

Challenge 1 small pattern cuts thru many layers of fabric

V&A Gown

Place of origin: England, Great Britain (made)

Italy (velvet is Italian, woven)

Date: 1610-1620 (made)

Materials and Techniques: Silk velvet, silk, linen, silk thread, linen thread, hand-sewn

Museum number: 178-1900

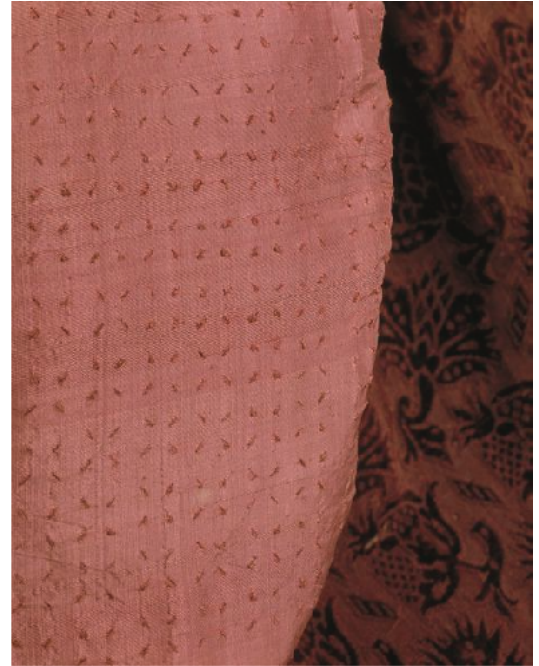
Part of a woman's gown, 1610-20, English, cut and uncut mulberry, Italian, silk velvet, pinked silk lining

Physical description

A woman's loose gown of Italian cut & uncut mulberry-coloured velvet, with hanging sleeves and shoulder wings. Sleeves are lined with pinked, pink silk taffeta. Gown was once decorated with two different types of silver lace (removed before acquisition). Front left and most of back cut missing. !78:A-1900 is a panel of the gown that was unstitched before acquisition.

Object history note

Part of the Isham collection purchased in 1899. Judith Lewin married Sir John Isham in 1607 and had two daughters, Elizabeth (1608-54) and Judith (1610-36) and a son before her death in 1625. The gown could have been worn by Judith and the recycling process started by one of her daughters.



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- 1) Cut paper pattern along the second red line
- 2) Fold you fabric (fan fold) the width of your paper pattern strip
- 3) Tape your paper pattern strip over the fan fold fabric
- 4) With a chisel blade cut all the lines thru the paper and the fabric
- 5) Remove the tape and press the fabric flat



Finished Sample