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Bronze Artifacts and Burial Sites in Eastern Nigeria: *Insights and Challenges*

By Chuka Odike

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FEATURE
IMAGE

Blacksmiths “from the Onitsha area” according to G. I. Jones, photographed by William Henry Crosse, part of the Royal Niger Company, 1886-1895. MAA Cambridge.

Article image · caption retained from the published Ozikoro article

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Research on bronze objects in eastern Nigeria reveals interesting findings. Afikpo oral traditions speak of a sacred dump of bronze, brass, and copper artifacts in the Ogwugwu Valley, but attempts to locate the site have been unsuccessful due to lack of local support. The artifacts are believed to have been left by the Ego, ancestors of the Ugwuagu and Amizu communities in Afikpo.

In Uzuakoli, Imo State, elders claim that the burial of a chief, Okorie Chukwu, contains numerous bronze and brass items. Mr. Akwani, a local informant, also highlighted the existence of royal tombs in Uzuakoli that could hold valuable archaeological data. However, political tensions during initial investigations prevented further exploration. Despite this, several garbage dumps and mounds in Uzuakoli remain promising sites for future archaeological research.

The Meaning of Iron in Igbo Culture and Its Importance in Tradition

Chikwendu, V. E. (1984). More bronzes from eastern Nigeria. *Anthropos*, 79(1/3), 260–261.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chuka Odike

I'm a dedicated civil engineer with a passion for infrastructure development and community empowerment. With a strong background in engineering, my work focuses on creating sustainable solutions for urban and rural development projects. Outside of my professional career, I'm deeply interested in Igbo history and culture. I actively explore ways to impact society by using historical lessons to inspire and educate others about the rich cultural heritage of the Igbo people, aiming to bridge tradition and modern development.



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