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Henry VIII ordered the dissolution of the monasteries



Rievaulx Abbey, Yorkshire, where Bradford University experts will rebuild one of the furnaces and attempt to produce iron there for the first time in 450 years

# Henry 'stamped out Industrial Revolution'

Scientists will today aim to prove that monks at Rievaulx were about to produce cast iron on a large scale. David Derbyshire reports

THE turbulent love life of Henry VIII, which led to the Reformation and dissolution of the monasteries, is one of study, contemplation, prayer and bee-keeping, the reality of medieval

## How a blast furnace works

between the idea that the blast furnace equalled cast iron," he said. "Now there is evidence that cast

monasteries broke up this network of technology transfer. "They had the potential to move