

Basic Detail Report

Title Dress

Date 1836-1840

Primary Maker Miss Wilson

Medium Hand-stitched silk and linen, with cotton lace and brass hooks and eyes

Description Changeable brown/black silk day dress, with wide neckline edged with a narrow white lace frill. The waistline is slightly high, measuring 5 1/2 inches at the side, under the armhole. The bodice front is decorated with fan pleating from the center front waistline to the shoulderline. The sleeves have narrow pleats set into the top of the armhole; these pleats are controlled by three rows of black chain stitching, 5 1/2 inches down the arm, where the fullness is released. The sleeve fullness is again pleated and stitched above the cuffs, which close with hooks and eyes. The neck edge, armhole, sleeve seams, cuffs, and shoulder seams are piped. The appearance of curved side back seams is created by piped strips of bias self-fabric, but there is no actual seaming. The bodice is lined with coarse, plain-woven linen. The dress closes at center back with brass hooks and eyes. The bodice fabric is pieced under the left arm. The waistband is 2 1/8 inches wide. The skirt is knife-pleated around the waistband to the center back, where it is then cartridge-pleated for a width of 3 1/4 inches. The bottom of the skirt is lined for 8 1/4 inches with brown plain-woven linen or glazed cotton.

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

51 x 19in. (129.5cm) Hem (circumference): 107 1/2in. (273.1cm)