

# Moving Historical Geodata to the Web

The New York Public Library

Supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

November 5-7, 2014

## Wednesday, November 5th, 2014

12:00-12:30    **Lunch**

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12:30-1:00    *Welcome* ~ **Ben Vershbow, New York Public Library**  
*Framing the Vision & Conference Agenda* ~ **Matt Knutzen, New York Public Library**

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1:00-1:15    **Group Introductions**

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1:15-3:00    **Lightning Talks - The State of the Art - Part 1**

*NLS digital mapping initiatives* ~ **Chris Fleet, National Library of Scotland**  
*MapScholar* ~ **Bill Ferster, University of Virginia**  
*Creating a World-Historical Gazetteer* ~ **Tonia Sutherland, CHIA, University of Pittsburgh**  
*Focused Themes for Crowd-Sourced Map Digitization* ~ **Karl Grossner, Stanford University**  
*Preservation of Municipal GIS Records* ~ **Sue Bigelow, City of Vancouver Archives**  
*The Open Geoportal Cloud Federation* ~ **Patrick Florance, Tufts University**  
*Temporal Gazetteer API* ~ **Merrick Lex Berman, Harvard**  
*Turning scans into map services* ~ **Petr Pridal, Klokan Technologies GmbH**  
*Historical maps, photos, community & mashup culture* ~ **Jon Voss, Historypin/Shift**  
*Digital Stewardship at the Leventhal Map Center* ~ **Evan Thornberry, Norman B. Leventhal Map Center, Boston Public Library**  
*Georeferenced collections of the Harvard Library* ~ **Mark McGee, Harvard University**  
*Digitised old maps are better than paper ones* ~ **Humphrey Southall, University of Portsmouth**  
*The OpenHistoricalMap Project* ~ **Tim Waters, Topomany LLC**

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3:00-3:15    **Break**



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3:15-5:00 **Lightning Talks - The State of the Art - Part 2**

*Princeton's Portal Design and Historic Data Extraction Initiative* ~ **Tsering Wangyal Shawa, Princeton University**

*GeoBlacklight - Enhancing geodata discoverability* ~ **Jack Reed, Stanford University**

*Geospatial Professionals in Academia: Harnessing the Collective Brain Power* ~ **Jessie Braden, Pratt Institute**

*ETL and the Gazetteer at the Library of Congress* ~ **Christopher Thatcher, Library of Congress**

*British Library Geo Activity* ~ **Kimberly C. Kowal, The British Library**

*Digital Philanthropy: Opening up Hidden Collections* ~ **Julie Sweetkind-Singer, Stanford University**

*The Weird Geo Future* ~ **Tom MacWright, Mapbox**

*Geocoding Photogrammar* ~ **Stace Maples, Yale University**

*Mapping Long Island* ~ **Michael Sperazza, Stony Brook University**

*Using Spotlight to highlight Map Collections* ~ **G. Salim Mohammed, Stanford University**

*Neatline* ~ **Wayne Graham, University of Virginia**

*Wikimaps - Creating a maker space for location-based historical storytelling* ~ **Susanna Anäs, Wikimedia Finland**

*A Training-by-Crowdsourcing Approach for Place Name Extraction from Historical Maps* ~ **Ben Lewis, Harvard University**

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5:00-7:00 **Reception**



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## Thursday, November 6th, 2014

9:00-9:30      **Social** (coffee and light fare)

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9:30-10:15    **Outlining a Broader Vision** (Discussion)

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10:15-11:00    **Environmental Scan** (Breakout w/ mixed groups)      Room 207 & Room 215  
~ What technologies are being used to help move historical spatial data to the web?  
~ What technologies do you wish existed, but doesn't? Why?  
~ Of the existing technology, which ones work particularly well? Why?  
~ Of the existing technology, which ones don't work well? Why?

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11:00-12:00    **Environmental Scan** (Report out & Discuss)

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12:00-1:00     **Lunch**

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1:00-1:45      **Identifying Collaborative Opportunities** (Breakout w/ affinity groups)      Room 215 & Room 120  
~ Are there areas you see in your work where you see opportunities for collaboration?  
~ Are there areas you see in your work where you see opportunities for coordination?  
~ Are there areas you see in your work where you see opportunities for reducing redundancy?  
~ Are there areas you see in your work where you see opportunities for creating efficiencies?

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1:45-3:00      **Identifying Collaborative Opportunities** (Report out and Discuss)

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3:00-3:15      **Break**



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3:15-5:00

**Broken and Missing Pieces** (Discussion)

- ~ Drawing on earlier discussions, what are the 3-5 missing pieces of technology that feel most should be built?
- ~ Is it possible to fill the missing and broken technology pieces?
  - ~ If so, which institution is best positioned to do so based on skills and institutional support?
  - ~ What sorts of resources would be required?
  - ~ Are there opportunities to piggyback on existing work or resources or financial commitments?



# Moving Historical Geodata to the Web

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## Friday, November 7th, 2014

9:00-9:30      **Social (coffee and light fare)**

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9:30-10:00    **Models - Frameworks for Collaboration**  
*Open Geoportal* ~ **Patrick Florance, Tufts University**  
*GeoBacklight* ~ **Jack Reed, Stanford University**  
*Wikimaps* ~ **Susanna Ånäs, Wikimedia Finland**

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10:00-10:30   **Framework for Collaboration** (discussion)  
~For those who have built collaborative efforts before, what worked and what would you do different?  
~What's the most effective way for us to build a framework for collaboration?

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10:30-12:00   **Identifying Next Steps**  
~Where does your institution or organization fit and how could you help fill gaps?

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12:00-1:00    **Lunch**

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1:00-3:00     **Making a realistic commitment** (joining working groups)  
~Exercise:      Picking your top five missing pieces vis ease of execution and impact  
                         Sequencing and prioritization of missing pieces/connective tissue  
~Identifying working groups  
~Joining working groups  
~Establishing a timeframe for working group meetings

