



# SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER

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# IA IN D.C.

## REVIEW OF THE 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In October 1971, some 50 historians, archeologists, museologists, preservationists, students, and a number of interested amateurs gathered at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of History and Technology and organized the Society for Industrial Archeology. Thirty years later, more than 250 SIA members gathered in Washington to mark that birthday, in what was, surprisingly, the first Annual Conference or Fall Tour to be held in the city since the society's inaugural meeting. As Robert M. Vogel, a participant in that first meeting, observed in the preface to the conference guidebook, it is ironic that the SIA was organized in a city that is not known as an industrial city. In fact, for many years Washington has seemed an unlikely site for an SIA conference because it offers so few process tours and historic industrial sites compared to the great industrial cities of the Northeast and Midwest. But then, what the nation's seat of government has given to the field of IA has not necessarily been subject matter but rather an important core group of IA practitioners and advocates. The Smithsonian provided the SIA's headquarters for its first 25 years, and employees of the National Park Service's Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) have led in the development of professional standards and prac-

tices. Thus, that Washington and the Montgomery C. Meigs Original Chapter should host the 30th SIA Annual Conference was exceptionally fitting. And, although Washington is not a manufacturing city, it is not without an industrial and engineering heritage, much of it based on supporting the business of government, as conference participants discovered from May 10 to 14.

A number of events and activities sprinkled throughout the conference helped the SIA commemorate its 30th birthday. Upon registration, participants received the conference guidebook, *Capital IA*, edited by Sara Amy Leach, as well as a poster of Montgomery C. Meigs' Cabin John Aqueduct Bridge, and a beer coaster featuring Meigs' likeness, both designed by Thomas Behrens. The heaviest of the handouts was an anniversary 1-lb. iron pig, cast by Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark in Birmingham, AL. The pigs were cast with "1971 SIA 2001" in raised type. At the Saturday evening banquet held in the Smithsonian Castle, a gold-plated pig (set on velvet pillow in royal fashion) was presented by the Smithsonian's David Shayt (wearing white gloves) to Patrick Malone, the only SIA member to have attended all 30 SIA annual conferences. Also at the banquet, Ed Rutsch entertained members with rec-

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Tour group at "The Point" in Harpers Ferry with B&O RR bridges in the background.

John Terchmecker



The pattern for the SIA 30th anniversary pigs, Sloss Furnaces NHL.



Harold Dorwin, Smithsonian

Pat Malone receives the "golden" pig from David Shayt at the annual banquet. Pat is the only member to have attended every annual conference since the founding of the SIA in 1971.

ollections of the founding of the SIA in 1971.

Two museum exhibits, open for conference goers to view at their leisure, celebrated 30 years of accomplishment in the field of IA. At the Smithsonian **National Museum of American History** (NMAH) were several display cases filled with guidebooks, posters, photos, tools, memorabilia, and small artifacts related to the history of the SIA. Many recognizable faces, albeit somewhat younger, were seen in photos taken from earlier conferences and tours. The archive is the official repository for the SIA's records. Craig Orr currently serves as the archivist for the SIA collection. A "virtual" version of the exhibit can be viewed at [www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives/ac-i.htm](http://www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives/ac-i.htm). After clicking on the welcome button, click on the "featured acquisition" section to view the SIA virtual exhibit.

At the **National Building Museum**, *Monuments, Mills, and Missile Sites: 30 Years of the Historic American Engineering Record* has been open since October. It showcases the work of HAER and its permanent archive at the Library of Congress. On display were selections from the more than 68,000 photographs, 56,000 pages of reports, and 3,500 measured drawings in the collection. SIA members stand prominently among the names of the many architects, historians, photographers, archeologists, engineers, and others who have contributed to the HAER collection. Clearly, the two organizations have grown to maturity together.

The Washington conference followed the traditional pattern of pre-conference tours on Thursday, a selection of full-day tours on Friday, paper sessions and annual business meeting on Saturday followed by an evening banquet, and then post-conference tours on Sunday and Monday. Conference sites ranged geographically from downtown Washington and the center of government outward almost 100 miles to as far away as Martinsburg, WV. Throughout, the pervasive influence of the federal government, and the many manufacturing and engineering activities needed to support it over the years, was evident.

The first "early bird" tour on Thursday took a small group of the curious to **Beretta USA** in Accokeek, MD, to see operations at perhaps the sole production machine works in the area. Mother company Beretta, of Italy, a leading small-arms manufacturer, lays claim to being "the oldest factory [in continuous operation] in the

world," having been founded in 1526! ("Factory" may well be the operative word here, as the celebrated copper mine in Falun, Sweden, points to its royal charter of 1347 as evidence that it is the oldest *company* in the world.) Beretta's U.S. arm is about 25 years old. Here are made an astonishing variety of side arms, widely used by law-enforcement and military organizations around the world. The SIA tourists did indeed see the entire operation, from raw materials to guns being inspected and packed for shipment. The number of machining, heat-treating, and finishing operations performed on the rough frame and barrel forgings that form the basis of these pistols was quite astonishing.

Other Thursday tours included an energetic architectural walking tour of downtown Washington, led by Kim Hoagland; a tour of the construction site for the new Washington Convention Center, currently the largest building excavation project in the Western Hemisphere; and a coveted 14-person-capacity tour of the recently restored cast-iron **Capitol Dome**. The dome (continued on page 3)

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 annually. SIA promotes the identification, interpretation, preservation, and re-use of historic industrial and engineering sites, structures, and equipment. Annual membership: individual \$35; couple \$40; full-time student \$20; institutional \$40; contributing \$60; sustaining \$125; corporate \$250. 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; e-mail: [SIA@mtu.edu](mailto:SIA@mtu.edu); Web site: [www.SIA-web.org](http://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.

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Mary Habstritt

One of the display cases for the SIA's 30th birthday exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

was built between 1856 to 1865 to replace a previous wood dome, which appeared too small when the capitol wings were added. Montgomery C. Meigs supervised the erection of the dome, and added important details and alterations to Thomas U. Walter's design.

The conference officially opened with a reception on Thursday evening in the old Carnegie Library on Mount Vernon Square, soon to be the new home of the City Museum of Washington. Conference attendees were welcomed by Dean Herrin and Christopher Marston, co-chairs of the local arrangements committee, and by Barbara Franco, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Richard Longstreth, a distinguished historian at George Washington University, introduced Washington's industrial and architectural history in a slide lecture, emphasizing the close links between urban planning, architecture, and industrial growth.

Several of the all-day Friday tours visited the monuments and monumental federal buildings that characterize the nation's capital. The focus of the tours was not architectural style, but the "behind-the-scenes" engineering and materials that went into designing and erecting the structures. One of the tours, *Flying Buttresses, Vaults, and Cast-Iron Frames*, went behind closed doors and into the basements and attics of such buildings as the **National Cathedral, Smithsonian Castle, Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building, General Post Office, Patent Office, and Pension Building** (now the National Building Museum). Inside, to the delight of SIAers, were found cast-iron columns, roof trusses, and 19th-century fire-proofing techniques, necessary for protecting valuable documents like patent or pension records; buttresses and vaulted ceilings to provide huge indoor spaces and natural lighting for work, such as found in the Pension, Patent, and Post Office buildings; open areas for public gatherings, such as at the National Cathedral; and mazes of plumbing, wiring, and conduits for multiple generations of heat-



Patrick Harsbarger

SIA pontists take in the magnificent arc of the Cabin John Bridge.



John Reap

SIA members view the main gallery of the Pension Building (National Building Museum) from the 4th floor balcony.

ing, cooling, and lighting systems.

The legacy of Montgomery C. Meigs, eponymous godfather of the local SIA chapter, was visible throughout the conference, and one Friday tour, *Montgomery C. Meigs and Washington's Water Supply* paid special homage. The tour focused on historic features of the **Washington Aqueduct**, originally built from 1853 to 1863 under the direction of Meigs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The system began at Great Falls, MD, where water originally traveled a 9-ft.-diameter conduit of brick and stone to the Dalecarlia Reservoir and then on to Georgetown Reservoir, the last point before distribution to the city. The tour began midway at the **Dalecarlia Reservoir and Water Treatment Plant**, where Tom Jacobus and Patty Gamby of the Corps of Engineers, which still maintains responsibility for the city's water supply, met the SIA group. Here participants viewed the rapid-sand filtration plant, built in 1928, and the pumping station, containing 15 vertical-shaft, electric centrifugal pumps. The tour then inspected the Great Falls intake, where the original cut-stone diversion dam stretches halfway across the Potomac. The group continued to the **Cabin John Bridge**, a 220-ft. span that held the record for the longest masonry arch in the world from its completion in 1864 until 1903. From the Dalecarlia Reservoir water flows to the **Georgetown Reservoir**, a sedimentation and storage reservoir with a capacity of 55 million gallons, and home to a curious pipe vault that contains a circular staircase with the name "M. C. Meigs" cast in every riser! The tour continued to the **McMillan Reservoir and**

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**Water Treatment Plant**, completed in 1905 and a Washington public-health milestone. The final stop was the **Bryant St. Pumping Station**, built in 1904. Located in the basement is an interesting collection of early pipes, valves, fountains, hydrants, and other artifacts connected with the city's water system.

*Historic Bridges of D.C. and Beyond* took SIA pontists (i.e., bridge enthusiasts) on a circuit from near suburban Baltimore to the bridge over the Potomac River near Georgetown. The tour began at the **Bollman Truss Bridge** (NHL), built in 1869. Located in Savage, MD, where it was moved to a spur line from the B&O RR's main line in 1888, the bridge is the sole surviving example of Bollman's ingenious "suspension truss," a series of diagonal wrought-iron tension links combined with a cast-iron compression chord called a "stretcher." From the Bollman Truss Bridge, the group traveled to the venerable **Thomas Viaduct**, built by the B&O in 1833-35 at Relay, MD. The viaduct is a stone arch

bridge of eight spans and a total length of 612 ft., a massive scale for its day. It was built on a four-degree curve, with the arch spring lines radial rather than parallel to each other, giving rise to unprecedented problems of design and construction for the B&O's talented engineers. Turning back toward Washington, the bridge tour group made for the **Cabin John Bridge**. Working south toward Georgetown, they saw in succession an early-20th-century truss bridge built to carry the **Georgetown Branch of the B&O RR** over the C&O Canal (now converted to a bike path) and the open-spandrel, reinforced-concrete arch **Francis Scott Key Bridge**, built 1917-1923. From Georgetown, the pontists made their way up Rock Creek Parkway viewing the succession of monumental bridges that carry city streets over the valley. The **Pennsylvania Ave. Bridge** provided an interesting stop. Visible in the soffit of the modern arch bridge are a pair of entombed arched cast-iron pipes of the Washington Aqueduct. These date to 1856-

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## 2001 Student Scholarships Awarded

Thanks to the generosity and interest of SIA members, five scholarships were awarded to assist students attend the 2001 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Each of this year's recipients has demonstrated a strong commitment to the field of industrial archeology.

**Amanda Gronhovd** is completing the master's degree program in IA at Michigan Tech. She presented a paper at the 2001 Annual Conference on northeastern Minnesota's Soudan Mine and No. 8 Engine House. Amanda organized the Newcomers Group to welcome new attendees to the annual conferences and to encourage interaction among new and old members.

**Michael Madson** is starting his second year of graduate work in the IA program at Michigan Tech. At the 2001 Annual Conference, he presented *Archeological and Historical Investigations of Pittsburgh and Boston Copper Harbor Mining Company Operations, Copper Harbor, Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan*, describing the findings of summer research at one of the region's earliest copper mines.

**Larry Mishkar**, a successful underwater photographer and graphic designer, supervised all of the publications for the 2000 Annual Conference in Duluth. As a result of his growing enthusiasm for IA, he is now pursuing a graduate degree at Michigan Tech. Larry has also contributed several articles to *SIAN*, attended the 2001 SIA winter retreat, and is serving on the SIA's Web site committee.

**Elizabeth Norris**, a native of Cleveland attending her first annual conference, is also a graduate student in IA at Michigan Tech. She is studying the current and historical status of waste piles as a component of the cultural landscape of the Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. At the 2001 Annual Conference, Elizabeth co-presented *SIA: The Next 30 Years*, exploring how so support and expand the diversity of IA enthusiasts.

**Tim Tumberg**, a 1999 winner of the Norton Prize for his article on the Ohio Trap Rock Mine Site, is a doctoral candidate at the Univ. of Ariz. At the 2001 Annual Conference, he presented a



2001 SIA Student Scholarship award recipients, l to r: **Tim Tumberg, Amanda Gronhovd, Michael Madson, Elizabeth Norris, and Larry Mishkar.**

paper on the evolution of the SIA and the interaction, or lack thereof, between industrial historians and historical archeologists. Tim is currently serving on the Norton Prize committee.

The committee hopes that more students and young professionals from a variety of schools and programs like engineering, library science, historic preservation, or museum studies will apply to defray some of their expenses to attend the 2002 Annual Conference in Brooklyn. The SIA thanks the membership for their continued strong support of the scholarship program. Annual dues notices include a section for checking off and making a contribution to the scholarship fund. The goal is to be able to assist all worthy applicants. In 2001, a record number of applications were received and the selections were competitive. The committee's goal is to be able to award ten scholarships in 2002. Info: Mary McCahon or Patrick Harshbarger, c/o Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers, Suite 818, 1 Oxford Valley Mall, Langhorne, PA 19047; (215) 752-2206; [mmcMahon@lichtensteinengineers](mailto:mmcMahon@lichtensteinengineers) or [phsianews@aol.com](mailto:phsianews@aol.com). ■

# 31st Annual Conference, Brooklyn, NY June 6-9, 2002

**M**ark your calendars! The Roebling Chapter is hard at work finalizing arrangements for the SIA's 31st Annual Conference in Brooklyn, NY, June 6-9. Tours will explore Brooklyn's prominence as a transportation center and the many manufacturers and processing plants that support the great metropolis to Brooklyn's west. Themes for the tentatively scheduled Friday tours include steam plants; food processing (ethnic delights such as tortillas, bialys, and matzos); the "death" industry (Greenwood cemetery, casket manufacturing, and monument cutting), and those famous bridges (the Brooklyn Bridge, the earliest extant concrete bridge in America, and the Triborough Bridge). Possible pre- and post-conference tours will highlight parks and parkways in Brooklyn and Manhattan (the legacy of Robert Moses) and the Steinway piano factory. And yes, Coney Island and a boat tour of the East River are among the sites under consideration. The conference hotel will be the Marriott in downtown Brooklyn. Registration materials will be mailed to all SIA members in early spring. General info: Mary Habstritt, (212) 769-4946; [mhabstritt@aol.com](mailto:mhabstritt@aol.com).



View under the Williamsburg Bridge and in the background the Domino Sugar refinery. The refinery is a possible tour stop of the 2002 Annual Conference.

T. Flagg



*Industrial Brooklyn, with a tower of the Brooklyn Bridge beyond, and lower Manhattan beyond that. The foreground buildings were built by Robert Gair, the industrialist who made a success of the corrugated cardboard box. The brick buildings beyond are the Empire Stores, built 1870 and 1885, a characteristic type of masonry warehouse that dominated the 19th-century waterfront.*

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The SIA invites proposals for papers to be presented at the Annual Conference on Saturday, June 8 in Brooklyn. Presentations on all topics related to industrial archeology are welcome. The meeting coincides with the 150th anniversary of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), thus providing an excellent opportunity to explore and celebrate the region's outstanding civil engineering achievements. The Metropolitan chapter of ASCE has been working with the SIA to organize a paper-session track on the region's public works projects, transportation systems, and industries. A session on the bridges of Brooklyn and greater New York City is planned for the 19th Annual Bridge Symposium, co-sponsored by the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER). Paper proposals on topics related to the region's civil engineering heritage are strongly encouraged. All papers should offer interpretation and synthesis of data.

**Presentation Formats:** Proposals may be for individual papers (20-25 min.) or organized panel discussions (90 min., typically three papers, formal commentator optional).

**Proposal Formats:** Each paper proposal must include: 1) title; 2) an abstract with a detailed discussion of points/conclusions to be presented, 3) a one-page résumé for the presenter(s), including postal address, telephone/fax, and e-mail; 4) a list of visual requests. A panel organizer should submit all paper proposals as a

group, accompanied by a title and a brief description of the theme or purpose. All proposers need to submit two (2) paper copies of their proposal(s).

**Deadline:** February 1, 2002. Send paper copies to: Mary E. McCahon, 332 E. Union Street, Burlington, NJ 08016; (215) 752-2206; [mmccahon@lichtensteinengineers.com](mailto:mmccahon@lichtensteinengineers.com).

## STUDENT TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

The SIA has limited funds to help full-time students and professionals with less than three years of full-time experience to attend the conference. Those interested should submit a concise letter outlining their demonstrated interest in and commitment to industrial archeology or a related field, and one letter of reference. Deadline for submissions is April 15, 2002. Info: Mary E. McCahon, SIA Scholarships, c/o Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers, One Oxford Valley, Suite 818, Langhorne, PA 19047; (215) 752-2206; fax 752-1539. Notice of awards will be made by May 15th. ■



60 and are not only conduits for the water but were the arch ribs of the prior remarkable 200-ft. long, iron, deck arch bridge that the modern bridge replaced.

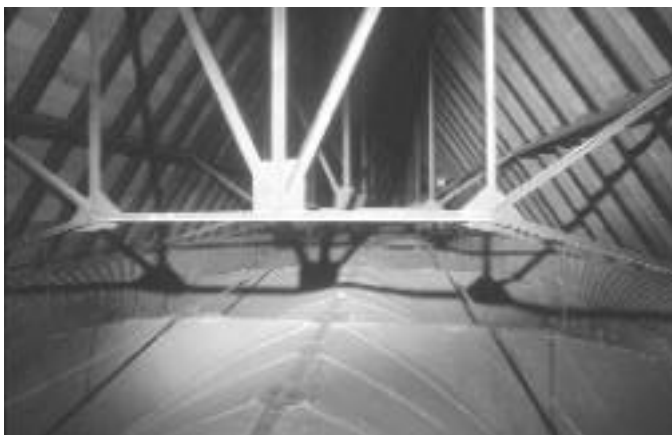
Another of Friday's theme tours was *Defense Technologies*, showcasing several of Washington's important test and research facilities, primarily associated with the U.S. Navy. The **White Oak Naval Weapons Center** (formerly the Naval Ordnance Laboratory) in Silver Spring, MD, was established in 1944 as the site of the Navy's research on guns and explosives, a mission later extended to specialties in mine design, underwater acoustics, nuclear weapon safety, hydroballistics, warhead design, and ship-protection systems. The facility was closed in 1997 as part of the congressionally mandated base closures. The group saw some of the former test facilities, including the hydroballistic test tank and WW II vacuum chamber wind tunnels confiscated from the German military, and then learned about the huge environmental clean-up project required to remove hazardous materials and wastes from the center, as well as plans to rehabilitate some of the more than 200 buildings for other uses. A fascinating stop was the **David Taylor Model Basin**, 1937-40, at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Carderock, MD. The basin is used by naval architects to test models of naval ships under a variety of velocities and wave conditions. Tests include hydrodynamic force, wake surveys, propeller characterizations, resistance, and self-propulsion. The facility is named for David Watson Taylor (1864-1940), the naval architect and engineer who designed and oversaw the construction in 1896 of the first facility of its kind, the nearby Washington Navy Yard's Experimental Model Basin. The last of the tour's stops, the **Advanced Marine Center of Computer Sciences Corp.** in Arlington, VA, has taken the Navy from an era of models to one of computer simulations. As tour group members piloted virtual high-speed hydroplanes across a virtual Boston Harbor, center personnel described how computer technology is doing the work that once could be done only by building models and testing prototypes, thus shortening the time it takes to develop the Navy's new ship designs.

Other Friday tours offered an eclectic mix of IA-related sites. *Printing, Flying, and Farming* began the day at the **Government Printing Office**, the central printing plant of the U.S. government and largely dedicated to congressional needs. The GPO has won awards for its innovative use of the latest printing technology, and proposals and bills submitted prior to 2 a.m. can be printed and delivered before the start of legislative business at 8:30 a.m. the

same day on modern high-speed equipment. But GPO also uses many traditional methods associated with the production of deluxe leather- and fabric-bound statute books and reports, and the tour group observed workers inspecting and stitching together pre-colored signatures, or groups of sixteen center-folded pages, using 75-yr.-old sewing machines; gilding or marbling covers and pages by hand-dipping in shallow pans; embossing gold-leaf designs into the covers by heat pressing; and operating the in-plant machine shop that provides long-unavailable parts for older machinery. A final stop at the GPO was the composing room, where a Linotype machine remains in use. The operator generously cast slugs bearing the names of the members of the tour group. After printing came flying. The **National Air and Space Museum's Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration, and Storage Facility** in Suitland, MD, offered up a behind-the-scenes view of its operations. The NASM's artifacts are held in a cluster of thirty-plus buildings, mostly metal pre-fabs. Perhaps its most famous current resident is the disassembled B-29 *Enola Gay*. The group spent time in the materials laboratory, where artifacts are analyzed to determine composition and the type and extent of deterioration. While plastics and other synthetic materials of the space age generally are thought of as immune to the usual destructive processes, the conservators at the Garber facility displayed 25-yr.-old space suits already showing signs of cracking, chalking, and loss of elasticity even though stored in ideal climate-controlled conditions.

After lunch, the tour group crossed the Potomac and stepped back in time in search of industry at George Washington's home, **Mt. Vernon**. The first point of interest was the 12-sided treading barn, a re-creation of a barn laid out by Washington himself. Horses were led up an exterior ramp to the timber-framed second floor, where a ring-shaped walkway consisting of boards laid on their narrow edges with gaps provide a threshing floor. Sheaves of wheat were spread on the floor and the repeated treading of the horses' hooves separated the straw from the grain, which fell through the gaps and collected in the lower level. Elsewhere on the plantation, the group took a brief look at the nearly complete restoration of the gristmill and visited with archeologists excavating a site believed to be a distillery. From Mt. Vernon, the group re-crossed the Potomac to the **Washington Navy Yard**.

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Roof trusses in the "attic" of the National Cathedral.



A worker prepares to sew signatures at the Government Printing Office.

Larry Mishler

John Reap



# Robert Merriam

## 2001 General Tools Award Recipient

The Society for Industrial Archeology General Tools Award for Distinguished Service to Industrial Archeology recognizes individuals who have given sustained, distinguished service to the cause of industrial archeology. Nominations for the award may be made by any member in good standing. Criteria for selection are as follows: The recipient must have given noteworthy service, over an extended period of time, to the cause of industrial archeology. The type of service is unspecified, but must be for other than academic publication. It is desirable, though not required, that the recipient be a member of the SIA. And, finally, the award may be made only to living individuals. The Award was established in 1992 by Gerry Weinstein, Chairman of General Tools Manufacturing Company, and is funded through an endowment created by the Abraham and Lillian Rosenberg Foundation. Previous recipients of the General Tools Award are Emory Kemp, Robert Vogel, Margot Gayle, Ed Rutsch, Pat Malone, Helena Wright, Vance Packard, and Eric DeLony.

The following citation was read by General Tools Award Committee Chairman David Simmons at the SIA's Annual Business Meeting, Washington, D.C. The award consists of this citation, a commissioned sculpture (the famous Plumb Bob), and an honorarium of \$1,000.

This year's recipient of the Society for Industrial Archeology's General Tools Award for Distinguished Service to Industrial Archeology combines an impressive academic background, wide-ranging and varied world experience, a ready willingness to get his hands (and the rest of him) dirty in order to preserve industrial history, and a refreshing perspective and enduring Yankee sense of humor. It is Robert Merriam, founder of the New England Museum of Wireless and Steam in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

Like every good practitioner of IA, Bob Merriam brings a strong technical background to the field. He has been fiddling around with radios since a boy, but his formal education in engineering began when he entered Harvard in 1941. During the war, he received an electrical engineer's certificate through the Army Specialized Training Program at the University of New York. After a stint with the Signal Corps and service in the European Theatre, he returned to Harvard to obtain a degree in engineering sciences and applied physics and finished work on his master's degree in electrical engineering, also from Harvard. During one summer, he attended the University of Oslo where he became the first non-



Patrick Harsbarger

Robert Merriam, recipient of the 2001 General Tools Award for Distinguished Service to Industrial Archeology.

Norwegian to get an amateur radio license in Norway.

Bob's lifetime commitment to education began shortly thereafter when he joined the faculty of Swarthmore College as an instructor in electrical engineering. He has also been an associate professor in electrical engineering at the University of Rhode Island.

Bob edits the periodical *Wireless Communication in the U. S.* and has authored more than 130 articles on marine electronics.

Bob's major contribution to the field of industrial archeology has been through his work at the New England Museum of Wireless and Steam. Founded in 1964, under Bob's leadership the museum has become a world-class archival, preservation and educational facility for the history of wireless and steam technology. Bob provided the initial collection of artifacts, the land where the museum stands, now composed of five buildings, and much support from his personal finances, including serving as the director without compensation. The Wireless Building houses rare equipment spanning electronic communication from telegraph to TV and ranges from early commercial receivers to wireless transmitters and test instruments. The unaltered 1907 wireless station built by Walter W. Massie (a contemporary of Guglielmo Marconi) to serve off-shore steamboat traffic was moved to the museum grounds from Point Judith, Rhode Island. It is the oldest surviving originally equipped wireless station in the world. The stationary steam engine collection, encompassing engines manufactured between 1868 and 1911, was designated by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1992 as an "International Heritage Collection." But preservation is only part of the museum's mission. To quote Bob, "We want these pieces of history to run the way their builders meant them to run." That requires careful research into things like how to create the right foundation for a machine that weighs as much as 28 tons and how to get the proper valve setting and alignment on an engine that may have been sitting idle for half a century. Because of Bob's leadership, the museum now incorporates the only

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## The Vogel Prize

At the 2001 Annual Business Meeting, President Carol Poh Miller announced that, owing to corporate reorganization, the Norton Company has declined to continue support for the Norton Prize, which is awarded annually to an outstanding scholarly article to appear in the society's journal during the past three years. Accordingly, the board in February voted to rename the prize for someone special to the SIA. She invited Robert M. Vogel to come to the podium, after which she read the following citation renaming the prize the Vogel Prize.

Robert M. Vogel laid the foundations for the Society for Industrial Archeology. He was among the original founders of the SIA and sustained the organization in its earliest years. As the first editor of the *Society for Industrial Archeology Newsletter*,

from 1971 to 1979, Robert stamped the SIA with his distinctive good humor and unbridled enthusiasm for industrial heritage preservation. In the 1960s, his seminal work on the New England Textile Mill and Hudson-Mohawk Valley surveys established important benchmarks for field recording and documentation, and led to the establishment of the Historic American Engineering Record. As an authority in the field and longtime curator of civil and mechanical engineering at the Smithsonian Institution, Robert generously shared his knowledge, inspiring countless others to champion, as he did so vigorously, the cause of "IA." For these reasons and others, the SIA is pleased to name its annual prize for outstanding scholarship in industrial archeology in his honor. ■

John Reep



SIA group poses beside an armor plate segment at the Washington Navy Yard. The 660 mm (26-in.) Japanese plate was tested after WW II with an armor-piercing round that cleanly holed the sample, cratering and peeling the steel's foliated structure as if pastry.

Established in 1800, the yard has served a variety of purposes over the years including shipbuilding, the development and manufacture of shipboard equipment, and naval research. Prior to the Civil War, Lt. John A. Dahlgren established a gun foundry here, designated the Naval Gun Factory in 1884, and most of the large brick buildings were constructed for this role. The yard also houses the Naval Museum, which unfortunately was closed for restoration.

Two tours were offered to the Upper Potomac region around Harpers Ferry, WV, one on Friday and the other on Monday's post-conference tour. The tours had different itineraries, although both stopped at **Harpers Ferry National Historic Park**, a carefully restored 19th-century village that was once home to the U.S. Armory and Arsenal and the site of John Brown's famous raid in 1859. Peter Dessauer and David Gilbert of the park service led the group on both tours. Harpers Ferry has plenty to hold the attention of industrial archeologists. The falling water of the Shenandoah and Potomac rivers, which converge here at a gap in the Appalachian Mountains, has over the course of the 19th and early 20th century powered not only the government arsenal, but a cotton factory, flour mill, saw mill, machine shop, iron foundry, blacksmith shop, carriage factory, pulp mill and hydroelectric power plant. The National Park Service has established a walking trail to help visitors inspect and imagine the industries that once thrived here, and there is plenty of evidence in foundations and raceways. Moreover, there are several generations of transportation improvements, including the C&O Canal and the three alignments by which the B&O RR crossed the Potomac, including a tunnel and two bridges (1894 and 1930-31), and the abutments of the original 1830s alignment bridge, a series of Bollman trusses, erected between 1851 and ca. 1870. The last of the structure went down in the devastating flood of 1936, and pieces of it still can be seen in the river during low water. Friday's tour also included the **Monocacy Aqueduct** near Frederick, MD. Completed in 1833, the stone-arch aqueduct is the longest of 11 aqueducts built as part of the C&O Canal. The park service currently is undertaking a project to rehabilitate the structure, and Robert Kapsch was on hand to discuss the project with the SIA group.

A featured stop of Friday's tour to Harpers Ferry and the Upper Potomac was the **Alcoa Eastalco Works**, near Adamstown, MD, an aluminum reduction plant that began operations in 1970. The 400-acre plant employs more than 800. Here Alcoa produces



Duncan Hoy

SIA's intrepid bicyclists on the Capital Crescent rails-to-trails path.

ingots or billets for structural materials, such as window frames, automobile parts, and machinery parts. The raw material is bauxite ore mined in South America, shipped to Baltimore, and delivered to the plant by railroad. Electric current is passed through the alumina (a compound containing aluminum and oxygen derived from bauxite) in a chemical bath in special electrolytic cells called "pots" to separate the aluminum from the oxygen. It is a continuous-feed process with each cell having its own conveyors for delivering the alumina. Molten aluminum is siphoned from the pots and cast into billets, slabs, or T-ingots.

On Friday night a Newcomer's Reception was held in the hospitality suite, providing a chance for new members to mix with board members and other SIA veterans. Thanks go to Gary Heurich for donating several cases of local Heurich beer and especially to Amanda Gronhvd for catering the event with home-cooked appetizers.

Saturday's paper sessions were held in meeting rooms at the conference hotel, the Renaissance Washington DC at 9th and K streets. The papers had a range of geographic interests from industries of Pennsylvania to mining of the Great Lakes region. Other sessions featured the urban infrastructure, IA of government facilities, late-18th and early-19th-century ironmaking, and brickmaking. Eric DeLony organized the 18th annual historic bridge symposium. A session on "The SIA at 30 Years" featured presentations from an emerging generation of industrial archeologists, recent graduates or students of Michigan Tech's program, reflecting on the SIA's past and future. The SIA held its Annual Business Meeting (see minutes elsewhere in this issue) after Saturday's luncheon.

Sunday's tours were at a relaxed pace that offered recreational

(continued on page 9)



walking, biking, and canal boat rides. About 25 participants (ranging in age from 6 to 68!) joined in the SIA's first-ever bicycle tour Sunday morning. The group shuttled to the beginning of the ten-mile-long Capital Crescent Trail that follows the old right-of-way of the **B&O RR Georgetown Branch**. Led by Christopher Marston, the group pedaled and enjoyed the IA along the way, passing under a wooden trestle over Rock Creek, through the 1910 Dalecarlia Tunnel, over a pin-connected truss bridge, and along the C&O Canal to Georgetown. Another optional Sunday morning activity was an industrial walking tour of Georgetown, organized and led by David Shayt and Karen Gray. The historic terminus of the C&O Canal, Georgetown is the one place in Washington that has claim to a gritty industrial past including foundries, slaughter houses, machine shops, concrete plants, lumber yards, and power plants. The walking tour took in the industrial architecture, although much of what remains has been adaptively reused for upscale residential and commercial property.

Sunday afternoon more than 50 SIAers gathered for a mule-drawn canal boat ride on a short stretch of the **C&O Canal** in Georgetown. It was the same tour offered to the general public with the rare opportunity to lock both up and down through a 19th-century canal lock. The canal extended 184 miles between Georgetown and Cumberland, MD, and ranks as America's best preserved historic canal. Begun in 1824 and completed in 1850, the canal was a prime mover of coal from western Maryland and West Virginia to Washington. Finally, Sunday also offered a special before-hours tour of the **National Building Museum**, formerly the Pension Building, built by Meigs in the 1880s.

The conference's final event was the Monday post-conference tour to the Upper Potomac and Harpers Ferry. The first stop was in Williamsport, MD, to view the **Conococheague Creek Aqueduct (No. 5)** of the C&O Canal, a stone arch built in 1833-34, and several other historic bridges spanning the canal, including the **Salisbury Street Bridge**, an 1879 pin-connected Pratt pony truss fabricated by the Patapsco Bridge & Iron Works, founded by Wendel Bollman, and the **Williamsport Lift Bridge**, a petite 1923 vertical-lift bridge carrying a spur of the Western Maryland Rwy. over the canal.

A highlight of the post-conference tour was the **B&O Railroad Shop Complex** in Martinsburg, WV. The complex features the 1866 West Roundhouse, based on a design of Albert Fink, a significant figure in 19th-century American engineering. The "roundhouse" actually is a 16-sided polygon of brick walls enclosing an interior framework of octagonal-section vertical and inclined cast-iron columns that support trusses and circumferential struts. The bell-shaped roof is above the 50-ft. diameter turntable pit. The roundhouse is undergoing restoration, which



Patrick Harshbarger

*The operation of the Williamsport Lift Bridge, built in 1923, over the C&O Canal was the subject of discussion for this group of SIAers.*

was carefully explained by Matthew Grove, the project's architect. **Allegheny Energy Dam No. 4 Hydroelectric Plant** near Shepherdstown, WV, is a powerhouse completed in 1909. Located on a beautiful but remote site along the Potomac River, the stone-veneered plant features two Leffel 40-in.-diameter, dual runner, horizontal turbines. On each turbine shaft is a ten-ft.-diameter sheave coupled to a smaller upper generator sheave by a 1,250-ft. long rope loop that winds back and forth between the two sheaves 26 times. Allegheny Energy's Larry Earnest gave the SIA full access to the facility and allowed us to see it in operation. Before the Monday tour wound its way to Harpers Ferry, a stop was made at the remains of **Boteler's Cement Mill** along the Potomac River near Shepherdstown. Lee Maddex of WVU led the group through the vegetation to the ruins of six natural cement kilns, built 1829-30 to supply hydraulic cement for the C&O Canal.

The SIA's thanks go to the many volunteers and sites that played host to the 30th Annual Conference. Conference sponsors included the Montgomery C. Meigs Original Chapter of the SIA, the National Park Service, the Historic American Engineering Record, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Much gratitude goes to them for lending staff time and expertise to the conference's planning. Special thanks go to Christopher Marston and Dean Herrin who were the conference's co-chairs. The SIA also thanks the many individuals who volunteered including Blaine Cliver, Eric DeLony, Robert Vogel, Helena Wright, David Shayt, Sara Amy Leach, Justin Spivey, Kim Hoagland, Richard O'Connor, Don Durfee, Mike Hamilton, Tom Behrens, Dana Lockett, Todd Croteau, Lisa Davidson, Marilyn Harper, Nick Lapetrie, Laura Golberg, Dennis McDaniel, Kelly Young, Richard Quin, Jim Curtiss, Carol & Carter Litchfield, Barry & Marty Virts, Rex McClain, Amy Federman, Corri Jimenez, and Jet Lowe.

Patrick Harshbarger



Larry Mishler

*SIA tour group walks the towpath of the C&O Canal in Georgetown.*

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A new SIA Membership Directory was mailed in June. If you did not receive one, and are a member in good standing, please contact SIA headquarters. Additional directories are available for \$5 ppd.

# Minutes of the 2001 Annual Business Meeting

## May 12, 2001

President Carol Poh Miller called the meeting to order in the main dining salon of the Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C. She opened her remarks by calling for a round of applause for the SIA on the occasion of its 30th birthday. She then introduced a special guest, Wolfgang Ebert, from Duisburg, Germany, who led the recent SIA study tour of Ruhr industrial history sites along with Pat Martin of Michigan Tech.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Richard Anderson announced that the minutes of the last business meeting were published in the Summer 2000 issue of the SIAN. He called for additions and corrections to the minutes. There being none, the Secretary's report was accepted by motion and unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Nanci Batchelor reported that the society maintains its books and records on a calendar year basis. The report that follows is an accounting of the year that ended December 31, 2000. The SIA is classified as tax-exempt under the IRS Code 501(c)3 as an educational organization and files a Form 990 tax return yearly. The SIA began 2000 with a total fund balance of \$162,664. Cash receipts for the year totaled \$73,690. The majority of our annual income is from membership dues. In 2000 the total dues received were \$59,233. The balance of \$14,457 was comprised of interest income, publication sales, receipts of excess funds from tours and conferences, and contributions. Total expenses for the year were \$67,151. The production costs of our

major publications, the *Newsletter* and the *Journal*, combined for a total of \$39,236. The balance of \$27,915 was spent on a combination of labor, postage, insurance, prizes and awards, tours and conferences, and a few miscellaneous items such as the new membership brochures. The SIA closed 2000 with excess revenues over expenses of \$6,539.

**Tours and Conferences:** President Miller thanked all of the volunteers and organizations that have made this year's conference in Washington a success. She introduced Dean Herrin and Christopher Marston, the co-chairs, who have done a magnificent job coordinating the gathering. Dennis Connors of the Onondaga Historical Society is the organizer of the upcoming 2001 Fall Tour to be held in Syracuse, NY. He listed some of the anticipated tours and extended an invitation to attend the fall tour, scheduled for October 11-14. Bierce Riley reminded the meeting that the SIA is sponsoring a study tour to Cornwall, England, from September 1-10. The 2002 Annual Conference will be in Brooklyn, NY, June 6-10. Mary Habstritt is head of a committee of Roebbling Chapter members who are coordinating the conference. The 2002 Fall Tour will be in the Lehigh Valley. The 2003 Annual Conference is slated for Montreal.

**New Membership Directory:** President Miller announced that the new SIA Membership Directory will be mailed in early June.

(continued on page 21)

## John K. Brown 2001 Norton Prize Winner

Each year the SIA recognizes outstanding scholarship within the field of industrial archeology with its Norton Prize. (Next year, the prize will become the Vogel Prize, see article elsewhere in this issue.) The award honors the author of the best article to appear in the Society's journal, IA, within the past three years. Articles under consideration have a clearly stated thesis, a well constructed narrative, and an understandable conclusion. The analysis of material culture plays an important role in articles considered for the prize, as does the use of high-quality illustrations. The prize consists of a cash award and a wooden foundry pattern and plaque engraved with the recipient's name.

At the Annual Business Meeting, this year's award was presented by Norton Prize Committee Chair Duncan Hay to John K. Brown for his article, "When Machines Became Gray and Drawings Black and White: William Sellers and the Rationalization of Mechanical Engineering" in vol. 25, no. 2. Although drawings are usually considered archival materials and are often used in industrial archeology to inform our understanding of things, Brown uses them as things in their own right. His analysis of 900 drawings, representing nearly 40 years' work by the Sellers firm, combined with correspondence, articles in the contemporary engineering press, advertising material, and a thorough understanding of existing scholarship on the history of the machine tool industry provides insights into undocumented phenomena like hierarchical relationships between machine designers, machine builders, the sales force, and customers. Brown's analysis of the drawings, their notations, and even their erasures explores a shifting balance between craft work and control centralized in the drafting department.

Brown clarifies how, why, and when engineering drawings

came into use at the Sellers firm and relates that development to the drive toward a rationalized approach in 19th-century American engineering. In so doing, he reinforced the Sellers reputation as a leading and highly influential firm. Then he asks the significant question: Is it possible to read historic drawings as more than simple records of individual parts and machines, but for what they can tell us about the design and production environment in which they were created and the intentions and relationships among the people who drew and used them?

Brown demonstrates the value of mechanical drawings in revealing much about people, processes and revolutionary concerns in the emerging profession of engineering. He argues the closeness of dimensioned drawings to artifacts that have often disappeared, and his methods effectively extract knowledge that might otherwise go unrecorded. Brown uses other sources to establish context for understanding the Sellers drawings and the processes they represent. He demonstrated how "mechanical drawings became a vital medium by which 19th-century engineers and draftsmen established and ordered their professional knowledge." Moreover, Brown contributed to the practice of industrial archeology by providing a model that others may use in interpreting this sort of resource in studies of other industries.

Finally, Brown suggests a warning to archivists. Prize committee member Bob Frame summed it up when he wrote that Brown "wings a lot from this collection of drawings and, in so doing, both suggests future lines of inquiry by others and sends a message to archivists that 'sampling' drawings may be the ill-advised product of not understanding the drawing as artifact." ■



# SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY NEWSLETTER

## PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

A Supplement to Vol. 30, Nos. 3-4

Summer-Fall 2001

COMPILED BY

Mary Habstritt, New York, NY; and Patrick Harshbarger, SIAN editor.

### GENERAL INTEREST

- ▶ Arnold Alanen and Robert Z. Melnick, eds. **Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America.** Johns Hopkins Univ. Pr., 2000. 250 pp. \$45; \$22.50 paper. Essays suggest new ways to interpret and preserve places where landscapes intersect with built forms and social life.
- ▶ Jeffrey Auerbach. **The Great Exhibition of 1851: A Nation on Display.** Yale Univ. Pr., 1999. 279 pp. \$40. The cultural and social meaning of the exhibit, long held to mark the high point of the British ascendancy to industrial supremacy. Rev: *T&C* (Apr. 2001), pp. 341-43.
- ▶ Brenda Brown. **Reconstructing the Ruhrgebiet.** *Magazine of the American Society of Landscape Architects*, v. 4 (April 2001), p.66. Illustrated essay, including some sites and views seen on the 2001 SIA study tour to Germany.
- ▶ Wolfgang Ebert. **Kathedralen der Arbeit: historische Industriearchitektur in Deutschland** (Cathedrals of Work: Historical Industrial Architecture in Germany). Tubingen: Wasmuth, 1996. 176 pp., photos, maps. DM 128.00 (Avail.: buch.netstoreusa.com, US \$89.40, or amazon.de.) By the mastermind of SIA's Ruhr tour and the Route Industriekultur, this photo album documents a selection of Germany's important industrial complexes from the Völklinger Hütte iron-works to the Zeche Zollern II/IV coal mine in Dortmund.
- ▶ Shane Gould. **The Identification, Recording and Management of the More Recent Archaeological and Architectural Heritage of Essex.** *IAR* 23,1 (2001), pp. 11-24. The public administration of IA at the county level in the United Kingdom.
- ▶ Kenneth Hudson. **Has Industrial Archaeology Lost Its Way?** *IAR* 23,1 (2001). Published posthumously, Hudson's thoughts on expanding the field of IA to be more inclusive of a greater variety of workplaces. Provocatively suggests renaming the field "work archaeology."
- ▶ Paul Israel. **An Inventor's Wife: Mina Edison.** *Timeline* (May/June. 2001), pp. 2-19. "Could the genius of electricity find happiness with an Akron socialite half his age?" *Timeline* is published 6 times per yr. by the Ohio Hist. Soc., 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus, OH 43211. \$30/yr.
- ▶ **Journal of Vermont Archaeology** . Vol. 1 (1994) includes, Victor R. Rolando, *The Industrial Archaeology Study of Vermont: 1978-1993*; Vol. 2 (1997) includes Robert M. Sanford, et. al., *Reading the Landscape: Inference of Historic Land Use in Vermont Forests*, and Scott McLaoughlin, *Missisquoi Bay Barges Underwater Archaeological Survey*; Vol. 3 (2000) includes Charity M. Baker, *Waterpower on the Winooski: The S. A. Brownell Site as an Archaeological and Educational Resource*, and Victor R. Rolando, *Archeology at the United States Pottery Co. Site in Bennington, VT*. Published by the Vermont Archaeological Soc., Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402; [vrolando@sover.net](mailto:vrolando@sover.net).
- ▶ Carol Kammen and Norma Prendergast, ed. **Encyclopedia of Local History** . American Assoc. for State & Local History and AltMira Pr. (1-800-462-6420), 2000. 560 pp. \$79.95. Essays on an eclectic assemblage of topics, concepts, resources, and organizations frequently encountered in local history research. Includes some subjects of interest to IA, e.g., HABS/HAER, Sanborn maps, mining, landscapes, etc.
- ▶ **Keeping the Peace and Protecting Our Heritage** is a theme issue of *CRM: Cultural Resource Management*, vol. 24, 3 (2001) devoted to archeology and historic preservation in the Dept. of Defense. Several articles related to industrial archeology including fortifications, military base infrastructure, aircraft hangars, and underwater shipwrecks. *CRM* is published by the National Park Service. Electronic version can be accessed at [www.cr.nps.gov/crm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/crm).
- ▶ John Lauritz Larson. **Internal Improvement: National Public Works and the Promise of Popular Government in the Early United States.** Univ. of NC Pr., 2001. 344 pp., \$55. Roads, canals, bridges, libraries, and universities from the perspective of a political economist.
- ▶ Steven Litt. **Creating a Future for Our Industrial Past** . *The Plain Dealer*, November 21, 2000, pp.1-A, 10A-11A. Discusses proposed industrial heritage corridor for the Cuyahoga Valley in Cleveland.
- ▶ **New England SIA Chapters Newsletter** , v. 21,1 (2001) includes, Jonathan Kranz, *An Inside Look at the Old Charles Street Jail* (Boston); Linda U. Bornstein & Kenneth Schwarz, *Wood Forges* (wood box forges used in remote logging operations, rural farms, small villages and shops); Matthew Kierstead, *Northeast Corridor Improvement Project*; Matthew Kierstead, *Two Landmark Rhode Island Bridges to be Demolished* (Sakonnet River Bridge and Jamestown Bridge); Bob Stewart, *The Catenary System of the New York, New Haven & Hartford*. Avail. with local chapter membership. Northern NE Chapter, c/o. Herman Brown, 250 W. Shore Rd., Grand Isle, VT 05458, \$10/yr.; Southern NE Chapter, c/o Robert Stewart, 1230 Copper Hill Rd., West Suffield, CT 06093, \$15/yr.
- ▶ Stephen Van Dulken. **British Patents of Invention, 1617-1977: A Guide for Researchers.** British Library, 1999. 211

pp. £39. The historical background of the patent system. Appendix covers how to search for a British patent in the holdings of the British Library, Patent Office, or Public Record Office. Rev: *T&C* (Apr. 2001), pp. 340-41.

## **RAILROADS**

- ▶ Robert G. Angevine. **Individuals, Organizations, and Engineering: U.S. Army Officers and the American Railroads, 1827-1838.** *T&C* (Apr. 2001), pp. 292-320. Army officers provide guidance and survey early American railroads.
- ▶ Anthony J. Bianculli. **Trains and Technology: The American Railroad in the Nineteenth Century. Vol. 1: Locomotives.** Univ. of Del. Pr., 2001. 241 pp., illus., index, glossary. \$59.50. Evolution of locomotive technology from simple beginnings to the varied and specialized machines of later periods. First in a 4-vol. reference set written and edited to be easily understood, free of jargon, and based on current scholarship. Future subjects include cars, track, structures, bridges and tunnels, and signals.
- ▶ Brian J. Cudahy. **The Malbone Street Wreck.** Fordham Univ. Pr., 1999. 268 pp., illus., index. \$32.50; \$20 paper. Analysis of the infamous 1918 accident on Brooklyn Rapid Transit. During a wildcat strike, a replacement motorman took a sharp curve on a tunnel approach at a high rate of speed and the derailment killed 97, injured 100, and bankrupted the BRT.
- ▶ Mary Hamilton Dann. **Rochester and Genesee Valley Rails.** Railroad Research Publications (PMB 266, 3400 Ridge Rd. West, Ste. 5, Rochester, NY 14626; [rpubl@frontiernet.net](mailto:rpubl@frontiernet.net)), 2001. \$39.95. Illustrated history of the Upstate NY railroads.
- ▶ Bodo von Dewitz and Jochen Heufelder. **Unter Schienen schweben** (Under Suspended Rail). Steidl, 1999. (Avail.: Museum Ludwig / Agfa Photo-Historama, Bishchofsgartenstrasse 1, D-50667 Köln, Germany.) 111 pp., illus. DM 30. The title refers to the Wuppertal Schwebebahn, a unique suspended monorail [tour site, 2001 SIA Ruhr Study Tour]. This documentary was printed to commemorate the Schwebebahn's centenary and contains over 75 historic photos with a 20 p. introduction. In German.
- ▶ Geoffrey H. Doughty. **Buffalo Blues.** *RH* 184 (Spring 2001), pp. 104-109. Difficulties of preserving Buffalo (NY) Central Terminal.
- ▶ **History of Wrecks.** *RH* 184 (Spring 2001), pp. 20-77. Respected railroad historians analyze a subject that has brought out the worst and best of railroading scholarship.
- ▶ **Railroad Heritage** is the quarterly magazine of the Center for Railroad Photography and Art (Box 259330, Madison, WI 53725; [www.railphoto~art.org](http://www.railphoto~art.org)). Articles examine the work of railroad photographers and artists. No.3 (2001) includes *Stitt's B&O Legacy Continues*; *Ganaway Captures Train's Spirit*; *Photo by Rittase*; *Nickel Plate Road by Bob Lorenz*; *Patten's Distinctive Designs*; *Two PA's Return for Restoration*; *Bubleby Builds Photo Archive*.
- ▶ Jeff Schramm. **Foreigners.** *RH* 184 (Spring 2001), pp. 8-19. Why German diesel-hydraulic locomotives were imported into the U. S. beginning in the 1950s.
- ▶ **Timber Transfer** is the magazine of the Friends of the East Broad Top Railroad (Huntington County, PA). It features

stories and news of the EBT, including keeping its members up-to-date on efforts to preserve one of America's premiere narrow-gauge steam railroads. Avail. with membership to the Friends group, \$25/yr. Info: Peter A. Clarke, 10428 Carlyn Ridge Rd., Damascus, MD 20872; [febt@aol.com](mailto:febt@aol.com).

## **WATER TRANSPORT**

- ▶ Gerald J. Barry. **The Sailors' Snug Harbor: A History, 1801-2001.** Fordham Univ. Pr., 2000. 224 pp. illus. \$27.95; \$20 paper. Snug Harbor served as a retirement home for naval and merchant seamen for 140 yrs. Its endowment allowed it to become a self-sufficient community with a bake house, hospital, blacksmith, carpenter and machine shops, laundry, chapel, music hall and morgue. Of over 50 structures, 28 remain and many are occupied by arts and community organizations as the city slowly continues restoration.
- ▶ Raymond J. Baxter and Arthur G. Adams. **Railroad Ferries of the Hudson: And Stories of a Deckhand.** Fordham Univ. Pr., 1999. 272 pp., illus., maps. \$35; \$19.95 paper. Revision and update of the 1987 edition published by Lind Publications.

## **AUTOMOBILES & HIGHWAYS**

- ▶ Michael Lamm. **Ring Out the Olds.** *I&T* (Summer 2001), p. 7. GM discontinues its venerable Oldsmobile line.
- ▶ Harold Meeks. **On the Road to Yellowstone: The Yellowstone Trail and American Highways, 1900-1930.** Pictorial Histories Pub. (713 S. Third St. W., Missoula, MT 59801; (406) 549-8488; [phpc@montana.com](mailto:phpc@montana.com)), 2000. 208 pp., illus. \$18.45 ppd. Development of early automobile tourist route across northern tier of U.S.

## **AVIATION**

- ▶ Stewart Nelson. **Airports Across the Ocean.** *I&T* (Summer 2001), pp. 32-37. For a while in the 1920s and 1930s, a series of floating landing strips looked like the future of travel to and from Europe.
- ▶ Eric Schatzberg. **Wings of Wood, Wings of Metal: Culture and Technical Choice in American Airplane Materials, 1914-1945.** Cultural and social factors contribute to the triumph of metal over wood. Princeton Univ. Pr., 1999. 313 pp. \$49.50. Rev: *T&C* (Apr. 2001), pp. 370-372.
- ▶ Mark Wolverton. **The Airplane That Flew into Space.** *I&T* (Summer 2001), pp. 12-20. How the X-15 became the most valuable and successful research plane ever built.

## **BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES**

- ▶ Angus Phillips. **Tall Order: Cape Hatteras Lighthouse Makes Tracks.** *National Geographic*, May 2000, pp. 98-105. Story of the move includes a diagram of the system of beams, rams, and cribbing (and a lot of lubricating soap) that made it all possible.
- ▶ Jim Rasenberger. **Cowboys of the Sky.** *NY Times*, Sun. Jan. 28, 2001, section 14, p. 1, 11. What work and life is like for ironworkers on the skyscrapers of New York. Includes nomenclature.
- ▶ **Structurae: International Database and Gallery of Structures.** Trilingual website lists major structures, mostly bridges, of civil engineering interest around the world and provides technical data and a chronology for each as well as a

list of related Web sites. Although it intends to include both modern and historic structures, most are recently built. Designers and firms can be searched by name for biographical information and a list of works. <http://www.structurae.de/>

## BRIDGES

- ▶ Lola Bennett and Richard Kaminiski. **Lower Merrimack River Bridges.** *Civil Engineering Practice: Journal of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers Section/ASCE*, v. 15, 2 (Fall/Winter 2000), pp. 43-62. Photo essay and brief histories of 24 bridges from Tyngsborough, MA, continuing downstream to Newburyport.
- ▶ Lawrence Biemiller. **An Old Bridge Spans Lessons in History and Engineering.** *Chronicle of Higher Education* (Apr. 20, 2001), p. A72. Henszey's 1869 wrought-iron arch-truss bridge at Wanamakers, PA. Students study bridge engineering and history, and work to restore bridge, which will be relocated to Central Pennsylvania College campus near Harrisburg.
- ▶ Paul Gottbrath. **Oregonia Bridge Tumbles into River.** *Cincinnati Post*, Mar.13. 118-yr. old, 220-ft.-long, metal-truss bridge in Warren Co.,OH, collapses. Closed to vehicular traffic in 1990 and unmaintained.
- ▶ Alan Holgate. **The Art of Structural Engineering: The Work of Jörg Schlaich and his Team.** Stuttgart: Edition Axel Menges, 1997. 294 pp., illus. \$98. Several bridges by this designer were seen, and walked upon, by attendees of the Ruhr study tour in Duisburg and Gelsenkirchen. This book surveys the Schlaich oeuvre, which ranges from cable-net and membrane roofs to inventive bridges and new solar-energy devices. It covers the history of many of the projects in which he and his partners have been involved and tells something of his philosophy of design.

## CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Richard Anderson, Jr., Sumter, SC; Lola Bennett, Stow, MA; Diana Bouchard, Pointe Claire, Quebec; Vicki Chirco, Griggstown, NJ; Joel Davenport, Cincinnati, OH; Eric DeLony, Washington, DC; Harold Dorwin, Washington, D.C.; Don Durfee, Houghton, MI; Tom Flagg, New York, NY; Bob Frame, Minneapolis, MN; Mary Habstritt, New York, NY; Duncan Hay, Charlestown, MA; Dean Herrin, Frederick, MD; Neill Herring, Jesup, GA; Arlene Collins, Houghton, MI; Paul Kayne, Griggstown, NJ; Matt Kierstead, Pawtucket, RI; Jack Landesberg, Maquon, WI; Pete Malmberg, Perry, IA; Christopher Marston, Washington, DC; Pat Martin, Houghton, MI; Mary McCahon, Burlington, NJ; Susan McDonough, Easton, PA; Vern Mesler, Lansing, MI; Lance Metz, Easton, PA; David Meyer, St. Louis, MO; Carol Poh Miller, Cleveland, OH; Larry Mishkar, Wausau, WI; Richard O'Connor, Washington, DC; Robert Passfield, Ottawa, Ontario; David Poirier, Hartford, CT; Fred Quivik, St. Paul, MN; Lynn Rakos, New York, NY; David Shayt, Washington, DC; David Simmons, Columbus, OH; Jim Stewart, Churchville, NY; John Teichmoeller, Ellicott City, MD; Steve Velasquez, Washington, DC; Robert Vogel, Washington, DC; Jennifer Watson, Mamoroneck, NY; Carolyn Murray Wooley, Lexington, KY.

*With Thanks.*

- ▶ Reed Karaim. **A Bridge Too Far.** *Preservation* (July/Aug. 2001), pp. 62-65. Reopened 30 years ago in the Arizona desert, London's landmark span doesn't look as lost as you might expect.

## WATER CONTROL & RECLAMATION

- ▶ Janice Petterchak. **Taming the Mississippi: My Turn at Watch, William H. Klingner, 1935-1999.** Legacy Pr., 2000. (Avail.: Upper Mississippi, 1, and Missouri River Foundation, 201 W. Fairground Ave., Hillsboro IL 62049; 217-532-5458; [ink@cillnet.com](mailto:ink@cillnet.com).) 208 pp., illus., maps. \$10. Combines the history of flood control with a biography of Klingner, an engineer whose career spanned 60 years. Early river history and federal policy.

## POWER GENERATION

- ▶ T. Lindsay Baker, ed. **Windmillers' Gazette.** Quarterly. Avail: Box 507, Rio Vista, TX 76093. Dedicated to the preservation of America's wind-power history and heritage. Vol. 20,1 (Winter 2001) includes *The Fairbury No. & Windmill: The Pride of The Fairbury Line*; Vol. 20,2 includes *Eclipse Copies: Eclipse-Style Windmills Made by Firms Other Than Fairbanks, Morse & Co.*; Vol. 20,3 (Summer 2001) includes *Dempster News* (reprint of Nov. 1926 in-house newsletter of the Dempster Mill Manufacturing Co., Beatrice, NB) and *Wind Engine Study Tour in France: An Examination of Bollée Wind Machines*.

## IRON & STEEL

- ▶ Thomas E. Crowl. **Cherry Valley's Coke Ovens.** *Timeline* (July/Aug. 2001), pp. 28-41. Coke ovens are all that remain of Cherry Valley Iron Co., northern Columbiana County, OH.

## MINES & MINING

- ▶ **From Alabama's Past, Capitalism and Racism in Cruel Partnership.** *Wall Street Journal*, July 16, 2001, p. 1. Coal mines in and around Birmingham leased African-American convicts until 1928. Credits Jack Bergstresser [SIA] for rediscovering the U.S. Steel cemetery for prisoners who died under the harsh working conditions.
- ▶ Sandy Gerard. **The Early British Tin Industry.** Tempus Pub., 2000. 160 pp., illus. £14.99. History of hydraulic tin exploitation in Cornwall. Process known as stream-working. Rev: *IAR* v. 23,1, p. 69.
- ▶ Ray Riley. **Coal Mining in Upper Silesia 1880-1939: Some Surviving Surface Installations.** *IAR* 23,1 (2001), pp. 37-53. Survey of impressive number of surviving coal mines in Poland.

## TEXTILES

- ▶ George William Shea. **Spoiled Silk: The Red Mayor and the Great Paterson Textile Strike.** Fordham Univ. Pr., 2001. 240 pp., illus. \$30; \$20 pap. The story of William Brueckmann and his wife Katherine, immigrants from Germany who were committed to a socialist vision and worked to improve the lives of their fellow immigrants. Central to their tale is the 1913 strike in the textile mills of Paterson, N.J. Workers heard that a new type of loom was being brought in that would put many out of work and called in the Wobblies. The Paterson authorities moved quickly to

crush the strike, but Brueckmann, mayor of neighboring Haledon, offered the strikers safe haven in his town. Thus began a long and bitter struggle that brought thousands of mill workers to Haledon and the city of Paterson to its knees.

## AGRICULTURE & FOOD PROCESSING

- **ALHFAM Bulletin.** Vol. 31,1 (Spring 2001) is an issue devoted to agricultural machinery. Includes, Frank White, *Old Fashion "Bow Ties" for Cows* (lightweight versions of ox bows); Wayne Randolph, *The Shovel Plow: An Euro-American Ard*; Leo Landis, "Some Years Yet to Perfect It": *A Brief History of the Combine; A Survey of Tractors at the Henry Ford Museum, 1904-1953*; Debra Reid, *Agricultural Machinery in ALHFAM Publications*; Duane Smith, *Backbands, Hames, and Chains: Changing Gears on Plantation Mules*. The Bulletin is avail. with membership to ALHFAM (Assn. for Living History, Farm and Ag. Museums), [www.alhfam.org](http://www.alhfam.org).
- Robert Franklin. **Flour Power**. *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, May 21, 2001. Schech's Mill (Caledonia, MN) is the last of the state's once numerous water-powered mills with original equipment. "Direct-drive" waterpower system, dating to ca. 1880. Open for tours, but looking for state assistance to restore the raceways and dam.
- Dennis Godfrey. **Plans to Develop Old Plant Stalls at \$ Sign.** *Arizona Republic* (Jan. 5, 2001). Attempts to preserve ca. 1900 Glendale sugar beet factory.
- Donald Holley. **The Second Great Emancipation: The Mechanical Cotton Picker, Black Migration, and How They Shaped the Modern South.** Univ. of Ark. Pr., 2000. 274 pp. \$36. The adoption of the picker was the consequence of low-quality labor and out-migration. Rev: T&C (Apr. 2001), pp. 350-52.
- Amber Patrick. **Ups and Downs in the Malting Industry**. *IA News* (Summer 2001), pp. 2-3. Documentation of flour malting in Norfolk and Devon.
- Lynn Pearson. **British Breweries: An Architectural History.** Hambledon Press, 1999. 256 pp., illus. £25. Development of plants and buildings. Directory of architects.
- Donald D. Stull. **On the Cutting Edge: Changes in Midwestern Meatpacking Communities.** Society for the Study of Local and Regional History, P.O. Box 291, Marshall, MN 56258 (507/537-7373), 1997. 29 pp. \$4.50 ppd. Economic and human consequences of the new decentralized meatpacking and poultry-dressing industries.
- Curt Wohleber. **From Cheese to Cheese Food.** *I&T* (Summer 2001), pp. 8-9. The story of James I. Kraft, who persuaded Americans to accept cheese by divorcing it from its microbe-laden origins.

## LOGGING & LUMBERING

- Nicole Hayler, ed. **Sound Wormy: Memoir of Andrew Gennett, Lumberman.** Univ. of Georgia Pr., 2002. 248 pp., photos, \$34.95. Beginning with the purchase of a tract of timber along the Chattooga River, the author founded the Gennett Lumber Co. with his brother and became one of south's most successful lumbermen. His reminiscences include details of how trees were felled, trimmed by hand, dragged down mountain slopes by draft animals, floated downstream or carried by rail to the mill, and then sawn, graded, and stacked for drying. He also tells of dealings in the land market, where

kinship and custom were on equal footing with the law.

## MISC. INDUSTRIES

- Silvio A. Bedini. **With Compass and Chain: Early American Surveyors and Their Instruments.** Professional Surveyors Pub. Co. (1713-J Rosemont Ave., Frederick, MD 21702; (301) 682-6101; [www.profsurv.com](http://www.profsurv.com)), 2001. 746 pp., illus., index. \$80 ppd. Well-researched biographical essays on early American instrument makers, cartographers, and surveyors yield a wealth of information about the history of land surveying from colonial period to mid-19th c.
- Chris Bradley. **Potters' Milling—An Early Ball Mill Rescued.** *IA News* (Summer 2001), pp. 6-7. Used to grind hard materials—bone, flint, feldspar, limestone, magnesite—used by potters in Staffordshire. Early 20th c. mill is believed to be oldest for that use in England. Six-ft. diameter cylinder has a lining of silica blocks and is half filled with large flint pebbles.
- W. D. Cocroft. **Dangerous Energy: The Archaeology of Gunpowder and Military Explosives Manufacture.** English Heritage, 2000. 384 pp., illus. £45. Recording work triggered by the British government's abandonment of munitions installations in the 1990s. Focus on site layout, manufacturing flow lines, power sources, and transportation links. Rev: *IAR* v. 23,1, p. 70.
- Thomas A. Kinney. **Flowers on the Roof: Charles E. Adams, Industrial Reformer**. *Timeline* (July/Aug. 2001), pp. 16-27. Cleveland Hardware & Forging Co., manufacturer of carriage and automobile hardware. Head of the firm was a widely admired Progressive reformer.

## ABBREVIATIONS:

ALHFAM	= Assn. for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums Bulletin
CRM	= Cultural Resource Management, published by the National Park Service
IA News	= Industrial Archaeology News (UK)
IAR	= Industrial Archaeology Review (UK)
I&T	= American Heritage of Invention & Technology
T&C	= Technology & Culture: Quarterly of the Society for the History of Technology

**Publications of Interest** is compiled from books and articles brought to our attention by you, the reader. SIA members are encouraged to send citations of new and recent books and articles, 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 SIA Newsletter, 305 Rodman Road, Wilmington, DE 19809; [phsianews@aol.com](mailto:phsianews@aol.com).

We endeavor to make citations as complete as possible, but they are drawn from a variety of sources, and sometimes are incomplete. If a date, publisher, price, or other statistic is missing, it simply means that it was unavailable, and, unfortunately, we do not have the time to track down these missing bits. The SIA, unless otherwise noted, is not a source for any of the cited works. Readers are encouraged to use their library, bookstore, computer, or school for assistance with locating books or articles.

# *Redfield Bridge & Tile Co. History and Preservation Potential*

**R**edfield, Iowa, has been known for high-quality brick and tile production since the 1870s. In 1894, a large and well-financed firm, the Goodwin & Myers Brick & Tile Co., began operations. Unlike many other small brick-making businesses, this company had the financial resources to open big open-pit shale deposits, ensuring its long-term viability.

By 1901, Robert Goodwin assumed full control over the plant. The name was changed to Redfield Bridge & Tile Works. The operation's heart was the varied shale deposits left behind by the retreating Wisconsin glacier. These deposits are characterized by a plastic aluminum silicate that is mixed with iron. Consequently, the natural fire clay in the deposit made the bricks very stable during the processing period. The iron in the material turns a rich red when fired, earning the bricks the name "Redfield Reds."

During the company's early years, production was small. As the plant enlarged, sales were made over a wider area. Robert Goodwin's son, Robert, Jr., became good friends with Father Flanagan of Boys Town; consequently Redfield bricks were used in many of the Boys Town buildings. The Garst & Thomas Pioneer Seed Corn Plant in Coon Rapids, IA, and many of the buildings at Iowa State Univ. in Ames are of Redfield face tile.

Four generations of Goodwins took turns operating the Redfield plant and operations were expanded steadily over the years. A 1908 fire destroyed the No. 1 building, and newspapers reported over \$20,000 damage to buildings, equipment and materials. Rebuilding took six months. In the early days, the plant operated only six months of each year. During the winter, employees worked at the local ice house. In 1940, the operation became year around, greatly increasing job stability. By 1960, there were up to 60 employees.

The first kilns (pronounced "kills") were down-draft or beehive type. Brick was produced by the soft-mud or molding method, later replaced by extrusion, a more efficient method. Millions of drain tiles were produced at the plant for draining Iowa fields. Some tiles were as large as 36-in diameter, but most were 4- to 12-in.

In 1968, a modern drain-tile plant was constructed, featuring a continuous tunnel kiln. Two years later, a second tunnel kiln for brick production was added. Both of these plants were designed by ceramic engineer Wayne Barrett. The old beehive kilns were gradually phased out until production completely stopped in the early 1970s. The Goodwin family sold

their interest in the firm to Can-Tex industries in 1970. Can-Tex sold out in 1982 to the current owners, Midland Brick Co.

Today, the old brickyard sits empty but not forgotten. Preservationists have been excited by the potential to make it an industrial history site. The current owner is threatening to bulldoze the 40-acre site for scrap metal but is willing to sell the property. State preservation groups are looking into a variety of possibilities to save the site and would welcome any suggestions or assistance with this special project.

Info: Pete Malmberg, Historical/Cultural Resources Coordinator, 14477 K Ave., Perry, IA 50220; (515) 465-3577; [pamhlm@raccoon.com](mailto:pamhlm@raccoon.com). ■



Pete Malmberg

*A pug mill sits abandoned in the weeds at the Redfield brickyard.*



Pete Malmberg

*Kilns at the Redfield brickyard.*

## CHARTING THE FUTURE OF SIA:

# A Report on the SIA Winter Retreat, February 17-18, 2001, Croton-on-Hudson, NY

On Feb. 17-18, the SIA Board of Trustees, together with a dozen invited guests, met at the country home of Gerry Weinstein and Mary Habstritt in Croton-on-Hudson, NY, for a special winter retreat. Our mission was to consider the future direction of the SIA. Past President Fred Quivik served as coordinator. Also participating were: President Carol Poh Miller, Vice President Vance Packard, Secretary Richard Anderson, Treasurer Nanci Batchelor; Directors Gray Fitzsimons, Mary Habstritt, Lance Metz, Richard O'Connor, Robert Stewart, and Louise Trotter; SIA Executive Secretary and IA Editor Patrick Martin; SIA Newsletter Editor Patrick Harshbarger; and guests Chris Andraea, Rick Greenwood, Duncan Hay, Matt Kierstead, Pat Malone, Larry Mishkar, Bode Morin, Ed Rutsch, David Shayt, Gerry Weinstein, and Paul White. (Thomas Leary, who had recently undergone eye surgery, was not able to attend, although he did his homework anyway.)

As a framework for the retreat, Fred and I developed a list of what we agreed were essential questions. In advance of the retreat, he assigned the questions to participants. Working in pairs, we were expected to collaborate and make a brief presentation that would serve as the starting point for discussion by the entire group. These were the questions we asked:

- How can we grow our membership?
- How can we reach young people and attract them to the field of industrial archeology?
- How can we sustain and improve our core program of conferences, tours, and study tours?

- How can we improve our publications?
- How can we establish and build an advocacy role for the SIA?
- How can we improve our relations with allied organizations, both nationally and internationally?
- How can we respond to the new realities of the World Wide Web?
- How can we move beyond our traditional program? What new initiatives can we take to enlarge our role and presence-to quote from our membership brochure-as “the North American forum for those who share an interest in industrial archeology”?
- How can we improve member services?
- How can we improve our public visibility?
- How can we improve professional standards? How can we educate amateurs and professionals outside the university?
- What is our current financial picture and what can we do to ensure the SIA’s fiscal health well into the future?

Breaking only for tasty and nutritious meals prepared by chef extraordinaire Vance Packard with assistance from sous chef Ed Rutsch, we tackled each question in turn. As SIA Secretary Richard Anderson took his customary detailed minutes (the curious are invited to contact him at [rkanderson@fic-i.net](mailto:rkanderson@fic-i.net) for an e-copy), Fred used a flip chart to make notes on recommended actions for which we were able to achieve consensus-or near-consensus. Later, he compiled the list, dividing it into short- and long-term projects. These were further subdivided into projects that could or should be undertaken by SIA Headquarters; by the SIA board or special committee; or by a contractor or consultant. The list was then circulated to retreat participants, who were asked to rank their top ten short- and long-term projects.

Here is the list (in no particular order):

### SHORT-TERM PROJECTS:

#### *SIA Board or Committee*

- Develop a manual for board members containing job descriptions, expectations, policies, procedures, etc.
- Support Amanda Gronhøvd’s initiative to form a “new members group”
- Be willing to return to sites of past successful tours & conferences
- Strive to maintain low cost and local flavor of tours & conferences
- Develop a position of support & assistance for the SIAN editor
- Develop a consistent graphic image/format for all SIA publications
- Develop a mission statement
- Investigate incorporating the SIA in Canada
- Stress the importance of the Chapter Coordinator position on the board
- Offer (but don’t push) more guidance to chapters about how to organize a new one
- Continue formalizing the board’s budget process
- Explore making more aggressive investments with our surplus cash
- Encourage members to always carry membership brochures to give to folks when the topic of IA comes up
- Develop a “Best Books on IA” list

#### *SIA Headquarters*

- Implement a moderate program to recruit new members from targeted groups
- Advertise SIA as appropriate
- Develop a column in SIAN that features events/programs that draw young people to understand industrial objects/sites/history
- Make it possible to join SIA or purchase publications on-line
- Generate more thematic issues of IA
- Be open to producing “occasional publications”
- Investigate formal affiliation with other groups (e.g., the Organization of American Historians lists “affiliated organizations” on its Web site; we’re not on that list)



*The hale and hearty take a break from the SIA winter retreat to inspect the Croton Aqueduct. Standing, l to r: Paul White, Pat Martin, Chris Andraea, Bode Morin, Carol Poh Miller, Richard Anderson, Fred Quivik, Gerry Weinstein, Louise Trotter, Rick Greenwood. Foreground: Matt Kierstead and Mary Habstritt.*

Duncan Hay



*Past President Fred Quivik, retreat coordinator, records the fertile ideas of participants.*



Matthew A. Kierstead

Develop a technical leaflet on IA for distribution by American Association for State and Local History  
 Improve our outreach to museums

*SIA Headquarters*

Investigate offering non-North Americans the option of “joint memberships” in SIA and kindred organizations in other countries  
 Mary Habstritt & Larry Mishkar presented a list of the kinds of things the SIA could do with and for people on the Web, and they all appeared to be “operations” on the Web we’d like to undertake  
 Develop a consultants list (without endorsing them)  
 Develop an IA “speakers bureau”  
 Work on improved media visibility for our conferences & tours (cross-listed under long-term/board)  
 Establish an IA “Library of Record”

*Contractor/Consultant*

Develop a consistent graphic identity for our publications/letterhead/Web site

At the last meeting of the SIA Board, on May 12, we reviewed the list of projects-again, with Fred’s able assistance-and proceeded to implement those that were immediately and easily doable. As reported elsewhere in this issue, we now have our own Web address ([www.sia-web.org](http://www.sia-web.org)). We have also taken steps toward implementing a program of continuing education in conjunction with SIA annual conferences. Other projects—the establishment of an advocacy committee, for example, and the development of a consistent graphic identity—will require further discussion at future board meetings.

Only time will tell how fruitful our Croton retreat will prove to be. I personally found the entire process rather remarkable, beginning with the willingness of participants to devote two days (more, counting travel time), at their own expense, to brainstorm the future of SIA. Also notable were the high caliber of the presentations and subsequent discussion, the easy camaraderie, the gracious hospitality of our hosts, and the beauty of a bright and brisk winter weekend in the Hudson Valley. I believe we did succeed in charting some fresh future directions for the SIA, and I invite you to join us as we work to implement these varied ideas and projects whose success will depend on an active and committed SIA membership.

*Carol Poh Miller  
 SIA President*

Simplify access to our Web site by acquiring our own Web address  
 Create the position of Review Editor in IA for “gray” literature

**LONG-TERM PROJECTS:**

*SIA Board or Committee*

- Look seriously at hiring/contracting a person who can represent SIA in helping local groups organize tours & conferences
- Develop a strong process to support putting an entire conference/tour package together
- Work on improved media visibility for our conferences & tours (cross-listed under long-term/headquarters)
- Continue to formalize the small grants program
- Make it possible for SIA members to remember the SIA in their estate planning and planned giving
- Establish a “Junior Norton (since renamed Vogel) Prize”
- Develop an outreach program to educators
- Work with local folks in Troy, NY, to care for the badly deteriorating gasholder house that forms the SIA logo
- Form an advocacy committee that may develop: protocols for taking advocacy positions; a list of “Ten Most Endangered IA Resources”; partnering initiatives with other organizations on advocacy matters
- Encourage SIA members to gain appointments to boards and local/state preservation commissions and thereby advocate our values
- Informally “infiltrate” other memberships
- Draw teachers (including park rangers, museum curators, etc.) into SIA
- Form a committee to investigate improving our Web presence
- Develop means to disseminate information about “gray” literature
- Develop more “IA tourism” programs, perhaps with others
- Develop an advisory brochure for industries suggesting what they can do with their old stuff (artifacts, buildings, sites, records)
- Develop a series of other brochures on IA topics for broad distribution
- Build bridges to the Scenic America movement
- Initiate a project on “the IA of NAFTA”
- Organize an IA symposium at Philadelphia in 2003 around the 250th anniversary of the making of the Liberty Bell
- Try to get a definition for industrial archeology (archaeology) in the next editions of major dictionaries
- Find ways to dovetail other programs with our annual meetings (such as the PMHS symposium that was held the Thursday prior to our ’93 Pittsburgh mtg)
- Send representatives or SIA sessions to conferences of allied groups
- Schedule training workshops in conjunction with our conferences & tours



Matthew A. Kierstead

*A winter retreat brought together two dozen SIA faithful to help chart the future.*

# 2001 Ironmasters Conference, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

## *Proceedings Available*

On Apr. 27-29, the National Canal Museum and Bethlehem Steel Corp. co-sponsored the Sixth Annual Ironmasters Conference. The conference brings together amateur and professional scholars from throughout North America to present papers on the development of the American iron and steel industries. There is much crossover of ironmasters' participants and SIA members. This year's conference focused on the evolution of Bethlehem Steel and the anthracite iron industry of the Lehigh Valley. Included were guided tours of the former Bethlehem plant and the Lock Ridge Furnace historic site in Alburts. The conference concluded with a tour of early iron-making sites in the New Jersey highlands (central Morris County).

The text of all of the conference's paper presentations is available in a 125-page proceedings that was part of the registration package. The cost is \$19.75 ppd. PA residents add \$1.19 sales tax. National Canal Museum, 30 Centre Sq., Easton, PA 18042-7743; (610) 559-6613.



Lance E. Metz

*Ironmasters Conference participants tour the former Bethlehem plant of the Bethlehem Steel Corp. The building at left is the No. 2 Machine Shop. It will house the National Museum of American Industry, a joint project of Bethlehem Steel and the Smithsonian Institution.*

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS—SIA OFFICERS

**F**or those willing to commit their time and skills to direct the SIA, there are five openings to be filled in 2002: one vice president, three directors, and one member of the nominations committee. *Please note, all candidates must give their consent to be considered for nomination and must be members in good standing.*

**Vice President** (2-year term) serves as a member of the Board of Directors and carries out presidential functions, such as chairing board meetings, in the President's absence. Traditionally, the Vice President is elected President at the end of his or her term to provide continuity. Candidates for Vice President must have previously served on the Board for a minimum of one year as a voting member.

**Directors** (3-year term), three of seven directors on the Board of Directors, which meets three to four times per year, including during the annual conference. Directors govern official business of the SIA and chair committees that oversee society operations, such as publications, tours and conferences, and local chapters.

Due to a resignation from the board, there is also at press a vacant, unexpired term for Director. In accordance with the by-laws, the vacancy until the next scheduled election will be filled by a vote of the Board at its next duly constituted meeting on October 12. There will be an election for the 2-year unexpired term as part of the regularly scheduled Spring 2002 elections. For further information, contact Nominations Committee Chair, Patrick Harshbarger, at the address below.

**Nominations Committee** (3-year term) serves as one of three elected members who oversee the annual nominations and elections. The newly elected member chairs the committee during the final year of his/her term.

Nominations from the membership are requested by the Nominations Committee, which will then offer a slate of candidates to the membership. The committee welcomes your suggestions, including offering yourself as a candidate.

*Please submit nominations by December 31, 2000, by mail to: Patrick Harshbarger, 305 Rodman Road, Wilmington, DE*

19809; (302) 764-7464; [phsianews@aol.com](mailto:phsianews@aol.com).

Include the name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the person nominated, and the position. Be certain that the person has given his/her consent to be nominated.

Once the slate is selected, the SIA Nominations Committee will request a biographical statement (not to exceed 150 words) and a photograph from each nominee.

*Editor's Note: The Board of Directors requested that this year's call for nominations appear in the newsletter to save the society the considerable cost of a separate mailing. The bylaws state that the Nominations Committee shall request suggested nominations by the members by means of a printed announcement at least thirty (30) days prior to selection by the Nominations Committee, Section 2.05 (a). This is that printed announcement.*

### **SIA Officers and Directors, 2001-2002**

Carol Poh Miller, President (2000-2002)  
Vance Packard, Vice President (2000-2002)  
Richard K. Anderson, Jr., Secretary (2000-2003)  
Nanci K. Batchelor, Treasurer (2000-2003)  
Sandy Norman, Past President (2000-2002)  
Mary Habstritt, Director (2000-2003)  
Robert Kapsch, Director (2001-2004)  
Lance Metz, Director (1999-2002)  
Richard O'Connor, Director (1999-2002)  
Robert Stewart, Director (2000-2003)  
Louise Trottier, Director (1999-2002)  
Patrick E. Martin, Executive Secretary and Editor IA  
Patrick Harshbarger, Editor SIAN

### **Nominations Committee**

Patrick Harshbarger, Chair (1998-2002)  
Robert Frame (2000-2003)  
Michael Raber (2001-2004)  
Sandy Norman, ex officio (2000-2002)

## JOHN D. LIGHT, 1944-2001

Friends and colleagues were stunned and saddened to hear of the death of John Light in Cornwall, Ontario, on May 16th, 2001. He was well known within the industrial archeology field for his expertise in archeo-metallurgy and blacksmithing, his keen wit, and upbeat personality. Trained in classical archeology, John joined Parks Canada in 1978 as a field assistant and became a material culture researcher conducting both archival and laboratory research on historic period artifacts. Early in his career, the excavation of a late-18th to early-19th-century fur-trade blacksmith shop at Fort St. Joseph, Ontario, awakened an abiding interest in industrial archeology to which he brought a strong historical perspective, and soon developed a well-recognized expertise.

Trained in classical archeology, John joined Parks Canada in 1978 as a field assistant on industrial archeology, to which he brought a strong historical perspective, and soon developed a well-recognized expertise.

As a specialist in archeo-metallurgy, John's services were in high demand. He served as a consultant and metal artifacts analyst at numerous industrial site excavations and historic blacksmithing sites across Canada, and directed workshops and lectured in North America and Europe on the archeological identification and analysis of metal artifacts.

John was noted for his deep analytical ability, thoughtful questions, and sound reasoning. He made major contributions to archeo-metallurgy through combining material evidence



John Light, 1944-2001

with extensive research in documentary sources, as evidenced by his work at blacksmithing sites, at gold mining industrial sites in the Yukon, at a 17th-century Basque whaling shipwreck site, and in his investigations of the William Wales sundial at Churchill, Manitoba. One of his publications, *A Frontier Fur Trade Blacksmith Shop, 1796-1812* (with Henry Unglik), has become the standard reference book for North American archeologists excavating and interpreting blacksmith shops, and the soil sampling analysis methodology introduced on the Fort St. Joseph site is now a standard procedure in blacksmith shop excavations.

An active member of the SIA, John served on the Board of Directors, the General Tools Award Committee, and was one of the principal organizers of the Fall 2000 SIA tour of Oil Springs-Sarnia, Ontario. He was particularly interested in the nature of the discipline of industrial archeology, and its practice, and concerned about its future in Canada. Recently, he facilitated the establishment by West Virginia University, in association with the University of Western Ontario and Wilfrid Laurier University, one of the first university-credit industrial archeology field schools in Canada. Hopefully, the recognition and teaching of IA by Canadian universities will be part of his legacy.

John is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and five children. He will be sorely missed.

Robert W. Passfield

### Robert Merriam (continued from page 7)

working example of a George H. Corliss steam engine. In addition to these industrial-sized artifacts, the museum has a library building for its body of steam engine drawings (which is also very highly rated by the ASME) and mechanical engineering books and archives. This building also houses the museum's large collection of steam engine models. Most importantly for the SIA, Bob has made sure that the museum has, since the very beginning, been that rarest of birds, an institutional member.

Making the museum "a place of study and enlightenment" is a major goal of Bob Merriam's. The annual Yankee Steam-up, where Bob's license as a stationary steam engineer comes into play, and the annual Yankee Radio Tune-up make important strides in fulfilling it. Quoting Bob Lindquist, who prepared the nomination materials, "the museum is a magnificent, noisy, smoky, steamy time machine." Seeing the universal delight and amazement on the faces of visitors of all ages during a Yankee Steam-Up is a true thrill for everyone, not the least of whom is the director.

Again, like all passionate industrial archeologists, Bob does not shrink from the hard physical labor, and dirt and grime necessary to salvage industrial artifacts. More importantly, he has not done it just because that was the only way of saving these artifacts. His real sense of joy and pleasure in the work is a recurring theme. "Rigging steam engines is hard work, but fun." "It requires skill, muscle and scholarship." "The history of science and technology is fun. Studying the parade of discoveries which shed light on nature's mysteries is one of the best entertainments." Those are direct quotes,

evidence of Bob's strong commitment and enthusiasm for the field.

Bob Merriam's list of previous awards from organizations and personal accomplishments is remarkable. He is a registered professional engineer, registered land surveyor, and the recipient of U.S. Patents in the field of radio electronics. He was a founder of the National Marine Electronics Association, a founder and past president of the East Greenwich Preservation Society, the 1979 recipient of the Ralph Batcher Memorial Award from the Radio Club of America for achievement in the preservation of radio and electronic communication, and a recipient of the Marconi Gold Medal of Achievement from the Veteran Wireless Operators Association. He has been made an honorary lifetime trustee by the Rhode Island Heritage Trust, received the Downing Volunteer Service Award from the Rhode Island Preservation and Heritage Commission, has been named a life member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (the famous I, triple E), made a life member of the American Radio Relay League, named an honorary member of the National Association of Power Engineers, named an honorary member of the National Marine Electronic Association, and named Engineer of the Year in 1999 by the Providence Engineering Society. While receiving this recognition, he found time, along with his wife Nancy, to establish his own marine instrument firm, Merriam Instruments, and to design and install elaborate electronics on world-traveling yachts.

It is with great pleasure that we add to that long list the 2001 General Tools Award for Distinguished Service to Industrial Archeology. Congratulations Bob! ■

## SITES & STRUCTURES

Underwater archeological investigations of the **Burlington Breakwater** on Lake Champlain (VT) have resulted in a historical report on the timber-crib structure. Construction of the breakwater began in 1836, when Congress authorized funding for the first 1,000 ft. It was extended numerous times in the 19th c., and currently totals 4,175-ft. long. The Corps of Engineers, NY District, has sponsored the investigations as it has begun repairs to several sections that are heavily deteriorated. The report, available on the district's Web page, includes a history of how the breakwater promoted Burlington's maritime interests. Also shown are detailed descriptions and several drawings of the crib construction. Web site: [www.nan.usace.army.mil/project/vermont/burweb/index.htm](http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/project/vermont/burweb/index.htm).

The **LTV Steel Mining Co. taconite plant** in Hoyt Lakes, MN, (tour site, 2000 Annual Conference–Duluth) permanently closed in June. The last 9,234 tons of taconite pellets left the plant aboard a 114-car train pulled by an Electromotive F-9 diesel locomotive on the 74-mile railway from Hoyt Lakes to ore docks at Taconite Harbor on Lake Superior. The facility, which opened in 1957 and the oldest continually operating taconite plant on the Mesabi Iron Range, was shut down because of high modernization costs, poor pellet quality, and high stripping costs (*St. Paul Pioneer Press*, June 23).

**Calhoun County (MI) Historic Bridge Park** held its 5th Annual Living History Demonstration on June 30th. Riveters, forge welders, and blacksmiths were on hand to show techniques once used in metal-truss bridge construction. The park is the county's unique effort to preserve Michigan's metal-truss bridge heritage by providing a site where trusses that have outlived their usefulness on public highways can be saved by relocation. The main event was the dedication of the 20-Mile Road Bridge, a rivet-connected Pratt pony truss. During the day, concrete was poured for the new abutments of the Gale Road Bridge, which will be relocated from

Ingham County. The 122-ft. long, Pratt through truss will become the third historic bridge in the park. The park has space for 15 bridges, which will be links in a pedestrian walkway. The organizers report, "This park project not only has shown local officials that some old bridges can be saved, but is attracting attention from others in the state with a new resurgence in the arts of forge-welding, blacksmithing, heat straightening and riveting in bridge restoration . . . The State Historic Preservation Office and the Michigan Dept. of Transportation are now referring others to Calhoun Co. for expert advice on old bridges."

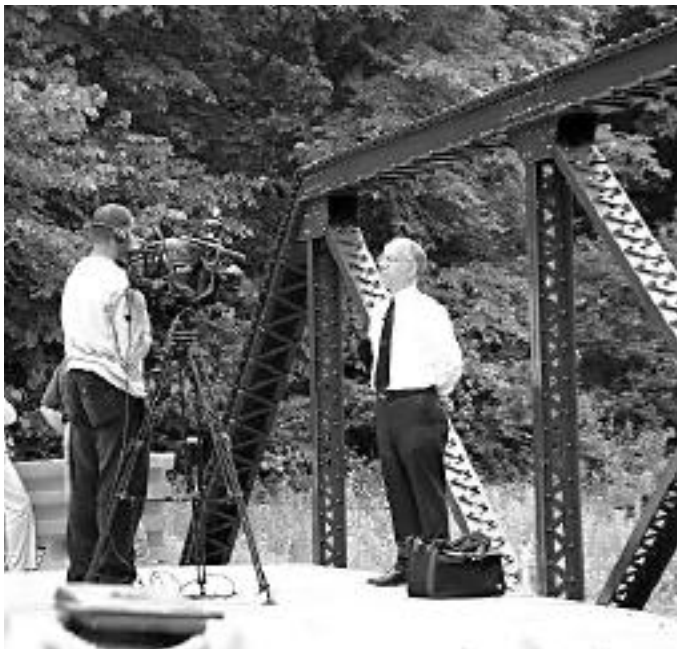
The **Second Indiana Bridge Restoration Workshop** was held on Sept. 6 (the first was held in conjunction with the 1998 SIA Annual Conference–Indianapolis). It is another example of the growing enthusiasm for truss-bridge restoration techniques, especially in the Midwest. "Pontists" demonstrated straightening twisted truss members, driving hot rivets, and adjusting turnbuckles. Frances Griggs [SIA], who has designed and supervised the restoration of some of the nation's oldest surviving metal-truss bridges, addressed the gathering of county officials and preservationists. The event's host was Conner Prairie outdoor museum.

Birmingham's **Vulcan** [tour site, 1999 Fall Tour], the 56-ft. tall iron statue of the Roman god of fire that overlooked the city and is a symbol of its steel industry, made national headlines in July. U.S. Senator John McCain chose Vulcan to be a symbol in his campaign against pork-barrel spending. The proposed federal budget includes \$3 million to reassemble and restore Vulcan, which was dismantled because of its poor condition in 1999. Alabama's senators defended the Vulcan project because of its importance to civic pride and its significance as a symbol of the city's industrial past. Vulcan was built for the 1904 World's Fair (St. Louis) and was set above the city in 1936. The senate approved the funds (*NY Times*, July 19).

Brooklyn [2002 Annual Conference] lost one of its industrial landmarks in July with the demolition of the **Maspeth Gasholders**. The two 400-ft.-tall gasholders were built in 1927 and 1948 by the Brooklyn Union Gas Co. They were recognizable throughout the city by their red-and-white checker pattern tops, a safety measure to keep airplanes from hitting them. The tanks, which could hold 32 million cubic ft. of gas, were among the largest in the world when built. They were no longer needed because of the completion of several pipelines and the installation of regulating stations. They were decommissioned in the 1990s (*NY Times*, July 9 & 16).

James and Diana Bouchard [SIA] write that they have just returned from a trip to Calgary, Alberta, near where they visited the **Turner Valley Gas Plant**. "This is an outstanding survival of early oil and gas drilling days in Alberta (they wanted oil, got mostly gas). Features include a large compressor room, absorption and scrubbing towers, and a panel of 1930s instrumentation, which a Calgary company has made a commitment to restore. The Alberta government has given them \$5 million to upgrade the site. [Our] guide was articulate and knowledgeable. Worth a detour if you're in that part of the world."

The **Homestake Mine** [tour site, 1991 Fall Tour–Deadwood, SD] is celebrating the 125th anniversary of the gold strike in the Black Hills in a bittersweet fashion after having been acquired by



*Dennis Randolph of Calhoun Co. Community Development, which heads the county road commission and parks, is interviewed by the local TV station on the 20-Mile Road Bridge. The park's riveting crew placed over 3,000 rivets in restoring the bridge.*



Mary Habstritt

Going, going, gone. The Maspeth Gas holders (Brooklyn, NY) were demolished in July.

Barrick Gold, a Canadian company. The mine will be closed because of the high cost of operations and the difficulty of removing the remaining gold and other minerals. Since 1876, the Homestake Mine has yielded more than 38 million ounces of gold (*NY Times*, June 26).

The **Como Roundhouse** (Park County, CO) is for sale (\$650,000). Como was a hub on the narrow-gauge line from Denver to mining camps in the Rockies at the base of Boreas Pass leading to Breckenridge. The stone roundhouse has been stabilized and the owners are looking for someone to take over its long-term care. Info: Greg Kazel, [kazelg@sprynet.com](mailto:kazelg@sprynet.com).

The **Chester Powerhouse** (Chester, PA) described by HAER as “one of the best-preserved and most monumental early power plants in the U.S.,” is the center of a new economic revitalization effort for the City of Chester. In May, Synergy, Inc., a software company based in the Philadelphia area, announced plans to establish its headquarters in the adaptively reused building. Chester Powerhouse was constructed in 1916 and generated electricity until 1980. It was designed by architect John T. Windram, who also designed the Franklin Institute Science Museum and other well-known buildings in Philadelphia (*Business Wire*, May 18). ■

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## Minutes (continued from page 10)

**SIA Board Retreat:** President Miller reported that over President’s Day weekend, the SIA board held a retreat with 14 guests to chart SIA’s future. Thirteen of these guests came at their own expense. Gerry Weinstein and Mary Habstritt graciously lent their home, and chef Vance Packard and Ed Rutsch fed everyone marvelously. Fred Quivik led the retreat, which resulted in a number of ideas and initiatives. Among these are to further the development of the Society’s Web site and to put the term “industrial archeology” into American dictionaries.

**Newcomers Group:** President Miller welcomed attendees of their first SIA conference. She thanked Amanda Gronhovd for developing a newcomers’ group. She is keeping in touch with newcomers by e-mail, and she planned the newcomers’ meeting and reception at this conference.

**Local Chapters:** President Miller followed the tradition of past business meetings and asked representatives of all of the society’s local chapters to stand.

**Publications and SIA HQ:** President Miller recognized the hard work of the SIA’s editors and MTU headquarters staff. She thanked Pat Martin, the executive secretary and *Journal* editor; Terry Reynolds, book review editor; Patrick Harshbarger, *Newsletter* editor; and Don Durfee, who handles memberships, conference registrations, and many other things that keep the society running smoothly. She and the editors encouraged members to write articles and make submissions to the publications.

**Student Scholarships:** President Miller thanked the many members who contribute to the SIA’s scholarship fund, which sponsors student attendance to the annual conference. The scholarship award committee is Patrick Harshbarger and Mary McCahon. This year we have five recipients of scholarship funds: Amanda Gronhovd, Michael Madson, Larry Mishkar, Elizabeth Norris, and Tim Tumberg.

**Awards:** Duncan Hay presented the Norton Prize to John K. Brown. President Miller then announced that the board has voted to rename the Norton Prize the Vogel Prize, after Robert M. Vogel. David Simmons presented the SIA General Tools Award for Distinguished Service to Industrial Archeology to Robert Merriam.

**Elections:** This year Gray Fitzsimons and Bierce Riley rotate off the board. They were thanked by a round of applause for their service. Nominations Committee Chair David Shayt announced the 2001 election results. Elected to the Board of Directors were Robert Kapsch and Matt Kierstead. Elected TICCIH Representative was Pat Martin. Elected to the Nominations Committee was Michael Raber.

**New Business:** Mary Habstritt reported that the Hackensack Water Company buildings and machinery in Oradell, NJ, are once again in danger of demolition. She asked for a motion to approve a resolution in support of preserving the waterworks. The resolution was approved by motion and vote.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Richard K. Anderson, Jr.  
Secretary

## NOTES & QUERIES

The **Dry Stone Conservancy** is compiling information on canted foundations and dry-stone retaining walls. There is a wide variety of opinions as to whether to install a canted, or sloped, foundation in these walls, and if so, under what circumstances? We feel that there is not an absolutely right or wrong answer to this question, and would like to ask your readers about their experiences and recommendations from walls they have dismantled and repaired, or advice from experts they have consulted in other countries. Carolyn Murray-Wooley, Dir., Dry Stone Conservancy, 1065 Dove Run Rd., Ste. 6, Lexington, KY 40502; (859) 266-4807; [DryStoneUS@aol.com](mailto:DryStoneUS@aol.com).

**Wanted: Old Textile Equipment.** The Augusta (GA) Canal National Heritage Area is building a textile museum and interpretive center in a former 1880 textile mill. They need all types of mill equipment (pre-1950) to use as exhibits in the interpretive center. Contact: Dayton Sherrouse, Exec. Dir., Augusta Canal Authority, Box 2367, Augusta, GA 30903; (706) 823-0440; fax, 823-1045; [sherrouse@augustacanal.com](mailto:sherrouse@augustacanal.com).

**Info Wanted on the Midland Bridge Co.** The New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum is researching the history of a Pratt through-truss bridge. They hope to relocate to the museum grounds. The original three-span bridge over the Pecos River near Roswell was constructed in 1902 by the Midland Bridge Co. of Kansas City. One span was relocated to a secondary road near Picacho over the Rio Hondo in 1944. Of particular interest would be leads on any company records. Info: Cameron Saffell, Curator, NM Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88011; (505) 522-4100; [Csaftell@frh.state.nm.us](mailto:Csaftell@frh.state.nm.us).

The **Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission** invites applications for its 2002-2003 **Scholars in Residence Program**, including applications for collaborative residencies. The program provides support for full-time research and study in manuscript

and artifact collections maintained by any PHMC facility. Collaborative residencies fund research that relates to the interpretive mission and advances the goals of any PHMC program or facility. A collaborative residency proposal must be filed jointly by the interested scholar and host facility. Residency programs are open to all who are conducting research on Pennsylvania history, including academic scholars, public history professionals, independent scholars, graduate students, educators, writers, filmmakers, and others. Residencies are available for 4 to 12 weeks between May 1, 2002, and Apr. 30, 2003, at the rate of \$1,500 per month. Deadline: Jan. 11. Web site: [www.phmc.state.us](http://www.phmc.state.us). Info: Linda Shopes, Div. of History, PHMC, Commonwealth Keystone Bldg., Plaza Level, 400 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120; (717) 787-3034; [lshopes@state.pa.us](mailto:lshopes@state.pa.us).

The **Hagley Museum & Library** invites scholars to make use of its research collections and offers a variety of fellowships and grants. A wide range of American and international topics can be explored in Hagley's printed, manuscript, and pictorial collections, which includes business, economic, industrial, technological, cultural, architectural, labor, and women's history. Hagley's on-line catalogue may be reached via the Internet at [www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org). Further information on grants and fellowships can be obtained from Hagley's Center for the History of Business, Technology and Society, Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807; (302) 658-2400; [www.hagley.lib.de.us/center](http://www.hagley.lib.de.us/center).

Looking for a genuine wood flag pole up to 40-ft. or a bit more - or the means to turn the like? Go to Hennessy House (Box 57, Sierra City, CA 96125, Attn: Tom Hennessy; 1-800-285-2122), which since 1985 has been producing these on a custom-built milling lathe derived from the wood mast industry. Machinery and products can be seen on their Web site: [www.woodenflagpoles.com](http://www.woodenflagpoles.com). ■



*Does anyone know the exact arrangement of the operating mechanism of this variety of mid-19th-c. A-frame drawbridge? The bridge spanned the Delaware & Raritan Canal at Rocky Hill near Griggstown, NJ. The photo shows what appears to be a gear box under the shed roof to the left of the bridge. The building to the right is the Pennsylvania RR depot. The D&R Canal State Park has commissioned a model of the working bridge, but they are short of details for the operating mechanism. Info: Paul Kayne & Vicki Chirco, D&R Canal State Park, (732) 873-3050; [PRKayne@aol.com](mailto:PRKayne@aol.com).*

## IA EXHIBITS

**Behind the Seams: The Silk Industry of the Delaware & Lehigh Valley National Heritage Corridor** opened July 2 in the F. M. Kirby Gallery of the National Canal Museum (NCM), Easton, PA. The exhibit focuses on the Read & Lovatt Silk Manufacturing Co. (Weatherly, PA), the world's largest silk throwing plant by 1895. The hands-on exhibits encourage visitors to learn about textiles and weaving. They include a giant silkworm head that extrudes silk fibers, a weaving wall, kiosks demonstrating different types of knots and braids, and a loom station where visitors learn to weave on different types of looms. The NCM and the PA Canal Society are jointly sponsoring a **fall lecture series**. The lineup includes Thomas Flagg [SIA], "Railroad Navies of NY Harbor," Sept. 20; Charles W. Boas, "Iron Horses in Penn's Woods," Oct. 18; and Robert Stewart [SIA], "Cruiser U. S. S. *Olympia*," Nov. 15. All lectures are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. Info: NCM, 30 Centre Sq., Easton, PA 18042; (610) 559-6613.

**Fiedler's Mill** (Junction City, GA), a 1930 operating grist mill, has announced plans to open a new building that will house an exhibit of **Lummus cotton gins**. F. H. Lummus' Sons Co. [tour site, 1999 Annual Conference-Savannah] produced cotton gins in Columbus from 1896 until 1998, when it relocated to modern shops in Savannah. Fiedler's Mill owner Mike Buckner collected seven historic cotton gins, ledgers, and board-meeting minutes before the company relocated and will now display the collection of Lummus-related artifacts and materials (*Columbus Ledger-Enquirer*, July 22).

The **Duquesne Heights Incline**, built in the 1870s [tour site, 1993 Annual Conference-Pittsburgh], is ready to break ground on a new exhibition hall and viewing mezzanine on the lower floor of the upper station. There, visitors will be able to watch and learn about the machinery and cable system that operates the 800-ft. incline on Mt. Washington. According to the *Pittsburgh Business Times*, the museum will showcase the "soul of an old machine." ■

### Notice to SIA Members

Extra copies of the 2001 annual conference guidebook, *Capital IA: Industrial Archeology of Washington, D.C.*, are available for purchase from the Montgomery C. Meigs Original Chapter. Please send a check for \$12 each, payable to "SIA-MCMOC" to:

Christopher Marston  
C/o HABS/HAER  
1849 C Street, N.W., Room NC300  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Registration materials including the guidebook, poster, pig, coaster, and paper abstracts are also available, while supplies last. Please send a check for \$25, payable to "SIA-MCMOC" to the above address.

## CHAPTER NEWS

**Oliver Evans** (Philadelphia). Suzanne Jacobs delivered a paper on Joanna Furnace (Berks Co., PA) at a chapter meeting in Apr. The chapter held its Annual Meeting in the garden of the Atwater Kent Museum in June. The program was by first-person play-actor Drew Gibson, who portrayed Norman Judd, Abraham Lincoln's campaign chairman, addressing a local civic group before the 1860 election. The impact of the transcontinental railroad and industry on Lincoln's nomination was of interest to the group.

**Roebling** (Greater NY-NJ) sponsored a walking tour of Paterson's Historic Industrial District in July with a look at the mills, raceways, and a discussion of the controversy over preservation of the Allied Textile Printing site (see *SIA* Summer & Winter 1999). In Aug., the chapter cruised on the fireboat *John J. Harvey*, built in 1931, retired from the NYC Fire Dept. in 1994, and now being restored and operated by a preservation group. In Sept., the chapter held its annual corn roast. On Oct. 27, the chapter will hold the 21st annual Drew Symposium on IA in the NY-NJ region (see Calendar).

**Southern New England** toured granite quarries and related sites in and around Quincy, MA, in May. Many of the quarries are being filled with waste from Boston's "Big Dig." Chapter members went on a process tour of the L. S. Starrett Co. in Athol, MA, in June. Starrett, est.1880, now is the nation's sole manufacturer of machinists' precision gages and measuring instruments. The plant employs approximately 1,400, and it is not uncommon to see tool-makers with 30 or more years of experience. A tour of IA sites in the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor in June included a stop at OSRAM Sylvania, maker of glass lamps for the lighting industry. This was followed by a ride on the *Samuel Slater*, a new British-made canal boat, available for charters and overnight stays on the Blackstone. Pat Malone and Mike Raber gave a tour of the Valley Falls Heritage Park (Cumberland, RI), where they have researched and interpreted the mill ruins and several generations of waterpower systems. ■

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

**Fred Quivik**, former SIA president, received the Mining History Association's Rodman W. Paul Award at their annual meeting in Butte in June. The award recognizes "outstanding contributions to mining history."

According to the *Detroit Free Press* (Jan. 28), **Dennis Zembala**, director of the Detroit Historical Museum, is one of a "new generation of leaders" charting the city's cultural future. Last year Dennis moved from the Baltimore Museum of Industry directorship to take over the challenging job of awakening Detroiters to their heritage. The article features Dennis's plans to promote a light-rail system for Woodward Ave. in the museum district.

**Jacob "Jack" Fraier**, age 74, passed away on Aug. 19. Jack was regular attendee at tours and conferences and a founding member of the Northern Ohio Chapter. A resident of Euclid, OH, he taught Spanish at Cleveland Heights High School for 20 years. Jack became involved in the SIA by way of the 1986 Annual Conference in Cleveland. His presence at SIA events will be missed.

## CALENDAR

### 2001

**Oct. 11-14: SIA Fall Tour, Syracuse, NY.** Hosted by the Onondaga Historical Assn. Info: Dennis Connors, (315) 428-1864; djcoha@juno.com.

**Oct. 13: The Original Yankee Steam-Up, New England Wireless & Steam Museum, East Greenwich, RI.** New England's oldest engine show. Info: (401) 885-0545; [news@ids.net](mailto:news@ids.net); Web site: [users.ids.net/~news](http://users.ids.net/~news).

**Oct. 18-20: Pioneer America Society Annual Conference, Bardstown, KY.** Theme: 19th and 20th c. frontiers. Incl. tour of Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill. Info: Allen G. Noble, Dept. of Geography & Planning, Univ. of Akron, Akron, OH; (330) 972-8038; [Bussey@uakron.edu](mailto:Bussey@uakron.edu).

**Oct. 22-25: First Flight Centennial Commission Symposium, NC State Univ., Raleigh, NC.** Paper sessions, entertainment, and tours commemorate the centenary of Wright Bros. flight. Info: 4635 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699; (919) 733-2003.

**Oct. 27: 21st Annual Drew Symposium on IA in the NY-NJ Area, Drew Univ., Madison, NJ.** Hosted by the Roebling Chapter. Info: Tom Flagg, State Univ. of NY, 33 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036; [tflagg@sunyopt.edu](mailto:tflagg@sunyopt.edu).

**Nov. 6-11: Joint Convention of the Assn. of Railway Museums and the Tourist Railway Assn., Salisbury-Spencer, NC.** Hosted by NC Transportation Museum & Foundation. Info: Box 44, Spencer, NC 28159; (704) 636-2889; [www.nctrans.org](http://www.nctrans.org).

### 2002

**Apr. 19-21: Annual Meeting of the Business History Conference, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE.** Conference theme is "corporate governance." Info: Hagley Center, Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807; (302) 658-2400.

**June 6-10: SIA 31st Annual Conference, Brooklyn, NY.** Deadline for paper proposals is Feb. 1. See article elsewhere in this issue. For paper proposals: Mary McCahon, 332 E. Union St., Burlington, NJ 08016; (215) 752-2206; [MMcCahon@LichtensteinEngineers.com](mailto:MMcCahon@LichtensteinEngineers.com). General info: Mary Habstritt (212) 769-4946; [mhabstritt@aol.com](mailto:mhabstritt@aol.com). ■

## WEB NEWS

**New SIA Web Address:** The SIA Home Page can now be reached at: [www.sia-web.org](http://www.sia-web.org).

*Note:* The old address ([www.ss.mtu.edu/IA/SIA](http://www.ss.mtu.edu/IA/SIA)) still works too.

**Calling all Internet Novices—SIA Web Committee Volunteer Wanted:** The SIA Board has recently appointed a Web Committee to oversee SIA Internet initiatives. Its main task will be coordinating improvements to the Web site and making it an electronic center for information on SIA and industrial archeology in general. The committee consists of Don Durfee, Mary Habstritt, and Larry Mishkar. Don, the current Webmaster, will be devoting more time to redesigning the site in his role as the SIA's administrative assistant. The committee has been asked to add a member who is new to using the Internet, in order to get the perspective of a novice on the usefulness of the Web site. If you

have just gotten an e-mail address and would like to get some experience with the Internet by joining us, please contact Mary Habstritt, (212) 769-4946; [mhabstritt@aol.com](mailto:mhabstritt@aol.com).

**SIA Exhibit on the Web.** Don't miss the SIA's 30th anniversary "virtual" exhibit, sponsored by the archives of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History at [www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives/ac-i.htm](http://www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives/ac-i.htm). To see the exhibit, first click on the welcome button and then click on the "featured acquisition" button. ■

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