

Basic Detail Report



Title Dress

Date about 1845

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Hand-stitched silk and cotton, with metal hooks and eyes

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Description Woman's day dress of beige silk with lighter beige plain-woven and

satin-woven stripes, and variegated yellow satin-woven stripes woven in a plaid

design. The bodice is fashioned with a pointed waistline and fan pleating from

the center front waist to the shoulders. The pleating at the waist is criss-crossed

with a cream and light blue silk braid. The neckline is a shallow V-shape, and the

shoulders are covered in front with a wide V-shaped collar, which is

incorporated into the neckline and armscye seams. This collar is also trimmed

with the cream and light blue silk braid. The sleeves are tight, with a 1 1/4-inch-

wide band of self-fabric ruching edged with the silk braid stitched around the

top of the arm like an armband. The sleeves are stitched smoothly into the

armscye. The center back closes with hooks and eyes. (It has been altered from

its original position in order to make the bodice slightly larger. Old stitching

marks and spots of corrosion from the original positions of the metal eyes are

evident about 3/8-inch from the current position along the right edge of the

opening. This appears to have been done by the original owner.) The neckline

and armscyees are inserted with narrow self-piping; the waistline is edged with

heavier piping. The bodice is lined with plain-woven natural cotton. The center

front seam is boned; the front darts were also originally boned. The sleeves are

lined with white glazed cotton. The skirt is gathered to the waistline; it is

stitched around the center front point. Old stitch marks on the bodice lining and

along the top edge of the skirt fabric indicate that the skirt was originally

stitched straight across the center front point. The hem of the skirt is lined for a

depth of six inches with plain-woven, light tan glazed cotton.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (CF length x shoulder span x waist): 55 × 20 ×

26in. (139.7 × 50.8 × 66cm) Hem (circumference): 115in. (292.1cm)