

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THREE SITES
ON THE CENTURY RANCH,
WESTERN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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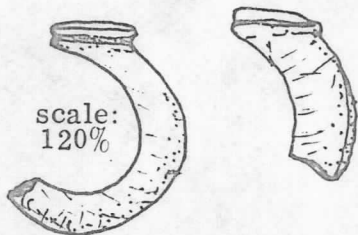
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Fishhooks. Three fragmentary specimens of fishhooks were recovered, all of the circular type. The material utilized was Mytilus californianus. One specimen lacks both tip and shank, while the other two represent the shank portion of the hook. The shanks are of the elongate knobbed type with partial grooving.

Haliotis Shells A number of Haliotis cracherodii shells were found in association with burials. A single shell from Burial 12 has siphonal openings plugged with asphaltum, perhaps for use as a dish or ladle. Eight shells from Burial 6 are unmodified.

European Items

Beads. A number of small blue or green glass beads were recovered and probably represent Spanish trade goods. They were generally restricted to the upper portion of the midden at LAN-229.



Scale: 150%

Pottery. Two types of glazed pottery were found at LAN-229. Type 1 is a blue and white crockery ware and is probably intrusive. Type 2, a brown ware, is similar to pottery still manufactured in many parts of Mexico, and probably dates from the early nineteenth century.

In addition to the above artifacts, a short piece of corroded metal pipe and several patinated pieces of glass were recovered from LAN-229. One of the glass fragments has been nicely retouched along one edge to produce a scraper. And at LAN-227, a small triangular piece of iron and a metal button were found in the excavations; these are almost certainly due to the recent farming activities in the area. No other objects of European manufacture were encountered.

Miscellaneous

Quartz Crystals. These are small crystals of quartz found at LAN-225.

Iron Oxide. Small lumps of iron oxide were recovered from pits throughout LAN-225, but may have been more frequent in the burial area.

Ochre. A number of sizeable pieces of red or yellow ochre (hematite or mudstone) were encountered in the course of the excavations at LAN-229, and several of these pieces show evidence of modification due to grinding and rubbing. Most of the larger pieces were associated with burials.

Daub. A small piece of fire-hardened clay or mud, bearing the impress of several parallel reeds or sticks, was found at LAN-229. It may represent part of a stick or brush framework, or construction that was subsequently daubed with mud or clay.