

THE ART AND MYSTIQUE OF NEEDLEMAKING

1785-1991

By Peter Collins



Papering and labelling needles, Abel Morrall workshop, c.1915

A rare insight into the detailed, fascinating and arduous process of making needles. It has evolved over the centuries from the very simple thorn to a sophisticated needle of today. The family of Abel Morrall were leading needlemakers in Warwickshire and their inquiring minds led to inventing new machinery during the industrial revolution, thus handing down their skills through four generations. This story encompasses the lives of this family and their business, the development of the industry, the introduction of new products and the people involved in this labour intensive work.

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