



# TICCIH Membership Testimonials

## WHY I'M IN TICCIH . . .

*Francesco Antonioli, founder and CEO of Virginia Associate Studio, National Board of AIPAI, and organiser of the global videoconference Industrial Heritage in the Covid19 Aftermath*

I have known the TICCIH since 2006, the year in which the XIII Congress was held in Terni, Italy. I had recently finished the Master in Conservation, Management and Enhancement of Industrial Heritage and this was the first opportunity to showcase the activities I had recently undertaken. The interest in that event, experienced as a collaborator of the organization, was particular and it was generated above all by the great variety of disciplines involved in it and the different background of the participants.

Almost 15 years later, as a new member, I appreciate that interdisciplinarity, variety of approaches and sensitivity, characteristics that can hardly be achieved in a single national association.

My work interests, in a strict sense – I am an archivist and industrial heritage consultant dealing with business archives, document management, historical research and brand heritage, as well as industrial tourism and museum exhibitions and itineraries - but also in a broader sense as a means for the development of communication and enhancement strategies, leads me to consider membership of TICCIH as an opportunity to deepen these themes. I would appreciate very much that we organize ourselves to give, for example, a definitive contribution to the interpretation, description and enhancement of business archives; this kind of heritage can often be considered as secondary to the architectural and technical one.

I therefore desire TICCIH to become a space for discussion on these issues too, a community in which, starting from different disciplinary traditions we can deal with issues such as:



**FRANCESCO ANTONIOLI**

- method: how to deal with complex documentaries originating from the world of work, how they are described, what are the common characteristics, such as discontinuity, what is essential and what can be selected for discarding purposes;

- standardization of the method itself (we must be able to communicate and recognize the values on which we carry out our research and description activities);

- sharing good practices in the event of an emergency in order to ensure that these assets are not dispersed but are made safe for the sake of knowledge and enhancement actions, which hopefully will be near in the future.

Obviously, all this, seasoned with a healthy light-heartedness, which can give us joy and make pleasant the dialogue in dealing with them.

## WHY JOIN TICCIH?

*Moulshri Joshi, architect, Space Matters Studio*

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I'm sharing my experience as a way to extend an invitation to join TICCIH.

I live in New Delhi where over the past 5 years, for reasons of environment and economy, vast tracts of industrial landscapes have ceased to perform their original function. Powerplants lining the Yamuna riverfront occupying prime real estate are now defunct and their impressive architecture- as reminder of when we furiously built a modern, post-independence nation with machines - that has captured the public space and memory for generations. Should these be allowed to rust away? Or redeveloped and replaced by condos or office blocks? What do we lose or gain as a city?

Membership to TICCIH gives a platform to those interested in this conversation, when practice and academia in India have not yet established IH and IA as a dedicated field of study. More importantly it offers space that does not see the study and the practice as distinct, and provides a network for professionals and enthusiasts alike to come together and connect. I have found young professionals from backgrounds such as design, urban studies, history and cultural heritage management to have benefitted immensely from the unique repository of IH that TICCIH brings together. At the same time I have personally gained as a professional from the diversity of membership TICCIH brings together, truly underscoring the interdisciplinary nature of this subject. Participation in TICCIH meetings and congresses have sculpted a global worldview during my early years as an IH practitioner, I could forge connections with members across cultures and feel a part of a collective – giving me a sense that we were together building a new field of knowledge from our individual experiences.

India is a recent member to TICCIH. Our membership has grown



**MOULSHRI JOSHI**

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manifold in the past two years in part due to sustained efforts by a handful of us to make TICCIH visible in professional networks such as ICOMOS as well as in response to the reduced membership fee. Building the membership is crucial for us to construct and communicate the meaning of industrial landscapes facing demolition. Last year, TICCIH's timely intervention in the impending destruction of historic Watson's Hotel, last surviving cast iron housing structure, located within the core property area of the WH precinct of The Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai, was instrumental in establishing a need for its preservation. TICCIH India's first institutional member Indian Steam Railways Society sees the subscription as a way to conceptually expand its work from steam into industrial heritage, from super-speciality to a broader contextual appreciation.

Over a decade ago, Jan af Geijerstam reported about "The need for TICCIH to act in Asia" in TICCIH Bulletin 2009. It remains equally pertinent read today to grow this unique network.

*Moulshri Joshi is the Coordinator of National Scientific Committee on Industrial heritage, ICOMOS India and Advisory Board member, Asian Network of Industrial Heritage.*

## WHY I JOINED TICCIH

*Lucía Sánchez Figueroa, Venezuela TICCIH Coordinator*

I had never heard the term industrial heritage until 2009. I was working as a heritage architect for the Venezuelan petroleum industry, PDVSA, rehabilitating industrial infrastructures, but solely from the architectural point of view. At that time the study of industrial heritage was totally unknown in Venezuela. Nevertheless, in July 2009 we were invited to the conference 'Industrial heritage: Landscapes from the memory', organized by the Spanish network IBERTUR, and everything changed for me. Industrial heritage was the missing link for my work, and personally, it comprehended the two main points of interest that I have since I was studying architecture, that is, heritage and urban design.

I began looking for 4th level studies on the subject and found that there were none in Venezuela. During my search I found in 2010, a specialization course on industrial technical and scientific heritage from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and I decided to join. Among the professors there I met the museum director Eusebi Casanelles, then president of TICCIH. It was the first time I heard its name, the importance of that association and the need of being on constant communication, or networking. After obtaining the maximum grade on that course with my essay on Venezuelan petroleum industrial heritage, the course director, Antoni Roca Rosell, he gave me a recommendation letter and encouraged me to be a part of the scholarship Erasmus Mundus for the master's degree 'Technique, heritage and industrial territories' which I won, so I began studying in 2011.



**LUCÍA SÁNCHEZ FIGUEROA**

Most of the professors there were members of the TICCIH so I felt that it was time for me to join. Reading the TICCIH Bulletin allowed me to know about industrial heritage all over the world and it gave me access to a whole professional network that was really diverse. So I got the chance to create the TICCIH Venezuela, always with the support from the TICCIH International board members, which always are unconditionally and selflessly helpful towards me. Therefore, I know that we are on the right track of putting Venezuela on the global network of Industrial heritage studies, and want to encourage everyone to join this inspiring association.



**JOIN TICCIH TODAY!**



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