The image bank

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The image collections include a great variety of documents, prints, tracings, maps, photographic prints, drawings... To them has been added a small but outstanding collection of paintings and pastels.

Made up of three portfolios, the ancient image bank was inventoried in 2002-2003. It has since grown thanks to a number of acquisitions (notably some XIXe century prints), but also through the rediscovery of documents, notably a series of astronomers' portraits, which had probably been on display in Admiral Mouchez's museum.

Together with this, the Meudon collection, essentially composed of photographs (collodion negatives, aristotypes, charcoal prints, photoglyptys...) has also been listed.

These documents include a number of exceptional items, such as photographs taken by Jules Janssen and the pastels of Léopold Trouvelot.

Photosphère, Jules Janssen, 8 juillet 1885

Listed in the Alidade, this collection is also very much present in the photographic collection of the Library, which will soon be available over the internet or for consultation on site.

Note that many currently absent documents are being prepared for inclusion, as well as an important collection of scientific posters. Furthermore, many photographic documents are in the archives (Paris site, notably in the Delisle collection), or in the document files (Meudon site).