

SEX, STATUS AND ROLE IN THE MESTIZAJE  
OF SPANISH COLONIAL FLORIDA

By

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### Socio-Technic Items

The test implication that socio-technic items would be European was firmly supported by the data from the de la Cruz site. These items included ornaments, clothing, cosmetics, and tableware.

#### Ornaments: Beads

Thirty-four beads were found at the de la Cruz site during the 1973 season, in addition to the 35 beads recovered in 1972. Without exception, these beads were of European origin; no shell or stone beads attributable to aboriginal manufacture were present.

Of the 34 beads from the 1973 excavation, 14 were from closed first Spanish period contexts, and as a result, can be definitely attributed to the period between 1720 and 1763 (Figure 24). Table 5 lists the 35 beads and their proveniences, along with their classification according to the Kidd classification system (Kidd and Kidd 1970). The Kidd system was chosen for its flexibility, an important factor for the classification of the SA-16-23 beads, since some of these did not conform to the previously described bead collections upon which the Beck (1928) and Kidd systems were based.

Of the beads from closed contexts, eight were wire-wound, and four were cane or tube beads. (The remaining bead was a rosary bead, described below.) Within the entire sample of 35 beads, however, 16 (49 percent) were cane beads, and of the 35 beads recovered in 1972, 33 percent were cane beads, and the remainder were wire-wound.

The most frequently occurring bead types at SA-16-23 were

Cornaline D'Allepo trade beads; and a blue cane bead with white applied stripes. The Cornaline D'Allepo beads are tubes of dark green glass, covered by opaque red glass, varying considerably in size (Figure 24-h). Eight of this variety were recovered in 1972, and three in 1973, although none were found in closed contexts during the 1973 excavation. The seven blue tube beads with white applied stripes were all found during the 1973 excavation (Figure 24-i), although only three were from closed Spanish period contexts.

Six wire-wound, faceted beads were recovered at the site, two from closed contexts (Figure 24-1). These are not accounted for in the Kidd system, and have been designated as WIIE. They come closest to the illustrated type WIIC, but are more nearly spherical. These faceted beads are quite similar to decahedral beads such as the Tallassee hatchee Translucent Amber Decahedral bead (DeJarnette and Hansen 1960:58), and those found at Santa Rosa Pensacola (Smith 1965:100-101).

One particularly interesting bead from SA-16-23, also from a closed 18th century context, was a jet "rosary bead" (Figure 24-7). This bead is flat on one side, and faceted on the other, with two holes drilled latitudinally through the sides. An identical bead, designated as a rosary bead, was recovered at the Los Adaes site (16-NA-16), the site of the Spanish Linares mission, occupied from 1707 until 1805 (Gregory and Webb 1965:16).

Because glass beads are often either not reported, or are usually scarce on Spanish sites, comparison or generalization about Spanish

TABLE 4  
Beads from SA-16-23

Closed Contexts

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Description</u>           | <u>Provenience</u> | <u>Kidd Type</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1.            | wire-wound, blue faceted     | midden             | WIIe3            |
| 2.            | tube, blue, white stripes    | courtyard          | IIB70            |
| 3.            | tube, blue, white stripes    | courtyard          | IIB70            |
| 4.            | wire-wound, black, oval      | well               | WICblack         |
| 5.            | wire-wound, amber, donut     | well               | WId2             |
| 6.            | wire-wound, clear, raspberry | courtyard          | WIIe1            |
| 7.            | jet rosary                   | courtyard          | none             |
| 8.            | wire-wound, white, round     | courtyard          | WIB2.            |
| 9.            | tube, blue, white stripes    | courtyard          | Ib25             |
| 10.           | wire-wound, patinated, round | courtyard          | WIBpatinated     |
| 11.           | wire-wound, blue faceted     | courtyard          | WIIIf5           |
| 12.           | tube, opaque blue            | courtyard          | IaI8             |
| 13.           | wire-wound, patinated round  | courtyard          | WIBpatinated     |

(See Figure 24 for illustration of above beads.)

Mixed Contexts

|        |   |      |             |
|--------|---|------|-------------|
| 14-16. | Cornaline D'Allepo                                  | open | IIIfal      |
| 17-20. | rounded tube, blue, white stripes                   | open | IIB70       |
| 21.    | seed, rounded, white                                | open |             |
| 22.    | wire-wound, blue, faceted                           | "    | WIIe3       |
| 23.    | wire-wound, clear raspberry                         | "    | WIIe1       |
| 24-25. | wire-wound, clear, faceted                          | "    |             |
| 26.    | wire-wound, black, round with<br>white "dot" inlays | "    | WIIIB       |
| 27.    | wire-wound, black, round                            | "    | WIB17       |
| 28.    | tube, blue, opaque                                  | "    | IaIb        |
| 29.    | tube, blue, transparent                             | "    | IaIa        |
| 30.    | wire-wound, blue, round                             | "    | WIB15       |
| 31.    | wire-wound, blue, flat-circular                     | "    | WIBI        |
| 32.    | wire-wound, white, round                            | "    | WIB2        |
| 33.    | tube, chevron                                       | "    | IIIfal      |
| 34.    | seed, chevron                                       | "    | IIIfal seed |

use of beads is difficult. Only 11 beads (excluding 39 beads found strung on a rosary) were recovered at the sites of San Luis and San Francisco combined, and except for five incompletely described striped beads, these were all plain beads (Boyd, Smith and Griffin 1951:176). The seven glass beads recovered at the 18th century site of Santa Rosa Pensacola are similar to some of those from SA-16-23; two faceted wire-wound beads (Kidd WIIe2), one elongated, faceted bead, one Florida Crystal faceted, one striped tube bead, and one Ocmulgee White Inlay (DeJarnette and Hansen 1960:57) were found.

The Los Adaes site in Louisiana (Gregory and Webb 1965) yielded 65 beads, believed to date from 1717 to 1805. The sample from this Spanish site diverged from the bead samples from the three surrounding French sites in two ways:

1. The Spanish site contained a great many more seed beads than the French sites, and the beads in general were smaller at the Spanish site.
2. Wire-wound beads were much more frequent at Los Adaes than at the French sites.

From burials at the Childersburg site, 29 beads, attributable to the period between 1750 and 1775 were recovered. Of these, 21 were small, undecorated tube or seed beads. Of the remaining eight, four were faceted decahedral beads, two were "pigeon egg" trade beads, one was a fine inlaid oval bead, and one was a large black cylindrical bead (DeJarnette and Hansen 1960:59). These were associated with Indian burials containing British trade goods.

Although nearly all of the beads on 18th century sites, whether French, Spanish, or British, were probably imported from Amsterdam or Venice (Noel-Hume 1970:53), certain tendencies may be suggested for an 18th century Spanish-Indian domestic site, represented by SA-16-23:

1. Wire wound beads are preferred to tube beads on domestic sites.
2. Fewer seed beads are present on domestic sites than in mission or frontier sites. This may be due to the use of seed beads for Indian trade, to be sewn on garments or used in other beadwork, and may have been considered undesirable by town dwellers (particularly those trying to dissociate themselves from Indian-ness). Archeological recovery techniques should also be considered as a possible determining factor.
3. A higher proportion of complex, decorative beads (applied, inlaid and multicolored beads; or beads of complex shape) are found on Spanish domestic sites than on mission or frontier sites. The basis for this suggestion is in the proportion of decorative to non-decorative beads at several 18th century sites:

|                          | <u>decorative</u> | <u>total</u> | <u>% decorative</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| SA-16-23                 | 18                | 34           | 52                  |
| Santa Rosa Pensacola     | 7                 | 7            | 100                 |
| Los Adaes                | 4                 | 65           | 7                   |
| Childersburg             | 7                 | 29           | 20                  |
| San Luis & San Francisco | 4                 | 11           | 36                  |
| Fig Springs Mission*     | 1                 | 16           | 6                   |
| Arrivas House**          | 4                 | 10           | 40                  |
| (St. Augustine, Florida) |                   |              |                     |

\*Deagan 1972b

\*\*Florida State Museum Field Notes

The three domestic sites, SA-16-23, the Arrivas House, and Santa Rosa

Pensacola, have the highest proportions of decorative beads.

The three statements presented above should be treated as inductive hypotheses requiring further testing before their validity can be determined.

The role of beads as a material correlate of mestizaje is unclear at this point. Certainly a higher proportion of decorative, European beads; or at least beads not primarily associated with Indian trade, is to be expected. Comparison of the de la Cruz site with the Arrivas site (SA-12-12), occupied by a Spanish criollo household at about the same time that the de la Cruz site was occupied by a mestizo household, suggests that a greater number of Venetian glass beads may have been used by the mestizo household. The excavation at the Arrivas house yielded only ten beads; two faceted, two wire-wound glass, one tube bead, and one blue tube bead with white appliqued stripes, and an Italian coral bead. (Florida State Museum Field Notes). It is possible that acculturated Indians and mestizos displayed European glass beads more prominently than did Spaniards or criollos. It should be noted that the individual economic factors of the households, as well as the recovery techniques employed at the sites, may also be relevant factors, and that further archeological testing is required.

#### Ornaments: Buttons

The buttons recovered at SA-16-23 provided direct evidence that European clothing was worn on the site during the first Spanish period. The 1973 excavation recovered 85 buttons, 25 of which were from closed 18th century contexts.

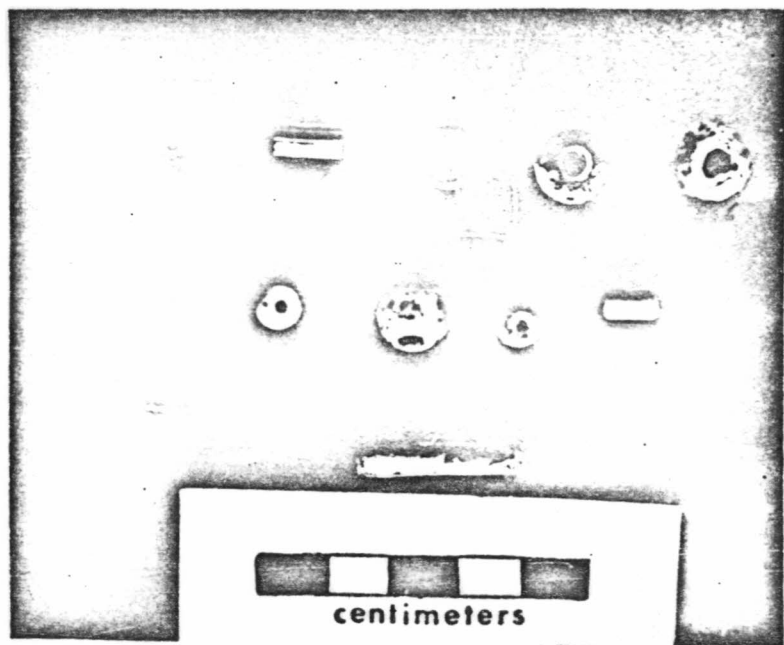


FIGURE 24

Beads from Closed Proveniences  
(see Table 4)