

# Digital Storytelling with Mapping: KnightLab StoryMap

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Taught by  
Yana Mommadova

Fall 2021

**StoryMap Module Part II**



Northeastern University  
*NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks*

*Feel free to ask questions at any point  
during the presentation!*

# Workshop Agenda

- Steps for using Knight Lab StoryMap
- Start building!

Slides, handouts, and data available at <https://bit.ly/diti-fall2021-storymap-fuchs>



# Workshop Objectives

- Follow a step-by-step guide for creating, saving, and publishing maps using KnightLab's StoryMap
- Upload data into StoryMap, including location information, images, and text
- Navigate StoryMap's map markers and location-finding system



# Activity: Start creating your virtual walking tour!

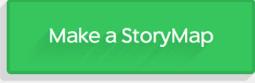
Create your own short StoryMap with 2-3 stops on your proposed walking tour. These points should come from the spreadsheet you have been building. The goal here is to show that you have used the StoryMap software and are thinking about what an effective narrative map looks like.

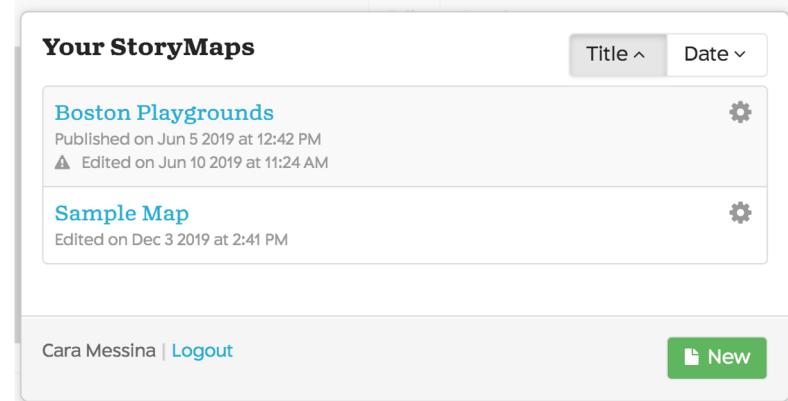
Suggestions:

- Create around 2-3 map markers, not including the “start”
- Include at least one image in your description using the HTML <img> tag (instructions provided)
- Include at least one video

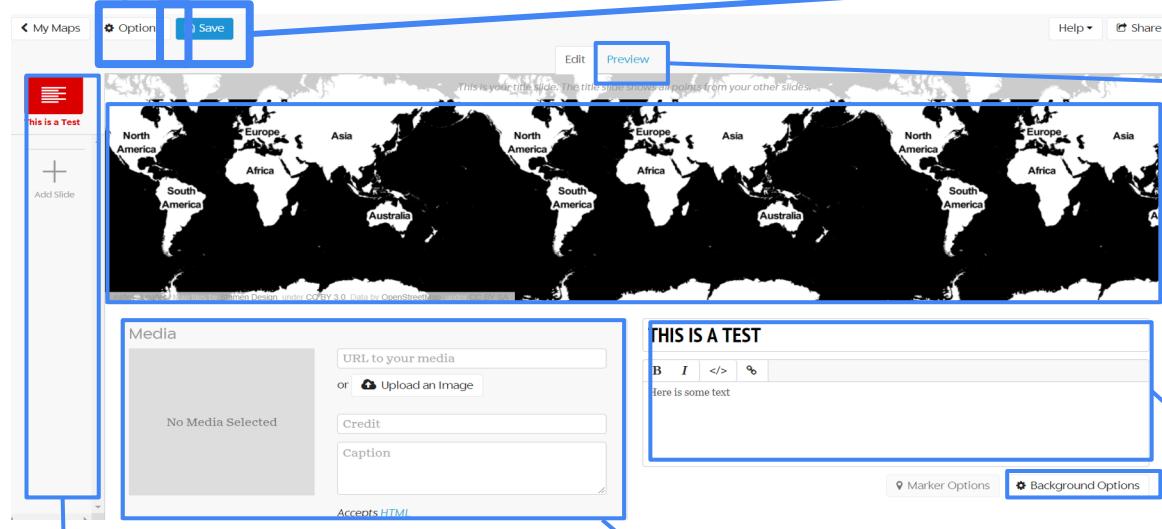


# Create a StoryMap

- Go to <https://storymap.knightlab.com/>
- Click “Make a StoryMap” 
- Either create a new account or sign in through Google
- Once you’re signed in,  
click “New Map” (once you have  
created your map, it will be there  
for you to work on)
- Name your project



# Your StoryMap



Overall options  
(like changing map layout)

**SAVE OFTEN!**

Preview your slides

Preview the  
geographic points in  
all of your slides

Title and content of  
your text box

Check out and add new  
slides here

Uploading  
photos or other  
media!  
Document what  
you upload

Color of the text box  
background



# Slides, or map markers

Each slide is a different marker point on your map/image. Each slide contains:

- Title and text. The text box reads basic HTML.
- A background image/color.
- A map marker, which can be placed using Google Maps locations or by placing the marker manually.
- Media: images, videos, and sound files can be uploaded. Since only *one* media file can be uploaded per slide, you can use the text box's HTML to integrate an image or another media type.



# Add A Location

Edit   Preview

860 Huntin

860 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, United States

Leaflet | Leaflet | Map tiles by Stamen Design, under CC BY 3.0. Data by OpenStreetMap, un

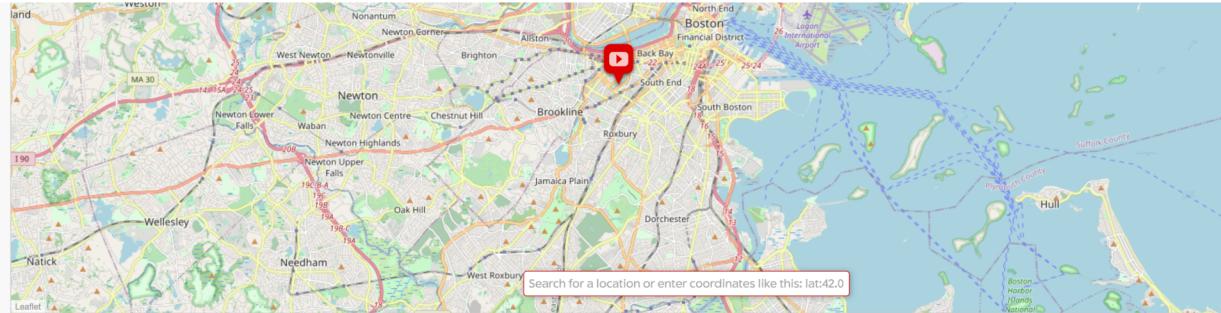
KnightLab StoryMap uses  
**Google Maps** to locate  
addresses

StoryMap, however, does **not**  
always recognize place  
names; you might need to  
know the **address** or location  
of particular structures

If you cannot find the address  
of a location, you can **drag**  
**and drop the map markers** to  
the specific location



# Add Media and Images in Text



Media

Storyman\_IS - Tu...  
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Tgleg4deDZM>

or Upload an Image

Credit

Caption

TEST SLIDE

B I </> %

If you already have an image, insert another image using basic HTML!<br>To insert an image, make sure the image is uploaded with a URL. You can use Flickr or Imgur to create a URL for your image. Wikimedia Commons is a great source of images online, don't forget to cite! Turn tagging on, then, use the HTML image tag. 

Marker Options Background Options

Use “media” to upload files. You can upload an image or put a **URL** of an image OR a video (like a YouTube video). If you want to include your own video, you will first have to upload it to YouTube and copy that link.

If you have an image or a video in the “media” section, but want to include an image in the **text**, you can! The text box reads basic HTML.

1. Click the </> button (turn on HTML)
2. Get a URL of your image. **Wikimedia Commons** is a great source of images. Make sure to use the embed file code--don’t forget to cite!
3. Use the HTML `` tag to insert the image.
4. Check the “Preview” to see the image

*Feel free to ask questions at any point during the presentation!*



# Discussion

- How do you think differently about these locations when they are in a StoryMap format?
- What was difficult or easy about this platform?
- What was interesting about seeing your data presented in a StoryMap format?



# Thank you!

If you have any questions, contact DITI at [nulab.info@gmail.com](mailto:nulab.info@gmail.com)

**Developed by Yana Mommadova**  
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DITI Research Fellow

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Schedule an appointment with us! <https://calendly.com/diti-nu>



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