

Basic Detail Report



Title Quilted Petticoat

Date 1758

Primary Maker Sarah Halsey

Medium Hand-quilted with silk thread; satin-woven worsted face, wool batting, wool lining

Description Red satin-woven worsted petticoat, quilted in cream-colored and golden brown silk threads with various designs extending ten inches above the hem; above this, the quilted pattern is a trellis-like design, stitched in groups of three lines. Above the scallops, the body of the petticoat is quilted in a diamond pattern, with triple rows of stitching creating the diamonds. The quilting ends four inches below the waistband, and there is no wadding in this area. The decorative band around the hem includes figures of a mermaid, lion, a griffin or

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leopard, a fish, 2 stags, 3 rabbits, 3 different birds, and a dog(?). The lion has the

initials "SH" stitched on his rump; the griffin or leopard has the date "1758"

stitched on his body. The mermaid holds a comb and a mirror. The figures are

interspersed between nine plant slips, each with three branches bearing

different, oversize flowers. These designs are surrounded by closely-worked

parallel diagonal lines. The stitching is a variant of the back stitch, worked

extremely finely. The petticoat is interlined with undyed wool wadding and

backed by an undyed, plain-woven wool, possibly homespun. The hem is

finished in a knife edge. The petticoat is gathered onto a replaced waistband of

red cotton fabric (the original, perhaps on a drawstring, may be underneath the

newer material). There is an eleven-inch opening along one seam, but there is

no evidence that the petticoat ever had pocket slits. The backing fabric is pieced

in one place, raw edge to raw edge, down the length of the petticoat; this

appears to be original, as the quilting continues uninterrupted over it. The face

fabric is seamed along this same line. The backing fabric is properly seamed

near this odd piecing--perhaps the maker miscalculated the required width of

the backing(?).

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (length): 39 1/2in. (100.3cm) Hem

(circumference): 116in. (294.6cm)