

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the course of working as a textile specialist on various excavations in Egypt, I became aware of how little information was available about the construction and appearance of examples of Pharaonic Egyptian clothing. Indeed most people are surprised to learn that any have actually survived. The following study developed out of my own questions and enquiries into this subject. It is intended to be a guide to the clothing types worn in Ancient Egypt and to the problem as to how the clothes were made, based on surviving garments. The book is aimed at a general audience interested in Egyptian material culture. The presumption is made that the reader will have a slight, but not extensive, knowledge of textile and sewing terminology.

I re-made nearly all of the garments described in the book and during my seminars on Egyptian textiles and clothing the students tried on everything and gave their comments. This exercise provided a useful insight into how the garments looked when worn, and the problems involved in simply getting them on and off.

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