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The PLACE Toolkit: exposing geospatial ready digital collections

Eleta Exline
University of New Hampshire - Main Campus, eleta.exline@unh.edu

Hannah Hamalainen
University of New Hampshire - Main Campus, hannah.hamalainen@unh.edu

Michael Routhier
University of New Hampshire - Main Campus, mike.routhier@unh.edu

Val Harper
University of New Hampshire - Main Campus, val.harper@unh.edu

PLACE Project Group

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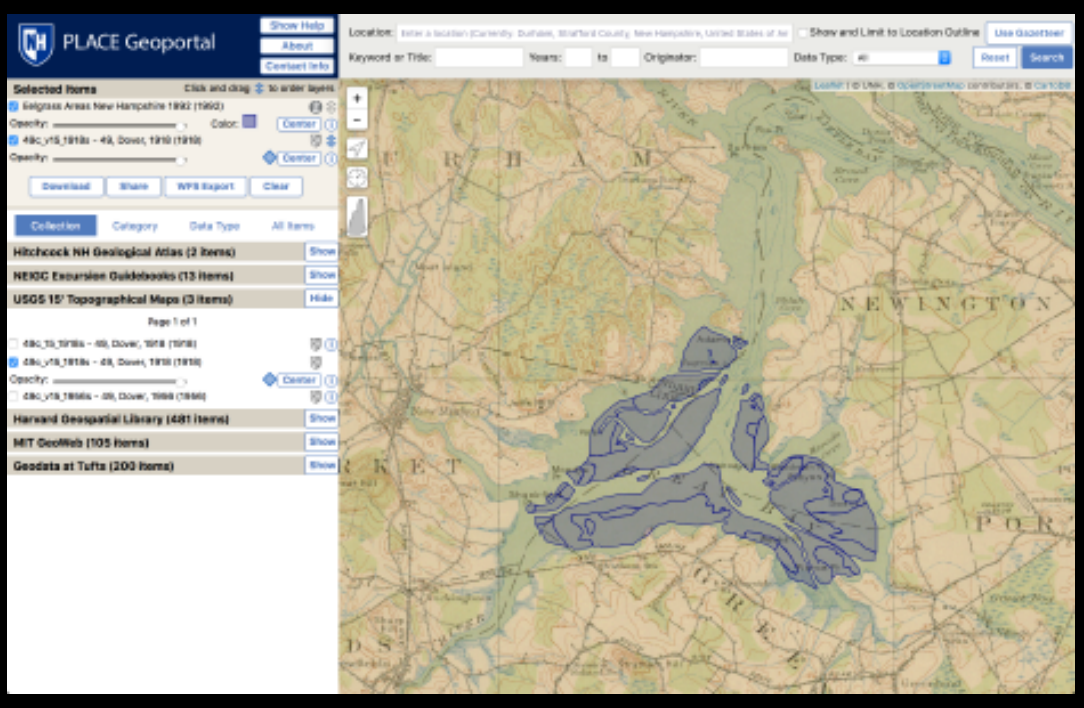
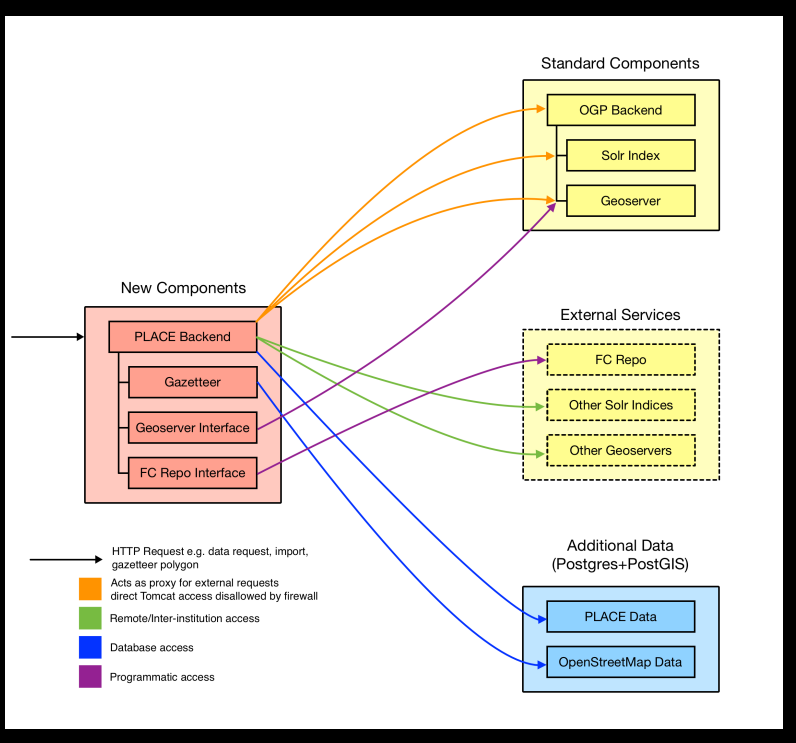
University of New Hampshire



Topographical map overlaid with surveyed eelgrass beds.

PLACE, the Position-based Library Archive Coordinate Explorer, is a University of New Hampshire geospatial data server and search interface that enables discovery of digital collections. Identifying geographic coordinates for "geospatial ready" digitized cultural heritage materials is key to the project.

PLACE is made up of four primary components: a backend written in Python using the Django framework, a PostgreSQL database with the PostGIS extension, OpenStreetMap's Nominatim location search tool, and GeoServer. In addition, Apache Solr is run for compatibility with a standard Open Geoportal installation.
Features include a gazetteer search, time slider tool, and the ability to toggle between high and low resolution images.



The PLACE Toolkit provides resources for getting started on similar projects, details methodologies for identifying point and bounding box coordinates for non-map materials, provides information on integrating PLACE with Fedora repositories, and outlines technical and skill requirements for using this open source software.

https://place.sr.unh.edu

Using Google Earth to determine bounding box coordinates for geologic fieldtrips.

Ilya Atkin, Eleta Exline, Gina Kahn, Hannah Hamalainen, Val Harper, Jessica Parr, Michael Routhier, Rob Wolff

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