

Notes on Historic Material Culture at the Sand Dune Site,
Hubbell Trading Post

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Recent historic use of the Sand Dune Site is represented by a light scattering of glass, metal, and vegetal material. No structural evidence of a recent historic occupation was identified in any of the excavations, but the distance of refuse from the current access road and the variety of material encountered suggest the site has continued to be a loci of activity and not simply an area of road-associated discard.

A variety of beverage bottles, including soda, alcoholic, and possible milk containers were recovered from the Sand Dune site (see Table 1). Approximately 16 bottles, represented by 136 glass fragments were dispersed over the site. The majority of this bottle glass is clear (90.4%) with minor amounts of brown and green glass. Clear glass is common in glass assemblages post dating the 1930s (Wozniak: 1983:323; Ward et al. 1977:240) as does the use of painted labels (Ward et al. 1977:235) of which two are found in the assemblage. A single, clear glass screw-top style wine bottle of the Tokay or "Philadelphia oval" (Berge 1980:79) variety accounts for most (79%) of the glass, while at least three soda, one fluted clear whiskey bottle, one or two brown beer bottles, and a milk bottle account for the remainder.

Exclusive discard of beverage containers usually indicates transient use of an area (in keeping with road associated discard), but the variety of returnable and nonreturnable bottles, particularly the soft drinks, suggest the Sand Dune Site has been the locality of mixed social, if not specifically age-linked, activities. Some activity at the Sand Dune Site seems reminiscent of illicit behaviors often associated with isolated lots in modern community settings (Wilk and Schiffer 1979). The retouching and use of one item suggests the Sand Dune local may have been the site of routine but casual work, possibly in the first quarter of this century (see Ward et al. 1977:273-274).

A single detachable beer ring-pull tab was also found. This style of beer can tab was most popular between 1965 and 1975 (Busch 1981) and represents the most recently known evidence of continued beverage related discards at the site.

Six peach pit halves were found in Grid 494 (Level 1 0-20cm). It was not possible to determine how many complete pits the six specimens represents so that measurements were taken for all specimen lengths and widths across the seam. These were compared with similar data on peach pits recovered from the Bunkhouse (HB-5, see Table 2). The low coefficient of variation for specimens from the Sand Dune site indicates these specimens represent a single population and in all probability represent but three pits. In comparing the Sand Dune site pits with those from the Bunkhouse, it can be seen that those at the Sand Dune site are generally larger while those from the Bunkhouse show considerable variation (c.v. greater than 10 suggests multiple populations in botanical measures, Thomas 1976:84). Although there is no significant difference between the sizes of pits in these two samples (2-tailed Students t-test; $t=0.789$,

Table 1. Glass from the Sand Dune Site, Hubbell Trading Post.

N	gms	Body Parts			flat	BN	Remarks
		body	neck	base			
1	1.4	1			1		
1	12.7		1		1	1 scalloped whiskey bottle shoulder 	
108	338.6			screw-cap	1	1 1 pint wine bottle, embossed words "WINE, 1 PINT, 421 WINE" on base, trademark: 	
1	0.2	1			1		
1	0.2				1	heat altered w/two finished edges-possible	
11	27.3	11			1	picture frame glass 1 1 w/embossed label	
1	2.1	1			1		
6	15.0	6			5	1 1 plain, 1 parallel embossed, 1 whiskey/wine bottle w/retouched straight edge 3.2mm long, 1 flattish w/orange paint (milk?)	
1	2.1	1			1		
2	25.6	1		seal-type	2	1 1 plain, 1 milk bottle closure w/lugs	

continued

M-6 Layer 2 (1983)

brown
clear

Grid 458

Layer 1 Lv 1 0-20cm
clear

Grid 468 W. Half

Layer 1 0-40cm
clear

Grid 494

Layer 1 Lv 1 0-20cm
clear

brown

Grid 495

Layer 1 Lv 2 20-30cm
clear

Grid 659 E. Half

Layer 1 Lv 1
clear

"7up" green

Grid 702 E. Half

Layer 1 Lv 1
clear

Table 1, cont. Sand Dune Glass

Backhoe Trench 2 clear	N	Body Parts					Remarks	
		gms	body	neck	base	finish		flat
	3	148.0		1	1	crown	3	1 soda bottle base has embossed design of oblique parallel lines and words on base "Design, PAT D, MAR 3, 25, 3", shoulder has wide twisted/sprial flutes, crown is convex bulge style w/red-on-white oval label in a red circle:
Totals	136	573.2	22	2	1	3	1	17



clear [bottle [flat "7up" green brown	Weight		%gms		Thickness-mm		BN		
	n	%	gms	\bar{x}	n	range		\bar{x}	cv
	123	90.4	542.4	92.7	11	2.9-6.9	4.091	1.051	25.7
	122		542.2		1	1.1			
	1	0.7	0.2		1	2.9			
	12	8.8	40.7	7.0	11	2.9-5.3	4.000	0.819	20.5

BN=min. n of bottles

df=7, p=0.46 for length; t=1.607, df=10, p=0.14 for seam width) inspection (and the c.v.) indicates pits from the Sand Dune site are larger and more uniform in size. The omission of the largest pit from the Bunkhouse sample results in a markedly smaller group of pits (length \bar{x} =2.12 cm, seam width \bar{x} =1.24 cm) than those at the Sand Dune site. The most practical explanation of this difference is the selection of ripe fruit for consumption at the Sand Dune Site in contrast to fruit gathered by rodents for eating or caching beneath the Bunkhouse floor. Rodent use of fruit would likely involve small, immature fruit or "mummies" that fell to the ground or were rejected during harvest. The result would be small pits which evidence gnawing as seen on four of the seven specimens from the Bunkhouse. While these data suggest there were peach trees in the vicinity of the Bunkhouse, they also suggest that peaches recovered at the Sand Dune site are local Hubbell peaches, no longer grown, and not the large commercial variety that may have been introduced by recent workers, including archeologists.

The recent historic material remains suggest the Site Dune site has continued to be used as an area of intermittent activity. This activity is, apparently, primarily casual social drinking and eating and is undoubtedly associated with the operation of the trading post. The single worked fragment of glass indicates that some casual work was performed in the area, but no more substantial evidence remains. Material more recent than 1960 is not abundant apparently being restricted to a beer can pull-tab and a wine bottle.

Table 2. Peach Pit Comparative Data (cm).

	N	range	mean	s.d.	c.v.
Bunkhouse					
length	4	1.90-3.37	2.433	0.644	26.5
seam width	6	0.85-2.30	1.613	0.437	27.1
width	6	0.83-1.70	1.312	0.278	21.2
Sand Dune					
length	5	2.63-2.70	2.660	0.026	1.0
seam width	6	1.83-1.96	1.902	0.050	2.6
width	-				

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