



Victorian Furniture

1830-1901

19th Century

William Morris
(1834-1896)

&

Philip Webb
(1831-1915)

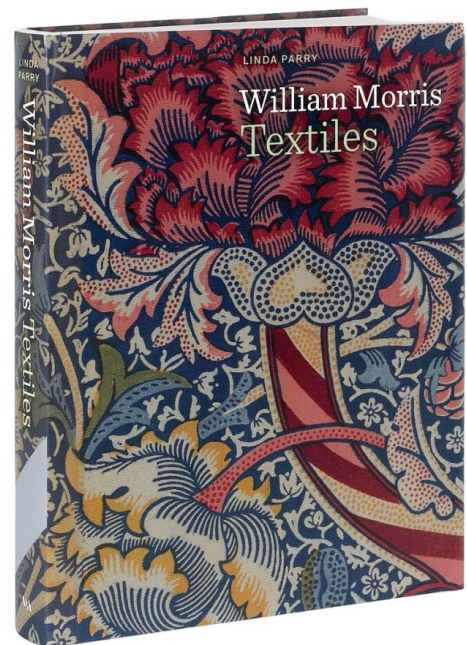
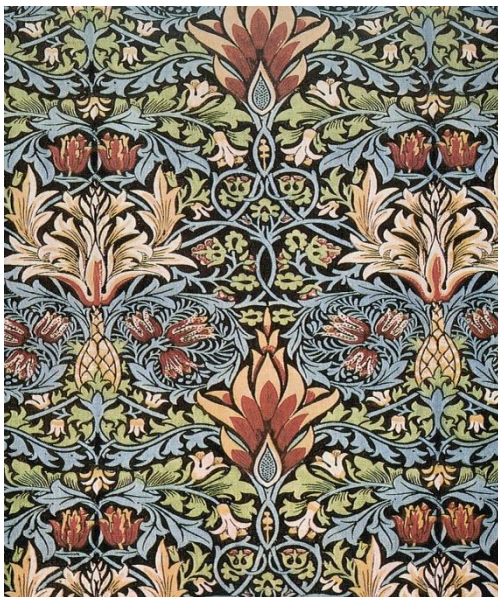
William Morris (1834 – 1896)

- William Morris was born in 1843 in Waltham England. He studied Classics in Oxford University.
- Classics are a broad study of subjects such as law, literature, languages, philosophy, art, archaeology and history.
- After college he trained as an architect but later took up painting.
- He travelled the world and met Edward-Burne-Jones they both had an interest in Church stained glass windows.
- He set up a firm along with Philip Webb, Madox Brown, Burne-Jones & Dante Gabriel Rossetti producing high quality decorative objects, mainly stained glass.



William Morris Textiles

- William Morris later set up another company Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co. (1861-1875) which later became Morris & Co. in (1875-1940)
- The firm's medieval-inspired aesthetic and respect for hand-craftsmanship and traditional textile arts had a profound influence on the decoration of churches and houses into the early 20th century. His textile & wallpaper designs are reproduced today.



William Morris Chairs

- William Morris disliked machines and believed that real art had to be hand made.
- He was one of the co founders of The Arts & Crafts Movement.
- Only the wealthy could afford his products.



Morris Recliner



Morris Dining Chair



Morris Sussex Chair

Quality Furniture

- William Morris started a rebellion against this trend of cheaply made mass produced Victorian furniture.
- He founded a company to demonstrate the superiority of quality handmade furniture.
- Honesty of the hand made joints was his feature of construction. This led to the Arts and Crafts Movement in the 1880's leading on to Art Nouveau
- He referred back to the 18th Century high quality furniture and how they were constructed.

William Morris The Philosopher

- Morris wrote “Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful and believe to be beautiful”
- “Art is the expression of man’s pleasure in labour”
- The furniture joints were left visible sometimes even featured, native woods were used mainly oak and often left natural colour.
- A lot of Ironmongery was used also.
- The Ladder back Morris Chair is thought to have been designed by Philip Webb.



Morris Furniture



Painted by Morris



Morris Chair

Image courtesy of Morris society

The Red House

- The Red House is one of the most important nineteenth-century architectural achievements in Britain.
- It was called The Red House because of its red brick structure.
- It was designed and sculpted by the three close friends William Morris, Edward Burne-Jones and Philip Webb.
- The Red House, 1860 a family home located in the town of Bexleyheath in Southeast London.



The Red House

- The Red House showcases Morris's designs which can be seen on the many rugs, textiles and wallpaper throughout the house.
- Burne-Jones famous stain glass creations can be seen lighting up the many rooms in the house.



The Red House

- The Grand Piano of Red House.



Wightwick Manor Staffordshire



Morris furniture, rugs, and textiles.
Image Courtesy of Morris Society

Philip Webb (1831 – 1915)

- Born in Oxford, Webb studied at Aynho in Northamptonshire and later moved to London where he met William Morris 1856.
- He was the main Designer of Red House at Bexleyheath for Morris.
- He became part of the company later known as Morris & Co.
- Webb and Morris formed an important part of the **Arts and Crafts** movement, and founded the **Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings** in 1877. Webb also joined Morris's revolutionary **Socialist League**, becoming its treasurer.



The Red House

- Morris & Webb kitchen Hutch in the Red house.



William Morris and Philip Webb, kitchen hutch in Red House, Bexleyheath, England, 1860, photo: [Tony Hisgett](#) (CC BY 2.0)

- Image retrieved from [Kahan Academy](#)

Morris & Co.



Philip Webb Chair



Philip Webb
Sussex Chair



Rossetti Chair



Prenzel - webb