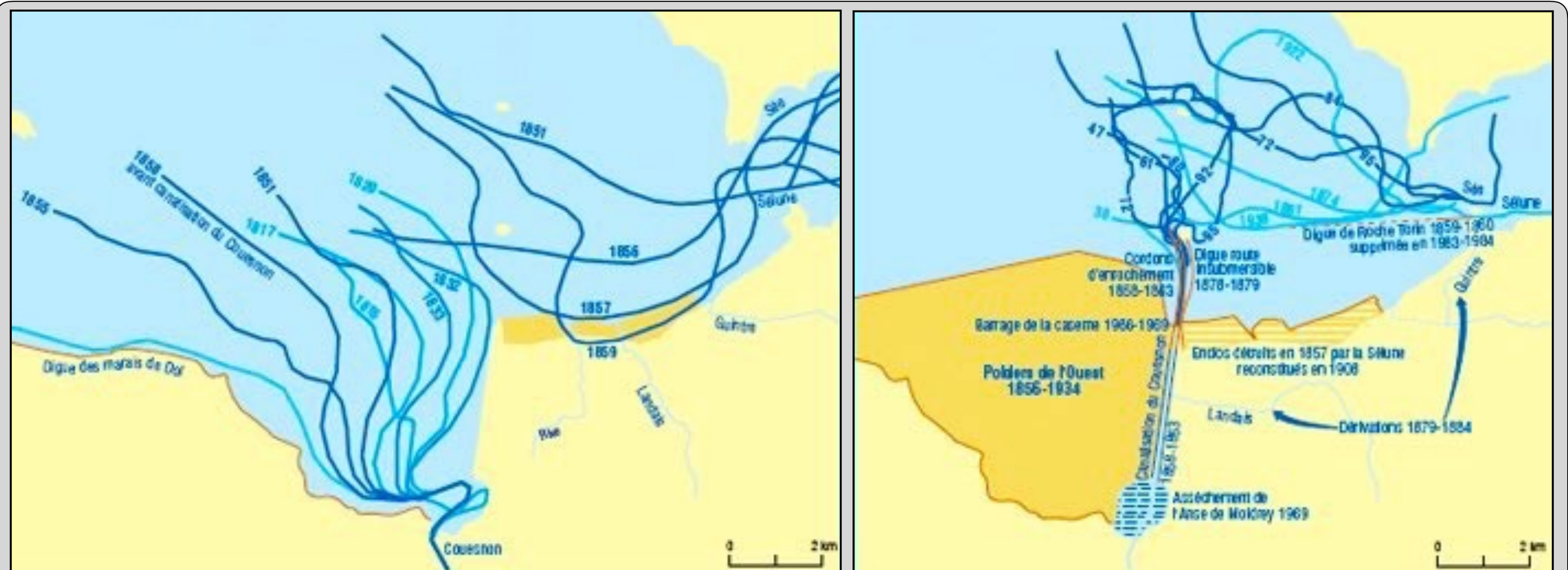


Physical modelling: laboratory models



1805/1859: the 3 rivers flow freely

1860/1995: weak flow from the Couesnon river

- 1850's: Rivers Sée and Sélune were eroding the agricultural area south of where they entered the bay, and a dike was constructed to force their flow further north.
- River Couesnon was completely controlled and "canalised" all the way out beyond Mont Saint-Michel itself
- in 1969, a dam was built across the Cuesnon that effectively ended the power of the river to flush sediment out into the bay

Physical modelling: laboratory models



- In forty years, 27 million cubic meters of sediment have been added to the bay and a thousand hectares of new vegetated land encroached into it.
- The model demonstrated that, by 2042, the marine environment of the inner bay around the Mont would vanish completely. Nothing can stop this happening eventually, but it can be slowed down.