Gathering Data for Mapping: KnightLab StoryMap

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Energy Democracy and Climate Resilience
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Northeastern University
NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks

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

Workshop Agenda

- Learn about StoryMap as a mode of conveying data and content
- Best practices and questions to consider before creating your StoryMap
- Start collecting data for your map!

Slides, handouts, and data available at

http://bit.ly/diti_fall2020-stephens

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Workshop Objectives

- Articulate particular choices you will make when telling a story using a map
- Learn about the concept and uses of a StoryMap
- Follow a template for gathering data to be used in Knight Lab's StoryMap

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What is a “story map”?

Telling a **story** using **maps**!

“You combine authoritative maps with narrative text, images, and multimedia content. They make it easy to harness the power of maps and geography to tell your story.”

- ESRI Story Maps Website

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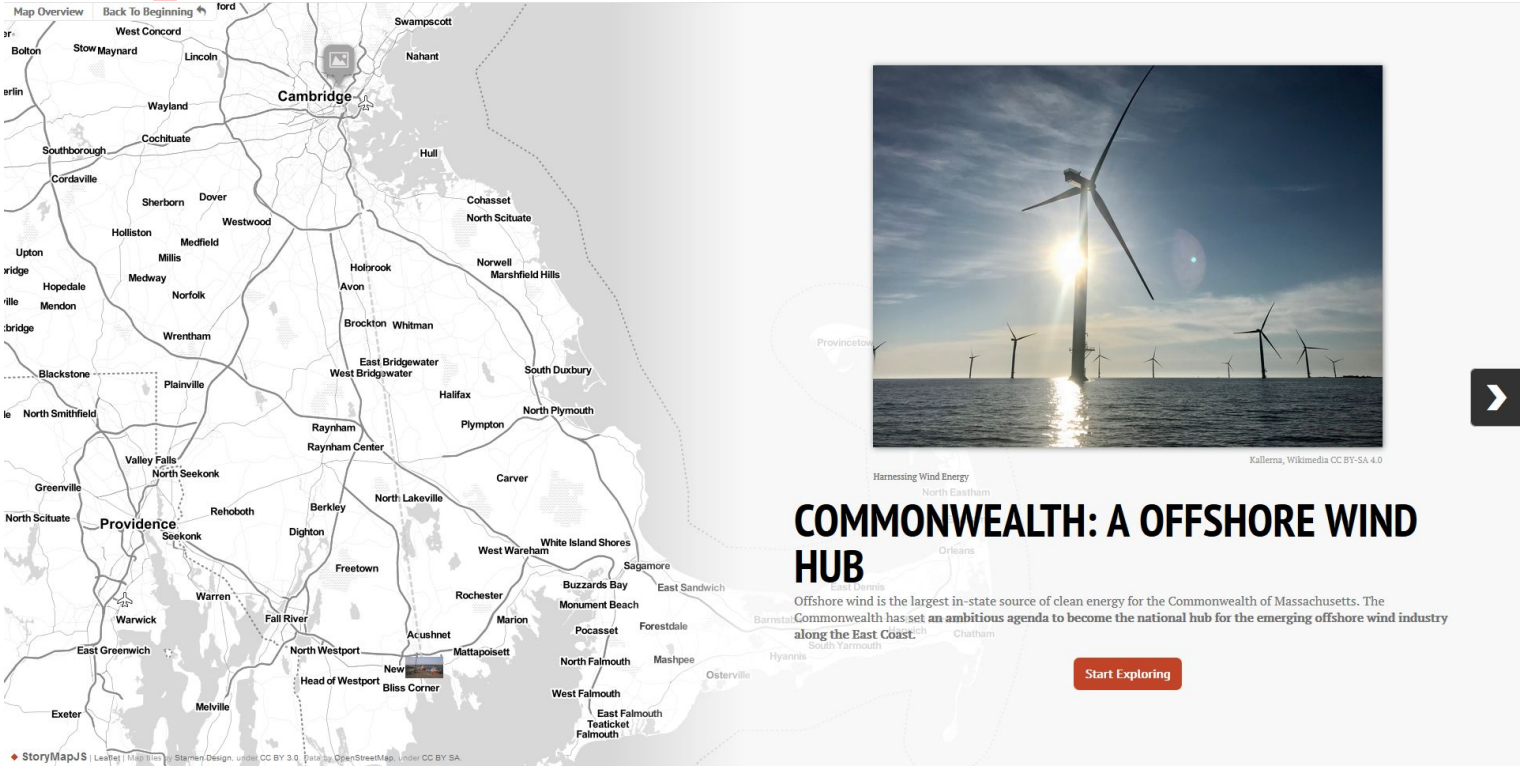
Example - demo case



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Example Projects Using Maps to Tell Stories

KnightLab StoryMap examples:

- "Boston Parks and Playgrounds: Community Scan": uses a mix of textual, image, and geo-location data to tell a story about playgrounds in Boston's neighborhoods.
- "Commonwealth: A Offshore wind hub": uses textual, image, video and geo-locations data to showcase key infrastructure of Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's (MassCEC) Offshore Wind Energy Initiative.

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Analysis of Examples

- Look through these examples and think about how they use the narrative structure and geospatial layout of story maps to present information.
- Make some notes about how you interacted with these maps.
- Can these techniques be applied to your own project?
- What worked best? What didn't work for you?

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Gathering Data for your StoryMap

When collecting data for a group project, it is important to organize the data in one communal place, such as a Google spreadsheet. This will help you to:

- Keep track of your resources
- Add and edit collaboratively with your team
- Storyboard your map
- Communicate with Knight Lab in case of any issues (they ask for a spreadsheet as well as the webpage of the storymap)

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StoryMap Spreadsheet Template

Make a copy of the StoryMap template below and use it to fill in the different sites you want to map, images you want to include, and so on.

Important: make a copy, don't edit the main template!!
(Go to File > Make a copy)

StoryMap Spreadsheet Template

—Template based on the StoryMap Spreadsheet Template created by Molly Brown, Reference and Outreach Archivist, Northeastern University Library.

Try to open the spreadsheet to see it for yourself

Energy Democracy StoryMap Demo

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help Last edit was 2 minutes ago

Share

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	**Slide #**	**Site Name**	**Site Address**	**Site Location**	**Image URL/File Location**	**Image Credit**	**Image Caption**	**Headline**	**Description/Narrative**
2	Title Slide	n/a		n/a	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tahkoluodon_tuulivoimapuisto.jpg	Title: Suomi: Tahkoluodon tuulivoimapuisto, Pori, Suomi, toukokuuta 2018 Author: Kallerna Source: Wikimedia License: CC BY-SA 4.0	Offshore Wind Farm	Tour of Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's (MassCEC) Offshore Wind Infrastructure	Offshore wind is the largest in-state source of clean energy for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. T Commonwealth has set an ambitious agenda to be the national hub for the emerging offshore wind ind along the East Coast.
3	Site 1	Wind Technology Testing Center, Charlestown	80 Terminal Street, Boston, MA 02129	42.384126, -71.057558	https://www.masscec.com/wind-technology-testing-center	MassCEC	Blade Testing at the WTTC, Charlestown	Wind Technology Testing Center	The MassCEC Wind Technology Testing Center (W offers a full suite of certification tests for turbine bla sections up to 90 meters in length. WTTC also offe latest wind turbine blade testing and prototype development methodologies to help the wind indus deploy the next generation of offshore and land-bas wind turbine technologies.
4	Site 2	New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal	4 Wright Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740	41.623061, -70.916424	http://directory.masscec.com/listing/new-bedford-marine-commerce-terminal.html	MassCEC	Multi use port facility for offshore wind projects, New Bedford	New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal	The Terminal is a multi-purpose facility designed to support the construction, assembly, and deployme offshore wind projects, as well as handle bulk, break-bulk, container shipping and large specialty marine cargo. The first of its kind in North America, terminal has been engineered to sustain mobile cra and storage loads that rival the highest load-bearing ports in the nation.
5									

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Spreadsheet data collection

B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Slide #	**Site Name**	**Site Address**	**Site Location**	**Image URL/File Location**	**Image Credit**	**Image Caption**	**Headline**	**Description/Narrative**	**Citation(s)**	**Additional Media**	**Additional Media Caption & Credit**
Title Slide	n/a		n/a	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tahkoluodon_tuulivoimapuisto.jpg	Title: Suomi: Tahkoluodon tuulivoimapuisto, Pori, Suomi, toukokuuta 2018 Author: Kallerna Source: Wikimedia License: CC BY-SA 4.0	Harnessing Wind Energy	MassCEC Offshore Wind Hub	Offshore wind is the largest in-state source of clean energy for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Commonwealth has set an ambitious agenda to become the national hub for the emerging offshore wind industry along the East Coast.	MassCEC https://www.masscec.com/offshore-wind		
Site 1	Wind Technology Testing Center Charlestown	80 Terminal Stree' Boston, MA 02129	42.384126, -7 057558	https://www.masscec.com/wind-technology-testing-center	MassCEC	Blade Testing at the WTTC, Charlestown	Wind Technology Testing Center	The MassCEC Wind Technology Testing Center (WTTC) offers a full suite of certification tests for turbine blade sections up to 90 meters in length. WTTC also offers the latest wind turbine blade testing and prototype development methodologies to help the wind industry deploy the next ge eration of offshore and land-based wind turbine techno gies.	MassCEC https://www.masscec.co offshore-wind	https://files-cdn.masscec.com/WTTC_Flyer_3.14.19%2 %2800 3%29.pdf	WTTC Brochur (PDF)

1. The slide number can serve as the order in which your sites appear on your map and the site name can be used to label sites on your map

2. The site location is used to identify a point on your map where the site is physically located (address and coordinates)

3. The image URL/File location is useful in keeping track of images of sites. Always credit your images to indicate their origin. Also include a caption describing your image

4. The headline can serve as the official title or label of your site. Including a narrative provides more context as to why your site is important.

5. Don't forget to cite your sources! Also, you may want to include additional media related to your site (e.g. newspaper clippings, additional photos, etc.)

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Data organization

Organizing your data first can help you stay organized and keep track of your resources. It's a quick way to storyboard your project, making sure that your flow between locations makes sense, your writing is consistent, and you have the right amount of research and info at each location.

When you are ready to add your data, you can copy and paste from your spreadsheet.

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Next Steps

Begin to gather your data about sites, including images, descriptions, and citations. For the next session, you should have collected at least 2 sites + title slide

Organize them into the appropriate columns of the spreadsheet

In the next session, we will cover how to start building your StoryMap using your data.

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

Thank you!

If you have any questions, contact us at nulab.info@gmail.com

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

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