

# Book Mapping Atlanta

Every book tells a story and makes an argument. Most maps do too. This project asks you to present a book's story or argument on a map.

You will be working in groups for this project based on the book that you choose. I do want to see that some thought has been made to work as a group, but you will be assessed on the map pinpoints you individually create.

You will be creating your map using Google Earth. Strong projects may eventually be uploaded to ATLmaps.

## **Step 1- Choose a Book**

You will need to choose a book from the following list. What's most important is that a book has plenty of specific Atlanta locations that can be pinpointed on a map. It's also important to choose something that interests you because much of this project will be self-directed and you will need to manage your time appropriately. That is difficult if you don't care about what you are researching.

Also keep in mind that different books will pose different problems. Some books will have so many specific locations that it will be hard to choose which ones to focus on. Other books will have few locations to pinpoint. Books that focus on earlier Atlanta will often require extra steps in finding specific places.

All of these books have been recommended to me for this specific project, but I haven't read them all. I recommend that you flip through these books or look them up online before making your choice.

### **Fiction**

- *Silver Sparrow*, Tayari Jones
- *The Walking Dead* (Book 1??), Robert Kirkman

### **Nonfiction**

- *Explosion at Orly*, Ann Abrams
- *Jews and Booze: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition*, Marni Davis
- *Highbrows, Hillbillies, and Hellfire: Public Entertainment in Atlanta, 1880-1930*, Steve Goodson
- *The Temple Bombing*, Melissa Fay Greene
- *White Flight: Atlanta and the Making of Modern Conservatism*, Kevin Kruse
- *And the Dead Shall Rise: The Murder of Mary Phagan and the Lynching of Leo Frank*, Steve Oney
- *Where Peachtree Meets Sweet Auburn*, Gary Pomerantz
- *The Bonfire: The Siege and Burning of Atlanta*, Marc Wortman

## **Step 2- Read Book and Conference with Brennan**

You should start reading your book early in the semester because you will be meeting with me to discuss your plans for the project in the next few weeks. You do not need to be finished with the book before your conference, but you should have a good sense of the argument of the book and have some locations chosen for your map. Following are some of the issues we will discuss:

- What basic argument or story does the book tell about Atlanta?
- How much context will you need to provide to show this on a map?
- What type of information will you need to provide for your locations?
- Have you run into information that is particularly surprising or interesting?
- Are there particular problems that you foresee as you move forward?

## **Step 3- Create Your Multimedia Google Earth Map**

Building your map will be the main product that you create for this assignment. We will have days scheduled in class where we talk about archival research and the technical aspects of building a Google Earth Map. I can also meet one on one to help you with particular issues as you build your map. Some basic guidelines:

- You will need at least 15 location pinpoints on your map. You might have many more. The fewer the pinpoints, the more information will be expected for each particular location.
- Each pinpoint must include a quotation from the book that references that place. The length of these quotations will vary. It should be clear to someone exploring your map why this particular location is important to the larger story in your book. If the quotation does not provide enough context, you will need to do so.
- Each pinpoint should have some sort of multimedia content. This might include new photos or archival photos, links to websites, embedded videos, etc. The fewer pinpoints you have, the more content for each pinpoint will be expected.
- You will need to clearly document your sources. You need to make it clear what writing is your own, what you are quoting, and where you are getting your information. You will also need to be clear what photos or video are your own and what material you got from somewhere else.
- You should have a very brief description (2 or 3 sentences) connected to your map that summarizes your book and what you are trying to communicate through your map.

## **Step 4- Present Your Map to the Class**

Each group will present your map to the rest of the class. The presentations should last around 8 to 10 minutes, which will allow time for a few questions. Your presentation should include:

- A very brief summary of your book
- A demonstration of a few of your multimedia pinpoints
- A discussion of particular problems you experienced
- An explanation of what your map adds to the story or argument from the book