

## THE GLASS BEADS OF KAOLE

Marilee Wood

Because glass beads have a universal appeal, they have been a favoured trade item for thousands of years. In studying them, researchers hope to reconstruct some of the trade patterns that brought them to their destinations. In addition, glass beads can sometimes help in dating sites, as well as levels within them. This study examines 1,243 beads that were excavated at Kaole. All but 54 are glass and will be discussed in detail, but I will begin with an overview of the non-glass specimens.

## NON-GLASS BEADS

Table 4.1 lists non-glass beads by trench and level. As can be seen, there is no particular pattern to their distribution - they occur in all trenches examined, in most levels, and do not appear in concentration at any point. Except for Trench 9, where they make up 17%, non-glass beads form between 2% and 4% of total beads in each trench. From the entire set of Kaole beads, they make up 4%.

Table 4.1: *Kaole Non-Glass Beads by Trench and Level*

Trench Level	Material	Shape	Quantity	Diameter x L
Trench 1 010-020	Shell	Disc	1	

Table 4.1: *Continued....*

Trench Level	Material	Shape	Quantity	Diameter x L
030-040	Shell	Disc	3	
070-080	Shell	Disc	2	
090-100	Shell	Disc	1	
100-110	Shell	Disc	2	
Trench 2				
010-020	Pottery	Bicone	1	32.5 x 22
010-020	Shell	Disc	2	
010-020	Stone	Truncated		
	aragonite	bicone	1	7.9 x 5.2
040-050	Shell	Bicone	1	7.5 x 5.2
040-050	Shell	Disc	1	
050-060	Shell	Cylinder	1	7.3 x 5.4
060-070	Ivory	Long Cyl	1	4.4 x 11.9
060-070	Shell	Long Cyl	1	4.9 x 11.4
060-070	Shell	Long Cyl	1	4.3 x 7.6
060-070	Stone?	Long Cyl	1	4.6 x 5.6
080-090	Shell	Disc		
080-090	Stone	Sphere	1	5.0 x 4.2
090-100	Shell	Disc	3	
100-110	Shell	Disc	1	
100-110	Shell	Disc	1	
110-120	Ruby?	Ovid faceted	1	5.5 x 9.6
110-120	Shell	Disc	4	
120-130	Shell	Shell shape	1	13.9 x 20
Trench 4				
040-050	Shell	Truncated		
		Bicone	1	8.3 x 5.7
050-060	Shell	Disc	1	
070-080	Shell	Disc	1	
080-090	Camelian	Faceted		
		bicone	1	6 x 6.9
080-090	Shell	Disc	2	
Trench 5				
015-025	Shell	Barrel Squared	1	7.3 x 6.8
055-065	Shell	Disc	1	