

Basic Detail Report

**Title**

Pair of Mythical Lions (Vyala)

Date

11th century

Dimensions

30 1/2 × 9 × 8 1/8 in. (77.5 × 22.9 × 20.6 cm)

Medium

Carved red sandstone.

Classifications

Sculpture

Credit Line

Gift of the Popplestone Family

Object number

2008.193

Collections

Sculpture

Label Text

Originally part of the sculptural decoration of a Hindu temple in either northwest or central India, these mythical creatures, called vyala, would have functioned as

guardian figures for the temple entrance. Usually depicted with the body of a lion and the head of another animal, these vyala have elephant heads.

Not On View