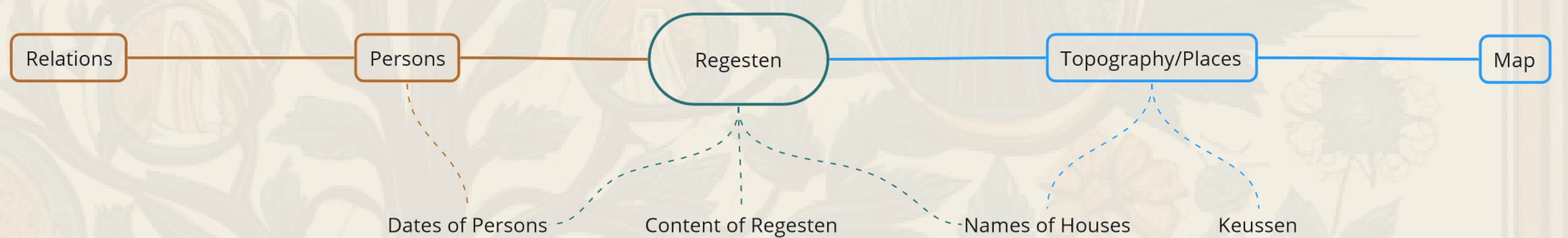# Mapping of family relationships and topographical information using the example of the Cologne Beguines

The project 'Beguines in Cologne' addresses the social topography of the Cologne Beguines from the 12th to the 14th century. Based on data presented as *Regesten* from the Cologne *Schreinsbücher*, it records the names, families, houses, and approximate life dates of the Beguines. By combining and relating the information from the individual records, we aim to create a detailed depiction of their interpersonal connections and property holdings. The houses are mapped onto a historical map of Cologne with the help of topographical information and the comprehensive reference work "Topographie der Stadt Köln im Mittelalter" by Keussen.
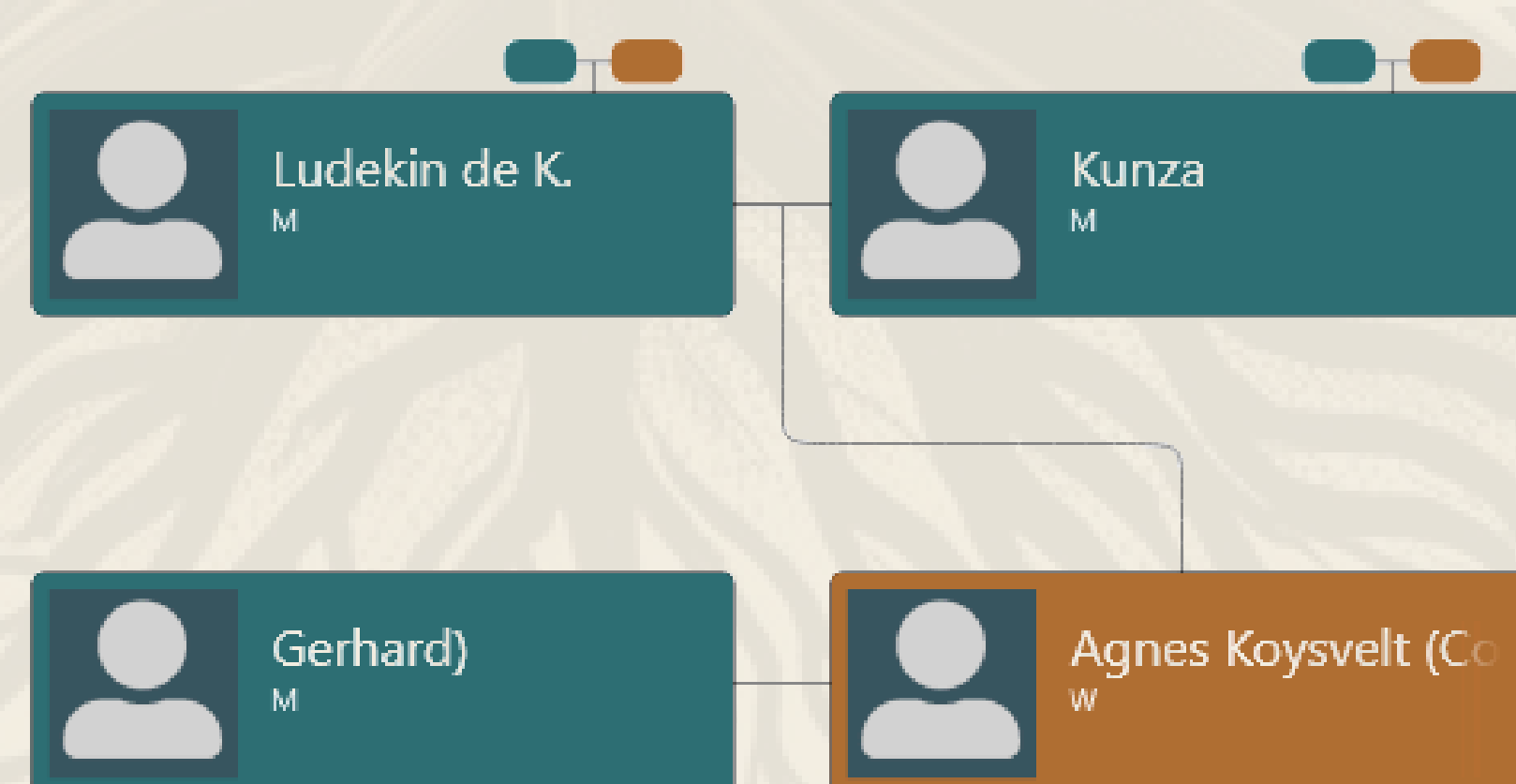
The original dataset of the *Regesten* is further divided into 'Persons' and 'Topography' in the data model. While the *Regesten* contain the substantive data as well as bibliographic information and dating, the person data provide information about relationships among individuals, and the topographical data include information necessary to reference and plot them on a map.

Relations — Persons — Regesten — Topography/Places — Map

Dates of Persons · Content of Regesten · Names of Houses · Keussen

Parents — Ludekin de. Koysvelt / Kunza

Die Beginen* Bela, 2 und 3 erben von ihren +Eltern je ein Kindsteil vom Haus Swevi (Top. 1, 10aIII2.3). Sie übertragen diese Kindsteile an Heinrich vom Kusin & Benigna.
*übergeschrieben Schrb. 12 fol. 78v von 1319 Mai 4 (feria 6 post inv. crucis)

Haus Swevi (Top. 1, 10aIII2.3) — Map

Siblings — Bela / Agnes / Kunza

The kinship relationships among the Beguines will later be depicted in a family tree. This allows the kinships between individuals to be recognized at a glance. To ensure that kinships are not identified through just one *Regest*, multiple *Regesten* are considered at once.

Ludekin de K. — M
Kunza — M
Gerhard) — M
Agnes Koysvelt (Co — W

By linking the information we have gathered from the *Regesten*, we hope to gain knowledge about the Beguines in Cologne from the 12th - 14th century and the history of their convents in Cologne. Furthermore, we are pursuing questions about the extent to which clusters can be formed from the Beguines and the houses, and what this might indicate about the lifestyles and families of the Beguines.

BEGUINES

Jan Bigalke, Jonathan Blumtritt, Benedikte Löbbert

Background image created with DALL-E 3