# Pôle Histoire numérique
# Laboratoire de recherche historique Rhône-Alpes
# (LARHRA)

## Digital history department – Rhône-Alpes Historical Research Center

LARHRA's Pôle histoire numérique (Digital History Department) is a mixed team of researchers and engineers that incite use of digital tools for research in history. Our aim is to help historians to structure their data according to best practices; to build a collaborative system with a generic semantic model; to produce reusable primary data; to guarantee individual and project inputs / outputs; to explore and visualize data using existing software (statistics, SIG, network analysis, etc.); to publish and share our historical and geographical resources using classical and semantic web technologies.

According to this aim, we developed a generic data model, open and evolutive, and created a modular, collaborative platform for storing, analyzing and publishing historical data and texts. The SyMoGIH project (Système modulaire de gestion de l'information historique) supplies a modular system for managing historical information: the SyMoGIH platform enables historians to store the information they collect during their researches in a collaborative and cumulative database and then to exploit the collected information by using different kind of digital tools to visualize and analyze it.

This project also includes the localization of historical information as a major issue and consequently we integrated a gazetteer into the SyMoGIH platform. In parallel, a data model was built to treat the historical evolution of political and administrative territories. We therefore have some experience in treating the historical evolution of places taking their history into account, including their toponymic, typologic and spatial evolution. We would like to share our experience and open-up to other projects and specialists.

Documentation and resources are available on our project's website www.symogih.org. The www.geo-larhra.org website is dedicated to provide access to our gazetteer, to a geo-catalog of available maps and resources and to a historical atlas.

## Presentation of the participants

### Francesco Beretta
CNRS research fellow since 2005. He is responsible of the Digital History Department.
Specialist in the history of the Roman Inquisition and the Scientific Revolution, he developed his skills in digital humanities, especially in the field of data modeling, relational databases and text encoding in XML/TEI format, providing training to students and colleagues, and contributing significantly to the establishment of the SyMoGIH platform.

### Claire-Charlotte Butez
Research Officer and GIS specialists.

Member of the Digital History Department of LARHRA since 2009. In the SyMoGIH project she is especially engaged in the development of the historical gazetteer and atlas, and the treatment of spatial data metadata.