

Basic Detail Report



Dish

Date

1723-1735

Medium

porcelain, underglaze cobalt blue and overglaze enamel

Description

Because the Chinese saw in the deer the neck of a camel, the hooves of a cow, the tail of a donkey, and the antlers of a deer, the animal is known by the name ssu-pu-hsiang, or the "four unlikes." This dish would appear to depict a part of the Imperial Park and the type of deer that once roamed China but became extinct in the wild when

grazing land was claimed for cultivation. A number of the animals were kept in the Imperial Park of the Forbidden City in Beijing until recent imperial times.

Dimensions

Overall: 1 3/4 x 8 1/8 in. (4.4 x 20.6 cm)