

Wedding shoes

Museums cherish objects of all sorts, but best of all they like to have 'provenance' and the ability to date the things in their care. Nowadays at the Newtown Textile Museum we only collect objects from the Newtown area, but in 1967 when the Museum was established, it was more important to collect treasures that were being offered, as long as the history was known and they were for the correct period.



We know about these satin shoes, they were worn at the wedding of Hannah Salton Peacock, daughter of a master mariner from Robin Hoods Bay, to Thomas Charles Osborne, a Londoner, on 11 September 1889 at the Wesleyan Chapel at Trentham, Staffordshire. Circumstances had brought them both to Trentham, home of the Duke of Sutherland,

she to stay with her uncle who was the Estate Manager, and it is presumed that he came to work in the house, probably as a butler. How do we know? The shoes were donated by the granddaughter of the happy couple.

[Type here]



Hannah Salton Peacock and Thomas Charles Osborne

Hand-made and elegant, they are similar to wedding shoes worn at any time in the intervening 130 years. Check out the history of wedding shoes¹ and also the story of wedding dresses on the links below.²

It is fun to imagine Hannah going into Stafford to find a shoemaker to create these for her. All sorts of questions remain. How much did they cost her, what did her wedding



dress look like, and what was the wedding service like? We will probably never know.

¹ <https://brewminate.com/a-brief-history-of-wedding-shoes-and-boots/>

² <https://daily.jstor.org/a-natural-history-of-the-wedding-dress/>