



# Kent Academic Repository

**McLean, Kate (2023) *A Paris Smellwalk meets Matthew Paris' Itinerary Maps*.  
In: Meeting of Experts of Senses and Synaesthesia, 1 Mar 2023, Kunstmuseum,  
The Hague, The Netherlands.**

## Downloaded from

<https://kar.kent.ac.uk/100309/> The University of Kent's Academic Repository KAR

## The version of record is available from

## This document version

Presentation

## DOI for this version

## Licence for this version

UNSPECIFIED

## Additional information

## Versions of research works

### Versions of Record

If this version is the version of record, it is the same as the published version available on the publisher's web site. Cite as the published version.

### Author Accepted Manuscripts

If this document is identified as the Author Accepted Manuscript it is the version after peer review but before type setting, copy editing or publisher branding. Cite as Surname, Initial. (Year) 'Title of article'. To be published in **Title of Journal**, Volume and issue numbers [peer-reviewed accepted version]. Available at: DOI or URL (Accessed: date).

### Enquiries

If you have questions about this document contact [ResearchSupport@kent.ac.uk](mailto:ResearchSupport@kent.ac.uk). Please include the URL of the record in KAR. If you believe that your, or a third party's rights have been compromised through this document please see our [Take Down policy](https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/kar-the-kent-academic-repository#policies) (available from <https://www.kent.ac.uk/guides/kar-the-kent-academic-repository#policies>).

# A Paris Smellwalk

meets Matthew Paris' Imaginary Itinerary Maps

DR KATE MCLEAN | 2023

<https://twitter.com/katemclean> | [sensorymaps.com](https://sensorymaps.com)

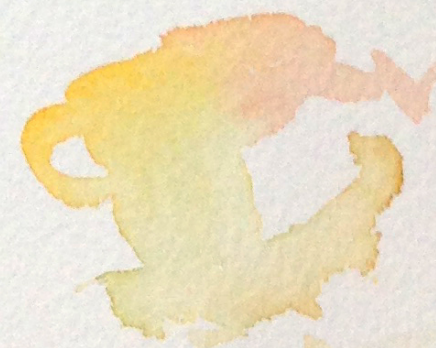
**“Deliberate synaesthesia...” – the visual experience of smelling translated into form, intensity, edges and colour**

# LES ODEURS DE DUNKERQUE

MARCH 2014



MOULES



COLOTTE /  
FRONAGE

LA COCOTTE

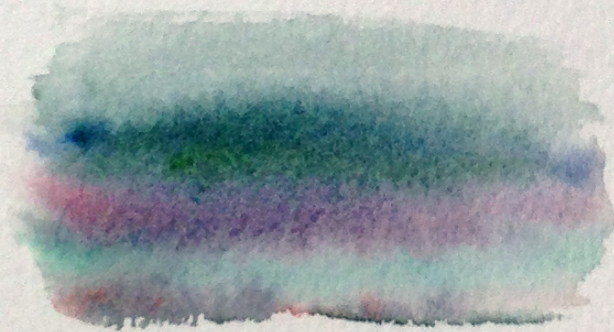
DUNKERQUE MALO LES BAINS



TRAITEUR L'EPICORIE  
Dunkerque Malo Les Bains



Light sea, strong breeze  
Dunkerque MALO LES BAINS



EXITING "Le Marmite" 7 place Jeanne d'Arc  
metallic, savory ocean



Un verre de  
Bergerac -  
sawdust teeth of  
red fruits, chalky  
textured smell



Le portais - Dunkerque centre  
delineated cloud of diesel (liquid  
not gas)



Le parking à l'Intermarché  
brick of metallic ocean

Duncan  
MARCH 15, 2014



FISH SCALE  
VENTILATION  
UNIT  
FROM  
LES  
HALES

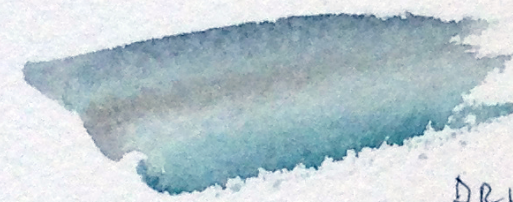


PARMESAN  
SCENTED WARM  
TARMAC



L'ESTAGNOL RESTAURANT  
KITCHEN DOOR

- SPIKES OF HERBS
- DOWNWARD FLOW OF TOMATOES



DRIATED IN ON  
THE BREEZE PRESENCE  
OF SPRING EVENING - WATER  
by the canal du Midi



BOULANGERIE  
Place de l'hotel de ville



WEED

Evening  
smells of  
Narbonne.fr



rue de  
l'Ancien  
Courrier

PERFUME SHOTS



VENTILATION UNIT  
OVER FRESH SAND



DRAINS & SULPHUR  
rue Labadie



CAT PEE IN THE  
COURTYARD  
rue Labadie

April 17 2014  
Wete Mclean

**“Exploring the relationship between smells  
and the places they reside...” –  
geolocation of smell sources and their  
atmospheric transition**

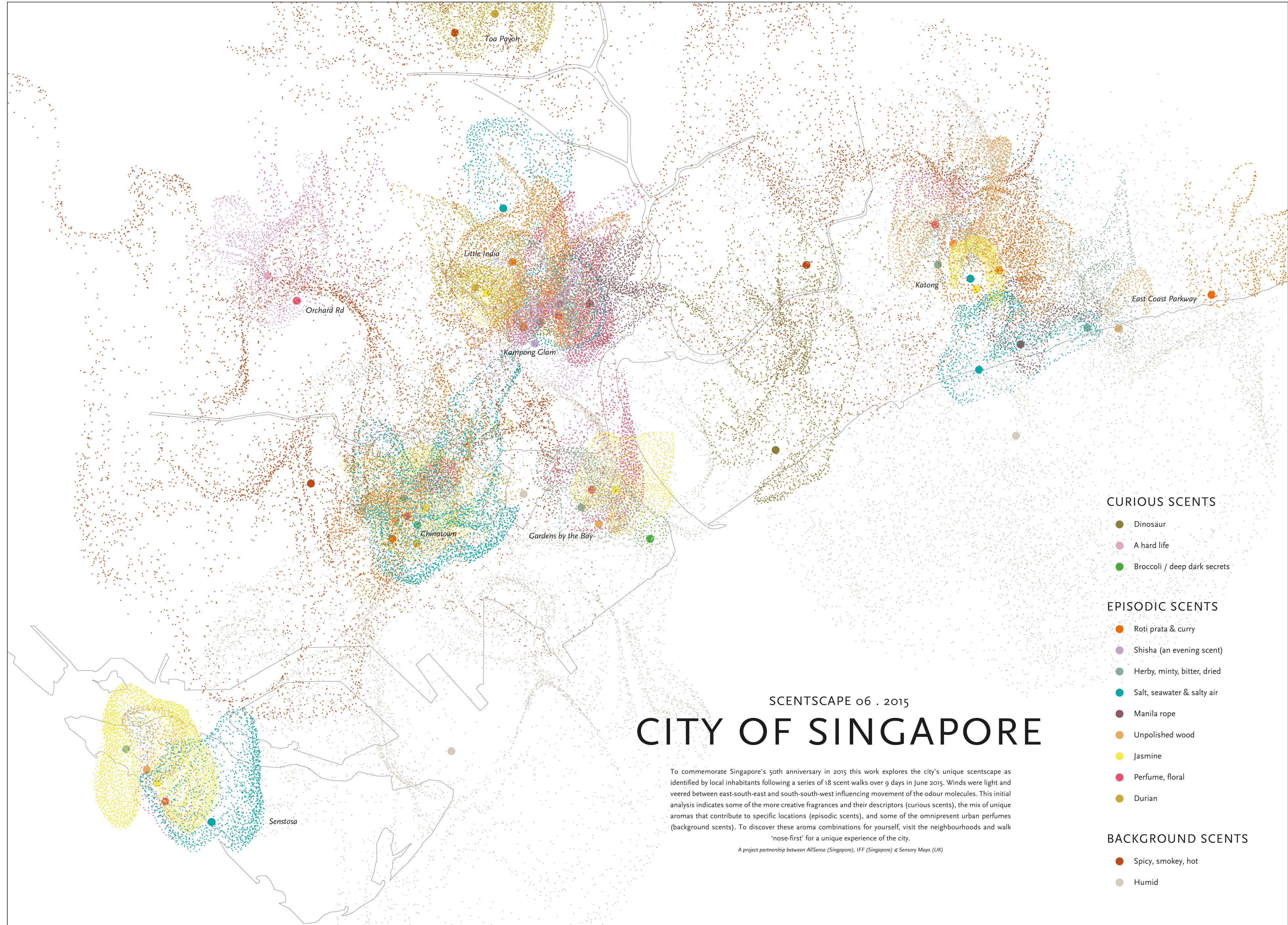
# SPRING SCENTS & SMELLS OF THE CITY OF AMSTERDAM

Created in collaboration with International Flavors & Fragrances, Amsterdam  
With special thanks to Bernardo Fierberg, Florent Leblanc and the Objective Design Studio, Dorine Michiels, Ritz Orly, Kevin Walker, Chris Perkins  
Funding: Knowledge Exchange of Canterbury Christ Church University  
Design: © 2016 Kate McLean. All rights reserved.



## SMELL LEGEND

- Waffles in the market
- Warm spicy
- Flower explosion
- Woody, sweet, dry, paint, resinous
- Leafy fresh rain
- Herring carts & wet fish
- Coffee with friends
- Laundry
- Old books, attics, smoky, damp
- Canal
- Chocolate powder



SCENTSCAPE 06 . 2015  
**CITY OF SINGAPORE**

To commemorate Singapore's 50th anniversary in 2015 this work explores the city's unique scentscape as identified by local inhabitants following a series of 18 scent walks over 9 days in June 2015. Winds were light and veered between east-south-east and south-south-west influencing movement of the odour molecules. This initial analysis indicates some of the more creative fragrances and their descriptors (curious scents), the mix of unique aromas that contribute to specific locations (episodic scents), and some of the omnipresent urban perfumes (background scents). To discover these aroma combinations for yourself, visit the neighbourhoods and walk 'nose-first' for a unique experience of the city.

*A project partnership between AllSense (Singapore), IFF (Singapore) & Sensory Maps (UK)*

**CURIOUS SCENTS**

- Dinosaur
- A hard life
- Broccoli / deep dark secrets

**EPISODIC SCENTS**

- Roti prata & curry
- Shisha (an evening scent)
- Herby, minty, bitter, dried
- Salt, seawater & salty air
- Manila rope
- Unpolished wood
- Jasmine
- Perfume, floral
- Durian

**BACKGROUND SCENTS**

- Spicy, smokey, hot
- Humid

**“Giving a visual voice to smells...” –  
encouraging a ‘more than surface’  
description of olfactory experience**



WEST BANK WIDNES smellwalk #1 COAST

river breeze/river bank, salt sand/salty smell/river muddy salty/sea, river

May 29, 11am



**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

sweetgrass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
mixed blowing	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Starchy wet	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
dark/moist	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
chemical	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves/moss	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leafy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leafy mild	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
windy mild	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
heavy mild	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

West Coast

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | CATALYST | 29/5/21  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Diffusion from	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Bob Hoare

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Blown Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cigarette	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Riverbank soil	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Perfume	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
lilac	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bush, earthy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
New Wood	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tree bark (as)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fence (wood)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
seaweed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BRICK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WOOD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WOOD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DAMP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GRASS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cigarette	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Salty smell	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
fresh plant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
whole food	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
fresh plant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

1. Pollen smell	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2. Paris Smell	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3. River Muddy Salty	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Blossom Summer	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5. Car fumes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6. Leafy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7. Fresh flowers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8. Fresh flowers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | Widnes | 29/5/21  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

sweet	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
fresh	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

WEST BANK WIDNES smellwalk #2 SPIKE ISLAND SHORT

earth/buttercup/tree blossom/dandelion stem/grass/mint

May 29, 2pm



**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Cedarwood	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | WIDNES | 29/05/21  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Flowers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WOODS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BODY SOAP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AMMONIA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PINE SIGN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PINE FLOWER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DANDILION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WHITE PLACE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BUTTERCUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PURPLE FLOWER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GREEN MOSCIT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PINK DAISY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Fresh air	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WOODS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
tree blossom	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wet dog	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | SPIKE ISLAND | 29/5/21  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Apr Fresh	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Green grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tree	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
White flower	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

J. Byrne

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mint	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ducks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Water	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
fish	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Copper	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mud	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sandstone	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
buttercup	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Stem	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ducks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Food	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daisies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
feather	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bas	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Water	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
sign	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Grass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ducks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Metal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mud	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leaf 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leaf 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leaf 3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Leaf 4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

WEST BANK WIDNES smellwalk #4 SPIKE ISLAND EDGES

salt/dirty salt/sandy bank/smokey/tangy/sea/sun cream/beach/dirty water

May 30, 2pm



**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Vanilla	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Salt	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
dirty/salt	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sandy bank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pen shirt	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pepper	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shop floor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Smokey	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
salty	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
tangy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
clump	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
flower	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
leafy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
spicy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
perfume	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
wood smoke	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

vanilla	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
sea	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
small flower	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
green leaf	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
big white flower	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ambros	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
purple flower	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**SMELL VISUALISER**  
#smellwalk | place | date  
© Kate McLean 2021

Smell duration  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Vanilla	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daisy fresh	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Moist dirt	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
sun cream	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Grass - ce leaf	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
white flowers	1	2					

**“Smell as a sequential narrative...” –  
exploring the angles of view and potential  
for visual storytelling of a smellwalk**

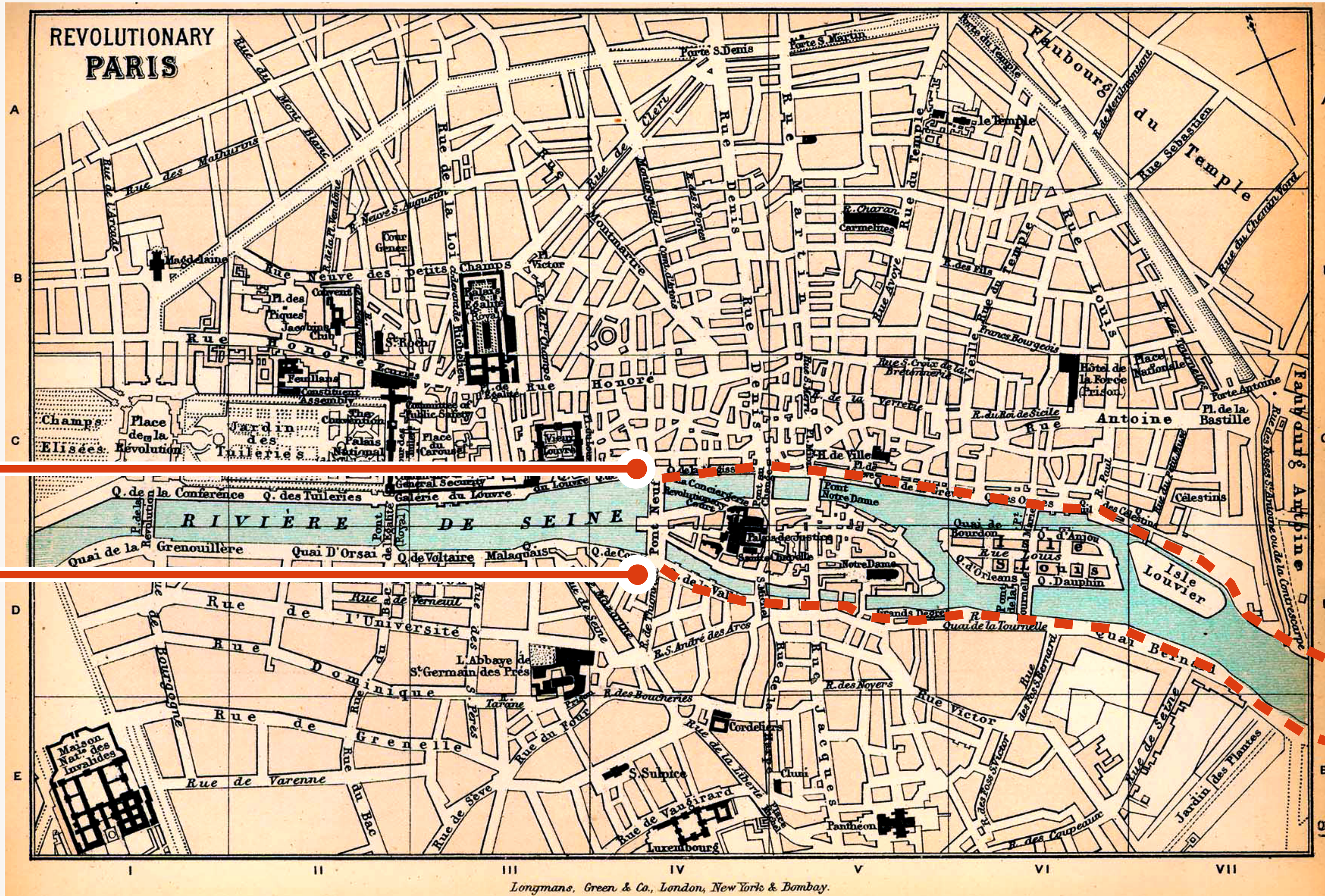
# First recorded Smellwalk

- Feb 14, 1790 – 7 months after the storming of the Bastille in Paris
- Commissioned by Royal Society of Medicine
- A ‘sanitary survey’
- Investigation of noxious smells

Corbin, A (1982)



Forestier (nd)



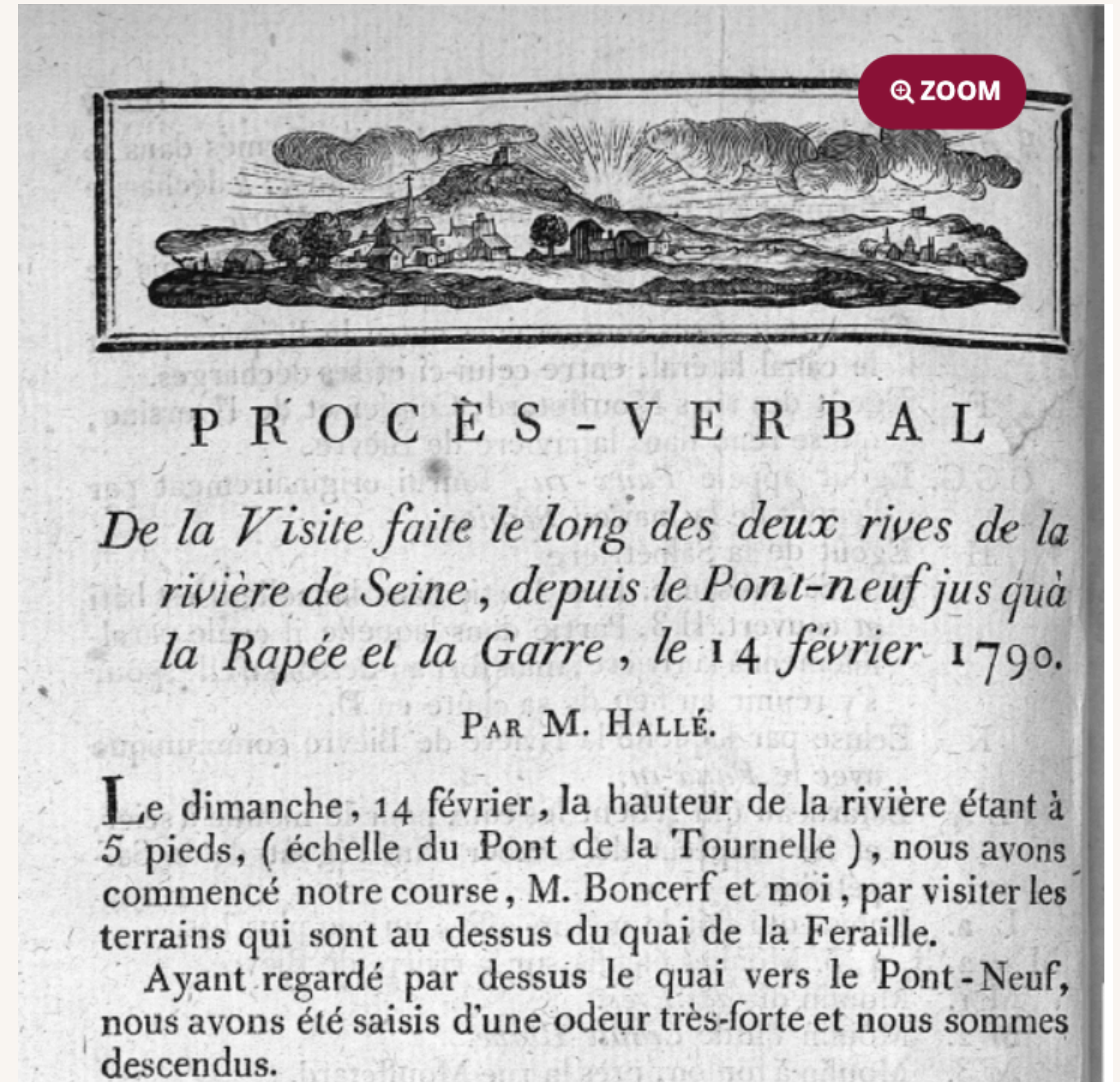
Start

Finish

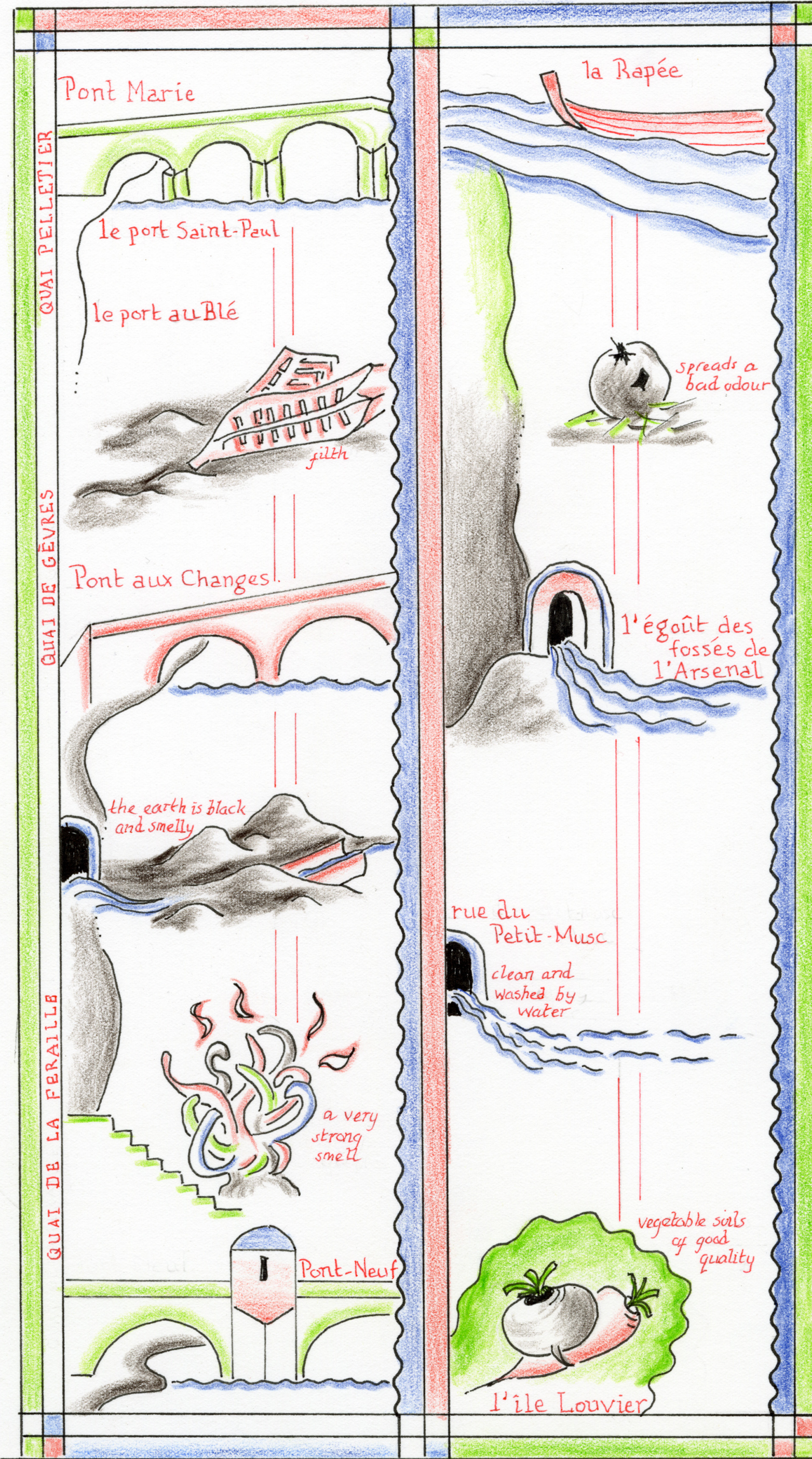
## VERBAL RECORD

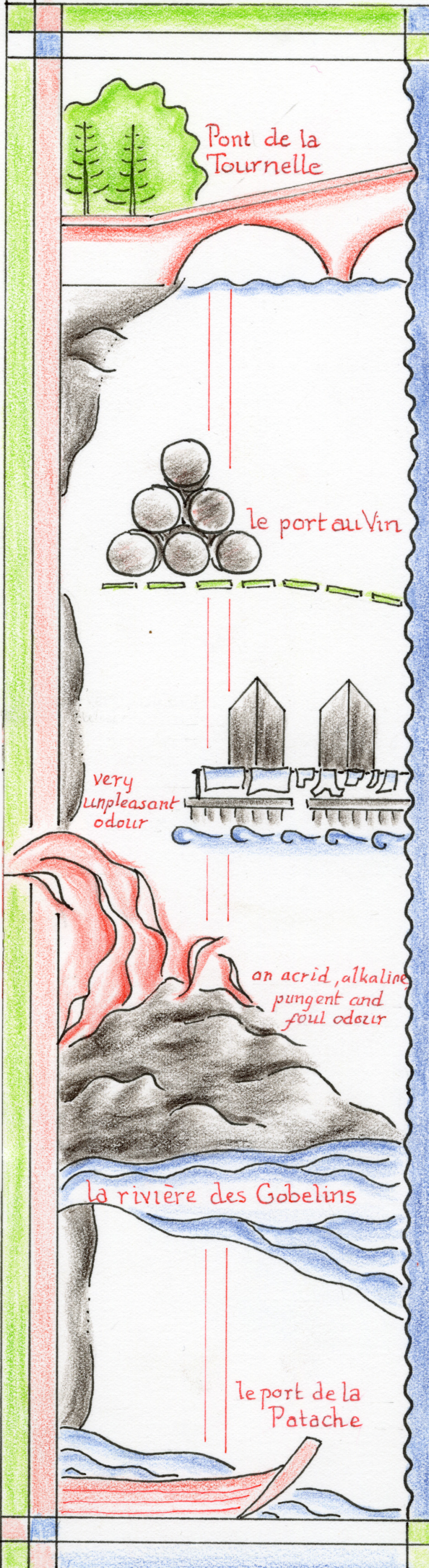
*From a visit made along the two banks of the River Seine, from Port Neuf to Rapée de la Gare, February 14, 1790.*

BY M. HALLE.



Hallé (1790) Histoire et Mémoires de la Société Royale de Médecine, 10 (1789). BIU Santé website





Pont de la Tournelle

le port au Vin

very unpleasant odour

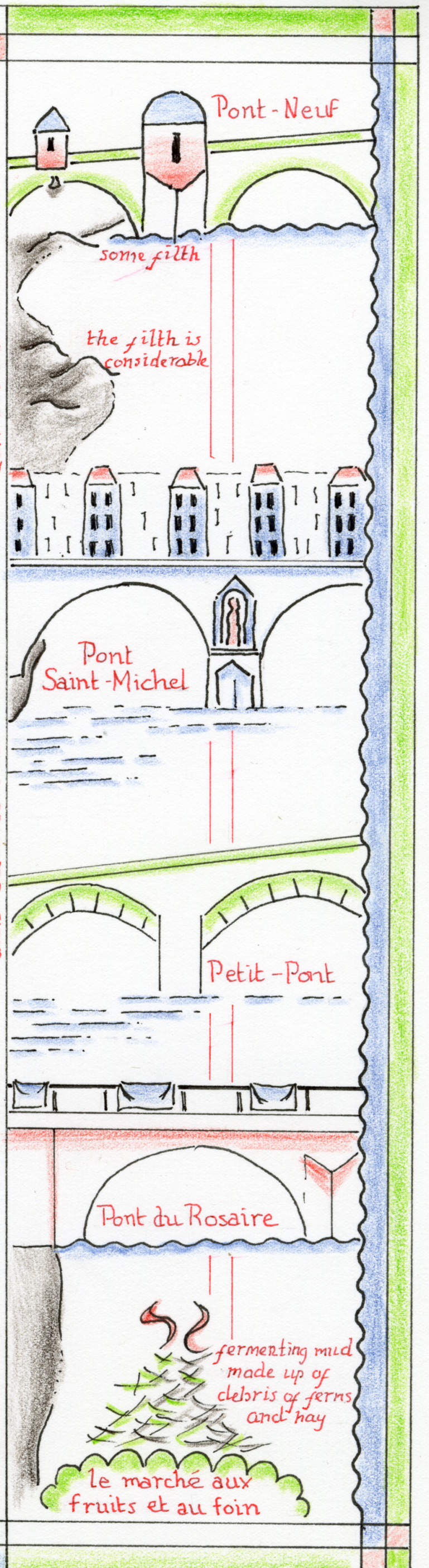
an acrid, alkaline pungent and foul odour

la riviere des Gobelins

le port de la Patache

QUAI DES ORFÈVRES

QUAI DES AUGUSTINS



Pont-Neuf

some filth

the filth is considerable

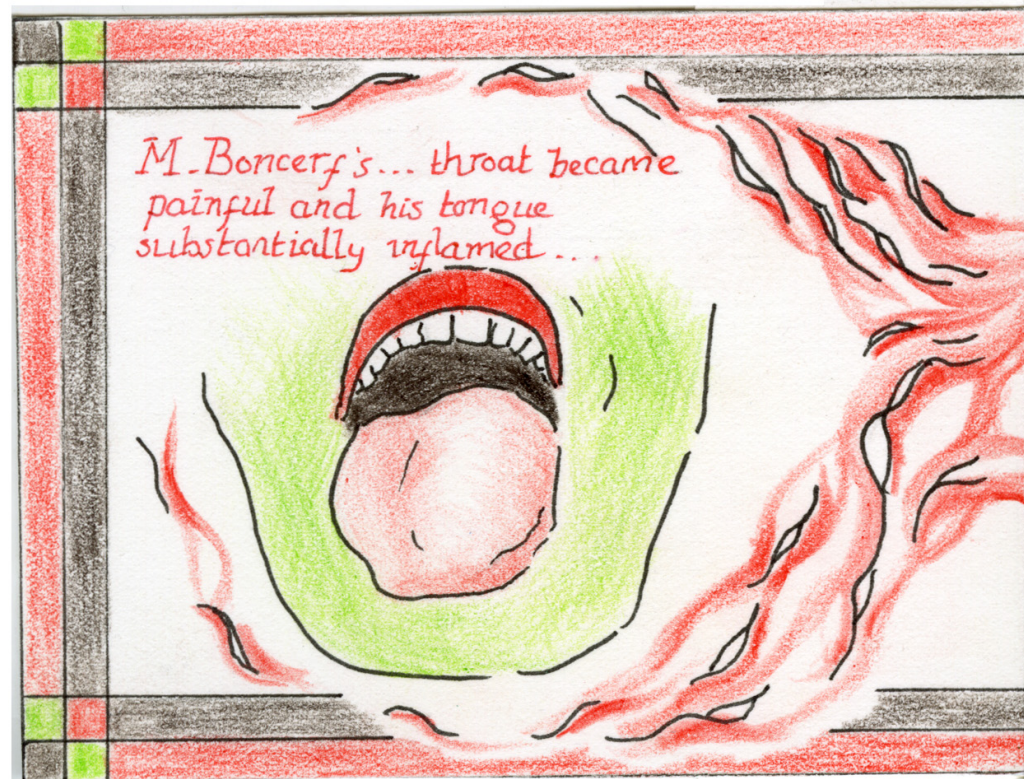
Pont Saint-Michel

Petit-Pont

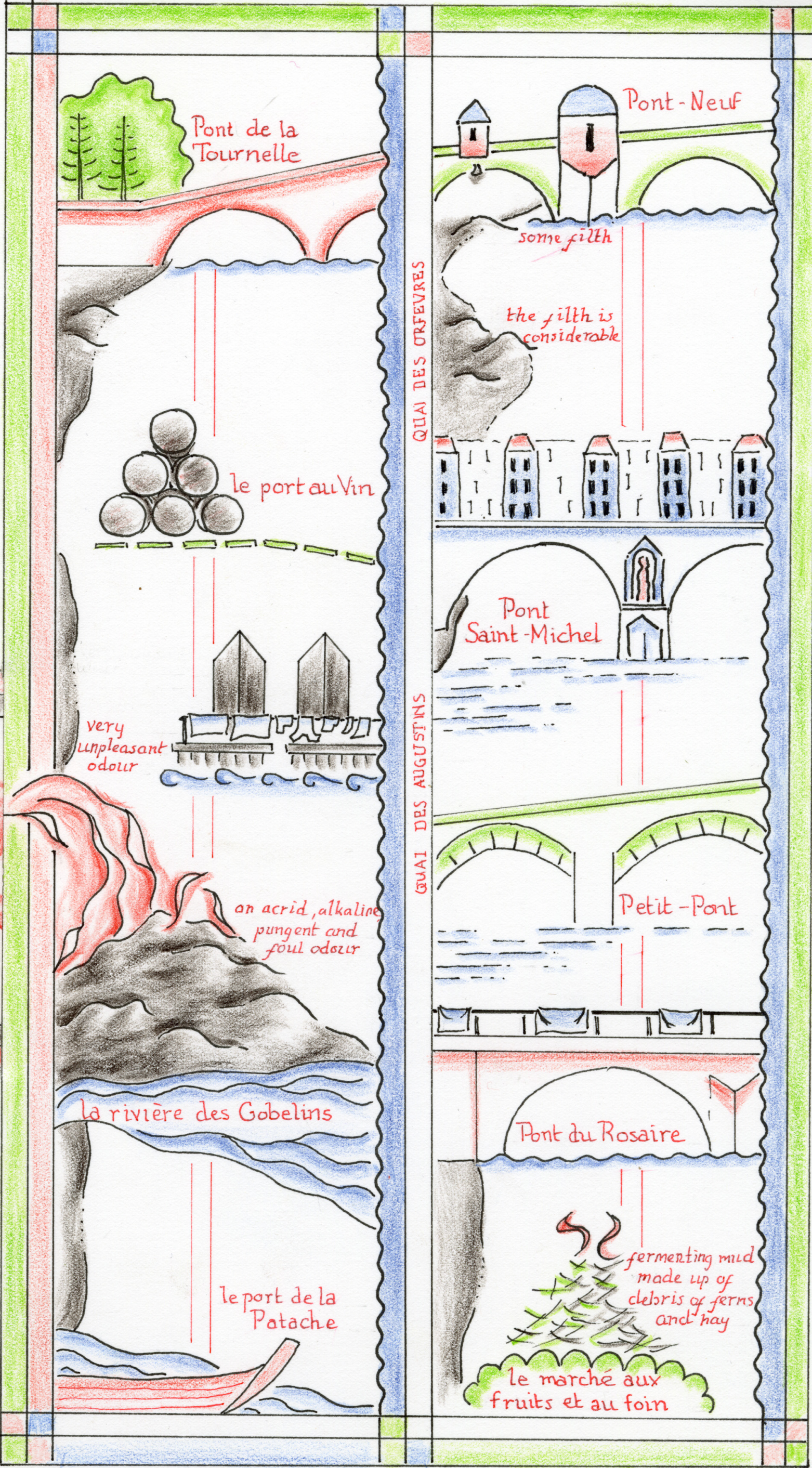
Pont du Rosaire

fermenting mud made up of debris of ferns and hay

le marché aux fruits et au foin



M. Boncerf's... throat became painful and his tongue substantially inflamed...

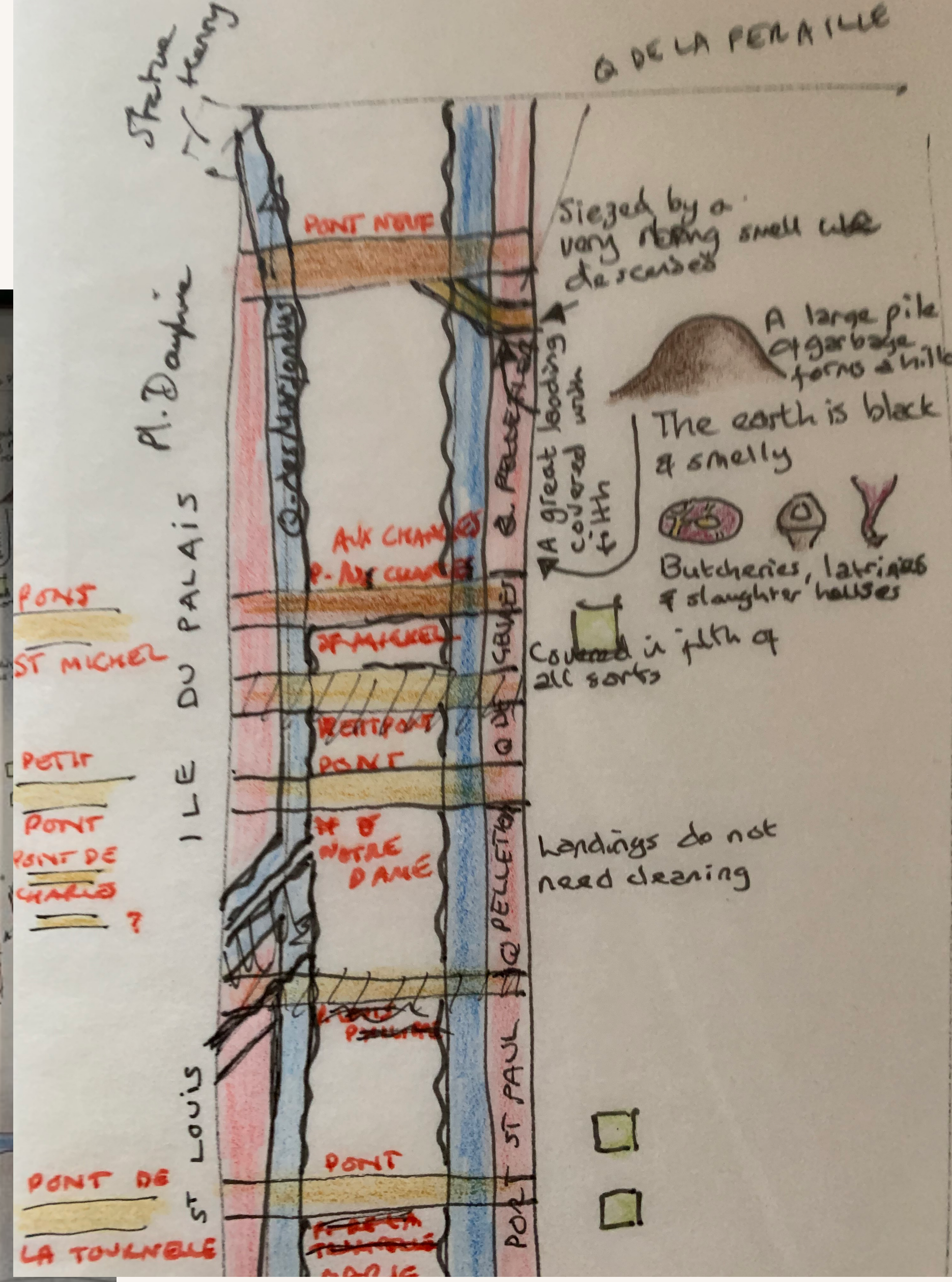
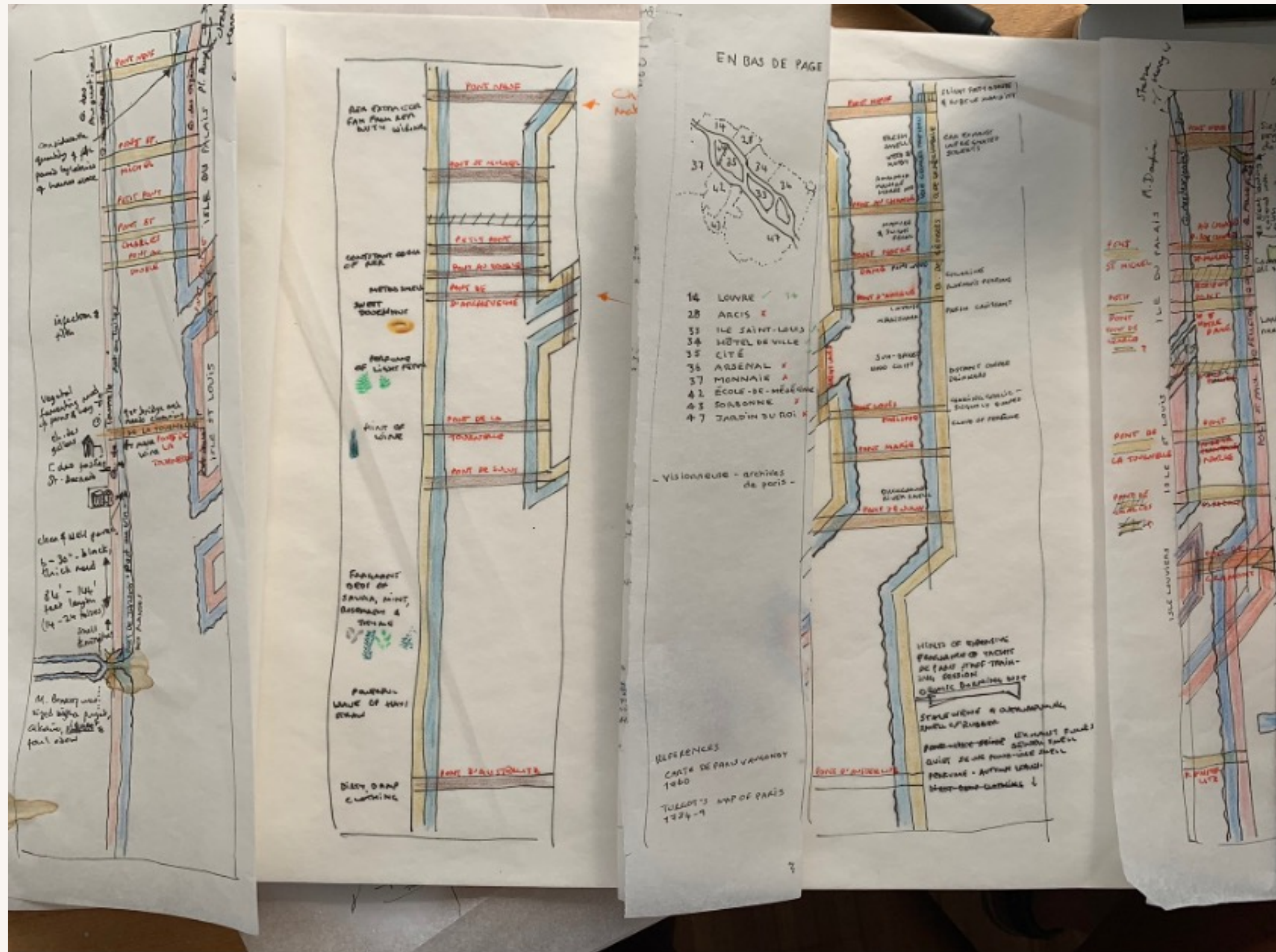




# **Spatial Olfactory Narrative**

the allocation of smells to place

# Translate & geolocate



Smells-in-situ sketch map (McLean, 2020)

# Journey/Itinerary Map

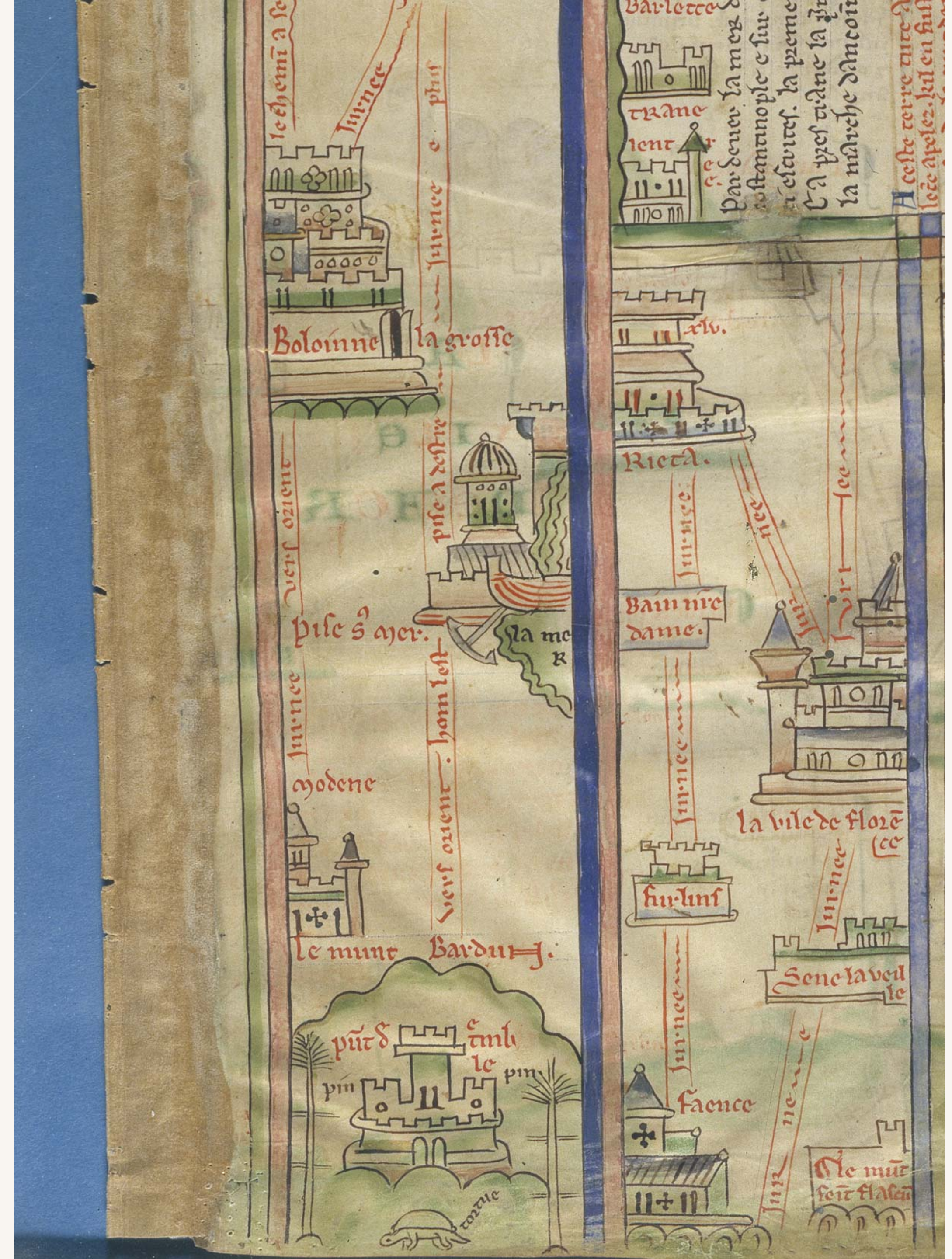
is a cartographic precedent which creates a linear sense of place. AKA Itinerary Map, SatNav, 1D Map\*

\*Penney, L (2013)

## c. 1250 Chronica Major

Matthew Paris' pictorial itineraries represent a spiritual rather than a physical journey

- *Journey from London to Jerusalem*
- *Virtual pilgrimage*
- *Enabled Medieval monks to meet their vows of stability, not incur expense and yet to conduct pilgrimages to the Holy Land* (Connolly, 1999)



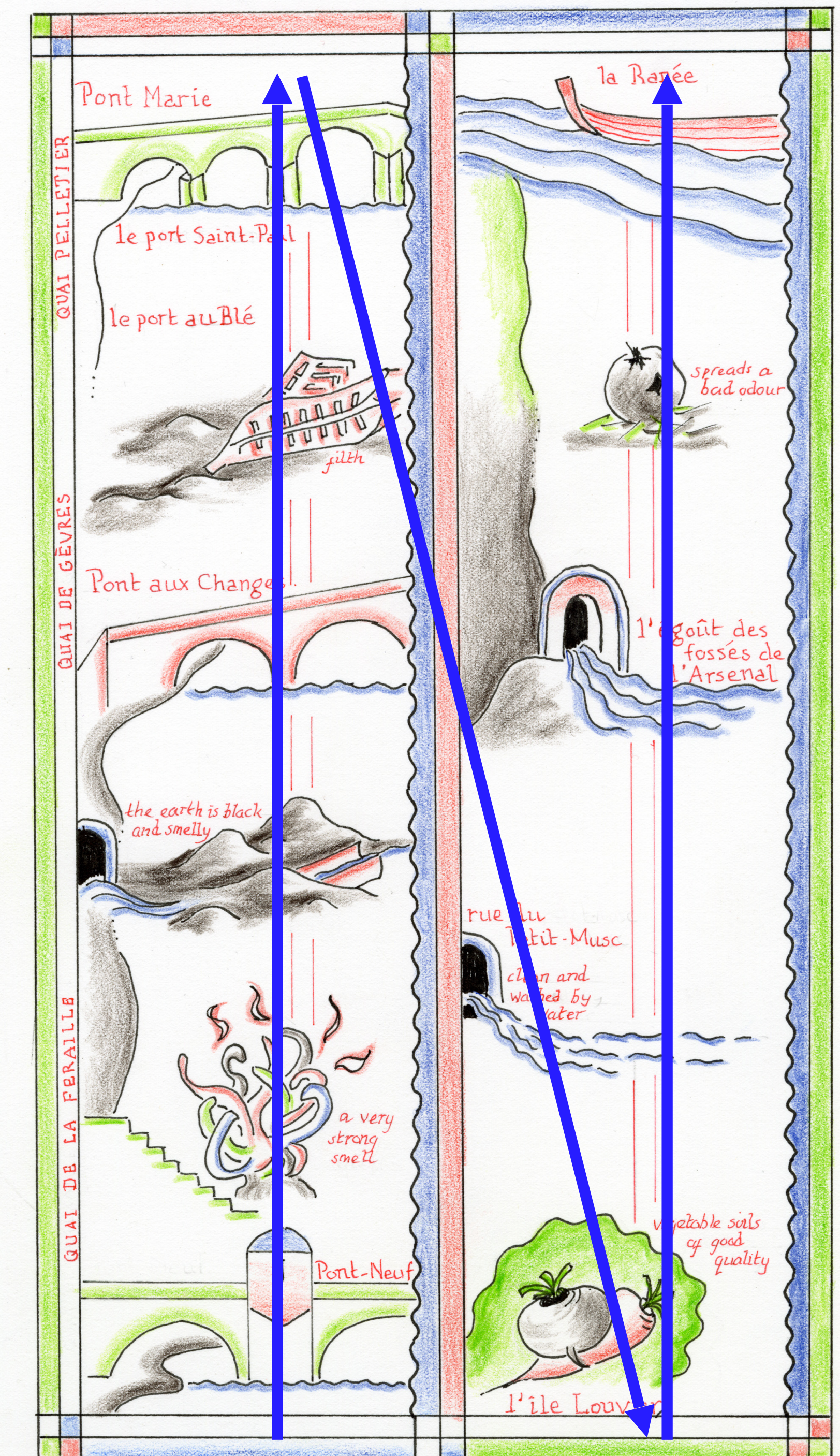
# Linearity of smell experience

we sniff sequentially

# Hallé & Boncerf's Smellwalk

Designed to be read sequentially:

- *N-shaped trajectory maintains focus on the goal ahead*
- *A “mediational tool” – a series of prompts” (Vasiliu, 2017)*
- *Olfactory stops (italic text) facilitate imagination of smells on the route*



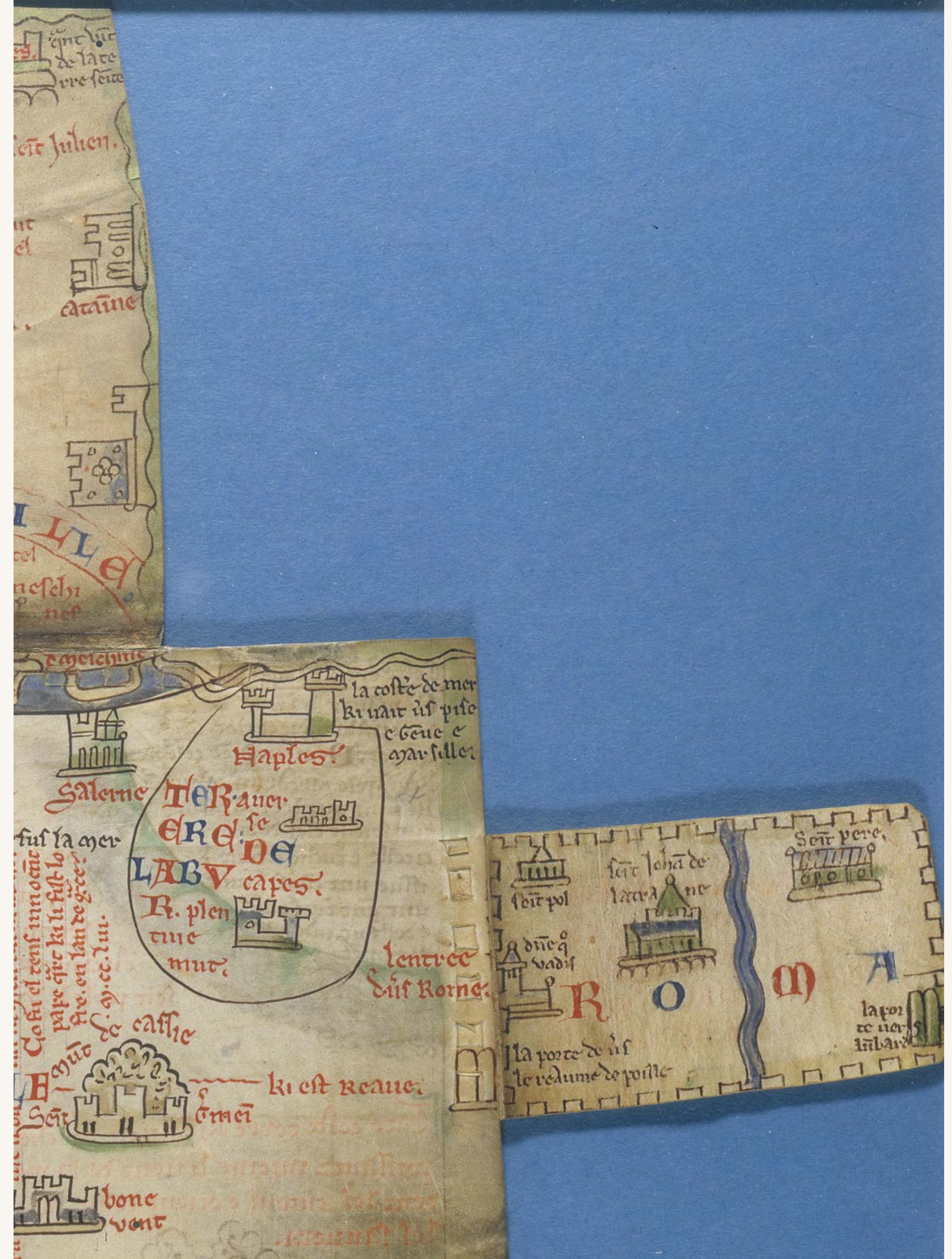
# Imagination

we can never know for sure the smells encountered. In imagining them we need time to reflect and to focus

# Sensory & Interactive

Flaps in the text and way of reading contribute to the sensory nature of the ‘journey’

- *These maps are a sensate vehicle for an imagined pilgrimage – “sight, sound, touch all combine to make the experience of reading the map a richer, more bodily implicated activity”* Connolly (1999).





**Context and tone plays an important role in history, lending sensory congruence to a past event affords 'viewer' empathy.**

**Designed to invoke sensory empathy for olfactory narratives.**

**THANK YOU &  
QUESTIONS**