

Basic Detail Report



Title Dress

Date about 1880

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Primary Maker Alice Loveland Peirce

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched cotton, metal hooks

Description Woman's three-piece day dress of woven plaid cotton, in white, dark

blue, light blue, tan, and peach. Bodice (.a): This long-sleeved bodice has white

cotton rickrack manipulated into a floral-like lace work (1 1/4 inches wide)

edging the wrist openings of the sleeves and edge of the collar. The collar is

three inches at its widest point. The sleeves are narrow. The bodice closes at

center front with metal hooks and thread eyes. A 1 1/4-inch box pleat is hand-

stitched on the front left and right sides. The pleats begin at the shoulder seams

and continue for about 14 1/2 inches. The hooks and eyes of the opening are

covered with a wide pleat. Three 2 1/4-inch wide box pleats are stitched down

the back of the bodice, with the fullness released 5 5/8 inches from the bodice

hem. The bodice is unlined. Skirt (.b): The skirt has a flat front and heavily

gathered back. The waistband is 1 1/4 inches wide and 26 inches long. Although

there are currently no closure mechanisms, there is an opening at the center

back of the skirt that measures 10 1/2 inches. The center front is shaped with

two seven-inch darts, placed approximately three inches in from the side seam.

There is an on-seam pocket on the right side. Two eight-inch-wide flounces of

self-fabric have been placed, one above the other, around the bottom of the

skirt. Overskirt (.c): The overskirt is also flat across the front, being shaped with

darts on each side. The front and back panels of the overskirt are pulled up at

the side seams with a series of tucks, creating a draped effect. The hem line of

this overskirt is decorated with rickrack lace like that used on the bodice. On the

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interior of the overskirt, the back is lifted and bustled with the aid of four 1/2-inch-wide white twill-woven cotton tapes.

Dimensions Bodice (center front length x width across shoulders): 17 1/4 x 16 1

/2in. (43.8 x 41.9cm) Component (center front of overskirt length): 23 3/4in. (60.3

cm) Component (center back of overskirt length): 27in. (68.6cm) Hem

(circumference): 84in. (213.4cm) Skirt (length): 36in. (91.4cm)