

# DESIGN FEATURES OF SPECIAL CLOTHING FOR ARCHEOLOGISTS

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**Abstract:** The timeliness and necessity to develop special clothing for the needs of archaeologists as a specialised narrow field of specialists were determined. In this work the consideration of the issue of determining the functional and practical characteristics in addition to artistic and aesthetic features of field and chamber clothing for the needs of archaeologists and museum workers were explored. It was established that the creation of sets of clothing that harmoniously combine utilitarian functions and the Ukrainian cultural code fulfil the needs and demands of a specific consumer segment - professional scientists, field and in-office archaeologists, museum workers, etc. This encourages designers to introduce authentic features that will not only create the right associations in society, but also help to promote, preserve and rethink Ukrainian centuries-old history.

*Key words:* special clothing, design features, design development, clothing design, decorative ornamentation.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Special clothing is an important component of not only fashion and industries, but also of the course of the evolution of society. That is why its study and analysis make it possible to create new developments that will correspond to a particular profession and society, within which the activities of specialists are taking place. Modern special clothing has a large number of variations that indulge specific professions and types of employment. Its main function is to protect a person in an adverse environment. If most types of work or military clothing have already been developed (Fig. 1.) and to some extent investigated by fashion historians and anthropologists, then special clothing of narrow field of specialists, including archaeologists, requires both the deepest development and care for understanding its place in modern society industries, trends and more. Therefore, the development of functional clothing for archaeologists must include authentic Ukrainian elements both in cut and material as well as in color and decoration, examples are shown in Fig. 1 [5].



**Figure 1:** The women's military uniform developed by A. Suvorkin (Ukraine, 2022).



Thus, comes a possibility to adapt the elements of a traditional costume to the modern, taking into account all the principles of safety formed today.

#### 2. EXPERIMENTAL

The methodological basis of research is a comparative-analytical study of functional and aesthetic requirements for special clothing for employees of different professions and determining the ratio of practical and operational and compositionaldecorative properties in the projection of special clothing for archaeologists (based on the analysis of requirements for clothing in Ukraine).

#### 3. RESULTS

Archeology as a science that investigates the past and as a profession related to the acquisition of material information about it are inseparable in their spheres of activity, which, however, differ in the very nature of the work process and the needs it poses to specialists. However, they are united by one goal - to store, explore and promote history. Therefore, the design of special clothing for archaeologists should emphasize the unity of their mission, retaining the necessary functional differences. It is the missions of these sciences that, in our opinion, aesthetic component of clothing, forming a special system of visual codes that will help society to better understand the relevance of archeology and museum studies to preserve the cultural code of Ukrainians.

Archaeologists working in laboratories, museums and other scientific institutions of Ukraine also do not have appropriate special clothing. Office clothes and offers of mass markets are designed for the average level of use for casual purposes. However, their work combines both the workload (when arranging collections, cataloging, chamber work, etc.) and contact with the general public (excursions, lectures). Therefore, it is currently impossible to say that the clothing available for sale fully meets the needs of scientific employees, because it is not designed for maximum convenience and durability in operation while preserving aesthetic functions [2].

In addition, the archaeologist's outfit should present not only the specialist themself, but also their global mission. The clothing should provide the popularisation of history, compliance with the norms of modern aesthetics and etiquette. That is why clothing for professions that carry out the mission of preserving the history of Ukraine should carry concepts that illustrate it. These can be both features of an authentic cut, transferred to modern special clothing, and Ukrainian motifs in decoration [3]. The use of authentic fabrics, such as linen, nettle, hemp - is also relevant. It is ecological, because the preservation of the planet is currently recognized as one of the main tasks of humanity. In addition, it reveals the Ukrainian cultural code through clothing, while allowing to give it functionality [4].

However, the practical component of clothing should not be neglected, because it must, first of all, meet the requirements of comfort and safety at the workplace. It is worth considering in more detail the specifics of archaeologists' activities in order to draw conclusions about the main requests of specialists based on them. This will allow to create optimal patterns, choose the most suitable fabrics and accessories, also add an aesthetic component to this base. In this way, it becomes possible to create practical clothes with a special meaning of cultural self-identification.

Therefore, the main recommendations for the archeologist's field clothing are:



- having wardrobe for the summer season and demi-season with elements of winter clothing. To combine all the elements and take into account the environmental friendliness and ergonomics, principle of multilayer needs to be used.
- close-soled shoes that will protect from current and socks that will protect from getting shocks. Since the working change of field archeologist is often unregistered, the shoes should be orthopedic and comfortable so as not to provoke diseases caused by compression of the foot: swelling, muscle stretching and tendons, fungus and more.
- mandatory number of accessories: buffs, scarves, gloves, bandanas, panamas and caps, etc. They will ensure health and create a comfortable set, successfully complementing the main elements of clothing.
- combining different fabrics and cut elements to achieve maximum comfort and safety during work. Clothing should be suitable for physical activity and weather conditions.

In addition, the archeology profession includes not only field practice, but also inoffice practice. In-office work includes a set of activities aimed at processing data and materials obtained during field research. This means that the work principles of an archaeologist and a museum worker overlap in in-office laboratories, that is a common space for them [6].

Work in in-office laboratories includes the following risk factors:

- increased contact with dust, dirt, pollen residues and other substances left on the artifacts to be processed;
- work with electrical devices, which are used for a complex of restoration works and the danger of injuries from them or electric current [2].

Versatility can be achieved not only by developing such a pattern that could ensure safety and freedom of movement, but also by giving it special decorative and aesthetic features that would emphasize the single mission of all specialists who preserve Ukrainian historical heritage.

Ornaments have always had not only decorative, but also sacred significance, carrying elements and symbols that were supposed to protect their owners and contribute to the well-being of the entire community. However, the need for constant protection, which dates back to ancient times, set a specific design task for Ukrainians: to make it not only beautiful, but also such that it would not interfere with daily work.

Consequently, it is possible to use a large array of graphic elements that are combined in modern times as our general idea of Ukraine's past. For example, the patterns of Trypilian ceramics presented in Table 1 have a high aesthetic and sacred value. The Trypian archaeological culture is unique in that it created the first megacities long before the existence of the well-known Sumer or Egypt. Therefore, the popularization of the archaic will be very useful in clothes that represent professions directly related to the study of different archaeological cultures. In addition, ancient people perfectly understood the process of combining utilitarian and sacred functions of clothes and household items, so patterns are easy to implement without losing aesthetic appeal [7]. Patterns most often differed in conciseness and expressiveness. Among them, geometric ones prevailed: rhombuses, "lapky", "sonechka". Plant ornament was used less often. In addition, an important point is that the stuffing was a competition to imported Byzantine fabrics, which are currently falsely associated with



authentic Ukrainian folk clothing, as they were brought and used by the ruling elite [8].

**Table 1:** Patterns of archaeological cultures, relevant for representation of archeological profession through the decoration of special clothing

Description	Illustration	Fond	Date
Goldwork with metallised threads, mixing Polovtsian and Slavic ornamental features		National Museum of the History of Ukraine	Mid 11 <sup>th</sup> century, the average- eternal settlement of Shargorod
Archaic patterns of Trypillian culture associated with the cult of the sun, unique to world heritage		National Museum of the History of Ukraine	Trypillia, about 3000 BC
Geometric embroidery with a sacred meaning, which was used in different variations from Kievan Rus' to the 20 <sup>th</sup> century		National Museum of the History of Ukraine	Circa 1680s'

The geometric pattern is currently a trend, and in special clothing it will serve as a bright accent and an interesting decoration that does not interfere with actual work. For employees of educational institutions, such patterns will also be relevant, they can be decorated on both casual clothing and for festive events, as well as accessories.

That is why all archaeologists who retain our common past, need ethnic elements in clothing to a great extent. This supports not only them, but also everyone who touches their educational activities. In addition, it creates a special image separated from those borrowed from different branches of clothing and equipment, which is necessary to promote our history as a whole.

Creation of sets of clothing that harmoniously combine utilitarian functions and Ukrainian cultural code fulfil the needs and demands of a specific consumer segment professional scientists, field and in-office archaeologists, museum workers, etc. It will also allow the general public to combine things inherent in urban modern fashion and wardrobe items filled with Ukrainian authentic aesthetics. In contradictory to such phenomena as kitsch in modern clothing and imitation of national order, which, unfortunately, are inherent in certain sections of consumers now, things are created with deep knowledge and adherence to the technological process of making ancient clothing, will provide the right accents and contexts, especially in the time of



authentication and self-identification (Fig. 2).



**Figure 2:** Sketches of clothing for field archaeologists (Skichko D.) on the basis of research of special wardrobe of narrow field specialists with the addition of certain features of Ukrainian authentic costume; co-joined elements were used to enhance the functionality for the working uniform

#### 4. **DISCUSSION**

There are currently not enough brands that create specialised clothing for archaeologists. Instead, experts use combinations of various items of clothing, shoes and accessories that can partially close their needs. Archeology is a profession that combines physical activity in unfavorable conditions (various weather conditions, loads, etc.) and intellectual work (the need to carry out popular-scientific measures, excursions, etc.). In addition, specialists in this area of historical science need clothing that combines aesthetics, conciseness and presentability of office stylistics and correspond to the peculiarities of their mission (would have a special design that would allow both to work effectively and present history through dress code) [1]. Today, Ukrainian society is experiencing a period of revisionism of cultural heritage, and in order to overcome the negative phenomena of representation of Ukrainian culture in fashion and everyday clothing, in the culture of life and in the urban environment, it is necessary to give the general public access to clothing, which combines comfort, modern ethical and ecological approach. This development will allow to complement this process as soon as possible and help the transition from subjective representation to a historical accuracy.



# 5. CONCLUSIONS

Special clothing should meet the needs and requirements of specific professions. They are recorded with documents and instructions at the legislative level. High safety, protection and comfort are the basis of special clothing design. It is possible to achieve comfort by using the experience of creating authentic attire. In addition, the clothing of professionals representing the preservation and popularization of Ukrainian history should correspond to the educational and aesthetic-cultural mission. It is important for him to give authentic features that will not only create the right associations in society, but also help to promote, preserve and rethink Ukrainian centuries-old history.

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