

A TRIBUTE TO:

## KAREN FINCH

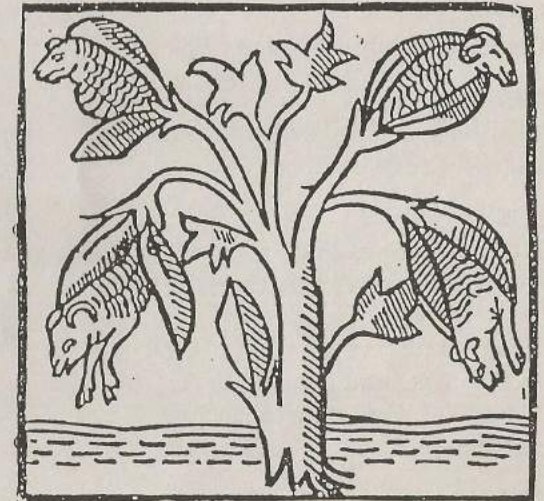
*At the end of August 1986, Karen Finch retired as Principal of the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court Palace. Her former colleagues pay tribute to her unique contribution to the textile conservation profession.*

Karen Finch founded the Centre in 1975. Her early training in textile design and conservation at Kunsthåndværksskolen, Copenhagen, her work with the Royal School of Needlework, and later, from 1954 to 1959, in the Textile Conservation Department at the Victoria & Albert Museum, developed her all absorbing, lifelong interest in historic textiles.

After leaving the Victoria & Albert, she continued to expand her knowledge of textile techniques, printing and technology. Practical conservation continued at her studio, which became a focus for students seeking instruction. The need for an organised course of study was increasingly apparent. The idea of a centre for the study of practical, historic and scientific aspects of textile conservation became a reality at Hampton Court, where she was granted a Warrant which enabled her to establish the Centre in Grace and Favour apartments.

Through Karen's creativity and tremendous energy, the T.C.C. has become internationally famous and has, over the years, trained many conservators who now occupy positions of importance.

Karen Finch is a Fellow of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, and of the Royal Society of Art. As an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Courtauld Institute of Art, she has lectured extensively at conferences and meetings and has published papers for the International Institute for Conservation, the Costume Society and others. Her book *Caring for Textiles*, co-written with Greta Putnam, was published in 1977 and revised and reprinted in 1985. Its continuing success will remain a tribute to Karen's vision. Her special contribution to textile conservation was recognised in 1977 by the award of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.)



## KAREN FINCH

in Western Australia

2 -15 July 1990



## LECTURE

### WHEN:

Tuesday 3rd July 1990 starts 7.30 pm.

### WHERE:

Art Gallery of W.A. Theatrette entry from Cultural Centre Mall.

### COST:

\$6.00 per person. \$3.00 members of M.A.A. and A.I.C.C.M. tickets available at the door.

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*Wine and cheese will be served following the lecture.*

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### TOPIC:

"Conservation of White Textiles: A General Approach and Case Studies".

Consideration of methods, equipment and materials used in conservation. Case studies include table linen, a pierced lace apron, the gold dress worn by Queen Marie of Romania in 1896, a Quaker doll of about 1800, an 18th century doubleweave petticoat, the clothes worn by Jeremy Bentham, founder of University College, London, and Royal baby clothes of 17th-18th century dates.

### QUERIES:

Telephone Rinske Car on 335 8211 or Sarah Murphy on 328 4411.

## WORKSHOP

Karen Finch will hold a half-day workshop on Thursday 5th July. She will be able to discuss and demonstrate particular treatments and answer queries about any items you wish to bring with you. It will be held at the Western Australian Museum's Conservation Laboratory at the Maritime Museum in Cliff Street Fremantle. The cost of the workshop is \$40.00 and attendance is limited to eight people. If you wish to attend or have any further queries, please contact Rinske Car on 335 8211.



## WA ITINERARY

2 July:

10.00 am — Visit to the Textile Conservation Workshop in Fremantle, luncheon.

3 July:

7.30 pm — M.A.A. evening lecture; Conservation of White Textiles. A general approach and case studies.

4 July:

10.00-3.00 — Round table conference at the Department of Materials Conservation of the Western Australian Maritime Museum in Fremantle.

5 July:

10.00-3.00 — M.A.A. workshop; Conservation of White Textiles.

6 July:

10.00 — Visit to Museum of Anthropology at the University of W.A.

6 July:

2.00 — Afternoon Student Lecture at WACAE. Conservation of Islamic and Indian designs.

7 July:

Free.

8 July:

2.00 — Afternoon lecture at the Royal Historical Society at Stirling House, Nedlands. Textiles as Documents of History and those who care for them.

9-15 July:

Tour of W.A.