

OBJECT ID	2011.7.6
OBJECT NAME	Paper, Photographic
OBJECT COLLECTION	Alex's Candy Shop (is part of)
DATE CREATED	circa 1890
DONOR	Donated by the Rassogianis/Franks Family
EVENT	Family Photo
MEDIUM	Photographic Copy
OBJECT ENTITIES	Rassogianis, Paulina (is related to)

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A family photo of John Rassogianis' family in Sparta before they left Greece. The photo is mounted in a small redish/orange cardboard frame and is faded.

Gus Rassogianis, the donor's father, is the child seated in the bottom left and Alex, his brother, is standing behind him. George Rassogianis is the small boy standing on the far right, front row.

ORIGIN

Paulina Franks' grandfather, John Rassogianis, came to Chicago in the 1890s. He began his life in the new city by peddling fruits and later, with the help of his sons Alex and George, would open a candy store. In the 1920s Paulina Franks' father Constantine became a part of the family business and the store was able to prosper. When the second business closed Paulina Rassogianis chose to hold as many of the candy store's items as possible and, later, donate them to the National Hellenic Museum.

The Rassogianis family began their candy business in Chicago proper, working out of their own shop named "St. Louis Ice Cream Parlor." Eventually, the shop was closed and the Rassogianis' chose to continue their candy store venture in Berwyn, Illinois. The new shop they chose to open was named Alex's Sweet Shop.

Paulina Franks' father was a key contributor to the success of the Rassogianis candy stores. While Constantine Rassogianis was a noteworthy entrepeneur, he also had many other accomplishments. Among these was his four years of involvment in the Greek national military during World War I wherein he obtained the rank of sergeant. Also, he was a published author and poet, an experienced mandolin player, a church officer and had extensive knowledge of psalti.

NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM

CITATION

Paper, Photographic, circa 1890, Alex's Candy Shop, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.