JOEL CONTI | jconti4@gmu.edu | 571-488-7664 | Portfolio: https://hadaril.github.io/

EDUCATION

M.S. Cartography (September 2021 – May 2023)

George Mason University.

B.A. History, Minor in Intelligence Analysis

(September 2017 – May 2021)

George Mason University.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Geographer (April 2022 – Present)

Columbus Cartography

- Produced artisanal maps using motifs from the 17th and 18th centuries using Adobe Illustrator and QGIS.
- Utilized QGIS to generate and query a database of place names, create shapefiles, and build geodatabases.
- Promptly implemented feedback and interfaced with client about cartographic design decisions.

Graduate Research Assistant & Graduate Teaching Assistant

(November 2021 – Present)

George Mason University, Geography & Geoinformation Science Department

- Assisted Dr. Matthew Rice and the GMU Forensic Science Department in collaboration with the FBI.
- Scanned, digitally enhanced, and geo-rectified paper maps and USGS aerial imagery of the D.C. Area.
- Utilized Esri ArcGIS for feature extraction and digitization, creating new shapefiles, and populating their attributes.
- Spearheaded the integration of GIS and Story Maps into the Geographies of Inequities project.
- Instructed 40 students in a cartographic design course, gave occasional in-class lectures and one-on-one tutoring.

Cartographer (Co-op)

(June 2022 – August 2022)

City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation, George Mason University

- Utilized Esri ArcGIS and Adobe Illustrator to produce updated maps of the city's recreational facilities for public use.
- Maintained core branding identity while incorporating new data and implementing visual improvements.

Freelance Cartographer

(June 2016 - September 2021)

Self Employed

- Demonstrated mastery of cartographic design principles and developed workflows using Adobe Illustrator and QGIS.
- Built a large portfolio of digital cartography work, including historical, thematic, statistical, and political maps.
- Communicated directly with customers to identify and clarify expectations and iterated on design drafts.

PROJECTS

"NextGen WorldA" Historical Reference Map Series (Team Lead)

Lead a team of online cartographers to produce a series of 83 historical reference maps that are now widely considered to be the gold standard of the online historical mapping community, viewed by tens of thousands.

- Assembled and coordinated a team of cartographers from the online mapping community.
- Individually dedicated roughly 1,000 hours of work to the project.
- Produced historical maps and ascertained historical borders in the face of conflicting information.
- Set goals, established expectations, brainstormed design solutions, and performed quality control of team maps.

Geographies of Inequities (Graduate Research Assistant)

Assisted a research team at George Mason University investigating the history of slave sales in Virginia.

- Created new reference maps, geo-rectified historical maps, and built ESRI Story Maps for usage in Public History.
- Produced a portal for users to submit georeferenced discoveries findings on slave-sale sites into a web-based GIS.

OTHER SKILLS

- 2 years' experience using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) such as Esri ArcGIS, ESRI ArcMap, and QGIS.
- Highly experienced with digital cartography, statistical mapping, thematic mapping.
- Superb grasp design principles such as color theory, typography, visual hierarchy, generalization, and symbolization.
- Proficient in languages including R, ArcPy, Python, and SQL.