

ARCHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

AT CA-SCL-128 THE HOLIDAY INN SITE

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PREPARED FOR THE OHLONE PEOPLE
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V. SCL-128 GLASS TRADE BEAD CLASSIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

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1. Abstract

The SCL-128 glass trade bead sample is very small, consisting of 34 beads typed into seventeen distinct manufacture and color types. The glass trade beads of SCL-128 are atypical both as to local major mission sites and the known types of glass trade beads in the California State Reference Collection. Without C14 dating, matrix association with dated historic artifacts, or correlation with dated specimens from other archaeological sites, the SCL-128 beads appear to date from the Mission Period to the Late Modern Period. They also appear to indicate a slight possibility of trade ties with the missions of the area.

2. Background

The glass trade bead specimen number for SCL-128 is exceedingly small, a total of 34 beads. The beads came from the bulldozed backfill dirt of the Holiday Inn parking garage site and do not constitute an archaeologically sound sample of the true bead typology of the SCL-128 site.

By Clement Meighan's classification of bead size based on maximum dimension (Meighan 1953: Appendix 1:1), there are three small types under 5 mm. maximum dimension, C5a, W6a, and F6a; there are nine medium types between 5 and 10 mm., C13a, W2b, W2c, W3a, W4a, W5a, W8b, F6b, and F8a; and there are five types larger than 10 mm. maximum dimension, W5b, W8a, F3a, F5c, and F6c. It is curious that even with this small a sampling, there is only one very small bead represented in this site sample, C5g, 2.9/1.5/1.1. It leaves one cautious of the screen size used at the site and/or the screening techniques.

Of the 34 beads there are seventeen distinct types based on manufacture techniques and color (Tables 20-23; see Bone 1975:16). Surprisingly, the Holiday Inn site beads contain only two cane bead types, 11.8%. There are nine wirewound types, 52.9%, and six faceted types, 35.3%. This contrasts markedly with the Mission Santa Clara bead collection (Bone 1975a:36) in which both collections have a clear predominance of cane bead types. Mission Santa Clara has 94.4% cane beads, and Mission San Jose has 88.9% cane beads. The apparent difference may be due to the lack of a random sample of the entire SCL-128 site.

When analyzing a glass bead for color, one starts by examining the perforation for visible inner layers of glass over which other color layers have been applied. As an example, a red glass layer over a green glass layer classified on manufacture technique is classified as a green bead, color type 3, with an overlayer of red glass. The use of this classification technique points out a marked deviation of the SCL-128 bead colors in comparison to the closest major local

sites of Mission San Jose, Mission Santa Clara, and the Ohlone Cemetery. The greatest deviation is the reversal of percentages as shown in Table 20. The SCL-128 beads have only 3% white while compared to 75%, 47%, and 71%; only 6% green compared to 13%, 22% and 23% and a very large 59% red compared to 4%, 4% and 3%.

The comparison of manufacture type based on both manufacture process and color shows the SCL-128 material to be almost totally foreign to the known Californian glass trade beads. Of the seventeen manufacture types, only two types are in the Clement Meighan State Glass Bead Reference Collection at Lowie Museum, Berkeley; fifteen are totally new types to the state collection. Of the seventeen Holiday Inn types, only two types, C5a and W5a, are found at any of the other local sites previously mentioned; and they were only found at Mission San Jose with one specimen and two specimens respectively reported. Therefore, only 12% of the SCL-128 bead types are represented in the state reference collection, and only 12% of the SCL-128 beads are known at any of the major local sites.

Due to the lack of any C¹⁴ analysis of the bead matrix, the lack of historically dated artifacts directly associated with the beads, and the fact that 88% of the SCL-128 beads are totally unrelated to other local site data, the development of a temporal analysis is difficult at best.

Dr. James Bennyhoff's analysis of the Plains Miwok by temporal boundaries based on four major bead complexes is the best known, related analysis to the SCL-128 material (Bennyhoff 1961: 67). In addition, Robert Gibson's analysis of the temporal relationships of the Mission San Buenaventura (Gibson 1975b: 22) and K. Bone's analysis of Mission Santa Clara and Mission San Jose bead complexes provide a gross analysis even though the SCL-128 beads come from bulldozed back dirt with no provenience. The difficulty in the gross analysis is that there is very little correlation in the SCL-128 bead types with the existing types at the other major sites.

3. Data

A. Protohistoric Period - This time period, 1500-1769, may be represented by glass trade beads predominantly small to medium cobalt and copper blue cane beads. There is no supportive evidence that SCL-128 had any representative beads of this time period.

B. Mission Period - This time period, 1769-1816, is represented by generally small beads. The beads are varied in both shape and color. The purest form is found on the Channel Islands. Although larger than the purest form, SCL-128 may be represented in the Mission Period by W2b, W2c, W5b, and W8a (Fig. 32a-d). There are no other known site record of these types at the present time.

C. Secularization Period - This time period, 1816-1839, is represented by uniformly small beads with simple rounded shapes in whites, green, black--"Dark Ruby Red," blue and red on green beads. SCL-128 may be represented in the Secularization Period by C5a (Fig. 33a) which was also found at Mission San Jose during this time period.

D. Sutter Period - This time period, 1839-1845, may be represented by medium-sized beads, most frequently white and red on green beads. SCL-128 may be represented in the Sutter Period by W8b, a medium sized black bead of rough manufacture technique. Also of this period may be F6c which is hand faceted but with care and highly polished as well as F8a and F5c, both roughly hand faceted (Fig. 33b-d). There are no other known site record of these bead types at this time.

E. American Period - This time period, 1845-1881, may be represented by machine milled faceted beads with near equal size facets. Type F6b of which SCL-128 yielded seventeen specimens may represent this manufacture time era. The facets of F6b are each nearly equal to all other facets. The other nonfaceted glass beads of the period are characterized by vast variations in size, shape and colors. W3a, a turquoise green bead, may also be representative of this period. There are no other known site records of these bead types at this time.

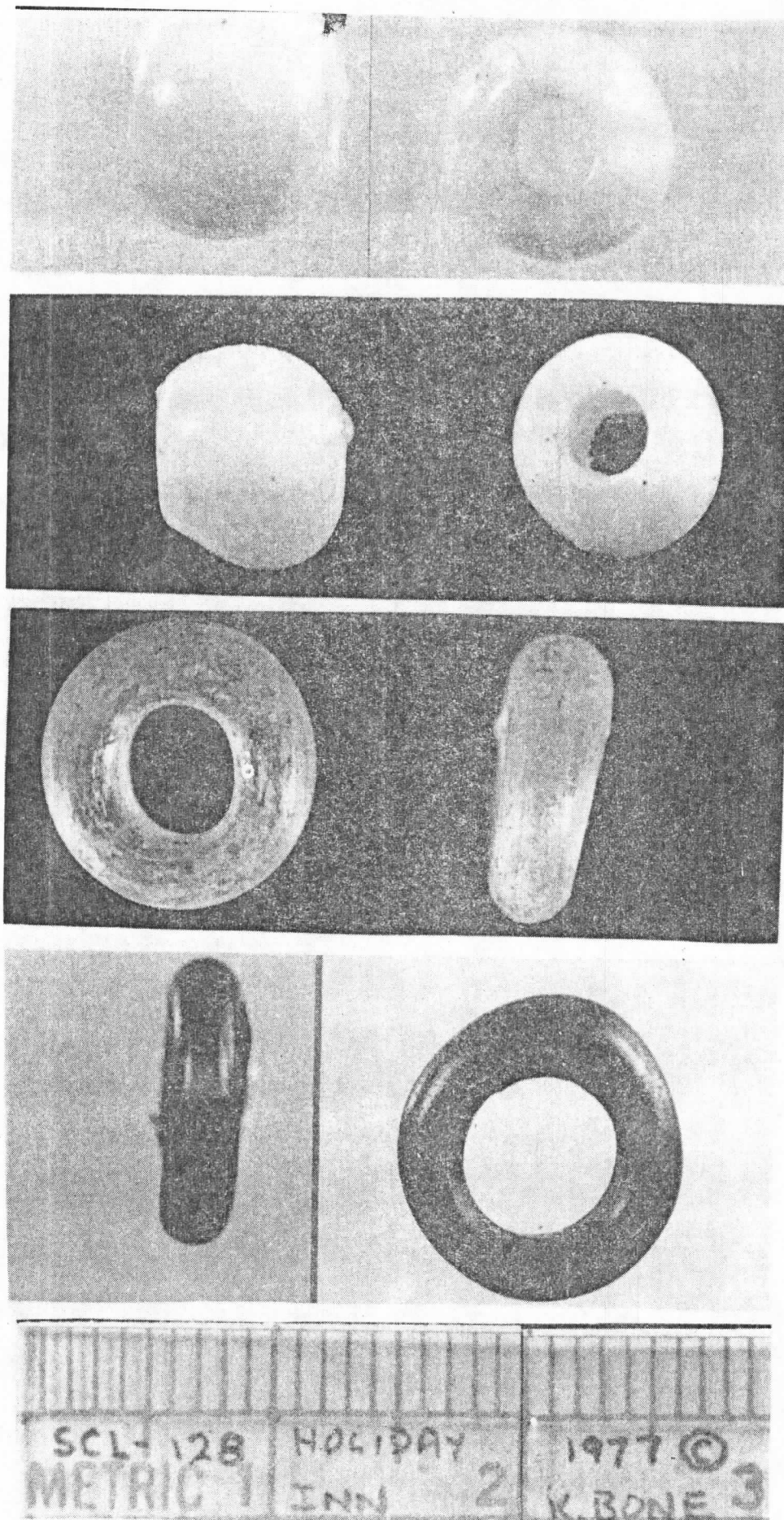


Figure 32. Mission Period Glass Trade Beads From SCL-128. Top - W2g; Second From Top - W2c; Third From Top - W5b; Bottom - W8a.

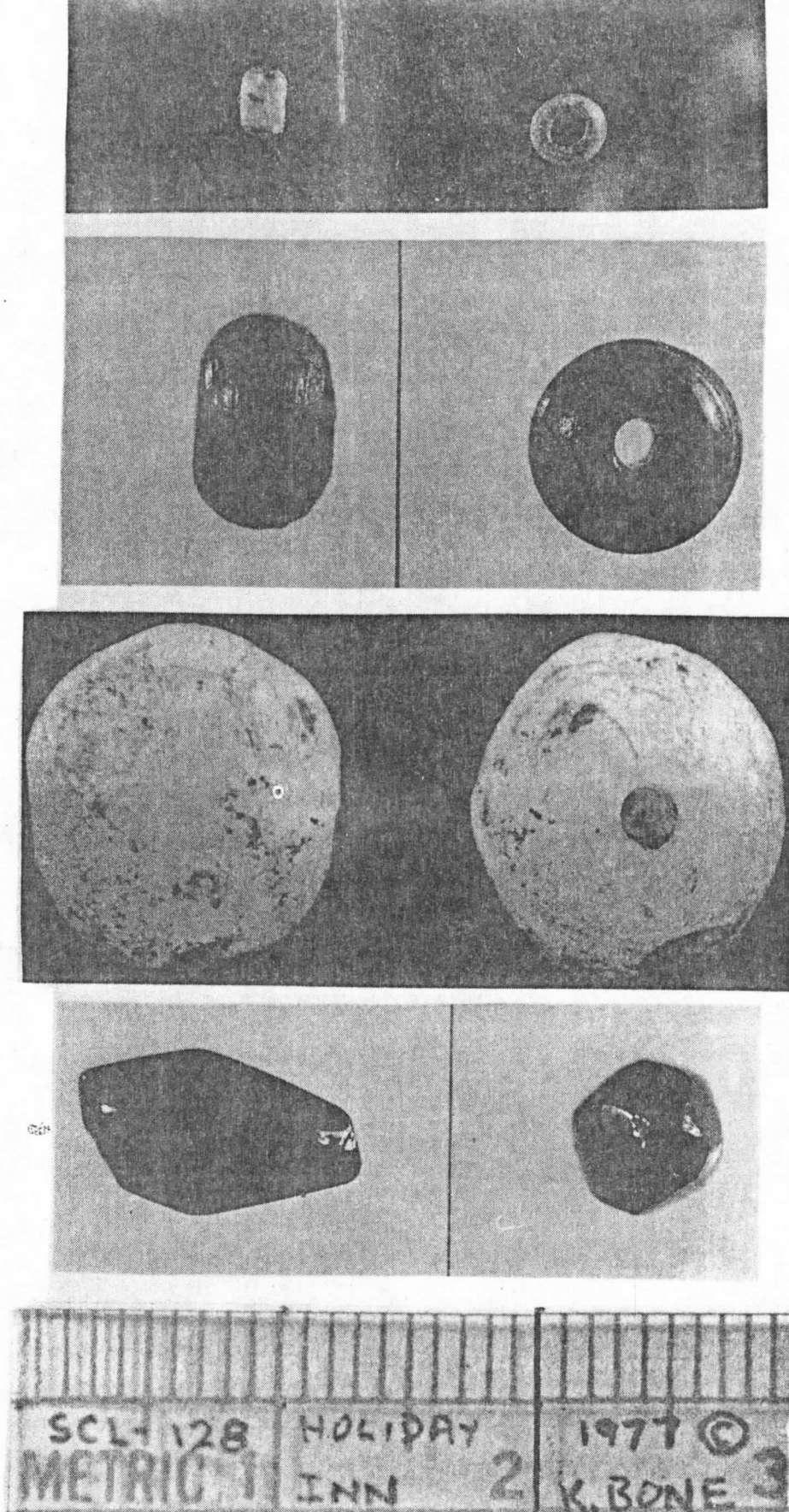


Figure 33. Secularization And Sutter Period Glass Trade Beads From SCL-128. Top - C5d; Second From Top - W8b; Third From Top - F5a; Bottom - F6c.

F. Post-American Period - This time period, post 1881-1900, may be represented by Victorian beads as in chandeliers, beaded purses, etc., as well as continuous circulation of Indian trade beads. Types F3a and F6a, both hexagonal tubulars, may be Victorian beads. Because of the clean manufacture technique, W4a and W5a may be glass trade beads manufactured during this time period. Also possibly of this time period is W6a which has a square perforation which increases the amount of reflected light from the bead. Except for W5a which is found at Mission San Jose, there are no other known site records of these bead types at this time.

G. Late Modern Period - The late modern period, post World War II, 1945, may be represented by C13a which is a bright orange bead which looks very much like today's plastic pop beads. There is no other known site record of this bead type at this time.

Table 20

Comparison of Glass Trade Beads at Different California Sites by Percent of Selected Colors

	Media Creek Lan-243		Malibu Lan-264		Mission Buenaventura Ven-87		Mission San Jose Ala-1		Mission Santa Clara SCL-30		Ohlone Cemetery Ala-2		Holiday Inn Garage Site SCL-128	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
cobalt blue	164	37.2	6,206	38.7	493	24.2	37	2.2	145	14.2	14	1	0	0
copper blue	254	57.7	4,457	27.8	602	29.6	27	1.6	126	12.4	4	0.3	2	5.9
green (should be higher. See red - below)	0	0	4,616	28.8	205	10.	221	13.	225	22.1	336	23.2	2	5.9
white	5	1.1	212	1.3	109	5.3	1,271	74.7	477	46.8	1,033	71.3	1	2.9
clear	0	0	18	0.1	79	3.8	48	2.8	1	0.09	5	0.4	5	14.7
red (should be lower for 1st 3 sites - Red on green=green)	1	0.2	420	2.9	98	4.8	65	3.8	36	3.5	46	3.2	20	58.8
yellow	0	0		0.1	105	5.1	5	0.3	6	0.6	0	0	0	0
amber	0	0	0	0	111	5.4	3	0.2	1	0.09	1	.07	0	0
other	<u>16</u>	<u>3.6</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>0.3</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>11.3</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0.196</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0.7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11.8</u>
Total Glass Beads	440	99.8	16,034	100	2,032	99.5	1,701	100	1,109	99.98	1,449	100.17	34	100

Table 21

CANE GLASS BEADS - SCL-128

Site Manufacture	Number of Specimens	Color "Wet"	Opaqueness	Measurement (mm.)	Meighan
Type			Transparent 1	Range	Shape
			Translucent 2		
			Opaque 3		
C5a	1	Transparent	Transparent 1	2.9/1.5/1.1	Disc
C13a	1	Orange	Opaque 3	6.5/6.0/1.0	Oblate Spheroid

Table 21 (cont'd)

Site Manufacture	Meighan Reference Collection Number	Bone Reference Collection Number	Mission San Buenaventura Ven-87	Mission Santa Clara SCL-30	Mission San Jose Ala-1	Ohlone Cemetery Ala-2
Type						
C5a	293	C5b	None	None	C5g	None
C13a	444 (new)	C13d	None	None	None	None

Table 22

FACETED GLASS BEADS - SCL-128

Site Manufacture			Opaqueness Transparent 1 Translucent 2 Opaque 3	Measurement (mm.) Range	Meighan Shape
Type	Number of Specimens	Color "Wet"			
F3a	1	emerald green	Transparent 1	3.6/20.7/1.8	Hexagonal Tubular
F5c	1	Milky Translucent	Translucent 2	12.0/11.7/1.9	Oblate Spheroid
F6a	1	Dark Ruby Red	Opaque 3	4.5/2.9/2.6	Hexagonal Tubular
F6b	17	Dark Ruby Red	Opaque 3	8.1/7.5/2.1	Faceted Oblate Spheroid
F6c	1	Dark Ruby Red	Opaque 3	5.5/11.1/0.8	Semi-faceted Spindle
F8a	1	black	Opaque 3	7.7/7.0/2.8-1.1	Faceted Oblate Spheroid

Table 22 (cont'd)

FACETED GLASS BEADS - SCL-128

Site Manufacture Type	Meighan Reference Collection Number	Bone Reference Collection Number	Mission San Buenaventura Ven-87	Mission Santa Clara SCL-30	Mission San Jose Ala-1	Ohlone Cemetery Ala-2
F3a	445	F3m	None	None	None	None
F5c	446	F5h	None	None	None	None
F6a	447	F6s	None	None	None	None
F6b	448	F6t	None	None	None	None
F6c	449	F6u	None	None	None	None
F8a	450	F8j	None	None	None	None

Table 23

WIREWOUND GLASS BEADS - SCL-128

Site Manufacture	Number of Specimens	Color "Wet"	Opaqueness		Measurement Range	Meighan Shape
			Transparent	1		
			Translucent	2		
			Opaque	3		
W2b	1	Copper blue		Opaque 3	9.3/8.8/3.6	Oblate Spheroid
W2c	1	Light Copper blue		Translucent 2	8.5/7.4/3.3	Oblate Spheroid
W3a	1	Translucent green		Translucent 2	6.6/5.3/1.0	Oblate Spheroid
W4a	1	Milk-glass white		Opaque 3	8.7/7.7/1.7	Oblate Spheroid
W5a	1	Translucent- Transparent clear		Transparent 1 Translucent 2	7.1/6.4/0.8	Oblate Spheroid
W5b	2	Transparent clear		Transparent 1	11.4/4.6/5.4	ring
W6a	1	Transparent red		Transparent 1	2.6/1.9/1.0	Oblate Spheroid
W8a	1	"black"		Opaque 3	11.6/3.6/6.2	ring
W8b	1	"black"		Opaque 3	8.0/5.2/1.9	disc

Table 23 (cont'd)

WIREWOUND GLASS BEADS - SCL-128

Site Manufacture	Meighan Reference Collection Number	Bone Reference Collection Number	Mission San Buenaventura Ven-87	Mission Santa Clara SCL-30	Mission San Jose Ala-1	Ohlone Cemetery Ala-2
W2b	267	W2p	None	None	None	None
W2c	451	W2ab	None	None	None	None
W3a	452	W3v	None	None	None	None
W4a	453	W42	None	None	None	None
W5a	454	W5c	None	None	W5b	None
W5b	455	W5d	None	None	None	None
W6a	456	W6u	None	None	None	None
W8a	457	W8h	None	None	None	None
W8b	458	W8i	None	None	None	None

Table 24

Glass Beads SCL-128

July 1977

Total number of Glass beads collected 34

Percent of glass beads based on Manufacture Type

2	Cane	5.9%
22	faceted	64.7%
10	wirewound	29.4%
0	Pressed	
0	blown	

Percent of Glass beads by color

0	Cobalt blue	
2	copper blue	5.9
2	green	5.9
1	white	2.9
5	clear	14.7
20	red	58.8
0	opaque	
3	black	8.8
0	brown	
0	amber	
0	opaque yellow	
0	yellow	
1	orange	2.9
1	gray	