



OBJECT ID	2006.33.20
OBJECT NAME	Scepter
DATE CREATED	March 4, 1945
EVENT	Founding of the Chapter
MATERIAL	Metal; Wood
OBJECT ENTITIES	Penelope- Ch Haris #133, Daughters (owned by) Mavrogianis, Julia (is related to) Penelope, Daughters (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	carved wood ceremonial scepter Daughters of Penelope metal sceppter presidential scepter scepter silver metal wood handle

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Metal (silver in color but no evidence that it is in fact made of silver) scepter with a wooden handle in the center. The ends of the scepter are designed almost as a Greek vase with a pattern of smaller and wider circumferences so that the very tip is a rounded bulb followed by a series of three increases in circumference the middle of these has the largest circumference on the scepter. The two ends of the scepter are exactly the same. There are 4.3125 in of flat, smooth metal on both sides between the decorated ends and the wooden handle.

The handle is also designed with a series of symmetrical shapes. The two rounded forms on the lateral ends of the handle are tear dropped shaped with rounded bases facing the center. The very center of the handle (and so the scepter) is a cylinder.

#### ORIGIN

The scepter was used by the president of chapter 133 of the Daughters of Penelope from its creation in 1945 to when the chapter closed (presumably around 2006). The scepter was then donated by Julia Mavrogianis.

The scepter was carried by the president at meetings as an indication of rank according to the Object Condition Report. The Daughters of Penelope Manual of instruction, however, has no mention of a scepter. It does indicate that the Marshal held a baton but without photographic evidence or a description there isn't enough evidence to prove that this isn't a scepter that just isn't mentioned in the manual.

While goddesses such as Hera, Aphrodite, and Demeter all traditionally held scepters they were much longer and decorated differently than this one. In the Homeric epics important characters also carried long scepters. More recently, Greek Orthodox Archbishops also carry long scepters as symbols of rank. Thus this status symbol has long Greek roots.

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#### CITATION

Scepter, March 4, 1945, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 03/28/24.

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