



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·  
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

*Making Heritage Work*

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Dear Mr Falconer

## **CONSULTATION ON A THEMATIC RESEARCH STRATEGY FOR THE HISTORIC INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT**

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body of the United Kingdom representing conservation specialists and historic environment practitioners in the public and private sectors. The Institute exists to establish the highest standards of conservation practice, to support the effective protection and enhancement of the historic environment, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and access to the historic environment for all.

Thank you for inviting us to participate in this consultation.

The Institute supports the Strategy to increase understanding of elements of the historic industrial environment.

In general we feel that English Heritage should actively encourage research which is carried out and structured in ways that allow it to be put to practicable use by historic environment practitioners. The strategy should promote and emphasise this practical use. We also feel that the research strategies need to be publicised more outside research circles especially the new thematic surveys which are more applicable to our members' area of interest.

The Institute would particularly like to see research in the following areas, which would be most beneficial to historic environment practitioners:

IND3 (para 3.3) Industrial landscapes: extractive industries, industrial towns, workers housing, industrial districts and company settlements, ports and harbours.

IND5 (3.5) Industrial buildings and sites: This category is not sub-categorized. It's importance should not be undervalued as a result, as it represents the Institute's biggest single issue. We suggest that it be sub-categorized to promote interest in it.

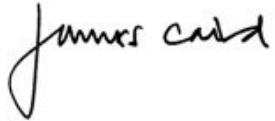
IND7 (3.7) Providing the evidence base for designation, re-use and sustainability:

several sub-categories here but we especially support the exemplary re-use of industrial sites.

IND8 (3.8) Threatened skills and processes.

We hope these comments are useful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Caird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

James Caird  
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator