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National Gallery of Art

Washington D.C.

Datum und Zeichen Ihres Schreibens

Aktenzeichen (bei Antwort bitte angeben)

Datum

Kl/Ha

Jan. 21, 1994

Report on the dendrochronological analysis of the panel „Crucifixion“ (L. Cranach the Elder, Inv.-No. 1961.9.69)

The analysed panel (51.0 x 34.7 cm) is made of two beech boards. Using the beechwood chronology of Germany following datings could be obtained:

board I	46	growth rings	1531 - 1486
board II	92	growth rings	1530 - 1439

The youngest growth ring was formed out in the year 1531.

For the manufacturing of beechwood panels normally only the bark was removed and the entire tree was used. Therefore an earliest felling date can be derived with the year 1531. Under the assumption of a minimum of a 2 years storage time a creation is plausible from 1533 upwards.

The art-historical dating (1536) of the painting can be confirmed by the dendrochronological analysis.

Dr. Peter Klein