

Small bottle vase

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 4908 

Type: miniature; pottery

Date of production: 14th – mid-16th century

Place of production: Sawankhalok, Thailand, Southeast Asia

Materials/Techniques: ceramics, underglaze iron

Dimensions: height: 5 cm
diameter: 4.6 cm

Sawankhalok ceramics. Small bottle vase coated with brownish-white crackled glaze, narrowing from the spherical body towards the neck. Decorated with leaf motifs created by tiny brushstrokes between the brownish bands.

In the former town of Sawankhalok in northern and central Thailand, the pottery industry developed enormously in the period from the 14th to the mid-16th century. This was in part due to the sudden ban on the export of Chinese ceramics in 1371, during Ming dynasty rule. 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 were celadon glazed ceramics, learned from Chinese masters, but other types of glazes also existed.

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

