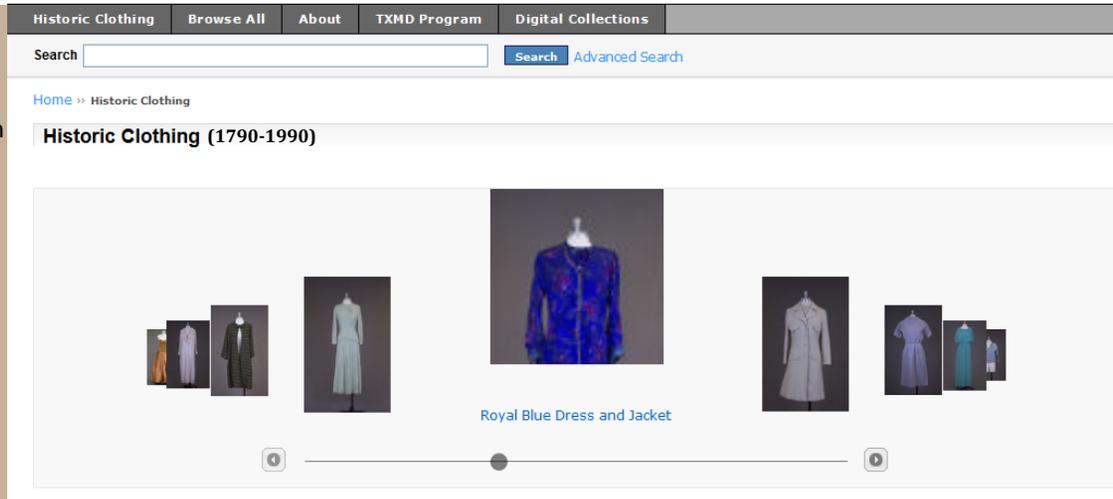


Digital Introduction

Since the inception of the *Historic Clothing Collection*, the primary method of locating or researching items has been a physical search utilizing hard copy descriptions of items, in three ring binders. The 2017-2018 Digital Seed Grant (and library expertise) enabled the collection's digital development through photography, garment metadata, digital inventory and a permanent website for the collection's continued growth. This effort allows visual identification and study of the collection by the current MTSU community, community partners, and the public at large.

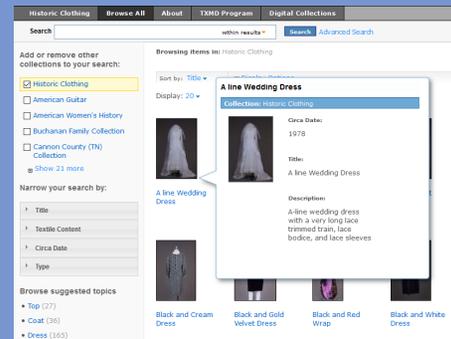


About

The Textiles, Merchandising and Design *Historic Clothing Collection* at MTSU was founded in 1988 at the encouragement of the curator of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City, as inspiration to build a collection for students and the public in the state of Tennessee. Collection activities include donations, accession, documentation, study, research and exhibition of historic clothing and accessories. The entire 750 piece collection is maintained in an environmentally controlled laboratory for continued preservation.

dsi.mtsu.edu/clothing

Online Collection Searching



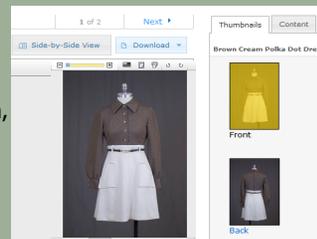
"Browse All" enables visual searching via thumbnails and object metadata that pop out when hovered.

Explore the 390 digital items by title, textile content, circa date, and type, located along the lefthand navigation.

The Advanced Search option allows text-search within the collection and specific metadata (description) fields.

Features

Features include photo zoom, viewing size (fits to browser, window or width), rotate, and download options.



Enhanced features include the Side-by-Side View, linked metadata fields, and collection indexing for discoverability through search engines and databases.



Side-by-Side View



Metadata (Descriptions)

To learn more about the collection or to donate items, go to the website and click on the "About" page.

Outcomes

The *Historic Clothing Collection (1790-1990)* provides tremendous growth in learning opportunities for anyone studying historic clothing and accessories. Several TXMD student assistants also worked on this project, which adds to their own digital learning. Additionally advantageous is the project's contribution to the long-term preservation of the items in the MTSU collection, since garments can now be previewed before being removed from storage.

Remaining items to be visually and digitally catalogued at a later date include accessories, such as shoes, handbags hats, and other thematic subcollections.

Grant Primary Investigator: Dr. Teresa King, TXMD Director, Dept. of Human Sciences, Middle Tennessee State University

This project was funded, in part, by the MTSU Department of Human Sciences, and the Digital Seed Grant, a program of Digital Scholarship Initiatives at MTSU's Walker Library. To learn more about the Digital Seed Grant, including its scope, other winning projects or to access the online application, visit <http://dsi.mtsu.edu/dsgrant>.