Project proposal

Submission on Github

Deliverables: A skeleton of your final website hosted on GitHub pages, and the proposal document.

Expectations: The website should a skeleton of your final website. SVG elements containing your final visualizations should be empty at this time but the layout, the style, and the general structure should be tentative. The proposal document should address the following points. Use these points as headers in your document:

- Basic Info. The project title, your names, e-mail addresses, CIDs, a link to the project repository.
- Background and Motivation. Discuss your motivations and reasons for choosing this project, especially any background or research interests that may have influenced your decision.
- Project Objectives. Provide the primary questions you are trying to answer with your visualization. What would you like to learn and accomplish? List the benefits.
- Data. From where and how are you collecting your data? If appropriate, provide a link to your data sources
- Data Processing. Do you expect to do substantial data cleanup? What quantities do you plan to derive from your data? How will data processing be implemented?
- Visualization Design. How will you display your data? Provide some general ideas that you have for the visualization design. Develop three alternative prototype designs for your visualization. Create one final design that incorporates the best of your three designs. Describe your designs and justify your choices of visual encodings.
- Must-Have Features. List the features without which you would consider your project to be a failure.
- Optional Features. List the features which you consider to be nice to have, but not critical.
- Project Schedule. Make sure that you plan your work so that you can avoid a big rush right before the final project deadline, and delegate different modules and responsibilities among your team members. Write this in terms of weekly deadlines.

Indicatively, your proposal should contain about 3-4 pages of text, plus 5-6 pages of sketches.

Basic Info : DONE

Background and Motivation:

During the summer of 2020, Clemson University issued a statement requesting an exception to the 2000 South Carolina Heritage Act to rename Tillman Auditorium to its original name, Old Main. The Heritage Act prohibits Clemson from renaming the building as well as prohibiting the removal of any historical monuments and memorials in the state, thus protecting Confederate memorials in the state of South Carolina. In the wake of the violent Charlottesville protests in 2017, national protests over the unjust murder of George Floyd, and resounding conflict over the continued presence of Confederate memorials in the country, we decided to dive into this data. In this project, we will explore the timeline of which these Confederate memorials were created as well as if and when they have been removed. Understanding the timeline of events will provide deeper context behind these memorials. We will also be delving into the regional and national distribution of these memorials to understand the breadth of their presence in our country. By the end of this project we hope to have provided a greater insight into the impact Confederate memorials have had on our history and how they continue to affect our communities today.

Project Objectives: (make this a list in html)

- What is the scale of the impact Confederate memorials have on the country?
- What is the impact Confederate memorials have had on our history?
- What type of memorial has had the biggest impact on the country?

Data:

This dataset provides multiple tables about eight unique tables to showcase information about confederate monuments. The focus of the project will be around the master dataset in the sheet, but some visuals will utilize the breakdown tables to show more insights in the data. The dataset is provided in the link below.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W4H2qa2THM1ni53QYZftGob_k_Bf9HreFAtCERfjCIU/edit?pli=1#gid=502314093

Data Processing:

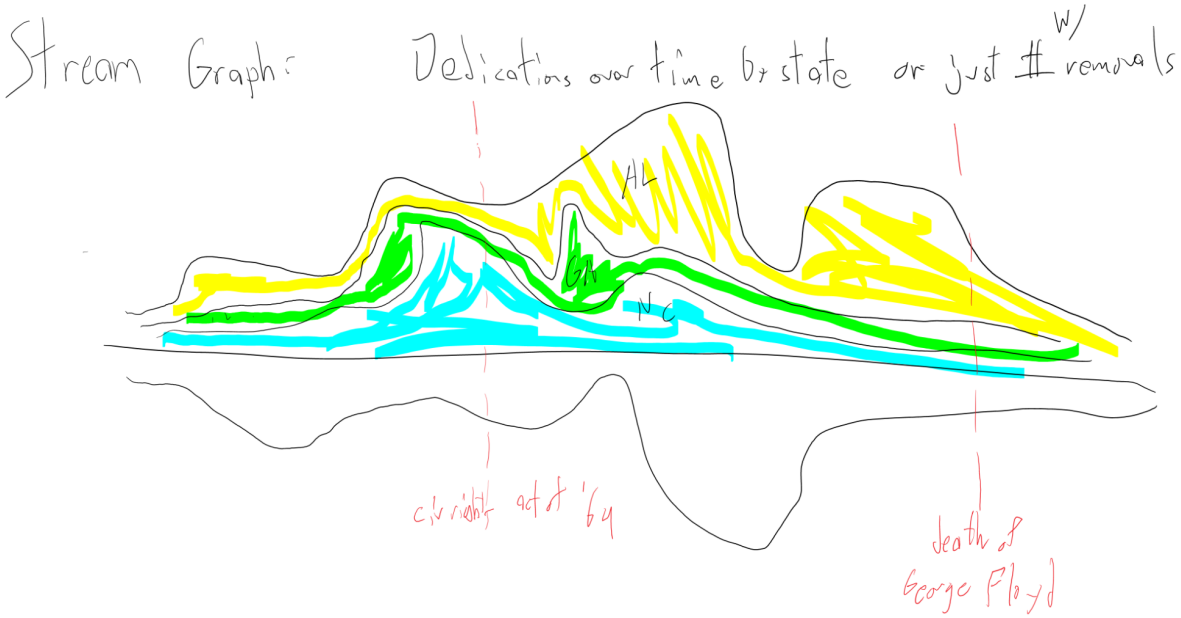
Some data cleaning that we would have to do is on the table that's labeled Dedications Per Year when we are looking at the amount of monuments removed by each state. This has the year 2020 above 2021 when it should be below and there is a blank item for one of the rows that's filled. This is the only discrepancy that I see in the dataset.

The other part of data processing would be trying to clean and fill the empty data in the dataset. Some rows of data do not have dedication years in the table as well, and this will influence how we visualize the data.

Visualization Design:

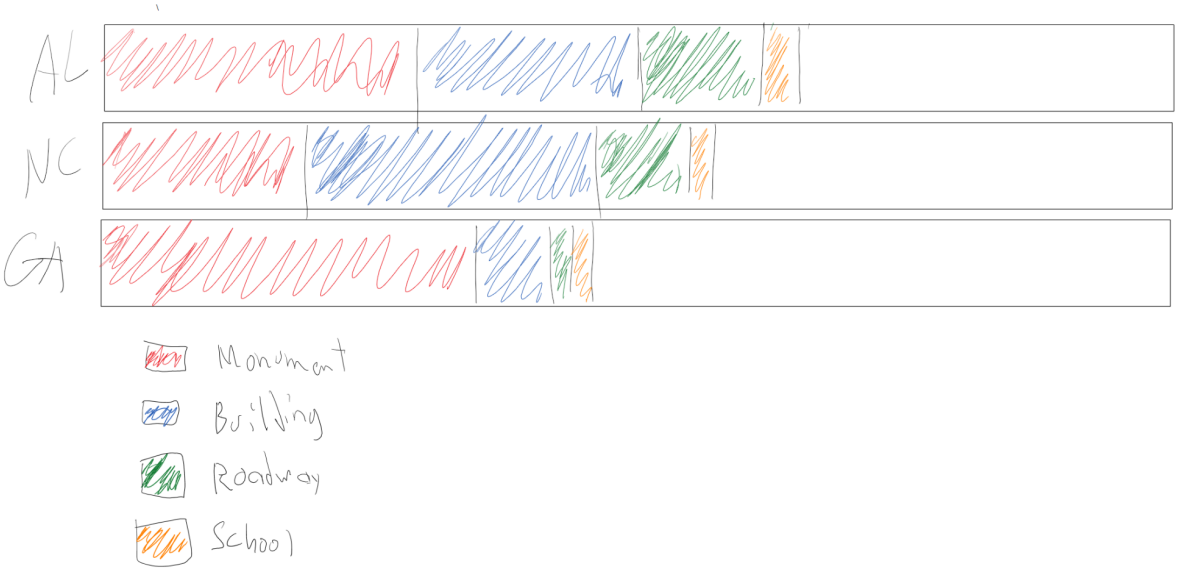
There are multiple prototypes that have been considered for the construction of our project design. Each provides a unique way of looking at the data with distinct manners of visual encoding and representing important attributes.

The first prototype considered is a steam graph with time in years as the key and the number of memorials in a given state at that time as the value, using state as a categorical attribute. The benefits of this prototype is that it shows the total presence of Confederate memorials over time as well as a compositional breakdown of their presence in each state.

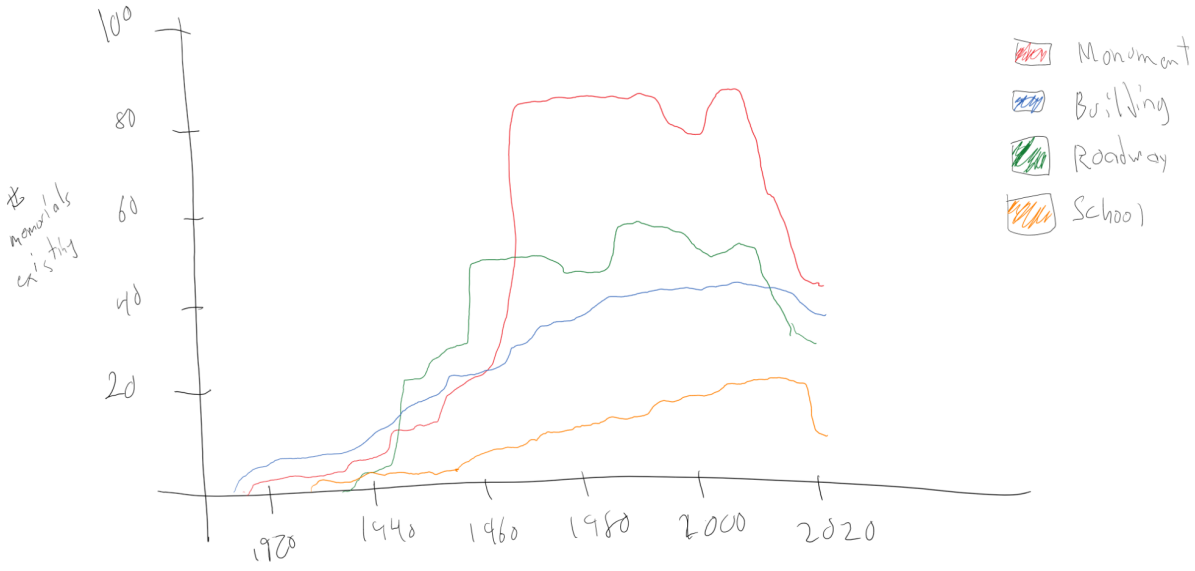


The next prototype visual is a stacked bar chart. This visual is similar to the streamgraph of being able to depict the component distribution of different types of memorial within a category. In this case, the key would be the state as labeled on the left hand side and the number of memorials within each type of memorial is the quantitative value mapped on the bar chart. An additional attribute that could be implemented in this in the future would be replicating the visual and having one set represent the number of memorials before the Charlottesville protests and the

second set would be after, to show how the protests influenced their presence and led to the removal of many monuments.

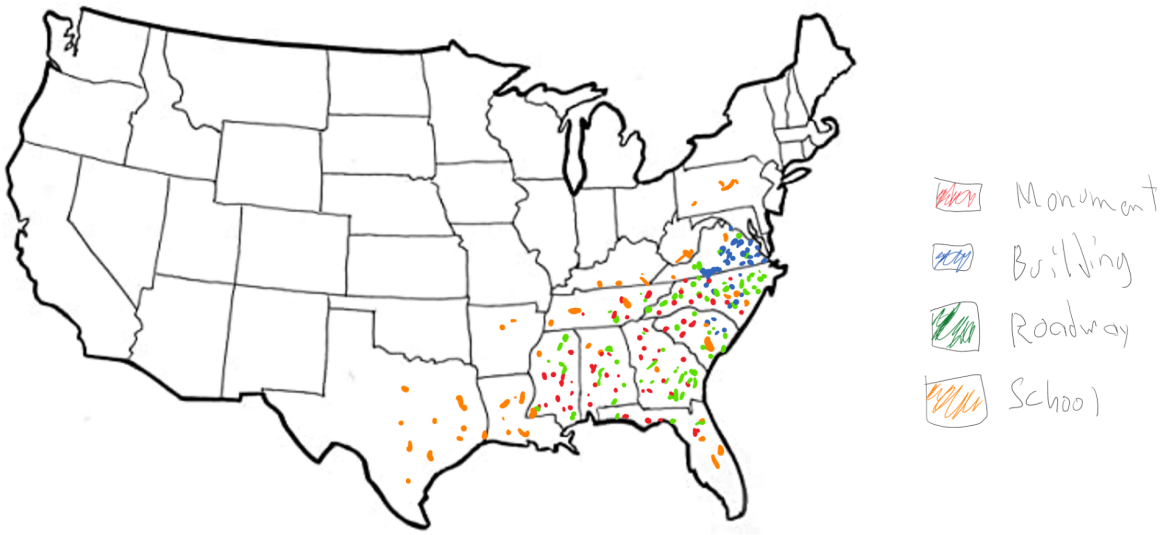


The next visual is a simple line chart prototype that is beneficial in showing the trend of memorial or symbol types over time. This could also be broken down by state to add a different categorical attribute. This is an alternative prototype to the stream graph that could be a supplement to other visuals.

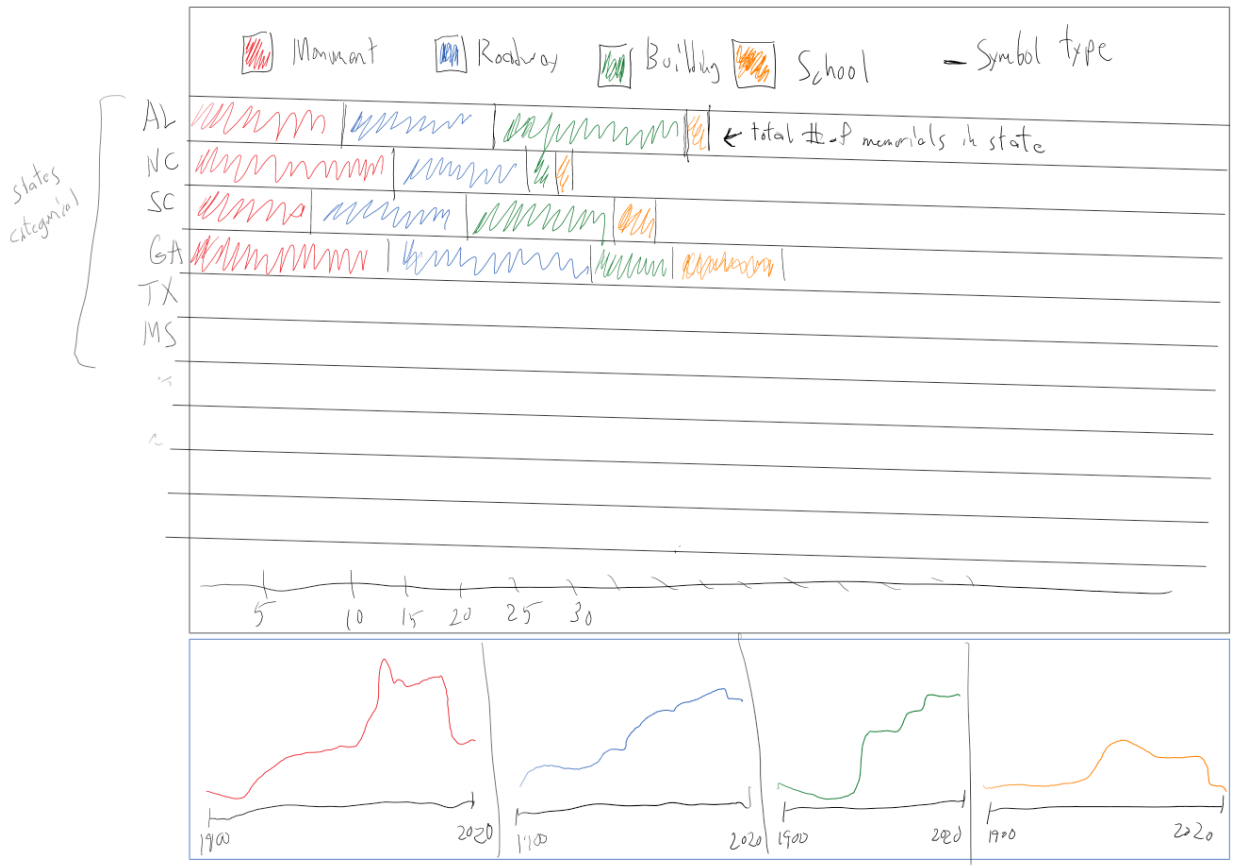


The final prototype is a rough sketch of a geographic map of memorials by memorial type throughout the United States. The benefits of this prototype is another manner of representing the distribution of Confederate memorials across

the country. This visual can give insights into geographic densities for different types of memorials as well as the overall scale and presence of Confederate memorials in the U.S. This visual uses the coordinates of the memorial as the main item represented by a point and the attribute would be linked to the memorial type to distinguish which color of the data point .



A final visual is depicted below. This visual includes the state, symbol type, and number of memorials dedicated as attributes. The visual provides insights into what types of Confederate memorials are most present in states throughout the U.S. This visual is also combined with a line graph that shows the expansion of the different symbol types over time to incorporate that as another attribute in the visual. Finally, there is potential for interactivity by having the option to select a specific state and the line charts adjust the data to filter and only show the memorial expansion for that given state.



Must Have Features:

The project would be a failure if we don't find anything useful about the monuments by not displaying their distribution in each state and their change of status over time. The features would be the different colors that represent the type of symbol, and the (line/bar) graph for each state. This is what answers our question about the history of these monuments and how current events have changed the perspective and feelings toward these monuments.

Optional Features:
Project Schedule:

Oct. 18-24:
Oct.25-31:
Nov. 1-7:
Nov. 8-14: Have a fully functional visualization
Nov. 14-21:

Nov. 22-28: Prepare for Oral Presentation on 30th

Nov. 29-Dec 5: Make final adjustments to the website, book, screencast and upload all final versions to GitHub.