

Jade

16.163

S.I.876

Chinese,

~~Shang dynasty, late~~ Shang~~W.---Chou-period, ca. 1027-771-B.C.~~

Ceremonial implement; quadrilateral, thin blade form; slightly curving, very sharp, beveled cutting edge; four conical perforations and a circular depression, the beginning of a fifth perforation; semitranslucent, slate gray with grayish white and tan mottlings and spots; granular pitted area on upper edge. (Blade edge slightly chipped.) Box.

35.9 cm

~~35.9~~ greatest length. (14-1/8")~~9.0~~ greatest width. (3-9/16")

9.0 cm

Neg. Nos.

~~H371B1-~~~~S4784B~~

S6082AE

1. Bought from Lai-Yuan and Company, New York.
For price, see Original Miscellaneous List, p. 190.
2. Original attribution: "Ancient". See further, S.I.876, Appendix VII. ~~(XXXXXXXXXXXXXX)~~
3. (J.E.L., 1940) Early Chou.
4. Sp. G. is 2.912.
5. (A.G.W., 1946) Shang dynasty.

For discussion of type, see folder 16.244, (C.W.B.)

note 3.

6. (T. Lawton, 1978) This blade has been sliced from a thicker blade, and has the original high polish only on one side. Cf. Loehr, Ancient Chinese Jades, no. 205.

7. (Julia K. Murray, 1982). The blade is noticeably sharper on 16.163 than on many jades of the horizontal knife shape. Hayashi Minao believes that the longitudinal slicing of jades into thinner slabs was carried out in ancient times to make them into matching tallies of official authority. (See his article "Stone-knife shaped jades and bone-scoop shaped jades"

中国古代の石庖丁形玉器と骨鏟形玉器

in Tōhōgaku no. 54 (March 1982): 1-81; in Japanese.) Hayashi illustrates two blades in the Fogg that actually match each other (pl. 1).

For a further discussion see 17.24 .