

CLOTHS for CONTINENTAL AMERICAN APPLICATIONS.

SWANSKIN

Swanskin is a plain weave cloth woven from yarn spun from soft blends of wool. This enables a soft, downy nap to be raised on the surface, hence the name swanskin. Less dense and not as heavily milled as Broadcloth, but thicker and coarser than Cassimere, it was not considered suitable for outer garments, but the soft, lofty nap was ideal for providing warmth beneath coats. As a result it was popular for lower and middling quality middle garments and was specified in United States Army contracts for enlisted men's waistcoats during the War of 1812.

We are currently conducting analysis of manufacturer's patterns from the early 19th C in order to establish the Sett (number of threads per inch) and Yarn counts (thickness of yarn) used. We hope to have the first Swanskin available in the Autumn of 2011.