

Project:

Period Costume Storage

Client:

National Trust Regional Headquarters



At Killerton House, Exeter, the National Trust has a collection of over 9,000 items of period costumes and textiles dating back to the 17th century. Having taken a decision to build a new store to house these under the best possible conditions, the actual method of storage had to be resolved in order to allow the collection to be readily accessed while taking up the minimum space and, at the same time, preventing any chance of costumes being damaged or crushed.

To solve the problem, the National Trust asked specialist shelving suppliers Ecospace – who had previously installed shelving for document storage – to submit proposals for a suitable solution.

Ecospace proposed a special 800mm deep version of its FOREG 2000 mobile shelving system that would enable hanging rails to be incorporated in some units and shelves for boxed items such as shoes, hats and delicate fabrics in others. This solution allowed maximum versatility since shelves could also be fitted above the wardrobe rails to give additional storage space for boxes and, should additional hanging space be required in the future, further hanging rails could be substituted for shelves.

In total, 80 bays of shelving 2.3 metres high have been installed in 4 double sided and one single sided mobile stacks each 7.2 metres long and one static stack of similar length. For security, all the units can be brought together and then locked in position by means of a single lock fitted to the single sided mobile unit.

