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THE HOEN HOARD
A Viking Gold Treasure of the Ninth Century

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Beads of glass and stone

The 131 glass and stone beads from the Hoen hoard probably comprised a single necklace (pls. 24-5). Seven of them (nos. 200-6) are now missing. In addition there were seven gold beads of which six survive (nos. 46-51, one is missing, no. 52). The necklace would be some 75 cm long without the pendants (see p. 93).¹ The order of the beads, as has already been noted, is random, although comparable finds from contemporary inhumation graves both in central Europe and in Scandinavia show that necklaces were often strung in an unorderly manner. Sets of beads were added to or modified as a result of gift, purchase, exchange or even partial loss. The combination of beads of different colours and materials made a necklace look all the more attractive against what were otherwise usually monochrome textiles. In combination with simple monochrome pieces, unusual beads – such as polychrome beads, old types, semi-precious stones or gold beads – were particularly conspicuous. It is to be assumed that the more valuable elements of the necklace would have been worn ostentatiously over the breast, as, ultimately, strings of beads functioned as status symbols: symbols of wealth, connexions, finery and fashion. The Hoen necklace was probably arranged in precisely this way so as to emphasise the special pieces, especially the gold beads and the pendants. The plain, undecorated beads emphasise the gold and polychrome parts of the necklace.

Like the majority of the coins, most of the glass and stone beads are to be identified as products of the period from the late eighth to the third quarter of the ninth century. As with the hoard as a whole, the beads are a mixture of both western European, Scandinavian and south-eastern and Byzantine pieces.

Around the beginning of the eighth century a general intensification of trade and exchange is evident in the Rhine-Maas area, along the coasts of the North Sea (including the south coast of England), in south-western Scandinavia and in the Baltic. At Ribe² and Åhus³ the first evidence for Scandinavian beadmaking is found, glass beads being made from imported glass, cullet and tesserae, most probably brought from Italy and the Byzantine lands. Translucent blue and opaque white beads dominate the range produced in these workshops, although millefiori and *reticella* rods produced here also show that the craftsmen were capable of working at a technically sophisticated level.

1. Steppuhn (2002), 353.

2. Nästman (1979); Jensen (1991), 37-9; Callmer (1997), 197-8.

3. Callmer and Henderson (1991); Callmer (1997),

198.

In the ninth and tenth centuries other bead-making workshops were established in northern Europe producing glass beads either in imitation of oriental prototypes or of indigenous form.⁴ The majority of beads were still imported from the East. Types such as eye beads, millefiori and foil-covered beads were particularly widely distributed. In the course of the second half of the eighth century the demand for oriental beads in northern and eastern Europe was especially high. In the excavations at Staraja Ladoga, there is a clear predominance of oriental beads over those of northern European origin in the levels of the period around 760.⁵ This predominance is also seen in bead finds from eastern Europe, the Baltic area, southern Scandinavia, and the Saxon lands. As a result of the greater impact of a northern European bead-making industry towards the end of the eighth century, the quantity of local beads in the necklaces of Viking women is higher. The end result is a colourful intermixture of beads from different sources.

Northern European beads were probably made mostly by seasonal and itinerant craftsmen who imported raw glass from southern Europe or the Orient. Their craft was carried out in the urban settlements and occasionally, as at Hedeby, several workshops can be identified which were operative side-by-side or one after the other.⁶ Such glass-working was dependent on imported glass and the know-how of the craftsmen. The production of glass mass from raw materials, requiring the use of proper smelting furnaces, was exceptional, and can only be postulated at Hedeby, Szczecin, Helgö and Birka.⁷ The outline of western and eastern distribution routes for oriental beads of the period 760-850 sketched by Callmer is essentially correct, although there were unquestionably other routes and links.⁸ One can assume that the imported beads in the Hoen hoard came to Scandinavia by eastern routes.

Such may well be the case in relation to the violet glass beads (nos. 150-81), parallels to which are extremely rare in northern Europe. In the Hoen hoard, however, these alone account for 28% of the glass beads. Beads of this colour and of similar tone are typical amongst oriental glass beads of the second half of the eighth century.⁹ The 'rich amethyst violet' beads described by Callmer,¹⁰ however, correspond in neither form nor colour to the glass beads in the Hoen hoard. Callmer¹¹ has informed me that the beads discussed by him occur in large numbers in the Baltic area (but above all in the south-eastern regions such as the Caucasus, northern Persia, Crimea and the Kama basin),¹² but that the bead-types from Hoen are very rarely encountered in Scandinavia. This confirms my own research. Violet beads comparable to those in the hoard occur only twice in the west, at the Saxon cemetery of Wulfsen, Harburg (site 8, grave 782).¹³ They

4. Steppuhn (1998b), 106-10.

5. L'vova (1968), 67-72.

6. Steppuhn (1998a), 464-5; (1998b), 92-102.

7. Dekówna (1990), 11; Callmer (1997), 199; Steppuhn (1998b), 94-6.

8. Callmer (1995), 52 and fig. 2.

9. Callmer (1995), 51 and fig. 1.

10. Callmer (1977), 80 (type A 154-5); Callmer (1990), 28.

11. In a letter of 20.08.1998.

12. Callmer (1990), 28.

13. Thieme (1987), 168-9. My thanks to F. Laux and

occur only sporadically in Scandinavian finds: for instance in Birka grave 38,¹⁴ grave 49,¹⁵ and grave 597,¹⁶ and in the settlement at Hedeby.¹⁷ The distribution map shows some overlapping of *rich amethyst* violet coloured beads and glass beads of violet to brown-violet hue in south-eastern Europe. Szilágyi has drawn my attention to the old Magyar cemeteries of Bolsije Tigami on the River Kama and the equestrian graves of Pilin-Leshegy. In these eighth- and ninth-century graves there are a number of violet glass beads, albeit not identical in form to those from Hoen. Zironkina has listed for me a total of six settlements and cemeteries in the Ukraine in which violet glass beads have been found in significant quantities.¹⁸ In the Saltovo-culture cemeteries of Saltovsk, Dimitrievsk, Verhnesalatovsk, Starosalatovsk and Netajlovsk, and the settlement of Majckoe, various forms of beads were found, including globular and polyhedral beads of violet glass. One group of 37 violet glass beads was found in a single grave at Saltova.¹⁹ An absolute chronology for the beads of this region is still needed, but in the opinion of Zironkina a date in the eighth to ninth centuries is to be assumed. As well as these Khazar-period finds of the northern Donetsk, there are violet beads in the northern Caucasus which date to the period from the seventh to the ninth century.²⁰ The range of forms in this case includes spheres and cylinders as well as ribbed and polyhedral beads;²¹ similar forms also occur in the Hoen hoard. Scientific investigation alone suggests that it is possible that violet beads of the Dschetyasarkajo Culture were made in China.²²

According to L'vova, violet and brown-violet beads also occur at Staraja Ladoga in layers of the eighth to tenth centuries, including polyhedral forms and specimens with millefiori eyes.²³ Violet millefiori beads with red centres and white rays, like that from Hoen (no. 166), are also found at Staraja Ladoga.²⁴ In view of the greater frequency of violet glass beads in south-eastern Europe, and Asia Minor in particular, we should consider whether such beads could be of oriental origin. Violet beads are still made in Anatolia today, including specimens with round eyes comparable to the example in the Hoen hoard (no. 165).²⁵

As already indicated, the violet beads were probably imported from the Orient but are found predominantly in south-eastern Europe and do not always match those from our hoard. Indeed, in several cases the forms of the violet beads from Hoen match the forms of blue and cobalt blue glass beads familiar

- W. Thieme, Helms-Museum Hamburg, for making the beads found at Wulfsen available to me. It was only possible to confirm the agreement in colour and form between the beads from Hoen and Wulfsen by personal inspection. A comprehensive assessment of grave 782 from Wulfsen is still awaited. At present, however, F. Laux considers a date of burial after 800 improbable.
14. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 123:38b.
 15. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 123:36b.
 16. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 122:8c.

17. Steppuhn (1998b), 23, 37-8 and pl. 5:41.
 18. My special thanks to O. Zironkina for a written report on these beads.
 19. Mastykova (1991), types 51, 61-6, 68, 72, 75.
 20. Goldina and Kananin (1989); Lewina and Dowgajuk (1995).
 21. Goldina and Kananin (1989), 68-71 (types 23-6, 81); Lewina and Dowgajuk (1995), 206.
 22. Lewina and Dowgajuk (1995), 208.
 23. L'vova (1968), 75-6 (group IV).
 24. L'vova (1968), 76 and fig. 3:18.
 25. Sode (1996), 43-4, 54 and fig. d.

in Scandinavia and in particular in Saxon cemeteries.²⁶ The correspondences are obvious in the cases of the barrel-shaped and ribbed and of the polyhedral beads, and can be explained in terms of the method of production. The glass mass was produced not simply by melting together the raw materials with colouring oxides, but rather – and this was the most common method of production in Scandinavia – by adding in imported glass in the form of cullet or tesserae. Thus, just as particular oxides coloured the glass mass, the mixture of the scrap glass used determined the colour of the secondary glass mass. If manganese and cobalt oxide were responsible for a violet colour in the raw glass, cullet with a high quantity of manganese oxide glass sherds would yield a violet glass mass.

We cannot, therefore, exclude the possibility that at least some of the violet beads from Hoen were made in Scandinavia. Whether this colour was deliberately sought, in order to stand out against the other blue beads, or the violet colour of our beads was accidentally produced as the result of a lack of technical knowledge, remains an unresolved issue.

The observable production of blue, white and dark red glass beads, and the application of complicated techniques, in Ribe and Åhus as early as the early eighth century give more substance to the hypothesis that the violet beads could also have been produced in Scandinavia. The association of violet and blue beads of similar form in a necklace, such as that from Wulfsen grave 782, supports the view that these beads could have been produced in the same area. Conclusive information about the provenance of the beads can probably only be obtained by laboratory analysis, although it is important to bear in mind that it was the norm to use imported raw glass for glassworking in northern Europe in the Viking period.

Many of the violet beads have crackled, probably as a result either of intensive use or of force of some kind, or possibly as a result of re-heating (no. 178). If such beads had been ruined they would undoubtedly have been 'recycled': either the fragments would have been melted down again, or the particles would have been melted into the surface of another bead.²⁷ The reuse of such waste was, in fact, done by goldsmiths. The placing of matching small pieces of glass in the middle of the items of jewellery shows the high value even of fragments. It is entirely conceivable that the goldsmith deliberately used fragments of violet glass in order to give the impression of amethyst inlay. There are also examples of the reuse of violet glass splinters on the silver brooch from Rinkaby, Skåne,²⁸ and again in the Hoen hoard, where a fragment of violet-coloured glass was incorporated in pendant no. 8.²⁹ "Amethyst-coloured" glass is recorded also on the lost gold bead no. 52, but the colour of the inset on the surviving bead, no. 46, is blue-green and its spherical studs had been made for the purpose (cf. p. 258).³⁰

26. Wegewitz (1968), pl. A-D; Ahrens (1983), pl. B, D; Laux (1983), pl. E; Thieme (1987), 169.

27. Steppuhn (1998b), 46-7.

28. Wilson (1995), 86 and fig. 54.

29. Holmboe (1835a), 10 (no. 8c); Grieg (1929), 185, 189 and fig. 29; above, p. 90.

30. Reg. no. C.13452:b. Cf. Grieg (1929), 188 (no. C.13452); above, pp. 35, 97.

The remaining glass beads, most of which are monochrome, are types more frequently found amongst the beads of northern Europe. However, some bead types typical of the ninth century are missing from this hoard. Likewise absent are certain bead combinations of the eighth and ninth centuries that are otherwise found widely in the Baltic area. These include the so-called mosaic-eye beads of Syrian or Egyptian origin.³¹ Prismatic beads of green lead glass which, according to recent studies, also belong to the *Mosaikperlenhorizont*, are likewise absent from the Hoen necklace.³² It is difficult to produce any chronological ordering of the monochrome white, green and dark red beads of opaque glass. It is known that they were not only imported but also produced in the early Scandinavian urban settlements. The finds from Kaupang, for instance, demonstrate that such beads were manufactured there in the ninth century. Considering the geographical proximity, it is possible that glass beads made at Kaupang found their way to Hoen.

Production of opaque white glass beads (nos. 75-83, 85 and 95-9) is known to have taken place in Scandinavia (Ribe and Åhus) as early as the first half of the eighth century.³³ Translucent blue beads were also produced there, albeit with little impact on the Hoen hoard (nos. 147-9). Blue beads were popular in northern Europe for a long time. They were not only imported: a significant range of local versions was produced, as at Ribe, Åhus and Hedeby.³⁴ Blue glass beads, usually annular like those from Hoen, are common in ninth-century finds, for instance at Birka,³⁵ and at Kaupang and Skalberg, both in Larvik, Vestfold.³⁶

Opaque orange-coloured (nos. 87 and 125), and especially opaque dark red glass beads (nos. 86, 88 and 126-45), normally barrel-shaped, which are frequently mistakenly described as *ceramic* or *terracotta* beads because of their rather poor material,³⁷ are extremely unhelpful chronologically. Their generally uniform appearance and their very dense and widespread distribution demonstrate that this type was truly a mass-produced object. In the Baltic area such beads are found, alongside opaque green and white beads, in settlements and graves from the sixth to the tenth century.³⁸ In Saxon cemeteries they date from the seventh century to the ninth.³⁹ The situation in central and eastern Europe is much the same.

Among the dark red beads there is one specimen of particular interest (no. 126). On the surface of this bead there is a large patch of orange-coloured glass which looks like a repair rather than a decoration, and the very different degree of wear on the two elements indicates that the repair was secondary. Despite its unusual character this piece is not unique; a parallel occurs among the beads from the child's grave 948 at Birka, where a dark red bead was similarly patched

31. Andrae (1975), 130, 165.

32. Steppuhn (1993), 208-10; (1997), 205.

33. Callmer (1995), 50.

34. Steppuhn (1998b), 34-5.

35. Danielsson (1973), 76.

36. University Museum of Cultural Heritage (for-

merly, Universitetets Oldsaksamling), reg. nos. C.2318 Skalberg; K.XIII Kaupang.

37. Steppuhn (1998b), 29.

38. Steppuhn (1998b), notes 27-9.

39. Wegewitz (1968), pl. A-C; Ahrens (1983), pl. B-D; Laux (1983), pl. E; Thieme (1987), 169.

with orange glass.⁴⁰ A deep blister in the glass of a similar bead from Hedeby has been left untouched and demonstrates what an imperfect bead looked like before it was repaired.⁴¹ Birka grave 948 belongs to burial area 1A,⁴² an area which includes graves 1081 and 943, with coins which give those burials *termini post quos* of 835 and 911-12 respectively⁴³ – which suggests a ninth-century date for the bead from Birka grave 948, providing a similar date-range for the corresponding bead from Hoen.

One may thus assume that the beads from Hoen also included older specimens which were included in the necklace as it was passed down the generations. This may be assumed, although it cannot be proven, in the case of some of the opaque white, green and dark red beads. It is much more clear in respect of the dark red bead with continuous opaque white trails (no. 145), for which there are parallels in the southern German/Alamannic area in particular from as early as the sixth century, for example from the cemetery of Pähl, Weilheim-Schongau, Bavaria.⁴⁴

Monochrome green beads of semi-translucent glass (nos. 84, 89, 91 and 107-20) are as common as those of opaque orange-coloured or dark red glass. They are also mostly barrel-shaped, and beads of all three colours frequently occur together in a necklace. This is shown, for example, in Saxon cemeteries of the second half of the eighth century, such as that of Wulfsen, Harburg.⁴⁵ In addition, these three bead-types are found together in settlements in both Saxon and Scandinavian areas, where they are particularly common at the beginning of the ninth century.⁴⁶

Glass beads with continuous zig-zag bands and edge trails in contrasting colours are typical Scandinavian products. The first examples decorated like this – blue beads with red edge trails and white zig-zags – were being produced in Ribe and Åhus as early as the first half of the eighth century.⁴⁷ At the same time such beads are found in Saxon cemeteries, as in grave 25/3 at Hitfeld-Karoxbostel, Harburg, c. 730.⁴⁸ In the late eighth and early ninth centuries the motif remained unchanged, only the colour of the beads varying frequently from blue to green, while the zig-zag occurs more often in yellow than in white.⁴⁹ A dark green bead with dark red edge trails and a yellow zig-zag pattern which occurs at Hoen (no. 123) has exact parallels from Ribe⁵⁰ and Hedeby⁵¹ which are dated to around 800. Simple beads with dark red zig-zag decoration were produced in significant quantities in other bead workshops of the Baltic area besides those of Hedeby, particularly in the ninth and tenth centuries.⁵² Other examples with dark red zig-zags from Hoen (nos. 99 and 146) were probably also made in bead workshops in this northern area.

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40. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 124:2; (1940-3), 2 373-4.
 41. Steppuhn (1998b), col. pl. 41.
 42. Arwidsson (1984-9), 1 tab. I.
 43. Arwidsson (1984-9), 1 tab. 36:2.
 44. Dannheimer (1987), 61 and fig. 37.
 45. Thieme (1987), 169.
 46. Steppuhn (1998b), 29.
 47. Jensen (1991), 37-9; Callmer (1997), 198 and pl. 15.
 48. Laux (1993), 200, 203 and fig. 3.4; personal communication from F. Laux.
 49. Callmer (1977), types B 545-6, B 549; Steppuhn (1998b), 45-6.
 50. Roesdahl et al. (1981), 32.
 51. Steppuhn (1998b), colour pl. 104.
 52. Steppuhn (1998b), 45-6 and colour pls. 98-102.

The colourless tubular bead with double diagonal trails (no. 102) is to be regarded as an oriental import. This type probably served as the prototype for similar tubular beads produced in Scandinavia in the second half of the ninth century. The Scandinavian products can be distinguished from those of oriental origin by the usually light green tint of the body of the bead, a frequently found dark red trail, and the generally irregular form and less careful workmanship.⁵³

It has been shown that many types of bead characteristic of Scandinavia in the eighth and ninth centuries are either absent from the Hoen hoard or occur only in extremely small numbers. This range includes foil-covered beads. While such beads are found in burials and settlements of this period in large numbers,⁵⁴ only two were found in the Hoen hoard (nos. 182-3). The type is to be attributed to the *Mosaikaugenperlenhorizont* of around 800 or rather earlier.⁵⁵ It appears that beads which belong to this horizon either did not reach Hoen or were rejected for the necklace. Scandinavian parallels to the other colourless beads with gold foil (nos. 184-8 and 207) are only occasionally encountered.⁵⁶ An oriental source for the specimens from Hoen is certainly to be considered, even if they are probably not all from the same workshop. If some segments are taken away from the drawn foil-covered beads, it is clear that all of them (nos. 184-8) were made as individual wound beads. There are certain similarities between the beads in the hoard and an undated bead necklace in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.⁵⁷ Another necklace with similar gold-in-glass beads comes from the cemetery of Ducové in Moravia, which is dated to the ninth century.⁵⁸

So far, the study of the beads from Hoen has shown that we are dealing with a mixture of imported and locally manufactured beads, a fact reflected in the form and way in which the beads are combined with each other. The stringing of groups of beads on a gold or gilded silver wire, which is formed into a loop and fastened with a twisted knot, seems to be typically Scandinavian. Such pendant rings of beads are often found in Scandinavian women's graves. At Hoen there are five rings of beads, of which, however, only the first three (nos. 75-83, 84-6 and 87-8) are to be regarded as original. It is striking that all the glass beads strung in this fashion are very probably from Scandinavian workshops. The composition of the second pendant (nos. 84-6) is especially informative, for the combination of a green, a white and a dark red bead in exactly this order is matched in graves 557 and 649 at Birka (pl. 69.2 and 69.19).⁵⁹ The small beaded spacing rings of gold wire as on the first pendant (nos. 75-83) also have parallels at Birka,

53. Callmer (1977), 96 (type B 542); Steppuhn (1998b), 49 and pl. 8:21-3, colour pl. 112.

54. Steppuhn (1998b), 40 and figs. 6:35-61, 7:1-10, colour pls. 90-2.

55. Andrae (1975), 112-3. The term *Mosaikaugenperlenhorizont* was introduced by Andrae (1975), 107-10 and 148-56. It applies to a particular type of millefiori beads, combined with other special beads and ornaments. *Mosaik-*

augenperlen are distributed from Ireland in the west to the Caucasus in the east, and from Norway in the north to Egypt in the south, but have a centre in Central Europe, cf. Andrae (1975), 118, pl. 1.

56. Andrae (1975), 156; Callmer (1995), 52.

57. Dubin (1987), 92.

58. Dekan (1983), 30-1, 165 and fig. 172.

59. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 121:2c.

again in graves 557 and 649 as well as in grave 632.⁶⁰ The beads of two further pendants (nos. 89-90 and 91-4) were clearly first put together in this way after the recovery of the find and its registration. The pieces have different inventory numbers, and the careless twisting of the wire obviously differs from that of the first three pendants.

A primary reference point for the dating of the bead-rings resides in the provisional chronology of the Birka graves.⁶¹ The graves with coins, grave 632 (with a suspended Byzantine silver coin of Theophilus, 829–832/3)⁶² and 557 (with a denarius of Charles the Bald, 840–77)⁶³ are chronologically close. Grave 649 belongs to the eighth/ninth century⁶⁴ or the ninth/tenth century.⁶⁵ This means that the combination of the pendants with the green, white and dark red beads was particularly in evidence around the middle of the ninth century, if one assumes a period of fashion for such objects of about one generation. This would fit particularly well with the pendant from Hoen, implying that our pendant was not worn for very long. For the dating of the small bead strings, the coins from Birka graves 557 and 632 also provide evidence for their presence in the middle of the ninth century.

A mixture of oriental, south-eastern European and Scandinavian beads is also represented by the semi-precious stones of the Hoen hoard. Rock crystal, carnelian and agate beads from the East were traded in Scandinavia from the transition between the Vendel period and the Viking period to some time in the fourteenth century.⁶⁶ Large quantities of carnelian and rock crystal beads are known from the old Russian kingdom and from the Khazar and Volga Bulgar areas. These beads are common in Sweden, but less so in western Scandinavia.⁶⁷ The forms of the rock crystal and carnelian beads are almost identical, indicating that they come from the same cultural zone.⁶⁸

Carnelian does not occur naturally in Scandinavia and has to be imported from the South. From as early as the seventh century BC Caucasian raw material can be found in Europe.⁶⁹ The best known deposits of carnelian are in India⁷⁰ (at Cambay⁷¹ and Ratanpur⁷²), in Iraq,⁷³ Yemen,⁷⁴ Iran,⁷⁵ and above all in the Caucasus.⁷⁶ The source of the carnelian has in some cases been determined by laboratory analysis. The raw material for the carnelian beads from the late

60. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 119:f.

61. Arwidsson (1984-9), 1 275-6.

62. Arbman (1940-3), 2 211; Arwidsson (1984-9), 3 47. The association of an Abbasid dirham of 777/8 with grave 632 or grave 516 is uncertain: Arbman (1940-3), 2 213; Arwidsson (1984-9), 1 tab. 36:2.

63. Arbman (1940-3), 1 pl. 141:14; (1940-3), 2 178; Arwidsson (1984-9), 1 275-6 and tab. 36:1.

64. I. Jansson in Roesdahl and Wilson (1992), 258 (no. 125).

65. Baumgartner and Krueger (1988), 72-3 (no. 15).

66. Dubin (1987), 94; Jansson (1989), 587.

67. Callmer (1977), 99; Resi (1987), 137 and fig. 4;

Jansson (1987), 795 and fig. 10; Jansson (1989), 585-6 and fig. 10; Gabriel (1991), 256-7 and fig. 5.

68. Jansson (1989), 584-9.

69. Gabriel (1991), 257.

70. von Müller (1970), 53; Resi (1987), 133; Jansson (1989), 586.

71. Callmer (1977), 99.

72. Gabriel (1991), 257.

73. von Müller (1970), 53.

74. Jansson (1989), 586.

75. Resi (1987), 133.

76. Callmer (1977), 99; Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 154; Resi (1987), 133; Jansson (1989), 586; Gabriel (1991), 257.

Slavonic graves at Espenfeld in Thüringia, for instance, came from the Caucasus, in particular from Georgia, Armenia and Dagestan.⁷⁷ Other sources of raw material, such as North and South America, or Madagascar, as well as insignificant amounts in Saxony, need not be considered in relation to the Viking period.⁷⁸ It can be assumed that carnelian and rock crystal were brought to Scandinavia in the form of finished beads, and also in the form of as yet unworked raw material. Alongside finished beads, raw material, unfinished, and defective pieces have been found at such settlement sites as Menzlin in Anklam,⁷⁹ Hedeby⁸⁰ and Birka,⁸¹ as well as at Paviken, Västergarn⁸² and Kaupang.⁸³

Unlike carnelian, rock crystal need not all have been imported, as this colourless semi-precious stone occurs in Scandinavia and it has been suggested that Scandinavian rock crystal was broken up and prepared for beads and pendants.⁸⁴ Heyerdahl-Larsen has demonstrated the probability that Norwegian rock crystal, for instance from Valldalen, Hordal in Vestfold, was worked at Kaupang.⁸⁵ I have no doubt, therefore, that local rock crystal was used in Scandinavia. This is shown by the form of some of the beads which differ from examples imported from the South or from beads produced by travelling (perhaps seasonally occupied) gem-cutters. This is the case, for example, with the biconical beads from Hoen (nos. 189-93), which have been rather incompetently polished and perforated from only one side with a drill that was far too large. It is possible that the Hoen rock crystal beads were made in Kaupang.

The carnelian beads (nos. 94 and 197-9), by contrast, are professionally finished. They match the familiar forms encountered at many settlement sites and in many graves of northern Europe.⁸⁶ The octagonal prismatic beads (nos. 198-9) are like those from Starigard/Oldenburg,⁸⁷ Hedeby,⁸⁸ Birka,⁸⁹ and Kaupang.⁹⁰ The round, slightly irregularly formed specimens also have exact counterparts at Starigard/Oldenburg⁹¹ and Kaupang.⁹² Globular carnelian beads probably came to Scandinavia together with oriental millefiori beads towards the end of the eighth or around the beginning of the ninth century. In Scandinavia, such beads are found frequently in east central Sweden, in the Åland archipelago, and on the western coast of the Baltic.⁹³ In the ninth century the influx of carnelian beads strengthened further and they remained very conspicuous in the tenth century.⁹⁴

77. Gabriel (1991), 257.

78. von Müller (1970), 53.

79. Schoknecht (1977), 84; Jansson (1989), 589; Gabriel (1991), 257.

80. von Müller (1970), 54; Resi (1987), 133-4; Jansson (1987), 794; Jansson (1989), 589; Gabriel (1991), 257.

81. Danielsson (1973), 54-6, 67-71; Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 152; Resi (1987), 133-4; Jansson (1987), 794; Jansson (1989), 589; Gabriel (1991), 257; Ambrosiani (1995), 57-8.

82. Lundström (1981), 90-1; Jansson (1989), 589.

83. Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 153; Resi (1987), 133-

4; Jansson (1987), 794; Jansson (1989), 589; Gabriel (1991), 257.

84. Callmer (1977), 99 and Resi (1987), 133.

85. Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 153.

86. Callmer (1977), 99 (T-beads).

87. Gabriel (1991), 255 and figs. 4, 19.

88. von Müller (1970), 54 and figs. 1:1-2, 2:1-2.

89. Danielsson (1973), 68-70 and fig 34:a-b.

90. Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 152 (type a).

91. Gabriel (1991), 255 and figs. 4, 19.

92. Heyerdahl-Larsen (1979), 152 (type g).

93. Callmer (1990), 29.

94. Jansson (1989), 586.

The prismatic specimens are dated mostly to the ninth and tenth centuries. Gabriel assigns round and prismatic carnelian beads to no earlier than the beginning of the tenth century at Starigard/Oldenburg.⁹⁵ In the case of the majority of the carnelian beads from Hoen, therefore, one would assume that they were not added to the other beads until some time around the middle of the ninth century or soon thereafter, a date which chimes with that of the pendants with glass beads.

It is also likely that the three agate beads (nos. 194-6) reached Hoen only a short time before the deposition of the hoard. Parallels to these beads are extremely few, and Callmer dates their occasional appearances in Scandinavian cemeteries to his periods IV and VI, i.e. the periods 860-85 and 950-60.⁹⁶ Since agate, like carnelian, is a form of chalcedony, and both minerals occur in the same regions, it is to be supposed that both types of beads came to Scandinavia by the same route and presumably at the same time.

A solitary bead that clearly does not belong to the Viking period is a round polyhedral bead of black jet. This is unambiguously different from all jet products of the Viking period, and must be identified as a modern product, with parallels dated mostly to the nineteenth century. We can only speculate on how the jet bead came to be associated with the remainder of the Hoen hoard. It was accessioned under No. C. 13453 in the University Museum of National Antiquities together with eight other beads (nos. 90, 93-4, 104, 123, 146, 166 and 199) in 1887. It was noted that the objects then deposited were in the possession of the family who had owned the farm on which the hoard had been found in 1834.⁹⁷ In the more than fifty years since the recovery of the majority of the hoard, much could have happened. It is possible that the jet bead was accidentally lost in the immediate vicinity of the hoard during the nineteenth century and either overlooked when it was first unearthed or found during a subsequent excavation. It is also possible that the bead was accidentally included in the group of items which were delivered to the museum in 1887. Finally, it is not entirely impossible that a mistake was made during the museum registration and that the jet bead actually belonged with another set of finds.

There is otherwise no reason to doubt the homogeneity of the hoard. The only anomalous object in this assemblage, which is almost exactly a thousand years younger, does not undermine the coherency of the evidence.

How unusual are beads in hoards of the early and middle Viking period? In hoards, which are usually characterized by metal artefacts, beads and necklaces are the exception. Moreover, the great majority of such assemblages belong to the late ninth and tenth centuries, reducing the number of hoards that are comparable to that from Hoen. In his survey of Norwegian Viking-period hoards, Grieg notes four hoards containing beads as well as the find of a ring together with beads.⁹⁸ Only the hoard from Krogen, Fjære, Aust-Agder, has certain parallels to the Hoen hoard

95. Gabriel (1991), 257.

96. Callmer (1977), 99 and pl. 21 (T 003).

97. Grieg (1929), 188.

98. Grieg (1929), 177-311.

in terms of composition and date.⁹⁹ But the beads from the two finds have relatively little correspondence.¹⁰⁰ None of the glass beads from Krogen match those from Hoen, and only a globular bead and two relatively small, octagonal carnelian beads (cf. nos. 94 and 198-9) have counterparts in the assemblage. The other beads from Krogen, especially the large numbers of foil-covered and rock crystal beads, the latter more similar to those from Hedeby, Birka and Starigard/Oldenburg,¹⁰¹ date to the end of the ninth and beginning of the tenth centuries.

The beads in the hoard from Vela, Sand, Ryfylke, Rogaland, the deposition of which is dated to the middle of the tenth century, belong to a range of forms characteristic of the period around 900 to 950.¹⁰² Of the 21 beads in this find, twelve are polychrome and nineteen are of glass;¹⁰³ two agate beads are similar to those in the Hoen hoard. This tends to strengthen the conclusion that agate beads did not occur earlier than the second half of the ninth century.

The find from Litland, Tau, Strand, Rogaland, contains fifteen glass and five stone beads, but no coins.¹⁰⁴ Only one of the glass beads is decorated. A faceted clear-glass bead is very similar to one of rock crystal. According to Grieg the beads from Litland are similar to those from Hoen.¹⁰⁵

From the area of Bergen in Hordaland comes a hack-silver hoard which the University Museum of National Antiquities obtained through exchange.¹⁰⁶ The find includes a polyhedral carnelian bead, a mosaic glass bead, and an unpolished amethyst.

Probably not to be categorized as a hoard is the find of a small silver armring together with six glass beads of different colours from Sandnessjøen, Alstahaug, Nordland.¹⁰⁷ When found, one blue bead was still on the ring. Whether the other beads also belonged with the ring or were parts of some other piece of jewellery we do not know.

Finally, Graham-Campbell has drawn my attention to another find of a ring with beads, from Berg, Bjugn, Sør-Trøndelag, in the museum in Trondheim.¹⁰⁸ This is a silver arm-ring with four simple, dark red glass beads, which cannot be dated any more closely than to the eighth to tenth centuries.

The hoards of Gotland were comprehensively surveyed by Stenberger (1947-58).¹⁰⁹ Here too beads form only a minor element in the hoards. An examination of the evidence shows that the range of beads here is fundamentally different

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99. Grieg (1929), 204 (no. 7); both Fuglesang and Graham-Campbell have expressed themselves in favour of a dating of the Krogen hoard either contemporary with or a little later than the Hoen hoard. My thanks to both for communications by letter.
100. The beads were not mentioned by Grieg. One reference to these pieces was kindly given me by Graham-Campbell.
101. von Müller (1970), 54 and figs. 1-2; Danielsson (1973), 68-71 and figs. 34, 80-1; Gabriel (1991), 257 and fig. 19.
102. Grieg (1929), 205-6 (no. 9).
103. Including two beads av *gult ler* (of yellow clay), en *firsidet av rødt ler* (one four-sided one of red clay) which are also to be identified as glass beads. Cf. p. 207 and Steppuhn (1998b), 29.
104. Grieg (1929), 244-5 (no. 74).
105. Grieg (1929), 245.
106. Grieg (1929), 248 (no. 85).
107. Grieg (1929), 257 (no. 110).
108. Petersen (1939), 13-20 (no. 15733) and fig. 4.
109. Some of the hoards with beads were also mentioned by Arbman (1937), 189-93.

from that at Hoen. Similarities of form are only vague, and usually quite unascertainable. In his summary description of the glass beads, Stenberger notes that beads are found only in silver hoards, and he therefore gives the beads a monetary value.¹¹⁰ In general Stenberger dates the hoards with beads rather late. Only in the case of the find from Norrgårda, Björke, does he believe in deposition in the early Viking period.¹¹¹ In contrast he assigns the hoards from Mårtens, Grötlingbo;¹¹² Hallinge, Grötlingbo;¹¹³ Petes, Linde;¹¹⁴ and Lilla Rone, Lye;¹¹⁵ to the middle and late Viking period. Finally, Stenberger refers to a total of twelve hoards on Öland and in mainland Sweden. Amongst these, the bead jewellery from Kettilsgården, Västergötland, and Stora Ryk, Dalsland, is especially rich.¹¹⁶ Once again, however, the beads in these hoards provide no identifiable parallels to the Hoen hoard. Of the remaining Swedish hoards only those from Ringome, Alva,¹¹⁷ and Väsby, Väsby,¹¹⁸ are worthy of notice, although again these yield nothing corresponding to the beads from Hoen.

There are, however, certain relevant parallels in the Danish grave from Lerchenborg, Aarby, Sjælland (pl. 70A).¹¹⁹ This assemblage includes 42 beads of rock crystal and glass, including one dark green glass bead with a yellow zig-zag and dark red edge trails that has an exact counterpart in the Hoen hoard. There are also three pendants of silver wire with beads. On one pendant there is a single bead, and the other two each have three beads; these are similar to the pendants from Hoen and Birka referred to above. Skovmand compared this find, in terms of the composition and the beads, with the Swedish hoard from Stora Ryk, Dalsland.¹²⁰ Skovmand would also date the deposition of the Lerchenborg find to the period around 900, a dating which I would support on the basis of the beads. This supports the dating of the pendants with three beads to the second half of the ninth century.

To round off the comparable hoards containing beads, one should note a recently published example from Schleswig-Holstein. The find from Kaaks (Kaaksburg), Steinburg, is a pure jewellery hoard.¹²¹ As apparently is also the case with Hoen (p. 29), the hoard was probably buried wrapped in an organic material, e.g. leather or wool.¹²² The necklace consists, amongst other things, of two mounted coins, the later of which dates the whole assemblage to the period after 912-13.¹²³ The remainder of the hoard is limited to seven gilded silver beads, one bead of amber and one of chalcedony, three rock crystal beads, and eight carnelian beads, of which the octagonal examples are similar in form to those from Hoen.¹²⁴

110. Stenberger (1947-58), I 207, 222-3.

111. Stenberger (1947-58), II no. 39 and fig. 32:12.

112. Stenberger (1947-58), II no. 212 and fig. 67:4; Arbman (1937), 191 and pl. 53.

113. Arbman (1937), 189-90 and fig. 54:1; Stenberger (1947-58), II no. 219 and fig. 68:4.

114. Arbman (1937), 191 and pl. 54:2; Stenberger (1947-58), II no. 330.

115. Stenberger (1947-58), II no. 353 and fig. 248:6.

116. Stenberger (1947-58), I fig. 40.

117. Arbman (1937), 193.

118. Arbman (1937), 148 and pl. 46:1; Hårdh (1976a), 72 and pl. 51:1.

119. Skovmand (1942), 107-10 (no. 41) and fig. 24.

120. Stenberger (1947-58), I fig. 40.

121. Wiechmann (1996), 273-5, 654-5 and pls. 4:27, 5:28, 5:56-68.

122. Wiechmann (1996), 273.

123. Wiechmann (1996), 274-5.

124. Wiechmann (1996), 655 and pl. 5:64-6.

When compared with other bead jewellery from Viking-period hoards, settlements and graves, it is evident that the composition of the set of beads from the Hoen hoard is unusual. This is especially a function of the large quantity of violet beads, a good quarter of the bead content. The two exact parallels from Wulfsen, site 8, grave 782, dated no later than 800,¹²⁵ show that violet beads were available amongst the range of beads in northern and north-western Europe during the eighth century, even if largely as isolated specimens. The more frequent occurrence of such beads in southern and south-eastern regions of Europe, however, shows that they were much more in demand there than in the north. This, therefore, is a type of bead that was really sought after only in certain areas.

Altogether, the relationships with Saxony in respect of the beads seem to be at the same time both striking and contradictory. Several forms of the eighth and ninth centuries found there, such as the dark red, green and white beads, correspond to those from Hoen, as indeed they do throughout Scandinavia, while by contrast the typical beads of the *Mosaikaugenperlenhorizont*, which are so numerous in cemeteries of Saxony, are absent. The beads of this horizon are at the same time the last types that occur in large numbers in the burials of the Saxon cemeteries. However, the abandonment of furnished burial which was enforced by Charlemagne through the *Capitularium de partibus Saxoniae*, results in a complete absence of beads in Saxon graves after c. 800.

As already shown, the widely distributed beads and bead-sets of the *Mosaikaugenperlenhorizont* came to the Baltic area and Saxony by eastern routes in the period around 800.¹²⁶ Mosaic-eye beads certainly also occur in Scandinavian burials of the first half of the ninth century,¹²⁷ although this involves specimens which we have to assume had been worn for some time and had very probably been handed down. The influx of mosaic-eye and lead glass beads really dried up around 800; no further version of these types appeared. The polychrome beads, by contrast, appear to have enjoyed a longer lifespan. In periods when such beads were unavailable, the craftsmen could melt together up to five separate beads in order to produce polychrome pieces. Innovations of this kind are evident in the ninth century in particular, as individual creations from Hedeby¹²⁸ and Hoen (nos. 121 and 154-6) demonstrate.

The fact that we have no mosaic-eye or lead glass beads in the Hoen hoard leads us to the conclusion that neither bead-type was still current when the Hoen necklace was put together. This gives us a chronological fixed point for the beads in our hoard, a *terminus post quem* which means that this necklace probably started to be put together after the first quarter of the ninth century.

Some time later than the second quarter of the ninth century, the beads of this necklace were put on a string with more or less extensive additions. Old beads, both oriental and Scandinavian products, were added together. The different

125. Cf. n. 13.

126. Andrae (1975), 118-28.

127. Callmer (1977), 54 (type G 050-J 002).

128. Steppuhn (1998b), 27, 32 and fig. 86, pl. 3:43-4, 3:46-7, 3:50-2, 3:56, 3:60, and pl. 7:30 and 7:32, colour pl. 51.

techniques of bead production seen in the hoard show that beads from different workshops and sources were combined. In the case of the extraordinarily large collection of violet glass beads, their combination with the other beads after this time is also plausible. The large number of pieces of the same colour encourages one to think that these beads were added to the necklace as a single set, some exclusive gift to the lady of Hoen. If one considers how high a value was placed on even small splinters of such beads (pp. 90, 206, 228), one can only guess at the uniqueness of the beads themselves. The bead pendants and the semi-precious stones were the latest pieces with which the necklace was completed in the period c. 850-60.

From this one may conclude that the bead-string from Hoen was assembled over a period of one or at most two generations and/or put together from several different sources. This is corroborated by the different levels of wear in the thread-holes of the beads, marks which also provide evidence for a certain favoured combination on their wearer's behalf.

If, finally, one were to use the beads as evidence for the dating of the Hoen hoard, a date of deposition during the second half of the ninth century would seem reasonable. Since some bead-types in the hoard can first be found in Scandinavia at the beginning of the second half of the ninth century, it is clear that the combination of beads and pendants could only have been together for a short time.

On the other hand it is difficult to fix an exact date of deposition. No one knows what circumstances, motives or pressures were operative in the creation of the hoard, or how quickly it had to be deposited. The analysis of the metal artefacts from the hoard has indicated the probable date of deposition to the third quarter of the ninth century. This is conceivable also in the case of the beads, although for this particular category of objects it is the earliest possible date for the deposition.

	Monochrome		Polychrome		Gold foil		113	125
	Solitary	Associated	Solitary	Associated	Solitary	Associated		
Glass	75	17	12	2	7		113	125
	92		14		7			
Rock crystal	5						5	
Agate	3						3	
Carnelian	3	1					4	

FIG. 7.1 – The surviving glass and stone beads in Hoen.

Technique					
Colour	Wound	Drawn	Wound/Joined	Drawn/Joined	
Violet	28		4		32
Deep red	5	5	4	8	22
Green	3	5	9	3	20
White	3	12	1		16
Colourless	9	2			11
Deep blue	3				3
Blue-green	2				2
Pink	2				2
Orange		2			2
Yellow	1				1
Blue-grey	1				1
Green-yellow/ Brown-yellow	1				1
	58	26	18	11	

FIG. 7.2 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and production techniques.

Form													
Technique													
Wound	14	4	2	9	9	9	5			2	2	2	58
Drawn	10		10	1				2		3			26
Wound/Joined	14		2	1			1						18
Drawn/Joined	5		4					1	1				11
													29

FIG. 7.3 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: forms and production techniques.

Form \ Colour														
Violet	7	3		3	4	8	5						2	
Deep red	9		7	1					3	1	1			
Green	18	1	1											
White	5		9	2										
Colourless	1			4	2						2		2	
Deep blue					3									
Blue-green											2			
Pink	2													
Orange	1		1											
Yellow				1										
Blue-grey						1								
Green-yellow/ Brown-yellow							1							
	43	4	18	11	9	9	6	3	1	3	2	2	2	
			65	11	9	9	6	4	3	2	2	2	2	

FIG. 7.4 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and forms.

Form \ Colour														
Violet	5	3		2	4	8	4						2	
Deep red	2		2	1										
Green	2	1												
White	2			1										
Colourless		1		4	2								2	
Deep blue					3									
Blue-green											2			
Pink	2													
Orange														
Yellow				1										
Blue-grey						1								
Green-yellow/ Brown-yellow							1							
	14	4	2											
		20		9	9	9	5				2	2	2	

FIG. 7.5 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and forms, primary technique (wound).

Form \ Colour	●	○	○/□	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Violet																		
Deep red	2															2	1	
Green	5																	
White	2			9	1													
Colourless																2		
Deep blue																		
Blue-green																		
Pink																		
Orange	1			1														
Yellow																		
Blue-grey																		
Green-yellow/ Brown-yellow																		
	10			10														
	20			1											2	3		

FIG. 7.6 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and forms, primary technique (drawn).

Form \ Colour	●	○	○/□	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Violet	2																	
Deep red	3			1														
Green	8			1														
White	1																	
Colourless																		
Deep blue																		
Blue-green																		
Pink																		
Orange																		
Yellow																		
Blue-grey																		
Green-yellow/ Brown-yellow																		
	14			2														
	16			1											1			

FIG. 7.7 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and forms, secondary technique (wound).

Form \ Colour	Form													
Violet														
Deep red	2		4							1	1			
Green	3													
White														
Colourless														
Deep blue														
Blue-green														
Pink														
Orange														
Yellow														
Blue-grey														
Green-yellow/														
Blue-yellow														
	5		4							1	1			
			9								2			

FIG. 7.8 – The surviving glass beads in Hoen: colours and form, secondary technique (drawn).

Ornament \ Bead	Deep red	Deep red + Yellow	Yellow	White	White + Red	Blue
Violet			2	1	1	1
Deep red				1		
Green	1	1	1			
White	1	1				
Colourless				1		
Deep blue						
Blue-green						
Pink	1					1
Orange						
Yellow						
Blue-grey						
Green-yellow/						
Brown-yellow						

FIG. 7.9 – Surviving polychrome glass beads in Hoen: colours of corpus and ornament.

The Hoen hoard



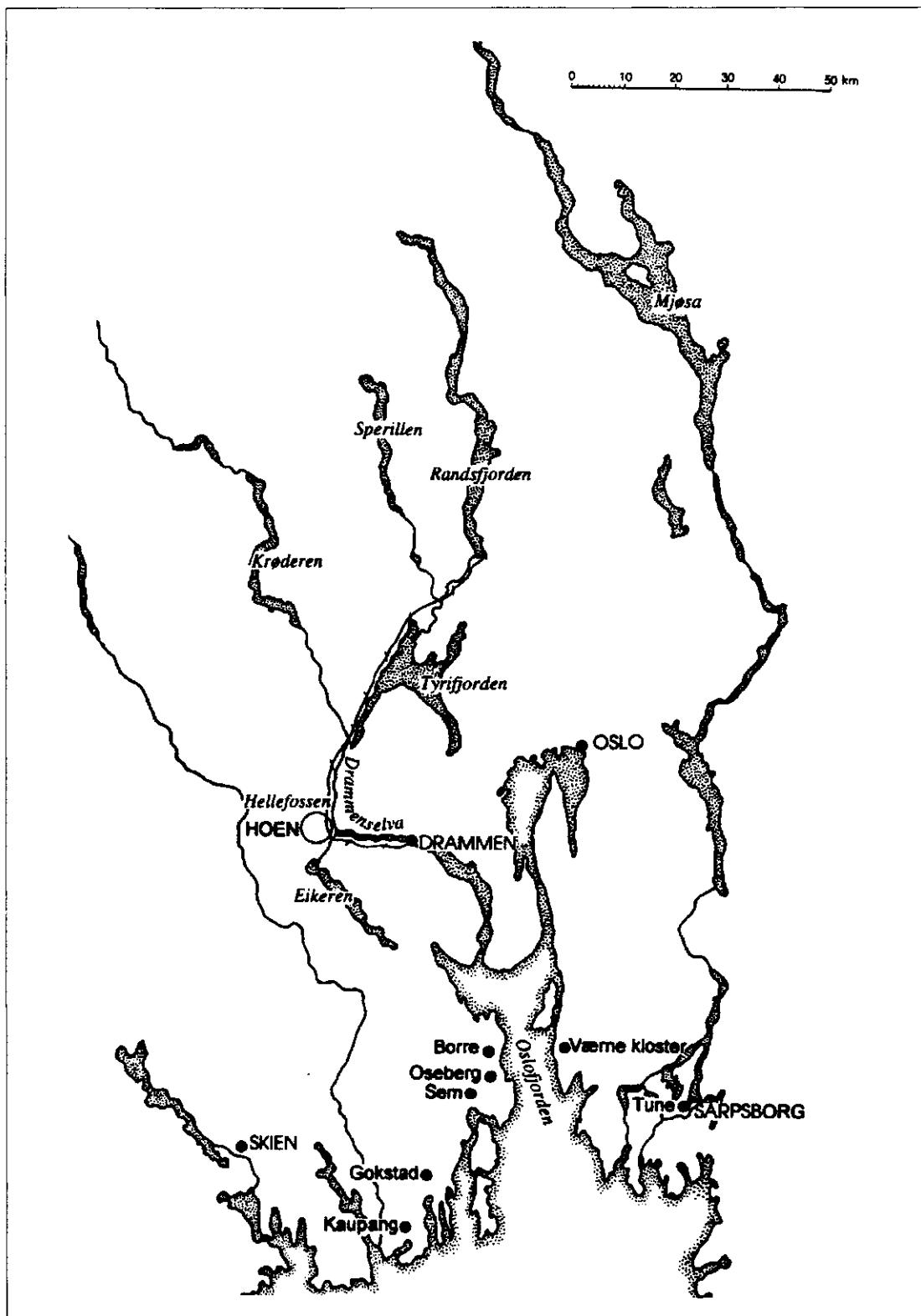


FIG. 1.1 – Map of the Oslofjord area showing the situation of Hoen in relation to rivers and fjords.

CATALOGUE

75-206. Beads of glass and stone, pls. 24 and 25.

Dimensions in mm. L = Length; D = Bead diameter; TD = Thread-hole diameter.

Most of the beads came to the museum with the bulk of the hoard, and were registered together as C.750.¹⁵⁶ Other lots came in on four different occasions, cf. above, p. 35.

Below, individual registration numbers are given only when they can be ascertained.

One rounded glass bead with gold foil said to belong to 'the Eker find' (C.30259) came to the museum from the Aust-Agder Museum in Arendal in 1960/1, but since its provenance is uncertain, it has been left out below.¹⁵⁷

75-83

Silver-gilt pendant ring of plain wire holding nine grayish white glass beads separated by eight gold(?) beaded spacer-rings. The ends of the wire are twisted in five even turns to form a straight rod, and then separate to form a horizontal tube-shaped pendant loop consisting of two spirals to either side.

Length including pendant loop: 56mm; outer diameter of circle: 36mm; diameter of wire: 1.4mm; outer diameter of spacer rings: 6-6.5mm; diameter of beaded wire: 0.7mm.

Reg.no. C.751a.

See above, pp. 20, 209-10, 216 and pl. 24.

Bibliography

Holmboe (1835), 297, fig. 28; Rygh (1885), 79; Grieg (1929), 186-7.

Discussion

There are parallels to the Hoen pendants nos. 75-83 and 84-86 in Birka graves 138, 523, 557, 632, 642, 649, 854 and 948 (cf. pl. 69), indicating the general fashion for such bead pendants in the ninth century. All the Birka pieces are made from silver wire, have fewer beads (the largest ones come from grave 632 which originally had two pendants of seven beads each); and all lack the systematically set spacer-rings (although on two pendants from grave 557 they flank a single bead, and one occurs on a pendant of three beads from grave 649). In contrast to the Hoen pendant loops, those of the Birka pendants normally consist of one or two simply twisted loops, only one pendant is similar to the Hoen pieces on having the ends of the wire twisted into a rod and a tube-like, horizontal pendant loop (grave 523, with three red glass beads).

75. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, oblique cut.

L 4.0-5.5; D 8.0; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.751a.

76. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, round/edged, oblique cut.

L 5.6-7.0; D 7.3; TD 2.9. Reg.no. C.751a.

77. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, round/edged.

L 6.1; D 7.2; TD 2.8. Reg.no. C.751a.

78. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, lightly edged.

L 5.5; D 8.1; TD 2.6. Reg.no. C.751a.

79. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, round/edged.

L 7.3; D 8.9; TD 3.1. Reg.no. C.751a.

156. Grieg (1929), 186.

157. Above, p. 35.

80. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, round/edged.
L 6.7; D 7.9; TD 2.5. Reg.no. C.751a.

81. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, round/edged.
L 4.8; D 8.1; TD 2.4. Reg.no. C.751a.

82. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, oblique cut.
L 5.3; D 8.0; TD 2.7. Reg.no. C.751a.

83. Glass, barrel-shaped, greyish white, opaque, drawn, lightly edged.
L 6.3; D 6.8; TD 2.4. Reg.no. C.751a.

84-86

Gold pendant ring of plain wire holding three monochrome glass beads: one green, one white and one red. The ends of the wire are twisted in five even turns to form a straight rod, and then separate to form a horizontal tube-shaped pendant loop consisting of two spirals to either side. Length including pendant loop: 28mm; outer diameter of circle: 17mm; diameter of wire: 1.2mm; weight with beads: c.3.45g.

Reg.no. C.13451.

See above, pp. 20, 35, 209-10, 216 and pl. 24.

Bibliography

Aarsberetning (1887), 60 no. 143; Grieg (1929), 188.

Discussion

The pendant of nos. 84-86 is made of gold wire, but the type of pendant loop is identical to that used for nos. 75-83. The set of one each of green, white and red bead is identical to that of two bead pendants from Birka (graves 557 and 649) which are treated in the same order (pl. 69). The pendant loops are nevertheless different, with the horizontally tube-shaped spirals of the Hoen piece contrasting with the single loop on the pendants from Birka.

84. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, opaque, drawn/joined.
L 5.3; D 7.8; TD 3.1. Reg.no. C.13451.

85. Glass, barrel-shaped, white, opaque, wound/joined.
L 6.3; D 8.6; TD 3.5. Reg.no. C.13451.

86. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, oblique cut.
L 4.5-5.9; D 8.2; TD 2.8. Reg.no. C.13451.

87-88

Gold pendant ring of plain wire holding two glass beads: one orange and one red. The ends of the wire are twisted in three open turns to form a straight rod, and then separate to form a horizontal pendant loop consisting of four spirals to either side.

Length including pendant loop: 30.7mm; outer diameter of circle: 13.7mm; diameter of wire: 1.0mm; weight with beads: c.2.5g.

Reg. no. C.14473.

See above, pp. 20, 35, 209-10, 216 and pl. 24.

Bibliography

Aarsberetning (1888), 158, no. 321; Grieg (1929), 188.

Discussion

The type of ring and pendant loop is very similar to that of nos. 75–83 and 84–86, but the wire is more loosely wound and the horizontal loop is less precise, suggesting that the pendant of nos. 87–88 may have been made to fit with the other two.

87. Glass, barrel-shaped, orange with green streaks, opaque, drawn.
L 5.3; D 7.5; TD 2.5. Reg.no. C.14473.

88. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, round/edged, wound.
L 4.9; D 5.0; TD 2.7. Reg.no. C.14473.

89-90

Gold pendant ring of plain wire holding two glass beads: one green and one millefiori. The wire is broken, but the original twisted rod and pendant loop survive. The rod has two twists; the pendant loop is circular with one twist symmetrically at either side. The pendant ring came to the museum in 1889 and was accessioned with three beads, two of glass which are without further description, and one carnelian. The green bead on the present pendant is marked 'C.14616-13', and it is likely that the two beads on the ring are those accessioned in 1889, but they are not necessarily the ones originally threaded on the ring.

Length including pendant loop: c.22mm; diameter of wire: 0.7mm.
Reg. nos. C. 14616 and C.14617.

See above, pp. 35, 209-10, 216 and pl. 24.

Bibliography

Aarsberetning (1889), 107, no. 56; Grieg (1929), 190.

Discussion

The rod-like twisting of the wire ends is similar to the other bead pendants in Hoen, but the circular pendant loop with symmetrically opposed twists sets it apart. Nor is there any close parallel in Birka. The carnelian bead is missing, but may be no. 94 below.

89. Glass, barrel-shaped, pale grey, slightly translucent, wound/joined.
L 6.1; D 8.0; TD 2.8.

90. Glass, pressed spherical, white, opaque, wound. Two millefiori eyes with dark red/white/dark red rings and yellow centre.
L 6.1; D 8.8; TD 2.6.

91-94

Silver and brass wires form an irregular pendant which is not original. It holds one carnelian and three glass beads.

Discussion

The piece has not been accessioned as a unit, and is obviously put together from singletons, possibly in the museum. The carnelian bead may be the one which was accessioned in 1889, together with the pendant ring nos. 89-90, C.14616-7 above, cf. Grieg (1929), 190. The silver wire is very corroded, but may be the remains of an original bead pendant: the round portion which now serves as a pendant loop may in that case have been the ring on which the beads were tressed, and the remains of its ends are twisted like a rod.

91. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined.
L 5.6; D 8.1; TD 2.8.

92. Glass, barrel-shaped, pink, opaque, wound. Blue zigzag.
L 5.8; D 11.1; TD 4.0.
93. Glass, polyhedral, blue, opaque, wound/edged.
L 7.2; D 5.5; TD 2.2.
94. Carnelian, spherical, yellowy orange, translucent, ground/polished, thread-hole drilled from both sides.
L 7.8; D 8.0; TD 1.9.
95. Glass, barrel-shaped, white, opaque, drawn.
L 5.1; D 7.1-7.9; TD 3.4. Reg. no. C.750.
96. Glass, barrel-shaped, white, opaque, drawn.
L 5.7; D 6.3-7.8; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
97. Glass, barrel-shaped, white, opaque, wound.
L 4.5; D 7.2-8.1; TD 2.7. Reg. no. C.750.
98. Glass, barrel-shaped, white, opaque, wound.
L 8.5; D 8.4; TD 3.2. Reg. no. C.750.
99. Glass, pressed spherical, white, opaque, drawn. Dark red zigzag.
L 5.2-6.1; D 7.9; TD 3.3. Reg. no. C.750.
100. Glass, annular, colourless, translucent, wound.
L 4.2; D 11.8; TD 3.2. Reg. no. C.750.
101. Glass, annular, colourless/light pink, translucent, wound.
L 3.7-5.1; D 12.0; TD 3.4. Reg. no. C.750.
102. Glass, cylindrical, colourless with light grey tinge, translucent, wound. Doubled white diagonal trail.
L 16.6; D 6.7; TD 1.9. Reg. no. C.750.
103. Glass, pressed spherical, colourless, transparent, wound.
L 9.3; D 10.1; TD 3.2. Reg. no. C.750.
104. Glass, pressed spherical, pale yellow, transparent, wound.
L 6.5-8.8; D 7.6; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.13453.
105. Glass, conical/biconical, blue-green, translucent, wound.
L 4.8-6.8; D 9.8; TD 3.4. Reg. no. C.750.
106. Glass, conical/biconical, blue-green, translucent, wound.
L 3.8-5.2; D 10.5-11.2; TD 3.6. Reg. no. C.750.
107. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn, lightly pressure moulded.
L 7.6; D 9.5; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
108. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn, lightly pressure moulded.
L 5.0; D 8.8; TD 3.0. Reg. no. C.750.
109. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn, lightly pressure moulded.
L 6.1; D 7.3; TD 3.2. Reg. no. C.750.

110. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn/joined, lightly pressure moulded. L 5.5; D 8.3; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
111. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn/joined, lightly pressure moulded. L 5.3; D 7.6-8.3; TD 2.2. Reg. no. C.750.
112. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn/joined, lightly pressure moulded. L 5.2; D 7.8; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.750.
113. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined, oblique cut. L 5.2-6.1; D 7.7; TD 2.4. Reg. no. C.750.
114. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined. L 4.8; D 7.5; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
115. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined. L 5.6; D 7.7; TD 2.3. Reg. no. C.750.
116. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, drawn. L 6.7; D 7.9; TD 2.9. Reg. no. C.750.
117. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined. L 5.5; D 8.2-8.8; TD 2.7. Reg. no. C.750.
118. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined, oblique cut. L 4.5-6.2; D 7.2-8.1; TD 2.9. Reg. no. C.750.
119. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined, oblique cut. L 3.8-5.0; D 6.8-7.2; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.750.
120. Glass, barrel-shaped, green, slightly translucent, wound/joined, lightly edged, oblique cut. L 4.0-5.2; D 6.9-7.5; TD 3.4. Reg. no. C.750.
121. Glass, barrel-shaped/two individual beads made into one composite bead, pale green, translucent, wound/joined. Two dark red opaque eyes on each bead. L 10.1-12.2; D 7.8-9.2; TD 2.8-3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
122. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark green, slightly translucent, wound. Three opaque yellow spots. L 8.0-9.8; D 10.5-11.0; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
123. Glass, barrel-shaped, green-black, slightly translucent, wound. Opaque dark red edge trail and opaque yellow zigzag. L 7.6-9.1; D 10.3; TD 3.8. Reg. no. C.13453.
124. Glass, barrel-shaped/ten ribs, each of them half green-yellow/brown-yellow, slightly translucent, wound. L 7.0; D 10.5; TD 4.2. Reg. no. C.750.
125. Glass, barrel-shaped, orange, opaque, drawn/edged, lightly pressure moulded. L 4.3; D 7.0-7.5; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
126. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red and orange, opaque, wound/joined. L 5.3; D 7.2; TD 2.1. Reg. no. C.750.

127. Glass, pressed spherical, dark red, opaque, drawn/segmented, pressure moulded. L 6.9; D 9.6; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
128. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn, lightly pressure moulded. L 4.5; D 7.3; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
129. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn, lightly pressure moulded. L 4.6; D 7.2-7.6; TD 2.4. Reg. no. C.750.
130. Glass, pressed spherical, dark red, opaque, wound. L 6.8; D 4.5; TD 2.1. Reg. no. C.750.
131. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, oblique cut. L 3.1-5.7; D 7.8; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
132. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound. L 4.6; D 8.1; TD 3.0. Reg. no. C.750.
133. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound/joined. L 6.6; D 9.1; TD 2.3. Reg. no. C.750.
134. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound/joined. L 7.1; D 9.6; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
135. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, round/edged. L 3.0-4.4; D 6.0-7.5; TD 2.3. Reg. no. C.750.
136. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, round/edged. L 4.0-5.2; D 5.5-7.0; TD 2.4. Reg. no. C.750.
137. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound, round/edged. L 4.9; D 6.8-7.8; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.750.
138. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, round/edged. L 5.2; D 7.1-7.6; TD 2.3. Reg. no. C.750.
139. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound/joined, round/edged, oblique cut. L 3.6-5.6; D 7.7-8.5; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.750.
140. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, round/edged. L 5.2; D 7.6-8.2; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
141. Glass, four-sided prism, dark red, opaque, drawn/edged. L 3.5-4.5; D 6.3-7.0; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
142. Glass, four-sided prism, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, edged. L 5.2-5.8; D 6.8-7.8; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
143. Glass, four-sided prism, dark red, opaque, drawn/edged. L 5.8; D 7.2-7.8; TD 3.2. Reg. no. C.750.
144. Glass, six-sided prism, dark red, opaque, drawn/joined, edged. L 12.6, D 7.3-7.6; TD 2.9. Reg. no. C.750.

145. Glass, barrel-shaped, dark red, opaque, wound. Continuous opaque white trails.
L 7.0-7.4; D 9.8-10.2; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
146. Glass, barrel-shaped, pink, opaque/crackled, wound. Opaque dark red zigzag.
L 6.9; D 10.2; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.13453.
147. Glass, annular, cobalt blue, slightly translucent, wound.
L 3.7; D 7.0; TD 3.7. Reg. no. C.750.
148. Glass, annular, cobalt blue, slightly translucent, wound.
L 3.0; D 7.8; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
149. Glass, annular, cobalt blue, slightly translucent, wound.
L 4.7; D 8.1; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
150. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 6.9; D 7.0; TD 2.9. Reg. no. C.750.
151. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 7.0; D 7.9; TD 2.4. Reg. no. C.750.
152. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 6.8; D 9.3; TD 3.4. Reg. no. C.750.
153. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 8.0; D 9.4; TD 3.7. Reg. no. C.750.
154. Glass, barrel-shaped/two individual beads made into one composite bead, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 12.5; D 8.5; TD 3.6. Reg. no. C.750.
155. Glass, barrel-shaped/two individual beads made into one composite bead, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 12.8; D 9.8; TD 3.6. Reg. no. C.750.
156. Glass, barrel-shaped/two individual beads made into one composite bead, violet, slightly translucent, wound. Two opaque yellow eyes on each bead.
L 8.3; D 8.1; TD 3.6. Reg. no. C.750.
157. Glass, biconical, violet, slightly translucent, wound, conical thread-hole.
L 3.2; D 7.9; TD 2.3-3.9. Reg. no. C.750.
158. Glass, biconical, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 7.8; D 10.6; TD 2.3. Reg. no. C.750.
159. Glass, pressed spherical, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 4.5; D 7.8; TD 1.8. Reg. no. C.750.
160. Glass, annular, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 4.0; D 10.6; TD 5.3. Reg. no. C.750.
161. Glass, annular, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 6.1; D 12.2; TD 4.1. Reg. no. C.750.

162. Glass, annular, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 5.8; D 11.5; TD 3.9. Reg. no. C.750.
163. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound. Two opaque pale blue eyes.
L 7.0; D 7.5; TD 2.9. Reg. no. C.750.
164. Glass, pressed spherical, violet, slightly translucent, wound. Three groups of three opaque yellow eyes each.
L 6.1; D 10.7; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
165. Glass, barrel-shaped, violet, slightly translucent, wound, oblique cut. Three circular eyes, each with white rings and violet centres.
L 3.9-5.9; D 9.0; TD 4.6. Reg. no. C.750.
166. Glass, annular, violet, slightly translucent, wound. Three millefiori eyes, each with seven white rays and a red centre.
L 7.9; D 11.3; TD 4.4. Reg. no. C.13453.
167. Glass, barrel-shaped/seven ribs, violet, slightly translucent, wound, misshapen.
L 7.5; D 10.3; TD 3.5-4.8. Reg. no. C.750.
168. Glass, barrel-shaped/eight ribs, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 6.2; D 9.8; TD 3.9. Reg. no. C.750.
169. Glass, barrel-shaped/eight ribs, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 7.5; D 10.5; TD 2.7. Reg. no. C.750.
170. Glass, barrel-shaped/twelve ribs, violet, slightly translucent, wound.
L 6.7; D 9.8; TD 4.4. Reg. no. C.750.
171. Glass, annular polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, slightly worked surfaces/strongly abraded.
L 5.0; D 9.0-9.7; TD 3.3. Reg. no. C.750.
172. Glass, cuboid polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, strongly abraded, oblique cut.
L 6.5-9.4; D 9.2-10.3; TD 4.3. Reg. no. C.750.
173. Glass, cuboid polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, abraded.
L 9.2; D 7.9-9.6; TD 2.8. Reg. no. C.750.
174. Glass, cuboid polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, lightly abraded.
L 9.8; D 10.0-11.5; TD 4.0. Reg. no. C.750.
175. Glass, cylindrical polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, abraded.
L 10.8; D 7.5-9.1; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
176. Glass, cylindrical polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, abraded.
L 12.2; D 7.5-8.3; TD 2.8. Reg. no. 750.
177. Glass, cylindrical polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, lightly abraded.
L 13.8; D 7.1-9.8; TD 3.0. Reg. no. C.750.

178. Glass, cylindrical polyhedral, violet, opaque, wound/edged, slightly worked surfaces, strongly abraded and chipped/crackled.
L 13.6; D 7.1-7.6; TD 2.5. Reg. no. C.750.
179. Glass, barrel-shaped, opaque white core/ slightly translucent violet coating, wound/joined, faceted.
L 5.0-7.8; D 11.9; TD 4.3. Reg. no. C.750.
180. Glass, pressed spherical, opaque white core/ slightly translucent violet coating, wound/joined.
L 8.1; D 13.5; TD 4.8. Reg. no. C.750.
181. Glass, pressed spherical/ten ribs, opaque white core/ slightly translucent violet coating, wound/coated (dipped).
L 7.4; D 11.2; TD 4.1. Reg. no. C.750.
182. Glass, pressed spherical/segment of a composite bead, slightly translucent colourless fibrous glass core/gold foil/transparent colourless coating, drawn/pressure moulded.
L 5.8; D 6.9; TD 2.2. Reg. no. C.750.
183. Glass, pressed spherical/segment of a composite bead, slightly translucent colourless fibrous glass core/gold foil/transparent colourless coating, drawn/pressure moulded.
L 6.2; D 7.8; TD 1.5. Reg. no. C.750.
184. Glass, pressed spherical, translucent colourless core/gold foil/transparent colourless coating, wound/joined.
L 7.2-8.1; D 10.1; TD 2.4. Reg. no. C.750.
185. Glass, pressed spherical, transparent colourless core/gold foil/transparent colourless coating, wound/joined, oblique cut.
L 3.3-7.4; D 11.2; TD 3.3. Reg. no. C.750.
186. Glass, pressed spherical, translucent core/gold foil/transparent colourless coating, wound.
L 8.1; D 9.7-11.5; TD 2.6. Reg. no. C.750.
187. Glass, barrel-shaped, translucent colourless core/gold foil/translucent colourless coating, wound, oblique cut.
L 6.6-8.5; D 10.6-12.7; TD 3.1. Reg. no. C.750.
188. Glass, cylindrical, gold foil in colourless translucent glass, wound.
L 11.7; D 5.8-6.2; TD 2.1. Reg. no. C.750.
189. Rock crystal, biconical, colourless, translucent, ground, conical thread-hole drilled from one side.
L 4.9; D 6.0; TD 0.8-1.5. Reg. no. C.750.
190. Rock crystal, biconical, colourless, translucent, ground, conical thread-hole drilled from one side.
L 6.7; D 8.6; TD 1.5-2.4.
191. Rock crystal, biconical, colourless, translucent, ground, conical thread-hole drilled from one side.
L 5.0; D 7.8; TD 1.9-2.5. Reg. no. C.750.

192. Rock crystal, biconical, colourless, translucent, ground, conical thread-hole drilled from one side.

L 6.0; D 9.6; TD 2.2-3.1. Reg. no. C.750.

193. Rock crystal, biconical, colourless, translucent, ground, conical thread-hole drilled from one side.

L 6.7; D 9.5; TD 1.9-2.8. Reg. no. C.750.

194. Agate, spindle-shaped, white, slightly translucent, ground and polished, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 13.2; D 6.2; TD 1.3. Reg. no. C.750.

195. Agate, spindle-shaped, white, slightly translucent, ground and polished, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 12.1; D 6.2; TD 1.3. Reg. no. C.750.

196. Agate, spindle-shaped, grey-white, slightly translucent, ground and polished, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 14.1; D 6.8; TD 1.4. Reg. no. C.750.

197. Carnelian, pressed spherical, brown-red, almost opaque, ground and polished, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 4.6; D 6.7; TD 1.3. Reg. no. C.750.

198. Carnelian, eight-edged prism, orange-red, slightly translucent, ground, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 11.0; D 5.2; TD 1.8. Reg. no. C.750.

199. Carnelian, eight-edged prism, brown-red, slightly translucent, ground, thread-hole drilled from both sides.

L 12.8; D 5.0; TD 1.2. Reg. no. C.13453.

Lost pieces:

200-204. Five ornamented glass beads C.750h¹⁵⁸

205. One greyish white glass bead C.13453¹⁵⁹

206. One transparent white glass bead with gold foil C.13453¹⁶⁰

158. Grieg (1929), 186.

159. Grieg (1929), 188.

160. Grieg (1929), 188.

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PLATE 24



Nos. 75-146. Scale c. 1:1.



Nos. 147-99. Scale c. 1:1.

TAF. 121



1. Gr. 551.—2. Gr. 557.—3. Gr. 552.—4. Gr. 1079.—5. Gr. 606.—
 7. Gr. 860 B.—8. Gr. 657.—9. Gr. 946.—10. Gr. 660.—11. Gr. 29.—
 13. Gr. 1067.—14. Gr. 943.—15. Gr. 770.—16. Gr. 628.—17. Gr. 535.—
 19. Gr. 649.—20. Gr. 324.

Selection of beads from Birka (Statens Historiska Museum, Stockholm). (After Arbman 1940-3).
 Not to scale.

PLATE 70



A



B

(A) Grave find from Lerchenborg, Denmark (Nationalmuseet, København). Not to scale.
(B) Detail of the cart from Oseberg (Kulturhistorisk Museum, Oslo).



The Hoen hoard

PLATE 72



The Hoen necklace as mounted c. 1980.

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