



ABRAHAM DARBY III



EARLY LIFE

Abraham Darby III was born on 24 April 1750 in Coalbrookdale, Shropshire, England. He was part of a famous family known for their work in iron and engineering. His grandfather, Abraham Darby I, was a pioneer in using coke instead of charcoal to make iron. This made the Darby family very important in the history of the Industrial Revolution.

FAMILY AND EDUCATION

As a young boy, Abraham learned about ironworking from his family. He was taught how to manage the furnaces and mould iron into useful shapes. His father, Abraham Darby II, ran the family's ironworks in Coalbrookdale, and Abraham III worked closely with him. Through hard work and curiosity, he gained the skills needed to carry on his family's legacy.

THE IRON BRIDGE

One of Abraham's greatest achievements was building the world's first iron bridge. By the late 1700s, the River Severn in Shropshire was a busy waterway. People needed a strong bridge to cross it. Abraham and his team decided to build the bridge out of iron, which was a brand-new idea at the time.

The bridge, known simply as "The Iron Bridge," was completed in 1781. It was made from 378 tonnes of iron and was a major engineering breakthrough. The bridge proved that iron could be used to build large and sturdy structures. It became a symbol of the Industrial Revolution and is still standing today.

A LASTING LEGACY

Abraham Darby III did more than just build a bridge. His work helped to change how people used materials like iron in construction. The Iron Bridge inspired other engineers to use iron in buildings, railways, and other projects.

He was also known for being kind to his workers and treating them fairly. He believed that everyone should be able to work in safe conditions. Abraham Darby III died on 31 March 1789, but his contributions to engineering and industry continue to inspire people all over the world.



CONCLUSION

Abraham Darby III played a key role in shaping the world we live in today. His innovation and leadership made a lasting impact on engineering and construction. When you see a bridge made of steel or iron, remember the work of this remarkable man from Shropshire.

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[Abraham Darby III Facts for kids](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. Where and when was Abraham Darby III born?
2. What was the main material used to build The Iron Bridge?
3. Why was The Iron Bridge important during the Industrial Revolution?
4. What did Abraham Darby III learn as a young boy from his family?
5. How did Abraham Darby III treat his workers, and why was this significant?