AFTER THE WRECKAGE...?
WRECK RECOVERY, REUSE AND RECYCLING

Call for papers and posters

1st International symposium organized jointly by musée national de la Marine (MnM) and the Département des recherches archéologiques subaquatiques et sous-marines (Drassm)

The symposium will be held from Tuesday 2 to Thursday 4 April 2024 at the recently renovated musée national de la Marine (Paris, France).

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:
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PRESENTATION:
The MnM and the Drassm partner up and join forces to organize an international symposium dedicated to the recovery, and potential reuse/recycling of material remains from maritime or river boats, after they have been wrecked, permanently decommissioned or abandoned. Excluded from this theme are the remains of drowned bodies retrieved from wrecks or washed ashore. Chronologically, the focus is on the long term, from Antiquity to the present day. No geographical limits have been set.
Recent archaeological discoveries continue to enrich the records of practices pertaining to the appropriation by mankind, in multiple forms, of the remains of wrecks (architectural structure, rigging, fittings, artillery, cargo, etc.). Historical sources are also full of testimonies on the management, controlled or not by the State, of breakages (“bris”) after the loss of a ship. Ethnology also confirms the importance of shipwrecks for coastal societies in both material and immaterial terms.
The aim of this symposium is therefore to illustrate the recovery, recycling and reuse mechanisms undergone by shipwrecks. With this perspective, the conference will also look into the secondary economy generated by this activity. What material components are salvaged, what resources are deployed and for what purposes? The organizers of this symposium wish to go beyond chronological or geographical considerations to try and understand whether these practices follow comparable trends or logics. Finally, beyond these scientific questions, the symposium will focus on the cultural heritage dimension of the theme.

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS:
The three-day symposium will provide an opportunity to present both papers and posters. Given the extent of the subject, and in order to encourage the emergence of a broader perspective on the theme, the scientific committee will give priority to comprehensive studies (thematic or geographical). Case studies will rather be presented as posters.

The symposium will be divided into thematic sessions. The following lines could be addressed:
- Reuse of wreck fragments in construction of boats, port facilities or land buildings
- Recovery of wrecks and cargoes by coastal communities following wreckages
- Technical, human and legal aspects of wreckage-linked salvage operations.

Registration for the symposium will be free for speakers and posters authors. The official languages are French and English. Presentations and debates will be simultaneously translated, videotaped and broadcast.

Proposals for oral papers or posters should be sent by email before 1st October 2023, to wreckage.symposium@musee-marine.fr. They will have to include the title of the presentation, the name and contact details of the author(s), an abstract in French or English (400 words maximum) and five key words. Please indicate clearly your choice between a paper or a poster.

Accepted publications and posters will subsequently be published in Open Access.