

The Industrial Revolution, first coined by the English economic historian Arnold Toynbee to describe Britain's economic development from 1760 to 1840, brought about significant changes in the field of masonry. The Industrial Revolution revolutionized masonry with the introduction of steam-powered machinery, the production of uniform bricks, and the invention of cement, enabling the construction of taller and more elaborate buildings. Also during this era, cement was first developed by Joseph Aspdin, a 19th-century British stonemason, who heated a mix of ground limestone and clay in his kitchen stove, then pulverized the concoction into a fine powder, according to the history of cement as outlined by U.S. cement and building supplier CEMEX. Brick kiln technology improved, allowing for bricks to be harder and denser, which gave the modernized bricks a structural advantage over the softer bricks of the previous eras. Portland Cement, named after its resemblance to Portland stone quarried on England's Isle of Portland, was the world's first hydraulic cement, as it hardened when water was added and led to the development of reinforced concrete. Architecture changed in response to the new industrial landscape.