In a large Country House the washing, drying and ironing of bed linen, table cloths and towels together with the clothing of the family and servants was a considerable task. This sometimes required up to four laundry women working 6 days a week. Equipment typically included boiling coppers, iron-heating stoves or grates and heated drying closets or rooms. Then came hand-operated mangles and then various steam and later electrical laundry apparatus.
The laundry at Carberry Tower, Midlothian

The ironing room at Carberry with its ironing machine
(CIBSE Heritage Group Collection)
A Victorian Trade Card
Laundry at Castle Ward, County Down, 19th century
“Home Comfort,” Christina Hardyment, National Trust, 1992
(CIBSE Heritage Group Collection)

The Laundry at Petworth House, Sussex, c.1890
Laundry Room at Tullynally Castle, Eire (tullynally website)

Drying closets in Victorian Laundry at Berrington Hall, Worcs (Hardyment)
The Drying Room at Biltmore, North Carolina
Clothes racks were slid into heated chambers
(CIBSE Heritage Group Collection)

The Drying Room at Hill of Tarvit, Fife: “The Last Country Houses”