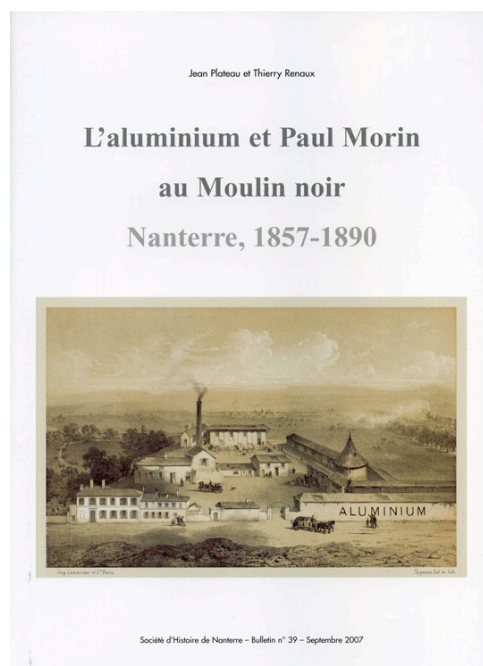


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Jean Plateau and Thierry Renaux, *L'aluminium et Paul Morin au Moulin noir (1857-1890). Un maire pour Nanterre, un métal pour l'industrie.*

(Aluminium and Paul Morin at Moulin Noir (1857-1890), a Mayor for Nanterre, a Metal for Industry)

Bulletin de la Société d'histoire de Nanterre #39, 2007, 136 pages, in French. ISSN 1145-0819-09/07, €23

150 years ago in 1857, the Moulin Noir factory in Nanterre (France) became the world's first specialised aluminium manufacturing site.

For 30 years, until an electricity-based manufacturing process revolutionised the aluminium industry, Nanterre was the centre of the chemical aluminium world. This semi-precious metal, as it was then considered, was produced in very small quantities but attracted widespread interest, even at the highest levels of the State.

Among the pioneers in this scientific, technical and human adventure, Paul Morin takes centre stage. He gave his name to the first company that operated the Moulin Noir before becoming mayor for Nanterre, then its member of parliament and, finally, an irremovable senator of the 3rd republic.

This bulletin from the Nanterre history society tells a twofold story that takes place against a backdrop of intensive political change. It is the fruit of research by authors with a keen interest in the history and applications of aluminium.

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