

19TH CENTURY FRENCH CAST IRON FIREBACK WITH CROWNED COAT OF ARMS

$1,400

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Categories: Fireplace Decor

Rich in heraldic detail and architectural presence, this substantial antique French fireback would make a striking focal point in a fireplace, behind a stove, or incorporated as a decorative kitchen backsplash. Crafted in France circa 1870, the heavy cast iron plaque is modeled after an earlier 18th-century heraldic design and bears the raised date “1722” across the upper field.

At the center is a large crowned coat of arms, or blason, surmounted by an elaborate royal-style crown accented with a prominent fleur-de-lis. The shield is decorated with three stylized hunting horns arranged in a traditional heraldic composition. Surrounding the crest are deeply cast branches of foliage with fruit and acorn-like details, tied together at the base with a ribbon, creating a balanced and highly sculptural frame around the central arms.

The relief casting is especially crisp and dimensional, with strong modeling throughout the crown, shield and botanical ornament. A raised molded border follows the distinctive architectural outline of the plaque and further emphasizes its substantial scale.

The reverse retains an untouched oxidized surface consistent with age, while the front displays a rich dark iron patina that highlights the depth of the relief. The fireback is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use.

Dimensions: 26.25" W x 24.5" H.
Weight: 106 lbs.

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