

BEADS, FOSSILS AND CRYSTALS FROM DUN AONGHASA [92E102]

Amber Beads Catalogue (C. Feeney-Johnson and C. Sandes) [Appendix 1.18 in Vol.3]

Beads

Find no.	Feature	Description	Dimensions
86	14	Incomplete. Half bead of weathered dark orange coloured amber. Slightly irregular disc shape with rounded edges and scratched surface. Large circular perforation, 7.5mm in diameter.	D.21.5mm; T.11mm
1053	85	Incomplete. Three small fragments from at least two tiny amber beads. The fragments are in very poor condition, with brittle dull brown surfaces. Original thickness preserved on one fragment.	T.6mm
1157	88	Complete. Small disc-shaped bead of pale orange coloured amber. Good condition. Signs of wear on one side. The perforation is 3mm in diameter.	D.17mm; W.31mm; H.2.5mm
1312	220	Complete. Small, abraded amber bead in poor condition. Bead is rectangular with rounded edges in section. The cylindrical perforation is slightly off-centre and has a diameter of 4mm.	D.10mm; H.4.5mm
1762	239	Incomplete. Slightly less than half a bead of weathered reddish brown amber. Disc-shaped with rounded edges and incomplete perforation through the short axis. A V-shaped channel extending the width of one of the broken edges is possibly all that remains of an additional perforation through the long axis.	D. >18.5m; H.7.5mm
2044	76	Complete. Small bead of semi-translucent dark orange amber. Flattened spherical shape. Slightly off-centre circular perforation, 5.5mm in diameter. On one face, the perforation is flattened around the circumference, as a result of friction from an adjoining bead.	D.14mm; H.9mm
2150	267	Complete. Bead of semi-translucent dark orange amber. Flattened spherical shape. Slightly off-centre circular perforation, drilled from both sides and measuring 4.5mm in diameter.	D.24mm; H.15mm
2390	70	Complete. Disc-shaped bead with rounded edges. Heavily crazed, dull brown surface. Slightly off-centre circular perforation, 4mm in diameter.	D.17.5mm; H.8.5-9mm
2392	70	Complete. Disc-shaped bead with rounded edges. Poor condition, with cracked and brittle dull brown surface. Slightly off-centre circular perforation, drilled from both sides and measuring 5.5mm in diameter.	D.22.5mm; H.10mm
2401	253	Complete. Disc-shaped bead with rounded edges. Heavily crazed, dull brown surface. Slightly off-centre, circular perforation, 6mm in diameter. Both faces have single opposing depressions, which are probably natural.	D.22mm; H.9-7mm
2608	911	Complete. Bead of opaque dull, reddish-brown amber, with a 'squashed' barrel-like appearance. Oval outline and flattened oval section. Circular perforation, 3mm in diameter, drilled though the long axis.	H.19mm; W.16mm; T.7mm

2634	918	Complete. Bead of opaque, dull, reddish-brown amber. Slightly flattened barrel shape with tapered ends. Oval section. Circular perforation, 3mm in diameter, drilled through the long axis.	H.19mm; W.11mm; T.8mm
2758	1801	Incomplete. Tiny amber fragment with one curved edge. Possibly part of a bead. L.5mm; W.4.5mm; T.3mm)	H.4.5mm
2850	1225	Incomplete. Possible bead fragment of weathered, dark orange amber, with D-shaped section.	D>.9mm; T.5mm
2853	1212	Incomplete. Tiny scraps of amber. Dimensions not possible.	
4011	290	Complete. Amber stud. Plano-convex in section. Poor condition.	D.10mm; T.4mm

Blue Glass Beads Catalogue (M. Fitzgerald) [Appendix 1.19 in Vol. 3]

Group 1

Find No.	Feature	Description	Dimensions
1560	112	Complete; good condition. Small turquoise green glass bead. Rectangular with rounded sides in section. Central, cylindrical perforation with 2mm diameter. Glass is turquoise green to pale blue in colour. Traces of wear, and chipping around perforation. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23. Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 95, fig.19; Ó'Ríordáin 1954, 354-358, 383, 410; Raftery 1969, 83; Henderson 1988, 442.	D.3mm; H.2mm

Group 2

Find No.	Feature	Description	Dimensions
833	77	Incomplete; good condition. Half of a tiny blue glass bead. Flattened oval in section. Cylindrical perforation of 0.5mm in diameter. Surfaces appear slightly worn. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.2.5mm; H.2mm
961	82	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Oval section; slightly flattened on surfaces. Cylindrical perforation of 1mm in diameter. Damage in the form of a vertical groove is evident in one side. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.2.5mm; H.1.5mm
2103	269	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Disc-like bead with rounded sides. Central cylindrical perforation of 0.5mm in diameter. Surfaces are worn. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.3mm; H.1mm
2803	1200	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Flattened spherical section. Central cylindrical perforation of 1.5mm diameter. Surfaces of bead are slightly scratched. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.3mm; H.2mm
3005	309	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Flattened oval section. Central cylindrical perforation with diameter of 0.5mm. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.3mm; H.1mm

3011	313	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Flattened spherical section. Cylindrical, slightly off-centre, perforation of 0.5mm diameter. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.2mm; H.1mm
3015	313	Complete; good condition. Tiny blue glass bead. Flattened spherical section. Central cylindrical perforation, 1mm in diameter. Evidence of wear to one side of perforation - gives it appearance of being slightly off-centre. Comparanda: Mallory 1991, 22-23.	D.3mm; H.2mm

Group 3

16	1	Incomplete; good condition. One third of a blue glass bead. Rectangular section. Cylindrical perforation; had a diameter of at least 5mm. Traces of wear on surface. Comparanda: Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 89-90, fig.19; Raftery 1969, 83, fig.30; Raftery 1981, 180.	D. >6.5mm; H.4mm
82	14	Incomplete; good condition. Half of a blue glass bead. Rounded section. Slightly flattened on surfaces. Cylindrical perforation of 5mm diameter. Surface slightly pocked. Evidence of surface wear and scratching. From bead identical to 92E102:00158. Comparanda: Hencken 1938, 40, fig.24. Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 89-90, fig.19.	D.8.5mm; H.7mm
158	21	Complete; good condition. Globular blue glass bead in two halves. Rounded section. Slightly flattened on surfaces. It has central, cylindrical perforation, 5mm in diameter. The glass is 'pocked' in places and there is evidence of wear around the perforation. Identical to 92E102:00082. Comparanda: Hencken, 1938, 40, fig.24. Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 89-90, fig.19.	D.9.5mm; H.6mm
552	41	Complete; good condition. Blue glass bead. Rectangular with slightly rounded sides in section. Slightly off-centre, cylindrical perforation with diameter of <i>ca.</i> 4mm. Glass is opaque. Comparanda: Hencken, 1938, 40, fig.24. Ó'Ríordáin, 1949, 89-90, fig.19.	D.9mm; H.7mm
2863	1227	Complete; poor condition. Medium-sized dark blue glass bead. Flattened spherical in section; slightly off-centre, cylindrical perforation, 4mm in diameter. At edge of perforation, on one surface, is a tiny hole of <i>ca.</i> 0.5mm diameter which holds small, round metallic-looking object - may possibly be a stud? One side of bead is worn thin, with a crack in glass at this point. Edges of perforation are worn and chipped. Bead is a darker shade of blue than other Dún Aonghasa glass beads. Comparanda: Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 89-90, fig.19; Raftery 1969, 83; Raftery 1981, 180; Hencken 1938, 40, fig.24.	D.8mm; H.6mm
2949	1226	Incomplete; good condition. One third of a small blue glass bead. Rectangular section with rounded sides. Cylindrical perforation of <i>ca.</i> 5mm in diameter. Surfaces are scratched and bead is worn. Traces of wear around the perforation. Comparanda: Ó'Ríordáin 1949, 89-90, fig.19; Raftery 1969, 83; Raftery 1981, 180; Hencken 1938, 40, fig.24.	D. >6mm; H.4.5mm

4020	1201	Complete; good condition. A dark barrel-shaped blue glass bead. Opaque. Central cylindrical perforation measuring 3mm in diameter.	D.8mm; H.5mm
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Shell Beads & Objects Catalogue (M. FitzGerald) [Appendix 1.20 in Vol. 3]

Beads

Find No.	Feature	Description	Dimensions
1119	216	Perforated limpet shell. Fragile condition. Edge along one side has broken off.	D.31-26mm; T.1mm
1422	22	Tiny, rounded circular object of shell. Hollow semi-circular section with perforation in flat surface. Possibly natural, or a pin head?	D.4mm; T.3mm
2747	949	Small, complete cowrie shell with a small perforation (2mm by 1mm), probably natural, in one end. No signs of modification.	L.9mm; W.7mm; T.6mm
1131	82	Tiny cowrie sea shell. Semi-circular cross-section with opening in base. Identical to 92E102:01340.	L.10mm; W.7.5mm
1340	220	Tiny cowrie sea shell Semi-circular cross-section and opening in base. Identical to 92E102:01131.	L.9mm; W.7mm

Unperforated shells (red cowrie only)

2932	985	Small, complete cowrie shell. No signs of modification.	L.10mm; W.8mm; T.7mm
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Modified and unmodified scallop shells

2545	297	Two almost complete scallop shells and <i>ca.</i> three fragments. Unmodified.	D.98mm; T.2mm; D.111mm; T.2mm
2930	985	Fragment of a scallop shell. No signs of modification. Reddening of shell on the interior is natural.	L.84mm; W.46mm; T.2mm
2931	985	Fragment of a scallop shell. Slight reddening on interior - natural?	L.38mm; W.30mm; T.2.5mm
2933	983A	Fragment of a scallop shell. Reddening on interior - natural?	L.37.5mm; W.32mm; T.2.5mm
2934	983B	Almost complete valve of a scallop shell. No definite signs of working but could have been used as a lamp.	D.111 x 91mm; T.1.5mm

**Pumice and Stone Beads and Rock Crystals Catalogue (M. FitzGerald;
petrological identifications by D. Harper) [Appendix 1.21 in Vol. 3]**

Pumice

Find No.	Feature	Description	Dimensions
70	19	Incomplete. <i>Circa</i> half of a circular pumice bead, dark brown in colour with a gritty surface. Flat upper and lower surfaces with rounded sides. Approximately half of the hour-glass perforation remains; original diameter <i>ca.</i> 5mm. The broken edges appear to have been slightly smoothed, but this may be due to weathering.	D.19mm; T.12mm

Quartz

1839	244	Complete. Cylindrical bead made from brown quartz siltstone. Smooth polished surfaces. One surface is slightly rounded and in section the object is square with rounded sides. There is an attempt at a perforation; this is 3mm in diameter and very much “off-centre”. It is possible that this bead is a reworked bracelet fragment.	L.13mm; D.14.5mm
1886	244	Complete. Finely-made, polished, disc-like stone bead made from brown quartz siltstone. In section the bead is rectangular with rounded sides; slightly off-centre hour-glass perforation, 7mm in diameter.	D.17mm; T.6mm
2706	941	Complete. White bead of milky quartz, oval in section with cylindrical perforation 2mm in diameter. There are slight traces of wear around the edges of the perforation.	D.8.5mm; T.4mm
2824	965	Incomplete. Tiny quartz bead. D-shaped in section with one slightly curved surface. This surface is also slightly smoothed. The opposing surface is rough and has a shallow off-centre groove, possibly the remains of a perforation. It is possible that the bead may have been broken during manufacture.	D.1.5mm; W.10mm; T.6mm

Limestone

33	9	Complete. Circular, perforated bead made from crinoidal limestone of local provenance. Very finely made with highly decorative crinoids that occur as white and brown spots. The bead is rectangular with rounded sides and the slightly off-centre, hour-glass perforation is 5.5mm in diameter. There are traces of wear around the perforation.	D.17mm; T.6mm
591	47	Complete. Small geoid shaped stone consisting of a limestone pebble with corallites, no doubt picked up on the shore. This may have been raw material for a similar bead to no.33. It is abraded and may have been worked to some extent.	D.19mm by 15.5mm

Cryptocrystalline quartz,
flint, chert or agate

175	10	Complete. Small perforated stone bead made from cryptocrystalline quartz, flint or agate. Slightly oval-shaped and thin and disc-like in appearance. The cylindrical perforation is slightly off-centre and 2mm in diameter. The surfaces of the bead are uneven and there are traces of polish evident.	D.7mm x 8mm; T.1-2mm
178	14	Incomplete. Half of a stone bead (original diameter 12mm) similar to but larger than 175. Of cryptocrystalline quartz, flint or agate. The broken edges appear to have been smoothed down so the bead is crescent-shaped and has a wedge-shaped section. One surface is smooth and flat, almost as if it has been cut. The other is rounded. The bead is polished. The perforation is cylindrical but tapers slightly towards the flat surface and is 3mm in diameter.	D.12mm; T.6mm
224	51	Complete. Small, perforated circular bead made from chert or flint. The bead is flat and disc-shaped bead thinning out slightly at one edge from 2mm to 1.5mm. It has an off-centre cylindrical perforation 2mm in diameter.	D.6mm; T.1.5mm-2mm

Crinoid ossicle

216	52	Complete. Minuscule bead made from a single crinoidal ossicle or limestone fossil, of local provenance. Rectangular in section. The central cylindrical perforation is 0.5mm in diameter and there are faint incisions from the perforation to the edge of the bead.	D.3mm; T.1mm
612	U/S	Complete. Bead made from tiny circular fossil from local limestone. The bead is flat and disc-like, rectangular in section with faint traces of incisions towards the edge. The star-shaped central perforation is 1mm in diameter and probably an enhancement of a natural depression.	D.5mm, T.2mm
1335	228	Complete. Small fossil bead from local limestone. The bead is thin and disc-like with a relatively large rectangular perforation. Faint incisions visible towards the edges, which are extremely thin (1-1.5mm). The cylindrical perforation is 2.5mm in max. width.	D.4.45mm; T.1.5mm
2713	1704	Complete. Tiny bead made from limestone crinoid ossicle of local provenance. Circular disc-shaped fossil with central, cylindrical perforation, 1mm in diameter.	D.2mm; T.1mm
2725	1204	Complete. Tiny bead made from limestone crinoid ossicle of local provenance. Disc-like with a central perforation 1.5mm in diameter. Thins slightly to one side.	D.4mm; T.1mm

Unknown rock type

1561	112	Incomplete. Tiny circular brown polished bead, of unknown rock type, identical to 92E102:03010. In section the bead is wedge-shaped with a rounded side. The bead thins out towards an off-centre perforation, 0.5mm in diameter, which has now partly broken away.	D.3mm; T.1mm-2mm.
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3010	313	Incomplete. Tiny circular brown polished bead (original diameter of 3mm) and identical to 1561. In section it is wedge-shaped with one rounded side and thinning out towards the perforated edge. The perforation is to one side and now partly broken away but was 0.5mm in diameter originally.	D.3mm; T.1mm- 2mm.
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Rock Crystals

890	82	Small irregular-shaped rock quartz crystal. Surfaces of some faces are chipped and have striations or scratch marks.	L.16mm; W.11.5mm; T. 9.5mm
1096	217	Elongated rock quartz crystal. It tapers to a point. Some faces are flat and angular, while some faces are chipped and have striations or scratch marks.	L.26.5mm; W10mm; T.11.5mm
2730	1202	Faceted rock quartz crystal. Pointed at one end, but broken or damaged at the opposite end.	L.15mm; W.7mm; T.6.5mm