

Jade
(Nephrite)

17.344

S.I.1284

Chinese,

~~W. Chou dynasty.~~ Neolithic, ca. 2000 B.C.

Large perforated disc of the type pi; bored from both sides leaving median ridge; obverse of mottled olive-brown and olive-green with bluish areas and pale strata cracks and translucent flecks, some light frosting of decomposition; reverse is lighter and extensively covered with large and small veins of white decomposition. (Broken and mended (?), surface roughly filed at cracks, small chips.) Box.

.264 in diameter. (10-7/16")

Neg. No.
H396B1

1. Bought from Seaouke Yue, of Shanghai, in New York. For price, see Original Miscellaneous List, p. 286.
2. Original attribution: Shang. See further, S.I.1284, Appendix VIII. Excavated in Shensi Province.
3. (A.G.W., 1945) Chou dynasty.
4. Sp. G. is 2.993. Nephrite.

5. (Julia K. Murray, 1983) The abrasions that appear on both surfaces suggest that someone tried to polish away the veins in the stone, as the scratches follow the veins exactly. It seems likely that this attempt at reworking the surface took place in relatively recent times, given the fresh appearance of the abrasions. See 17.19 for a discussion of pi. The attribution is changed from Western Chou to Neolithic, ca. 2000 B.C.