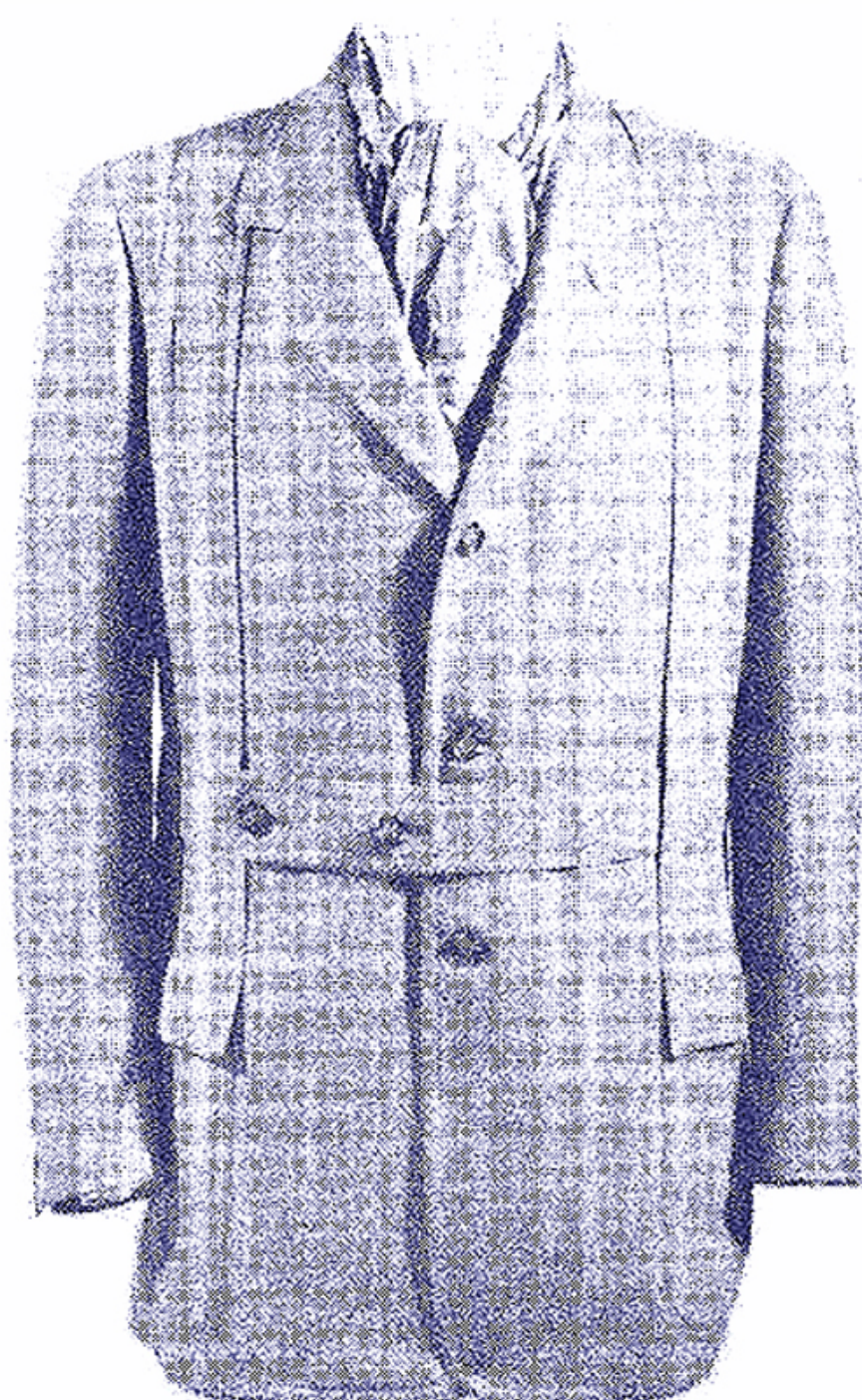




RENAISSANCE OF THE NORFOLK JACKET



A Norfolk jacket incorporating three-button front, pleats on each side and center of back, loose button-fastened belt, flapped patch pockets, free swing action pleats at back, and very deep center vent . . . tailored by H. Freeman of Philadelphia from a medium weight Shetland type fabric by Stroock. Silk print neckerchief from Italy by Handcraft.

There has been some talk concerning the possible revival of certain Edwardian fashions (some of the fancy waistcoats described elsewhere in this section are examples). In the renewed acceptance of the Norfolk jacket, which takes its name from the 15th Duke of Norfolk, we have the revival of a style which is even older, having first come into being during the Victorian era. In the mid-1800's in England, with travel into the country made easy for the first time by railroads, there came into existence a group of clothes which could truly be given the name Country Clothes. As part of this trend, well-dressed men of that era adopted the style of the hunting coat worn by the Duke of Norfolk, combined it with what were then called knickerbockers (as at present, a revival of a previously popular fashion . . . knee breeches), and had them tailored from heavy tweeds to form a "country suit." The popularity rapidly accorded this style in England and on the continent soon spread across the ocean to our own shores. From this beginning until the present day the style has taken many forms (one in the vintage of the 1900's is shown above) . . . has been in and out of favor according to the dictates of the times . . . has added pockets . . . has

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picked up front pleats . . . has inspired a whole family of sport coat fashions. Early in the 20th Century it was as popular with young men in America as is today's conventional single-breasted suit coat. In 1910 it was so well accepted that few small lads of that era were content unless they had a Norfolk coat just like their fathers'. Absent from men's wardrobes in recent years, it now appears that its revival is once again in the offing.

Overseas this revival has been given impetus because of the inclusion of the coat pictured on the opposite page in the wardrobe of Prince Philip. It should be pointed out that this jacket, made by Todhouse and Reynard (Norwich) Ltd., which is sometimes referred to in England as a "Norfolk House" and which has received orders from the Royal Family for several generations, incorporates only characteristics of the true Norfolk jacket. In place of the usual pleats, it is tailored with a forward fold on each forepart which is not sewed down but is left to expand. Retained, however, from true Norfolk design are the usual vertical pockets and all-around belt. The sleeves, too, incorporate a change in that they are finished with a button band at the wrist in place of the conventional open cuff. In this country, too, there is a definite indication that acceptance of this jacket is on its way back. Our fashion scouts have seen it worn in the country and at sporting events in recent months, as evidenced by the candid pictures shown on this page. Several custom tailors report that they are tailoring garments of this type at the request of individual clients. This spring it will be seen in a limited number of fine stores throughout the country in ready-made versions, one of which is shown above.



Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, with the Royal Princess Anne, wearing a jacket, with Norfolk characteristics, which was tailored especially for him.