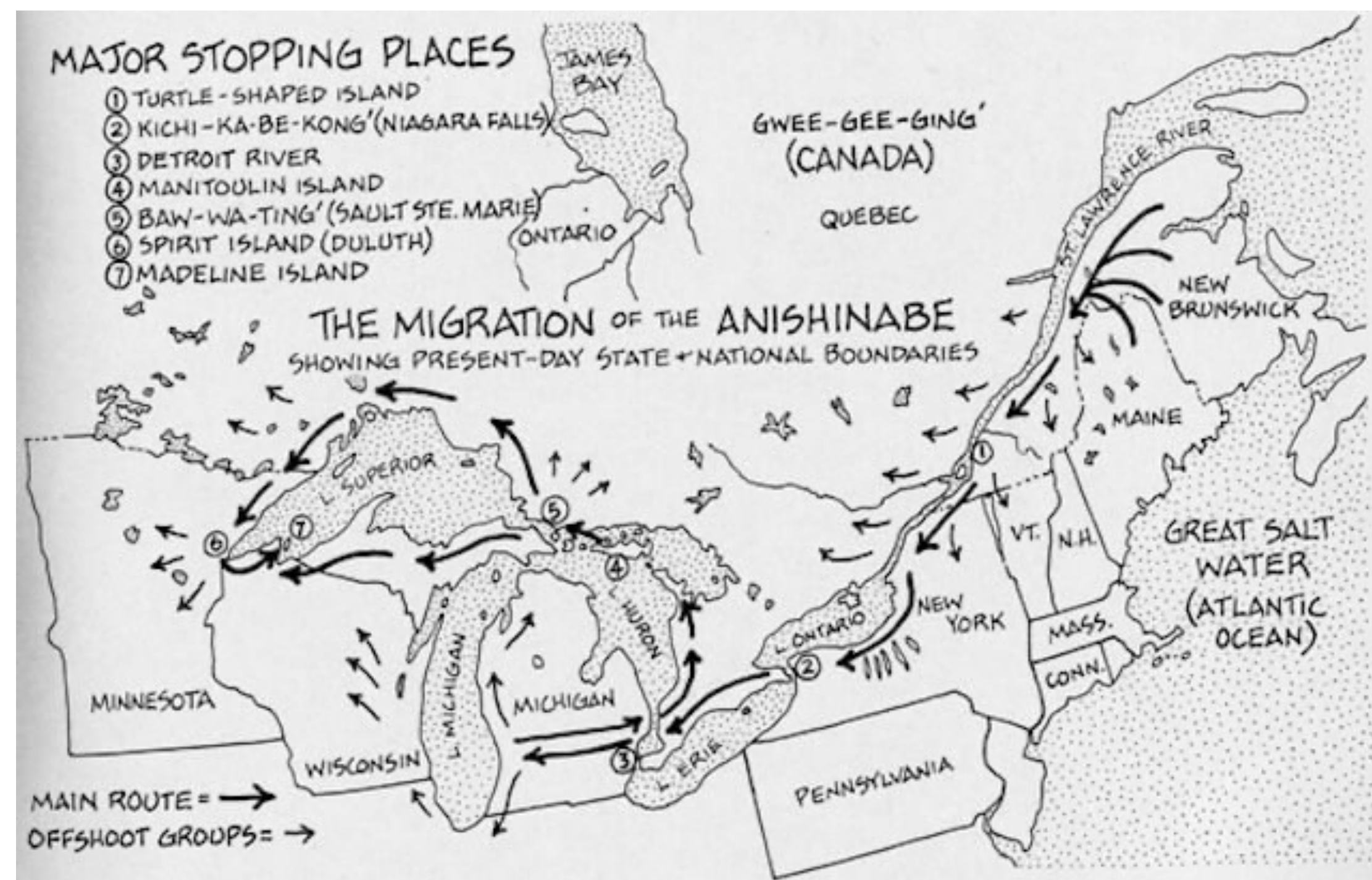


Looking for Nanaboozhoo: Tracing the Anishinaabe Migration

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Project Description

Anishinaabe people (Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi) are scattered all around the Great Lakes in both the US and Canada. How they arrived at these locations is fundamental to their survival stories. In *Looking for Nanaboozhoo* my goal is to physically retrace the 1,500 mile Anishinaabe migration from the mouth of the St. Lawrence River to current day Duluth, MN, and share the story of my journey through a podcast and ArcGIS StoryMap. This year as a Digital Humanities Fellow has allowed me to experiment with digital story telling tools and put scaffolding in place in preparation for my journey.



Anishinaabe migration map from *The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway* by Edward Benton-Banai

Background

The Anishinaabe migration started around 1500 years ago and took approximately 500 years to complete. There were several routes, some by land but most by water, and it is agreed that there were 7 major stopping places: a turtle-shaped island just east of Montreal, Niagara Falls, the Detroit River, Manitoulin Island, Sault Ste. Marie, Spirit Island (Duluth, MN), and Madeline Island. Among the significant secondary stops is Mackinac Island, and the route between Montreal and Mackinac is etched deep in the lines of my own family history.

As an enrolled member of the Mackinac Bands of Odawa and Chippewa Indians, this project holds significant personal meaning. After twenty years actively pursuing federal recognition, Mackinac Bands are in the end stage of the Part 83 legal process. Bringing awareness to our arduous quest is important, but more than that, this project is about creating modes of connectivity between all Anishinaabe Tribes and Bands in order to communicate and share our histories, stories, resources, and memories.

Data

(1) Mouth of St. Lawrence to Montreal (Turtle Island)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Anishinaabewok Cree Cultural Institute	207 Rue Opereka Masimo	Ojib-Roupinok, Quebec, Canada
(2) Mouth of St. Lawrence to Montreal (Turtle Island)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Native Montreal - Montreal Autochtones	1165 Rue Saint-Jacques	Montreal, QC, H4C 1S7
(3) Montreal to Niagara Falls	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Niagara Regional Native Center	362 Airport Road	Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L2E 1J0
(4) Detroit to Manitoulin Island, Lake Huron	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- North American Indian Association of Detroit	2700 Plymouth Rd.	Harford Center Twp, MI 48228
(5) Detroit to Sault Ste. Marie (St. Marie)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Ojibwe Cultural Foundation	15 5th Highway 851 Rd.	Manitoulin, ON P7M 1S5, Canada
(6) Sault Ste. Marie to Duluth (Spirit Island)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Ashkumeshong Anishinaabek Community Center	27 Reserve Rd.	Naughton, ON P5M 2M0, Canada
(7) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Chippewa Center	4000 S. Broadway	Chippewa, MI 49804
(8) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Makomak Cultural Heritage Center	11133 Marsh Rd.	Chippewa, MI 49804
(9) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center	6416 Cornucopia Rd.	Grand Marais, WI 54801
(10) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Ewing Museum & Cultural Center	2005 N. West Bay Shore Dr.	Suttons Bay, MI 49882
(11) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Keweenaw Anishinaabe Interpretive Center	353 Arthur Street	Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(12) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Ojibwe & Cree Cultural Center	150 Broadview/Anishinaabe	Tombich, ON P7M 1S5
(13) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Keweenaw Heritage Center	150 Broadview/Anishinaabe	Tombich, ON P7M 1S5
(14) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- George W. Brown JRG Ojibwe Museum & Cultural Center	603 Peace Pipe Rd.	Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538
(15) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Mississippi Indian Burial Living Arts & Culture Center	603 Peace Pipe Rd.	Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538
(16) Duluth to Spirit Island (Duluth)	Anishinaabe Cultural Centers	- Great Lakes Indian Arts and Crafts Commission	17002 Maple Street	Oshkosh, WI 54901

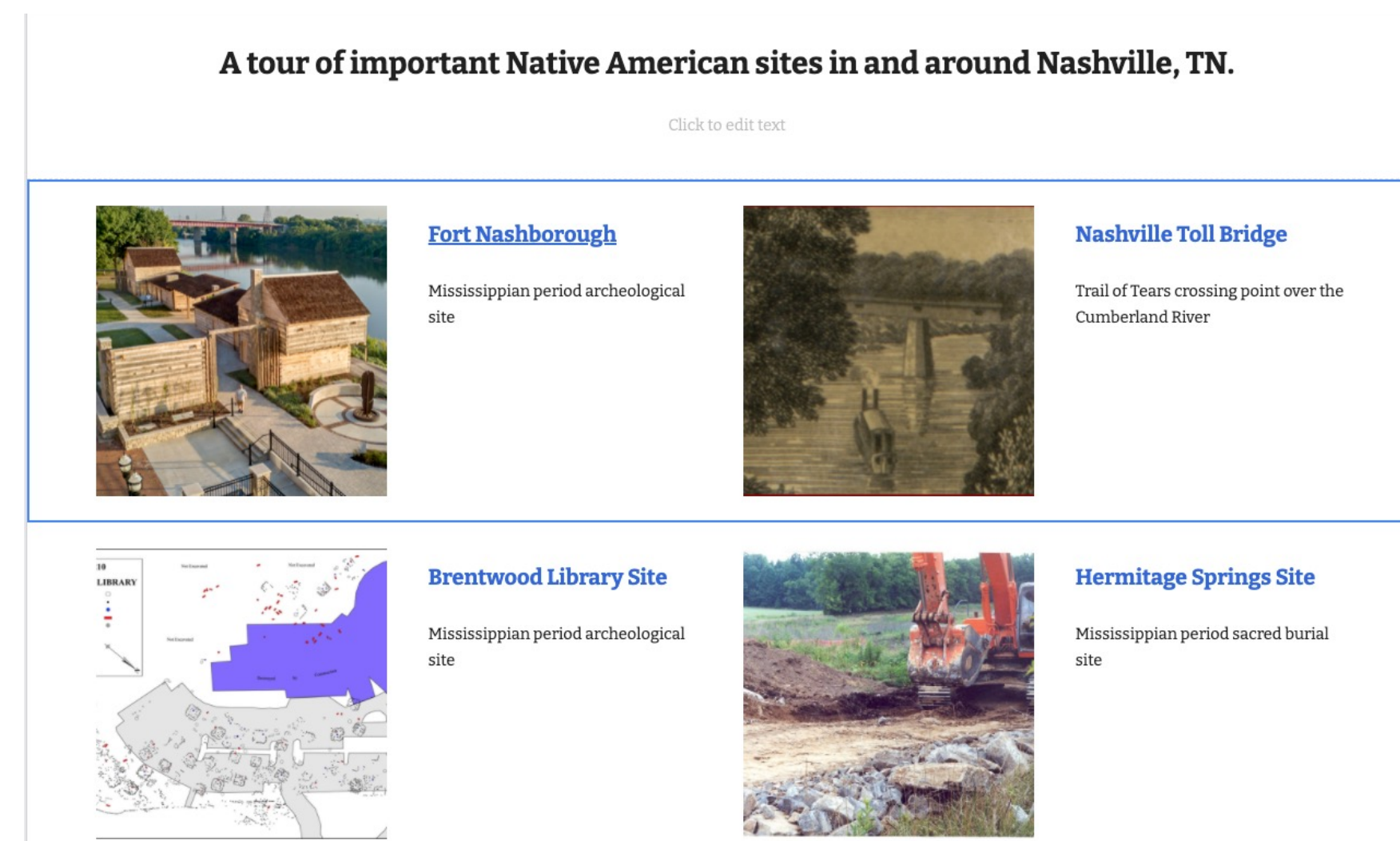
Data was color coded into regions of the journey so it could be organized by either type or location.

Data was collected on the following:

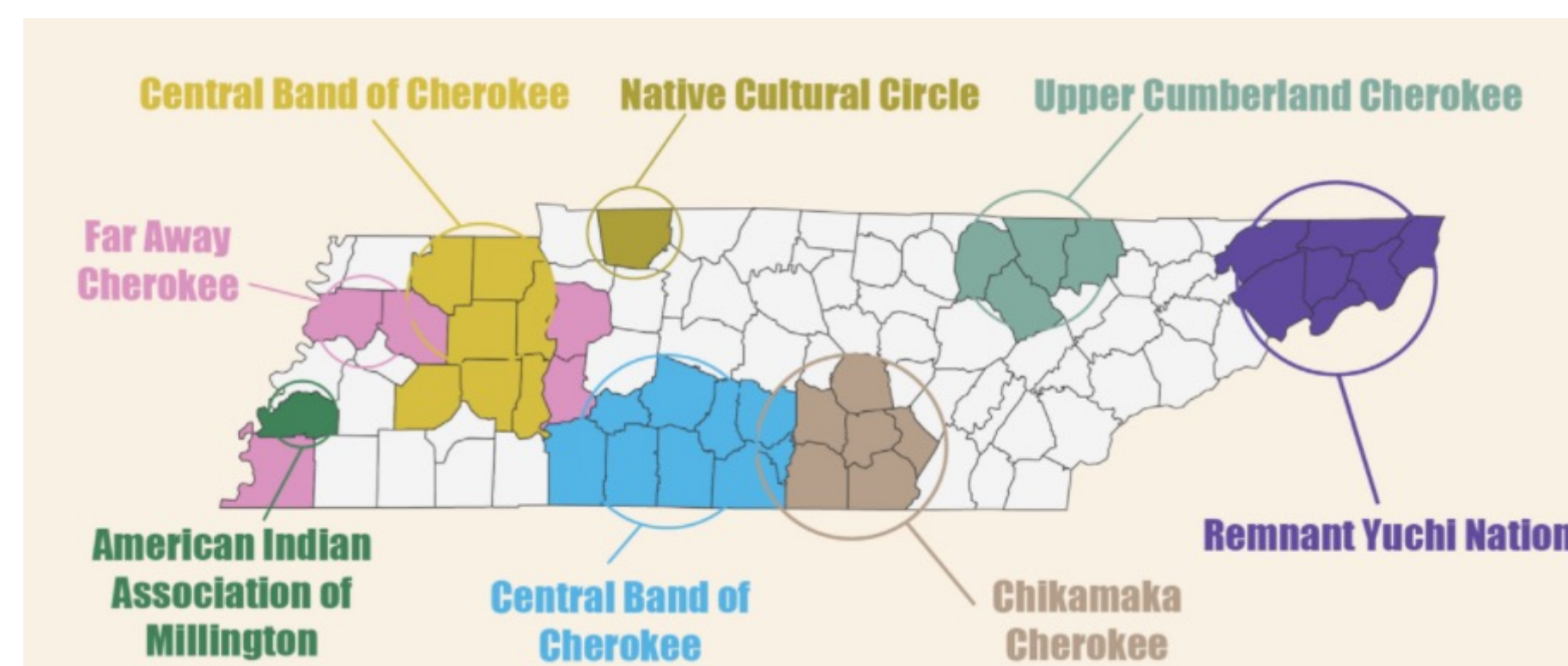
- Native and First Nations Cultural Centers
- Museums with strong Native and First Nations collections
- Colleges with Native Studies programs
- Local historic centers
- Sacred sites
- Cemeteries
- Reservation lands
- Artist residencies

Class Projects

Local Native American data was used to test digital strategies and platforms. Students in my FYWS created a website based on “Nashville Sites” a walking-tour company that provides free themed tours highlighting Nashville history. We supplemented their menu by creating a “Real Native Nashville” tour. In addition to the written text, we used the podcasting studio at the Curb Center to record descriptions of sites.



Students in my Text & Image class were offered the opportunity to create a billboard educating the public about Nashville’s Native history. This preliminary design combined TN county data with requests for land back from tribes removed by the 1830 Indian Removal Act.



Podcasting Experiments

The *Introduction to Indigenous Studies* Commons course was the testing ground for future podcasting. Students and guest speakers were recorded describing their relationship to Indigenous Studies and why they feel it is important. Two full-length podcasts were produced from course field trips: one to Mound Bottom, shown here, and one on a tour of important Native American sites in downtown Nashville.



Tour of Mound Bottom State Archeological Area with park guide and local historian Kevin Markuson

Continued Efforts

The next big step for this project is going on the physical journey. This summer and fall I will be visiting the major locations on the migration path creating a film, a podcast, and continuing to populate the StoryMap with collected stories, histories, and location data.



ArcGIS StoryMap scaffolding

Acknowledgements

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