

Spring 2012

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Society of Bead Researchers

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# THE BEAD FORUM

Newsletter of the Society of Bead Researchers

Issue 60

Spring 2012

## Glass Beads from Gloucester Point, Virginia

Laurie E. Burgess and Christopher Sperling

*This addendum to a cultural resource management report is reprinted in its entirety courtesy of The Ottery Group, a cultural resource management firm based in Olney, Maryland. The piece is an update on the research previously presented by Christopher Sperling in 2005 in volume 47 of The Bead Forum. The beads derive from compliance-based excavations at Gloucester Point, Virginia, a town with a deep water harbor located at a strategic point on the York River.*

In 2007, the glass beads from the project were sent to Laurie Burgess at the Smithsonian Institution for analysis. Former Ottery Group archaeologist Christopher Sperling had previously documented the beads and the analysis built upon Sperling's work.

There are four primary contexts for the 1,235 beads from Gloucester Point: 1) a Civil War-era context that yielded a total of 3 beads, 2) a burial, which yielded 561 beads, 3) a brick-lined cellar which contained 668 beads, and 4) a second sub-

surface feature that appears to be associated with the brick-lined cellar, which held 3 more beads. This second feature is possibly a small cellar.

Glass beads serve as temporal markers at archaeological sites, based on changes in bead varieties over time. Chronologies for early beads from the southeast and northeast have been created from numerous well-documented studies by Smith (1983), Wray (1983) and others, but these studies deal with collections that occurred considerably earlier than the Gloucester Point beads. Miller (1983) describes what he calls a paucity of beads in the Chesapeake prior to the mid-point of the seventeenth century, which he attributes to the fact that tobacco cultivation drove the regional economy, rather than the fur trade as in other areas of the country, and also to the popularity of shell beads in the Native American trade.

### METHODOLOGY

The Gloucester Point beads had been preliminarily catalogued by Ottery Group staff, but were analyzed again using bead protocols followed by the Smithsonian. The 1,235 beads in the Gloucester Point collection are classified into 19 varieties (Table 1). The beads are categorized based on manufacture type, color, diaphaneity, shape, presence or absence of decoration, and size. The bead classification follows the Kidd and Kidd (1970) system for glass beads, as expanded by Karklins (1985). The classification also follows Ross (1990, 2000).

Bead shapes were described using the following terms: disk, disk-barrel, barrel, tubular and spherical. The length and diameter of beads were recorded in millimeters and beads were graded into size groups according to Kidd and Kidd (1970). The

*Continued on page 2*

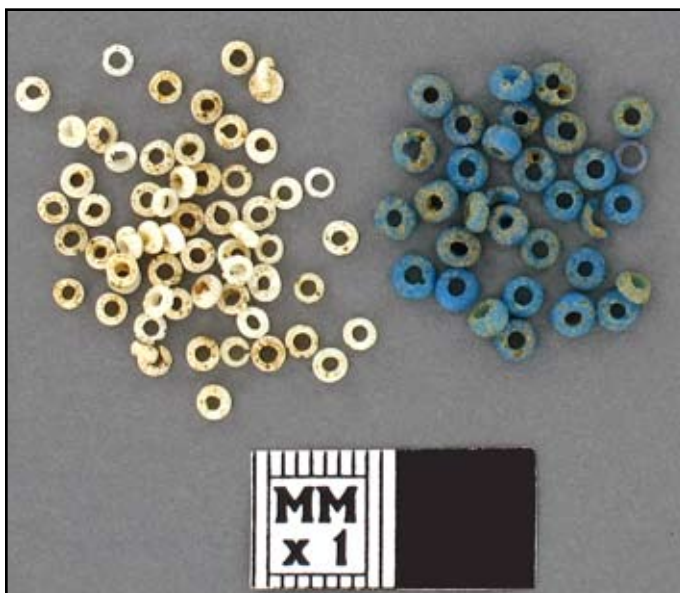


Figure 1. Blue and white drawn beads from burial.

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*Continued from page 1*

sizes are based on the diameter of the beads and are as follows: 0-2 mm are very small beads, 2-4 mm are small beads, 4-6 mm are medium beads, 6-10 mm are large beads, and 10+ mm are very large beads.

### BEADS

#### Civil War Era Context

The two wound beads and one drawn bead that were recovered from a Civil War era Union encampment context are all consistent with a nineteenth-century timeframe. The green wound bead, which is very roughly wound, came from a structure thought to have been destroyed during the Civil War. A pit-like feature located in the southeast corner of a suspected Civil War tent platform yielded a long, drawn, hexagonal tubular bead. There are generally similar and larger wound varieties that occur in early contexts, but this drawn bead variety is thought to have been manufactured in Bohemia, now known as the Czech Republic, during the nineteenth century (Neuwirth 1994). Shorter varieties of these beads were often used to trim garments, shoes and purses at different times during the 1800s. The third bead comes from a Civil War-era midden and is a dark blue wound bead. This wound blue bead could be intrusive and may well predate the 1860s, but it could just as easily derive from the second half of the nineteenth century. However, a sample of only three beads limits the information that can be gained.

#### Burial

Far more beads were recovered from a burial that was located at a depth of just 5 cm below a crushed stone parking lot. Despite the presence of 563 beads, only two varieties are present, and they are two that persist for a very long time. They consist of 31 small drawn blue-green beads and 530 very small and small drawn white beads (Figure 1, front page). In his preliminary assessment, Smithsonian physical anthropology curator Doug Owsley identified the buried individual as being of African ancestry. His head was oriented to the north, and his feet were close together in a manner that usually indicates the use of a shroud. According to Riordan's (2000) work at St. Mary's City, also located in the general region, shroud burials were most common during the middle quarters of the 17th century, and became much less common during the first third of the 18th century. There are studies that address the cultural aspects of the color blue for people

of African ancestry (Stine et al. 1996). However, it is interesting to note that the white beads substantially outnumber the blue beads by a factor of seventeen. Whether this was a matter of cost, availability or cultural or personal preference — of the interred individual or of those who buried him, we will likely never know.

The beads were found in the area of the head and shoulders, which suggests they may have been a part of a necklace. No other personal items were found with the burial. The absence of clothing-related items combined with the apparent shroud burial, suggests that this burial is early and may date to the seventeenth century. Unfortunately, the beads themselves are not temporally diagnostic.

#### Brick-Lined Cellar

The 668 beads from the brick cellar are all drawn beads, and they, and the 3 beads from the associated subsurface feature, which is likely a cellar as well, appear to date to the late seventeenth to eighteenth centuries. Some of the varieties present have been also recovered from seventeenth century sites elsewhere. However, based on other objects dated by The Ottery

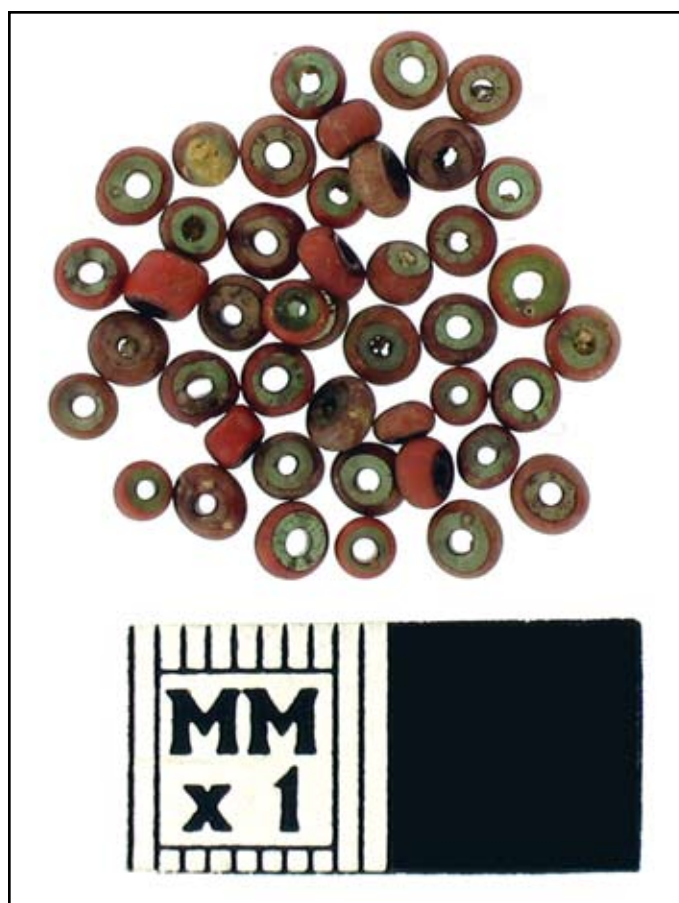


Figure 2. Polychrome beads (opaque red on translucent green) from the brick-lined cellar.

## Society News

The SBR board is planning to meet via conference call later this year and the board report and 2012 budget will appear in the fall issue.



The position of secretary/treasurer is up for reelection at the end of the year. Alice Scherer, our current secretary/treasurer, has agreed to run for another term. Any additional interested candidates should contact the nominating committee, headed by Lois Rose Rose, at [loisrosrose@sbcglobal.net](mailto:loisrosrose@sbcglobal.net).



During the 2011 board meeting it was decided to add site analytics to our website, to provide information on how it is used. Since the beginning of the year, the site has had 3,101 unique visitors, with a total of 721 repeat visits, with a total of 27,630 individual page hits, peaking on February 20th. Most visitors are referred to us by Google, followed by Yahoo, a number of referring Russian sites, the Bead Society of Great Britain (2.94%), and BeadCollector.net (1.26%),

Spangles (England) and Rings and Things (Spokane, Washington). The journal contents page was the one most visited, with 1881 views, and the newsletter index received 688 views. Bylaws had a surprising 76 views. "Society of bead researchers" was the most popular search term to find us, but "bead journal," "hebron beads," and "tile bead manufacturing" also sent people to the site, along with a host of other terms. Regarding downloaded pdfs, the first supplement to the bibliography was requested 2,020 times, the overseas order form 281, the North American order form 220, and the *Bead Forum* index 126 times.

The analytics show that our website is getting a fair amount of traffic. Board members have been discussing a number of additions we could make to the site, to increase its usefulness, including ways to steer more traffic to the site. Any help our members could provide, either regarding the site, or ways to direct visitors to the site, would be greatly appreciated. Contact the webmaster at [alice@europa.com](mailto:alice@europa.com).

### *Glass Beads from Gloucester Point, Virginia, continued*

Group, it is thought that the occupation of the site spans the general time period of 1700-1750.

These beads derive from a domestic context and were recovered from the very base of excavations, near or on what would have been the old floor. Miller et al. (1983), in their overview of seventeenth century beads from the Chesapeake, state that historic records indicate that trade with Native Americans only took place in isolated areas after 1670, and that beads from sites postdating 1670 indicate domestic use. For the Gloucester Point beads, domestic use would be easy to assume if only a few beads were recovered from the brick-lined cellar. But the cellar contained almost 700 beads, which suggests something other than personal ornamentation of the household. The house may have been used as a tavern or ordinary, a supposition that is supported by the quantity of bottles present.

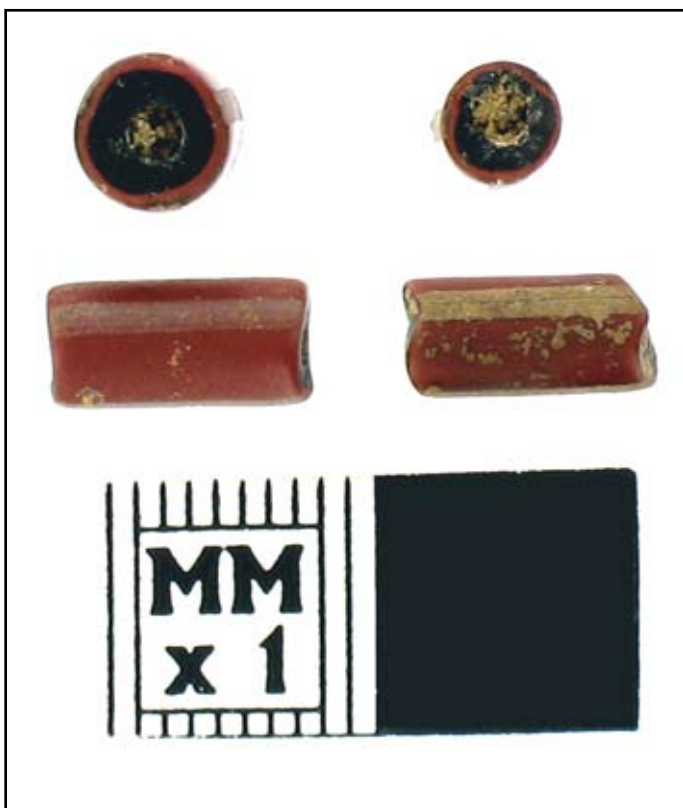
Sixty percent of the beads are small, monochrome, tumbled drawn beads. Most of the monochrome small beads are blue, with only one white, one green and one black bead. Thirty-six percent of the beads are small, polychrome, tumbled drawn beads, Kidd and Kidd variety IVa6, with opaque red (or red-

wood) exteriors with a translucent green core (Figure 2). The red-on-green beads show up early and persist for a long time, continuing into the 19th century.

Long tubular beads are also present and occur in polychrome, decorated varieties (Figure 3). There are 12 polychrome, or two-layer, beads, and they have a red exterior and a core that appears black, although it is likely green glass. Nine of these tubular beads have 3-4 simple white stripes, and one has a compound stripe of blue glass on opaque white. The two white beads have no core, and have three red stripes each. The red stripes have deteriorated badly, and have sloughed off in some cases, leaving just a channel. A simple, tubular blue bead was recovered from the associated subsurface feature. Overall, tubular beads comprise 2% of the total cellar assemblage.

Six of the opaque white tubular beads with red stripes also occur at Fort Michilimackinac, where they came from contexts dating 1700-1750 (Stone 1974). A red tubular bead with a green core and a compound stripe was recovered there also, from a context with a date range of 1650-1750. These beads, like the Gloucester Point red tubular beads, have a very visible layer of clear glass on the exterior, over the opaque red glass (Stone 1974).





**Figure 3. Tubular polychrome beads (opaque red on dark green with simple white stripes) from the brick-lined cellar.**

Two gooseberry beads, colorless drawn beads with simple white stripes, are present in the Gloucester Point assemblage. Smith (1983:150), who has worked with very early collections, suggests that the shape of these beads is temporally sensitive, and reports that an early 16th century gooseberry has an oval shape, that later gooseberries are spherical and that this bead variety occurs in a barrel shape in the eighteenth century.

The gooseberry beads in the Jamestown Rediscovery assemblage described by Lapham (2000) are fairly spherical, which supports Smith's suggestion that gooseberry shapes may have temporal implications. The two gooseberry beads from Gloucester Point (Figure 4) are both more barrel-shaped than spherical, which is generally consistent with Smith's eighteenth-century attribution for this shape. One of them derives from the cellar and is slightly yellow and has 15 stripes. The other is from the associated feature, is colorless and has 14 stripes. Kidd and Kidd describe this kind of color variation and say that the stripes usually number from 12 to 15 (Kidd and Kidd 1983 [1970]).

### DISCUSSION

As a whole, the Gloucester Point cellar collection is mostly comprised of blue and red beads. Blue beads

constitute 62% and red beads make up 38%. The tubular beads are predominantly red, with ten red beads, two white and one blue. Red beads are the hallmark of early bead assemblages in the Northeast, but only occur in small percentages in early collections from the Southeast. Those collections, however, occur primarily at early Native American-related sites. The Gloucester Point assemblage is from a later, domestic, likely EuroAmerican brick-lined cellar that dates to a time of limited and isolated trade with Native Americans.

Miller et al. (1983:143), in an overview of seventeenth-century beads from the Chesapeake, divide sites on the James River into two time periods: 1618-1660 and 1660-1730. The James River is quite close to the York River and these sites provide an excellent comparison. The beads from Miller's earlier period are simple, drawn beads, with just one simple tubular bead and just one decorated bead present. This early period is dominated by simple, monochrome, undecorated drawn beads. However, the beads from Miller's 1660-1730 domestic contexts are much more similar to the Gloucester Point cellar beads. The drawn bead varieties that overlap include simple tubes, polychrome tubes, and polychrome, or compound, beads. Based



**Figure 4. Gooseberry beads. Bead on left is from the feature associated with the cellar; the slightly yellow bead is from the brick-lined cellar.**

## Gloucester Point Beads, Table 1.

Provenience	Manufac. D=Drawn W=Wound	Kidd & Kidd Code	Diaphaneity*	Color	Size**	Shape	Count	Notes
Civil War Midden, F111	W	W1b	Op	Black	L	Spherical	1	-
Civil War structure, F156	W	W1d	Tsp	Green blue	L	Disk	1	Very roughly wound
CW tent platform trench, F158	D	IIIa	Op	White	S	Tubular, hexagonal	1	Broken, hexagonal bead
Burial 2, F542	D	IIa	Tsl	Blue green	S	Disk	31	-
Burial 2, F542	D	IIa	Op	White	VS/S	Disk	530	Very thin walls
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	Ia3	Tsp	Colorless	S	Barrel	1	-
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	Ib11	Op	White	M	Tubular	1	Op white with red simple stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	Ib11	Op	White	M	Tubular	1	Op white with red simple stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Blue	S	Disk	21	Deteriorated, possibly op blue, monochrome
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Blue	VS/S	Disk	81	-
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Blue	S	Disk	34	Op medium blue, very deteriorated
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Blue	S	Disk	1	Op blue, very deteriorated
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Blue	S	Disk	34	Probably medium blue, very deteriorated
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Tsl	Green	S	Disk	1	-
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	Purple-blue	S	Disk/barrel	237	-
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa	Op	White	S	Disk	1	Partial (half) bead, op white, deteriorated/patinated
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIa6	Op	Black	L	Barrel	1	-
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIb	Tsp	Color-less	L	Barrel	1	Gooseberry, 15 stripes, colorless but glass is very slightly yellow
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIa	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red with 3 simple white stripes on tsl green/black
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIa	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red with 3 simple white stripes on tsl green/black
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIa	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red with 3 simple white stripes on tsl green/black
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIa	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red with 3 simple white stripes on tsl green/black
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red with 3 compound stripes (very dark blue on op white)
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IIIb2	Op	Red	M	Tubular (short)	1	Op red on tsl green with 3 simple white stripes

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Provenience	Manufac. D=Drawn W=Wound	Kidd & Kidd Code	Diaphaneity*	Color	Size**	Shape	Count	Notes
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IVa6	Op	Red	S	Disk	46	Op red on tsl/tsp green
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IVa6	Op	Red	S	Disk	27	Op red on tsl green
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IVa6	Op	Red	S	Disk	168	Op red on tsl green
Brick lined cellar, F162	D	IVa6	Op	Red	S	Disk	1	Possible IIa. Green core not visible to unaided eye
Feature 149, adjacent to F162	D	Ia3	Op	Purple-blue	M	Tubular	1	Op light purple blue
Feature 149, adjacent to F162	D	IIa6	Op	Blue	L	Barrel	1	<i>A speo</i> , dark navy
Feature 149, adjacent to F162	D	IIb18	Tsp	Colorless	L	Barrel	1	Gooseberry, 14 stripes

\*tsp = transparent, tsl = translucent, op = opaque

\*\* size grades follow Kidd & Kidd (very small < 2 mm, small = 2-4 mm, medium = 4-6 mm, large = 6-10 mm, very large = 10+ mm)

on this comparison, the Gloucester Point cellar beads fall within Miller's 1660-1730 timeframe, which is generally consistent with the eighteenth century dates obtained from the pipestems and ceramics. The pipestem dates, which are 1722-1758 and 1723-1756, fall within Miller's timeframe.

In summary, the beads from Gloucester Point were derived from compliance-driven excavations conducted by The Ottery Group, and fall into three contexts: Civil War-era, the burial of an individual of African ancestry and a brick-lined cellar. The 668 beads from the cellar are the most datable, and are consistent with Miller's date range and with the dates ranges provided by the other material culture. However, some of these beads may occur somewhat earlier in the Mid-Atlantic/Chesapeake region. The beads recovered from the Gloucester Point excavations provide yet more clues in mapping out a regional bead chronology for the Mid-Atlantic/Chesapeake region.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to thank Lyle Torpe, Managing Director, The Ottery Group, for granting permission to reprint this article.

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## Borneo International Beads Conference 2011

### Karlis Karklins

The second Borneo International Beads Conference was held at the Grand Margherita Hotel in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo, 7-9 October 2011, and attracted about 100 participants from near and far. Organized under the direction of Heidi Munan by Craithub, a non-profit organization in Kuching which aims to promote and sell Sarawak handicrafts, its aim was to not only share bead knowledge and expertise with international scholars and researchers, but to also facilitate creative interaction between Sarawak's artisans/designers and their international counterparts; preserve the Sarawak bead tradition in a commercially viable way; encourage the production of top-quality beads and beadwork in Sarawak; promote competent modern design in beads and beadwork; showcase Sarawakan bead culture to a regional/international audience; promote cultural tourism in Sarawak; and improve the earning power of home-based cottage workers in Sarawak.

A number of events took place during the three-day conference, most significant being the lecture program which included 13 presentations by both Sarawakan and foreign individuals. The first session, *Beads of Antiquity*, began with the keynote address by Dr. Zuraina Majid-Lowe (Malaysia) which dealt

with "Ancient Beads of Peninsular Malaysia." She was followed by Dr. Alok Kumar Kanungo (India) who discussed "Ornaments of the Dead among the Nagas."

Three presentations comprised the session on *Bead Lore from Sarawak*. The first of these was by Hang Tuah Merawin (Sarawak) whose topic was "The Concept of Adat Law" (among some Sarawakan cultures, when an individual commits a serious breach of custom and taboo, certain beads may be used to pay the fine imposed under customary law). Hat Bin Hoklai (Sarawak) then spoke about the "Beads of the Melanau" which have protective powers. The session concluded with Henry Anyi Ajang's (Sarawak) insight into "The Significance of Beads in Kayan-Kenyah Customary Law."

The session on *Beads of Southeast Asia* included a survey of "Beaded Wedding Baskets of Southwestern Sumatra" by Arthur Astarita (United States), followed by a discussion of "The Beads Gallery of the Tun Jugah Foundation" by Janet Rata (Sarawak). More on this below.

In the *Beading for the Market* session, Dr. Eleanor Preston-Whyte (South Africa) reviewed South African beadwork trends over the past few decades in "Speaking



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**Figure 1. Some of the ladies at the bead identification table with their distinctive beaded caps. All photographs by Karklis Karklins.**

with New Voices: South African Beadwork, the Global Market, and the Re-invention of Culture,” while Karlis Karklins (Canada) dealt with “Haudenosaunee Souvenir Beadwork” from northeastern North America.

The “Art on a String from Arnhem Land” presentation by Dr. Louise Hamby (Australia) during the *Beads and their Users* session featured threaded work of the Aboriginal women of Northern Australia. Heidi Munan (Sarawak) then discussed “Blue Beads to Trade with the Natives: A Case Study” with emphasis on the “blue barrel” much esteemed by several Borneo cultural groups.

The final session stressed the *Beads of Borneo*. Patricia Regis (Sabah) spoke about a category of highly valued necklace, the “Karah: A Sacred and Secular Symbol of Identity among the Lotud” of Sabah. Tazudin Mohtar (Sarawak) ended the program with a survey of the “Beads in the Sarawak Museum.”

The bulk of the presentations have been published in the *Journal of the Borneo International Bead Conference 2011* and may be ordered for \$40US by contacting Craffhub ([craffhub@gmail.com](mailto:craffhub@gmail.com)). Copies of the proceedings of BIBCo 2010 are also available from them for \$35.

Concurrent with the conference was the Beads Abuzz Bazaar which featured a wide variety of local as

well as South African beadwork and bead-related publications. In addition, there were two workshops on Saturday afternoon which involved making a Zulu love letter and stringing beads of organic materials. These were accompanied by a bead identification table which saw many local ladies bring in their prized necklaces and beaded items for evaluation.

A visit was also made to the Leka Marik (Beads) Gallery at the Tun Jugah Foundation on the 4th level of the Tun Jugah Tower, Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman, just a short walk from the conference hotel. Opened in 2010, it houses the private bead and beadwork collection of the late Datin Amar Margaret Linggi. The beads, especially, are displayed in novel ways. A highlight of the collection is a beautiful beaded over dress (Baju Marek) from the Kapit region (Figure 2). It is a heavy but colorful construct composed of numerous carnelian and glass beads. Pre- and post-conference tours were also offered that visited the major attrac-



**Figure 2. Rare Iban beaded over dress from the Kapit region of Sarawak.**



tions of Kuching and the Annah Rais longhouse (Figure 3) near the Kalimantan border.

The social highlight of the conference was the gala dinner and fashion show at the nearby Riverside Majestic Hotel on Saturday evening. Attended by several hundred people, including local dignitaries and representatives of the various sponsors, the brightly lit runway saw lovely (and handsome) local models dressed in both traditional and modern garments that rivaled those of the North American and European fashion houses. The dinner itself was marvelous with numerous local dishes to be sampled and enjoyed. The winners of the Borneo International Beads Award 2011 were announced following the fashion show.

BIBCo 2011 provided an excellent opportunity for the attendees to not only learn more about the

beads and beadwork of Borneo but that of many other parts of the world as well. It was also a chance for them to interact and exchange ideas and information on a personal basis. The conference was well attended by local individuals but those from abroad were relatively few. This is a shame as the organizers put a lot of thought and effort into its production. Unfortunately, the expense and the lengthy flight understandably kept many distant individuals away, especially in these rather precarious economic times. Nonetheless, plans are already underway for BIBCo 2013 (they are skipping a year) and I, for one, am hoping to be able to attend that as well if for no other reason than to once again experience the warmth and hospitality of the Sarawakan people and their inherent love of beads.



Figure 3. Bidayuh woman at the Annah Rais longhouse making one of their distinctive beaded hats.

## Selected Publications/Other Media

**Bar-Yosef Mayer, D.E. and Porat, N.**

2008 Green Stone Beads at the Dawn of Agriculture. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, Vol. 105, pp. 8548–8551. <http://www.pnas.org/content/105/25/8548.full.pdf+html> and <http://www.pnas.org/content/105/25/8548>

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**Bradley, James. W.**

2011 Re-visiting Wampum and Other Seventeenth-Century Shell Games. *Archaeology of Eastern North America*, Volume 39.

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**Carter, Alison Kyra**

2010 Trade and Exchange Networks in Iron Age Cambodia: Preliminary Results from a Compositional Analysis of Glass Beads. *Bulletin of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association*, Volume 30. <http://journals.lib.washington.edu/index.php/BIPPA/article/view/9966>

Presents the findings of compositional analysis (using laser ablation-inductively coupled-mass spectrometry, or LA-ICP-MS) of glass beads from six Iron Age (500 BC-500 AD) archaeological sites in Cambodia. The author uses the data to identify trade networks in Iron Age Cambodia.

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**Dahdul, Mariam**

2011 Origins of Olivella Beads in the Coachella Valley, Alta California. *California Archaeology: Journal of the Society for California Archaeology*, Volume 3, Issue 2.

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**Karklins, Karlis**

2010 Glass, Metal, and Shell Beads. In *The Eagle Ridge Site and Early Eighteenth Century Indian-European Relations in Eastern Nebraska*, edited by Gayle F. Carlson and John R. Bozell. *Central Plains Archeology* 12(1):143-148.

Describes and illustrates the beads recovered from a probable Oto or possibly Ioway site. The beads include drawn and wound glass, yellow-metal tubes, and shell wampum.

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**Parker, Wendy**

2010 *A Study of Shell Bead Context, Distribution and Use Within Northern California*. Master's thesis, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Sacramento, CA.

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**Parmar, Narender**

2009 Recent Explorations in the Bhiwani Block, District Bhiwani (Haryana). *Bulletin of the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute*, 68-69:95-112.

Parmar conducted a village-to-village survey in the Bhiwani district, exploring 66 sites, and placing 40 of them on the archaeological map of India for the first time. The sites range in date from the early Harappan through the medieval period and steatite, faience and terracotta beads were recovered.

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**Robertshaw, Peter, B. Rasoarifetra, M. Wood, E. Melchiorre, R. Popelka-Filcoff, and M. Glascock**

2006 Chemical Analysis of Glass Beads from Madagascar. *Journal of African Archaeology* 4 (1):91-109.

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**Robertshaw, P., M. Wood, E. Melchiorre, R.S. Popelka-Filcoff, and M. Glascock**

2010 Southern African Glass Beads: Chemistry, Glass Sources and Patterns of Trade. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 30:1898-1912.

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**Saitowitz, Sharma J. and David L. Reid**

2001 Early Indian Ocean Glass Bead Trade Between Egypt and Malaysia: A Pilot Study. *Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Bulletin* 21, *Melaka Papers, Volume 5*. <http://ejournal.anu.edu.au/index.php/bippa/article/viewFile/266/256>

Plasma mass spectrometry was used to assess the Rare Earth Trace Element content of beads from Egypt and



Malaysia. Egyptian beads dating to AD 800-900 were compared to Malaysian beads from the same time period, yielding virtually identical glass recipes. The data sheds new light on ancient trade between Egypt and Malaysia.

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**Shinde, Vasant, Shreekant Jadhav, Prabodh Shirvalkar, Amol Kulkarni, Abhijit Dandekar, Shrikant Ganvir, P.P. Joglekar, Girish Mandke, Arati Deshpande-Mukherjee, Sushama G. Deo, S.N. Rajaguru, M.D. Kajale, and Satish Naik**

2008 A Report on the Recent Archaeological Investigations at Junnar, Maharashtra (2005-2007), *Bulletin of the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute*, 66-67:113-134.

Recent excavations in the Junnar region of India yielded beads of semi-precious stone, faience, glass gold and terracotta, along with rings, bracelets and other ornaments.

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**Wood, Marilee**

2011 *Interconnections*. Glass Beads and Trade in Southern and Eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean 7th to 16th Centuries AD. Uppsala University, *Studies in Global Archaeology* 17.

Glass beads comprise the most frequently found evidence of trade between southern Africa and the greater Indian Ocean between the 7th and 16th centuries A.D. In this study beads recovered from southern African archaeological sites are organized into series, based on morphology and chemical composition determined by LA-ICP-MS analysis. The results are used to interpret the trade patterns and partners that linked eastern Africa to the rest of the Indian Ocean world, as well as interconnections between southern Africa and East Africa. Comprehensive reports on bead assemblages from several archaeological sites are presented, including Mapungubwe, K2, and Schroda in the Shashe-Limpopo Basin; Chibuene in southern Mozambique; Hlamba Mlonga in eastern Zimbabwe; Sibudu Cave in KwaZulu-Natal; Kaole Ruins in Tanzania; and Mahilaka in northwest Madagascar. The conclusions reached show that trade relationships and socio-political development in the south were different from those on the East Coast and that changes in bead series in the south demonstrate it was fully integrated into the cycles of the Eurasian and African world-system.

**Note:** *Interconnections* includes within its pages the following research papers noted on page 10 or 11 of this newsletter: Chemical Analysis of Glass Beads from Madagascar; The Glass Beads of Kaole Ruins; A Cache of ~5000 Glass Beads from the Sibudu Cave Iron Age Occupation; The Glass Beads from Hlamba Mlonga, Zimbabwe; and Southern African Glass Beads: Chemistry, Glass Sources and Patterns of Trade.

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**Wood, Marilee**

2009 The Glass Beads from Hlamba Mlonga, Zimbabwe: Classification, Context and Interpretation. *Journal of African Archaeology* 7(2):219-238.

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2011 The Glass Beads of Kaole Ruins. (After) 2002. The Glass Beads of Kaole. In *Southern Africa and the Swahili World*, edited by F. Charni, G. Pwiti, and C. Radimilahy, pp. 50-65. Studies in the African Past 2. University Press, Dar-es-Salaam.

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**Wood, Marilee, L. Dussubieux, and L. Wadley**

2009 A Cache of ~5000 Glass Beads from the Sibudu Cave Iron Age Occupation. *South African Humanities* 21:239-261.





### Who We Are

The Society of Bead Researchers is a non-profit corporation, founded in 1981 to foster research on beads of all materials and periods, and to expedite the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. Membership is open to all persons involved in the study of beads, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of current trends in bead research. The society publishes a semi-annual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual journal, *BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. The society's website address, as of Spring 2010, is <http://www.beadresearch.org>.

Contents of the newsletter include current research news, requests for information, responses to queries, listings of recent publications, conference and symposia announcements, and brief articles on various aspects of bead research. Both historic and prehistoric subject materials are welcome.

The deadline for submissions to the next *Bead Forum* is September 1, 2012. Electronic submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes." References cited should be in *Historical Archaeology* format ([http://www.sha.org/publications/for\\_authors.cfm](http://www.sha.org/publications/for_authors.cfm)).

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