

THE HOME OF THE PRESIDENT.

Photo – Upper Saucon Township Record Collection

Mark Connor

SIA Annual Conference – Richmond Virginia
June 2, 2018

“ The Elevator Speech”

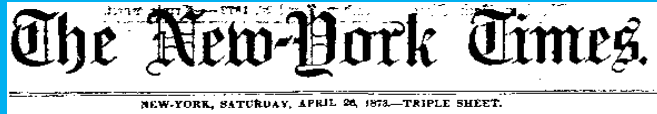
- The existing President Engine House and the area surrounding the structure is a 19th century mining industry time capsule.
- Protection, preservation, interpretation and recognition of this engine house and its surroundings is of vital importance because:
 - It is the only structure and physical setting remaining of the earliest industrial age enterprise in the Lehigh Valley;
 - The engine house is part of, arguably, the largest single cylinder stationary steam engine ever built anywhere in the world;
 - The engine house is a unique structure which is the only surviving example in the United States.

King Arthur's Castle in Saucon Valley



Made in America –

“Largest Stationary Engine in the World”



ZINC MINING.

The Lehigh Company's Mines at Friedensville, Penn.—The Largest Stationary Engine in the World.

PORT RICHMOND IRON WORKS, PHILADELPHIA.
L. P. MORRIS & CO.,
Engine Builders, Iron Founders, Boiler Makers and General Machinists,
OFFICE AND WORKS ON THE DELAWARE RIVER, 180 WARD. ESTABLISHED 1855.

The South Australian Advertiser.

ADVERTISING, MONDAY, MAY 13, 1873. PUBLISHED DAILY—PRICE 1

THE LARGEST STATIONARY ENGINE IN THE WORLD.

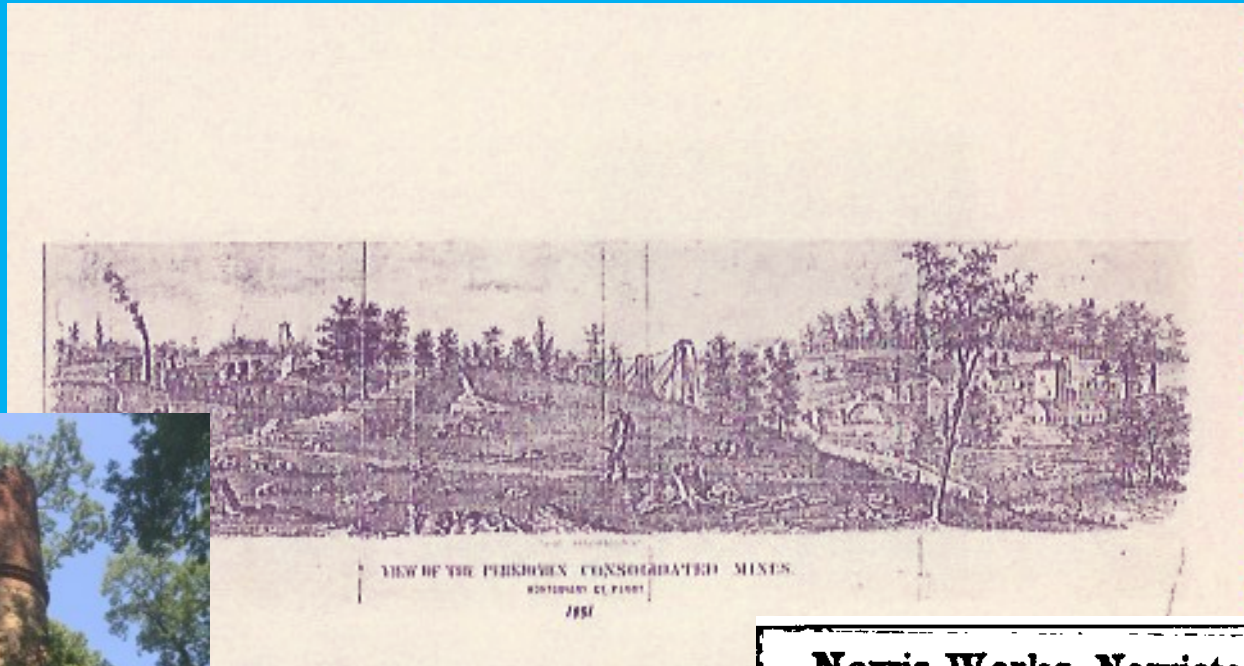
A recent number of the *Mining Journal* gives an interesting account of the starting of the Lehigh Zinc Company's mammoth engine.

MERRICK & JOY'S
IRON FOUNDERS
BOILER MAKERS
&
MACHINISTS
180 N. 3rd St.
Below Sugar Baking Apparatus

MANUFACTURERS OF
MARINE STEAM ENGINES
LIGHT HOUSES
IRON MACHINERY & GAS WORKS
WRIGHT & CRANE STEAM Hammers
Machinists of all kinds
Market St. between 10th & 11th Sts.

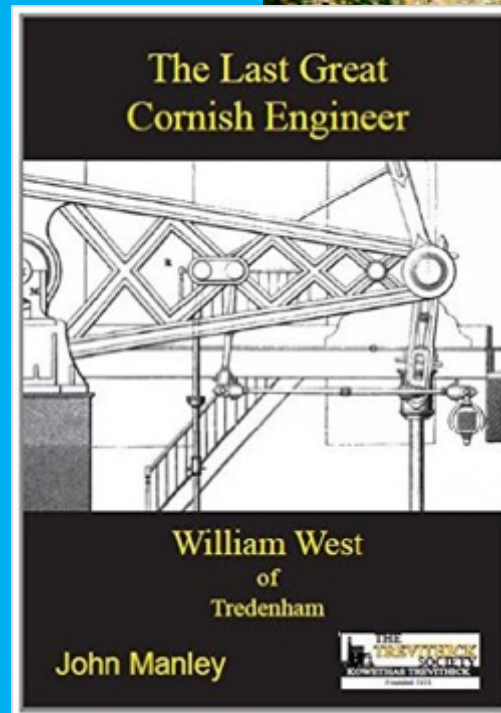
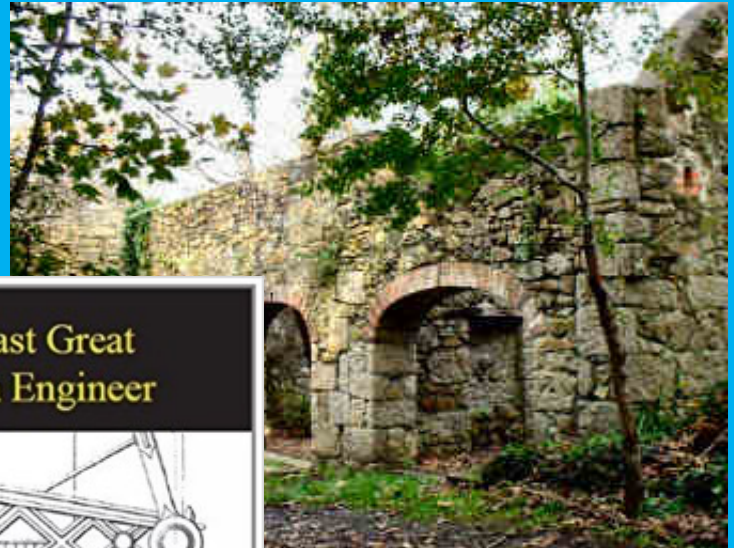
WASHINGTON, D.C. & FIFTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

John West and the Perkiomen Copper Mines

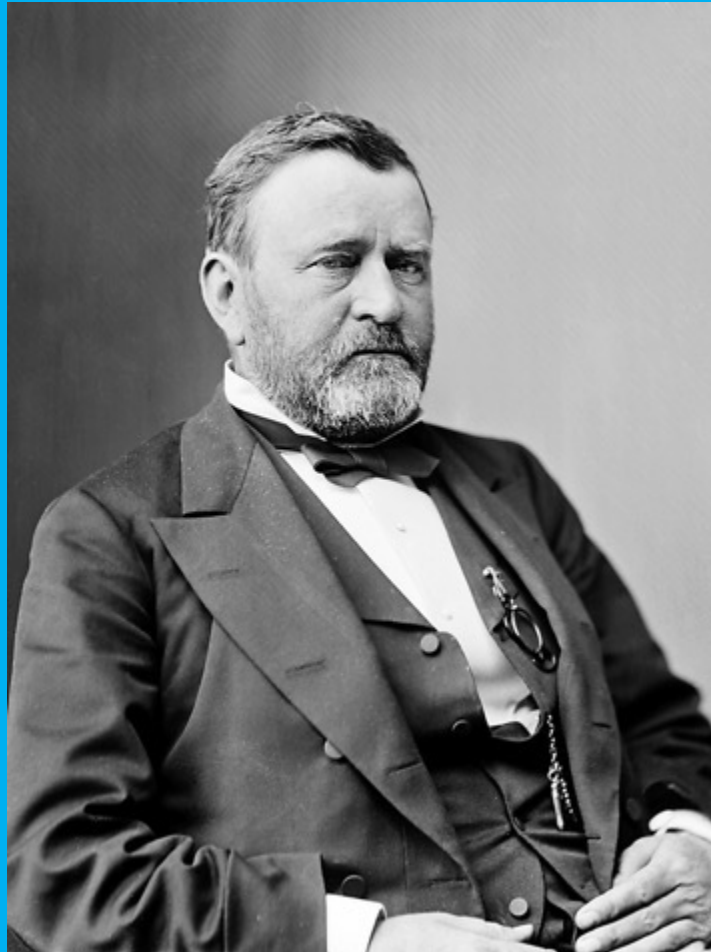


Norris Works, Norristown, Penn.
THE subscribers manufacture **Mining Machinery** as follows, viz: High and Low Pressure Pumping, Stamping and Hoisting Steam Engines, Pumps, Stamping and Crushing Machines, Winches, Ironblocks, Pulleys of all sizes, and every variety of Machinery for Mining purposes
THOMAS, CORSON & WEST.
Feb. 10, 1854. (6m)

The West Family of Cambourne



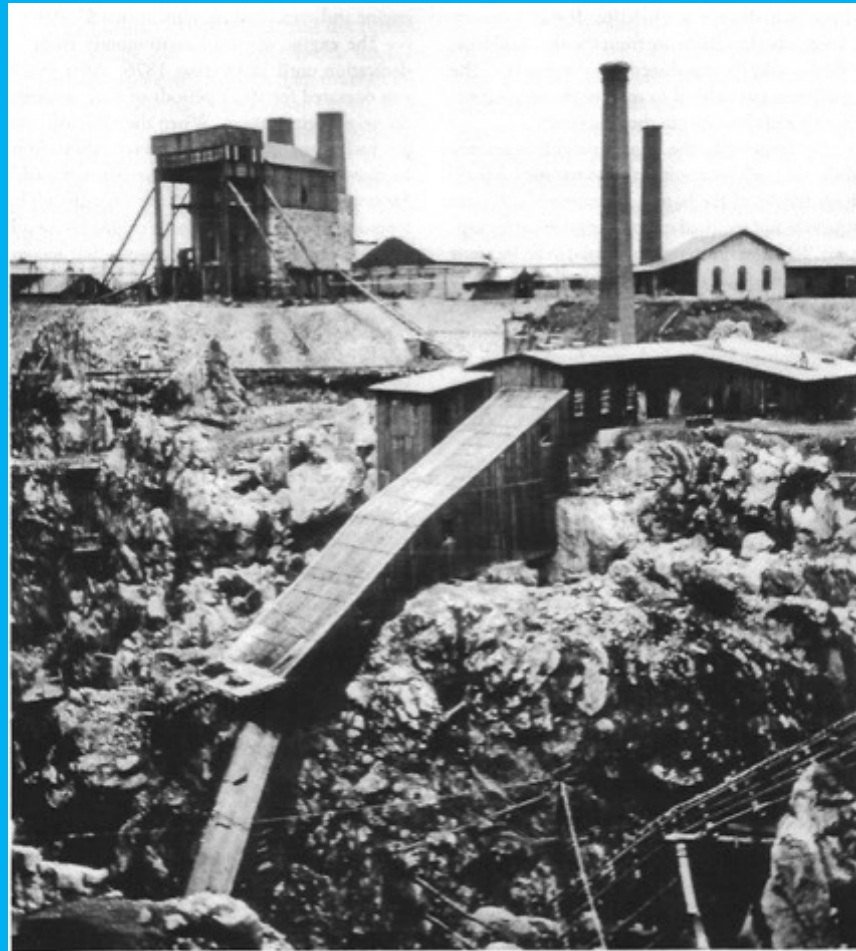
“The President” - General Grant Pump



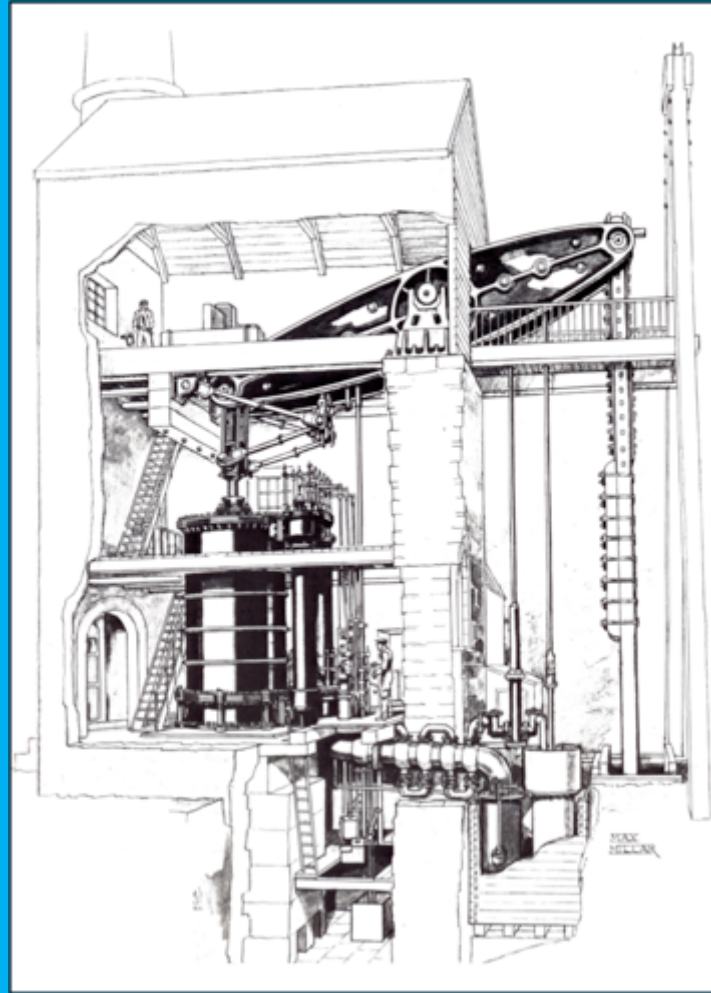
The President – View from Mine Pit (West Edge)



The President – View from Mine Pit (Northwest Edge)

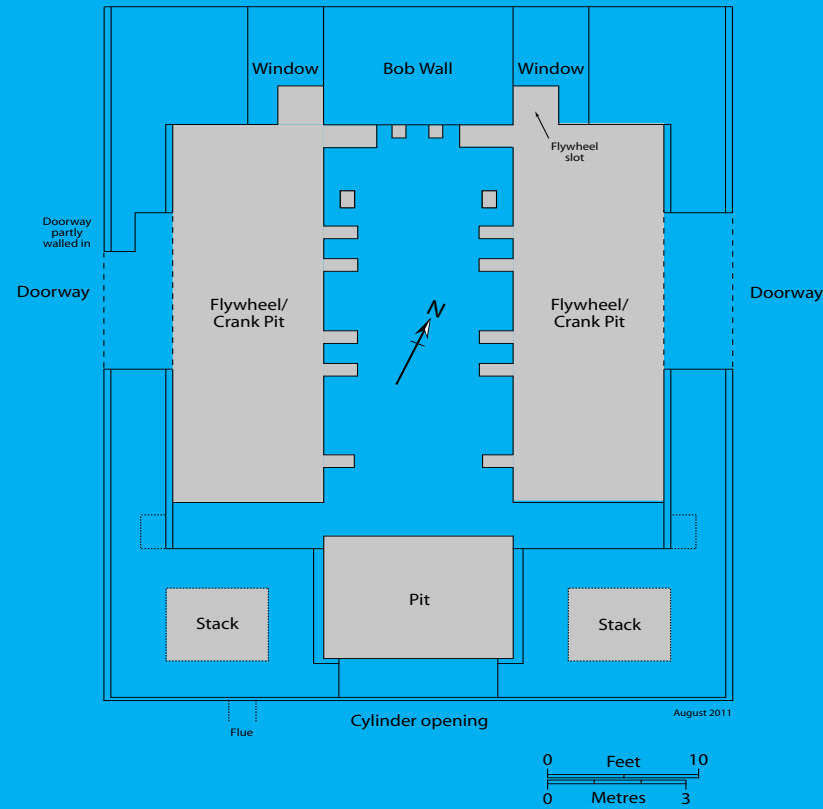


Typical Engine House Sectional

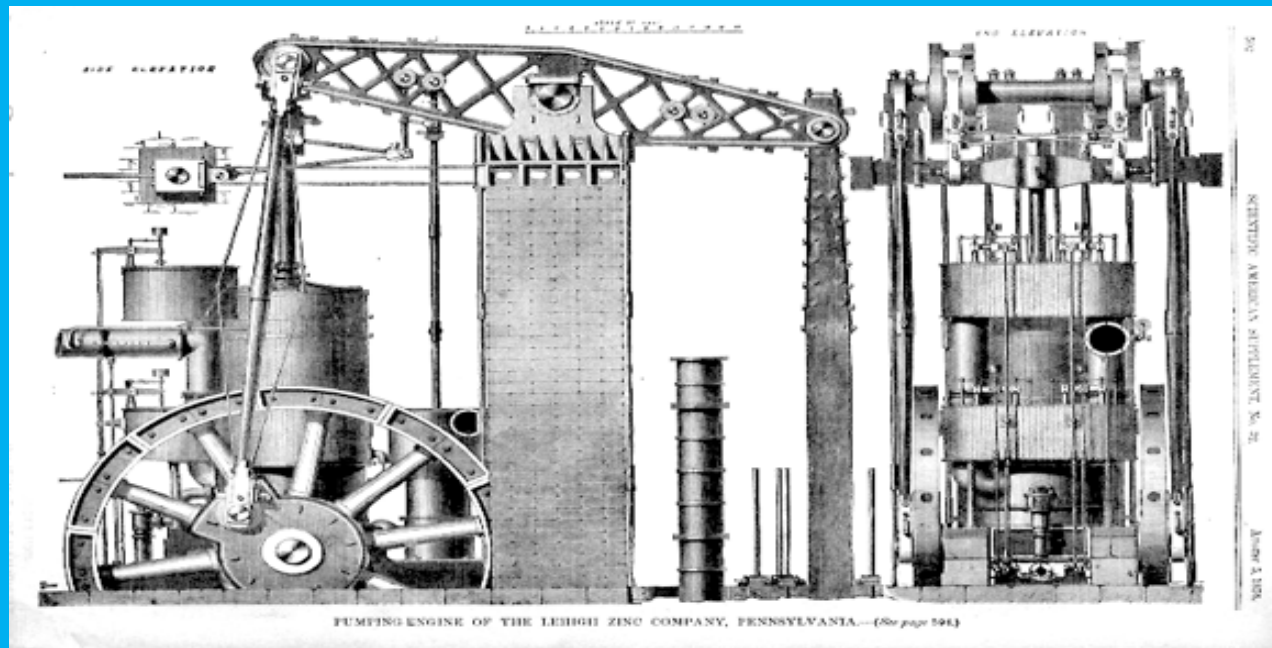


The President's Floor Plan

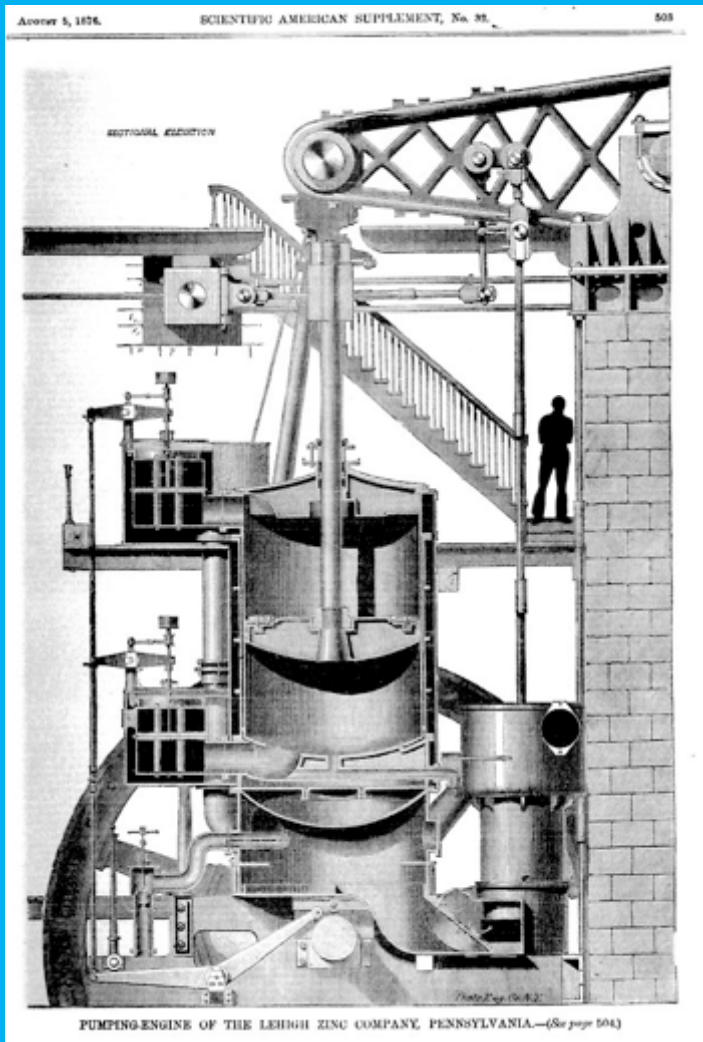
Plan of "The President"



The President



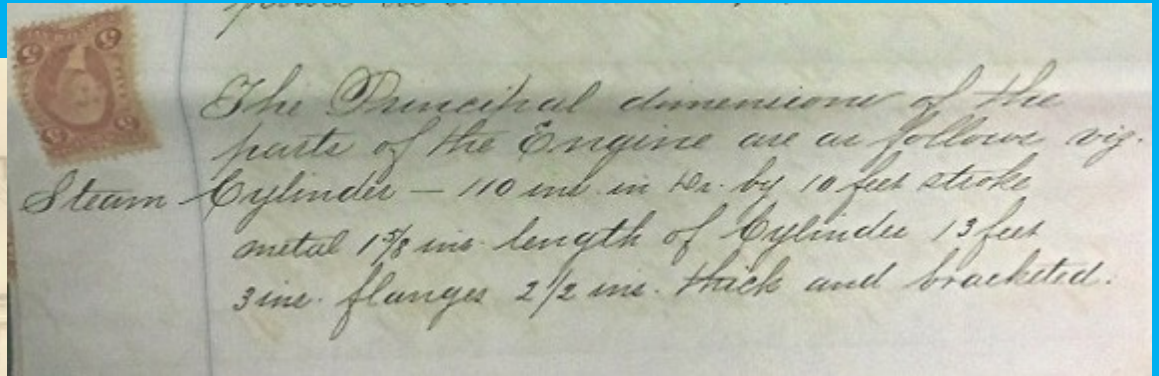
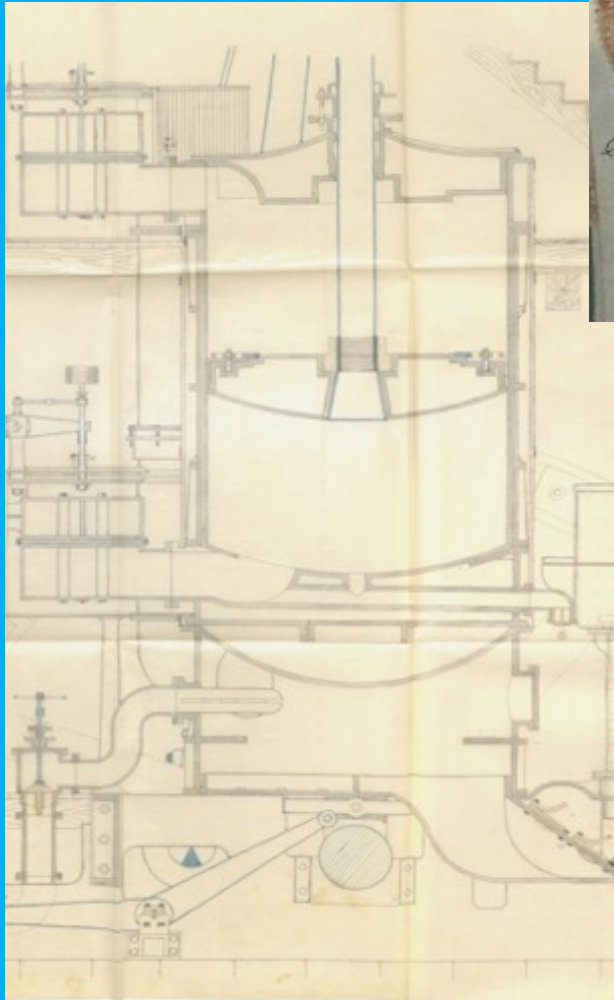
The President



"It is the triumph of the rotative system as applied to a mine pump. I would not believe it would run so smoothly, if I had not seen it. It is worth coming across the Atlantic to see."

*John Kraft
Chief Engineer – SA John Cockerill
Seraing, Belgium
1876*

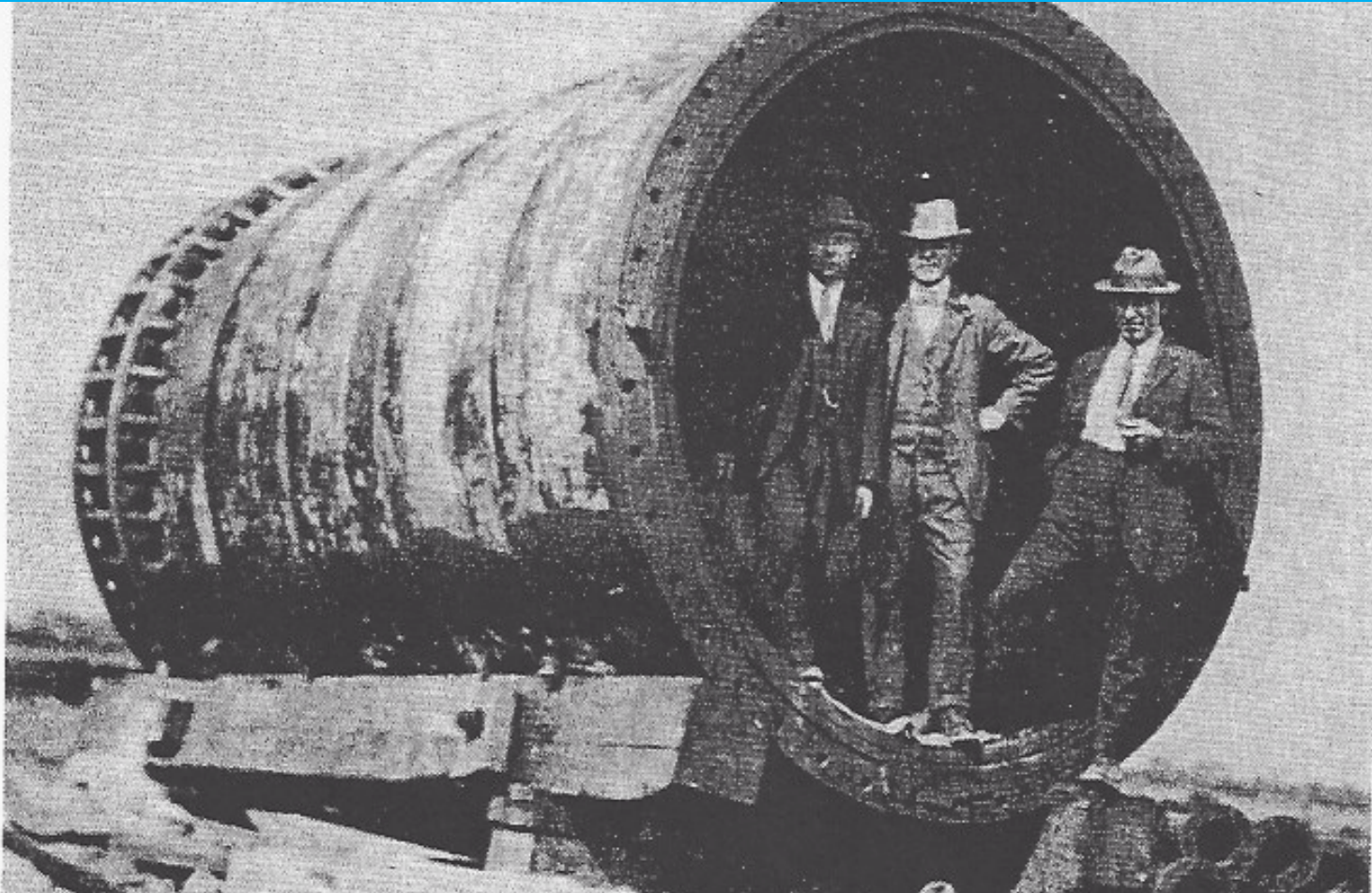
The President - Cylinder



"The Engine moves with out a jar and presents itself in highest testimonial to the company's engineer, the designer of the engine Mr. West."

*Samuel Miller Riley,
Lafayette College Senior Thesis, 1874*

A 90-inch Cylinder



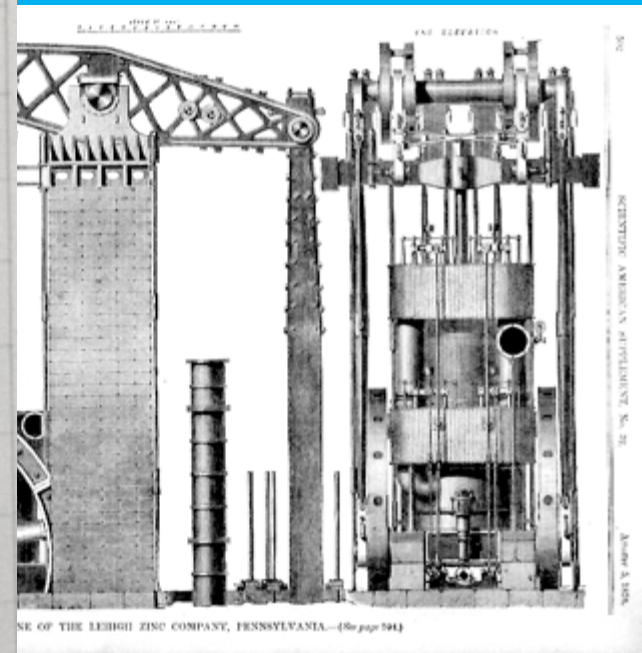
The President – The Beam



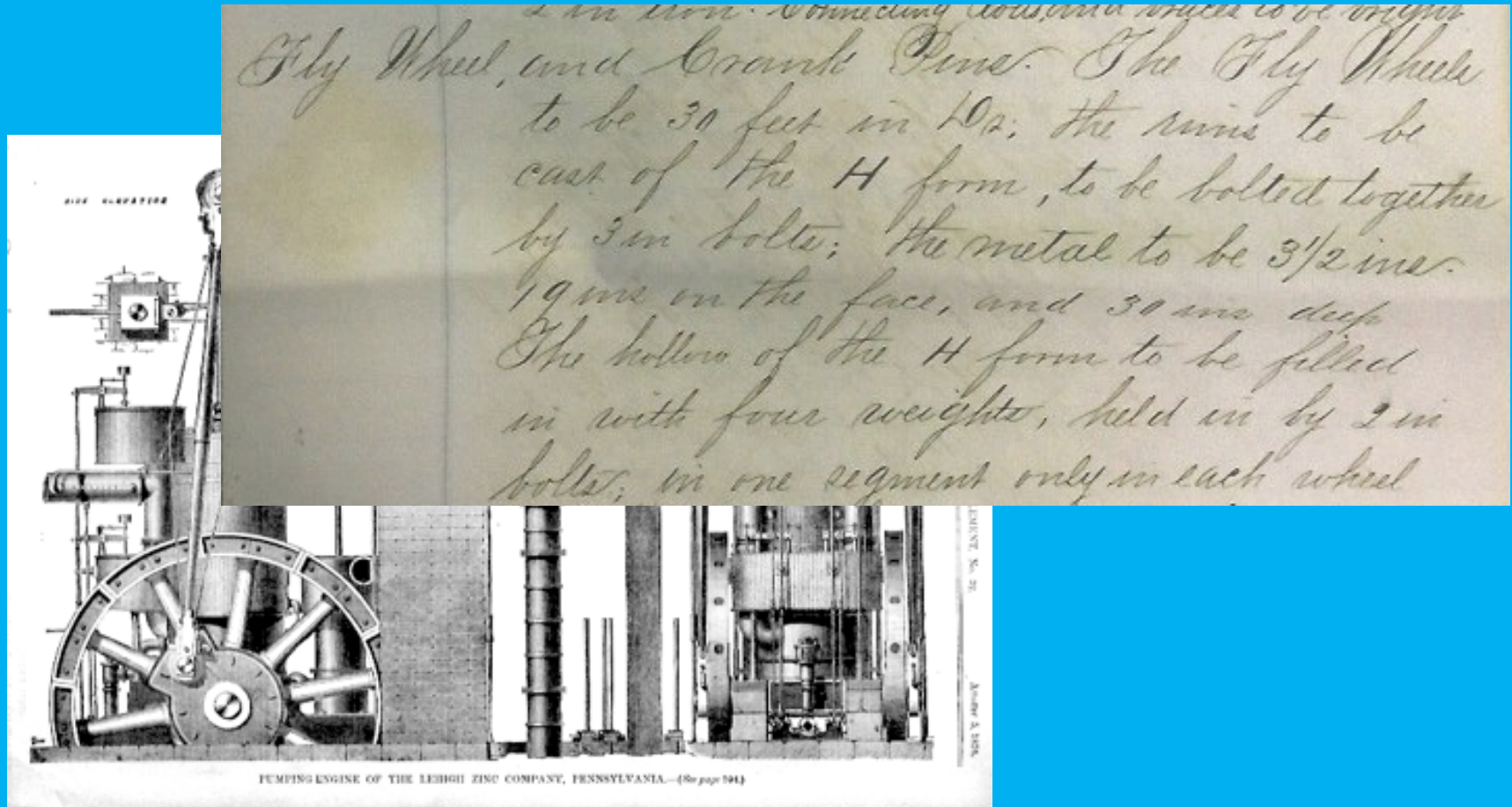
Diagram – Scientific American Supplement 1 – August 5, 1876/Lehigh Zinc Co Records - Moravian Church Archives

The President – The Pump Rod

The pump-rods are kept in position by guides. Part of the shaft is open, through which part the one near the bottom of the shaft is taken out. The pump rods are of yellow pine from Georgia. The shaft is lined with the same wood for the greater part of the distance down.

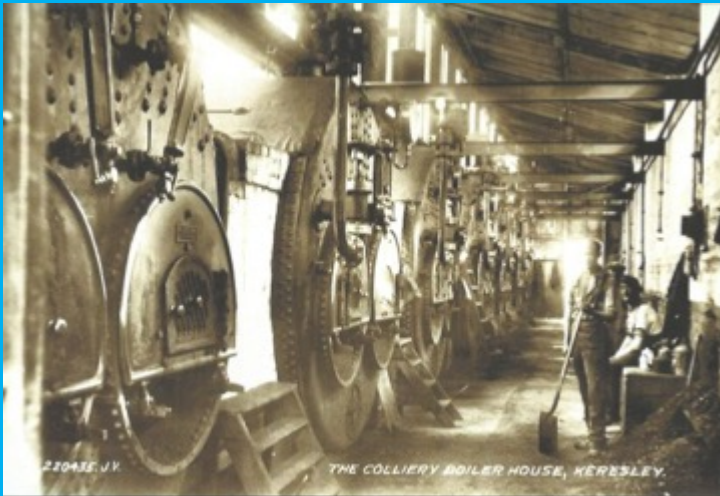


The President – The Flywheel

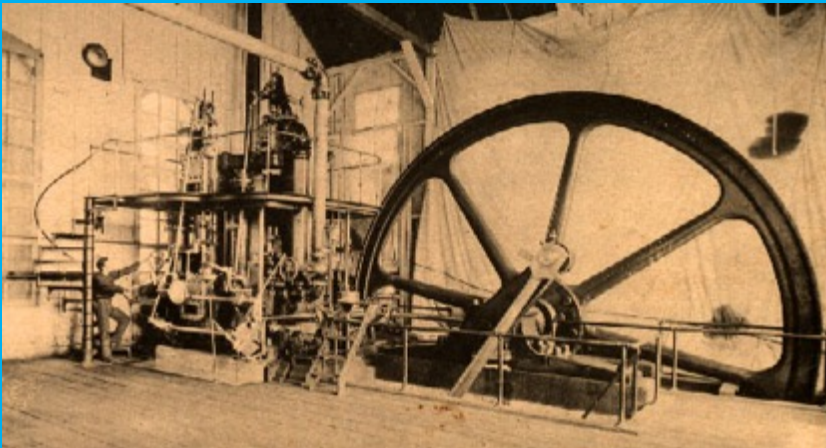
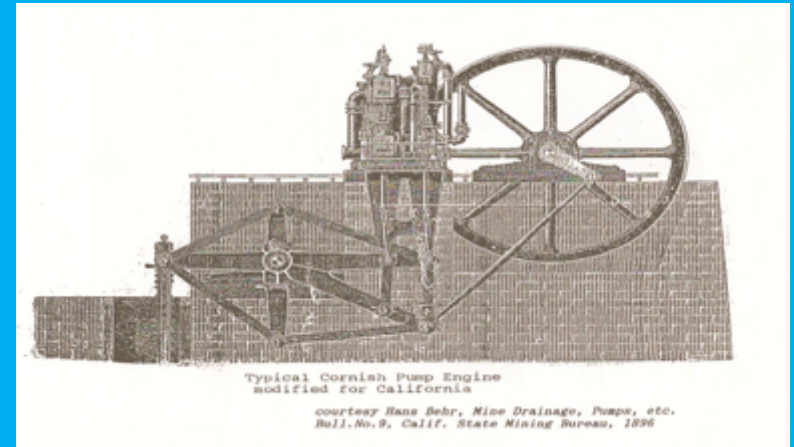
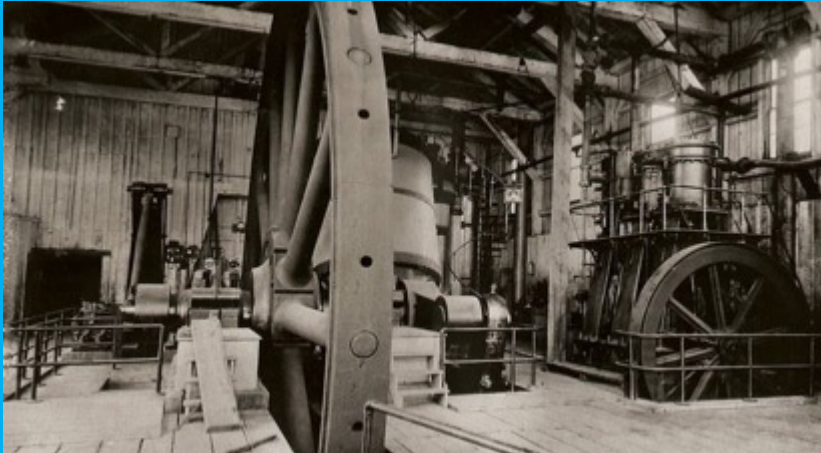


The President's Boilers

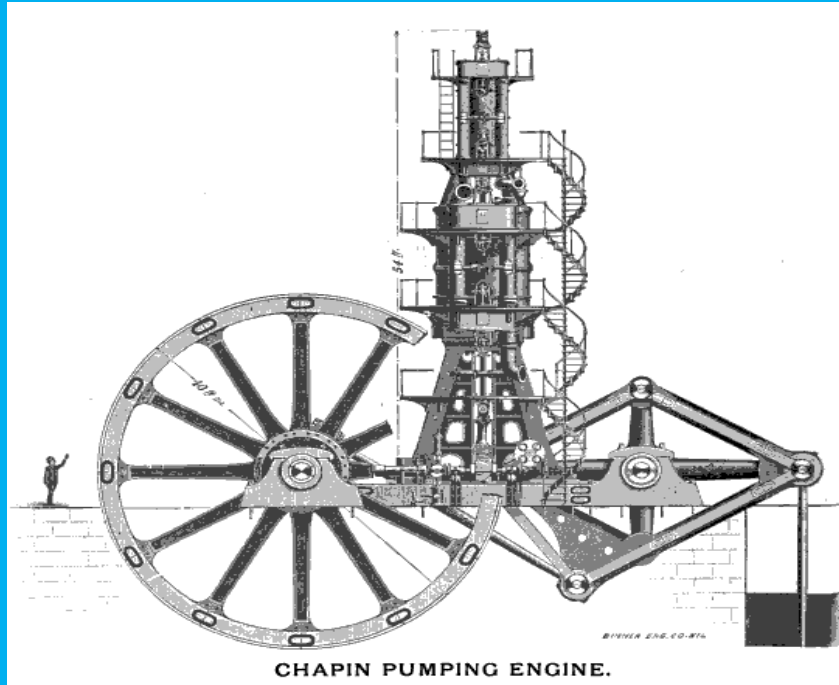
On Right – Surviving Steam Drum from the President's Boiler System



John West and Cornish Pumps in the West



Chapin Mine – Iron Mountain Michigan



Photos – ASME Chapin Mine Pumping Engine (left)/Iron Mining Museum, Iron Mountain Michigan



The President in Ruins



Photo – courtesy of Damian Nance

Surviving Cornish Engine Houses – Worldwide (UNESCO 2006)

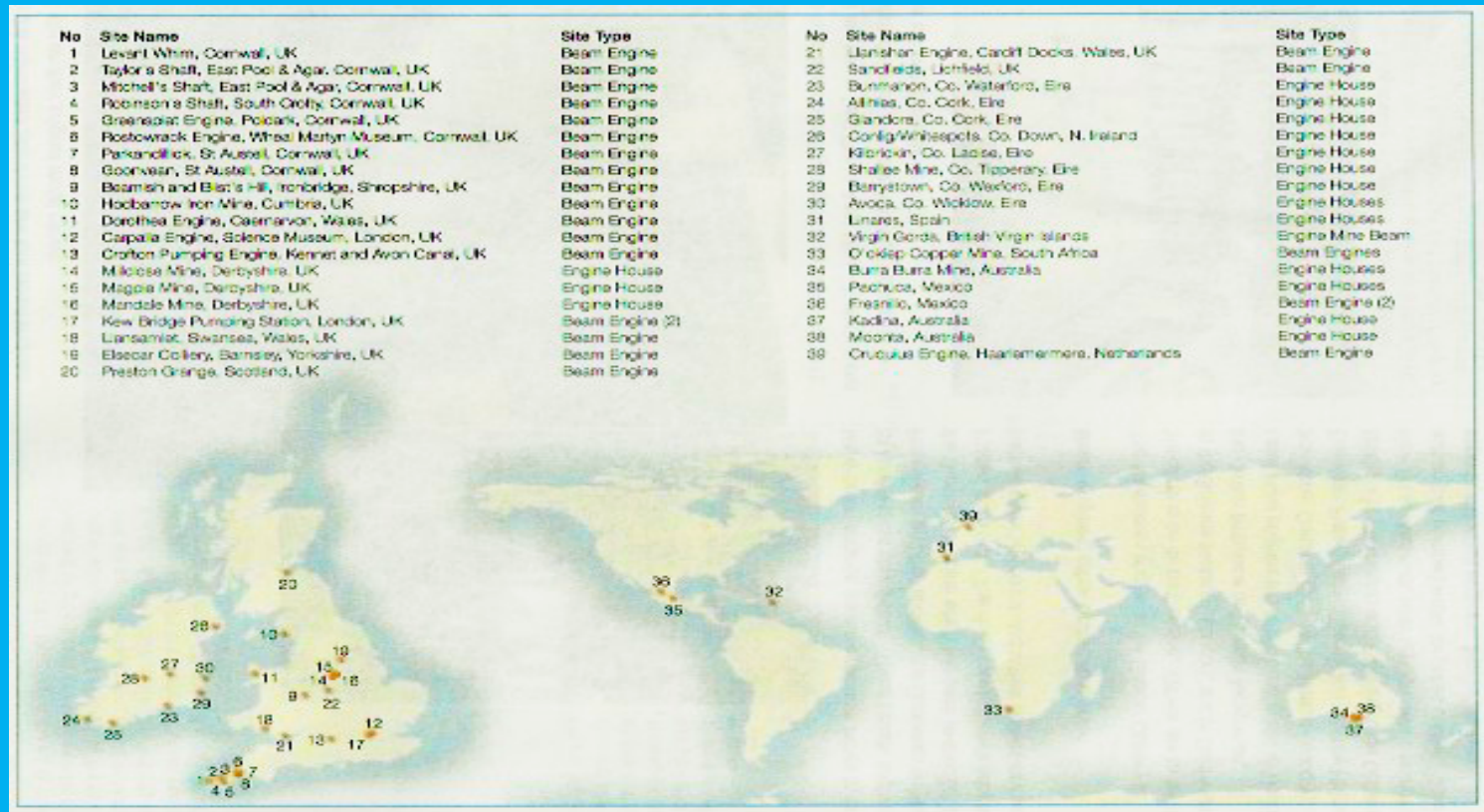


Photo – UNESCO application – Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape

Surviving Cornish Engine Houses – Worldwide (UNESCO 2006)

No	Site Name	Site Type	No	Site Name	Site Type
1	Levant Mine, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	21	Llanishan Engine, Cardiff Docks, Wales, UK	Beam Engine
2	Taylor's Shaft, East Pool & Agar, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	22	Sandfields, Litchfield, UK	Beam Engine
3	Mitchell's Shaft, East Pool & Agar, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	23	Bunmahon, Co. Waterford, Eire	Engine House
4	Robinson's Shaft, South Crofty, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	24	Athnas, Co. Cork, Eire	Engine House
5	Greenstar Engine, Poldark, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	25	Glandore, Co. Cork, Eire	Engine House
6	Restowrack Engine, Wheal Martyn Museum, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	26	Conlig/Whitespots, Co. Down, N. Ireland	Engine House
7	Parkandilock, St Austell, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	27	Kilbrack, Co. Lissie, Eire	Engine House
8	Goodwin, St Austell, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	28	Shalloe Mine, Co. Tipperary, Eire	Engine House
9	Beamish and Blais Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, UK	Beam Engine	29	Barnstow, Co. Wexford, Eire	Engine House
10	Hodbarrow Iron Mine, Cumbria, UK	Beam Engine	30	Avoca, Co. Wicklow, Eire	Engine Houses
11	Dorothea Engine, Caernarvon, Wales, UK	Beam Engine	31	Linzas, Spain	Engine Houses
12	Capella Engine, Science Museum, London, UK	Beam Engine	32	Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands	Engine Mine Beam
13	Crofton Pumping Engine, Kennet and Avon Canal, UK	Beam Engine	33	Oriskany Copper Mine, South Africa	Beam Engines
14	Milcombe Mine, Derbyshire, UK	Engine House	34	Burns Burn Mine, Australia	Engine Houses
15	Maggie Mine, Derbyshire, UK	Engine House	35	Pachuca, Mexico	Engine Houses
16	Mazda Mine, Derbyshire, UK	Engine House	36	Fresnillo, Mexico	Beam Engine (2)
17	Kew Bridge Pumping Station, London, UK	Beam Engine (2)	37	Kadina, Australia	Engine House
18	Llansamlet, Swansea, Wales, UK	Beam Engine	38	Moomba, Australia	Engine House
19	Elsecar Colliery, Barnsley, Yorkshire, UK	Beam Engine	39	Crucius Engine, Haarlemmermeer, Netherlands	Beam Engine
20	Preston Grange, Scotland, UK	Beam Engine			

No Surviving Engine Houses Were Identified In The United States When the UK Applied For World Heritage Status

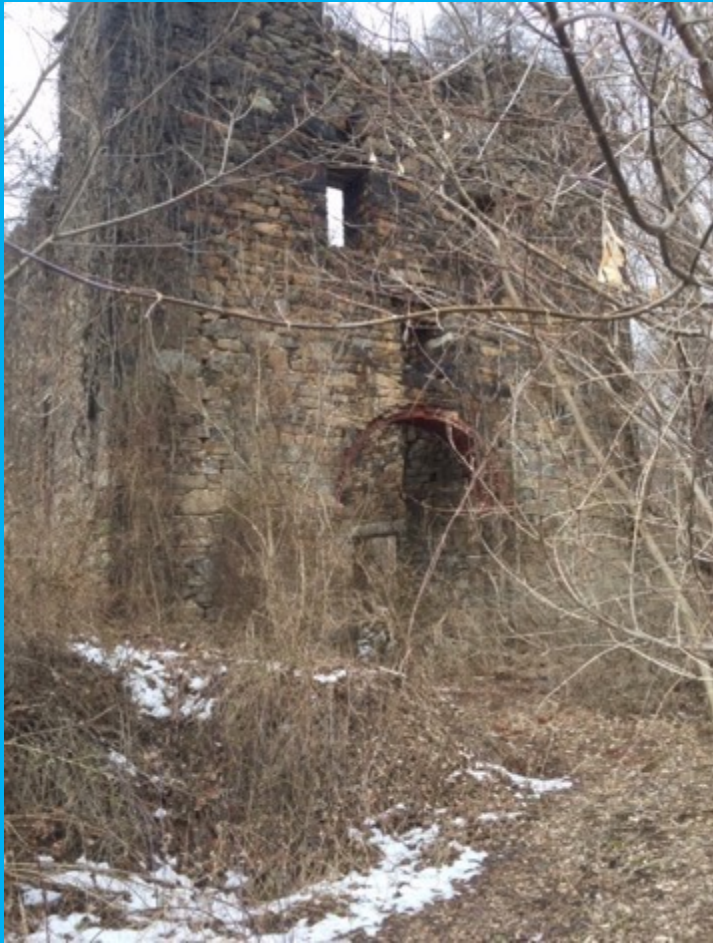
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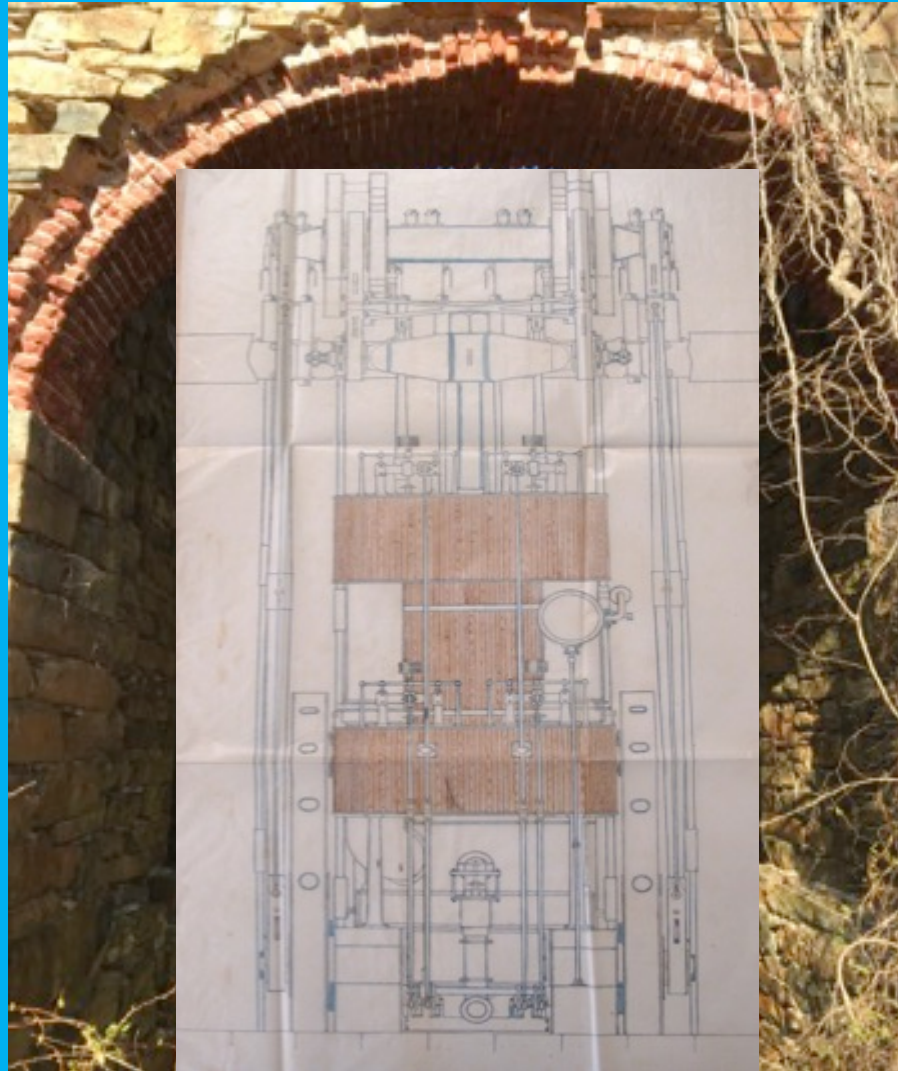
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7	Parkandick, St Austell, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	27	Killickin, Co. Laois, Ire	Engine House
8	Goonvastrin, St Austell, Cornwall, UK	Beam Engine	28	Shales Mine, Co. Tipperary, Ire	Engine House
9	Beamish and Bart's Hill, Ironbridge, Shropshire, UK	Beam Engine	29	Barrystown, Co. Wexford, Ire	Engine House
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20	Preston Grange, Scotland, UK	Beam Engine			

The President Engine House is The Only Documented Cornish Pumping Engine House in the United States

The President Today – Façade Facing the Boiler House



The President Then – Looking in the Cylinder Door

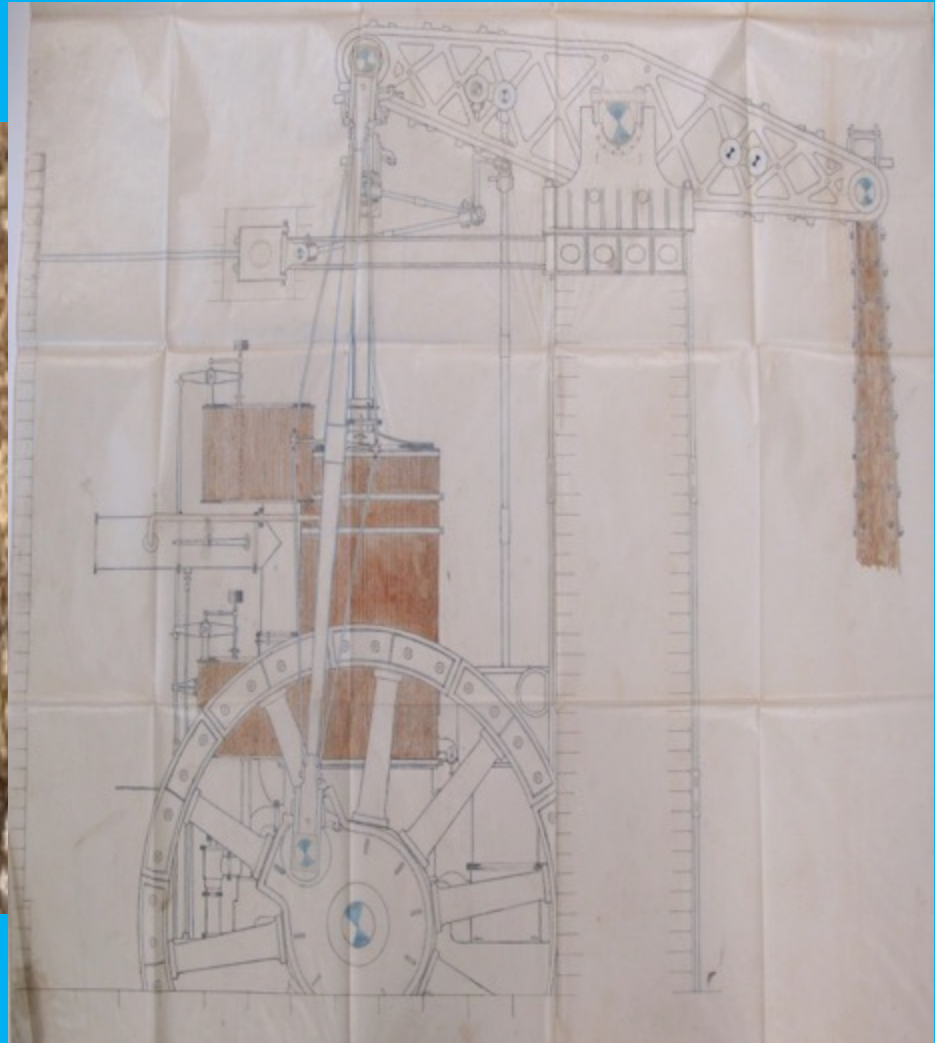


The President Today – West Facade



Photo – Connor, courtesy of Lehigh University

The President Then – Looking in the East Wall Door



The President Today – North or “Bob” Wall and Interior View (facing North and East Walls)

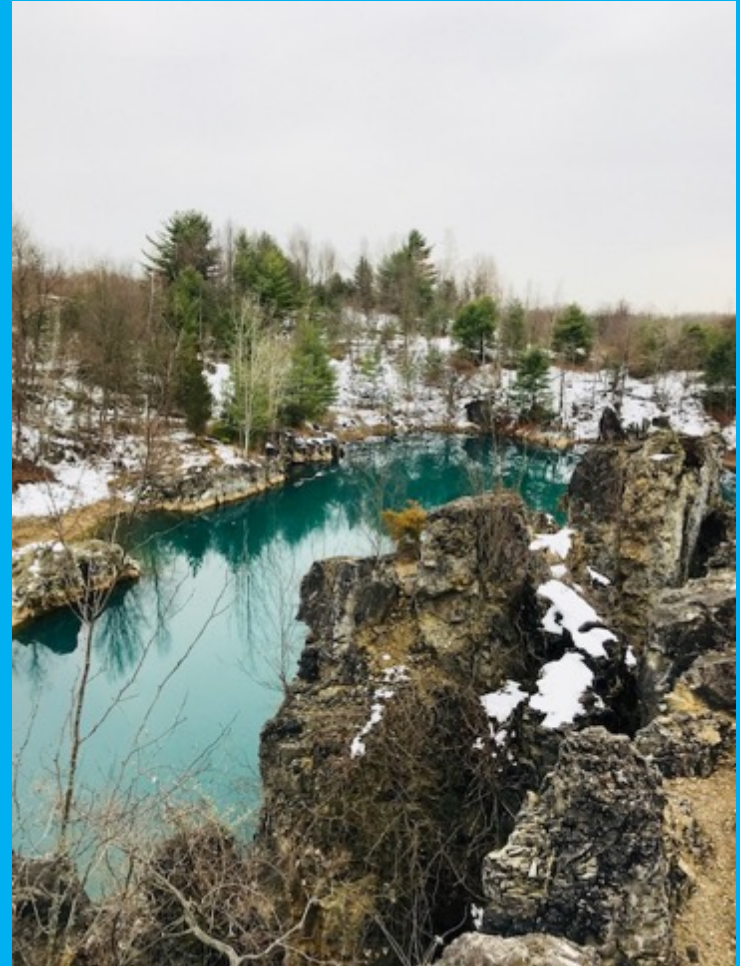


The Ueberroth Mine— A location of scenic beauty



Photos – Connor, courtesy of Lehigh University

The Ueberroth Mine— A location of scenic beauty



Photos – Connar, courtesy of Lehigh University

The Friedensville Mines – A Heritage Park Opportunity



Photos – Connor, courtesy of Lehigh University, Lafayette College, Moravian Church Archives, American Atelier Co

Landmark Location - Pumping Technology

First Municipal Waterworks in
the United States



Largest Stationary Single Cylinder
Engine in the World



Landmarks in Mechanical Engineering

Largest Stationary Beam Engine
in the World



Largest Beam Engine used in the
Mining Industry in the World



Landmarks in Mining Industry

Engine House in Australia



Engine House in United States



Engine House in Cornwall



Engine House in Mexico



Winter Scene – Ueberroth Mine and Its Cornish Engine House



What's Next ?

- Lehigh University has applied for a PA Historical and Museum Commission Preservation Grant to conduct a structural study of the engine house and to perform a cultural resource assessment as a prequel to future planning with Upper Saucon Township on the development of a heritage park.
- Lehigh students have been engaged in a cross discipline course to develop heritage park concepts and to “build” a virtual/augmented reality model of the President engine ;
- Work was done in Fall 2017 to remove destructive vegetation on the building walls and a protective fence has been installed around the engine house and pump shaft.

The President Today



Chronology – The President Engine

- January 1869 – Contract Signed For Engine Build (Lehigh Zinc and Merrick & Sons).
- January 1872 – President Start Up Ceremony
- 1872 to October 1876 – Operating Period #1 (Lehigh Zinc Company)
- March 1884 to Unknown 1885 – Operating Period #2 (Friedensville Zinc)
- July 1885 – Engine Restarted for Demonstration to Philadelphia Water Authority
- March 1886 to September 1886 – Operating Period #3 (Friedensville Zinc)
- September 1890 to July 1891 – Operating Period #4 (Friedensville Zinc)
- July 1891 – One of walking beams broke
- March 1900 to August 1900 – Engine demolition
- July 1901 – President Boilers removed from site

The President Pumping Engine – Tell Me More

Contact:

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