

33rd ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH 2020 - PLYMOUTH STATE UNIVERSITY,
28 HIGHLAND STREET, PLYMOUTH, NH

HERITAGE COMMONS ROOM IN SAMUEL READ HALL - LOWER LEVEL

PROGRAM

9:30am - Registration, admission (\$10), does not include lunch

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

Introduction of speakers by David Coughlin, conference chair

10:00am - Patrick Malone - Measuring and Drawing Treadwell's Cannon, a Product of Mill Dam Industry in Boston

From 1842 to 1844, Daniel Treadwell built a small number of highly-innovative cannon for the army and navy. Using a powerful hydraulic press, he welded together up to 14 discs made of coiled wrought-iron and steel to produce cannon tubes. Rigorous proof testing showed that they were clearly superior to standard cast-iron guns.

10:40am - Gray Fitzsimons - The Importance and Limitations of Incremental Innovation: The Case of Crompton & Knowles, 1900-1980

By the 1920's, Massachusetts was home to the two largest loom manufacturers in the world, Crompton & Knowles (C&K) of Worcester and the Draper Corporation of Hopedale. While C&K led in the production and sales of looms for fancy weaving and woolen goods, Draper dominated the global market in cotton-weaving looms. Each contributed a significant number of innovations to the fly-shuttle power loom that emerged as the primary weaving technology.

11:20am - William Keller - Maine Fisheries: Building and Domain at Harbor's Edge

This presentation investigates the architecture of the mutable fisheries of the Gulf of Maine and coastal Boothbay Harbor - a small town with a favored harbor and substantial fishing heritage. Structures erected along its edge received product, prepared, stored, and released it to market onsite or shipped it. There was a system of connected elements designed to transact business and create value: dock, gangway, wharf, workroom, storeroom, office, etc.

Noon - Lunch on your own: several restaurants nearby

1:20pm - Garrett Graton, 3G Construction - Moving, Rigging, and Restoring Buildings and Bridges

A third-generation business in New Hampshire which builds, restores, and moves covered bridges. Works on historic structures and monuments, shoring, relocating, and restorations. Structure moving, ranging from raising houses 30' high to moving four story houses. Also, construction of wood and concrete piers.

2:00pm - Amanda Horrocks - Racism at Work: The Racial Divide of the Lowell Mill Girls from 1820 to 1850

The young women who came to work in the Lowell Mills were inspired by the promise of social and economic independence that only mill work could give them. From 1820-1850, the female workers at the Lowell Mills utilized contemporary social views on race to develop a more powerful, socially and economically portrayal of the "mill girl".

2:40pm - David Dunning - The Slack Shoddy Mill

The Slack Shoddy Mill was started in 1871 in Springfield, Vermont. The firm reclaimed old wool to produce at its zenith 800 different grades of reworked product. In the 1930's it gained recognition as being one of the world's largest shoddy mills. New synthetic fabrics cut into the business causing the mill to declare bankruptcy in 1952

The Heritage Commons Room is located at the lower level of Samuel Read Hall. It is across the road and slightly up the hill from Boyd Hall, where the conference had been held for many years. Parking may be available at the Boyd Hall area or consult the PSU website for parking areas and the location of Samuel Read Hall.

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