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GLASS

Glass Beads (12,568 examples) (Plate 94)

Glass beads were the most frequent trade item present at Chota. A preliminary classification was made utilizing the method of manufacture, size, and color of each bead. A more extensive classification will be made upon completion of the excavation when a larger sample will be available for study. Two basic divisions were apparent in the sample corresponding with the two manufacturing methods used to produce glass beads; wire wound and tube drawn.

Wire Wound Beads

Beads manufactured by the wire wound method comprise the majority of the large beads in the sample. These beads were made by winding a thread of molten glass around a wire mandrel until the intended size had been attained. Beads of wire wound construction contain small bubbles oriented perpendicular to the axis of the perforation and frequently show traces of the winding process on the ends. The surface of the wire wound beads was frequently altered while soft by tooling to produce facets, bumps, or grooves.

Large spherical plain wire wound beads (49 examples) are frequently found only as halves or fragments. The diameter is usually greater than the length. The diameter ranges from 5 to 22 mm. and the length ranges from 5 to 20 mm. The surface of the beads is frequently striated in the pattern produced by winding the glass during manufacture. The colors recovered are translucent white (frequently referred to as "opal" or "milk glass"), opaque black, opaque blue, and translucent yellow.

Large spherical striped wire wound beads (35 examples) are made of opaque black glass decorated with meandering yellow lines. The diameter ranges from 5 to 12 mm. and the length ranges from 5 to 10 mm. This form appears to have been ground flat on the ends to produce a flat surface around each perforation.

Elliptical plain wire wound beads (251 examples) are made of glass which has been reduced to a paste-like substance by soil conditions. These beads are small and usually twice as long as in diameter. The diameter ranges from 2.5 mm. to 4.5 mm. and the length ranges from 4 to 9 mm. The weathered surfaces show striations produced by winding the glass during manufacture. The colors recovered are opaque white, opaque black, and a single example of opaque pink.

Faceted plain wire wound beads (50 examples) occurred

with three burials in Area A. The ten facets on these beads are not true facets, having been formed by tooling the soft glass with a flat object, rather than having been ground after the glass had hardened. The diameter ranges from 9 to 12 mm. and the length ranges from 8 to 10 mm. The colors recovered are opaque white, translucent white, translucent dark blue, translucent blue, translucent yellow, and translucent green.

A grooved plain wire wound bead (1 example) was recovered from Burial 2 in Area A. This bead was produced after winding by pressing a sharp edge into the soft glass parallel to the perforation six times, forming a mellow like appearance. The diameter is 10 mm. and the length is 8 mm. The color is translucent yellow.

Plain wire wound beads (3 examples) commonly known as "raspberry beads" were recovered only in Area A. This form has a noded decoration produced by tooling the soft surface with a hollow tube. The diameter is greater than the length. The diameter ranges from 9 to 11 mm. and the length ranges from 8 to 9 mm. The colors recovered are translucent white, translucent dark blue, and translucent green.

A single flattened plain wire wound bead of the form commonly called "corn bead" was recovered from Feature 72 in Area A. This form consists of a flat disk having the perforation parallel to the sides of the disk. The color is opaque white. A transparent green example has also been reported from the Chota site (J. H. Polhemus, personal communication).

Drawn Tube Beads

Beads manufactured by the drawn tube method comprise the majority of the sample recovered. These beads were made by drawing out a bubble of molten glass into a long slender tube. The tube or cane was then snapped into lengths and used in that form or rounded by tumbling in a heated drum. The final form of the tumbled bead depended on the proportion of the length of the cane segment to the diameter. The segments having a length equal to their diameter produced a spherical bead. The segments having a length longer than their diameter produce oblong beads. No justification for splitting these forms was found in the Chota sample. Size classification was done using only the diameter of the tumbled beads. The untumbled cane beads were classified together regardless of size.

Untumbled cane beads are the unaltered snapped tubes or canes and have sharp edges on the ends. The diameter ranges from 3 to 6 mm. and the length ranges from 3 to 23 mm. Although a small number have edges dulled by use or tumbling, the edges are generally rough. The colors recovered are opaque white, opaque white with clear overlay, translucent white, opaque black, translucent dark blue, and opaque blue.

Untumbled stripe beads (11 examples) are identical in form to the untumbled plain beads with the addition of inlaid stripes. The colors recovered are opaque brick red with a translucent green core, having three black stripes bordered by white, and opaque white with thin green stripes.

The 10,941 small tumbled plain beads called seed beads were the most frequently recovered bead form in the three excavation areas. Seed beads are greater in diameter than in length. The diameter ranges from 1.5 to 4.5 mm., with beads 3 mm. in diameter the most frequent. The colors recovered in order of frequency, are opaque white, opaque black, opaque light blue, translucent dark blue, opaque red with a translucent green core, translucent green, opaque blue, translucent purple, translucent light blue, translucent white, opaque dark blue, translucent blue, translucent red, and opaque yellow.

Small tumbled stripe beads (12 examples) are similar in form to small tumbled plain beads with the addition of inlaid stripes. The colors recovered are opaque black with four white stripes and opaque white with three red stripes spaced by three blue stripes.

Medium to large tumbled beads (915 examples) are similar in form to small tumbled beads and occur in many of the same colors. The diameter ranges from 5 to 9 mm. with the greater number clustering at 8 mm. This form is usually spherical but does occur in an oblong variation. The oblong variation occurs more frequently in the medium to large tumbled stripe form. The colors recovered, in order of frequency, are opaque white, opaque dark blue, opaque red with a translucent green core, opaque yellow, opaque black, translucent dark blue, translucent white, opaque light blue, opaque blue, translucent blue, translucent yellow, and opaque purple.

Medium to large tumbled stripe beads (87 examples) are identical to medium to large tumbled plain beads with the addition of inlaid stripes. The oblong variation in stripe beads occurs more frequently than the spherical form. The colors recovered are translucent white with twelve thin opaque stripes (known as "gooseberry" or "onion" beads); opaque stripe with three blue stripes bordered by red and green; opaque white with blue, green, and brown stripes; opaque white with six spiral red stripes; opaque white with two blue stripes spaced by two red stripes; opaque white with black stripes; opaque white with three red stripes bordered by dark blue; opaque red with a translucent green core having three black stripes bordered by white; opaque black with six narrow white stripes; opaque black with three spiral white stripes; translucent dark green with three white stripes; opaque blue with three red stripes bordered by white; and translucent dark blue with three red stripes bordered by light blue.

TABLE 23: GLASS BEADS (40Mr2)

	White		Black		Dk. Blue		Blue		Lt. Blue		Purple		Red		Yellow		Green Pink	
	Opag	Tran	Opag	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag	Tran	Opag
<u>WIRE WOUND</u>																		
Spherical Plain	-	46	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Spherical Stripe	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elliptical Plain	90	-	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Faceted Plain	5	7	-	-	2	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	2	-
Grooved Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Raspberry Plain	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Flattened Plain	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>DRAWN</u>																		
Untum. Plain	177	1	31	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Untum. Stripe	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Small Tum. Plain	5715	21	3374	18	504	107	8	864	21	-	69	121	5	3	-	111	1	-
Small Tum. Stripe	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Med.-Large Tum. Plain	355	18	25	302	24	17	10	15	-	1	-	106	-	41	1	-	-	-
Med.-Lar. Tum. Stripe	27	54	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

Grand Total 12,575

Plate 94
Trade Beads 40Mr2

Sheet Silver	Row 1a
Oyster Shell	Row 1b
Medium Tumbled Plain	Row 1c
Small Tumbled Plain (Seed)	Row 1d and e
Untumbled Cane	Row 2a, b and c
Untumbled Striped Cane	Row 2d
Elliptical Plain Wire Wound	Row 2e
Medium to Large Tumbled Plain	Row 3a and b
Medium to Large Striped Tumbled ("Onion" or "Gooseberry")	Row 3c
Medium to Large Striped Tumbled	Row 3d and e
Large Spherical Wire Wound	Row 4a
Large Spherical Striped Wire Wound	Row 4b
"Raspberry" Wire Wound	Row 4c
Grooved Plain Wire Wound	Row 4d
Faceted Plain Wire Wound	Row 4e

Plate 95
Gunflints 40Mr2

Biface Gunflints	Row 1: a-PM1, b-1229
Small Dutch Gunflints	Row 1: c-1088, d-1113
Medium Dutch Gunflints	Row 2: a-1194, b-B15f, c-1183, d-F142
Medium Dutch Gunflints	Row 3: a-F21, b-1020, c-1094, d-F187

