
Engineering History and Heritage Structures around the World – A Survey

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Introduction

The idea of this chapter is to provide a quick overview of the state of construction history around the world. The focus is primarily on the world of structural and civil engineering, of course, but in some cases, goes beyond into the realms of architecture where architectural history may overlap. Much more detailed descriptions of the state of construction history as an interdepartmental academic discipline are available in other publications.¹ One of the tools used to determine the state of construction for this chapter was through an online surveyⁱⁱ of IABSE members which provided several responses but which are hardly representative of the overall state. Definitions of construction history also may vary by country so that the responses did not necessarily yield a single and strongly coherent picture. The results of the survey will be described in this overview as they were given. As the number of responses was rather small, the survey results are augmented with knowledge from the IABSE Working Group 9 and additional research and sources wherever necessary and available.

Survey

In late 2014 and early 2015, IABSE's Working Group 9 Construction History conducted an online survey amongst members of the organization to obtain an overview of the state of

¹ Additional and much more detailed sources on the state of construction history in Europe are found in Ref. [1].

An updated and expanded version of the above is entitled "L'histoire de la construction, Un méridien européen / Construction History, A European Meridian" and was published online as a work in progress in 2015 at <http://www.histoireconstruction.fr/rapport2015/>. It is scheduled for final publication in 2017 by Éditions Garnier.

Several civil engineering heritage country profiles were published in Ref. [2] on Spain and Germany (February 2016), Japan and Wales (May 2016), Albania and Scotland (August 2016), Ireland (November 2016), Canada (February 2017), and England (May 2017).

ⁱⁱ The survey is still available online at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfMPJCdSz1ZJJP-xJP-izuZugOkeo1aZFDtnuCaBuhhRL3fIQ/viewform>.