

Industrial archaeologists record, interpret, and preserve industrial and engineering-related artifacts, sites, and systems in their cultural and historical contexts. Industrial archaeology generally applies to the study of industry since the Industrial Revolution, and it can include sites as old as seventeenth-century iron forges or as recent as twentieth-century steel mills.

The Department of Social Sciences supports two graduate degree programs in industrial archaeology: a **Master of Science in Industrial Archaeology** and a **PhD in Industrial Heritage and Archaeology**.

Interest in our industrial heritage has grown rapidly, evidenced by an increasing number of national, state, and local historic parks and monuments, heritage trails, museums, and United Nations-designated World Heritage sites.



GRADUATE



## The Programs

Michigan Tech offers one of the few industrial archaeology programs in the world.

Our interdisciplinary approach fuses archaeology, historic preservation, the history of technology, material culture, the history of architecture, and anthropology. Hands-on fieldwork, archaeological surveys, and excavation—as well as architectural, historical, and archival research—reflect the emphasis upon the material remains of industry.

The MS in Industrial Archaeology prepares students for careers in cultural resource management firms or for additional academic study. Most students complete the program in two years, including a summer of field work. A thesis or project report is required.

Students pursuing the PhD in Industrial Heritage and Archaeology explore and interpret the history of industry, work, and the associated material culture. This program is characterized by interdisciplinary study, an emphasis upon material culture, and projects of scope and complexity. Research topics include the rise and decline of industrial facilities, the environmental consequences of past industrial developments, and heritage-related tourism, among others.

“The environment, the faculty and staff, the field projects, the lab work, the technology available—all these things allow you to acquire the knowledge, skills, and experience you need to hit the ground running after graduation.”

—Grant Day, MS, 1996, customer relationship management professional