PARIS 1867

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION	Exposition Universelle de Paris 1867
DATE	1ST April – 3rd November 1867
THEME	Agriculture, Industry and Fine Arts
CATEGORY	World Exhibition
ORGANISATION OF RESPONSABILITIES	Imperial Commission
VISITORS	15 000 000
SURFACE	68.7 ha
COST	Total : 22 984 000 FF = 4 596 800 $ (1FF = 0.20 $)

FOREIGN PARTICIPATION

EUROPE :
Germany :
Big Duchy of Bade, Kingdom of Bavaria, Big Duchy of Hesse, Kingdom of Prussia, Kingdom of Wurtemberg
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Pontifical States, Portugal, Romanian Principality, United KIngdom, Russia, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland.

AFRICA : Egypt, Morocco, Regency of Tunisia.

SOUTH AMERICA : Argentina, Bolivia, Bresil, Chili, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haïti, Nicaragua, New Granada, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Uruguay, Venezuela.

NORTH AMERICA : United States.

ASIA : China, Japan, Principality of Liou-Kiou, Ottoman Empire, Persia, Siam, Cambodge, Annam.

OCEANIA : Hawaï.

FRENCH COLONIES AND TERRITORIES : Cochin-China, Colonies of Oceania (Tahiti, Marquesas Islands, New Caledonia), Martinique, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, Senegal, Golden Coast and Gabon, Madagascar and Mayotte, Réunion, French India.

SITE Champ de Mars – Agricultural annexe : island of Billancourt

Extract from : « Memories of the World Exhibition of Paris 1867 » from M. Rimmel :
« Let us begin our task now, warning our readers that for the easiness of the narration, we shall adopt the present tense, as if the things still existed.
Champ de Mars is, as most of our readers know, a vast long square which spreads from the Ecole Militaire to the bank of the Seine, next to Iéna Bridge– The Bulding of the Exhibition, which has an elliptic form, occupies approximately the half of this land. It is divided by zones and by sections.
The nine tenths of the part which faces east are occupied by France and its colonies, and cut by transversal paths referred by names of road of Alsace, road of Normandy, road of Flanders, road of France, road of Lorraine, road of Provence and road of Netherlands.

On the other side of this last road one can find Holland and Belgium. This last country is confined by the road of Belgium, one of the biggest arteries, leading to the path of Europe which leads to Ecole Militaire by crossing the park.
The west side of the Exhibition includes all the other foreign countries in the following order : Prussia, German States, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Russia, Italy, Romanian States, Danubian Principalities, Turkey, Egypt, Tunisia, China, Kingdom of Siam, Japan, Persia, United States of America, Mexico, Bresil, republics of central and southern America, and last but not least, Great Britain and Ireland and its colonies, which are split from France by another long artery, called the Big Vestibule, leading to the Big Avenue which leads next to the bridge of Iéna.
This second part is crossed by the following ways : road of Prussia, road of Austria, road of Switzerland, road of Russia, road of Africa, road of Indies and road of England (…). The building is 490 meters long, 380 meters large, the circumference about one and half kilometer.
The Palace, entirely built of iron and glass, looks very slightly attractive from the outside. One shall highly criticize the form of the English building of 1862, but still its two big domes did not lack of nobility, whereas the only outstanding points of the building of 1867 are small masts with flags which flank its greyish walls without reducing their monotony.
The inside of the monument, of course except the wealth of its content, leaves also much to be desired. The continuous curves, tiring for the eye do not offer at any point these long vistas which usually make the beauty of this kind of structure. The only place which presents truly a gracious whole is the inner garden, where the different paths converge. If we want to know the reasons which lead to adopt this elliptic form, so unsuccessful in the results, here they are :
The International Exhibitions had to face, from their origins, a certain difficulty of classification.
Should one group them according to the nature or according to the original place ?
The last possibility allowed to cover all the industry of a nation with a glance ; the other one made easier the comparison of similar products from different countries.
It was the second system that prevailed until now because the first one had the severe drawback to raise considerably the labours of the foreign committees, while scatting their exhibitors on all sides.
Author : M. Jean-Baptiste Kranz – architect of the Palace.