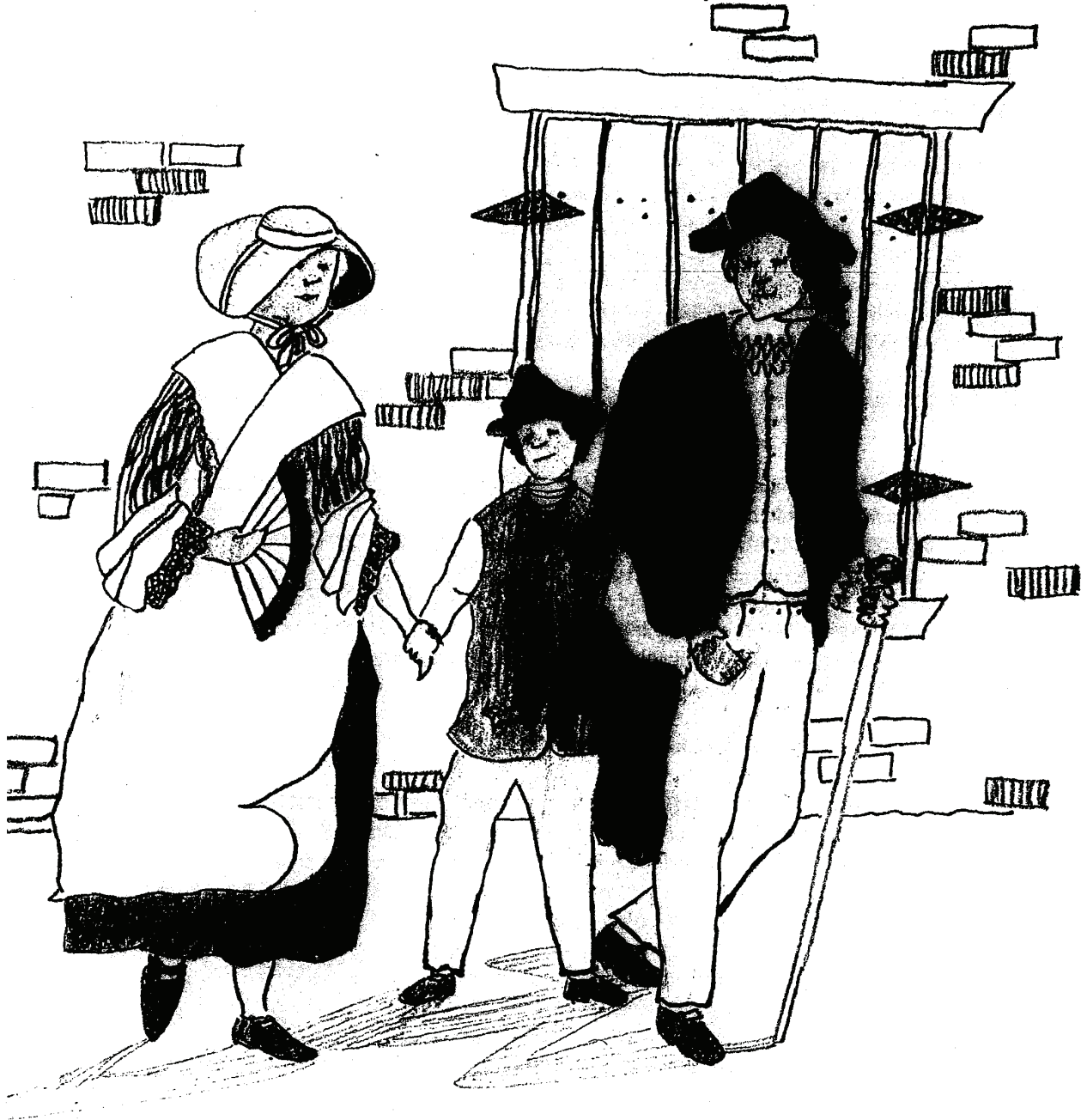


"Shall I BE a Fifer OR Drummer?"
"Let's Follow the Camp!"



Booklet by Vicki Riddle
For Lewis + Clark Fife
and Drum Corps

FOLLOW THE CAMP!

Welcome to the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps. We are glad that your child has decided to give our organization a try. We also want you to know that the LCFDC is an organization that encourages family involvement. Because we are a Youth Corps, a certain amount of parental involvement is required and participation is encouraged. It can be a fun family adventure!!

What is a camp follower?

Your child, as a Member of the Corps, is accurately portraying a soldier in an early 19th century American First Infantry unit. In the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps, the “camp followers” serve as our support group. They can, at times, march behind the Corps in ‘period’ clothing (which we will discuss in this booklet) in parades and special occasions at historical events. Some of the camp followers’ duties are giving water to the performers, tending to those who may become ill, picking up dropped drumsticks, perhaps helping carry the Corps banner (when no Recruits are present), passing out brochures and business cards, mingling with the public, assisting to set up the Corps tents, and basically being sure the Corps is able to complete its performance and/or weekend encampment in as smooth a manner as possible.

The use of such a support system makes the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps a unique musical unit.

Historically, camp followers were the women and children of soldiers. Out of necessity on rare occasions, the soldiers would bring their families along with them on the march. If this was to be done, then the soldier would have to share his daily rations with his family. Everyone had to “pull his weight”—women were nurses, laundresses, cooks, seamstresses. . . There were no special provisions made simply because women and children were along. They endured the same hardships as the soldiers. To try to stay together as a family, they tried to survive with insufficient food and water, improper clothing, poor housing conditions, primitive medical care, and a rigorous schedule.

Guidelines for camp followers

If your family decides to become camp followers, you will need to abide by a few guidelines. Some events which are of a specific historical venue require all participants to be in accurate period clothing. This is not as complicated as it sounds! Your outfit can be very simple, or as time goes on, you may want to elaborate a bit and have more fun with your portrayal. Just don’t make the mistake of going out and purchasing a bunch of items and finding out later that it is all wrong. Check first! Some of the Corps parents prefer not to dress in period garb, but have been a wonderful support system. Current Corps parents are willing to assist in helping you to acquire period clothing, patterns, etc. It is strongly suggested that if you choose to portray a period camp follower, you do NOT wear such things as non-period jewelry (wedding rings are allowed), sunglasses and tennis shoes, for example. We understand those of us who have to wear glasses may not be able to afford period eyewear or contacts at the beginning, but it is encouraged if possible. Women should keep makeup to a minimum and please NO nail polish. If you have a question about a particular item or concern, don’t hesitate to ask. You will see what a wonderful historical adventure these events can be while you and your family participates and learns together!

Performers in the Corps AND their camp followers are required to maintain the historical integrity of the site. The purpose of this strict guideline is to comply with the requirements of the site. Modern items are to be kept out of sight. Cameras are to be used with discretion; keep out of sight when not in use. Period mug and bowl may be required at some of these events. A simple canvas camp stool can be a great comfort at an event. Common sense is the rule. Keep in mind you are representing a time period and can enrich the public's experience as well as your own.

If you want to march with the Corps in a parade, you must be in period attire. At events that have "closing time," if you wish to stay in camp it may be required by the site to be in period dress.

At events when we have tents set up for the Corps, they are for performers and chaperones and their bedding and supplies, as well as other Corps Member storage. The tents are to be kept in an orderly manner, and you must organize your equipment and clean up after yourself. We have found that if each child keeps his/her personal items, uniform, etc. in a plastic tote with lid, it works best. The Corps provides one when your child becomes a Member.

**Basic clothing for camp followers
(made in correct period style and material)**

MEN

Hat
Shirt
Pants or Breeches
Shoes—sturdy black leather
Haversack

WOMEN

Head covering (small white bonnet)
Shift or Chemise (long cotton simple underdress)
Skirt—simple full floor length OR 18th century floor length dress
Stockings—cotton or wool, knee high
Shoes—plain black leather (no Mary Janes)
Basket, Haversack, or Reticule (period drawstring purse)

CHILDREN

Same as above (all small children under the age of 4 can wear a simple shift)

NOTE: Halloween Costume-type clothing is NOT permitted.

Links to period clothing and accoutrements:

www.townsends.us
www.fugawee.com
www.gggodwin.com
www.smoke-fire.com



What can younger siblings do as camp followers?

Younger siblings can assist by offering their services as banner carriers during parades. They can also help by passing out brochures and other information as necessary at events. They can also play 19th century games; several are available for purchase at various events we attend. During concerts and day-long events, younger siblings can assist in providing the public a glimpse into 19th century life by entertaining themselves with games of the period. But please keep in mind, these children must follow the same guidelines as far as period clothing, etc.

What are the benefits of being a camp follower?

As stated before, parents are not required to become camp followers for their children to belong to the Corps. Some parents choose to have their kids come independently. Those choosing to not portray camp followers can become involved by providing transportation to events, helping with repairing the trailer or uniforms, or by offering other services to the Corps. There are, however, benefits to becoming a camp follower. It is the Corps' policy that at some events only uniformed Members and period dressed followers are allowed to partake of meals and other hospitality items provided at events. The majority of the time, paid admission to the different historic sites and events is provided to period dressed members only. Those choosing not to dress in period clothing may need to cover their own admission fees and meals.

Standing information for camp followers

- A. Be prepared. Anticipate the needs of the Corps. Offer your services.
- B. Make sure prior to an event that your child has had an adequate meal and water (especially in warm weather).
- C. During performances, keep talking with other camp followers to a minimum and try to keep conversations back away from the Members who are performing. Conversations can be very distracting.
- D. Any sibling (older or younger) marching in parades or participating in any event must be accompanied by their parent(s) or appointed guardian, and must be responsible for their water. Remember that we, as camp followers, are a support corps, and need to be ready to help the Corps Members as need arises.
- E. If you see a film crew or photographer approach a Member during a performance, or while they are at attention, quietly walk up and offer them a business card and answer any questions they may have.
- F. If someone asks you a question you don't know the answer to, refer them to someone who does.

Excellent sources of information

Tidings from the 18th Century by Beth Gilgun

For fun: *What Jane Austen Ate and What Charles Dickens Knew* by Daniel Pool

Eagle View Clothing Patterns:

Mens Hunting Frock

Womens Chemise

Mens Broadfall Pants

Mens Drop Sleeve Shirt

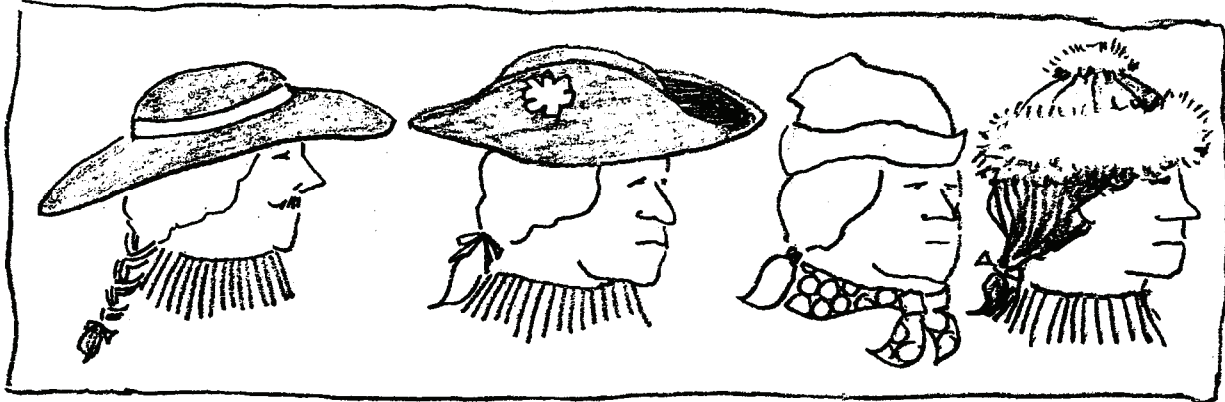
"What on earth
does a "camp
follower" wear?"



Clothing in the New Settlements



Men's Dress



Hats and Kerchiefs

Simple kerchiefs. Fur-trimmed wool caps. Laced felt tricorns. Headcoverings came in as many individual styles and trims as there were wearers.

The gentleman's or military officer's hat was the familiar tricorne. Made of felt, sized with egg white or sugar water, the hat would be turned up on one or more sides and could scoop water from a stream when on bivouac or be swept across an expanse of embroidered vest in bowing deference to the commandant's wife.

For the average man, the touque was the common form of winter headgear. This knitted wool stocking cap was long enough for the top to hang down. Some were knit with ribbing and some without. A pom-pom frequently adorned the cap's point, and these were as individual as the wives, mothers, and loved ones who knit the caps. Contemporary accounts indicate reds, blues, and greens were much in evidence. To make his touque truly his own, a voyageur might add a feather, a pin, or ornaments of pewter, brass, or trade silver. These ornaments might be in the shape of a cross, a fleur-de-lis, a bison head, or a beaver—meaningful symbols to the men of the river.

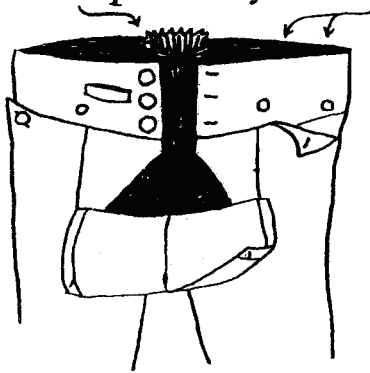
Although not frequently seen at living history sites, the kerchief or bandana was popular during the 18th century. A colored square of calico or light-weight wool, the kerchief was practical, inexpensive, and versatile. For dressier occasions, the kerchief could be cut of cotton lawn, linen, or even a scrap of purloined silk!

The kerchief was tied about the head like a triangular first-aid bandage, shaped by tying knots in the four corners or tied babushka-style under the chin. A combination of the babushka-style and a hat was probably more common, the hat shielding the eyes and the kerchief holding the hat in place.

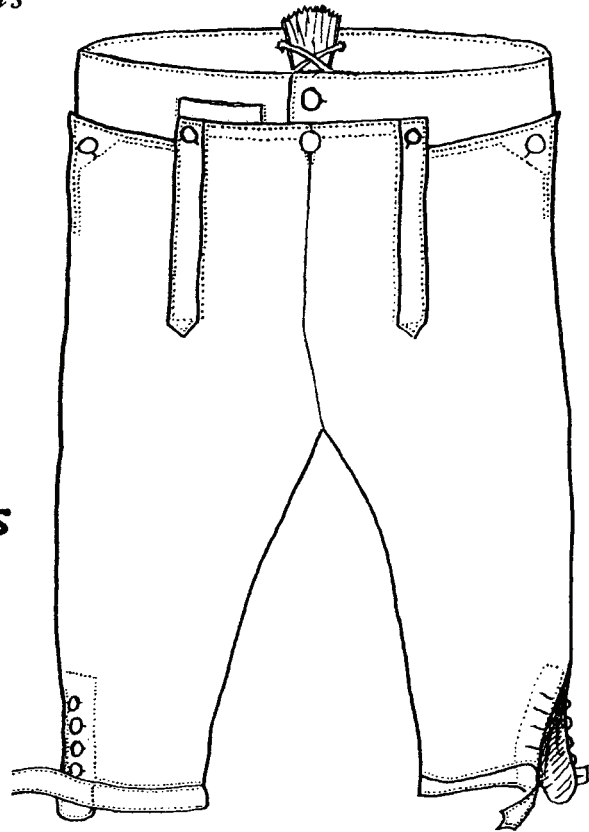


Left: A dressing cap or workman's cap as seen in a Hogarth drawing. Right: A broad brimmed round hat that became known as the Quaker style.

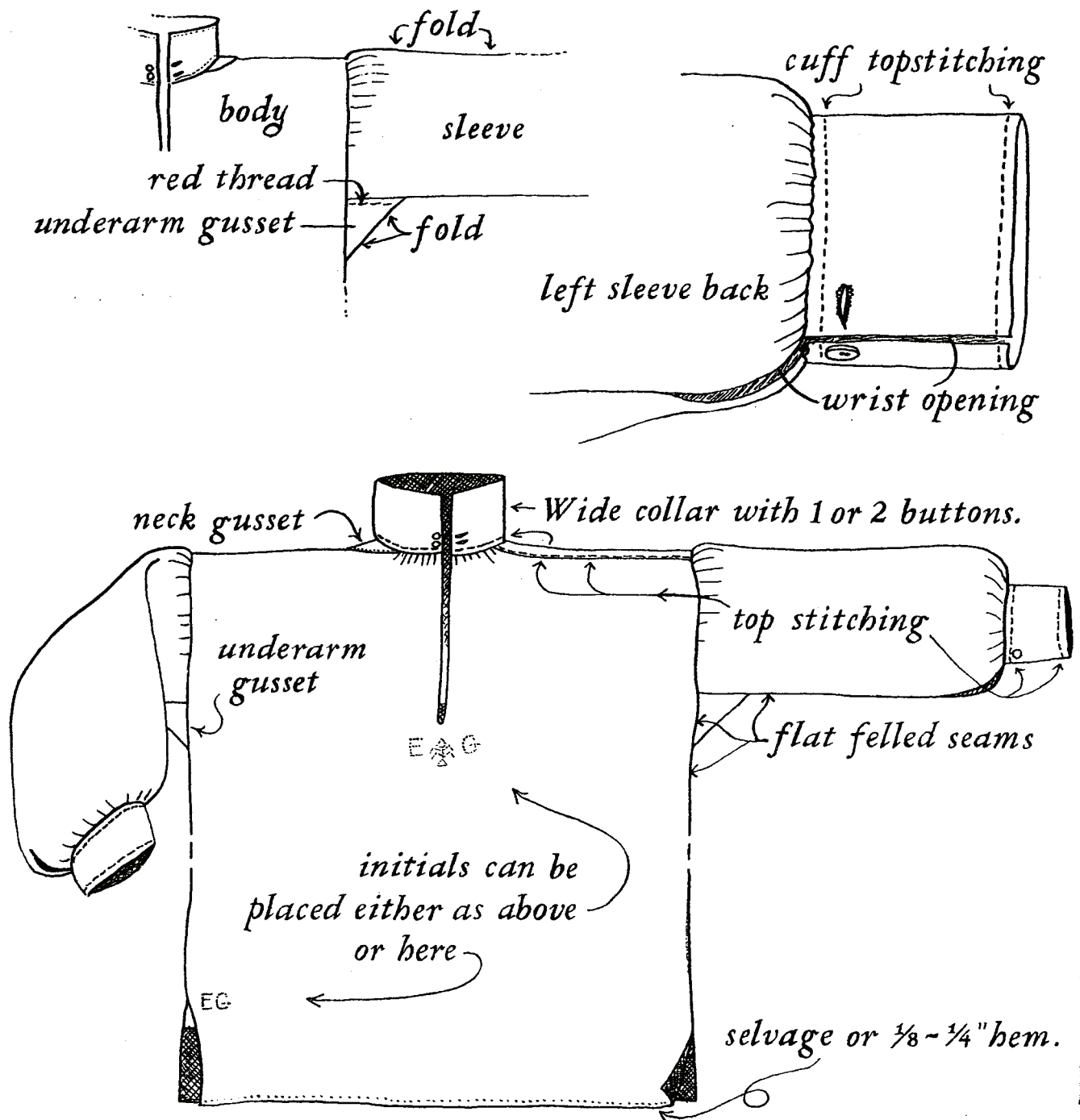
$\frac{3}{4}$ " rounded-top $\frac{1}{2}$ " flat buttons



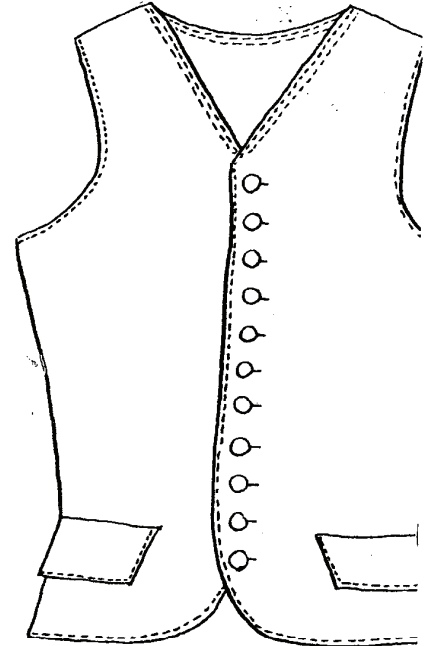
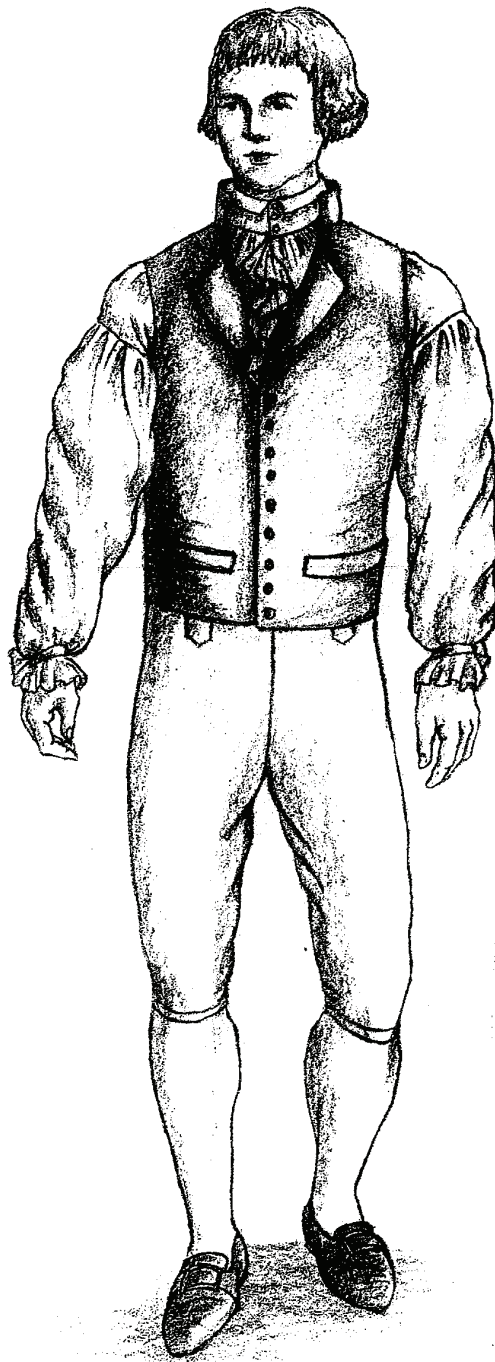
"Broadfall" Breeches



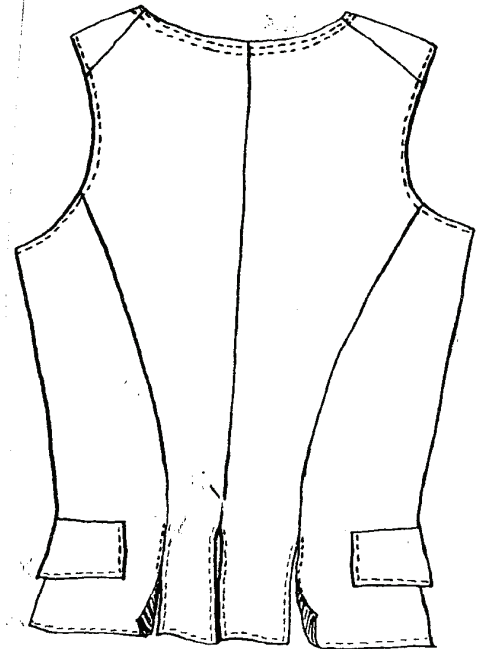
pants or breeches (as above)
 should be long to ankle
 by 1805 "by most
 classes"



FINISHED MAN'S SHIRT showing placement of variations as described in sewing details. All of these variations should NOT appear on one shirt.



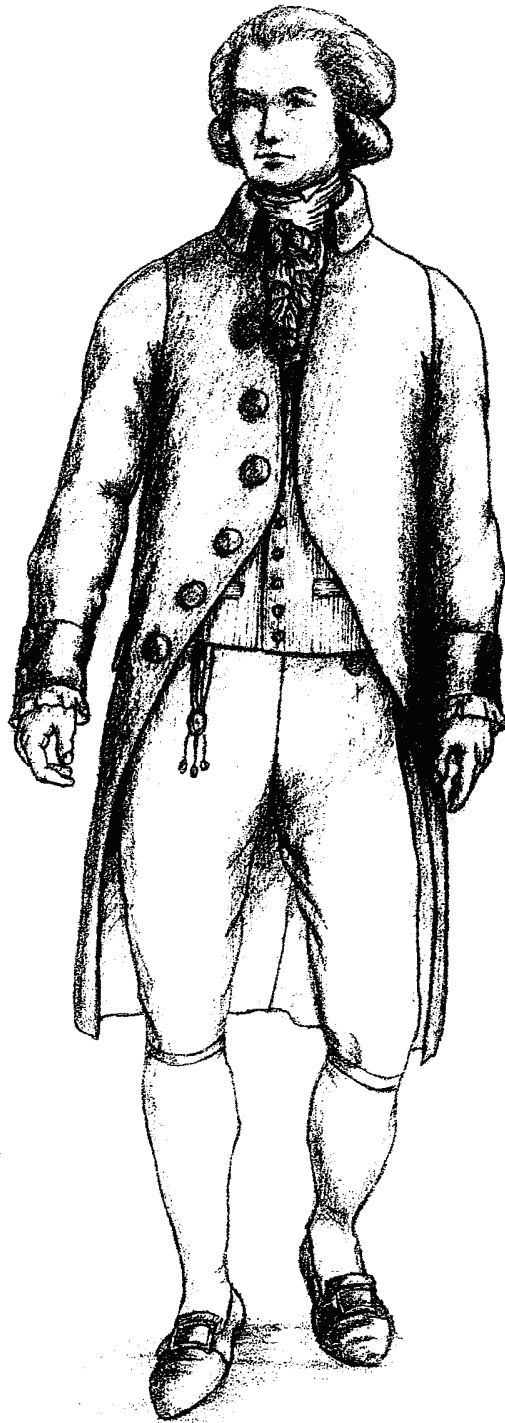
front



back

The Waistcoat

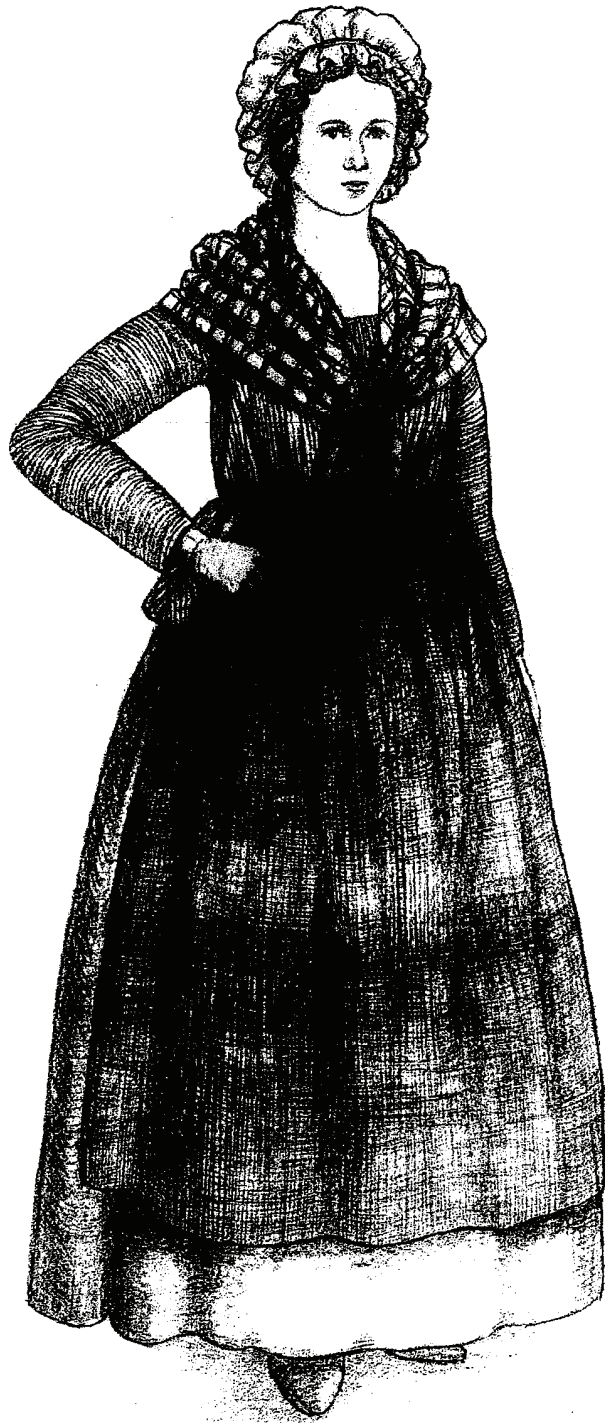
The second essential part of a suit of clothes was the waistcoat. Earlier in the eighteenth century the waistcoat had been thigh length and served somewhat the same function for a man as the stays did for a woman, encouraging upright posture and preventing bending at the waist.



The Coat

The remaining element of the suit of clothes was the suit coat, or simply the "coat." The close fit of the coat back was achieved with curved seams above the waist. The skirts of the coat had pleats at the side seams and a vent at the center back, to allow for freedom of movement.

Women's Dress



Aprons were not only worn by working women in the towns and new settlements, but were also sometimes worn with the fashionable open gown for decorative balance.



The Shift

For centuries the linen shift had been the basic European woman's undergarment, worn next to the skin under everything else in the day and slept in at night. Well-to-do women had quite a few shifts; Anna Winslow was given enough linen to make herself ten shifts when she was living with her aunts in Boston in 1772. But while a woman possibly wore one of her shifts to sleep in and another one in the day, garments made specifically for nighttime wear were not used until well into the 19th century.

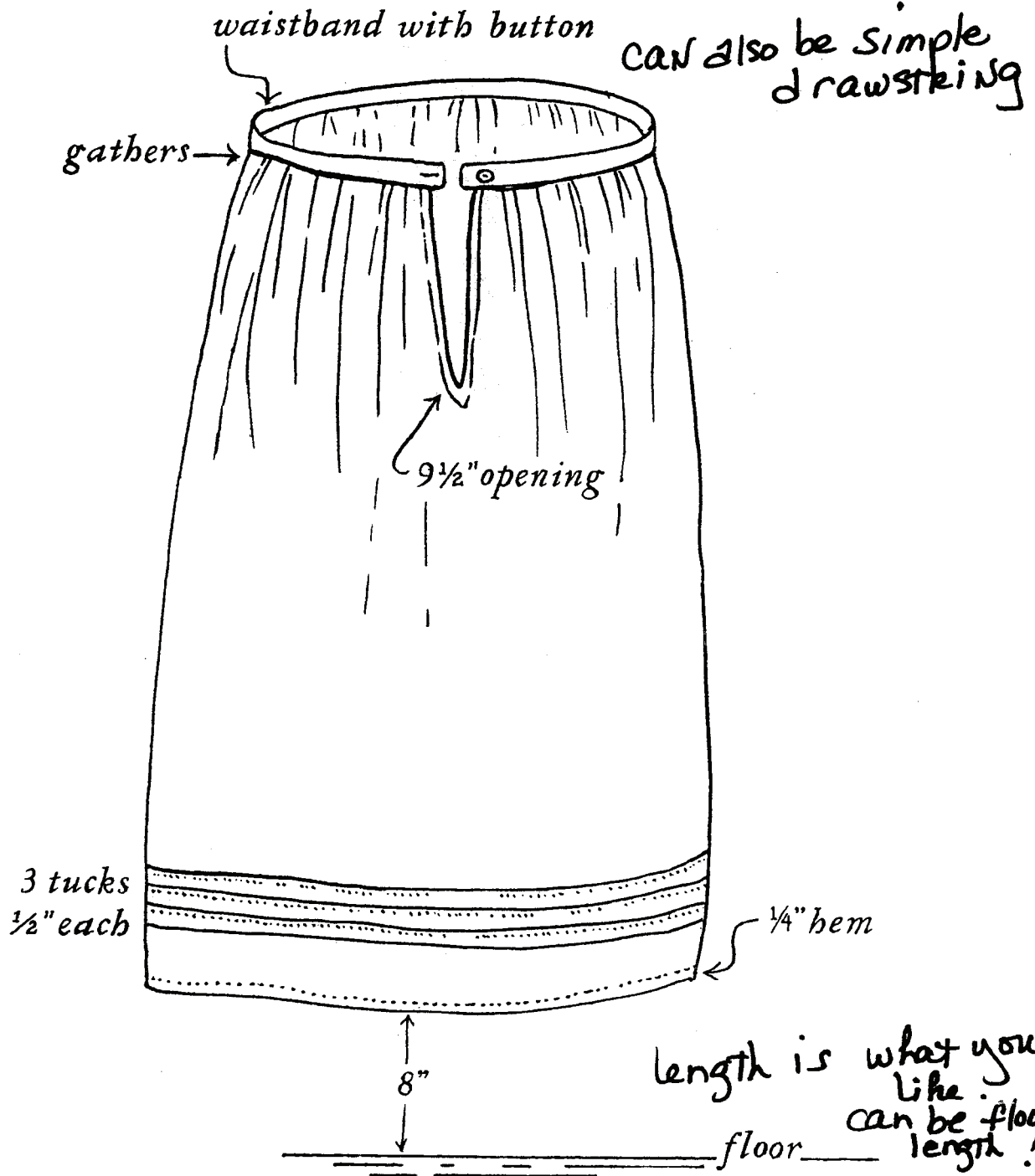
* can be muslin cotton
can also be long sleeved.



The Muslin Chemise Gown

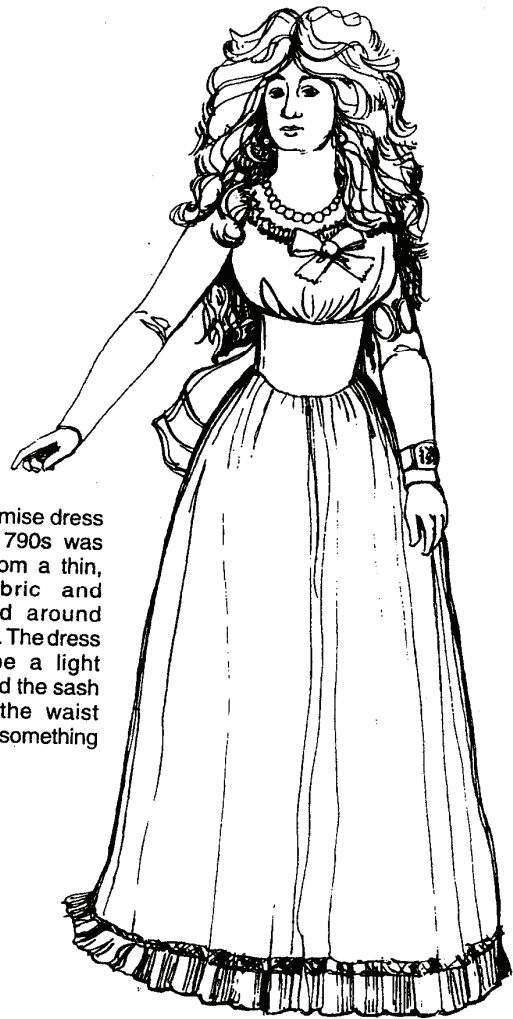
In the early 1800s fashionable European and American gowns were made of fine white cotton fabrics, sometimes embroidered in white. Emulating Greek statuary, these gowns had the extremely high waistline now referred to as an "empire" style.

PETTICOAT





Empire dresses had puffed sleeves and low necklines. The woman on the left wears gloves to cover her arms and a bonnet.



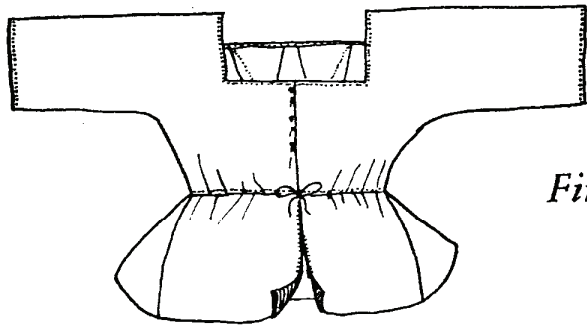
The chemise dress of the 1790s was made from a thin, soft fabric and gathered around the body. The dress would be a light color, and the sash around the waist would be something bright.



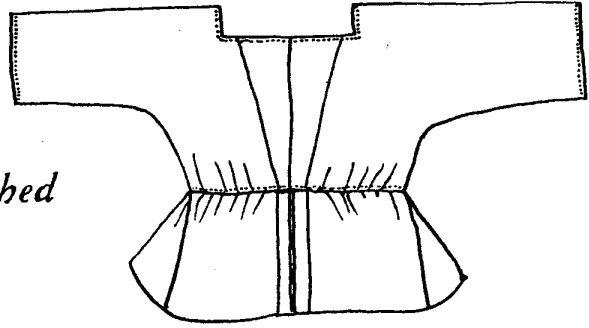
The French Revolution, which began in 1789, started to influence fashion very quickly. The inspiration for the new fashions was ancient Greece and the marble statues of the time. After years of very constructed shapes for women's dress, softness and "draping" came into vogue. In the early 1790s, the chemise dress became popular. This dress was made from thin, easily draped fabric and had an unstructured look. The skirts were still quite full, and the waists of these gowns were still at the natural waistline. A wide sash circled the waist, and the dress could be gathered on drawstrings at both waist and neckline. From this point the waistline of fashionable gowns starts to rise until it is under the bust.

The Empire fashion, as it was called, was characterized by very high waistlines, low-cut necklines, short sleeves and slim skirts. The gowns were often white, of thin fabric and worn over only a shift. Arms and necks were exposed, stockings were of thin silk and shoes were no longer substantial, but of thin kid or satin with flat soles. It was also about this time that dresses began to close in the back rather than the front.

The intent of the Empire style was for the wearer to look like the classical statues of Rome and Greece. Thus, the muslins used were quite sheer and usually white.



front



back

Finished

Simple "shortgown"

Lower
class
portugal
to 1790's
1804



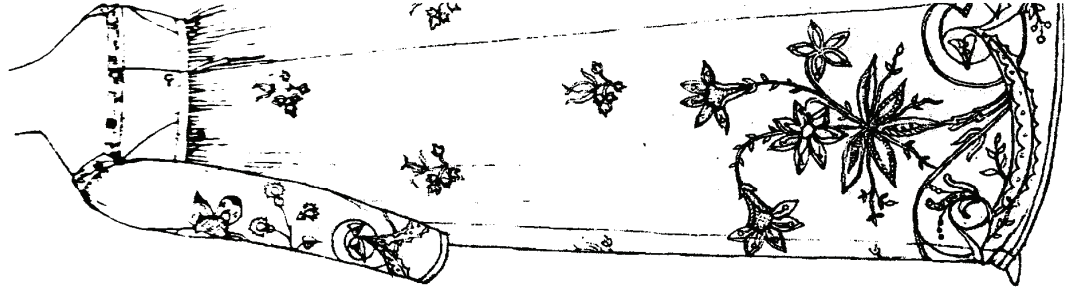
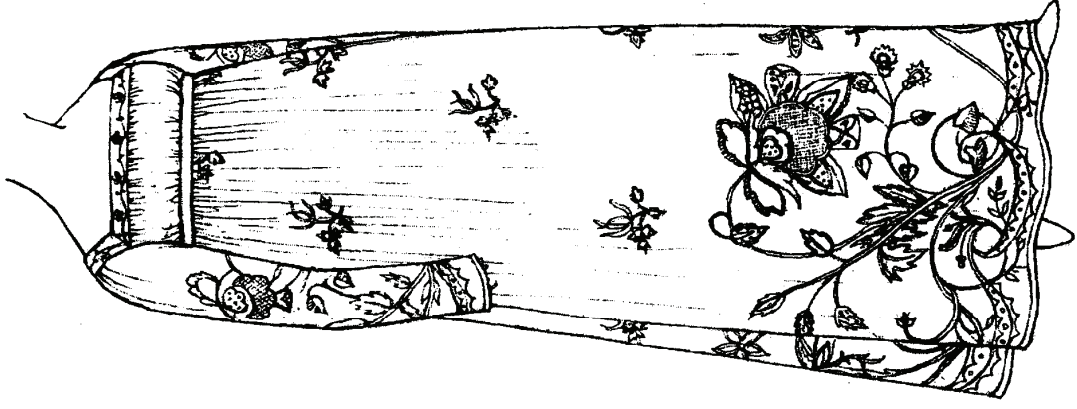
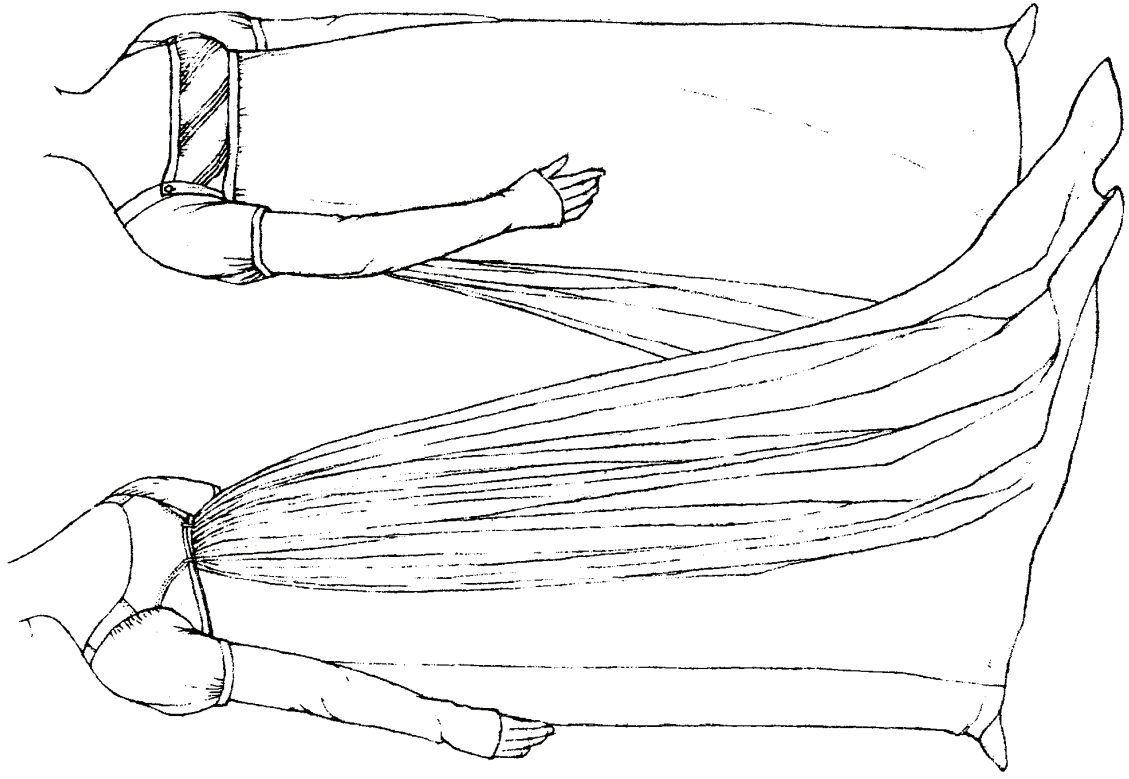
UPPER CLASS PORTRAYAL



c.1795-1810 Salisbury Museum

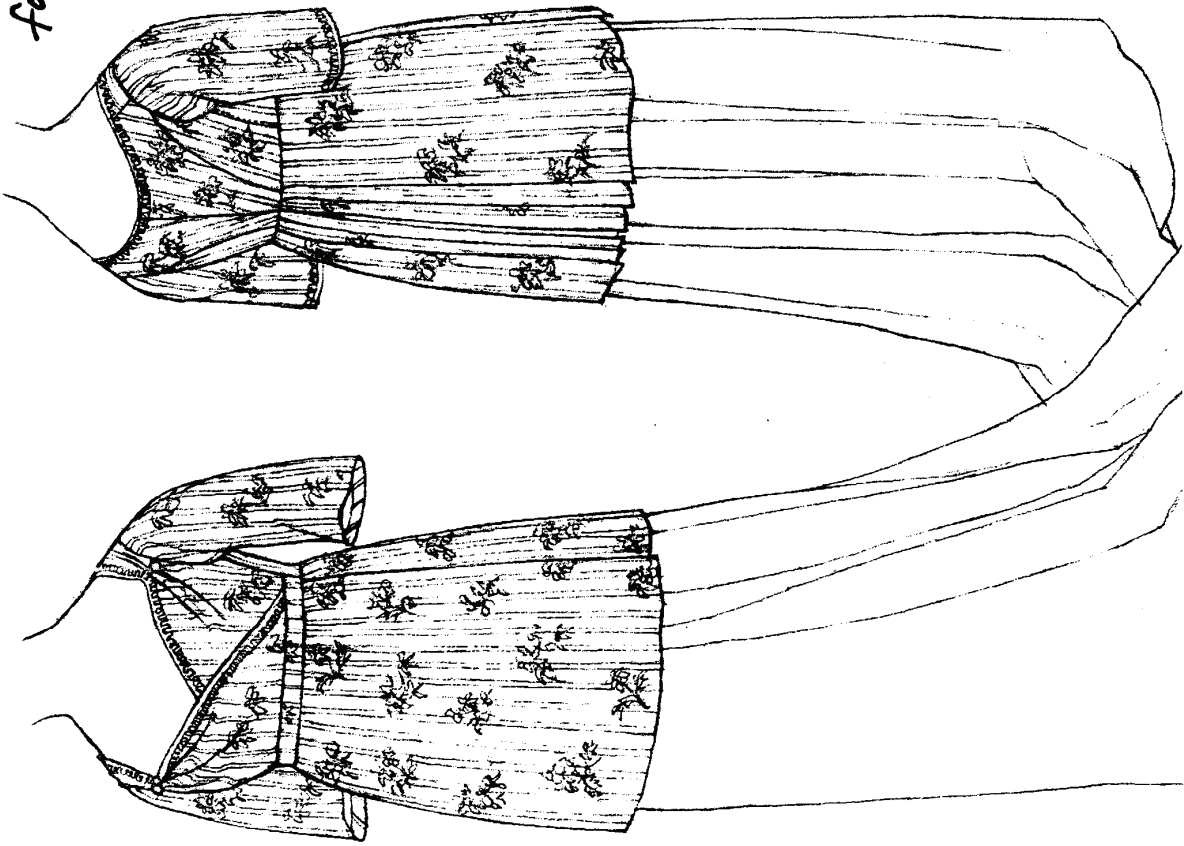
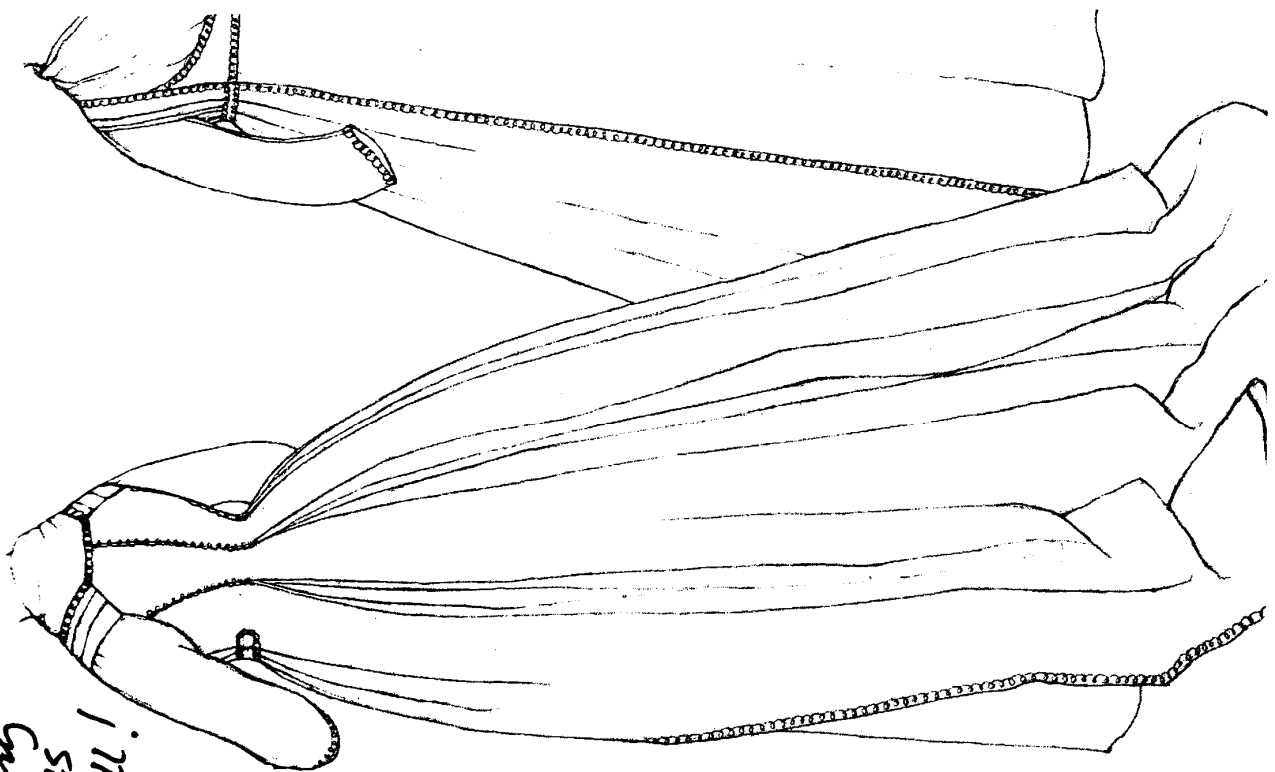
A riding habit in pale blue, soft worsted woollen cloth. It would have been worn with a fine white linen or lawn habit shirt. The skirt is so long that it would have to be held up or carried over the arm until on horseback. There are tapes and tabs inside, which, when tied up, permit the habit to be worn for walking. The jacket is lined with white silk. An article in *The Lady's Monthly Museum* of September 1808 says that 'Habits are very appropriate for travelling costume and are at this period constructed with more than usual grace'.

upper class portrayal



upper class
but perhaps Aunt Mary
lent you hers
for the ball!

OR
Better yet
(worse)
she left
it to
you if
that
will.



Early
1800