



SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

Volume 45

Summer 2016

Number 3

KANSAS CITY SIA 45TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

Nearly 120 SIA members converged on Kansas City, Mo. for the 45th Annual Conference, June 2–5, 2016. Initially called “The Town of Kansa” after the Kansa tribe of Native Americans, the city was officially incorporated in 1853. Located near the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers, the city initially prospered due to its strategic location relative to the river trade, outfitting wagon freighting for the Santa Fe and Oregon trails, and supplying local ranchers, farmers, and millers. With the construction of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad Bridge across the Missouri in 1869, Kansas City became a major player in the livestock industry. Upon this foundation, other industries were attracted to the city. Businesses involved in automobile manufacturing, aircraft production, metal products, paper products, and food and spirits were among those visited during our conference tours.

By the 1880s, ten rail lines delivered stock and freight to Kansas City. Our high-rise conference hotel, the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, offered panoramic views of

the historic industrial buildings and warehouses that make up the Crossroads Freight House District. It is immediately adjacent to the magnificent **Union Station** of 1914, an active Amtrak station that also houses a science museum and history exhibits.

The conference followed a traditional SIA format of Thursday pre-tours and opening reception; Friday industrial process and site tours, followed by an evening film festival; Saturday paper sessions, business meeting, and evening banquet; and Sunday post-tours.

Cydney Millstein [SIA] deserves praise and thanks for her pivotal role in organizing the Annual Conference. Cydney did a fantastic job showcasing Kansas City’s industrial history. She was assisted by Julie Blair, SIA’s Events Coordinator, and a host of local volunteers and sponsoring organizations (see Annual Business Meeting minutes in this issue).

This year’s conference featured an active social media effort through Twitter, moderated by SIA Director Saul Tannenbaum. The social media generated by SIA members

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Nathan Holth

Waddell's A-Frame Bridge.

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- Duncan Hay Receives General Tools Award
- Sean Gohman—2016 Vogel Prize Recipient
- Minutes of the 2016 Annual Business Meeting

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CALENDAR

2016

Oct. 19-22: Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM) Annual Conference, Dayton, Ohio. Tours of gristmills and other historic sites in the Miami Valley. Info: www.spoom.org.

Oct. 23: GREAT FALLS SYMPOSIUM ON THE INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY OF THE NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY AREA, PATERSON, N.J. 36th annual event held by the SIA Roebing Chapter. Info: www.roebingsia.org.

Oct. 28-30: SIA FALL TOUR, FOX RIVER VALLEY, WIS. Info: www.sia-web.org.

Oct. 29: Conversations Northeast, Center for Railroad Photography & Art and University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn. See article in this issue. Info: www.railphoto-art.org.

Oct. 30-Nov. 2: Assn. for Preservation Technology International Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas. Info: www.apti.org.

Nov. 12: Tide Mill Institute Annual Conference, Boston, Mass. Presentations and tours at the Metropolitan Waterworks Museum. Info: www.tidemillinstitute.org/47.html.

Nov. 15-18: National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference, Houston, Texas. Info: <http://pastforwardconference.org/pastforward2016/>.

2017

Jan. 4-8: Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Fort Worth, Texas. Info: <http://sha.org/conferences/>.

Apr. 19-22: National Council on Public History Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, Ind. Info: <http://ncph.org/conference/2017-annual-meeting/>.

May 11-13: 1st International Early Engines Conference, Elsecar, South Yorkshire, England. See article in this issue. Info: www.earlyengines.org.

May 18-21: SIA 46th ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HOUSTON, TEX. Watch future issues for updates. Info: www.sia-web.org.

May 31-June 3: Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah. Info: www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org.

June 1-4: Railway & Locomotive Historical Society Annual Meeting, Stamford, Conn. Info: www.rlhs.org.

June 7-11: Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, U.K. Info: www.sah.org/conferences-and-programs/2017-conference-glasgow.

June 15-19: Mining History Association Annual Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska. Info: www.mininghistoryassociation.org.

July 23-29: International Assn. for Caribbean Archaeology Biennial Conference, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Covers all archeology from prehistoric through colonial to WWII. Info: www.stcroixarchaeology.org/iaca.html.

Oct. 4-7: Society for Commercial Archeology Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio. Info: www.sca-roadside.org.