

Basic Detail Report



Title Dress

Date about 1855-1860

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Hand-stitched silk and cotton, with cotton wadding, brass hooks and eyes, silk fringe, wool twill tape, and silk-covered wooden buttons

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Description Woman's day dress of silk, patterned with a wide stripe of brown

and white warp print, alternating with a wide stripe of barred white and brown,

edged with a satin-woven black and green checkerboard and black barred

design. The dress has a high, round neckline, dropped shoulderline, and bell

sleeves. The sleeve openings are edged with a double row of variegated brown

and yellow silk fringe. Mid-way along the sleeves' length, they are decorated

with a five-inch-wide band of gathered self-fabric. The bodice is fitted with two

seven-inch darts extending from the waistline on either side of the center front

opening. The bodice closes with ten small, domed buttons, covered with brown

and white silk thread. Brass hooks and eyes reinforce the closing in the area of

highest stress in the lower bodice. The neckline has a period appropriate

whitework collar, which is two inches wide, tacked on at either end. The skirt is

cartridge-pleated into the waistband, which is stitched to the inside bottom

edge of the bodice. The bodice is lined with tan glazed cotton. The darts are

boned, as is the right front opening edge. The bodice front is padded with two

cotton-stuffed bust enhancers, covered with brown fabric. The skirt is lined with

brown glazed cotton. The skirt bottom edge is finished with brown twill-woven

wool tape.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (center back length x width across shoulders):

58 1/2 x 19in. (148.6 x 48.3cm) Hem (circumference): 148in. (375.9cm)