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Greek Bronze Pilos Helmet



An ancient Greek bronze helmet of the Pilos type, of conical form with a carinated upper section and perforated holes at the sides.

Ca. 550 - 480 BC.
Height: 8 in. (20.2 cm); weight: 713 gm.

The Pilos helmet, takes its name from the felt shepherd's cap whose form it replicates. This helmet type came into use during the later Peloponnesian War, replacing earlier more closed and restrictive forms like the Corinthian type. The Pilos was especially favored among Macedonian cavalrymen of the 4th century BC. The helmet appears prominently on Macedonian coinage of Alexander the Great and his successors.

Published: R. Hixenbaugh and A. Valdman, Ancient Greek Helmets: a Complete Guide and Catalog, 2019, cat. no. H197.

Formerly in the collection of Axel Guttmann, Berlin, (1944 - 2001); Hermann-Historica auction, Munich, May 15, 2003, lot 13; subsequently in a Connecticut private collection.

inventory number: 8907

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