

# INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

PREMISES AND PRACTICES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



*Quincy Smelter, Ripley, Michigan. Jet Lowe 1978*

**25-28 September 2008  
Franklin Square Inn  
Houghton, Michigan**

Sponsored by Michigan Technological University  
with support from the National Science Foundation

**GUIDE FOR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS**

## WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

*Thursday, September 25*

Travel day, optional tours.

6:00 – 9:00 pm Reception, Quincy Hoist House

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*Friday, September 26*

8:30 am – 9:00 am Opening Address: Bruce Seely

9:00 am – 12:00 pm SESSION I: EDUCATION

Moderator: Patrick Martin  
Helmuth Albrecht  
Marie Nisser

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm LUNCH  
Franklin Square Inn

1:15 pm - 7:00 pm TOUR 1: *Mine Locations Along the Mineral Range*

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm DINNER  
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, Copper Harbor

9:00 – 10:00pm Return to hotel

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*Saturday, September 27*

8:30 – 11:30 am SESSION II: ENVIRONMENT

Moderator:  
Patrick Malone  
Fred Quivik

11:45 am – 2:50 pm TOUR 2 (includes boxed lunch): *Torch Lake Mill and Quincy Smelter Sites*

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm SESSION III: TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT

Moderator:  
Sharon Ann Holt  
Wolfgang Ebert

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm BREAK

7:00 pm - DINNER  
Pilgrim River Steakhouse

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*Sunday, September 28*

Travel day, optional tours available



*Quincy Smelter, Paul White 2008*

## INTRODUCTION

Over the last half-century, the recognition, advocacy, and management of industrial heritage has expanded rapidly from local avocational contexts to include national and international cultural heritage organizations, foundations, and consultancy firms. The topic has made inroads into different academic fields, among them the history of technology, material culture studies, historic preservation, and the development of a distinctive field, industrial archaeology. The wider acknowledgment of industrial heritage is reflected also in the selection of industrial sites such as Saltaire, Zollverein, and Engelsberg for World Heritage status, in the development of an international committee dedicated to the preservation of industrial heritage sites (TICCIH), and in the emergence of undergraduate and graduate programs in Europe and the United States geared specifically to teaching and researching industrial heritage.

Despite these developments, fundamental questions remain about how effectively to articulate practical considerations with theoretical dimensions. How do we, for instance, tie concerns like adaptive reuse, environmental remediation, community revitalization, and funding with educational themes that explore the path of technological innovation and transfer, the wider meanings of material culture, and the social transformations embroiled within industrialization? The challenges practitioners face in presenting and preserving an industrial past in the 21st century are ever more complicated given the global transformations in which former “workshops of the world” now have long histories of deindustrialization, and with it, long periods of abandonment and neglect. The problem, as Neil Cossons has recently articulated, is that first-hand knowledge and experience of industry is fast disappearing, and we can no longer assume that the significance of industrialization will remain in public consciousness.<sup>1</sup>

*Industrial Heritage: Premises and Practices for the 21st Century* initiates deeper conversation into the connections between the practical and abstract by bringing together a small group of scholars with different but overlapping perspectives on industrial heritage. Six speakers from inside and outside the academy will contribute short position papers on different dimensions of current industrial heritage practice, namely landscape and the environment, models for educational programs, and economic development. These presentations will provide the structure for seminar-style discussions in which all attendees will participate. Field trips to local industrial sites will provide case examples for directing and advancing discussion along lines of real-world circumstances.

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<sup>1</sup> Neil Cossons. 2007. Industrial Archaeology: The Challenge of the Evidence. *The Antiquaries Journal* 87: 1-52.

## BACKGROUND FOR PRESENTERS

Industrial Heritage: Premises and Practices for the 21st Century serves as the capstone of a National Science Foundation Program in Science and Technology Studies grant to inaugurate a doctoral program in Industrial Heritage and Archaeology at Michigan Technological University. Begun in 2005, the Ph.D. initiative developed logically from an earlier Masters program in industrial archeology, with the intention of allowing students more time and resources to research industrial heritage and ultimately to pursue careers in this field. The timing of this workshop also mirrors recent European initiatives to develop international heritage programs, including the Erasmus Mundus Master's degree on Industrial Technology, Heritage, and Technologies and a proposed International Master's program that will connect universities in Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as other nations.

This workshop takes an inclusive stance on industrial heritage. Beyond outlining three key avenues for discussion—education, environment, economic development—we have purposefully left latitude for the six core invitees to choose how they wish to address these topics. Helmuth Albrecht, Wolfgang Ebert, Sharon Ann Holt, Patrick Malone, Marie Nisser, and Fred Quivik have worked extensively in one or more of these areas. This workshop is geared mostly at the conversation that results in bringing varying perspectives together. The central question we hope to explore is this issue of connecting the theoretical and the practical—be it through identifying experiences or conditions where these aspects articulate well, or instances where they fail to do so at all.

We ask that each invited speaker present a brief commentary on his/her topic at the workshop—on the order of 20 minutes. You have considerable latitude in how you wish to proceed, but a good guiding framework is for the commentary to outline key issues for discussion. Some helpful questions along these lines are: What are the principal issues in your topic as you see it? How have these issues expressed themselves? Are there promising examples or areas that could use further exploration? What avenues have not proved helpful? Neither you nor your counterpart are required to have a regional/continental perspective in your commentary, though that is possible. Focusing on a case study or highlighting general trends will also serve discussions well. Some thoughts on “how things are/should be done here” will be a useful basis for organizing thoughts. Drawing links between your topic and material culture will also be most welcome—the workshop will include tours to select industrial sites intended to promote discussion upon these lines. We also encourage you to communicate beforehand with your seminar partner and have included email addresses for this purpose.

We would like each of the six invited speakers to prepare an abstract of their commentary (from one to three paragraphs) for us to circulate to all speakers by September 12, two weeks prior to the workshop. These abstracts will also be included in a booklet handed out to all attendees. The core of the workshop will take place over two days, with a three hour session allotted for each of the three main topics. We envision no more than the first hour of each session involving prepared commentaries and presentations by two of the six invited speakers, and that the remainder of the session will take the form of an open floor, seminar-style discussion. We anticipate from 30 to 40 people attending, including faculty and students from the Social Sciences Department at Michigan Technological University and invited guests from organizations with longstanding interests in industrial heritage. Following the workshop, we will ask presenters to write up their commentaries as a brief article suitable for publication.

The workshop's location in Houghton, Michigan, provides an appropriate setting for discussing these aspects of industrial heritage. Located partway up the Keweenaw Peninsula, a 75-mile-long finger of land jutting from the southern shore of Lake Superior, the area has a rich copper mining history extending back to prehistoric times. The Peninsula was the site of a mid-19th century mineral rush, and it remained an important copper mining region until the 1960s. Indeed, Michigan Technological University, founded in 1885, was initially a mining school. Like many former industrial regions of the United States, historic industrial sites here are beset with problems today. Preservationists and community members alike grapple with the reality of limited funding, regional impoverishment, and different and sometimes conflicting visions. There remain conflicting notions about what to preserve and interpret, how best to effect goals of economic revitalization, and how also to address the legacy of environmental pollution.



## ONLINE RESOURCES

1. Industrial Archaeology Program at Michigan Technological University.

*This website describes the goals, faculty, students, and curricula for the master's program (created in 1992) and the newly minted PhD program (2005). This site also provides links to the annual archaeological field-school at the West Point Foundry, Cold Spring, New York, and to the Society for Industrial Archeology.*

<http://www.ss.mtu.edu/IA/iahm.html>

2. Bruce Seely and Patrick Martin. 2006. "A Doctoral Program in Industrial History and Archaeology at Michigan Tech," *CRM: The Journal of Heritage Stewardship* 3(1).

*This article details the efforts by faculty in the Social Sciences department to teach industrial heritage, as well as the recent National Science Foundation grant.*

<http://crmjournal.cr.nps.gov/Print.cfm?articleIDN=2582>

3. Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections.

*Includes links to a database of historic photos of mining and other scenes from the area.*

<http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives>

4. Keweenaw National Historical Park (KEWE).

*Formed in 1992 and administered by the National Park Service, KEWE preserves and interprets the copper mining operations of the peninsula's two largest and most profitable companies: the Quincy Mining Company and Calumet & Hecla Mining Company. Unlike most parks, it has no entrance gates, campgrounds, or visitor centers. The National Park administers two areas exclusively and several sites in partnership with local museums and other private entities. The website includes photos and descriptions of key historical sites.*

<http://www.nps.gov/kewe/>

5. Department of Michigan History, Arts, Libraries.

*This state department includes the Library of Michigan, Mackinac Island State Park Commission, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Michigan Historical Center. The website provides links to a wide range of information on Michigan's heritage resources.*

<http://www.michigan.gov/hal>



*Mine buildings atop Quincy Hill. Jet Lowe.*

## LOGISTICS

We will provide food and accommodations and will reimburse travel costs of invited speakers.

### *Venue*

The workshop will be held on the 7th floor of the Franklin Square Inn in downtown Houghton, with a view out over the Quincy Smelter, a site considered for several types of adaptive reuse since its closure in the 1960s. The smelter is currently undergoing environmental testing and remediation by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and we will visit the site during the course of this workshop.

### *Travel*

If you have not yet had the opportunity to book your travel, the best option is to fly into the Houghton County airport (airport code CMX). The less favored alternative is to fly into Sawyer International airport in Marquette County (airport code MQT), a two-and-a-half-hour drive from Houghton. Be sure to email Paul White (pjwhite@mtu.edu) as soon as you have purchased your tickets. Include your ticket price and your itinerary so that we can meet you at the airport. If you encounter problems en route, you can contact Paul White at 906 281 0554.

- A van and/or a bus will be used for workshop tours and other engagements.

### *Accommodations*

You will be staying at the Franklin Square Inn in Houghton, the same venue as the workshop. The hotel is within comfortable walking distance of Michigan Technological University and downtown. Hotel amenities include an indoor pool, spa and sauna, and a small fitness center. Wireless high speed internet access is available throughout the hotel. Rooms include a coffee/tea maker, hairdryer, iron and ironing board, and air conditioning for the rare occasion that fall temperatures become stifling. As of September, all hotel rooms are non-smoking.

### *Food*

Please let us know in advance if you have any dietary restrictions.

Please direct any questions on these or related matters to [pjwhite@mtu.edu](mailto:pjwhite@mtu.edu).



*Ruins No. 7 Hoist House, built 1898-1900, Quincy Mine. Photographer: Jet Lowe.*



## WORKSHOP TOURS

Two tours to local industrial sites will introduce participants to the landscape of the Keweenaw Peninsula. They also complement the workshop sessions by providing opportunities for discussion on- and off-site about industrial heritage issues.

### **Friday (Half-day) Mine Locations Along the Mineral Range**

This half-day tour up the Keweenaw Peninsula travels through a string of former mining towns, the surface expression of the line of rich copper deposits. We will stop at several sites operated by Champion, Quincy, and Calumet & Hecla mining companies. The tour arrives at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge in Copper Harbor for a hearty dinner, and we will head back for the conference hotel at 9:00 pm.

### **Saturday (Three-hour) Torch Lake Mill and Quincy Smelter Sites**

Lunchtime trip to Torch Lake, a shoreline once lined with stamp mills and reclamation plants, and then south to the Quincy Smelter, directly across Portage Lake from the conference hotel. The Quincy Smelter is the only historic copper smelter site with standing structures and equipment in the United States. This site also has been a focus for several different incentives, including restoration and rehabilitation as an interpretive center, commercial development, and complete demolition. The Environmental Protection Agency has recently listed the smelter as a Superfund site, which requires remediation of environmental hazards.

### **Pre- and Post-Workshop Tours**

Tours to other sites in the Keweenaw will be available on other days by request for those wishing to stay longer days. The guide “Keweenaw Copper: Mines, Mills, Smelters, and Communities” included with this mailing provides an excellent introduction to the area’s industrial heritage sites.

*Photos, left to right: Quincy Mine shaft-house #2; Cliff Mine map; Re-vegetated stamp sands at Lake Linden; Quincy Smelter.*



## INVITED SPEAKERS

### **Helmuth Albrecht**

*Helmuth.Albrecht@iwtg.tu-freiberg.de*

Albrecht is professor of History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology and Director of the Institute for the History of Science and Technology at the Technical University of Freiberg, Germany. He specializes in the history of technological universities, the history of industrialization, and modern technology and geology. He has published widely on these topics, writing several monographs and contributing more than twenty articles to scientific journals. He is spearheading the 14th TICCIH congress to be held in Freiberg in Fall 2009, which has a guiding theme of industrial heritage, ecology, and economy. He is also currently working on the development of an International Masters Program in Industrial Heritage, a two-year course that will link several companion institutions in Europe as well as Michigan Technological University in the USA.

### **Wolfgang Ebert**

*Ebert@msp-dortmund.de*

Ebert is the founder of the KutlurBuero (Culture Management Company), which has carried out numerous industrial archaeological projects for institutions and initiatives throughout Europe. Included in these projects are the "Route of Industrial Heritage in the Ruhr" and the European Route of Industrial Heritage (ERIH). From 1980-1987 Ebert was a professor at the Freie Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. In 1986 he founded and has since been president of the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Industriekultur (The German Society for Industrial Archaeology). He has also served as the National Representative for Germany at the International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage.

### **Sharon Ann Holt**

*Shan.Holt@verizon.net*

Holt is a public historian who teaches at Rutgers University and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She consults with historical organizations on new initiatives, including strategic and financial management and has, for the last four years, served as the Director of Programs for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH), in which a key priority has been developing a collaborative model for the interpretation of the endangered Bethlehem Steel Plant in Pennsylvania. As a practicing public historian, she works developing exhibits, publications, programs, and other community-based collaborations. She sits on the board of the McNeil Center of Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and publishes in journals in public history, museum studies, and American history. She is the author of *Making Freedom Pay: North Carolina Freedpeople Working for Themselves, 1865-1900*. She currently has a manuscript titled *Constructing a Modern Past: Public History and the Repair of American Civic Life* under consideration by the University of Michigan Press.

### **Patrick Malone**

*Patrick\_Malone@brown.edu*

Malone is an associate professor of American Civilization and Urban Studies at Brown University and a recipient of the Society of Industrial Archeology's General Tools Award in recognition of his



long and distinguished service to industrial archaeology. He is a distinguished teacher, and many of his former students have gone on to make substantive contributions in the field of IA. He is coauthor, with Robert Gordon, of *The Texture of Industry: An Archaeological View of the Industrialization of North America* (Oxford Univ. Press 1994), a pioneering textbook on American industrial history. Malone has also co-edited a volume in *IA: The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology* on green engineering (vol. 24, no. 1), and is currently finishing a book on the waterpower system in Lowell, Massachusetts. He has also written on the topic of industrial preservation and reuse. Malone has firsthand experience with the interpretation of industrial sites and artifacts, having served as the director of the Slater Mill Historic Site in Pawtucket, Rhode Island for 15 years. Since 2002 he has served as an advisory curator of Industrial Archaeology at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

**Marie Nisser**  
*Nisser@kth.se*

Nisser is Professor Emerita of Industrial Heritage Studies at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm, Sweden, receiving the appointment of Chair of Industrial Heritage in 1992. She has been concerned with the study of industrial heritage since the 1970s, and has authored more than 100 publications on the iron and steel industry, pulp and paper manufacture, the conservation of industrial heritage, and industrialization in general. Nisser has graduated several PhD students in industrial heritage, many of whom have continued professional careers in the field. She served as the president of TICCIH from 1984-1990, and has remained a member of the board since. In 2000 Nisser was appointed honorary president of TICCIH, and she is also one of the main organizers behind the TICCIH initiative to develop an International Master's Program in Industrial Heritage.

**Fred Quivik**  
*Quivik@usfamily.net*

Quivik is a past president of the Society for Industrial Archeology who works as consulting historian of technology and teaches part time at the University of Pennsylvania. His contracts are divided between preservation projects involving cultural resources having industrial or engineering character and legal cases related to Superfund or related remediation of hazardous materials left at old industrial sites, especially those involving the processing of mineral resources. He has worked as an expert witness for the U.S. Department of Justice, where he contributed a report on the history of operations at the vermiculite mine and mill at the center of a Superfund cleanup at Libby, Montana.

## Contact Information

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*Slag Dump at Quincy Smelter, Jet Lowe 1978*