

Jade  
(Nephrite)

17.348

S.I.1288

Chinese,

W. Chou-dynasty; Neolithic, ca. 2000 B.C.  
Trad. Chekiang Provenance

Perforated disc of the type pi; bored from both sides leaving rough median ridge; darkly mottled green and golden-brown; bluish gray frosting and veins of incipient disintegration; scattered granular pittings; decoration: lightly incised, a device on obverse, birds, arrows and geometric pattern around outer rim. Box.

.236 in diameter. (9-5/16")

Neg. Nos.

~~S4787AE~~

S4787AE

S7366AA

1. Bought from Seaouke Yue, of Shanghai, in New York. For price, see Original Miscellaneous List, p. 288.
2. Original attribution: Shang. See further, S.I.1288, Appendix VIII. Excavated from Anki in Chekiang Prov.
3. (A.G.W., 1945) Chou dynasty.
4. Sp. G. is 3.016. Nephrite.
5. (I.M., 1946) The device is in the form of a long-tailed bird perched on a shield-like stand with crenelated top and crescent-shaped base, the field is decora-

ted with a sun or circle filled with spiral forms.



Cf. the device on 17.79 and also that on 17.346 for similarities of bird and stand, see also devices on 19.58 and 17.385.

6. (T. Lawton, 1978) Western Chou.

7. From exhibition label, September 1980, by Julia Murray: Attribution is changed from W. Chou to Neolithic, ca. 2000 B.C., Trad. Chekiang Provenance.

8. (Julia K. Murray, 1983) For further discussion of the motif incised on the surface of this pi, see folder sheet 17.346. Also, see folder sheet 17.19 for a discussion of pi.

There is another design lightly incised on the narrow rim of this pi, consisting of two birds seen from above and two fishbone motifs. The motifs appear in alternation, one per quadrant along the rim. Between motifs there is a loosely organized meander or fret pattern some-

what resubbling lei-wen. (For photo, see Hayashi Minao, "Jade of the Liang-chu Culture," Museum no. 360, (March 1981), fig. 28). On a pi of similar proportions in the Victoria and Albert Museum, there is also a design incised along the rim, but it does not include the fishbone--only the meander and the bird seen from above. (The pi is included in Jessica Rawson and John Ayers, Chinese Jade throughout the Ages, (London, 1975), cat. no. 30; the rim motif is mentioned but not reproduced.)

9. See 16.628, # 10.

10. See 17.79, # 12.