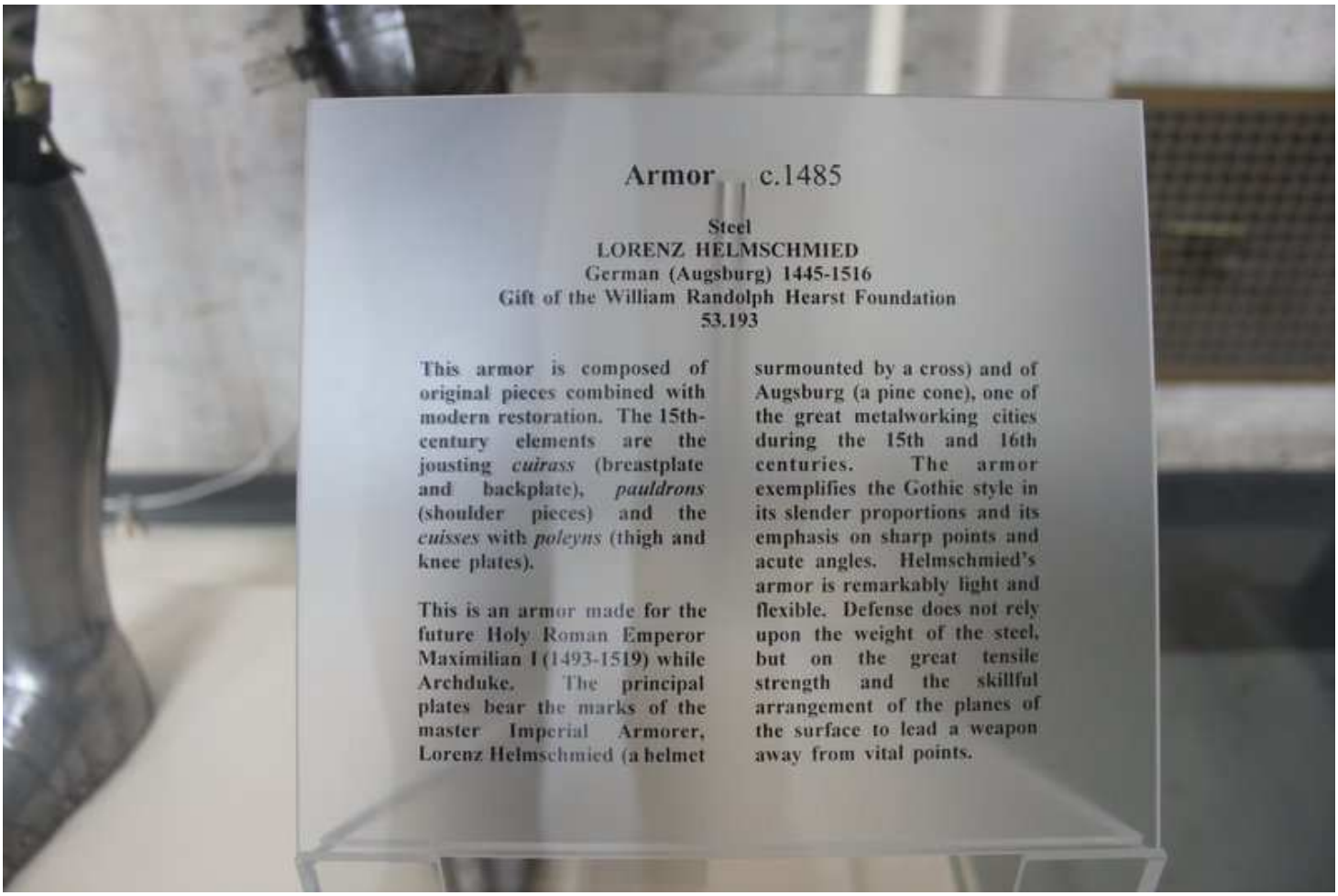
Item-ID	3401
Type	torso back - III(tbIII)

collection data	
city	US-Detroit
collection/museum	Detroit Institute of Arts-Detroit
abbreviation collection	DIA
access number/lot number	53.193
suit access number	s-53.193
storage location 2011	on display
group	
torso back III - Helmschmied model	true
torso back III - pleat-bundle crossing all plates	true
basic data	
part of suit	true
attributed production region	German speaking lands
attributed production city	Augsburg
material	iron
delamination	true
condition	b
images by	Matthias Goll
amount of plates	
within type	7 - complete
torso - abdomen	2 - complete
torso - pelvis	3 - complete
torso - thorax	2 - complete
estimated dating by stylistic criteria	
decade of 15th c.	9th
marks	
amount of visible marks	2
classification of mark	cross
classification of mark	symbol embossed
classification of mark	helmet
identification - city mark	Augsburg
identification - attributed master	Lorenz Helmschmied
position - torso front or back	shoulder right
applications	
riveted bars or straps	lost
technological details	
torso back - riveted plate at nape cutout	true
plate decoration	
decoration of plane surface	chiselling
decoration of plane surface	filing
decoration of plane surface	engraving
design of outer edge	convex curved cutouts

design of overlapping edges	fretwork
design of overlapping edges	filing
ridges	
type a	parallel filed lines
type b	parallel filed lines
rivets	
type a	iron
type b	iron
joint of segments within type	
type	pivoting rivet
type	fixed by rivet
group of similar objects	
tbIII	#1
tbIII - group of similar objects	
#1	true

detail


Armor c.1485
Steel
LORENZ HELMSCHMIED
German (Augsburg) 1445-1516
Gift of the William Randolph Hearst Foundation
53.193
This armor is composed of original pieces combined with modern restoration. The 15th-century elements are the jousting *cuirass* (breastplate and backplate), *pauldrons* (shoulder pieces) and the *cuisses* with *poleyns* (thigh and knee plates).
This is an armor made for the future Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I (1493-1519) while Archduke. The principal plates bear the marks of the master Imperial Armorer, Lorenz Helmschmied (a helmet surmounted by a cross) and of Augsburg (a pine cone), one of the great metalworking cities during the 15th and 16th centuries. The armor exemplifies the Gothic style in its slender proportions and its emphasis on sharp points and acute angles. Helmschmied's armor is remarkably light and flexible. Defense does not rely upon the weight of the steel, but on the great tensile strength and the skillful arrangement of the planes of the surface to lead a weapon away from vital points.

main side



mark



front side

