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THE UNESCO POLICY OF 'FILLING THE GAPS' CONCERNING INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE:
GERMAN MINING SITES AND SWISS WATCHMAKING CITIES LA CHAUX-DE-FOND/LE
LOCLE

Over approximately the last 15 years, UNESCO has come to the conclusion that there are wide gaps in an evenly spread system of World Heritage Sites. Objects that represent the 20th-century heritage and the witnesses to the world's development of industrialised methods of production have been identified as one of these gaps.

Using three Heavy Industry World Heritage Sites in Germany: Rammelsberg Ore Mining Site; Völklingen Iron Works and Zollverein XII Coal Mine and Coking Plant, as well as the recently added Swiss watchmaking cities of La Chaux-de-Fond and Le Locle, this presentation looks at criteria, perspectives and practises of the UNESCO process around industrial sites.