

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AT INDIAN RANCH

PANAMINT VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

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deep mortars with a small diameter. Table 11 shows frequency and distribution of the recovered pestles. This artifact is not illustrated.

Pottery

Potsherds were recovered from several stations in Dune Areas I and II. The total number of sherds was small. All sherds have been sent to Richard Shutler, Jr. for analysis in one of his seminars. Therefore no discussion of the pottery is attempted in this report. All potsherds appear to belong to the same basic ware.

Decorative Items

In addition to utilitarian objects described above, a number of artifacts used for personal adornment was recovered in the survey. Pendants, beads and fragments of incised tablets of some sort are included in this category.

Pendants

Pendants made from several kinds of materials were found. Included here are talc, slate, schist, mica and probably gypsum. Since it is likely that all are parts of a single tradition, such differences as do exist are of little significance. The collection was divided into two categories: pendants with incising and those lacking such decoration. The distribution of the two categories is presented in Table 12. Fig. 10a, b, c, d, e, f, g illustrates the pendants and tablets recovered from Indian Ranch.

Beads

Beads were relatively common on the described sites, and ten separable types are suggested, although these must be considered highly tentative under the circumstances.

Type 1: Small, disc-like shell beads with a curved section.

Type 2: Small, disc-like shell beads with a straight section.

Type 4: Spire-lopped olivella shells.

Type 6: Olivella, transverse half shells.

Type 10: Small, round beads of blue glass.

Type 11: Small to medium sized blue glass beads with faceted or angular sides.

Type 14: Small, white glass beads, round and smooth

Type 15: Small, round glass beads, pink or red with white centers

Type 16: Small, tubular stone beads. Materials vary but all are soft and easily worked.

Type 17: Small and round, made of terra-cotta colored glass. Table 12 shows the frequency distribution of the recovered beads.