Emily Shaffer *A Divine Kerfuffle* Dramaturg

1890s London Clothing

Women's Clothing

- All about silhouettes.
- Hair was typically high with soft curls in the front.
- Hats were a very important necessity. Women's hats were usually wide and had tall feathers, ribbons, or flowers. A lot of hats also had a literal stuffed bird.
- A lot of women's outerwear was jackets or capes. Capes typically had a high collar with beading and fur.
- Since this decade was the time women integrated more heavily into sports, mainly golf, tennis, croquet, and swimming in the ocean, a lot of sportwear was integrated into daily wear. It was a sports skirt with bloomers underneath.

Early 1890s

- Shoulder puffs.

1892

- Shoulder puffs gone.
- Bell-shaped skirts to fit smoothly over hips.
- Bodices with large leg-o-mutton or gigot sleeves.

1895

- Shoulder puffs reach apex of size.

1897

- Introduction of straight-front courset.

Men's Clothing

- Overall maintained most of the 1880s narrowed silhouette.
- Trousers were more of a relaxed cut.
- Frock coat was for formal daywear.
- Morning coat had a waistline seam and could be made formal by pairing it with dark trousers and a top hat.
- Shirts of the 18903 contained lots of starch with stiff standing collars.
- Bowler hats were very tall, exaggerating.
- Some men's mainstream fashion contained sportswear.

Sources

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