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ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE NORTHERN SAN  
JOAQUIN VALLEY

BY

W. EGBERT SCHENCK AND ELMER J. DAWSON

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None of these ornamented tubes are reported from the Bethany region. From Stockton came only four or five with designs very similar to Holmes's plate 28B. In the Lodi region they appeared only at sites 6 and 43, where seventy-three pieces were found, principally at site 6. In the Yolo county sites they seem relatively abundant.<sup>28</sup>

#### Whalebone Objects

Two or three fragmentary artifacts in the Stockton collection, but possibly not from our area, were made of whalebone. In each of the collections there was a fragment of what might have been a shaft, about 8 mm. in diameter, of the same material (pl. 81e). Several of the artifacts we describe under horn, particularly the spearpoints or fishhooks, might be of sea mammal bone and as such reflect the Aleut sea-otter hunters.

#### Whistles

Under this heading we include all bone tubes which have been specialized by a vent or hole in one side. There were about thirty such specimens from the Lodi region and about three times that number from Stockton. All whistles were of bird bone. In no case is there more than one vent. This vent is near the middle of the tube, sometimes on the concave side, sometimes on the convex. It may be either rectangular, elliptical, or semi-elliptical. The rectangular vents are comparatively large and have been cut out. The elliptical ones are more even and appear ground. The largest whistle was 235 by 18 mm. Plate 79l-t gives an idea of their variation in size as well as the variations of the vent. The very small whistles may be emphasized. One whistle was noted with a smaller bone tube mouthpiece.

None of the whistles were ornamented with etched designs or, as was common at Emeryville and in the Santa Barbara region, with paint, asphalt, or beads. In one case binding marks appeared, and as these coincided on two specimens found together the indication is that they were sometimes used in pairs (pl. 79l-m).

Whistles are noteworthy because of their concentration, several specimens usually being found in a group with a single burial.

<sup>28</sup> There were on exhibit in the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, New York City, in May 1927, a number of ornamented pelican-bone tubes very similar in general appearance to these Stockton-Lodi pieces. Their label stated the specimens were from Panama and were worn as dance trophies, a tube being added for each dance participated in. Such usage might explain concentration in particular graves, but their comparative scarcity would seem to imply peculiar qualifications of dancer and dance before they could be acquired.

#### ARTICLES OF CAUCASIAN MAKE

Three of the Lodi sites yielded articles of Caucasian manufacture (1, 6, and 26).

At site 26, glass beads were found on the surface and to a depth of one foot, as deep as we went, in the only pit dug. The total number of such beads recovered was about 1845. There are several types: white, from 4 to 10 mm. in diameter; red with greenish or black core, of the same size; various colors, such as green, red, amber, pink, black, and blue, and ranging from 3 to 10 mm. in diameter. No burials were found in the mound, but the beads were found in close proximity to the only other artifacts which the mound yielded.

At site 6 also the only articles of Caucasian make discovered were glass beads. About 85 of these were recovered. They were all small, from 4 to 12 mm. in diameter, and of various colors including black, white and silver, blue, red, green. Some had been burned. In this site sixteen pits or trenches were dug, and in only two of these were glass beads found. They were associated with only three of the 102 burials uncovered. The maximum depth to which we dug was forty-two inches. Glass beads were found as deep as twenty-four inches, while other artifacts and burials were found as deep as we went. But directly under the beads (i.e., at a spot where several beads were found together) were neither other artifacts nor burials. In several cases half a dozen or so beads were together. Otherwise the beads were found singly. Associated with some of the glass beads were a number of olivella shell disc beads with edges chipped instead of ground and generally inferior in workmanship to those found elsewhere in the mound. Certain other articles closely associated with glass beads appear of particular interest; viz., sixteen obsidian curves, four bear claws, fifteen coyote (?) teeth, seven clay bird effigies, one plummet, textile and cordage fragments. In other words, a very fair percentage of articles of these types found were modern.

Site 1 yielded all the types of glass beads found at sites 6 and 26 as well as several other types. This site is noteworthy because of the great quantity of these glass beads. At least 15,000 were recovered from the six burials uncovered. In addition there were found a number of quite modern articles such as tin cups, cut iron nails, overall suspenders fastener, a portion of a leather shoe, bone buttons, glass buttons, brass buttons. These were associated with four of the six burials. With the beads and other articles or with the burials which

they characterized were a number of shell ornaments similar to those found elsewhere.

In the Stockton region site 82 yielded several "finds" of glass beads which came from as deep in the mound as Barr dug. The locality of some of the Barr charred textiles is not certain, but it seems probable that sites 80, 82, 83, and 86 at least were inhabited within historic times.

Under this heading notice should also be taken of possible Aleut artifacts due to the Aleutian hunters brought to San Francisco bay by the Russians.

### *Age Suggestions*

It does not seem worth while tracing the relations which the glass beads imply with the Hudson Bay Company's traders in the 1830's, Sutter's Fort in the 1840's, and with others subsequently. The importance of the presence of such articles lies rather in the standard which they supply for age estimations, first with reference to the length of occupancy of a mound, and then with reference to the types of aboriginal artifacts with which they were associated.

The articles found at site 1 indicate that the entire mound, as a living and burial site, was probably post-Anglo-Saxon. This mound then was first lived upon not over ninety years ago. It has not been occupied in recent years. Hence some seventy-five years would represent the maximum period of occupancy possible, while the probable period would seem much less. Within this time there was accumulated a mound mass from thirty to thirty-six inches thick or about as thick as any mound mass observed. In short, residence on a site for only two or three generations will apparently produce the characteristics of the most marked mounds of the Lodi region. There seems definite evidence here to support the indications offered by the details of the structure and composition of the mounds, i.e., that each mound represents a short period of occupancy, probably not over two or three generations.

We of course do not imply that no article found in the Lodi region is over seventy-five years old. The suggestion is that the aboriginal history of no one mound extends over a longer period. The total time represented by all the mounds is considered on pages 320 and 409.

The aboriginal artifacts directly associated with Caucasian-made articles do not appear to be unique, but they indicate that at least considerable proportions of some types are modern. It does not appear

improbable that sites 6 and 82, possibly the most marked cultural centers of the area, are post-Caucasian. If so, several of the most characteristic productions of the area can be attributed to contact with Caucasians or with the Indians from other localities whom they brought into the locality.

### ARTICLES OF CLAY

Baked clay articles are one of the unique features of our area, although pottery was exceedingly rare. Baked clay balls were produced in profusion and in many forms. Considering the general absence of clay work in California north of the Tehachapi mountains their presence is noteworthy. Their greatest concentration was at site 6: this makes it seem probable that the balls are the result of a relatively recent practice. (These balls are found in Yolo county sites and it seems possible that they occur to some extent throughout the delta area.) Since they are not known elsewhere and were presumably created to fill the need caused by the lack of stone in the area, they appear to represent a local invention possibly based however on an imported knowledge that baked clay was used for known artifacts, e.g., spindle whorls or pipes. It is interesting that a people should possess so much knowledge of baked clay and develop it no further. Perhaps this may indicate that such knowledge was relatively recent.

Small clay effigies of birds were also present in considerable number. Similar specimens have not been reported elsewhere in California.<sup>20</sup>

Pipes were rare, and, like spindle whorls, suggest importations from southern California. A few "doughnuts" suggest the Santa Barbara region, except that they were of baked clay instead of stone as at Santa Barbara. Hence, like earplugs, they suggest an attempt at reproducing imported stone forms in local clay. Other clay forms are insignificant.

Sites 6 and 43, river bank sites, disclosed a profusion of baked clay. Sites 66 and 68, sea level sites, yielded little, and mostly of other forms than balls.

<sup>20</sup> In May, 1926, the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, had on exhibit a collection of strikingly similar clay objects from Assyria.