Mapping Oral History with Atlascine and Sensibility Mapping Webinar
January 18, 2023

Links:

Atlascine: https://geomedialab.org/atlascine.html

Live Atlas: https://rs-atlascine.concordia.ca/rwanda/index.html

Become an Affiliate: https://storytelling.concordia.ca/about-us-2/become-member/

Ethics Workshops: https://storytelling.concordia.ca/cohds-allab-winter-2023-calendar-of-events/
Ethics Guidelines and Samples:
https://storytelling.concordia.ca/resources/ethics/

Q&A Written Responses:

Does the geo-localization work with an exact location - for instance, a specific street, building, etc - by providing latitude and longitude?
- *Sébastien Caquard*: Yes, it can work at any precision level. You can add a particular house, street corner, crack in the sidewalk...

- *Emory Shaw*: We provide connections to the open source Geonames gazetteer to facilitate creating places inside Atlascine, Geonames contains most common place names in the world and their coordinates. Otherwise, you can create any place at any scale: You just need to know where it is! Just drop a pin on the map and name it.

Is there a way to use this without audio/video? For instance we have an historical diary, both the scanned original and a transcript - would we be able to replace the media with still images?
- *Sébastien Caquard:* It does need an audio or video file (because it is timestamps structured). one way around it if you work with text, is to automatically generate audio files based on text and mute the audio files. It is not a perfect solution, but it works (we have done I for another project)

How does the project or user interface work with organizations web sites - is it embeddable or does it require a link to the Altascine website and database?

- *Emory Shaw:* We currently host our collaborator's projects in servers here at Concordia University (so yes, on the cloud managed here). The software is free and open source though and we can provide support for hosting it on servers elsewhere.

The current technology being demonstrated showing Rwandan Life Stories seems to be a useful tool for academics and researchers. I am just wondering what would be the best user interface and user journey for museum online experiences and websites to expand audiences and links to communities.

- *Sébastien Caquard:* One reason why the Centre for Oral History and the Rwandan community supported this project was because it makes hours of stories that have been shared and stored on servers accessible to a broader audience in an interactive way (while keeping the integrity of each story). We are also in the process of developing some pedagogical material for educators (this could include videos, exercise of deep listening, tagging, etc.).

We saw a demonstration of Altascine at a global scale and heard about a project at the scale of a city-- would it work effectively at a smaller scale, such as across a historic site or within a single building?

- *Emory Shaw*: I think so! Webmaps work at any scale. If you know a basemap that contains such fine-grained imagery, or if you have imagery that can be georeferenced on a basemap, then you can link to that and create annotations on it in Atlascine.

Does Atlascine integrate with other forms of mapping such as a Geographic Information System? For Indigenous oral histories it might be an asset to map seasonal changes or other elements of the environment.

- *Emory Shaw:* Currently, you can export your geotagged annotations as a geojson file (which can be imported into GIS). As for uploads of GIS data, you can upload CSVs of point data (rows containing coordinates).

How can we stay in touch with COHDS to see what new projects you are unveiling?

- *Sébastien Caquard*: You can become an affiliate (free and easy) https://storytelling.concordia.ca/about-us-2/become-member/

or contact us to be added to our newsletter
(cohdscoordinator@concordia.ca)

Thanks. And would you be able to share some of your consent forms or resources for projects?
- *Sébastien Caquard*:
  We have guidelines and samples here:
  https://storytelling.concordia.ca/resources/ethics/

  We have also a workshop on ethics on Feb. 15
  https://storytelling.concordia.ca/cohds-allab-winter-2023-calendar-of-events/