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**Finding Aid to the
LaVerne (Ruff) Graf
Collection
2000.04**

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OVERVIEW

Donor: LaVerne (Ruff) Graf

Accession Date: 8 November 2000

Collection Number: 092

Quantity: 3 textiles

Summary: Woman's black satin bodice and skirt; black velvet belt, c. 1919

Languages: English

Links:

- [LaVerne \(Ruff\) Graf Photographs](#)
- [LaVerne \(Ruff\) Graf family visits EPRHCC](#)
- [Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection](#)

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Citation: LaVerne (Ruff) Graf Collection, 092, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

BIOGRAPHY

LaVerne (Ruff) Graf was born to parents Samuel and Mathilde (Fetzer) Ruff. Samuel William Ruff was born on May 26, 1892 in Romania. He immigrated to the United States with his family in 1902 and settled south of Medina, North Dakota. Mathilde Fetzer was born on September 1, 1896 in Neuberg, South Russia to parents Heinrich and Katherina (Grueble) Fetzer. The Heinrich Fetzer family immigrated to the United States in 1900, settling in Venturia, ND. Samuel Ruff married Mathilde Fetzer on August 24, 1914. Mathilde (Fetzer) Ruff died on June 15, 1950, and Samuel W. Ruff died on April 10, 1966.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **LaVerne (Ruff) Graf Collection** contains a bodice, skirt, and a ribbon. The textiles date to about 1919 to 1920, and they are in good condition.

The bodice, 2000.04.01.a, is black satin and has three quarter length kimono sleeves ending in a cuff lined with pink colored silk. The collarless is a slightly gathered neckline. There are pink and green sequins and a black beaded flower at the base of the bodice. The bodice is gathered at the waist with three inch band, and there is a snap closure in the back with ten fake pink, black and white ball buttons, with one missing.

The skirt, 2000.04.01b, is black satin, and the waistband is of stuff fabric. Placket is closed with snap fastener, and the closure is missing.

The ribbon is a long piece of velvet (2000.04.01c), about two inches wide. It is likely the ribbon was once part of the waistband.

SEPERATION RECORD

The LaVerne (Ruff) Graf Collection, 2000.04, is housed at the Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection, NDSU. Advanced notice is requested for the viewing of this collection.

ITEM LOCATION LIST

| Location | Item |
|-----------------|--|
| EPRHCC | 2000.04.01a Woman's bodice, black satin, c. 1919 |
| EPRHCC | 2000.04.01b Woman's skirt, black satin, c. 1919 |
| EPRHCC | 2000.04.01c Velvet ribbon |



2000.04.01