



# SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER

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## QUEEN CITY IA 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

About 125 SIA members and guests gathered in Cincinnati, May 31-June 3, for the 41st Annual Conference. This was the Society's second visit to Cincinnati; the 7th Annual Conference was held jointly in Louisville, Ky., and Cincinnati in 1978. Participants in this year's conference included a contingent from the Association for Industrial Archaeology, the SIA's British counterpart. They had built a ten-day Study Tour of IA sites in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan around the SIA's annual event. Several SIA members donated their time and knowledge to developing the AIA's itinerary and were traveling with the group. It was quite a pleasure to have the AIA members at our conference, and we hope that there will be future opportunities for joint events on both sides of the Atlantic.

Steamboats helped Cincinnati to become the chief port on the Ohio River in the second quarter of the 19th cen-

ture. During the 1820s, it earned the nickname "The Queen City" or the "Queen of the West," a moniker that the city's merchants felt befitted their economic ambitions and their vision for the class of city Cincinnati was to become. True to predictions, Cincinnati grew into the most populous city in the Midwest prior to the Civil War. It also became known as "Porkopolis," a far less regal recognition of its fame as a center of salt pork packing. Transportation and urban infrastructure were recurring themes of the conference, and one of the process tours even visited a sausage factory, a vestige of the region's once mighty meatpacking sector.

The conference schedule followed the pattern of past conferences with pre-tours and workshop on Thursday, historic site and process tours on Friday, paper sessions and Annual Business Meeting on Saturday (see articles elsewhere in this issue), and post-conference tours on Sunday. The "Cincinnati Landmarks" paper session was recorded by

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Patrick Harschberger

Casting bronze bells at the Verdin Co.

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## CALENDAR

### 2012

**Oct. 18-21: SIA FALL TOUR, UTICA, N.Y.** Tours of industrial sites in the Mohawk Valley and the Adirondacks. Info: [www.sia-web.org](http://www.sia-web.org).

**Oct. 31-Nov. 3: National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference, Spokane, Wash.** Info: [www.preservationnation.org](http://www.preservationnation.org).

**Nov. 2-3: Construction History Society of America Meeting, MIT, Cambridge, Mass.** Papers on American construction, 1850-1950, and on Guastavino Co. tile arches. Info: [www.constructionhistorysociety.org](http://www.constructionhistorysociety.org).

**Nov. 4-11: The XV Congress of The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), Taiwan.** Info: [www.mnactec.cat/ticcih](http://www.mnactec.cat/ticcih).

**Nov. 5-11: Assn. of Railway Museums (ARM) and Tourist Railway Assn. Fall Conference, Montreal, Que.** Hosted by Exporail, The Canadian Ry. Museum. Info: [www.railwaymuseums.org](http://www.railwaymuseums.org).

**Nov. 9-10: Tide Mill Institute Conference, Bath, Maine.** Tours and paper session. Info: [www.tidemillinstitute.org](http://www.tidemillinstitute.org).

**Nov. 11: 31st ANNUAL ROEBLING CHAPTER SIA GREAT FALLS SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY OF THE NY METRO REGION, PATERSON, N.J.** Info: <http://roebblingsia.org>.

### 2013

**Jan. 9-12: Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Leicester, England.** Info: [www.sha.org](http://www.sha.org).

**Mar. 7-9: Nineteenth Century Studies Assn. Annual Conference, Fresno, Calif.** Theme: "Loco/Motion" on the history of transportation and travel. Info: [www.nineteenthcenturystudiesassociation.org](http://www.nineteenthcenturystudiesassociation.org).

**Mar. 21-23: Business History Conference Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio.** See call for papers in this issue. Info: [www.thebhc.org](http://www.thebhc.org).

**Apr. 10-14: Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Buffalo, N.Y.** Info: [www.sah.org](http://www.sah.org).

**Apr. 17-20: National Council on Public History, Ottawa, Ont.** Info: [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org).

**May 30-June 2: SIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE TWIN CITIES: ST. PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.** Info: [www.sia-web.org](http://www.sia-web.org).

**June 5-8: Second National Covered Bridge Conference, Dayton, Ohio.** Info: [www.woodcenter.org](http://www.woodcenter.org).

**June 6-9: Mining History Assn. Annual Conference, Galena, Ill.** Tours of the historic zinc and lead mining district. Info: [www.mininghistoryassociation.org](http://www.mininghistoryassociation.org).

**June 6-9: Railway & Locomotive Historical Society Annual Meeting, Madison, Wis.** Info: [www.rlhs.org](http://www.rlhs.org).

**Aug. 9-15: Assn. for Industrial Archaeology Annual Meeting, Dundee, Scotland.** See article in this issue. Info: <http://industrial-archaeology.org>.

**Aug. 21-24: Chemistry in Material Culture, 9th Int'l Conference in the History of Chemistry, Uppsala, Sweden.** Paper proposals requested. Deadline: Mar. 31, 2012. Info: [www.9ichc.se](http://www.9ichc.se).

**Sept. 14-22: National Railway Historical Society, Annual Convention, Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska.** Charter trains and tours. Info: [www.nrhs.com/events](http://www.nrhs.com/events).

**Sept. 25-27: Big Stuff, Triennial Conference, Ottawa, Ont.** Sponsored by the Canada Science & Technology Museum. See article in this issue. Theme: "Saving Big Stuff in Tight Economic Times." Info: [www.sciencetech.technomuses.ca](http://www.sciencetech.technomuses.ca). ■