

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Botany and Horticulture

Until the nineteenth century, the investigation of natural phenomena, plants and animals was considered either the preserve of elite scholars or a pastime for the leisured upper classes. As increasing academic rigour and systematisation was brought to the study of 'natural history', its subdisciplines were adopted into university curricula, and learned societies (such as the Royal Horticultural Society, founded in 1804) were established to support research in these areas. A related development was strong enthusiasm for exotic garden plants, which resulted in plant collecting expeditions to every corner of the globe, sometimes with tragic consequences. This series includes accounts of some of those expeditions, detailed reference works on the flora of different regions, and practical advice for amateur and professional gardeners.

A Handbook of Plant-Form

Written and richly illustrated by the Derby-born artist Ernest Ellis Clark (1869–1932), this guide was originally published in 1904 to demonstrate the decorative possibilities of certain plants, mainly English wild flowers, to art students sitting examinations in plant drawing and design. Clark emphasises the importance of retaining a certain amount of botanical accuracy and provides examples of the ornamental possibilities of selected plants in various stages of their development. The language employed in describing the plants is not rigorously scientific and may be understood by those with little familiarity with botanical terms (a brief glossary is also provided). By focusing primarily on accurate renderings of the plants, rather than decorative applications, Clark allows the student's originality to remain unaffected by his personal preferences, and in so doing he allows students to adapt his teachings to their particular tastes and styles.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A Handbook of Plant-Form

*For Students of Design, Art Schools,
Teachers and Amateurs*

ERNEST E. CLARK



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108070065

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2014

This edition first published 1904

This digitally printed version 2014

ISBN 978-1-108-07006-5 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect
the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published
by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or
with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A HANDBOOK
OF
PLANT-FORM

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A HANDBOOK OF PLANT-FORM

FOR STUDENTS OF DESIGN, ART SCHOOLS,
TEACHERS & AMATEURS

ONE HUNDRED PLATES,
COMPRISING NEARLY 800 ILLUSTRATIONS

Drawn and Described, and with
AN INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER ON DESIGN
AND A GLOSSARY OF BOTANICAL TERMS

BY

ERNEST E. CLARK

Art Master Derby Technical College
National Silver Medallist in Ornament and Design.

“In every object there is inexhaustible meaning; the
eye sees in it what the eye brings means of seeing.”

LONDON :

B. T. BATSFORD, 94 HIGH HOLBORN

MCMIV.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



Cambridge University Press

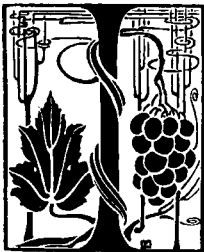
978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

• PREFACE •



IN placing this little work before Art Students, I am keenly aware of the difficulties with which the undertaking is beset, but while it cannot rival the more expensive works of a similar nature, I hope it will hold its own in the sphere of more humble productions.

Objection may be taken to it on the debatable ground of the wisdom of placing in the hands of Art Students ready-made diagrams for reference and use in decorative studies. But this objection may be met by a consideration of the difficulties experienced by many young students in obtaining, at any given moment, the right plant, or the information concerning such plant, which is essential in order to make an original drawing. At the same time, it cannot be too frequently urged upon students that the only right way for them is to make their own studies direct from nature. Indeed, one object of this book would be defeated if it were made to take the place of a student's own personal studies, as its aim is rather to direct such studies, so that they may be of practical use from a decorative point of view.

I have refrained from supplementing the plant drawings with examples of their decorative application to given spaces, believing that, had I done so, a check might possibly have been put upon the student's originality, and that any such suggestions best come from the teacher with whom the student is immediately concerned. Not more botanical terms have been made use of than the circumstances warranted, and these will be found explained in the Glossary when the text does not supply the requisite information.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07006-5 - A Handbook of Plant-Form: For Students of Design, Art Schools, Teachers and Amateurs

Ernest E. Clark

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

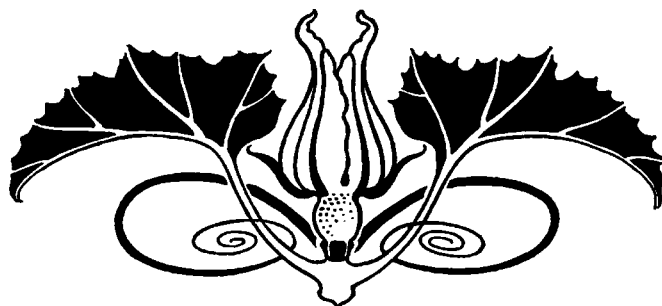
vi

PREFACE.

I have to thank those personal friends who in one way or another have given me assistance in getting together the material contained in the book, and although nearly the whole of the illustrations are from my own drawings from nature, there are one or two which have been made from original drawings kindly lent me for the purpose.

To Mr. Paulson Townsend I am indebted for generous assistance in various ways.

ERNEST E. CLARK.

Derby, *June*, 1904.

LIST OF PLATES.

	PLATE		
PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN	1		
LEAF FORMS	2		
		PLATE	
ANEMONE, AUTUMN	68, 69	GROUNDSEL	67
„ WOOD	58	HAREBELL	30
ASH	88	HAWTHORN	24, 25
BINDWEED OR CONVULVULUS	14	HOLLY	96, 97
BITTER-SWEET, OR WOODY NIGHTSHADE	22	HONESTY	93
BLACKBERRY	3, 4, 5	HONEYSUCKLE	90, 91, 92
BLACKTHORN	65	HORSE CHESTNUT	81, 82, 83, 84
BLUEBELL	60	IVY	38, 39, 40
BRYONY, BLACK	23	LILY, EASTER	94, 95
„ WHITE	12, 13	MARROW	47, 48, 49
BUTTERCUP	26, 27	MARSH-MARIGOLD	28, 29
CAMPION, RED	66	MILKWORT	78
CELANDINE, LESSER	99	MISTLETOE	98
CHRYSANTHEMUM	52, 53, 54	NASTURTIUM (<i>Tropæolum majus</i>)	15, 16
CLEMATIS	89	„ (<i>Tropæolum claratum</i>)	17
COLUMBINE	55, 56, 57	OAK	79, 80
CONVOLVULUS OR BINDWEED	14	OXALIS, OR WOODSORREL	77
COWSLIP	32	OX-EYE DAISY	11
CRAB-APPLE (BLOSSOM)	50	POPPY, COMMON	62, 63
„ (FRUIT)	51	„ OPIUM	63, 64
CRANESBILL (MEADOW)	18, 19	PRIMROSE	31
CROCUS	100	PRIVET	41, 42
CUCKOO-PINT	61	RHODODENDRON	73, 74
DAFFODIL	37	ROSE, WILD	6, 7, 8, 9, 10
DAHLIA	43, 44	SLOE, OR BLACKTHORN	65
DAISY, OX-EYE	11	SWEET PEA	20, 21
DANDELION	33, 34, 35	SYCAMORE	85, 86, 87
FUCHSIA	75, 76	TEASEL	70, 71, 72
GLADIOLUS	45, 46	VIOLET	59
GOAT'S-BEARD	63	WOOD SORREL	77
		WOODY NIGHTSHADE	22