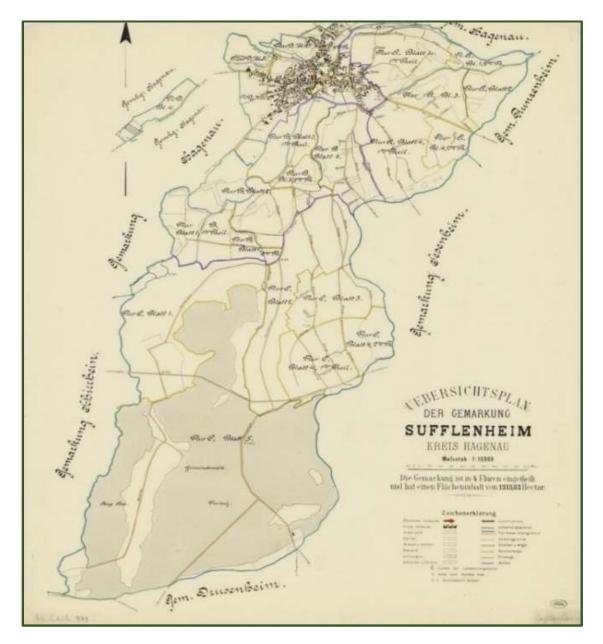
Soufflenheim Genealogy Research and History www.soufflenheimgenealogy.com

Soufflenheim cadastral (land) records from 1836 onwards in series 3P 96 at the Archives of Bas-Rhin in Strasbourg.



1887 Cadastral Map, General Plan of Soufflenheim, District of Hagenau

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# THE CADASTRE

The official land registry in France is called the cadastre, used mainly for the calculation of taxes. It shows numbered plots on which land ownership is based, but does not give details about the owner or show the precise boundaries between properties.

The cadastre is also used for the Land Book, whose purpose is legal and non-tax, dealing with mortgages, assessments, property rights, etc.

The modern land registry in Bas-Rhin, the Napoleonic Cadastre, was established in 1807 and completed in Soufflenheim from 1836 to 1838. The oldest Soufflenheim records, 1836-1974, are found in series 3P96 at the Archives of Bas-Rhin. Earlier records no longer exist. Records can be photographed but not photocopied.

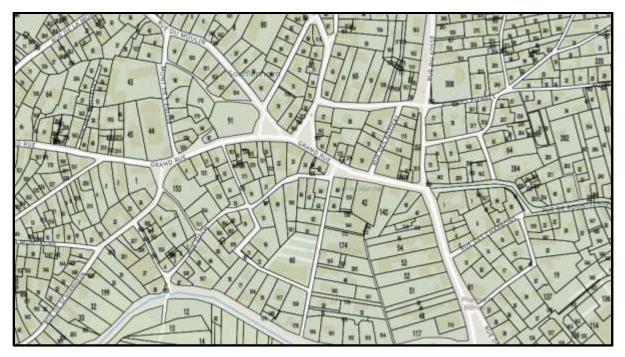
When Alsace was annexed to Germany in 1871, it gradually implemented a new system of registering property called the Land Book. An 1884 law required the revision, update or repair of the existing Napoleonic cadaster.

The Land Book was permanently established in 1891 and used by all municipalities beginning January 1, 1900, the same time as the German cadastre.

The German administration renumbered plots after reviewing the cadaster in 1884. Consequently, plot numbers in the German cadastre are different from the Napoleonic. To find the corresponding plot numbers, check the German section report, which gives a number for each parcel. Next to the German number is the old number used in the Napoleonic cadastre.

In 1930 France passed a law to update the old cadaster, which was completed in the 1980s. New numbering was introduced and the old references to plots disappeared.

There is no other updated plan between the time when the Napoleonic cadastre was created in the early 19th century and the date of the revision of the cadaster following the passage of the law of 1930.



Modern Soufflenheim Cadastre: https://france-cadastre.fr/cadastre/soufflenheim

#### **Bureau of Mortgages**

In French law, when a parent dies, no child can be disinherited and all children must receive equal shares of the parent's estate. Records from the former Bureau of Mortgages are useful when there is property or a lease but no will, as the children and spouse will be named in a register known as the Mutations par Décès. Each record provides the name, residence, date of death, and all heirs of the deceased.

The Bureau of Mortgages (bureau des hypothèque), was created by the French Revolutionary government to register all land, buildings, and leases in France. During German control it was known in Bas-Rhin as the Hypothekenamt, and a new way of compiling information came into use, the Land Book.

The Bureau of Mortgages was replaced in 2010 by Livre Foncier, whose Haguenau office is responsible for Soufflenheim. It has a copy of the cadastre, as does the mayor's office in Soufflenheim.

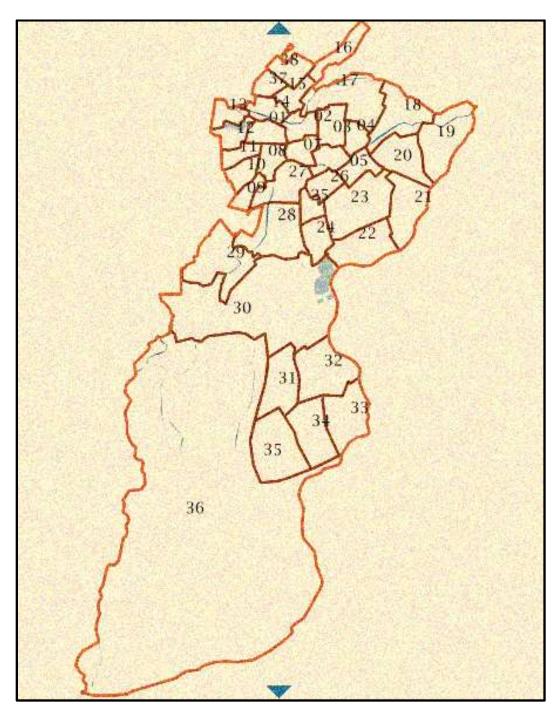
Older Soufflenheim mortgage records are kept at the Archives Department of Bas-Rhin, where the archives of the Land Book prior to 2008 were transferred, but cannot be viewed there, only at AMALFI (Alsace-Moselle Application for Livre Foncier Information).

To obtain information from the Land Book for a municipality refer to the EPELFI website, which operates AMALFI. Requests can be made for a "building" copy, which includes the various records in the Land Book concerning a building.

Each sheet of the Land Book is made up of a title and three sections: the title gives the owner of the property, the first section lists the cadastral identification of the property, the second lists the various assessments, and the third gives possible mortgages and rights that encumber the building.

# The Cadastral Map

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Soufflenheim cadastre was divided into four sections (A, B, C, D), subdivided into 38 sheets containing numbered plots.



Cadastral map of Soufflenheim and its 38 sheets.

The earliest Soufflenheim cadastre records include:

- A cadastral map completed in 1836 of built properties in section D, an assembly table map at 1/10,000th, and a map of undeveloped properties: four sheets in both section A and B.
- A State of Sections was completed in 1837. Each plot corresponds to a folio. The different owners appear in this folio with the date of transfer.
- An initial cadastral matrix was completed in 1838. Each owner corresponds to a folio in the cadastral matrix. All the plots belonging to it are listed, with the date of transfer, the origin or the destination of the property.

Most of the plots underwent modifications in 1883-1884. These corrections appear in red on the maps.

# MAPS

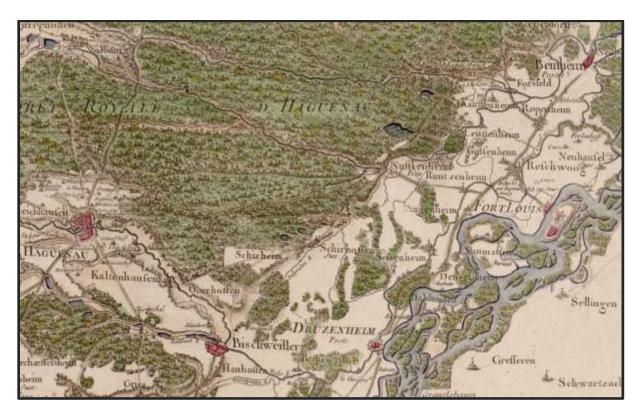
Soufflenheim is found on maps of Alsace from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards, spelled variously as Suuelheim, Sufeheim, Sufeheim, Sufeheim, Seffelsheim, Seffelsheim, Saffeltzheim, Seffeltheim and Sufflenheim. The earliest map of Soufflenheim, part of the land registry, was created in 1836 and updated in 1887.



Alsatia Inferior in 1628, by Gerardus Mercator. Soufflenheim (Sufeheim) Up is West, Right is North

# The Cassini Map

Soufflenheim (Sufflenheim) on the Cassini map *The Kingdom of France*, commissioned in the 1740's, surveyed between 1756 and 1789, and published in 1793. Library of Congress, Copy 2, Image 167 of 181: <u>https://www.loc.gov/resource/g5830m.ghl00001/?st=gallery</u>



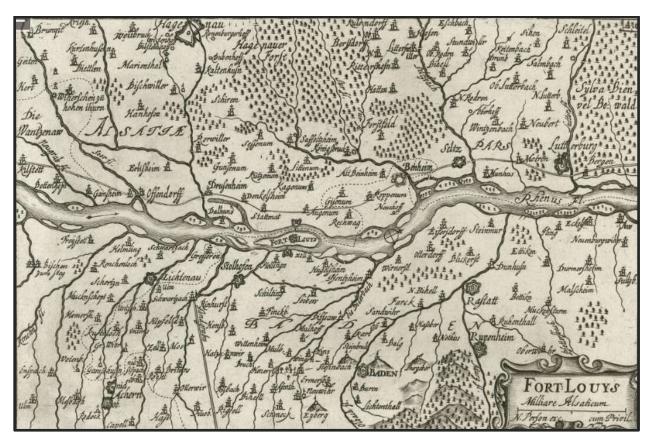
Sufflenheim 1793, Cassini Map The Kingdom of France, Library of Congress, Copy 2, Image 167

# **Regional Maps and Soufflenheim**

A partial list of maps with Soufflenheim, spelled in various ways. Soufflenheim is found on most of the old Alsatian and regional maps: Old Maps Online: <u>https://www.oldmapsonline.org/</u>

Year	Spelling	Map Name	Cartographer
1592	Suuelheim	Alsatia Inferioris Ander Elsas	Matthias Quad
1500's	Suffelheim	Carte de l'Alsace inférieure	Daniel Specklin
1630	Sufeheim	Alsatia Inferior	Gerardus Mercator
1640-1666	Sufelheim	Vtriusquae Alsatiae superioris ac inferioris	Johannes Janssonius

1666	Sufenheim	Alsace or Conquests of the King	Guillaume Sanson, Cartographer of the King
1680	Suffelheim	Landgraviatus Alsatiae Inferioris	Nicolaum Visscher
1683	Suffelheim	La Lorraine et l'Alsace	Pierre Duval, Geographer of Louis XIV
1686-1715	Seffelesheim	Superioris atque inferioris Alsatia	Pieter Schenk
1690	Sefeltsheim	Landgraviatus Alsatiae Superioris et Inferioris	Justus Danckerts
1702	Saffeltzheim	Alsatiae Svperioris et Inferioris	Jakob von Sandrart
1701-1725	Seffeltsheim	Landgraviatus Alsatiae tam Superioris quam Inferi	J. Baptist Homann
1710	Saffeltzheim	Fort Louys	Nikolaus Person
1715-1730	Seffeltheim	Superioris Atque Inferioris Alsatiae	Pieter Schenk
1793	Sufflenheim	Carte de France	César François Cassini
1758-1780	Seffeltsheim	Alsatia Superioris atque inferioris	Tobias Conrad Lotter

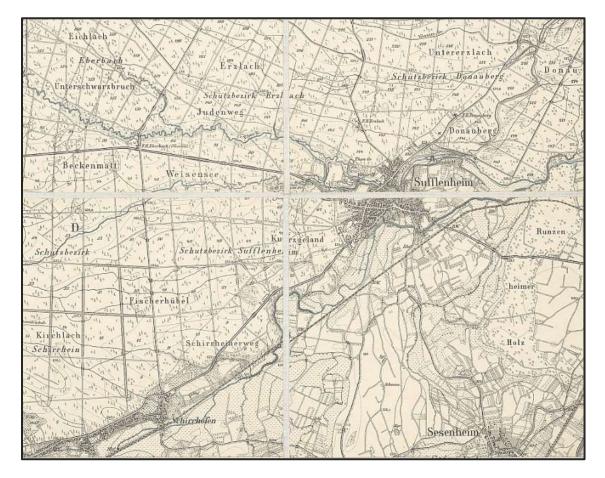


Soufflenheim (Saffeltzheim) 1710, Fort Louys, by Nikolaus Person. Up/West Right/North

### Local Maps

- 1838: Soufflenheim Cadestre, 1838: The original village land registry, divided into sections. Found at the archives of Bas-Rhin. Soufflenheim cadastre: P Series: Public Finances: Subseries 3 P: Cadastre. Access to the finding aid is in the name of the municipality (Soufflenheim). To locate the Soufflenheim cadastre in 3 P 96: Place: > Alsace > Bas-Rhin > Haguenau (District) > Bischwiller (Canton) > Soufflenheim. Periods: 1815-1870; 1871-1918 (German annexation); 1919-1945; After 1945. Archives of Bas-Rhin: <a href="http://archives.bas-rhin.fr/">http://archives.bas-rhin.fr/</a>
- 1884: Soufflenheim, Ordnance Survey Map 3599: Sufflenheim, Circa 1884. Description: Sufflenheim. [Recorded Circa 1883]. Scale 1:25000. [Berlin]: [Reichsamt für Landesaufnahme]. Deutsche Fotothek: <u>http://www.deutschefotothek.de/documents/obj/71057176/df\_dk\_0010001\_7113\_1884</u>.
- 1885: Sufflenheim, Allemagne: Reichsamt für Landesaufnahme (Sufflenheim, Germany: Land recording). 1:25 000. Published by the cartographic Division of the Royal Prussian Regional Government. Lithograph by F. Werner. Edition 1882-1887 lifted from 1880-1885. Berlin: Chamber of the Royal Prussian Country. General Notes: National recording 1883, Published 1885, Recorded since 1850 by the Royal General Staff of Prussia, Published 1868-1878 by the Royal Ministry of Commerce and Trade, since 1878 by the Royal Prussian Government.
- **1895**: Soufflenheim, 1895, From the book *Soufflenheim: Terre de Potiers, Memoire de vies*, by the Office de Tourisme de Soufflenheim, Published by Carre Blanc, Strasbourg, 1998, p.13
- 1887: Uebersichtsplan der Gemarkung Sufflenheim, Kreis Hagenau (General Plan of Soufflenheim, District of Hagenau). The 1887 Soufflenheim land registry (cadestre) based on the land registry established in 1838. BNU Description: Uebersichtsplan der Gemarkung Sufflenheim, Kreis Hagenau, 1:10 000 [Strassburg], [1887]. Cartographie imprimée 1887. 1 assembled plan, in color; 68 x 52 cm. Topics: Cadastral maps, France, Soufflenheim (Bas-Rhin), Government publication. General Note: Cadastre established in 1838, revised in 1887. See The Reichsland Alsace-Lorraine: Description of the place and country / hrsg. from the Statistical Bureau of the Ministry of Alsace-Lorraine. Second part: Statistical information. Strasbourg: Heitz, 1901.- P. 60ss.
- **1902:** Sufflenheim. 1:25 000 Berlin: Plankammer der Königl. Preussischen Landes-Aufnahme, Published 1902. General Note: Edition partially updated between 1889 and 1902. Lifted between 1880 and 1885.
- **1914:** *Topographische Karte, 3599, Sufflenheim.* 1:25000 (Topographic Map, 3599 Sufflenheim) Cartographer of the topographical survey: Prusse/Landesaufnahme, 1914. Published 1914. Subject: Germany 1871-1945, Topographical Maps of Alsace-Lorraine 1871-1918. Soufflenheim (Bas-Rhin). Note: The overall title is incorrect. Note edition: Prepared by the Preussische Landesaufnahme in 1883.
- 1980: Soufflenheim. 0 025 000, Institut Géographique National, Cartographie imprimée 1980, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- 1987: Soufflenheim. 0 025 000, Institut Géographique National, Cartographie imprimée 1987, 3rd Edition
- **1995:** *Wissembourg: Lauterbourg. Soufflenheim: plaine du Rhin*, 1:25 000, Institut Géographique National et Club Vosgien. Cartographie imprimée 1995, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition

- **2006:** *Wissembourg, Lauterbourg, Soufflenheim: plaine du Rhin.* 1:25000, Institut géographique national; avec le concours du Club Vosgien, Cartographie imprimée 2006. Edition Note: Photogrammetric survey completed in the field in 1984. Revised 2004.
- **2012:** *Wissembourg, Lauterbourg, Soufflenheim Plaine du Rhin.* 1:25000, Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière; avec le concours du Club Vosgien; [avec la collaboration] de la Fédération française de randonnée pédestre. Cartographie imprimée 2012, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Revised 2012.
- **2020:** Soufflenheim Online Maps:
  - Georportail: <u>https://www.geoportail.gouv.fr/plan/67472/soufflenheim</u>
  - Google Earth: <u>https://www.google.com/earth/</u>
- 2020: Soufflenheim Cadestre: Numbered houses and parcels of land:
  - France Cadastre: https://france-cadastre.fr/cadastre/soufflenheim
  - lecadastre.com: https://lecadastre.com/plan-cadastral/soufflenheim-67472/
  - PLU et Cadastre de Soufflenheim. PLU is the Local Urban Plan implemented by the municipality, with all building regulations: <u>https://www.annuaire-mairie.fr/cadastre-soufflenheim.html</u>



Soufflenheim (Sufflenheim), Circa 1884

# **APPENDICES**

- Cadastral Records at the Archives
- Searching Cadastral Documents
- Tracing the History of a House When You Know the Owner
- Trace the History of a House When You Know the Plot Number

# CADASTRAL RECORDS AT THE ARCHIVES

All Soufflenheim cadastral records from 1836 to 1974 at the Archives of Bas-Rhin in Strasbourg: http://archives.bas-rhin.fr/media/96314/SOUFFLENHEIM.pdf

#### Soufflenheim (Sufflenheim)

#### Registres

- 3P 96/1 State of sections [indicative table]. 1837
- 3P 96/2-4 Cadastral matrix.1838-1888
  - 2 folios 1-520 [with alphabetical tables] (1838-1888).
  - 3 folios 521-1100 (1838-1888).
  - 4 folios 1101-1269 (1871-1888).
- 3 P 96/5-6 State of sections [indicative table]. 1901
  - 5 sections A-C.
  - 6 section D.
- 3 P 96/7-24 Cadastral matrix [alphabetical classification]. 1913-1974
  - 7-11 1913-1952.
    - o 7 A-B.
    - 8 C-G.
    - 9 H-K.
    - 10 L-R.
    - 11 S-Z.
  - 12-18 1953-1956.
    - o 12 A-Bi.
    - o 13 Bo-E.
    - o 14 F-He.
    - o **15 Hi-Kn.**

- 16 Ko-M.
- o **17 N-Sp**.
- $\circ$  18 St-Z [endless folios are classified at the end of the volume].
- 3 P 96/25 Nomenclature of owners.1913-1954.
- 3 P 96/26-30 Cadastrale matrics<sup>1</sup> [alphabetical classification].1927-1974.
  - 26 1957-1974 ["out of date", some classified folios not alphabetically at the end of volume].
  - 27-30 1927-1953, built properties only.
    - o 27 A-E.
    - o 28 F-K.
    - o 29 L-S.
    - $\circ$  30 T-Z [folios out of order are classified at the end of the volume].

#### Plans<sup>2</sup>

- 3P 96/31 Plan of built properties, section D [1st and 2nd sheets]. 1836
- 3P 96/32 Assembly table at 1/10,000<sup>th</sup>. 1836
- 3 P 96/33-36 Plan of undeveloped properties. 1836
  - 33 section A [4 sheets].
  - 34 section B [4 sheets].
  - (1) For built and undeveloped properties
  - (2) Most of the plots underwent modifications in 1883-1884. These corrections appear in red on the plans. 3 P 96/37-38: very incomplete series with only 2 plans including one of the village, Table also in deficit.
  - 35 section C [6 sheets].
  - 36 section D [3rd and 4th sheets, some properties built on these 2 sheets].
- 3 P 96/37 Plan of built properties, section D [2nd sheet 1st part at 1/1250<sup>th</sup>] sd [end XIXth century).
- 3 P 96/38 Plan of undeveloped properties, section A [4th sheet, 1st part at 1/1250th] sd [end XIXth century]

# SEARCHING CADASTRAL DOCUMENTS

By Hélène Both, September 6, 2006, Archives Department of Bas-Rhin

http://archives.bas-rhin.fr/rechercher/aide-a-recherche/un-lieu-ou-un-monument-/mener-une-recherchedans-documents-cadastraux/

Created by Napoleon by the law of September 15, 1807, the cadastre is a tax document very often consulted in the Departmental Archives. Often diverted from its original purpose, the cadastre is used to reconstruct the history of a house or land. To facilitate your research, the Departmental Archives offer this guide to the cadastre. You will find a presentation of the cadastre and the successive renovations it has undergone.

Two files are also available, downloadable at the bottom of the page, in which two searches are detailed:

- a search whose starting point is the owner of a land
- a research whose starting point is a field.

### Contents

- Introduction
- Historical
- The Consequences of the 1871 Annexation on the Cadastre in Alsace and Moselle
- The Renovation of the Cadastre in 1930
- The Different Types of Properties
- Documents Produced in the 19th Century
- Current Cadastral Documentation
- Communicability and Reproduction
- Start a Search in Cadastral Documents

#### Introduction

The cadastre is a tax document which determines all the assets to distribute the property tax fairly. The purpose of the cadastre is to record and fix the taxable income of all land properties.

Once the income of all owners is known, the government may fix the same share of its income as taxation for each taxpayer, on the principle that all citizens and all owners must contribute to the costs of the state in proportion to their property.

The cadastral contribution is divided into two branches: the cadastral contribution of undeveloped properties and the area of buildings, and the contribution of built properties [1].

The cadastral documents are numerous and very different, the Alsatian and Moselle cadastre having the distinction of having been renovated by the German administration in 1884.

#### Historical

The cadastre was established by Napoleon by the law of September 15, 1807, which prescribes the making of a "general plot cadastre": it involves measuring over 100 million plots, making a plan for each

commune where find the plots, classify them according to the fertility of the soil, assess the taxable product, collect the scattered plots under the name of their owner, determine their income, and make this income the tax base. Once all these operations are carried out, one will obtain the income of France.

French territory is therefore the subject of a systematic survey campaign. The first surveys began in 1808 in the Bas-Rhin and ended in 1844. From 1822, corrections were made to adjust the individual distribution of taxes, in application of the finance law of July 31, 1821. Cadastral operations went under the responsibility of departments and municipalities. The State continues to supervise the works, but it is the general councils which finance their realization.

This law also establishes the realization of "states of sections" (table grouping the different properties contained in a section) and recommends the grouping of built and non-built properties within the same matrix. In addition, anyone who sells or acquires a property must declare it to the town hall of the municipality where the property is located.

For this, a copy of the section reports and matrices, as well as the cadastral role made enforceable, is sent to the municipality.

In 1850, Cantal was the last department to be registered.

[1] The contribution on built properties is subject to separate taxation because the income from built properties is greater than that of "bare" land and subject to large variations and price increases.

### The Consequences of the 1871 Annexation on the Cadastre in Alsace and Moselle

In 1871, Alsace and the Moselle were annexed to Germany, where land advertising was organized differently. It is the German legal system which will then, logically, be applied, by the progressive introduction of the Land Book [2]:

The law of March 31, 1884 requires the revision, update or repair, as the case may be, of the existing Napoleonic cadastre.

In municipalities with a cadastre renovated following this law, the "provisional land book" is introduced. this new system therefore coexisted with the system based on the mortgage registers remaining in the municipalities which continued to have an old cadastre.

The law of June 22, 1891 established the Land Book in Alsace-Moselle [3].

The law of April 17, 1899 establishes a property book in all municipalities not yet equipped with a land book.

Finally, the land book was extended to all the municipalities, without exception, from January 1, 1900.

A new estimate of cadastral income was carried out from 1896; it relates to land and not to buildings. In Alsace and Moselle, the taxation of undeveloped land now relates to the income from the soil as well as to part of the profits from certain forms of land use: let us therefore remember that the base of the taxation is higher than " in France, where only the gross income from the land is used to define the tax.

The land book, whose purpose is legal and non-tax, requires constant updating of information: it is therefore imperative to keep the matrices up to date and update the plans as and when changes occur.

In 1923, French law applied again in Alsace and Moselle, with however the maintenance of the institution of the land book. Taxation must be equal to 2/3 of local income. The cadastral income in Alsace will be reassessed more moderately until the revision of the cadastre after 1950, where the differences with the rest of France disappear.

### The Renovation of the Cadastre in 1930

By the law of April 16, 1930, the State decides to update the old cadastre, in order to have a precise basis for calculating the tax; we then speak of a "renovated cadastre". This renovation required, for certain communes, a repair of all the plans of the commune (total repair without taking account of the Napoleonic plan), while for others a simple update was enough. The complete renovation of the French cadastre began in 1930 and was completed in the 1980s.

This results in the disappearance of old references to the plot; the introduction of a new numbering: the sections are now indicated by a double letter, AB for example [4]. The matrices of built and undeveloped properties are renovated at the same time, and recast into a single "renovation matrix".

The section state is not revised.

From the mid-1950s, we only find matrices and very exceptionally plans.

Important : between the date of establishment of the Napoleonic cadastre (early 19th century) and the effective date of renovation of the cadastre after the law of 1930 (which may, depending on the municipality, date from 1930 or 1970), there is no of updated plan: we will therefore not find there by the constructions intervened in the meantime.

# The Different Types of Properties

#### **Undeveloped Properties**

The purpose of the cadastre is to record the **net income from the land**, that is to say the income that remains with an owner once the costs of cultivation, seeds, harvests, maintenance and transport of foodstuffs to the market have been deducted.

Undeveloped properties can be:

- arable land
- vineyards
- gardens
- meadows
- pasture, dry or swampy
- Woodland
- mines or quarries
- navigation channels

#### **Built Properties**

They are evaluated in two parts,

- according to their area
- according to their elevation

The built properties can be:

- houses
- barns, stables, attics, cellars, cellars, presses
- forges, mills, factories

### **Documents Produced in the 19th Century**

The cadastre is made up of two main types of documents: topographic cadastral documentation (plans) and handwritten cadastral documentation (registers).

There are three documents produced in the 19th century: the plan, the state of the section, the matrix.

- the cadastral map, lifted by a surveyor and composed of:
  - o an assembly table, on which we find all the sections of the town
  - sheets specific to the various sections. In the 19th century, the sessions were defined by letters. Then they will be by numbers.

Each cadastral municipality is made up of several sections, the number of which varies according to the area of the municipality. At the beginning of the 20th century, Strasbourg was thus divided into 331 sections, while Mittelschaeffolsheim only had 10 sections in 1906.

The plans can show built properties (houses and buildings). These are the plans you should consult if you establish the history of your house. The plans also symbolize undeveloped properties (meadows, vineyards, fields, hangars for example). Certain hamlets are represented on the plans of undeveloped properties.

• the **state of sections**: it constitutes the legend of the plan. It lists the different properties contained in each section of the plan. Each parcel, section after section and in the order of the parcel numbers, is associated with the name of its owner (when the cadastre is established). There are as many notebooks as there are sections in the commune.

The "plot" is a portion of land, of variable size, with the same type of crop and belonging to the same owner. A field of the same crop divided in two by a river or a hedge for example, forms two plots. Land divided between ten owners forms ten plots [5].

• the **cadastral matrix**: it is a summary register which indicates, for each owner and in alphabetical order, the state of the parcels which belong to him, with reference to the personal account. The matrix also indicates property mutations.

#### **Current Cadastral Documentation**

The plans are classified into two categories:

- the "updated" plans have been quickly updated and retain the accuracy of the old plan
- the "renewed" or "redone" plans are drawn up by land or air survey during the renovation of the cadastre, without reference to the Napoleonic plan.

Files gather all the data. There are thus four types of files:

- the computerized directory of routes and localities
- the owners' file: it presents all the information on landowners by municipality
- the **file of undeveloped properties, or plot file**: it presents the designation, the capacity, the nature of the crop, the rental value and the communal number of the owner of each plot or fiscal subdivision
- the **file of built properties or files of premises**: it includes on the one hand the consistency of the premises (surface, number of rooms, comfort elements etc.) and on the other hand the determination of their rental value

Only data from the computerized directory of roads and localities is accessible to all applicants. The information contained in the files is only communicated to local authorities.

### **Communicability and Reproduction**

The cadastre is a public document by nature, that is to say that it is freely and immediately available for consultation at the Departmental Archives after being deposited there. The plans are freely available and reproducible. The matrices are freely available; matrices under 60 are not reproducible because they contain information relating to private life, in particular the address of the owners, or elements relating to heritage. Only the property tax centers are competent to issue reproductions of the matrices.

# Start a Search in Cadastral Documents

Establishing the origin of a property from cadastral documents requires having a minimum of information to consult the appropriate documents.

It is however necessary to keep in mind the purpose of the cadastral documents: to know the property income of France to determine the part of tax to be paid by each owner. This purpose should not be forgotten, because this explains why certain information which interests the reader is not found in the cadastre, such as for example the sale price of a plot.

Three conditions must be met:

 ensure that the references of the plot and that of the section correspond to the documents kept by the Departmental Archives. If you wish to consult the old cadastre but you have the references of the renovated cadastre, you must first consult a concordance table to find the references of the cadastre before the renovation. The concordance tables are located in the property tax centers, they are not part of the collection of cadastral documents held by the Departmental Archives.

- define the nature of the property to be sought: is it built or undeveloped property?
- if you don't know the plot number, you need to know the owner's name.

Please note: the cadastre has nothing to do with building permits, which can be consulted at the town hall. There is no plan of house or building in the cadastre, because these plans do not provide any information relating to the calculation of tax. Likewise, street names are not mentioned, with the exception of very large arteries.

# **Bibliographic Orientation**

- Encyclopedia of Alsace, article "cadastre", p. 955-957.
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- De Poorter, Serge. *The classification and inventory of maps and plans: cadastral plans and matrices*. The cadastre in France from A to Z. 2 volumes. Montpellier, 2000.
- Mourier, Jacques. *Research guide to the Departmental Archives of the Meuse*. Bar-le-Duc: Departmental Archives of the Meuse, 1996. Chapter 6, the cadastre, p. 147-154.

[1] The contribution on built properties is subject to separate taxation because the income from built properties is higher than that of "bare" land and subject to large variations and price increases.

[2] The objective of the land book is to give an account of the exact situation of real rights in real estate. The registration of his rights makes them enforceable against third parties. Its purposes are exclusively legal, unlike the cadastre which is a fiscal institution.

[3] It is an instrument which makes it possible to provide notaries with the information necessary for the preparation of deeds of sale, to inform bankers for the conclusion of a loan or even bailiffs for the execution of a mandate recovery on the legal situation of a specific owner or property.

[4] For the municipalities concerned, the use of a cross-reference table is necessary if one has the references of the renovated cadastre and wishes to consult the old cadastre.

[5] The following plots are not considered to be dividing: paths, service or exploitation paths, streams, drainage or irrigation channels, retaining walls or terraces.

# TRACING THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE WHEN YOU KNOW THE OWNER

Establishing the origin of a property from cadastral documents requires having a minimum information to consult the appropriate documents. Also keep in mind than:

- The reason for the cadastre is fiscal; cadastral documents were not originally intended to serve as a source for the genealogy of a property! Thus, the cadastre does not give no information on the amount of the sale fixed by the owners, nor any other information relating to the sale and its terms.
- For the tax administration, the only essential data are the date of transfer, the capacity of the property (because it is used to calculate the tax), and the folio number of the new owner, so that tax is charged to him. The documents also indicate the number of doors and windows, which also give rise to the collection of a tax.

Until the end of the 19th century and the establishment of the German cadastre by the law of March 31, 1884, the sections are designated by letters (A, B, C sometimes more depending on the size of the town).

Each section is made up of numbered plans. The plots are then numbered according to a continuous numerical order. The numbering resumes at plot number 1 each time the section.

*From the beginning of the 20th century*, the sections were designated by numbers, and no longer by letters. To associate old and new section number, we use the section state, which lists this information. Access is via the number of sections and plots. The state of sections refers, as when conducting a search by parcel number, to the account number of the owner.

To complete the research carried out in the cadastral documents, we can turn to the notarial records of the town in which the plot is located. Nevertheless, the deeds of sale made before a notary became compulsory only from the 1890s. The existence of an act Notarial sales is therefore not certain before this period.

To illustrate this research, we have chosen to process a request received by the Archives and concerning Georges Reeb, owner in Zutzendorf in 1850. He exercises the profession of wheelwright. The purpose of the research is to establish a list of successive owners of the land of Georges Reeb and to know the area of his land. To do this, we will mainly use matrices cadastral.

#### 1. The Alphabetical Table of the Matrix (La table alphabétique de la matrice)

It is the first document to consult. This table will allow us to know the folio number referring to Georges Reeb's account. It summarizes all the owners' accounts contained in the matrix, in alphabetical order.

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litter Migune in	1383	Rech Gunger les Ta Judgen	336	Hesonfeldor Genger "	+

Figure 1: Overview of the alphabetical table of owners included in the Zutzendorf cadastral matrix, dimension 3 P 561/3 (1).

We note that several owners are called Georges Reeb:

• **the folio number**, indicated next to the owner's name, is a reference to note precisely. It is this number which will make it possible to find the successive owners. It is the key to entering and navigating the matrix.

(1) Assembly of two pages of the cadastral matrix of Zutzendorf listed 3 P 561 / 3. The title "alphabetical table of owners included in the cadastral matrix" comes from the first page of this table, the owners whose name begin with "R" being grouped on another page.

For this research, we will deal with properties belonging to the so-called Georges Reeb carrying the folio number 346 since we know that we are looking for an owner practicing the profession of wheelwright, and that professions are indicated.

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Figure 3: At the head of Georges Reeb's account with folio number 346.

# 2. The Folio

This is the page on which each owner's account is presented. On this folio, we can take knowledge of the years of sale and purchase of the plot, their location, their capacity, of their income and finally of the information necessary to know the successive owners of a parcel.

The folio has 4 important columns when one wants to establish the history of his house. These columns are called:

- year of transfer of acquired plots
- year of the mutation of the plots sold
- folio of the matrix from which the acquired articles are taken
- folio of the matrix where the sold items are passed

The first two columns are to the left of the account, the last two columns are located to the right of the account. They are presented in detail below.

### 2.1. The columns "year of transfer", upper left of the account

The two columns concerning the transfer years are subdivided as follows:

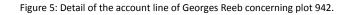
- date the owner sells his plot
- date the owner purchases his plot



Figure 4: Detail of the cartouche concerning the years of transfers.

In the case of Georges Reeb, we can read that he acquired plot 942 in 1844 and that he sold it in 1856.

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# 2.2. The columns "folios of the matrix", upper right part of the account

These columns are subdivided as follows:

- "Folio of the matrix from which are drawn acquired items": Number of folio from the previous owner.
- "Folio of the matrix where the items sold": Folio number of the next owner.



Figure 6: Detail of the cartridge concerning the mutations, and located in the part upper right of the account.

In our example, Georges Reeb bought his plot from the owner whose folio number is 529 and he sold it, in part, to the owner whose folio number is 857.

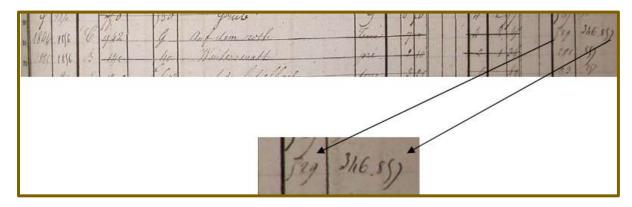


Figure 7: Detail of the cartridge concerning the purchase and sale of plot 942.

The mention of two folio numbers means that Georges Reeb split his plot and that he did not only sold part in 1856.

# 3. The Information Collected

At this stage of research, we have obtained the following information regarding plot 942 located in section C of the municipality of Zutzendorf:

- Georges Reeb, the owner from whom the research is being carried out, is identified by the folio number 346.
- He acquired this plot in 1844, from the owner whose folio number is 529
- He sold it in 1856 to the owner whose folio number is 857.

# 4. Find the Previous Owner of the Plot

When consulting Georges Reeb's account, we learned that the previous owner was wearing Folio number 529. To find the name associated with this folio, consult the matrix and the page corresponding.

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	tê keh		(2)	celles,	a	haut	tore		IL A. C.	0	10	148 CM		551

At the head of the account of Michel Staub, previous owner of plot 942.

We learn that plot number 942 was bought by Georges Reeb from Michel Staub. In the account presented on this folio, plot 942 appears on line 20.



Figure 8: Detail of Paul Staub's account for plot 942.

1844 corresponds to the box "year of the mutation of the items sold": Michel Staub has sold plot 942 in 1844.

The number 346 at the end of the line corresponds to the box "folio of the matrix where the articles are passed sold": it indicates the folio number of Georges Reeb senior.

### 5. Find the Owner of the Following Plot

If we take the detail of the plot in the account of Georges Reeb father, we see that he sold partly its plot in 1856 to the owner whose folio number is 857:

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This folio tells us that the buyer of this plot is his son, also named Georges.

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Figure 9: At the head of the folio of the matrix relating to Georges Reeb fils.

In the account of Georges Reeb fils, we find the folio number of the owner who sold its plot, 346:

M. Reeb.	George fisse Georges & J	utzen	suff			Folio 857
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11k 1/2 (m) 10	Cufan, Ada	Acu.	H. A. C. H. A. C. 7 of 36 \$	3	Fr. G Fr. G.	340 4.88

Figure 10: Detail of the line concerning plot number 942.

We also learn that Georges Reeb fils in turn sold plot number 942 in 1882 / 1883, to the owner whose folio number is 488. We therefore have to consult folio number 488 to know this owner.

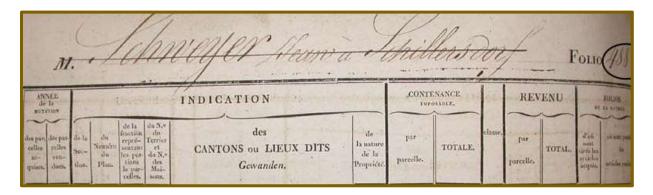


Figure 11: At the head of the folio of the owner acquiring the plot of Georges Reeb fils.

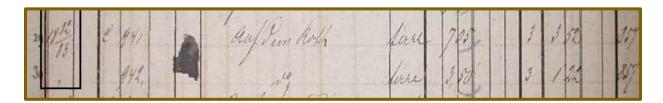


Figure 12: Detail of Jean Schneyer's account for plot 942.

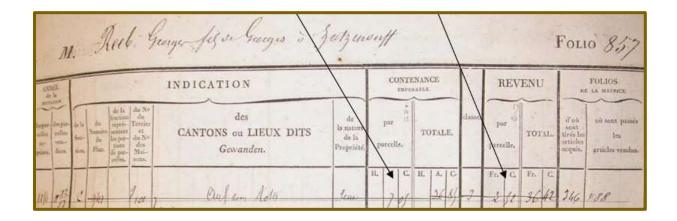
On the line concerning plot 942, we find the sale date 1882/1883. We note, at the end of the line relating to parcel 942, that the box corresponding to the mention "folio of the matrix where are passed the sold items "is empty: it means that at the closing date of the matrix, in 1902, the owner has not changed.

### 6. Information Contained in the Accounts.

From the cadastral accounts, we saw how to establish the succession of the owners of a parcel. This information is useful for establishing the genealogy of a plot or a house, but the accounts allow to take note of other information:

- the nature of the property: in the example of plot number 942, the property is land;
- the taxable capacity per plot and total (if the owner has several plots), expressed in hectare, are and centiare;
- income from the plot: this income is expressed in francs and cents. It is calculated based on of the class to which the earth belongs. Class is determined by criteria like fertility of the land or the geographic location of the plot. The further the plot is from the municipality, the less valuable it is.

In our example, we learn that parcel number 942 whose owner is Georges Reeb fils has a taxable capacity of 7 ares and 05 centiares. Income from this land is goes up to 2 francs and 52 cents.



# In Conclusion: The Information Obtained at the End of the Research

Through this research, we were able to establish:

- the list of successive owners of plot 942 located in Zutzendorf:
  - o Michel Straub, 1832 (2) -1844
  - o Georges Reeb father, 1844-1856
  - Georges Reeb fils, 1856-1892
  - Jean Schneyer, 1892-1902 (3)
  - the nature of the plot: this is class 3 land
- the taxable area of the plot: 7 ares and 05 centiares
- income from the plot: 2 francs 52.

Hélène Both, September 01, 2006

•

(2) Date of opening of the matrix, specified in the first pages of the register. Michel Straub is certainly already the owner of his plot on that date.

(3) Closing date of the matrix, specified in the first pages of the register.

# TRACE THE HISTORY OF A HOUSE WHEN YOU KNOW THE PLOT NUMBER

We have previously seen how to trace the history of a house when you know its owner. Another mode of research consists in starting from the plot on which the building is built. For carry out this research, you must either know the number of the plot, or master the plan of the commune, and identify the parcel directly on the plan in order to note the number.

To illustrate this research, we decided to retrace the history of the current building of the Archives department of Bas-Rhin, located 5 rue Fischart in Strasbourg.

The information we have to begin this document search cadastral are thin: indeed, we do not know the number of the parcel on which the building was constructed. We only know its date of inauguration: 1896. We need so start by finding the parcel number.

#### 1. Determine the Plot Number

To obtain this information, you must know the municipality and locate the location of the Archives departmental on the plans of Strasbourg. For this, we used the plans of Strasbourg established by the German Administration in 1898, on which the names of the main city arteries. The Archives are also located near major axes of Strasbourg (avenue des Vosges, avenue de la Forêt Noire in particular), the location on the map was found ease.

The plan of the district in which the Departmental Archives are located is as follows:

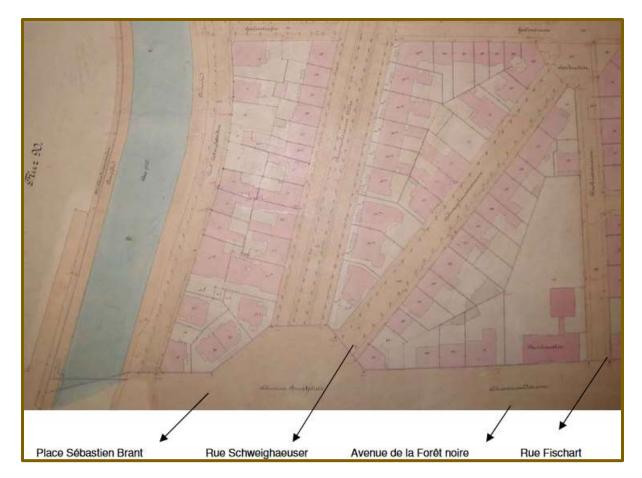


Figure 1: general view of the Brant-avenue district of the Black Forest. (unlisted document, funds being classified)

We know that the Departmental Archives are located at the corner of rue Fischart and la the avenue of the Black Forest. The plan also indicates on the building located at this place "Beziksarchiv", as seen in the following view:

Plot number in the section 95.

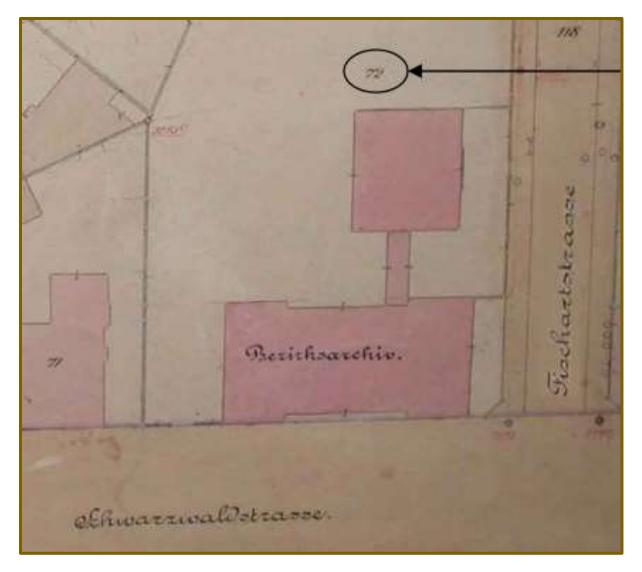


Figure 2: detail of the Departmental Archives building, at the corner of rue Fischart and from the avenue of the Black Forest (document not listed, being classified)

At this stage of research, the plot number is now known to us; this is the number 72 which appears at the top of the plan. All the buildings of the Departmental Archives are therefore built on a single plot. This parcel number is to be noted to continue the research. It is also necessary to note the number of the section indicated on the plan, here number 95, to ability to view section status.

Another technique for determining the location and number of a plot is to use the assembly table, which presents all the sections of a commune. From this document, we can isolate the section on which the desired plot is located. Nevertheless, the scale of the table assembly is smaller than that of the section boards (1 / 10,000 e), so it is more difficult to distinguish these sections and deduce the location of the plot, even impossible for large municipalities such as Strasbourg (see Figure 3).



Figure 3: Strasbourg assembly table, scale 1/10000. Unlisted document, funds being classified

# 2. The Information Contained in the Section Report

This plot number will allow us to collect a certain amount of information. For that, we use the state of sections, which identifies the plots and associates them with their owners. The page concerning plot number 72 is as follows:

- The matrix account number is 1561
- Number of the parcel [72]

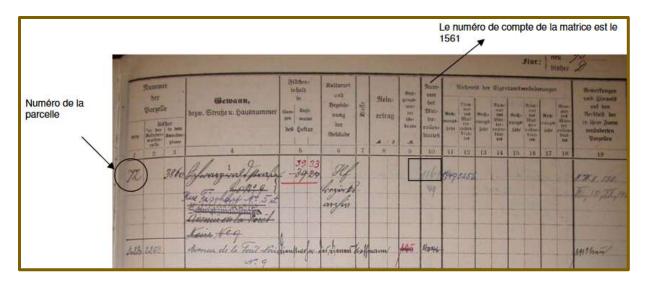


Figure 4: detail of the state of sections concerning plot number 72 of the Departmental Archives

The important reference of the state of sections is the account number, thanks to which we will be able find the owner of the building. In our case, it is the number 1561 that must be kept for the further research.

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We also learn from this document that the Archives plot has a surface area of almost 40 ares, as indicated in column number 5.

Finally, we know that the plot was sold in 1949 to a buyer whose account number is 5256.

# 3. The Owners of the Archives Plot

Once the owner's account number has been read (here 1561), we consult the nomenclature of owners in which we find the account numbers in ascending numerical order. The Account number 1561 is assigned to the state. This account looks like this:

- Account Number
- Plot Number

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Figure 5: detail of folio number 1561 concerning the Departmental Archives

We learn that until 1949, the date on which the plot was sold as indicated in the matrix table, the State owns the land, through the Directorate of Archives of France. This situation is easily explained by the fact that at this date, the Archives are state competence. They only became a departmental competence in 1986, by laws decentralization.

In the German cadastre, there is a document called the *nomenclature of owners*. This document allows to follow the building after its sale. In our case, it's folio number 5256 which will serve as our entry key. The nomenclature looks like this:

				Nomencla	ture	des propri	letair	es	-	-
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diline			Exci-	Nouveau propriétaire	Exer- cice	Nouveau propriètaire	Exer- cice	Nouvesu propriétaire	Exer-	Nouveau propriétaire
1					6	7	8	9	10	11

Figure 6: detail of the owner's nomenclature

The line concerning the Archives building indicates that in 1949, it was the Bas-Rhin Department who became the owner of the land.

- Account number
- Plot number



Figure 7: detail of the owner's nomenclature concerning the sale of the plot of the Departmental Archives

### In Conclusion: The Information Collected

At the end of this research, we learned that the Departmental Archives building had a area of almost 40 ares, that it is built on a single plot, that it belonged to the State until 1949 when it was bought by the Department of Bas-Rhin.

The purchase price of the plot is not included in the cadastre, as this information is not useful for Tax Administration. To find out, consult the notarial acts of 1946.

Knowing the name of the notary who registered the deed will facilitate the search. Otherwise, it will have to consult all the documents of the Strasbourg notaries for the year 1946. This research cannot be carried out immediately at the Departmental Archives; indeed, the documents notaries are only transferred to the Archives after a period of one hundred years. If you know the notary concerned, it is possible to request authorization from him to consult the documents within his study.

Recent and future information is not found in documents kept at the Archives, but in the rare registers kept in tax centers. They are free communicable to anyone wishing to consult them at the property tax centers.

Hélène Both, September 01, 2006