



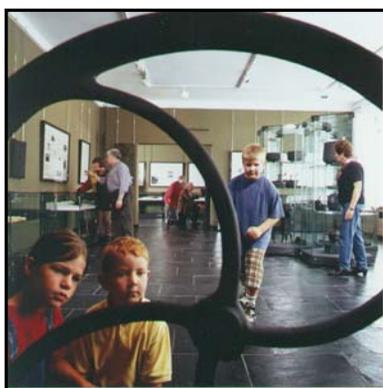
VULKANEIFEL EUROPEAN GEOPARK

IRON-MUSEUM JÜNKERATH

The Iron-Museum Jünkerath was set up in 1991 by the county of Daun. It is located in the former school providing vocational education in Jünkerath next to the compound of a foundry established 300 years ago. Jünkerath was already known as Icorigium – a castle close to the Römerstraße (= Street of the Romans) Treves – Cologne – at the time of the Romans. The Iron-Museum offers a variety of archaeological exhibits of fundamental importance to ancient arts.



The museum



Exhibition inside



Demonstration of casting



Remains of the smelting industry

The former ore mining in Jünkerath and environments was mainly bound to the carbonate rock formations rich in iron in the sub and middle Devonian system (410 to 380 mill. years ago). Many small sources of hematite, limonite and partly as well spathic iron ore were very important in the Eifel area until the middle of the 19th century. The first smelting facilities in the Eifel were constructed by the Celts around 55 B.C.. Already in the 2nd century AD iron was smelted in Jünkerath by the Romans what is proved by records of iron drosses.

In 1687 Lord Salentin Ernst von Manderscheid-Blankenheim founded the foundry of Jünkerath. Here the last charcoal furnace was shut down in 1898, but among the 50 ironworks of the Eifel only the works of Jünkerath succeeded to deal with the time of changes.

Today the foundry of Jünkerath is one of the most important employers of the region with more than 300 employees.

Located on this significant historical spot of iron industry in the Eifel the museum - with a unique position in Germany - shall document the history of local iron industry.

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