



Spontoon for the Bodyguard of Friedrich II, duke of Saxe-Gotha-Altenberg (r. 1691–1732)

Date

early 1700s

Primary Maker

German

Medium

iron, wood and textile

Description

Iron. Necked, leaf-shaped blade of hexagonal section on lower 1/2 & lozenge section above. Balustered base of head screws into 2-stage octagonal section socket with raised banded moldings & short crossbar at join, with comma-like terminals. Socket with pair of long langets front & rear. Head mounted on original (?) circular-section wooden staff studded full length with brass nails & having pointed iron butt cap below. Fragmentary textile tassel at base of head.

Dimensions

185 x 11 cm (72 13/16 x 4 5/16 in.), 3 lb, 12 oz (weight)