

Basic Detail Report



Title Wedding Dress

Date 1873

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Primary Maker Mary Cornelia Bishop

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched silk, cotton, and wool, with unidentified boning, linen (probably) lace, silk-covered wooden (probably) buttons

Description Woman's wedding dress consisting of a bodice (.a), skirt (.b) and overskirt(.c) of dark beige silk. The bodice extends over the hips with two rectangular panels; it is pointed at center front and center back. It closes at center front with nine dome-shaped buttons covered with silk thread.

Decoration of the bodice consists of self-fabric revers and collar edged to the inside with a pleated self-fabric ruffle. The neckline is high and round, and trimmed with white bobbin-type lace. The panels, which extend over the hips, are also decorated with pleated self-fabric ruffles, headed with a doubled strip, also of self-fabric. The center front and center back lower edges, along with the revers and collar edges, are piped. The sleeves are cut in with an upper and lower seam like a coat sleeve and are trimmed seven inches deep with self-fabric ruffles, with an edging of lace inside the wrist. Two 5 1/2-inch-long darts on either side of the opening are boned; the side seams are also boned. The lining of the bodice is brown twill-woven cotton. There is a watch pocket set into the waist seam on the proper left side. The skirt is eased into the waistband across the front, and is knife-pleated across the back of the hips, and cartridge-pleated at center back. The center back is gathered up in a bustle effect. The lower skirt is circumscribed with a wide gathered ruffle over a box-pleated self-fabric ruffle. The skirt is lined with brown glazed cotton; the lower nine or ten inches is lined

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with tan wool. There are cotton tapes stitched inside the skirt to tie behind the legs, to pull the skirt fullness to the back. The bottom edge is bound with a brown wool tape. The waistband closes at center back with a button (now missing.) The overskirt, which has been removed from its waistband, has a box-pleated ruffle around the bottom edge. There is also a self-fabric bow which has been removed from the overskirt.

Dimensions Bodice (center back length x width across shoulders): 26 x 15in. (66 x 38.1cm) Bodice (center front length): 21 1/2in. (54.6cm) Skirt (front length): 41in. (104.1cm) Skirt (back length): 49 1/4in. (125.1cm) Hem (circumference): 116in. (294.6cm) Component (overskirt back length): 32 3/4in. (83.2cm) Component (overskirt front length): 32 1/2in. (82.6cm)