

Basic Detail Report



Medicine Jar

Date

ca. 1000-1550

Primary Maker

Central Highlands/Atlantic Watershed

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

By the later periods, trade between regions was common and included such perishable items as woodwork, feathers, and hallucinogenic drugs used in shamanic practices. This medicine bowl likely belonged to a chief or shaman and held such a substance. Quite small, it is decorated in red slip, with inscribing and appliqué jaguar figures. The symbolism of the jaguar motif – commonly used to represent power and strength – indicates that this vessel probably held some sort of strong, powerful

substance used for healing or ritual.

Dimensions

Overall: 3 5/8 x 2 7/8 x 2 3/4 in. (9.2 x 7.3 x 7 cm)