

Basic Detail Report



Title Bonnet

Date about 1840-1850

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Hand-stitched braided straw or grass with loosely woven lining fabric, thread-covered wire, and later additions of lace, ribbons, and artificial flowers

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Description Woman's bonnet of finely braided straw or braided grass originally

lined with a loosely woven strip of fabric in the crown and under the entire brim.

The brim is 5 inches deep at the center top and curves for 26 inches around the

face. The sides of the brim drop down below the crown, with the ends of the

brim curving almost to a point before the curve smooths out, connecting to the

crown. The crown is 5 inches deep and 5 inches in diameter at its round top. A

curtain of straw is attached to the base of the crown and the brim. Over this

piece is stitched a curtain (or "bavolet") of grey and white striped silk

ornamented with a row of very fine straw braid. This is stiffened with a starched

net lining. The decorations added later to the bonnet include a three-inch-wide

insertion of machine-made bobbin lace, with a cream-colored, 5/8-inch-wide

ribbon, stitched around the outside of the brim and over the seam of crown and

brim. There is also a confection of flowers stamped from fabric and attached to

covered wires, in shades of white, pink, and green. The pink lining under the

brim and matching ties have machine-stitching.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width x depth): 10 x 7 1/2 x 11 1/4in.

(25.4 x 19.1 x 28.6cm)