



NEWSLETTER

Here we are on the eve of our 3rd Biennial Meeting which will be held on November 2nd & 3rd at MIT in Boston. This should prove to be the best CHSA meeting ever with the first day devoted to over 20 papers on American Construction 1850 - 1950 and the second to Guastavino design, construction and preservation. Details of the program are included in this newsletter. There is still time to register by going to the website now.

Also on November 7th there will be a session at the AIA Minnesota meeting titled Construction History: An Integrated Approach to Practice and History. This is organized by CHSA and our speakers will be Lee Gray, Peter Hilger and Benjamin Ibarra-Sevilla.

At a recent management committee it was decided to formally set up five sub-committees of the Management Committee being: Newsletter, Meetings, Finance, Membership and Marketing. This should provide better overall management of the Society now that it is more firmly established.

Don Friedman will take over the editorship of this newsletter and you should be hearing from him soon as we solicit a wider range of material for this communication.

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MIT, Boston

THANKS TO OUR INSTITUTIONAL AND CORPORATE MEMBERS

- * A. Ottavino Corp.
- * Associated General Contractors of America
- * Auburn University
- * Canadian Centre for Architecture
- * ConstellationCenter
- * Construction Management Association of America
- * Fluor Group
- * Georgia Institute of Technology
- * Gilbane, Inc.
- * Gleeds USA, Inc.
- * Hoover Treated Wood Products, Inc.
- * Joel Silverman & Associates

- * Kaese & Lynch
- * Levine Construction Company
- * Limeworks.us
- * Minnesota State University, Mankato
- * National Center for Preservation Technology and Training
- * Paces Construction Co.
- * Texas A & M University
- * The Pepper Companies
- * The Whiting Turner Contracting Company
- * University of Oklahoma
- * University of Pennsylvania
- * Vertical Access LLC

NEW CORPORATE SOCIETY SUPPORTER JOEL SILVERMAN & ASSOCIATES

The company was formed by Joel Silverman, a 40 year veteran of New York City construction management and the former president of one of the larger contractors in that city (HRH Construction) , building in excess of 20 million sq,ft of major commercial, residential, and health related projects. The firm acts as Owner's Representatives and construction consultants. Joel teaches Construction Management as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Architecture at Columbia University.

He can be reached at jsilvassoc@aol.com

GUASTAVINO EXHIBIT – PALACES FOR THE PEOPLE - BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Guastavino scholars in the United States, led by Society member John Ochsendorf, have created a major traveling exhibition titled "Palaces for the People: Guastavino and America's Great Public Spaces". An engaging and interactive exhibit opened at the Boston Public Library on September 28, 2012. The exhibition will then travel to the National Building Museum in March 2013, followed by the Museum of the City of New York beginning in September 2013. "Palaces for the People" has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is definitely worth a visit!

For further information – www.palacesforthepeople.com

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CONSTRUCTION HISTORY

We have had enquiries on how to obtain copies of the proceedings issued to registrants at the Congress in July. We have asked how these may be ordered and at what cost and will pass the information along when received.

SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

One benefit of our partnership with SAH is to receive their newsletter. A copy will be passed on to you shortly.

3RD BIENNIAL CHSA MEETING MIT BOSTON, NOVEMBER 2ND & 3RD, 2012

The current meeting program follows on the next page for your interest. Several members are presenting and others have registered. There is still time to join us.

We hope to bring you brief articles of some of the papers in future newsletters.



MIT, Boston

STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF HISTORIC CONSTRUCTION, WROCLAW, POLAND

The eighth Structural Analysis of Historic Construction conference took place October 15 to 17 in Wroclaw, Poland. While the main focus of this conference is engineering analysis, a substantial portion of the 350 papers presented included material on the history, social context, and use of various historic buildings. As with previous conferences in the series, the papers and attendees skewed heavily toward Europe, but the fifty nations represented included several in both North and South America.

The conference was held in Wroclaw's Centennial Hall, a 1913 reinforced concrete building with a 69m diameter central dome, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY SOCIETY OF AMERICA 3RD BIENNIAL MEETING
 AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION HISTORY, 1850-1950
 CAMBRIDGE MA, NOVEMBER 2-3, 2012

Thursday Nov 1st

6:00-7:00 Guastavino exhibition open to view at Boston Public Library in Copley Square (dinner on own)

Friday Nov 2nd MIT Room 7-429 at 77 Massachusetts Ave, MIT Dept of Architecture

8:00 Registration and coffee/tea

8:30 Welcome and introduction, John Ochsendorf

8:40 Keynote: Robert Silman, Robert Silman Associates: *1850-1950: Construction and Pragmatism*

9:30-10:30 Session 1 (MIT Room 7-429 – building 7, 4th floor, “Long Lounge”)

Chair: Brian Bowen

• *Environmental Controls in Frank Lloyd Wright’s Buildings for SC Johnson Company*, Joseph Siry

• *Architectural Ceramics in Boston’s Back Bay Neighborhood, 1870s and 1880s*, Sara Wermiel

• *From Bridge to Tabernacle: Town Lattice Trusses in the Rocky Mountains, 1861-1867*, Elwin Robison

10:30-10:50 Coffee break

11:00-12:20 Session 2

Chair: Thomas Leslie (Room 7-429)

Building a City in the Wilderness: Hospitals at Alabama Power Camps, Marietta Monaghan

The Ames Shovel Works: Innovation in the Planning, Design, & Construction of the Mid-19th Century Factory
 Jay Wickersham and Chris Milford

Getting the Job: How US Builders and Contractors Secured Contracts, 1870-1970, Marvin Levine

Elevator Shaft Construction 1880-1925, Lee Gray

Chair: Meghan Elliot (Room 7-338, Stella Room)

Organization and Assets: Alternative Delivery of Approaches of Stone & Webster, The Austin Company and Chicago Bridge and Iron from the 1870s to the 1930s, Jeffrey Beard

The Earliest Iron Roof Structures and Cast Iron Staircases in the US, Dennis DeWitt

Out-of-Area: Skidmore Owings Merrill’s Façade Construction for the American Consulates in Germany, 1953-58, Lynnette Widder

12:30-1:30 Lunch (box lunch catered)

1:40-2:40 Session 3

Chair: Santiago Huerta (Room 7-429)

Beauty, Versatility, Practicality: Innovative Hyperbolic Paraboloids in Post-War America, Tyler Sprague

Study of the Helicoidal Oblique Bridge at Seventh Street in St Paul Minnesota, Benjamin Ibarra-Sevilla

David B Steinman, Bridge Designer, Robert Dermody

Chair: Sara Wermiel (Room 7-338, Stella Room)

Setting up a System: New Deal Housing Construction in Tennessee, Avigail Sachs and Sarah Potter

Constructing Trinity Church, Wall Street, Judith Hull

Archiving History of Construction through the Historic American Buildings Survey, Virginia Price

2:40-3:10 Coffee break

3:15-4:15 Session 4

Chair: Jeffrey Beard (Room 7-429)

Repeating Success and Avoiding Failure: A Historical Overview of Panelized and Modular Construction in Housing, Michael O’Brien

Prefabrication and social architecture. Richard J Neutra and the project for Latin America, Catherine Ettinger

Regional Material Investigation: 1940-50 Paul Rudolph + Ralph Twitchell, C. Domin and Joseph King

Chair: Marvin Levine (Room 7-338, Stella Room)

The World’s Largest Office Building: Development of Concrete Skeleton Frame Engineering and Construction, Meghan Elliot

Gothic Arch Barns, Chris Hartnett

The Era of the Modern Timber Connector, David Bueche

4:15-5:00 Discussion

5:30-7:30 Reception at 224 Albany St, Housemaster’s Suite (Sponsored by Ochsendorf, DeJong and Block Engineering)

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY SOCIETY OF AMERICA 3RD BIENNIAL MEETING

AMERICAN CONSTRUCTION HISTORY, 1850-1950
CAMBRIDGE MA, NOVEMBER 2-3, 2012

Saturday, Nov 3, 2012 -- Guastavino Vaulting: Past, Present, and Future

8:00	Registration	
8:30	Welcome and Introduction	John Ochsendorf, MIT
8:40	Keynote Address: <i>Guastavino and Gilbert</i>	Janet Parks, Avery Library
9:30-10:30	Guastavino History, Session I (20 mins each)	
	<i>Rafael Guastavino Moreno: from the tailor Shop to the Privilege of Invention</i> , Miguel Rotaeché	
	<i>Domes of Rafael Guastavino, Jr</i> , Santiago Huerta	
	<i>Guastavino in India</i> , Fernando Vegas and Camilla Mileto	
10:30-10:50	Coffee break	
11:00-12:20	Guastavino History, Session II (20 mins each)	
	<i>Guastavino and the Boston Public Library</i>	Lisa Mroszczyk Murphy
	<i>Vaulting in the U. of Virginia Academical Building</i>	Ben Hays
	<i>Geometry of the Municipal Building vaults</i>	Benjamin Ibarra-Sevilla
	<i>Cleveland's West Side Market at 100</i>	Daniel DeAngelo
12:30-1:30	Lunch (Box lunches catered)	
1:30-3:10	Construction Techniques and Technology (20 mins each)	
	<i>An Inventory of Guastavino Stairs</i>	Lori Ferriss
	<i>Construction Techniques for Guastavino Vaulting</i>	Peter Austin
	<i>Acoustical Aspects of Guastavino Vaulting</i>	Jaume Soler
	<i>Structural Analysis of Tile Vaulting</i>	David Lopez and Marta Domenech
	<i>Laying out Tile Vaults with Local Positioning System</i>	Julian Garcia, Joaquín Grau, Carlos Martín, Roberto Molinos, and Juan M. Pérez
3:10-3:30	Coffee break/posters	
3:30-5:30	Preservation (20 mins each)	
	<i>Evaluation of In-Service Tile Vaults</i>	Kent Diebolt, Berta de Miguel, K. Streeter
	<i>Detailing Guastavino Domes for Durability</i>	Annabelle Radcliffe-Trenner and Derek Trelstad
	<i>Total Reliability for the Oyster Bar Tiles</i>	D. Koga, C. Gembinski, L. Buchner, D. Trelstad
	<i>Battery Park Maritime Vault Repair</i>	Edmund Meade and Daniel Lane
	<i>Plymouth Rock Portico: Preserving a Monument</i>	Jack Glassman and Edmund Meade
	<i>A masonry tile dome restoration in Catalonia</i>	Jose Luis Gonzalez, Albert Casals, Alicia Dotor, Esther García, and Belén Onecha
5:30-5:45	Discussion/Closing Remarks	
6:00-8:00	Reception at former Guastavino Factory in Woburn (sponsored by Tocci Construction)	

Sunday, Nov 4, 2012

Visits available to local sites of interest (AM only)

- 1) Boston Waterworks (led by Dennis DeWitt)
- 2) Guastavino vaults in Boston area (led by John Ochsendorf)

WHO WE ARE

The Society is dedicated to the study of the history and evolution of all aspects of the built environment—its creation, maintenance and management. It is a forum for scholars and professionals in the field to share, meet and exchange ideas and research.

Membership is open to a wide range of construction related disciplines involved in the planning, development, design and construction of buildings and engineering infrastructure, in addition to those concerned with their operation and preservation.

Members share a passion for examining how our existing structures were planned, designed and built, with the purpose of using this knowledge to better preserve what we have and to guide us in determining future directions.

The US branch of the Construction History Society is a distinct entity catering to the historical studies and interests of its members here in America. Membership in the US branch includes full benefits in CHS at large, including receipt of the Society's Journal and newsletter and links to scholars in the field worldwide.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES

Public Works Historical Society, www.pwhs.net

Historical Construction Equipment Association, www.hcea.net

Society of Architectural Historians, www.sah.org

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Brian Bowen (Chairman), GA Tech, Atlanta, GA

Tom Leslie (Secretary), Iowa State University, Ames, IA

Jeff Beard, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

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Meghan Elliott, Meyer Borgman Johnson, Minneapolis, MN

Lee Gray, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC

Peter Hilger: University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Donald Friedman, Old Structures Engineering, New York, NY

Marvin Levine: Levine Companies, Deerfield, IL

Sara Wermiel, Independent Scholar/Historic Preservation Consultant, Boston, MA

Construction History Society Representative
James Campbell, Cambridge, UK

COMMITTEE ADVISORS

Frank Matero, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

John Ochsendorf, MIT, Cambridge, MA

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER AND THE ONLY VEHICLE WE HAVE TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ONE ANOTHER.
SO PLEASE USE THIS TO LET US KNOW:

- * your interests in construction history, your current research, précis of recent lectures, etc.
- * books, texts & articles that your fellow readers should know about
- * names and e-addresses of colleagues and friends that we can include on our mailing list
- * if you are willing to write a brief article for us.

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