



# SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Volume 24

1995

Number 1

1995 Fall Tour, Oct. 4-8, N.S. Museum of Industry

## ***Nova Scotia offers SIA spectacular tours & tides***



**PROCESS-TOUR SITES ON THE SIA 1995 FALL TOUR.**

*Above: The massive Granton Plant of Michelin Tire. Michelin Tire photo.*

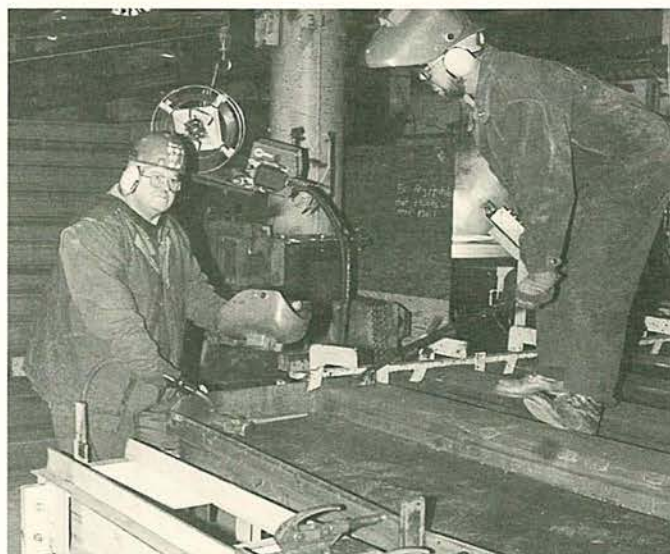
*Above right: Scott Paper, giant producer of kraft paper. Photo courtesy of Nova Scotia Museum of Industry.*



Coming up fast on the SIA calendar is the Society's Fall Tour, Oct. 4-8, in Nova Scotia, where it will be sponsored by the newly opened **Nova Scotia Museum of Industry (NSMI)**. In the NSMI collections are two of the earliest standard gauge locomotives to operate in North America: the *Samson* (1838) and the *Albion* (1854). The Museum is located on the site of the Albion Coal Mine in Stellarton, Canada's coal-mining center, with its 48-ft.-thick Foord Seam.

In addition to the museum's exhibits, tour registrants will visit:

- The **Canadian Salt Mines**, producer of Sifto Salt, in Pugwash.
- **Seagull Pewter & Silversmith, Ltd.**, makers of fine gift items.
- **Jost Vineyards & Winery** on the shores of the Malagash Peninsula.
- **Stanfield's textile plant**, manufacturer of the world's first ribbed underwear in 1877.
- **Crossley Carpet Mills**, makers of woven & tufted carpets.
- **I. Matheson**, one of the region's oldest operating foundries.
- The huge **Michelin Tire Plant** in Granton.
- **Scott Paper**, eastern Canada's largest producer of kraft paper.
- The works of **Grohmann knives**, where the internationally known knives are handcrafted.
- A boat trip on the scenic East River, stopping at the coal-fired **Nova Scotia Power generating station**, with a 340,000-megawatt capacity.
- **Trenton Works**, exporter of rail cars, with one of the world's largest steel forging presses. Canada's first successful steel production was at the Trenton plant in 1883.



*Inside the Trenton Works, exporter of rail cars. Photo courtesy of Nova Scotia Museum of Industry.*

Friday's lunch will be at a restaurant with a view of the 49-ft. **Fundy tides**, surging up the mouth of the river as the famous white tidal bore.

The Oct. dates are at the height of fall foliage color.

For additional info., contact Denise Taylor at NSMI, P.O. Box 2590, 147 N. Foord St., Stellarton, N.S., Canada B0K 1S0 (902-755-5425, fax 755-7045).



# Last chance for awesome Panama Canal tour in January



Above: In 1914 the *U.S. Grant* becomes the first ship to transit the new Canal.

Below: One up and one down at Miraflores Locks in the 1970s. All photos courtesy of Smithsonian Institution.



Left: A double-headed mule—lock locomotion in the 1950s.

Below: The Bridge of the Americas in the 1960s.



A few seats remain available for the SIA's foreign study tour to the Panama Canal, Jan. 20-27, 1996.

Some 40 SIA members will inspect one of the world's great engineering marvels and observe its momentous ownership transfer from the U.S. to Panama. The tour will be 82 years after its 1914 completion and 4 years before the big change.

Even if you missed earlier study tours to the Yukon and to England and Wales, think twice before passing up this week-long stay on and around the Canal in the dead of the North American winter. Participants will have exclusive access to onshore lockage systems, repair facilities, and the insights of seasoned American and Panamanian engineers.

By special arrangement with the Panama Canal Commission, the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, and the skills of Academic Travel Abroad, SIA members are unlikely ever again to have such a low-cost opportunity for total access to the gargantuan workings of the Panama Canal.

*Daily tour highlights include:*

**Sat. (Jan. 20):** Arrival from Miami airport.

**Sun.:** Visit Canal HQ at Balboa Hts; inspect the Pacific Ocean entry at the Miraflores Locks, where ships rise 54 ft.; cross the Bridge of the Americas to Contractors Hill & Gaillard Cut.

**Mon.:** Transit the isthmus to the Atlantic lockage and great Gatun Dam, largest earthen dam of its day, backing up the Chagres River; visit machine shops & equip. depots of the Industrial Div.

**Tues.:** Presentations by Canal Commission, officials and others.

**Weds.:** Visit Barro Colorado, island preserve created by Canal's inundation of the rain forest, and view dredging in Gaillard Cut; possibly view great floating crane *Hercules*; visit French cemetery.

**Thurs.:** Day-long tour of Panama City IA—bridges, cast-iron.

**Fri.:** The main event—a full ocean-to-ocean Canal transit on a special boat to fully experience this great engineering achievement.

Is it worth \$1,750? Said one woman who works for the Canal Commission, "Even those of us who live right next to the Canal and have seen it many times still thrill at its operation."

Dig it now, or forever wish you had. Call 1-800-556-7896.

*D.H.S.*

Below: Digging through the Continental Divide, about 1910.





# Calif. RR Museum, Knight Foundry, host SIA in '96

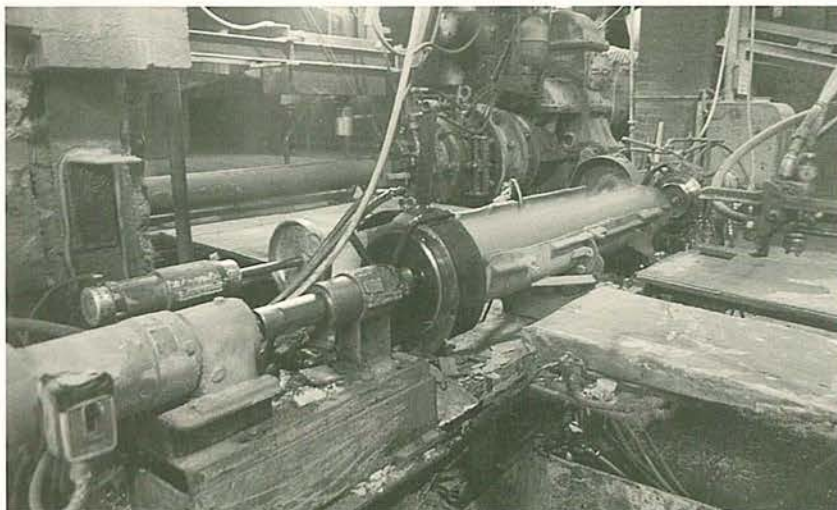
Mark your 1996 calendars now for May 30 through June 2, when the SIA holds its 25th Annual Conference in California. This is the Society's first annual meeting west of the Rockies. The California State Railroad Museum and Historic Knight Foundry are co-hosting the event. Headquarters will be in Sacramento, with events at the RR Museum there and at the foundry's Sutter Creek site. Organizers are highlighting the region's historic and contemporary industries.

Historic Knight Foundry was established in 1873 to supply local gold mines with machinery and repairs. Its premier products were its water wheels, including the Knight wheel, a forerunner of the Pelton wheel, and associated water-control accessories. Today the Knight site is the nation's last known operating waterpowered foundry and machine shop. It is listed on the National Register and is a California Historic Landmark and a Natl. Mechanical Engineering Landmark. Tools include a seven-foot radial-arm drill press, planers, engine lathes, and pit lathes, some of which were produced on site by Knight. In addition to site tours, Knight regularly offers hands-on workshops.

A major process-tour site will be the 411-acre clay-products plant of Gladding McBean in Lincoln, about 30 miles northeast of Sacramento. Clay sewer pipe, the firms's first product, remains a principal item today, although the company is more widely known for its architectural terra cotta. In 1884 Gladding McBean became the first manufacturer of architectural terra cotta west of Chicago. GMcB also makes roofing tiles, floor tiles, flue liners, bricks, and garden pottery from local clay.

*Below:* A forming machine for 8-in. clay sewer pipe at Gladding McBean, Lincoln, Calif., a major 1996 Annual Conf. tour site. Six-ft. lengths of pipe are extruded, formed, & trimmed at 3-4/min. rate.

*Below right:* Sam Thompson, a volunteer with Friends of Knight Foundry, demonstrates the 1882 planer following the foundry's dedication as a Natl. Mechanical Engineering Landmark in Feb. 1995. *Duncan Hay photos.*



An early view of Knight Foundry in Sutter Creek, California. Knight will co-host the SIA's 1996 Annual Conference. *Photo courtesy of Knight Foundry.*

If enough prospective conference attendees indicate interest, Knight Foundry will schedule its Industrial Living History Workshops before and after the conference (May 24-26 and June 7-9). Each three-day workshop includes an overview of 19th-century manufacturing processes; intensive sessions in the foundry and in the machine, blacksmith, and pattern shops; and cupola furnace preparation and pour. Knight encourages participants to produce castings that they may require for their own projects. Workshop students have made replacement parts for engines and tractors, scale-model parts, and even some artwork, although a special project is not necessary to participate.

For conference information and Knight Foundry workshop materials, contact Ed Arata, Knight Foundry, POB 158, Sutter Creek CA 95685 (209-267-5543).





## CALENDAR

**Oct. 4-8: SIA FALL TOUR, NOVA SCOTIA MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY.** Info.: Denise Taylor at NSMI, P.O. Box 2590, 147 N. Foord St., Stellarton, N.S., Canada B0K 1S0 (902-755-5425, fax 755-7045). *See front page story, this issue.*

**Oct. 11-15:** 49th Natl. Pres. Conf., Natl. Trust for Hist. Pres., Ft. Worth, Tex. Info. & registration materials: Conf. Regis. '95, NTHP, 1785 Mass. Ave. NW, Wash. DC 20036 (1-800-944-6847, fax 202-673-4223).

**Oct. 21-21:** Conf., "The Spans of Time: Historic Metal Truss Bridges in the Modern World," Ithaca, N.Y. Day 1: significance, rehab & adaptive use, state & federal standards, funding, liability. Day 2: case studies of maintenance & restoration. Info.: Historic Ithaca, 120 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca NY 14850 (607-273-6633, fax 273-4816).

**Oct. 23: Roebling Chap./SIA Symposium on Industrial Archeology** (formerly the Drew Symposium), Drew Univ., Madison, N.J. Features Walter Meseck (Meseck Towing & Trans., 1920s-50s), last of the steam tugboat men. Info.: Tom Flagg (201-780-5155; e-mail: 72703.2230@compuserve.com).

## 1996

**Jan. 20-27: SIA Study Tour to Panama Canal.** Info.: 1-800-556-7896. *See story in this issue.*

**May 30-June 2: SIA 25th Annual Conference, Sacramento, California.** Hosted by the Calif. State RR Museum and Historic Knight Foundry. Info.: Ed Arata, Knight Foundry, POB 158, Sutter Creek CA 95685 (209-267-5543). *See story in this issue.*

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE:

Ed Arata, Historic Knight Foundry; Duncan Hay, NPS Museum Services Center, Charlestown, Mass.; David H. Shayt, NMAH, Smithsonian Institution; and Denise Taylor, Nova Scotia Museum of Industry.

With thanks.

## NOTES & QUERIES

**MACON WATERWORKS QUERY.** In 1999 the City of Macon will abandon its c1910 waterworks, including two steam-turbine pumps. Because of its prominent Ocmulgee River bluff site, the works may become a park. Have other communities found new uses for similar buildings? Contact David Farrier, 1103 Corder Rd. #A-3, Warner Robins GA 31088 (912-923-8967; e-mail: d.farrier@genie.geis.com).

**HAMMER QUERY.** "Am seeking info. on the David Maydole Hammer Factory, Norwick, N.Y. In 1843 Maydole invented the adze eye hammer, similar to today's carpenter's claw hammer." Contact James S. Mau, 1453 W. Juanita Ave., Mesa AZ 85202.

**EADS HOUSE THREATENED.** The 1820 birthplace of famed bridge engineer James B. Eads in Lawrenceburg, Ind., is threatened with demolition and the city's Board of Architectural Review seeks support & \$\$\$ to convert it to an Eads museum. Contact LBAR Chair Allan Cornelius, 139 Ridge Ave., Lawrenceburg IN 47025 (812-537-4778).

**GAS & COKE BIBLIO.** Allen W. Hatheway [SIA], prof. of geological engineering, maintains an extensive computerized *Chronology & Bibliography of Mfd. Gas & Coke*, along with photos and related materials, and wishes to correspond with others so interested. A.W. Hatheway, 129 V.H. McNutt Hall, UMR, Rolla MO 65401 (314-341-4777, fax 341-6935).

The *SIA Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Society for Industrial Archeology. It is sent to SIA members, who also receive the Society's journal, *IA*, published annually. SIA promotes the identification, interpretation, preservation, and re-use of historic industrial and engineering sites, structures, and equipment. Annual membership: individual, \$35; couple, \$40; institutions, \$40; contributing, \$60; sustaining, \$125; corporate, \$250; student, \$20. Send check payable to SIA to Treasurer, 203 W. Burlington St., Bordentown NJ. All other business correspondence should be sent to SIA-HQ, Dept. of Social Sciences, Mich. Tech. Univ., 1400 Townsend Dr., Houghton MI 49931. ISSN 0160-1067

Submission deadlines: Feb. 1 (Spring), May 1 (Summer), Aug. 1 (Fall), and Nov. 1 (Winter).

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