Explore Victorian Britain and the Industrial Revolution. Was Britain the world's superpower during Queen Victoria's reign? During the Victorian era, Britain could claim to be the world's superpower, despite social inequality at home and burgeoning industrial rivals overseas. How did it happen? On this page.

Naval supremacy. Victoria's empire. Industrial Revolution. Civic engagement. the context of Victorian British design culture. By way of conclusion, the paper draws out what this narrative of The Grammar of Ornament says more generally about how we approach transnationality, and specifically transnational space, through things and material culture. View.

Professor Ananya Roy of UC Berkeley calls it a "fantastic book," and in many ways this is the best description of it. Museums are, unquestionably, among the most Victorian of institutions, monuments to their age and "master pattern[s]" of its cultural logics. Their edifices provide living tributes to the nineteenth-century projects of liberal reform, urban government, and imperial engagement. Their holdings offer lasting reminders of the Victorian preoccupations with collection and classification.

The visitors' book occupied a central place in the hotel and inn culture of Victorian Britain and Ireland, reflecting intertwined legal regimes and leisure practices that created distinctive space for inscription in, and reading of, the volume—acts that were portrayed as unique to the travel cultures of the United Kingdom. Contemporary commentators, while playfully critiquing vulgar "inn verse," nonetheless lamented its displacement by prescriptive regimes of guest registration, which marked intensifying corporate and continental influences over what they regarded as singular practices associated with British and Irish traveling culture. Indeed the social and cultural history of the visitors' book offers a window onto travel performances, the liminality of hotel and inn space, distinctive features of the Law of Innkeepers in the Anglo-American legal tradition, and contests over status and taste as guests placed their imprimatur on places of high physical circulation and social fluidity.