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Web Mapping

Monday 5:30-8:00 PM

Lab 5 – APIs, External Javascript Libraries

**Introduction**

For this lab, I created an HTML-based web-map hosted on GitHub that shows recent Instagram photos geotagged at Lake Ronkonkoma, New York. The purpose of this was to become familiar with “scraping” tools that can be used in JavaScript websites. I also added a GeoJSON layer to show important landmarks in the area.

**Methods**

To begin, I started with the basic HTML code set up for a web-map, including CSS styling. I included a title, a description, and map extents. I then added the Instagram.Leaflet codes that we were provided to the script, using the API key we were also provided with, and set the coordinates onto Lake Ronkonkoma. This created a layer of Instagram photo pop-ups onto the map. Finally, I added a GeoJSON layer that contained several points of interest relevant to my personal history within the area of the map extent.

**Results**

The result of this assignment was a map of Lake Ronkonkoma, NY that shows several important locations in regard to where I grew up, as well as current Instagram photos uploaded by users in the area. The purpose of this map is purely anecdotal and does not provide analysis into any issue, merely insight into my life. In the GeoJSON layer, I created pop-ups located at my elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as the house I grew up in. If anyone posts any pictures at those locations, it will be easy to find them on the map thanks to the markers. This is a personal story map that shows the relative size of the town I grew up in and how close together everything was. The actual lake itself is also interesting to see the size of in comparison to all of the suburbs around it.

**Conclusion**

Anyone could use this code to create their own personal story map with Instagram photos just by copying the code and changing the coordinates and descriptions of everything. It is interesting to see the map of an area with special features pin-pointed on it, especially on a map that does not show those details otherwise.