

SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

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IA in Northwestern PA SIA's 2022 Fall Tour

After a two-year pandemic hiatus, the SIA's Fall Tour tradition returned with about 35 members gathering in northwestern Pennsylvania's Oil Region ("The Valley that Changed the World") Sept. 15–17. The headquarters for the event was the Quality Inn & Conference Center in Franklin, located within walking distance of the City of Franklin Historic District (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984), and situated centrally in the Oil Region National Heritage Area. The area is home to the first commercially successful oil well, drilled by "Colonel" Edwin Drake in 1859. Oil booms followed throughout Venango County and the surrounding region, and for a few decades this was the chief oil-producing region of the world. By the turn of the 20th c., the region supported a mix of industries tied to oil production—machine shops and foundries that supplied gas engines and equipment for drilling and pumping oil, railroads, and the earliest pipeline companies. Today, oil production continues in the region but on a much-reduced scale.

The event began with Thursday's optional tour on a sunny autumn afternoon at the **Venango Area Industrial**

Complex, just outside Franklin. The 23-acre complex is a former industrial building redeveloped as a multi-tenant incubator and manufacturing complex. Our guide was Deborah Eckelberger, Development Director, who provided a brief overview of the site's history and current tenants. These include Sigelock Systems (fire hydrants), K&B Pizza (frozen pizza dough), Liberty Electronics, Perpetual Power Coating, and a number of smaller entities. One attraction was a shop tour of Titusville Fabricators, which manufactures reinforcing bars and wire mesh used in building reinforced concrete structures. Equally interesting was QuaLex which fabricates the out-riggers for mobile cranes like Manitowoc and Grove.

Our next stop was **DeBence Antique Music World**, billed as a "see and hear" museum. DeBence houses over 250 antique mechanical musical instruments, radios, and varied automata dating from the mid-1800s to the 1970s. It started as the personal collection of Jake and Elizabeth DeBence, which was subsequently purchased by a non-profit and is now displayed in the former G.C. Murphy department store building on Liberty St. in Franklin. SIA

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David Zawolak

The SIA Fall Tour group at the Drake Well engine house.

In This Issue:

- Call for Nominations: SIA Officers, General Tools Award 2023
- 2023 Annual Conference Preview, Grand Rapids, Mich.
- Call for Papers, 2023 Annual Conference
- Phelps Mill Update
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received a full behind-the-scenes tour from the third floor down to the basement.

Following the walking tour, the opening reception commenced at the Quality Inn with an outstanding dinner. The after-dinner talk was provided by Brian Fritz, who spoke about his work with industrial archeology in western Pa. The sites he highlighted included the Arroyo Tannery, Spring Creek Glass Sand Works, and the Shade Furnace Archeological District. The latter was particularly interesting in that it represented the transition between the British furnace operations and the later American style of integrated iron manufacturing.

Friday's itinerary centered around manufacturing and machine shops. The day began at **Franklin Industries**, originally founded as the Franklin Rolling Mill in 1901. Franklin uses recycled railroad rails to create T- and U-shaped fence/signposts by heating the rails to 2,300°F and rolling them through a series of mill-stands to create the desired thickness and length. The process makes the steel stronger than when it was in service as a railroad rail. Franklin's product can be found for sale in many local farm

supply stores. A reporter accompanied the SIA to Franklin Industries and an article appeared in the local newspaper, *The Derrick*, the following day: https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/.

The group shifted from steel rail recycling to cutting-edge technology at **Acutec Precision Aerospace** in Meadville. Housed in the renovated complex of the former American Viscose textile mfg. co., Acutec operates over 225 computer numerically controlled (CNC) multi-axis mills and precision machines in a temperature/humidity controlled environment. The manufacturer boasts that every flying machine in the air or space today uses at least one of its components. For example, the NASA Artemis spacecraft has 53 Acutec parts; the V-22 Osprey is airborne with over 200 Acutec parts—a notable achievement for a company located in bucolic western Pa. In the incoming materials area, an employee demonstrated a hand-held XRF (x-ray fluorescence) analyzer, which indicates what elements, and the percentage of each, are in every item. The visit concluded with a most entertaining Q&A and company history session with Acutec founder, Robert Smith.

The group enjoyed boxed lunches, either in the lobby (decorated with a mural of the area's industrial history) at tables built with repurposed textile mill machinery, or outside, where several SIA members could be seen wandering off to view the deteriorating ruin of a multi-story mill building behind the newer complex.

The third stop of the day, **Highpoint Tool and Machine** in Saegertown, provided an interesting "compare and contrast" opportunity. Highpoint is also a high technology machine shop similar to Acutec with a building full of CNC lathes and multi-axis milling machines. CEO Lon Sippy greeted us and introduced the site tour. Highpoint has a broad focus and functions more as a boutique machine shop with production runs up to about fifty-part lots, thereby catering to customers with specific needs in aerospace, energy, and other industrial sectors. After viewing the wide variety of machinery and work in progress, the tour made a stop in the programming room, where employees create and prepare digital models to be used in manufacturing. Here one-of-a-kind prototypes

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 biannually. The SIA through its publications, conferences, tours, and projects encourages the study, interpretation, and preservation of historically significant industrial sites, structures, artifacts, and technology. By providing a forum for the discussion and exchange of information, the Society advances an awareness and appreciation of the value of preserving our industrial heritage. Annual membership: individual \$50; household (joint) \$55; full-time student \$20; institutional \$75; contributing \$100; sustaining \$150; corporate \$500. For members outside of North America, add \$10 surface-mailing fee. Send check or money order payable in U.S. funds to the Society for Industrial Archeology to SIA-HQ, Dept. of Social Sciences, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931-1295; (906) 487-1889; email: sia@siahq.org; website: www.sia-web.org.

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The *SIA Newsletter* welcomes material and correspondence from members, especially in the form of copy already digested and written! The usefulness and timeliness of the newsletter depends on you, the reader, as an important source of information and opinion.

TO CONTACT THE EDITOR: Marni Blake Walter, Editor, *SIA Newsletter*, 11 Esty Rd., Westmoreland, NH 03467; sianeditor@siahq.org.



David Zavolak

Mechanical music players at DeBence Antique Music World.

may be designed as needed by clients.

Following the tour of Highpoint, Sippy escorted us a few hundred feet across a field, and more than a hundred years into the past, to a separate building which housed his retirement project—the **Sippy Historic Machine Shop**. The building houses a variety of lathes, drills, milling machines, and shapers originally from the McNair Tool Co. in Saegertown. McNair changed owners over the years becoming known as the Davenport Machine Shop, and then the Foriska Machine Shop. The tools finally found their way to Sippy in 2021, who restored the shop to its original glory. Sippy's restoration included the original overhead belt drive system, original artifacts, and a reference library. The historic shop presents a fascinating study in technological progress when compared to the temperature-controlled Highpoint building a short distance away.

The evening continued with a dinner trip aboard the **Oil City & Titusville RR**. SIA members traveled in style aboard the 1st-class accommodations of a former Wabash RR passenger car, a vintage Pullman built in 1929 and measuring 100-ft. long with a 100-ton weight. When originally placed into service, the car was equipped with the most modern of conveniences including under-floor compartments for summertime dry ice, over which fans circulated air to cool the passenger compartment. No such need existed for the cool autumn evening of SIA's tour. Our motive power was provided by a 1947 ALCO Model 2SW 1,000-HP diesel locomotive, which burned 45 gal. of fuel per hour (but who's counting). Departing the Titusville depot for a three-hour tour through the Oil Creek valley and Oil Creek State Park, our guide entertained with a thorough narration of the area's history and lore, as we enjoyed a delightful dinner, excellent scenery, and a look back to a time of more refined travel.

Saturday's sites featured historic power equipment and the legacies of oil. The **Coolspring Power Museum**, Coolspring, Pa., occupied the first half of the day (and could have filled many more hours!). Coolspring opened in 1985 and offers one of the broadest displays of working oil field engines available to the public. The multi-acre site houses numerous buildings, all filled with operating engines and related equipment. The collection was a combined effort by Paul Harvey of Coolspring and John Wilcox of Delaware, Ohio,

as well as SIA founding member Vance Packard, deceased, who also helped to establish the museum. Our guides were Keith Monnier, Clark Colby, and Mike Murphy, who were available for questions and shop talk while the group wandered freely. One volunteer and engine owner was just prepping his Crossley as a few of us happened by, so we saw the complete process: oil all parts, check that the cooling water system is on, propane on, ignite and warm up, then manually turn the wheel for a while to get it going. This engine owner explained that exhaust for all the engines in the room is vented outdoors via pipes in the floor.

The high point of the visit was the running of the museum's immense Snow (s/n G329) 600 HP, two-cylinder tandem double-acting gas engine, fabricated in 1917. Paul Harvey gave an introduction to the Snow, which was originally operated at the Roystone Compressor station near Sheffield,

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David Zwolak

Wabash Cannonball Car, our first-class accommodations for the Oil City & Titusville RR dinner excursion.



Marni Walter

Lon Sippy describes the workings of the historic machine shop.



David Zwolak

The Snow engine at Coolspring Power Museum.



Marni Walter

SIAers wait next to the train tracks on a foggy morning to enter Franklin Industries.

SIA's 51st Annual Conference

Grand Rapids, Michigan—June 7–11, 2023

Join the Society for Industrial Archeology June 7–11 in Grand Rapids, the Furniture City, for the 51st Annual Conference! The Grand River Valley and West Michigan emerged during the mid-19th c. as a trading and manufacturing center, connecting the interior of Michigan from Kalamazoo and Battle Creek in the south, north to Muskegon, east to Lansing, and west to Lake Michigan. The production of household furniture became Grand Rapids' signature industry by the 1880s, marked today by an array of repurposed factory structures and new facilities. The annual Furniture Exhibitions drew buyers both nationally and internationally. Other industries past and present include metalworking, gypsum mining, automobile parts, and pharmaceuticals. A rich legacy of infrastructure from the fluoridation of water, as well as bridges, harbors, and lighthouses are also present. More recently, a vibrant brewing and distilling industry has grown throughout the region.

The conference hotel and headquarters is the Embassy Suites—Grand Rapids Downtown (www.hilton.com/en/hotels/grrmaes-embassy-suites-grand-rapids-downtown) located on the north side of the city along the Grand River. The hotel is situated among historic factory structures and active industries, with dams, the riverwalk, restaurants, distillery, and a craft brewery within walking distance. A downtown shuttle allows for no-cost transport throughout the greater downtown area. The site is also adjacent to the historic 1886-built Sixth Street Bridge.

While the local planning committee is continuing its work, tour sites will include the Lake Michigan Water Filtration Plant (part of the system that introduced water fluoridation in 1945), the S.S. *Milwaukee Clipper*, a 1904-built passenger ship, Graphic Packaging's new boxboard facility, a gypsum mine, active railroad facilities, Irwin Seating, and multiple bridges along the Grand River and throughout the region. Historic sites include Michigan Maritime Museum's historic boats and fishing port and the Heritage Hill Historic District in Grand Rapids.

Grand Valley State Univ. serves as the main partnering host for the conference. Other museums including the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and the Grand Rapids Public Museum are within walking distance of the conference hotel or by shuttle. Downtown has a range of dining and entertainment venues in a mix of distinctive Mid-Century Modern buildings and restored historic structures.

We look forward to seeing the SIA in Grand Rapids, and hope you'll join us to experience the region's industrial legacy.

Matthew Daley



Bridge Street Bridge (1904), Michigan & Bridge Sts., ca. 1908 looking northeast. Remains in use to the present.



Waters Furniture Exposition Building, Lyon St. and Ottawa Ave., ca. 1910. Today houses a combination of offices, condominiums, and a boutique hotel.



Phoenix Furniture Co., forerunner of today's Irwin Seating, ca. 1905.

HAER MICH, 41-GRARA, 10-17

Grand Rapids Public Museum, 149420.

Library of Congress, Detroit Pub. Co., LC-D4-36690.

Call For Papers

SIA 51st Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Society for Industrial Archeology invites proposals for presentations and poster displays at the 51st Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, June 7–11, 2023. The presentation sessions will be held at the conference hotel, the Embassy Suites—Grand Rapids Downtown, on Sat., June 10, 2023.

We invite presentations on all topics related to industrial archeology, history of technology, social change related to industry, and historic industrial structures and bridges. Papers about regional industries and transportation in Grand Rapids and Western Michigan are particularly encouraged. Poster displays are also encouraged and can be on works in progress or finished projects. All presentations and poster displays should offer both interpretation and synthesis of data.

The deadline for proposals is Jan. 31, 2023. <https://www.sia-web.org/sia-2023-conference-grand-rapids-michigan/>

Presentation Formats: Proposals may be for individual presentations 20 min. in length, a group of three or four presentations on a common theme filling a 90-min. session, a 90-min. panel discussion with 2–5 discussants (a formal moderator is encouraged though optional), or a poster presentation. SIA will provide computers, data projectors, screens, microphones, and speakers as needed in each presentation room. Posters will be on display all day Saturday with a dedicated time for poster presenters to be present for discussion.

Proposal Formats: Proposals should be submitted online unless special arrangements have been made. Each proposal must include:

- The presentation title (you will indicate the type of presentation—single paper, session proposal, or poster—on the submission form)
- A 300-word abstract that outlines the scope, findings, and conclusions of the presentation
- Contact information including name, affiliation, email address, mailing address, and telephone number for each presenter

- A brief biographical statement of 150 words for each presenter
- The software (incl. version) used to create your presentation and any additional audio-visual requests beyond the standard equipment listed above.

For 90-min. themed sessions or panel discussions, the organizer should submit a title and a brief description of the theme, along with all above information together as a group as prompted on the online submission form. If any of these items is missing, the proposal cannot be considered. Note that the above word counts apply separately to each presenter in a group. Note that all speakers are expected to pay the registration fee (for either the full conference or one-day rate).

For questions please contact Patrick Pospisek, SIA Presentations Committee Chair, pospisek@gvsu.edu.

Student Travel Scholarships. The SIA awards travel scholarships to full-time students and professionals with fewer than three years of full-time experience. The scholarship stipends are intended to help students offset expenses associated with attending SIA events (e.g., airfare, hotel, registration, etc.). To be eligible for a scholarship, the applicant must become a member in good standing. Student memberships are available for as little as \$20/year. Applications should consist of 1) a letter demonstrating a commitment to IA from the student, and 2) a letter of reference from a faculty member or an individual active in the SIA. For information or to apply for the 2023 Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, Mich., June 7–11, 2023, please contact Patrick Harshbarger, j.patrick.harshbarger@gmail.com; (609)-695-0122, ext. 115. Deadline for applications is Mar. 31, 2023.

Eric DeLony Industrial Heritage Preservation Grant Fund

Application Deadline: Mar. 1, 2023

The SIA offers grants from the Eric DeLony Industrial Heritage Preservation Grant Fund from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for the study, documentation, recordation, or preservation of significant historic industrial sites, structures, and objects. Funds may be used for a range of projects including, but not limited to: increasing public awareness of preservation efforts, photography, videography, preparing inventories, and developing measured drawings of extant significant industrial sites, structures, maritime facilities, and industrial artifacts. Grant recipients must agree to prepare a written

summary of their project suitable for publication in either the *SIAN* or for *IA*, the Society's scholarly journal.

Grants are open to qualified individuals, independent scholars, nonprofit organizations, and academic institutions. Organizations are preferred over individuals. Substantial participation from state, county, or local history organizations is encouraged, although such groups do not necessarily need to be a sponsoring agency.

For info on how to apply: www.sia-web.org/activities/preservation-grants

Phelps Mill Update

As described in a prior issue of *SIAN* (Summer 2021, Vol. 50, No. 3), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources (MNDNR) have proposed to install a fish passage at the Phelps Mill Dam on the Otter Tail River in west central Minnesota. SIA has formally requested to be added as a consulting party to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Review, which requires federal agencies to consider the effects of projects they carry out, approve, or fund on historic properties. The Phelps Mill/Dam was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1974, and the Phelps Mill Historic District was listed in 1984. An updated evaluation conducted by Gemini Research in 2019 clarified the historic district has statewide significance, and subsequent communication from the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has suggested a case may be made for national significance as well.

Great Northern Chapter President Tim Tumberg represented SIA at the inaugural Phelps Mill Fish Passage consulting parties meeting, held on-site at Phelps Mill County Park on June 29, 2022. Other attendees included USFWS, Otter Tail County Parks and Trails, Houston Engineering (engineering consultant), the 106 Group (historical consultant), several local landowners, an Otter Tail County Commissioner, and representatives from consulting parties MNDNR, MN SHPO, MN Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (MNSAH), Otter Tail County Historical Society, Gemini Research, Friends of Phelps Mill, and Regina Bergantine (owner of the Thomas House, a contributing element to the Phelps Mill Historic District).

Following introductions, the meeting began with a statement of the purpose and need for the project, presented by USFWS and MNDNR Fisheries Division, and Houston Engineering then presented details about the two proposed build alternatives currently on the table along with a “No Action” option. After the proposed alternatives presentation, USFWS and the 106 Group summarized the project’s Section 106 process, and the meeting concluded with a tour of historic properties in the Phelps Mill Historic District.

The first build alternative, titled “Dam Remains 2/3 Downstream Rock Rapids,” has been eliminated from consideration. It would have buried most of the dam with a downstream rock arch rapids leaving only the east pier and mill race visible. The rock rapids structure, constructed at 3 percent grade, would be supported on the east side with 350 feet of visible sheet piling.

The second build alternative, titled “Nature Like Fish Bypass Channel,” would entail excavating a 350-ft.-long channel and constructing a rock rapids through a prominent hill west of the river. The top of the hill is approximately 40 ft. above riverbank elevation and

construction of a fish passage large enough to accommodate sturgeon would thereby result in substantial landscape modifications. Horizontally, the general footprint of the channel and banks would be 80 ft. wide in the upper portion and the upstream channel entry would be about 10 ft. wide, expanding to about 60 ft. wide in the upper channel section. The rock weir rows in the channel would be 50–60 ft. wide and constructed at 3 percent grade. Trees would be removed from the bypass channel project area but current vegetation located between the river and project area would remain. A structure at the inlet would be constructed upstream of the dam to reconnect the existing road for pedestrian and vehicular crossing.

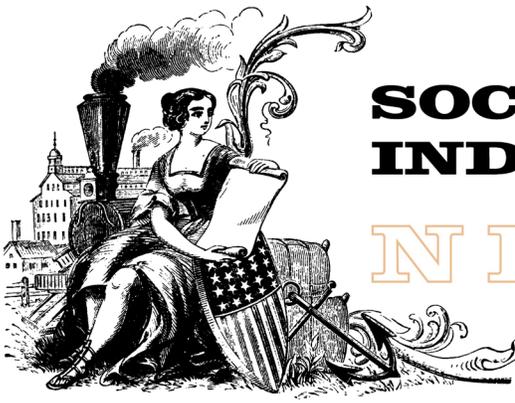
SIA President Arron Kotlensky, in a letter of support for the preservation of Phelps Mill, emphasized that “The topography, mill pond, mill race, and stream are well preserved and clearly convey why this site was chosen, and how the waterpower was harnessed. The proposed fish bypass channel would severely alter the hill immediately west of the dam, alter the idyllic mill pond, add a new large engineered structure to the site, and divert a significant amount of water from the dam. ... In short, the proposed project would adversely affect the district’s historic character and its ability to convey its significance.”

Next steps consist of consulting parties reviewing and providing comments on the Phelps Mill Historic District supplemental analysis and on the assessment of effects. Stay tuned for additional information as the process unfolds.

Tim Tumberg



Several representatives of the consulting parties meet at the mill: Rolf Anderson (MNSAH), Sue Granger (Gemini Research), Dennis Gimmestad (MNSAH), and Tim Tumberg (SIA).



SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

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COMPILED BY

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GENERAL INTEREST

- ◆ **Engineering Heritage Australia Magazine**, Vol. 4, No. 2 (May 2022) includes a write-up of the winners of Engineering Heritage Australia Awards for 2021; the 90th birthday of the Sydney Harbour Bridge is marked by Bill Phippen, *The Sydney Harbour Bridge 90th Birthday*; and Ian Bowie, *An Illuminating Story*; other articles include David F. Radcliffe, *Fred David – Refugee Aeronautical Engineer*; Bill Phippen, *The Mysterious Bradfield Cylinder*; Malcolm W. Smith, *A Crossley Model XA Gas Engine Now at Swift's Creek in East Gippsland*; and *Connections*, a selection of news & notes from around Australia.
- ◆ Helen Fielding. **Archeology Society Members Enjoy Their Visit to Franklin**. *The Derrick* (Sept. 17, 2022). https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/. Franklin, Pa. hosted the Society for Industrial Archeology's Fall Tour. The group enjoyed a tour of Franklin Industries and other sites in the town, then visited numerous sites and businesses throughout the region.
- ◆ Elizabeth D. Leonard. **Benjamin Franklin Butler: A Noisy, Fearless Life**. Univ. of North Carolina Pr., 2022. 392 pp. \$36. Butler claimed he was "always with the underdog in the fight." This biography examines this important and controversial political and military leader of the Civil War era and his successful career in the law defending the rights of the Lowell Mill girls and other workers.
- ◆ Victoria Newhouse and Alex Pisha. **Parks of the 21st Century: Reinvented Landscapes, Reclaimed Territories**. Rizzoli, 2021. 356 pp., illus. \$75 hardcover. Parks are essential to our well-being; this has never been clearer than it is today, and a recent surge of park development offers much to celebrate. This book presents 52 parks in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, Europe, and China that have turned despoiled and polluted land (including former factories, railroads, quarries, and industrial waterfronts) into beneficial landscapes.
- ◆ **TICCIH Bulletin 97** (3rd Quarter, 2022) includes Steve High, *Deindustrialization, Forced Forgetting and the Changing Place of Industrial Heritage in Canada*; Susan Ross, *Reclaiming an Extractive / Landfill Landscape*; Abdul Karim Kamara, *A Sustainable Future for Railway Heritage*; Julian Sobrino Simal and Enrique Larive López, *Laboratory of Historical Production Landscapes*; Toshitaka Matsuura, *Excavating the Takanawa Railway Embankment*; Christoph Becker, *A Jugendstil Sewage Treatment Plant*; Lukáš Beran and Jan Zikmund, *A Topographical Map of Industrial Architecture*; Michael Nevell, *Strategy to Save Oldham's Textile Mills*; María Esperanza Rock Núñez, *The Industrial Heritage of the Global South*; TICCIH news: Mark Watson, *The Textile Industry—TICCIH Thematic*

Study; Mohammadjavad Mahdavejad, Maryam Rasoolzadeh, Fateme Fanaei Sheikholeslami, and Martin Meyer, *Mashhad Textile Factory*; education: Marco Bertilorenzi, Ana Cardoso do Matos, and Valérie Nègre, *Erasmus Mundus Joint Master: Techniques, Heritage, Territories of Industry*; conference news: Juan M. Cano Sanchiz, *East-West Workshop on Industrial Archaeology*; obituary: Shoji Ishida, *Professor Akira Oita, 1949–2022*; book reviews: *Industrial Heritage Retooled: Selected Perspectives on Protection*, reviewed by Ivana Kocevská; *Technology, Economics, and Canal Development—An Early Technical Book and What It Reveals*, by Mike Clarke, reviewed by Martin Hohberg; and *The Colonia Sedo D'Esparreguera, the Long History of an Emblematic Industrial Colony*, by Gràcia Dorel-Ferré, reviewed by Patrick Vianne.

IRON & STEEL

- ◆ Ric A. Dias, foreword by Nicholas R. Cataldo. **Kaiser Steel of Fontana: Together We Build**. History Pr., 2022. 160 pp., illus. \$21.99 paper. Henry J. Kaiser ("Miracle Man Kaiser") founded Kaiser Steel in 1941 in the small agricultural town of Fontana, Calif., thereby entering the wartime shipbuilding business. The plant churned out more than 1 million tons of steel for the 1940s war effort, mainly providing steel to the Kaiser Shipyards and other Kaiser-owned businesses. The company adopted the

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With Thanks.

slogan “Together We Build” as Kaiser skillfully navigated labor relations. The author highlights the successes, failures, and limits of this trailblazer’s work.

- ◆ Peter King. **A Gazetteer of the British Iron Industry, 1490–1815, Vols. I and II.** BAR British Series, 2022. 770 pp., two-vol. set., illus. £173 paper. Provides a history of every ironworks of the charcoal blast furnace period in Great Britain, except the Weald. It also covers early coke ironworks (built before 1815) and water-powered bloomeries. After an introduction to the industry, each chapter deals with the ironworks of one district, including other water-powered mills processing iron, steel furnaces, early ironworks powered by steam engines, and a few other works. Blade mills (and cutlers wheels), which provided the initial cutting edge for tools, are not included in those areas where they are ubiquitous.

MINES & MINING

- ◆ Margaret Lindsay Faull. **Commemorating Coal Mining Worldwide: International Museums, Heritage Centres and Sites Related to Coal Mining.** BAR International Series, 2022. 504 pp., illus. £115 paper. A catalog of how museums around the world have portrayed the history of coal mining, colliers, and mining communities, including descriptions of 432 coal-mining museums, heritage centers, archives, memorials, and preserved colliery sites in 48 countries. Includes subjects such as the development and dissemination of new technology, features commonly found on the surface of mines, disasters, transport, women and children working underground, working conditions, strikes and trade unions, and slavery and forced labor. A detailed introduction presents the types of buildings used for museums and collections such as art and fossils, and a concordance of 18 items found commonly at the sites described.

WATER TRANSPORT

- ◆ Daniel Weiss. **1,000 Fathoms Down.** *Archaeology* (Sept./Oct. 2022), pp. 44–49. In the Gulf of Mexico, archeologists believe they have identified the 19th-c. whaling ship *Industry*, crewed by a diverse group of New Englanders, that sank during a storm in 1836.

RAILROADS

- ◆ Michael Polk [SIA] and Chris Merritt and contributors Michael Sheehan, Ken Cannon, and Molly Cannon. **Rails East to Ogden: Utah’s Transcontinental Railroad Story.** Cultural Resources Series No. 29. U.S. Dept. of Interior Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2021. 321 pp., illus., tables. View or download: https://issuu.com/utah10/docs/rails_east_to_ogden. A comprehensive study of the historic resources related to the Transcontinental RR in Utah, telling the story of the RR’s legacy within Utah. Winner of an Environmental Achievement Award from the Dept. of Interior (see Member News in this issue).

AUTOMOBILES & HIGHWAYS

- ◆ Andrew Warren and Tim Moore. **Op-Ed: When Camaros and Firebirds Roamed the San Fernando Valley.** *Los Angeles Times* (Aug. 25, 2022). <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2022-08-25/>. Essay on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the closure of the General Motors assembly plant in Van Nuys, Calif., which produced 6.3 million autos during its 44 years of operation. The very last of these, a red 1992 Chevrolet Camaro Z-28 with Heritage black racing stripes, is still owned and maintained by enthusiast Leonard Stevenson, who watched it roll off the production line on Aug. 26, 1992.

AGRICULTURE & FOOD PROCESSING

- ◆ Jonathan H. Rees. **The Fulton Fish Market: A History.** Columbia Univ. Pr., 2022. 312 pp. \$30. A comprehensive history of the Fulton Fish Market, from its founding in 1822 through its move to the Bronx in 2005. Rees examines transformations in food provisioning systems through the lens of a vital distribution point and explores the market’s workings and significance, tracing the transportation, retailing, and consumption of fish.

BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

- ◆ John Vinci, editor, with Eric Nordstrom [SIA], Tim Samuelson, and Chris Ware. **Reconstructing the Garrick: Adler & Sullivan’s Lost Masterpiece.** Alphawood Exhibitions, 2021. 256 pp., illus. \$45 hardcover. The Garrick (originally the Schiller Building) was built in 1892 and featured elaborate embellishments, including the ornamentation and colorful decorative stenciling that would become hallmarks of Louis Sullivan’s career. This book documents the enormous salvaging job undertaken to preserve elements of the building’s design, but also presents the full life story of the Garrick, featuring historic and architectural photographs, essays by prominent architectural and art historians, interviews, drawings, ephemera from throughout its lively history and details of its remarkable ornamentation—a significant resource and compelling tribute to one of Chicago’s finest lost buildings. Winner of the 2022 Alice Award (see Member News in this issue).

POWER GENERATION

- ◆ **Windmillers’ Gazette.** Vol. 41, No. 3 (Summer 2022) includes Christopher Gillis, *Kirkwood Wind Engine Company: Pride of a Kansas Town; Rebuilding a Kirkwood Iron Wind Engine;* and *Restoring Wooden Water Tanks;* T. Lindsay Baker, *A Closer Look at the Samson Air-Flow Windmill,* and *American Windmills in Malta;* plus book list and advertisements. Avail: \$20/yr., published quarterly. Christopher Gillis, Editor, P.O. Box 788, Buckeystown, MD, 21717; www.windmillersgazette.org.

ABBREVIATIONS:

B&L	= <i>Buildings & Landscapes</i> , Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum
CBT	= <i>Covered Bridge Topics</i> , published by the National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges
IA News	= Bulletin of the Association for Industrial Archaeology (U.K.), www.industrial-archaeology.org .
MHJ	= <i>Mining History Journal</i> , published by the Mining History Assn.
NYT	= <i>New York Times</i>
SCA	= Society for Commercial Archeology
TICCIH	= <i>The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage</i> , ticch.org

Publications of Interest are compiled from books, articles, and digital media brought to our attention by you, the reader. SIA members are encouraged to send citations of new and recent books, articles, CDs, DVDs, etc., 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 Marni Blake Walter, Editor, SIA Newsletter, 11 Esty Rd., Westmoreland, NH 03467; sianeditor@siahq.org. ■

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2023

Three Directors and One Nominations Committee member

Attention SIA Members!

This is your opportunity to help maintain the quality, strength, and diversity of leadership that has kept the SIA growing for more than five decades. We have four important positions to fill in the coming year and you can help choose the next leaders of your organization.

SIA's elected officials work for you to carry out the business of the organization. They represent the SIA to others, recruit new members, and plan the future of your Society.

In 2023, there will be four (4) openings: three members of the Board of Directors, and one member of the Nominations Committee. We need candidates willing to give their time, knowledge, and experience to the SIA.

This year's Nominations Committee is asking you to identify candidates—friends, colleagues, or perhaps even yourself—who are qualified and willing to serve. (If modesty precludes self-nomination, please find someone to nominate you.) Each candidate must be an SIA member in good standing and must consent to being considered for nomination.

The deadline for nominations is **Mon., Jan. 16, 2023**. If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact **Marc Belanger**, Chair, SIA Nominations Committee, 1001 South Meadows Pkwy, Apt 1221, Reno, NV 89521; 775-399-2391, marcnbelanger@gmail.com.

Positions Open in 2023:

Directors (3-year term). Three (3) of seven director positions are open this coming year. The Board meets approximately four times per year (both in person and online), including during the Annual Conference. Directors govern official business and affairs of the SIA, and often chair committees that oversee operations such as publications, grants, and local chapters.

Nominations Committee Member (3-year term). One (1) of three elected members who assist with recruiting and evaluating nominees and monitoring annual elections, with the assistance of the immediate past president as an *ex-officio* member. It is expected that members will attend the Annual Conference to count ballots, and that each member will chair the committee during the final year of their term. The Chair announces the results of the election at the Annual

Business Meeting during the Conference.

All nominations will be reviewed by the Nominations Committee, which will present a slate of candidates to the membership. Each nomination must include the name, address, telephone number, and email address of the person being nominated, the office for which the nomination is being made, and evidence that the candidate consents to being nominated. Once the slate is selected, the Nominations Committee will request a brief biographical statement and a photograph from each nominee.

For summaries of the nomination process and responsibilities of SIA officials, view the SIA Bylaws at <https://www.sia-web.org/about/bylaws/>. If you're unsure about the process or the obligation, please call or write the Nominations Chair at the address above. Current officeholders and their terms are shown below for your reference.

SIA Officers

T. Arron Kotlensky (President) 2022–2024
Fred Quivik (Vice President) 2022–2024
Saul Tannenbaum (Past President) 2022–2024
James Bouchard, Secretary (2022–2024)
Nanci K. Batchelor, Treasurer (2022–2024)

Board of Directors

Jacob Kaplan (2020–2023)
Lynn Rakos (2020–2023)
Gerry Weinstein (2020–2023)
Erik Nordberg (2021–2024)
Scott See (2021–2024)
Martha Mayer (2022–2025)
Tim Tumberg (2022–2025)

Nominations Committee

Marc Belanger (2020–2023)
Rebecca Burrow (2021–2024)
Ron Petrie (2022–2025)
Saul Tannenbaum, *ex officio* (2022–2024)

TICCIH Representative

Paul White (2021–2024)

Searching for a last-minute holiday gift?

Give the Gift of SIA Membership!

TRUSS us, they'll love it, they'll have a **BLAST!** And the price is a **STEEL.**

Visit <https://www.sia-web.org/membership/> to learn more and purchase,
or call SIA Headquarters at 906-487-1889

IA ON THE WEB

The East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections Program (EBTRR ASC) (<https://ebtfoundation.org/archives/>). Established as a joint program by the East Broad Top Foundation (EBTF) and the Friends of the East Broad Top (FEBT) to protect, preserve, and provide access to the history, memory, and legacy of the East Broad Top Railroad (“The EBT”) National Historic Landmark. As materials are processed and digitized, they are available for public access. Materials available include photo collections, maps and drawings, train orders, and other forms related to RR operations. The EBTRR ASC is known for its robust, nearly complete collections of records, documents, correspondence, reports, ledgers, maps, drawings, photos, ephemera, and historic artifacts of the EBT. The digital catalog represents a small but growing selection of over 5,000 linear ft. of materials, mostly contained at the Orbisonia Passenger Station in the EBT landmark hub located in Rockhill Furnace, Pa. Check back frequently for additions to the online catalog.

Schroeder Saddletree Factory Virtual Tour (<https://sites.google.com/view/historicmadisoninc/hmi-properties/saddletree-factory-museum/schroeder-saddletree-virtual-tour>). A free virtual tour of the iconic restored factory (Madison, Ind., SIA Fall Tours 1994 & 2014) is now available 24 hours a day from anywhere in the world with an Internet connection. The tour can be viewed on a computer screen, a tablet or a smartphone, and with virtual reality headsets. Almost untouched since the day it closed in 1972, the Ben

Schroeder Saddletree Factory is the nation’s last intact 19th-c. shop where craftsmen built the inner workings of saddles. Sawdust from the last run of saddletrees, the internal wooden skeletons of riding saddles, litters the floor. Rare vintage woodworking machines crowd the factory. Hundreds of saddletree patterns hang from the rafters. The Saddletree Factory Museum is the only museum in the world preserving the history, heritage, and machinery of this unique trade.



Historic Madison Inc.

A view inside the Schroeder Saddletree Factory.

IA on the Web is compiled from sites brought to the editor’s attention by members, who are encouraged to submit their IA Web finds: sianeditor@siahq.org ■

IA EXHIBITS

The Future’s Vessel: Glass at the 1939–1940 New York World’s Fair is on exhibit at Queens Museum (Queens, N.Y.) through Mar. 5, 2023. The 1939–1940 New York World’s Fair, themed “Building the World of the Future,” connected materials to the built environment through the symbolism of their physical qualities. The Glass Incorporated Pavilion shared the history and contemporary applications of the material when transparency and inspiration amid economic and global turmoil were particularly desirable. The present exhibit ponders the popularity of glass-as-keepsake alongside the dazzling architectural elements present at the 1939–1940 World’s Fair. A selection of artifacts from the Museum’s collection—brochures, souvenirs, and objects displayed at Glass Incorporated—visualize this juxtaposition between glass as status symbol and “the most versatile servant of mankind.” Info: <https://queensmuseum.org>.

Industry, Wealth, and Labor: Mapping New England’s Textile Industry will be on view at the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education (Portland,

Maine) through June 30, 2023. Inspired by the map library’s recent acquisition of a collection of textile mill insurance plans and historic maps from the American Textile History Museum, this exhibition addresses the temporal, geographic, and demographic components of New England’s cotton textile industry from the early 19th c. until the mid-20th c. This exhibition was curated by Roberta Ransley-Matteau, Cataloguer for the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education, and Ron Grim, Curator of Maps Emeritus at the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library. Info: <https://oshermaps.org>.

Nation of Inventors opened at the Hagley (Wilmington, Del.) on Oct. 8, 2022. The exhibit celebrates American ingenuity with displays from the early years of the patent system, in the 1790s, through the “golden age” of American invention, in the late 1800s. The exhibit features more than 120 patent models from Hagley’s unique collection highlighting the diverse stories of inventors from all walks of life. Patent models are scaled representations of inventions and were part of the patent

(continued on page 12)

Emergency Stabilization of Concord, NH Gasholder Successful

The Concord, N.H. Gasholder is now one major step closer to a better future. As reported in a prior issue of SIAN (Winter 2021, Vol. 50, No. 1), the historic gasholder was in danger of demolition when a campaign was launched to save it. After more than a year of intensive planning and seven months of complex engineering and preservation work, the last-of-its-kind landmark has been successfully stabilized, the first step toward preserving and revitalizing the vulnerable structure for public enjoyment.

The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance is engaging with stakeholders and potential redevelopment partners with a focus on finding a future use for the 2-acre property as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.

Emergency stabilization of the National Register-listed Gasholder began this spring. It was facilitated by the Preservation Alliance in collaboration with property owner Liberty, the City of Concord, and a team of engineers and consultants including Structures North, Yankee Steeplejack Co., Milestone Engineering & Construction, and Bruss Project Management. The work entailed interior structural scaffolding and exterior cabling to support the compromised roof and a compression ring that encircles the base of the roof. The major goals were to avoid collapse and set up infrastructure for the next phase of work on masonry, roof, and other elements.

The Preservation Alliance listed the gasholder on its Seven to Save list for a second time in 2020 because of its national significance and redevelopment potential after Liberty announced plans to seek a demolition permit due to the imminent risk of collapse. The Preservation Alliance has hosted public forums, helped support redevelopment analysis, and nominated the building for national Most Endangered status and a federal historic preservation grant.

For more info about the Save Our Gasholder campaign or to join the email list, visit www.saveourgasholder.org.—New Hampshire Preservation Alliance (Oct. 31, 2022)



New Hampshire Preservation Alliance

New steel shoring towers supporting compromised roof of the Concord Gasholder.



New Hampshire Preservation Alliance

Yankee Steeplejack Co. crew repairing slate roof of the Concord Gasholder.



New Hampshire Preservation Alliance

Concord Gasholder, view from South Main St.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2023 SIA General Tools Award

The SIA General Tools Award Committee is seeking nominations for the 2023 General Tools Award. This year's committee Chair is Brian Shovers. Give this committee some work to do, reviewing nominations for distinguished service to industrial archeology. Any SIA member in good standing may make a nomination.

Remember, the General Tools Award is the highest honor the SIA can bestow. It recognizes individuals who have given sustained, distinguished service to the field of industrial archeology. The award is presented at the SIA's annual business meeting.

Here's what we're looking for: (1) the recipient must have given noteworthy, beyond-the-call-of-duty service, over an extended period, to the cause of industrial archeology; (2) the type of service for which the recipient is recognized is unspecified, but must be for other than academic publication; (3) it is desirable but not required that the recipient be, or previously have been, a member of the SIA; (4) the award may be made only to living individuals. Teams, groups, agencies, firms, or any other collective entities are not eligible.

Think of a name, then start a nomination. The committee can help you finish. You can write a statement of 2–3 pages identifying the qualifying accomplishments. Or, write a partial nomination describing one sector of the person's work you know best, with suggestions of others who might know more about the candidate's career. Nominations also may be collaborative efforts submitted by two or three members.

Supplementary material (the candidate's resume, for example) may be added. Nominations must also include the name, address, phone, and email of the nominator.

Information on the award and examples of successful

nominations appear on the SIA website for many of the members who have received the award to date: www.sia-web.org/activities/awards/general-tools-award.

Previous recipients are Emory Kemp (1993), Robert Vogel (1994), Edward Rutsch (1995), Patrick Malone (1996), Margot Gayle (1997), Helena Wright (1998), Vance Packard (1999), Eric DeLony (2000), Robert Merriam (2001), Charles Parrott (2002), Alex Barbour (2003), Charles K. Hyde (2004), Lance Metz (2005), [no award given in 2006], Patrick Martin (2007), Chris Andraea (2008), Carol Poh (2009), Robert Gordon (2010), Richard Anderson (2011), Jane Mork Gibson (2012), Bob Frame (2013), Jet Lowe (2014), [no award given in 2015], Duncan Hay (2016), Patrick Harshbarger (2017), Fred Quivik (2018), David Simmons (2019), Brian Shovers (2020), Vern Mesler (2021), and Louise Trottier (2022).

The General Tools Award was established in 1992 through the generosity of Gerald Weinstein [SIA], then chairman of the board of General Tools & Instruments Co. LLC. High Road Capital Partners acquired General Tools & Instruments in Feb. 2014 and have been pleased for the SIA to continue using the company's name on the award. The award is funded by the Abraham and Lillian Rosenberg Foundation. The Rosenbergs founded General Hardware, the predecessor to General Tools. The award consists of a citation, a commissioned sculpture ("The Plumb Bob"), and a cash award.

Please email or call Brian Shovers, this year's committee chair, if you are interested in making a nomination for 2023. Nominations are due on Mar. 31, 2023 to Brian at sholace0848@gmail.com, 406-443-6640, or by mail to 210 S. California, Helena, MT 59601.

SITES & STRUCTURES

Copake Iron Works Gets \$100k for Loop Railroad. Friends of Taconic State Park (FTSP) has received a \$100,000 grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to support the development of The Pomeroy Family Railroad at Copake Iron Works. This funding will support the development of a 1,000-ft. loop RR around the historic Copake Blast Furnace, as well as a station house. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the historic location in one of two train cars on the site's Ry. system. FTSP was established in 2008 to support cultural, recreational, and educational activities within the park with the preservation of the Copake Iron Works National Heritage Area Site its priority. The group is implementing a 20-year plan to create a pre-eminent site of historic ironmaking and a national destination for tourists in Copake Falls. Info: <https://www.friendsoftsp.org>.—*New York Almanack*, Aug. 7, 2022 ■

IA EXHIBITS *(continued from page 10)*

application process for nearly 100 years. The exhibit showcases patent models representing a variety of industries from transportation and manufacturing to food preservation and medical devices. Info: <https://www.hagley.org/nation-inventors>.

A Time of Toil and Triumph: Selections from the Shogren-Meyer Collection of American Art is on exhibit through Feb. 26, 2023 at the Grohmann Museum on the campus of the Milwaukee School of Engineering (Wisc.). The exhibition includes American industrial art, primarily of the 1930s and 40s, and the surrounding decades. On display are dozens of paintings and photographs by Aaron Bohrod, Margaret Bourke-White, John Steuart Curry, Walker Evans, Lewis Hine, Edmund Lewandowski, Dorothea Lange, Thornton Oakley, and Isaac Soyler, among others. Info: <https://www.msoe.edu/grohmann-museum/>. ■

MEMBER NEWS

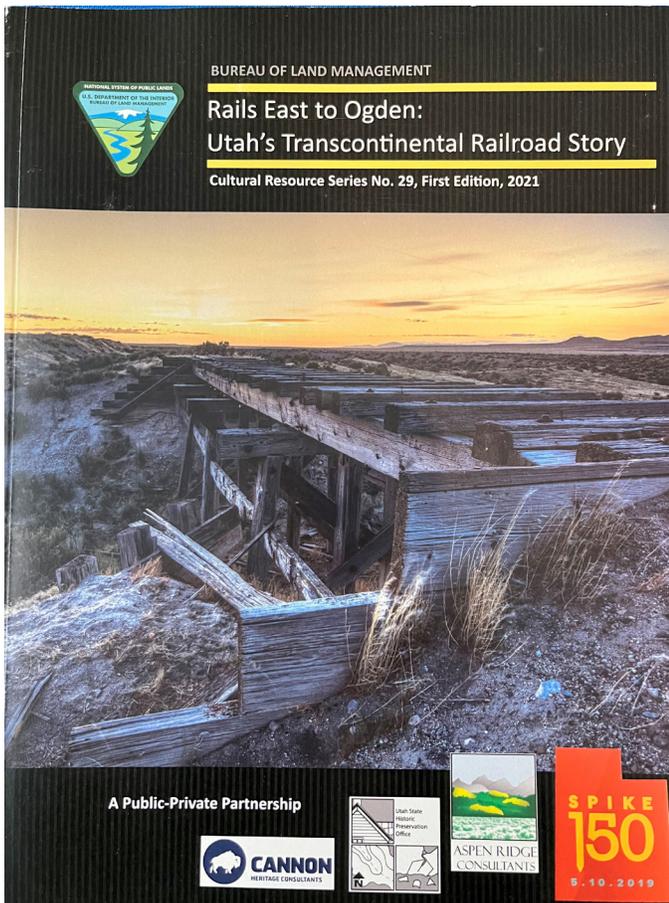
Michael Polk [SIA] and co-authors received an Environmental Achievement Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior for their work on a new addition to our understanding of the Utah portion of the transcontinental railroad: the 2021 publication *Rails East to Ogden: Utah's Transcontinental Railroad Story*, a free publication of the Bureau of Land Management and Monograph No. 29 in the ongoing BLM Cultural Resource Series. Recognition of this product was for the tremendous “efforts to promote and protect cultural resources to include archaeological sites, historic buildings and sites, cultural and historic landscapes, and tribal trusts.”

This publication represents the most comprehensive study of any historic resource on BLM-administered lands in Utah. It is the culmination of many years of on-the-ground and in-library research presented in over 300+ pages, 115 figures, and 23 tables. Authors Michael Polk and Chris Merritt and contributors Michael Sheehan, Ken Cannon, and Molly Cannon worked collaboratively to retell and add to our knowledge of Utah's role and legacy in this important story. Readers can download this publication for free from the Utah Div. of State History's website: https://issuu.com/utah10/docs/rails_east_to_ogden.

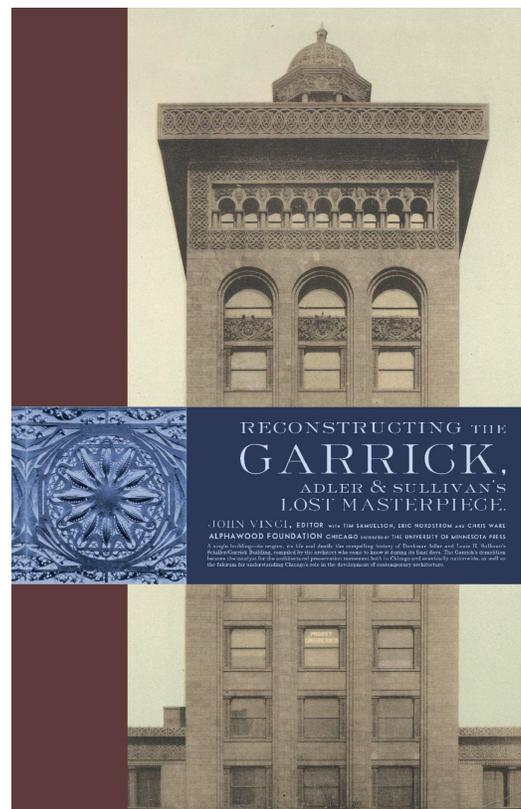


Authors and contributors: left to right, Michael Polk, Chris Merritt, Michael Sheehan, Molly Cannon, and Ken Cannon.

Eric Nordstrom [SIA], a Michigan Tech graduate, was part of the editorial team for Alphawood Foundation's book *Reconstructing the Garrick: Adler & Sullivan's Lost Masterpiece* (edited by John Vinci with Tim Samuelson, Eric Nordstrom, and Chris Ware. Designed by Chris Ware), which won the 2022 Alice Award. The \$25,000 Alice is administered by Furthermore and given annually to a richly illustrated book that makes a valuable contribution to its field and demonstrates high standards of production. ■



Cover of print book *Rails East to Ogden: Utah's Transcontinental Railroad Story*.



The cover of *Reconstructing the Garrick*.

CHAPTER NEWS

On Sept. 9, the **Northern Ohio Chapter** held its annual picnic at the estate of long-time members Don and Vicki Johnson, near Huron, Ohio. In the morning, participants carpooled to a guided tour of the Schlessman Seed Co. in nearby Milan. For over 100 years, Schlessman has produced seeds for commercial production of corn, wheat, and soybeans, primarily in the American Midwest with some exports. Tour participants were shown how seed corn is grown, harvested, husked, cleaned, sorted, treated, and packaged. At the time of the tour, the factory was focused on processing wheat seeds for the fall planting of winter wheat, which American farmers will harvest in the Spring of 2023. The group was shown a variety of machinery that clean and separate seeds on the basis of size, shape, weight, and color. After the Schlessman tour, participants returned to the Johnsons' place for a picnic on the lawn. Members elected a new slate of chapter officers: President Mary Starbuck, Vice President Ron Petrie, Secretary Guy Marentette, and Treasurer Steve Titchenal. Afterward, Don Johnson showed off his incredible collection of motors and hand-built outbuildings. His "toys" include a mint-condition 1957 Chevrolet, a 1927 Chevrolet in process of restoration, a hand-built old-fashioned-looking windmill, and a rebuilt blacksmith shop rescued from destruction at

another location. Don designed and built a six-sided windmill from scratch, after he happened to rescue six massive wooden doors from a barn demolition.

Ron Petrie



Stephen Titchenal

Don Johnson, retired nuclear engineer, used siding from an old barn to create this windmill.

Oliver Evans Chapter (Greater Philadelphia) held a brewery tour in Norristown, N.J. on Aug. 20. Chapter members first viewed the former Adam Scheidt (Valley Forge) Brewery. The complex has been restored and now houses the Stony Creek Office Center. Next they toured Von C Brewing Co., located in one of the buildings of the former Wildman Mfg. Co., which produced knitting machines during the mid-1900s. Rich Wagner [SIA], beer historian and author of *Philadelphia Beer, the Heady History of Brewing in the Cradle of Liberty* (History Pr., 2012), organized and led the tour.

Roebling Chapter (Greater N.Y.-N.J.) members gathered at Gerry Weinstein's Engineerium in Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. for the chapter's annual corn roast on Oct. 9, after enjoying several area tours during the summer. On Oct. 22, the chapter held their 39th Great Falls Symposium at the Rogers Locomotive Works Storage Building in the Great Falls National Historical Park. Presentations included Matthew Wolchko, *Impeccable Engineering on a Massive Scale: Hell Gate Bridge*; Ray Merrell, *Origin of Asphalt Roofing*; Paul C. King, *Roebling's Niagara Falls Railway Suspension Bridge*; Bierce Riley, *The 20th Century Panama Canal: Construction*; Gianfranco Archimede, *Paterson Great Falls National Park: Quarry Lawn Recap, Project Updates & Beyond*; and Joe Macasek, *The Morris Canal Greenway: An Update—2022*. The symposium concluded with a trip across the new Spruce Street Bridge to Hinchliffe Stadium, with a walk around the inside of the stadium to see the construction progress.

Support Your Local Chapter. For info on a chapter near you or to start one, check out the local chapters section of the SIA website (www.sia-web.org). ■



Diane Korzak

NOCSIA group with our tour guide, Schlessman seed employee Brandon Palmer (center of front row).



Stephen Titchenal

This locomotive is just one of many machines on Don and Vickie Johnson's property.

SIA'S FALL TOUR *(continued from page 3)*

Pa. It was relocated to Coolspring in 1993 and restored to operating condition. The Snow is a 4-stroke cycle engine with each cylinder having a 24-in. bore and 48-in. stroke. The 18-ft. diam. flywheel ran so true that there was no deviation observable when sighted against a vertical pillar in its storage building. The Snow represents an impressive example of early 1900s engineering and manufacturing. Afterward we enjoyed lunch in the museum's picnic pavilion before heading northwest again.

Our next stop was **Historic Pithole City** near Pleasantville, Pa. Pithole City was an early oil boomtown that sprang up in 1865, grew to 15,000 residents in 1866, and then quickly collapsed. The 90-acre site is preserved by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to tell the story of boom and bust in the oil region. The visitors center was closed, but many in our group took a walk through the site. Mowed lanes now signify the former roads of the boomtown, and interpretive signs feature historic snapshots of what once was at each location. Despite its lack of visible "stuff," the site was indeed evocative of boom and bust, and proved to be an SIA crowd-pleaser.

The final stop for the SIA Fall Tour was the **Drake Well Museum and Historic Site** in Titusville. The site includes a full-size replica of Edwin Drake's engine house and derrick, enclosing the well where Drake first struck oil in 1859. Drake had anticipated drilling over 1,000 ft. to find oil. But, he was fortunate to strike oil after drilling a scant 69.5 ft. From this modest beginning, Pennsylvania provided 86 percent of the world's oil until other wells came online around 1901. The Drake historic site ably conveyed early drilling technology, as well as later developments entailing deeper wells and taller derricks. A highlight of the tour was viewing the reconstructed engine within the Drake Well engine house—another example of Vance Packard's work. Starting in 1979, he was the site manager and chief exhibit designer here. A correct steam engine for the replica derrick and engine house was needed, so he and John Bowditch, another SIA member and museum professional, built and installed a historically accurate horizontal engine. The replica was soon operating perfectly, and continues to do so, as we saw during our tour.

We also walked along the jerker system, which drives interconnected oil well pumps throughout the site from a single power source.

After the outdoor tour, SIA members went indoors for an illustrated presentation by Susan Beates, the museum's curator, following which we enjoyed pre-dinner drinks while viewing the informative museum exhibits. A tasty buffet dinner marked the official close to an interesting and educational Fall Tour.

The SIA recognizes and thanks the organizations and volunteers who made this Fall Tour possible. Thanks to local sponsors the Oil Region Alliance and the Drake Well Museum and Park, and the many businesses and sites that welcomed our group. Thanks also to the planning committee, chaired by President Arron Kotlensky, with assistance from MTU Ph.D. candidate Kyle Parker-McGlynn and members of the SIA national leadership committee: Vice President Fred Quivik, Past President Saul Tannenbaum, Executive Secretary Steve Walton, Events Coordinator Courtney Murtaugh, and SIA Headquarters Manager Daniel Schneider.



David Zwolak

A reconstructed derrick at the Drake Well Museum.

David Zwolak, with contributions by Patrick Malone, Carol Poh, and Marni Walter



Patrick Malone

The Packard and Bowditch Drake Well engine.



Patrick Malone

SIA members walk along the jerker rod system at the Drake Well Museum.

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CALENDAR

2023

Jan. 4–7: SHA 2023 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology—Revisiting Global Archaeologies, Lisbon, Portugal. Info: <https://sha.org>.

Apr. 12–15: National Council on Public History Conference, Atlanta, Ga. Info: <https://ncph.org>.

Apr. 12–16: Society of Architectural Historians 76th Annual International Conference, Montréal, Canada, followed by virtual sessions, Sept. 20–22. Info: <https://www.sah.org/2023>.

May 16–21: Railway and Locomotive Historical Society Annual Meeting, Sparks, Nev. Info: <https://rlhs.org/WP/>.

May 17–20: Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Conference, Plymouth, Mass. Info: <https://vafweb.wildapricot.org>.

May 22–25: 2nd International Conference of Mining and Underground Museums, Cracow Saltworks Museum, Wieliczka and Zabrze, Poland. Info: www.icmum.pl.

May 31–June 4: Amused in Allegheny: 46th Annual Society for Commercial Archeology Conference and Tours, Erie, Pa. Info: sca-roadside.org.

June 7–11: SIA 51st ANNUAL CONFERENCE, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. Info: www.sia-web.org. See preview in this issue.

June 8–11: Mining History Assn. Conference, Socorro, N.M. Info: www.mininghistoryassociation.org.

June 22–24: Construction History Society of America 8th Meeting, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Info: <https://www.chsa8thmeetingurbanachampaign.org>.

2024

Apr. 17–21: Society of Architectural Historians Annual International Conference, Albuquerque, N.M. Info: www.sah.org. ■