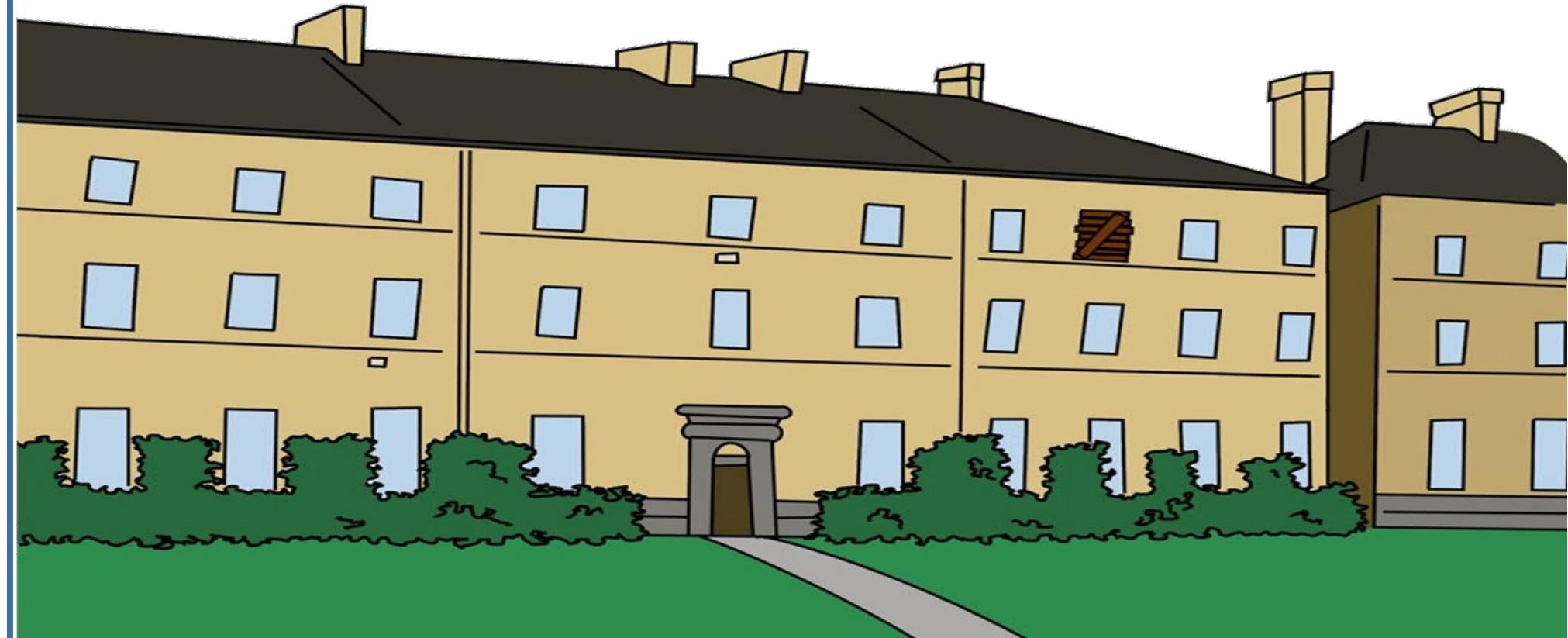


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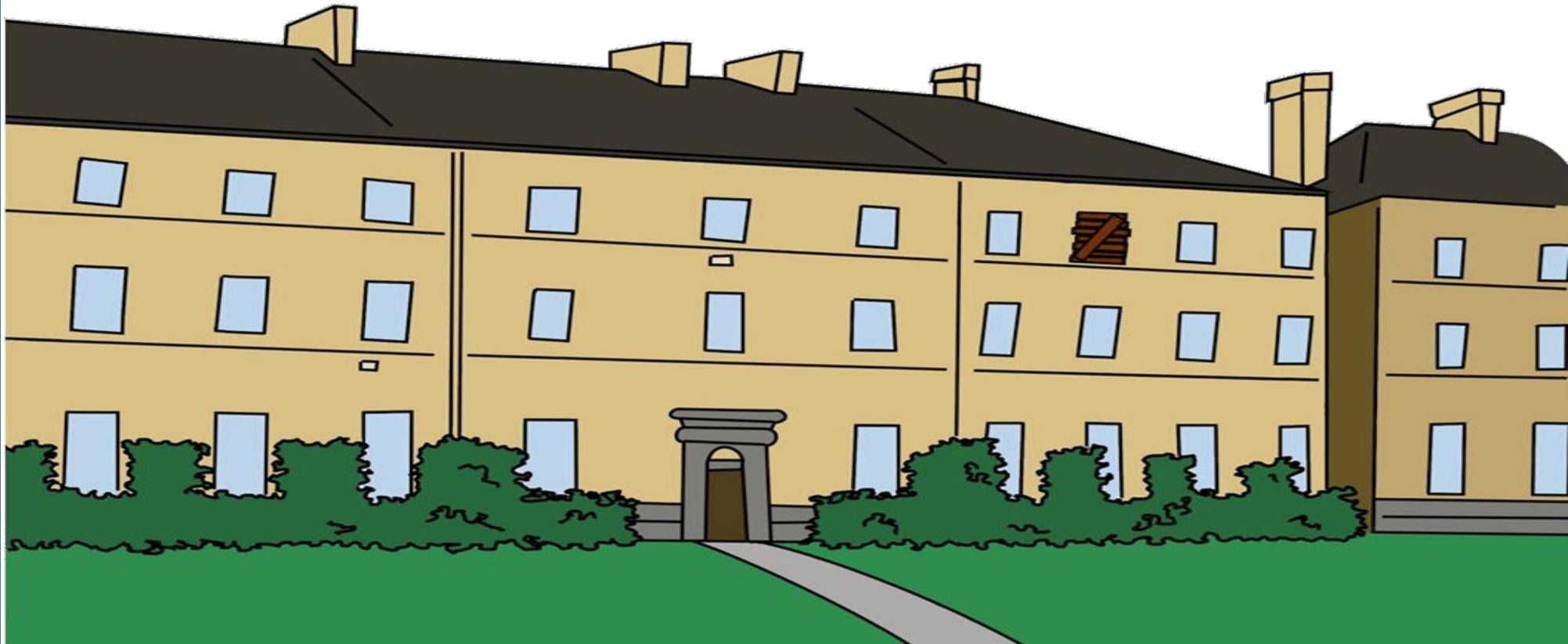
*Presents*

"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



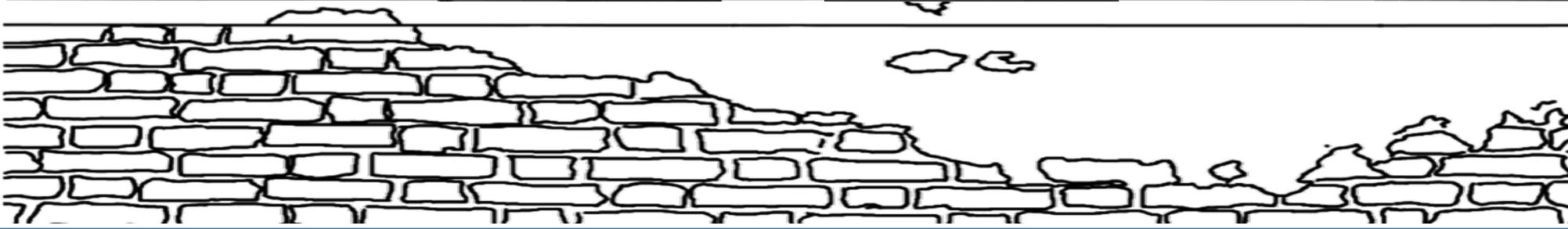
# Baker Street Elementary

The Life and Times in Victorian London  
# ABO19 -- Victorian Fireplaces -- February, 2022

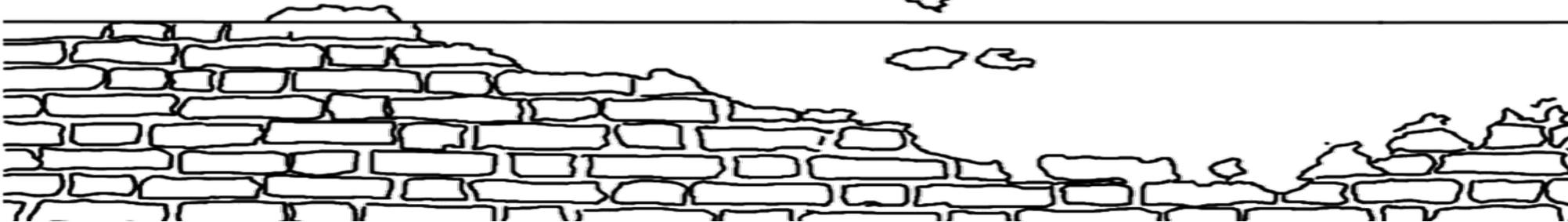




*Welcome to topic # AB019...  
Today, we will look at fireplaces  
during the Victorian period.*



*In Victorian England, central heating was a distant dream in the future although steam heating was invented in 1850.*



*Most Victorian houses  
were heated by  
fireplaces burning coal  
or logs in every room.*



*Victorian fireplaces were initially made of marble or slate but later cast iron frames became popular and had colorful tile insets down either side and a decorative mantelshelf made of slate or pine.*



*Early Victorian fireplaces had floral patterns in the iron casting but by late Victorian times the iron fireplaces were plainer with simple lines.*



*Cheaper homes had mantels made of wood or slate and had them painted to look like marble in order to impress visiting guests.*



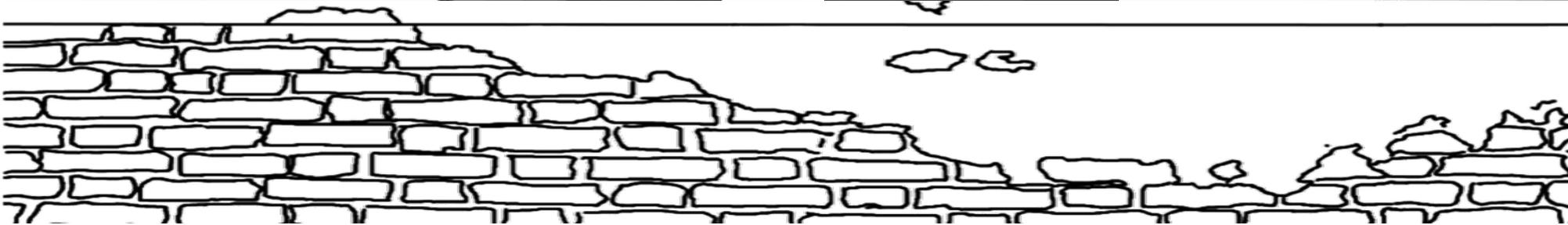
*Generally Victorian fireplaces reflected the style of the home, with grander houses having some very ornate and lovely fireplaces.*



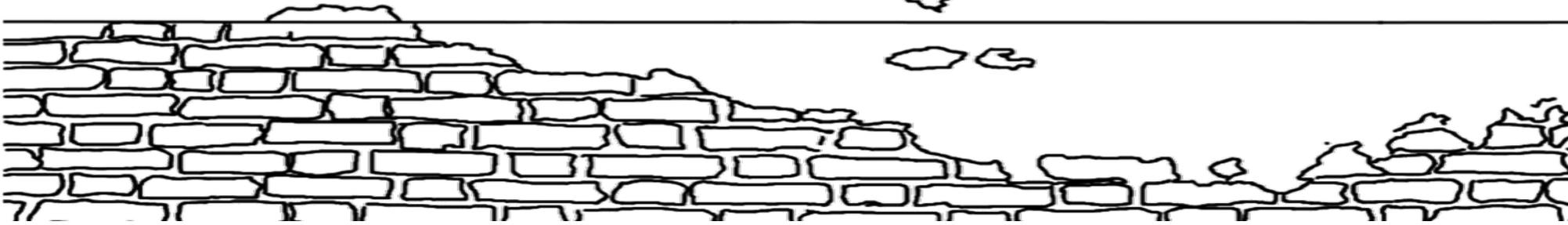
*Furnishings and architecture during the Victorian era gradually changed and became Gothic Revival and this also influenced the style of fireplaces.*



*Generally large and covered with grand ornamentation, they began to incorporate heraldry, tracery and medieval styles.*



*The later Arts and Crafts movement in late Victorian times also imitated similar techniques.*



*Some Victorian fireplaces had a rather ecclesiastical look with a pointed inner arch above the fire, rather like a church window.*



*The fireplaces were extremely imposing but fortunately, Victorian homes generally had large rooms with high ceilings so the fireplaces did not look too out of place.*



*Some old Victorian houses may still have their original fireplaces.*



*The antique marble and carved wood designs show how talented craftsmen were at creating such beautiful workmanship.*



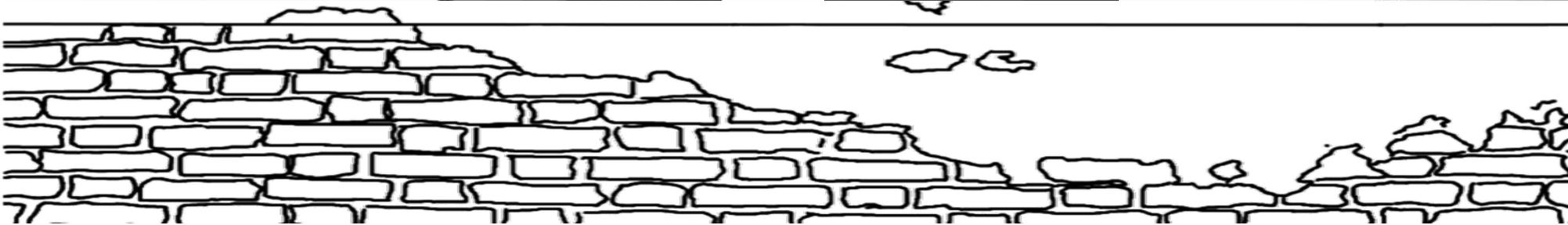
*Heavy metal firebacks were used in later times to radiate the heat out into the room and were also used as decoration.*

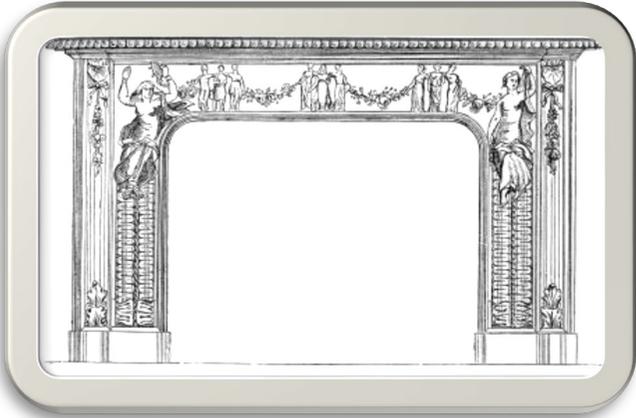


*Along with Victorian  
fireplaces, fire screens were  
the focal point of any room in  
the house.*



*The ladies of the house would show off their embroidery and tapestry skills by embroidering fire screens and many of them were works of art.*





*The frames and feet of fire screens were carved from satinwood, rosewood or mahogany and supported screens made of fabric, stained glass or papier-maché.*

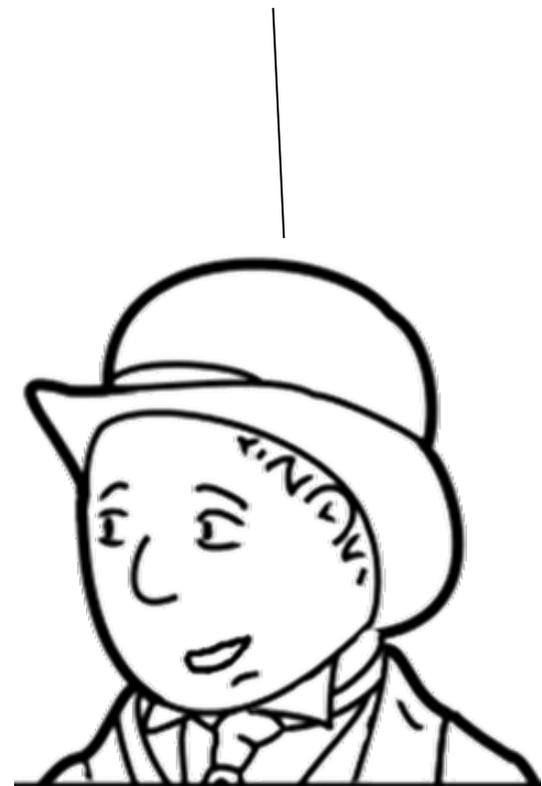


*Other collectables  
associated with Victorian  
fireplaces include log boxes,  
often made of brass;...*





*...fire dogs that cradle logs  
and accelerate burning;  
pokers, bellows, coal tongs  
and tool stands.*



*Again, thanks to AboutBritain.com  
for their help... So we have  
completed topic # AB019 in our  
series...*

*Yes, but we'll be back  
with another topic  
soon...*





**Original Source Material for this topic:**

1) <https://www.aboutbritain.com/articles/victorian-fireplaces.asp>



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IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

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