

# **Final Report Documentation**

ATU Professional Development Grant

February 2018 Funding Round

Patrick Hagge

## **RESTATEMENT OF THE PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY**

I presented original research in a paper presentation (“Historical GIS and the Cotton Plantation: Tucker, Arkansas in the Twentieth Century”) at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in New Orleans, Louisiana on April 10, 2018.

## **BRIEF REVIEW OF THE PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The Association of American Geographers (AAG) is the largest organization of geographers in the world, with professional geographers from academia, government, and industry represented in paper sessions, poster sessions, and panel discussions. My current research focus is at the intersection of historical geography and economic geography in the broad multi-state “Mississippi Delta” region, examined through a quantitative geographic lens.

Specifically, my research for this opportunity examined the commercial linkages and historical spatial evidence of the Tucker Plantation, a cotton-based farming region in east Arkansas. Building on the strength of earlier research that focused more on the urban-centered cotton exchanges of Memphis and New Orleans (two cities covered in research presented at a 2016 conference that was funded by an ATU professional development grant), my research on the Tucker community applied various Historical GIS (HGIS) methods to hyperlocal agrarian scales. The limits of historical data for farming regions like Tucker – and the associated HGIS issues arising from these data problems – were discussed at length. An AAG annual meeting is the premier opportunity to interact with other historical geographers, so this professional opportunity was important for my research trajectory.

## **SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCES**

The April 10 paper presentation session in which I presented (“Convergences in Geospatial, Digital, and Geoarchaeological History”) was dedicated to Historical Geography, and presenters covered a wide range of geographic areas and historical time periods. My paper (“Historical GIS and the Cotton Plantation”) was well-received by the other historical geographers at the session, and I received some valuable questions and discussions pertaining to Arkansas-specific research, particularly about historical aerial photography.

As this session dealt with a variety of HGIS methods, several other presenters during this session cultivated future research interests. A grid-based recreation of Sherman’s march turning into South Carolina in the Civil War used raster GIS approaches that could be employed for my own HGIS work in the Delta region, as my own research factors in differences in land cover. A different presentation that dealt with online HGIS systems shows the potential for more effective digital historical research viewed through a spatial lens, which is important for teaching students visualization concepts and advanced GIS concepts.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

I am grateful for the ATU Professional Development Grant in covering the costs of this conference trip. The benefits of this grant (which allowed me to present at the national AAG conference in April) combined with the benefits of earlier professional development grants have allowed me to craft my ideas with immediate scholarly feedback. The results of these conferences will be a submission of this work to an academic journal with an economic or historical focus by late 2018.

## EVIDENCE OF CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE/PRESENTATION

Convergences in geospatial, digital, and geoarchaeological history

**Type:** Paper  
**Theme:**  
**Sponsor Groups:** Historical Geography Specialty Group, Geographic Information Science and Systems Specialty Group, Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group  
**Scheduler ID:** TUE-011-8:00 a.m.  
**Day:** 4/10/2018  
**Start / End Time:** 8:00 AM / 9:40 AM  
**Room:** Galerie 1, Marriott, 2nd Floor  
**Organizers:** Gregory Pope  
**Chairs:** Gregory Pope

Call for Papers

Abstracts concerning historical and ancient archaeology, geoarchaeology, GIS and remote sensing use in history and archaeology, and the application of geography with digital humanities are invited.

Description

Conservation of cultural heritage thrives on the cooperative methods of geospatial analysis, digital humanities, and physical geography. This session assembles a collection of papers from differing projects with a shared interest in geography's approach to cultural heritage conservation.

Agenda

Type	Details	Minutes	Start Time
Presenter	Yasser Ayad*, <i>Clarian University</i> , <a href="#">Digital Heritage Development: Enabling the Rooted History of Islamic Cairo</a>	15	8:00 AM
Presenter	Mark Green*, <i>Indiana State University</i> , <a href="#">Where the Lines of Evidence Converge: Dating the Origin of Khirbat al-Mudaybi' on Central Jordan's Karak Plateau</a>	15	8:15 AM
Presenter	Patrick D. Hagge*, <i>Arkansas Tech University</i> , <a href="#">Historical GIS and the Cotton Plantation: Tucker, Arkansas in the Twentieth Century</a>	15	8:30 AM
Presenter	<a href="#">Cemetery Surveys</a>		8:45 AM
Presenter	Silvia Elena Plovan*, <i>University of Padova</i> , <a href="#">The Paths of General Sherman's Army Through the Wetlands of South Carolina</a> Elena Maugeri, <i>University of Padova</i> , <a href="#">The Paths of General Sherman's Army Through the Wetlands of South Carolina</a> Michael	15	9:00 AM

