

Reading the text, walking the terrain, following the map: Do we see the same landscape?

Øyvind Eide

Department of Digital Humanities,
King's College London

oyvind.eide@kcl.ac.uk

Outline

1 Document vs. landscape

2 Map document vs. textual document

3 Indications and suggestions

Document or landscape?

- Viewing documents representing landscape
 - *Moving the eyes*
- Seeing the landscape
 - *Moving the eye-head-body system*

Document vs. practice

- Distinction muddled by expressions such as “conceptual map”
- Embodied creatures finding our way

But ...no mapless societies?

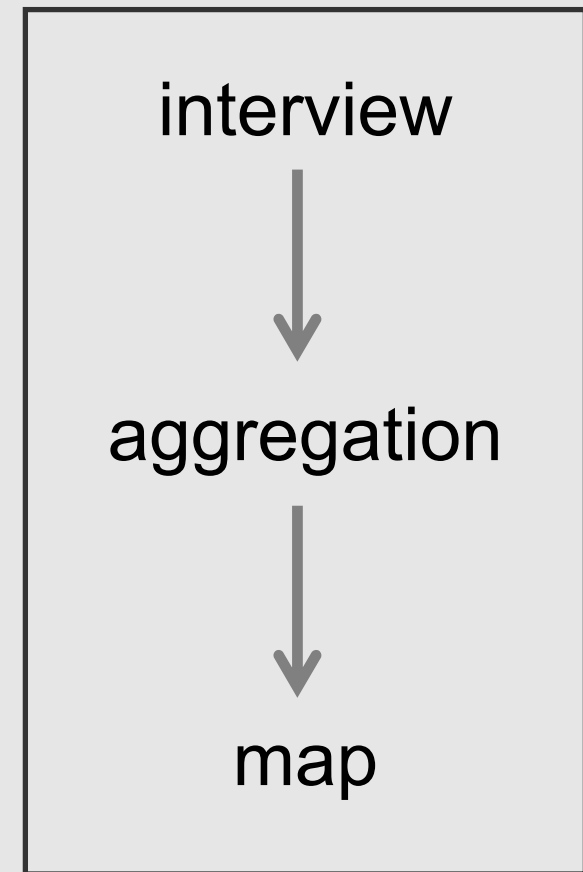
- No maps before 1500 (Wood 2010)
- Wayfinding: words, body, brain, senses, landscape, fellow creatures, ...and recently some maps

*The “History of Cartography” is not discussing maps.
They are discussing things we think look like maps.*

Case study: text vs. map

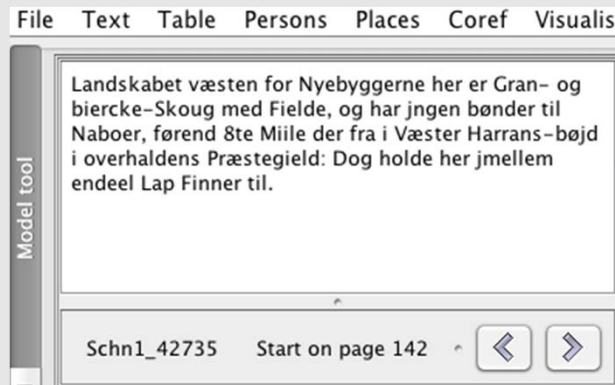
Schnitler: Scandinavia, 1740's

- From overlapping tax areas to borders between states
- Information gathering
- Common people seen as a source to information based on their knowledge, not on their status



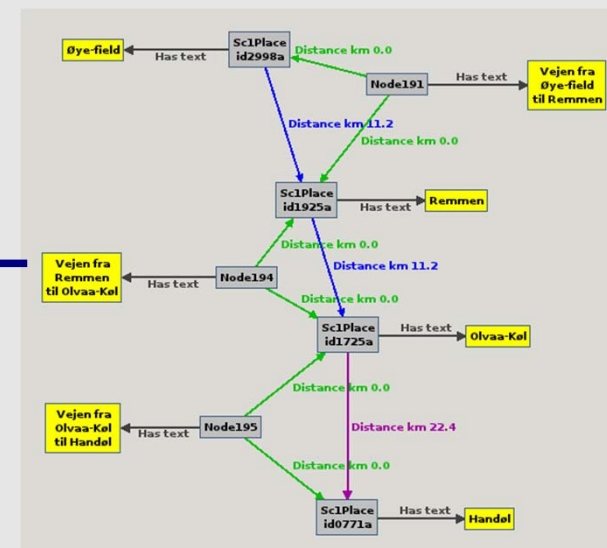
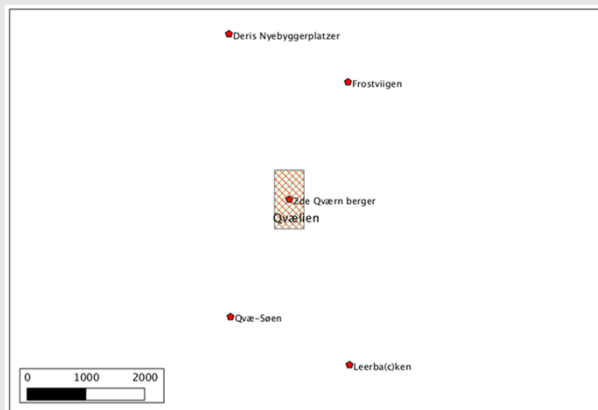
The area told as a story. An inquiry into the relationship between verbal and map-based expressions of geographical information.

The model and formalisation



Row	Node ID	Node type	Node content	coref ID
0	person378	speaker	Povel (Pouel) Olsen	person378
1	Schn1_42740	name: place	Harrans-bøjd	Sc1Place_id0775a
2	Schn1_42745	name: place	overhaldens Præstegield	Sc1Place_id1763a
3	node288	rs: place	Nyebyggerne her	node286

Link ID	Link type	From	To
link695	part-of	Schn1_42740	Schn1_42745
link696	direction: west	node288	Schn1_42740
link697	distance: 8te Miile	node288	Schn1_42740



«Fall-off»

What is lost in the process

- Context
 - Vagueness
 - Under-specification
 - Negation
 - Disjunction
 - ...
- *Making an inventory*

Too little and too much

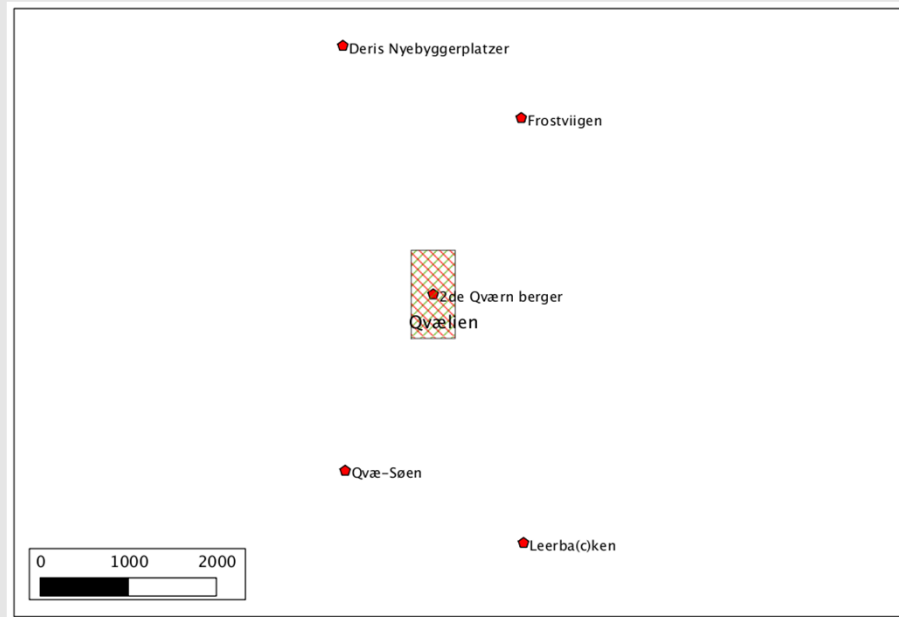
- Too little: What do a map need in order to be made
- Too much: What do a text have to offer

Too little: underspecification

“A verbal text describing a spatial phenomenon in a way that can be understood as two or more significantly different phenomena by a competent reader, thus, an ambiguity stemming from a lack of information.”

*The area told as a story. An inquiry into the relationship between verbal
and map-based expressions of geographical information.*

Too little: choices



Too much

“[...] in North of there,
there are no peasant
farm.”

“There are no More
Finns Close to the
Borders [...]”



$\text{length}(A, B) \neq \text{length}(B, A)$



Why do we not see this?

As map

vs.

Onto map

Media restrictions: How to make maps anyway

- Dynamic
- Completeness definition
- Choices
- Text

Different media, different experiences

- How things are said
- What is said

``Every medium has the capacity of mediating
only certain aspects of the total reality"
(Elleström 2010)

*...so it is no surprise that wayfinding is
different from both maps and texts*

Wayfinding vs. navigation

- Cognitive map?
- Landscape as a text?
- or...

wayfinding $\neq$ map use $\neq$ reading

Thank you!

oyvind.eide@kcl.ac.uk

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