Checklist of Dresses and Selected Accessories in the Exhibition

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Figure 13. "Costume Parisien" from *Journal des dames et des modes*, 1820.

Private collection
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Reader’s note: All measurements are given in inches. Costume measurements are as follows: height (H) is the greatest point of the article or overall height at center back; length (L) denotes the measurement of the skirt, with front and back noted if there is a train; the location of the circumference (Circum.) is noted; waist dimensions are noted as original or altered, if known. Full fabric width (W) is noted when appropriate. Unless otherwise specified, costumes were probably made in the United States. Fabric origins await further research, except where noted. The original owner is identified, when known. Except where noted, all costumes are part of the Maine Historical Society collections.

1. Assembly dress with high waist, short sleeves, and straight skirt, ca. 1799; white cotton muslin with cotton embroidery, bodice lined with linen; muslin shift. H 75 ¼; L skirt front 44 ½; L skirt back 69 ½; Circum. original waist 30; Circum. hem 132 ½; W fabric 50. Lucia Wadsworth (1783 – 1864), Portland, Maine. Wadsworth-Longfellow House.

2. Mourning dress with high waist, short sleeves, and straight skirt, ca. 1804; black silk gauze, silk ribbon trim. H 53; L skirt front 41 ¼; L skirt back 46 ¾; Circum. original waist 24 ¾; Circum. hem 80; W fabric 29. Zilpah Wadsworth Longfellow (1778 – 1851), Portland, Maine.


Dress with high waist, short sleeves, and straight skirt, 1809 – 1813; white cotton, bodice and sleeves lined with linen. H 50 ¾; L skirt front 40 ¾; L skirt back 45 ¾; Circum. original waist 35; Circum. hem 87 ¼; W fabric 27 ¾.

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Possibly Delphina Keith Parris (1801 – 1826), Buckfield, Maine. Gift of Mrs. William R. Smith, 1938. Figure 9, p. 29.


Shawl, Kupavino Factory, Moscow, Russia, ca. 1804; polychrome silk. L 117; w 21¼. Robert Tate family, Portland, Maine. Lent by Tate House – National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Maine. Figure 3, p. 12.


Bonnet, possibly France, ca. 1806; cream-colored silk, yellow straw trim. H 5½; w 8¼; d 9½. Zilpah Wadsworth Longfellow. Wadsworth-Longfellow House. Figure 9, p. 29.


Shawl, probably Europe, ca. 1830; printed light blue wool. L 61¼; w 60½. Lent by Victoria Society of Maine. Figure 4, p. 15.


9. Dress with long sleeves and full skirt, 1822 – 1824; faded chartreuse silk, bodice and sleeves lined with fine linen, silk cord trim. H 51¼;
10. Dress with long sleeves and full skirt, ca. 1822; faded pink silk, bodice and upper sleeves lined with fine linen, silk appliqué, silk cord trim; h 51 1/4; l. skirt 42 5/8; Circum. altered waist 26; Circum. hem 90 1/4; w fabric 23. Zilpah Wadsworth Longfellow (1778 – 1851), Portland, Maine. Wadsworth-Longfellow House.


12. Dress with high waist, long sleeves, and gathered skirt, 1828 – 1829; white cotton with cotton embroidery. h 49 1/2; l. skirt 40 3/4; Circum. original waist 23 1/2; Circum. hem 85; w fabric 25 1/2. Zilpah Wadsworth Longfellow (1778 – 1851), Portland, Maine.

Spencer with long sleeves, dated 1827; khaki silk, fine linen lining, silk cord trim. h 15; Circum. original waist 22. Zilpah Wadsworth Longfellow. Wadsworth-Longfellow House. Figure 4, p. 15.

13. Dress with high waist, short sleeves, and moderately full skirt, ca. 1827; ivory silk satin, bodice and waistband lined with linen, sleeves lined with net, silk cord trim, silk appliqué. h 50; l. skirt 42 5/8; Circum. original waist 20; Circum. hem 81 1/2; w fabric 17 3/4. Sally Brooks Holmes (1773 – 1835), Alfred, Maine, and Washington, D.C. Gift of Mary Willcox, 1947.

Shawl, probably Europe, ca. 1825; red wool with jacquard woven paisley borders. l 87 1/2; w 13 1/2. Lent by Victoria Society of Maine.

Scarf, ca. 1830; yellow silk. l 36 1/2; w 32 1/2. Mercy Owen Richardson (1810 – after 1876), Portland, Maine, and Cambridge, Massachusetts. Gift of Elsa Richardson Proctor, 1970. Figure 1, p. 2.

14. Dress with long sleeves, full skirt, and matching cape, 1833 – 1836; dark blue silk, linen lining and waistband; cotton flannel and lace trim; cape lined with silk. h 50 1/2; l. skirt 39 1/2; Circum. altered waist 26; Circum. hem 92 1/2; w fabric 16 1/2. Possibly Harriet Lamprey Leavitt (d. 1840), Eastport, Maine. Gift of Mrs. Harry C. Waters, 1922.

Bonnet, ca. 1835; black silk. h 12 1/2; w 7 7/8; d 11 1/4. Wadsworth-Longfellow family, Portland, Maine. Wadsworth-Longfellow House. Figure 7, p. 23.

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15. Pelisse with long sleeves, full skirt, and matching pelerine, ca. 1833; dark blue quilted silk, linen and silk lining. H 54 ¾; L skirt 40; Circum. original waist 26 ½; Circum. hem 110; w fabric 22 ½. Possibly Harriet Lamprey Leavitt (d. 1840), Eastport, Maine. Gift of Mrs. Harry C. Waters, 1922.


Shawl, probably Europe, 1830 – 1840; printed silk and cotton. L 38; w 38. Gift of Leona Foy Skillin Cross, 1972. Figure 12, p. 39.

18. Dress with long sleeves and full skirt, ca. 1832, altered 1837 – 1840; ivory silk jacquard and moiré stripe, bodice, sleeves, and belt lined with fine linen, hem lined with net. H 43 ¾; L skirt 35 ½; Circum. altered waist 24; Circum. hem 108 ½; w fabric 19. Mercy Owen Richardson (1810 – after 1876), Portland, Maine, and Cambridge, Massachusetts. Gift of Elsa Richardson Proctor, 1970. Figure 12, p. 39.


Bonnet, ca. 1842; light brown cotton, cotton lace, silk. H 10 ¾; w 10; d 9 ¾. Martha Russell Fifield (1810 – 1894), Newry, Maine. Gift of Mrs. Benson Perley Wilkins, 1955. Figure 7, p. 23.