

BRITISH CAST-IRON FIREBACKS

of the 16th to mid 18th Centuries

JEREMY HODGKINSON

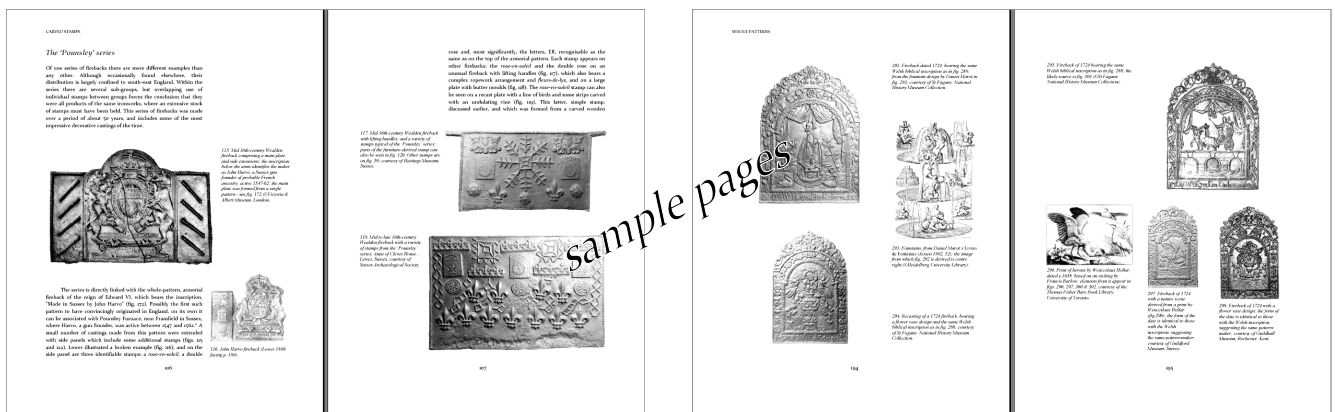
Illustrated with more than 300 photographs

THE FIRST BOOK ABOUT BRITISH FIREBACKS

Describes their development and variety and explains the decoration to be found on them

Often passing un-noticed at the rear of fireplaces, firebacks began to be made in Britain in the first half of the sixteenth century. Their decoration provides us with a reflection of the social history of the times in which they were made, whether in the heraldry of royalty and the landed class, the religious and political turmoil of the Stuart period, or the beginnings of the Enlightenment and the rediscovery of classical literature.

Fully illustrated with more than 300 photographs, this, the first book on British firebacks, sets out to explore their development and variety, and to provide interpretation, where possible, of the decoration to be found on them. The illustrations are to scale so the relative sizes of firebacks can be compared, and there is a comprehensive gazetteer with full details of each fireback shown.



Jeremy Hodgkinson is a retired schoolmaster who has written and lectured on the iron industry in south-east England for 30 years. His first book, The Wealden Iron Industry, was published in 2008.

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