**A New Historical Atlas of the Low Countries**
**(ca. 1350–1795)**

**Linking historical statistics to GIS reconstructions of boundaries on town and village-level**

**Why do areas develop differently over time?**

**Little & Great Divergence debates**

Demography: hearth and house counts, early censuses

1469-1526: 6000+ localities (>60%)

1795-1800: 9000+ localities (>90%)

Growth of density of housing ca. 1500 > ca. 1795

Current progress

Urbanisation: 500+ medieval town plans (Low Countries and surroundings, ca. 1500)

Combining existing GIS base maps...

... and historical cartographic raster images (e.g. Ferraris 1771–77)

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