Archaeological Investigations in the Nepeña Valley, Peru (Part C)

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Description: The site is a rectangular enclosure of fieldstone with several internal rooms. The structure measures 50 meters N-S and 43 meters E-W. The entire area covered by the site is on the order of 100 by 100 meters. The site has been badly disturbed by flash flooding. Water has cut through parts of the site leaving deep furrows and broken walls. Practically no sherds were found on the site. It is not known whether the reason for this is the natural disturbances or whether this was a very early site with few ceramics. No cemetery was found. It is close to the petroglyph site of PV 31-155 which I have suggested may be Chavin in date.

Artifacts: The sherds were all plain redware except for one blackware neck of a bottle or jar which has portions of a broken handle and some appliqué attached. The cultural period cannot be determined.

Illustrations: Figure 37

References: none

PV 31-157

Local name: Chilhuay alto

Cultural period: E.H. (?) or M.H. (?)

Location: This extensive site is in the upper part of the valley, on a plateau on the eastern mountains overlooking the Rio Salitre. It is 5.0 kms. NE of Moro and 6.6 kms. NE of Motocachy Hacienda at an elevation of 650 meters above sea level at the base and 750 meters for the top of the plateau.

Description: This site was discovered from the valley bottom of the Rio Salitre, a branch or tributary of the Rio Nepeña. A small rectangular structure measuring seven meters E-W and 20 meters N-S was spotted on the steep slopes of the eastern side of the valley. After recording this building the hill was ascended, and on the plateau on the summit was discovered an extensive habitation site covering one kilometer N-S and 800 meters E-W. The plateau was covered with hundreds of fieldstone foundations, some in clusters, but all well preserved. There must have been a very dense population occupying this site and the upper valley.

Artifacts: Both blackware and redware sherds are found, most of them plainware. Decoration includes flat circle and dots, raised nubbins with incised lines, and one redware piece with an incised geometric decoration. The decoration and shapes are somewhat different from the usual M.H. ceramics, and I lean toward an earlier dating for this site, perhaps E.H. The only difficult thing to explain is the huge size of the site. If this site is E.H. there must have been an extensive occupation of the valley at this time.
FIGURE 37

PV 31-156
PV 31-158

Local name: Laria

Cultural period: M.H. +?

Location: This site is situated on a high plateau on the top of the mountains forming the western side of the valley of the Rio Salitre. It is 4.5 kms. NE of Moro and 6.4 kms. NE of Hacienda Motorcachy at an elevation of 650 meters above sea level at the base and 750 meters for the plateau.

Description: This is an extensive stone covered plateau, analogous to PV 31-157, and measuring over 1.5 kms. in distance N-S and 800 meters E-W. The preservation of house foundations is not as good as PV 31-157, and in this sense it has analogies with PV 31-60 and parts of PV 31-56. There are three main areas of ruins, one in the east central portion and the other two on the southern end. The central ruin is a fieldstone structure measuring 23 by 23 meters and containing five rooms of varying dimensions. It and the surrounding area are densely covered with sherds. Nearby are a number of circular areas also constructed of fieldstone.

On the south end of the site is a huge rectangular area, plainly visible on the aerial photographs, measuring 114 meters by 112.5 meters. There are probably rooms within this compound, but the rocks are so dense and jumbled on the surface, it is impossible to determine the architectural details.

A short distance from the compound, at the southern point of the plateau, is a raised platform, or perhaps mound, surrounded by a low wall. It is on the edge of the plateau and overlooks the upper Salitre Valley and the Hacienda Laria. The center of this platform is a solid core of heaped-up fieldstone.

Artifacts: The sherds are predominantly redware, and some are definitely M.H. Decoration consists of the circle and dot, both raised and unraised, two examples with raised appliqué knobs or points, and some scroll press-molding. Although several rim sherds are present in the sample, it cannot definitely be said that they are all M.H. An earlier period may also be represented on the site.

Illustrations: Figures 39 and 40

References: none
FIGURE 49
PV 31-158
CENTRAL ROOM
PV 31-159

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.H. (?)

Location: This site is on a hilltop on the western side of the Rio Salitre, near the site of Huancarpon (PV 31-59) but separated from it by a deep ravine. It is 4.05 kms. NNE of Moro and 5.45 kms. NE of Hacienda Motocachy at an elevation of 650 meters above sea level for the base of the hill and 780 meters for the site. It is much higher than the plateau containing Huancarpon.

Description: The site is a walled enclosure constructed of fieldstone measuring 45 meters E-W and 37.5 meters N-S. The front appears to face the Rio Salitre below, but the back or west wall has several entrances. The interior of the compound is divided into several rooms, and the central area seems to be raised like a platform. It may have been a lookout station, but the function is not positive from the evidence we have.

Artifacts: The sherds from this site were abundant and were mainly plainware. The colors range from red to grey and black. Decoration consists of unraised circles and dots and what appears to be stamping on one piece of blackware. The shapes are unusual and don't appear to be M.H. A number of sharply angled bowl fragments were recorded, and rim sherds are distinct also. I would guess that the site may be E.H. or E.I.P. at the latest.

Illustrations: Figure 41

References: none

PV 31-160

Local name: Captuy

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is on a mountain peak on the north side of the valley, opposite the sites of Siete Huacas (PV 31-56) and Huancarpon (PV 31-59). It is 3.5 kms. NNE of Hacienda Motocachy and 3.4 kms. N of Moro at an elevation of about 800 meters above sea level for the site. The valley bottom at this point is 550 meters above sea level.

Description: Because of its inaccessibility, this site was not visited. It can be plainly seen from the Rio Salitre area, and the local inhabitants call it Captuy. The site appears to be a stepped hilltop platform overlooking the valley below. The construction material is fieldstone.
Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-161

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is situated on the east side of the Rio Salitre, on three mountain peaks, about two kilometers from the juncture with the Rio Nepéña. It is 5.95 kms. NNE of Moro and 7.4 kms. NE of Hacienda Motocachy.

Description: Because of its inaccessibility, this site was not visited, but sightings through the binoculars suggest it is a site. The site appears to consist of three separate mountain peaks that have been leveled and on which were constructed platforms or pyramids. Because of the slightly different elevation of the three peaks, the pyramids appear to be stepped. The construction material is of fieldstone.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-162

Local name: Chilhuay bajo

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is located on the south side of the valley, upriver from the Rio Salitre on the steep ridge overlooking the Nepéña River. A dry quebrada separates this fertile ridge from the Rio Salitre to the west. The site is 6.2 kms. NNE of Moro and 7.4 kms. NE of Hacienda Motocachy at an elevation of 750 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is very difficult to reach because of the lack of roads in the area. The pressures of time prevented me from reaching the site, but it appears to be important enough that every effort should be made in the future to record it. There are several sites in this immediate vicinity. This particular site seems to be a heavily walled structure with one or two internal rooms. The construction material is fieldstone. There may be habitations surrounding this large building.
PV 31-163

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This fortress is on the north side of the valley on a small rise in a quebrada directly opposite the mouth of the Rio Salitre. Nearby are some natural caves formed by huge slabs of rock which fell eons ago. It is 4.2 kms. N or Moro and 4.35 kms. NNE of Hacienda Motocachy at an elevation of 550 meters above sea level. The road to Jimbe passes near the site, and there is a small settlement in the quebrada.

Description: The site is a pentagonal shaped fortress constructed of cut fieldstone. There are three turrets at various locations on the wall, forming odd angles with the wall itself (see plan). Inside the structure is a rectangular area, raised about two meters higher than the floor of the fortress. Inside this rectangle is a solid core of stone; this may have been a raised platform like those found singly on mountain peaks. The entire complex covers an area of about 30 by 30 meters.

To the west of the site and slightly uphill are one or two natural caves formed by huge slabs of stone which have fallen from above. One of these caves is quite large and should be investigated further for occupation, burials, or perhaps ceremonial use.

Artifacts: Almost all of the pottery found on this site was plainware, and the shapes are not distinct enough to definitely indicate cultural period. One sherd is decorated with the circle and dot. My photos are not clear enough to determine whether this is M.H. or E.H. style.

Illustrations: Figure 42

References: none

PV 31-164

Local name: San Cristobal

Cultural period: M.H. (?)

Location: This site is on a hilltop known as San Cristobal, which is located between the town of Moro and the sites of PV 31-60 and
and Siete Huacas. It is 1.7 kms. N of Moro and 3.4 kms. ENE of Hacienda Motocachy at an elevation of 550 meters above sea level. There is a telegraph line running directly across the site.

Description: This habitation site has several parts. The main section consists of a large rectangular structure with a small attached agglutinated settlement. The building measures 22 by 25 meters and has three rooms. It is constructed of fieldstone. The area adjoining it has house foundations and possible some graves. The entire area covered is 200 meters N-W and 40 meters E-W.

Below and to the east is a smaller hill on which is situated a smaller building of fieldstone. Because of its proximity, I am including it as part of this site.

Artifacts: Both redware and blackware are found here. The majority of the sherds are undecorated. Some have the circle and dot, but the one example collected appears to have flat rather than raised circles. I suspect the site is M.H. in date, but it may be earlier, perhaps E.H. A more thorough study of the ceramics is needed.

Illustrations: Figure 43

References: none

PV 31-165

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. +?

Location: This site is one of many located on a series of conjoined hills forming the western opening of the Rio Vinchamarca. This cemetery is found on the western end of the hills overlooking a small settlement. It is 1.65 kms. SSW of Moro and 500 meters NNE of Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 450 to 500 meters above sea level. The nearest field of cultivation is San Ignacio.

Description: This small M.H. cemetery covers an area 25 meters square. The burials were excavated into the rocky soil of the hill and were quite shallow.

Artifacts: Some very interesting sherds were collected from this cemetery. Most seem to be M.H. in date. There are several examples of typically painted M.H. ware. In addition there is an example of a piece painted white-on-red, another painted white-on-black, and a blackware piece that has coil marks for decoration. Besides the M.H. burials here, another cultural period may be represented.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-166

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is on the top of a series of hills which forms the western entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. It is 2.0 kms.S of Moro and 950 meters E of Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 500+ meters for the site.

Description: This site is a raised platform surrounded by an enclosure wall. The best construction is on the south side where the fieldstone walls, cemented together with smaller stones and mud, can be plainly seen. The site is not in very good shape. On top of the platform two or three lines of boulders can be seen. A few graves are located on the site. The entire complex covers 50 by 50 meters.

Artifacts: The ceramics are all plainware, so cultural affiliation cannot be definitely established. One of the sherds seems to be decorated with a stamped design. A portion of a pan pipe was found on the south side of the ruin.

Illustrations: Figure 44

References: none

PV 31-167

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is in the bottom of a quebrada in the hills forming the western entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. It is 2.3 kms. S of Moro and 1.1 kms. ESE of Vinchamarca Hacienda at an elevation of 450 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a small cemetery enclosed by a fieldstone wall. The site measures 8 by 10 meters with only a few graves exposed by the huaqueros. Some human bones were found, but unfortunately only one plain redware sherd was discovered. The site is interesting because of its location and form.

Artifacts: Only one redware sherd was found, and the chronological position of this cemetery cannot be determined.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-168

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is at the southern end of a series of hills forming the entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. It is situated on the top of the hill overlooking the Quebrada de Anta. The site is 2.65 kms. S of Moro and 1.25 kms. ESE of Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 500 meters above sea level for the site, or roughly 50 meters above the valley floor.

Description: This site is a terraced platform with the top section divided into rooms. Most of the terracing is on the NE side of the site. Sherds are abundant on the site, and are predominantly redware.

Artifacts: The sherds collected here were mainly plainware, and the cultural period cannot be determined without further work.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-169

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This site is located on the side of the hills forming the western entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. It is 1.8 kms. S of Moro and 800 meters E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 500 meters above sea level. The site is about 50 meters above the valley floor.

Description: This is a small M.H. cemetery covering an area 15 by 15 meters and containing only about one dozen graves. The tombs are dug into the gravelly soil of the hill and are quite shallow.

Artifacts: All the ceramics encountered here are good quality M.H. style.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-170

Local name: none
Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is situated on a raised area in the Quebrada de Anta on the south side of the valley, near the Hacienda Vinchamarca. Flash flooding has cut away the floor of the Quebrada surrounding the site, producing small ravines and depositing stones and alluvium. The site has not entirely escaped damage, but it is high enough so that most of it has remained intact. It is 2.6 kms. S of Moro and 700 meters S of Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 450 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a very interesting site, probably ceremonial in nature. It consists of three raised platforms and a series of five joined rooms, all situated along a 200-meter axis. The width of the site is approximately 50 meters. The construction is of fieldstone. A unique feature is the presence of small, stone-lined cysts at both ends of three of the rooms and one of the platforms. The function of these cysts is not known.

Artifacts: Sherds were very sparse on this site, and only a small collection of undecorated redware was collected. The cultural affiliation of this site remains a mystery.

Illustrations: Figure 45

References: none

PV 31-171

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.H.?

Location: This site is on top of a small hill overlooking the buildings of the Hacienda Vinchamarca. The vineyards of the hacienda surround the base of the site. It is 1.9 kms. S of Moro and 150 meters NW of the buildings of Vinchamarca Hacienda at an elevation of 490 meters above sea level for the site. The top of the hill is 40 meters above the fields below.

Description: The site is a small hilltop platform enclosed by a low wall. There is no evidence of any other architecture, but there were numerous sherds on the surface. The construction material is fieldstone. The entire platform and wall cover an area of only 10 meters square.

Artifacts: 90% of the pottery from this site is redware, but little is decorated. One piece has flat circles and dots and another has either shallow incision or pattern burnishing. This small sample suggests an E.H. date for the site, but the evidence is inconclusive at this time.

Illustrations: none
PV 31-172

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This site is on the south side of the valley at the base of the hills forming the western side of the Rio Vinchamarca. It is 3.0 kms. SE of Moro and 1.95 kms. E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 450 meters above sea level.

Description: The site is an M.H. cemetery 200 meters E-W and 75 meters N-S, parts of which have been recently looted. The graves are dug into the gravelly soil of the base of the hill, and the cemetery ascends a small ravine on the side of the hill. The graves are shallow, one to two meters in depth.

Artifacts: The sherds are all typically M.H. in style. The most common decoration is the raised circle and dot design with zones of punctations around it. One painted sherd and one press molded piece completes the inventory. Shapes include ring based bowls and collared utilitarian jars.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-173

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is located in the same range of hills at the entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca as five or six others. It is on the slopes between PV 31-166 and PV 31-168, extending from the top of the hill down into a small quebrada containing PV 31-167. The site is 2.3 kms. S of Moro and 900 meters ESE of Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation ranging from 450 to 500 meters above sea level.

Description: This is the second petroglyph site discovered in the valley. It is very similar to PV 31-155 in that the type of stone used for the designs is identical. There are about six different stones which have been engraved. The motifs are all naturalistic and include the sun, birds, monkeys, humans, an owl and various unidentifiable creatures. They are scattered over a wide area within the quebrada, and there may be others which escaped detection.

Artifacts: none
Illustrations: Plate 29G; Figures 19 and 20

References: none

PV 31-174

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is located in the same series of hills at the entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca as six others. It is adjacent to PV 31-166, on the slopes of the hill to the south of this site. The petroglyphs of PV 31-173 are located nearby. The site is 2.1 kms. S of Moro and 1.1 kms. E of Hacienda Vinchamarca, at an elevation of 500 meters above sea level. The cemetery is about 50 meters above the valley floor.

Description: This site is a very small cemetery covering an area of about 10 square meters, dug into the steep sides of a quebrada. The graves are shallow and few sherds were found; however, bones are numerous.

Artifacts: The few sherds collected in this cemetery are not distinguishing enough to allow identification of the cultural period of the site.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-175

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.H.? (western portion) and M.H. (eastern portion)

Location: This site is perched on the top of the main range of mountains forming the western side of the Rio Vinchamarca. Immediately to the northwest is the range of hills on which are located the sites of PV 31-165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 173 and 174. The site is 2.8 kms. SE of Moro and 2.1 kms. E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 625 meters above sea level. The site is a good 125 meters above the valley floor.

Description: This site, covering a total area of at least 500 meters E-W and 250 meters N-S, is one of the most interesting in the valley. Topographically, the site is situated on two natural peaks high above the valley, separated by a lower saddle. The eastern and western portions occupy the peaks and the central area is on the saddle. Each will be described below.
Central Area: The site was reached by climbing up the steep northern face of the mountain. It would have been easier to have gone to the opposite side, for the slopes are more gentle on that side, but this was not known immediately. The central portion is the lowest part of the site and it is also the most visible part of the site from below. There is a massive defense wall of cut fieldstone facing the northern part of the central area. The saddle of the mountain has been artificially flattened and appears to have been the major defensive part of the site. Walls surround this area, and a steep ravine separates this central area from the adjoining western area. The wall construction is of cut fieldstone with smaller chinks of stone used in place of mortar. The construction technique is reminiscent of the walls at PV 31-56, Siete Huacas. The sherds found in this area include some decorated with the raised circle and dot typical of the Middle Horizon style found elsewhere in the valley.

Western Area: Crossing the ravine from the central area, one gradually ascends the slopes toward the peak containing the main part of the site. The slopes are densely covered with sherds, and the ceramics from this part of the site are in sharp contrast to those found in the central and eastern portions. Low, convex sided bowls with a sharp gambrel are very common. These are decorated with multitudes of low circle and dots, sometimes in zones. The type of circle and dot is identical to those of the E.H., but are all on redware in contrast to the typical blackware found in E.H. sites in other valleys. Other sherds are decorated with incision. The ceramics appear to all date to the E.H. and are quite different from the M.H. or L.I.P. sherds from other parts of the site.

The predominant architectural feature of this part of the site is a natural peak which has been transformed into a pyramid or raised platform. The top of the peak has been flattened somewhat, and small walls surround it on the slopes below. No construction was found on the top, and the question remains whether this was a ceremonial area or a fortification.

Eastern Area: This part of the site is basically a habitation area. It is heavily defended on the western side by several ascending defense walls. On the top is a complex of rooms constructed of fieldstone, but some rectangular adobes were scattered on the surface. A large rectangular area is found here as well as smaller rooms. Between the rectangular area and the defense walls is a small cemetery area.

From this peak the site gradually slopes toward the east in a series of artificial terraces on which have been built small stone houses. The population was dense, and the entire hillside is thickly covered with sherds. One of the structures had two large wooden logs, probably beams, laying on the floor. Other structures were apparently constructed of cane and plaster, for portions of the walls can still be seen sticking out of the hillside. Large amounts of refuse, particularly of cane, cover the hillside.
The sherds found here are decorated in a wide variety of ways. Some are press molded, others stamped, and still others incised. The shape of the vessels as well as some of the decoration appears to be M.H., but it may also include some L.I.P. material. Only a few sherds similar to the E.H. ware of the western portion were collected here.

Other Features: There are several cemetery areas found on the site. A small graveyard has been described for the eastern area. There are also graves found in the central area.

The major defense walls of the site are on the steep northern side. There are, however, a series of smaller but well-made walls on the south side. In the case of the ravine which separates the central from the western portions, there are some finely constructed walls built on top of natural stone boulders to further heighten them.

Artifacts: The ceramics from each individual section have been discussed above. The probable Early Horizon ceramics from the western area have similarities with those found at PV 31-61, PV 31-48, PV 31-157 and PV 31-159. In each of these cases the pottery is oxidized, but the shallow convex bowl is common. The pottery from the eastern complex is much different. It appears to be a combination of M.H. and L.I.P. styles. This part of the site was a reoccupation of the deserted E.H. site.

Illustrations: Plates 24B and 25

References: none

PV 31-176

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This site is located on a small natural hill in the field at the northern base of PV 31-175, near the western entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. There is a modern corn crib on the site, built by the natives who live adjacent to the site. It is 2.2 kms. S of Moro and 1.5 kms. E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 500 meters above sea level.

Description: This appears to be a combination habitation site and cemetery. The occupied area extends 200 meters in the N-S direction and 30 meters E-W. At the highest point of the hill there seem to be the remnants of a small stone structure. Traces of stone walls can be seen on other parts of the hill. There are some looted graves here, but it is impossible to determine the exact relationship with the walls.
Artifacts: The mound is littered with Middle Horizon sherds, and they are of the utilitarian variety. The raised circle and dot with zoned punctuation was found. Ring based bowls formed one of the prevalent shape categories. This site was probably occupied at the same time as the eastern portion of PV 31-175.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-177**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. + E.H.?

Location: This site is at the base of PV 31-175 on the south side of the valley, near the western entrance to the Rio Vinchamarca. It is in the sandy foothills of the mountain 2.65 kms. SSE of Moro and 1.8 kms. E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 475 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a small cemetery measuring 150 meters E-W and 50 meters N-S, probably associated with PV 31-175 above. The shallow graves are excavated in the gravelly soil and amid the rocks at the base of the hill.

Artifacts: This may be a mixed cemetery. Some of the sherds are definitely Middle Horizon. These include press molded redwar and several typical rim fragments. Aside from these there is one sherd in the form of a shallow convex sided bowl with the unraised circle and dot, identical to those found in the western portion of PV 31-175 above. A blackware piece modeled in the form of a spondylus shell also suggests an Early Horizon date. Another sherd, a portion of a bowl or wide-mouthed jar, has been painted with a white geometric design in a step motif on the inner rim.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-178**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. +?

Location: This site is on the western side of the Rio Vinchamarca, just south of PV 31-175, on a small hill at much lower elevation than PV 31-175. It is 2.8 kms. SE of Moro and 2.2 kms. E of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 525 meters above sea level.
Description: This is a small habitation area covering an area 200 meters E-W and 50 meters N-S. It is partly fortified by stone walls which run over the site. No distinct architecture is present; some of the walls on the site may be house foundations. Its designation as a habitation site is based on the presence of large amounts of pottery and the corresponding lack of human skeletal material.

Artifacts: Some of the sherds found here are definitely M.H. These include the use of press molding for decoration and ring based bowls. The cultural affiliation of some of the other sherds is in doubt. One piece has a modeled animal foot and paw, and another has a raised appliqué rectangle decorated with incision.

Illustrations: none
References: none

PV 31-179
Local name: none
Cultural period: ?
Location: This site is a low mound in the field known as Huambacho near the town of Moro. It is adjacent to the road and extends some 100 meters in an easterly direction. It is 550 meters S of Moro and 3.2 kms. SE of Motocachy at an elevation of 500 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a low mound, at least partly artificial, measuring 100 meters E-W and 25 meters N-S. The top has been flattened and has two raised areas of stone on the eastern end. The site has been occupied in recent times, and there is a great deal of modern refuse on the top. This occupation has destroyed most of the earlier cultural remains. Sherds of prehistoric cultures are found, however, and these are mostly redware. The function of the site is not known.

Artifacts: The redware sherds collected on the site are not distinctive enough to determine the cultural period of the site.

Illustrations: none
References: none

PV 31-180
Local name: none
Cultural period: ?
Location: This site is on the Pampa of Motocachy, directly adjacent to Mound E of PV 31-47; it may be part of this same complex. It is
Description: This site consists of two small mounds at the back of this portion of the pampa, which may be a part of the PV 31-47 complex. They were not recorded in 1967 and are given a separate number because of their distance from the main part of PV 31-47. The northern mound is the largest, about 25 meters in diameter and 3 meters high. It seems to be constructed mainly of fieldstone with possibly some adobes that have eroded into sand. No adobes were actually seen. There are some burials near the south side of this mound.

The other mound, to the south and east, is 100 meters from the first. It is in poor condition, but it was probably similar to the first. Some burials were located near it also.

Artifacts: Only three sherds were collected from these sites, two black-ware and one redware. None is decorated.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-181

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.P. or M.H.

Location: This mound is on the valley bottom along the road connecting the Hacienda San Jose with the main road to San Jacinto. It is 300 meters S of the Hacienda San Jose and 5.1 kms. WSW of Hacienda San Jacinto at an elevation of 200 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is a small low mound, about 20 meters in diameter, located near a dry quebrada on the valley bottom. Apparently the river or a canal has cut past the site in the past; the area adjacent to it on the west has been used as a source for gravel, and much destruction has taken place.

The surface of the mound is littered with cobbles and a few adobes, probably rectangular in shape. The site was used as a cemetery, for one mandible was found, along with some sherds. The site is in poor condition because one side of it was plowed and cultivated in the past.

Artifacts: Two painted sherds were found on the site. One is white-on-red with outlining in black -- almost certainly an M.R. piece. The other is simply white-on-red. Another sherd has traces of modeling, but the exact nature of the motif cannot be determined. The most likely date for the site is Middle Horizon, but it may go earlier.
PV 31-182
Local name: none
Cultural period: L.I.P.?

Location: This is another low mound on the valley bottom in the field of San Isidro near the Hacienda San Jose. It is 750 meters S of Hacienda San Jose and 5.3 kms. WSW of the Hacienda San Jacinto at an elevation of 200 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a small artificial mound of rectangular adobe, 40 meters in diameter and about three to five meters in height. Although some river cobbles and stones are found on the site, the basic construction material was the adobe. There is a large chicken coop presently on the mound. It was impossible to tell the function of the huaca; no architecture was visible, and the adobes were all badly eroded except in two or three spots where the natives had dug pits exposing the adobe interior. A few graves appear to have been located here, but that does not seem to be the main function of the site.

Artifacts: Almost all the sherds collected on this site were blackware. The color and shapes of the ceramics suggest an L.I.P. date. Only one sherd was decorated, and this was a raised dot press molded design.

Illustrations: none
References: none

PV 31-183
Local name: none
Cultural period: ?

Location: This mound and adjoining structure is situated on the valley bottom in the field known as Santa Rosa, on the road between San Jose and the main highway. It is 1.45 kms. S of Hacienda San Jose and 5.8 kms. SW of Hacienda San Jacinto at an elevation of 200 meters above sea level.

Description: The site is a small mound, 10 meters in diameter and four meters high, constructed of rectangular adobe. A heap of stones can be seen on the top, but these have been thrown there by the natives who collected them from the plowed field surrounding the site. No
ceramics were found, and the function of this part of the site is unknown.

Adjoining the mound can be found the foundations of a rectangular building, 10 by 20 meters, divided into several large rooms. The construction material is both stone and adobe.

Artifacts: none
Illustrations: none
References: none

**PV 31-184**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is located high in the mountains of the eastern side of the Rio Vinchamarca, close to the Pocos Hacienda. It is 2.6 kms. E of Moro and 2.9 kms. NE of the Hacienda Vinchamarca at an elevation of 800 meters above sea level for the site. The site is perched about 250 meters above the valley floor.

Description: Unfortunately this very interesting site was not visited because of the great difficulty in reaching it. Several attempts were made, but there are no roads that go anywhere near the site, and lack of time disallowed further investigation. The site was viewed from the western side of the valley, and it is also plainly visible in the aerial photos. The main part of the site appears to be a raised platform of stone which is surrounded by a rectangular enclosure wall. There are other walls on the lower hill below the site, and another rectangular structure behind the platform. The site was probably constructed for defensive purposes.

Artifacts: none
Illustrations: none
References: none

**PV 31-185**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is high in the hills on the eastern side of the Rio Vinchamarca near the Hacienda Pocos. It is 2.8 kms. E of Moro and
Description: This is another site on the Vinchamarca that was not visited because of its inaccessibility. It was viewed from the western side of the valley and can be seen on the aerial photos, but the form is not as clear as was the case with PV 31-184. The site appears to be a hilltop platform constructed of stone. There are other defense walls nearby, including a semi-circular one below it, facing the valley bottom.

Both PV 31-184 and 185 should be examined in the future, especially in the light that a number of the sites on the opposite side of this valley appear to be Early Horizon in date.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-186

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This mound is located almost directly on the main road in the center of the valley and is adjacent to the site of PV 31-37. It is 1.1 kms. W of Hacienda Cerro Blanco and 1.7 kms. SSE of the town of Nepéña at an elevation of 150 meters above sea level. The field of Santa Toribio surrounds the site.

Description: This is a small, low mound, 10 meters in diameter, constructed of rectangular adobe. It seems to have been used mainly as a cemetery, and many pits have been dug into it by huaqueros. No architecture is visible.

Artifacts: The ceramics are all Middle Horizon in style. One sherd very finely painted may be from a vessel imported into the valley. Several other painted sherds were collected as well as those decorated with press molding. The shapes confirm the M.H. dating.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-187

Local name: none
Cultural period: E.I.P. (Moche) + ?

Location: This site is a low mound on the valley bottom in the field of Santo Toribio, directly north of the Hacienda Cerro Blanco. It is 300 meters N of Cerro Blanco Hacienda and 2.1 kms. SE of the town of Nepeña at an elevation of 150 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is a mound or huaca on the valley bottom constructed of rectangular adobe. It measures about 15 meters N-S and approximately 10 meters E-W. Flooding in the past has cut away most of the eastern portion of the mound, exposing the internal adobe construction. The adobes are interesting in shape. They are flatter than usual and appear to be cane marked. There is no evidence of architecture on the site, but there is a small cemetery located on the north side of the huaca. One of the sherds discovered in this cemetery may be Moche.

Artifacts: Most of the ceramics were found in the cemetery area, but no attempt was made to separate the pottery from the mound from that of the graves. The most interesting sherd is a portion of the neck of a jar or bottle. It is painted white with dark red vertical stripes on it. It seems to be Moche in style, but the dark red color may be M.H. The only other decorated sherd is a portion of a grey bottle which has small coffee-bean shaped appliqué with incisions.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-188

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. or L.I.P.

Location: This small mound is on the valley bottom in the field of Santo Toribio north of the eastern end of the hill of Cerro Blanco. It is 900 meters NNE of the Hacienda Cerro Blanco and 2.3 kms. SW of Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: The site is a low oblong mound, 15 meters E-W and 10 meters N-S. It is constructed of rectangular adobe with fieldstone scattered on the top. The stone may have been thrown there by the natives to get it out of the field, for there is no evidence of architecture here. There are a number of looted graves present.

Artifacts: Of the six sherds collected on the site, five are blackware. Only one sherd is decorated, and it has shallow incision. The rim sherds suggest an M.H. or L.I.P. date, in spite of the incision.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-189

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This huaca is on the valley bottom in the field of Santo Toribio just north of the eastern end of the Cerro Blanco hill. It is 1.1 k.ms. NNE of the Hacienda Cerro Blanco and 2.3 k.ms. SW of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: This mound, measuring 20 meters in diameter, is constructed of rectangular adobe in the central portion. Bulldozers have badly mutilated the edges, particularly the eastern half of the site, exposing the rubble core of the mound.

Artifacts: The small collection of sherds made here includes a typical Middle Horizon bowl. The other sherds seem to date to this cultural period also.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-190

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.?

Location: This site is a low huaca or mound on the valley bottom in the field known as Valqueria between the Hacienda Cerro Blanco and the town of Nepeña. It is 2.1 k.ms. WSW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco and 1.9 k.ms. S of the town of Nepeña at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a low, oblong mound, measuring 30 meters E-W and 10 meters N-S, partially constructed of rectangular adobes. Although there is no architecture visible on the mound, there is a cut on the western side exposing the adobe construction. Huaqueros have excavated some graves here, and human bones attest to the mound's use as a burial area.

Artifacts: Only four sherds were found at this site, all quite different. The most characteristic one is a portion of a neck of a jar or bottle. It is painted white with red vertical lines on it. It is probably M.H. in style although the possibility of its being E.I.P. cannot be discounted. A rim sherd from an olla and a collared jar were found, but there are not distinctive enough to determine cultural period.

Illustrations: none
References: none

PV 31-191

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This mound is on the valley bottom in the field of Valqueria near the town of Nepeña. It is 1.9 kms. WSW of the Hacienda Cerro Blanco and 1.8 kms. S of Nepeña at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level.

Description: The site is a small mound measuring 15 meters E-W and 10 meters N-S. It cannot definitely be said that this is a site, for no adobe was actually seen. The only artifact found was some human bone on the surface. I consider it to be a site because the mound does not appear to be natural; it is similar to PV 31-190, another mound in the same field, and it does have the human bone present.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-192

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.H. (Chavin)

Location: This site is on the north side of the valley at the edge of cultivation, facing the pampa behind the town of Nepeña. It is close to the site of PV 31-27 which is located out on the pampa. The site is 2.0 kms. WNW of the town of Nepeña and 3.85 kms. N of Capellania Hacienda at an elevation of 150 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is a large huaca covering an area 20 meters E-W and 30 meters N-S; it is approximately seven meters in height. The mound is badly eroded on the exterior, but it was constructed of conical adobes, several of which could be seen on the west side. There is a terrace or step on the north and probably also on the west sides. In addition to the conical adobes some fist-sized adobes were seen.

This site may be part of the PV 31-27 complex. This other site is located out on the pampa about 100 meters to the north. It consists of three or four small mounds clustered together. PV 31-192 is considered a separate site because of the distance involved. It was not discovered until 1971, in contrast to PV 31-27 which was recorded in 1967.
Artifacts: Only five sherds were found on the site, three blackware and two redware pieces. None is decorated, and no rim sherds were found. The E.H. date is based solely on the presence of the conical adobes.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-193**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. or L.I.P.

Location: This site is located above the pass at the back of the pampa of Nepeña on the north side of the valley, overlooking the main prehistoric road leading out of the valley toward Chimbote. A benchmark consisting of an iron rail stuck into a barrel of cement and having the inscription "1955 S.A." written on it is in the middle of the site. It is about 3.5 kms. NW of the town of Nepeña and 6.0 kms. WNW of the Hacienda San Jose.

Description: This site is a small lookout station located in a strategic position on the edge of the valley, overlooking the two main roads leading into the valley from the north. These are the main passes into the central valley area. There are three small rooms constructed of fieldstone on the top of the hill. The rooms are terraced, that is, one is slightly higher than the next. The area covered is only 15 by 15 meters. Below the site a double defense wall of stone runs across the pass. This wall continues to the east.

Artifacts: No sherds were found in the buildings themselves, but a few were discovered on the slopes below the site. Three of these were blackware, perhaps all from the same vessel, decorated with a press molded design. The other three sherds are plain redware. The site is either M.H. or L.I.P.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-194**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.?

Location: Located on the pass on the northern end of the pampa of Nepeña, this defensive site is similar to PV 31-193. It overlooks
a secondary road leading into the valley. The site is about 3.6 kms. NW of the town of Nepeña and 5.5 kms. WNW of the Hacienda San Jose.

Description: This site is a small lookout station constructed of fieldstone guarding a pass into the valley. Below the site is a beautiful stone lined road that enters the valley from the north and cuts across the pampa in a NE direction toward the Hacienda San Jose and San Jacinto areas. The road is lost on this pampa, but other roads on the Pampa de San Jose are probably an extension of it.

The lookout is 20 meters long in the E-W direction and six meters wide in the N-S direction. It is divided into three small adjoining rooms on the top of the hill.

Artifacts: The only decorated sherds found on this site are two pieces, probably from the same vessel, having portions of a low modeled figure. The general appearance suggests M.H.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-195

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This cemetery is on the north side of the valley in the pampa of Nepeña at the eastern end of the low wall running across the center of the pampa. It is 2.0 kms. N of the town of Nepeña and 4.1 kms. W of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 150 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a small looted cemetery of only five or six graves associated with a low earthen wall crossing the pampa north of Nepeña. The graves are shallow and were excavated directly into the gravelly soil. A mandible stained green from contact with metal was found along with some textiles.

Artifacts: The ceramics are all redware, and only two sherds were decorated. One has a raised circular appliqué with a cross incised into it. Another piece has some indistinguishable modeling. A rim sherd from a tall necked jar was found. The probable date for the site is M.H., but the evidence is not conclusive.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-196

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This mound is on the valley floor toward the northern side of the valley a kilometer NE of the town of Nepeña. There are several other mounds in the vicinity. The site is 1.0 kms. NNE of Nepeña and 3.3 kms. W of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: The site is a mound measuring 50 meters N-S and 35 meters E-W rising to a height of about five meters. Although no formed adobes could be seen, the mound undoubtedly is constructed with this material. The mound is not terraced as far as can be seen, and no architecture is present. Some burials were present.

Artifacts: Both blackware and redware sherds were found on the surface of the mound; none were decorated. The rim sherds suggest an M.H. date for the site, but the sample is too small to be conclusive.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-197

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This mound is situated on the northern edge of the valley in a grove of algarroba trees near the large site of Huaca del Inca (identified by the three large crosses on its summit). Near PV 31-197 is a small house. The site is 1.4 kms. NNE of the town of Nepeña and 3.3 kms. W of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: This is another mound constructed of rectangular adobe, in this case 50 meters in diameter and five meters high. The mound is rather weathered, and there is not much that can be said for it. There are graves located around the base of the mound, but it is not known if they are contemporary with the structure.

Artifacts: Only a few plain indistinguishable redware sherds were discovered here. The dating for the mound is uncertain.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-198

Local name: Huaca del Inca; Huaca Culebra; Castillo del Inca

Cultural period: L.I.P.?

Location: This complex is situated on the eastern end of the Pampa of Nepeña on the north side of the valley, near the edge of cultivation. It is on the end of a natural mountain spur and occupies a strategic location at the entrance to the upper part of the valley. The site dominates the skyline, and the local peasants long ago erected three crosses on the top of the site. This hill was constantly used as a reference point for locating other sites in 1967; it was not realized at the time that there was an imposing site here. The Huaca del Inca is 1.5 kms. NNE of the town of Nepeña and 2.9 kms. W of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 200 meters above sea level for the top of the site and 175 meters for the base.

Description: The complex known as the Huaca del Inca consists of several parts. The most noticeable part is a raised pyramid on the summit of the rock. The mountain spur on which this site is located is composed of solid rock, the western face of which has weathered over the eons exposing a vein of harder rock which protrudes slightly from the surface. Anyone with an imagination could see that this vein has the appearance of a snake slithering over the rock, and one of the names for the site is Huaca Culebra, or "mound of the snake." It is possible that the site was picked because of this peculiar feature. Some of the older accounts (e.g. Squier, 1877 and Horkheimer, 1965) speak of channels cut into the rock for water or blood of sacrifices. This interpretation is fanciful, for the depressions in the rock are natural.

Getting back to the pyramid perched on this rock, it consists of rectangular adobes on a foundation of cobble stones. The ancients skillfully used the rock as much as possible as part of their construction, and where necessary supplemented it with adobe. This is why the site was so difficult to spot from a distance. The pyramid may be terraced; it is difficult to tell because of the destruction.

Below the pyramid to the south, the mountain spur gradually slopes down to the valley floor. On leveled areas of this rock the occupants of the site had constructed other buildings of adobe. These are so badly disturbed that their function cannot be determined.

At the base of the rock SW of the pyramid is perhaps the most interesting structure on the site. It is a rectangular building of rectangular adobe, perched on a natural rock, and having arabesque designs on the upper part of the walls. The designs are in the form of crosses formed by four small squares placed corner to corner. The plaster inside these squares was painted red. The walls of this building are wider at the base and slope up to the top.

Below this building, to the west, is an exposed room dug into the hillside. Huaqueros apparently have cleared it, and one can see
the plastered walls painted with a red pigment. The size of this room is very small, and its function is unknown.

On the valley bottom, to the west, are two raised platforms or small pyramids. The one closest to the rock is most impressive, but there is another some distance further to the west. Walls of both stone and adobe are visible on the valley bottom here, and they may have formed large courtyards facing the rock and the pyramid above.

The entire complex covers an area approximately 200 meters N-S and 100 meters E-W.

The dating of this site is not known; the suggestion that it is L.I.P. is based on architectural features, not pottery. No definite L.I.P. pottery was found on the site. Sherds were extremely rare, and those found were all undecorated redware. The form of the buildings, particularly the one decorated with the arabesques, suggests a late date for the site. It must be remembered, however, that this type of decoration was found to be quite early in the Virú Valley area, and the same might be true here. The pattern of raised platforms surrounded by enclosed courtyards also argues for the late date, but at this time these are only educated guesses.

Artifacts: Only 15 sherds were discovered on this whole site, all of which were undecorated redware. The few rim sherds collected are not distinct enough to allow determination of cultural affiliation.

Illustrations: Plate 23A; Soriano Infante, 1941: Photos 4 and 5

References: Bennett, 1939: 18
Horkheimer, 1965: 30-31
Soriano Infante, 1941: 265 and Photos 4 and 5
Squier, 1877: 200-201

PV 31-199

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.?

Location: These are two low mounds located on the north side of the valley in the field of San Jorge 3, about 600 meters east of the Huaca del Inca (PV 31-198). It is 1.9 kms. NNE of the town of Nepeña and 2.5 kms. W of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: There are two small mounds in the field of San Jorge 3. When I visited the area in 1967 this field was planted in cane, and the mounds were not visible. In 1971, for lack of water, this field is no longer under cultivation and has reverted to pampa.
The larger of the mounds is about 25 meters in diameter but only a few meters high. It is constructed of fieldstone and clay, the latter perhaps being the remnants of adobes. There is a trench partly cut through the mound made by a bulldozer or tractor. No architecture is visible, but several looted burials were noted. Pottery is rare, but one of the few sherds found had the characteristic M.H. circle and dot design.

The smaller mound is located only a short distance away, and for this reason is included under the same site number. It is about 10 meters in diameter and two meters high. It is much the same in nature as the larger mound.

Artifacts: One of the sherds collected has the M.H. circle and dot design on a raised area at the base of a neck on a jar.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-200**

Local name: Huaca San Jacinto

Cultural period: ?

Location: This high mound is located on the eastern side of the hacienda San Jacinto, opposite the main entrance to the sugar factory. A small building has been erected on its top, and on one side is a modern soccer court.

Description: This rather impressive mound is 30 meters in diameter and 12 meters high. It is constructed of rectangular adobe, but it is in very poor condition, especially on the western side. Workers, needing clay for construction projects, have systematically mined the mound for its adobes. The site has also been used as a garbage dump, and plowing has eroded away parts of the other sides.

Artifacts: Virtually no sherds were found on the site because of its constant occupation and destruction by the local inhabitants. The date cannot be determined.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-201**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?
Location: This site is east of the town of Nepéña along the road which connects that town with the Hacienda San Jose. It is 1.1 kms. NE of Nepéña and 3.0 kms. SW of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a heavily overgrown mound about 20 meters in diameter. It is constructed of rectangular adobe, but because it has been used as a dump, little of its original shape and function can be seen.

Artifacts: Ceramics are practically non-existent; only one piece of plain redware was seen near the top of the mound, and this may be modern.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-202

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This site is on the north side of the valley on the top of the mountains on the western end of the Pampa de San Jose. It is 2.8 kms. NNE of the town of Nepéña and 2.9 kms. NW of Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 210 meters above sea level to the site. It is about 35 meters above the valley bottom.

Description: The main part of this site is a lookout platform constructed of fieldstone on the top of the hill. The hillside to the west slopes steeply downward; that to the east is more gradual, and there seems to be some terracing near the top. The remains of house foundations can be seen on some of the terraces, along with the preserved remains of thatch and cane. There are some cemeteries at the base of the hill which are M.H. in date.

Artifacts: The sherds found on the site include two which are decorated with the Middle Horizon circle and dot design with zoned punctation. The other sherds appear to fall into this same style.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-203

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.
Location: This site is on the east side of a small pampa between the larger pampas of Nepeña and San Jose on the north side of the valley. It is 2.9 kms. NNE of the town of Nepeña and 3.2 kms. NW of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: The graves in this small cemetery are scattered over an area measuring 60 meters N-S and 20 meters E-W. Only a dozen or so graves have been looted. The tombs were excavated only about a meter into the gravelly soil. Some of the bones found on the surface were stained green from contact with copper.

Artifacts: A few pieces of red press molded pottery (similar to San Nicolas Molded from Virú) was found along with rim sherds which also appear to be Middle Horizon in date.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-204

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is on the northwestern end of the small pampa between the larger pampas of Nepeña and San Jose. It is 2.5 kms. N of the town of Nepeña and 3.8 kms. WNW of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 200 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is mainly a section of an ancient acequia at the back of a pampa. It is interesting in that it has been excavated into solid rock for almost 100 meters. Only this part of the acequia remains; it cannot be traced any further. It is possible that this pampa was once under cultivation by using water from this source.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-205

Local name: none

Cultural period: L.I.P.?

Location: This site is on the valley bottom, near the north edge of the valley, east of the town of Nepeña. It is only 150 meters
from the road connecting Hacienda San Jose with Nepeña. The site is 800 meters NNE of Nepeña and 3.15 kms. WSW of the Hacienda San Jose at an elevation of 175 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is a rather large mound constructed of rectangular cane marked adobes. It measures about 100 meters N-S and 50 meters E-W; the height is about 15 meters. The mound has been used as part of a pasture for keeping cattle, and it is badly eroded. However, there do seem to be two distinct terraces on the western side. No traces of architecture can be seen on the top, but a few looted graves exist. A small cut made on the SW side by farm machinery has exposed the adobe construction.

Artifacts: Ceramics were rare on the site because of the disturbance by the cattle. The sherds discovered were mainly blackware, and the forms suggest an L.I.P. date rather than M.H.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-206

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. or L.I.P.

Location: This site is in the lower part of the valley on the northern side of a range of hills near the road to Los Chimus. It borders a small natural lagoon some 2.4 kms. NNW of Los Chimus and 3.9 kms. SSW of the Hacienda La Capilla, at an elevation of 10 to 15 meters above sea level.

Description: This is a very small site of unknown function covering an area of about 10 meters square. It is on the sandy flanks of a small natural lagoon formed by seeping groundwater near the bottom of the valley. One large sherd decorated with a press molded design of raised dots in red was found in a hole. No human bones were seen, nor any architecture.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-207

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H.

Location: This site is situated in a small sandy quebrada north of the road to Los Chimus in the lower valley. It is 900 meters N of Los
Chimus and 5.45 kms. SSW of the Hacienda La Capilla at an elevation of 10 meters above sea level.

Description: This site simply consists of a 10 meter-square area on which were found some Middle Horizon sherds. No architecture or graves were seen in this exposed spot. The sherds do not appear to have washed onto this spot from another area.

Artifacts: The sherds include one with the classic Middle Horizon circle and dot design; the others are blackware, one piece having a raised appliquéd circle decorated with an incised cross.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-208

Local name: Las Salinas

Cultural period: Preceramic

Location: This site is 500 meters N of the settlement of Los Chimus on the north side (the protected side) of the mountains bordering the ocean. It is also 5.75 kms. SSW of the Hacienda La Capilla at about five meters above sea level. Topographically it is on the sloping foothills of the coastal range, overlooking the road to Los Chimus several meters below.

Description: This is a preceramic, preagricultural habitation site with large quantities of shell refuse. It would probably be a mistake to call this a shellmound site, for there seem to be stone foundations of structures on one part of the occupied area. This structure is rectangular in shape and measures only about four meters square. Its exact nature can be determined only through careful excavation.

The surface of the site is littered with large quantities of shell. In various areas refuse is exposed, refuse which is at least six inches deep, and probably much deeper. Included in this ancient garbage are mussel shells, crab claws, fish bones, charcoal, twigs, and some cord, either of cotton or vegetable material. No seeds or any other evidence of cultivation were found, and of course no pottery whatsoever. Some parts of the site had more charcoal than others. Several different types of shell were present. The area covered is about 50 meters square.

Artifacts: none except for the refuse

Illustrations: Plate 21; Ishida et al., 1960: 182, Plates 1 and 2

References: Ishida, Biichiro et al., 1960: 441 and plates 1 and 2; p. 182
Quotation: "Many stone constructions which probably used to be habitations. Shells and vegetable fibers can be excavated in the black-soil bed about 30 centimeters thick and in the red-soil bed below it. No Ceramics." (p. 441)

**PV 31-209**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is perched on top of the rocky coastal range directly on the ocean south of the Playa Central. It overlooks the ocean in a spot where fishermen still fish with lines. The site is 2.5 kms. NW of Los Chimús and 4.8 kms. SW of the Hacienda La Capilla at an elevation of 90 meters above the sea below.

Description: There are four small rectangular structures of fieldstone in this habitation, high on the cliffs overlooking the sea. These mountains are excellent for line fishermen, and today there are many paths used by the local peoples to reach their favorite fishing spot. Next to the site is a deep cleft in the rock, a sheer drop down to the sea.

There is no way of determining whether these structures were built in modern or prehistoric times. No sherds were found, but some shell was present to a depth of several centimeters.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-210**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. (late) or L.I.P.

Location: This site is located on the north side of the valley in the pampa directly north of the Hacienda La Capilla in the lower valley area. It is 400 meters N of La Capilla and 6.45 kms. N of Los Chimús at an elevation of 30 meters above sea level.

Description: This site is a small cemetery covering an area 40 by 30 meters. In the center of the cemetery is a raised area of fieldstone forming a low mound. There are perhaps 100 graves here, all dug into the sand of the quebrada. All are shallow. Moderate quantities of shell are on the surface of the site.
Artifacts: The sherds are late Middle Horizon and possibly early Late Intermediate Period. They include the press molded scroll and triangle, face necked bottles, ring bases, modeled human figures, and other stepped press molding. A pitcher shaped jar with white designs on a dark red ground was also found. Ninety-eight percent of the pottery is redware. Some Nepeña Black-on-White decoration was also found.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-211**

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. or L.I.P.

Location: This cemetery is located on the north side of the valley in the quebrada directly north of the Hacienda La Capilla in the lower valley area. It is deeper in the pampa than PV 31-210. The site is 750 meters N of La Capilla and 5.3 kms. WNW of Huambacho nuevo at an elevation of 30 meters above sea level.

Description: This is another small cemetery covering an area 40 by 30 meters. About 75 holes have been dug by the huaqueros, but pottery and human skeletal material is scarce. The graves were shallow and dug into the sandy soil.

Artifacts: The ceramics appear to be mainly L.I.P. (early), but some may be M.H. The majority of the sherds are redware. One is decorated with press molded designs. The handle on another rim fragment is notched, and the shape of another bottle-neck is definitely not like those found in a typical Middle Horizon assemblage.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-212**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is on the top of a mountain at the back of the pampa which is directly north of the La Capilla hacienda in the lower valley. It is 1.2 kms. N of La Capilla and 5.6 kms. NW of Huambacho nuevo at an elevation of 30 meters above sea level for the base of the site. The ruins themselves are about 18 meters above the valley floor.
Description: This habitation site is high on the slopes and top of a hill in the lower valley. It is constructed in the form of a large rectangular compound with three terraces and a level platform on top of the hill. The terraces measure 55 meters deep and 54 meters wide. The exact measurement for the platform is not known. The remains of cane walls and thatch roofing can be seen within the rectangles of the terraces. No stone internal construction was apparently present, but rather the houses were built of more perishable materials. The thatching material looks like corn stalks in some places, while in others cane and reeds as well as leaves are found. A small corn cob was discovered as well as some preserved algarroba beans.

Artifacts: Only one sherd was found on this entire site, a very unusual circumstance. This sherd was weathered redware with no decoration. The site may possibly be very early, but there is not sufficient evidence to say this for sure.

Illustrations: Figure 46

References: none

**PV 31-213**

Local name: none

Cultural period: ?

Location: This site is on the pampa on the north side of the valley northwest of the Hacienda La Capilla in the lower valley area. It is 750 meters NNW of La Capilla and 5.8 kms NW of Huambacho nuevo at an elevation of 30 meters above sea level.

Description: Two small cemeteries separated by the spur of a hill comprise this site. The area covered is about 100 meters by 20 meters. Bones, textiles, gourds, cane roofing, and maize are present on the surface, but unfortunately little pottery. There are about 150 graves, and some of them were roofed with cane.

Artifacts: Only a few ceramics were found here, and they are badly weathered. The site cannot be dated by any of the available artifacts.

Illustrations: none

References: none

**PV 31-214**

Local name: none

Cultural period: L.I.P. or M.H.
FIGURE 46
FV 31-212

Platform

Terraces with habitations

cross section

0 4 8 12 16 20 24 m

1:200

-219-
Location: This cemetery is at the northern base of the hill just to the south of the Pañamarca site in the lower valley. It is 1.0 km. S of Hacienda Capellania and 4.6 kms. SW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level.

Description: This is one of several platform areas on the hill opposite to and facing Pañamarca. Small terraces of rectangular adobe were built up the slopes of the hill. A bulldozer has cut deep into the side of the hill exposing the construction and some human bones. The area covered is about 30 meters E-W and 20 meters N-S. In spite of the few bones found here, the site does not seem to be primarily a cemetery; the exact function is unknown.

Artifacts: Most of the sherds found here were blackware, and none were decorated. One rim sherd with a very sharp angle is probably L.I.P. in date, but it may also be Middle Horizon.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-215

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.P. (Moche) + M.H.?

Location: This cemetery is on the northern side of the hill directly to the south of the Pañamarca site in the lower valley area. It is adjacent to PV 31-214. The site is 1.1 kms. SE of the Hacienda Capellania and 4.4 kms. SW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level. The fields of San Gregorio are nearby.

Description: This site is a small Moche cemetery of shallow adobe lined graves close to Pañamarca. The site covers an area 60 meters E-W and 35 meters N-S; there are about 75 huaxero holes and perhaps 25 of these yielded graves. I suspect that there are more graves to be found in this cemetery. Higher up the slope is a small mound of adobe. The area below the cemetery seems to be of solid adobe as seen in a hole dug by a huaxero. In the east of the site is a fieldstone retaining wall, possibly of later date.

Artifacts: None of the ceramics are decorated, but the shapes appear to be Moche in style. Portions of rims, generally different from those of the Middle Horizon, are common in the sample; a low ring based bowl was also found.

Illustrations: none

References: none
PV 31-216

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.F. (Moche)?

Location: This site is on the east side of the hills directly to the south of Pañamarca in the lower valley. It is 1.2 kms. SE of the Hacienda Capellania and 4.0 kms. SW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level. It is adjacent to PV 31-40.

Description: This site consists of a small adobe platform and an adjacent cemetery. The site covers an area 30 meters N-S and 10 meters E-W. The platform is badly weathered and may form part of a complex with PV 31-40. About 12 graves have been looted in the cemetery, and both sherds and textiles were found.

Artifacts: Only plainware sherds were discovered here, but the shapes suggest that they are Moche.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-217

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.P. (Moche) and M.H.

Location: This site is on the east side of the hills directly south of the Pañamarca site in the lower valley area. It is 1.5 kms. SW of the Hacienda Capellania and 4.05 kms. SW of the Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level.

Description: This site can be divided into three main parts, two cemetery areas separated by a mountain spur on which are located stone and adobe structures.

Northern cemetery: This part of the site is a mixed cemetery measuring 125 meters E-W and 50 meters N-S. There are some differences in grave form in the cemetery. Over much of the site fieldstone has been scattered by the huaqueros digging pits. It seems that in the central and eastern portions of the cemetery some of the graves were lined with this material. I believe that this type of grave is Middle Horizon in date. On the western end (against the base of the hill) adobe lined graves are found. These are most likely Moche. The ceramics are mixed on the surface, but the frequency of Middle Horizon sherds is greatest in the area with the fieldstone.

Central area: There is a hill separating the two cemetery areas. Structures of stone and adobe are located here. The function and measurements of the architecture is not known.
Southern cemetery: This cemetery is smaller than the northern area but also appears to have a mixture of M.H. and E.I.P. graves.

Artifacts: Most of the pottery was collected from the northern cemetery. Little of it was decorated, but the shapes include several Moche style forms. These include the one handled pitcher and a portion of a necked jar. On the other hand some of the sherds seem to be M.H., and the differences in grave forms helps to confirm this hypothesis.

In addition to the pottery, textile fragments, stained bones and wooden objects were found.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-218

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.P. (Moche)?

Location: This mound is on the SW corner of the hills south of the Panamarca site in the lower valley area. It is 1.7 kms. SE of Hacienda Capellana and 4.1 kms. SW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level. The nearest field of cultivation is Caña Castilla.

Description: This site is an adobe pyramid built on the top and sides of a natural hill. It is part of the vast Panamarca complex. The mound is badly weathered, and it is impossible to tell if it was terraced or not. No other architecture was noted. The area covered is 150 meters E-W and 50 meters N-S.

Artifacts: The surface pottery, while undecorated, appears to be Moche in form.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-219

Local name: none

Cultural period: M.H. and E.I.P. (Moche)?

Location: This small cemetery is on the southern side of the hills south of Panamarca in the lower valley area. It is 1.6 kms. SSE of the Hacienda Capellana and 4.4 kms. SW of Hacienda Cerro Blanco at an elevation of 100 meters above sea level.
Description: This is a separated cemetery in two parts, divided by a small hill. Each section is about 10 by 20 meters in area. The graves are shallow, dug into the sandy soil of the quebrada. The western section has a modern hut built on it.

Artifacts: Most of the sherds appear to be Middle Horizon. One geometrically painted M.H. piece was collected, and a ring base bowl fragment is present. A portion of a rim of a utilitarian vessel appears to be Moche, however, and the cemetery is a mixed one.

Illustrations: none

References: none

PV 31-220

Local name: none

Cultural period: E.I.P. (Moche)

Location: This mound is adjacent to the natural hill containing the main ruins of Panamarca. It is considered a separate site only because it is detached, like other mounds in the same field, from the main part of the site. There is no doubt that it forms part of the Panamarca complex. The site is only a few meters away from the base of the Panamarca hills, 750 meters from the Hacienda Capellania and 1.0 km. E of San Gregorio. The modern peasants have built their houses around its base, and the mound is badly disturbed.

Description: This huaca or mound is part of the Panamarca complex. It is about 40 meters in diameter and a good 15 meters in height. The site is in poor condition because of modern habitations surrounding it, but the construction material is obviously rectangular adobes.

Artifacts: none

Illustrations: none

References: none
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PLATE 1

EARLY HORIZON CERAMICS

CHAVIN STYLE


B. Reverse of A.

C. Long-necked, single-spout bottle with raised modeled snake coiled around the body of the vessel. Red-brown in color. Chavin Style. Provenience: Nepéña Valley, possibly from the site of Punkurí (PV 31-10). Private Collection, Nepéña.


E. Side view of D.
PLATE 2
EARLY INTERMEDIATE PERIOD CERAMICS

GALLINAZO STYLE


B. Double-chambered vessel with modeled bird's head on one chamber and a single spout on the other connected by a handle. Gallinazo Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, perhaps in the vicinity of Pañamarca (PV 31-38). Private Collection, Nepeña.

C. Double-chambered vessel with modeled bird's head and human arms in low relief on one chamber and a single spout on the other. Gallinazo Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.


E. Double-chambered vessel with modeled bird's head on one chamber and a spout on the other connected by a handle. Gallinazo Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, vicinity of Cerro Blanco. Private Collection, Nepeña.
PLATE 3
EARLY INTERMEDIATE PERIOD CERAMICS
RECUAY STYLE

Recuay gravelot consisting of four pieces recorded by Dr. Michael Moseley of Harvard University. The gravelot is reported to have come from a cemetery known as Tres Marias in the Lower Valley area. This site is probably PV 31-73. It is the only known Recuay gravelot from coastal Peru.

A. Pedestal based bowl painted with two parrots in red on a white background. The two parrots are separated by vertical sets of parallel lines in groups of three alternating in color from black to red. Inside the bowl is an interlocking geometric motif in red. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, Tres Marias (PV 31-73?).

B. Interior of Pedestal bowl.

C. Reverse of Pedestal bowl.

D. Hemispherical-shaped bowl painted on the exterior with white triangles and vertical lines on a red background. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, Tres Marias (PV 31-73).

E. Flat unpainted plate with incised "X" in the center. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, Tres Marias (PV 31-73?).

F. Side view of E.

G. Another unpainted plate, nearly identical to E. Two small semi-circular incisions can be seen near the edge. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, Tres Marias (PV 31-73?).
PLATE 4
EARLY INTERMEDIATE PERIOD CERAMICS

RECUAY STYLE

A. Fragment of the neck of a jar having a modeled human head with incised circular eyes, pug-like nose, and slit line mouth. The reverse is painted with a triangular design in white and black on a red background. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

B. Reverse of A.

C. Globular jar with flaring rim decorated with several panels of "plumed pumas" in black on a white background. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

D. Modeled jar with widely flaring flat rim. The jar has a modeled human head with a fancy headdress with spout and wearing large ear spools. On one side of the vessel a feline design is painted in red on the white background. This feline is provided with a modeled head which appears adjacent to the human head. A handle connects the body of the vessel to the flat rim. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

E. Front view of D.

F. Modeled human head with headdress and "napkin-ring" ear spools. The face is painted with a fine red slip, but the eyes, mouth, headdress and edge of the ear spools are unpainted. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

G. Sherd from a rounded bowl painted with a red geometric design on a white background. Associated with H and I and may form part of the same gravelot. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, found at the cemetery PV 31-73 on the surface. Now deposited with other surface collections at the Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Antropología, Pueblo Libre, Lima.

H. One-half of a pedestal based bowl decorated with negative painted birds separated by sets of vertical lines. The birds are white, the color of the background of the vessel. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, found at the cemetery PV 31-73. Now deposited with other surface collections at the Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Antropología, Pueblo Libre, Lima.

I. Fragment of a bowl painted with red geometric designs on a white background. Recuay Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, found at the cemetery PV 31-73. Associated on the surface with G and H. Now deposited with other surface collections at the Museo Nacional de Arqueología y Antropología, Pueblo Libre, Lima.
PLATE 5

EARLY INTERMEDIATE PERIOD CERAMICS

MOCHE STYLE

A. Moche IV Stirrup-spout bottle decorated with modeled citons or shellfish. Small painted birds are attempting to break open shellfish. Red paint. Moche Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.


D. Moche collared jar with modeled figure of Ai Apec (?) holding a club and staff. Two projections on the jar are thought to represent mountains, and perhaps the figure is standing in the mouth of a cave. Moche Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Nepeña.

E. Double-chambered vessel with one chamber in the form of a seated human, the other chamber terminating in a single spout connected to the figure by a handle. Red slip with traces of white. Moche Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, said to have come from Sute (PV 31-108). Private Collection, Nepeña.
PLATE 6
EARLY INTERMEDIATE PERIOD CERAMICS

MOCHE STYLE


B. Moche collared jar with painted geometric design in white. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, discovered on the surface of a looted cemetery at PV 31-121A. Now deposited with other surface collections at the Instituto de Cultura, Lima.

C. Spout and handle bottle (pitcher) decorated with geometric designs in red on a white ground. Moche Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.


E. Flaring bowl with stylized birds painted in dark red on the interior rim. The base of the bowl also has painted vertical lines and is hollow inside—and may contain a rattle base. Moche Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Nepeña.

F. Top view of E.
PLATE 7

MIDDLE HORIZON CERAMICS

HUARI NORTEÑO A STYLE

A. Kero or cup decorated with a modeled raised human head surrounded by painted elements. The head is provided with bulging eyes painted white. The face is red with a grey nose and white mouth. The area surrounding the head is black and the band above the head is light orange with a dark red geometric design. There is a snake-like design encircling the upper part of the vessel painted in grey and outlined in black. Huari Norteño A Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, but it may be a trade piece. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

B. Side view of A.

C. Globular flask painted with a rectangular human head with stylized plumes or hair. Colors include red, black, white, grey and light orange. Huari Norteño A Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Nepeña.

D. Double-spout and bridge vessel modeled in the form of a bivalve. Tapering or conical-shaped spouts with black tops; body of the vessel is red. Huari Norteño A Style. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, said to have come from the area around Pammaramca (PV 31-36). Private Collection, Nepeña.
PLATE 8
MIDDLE HORIZON CERAMICS
HUARI NORTEÑO B STYLE


C. Huari Norteño B flask with painted decoration in the form of white dots with black dots on a red background. The lugs on this flask are in the shape of bird's heads. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.


F. Huari flaring bowl decorated with white dots and black dots on a red background. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.


PLATE 9

MIDDLE HORIZON CERAMICS

HUARI NORTEÑO B STYLE

A. Huari face-necked jar. Human head has modeled eyes painted white and hair which terminates in snake heads. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, possibly the cemetery of Sute (PV 31-108). Private Collection.

B. Reverse of A.

C. Huari face-necked flask with press-molded body. The body of this vessel bears a mythical feline creature holding a trophy head. The neck is modeled with a human head. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

D. Huari face-necked flask with press-molded body. The seam joining the two halves of the vessel can clearly be seen. Press-molded bird's heads adorn the body; the neck consists of a modeled human head. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

E. Huari face-necked jar with painted design on the body of the vessel. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Lima.


PLATE 10

MIDDLE HORIZON CERAMICS

HUARI NORTEÑO B UTILITARIAN VESSELS

A. Cooking vessel with raised circle and dot decoration and small modeled bird's head, Redware. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, surface collection from cemetery PV 31-29. Now deposited with remainder of surface collections at the Instituto de Cultura, Lima.

B. Cooking vessel decorated with applique elements which have been adorned by raised circles and dots. A raised area similarly decorated is found at the base of the neck. Redware blackened through use. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, cemetery at PV 31-29. Now deposited with the remainder of the surface collections at the Instituto de Cultura, Lima.

C. Cooking vessel decorated with applique elements which have been adorned with raised circles and dots. Provenience: Nepeña Valley, surface collections from cemetery PV 31-29. Now deposited with the remainder of the surface collections at the Instituto de Cultura, Lima.


PLATE 10

A

B

C

D

E
PLATE 11
MIDDLE HORIZON CERAMICS

NEPEÑA BLACK-WHITE-RED STYLE

A. Necked jar with painted design in white and black on a red background. The major motif is a two-headed snake. One of the lugs on this vessel is in the form of a modeled frog. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection.

B. Necked jar with two-headed snake design, two lug handles, and a modeled frog on the body of the vessel. Provenience: Nepeña Valley. Private Collection, Hacienda San Jacinto.

