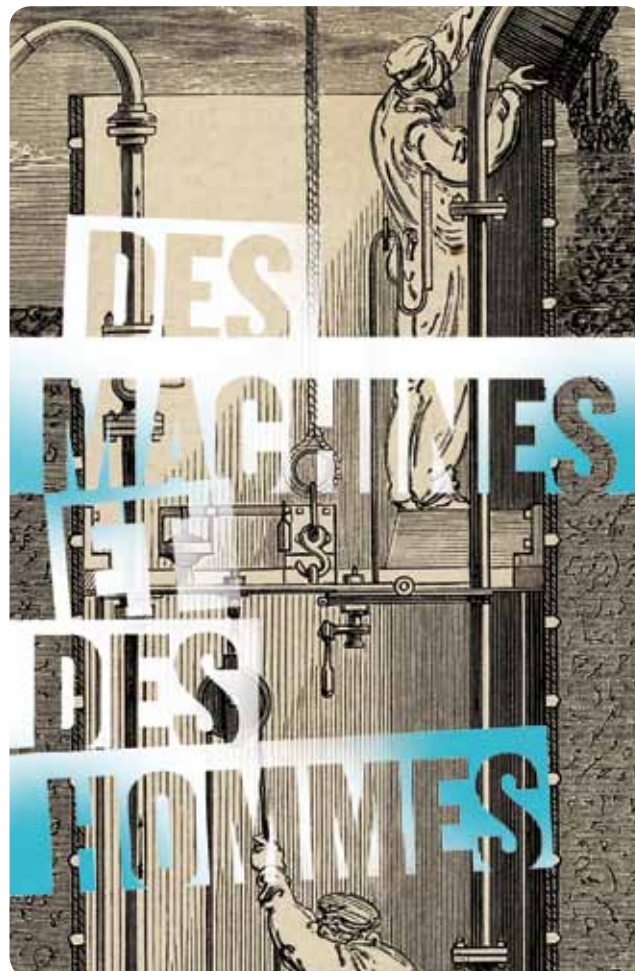


International conference

*Machinery and men :
emergence and implementation
of technical innovations
in coal mines*



19th and 20th of November 2012
Mining History Centre



The Mining History Centre is devoting its programming to the theme of mining technical evolutions in the coal mines.

Underground coal mining has everywhere in the world required the implementation of advanced techniques within a wide variety of fields. Men working in the coal mines have had to deploy the utmost ingenuity, design machinery, adapt techniques which were already used in other French or foreign coalfields, or by other industries, in the face of geological, technological and energy-related constraints. On those occasions, innovations have often triggered major upheavals on the coal mining organization, operation and safety.

The Mining History Centre in Lewarde is holding an international conference, aimed at assessing the rhythms and shapes of those innovations. The talks, delivered by the 18 French and foreign specialists, will allow understanding of those innovations, their origin, the means of their dissemination and their implementation. They will raise the question of how those innovations were perceived and implemented by the workers, in the light of the economical, political and social context of the day.



Program

Monday, the 19th of November, 2012

9.15

Welcome

10.00

Official Opening by the Head of the Mining History Centre and the institutional partners

10.30

Scientific introduction

Denis Woronoff, Emeritus history professor, Université de Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne

11.00-12.30

Presentations and debates

Gérard Dumont, Agrégé history professor
Mathilde Colliery in Denain, an innovative laboratory in the middle of the 19th century

Pierre-Christian Guiollard, Doctor in sciences and techniques history, Researcher at the CRESAT, Université de Haute Alsace
1917 and 1945, the two major steps in reorganizing and rationalizing the production facilities of the Nord-Pas-de-Calais coal mines

12.30

Lunch at the restaurant Le Briquet

14.00-16.00

Presentations and debates

Jean-Philippe Passaqui, Agrégé history professor, Doctor in modern history
The mining companies in central France facing the difficulties associated with the thick layers of coal (1855-1873)

Jean-Louis Escudier, Research manager for the CNRS, Université de Montpellier I
The jackhammer : innovation or regression ?

Yi Xue, Deputy director and professor of the Research Institute on Coal Mine History, China University of Mining & Technology, Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, China
From the traditional to the modern: the evolution of the method and technology of Chinese coal mining

16.00-16.30

Break

16.30-18.30
**Presentations
and debates**

Serge Benoît, History professor, Université d'Evry
Hydropower in coal mines

Tomasz Bugaj, Engineer in 19th and 20th century industry,
technology and techniques, Poland
*The "Main Key Hereditary" Adit as the example of the unique
19th century civil engineering project*

Dr Emdadul Islam, Director at Birla Industrial
& Technological Museum, West Bengal, India
Coal : an Indian narrative

18.30-18.45

Break

18.45-19.45

Guided Tour of the exhibition
Des Machines et des hommes (Machinery and men)

20.00-22.00

Dinner at the restaurant Le Briquet

Tuesday, the 20th of November, 2012

9.00-11.30
**Presentations
and debates**

Joël Michel, Doctor in modern history
*Mechanization, qualification and social status
in European coal mines, 1880-1940*

Ben Curtis, Historian, Aberystwyth University, Wales
*Industrial injury and mining technology
in the south Wales coalfield, c.1880-1947*

Alan Murray, Historian and journalist, Australia
Dark side of the Boom

Rosemary Preece, Curator of the National Coal Mining
Museum for England
*Mines, Machinery and Men – winning the coal in
the English coalfields*

11.30-11.45

Break

11.45-13.00
**Presentations
and debates**

Diana Cooper-Richet, Lecturer in modern history,
Université de Versailles
*Images of technical evolution in French "mining literature"
in the second half of the 19th century : the readers' perspective*

Alain Forti, Curator at the Bois du Cazier, Belgium
Strangers in the Nigh, photographers down in the mine !

13.00

Lunch at the restaurant Le Briquet

14.30-16.00
**Presentations
and debates**

Luc Rojas, Doctor in history, Université Jean Monnet
*Taking inspiration to innovate, or the civil mining
engineers from the Saint- Etienne coalfield undertaking
study travels (1854-1945)*

Gersende Piernas, Responsible for research studies
at the Archives nationales du monde du travail, Roubaix
*The "Centre national de perfectionnement des cadres"
(national centre for executive development)
of the "Charbonnages de France" and the setting-up of
a professional training for miners (1943-1970)*

16.00-16.30
**Conference
conclusions**

Arnaud Berthoud, Professor of philosophy of economics,
Université de Lille I

Organizing committee

Members from the permanent scientific team of the Mining History Centre :

- ▶ **André Dubuc**, Director of the Mining History Centre
- ▶ **Virginie Debrabant**, Director the archives of the Mining History Centre
- ▶ **Gérard Dumont**, Agrégé history teacher

Representatives of the Scientific Council of the Mining History Centre :

- ▶ **Serge Benoît**, Agrégé history professor with the Université d'Evry
- ▶ **Arnaud Berthoud**, Emeritus professor of philosophy of economics with the Université de Lille I
- ▶ **André Brossard**, Former mining chief engineer

▶ **Jean-Louis Escudier**, Research manager at the CNRS, Université de Montpellier I

- ▶ **Pierre-Christian Guillard**, Researcher for the CRESAT, Université de Haute Alsace
- ▶ **Michel Poilevé**, Former mining chief engineer
- ▶ **Denis Woronoff**, Emeritus history professor with the Université Paris 1 – Panthéon – Sorbonne

Practical information

Conference languages will be French and English

Dates and venue

19th and 20th of November 2012 at the Mining History Centre in Lewarde (Nord region), 8 kms from Douai

Prices excluding accommodation

The registration fee includes the documentation provided during the conference, coffee breaks, lunches, the dinner on the 19th of November, shuttle service between Douai and Lewarde. Price for the 2 days : € 100 (reduced price for students : € 75, on presentation of suitable evidence)

Transport

A shuttle bus will be available to participants from the railway station in Douai and the accommodation to the Mining History Centre, as early as the morning of the 19th of November.

Accommodation

List and prices are available on the website www.chm-lewarde.com, under the section "actualités"

Road Travel

▶ Coming from Paris, Lille or Lens, follow directions for Douai, then for Cambrai and follow the signs for the "Centre Historique Minier"

▶ Coming from Valenciennes, follow directions for Douai, then for Aniche and follow the signs to the "Centre Historique Minier"

Air Travel

International airport at Lille-Lesquin – 40 kms

Rail Travel

- ▶ TGV train station in Douai, daily services Paris-Douai (journey time 1h15)
- ▶ Numerous TGV links via Lille
- ▶ From the railway station in Douai, shuttle bus organized by the Mining History Centre to Lewarde each morning and evening during the conference.

Registration

Print and send your registration form **before the 10th of November**, together with the payment to the following address :

Centre Historique Minier
Cellule « Colloque »
Fosse Delloye BP 30039
59 287 LEWARDE

or by e-mail :
vdebrabant@chm-lewarde.com

As places for the conference are limited, registrations will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

