GENERAL INTEREST

◆ David Bracken. Manufacturing Jobs Have Disappeared, But Survivors Find Ways to Make It in North Carolina. Charlotte News and Observer (May 26, 2013). Lengthy article features two manufacturers that trace their roots to the 19th century: Council Tool (axes and other tools) and Glen Raven (textiles, particularly fade-resistant fabrics used in convertible tops and awnings).

◆ Knoxville, Tenn., Local Industrial History of the 1930s. The editors of the Knoxville (Tenn.) News (Apr. 29, 2012) must have been feeling nostalgic to run this string of articles on the same day: George Roby Dempster: Inventor, Politician, Civic Leader (remembrance of man who invented the Dempster Dumpster in 1935, revolutionizing trash disposal with standardized containers); McGhee Tyson Airport Marks 75 Years of Service (history of Knoxville’s first commercial flight, 1937); Decade on the Brink: Depression Brings Despair, Change (local impacts of the financial crisis); The Long Fight for Power (impact of the TVA); Norris Dam: Families Uprooted, Jobs Created (TVA dam project).

◆ TICCIH Bulletin No. 57 (3rd Qtr. 2012) includes John Baeten, Archaeologists Document the Klondike Gold Rush (U.S. Forest Service program); Mariano Toerres, La Constancia Mexicana, the Sleeping Beauty of the Mexican Industrial Heritage (restoration of textile mill, built in 1830-34); Stuart Tappin, Can London’s Battersea Power Station Be Preserved? No. 58 (4th Qtr. 2012) includes Robert H. Jimenez and Javier Romero, Necaxa Hydroelectric Power Station (Mexican hydroelectric station called the “cradle of the South American electrical industry”); Adam Hajduga, Aleksandra Iwan, and Jerzy Gorzelik, Industrial Heritage in Danger, Uncertain Future of the Unique Energy Plant in Upper Silesia (Smolbrikeri electric plant in Bytom, Poland, opened in 1920, then Germany); Sanghamitra San, Click, Clack, Ting! The Enchanted Story of the Unique Energy Plant in Upper Silesia (3rd Qtr. 2012) includes Michael Pearson, Industrial Heritage as Memory of the World (document collections related to industry can be nominated to the UNESCO MOW list) and Marion Steiner, What Social Networks Can Do for Industrial Heritage. No. 60 (2nd Qtr. 2013) includes Patrick Martin (SIA), TICCIH Advocacy in Lowell National Historical Park: Pautucket Dam (effort to prevent alterations to the dam’s boardwalk system) (also see SIAN, Spring 2013) and Sarah Mcleod, Managing the Cromford Mill World Heritage Site (the highly significant mill complex in Derbyshire, England, is developing a new master plan to address a financial crisis and outdated interpretation). In addition, all bulletins include a round-up of news of industrial sites, museums, publications, and conferences from around the world. Info: www.ticcih.org.


POWER GENERATION

◆ Ashley Halsey. Aging Power Grid on Overload as U.S. Demands More Electricity. Washington Post (Aug. 1, 2012). Following a windstorm that toppled three aging transmission towers in W.Va., this article reports on the state of a grid that has many components dating from the 1920s to the 1950s.

◆ Carol Lewis. All Fired Up for Regeneration, Power Stations across the UK Are Being Converted into New Homes. The Times (July 12, 2013). Features a half dozen or more power stations and other structures, including gasholders, that have been, or are being, repurposed as residential or commercial properties.


◆ Rahima Schwenkbeck. Eden Electrified: Industrial Utopian Dreams and the Promise of Niagara Falls. Western New York Heritage (Spring 2013), pp. 18-27. This is about utopian plans, not about the actual power plants, but it provides interesting insights into the enthusiasm for electric power in the early 20th century. For example, King Camp Gillette, of razor fame, proposed that Niagara Falls become the headquarters of the World Corporation, which would displace private companies and produce enough of everything for everyone.


◆ Jennifer Young. NC Group Pushes to Save Historic Power Station. Winston-Salem (N.C.) Journal (Jan. 7, 2013). The 1898 Idols Station on the Yadkin River was the first commercial hydroelectric station in N.C. to use long-distance transmission of alternating current. The station closed in 1998 following a fire,
but retains its granite dam, exterior walls, and wood flume and turbines. Preserve Historic Forsyth is looking into alternatives for saving the site and opening it to the public.

**RAILROADS**

- Len Barcousky and Sean D. Hamill. *Locomotive Steams through Downtown Pittsburgh*. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Aug. 12, 2012). The restored Nickel Plate RR No. 765, a 1944 Berkshire class built by the Lima Locomotive Works, has been touring the East Coast and Midwest to help Norfolk Southern celebrate the 30th anniversary of the corporation’s existence as a merged railroad.

- Alyssa Choiniere. *Pinkerton Tunnel Giving Way to History*. Daily American (Somerset, Pa.) (Sept. 20, 2012). Removal of the B&O’s 1877 tunnel and several others as part of the National Gateway project will allow double-stacked container cars to cross the Alleghenies.


- Sam Roberts. *100 Years of Grandeur: The Birth of Grand Central Terminal*. NY Times (Jan. 18, 2013). Celebrating the centennial of what has been described as “the greatest station in the United States.”

- Robert Sharoff. *Home of Chicago Rail Cars Set to Undergo Renovation*. NY Times (Mar. 20, 2012). A series of projects and initiatives by various state agencies and nonprofit groups is breathing new life into Pullman, the National Historic Landmark company town where the Pullman Palace Car Co. built luxury parlor and passenger cars. Some projects focus on preservation, but the largest project, Pullman Park, includes a Walmart, which community groups listed as a top priority due to a lack of affordable shopping.

**WATER TRANSPORT**

- Robert Blyth, Jan Ruger, and Andrew Lambert eds. *The Dreadnought and the Edwardian Age*. Ashgate, 2011. 258 pp., illus. $124.95. Historians reassess the historical context of the HMS Dreadnought from political, cultural, national, and international perspectives.

- Russ Bynum. *Confederate Shipwreck Stalls Port Project*. Navy Times (May 5, 2012). The Army Corps of Engineers is planning a $14 million underwater archeology project to raise the remains of the ironclad CSS Georgia, which was scuttled by Confederate troops in 1864. Now, the shipwreck stands in the way of a $653 million plan to deepen the main river channel that serves the Port of Savannah (tour site—SIA Annual Conference, 1999).

- Dan Chapman. *Georgia’s Rich Maritime History Largely Unknown*. Atlanta Journal-Constution (June 29, 2013). Lengthy feature article discusses some of the better known of the estimated 1,200 shipwrecks off Georgia’s shore. Includes a web link to a location map.

- Brian Gauvin. *Seattle Collection Offers One Man’s History of Marine Propulsion*. Professional Mariner (June-July 2012). Mike Wollaston has a collection of “museum-grade” marine engines stored in a shed on the Lake Washington Ship Canal. He opened the Northwest Marine Propulsion Museum six years ago. All but one of the 25 assembled engines is operable.

- Jack Horan. *Man Pays $20,000 for Abandoned Light Tower*. Charlotte (N.C.) News & Observer (Oct. 8, 2012). A Minnesota businessman purchased the Diamond Shoals Light Tower at auction from the federal government. The tower, erected in 1966, stands 13 miles off Cape Hatteras. The new owner intends to rehabilitate the tower for use as a research center for testing new technologies and materials in an oceanic environment. The government had estimated it would cost $2.3 million to make the deteriorated tower safe and inhabitable.

- Jenny Jones. *Museum Constructed Around Hull of Henry VIII’s Warship*. CE (June 2013), pp. 30-32. Sunk in 1545, rediscovered in 1971, and brought to England’s Portsmouth Historic Dockyard in 1982, the wreck of the Mary Rose underwent a continuous polyethylene glycol spray treatment for the last 10 years to stabilize its timber members. A recently completed museum building was constructed over the 200-year-old dry dock and the 500-year-old ship without interrupting the conservation treatment.


- Jay Landers. *U.S. EPA Proposes Plan for Cleaning Up Long-Polluted Canal In New York City*. CE (March 2013), pp. 24-26. The Environmental Protection Agency has released plans for remediation in Brooklyn’s Gowanus Canal, a heavily industrialized tidal canal that was designated as a federal Superfund site in 1980. The remediation will include a combination of dredging, capping, and in-situ stabilization of existing sediment.

- John Leland. *No City for Old Tankers*. NY Times (Apr. 21, 2012). The financial struggles to keep the historic tanker Mary A. Whalen afloat as a cultural center. The 613-ton ship was launched 74 years ago.

- Martha Quillin. *NC Man Seeks Recognition for WWII Tug Boat, Barge Crews*. Raleigh (N.C.) News & Observer (Sept. 7, 2012). Don Horton of Camden went to work on a barge at the age of 10 in 1942, joining thousands of boys and families who manned tugs and barges carrying supplies between U.S. ports during the war. Conditions aboard were primitive and occasionally dangerous when German subs attacked. He now figures that fewer than 500 people are still living who crewed the barges and he’s seeking official recognition for their service.

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Office of Response and Restoration. *Risk Assessment for Potentially Polluting Wrecks in U.S. Waters* (March 2013). Avail.: http://1.usa.gov/1Q5XiO. This government report finds that underwater shipwrecks have lower than expected risk for leaking tens of millions of gallons of oil into the environment. Of the 87 wrecks assessed, only six were identified as having sufficient oil aboard to cause a “local-scale” environmental disaster. Most of the others had either finished leaking long ago or ran on coal instead of oil. The majority of the studied wrecks date to WWII.

- John Schwartz. *In Midst of Drought, Keeping Traffic Moving...*
on the Mississippi. NY Times (Aug. 19, 2012). The steady work of a dozen dredges keeps the river open to navigation.

**Automobiles & Highways**

- Jeff L. Brown. Rocky Road: The Story of Asphalt Pavement. CE (May 2013), pp. 40-43. Asphalt pavement, discovered in Switzerland in the 1840s, gained quick acceptance in the U.S. after chemist Edmund J. DeSmedt added heat and sand to create hot-mix asphalt in the 1870s. The Maine Turnpike, the first superhighway to be paved with asphalt in 1947, is now a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.


- David Montgomery. Can This Demolition Derby Champion Make It Back to the Top of the Heap? Washington Post Magazine (Nov. 21, 2012). Demolition derbies are in decline as the federal government's “clash for clunkers” program sent tens of thousands of future derby cars to the crusher, scrap prices have remained high, and automobile manufacturers are no longer making the full-frame cars that derby participants prefer. Derby promoters are organizing competitions for smaller, lighter cars, but these have been described derisively as “ping-pong” matches, without the bone-crushing muscle of the traditional event.


- Jaclyn Trop and Bill Vlasic. Anxiety in Detroit over a Prized Car Trove. NY Times (June 19, 2013). Curators at the Detroit Historical Society are concerned that the museum's collection of 62 classic automobiles, most of which are stored under protective plastic bubbles in a warehouse, may be among the publicly owned cultural treasures put up for auction to satisfy the bankrupt city's creditors.

**Aerospace & Aeronautics**

- Jim Carlton. Past and Future Clash at Pearl Harbor. WSJ (Nov. 5, 2012). The U.S. Navy has announced a plan to cover the airfield on Ford Island with 60,000 solar panels, drawing rebuke from military historians and some Navy brass. The airstrip, formerly called Luke Field, was where the Japanese bombed American planes, crippling the Navy's ability to respond to the attack that launched America's entry into WWII.

- Kenneth R. Gosselin. In Face of Demolition, Strong Legacy for East Hartford Turbine Testing Lab. Hartford (Conn.) Courant (Mar. 26, 2012). Pratt & Whitney's Andrews Willgoos Turbine Laboratory complex was a center for the development of early jet engine technology in the 1950s and was P&W's primary test facility through the 1970s. Replaced by larger test facilities, it became obsolete and was demolished.

- Andy Pastor and Tamara Audi. Race to Save Space History. WSJ (Sept. 20, 2012). Even as the retired space shuttles were being welcomed to museums, the wrecking ball was destroying the 160-acre industrial campus in Downey, Calif., where the NASA spacecraft were built.

- David Rising. German 'Stuka' Junkers Ju 88 Bomber Wreck Recovered from Baltic Sea. Huffington Post (June 11, 2012). German military divers have brought up the remains of one of the single-engine monoplanes feared during WWII for their distinctive sound as they dove vertically to release bombs. Only two known complete examples survive, both on display at the Royal Air Force Museum in London.

- Amy Wenk. Delta Museum to Get $6M Revamp. Atlanta Business Chronicle (June 28, 2013). The Delta Air Transport Heritage Museum, located in a historic hangar at Delta's Atlanta headquarters, is being upgraded to make it more accessible to the public. Electronic version of the article includes a museum slideshow: www.bizjournals.com/Atlanta, search on “Delta Museum.”

**Bridges**

- Jeff L. Brown. A Tale of Two Cities: Chicago, Duluth, and the Birth of the Modern Vertical Lift Bridge. CE (June 2013), pp. 42-45. Recapitulates the story of how J. A. L. Waddell's proposal to build a vertical-lift bridge over the Duluth Ship Canal was rejected in favor of Thomas McGilvray's aerial transfer or transporter design, so that Waddell ended up building his first vertical lift on Halstead St. in Chicago instead. Although Brown mentions Waddell's subsequent business partner John Lyle Harrington, he minimizes Harrington's mechanical engineering contributions to the eventual success of this important movable bridge type.

- Jeff L. Brown. Transit Agency Repairs Historic Eads Bridge. CE (March 2013), pp. 18-22. The Bi-State Development Agency, operator of the St. Louis Metro light rail system, is replacing the floor system on the lower deck of the historic Eads Bridge over the Mississippi. The floor system replacement is part of the overall rehabilitation of the bridge, which opened to traffic in 1874.

- Gillian Graham. Historic Saco Bridge Closer to New Life. Maine Sunday Telegram (Nov. 26, 2012). Local residents advocate to save the 1848 Stackpole Bridge, which is the oldest stone-arch highway bridge in Maine. City councilors

**Contributors to This Issue**


With Thanks.
are favorable to a $1.4 million rehabilitation plan to save the bridge. The plan is estimated to cost 7.5% more than replacement with a new bridge.

- Frank Griggs. Newburyport Bridge. Structure (June 2013), pp. 26-28. Timothy Palmer, a designer and builder who previously worked only on houses and mills, built the multi-span timber bridge over the Merrimack River between Newburyport and Essex, Mass., in 1793. The bridge was replaced in 1810 with an iron-chain suspension bridge based on Jacob Finley’s patent, a 1909 (loose) replica of which stands on the site today. Also, Othmar H. Ammann. (April 2013), pp. 42-44. Swiss-born engineer Ammann (1879-1965), most famous for his role in designing many of New York City’s major highway crossings, also was consulted by Joseph B. Strauss on the Golden Gate Bridge and chaired the commission to investigate the 1940 failure of Leon Moisess’s suspension bridge at Tacoma Narrows.

- Hugh Reynolds. Wurts Street Bridge: A Span with No Future? Kingston (N.Y.) Times (Feb. 14, 2013). The 1.145-ft.-long suspension bridge over Rondout Creek between Kingston and Port Ewen was built in 1921 by John A. Roebling’s Sons Co. NYDOT says it has scheduled $20 million to rehabilitate the bridge in 2016, but local officials are skeptical that the work will ever be completed.

- Jim Talbot. Brooklyn’s Other Bridge. MSC (June 2013), pp. 32-35. Connecting the Lower East Side of Manhattan and Brooklyn’s Williamsburg neighborhood, the Williamsburg Bridge will soon celebrate the 110th anniversary of its opening, in December 1903. Designed by Leffert L. Buck and once the world’s longest suspension span at 1,600 ft., the bridge suffered from decades of deferred maintenance and was considered for replacement in the 1980s. A major rehabilitation completed in 2003 included the replacement of the original approaches.

**Buildings & Structures**

- Craig M. Bennett, Jr. Rebuilding the Walls of Fort Jefferson. Structure (May 2013), pp. 30-33. Located 70 miles from Key West in the Dry Tortugas, Fort Jefferson was constructed between 1846 and 1865, at which point it became obsolete and was left unfinished. Describes an ongoing effort to restore the massive brick masonry walls, which required structural stability analyses due to the extensive loss of masonry around the corroding iron Totten shutters at the embrasure openings.

- Robert Hossli and Ronald Flucker. William LeMessurier: Educator and Innovative Engineer. Structure (June 2013), pp. 46-47. Better known for his role in designing the Citicorp Center in New York, William LeMessurier (1926-2007) also lectured at MIT, where he developed the staggered truss framing system used in dozens of buildings including many hotels. Research on this framing system at MIT’s Applied Research Laboratory was sponsored by U.S. Steel.

- John Kelly. The Washington Monument Is Tall, but Is It the Tallest? Washington Post (June 19, 2013). Kelly admits that he and other writers have been incorrect in describing the 555.5-ft.-tall Washington Monument as “the world’s tallest free-standing masonry structure,” noting that “the beautiful homage to the Father of Our Country must cede its record to a big pollution stick,” i.e., the 585-ft.-tall Anaconda Copper smokestack in Butte, Mont.

- Mark Reuter. City Will Inject Funds to Help Restore Roland Water Tower. Baltimore Brew (Mar. 26, 2013), www. baltimorebrew.com. The 8-sided, Italianate-style tower was built in 1904-5 and designed by William J. Fizone as part of the city’s network of water pumping stations. Closed in 1930, the tower’s maintenance had been neglected for decades.

- Ryan Salmon and Meghan Elliott. The Kahn System of Reinforced Concrete: Why It Almost Mattered. Structure (Apr. 2013), pp. 9-11. Many of the factory buildings designed by Detroit-based architect Albert Kahn incorporated a patented concrete reinforcement system developed by his brother Julius. Julius Kahn’s Trussed Concrete Steel Co. manufactured reinforcing bars with “wings” that were bent upward to form shear reinforcement. The system was used in numerous buildings and bridges nationwide.

- Richard Stradling. Bodie Island Lighthouse Relit Thursday, Opens to Public Friday. Raleigh (N.C.) News & Observer (Apr. 13, 2013). The 170-ft.-tall Outer Banks lighthouse, built in 1872, has undergone a 3-year, $5 million restoration. It is now open for the first time on a regular basis for the public to climb to the top for spectacular views.

- Richard G. Weingardt. Frank Osborn: Nation’s Pioneer Stadium Designer. Structure (Mar. 2013), pp. 61-63. Cleveland’s Osborn Engineering Co., which is still in operation, was founded in 1892 by Frank C. Osborn (1857-1922). After working for several bridge companies, Osborn opened his own firm and designed numerous bridges, buildings, and baseball stadiums, from Pittsburgh’s Forbes Field (1909) to the original Yankee Stadium in the Bronx (1922).

**Water Supply & Control**

- Jeff L. Brown. Water from a Distance: The First Owens River-Los Angeles Aqueduct. CE (Apr. 2013), pp. 40-43. This brief but photo-rich overview covers William Mulholland’s survey, design, and construction of a gravity-fed aqueduct for supplying water to the growing city of Los Angeles, from 1905 to 1913.

- Ashley Halsey III. Billions Needed to Upgrade America’s Leaky Water Infrastructure. Washington Post (Jan. 2, 2012). Documents the problems of aging big city water-supply systems and a looming national crisis. Washington, D.C., which is addressing the problem more aggressively than many cities, has raised water and sewer bills by 50 percent in the past 4 years to pay for some of the needed work.

**Miners & Mining**


- Bob Fowler. Radar Finds Unmarked Graves from 110-Year-Old Mining Disaster. Knoxville (Tenn.) News (May 19, 2012). Locating the graves of miners, most of them Welsh, who died in the Fraterville Mine disaster in 1902. The mine explosion killed 216 miners; 30 bodies were unclaimed by family and buried next to a railroad trestle on the spur line that led to the mine.


The Second National Covered Bridge Conference held in downtown Dayton, Ohio, June 5-8, 2013, included 125 attendees from 24 states, Canada, Germany, Russia, and 8 delegates from China. The conference, sponsored by FHWA, HAER and the USDA Forest Products Laboratory, celebrated the accomplishments of the National Historic Covered Bridge Preservation Program, a 13-year federal program that has funded the rehabilitation of over 250 historic covered bridges. The paper sessions were devoted to a variety of topics, including rehabilitation case studies; research on arson prevention, wind loading, lightweight decking, and hydrology; documentation and analysis; historic truss types; and foreign covered bridges. Offsite events included a reception at the Engineer’s Club of Dayton, a hog roast dinner at the Preble County Historical Society, a timber framing demonstration, tours of Dayton’s aviation heritage, and visits to 20 nearby covered bridges. Several SIA members were involved in running the conference, including Christopher Marston, chair; David Simmons, paper chair; Doug Miller, host; and Bill Vermes, committee member. SIA alumni Dario Gasparini gave the welcoming presentation on the Wright Brothers use of the wooden Pratt truss in their early flyer designs, and Jim Barker gave the closing keynote on his reconstruction of the Moscow Covered Bridge after a devastating tornado.

The conference proceedings are available online: http://www.woodcenter.org/2013-national-covered-bridge-conference/papers.cfm.—Christopher Marston

The Carroll Street Bridge (tour site—2002 Annual Conference, Brooklyn) over the Gowanus Canal will receive more than $1 million in federal disaster funds to repair damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. The movable bridge, a rare retractable design built in 1889, was submerged by the storm and rendered inoperable. The funds will be used to replace the electrical and hydraulic equipment.—The Brooklyn Paper (May 7, 2013)

iron & steel

◆ Hanah Cho. Still in Business: The 175+ Year Club. Baltimore Sun (May 8, 2012). Feature article on G. Krug & Son, a blacksmith shop on W. Saratoga St. in downtown Baltimore (near Lexington Market) that traces its lineage to a shop established in 1810 by Augustus Schwatka. Krug now specializes in iron window grates and grilles. Also mentioned as members of the club are Loane Brothers (sail makers since 1815), Gas Light of Baltimore (est. 1816, the country’s first gas utility), and the B&O RR (est. 1827, now CSX).

◆ Anne Kelly Knowles. Mastering Iron: The Struggle to Modernize an American Industry, 1800-1868. Univ of Chicago Pr., 2012. 336 pp., illus. $45. Examines the prolonged development of the industry prior to the Civil War, when it struggled to compete against low-cost British iron. Ironworks in Ala., Md., Pa., and Va. demonstrate how iron masters struggled to replicate British practices and set the stage for the subsequent age of steel when the iron industry eventually emerged from the shadow of Great Britain.

ABBREVIATIONS:

B&L = Buildings & Landscapes: Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum
CE = Civil Engineering
MSC = Modern Steel Construction, published by the American Institute of Steel Construction
WSJ = Wall Street Journal

Publications of Interest is compiled from books and articles brought to our attention by you, the reader. SIA members are encouraged to send citations of new and recent books and articles, especially those in their own areas of interest and those obscure titles that may not be known to other SIA members. Publications of Interest, c/o SIA Newsletter, 305 Rodman Road, Wilmington, DE 19809; phsianews@aol.com.