

Basic Detail Report



Title Waistcoat

Date late 18th century

Primary Maker Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth

Basic Detail Report

Medium Hand-stitched cassimere (also spelled "kerseymere"), a twill-woven

wool with a brushed surface, with silk embroidery and silver sequins. The

backing fabric is a piled cotton twill ("fustian").

Description Double-breasted waistcoat of cream-colored wool, with a high turn-

over collar and scattered small embroidered sprays in pastel silk and silver

threads. The embroidery is done in a chain-stitch and is highlighted by silver

sequins (called "spangles" in the period). The collar is similar to a shawl style but

it is shaped with corners rather than having a smooth edge. It is cut so that the

turn-over begins at the center back neck edge (so that if it was turned up, it

would form a wide "V" at the center back). The double-breasted styling is

constructed so that the wearer had the option of buttoning to the left or the

right. There is a pocket on both sides of the front. The back of the waistcoat is a

twill-woven cotton fustian that has a flannel-like appearance, but is heavier than

modern flannel; it is unembellished. The back panel is selvage to selvage at the

lower edge, about 15 1/2 inches wide. It is pieced at the side seams. The fit of the

waistcoat is controlled by two ties at the lower center back. The waistcoat's

front panels are lined with a coarse, plain-woven cotton.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 26 x 18in. (66 x 45.7cm)