

Pebble vase

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 4888 

Type: miniature; pottery

Date of production: 14- mid-16th century

Place of production: Sawankhalok (?), Thailand (Siam), Southeast Asia

Materials/Techniques: ceramics, underglaze blue

Dimensions: height: 3 cm
diameter: 4. 8 cm

A small, flattened, cylindrical-bodied vessel with underglaze blue paint. Around the neck it is decorated with a patterned collar and in the central field with medallions resembling the Chinese cloud motif. Probably Sawankhalok pottery.

The former town of Sawankhalok in northern and central Thailand saw an extraordinary development of pottery production in the period from the 14th to the mid-16th century. This was partly due to the sudden ban on the export of Chinese ceramics during the Ming dynasty in 1371. It was at this time that Vietnamese and Thai ceramics took the place of Chinese ceramics in Southeast Asian markets.

Typical pieces of the type are celadon glazed ceramics, learned from Chinese masters, but other types of wares also existed.

The pieces found today have been found partly in field excavations and partly as cargo from sunken shipwrecks.

