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THE CARRINGTON-COVERT HOUSE
Archeological Investigation
of a 19th-Century Residence in Austin, Texas

by

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nents at historic American sites usually have more glass buttons than any other type.

Many of the buttons described above may have been decorative and functioned as a type of jewelry, but no pieces of precious metal or gemstone jewelry were recovered. A few glass beads were recovered (Table 11), however, and these can be considered as jewelry.

Glass Beads

Five machine-made milk-glass beads strung on small interlocking loops of copper wire (Fig. 61w) were recovered in Pit 27. These may be of late 19th-century manufacture. Three greenish blue opaque glass handmade (by looping a strand of hot glass around a wire) beads, approximately 1/8" in diameter, were found in Pits 22-25. Also, one seed bead of similar color glass was found in Pit 23. These beads probably were deposited after 1895, and perhaps as late as 1945, although their date of manufacture may predate 1895.

A black mold-made glass bead with facets (Fig. 60i) was recovered in Pit 12. Its date of manufacture is unknown, but is probably post-1890. A hemispherical mold-made faceted black glass bead (Fig. 61f') was recovered in Pit 26.

A translucent blue glass ring-shaped bead with thread remnant attached was found in Pit 26 (Fig. 60l). This object was handmade, evidently by winding hot glass around a circular mandrel. Apparently most pre-1930 glass beads found at American sites are of European manufacture, and this specimen probably was imported from Europe before 1930.

Hatpin

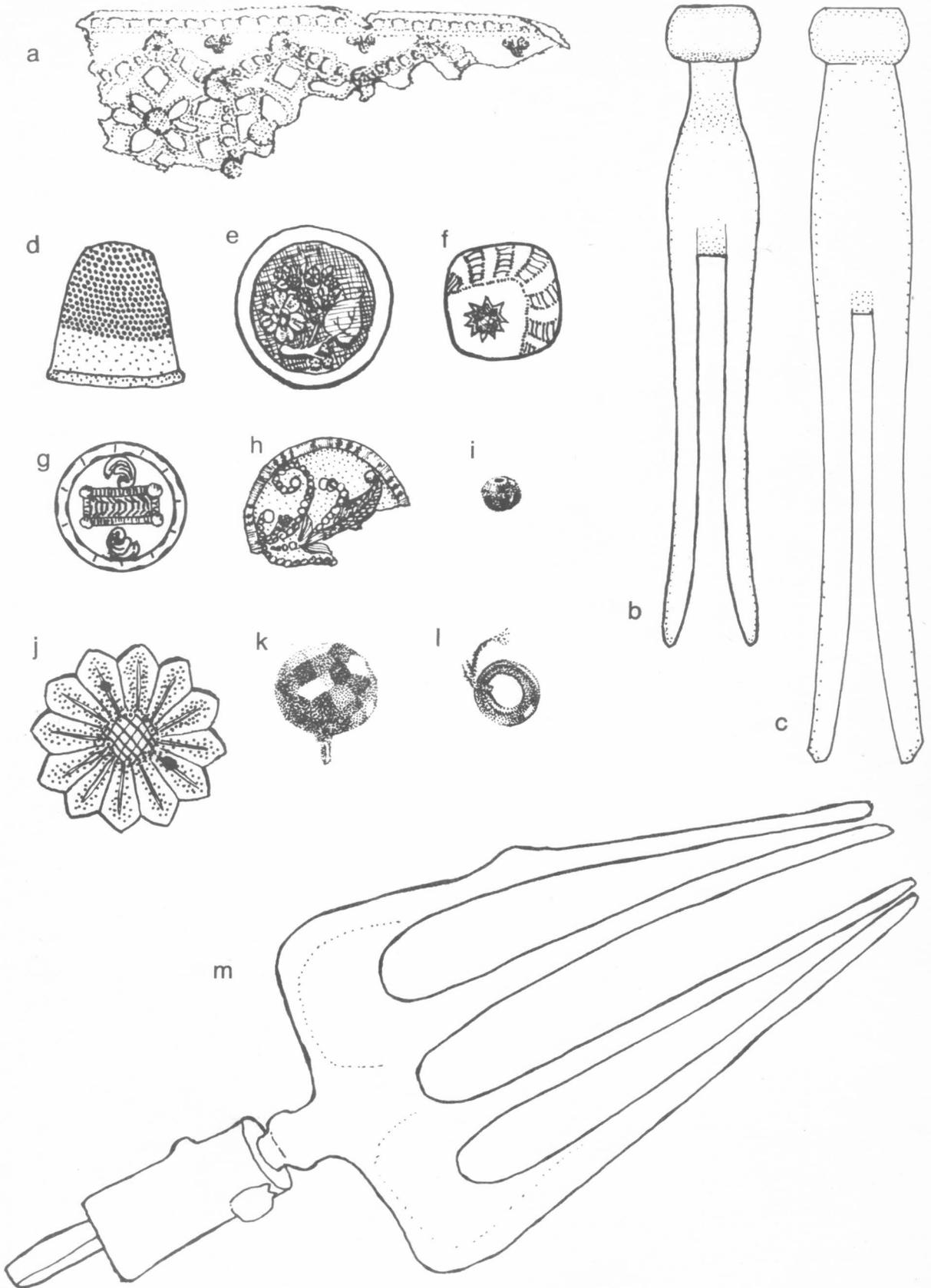
The faceted, black molded-glass head of a brass hatpin, with part of the pin still embedded (Fig. 60k) was recovered in Pit 20. It probably is of late 19th-century manufacture.

Copper Brooch

A copper brooch (Fig. 60j), which may have been painted or plated originally with brass, was found in Pit 5. It had part of a copper pin on the reverse when recovered. Its date of manufacture is unknown.

Mirror Case

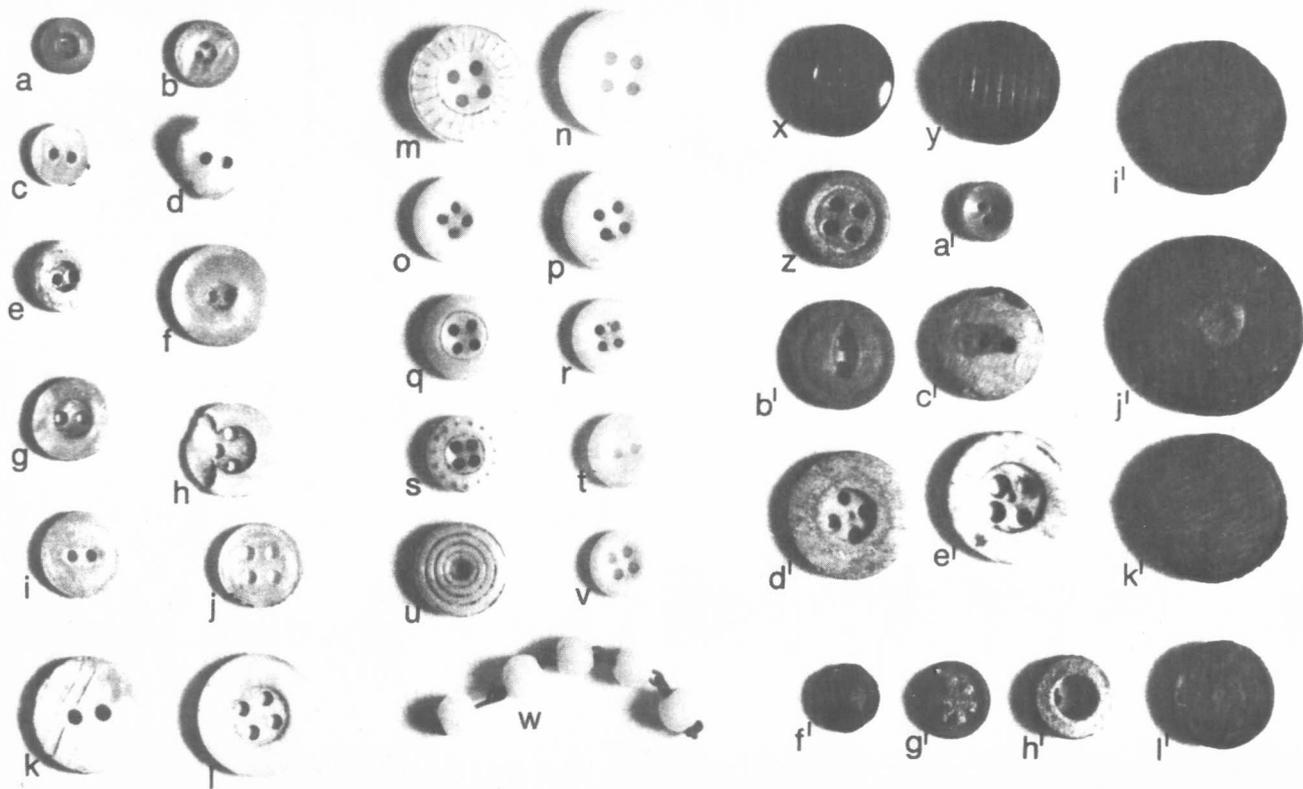
A hand-sized case for a mirror or small photograph was recovered in Pit 26 (Fig. 59d). It is oval, 96x84 mm, 8 mm thick on the rounded edge and 4 mm thick interior, and is made of vulcanized rubber or "vulcanite." The process of vulcanizing rubber was devised by an employee of Charles Goodyear who gained control of the invention with patents issued in 1844 and again in



i. Black glass faceted bead

Fig. 60

l. Blue glass bead with thread attached



w. Milk-glass beads

f'. Black glass bead

Fig. 61