



A Shell and Copper-Alloy Necklace from an Early Bronze Age Tumuli Necropolis in S. Eurosia Street, Parma (Northern Italy)

Francesca Barchiesi and Stefano Viola

Introduction

As part of the research project *Beads and Microbeads* (led by Dr. Stefano Viola, <https://sites.unimi.it/preclab/progetti/microbeads/>), which focuses on stone and shell ornaments from northern Italian contexts dated between 3800 and 1600 BC, we present an illustrative note on the study of a polymaterial necklace found in primary deposition at an Early Bronze Age *tumuli* necropolis (circa 19th century BC), located on the outskirts of Parma.

Archaeological Context

In 2008, a rescue excavation on the southeastern outskirts of Parma (Emilia-Romagna region, Northern Italy), near Via Sant'Eurosia, revealed a complex of eight flat tumuli (A-H) at a depth of 3.80 m below street level (Bernabò Brea *et al.* 2013; Bernabò Brea *et al.* 2018). Adjacent to the tumuli, a small group of pit graves and some structures were also uncovered. The tumuli were clustered closely together, with the largest having a diameter of 26 m, while the others ranged between 8 and 13 m. They were all surrounded by continuous trenches with a truncated conical section, varying in width from 60 cm to 2 m. The burials total 32: 12 males, 10 females, five children, and five infants; additionally, there were a few other remains in some of the tombs and three isolated skulls. Grave goods were generally scarce, likely due both to looting and ritual acts.

The dating of the entire complex to the 19th century BC (the local late Early Bronze Age I) was initially proposed based on the typology of certain materials, particularly: a bronze dagger decorated as the Ledro A type; fragments of two *dolia* with parallels in other contexts of the Polada culture; ribbon handles

with tapered and pointed ends (Bernabò Brea *et al.* 2018, pp. 59-60).

Tomb t.19, located at the intersection of tumuli A, D, E, and G, belonged to an 8-year-old girl, flexed on her left side and oriented south-north. She wore a necklace made of metal *saltaleoni* (spirals) and groups of white disc-shaped shell beads (Fig. 1). The beads were initially identified as calcite, but after preliminary low-magnification observation under the microscope were determined to be shell. This interpretation is further supported by comparison with other published examples (Burley and Freeland 2019; Pascual-Benito 2005; Thomas 2014, pp. 135; 193).



Figure 1. Copper-alloy *saltaleoni* and shell disc bead necklace.

Materials and Methods

The necklace from tomb t.19 consists of 100 elements recovered during the archaeological excavation: 93 disc-shaped shell beads and seven spiral-shaped metal beads (copper-alloy). For this article, we will focus exclusively on the shell beads. Their thickness varies from 0.9 to 2.2 mm, with diameters between 4 and 5 mm.

A multidisciplinary methodology was employed during the analysis, integrating a morpho-typological with a techno-functional approach (Viola et al. 2017; Viola et al. 2020).

Each bead was catalogued based on measurements and was photographed from various angles to document its general characteristics. All measurements were taken using a digital caliper.

Following initial naked-eye observation and examination with a 20x magnification lens, the beads were further analyzed using two microscopes: a digital Dino-Lite and a Leica stereo microscope (20-150x).

Preliminary Remarks and Future Directions

The natural structure of the shell is recognizable (Fig. 2), likely a bivalve from the *Cardiidae* family, from which polygonal blanks could have been obtained (possibly by percussion from the dorsal side?) and then abraded to flatten the ribs.

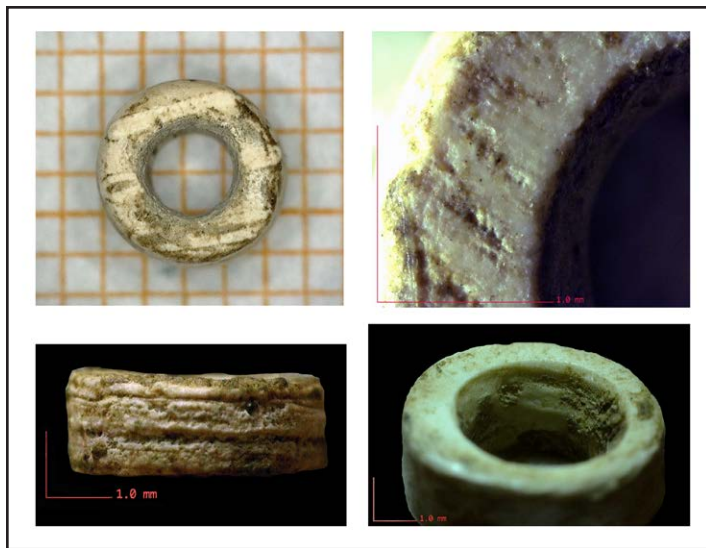


Figure 2. Detail views of disc-shaped shell beads.

Three types of perforations were documented: conical, cylindrical, and truncated conical (possibly a variant of the cylindrical form).

A unipolar drilling technique is suggested, starting from the ventral side, possibly followed by serial finishing (threading) on an abrasive tool.

For the observation of traces on these archaeological artifacts, extensive use of the experimental archaeology work carried out by S. Viola during his doctoral research has been made. However, further experiments on shells are still required, with a special focus on the *Cardiidae* family.

ENDNOTES

1. The project “Beads and Microbeads” aims to evaluate the manufacture, functions, and social significance of these artifacts through an integrated technological, functional, and social approach. Particular attention is given to the chronological range between approximately 2700 and 1600 BC, which covers the final phases of the substratum groups, all Bell Beaker phenomena, and the various Early Bronze Age cultural groups.

2. Leica EZ4 W stereo microscope.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was conducted with the authorization of the Superintendence “Archeologia Belle Arti e Paesaggio” for the provinces of Parma and Piacenza, and the National Archaeological Museum of Parma (“Pilotta” Monumental Complex). We are particularly grateful to Dr. Angela Mutti for her support and assistance at the National Museum of Parma.

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Society News

August 2024 Planning Meeting

With so many changes in personnel at the Society, it was deemed necessary to have an additional meeting of officers and auxiliary officers to go over various changes in direction. On August 27, at 11:03 am East Coast time, President Elliot Blair called the meeting to order via Zoom. In attendance were Blair, Alison Carter, Alice Scherer, Michele Hoferitza, and Brad Loewen. Below are the topics as they were discussed and who was the point person per topic.

The need to find a 2025-2027 candidate for Secretary-Treasurer (Alice and Elliot)

Scherer provided for the group a listing of those duties associated with the office of Secretary-Treasurer, broken into Secretary tasks and Treasurer tasks. It was acknowledged that, to date, no one has stepped forward to volunteer for this important board position. A couple of names were suggested as possibilities and Scherer will follow up with those individuals to discern the extent of their possible willingness to take on this important role (both declined).

Copyright statement for the University of Oregon website (Alison)

Over a few weeks a conversation continued via email over the pros and cons of various approaches to the copyright statement per our new archival site at the University of Oregon. After extensive discussion, it was decided to use the following wording:

Grant of Rights

By submitting your publication to *BEADS* as the corresponding author, on behalf of the authors, grants the Society of Bead Researchers an irrevocable non-exclusive right to reproduce, transmit, sell, distribute, and otherwise use your work in electronic and print editions of the journal and in derivative works throughout the world, in all languages, and in all media now known or later developed an irrevocable non-exclusive right to create and store electronic archival copies of your work, including the right to deposit your publication in open-access digital repositories. Authors retain all proprietary rights, including copyright.

The Bead Forum

Embargoing current issue

With the 2024 issue, the SBR is going digital-only for all publications, both the journal and the semi-annual newsletter. A discussion, also via email, debated whether to hold the issues only for members for a specific period of time, or to make freely available to all interested parties immediately on publication. It was decided that the journal would be embargoed until the next volume was released, a period of approximately one year. Authors would be allowed to disseminate their papers as they choose, including on Academia.org, upon publication. This will ensure members have first look at our published materials.

Print on Demand, of this next issue and back issues of *BEADS* (Alison)

As many of our members would prefer a printed copy over a digital version, Alison investigated the availability and cost of print-on-demand companies. Using the services of Lulu.com, she found that it would cost about \$24-26 for Lulu to print and mail an issue directly to those members who order a copy, relieving the SBR of the need to ship copies. Given that the Society has a healthy treasury and will no longer have printing and mailing costs to consider, the board decided to charge no more for print-on-demand copies than Lulu will charge. At *BEADS* press time, an email will go out to members with instructions for how to request a printed copy. The cost will be in addition to the \$25 annual SBR membership fee and will be paid directly to Lulu.com on ordering.

The move from SURFACE to the U of O archival repository (Alison)

For several years, back issues of *BEADS* and *The Bead Forum* have been stored at the archive at the University of Syracuse in Syracuse, New York, in their SURFACE repository. As our new Editor, Alison Carter, is associated with the University of Oregon, in Eugene, Oregon, it made sense to migrate our materials to the U of O similar to what was offered at Syracuse/SURFACE. That process of transferring the materials and making the site public-ready has begun and is partly completed. More later this year as transfer is complete.

The functionality of the U of O site for author/editor interaction (Alison)

Authors can find instructions on making a submission

and author guidelines on the following page: <https://journals.oregondigital.org/beads/about/submissions>. Please click the link at the top of the page where it says “Make a new submission” to register an account in the journal or log-in to an existing account and begin the submission process. If you encounter any problems or have questions, please feel free to reach out to the Editor, Alison Carter, at acarter4@uoregon.edu. Authors are also encouraged to reach out to the Editor in advance of submission to discuss their potential article and its fit for the journal

The selling of *BEADS* by board members at conferences and that there is funding for the table fee (Elliot)

In the past, our previous Editor, Karlis Karklins, has arranged to rent table space in the sales area of conferences he attended, where he would sell back issues of *BEADS* and make available membership and order forms. Since he is no longer doing that, our President, Elliot Blair, has stepped into the breach. He has now signed up for table space at the Southeastern Archeological Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, November 13-16, 2024, and the Society for Historical Archaeology conference in New Orleans on January 8-11, 2025. Brad Loewen has agreed to gather several of each issue from Karlis and will ship them to Elliot to provide him with stock to take to the conferences. (If you’re planning to attend either conference, be sure to drop by and say hello.)

What should we do with physical copies of back issues? How many to keep on hand and how many to pitch in the recycle bin (Alice)

A lively discussion ensued about what to do with the dozens of copies of back issues in Karlis’ basement. Some of them number many dozens per given issue; those will likely be winnowed down to just a couple dozen at the most. Brad Loewen volunteered to remove enough from Karlis’ basement to send to Alice to help fill out her stock and to Elliot to assist with his conference sales. Most copies will be recycled, though Volume 23 and possibly 21 will be retained. Volume 23 is the Society’s translation and reprinting of Waltraud Neuwirth’s *Perlen aus Gablonz (Beads of Gablonz)*, a valuable glass bead resource. Volume 21 is an anthology of over 20 years (1982-2002) of *The Bead Forum*, compiling the best articles from those issues. Within the next few months, the stock of *BEADS* will

be greatly winnowed down; for a few months, copies will continue to be available from Alice or Elliot, but as those run out, we will direct people to Lulu.com, where out of print back issues could be purchased in a print-on-demand basis. Currently issues are about \$5-15 per each, depending on rarity and recentness and about \$4-7 shipping (in the US, more overseas). Given that there will be a significant jump in price for print-on-demand, we heartily recommend that people consider filling in their collections of BEADS before the stock runs out, if price is a serious consideration.

Webinars with *BEADS* authors on their work as a way to build more community and promote the Journal (Alison)

A lively discussion ensued about the possibility of crafting webinars that would be scheduled for when the Journal comes out and possibly when the *Forum* is due, each time likely with an author from the pertinent publication basically giving a talk on their material, followed by a question and answer period for those watching the live webinar. Brad suggested these would also be of great use to college professors looking to fill parts of a teaching schedule with premade content.

Updates needed to bylaws, Annual Members Meeting, among other clauses (Elliot)

Elliot has previewed the bylaws and found several places that needed updating. They included the requirement to have an annual meeting of the membership (which we sort of used to do onsite at the Bead conferences). It was suggested that we perhaps have a meeting of the members via Zoom, a possibility not available when the bylaws were first written. Alice noted that the bylaw changes needed to be brought before the membership for a vote, which could be done in concert with the vote for Secretary-Treasurer, due this Fall. It was thought that the bylaws changes had to be vetted by a lawyer; Alice

suggested that that was not actually necessary, only notification of the members and a vote by membership.

Our website (Alice)

As webmaster, Alice reported that the About Us page would be updated with the inclusion of Brad Loewen as soon as she received the text and photo from Alison, those having gotten misplaced last fall during her move. Alison has forwarded them to her and she has now updated the site with his information.

TheBeadSite: a conversation (should the SBR add the PDF Elliot did to our website's resources, i.e., the Peter Francis page?) (Alice)

Joyce Holloway of BeadCollector.net had approached the SBR about hosting Peter Francis's website, which had been pruned of advertising. Elliot was able to create a PDF of the whole site (with clickable links!) and it was suggested that perhaps we have it as a resource on our page related to Peter Francis. Regarding having it be a live website, those who were familiar with it were in agreement that it was greatly outdated and now mostly a memorial to Peter and his work.

The *Bead Forum* Newsletter (Michele)

Michele notes that the September 1 submission of material date and the October 1 publication date are soft dates, though she will aim to have the *Forum* done by the end of September. As of the date of the meeting, no one had yet written an article for the *Forum*; she had a couple of possibilities she was going to track down. Karlis has sent her the Recent Publications for that section and Alice said she would send a few more for that section. Alison noted a conference in Turkey in late August that had some bead-related topics that could be referenced in the Conferences section.

With all business conducted, the meeting was gaveled closed.

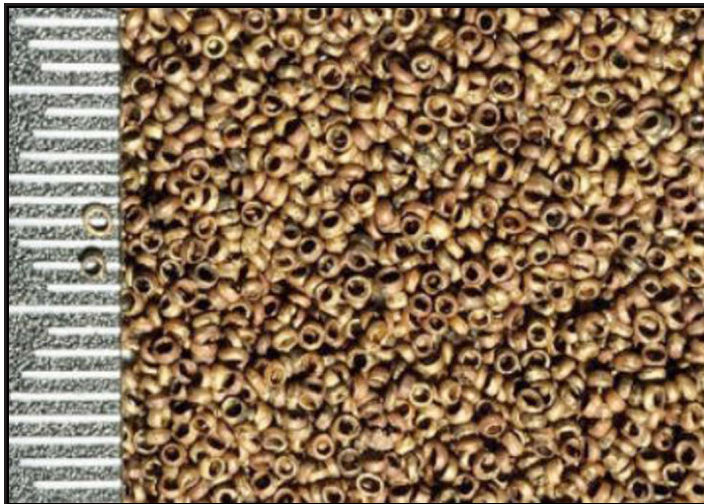
Considering the imminent retirement of Alice Scherer, the Society of Bead Researchers is in need of a new secretary/treasurer. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact a member of our board. A written description of the tasks associated with the position is [available on request](#).

Recent Publications

Armbruster, Barbara and Caspar Meyer

2024 Gold Artifacts from the Early Scythian Princely Tomb Arzhan 2, Tuva – Aesthetics, Function, and Technology. *Arts* 13, 46; <https://www.academia.edu/117405569/>.

Clothing and shoe trimmings include countless sewn-on miniature gold beads. Measuring only about one millimeter in size, the beads covered a man's trousers and the hem of a woman's skirt and parts of her shoes. Some beads were cast, while others had been formed from sheet metal.



Baker, Jack, Solange Rigaud, Daniel Pereira, Lloyd A. Courtenay, and Francesco d'Errico

2024 Evidence from Personal Ornaments Suggest Nine Distinct Cultural Groups between 34,000 and 24,000 Years Ago in Europe. *Nature Human Behaviour*; <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-023-01803-6>.

Presents a new georeferenced dataset of personal ornaments worn by European hunter-gatherers during the so-called Gravettian technocomplex, analyzes it with multivariate and geospatial statistics, models the impact of distance on cultural diversity, and contrasts the outcome of the analyses with up-to-date paleogenetic data.

Belfer-Cohen, Anna and Nigel Goring-Morris

2024 “Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue...” Ornaments in the Levantine Early Neolithic. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 54, 104442; <https://www.academia.edu/115292871/>.

Personal adornment in the Levant during the Neolithic consisted of a mélange of old and new, local and extraneous items on an unprecedented level compared with previous periods, undoubtedly a result of the major changes entailed by the Neolithization processes.



Biginagwa, Thomas John

2024 Counterfeit Glass Beads during the East African Caravan Trade: Mineralogical and Gemmological Analysis. *UMMA: The Journal of the Contemporary Literature and Creative Arts* 10(2); <https://journals.udsm.ac.tz/index.php/umma/article/view/6033>.

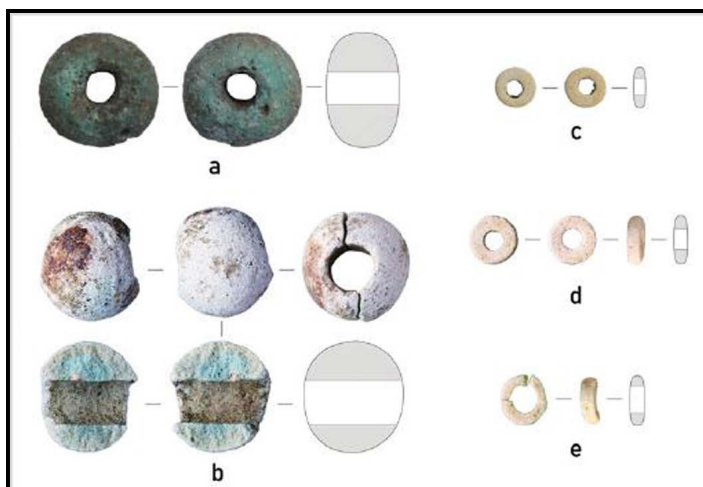
Analysis of imperfectly-made tubular beads excavated at Kilwa Kivinje, a 19th-century coastal caravan terminus in southern Tanzania, revealed that some of them were crafted from low-grade non-glass material. This suggests that they are counterfeits designed to pass for European glass beads.



Chapon, Linda, Juan Jesús Padilla-Fernández, Alberto Dorado-Alejos, and Antonio Blanco-González

2024 Iron Age Connectivity Revealed by an Assemblage of Egyptian Faience in Central Iberia. *European Journal of Archaeology*; <https://www.academia.edu/116476993/>.

Macroscopic and chemical analyses demonstrate that faience beads and a Hathor amulet recovered from a 7th-century BC village in northwestern Spain were likely manufactured in Egypt during the Middle and New Kingdoms (2nd millennium BC), attesting to a far-reaching Phoenician maritime network that connected both ends of the Mediterranean.

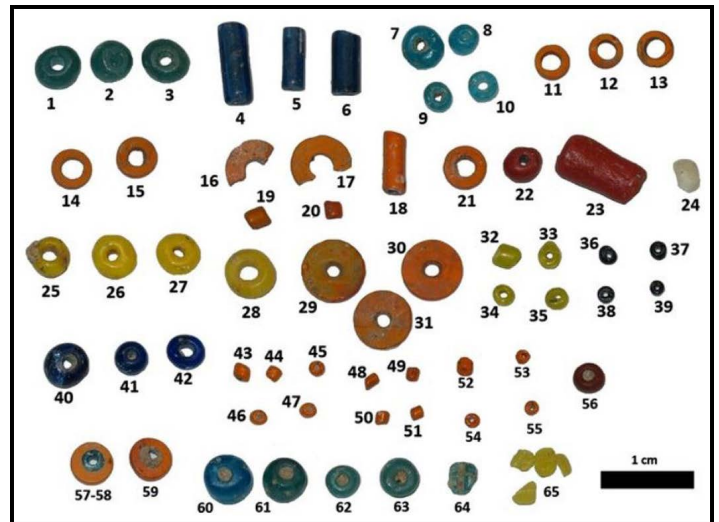


Dussubieux, Laure, Charles F.W. Higham, and T.O. Pryce

2024 Glass Circulation in Late Iron Age Southeast Asia: New Compositional and Isotopic Data of Beads Found at Non Ban Jak in Northeast Thailand. *Archaeological and Anthropological*

Sciences 16, 47; <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/378597506>.

Glass compositions show strong similarities with results from the neighboring sites of Ban Non Wat and Noen-U Loke, and seem to share a strong connection during the Late Iron Age with South India/Sri Lanka.



Fauvel, Mikael

2024 *Shell Money: A Comparative Study*. Elements in Ancient and Pre-modern Economies, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. <https://www.academia.edu/114930869/>.

Examines where, when, and under what circumstances money first emerged through a comparative study of the use of shells and shell beads to facilitate trade and exchange in ancient societies around the world.

Hawkins, Stuart, Gabriella Ayang Zetika, Rebecca Kinaston, Yulio Ray Firmando, Devi Mustika Sari, Yuni Suniarti, Mary Lucas, Patrick Roberts, Christian Reepmeyer, Tim Maloney, Shimona Kealy, Claudine Stirling, Malcolm Reid, David Barr, et al.

2024 Earliest Known Funerary Rites in Wallacea after the Last Glacial Maximum. *Scientific Reports* 14, 282; <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-50294-y>.

Single-hole disc beads made from *Nautilus* shell were recovered from the mid-Holocene deposits at Ratu Mali 2, an elevated coastal cave site on the island of Kisar, Indonesia.

The Bead Forum

Hirsch, Julian, Lisa Janz, and Laure Dubreuil

2024 Carnelian Beads from the Early Bronze Age FIFA Cemetery, Jordan: Aspects of Technology, Use, and Exchange. SSRN online journal; <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4728014>.

This study employs morphometric data and a use-wear framework to explore the relationship between carnelian beads, burial practices, manufacturing processes, and exchange.

Hoferitza, Michele

2024 An XRF Elemental Analysis of Prosser Molded Beads from Southwest Oregon. M.S. thesis. Anthropology, Utah State University, Salt Lake City. <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/etd2023/231>.

Statistical analysis of three categories of elements was performed to determine whether the creation of a model of glass recipes for Prosser beads might be possible using XRF.

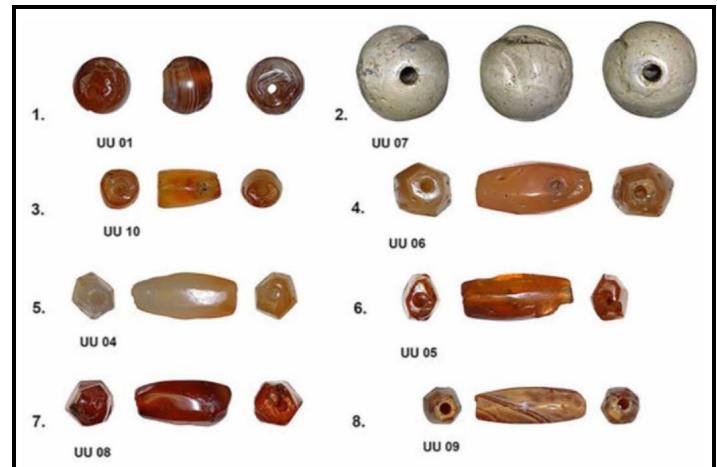


Kenoyer, J. Mark, Chapurukha M. Kusimba, Akshay Sarathi, Jonathan R. Walz, Randall W. Law, and Laure Dussubieux

2024 Carnelian Beads from Manda, Unguja Ukuu and Kwa Mgogo: New Insights on the Stone Bead Trade between South Asia and East Africa, 7th to 15th Century CE. *Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences* 16, 83; <https://www.academia.edu/116081743/>.

The shapes and manufacturing technology of beads from three sites in East Africa correlate with those produced at contemporary workshops in ancient South Asia. Geochemical analysis using LA-ICP-MS indicates that the carnelian raw material came primarily

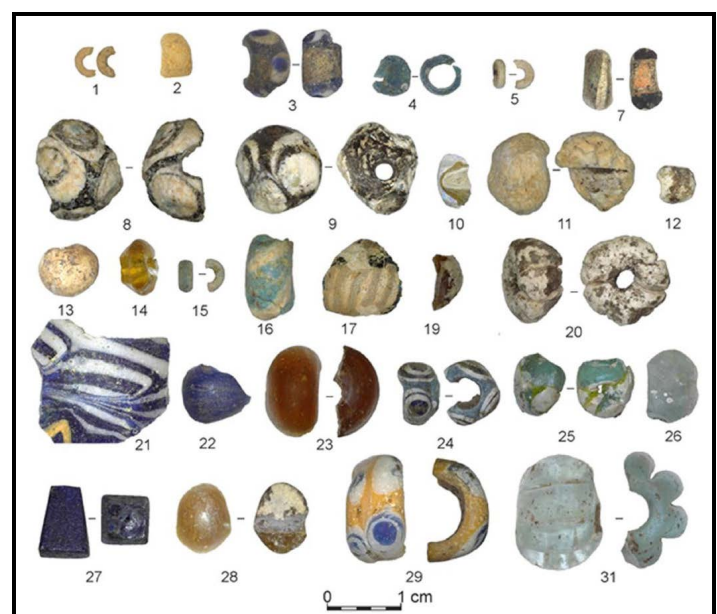
from the regions of Gujarat and Maharashtra in modern India.



Yatsuk, Patrizia Davit, Stanislav Zadnikov, Iryna Shramko, Lorena Carla Giannossa, Annarosa Mangone, Giulia Berruto, Roberto Giustetto, and Monica Gulmini

2024 Vitreous Finds from the Iron Age Archaeological Complex at Bilsk (Ukraine) as Evidence of Trade by Land and Sea. *Journal of Cultural Heritage* 68:172-183; <https://www.academia.edu/121018405/>.

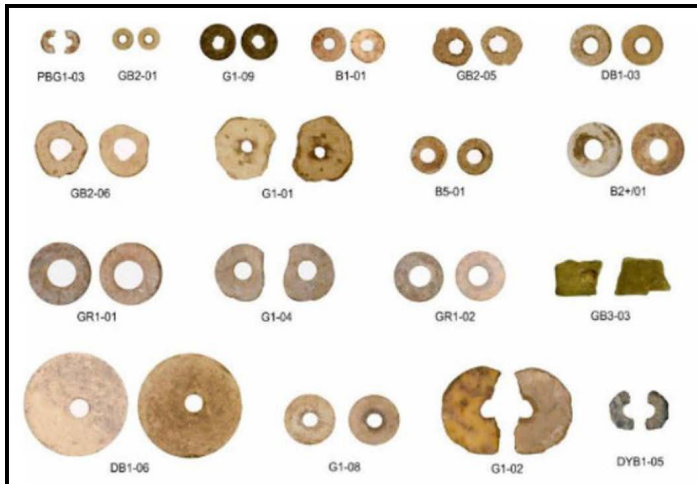
Archaeometric analysis of glass and faience beads from the site revealed a complex picture for the raw materials, identifying several sources of silica and, consequently, several production centers for the items. This information facilitates a better understanding of the trade networks that operated in the region between the 7th and 4th centuries BCE.



Kuhlase, Siphesihle and Tim Forssman

2024 Ostrich Eggshell Beads from Little Muck Shelter, Southern Africa: First Impressions and Regional Perspectives. *Southern African Field Archaeology* 19, 3061; <https://www.academia.edu/122378819/>.

Presents a study of the production of ostrich eggshell beads and their status within forager society in the middle Limpopo Valley, a first of its kind from a hunter-gatherer context in the region.

**Lambert, Shawn P., D. Shane Miller, Matthew C. Sanger, Olivia Baumgartel, Madeleine Hale, Tiffany Raymond, Hector Neff, and Laure Dussubieux**

2024 Copper on the Mississippi Coast: Assessing Provenance of a Copper Bead at the Claiborne Site (22HA501) through LA-ICP-MS Compositional Analysis. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 53; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2023.104366>.

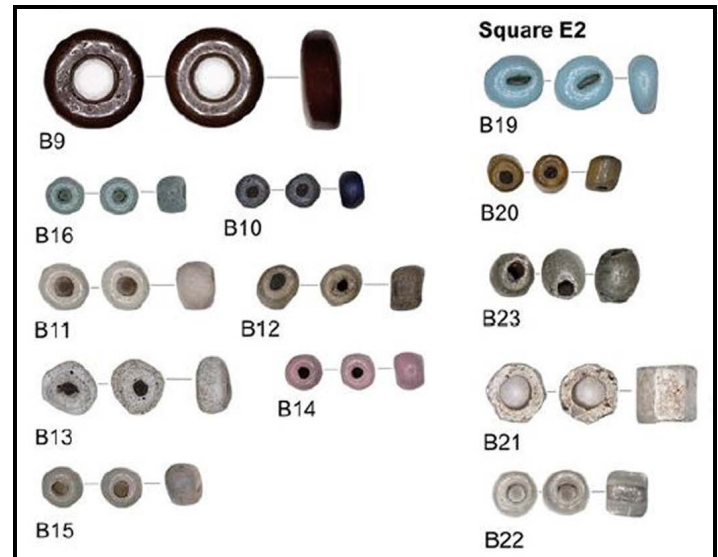
Excavated in southern Mississippi at a site occupied between 3990-3340 BP, the bead shows a significant elemental relationship to copper from the Great Lakes region.

Litster, Mirani, Lynley A. Wallis, and Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation

2024 When the Foreign Becomes Familiar: The Glass Bead Assemblage from Madjedbebe, Northern Australia. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*; <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/377850770>.

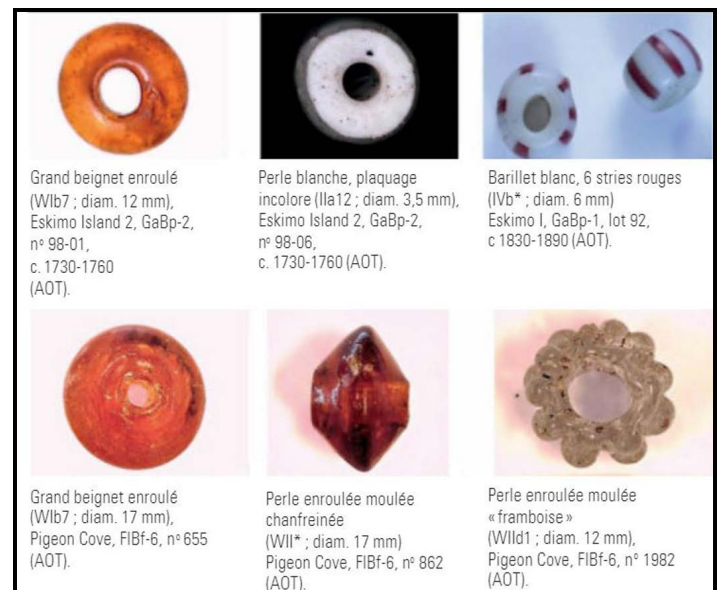
Through attribute and microwear analysis, in concert with the archival record, the authors reveal the ways

in which Aboriginal people occupying the Madjedbebe rock-shelter incorporated glass beads into their lifeways. The beads date to the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Loewen, Brad and Émilie Teasdale**

2024 Trois siècles de perles de verre. Une sériation contextualisée pour le littoral maritime de Tadoussac au nord du Labrador, 1540-1890. *Archéologiques* 37; <https://www.academia.edu/118359287/>.

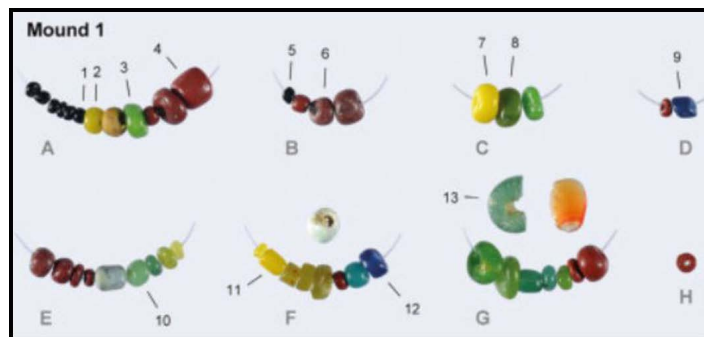
Proposes a seriation for beads found along the coast from Tadoussac, Québec, to northern Labrador, and identifies nine bead “complexes” for the ca. 1540-1890 period.



Magnavita, Sonja, Brandi L. MacDonald, Carlos Magnavita, and April Oga

2024 LA-ICP-MS Analysis of Glass Beads from Tié (12th-14th Centuries), Kanem, Chad: Evidence of Trans-Sudanic Exchanges. *Archaeometry* 66(1):100-118; <https://www.academia.edu/105254808/>.

The composition of the beads largely matches assemblages from along the East African coast, indicating that most of them entered the region via a hitherto undocumented east-west Sudanic route linking Northeast Africa with Lake Chad.



Mitchell, Peter J. and Brian A. Stewart

2024 Enveloping Oneself in Others: Semiotic, Spatial, and Temporal Dimensions of Ostrich Eggshell Bead Use in Southern Africa. In *Culturing the Body: Prehistoric Perspectives on Identity and Sociality*, edited by Benjamin Collins and April Nowell, pp. 236-274. Berghahn Books, New York. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/381552274>.

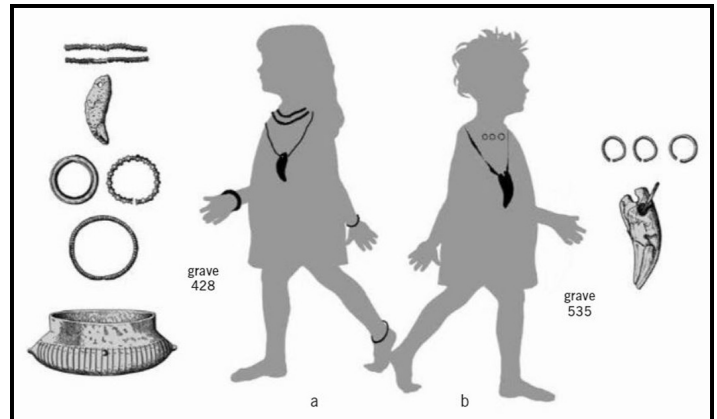
Considers which intangible qualities may have made ostrich eggshell beads attractive to their wearers, especially in regions where ostriches are not endemic, and concludes that the body adorned with ostrich eggshell beads is the body enveloped in multi-layered social – and potent supernatural – relationships.

Nebelsick, Louis D.

2024 Empowering Babies, Girls, and Women: Central European Iron Age Magic Pendants between Metaphor, Narrative, and Salvation. In *Aspekte magischen Denkens. Internationale Tagung vom 12.-13. November 2021 in Halle (Saale)*, A. Reichenberger and H. Meller (eds.), pp. 115-135. Tagungen des Landesmuseum für

Vorgeschichte Halle 29. <https://www.academia.edu/118919865/>.

Examples of pendants and beads from the salt miners' cemeteries at Hallstatt and Bad Dürrenberg, Austria, are used to demonstrate that these magically empowered and empowering amulets are almost always worn by women and children for protection.



Nowell, April and Danielle Macdonald

2024 Culturing the Body in the Context of the Neolithisation of the Southern Levant. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 55, 104478; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2024.104478>.

When curated as heirlooms, personal ornaments likely served an important and complementary role in presencing the dead in the everyday lives of the living, bringing objects through time to continue the memory and connection to the departed.



Odrizola, Carlos P., José Ángel Garrido-Cordero, Ana C. Sousa, José María Martínez-Blanes, Galo Romero-García, Daniel Sánchez-Gómez, Manel Edo i Benaigues, Diego Romero-Vera, María Dolores Simón-Vallejo, María Dolores Zambrana Vega, and José Luis Molina González

2024 Crafting Illusions: Human-made Composite Coating Used to Simulate Amber Beads in Prehistoric Iberia. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 168, 106011; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2024.106011>.

Aims to construct an empirically grounded narrative elucidating the development and function of resin-coated bead technology based on specimens recovered from the Middle Bronze Age burial site of Cova del Gegant in northeastern Spain.



Rodríguez Ramos, Reniel

2024 Multiscalar Entanglements in the Precolonial Caribbean: A View from Puerto Rico. In *El Mar Caribe: The American Mediterranean*, edited by Victoria I. Lyall, pp. 45-67. Denver Art Museum, Denver. <https://www.academia.edu/121007379/>.

Discusses the different forms of interactions that occurred in the Caribbean over time based on archaeological material (including stone beads and pendants) excavated in Puerto Rico.



Xu, Siwen, Feng Deng, Idelisi Abuduresule, Wenying Li, Xingjun Hu, and Yimin Yang

2024 New Insights on the Origin of Fired Steatite Beads in China. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 163, 105939; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2024.105939>.

Presents a comprehensive characterization of glazed/fired steatite beads unearthed at the Xiaohe Cemetery (1980-1450 BCE) in northwestern China using multi-analysis techniques. The findings indicate connections with the Indus Valley, thereby proposing a potential route for artifacts and technology from there to northwestern China.

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<https://beadresearch.org/the-bead-forum-archive/>

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The Society of Bead Researchers is a non-profit corporation founded in 1981 to foster research on beads and beadwork of all materials and periods and to expedite the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. Membership is open to all persons and organizations involved in the study of beads, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of current trends in bead research. The Society publishes a biannual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual peer-reviewed journal, *BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. The Society's website address is www.beadresearch.org.

Contents of the newsletter include current research news, listings of recent publications, conference and symposia announcements, and brief articles on various aspects of bead research. Both historic and prehistoric subject materials are welcome.

The deadline for submissions for the next *Bead Forum* is 1 April 2025. Submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes." References cited should be in *Historical Archaeology* format (<http://www.sha.org/documents/SHASStyleGuide-Dec2011.pdf>).

Send submissions to:

Michele Hoferitza

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beadforumnewsletter@gmail.com

ISSN: 0829-8726 (Print) and ISSN: 2469-8555 (Online and Electronic)

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