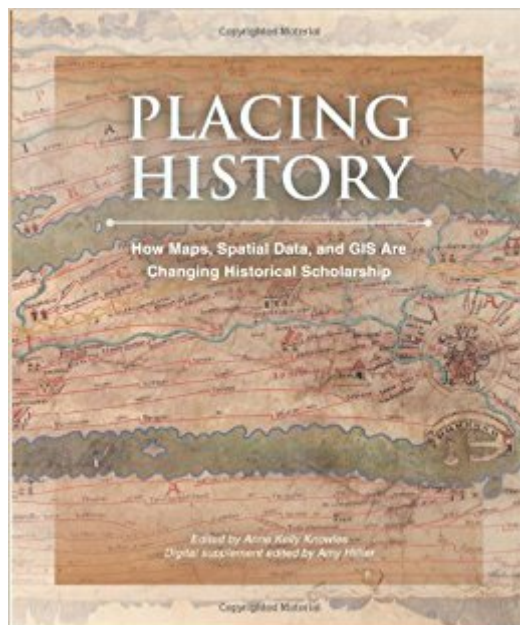




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Placing History: How Maps, Spatial Data, And GIS Are Changing Historical Scholarship



Synopsis

In the last decade, historical GIS has emerged as a promising new methodology for studying the past. Historical GIS is the use of geographic information systems software and allied geospatial methods for historical research and teaching. *Placing History: How Maps, Spatial Data, and GIS Are Changing Historical Scholarship* offers case studies and essays on key issues involving historical GIS, highlighting the unprecedented range of tools to visualize historical information in a geographical context. Quantitative social science historians are embracing GIS to facilitate the mapping of large datasets, but anyone with access to the software and the skills to use it can include mapping in research. This change is little short of revolutionary considering how few scholars or students made maps even ten years ago. Historical maps are suddenly in great demand as digitally modified, georeferenced images that enable researchers to study GIS as a visual medium of communication and analysis.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Anne Kelly Knowles is lecturer in geography at the Institute of Earth Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and is a member of the editorial advisory board for *"Historical Geography,"*

The plurality of approaches and the clever ways in which they are applied to the various historical problems comes across well. The resulting graphs, charts and maps are beautiful and drive the points home. With the explosion of research in this area since 2007, it would be nice to get an

update. The book undersells the effort of getting the datasets to come out just so, but then that is boring for most people to read.

Just not what I thought I was getting. Hoping for more basic text and help in getting started.

Needed this item quickly and it came quickly. It was in excellent shape as it was advertised. Very happy with the item!

This book wasn't quite what I thought it was going to be, but I still enjoyed it. As is explained in the introduction of the book, a lot of the sections, as well as the presentations on the included data disc, are the result of a conference dealing with using GIS in historical research. The book is well written, with each contributor taking care to present each topic in an objective light. The book is better read a section at a time, as trying to read it straight through can get very overwhelming, due to so much information being presented.

PLACING HISTORY: HOW MAPS, SPATIAL DATA AND GIS ARE CHANGING HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP challenges historians and historical geographers to use information science wisely, as it vastly affects historical scholarship and historical revision processes. College-level holdings strong in GIS analysis, use, and historical analysis alike will find PLACING HISTORY an invaluable link between cartography, geographic assessment and history. Case studies and regional analysis blend in an excellent set of examples on how GIS interpretations and usage affects history. Diane C. Donovan
California Bookwatch

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