



FIGURE 10. a, copper ear spool; b, large rolled copper bead; c, rolled copper bead; d and e, glass trade beads (2x); f, copper pendant; g, copper beads with twine (2x).

Earspool (Fig. 10, a)

Number of specimens: 1.

Dimensions: Large disc, 29 mm. in diameter; small disc, 25 mm. in diameter; total thickness, 14 mm.; inside diameter, 3 mm.

Description: This is a small, heavy, yo-yo shaped, perforated earspool (Table 6).

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1968 Coral Snake Mound (X16SA48). Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society, Vol. 39, pp. 9-44. Dallas.

TABLE 5

Dimensions of cooper beads from Coral Snake Mound

| | Length | Width | Inside diameter |
|---------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| Bead 1 | 9 mm. | 8.5 mm. | 2 mm. |
| Bead 2 | 4 mm. | 6.5 mm. | 1 mm. |
| Bead 3 | 7 mm. | 4.0 mm. | 2 mm. |
| Bead 4 | 6 mm. | 4.5 mm. | 1 mm. |
| Bead 5 | 12 mm. | 7.0 mm. | 4 mm. |
| Bead 6 | 9 mm. | 6.5 mm. | 4 mm. |
| Bead 7 | 8 mm. | 8.0 mm. | 3 mm. |
| Bead 8 | 11 mm. | 6.5 mm. | 4 mm. |
| Bead 9 | 18 mm. | 7.0 mm. | 4 mm. |
| Bead 10 | 12 mm. | 5.0 mm. | 3 mm. |
| Bead 11 | 11 mm. | 4.0 mm. | 2 mm. |
| Bead 12 | 7 mm. | 4.5 mm. | 2.5 mm. |
| Bead 13 | 22 mm. | 6.0 mm. | 4 mm. |
| Bead 14 | 11 mm. | 5.0 mm. | 2 mm. |
| Bead 15 | 9 mm. | 6.0 mm. | 2.5 mm. |
| Bead 16 | 7 mm. | 5.0 mm. | 2 mm. |
| Bead 17 | 30 mm. | 27.5 mm. | 8 mm. |
| Bead 18 | 17 mm. | 18.5 mm. | 9 mm. |
| Bead 19 | 5 mm. | 7.0 mm. | 3 mm. |

Pendant (Fig. 10. f)

Number of Specimens: 1.

Dimensions: Length, 125 mm.; width at top, 55 mm.; width at base, 72 mm. One hole has a diameter of 7 mm., while the other is oval and

TABLE 6

Distribution of copper artifacts at the Coral Snake Mound

| Type | Horizontal location | Vertical location (feet) | Stage | Feature |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------|
| Bead-1 | N496 E502 | 96.5 | 2 | |
| Bead-4 (2) | N495.5 E502 | 95.7 | 2 | |
| Beads (4) | N496.1 E509.1 | 98.6 | 3 | 32 |
| Beads (3) | N484 E502 | 97.5 | 3 | 35 |
| Bead | N493.2 E502 | 98.1 | 2-3 | 34 |
| Bead | N483.5 E501.1 | 98.9 | 3 | 31 |
| Beads (3) | N496 E501.5 | 95.2 | 2 | 52 |
| Bead-18 | N514 E489 | 99.1 | 3 | 9 |
| Earspool | N494 E504 | 96.3 | 2 | 44 |
| Pendant | N496.7 E500.5 | 95.81 | 2 | 16 |
| Bead | Mound fill | | | |
| Bead | Backdirt | | | |
| Copper fragment | Backdirt | | | |

11 mm. by 14 mm. (copper disease has probably altered the original size of the perforation).

Description: The pendant has no apparent engraving but was beaten together from copper nuggets. Some skin fragments are still adhering to its underside (Table 6).

Large Rolled Cooper Bead (Fig. 10, b)

A rather large bead, this specimen (Number 18) was rolled from a long strip of copper. The bead is 17 mm. long, 18.5 mm. wide, and has an inside diameter of 9 mm. (Table 6).

Copper Fragment

Dimensions: Length, 24 mm.; width, 18 mm.; thickness, 0.6 mm.; diameter of perforation, 2 mm.

Description: This is a small, perforated copper pendant or gorget fragment. The original shape or size is not ascertainable (Table 6).

Remarks: A fragment of this specimen was sent to the Argonne National Laboratory for trace element analysis, in an attempt to determine the origin of this copper. Results were inconclusive.

GLASS

Beads (Fig. 10, d and e)

Number of Specimens: 2.

Description: Both of these specimens represent Type 61 described by Harris and Harris (1967: 145) as small, dark blue, translucent, tube-shaped, simple beads that were tumbled. Bead Type 61 falls into Harris' (1967: 156) Period 2 between 1740 and 1767.

DISCUSSION

Excavations at Coral Snake Mound during 1966-1967 clarified the origin and nature of the mound. Archeological features, for the most part, are associated with either the second or third mound construction stage. The first stage consisted of excavating a central basin only. The second stage or refilling of this basin has inclusive material, as does the cap or mound Stage 3.

A potential problem arises in separating the deliberate from the accidental inclusions of cultural material in the mound. Some basic assumptions must be made concerning this; the nature and source of fill for the mound construction, as well as what might be expected in this fill, are of major importance. A moat-like borrow pit encircled most of the mound; this excavation may have had sufficient fill to account for Stage 2 construction, but not for Stage 3. No other borrow

pits were found near the mound, and tests in the vicinity suggested that no cultural material was present in the mound area before it was constructed. Yet we have apparent random inclusions of potsherds, dart points, debris and debitage, materials normally expected in a midden deposit.

Burials with offerings, cremations, large ceremonial points, copper ornaments and ceramic vessels are not usually part of midden debris. Such items are considered to be purposeful inclusions into the mound, and their placement with relation to building stages bears this out to some extent. On the other hand, the flint debris, isolated sherds and projectile points reflect accidental inclusion into the mound fill and their relative lack of distributional patterning bears this out to a great extent.

With the exception of the two glass trade beads found deep in the center of the mound, the remaining materials are prehistoric, and either contemporaneous with or predate construction of the mound.

The distribution of various features illustrates several trends at the site (Tables 7-11). Most of the artifact caches are concentrated in the outer mound cap. Five additional caches found by McClurkan were associated with this stage. The two ochre concentrations were associated with the contact zone between Stages 2 and 3, and probably were placed upon the surface of the primary mound as offerings before it was covered up.

The fire basins (Table 8) are associated with the second stage of construction, and the single fire basin found by McClurkan in 1965 appears to have been associated with Stage 3.

The burials at Coral Snake Mound (Table 9) are single or multiple secondary types. Ten of these were interred during Stage 2, and two are associated with Stage 3. The bone concentrations reported by McClurkan apparently were associated with the latter stage.

Twenty-seven of twenty-nine cremations (Table 10) were found in the Stage 2 fill of the mound. Few, if any, are *in situ* cremations, but are secondary interments of burned bone. The large cremations found well within the central basin, Features 54, 57 and 60, all appeared to be *in situ* cremations. One cremation was found in the Stage 3 level of the mound, and one was situated at the contact between Stages 2 and 3.

Isolated dart points, knives and potsherds were distributed in equal quantities between Stages 2 and 3 (Table 11). Lithic artifacts were concentrated in the Stage 2 fill with the ceramic debris clustering in the Stage 3 portion, possibly indicating an interval between the completion of Stage 2 and the construction of Stage 3, or that borrow for the mound came from two different locales, one an essentially non-