Program

9:30 am - Registration, coffee and donuts

9:45 am - Greetings from Northern New England
Chapter President David Dunning

Introduction of Speakers by David Coughlin,
conference chair

10:00 am - Bill Gerber: “Canal Side Landings”

In the first half of the 19th century a 120 mile system
of canals and navigable waterways provided “heavy
lifting” transportation services throughout the Merri-
mack Valley and the area north of Boston. Interspersed
throughout much of the system were more than three
dozen “Landings” which provided shipping and receiv-
ing services for those who had goods to transport.

10:40 am - Peter Stott: “Lost Tools -
The Disappearance of the Engineering Index”

The paper will briefly look at the history and signifi-
cance of the Engineering Index over nearly a century
1886-1968.

This annual index to the western world’s engineering
periodicals used to be on the open shelves of every
research library in the country. It has been removed to
the library stacks where “out of sight is out of mind”.
In the age of the Internet, researchers and librarians
alike have assumed that “everything is online” and
today many younger research librarians no longer even
know what the Engineering Index is.

11:20 am - Dennis Howe: “Chair for Discussion
Session”

This session is regarding the current issues facing the
two New England chapters. All attendees are invited to
join a discussion about the challenges facing our chap-
ters. For example, suggestions for using new communi-
cations techniques and media might be discussed along
with ways to increase membership.

Noon - LUNCH

1:20 pm - Chip Taylor: “A 220 Year Old Dig
- How Not to do It”

There has been digging on Nova Scotia’s Oak Island
since the late 1700’s. First picks and shovels were used,
then steam powered drills and pumps and dynamite.
Today it’s backhoes, bulldozers, and SCUBA gear.
What are they looking for? Chip Taylor will provide the
facts and myths of this dig which continues today.

2:00 pm - Marc Belanger: “M.M. Rhodes & Sons
Company, Taunton, Mass. - Part II

In 2014, the M.M. Rhodes and Sons Co. in Taunton,
Mass. closed after more than 150 years in business by
the Rhodes family. The company produced a variety of
small metal items over the years, but the most success-
ful item was paper-mache shoe buttons made between
1875 and 1915. This presentation will expand upon the
talk given at the 2015 New England SIA conference
in Holden, Mass. and will provide new information on
production methods and other business details, includ-
ing a notable New Hampshire connection.

2:40 pm - David Starbuck: “Ireland’s Favorite
Industries on Display to Visitors from Around
the World”

A recent visit to Ireland included tours of Waterford
Crystal and the Guiness Storehouse. Waterford’s new
manufacturing facility melts over 750 tons of crystal a
year. The 7-floor Guiness Storehouse is an industrial
museum that is one of the most popular attractions in
Europe. Taken together, these two sites provide a dy-
namic view of Irish glass making and brewing.

For further information contact David Coughlin at
ykforestry@yahoo.com before day of conference.