Case 5-Asia-China-Hongshan-Jade-Hooked Cloud-Pendant, Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning, ca. 2000-1500 BCE



Figs. 1-2. China-Hongshan-Jade-Hooked Cloud-Pendant, Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning, ca. 2000-1500 BCE.

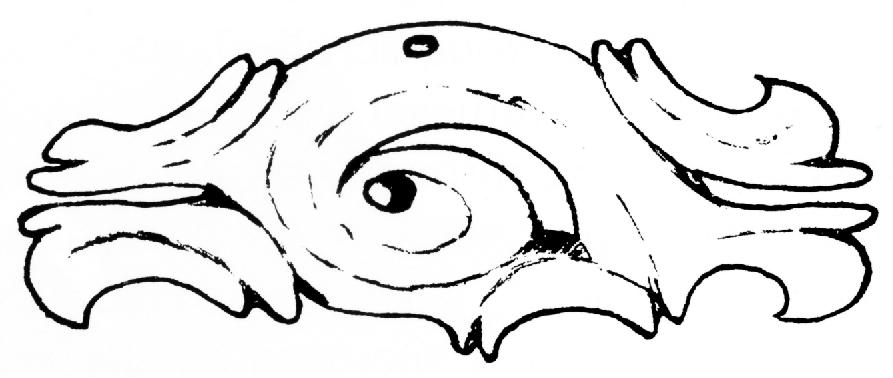


Fig. 3 China-Hongshan-Jade-Hooked Cloud-Pendant, Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning, ca. 2000-1500 BCE, drawing by Jenny So of a hooked cloud scroll pendant from Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning, ca. 2000-1500 BCE, width 10 cm. Now in the Inner Mongolia Provincial Museum, Hohhot, after So 1993, Fig. 9b.

**Case no.: 5**

**Accession Number:**

**Formal Label:** China-Hongshan-Jade-Hooked Cloud-Pendant, Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning, ca. 2000-1500 BCE,

**Display Description:** This hooked cloud scroll pendant from Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning is associated with Hongshan jades which present distinctive features and which are not associated with any other Neolithic culture. Its function as an ornament is made evident by the suspension hole pierced on the top, long side. The position these objects have in the burials where they have been found in the chest area of the deceased, such as tombs nos. 2 and 14 of the Niuheliang site. Its Chinese name, gou yun or ‘hooked-cloud’ is very descriptive and takes inspiration from the abstract shape of these ornaments which usually presents a central curved, spiraling, C-shaped section from which protrude short, hooked protuberances. The cultural significance of such ornaments which may have been associated with shamanism since the clouds represent the heavens and the hook or the curling central section has the same profile of the ‘dragon-pig’ pendant. The fine grooves incised on the surface and smoothly polished, are the suggested attributes of smooth cumulus clouds also serve to consolidate all the constituent elements of the ornament.

**LC Classification:**

**Date or Time Horizon:**

**Geographical Area:** Dadianzi, Aohan Banner, Liaoning

**Map:**

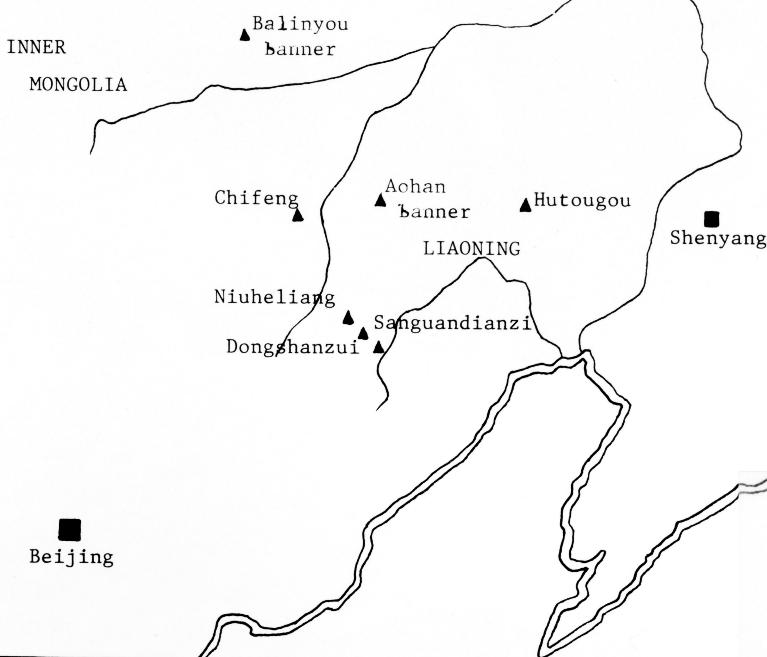


Fig. Map showing placement of Hongshan related sites after So 1993, Fig. 2.

**GPS coordinates:** 42° North , 120° East (est.)

**Cultural Affiliation:** Hongshan

**Medium:** jade

**Dimensions:** width, 13.3 cm., height 5.0 cm., thickness 0.2cm.

**Weight:** weight 25gm.

**Condition: original.**

**Provenance:** From an old private Swiss collection.

**Discussion:**

Similar ornaments excavated from tombs of the Niuheliang site. See Liaoning 1997 and Yang, 2000: entry no. 18.

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