

Portman

The intricately carved decoration on this chimneypiece illustrates Robert Adam's repertoire of neoclassical motifs and his characteristic delicacy. Adam's aim, in his own words, was 'to transfuse the beautiful spirit of antiquity with novelty and variety'. The Adam style, which swept through England during the 1760s and 1770s, quickly spread to France and the USA and is still fashionable today.

Dimensions

External height 61½ in (155.5cm) width 75½ in (191.2cm) Internal height 45½ in (114.5cm) width 55½ in (116cm) Depth 10 in (25.5cm)

