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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURFACE RUINS
" IN AMERICAN SAMOA

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Look u

manuali'i bird, which became the tupua of his descendants. Its cry near a house meant death, and it was death to kill it. ⁵⁹

The people of 'Olosega worshipped eels as the totem of their island and tell of one eel called Fui-le-lagi. This eel after it had crawled out of the water died and people carried it on a litter as they lamented its death. They buried the eel and for six days laid offerings of pigs on its burial mound where they had constructed a grave monument. All later eels that were thus ritually treated were buried in this area now called O-le-Fa'autauga-o-ali'i. Eating or killing of eels was forbidden. ⁶⁰

'Ofu Island had its own god called Tagi-sau, The-weeping-to-come (see reference to Tagi-sau under Temples and Shrines). An 'Ofu family named Samuasāo had a family god which was embodied in a conch shell. It also had a tapu or restriction on certain types of food such as eels, turtles, and human flesh which it regarded as related to the conch shell. ⁶¹

Manu'a had several demon spirits; among them were Sepo, a demon invoked in cursing children; Tau-manu-pepe and Fagaiva, demons of character similar to Sepo; and Sau-matafi, a female demon who had power to assume any human shape she wished. In the form of a maid she lured young men away; in the form of a youth she lured young girls away; and as an old, ugly man or woman she appeared to those

59. Mead 1930: 160.

60. Mead 1930: 158.

61. Mead 1930: 158.

poll or butt made rough grooves and notches which obviously strengthened the attachment of the lashing to the handle. Generally, Samoan adzes do not have true shoulders or tangs, but a small number suggests an embryonic development. An adze blank (St-186) from Leone Valley remarkably resembles Hawaiian tanged adzes. The poll is chipped narrower than the blade. The face of the poll dips down to form a typical side and plan of a tanged adze. The chipping does not indicate accidental forming of the butt but a purposeful aim to produce the shape (Figure 48). The tanged adze may have been made by people from the Tokelau Islands who have quadrangular tanged adzes similar to the plan of the tanged adze found in Leone Valley. Adze St-200 from Leone Valley display two small notches at the poll which seem ancestral to the shouldered adzes of Eastern Polynesia (Figure 49). Indications are that shouldered and tanged adzes were developing in Samoa but were somehow restrained, while the forms expanded and became elaborated outside of Western Polynesia.

Graters

During the author's six-weeks of surveying villages, plantations, and paths, he found a total of 95 stone graters, strewn in the villages of Leone, Amaluia, Fitiuta and Faleasao.

Stone graters were usually made from an oval-shaped flake struck from a basalt core. Only one side was flaked. This side was roughly chipped to get a trapezoidal shape and chipped again at the front or blade, the scraping edge (Figure 50). Twelve graters from a total of 72 complete graters were made from adze fragments, with the face of the adze used as the back of the grater.