



19th Century Antique

A superb early 19th century Regency neoclassical black marble chimneypiece in the manner of Charles H Tatham (1772-1842), of bold, simple but opulent design. The jambs in the form of acanthus decorated consoles with heavy rounded shoulders upheld by lions paw feet derived from ancient sarcophagus supports. See following page for further details on Tatham.

Dimensions

Height 49½in (124.9cm) width 62¾in (159.4cm)

Internal height 37½in (95.3cm) width 43¼in (109.9cm)

Footblock to footblock 62½in (158cm)

Shelf depth 17½in (43.7cm)

Reference

I107

Further details

Henry Holland (1745-1806), architect to the Prince of Wales had sent the young Tatham to Italy in the 1790s to gather material for the interiors and furnishings of Carlton House, London and he was among the first to apply antique forms rigorously to contemporary furniture. Tatham's *Etchings of Ancient Ornamental Architecture*, first published in 1799-1800 (reprinted 1803 and 1810), was a major source book. Based on excavations at Pompeii, Tivoli and Rome, it enjoyed immediate success providing exemplars for neoclassical decoration.

Literature: D Udy, 'The Neo-Classicism of Charles Heathcote Tatham', *The Connoisseur*, CLXXVII, August 1971