



LISBON:
MARGINS AND PERIPHERY

Mobile Workshop

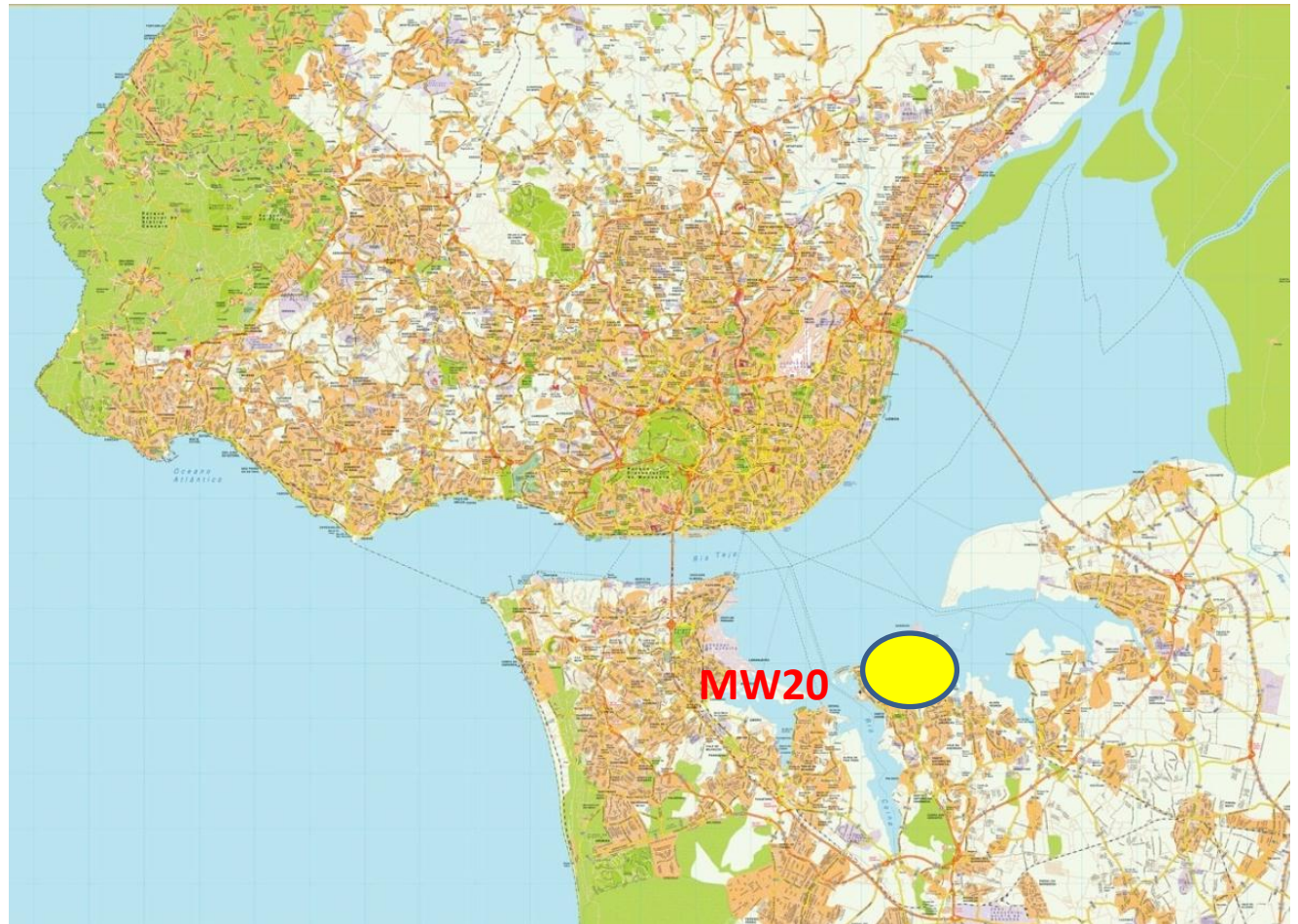
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Barreíro:

from the large scale industry to the new economy



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Coordination**Carlos Freitas (IGOT); Rui Lopo & João Lopes (CM Barreiro)**

From the second half of the XIX century onwards, an unprecedented dynamic of development characterized Barreiro.

In 1861, the first railway repair facilities were inaugurated in the town and triggered several important social and economic transformations. Barreiro became an important pole of attraction to workers coming mostly from southern Portugal, to work in the railway but also in cork industries (the first one opened in 1865).

In 1907, CUF (the largest Portuguese industrial conglomerate) started building its industrial compound, and rapidly became the largest employer and an absolute landmark in the territory, reaching its peak in the 1960s, when more than 50% of the active population of Barreiro worked in the industrial sector. Like many other known examples, the following decades, specially after 1973, witnessed a consistent decline in the vitality of those activities.

The transition to post-industrial times meant that large areas of Barreiro became obsolete and degraded. During the last couple of decades, many were subject to territorial interventions aimed at better coping with the new economic, social, and cultural conditions. In many cases, the industrial heritage of Barreiro became the leverage to its urban reconfiguration.

In this field-trip, we will simultaneously look at the past, visiting some iconic industrial sites, and also some contemporary post-industrial urban spaces that privilege consumption and leisure activities.