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Fire technologies. Contained combustion in the history of technology. 17th to 20th centuries.

Containing and controlling combustion is a central aspect of the history of science and technology. Although there is no "fire science," almost all technologies are crossed by some form of combustion. Heat control evolved from the domestic hearth to complex domestic, industrial, and portable technologies. Over time, these technologies contributed to the generation of important changes in the minimum social and urban standards for comfort in Western modernity. Likewise, the evolution of lighting, through contained combustion objects, represented key social and cultural changes for urban and rural societies. Indeed, the luminous "conquest" of night and darkness depends on the technological control of fire lights. Moreover, it has an impact on the way in which social representations of notions like urban, rural, wild, civilized, known, unknown, safe, and dangerous are established. Thus, the ability to store and burn fuels in a controlled and contained manner through objects has transformed the spectrum of human needs and representations. Daily activities such as ironing clothes, smoking, cooking food, heating water, land, transportation in land, water or air, are the result of the organization of societies around controlled combustion. This session seeks to articulate a discussion on the history of objects for containment and control of burning fuels between the 17th century and the 20th century. Presentations may address lighting, heating, mobility, and cooking technologies, but research on other objects related to combustion are also welcome.