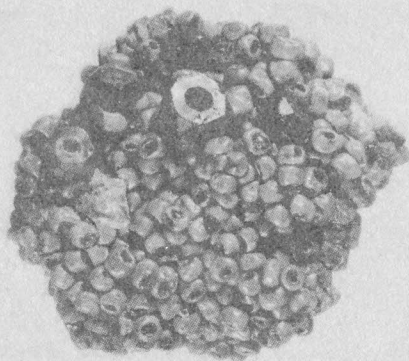


FIRST NORTHWEST COAST
COLORED TRADE BEAD CHART

Volume VI

A chart describing more than 50 trade beads associated with sites near the Columbia River in the state of Washington.



Russian blue faceted beads and small chocolate brown beads fused by heat.

by
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The beads in this chart were furnished by Mr. Arne Eklund, a fellow collector, whom we thank for his generosity and interest. The history of the collection was verified by two independent sources.



The specimens in this chart are an authenticated selection of trade beads from the northwest area of the U.S. This particular area has given us some of the most fascinating examples of trade beads to be found anywhere. The variety of types of beads that occur in Northwest collections is amazing. "Russian" blue faceted, comb or feather, horned eye, polychrome, and Chinese beads are all examples of Northwest material.

An experienced collector will realize that most of the beads just mentioned are also appearing in recent shipments from Africa. The questions raised by this situation will hopefully produce more research on trade bead manufacturing and distribution. At present, caution should be exercised when adequate documentation of the source of specimens is lacking. However, this should not deter us from the fascination and enjoyment to be found with trade beads.

ROW 1

BEAD NO.	DIAMETER (in mm.)	LENGTH (in mm.)	DESCRIPTION
1	11	10	Opaque/white/bluegreen, blue, pale rose
2	10	15	Opaque /pale blue/pale rose
3	9	17	Opaque/pale red/rose, blue, white, yellow
4	9	20	Opaque/deep cobalt/rose, green, white
5	12	15	Opaque/white/4 lobes
6	10	9	Opaque/black/white 10 lobes
7	12	12	Opaque/black/yellow, white, pale red
8	10	12	Opaque/black/yellow, white with blue tint, pale rose

The lobed beads are interesting studies in design.

ROW 2

1	11	11	Opaque/gray-white/blue, white; pale red, white
2	12	11	Opaque/black/white with blue tint

3	13	11	Opaque/rose/yellow, white, bluegreen; center is white
4	10	11	Opaque/rose/yellow, white, turquoise; center is white
5	11	11	Opaque/earth red/white
6	10	15	Opaque/translucent rose/center is white
7	11	7	Opaque/turquoise/white
8	10	10	Opaque/black/inlaid glass lost, grooves remain

Notice the white centers of certain specimens.

ROW 3

1	13	13	Opaque/white/red orange
2	13	12	Opaque/white/chocolate brown
3	14	13	Opaque/white/yellow orange
4	15	13	Opaque/black/white, rose, yellow orange
5	13	12	Opaque/black/white, yellow orange, rose
6	12	15	Translucent/orange/etched
7	11	8	Translucent/deep cobalt faceted

The first three examples are known as horned eye beads. The etchings on the Chinese bead supposedly denote "good luck". No. 7 is a "Russian" blue faceted bead.

ROW 4

1	16	23	Opaque/black/yellow, white, pale red, blue
2	14	25	Opaque/black/white, twist is pale red, white, pale blue
3	11	25	Same as previous bead
4	10	20	Opaque/black/white, rose
5	9	20	Translucent/rose/white, blue
6	12	18	Opaque/white/grooves
7	17	15	Opaque/earth red/center is yellow orange

No. 5 is a comb or feather bead. No. 6 is an interesting shape similar in material to row 1, No. 5.

ROW 5

1	7	8	Opaque/pale blue
2	8	5	Opaque/pale blue
3	10	15	Opaque/earth red/center is yellow orange
4	15	16	Translucent/ultramarine blue
5	20	19	Translucent/blue
6	21	22	Opaque/yellow/10 lobes

No. 3 is a roller bead similar in material to row 4, No. 7. No. 6 is a large Chinese melon bead.

ROW 6

1	9	8	Translucent/vaseline white
2	9	6	Opaque/turquoise

The vaseline bead is rather unusual.

ROW 7

1	5	5	Brass-hollow
2	8	5	Brass-hollow
3	7	6	Brass-hollow
4	7	6	Brass-hollow
5	7	6	Brass-solid
6	7	6	Brass-hollow
7	8	6	Brass-hollow
8	9	6	Brass-solid
9	7	5	Brass-hollow

Note the variation in shapes, caused by hand-forming after cutting specimens from tubes.

ROW 8

1	12	16	Translucent/orange/etched
2	11	12	Opaque/black/white with blue tint
3	10	9	Translucent/blue violet cobalt/center is light cobalt, faceted
4			Same as previous bead.

5	12	9	Translucent/ultramarine blue
6	16	14	Opaque/yellow
7	20	31	Opaque/yellow

No. 1 is another etched Chinese bead. Nos. 6 and 7 are definitely Chinese in origin also.

ROW 9

1	19	16	Opaque/earth red/center is yellow orange
2	20	23	Translucent/red
3	Same as previous bead.		
4	20	24	Translucent/red orange
5	22	30	Translucent/red orange

Nos. 2 thru 5 are known as "chicken eggs" among some collectors.