

THE FRENCH PAVILION AND ITS CONTENTS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649268511

The French Pavilion and Its Contents by Various

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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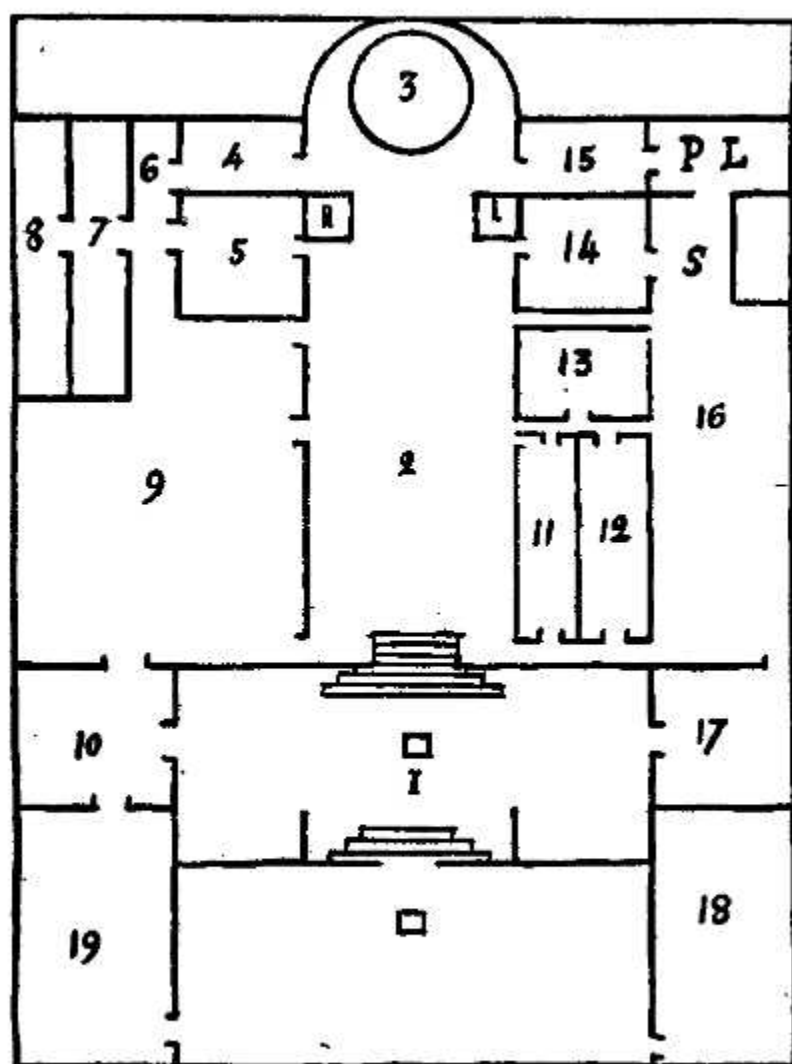


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**KEY TO GROUND PLAN OF THE FRENCH
PAVILION**

- Room 1. Hall of Modern Sèvres and Gobelins.
2. Main Central Hall.
 - L. Souvenirs of La Fayette.
 - R. Souvenirs of Rochambeau.
 3. Rotunda.
 4. Contemporary Decorative Arts.
 - 5 and 6. Retrospective Paintings.
 - 7 and 8. Exhibits of the City of Paris.
 9. East Atrium. Artistic Furniture and Furnishings.
 10. Antiques, China and Ivory.
 11. Theatre.
 12. Doll Land.
 13. Dioramas of Picturesque France.
 14. Historical Monuments.
 15. Architectural Exhibit.
- P. L. Library.
- S. Souvenirs of the Romanticists: Balzac, Hugo, Dumas, etc.
 - 16 and 17. West Atrium: Belgian Exhibit:
 - 18 and 19. Dressmakers' and Milliners' Exhibit.
Exhibits of French Manufacturers.



GROUND PLAN OF THE FRENCH PAVILION
312797



THE FRENCH PAVILION

French Pavilion

The French Pavilion is a reproduction of the Palace of the Legion of Honor, built in Paris and consecrated to the order of the Legion of Honor, created by Napoleon I, in 1802.

ROOM I—HALL OF MODERN SÈVRES AND GOBELINS

The porcelains are from the National Manufactory of Sèvres, situated near Paris and founded during the reign of Louis XV.

The tapestries are from the National Manufactory of the Gobelins. This was, at the beginning, a dye works, owned by two brothers named Gobelin. In 1667 it was bought by Louis XIV and then became the National Manufactory of the Gobelins. This establishment is situated on the River Bièvre. There is a tradition that its water possessed a peculiar property which gave to the Gobelin tapestries the beautiful coloring which first made them famous.

At the foot of the stairs, are two huge decorative vases, high fired and of hard paste, remarkable for their color.

On each side of the door is an oil painting by Casin.

At the top of the stairs, (right), is a handsome vase with children, porcelain enameled, high fired, by Dalou.

Above the entrance door is a large Gobelin tapestry. This tapestry represents a scene in the beginning of the 15th century: The Duc de Berry at his court in Bourges, buying from merchants of the Orient, animals

for his menagerie, works of art, and especially books. The Duc de Berry left a beautiful collection of manuscripts. This tapestry was designed by P. Cormon.

In front of the staircase is the armed modern statue of "La Gallia", wearing a helmet with the Gallic coq. It is a remarkable piece of allegorical work. By Alfr. Boucher.

To the right, as you enter, is an historical tapestry with the authentic monogram, dated 1902. It represents the battle of Fontenoy, won by the French over the English and the Austrians in 1745.

Beneath this tapestry there is a carved gilded "console", period of Louis XIV, upon which are two large vases, hard porcelain, N. M. of Sèvres.

In the corner: A terme Pan in enamelled porcelain, high fired.

A second tapestry shows Jeanne d'Arc listening to the voice which urges her to take up arms against the English and then to take the Dauphin (Charles VII) to the Cathedral of Rheims to be consecrated, as was the custom for all the kings of France. Forming a background for the Maid, are shadowy figures which represent the terrible sufferings of the people.

1st Inscription: "Maid of the noble heart, go. Duty calls."

2d Inscription: "In the midst of the scenes of suffering and desolation of the Civil War, the heart of Jeanne is filled with love and pity."

The next tapestry represents Jeanne d'Arc on her way to Chinon to find the Dauphin (Charles VII). The Vision tells her not to fear the dangers of the road, represented by the dying Dragon crushed under the foot of the Vision.

Notice the remarkable drawing and coloring, especially of the dragon's wings.

1st Inscription: "The way is open for you."

2d Inscription: "If there are enemies in my path, I have God my Lord who will open a way for me that I may reach the Dauphin. I was born to save him."

In the next tapestry an old peasant woman is telling stories of the olden time to an eager group of young people which surrounds her. In the background are the different characters and attributes of the fairy tales to which all are listening with marked interest. This tapestry is noticeable for the number and variety of the figures and the delicacy of the details. The designs are after **E. Tapissier**.

Under this tapestry is a fountain composed of a group of children, done in porcelain. N. M. of Sèvres, by **Blondat**.

Near it, a large show case with many objects of art, vases, cups, groups of "biscuit de Sèvres" or "grès flammé". The **Reader and Maternity**, by the famous Parisian sculptor, **Jules Dalou**.

At the foot of the stairs are the busts of Franklin and of Washington, in "biscuit de Sèvres", by the French sculptor **Houdon**, and four large decorative vases, high fired; two are ornamented with bronze mouths and are mounted on stands of bronze. N. M. of Sèvres.

On the left hand side of the staircase is a tapestry representing Africa pacified and civilized by the French, after the drawings of **Roche-grosse**. The Genius of Peace advances; the book of Law in his hand is the emblem of civilization. That he succeeds in inspiring the Africans with confidence is shown by the forward movement of the natives. This wonderful work is remarkable for the richness and harmony of the vivid tropical coloring and the artistic and delicate execution of the numerous details. Roche-grosse has lived in Africa and thus is enabled to present a scene which is absolutely true to nature.

Beneath is a carved wooden console, period Louis XIV, with a vase decorated with horses, in hard enamelled porcelain. Of great value.

The next tapestry shows **Jeanne d'Arc** in front of Orléans. She is on horseback and implores the Lord, who appears to her in armor, and says: