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GCSE

HISTORY

**Paper 2 Section B/D: Restoration England,
1660–1685**

8145/2B/D

Interpretations Booklet

INTERPRETATION A for use in answering Question 01

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INTERPRETATION A

An interpretation of London after the Fire of 1666.

Adapted from an article by Liza Picard, in 'Restoration London', 1997.

London was always a fire risk but had never suffered such a catastrophe before. Over 200,000 Londoners lost their homes so they camped in fields, moved to the suburbs, or emigrated. There were grand plans to rebuild London completely and the King promised, 'a new more beautiful city.' 5

However business owners wanted to get the city back to work as soon as possible. Therefore Parliament passed two Acts, one of which set up Fire courts and the other was the Rebuilding Act. In less than 10 years a new city had been created despite the difficulties of clearing the ruined buildings using only people and horses. 10

END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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