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Miles Oglethorpe shows US Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, the Forth Bridge during the COP26 climate conference in 2021. Photo: Melissa Schartz

TICCIH PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

REFLECTING ON 2021 - FROM COVID TO COP26

Miles Oglethorpe

First, let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year, and to hope that 2022 is an improvement on 2021. A year ago, many of us entered 2021 thinking exactly the same thing, and we are anxious that it will be significantly better this time. So, we desperately want to move on, and the fact is that, despite the continuing uncertainty, there are some good things to look forward to in 2022. Of these, our Montreal Congress in August is, of course, a major highlight.

Looking back on 2021, I am deeply grateful for the extraordinary resilience and power of the Internet, and to the armies of usually invisible IT technicians who have not only kept our systems working, but have also improvised, innovated and improved them. It is extraordinary to think that we are now routinely speaking to networks of people across the world (despite the occasional time-zone glitch here and there), and although it pains me to say it, sometimes you can see and hear people's presentations far better on your computer than you would in meeting rooms or halls. The significance of this is heightened by the fact that I have recently attended meetings with high-quality simultaneous translation piped in via optional audio channels embedded in the video platform. For international discussions, we have therefore entered a totally new era.

A second project being undertaken in parallel is developing a practice note on industrial heritage to accompany and amplify the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter. The Burra Charter is widely recognised for dealing with the significance of historic places and includes objects where they contribute to the heritage values of the place, while the Dublin Principles which form the foundation of the joint NSC recognises machinery and objects and industrial processes which are not necessarily tied directly to a particular site. The approach being taken in preparing the practice note is to look at issues with industrial heritage which are not well understood and apply the methodology and principles of the Burra Charter and illustrate good practice using examples which are consistent with the content of the Dublin Principles.

NSC meetings generally include discussions on Australian industrial sites under threat, at times involving individual support or advocacy by Australia ICOMOS. NSC meetings normally conclude with a pre-

sentation by members on industrial projects and sites where they have been involved or issues in which they have a current interest. Presentations have ranged from conservation of an intact gas works, operation of a water supply system incorporating historic features, to ecotourism opportunities at a remote mountainous gold mine in NZ.

While under the auspices of Australia ICOMOS, the NSC has maintained contact with TICCIH and other affiliated organisations with shared objectives. A highlight was the participation in our February 2021 meeting of TICCIH President Dr Miles Oglethorpe from Scotland and Secretary General Prof Dr Marion Steiner from Chile. Liaison has also occurred with the Asian Network of Industrial Heritage and a number of members have participated in the TICCIH Global Members Meeting in September 2021 via ZOOM. The NSC recently called for new members and the increased membership is expected to strengthen the voice for industrial heritage within the conservation profession and in the community more generally.

AUSTRIA

INTERNSHIP AT TICCIH AUSTRIA: CONSTRUCTIVE NOT CONFRONTATIONAL

Enikő Charlotte Zöller

Which industrial buildings are located in urban space and in cities, and where can they be found? Which buildings and objects are necessary to highlight the interweaving and interdependency of industrial processes in a visible and comprehensible matter? Which of the criteria for selection and evaluation that so far have been based on superlatives must we change to enable us to set the individual elements in fair and balanced interpretive relationships to one another? How can cultural heritage be used to create awareness of global relationships? Moreover, how can we ensure that tomorrow's heritage is based less on the values of nation-states, as for example in my home country in Hungary, than on strengthened European and global values?

My generation grew up with the self-evidence of *Industriekultur*, a word that had by now almost become mainstream and hype. The meaning of the word of our age, *Industriekultur* can be bestowed in every context, from underground parties in a former spinning mill to the contentless marketing strategies of cities.

As a student, the semesters generally come and go and at the end one is left with vast amounts of continuing questions. At the Bauhaus-University in Weimar, we examined with future urbanists whether industrial modernism and its architectural representations can be regarded as heritage and if so, to what extent? After the semester, I did a sixteen-week Erasmus+ internship at the Austrian representation of TICCIH in Vienna from April to June 2021, despite pandemic restrictions.



ENIKŐ CHARLOTTE ZÖLLER



The Heller factory converted into a residential complex and a geriatric centre, 239 residential properties in ownership and rental and 268 care places.

The practical and direct engagement with industrial buildings in Vienna and the mentoring by TICCIH Austria enabled me to explore these questions through the built environment. In Vienna, one quickly realises that industrial heritage is genuinely of global dimension and hence. To quote US sociologist and philosopher Immanuel Wallerstein, no part of the world has been outside our 'Modern World System'. Different regions still take on certain specific roles in the economically functional unit and thus, industrialisation continues to this day. Production sites have not disappeared, they have rather been relocated to other sites of the global industry. The examination of industrial heritage leads to questions and messages such as the exploitation of people and nature, as well as the unjust division of labour worldwide. Both of which are also major motives for refugee movements and migration.

I find industrial heritage, especially 20th century production facilities exciting, due to them constituting borderline areas of heritage conservation. By exploring the Heller chocolate factory in Vienna-Favoriten, I have tried to understand and trace the industrial his-

tory of the district. The diversity of industrial production in the concentrated space south of Vienna's main railway station in Vienna-Favoriten was enormous and required a great quantity of labour leading to the construction of cheap substandard housing. Large tenement blocks were built in the outer districts, including Favoriten, for all those craftsmen, construction workers and tradesmen who had moved to the imperial city from the middle of the 19th century and were confronted with acute housing shortage there. At that time, one third of all Vienna's inhabitants had no flat of their own and had to find a place to sleep as bed-riders or find shelter in the city's emergency quarters or even in the canals. The living conditions of the workers in the nearby industrial complexes were dire and hence, Favoriten, the district south of today's main railway station, was the scene of spectacular protests by the workers several times in the early days of the workers' movement.

The example of the Heller factory demonstrates what role conservation can play in the cultural heritage discourse. The site of the production plant of the famous jam-filled sweets was given a

new concept under the auspices of BUWOG (Bauen und Wohnen Gesellschaft - 'Better Living for Generations'). The focus of my examination was the shortening of the factory chimney to 29 m due to the earthquake structural safety requirements, and an attempt to integrate the chimneys into the discourse about the city skyline in Vienna. This revealed new approaches to the hierarchisation of heritage values, which are constantly being questioned. At this point, the internship helped me to question value categories and standards, and to emphasise and discuss productive disturbances between different generations: 'The concept of Heritage, in contrast to the concept of monument, does not act on the assumption that there is an object with various formal characteristics. Instead, it assumes that there are people who relate to objects in various ways', Gabi Dolff-Bonekämper succinctly summarised it. This examination confronted me with urgent questions of our time, such as citizen participation and sustainability in heritage management. The number and variety of industrial sites in Vienna alone, the buildings and

technical facilities that have a monumental value and their conversion, show both a relevance for the preservation of monuments as well as for urban planning and architecture, and especially for the necessity of a productive interface between these areas. The actors involved in the preservation of historical monuments, such as planners, architects, the official preservation authorities, interested citizens and owners, all have different interests and approaches that need to be respected and brought together.

The internship at TICCIH has enriched me greatly. The opportunity to deepen my existing passion for the field of industrial heritage conservation at TICCIH during the internship opened up new horizons not only for my personal interest, but also for productive interfaces in the future that can ensure critical and value-oriented conservation and the conversion of industrial heritage.

[Contact the author](#)

WORLD HERITAGE ISSUES

UK

URBAN LANDSCAPE AND THE DELISTING OF LIVERPOOL – MARITIME MERCANTILE CITY

Dennis Rodwell, Architect-Planner, Consultant in Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Urban Development

I have followed the Liverpool World Heritage story since the turn of the millennium, from the preparatory stages leading to the 2003 nomination onwards. At times this has been at close quarters, through direct connections with the responsible personnel in Liverpool City Council, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). Much of what has been represented as central to the unfolding saga, institutionally as well as in the public domain, does not correspond with my familiarity and records.

The 2021 delisting of *Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City* serves to call attention to the challenges of managing urban heritage sites that are inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List, especially those that are subject to vibrant development pressures. This article focuses on the procedures involving the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and its advisory body ICOMOS from the 2003 nomination through to the 2021 delisting. It questions whether the system helped or hindered the management of the property, and whether it is appropriate to focus responsibility for the discord that led to the delisting on the State Party (the United Kingdom) alongside Liverpool City Council.

Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City is the third property to be struck from the UNESCO World Heritage List. The 2007 delisting of the

Arabian Oryx Sanctuary, inscribed in 1994, is easy to explain: the site had become unviable as an oryx sanctuary, and the delisting was supported by the State Party (Oman). The 2009 delisting of *Dresden Elbe Valley* together with the 2021 delisting of *Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City* are less easy to justify; both were opposed by the State Parties concerned, Germany and the United Kingdom respectively.

The preamble to the 1972 World Heritage Convention demands 'an effective system of collective protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value, organized on a permanent basis and in accordance with modern scientific methods.' The operation of this system requires what I term the 'Critical 3Cs of Effective Protection: Certainty, Clarity, and Consistency'

The path to inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage List entails a State Party's preparation and submission of a nomination, its evaluation by the relevant advisory body, and its determination by the World Heritage Committee. This is a linear process. There is no provision for back stops or return loops. As a matter of clear principle, if something is not in the Justification of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) at the time of inscription, for whatever reason, it is effectively not part of the OUV.