

THE DELIBERATELY CONCEALED GARMENTS PROJECT

The Deliberately Concealed Garments Project (DCGP) was initiated at the Textile Conservation Centre in 1998 by Dinah Eastop, Senior Lecturer, in order to research the tradition of concealing garments within buildings.

The project was generously funded by the L. J. and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation (award made in 2001) and by the AHRB/AHRC (initially by an AHRB GRANT B/SG/AN6782/APN12795) and later as part of the AHRB/AHRC Research Centre for Textile Conservation and Textile Studies (2002-2007).

The objectives of the research project were to:

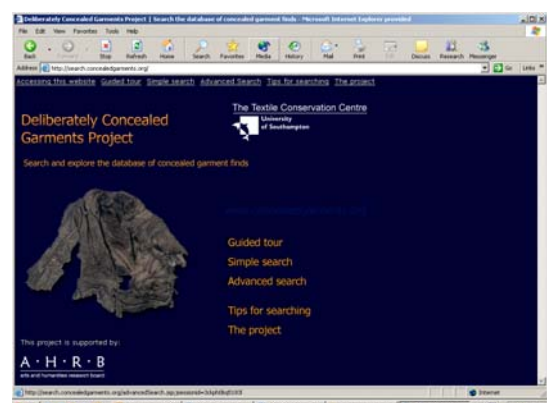
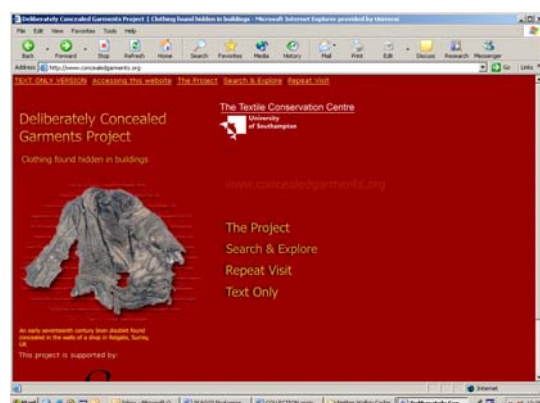
1. Raise awareness of finds and their significance via the identification and recording of finds; via publications, lectures, web-mailings, site visits, media interviews and a touring exhibition called '*Hidden House History*'. See *Attachment 1* below with data about website visits, mailings, etc.



The Nether Wallop cache: 18thC stomacher, early 19thC waistcoat, paper patterns

The exhibition was arranged by the Textile Conservation Centre, in conjunction with the Hampshire County Council Museum and Archive Service (HCCMAS), to explore the practice of concealing garments and other objects. The exhibition, called *Hidden House History*, toured 6 venues in Hampshire and Dorset in 2005 and 2006. The exhibition featured once-concealed garments; some were displayed in custom-made cases replicating three cache sites: under floorboards, within a wall and by a fireplace. These displays were complemented by large wall-mounted display panels addressing key questions relating to finds and concealment practices, as well as series of 'interactives' designed for families.

2. Create a database of finds: hundreds of garments finds have been identified and recorded. See www.concealedgarments.org



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Dinah Eastop, Senior Lecturer (on the right) and Charlotte Dew, Project Development Officer (on the left) examining the Nether Wallop stomacher with its X-radiographs

ATTACHMENT 1: AWARENESS RAISING

Information about the DCGP was distributed via the e-mail lists of the following organisations

Heritage
Museum Computer Group
Conservation Research
Group for Education in Museums
Ethno Museums
British Archaeology

Conferences

Databurst, Museum Computer Group Meeting (UK), Nov 2004. (Charlotte Dew)

DATS (Dress and Textile Specialists Society, UK) Annual Conference, November 2004. (Charlotte Dew)

Scientific Analysis of Ancient and Historic Textiles: Informing Preservation, Display and Interpretation. First Annual Conference of the AHRB Research Centre for Textile Conservation and Textile Studies, July 2004, Winchester, UK. (Dinah Eastop and Ross McEwing)

Tales in the Textile. The conservation of flags and other symbolic textiles. The North American Textile Conservation Conference (NATCC) 2003. Albany, NY, USA. (Dinah Eastop and Charlotte Dew)

Situated Knowledges. Design History Society Conference 2002. University of Aberystwyth, Wales, UK. (Dinah Eastop)

Broadcasts

D. Eastop, TV interview for 'Metropolis', a weekly European magazine programme, broadcast on the German/French TV station ARTE, 16th October 2004.

D. Eastop, Radio interview, *BBC Radio Solent*, summer 2004.

C. Dew, Interview for *BBC Radio Birmingham*, 18th March 2004.

C. Dew, Interview for *Meridian Television*, 2nd February 2004.

C. Dew, Interview for *Southern Counties Radio*, 13th October 2003.

D. Eastop and C. Dew, Interview for *Meridian Television*, 31st October 2002.

C. Dew Interview for *BBC Radio Solent*, 19th September 2002.

Coverage in Print Media

Anon. 2002. Website to Reveal Secrets of Hidden Garments. **The Dolphin** (University of Southampton). Southampton: University of Southampton, October 2002. 6.

Anon. 2003. Archaeological Artefacts Expert Appointed Research Fellow. **News and Views. The Magazine of the University of Bradford**. Bradford: University of Bradford. February 2003. 25.

Collins, P. 2004. Cavity creeps. **Village Voice Education Supplement**. August 4-10, 2004, 42.

Docherty, J. 2003. Concealed and yet so revealing. **Hampshire Chronicle**. 17 January 2003, 11.

James, H. 2004. Hidden Delights. **Period Living and Traditional Homes**. January 2004, 56.

Massey, A. 2003. Spooky or what? What do hidden bottles, bent pins, locks of hair, dead cats, old shoes, urine ... and a period house have in common? Alan Massey explains. **Period House**, November 2003, 138, 92-95.

Robertson, B. 2003. Mystery of horde found in the attic. In: **Mid-Sussex Today**. Sussex: Mid-Sussex Today. October 2, 2003.

V.B. Johnson and Partners ed. 2001. **Laxtons building price book 2002**. Oxford: Laxtons.

Vernon Systems Ltd. 2002. COLLECTION Browser live site. **Collection Connection, Vernon Systems Ltd Newsletter**. 47:1.

Wilson, S. 2003. GCTSM Conference Report: The Deliberately Concealed Garments Project. In: **Group for Costume and Textile Staff in Museums Newsletter Spring 2003**. GCTSM. 11-12.

Website Visits

Average of 2562 visits per month between January and December 2004.

ATTACHMENT 2: PUBLICATIONS AND MA DISSERTATIONS BY TCC STAFF AND STUDENTS

Barbieri, G. 2003. *Memoirs of an 18th century stomacher: A strategy for documenting the multiple object biographies of a once-concealed garment*. Unpublished MA dissertation. The Textile Conservation Centre: University of Southampton.

Barbieri, G. 2007. *The role of X-radiography in the documentation and investigation of an eighteenth century multi-layered stomacher*. In: S.A. O'CONNOR and M.M. BROOKS, M. M. *X-radiography of Textiles, Dress and Related Objects*. Oxford: Elsevier, 203-211.

Dew, C. 2003. SPAB Members own up to owning ancient clothing. *SPAB News* (The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) 24 (4) 8.

Dew, C. 2005. The Deliberately Concealed Garment Project [working title]. *DATS (Dress and Textile Specialists) Newsletter* (Spring 2005).

Dew, C and Eastop, D. 2003. Hide and Seek. *SPAB News* (The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) 24 (3) 22-23.

Duffield, M. 2004. *Interpreting evidence of wear and deliberate damage in four deliberately concealed garments*. Unpublished MA dissertation. The Textile Conservation Centre: University of Southampton.

Eastop, D. 1998. Decision-making in conservation the role of the artefact. In: Tímár-Balázs, Á. and Eastop, D. (eds) *International perspectives in textile conservation, papers from the ICOM-CC textiles working group meetings, Amsterdam 13-14 1994 and Budapest 11-15 September 1995*. London: Archetype, 43-46.

Eastop, D. 2001. Garments deliberately concealed in buildings. In: R. WAALIS and K. LYMER (eds) *A permeability of boundaries? New approaches to the archaeology of art, religion and folklore*. Oxford: British Archaeology Reports, 79-83.

Eastop, D. 2006. Conservation as material culture. In: C. TILLEY, W.KEANE, S. KUECHLER, M. ROWLANDS and P. SPYER (eds) *Handbook of Material Culture*. London: Sage, 516-533.

Eastop, D. 2006. Outside in: making sense of the deliberate concealment of garments within buildings. *Textile, The Journal of Cloth and Culture*. 4 (3), 238-255.

Eastop, D. 2007. Sound recording and text creation: oral history and the Deliberately Concealed Garments Project. In: M. HAYWARD and E. KRAMER (eds) *Textiles and Text: Re-establishing the Links Between Archival and Object-Based Research. Postprints of the Third AHRC Research Centre for Textile Conservation and Textile Studies Conference, 2006*. London: Archetype, 65-70.

Eastop, D. 2007. Material culture in action: conserving garments deliberately concealed within buildings. *Anais do Museu Paulista: História e Cultura Material* [Journal of the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil], 15 (1) [January-June 2007], 187-204.

Eastop, D. and Dew, C. 2002. Protective Practices: Documenting and Raising Awareness of Garments in Concealment Caches. In: *Situated Knowledges. Design History Society Conference 2002 Abstracts*. Aberystwyth: University of Aberystwyth, 10.

Eastop, D. and Dew, C. 2003. Secret agents: deliberately concealed garments as symbolic textiles. In: Vuori, J. (compiler). *Tales in the Textile. The conservation of flags and other symbolic textiles, Preprints of the North American Textile Conservation Conference (NATCC) 2003*. Volume 4. Albany, NY: NATCC, 5-15.

Eastop, D. and Dew, C. 2006. Context and meaning generation: the conservation of garments deliberately concealed within buildings. In: D. Saunders, J.H. Townsend and S. Woodcock (eds) *The Object in Context: Crossing Conservation Boundaries. Preprints of the Biennial Congress of IIC, Munich, 2006*. London: International Institute of Conservation, 17-22.

Eastop, D. and McEwing, R. 2005. Informing textile and wildlife conservation: DNA analysis of baleen from an 18th century garment found deliberately concealed in a building. In: R. JANAWAY and P. WYETH (eds) *Scientific Analysis of Ancient and Historic Textiles: Informing Preservation, Display and Interpretation. Postprints of the First Annual Conference of the AHRC Research Centre for Textile Conservation and Textile Studies, Winchester, 13-15 July 2004*. London: Archetype, 161-167.

Hood, F. 2002. *The characterisation and conservation of a concealed of a concealed hat from Cupar in Fife, Scotland*. Unpublished MA dissertation. The Textile Conservation Centre: University of Southampton.