



OBJECT ID	2008.37.38
OBJECT NAME	Block, Printing
OBJECT COLLECTION	Greek Art Printing Company Artifact Collection (is part of)
DATE CREATED	1956 – 1984
MATERIAL	Lead; Wood
OBJECT ENTITIES	Damianos, John (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	1967 1969 1971 1984 Floros Florides, A.C.C.D. Company Greek Art Printing Company Menu N.H.I.B.T. National Hellenic Invitational Basketball Tournament (NHIBT) Neo Skopos Old Greek-Town Businessman's Association Passenger Ship Philanthropic Society Plume print Printing printing block Program Spartan Produce Co. Spear Sponsor Sword The Greek Cafe Warriors Wood

## OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Rectangular wood and cast lead printing block. The print image is a horizontal progression of Greek warriors in various poses and using various weapons. From right to left, there is a figure kneeling and drawing back a bow and arrow. Standing behind the kneeling figure is another figure with a bow and no arrow. The next figure is standing and leaning back with a leg and arm outstretched before him and an arm raised with a spear in hand, as if preparing to

throw the spear. The next figure appears to be walking with a sword in hand. The far left figure is standing with an upright spear in one hand, the butt of the spear resting on the ground, and a sword in the other hand, pointed towards the ground. The figure is wearing a Greek-style plumed helmet. On the far left of the image is a large, oval shield, three spears and a sword, all appearing to be resting against the edge of the image.

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#### ORIGIN

Donated by John Damianos. The printing block was used in a linotype printing machine. Linotype presses allowed for the casting of entire lines to be printed at a time. Linotype printing was eventually succeeded by lithograph printing and computer typesetting during the 1960's and 1970's. This printing block was used by the Chicago-based, Greek Art Printing Company. The printing block was used for the printing of a luncheon menu for The Greek Cafe. The Greek Cafe was located at 338 South Halsted Street, Chicago. The image is also used in an advertisement for Greek Line in a program from the Hellenic Student Association of Roosevelt University's Annual Dance. The Hellenic Student Association of Roosevelt University was founded in 1956. The objectives of the Association are: to bring all Greek Students together and provide them with a forum for discussion of the problems in this country; to create a better understanding of the Greek culture and spirit among their American fellow students and the society in whole, and to assist Greek student financially or otherwise to complete their education. Greek Line was a passenger ship company that operated trans-Atlantic and short and long distance voyages from 1939 to 1975. The image is also used in the printing of sponsor pages for the Floros Florides, A.C.C.D. Co. in the Dinner-Dance programs of the Philanthropic Society "Neo Skopos." The image is also used in multiple sponsor advertisements in the programs for the 1967, 1969, and 1971 N.H.I.B.T. The image is also in a sponsor advertisement for the Spartan Produce Co. in the program for the 1st Annual Dinner-Dance of the Old Greek-Town Businessman's Association. The Greek spear, known as the doru, was commonly the main weapon of Greek hoplites. The swords in the image resemble the short-styled gladius used in ancient Greece. The shield resembles the large, round, and concave type of shield, known as an aspis or hoplon, used by hoplites.

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#### CITATION

Block, Printing, 1956 – 1984, Greek Art Printing Company Artifact Collection, *National Hellenic Museum*,  
<https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 04/24/24.

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