Buddha in architectural setting (prabha). - Sculpture

Object: Buddha in architectural setting (prabha). -
Place of origin: Tamil Nadu (made)
Date: 15th Century (made)
Artist/Maker: Unknown
Materials and Techniques: Copper alloy
Museum number: 1326.2-1855
Gallery location: In Storage

Descriptive line
Standing figure of the Buddha with Torana

Physical description
A standing figure with detachable arched surround (torana). The right hand in abhaya mudra; the left in kataka mudra, each with conventional palm marks. The right shoulder is left bare by the robe which clings tightly to the flesh. Other details include a flamed ushnisa (now damaged), an urna approximating to the shape of an inverted question mark, and extended earlobes. The torana is formed by two spewing makaras and surmounted by a kirti-mukha. The figure was cast separately from its lotus pedestal, the latter cast in one piece with the base. Traces of encrusted carbonate matter indicate that the image has been buried in the ground for a long period. On the front of the base is an inscription in Grantha characters which reads:

Gautamasva dharmanam Literally, "the votive offering of Gautama (name of donor)."

Dimensions
Height: 15 in

Museum number
1326:2-1855

Object history note
This image, acquired in 1855, is one of the first Indian bronzes to have been bought by the Museum.

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O72378/sculpture-buddha-in-architectural-unknown/