Model of the Energy Cycle of a Steel Industry

In the month in which it is celebrated the inauguration of the Portuguese National Steel Industry (1961), we highlight a didactic model of the energy cycle of a steel industry. The model belonged to the former D. Maria I Secondary School, initially designated by Dona Maria I Commercial School established in 1948, that succeeds the former Rodrigues Sampaio Commercial School, founded in 1833. Both schools functioned at the same building in Lisbon, at Largo Dr. António de Sousa de Macedo in the bottom of the Calçada do Combro. This didactic model appears today at the National Museum of Natural History and Science (MUHNAC), through a personal collection of the object in the exterior surroundings of the old school, and subsequent integration at the museum’s historical collections in 1998, as already exists other deposits of extraordinary artefacts and specimens related to the history of education and teaching, also coming from other schools of Lisbon, such as: the Passos Manuel, Fonseca de Benevides and Patrício Prazeres Secondary Schools, Oficina N. 1 da Graça School, among others. The important role that MUHNAC has been actively pursuing since 2006, with its support program for the valorisation and preservation of the Portuguese scientific heritage, has carried out many protocols and has provided support to several institutions generally not dedicated to the preservation of heritage, including some of the schools already mentioned, and whose collections are considerable and typically full of historic and artistic relevance, but lacking in greater protection and visibility. This model is a mirror of this unique heritage, and simultaneously, of the vulnerability of the scientific heritage dispersed through the country and with less protection.

Model of the Energy Cycle of a Steel Industry

Didactical Model
Provenance:
Former School D. Maria I (collected by Homero Gonçalves)
Universidade de Lisboa, UL453