

No. 24

A rare Song Mine Inkstone carved with Five Arhats

Qing Dynasty, Qianlong period (1736-95)

The stone of rectangular form with indented corners. The top with raised rim finely carved in low relief with a continuous wave motif, the ink pool of ruyi-cloud shape deeply set into the upper part of the stone. The recessed base very finely carved in low relief with an arhat sitting on a blanket carried over water by four spirits. The four sides all carved with different arhats in low relief on a key-fret diaper background. Wooden base and cover.

An arhat or luohan, is one who has reached the end of the eight-fold-path, and is not only perfect in himself but can help others to attain perfection.

L 5 in W 4 in

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