GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS

The items listed here are either of a general or specialized nature that do not readily fit in any of the other sections.

Abadía, Oscar Moro and April Nowell  
    *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 22(3): 952-979.  
Explores the history and epistemology of the concept of “ornament” (beads and pendants) in the field of Palaeolithic archaeology. In particular, the authors analyze the factors underlying why the same kinds of objects have been historically described in very diverse ways.

Allen, Jamey D.  
This large and handsome volume is basically a guide to the private collection of beads made in the 1980s, primarily in Afghanistan and Indonesia, by Ulrich J. Beck. It is primarily aimed at collectors.

Discusses the term “trade bead” and then focuses on Nueva Cadiz and chevron/star beads, and the origin of Venetian millefiori beads, seed beads, and the original inspirations for rosetta beads.

Allen, Jamey D. and Valerie Hector (eds.)  
Publishes the 44 papers presented at the International Bead & Beadwork Conference held at Kadir Has University in Istanbul, Turkey, November 23-25, 2007. The theme for the academic program was “The Global Perspective of Beads and Beadwork: History, Manufacture, Trade, and Adornment.” The individual articles are listed in the appropriate sections of this bibliography.

Alphen, Richard van  
Online catalog of the extensive J.F. Sick and Co. trade bead sample cards that are the subject of Brakel (2006).
A number of the papers deal with shell ornaments such as beads and pendants. The relevant individual papers are listed in the appropriate sections of this bibliography.

**Anderegg, Fred**

**Aston, B.G.**
Includes careful geological descriptions and information on sources of bead stones such as carnelian, amethyst, and agate. Egypt.

**Aufrère, S.**
Includes an account of ideas of the magical and other properties of bead materials such as various stones, gold, silver, and amber.

**Bar-Yosef Mayer, Daniella E.**
Research has shown that at Middle Palaeolithic sites in both Africa and Eurasia, members of the genus *Nassarius* were the preferred mollusks for use as beads.

**Beck, Horace C.**
Originally published in 1928, Beck’s monograph remains a classic in its field and is still the only comprehensive work that deals with the classification of beads of complex shapes and forms. The 2006 version replicates the original 1928 version with the addition of an addendum that presents corrections and additions made to the manuscript by Beck up to 1934.

**Bednarik, Robert G.**
Theoretical considerations and replication experiments imply a more sophisticated background to Indian and African Paleolithic eggshell beads than many archaeologists have held.

Discusses the subject from the perspective of cognitive human evolution. Posits the presence of beads from the Acheulian period onwards, and presents the results of replicating the manufacture of ostrich-eggshell beads.
Survey the distribution of Pleistocene beads and pendants in time and space, their forms of occurrence, and the implications of these empirical observations for hominid ethology. It is concluded that such symbolic artefacts were in use since the Lower Paleolithic, i.e., for at least two or three hundred millennia, and that complex communication and social systems must be attributed to the societies concerned.

A comprehensive review of evidence of very early paleoart covering all continents reveals significant misconceptions in the dominant models of “art” origins. The existence of early non-utilitarian traditions is demonstrated, including beadmaking and pigment use in the Lower Paleolithic, and the widespread uniformity of Middle Paleolithic paleoart traditions is noted. The evidence suggests that the oldest and symbolically most sophisticated paleoart is that of Asia rather than Europe.

The author reviews the available corpus of bead and pendant finds from the Middle and Late Pleistocene periods and suggests not only the use of complex symbolisms several hundred millennia ago, but also the application of concepts of perfection and self-awareness. This finding agrees with other indicators of hominin cognition, but it clashes with the dominant notion that “modern” human faculties appeared with a hypothetical replacement of Europeans by Africans just 35,000 years ago.

This paper attempts to explore beyond the predictable and banal archaeological explanations relating to early beads and pendants. It recounts replication experiments to establish aspects of technology so as to better understand what can be learned from the quantifiable properties of these artifacts.

**Bin Yang**
By focusing on Chinese, Indian, and Southeast Asian societies, this article illustrates the significance of cowrie shells in a cross-regional context, analyzes the transformation of their functions over the longue durée, and discusses some local and global issues, such as why cowrie shells failed to develop into a common currency in early China.

**Botha, Rudolf**
Focuses on the inference that the Middle Stone Age inhabitants of Blombos Cave, South Africa, had fully syntactic language. This is derived from an evaluation of the properties of 41 perforated shells of the scavenging gastropod *Nassarius kraussianus* which are believed to have been worn by the humans who inhabited the cave some 75,000 years ago.

**Brakel, K. van**
The J.F. Sick & Co. collection contains 197 sample cards displaying 22,000 beads as well as a 50-page color catalog. This book documents and illustrates the collection. The sample cards are assigned to four chronological groups: 1) 1910-1913 (cards 1-68); 2) 1920-1929 (cards 69-150); 3) 1930-1939 (cards 151-181); and 1948 onwards (cards 182-188). Some of these are illustrated in the book. The rest are on an accompanying DVD. They show the wide range of fancy and millefiori/mosaic glass beads that poured into West Africa during the first half of the 20th century, including various rosetta or chevron beads. Africa, Venice, Italy. See also van Alphen (2014).

Çakırlar, Canan (ed.)
Contains ten articles, many of which deal with beads and pendants, mostly from New World (Mexico, Colombia, United States) contexts. The relevant articles are listed in the South America and North America bibliographies.

Camps-Fabrèr, Henriette et al.
A typology for prehistoric bone ornaments, including beads, spacers, and pendants.

Carroll, Scott and Kelly McHugh
Most affected beads fell into one of two categories: those with a waxy/crusty surface that tests positive for triglyceride oils and those with a powdery/crystalline coating that does not.

Carter, Alison Kyra, Shinu Anna Abraham, and Gwendolyn O. Kelly
2016 Updating Asia’s Maritime Bead Trade: An Introduction. Archaeological Research in Asia 6:1-3. Vol. 6 of Archaeological Research in Asia is a special issue focused on updating Peter Francis, Jr.’s, book Asia’s Maritime Bead Trade. It contains six papers that deal with Indo-Pacific beads in Central and Southeast Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. The introduction offers a brief background on Francis’ book and the motivation for putting together this special issue. The individual articles are annotated in the appropriate sections of the Researching the World’s Beads bibliography.

Caubet, Annie (ed.)
This catalog of ancient Oriental objects of faience and glass includes beads. Some catalog entries include results of chemical analyses. Also provides the French names for bead shapes.

Caubet, Annie et al.
Twenty papers ranging widely on various aspects of carnelian, lapis lazuli, turquoise, and rock crystal in Mesopotamia, India, Egypt, Greece. Beads passim (e.g., pp. 20, 23, 75, 96, 171f.).

**Ceci, Lynn**
Charts the evolution of anthropological research on shell beads from ca. 1840 to 1986.

**Claassen, Cheryl**
Much useful information from archaeology and ethnography on shells as bead materials. Covers tools, shell-working, how to measure and describe, symbolism, distribution, sourcing, and exchange.

**Conn, Richard G.**
This article is the transcript of a paper that was given at the conference of the Canadian Archaeological Association in 1968. It shows the ground that had been covered up to that date, and indicates the gaps that remain to be filled.

**Dapschauskas, Rimtautas**
Discusses empirical evidence for the intentional use of personal ornaments by early *Homo sapiens* and interprets the finds in the context of theoretical reflections on symbolic communication. The analysis draws on a combination of theories, concluding that an expansion of human cognitive capacities to communicate symbolically probably occurred in *Homo sapiens* during the Middle Stone Age in Southern Africa, as well as the Middle Paleolithic of Northern Africa and the Levant.

**Davis, Nancy**
Explains the correlation between poor storage conditions and the powdering of shell artifacts. Possible treatments are discussed and preventive measures are outlined.

**d’Errico, Francesco and Chris B. Stringer**
Crucial questions in the debate on the origin of quintessential human behaviors are whether modern cognition and associated innovations are unique to our species and whether they emerged abruptly, gradually, or as the result of a discontinuous process. The scenarios are evaluated in the light of new evidence from Africa, Asia, and Europe (including shell beads) and the mechanisms that may have led to modern cultures are explored.
d’Errico, F. and M. Vanhaeren
This article shows the role of ornaments in understanding the evolution of the modern language. The analysis of a geospatial database recording the occurrence of 157 bead types at 98 Aurignacian sites has identified a definite cline in ornament types, sweeping counter-clockwise from the Northern Plains to the Eastern Alps, via Western and Southern Europe, through fourteen geographically cohesive sets of sites. The sets most distant from each other do not share any bead types but share personal ornament types with intermediate sets.

Challenges the idea of a strict link between biological and behavioral change and suggests that modern cognition and language are results of a gradual, complex, and non-linear process to whose advancement different human populations and possibly a number of fossil human species have contributed. Beads enter into the discussion.

Dorsey, A. Breckenridge
The article has 39 color illustrations showing different types of Buddhist rosaries made of a variety of materials. The origin and development of rosaries in eastern Asia is reviewed, followed by a text giving a detailed exposition of the varying ways in which different Buddhist cultures use prayer beads in Tibet, China, Korea and Japan.

Dubin, Lois Sherr
Major work on beads worldwide and through time with a fold-out timeline of bead varieties.

On the nature and power of eye beads in various parts of the world over time.


The UK version of The History of Beads (Dubin 2009).
Eicher, Joanne B. (ed.)
Beads feature prominently in the timeline found in the appendix.

Fenn, Julia

A brief note on a specific form of glass-bead disease: saponification.

Fiedel, Stuart J.
Archaeologists have cited ornamented burials as evidence that some hunting-gathering societies formerly assumed to have been egalitarian were, in fact, ranked. However, ethnographic analogies and some archaeological data relating to sociopolitical organization in most cases do not support inferences of ranking based on mortuary evidence alone.

Francis, Peter, Jr.
1988 When is a Bead not a Bead? Ornament 11(3):33, 66-76.
Discusses the term “bead” and problematical overlaps with such things as pendants, seals, spindle whorls, bone tools, etc.


This guide to the awesome universe of collectible beads covers such topics as bead manufacture and identification, followed by a discussion of the world’s beads by geographical area.

The sociology of beadmakers is reviewed in terms of physical translocation, social organization, position within society, and how their traditions are passed on.

A book with a broad scope. In addition to the production, use, and provenance of beads involved in Asian maritime commerce, this book examines the importance of the bead trade for the economies of the countries involved and provides insights into the lives of its many participants: artisans, mariners, and merchants. It covers the widely-dispersed Indo-Pacific beads (aka mulisalah), Chinese glass beads, Middle Eastern glass beads, Indian stone beads, heirloom beads in Southeast Asia and Micronesia, and other minor beads and bead industries involved in the trade.

On the as yet unsolved mystery of the origin of two widely distributed glass bead types.

**Garofoli, Duilio**


The author concludes that early body ornaments such as beads are currently unable to support cognitive equivalence between primitive and modern human populations.

**Glover, Ian, Helen Hughes-Brock, and Julian Henderson (eds.)**


This book is sub-titled “A Book on Glass and Semiprecious Stone Beads in History and Archaeology for Archaeologists, Jewellery Historians and Collectors.” The volume comprises eleven papers on glass and hard stone ornaments surviving from ancient societies, and those made and worn by some traditional communities in the modern world. The individual articles are listed in the appropriate sections of this bibliography.

**Graeber, David**


Investigates why so many cultures have adopted beads and other adornments as trade currencies.

**Gumpert, Anita von Kahler**


Cowries are a universal favorite among shell ornaments. The author covers the subject under the headings of history and symbolism; the African trade; natural history; myth, magic and religion; status and ornamentation; collections; and finally, decoration and jewelry.

**Gumpert, Anita von Kahler and Karlis Karklins**


Though short lived, the German trade journal, *Die Perle*, contains a wealth of information concerning the European bead and jewelry industry of the 1920s. Short articles provide insight into new machinery and apparatus for producing beads, natural and artificial materials for the production of beads and other ornaments, fashion trends, market reports, and numerous other topics. As the journals are in German, English summaries are provided for a representative sample of the articles to give the reader an idea of their vast scope.

**Henderson, Julian**


Chapter 3 (Glass) presents an excellent overview of glass, its constituents, production, and history up to the 18th century.


Hutchinson, M.E.
Demonstrates why all decorative beads and stones from archaeological sites should be examined by a qualified gemmologist. Examples include modern shell beads which had been identified as crinoid ossicles and an emerald found with hexagonal glass beads and originally thought to be one of them.

Jargstorf, Sibylle
A richly illustrated volume featuring many beaded ethnic items from around the world.

Jönsson, Maibritt and Pete Hunner

Jurriaans-Helle, Geraldine
Catalog for the exhibition Kralen Verhalen (Talking about Beads) which featured beads from the extensive van der Sleen collection. In Dutch, it contains several color plates which cover most of the world’s beads and includes a short biography of Dr. van der Sleen.

Karklins, Karlis
Good color photographs are an essential complement to written descriptions of beads. Unfortunately, where archaeological specimens are involved, the original color of a bead is frequently obscured by a layer of patina, resulting in rather drab photographs. This article provides some tips for improving the results.

As the early Bead Forums are not readily available, a broad selection of the articles and other items that appeared in the first forty issues are reprinted in this volume. The coverage spans the globe and the temporal spectrum. While some of the material is dated, it is nevertheless interesting from a historical research perspective.

Koivula, J.I.
Good basic information for anyone wanting to take microphotographs of transparent objects like beads.

Krzyszkowska, Olga
This excellent handbook helps to distinguish between beads and other objects made of ivory (elephant, mammoth, and hippo), boar’s tusk, bone, and antler. Many diagnostic tests and photographs are provided.
Kunkel, H.-J.
On decomposition processes in amber and the conservation methods used.

Lankton, J., J. Diamanti, and J.M. Kenoyer
Presents a timeline for the world’s beads to 1200 C.E. with explanatory text.

Lester, Katherine and Bess Viola Oerke
Chapter 15 of this work originally published in 1940 deals with European “Beads and Necklace” from antiquity to the present.

Lilyquist, Christine
Major article which includes material on beads and the light they throw on international contacts in the Bronze Age.

Liu, Robert K.
Contains useful tips on equipment, lighting, and arrangement.

Gorgeous color photos and authoritative text celebrate ancient, ethnographic, and contemporary beads. The author treats beads as a revealing and inspiring symbol of the cultural and spiritual aspirations of every major ethnic group and geographical region.

Examines the variety of imitation stone beads with information on how they are made, and how to distinguish them, using mainly visual clues.

Mammiform pendants and beads from Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Brief, sometimes necessarily speculative, survey of Paleolithic, Minoan, and modern ethnographic examples.

The first of two articles on faience; examples come from ancient Egypt, Chad, Mali, Syria, Afghanistan, Crimea, the Indus Valley, and China, with a question mark attached to faience of European origin. The bibliography is extensive.


This is an exhaustive treatment of faience, its composition, and where it is found, both archaeologically and ethnographically. Abundant illustrations cover a wide range of ancient Egyptian faience beads and ornaments, and also show a comparative range of faience from Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Thailand, China, Chad, Mali, and Europe.

An overview of beads through time.

Focuses on glass eye beads with wavy trailing, segmented foil beads, folded beads, pierced mosaic beads, and the so-called Fustat fused-rod beads. Their manufacture and the role of itinerant beadmakers is discussed, as well as what is known about the archaeological sites that produced them.

2014  *Photography of Personal Adornment*. Ornament, San Marcos, CA.
A thorough guide on how to photograph jewelry and small ornaments such as beads and pendants. Well illustrated with examples.

**Lord, A.**
Glass disease.

**Lougheed, Sandra**
Describes symptoms of “glass disease;” results of analysis with notes on preventive conservation.

**Lovell, Adam**
An in-depth study of glass disease as it relates to beads.

**Mårtensson, Linda, Eva Andersson, Marie-Louise Nosch, and Anne Batzer**
2006  *Experimental Archaeology: Part 2:2 Whorl or Bead?* University of Copenhagen, Centre for Textile Research, Technical Report.
Experiments to spin thread using Bronze Age “beads” challenge the belief that perforated objects weighing less than 10 g are too light to be used as spindle whorls.
McKinley, Jacqueline I.
A plea for the analysis of cremated bone. Glass adhering to bone can reveal the presence of now vanished glass beads and the disposition of these can clarify the layout of the body.

Moretti, Gianni

Moro Abadia, Oscar and April Nowell
Explores the history and epistemology of the concept of “ornament” in the field of Paleolithic archaeology.

Müller-Karpe, H.
A survey of 12 Old World women from France to China. Based largely on grave finds and includes some fine illustrations of bead jewelry.

Munsell Color
2012 Munsell Bead Color Book. Pantone/Munsell, Grand Rapids, MI.
This consists of a loose-leaf binder with 10 pages of color chips with color names that record all the colors encountered in North American archaeological bead collections. It is a handy tool for identifying bead colors and only a fraction of the cost of the full Munsell Book of Color.

Ogden, Jack
A full account; sources, uses, working, wearing, legal regulations, social customs, economic, and symbolic value, etc.

Ownby, Mary F. and Jenny L. Adams
Promotes the use of scanning electron microscopy to determine whether very small prehistoric beads are made of clay or stone.

Pedersen, M. Campbell
Extensive guide to the identification of materials as diverse as amber, jet, ivory, bone, antler, rhino horn, horn, tortoiseshell, pearl, coral, and miscellaneous, which includes even more materials. There is an excellent final section on plastics.

Poinar, G.
Discusses the differences between amber (fossilized resin) and copal (dried resin). Describes simple hot-needle techniques for distinguishing between them. Concludes Colombian “amber” is copal resin.

**Said, David**
Delves into the evolution of color designation and how different cultures perceive color. Something to think about when dealing with ethnic beadwork and ancient beads.

**Saitowitz, Sharma J.**

**Sciama, Lidia D. and Joanne B. Eicher (eds.)**
Deals with the techniques and gender aspects of beadmaking, the role in trade and adornment in a wide range of societies from ancient Mediterranean through Renaissance Venice to present-day Africa. Twelve papers explore the topic.

**Selin, Helaine (ed.)**
The section on “Beads” presents an overview of beads through the ages.

**Sirois, P.J.**

**Sode, Torben**

**Sprague, Roderick**

**Teichner, Felix**
Reviews the origins and development of prayer beads from early sources. Perhaps they came from India via the Arab conquest or via Oriental churches. In the Latin West, the rosary seems not to predate the Crusades.

**Tomalin, Stefany**

Presents an overview of the various organic materials that have been used to produce beads around the world.

**Topping, Jane M.**

Presents a brief introduction to molluscs and their identification to assist researchers in analyzing molluscan material encountered in the course of archaeological and ethnological studies.

**Trubitt, Mary Beth D.**

Approaches the subject from a worldwide perspective. Shell beads enter into the discussion.

**Walker, Donna**

Drawings of dark or corroded beads often show better detail than photographs. This article provides detailed instructions on how to draw beads.

**Watkinson, D. and V. Neal**

Recent edition of a work first published in 1972, brought up to date with much new information. Descriptions of many bead materials and their decay processes with instructions regarding treatment and storage.

**Zilhão, João**

A study of the earliest beads and other items of adornment from Paleolithic sites in Africa, Europe, Central Asia, and the Near East. Extensive bibliography.