



DESCRIPTION

These pieces are stylized in a penannular manne. They were the main form of currency in West Africa, though occasionally they were worn or displayed as ornamentation. Forged from bronze by the Portuguese, they were commissioned in order to trade with the tribes and kingdoms that explorers came across. The name manilla comes from the Spanish word for bracelet, manella. Manilla were the first general purpose currency utilized in West Africa and had a wide range of uses from purchases at the market, part of a dowry, and for services. The rounded nature of this manila piece identifies its creators as one of British origin. These British pieces in general are thicker throughout, unlike their Portuguese counterparts, which culminate in a fine point.

DETAILS

- Culture: Yoruba People
- Geography: Nigeria
- Circa: Mid to Late 17th Century
- Size: 7"W x 5"H x 1.5"D
- Weight: Approximately 3 LBS
- Materials: Bronze

LIST PRICING

- XTT0061.....2206