

"Ring-pommel" dagger

Date

about 1460

Primary Maker

English

Medium

steel, iron and wood

Description

Excavated condition, probably a Thames find. Triangular, double-edged blade of lozenge section, with a flat tang that tapers to its ends, the top of which is octagonally shaped and pierced through with a circular hole. At the shoulders of the blade is a thin, octagonal rondel of iron, gently concave towards the grip. Behind this was once a wooden backing, of which a portion survives. At this point, the tang is pierced by a transverse rivet that helped secure the backing in place, and another rivet extends from the rondel parallel to the blade. Running along both sides of the grip at right angles to the tang is an outwardly curving piece of iron bar stock, curved to match the centrally swollen shape of the grip. One end of each of these butted against the wooden rondel backing. The other end passes into the "pommel" which is formed by pierced octagons of wood on either side of the octagonal tang end, each capped with a pierced octagonal iron plate.

Dimensions

31.8 × 18.4 cm (12 1/2 × 7 1/4 in.), 6 oz (weight)



