PAGODA RED









TEA SHOP SIGN

\$680

c. 1900 • Hebei, China • Paint, Northern Elmwood, Lacquer • Collection #BJH024 W: 9.0" D: 1.25" H: 17.25"

This small wooden shop sign dates to the early 20th century and once hung from the exterior of a provincial Chinese teahouse. Hand-carved with the character for tea (茶), the oval panel would have beckoned passers-by to come in for a hot drink and good conversation. The carved brushstrokes are colored with shimmering gold paint and contrasted by the surrounding black lacquer finish, now gently worn with rich texture.