

## NAQLUN

### **91. Casket**

Naqlun. Building D

End of 12th century

H. 34.5 cm, L. 41 cm, W. 27 cm

Wood, ivory, bone, copper

Museum of Islamic Art, Cairo MIA 29229

Casket of wood covered with painted and gilded ivory and bone plaques. It is rectangular with hinged lid, pyramidal in shape, with flat top. Originally a Sicilian product, it was reconstructed in Egypt leaving only the front part intact. This includes two main panels on the body of the box and on the front gable of the lid. The frame consists of ornamental borders filled with dots, lozenges, scrolls and an Arabic inscription; the panels bear painted and gilded representations of peacocks and other birds, and different ornamental motifs. Only a few of the clasps are original.

W.G.

W. Godlewski, Deir el Naqlun. Topography and tentative history, in: *Archeologia e papiri nel Fayyum, Storia della ricerca, problemi e prospettive. Atti del Convegno Internazionale Siracusa 24-25 maggio 1996*, Siracusa 1997, pp. 133-134, fig. 12

B. O'Kane (ed.), *The Treasures of Islamic Art in the Museums of Cairo*, Cairo & New York 2006, p. 137

