



Iron Men

How One London Factory Powered the Industrial Revolution and Shaped the Modern World

David Waller

Pub Date: 22 April 2019

BISAC CATEGORY:

Binding: Paperback

HISTORY / Europe / Great Britain /

Price: £14.99 / \$25.95 **ISBN:** 9781783089611

General TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING / History,

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS /

Economic History

BISAC CODE: HIS015000

BIC CODE: HBTK

Extent: 250 pages RIGHTS

Size: 153 x 229 mm /

Exclusive: WORLD

6 x 9 inches

The remarkable story of Henry Maudslay – the ambitious engineering innovator who made the Industrial Revolution possible

Our image of the industrial revolution is dominated by the North and the Midlands. ... But as ... David Waller argues, the really pioneering work was done in London. Waller describes the work of Henry Maudslay, who opened a factory in Lambeth in 1810.'—The Telegraph

One of the best books on engineering history to be published in many a moon'. -Nick Smith, Engineering & Technology magazine

'With wit, assurance and dexterity, Iron Men captures the ingenuity, determination and defiance of a small group of Britons whose inventions made their country the epicentre of technology. The early nineteenth-century inventors, who created the automatic spinning mule, devised the micrometer, standardized the manufacturing of screws and bolts and concocted the steam engine, had an influence as widespread as that enjoyed today by companies in Silicon Valley and China. David Waller has composed an absorbing tale of man's ability to create a lot from a little.'—Sir Michael Moritz, Chairman, Sequoia Capital

'[David Waller] concentrates on London's role in the industrial revolution and machine tool inventor Henry Maudslay, one of its linchpins. ... He shows how Maudslay's factory in Lambeth, established in 1810, inspired and informed a generation of engineers and enabled the industrial revolution by standardising parts and creating reliable machines to make them.'—The Financial Times

'David Waller has done us a great favour in highlighting Maudslay's boundless creativity and energy and reveals him as the mentor and inspiration to a generation of talented engineers who changed the world.'—Lord Norman Foster

A nuts and bolts history of engineering enterprise in the first half of the nineteenth century, based on the life and work of Henry Maudslay and his followers

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

David Waller is an author, business consultant and former Financial Times journalist specialising in business and the nineteenth century.

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