1. The objective of the research

Through the study of the development of tramway companies in Shanghai, we examine the role of public transport in the urban transformation of Shanghai:
- the role played by institutional constraints in the development of the transport network
- the evolution of land use in Shanghai that resulted from the impact of the tramway and its suppression in the 1960s
- the adaptation of society to the new forms of spatial mobility

2. The approach of the dissertation

Business History:
- the emergence and operation of tramway companies in Shanghai
- the relationship between the companies and the local authorities, etc...

Urban History:
- the impact of urban transport on the transformation of land use
- the development of economic and leisure in the areas served by the tramway
- the establishment of new residential and commercial areas,
- the behavior of travelers and gender relations

Comparative perspective:
- the evolution of tramway in Hong Kong, London, Paris, Saigon, Singapore, Tianjin, Tokyo

3. The sources used in the dissertation

Archives in France, England, China (Shanghai)
- Company archives
- Shanghai Municipal Archives
- Diplomatic Archives
- Private Archives

Documents in French, English, Chinese

Images in Virtual Shanghai, a digital platform of IAO

Maps in Virtual Shanghai, original maps and GIS map

4. The use of “Omeka”

“Omeka-Transportation” is an online database that helps me to store and sort out all the sources necessary for my dissertation, to scrutinize these sources, in particular overlapping and complementary information. I can also share data between groups.