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CITY OF SISAK

Industrial heritage of the

The aim of the industrial heritage map is to present the rich and colourful history of the city of Šak marked by the industrial development which took place from the second half of the 19th century. Industrial heritage covers not only the industrial facilities but it also includes industrial landscape, worker housing, machinears, archives etc. It defines the extent to which a certain area is developed and its importance during a certain period of history. If we take a look at the historical development of the city of Šak from today's point of view, we can say that, thanks to its industry, the city was an important economic centre during a longer period of its existence. Industrial heritage is, therefore, an integral part of its history. Looking back to the beginning of that development, during the preindustrial phase, it is clear that its position ensured favourable economic growth. It started with transit trade which required large warehouses. Such facilities became the foundation for the city's development and they were also built at the beginning of the industrial development phase, in the second half of the 19th century. They are still present today, reminding us of the early beginnings of the city's development. First industrial facilities were added to such warehouses.

Šak industry dates back to the second half of the 19th century, to 1855 when a Czech immigrant Novak opened a brewery on the right bank of River Kupa, in the former Military Šak (Ugriš Šak) area. Steam powered sawmills and brickyards then started emerging in the city using the materials (clay, wood) which were at their disposal in the city itself or its surrounding area. There were some well-known brickyards run by entrepreneurs such as Fulla, Šak, Mihalov, Beck, etc. The best known sawmill was run in Caprag by Drach, also an entrepreneur. First examples of the heavy industry appeared as the tannin factory started operating during WWI. Foundations of an industry which has existed to this day were laid in the period after WWII. After his arrival in Šak in 1979 Petar Teslić opened an alcoholic drinks factory, today known as Sergetica-Anglo-Tugoslav Petroleum Joint Stock Company-Urglugeoslovensko preduzeće d.d., today known as INA Raffinerija, started operating in 1927. The construction of the Caprag metal foundry, today known as Šak Inworks (Inwestor Šak), started in 1938.

In addition to the industrial facilities, the city also had several other industrial heritage related facilities. A railway line Šak – Zagreb – Zadar most was set in motion in 1862 and a railway station was opened on that occasion. An electric power plant Munjara started operating in Šak in 1907 thus making our city one of the first Croatian cities which had electricity. It was located on the Mihalovčić's old bank, in Vrbina, where it still stands. In 1934 the River Kupa bridge was opened to public. Its form and material made it an important architectural monument as well as an industrial heritage monument. There were other industrial facilities built here as well, and they will be shown on this map. Industrial plants and other similar buildings have not only influenced the city's development but they also left a mark in its visual identity. Views of the city dating back to the 1920s and 1930s are hard to imagine without these buildings.



1 Kaptol crops warehouse (Kaptolski Žitni magazin)

The Kaptol crops warehouse was built in the beginning of the 19th century near the Mali Kaptol building on River Kupa. It was surrounded by the main city road and a river, thus having a favourable economic position. It was taken down in 1934.



2 Holand house

The house is located in the main city street and it has a unique facade distinguishing it from other buildings. It was named "Holand house" after that very family. The house was built in the middle of the 19th century and it is one of the last large warehouses built in the city during that period. The lower part of the house was used for trade and the upper floors were used as a storage unit. Its preserved beams based structure gives it a truly special feel.

3 Müller warehouse

The building was built between 1858 and 1861 and it consists of a residential and a trade unit, overlooking the main street, and it also has a storage area in the courtyard. The warehouse holds a preserved beam based structure which gives the space a truly special feel. It has been owned by the Müller family since 1948.



4 Brewery

Intensive beer production began in the city of Šak in 1855 when a Czech entrepreneur Novak opened his brewery on the right bank of River Kupa in the Military Šak (Ugriš Šak) area. He owned the brewery until 1872 when it was taken over by Matjaž Forster who opened the first pub within the brewery. Matjaž Blau bought the brewery in 1876, setting up first production machines. Samuel St. Aleksander bought it in 1895. Since the brewery's capacity was insufficient he decided to build a bigger and more modern one in the Žabljak area. He turned the old brewery into a malt and ice cream factory and then into a warehouse. The old brewery building now stands as the oldest industrial facility in Šak, and the new brewery building on Žabljak is now a city ice skating rink with only a few details reminding us of the old building. Traces of what was once a brewery are now visible only in the form of large basements under the ice skating rink.

5 Brickyards

Brick production began in the second half of the 19th century, mostly thanks to Italian entrepreneurs who inhabited the city, such as Fulla, Černič and Čukar. Šak was one of them, living in the nearby Gajevac suburb. Brickyards were built on the edge of the city and alongside high quality clay excavation sites. The production was hand-made at first, but it was modernised in the beginning of the 20th century. Other brickyards were founded later on by Mihalov, Beck, Janković, Bašić & Plevnik, Pešić, etc. By the time WWII ended the number of brickyards decreased significantly and the Drach brickyard was located on the foundations of the former brickyard owned by Mijo Popović. Brick production ceased to exist by the end of the 1970s and only pits from which clay used for bricks was excavated have been preserved to this day on the edge of the city.



6 Drach sawmill in Caprag

Drach sawmill dates back to the 19th century when it was founded by a Belgian Albert Drach in 1885. It was then taken over by the company A. G. Mercier from Brussels and in 1914 it became the property of Moritz Drach from Vienna. The sawmill operated until after WWII. A large number of people worked there, exploiting the abundant wood resources from the wider Šak area. The plant no longer exists.

7 City slaughterhouse

The slaughterhouse was built in 1880 in the area of Žabljak, a semi-rural and semi-urban part of the city at that time. Over time it became too small for a city whose population was on the rise and it was then expanded and modernised. Nowadays the building's appearance is partially different but its function is the same. That makes it the longest continuously operating facility in Šak.

8 Steam bathing resort in Vrbina

Steam bathing resort is a unique example of a Šak bathing site construction engineering. It was built by a Šak constructor Andrija Colosi in 1892 and it was a state-of-the-art bathing facility in the city at that time. It was located right by River Kupa and it had its own steam engine which heated the water and made sure optimal temperatures were achieved at any time of the year. Mijo Popović, who owned it at a later time, turned it into a furniture factory. Nowadays only a handful of people know its original purpose.

9 Gradska munjara electric power plant

The construction of the Šak Gradska munjara electric power plant in 1907 gave an additional boost to industry development at the beginning of the 20th century. The city councilors decided that electricity is highly important for the city's development and they enlisted Czech architect Alois Černič from Prague with the construction of the plant after concluding an invitation to tender that same year. The production of direct current was not sufficient to cover the city's needs but it showed the city's potential of achieving significant economic success with such an investment. Munjara plant operated until 1947 when the operation was shut down after it had been connected to the alternating current power transmission line. The building is still on the same location but it is completely unused.

10 Tannin factory

The tannin factory (Tanninov radionik) was built by a Viennese Herman Schmidel in 1911 during WWI. The factory complex was located along the Šak – Žabljak railway line which enabled the distribution of goods. The factory took advantage of the high demand for tannin during WWI but once the war ended, the production decreased. Factory owners joined to found the Šak Joint Stock Company (Ugriš d.d.) which kept the amount and quality of production under strict control. After WWII the factory name was changed to Šak and furfur factory (Šakova fabrika) (furan) which operated until 1949 when it was liquidated. Nowadays the factory is only partially preserved and devastated by encroaching wild vegetation.

11 Mijo Popović's industrial company

Mijo Popović, a construction entrepreneur, intensively worked on his estate during the 1920s. In 1923 he bought a plot from the city municipality with a large channel in which he placed the machines and then covered them up. He then started building his factories there. First he built a machine locksmith and carpentry workshop and a steam-powered sawmill. Then he built the Šak steam-powered flour-mill and in 1932 he founded a pigment flooring factory. In 1937 he bought Vile Šak, steam-powered sawmill which enabled him to produce his own construction materials. Only a part of the flour mill has been preserved to this day, located within the Ljudstvo Hrvatske

12 Petar Teslić's alcoholic drinks factory

The factory, also known as Petar Teslić's Joint Stock Company (Ugriš d.d.), was founded during WWI. Teslić bought its shares and became a majority shareholder in 1922, constantly modernising and improving the production. The factory had a series of facilities producing a wide range of products. It was located right next to the railway line which enabled a more favourable distribution of goods. The factory complex has been partially preserved to this day.



13 Glassworks
Petar Teslić's glassworks was located next to an iodine spa and it was founded in 1922 with the aim of producing only meat packaging. The factory capacity could meet all needs regarding bottles and hollow glass. The glassworks major hall had a large glass melting furnace which worked non-stop. These were semi-automatic bottle production machines placed in front of it. Raw materials were inserted from the furnaces back side, were automatically

The factory ceased operating in 1936 and the machines were sold. The factory complex has been preserved to a greater extent and it is now used as a warehouse.

14 Iodine spa

The iodine spa was built in 1912 after the discovery of high quality iodine water in research carried out by Petar Teslić. From then on Šak was known as a spa center. The building and the park area were designed by an engineering bureau Rijeka from Croatia. The building is still used for health-related purposes but out of the kind Teslić had in mind.

15 Shell

Shell oil refinery, today known as INA – Raffinerija na Šak, started operating in 1927. However, it was back in 1921 that an Anglo-Tugoslav Petroleum Joint Stock Company from Zagreb (Ugriš – jugoslavenski petrolijski društvo d.o.o.) started holding the first tanks to which petroleum and oil were transported. Over time this location became interesting for building a larger place for oil processing and storage. It was heavily damaged during Allied bombing in WWII but it was expanded and modernised after the war had ended. The old Shell facilities have gradually lost their significance and are now mostly abandoned.

16 Caprag metal foundry

Works on the metal foundry (Ugriš) began in 1938 and the first blast furnace started operating in 1939 marking the beginning of production. After WWII Šak Inworks (Inwestor Šak) was one of the socialist era giants employing nearly 15,000 people. Its production went beyond state borders and it was world-known. Unfortunately, the original facilities have not been preserved but the entire complex which was developed after WWII has been maintained, although it has been devastated as well. An integral part of the production complex is also the residential area which developed nearby with all the necessary utilities. The area also includes the well-known Sculpture park which was formed within the Šak Inworks Visual Artists' Colony from 1971 to 1990. The park is now a protected cultural site. The production and residential area make an inseparable whole.

17 Galdovo hat factory

The factory construction began in 1925 and it started operating in 1926. It was built on the River Kupa bank at the location of a former Royal Stud Farm. It was a large factory complex with production and storage units and an administration building located along the main road. After WWII, in addition to hats, the factory began producing fire protection and personal protective helmets, thus changing its original production. The area is nowadays used for river boat repairs with some of the buildings preserved.

18 Siscia fine leather factory

Siscia fine leather and gloves factory started operating in 1920 in the old Plesova house in Ladarska Street on the banks of River Kupa. The house is also known for being the site of the first Šak printing house run by Josip Vučinić, which operated from 1869 to 1871. The owner was Mijo Fischer, a tradesman. The production stopped in 1929. The house has been preserved and it is now a part of the Trade School in Šak.

19 Kupa shoe factory

Kupa shoe factory started operating in 1922. It was located nearby the Siscia fine leather factory in today's Ladarska Street. In 1923 it was renamed a Shoe Factory Joint Stock Company (Šakova fabrika d.d.) and it stopped operating very soon after it was established, in 1925. It is interesting that many were interested in opening such a factory in Šak. Czech companies Brumil and Šata were only some of them. The factory building no longer exists.

20 Port facilities

The construction of the Šak port on the left bank of River Kupa, between the Odra river mouth flowing into Kupa and a large bridge, began in the second half of the 19th century. Before the construction the main transhipment centre was on the right bank in the former Military Šak area. Once Kupa was systematically deepened, boats were able to access the newly-built facilities. The combination of the river and railway traffic defined the city's development in the 20th century. The port covered the area all the way up to the Mali Kaptol building. A railway line also passed nearby. In order to manage the goods more efficiently, the city municipality had set up a steam lift and the company "Ugriška mlinčica – kapljadžija" set up a so-called "elevator" near the railway warehouses, at the location where large lifts are now located. The port was thus gradually modernised. The port facilities still exist, waiting for the river traffic to increase. The port is now dominated by a large silo.

21 Port facilities

Wharf construction began during the period of the Independent State of Croatia and which was completed after the war. The port facilities still exist, waiting for the river traffic to increase. The port is now dominated by a large silo.

22 Railway bridge

The bridge over River Kupa, which made traffic towards Bosnia and Herzegovina possible, was built in 1882 and it was the city's first metal construction bridge. Unfortunately, it was destroyed after WWII but it was completely renewed during the 1950s. Its distinguishable metal construction differs it from the road traffic brick bridge. Only a kilometre and a half apart, these bridges are the city's visual symbol of great importance.



23 Sava bridge in Galdovo

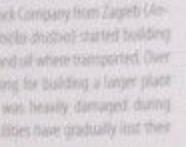
The bridge was built by private entrepreneur Gašpar Pongrac and Milan Šigd in 1844. It had a metal construction and it was the first modern bridge over River Sava. It connected Šak with Modračna. The original bridge no longer exists but a renewed 1980s bridge is located at the same location.

24 Old bridge

The construction took place from 1923 to 1934. The bridge was opened in 1934 and it was the first bridge of that type in the Šak area. It was built from brick according to a design made by Milivoj Škvorč, an engineer. It has four large arches whose beauty and uniqueness make it an important city symbol. Before it was built, a wooden bridge had existed at that very location but it could no longer function due to its deterioration and increased traffic.

25 Railway station

The railway station dates back to 1862, when the railway line Šak – Zagreb – Zadar most was set in motion. The railway line was very important for the city's development since it modernised the traffic which, until then, took place only on the river. The station was built in close vicinity of the city centre and nearby the port facilities. The railway line ended on that station until 1952 when it was extended towards Slavonia and Bosnia. The station was fully equipped to welcome passengers and to partially receive goods. A warehouse was built near the river port it represented an important element of Šak economy.



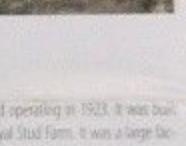
26 Caprag railway station

This railway station was built after the railway line passed River Kupa, extending all the way to Slavonia and Bosnia. A series of larger factories were soon built there and the station was of high economic importance. Some of the facilities included the Drach sawmill, Shell and the metal foundry. After WWII the station was very important for the transfer of a large number of workers who worked in the then-giant companies Šak Inworks and Raffinerija. The station is smaller than the central Šak railway station.



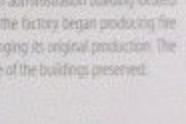
27 Home-guard garrison

The garrison was built in 1932 based on a project designed by a Zagreb architect Karel Vidmar. Andrija Colosi, a Šak construction entrepreneur, was the constructor. The garrison was intended for the 27th home-guard regiment with headquarters in Šak. The building has always been used for military purposes. It is distinguishable by its two towers with metal ornaments and an image of a soldier with a rifle atop of the garrison.



28 Substation Sisak 1

The substation construction began during WWII as the need for alternating current in Šak arose. However, the project was not completed before 1947 when Šak finally got a high-quality current supply system and the city electric power plant Gradiška-munjara stopped operating. The substation is still located in the area of Šak.



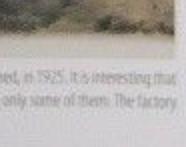
29 Water tower

The project was designed by Minko Jurčić, a Zagreb architect, in 1943. It was not initially completed because of the war. The construction continued in 1947 and ended in 1950. The water tower is one the most important infrastructural facilities of the city of Šak. When it was completed, the city finally had a water supply network and potable water. Before the tower was built, the citizens had been using wells which contained poor quality water. The water tower is located in the highest part of Šak, dominating the area.



30 Herman Weiss' steam powered flour-mill Posavina

The Posavina steam powered flour-mill was owned by a tradesman from Krapina, Herman Weiss. He built it plant in Vrbina, in 1911. The flour-mill operated successfully until 1928 when it was destroyed in a big fire. The owner did not start the production after the event and the building was not preserved.



31 Iskra candle factory

The factory was founded in 1913 in the house of Josip Hrabić in today's Ladarska Street.

The period of its operation is unknown. The Hrabić house has been preserved to this day.



32 Josip Engel's steam powered sawmill

Josip Engel built the steam powered sawmill in Šak in 1907, at his father Josip's estate. He ran it until he passed away in 1935. His son-in