A Definitive History of Textiles

THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF WESTERN TEXTILES

EDITED BY DAVID JENKINS

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- All you need to know about textiles
- Authoritative, scholarly coverage

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Textiles have been essential to the everyday lives of all societies. Besides helping provide protection and warmth, they have fulfilled social, cultural, military, legal and symbolic functions, and have been an essential part of the economic activity of societies from ancient times. The Cambridge History of Western Textiles brings together and extends current knowledge on the production and use of textiles, through the eyes of archaeologists, economic and social historians, historians of fashion and the history of dress, and museum curators familiar with surviving artefacts. The history of all the major textile industries, including wool, linen, silk, cotton and artificial fibres is explored. Processes and technical terms are explained carefully, while the role of finishing and dyeing are examined in turn, with the order of treatment roughly mirroring the sequence of steps in weaving, woven fabrics, non-woven fabrics, finishing and dyeing are examined. A wide range of finished textiles and the trade in raw materials and finished goods. Spinning, weaving and dyeing are discussed in detail at their earliest known occurrence. 

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- £200 until 3 months after publication

0521 341078 2

2 Volume Hardback set £200.00
(Normal retail price £250)

Publication: c. April 2003

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