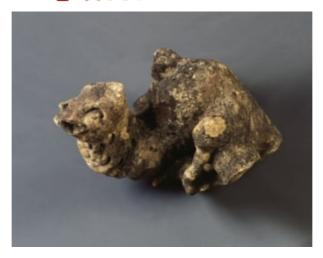
Finch & Co



TWO MEDIEVAL CARVED LIMESTONE 'HUNKY PUNKS' OR CHURCH GROTESQUES IN THE FORM OF HYBRID DRAGONS

TWO MEDIEVAL CARVED LIMESTONE 'HUNKY PUNKS' OR CHURCH GROTESQUES IN THE FORM OF HYBRID DRAGONS 13-14 TH CENTURY

SIZE: 33 CM HIGH, 33 CM WIDE - 13 INS HIGH, 13 INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THESE GROTESQUE CHURCH CARWINGS ARE KNOWN IN THE WEST COUNTRY AS 'HUNKY PUNKS'. THEY OCCUR ON MANY OF THE EXTERIOR WALLS OF THE LOCAL CHURCHES ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE SOMERSET LEVELS. IT IS THOUGHT THAT MASONS WOULD CARVE THEM WORKING ON EACH 'NEW CHURCH IN THE AREA IN TURN. HAVING THEIR ROOTS IN BOTH PAGAN MYTHOLOGY AND CHRISTIAN SYMBOLISM THESE STONE DRAGONS ACT AS SPIRITUAL SCARECROWS INTENDED TO SCARE AWAY THE DEVIL WITH A TASTE OF HIS OWN MONSTROSITY.