Finch & Co

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SMALL VOTIVE BRONZE OF A SACRED CAT

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SITTING ON THE TOP OF A BRONZE STAFF FINIAL, SMOOTH BLACK AND GREEN PATINA
LATE DYNASTIC PERIOD (664-332 BC)
SIZE: 3.5CM HIGH, 2.2CM DEEP, 1.5CM WIDE – 1½ INS HIGH, 1 INS DEEP, ½ INS WIDE
6CM HIGH – 2¼ INS HIGH (OVERALL)

LITERATURE

REGARDED TODAY AS THE MOST EGYPTIAN OF ANIMALS THE CAT'S POPULARITY IN ANCIENT EGYPT AROSE PRIMARILY FROM ITS CAPACITY FOR RIDDING HOUSES OF RODENTS. IT WAS IN THIS PROTECTIVE ROLE THAT BASTET WAS HONOURED, A GODDESS REPRESENTED AS A CAT OR WOMAN WITH A CAT'S HEAD WHO PROTECTED THE HOME.