

Basic Detail Report



Kaskara (sword)

Date
1800s

Medium

steel, iron, wood, crocodile skin, and leather

Description

Double-edged blade of very flat hexagonal section, with a crudely formed, deep narrow fuller, extending from under the hilt to just beyond mid-length. The blade tapers only slightly to a spatulate tip. The blade is of iron, and is probably locally made. The hilt has straight, short iron crossguards of lozenge-section, expanding to the tips which are flattened at the ends. At the thickened center of the cross on both faces is a long langet which extends down over the blade. It is of triangular section, and expands like the guards. The intersection of the cross/langets is decorated with a low raised moulding of "X" shape, suggesting a cord wrap. The blade is insulated from the guard with wooden spacers on both faces, and the grip itself is apparently of wood. It is of circular section, wrapped with skin from the underbelly of a crocodile, and is sewn closed along one side with an over/under stitching of a fibrous material. The pommel is a flattened, thick disc of wood covered in leather, bevelled on its upper face, and formed with a central hole that fits over the top of the grip core.

Dimensions

4.5 x 88.5 x 15.5 cm (1 3/4 x 34 13/16 x 6 1/8 in.), 1 lb, 14 oz (weight)