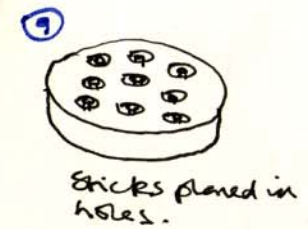


can be
[kaolin applied as coating to give non stick property to mould]

← cassava stick placed in small hole at base of mould hole

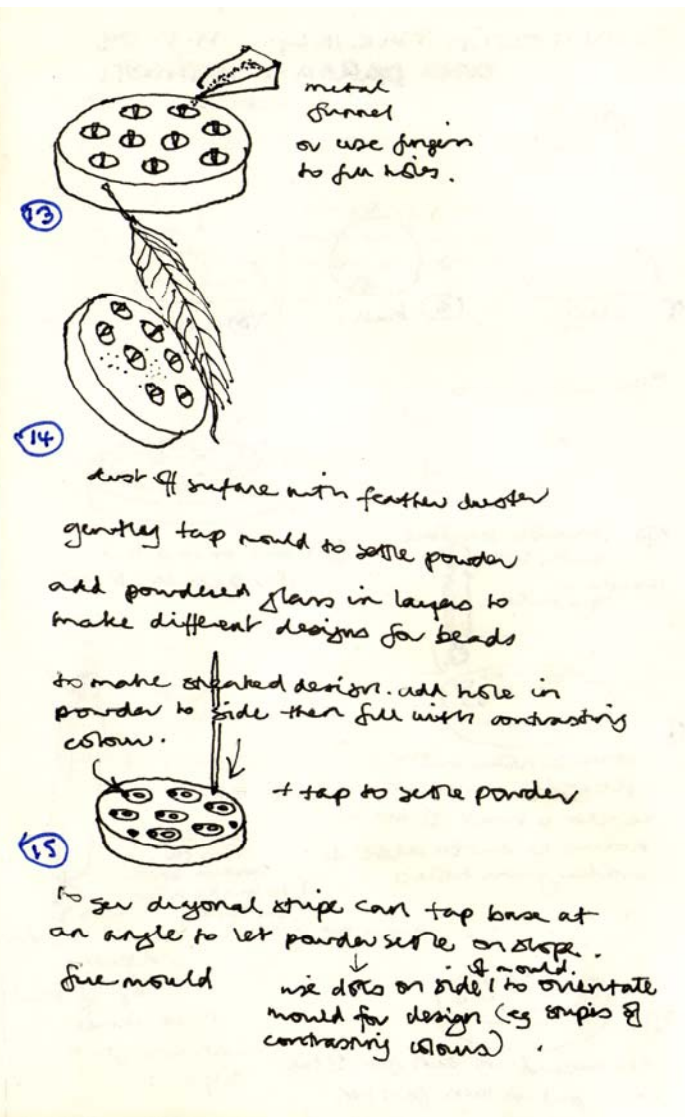
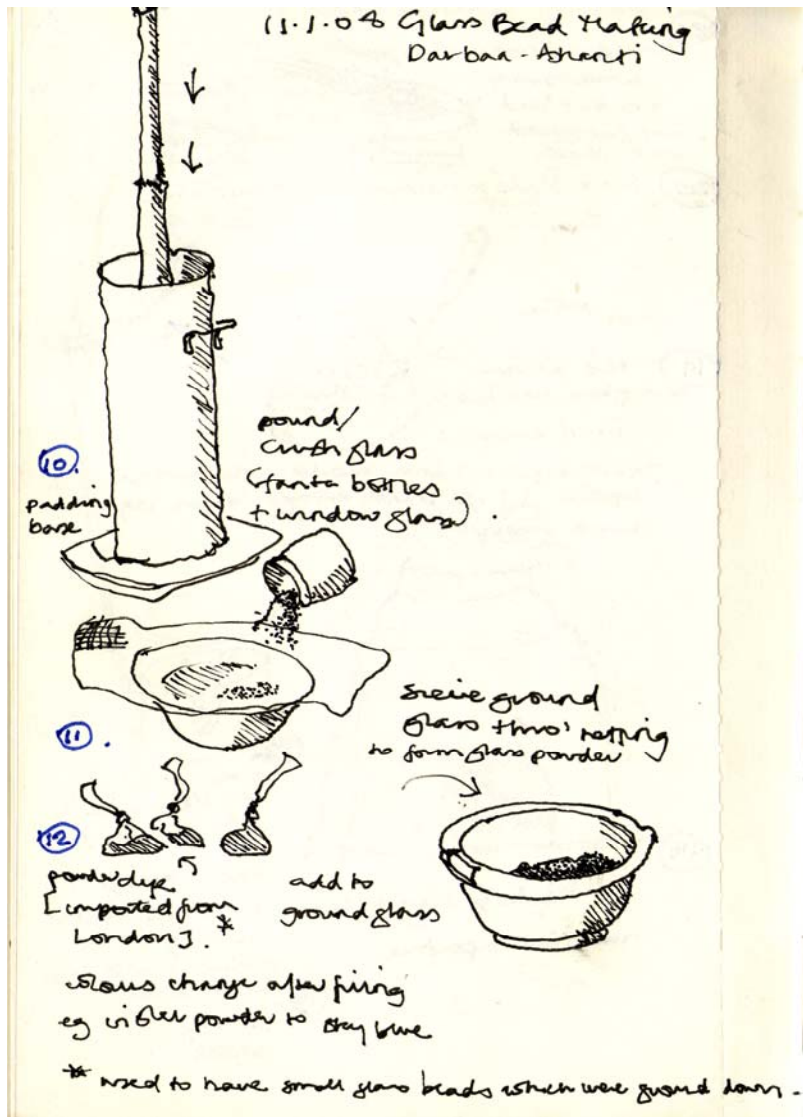
⑧ cut to size (level with mould). make sure sticks are straight.

Big variety of mould types.



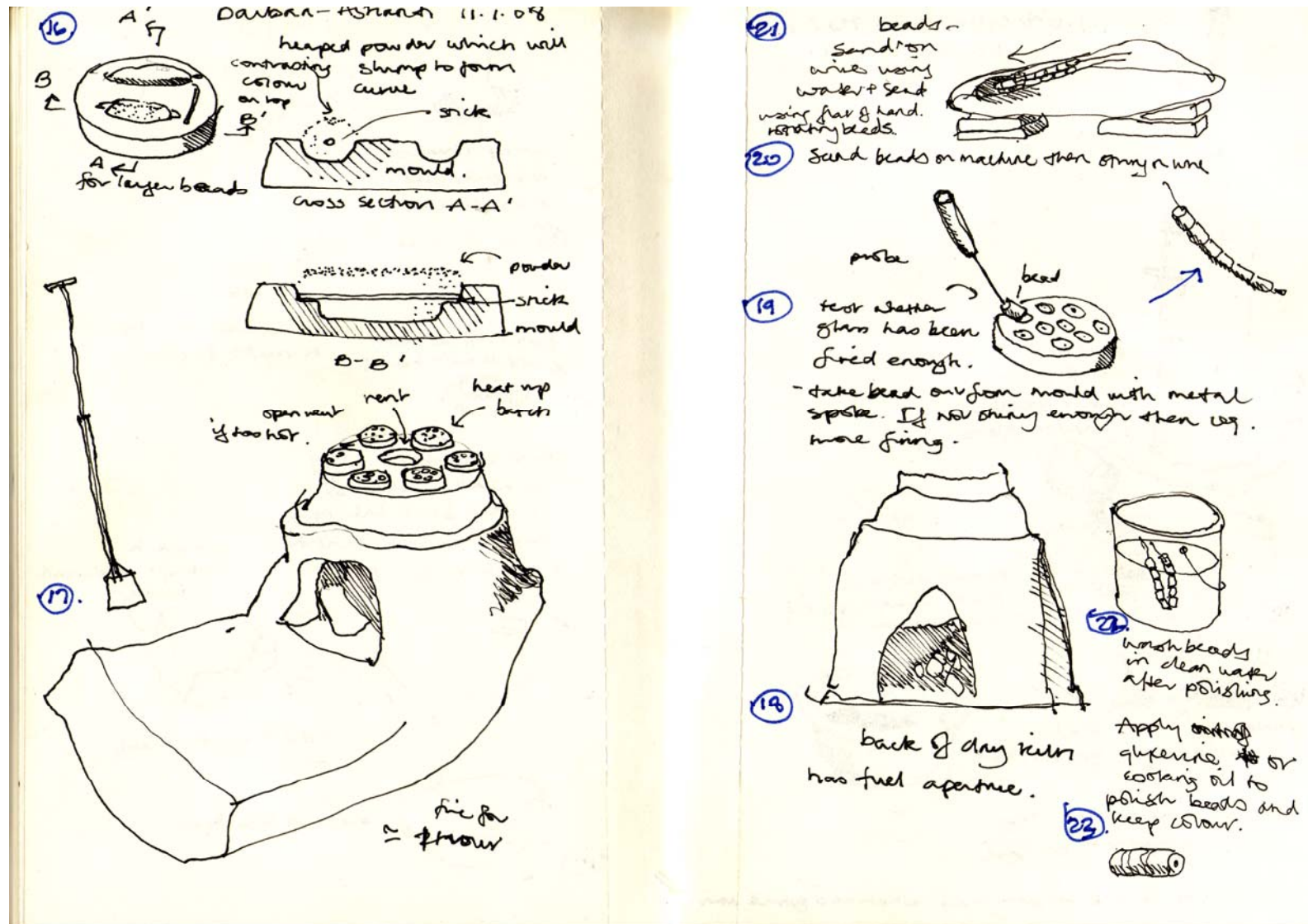
Roll clay into a ball then flatten to form a smooth flat disc of about 5 to 6" diameter (125 to 150mm) and 1 1/2" thick (30mm) (steps 1 to 3). Smooth the surface using water and a spatula then cut around a lid to form a circular shape (4 & 5). Make holes with a wooden dowel and repeat this about 2 hours later to absorb any water from holes (6). Dry the mould in the sun for 2 hours then fire in the kiln for 1 hour (7). A Kaolin coating can be applied to the mould to give it non-stick properties. Insert small cassava sticks into each hole and trim these level with the mould surface (8 & 9).

Darbaa Beads, Ghana: Glass Bead-making – basic preparation



Crush and pound glass in an elongated bin (10). Sieve ground glass through netting to obtain glass powder (11). Add imported powdered dyes to the clear ground glass to obtain different colours (these alter during firing process) (12). Use a metal funnel, or fingers, to fill mould recesses with powdered glass (13). Dust off the mould surface with a feather duster then gently tap mould to settle powder and remove air pockets. Add powdered glass in layers to make different designs. To get a streaked design, add holes to the side then fill with a contrasting colour. Tap the base at an angle to let the powder settle on a slope to get diagonal stripes. Markings can be made on the side of a mould to orientate it as part of the bead design process.

Darbaa Beads, Ghana: Glass Bead-making – larger beads and firing process



All sorts of sizes and shapes of glass beads can be made within different moulds (16). Beads moulds are fired for 1 hour in a clay kiln fueled by wood through an aperture at the back (17 & 18). To test when the glass has been sufficiently fired, take a bead from the mould with a metal spoke, if it is not glossy enough the glass needs more firing (19). When cool, string beads on a wire and sand on a flat stone, using water and sand, rotating the beads with the flat of the hand (can also sand with machine) (20 & 21).