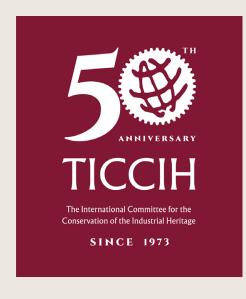
# NATIONAL REPORTS

2022 - 2025

# XIX TICCIH CONGRESS Kiruna, Sweden



# NATIONAL & TRANSNATIONAL REPORTS ON INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Presented on the Occasion of the XIX TICCIH World Congress

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Heritage In Action: Legacies of Industry in Future Making

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The 19th TICCIH Congress in Kiruna is organized by Luleå University of Technology in collaboration with the TICCIH sections in Sweden and Norway, the Swedish National Heritage Board, the municipality of Kiruna and a range of leading actors within industry and civil society in the Scandinavian north.

Edited by Bart Vanacker

# THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH) is the world organization for industrial heritage. Its goals are to promote global and transnational cooperation in preserving, conserving, investigating, documenting, researching, interpreting, and advancing education of the industrial heritage.

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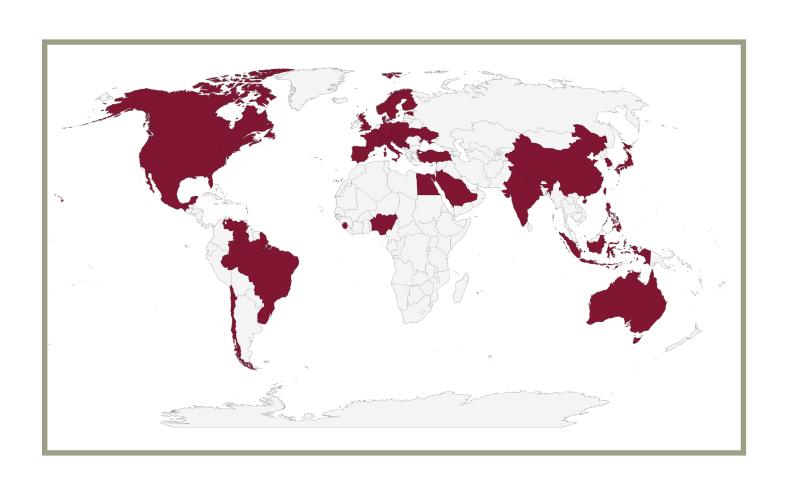
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# **FOREWORD**

# Moulshri Joshi, SpaceMatters, New Delhi, India & Mirhan Damir, Alexandria University, Egypt

National reports have long been a vital instrument in TICCIH's history of shaping and consolidating the field of industrial heritage conservation. Produced every three years through a network of correspondents and representatives, they document not only the state of industrial heritage and archaeology in individual countries and regions, but also the evolution of the field itself as a multidisciplinary endeavour. The earliest reports, dating back to 1973 and available on TICCIH's website, form a unique archive of how industrial heritage has developed globally as a professional, academic, and advocacy domain.

This compilation of national reports covers the period 2022–25. It is noteworthy that within a decade, TICCIH has doubled its reporting network from 24 countries in 2013–15 to 50 countries in 2025, with several first-time contributions. Equally significant is the marked increase in transnational reports, rising from just one in the 2022 TICCIH Congress to seven in this edition. This edition's (trans)national reports comprise 54% from Europe, 18% from the Americas, 16% from the Asia-Pacific region, and 12% from the African & Arab region. Taken together, the 2022–2025 cycle of TICCIH National Reports presents a sweeping yet intricate panorama of global industrial heritage, not as a singular narrative, but as a mosaic of shared challenges, emerging priorities, increasingly interconnected strategies, and new perspectives.

A notable trend across continents is the recalibration of heritage values, with industrial heritage increasingly recognised not merely as a response to obsolete sites or technologies, but as an evolving social, environmental, and spatial practice. Geographically, Europe remains the strongest contributor, though its representation is now more regionally balanced. North and Latin America together form a growing and diverse cohort, with an increasing emphasis on postcolonial and extractive legacies. The Asia—Pacific region is rapidly emerging as a critical arena, blending techno-legal, vernacular, and postcolonial perspectives. The African and Arab regions, long underrepresented, are developing a stronger collective voice, often framed through postcolonial critique and resilience narratives.

Meanwhile, transnational groups are fostering greater horizontal connectivity, linking diverse languages, technologies, and shared industrial legacies into a more interconnected global discourse. This broadening of perspectives allows for some initial observations regarding emerging continental themes. The increased diversity of contributions has brought with it new conceptual and methodological approaches.

One of the most prominent themes across this cycle is the reuse of industrial sites. In the context of the climate crisis, rapid urbanisation, and neoliberal development pressures, adaptive reuse is increasingly framed as both an ethical obligation and an urban necessity. In this edition, adaptive reuse is understood not merely as an exercise in architectural ingenuity but as a political and economic act, shaped by legislative frame-

works, land ownership, investment flows, and civic engagement. This reframing highlights the need to navigate legal ambiguities, speculative pressures, and questions of authenticity and displacement. Former industrial facilities—particularly power plants in prominent urban locations—are being repurposed. At the same time, past experiences of reuse are examined more critically for their unintended consequences, such as tourism-driven gentrification and the erasure of working-class histories. In this light, adaptive reuse emerges as a contested terrain where preservation, innovation, and inclusivity must be carefully negotiated. In contexts where industrial heritage is underpinned by dedicated academic programmes, government funding, and legislative support, thematic concerns such as the "green industrial transition" and public consultation on reuse projects have also gained prominence.

South America, Africa, and the Asia–Pacific region increasingly recognise the responsibility to address the enduring impacts of colonial legacies. While industrial heritage conservation in many of these contexts remains in its formative stages, the intersection of colonial history with pressing global challenges—such as the climate crisis and demands for social justice—is moving to the centre of heritage discourse. These regions are not only identifying the physical remnants of industrialisation under colonial rule but are also interrogating the socio-political structures that shaped them. This convergence of themes is infusing the field with new energy, fostering critical perspectives, and expanding the conceptual boundaries of industrial heritage beyond preservation to encompass equity, resilience, and the reimagining of postcolonial futures.

Another central theme is the redefinition of expertise and knowledge production. Across new and emerging geographies, much of the work is informal, community-led, volunteer-driven, and often undertaken without direct government support. Many national reports underscore the urgency of building professional capacity and embedding industrial heritage into higher education, vocational training, and public history. Emerging actors—youth clubs, rural cooperatives, and indigenous knowledge holders—are increasingly recognised as co-creators of heritage meaning and memory rather than passive recipients of expert knowledge. This participatory turn reframes heritage as a relational, open-ended process rather than a static object of protection.

Other themes, such as the neglect of labour history, the ongoing systemic loss of sites, and the pressing need for documentation, remain recurring concerns. It is encouraging, however, that in many cases, advocacy and protection are being led by TICCIH members and (trans)national committees. Personal collaborations between TICCIH, ICOMOS, and local heritage organisations have expanded the acceptance of industrial heritage within broader heritage domains. Several countries report new or evolving legal instruments and public policies, signalling a convergence of heritage, planning, tourism, and educational agendas. Yet, substantial deficits remain in certain regions, where legal protection, institutional capacity, and state support are limited, leaving civil society, academia, and local communities as principal custodians of documentation and advocacy.

# **FOREWORD**

In the wake of the pandemic, many reports emphasise the need to engage young professionals in heritage work and to attract younger audiences to museums and heritage sites. Strategies to reach younger generations often draw on their interest in creative arts and digital media, creating immersive experiences and embracing bold new themes. Equally prominent is the role of industrial heritage in contexts of crisis from natural disasters to political upheaval, post-earthquake recovery, economic collapse, and urban transformation under authoritarian regimes - several reports illustrate how industrial heritage can be either marginalised or strategically leveraged. Across many reports, there is a palpable shift towards situating heritage within the urgent realities of the present war, environmental degradation, displacement—and framing it as a practice that contributes to peace-building, equitable and sustainable development.

Alongside national perspectives, transnational reports reflect TICCIH's core mission of building and sustaining networks that transcend borders. They showcase collaborative efforts to strengthen interdisciplinary exchange, foster international dialogue, and deepen community engagement in industrial heritage. These reports illustrate how shared challenges—whether legal, technical, or cultural—are addressed through joint research, cross-border training, and the pooling of expertise. This ethos of "working together," also the theme of the last Big Stuff Conference, underscores the understanding that industrial heritage is inherently interconnected, shaped

by global histories of technology, labour, and trade. By linking practitioners, scholars, and communities across continents, transnational networks ensure that conservation practices remain dynamic, inclusive, and discursively balanced.

The themes emerging from both national and transnational contributions encourage us to reconceive industrial heritage not simply as a modern or post-Enlightenment category, but as a long-term, trans-scalar process embedded in global histories of labour, empire, and environment. The reports of this edition underscore that industrial heritage is no longer shaped predominantly by a single region. Countries and communities long underrepresented in international discourse are now making vital contributions. The establishment of new TICCIH committees and representatives worldwide signals a broad decentralisation and pluralisation of heritage authority. With this, TICCIH is entering a new phase characterised by dialogue, co-production, and regional responsiveness.

As members of TICCIH's growing global network, we hope this volume will serve as a resource, a positive provocation, and a call to action. The TICCIH National Reports 2022—2025 offer not only a state-of-the-art snapshot of the field but also a laboratory for future heritage discourse—one that is locally grounded, globally connected, and responsive to the social, environmental, and ethical urgencies of our time.

Contact Mirhan Damir or Moulshri Joshi

# THE AMERICAS





# Jaime Migone, Esperanza Rock, Marion Steiner

Industrial heritage in Chile is a growing, dynamic, and interdisciplinary field, with a variety of academic researchers, community initiatives, and conservation experts working across the country. Beyond its value as a historical document and its potential as a driver for economic development, industrial heritage in Chile is increasingly perceived from a critical and community-centred perspective. In many cases, it is local social movements that put pressure on the State to become active in this field, which is not yet recognised as a category in its own right by national heritage laws.

This report summarises the key activities of the national TICCIH Chile association, established in 1996, as well as those of individual TICCIH members working in Central and Southern Chile. The authors have made a significant effort to produce a collective report and would like to thank Aulikki Pollak, Pamela Fuentes, Boris Cvitanic, and Lucía Sánchez for their valuable contributions. We also hope that in future editions, we will be able to include more contributions from colleagues involved with industrial heritage who were not mentioned here due to the limited time available for coordinating a complete overview.

# **ACTIVITIES**

# Regional development program

In 2023 and 2024, financed through the National Fund for Regional Development (FNDR), the Program "Strategies

for the Transformation of Industrial Heritage into Regional Assets" was executed in the Biobío Region in Southern Chile. Conceived and articulated for and with local communities by researcher Esperanza Rock, it was a result of a long-term collaborative process that integrated territorial knowledge, participatory diagnostics, and findings from previous research on industrial heritage, social movements, and governance.

The program proposal aimed to foster active dialogue among academia, community actors, and regional governance bodies, with the goal of reimagining industrial heritage as a cultural, social, and economic asset for the future of the Biobío region. The initiative was developed by the international team of the Southern Researchers Network NUDISUR, financed and supported by the Biobío Regional Government, and implemented by the CreaSur Cultural Center in cooperation with a wide range of local and regional partners.

In this framework, the Congress "Industrial Heritage, Social Issues and Challenges for New Governance" was organised – an event of great relevance and local impact that took place in Concepción, Lota, Tomé, and San Rosendo in October 2023. The congress was conceived as the IV International and Interdisciplinary Congress on Cultural Heritage of the NUDISUR network. TICCIH participated as an official international partner, and the success of this collaboration led to the signing of a cooperation agreement between TICCIH and NUDISUR. The congress brought together 20 invited experts from all continents and all Chilean TICCIH members, who, in addition to presenting papers and posters, had the opportunity to visit



Participants of the VI International and Interdisciplinary NUDISUR congress on Industrial Heritage, Social Issues and Challenges for New Governance in Concepción, 19 October 2023 (photo by CreaSur Photographical Archives)



International experts visit the hydropower plant El Sauce in Valparaíso with Suditya Sinha and Moulshri Joshi from India, Humberto Morales from Mexico, and Miguel Álvarez Areces from Spain, 14 October 2023 (photo by ESPI Photographic Archives)

industrial sites, engage with local communities, and experience the regional industrial and cultural landscape.

As complementary components to the congress, the "Arts in Ruins" Festival, where the artistic sphere expressed its narratives in relation to regional industrial heritage, and the Diploma Program in Collaborative Methodologies for Heritage Projects, with a critical focus and aimed at local actors, were carried out. These initiatives aimed to enrich the congress through sensory experiences rooted in regional artistic expressions, while also strengthening heritage management capacities within the local and regional governance network.

You can find more information about these activities in the NUDISUR Transnational Report at the end of this book. Additionally, an open-access bilingual book was published, documenting all the activities of the program, including the numerous oral and poster presentations from the congress (Rock et al., 2024).

# Other major international events

# Seminars and field trips on the Oil Heritage of the Chilean Patagonia

In March 2023 and March 2024, within the framework of the FONDECYT research project (I200469) directed by architect Boris Cvitanic Díaz, dedicated to the heritage dimension of the oil industry in Chile, two international seminars were held at the University of Magallanes in Punta Arenas with the participation of experts from Spain, Venezuela, Germany, France, and Chile. Both seminars were preceded by three-day field visits to active and abandoned oil heritage sites on both sides of the Magellan Strait, including overnight stays on Tierra del Fuego, some of

them offered by Chile's National Petroleum Company, ENAP.

# Field visits to the local museum and the hydropower plant El Sauce, Valparaíso

These visits took place in October 2023 and July 2024 in connection with the above-mentioned 2023 congress in Concepción and the 2024 Annual SHOT/ICOHTEC meeting in Viña del Mar. They were financed by Marion Steiner's FONDE-CYT research project (11230957) and organised jointly with the local community museum Museo Histórico de Placilla, directed by Pamela Fuentes. Thanks to these multilateral collaborations, we were able to take experts from Germany, Spain, Luxembourg, India, Mexico, Colombia, and Chile to the hydropower plant El Sauce, located on the outskirts of the World Heritage city of Valparaíso. As the core of the Hydroelectric Complex El Sauce y La Luz that also includes the water reservoir La Luz and connecting infrastructures, this power plant generated energy for Valparaíso's urban infrastructures and industries from 1906 to 1997 (Steiner and Fuentes, 2021), and despite its extraordinary historical, technological, and social heritage values, any part of the complex to this day counts with any kind of legal heritage protection.

# II International Congress on Elevators and Funiculars, Santiago

This congress was organised by Jaime Migone and the TICCIH Chile association in collaboration with the Instituto Italiano de Cultura, the Asociación Cultural Italiana, the University Finis Terrae in Santiago, and the University of Pavía, Italy. Hosted by the Italian Institute for Culture in Santiago, Chile, on 11 and 12 July 2025, a total of 19 papers were presented, including con-

tributions from Greece, Germany, the USA, Portugal, Brazil, as well as Italy and Chile. Attendees were invited to visit the San Cristobal Elevator in Santiago's City centre.

### Key research projects

A series of academic research projects related to industrial heritage has been implemented over the past years, funded by the National Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage (FONDART), the National Agency for Research and Development ANID (FONDECYT), or international sources. A selection is named below. These projects enable financing humble salaries, travels, and activities that span multiple disciplines and, in many cases, reveal research-action approaches that bridge academic and community work on the ground.

### **FONDARTs**

"Complejo Hidroeléctrico El Sauce y La Luz. Patrimonio Industrial de Placilla de Peñuelas, Valparaíso"

This project (FONDART Regional, Convocatoria 2020, Folio 551999) was led by the Placilla Cultural Center with the participation of anthropologist Pamela Fuentes, photographer Francisco Rivero, geographer Marion Steiner, architect Rodrigo Puentes, and designer Michael Contreras. It was executed from 2020 to 2022 and culminated in the book "Luz para Valparaíso" (Steiner and Fuentes, 2021) and an exhibition at the local community museum, Museo Histórico de Placilla, in 2022. Read more here.

"Avenida Urmeneta de San Francisco de Limache: Patrimonio arquitectónico, urbanístico e histórico de Chile central. 1857-2021"

This project (FONDART Nacional, Convocatoria 2022, Folio 634774) was led by historian Fernando Venegas from the University of Concepción, featuring architects Fernanda Venegas and Javier Verdugo, journalist Aulikki Pollak, and geographers Andrés Moreira-Muñoz and Marion Steiner as co-researchers. It culminated in the book "Travesía patrimonial" (Venegas et al., 2023). Read more here.

"Trabajadores de la Cía. de Cervecerías Unidas de Limache: historia, memoria y formas de habitar colectivo de la Región de Valparaíso. 1902-1993"

This project (FONDART Regional, Convocatoria 2022, Folio 620730), led by Marion Steiner, was implemented by the same team as the one mentioned earlier and will culminate in a book currently in print about the former workers' settlement of the CCU Brewery in Limache. Read more here.

# **FONDECYTs**

"Light, Power and Progress: German urban electrification of Latin America in its geo-political and cultural context, 1880-1920"

This project (FONDECYT 11230957), directed by Dr. Marion Steiner and hosted by the Department of Historical Sciences



Presentation of the book Magellan Strait. "Industrialization, Collective Habitat and Coastal Border" during the 20th Century, published in 2022, by Daniel Matus at the INCUNA Congress 2023 in Gijón, Spain (photo by Boris Cvitanic)

of the University of Chile, focusses on the history of electrification of Valparaíso from an international comparative perspective and is executed from March 2023 to March 2026 with the participation of the Bauhaus University Weimar and the Berlin Center for Industrial Heritage in Germany as partner institutions. Read more about the project on Marion's website.

"Memories of the Transformations of Deindustrialization in the Global North and South"

This project (FONDECYT 11230309), directed by Dr. Esperanza Rock, hosted by the University of Concepción and executed from 2023 to 2025, collects the voices of workers, residents, and local protagonists from the Lota coal mining region, creating the Biobío Oral Archive as an intangible heritage that complements and enriches the official historical record. Thus, the project not only produces academic knowledge but also strengthens a community archive focused on deindustrialization in the Biobío Region, in addition to comparing the findings to realities in the German coal mining region, Ruhrgebiet. Read more here.



The Coya Camp Workers' Settlement near the Sewell World Heritage Site, 2023 (photo by Jaime Migone)

"La industria del petróleo en Chile: territorio, ciudad y arquitectura. Construcción de un patrimonio industrial de dimensión nacional"

This project (FONDECYT 1200469), directed by architect Boris Cvitanic Díaz, hosted by the University of Magallanes, and executed from 2020 to 2024, was dedicated to the heritage dimension of the oil industry in Chile and featured a series of international seminars, field trips to Tierra de Fuego, and publications in indexed journals. The book "Strait of Magellan. Industrialization, Collective Habitat and Coastal Border in the 20th Century" (Matus and Cvitanic, 2022) was published in connection with that, explaining the emergence of industrialization processes and highlighting different material heritage expressions, with or without official recognition, located around the Strait of Magellan.

# International projects

"Circulation of experts and expertise – A historical approach to their mediating role in energy transitions: the Chilean case"

This project was a joint inter-institutional research project between the University of Chile and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin (MPIWG), funded by the German Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and conducted from 2021 to 2023. It was directed by Jürgen Renn and Helge Wendt in Germany and Carlos Sanhueza in Chile, with the participation of co-researchers based in both countries, namely historians Diego Arango, Nelson Arellano, and Tom Thurnbull, civil engineer Cecilia Ibarra, and geographers Enrique Aliste and Marion Steiner. Academic workshops were celebrated in both Berlin and Santiago de Chile. Read more here.

"Berlin's environmental and infrastructure history 1871-2020"

This international research network was led by Timothy Moss, Honorary Professor and Senior Researcher at the Integrative Research Institute on Transformations of Human-Environment Systems (IRI THESys) at Humboldt University Berlin, Germany, from 2020 to 2025. It culminated in the publication of the book "Grounding Berlin" by the University of Pittsburgh Press, to which Marion Steiner contributed the first chapter, providing global perspectives on Berlin's urban and industrial development in the 19th and 20th centuries. Read more here.

# **PUBLIC POLICIES AND ORGANISATIONS**

Regarding new governance and innovative approaches to heritage management, as well as new types of actors involved in industrial heritage in Chile, we would like to highlight the example of the "Plan Lota" in the Biobío Region. Lota, a historic coal mining enclave in southern Chile, is home to key industrial heritage sites that were collectively added to the country's Tentative List for UNESCO World Heritage in 2021 under the title "Lota Mining Complex."

The "Plan Lota: Towards a World Heritage Site" has been promoted by the Ministry of Cultures through the Undersecretariat of Cultural Heritage since 2019. In August 2021, the "Plan Lota Agreement" was signed, bringing together seven state institutions: the Undersecretariat of Cultural Heritage; CORFO; the Ministry of Public Works (MOP); the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MINVU); SUBDERE; the National Cultural Heritage Service; and the Municipality of Lota. The initiative also received significant support from

regional universities and grassroots organisations in the Lota community. Among the latter are the Citizen Board for Heritage, Culture, and Tourism; the Fundación CEPAS, which manages Pabellón 83; and several other organisations. A Regional Working Group was later established, comprising government representatives and community members, including academic advisors from NUDISUR, to coordinate joint actions. The Plan defines the boundaries of the proposed World Heritage site and sets forth management guidelines and buffer zones, emphasising public-social collaboration and the integration of academia and local organisations into its vision.

A major achievement under Plan Lota has been the recovery of the ENACAR Archive. The National Coal Company ENACAR administered the coal mines in Lota, Coronel, Curanilahue, and Lebu until its closure in 1997. The archive contains thousands of documents—including employment contracts, management reports, blueprints, meeting minutes, correspondence, and accounting records—generated between 1924 and 2016. For years, these documents were dispersed across various storage locations under inadequate conservation conditions. The archive's recovery has been a crucial aspect of Plan Lota, serving as an unparalleled record of mining operations and their societal impact. Today, the ENACAR Archive stands as a vital resource for industrial and documentary heritage, a fundamental element of the local collective memory.

Closely linked to this initiative, and with strong support from the academic sector, the Biobío Oral Sources Archive is currently under development. Its first collection, Stories of Coal, brings together oral testimonies and life histories of men and women connected to mining, capturing their experiences during the industrial boom and the subsequent deindustrialisation. This archive is being developed as part of the aforementioned FONDECYT research project led by Esperanza Rock.

Since 2024, Fundación CEPAS, headquartered in Pabellón 83—a building declared a National Historic Monument in 2009—has taken the lead in managing the Lota Circuit.

Since the industrial closure in 1997, the Lota circuit has been managed by various public and private foundations; however, the current management stands out for its strong community participation. The circuit connects key elements of Lota's industrial heritage, including the Lota Museum, Isidora Cousiño Park, and the Chiflón del Diablo Mine. It plays a catalytic role in heritage promotion through cultural management initiatives, including literary publications and events such as the "Lota Heritage Bicycle Tour."

In parallel, the Citizen Board for Heritage, Culture, and Tourism of Lota serves as a participatory space, comprising local residents, social organisations, and professionals who contribute to the implementation of Plan Lota. Since 2019, this board has coordinated numerous workshops and cultural projects, such as the creation of a "heritage alphabet" through printmaking workshops held at Pabellón 83. Other notable community groups include Discovering Lota on Foot, which promotes heritage walking tours; the Mujer Lotina patchwork collective;



Meeting with the Municipality of San Joaquín and representatives of the Músicos del Mundo - Población Chile neighbourhood, 28 April 2023 (photo by Lucía Sánchez)

and La Compuerta Número 12, among others. Several tourist routes explore historical landmarks, including Chambeque, Lota Park, and the Chiflón del Diablo Mine.

These civic networks play a crucial role in ensuring that the nomination of Lota as a World Heritage Site is developed in an inclusive and participatory manner, rooted in the memories, knowledge, and lived experiences of the community itself. Local organisations collectively generate a dynamic cultural program that keeps social memory alive and promotes the contemporary use of industrial heritage across the coal basin, particularly in Lota and Coronel.

# **ALTERATIONS TO LEGAL PROTECTION**

Heritage legislation in Chile exists at both the municipal and national levels; three industrial sites are currently listed as UN-ESCO World Heritage sites, and one, as detailed above, has been recently added to the national Tentative List for World Heritage. However, industrial heritage is not recognised by the Chilean heritage legislation as such, which represents great challenges for an adequate protection of sites with specific characteristics and special needs, especially when it comes to large-scale, interconnected, linear elements or industrial complexes that do not align with the traditional heritage definitions focused on monuments and architectural values.

Nonetheless, some heritage initiatives in Chile have succeeded in recent times in making authorities rethink heritage definitions and criteria, insisting on the relevance of technological, social, and cultural values, and thus opening up new perspectives for industrial heritage. The activities in Limache, Placilla, and Lota, supported by leading international networks such as TICCIH and ICOMOS Chile, and explained in some detail throughout this report, are three examples of this. These experiences demonstrate that local communities are key agents in the continuous process of raising public awareness and achieving formal legal recognition of industrial heritage in Chile.

Regarding World Heritage, the three currently listed industrial sites in Chile continue to face significant conservation challenges. In the <u>Seaport City of Valparaíso</u>, inscribed in

2003, a Management Plan for the World Heritage property was finally developed 22 years after its inscription and approved by the City Council in July 2025. Humberstone and Santa Laura Saltpeter Works, inscribed in 2005, were on the List of Endangered Sites from 2005 to 2019. Sewell Mining Town, inscribed in 2006, has been making progress in adding value to its vast industrial heritage.

The Lota Mining Complex, which was added to the Chilean Tentative List for World Heritage in 2021, is being drafted as a serial nomination of four key sites: the Chiflón del Diablo Mine, the Isidora Cousiño Park, the Chivilingo Hydroelectric Plant, and the Chambeque industrial sector. The complex is designated as a national heritage site, holding various national designations, including National Monument status, which was granted to Parque de Lota in 2009 and to Chambeque in 2014, among others.

# **OUTSTANDING PROJECTS AND NOTABLE CASES**

# Restoration projects led by Jaime Migone Rettig

Labrar Chimneys. Study and preparation of a structural consolidation project, 2021

South of the city of Freirina in Chile, in the Atacama Desert, lie the remains of the former Labrar copper smelter, which operated until the late 19th century. Today, it consists of three brick masonry structures reinforced with iron rebar, which were part of this industrial complex. It was declared a Historic Monument on October 2, 1980, the highest legal protection in Chile. The importance of this mining technology and the construction design of these three chimneys, which are over 150 years old and located in a highly seismic

zone, is highlighted. These chimneys, which have survived to this day without any conservation intervention, have survived. In 2021, an emergency structural consolidation and restoration project for the three chimneys was developed and approved by the Chilean Monuments Council.

Project for the Study and Evaluation of the Cultural Heritage of the Coya Industrial Camp. 2023

The evaluation and collection of information on the current state of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of CODELCO's El Teniente Division focused specifically on the Central Coya settlement, protected by Law 17,288 on National Monuments and declared a Typical Zone by Decree No. 253 of 2012 and Decree No. 65 of 2017. The primary objective is to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of conservation of this heritage, with a specific focus on its tangible aspects and the elements that comprise it. Based on this, intangible heritage aspects are referenced and related, which are dependent on the site itself, its history, and the people who worked and inhabited it for many years. Likewise, the other heritage site, Camp Sewell, has already been extensively studied, and the Sewell Foundation has extensive knowledge of its current status.

Detailed records are kept, providing information on each building in particular. This material consists of surveys of information on the past and current state of the existing built heritage at the site. Regarding intangible heritage, the Sewell Foundation also maintains and manages relationships with various groups, associations, and cultural activities comprising individuals and their descendants who inhabited the site during the 20th century and continue to maintain contact today.



The local team at the session of the National Monuments Council, the day when Avenida Urmeneta and Parque Brasil were declared Zona Típica (from left to right): Andrés Moreira, Gastón Soublette, Claudia Arcos, Marion Steiner, and Aulikki Pollak, December 2022 (photo by Aulikki Pollak)

The management and administration of Sewell Camp are already in the hands of the Sewell Foundation, which has a management plan associated with its status as a World Heritage Site. This plan is part of the ongoing efforts, which also involve the National Monuments Council. This means that there is a close and ongoing institutional relationship that guarantees the proper management of the site, especially with regard to heritage conservation. The urgent need, therefore, is to have current and as specific field information as possible that informs us about the current status of the heritage that constitutes the Central Population, specifically, as a Typical Zone.

# Cultural Heritage Risk Management at CODELCO's El Teniente Division. 2023

The procedures to be followed are related to the intrinsic characteristics of the cultural asset, its previously defined values, the characteristics of the associated risk, and the changes that the heritage site may undergo, all of which are associated with the threats or events that have occurred at both heritage sites. To manage risks and conserve both sites, four steps or actions must be taken into consideration. These steps must be carried out in a comprehensive and ongoing manner, with documentation of both sites essential for their preservation and enhancement.

- I. Document: have all historical and current information on the site;
- Prevent: foresee possible damage, both natural and human, that may occur at both sites and define the necessary mitigations to avoid them;
- Emergency management: have planned actions before, during, and after the emergency, in order to maximise the conservation of the site post-emergency; and
- Enhancement: develop the design of immediate and subsequent actions to recover, to the extent possible, the original figurative image of both heritage sites.

# Subsidence Assessment Project for Zone 3 of the American Camp in Chuquicamata. 2023

Zone 3, defined by Decree No. 176 of May 13, 2015, as a Historic Monument, is being affected by ground subsidence and the stockpiling of inert material resulting from mining operations in the area. The transition from an open-pit extraction system to an underground tunnel at the Chuquicamata mine operations, combined with specific geological conditions and the confirmation of the slopes of the original mine cavity, is causing subsidence in the Zone 3 terrain. This phenomenon manifests itself through differential settlements, fissures, and cracks of varying magnitude, both in the ground and in buildings. CODELCO is fully aware of the situation and is being permanently monitored using various methodologies and instruments for its follow-up, as indicated in the CODELCO document "Subsidence Projection for the Years 2021 to 2028, Chuquicamata Mine." The development and growth of subsidence have been theoretically

predicted and projected annually, with various implications for the area in question, as well as other points in the Chuquicamata mine.

To obtain more precise and up-to-date information, a visit was made to Zone 3 in March 2022, during which essential data was collected through the preparation of files for each property. These files were applied in person, and data were collected for each building. Carrying out a comparative analysis between the time the Chuquicamata Camp was declared a Historical Monument, specifically in relation to Zone 3 in May 2015, with the visit carried out in March 2022, it is possible to conclude that there has been a significant change in the increase in inert fill in the northeastern area. This can be observed with the naked eye by comparing the planimetry of Decree 176 with the current site situation. It is also notable that significant cracks and fissures, of varying width and depth, have appeared in the terrain, running from north to south, and directly affecting Polygons 2 and 3.

# Execution of the Restoration and Improvement Project for the Schwager Gym in Coronel. 2022

The coal industry was one of the main players in transforming the landscape and shaping urban environments in the Biobío region. A vestige of the scope of this urban presence is the former Puchoco Schwager Gym, which served as a recreational area and social centre for the entire community until its abandonment. This research, carried out as part of the restoration of the building, aims to contextualise the history and importance of this emblematic building in the Coronel commune. The project, approved by the Monuments Council, was successfully executed, and its inauguration took place in March 2022. The existing elements were restored, and the missing roof was rebuilt with a laminated wood vault, in keeping with Friederich Zollinger's original structure —a lamella-type structure, which was the objective of the restoration of the original building.

# San Bernardo Workshop Restoration and Renovation Project. Renovation work started, 2025

The Armory, Boiler House, Ironworks, and Turntable buildings are part of the complex of facilities belonging to the former San Bernardo Workshop, which belonged to the Chilean State Railways. The complex operated until 1984, when operations ceased due to changes in transportation policies in Chile. It gradually fell into disuse until 1990, when a mass exodus of the company's workers occurred. The workshop finally closed in 1996, leaving the complex in a state of total disrepair. It was declared a Historic Monument in accordance with Law 17,288 in 2010. This entire period, from the 1990s to the present day, marked the widespread deterioration of the building and its contents, which are now missing. The lack of maintenance, combined with the plundering and looting of its machinery, left it in its current state of ruin. Likewise, the effects of the 1985 and 2010 earthquakes had a significant impact on the building, leaving serious structural damage to the upper portion of the roofs and their skylights, as well as to the bases of most of the interior and exterior pillars of the sheds that comprise the complex.



The restoration project aims to recover the buildings' original figurative image to accommodate a new function, differentiating the new architectural and spatial interventions from the existing ones. The project is based on the intended use of this industrial structure, allowing its interior to develop a new function while maintaining its historic industrial image and the spaciousness of a large warehouse, the former metalworking workshop. The damaged skin of the walls and pillars has been restored. The lost windows have been restored, maintaining their original geometry, but with a contemporary solution, as previously mentioned. The project has been approved by the Monuments Council and is in its initial phase of construction.

# Outstanding conversion and re-use projects in the Lota area

- Chiflón del Diablo Mine: Restored as a living museum, with former miners serving as guides. Currently managed by Fundación CEPAS (Pabellón 83).
- Isidora Cousiño Park: A restored historic garden declared a National Monument. Currently managed by Fundación CEPAS (Pabellón 83).
- Chivilingo Hydroelectric Plant: Infrastructure stabilisation project underway for the original 1897 electrical facility, led by the Ministry of Public Works (MOP) and the National Cultural Heritage Service (SERPAT).
- Pabellón 83: A restored workers' housing building now functioning as a community cultural centre, managed by Fundación CEPAS.
- Chambeque Sector: A protected industrial site and key component of the Plan Lota project, currently in a state of deterioration.

# **MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS**

The Museo Histórico de Placilla (MUHP) stands out on the national level as one of the few community museums in Chile, and likely the only one that explicitly deals with industrial heritage. With the purpose of disseminating local history, it began in the 2000s, although it did not yet have a building. At the time, temporary exhibitions travelled to schools and churches in Placilla, as well as to other places in Valparaíso, while the objects were kept by the neighbours themselves in their homes. Thanks to the enthusiasm of local residents who gathered in the Placilla Cultural Centre, a museum building was then erected in 2008, thanks to funding from the Neighbourhood Recovery Programme 'Quiero mi Barrio' of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development. Inaugurated on 28 August 2009 in the heart of Placilla de Peñuelas, the various 'treasures' of the community were brought together here in the first permanent exhibition. Since 2012, the museum has been open to the public on a permanent basis, and since 2023, it has had a team of professionals thanks to funding from the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage.

For 13 years, the museum has been developing research on the local industrial heritage of the town. The first documentary, titled <u>Hidroeléctrica El Sauce: A Forgotten Heritage</u>,

was produced in a completely self-managed manner, thanks to the contributions of members from the Cultural Centre and the Museum. In 2018, a series of three additional documentaries was released, resulting from years of research in archives, field visits, and interviews with former workers and local residents. The series covers the three key areas of Placilla's local industrial heritage: The El Sauce Hydroelectric Complex, the Forestry Industry in Placilla de Peñuelas, and the Drinking Water Supply for Valparaíso.

The industrial heritage work carried out by MUHP in Placilla was pioneering, as it uncovered local legacies that were previously widely unknown. Additionally, it was complemented by heritage walks, excursions, presentations of papers at congresses, educational work in schools and universities, talks held in the museum itself, and the development of temporary exhibitions. The work is ongoing, and the local community is eager to achieve legal protection for their local industrial heritage someday, with the support of national and international academic networks, including TICCIH, ICOMOS Chile, and INCUNA.

In the Biobío region, we would like to mention:

- The Chiflón del Diablo Mine works as a living museum-memory with underground tours.
- Centro Cultural <u>Pabellón 83</u> hosts heritage and artistic exhibitions.
- The Tomé Textile Memory Museum is situated in the former Bellavista Oveja Tomé Textile Factory, which was founded in 1865 and declared a National Monument in 2017. This industrial complex stands as a testament to the town's rich textile heritage and the broader socioeconomic transformations in Chile that began in the mid-19th century. The museum presents exhibitions on the history of textile labour, community life, and industrial development in the Biobío region.
- Puchoco-Schwager Mining Museum Complex (Coronel): Situated in the city of Coronel, this historic site preserves the memory of coal mining in the region. The complex exhibits original mining machinery and tools, as well as historical documentation of life in the mining camps. It operates as an open-air museum, offering free admission and guided tours that highlight the significance of the coal industry in shaping local identity.
- Complejo ferroviario San Rosendo. The San Rosendo Railway Complex, built between 1929 and 1934, was declared a National Historic Monument in 2023. Comprising seven key buildings, it played a crucial role in the railway and industrial development of the Biobío region in the 20th century.

# TRAINING AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES

# University education

While we observe that industrial heritage is of growing interest in Chile's academic spheres, with regard to master's and



doctoral theses as well as to research projects and scientific publications in a growing number of disciplinary fields, there are no specialised studies on industrial heritage in any university in Chile.

The only pre-graduate interdisciplinary university course specifically dedicated to industrial heritage that probably existed in Chile, implemented each semester in collaboration with local heritage communities since 2019 in Valparaíso, was cancelled in 2022. One major outcome of these courses was the "Interactive Map of Industrial Heritage in Valparaíso and its hinterland," which later inspired the TICCIH MapaPI project, as explained in more detail in the TICCIH Portuñol Transnational Report, in the final section of this book.

# Professional training

Diploma in "Collaborative Methodologies for Heritage Projects with a critical approach," designed and implemented by OTEC Cultura y Territorio in partnership with the Master's programs in Architectural Heritage at the University of Chile, funded as part of the Biobío Regional Government's program mentioned above. (2023)

# Heritage education from the communities

In addition to the education work done by the community museum MUHP mentioned above, which combines heritage education with environmental education and diverse methodologies, within the same Valparaíso Region, the community-based heritage outreach initiative Walks in Limache combines citizen participation, local memory, and the activation of public spaces. The personal energy of their founder, Aulikki Pollak, and their regular heritage education walks through the local urban landscape were key to the formation of a wider movement that succeeded in late 2022 in achieving legal national protection for local heritage in Limache, as detailed below.

# SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS

We utilise this section to provide a brief update on key initiatives from the Biobío, Valparaíso, and Santiago Regions. They all represent critical and/or community-based perspectives on industrial heritage, and include a range of educational activities in the heritage as well as the environmental fields and others that relate to the transcendent nature of industrial heritage as an integrated heritage.

# Lota

In the Biobío Region, iconic cases such as the coal mining enclave of Lota have fostered new forms of participatory and collaborative governance, bringing together communities, academic institutions, and the state. This paradigm shift promotes a social and decolonial appreciation of industrial heritage, expressed through various initiatives emerging from and for the territories. Key examples:

 The CEPAS Foundation and its community management at Pabellón 83 in Lota.

- The Lota Citizens' Table on Culture, Heritage, and Tourism coordinates workshops, heritage routes, and popular education projects.
- The Biobío Oral Archive, with the collection "Relatos del Carbón" consisting of testimonies on deindustrialisation and mining life, was initiated by the above-mentioned FONDECYT research project "Memories of the Transformations of Deindustrialization in the Global North and South."
- The Program "Strategies for the Transformation of Industrial Heritage into Regional Assets," designed and implemented by CreaSur and NUDISUR, funded by the Biobío Regional Government, 2023-24.

### **Placilla**

In the Valparaíso Region, the aforementioned local community museum, MUHP, which became stable by 2012, has been increasingly collaborating with the academic world and international industrial heritage networks, providing an important meeting place for researchers and local residents. A series of academic events have been celebrated in the museum over the past years, and the museum's director Pamela Fuentes regularly contributes to national and international congresses, sharing the experiences of the museum's local heritage work and benefitting from the necessary support of researchers for defending the values of industrial heritage, generating growing attention of the local, regional and national authorities to the need to protect this special kind of heritage.

# Santiago

Another remarkable case is the activities of Lucía Sánchez in the national capital, Santiago. Since 2022, she has been collaborating with members of the project "Circuito Santiago Industrial y Obrero" (Route of Industrial and Labor Heritage in Santiago), which aims to promote the architectural, urban, social, and cultural heritage value of neighborhoods, while strengthening inter-neighborhood networks and interactions among diverse stakeholders such as neighborhood organizations and traditional merchants. It also involves establishing dialogue with researchers, universities, and emerging cultural managers.

From 2021 to 2024, she worked at Barrio Músicos del Mundo – Población Chile as a Heritage teacher for the Heritage Course at UNIACC, alongside Luis Rolando Rojas, a member of Circuito Santiago Industrial y Obrero. In April 2023, for Heritage Day, they participated in the OH SANTIAGO project, acting as heritage guides on a tour that included the Barrio Músicos del Mundo – Población Chile.

In 2025, the book "Transistor" was published with the sponsorship of TICCIH International (Rojas and Sánchez, 2025). It makes available to the community various research summaries, articles, and stories related to industrial heritage and the historical, social, urban, and architectural values of the neighbourhood, as well as a review of the citizen-led heritage process developed in the area. It also addresses topics such



as delimitation, national and local heritage protection instruments, industrial archaeology, company towns, and gentrification. The book was selected by the 2025 Chile Architecture Biennial in the Dissemination category and will be exhibited at the biennial in September.

### Limache

Also in the Valparaíso Region but an hour inland by local train, San Francisco de Limache is another hotspot for citizen mobilisation, heritage, and sustainable urban development in Chile. Built in the mid-19th century on the historic train connection between the port city of Valparaíso and the national capital of Santiago, San Francisco de Limache emerged as industrialisation began to penetrate the hinterlands of the port, transforming the landscape and regional interconnectedness. The city itself is thus a testament to industrial heritage.

In recent years, Limache has become a significant case study in citizen-led environmental and heritage protection. A series of community-driven actions have combined legal advocacy, public mobilisation, and heritage research to confront unsustainable urban development and defend local identity and ecology.

A key milestone occurred on May 8, 2024, when the Chilean Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling mandating that all high-impact projects—whether energy-related, mining, or real estate—proposed within municipalities located in the La Campana–Peñuelas Biosphere Reserve must undergo Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures. This decision was the result of sustained community mobilisation, environmental litigation, and public pressure, and it sets a precedent for environmental justice in Chile's central valleys.

Earlier, on December 21, 2022, after years of civic and academic work, Chile's National Monuments Council declared Avenida Urmeneta and Parque Brasil as a Zona Típica (Heritage Protection Area). This declaration institutionalised the collective effort to preserve one of Limache's most iconic urban and landscape areas, marking a critical success in community-led heritage protection.

These advances are anchored in a broader ecosystem of participatory action and applied research. A key scholarly contribution was the 2021 technical report "Expediente Técnico para una Declaratoria Patrimonial de Limache: Un Territorio Liberal Progresista emblemático de la República de Chile del Siglo XIX," coordinated by Marion Steiner and produced by her ESPI Lab on Critical Industrial Heritage Studies with the support of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (PUCV). This working paper provided a robust geohistorical analysis of Limache as a paradigmatic 19th-century liberal-progressive territory, informing both the heritage declaration and the ongoing debates on urban memory and planning.

Parallel to this academic foundation, a trilogy of community-led book publications has further reinforced local heritage narratives: The first volume (Venegas 2023) offers an interdisciplinary account of the region's natural and built heritage, the second one (Venegas et al. 2023) retraces the architec-

tural and symbolic history of the city's core, and the third one (Venegas et al., in print) documents the working-class legacy of the local brewery district. These books, supported by Fondart Nacional and the National Heritage Fund, have enhanced the visibility and legitimacy of Limache's cultural landscape in public discourse and policy processes.

Limache's experience demonstrates how local knowledge, social memory, and community mobilisation can align with legal and institutional frameworks to promote a more just and sustainable urban future. It is an illustrative example of participatory heritage governance in Latin America, where small and medium-sized cities increasingly assert their right to shape territorial development in balance with ecological and historical values.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Chilean colleagues contributed regularly to the international TICCIH Bulletin, with Boris Cvitanic, Esperanza Rock, Marion Steiner, and Pamela Fuentes publishing in nos. 96, 97, and 98 in 2022, 101 and 102 in 2023, and 103 in 2024, often co-authoring each other.

The 100th edition of the German journal *Industriekultur* (3/2022) was dedicated to industrial heritage in Chile. Co-edited by Marion Steiner together with Chief Editor Norbert Tempel, it featured individual contributions by Jaime Migone, Esperanza Rock, Marion Steiner, and others.

# Key publications from the regions (in Spanish):

- Luis Rojas and Lucía Sánchez (eds.). <u>Transistor. Enhancing</u> the industrial heritage of the Músicos del Mundo neighbourhood – <u>Población Chile</u>. Santiago de Chile: independent production, 2025. (open access).
- Daniel Matus and Boris Cvitanic (eds.). Magellan Strait. Industrialization, Collective Habitat and Coastal Border during the 20th Century. Punta Arenas: Universidad de Magallanes, 2022.
- Marion Steiner and Pamela Fuentes. <u>Light for Valparaíso</u>. <u>The Hydroelectric Complex El Sauce y La Luz: an industrial heritage shared between Placilla de Peñuelas and Elektrópolis Berlin</u>. Valparaíso: Centro Cultural Placilla, 2021. (open access).
- María Esperanza Rock Nuñez and Daniel Stewart. The great mining basin of Lota before its industrialisation (1550-1830). Revista Notas Históricas Y Geográficas (34), 2025, 279-314. (open access).
- María Esperanza Rock Nuñez and María José Bretti López. <u>Artistic narratives of transformation</u>. <u>An approach to sensibility and its memory</u>. Revista De Geografía Norte Grande (91), 2025. (open access).
- María Esperanza Rock Nuñez. <u>Reflections on heritage</u> and decolonial perspectives in post-industrial studies in communities in the South. Revista Gerónimo De Uztariz Aldizkaria (37), 2023. (open access).

# The Limache book trilogy (in Spanish):

- Fernando Venegas (ed.). Geo-historical, archaeological, and architectural heritage of Central Chile: San Francisco de Limache. Concepción: Editorial Universidad de Concepción, 2023.
- Fernando Venegas, Fernanda Venegas, and Javier Verdugo (eds.). Heritage journey: Urmeneta Avenue of San Francisco de Limache, an architectural jewel of Central Chile. Concepción: Editorial Universidad de Concepción, 2023.
- Fernando Venegas (ed.). Social history of the CCU industrial neighbourhood: Working-class legacy of the local brewery district. Concepción: Editorial Universidad de Concepción, in print.

Major contributions to global discussions (in English and bilingual Spanish-English):

- Marion Steiner. <u>Industrial Heritage from the South: Critical Approaches to the Social Construction of Heritage and Preservation Practices. In: The Routledge International Handbook of Deindustrialization Studies, edited by Tim Strangleman, Steven High, Sherry Linkon, Stefan Berger, Jackie Clarke, and David Nattleingham. London: Routledge, 2025, pp. 459-483 (open access).
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- María Esperanza Rock Núñez, Marion Steiner, Daniel Stewart, and Andrés Torres (eds.), VV.AA. <u>Initiating transformations</u>. <u>Industrial Heritage as an Asset for Regional Development:</u> <u>Critical Views from and for the Global South</u>. Concepción: CreaSur Ediciones, 2024. (open access).



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