

IA: Journal of the society for industrial archeology

Guidelines for book reviewers

Submissions:

- Double space all copy, leaving a blank line between paragraphs
- Do not use any formatting, e.g., page numbers, paragraph indents
- The Book Review Editor uses MS Word
- Send as an attachment to carolpoh@sbcglobal.net
- The Book Review Editor will confirm receipt

Content or Review:

Reviewers may not find it possible to adhere to all of the following guidelines, but they should keep them in mind in reading the book and constructing the review:

- The review should concisely summarize the contents of the book. Does the author have a thesis? What are the geographical and chronological limits of the study? What approaches does the author take? What sources does the author use?
- The review should provide a critique of the book. Is the book well written? Is it well organized? Are the illustrations of high quality? Are they integrated well with the text? How much of a contribution to knowledge does the book make? Does the book meet the objectives the author set for himself or herself in the introduction? Do the contents of the book reflect the title?
- If possible, the reviewer should try to fit the book into the field's literature. What does the book contribute to scholarship in industrial archeology, or to historical archeology, or to historic preservation, or to the history of technology? How does it compare to other works on the same subject?
- The review should avoid jargon. The audience for the journal is broad and diverse. Academic jargon will make reviews incomprehensible to many readers and should be avoided, in any case, simply as a matter of good writing. If the use of some jargon is unavoidable, the reviewer should explain the concept in plain English as well.
- Authors may indicate the extent to which a book may be of interest to readers of *IA*, but they should not condemn a work because it does not focus heavily or entirely on industrial archeology or related disciplines (history, historic preservation, historical archeology, history of technology, etc.), since authors often intend their works for broader or different audiences.
- Remember to attach a brief biographical note (one or two sentences) providing information on your present affiliation, recent publications or publications relevant to the subject of the book you are reviewing, current research interests, and the like. See "Contributors to This Issue" section at the back of past issues of *IA* for examples.

Style of the Review:

- Use, as a heading, the complete bibliographic entry provided in the e-mail query from the Book Review Editor regarding your willingness to review the book. If you think that heading is in error, please inform the Book Review Editor.

Generally, the heading is in the format illustrated below. Note that *IA* headings contain information beyond that usually found on the publication information page in the front of a book (for example, whether the book has illustrations, tables, glossary, notes, bibliography, index, and so on).

Example:

A Short, Bright Flash: Augustin Fresnel and the Birth of the Modern Lighthouse. By Theresa Levitt. New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 2013. 281 pp., illus., notes, index. \$25.95 cloth

- If you quote from the book being reviewed, please provide the page number in the following form: Hoskins says of this phenomenon that it is “something that should not have happened, could not have happened, and yet did happen” (p. 34).
- If you quote from another book or article in your review, provide a citation in either of the following forms:
 - Book: “John Jones asserted: ‘The valve was a piece of beauty, as rare as a blue-eyed dog’ (*Destroying Steam Engines*, 1984, p. 34).
 - Article: John Jones asserted: ‘The valve was a piece of beauty, as rare as a blue-eyed dog’ (*Journal of Popular Culture*, Oct. 1984, p. 34).
- Do not use footnotes.