HCAH Student Research Assistantships 2018

Project Description:
Remapping Imperfect City / Imperfect State by Finley+Muse
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 http://www.finleymuse.com/projects/imperfect-city-imperfect-state

This research project will result in a stand-alone geo-tagged archive of photographs from the roadside memorial documentary project, Imperfect City / Imperfect State.

One component of the artist project Imperfect City / Imperfect State is an archive documenting over one-hundred roadside memorials in the state of Delaware. All photographs from this project were available through the website Panoramio, a now defunct map-driven photo sharing platform. Google has transferred Panoramio photographs to Google Earth, but these photographs can no longer be searched by photographer or gathered into specific sets, which makes access within the terms of this artist project nearly impossible.

Research assistance is needed to download, capture metadata, geotag the photographs again if necessary, and upload to a new mapping platform, one that can stand alone, be added to and updated if necessary, and presented as an artist project.

The project will have the technical support of Michael Zarafonetis and the Digital Scholarship team in the library.

Estimate of the number of hours of work needed and when:
400

Special skills required:
Experience in markup (HTML, XML) preferred
Experience in web design preferred

What would you hope to achieve if funded?
This project would salvage and reopen a work of art that my collaborator and I completed in 2013. With the demise of Panoramio, the work is no longer accessible as it once was and can no longer effectively be maintained and augmented. A working geo-tagged archive is a must.

What might the student learn from this collaboration?
With the help of Zarafonetis and the Digital Scholarship team, this student would learn coding skills, mapping skills, and geo-tagging; from me they would learn about the visual and material culture of roadside memorials and about how artists build works on digital platforms.