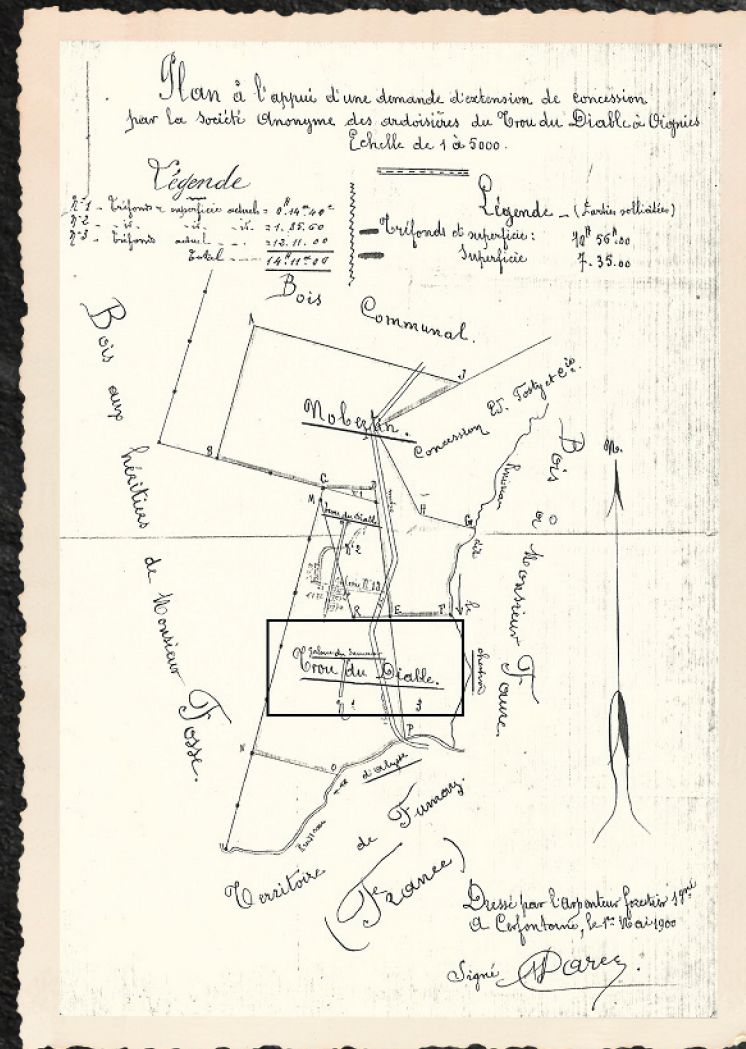


n°5 The Sauveur slate mine and The Trou du Gégène or Trou d'm Pa

The Sauveur slate mine

Very few records of this slate mine have survived. It was previously a seam of the *Trou du Diable* slate mine, worked after 1850. In 1893, three villagers approached the village council to take over the management of the *Veine du Sauveur* seam, thus separating it from that of the *Trou du Diable*. The application was rejected, not only because the specifications did not comply with the legislation in force, but above all because the concession for the two sites had already been awarded to another company.

It has therefore always been operated in conjunction with the *Trou du Diable*.



the artory site plan of the Sauveur slate mine
© Maison des Archives Viroinval



The Sauveur Slate mine



Émile Goffette



Marthe Chartier
© Michel Beaupère

The Trou du Gégène or Trou d'm Pa

This concession was granted in 1921 to local Oignies man Émile Goffette, nicknamed *Émile Gégène*, hence the name *Trou du Gégène* or the *Trou d'm Pa*. With his partner Marthe Chartier, Émile Goffette operated the slate mine for almost five years, creating work for around ten workers from the village. He stopped operations for good in 1925.

Alongside this mine, Émile Goffette also took over the concession for the *Ardoisière du Trou du Diable* and the *Ardoisière du Sauveur* mines from 1921 to 1925.



Main entrance to the Trou du Diable slate mine



Secondary entrance to the gallery inclined towards France, 200 metres before the border on the left.