

"Rowel" Spur for a Postilion Boot

**Date**  
1700s

**Primary Maker**  
Italian

**Medium**  
iron

**Description**  
Rough-finished iron, formerly black from the hammer, now russet. Very large, wide heel plate of U-shape, straight branches of flattened rectangular section, & slightly tapering to upturned, lobed terminals. Second lobe is on basal edge of each branch, to rear of terminal. Upwardly recurving neck of oblong section, with bevelled edges & lobated terminals of rowel box. Large rowel of 17 triangular points, their edges bevelled.

**Dimensions**  
17 x 22 cm (6 11/16 x 8 11/16 in.), 8 oz (weight)