

Basic Detail Report



Title Bonnet

Date about 1860-1865

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Hand-stitched braided straw with silk ribbons, faux flowers (in fabric, beads, and straw), wire, beads, lace and silk fabric for lining

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Description Woman's bonnet made from a narrow, 1/4-inch-wide strip of finely

braided straw. The bonnet base is made in three parts with a brim, crown, and

curtain of straw. The bonnet is decorated with a confection of flowers and leaves

made from plain fabric, velvet, wire, chenille, unidentified fibers, lace, beads,

and straw. The brim is a narrow 2 1/2 inches wide at the center top and extends

down on either side to a point five inches below the straw braid at the back. The

ties, made from 3 1/8-inch-wide green silk ribbon with white, black, and green

stripes on each edge, are folded to the points; they then extend for about 23

inches. The inside of the brim is lined with off-white silk. The inside edge is

trimmed with covered wire, lace, and fabric flowers and leaves, some on wires

with faux buds. The center of the brim on the outside is decorated with a

medallion made of straw and stitched with white and black beads. Under the

medallion is a bow of the same ribbon used for the ties. A second decoration on

the proper right side, set among all the faux flowers, is a fall of four rows of long

black beads (each about 5/8 inch long) alternating with black velvet stamped

flowers at the top and pink flowers at the lower half of the six-inch string. A third

smaller medallion is on the proper left side. The round crown of the bonnet has

shallow sides from one inch deep at the bottom to about three inches deep at

the center top. A narrow curtain of straw is attached below the center top. A

narrow curtain of straw is attached below the crown, with a curtain of pleated

plain green silk ribbon two inches wide beneath. The crown is half-lined with a

white silk faille. An oval of brown paper is glued to the inside of the crown in the

center, where the spiral pattern begins.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width x depth): 10 1/2 x 8 3/8 x 6in.

(26.7 x 21.3 x 15.2cm)