§ 12.104h Exempt materials and articles.

The provisions of these regulations shall not apply to—

(a) Any archaeological or ethnological material or any article of cultural property which is imported into the U.S. for temporary exhibition or display, if such material or article is rendered immune from seizure under judicial process by the U.S. Information Agency, Office of the General Counsel and Congressional Liaison, pursuant to the Act entitled “An Act to render immune from seizure under judicial process certain objects of cultural significance imported into the United States for temporary display or exhibition, and for other purposes”, approved October 19, 1965 (22 U.S.C. 2459); or

(b) Any designated archaeological or ethnological material or any article of cultural property imported into the U.S. if such material or article—

(1) Has been held in the U.S. for a period of not less than 3 consecutive years by a recognized museum or religious or secular monument or similar institution, and was purchased by that institution for value, in good faith, and without notice that such material or article was imported in violation of these regulations, but only if—

(i) The acquisition of such material or article has been reported in a publication of such institution, any regularly published newspaper or periodical with a circulation of at least 50,000, or a periodical or exhibition catalog which is concerned with the type of article or materials sought to be exempted from these regulations,

(ii) Such material or article has been exhibited to the public for a period or periods aggregating at least 1 year during such 3-year period, or

(iii) Such article or material has been cataloged and the catalog material made available upon request to the public for at least 2 years during such 3-year period;

(2) If paragraph (b)(1) of this section does not apply, has been within the U.S. for a period of not less than 10 consecutive years and has been exhibited for not less than 5 years during such period in a recognized museum or religious or secular monument or similar institution in the U.S. open to the public;

(3) If paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of this section do not apply, has been within the U.S. for a period of not less than 10 consecutive years and the State Party concerned has received or should have received during such period fair notice (through such adequate and accessible publication, or other means, as the Secretary or his designee shall prescribe) of its location within the U.S.; and

(4) If none of the preceding subparagraphs apply, has been within the U.S. for a period of not less than 20 consecutive years and the claimant establishes that it purchased the material or article for value without knowledge or reason to believe that it was imported in violation of law.

§ 12.104i Enforcement.

In the customs territory of the United States, and in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the provisions of these regulations shall be enforced by appropriate customs officers. In any other territory or area within the U.S., but not within such customs territory or the U.S. Virgin Islands, such provisions shall be enforced by such persons as may be designated by the President.

§ 12.104j Emergency protection for Iraqi cultural antiquities.

(a) Restriction. Importation of archaeological or ethnological material of Iraq is restricted pursuant to the Emergency Protection for Iraqi Cultural Antiquities Act of 2004 (title III of Pub. L. 108–429) and section 304 of the [T.D. 86–52, 51 FR 6907, Feb. 27, 1986]

(b) Description of restricted material.
The term “archaeological or ethnological material of Iraq” means cultural property of Iraq and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, or religious importance illegally removed from the Iraq National Museum, the National Library of Iraq, and other locations in Iraq, since the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 of 1990. CBP Decision 08–17 sets forth the Designated List of Archaeological and Ethnological Material of Iraq that describes the types of specific items or categories of archaeological or ethnological material that are subject to import restrictions.

[73 FR 23342, Apr. 30, 2008]

PRE-COLUMBIAN MONUMENTAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SCULPTURE AND MURALS

§ 12.105 Definitions.

For purposes of §§12.106 through 12.109:

(a) The term pre-Columbian monumental or architectural sculpture or mural means any stone carving or wall art listed in paragraph (b) of this section which is the product of a pre-Columbian Indian culture of Belize, Bolivia, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, or Venezuela.

(b) The term stone carving or wall art includes:

(1) Such stone monuments as altars and altar bases, archways, ball court markers, basins, calendars, and calendrical markers, columns, monoliths, obelisks, statues, stelae, sarcophagi, thrones, zoomorphs;

(2) Such architectural structures as aqueducts, ball courts, buildings, bridges, causeways, courts, doorways (including lintels and jambs), forts, observatories, plazas, platforms, facades, reservoirs, retaining walls, roadways, shrines, temples, tombs, walls, walkways, wells;

(3) Architectural masks, decorated capstones, decorative beams of wood, frescoes, friezes, glyphs, graffiti, mosaics, moldings, or any other carving or decoration which had been part of or affixed to any monument or architectural structure, including cave paintings or designs;

(4) Any fragment or part of any stone carving or wall art listed in the preceding subparagraphs.

(c) The term country of origin, as applied to any pre-Columbian monumental or architectural sculpture or mural, means the country where the sculpture or mural was first discovered.


§ 12.106 Importation prohibited.

Except as provided in section 12.107, no pre-Columbian monumental or architectural sculpture or mural which is exported (whether or not such exportation is to the United States) from its country of origin after June 1, 1973, may be imported into the United States.


§ 12.107 Importations permitted.

Pre-Columbian monumental or architectural sculpture or mural for which entry is sought into the Customs territory of the United States will be permitted entry if at the time of making entry:

(a) A certificate, issued by the Government of the country of origin of such sculpture or mural, in a form acceptable to the Secretary, certifying that such exportation was not in violation of the laws of that country, is filed with the port director; or

(b) Satisfactory evidence is presented to the port director that such sculpture or mural was exported from the country of origin on or before June 1, 1973; or

(c) Satisfactory evidence is presented to the port director that such sculpture or mural is not an article listed in §12.105.