1889-1900 Ferris Health Waist
Genesee Country Village & Museum
Susan Greene Costume Collection
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Two Double-Welt Seams
Brandon W. Brooks

Tape, while lower CF left panel is not bound.

Pattern drafted from extant original

Does not include seam allowance

Two layers of pink cotton web fabric
Pink double-welt and flat-fell seams
1/8" binding on top and bottom edges of pink cotton web fabric
1 1/2" pink cotton web fabric bound in pink cotton web fabric
Two hidden elastic bands - attached by loops of pink tape, running between layers

Dashed pink line at 1 1/2" from front, and continued back to center

Birdseye View

Genesee Country Village & Museum
1889-1900 Ferrish Health Waist
In 1889-1900, Ferrish Health Waist was a popular waist style. It was designed for women to wear under their dresses, providing support and shaping. The waist featured two double-welt seams, which were constructed by sewing two rows of stitches close together, creating a sturdy seam that could withstand the stress of the wearer's movements. This design was popular in the late 19th century and was made from pink cotton web fabric, which was a type of fine, lightweight cotton used for women's clothing. The waist was bound with pink cotton web fabric to give it a smooth finish and to help it maintain its shape. The hidden elastic bands at the back allowed for some flexibility and comfort, making the waist more wearable. The two hidden elastic bands were attached to the waist by loops of pink tape, running between the layers. The waist also featured 1 1/2" of pink cotton web fabric at the front, and this was continued back to the center of the waist. This waist is part of the Susan Greene Costume Collection at Genesee Country Village & Museum.