

	<p>Object: Donkey at the mill (gem)</p> <p>Museum: Museum August Kestner Trammplatz 3 30159 Hannover (0511) 168-42730 museen- kulturgeschichte@hannover- stadt.de</p> <p>Collection: Ancient Cultures, Gemmen, Kameen und Glaspasten. Die Sammlung geschnittener Steine</p> <p>Inventory number: K 974</p>
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Description

Cereals and bread have been staple foods since the Neolithic Age. During antiquity, the bakery trade, especially in the larger cities, developed into complex production operations, some of which involved the division of labour, as baking was no longer necessarily done at home. The production process of baked goods was depicted many times, especially in Roman art. Reliefs or wall paintings bear witness to the importance of this craft and the pride of the bakers. Even on small-format objects, individual steps in the bread-making process can be found, as on this gem.

The donkey mill, in which the millstone was no longer driven by human physical strength, has been attested since the 2nd century BC. It was mainly used on large estates and in urban *pistrinae* that combined milling and baking. (AVS)

Former August Kestner Collection, Rome

Detailed description

Ein Esel steht im Profil an einer Kornmühle mit Sack, die seinen Körper in der Mitte überschneidet. Grundlinie.

Basic data

Material/Technique:

Sard, carved

Measurements:

Height: 1.44 cm, width: 1.2 cm

Events

Created	When	50-1 BC
	Who	
	Where	Mediterranean Basin
Collected	When	
	Who	August Kestner (1777-1853)
	Where	Rome

Keywords

- Bakery
- Bread
- Donkey
- Engraved gem

Literature

- Blümner, Hugo (1912): Technologie und Terminologie der Gewerbe und Künste bei Griechen und Römern, Bd. 1 (2. Aufl.). Leipzig, 45 Fig. 21
- Lippold, Georg (Hrsg.) (1922): Gemmen und Kameen des Altertums und der Neuzeit. In Vergrößerungen. Stuttgart, Taf. 89,2
- Schlüter, Margildis - Platz-Horster, Gertrud (1975): Antike Gemmen in deutschen Sammlungen IV. Hannover, Kestner Museum, Hamburg, Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe. Wiesbaden, 142 Nr. 669 Taf. 87