

The SIA 2004 On-line Handbook

Providence, Rhode Island

Exploring the Industrial Heritage of the Blackstone Valley and Narragansett Bay

Welcome to the Society for Industrial Archeology's 33rd Annual Conference. Here you will be able to experience an overview of America's industrial development from 18th century maritime mercantile and pioneering manufacturing to 19th century growth, 20th century decline and contemporary renewal projects.

This handbook contains the supplementary information you need to make your visit to Providence and the conference as pleasant and educational as possible.

Rules of the Road for SIA Tours

Tours of active and former industrial sites are a key ingredient of the annual conferences and fall tours of the Society for Industrial Archeology. The SIA is dependent on the willingness of site owners and managers to permit visits.

Please remember that as a tour attendee you are representing the SIA and are a guest of the factory or site owner. You are expected to abide by all rules communicated to you by your tour guides and in conference registration materials.

These rules may include but are not limited to:

- Wearing appropriate clothing, such as long pants and closed-toe shoes
- Using specified safety equipment, such as earplugs, hardhats, or safety shoes
- Taking only authorized photographs
- Staying with your tour guide and staying out of restricted areas
- Sticking to the tour schedule and not causing unnecessary delays
- Controlling the behavior of children who are in your care

Not touching products on the factory floor

If you are uncertain of the rules for a particular site, you are encouraged to ask. Not following tour rules may result in your expulsion from the tour by your host, tour guide, a conference committee member, or an SIA Board member. This policy is intended to ensure that each tour is an educational and enjoyable event for everyone. Please contact a member of the SIA Board if you have comments or questions.

Hours and Location of Registration Desk at SIA 2004

Date	Location	Time
6-10	SIA Office-Marriott	8:00 AM - 6:15 PM
6-11	SIA Office-Marriott	7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
6-11	SIA Office-Marriott	5:00 PM - 7:15 PM
6-12	Rhode Island Convention Center	7:15 AM - 8:45 AM
6-12	Rhode Island Convention Center	10:00 AM-10:20 AM
6-12	Rhode Island Convention Center	11:30 AM -12:15 PM
6-12	Aboard the Bay Queen	6:45 PM - 7:00 PM

Safety Equipment and Photography

For all tours (excluding T2) sturdy, closed flat shoes are required. No heels, sandals, open toes or backs. It is recommended that participants wear long pants.

Tour	Safety Equipment Required	Photography
T1 Cranston Print Works	None	No
T2 Architectural Walk	None	Yes
F1 Narragansett Military	Flashlight may be desirable	Yes
F2 Southeastern Mass.	Safety Glasses at Perkins Foundry	Yes except NE Ropes
F3 Upper Blackstone	Safety Glasses at Washington Mills	Yes except Cranston
F4 Lower Blackstone	Safety Glasses at Wardwell/ Thomas	Yes except Wardwell and Guyot
F5 Marine Industries	Hardhats at Blount Boats, Long pants and socks required at Blount seafood	Yes
F6 Pawtuxet Valley	None	Yes
S1 IA and Environmental	None	Yes
S2 Ironworking	None	Yes

GIS Course:

Students for the GIS course are expected to be at Brown at 8:00 AM on Thursday, June 10. A light breakfast will be available. The class will begin promptly at 8:30. Lunch will be served in mid-session. No group transportation is available. Pat Malone is providing the students with details on the course and its venue. Brown University is about a 20 minute walk from the Courtyard Hotel.

Thursday Pre-Tours:

Tour T-1 to the Cranston Print Works is designed to give a comprehensive overview of a world-class printed fabric operation. The tour includes a box lunch, drinks and snacks. The bus will leave from the boarding area (see Location Map on page 7) on Sabin Street adjacent to the Southeast side of the Rhode Island Convention Center, promptly at 11:00 AM on June 10. Boarding will begin at 10:45 AM.

Tour T-2, the architectural walking tour of Providence will be led by Prof. Robert O. Jones, Principal Architectural Historian - Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission. The tour will leave promptly at 1:00 PM. Gather in the hotel lobby a few minutes before the scheduled departure. Unfortunately, we will not be able to tour the Rhode Island School of Design on this tour. You will be provided with a bottle of drinking water for this tour.

The Opening Reception at Slater Mill

This year's reception is more of a museum visit than a formal welcoming event. We are not planning any orientation talks or welcoming speeches. Shuttle bus service will begin at 6:00 PM for the SIA Board and Newcomers and 6:15 PM for SIA members and guests. Buses will leave from the boarding area (see Location Map on page 7) on Sabin Street - Southeast side of the Rhode Island Convention Center and travel to The Blackstone Valley visitor's center. Each participant will receive a "Boxless Boardroom" light supper with a sandwich, salad and soft drink. Everyone will also receive chits good for two beers, wines or additional soft drinks. You can sit down, stand around, circulate, eat, drink and renew old acquaintances as your inclination leads you. Then, on your own, plan on touring Slater and Wilkinson Mills, across the street from the visitor's center. Your badge will admit you to Slater Mill but be sure to pick up a "bracelet" at the mill's reception desk. Please do not bring food or drink into the museum's mills. The mills, waterwheel and other buildings will be open and costumed docents will be stationed at the machines to demonstrate the equipment. Feel free to satisfy your curiosity, inspect the machines, and, in true SIA manner, update the docents on your knowledge of textile machinery, water power or industrial history, machine "kinks" or mill construction. They are aware that SIA members are a knowledgeable bunch who are always willing to share their expertise. Jo Deaton is the event coordinator for the reception and will be available on site to answer questions and direct you. She has red hair and should be easy to recognize.

Buses back to the Courtyard Hotel will be leaving the Visitor's Center at about 20 minute intervals starting at 9:00 PM. The last bus will leave at 10:30 PM. If you prefer to drive your own car to the site, the directions are printed below:

Driving Directions to Slater Mill - 32 Roosevelt Avenue, Pawtucket, RI

Distance: 5.1 miles Driving Time: 9 minutes

1. From the Courtyard Hotel proceed Southwest on **Exchange Terrace**. <0.1 miles
2. Turn **RIGHT** on to **Francis Street/US 1** <0.1 miles
3. Turn **LEFT** to take the **I-95/US 6** ramp <0.1 miles
4. Merge on to **I-95 N** 4.3 miles
5. Take - exit number **28** - toward **RI-114** 0.1 miles
6. At the bottom of the exit ramp turn **LEFT** on to **RI-114** 0.1 miles
7. Proceed North on **RI-114** to Main Street 0.1 miles
8. Turn **LEFT** on to **Main Street** <0.1 miles
9. Cross the Pawtucket River and turn **RIGHT** on to **Roosevelt Avenue** 0.1 miles

Park in Blackstone Valley Visitors Center Lot on your left

Hospitality Suite:

This year the hospitality suite will be in the Union Station Brew Pub located in the northeast portion of the Courtyard Hotel's basement. They have set aside an area for SIA conference attendees to relax after Thursday and Friday's events. If you plan to visit the hospitality suite ask for a chit for one free beer when you register. Their cash bar charges around \$5.00 for a micro brew or wine. They also serve a variety of eclectic cuisine in the dining area.

Friday Tours:

In order to get an easy and hassle-free start, we recommend that you eat breakfast at the Courtyard Hotel. You should buy vouchers (\$8.95 each) at the registration desk that may be used to pay for breakfast to speed you on your way. You may also charge breakfast to your room. A cash payment will slow you down. The breakfast is a buffet, essentially serve-it-yourself. As a special courtesy to SIA, the hotel will open the breakfast room at 6:00 AM on Friday only.

Details on the sites to be visited are included in the Providence Tour book. Additional details on scheduling are included in the **Schedule at a Glance** graphic. (See page 8). Note that Buses are not permitted to load directly from the hotel lobby. The ramp to the hotel will not support fully loaded buses. Walk down the ramp in front of the hotel to Exchange Terrace turn right and walk to the Rhode Island Convention Center for boarding. It is a four minute walk from the hotel to the loading point. The map in this handbook shows the location of the loading area which is on Sabin Street - Southeast side of Rhode Island Convention Center (see Location Map, page 7). Buses will begin boarding 15 minutes prior to departure time. **PLEASE** be prompt as a late arrival means a late departure which will detrimentally affect the schedule for the entire day.

Buses are scheduled as follows:

F1 Narragansett Bay Military Technology	8:00 AM	F4 Lower Blackstone Valley	8:15 AM
F2 Southeastern Massachusetts	7:35 AM	F5 Marine Industries	7:30 AM
F3 Upper Blackstone Valley	8:00 AM	F6 Pawtuxet Valley	8:00 AM

Show and Tell - Reception at the Rhode Island Foundation: Show and Tell presentations will be held at the historic Rhode Island Foundation Building, East of the Courtyard. The building was designed by the firm of Stone Carpenter and Wilson and opened in 1898. It served as Providence's railroad station until 1987 and has been adapted as office, exhibition and meeting space available for non-profit organizations. The building will be open from 5:00 PM to 11:00 PM with Show & Tell presentations scheduled from 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Show and Tell will be held in the Rhode Island Room. Other public areas are open for meeting friends, informal discussions about IA topics or just touring an architecturally interesting building. We have been requested to stay out of private RIF offices. Light deserts and coffee will be served. No liquor is allowed in the building under our contract.

Breakfast and Dinner on Your Own-Places to Eat and Drink Close to the Courtyard Conference Hotel in Providence: There are far too many good restaurants within Downcity Providence to even come close to noting them all. Some locations are shown on the map in this handbook. Rosie the Riveter, our restaurant reviewer, has prepared the following limited list:

The Courtyard Hotel: This is a convenient place to eat breakfast - right in the conference hotel. The hotel offers a buffet-style breakfast at \$8.95. 6:30 -10:00 AM M-S/7:00-11:00 AM Sunday. They will open at 6:00 AM on Friday only for SIA conference attendees.

Cassarino's Restaurant - 177 Atwells Avenue - Reservations (401) 751-3333. Meals average \$14 - \$25. Really wonderful Italian food on a street known for its fine cusine. Extensive wine selection and dishes ranging from the familiar to the creative. Rating five rivets.

Union Station Brewhouse - 35 Exchange Place (Courtyard Hotel)- Reservations (401) 274-2739. Meals average \$11 - \$18. Microbrews, a large selection of unique appetizers and creative rice dishes. Relaxing atmosphere. Their Velvet Stout is wonderful. Rating 4 rivets.

Trinity Brewhouse - 186 Fountain Street - (401) 453-2337. Meals average \$7 - \$15. Above standard burgers and pizza. Excellent microbrews. Casual atmosphere and a great place to hang out and relax. Righteous! Rating 3.5 rivets.

The Cheesecake Factory - In the Providence Place Mall- Francis Street ground floor. A large and varied menu. Large portions and everything is delicious. Steak is a best buy. Go for Sunday brunch, a late afternoon lunch or an Early Bird Dinner, as they do not take reservations and the wait during prime lunch/dinner hours can exceed one hour. Rating 3 rivets.

Fire and Ice - In the Providence Place Mall - Francis Street ground floor. Excellent bar, well designed hip and trendy atmosphere. All you can eat for one price. Diners collect bowls of ingredients for a stir fry and take it to the grill. Choice ranges from seafood to lamb, beef and chicken with a large selection of veggies and tofu. If you do not get enough dinner, it's your own fault. Sunday brunch is excellent. A good place to people watch. Rating 4 rivets.

Starbuck's On the ground floor of the Biltmore Hotel. One of the largest Starbuck's around. It's worth it to go over, have a look at the art deco Biltmore lobby and have an over-roasted cup-a-Joe. 2.5 rivets.

Murphy's Deli and Saloon - 55 Union Street behind the Biltmore Parking garage. Old time family-run place. Inexpensive deli fare and brews. Open late. 3 rivets.

There are a number of franchised restaurants and burger-doodles to fit all tastes and budgets on the west side of Francis Street on the ground floor of Providence Place Mall. These include: Uno Chicago Grill, Leon & Stitches Metropolitan Bistro, Joe's American Bar & Grill and Napa Valley Grill. There are additional eateries in the food court of the Mall on the third floor. These include: Ben & Jerry's, Cathay-Cathay, The Japan Cafe, Johnny Rockets, Pizzaria Regina, Popeye's Chicken, Subway, Surf & Turf and Taco Bell. The rivet rating here is largely subjective - rate them on your own.

Upscale Restaurants:

New Rivers Bistro, 7 Steeple Street, 401-751-0350, a brief 5 minute walk east across the river. This intimate eatery does incredible things with local, regional, and seasonal foods. In summer, enjoy twelve kinds of heirloom tomatoes with fresh mozzarella and basil oil or lobster salad with poblano-lime vinaigrette. In winter, comfort foods like cassoulet are featured. The menu offers small meals as well as appetizers and regular entrees. **Price** \$25 - \$40 **Cuisine** Contemporary

Neath's, 262 S. Water Street, 401-751-3700, a 10-15 minute walk southeast across the river. The large, open dining room of this converted warehouse is one reason why Neath's is a place to be seen. Views of the Providence River are nice, too, but it's the food that has made this the trendiest restaurant in town. The primary focus is seafood with Asian accents, such as crisp Cambodian spring rolls with bean sprouts and grilled shrimp and roasted sea bass with Chinese black bean marinade and jasmine rice. **Price** \$25 - \$40 **Cuisine** Contemporary

Cafe Nuovo, 1 Citizen's Plaza, 401-421-2525, a brief 5 minute walk east, along the river. The dining room of this modern downtown restaurant is dominated by two huge murals in lively colors, an open kitchen, and floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the city and River Park. Outside dining is an option during warmer months. The food is a fusion of American regional, European, Asian, and island flavors, and entrees are served with dazzling presentations. Chocolate lovers should order the pot of mousse for dessert **Price** \$25 - \$40 **Cuisine** Contemporary.

Hemenway's Seafood Grill and Oyster Bar, 121 S. Main Street, 401-351-8570, a 10-15 minute walk southeast across the river. Enjoy steaks, chops, and seafood in a grand dining room with soaring ceilings and windows that overlook the city's riverwalk. Open-air dining is available on the front patio, which has a partial view of the park

Raphael's Bar Risto, 1 Union Station, 401-421-4646, a two minute walk east in the renovated train station. Funky Italian spot with great atmosphere and food to match, Be sure to check out the Tunnel Bar in this relocated spot in the former train station. This incarnation of a restaurant that has been in several other locations in Providence is the sleekest yet. Raphael's sophisticated menu puts an innovative (even flamboyant) spin on traditional Italian dishes such as ravioli, gnocchi, and risotto. The atmosphere is "see-and-be-seen" rather than intimate. Casually upscale. 25 to \$45 range

Parkside Rotisserie and Bar, 76 S. Main Street, 401-331-0003 The Parkside offers a wide array of upbeat foods ranging from spicy crabcakes grilled tenderloin & portobello salad, There also are several innovative pasta dishes as the Parkside's signature Rotisserie chicken and meat items. The Parkside bistro style atmosphere is accented by an open kitchen where guests can enjoy watching chef/owner Steven Davenport and his staff prepare all of the enticing entrees. Mediterranean Regional American.

Paper and Poster Sessions: All paper sessions will be held in rooms 551 and 552 of the Rhode Island Convention center. Poster presentations will be set up in the hall adjacent to the meeting rooms. Room 551 will have seating for 154 people, room 552 will seat 160-there should be ample room to hold conference attendees who wish to see any given presentation. Enter the Convention Center from the doors located below the rotunda at the east end of the building (nearest the Courtyard Hotel). Take the elevators to the meeting rooms. Refreshments will be available during morning breaks.

Poster Presenters:

Tables have been reserved for the following presenters:

Arnold Carlson	Windmills, Books ephemera and artifacts
Gil Cooke	Artifacts from Boston's Fire Alarm System
Arthur Ganson	Eclectic Machines
Patrick Martin	Michigan Technological University
David Poirier	Historic Preservation in Connecticut
SNEC-SIA	Conference Registration Desk

Annual Meeting and Luncheon: The luncheon will be held in Ballroom D-E located adjacent to the meeting rooms. It will be served starting at 12:50 PM. We expect the business meeting to start around 1:45 PM.

Cruise on the *Bay Queen*: Shuttle buses will depart from Sabin Street adjacent to the RICC starting at 6:00 PM. The last bus will leave at 6:45 PM. The *Bay Queen* sails at 7:00 PM. Narrative and identification of interesting sites in Providence and the upper Narragansett Bay will be provided by Ted Gatchell, Pat Malone, Matthew Kierstead and others. A buffet will be served and a cash bar is available. Buses will return to the Courtyard immediately after the

cruise. We have received permission to remain on the vessel until transportation is available for everyone returning to the hotel.

Sunday Tours: The **Ironworking** tour will depart from the Courtyard at 8:30 AM and return to the hotel at 4:00 PM. If anyone wants transportation to Amtrak or the Providence Airport, the bus will proceed to those locations. The Amtrak station is about 10 minutes from the hotel and the airport is a 25 minute drive.

The tour **IA and Environmental History** Tour will leave the Courtyard at 9:00 AM and return at 3:30 PM. If conference attendees want transportation to Amtrak or the Airport it will be provided as above.

The tour of the **New England Wireless and Steam Museum** is a drive-it-yourself tour intended to appeal to individuals who plan to drive to the conference. The museum will be open and "steamed up" from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Lunch will not be available but soft drinks, coffee and doughnuts can be purchased. Be sure to bring your conference badge if you have pre-paid admission. Otherwise you may purchase a ticket when you arrive.

Driving Directions to the New England Wireless and Steam Museum:

Distance: 18.1 miles

Estimated Time: 26 minutes

1. From the Courtyard Hotel-Drive Southwest on Exchange Terrace toward Dorrance Street.
 2. Turn **Right** on to **Francis Street/US 1**. <0.1 miles
 3. Turn **Left** to take the **I-95/US 6** ramp. <0.1 miles
 4. Merge on to **I-95 S** 13.7 miles
 5. Take the **RI-2** exit - exit number **8** - toward **Quaker Lane** (South) 0.2 miles
 6. Merge on to **RI-2 S** toward **East Greenwich** 2.9 miles
 7. Turn **Right** on to **Frenchtown Road** 1.0 miles
- End at 1300 Frenchtown Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818-1309 US

Other Interesting Places to Visit on the Way Home: The area has many museums that would be of interest to SIA members. Most of the sites we suggest are within a 1 ^{1/2} hour drive of Providence. If you are driving to or beyond New York via I-95 on Sunday, the USS Nautilus Submarine Force Museum is a good possibility for a visit after visiting the New England Museum of Wireless and Steam. Another good point about the Nautilus, there is no admission fee. Other sites are shown in the following chart: