Finch & Co



MEDIEVAL MOSAIC COSMATI FLOOR FRAGMENT INLAID WITH RED AND GREEN PORPHYRY

AN EARLY MEDIEVAL MOSAIC COSMATI FLOOR FRAGMENT INLAID WITH RED AND GREEN PORPHYRY
10TH - 13TH CENTURY
SIZE: APPROX: 7CM X 6CM – 2¾ INS X 2¼ INS
SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 13, ITEM NO. 16, FOR ANOTHER FRAGMENT

LITERATURE

ANCIENT ROMAN PORPHYRY BELOVED BY EMPERORS AND CAESARS FOR ITS IMPERIAL PURPLE COLOUR WAS EXTENSIVELY RECYCLED BY THE 'SCALPELLINI' OF ROME WHO CALLED IT 'PORFIDO ROSSO ANTICO'. THEY SLICED IT THINLY AND USED IT FOR THE FAMOUS COSMATI PAVEMENTS OF EUROPEAN CHURCHES, AND AS INLAYS FOR ALTARS AND FURNITURE.