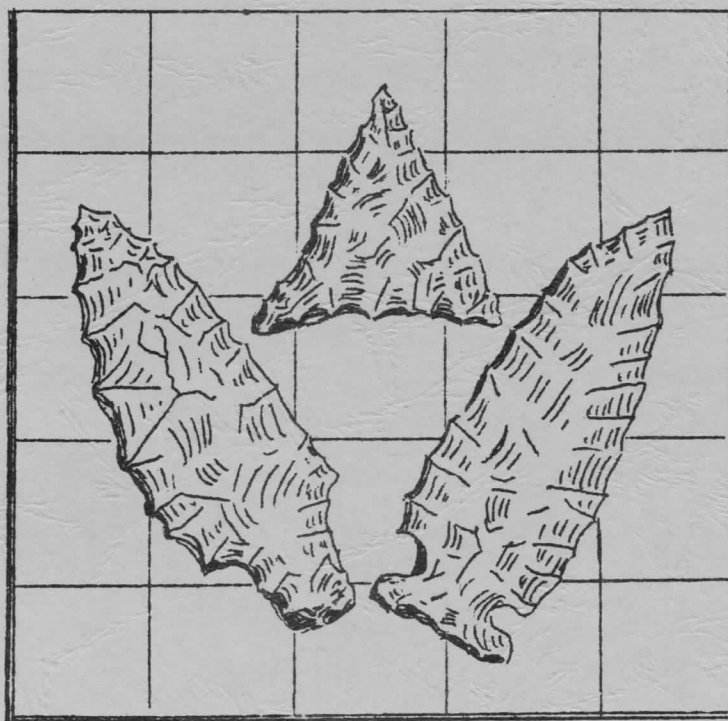


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THE WILSON SITE (OND 9)

A PROTOHISTORIC ONEIDA VILLAGE

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INTRODUCTION

In 1971, their interest piqued by Tuck's work on the Onondagas (Tuck 1971), the authors were anxious to establish a settlement sequence for the Oneida Iroquois upon "in situ" evidence. The location of known prehistoric Oneida settlements are in the Cowaselson Creek drainage (ie, Olcott, Vaillencourt,* Brunck, Goff, Moon, Buyea, Ingalls, and Tuttle sites) and the Clockville Creek drainage - ie, Nichols Pond, Simpson, Case, Heslin, Rich, and Dougherty sites. The ridges of the Oneida Creek Valley are the location for all known contact sites - ie, Bach, Diable, Thurston, Marshalls, Stone Quarry, Primes Hill, Dungy, Blowers (Beecher), Wilson, Marsh, Sullivan, Cameron, Upper Hogan, Lower Hogan (Lanz-Hogan), Oneida Castle, and Cheesebro (Sterling).

In the late 1960's three of us under the direction of Theodore Whitney (Whitney 1970) participated in the excavation of a prehistoric longhouse (Buyea site). Since this was the only complete Oneida house pattern known, we were interested in comparing it to a later contact settlement house pattern.

The Wilson site (OND-9), occasionally known as the Van Tiller site, has been known over 100 years to relic hunters. Because of owner restrictions for the past 30 years, no excavations on the site have occurred except for the rare "pot holer" who may have stolen onto the site. However, there was no damage to the existing subsoil features and because of absence of "in situ" disturbance, we chose to excavate part of the site in hopes of exposing a contact Oneida settlement pattern.

* see appendix C

Except for, Pratt's (1976) work, no mention of the site appears in the literature. However, as mentioned above, in past records, it has been called Persis and/or the Peter Tiller site.

Mr. Robert Wagner has owned this land for the past 22 years. Without his permission, tolerance, and protective support, the excavation could never have been completed. The authors hand excavated the entire reported area over a four year period. During the "digging season" - late April to early November - we devoted to the project one half day per week and an occasional Sunday. On site protection was of the essence to preserve our work from year to year. For this protection we are indebted to Mr. Wagner and his family.

The entire project was done without funding except for the moneys donated by the authors throughout the years of the dig. In preparing this report, the authors have attempted to delegate various aspects of the site research to coincide with each author's expertise. By this method, we felt a more in-depth study could be assured, thereby producing more relevant conclusions in reconstructing the lifestyle of the site's occupants and their European contacts.

Wilson Site Beads

I

Kidd's classification

Pratt's

IV N like

#33 like

Oval shape - Polychrome

1 - 1.3 cm x 1.6 cm

Description - Large twisted oval bead - 6 vertically twisted red opaque stripes - alternated with 6 vertical opaque blue stripes. A flush eye is composed of opaque red core with the outer edge wavy, then an opaque white layer following these contours - 3rd layer again opaque red with outer layer opaque white. The vertically twisted red and blue stripes are imbedded in this white opaque layer - with the exception of the middle stripe being thick. The remaining stripes are thinner although varying in thickness.

IB

IV N like

#33 like

Oval shape - polychrome

2 - 1.1 cm x 1.2 cm

2 - 1.2 cm x 1.2 cm

Description - This bead is the same as #1 but not twisted in manufacturing.

II

IV N 7

not truly described
in Pratt

1 - 1.1 cm x 5.5 mm x 9 mm

flat bead - polychrome

Description - outside color opaque oyster white - 2nd layer opaque redwood - 3rd opaque white - core is clear light gray
4 blue opaque stripes, 4 palm green opaque stripes,
4 redwood opaque stripes all on opaque white.

III

II bb 2

22 like (except
flat)

Flat bead - polychrome

1 - 1.3 cm x 4 mm x 8 mm

1 - 9 mm x 5 mm x 9 mm

Description - 3 bright opaque navy stripes on opaque white - body color redwood.

**Throughout this report, vertical stripes are referred to as those running eye to eye.

IV

Kidd's classification

Pratt's classification
#22

II bbl

Round beads - polychrome

1 - 8 mm x 9 mm

1 - 1.2 cm x 1.3 cm

IV b

II bbl

#22 like (except
3 black opaque stripes)

Round bead - polychrome

1 - 8 mm x 8 mm

Description - same as # IV except there are 3 black opaque stripes.

V

II b 2 like

Flat bead - Polychrome

1 - 9 mm x 6 mm

Description - (fragment) opaque redwood color body with white opaque vertical stripe - This fragment although broken eye to eye and diameter wise appears to have been a large bead.

VI

II b 22

32

Flat bead - Polychrome

1 - 1.2 cm x 7 mm x 1 cm

Description - flat opaque white body with 8 opaque redwood vertical stripes.

VII

II b 7 like

not listed

Oval bead - polychrome

1 - 1 cm x 1.1 cm

Description - opaque redwood body with 12 opaque white vertical stripes. (Question is on core material that appears to be wavy purple lines in the redwood coloring).

VIII

IV b 7 like

not listed in Pratt's

Round bead - Polychrome

1 - 8 mm x 1 cm

Description - opaque redwood body - translucent green core with 12 opaque white vertical stripes.

IX

IV b 32

20 like (not listed with 7 stripes)

Round bead - Polychrome

1 - 9 mm x 1.1 cm

Description - body translucent bright navy - middle color opaque white and core translucent bright navy - 7 white opaque vertical stripes.

X

IV b 33

19

Round bead - Polychrome

1 - 9 mm x 8 mm

1 - 6 mm x 8 mm

Description - Translucent bright navy body - middle color opaque white - core translucent bright navy - 16 opaque white stripes (8 pairs).

XI

II bb like

not listed in Pratt's

Round bead - polychrome

1 - 1.2 cm x 1.4 cm

Description - body a translucent robin's egg blue - stripes only on $\frac{1}{2}$ of bead - vertical opaque. These stripes run as follows: red - white, white, white - red - white, red - white - red. (Although not specifically listed in Kidds, it belongs in the II bb category.

XVI

XII

IV b'1 like -

not listed in Pratt's

oval bead - polychrome

1 - 8 mm x 4 mm

Description - Translucent apple green body and core with 5 white vertical opaque stripes twisted.

X III

IV K 3 and 4 like

16

Round and Oval - Polychrome

1 - 7 mm x 7 mm 3 - 6 mm x 6 mm

1 - 8 mm x 8 mm 1 - 7 mm x 6 mm

Description - (Star bead) outside color bright navy, 2 nd layer opaque white, 3 rd layer opaque redwood, 4 th layer opaque white and 5th layer a light gray and translucent.

XIV

II B 56 like

47 like

Oval bead - Polychrome

1 - 1.1cm x 1 cm

Description - aqua blue translucent with possibly 2 or 3 opaque white stripes. Since this is slightly less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of a bead it would be impossible to know.

XV

II A 39 and II A 38

not listed in Pratt's

Oval bead - monochrome

1 - 8 mm x 6 mm 1 - 9 mm x 8 mm

1 - 4 mm x 5 mm 1 - 5 mm x 7 mm

Description - translucent acqua blue

XVI

II A 40, 41, 42

#35

Round and oval - monochrome

2 - (R) 4 mm x 5 mm

1 - (R) 1.1 cm x 1 cm

1 - (O) 1 mm x 6 mm

1 - (Fused double oval) 1.4 cm x 5 mm 2 - (R) 5 mm x 6 mm

1 - (R) 8.5 mm x 9 mm

4 - (R) 6 mm x 6 mm

Description - Robin's egg blue - opaque

XVII

II A 48

13

Round bead - monochrome

1 - 6 mm x 6 mm

Description - Dark opaque shadow blue (purple - blue in Pratt's)

XVIII

Kidd's classification

II A 6 round

7 circular

8 oval

Pratt's classification

#12 like (round)

#84

Monochrome

1 - (R) 6.5 mm x 6.5 mm

12 - (C) 2 mm x 4 mm range

2 - (C) 3 mm x 6 mm range

2 - (C) 4 mm x 6 mm range

Description - opaque black

6 - (O) 3.5 mm x 6 mm range

4 * (O) 5 mm x 6 mm range

XIX

A 7 like and A 8 like

#84 like

Circular and oval - polychrome

20 - (C) 3 mm x 6.5 mm range

18 - (C) 4 mm x 6.5 mm range

2 - (C) 5 mm x 6 mm range

Description - Opaque black - flattened eye to eye type but has fine pinkish lines running at random throughout the bead.

This bead is not described elsewhere. This bead was found on Blower's Site and is now in Bennett's collection.

XX

II A 9 and II A 10

#54 like

Oval and Round - Monochrome

1 - (O) 4.5 mm x 4 mm

1 - (O) 3.5 mm x 4 mm

1 - (O) 5 mm x 3.5 mm

1 - (R) 3.5 mm x 3.5 mm

Description - Solid light gray - opaque

XXI

II A 11 like

#54 like

Oval and round - monochrome

1 - 6.5 mm x 6.5 mm

1 - 5.5 mm x 6.0 mm

1 - 8.0 mm x 7 mm

Description - opaque solid oyster white

XXII

Kidd's classification

II A 13

Round - monochrome

1 - 4.5 mm x 5.5 mm

Description - opaque solid white

Pratt's classification

#54 like

XXIII

IV A 13 like

#2 like

Circular bead - Polychrome

13 - 2 mm x 4.5 mm range

Description - opaque oyster white with light gray translucent glass core.

XXIV

IV A 14 like

2 like

Circular bead - polychrome

4 - 2.5 mm x 4.0 mm range

4 - 3.0 mm x 5.0 mm range

1 - 4.0 mm x 5.0 mm range

Description - opaque white with light aqua blue translucent core.

XXV

IV A 19 like

#3 like

circular bead - polychrome

24 - 2 mm x 5.0 mm range

16 - 3 mm x 4.5 mm range

2 - 4 mm x 5.0 mm range

Description - translucent bright navy with a thin white opaque middle layer and a bright navy core. (True blue color identification is a question) 4 of the beads seem to be a baby blue shade.

XXVI (variations of XXV)

Kidd's classification

Pratt's classification

#4 like

circular bead - Polychrome

1 - 3.0 mm x 4 mm (Seems to have 5 white longitudinal stripes)

1 - 2.0 mm x 3.5 mm (This one is a little brighter blue)

1 - badly marred by fire - unidentifiable

1 - 2.0 mm x 3.5 mm - same description as XXV but has flare edges
on both eyes.

Description - same as XXV except as listed above.

XXVII

IV A19

not listed in Pratt's

circular - polychrome

1 - 2.5 mm x 4.0 mm

Description - translucent bright navy with a light gray core.

XXVIII

untyped

circular - monochrome

1 - 2.0 mm x 4.0 mm

Description - opaque baby blue with a high glossy lustre.

XXIX

II A 56 like

not listed in Pratt's

circular bead - monochrome

1 - 3.0 mm x 4.0 mm

1 - 2.0 mm x 3.5 mm

Description - translucent bright navy

XXX

Kidd's classification
 not listed in Kidd's
 circular bead - Polychrome
 1 - 2.5 mm x 3.5 mm

Pratt's classification
 #85 like

Description - opaque red, eye to eye flattened with flare edges
 (The dark core as listed in Pratt's may be missing)

XXXI

II A 61
 round - monochrome
 1 - 9 mm x 9 mm

not listed in Pratt's

Description - clear translucent dark rose-brown color.

XXXII

IV A I

#60

Round - polychrome
 1 - 8 mm x 7.5 mm
 1 - 6 mm x 7 mm
 1 - 5.5 mm x 6.5 mm

Description - opaque redwood body with opaque black core.

XXXIII

II A I

#36LIKE

round and oval monochrome
 2 - (R) 7 mm x 8 mm
 1 - (R) 5 mm x 7 mm
 1 - (O) 9 mm x 7 mm

Description - opaque solid red wood color

XXXIV

I A 19

not listed in Pratt's

cane bead - monochrome
 1 - 2.5 mm x 3.5 mm (fragment)

Description - Translucent bright navy

XXXV

Kidd's classification

Pratt's classification

III b 1

cane bead - polychrome

1 - 4.5 mm x 3.5 mm (fragment)

Description - opaque redwood color with opaque black core and 6 or more white opaque white longitudinal stripes.

-
- A. There was a total of 202 beads found on the site.
- B. ³⁷Thirty-five varieties of beads were found.
- C. 141 beads classified as polychrome 69.3%
61 beads classified as monochrome 30.7%
- D. Fourteen measured 1 cm or larger 6.5%
188 beads were 9 mm or smaller 93.5 %
- E. 126 beads were circular shape 62.4%
40 beads were round shape 19.8%
31 beads were oval shape 15.3 %
5 beads were flat shape 2.5%

The Table XXVII will try to place the known site beads from Wilson into Pratt's (1961) classification and sequence of the Oneida sites. They will be divided into two categories the monochrome and the polychrome.

BEAD TYPES FROM WILSON SITE (OND 9) AND PRATT COMPARISON

TABLE XXVII

Monochrome Beads

Pratt's Classification	Number Found	Site and Year
#2 like	22	Cameron 1570-1595
#12 like	1	Cameron 1570-1595
#13	1	Cameron 1570-1595
#35	12	Thurston 1627-1637
# 36 like	5	Thurston 1625-1637
#54 like	1	Thurston 1625-1637
#84 like	40	Cameron 1570-1595
#85 like	1	Lemery 1660-1677

4 categories 1570-1595 (Cameron) , 3 Categories 1625-1637
(Thurston), 1 category 1660-1667 (Lemery)

Polychrome Beads

#3 like	40	Cameron 1570-1595
#4	1	Cameron 1570-1595
#16	6	Cameron 1570-1595
#19	2	Cameron 1570-1595
#20 like	1	Cameron 1570-1595
#22 like	2	Cameron 1570-1595
#26 like	1	Cameron 1570-1595
# 32	1	Thurston 1625-1637
#33 like	5	Wilson , Blowers 1595-1625
# 47 like	1	Thurston 1625-1637
#60	3	Clark 1642-1660
#61	1	Clark 1642-1660

Bead classification and sequence of Oneida sites (continued)

7 categories	1570-1595 (Cameron's)
2 categories	1625-1637 (Thurston's)
1 category	1595-1625 (Wilson's)
2 categories	1642-1660 (Clark's)

Combined total of catagories

- 11 - Cameron's
- 5 - Thurston's
- 2 - Clark's
- 1 - Wilson's
- 1 - Lemery's

Beads found on the Wilson site that also appear on either the Cameron or Blower's site.

Wilson Site Bead category (35 varieties found as charted).

I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X XI XII XIII
XIV XV XVI XVII XVIII XIX XX XXI XXII XXIII
XXIV XXV XXVI XXVII XXVIII XXIX XXX XXXI XXXII
XXXIII XXXIV XXXV.

Cameron Site The circled ones also appear on the Wilson site.

I II (III) IV (V) VI VII (VIII) (IX) X (XI)
(XII) XIII XIV (XV) (XVI) (XVII) (XVIII) (XIX) (XX)
XXI (XXII) (XXIII) (XXIV) (XXV) (XXVI) XVII (XXVIII) 20
XXIX (XXX) (XXXI) XXXII XXXIII XXXIV XXXV.

Blower Site The circled ones also appear on the Wilson site.

I (II) III IV V VI VII (VIII) IX X XI
XII XIII XIV XV XVI XVII (XVIII) XIX (XX)
(XXI) (XXII) (XXIII) (XXIV) XXV XXVI XXVII XVIII 2
XXIX XXX (XXXI) XXXII XXXIII XXXIV XXXV.

The following observations have been made based on the resources available:

1. Polychrome beads are more prevalent on Cameron's and Wilson's than on Blower's.
2. Although cane beads are not in high percentage all all 3 sites, Cameron's seems to have more with just a trace on Wilson's and Blower's.
3. The larger multi-colored beads are more prevalent on Cameron followed by Wilson and then Blower's.
4. Flare edge beads appear on Wilson's and Cameron's but not Blower's. Multi-colored ones appear on Cameron's with the plain red and blue found on Wilson's.
5. There is a greater range of larger multi-colored beads on Cameron's than Wilson's with Blower's having the least.
6. There appears to be a greater quantity of beads found on Cameron's, followed by Wilson's and lastly Blower's.
7. Larger (thickness) cane beads seem to be prevalent on earlier sites with Cameron having the greater percentage with only a trace on Wilson's and Blower's.
8. Star-like beads appear on all 3 sites.
9. With a few exceptions, smaller beads are found on Blower's.
10. There is no evidence of wire wound beads on any of the three sites.

Beads and Wampum

The intent of this section on beads of the Wilson site will be as follows:

1. to describe as clearly as possible the writers observations of the bead as to construction, color, and any unusual discrepancies or variances in comparison to information offered by Peter Pratt (1961) and Kenneth Kidd in their respective booklets.
2. to measure each bead from eye to eye and also the diameter.
3. to compare these beads to those found on the Cameron and Blower's sites. It will be through this comparison, observations, and cross-checking that may help place the Wilson site more definitely in the proper sequence of the Oneida sites.

In my first observations it would be best to specify some problems which are encountered in any bead study.

- A. Kidd's charts and information, although quite precise and detailed, do not cover the entire spectrum of beads known. Thus, this article qualifies the identifications and observations of individual beads found at Wilson's with the word "like" when using Kidd's and Pratt's booklets. This means that the bead in most respects is of the same basic pattern and construction, but not exactly.
- B. That as Kidd states, "...imperfectly shaped beads are not uncommon on Indian sites and their classification poses a slight problem." This certainly has been a major challenge as well as the beads that were marred by fire which changes their outward appearance considerably.
- C. Establishing color shades from the charts and terminology was extremely difficult. This was particularly true of the white and blue beads.

- D. The shapes and sizes of the beads were extremely inconsistent and posed even further problems.
- E. One main consideration that should be given to bead study is that "exactness of identification" is extremely difficult. It is very obvious that the early bead manufacture did not always qualify in exactness of color, size and shape. Glass quality seemed to be even more inconsistent.

However, if the term "like" is understood in this article, it will put into proper perspective what this section dealing with beads is attempting to do.

WAMPUM -OND 9TABLE XXVIII

Disc Wampum - 27 Total (measurements are thickness and diameter)

1 - 1 mm X 4 mm
 1 - 1 mm X 6 mm
 1 - 1 mm X 9 mm (gray)
 7 - 2 mm X 1.2 cm range
 10 - 2 mm X 7 mm range
 1 - 3 mm X 6 mm
 1 - 3 mm X 1.2 cm
 1 - 3 mm X 9 mm
 1 - 4.5 mm X 6 mm (black)
 1 - 4.5 mm X 7.5 mm
 2 - 5.5 mm X 9 mm
 1 - 6 mm X 8.5 mm

Tubular Wampum - 9 Total (measurements eye to eye and diameter)

1 - 3.5 mm X 4 mm
 3 - 4.5 mm X 4 mm range
 4 - 5.0 mm X 5.5 mm range
 1 - 6 mm X 4.5 mm

-
1. These wampum all appear to be native made.
 2. Purple, black and gray wampum appear on all three sites.
 3. Square wampum, which appear on earlier sites and on Cameron does not seem to appear on Wilson or Blowers.
 4. There seems to also be a predominance of disc type over the tubular type on Wilson as well as on Cameron site.
 5. Thickness (eye to eye) of the disc type seems to be very similar on all three sites.