

# *Historic Objects from the Hugo Reid Adobe*

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## *Introduction*

In November, 1956 a group of archaeologists from the University of Southern California and Archaeological Research Associates organization, at the request of the State of California Division of Beaches and Parks, set to work exploring the Hugo Reid Adobe. The immediate purpose of their investigation, which was to continue until late May, 1958, was to search for architectural remains from which information could be obtained for an authentic restoration of the historic house. This objective was attained when adobe-brick footings and earthen floors of the original three-room residence, built by Hugo Reid in 1840 to serve as headquarters for his three-square-league Santa Anita land grant, and remnants of walls of a later adobe wing were unearthed (Wallace, Desautels and Kritzman, 1958).

But an archaeologist's job is not completed when he locates and exposes a buried foundation or lays bare with trowel and brush the floor plan of a demolished building. His broader aim, and the ultimate purpose of all his digging and searching, is historical. He seeks to extract from his findings clues as to the general course of human events that took place at a particular prehistoric or historic site and to reconstruct, as far as his discoveries permit, the manner of living of its former inhabitants. Until this is done his work is not finished.

No less important than the physical remains of a house or other building in achieving this end are the man-made objects brought to light during excavation. Such finds not only assist in interpreting structural features with which they are associated but they also afford insight into the daily life and activities of their users. Because of their importance, a diligent watch was kept for any artifacts which might be turned up while digging was in progress at the Reid Adobe. All articles unearthed, ordinary and unusual, whole and fragmentary, were saved. After being cleaned and numbered in the laboratory, they were classified as to material and function, measured and described.

## *Description of Artifacts<sup>1</sup>*

In the main, the historic objects recovered were commonplace articles of every day use, discarded because they had become worn out or had been broken. Only rarely was a whole and serviceable artifact retrieved, and then it was something small which had been lost. The majority of finds came from household refuse beneath modern wooden flooring in the various rooms. This loose, black deposit, resting upon an older hard-packed clay floor, reached an average thickness of 18 to 24 inches. It contained quantities of building materials and food remains as well as artifacts. A smaller number of articles were found in trenches excavated parallel to the outside walls of the dwelling. Digging in the "patio," (west of the original Reid residence) produced only a minor collection (Wallace and Taylor, 1959). A fair-sized lot was found during restoration work.

<sup>1</sup>Many persons have contributed to the completion of this report. Members of the Archaeological Research Associates organization assisted in the preliminary sorting and tabulating of artifacts. Expert help in identifying objects was given by Russell Belous, Eugene and Stefania Holt and Gregor Norman-Wilcox of the Los Angeles County Museum staff; Arthur Woodward, formerly of the Museum staff; officers Vincent Ryan and William Lee of the Los Angeles Police Department; Janet Stevenson, Historical Research Librarian of the International Silver Company; Alan R. Quinby of the Diamond National Corporation; A. Forthmann, President of the Los Angeles Soap Company; Hal Hinkson of the California Hardware Company; J. T. Dale, President, Consolidated-Dougherty Card Company; and John Hussey, Historian, National Park Service.



Because the soil, even beneath the wooden flooring, was damp, conditions were not favorable for preserving items made from perishable materials such as paper, wood, or cloth. With few exceptions, therefore, the objects recovered are fashioned from metal, glass and ceramics, substances which are durable enough to have survived the passage of time and the forces of decay.

*Household furnishings.* When archaeological work began, none of the house's furnishings remained as all pieces had been moved out long before. The few surviving fragments were:

1. A leg or support for a small cast-iron stove or andiron. It is 5 inches high and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick, with a decorated base.
2. A thicker, solid piece of cast iron may also be a section of a stove.
3. An angled length of cast-iron appears to be part of the side element of a metal bed frame.
4. A scrap ( $1\frac{3}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches) of what seems to be twilled-weave upholstery cloth. It is thick and discolored. Two rust stains from upholstery tacks are visible.
5. Another cloth fragment, badly stained, may be a remnant of a window drape. It has thick cotton warps and thinner wefts of another, unidentified fiber. Two edges are hand-hemmed.

Several examples of furniture hardware were excavated. Included were:

1. A brass and ceramic drawer handle or pull (Plate 1 Cover). The item has a white porcelain center with a brass rim and backing. It measures one inch across.
2. A small, decorative brass knob. It has a maximum diameter of  $\frac{5}{16}$  of an inch.
3. The brass, pyramidal-shaped head of a fancy upholstery stud of a type formerly used on leather chairs or sofas. It measures  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across its base.
4. A well-made brass key for desk or chest. The ornamental stud (Plate 1) has a hollow body and two prongs. It is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long.
5. A dead bolt, the sliding part of a lock operated with a key. The object consists of a rectangular bolthead made from a good grade of brass at one end and a thin, rusted iron shaft at the other. It is of a size used to lock the hinged lid or drawer of a desk or cabinet. The brass portion measures  $\frac{1}{2} \times 1$  inch and is  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch thick; the iron piece is 3 inches long and less than  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick.

The only scraps of floor covering are four fragments of a cheap grade of linoleum. The pieces are all small, averaging  $1 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The background color is light, originally tan or white. Decoration consists of floral designs, now of a faded brown color.

A small, rusted cast-iron "screw pulley,"  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches long, was unearthed inside one of the rooms (Plate 4). Its wheel has a diameter of only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches and a groove designed to hold a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick cord. The base is pointed and threaded for screwing into a wall or ceiling. The pulley is of the kind used for operating bamboo shades, wooden shutters, and the like.

Lighting devices are represented by kerosene lamp parts, a broken light fixture and electric light bulbs. The following were found:

1. A burner from a large kerosene lamp. The object is of brass and has a diameter of  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches. It is unusual in having slots for two wicks.
2. Five pieces of glass lamp chimneys. Three are scalloped-edge fragments.
3. A brass holder for a light fixture. Three brass screws still hold in place part of the base of a milky-white, hob-nailed, glass globe. The holder has a diameter of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Perhaps this is part of a porch-light or other outdoor fixture.
4. Seventeen pieces of milky-white glass, apparently from similar light fixtures. Ten are smooth-surfaced; the remainder have hob-nails.
5. An intact light bulb and parts of three others. The former is an old-fashioned, burned-out, low-wattage bulb. Metal bases and a glass filament of two other small electric light bulbs as well as a third glass filament, were also obtained.
6. Twelve pieces of thin, curved glass, undoubtedly, are fragments of light bulbs.

Decorative objects for the home comprised a portion of a plate and a broken figurine. A rim section of a thick ( $\frac{5}{8}$  of an inch), shallow, earthenware dish was found. It may be a piece from a large fruit dish or from a receptacle placed beneath a flower pot. The sherd is gray-glazed and with brown mottling on its upper surface. The ceramic figurine may once have adorned a mantel or table. It represents a girl wearing a voluminous pink dress with overlapping yellow and purple aprons. The portion above the waist is missing. The remaining piece is only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches high.





Plate 2: Tableware. The tablespoon at the right is unusual in being made of britannia, an alloy resembling pewter in appearance.

The surviving traces of house furnishings indicate that they were neither elaborate nor expensive.

*Tableware.* A large assortment of articles used at the table were unearthed. Broken crockery was particularly plentiful. It consists primarily of a heavy, inexpensive class of white earthenware known as "ironstone." Most pieces are undecorated; ornamentation where it occurs (7 examples) is by scalloping of borders, paneling of sides or appliqueing so as to produce a raised pattern. Nearly 60 percent of the sherds are "crazed"—networks of tiny lines running across their surfaces. Weathering could have played a part in bringing about this condition but it could also have resulted from either uneven thermal expansion of the glaze or improper firing.

No whole or even nearly complete ironstone articles were found but some pieces could be fitted together to form partial vessels or larger sherds. From these, and bigger fragments, it was possible to determine shapes. Represented were:

1. Dinner plates, assorted sizes—65 fragments
2. Bowls; small, fairly deep; also broad but shallow—20 fragments
3. Cups—34 fragments
4. Saucers—11 fragments
5. Serving bowls, oval—2 fragments
6. Serving platters, oval and circular—7 fragments
7. Butter dishes—2 fragments
8. Trivet—1 fragment
9. Chamber pots (or wash basins)—3 fragments
10. Unidentifiable—57 fragments

Eight ironstone sherds bear a manufacturer's mark, five of which were identifiable (Thorn, 1947; Kovel, 1953).



1. Goodwin Brothers, Liverpool, Ohio, 1844-53
2. Alfred Meakin, England, established 1881
3. Pioneer Pottery Company, Wellsville, Ohio, 1885-96
4. J. G. Meakin, England, established 1891
5. Moddock and Co., England, possibly post-1911.

Not recognizable were three partial monograms—2 impressed and one painted.

Included in the collection are 46 fragments of white porcelain or chinaware. The sherds are all thin-walled, averaging less than  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch. Shapes included:

1. Dinner plates—11 fragments
2. Cups—7 fragments
3. Saucers—6 fragments
4. Serving platters, oval—3 fragments
5. Unidentified—19 fragments

At least two pieces are definitely French Haviland ware as they bear part of the manufacturer's green pigmented mark, (Kovel, 1953 p. 60). "H & C"/depose. This ware dates from about 1887.

Only a small percentage (ca. 8 percent) of the ceramic material bears painted designs. Decorated sherds consisted of:

1. Staffordshire ware. Included here are 14 earthenware fragments of the type manufactured in England by Staffordshire potters. The sherds have a whitish background with design elements in blue (8), purple or purplish-red (2), black (1), brown (1), red (1), and polychrome (1). It is a cheap and plentiful crockery, imported into the United States in great quantities.
2. Spode ware. The basal fragments of a plate bears the blue mark, "Copeland and Garrett Late Spode." The piece has a blue floral design on a white background. This sherd is of particular interest because it represents a variety of pottery made only during a short span of time, between 1833 and 1847 (Kovel 1953, p. 174).
3. Salt glaze. Two small gray sherds bearing a black design have been identified as "salt-glazed" ware.
4. Chinese porcelain. These six sherds, of a common export type, have a gray background and blue designs.
5. Hand-painted porcelain. This thin, white chinaware piece has a hand-painted floral design in blue and green.

Glassware for the table was either not too abundant or went unrecognized among the hundreds of glass fragments uncovered. There are six pieces of wine glasses or goblets, none of which bears a maker's seal or other distinctive marking.

1. Two pieces are from a thick-walled, stemmed goblet. Included are the bowl with a short section of stem and the entire circular base. The goblet was large, with a top diameter of four inches.
2. A smaller, thinner goblet is represented by a basal fragment with a bit of stem attached.
3. A third goblet of very thin glass has a hollow stem.
4. Two clear, curved pieces of glass may also be from goblets.

A few pieces (6) of thicker-walled drinking glasses were also obtained.

Other glassware used at mealtime included:

1. Part of the neck and top of a cruet or small glass bottle for vinegar, or oil.
2. Three fragments of decorated clear glass, probably from a serving bowl.

Eating utensils are represented by three spoons, all more or less intact; three forks one nearly whole and the others fragmentary; and an entire table-knife (Plate 2).

1. A dull-surfaced tablespoon is made of britannia metal, an alloy (chiefly tin, antimony and copper) which resembles pewter. It is a mold-made variety, manufactured up to the 1830's and 40's. The bowl is much worn.
2. A silver-plated tablespoon. Its pattern is the Oval or Oval Thread design which was first made in 1855. The "Rogers Bros. 1847" trade mark on its reverse side did not appear, however, until 1871. At this time the Rogers 1847 brand was made in three different qualities. The qualifying mark "A1" on the specimen denotes that this was the least expensive of the three. Tablespoons in this quality sold for \$7.50 per dozen.
3. A silver-plated teaspoon. This bears the Threaded design first made in 1847; its Rogers Bros. trade mark is eroded. Apparently of the same quality as the above tablespoon, this type of teaspoon was priced at \$3.50 per dozen.
4. A wooden-handled, three-tined steel fork, of an inexpensive type, possesses no distinguishing markings. This is of such a generalized form that it cannot be dated with certainty; it could be an early type.



6. A single table knife, though corroded, is in good condition. It is a plain, solid-metal-handled, steel knife. Sometimes these knives had silver-plated handles and sometimes they were plated all over. It belongs in the same time period as the Rogers Bros. spoons.

Two hollow bone handles, one intact and the other broken, were found. A burned section of a third, similar specimen contains a short length of metal, and seems to be the remains of a fork.

*Kitchen accessories.* Pots, pans, kettles and other kitchen ware such as cleavers, carving knives, ladles and the like were conspicuous by their absence. Either these articles, when no longer serviceable were disposed of in trash pits some distance from the house or they have disintegrated into indistinguishable metal scraps.

Approximately one-half of a stone hone was found. It is quite small, being  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $\frac{5}{16}$  of an inch thick. The hone shows evidence of considerable use on both surfaces.

A small, miscellaneous group of earthenware sherds are from vessels suitable for the storage of foodstuffs. There were:

1. Nine sherds of brown-glazed ware. These seem to be from a single vessel like a bean pot.
2. Five dark-green, tin-glazed sherds are parts of a wide-mouthed jar of recent Mexican manufacture. The vessel's walls were thin and easily fractured.
3. Two, off-white, thick sherds apparently are from a crock. The two pieces are curved and fit together. Their surfaces are slightly pitted.

A portion of a paper soap wrapper, with red and black printing, reads "Pride of German Family." This product, a laundry soap, was manufactured by the Los Angeles Soap Company between 1894 and 1917. The trade name was dropped at the beginning of World War I.

*Clothing.* It is uncertain as to exactly what forms of clothing were worn as no whole garments or large pieces thereof were recovered. The remnants of wearing apparel which have survived suggest that the former inhabitants were regularly dressed in hard-wearing, rough clothes suitable for ranch-work and living. Their wardrobes probably also contained better garments for special occasions and Sunday-wear.

A few scraps of clothing have been fortuitiously preserved by rodents carrying them into their burrows beneath the rooms. Although the bits of fabric had been well-chewed they were not otherwise badly disintegrated. Retrieved were:

1. A 5 x 8 inch section of loosely knit white cotton cloth. This is probably part of a man's suit of underwear.
2. Four fragments of black cotton knit stockings. Included are a tubular upper piece and part of a heel.
3. A discolored scrap ( $\frac{3}{4}$  x  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches) of white or tan cotton cloth. The fragment is tightly woven and of garment quality. It offers no clues as to the form of clothing from which it came.
4. A 2 x  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch piece of finely woven black silk. It is machine sewn and may be a remnant of a coat lining.
5. A tightly woven,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide, strip of stained cotton cloth. This also may be part of a coat lining though it could have been torn from a blouse or dress. The piece is shiny and smooth on one surface and dull and rough-textured on the other.
6. A knitted ring,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, of brown cotton thread with a shred of cotton cloth adhering to it. This appears to be all that remains of a buttonhole.

An excellent assortment of buttons of various sizes and materials was obtained (Plate 3). Mother-of-pearl buttons (Plate 3, top row), 34 of which were found, form the most numerous and varied group. Their diversity is understandable as some of these "pearl" buttons were ornamental. Five forms are recognizable.

1. Clip button (1). This button was attached to a garment by means of a brass clip. It is medium-sized<sup>2</sup> with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch diameter.

<sup>2</sup>Standardized button sizes are: diminutive under  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch; small  $\frac{3}{8}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$  inch; medium  $\frac{3}{4}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches; large over  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches (Albert and Adams 1951, pp. 172-3.)



2. Shank button (1). This specimen is provided with a metal shank or loop for attachment. It is small, measuring  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across.
3. Two-hole (10). Mother-of-pearl buttons with two perforations for sewing to fabric were fairly abundant, with ten examples obtained. Three, one of which is grayish-tan in color, are decorated on their outer surfaces with three raised, concentric circles. They are "shirtwaist" buttons and could have been sewn to shirts or underwear. All are small, ranging in diameter from  $\frac{3}{8}$  to nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch, with an average about  $\frac{7}{16}$ .
4. Three-hole (1). A single three-holed button is ornamented with an encircling groove near its border. It is a decorative, diminutive button measuring slightly less than  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch across, and could have been a glove button.
5. Four-hole (21). Most numerous of the "pearl" buttons are those with four perforations, and 21 examples were found. Only one of these buttons is decorated. They are either small (14) or diminutive (7) with the largest specimen having a diameter only slightly exceeding  $\frac{5}{8}$  of an inch. The seven diminutive buttons probably are decorative and could have come from men or women's gloves, or could have served to button down the wings of men's collars. The others are of the "shirtwaist" variety.

White porcelain buttons make up the second most numerous category with 25 examples retrieved (Plate 3, second row). They are of a common utility type and only two forms are represented.

1. Three-hole (3). The three-holed porcelain buttons are all diminutive. Their tiny size again suggests a decorative use.
2. Four-hole (22). The remaining 22 porcelain buttons all have four perforations. Except for three, they are small, with  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{9}{16}$  inch diameters. Mainly they are underwear buttons. One button is decorated with eight parallel lines of tiny punctations. The three diminutive specimens are unornamented.

Metal buttons were not particularly abundant. The 18 collected form a varied group (Plate 3, fourth row).

1. Shank buttons (2). These two specimens are brass, two-piece buttons, the metal front and back clamped together. The first, of military style, bears an eagle on its outer convex surface and may be from an army uniform. It has a diameter of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The second larger "ball" button is nearly spherical. No decoration is visible on its surface. Its size suggests that it is from a heavy garment, perhaps an overcoat.
2. Two-hole (1). A plain brass button has two perforations. It is small, measuring about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across. This is probably an overall or work trouser button.
3. Four-hole (5). Four buttons included here are made of iron, all badly rusted; the other is of britannia metal or some similar alloy. One of the former may once have been brass-coated. Their diameters range from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{11}{16}$  of an inch. Like the above they may be buttons from work-clothes.
4. Unperforated (10). At present these metal buttons lack any means of fastening to a garment. Originally they were provided with cloth loops or shanks. At least four were once entirely cloth-covered. All are small, varying from  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter. One example has a hollow cross on its outer curved surface; another bears the inscription "Head Light," a brand name which still is used on men's work clothes. Some appear to have been sewn to overalls.

A miscellaneous lot of buttons includes the following:

1. Seven, four-holed bone buttons. Two are ornamented with an incised circle. They all fall in the same size group (small), with diameters of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Buttons of this sort were used on coats and trousers during the last 25 years of the 19th century. (Plate 3, third row).
2. Two pressed-paper buttons. The first and largest ( $\frac{7}{8}$  of an inch in diameter) is broken. It has four perforations. The second specimen,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter, is unusual in having five holes. (Plate 3, third row, end).
3. A thick, hard-rubber button with two holes (Plate 3, bottom row). This black button bears the marking "Goodyear's Pat. 1851. R. Co." The specimen has a diameter of  $\frac{7}{8}$  of an inch and is  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch thick. It seems to be an overcoat button.
4. Three black ceramic buttons with bright surfaces. Each is provided with four holes for sewing to an article of clothing. Two are identical with  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch diameters; the other is somewhat smaller, measuring only  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across. They are probably men's suit buttons. (Plate 3, bottom row).
5. A bluish-gray, two-holed ceramic button. It is decorated with an encircling groove near its border. The specimen is  $\frac{7}{16}$  of an inch in diameter. (Plate 3, bottom row).
6. Two shank, glass buttons. The first is faceted and iridescent. It is of a variety that ornamented women's dresses in the 1880's. The other glass specimen is black and has a central groove. It could have been a shoe or fancy vest button. The faceted button is the largest with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter;



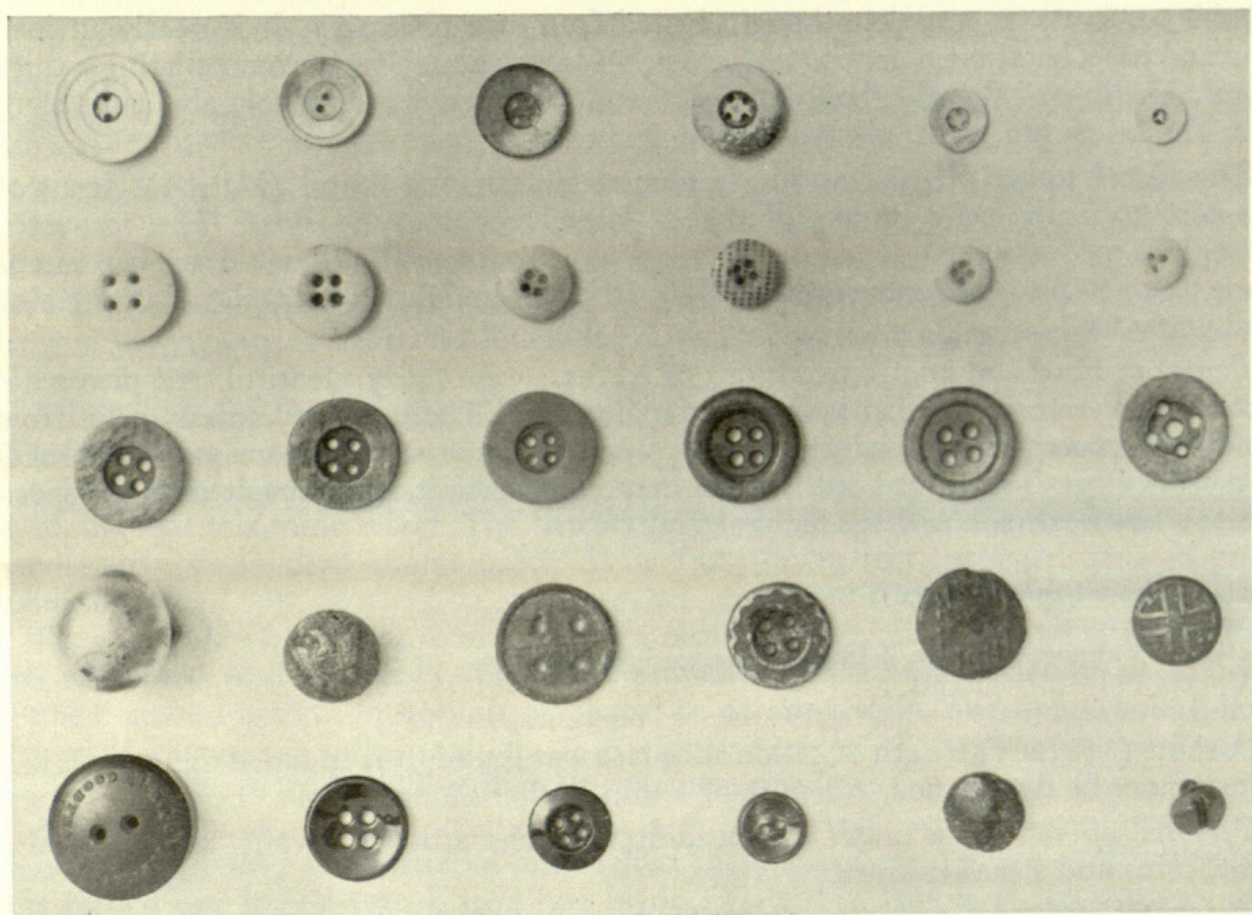


Plate 3: Miscellaneous buttons. Top row; mother-of-pearl. Second row; porcelain. Third row; bone and pressed paper. Fourth row; metal. Bottom row; rubber, ceramic and glass.

the other measures slightly less than  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch across. (Plate 3, bottom row).

A brass hook,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, and an entire eyelet,  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch long, were recovered. The metal clasp for an overall shoulder strap was also obtained. It measures  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across.

Five whole and three fragmentary studs are in the collection. The largest, and oldest-appearing, is of bone and measures  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch across. Its base is missing. Four, one with its head broken off, are made of opaque white glass. They are all of a size— $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch or slightly less in diameter. Four concentric rings decorate the surfaces of two of these studs. Two plain specimens are of black-enameled metal. They have the same dimensions as the glass specimens. The facing of a mother-of-pearl example was also found. It also has a diameter of about  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch.

Garment accessories include a rusted iron buckle from a man's narrow belt. It has a rounded end and dimensions of  $1 \times 1\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The remains of another belt buckle were also retrieved but it is badly disintegrated.

Two unusual metal items are parts of military clasps of the Civil War period or possibly just before that time (Plate 1). The first, of brass, has an eagle design on a lined field of a type used between about 1850-1870. It appears likely that the object formed an accoutrement of one of the numerous California state militia groups. A manufacturer's mark about its border reads: "\*Taussic. Pollack & Co. \* San Francisco." A search of San Francisco city directories failed to turn up any reference to such a firm. Quite similar in form is the second article which is made of copper. Against a lined background is a five-pointed star design, the Texas state emblem, indicating that it may well be from the uniform of a Texas outfit, hence a Confederate clasp.

Articles used in mending clothes include two thimbles and a safety pin. The first



thimble, of brass, is complete though dented from use (Plate 1). It is nearly an inch long and has a basal diameter of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch—large enough for accommodating a thick finger. The second thimble, badly corroded and in pieces, was probably about the same size. The safety pin, of an old type, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long.

The rusted upper plate of an old-fashioned sadiron was found (Plate 4). Irons of this sort normally came in sets of three—large, medium, and small. The recovered example is medium-sized, measuring  $3\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$  inches. A nearly illegible manufacturer's mark seems to read, "Blesstorn & . . .". The iron was undoubtedly employed in pressing clothing as well as flat linens.

*Footgear.* Shoe and boot remains, all of leather, were fairly plentiful. All pieces unearthed had been well worn before being discarded. The majority appear to be from handmade boots, three of which are exceptionally narrow; others are parts of broad-toed workshoes. The thread with which they were sewn is still present on most specimens; a few bear nails or have nail holes.

1. Whole soles—1 complete and 4 fragments.
2. Half-soles—1 complete and 1 fragment
3. Sole fragments—8
4. Heels—5 almost complete, 3 fragments
5. Uppers (?)—2 fragments
6. A piece of leather from which a shoe sole had been cut.

A short ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch) length of cotton shoe lace was found. It is so faded that its original color cannot be determined. A length of a thin leather thong may also be part of a lace.

*Personal effects.* Items under this heading are toilet articles, jewelry, writing equipment, coins and a pocket knife.

A few toilet articles were unearthed. These consisted of:

1. A bone toothbrush, lacking bristles.
2. A three-holed safety razor blade.
3. Four comb teeth, all black.
4. A black hairpin (? composition),  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long
5. Two fragments from the lens of a pair of dark green sun glasses.
6. A metal stopper from a cologne or hair tonic bottle. The cap is decorated with a raised, leaf design and has a manufacturer's mark ("I M Mfg. Co. Pat. July 7 '14").
7. Two circular pieces of glass, probably from purse mirrors. The silvering has almost entirely disappeared. They are identical in size with a diameter of  $2\frac{7}{16}$  inches, and are  $\frac{1}{16}$  of an inch thick.

Objects used for personal adornment were rare with only one certain and two possible items.

1. A dark green, glass bead. The bead is globular and has a diameter of  $\frac{5}{16}$  of an inch. One end is badly scarred.
2. A teardrop-shaped, mother-of-pearl object. This article could have formed part of a large, heavy earring. It might also have served as a chandelier pendant. The item is 1 inch long and  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch thick.
3. A five-petalled ceramic rosette. This tiny object, only  $\frac{5}{16}$  of an inch in diameter, could have been riveted to an ornamental comb or purse. In the center is a metal tube, or rivet.

Writing equipment was surprisingly well represented. Articles serving this function were:

1. A retractable metal pen (Plate 1). This article is nickel-plated and when extended has a length of four inches. Its corroded pen point is still inside. This is an example of a once-popular form of pocket pen with a reservoir of ink which automatically fed the nib while the instrument was in use. It dates back to the 1880's.
2. A metal pen point,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long.
3. Five pieces of angled, blue-green glass which appear to be parts of an ink-bottle.
4. Pencil fragments. These comprise: two upper ends of pencils, one yellow with eraser, one black; two pencil shavings (yellow); three pieces of black lead, two round and one flat.

Approximately one-half of a bone-handled, two-bladed pocket knife was unearthed.



Its original length was about three inches. The remaining pieces is  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch wide. The faint outline of a shield design is visible on one side.

Only three coins were recovered. All were United States Lincoln-head pennies. Their dates are: 1919, 1919, and 1940.

*Tools.* Daily work activities were not well illustrated by archaeological finds, as relatively few hand tools and pieces of farm equipment were unearthed. Actually, recovery of articles of this sort in or around a ranch house is not anticipated as they are ordinarily kept and utilized elsewhere. When no longer usable, such items were probably thrown away in the vicinity of the outbuildings in which they were regularly stored, or disposed of in trash pits.

A broad-bladed hatchet, six inches long and five and a half inches wide, was found (Plate 4). This is a general utility tool of a type regularly used in the past by carpenters for dressing timbers. It is square-ended and suitable for driving nails as well as for chopping and trimming wood. The hatchet has a wider aperture for the insertion of a handle than its modern counterparts. Aside from being rust-encrusted, it is in good condition.

The only other hand tool recovered was a heavy (8 lb.), double-faced spalling hammer of forged steel (Plate 4). This tool, provided with a 36-inch handle of straight-grained, second-growth hickory, is employed in splitting rock. The round hole for insertion of a handle is surprisingly small, having a diameter of only  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches. Present-day spallings have thicker edges than the one unearthed.

Although the principal economic pursuits at Santa Anita were always farming and stock-raising, only a few scattered finds reflect these activities. A single cultivating tool was turned up. It is a broad, iron hoe blade (Plate 4). This is a "plantation" hoe. Equipped with a long wooden handle it was suitable for heavy hoeing and chopping weeds. The blade,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, was forged and drawn from one solid piece of metal. The handle hole has a diameter of one inch.

Some objects of horse equipment were found. There are two horseshoes. One is little-used and still has both toe and heel calks; the other is considerably worn. Their dimensions are  $4 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  inches and  $4\frac{3}{8} \times 6$  inches respectively. Several pieces of leather appear to be parts of harness. The largest fragment has slits in its surface and two layers of leather are riveted together. There are also four short lengths of strap and 12 nondescript leather scraps.

A twenty-inch section of straight-link iron chain was retrieved. The length is made up of eleven two-inch links. Its former use is unknown but it could have been placed about a cow's neck. The chain is not strong enough to have served as part of a piece of farm equipment.

A whole game trap was found (Plate 4). It is a Number 1 "single spring" type, with a four-inch jaw spread and adapted for trapping skunks and other small mammals. It is provided with a short length of chain and a pin for attachment to a log or floor beam. Identical traps manufactured by the Victor Company can be purchased today.

*Weapons.* Considerable evidence was obtained for the use of firearms. During earlier years of the adobe house's occupancy, firearms were essential for protection against marauding bands of Indians, whose habit it was to raid outlying ranchos, (Caughey 1952, XX). In later years firearms were employed presumably in shooting game and wildfowl and for driving off predatory animals and birds. It seems likely they were also used for target-shooting, a favored pastime of many ranch hands.

Especial interest attaches to the finding of a brass trigger-guard from an old-style rifle (Plate 1). It is of a class made by hand during the period between 1800 and 1850 for attachment to a long-barreled, powerful Kentucky rifle. The trigger guard is large,



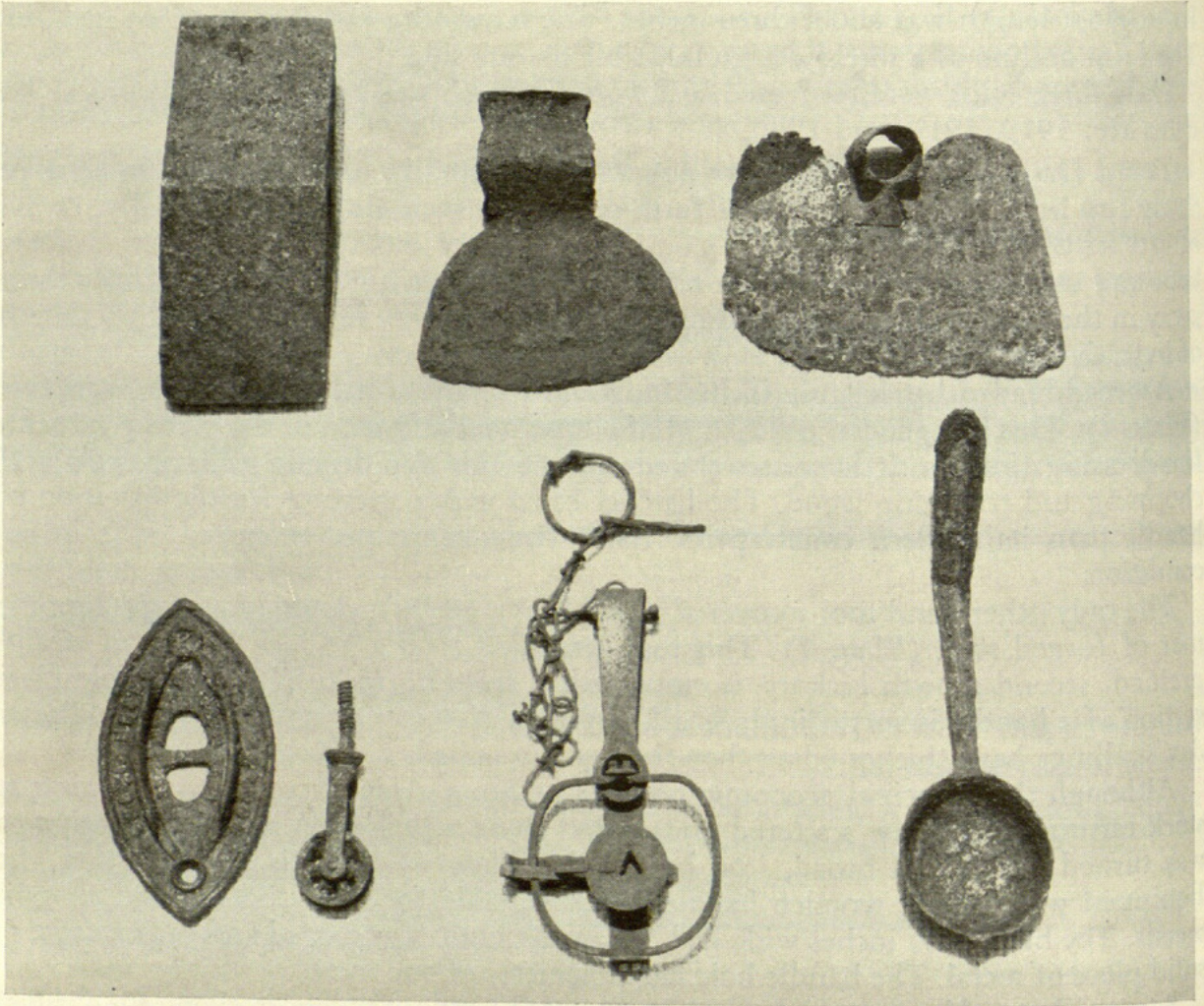


Plate 4: Tools and other objects of iron. Top row (left to right) spalling hammer, hatched blade and hoe blade. Bottom row; sadiron plate, pulley, animal trap and ladle.

having a length of  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches and a maximum width of  $\frac{7}{8}$  of an inch. It is in excellent condition.

All photographs, including the cover, were taken by the authors.

*To be continued*

#### COVER, PLATE 1

An assortment of metal objects found in and around the Hugo Reid Adobe by the archaeologists of the University of Southern California and the Archaeological Research Associates during their excavation project in 1956. An article by their leader, Dr. William J. Wallace, will be found in this issue of *Lasca Leaves*. The objects in the picture are identified as: Top row (left to right) key and retractable pen; Middle row: clasps, drawer handle and thimble; Bottom row: trigger guard from Kentucky rifle.

#### SORRY

Correction in Footnote, pg. 17 in *Lasca Leaves*, Winter 1961, Vol. XI, No. 1 for article by Susanna Bryant Dakin, "*The Restoration at Rancho Santa Anita*."

"Line 1: should read: 'Los Angeles-Pasadena Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames in California'".

"Line 2: should read: 'their first restoration in Southern California'".

"Line 3: should read: 'Norman-Wilcox is Curator of Applied Arts at the Los Angeles County Museum'".





Wallace, William J. and Taylor, E. S. 1961. "Historic objects from the Hugo Reid Adobe." *Lasca leaves* 11(Spring 1961), 39–48.

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