



OBJECT ID	2012.9.5
OBJECT NAME	Card, Identification
OBJECT COLLECTION	Spiros Sافرithis Collection (is part of)
MEDIUM	Ink
MATERIAL	Cardboard
OBJECT ENTITIES	Sافرithis, Spiros (is related to) Sافرithis, Spiro (is related to) Robertson, Christina (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	Greek Orthodox Church liturgical liturgical music Music

## OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Donors grandfather's, Spiros Sافرithis, music-teaching business card.

Card is small, sealed in laminate paper. There are some small wear and tear marks and a general yellowish patina to the card.

"Mandolin" and "Guitar" are printed in black letter in the top-left and top-right corners respectively. In the center-top of the card is the symbol of his business, a mandolin against a wall with a torch in the background.

The wording on the bottom half of the card reads: "Prof. Spiros Sافرithis. We teach in a very simple way - easy to learn at very reasonable prices. 946 Marianna St. Graceland 8825" in black lettering.

## ORIGIN

Spiros Sافرithis came to the US from Greece in 1912 as a self-taught musician and composer of choral music.

He originally arrived in Washington D.C. where he pioneered a new style of liturgical music which incorporated polyphonic aspects. For this he was branded a "heretic" and barred from playing in many choir orchestras.

However, over the years, his style gained acceptance and he traveled to Baltimore, Jacksonville, Florida, St. Louis, New York, and Chicago to train and lead Greek Orthodox choirs.

Spiros Saffrithis passed away in Chicago, in 1938, at the age of 57.

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**CITATION**

Card, Identification, Spiros Saffrithis Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 12/19/25.

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