

Jade
(Nephrite)

15.108
S.I.676

Chinese

Shang, 12th-late 11th century B.C.

Ceremonial weapon of the type ko; light gray with green cast, pale yellow and blue mottlings; conical drilled from opposite sides of the blade two/perforations in the tang; incised and channeled lines on butt and tang; pointed end and two cutting edges. (Slightly chipped.)

Over-all length: 31.3 cm
~~31.3~~ (12-5/16")

Width: ~~0.86~~ (3-3/8")
8.6 cm

Neg.No.
371B7
6081B

1. Bought from Lai-yuan and Company, New York. For price, see Original Miscellaneous List, p. 160.
2. Original attribution: Han or earlier. See further, S.I. 676, Appendix VII.
3. (C.W.Bishop, 1922) See Laufer, Jade, pp. 40 et seq., on 17.396 of this collection, a similar piece, but larger.
4. (J.E.Lodge, 1940) Early Chou.
5. (I.Mayer, 1945) Shang dynasty.

6. (Julia K. Murray, 1982). For a general discussion of jade ko, see folder sheet 17.396 .

Both of the perforations on this ko are off axis and thus the median ridge does not pass through them. The incised decorations consist of five pairs of projecting crenellations on the butt, and two pairs of shallower lines incised at right angles to the butt and passing through the rear perforation.