

ANTHROPOLOGICAL PAPERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Volume I

1952

Number I

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The three earrings are all made from ivory but each takes a different form. The elaborate earring with compass-drawn circles (Pl. 6, 6) still retains a small inset, also of ivory, at the bottom and in one corner. The ring was probably attached to the ear with a hook at the back and top; part of this hook still remains. The earring with a human face on the front (Pl. 6, 7) has a complete suspension hook at the bottom of the back. It appears as though the head was to be upside down when the earring was worn. There is a small hole at the back for the suspension of beads. The plain lined earring has, at the back, a small suspension hole at the narrower end but the hook at the opposite end is missing (Pl. 6, 8).

Only four beads were recovered; three of these are small blue-glass trade beads (Pl. 6, 9) and the fourth is a cylindrical limestone bead (Pl. 6, 10).

The iron bracelet found in the upper foot of the deposit is a narrow circular band that overlaps at each end.

The one hunting visor is made from spruce root and is semi-lunar in shape; at each end is a lashing hole, and on the top and in the center is a small hole probably intended for some decorative inset.

That the spruce root hat was used is indicated by the finding of flat, oblong pieces of antler with regularly spaced drilled holes. These were identified by Hooper Village informants as having been used to bind together the back of a spruce root hat.

Comparisons

The oldest labrets thus far recovered in Alaska are from the Aleutians (Laughlin and Marsh, 1951, p. 82), Kachemak Bay (de Laguna, 1934, pp. 109-112), and probably Port Moller (Weyer, 1930, p. 265). In northern Alaska labrets are absent during the entire cultural sequence on St. Lawrence Island and are relatively rare at Ipiutak, but Larsen and Rainey (1948, p. 114) suspect that they were used more frequently than the number of finds would suggest. On the Kobuk River labrets are absent at the Ahteut site; there is one "novice's labret" from Ekseavik plus another lateral labret that is suspected of being intrusive (Giddings, MS). At Kotzebue there is adequate evidence of labrets in houses dating slightly later than Ekseavik (verbal communication with J. Van Stone), and in more recent collections from coastal Alaska labrets are quite common. De Laguna (1934, pp. 204-206), in her detailed analysis of labrets, points out that the medial form was used at Kachemak Bay, in the Aleutians, and north and east as far as Barter Island and Point Atkinson. It is possible that two of the Hooper Bay Village labrets are of this type (Pl. 6, 1-2), although they are not so large and distinctive as many medial labrets. Lateral labrets are present at Kachemak Bay, the Aleutians, and along the western and northern coasts of Alaska. At Hooper Bay Village there is one of this type with a hole through the center, probably for the insertion of a set or beads. The small medial labret is probably a novice's labret (Pl. 6, 4). This flat specimen is almost identical with one illustrated by de Laguna from Kachemak Bay (1934, Pl. 51, 23). The sickle-shaped labret, worn by women (Nelson, 1899, p. 45), is apparently a late local development in the Hooper Bay Village region.

Earrings such as were found at Hooper Bay Village are described by Nelson (1899, p. 52), and seemingly this region was the center for such styles. It is significant that the relatively plain earring from

Hooper Bay Village (Pl. 6, 8) was recovered from the tenth level (60 inches), and the more elaborate form (Pl. 6, 6) was from nearer the top of the deposit.

All of the glass beads recovered, one found alone in the midden and two set into the deck of a toy boat, are pale blue and from the upper foot of the deposit (Pl. 6, 9). There is a small suspension hole at the bottom of the earring found in the tenth level (60 inches); although it is likely that the hole was for the suspension of a bead such as was found on a similar late earring from the locality, there is no way of determining the type of bead which may have been used.

Binding pieces for spruce root hats are described for the Bering Sea region (Nelson, 1899, Pl. LXIV, 20-22, Fig. 45, p. 167) but appear to be somewhat longer than the examples recovered at Hooper Bay Village.

Tobacco Complex Compared

All Hooper Bay Village equipment connected with the tobacco complex was recorded earlier by Nelson (1899, pp. 271-285) for the Bering Sea region; therefore, no description of the individual pieces is given here. In the Hooper Bay midden there is evidence of smoking in the seventh level, forty-two inches deep, where a wooden pipe stem was found; this is the earliest tobacco complex evidence that was discovered. In the sixth level, thirty-six inches deep, was a piece of spruce driftwood whose outermost ring dates 1836, indicating that subsequent layers were deposited after this date. Thus it seems reasonable to assume that the seventh level would date around 1800 A. D. Captain Cook (Anderson and Eells, 1935, p. 63), when he visited Norton Sound in 1778, found that the Eskimos there were familiar with tobacco although the ones in the Bristol Bay region did not use it at the time. It would appear that tobacco was introduced into the Hooper Bay region from the north about 25 years after it had been observed in Norton Sound. Rainey (1947, p. 267) is of the opinion that there was a trade in tobacco, iron, etc. across Bering Straits shortly after Russian cossacks established the Anadrsk trading post in northern Siberia in 1649. If such trading existed, the Hooper Bay region must not have felt its effects (at least with respect to tobacco) until a hundred and fifty years later.

TOYS

Toys are well represented in the total number of artifacts recovered. Story knives alone include thirty-five identifiable pieces. The story knives all take the form of the illustrated example (Pl. 6, 14); thirty-two are made of wood and three are antler. Two of the wooden knives and one of antler have suspension holes at the end. The small antler tip with a design along one edge (Pl. 6, 15) is probably part of a story knife, but this identification is not certain. The majority of the toy bow fragments include only a small section below the nock; all are much the same as the few sections of large bows. The toy toggle harpoon head with its bifurcated spur has the rude outline of the late type harpoon heads from this area. The model also includes a foreshaft carved from the same piece of wood. The toy fish spear side prong is like an ordinary side prong except that it is made from wood. Although the toy

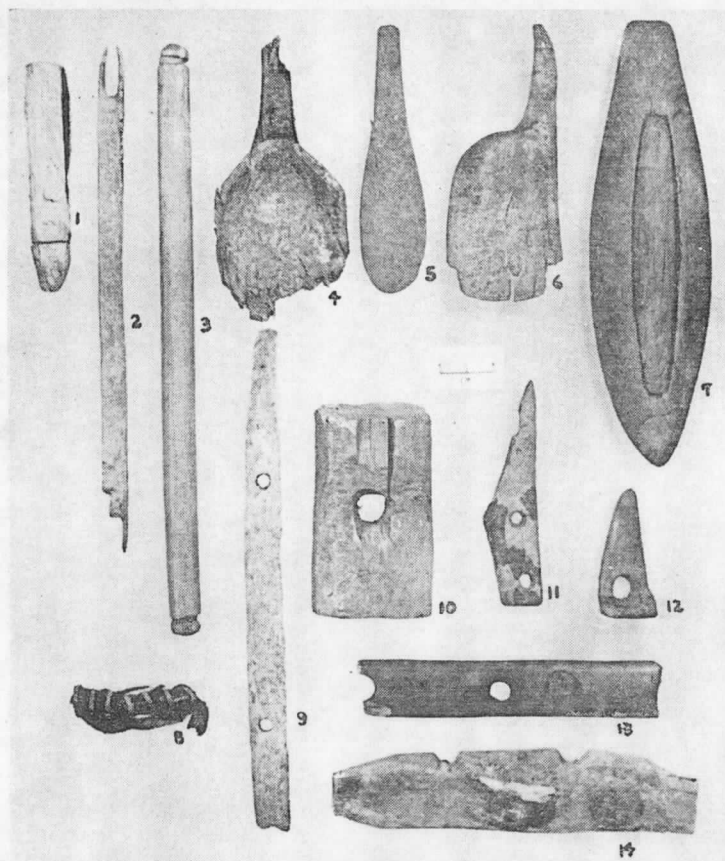


PLATE 5

1. Needle case
2. Cord shuttle
3. Handle
4. Spoon
5. "
6. "
7. Fish-shaped box
8. Birch bark container
9. Kayak keel plate
10. Kayak sled upright
11. Kayak meat hook
12. Kayak harpoon rest
13. Sled shoe
14. Snowshoe cross piece

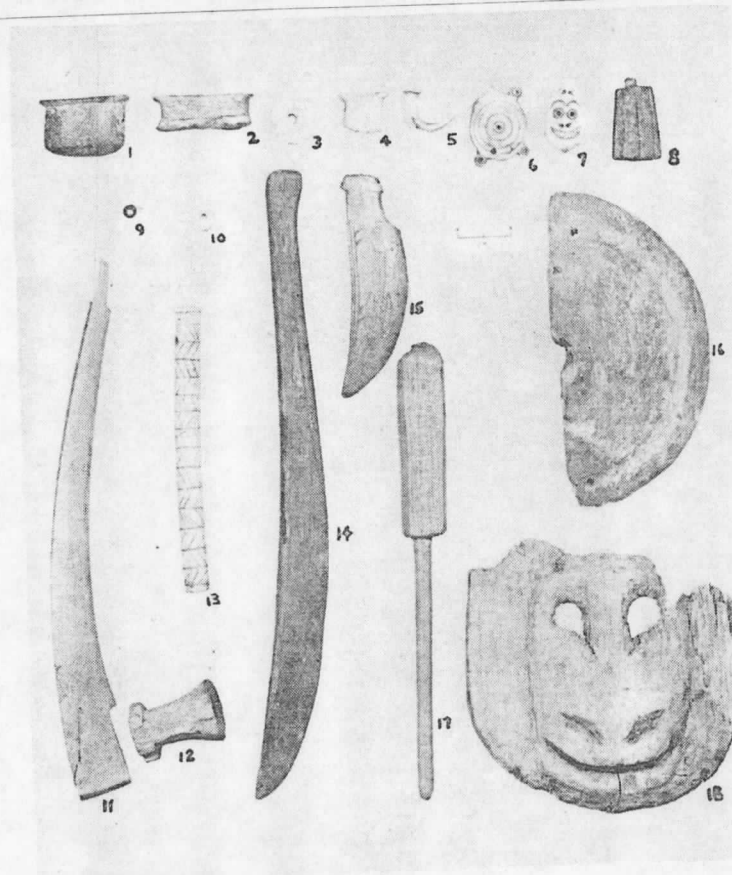


PLATE 6

1. Labret
2. "
3. "
4. "
5. "
6. Earring
7. "
8. "
9. Glass bead
10. Limestone bead
11. Pipe stem
12. Pipe bowl
13. Snuff tube
14. Story knife
15. " "
16. Top
17. Pop gun plunger
18. Mask