Sculpture - Buddha

Object: Sculpture

Place of origin: Pakistan (The sculpture was excavated in the Swat Valley at a site of monastic buildings and stupas at Abarchinar, a steeply terraced site on a hillside above the right bank of the Najigram river which flows into the Karakar river, a short way below Barkot where the latter flows into the Swat River. Barkot now is in the province of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, but this area was formerly within the princely state of Swat at the time of this object's excavation., made)

Artist/Maker: Unknown

Materials and Techniques: Modelled lime stucco

Museum number: IM.76-1939

Gallery location: In Storage

Descriptive line
Stucco head of an image of the Buddha

Physical description
This head and neck of this Buddha image has an oval face with a raised hairline forming a peak in the centre of the forehead. The hair covers the top of the head like a cap and is modelled in a diaper pattern with a circular depression in each lozenge, which is repeated in the bulbous ushnisha on the top of the head. The eyebrows are delineated by two arching edges which continue into the bridge of the nose. The eyes underneath are long narrow depressions under large curving upper lids and projecting lower ones with sharp edges. The long ears have lobes which splay away from the jaw line above the neck, which has one horizontal groove in it. The neck has a damaged lower edge where it has broken away from the remainder of the figure.

Museum number
IM.76-1939

Object history note
Acquired from Evert Barger, Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of Bristol and Philip Wright, V&A Museum, as part of the collection of finds excavated during their expedition to the Swat valley in 1938. This object was numbered 132 in Barger's lists.

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O66213/buddha-sculpture-unknown/