



1st circular

UISPP Commission on Flint Mining in Pre- and Protohistoric Times

“Mining and Quarrying. Geological Characterisation, Knapping Processes and Distribution Networks during Pre- and Protohistoric Times“

7th International Conference in Mons and Spiennes (Belgium)

28th September – 1st October 2016

Presentation

The establishing of a Commission on Flint Mining in Pre- and Protohistoric Times in the International Union of Pre- and Protohistoric Sciences (UISPP) referred to the tradition of organising international symposia on flint, established by the Limburg Branch of the Dutch Geological Society in 1969 at Maastricht. The next meetings were organised in 1975 and 1979 in Maastricht, 1983 in Brighton, 1987 in Bordeaux, 1991 in Madrid, 1995 in Warsaw and Ostrowiec and 1999 in Bochum.

Six conferences have been organised since 2007: Paris, Madrid, Vienna, Florianopolis, Paris and Burgos. The Madrid conference was published in 2011 and the second Paris conference in 2014.

The aim of the commission is to favour cooperation in the area of archaeological research upon siliceous rock mining (flint, chert, hornstone, radiolarite, jasper...), presenting and discussing methods and results. Some of the foremost fields of interest will embrace, among others: research upon different stages of “chaînes opératoires” of manufacture, specialisation of labour and circulation of raw materials, characterisation of raw material as well as investigation on flint mining sites belonging to Pre- and Protohistoric settlement networks. The objective of the commission will be to promote those lines of research upon flint mining and its methods which will allow a better understanding of various phenomena and processes taking place in Pre- and Protohistoric times. The international conference will also draw attention on this outstanding heritage and on its protection.



Place

The Mons Basin region, thanks to its long tradition of research on geology and prehistory, is an ideal place for the organisation of an international conference on Prehistoric mining. From the 19th century onwards archaeologists and geologists combined their scientific approaches, contributing to the advancement of knowledge. Several Neolithic flint mines are located in the Mons Basin, among which the famous Spiennes mining site (Unesco World Heritage). As for the remarkable geology of the region it is showcased through the *Géoparc du Bassin de Mons*.

Excursions

The geologists of the *Géoparc* will welcome the conference delegates for a visit of the underground quarry of La Malogne, a late 19th century phosphate chalk mining operation. Visits of the Camp-à-Cayaux and Petit-Spiennes Neolithic flint mines, as well as the brand new Interpretation Centre, SILEX's, will close the meeting.

Language

The language of the International conference is English.

Abstract submission

15th February 2016

The abstract Submission Form is available below. Please precise if it is a presentation or a poster.

Registration

Registration to the meeting is free of fees. It has to be noted, however, that the number of participants will be limited to 60 people.

Contact

Hélène Collet, Public Service of Wallonia
helene.collet@spw.wallonie.be

Organising Committee and Partners

The conference is organised by the UISPP Commission on “Flint Mining in Pre- and Protohistoric Times”, the Public Service of Wallonia (SPW), the Society for Prehistoric Research in Hainaut (SRPH) and the Museums of the City of Mons.

Hélène Collet (SPW, DGO4),
Marc Schepers and Madeline Votion (SPW, DGO4, Service Events),
Bertrand Pasture (SPW, DGO3),
Philippe Lavachery and Jean-Philippe Collin (SRPH),
Xavier Roland and Manuela Valentino (Museums of the City of Mons),
Ivan Jadin (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, RBINS),
Francesco Lo Bue (UMONS, Sci Tech²),
Thierry Mortier (Mons Basin Geopark and asbl LA MALOGNE).

Scientific Committee

Jean-Marc BAELE (UMONS),
Françoise BOSTYN (UISPP, INRAP),
Hélène COLLET (SPW),
François GILIGNY (UISPP, PARIS I),
Anne HAUZEUR (UISPP),
Philippe LAVACHERY (SRPH),
Jacek LECH (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw),
Stéphane PIRSON (SPW),
Peter TOPPING (University of Newcastle).

Website

Soon more information on

<http://www.uispp-flintmining.org/>

<http://www.minesdespiennes.org/>

http://spw.wallonie.be/dgo4/site_colloques/AccueilColloquesEtSeminaire/

Abstract Submission Form

Title of the presentation or poster

Firstname LASTNAME¹, Firstname LASTNAME², Firstname LASTNAME³

Institution 1*

Department

Street, n°

Zip Code, City, COUNTRY

Institution 2

Department

Street, n°

Zip Code, City, COUNTRY

* Corresponding author: email address and phone

Keywords: keyword_1, keyword_2, keyword_3, keyword_4, keyword_5.

Please provide here the abstract of your presentation or poster (400 words max.)