

Call for Papers:
What's Mined is Yours: Making the most of our Metallurgical Heritage
HMS AGM and BM joint conference
Saturday 16 June 2018, British Museum - Stevenson Lecture Theatre

The study of historical and archaeological metallurgy is arguably at a turning point, having evolved out of the shared interests of industrial metallurgists, geologists, and archaeologists, it has coalesced into a discipline in its own right. Contemporary research is now unravelling ever more information embedded within metallurgical remains, from the aesthetic significance of objects to the valuable material information contained within degradation and manufacturing waste products holding socio-cultural insights about trade and technologies. Helped along by technological advances, these new interpretative techniques have not been exclusively driven by esoteric academic pursuits but equally so by an increasing public awareness of the value of our metallurgical heritage. This is due to a confluence of social, political, and economic changes happening over the last few decades. Indeed, the normalising of metal detecting in many countries, the rising popularity of archaeology in the mainstream media, and the continued onward march of urban development highlighting the threat to a rapidly disappearing industrial landscape have all played a role in altering political and public perceptions of what constitutes valuable heritage. The challenge now lies in managing the ever expanding mountain of material, landscapes, and data available while simultaneously catalysing this wave of public interest to help preserve our metallurgical past.

The British Museum and the Historical Metallurgy Society would like to invite submissions for papers and poster presentations for this one day conference and the Society's AGM on the topic of the archaeology, conservation, analysis, and/or presentation of metallurgical heritage. A broad interpretation of this topic is welcomed, as are submissions from related fields, but we particularly encourage discussion within the following themes:

New approaches to the analysis and conservation of metallurgical remains and metallic objects

- Metallurgy, metals, and museums
- Metallurgical and industrial landscapes
- Public involvement and engagement

Abstracts for oral 20 minute and poster presentations should be:

- 250 words maximum in Word format
- include the name and affiliation of all authors (presenting author in bold)
- sent to hmsagmconf@hist-met.org
- Submitted by 31 January 2018

For more information, please contact:

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Mixed messages: the Crosby Garrett Roman cavalry helmet (photo: PAS) and the Great Orme Bronze Age copper mines (photo: Wikimedia).



The British
Museum