



Pattern 1830 U.S. Naval Officer's Sword

Date

about 1835

Primary Maker

American

Medium

etched steel, gilt brass, and bone or ivory

Description

Slightly curved single edge steel hollow-ground triangular section blade for 3/4 length becoming lozenge section to spear point. Flat back extending to end of fuller & base of false edge. Both faces of blade identically etched with once-gilded devices reading from hilt

to point: foul anchor, circle of 14 stars & running tendril with leaves & acorn. Gilt bronze hilt with pair of folding oval shells; obverse larger & fitted with appliqué of crossed branches. Under the folding shell guards is a spring apparatus to allow them to remain in extended position, now no longer functional. Quillon block has calyx-shaped arms with acorn terminals. Knuckle guard similarly treated, but not stirrup-hilt form usually seen. Well-executed eagle head pommel with back strap; the whole finely carved & gilded to represent feathers. Bone or ivory grip carved as feathers.

Dimensions

92.1 x 76.5 cm (36 1/4 x 30 1/8 in.), 1 lb 10 oz (weight)