

On “the capability of women to execute and plan”

Maud Hall’s *English Church Needlework*, 1901

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contextual information

- 1829 Catholic Emancipation Act
- 1832 Reform Act enfranchises one in seven men
- 1832 first woman’s suffrage petition
- 1833 Oxford Movement begins theological reform of the Church of England
- 1839 Cambridge Camden Society begins visual reform of the Church of England; becomes Ecclesiological Society 1846
- 1845 establishment of the first Anglican convent Sisterhood of the Holy Cross, London
- 1845 establishment of the Anglican Sisterhood of the Holy Communion under Anne Ayres, New York
- 1867 second Reform Act enfranchises two in five men = 16% of adult population
- 1868 first public meeting re female suffrage
- 1870 married women can own property and money
- 1872 Ballot Act introduced secret ballots
- 1884 third Reform Act gives all male house owners a vote = 25+% of adults
- 1918 women over 30 (married etc) and men over 21 granted the vote
- 1928 all aged over 21 allowed to vote, first doing so in 1929

names in order of citation

Society of St Margaret's East Grinstead, founded 1855, embroidery 1866-c.1972
George Edmond Street (1824-1881)
All Saint's Margaret Street, London
John Mason Neale, Warden of Sackville College
Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* (1847)
A W N Pugin (1812-1852): *On the Present State of Ecclesiastical Embroidery* (1843)
and *Glossary of Ecclesiastical Ornament* (1844)
C E M: *Hints on Ornamental Needlework As Applied to Ecclesiastical Purposes* (1843)
Miss Lambert: *Church Needlework: With Practical Remarks on Its Arrangement and Preparation* (1844)
Female School of Art and Design, Gower Street, London, founded 1842-3, moving to Queen Square in 1887; absorbed into the Central School around 1908
John Hardman & Co, Birmingham, founded 1838, workroom under Lucy Powell from 1842
Lucy and Winifred Brown at Hardman & Co, c.1844-c.1879
John Ruskin (1819-1900)
Newton, Jones & Willis, Birmingham, church furnishers to Queen Victoria Great Exhibition, London, 1851
Miss Hutchinson, Hollington Church, Staffordshire
Agnes Blencowe (1819-1896): *Ecclesiastical Embroidery: Working patterns of flowers, of the full size, from ancient examples* (1848)
Mary Ann Street
Mary Barber (died c.1879): *Some Drawings of Ancient Embroidery* (1880)
Anastasia Dolby: *Church Needlework: ancient and modern* (1867)
Liverpool Cathedral Elizabeth Hoare Embroidery Gallery; Elisabeth Hoare (1916-2001)
George Frederick Bodley (1827-1907), articulated to George Gilbert Scott 1845-50
George Gilbert Scott (1811-1878)
George Gilbert Scott the Younger (1839-1879), with Bodley and Garner founded Watts & Co, London, 1874
Street assistant to George Gilbert Scott 1844-49 and trained William Burges, Philip Webb, Richard Norman Shaw, William Morris, Edmund and John Dando Sedding, Selwyn Image and William Richard Lethaby
May Morris (1862-1938)
William Butterfield (1814-1900)
Ladies' Ecclesiastical Embroidery Society (LEES), fd. 1854, becoming the Society for the Advancement of Ecclesiastical Embroidery (SAEE) in 1862-4, when it also amalgamated with the Wantage Church Needlework Association
Wantage = St Mary the Virgin convent, fd.1848
Ninian Comper (1864-1960), articulated to G F Bodley
The Community of All Hallows, Ditchingham, founded 1854, embroidery from c.1865
The Sisters of Bethany, founded 1866, embroidery from 1873-1972
(Bethany) School of Embroidery, Lloyd Street, London, founded c.1876
The Misses Windle, funders of St Michael's & All Angels, Brighton
William Burges (1827-1881)
Miss Anderson, SAEE

Liverpool Cathedral Embroidery Association (1902-1932)
 Phoebe Powell
 Cecil Greenwood Hare (1875-1932), successor for G F Bodley in 1907
 Edmund Sedding (1836-68): *Directorium Anglicanum* (1865)
 John Dando Sedding (1838-91)
 Community of the Sisters of the Church (CSC), embroidery 1880-1875; founded 1870
 by
 Emily Ayckbowm (1836-1900), who also founded the
 Church Extension Association (CEA), embroidery from 1863-4
 Katherine Kirkpatrick
 Rose Sedding, wife of John Dando
 Buckley & Co., London, active from at least 1866 (and see Cox & Son, below)
 Isabella Sedding (East Grinstead's Sister Isa and sister of Edmund and J D Sedding)
 Clewer = Community of St John the Baptist, founded 1851 (taking over St Mary's Soho
 mission house from East Grinstead sisterhood in the early 1860s, till 1927)
 Kempe Studios, London (1866-1907 and as C E Kempe & Co Ltd 1907-1934)
 Elizabeth Burden (1841-post 1901), Janie Morris's sister
 Morris & Co. (1875-1940), at 26 Queen Square, London, from 1865-1881; the firm was
 styled Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co. from 1861-75
 Ladies Charity Home/School for Girls, 22 Queen Square from 1859-83; founded 1701/2
 (East Grinstead's) St Katherine's School of Embroidery, 32-33 Queen Square, London,
 founded 1870, separating from Grinstead in 1902 and becoming Catholic, 1908
 Bruce Talbert (1838-81)
 Cox & Son's active from the 1860s; from 1881 becomes Cox, Son, Buckley & Co.
 The Rev. Ernest Geldart (1848-1929): *A Manual of Church Decoration and Symbolism*
 (1899)
 St Cuthbert's Philbeach Gardens, London, Guild of St Margaret
 St Augustine's, Kilburn
 Ruth White CSC – see <https://international.sistersofthechurch.org.uk/about-us/our-founder/essay-on-mother-emily>
 Royal School of Needlework, founded 1872, with royal patronage from 1875
 Leek Embroidery Society, founded 1879/1880 by Thomas and Elizabeth Wardle (1834-
 1902)
 The Musgrave Sisters, daughters of the incumbent at St Peters Hascombe
 J A Pippet (1841-1903)
 Miss Spencer, educated by the Society of St Margaret, East Grinstead
 Ann Macbeth (1875-1948)
 Sylvia Pankhurst (1882-1960)
 Society of all Saints Sisters of the Poor, founded 1851
 Art Workers Guild, founded 1884, located at 6 Queen Square, London, 1914 to today
 Women's Guild of Art, 1907- 1949, founded by May Morris and Mary Elizabeth Turner
 Mary Gemmell, workroom mistress at the Royal School of Needlework, 1872+
 Maria Francesca Rosetti (1827-76)

Further reading

Mary Schoeser *et al*, *English Church Embroidery 1833-1953: The Watts Book of Embroidery* (Watts & Co. Ltd: 2nd ed. 1998)