



OBJECT ID	2013.16.5
OBJECT NAME	Cap
MATERIAL	Velvet
OBJECT ENTITIES	<p>Baltas, Despina (owned by)</p> <p>Apostle, James (is related to)</p> <p>Apostle, Geraldine (is related to)</p> <p>Baltas, Despina (is related to)</p> <p>Kremidas, Geroge (is related to)</p>
ACCESS POINTS	<p>beaded braid</p> <p>blue string</p> <p>blue tassel</p> <p>braided rope</p> <p>Tassel</p> <p>velvet cap</p> <p>velvet hat</p> <p>white beads</p> <p>women's fashion</p> <p>women's hat</p>

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

This round black velvet cap has a long beaded rope with a blue tassel at the end. The piece of black velvet has been machine made but the large irregular stitches on the inside of the cap indicate that it was handmade. The cap itself is a simple circle with the braided rope of beads attached to the very center and then sewn down to the side of the cap to ensure that it wouldn't flop around. The beaded rope has a cylindrical base closer to the cap and then feeds into a long braid. The braid then unravels into a loose design that covers another cylindrical pattern that expands into a conical shape. On the bulb at the end of the cone several hundreds of thin, bright blue threads are wrapped around the tip secretly and then allowed to fall in a long tassel.

ORIGIN

Most traditional greek outfits for women included some type of head covering. The velvet and tassel identify this hat not just as a symbol of modest or everyday headcovering but as a status symbol.

Despina and her husband George Kremidas lived in the Greek village of Dessila, Greece. Dessila is a tiny village in the area of Messenia on the Peloponnese. Their daughter Angeliki, the third of five children, was the only member of the immediate family to emigrate to America. While living in New England, she married Nicholas Apostolos and subsequently gave birth to two sons: George and James. The family moved to Michigan and both sons served in the military during World War II. Afterwards both sons earned degrees from Worsham College of Mortuary Science in Chicago and opened a mortuary in Muskegon, Michigan together. James married Geraldine Pavlis. In 1960 the two left to visit his family in Greece, however, on the day of their departure George Kremidas (James' grandfather) passed away at the age of 98. The personal artifacts included in this accession were given to the Apostles during this trip.

CITATION

Cap, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 04/23/24.
