



# Society for Industrial Archeology ROEBLING CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

March 2007

Vol. 16 No. 1

## CHAPTER EVENTS

### *Morris Canal Plane 9 West*

*Saturday, April 21, 2007; 11:00 - 1:00*

*Follow-on tour at the People's Water*

*Company Pump House*

Completed in 1836, the Morris Canal crossed 102 miles of northern New Jersey from Phillipsburg on the Delaware to Jersey City on the Hudson. The Morris Canal was a marvel in its time partly for its unprecedented elevation change which totaled 1,674 feet and was achieved through the use of 23 incline planes. The Canal supported and encouraged industrial growth by providing an efficient and reliable method of transportation for raw materials and manufactured goods across the state. Plane 9 West in Stewartville, NJ was the largest plane on the Canal with a vertical lift of 100 feet, a total length of 1,788 feet and a double track. Take the tour led by Jim Lee then visit the on-site museum where you can view artifacts excavated at the site. The tour will begin at the Plane Tenders' house. A follow-on tour of the Peoples Water Company Pump House will be lead by Bill McKelvey. The water company was founded in 1885 but the reinforced concrete pump house and Allis Chalmers vertical triple expansion, coal fired, steam powered water pumping engine were built in 1913. This event is co-sponsored with the Northern Chapter of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey.

#### **Directions:**

Heading west on Route I-78/US Route 22, take Exit 3 (last exit in New Jersey) onto US Route 22 West via the Route 122/US Route 22 exit to Phillipsburg - Alpha. Take US Route 22 for just less than 1 mile until the intersection with County Route 519. Turn right onto County Route 519 North and take this road for 1 mile. The driveway is located to the right immediately after the second concrete bridge you cross on County Route 519. There is a historical marker for the Incline Plane and a green mailbox with 477 on it. The lane is a long straight unpaved lane that leads to parking at the top. If you continue on County Route 519 and go through a tunnel/culvert you'll come to the intersection with Route 57, and you've gone too far.



*A historic view of Morris Canal Incline plane 9 West showing the power house in the background. In the foreground is the arch of the tail race tunnel a feature that we will see on the tour.*

### *Yama Farms*

*Saturday, May 12, 2007; 11:00 - 4:00*

“For a brief time during the early years of the twentieth century, at the edge of the hamlet of Napanoch, in the Town of Wawarsing, in Ulster County, New York, there existed a unique and improbable place – Yama Farms Inn, known also as Yama-no-uchi, a Japanese phrase meaning “Home in the Mountains.”

So begins the prologue to *Yama Farms ~ A Most Unusual Catskill Resort*. Published in June 2006 by the Cragmoor Historical Society, the book is the result of a collaboration among archaeologist and RCSIA member Wendy E. Harris, her late father Harold Harris, and journalist Dianne Wiebe. It chronicles the rise and fall of an extraordinary resort that flourished during the opening decades of the twentieth century. Yama Farms Inn was managed like a rustic English country house where guests mingled in a casual “house party” setting. In keeping with the country atmosphere, the Inn produced most of its own food – and even the wine. Adjoining the Inn was a complex of Japanese-inspired buildings and gardens, built between 1906 and 1910, designed and executed by Olive Brown Sarre, a woman very much ahead of her time. She and her companion (and eventual husband), New York City advertising

visionary, Frank Morgan Seaman, created Yama Farms and presided over it until Seaman's death in 1938.

When the Inn opened for business in 1913, writers, scientists, entertainers, industrialists – even nobility – flocked to its doors. Foremost among the guests was a group known as the “The Famous Four,” which included the naturalist John Burroughs, inventor Thomas Edison, and industrialists Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone. Other guests associated with the worlds of industry and finance were George Eastman, H.H. Westinghouse, W. Vincent Astor, Alfred Irene duPont, Coleman T. duPont, Sidney M. Colgate, and John D. Rockefeller. Mingling with the industrialists was a group of naturalists-explorers and curators associated with the American Museum of Natural History. The incongruous guest list of renowned and unique individuals will be enumerated on the tour.

RCSIA members are invited to tour the remains of this largely forgotten Inn. Of special interest are the ruins of the three stone structures surviving from the Japanese complex. These include the massive stables; the more delicate teahouse; and a smaller structure that once housed hydropower equipment for the nearby trout hatchery. Much of the wooden superstructures that topped the stables and teahouse have collapsed. Their remnants, however, contain artifactual evidence of traditional Japanese construction techniques used by local artisans trained by Sarre. The ruins of the gardens and trout hatcheries are also visible and await interpretation by Roebing Chapter members.

Members of the RCSIA will also visit “the Hut,” an Arts and Craft-style residence located on the hillside overlooking the Japanese complex. Like the rest of Yama Farms, its design is unique. Although its interior is badly damaged, it contains a number of surprising architectural details. On the rear porch of the Hut are lines of hat pegs, still bearing brass nameplates for the many famous guests. On the grounds nearby are the remains of a Prohibition-era winery, as well as a circa 1920s garage, that may have been used by Henry Ford and the rest of the Famous Four, before setting out on their famous auto journeys.

In addition to the tour of Yama Farms, RCSIA members will also visit Cragmoor, New York. The tour will meet here at the Cragmoor Historical Society for lunch (bring your own) and a brief orientation. Located atop the Shawangunk Ridge, the community was originally founded in the 1870s by artists and their wealthy New York and Philadelphia patrons. Much of Cragmoor is a National Register Historic District. Yama Farms is an approximately 20 minute drive from Cragmoor.

*Yama Farms, A Most Unusual Catskills Resort*, by Harold Harris, Wendy E. Harris, and Dianne Wiebe, can be ordered at: <http://members.aol.com/yamabook/>. All

proceeds from the book's sale benefit the Cragmoor Historical Society and will be used in the restoration of their headquarters, the circa 1870s former Cragmoor Federated Church.

For background on Yama Farm Inn, visit the website: <http://members.tripod.com/lorrainewinters/index.htm>

**FOR DIRECTIONS PLEASE CONTACT LYNN** via email at [RCSIAprez@aol.com](mailto:RCSIAprez@aol.com) or call (917) 515-4154 as attendance may be limited.

## ***The Rail Yard History of Riverside Park South***

***May 19th and June 23rd, 2007; 2:00 - 4:00  
Meet at Pier I, Hudson River at 70th Street  
Manhattan***

**T**om Flagg will conduct a tour of Riverside Park South, former 60th St. yard of the New York Central RR. While a repeat of last year's very successful tour there will be a few differences this year since changes have been made in the park. These tours are in association with Riverside Park South. Please call the park's hotline (212-408-0219) or visit [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks) and type in key phrase: “summer on the Hudson” nearer the time of the tours to confirm details. After the main tour, for those who arrive on bicycle, Tom will continue down the Hudson River Greenway by bike to view “The IA of the Greenway”, including the float bridge at 26th St. and lots of railroad/warehouse/industrial buildings in Chelsea.

## **CHAPTER BUSINESS 2007 Meeting Report**

**T**he 2007 Annual Meeting was held at Drew University on Sunday, January 28 from 1:00 – 5:00(ish). Attendance was sparse, just about 30 people. Mary Habstritt gave the President's Report which is summarized below in the “2006 in Review.” She then asked that Sandy Malter be approved for membership to the Roebing Award Committee. His appointment was unanimously approved. The Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports followed (see below; including notes on discussions that ensued at the annual meeting). Tom Flagg then supervised the election. No nominees were received from the floor.

The new chapter officers are Lynn Rakos, President; Tolga Morawski, Vice President; Kevin Pegram, Treasurer and Aron Eisenpress, Secretary (see “Meet the New Board,” in the next newsletter). Tom Flagg is a Trustee.

Lynn then took to the podium and thanked the membership for their confidence in her to run the chapter.

She then gave a big thank you to Mary for her many years of great service to the chapter. She immediately established a Historic Preservation Committee, and asked Mary to serve as its chair. A draft charge for the committee will be in the next newsletter for membership review and comment.

As is customary, a Show and Tell followed the adjournment of the business meeting. Mary Habstritt showed a DVD of a home movie made by Larry Stein of the major work undertaken on the Brooklyn Bridge in the early 1950s. Mr. Stein was an engineer on that project. Tom Flagg then did a side by side presentation to provide a comparison of a PowerPoint versus a slide presentation, asking attendees to note nuances of color and clarity between the two technologies. Aron Eisenpress presented images of the High Line he took as he assisted Gerry Weinstein and Tom Flagg in documenting this historic structure.

## **2006 in Review**

*By Mary Habstritt*

### **Tours and Events**

**A**lthough a little rocky in planning and communication this year, the RCSIA pulled off six tours, and assisted with several exhibits, which is believed to be a chapter first.

Bill Wilkie planned an excellent tour of the Ralston Mill in April for our members. Bierce Riley organized visits to nearby sites for those who could stay. We co-sponsored a tour looking at the Rail Yard History of Riverside Park South with Riverside Park South in May and June, led by Tom Flagg. Tom Flagg and I led a tour of the Industries of the High Line in September. The Annual Corn Roast attracted a good crowd, including some folks who came for the first time.

We co-sponsored the exhibit, *Big Box on the Basin: Retaining Red Hook's Last Working Shipyard* at the Municipal Art Society in May. The chapter contributed some of the funding which went to the design and production of the panels. I contributed curating to the exhibit.

Special curator-led tours of exhibits celebrating John Roebling's 200th birthday at the Trenton City Museum in August and at Rutgers University in December were organized. Both exhibits received contributions of funding from the chapter.

### **Newsletters and Mailings**

This year we tried using a mailing service for our newsletter. To ensure that we did not miss the mandated notification period for the annual meeting, we did the last issue of the year ourselves by hand. We are looking at other larger shops for mailing and printing services, including one that has a contract with the New

Jersey Center for Non-Profits of which we are a member. In spite of that, we did get out four issues of the newsletter this year, complying with the by-laws. Thanks to Joe Macasek who continues to donate his design services. Thanks also to Lynn Rakos who helped me stamp and label the last issue of the year.

We also sent out an advocacy mailing to all members. This included postcards urging preservation of the Red Hook graving dock and of Domino. The graving dock cards went to the Waterfront Museum and so we were able to count those. They were signed by visitors to the museum and other friends of the effort, but the majority of the nearly 500 received came from members of the RCSIA. Unfortunately, the Domino postcards went directly to the Chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission and we have been unable to get an accurate count of how many they received. Thanks to Alice Lundoff for helping with this mailing.

### **Advocacy & Advice**

I handled the press release on the results of the graving dock postcard campaign and it did get picked up by one or two local papers. IKEA roundly dismissed it as too little, too late.

Other efforts to save the graving dock included the already mentioned "Big Box" exhibit. I curated the exhibit and participated in a panel discussion held in conjunction with it. There was also a community meeting in Red Hook in July at David Sharps' Waterfront Museum, moderated by Carolina Salguero of PortSide NewYork, in which I participated. David and Carolina are both Roebling members.

The chapter board also looked at joining the lawsuit filed by the Municipal Art Society against the Army Corps of Engineers: Lynn recused herself from discussions due to potential conflicts. This lawsuit accuses the Corps of not properly following the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act in determining the impact of their permit to Ikea on the historic graving dock. The board decided against participating. The lawsuit is not yet decided but one key item is that the chapter asked to be an "interested party" and the Corps has stated that no consulting parties came forward as part of the process. We have provided copies of our request to MAS' attorney.

Growing out of the fight to save the Austin, Nichols & Co. Warehouse, the Waterfront Preservation Alliance of Greenpoint & Williamsburg was formed. It has identified a priority list of sites to be preserved in the face of the rapid development set off by the re-zoning of the area's waterfront.

We have participated in WPA efforts to preserve the industrial buildings of the waterfront. This included

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my attendance at the press conference announcing the waterfront's addition to the Preservation League of New York's Seven to Save list of most endangered historic sites in New York; co-leading a waterfront tour with architectural historian Ward Dennis for The Historic District Council's Annual Preservation Conference; leading tours for students from the nearby High School for Architecture and Design; and introducing representatives from the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office to key sites.

In May, when the Greenpoint Terminal Market went down in one of New York's largest fires, I was quoted in both the *New York Times* and *Newsday*. The terminal was originally built for American Manufacturing Co. and was the world's largest rope factory.

The former Domino Sugar refinery is high on our agenda of sites to save. In June, I was able to get the national SIA board to support a resolution urging preservation of the site. I put the text of this resolution into a letter to the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The SIA board unfortunately took no action on a resolution I presented to them on the Water Works in Hackensack.

Domino was in the news as development speculation grows. With others from the WPA, I attended a meeting of Community Board 1 and a meeting with the developer. At both meetings the developer remained elusive on details of the plans. Members of WPA were quoted in a number of papers and I appeared in the *New York Times* and in a piece by Brooklyn Cable Television.

A new online petition drive is in the works aimed at convincing Mayor Bloomberg of the importance of Domino. Please go to [www.waterfrontalliance.org](http://www.waterfrontalliance.org) to sign the on-line petition.

I wrote a letter to the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission supporting a historic district for West Chelsea in Manhattan. It is part of the neighborhood along the High Line which is seeing booming development pursuant to re-zoning there related to the High Line Park.

In October I wrote to the New York City Economic Development Corporation asking them to be more vigilant about the history of Atlantic Basin in light of plans to redevelop piers 7 through 12 in Brooklyn. This is adjacent to the new cruise terminal and includes a proposal to re-zone for light manufacturing and residential development, probably striking a death knell for the Red Hook Containerport.

In spite of all this, there is much more that could be done. New Jersey has been getting ignored because I can't clone myself and sites closer to my home in New York naturally get more of my attention. That is our reason for proposing a Preservation Committee that I will continue to work on after my presidency ends today.

The national SIA hosted a study trip to Bologna, Italy in November, 2005. As part of that tour, I was asked to make a presentation on what an SIA chapter does at a one-day symposium. Growing out of that, an article transcribing my talk was published in *Scuola Officina*, the magazine of the Museo del Patrimonio Industrial di Bologna. It was accompanied by photos by RCSIA members John Bartlestone, Tom Flagg and me. So, the Roebing Chapter has now appeared on the international stage.

### **Drew Symposium**

This year our symposium was very ably co-chaired by Tom Flagg and Allison Rachleff. Tom will be handing off chairing the symposium to Allison in the coming year. (For details see Allison's write up on the symposium elsewhere in this newsletter).

### **Business Affairs**

Not much has changed on our tax-exempt status. I twice spoke with the lawyer we engaged. She is to review our existing by-laws and let us know if there are areas that need significant revision. We did get a logo! It is based on a cross-section of Roebing wire rope. We did get an offer from a member to volunteer his service to build a website, but we've both been too busy to follow up on it. Lynn Rakos will be pursuing this in the coming year. Our insurance went up quite a bit this year and we did get a better bid, but the policy included some items we did not want covered so further negotiations are needed. This has been handed off to Kevin Pegram, our treasurer.

Allison Rachleff and Gianfranco Archimede helped to write an outline of procedures for grants to be made by the Special Projects Committee. Since we funded a number of Roebing birthday initiatives, no awards were made this year. We will have to look at how the large amount set last year of up to \$5,000 per year can be funded.

### **Roebing Award Committee Nominee**

Sandy Malter has agreed to serve on the Roebing Award Committee beginning in 2007. He is an architect specializing in building waterproofing problems, but has worked on all kinds of problems related to restoration. His firm of Malter and O'Donnell recently became Architecture Restoration Conservation, a name better reflecting its abilities. I ask for your approval of his appointment to the Roebing Award Committee.

## **Summary of Treasurer's Report**

(For a detailed break down contact Lynn)

**K**evin Pegram gave the Treasurer's Report. As of 3/28/06 (as we transitioned to our new Treasurer) we had \$24,942.53 and 1/14/07 we had \$16,732.58. As Mary indicated to the attendees, we spent \$1,500 on

a new logo, necessary to differentiate ourselves from the national SIA; we made a donation of \$1,000 to MAS to support the Big Box exhibit; we contributed \$500 to the Trenton City Museum, providing seed money for their Roebling exhibit; \$300 to Rutgers for its Roebling exhibit; and \$2,500 to the Museum of the City of New York for its Roebling exhibit, (the exhibit hasn't happened yet and we will ask for the money back if it does not occur). We actively sought to spend money this year as we were carrying a lot for a small not-for-profit organization.

Much talk ensued during Kevin's report regarding the financial status of RCSIA. The Drew Symposium and Annual Meeting costs were the main topic of discussion as was the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Also discussed were insurance needs and costs.

The 2006 symposium had a net cost of \$617. Tom says that in past years the symposium has generally had a small profit or small net cost. Following much discussion the general sense of the attendees was that we should continue to use the facilities at Drew, we should continue to include lunch (Drew requires that we use their catering services) and that a reasonable increase in the registration fee is acceptable. The fee has not been increased since 1997. The board will look at this issue.

Mary noted that the cost breakdown for the 2007 annual meeting was as follows: hall \$300; coffee, cookies, fruit \$200; rental of a/v equipment was just under \$200; installation of signs at driveways \$65. This is quite reasonable by local standards but is expensive with such low attendance. Suggestions were made to move the Annual Meeting elsewhere (perhaps combining it with a tour) or to use a smaller room at Drew. Please note that any venue must be accessible by public transportation and have parking. Suggestions from the membership are welcome.

Discussion then ensued on possible ways to save on newsletter printing and postage. We are looking into other printing and mailing businesses. It was suggested that we could perhaps use another non-profit organization's mailing permit. The drawbacks include the mechanical requirements of the mailing; the slower delivery speed; the requirement for their address to be the return address (so we would not be notified of returned/forwarded mail). Aron noted that we are using ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED which costs 75 cents per returned item but gives us immediate notification when mail is forwarded (rather than a year later when forwarding expires). It was also suggested that people may opt for receiving their newsletter electronically if the option were offered to them. This idea will be considered by the board.

Insurance was the next topic of discussion. We carry a general liability policy but we do not have Directors & Officers (D&O) insurance. NJ has a law safeguarding

volunteers but only up to a point. Previous investigations into D&O coverage suggested that the main reason to carry it is when there are employees who might sue the board, but we have no employees. In NY officers of an organization are personally responsible for any lawsuits brought against the organization. We will be investigating further to see if D&O is advisable. For the size of our organization the premium will likely be small. Note, Drew requires that we carry them as an additional insured and carry \$2 million in coverage.

## **Summary of Secretary's Report on Membership**

Aron Eisenpress, Secretary, gave the membership report. Our membership stands as of January 28, 2007, at 457, of whom 156 are paid for this year, 13 are paid for future years, 165 are paid for 2006, and 83 are only paid through 2005. There were 30 people dropped who had not renewed for 2004. By comparison, our membership last year at this time was 454 members, also after the drop for non-renewals. There are 40 "comp" members on the list. They are primarily National and other SIA Chapter officers, as well as organizations that can help us and benefit RCSIA endeavors.

## **26th Annual Drew Symposium**

*By Allison S. Rachleff*

The 26th Annual Drew Symposium was held at the Drew University Hall of Science in Madison, New Jersey on Sunday, October 29, 2006. Like its predecessors, it proved to be an intellectually stimulating day. This year, the symposium was divided into two sessions: the morning session dedicated to the exploration of industrial archaeological resources in the New York/New Jersey region, and the afternoon session organized to honor the 200th anniversary of the birth of John A. Roebling, celebrated engineer and Roebling Chapter-SIA namesake.

Highlights from the morning session included a Bell Laboratories film salvaged by Lance Metz, National Canal Museum Historian. The film documented the invention of the transistor and its impact on technology in the mid-20th century. Other morning presentations included Architectural Historian Allison Rachleff's presentation on the history of Highbridge Park in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan, home to an intriguing array of historic structures including 19th century water supply features; New Deal-era recreational structures; and mid-20th century transportation systems ranging from river-front drives to post-World War II interstate highways. The highlight of the morning session included three presentations on the High Line, the ca. 1929 New York Central Railroad viaduct on the west side of Manhattan that, through the advocacy

efforts of organizations such as the Roebling Chapter (and its members Mary Habstritt, Gerry Weinstein and Tom Flagg) will be preserved and transformed into an urban park. While Flagg and Habstritt presented an overview of the history of the High Line, Peter Mullan, Director of Planning, Friends of the High Line, presented the design for the proposed park developed by the architecture firm, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, and the landscape architecture firm Field Operations.

The afternoon session featured presentations on John A. Roebling and his designs. Historian Clifford Zink, author of *Spanning the Industrial Age: The John A. Roebling's Sons Company, Trenton, New Jersey, 1849-1974*, opened the session with his comprehensive talk focused on Roebling's life from his birth and early education in Germany; emigration to the US; and his superlative engineering career as a developer and popularizer of wire rope, entrepreneur and designer of bridges. Charles Derocko, Marine Surveyor, spoke about his involvement in re-rigging the ca. 1911 Bark Peking for the South Street Seaport Museum in the 1980s. The Peking was originally rigged with wire rope. Derocko supplemented his talk with a display of tools used to re-rig the Peking. A lecture was also presented by Sandra Schultz, Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River, who described the restoration of Roebling's 1848 Delaware Aqueduct, a multi-year process that resulted in the preservation of a significant and beautiful structure. The afternoon session concluded with a lecture by Don Sayenga, a steel historian formerly employed by Bethlehem Steel. Sayenga shared original research on bridges both designed by Roebling and thought to be designed by Roebling, and urged Roebling Chapter members to assist him in this effort to identify and document the history of these structures to better understand Roebling and his important oeuvre.

The symposium also featured the presentation of the annual Roebling Chapter award to the Friends of the High Line (George Bulow's write up on the award will appear in our next newsletter as we need to take a presentation photo).

## **Rutgers Curator Tour Report**

*By Lynn Rakos*

Rutgers University, Alexander Library Special Collections and University Archives Gallery's Fernanda Perrone, curator of the exhibition, *Philosopher, Engineer, Tycoon: John A. Roebling and his Legacy*, (and RCSIA member) kindly offered a curator's tour to RCSIA members. RCSIA partially funded this exhibition. For a detailed description of the exhibition see Vol. 15, No. 2 (Aug. 2006) of our newsletter. Regrettably, just two chapter members and one guest

attended this December 16th event. This poor attendance may reflect the fact that the newsletter announcing the tour was late or that the day was close to the holidays. Despite poor attendance, Ms. Perrone graciously spent time with the enthusiastic attendees, leading them not only through the material in the exhibit but also sharing her personal insight into how and why documents and artifacts were selected to display, why some were omitted and providing intimate glimpses into the Roebling family she gleaned when delving into the papers they left behind. The Rutgers collection contains mostly business documents while family papers are primarily held by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). The exhibit included material on loan from RPI, the Trenton Public Library and other repositories. Also on display were artifacts from the Roebling NJ Historical Society including 20th century brochures and advertisements for John A. Roebling's Sons Company products and ephemera from employees. For those who attended the curator's tour at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum, the tour provided further insight into John A. Roebling, his family and his business. The Roebling collection at Rutgers is open to the public for research. RCSIA extends a warm thank you to Ms. Perrone for inviting us.

## **Members**

Sadly, Norman (Chris) Bradley passed away on December 23rd. His son, Joe noted, "My parents both loved being members, attending symposia, going on trips and visiting sites. Thank you for enriching their lives with your friendships." The funeral was December 27, at Holy Child Church on Staten Island and was followed by a graveside service at Resurrection Cemetery.

Two RCSIA members have been asked to serve on a new National SIA committee for TICCIH - The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage. The members are Gianfranco Archimede and George Bulow. The charge of this committee is to recommend historic industrial sites in North America for consideration as "World Heritage Industrial Sites". While nominations will go through several layers of approval, the nomination process, according to TICCIH, will start with this SIA group.

## **OTHER EVENTS**

### ***The Society for Industrial Archeology's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference***

*Philadelphia, PA – June 7 - 10, 2007*

The National SIA is holding the 2007 conference in Philadelphia from June 7th – 10th. There will be

two pre-conference tours on Thursday; one an archival and artifact tour of four museums and the other a Philadelphia industrial walking tour. That evening the welcoming reception will be held at the American Philosophical Society. Friday will include up to six process tours including one in North Philadelphia; a New Jersey industrial process tour; a bridge tour; a tour concentrating transportation; a Navy Yard tour and a tour centered in East Falls and Manayunk with an emphasis on the Schuylkill Navigation and textile manufacturing. Saturday's program will consist of all day paper sessions and possibly a continuing education session. That evening the banquet will be held at the Fairmount Waterworks Interpretive Center. Two Post-Conference Tours are proposed for Sunday. One tour is a Delaware River Boat Trip along Philadelphia and Camden waterfronts and the other a tour via Light Rail Line to Roebling, NJ. The schedule and tours described here are subject to change as the conference planning proceeds. National SIA members will hear about the conference registration through a mailing. RCSIA encourages you all to join the national SIA if not a member already. The website address is [www.siahq.org](http://www.siahq.org).

## **PANYC Public Program The Industrial Archaeology of New York City**

*Sunday, May 6th, 1:00-3:30*

**T**he Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) will hold their 27th Annual Public Program on Sunday, May 6th at the Museum of the City of New York (5th Ave. at 103rd St.), from 1:00 to 3:30. As the vice president of PANYC, Lynn Rakos has decided that this year's topic will be the industrial archeology of New York City. There will be a talk about the Dutch windmill that once stood on Governor's Island; remnants of which were uncovered during archaeological excavations; a talk on the 18th century Crolius and Remmy Pottery site at Foley Square in lower Manhattan and a presentation on an 18th century tannery site also at Foley Square; our own Mary Habstritt will speak on the graving docks at the former Todd Shipyard in Red Hook and Tom Flagg and Gerry Weinstein will speak about the High Line.

## **2007 POTS Symposium: The New Jersey Terra Cotta Industry**

*Saturday, April 21st.*

**T**he Potteries of Trenton Society (POTS) is pleased to announce its association with the New Jersey State Museum in the development and presentation of our fourth symposium on New Jersey ceramics entitled "New Jersey Terra Cotta: Building an Industry on Clay."

This year's symposium will be held Saturday, April 21, 2007, in the State Museum's Auditorium at 205 West State Street, Trenton. Speakers will explore New Jersey's clay resources, terra cotta manufacturing in the state, and its use on buildings in New York City, Philadelphia, and Trenton. A box lunch is included in symposium registration.

This year's symposium examines the contribution of New Jersey's important terra cotta makers to urban skylines in the region. Forty-eight companies operated in the U.S. during the period of terra cotta's greatest popularity (1880-1930), and New Jersey had the largest concentration of terra-cotta manufacturers. Outstanding clay deposits, proximity to markets, and a wide variety of transportation options all contributed to this industrial prominence. Architectural terra cotta is extraordinarily adaptable as a building material. It can be molded, sculpted, and glazed to imitate all sorts of other materials or used for its own characteristics. Architects in the early 1900s thought it a superior medium because of its longevity, imperviousness, color, and imitative qualities. It was also lighter and cheaper than stone. Most of the architectural terra cotta made in New Jersey was used as ornamental cladding on skyscrapers, but it was also found useful for grave markers, hitching posts, carriage blocks, chimney pots, and statuary.

Registration and light refreshments beginning at 9:30 a.m. will be followed by an introduction to New Jersey's clay resources presented by Peter Sugarman, research

## **SAVE THE DATE & CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DREW SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY in the New York New Jersey Area**

**T**he Roebling Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology is soliciting illustrated presentations on the industrial heritage of the Roebling Chapter region for the 27th Annual Drew Symposium to be held on Saturday, October 27, 2007 at the Hall of Sciences, Drew University, Madison, NJ from 9:30 AM to 5 PM.

This year, we are seeking presentations that focus on endangered industrial sites in the metropolitan New York/New Jersey area. Presentations are typically 25 minutes in length and heavily illustrated. If you would like to make a presentation, please contact Tom Flagg or Allison Rachleff, symposium coordinators. Tom's e-mail is [tflagg@sunyopt.edu](mailto:tflagg@sunyopt.edu) and Allison's is [allison.rachleff@earthlink.net](mailto:allison.rachleff@earthlink.net). Or write to: Thomas Flagg, SUNY College of Optometry, 33 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

specialist with the NJ Geological Survey. The morning's talks will continue with archaeologist Richard Veit and curator Mark Nonestied, who will discuss New Jersey's terra cotta manufacturers. Susan Tunick, president of the Friends of Terra Cotta and author of Terra-Cotta Skyline, will survey uses of New Jersey terra cotta in significant buildings of New York City and environs. After a box lunch, Ellen Denker will introduce participants to Trenton's tile makers and describe the driving tour that POTS has developed of significant tile and terra cotta buildings surviving in Trenton. If they choose, participants may also take a tour of Trenton-made tile installations in the New Jersey State House.

For more information about this year's symposium,

including advance registration and traveling instructions, please visit the POTS website ([www.potteriesof-trentonsociety.org](http://www.potteriesof-trentonsociety.org)) or the New Jersey State Museum's website ([newjerseystatemuseum.org](http://newjerseystatemuseum.org)). The New Jersey State Museum is a division of the NJ Department of State.

### Roebling Chapter SIA Officers

President	Lynn Rakos
Vice President	Tolga Morawski
Treasurer	Kevin Pegram
Secretary	Aron Eisenpress

The Roebling Chapter official telephone number is the residence number of the President: (917) 515-4154. Please leave a brief message on the answering machine.

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A downloadable chapter membership form and general information about the SIA are available at [www.siahq.org](http://www.siahq.org).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2007

- April 21 Morris Canal Plane 9 West
- May 12 Yama Farms
- May 19 Riverside Park South
- June 7-10 SIA National Conference, Philadelphia
- June 23 Riverside Park South

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