Cityscapes:

An Online Discovery Tool for Urban and Cultural Studies
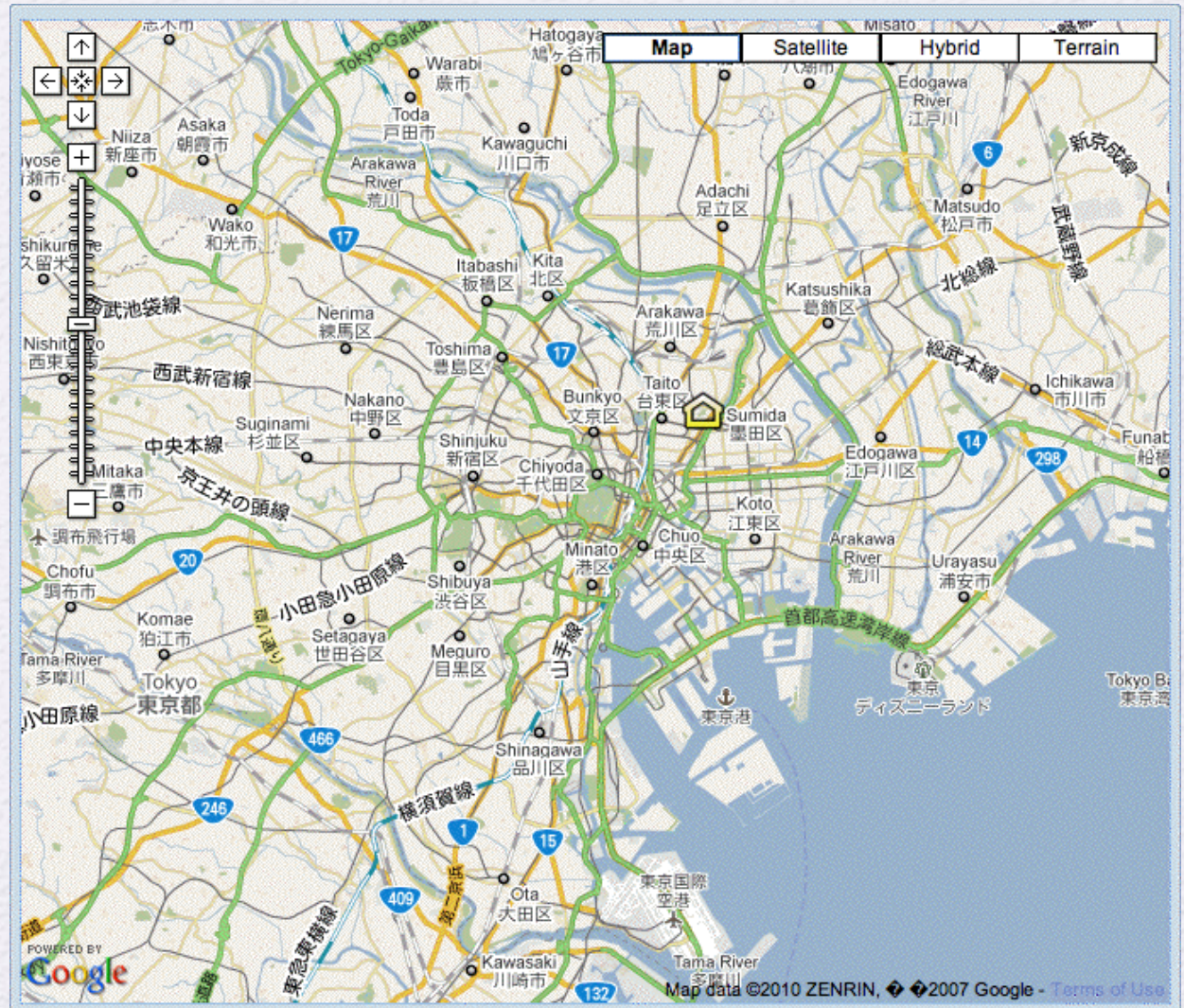
Andy Anderson
Academic Technology Services

AMHERST COLLEGE
TERRAS IRRADIENT

Cityscapes is Geohistorical

- Allow students to investigate a city over time, e.g. Tokyo:
  - 1680
  - 1799
  - 1858
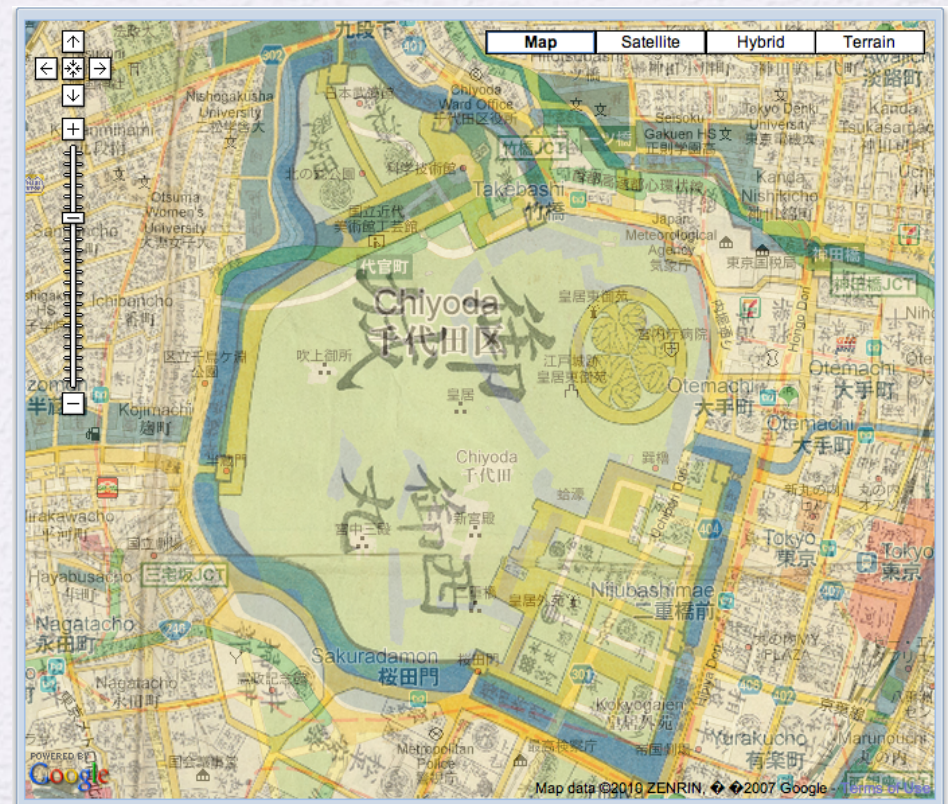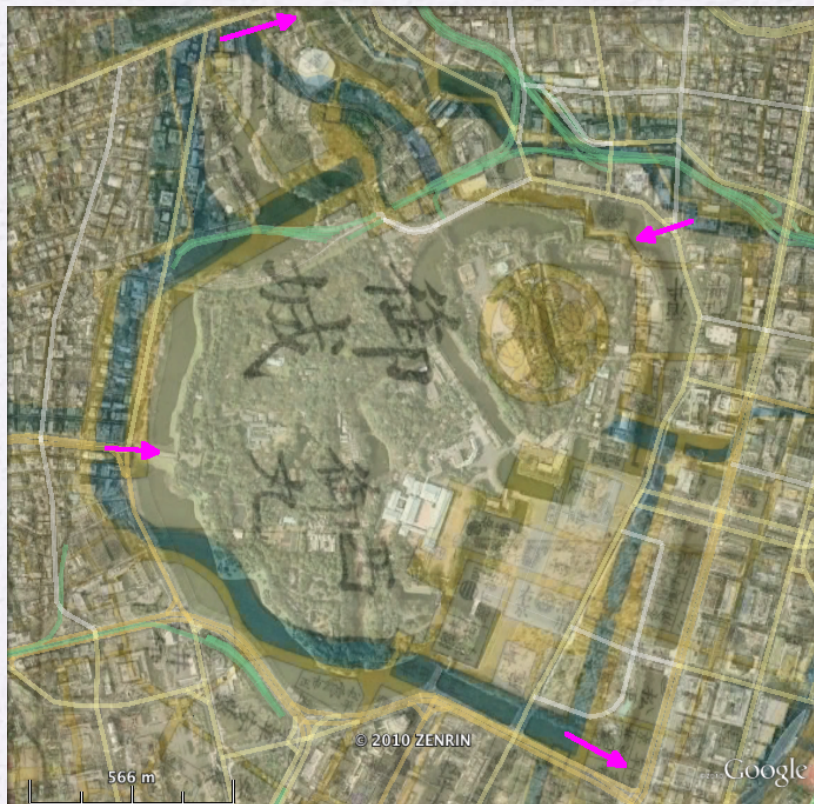 - 1892
  - 1945

Cityscapes Map Platform

- Google Map Open API:

  - Web-based

  - Zooming

  - Layering

  - Transparency

  - Markers

  - Satellite/Terrain

Cityscapes Historical Maps

- Historical maps are closely *georeferenced* using ArcGIS

  Google Earth: Cityscapes:

- Converted to Google format with open source Amherst *GTiler*

Cityscapes Location Balloons

- Location balloons provide structured media inclusion

- Dialogues don't require knowledge of HTML.

- Open source: Amherst *aMapApp*; *Ext JS*, *PHP*, and *MySQL*.

Cityscapes Multimedia

- Location balloons link to an image database using thumbnails, and display them in a dedicated viewer.

- Images can be from different collections:

  - DigiTool (Amherst)

  - Luna (Smith College)

  - Flickr (students & others)
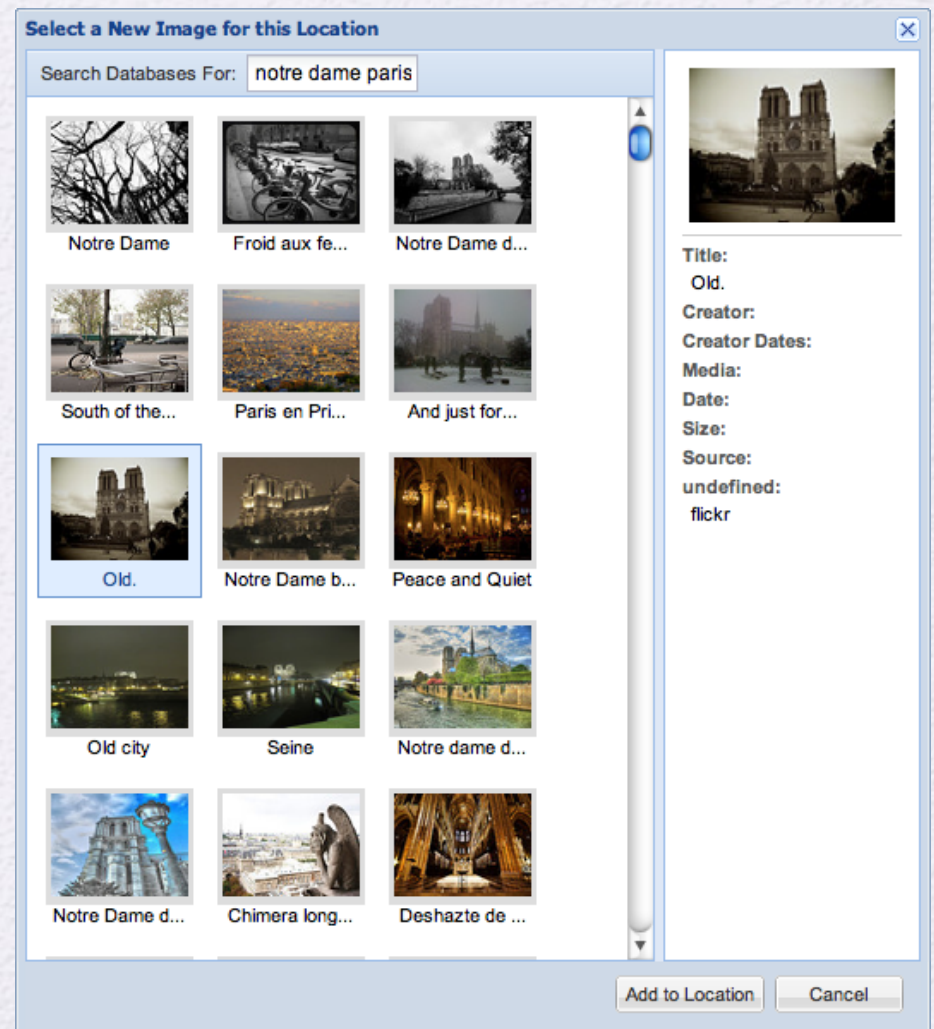
Cityscapes Location Blogging

- Location balloons can have blogs associated with them, letting students converse about the location and included media.

Location Blog

(Create Blog Entry)   (Move Newest to Top)

New Blog Entry
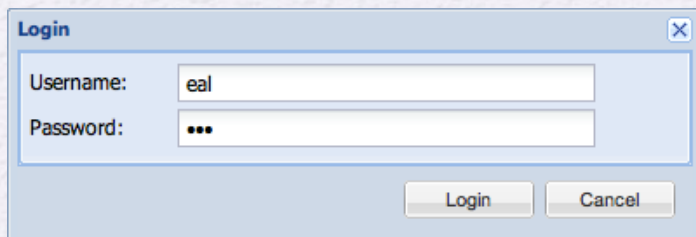
Title: Senso-ji Temple Visit

Entry: Tahoma ▾ | **B** *I* U̲ | A⁺ A⁻ | A▾ ✐▾ | ▤ ▤ ▤ | 🌐 | ▤ ▤ | »

During my Junior year abroad in Tokyo, I visited the Senso-ji Buddhist Temple. It has a traditional architecture for a Japanese temple and |

File to Upload: (Choose File) no file selected

(Submit)   (Cancel)

Cityscapes Access Control

- Privacy of student projects is important.*
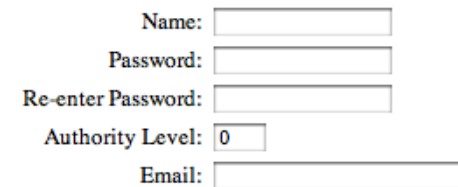
- *aMapApp* location balloons are created *outside* of Google maps, so their content is *not* web-searchable.

- Built-in access control and groups for classes.

aLogin Authentication System Administrator Functions

Add User

Name: [   ]
Password: [   ]
Re-enter Password: [   ]
Authority Level: [0]
Email: [   ]

(Add)

Edit User

Name: [   ]

(Edit)

Delete User

Name: [   ]

(Delete)

Accept New User Requests

Go to New User Requests Page

Display All Users

Go to Display All Users Page

Login   [×]

Username: [eal   ]
Password: [•••   ]

                        (Login) (Cancel)

* e.g. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Cityscapes Tokyo http://ats.amherst.edu/tokyodemo

- *Reinventing Tokyo: The Art, Literature, and Politics of Japan's Modern Capital*

- "Tokyo is the political, cultural, and economic center of Japan, the largest urban conglomeration on the planet, holding 35 million people…. Since its founding 400 years ago, when a small fishing village became Edo, the castle headquarters of the Tokugawa shoguns, the city has been reinvented multiple times…"

- Amherst College
Professors Morse, Maxey, Van Compernolle

Fishing Village, Flying Crane, and Mount Fuji

Cityscapes Paris

- *Pariscape: Imagining Paris in the Twentieth Century*

- "Paris has been for centuries one of the exemplary sites of our urban sensibility, a city that has indelibly and controversially influenced the twentieth-century imagination. Poets, novelists and essayists, painters, photographers and film-makers: all have made use of Paris and its cityscape to examine relationships among technology, literature, city planning, art, social organizations, politics and what we might call the urban imagination."

- Amherst College
  Professor Rosbottom

Cityscapes Paris http://ats.amherst.edu/parisdemo
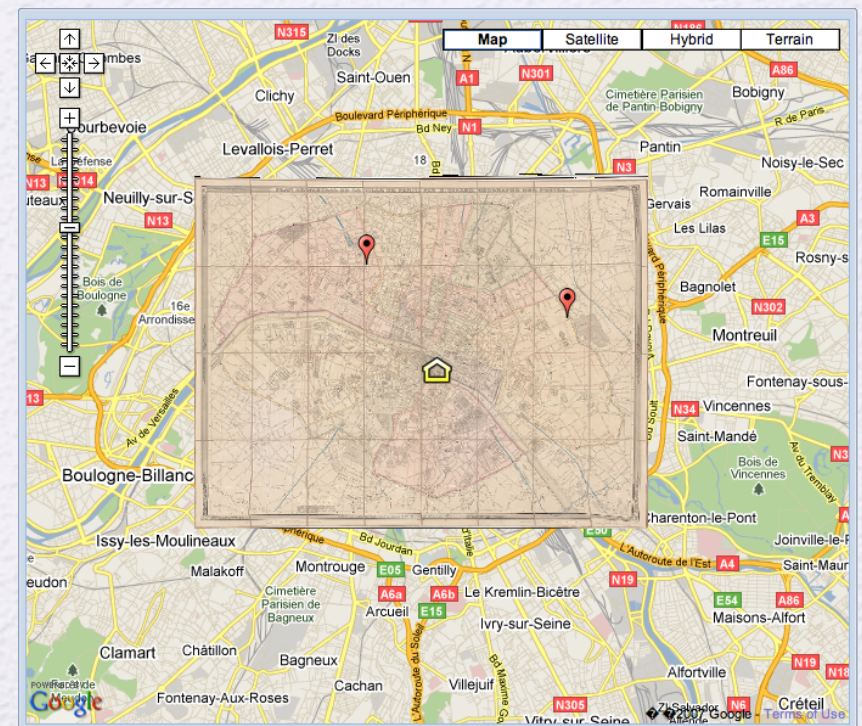
- *Colloquia in French Studies: Paris, a Multi-Layered City*

- "An exploration of the cultural and urban development of Paris across time and in space with an emphasis on the 19th and 20th centuries. We will use an interactive digital platform to reconstruct the spaces, both real and imaginary, featured in novels, poetry, short stories, popular songs, visual documents, and maps that have evoked the city throughout its history. Works by Corneille, Maupassant, Baudelaire, Apollinaire, Desnos, Modiano, Vargas, Gavalda."

Boulevard des Capucines, Paris
Claude Monet, 1873

- Smith College
  Professor Visentin

Cityscapes Team

- **Inspiration:** Professors Sam Morse and Hélène Visentin

- **Organizer:** Scott Payne, Director of Academic Technology Services at Amherst College

- **Historical Map Georeferencing:** Andy Anderson, ATS; Zoë Zaferiou and Jon Caris, Smith College

- *GTiler* **Creation:** Andy Anderson, ATS

- *aMapApp* **Creation:** Paul Chapin, ATS

- **Image Database Interface:** Miodrag Glumac, ATS

- **Historical Maps:** Smith College, Harvard University, University of California at Berkeley, David Rumsey Map Collection