

K680



Figure 7a. Side view (left) and top view (right) of pommel cap K680.

This gold pommel cap has cells filled with a green material on one side and filigree decoration on the three other sides made of interlaced geometric and zoomorphic patterns drawn by three-strand bands of beaded wires. Each panel is edged by a border consisting of a combination of two beaded wires, a broad outer wire and a fine inner one, Figure 7b. The narrower sides also display carpeting of herring bone bands around the rivet holes in a similar way to K352, Figure 7b right. This object as a whole appears heavily worn, especially the filigree-decorated side, which most likely results from the rubbing action of this side against some garment or belt. The weapon would have been worn with the filigree-decorated side hidden since the other side is decorated with coloured cells filled with yet unidentified green material, which would have most probably been the side to be shown. The finer wires are all spiral-beaded, resulting from the application of a beading file at an oblique angle, Figure 7c (Whitfield 1998).

The bead diameter of beaded wires varies between ca. 0.65 mm and 0.75 mm for broader wires and between ca. 0.3 mm and 0.45 mm for finer wires, although measurements were slightly more difficult due to the oblique orientation of the beads on finer wires. The distance between beads varies between ca. 0.45 mm and 0.55 mm for broader wires and between ca. 0.25 mm and 0.35 mm for finer wires. These measurements point towards the use of two grooved swages, one of larger gauge than the other.



Figure 7b. Photomicrograph (left, field of view ca. 25 mm) and SEM BSE image of the very worn filigree decoration of pommel cap K680 (right, field of view ca. 12 mm).

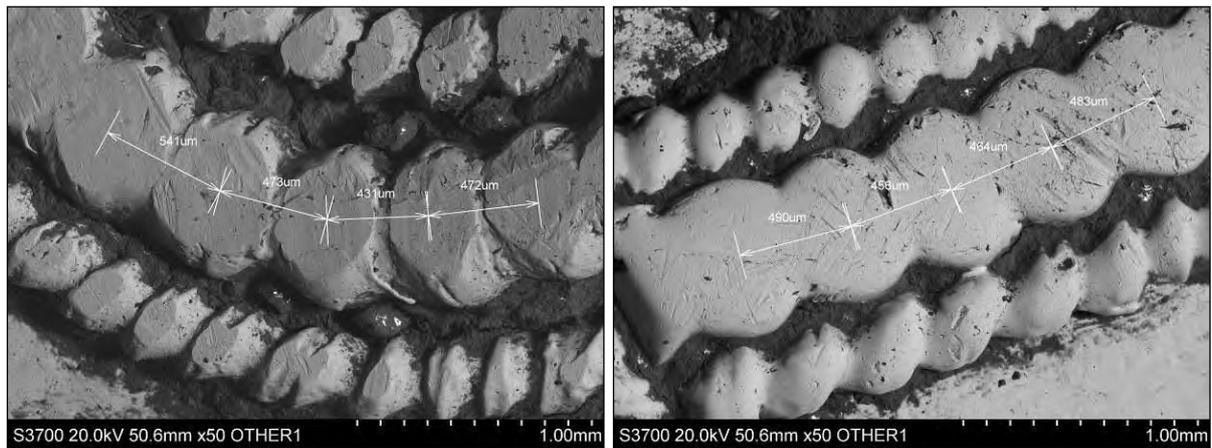


Figure 7c. SEM BSE images showing spiral-beading on finer wires and the heavy wear present over the whole face of the pommel, resulting in flattened wires (field of view ca. 2.5 mm).

K680

	Thick beaded wire				Thin beaded wire			
	Bead diameter (µm)	Average (µm)	Bead length (µm)	Average (µm)	Bead diameter (µm)	Average (µm)	Bead length (µm)	Average (µm)
Three-strand band	702-746	726	431-541	479	431-462 (417)	441	310-345 (272, 410)	330
					370-409		383	
Three-strand band	613-666	637	480-522 (587)	521	329-352	340	313-337	326
					302-338		321	
Three-strand band	689-710	700	456-490	473	380-390 (342)	377	275-288	284
					391-403		397	
Outer border	710-755	739	530-577	553				
					307-327		319	

Table 28. Filigree wire measurements for K680.