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A Unique Pair: The Bronze Rhinoceros and Its Collector, Avery Brundage
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Study Guide

The rhinoceros carries an inscription of twenty-seven characters in the inside bottom. It may be translated as,

“On the day *dingsi* [the 54th day of the 60-day cycle], the King inspected the Kui temple. The King bestowed upon Xiaochen [Lesser Minister] Yu cowry shells from Kui. It was the time when the King returned from attacking the Renfang. It was the King’s fifteenth sacrificial cycle, a day in the *rong*-ritual cycle.

Selected Further readings:

Bagley 1990 Robert Bagley, “Shang Ritual Bronzes: Casting Technique and Vessel Design”, *Archives of Asian Art* 43 (1990): 6-20.

Chen, Xu & Fu 2011 Chen Jianming, Jay Xu, and Fu Juliang. *Along the Yangzi River: Regional Culture of the Bronze Age from Hunan*. New York: the China Institute, 2011

Lawton 1975 Thomas Lawton. “A Group of Early Western Chou Period Bronze Vessels.” *Ars Orientalis* 10 (1975): 111–121.

Wenley 1952 A. G. Wenley. “A *Hsi Tsun* from the Avery Brundage Collection.” *Archives of the Chinese Art Society of America* 6 (1952): 41–43.

Xu 2014 Jay Xu. “A Unique Pair: The Bronze Rhinoceros and Its Collector, Avery Brundage.” *Collectors, Collections, and Collecting the Arts of China: Histories and Challenges*, eds., Guolong Lai and Jason Steuber (Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2014): 201–222