

Basic Detail Report



Title Chemise

Date about 1865-1870

Primary Maker Cornelia Whitney Polhemus

Medium Hand- and machine-stitched cotton, with ceramic and mother of pearl buttons

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Description White cotton chemise. The front and back panels are gathered into a one-inch whitework-embroidered band, edged with bobbin lace. The neckline is wide and shallow. The chemise has a button placket at center front, about 6 1/2 inches long, covered with a whitework, lace-edged band. Two tiny ceramic buttons and one mother of pearl button close the placket. The sleeves are short and set smoothly into the armhole. They are wider at the bottom than the top, which is only as wide as the whitework band which edges the sleeve. The front and back are pieced with triangular inserts at the side seams. The hem is 1 5/8-inch deep.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (length x width across top): 43 1/2 x 29 1/2in.

(110.5 x 74.9cm) Other (width at bottom): 39in. (99.1cm)