



**SNEC TOUR of HENRY PERKINS FOUNDRY
Followed by a tour of STANLEY IRON WORKS PARK
Both in BRIDGEWATER, MASS.**

Date, Time:

Thursday, April 18, 2024

8:00 a.m. meet at the foundry

The foundry tour will last about 2 hours and will be followed by a guided walk in Stanley Iron Works Park (about 1.5 miles from Perkins)

Historic **Henry Perkins Foundry** is allowing us to have an early morning tour so that we can see iron being poured. The Perkins Foundry has been making casting iron products since 1848, first for cotton gins and piano plates. Currently the foundry is run by the fifth generation of the Perkins family to own the business. They make cast iron and other metals for pieces that range in size from one pound to 4,000 pounds. Unfortunately, the foundry will probably be closed permanently and the site redeveloped later in 2024. This is a special opportunity to visit the plant.

After the foundry visit, David Moore, of the Bridgewater Historical Commission, will lead a tour of the **Stanley Iron Works Park**, the former site of Bridgewater Iron Works.

Yes 8:00 a.m. is very early for anyone driving a long distance. This is a regular pouring day and time for Perkins, and we're being allowed to see it.

For information on the foundry, see: <http://henryperkinsco.com/>

For information about Stanley Iron Works Park, see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bridgewater_Iron_Works

Locations:

Perkins Foundry

180 Broad Street Bridgewater, Mass.

(That's Route 18. The nearest major route is Route 24)

Stanley Iron Works Park

23 High Street, Bridgewater, Mass.

(You reach the site by going down the Highway Department driveway; see map:

<https://www.nunckatessettgreenway.org/explore/bridgewater/iron-works-parkland/>)

To sign up, email Betsey Dyer bdyer@wheatoncollege.edu

Please provide your name and a cell or other phone and an email address so that we can contact you with any last-minute information.

Some logistics:

The Perkins Foundry has parking.

As with any tour like this, long pants, long sleeves, and closed toe shoes are required.

The Stanley Iron Works Park has undefined parking along a gravel driveway next to the ruins of an iron works building (the only iron works building on the site). The entrance is through the Highway Department driveway.

For those who want to get to the area really early, for a diner-type for breakfast:

Millies Lunch, 535 Washington Street in Whitman (a little north of Bridgewater)

Despite its name it serves only breakfast and brunch and opens at 6:30 a.m.!

(about 15 minutes to Perkins from Millies)

Two nearby coffee places less than a mile to Perkins

Restoration Coffee, 23 Central Square, Bridgewater (opens at 6 a.m.), seems to be mostly coffee, some food choices.

Boundless Bean, 10 Summer Street, Bridgewater (opens at 7 a.m.) with pastries, bagels, breakfast sandwiches etc. and has LUNCH.

ALSO within sight of the Perkins Foundry are many fast-food restaurants that open very early: MacDonaldis, Burger King, Dunkin Donuts. And for lunch, nearby are 99 Restaurant, Pizza Shop, and Subway and at the intersection of Routes 18 and 104 and 28, there are quite a few restaurants open for lunch.

For those lingering in Bridgewater through lunchtime and would like a diner-type meal: Good Days, 99 South Main Street, West Bridgewater, opens at 8:00 a.m. (5 minutes from Stanley Iron Works Park)