



1973 CONFERENCE, TROY

The two day annual meeting, offering formal papers and a field tour of IA sites in the Troy area, began unofficially on Friday night with a reception at Diana and Jack Waite's, and officially on Saturday 28 April. Over that cool spring weekend 150 members and their friends kept up with a heavy schedule of events as guests of the Hudson-Mohawk Industrial Gateway, who assisted the SIA Conference Committee in planning the formalities and festivities. Saturday brought us to the Troy Music Hall for the formal business meeting (see *Minutes*) and papers on a wide range of IA pursuits (see *Abstracts*), reflecting the serious scholarship of many of our members over the past year or more.

After lunch at the handsome early 19th C home of the Rensselaer County Historical Society, the subject turned to the practice of adaptively reusing historic industrial structures. The question of whether this subject was of proper interest to SIA members became academic, as the panel members were implored to continue their comments after dinner, held at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Faculty Club. This change in plan forced those attending the conference to choose between this continued panel discussion and the scheduled panel seeking IA definition and goals. While some attempted to scurry back and forth between the two sessions, attendance was rather evenly distributed.

On Sunday morning we gathered to meet a caravan of busses in front of the Troy Music Hall and proceeded on a tour of the rich industrial remains in and around the city. While much was gleaned through the bus window, we did stop at a number of important sites. First among these was the Gasholder House (designed in 1873 by F. A. Sabbaton) which HAER has recorded (1969) and which has become the SIA logo.

The next major stop was Cohoes, a magnificent industrial community overlooking Cohoes Falls on the Mohawk River with an extensive power canal system (1834-1880), the Ogden Mills (1844), the Harmony Mills (1837) including the famed Mastodon Mill (1866 and 1872), and handsome corporation housing in continued use.



Conferees at the Troy Gas Light Company Gasholder House on the Sunday tour of the Troy Area's I A.

The morning tour culminated in a picnic lunch at the Watervliet Arsenal, a continuous-growth military-industrial development, containing among its many structures The Cast Iron Store House, built in 1859 by the Architectural Iron Works of NYC. After the visit to the arsenal, the tour officially ended, providing time for individual exploration of the rest of the region on the way home.

Editor's Note—this Supplement was assembled in its entirety by SIA Secretary Richard M. Candee, to whom our gratitude is extended.