

Contents

Preface	9
1. Introduction	11
2. Functional Analysis – Methods and Techniques	15
2.1 Introduction	15
2.2 Usewear traces	15
2.2.1 Flint and hard stone	15
2.2.2 Shell	16
2.3 Taphonomic processes and post-depositional modifications	19
2.3.1 Flint and hard stone	19
2.3.2 Shell	19
2.4 Functional analysis in the Caribbean area	21
2.4.1 Flint and hard stone	21
2.4.2 Shell	21
2.5 Sampling	21
2.6 Registration	22
2.6.1 Flint and hard stone	22
2.6.2 Shell	23
2.7 Instruments	25
2.8 Cleaning	26
2.8.1 Flint and hard stone	26
2.8.2 Shell	27
2.9 Levels of interpretation	27
3. The processing of raw materials: ethnohistorical, ethnographical, archaeological and experimental data	29
3.1 Methods and data sources	29
3.1.1 Analogical reasoning and experimental archaeology	29
3.1.2 Ethnohistory and ethnography	29
3.1.3 Archaeology	30
3.1.4 Experiments	31
3.2 Plants	32
3.2.1 Ethnohistory and ethnography	32
3.2.1.1 Wild edible plants	32
3.2.1.2 Cultivated crops	32
3.2.1.3 Containers	33
3.2.1.4 Leaves and fibres	33
3.2.1.5 Colorants and medicine	35
3.2.1.6 Poison	35
3.2.2 Archaeology	36
3.2.3 Experiments	36
3.2.3.1 Non-siliceous plant: tubers	37
3.2.3.2 Non-siliceous plants: soft plants	38
3.2.3.4 Siliceous plants: reeds and liana	39
3.2.3.5 Plants: summary	40
3.3 Wood: logs and branches	42

CONTENTS

3.3.1	Ethnohistory and ethnography	42
3.3.1.1	Houses and canoes	42
3.3.1.2	Fuel	43
3.3.1.3	Fire makers and torches	43
3.3.1.4	Other purposes	43
3.3.2	Achaeology	43
3.3.3	Experiments	44
3.3.3.1	Wood: roots and branches	45
3.3.3.2	Wood: logs	46
3.4	Animal material: hides, meat and bones	50
3.4.1	Ethnohistory and ethnography	50
3.4.2	Archaeology	50
3.4.3	Experiments	50
3.4.3.1	Hide working traces	51
3.4.3.2	Traces of bone working	51
3.4.3.3	Fish working traces	52
3.5.	Mineral, coral and shell	53
3.5.1	Ethnohistory and ethnography	53
3.5.2	Achaeology	53
3.5.3	Experiments	54
3.5.3.1	Clay	54
3.5.3.2	Shell and coral	54
3.6	Concluding remarks	56
4.	Anse à la Gourde	59
4.1	Introduction to the site	59
4.1.1	Geographical setting	59
4.1.2	History of research	59
4.1.3	Environmental history	59
4.1.4	Archaeological data	60
4.2	Shell artefacts	60
4.2.1	Ornaments	61
4.2.1.1	Beads and pendants	61
4.2.1.2	Adornments	67
4.2.1.3	Three-dimensional objects	69
4.2.2	Tools	76
4.2.2.1	Bivalve shells	76
4.2.2.2	Celts (Fig. 4.23)	83
4.2.2.3	Other tools	90
4.2.3	The distribution and context of shell artefacts	93
4.2.4	Shell artefacts, a summary	94
4.3	Flint and stone artefacts	94
4.3.1	Flint artefacts	94
4.3.3	Hard stone implements (Fig. 4.37-4.45)	100
4.3.4	Hard stone and flint artefacts, a summary	108
4.4	Coral artefacts	108
4.5	Secondarily used pottery sherds	110
4.6	Conclusions	110
4.6.1	The production of tools and ornaments	110

4.6.2	Tools and their functionality	111
5.	Morel	113
5.1	Introduction to the site	113
5.1.1	Geographical setting and environmental history	113
5.1.2	History of research	113
5.1.3	Archaeological data	113
5.2	Shell artefacts	113
5.2.1	Shell ornaments	114
5.2.1.1	Beads and pendants	114
5.2.1.2	Adornments	115
5.2.1.3	Three-dimensional objects	115
5.2.2	Tools (Fig. 5.2)	116
5.2.2.1	Bivalve shell tools	116
5.2.2.2	Celts and chisels	118
5.2.2.3	Cylinder-shaped hafts	121
5.2.2.4	Fishhook	121
5.2.3	Artefacts without context, Museum Edgar Clerc	121
5.2.3.1	Ornaments (Fig. 5.7)	121
5.2.3.2	Tools	123
5.2.4	Summary	123
5.3	Flint tools	123
5.3.1	Worked materials and motions	127
5.3.2	Typology versus function	128
5.4	Hard stone tools	128
5.4.1	Celts and fragments of celts	129
5.4.2	Unmodified large pebbles with traces of use	129
5.4.3	Combination tools	133
5.4.4	Small pebbles	133
5.4.5	Ornaments	134
5.5	Coral and pottery tools	134
5.5.1	Coral tools	134
5.5.2	Secondarily used sherds (Fig. 5.19)	135
5.6	Conclusions	136
6.	Towards an integral approach in the Lesser Antilles	137
6.1	Introduction	137
6.2	The possibilities and limitations of functional analysis	137
6.2.1	Low and high power, form and function	137
6.2.2	The so-called recurrent forms	137
6.2.3	Methodological observations	138
6.3	The choice of raw materials for tool and ornament production	139
6.4	Domestic activities and craft specialization through time (Fig. 6.1)	140
6.4.1	The production of tools	140
6.4.2	Subsistence activities	143
6.4.3	Symbolic artefacts and ornaments	143
6.4.4	Summary	144
6.5	Suggestions for further research	145

CONTENTS

References	147
Appendix 1: Code-list use-wear traces	167
Appendix 2: Shell artefact description, variables and possible entries	169
Samenvatting (Dutch summary)	171
List of figures	175
List of tables	177
List of appendices	177
Acknowledgements	179
Curriculum Vitae	181