

N-SSA Costume Competition Reference Guide

Reference Books and Publications: Recommended Reading

- The Dressmakers Guide -Elizabeth Stewart Clark – The Sewing Academy Website
- Costume in Detail, Women's Dress 1730-1930-Nancy Bradfield (ISBN 0-8238-0091-1)
- Dating Fabrics, Eileen Jahnke Trestain, (ISBN 13:9780891458845)
- Textile Designs-Susan Meller and Joost Elffers (ISBN 0-8109-3853-7)

- The Way They Were Dressed in 1860 – 1865/Photographic Reference)- Donna J. Abraham (ISBN -978-1-57747-156-1)
- Who Wore What? Women's Wear 1861-1865 – Juanita Leisch (ISBN 0-939631-81-4)
- Godey's Ladies Books and Peterson's Magazines (available on line)
- Peterson's, Graham's, Arthur's Home, Ladies Friend magazines, etc.
- Women's Shoes in America 1795-1930 - Nancy E. Rexford

Educational Websites

thesewingacademy.com- Elizabeth Stewart Clark
Free downloads, research information, book (The Dressmaker's Guide)

On-line Fabric and Supply Sources

- Fabric Mart <https://www.fabricmartfabrics.com/>
- Renaissance Fabric www.renaissancefabrics.net
- Fashion Fabric Club www.fashionfabricsclub.com
- Fabric Depot www.fabricdepot.com
- Farmhouse Fabrics <https://shop.farmhousefabrics.com/> Fine cottons, batiste, trims, lace
- Lace trims – Capitol Imports www.laceimports.com
- JKM Ribbon and Trims www.jkmribbon.com
- Needle and Thread <http://www.woodedhamlet.com/>

Vendors of historical costume supplies

Originals by Kay <https://www.originals-by-kay.com> –
Corsets, cotton net, parasols, patterns, antiques, jewelry, ready-made clothing

Somewhere In Time Historical Clothing- Facebook, appears to be selling clothing and covered crinolines through Originals By Kay <https://www.originals-by-kay.com>
Search for “covered crinoline” in search box

Needle and Thread <https://www.woodedhamlet.com> –
Cage crinolines, kits, fabric, notions

Amazon Drygoods <https://www.amazondrygoods.com> –
Historical shoes for men and women, cage crinolines, patterns, corded petticoats, books

American Duchess <https://americanduchess.com> -
Historical shoes for women and men

Fugawee Shoes <https://fugawee.com> –
Historical shoes for men and women

NJ Sekela Shoes <http://www.njsekela.com/>

Missouri Boot and Shoe <http://www.missouribootandshoe.com>
Brogans and men’s Balmoral Boots

South Union Mills <https://www.southunionmills.com/>
Men’s clothing, hats, footwear (including a “camp” shoe)

Timely Tresses <https://www.timelytresses.com> –
Bonnets, bonnet making supplies, straw for bonnets, accessories, books (on bonnets, Godey’s fashion plates), flowers, ribbons, feathers

Victorian Bonnets <http://www.victorianbonnets.com>
1820-1890 straw and silk bonnet blanks (untrimmed bonnet forms), trimmed bonnets, some original clothing for sale, research page with original bonnets

Disclaimer- As with any historical costuming, you need to do your own research to ensure items you purchase from vendors are of the period you want. This list was compiled using recommendations from N-SSA costumers who have had past success finding items they used for competition. Some vendors have had civil war period items in the past but may not have anything appropriate to the period currently. Recommendations

are intended to be helpful resources in finding materials and clothing items for civil war costumes and are not a guarantee of historical accuracy or of competition success.

Also, please remember the civil war period was from 1861-1865. If someone lists an item as 1860s, it may not fall in the 1861-65 period. If it is listed as Victorian, it might fall anywhere in the 1837-1901 timeframe. Any claim made by a vendor could be accurately dated or erroneous. The N-SSA costume committee is offering this list as a potential source list and does not in any way endorse any products.