

DOCUMENTING PHOTOGRAPHS PROJECT

from Anthea Jarvis

DESCRIPTIVE TERMS FOR WOMEN'S DRESS

General terms	Day dress	Day dress (wedding)
	Summer day dress	Day dress (mourning)
	Afternoon dress (1890s)	Day dress (Aesthetic)
	Blouse and skirt	Day dress (Tennis, or other sport)
	Tailored suit	Uniform
	Teagown	
	Outdoor dress	

Descriptive terms for NECK

High round neck
High neck with stand collar
High neck with shirt collar
V neck
Square neck
Low round neck
Low scooped neck
Off-the-shoulder neckline

Descriptive terms for BODICE

Fitted bodice (back fastening)
Fitted bodice (front fastening)
Jacket bodice
Jacket bodice with peplum
Zouave jacket with waistcoat, (1860s)
Zouave jacket with shirt (1860s)
Bodice with V-shaped pleats, shoulder-waist
Cuirasse bodice (*tight-fitting bodice extending below hips*)
Bloused bodice

Descriptive terms for WAIST

Round waist
Princess cut dress (*no waist seam*)
Pointed waist
Double pointed waist
Exaggerated point at waist

Descriptive terms for SLEEVES

Fitted sleeve (full length, three-quarter length, elbow length)
Bell sleeve (1850s)
Pagoda sleeve (1850s)
Bishop sleeve (1860s)
Trumpet-shaped sleeve, wide at wrist (1860s)
Ruched/puffed sleeve, fitted at wrist (Gabrielle sleeve) (1860s)
Short puffed sleeve (evening or ball dress)
Sleeves with epaulettes (1860s)
Coat sleeves, mousquetaire cuffs (1870s)
Fitted sleeves with 'kick-up' puff at shoulder (about 1890)
Leg-of-mutton sleeves (1890s)
Oversleeves

Descriptive terms for SKIRTS

Pleated skirt
Multi-flounced skirt
Skirt flounced à disposition
Double skirt
Skirt with apron overskirt
Tie-back skirt
Polonaise (*with waist seam*)
Princess polonaise (*without waist seam*)
Kilted skirt
Gored skirt
Bell-shaped skirt
Stiffened bell-shaped skirt
Yoked skirt

Worn over: **Crinoline**
Half-crinoline
Bustle

Terms for OUTERWEAR

Shawls: plaid, Paisley patterned, lace, woven silk, gauze.
Cloaks: wool, tweed
Pelerine: (*waist-length cape with long front panels*) 1830s-40s
Pelisse or Paletot: (*fitted short overgarments*) 1840s-1880s
Mantle (*three-quarter length unfitted coat with sleeves*) 1860s
Burnous(e) (*Arab-style evening cloak with hood*) 1850-1870
Ulster (*Front-buttoned tailored overcoat, 1870 onwards*)

Chesterfield (*Heavy-duty overcoat, sometimes DB*)

Jacket

Dolman (*fitted at back over bustle, loose at front, shaped sleeves*) 1880s

Cape or Tippet

Descriptive terms for HEADGEAR

Bonnet: Spoon bonnet (1860s), mourning bonnet

Hat: straw hat, round hat, pork-pie hat, riding hat, brimless hat, gable-brim hat, jockey-cap hat (1880s)

Toque

Day cap

Evening cap

Widow's cap.

Descriptive terms for FABRICS

Wool tartan

tweed

Alpaca

Silk watered
checked
striped
brocaded

Cotton

Printed cotton

Gauze

Velvet

DESCRIPTIVE TERMS FOR CHILDREN'S DRESS

It is often very difficult to establish the sex of small children, as all are dressed similarly in dresses. For this reason, I propose we use the term INFANT for babies under about 9 months (in arms), and SMALL CHILD for the 1 – 3 year olds (toddlers) who cannot be classified as BOY or GIRL.

General terms

**Suit
Dress
Robe (baby)
Outdoor dress
Party dress
Uniform
School uniform
Fancy dress**

Terms for BOYS' clothes

**Eton suit
3 piece suit – long trousers/short trousers
Velvet 3 piece suit
Norfolk jacket
Reefer coat
Sailor suit (Jack Tar) – long trousers/short trousers
Sailor-type suit– long trousers/short trousers
Sailor-type dress with pleated skirt
Tunic - long trousers/short trousers
Tunic with drawers
Dress with drawers
Knitted jersey – long trousers/shot trousers
Zouave jacket and waistcoat
Highland Scottish suit (jacket, waistcoat and kilt)**

Terms for GIRLS' clothes

**Dress – knee length/ankle length skirt
Dress and jacket
Smock
Blouse and skirt
Pinafore over dress
Sailor dress
Fishwife dress**

Terms for OUTDOOR clothes

Coat
Pelisse
Cape
Cloak

Note: fabrics, headwear, hairstyles (if notable), neckwear, sashes/belts and other accessories, footwear.

There are various fabrics and styles of decoration used for children's clothes that are recognizable in photographs, which would be helpful to use if known.

These include:

White cotton piqué dresses with coloured braid decoration.

Navy serge braid-trimmed "sailor" dresses, with pleated skirts, worn by girls and unbreeched boys

Dresses with sailor collars and overskirts doubled over and fastened up were known as Fishwife dresses.

Lord Fauntleroy suits for boys; these were of velvet and had deep lace collars and cuffs and sometimes a sash. The little boys also wore long ringlets. 1880s.

"Hussar" braiding on the front of boys' jackets

DESCRIPTIVE TERMS FOR MEN'S DRESS

General terms

Day wear
Informal day wear
Evening dress
Sportswear
Occupational wear
Outdoor wear
Uniform
Fancy dress

Styles of coat/suit

Frock coat: formal daywear, worn with matching waistcoat and trousers, or matching waistcoat and light trousers

Morning coat: less formal daywear, and most often worn by lower class men. The tails are shorter than the frock coat, and the fronts are cut away below the waist. Worn with various permutations of waistcoat and trousers, the trousers can be striped or checked.

Lounge jacket/suit: informal wear, mostly by young men in leisure/sporting context, or by lower class men. The jacket is cut like modern jacket, but much higher at the neck, and pocket flaps are visible. Trousers and waistcoats vary.

Evening dress (tails): the most formal form of evening wear, worn with white (or sometimes black) waistcoat, trousers match coat

Evening dress (dinner jacket): informal version of evening wear, not much worn before 1900. Black waistcoat and trousers.

Blazer: informal sports or summer wear, usually worn without waistcoat and with cream flannel trousers.

Reefer jacket: double-breasted loose-fitting rather “boxy” jacket, mainly worn by yachtsmen

Norfolk jacket: worn for country walking and sporting pursuits such as shooting. The jacket was belted and had deep vertical pleats front and back.

Smoking jacket: informal jacket worn when relaxing at home, often made of velvet. It had a rather “bohemian” air and was often worn by artists.

Overcoats

There were various named styles of overcoat, as well as cloaks and capes.

The Paletot: a knee-length overcoat, usually with a deep cape over it, 1850s and 60s.

The Chesterfield: a heavyweight double breasted overcoat.

The Ulster: a fitted full-length overcoat, sometimes belted, and with a shoulder cape or hood.

The Inverness Cape : a long sleeveless overcoat with slits for the arms, which were covered by a deep cape (worn by Sherlock Holmes!)

Collar styles

Wing collar

Stand collar

Turn-down collar

Necktie styles

Cravat tied in knot

Cravat tied in bow

Made-up cravat fastened with pin.

Thin black necktie tied in bow.

Necktie tied in horizontal knot.

Necktie tied in vertical knot.

Bow tie

Headgear

Top hat: formal wear

Bowler hat: sporting, informal, worn at the races, by young men, and by working class men as formal wear

Boater: flat sailor-type straw hat, worn for boating, sports and informal summer wear.

“Wide-awake”: a soft felt hat with wide brim, worn informally by the elderly and the eccentric, eg. Charles Darwin and William Gladstone.

Homburg; a stiff felt hat like the Bowler but with a dent in crown from front to back, smart informal wear (1890s onwards)

Trilby: soft felt with dent in crown (like today's Fedora), informal.

Deerstalker: tweed cap with earflaps, worn for country sports and travelling.

Smoking cap: a pillbox cap or skull cap, with a tassel, usually made of velvet and often embroidered or decorated with braid, worn at home, informally, with smoking jacket.

Note also: facial hair; spectacles/eyeglasses; cravat pins; watch chains and fobs; rings; sticks and canes; footwear.