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| Wundt, Wilhelm Maximilian |
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| Wilhelm Maximilian Wundt, born in Neckarau (now Mannheim, Baden-Württemberg), was a German scientist who pioneered the field of experimental psychology. His best-known work, *Grundzüge der physiologischen Psychologie* [*Principles of Physiological Psychology*], published in two volumes (volume one in 1873 and volume two in 1874), is the first work to introduce the study of mental processes — psychology — as a new and distinct science. Moreover, Wundt was the first to build a laboratory for psychological research, launched at the University of Leipzig in 1879. Emphasising the study of conscious experiences through a system of rigorous introspection — what he called ‘internal perception’ [*innere Wahrnehmung*] — Wundt broke with early nineteenth-century means of understanding mental processes through his focus on experimental study and the individual, parallel to modernist considerations of individual subjectivities and radical experimentation. A prolific writer, with an estimated 53,000 pages of published work, Wundt moved psychology from its traditional alignment with philosophy into a separate and empirical field of study with its own distinctly modern methods of investigating mental processes. |
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| Further reading:  (Boring)  (Bringmann)  (Titchener)  (Wade)  (Wundt, Ethik: Eine Untersuchung der Tatsachen und Gesetze des sittlichen Lebens)  (Wundt, Principles of Physiological Psychology (Grundzüge der physiologischen Psychologie) (1873-1874) )  (Wundt, Beiträge zur Theorie der Sinneswahrnehmung) |