

Travel & Accommodations

TRAVEL: The tour will begin and end at Williston, ND.

BY CAR: Williston is on U.S. 2 in NW North Dakota.

JET AIRLINE: The most convenient way for most members to get to Williston will be to fly Northwest Airlines from Minneapolis to Minot, ND, which is about two hours east of Williston. Flights arrive daily at Minot at 10:35 am, 3:56 pm, and 11:30 pm (schedules subject to change). Flights depart Minot daily at 5:05 am, 11:00 am, and 4:35 pm (also subject to change). We will provide a bus, at a minimal charge, from the Minot Airport to Williston on Thursday afternoon after the 3:56 pm flight arrives. The bus will return to Minot Airport on Sunday in time for the 11:00 am departure. Another bus will return to Minot Airport on Monday in time for the 11:00 am departure.

CANADIAN MEMBERS may find flying to Regina the most convenient. Williston is just over three hours south of Regina.

COMMUTER AIRLINES: Williston has a small airport that is served by commuter flights from Bismarck, Denver, and Billings.

AMTRAK: Williston and Minot are also served by Amtrak. The westbound train from Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul arrives at Williston daily about noon and will get members there in plenty of time for the beginning of the tour on Thursday evening. The eastbound train arrives at Williston in early evening, so eastbound passengers may miss the beginning of the Thursday reception. The tour hotel (El Rancho) will ferry Amtrak passengers from the depot to the hotel.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Tour Hotel: El Rancho Motel
1623 2nd Avenue West
Williston, ND 58801
1-800-433-8529 or 701-572-6321

Single: \$41.95
Double: \$46.95

Mention the SIA Fall Tour to get these rates.

NOTE: Do not make a reservation for Friday night at the El Rancho. The hotel room for Friday night in Fort Peck is built into your tour registration, and we will take care of it.

TIME ZONES: Please note that Williston and all of North Dakota are in the Central Time Zone. Montana is in the Mountain Time Zone. On the tour schedule below, all times given for Williston are CDT. All times given for sites on the tour in Montana are MDT.

WEATHER: Gardeners on the Northern Plains consider themselves lucky if they're still picking tomatoes in late September. Nights can be frosty, but days should be sunny and pleasant. Late September night, however, be cool and rainy. Hope for shirt-sleeve weather during the days, bring a warm jacket for evenings, and be prepared for rain.

✂ PHOTOCOPIES OF REGISTRATION FORM ARE ACCEPTABLE

Registration

Registration is due by Monday, September 1st, 2003.

Name(s) _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

Tour participants must be 2003 SIA members.
Registration (per person cost) includes bus, Thurs. eve. reception and program, Fri. and Sat. lunches, Fri. and Sat. dinners, Fri. hotel room, Sat. breakfast, entry fee for Threshing Bee.

- ☐ **Registration fee** (includes Fri. Single Room): \$235 per person
- ☐ **Registration fee** (includes Fri. Double Occupancy Room): \$210 per person
- ☐ Please put me in a room with _____
- ☐ Please match me with another SIA member.
- If you do not already have a roommate, please consider being matched with one. Space at the Fort Peck Hotel is limited.*
- We'd like to accommodate everyone at that hotel.*

- ☐ SIA 2003 individual membership \$35
- ☐ SIA 2003 couple membership \$40
- ☐ Student SIA members—subtract \$30 from registration
- ☐ Sunday Tour (optional) per person \$40
- ☐ Bus transportation per person— Minot Airport to Williston \$20

\$ _____ TOTAL FOR REGISTRATION

BUS TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN MINOT AIRPORT AND WILLISTON

Bus leaves Minot Airport Thursday afternoon at 4:30, arrives in Williston at 6:30.
Bus leaves Williston Sunday & Monday mornings at 7:45, arrives at Minot Airport at 9:45.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- ☐ **Paying by check** (make check or money order, in U.S. dollars and drawn on a U.S. bank, payable to: **Society for Industrial Archeology**)
- ☐ **Paying by credit card** (please include the following information)

☐  ☐  ☐ 

Account No. _____

Exp.Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Send Registration by September 1st to:

Don Durfee, SIA Coordinator
Society for Industrial Archeology
Dept. of Social Sciences • Michigan Tech University
1400 Townsend Drive • Houghton, MI 49931-1295
sia@mtu.edu • (906) 487-1889
or register online at sia-web.org or siahq.org

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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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SIA Society for Industrial Archeology

**SIA Fall Tour
Northeast
Montana**

**September
25-28, 2003**

**Fur Trade
Fort Peck Dam
Vertical Lift Bridge
Dry-Land Farming
Oil Industry
Tribal Enterprises
Sugar Refining
Oil Seed Pressing
Buffalo Commons
Steam Threshing
Irrigated Agriculture
Sugar Beets
Lignite Coal**



Aerial view overlooking spillway gate structure of Fort Peck Dam during construction in 1936.

Coles Photo Service, Glasgow, Montana

Introduction

The SIA's 2003 Fall Tour will be in northeast Montana. This is one of the most out-of-the-way parts of the lower 48, but it has a wonderful array of engineering and industrial sites that will help members understand how our industrial culture conducts itself on the High Plains.

Because of the geography of the area, we will be covering more ground by bus than is usual. To minimize travel time, our entire entourage will stay at a hotel on Friday that is different from that on Thursday and Saturday nights. Therefore, be sure *not* to make your own hotel reservation for Friday night. **Friday night accommodations are built into the cost of the tour.** Make your own reservations for Thursday and Saturday nights only.

It is also fitting for SIA to visit the area at the time of the Bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Traveling from Williston to Fort Peck, we'll be re-tracing the route followed by the Corps of Discovery in 1804.

Thursday Evening, Sept. 25, Williston

4:00-7:00	Registration, Lobby, El Rancho Motel
7:00-8:00	Opening Reception, El Rancho Motel
8:00-9:00	Opening Program: "Country Grain Elevators of the Northern Plains," Bruce Selyem

Friday, Sept. 26, Williston

8:00 cdt 7:45 mdt	WILLISTON (the schedule says we're leaving Williston at 8:00 am, but that's 7:00 am in Montana. We've got lots of ground to cover) Buses depart El Rancho Motel
9:15	SNOWDEN BRIDGE Built in 1913 by the Great Northern RR, it's a Waddell vertical-lift bridge across the Missouri River. When built, and for a few decades thereafter, it was the world's longest vertical-lift span.
11:00	CRYSTAL SUGAR REFINERY, SIDNEY The Lower Yellowstone valley features large acreages of irrigated croplands that produce sugar beets. Crystal Sugar operates a large beet refinery in Sidney, producing granulated, powdered, and brown sugar for the national market.
12:30 1:15	USDA EXPERIMENT STATION, SIDNEY Members will see how the USDA conducts research on the High Plains and learn something about how farmers in that part of the world grow grain using dry-land farming methods. LUNCH ON THE BUS
3:30	MONTOLA, CULBERTSON In addition to grain, many farmers grow seeds, such as sunflower, safflower, and canola, for the production of edible oils. The Montola plant in Culbertson is a small industrial operation that presses oil seeds for the national market. WEST ELECTRONICS AND A&S ENTERPRISES, POPLAR These are tribal enterprises on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation. Both make components for the military and the automotive industry. We will learn about the challenges of running businesses like

5:45	these given the cultural differences between the Indian reservation and the military/industrial complex.
6:30	FORT PECK HOTEL, FORT PECK We'll stay the night in this historic hotel, which is one of the buildings of the permanent townsite adjacent to Fort Peck Dam.
8:00	DINNER in the dining room, Fort Peck Hotel. EVENING PROGRAM "History of the Fort Peck Dam & Townsite," Fred Quivik

Saturday, Sept. 27, Fort Peck

7:45 mdt 8:30	Leave Fort Peck Hotel, tour FORT PECK THEATRE FORT PECK DAM Built during the 1930s as a WPA project, it was then the world's largest earthen dam of any kind, and it's still the world's largest earthen dam built by hydraulic means. We'll see the dam, power houses, gate houses, and spillway structures.
11:30 12:00	LUNCH on the bus. OIL FIELD, MEDICINE LAKE NE Montana is in the midst of the Williston Basin, a relatively small but long-producing oil field. We'll tour a small oil field, see the pumping equipment, and learn about salt-water disposal.
1:30	THRESHING BEE, CULBERTSON This annual threshing bee features steam-powered threshing and related demonstrations. The Culbertson club also exhibits a nice collection of early farm tractors.
4:30 cdt	FORT UNION A National Historical Park operated by the NPS and located on the Missouri River just above the mouth of the Yellowstone, it interprets the American fur-trading industry of the first half of the nineteenth century.
5:30 6:30	OUTDOOR DINNER at Fort Union Buses leave Fort Union, return to Williston SATURDAY NIGHT ON YOUR OWN

Sunday, Sept. 28, Williston

9:00 cdt 9:00 mdt	OPTIONAL TOUR: This tour will give members a chance to see a couple more industrial sites and also to explore some special sites that characterize the spectacular outdoor beauty of the region. Bring your walking shoes. Bus leaves El Rancho Motel
10:00	MONDAK POWER PLANT, SIDNEY Mondak is an investor-owned utility that serves North Dakota and parts of eastern Montana.
12:00	WESTMORELAND COAL MINE, SAVAGE This small surface mine supplies the Mondak power plant in Sidney with lignite coal. Picnic lunch at KANE'S GROVE The Northern Plains is generally a treeless landscape, except the cottonwoods that grow along the banks of streams. This is one of only two hardwood "forests" in eastern Montana. Covering only about an acre, it is an island of hardwood trees, including native American elm, that survive from a previous climatic age. Adjacent to the grove a some fascinating sandstone formations.
2:30	GARDEN OF THE GODS We'll walk along the Missouri River for about a half-mile and then up into the breaks to see some more sandstone formations. Nearby are tepee rings left by Indians who live in the area before Euro-American settlement.
EVENING ON YOUR OWN IN WILLISTON	
For More Information:	
Fred Quivik 651-917-3946 quivik@usfamily.net	
Brian Shovers 406-444-1988 bshovers@state.mt.us	
Don Durfee 906-487-1889 sia@mtu.edu	