

Pre-programme

The international heritage of the water industry Historic values of supply and treatment networks

TICCIH thematic conference

Museu Agbar de les Aigües
Barcelona, Spain
13 and 14 April, 2018

The modern infrastructure to supply water and to remove and treat waste was retro-fitted to towns and cities across the world, pulling them back from a sanitary crisis which was threatening to make life intolerable. Faced with industrialisation, miserable living conditions and repeated epidemics, water supply systems and drainage networks were devised and incorporated into urban landscapes. The impressive quality of their engineering and architectural design show how important they were for the societies of the time, and many continue to make a vital contribution to living conditions today.

The TICCIH thematic conference on the heritage of the water industry will put the water industry infrastructure into its historic technological and social context, examine the origins of the technical solutions that were developed, and compare how they were applied in different industrial cities around the world.

Presentations by international experts will examine how this historic infrastructure should be valued, and consider what is most significant about the heritage of the water industry. The conference is the concluding part of a thematic comparative study undertaken by TICCIH to define criteria which can be used to assess the heritage of the water industry and to identify its outstanding sites, including those which might be inscribed on the World Heritage list - dams, reservoirs and water towers, aqueducts, waterworks and pumping stations, filter and treatment works, and the networks of pipes and mains which connect them all together.

Inscription: The inscription web site will be on line from 1 November. Full inscription will include the conference with lunch and refreshments, simultaneous translation (English/Catalan/Spanish), and the post-conference guided tour of historic water industry sites in Barcelona.

Organising committee: Sònia Hernández, Glòria González i Agnès Fort (MAA), Eusebi Casanelles and James Douet

Scientific committee: Sònia Hernández (Directora, MAA), Eusebi Casanelles (Spain, Life President, TICCIH), James Douet (UK, TICCIH), Rolf Höhmann (TICCIH Germany), Stephen Hughes (UK, Secretary TICCIH), Dr Šárka Jiroušková (Czech Republic), Prof. José Manuel Lopez Cordeiro (TICCIH Portugal), Professor Patrick Martin (USA, President TICCIH), Dr Manel Martin (Spain), Prof Massimo Preite (TICCIH Italy), Professor Susan Ross (Canada), Prof Jorge Tartarini (Argentina)

Provisional programme

Friday, 13 April

8.30 - 9.00	<i>Registration and translation headsets</i>	
9.00	<i>Welcome</i>	Sònia Hernández, director of the Museu Agbar de les Aigües
9.30	<i>Inaugural presentation:</i> The water industry and the urban sanitary crisis	Professor Martin Melosi, Director of the Center for Public History, University of Houston, USA
10.15	What is significant about the water heritage? The TICCIH comparative study of the water industry	James Douet
10.45	Pre-industrial technology for water supply: Augsburg, Germany	Rolf Höhmann, Büro für Industriearchäologie, Darmstadt, Germany
11.30	<i>Coffee</i>	
12.00	Supply, storage and access to water in preindustrial cities: Istanbul	Professor Noyan Dinçkal, University of Siegen, Germany
12.45	Water and waste infrastructure in the industrial city: Barcelona	Dr Manel Martin,
13.30	<i>Lunch</i>	
15.00	Technology transfer and water architecture: Buenos Aires	Dr Jorge Tartarini, Director of the Museo del Agua, Palacio de las Aguas Corrientes, Argentina
15.45	The heritage of water treatment: Prague	Dr Šárka Jiroušková, Administrator of the Old Wastewater Treatment Plant, Bubeneč
16.30	Round table: questions and discussion	Stephen Hughes, TICCIH Secretary, and speakers
18.00 - 20.00	<i>Refreshments, and guided visit to the exhibition in the former pumping station.</i>	

Saturday, 14 April

Guided visit

- Casa de les Aigües steam engine and pumping station, Montcada
- Casa de l'Aigua pumping station, Trinitat Nova i Vella
- Torre de les Aigües del Besòs, Poble Nou
- Dipòsit de les Aigües, Parc de la Ciutadella
- Torreó del Tibidabo water tower