Basic Detail Report



Title Dress

Date about 1898-1900

Primary Maker Unknown

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Medium Machine-stitched silk and cotton, with steel boning and wool hem fringe

Description Woman's two-piece day dress, consisting of a bodice (.a) and skirt (.b), of brown silk, with black and black/white warp-print stripes. The bodice has a rounded insert in front and a yoke in back of plain brown silk sewn in tucks. Wrapping around the neck is a high, stiff band collar, also of the tucked brown silk, which fastens with hooks and eyes at the center back. The top of the collar is edged with a narrow ruffle of the striped brown silk. The insert is bordered on the front of the bodice with a band of plain brown silk, edged with narrow ruffles of the striped fabric. The center front opening is decorated with revers of brown silk, also edged with narrow ruffles. The bodice lining fastens separately from the silk fabric, but both close with hooks and eyes at the bodice's center front. The silk fabric is ruched across the lower center front, with the fullness then gathered under the border of the neckline insert. The shoulderline is normal. The sleeves are narrow; they are gathered slightly at the top of the shoulder. The wrist openings are edged with a narrow self-ruffle. The bodice is lined with brown twill-woven cotton. All of the seams are boned; the steel boning is specially manufactured with woven casings. The skirt is darted and gored to make it fit smoothly across the front and hips; it is closely gathered at center back. The center back opening fastens with a hook and eye on the waistband. The skirt is lined with brown glazed cotton, with a stiff interlining around the bottom. A very short and bushy brown wool fringe is stitched around the bottom edge.

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Dimensions Bodice (center back of bodice): 17 3/8in. (44.1cm) Skirt (center front length x circumference): 40 x 117in. (101.6 x 297.2cm) Bodice (length x width): 15 1/4 x 12in. (38.7 x 30.5cm) Skirt (center back length): 40 7/8in. (103.8cm) Skirt (waist circumference): 23 1/4in. (59.1cm)