

Basic Detail Report

Title Dress

Date about 1898

Primary Maker Avery family

Medium Machine-stitched and hand-stitched cotton with brass hooks and eyes

and various other metal hooks and eyes, and machine-made cotton lace

Description Woman's day dress consisting of a bodice and skirt, made of sheer,

white cotton woven with a heavier thread to create a fine rib, and printed with

scattered floral bouquets in gray, green, and yellow. The bodice has a high,

round, neckline with a 1 3/4-inch-high standing band collar. The collar is cut on

the bias and is edged with a narrow ruffle of machine-made bobbin-type lace.

The front of the bodice is gathered and pouched slightly over the waistline,

which is defined by a double row of stitching. Three rows of the narrow lace

ruffles are stitched in opposing diagonal lines across the bodice, creating a

shallow, triple V-effect. The back of the bodice is gathered at the center back

waistline to the base of the collar. The narrow, two-piece sleeves are curved at

the elbow and decorated at the top of the arm with a triple layer of self-fabric

ruffles edged with lace. The wrist openings are also edged with lace. The center

front opening fastens with hooks and eyes in the lining only. The lining is plain,

white cotton. The bodice is fitted in the lining with two 7 3/4-inch-long darts on

each side of the front, while the back is constructed of six pieces to achieve a

close fit. The skirt is stitched smoothly into the 1 1/4-inch-wide waistband, and

gathered on either side of the center back opening. The bottom of the skirt is

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bordered with two tiers of self-fabric ruffles. The center back opening extends 11

1/2 inches and fastens with hooks and eyes and one metal snap. The skirt is

unlined, except in the waistband.

Dimensions Bodice (center back length x width between shoulders): 20 1/2 x

12in. (52.1 x 30.5cm) Skirt (center back length x hem circumference): 41 x 138in.

(104.1 x 350.5cm)