
PAGODA RED



PALE JADE INKSTONE

\$1,480

c. 1850 • Northern China, China • Jade • Collection #CFC625

W: 6.0" D: 3.5" H: 1.0"

Along with paper, ink, and brush, the inkstone is one of the Four Treasures of the scholar's studio. A reflection of the scholar's refinement and good taste, the inkstone was often a highly personalized item and given pride of place on a painting table or display shelf. Carved from a lustrous pale green jade, this inkstone has a rectangular form with a gentle slope to allow for ink flow. A shallow divot at one end of the stone provided a surface where a solid ink stick could be ground into a fine powder. Mixed with carefully-portioned water, the resulting ink could then flow into the hollow at the opposite end, ready for the calligrapher to use. Continued...



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Minimally decorated, this inkstone is adorned only by traces of an old iron staple repair that once mended a fissure in the stone and today imparts wonderful character to its simple form.

From the collection of Frances and Gary Comer.

