

Use case 1 (amateur user (a) / specialised user (b))

Use case title:

- a) Amateur user with watermark looking for general information on the watermark (e.g. name, printer of watermark, identifying a coat of arms, origin, history, user of the watermark etc.)
- b) Specialized user with the same intentions.

Scenario:

- a) Somebody finds a document and discovers a watermark on it. In order to find out more about the origin or the producer of the watermark, he tries to pick it up in Piccard-Online.
- b) Specialised user has found a watermark and chooses the non-verbal method to look for more details about his watermark. The problem is, that sometimes there are large lists of very similar watermarks that have to be compared to each other. Yet going through 100 or more pictures is time consuming. Therefore there should be a "bookmark-function" for storing the more or less identical watermarks found preselectively. Using this funktion the user is able to compare directly those watermarks which came very close to his one.

Importance:

One of the most important inquiries. Must support.

Dependencies:

- dating


Input:

- Buzzwords of the motives inherent to the watermark. (Database research)
- Or search through structured view ("Strukturansicht"): Click through the different levels and compare the images with his watermark.
- "image viewing": Departing from the image heading the group of the watermark.

Output:

- An overview of the watermarks including the motive features. User has to select considering additional ornaments etc. User may give more precision to his search by these choices.

Difficulties:

- too many watermarks with the requested features are presented to a user in a much too long list.
- Proposal: Make structural preview of the different nuances presented in the following list. So subgroups are more obvious to the user. Like in the printed version of the Piccard Findbücher. Like 
- overview over all motifs, to be added: overview for subgroups of each motive

Example:

Schlüssel > im Kreis > einkonturiger Schaft = 152 entries

Other information:

- Sometimes a watermark is composed of two (or more) different motives that are of equal size. One motive is chosen to be the main one. This choice is a matter of perception but it determines which group the user has to depart from for the search. Some user might prefer the second motive as his chief criterium of search. There should be links available between the watermarks composed of different motives of equal size and dominance, so that the user could be lead to the right watermark list even if he prefers choosing the second motive.

Comment

References from one Piccard group to another (Hand und Schlüssel Bd. 17, Abt. 2 und Bd. 8, Abt. 4 Nr. 231) are already existent with regarding letters – IHS or YHS – Reference to: Himmelskörper – Sonne – Ungebildet – Darin Initialen.

There should be previews of which variants of watermarks are categorised and subcategorised in the different watermark groups.

There should be a tool that gives the user the option to store a pre-selection of watermarks that come very close to his watermark. Within this pre-selection he might make again a comparison and select again, until he is able to

identify his watermark. Such a tool would help the user to work more precisely and it would rule out misinterpretation.

Use case 2 (specialized user)

Use case title:

Dating a manuscript through watermark identification.

Scenario:

User has an undated manuscript and discovers that it contains a watermark. Since he is a specialised user, he knows that dating through watermarks is possible. He has three steps in the process of search:

- a) find as many watermarks of the same kind that are similar to his one in Piccard-Online as possible and stick to the dating delivered there.
- b) See what is the time range of all the manuscripts containing this watermark and estimate an appropriate Date for his watermark bearing manuscript.
- c) User decides to look for identical watermarks to get a definite proof.

Importance:

The most important user case of specialized users. Must support.

Dependencies:

Amplification of watermark collections. Users that find (the same) watermarks in manuscripts not yet considered in the database should have the option to send their new entry to some collecting-point, so that it could be included in the BERNSTEIN database in future.

Input:

The user must know how to handle the structured view (Strukturansicht) and must have enough patience or cleverness to find his way through the sometimes long lists of very similar watermarks. He must know how to differentiate several motives. He must know how to find out the date on the Detailansicht.

In General he must know how to handle the structured view (Strukturansicht) and the database-search (Volltextsuche).

Output:

A list of watermarks with indication of year, so that the user can find out his watermark and can deduce the year of production of his manuscript. Additionally there should be the option to print out selected watermarks in their original size (e.g. in the PDF-format like in Piccard-Online).

Difficulties:

Example:

Other information: There should be a tool (bookmark) that gives the user the option to store a pre-selection of watermarks that come very close to his watermark. Within this pre-selection he might make again a comparison and select again, until he is able to identify his watermark.

Such a tool would help the user to work more precisely and it would rule out misinterpretation.

Comment:

Use case 3 (specialized user)

Use case title:

User looks for a watermark which is known to him under a certain name (e.g. coat of arms of Troyes)

Scenario:

User tries to search via the data base option (Volltextsuche) and gets results even when entering different words, terms or descriptions than the ones used in the classification scheme (menu tree) as there are synonyms stored in the database

Importance:

Very important, for there are many specialised people who can be supposed to have sufficient background in heraldics etc. to look for watermarks via their proper names.

Dependencies:

Input:

The user searches via the data base search option and fills in e.g. "coat of arms of Troyes".

Output:

The term within the menu tree is not identical with the term the user is looking for. There user is forwarded to the respective place in the data base.

z.B:

Ochsenkopf
Mit Augen und Nasenlöchern
Darüber Buchstabe
T

Difficulties: Synonyms have to be added to the database in different languages.

Example:

See the example above (coat of arms of Troyes)

Other Information:

Comment:

There should be developed a special index of watermarks that bear concrete names (of origin). Additionally one should offer a thesaurus with all terms used for the description of watermarks. An additional aid would be a free text word search tool.

Use case 4 (specialized user)

Use case title:

Combined use of printed and online version of Piccard (and Briquet)

User also uses printed edition of the Piccard Findbücher together with Piccard-Online departing from the numbers of the Piccard Findbücher.

User adds to his search instruments other printed versions of watermark documentation such as for instance Briquet.

Scenario:

If a specialised user uses Piccard-Online as well as the printed edition of the Piccard Findbücher, there is no authorized concordance of numbers other than that which can be deduced from a comparison of the images.

Problem: The numbers of the printed version of the Piccard Findbücher are quoted everywhere in watermark literature and manuscript catalogues.

So the user, in case of doubt, has to use all instruments of search: Piccard-Online, Piccard Findbücher and, if necessary, also Briquet (and other printed sources), because Piccard does not refer to Briquet.

Importance:

Important.

Dependencies: Links to Manuscripta Mediaevalia (using the Piccard-Print numbers)

Input:

User fills in the respective database fields the volume, type and number of the watermark from the printed version of Piccard and receives a reference to the to the identical card in Piccard-Online (if existent) or to the corresponding type of classification in Piccard-Online.

Output:

The is forwarded to the corresponding issue in Piccard-Online.

Difficulties:

Example:

Other Information:

Comment:

An optimal solution would be the integration of Briquet's material to Piccard-Online and a concordance of the numbers used in the Findbücher with those of the cards that form the basis of Piccard-Online.

Use case 5 (specialized user)

Use case title:

A specialised user finds a lot of images more or less identical to his watermark and uses the measurements for minimising the hits. This is possible through the search by measurements.

Scenario:

A specialised user has struggled through the (sometimes very extensive) image representation of many very similar watermarks. He needs an additional tool for distinguishing the similar images by entering the measurements of the watermarks he tries to find.

Importance:

Very important.

Dependencies:

Input: Measurement of the watermark at hand: Hight, width, distance btw. the chainlines

Output: Minimised list of watermarks corresponding to the measurement criteria.

Difficulties: Measurement of the watermark of the user or the watermark in Piccard-Online might be not exact. It is necessary to allow a tolerance of a couple of millimeters being included in the search (like done in Piccard-Online).

Example:

Other Information:

Comment:

Use case 6

Use case title:

A user finds a fragment of a watermark.

Scenario:

A (specialised) user finds only part of a watermark (for instance in quartos watermarks are divided) and wonders how the whole watermark would look like.

Importance:

Very important.

Dependencies:

Input:

There should be a possibility to scan the watermark fragment and to reconstruct its possible rest through a respective programme.

Output:

A specialised programm would give the user the possible complementary parts of his watermark fragment. So it is not about finding out about the date of production of the manuscript but it is rather about finding out types of watermarks.

Difficulties:

Example:

Other Information:

Comment:

Use Case 7

Use case title:

Researcher on medieval symbolism uses the watermark data bases.

Scenario:

Researcher on medieval symbolism tries to find out for example something about the shell of Saint Jacob through the watermark data bases.

Importance:

Important.

Dependencies:

Input:

He tries to depart as well from the data base search option (Volltextsuche) looking for the item "shell" as well as from the image list.

Output:

Searching through the word "Muschel" (shell) he gets 25 entries that refer to the shell of St. Jacob. Again, it is not about looking for dating through the identification of watermarks, but it is about looking for types of watermarks.

Difficulties:

There isn't yet an explicit search tool for (medieval) symbols taken into consideration within the concept of the database.

Example:

See above example with the shell of St. Jacob.

Other Information:

Comment:

Use case 8

Use case title:

Spreading and dissemination of watermarks. Considering paper trade through watermarks.

Scenario:

A researcher asks himself the following questions about the use of paper: a) Where was the paper (that includes a certain watermark) used? When was it used? Are there special types of the watermarks in question? Moreover, he could depart from the following questions: b) He is looking for a certain place and wonders which kind of paper was produced there (departing from the watermarks proofed for this place) or c) the user looks for a certain watermark and tries to find out about the spreading of the paper through the places where the paper bearing this watermark was written on.

Importance:

Important.

Dependencies:

Input:

The user tries to use the database entering tentatively names of locations that he assumes to be (possible) places for the issuing of the manuscript which bears the watermark in question.

He also tries to search via possible dates of production of the manuscript.

Additionally, the user can choose places from a list like available in Piccard-Online.

Output:

List of watermarks with localisation. The user learns about the diverse types of watermarks concerned.

Difficulties:

Example:

Other Information:

Comment:

There should be maps that give indications as for the regional spreading of certain watermarks. Through these maps ways of paper trade could be visualized. It should be possible to say who used paper with the watermark in question where.

Moreover, there is still no data as for the diffusion of a certain watermark within e.g. medieval Europe.

Use case 9

Title:

General requirements for Piccard-Online.

Scenario:

Several users have given suggestions how to improve Piccard-Online. These suggestions are summarized in this user case as they are also valid for the BERNSTEIN-Portal.

- a.) There should be links from the manuscript catalogues in "manuscripta medievalia" to Piccard-Online and the other watermark databases.
- b.) Within the data base research (Volltextsuche) the search option with "and" (UND-Verknüpfung) is not the general option. Yet this certainly is the search option which is most frequently required.
- c.) Viewing a list of watermarks selected there is the option to go forward to the next page at the end of this page, but there is no option to go back to the hits already inspected.
- d.) If a user wishes to look at the detailed presentation of a watermark a separate window is opened. Yet if the user clicks on the principal window again, the window with the detail representation does not disappear. It has to be moved and has to be closed manually. Moreover, it is not possible to open various windows with a detailed view of a watermark and keep them open at the same time.
- e.) At the end of a list of watermark representations the button leading on to the next page ("Weiter") should be put on the right hand side, so that it switches places with the button leading to a new research option (Neue Suche), for it is more probable that the user goes on looking through the list than that he decides to start a new search. One instinctively clicks on the button of the right hand side to continue.
- f.) A free text research would help to find out about synonyms. Moreover, terminological simplifications would be easier to make. In general, a multilingual thesaurus is needed.
- g.) There should be a digitised Briquet.
- h.) There should be an overall view with watermarks containing only one motive and those containing a certain motive as a component (e.g. watermark a) lizard and watermark b) lizard within a coat of arms).
- i.) There should be a possibility where new watermark discoveries could be contributed to the databases by the scholars.

Importance:

Important. Suggestions should be considered also with respect to the construction of the watermark portal.

Dependencies:

Input:

Output:

Difficulties:

Example:

Other Information:

Comment: