During the turbulent history of the last century, many cities had periods of growth and decline, and all that followed the rise and fall of industrial development. Constant development and changes in the needs of industrial production and the widespread crisis of numerous industrial sectors contributed to the appearance of derelict industrial areas and facilities. Abandoned industrial areas are often located in the central city zone and prevent the balanced development of the city.

In the reclamation of derelict industrial areas it is essential to define the contributions of the urban landscape components, once different approaches to these components, may give different ways to reclaim this landscapes, allowing the use of different design strategies. To specify the different design strategies that may be used in the reclamation of derelict industrial areas three case studies will be presented, each one related with a different strategy. Based on the applied strategy, this thesis will analyze the three case studies: Industrial heritage in Manchester, Distillery District in Toronto, Industrial heritage in Terrassa.

In these projects it was found that the adopted design strategies are beneficial to the society, economy and the environment respecting the models of urban recycling. Through case studies thesis will present models of financing, method of protecting the industrial heritage and the impact on the environment, economy and society. In the projects specified above it was found that the adopted design strategies minimize the environmental impact, respecting the cultural heritage, improve social conditions and contribute to economic growth.

The premise of the thesis is that the urban recycling of derelict industrial areas is indispensable for sustainable district development and conservation of industrial heritage and at the same time marks a new commitment to the transformation of abandoned industrial sites to new cultural, economic and environmental uses. The transformation of derelict industrial sites into public spaces represents a significant enhancement to the quality of life and use of land, and recognition of the great potential for economic development of the place.

The investigation will include the analysis of basic and specific objectives and analysis of economic policy related to the three case studies. The research methods is comprised of literature reviews, comparative and qualitative analyses and survey research related to the socio-economic redevelopment process of former industrial districts.

Methodology will consist of three parts: an introductory theoretical part with theoretical emphasis of urban recycling process and development of society and economy; the research part thought specific case studies with implementation of economic and social strategies; and the evaluation part with conclusions. It will be research theoretical literature focusing on urban city recycling and ways of its implementation in the field of industrial heritage.

The interest for this thesis is to headline the importance of preserving the industrial heritage and the different methods of its utilization. The research was carried out with the intention to show the variety of possibilities for use of formal industrial districts. The intention was to presented different approaches to resolving the problems of derelict industrial sites and the process of transformation of abandoned and endangered industrial heritage. As an example of good recycling process it will be present cases of reutilization of site and district to cultural, commercial and residential purpose.