A COASTAL CHUMASH VILLAGE: EXCAVATION OF SHISHOLOP, VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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Appendix A FISH REMAINS, PRIMARILY OTOLITHS, FROM A VENTURA, CALIFORNIA, CHUMASH VILLAGE SITE (VEN-3) JOHN E. FITCH

Appendix B FURTHER EXCAVATION OF VEN-3 ROBERTA S. GREENWOOD and R. O. BROWNE

MEMOIRS OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES VOLUME 8 October 1, 1969 black outside. They range from 0.8 to 1.2 cm in thickness, shapes indeterminable. At least two are visibly coiled.

8. Reddish-yellow to yellow-brown, glazed — 3 fragments. These examples are 7.5 YR 7/6 to 5 YR 5/4 in exterior color with a shiny glaze on the interior which reads 5 YR 7/8 to 5 YR 4/9. Two pieces are thick, 0.6 and 0.7 cm, and the third is thinner, 0.4 cm. The thin sherd and at least one of the thick pieces are clearly wheel-made. One is a rounded rim fragment, with the glaze spilling over onto the exterior for a distance of 0.6 cm. The temper of the thick pieces includes coarse black and white sands, and what seem to be red ceramic particles. The ware appears Mexican.

Quartz Crystals

Five quartz crystals were recovered, one of them double-terminated, two single-terminated, and two nodular. None bore any traces of asphaltum. The double-terminated specimen shows a trace of abrasion at one end, although it is not possible to determine whether this is from use or erosion. Both single-terminated crystals have the same condition on the tip opposed the terminated end. One of the non-terminated examples similarly shows some abrasion at one end.

Length:	0.6-2.3 cm	
Diam.:	0.3-1.2 cm	

Pigments

Small lumps and nodules of hematite were abundant throughout the midden, although none appeared to be molded, shaped, or cut as were specimens from Dos Pueblos and La Patera (Wheeler, 1879), and Burton Mound (Harrington, 1928). The lumps were mostly between one and three centimeters in size. Two nodules of limonite were recovered, both 2 cm long.

Concretion Cup

One concretion cup was examined in a private collection. Although the owner has cleaned the interior, he reported that when found, the specimen was filled with yellow pigment, and traces of limonite are still visible. The formation is natural and unmodified. It is 6.0 cm in diameter and 2.8 cm high, with walls 1.5 cm thick. Similar cups with pigment stains are known from Burton Mound (Harrington, 1928).

NON-ABORIGINAL ARTIFACTS

Trade Beads

Careful screening and meticulous sorting contributed to the recovery of 143 non-aboriginal trade beads, some as small as 2 mm, in a wide variety of color, shape, and size. They are grouped primarily by color, with some description of size and shape. Most abundant were blue beads, followed in order of frequency by red and white, yellow, and green. At Burton Mound the order was red, blue, green, and white (Harrington, 1928), and at Arroyo Sequit, blues and green constituted 213 out of the total collection of 216 (Curtis, 1959).

1. White or colorless — 16 examples.

a. White, opaque, globular to short barrel, irregular — 8 examples. Diameters range from 0.2-0.6 cm; thickness 0.2-0.25 cm. Seven have pin-hole perforations of 0.1 cm. One crude specimen 0.5 cm in diameter has a large hole of 0.25 cm; this bead is misshapen, and was apparently tumbled in a barrel while hot.

b. Clear, milky, translucent — 5 examples. Two are globular to short barrel in shape with diameter of 0.4 cm and hole of 0.1 cm. One is tubular with irregular ends, 0.6 cm in diameter, 0.7 cm long, with perforation of 0.2 cm. One is a flat, misshapen disk 0.5 cm in diameter, 0.2 cm in thickness, with 0.1 cm hole. The smallest specimen is globular and faceted, measuring 0.2 cm in diameter with 0.1 cm hole.

c. White, opaque, tubular — 1 example. This is a short, hexagonal bead in a private collection, estimated at 0.3 cm long.

d. Transparent glass — 1 example (modern ?). The bead is a round, flat, faceted disk, drilled through the flat plane. It is 1.8 cm in diameter, 0.7 cm thick, with perforation of 0.15 cm.

e. Pearl — 1 example (modern ?). This is a globular bead, 0.3 cm in diameter with 0.1 cm hole. It has a thin, eroded nacraeous coating.

2. Red — 16 examples.

a. Dark red, opaque, globular — 1 example. Diameter is 0.3 cm, with hole of 0.15 cm.

b. Bright red, opaque, globular, faceted all over -2 examples. These beads have diameters of 0.5 and 0.55 cm, with perforations of 0.1 cm.

c. Bright red, transparent, globular, faceted all over -1 example. The specimen is 0.4 cm in diameter and has a hole of 0.1 cm.

d. Bright red, opaque, barrel shape — 3 examples. Two beads are 0.2 cm in diameter and 0.3 cm long. The other is 0.7 cm in diameter, with length of 0.9 cm and hole of 0.35 cm.

e. Bright red, transparent, straight tubular — 2 examples. Both are 0.2 cm in diameter, 0.7 cm long, with holes of 0.1 cm.

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f. Bright red, translucent, tubular, rectangular cross section — 1 example. The bead is misshapen and eroded, but may have had an opaque white core. It is asymmetrical, with one corner drawn out. It has a length of 0.4 cm, diameter of 0.35 cm, and hole of 0.15 cm.

g. Brick red, opaque surface over translucent core, short tubular to barrel shape — 6 examples. Diameters range from 0.3 to 0.45 cm, and the beads are 0.25 to 0.4 cm long. All holes are 0.1 cm. On casual inspection, the cores appear black and heavily iridescent, but are yellowish when held up before a light. These seem to be the early type of Cornaline d'Aleppo beads typical of 17th and 18th century sites (Woodward, 1965). Similar examples, called "coralline d'Aleppo" were found at Dos Pueblos and were "omnipresent" at Burton Mound (Harrington, 1928).

3. Pink — 1 example. Although now eroded, the bead was probably transparent. It is a short tubular shape, with ends cut at an angle and rounded by tumbling. It measures 0.4 cm in diameter, 0.25 cm in length, with hole of 0.1 cm.

4. Yellow — 10 examples.

a. Opaque, short barrel — 8 examples. They range in diameter from 0.2 to 0.35 cm; in length from 0.15 to 0.35 cm; all holes are 0.1 cm.

b. Opaque, tubular — 1 example. This specimen has a diameter of 0.3 cm, length of 0.4 cm, and hole of 0.1 cm. The sides are straight and parallel, but the ends are very unevenly cut or broken.

c. Transparent, globular — 1 example. The bead is 0.5 cm in diameter and has a perforation of 0.1 cm.

5. Green — 5 examples.

a. Opaque, flattish — 2 examples. These have diameters of 0.25 cm, thickness of 0.15 cm, and holes of 0.1 cm.

b. Translucent, short tubular — 3 examples. Two of the beads are 0.3 cm in diameter, 0.3 cm in thickness, with holes of 0.1 cm. The other is larger, measuring 0.4 cm across, 0.3 cm in thickness, with perforation of 0.2 cm. All have a blue iridescence.

6. Blue — 81 examples.

a. Very pale blue, opaque, short tubular — 1 example. The bead is 0.25 cm in diameter, 0.2 cm long, with 0.1 cm hole. The ends are very irregular. b. Pale blue, opaque, globular — 1 example. The specimen is 0.4 cm in diameter and has a 0.1 cm perforation.

c. Robin's egg blue (blue-green, sometimes called Venetian glass) — 37 examples.

(1) Opaque, globular — 1 example. The bead is 0.4 cm in diameter and has a 0.15 cm hole.

(2) Opaque, globular, glassy, faceted all over — 1 example. The specimen measures 0.5 cm in diameter. The hole is 0.15 cm, with a metal object firmly embedded through it.

(3) Translucent, short barrel shape -19 examples. The beads range in diameter from 0.3 to 0.4 cm, and in length from 0.2 to 0.4 cm. The holes are 0.1-0.2 cm.

(4) Translucent, short tubular — 16 examples. This group has straight, parallel sides with uneven ends. The diameters are 0.2-0.4 cm; lengths are the same range. All perforations are 0.1 cm.

d. Dark blue, translucent, patinated, iridescent — 38 examples. This is an amorphous group, from barrel to tubular in shape, with very irregular ends and several misshapen specimens.

(1) Small — 36 examples. Distinction cannot always be made between tubular and short barrel categories because of both tumbling and sand erosion. Diameters range from 0.12-0.5 cm; lengths from 0.2-0.4 cm; and holes from 0.1-0.2 cm.

(2) Small, flattish — 1 example. This bead is 0.25 cm wide, 0.15 cm thick, and has a perforation of 0.1 cm.

(3) Large, barrel shape — 1 example. This specimen is 0.6 cm in greatest diameter, with a length of 0.8 cm, and hole of 0.2 cm.

e. Very dark blue, translucent, over white opaque core — 1 example. This is a large bead of short barrel shape. The interior of the large hole appears to have been lined with an opaque white substance, although this is now much eroded away. The bead is 4.15 cm in diameter, 0.9 cm long, with a perforation of 0.5 cm.

f. Bright blue over pale blue core, both translucent — 1 example. The bead is tubular and hexagonal, with one facet at either end of each intersecting plane to create a pseudo-effect of multiple faceting. It is 0.5 cm in both diameter and length, with perforation of 0.25 cm. The outer wall of the darker blue is about 0.1 cm thick and seems built up of concentric layers; the lighter blue core is less than half as thick.

7. Lavender — 1 example. This specimen is barrel shape, opaque, with air bubbles visible in the smooth, glassy surface (modern ?). It may have had an opaque white lining. The diameter is 0.6 cm, length 1.3 cm, and hole 0.15 cm.

8. Black — 12 examples.

a. Very heavily patinated and iridescent, original surface and color (if any) lost — 6 examples.

(1) Globular to short barrel shapes — 5 examples. Two of these have a bluish iridescence, and one is more green. At least one is translucent. All are irregular and misshapen. Diameters are 0.3-0.5 cm; lengths are 0.25-0.3 cm; holes are 0.1-0.2 cm.

(2) Tubular — 1 example. The iridescence favors the blue spectrum. The ends are cut at an angle and irregular. The diameter is 0.3 cm, length is 0.4 cm, and perforation is 0.1 cm.

b. Shiny, opaque, globular, faceted all over — 2 examples. One of the beads measures 0.4 cm in diameter and length, with a single hole of 0.1 cm. The other is 1.3 cm in diameter, and 1.0 cm in length; this has one hole entering the bead, joining two holes coming out on the opposite side, all with 0.35 cm bore. It resembles beads used at the juncture of a rosary.

c. Dull, opaque, globular, soft material — 4 examples. The substance is unknown, but may be fired clay; it can be scratched with a knife and powders easily. All have tiny pin-holes which are not drilled. Three measure 0.8, 0.9, and 0.9 cm in diameter. The fourth is larger, 1.2 cm, and is impressed on four sides with a pattern of 12 rays in the center with six or more rays arranged concentrically outside them.

9. Metallic — 1 example. This is a globular bead with a thin and blistered copper-colored skin over a translucent glass core. The diameter is 0.6 cm, length is 0.5 cm, and hole is 0.1 cm.

10. Fancy, bicolored — 1 example. The specimen is globular with copper-colored stripes through an opalescent, translucent core which has a purplish cast. The stripes run around the "equator" of the bead in more or less parallel lines, shading from thick (one end at the perforation is copper) to thin (the other end is the pale core). The bead is 1.0 cm in diameter, 0.9 cm long, and has a hole of 0.3 cm.

Tile

Eight fragments presumed to be Mission tile and one piece of glazed, decorated tile were found.

Of the Mission group, six pieces are orange-red in color (Munsell 5 YR 5/8), one with core of 5 YR 2/2. Two are more reddish, 2.5 YR 5/8. The largest piece is 5.8 by 5.5 cm, with a thickness in excess of 4.6 cm. This one has one nearly flat surface, as if it was a floor tile, and one flat edge at a right angle. This fragment is particularly coarse, with grit larger than 0.3 cm and particles of shell included.

Four of the fragments have some curvature and may represent roof tiles. The largest of these measures 7.0 by 5.0 cm, and thicknesses of the three specimens which have two finished sides present are 1.5, 1.7, and 2.1 cm. One fragment, although small, appears flat on both opposed surfaces. This is only 2.7 by 1.9 cm, with thickness of 1.5 cm, and certainly could be roof tile.

The other two pieces are shapeless fragments which do not reveal any clue to the original shape.

The sole-piece of decorated tile has a brickcolored base, with a painted design in red, white, and blue under glaze. The pattern is curvilinear.

Miscellaneous

Other non-aboriginal items include 76 fragments of crockery, 605 pieces of glass. 327 cut nails ranging in length from 1.0 to 14.5 cm, 153 other metals, six cartridges, four buttons, and other sundry items described below. Some of this material is demonstrably old, though most of the metals are corroded beyond identification.

Among the more unusual items was a seemingly antique hand-made marble. It bore a faded handpainted design of one green stripe intersecting one red stripe over the glaze on an opaque white background. One 1912 United States nickel was found, and a carbon arc from an old-time street lighting fixture.

One of the most puzzling specimens was a perforated, hand-shaped lead object most resembling a crude tubular bead. This is 3.7 cm long, 1.3 cm in diameter at the ends, and 1.8 cm in diameter at the middle. It weighs 57 g and is heavily patinated. Jose Longinos Martinez reported in 1792 that the Indians did know of galena deposits near San Gabriel Canyon and on Catalina Island, at least by the Mission period (Simpson, 1961). The item might thus be aboriginal, a re-use of historic lead, or a particularly crude line or net sinker.

One fragment of white ironstone china showed a portion of a maker's mark which might be that of the East End Pottery Co. (Ohio), Tunstall in Great Britain, the Wheeling Pottery Co. (West Va.), or the Steubenville Pottery Co. (Ohio); all these firms were active in the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century (Kovel, 1953). A piece of glass which has become purple and iridescent seems to be the rim of an early milk bottle with hand laid-on lip. The exterior diameter of the rim is 5.5 cm; the thickness of the glass at the lip is 1.2 cm, and on the body wall of the neck, 0.8 cm. Such a bottle probably dates before 1914.

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APPENDIX B - "Further Excavation of VEN-3" by Greenwood + Browne

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A COASTAL CHUMASH VII LAGE (VEN-3)

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as a harpoon head, but the condition of the bone makes it impossible to prove human modification on this specimen.

Perforated Bird Claw

One example was recovered, 2.5 cm long and 1.2 cm wide at the perforated proximal end. It appears to be the same species as the 1965 specimen.

Bone Beads

1b. Fish vertebrae with small perforations, ground around periphery — two examples, 0.4 and 0.7 cm in diameter.

2. Hollow tubes of bird bone — three specimens. The one example which has both cut and polished ends present measures 2.9 cm in length and 0.4 cm in diameter. Two fragments with only one ground end remaining are 0.7 and 0.9 cm in length, and 0.3 cm in diameter.

Asphaltum

1. Plug — one example. This piece is conical with slight constriction below the flared end. It is 1.9 cm long and 1.0 cm in greatest diameter.

2. Pellet — one example. This specimen is a wellformed and molded consolidated ball 2.1 cm in diameter.

3. Tarring pebbles — 68 examples.

Length:	3.0-7.6 cm	Average: 5.0 cm
Width:	2.3-6.2 cm	Average: 4.2 cm
Thick .:	1.7-4.2 cm	Average: 3.1 cm

Pigment

Four lumps of hematite seem to have been molded into deliberate shapes. Under Feature A was a fragment of a round, flat cake 1.0 cm thick; the original diameter was perhaps 5.0 cm. Two pieces were associated with Feature B: a similar cake subrectangular in outline measuring 2.9 by 2.4 cm across and 0.8 cm thick, and the median fragment of a cylindrical stick which was 1.9 cm in diameter, and is at present 2.5 cm long. A less symmetrical lump which measured 4.0 by 3.3 by 2.9 cm was found in the adjacent pit at the 90 cm level.

Trade Beads

1b. — 1 example. Diameter 0.4 cm and length 0.3 cm.

- 2b. 1 example. Like 1965 description, but not faceted. Diameter and length of 0.4 cm.
- 4a. 2 examples. Diameters 0.4 cm; lengths 0.3 and 0.4 cm.
- 6a. 1 example. Diameter 0.2 cm and length 0.25 cm.
- c(3) 2 examples. Diameters 0.3 and 0.4 cm; lengths 0.2 and 0.3 cm.
- (4) 11 examples. Diameters 0.3-0.4 cm; lengths 0.2-0.4 cm.
- d(1) 9 examples. Diameters 0.3-0.5 cm; lengths 0.3-0.4 cm.
- (2) 1 example. Diameter 0.55 cm and length 0.3 cm.
- g. 1 example. Bright blue, opaque, asymmetrical tear-drop shape with lumpy surface and indented perforation at narrow end. Width at broad end 0.9 cm and length 1.2 cm

Miscellaneous Historic Objects

One fragment presumed to be Mission tile was recovered. Orange-red in color with very dark gray core and one straight edge, the piece is flat and may represent floor tile. It measures 5.1 by 3.9 cm at present, with thickness of 2.3 cm.

The rim, neck, and shoulder of a bottle similar to those in use around 1880 was found. It is bubbly aqua glass blown in a two-part mold with drawn neck and applied lip. It has a short neck only 2.9 cm long including the rim, and round body. One square cut nail was 6.3 cm long with a shank 0.5 cm wide and 0.4 cm thick.

Midden Components

Analysis of selected shell samples demonstrated a distribution of species and quantity comparable to that described in the 1965 report. All otoliths were collected from the ¹/₈ inch screens. Disregarding the overburden which varied from 10 to 15 cm in depth and was discarded, the total of 2,985 otoliths represented an average of 389 examples m³ of midden (Table 2). The collection was identified by Mr. John E. Fitch, who added one previously unreported species, *Roncador stearnsi* (spotfin croaker), to the list he found in the earlier sample.

CONCLUSIONS

The area investigated in 1967 is in all respects part of the same site excavated earlier. The second project revealed two additional rock features with associated awls, tarring pebbles, cobble bar tools,