



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Clinical Neuroscience

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jocn](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jocn)

## Review article

# “Flâneur neurologique in paris” – A guide to pinpointing the houses of famous neurologists in the late XIX century

Hélio Afonso Ghizoni Teive<sup>a,\*</sup>, Francisco Manoel Branco Germiniani<sup>a</sup>, Carlos Henrique Ferreira Camargo<sup>a</sup>, Olivier Walusinski<sup>b</sup>, Andrew J. Lees<sup>c,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Movement Disorders Unit, Neurology Service, Internal Medicine Department, Hospital de Clínicas, Federal University of Paraná, Curitiba, PR, Brazil

<sup>b</sup> Private Practice, Brou, France

<sup>c</sup> Department of Molecular Neuroscience, Reta Lila Weston Institute for Neurological Studies, UCL, Institute of Neurology, London, UK

## ARTICLE INFO

## Article history:

Received 5 February 2018

Accepted 2 April 2018

Available online xxx

## Keywords:

Jean-Martin Charcot

Paris

Neurologists

History of medicine

Salpêtrière Hospital

Pierre Marie

Joseph Babinski

Gilles de la Tourette

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** During the last quarter of the XIX century, Paris, France, particularly the Salpêtrière Hospital was the most important centre of reference of Clinical Neurology in the world. The group based on the Salpêtrière Hospital, led by Professor Charcot, who was arguably the most celebrated neurologist in Europe.

**Objective:** In this historical review, we present and locate the addresses of the houses of these famous Parisian neurologists from the late XIX century.

**Discussion:** At that time, Charcot and the triumvirate of his most famous pupils, Pierre Marie, Joseph Babinski and Gilles de la Tourette, lived in different streets of Paris, predominantly in a small cluster in the districts known as 7<sup>ème</sup> and 8<sup>ème</sup> *arrondissements* (7th and 8th neighbourhoods). Professor Charcot lived in different streets and *arrondissements* of Paris, including the Rue du Faubourg Poissonnière, Paris IX; Cité de Trévise, Paris IX; Avenue du Coq, Paris IX; l'Hôtel de Chimay, Quai Malaquais Paris; and finally his most famous address at the Boulevard Saint-Germain, 217 (previously l'Hôtel de Varangeville), in the Faubourg Saint-Germain, Paris VII. (1884).

**Conclusion:** The best urban organization in Paris provided an interaction between Charcot and other privileged minds of his day. We were remembering and visiting, as a “*Flâneur Neurologique in Paris*”, the addresses of the houses of these famous and outstanding Parisian neurologists from the late XIX century.

© 2018 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

During the last quarter of the XIX century, Paris, France, particularly the Salpêtrière hospital was the most important centre of reference of Clinical Neurology in the world. Jean-Martin Charcot, the founder and the “father of Neurology”, reigned absolute as arguably the most celebrated professor of Neurology [1–4]. At that time, Professor Charcot, and his pupils – including Pierre Marie, Joseph Babinski, Georges Gilles de la Tourette, among others – received several foreigner neurologists, such as Bechterew, Darkschewitch, Kojewnikow from Russia; Marinesco from Romania; Starr, Sachs, and Mitchell from the USA; and Sigmund Freud from Austria [1–4]. Aside from the neurologists who came from different parts of the world, Charcot, attended a huge number of famous patients in his private office, including Dom Pedro II,

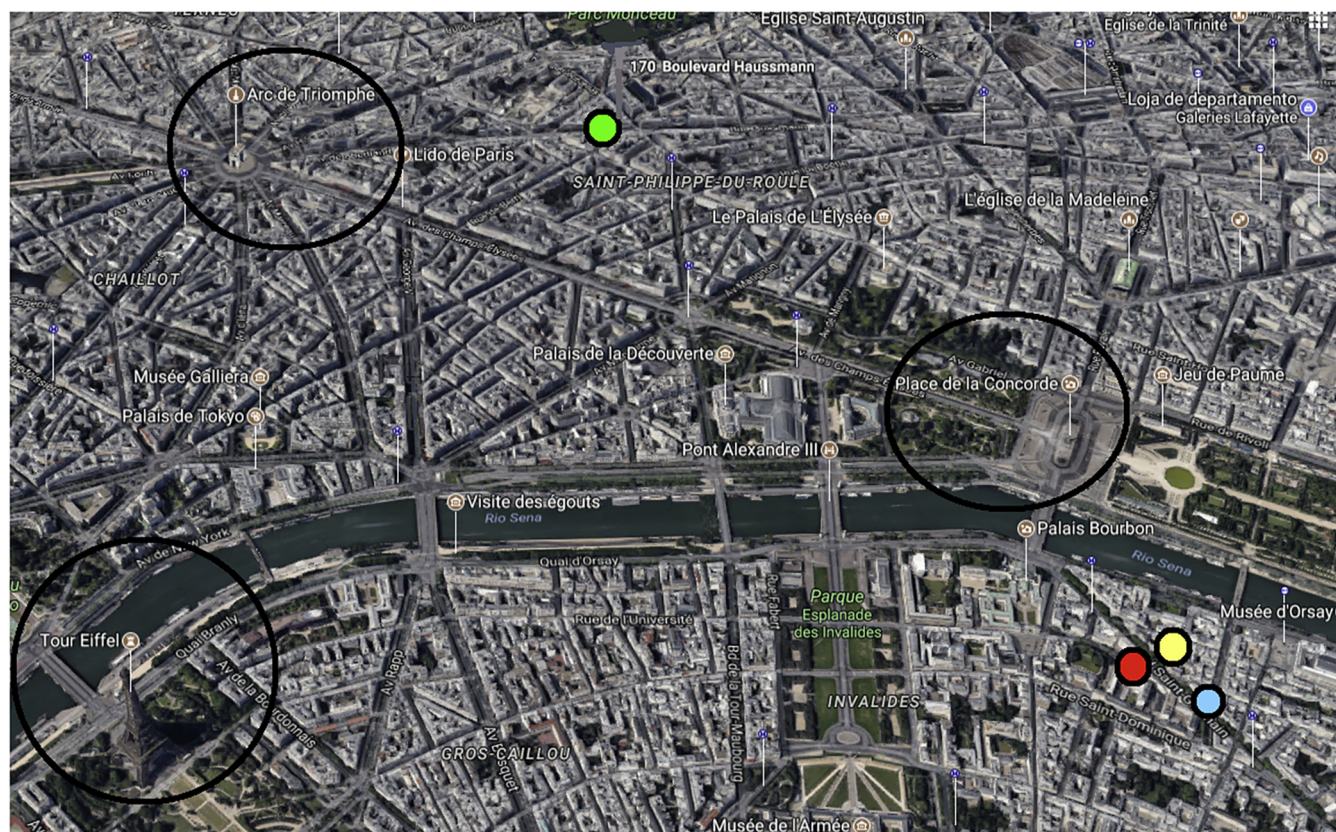
Emperor of Brazil, the Gran-Duke Nicholas of Russia, and Cardinal Lavigerie, the archbishop of Algiers [1–4]. As a result, the French School of Neurology, whose epicentre was the Salpêtrière hospital, became a so-called “*Mecca of Neurology*” [1–3]. The aim of this historical review is to present a promenade through the streets of Paris, as a visiting guide to the houses of famous Parisian neurologists from the late XIX century, namely Professor Charcot and the triumvirate of his most famous pupils: Pierre Marie, Joseph Babinski and Georges Gilles de la Tourette (Fig. 1).

## 1. Paris, capital of the XIX century

Under the guidance of Baron Haussmann, the right-hand man of Napoleon III's Second Empire and the architect imbued with the task of refurbishing and modernizing the city, during the better part of second half of the XIX century, Paris underwent major structural changes that would ultimately lead it to become the modern and effective city it has been known far, earning the nickname of City of Lights [5].

\* Corresponding author at: HAGT. Rua General Carneiro 1103/102, Centro, Curitiba 80060-150, Brazil.

E-mail addresses: [hagteive@mps.com.br](mailto:hagteive@mps.com.br) (H.A.G. Teive), [chcamargo@uol.com.br](mailto:chcamargo@uol.com.br) (C.H.F. Camargo), [walusinski@baillement.com](mailto:walusinski@baillement.com) (O. Walusinski), [andrew.lees@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:andrew.lees@ucl.ac.uk) (A.J. Lees).



**Fig. 1.** Map of Paris Arrondissements (neighbourhoods) with the location of Charcot's and his triumvirate of favourite pupils' houses. Marked with coloured pins: Red/Charcot; Yellow/Pierre-Marie; Green/Babinski; Blue/Tourette. (Modified from <https://www.google.com.br/maps/place/Place+le+la+Concorde/@48.8656366,2.319047,735m/data=!3m1!1e3!4m5!3m4!1s0x47e66fcd61ae0a01:0x18030de10e25ab2c18m2!3d48.8656331!4d2.3212357>, accessed on October 30th, 2017).

At the dawn of the XIX century Paris was the most crowded city of Europe, growing exponentially in a hectic manner, without any proper planning, to the point that urban saturation led to what was known as a “medieval space crisis”, ultimately unorganised growth of urban space without any prior conception like that of medieval times [6]. The Industrial Revolution of the XVIII century led to the widespread of miserable housing and collective slums so that in the more crowded neighbourhoods a mixture of insalubrity, traffic congestion and utter ugliness made them unwholesome [5].

Successive epidemics, impractical urban mobility and over 60% of the populace living in miserable conditions urged the government to take major steps into implementing the renovation of the city structure. Some changes had already begun in the XVIII century, such as the broadening of the Champs-Élysées avenue, structuring of the Place da la Concorde, the demolition of old slums and the construction of public buildings, such as the Theatre Odéon. Haussmann's plans for amplifying and modifying Paris were based on three pillars: road system, architectonic urbanism and sanitary urbanism with landscaping of green space [5].

A new grid of wide and straight roads, linking the city centre to the newly constructed train stations was developed; an impressive number of buildings were either built or refurbished; the hydraulic system got renovated with new aqueducts, reservoirs and public fountains; sewerage became more efficient with the sewer system growing from a mere 135 km in 1850 to 600 km by 1870; finally a number of parks and other green areas were constructed [5].

The Roman Empire expanded and influenced the whole known world by building roads. Knowledge now walks along virtual roads. By the time that Charcot rose to prominence at the Salpêtrière in the 1870s, Paris had become a much more organised and extremely gorgeous city with 1,800,000 inhabitants [7]. Some problems

inherent to any great metropolis still existed, but by and large, they had been minimised and the newly implemented urban improvements made it easier for patients to have access to hospitals and individual doctors, particularly the privileged minds that fostered the birth of modern neurology.

## 2. Professor Charcot at the Boulevard Saint-Germain

Professor Charcot's (1825–1893) (Fig. 2) contribution to Neurology is outstanding and well-known worldwide, including the description of several neurological diseases, such as lateral amyotrophic sclerosis (ALS) (named after him as Charcot's disease), multiple sclerosis (Charcot and Vulpian described it as *sclerose in plaques*), Charcot-Marie-Tooth's disease (hereditary sensory and motor neuropathy), tabetic arthropathy (Charcot's joints), the clinical description of Parkinson's disease, the pathogenesis of intracerebral hemorrhage (the microaneurysms of Charcot-Bouchard), among so many others. He was also particularly interested in hysteria and studied different aspects of this puzzling condition [1–3]. Professor Charcot lived in different streets and *arrondissements* of Paris, including the Rue du Faubourg Poissonnière, Paris IX; Cité de Trévis, Paris IX; Avenue du Coq, Paris IX; l'Hôtel de Chimay, Quai Malaquais Paris; and finally, his most famous address at the Boulevard Saint-Germain, 217 (previously l'Hôtel de Varangeville), in the Faubourg Saint-Germain, Paris VII. (1884) (Fig. 2). Charcot also had a summer house at Neuilly Sur Seine (Ile-de-France), in the outskirts of Paris, and the street of this country home now bears the name of his son – Boulevard du Commandant Charcot [1,4]. In his aristocratic mansion at 217, Boulevard Saint-Germain, Charcot and his family had the habit of

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/8685022>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/8685022>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)