




ARTIFACT ATTRIBUTION FRAMEWORK

A FIVE-PARAMETER EVIDENTIARY STANDARD FOR HISTORICAL SPORTS ARTIFACTS






ATTRIBUTION CLASSIFICATIONS

TIER	CLASSIFICATION	VISUAL DESIGNATION	DEFINITION
TIER A	DEFINITIVE ATTRIBUTION	BLACK & GOLD	All five evidentiary parameters independently support the attribution with no material conflicting evidence observed.
TIER B	STRONG ATTRIBUTION	BLACK & SILVER	Strong overall evidentiary support. One parameter may be limited, but no material conflicting evidence exists.
TIER C	SUPPORTED ATTRIBUTION	BLACK & BRONZE	Multiple evidentiary indicators support the attribution, though one or more parameters are substantially limited or incomplete.
TIER I	INCONCLUSIVE ATTRIBUTION	BLACK & OXIDIZED COPPER	The available evidence is insufficient to support or exclude the proposed attribution with reasonable confidence.
TIER X	EXCLUDED ATTRIBUTION	BLACK & OXIDIZED RED	Evidence does not support proposed attribution and conclusively excludes a match.

PARAMETER STATUS KEY

	PRESENT The evidentiary parameter conclusively supports the attribution with no material limitations observed.
	LIMITED The parameter partially supports the attribution but is limited by factors such as image quality, visibility, incomplete documentation, or restricted comparative detail.
	NOT PRESENT The parameter is unsupported, inconclusive, or materially conflicts with proposed attribution.

THE FIVE EVIDENTIARY PARAMETERS

1	 STRUCTURAL ALIGNMENT	The overall construction, shape, proportional layout, panel configuration, seam positioning, and physical structure align consistently with the reference imagery across observable areas.
2	 UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS	Distinct non-replicable identifiers are visible and align conclusively, including wear patterns, repairs, defects, material irregularities, scuffs, creasing markings, or other one-of-one characteristics.
3	 IMAGE CLARITY & VISIBILITY	The quality of the reference imagery is sufficient to reliably evaluate the relevant areas of comparison, including resolution, lighting, angle, visibility, cropping, and obstruction.
4	 CHRONOLOGICAL/ MANUFACTURING CONSISTENCY	The artifact is consistent with the known production period, manufacturing characteristics, materials, construction methods, labeling, and documented usage window.
5	 PROVENANCE/ HISTORICAL CONSISTENCY	The documented history of the artifact supports the attribution through ownership history, acquisition records, transfer history, historical documentation, and overall historical plausibility.

TIER REQUIREMENTS

TIER A	All five evidentiary parameters must be classified as Present. No material conflicting evidence may exist.
TIER B	Four parameters must be classified as Present. One parameter may be classified as Limited.
TIER C	Multiple parameters support attribution, though one or more areas remain substantially limited or incomplete.
TIER I	The available evidence is insufficient to reach a reliable attribution conclusion.
TIER X	One or more evidentiary parameters conclusively conflict with the proposed attribution, excluding a match.

FRAMEWORK NOTES

- The framework is applied through documented research, comparative analysis, and professional judgment.
- A Tier A classification represents complete evidentiary convergence across all five parameters.
- A limited parameter prevents Tier A classification.
- Conflicting evidence within any parameter may reduce or exclude attribution classification.
- Not all artifacts will qualify for Tier A attribution.
- The framework is intended to provide transparency, consistency, and evidentiary structure to historical artifact attribution.

EXAMPLE ATTRIBUTION SUMMARY

PARAMETER	STATUS
1. Structural Alignment	 Present
2. Unique Characteristics	 Present
3. Image Clarity & Visibility	 Present
4. Chronological / Manufacturing Consistency	 Present
5. Provenance / Historical Consistency	 Present

FINAL CLASSIFICATION

TIER A

DEFINITIVE ATTRIBUTION

