

Finch & C^o



A SICILIAN CARVED STONE RAMPANT LION

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HIS MANE FLOWING DOWN HIS BACK, HOLDING AN ARMORIAL SHIELD DISPLAYING A CRESCENT MOON AND AN ACANTHUS LEAF

PROBABLY FROM A GATEWAY

16TH / 17TH CENTURY

SIZE : 38 CM HIGH, 21.5 CM DEEP, 16.5 CM WIDE – 15 INS HIGH, 8½ INS DEEP, 6½ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

CONQUERED BY MOST OF THE MAJOR POWERS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD SICILY HAS A MIXED ARTISTIC HERITAGE. THE ISLAND FLOURISHED UNDER THE COLONISATION OF THE GREEKS DURING THE 8TH TO THE 5TH CENTURY B.C . IT WAS INVADDED BY CARTHAGE AND BECAME PART OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE FROM 241 B.C TO 476 AD .

IN THE MIDDLE AGES IT WAS RULED SUCCESSIVELY BY THE ARABS, THE NORMANS 1059 - 1194 AD WHO ESTABLISHED THE KINGDOM OF THE TWO SICILY'S, THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S, AND THEN THE ENGLISH PLANTAGENET ANGEVINS, MANY OF WHOM WERE MASSACRED DURING A POPULAR REVOLT IN 1282 KNOWN AS THE 'SICILIAN VESPERS'. SPAIN THEN RULED SICILY IN VARIOUS FORMS UNTIL NAPOLEON DISPLACED THE SPANISH BOURBON'S. IN 1860 THE ITALIAN, GARIBALDI INVADDED AND IN 1861 SICILY BECAME UNITED WITH ITALY.