

EUROPEAN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE BOX

ED.1979.2.1

Beaded knit bag with rose patterning called a “reticule”. Used in the 1800s to hold coins and keys and other items when ladies’ clothes generally did not have pockets in them. This type of floral pattern was very typical. The pattern was graphed before the maker started knitting. Then she carefully counted the beads and their colors in the patterns, stringing them onto the thread to be used to knit the bag. Once all the beads were strung, knitting could begin. This purse belonged to a woman named Ann Armstrong Gordon who died in 1862.

ED.1989.25.3 a

Crayon rubbing of a medieval knight’s epitaph (usually a tomb marker). This one was made in New Romney, England and the epitaph is in English indicating that the knight (or his champion) was named Thomas Lamberd and that he died in August, though the year is unclear. The page boy haircut and the long gown he wears would place this image somewhere in the years between the 1200s and the 1400s.

ED.1994.D.5 a,b

Plastic dolls in military uniforms:

(a) Scotsman with bagpipes and kilt

(b) Englishman with gun in regimental dress

ED.1998.D.13

Plastic doll of a boy in an Evzonne uniform. The pleated kilt he wears is called a fustanella and indicates that he is one of the military guards from the urban Athens area.

ED.1998.D.25

Small cotton crochet horse from Hungary. The Magyars were traditionally great horsemen who migrated into Hungary from Central Asia many centuries ago.

ED.2001.D.9

Doll showing the making of bobbin or “pillow” lace, probably from Belgium. She sits in front of a stand holding the “pillow” pinned with the lace pattern from which hang the bobbins of thread she will plait into lace. Belgium has been famous for several centuries as a center for bobbin lace making.

ED.2004.3.142

Early 20th century (or 1890s) hand tinted photo of three Dutch girls in wooden clogs and lace caps in front of a wind-powered flour mill. Traditionally each town had a different style of lace cap that the women wore and you could tell where someone came from by the style of the cap.

ED.2004.3.143 a,b

Demitasse cup and saucer from Austria of porcelain with transfer printed floral decoration in gold leaf. Vienna is famous for its many coffee houses and the pastries they make to serve with the coffee.

ED.2004.3.144 a,b

“German stars” folded of heavy waxed paper. These were popularly used as Christmas ornaments.

ED.2005.1.19

Handwoven linen sleeve fragment with wool embroidery, probably from Bulgaria. As can be seen with this rectangular piece, peasant garments were made from every scrap of material and thus were cut to make full use of the handwoven fabric by using squares, rectangles and triangular pieces in making the clothes.

ED.2005.1.120

Plastic doll from Bulgaria in typical villager or peasant boy's outfit. This was put together and dressed by one of the Pilgrim Place residents who had been in Bulgaria.

ED.2005.1.170

Wooden cookie molds for special festive or holiday baking. Dough is pressed into the molds to form the designs and then turned upside down onto a baking sheet. These type of molds were typically used in Germany, Poland and other Eastern and Central European countries.

ED.2005.1.171

Carved and painted rooster from Portugal with the legend of "El Gallo Barcelos" included with it.

ED.2005.1.340

Samples of Irish crochet lace mounted on cardstock. Lacemaking in general, and this 3-dimensional style of floral crochet in particular, got started in Ireland in response to the Potato Famine of the 1840s. Women used the income to buy much needed food for their families.

ED.2005.1.416

Fragment of a sleeve with Irish crochet lace edging with three dimensional rose pattern attached to a machine made lace insertion and machine net. This style of lace trim was extremely popular internationally from about 1870 to 1910, though the style was first started in Ireland in response to the Irish potato famine of the 1840s.

ED.2005.1.417

Doily of needle run embroidered net with leaf sprig motifs and a narrow edging of bobbin lace and a small square of plain weave linen in the center. This type of lace combined machine made net and hand embroidery in an effort to speed production and to compete with the totally machine made lace forms that had become popular in the mid-1800s. This type of lace was made in many countries.

ED.2005.1.418

Motif of needle made lace- one of the most expensive hand made lace types ever produced. The most famous centers of production were Venice, northern France and Belgium.

ED.2005.1.427

Coin from Poland: 1 grosz dated 1949 in a cardboard slip case with map and description.

ED.2005.3.14 a-e

UNICEF cardstock figures of children in traditional clothes:

(a) boy from Greece in Evzonne costume of Athenian soldiers/guards.

- (b) girl from Yugoslavia carrying jug (this set was made before Yugoslavia reverted to the pre WWI countries of Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, etc.).
- (c) boy from Italy holding model ship
- (d) girl in Flamenco dancer costume from Spain
- (e) girl from Provence area of France holding flowers

Ed. 2005.25.2

Painted wooden Easter egg, possibly from Poland. The tradition of coloring Easter eggs comes from Eastern Europe and they often make elaborately patterned ones. Some historians say the custom pre-dates the arrival of Christianity in the area and that the eggs were fertility symbols marking the re-appearance of Spring after a long, cold winter.

ED.2005.25.20

Miniature ceramic pitcher from Riga, Latvia (formerly a Soviet republic) on the Baltic Sea.

ED.2005.51.73

A peasant boy from Russia. He wears an outfit typical of a late 19th century (1800s) rural agricultural workers.

ED.2005.51.98 a-c

Set of 3 nesting wooden Matruska dolls, typical of Russian folk art. Traditionally, they consist of females representing peasant women in the role of grandmother, mother & child. Contemporary sets often feature political features such as Ronald Reagan and Gorbachev.

ED.2005.51.106

Handmade doll from Portugal of a girl in traditional peasant dress carrying a sheep.

ED.2005.51.109

Early 20th century doll from Greece. This boy is in an Evzonne uniform. The pleated kilt he wears is called a fustanella and indicates that he is one of the military guards from the urban Athens area.

ED.2006.1.86

Woman (doll) from southwestern Ireland- the area of Connemara and the Aran Isles in traditional dress of full wool skirt and handwoven wool shawl over head. The head is of painted composite material and the body is a wire armature wrapped with wool felt.

ED.2006.1.233

Small piece of Battenburg-style lace edging of white linen. A commercially made, narrow tape is basted to a cloth backing to form 3 dimensional flowers, then hand embroidered to hold it in this shape so that when the basting is removed, the 3-D floral shape is retained. This piece was either made in Belgium (where 3-D floral lace was very popular) or in Austria in the 1900s.

ED.2006.1.245

Black silk Chantilly-style lace head covering from either France or Spain. This type of head covering (or small mantilla) is typical of those worn by women when attending Catholic church services prior to Vatican II in the mid 1960s. This one

is probably a machine made, commercial product imitating an older style of hand made lace from the town of Chantilly in France.

ED.2006.1.246

Handwoven striped linen and cotton woman's apron. This type of weaving and style of apron was common all over Scandinavia and Eastern Europe. This one probably dates from the early 1900s.

ED.2006.9.18 Laminated National Geographic map of Europe. One side show political boundaries, the other side shows small inset maps featuring languages spoken, natural resources, land use, etc. Dated 1992.

ED.2007.4.4 Miniature version of a Swiss cow bell on an embroidered leather strap. Much larger bells just like these are used to keep track of cows grazing in the high Alpine meadows in Switzerland. Cows (and goats) give the milk that produces the famous Swiss cheeses known round the world.

ED.2007.4.6 a, b Pair of resin cast castanets of the type used by gypsy dancers in Spain when performing the flamenco. These were made for tourists, the "professional" ones are carved of a heavy dark wood.

ED.2007.4.9 A simple trumpet made from cow horn of a type similar to those used by cowherds in the Austrian Alps to signal to each other. This one has a plastic "whistle" inserted in the end to make it easier to produce a sound and was intended for sale to tourists.

ED.2007.4.25 A set of pan pipes, a type of overblown (meaning the air is blown over the top of the hollow reed to produce the sound) flute. This set was made in France, but peasants all over Europe have used pan pipes for centuries. Even the early Greeks and Romans are shown in ancient artwork playing tunes on these.