



"Tapulbrust" Breastplate

Date

about 1540

Primary Maker

Austrian

Medium

steel with modern leathers

Description

Steel, very overcleaned. Boxish form, no provision for lance rest, with full length medial ridge & curving out into rounded joint at just below mid height. Level neck, curved slightly at ends, with a pair of lace-holes at the center. Articulated angular gussets having oblong buckles riveted to face at top. Turns here are angular & well-cabled, with triple knurl at middle. Fault of 3 lames, possibly associated, but later repaired at left end, top lame. Each of equal depth, rounded to hips & riveted at ends, once with internal leathers. Terminal lame with 4 straps for tassets, & low arced, file-rope turn at fork, with narrow shallow recessed band pierced with keyhole slot for brayette (now covered by the immobilized lame above). Some cracking and delamination. Internal hammerwork is

rather coarse, but the piece is somewhat heavy. The two middle tasset strap rivets interfere with the articulation of the skirt lames.

Dimensions

43.2 × 36.8 × 22.2 cm (17 × 14 1/2 × 8 3/4 in.), 7 lb (weight)