

Basic Detail Report

Title Dress

Date about 1822-1823

Primary Maker Lucy Mather Lee

Medium Hand-stitched cotton, with metal hook and eye

Description Woman's day dress of white cotton muslin, with tamboured spots.

The waistline is high, measuring 3 3/4 inches at the side under the armhole. The

neckline is a wide square. The bodice is decorated with whitework embroidery

in one band on each side, running from the front waistline, over the shoulders

and around the neckline in back. In front, the area between these two bands is

filled with two horizontal bands of the same embroidery, alternating with strips

of the dress fabric. These decorative bands, the armhole, shoulder seams, and

side back seams are all piped. The long sleeves are gathered at the top and back

of the shoulder. They end in a 2 1/2-inch wide frill, gathered into a band of

whitework embroidery. The dress opens in the center back; there is a thread

button at the top, and a (later) hook and eye just below. A drawstring at the

waistline adjusts the fit and ties the dress closed. The side panels of the bodice

are lined with plain-woven white cotton. A cotton tape is stitched around the

waistline as reinforcement. The skirt is gored on the sides. It is flat in front and

gathered for 8 1/2 inches across the center back. The bottom edge of the skirt is

lined with plain-woven white cotton for a depth of about 4 1/4 inches. The

bottom of the skirt is finished with an edging of whitework embroidery.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (front length x width across back): 48 x 12in.

(121.9 x 30.5cm) Hem (circumference): 95in. (241.3cm)