

Basic Detail Report

Title Wedding Dress

Date 1892

Primary Maker Myrtie Evelyn Bennett

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched wool, cotton, and silk, with brass hooks and eyes, silk/cotton cord braid, mother of pearl button, and wool hem tape

Description Woman's wedding dress, consisting of a bodice (.a) and skirt (.b), made of twill-woven wool. The fabric is striped in shades of gray and tan, with a single, heavy, slubbed blue/orange yarn or dark red boucle yarn between each stripe. The bodice has a standing ruffled collar and center front insert of dark maroon velvet, reaching to the pointed waistline. Ruffles on either side of the center insert gradually widen as they continue over the shoulder; the ruffles continue around the back, forming a shallow V between the shoulders. The ruffles are headed by a braid made of gray silk cord, and the edges are bound with maroon silk. The sleeves are full for the top half of the arm, being gathered into the shoulder and into a seam around the elbow, ending with a ruffle of the wool fabric, trimmed with the gray silk cord braid. The lower half of the sleeve, from elbow to wrist, is made of the maroon silk and is tight. The bodice is fitted with two ten-inch-long darts on either side of the front, while the back is constructed of six pattern pieces to achieve a close fit. The bodice is not boned. It is lined with plain, white cotton. The center front opening fastens with brass hooks and eyes. The skirt is eased across the front and gathered and then

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pleated across the back. The tan cotton waistband has been extended with four inches of muslin, and a pleat has been let out to widen the skirt, but there is not a new buttonhole for the closure. (The bodice does not show corresponding alteration.) The bottom of the skirt is decorated with a 1 1/8-inch-wide row of tan silk cord braid and a self-fabric ruffle. The skirt is lined with tan cotton, and the bottom edge is bound with light brown wool hem tape.

Dimensions Bodice (center back length x width across shoulders (including ruffles)): 21 x 19in. (53.3 x 48.3cm) Skirt (center back length x hem circumference): 40 x 93 1/2in. (101.6 x 237.5cm)