

Basic Detail Report

Title Dress

Date 1890-1900

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Machine-stitched cotton, with porcelain buttons

Description Woman's informal day dress of cotton calico, printed with a fine black branching floral-like design. The dress has a round neckline with a two-inch-wide square collar. The dress front is gathered into the neckline and falls straight to the hem. The back of the dress is constructed with a yoke across the shoulders, which is pointed at the center back. The back of the dress is pleated with layered box pleats under the point of the yoke; the lower box pleat is hand-stitched to the lining fabric to keep it in place, but it otherwise falls straight to the hem. The back of the dress is constructed with curved side back seams, which flare below the waistline to create fullness in the skirt. The two-piece, leg-'o-mutton sleeves are gathered into the armscye, which is at the natural shoulderline, and taper to the wrist. A self-fabric belt is stitched into the side seams of the dress to fasten across the front, controlling the fullness of the dress. The dress has a fitted bodice lining which is incorporated into the back seams, but separate in front. The center front opening extends 20 1/2 inches; the fashion fabric has no means of closure, but the lining fastens with seven white porcelain buttons, plus there is a hook and eye at the neckline. The front edges of the lining are faced with the black and white dress calico.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (length x width across shoulders): 52 x 13in.

(132.1 x 33cm)