

## **The first systematic research of industrial heritage in China:**

### ***Comprehensive Research on the Preservation System of Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in China (5 volumes)***

《中国城市近现代工业遗产保护体系研究》（5卷）



**Editor-in-Chief: XU Subin 徐苏斌**

**Publisher: China City Press** (National central-level publishing house headed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of the People's Republic of China)

**Publication Date: May.2021**

#### **1. Background and introduction**

In the mid-1980s, the worldwide industrial restructuring began to spread to China, and the industrial structure of these cities rapidly changed from traditional industries to new industries and service industries. The urban functional layout entered a period of rapid transformation, which also brought the urgent question of the industrial heritage development of the cities. In April 2006, the first China Industrial Heritage Conservation Forum was held in Wuxi, Zhejiang, which became an essential point in the development of China's industrial heritage conservation, and the "Wuxi Proposal" was published, officially opening the prelude to the research and conservation of China's industrial heritage.

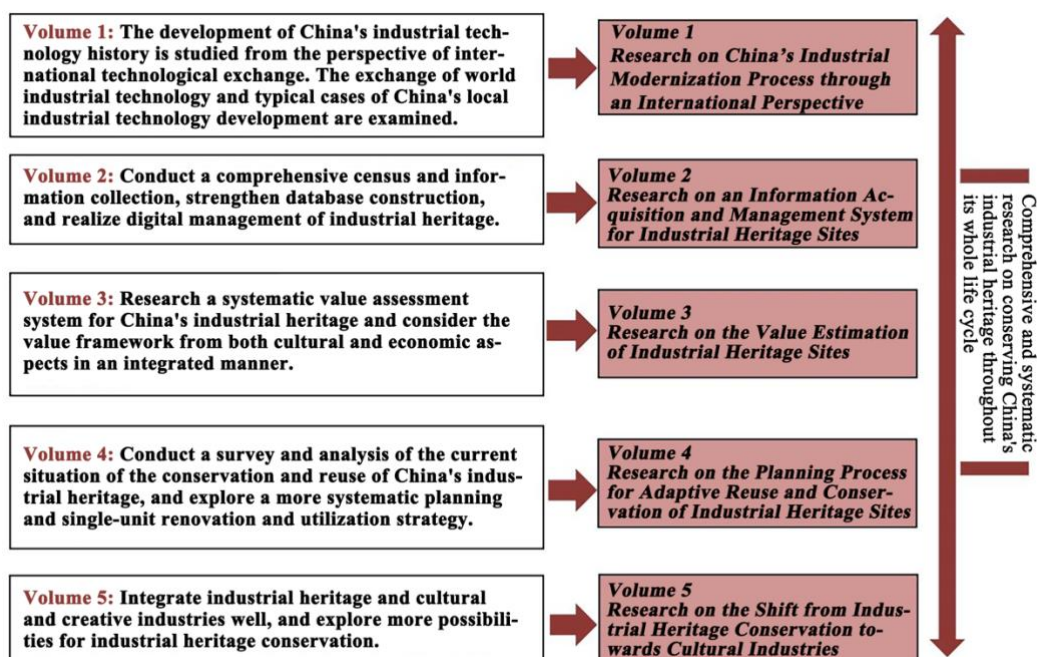
Since then, research on China's industrial heritage has started, and many academic societies, scholars, and professional practitioners have begun to explore theories and conservation practices related to industrial heritage. It has been nearly 20 years since studying China's industrial heritage began with fragmentary and partial research. It has comprehensively examined the development and addressed the urgent need for the preservation and reuse of China's industrial heritage.

The Comprehensive Research on the Preservation System of Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in China (5 volumes) is a set of books on the systematic study of China's industrial heritage in the context of the urgent need for the protection and reuse of China's industrial heritage. It is the achievement of the National Social Science Major Project "Study on the Protection System of Modern Industrial Heritage in Chinese Cities" (12&ZD230). It is one of the most comprehensive and systematic research on conserving China's industrial heritage throughout its whole life cycle.

During the research, it received rolling funding from the National Social Science Foundation of China and was granted accreditation-free in the final project measurement. **In December 2022, it won the Outstanding Award (the highest award) of the CTTI (China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center at Nanjing University) for Excellence in Think Tank Research 2022.**

## 2. Research content

The study and conservation of China's industrial heritage is a relatively new research field, and with the transformation and upgrading of industries, the industrial heritage is gradually receiving widespread attention. This set of books sets five core issues as the subject of in-depth exploration, corresponding to the content of the five volumes of the series.



**(1) Volume 1, *Research on China's Industrial Modernization Process through an International Perspective***

**(第一卷《国际化视野下中国的工业近代化研究》)**



Volume 1 studies the history of modern China's industrial development. It explains the characteristics of China's modern industrial development from several typical perspectives, including the transition from tradition to modernity, the study of cross-cultural exchange, the plurality of modern industry, industrial heritage and urban construction, and the history of technology as physical evidence, emphasizing the role of physical evidence and human beings in the transmission of technology, advancing industrial history to the study of industrial heritage history, establishing a physical evidence bridge between history and conservation, and laying the foundation for value assessment and conservation and reuse.

**(2) Volume 2 , *Research on an Information Acquisition and Management System for Industrial Heritage Sites***  
**(第二卷《工业遗产信息采集与管理体制研究》)**



Volume 2 is divided into two parts: the first part examines the spatial visualization of modern industry from a historical perspective. It includes the spatial and temporal evolution and overall distribution pattern of modern Chinese industry from 1840 to 1949, the spatial expression of industrial characteristics of modern Chinese industry, and the spatial reconstruction of modern industrial transformation and regional industrial economy. The second part studies the construction of the information collection and management system of Chinese industrial heritage. The group establishes three levels of information collection framework, including the construction and application of information management system at the national level, the construction and application of information management system at the city level, the construction and application of information management system at the heritage ontology level, and finally the construction and application of BIM information model at heritage ontology level.

### ***(3) Volume 3, Research on the Value Assessment of Industrial Heritage Sites***

**(第三卷《工业遗产价值评估研究》)**



Volume 3 studies the theoretical arrangement and reconstruction of industrial heritage value. It includes the conception of the general framework of industrial heritage assessment, the supplementary discussion on the framework of industrial heritage value, the cultural science assessment of cultural capital - the study of the Guidelines for the Assessment of Industrial Heritage Value in China, the interpretation of the core value of industrial heritage - the technology of ten industries values, and an attempt to measure willingness to pay with TCM from the perspective of the economic evaluation of cultural capital. It examines the value assessment of industrial heritage from both cultural and economic perspectives and provides a reference for further in-depth assessment of the value of industrial heritage.

**(4) Volume 4, *Research on the Planning Process for Adaptive Reuse and Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites***  
(第四卷《工业遗产保护与适应性再利用规划设计研究》)



Volume 4 studies the current status of a series of conservation and reuse related to industrial heritage in China, from urban planning to urban design and architectural conservation. This study examines the current status of industrial heritage reuse in China, including the general development of industrial heritage reuse in China, an empirical study on the integration of multiple regulations for industrial heritage conservation planning, an empirical study on industrial heritage design in major Chinese cities, and an interview with Chinese architects on industrial heritage reuse design, which summarizes the experience of respecting the authenticity of heritage and bringing into play creativity and provides a reference for further conservation and reuse of industrial heritage.

**(5) Volume 5 , *Research on the Shift from Industrial Heritage Conservation towards Cultural Industries*  
(第五卷《从工业遗产保护到文化产业转型研究》)**



Volume 5 is an empirical study on various issues transforming China's industrial heritage into cultural and creative industries. Through the research of China's cultural industry, this study shows the current reality of China's creative industry, including the theoretical and background research on the integration of industrial heritage and cultural industry, the regional development overview of the integration of industrial heritage conservation and cultural industry, the analysis of the motives of cultural industry in choosing industrial heritage as a spatial carrier, the analysis of the motives of industrial heritage in choosing cultural industry as a reuse mode, the industrial heritage conservation and cultural industry The empirical study on the integration of industrial heritage protection and cultural industry, the investigation report of Beijing Cultural and Creative Industrial Park, and the investigation report of Tianjin No.3 Cotton Mill's Neighborhood, etc., discussed how China can sustainably utilize industrial heritage and combine it with cultural and creative industries to achieve a win-win situation of protection and development, and move towards a creative city.

## **4. Features**

### **(1) Wide scope and span**

More than 1,500 pieces of industrial heritage in 33 provinces, cities and autonomous regions across China have been investigated, and information on the development of Chinese industry from the late Qing Dynasty handicraft period to the post-founding of the state period has been reviewed. We have tried our best to present a more comprehensive heritage of modern Chinese industry.

### **(2) A Systematic Research**

The series is set up sequentially from the first to the fifth volume, considering different aspects such as technology history, information collection, value assessment, reuse, and cultural industry for interdisciplinary and systematic research and implementing the whole life cycle research of industrial heritage regeneration.

### **(3) Fieldwork and investigation**

The project provides fieldwork, first-handed survey reports, completes on-site visits, interviews, questionnaires, photography, mapping, and other information collection, and strives to income the most front-line information of China's industrial heritage in an attempt to provide timely and accurate data for governmental decision-making departments.

### **(4) Theorizing**

This project is not satisfied with the survey report alone. It summarizes the results based on the survey and establishes its guidelines and framework in the value assessment section to provide a reference for future surveys and studies.

To sum up, the Comprehensive Research on the Preservation System of Modern Industrial Heritage Sites in China (5 volumes) is the first time conduct informative first-hand research and in-depth systematic study on the comprehensive issues of industrial heritage in China, featuring a complete theoretical system, rich research practices, an ambitious research structure, and a broad research vision. It is of great theoretical and practical significance in establishing China's industrial heritage protection system, promoting the study of China's industrial heritage, and promoting the protection and renewal of industrial heritage in today's urban development.



## 5. Awards and Support received

(1) Volume1-4 won the Outstanding Award (the highest award) of the CTTI (China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center at Nanjing University) for Excellence in Think Tank Research 2022.

(2) The results of Volume 3 received the 2019 CTTI Think Tank Excellence Achievement Award.

(Guidelines for Evaluating the Value of China's Industrial Heritage and Reflections on the Value Framework of Industrial Heritage)

(3) The results of Volume 5 received the 2020 CTTI Think Tank Excellence Award. 2019 CTTI Think Tank Outstanding Achievement Award.

(Research on Transformation from Industrial Heritage Protection to Cultural Industry)



### (4) Support received

This series has received support from various academic institutions during the research period of the subject.

- *Academic Committee of Industrial Building Heritage of China Architecture Society*
- *Industrial Heritage Department of the Committee of Historic and Cultural Cities of the Chinese Society of Urban Science*
- *Industrial Heritage Committee of the Chinese Society of Cultural Heritage*
- *The Committee of Urban and Rural Built Heritage of the Chinese Society of Architecture*

- *China Association of Cultural Heritage Protection Technology Industrial Heritage Protection Committee*
- *Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the People's Republic of China*
- *Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development Science and Technology Committee of Famous Historical and Cultural Cities and Towns and Villages*
- .....

**It has also been supported by a series of funds.**

- *Major Project of Tianjin Municipal Education Commission "Research on the Protection and Revitalization of Industrial Heritage in Tianjin"*
- *National Natural Science Foundation of China*
- *Tianjin Philosophy and Social Science Planning Project*
- *Natural Science Foundation of Tianjin*
- *National Publication Fund Project*
- .....

## **6. Introduction of the Editor-in-chief**



XU Subin is currently Chair Professor at the School of Architecture of Tianjin University, China, executive vice director of the International Research Centre for Chinese Heritage Conservation. She has received Ph.D. degrees from both Tianjin University in 1992 and the University of Tokyo in 2005, specializing in the field of Architectural History and Preservation. She has worked in the past in numerous institutions, namely: as Lecturer at Tianjin University; Postdoctoral Fellow at Tsinghua University; Research Fellow at the Institute of Industrial Science and the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia of the University of Tokyo; Adjunct Lecturer of Tokyo Zokei University and Meiji University in Japan; Visiting Associate Professor of the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Kyoto); Visiting professor at the Université de Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne); and Visiting Professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Prof. Xu's areas of research and interest mainly include the following:

- (1) **The history of exchanges of knowledge between China and Japan in the fields of modern industry, urban, technics and architecture.**
- (2) **Chinese modern architectural history.**
- (3) **Sustainable development of historical cultural heritage.**

Prof. Xu has received a number of international awards, including the Architectural Institute of Japan Prize (independent award, Japan, 2011), the Society of Architectural Historians of Japan Prize (independent award, Japan, 2011), and the Japan Urban Planning Society Encouragement Prize (independent award, Japan, 2006). In terms of national awards, she has been distinguished with: the 1<sup>st</sup> Prize of the 6<sup>th</sup> Awards Event for Outstanding Achievements in Scientific Research in Colleges and Universities (Independent award, 2013), issued by the ministry of education of China, “the China Publishing Government Award”(shared award, 2017); the Outstanding Paper Award of the Architectural Society of China (shared award, 2012); and the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of Distinguished Planning Design by the Ministry of Education (shared project, 2009).

Other noteworthy awards and honors include: “Excellent Talent of the New Century” (2007); “5<sup>th</sup> Overseas Chinese Contribution & Innovation Achievement Award” (2014); and “National Ten Thousand Plan Talents” (2016).

As for her various engagements with domestic and international institutions devoted to the issue of cultural heritage preservation, Prof. Xu is a member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS); member of the International Committee for Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement, China (Docomomo China); director of the Committee of Urban Sociology at the Chinese Sociological Association; vice-chairwoman and member of the Industrial Heritage Committee, at the Architectural Society of China; member of the Committee for 20<sup>th</sup> Century Architectural Heritage at the Cultural Relics Academy of China, among other notable positions.