The Spanish Travelers Project

Letters from Spain in a space/time box: understanding the chronotopes of 19th-century travel and travelogues through 3D literary mapping and Historical GIS

Eugenia Afinoguénova
Stephen Appel
Andrea Ballard
Chris Larkee
Makenzi McGowan

www.spanishtravelers.com
Project Overview

- 19th-century travel writing in Spain
- Historical Gazetteer
- Mapping in GIS
- Georeferenced Historical maps
- 3D Visualization of time-space intersections
- Gender, Nationality, Language, means of mobility
- Uncertainty, Time
Research Questions

● Is there any correlation between the means of mobility—horses, donkeys, shared horse-driven carriages, walking, trains, sailboats, and steamers—available to 19th century travelers, on the one hand, and the repertory of destinations that they visited?

● How did different types of mobility affect, not only the timelines of travels, but also the ways in which these timelines were narrated in travel literature?

● How, if at all, did the gender and the country of origin of the writers and the travelers affect the timelines and the destinations of their travels and the ways in which these were described?
Chronotopes and Space-Time Cubes

- The interdependence of all formal elements related to narrative time and space (Bakhtin, 1975)
  - Similar to time-space, but for language
- Time geography (Hägerstrand, 1973)
- Kwan’s feminist geovisualizations of women in the urban environment
- Use of 3D modeling and animation
Corpus

- 19th-century travel and travelogues
- Over 100 digitized texts in Spanish, English, French, German, and Russian by male and female authors
- Three Factors for approaching travel literature:
  - Conflation of travel and fiction writing
  - Plagiarism before plagiarism
  - Indistinction between travel and history accounts
Gazetteer

- Name in the literature, English name, Local name
- Use Geonames ID, contribute when needed
- Destination ID identifies book as well as destinations
- Parent-child relationships for multiple locations in one city
Using Historical Maps to determine routes and fill in gaps in our understanding of the route.
Visualizing Views
Thank you!

- Visit our website: www.spanishtravelers.com
- Contact Eugenia Afinoguénova at Marquette University with non-GIS questions
- See also: Prado VR prado.nfshost.com
- Interested in data mining?