



Zukunft.Niedersachsen-Projekt

Climate Change and Early Humans in the North

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Revolution wood! Schöningen and the earliest wooden artefacts of humankind

International conference celebrating the 30th anniversary of the discovery of the Schöningen spears

24.-26. October 2024

Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege
Scharnhorststraße 1 (Room 39), 30175 Hannover
and Forschungsmuseum Schöningen

Conference Announcement

Dear colleagues and friends,

We are happy to announce the upcoming conference titled *Revolution wood! Schöningen and the earliest wooden artefacts of humankind. International conference celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Schöningen spears*. The conference will be held from 24th until 26th of October 2024 in Hannover and Schöningen, Germany, as well as online (program see below).

During the program, we will not only look back at the long research history of Schöningen, but primarily we will present new results from ongoing research at Schöningen, will hear from speakers researching wooden artefacts all around the world including novel methodologies, and learn about hunting and innovations during the Pleistocene. In the Research Museum Schöningen we will demonstrate our research approach on original hunting weapons from the Spear Horizon and discuss with you and other colleagues.

We have a few places available at the conference venue (first come, first served) while online participation will be possible too. Registration for either is open until the 30th of August. Please send your personal registration to the following address clearly stating whether you would like to attend in-person or online:

nld-veranstaltungen@nld.niedersachsen.de

Please find further information on the conference and our research here: www.ccehn.de

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Looking forward to seeing you in Hannover and Schöningen.

Sincerely your

Conference Organisers

Dirk Leder, Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege

Annemieke Milks, University of Reading

Antje Schwalb, Technische Universität Braunschweig

Thomas Terberger, Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege/ Georg-August-Universität Göttingen



Program

Thursday, 24.10.2024 (Hannover)

Conference Opening & The Schöningen Revolution

- 14:00 Opening of the meeting by Christina Krafzcyk
(President of Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege)
Welcome by Henning Haßmann (Head of State Archaeology)
- 14:15 Antje Schwalb/ Thomas Terberger/ Gianpiero Di Maida (Braunschweig/
Hannover), *Revolution Wood*
- 14:30 Matt Pope (London), *General overview Middle Pleistocene threshold.*
- 14:50 Katerina Harvati (Tübingen), *Who made the Schöningen spears? Status
of the Middle Pleistocene hominin record*
- 15:10 Brigitte Urban/ Martin Theuerkauf/ Michael Hein (Lüneburg), *Schöningen
and Beyond – New information on the MIS 9 palaeoenvironment in the
Northern Lowlands*
- 15:30 Discussion
- 15:50 Coffee break
- 16:20 Sonja Rigterink/ Antje Schwalb (Braunschweig), *Climate Change and
Early Humans at Schöningen 300.000 years ago*
- 16:40 Thijs. v. Kolfschoten/ Ivo Verheijen (Leiden/ Schöningen), *Bones, Tools
and Isotopes – New Information on the faunal remains of Schöningen*
- 17:00 Nicolas Conard/ Jordi Serangeli (Schöningen/ Tübingen), *Humans and
elephants at the Lake Shore – New Results of the Schöningen Excavation*
- 17:20 Dirk Leder/ Annemieke Milks (Hannover/ Reading), *More than spears –
New results on the wooden remains of Schöningen 13 II-4*
- 17:40 Marcel Weiss (Erlangen), *The final Lower and Early Middle Palaeolithic in
northern Central Europe. An overview*
- 18:00 Discussion
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- 18:30 Reception
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Friday, 25.10.2024 (Schöningen)

8:30 Bus transfer to Forschungsmuseum Schöningen

Hands on – The Wooden Artefacts from Schöningen

10:00 – 12:00 Discussion of wooden artefacts in the exhibition with
Jens Lehmann / Annemieke Milks (Hannover/ Reading), *How to systematically record Palaeolithic wood artefacts*
Michael Sietz/ Tim Koddenberg/ Matthias Vogel (Hannover/ Göttingen), *Wood anatomy, taphonomy and conservation*
Tim Koddenberg (Göttingen), *Deep inside – Analysing the Schöningen wood by CT-scans, MRI, and 3D microscopy*

12:00 Lunch Break

13:00 Guided tour at the excavation

Wooden Artefacts – new methods and ideas

15:00 Annemieke Milks (Reading) / Sheina Lew-Levy (Durham), *BaYaka perspectives on wood selection for children's and adult spears*

15:20 Luc Bordes (Toulouse), *Diverse uses of sticks. Exploring the throwing function with experimental replication*

15:40 Noora Taipale, Veerle Rots (Liège), *Tracing invisible organics: the potential of lithic functional studies in reconstructing prehistoric hafted tools*

16:00 Paloma Vidal Matutano (La Laguna), *From tool-marks to woodworking actions: an experimental program focused on Prehispanic wooden artefacts from the Canary Islands*

16:20 Discussion

16:50 Coffee break

17:20 Václav Hrnčič (Leipzig) *Use of wooden throwing sticks among recent hunter-gatherers*

17:40 Eva Martellotta (Brisbane) *Wood and osseous retouchers from an experimental and traceological perspective*

18:00 Ingrid Bertin (Barcelona), *Residue analysis of Neolithic wooden artefacts*

18:20 Discussion

19:00 Conference Dinner and the 30th anniversary of the detection of the Schöningen wooden weapons

20:30 Bus transfer to Hannover

Saturday, 26.10.2024 (Hannover)

Prehistoric Wood Artefacts - a global perspective

- 08:30 Lydia Luncz (Leipzig), *Not humans alone ... Chimps use and produce wooden tools too*
- 08:50 Larry Barham (Liverpool), *The behavioural significance of wood working in the Middle Pleistocene at Kalambo Falls, Zambia*
- 09:10 Binacamaria Aranguren, Silvia Florindi, Stefano Grimaldi, Daniela Puzio, Fabio Santaniello, Anna Revedin (Florence), *Poggetti Vecchi, Italy: the wooden artefacts and the use of fire*
- 09:30 Oriol Lopez-Bulto (Barcelona), *Digging in the past. Aranbaltza's paleolithic wooden tools*
- 09:50 Nicky Milner (York), *Use of wood and plant remains at Star Carr*
- 10:10 Discussion
- 10.30 Coffee break

Hunting and Innovations

- 11:00 Gabriele Russo (Tübingen), *Middle Palaeolithic Hunting – weapons, lesions and strategies*
- 11:20 Marlize Lombard (Johannesburg), *The earliest weapon technologies in Stone Age Africa*
- 11:40 Justin Coppe (Liège), *Identifying Palaeolithic Weapon Systems. The Case of the Spear-Thrower at Maisières-Canal*
- 12:00 Mara-Julia Weber (Schleswig), *Lateglacial hunting technology in the North*
- 12:20 Thomas Terberger (Hannover), *The wooden Shigir Idol – a Late Palaeolithic innovation?*
- 12:40 Discussion
- 13:00 End of conference

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