

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FINAL REPORT  
FORT VANCOUVER EXCAVATIONS

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## Glass

Glass manufactures were very plentiful in all parts of the fort. A list would include the following general kinds:

- Beads
- Bottles of all kinds
- Glasses for table use
- Magnifying glasses
- Mirrors
- Spectacle Lenses
- Tubing
- Thermometer Tubes
- Window glass
- Watch crystals

No attempt will be made to describe the beads in detail. Color reproductions in full size would be the only method of properly treating them. They will be described by size, color and shape.

The smallest beads measured from 1 mm. to 3 mm. in diameter. These occur in white, green, garnet, red, pink, and light and dark blue.

The next size range from about 4 mm. to 5 mm. in average diameter (a few are as small as 2 mm.) and are creamy white, often with a slightly different shade of exterior, apparently a glaze over a long tube of glass before the beads were cut into size and shape. The same bead also occurs in a larger size averaging 1 cm. in diameter. The length of these beads, both large and small, is usually shorter than the diameter, but a very few are found in the opposite extreme of being much longer than the diameter.

About the same size as the last is an opaque blue type usually uniform in size and shape and measuring from 3 mm. to almost 5 mm. These occurred mainly in the area of the two west store buildings. These beads were apparently not cut from tubes but were made of individual globs of hot glass. Often a point of glass is found on one end near the hole.

Cylindrical beads of fairly large size were not numerous. Four complete beads made of an opaque yellow tubing came from the Indian Trade Store. They average 25 mm. in length and about 7 mm. in diameter. Other opaque tubular beads range from 5 mm. to 10 mm. in length and 5 mm. to 7 mm. in diameter. They occur in opaque blues of two shades, in brown and creamy white, with cores of almost the same colors.

Faceted beads come in black (small), brown, milk white, aquamarine, light and dark blue, brown and green. The smallest are 5 mm. by 5 mm., while the largest measure 10 mm. by 10 mm. The holes are usually uniform in size but the aquamarine and light blue are also found with the holes measuring 3 mm. on one end and 1 mm. on the other.

Spherical beads range in size from a clear green and blue type measuring 5 mm. in diameter to the largest, which is dark blue, from 12 mm. to 14 mm. in diameter. Other colors are red - both clear and with the white underlay - and a dark green with a floral decoration painted around the outside circumference.

Long oval-shaped beads occur in opaque white, red and blue. They range in size from about 8 mm. to 20 mm. in length. The large size is white and has red, white and green painted decoration in a spiral band going from one end to the other.

Glass beads were a most important trade item at this time. From contemporary accounts the warehouses in London must have been bulging with casks of beads. At that time they were manufactured both in northern Italy and in China. Many references are made to Canton beads. So far in the study of beads it has not been possible to determine exactly which beads came from Europe and which came from China.

Glass bottles of all sizes, kinds and colors were found. They fall fairly well into classes of use for spiritous liquors, perfumes, medicines, oil and ink.

From the number of bottles found, the gentlemen appear to have been well supplied with brandy, rum, Madiera and Port wine. Rum was the most common form of liquor if the bottle count is a true measure of what was used. Hundreds of dark green round rum bottles were found in various sizes, no two the same because of their being hand blown. Square brandy bottles of the same dark green glass were found. Wine came in thin bottles of slightly lighter green color. Several were found with seals blown into the glass. One example was marked on the shoulder with a bunch of grapes and "CHATEAU MARGAUX."

Marks on other bottles include the following:

LYRE & CO., BRISTOL  
I. F. HOFFMAN & SONS, ROTTERDAM  
H. ROCKETT, ROTTERDAM  
— OLDRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBIA FOR RESTORING HAIR, 1826  
— HOYT'S GERMAN COLOGNE, E. W. HOYT & CO., LOWELL, MASS.  
SPERM SEWING OIL  
— PERINE GUYOT & CIE.  
— LUNDBORG PARFUMEUR  
W. K. LEWIS & CO., BOSTON  
— ROBT. WRISINGTON . . . LONDON, BY THE KINGS ROYAL PATENT,  
Jan. 26, 1754  
MAUGENET & COUDRAY A PARIS  
ESSENCE OF PEPPERMINT

*Turnover to  
Bureau of  
Life*

Some of the bottles, especially those for medicines and perfumes, appear to have been blown into molds. Others were hand blown. All were of very thin, clear glass. Many had been fitted with ground glass stoppers, which were quite plentiful.