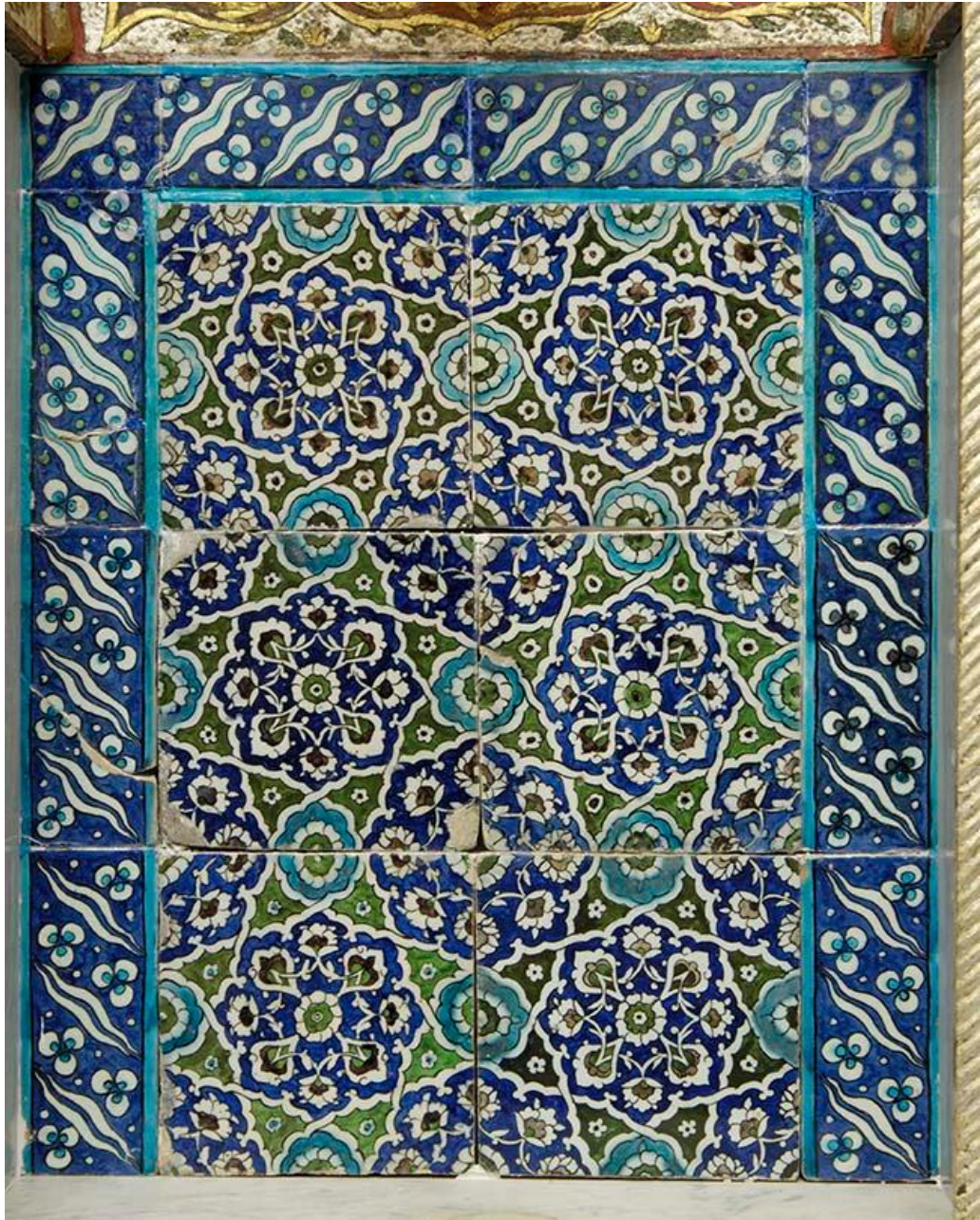


Object Summary



Tessellated Floral Tile Panel with Çintamani Border

Object Summary

16th century

Syria (Damascus)

Ottoman

Stonepaste, underglaze-painted

Overall: 21 1/4 x 32 3/8 in. (54 x 82.2cm) Other (each tile): 10 1/2 x 10 1/2 in. (26.7 x 26.7cm)

This tile panel is located within the maşab, or niche, of the Ottoman gallery. These architectural features, found in private residences of Damascus during the Ottoman period, were often composed of luxurious materials, such as ceramic tiles, marble, and mother-of-pearl. The ceramic tile is composed of cobalt blue 10- and 5-pointed stars filled with floral motifs with intertwining stems. Bright turquoise blossoms and smaller sage green polygons tessellate seamlessly with the star patterns, creating a lively and cohesive pattern. The tile panel is bordered with an alternating pattern of wavy lines and clusters of circles. This pattern, called çintamani (translated from Sanskrit as “auspicious jewel”) originated in Buddhist art. Sometimes referred to as “tiger stripes and leopard spots,” the çintamani pattern is found throughout Ottoman art, from manuscript illustration to textiles.