



ANDIRONS or DOGS c1350

...were wrought iron bars used to support the ends of large logs and help them burn on a flat hearth.



BASKET GRATE c1450

Not for wood, but used to give coal the free access to air it needs to burn, this cast-iron replica has the rivets and chamfering of the wrought-iron original.



DOG GRATE c1500

A fire basket supported on a pair of 'Dogs' becomes a Dog Grate.



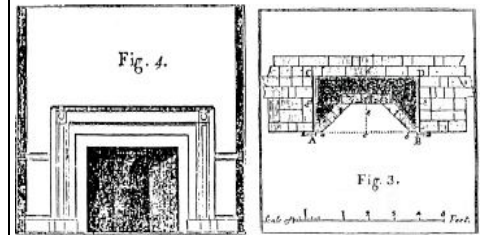
HOB GRATE c1700

Abraham Derby's cheap Coalbrookdale iron made built-in ('registered') grates with cooking hobs to each side a popular choice.



PENNSYLVANIA FIREPLACE c1740

Benjamin Franklin popularised this free-standing cast-iron fireplace which radiated heat from all sides - the ancestor of modern stoves.



RUMFORD FIREPLACE c1780

Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, invented the inset open fire with a tapered heavy masonry back to radiate heat forward - a design still used.



KITCHENER RANGE c1830

A 'range' is a collection of cooking appliances. William Flavel of Leamington was first to put ovens, grill and hotplates together into one unit.



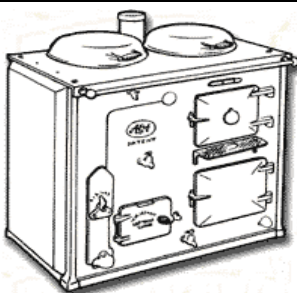
BAR FRONT REGISTER FIREPLACE

These 19thC cast-iron inserts were often decorated with tiles, or made in tiny versions for bedrooms



FRENCH PORTABLE STOVE c1900

The need for clean heat in cities brought about these anthracite-burning stoves which could be pushed in front of an old open fireplace.



FREE-STANDING COOKER

Stand-alone cookers started to appear in the 1820's. A century later companies like Esse introduced insulated heat-storage models



COMBINATION GRATE c1900

These combined open fire, oven and boiler, were occasionally built 'back-to-back' with the fire in one room, the cooker part in the kitchen behind



BARLESS FIRE c1920

A household centrepiece until the 1970's, tiled fireplaces, still with Rumford's fireback, had a lower fire and an air-restricting front to improve efficiency

Some images from www.galleryfireplaces.co.uk , www.sidneyflavel.co.uk , www.c20fires.co.uk

Considerable care should be taken in bringing an old appliance back into use - even in perfect order they are unlikely to be as safe as modern models. A surprising variety of spare parts are still available for old fires. Broken castings can rarely be repaired, but making a new casting using a mould taken from the original part is surprisingly inexpensive. Re-enamelling can be done, and old colours reproduced, but is expensive. Lost firebricks can often be replaced using a 'mouldable firebrick' compound, and seals restored with fire cement. The traditional lustrous black finish for ironwork can be reproduced using graphite polish.