

Jade

17.383
S.I.1323

Chinese

Qhpu, Western Neolithic, late 4th/early 3rd millennium B.C.

Ornament: type huang 王黃
Small flat plaque with oval upper edge and straight base with curved notch in the center; mottled pale yellow green and cream; reverse covered with white incrustation; two functional holes conically bored from both sides; irregularities in cutting, two saw marks. Box.

Neg.No.
390B13

Length: .094 (3-11/16")

Width at center: .027 (1-1/16")

1. Bought from Seaouke Yue, of Shanghai. For price, see Original Miscellaneous List, p. 303.
2. Original attribution: Shang. Said to have been excavated in Chekiang. See further, S.I. 1323, Appendix VIII.
3. (I.Mayer, 1945) Chou dynasty.
4. Sp. G. is 2.952. Decomposition prevents more accurate calculation for nephrite.
5. (W.B.Trousdale, 1964) Chou dynasty. Probably reworked from a broken perforated disk. The rim has been ground somewhat flatter opposite the central half-circle perforation.
6. (T.Lawton, 1978) Western Chou.

7. (Julia Murray, 1982). Jade ornaments of the type huang have been excavated from remains belonging to the Sung-tse 崧澤 culture in eastern coastal China. The Sung-tse culture, which may be regarded as the late stage of the Ma-chia-pang 馬家濱 culture, has produced carbon dates in the fourth and fifth millennia B.C. Two huang of nearly identical size, shape, and workmanship to 17.383 were found in the middle layer at Sung-tse itself, which is located near Shanghai in Ch'ing-p'u-hsien 青浦縣. (See K'ao-ku hsüeh-pao 1962 no. 2: pl. 3/4 (A2M5-16); and K'ao-ku hsüeh-pao 1980 no. 1: p. 51, fig. 16/10 (M92:5).)

Jade and stone huang were found placed on the chests of occupants of several tombs at Ts'ao-hsieh-shan, Wu-hsien 吳縣 草鞋山 in Kiangsu province. These tombs were in layer 6, which has been identified as belonging to the Sung-tse culture. (See Wen-wu tzu-liao ts'ung-k'an no. 3: pl. 3/2 (esp. M105:2) and p. 23, fig. 71/nos. 5-9.)

A few jade and stone huang have been excavated from the upper layer at Ta-hsi, Wu-shan-hsien 巫山縣 大溪 in Szechwan province. The Ta-hsi culture, which is distributed in the Three Gorges region of Szechwan and Hupei, southwest Hupei, and northern Hunan, has affinities with the Yang-shao culture. In southwest Hupei and northern Hunan it underlies the Ch'ü-chia-ling 屈家嶺 culture, which has produced carbon dates in the first half of the third millennium B. C. (See K'ao-ku hsüeh-pao 1981 no. 4: pl. 8/3 (M123:8).)

Changed attribution from Chou, Western, to Neolithic, late 4th/early 3rd millennium B. C.