**Federal/Empire/Regency Resources**

Hope Greenberg (hope.greenberg@uvm.edu)

***Images***:

Searching museums for Austen-era clothing is often a painstaking endeavor. You’ll find both the terms dress and gown used, and since it is rare to be able to date garments precisely you can’t search for a specific year. Certain articles are easier to find using terms like pelisse, spencer, reticule, turban, morning cap, etc. but even that will not get everything: one of my favorite spencers is actually named “Ensemble” because it includes the gown. Pinterest, for all its irritating limitations, often provides a good starting place for finding things in museums (but watch out - Pinterest collections are wildly inaccurate about dates and sloppy about linking to original sources!). Search Google for “regency clothing” or “regency fashion” and you’ll often find that people have created Pinterest boards with items that link to images from museums. That being said, here are my favorites. Good luck!

* Both the old and the new version of Demodé (The old site linked directly to extant garments but many links are broken. The new site links to museums around the world and provides tips on how to search).  <http://demodecouture.com/extant-costumes/>
* Metropolitan Museum of Art - <http://www.metmuseum.org/collection>
* Victoria and Albert Museum - <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/>
* Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - <http://www.mfa.org/collections/textiles-and-fashion-arts>

***Books***:

* Arnold, Janet. *Patterns of Fashion; Englishwomen's Dresses c.1660-186*0. London, 1964/1972. [Includes information and scaled patterns. Invaluable for seeing how to shape and cut gowns from this period.]
* Bradfield, Nancy. *Costume in Detail, 1730-1930*. Kent: Eric Dobby Publishing, 2003. [Includes hand drawn sketches, with measurements, from a number of gowns, arranged chronologically. Fantastic detail.]
* Ginsburg, Madeleine, Avril Hart, Valerie Mendes and Natalie Rothstein. *Four Hundred Years of Fashion*. London: Victoria and Albert Museum, 1993. [Mens and womens clothing, a great overview.]
* Hunnisett, Jean. *Period Costume for Stage and Screen: Patterns for Women's Dress 1800-1909*. Players Press, 1991. [Designed for stage sewing but provides sewing techniques and great patterns.]
* Kyoto Costume Inst., *Revolution in Fashion: European Clothing 1715-1815*. New York,1990. [Any books from the Kyoto Costume Institute are well worth it. Glorious pictures.]
* Johnstone, Lucy. *Nineteenth Century Fashion in Detail*. London: Victoria and Albert Museum, 2009. [Mostly from later in the century, but this series has unbelievably gorgeous close-up details.]
* le Bourhis, K. *The Age of Napoleon: Costume From Revolution to Empire, 1789-1815*. New York: Metropolitan Museum, 1989.
* Shep, R.L, *Corsets: A Visual History*. Mendocino CA, 1993. [Pictures, pictures, pictures...and details.]
* Steele, Valerie. *The Corset: A Cultural History*. New York: Yale University Press, 2001. [An overall look at the role of corsetry in women’s fashion through time. Steele has fascinating ideas about how and why women have been determined to reshape their bodies.]
* Waugh, Nora. *Corsets and Crinolines*. London, 1954/1995. [A bit dated but still a useful reference.]

***Online Sources:***

*Fabric*:

* Delectable Mountain Cloth - <http://www.delectablemountain.com/> - the best of the best, all natural cottons, linens (Italian linen--yum!), best cotton organdy for chemisettes, and to-die-for lightweight taffeta silk (can you tell I love this place?). Tell her what you are interested in and she will send you little samples.
* Mood Fabrics, NY - <http://www.moodfabrics.com> - wonderful fabrics at prices not bad for NYC but best to buy only if you know exactly what you are looking for.
* Fabrics Store - Shift/chemise linen - IL020 (3.5 oz) optic white: <http://www.fabrics-store.com/first.php?goto=big_fabric&menu=f&menu=f&fabric_id=198> Sign up for their emails to get their daily sales (15% a different fabric everyday).
* Rags and Riches - <http://www.ragsandrichesfabrics.com> - When in the Burlington, VT area this is a great place to find turban and hat silks. They are not all real silk but they have a collection worth looking at because many of them are light but stiff.
* [Puresilks.us](http://www.puresilks.us/) – nice selection of reasonably priced silk taffetas, embroidered and other fabrics. Shipping from oversaes but prompt.
* [Dharma Trading](http://www.dharmatrading.com/) – very good prices on lightweight silk and linen but most fabrics are white and meant to be dyed. Also some blacks. Unfortunately no teffeta.

*Lace and Ribbon*

* M and J Trim - <http://www.mjtrim.com> - one of my favorite NYC trim stores to visit, but they have a decent online selection as well.
* Chadwick Heirlooms - my favorite for eyelet, fine lace, insertion lace - but by no means cheap - <https://www.chadwickheirlooms.com/products/white-embroidered-edging-0>
* Martha Pullen - <http://store.marthapullen.com/> - lovely $tuff
* Dove Original Trims - good prices, basic not-too-exciting stuff [http://www.doveoriginalstrims.com](http://www.doveoriginalstrims.com/Narrow-White-Braided-Gimp-Trim-001-By-The-Yard-6435)

*Millinery*

* Straw Bonnets: <http://www.austentation.com/boutique/bonnets.html>
* Buckram forms: <http://timelytresses.com/>

*Feathers*

* Ostrich wing, wing tips ($1.65-5.00) - wing tips curl better than tail feathers and drabs - <http://fancyfeather.com/feathers?cat=9&price=1%2C10>

*Stockings*

* Burnley & Trowbridge lace-clocked stockings (they also have plain): <http://www.burnleyandtrowbridge.com/laceclockedsilkstockings.aspx>

*Shoes*

* A blog post with some good ideas - <http://bellamissella.blogspot.com/2011/11/regency-accessories-shoes.html>(See Amazon: Sansha Soho Lace-Up Jazz Shoe and for dancing look for Touch Ups Dyeable Ballet Flats - sew on some ribbon and voila!)
* Jessamyn’s article on shoes:  <http://www.songsmyth.com/shoes.html>
* American Duchess – does the job but makes you pay for it -
<http://www.american-duchess.com/>