

Britain's Literary Heritage

William

Morris

Kelmscott

**Part Four:
Art, Book Design, and Literary Papers
from Kelmscott Manor; the Society of
Antiquaries, London; and the British
Library Department of Printed Books.**



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PUBLISHERS' NOTE

William Morris continues to be studied by scholars of many disciplines throughout the world. He was an important poet, writer, printer, designer, artist, craftsman, socialist, reformer, and critic.

Parts One and Two of the Research Publications' William Morris project focused on his literary achievements by reproducing the important manuscript collection in the British Library Department of Manuscripts and the Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Part Three is devoted to his political beliefs and influences and reproduces, in its entirety, the Socialist League archive from the International Institute of Social History in Amsterdam.

This fourth part covers his work as printer, designer, artist, and critic and brings together material from three sources: The British Library Department of Printed Books; Kelmscott Manor; and the Society of Antiquaries. It includes the first manuscript minute book of the S.P.A.B. (Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings) which Morris helped to establish both to preserve buildings and craft-skills. It includes notable manuscripts of The Story of Egil, The Story of the Ynglings, and Lancelot due Lake which testify to his abiding interest in ancient sagas and romances. There is also an important collection of accounts, prospectuses, flysheets, trial pages, proofs, and type and ornament designs gathered together by Sydney Cockerell to provide a background to the output of the Kelmscott Press. These are an invaluable source for anyone interested in printing history and provide insights into the working practice of William Morris. Rare copies of printed pamphlets, sometimes annotated, provide further evidence of the Architecture, Art, Fine Printing, and the relationship between art and its production.

A printed handlist to all parts will accompany Part Five which will concentrate on his involvement with Art, Handicrafts and Textile Design.

William Pidduck
Production and Development
Director

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