

Finch & C^o



ANCIENT ROMAN MARBLE FRAGMENT OF A TABLE SUPPORT

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DEPICTING THE MYTHICAL GRYPHON OR BASILISK

CIRCA 1ST CENTURY – 2ND CENTURY

SIZE: 17CM HIGH, 5.5CM WIDE, 11CM DEEP – 6¾ HIGH, 2¼ INS WIDE, 4¼ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THE DECORATIVE OBJECTS ALWAYS FOUND IN ELEGANT ROMAN HOUSES WERE DISPLAYED ON ONE OR THREE-LEGGED TABLES, THE SLAB TOPS OF WHICH HAD RAISED EDGES AROUND THEM. THE ORNAMENTATION OF TABLES WAS FAR MORE SPLENDID AND EXPENSIVE AMONGST THE ROMANS THAN THE GREEKS. THE LEGS WERE BEAUTIFULLY WORKED IN WOOD, METAL, STONE OR MARBLE AND THE GRACEFUL FORMS OF NUMEROUS MARBLE AND BRONZE LEGS HAVE BEEN FOUND AT POMPEII WHICH HAVE NOW BECOME THE MODELS OF MODERN CABINET MAKERS AND WOOD CARVERS.