



# ROEBLING CHAPTER

## Society for Industrial Archeology

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### CHAPTER EVENTS

#### ***Light Rail to Roebling, New Jersey***

*Saturday, October 13, 2007, 12:30 – 4:30*

*(Note below that the RiverLINE trips leave earlier and arrive in Roebling at 12:30).*

*This is a Joint Excursion of the Roebling and Oliver Evans Chapters. There is a \$10 fee.*

Join us for a trip along New Jersey's oldest rail line, the Camden & Amboy, (now NJ Transit's RiverLINE) to the village of Roebling. Charles G. Roebling chose this site on the Delaware River below Trenton in 1904 to build the John A. Roebling Sons' steel mill and workers' village. Members of the Roebling Historical Society, including former mill workers, will take us on a walking tour of this remarkably intact company town. Clifford Zink, architectural historian and consultant to the Main Gate House Museum, will provide an overview of the Roebling Steel Mills and John A. Roebling Company history. In 1999 the EPA made the former Roebling Steel Mills one of the first ten Superfund sites to be included in its new Superfund Redevelopment Initiative. Part of that redevelopment is the proposed Main Gate House museum devoted to telling the story of the Roebling steel mills, the workers, and the town. The mill site is off limits to group tours until the EPA finishes its cleanup next year, however several large artifacts are already on display, including an 80 ton steel-cast fly wheel, 28 feet in diameter. Our tour of Roebling will include a visit to a former plant supervisor's house, a peek at the records of the John A. Roebling Company, and a stop at Pinto's Hardware Store, the former maintenance yard for the steel mills. This tour is much the same as the Roebling tour enjoyed by attendees of the National SIA conference in June.

The \$10 tour fee (cash or check) payable directly to the Roebling Historical Society will include a snack. Please reserve a spot by calling Ingrid Wuebber's cell phone @ 609-954-5442. You can meet the RiverLINE tour in Pennsauken or Trenton at the times specified below or meet at the Roebling RiverLINE parking lot at 12:30. Leave time to buy your RiverLINE ticket (\$1.35 one-way).

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

##### **Coming from the south and Philadelphia:**

Historian, Paul Schopp will narrate the Northbound RiverLINE trip to Roebling. Meet at the Route 73/Pennsauken Park & Ride. Plenty of free parking. There are two options for those coming from the south:

**Option 1:** Meet Paul on the train platform of the Route 73/Pennsauken Park & Ride in time to buy a ticket and catch the 11:03 Southbound train to Camden and get a one-hour, round-trip tour of the lower end of the RiverLINE. Train will arrive back at the Park & Ride at 12:03.

**Option 2:** Meet Paul on the train platform of the Route 73/Pennsauken Park & Ride in time to buy a ticket and catch the 12:03 Northbound train to Roebling. Train will arrive at Roebling at 12:37.

##### **Coming from the north and New York:**

Historian, Ingrid Wuebber will narrate the Southbound RiverLINE trip to Roebling. Meet Ingrid on the RiverLINE platform directly across South Clinton Avenue from the Trenton Train Station in time to buy a ticket and catch the 12:15 train. Train will arrive at Roebling at 12:30. If coming from NYC by rail, the NJ Transit Northeast Corridor (Trenton) train leaving Penn Station at 10:14 arrives in Trenton at 11:39 (please check w/ NJT as their schedule may change). Please note: RiverLINE parking lot in Trenton is small and charges \$10. Call Ingrid for information on parking in Trenton.

##### **Driving Directions to Route 73 Pennsauken Park & Ride:**

From NY/NJ: Take NJ Turnpike South to Interchange 4, the Route 73 exit. Follow signs for Route 73 towards Camden/Philadelphia. Follow Route 73 North approximately 6 miles to River Road ramp toward Camden. Park & Ride lot is about    mile down River Road on your right. From PA: Take the Tacony/Palmyra Bridge to New Jersey. Exit onto River Road toward Camden. Park & Ride lot is about    mile down River Road on you right.

##### **Driving Directions to the Roebling RiverLINE parking lot:**

From NY/NJ: Take NJ Turnpike South to Interchange