

Basic Detail Report

Title Polonaise

Date about 1881

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched silk and cotton, with metal hooks

and eyes, unidentified boning, and silk thread-covered ferrous metal buttons

Description Woman's polonaise of chocolate brown silk damask with a woven

floral pattern. The polonaise has a high, round neckline with a 1 1/8-inch

standing band collar. The center front opening, which extends from the neck to

the hem, fastens with 31 buttons covered with worked silk thread of a matching

color. The shoulderline is slightly dropped, and the plain, narrow sleeves are cut

with an upper and lower seam like a coat sleeve. The polonaise is fitted with

darts extending from below the hips to the bustline. The skirt is flat in front, and

pleated up in the side seams to create a draped effect. The skirt fullness is folded

into a layered box pleat at center back. The bodice area of the polonaise is lined

with brown twill-woven cotton; the front darts are boned. There is a short strap

extending from the foremost darts inside the bodice, which fastens with hooks

and eyes at center front; this acts like a petersham to ease stress on the seams.

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

47 x 15in. (119.4 x 38.1cm)