



Le Creusot, château de la Verrerie, vue de la cour la cour et de l'aile centrale. Pierre Fleury ©Com' air

MUSÉE DE L'HOMME ET DE L'INDUSTRIE

Visit booklet

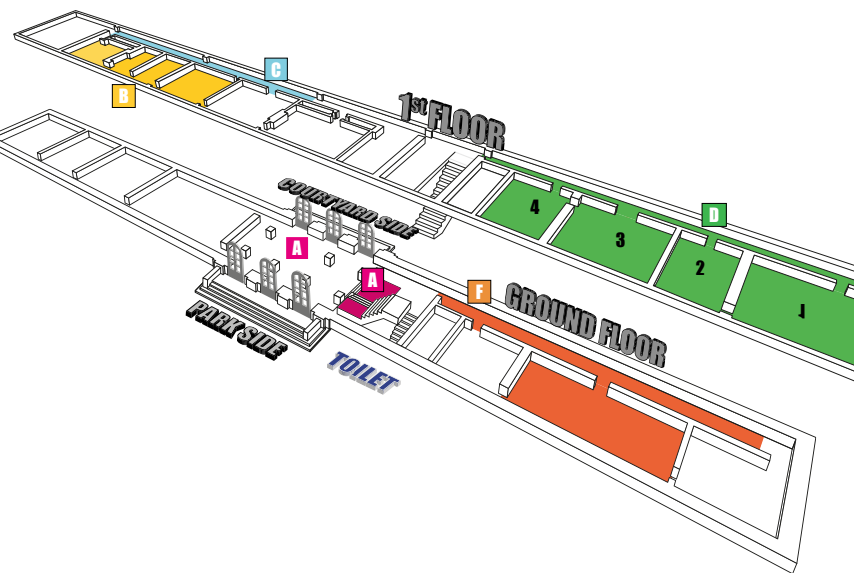



Deux modèles de bouteilles en cristal fabriquées de la Manufacture de Châteauneuf-sur-Loire, aujourd'hui écomusée CUIOM

© Agence Com'air



DIRECTION OF THE VISIT :



- A** Welcome area
(Ticketing, souvenir shop)
- B** The Royal manufacture of crystal p. 4-5
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«Le marteau-pilon, Forges et aciérie de Saint-Chamond : sortie d'une pièce de marine».
Détail. Ecomusée CUOM ©D. Busseuil

MUSÉE DE L'HOMME ET DE L'INDUSTRIE

Located in the central section of the Château de la Verrerie, the Musée de l'Homme et de l'Industrie shows through permanent collections the castle's history. It was at first, between 1787 and 1832, the crystal factory of the French queen, Marie-Antoinette, then from 1837 to 1960 became the patronal residence for the Schneider family.

Temporary exhibitions ensure to present historical key events that took place in this region, growth of the living condition, and of yesterday's and today's citizen.

Meetings, entertainment, workshops for children and the outdoor Sundays event are organized to discover or rediscover the know-how and the citizens of a varied history.

TO DISCOVER:

THE LITTLE THEATER (subject to availability)

FRENCH GUIDED TOUR:

(visit sheets in english, german and italian available.)

- 2:00 pm and 5:30 pm from 1st February to 1th July and from 1st september and 3 November except on French school holidays
- 12:00 pm, 3:30 pm and 5:00 from 1st July and 31 august
- 12:00 pm and 5:30 pm during French spring and autumn school holidays



Le Creusot, Château de la Verrerie, intérieur du petit théâtre : La Scène. ©Pierre Peun
Agence Contour

CRYSTAL WORKGLASS FACTORY

Le Creusot: «View of the queen's crystal factory placed in le Creusot near Montenis in Bourgogne.» Ecomuseum CUJCM, © D.Busseuil.



It is in 1787, that the crystal factory of the French queen Marie Antoinette, is transferred from the city of Sèvres to Le Creusot. This territory is chosen for its natural resources despite its rural area. At that time, the Canal du centre construction was finishing, and will allowed the transport

of the production easily.

The factory houses the furnaces, the workshop of cutting and engraving, stores, but also a place to live for the workers and managers in the main building.

In 1832, Baccarat and St Louis bought back the factory, leading to its final shutdown.

Room 1: crystals room:



Crystal column clock, with wide diamond cut: 1820©Ecomusée Creusot-Montceau, picture D.Busseuil



Oil carafe, with sliced melon cut: 1820©Ecomusée Creusot-Montceau, picture D.Busseuil

CRYSTAL WORKGLASS FACTORY



Room 2: Production process

The essentials components for crystal production: silica, lye, red lead and broken glass, are exhibited in Room 2. These components are mixed in a container called crucible, heat up at 1450°C for 36 hours until the substance become close to the honey consistency.

The showcase explains the process of production and the different steps to create a stemmed glass:

- The glass: the mixture is placed in a mould with a glassmaker stick in which the worker blows in while he turns it to not let the liquid fall
- The glass' leg: add some mixture to the glass which be stretch with a clamp
- The glass' foot: add some mixture to the leg which be flatten with two wooden board

The edge of the glass is cut with a machine and some water, and then the glass is marked for the cutting and engraving process.

Room 3: Specific technique

Opaline glass, cristallo-cérame, colored glass, the Montcenis' crystal glass factory was, at that time, at the cutting edge of glass technology.



Room 4 You can see a documentary from the Baccarat factory about crystal making.

UNTIL 3 NOVEMBER 2024

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION

**RAYMOND ROCHETTE
1906-1993**



Autoportrait de Raymond Rochette 1943 ©Ecomusée Creusot Montceau. D.Busseuil

Raymond ROCHETTE is an artist from Le Creusot, known for his industrial view paintings and rural landscapes.

He was born on 25th May, 1906 in the family house of the Marolle (a district of Le Creusot). He spent all his schooldays in Schneider's schools and produced his first paintings at 15. He was the first at the entrance exam for the teacher training college of Mâcon in 1923 and became few years later teacher in the Marolle's school. In the same time, he met Jules Adler who propose him at the French Artists Society. Raymond Rochette, who divided his life between educational methods and art, took part in local and national exhibitions.

Son of a rolling mill's Creusot Factory employee, his fascination for heavy metallurgy goes back to childhood. After a first refusal, Raymond Rochette get in 1949 the permission from the Forge Society and Creusot Shop (SFAC) to paint in the factory. From this time, the rural life painter became also painter of industrial world and worker.

He died at the end of 1993, leaving an unfinished painting in the house where he was born. He rests in the Saint-Sernin-du-Bois cemetery.

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SUMMARY**



LES SCHNEIDER

THE FOUNDRY'S MASTERS

**4 GENERATIONS, 124 YEARS:
EUGENE IST HENRI, EUGENE II, CHARLES.**

The arrival of the Schneider family in Le Creusot :

Adolphe and **Eugene** Schneider, two brothers from the Lorraine area, arrived in Le Creusot in 1836. They bought back the royal foundry, originally build in 1785, while Le Creusot is still an hamlet. A year later, in 1837, the bought the former crystal factory as their residential home.

Over the years, the factories and the production are expanding, from canons production to different kind of weapons, pieces of boats, steam engines and railway rails. The castle is redesigned several times while the city is developing around the factory and the patronal residence.



Eugene (1st Schneider, 1805-1875)
terracotta bust by Jules Franceschi
Ecomusée CUCM © D. Busseuil



LES SCHNEIDER THE FOUNDRY'S MASTERS

Room 1, there is the bust of Adolphe Schneider and some portraits of Eugene I and his son **Henri**. Each of them is painted at his desk with the French Legion of honour medal. In one of Henri's painting, several factories are on the background showing the expansion of the initial workshop since the takeover of the royal foundry.

Eugene II and the time of prestigious guests:

Eldest son of Henri Schneider and his first wife Zélie, **Eugene II** is born in 1868 in Le Creusot. The room 2, displays his portrait and pictures with loved ones, including Antoinette de Raphaélis de Saint Sauveur. She will give birth to three sons, Henri-Paul, Jean and Charles and one daughter Marie-Zélie.

Also, pictures of king, head of state, company manager, who stayed at the castle while they were visiting the factories regarding an important order. In fact, it is for those prestigious guests that Eugene II had transformed the castle between 1900 and 1910, especially by adding an extra floor, transforming the old crystal furnace in a small theatre, creating an underground passage or a dining room...

LES SCHNEIDER THE FOUNDRY'S MASTERS

DID YOU KNOW ?

The statue financing has been insured by private subscription (15 000 people) and the factory's participation



La Reconnaissance :

Henry Chapu (sculptor) and Paul Sédille (architect) have created the statue *la Reconnaissance, The Gratitude*, in 1878 at the request of Henri Schneider.

The original statue was placed in the centre of Schneider square and was moved in 1982 at the entry of the Verrerie Park.

It represents Eugene I standing on a pedestal. His clothes show his position as an upper class boss.

He is above a mother and her son, who, judging by their clothes, are coming from the working class. The mother is seated, leaning towards his son with her arm raised towards the foundry master and it seems that she tells him "look at your benefactor". As with his patronal policy, Eugene I took charge of every aspect of the workers' life: housing, education, religion, health, retirement, and entertainment.



LES SCHNEIDER THE FOUNDRY'S MASTERS

The last generation :

Henri Paul, the first born of Eugene II, is destined to take over the management of the factories at the death of his father. **Room 4**, there is a portrait of him and Skip, a wolf-dog took in while he was fighting the war in the Marne where he died in 1918.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Skip's tomb is now beside the Children fountain, which represents his owner, brothers and sisters.

Jean is a general inspector at Air France and Charles has started a career at Gaumont's cinematography sector. This last one will take over the companies after his father past in 1942. Jean died two years later in an airplane crash with his wife Françoise. Charles married Lilian Constantini, an actress and the granddaughter of Jules Guesde.

In 1960, at Charles' death, his wife will managed the companies for nine years before sailing them to the company Creusot-Loire, and the castle to the city office.



THE TWO AMERICA LIVING ROOM

Touched by bombarding in 1943, the Château de la Verrerie has been partly rebuilt by Charles Schneider after the war. The two America living room that is exhibited **room 3**, is from that time. This room shows the high-class interior of the Schneider family by its Napoleon III style furniture and its decor.

The wallpaper has been created, based on J.Detil's sketch, by the Zuber manufactory, installed in Rixheim, Alsace. It is the most ancient manufacture of wallpaper that is still active. For the most part of its production, the workers are using traditional technique: print on wooden board. It exists 150 000 boards, listed as Historical Monuments since 1985. It is still possible to order those decors.

Panoramic wallpapers represent views of North and South America:

- Brazil views (1829) start on the bottom wall where we can see a coffee plantation with working slaves. On the right and on the right wall there is bulls' race and a convoy attacked by Native American.
- North America views are on the left wall with New York Bay, West Point military review, Boston harbour that show the importance of trade, the Virginia natural bridge and Niagara falls.

DID YOU KNOW ?

The Château de la Verrerie and the White House, in Washington, have in common the 32 length of North America panoramic view wallpaper. It has been retrieved, from a particular house in Maryland, at the request of Jackie Kennedy which was destined to be destroyed. The wallpaper is, since 1961, in a diplomatic living room.

THE FOUNDRY'S STRENGTH

THE WORKERS

On the ground floor, two paintings depict industrial work and forging.



François Bonhommé 's painting, *Forging with a power hammer in the workshop of Indret* (Loire-Atlantique) was painted in 1865.

It is an example of industrial realism. The painter wants to represent the scene as closely as possible to the reality but with painting's esthetical aspect.

Chiaroscuro technique is used to attract the audience's attention on the main scenery: a group of around forty workers move a metal piece called "mass" to take it under the power hammer. In his painting, the painter shows the hard working conditions of the workers in the XIXth century.

The heat is represented by the red colour and the workers' posture show the need of physical strength.

A wounded worker, his arm in the sling, place in the forefront highlights the danger to work in the foundry.

THE FOUNDRY'S STRENGTH

THE WORKERS

The power hammer, foundry and steelworks of Saint-Chamond, a painting of Joseph Layraud, painted in 1889 for the Universal Exhibition at the factory's manager's, Adrien de Montgolfier, request.

Under a huge power hammer, set in the middle of the painting, workers guided by their supervisor, forged a cannon. While three men, on the right, observe them with interest: two military, here to control the order and the director.

Technological progress' are highlighted : one man, the drop hammer operator, set the power hammer in motion, while a steam crane support the cannon's weight carried by the workers.

The architecture is typical from the second half of the XIXth century, distinguished by steel framework allowing a larger and safer workspace from fire.



The power hammer, foundry and steelworks of Saint-Chamond • Detail Écomusée O.C.M. © D. Besseli

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SUMMARY



ART OF MODELS

Steam is the first motor energy source of the first industrial revolution during the first half of the XIXth century. Steam engines are particularly used to power up the spinning and foundry machinery.

Quickly this driving force is analysed to be adapt to create transportation (vessel, locomotive). Richard Trevithick, an English engineer, invents the first locomotive in 1804.

Soon, this kind of transportation, which seduce the travellers, is worldwide expended. In 1838, Schneider brothers landed a contract to build six steam engine for the Paris railways factory of Saint Cloud and Versailles: the Gironde is the first steam engine build in Le Creusot. Thirty years later, The Schneider's factory is the biggest factory in Europe and produces thousands of steam engines. The last one will leave the workshop in 1952.

The models here are, mostly, accurate to the originals. However, some model makers, like Mothu, invented their own steam engine, mixing reality and personal desire. Creating that way a unique device.

DID YOU KNOW?

The French steam engine's name is mostly created through their axletree. A locomotive is named from the front to the back, axletree number grouped by:

- Bogie (front axletree with pivot to orientate the locomotive in the turns)
- Under frame axletree (motored axletree in the middle)
- Bissel truck (back axletree with pivot)

A 241P will have at the front 2 small wheels, 4 big wheels in the middle and a small one at the back.



ART OF MODELS

2M PAR 5M
38 AUTOMATES
20 YEARS OF WORK

MINIATURE FACTORY

This model is an animated reconstitution of different workstation and machines were in the Schneider's factories in Le Creusot. It replicates fairly the foundry layout and the working conditions.

Joseph Beuchot (1855-1920), a mechanic then a supervisor at the Fraisans foundry, created this model between 1890 and 1910.

There are three clear sections:

- Hand forge where workers work small items or make tools.
- The great forge, in the middle, with the power hammer, rolling mills and various kind of steam machinery.
- The carpentry shop, essential to build carrier to send the items.

At the turn of the XXth century, despite the use of steam and the emergence of electricity, the human force is still needed. There were hard working conditions, men have little equipment: no gloves nor helmet, few clog or leather apron are their only protection.

In addition, workers are constantly watch by the supervisor, hence the writing "be brief" above the restroom.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Joseph Beuchot would represent himself has the factory manager, watching over the power hammer's activities.



CREUSOT MONTCEAU ECOMUSEUM was created in 1973. Its goal is to study and promote its heritage and its residents. A place marked by mining, steel, ceramic and glass industries, landscapes and living spaces.

Since January 1st 2012, it has integrated the Creusot Montceau urban community. Its headquarters are in the Château de la Verrerie in Le Creusot.

Currently, the ecomuseum has two sites:

- Musée de l'Homme et de l'industrie in Le Creusot
- Villa Perrusson in Ecuisses

THE VILLA PERRUSSON

The Villa Perrusson is an old middle-class residence build between 1869 and 1890 by the Perrusson, owners of the Ecuisses ceramic factory.

Simple housing residence at first, it became a catalogue house showing the production variety.

Place in the middle of an English garden, the Villa Perrusson is in the extra inventory of Historical Monuments.

All year long, concerts and events give rhythm to the Villa and its garden.



If you would like to know our latest news, opening hours and events check out our website and social networks:

www.musee-homme-industrie.fr
www.villaperrusson.fr



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Ecomusée Creusot Montceau 2024

