op	Robin's egg blue, no core	12	1.7
14.	II b 15	M-VL	rd	op	BK with 3 broad RD and 3 broad WH stripes, no core	12	1.7
TOTAL						483	69.9

A complete breakdown of the total sample indicates that 86 separate bead types are present. These are listed according to style of manufacture.

A. Tubular, no core

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Glass</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
	I a 5	S	tb/ut	op	WH	2
*	I b 2	L	tb/t	op	RD with 6 thin WH stripes	1
*	I b 5	L	tb/t	op	BK with 3 WT and 3 RD stripes	2

B. Round, no core

	II a 1	M-7	rd	op	RD	
		L-6	rd	op	RD	13
	II a 2	S	C	op	RD "seed beads"	35
	II a 6	L	rd	op	BK	2
*	II a 13	M-2	rd	op	WH	

<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Glass</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
	L-7	rd	op	WH	9
II a 15	L	o	op	WH	1
II a 28	L	rd	tr	dark palm green	1
II a 32	S	o	tr	turquoise	2
II a 34	S	C	tr	light aqua blue "seed bead"	1
II a 39	L	rd	tr	aqua blue	3
II a 40	M-6	rd	op	Robin's egg blue	
	L-2	rd	op	Robin's egg blue	
	VL-4	rd	op	Robin's egg blue	12
* II a 48	S-12	rd	op	dark shadow-blue	
	M-18	rd	op	dark shadow-blue	
	VL-1	rd	op	dark shadow-blue	31
II a 49	M	o	op	dark shadow-blue	2
II a 50	S-7	rd	tr	dark shadow-blue	
	M-9	rd	tr	dark shadow-blue	
	L-7	rd	tr	dark shadow-blue	23
* II a 55	M-1	rd	tr	bright navy blue	
	L-30	rd	tr	bright navy blue	31
II a 56	S	C	tr	bright navy blue "seed beads"	9
* II a 57	S-5	o	tr	bright navy blue	
	M-7	o	tr	bright navy blue	
	VL-1	o	tr	bright navy blue	13
II a 61	L	rd	tr	dark rose brown	4

#### Untyped

II a	L	rd	tr	aqua blue with 8 spiral flutes	1
II a	L	rd	op	plum	1
II a	M	rd	tr	dark navy blue with faceted sides	1

#### C. Round, no core, simple stripes

II b 2	S-1	rd	op	RD with 3 WH stripes	
	M-4	rd	op	RD with 3 WH stripes	5
II b 3	M	rd	op	RD with 4 WH stripes	2
* II b 5	M	rd	op	RD with 6 WH stripes	1
II b 7	L-3	rd	op	RD with 12 WH stripes	
	VL-1	rd	op	RD with 12 WH stripes	4
II b 9	M	rd	op	BK with 3 RD stripes	1
II b 15	M-1	rd	op	BK with 3 broad RD and 3 broad WH stripes	
	L-6	rd	op	BK with 3 broad RD and 3 broad WH stripes	
	VK-5	rd	op	BK with 3 broad RD and 3 broad WH stripes	12

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Glass</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
*	II b 18	L	rd	cl	light grey with 12 thin WH stripes "gooseberry bead"	3
	II b 31	M	rd	op	WH with 2 thin RD & 2 thin bright navy stripes	3
	II b 33	L	rd	op	WH with 3 thin RD & 3 thin green stripes	1
	II b 54	L	rd	op	light aqua blue with 8 RD stripes	1
	II b 55	L	f	op	light aqua blue with 8 RD stripes	1
	II b 56	L-1	rd	op	Robin's egg blue with 3 WH stripes	
		VL-1	rd	op	Robin's egg blue with 3 WH stripes	2
	II b 61	M-1	rd	op	dark shadow-blue with 6 RD stripes	
		L-2	rd	op	dark shadow-blue with 6 RD stripes	3
	II b 62	L	rd	op	dark shadow-blue with 8 RD stripes	3
	II b 64	M	o	tr	dark shadow-blue with 2 RD stripes	1
	II b 68	M	rd	cl	bright navy blue with 4 WH stripes	1
	II b 71	M	rd	tr	bright navy blue with 2 RD and 2 WH stripes	1
	II b 74	L	rd	tr	dark rose brown with 3 groups of 3 WH stripes	2
	<u>Untyped</u>					
	II b	L	C	op	dark green with 3 oblique RD stripes	1
	II b	VL	rd	tr	dark navy blue with 4 WH & 4 RD stripes	1

D. Round, no core, compound stripes

*	II bb 1	L-8	rd	op	RD with 3 bright navy blue on WH stripes	
		VL-12	rd	op	RD with 3 bright navy blue on WH stripes	20
	II bb 2	L	f	op	RD with 3 bright navy blue on WH stripes	6
*	II bb 7	VL	rd	op	BK with 3 RD on WH stripes	3

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
<u>E.</u>	<u>Tubular, multi-layered</u>				
	III a 9	S	tb/ut	shadow-blue with light core	2
	III b 7	M	tb/-	shadow-blue with light core & 8 WH stripes	5
	III bb 1	L	tb/ut	RD with dark core & 3 BK on WH stripes	1
	III k 2	M-1	tb/ut	"star" with teal green outer layer	
		VL-1	tb/ut	"star" with teal green outer layer	2
*	III k 3	S	tb/ut	"star" with bright navy blue outer layer	1
	<u>Untyped</u>				
	III b	L	tb/t	BK with WH core and 8 broad WH stripes	3
	III b	L	tb/-	dark navy blue with WH core & 8 thin WH stripes	1
	III k 3	S-6	tb	"star" with bright navy blue outer layer & champhered edges	
		M-1	tb	"star" with bright navy blue outer Layer & champhered edges	
		L-2	tb	"star" with bright navy blue outer layer & champhered edges	9
<u>F.</u>	<u>Round, multi-layered</u>				
	IV a 1	S-4	rd	RD with BK core (often flattened on ends)	
		M-6	rd	RD with BK core (often flattened on ends)	
		L-3	rd	RD with BK core (often flattened on ends)	13
	IV a 3	S	C	RD with light grey core "seed beads"	6
	IV a 4	S	o	RD with light grey core	1
*	IV a 6	s	C	RD with apple green core "seed beads"	10
	IV a 13	S	C	WH with light grey core "seed beads"	3
	IV a 19	S-73	C	bright navy blue with light core "seed beads"	
		M-15	C	bright navy blue with light core "seed beads"	88
	<u>Untyped</u>				
	IV a	S	C	RD with BK core "seed beads"	5
	IV a	M	C	maroon on RD with apple green core	1

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
<u>G.</u>	<u>Round, multi-layered, simple stripes</u>				
	IV b 4	S-1	rd	RD with BK core and 6 WH stripes (in 3 pairs)	
		M-5	rd	RD with BK core and 6 WH stripes (in 3 pairs)	6
	IV b 13	M	C	WH with light aqua core and 6 broad RD stripes	1
	IV b 16	S	C	WH with light aqua core and 3 RD & 3 bright navy stripes	7
	IV b 23	S	C	shadow-blue with light grey core & 3 RD stripes	2
	IV b 29	L	rd	bright navy blue with light core & 3 thin WH stripes	1
*	IV b 30	L	rd	bright navy blue with light core & 3 broad WH stripes	7
	IV b 31	S	C	bright navy with light core and 6 WH stripes	54
	IV b 32	L	rd	bright navy with light core and 7 WH stripes	1
	IV b 33	L	rd	bright navy with light core and 16 WH stripes (in 8 pairs)	40
*	IV b 34	L-7	rd	bright navy with light core & 16 WH stripes	
		VL-3	rd	bright navy with light core & 16 WH stripes	10
<u>H.</u>	<u>Round, multi-layered, compound stripes</u>				
*	IV bb 3	M	rd	RD with apple green core and 3 BK on WH stripes	3
	IV bb 5	M	o	RD with BK core and 3 bright navy on WH stripes	2
	IV bb 9	S	C	bright navy with dark blue core & 3 RD on WH stripes	1
	<u>Untyped</u>				
	IV bb	VL	rd	dark navy with RD core and 6 yellow & 6 WH stripes	1
	IV l' 1	M	o	apple green with apple green core & 3 WH stripes	1
	IV k 2	M	rd	"star" with light grey core	4
*	IV k 3	M-57	rd	"star" with RD core	
		L-38	rd	"star" with RD core	
		VL-3	rd	"star" with RD core	98
	IV k 5	L	f	"star" with RD core	5
	IV k 6	L	rd	"star" with RD, WH and green stripes	1



<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Shape</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in Sample</u>
IV g 1	M	rd	bright blue with 3 "flush eyes"	4
IV g	M	rd	dark navy with 3 "flush eyes"	1
IV n 2	L-3	rd	oyster WH with light grey core with 6 RD & 6 blue stripes	
	VL-3	rd	oyster WH with light grey core with 6 RD & 6 blue stripes	6
* IV nn 4	VL	rd	RD with 6 WH and 6 bright navy stripes	7

In addition to descriptive analysis, interesting results can be obtained from examining the chemical make-up of bead glass. This work was initially done by Dr. W. G. N. van der Sleen, a Dutch chemist. Van der Sleen's interest started with the discovery of beads, as well as other 17th century refuse, in areas where early Dutch glass houses had been. Speculating that these beads might be of Dutch, rather than Venetian manufacture, he devised a means for differentiating the two. (The beads which van der Sleen and others found have been catalogued (Karklins 1974). Those types which were found both at Pompey Center and in the Netherlands have been marked with an asterisk (\*) in the preceeding list.)

Bead glass is composed of silica, coloring agents, and an alkali. In Venetian glass, soda ash ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ) was used as the alkali, while in glass from the Netherlands, potash ( $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ) was apparently used. By testing specimens of glass with a spectrograph and comparing the amounts of  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ , van der Sleen felt he had discovered an adequate means of identifying the place where the glass had been produced (van der Sleen 1963).

In an effort to test this hypothesis with Onondaga examples, five beads from the Pompey Center site were analyzed.

	<u>Kidd #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>% <math>\text{K}_2\text{O}</math></u>	<u>% <math>\text{Na}_2\text{O}</math></u>
1	II b 56	Robin's Egg blue with 3 WH stripes	2.4	13.0
2	II bb 1	RD with 3 bright navy on WH stripes	2.2	8.5
3	II a 50	Dark shadow-blue	1.0	10.0
4	IV k 3	"Star" with red core	1.0	5.8
5	IV u 2	Oyster WH with light grey core and 6 RD and 6 blue stripes	2.4	8.0

The results indicate that these beads were probably of Venetian, rather than Dutch manufacture, since the  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  content is appreciably greater than the  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$  content in all the specimens tested.