

ABSTRACT

This work presents a correlation between civilization changes over the last two thousand years and the spatial structure of the London Docks.

The development processes and turning points in the history of the United Kingdom shown on a geographical background were reflected in the transformations of the London Docks. The civilization transformations of Britain against the background of the Roman Empire in space initiated the function of docks in the form of fortified quays to the river port with transshipment facilities. Goods and knowledge of the then world flowed through this first distribution channel. In 410 there was the first Brexit, which shaped life on the island first, in isolation and then through trade contacts with the continent. The richer centers of state, church and feudal power became attractive to the warlike Germanic and Viking tribes. Paradoxically, invasions strengthened Britain and strengthened the state especially after the conquest of Britain by William the Bastard. With the growing importance of Britain, the significance of its capital London increased, which changed the structure of the port and docks. The second Brexit made by King Henry VIII economically strengthened the royal treasury and the beginning of the construction of the Empire by Elizabeth I after defeating the Great Armada strengthened the sense of freedom and independence in the inhabitants of Britain.

The British fleet dominated the seas, and imported and exported goods were loaded in the port of London, which was developing along the quays. The bourgeois revolution, the period of the republic during the reign of Oliver Cromwell, the period of the Stuart monarchy and after the Declaration of Rights, parliamentary monarchy as political conditions and geographical discoveries played a great role in shaping Britain and its capital, London. The dock district was undergoing rapid development.

Thanks to the freedom of thought after the act of apostasy of Henry VIII, England was able to direct the Scientific Revolution, which began on the day of the death of Nicolaus Copernicus in 1543 and the publication of his work *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium*. The accumulation of wealth in the British Isles, the rule of the seas and oceans, the development of applied sciences, the incredible development of technology has changed Britain in 200 years from a feudal country into an economic power with a parliamentary monarchy. All these changes influenced the development of the capital and its commercial port.

Brexit so far resulted in independence after the First Brexit in 410 and ahead of other countries in technological and economic development after the Second Brexit in 1559.

Britain was the first country to change over the course of several decades from primary - agrarian civilization to secondary - industrial civilization. As a result of the Industrial Revolution, the London docks district with newly built pools began to expand, using the latest construction techniques. Industrial districts and housing estates of workers employed in docks and factories developed around the docks. There were these areas that attracted immigrants from around the world who found jobs at the docks and settled here.

Changes in the global balance of power after the end of World War I began the process of giving the United Kingdom out of the position of the undisputed world superpower, which ended with the emergence of a bipolar world after World War II. Great Britain, observing the emergence of a new economic order, the emergence of large supranational corporations, first saw the symptoms of a new civilization that followed the 200-year phase of industrial civilization. The forecasts of futurologists and sociologists such as Toffler (Third Wave, Future Shock) began to come true much earlier than expected. Partnership arrangements with former colonies have emerged instead of militarily controlled domination, and the use of the intellectual potential of the partners created in this way has allowed to enter again in the first place the tertiary or IT civilization (sometimes also known as the civilization of the knowledge society).

The events and processes detailed in the dissertation were reflected in the transformation of the functional and spatial structure of London docks. It began with a modest port from Roman times. After the First Brexit, a second port was established by the Saxons at the mouth of the River Fleet to the Thames. Then the port and docks developed at a rapid pace along the River Thames towards its mouth trying to meet the new challenges posed by the developing economy and the growing importance of the country at the beginning of the 17th century, adaptable quays for ports and docks began to lack, and then artificial canals began to be built, for example the Isle of Dogs. This intensification of development continued during the construction of the colonial empire and as a result of the industrial revolution in the 1960s, the once vibrant London Docklands began to have a negative connotation as a spatially neglected, criminogenic area, essentially unnecessary for London, blocking free access to the Thames.

The development and degradation of London's docks was a reflection of the rise and dusk of the British Empire.

Initiated by the government of Margaret Thatcher, the Urban Development Corporation program, of which the London Docklands Development Corporation turned out to be the flagship representative, and the newly built London Docklands proved to be effective.

The transformations of London Docks over the past 38 years are the result of the London Docklands Development Corporation.

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