Title of this document

UH0180_video_info_transcription_alt_text_10_50Mins_QEI_6slits

Information about Video UH0224

Video Title

Letterlocking: Alternate ending:Queen Elizabeth I's holograph spiral-locked letter to Henry III, King of France, England (1570s)

Links to Video

- The YouTube URL is https://youtu.be/6ZyjvLRc62I
- Free download from Harvard Dataverse of video transcription and alt text, this document at https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/spirallock

Video Description

Compare with video UH0094 Letterlocking: Robert Devereux's spiral locked letter to Queen Elizabeth I, England, England (c. 1590). Did this letter by Elizabeth influence Essex's letter to her? Devereux's letter has similar slits along the fore-edge, however, a portion of the lock was not attached to the letter as it was in Elizabeth's.

Learn more about the spiral locking technique in our article in our freely accessible article published by the electronic British Library Journal: "The Spiral-Locked Letters of Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots," Jana Dambrogio, Daniel Starza Smith, Jennifer Pellecchia, Alison Wiggins, Andrea Clarke, and Alan Bryson; illustrations by Nicole Araya, Annie Dunn, Matthew Li, and Jana Dambrogio https://www.bl.uk/eblj/2021articles/pdf/ebljarticle112021.pdf

For downloadable resources related to letterlocking, including the transcription and alt text for this video, visit: https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/spirallock..

Produced by MIT Video Production. Researched, directed, and demonstrated by Jana Dambrogio.

Funded by the Seaver Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries in support of our project, "Unlocking History." Special thanks to Harry Ransom reading room staff, Laura Bergemann, Dr Nadine Akkerman, Ayako Letizia, and MIT Video Production staff.

Video Citation

Authors: Jana Dambrogio, Daniel Starza Smith, and the Unlocking History Research Group. Title: Alternate ending: Queen Elizabeth I's holograph spiral-locked letter to Henry III, King of France, England (1570s)," Letterlocking Instructional Videos. Unlocking History number 0131/Letterlocking Unique Video number: 0180. Date filmed: November 2017. Duration: 10:50. Date posted: December 2017. Video URL: [Insert URL]. Date accessed: [Date].

Video Copyright

Copyright 2016. Jana Dambrogio, Daniel Starza Smith, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). All rights reserved. The following copyrighted material is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0) License https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/. Contact the MIT Technology Licensing Office for any other licensing inquiries.

Transcriptions

Transcriptions of captions with viewing description Language

- English

Speakers

- There is no speaking in this video.
- Alt text: In every frame, two hands go through various steps to write, sign, lock and unlock a letter. There is a knife, bone folder, and bradawl on the right.

Timespan 00:00 – 00:00 demarcates the beginning and end timestamps of the step

- Description: Letterlocking step description
- Alt text: The text describes what the viewer sees while the demonstration is taking place

Timespan 00:00–00:14

- Description: Orient your A4 paper portrait, write and sign your letter on the first side of the bifolium
- Alt text: Two hands flip through the bifolium to the back blank side

Timespan 00:14–00:31

- Description: Fold the left long edge inwards about one finger width wide
- Alt text: Two hand fold the back leaf of the letter substrate one finger width from the gutter fold

Timespan 00:32–00:48

- Description: Fold and unfold the paper short-edge to short-edge
- Alt text: Two hands fold and unfold the letter substrate short-edge to short-edge

Timespan 00:49–01:04

- Description: Keeping this edge folded over on itself, slice out a sword-shaped strip of the substrate
- Alt text: Two hands use a knife to slice out an attached lock in the letter substrate

Timespan 01:05–01:17

- Description: Return the substrate to the long center fold and flip the back to the first page
- Alt text: Two hands realign the long edges with each other and return the letter to the first page

Timespan 01:18–01:23

- Description: Fold the top short edge down to the center fold and keep folded and unfold
- Alt text Two hands fold the top edge down to the center fold and keep folded and unfold.

Timespan 01:24–01:28

- Description: Fold the top short-edge to the fold above the center fold and keep folded
- Alt text. Two hands fold the top edge to the fold above the center fold and keep folded

Timespan 01:29–01:30

- Description: Roll fold the top short edge to the center fold and keep folded
- Alt text: Two hands roll fold the top edge of the letter to the center fold and keep folded

Timespan 01:31–01:46

- Description: Roll fold the top edge along down using the center fold and keep folded
- Alt text: Two hands roll fold the letter down using the center fold and keep folded

Timespan 01:47–02:02

- Description: Fold the bottom short edge towards the center, aligning it with the top edge and unfold
- Alt text: Two hands fold the bottom short edge of the substrate towards the center, aligning it with the top edge and keep the substrate and unfold

Timespan 02:03–02:07

- Description: Fold the bottom edge of the substrate to the fold below the center fold and keep folded while the lock protrudes
- Alt text: Two hands fold the bottom edge onto the substrate below the centerfold, and keep folded while the lock protrudes

Timespan 02:08–02:12

- Description: Roll fold the bottom short edge onto the substrate, all the time with the lock protruding
- Alt text: Two hands roll fold the bottom short edge onto the substrate while the lock protrudes.

Timespan 02:13–02:25

- Description: Roll fold the bottom short edge again two more times onto the substrate, all the time with the lock protruding
- Alt text: Two hands roll fold the bottom short edge again two more times onto the substrate while the lock protrudes

Timespan 02:26–02:37

- Description: Fold the remaining bottom panel onto the top panel and keep folded, all the time with the lock protruding
- Alt text: Two hands fold the remaining bottom panel onto the top panel and keep folded, all the time with the lock protruding

Timespan 02:37–02:55

- Description: Fold the substrate, aligning the short edges, with the lock left protruding
- Alt text. Two hands fold the letter into a letterpacket with the lock left protruding

Timespan 02:56–03:25

- Description: Following an imaginary line down from the center of this fold, us a bradawl to make a 3mm slit in the packet
- Alt text: Two hands stab a slit into the letterpacket using a bradawl

Timespan 03:26–03:32

- Description: The lock (formed of a single layer of paper) is folded in half along its vertical axis to make it both thinner and stronger
- Alt text: The lock begins to lace through the first slit in the letterpacket

Timespan 03:33–03:51

- Description: and the tip of the lock is threaded through the slit to the other side of the letterpacket
- Alt text: The lock laces through the first slit in the letterpacket over to the side where the lock now protrudes through the slit

Timespan 03:52–04:23

- Description: A second slit is made
- Alt text: A second slit is made in the letterpacket with a bradawl

Timespan 04:24–04:45

- Description: this time passing through the whole packet and the lock on the other side
- Alt text: The bradawl tool passes through the slit it made in the letterpacket to the opposite side

Timespan 04:46–04:49

- Description: Once the tip has passed through the slit,
- Alt text: Two hands pass the attached lock through the second slit in the letterpacket

Timespan 04:50–04:55

- Description: the body of the lock is flattened to lie flush with the packet

- Alt text: Two hands flatten the part of the lock that stays on this side of letterpacket, between the two slits.

Timespan 04:56–04:58

- Description: The packet is turned over again
- Alt text: Two hands turn the letterpacket over to the side with the protruding lock tip

Timespan 04:59–05:20

- Description: and a third slit made through both the packet and the lock
- Alt text: Two hands use a bradawl to make the third slit. The tip of the tool travels through the slit to the other side of the letterpacket piercing also through the flattened lock panel

Timespan 05:21–05:28

- Description: so that the lock tip can pass through the packet and the lock
- Alt text: The hands pull the tip through the packet and the lock

Timespan 05:29–05:44

- Description: Once the tip has passed through the slit, the body of the lock is flattened to lie flush with the packet
- Alt text: Two hands pass the attached lock through the slit in the letterpacket and flatten the part of the lock that stays on this side of letterpacket, now between the two slits

Timespan 05:45–06:08

- Description: flip over, and a fourth slit made through both the packet and the lock
- Alt text: Two hands use a bradawl to make the fourth slit. The tip of the tool travels through the slit to the other side of the letterpacket piercing also through the flattened lock panel

Timespan 06:09–06:25

- Description: Once the tip has passed through the slit, the body of the lock is flattened to lie flush with the packet
- Alt text: Two hands pass the attached lock through the slit in the letterpacket and flatten the part of the lock that stays on this side of letterpacket, now between the two slits

Timespan 06:26–06:42

- Description: flip over, and a fifth slit made through both the packet and the lock
- Alt text: Two hands use a bradawl to make the fifth slit. The tip of the tool travels through the slit to the other side of the letterpacket piercing also through the flattened lock panel

Timespan 06:43–07:31

- Description: Once the tip has passed through the slit, the body of the lock is flattened to lie flush with the packet

- Alt text: Two hands pass the attached lock through the slit in the letterpacket and flatten the part of the lock that stays on this side of letterpacket, now between the two slits

Timespan 07:32–09:04

- Description: flip over, and a sixth slit made through the packet to the side of the lock. Use a bone folder to widen the aperture of the slit
- Alt text: Two hands use a knife to make the sixth slit. The tip of the tool travels through the slit to the other side of the letterpacket off to the side of the lock

Timespan 09:05–09:33

- Description: Once the tip has passed through the slit, the lock tail is laced between the lock and the packet
- Alt text: Two hands pass the attached lock through the slit in the letterpacket and lace the tail of the lock between the lock and packet

Timespan 09:34–10:27

- Description: unlock the letter tearing the lock in seven parts to open the letter substrate and unfold
- Alt text: The hands unlocks the letterpacket tearing the lock in seven parts to open the letter substrate and unfold

Timespan 10:28–10:50

- Description: Open the letter to show the hole left in the second leaf by the lock and flip the letter substrate over to show the address leaf and the first leaf. The end.
- Alt text: The hands open the letter and flip the letter substrate over to show the address leaf of the opened letter, now with the sword-shaped hole on the lower left hand side of the substrate