PROCRAFT
PROtection and Conservation of Heritage AirCRAFT
Sauvegarde du patrimoine aéronautique de la seconde guerre mondiale

Associate Partner

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Nantes

Cultural heritage

Archaeology

Neolithic house and enclosure Louresse-Rochemenier (Maine-et-Loire)
Second Iron Age sanctuary Allonnes (Maine-et-Loire)
Roman harbour Rezé (Loire-Atlantique)
Medieval castle mound Peray (Sarthe)

No chronological limit (French Heritage Code L 510-1)

Museums

Musée de France
Archaeology / Regional archaeology service

is responsible for the application of Book V of the French Heritage Code to ensure the detection, the study and the conservation of archaeological heritage on land and inland waters

- issues the authorizations of excavations
- is at the initiative of preventive archaeology operations
- supervises any archaeological excavation and chance discoveries
- is responsible for the conservation of artefacts coming from archaeological excavations (no property of inventor)
WWII archaeology in France

a quite recent research (since 1980’)
and a heritage threatened by theft, looting and illicit trafficking

Three pioneer regions

Hauts de France
Normandie
Grand Est

Blockhaus of Atlantic Wall
Donges (Loire-Atlantique)
Preventive archaeology
Inrap, 2016

Frontstalag and military hospital (1940-1945),
Savenay (Loire-Atlantique)
gas mask, bucket and its content, foundations of the hospital
Preventive archaeology, Inrap, 2015

A few exemples in the Pays de la Loire

Illicit excavation, 2011 (Mayenne)

Saint-Omer, exhibition 2008

Direction régionale des Affaires culturelles des Pays de la Loire
Musées de France / Museum service

carries out at the regional level the national policy in favour of museums, which is mainly aimed at museums recognized as « musées de France » (1 219 museums at the national level, 54 in Pays de la Loire).

It supports « musées de France » scientifically, technically and financially, ensuring they comply with the French Heritage Code and providing expertise and advice, in a partnership-based approach.
The Regional direction of cultural affairs (DRAC) has been a long-standing partner of Arc’Antique and has supported its research programmes since 2015, according to three axis:

- Understanding alteration mechanisms of material cultural heritage;
- Materials, technologies and processes for conservation and restoration of material cultural heritage;
- Promotion, dissemination and publication of research results regarding knowledge as well as conservation and restoration practices of material cultural heritage.

Educational projects to which Arc’Antique contributes have also been supported.

One of Arc’Antique’s conservators is a member of the Regional scientific commission for conservation which is coordinated by the Museums service to examine and give advice on the conservation and restoration operations carried out by musées de France.
DRAC contribution to PROCRAFT project

- Legal expertise on archaeological artefacts and sites;

- Checking legal status of the objects selected for study;

- Identification of the authorisations required for the exportation of remains conserved in musées de France or found in terrestrial archaeological excavations;

- Guidance towards qualified institutions;

- Advice regarding the organisation of the exhibition which will communicate the results of the project to a large audience.