

BETWEEN RUIN AND REUSING

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Summary

Industrial heritage is a specific source for sustainable development. Finding proper new utilization could be often difficult task for many reasons. These reasons could be specific building structure (typically represent by one specific type of production e.g. furnaces, chemical industry, etc.), or pollute soil, or bad social perception of industrial brownfields. Also open floor plan buildings which are revolutionary typology product of industrial architecture often finding new use hardly. In all these cases could help activities which take place in the blank space between industrial brownfields and their reusing. The activities could be structured in few categories as Cultural Events, Artistic Intervention, Lighting Installation, Landscaping, Spontaneous Reusing. All of these activities are often artistic and low cost. There are important for initial phase of finding sustainable using. They show the industrial sites in new perspective and could be starting point for public debate.

Keywords: industrial heritage, brownfield, adaptive re-use

1 Between ruin and reusing

1.1 Cultural Events

Holding musical and theatrical performances introduces new energy to abandoned industrial sites. These performances take place as one-time activities started social linkage. It could be student's performance as held in Kolara factory in Semily, Czech Republic (**Fig. 1**). Such as performance shows production process in artistic way. Former employees could visit after years well known places and tell stories about factory to youth which don't have personal industrial experience. By this way they could started be interested in what will happen with this place.

Another kind of artistic performance could be professional music performance which is based on the contrast between classical music and rough industrial space. These kinds of concerts hold in the Czech Republic for example Berg Orchestra (**Fig. 2**). Visitors of such events are ready to perceive specific atmosphere and highly discuss the potential of the place.

Large open spaces of industrial building are fitting for alternative music clubs as for example in Ostrava, Czech Republic (**Fig. 3**). The place situated in former mine which is under historic preservation is running by citizens association. There is infinite number of activities as workshops, concerts, courses, etc. All these activities set the place as Creative Quarter.



Fig. 1 *Kolora, Semily [1]*



Fig. 2 *Berg Orchestra, Prague [2]*



Fig. 3 *Provoz Hlubina, Ostrava, Czech Republic [3]*

1.2 Artistic Intervention

Intervention by fine arts is used for announce changes in site. Compared to the cultural events is more long term. Fine art is able to organize the space structure. By fine art intervention the new context could be explore. Such exploration could help expose identity and substance of former industrial space.

Fine arts always represent society and their cultural maturity. Nowadays fine art is a kind of tourist attraction. It is able to make people visit the industrial site.

The first example is from France. It is a large scale project in industrial landscape along river Loire (**Fig. 4**). Subtitle of this project is Landscape, Arts, River. This project is organized as tourist path and announced changes in site.

The next examples are indoor exhibitions. These kind of interventions are able to organize space and create specific atmosphere fulfill by industrial poetic. Examples are operated with different kind of aesthetic. The installation in coking plant in Dortmund, Germany is based on pure white artifacts set in industrial atmosphere (**Fig. 5**). In contrast to Dortmund installation the artifacts *Rusty Bloom* held in Karlin (Prague) are made from former industrial containers (**Fig. 6**).



Fig. 4 *Estuaire Nantes – Saint-Nazaire, France [4]*



Fig. 5 *Coking plant, Dortmund, Germany*



Fig. 6 *Rusty Bloom, Karlin, Prague, Czech Republic*

1.3 Lighting Installation

Lighting installation has a specific character. It is visible just in night. By lighting it is possible change context of perception, change what is visible and what is landmark. During night it is possible change space syntax and start with new point of view. Lighting is traditional part of architecture. The examples show energy industry as monumental architecture.



Fig. 7 die Kulturhauptstadt
RUHR.2010 [5]



Fig. 8 Vitkovice, Ostrava,
Czech Republic [6]



Fig. 9 Powerstation,
Tampere, Finland

1.4 Landscaping

The main idea of this attitude is made industrial site accessible for public. By providing quality public space is industrial heritage integrated to urban structure (**Fig. 10**). Also one specific type premises which are hardly reused could be a part of land art (**Fig. 11**).

Landscaping has a specific ecological aspect. The plants are able to clean by biodegradation pollution soil.

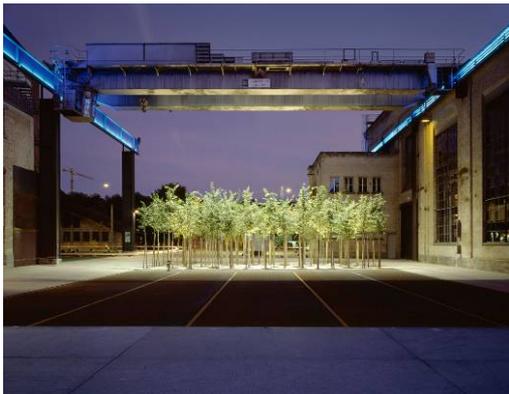


Fig. 10 Sulzerareal,
Winterthur, Switzerland [7]



Fig. 11 Landschaftspark,
Duisburg-Nord, Germany

1.5 Spontaneous Reusing

The typical spontaneous users are artists and performers which appreciate large open space with special light conditions. This kind of use can lead to the creation of an art factory. By art factory is changing negative perceptions of former industrial site and can be created more stable using. What is typical for this community is high level of social cohesion. Sometimes spontaneous users have complicated relationship to owner of premises.



Fig. 12 *Karlin Studios,
Pargue, Czech Republic*



Fig. 13 *Freezing Plant
Frigo, Paris, France [8]*

2 Conclusions

All of these activities can attract industrial tourism which is alternative for experienced tourist. In post-industrial society majority of peoples don't have own experience with industrial processes. That's the reason way industrial tourism is growing.

All of these activities also could be a starting point to stable reusing of industrial building environment. By these soft starting points the society could find flexible and sustainable forms of use. The protection of industrial heritage is important as a part of history. In addition industrial heritage make urban identity stronger.

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