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Fort Pierre II (39ST217), a Historic Trading Post in the
Oahe Dam Area, South Dakota
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WASHINGTON

(p. 151)

SITE DATES ca. 1858-1863

TRADE GOODS

(Cf. also *Personal Possessions*)

Firearms.—A small group of gun parts, flints, cartridges, bullets, and balls was obtained in excavations, of which a detailed account has kindly been prepared by Dr. Warren W. Caldwell for separate publication (Caldwell, MS.). Reference is therefore made to this account for descriptions of these objects.

Cap box.—No. 1050: Brass (cover only), diameter $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; with die-stamped legend: "Goldmark's Patent American/Safety Percussion Caps/Metal Lined/[spread eagle, head to left, with shield]/D 100 G/Warranted/Water Proof" (pl. 28, *g*). J. Goldmark was a New York manufacturer of ammunition (Lewis, 1956, pl. 44, *o*).

Arrowpoint.—No. 101: Steel, having a small stem; length ca. $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches (pl. 28, *m*). Numerous comparable specimens were obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.).

Half-ax ("squaw ax").—No. 639: Wrought iron; height $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; width of blade $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches; weight 1 pound, 14 ounces (pl. 28, *a*). Found in the original trench fill, along the west stockade, with the single-bit ax described above (p. 132). A similar specimen, weight 2 pounds, 5 ounces, was obtained at the site of Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.).

Trap, animal.—No. 377: Tapered fragment (portion of spring) of steel trap, original length ca. 5 inches (pl. 28, *l*); apparently of the variety frequently known as the "Oneida" trap, manufactured at Oneida, N.Y., by the Oneida Community (also well known for its silverwork), established in 1848.

Twiceezers.—No. 1033: Sheet brass, length $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches; a part of one branch is missing (pl. 28, *n*). Comparable specimens were obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.). An article frequently traded to the Indians, for the removal of beard hairs.

Earbob.—No. 1019: Conical silver-plate (hollow) ornament, having a small loop at the upper end for insertion in the lobe of the ear; length ca. 1 inch (pl. 28, *j*).

Bracelet.—No. 926: Undecorated oval bracelet, of heavy brass wire; width ca. $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches (pl. 28, *o*). Similar specimens were obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.).

Finger rings.—Nos. 142–146, 198, 1012–1016: Eleven specimens, all of brass or white metal, narrow bands differing slightly in width, and lacking decorations or engraving; sizes range from diameter 17 to 22 mm. Several similar specimens were obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.).

Tinklers.—No. 1020: Two sheet-brass cones, rolled, length ca. $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches and 1 inch (pl. 28, *h, i*).

Beads, glass.—Approximately 3,120 beads (plus 54 fragments) were obtained at the site of Fort Pierre II, an array of sufficient numbers and varieties to provide interesting material for comparison with other large bead collections (cf. Smith, 1953). A detailed account is not attempted here, but specimens and groups of special note are as follows:

Nos. 35, 187, 813: Sixteen whole or fragmentary dull white (satiny) tubular beads (similar to the French *canon* bead); diameters 3 to 5 mm., of irregular lengths, 8 to 22 mm. (pl. 29, *k*). Nos. 37, 53, 62, 190: Twenty translucent colorless beads, made of hexagonal tubing and sometimes irregularly finished, diameters 4 to 6 mm., lengths 3 to 6 mm. (pl. 29, *i*). Some of these have been provided with facets at the ends, in finishing them for sale. Nos. 47, 66: Forty similar specimens, violet-black in tint. Nos. 55, 66: Sixteen similar, in amber tint. Nos. 52, 53, 190: Fifty-five similar, in a dark blue tint. Nos. 62, 66, 77: Twenty specimens, of a dark green tint. Nos. 52, 62, 64: Two dark-blue trans-

lucent beads (similar to the preceding, but with larger facets, and more carefully finished) are 18 mm. in length, 6 to 7 mm. in diameter, the diameters thus approximately one-third the length of the beads (pl. 29, *j*). Nos. 62, 64: Three similar dark-green translucent beads. No. 76: A similar red translucent bead. No. 64: One similar black specimen. No. 37: A fragment of a similar colorless bead. No. 50: Spherical bead, greenish paste, having parallel ridges about its circumference (unique specimen); diameter and length 8 mm. (pl. 29, *d*). No. 190: Fragment of black bead, olive-pit shape, original length ca. 18 mm., diameter ca. 10 mm. No. 78A: Fragment of large opaque blue bead, diameter ca. 20 mm. A comparable, even larger specimen was obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.). Nos. 60, 78A: Similar black beads, diameters 12.5 mm. and 11.9 mm. (pl. 29, *c*). No. 812: Seven identical ornamental beads, slightly oblate-spherical, diameters 12.5 to 14.0 mm., having an opaque milky paste, and with dark-blue and white marbling; probably originally worn in a strand (pl. 29, *i*). Recovered from House-site A (dwelling), at the floor level, but not in direct association with each other.

No. 1156: A portion of a spherical black bead, diameter 15 mm., having surfaces marbled in red and white, is of a similar art style (pl. 29, *g*); this specimen was recovered at House-site B (warehouse).

No. 814: Portion of a spherical bead, diameter 14 mm., having a pale-blue paste, and spiral white band, extending from the "equator" to one end of the bead (pl. 29, *e*).

Nos. 54, 70: Twenty-six spherical, dark-blue, translucent beads, diameters 7 to 9 mm.

Nos. 69, 70, 78A, 190, 191: Spherical opaque white beads, diameters 8 to 11 mm., only 3 specimens remaining unbroken; numerous fragments of similar large white beads were obtained, and the fact suggests that this variety was specially liable to breakage in handling.

No. 78: A similar specimen is buff-tan in color, possibly imperfectly fused frit or paste.

No. 61: Opaque white ovoid bead ("pigeon egg" or olive-pit shape); diameter 16 mm., length 26 mm. (pl. 29, *f*). Nos. 36, 56, 190: Five smaller similar specimens, diameters 6 to 8 mm., lengths 11 to 13 mm. (pl. 29, *h*). One (No. 56) has hand decoration, a pale buff spiral line, extending from one end of the bead to the other.

Nos. 70, 71, 190: Twelve near-cylindrical opaque white beads (sometimes retaining a high gloss, others with a "stony" surface texture), somewhat variable in shape and dimensions; diameters 6 to 9 mm., lengths 5 to 8 mm.

Nos. 41, 43, 49, 63, 72, 73, 77, 189: Approximately 1,232 specimens of seed beads of a white color were obtained; some of these are now a buff-tan color, and these may have been from batches of inferior frit, or have been altered by chemical action while lying in the earth. The sizes of these small beads vary from 1.5 to 4.0 mm., and the entire group tends to fall into 3 subgroups (1.5 to 2.0 mm.; 2.0 to 2.5 mm.; and 2.5 to 3.5 mm.) (cf. Smith, 1953).

Nos. 42, 45, 46, 48, 59, 65, 67, 188: Approximately 1,038 blue seed beads were obtained (some of light blue, probably as a result of chemical action), of sizes comparable to the preceding. As has been noted elsewhere, white and blue seed beads appear to have been particularly in demand in the Indian trade of the upper Missouri region.

No. 75: Approximately 55 specimens of translucent blue seed beads, diameter 1.5 to 2.0 mm. only, one of the smallest varieties of beads in the present collection.

Nos. 38, 39, 40, 58, 76, 177, 188: Approximately 507 opaque red seed beads (many now pinkish), of sizes comparable to the preceding.

Nos. 44, 57, 68: Approximately 142 greenish seed beads (fragile, and of inferior quality), similar in size.

Nos. 57, 68: Approximately 92 black seed beads, of similar sizes.

No. 74: Eleven colorless seed beads (only), 1.5 to 2.5 mm. in diameter, one of the rarest varieties in the collection.

Tacks.—No. 1059: Seven brass, round-head tacks, diameter ca. $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (pl. 28, b-f). Such tacks were frequently used for ornamenting gunstocks and other wooden articles, and hence were a trade commodity. Thus at Fort Union, in 1851, with other trade goods, $1\frac{1}{2}$ M [thousand] brass tacks were inventoried, apparently at a retail value of 90 cents per thousand (McDonnell, 1940, p. 211). Specimens similar to these were obtained at the site of Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.).

Shells, ornamental.—No. 35: Four fragmentary specimens of native dentalia (pl. 29, a). Other specimens were obtained at Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.). Such ornamental shells were obtained by peoples of the upper Missouri by trade with other native peoples, as well as with Whites. Nos. 8, 179, 180, 1127: Six fragments of abalone (*Haliotis*) shell, another Pacific coastal variety of importance in the trade in the interior. The largest specimen (No. 179), 52 mm. in length, has been notched near the narrower end, for suspension (pl. 28, k).

Patent medicines.—No. 622: Fragments of a clear glass bottle, with portions of the legend), originally containing "F. Brown's Essence of Jamaica Ginger,

a

Philad.", as is known from an identical complete specimen found at the site of Fort Berthold II (Smith, MS.). Frederick Brown, chemist and druggist of Philadelphia, began in business in 1823; from 1891 until 1920 the business was conducted as Brown and Company. Essence of Jamaica ginger is an alcoholic extract intended for flavoring purposes. No. 1169: Fragment of the side of a flat clear greenish-glass bottle, bearing in a panel the name "Davis"; identical with a complete specimen of this container found at Fort Berthold II, which also carries the remainder of the legend: "Vegetable Pain Killer." No. 1166: The base only of a small flat bottle of clear greenish glass, two-mold blown, probably for patent medicine.

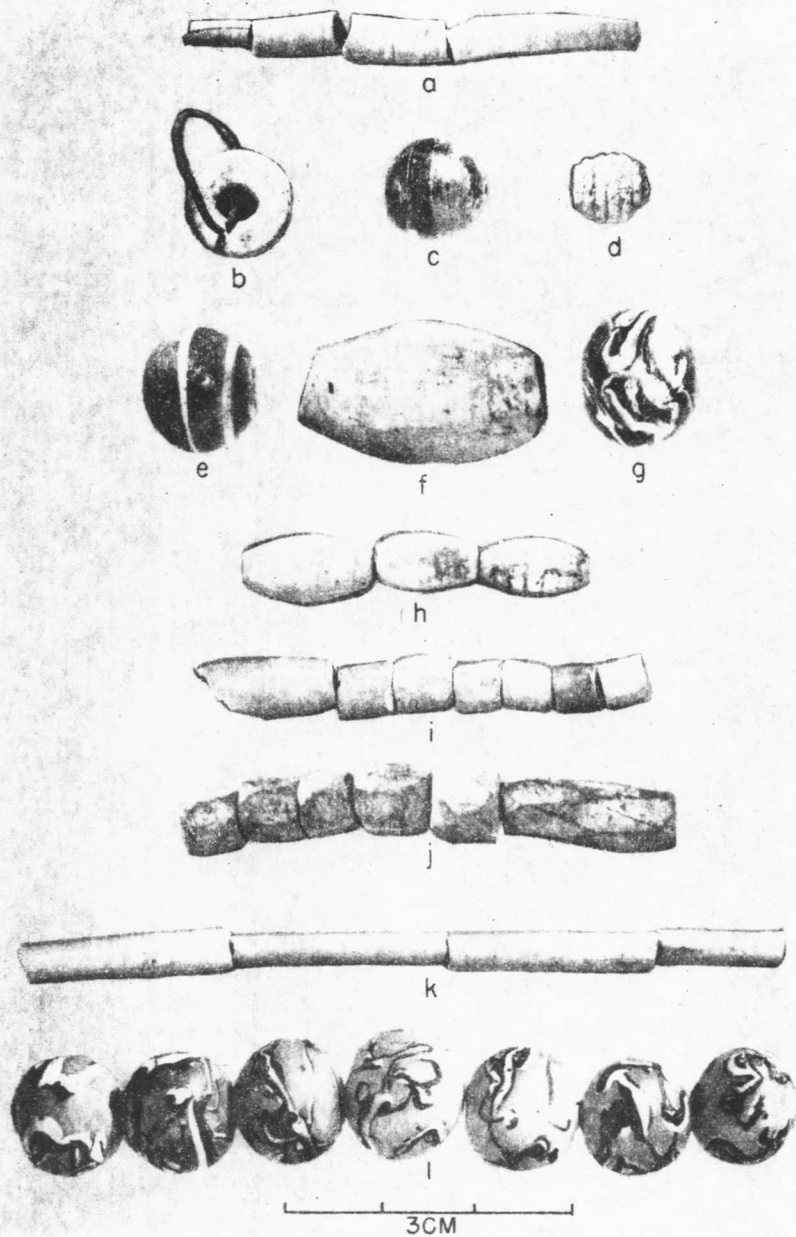
SUBSISTENCE

Food containers, metal.—Several lots, including tinned-iron food containers, of various sizes, apparently largely cylindrical, were obtained. Examples are as follows: No. 597, flattened, showing style of crimping at the margins; Nos. 389, 415, 573, 598, 632: ends of containers, ribbed, crimped, and sometimes soldered, which were cut away in opening the originals; Nos. 389, 598: measure $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. Covers (separate): No. 574: $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter; No. 125: 3 inches diameter, both of shallow depth. No clues were seen to specific food varieties represented.

Condiment jar (?).—No. 1220: Clear glass jar (probably two-mold manufacture), probably for pickles or sauce, having flat panels on the four sides of the body; diameter of base (round) $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches; height not obtainable (pl. 25, h). One of the side panels still retains a part of the original lettering: "C . . .," probably a part of a manufacturer's mark.

Wine bottles.—No. 1164: Clear dark-green glass seal only, from a wine bottle of the same tint, bearing the legend in relief, in an oval: "St. Julien/[grape clusters on a branch]/Medoc" (pl. 26, i). Médoc is a famous wine-producing region in the Department of Gironde, France.

Whiskey flasks.—No. 722: Fragment of the side of a clear greenish glass flask, with the spread eagle (head to left), probably from a quart-size bottle (pl. 25, i). Fragments of flasks of other designs, such as the "violin-shape"



Trade goods.