

Basic Detail Report

Title Dress

Date about 1877

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched silk and cotton, with silk-covered wooden buttons, velvet ribbon, and brass hooks and eyes

Description Woman's day dress of plum-colored silk, with ten self-fabric bows down the center front. The bows are centered with self-covered buttons. This center front opening fastens with hooks and eyes. The neckline is high and round, with a narrow mandarin-type collar. The armholes are piped. The narrow coat sleeves are trimmed around the wrists with two bands of deep brownish-plum velvet ribbon. One wide and one narrow band of the velvet ribbon trim the bottom of the skirt. The seaming of the back of the dress extends to inverted box pleats below the hips, creating fullness at the center back. The dress is fitted smoothly in the front with four darts that extend from the hips to the bust. A lining of brown cotton sateen extends to the hips; below this, the dress is lined with a brown and white geometric printed cotton. The bottom of the skirt is lined with dark brown glazed cotton for a depth of 6 3/4 inches. There is a pocket of the brown glazed cotton inside the front of the dress; the wearer would have to unhook the lower opening of the dress to access it.

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

51 1/2 x 14in. (130.8 x 35.6cm) Other (center front length): 46 1/2in. (118.1cm)

Hem (circumference): 104 1/2in. (265.4cm)