



Smallsword

Date

1722–1726

Primary Maker

French

Medium

steel, silver, wood, and iron with traces of gilding, with copper and silver wire

Description

Narrow, acutely tapering plain steel blade of hollow-ground triangular section. Cast silver hilt with scrolling strapwork & radiating palmette motifs on punch-matted ground. Wood grip

tapering to ends, alternately wrapped in iron & silver ribbon, between which are 2 sizes of twisted silver wire & 1 of copper. Silver wire "Turk's heads" at ends. Hilt of Norman's type 112. Small bivalve shell guard. Tall, slightly baggy stool with stepped base, functional arms of hilt. Short rear quillon bent towards obverse shell, with swollen, leafy terminal. Opposed by flattish, C-shaped knuckle guard, swollen at middle where both faces decorated with running & scrolling strapwork. Terminal with leafy scroll, & plugs into base of pommel. This Norman's type 88, of oval section, egg-shaped, with slight taper to necked, molded base. At top is a flattish, integral button.

Dimensions

97.2 × 80.6 cm (38 1/4 × 31 3/4 in.), 14 oz (weight)