List of Industrial Heritage Sites in the Southern New England Region

The Southern New England Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology is undertaking a project to list industrial heritage sites in the region, to facilitate and encourage visits and learning about the region’s industrial history.

The remains of New England’s industrial heritage can be found in abandoned as well as still functioning sites: factory and warehouse buildings, industrial villages and public works structures such as canals, bridges, power plants, reservoirs and pumping stations. Some industrial heritage sites are well known, others are little known outside the community where they are located. Any appropriate site (see the criteria for inclusion, below) will be considered by the committee, but we’d especially like to list lesser-known sites and endangered sites.

The SNEC Committee-of-the-whole – the current management committee of SNEC – will receive nominations to the list (to get a nomination form, click the link). The plan is to put the list on the New England Chapters website, with sufficient information on each listed property to allow people to visit. In order to be listed, a site must be publicly accessible – if not open to the public, then visible from a public way or on land the public can enter.

We welcome your nomination. Please send completed forms to Betsey Dyer (by email or mail, addresses are on the form).

Criteria for including sites in the SNEC industrial heritage list

1. Industrial heritage will include physical sites and properties – specifically, buildings, nonbuilding structures, and artifacts on or in the ground, at their original locations.
2. Sites must be located in Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Rhode Island.
3. Sites must have been, or are, associated with manufacturing, transportation, power generation, public works, mining or wholesale trade.
4. Sites must have been established before 1950.
5. Sites must be accessible to the public: a place that can be viewed from a public way or on land the public can enter, or to which visits are allowed with permission.

You can nominate more than one site, but since this is a new initiative, we’d like to start small (i.e., please send just one nomination for now) and work out the kinks. If there is interest in this project, it can grow!

Questions? Contact Betsey Dyer bdyer@wheatonma.edu or Sara Wermiel swermiel@verizon.net.