PALACE CENSER

Decorated with two pairs of five-clawed dragons (an imperial prerogative) soaring in the clouds and striving for a pearl. Three smaller, four-clawed dragons are brought out on the bottom between the three feet, and a pair of dragons on each handle. An inscription on the bottom, a cast of which is shown here, reads, "Made for the court under the supervision of Wu Pang=tso, president of the Board of Public Works, in the sixth year of the period Süan-te of the great Ming dynasty." This year corresponds to A.D. 1431. Compare No. 117602.

MING PERIOD

117601