FORT WILLIAM

FOOD-RELATED ARTIFACTS

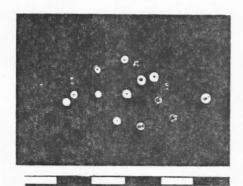
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Jean-Pierre Cloutier

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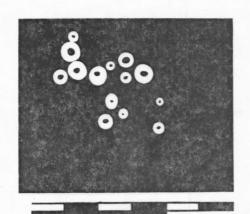
with additional material by

James A. Burns Elizabeth Redfern Rose Wark



I made them Presents of some small Articles but they were fonder of the Beads than anything else I gave particularly Blue Ones. One of them to whom I had given a Knife asked me to change it for three Branches of Beads which I did to please him.

Alexander Mackenzie, Mackenzie River, 1789



The process of embroidering ammunition pouches displays much ingenuity. They (Cree Indians) make a kind of tambour frame, with sinews stretched in parallel lines by a bow. Across these they interweave beads and quills into gay and sometimes elegant patterns.

Robert Hood, First Franklin Expedition, 1819-21



The Enamel Beads of this season are a perfect dead stock in both our Indian and Sale shops—being too large—instead of selling them at 12 skins p lb. I shall never be able to sell them at 1 skin a pound—have you none smaller to send us.—

Donald Ross, Norway House, 1838