

# Basic Detail Report

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## Smallsword, perhaps for Mourning Attire

### Date

late 1600s–early 1700s

### Primary Maker

French

### Medium

steel with traces of blueing, iron and wood

### Description

Steel double edge narrow flattened hexagonal section blade with thick elliptical section forte to acute lozenge section point. Both faces symmetrically etched with strapwork cartouches, rococo traceries & fleurs-de-lis on oval shield, probably once gilded. The fleurs-de-lis are coarser in execution, suggesting that they were added subsequently to a cartouche deliberately left blank. Steel hilt with traces of blueing. Small bivalve plain shell with rather large arms of hilt, rear of which bent. Stout quillon block with 2-stage baggy sleeve below & short rear quillon having polygonal terminal. Knuckle guard with broken scrolling & faceted swelling. Rather urn-shaped faceted pommel with tall base. Restored grip tapering to ends with ring-like ferrules.

### Dimensions

91.4 × 77.2 cm (36 × 30 3/8 in.), 1 lb, 1 oz (weight)