Painting - Pounding Tea Leaves and Forming Tea Cakes

Object: Painting
Place of origin: Guangzhou (made)
Date: ca. 1800 (made)
Artist/Maker: Unknown
Materials and Techniques: Watercolour and ink on paper
Museum number: D.353-1894
Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description
This painting is from a set of 12 depicting the tea industry in China. It shows a man pounding tea leaves, and trays filled with tea cakes. China was the sole supplier of tea to the entire world before about 1750. Artists targeted paintings such as this at Europeans eager to find out how tea was grown and processed in China.

Descriptive line
Pounding tea leaves and forming tea cakes, from a set of 12; Pap, China, paintings and drawings

Physical description
This painting is from a set of 12 depicting the tea industry in China. It shows a man pounding tea leaves and trays filled with tea cakes. China was the sole supplier of tea to the entire world before the mid 18th century. Paintings such as this were targeted at Europeans eager to find out how tea was grown and processed in China.

Dimensions
Height: 40 cm, Width: 54 cm

Museum number
D.353-1894

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O67560/pounding-tea-leaves-and-forming-painting-unknown/