Monterrey, Mexico: Patterns location and new metropolitan areas of its industrial heritage

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Abstract

This proposal shows an overview of industrial properties with historical and social value of the city of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico for the period 1850 to 1950. We intend to make these properties visible and avoid reading isolated in time and space of a metropolis of 4 million people. Although Monterrey is known as "the industrial capital of Mexico," little has been done to promote a general view that considers the history and present of its industrial heritage.

In previous work we have identified sites and industrial sets in the textile industry, smelting, food, wooden furniture, rail transport, which have stopped their activity, however, buildings and other infrastructure still standing. Others have been destroyed leading to housing developments and shopping malls. Other sites are still in production (as the beer industry and glass). While there are success stories of rescue as the "Parque Fundidora" (old steel) or the Glass Museum (within a plant still in operation), there is no overall plan to consider a) the long term; b) the integration of different industrial sets and their different tempos that provide a coherent view of the city; c) the intangible dimension (perhaps most neglected) industrial heritage.

Although the work proposed here does not address all these aspects, it does offer a chronological and graphical analysis that allows a first approach in two specific points: first identify patterns of industrial location in the metropolis during the period 1850-1950 and on the other, highlighting the urban and economic context that now surrounds the sets and industrial sites mentioned period.