

Basic Detail Report



Jar

Date

ca. 300-500

Primary Maker

Greater Nicoya

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

This early effigy jar of a woman with pronounced breasts and detailed sexual organs is decorated with red slip and engraved patterns similar to those found on clay stamps. These representations are cited as evidence that stamps were, in fact, most likely used to decorate the human body. Skin decoration was common for both men and

women and may have been applied during rituals. In ancient Costa Rica, women commonly held ritual roles, such as healers, guardians of sacred objects, or specialized mediators between humans and spiritual forces.

Dimensions

Overall: 12 x 11 3/8 x 8 1/2 in. (30.5 x 28.9 x 21.6 cm)