A post-industrial mindscape?
The popularisation of industrial heritage in the Ruhr and the representation of its regional identity in comparative perspective

Tuesday 28 July 11am – 12.30pm

The representation of regional identity in Germany’s Ruhr region is predominantly based on industrial heritage. Since the 1960s, in the course of its ongoing transition from heavy industry to a post-industrial landscape, the Ruhr has experienced a movement to preserve the historical objects associated with its coal and steel industry. While this had initially been a movement from below, industrial heritage has become a mainstream phenomenon in the Ruhr.

This event will provide an overview of the most important developments in the history of industrial heritage in the Ruhr: the origins of industrial heritage in the Ruhr; the mainstreaming of industrial heritage during the Ruhr’s deindustrialisation; and the recent developments and controversies in the region. Finally, the presenters will take a look at other coal and steel regions around the world to compare the role of industrial heritage in their regional identity repertoire.

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This event is free and open to the public.