

Cities and Historic Textile Complexes Typology, Good Practice, and Global Perspectives for Conservation

24th of April 2020, Video-conference 9:30am – 5.30 pm

Part I: Introduction, basic principles, and concepts

Norbert Tempel: Welcome by TICCIH

Heike Oevermann: Historic urban textile mills. Conservation and conversion

Mark Watson / Bartosz Walszak: Leading questions and discussion



Leading questions and discussion:

Do we need a glossary consisting of different languages?

Do we need a bibliography?

Are there people interested in participating in the textile session in Montreal at the next TICCIH conference?

Industrial heritage is slightly different to other forms of heritage due to the necessity to find new uses and the challenge of not being regarded as beautiful heritage.

We need to find new uses for the building to preserve them, but this is at the cost of authenticity. That means we have to identify those features which are crucial for the cultural values and preserve those. We need to prioritize research on typologies and identify the important mills with contributions to the global textile industry. Furthermore, we should preserve interesting buildings. Finally, we should include the postwar buildings.

Production halls of the 20th century do not survive as textile mills and need bigger transformation to be adaptively reused, but as we see with UCO-Mäisstraat it is possible. We need good examples.

One of the factors which are helping us now in heritage conservation and conversion is the climate change argument, we can save the embodied energy, especially where there is concrete. More buildings, also the unrecognized sheds and halls, are now considered for adaptive reuse than in the past. This is good news for a new life for textile mills.

UCO-Mäiststraat is easier to adapt to modern standards due to the rational concrete structure. It is now adapted to social economy.

The purpose production halls are inflexible, they might become a warehouse; UCO is a new example.

Part II: Urban industrial typology and good practice

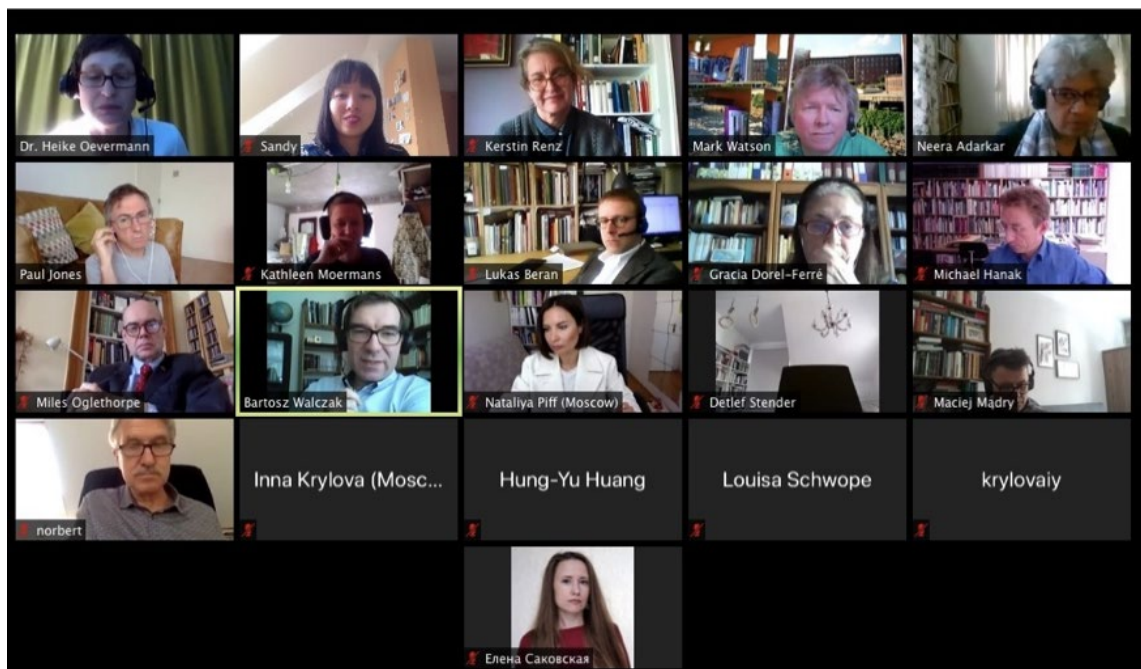
Historic urban landscapes and textile complexes, from Manchester to Łódź

Moderator Heike Oevermann

Kathleen Moermanns: Future of mills in Ghent

Julia Sowińska-Heim: Łódź, identity and conservation

Discussing typology and good practices



Chat during presentation:

Mark Watson :

I like the lightwells in the Poznanski Mill introducing light into the centre of the hotel in Lodz. Architects can introduce light where it wasn't before, and show sections through floors. Technical issues to be addressed include stopping the mill from springing apart!

Bliss tweed mill in Chipping Norton now apartments is on the cover of a book published in Japan! but which post-war buildings are best and will they survive? We have one in Dundee of 1949 which is listed, stopped spinning jute in 1998, and is now apartments, mostly new build, behind two facades. Taybank Works.

Bartosz Walczak :

We need criteria to evaluate buildings from all the stages of industrial development.

Mark Watson :

The TICCIH book 'Industrial Heritage Retooled' has a chapter on the embodied energy saved when a building is re-used. The Greenest building is the one already built.

Bartosz Walczak :

Is a time capsule better than an evolving structure adjusted to new technologies?

Kathleen Moermans :

Criteria as representativity, ensemble value, authenticity, intactness.

Mark Watson :

we need some time capsules managed by museums, and we need landscapes that contain adaptively re-used buildings and are thriving

Bartosz Walczak :

In other words the value of being singular and the value of being generic. But, as I mentioned it happens that re-use opportunities are not in line with cultural values

Norbert :

The value of saving a structure in an urban brownfield

Mark Watson :

Boiler House and Engine House is correct, even if it is part of a building.

Mark Watson :

ERIH proposes a meeting in Ghent in October 2020, hosted by MIAT (which has a new name). I hope we can travel again by then!

Louisa Schwöpe :

Does anybody know whether a municipal spatial implementation plan is something like a Bebauungsplan in German?

Norbert :

Perhaps: „Flächennutzungsplan“

Mark Watson :

conversion back to industry would be quite unusual

Bartosz Walczak :

there some fine examples of conversions from textiles to other industrial uses

Mark Watson :

I think mixed uses and many tenants are better than single uses because they can last longer if something changes. Spatial planning doesn't need to be about zoning. Beehive cotton mills in Bolton Greater Manchester had been a mail order warehouse for twenty years, and were listed buildings but they were demolished last year after that business moved to another part of England, with grants.

Mark Watson :

High taxes (business rates) become a reason to destroy buildings. "It went on fire, as they say in Glasgow" (Private Eye). Then the empty site has no tax to pay, and the embodied energy is lost. The Ghent policy on VAT is very good. A new house in UK pays no VAT, but repairs and changes to existing buildings cost another 20% and we were told that the EU is at fault!

Mark Watson :

Ancoats in Manchester always was a mixture of houses and factories. It should not be seen as only for industry, especially as most industry has moved and closed. It is a conservation area too, in part, and used to be on the UK tentative list for world heritage nomination. Manchester changed its mind and withdrew this proposal when it saw UNESCO criticize development at Liverpool WHS.

Discussion after presentation:

Which kind of new uses are allowed due to zoning and planning laws at Ghent textile mill areas? At the moment just industry. Who owns / owned the mills? Some were private and kept to be private a few were bought by the city. Are there fiscal incentives? High taxes have to be paid for leaving buildings empty. There are also subsidies to demolish buildings, but also others to conserve. Is there a regime that promotes sustainable development? Yes, in Genth you have to pay 20% VAT for new constructions, but only 6 % for renovation/ conservation. The situation in UK: there is no VAT for new constructions and 20-25% for renovation/ conservation.

How is the urban growth demand for mix-uses? The demand for housing, especially social housing is high, but also schools, shops etc. Ancoats, Manchester has adapted to a mixed-use community, industry has ended up, so the question is: How can a city resist or fight against this transformation?

The strategic regeneration framework from the early 2000s empathised on economic growth, mix use and additional housing and identified Ancoats for that.

To sum up, the macro and micro scale of urban planning and building treatment have to be considered together. The outcome of the virtual conference might show some good practices.

Mark Watson:

This Poznanski I think <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ssokolowki/49205682947/in/pool-lodz/>

Such temporary 'mean time' uses like "Secret Door" festival locations in Edinburgh (a cinema, a roads depot and some arches in different years) are good to get grass roots interested but then people as

Prof Walczak says may become angry if that changes to a more commercial use, and then developers are reluctant to lend space, and pay council tax on it. Gentrification is inevitable and has to be welcomed (controversial point). In CZ the biennale festival temporary uses of industrial sites give good examples for us.

Kathleen Moermans :

Temporary uses of building is often used in Ghent to try out functions. The city learned a lot and nowadays they make a contract with the temporary users in terms of time, adaptations to the (heritage) buildings, uses etc...

Heike Oevermann :

The Project is called Off Piotrkowska.

Mark Watson :

Lodz is a fantastic place with mills embedded all Along that very long street, its markets were Russian, being just inside the Russian border until 1914-1920. I have already changed my mind. Gentrification needs to be encouraged in the places we are discussing. it is not inevitable but should be a target to make a place a desirable than it had been.

Norbert :

In Switzerland they use a tool named „Zwischennutzung“ (intermediate use) to safeguard industrial structures. www.zwischennutzung.ch

Bartosz Walczak :

@Norbert, yes and in other countries there are similar programmes like "stalled spaces" in Scotland

Mark Watson :

numbers of looms, hand and power looms, I think or spindles more likely with those numbers?
Hidden Door festival in Edinburgh is a very short term public use. run by a colleague in spare time

Discussion after presentation:

This is a clear statement to the social values of the community-driven adaptive reuse of Off Piotrkowska. At the same time the owner used the grassroots development as a strategy to overcome difficult financial times and to make the site widely known; and that development model worked quite successful.

Three years ago, the owner wanted to return to his original plans to develop offices and caused a conflict. This show how the grassroots development is part of a business plan and not a heritage conservation programme.

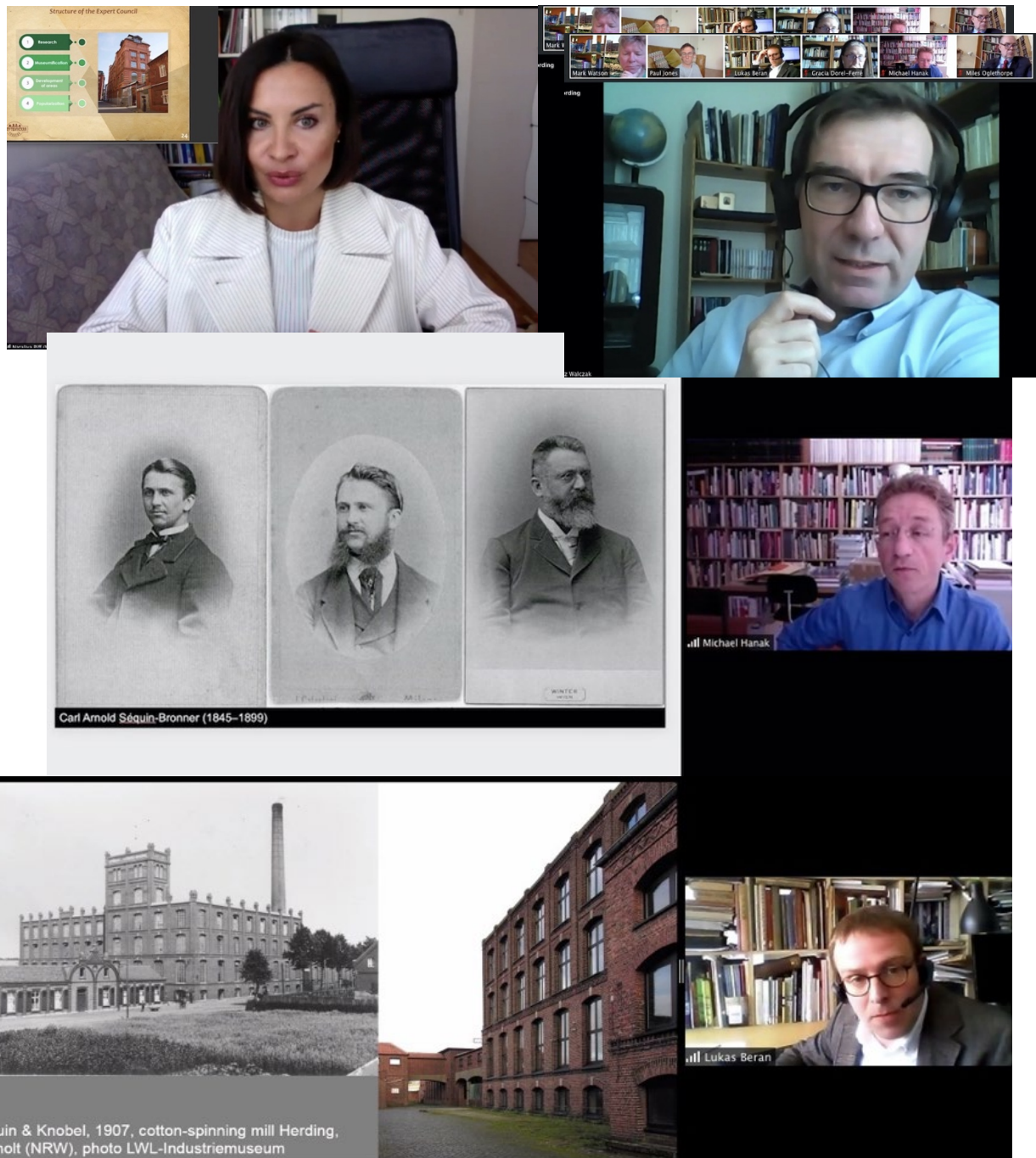
Part II: Urban industrial typology and good practice Historic urban landscapes and textile complexes, from Manchester to Łódź

Moderator Bartosz Walczak

Mrs Piff / Andrey Ogirenko: Issues of preservation of textile manufactories of Moscow and Central Russia: from concept to creation of historical clusters

Lukáš Beran / Michael Hanak: Carl Arnold Séquin-Bronner, the common denominator

Discussing typology and good practices



Structure of the Expert Council

- 1. President
- 2. Vice-President
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. Members

Carl Arnold Séquin-Bronner (1845-1899)

Séquin & Knobel, 1907, cotton-spinning mill Herding, Bocholt (NRW), photo LWL-Industriemuseum

Participants in the video conference: Mark V, Mark Watson, Paul Jones, Lukas Beran, Gracia Dorel-Ferre, Michael Hanak, Miles Ogilthorpe, Bartosz Walczak, Michael Hanak, Lukas Beran.

Chat during the presentation:

Mark Watson :

What an amazing range of very positive projects in Russia! Well done!

Mahdavinejad :

Great.

Mark Watson :

Is Nevka thread factory in St Petersburg the one that was owned by Scottish firm Coats and Clark before 1917? Does it still work? And does the Thornton wool mill in St Petersburg (linked to Bradford England) also still exist?

Miles Oglethorpe :

I was very honored and fortunate to be invited to St Petersburg last November as TICCIH President and personally met members of the Expert Council (including Inna and Andrey). The range of projects and their quality is amazing, and we look forward to working together with our Russian colleagues in the future! Very inspiring.

Bartosz Walczak :

Nevka has been already converted to my knowledge, but the mill in Lodz is still operational.

Mark Watson :

also the Stieglitz flax mill in Ivangorod built by William Fairbairn looked to have closed when I looked from the Estonian border. The manager escaped during the civil war and I have met his son, born in St Petersburg. Is there a future for it?

Norbert :

Ivangorod: is it the Kreenholm mill?

krylova iy :

No, Kreenholm in Narva. Ivangorod - mill by Stieglitz.

Norbert :

As I know it's owned by a Swedish company - is it still working?

Mark Watson :

No, I am now inside Kreenholm Mill [Mark refers to his virtual background] on the other side of the waterfall, still in Estonia, it closed in 2008 and an opera was performed in the mill yard last year. Ludwig Knoop was the owner before 1917, then a Swedish company.
I accept your invitation!

Discussion after the presentation:

First, the heritage status and ownership of textile mills in Russia were discussed. Unfortunately, only a few buildings are protected and what is more their partial (i.e. related to selected parts and features) protection is a commonplace. The majority of presented mills are private properties. Proper

conservation and sensitive adaptive re-use of these structures have been initiated and financed exclusively by the owners. Therefore, the budget of such projects and involvement of skillful architects depend on the strategy and intended final result. Then the issue of a market demand for such projects was raised. Apparently some uses are more in favour of potential users/tenants. For example lofts are sought after in nice areas of Moscow. Furthermore, business parks and thematic clusters are created with a particular focus on IT and cultural uses. There are some 40 buildings in the heart of Moscow, which have been successfully converted while the future of further 70 has not been determined yet. Another discussed topic was the current situation of a thread mill in St Petersburg originally owned by a Scottish company and now converted into housing. In addition, it was mentioned that mills in Moscow have been transformed to provide accommodation for some internationally recognized brands. This was achieved with the support from foreign architects and the importance of Austrian know-how was emphasized in particular. Finally, the significance of pedestrianization for the success of the mill conversion in Moscow was underpinned.

Chat during the presentation:

Bartosz Walczak :

Séquin-Bronner, Manz, See, Intze, Potts... I think we should include the role of such architectural practices in the technology transfer in our comparative study

Bartosz Walczak :

The roof like this was used for the largest weaving shed in Lodz, sadly demolished

Norbert :

The role of entrepreneurs like the German Knoop - selling textile machinery to dozens to hundreds of Russian textile works and holding part of their shares (until the revolution, only Kreenholm remained)

Mark Watson :

Was that Grohmann in Lodz? There are almost no flat roof sheds like that in UK. All the staff at Kreenholm in Narva spoke Russian, and some crossed the border daily. I bought a beer for my guide in 2001, arranged with the help of Jaan Valli of Estonian state heritage agency, who was surprised that I should want to go there. The loala spinning mill is behind me [Mark refers to his virtual background again], all the Kreenholm mills being named after popular singers. It was the biggest cotton spinner in Europe when it closed in 2008.

Bartosz Walczak :

@Mark - it was Scheibler weaving shed called Nowa Tkalnia

Lukas Beran :

Scheibler, indeed.

Mark Watson :

The Czech Industrial Topography map is an excellent resource! So let's expand it across borders!

Mark Watson :

TICCIH has a special section on company housing chaired by Gracia Dorrel-Ferrer

Mark Watson :

and Luigi Fontana ran a project on company towns. Sadly the website was hacked.

Discussion after the presentation:

The discussion on the role of Swiss architects was launched with the case of Finlayson mill in Tampere. Then it was clarified that a word “Rüti” (mentioned several times in the presentation) is a place name of a nowadays a suburb of Zurich but also of a machine factory which still exists. Machinery of this make was installed in mills throughout Europe, including mills in Dundee area.

The importance of topographic representation of industrial heritage was then underlined due to the numerous changes of national borders that have occurred since 19th century. This is one more reason for transnational studies. Another interesting question was the relationship between the architectural treatment of mill facades and their location in urban structures. It was stressed that opulent decoration was rather part of a corporate image than of a context, notion of which was not so important for architects in the 1900s.

However, architects were not only responsible for the appearance and structure of mills but also for the selection of machinery they were equipped with. Such an approach was typical not only for Swiss architects but also for their British counterparts. This rational, pragmatic way of designing was notable as early as the 1870s.

Then the discussion moved to the workers housing provided by factory owners, which was a necessity in remote locations. They were typically designed by the same architects who were responsible for the mill. There has been not enough research on this topic so far and it should be included within the transnational studies in the future, especially such strategy existed in a number of corners of the world. For example, there were at least six such complexes established in the Bombay area. Gracia Dorrel-Ferrer promised to give more information in this respect in due time.

Part II: Urban industrial typology and good practice


Historic urban landscapes and textile complexes, from Manchester to Łódź

Moderator Mark Watson


Kerstin Renz: Planned conversion: The weaving mill Otto in Wendlingen Maciej Mądry: Lost heritage: Linen industry on Lower Silesia

Discussing typology and good practices


Heinrich Otto Söhne (HOS)



Nürtingen – Main Plant
founded 1817
(Jubilee Heinrich Otto 1894)

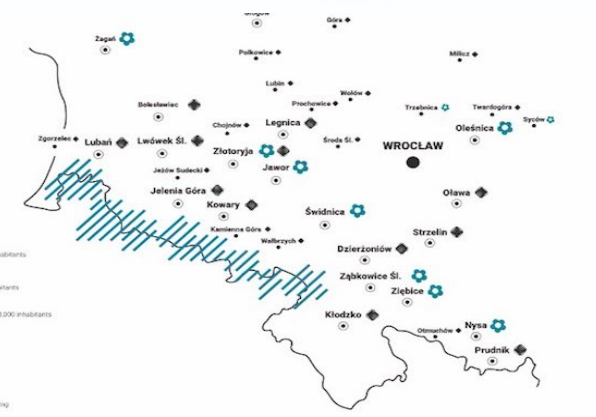



Unterboihingen – 2nd Plant
founded 1859




Wendlingen – 3rd Plant
founded 1885

Linenland
Linen growing and weavi
in the pre-industrial era (!)





Kerstin Renz



Maciej Mądry

Mark Watson :

Welcome back to the TICCIH Textile meeting. We are now hearing from Dr Kerstin Renz about the work of mill architect PJ Manz and the vertically integrated cotton firm HOS in Baden-Wuttemberg.

Chat during discussion:

Detlef Stender :

Ausrüstung means finishing (when Dr Renz says she does not know the English word)

Norbert :

Columns: Burgbacher Hütte near Saarbrücken/Saarland, not Luxemburg correct spelling: Burbacher Hütte

Mark Watson :

Robert Otto visited England and married Emma Engels, niece of the capitalist author of the Communist Manifesto!

Mahdavinejad :

Great.

Mark Watson :

Any questions by chat for Kerstin?

Bartosz Walczak :

Similar projects happen throughout whole Europe. This is kind of "taxidermic" or "stuffed animal" approach. What is the heritage status of the site?

Mark Watson :

I like better the old skeleton and new skin approach instead sometimes!

Bartosz Walczak :

@Mark - it is true, especially there are some mills notable for structural solutions not their external appearance

Miles Oglethorpe :

So much embodied energy lost if you only keep the skin...

Mahdavinejad :

Energy-Efficiency is a leading strategy for these kinds of cases, but in reality, it's not easy to supervise especially in enveloping countries. What's your opinion?

Bartosz Walczak :

Heritage as a fig leaf for a new development. In Poland due to heritage protection industrial buildings are expensive to convert, so they are mostly upmarket projects

Miles Oglethorpe :

Often, low-carbon is not really low-carbon – it depends how you calculate it...

Bartosz Walczak :

There is long tradition of this sustainable approach in favour of heritage protection, reaching back at least to the 1990s. While in other countries it is not so commonplace.

Discussion after the presentation:

Questions focused on the dramatic interventions proposed by the developer from Berlin, a taxidermic approach. Did it have anything to do with a sustainability strategy, a zero-energy strategy or just PR strategy/ green-washing? The power canal had been filed in as part of the work on an autobahn. But a new hydro power station is planned. HOS has 17 branches at intervals down the river and wanted the buyer to preserve the heritage of this mill.

The weaving shed of 1887 was driven by shafts below the floor, and the structure is wonderfully preserved. This type is known in Scotland from 1836-1880, but not after then. Is this unusual in Germany? Yes, it's the first seen here and is not at all seen in the Euskirchen area. It was considered very modern at the time. Is it and the spinning mill (30 m wide) a result of that

British influence or the needs of the machines? The best architectural façade of the mill faced fields and was enjoyed only by sheep,

Chat during discussion:

Mark Watson :

Now the Orzel flax mill near Wrocław in Lower Silesia in Poland is being presented by Maciej Mądry, in a region where 50% of people were linen weavers

Bartosz Walczak :

They continue production at a very small scale in Żyrardów (to a question about any continuing linen production: none in Lower Silesia, some workshops in the north east.).

Discussion after the presentation:

We heard that the linen industry has almost vanished from Poland. The listing of a building does not by itself secure its preservation: there needs to be active use and a will to make that possible. In Scotland, too, listed mills might get permission to be demolished, and also have represented war damage as a film set. Museums have not collected very much to do with the industry but the archives are very informative. An article by Piotr Gerber in *Industrial Archaeology Review* and now the photographs by Maciej are the legacy of the mill at Mislakowice.

Part III:

International context, transcultural dimensions, and living heritage

Neera Adarkar: The case study of Mumbai

Hassan Bazaz Zadeh / Adam Nadolny: Textile mills in Iran

Mark Watson: A review of the ICOMOS TICCIH Comparative Study

Heike Oevermann / Bartosz Walczak: Conclusion, open questions and further steps


CORREA COMMITTEE REPORT


2. RECYCLING INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE. The team identified 170 structures in 3 Types

A. For adaptive reuse:
'robust' structures for offices,
high tech industries,
artists' studios


B. For ensemble value
contributing to the character
of the place.

C. For demolition.







Neera Adarkar




ACCESSIBILITY



Hassan Bazaz zadeh





Mark Watson

Chat during presentation:

Mark Watson :

There is a lot of work to do in Mumbai! I think the Princes Trust has been there to give advice, from Cromford, and I know the Port of Mumbai has come here to investigate development in Scotland.

Discussion after presentation:

What can be given to the mill owners, so that some profit can be made? Or they would not be interested in other proposal.

The land was given on lease, the land was given to the mill owners only to run the mills and for that they have to give a part of the share to the locals now.

Are there good examples in India? There is a plan to do a mill museum, but the plans are not widely communicated.

How is the relationship between the producing industry and the abandoned mill (owners)? The problem is the rising price of the land.

Chat during presentation:

Bartosz Walczak :

I am losing the signal... the connection is very poor in here. I might be unable to stay with you until the conclusion. In such case I just would like to thank you for this virtual meeting

Mark Watson :

Thank you for joining us Bartek. the Behrens building in Isfahan is fascinating.

Discussion after presentation:

The name of the German supervisor in Isfahan is Max Otto Schönmann. How is he connected to Peter Behrens? We see similarities of the buildings, that's why I guess that Schönmann was influenced by Behrens.

Appropriate reuse are done, such as textile museums and other functions, but there are still many and the industry itself is a main actor for reuse. Furthermore, there are also NGO's and universities involved in safeguarding and bringing them back to life.

Are the former workers involved? Some yes, other no, as the factories are closed for a long time (30 years). We need a good network today, also to understand the transnational aspects of that heritage, the historic knowledge transfer or the historic networks, etc..

What was the product of the factory? That was not carpet, but textiles for cloths.

Is there a survey of the mills in Iran in English? No, unfortunately not, but this is needed.

Chat during presentation:

Maciej Mądry :

Dear participants, thank you for today's meeting. I hope that my presentation was as interesting to you as yours to me. I hope to see you all in reality. In better times! Greetings!

Bartosz Walczak :

Apart from number of spindles and looms, building dimensions might be of importance.

Norbert :

There have been also looms for weaving steel wire.

Miles Oglethorpe :

Yes, there was one near where I am right now in Granton, Edinburgh.... (Closed a few years ago).

Bartosz Walczak :

So, maybe ropemaking as well?

Kathleen Moermans :

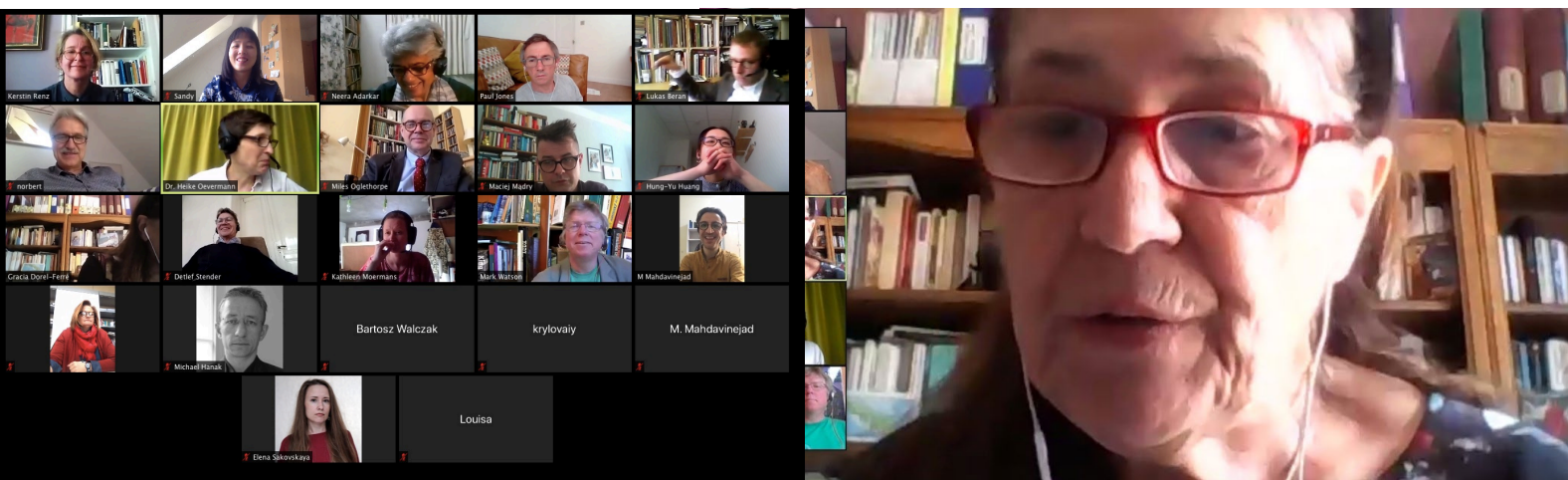
What is the name of this book?

Mark Watson :

Ves rope making is still done in Chatham dockyard on the UK tentative list, time capsule, living heritage in a bigger site. Richard Byrom: "William Fairbairn the Experimental Engineer" 2017 published by the Railway and Canal Historical Society. I have his email address- Byrom not Fairbairn.

Discussion after presentation:

There is the importance of good practice examples.



Bartosz Walczak :

@Heike short but explicit summary!

Hung-Yu Huang :

Thank you so much! It's my pleasure to attending this online meeting. I heard so many interesting practices and learn a lot from the cases today. :)

Mark Watson :

Please let me know if you want to join us in Montreal!

Bartosz Walczak :

Bye bye

M. Mahdavinejad :

Bye to everyone. Hope to see all of you in Iran

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