

# REHABILITATION DESIGN of INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

## -STRATEGIES FOR URBAN RENEWAL-

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Most of the historic buildings are situated in the old center of our European cities.

Therefore they not only have the potential of being important historical witnesses of our cultural and economic development, these buildings can also have a strategic impact on the rehabilitation and renovation of our cities and its neighbourhoods.

Most industrial buildings of the XIX and XX century have a strong identity without being “historic monuments”. Mostly they are left abandoned and appear to be in a bad shape as their industrial or economic functions have disappeared during the years.

Renovating these buildings automatically means searching and introducing new functions for these old structures. This not only has a positive effect on the preservation of the building itself, but it also provides them of a new meaning and significance in our today’s society.

The potential of introducing new functions and creating new dynamics, often guaranties a strategic position of the building in the center of our cities.



The former GARAGE “PERMEKE” as the new CITY LIBRARY in Antwerp (B)

Therefore, renovating our heritage is not only a matter of good technical practice and skills. We have to look further than the obvious solutions we already know and operate with a strong belief that “keeping is also changing” .

The lecture will show a few projects in the city center of Antwerp (B). Exploring the balance between these two aspects (keeping and changing) is a challenge for contemporary architects, but it also triggers building technicians and city administrations, to be agile in there way of thinking and working together.

**Their mutual efforts show us a few examples of industrial heritage becoming a strategy for urban renewal.**

Bart verheyen – architect, owner STRAMIEN CV



Project KENDALL – Antwerp (B)



Renovation SKYHALL – airport Zaventem (B)



Reovation CoffeeWarehouse into Housing Project – Antwerp (B)