

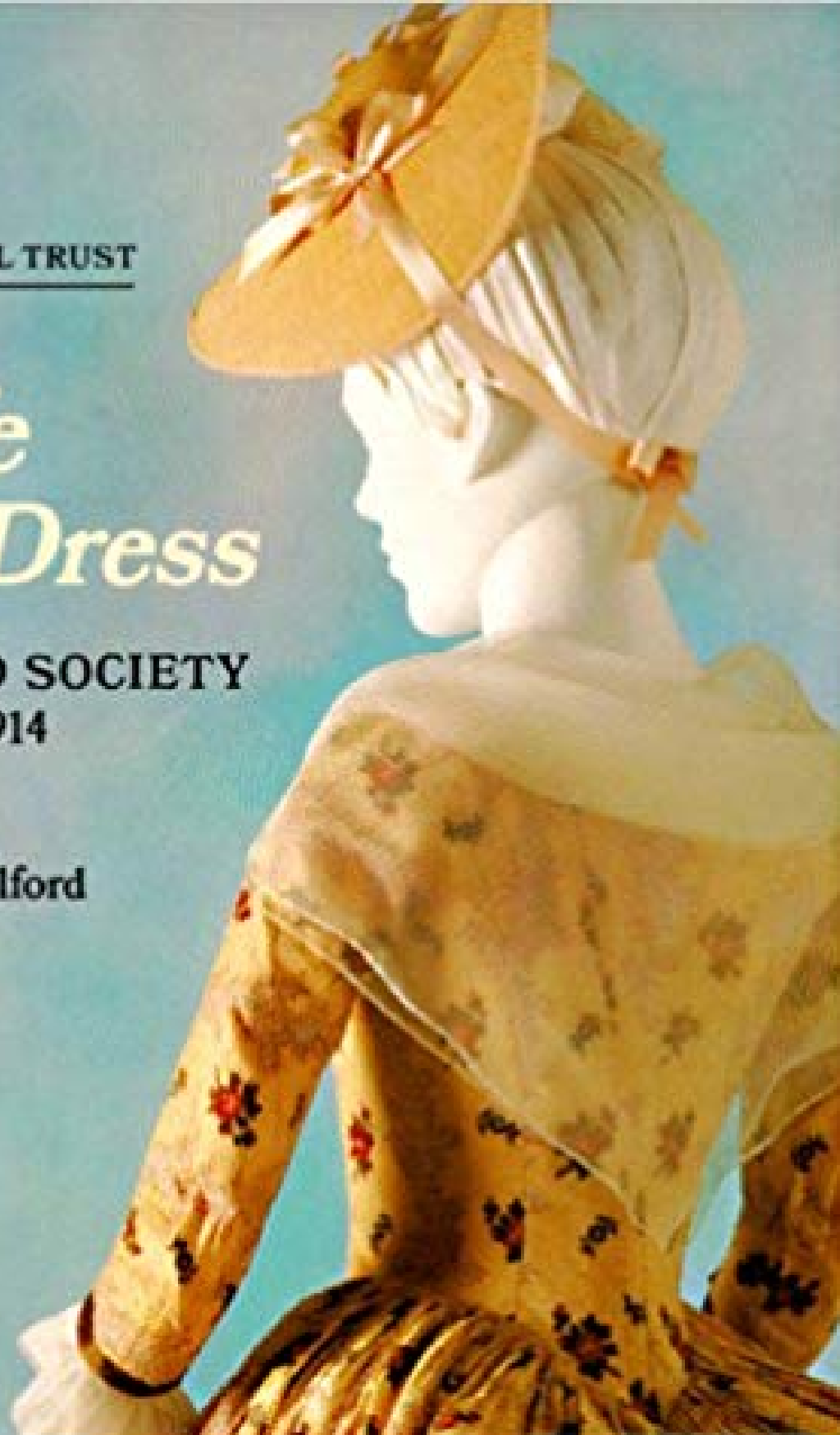


THE NATIONAL TRUST

The Art of Dress

CLOTHES AND SOCIETY
1500-1914

Jane Ashelford



Jane Ashelford

The Art of Dress: Clothes and Society 1500-1914



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The clothing worn previously affords an invaluable insight into lifestyles that have disappeared forever. Choice of dress is definitely suffering from numerous influences - cultural and economic, creative and specialized - and, of program, the vagaries of specific taste. She looks at the social areas of dress - how styles were conveyed, how and where components and clothing were purchased, and what people wore at all levels of society and at all ages, from swaddling bands to widow's weeds. Men's, women's, children's, and servant's attire and components provide vital information about the taste, preoccupations, and aspirations of the individuals who wore them, and the world in which they lived. In this delightfully illustrated reserve, a unique account is offered of the annals of dress over four centuries. Many amazing ensembles have emerged here, often for the very first time, in magnificent photographs specially commissioned from Andreas von Einsiedel. Drawing upon the rich resources of Britain's National Trust properties, such as numerous outfit and textile collections, revealing painted portraits, and intensive documentation by means of family members correspondence, diaries, and home papers, Jane Ashelford will go beyond only chronicle of cut, form, and decoration.



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Not many photos of actual clothes I expected this book from its description to have far more photos of original garments; it's primarily illustrated with plates of paintings. It is unfair to complain that this will not be of any help the seamstress, because that had not been its aim. Essential for every costume reference shelf. It does, however, look like a well-written overview of fashion history during this time period. And I'm not really saying that because I'm English and I know intimately the Paulise de Bush collection (one of the selections featured in this book. I've spent hours reading the facts in this well written book. I look forward to reading more books by this writer. Clothes and culture go hand-in-hands, as Ashelford ably demonstrates. As the first reviewer noted, I don't believe this would be particularly useful to someone wanting particular details or photos as a sewing reference (that was my purpose in ordering it, and I am considering a return). The photos are beautifully executed so the details of fabric, embellishment, color and type are easy to understand and appreciate.) mainly because reflected in the selections of English homes and selections in the National Trust, and has mouthwatering images. I thought the composing was very great and I liked the annals which put the clothing styles into their rich context. The images are great. Up close on details vital that you the period. From Tudor to Edwardian, Beautifully Illustrated A sumptuous tour through the ages of European style. A chapter on each of the main eras of style from Tudor through to Victorian/Edwardian divides items up properly. Illustrated with paintings and drawings from the changing times, and accompanied by clear and informative text, this is a perfect reference book for those interested in the history of clothing and design, but also a exciting read. And as the book itself is huge in dimensions, it enables the illustrations to be printed huge also, so you can really get a look at the detail. It's also a book that may appeal to those interested in the annals of art, because most of the illustrations are from celebrated performers of the time(s). Superb UK costume reference This is an excellent book! One of my favorites This book exceeded my expectations.). It deals specifically with the history of European costume (not American or ethnic costume - sorry, US of A'ians! I'm students costume designer I love this book. Don't miss adding this delightful volume to your individual library! This is understandable for the earlier period that the publication covers, as very little clothing from that point still is present, but paintings and drawings appear to outnumber photos in the later periods as well. It is designed to overview the changes in English fashion as reflected through the contents - paintings, engravings, drawings and actual textiles - of Statelty Houses and holdings belonging to the National Trust. The accompanying period portraits, style plates and illustrations are ideal for establishing time periods and decades of style styles. A visual feast and a remarkable look at clothes & culture! Ashelford's book is a must-possess for the serious costume historian and for those who just enjoy looking at historical clothing. Five Stars Ideal for my living history class. WONDERFUL publication for the interpersonal historian of English fashion, and of curiosity to anyone who appreciates outfit for its own sake. Ashelford's text is definitely most insightful and fun to read. Great Reference Dozens of color photos and portraits for the historical details and close ups of information on costumes and accessories. ESSENTIAL for all outfit historians and fans of the art of antique costume.



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