

Model 1850 U.S. Foot Officer's Sword

Date

1861–1865

Primary Maker

Weyersberg company

Medium

steel and gilt brass with fishskin

Description

Gently curving steel hollow-ground triangular section blade becoming elliptical to spear-shaped point. At about 1/3 length below hilt & extending to about 2/3 of length, both faces of back edge bordered by deeply cut groove. Both faces similarly etched

with trophied groups & scrolling foliation on once blackened ground with American eagle & motto "E Pluribus unum" (obverse), "U.S." (reverse) Gilt brass 3/4-basket hilt with pierced base plate having scrolling foliation & carved with oak leaves. Thick short rear comma-shaped quillon bent slightly towards back of blade. Tall D-shaped knuckle guard pierced at end for sword knot & plugged into Phrygian helmet-shaped pommel carved with oak leaves at its base. Wooden grip swollen at mid-height, tapering to pommel & spirally wrapped with black fishskin, twisted & plain brass wire.

Dimensions

99.1 x 84.1 cm (39 x 33 1/8 in.), 1 lb, 11 oz (weight)

