

ROEBLING CHAPTER

Society for Industrial Archeology

January 2014 – Vol. 23 No.1

ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 25, 2014

This year's the Roebbling Chapter's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday January 25. The meeting will start at 12:30 pm and will be held in the Chapter's new Paterson venue, the newly restored Rogers Storage Building. Please park in the Paterson Museum parking lot and then walk across Spruce Street, behind the Burger King, and onto the path that leads to the entrance to the building. A map with directions and a walking guide from the lot to the building will be on the web site and e-mailed to all members.

The business portion of the meeting will include annual reports from the President, Secretary and Treasurer, and election of officers. Plans for the upcoming year will be discussed and proposals invited. Feel free to bring your lunch. Beverages and light snacks will be provided.

After business is done there will time for show and tell. Please bring slides or a disk and tell about your latest IA project. If you have an interesting IA object bring it along. We are all encouraged to share our current IA research with fellow

members. If you plan to present please let us know in advance.

Joe Macasek – macgraphics1@verizon.net

ELECTION

As per RCSIA by-laws, four of the five members of the board are elected by the membership. The fifth member is appointed by the elected members.

The Nominations Committee has prepared a slate of nominees and candidates may also be nominated from the floor prior to the election. Nominees must be members in good standing of the National SIA and RCSIA.

To vote for RCSIA officers and the proposed amendments, the voter must be a member in good standing of both the National SIA and RCSIA also as per the by-laws of both organizations. ■

HUBER BREAKER VIDEO

The Huber Breaker was built in 1892 and rebuilt in 1939. This giant building was used by the Glen Alden Coal Company to crush and size the coal brought to the surface from three nearby mines. The coal was sorted, washed, and put into train cars awaiting in the yard behind the breaker. Hundreds of men worked in the 134 foot tall, 11-story building. Towards the end of its operation the coal colored blue as a marketing ploy and the operation was known as the Blue Coal Company.

Today the Huber is the last surviving breaker in the north coal fields. The nine million dollar price tag for restoration has defeated preservation attempts and demolition plans are in the work.



In the meantime, accidents have put the building strictly off limits to enthusiasts.

Recently however, efforts at document the building have gone high tech. If you can't enter the building

Continued on page 4

Huber Breaker by Andrew John

RECENT DISCOVERY

The 24 X 30 inch iron hearth plate seen below was recently discovered at the Durham Forge in New Jersey's Farny Highlands. This rare artifact was located this winter by chapter president Joe Macasek. The forge plate and the Durham Forge site will be featured this spring's Farny Highlands Archeology tour listed on page 2. ■



FOR THE LATEST ON UPCOMING EVENTS
WATCH THE ROEBLING CHAPTER WEB SITE FOR DETAILS – roebblingsia.org

TOUR PREVIEW FOR 2014

This year we are starting early and planning a wide variety of tours for the upcoming season. Once again we will be combining our RCSIA tour list with Morris County Park Commission's Industrial Heritage Walks and Passaic County's Morris Canal Greenway tours. We hope the result will provide something for everyone, with tours in both city and country landscapes.

Industrial Heritage Walks are already planned for the first half of the year and are listed here. The schedule includes several archeology walks in the New Jersey Highlands and two walks that are new this year. We hope the High Line walk we hope will bring some of our New Jersey members into the city and give city members a chance to revisit the site now that it is has become a tourist destination.

The RCSIA will offer tours throughout New York area. Some of the ideas we are working on are:

- Jersey City – Warehouse District
- West Point Foundry & Mine Tour
- Gowanus Canal
- Princeton
- Paterson Mill Tour

Continued on page 3

BACK TO GREYSTONE

Last year's tour of Greystone Park was so popular that we had to turn many people away. Seventy three walkers accompanied us on a tour of the grounds that included a some-behind-the-scenes infrastructure and a rare chance to visit the one of a kind illuminating gas plant.

We just received permission to give another tour in the second half of this year. In recent weeks Greystone has been back in the news as the controversy as to whether to demolish or preserve the historic main building goes on. We may have only one more chance to see the site intact.

Tour date and details will be announces in the next newsletter, or send an e-mail to macgraphics1@verizon.net and get on the tour list early. ■

2014 INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE WALKS

March thru June 2014

SIXTEENTH YEAR

March 29

- **Oreland: Morris County's Only Ghost Town**

April 12

- **Industrial Archeology in the Farny Highlands** ^(NEW)

April 26

- **Long Pond Iron Works**

May 11

- **Morris Canal Inclined Planes:** Ledgewood

June 7

- **High Line:** Manhattan ^(NEW)

June 21

- **Upper Rockaway River Forges**

Industrial Heritage Walks are sponsored by the Morris County Park Commission

For Information & reservations, please e-mail: macgraphics1@verizon.net or call 973-292-2755





The **GREAT FALLS SYMPOSIUM**

Last year's Great Falls Symposium was one of our best ever. Symposium coordinator Gianfranco Archimede did a great job of pulling together the many details that go into making the Symposium a success. Our new venue, the newly renovated Rogers Storage Building, proved to be both comfortable and spacious. Although no expense was spared in turning the building into a modern meeting facility, it still retains some ambiance of a 19th century industrial structure. A large crowd of members and guests filled the second floor meeting space while Nancy Bachelor and her helpers prepared and served a great lunch and snacks on the lower level. There were ten excellent presentations and lots of time to socialize between speakers. A good time was had by all. ■



TOUR PREVIEW

Continued from page 2

– Bush Terminal

– Atlantic Yards & Neighborhood

A schedule with descriptions of upcoming tours will be listed in the next newsletter, posted on the web site and sent out by e-mail. As we did last year, a reminder e-mail with information and directions will go out to all members a week before each tour. If you would like to come or if you need additional information, a return e-mail will bring a quick response. Last year we did fairly well accommodating those who needed to use public transportation. Resourceful members from the city made it many of the New Jersey tours. Tour leaders made train station pickups in the morning and returned walkers to the station in the afternoon. Our goal is to offer a wide range of IA experiences to as many members as possible. We look forward to seeing you during the year. ■



ABOVE, Top to Bottom:

- It was a unseasonably warm day for November and some members took their lunch out side.
- A large crowd listened intently as speaker after speaker presented on a wide range of topics.
- Glenn Corbet spoke passionately about Paterson industrialist Roswell Colt.
- Gianfranco Archimede Symposium Coordinator.

HUBER BREAKER VIDEO *Continued from page 1*

why not fly over the through it. A group, using two camera mounted drones has created a short video, called Flying the Breaker, that captures the huge build in a way the is both clear and wonderfully graceful. Although the breaker has inspired other videos, I think this one will blow you away. Give it a viewing! Use the link below or search on You Tube. ■

Flying the Breaker

<http://vimeo.com/71946919>

Flying the Breaker: Making the Video

<http://www.ironminers.com/mineforum/viewtopic.php?f=3&t=22510>

Roebing Chapter SIA Officers

President	Joe Macasek
Vice President	Sandy Needham
Treasurer	Kevin Pegram
Secretary	Aron Eisenpress
Newsletter Editor	Bierce Riley

You can contact the Roebing Chapter by E-mail at:
macgraphics1@verizon.net

Membership is \$20.00 per year, payable to RCSIA, c/o Aron Eisenpress, 235 West End Avenue, Apt. 14-C, New York, NY 10023. A downloadable chapter membership form and general information about the SIA are available at roblingsia.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS – 2013

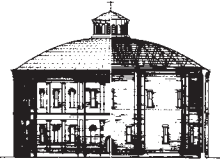
Spring Tours listed on page 3.

Sept 25 – **Annual Meeting**

May 15 to 18 – **SIA Annual Conference**

Design: Joe Macasek, MacGraphics

AN OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF THE
SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL
ARCHEOLOGY



ROEBLING CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published four times per year by the Roebing Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology, c/o Joe Macasek, 19 Budd Street, Morristown, NJ 07960, e-mail: macgraphics1@verizon.net.
