FAQ's

1. What are the Characteristics of city and factory town?

The steam railroad extended its rails from raw products to the factory, and to the cities of consumers all over the land. Every amenity of urban life was sacrificed to the requirements of industrial production. Railroads and ships joined at the factories, and the waterfront became the industrial core of the city. The impact of industrial revolution was first felt in England the new industrial economy brought with it greater exploitation of the poor and with that the new slums.

What could be called mechanical slums, row upon row of crowded workers houses in the shadow of the factory, were added to the traditional slums. The degraded environment of the factory town hung like a cloud over urban life for the next century and a half. Among the slums of the 19th C factory town, the 2 storey row houses predominated stretching in long rows with small backyards and narrow streets, with dreary living conditions.

2. What new typologies of buildings emerged as a result of Industrial Revolution?

Toward the latter half of the eighteenth century, particularly in America, the city as a setting for commerce assumed primacy. The buildings of the bourgeoisie expand along with their owners' prosperity: banks, office buildings, warehouses, hotels, and small factories. New towns founded during this period were conceived as commercial enterprises, and the neutral grid was the most effective means to divide land up into parcels for sale. The city became a checkerboard on which players speculated on shifting land values.

3. What was the role of technological innovations in Industrial Cities?

Technological innovations poured forth, many with profound impacts on urban form. Railroad tracks were driven into the heart of the city. Internal transportation systems greatly expanded the radius of urban settlement: horsecars beginning in the 1830s, cable cars in the 1870s, and electric trolleys in the 1880s. In the 1880s, the first central power plants began providing electrical power to urban areas. The rapid communication provided by the telegraph and the telephone allowed formerly concentrated urban activities to disperse across a wider field. During the 1890s electric trolleys and elevated rapid transit lines proliferated, providing cheap urban transportation for the majority of the population. The central business district of the city underwent a radical transformation with the development of the skyscraper between 1870 and 1900. These tall buildings were not technically feasible until the invention of the elevator and steelframe construction methods

4. Discuss the effects of Industrial Revolution on Manchester.

Manchester, England is widely known as an illustrative example of the industrial revolution, from the positive aspects of economic growth and technological advances to the more negative qualities associated, like overcrowding and social stratification. How does a city become such an industrial powerhouse in relatively short period of time? From a climate conducive to the cotton trade to existing canals and transportation mechanisms, Manchester was primed to become an efficient industrial city once cotton mill technology caught up to the existing infrastructure. Manchester and its upper class quickly prospered, and separated themselves from the

newly developed and rapidly growing working class. The social stratification was epic, as was the overcrowding. Working conditions were abysmal, inspiring scholars at the time to write several now-famous works critiquing the working conditions and the working class' plight.