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May 19th, 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Mapping in the Humanities Classroom: An Assessment of Tools and Strategies

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Niederstadt, Leah; Werner, Jade; Ledezma, Domingo; and Lund, Jenni, "Mapping in the Humanities Classroom: An Assessment of Tools and Strategies" (2016). *Blended Learning in the Liberal Arts Conference*. 18. https://repository.brynmawr.edu/blended_learning/2016/2016/18

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MAPPING HUMANITIES

Jenni Lund

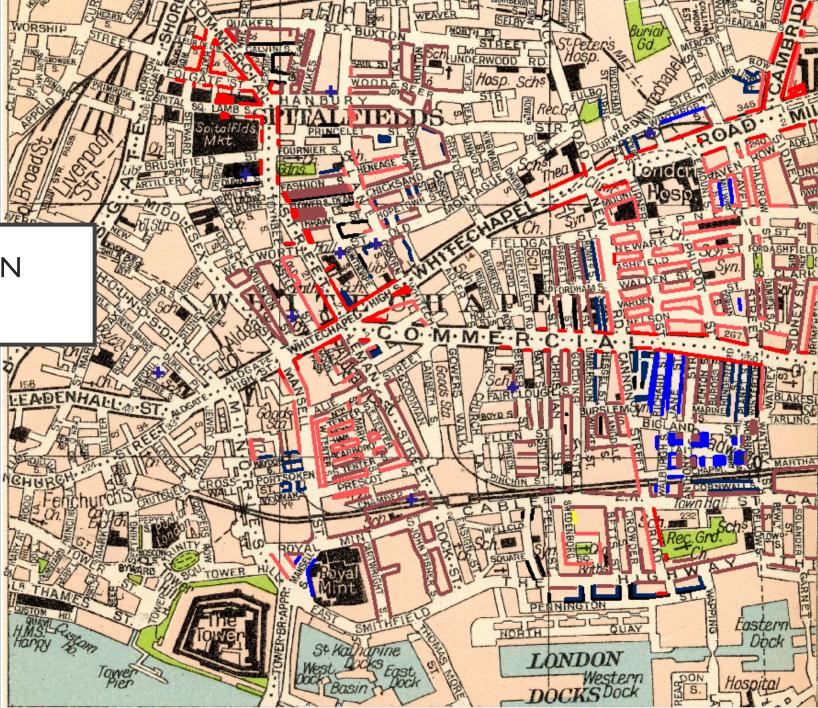
Library & Information Services Wheaton College in Massachusetts

Blended Learning in the Liberal Arts Bryn Mawr College May 19, 2016



VICTORIAN LONDON CENSUS DATA

Charles Booth Poverty Map London School of Economics



ABSTRACT MACHINE HUMANITIES GIS BY CHARLES B. TRAVIS

Quantitative analysis Eyeball analysis Telling stories Spatial goggles

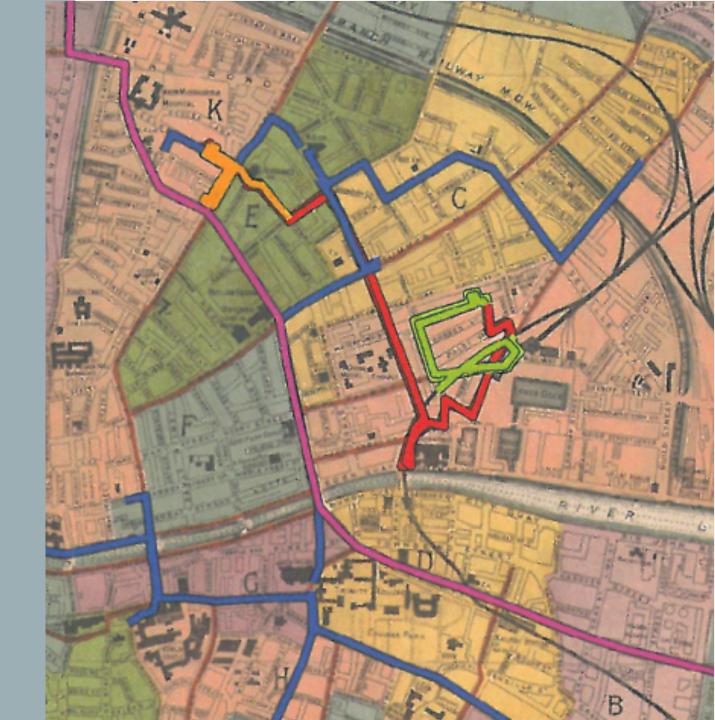
Abstract Machine Humanities GIS

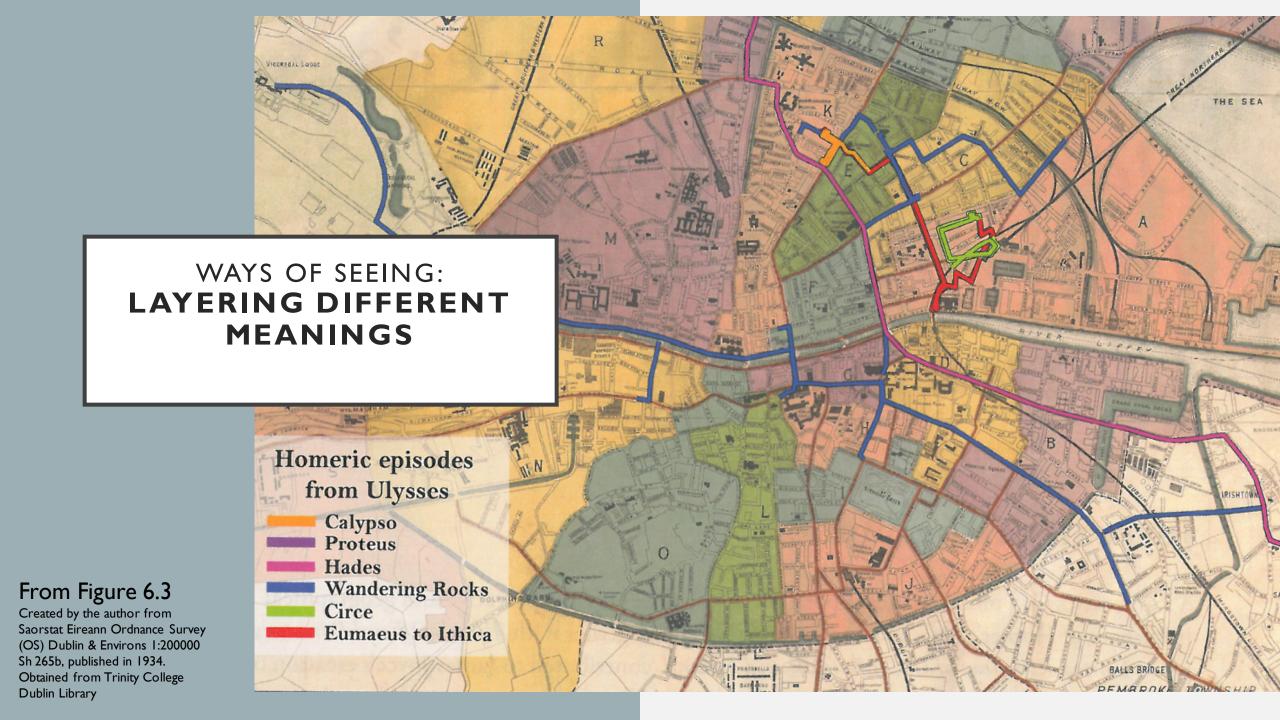
Charles B. Travis

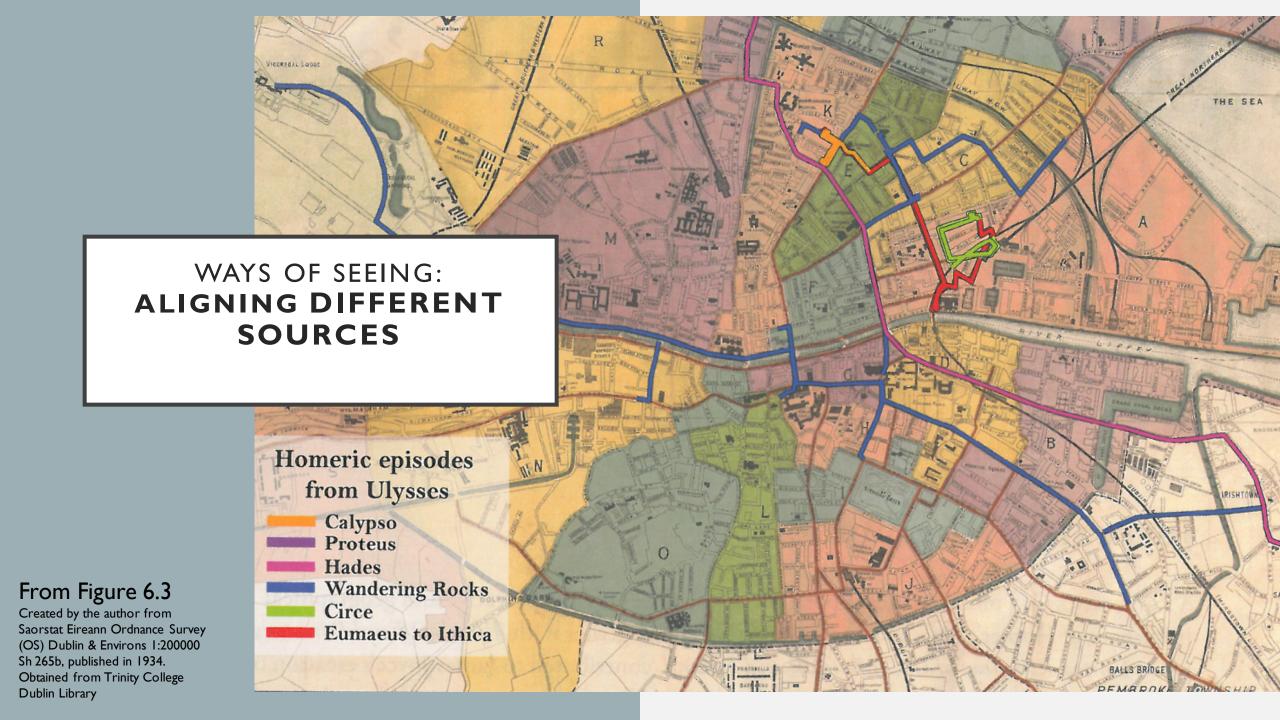
WAYS OF SEEING: DEEP MAPPING

From Figure 5.1

Created by the author from Map of the City of Dublin and its Environs, A. Thom & Co. Ltd., 87 Abbet Street, Dublin (1904), obtained from Trinity College Dublin Library; James Joyce, Ulysses (London: Penguin, 1992 [1922]);

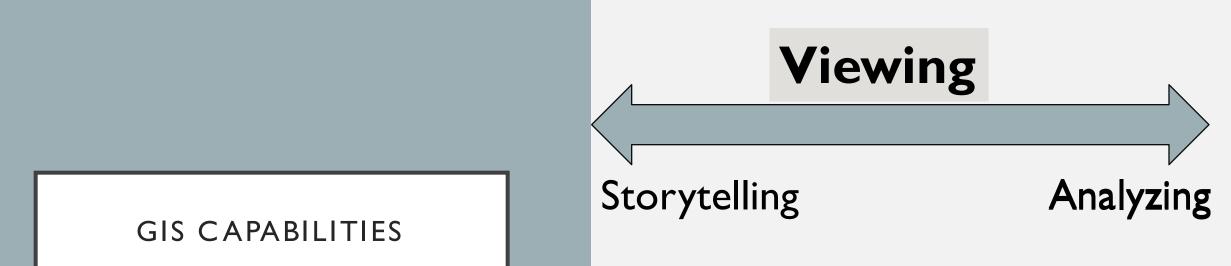


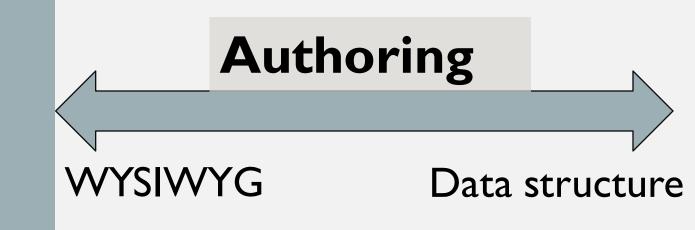




HOW TO TALK TO A TECHIE

- Resist positivism & reductionism
- Target "open knowledge"
- Consider your map a tool for discovery

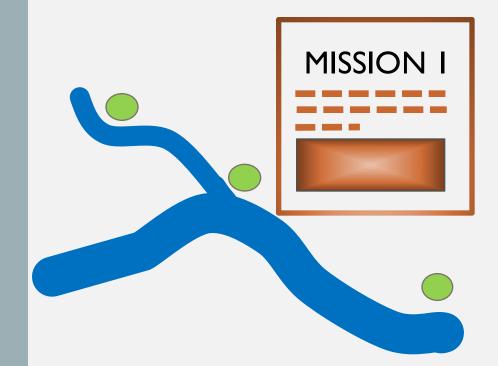




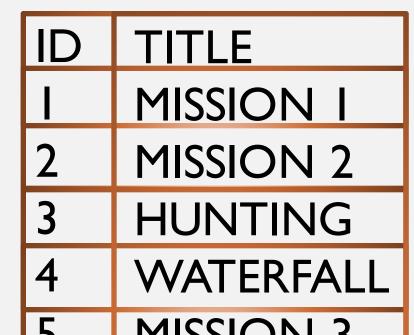
GIS CAPABILITIES

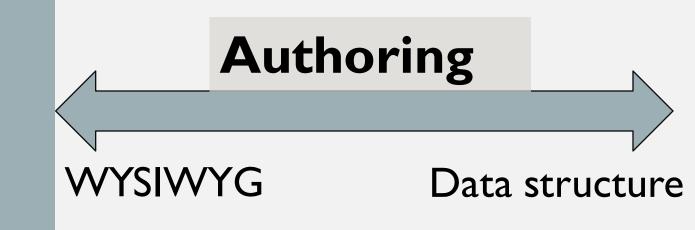
ADD DATA WITH POINT AND CLICK



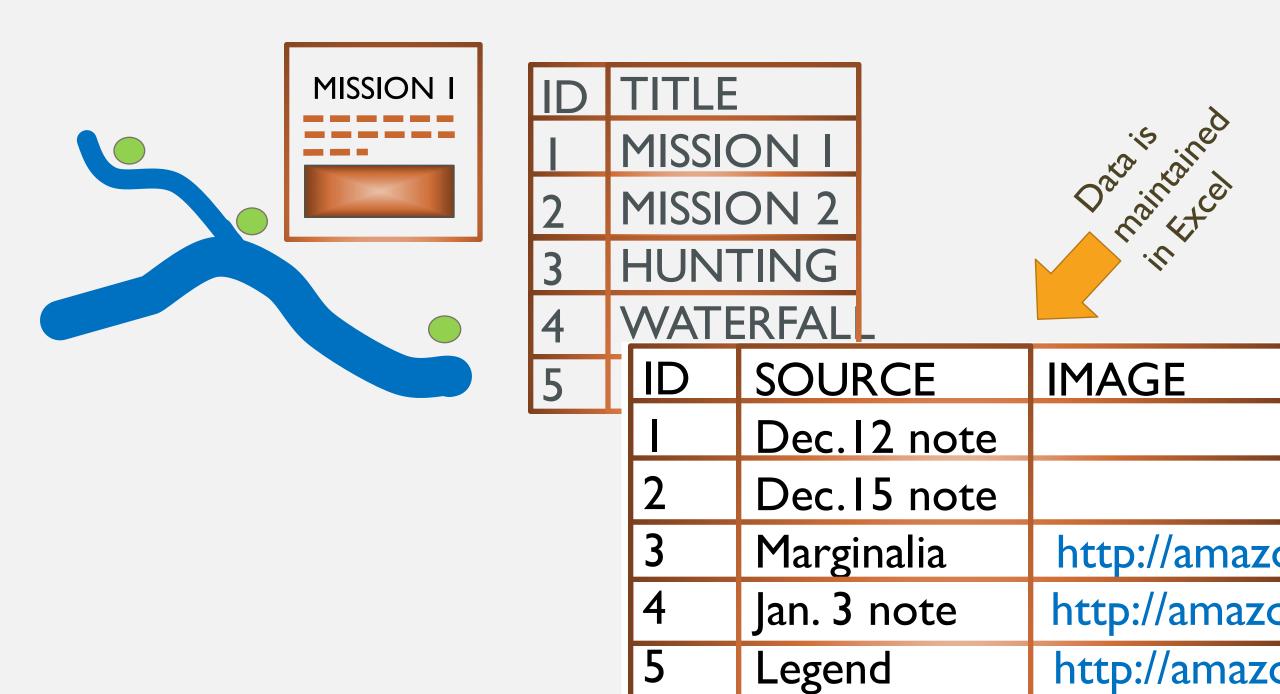






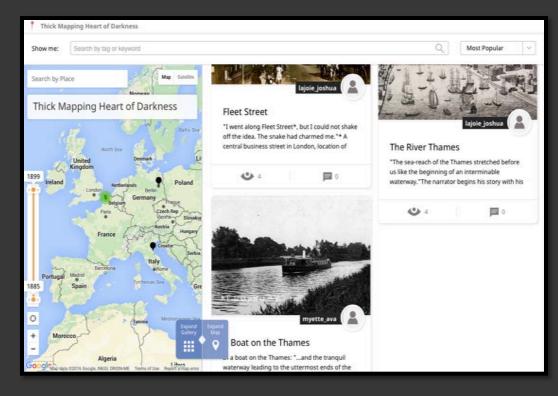


GIS CAPABILITIES



PRACTICALADVICE

- Call it evidence, not data
- You want to add content yourself; aim for an open map39091
- You want to maintain content in Excel
- Plan for different types of evidence



"ONE-SHOT" VS. "SUSTAINED" MAPPING: TWO (BASIC) APPROACHES TO LITERATURE PEDAGOGY

Winter Jade Werner Assistant Professor of English Wheaton College (MA) werner_winter@wheatoncollege.edu

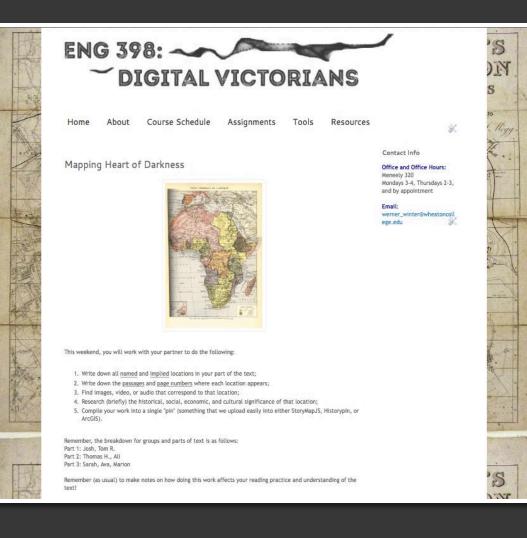
AN INDEPENDENT STUDY & AN ENGLISH COURSE

Summer Independent Study:

- One-on-one summer research in Summer 2015, conducted from a distance (I was in Oregon, student stayed at Wheaton College).
- Lasted for roughly 1.5 months.
- Used ArcGIS.
- Culminated in complete map of locations mentioned or implied in *Heart of Darkness* and Conrad's Congo diary.
- Additionally, student was asked to develop one-hour lesson plan to teach mapping tool and present research to ENG 398 in Fall 2015.

ENG 398, Digital Victorians: Brief Course Description:

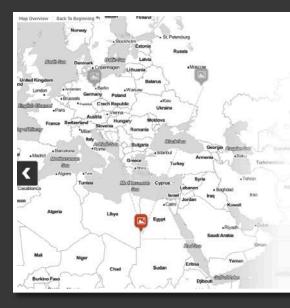
- "This is a course that will introduce you to basic digital methods of literary analysis by way of Victorian literature. But, even more, this is a course that asks you to think critically about what *literary* scholarship ought to do in the twenty-first *century* – culturally, politically, and socially. I want you to push the bounds of literary criticism, and I want you to come away from this course with a deeply reflective and critical sense of your own identity as a scholar of literature. And, to do all this, you need to understand the history of criticism, comprehend the current debates on how to "do" criticism, as well as possess the drive to explore criticism in other forms."
- 7 students.
- Overview of assortment of tools, including Annotation Studio, Voyant, Ngram Viewer, Lexos, and Juxta.
- Only 2 weeks on mapping tools. The first week focused on "one-shot mapping "



What is "one-shot" mapping?

- A strategy to introduce students to LTAs (low threshold applications) for mapping within only <u>two class</u> <u>periods.</u>
- As a result, less emphasis placed on skills acquisition and more emphasis placed on conceptual questions that arise when we think of texts in spatial terms.
- Objectives:
 - Skills: To introduce two digital tools for telling stories/analyzing texts by way of maps.
 - Conceptual (narrow): To consider what "hidden patterns" (in Franco Moretti's words) are brought to surface by focusing on the spatial world of text.
 - Conceptual (broad): To assess extent (if at all) that these digital tools challenge or modify

literary criticism"





We decided to include this location because it sums up a common occurrence within Heart of Darkness: The actual location of the pilot house is mentioned but not geographically acknowledged, but the Sahara, a location never visited in the novel is is named.

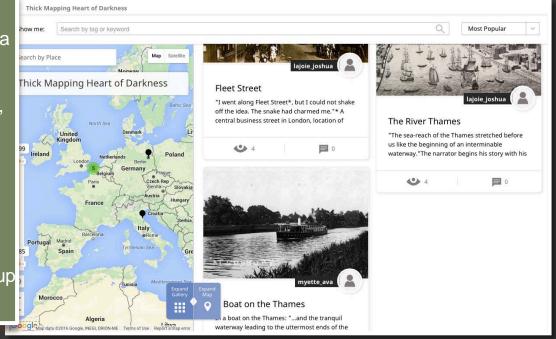
"I missed my late helmisman awfully,—I missed him even while his body was still lying in the pilothouse. Perhaps you will think it passing strange this regret for a savage who was no more account than a grain of Land in a black Sahama". (11)

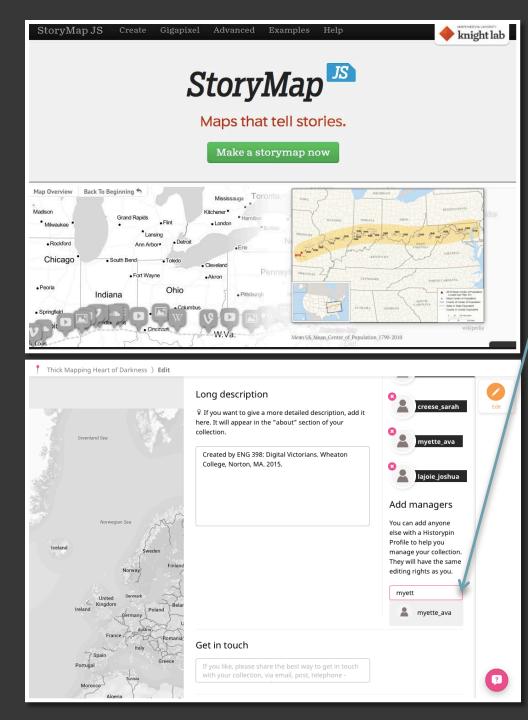
StoryMap JS

- Helps people "tell stories on the web that highlight the locations of a series of events";
- Aesthetically appealing;
- Perhaps reemphasizes causalchronological sequence of narrative;
- More conducive to individual work.

Historypin

- A digital gallery and map, providing a means for creating an open, crowdsourced archive of images, sound files, and text around a place, neighborhood, or location;
- Less aesthetically appealing (according to students);
- Gets rid of causal-chronological sequence of narrative;
- Because all "collections" are open, Historypin is more conducive to group, work (with caveats).





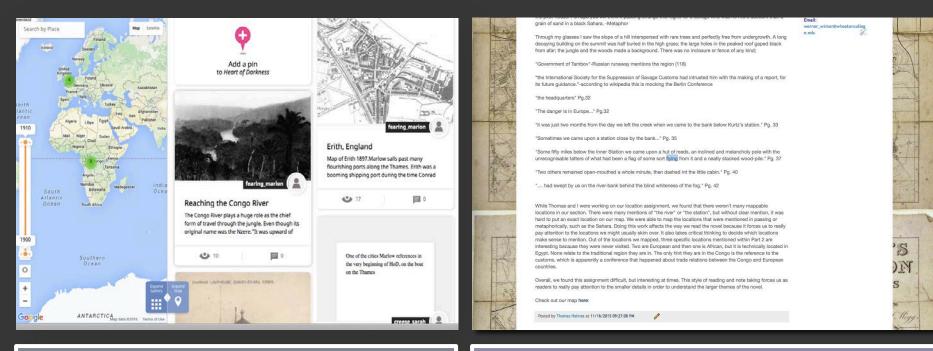
Prior to Class Period:

- Students read *Heart of Darkness*, making note of specific places mentioned. Students also read Franco Moretti's "Maps" from *Graphs, Maps, and Trees* to consider his suggestion that a literary map "offers a model of the narrative universe which rearranges its components in a non-trivial way, and may bring some hidden patterns to the surface" (54).
- Students used their Wheaton email (Google accounts) to create StoryMap JS and History Pin accounts.
- (Students emailed me to let me know their Historypin username, so I could add them to the *Heart of Darkness* collection I started)
- Students were instructed to explore StoryMap JS and Historypin for 15 min. each.

During Class Period:

- Students bring laptops to class (they can borrow from the library if they don't have their own);
- I introduced the backgrounds of each program;
- Students worked with partners for 45 minutes on application of their choice to

map locations they had recorded while reading *Heart of Darkness*. Each group was



After Class: Students continued work on their maps, following guidelines on course blog. They:

- Recorded all <u>named</u> and <u>implied</u> locations in assigned part of text.
- Found images, video, or audio corresponding to location.
- Researched (briefly) historical, social, economic, cultural significance of location.
- Compiled work into StoryMap JS or Historypin.
- Wrote a brief reflection.

Next Class: Completed map; discussed reflections.

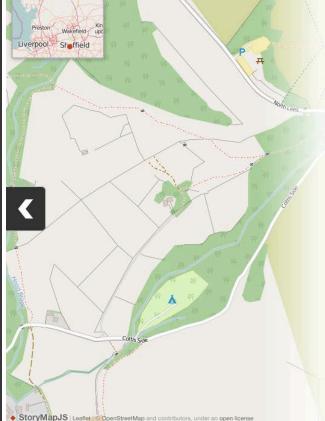
Outcomes: Mixed.

- Students put limited work into assignment because it was a busy time of year.
- Students complained how difficult it was to find any mappable location in HoD.
- Historypin was deeply unpopular.
- However, some interesting patterns emerged. The Part 2 Group noticed that while "there weren't many mappable locations in [their] section," they were "able to map the locations that were mentioned in passing or metaphorically."

"The 'Mapping Jane Eyre' project I decided to pursue was intended to be an interactive map of locations in the novel Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë that would demonstrate how far Jane travels in the novel. I used textual evidence to figure out where Jane travels, how far, and how long she stayed in each place. I placed this information on each slide of the StoryMap JS mapping tool, and corresponded the fictional location with a real one. The actual locations were decided by using various biographies to reach a consensus on what inspired Brontë. I added pictures of the locations to help visualize the setting, and I added quotes from each section to help guide users into what happens at each location. I wanted to combine these new ways of looking at texts with amore traditional way."

-Marion Fearing, Class of 2016

OVERVIEW BACK TO BEGINNING



FERNDEAN

"He would have let the house, but could find no tenant, in consequence of its ineligible and insalubrious site. **Ferndean then remained uninhabited** and unfurnished, with the exception of some two or three rooms fitted up for the accommodation of the squire when he went there in the season to shoot.

To this house I came just ere dark on an evening marked by the characteristics of sad sky, cold gale, and continued small penetrating rain. **The last mile I performed on foot**, having dismissed the chaise and driver with the double remuneration I had promised. Even when within a very short distance of the manor-house, you could see nothing of it, so thick and dark grew the timber of the gloomy wood about it. Iron gates between granite pillars showed me where to enter, and passing through them, I found myself at once in the twilight of close-ranked trees. There was a grass-grown track descending the forest aisle between hoar and knotty shafts and under branched arches. I followed it, expecting soon to reach the dwelling; but it stretched on and on, it wound far and farther: no sign of habitation or grounds was visible." ~Chapter 37

"To be together is for us to be at once **as free as in solitude**, as gay as in company." ~Chapter 38

Scholars believe that Ferndean was based on **Norton Conyers**, a manor house located near Howarth.

Time Traveled from Morton: **Two days** Miles Traveled from Thornfield to Ferndean: 30 miles

Outcomes, pt. 2: Later in the year, I had a student who decided to map *Jane Eyre* with StoryMap JS to see the extent to which the fictional geography of the novel corresponded with the actual geography of Yorkshire. She found that the novel largely *did* correspond to Brontë's Yorkshire, and she also found to her surprise that Jane travels roughly 400 miles over the course of the novel.

Q

An infographic of the novel "Heart of Darkness"



A geographical layover of Joseph Conrad and Charlie Marlow's respective journeys -- real and fictional -- up the Congo River.

 Web Map by RosenzweigT

 Last Modified: December 16, 2015

 (0 ratings, 98 views)

 Sign in to rate this item.

 F
 Facebook

Description

This digital infographic represents a series of locations pertaining to Joseph Conrad's Victorian adventure novel "Heart of Darkness." I have chosen to map the novel because it might offer answers to some of the following questions:

- . Will this way of offering criticism for HoD reveal anything about Conrad's so called racism? Are Conrad's choices meant for literary purposes, or because of ideologies that he held?
- Will it confirm the highly held notion that Conrad is Marlow?
- · Will it call into question Marlow's reliability as a narrator, or Conrad as an author?
- Can mapping a book bring something new to the reading of a book? For example, will knowing that there is a total lack of location markers (on the map) between the Central and Inner Company Stations usher in a greater sense of scale and unknown, making the narrative more claustrophobic or lonely or lost for the reader?
- · Does mapping the novel enhance the experience for the reader in any way?
- · Can visual/graphic criticism be useful for different sorts of learners?

This project was inspired by the Digital Humanities and Historical Literary Criticism, as well as the Visual Arts. With this project, I have aimed to adapt critic Franco Moretti's concept of Distant Reading for the computer age, using the program AreGIS. The prevailing drive behind this mapping project was to determine whether distant reading could be a valuable supplement to close reading.

The project consists of an interactive map which pin points the locations given in the narrative and Conrad's personal Congo Diary. Labels in Green represent locations where Conrad (the author) stopped at on his journey from London to Kisangani. Labels in Orange are places Conrad went stopped at but have not been confirmed as 100% accurate. They are educated guesses. Labels in Purple show locations either mentioned or alluded to in the narrative of "Heart of Darkness." Labels in Blue show locations mentioned in the narrative, but not stops on Marlow's journey. Users can browse the pins on the map, find out information about the various locations that inspired or existed in the narrative.

The Digital Humanities supplement the traditional humanities disciplines by adding a method which brings them into the digital age. Using an online program like AreGIS, a map like this can be used as a teaching tool or an infographic database of information. At the click of a label, the user can learn about the locations mentioned in the text, or in Conrad's diary. Some of the annotations even have hyperlinked images for additional information.

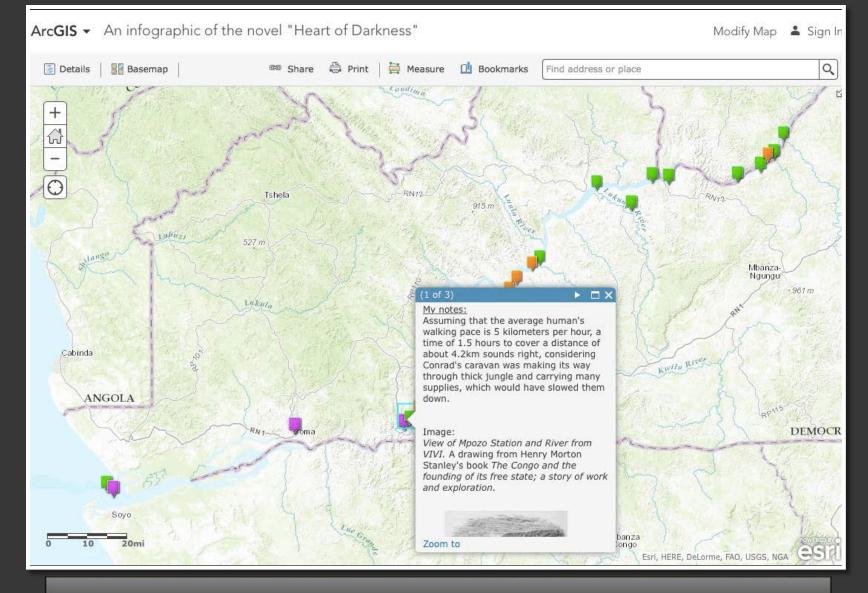
Not only does this project take full advantage of the database and interactivity, it's visual nature may also help answer long debated questions. One debate, for example, is whether or not Conrad's apparent racism was a personally held ideology or the product of his time. The lack of Purple pins on Africa, compared to those on Europe, may suggest that Conrad wanted to paint Africa as this uncivilized wilderness. Conrad would, after all, have known that this was not the case since they are all mentioned in his Congo Diary, which are the included as the Green pins.

Maybe Conrad didn't mention the place names in Africa as a literary tool to enhance the isolation or vastness of the land that he was writing about, and was having Marlow dangerously trek through. This is an adventure story, remember?

Or Conrad might be omitting them because they don't matter. The story is about the events, not the locations! Maybe the dispersion of locations means absolutely nothing! But this mapping project has been worth it if only to offer another view/stance/critical eye on the text.

What is "Sustained" Mapping?

- Working one-on-one with a student on a long-term mapping project.
- Tom Rosenzweig spent this past summer teaching himself the online program ArcGIS. This tool has the functionality of StoryMap JS and Historypin, and is more powerful than both. It is thus more difficult to learn and hence not appropriate for a one- to two-class period exercise.



Green: Where Conrad stopped

Purple: Places mentioned in HoD

Orange: Places Conrad may have stopped, but can't be confirmed as 100% accurate.

TAKEAWAYS:

One-Shot Mapping: Pros:

- Easy to implement;
- Sparks student interest in analyzing text spatially;
- Allows for class collaboration;
- Prompts new research questions about texts.

Cons:

- Not enough time to create meaningful maps;
- Tech difficulties;
- General dislike of Historypin compared to StoryMap JS.

Sustained Mapping: Pros:

- Promotes independent research and development of research skills;
- Informative final project;
- Gives student mastery over a single tool and text(s);
- Accomplishment can be listed on resume.

Cons:

- Critical payoff disproportionate to amount of time spent on work;
- Unclear future for project;
- Frustration on part of student on not having

community with whom to share final project.

Lessons for Future:

One-shot Mapping:

- Needs more than two class periods.
- Students prefer StoryMap JS; need strategy for class collaboration on this tool.
- Reflections might be more robust if completed later.

Sustained Mapping:

- More consideration of intended audience for project.
- Recognition of diminishing benefits in spending too long on project when student is *not* making large critical interventions.
- More consideration needed as to how to help student present/make accessible the research to larger

community

MAPPING OBJECTS & OWNERS: MAKING DIGITAL MAPS TO TEACH & TRACK PROVENANCE

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Back To Be

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1860: GARI MELCHERS born Julius Garibaldi Melchers in Detroit, Mi

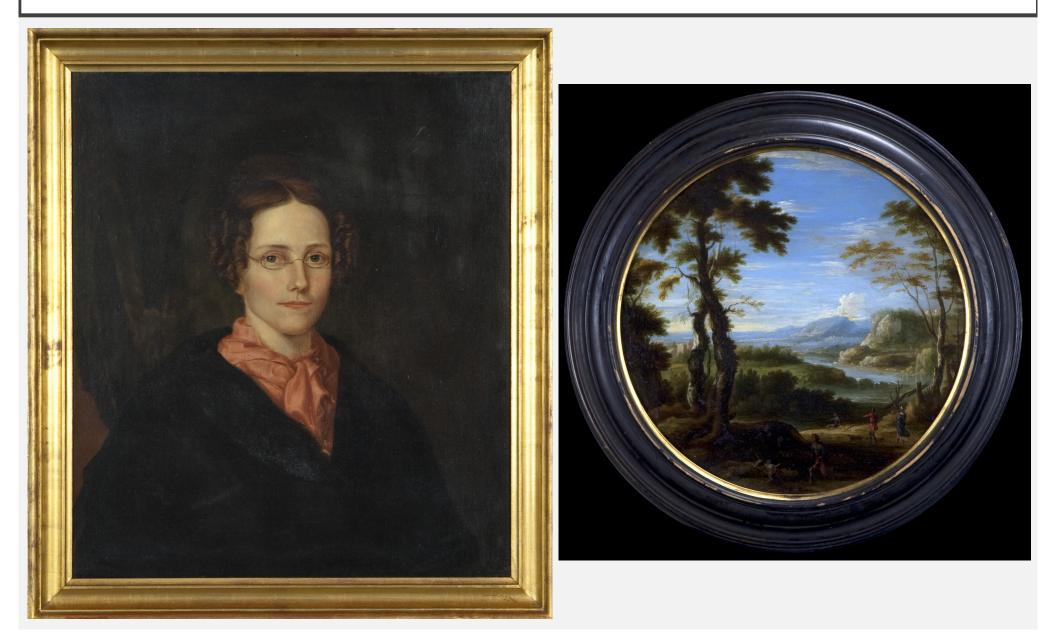
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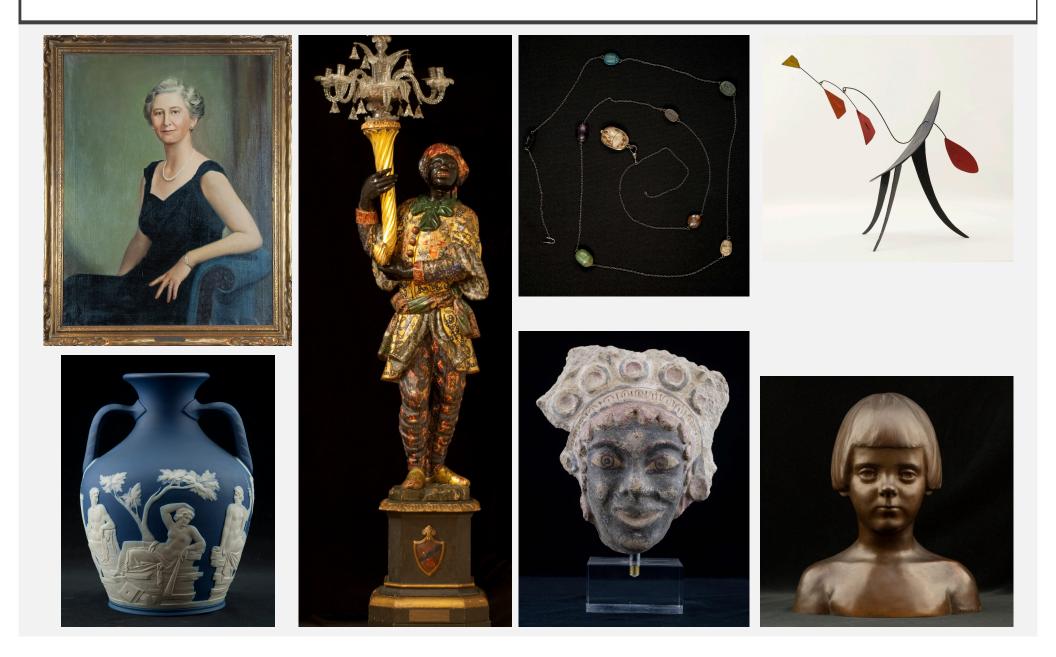


Leah Niederstadt **Assistant Professor of Museum Studies** & Curator of the Permanent Collection Wheaton College (Norton, MA)

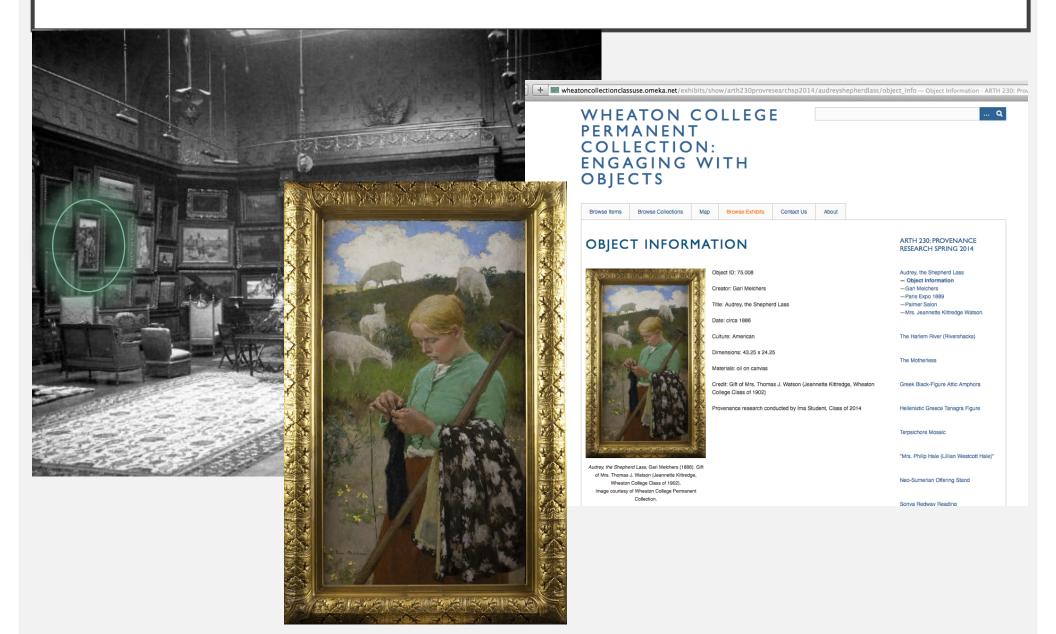
WHEATON COLLEGE PERMANENT COLLECTION



WHEATON COLLEGE PERMANENT COLLECTION



THE IMPETUS: AUDREY, THE SHEPHERD LASS

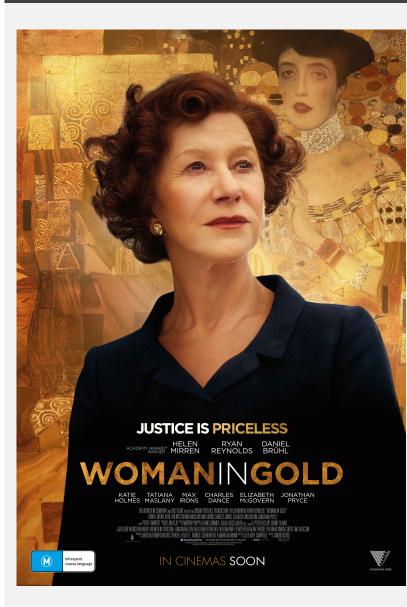


THE IMPETUS: AUDREY, THE SHEPHERD LASS



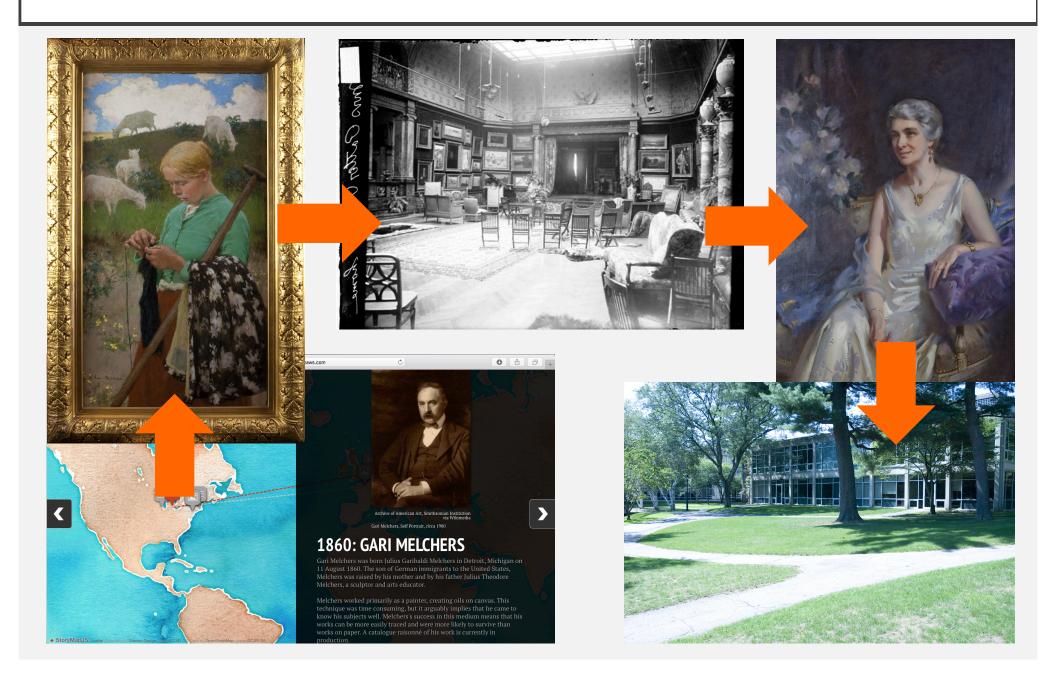
- 1886: Created in Holland
- 1889-1898: Expo (Paris, France) and the Paris Salon
- N.D.: Copenhagen, Denmark at the Exposition des Beaux-Arts Hamburg, Germany at the Grosse Kunstausstellung des Kunstvereins
- 1898: Sold to Potter & Bertha Palmer, Chicago, IL, USA
- 1898: Exhibited in Chicago, IL, USA
- 1899: Exhibited in Philadelphia, PA, USA
- Early 20th century: Displayed in Palmer home
- I942: Sold at a Parke Bernet auction, likely to Jeannette Kittredge Watson, Class of I902, in New York, NY, USA
- 1942-1957: Displayed in Watson home
- 1957: Donated to Wheaton College by Mrs. Watson

WHAT IS PROVENANCE?



- A record of ownership of a work of art or an antique, used as a guide to authenticity or quality. *-Google*
- History of ownership. -*MFA, Boston*
- From the French word provenir, which means "to come from," provenance is the history of ownership of a valued object... A full provenance provides a documented history that can help prove ownership, assign the work to a known artist, and establish the work of art's authenticity. –Getty Institute

WHY PROVENANCE MAPPING?



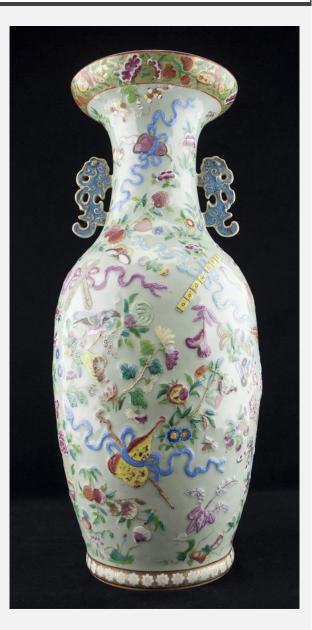
THE ASSIGNMENT: BASICS

- 4 Iterations
 - FSEM 101 Gift or Loot: Who Controls Cultural Property? (Fall 2013)
 - ARTH 230 Introduction to Museum Studies (Spring 2014; Summer 2014; Fall 2015)
- 3 Digital Mapping Tools
 - Google Earth Maps (5)
 - Omeka Mini-Exhibitions (21)
 - Story Maps (13)
- Course evaluations & surveys
- 39 Objects



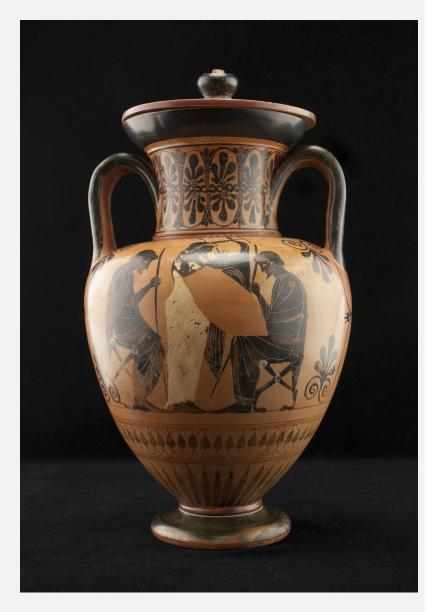
THE ASSIGNMENT: LEARNING OUTCOMES/GOALS

- Understand provenance and its relevance
- Understand narratives embodied in objects
- Use primary and secondary sources
 - Develop ability to "read" objects and images
- Strengthen research, writing, critical thinking, problem solving, and public speaking skills
- Increase comfort with ambiguity of research and with new technology
- Reinforce collaborative nature of learning
- Improve collection documentation
- Create means of promoting student work and collection to audiences on- and off-campus
- Develop teaching tools



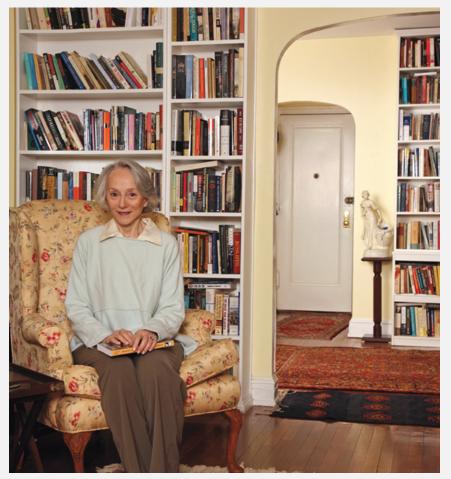
THE ASSIGNMENT: COMPONENTS

- Choose object from Google Doc list
- Initial meeting to view object and related documentation
- In- and out-of-class workshops: public speaking; identifying images; metadata; mapping technologies.
- Annotated bibliography (GRADED)
- Draft report/digital map
- Research log
- Digital map (GRADED)
- Provenance report (GRADED)
- In-class presentation (GRADED)



THE ASSIGNMENT: RESOURCES

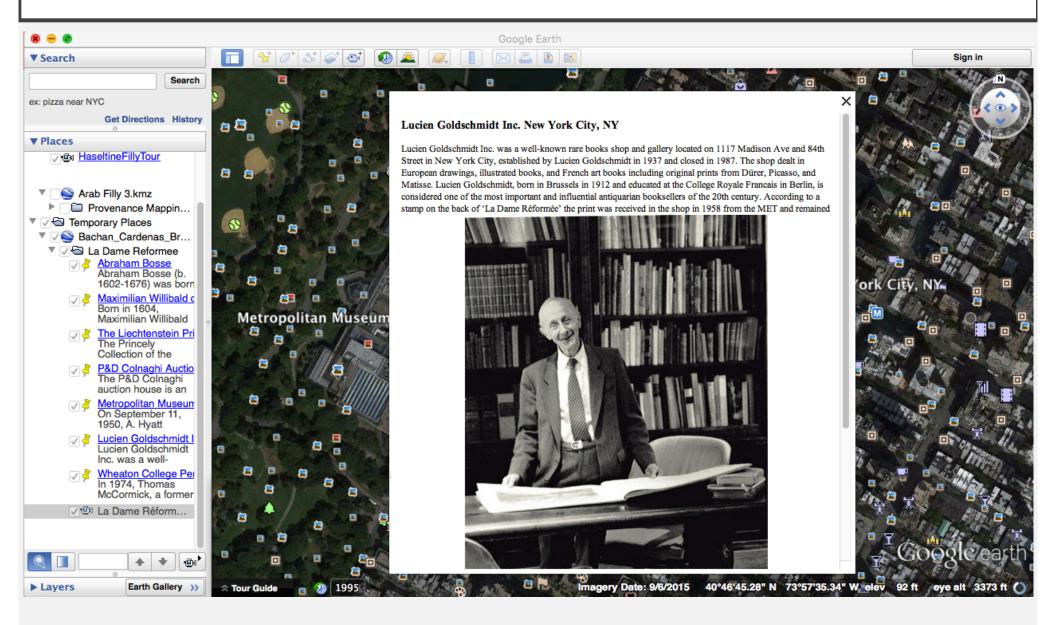
- Objects
- Permanent Collection files
- Library-based resources (physical and digital)
- Gebbie Archives & Special Collections
- Advancement Office (microfiche)
- Interviews with: faculty and staff; donors; gallery/auction house staff; previous owners; etc.
- Geneaology websites, e.g., familysearch.com, findmypast.com



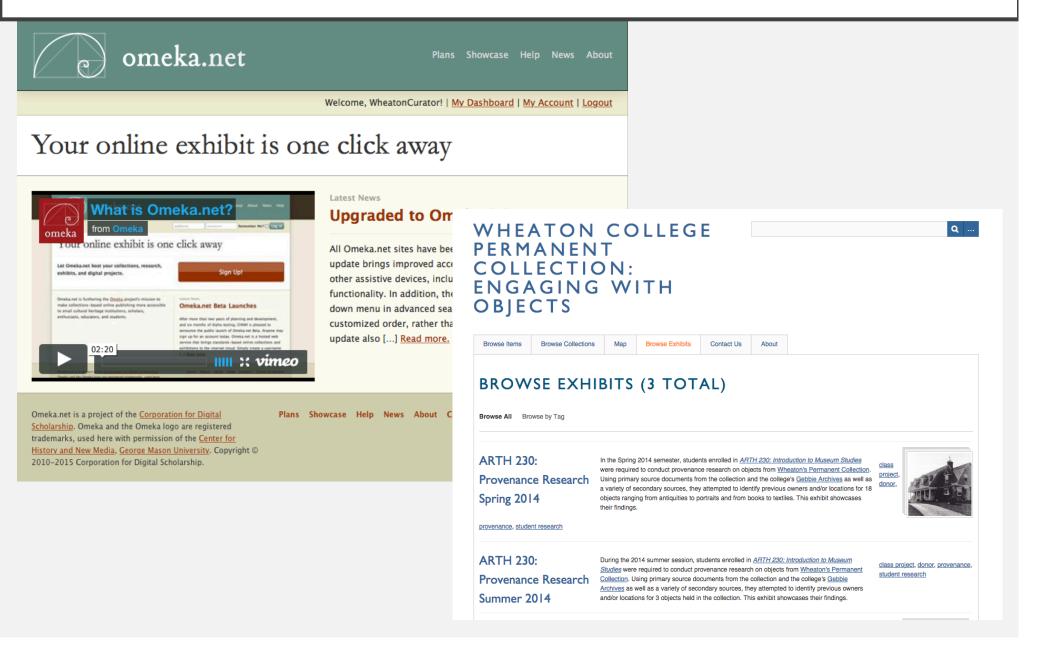
FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: GIFT OR LOOT? (FALL 2013) PROVENANCE MAPPING: <u>GOOGLE EARTH</u>



FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR: GIFT OR LOOT? (FALL 2013) PROVENANCE MAPPING: <u>GOOGLE EARTH</u>



INTRO TO MUSEUM STUDIES (SPRING 2014) PROVENANCE MAPPING: <u>OMEKA</u>



Sarah Hilton, History & Public Policy Studies, Class of 2016:

loved working on original research. It was much more exciting to know that this was my own research and my object. Rather than just compiling others thoughts on a subject, I was hunting for clues that no one else had found yet. The profound sense of ownership made the research addicting.

WHEATON COLLEGE PERMANENT COLLECTION: ENGAGING WITH OBJECTS

Browse Collections

"MRS. PHILIP HALE (LILLIAN WESTCOTT HALE)"

Browse Exhibits

Мар



Browse Items

College in 1950 by Mrs. Marion Lolthrop (Class of 1907). Created by the famous oilded age American portraitist, William Merritt Chase between 1902 and 1914. The painting depicts Lillian Westcott Hale. a well established Boston artist, in a 3/4 pose looking down at the palette and brushes she is holding in her hands. The portrait is also known as Lady in Black, Portrait of Mrs. Philip Hale, or Mrs. Lilian Westcott Hale

Contact Us

About

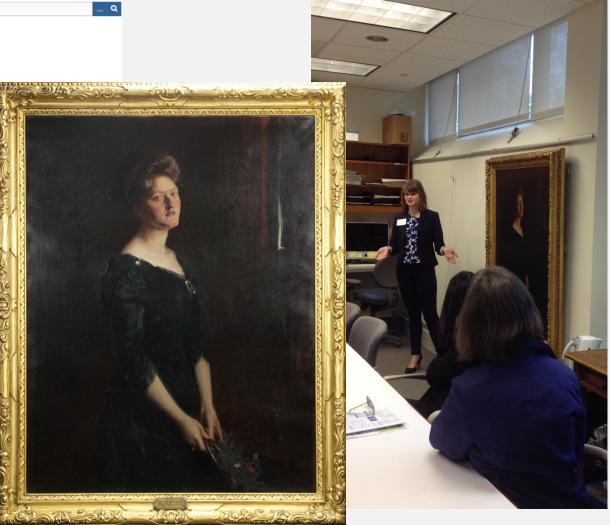
The story of Mrs. Hale, then Ms. Lilian Westcott, begins during Chase's visit to Mrs. Hale's art classes at the Hartford Art School in 1897. Chase spotted her talent and suggested that the 18 year-old and unmarried Lillian Westcott study under his tutelage in New York. In letters cited by biographer Erica Hirshler, Chase pleads with Mrs. Hale's mother, "Your daughter has decided talent. I would advise, by all means, that you help and encourage-in every way that you possibly can-the efforts made on her part..."[1] Her Mother and teachers advised her against studying under Chase because of the scandal that could be caused by a young unmarried women studying unaccompanied under a man^[2]. There was also an idea circulating with the rise of women as artists that women needed to remain

single and live by a strict moral code to make quality art, this would chance thought her career which extended into 1960, but in 1899 it was a scandal when Mrs. Hale received Chase's scholarship at attended his progressive, open-air art school in Shinnecock, Long Island ^[3]. In spite of this Mrs. Hale received a scholarship from Chase to attend his summer outdoor school in Long Island for the summer of 1899.

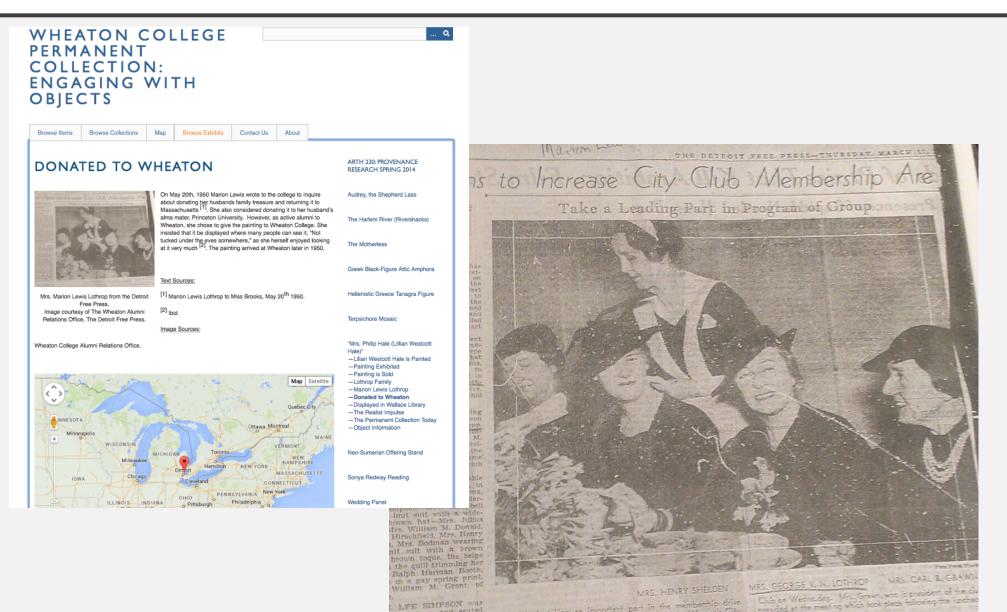
After the summer of 1899, Chase continued to occupy a studio in New York, while Lillian continued her studies at the School of Fine Arts in Boston, In 1902 Lillian became Mrs. Philip Hale as she married fellow Boston artist and teacher Philip Leslie Hale. The two lived together in Dedham and shared a studio in Boston. The story of Chase's Lillan Westcott Hale is more complicated

Text Sources

[1] William Mettitt Chase to Harriet Westcott, March 14th, 1898, Box 53a, Folder 1444, Hale Papers, SSC in Erica Eve Hirshler, "Lilian Westcott Hale (1880-1963): a Woman Painter of the Boston School."



INTRO TO MUSEUM STUDIES (SPRING 2014) PROVENANCE MAPPING: OMEKA



important part in the membership drive

LFE SIMPSON Was

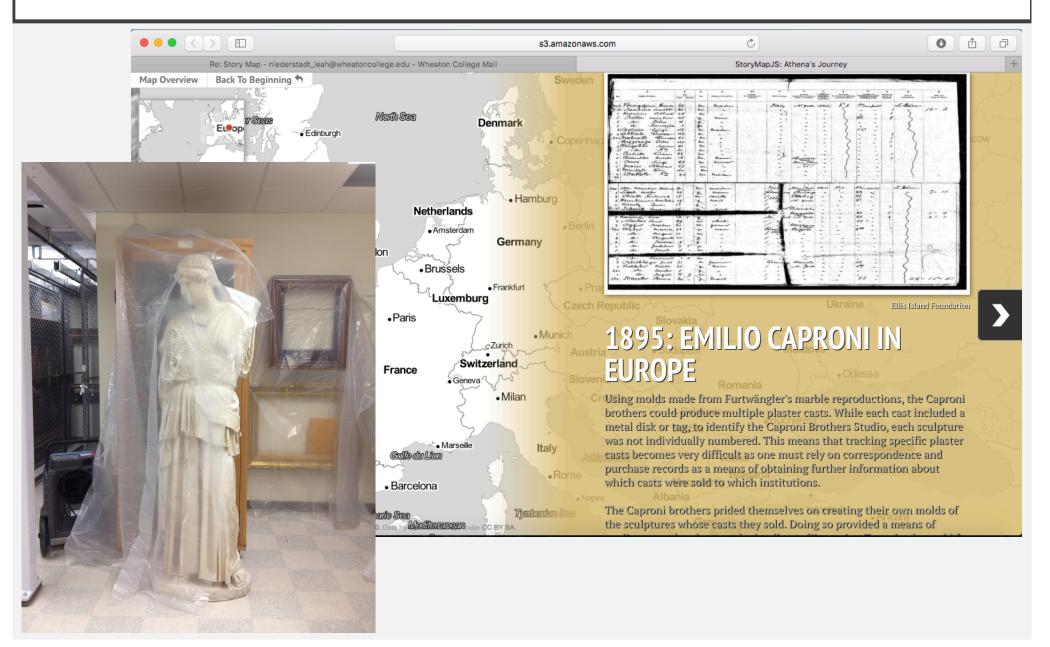
INTRO TO MUSEUM STUDIES (FALL 2014) PROVENANCE MAPPING: <u>STORYMAPJS</u>

Back To Beginning

Map Overview

THE BARQUE EMMA MXX-5 GRACE by women and relatively few depicted women. The Barque Emma Grace, it does both. Follow the Barque's journey to Wheaton. Set Sail

INTRO TO MUSEUM STUDIES (FALL 2014) PROVENANCE MAPPING: <u>STORYMAPJS</u>

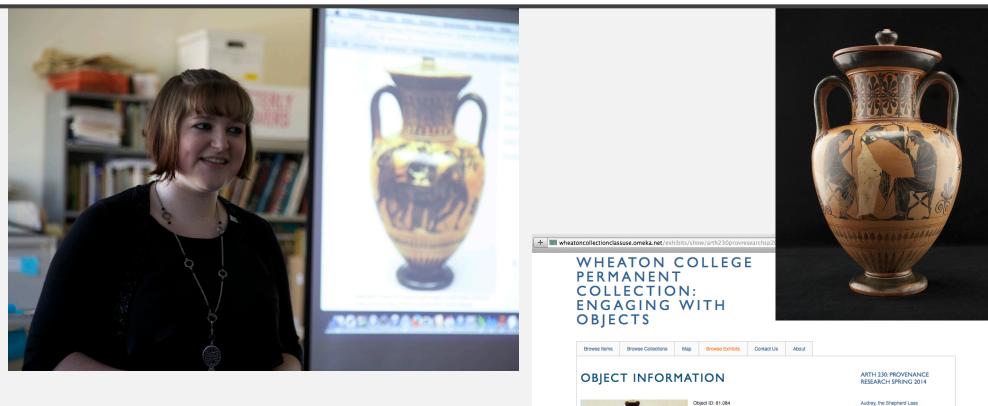


SPRING 2014

- Improved comfort with ambiguity of research:
 - 4.33 post-project
- Improved comfort with new technology:
 - 4.22 post-project
- Improved research skills:
 - 4.56 post-project
- Prefer digital project: 5 out of 9
- Recommend project: 8 out of 9

FALL 2015

- Comfortable with ambiguity of research:
 - 3.00 pre-project
 - 4.25 post-project
- Comfortable with new technology:
 - 3.92 pre-project
 - 4.25 post-project
- Confident in my research skills:
 - 3.25 pre-project
 - 4.5 post-project
- Prefer digital project: 12 out of 12
- Recommend project: I2 out of I2





Greek Black-Figure Attic Amphora with Images on Both Sides, Unknown Three-line Group Vase-Painter (circa 500 BCE). Ancient Greece. Image courtesy of Wheaton College Permanent Collection.

Audrey, the Shepherd Lass

The Harlem River (Rivershacks)

The Motherless

Creator: Unidentified (Three-line Group Vase-Painter)

Date: circa 6th century BCE

Dimensions: 16.50 x 29.50 x 8.50 inches

Credit: Purchase of the Newell Bequest Fund

Provenance by Jillian Carkin, Class of 2014

Culture: Ancient Greek

Title: Greek Black-Figure Attic Amphora with Images on Both Sides

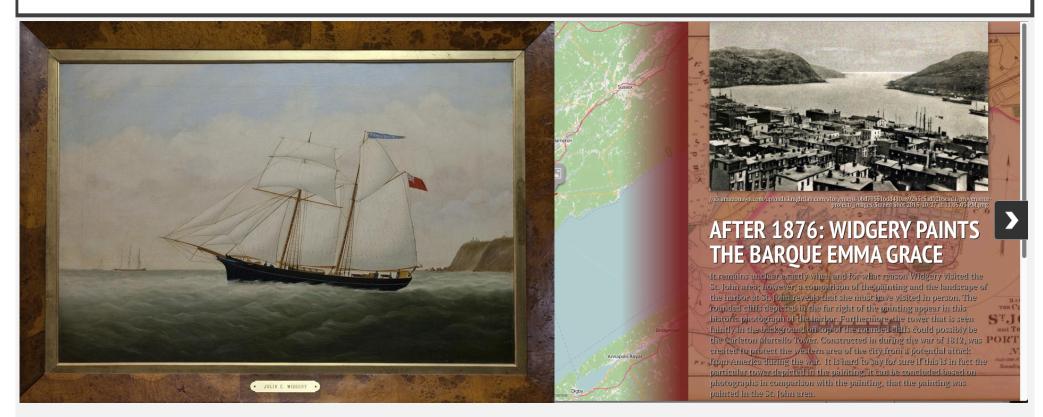
Greek Black-Figure Attic Amphora -Object Information -Attica, Greece -Pino Donati -Elie Borowski -Private Collection -Edward H. Merrin Gallery -Wheaton College Permanent Collection

Hellenistic Greece Tanagra Figure

Terpsichore Mosaic

"Mrs. Philip Hale (Lillian Westcott Hale)"

Neo-Sumerian Offering Stand



-Sam Barnett, Anthropology, Class of 2016 (StoryMapJS) "I didn't like that I had to stop [the research]. My parents and friends... all saw how excited I was about the project... They said it sounded like a cool project and one that's important....I'm still obsessed with it."



-Emma Wynne, Art History and German Studies, Class of 2018 (StoryMapJS)

"I liked feeling like I was doing something useful for the collection, not simply writing a research paper for the sake of writing a research paper."

-Anonymous (Omeka)

"I think it should not be repeated because the parameters of the assignment cannot be controlled. Since the professor was not aware of the provenance of the object, she could not know how much, or how little, work she was assigning to her students. Further, since each project was different, different students had differing levels of difficulty in regards to their research. In addition, their [sic.] is no fair criteria for grading these projects. Someone may have worked incredibly hard but hit a dead end, or they might have just been lazy. There is no way to know. It is fundamentally unfair to grade different students differently. There should be an objective criterion, and that criterion was impossible for this assignment."



Asian and Pacific Languages

PROVENANCE MAPPING: GOING FORWARD

- Modify graded components: remove report and add research log
- Continue using StoryMapJS
- Increase clarity about the learning-tofail model and grading parameters
- Incorporate required meeting with LIS staff
- Modify assignment timeline to allow feedback on/edits to final map to be made by students, not faculty
- Trial "Gigapixel" story map to track Permanent Collections objects displayed on campus



QUESTIONS?

