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Egyptian Pre-Dynastic Jar

An ancient Egyptian Pre-Dynastic black-topped red ware conical jar.

Pre-Dynastic, Naqada I - II Period,
Ca. 3800 - 3000 BC.
Height: 6 1/4 in. (16 cm).



Pre-Dynastic Egyptian black-topped vessels were made from the silt alluvial deposits of the Nile valley. The vessels were coil made. The exterior was coated with a red iron-oxide wash that was burnished prior to firing with a smooth stone. In the kiln, the vessels blackened around the rim with a red lustrous surface below.

cf.: W. Hayes, Scepter of Egypt I: A Background for the Study of the Egyptian Antiquities in The Metropolitan Museum of Art: From the Earliest Times to the End of the Middle Kingdom, (Cambridge, 1953), p. 16, fig. 7.

Formerly in the J. Saladino collection, Santa Barbara, California.

inventory number: 9616

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