

William Morris:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Morris, William, 1834-1896
Title:	William Morris Collection
Dates:	1869-1917, undated
Extent:	3 boxes (1.26 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes manuscripts and letters written by the English designer, artist, writer, and socialist William Morris. The correspondence is dominated by letters written by William Morris, wife Jane Burden Morris, and daughter May Morris to the English artist Charles Fairfax Murray who worked for Morris.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-2934
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 Note: This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

- Address at the delivery of prizes to the Birmingham Art School, handwritten manuscript with revisions and signature pasted on at end, 20 leaves, 21 February 1894. Written on flyleaf: ANI by Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell re this manuscript. From Hanley II. **Container** 1.2
- Applied art..., an address delivered in Edinburgh before the National association for the advancement of art, signed handwritten manuscript, 22 pages, October 1889. From the Wrenn Collection. **Container** 1.3
- Gothic architecture, handwritten manuscript with revisions and signature pasted in at end, 22 leaves, 1889. Written on flyleaf: ANI by Sir Sydney Carlyle Cockerell re this manuscript. From Hanley II. **Container** 1.4
- In prison - and at home, from The pilgrims of hope, signed handwritten manuscript with few revisions, 4 pages, undated. **Container** 1.5
- Lo when we wade the tangled wood..., signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 5 February 1888. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.1
- Lonely love and loveless death, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 leaf, undated.
- The moon shall be darkness..., handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.
Removed from: Notebook by William Morris, handwritten manuscript / notes, sketches, and poems, undated.
- Notebook, handwritten manuscript / notes, sketches, and poems with handwritten notations by S. C. Cockerell, undated. Inscribed: S. C. Cockerell from Jane Morris, 5 August 1897. Included are: And now he rose with eyes fixed on the ground... ; O hearken ye who speak the English tongue... ; Burghers' battle; Throughout the garden of the deer... ; Aristomenes. **Container** 1.6
- The roots of the mountain, handwritten manuscript, 471 leaves, circa 1889. Included in this: handwritten manuscript / draft of Why are ye wending?; 2 handwritten manuscript / drafts of poem on title page; ANS from Morris to Emery Walker, undated. **Container** 2.1
- The well at the world's end, galley proofs with numerous corrections and additions by Morris, pages 209-278, 363-416, 1893. From Hanley II. **Container** 2.2

Letters:

- ALS to unidentified recipients, 5 March 1870. **Container 2.3**
- ALS to unidentified recipient, 2 May 1885.
- ALS to unidentified recipient, 28 February 1891. From Hanley II.
- ALS / draft to The Athenaeum, 31 August 1895. From Hanley II.
- 12 ALS to Baldwin, Alfred, Mrs., 1871-1875, undated. **Container 2.4**
- ALS to Burne-Jones, Edward Coley, Sir, 25 May 1869. **Container 2.3**
- 3 ALS, APCS to Chapman, T. C., 1889, undated.
- ALS to Chariclea?, undated.
- ALS / draft to Daily Chronicle, London, directed to the editor, 12 October 1895.
Concerns restoration of Rouen cathedral. From Hanley II.
- ANS to Delpierre, undated.
- ALS to Ellis, Frederick Startridge, undated. Removed from WP M834 876t. From the Wrenn Collection.
- 3 ALS to Ionides, Miss, 25 May 1870, undated.
- 42 ALS, 3 ALI, APCS, APCI to Murray, Charles Fairfax, 1870-1896, undated. **Container 3.1**
Included with ALS 15 February 1870: pencil sketch, 1 page.
- ALS to Murray, Charles Fairfax, 27 May 1875. Enclosed with this: ALS from George Wardle to Murray, undated. **Container 2.3**
- APCS to Reeves, Samuel, 11 November 1890.

Miscellaneous:

- Homerus. The Iliad of Homer, done into English verse by William Morris, handwritten manuscript with revisions in Morris's hand, 1 page, undated. From the Wrenn Collection. **Container**
3.2
- Homerus. The Odyssey of Homer, done into English verse by William Morris, handwritten manuscript / fragments with revisions in Morris's hand, 35 leaves, undated. From the Wrenn Collection. **Container**
3.3
- Morris, Jane Burden. 4 ALS, ACS to Marillier, Henry Currie, 1902-1910, undated. **Container**
3.2
- Morris, Jane Burden. 10 ALS, AL / incomplete to Murray, Charles Fairfax, 1901-1908, undated. **Container**
3.4
- Morris, May, 1863-1938. 5 ALS to Marillier, Henry Currie, 1901, undated. **Container**
3.2
- Morris, May. 50 ALS, 3 ANS to Murray, Charles Fairfax, 1887-1917, undated. **Container**
3.5
- Morris, William, 1834-1896. List of fish, handwritten manuscript, 3 pages on 1 folded leaf, undated. Included with this: handwritten manuscript / note in Morris's hand about rewriting a leaf, 1 page, undated and an empty envelope addressed to Morris by himself in Iceland, circa 1871. **Container**
3.2
- Murray, Charles Fairfax, 1849-1919. Index to a group of William Morris manuscripts, handwritten manuscript / list of titles, with Murray's signature at the top, 1 page, undated. From the Drake Book Shop stock, with their typed and carbon typescript descriptions, 3 leaves.

Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date