Spring 2018 Partnership with Apache Junction

ASU Project Cities
Positively Apache Junction

HST 485: History in the Wild – Introduction to Digital History
Derrick Leggett and other HST 485 groups via video
Andres Gonzales
Dr. Joshua MacFadyen
History in the Wild
...
Positively
Apache Junction

- Project Overview
- Participants
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusion
Project Overview:
Understanding past and present values to plan for the future
Where are Community Values in AJ?
How do we measure and discover place attachment?
History in the Wild

• History beyond the classroom, engaging communities
• A challenge in the online context
  – 38 Students, Mostly seniors in History
  – 7.5 Weeks
Participants
Students in History 485 & Sustainability 595
City of Apache Junction
Local history organizations
Sustainability 595

• Work on local geospatial assets
• A test case of the community values mapping approach
  – Marathon Expo
  – Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo
• Conducted by Andres Gonzales, Candidate in the Masters of Sustainable Solutions
The City of Apache Junction

• Positively Apache Junction
HST 485 Intro to Digital History

- Place History
- Web Publishing
- Community Values Mapping
- Geospatial Analysis
- Textual Analysis
History 485 Groups

1. The Superstition Hotel
2. Water in Apache Junction
3. Parks and Trails of Apache Junction
4. The Apache Trail
5. The Apache Trail
6. The Indigenous Presence
7. Apache Junction Women’s Club Scrapbooks
8. Apache Junction High School
Methods
Digital History & Community Values Mapping (Participatory GIS)
Learning to Do Historical Research
A Primer for Environmental Historians and Others

William Cronon

Introduction

Welcome! We've designed this website as a basic introduction to historical research for anyone and everyone who is interested in exploring the past.

Whenever you frame a question with reference to how things have changed over time, you commit yourself to doing historical research. All of us do this all the time, but not everyone thinks very carefully about the best ways of finding information about the past and how it relates to the present.

The website is divided into two major sections:

- The first surveys essential stages of the research process.
- The second surveys different kinds of documents that can offer invaluable information and insights about the past.

Individual pages are designed to be read from beginning to end, and the pages about the research process follow a logical order that mimics the phases of working on a historical project. But individual pages (especially the ones about sources) can also be read in any order.

Although we've constructed this site especially for environmental historians, and have generally provided environmental examples, we've tried to make it as helpful as possible for anyone seeking to learn the craft of doing historical research.
Place History

On Site Videos by ASU Online and EdPlus

https://asuonline.wistia.com/medias/0pu4sf77ts
Community Values Mapping

On Site Videos by ASU Online
Map used to conduct public participation survey. Yellow border indicates Apache Junction City Limits.
Community Values Mapping

Results of public participation survey from Rodeo Day 2, 3/24, 2018
Community Values Mapping


Results of all 3 paper maps placed on the online version at Maptionnaire.com
Community Values Mapping

Local insight for smarter urban planning

Maptionnaire is a powerful mapping tool which makes community engagement effective and effortless.
The results of the Helsinki 2050 map survey

With this tool, you can review the material of the city plan map survey. The material available to you includes responses from approximately 4,700 city residents and 33,000 locations indicated on the map. The survey was open 4 November–9 December 2013 and it was executed by Mapita Inc. The survey collected the views of city residents for the preparation of Helsinki's new city plan. Read more at www.yleiskaava.fi.

- A place or area for residential building
- A street side that could be built up
- A plaza or square that is too large, whose surroundings could be built up
- The area is not necessary for recreation, it could be built up
- A place for offices, services or business premises
- There should be more shops and services here on the street-level floors of the buildings
- Recreationally Important, but could be of better quality
- This area is unique city nature just as it is
- The environment around here looks dreary and should be improved by planting trees, for example
- A poorly managed / undefined area that should be improved
- My completely new idea
Results

Eight *Place* Histories + Digital Components

Preliminary results and reflections on map survey
History 485 Groups

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Frank Blanco advocates for “a regional approach to water management”, explaining that the key to sustainable water in Apache Junction is “long range planning for the entire state with everyone working together from a regional approach.” The AJWD water management plan incorporates surface water, ground water and underground storage facilities. Surface water comes from the Colorado River, flowing through the CAP canal. Frank Blanco, Director of AJWD, negotiated an agreement with the City of Mesa, to temporarily purify their allocation of roughly 4,000 acre feet per year of CAP water, while AJWD worked to fund and construct the new purification plant.
Group 2: Water in Apache Junction

Apache Junction breaks ground.

2015
APACHE JUNCTION BREAKS GROUND FOR NEW WATER PURIFICATION PLANT

The location for the new water treatment facility was chosen because it is immediately adjacent to the CAP canal which allowed them to build without a lengthy and expensive piping system. It is also in close proximity to the Water Reclamation Plant, with a "pipeline corridor identified for future integration of reclaimed water."

The parks and trails of Apache Junction have transformed the land from harsh, arid desert into inviting recreational spaces that have fostered community development, growth, and tourism.
Group 3: Parks and Trails of AJ

THE FIRST PARK

Dedicated on April 8, 1969, Superstition Park became the first public park in Pinal County, AZ. The park straddled Highway 88 at the Southeast corner of Superstition Blvd. and Idaho Road.

Dedication of Superstition Park Main Entrance Gates, 1969

Photo Source: "Woman’s Club installs plaque at park entrance,” Apache Sentinel, April 17, 1969

THE APACHE JUNCTIONS WOMAN’S CLUB

Photos: (L) “Carol Lansing completes pylon model,” Apache Sentinel, February 1, 1968.

Source: "Woman’s Club designs gates," Apache Sentinel, January 18, 1968;


(T) Carol Lansing discusses her design with two employees of the Pinal County Department of Parks and Recreation, 1968

Source: “Woman’s Club designs gates,” Apache Sentinel, January 18, 1968

(B) Carol Lansing’s original sketched design for the Superstition Park entrance gate pylon, 1968


SUPERSTITION PARK TODAY

Photo: Aerial photograph of Superstition Park, 2018


©2018 Google. Google Earth. [April 2018].

Though Superstition Park no longer serves as an active recreational space, its memory lives on. Local authors James Swanson and Thomas Kollenborn highlighted the park in their book entitled, In the Shadow of the Superstitions: The History of Apache Junction, Arizona. This publication offers a comprehensive account of the park, its history, and its enduring legacy.
Group 3: Parks and Trails of AJ

SUPERSTITION SHADOWS PARK

SUPERSTITION SHADOWS SKATEPARK

CONTINUING PARTNERSHIP


Community Values in AJ
Community Values by Percent

- Aesthetic: 32%
- Arizona/US History: 9%
- Community History: 19%
- Cultural: 14%
- Natural: 5%
- Personal History: 6%
- Recreational: 3%
- Special Place: 2%

Results from Project Cities Survey at Maptionnaire.com
HST 485 – Group Presentation
Distant Reading a Landscape

Group Seven
Katherine Franey, Jonathan Kistemann, Derrick Leggett, James Walsh

**Topic:** Apache Junction Women’s Club Scrapbooks
**Place History:** Apache Junction Public Library
Place History – Women’s Club Scrapbooks

WordPress Site and Blog
- The Women’s Club
- Apache Junction Public Library
- Scrapbook History
  - Connecting to Place History
  - Connecting to People (Past and Present)

Places in Time
As we discover new places, we will add them to this interactive map. Many of the blog posts and pages will have a similar map with only the points of interest marked for the particular subject being discussed.

Digital Scrapbook
This Women’s Club created a scrapbook throughout much of their history, which was donated to the Apache Junction Public Library. This sample provides a glimpse into their activities and contributions.
The Area: 1122 N. Idaho Road Apache Junction, by using the current library location as an anchor, we hoped to gather information on how the library’s role has changed over time.

Goal: To understand culture, community, and recreation in the city then and now.

A shared space with deep community roots that remains an important hub for recreation, culture, and history as demonstrated by the survey.
Apache Junction – Points in Focus
Apache Junction – Points in Focus – Historical View

Lost Dutchman Museum

Apache Junction Public Library
Apache Junction – Community Values Density – Scale 1

Lost Dutchman Museum

Apache Junction Public Library
Apache Junction – Demographic Values – Scale 2

**Key: area highlighted in yellow**
Additional information:
- 16 full time residents, 2 non-residents
- Age: Under 21: 1
  - 22-45: 14
  - 44-65: 2
- 65+: 1

**Key: area highlighted in red**
Additional information:
- 11 full time residents, 0 non-residents
- Age: Under 21: 0
  - 22-45: 10
  - 44-65: 1
  - 65+: 0
Apache Junction – Point Values

Key: area highlighted in yellow
Lost Dutchman: 4 questionnaires for community history, 6 for cultural, 3 for Arizona history, 4 recreational

The Apache Junction Library had too many questionnaires to accurately count. One of the more surprising factors was that despite the traffic offered at the library, there were a heavier number of historical indicators at the museum. However, the library had several indicators for recreation and culture.

Another aspect of the surveys that was noticed is that several of the email addresses were linked to AJ employees. One could assess that these conducted surveys would be biased.
• The tools are good for collecting data both historically and the present. If enough people are interested in the survey, it would be a way for historians to preserve and store data. It’s a growing project, with great potential.

• Also, by getting enough people in the community to collaborate they can know what projects spark the most interest.

• Informing the residents that these studies are to overall improve the lifestyle and well-being in their communities, it’s designed to help the city flourish.
Apache Junction – Conclusions

There is a tremendous amount of information that one can learn from reading a landscape regarding the surrounding area of study. Especially when there is a scholarly interest and sufficient data has been attained. It has the potential to be a tool available similar to Yelp. That being said, this tool is still learning how to gage interest in its participates, both scholarly and participatory.
Conclusions

Communities are empowered by sharing sense of place through participatory storytelling & mapping
Community Values in AJ
Thank you!

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City of Apache Junction
Project Cities
Local history organizations
City of AJ Library
Superstition Mountain Museum
ASU GeoHub (Map Library)