

29. DOUBLE-HEADED HANDLE

Oc Eo site, My Lam village, An Giang Province, 6th century
Bronze, H: 5.7 cm × L: 14.2 cm × D: 1.7 cm
Museum of Vietnamese History, Ho Chi Minh City, BTLS 1581

Just how this handle or support was used is difficult to say. The four handles found at the site of Oc Eo all exhibit animals at the ends; the creatures on the ends of this example are the clearest. Facing away from the center of the support, they do not correspond to any particular animal, though they have a dog's body and paws, and the head displays horns. A similar form was used on the back of Iranian mirrors, though there does not appear to be any connection. It was found at the northeast side of Go Cay Trom, a small mound named after the *cay trom* tree.

LITERATURE

Louis Malleret, *L'Archéologie du Delta du Mekong*, vol. 2, 1960.

