

2010 SIA VERMONT Fall Tour

September 16-19, 2010

THURSDAY, September 16, 2010

Tour T1: IA of Windsor/Springfield (early departure, all day tour)

We will leave from Montpelier and drive to Windsor to visit the **American Precision Museum**. We will tour the museum's machine tool collection, and Christopher Marston and John Johnson will discuss the HAER documentation of the waterwheel pit. We will then take a short walk to the **Cornish-Windsor covered bridge**, the longest covered bridge in the country. We will then proceed to the **Harpoon Brewery**. Here members will have the option to tour the brewery or the **Simon Pearce Glass Blowing Studio** next door. Lunch and beer samples will follow at the brewery. After lunch we will head to Springfield, where we will tour some of the machine tool manufacturers located along the Black River. **Lovejoy Tool** (1900) is still active and produces specialty tool parts for heavy industry. We will also visit the former **Fellows Gear Shaping Mill** (1897) which is undergoing conversion into a health center and mixed use development. At our final stop, we will examine the **Stellafane Museum's** display of historic telescopes before returning to Montpelier.



American Precision Museum (1846) originally the Robbins & Lawrence Armory. Jet Lowe, HAER.

Opening Reception Vermont Historical Society (VHS), Downtown Montpelier - evening

The state's premier history museum and bookstore will be open during the reception. Local Vermont food and beverage will be featured at a sit down meal. The evening program will include welcoming comments from Vermont SHPO Giovanna Peebles, and an introduction to Barre-area granite quarry history from Todd Paton, Director of Visitor Services for Rock of Ages.

FRIDAY, September 17, 2010

Friday Tour F1: "All Granite, All Day" (early departure, all day tour)

Friday's F1 tour will explore the breadth and variety of nearby Barre's still-active historic granite industry. Barre's 4-mile-long world-class deposit of fine-grained granite has been quarried commercially for dimension and carving stone since the 1820s. Population and production swelled with a late-nineteenth century influx of immigrant labor, particularly Italians, who spawned a radical anarchist labor movement. The industry grew during the twentieth century with introduction of labor-saving technology and consolidation of quarry ownership. The Barre granite district, which has supplied stone for one-third of the funerary monuments in the U.S., has a rich history as an industrial arts center. Friday's tour will provide a cross-section of the industry from quarry pit to cemetery. The tour begins at **Rock of Ages Corporation**, the granite industry leader in Barre and the U.S., with a visit to the 500 ft deep E.L. Smith quarry, the world's largest dimension stone quarry, as well as behind-the-scenes tours of the cutting shed and old air compressor house.



Aerial photograph of Rock of Ages granite quarry.

The F1 tour will visit a major local cutting shed to see modern equipment for large-scale sawing, cutting, and polishing of dimension stone. Lunch will be at the Jones Bros. Co. cutting shed, now under development by the **Vermont Granite Museum**, where we will have a guided tour of the shed and archaeological remains. The tour will include a visit to a small one-man figurative sculpture studio, and a specialty stone cutting and carving tool manufacturing operation. The day will end with a visit to **Hope Cemetery** with sculptor Giuliano Cecchinelli. The entire tour will be within Barre, and will be conducted by bus and on foot. Attendees must supply appropriate closed footwear and their own hard hats; SIA will supply eye and ear protection, which is required at many of the workplaces.

Friday Tour F2 – Characteristically Vermont, IA of Waterbury/Hardwick (morning departure, all day tour)

The area from Waterbury to Hardwick is one of the more picturesque and popular tourist trails in Vermont, due to the many traditional food and craft tours offered along that route. The SIA will get a little off the well-worn tourist track to investigate two industries – dairying and small-scale manufacturing – that are uniquely characteristic of Central Vermont. Our tour will begin with a stop at **Ben & Jerry's** main ice cream plant in Waterbury, nestled in a rolling pasture overlooking the Worcester Range. We will see ice cream being made, and learn more about this successful Vermont company founded by two childhood friends. Before we leave we will visit the tasting room for free samples of the flavor of the day. At **Concept Two Rowing** in Morrisville, we will see the start-to-finish production process for carbon fiber racing oars and review other manufacturing and logistic processes. Concept Two was founded by two Olympic rower brothers in 1976, and continues to produce state-of-the-art rowing machines, racing oars and other rowing products. We will have a very special luncheon in Hardwick at **Claire's Restaurant**, whose gourmet kitchen specializes in local Vermont foods, which will be at the peak of perfection in mid-September. After lunch we will visit Hardwick-area industries including a 19th-century granite shed, a tofu production facility at **Vermont Soy**, and **Vermont Natural Coatings**, which makes durable wood finishes from dairy byproducts to serve the “green” building industry.

SATURDAY, September 18, 2010

Saturday Tour S1: All Copper, All Day Tour (early departure, all day tour)

This tour will travel approximately 50 miles southeast of Montpelier to visit two of the three Appalachian sulfide copper mines of the Orange County "Copper Belt." We will spend the morning at the largely undisturbed remains of the **Ely Mine** (1854-1905) in Vershire, an important mid-nineteenth century U.S. copper producer, where we will walk through sites representing all aspects of copper production including mining, beneficiating, roasting, and smelting as well as the remains of an extensive mining village. In the afternoon we will visit the larger, nearby **Elizabeth Mine** (1809-1958) in South Strafford. One of the top 20 U.S. copper mines in 1950s, it is an EPA superfund site currently undergoing reclamation. During the tour EPA staff will explain cleanup planning and engineering, and staff from EPA Cultural Resources consultants PAL, Inc. will interpret the undisturbed, reclaimed and restored mining sites and landscapes, including an unusual nineteenth-century copperas (iron sulfate) works. This industrial archaeology and landscapes tour will use vans for transportation to and around these rugged sites; be prepared for some moderately serious hiking. This tour would be inappropriate for members with mobility challenges. Participants must be able to safely negotiate rough, steep terrain, and are required by our EPA hosts to wear substantial boots that come above the ankles.



*Tyson Shaft (Shaft No. 1), Elizabeth Mine, ca. 1880-1888
Credit: Strafford Historical Society, Strafford, VT*

Saturday Tour S2: Burlington Tour (early departure, all day tour)

Vermont's Queen City provides the backdrop for this tour, which will feature numerous stops in the general vicinity of Burlington. On our way north, we will shadow the force and influence of the Winooski River. Our first stop will place us at **Green Mountain Power's Plant No. 19**, which has been generating electricity at Hubbel Falls since 1917. The 10,000 horsepower plant was at that time the largest in the state. Today, Plant 19 provides power to 4,000 area homes, saving roughly 60,000 barrels of oil annually. Moving closer to Lake Champlain, the **Shelburne Museum** will host a guided tour of one its prize



Steam ferry Ticonderoga, with its walking-beam marine engine, at the Shelburne Museum. Jet Lowe, HAER.

pieces, the 220' side-wheeler **steam ferry Ticonderoga**. The *Ticonderoga* is considered to be the only extant unmodified vessel of its type and features one of the only two remaining "walking-beam" marine steam engines remaining in the United States. Now located several miles inland on the museum grounds, this steel vessel was the last coal-powered ship in service on Lake Champlain and remains essentially unchanged. The tour will give special attention to Ticonderoga's engine room and related machinery. Nearby on the Lake Champlain waterfront, **Shelburne Farms** operates as a non-profit organization dedicated to the stewardship of natural and agricultural resources. The property features three major agricultural buildings—the Farm Barn, Breeding Barn, and Coach Barn and—and a number of other structures. Our tour will highlight the commodious agricultural buildings and the farm's artisanal cheese-making process. As we near Burlington proper, the tour will divert to one of the northeast's fastest growing brewing companies. Based in South Burlington, the **Magic Hat Brewery** has been supplying New England with superb ales since 1994. The operation now produces 400 bottles of beer every minute and has since moved into the top 10 of all US craft brewers. Join us on a tour of Magic Hat's brewing process as it plays out within a unique facility that promises to enchant with its wild aromas and ambiance. If time permits, the tour may highlight the Burlington waterfront, including the decommissioned Moran Plant (coal-fired power plant) and remnants of the former lumber industry.

Saturday Banquet - evening

The banquet will be held at the **Socialist Labor Party Hall** (a National Historic Landmark) in the heart of the industrial center of Barre. The hall was constructed in 1900 by volunteers of the Italian community in Barre, as a meeting hall for the Socialist Labor Party. From 1900 to 1936 the Hall served the community as a location to hold union meetings, political rallies, dances and sporting events, and a cooperative store opened in the hall's basement in 1901. The building has undergone some restoration work and again acts as a community hall. We will be welcomed by the venue's manager, Karen Lane, who is also Director of Barre's Aldrich Public Library. Ilaria Brancoli Busdraghi of Middlebury College will speak on the immigration of Italian granite workers to Barre.

SUNDAY, September 19, 2010

Sunday Tour Su1: Barre Architectural Walking Tour (morning to noon)

Joelen Mulvaney of the Barre Historical Society will lead a 2-3 hour walking tour of Barre architecture, monuments and Hope Cemetery, where we will be joined by sculptor Giuliano Cecchinelli.

Sunday Tour Su2: Granite Quarry Mountain Biking Tour (morning to noon)

Millstone Hill Trails is a large trail system linking many dozens of old quarries in Barre. Operator and quarry buff Pierre Couture has agreed to lead a mountain biking tour of the quarry trail and to provide interpretation. Participants may bring their own bikes, helmets and transportation, or they may be rented for an additional \$25. Note: only six rental bikes are available.

Sunday Tour Su3: Mills and Barns Tour (morning to noon)

We will visit the **Old West Church** (1825) and the **Robinson Saw Mill** (1803) at Kent's Corner, which has a turbine and saw dating to 1876. **Ben Thresher's Mill** (1872) in Barnet Center features a recently reconstructed penstock and an outstanding collection of 19th century wood and metal working machinery. The mill, which was a HAER documentation project in 1979, is now a museum. At Marshfield we will visit Vermont's only extant covered 'farm bridge' and one of the largest dairy barns ever built. Note: tour size is limited.

Lodging

To keep your costs low, we have reserved a block of Vermont College of Fine Arts (VCFA) dorm rooms at the amazing rate of only \$50 for a two-bed room! To guarantee a reservation, you must respond by August 15. If you do not want to relive your college days, please make your own arrangements for accommodation and (if needed) transportation. This is the beginning of "Leaf Peeping" season, so reserve alternate lodging promptly. Tour buses will depart from VCFA, which is within walking distance of most points in downtown Montpelier, but please consult a map if you plan to stay off-site, and be sure to arrive at VCFA in plenty of time for early morning departures. If you would like to reserve a VCFA dorm room, please note the following:

- You must pay in advance (with registration) before August 15 -- \$50 per night (that charge is per room, so two people can stay in one room for \$25 per person), plus \$5 for wireless internet access (that charge is for your entire stay). If double occupancy, you must register both names with your reservation.
- Check in before 8:00 p.m. Check out before 10:00 a.m. (except by pre-arrangement in both cases).
- No smoking; No pets.
- Rooms do not have air conditioning (not usually an issue in September) or phones (bring your mobile).
- Gender-separated shared bathrooms.
- The college provides bedding and towels.
- Parking is free with a pass. We will email a parking pass to all who need one.

Transportation

Montpelier is located along Interstate 89, and is served by Amtrak's "Vermont." The closest commercial air service is located 35 miles (56 km) northwest of Montpelier, at the Burlington International Airport. Manchester Boston Regional Airport (130 miles southeast) also offers affordable air service.

Logistics

Weather in mid-September can be variable, with hot humid days still possible, and cool nights. Rain is possible.

All of the usual [SIA Road Rules](#) will apply. Take special note of the hard hat requirement for the Friday Granite Tour (F1) and the shoe requirements for the Saturday Copper Mine Tour (S1). Please note the [SIA Policy on Refunds](#). Tours and content are always subject to change, including cancellation. The [SIA Fall Tour web site](#) will have the latest available information.

2010 Vermont SIA Fall Tour Registration

Name: _____

Affiliation (for name badge): _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: ___ ZIP/Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Email Address: _____

If you wish **NOT** to share information with other attendees, check here: _____

Note: **All fees are on a per-person basis**, including any late fees. Full Member, Non-member, and Student Registration fee includes Thursday reception, Friday tour, and Saturday Tour. All tours are space-available, first come, first served, with preference given to those persons paying for a full registration.

REGISTRATION (add lines and total)
All fees are on a per-person basis. MAKE TOUR SELECTIONS TOP RIGHT

SIA Member Registration _____ @ \$175 = \$ _____
 (2010 dues are paid)

Non-member Registration _____ @ \$250 = \$ _____
 (join now below and register at the member rate above and save \$)

Student Registration _____ @ \$95 = \$ _____
 (include copy of ID)
 Age of students under 18 _____

Late Fee (*after August 27*) _____ @ \$40 = \$ _____

OPTIONAL DORM ROOM LODGING, THURSDAY AND/OR SUNDAY TOUR AND SATURDAY BANQUET

All tour fees and banquet fees are on a per-person basis. Dorm Room Lodging at VCFA \$50 per night per room (2 people can stay in room.) Must register for dorm room by **Aug. 15** to ensure availability.

Please indicate the nights you are registering for:
 Total No. of nights _____ Total @ \$50/per night per room: \$ _____
 Name of room-mate if sharing room: _____

If sharing room, and room-mate is registering separately, you may each pay \$25 per night (total \$50 per night from one or both)

Check-in Date: _____ Check-out Date: _____

Additional nights are available (before Wednesday Sept. 15 or after Sunday Sept. 19) if you wish to stay longer in the Montpelier area.

Dorm Room wireless internet \$5.00 per room _____ = \$ _____

Thursday Tour _____ @ \$55 each = \$ _____

Saturday Banquet _____ @ \$50 each = \$ _____
 Number of Vegetarian Meals _____

Sunday Tour _____ @ see box at top right for per. person fee.: \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION AND OPTIONS:----- \$

Please indicate your Friday & Saturday tour preference. If the tour you choose is full you will automatically be shifted to the other tour of that day. Tours are filled on a first come basis using your registration form post mark date or your online registration date.

Please register early as this tour is expected to sell out.

TOUR PREFERENCES	you	guest	Total
Thursday optional tour \$55 each			
T1. Windsor/Springfield Tour	___	___	\$ ___

Friday Tour (included with registration)

F1. Granite Tour	___	___	
F2. Vermont Industries	___	___	

Saturday Tour (included with registration)

S1. Copper Mine Tour	___	___	
S2. Burlington Tour	___	___	

Sunday optional Tour

Su1. Walking Tour \$30 each	___	___	\$ ___
Su2. Bike Tour \$20 each	___	___	\$ ___
Su2. Bike Rental \$25 each	___	___	\$ ___
(pay rental fee if you do not bring your own bike)			
Su3. Mills/Barns Tour \$25 each	___	___	\$ ___

REGISTRATION SUMMARY

Registration/Events Total \$ _____

SIA Membership (new/renew) \$ _____

___ @ Regular @ \$50

___ @ Couple @ \$55

___ @ Student @ \$20

___ @ mailing fee of \$10 for addresses outside of USA and Canada

Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Preservation Fund \$ _____

TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

For more information, please call the SIA Headquarters at (906) 487-1889. Travel & other local lodging information is available on our website at <http://www.siahq.org/> Click on "IA Tours."

Method of Payment: Personal check or money order (in U.S. dollars drawn on U.S. bank). Make check payable to **SIA 2010 Fall Tour** OR register and pay by credit card at: <http://www.siahq.org/>

Mail payment and form to:

SIA 2010 Vermont Fall Tour
 Department of Social Sciences
 Michigan Technological University
 1400 Townsend Drive
 Houghton, MI 49931-1295 USA



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September 16-19, 2010

This year's fall tour will take us to the Green Mountain state of Vermont and will be headquartered in Montpelier, the smallest U.S. state capital (pop. 8,035). We will also spend time in the granite center of Barre, visit the tool making legacies of Windsor and Springfield in the Connecticut River valley, the copper mining district of eastern Vermont and Burlington in the west.

The Tour Headquarters and primary lodging venue will be the Vermont College of Fine Arts (VCFA), located within walking distance of Montpelier's downtown. Tours will depart from and return to VCFA.

Tours will include characteristically Vermont dairy, lumber, covered bridges, some unique outdoor museums, and important extractive industries including copper and granite. Make your plans to visit Vermont and tour it's scenery, history, and industrial archeology!

Image: Cornish-Windsor Bridge over the Connecticut River, the country's longest at 450 ft.