



Picture of Collating Books in Northern Qi (partial)
Painter unknown
Northern Song Dynasty (960–1127)
Color on silk
27.6 × 114 cm

Formerly attributed to Tang Dynasty painter Yan Liben, the drawing depicts the scene that by order of Emperor Wenxuan (named Gao Yang) of the Northern Qi (550–577), a total of eleven scholars collated the royal library in the seventh year of Tianbao (556). In this section of the long scroll the artist portrayed two horses of tall and sturdy stature in graceful lines and mellow colors.