

Basic Detail Report



Title Dress

Date about 1855-1860

Primary Maker Mary Jane Buel

Medium Hand-stitched silk and cotton, with unidentified boning (probably baleen), silk fringe, and buttons of glass and metal (probably brass).

Basic Detail Report

Description Woman's two-piece day dress, consisting of a jacket bodice (.a) and

skirt (.b), made of silk with warp-printed leopard-like black spots and grain

pattern over horizontal stripes of green, black, white, red, and purple. The jacket

bodice has bell sleeves and sleeve caps trimmed with green and white silk fringe

headed by braid woven with a pink floral pattern on white. The peplum

extension below the waist flares over the hips and ends in a point at center front

and center back. This edge is also trimmed with fringe. There is a watch pocket

set into the waist seam on the proper left side. The bodice has a high, round

neckline, and closes at center front with ten (one is missing) small green glass

faceted glass buttons set in a gold-tone metal bezel. The neckline and armscye

seams are finished with self-covered piping. The lining is plain-woven glazed

cotton. There is a separate lining extension from the side seams, made of white

twill-woven cotton, which laces at center front. The bodice is fitted with two six-

inch darts on either side of the front opening. These darts, the side seams, the

bodice center back, and the lacing edges of the lining extension are all boned.

The skirt is knife-pleated into the waistband, which is white twill-woven cotton.

It closes with brass hooks and eyes (and there are thread eyes stitched to the

edge, about one inch from the brass eyes). The skirt is fully lined with white

glazed cotton. The bottom edge is finished with light brown twill-woven wool

tape. There is an inseam pocket on the proper right side.

Dimensions Bodice (length x width across shoulders): 24 x 18in. (61 x 45.7cm)

Skirt (hem circumference): 155in. (393.7cm)