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JALI, RED SANDSTONE

INDIA, AREA AROUND DELHI; END OF 16TH CENTURY

H: 144; W: 91.25 CM

The *jali* originally had a mirror-image pendant on the left side, so that the broad band in the two *jalis* together made up a pointed arch. Similar *jalis* of marble or sandstone have been preserved in the palace city of Fatehpur Sikri, which the Mughal emperor Akbar had built in the second half of the 16th century.

There these *jalis* comprise a decidedly Islamic element in a building complex that in many other respects is characterized by Hindu architecture.

The geometric *jalis* of the Akbar period were succeeded in the first half of the 17th century by another type, in which the geometric structure was combined with a floral style.

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