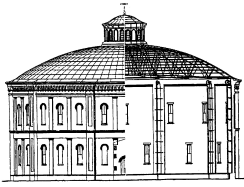


SIA FALL TOUR - Rockford, IL - Sept. 26-29, 2013





SOCIETY FOR
INDUSTRIAL
ARCHEOLOGY

Fall Tour, Rockford IL, September 26-29, 2013

Welcome to Rockford, the 'Lowell of the West' and the second largest city in Illinois. Rockford has been an industrial powerhouse since the 1860s. Beginning in the 1830s with lumber mills and farm implement making, the city evolved by the turn of the century into a major producer of furniture and hosiery, and in the 20th century became a world leader in machine tools and fastener manufacturing. Today, Rockford is a significant source of aerospace components, with two of the area's largest employers providing equipment for virtually every type of aircraft.

Schedule at a glance:

Thursday, September 26:

- Optional afternoon bus trip to the Byron Nuclear Power Station
- Optional afternoon walking tours of Midway Village
- Welcome Reception at the Midway Village Museum (car pool or shuttle from hotel)

Friday, September 27:

- Choose from three all-day bus tours
- Breakfast and dinner on your own (various restaurants are in or near the hotel)

Saturday, September 28:

- Choose from three all-day bus tours
- Breakfast and dinner on your own (various restaurants are in or near the hotel)

Sunday, September 29:

- Optional brunch, organ recital and backstage tour at the historic Coronado Theater

Conference Hotel: Fairfield Inn & Suites, 7651 Walton Street, Rockford, IL 61108

This modern hotel is located at the East State Street exit from I-90, adjacent to the Van Galder Bus Terminal (with convenient connections to O'Hare and Chicago) and within easy walking distance of restaurants of all kinds. Please reserve before August 26, for a nightly rate of \$99 (King) or \$109 (Double) – while rooms last – which includes deluxe continental breakfast buffet. For reservations, you may phone 800-228-2800 or 815-398-7400 (be sure to identify yourself as an SIA member), or you may connect online through the SIA website (www.sia-web.org). Equally convenient is the Hilton Garden Inn next door, which is operated by the same management company. Friday and Saturday tour buses will depart from the Fairfield/Hilton parking lot. The Fairfield Inn is a short drive to Midway Village, site of our Welcome Reception on Thursday evening.

Getting to Rockford

The easiest way to get to Rockford is via Chicago. If flying, there is an hourly bus connection from O'Hare or Midway Airports. The bus brings you to the Van Galder Bus Terminal which is across the parking lot from the Fairfield Inn or Hilton Garden Inn. If taking Amtrak, get off in Chicago, then connect to O'Hare and the bus to Rockford. Detailed information is available on the SIA website.

Welcome Reception at Midway Village, Thursday September 26, 6:00 p.m.

Included with basic tour registration is the Welcome Reception at the Midway Village Museum complex. The reception will provide food suitable for a meal. You may arrive as early as you like on Thursday afternoon, because your registration includes access to the museum -- covering Rockford's history and industrial development -- and gift shop. Guided walking tours of the adjacent 'living history' village (which is normally closed on this date) are offered at two different times for a small additional charge.

Midway Village is a short ride (or long walk) from the Fairfield Inn. If you are not bringing a car to Rockford, please congregate in the hotel lobby to car pool or ride the SIA shuttle. If you are bringing a car, please offer a ride to those waiting in the lobby.

Elective Thursday Afternoon Tours, September 26

T1 – Byron Nuclear Station (by bus, \$30/person, approximately 1:00-5:00)

T2 – Midway Village (guided walking, \$5/person, approximately 3:30-4:45)

T3 – Midway Village (guided walking, \$5/person, approximately 4:45-5:00)

Byron Generating Station, owned and operated by Exelon Corporation, is a two-unit nuclear power facility that can produce enough electricity to power more than 2 million average American homes. Although this tour does not include entry into the reactor area, it does include a demonstration of the extremely realistic control room simulator (used to train and test plant operating personnel), as well as a thorough presentation on plant operations with Q&A.

Midway Village, a collection of 27 historic structures grouped in a Victorian-era 'living history' village, is normally closed on this date. It is adjacent to the site of our Welcome Reception.

Elective Sunday Morning Program, September 29, approximately 9:00-12:00

Brunch, Organ Recital and Guided Backstage Tour at the historic Coronado Theater

For an additional \$45 per person, join us for Sunday brunch at the lovingly restored Coronado Performing Arts Center, one of America's finest examples of an ornate 1920s theater, complete with an incredibly realistic sky on the ceiling, which will demonstrate mechanical simulations of various atmospheric effects. Our program includes a recital on the organ originally used to accompany silent movies, and a guided behind-the-scenes tour.

Please visit www.sia-web.org for more information and direct links.

Please watch for emails or website updates with changes in times or tours.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ALL-DAY BUS TOURS (approximately 8:00-5:00):

Choose one from three Friday tours and one from three Saturday tours.

Please Note: All Friday and Saturday tours depart from the Fairfield/Hilton parking lot and include lunch. Breakfast and dinner are not included in the Fall Tour package on either day. However, meals are available in the hotel or nearby restaurants. There is a variety of restaurants within walking distance of the Fairfield Inn, and many more restaurants are within a short drive on State Street.

F1 – North to Beloit

This tour will start at the Fairbanks-Morse Engine plant in Beloit Wisconsin. In operation since 1830, Fairbanks-Morse makes a variety of large engines for rail and sea applications. Other likely stops include the Taylor Freezer, maker of McDonald's soft serve ice cream machines and the historic Rockton Hydro Plant in continuous operation since 1929. There may be an opportunity to tour two large-scale industrial complexes no longer operating -- the former Barber-Colman complex and the former J.I. Case works with more than 1.4 million square feet of manufacturing space.

F2 – Rockford Core #1

As with F1, this tour will start with a visit to Fairbanks-Morse. Then it will work its way south with stops at MegaFab, a manufacturer of iron-working equipment, a lunch and tour of the Historic Swiss Tinker Cottage in the heart of the Rockford water power district, and visits to the Rockford Register Star newspaper printing floor, and finally a stop at Cellusuede, a seventy-year old family-owned business that makes flocking products.

F3 – Cornerstone Industries

This tour is southward bound with stops scheduled at Honeywell Sensing Systems (formerly Micro-Switch) in Freeport, the Rockford Sanitary District Treatment facility to see local manufacturer Aqua-Aerobics equipment in action, and a tour of Greenlee Tool's Rockford Operations.

S1 – East to Union

The focal point will be the Illinois Railway Museum, largest in the nation and in its 60th year. IRM has amassed more than 375 examples of rolling stock ranging from horse drawn carts to the latest diesel locomotives. Various trains will be in operation during our visit.

S2 – Rockford Core #2

This tour will encompass both old and new will further explore Rockford's manufacturing evolution including stops at Eclipse Combustion, the new state-of-the-art Lowe's Regional Distribution Center, and visits to a number of historic buildings which have been or are in the process of being repurposed.

S3 – West to Freeport

The highlight of this tour will be a visit to the Silver Creek Museum, where members of the Stephenson County Antique Engine Club will run a restored 130-ton Cooper Corliss Engine. Tour participants also get to ride a restored 1912 Heisler Locomotive Works steam engine. The museum features numerous examples of local industrial products.

