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235 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10022
212.989.9743 / 646.326.0820
WWW.HIXENBAUGH.NET
INFO@HIXENBAUGH.NET

Egyptian Serpentine Kohl Vessel

An ancient Egyptian Middle Kingdom serpentine kohl vessel of broad circular form with raised rim and flattened bottom.

Middle Kingdom.
Ca. 2133 - 1786 BC.
Height: 2 in. (5 cm).

Black galena (lead sulfide) based kohl (Egyptian: mesmedet) was not only used for beauty but also for religious, symbolic, and practical reasons as it worked as a natural disinfectant and protected the eyes from the bright sunlight.

Formerly in the collection of Jerome Eisenberg, New York.

inventory number: 9597

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