

Antique Rug Studio

Early 19th Century Chinese Ningxia Pillar Carpet

Description

Beneath the tasseled lambrequin, the scaly, five claw dragon rises trailing coiled clouds on the dark blue ground above a five-point "mountain" within frothing surf. Below is a rainbow rendition of the Yun-tsao Tou clouds and rain pattern. The rug was intended to wrap around a monastery pillar and the dragon is completed when so positioned. The dragon's mustachios are particularly long and spiraled at the ends. As appropriate for a Buddhist monastery, the unusual dark blue ground is filled in with sacred objects including: pair of fish, flaming brocaded ball, knot and ribbon, peony or lotus flower and vase. This relatively short pillar rug may have been intended for a small local monastery prayer hall or may have been stacked with another on a tall, slender pillar. The dragon has the long snout characteristic of the period. Earlier pieces show a shorter, flatter snout. The condition of this rug is particularly good as many pillar pieces are reduced at the top, losing some or all of the lambrequin.



Stock ID:	#23470
General Rug Type:	Chinese
Specific Rug Type:	Chinese - Pillar Carpet
Circa:	1825
Color:	Navy
Origin:	China
Material:	Wool & Cotton
Weave:	Pile - Knotted
Shape:	Rectangle
Width:	3' 2" (96.52 cm)
Length:	8' 2" (248.92 cm)