

Recently, the landscape of life has changed dramatically, for many people very far away and quite near. With this in mind, the work of ASLA is as crucial as ever, because nothing seems more important than the creation and management of our environment, in all of its manifestations.

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Milford, Connecticut

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*Society for Industrial Archeology*  
<http://www.siahq.org>

Society for Industrial Archeology; maintained by Department of Social Sciences, Michigan Technological University; accessed on January 31, 2005 and March 21, 2005.

The Society for Industrial Archeology (SIA) is dedicated to documenting, preserving, and interpreting industrial heritage. The developing field of industrial archeology in Great Britain and the establishment of the Historic American Engineering Record in the National Park Service in 1969 inspired the formation of the SIA in the United States. Now 1,800 members strong, the SIA was formed in 1971 at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, to exchange information among disciplines working in industrial archeology; to generate bibliographic information about the field; and to educate the public about preservation, surveys, and other activities.

The SIA website is maintained by the Department of Social Sciences at Michigan Technological University, a major center of industrial archeology education. Industrial heritage sites linked to the SIA website include the Bahr's Mill woodworking and grist mill in Red Hill, Pennsylvania; the 1906 Hudson and Manhattan Railroad Powerhouse in Jersey City, New Jersey; and the West Point Foundry, Cold Spring, New York, which from 1818 to 1911, made ammunition for the U.S. Army.

SIA promotes the preservation of industrial sites through several venues, including a biannual peer-reviewed journal, *IA: The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology*, and a quarterly newsletter. The SIA awards small preservation grants, provides the General Tools Award annually to an individual for outstanding achievement in the preservation and understanding of industrial heritage, and bestows the Robert Vogel Award to the author of the best article in *IA Journal*.

Through the website, visitors can access the table of contents for the *IA Journal* from its inception in 1975 and order back-issues. For those who wish to submit an article to the journal, submission policies and instructions are included. Many past issues of the newsletter are included as well as abstracts of papers presented at past conferences.

The SIA website provides a Consultants page with a list of those who work in industrial heritage documentation. A glance at the Chapters page shows that the SIA is primarily focused on the Northeast and Upper Midwest. However the website discusses a tour in Montana and contains links to a historic bridges site with information on New Mexico and Texas. This limited regional focus may be related to the historical development of the society. After reading this section of the website, the author was tempted to join the SIA and add Spanish Colonial *acequias* (irrigation ditches), aqueducts, mills, and other industrial sites to the exchange.

A visit to the SIA website will inspire visitors to look at a town's old brewery, mill, or waterworks in a new way and encourage visitors to preserve important heritage sites of the industrial age.

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