

Basic Detail Report



Necklace

Date

ca. 300-800

Primary Maker

Artist Unknown

Medium

jade

Description

Around the year 700 CE jade carving virtually disappeared in Costa Rica as metallurgy became the primary artistic medium for ritual and symbolic items. Although gold became the most highly prized ornament, jade still held symbolic importance and it continued to be a revered item found primarily among the ruling classes. This necklace is composed of small, dark green, cylindrical beads, accented by four large square beads and a large, celt-style pendant of lighter green. Because greenstone of all colors was so precious, even very small fragments were worked into delicate beads like these. The artist who created these tiny jade beads surely spent thousands of

hours hand-drilling and polishing each piece.

Dimensions

Overall: 12 3/4 x 2 1/8 x 3/8 in. (32.4 x 5.4 x 1 cm)