

Bouquet: A Digital Library of Historical Maps of Wallonia

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The *Bouquet Cartographique Wallon* project – in short, *Bouquet* - is a digital library of historic maps of Wallonia. This project is directed by the PolleN research center at the University of Namur (Pôle de l'Histoire environnementale de l'Université de Namur, Dr Isabelle Parmentier) and hosted by the library of the University (Bibliothèque Moretus Plantin). The growing collection is constituted of contemporary maps selected from history books. The maps concern past social, structural, political and environmental issues in Wallonia, and, when applicable, in surrounding territories such as Flanders, northern France, Luxemburg, etc. The maps are not ancient documents but rather visual material constituted by historians in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries in order to illustrate facts which took place in the past, since Antiquity to the 1970s. As these maps are usually difficult to access per se (they are usually included into article, books, monographies rather than published apart), *Bouquet* makes them more visible and accessible to university students and researchers as well as teachers and the wider public. All of the books from which the maps are extracted are kept at the Moretus Plantin Library. The maps will be accessible on *NEPTUN (NumErisation du PaTrimoine de l'Université de Namur)*, a platform dedicated to the digitisation of the historical collections of the Moretus Plantin Library.



The screenshot shows the NEPTUN platform interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for Collections, Expositions, Rechercher, A propos, and Contact. The main content area is titled 'Bouquet Cartographique Wallon' and features a navigation menu with links for Projet, Équipe & Partenaires, Panorama, and Mentions. Below the menu, there is a logo for PolleN (Pôle de l'Histoire environnementale Université de Namur) and a section titled 'Qu'est-ce que le Bouquet cartographique wallon?' which describes the platform as an online system for historical cartographic documents. To the right, there is a list of featured maps with small thumbnails and titles: 'Plan schématique de la cité de Liège aux Xe et XIIe siècles', 'Dispersion des chapelles à niche sur socle', 'Les possessions de la Cathédrale Saint-Lambert d'après la...', 'Chassepièrre 1974-75. Services, infrastructure, divers', and '[Les tanneries et moulins à] Houffalize'.

The welcome page of *Bouquet*, on the *Neptun* platform (see neptun.unamur.be).

Readers will both access the maps online as well as obtain bibliographical references in order to reach for the original books at the library if needed. All images are of high resolution and can be zoomed in online as well as downloaded when allowed by the editors.

Accès au document Métadonnées

Egouts collecteurs de la ville de Mons en 1863 (source: AEM, AVN, FC, 516).

— Egouts collecteurs se déversant dans le fossé principal de la forteresse
 oooooo Egouts collecteurs se déversant dans la Touille

1. Collégiale Sainte-Waudru
 2. Ancien château
 3. Église Sainte-Élisabeth
 4. Église Saint-Nicolas-en-Haut
 5. Église Saint-Nicolas-en-Bas
 6. Hôpital des Orphelins
 7. Hôpital militaire
 8. Hôpital civil
 9. Gare
 10. Caserne Guillaume

Plan dressé d'après le Plan parcellaire de la ville de Mons, capitale de la province de Hainaut, dédié à M. C. E. Thyry, levé par A. F. E. Goffaux, dressé par Jamot, 1828.

Powered by Zoomify

Egouts collecteurs de la ville de Mons en 1863

Cote : AR 0095.21M/014

Localisation : UNamur - Bibliothèque Universitaire Moretus Plantin

Citer ce document

Plan extrait de : HONNORE L., *Mons au fil de l'eau : des crises aux remèdes : préoccupations sanitaires et politiques communales d'hygiène publique (1830-1914)*, Mons, Cercle archéologique de Mons, 2005, p. 334. D'après JAMOT, *Plan parcellaire de la ville de Mons, capitale de la province de Hainaut*, 1828.

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Example of a map in *Bouquet* (source: HONNORE L., *Mons au fil de l'eau : des crises aux remèdes : préoccupations sanitaires et politiques communales d'hygiène publique (1830-1914)*, Mons, Cercle archéologique de Mons, 2005, p. 334).

Bouquet will also be accessible through the Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de la Communauté française de Belgique *DONum (Dépôt d'Objets Numérisés)* portal. *DONum* is a portal which centralises since 2009 all of the digitised collections of francophone universities in Belgium (UCL, ULB, UMONS, UNAMUR, ULG), giving access through all of the resources available through a single search engine.

The collection is currently being constituted, using state-of-the art scanners and an *Omeka*-run database. Omeka is a free, flexible, and open source web-publishing platform for the display of digital collection using an unqualified Dublin Core metadata standard. Its easy-to-use design has allowed historians at the UNamur and the *NEPTUN* staff to work in a partnership over the making of the *Bouquet* collection. On top of the metadata regarding the bibliographical source of the maps, specific information regarding the content of the maps have been included and allow users to select material through the search engine. This information includes:

- *current district (i.e. "Province du Luxembourg", "Région Wallonne"),
- *past district (i.e., "Comté de Namur", "Gaule"),
- *chronological timeframe (usually time period + century; i.e.: "Temps Modernes, 18e s.")
- *main topic (i.e.: "Histoire des routes et voies ferrées", "Histoire sociale", "Histoire industrielle").

All of these data are also included in the key words, which makes navigation through the different themes easier.

The initial target of 500 maps should be reached by the end of 2016 and put online shortly thereafter.