

Steel Cities: Tradition, Transition and Transformation

1st CALL FOR PAPERS

Sheffield, June 29th - July 2nd 2006

Steel and Tourism

The steel rails of the world's railways provided the basic infrastructure for early modern tourism. Today, old iron and steel works provide sites for leisure tourism. Steel as both a fundamental, functional, interior fabric and a symbolic, highly visible substance permeates the structures, flows, practices and narratives of contemporary tourism. Indeed steel, though not exclusively, can be viewed as a pre-condition for modern international tourism.

As part of the wider programme of the Steel Cities Conference - see below - we invite researchers from all disciplines to reflect upon the function, form and emblematic nature of steel within tourism in past, present and future contexts. Indicative themes of interest include:

- Material diasporas: trade, tourism and the diffusion of material culture
- Tourism and imaginaries of steel making: Between nostalgia and fantasy
- Technological innovation in the structures and mobilities of international tourism and hospitality
- Steel 'works' - tourism and the problems and possibilities of urban regeneration
- Alchemists, Blacksmiths and Magicians: Travel and the diffusion of knowledge
- Excalibur or the metaphorical journey from stone to iron: Travel, popular culture and pragmatic narratives of iron and steel

Please send abstracts of no more than 500 words by January 13th 2006 to: mike.robinson@shu.ac.uk

Professor Mike Robinson
Director, Centre for Tourism and Cultural Change - UK
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change
(www.channelviewpublications.com)

Please visit Please visit:
<http://www.shef.ac.uk/english/natcect/steelcities> and www.tourism-culture.com