



SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

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SIA IN THE TWIN CITIES 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

Over 200 SIA members converged on Minneapolis-St. Paul for the SIA's 42nd Annual Conference, May 30 to June 2. This was the SIA's second visit to the Twin Cities, the first being at the 12th Annual Conference in 1983. Conference participants received a friendly welcome from the local host committee and volunteers who organized a full slate of tours and paper sessions. The conference headquarters was the historic St. Paul Hotel, which opened in 1910 and was restored to elegance in 1982.

At the Thursday evening opening reception, Stephen Elliott, Director of the Minnesota Historical Society, welcomed the SIA, and Larry Millett, author and historian, offered a presentation on the industrial heritage of the Twin Cities. This heritage is closely tied to the Mississippi River. St. Paul was an active riverboat landing well before the first steam locomotive arrived in 1861, while the St. Anthony

Falls, straddled by Minneapolis, powered sawmills and flour mills, giving rise to industry giants Pillsbury and General Mills. Railroads, particularly James J. Hill's Great Northern Ry., linked the Twin Cities to farm communities across the northern tier of the U.S. from Minnesota to Montana, spurring the cities' rapid growth. Fittingly, the SIA reception was held at the Minnesota Club, where Hill and other leaders of business and industry often met to socialize and eat when they were in the city.

The schedule of this year's conference followed the traditional format of pre-conference tours on Thursday, tours on Friday, paper sessions and the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, and post-conference tours on Sunday. Nearly a dozen members graciously volunteered to report for *SIAN*, resulting in the following tour summaries and photographs.

Thursday Tour 1: Summit Avenue and James J. Hill House. Beginning in the 1880s, Summit Ave., located high above

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Marc Bélanger

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SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

Department of Social Sciences
Michigan Technological University
1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton MI 49931-1295

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CALENDAR

2013

Sept. 26-29: SIA FALL TOUR, ROCKFORD, ILL. Info: www.sia-web.org.

Oct. 6-9: Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Annual Meeting, Portland, Maine. Info: www.historyoftechnology.org.

Oct. 9-12: Pioneer America Society: Assn. for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes, Annual Conference, Mohawk Valley, N.Y. Info: www.pioneeramerica.org.

Oct. 11-15: Assn. for Preservation Technology International Annual Conference, New York, N.Y. Info: www.apti.org.

Oct. 21-27: VII Latin American Symposium on Conservation of the Industrial Heritage, San Luis Potosí, Mexico. Info: www.mnactec.cat/ticcih/.

Oct. 29-Nov. 2: National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference, Indianapolis, Ind. Info: www.preservationnation.org.

Nov. 8: Business and Politics in 20th-Century America, Wilmington, Del. Sponsored by the Hagley Museum & Library. Info: clockman@hagley.org.

2014

Jan. 8-12: Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Quebec City, Que. Info: www.sha.org.

Mar. 3-4: Iron & Steel Preservation Conference, Lansing, Mich. Paper sessions and hands-on workshops. Info: mesler@lcc.edu.

Mar. 19-22: National Council on Public History Annual Conference, Monterey, Calif. Info: www.ncph.org.

Apr. 11-12: Construction History Society First National Conference, Cambridge, U.K. Info: www.constructionhistory.co.uk.

May 15-18: SIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PORTLAND, ME. Please note the new date, occurring a week earlier than previously announced. Info: www.sia-web.org.

May 28-31: Early American Industries Assn. Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pa. Info: www.earlyamericanindustries.org.

Apr. 9-12: Society for Commercial Archeology Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, Fla. Info: www.sca-roadside.org.

Apr. 9-13: Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Austin, Tex. Info: www.sah.org.

May 7-11: Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Conference, Galloway, N.J. Tours of South Jersey landscapes from Cape May to Salem. Info: www.vernaculararchitectureforum.org.

June 11-15: Mining History Assn. Annual Conference, Trinidad, Colo. Tours of the Raton Basin with a focus on Western coal mining. Info: www.mininghistoryassociation.org.

June 19-22: First International Conference on Early Main Line Railways, Caernarfon, North Wales, U.K. Info: www.earlymainlinerailways.org.uk. ■