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Factories, workshops and wages in the footwear's industry of Mallorca

The industrial evolution of Mallorca has some original features: it's a late industrialization that combines the predominance of the small workshop with a wide flexibility of labour. The worst effects of industrialization were attenuated due to two key factors: the resource of the workers to alternative systems to the market to stock up on food and a culture of organization and resistance workers who benefited from the experiences in other countries and regions of early industrialization. The shoe-making, is one of the best examples that exemplify the features of this industrialization. This paper discusses the evolution and characteristics of the footwear industry in Mallorca from the manufacturing workshop until the introduction of mechanized factory. A successful industry that had its heyday during the first seventy years of the twentieth century to lead a marginal sector in the whole in the whole of an island economy dominated by tourism and services. The key moments are influenced both by the costs of labor and the investment efforts of entrepreneurs, as well as its final corollary expressed in the development of export capacity. Finally, we consider on the adaptive capacity of the sector to changing economic circumstances and affects the own synergy between industrial districts and cultural history of a particular binder industrial evolution.

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