



About the International Cycling History Conferences

This series of International Cycling History Conferences was initiated in Glasgow in 1990, when Nick Clayton decided to use the occasion of the presumed Macmillan anniversary to draw attention to a more scientific approach to cycling history than could otherwise be expected at a celebration commemorating such a rather speculative event.

From these very modest beginnings evolved a truly international series of annual conferences, attended by cycling historians from around the world and organized in a different country each year.

The preceding series of conferences were held as follows:

- Glasgow, Scotland, 1990;
- Saint-Etienne, France, 1991;
- Neckarsulm, Germany, 1992;
- Boston, USA, 1993;
- Cambridge, England, 1994;
- Stellenbosch, South Africa, 1995;
- Buffalo, USA, 1996;
- Glasgow, Scotland, 1997;
- Ottawa, Canada, 1998;
- Nijmegen, Netherlands, 1999;
- Osaka, Japan, 2000;
- San Remo, Italy, 2001;
- Muenster, Germany, 2002;
- Canberra, Australia, 2003;
- Vienna, Austria, 2004; and
- York, Ontario, Canada, 2006.

Since Tampere, the 18th Conference was held in St-Etienne, France, and the 19th Conference is scheduled to be held at Freehold, NJ, USA in July 2009.

Bicycle History

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Proceedings of the 18th International Cycling History Conference

Tampere, Finland, 1–4 August 2007

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About the 18th International Cycling History Conference

The 2007 International Cycling History Conference, the 18th in the series, was held August 1 through 4 in the Finnish city Tampere. Hosted at the Vapriikki museum complex, the conference and additional program were superbly organized by Mikko Kylliäinen and Markku Lahtinen and their team of devoted volunteers and museum staff, who kept things running like clockwork.

This being our first venture out into a country not generally known around the world as a hotbed of cycling history, it was gratifying for all of us to see how history is made, and researched, almost everywhere, and how different venues help expand the understanding of an object's historical significance. Of particular interest was the way the Finns had managed to keep the once industrial city of Tampere vibrant by filling many of the old factory buildings and their sites with new life, while maintaining their historical relevance.

The Conference has now established a firm reputation as a forum where academics, bicycle industry professionals, and amateur historians alike can share and extend their knowledge and historical insights into the technology and the industry, as well as the sport and the social impact of cycling as an activity.