Nicholas R. Chrisman collection: Gray literature on the origins of computerized geographic information systems.

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Geography amp; Map Division
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2017

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/gmd.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2017585117

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/eadgmd.gm017009

Prepared by Ryan Moore

Finding aid encoded by the Library of Congress Geography amp; Map Division, 2017

Collection Summary

Title: Nicholas R. Chrisman collection: Gray literature on the origins of computerized geographic information systems.
Span Dates: 1956-2006
Call No.: G70.2 coll Chrisman
Extent: 41 boxes (21 linear ft.)
Language: Collection material in English and French
Location: Geography amp; Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2017585117
Summary: Nicholas R. Chrisman is a pioneer in the field of geographic information systems, known commonly as GIS. From 1972 to 1983, he worked at the Harvard Lab for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis; he went to work in GIS research, instruction, and journal publications as an editor and writer. His forty-plus year career is represented in this collection of 41 archival boxes containing gray literature, manuscripts, letters and other printed material; it also contains GIS maps, computer files, software, and printouts.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Chrisman, Nicholas R.

Subjects
Cartography--History.
Historical geographic information systems.

Form/Genre
Manuscript maps.

Provenance

The materials were donated by Nicholas R. Chrisman in 2014.

Processing History

The collection was arranged and described by Yannick Grandcolas in 2016-2017.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright of the Nicholas Chrisman gray literature collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Nicholas R. Chrisman collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Geography & Map Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Nicholas R. Chrisman collection, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Nicholas R. Chrisman was active in the development of geographic information systems as a former researcher at the Harvard Laboratory for Computer and Spatial Analysis, where he was employed from 1972 to 1982. From 1982 to 1987, he was Assistant Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and from 1987 to 2004, Professor of Geography at University of Washington. From 2005 to 2012, he was Professor of Geomatics Sciences at the Université Laval, Canada as Scientific Director of the GEOIDE Network. He was Professor of Geospatial Science and Discipline Head at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia in 2013-14.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of 41 boxes of archival materials that span from 1956 to 2006.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is organized into a three series
- Series I Gray Literature, Periodical Papers, and Others
- Series II Files: Letters, Articles
- Series III Computer Listings

Description of Series

Container   **Series**

Container List

Container	Contents

Gray Literature, Periodical Papers, and Others

BOX 1-2   Harvard library of computer graphics, mapping collection, Laboratory for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis, Vol. 1-18. with bookmarks. 1979-1981

BOX 1-2   Gray literature papers and periodical publications 1969 – 1980

      Interstate 57, Corridor selection study. University of Wisconsin, 1969

BOX 1-2   Gray literature papers and periodical publications 1969 – 1980

      Interstate 57, Corridor selection study. University of Wisconsin, 1969

      Computer atlas of Bangla Desh. Department of geography, Oneonta, New-York, 1972. (LoC property)

      Computer cartography, Association of American Geographers, Washington, D.C., 1972

      An automated fuzzy reasoning algorithm. University of Bristol. 1980

BOX 1-2   Dossier John Snyder: contain originals maps graphic slides, folded maps, satellite imagery 1976-1982

BOX 3   Gray literature papers and periodical publications 1974 –1991

      Geological survey, research 1974, U.S. Dept. of the Interior

      Remote sensing of the electro magnetic spectrum. 4. 1977

      USGS papers 1982-1990

      Letter from PR David Rhind and Ordnance survey annual report 1990/1991. Southampton. U.K

BOX 3   François Bouillé papers n/a

      Computer and Geosciences. Vol. 2.

      Structure des phénomènes géologiques et archivage en banque de données

      Geological simulation using SIMULA. 1976.

      Thesis: Un modèle universel de banque de données, simultanément partageable, portable et répartie. Université Pierre et Marie Curie. Paris. 1977. Abstracts in English

BOX 4   Gray literature papers and periodical publications , U.S., Canada and France 1972 –1997

      Geocoding '72, papers of the Geographic base file SIG sessions, 1972. Annual URISA Conference, San Francisco, USA.

      François Bouillé papers and periodical publications: 1974-1978

      auto-carto II, proceedings of the international symposium on computer assisted cartography, 1975

BOX 5   Gray literature papers, periodical publications, maps 1972-1990

      1st International Hypergraph-Based Data Structure, Lisbon, Portugal, 1979, with manuscripts comments in English and French from François Bouillé

      USGS periodical publications 1972-1990 and 2 maps: Index of digital line graphs, 1988, and Status of digital mapping, 1990

      Proceedings of the International conference on automation in cartography 1974, Vancouver, Canada.

BOX 6   Gray literature papers, conferences and files 1972-1990

      Files 1967-1987 :

      Bruce G. Cook, early Australian article 1967

      N. Chrisman, undergraduate Honor Thesis, Community identification in Northampton, 1972

Container	Contents

Census publications 1979

N. Chrisman, PhD Original graphics.

N. Chrisman, original PhD, Methods of spatial analysis based on error in categorical maps, University of Bristol, 1982

Correspondence with PR W. Tobler, 1987.

Waldo Tobler's PhD copy, Map transformations of geographic space, University of Washington. 1961.

2nd symposium on geographical information systems, Ottawa, Canada. 1972, a synopsis, D. David Moyer, University of Wisconsin

Papers from the 1984 annual conference URISA, Urban and regional information systems association, Seattle, Washington

The computer image, Donald Greenberg and al. 1982. ISBN 0-201-06192-9

BOX 7   Gray literature papers and files 1966-1987

Waldo Tobler's papers 1966-1977

Harvard papers 1978-1986

KNRIS user guide to the data and capabilities of the Kentucky, Dept. for surface mining reclamation and enforcement, 1982

Spatial algorithms for processing land data with a microcomputer, colloquium, Lincoln institute of land policy, Cambridge, MA, 1983

A survey of G.I.S., The American farmland trust, 1985

Polygon overlay in prolog, Peter Y.F. Yu, Image processing lab., Troy, NY, 1987. Attached manuscript letter to Dr. White

BOX 7   Files 1970-1978

Wichita falls consortium, G.I.S., 1970.

Harvard laboratory for computer graphics analysis, 1978

Article about PR Edgar M. Horwood, 1985.

BOX 8   Gray literature papers 1956, 1977-1998

Statistical symbols for maps, Map laboratory, Yale, 1956

Geomap final RFP 1983. (Reserve, U. of Washington libraries property)

Denis White, Carl Steinitz, Alternative future for minute man National historical park, Cambridge MA, 1985.

Point in polygon algorithms, Helaman Rolfe Pratt Ferguson, University of Washington, 1986?

Others

BOX 9   Gray literature papers, correspondence, periodical publications and book 1972-1992

Standard FORTRAN programming manual, National computing centre, 1972

Letter from PR P.A. Burrough, cooperation with Utrecht University.

BOX 10   Gray literature papers, correspondence, memo, periodical publications and book 1969-1992

Gray literature papers, correspondence, memo, periodical publications and book 1969-1992

Letter to N.C. from University of Wisconsin, 1987

Manuscript memo N.C. Auto-Carto 7, 1985.

BOX 11   Gray literature papers, correspondence, periodical publication 1962-1992

Letter to N. Chrisman from Polaroid Corp., 1982. Enclosed document Graphic Harmony not found

Document from Prime computer, Inc., Orpheus project enclosed, a geoprocessing technology integration, 1988

USGS letter 1992, with comments on Kottman's booklet Some questions and answers about digital geographic information exchange standards, 1991

Gray Literature, Periodical Papers, and Others

Container	Contents

U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Interactive expert editing subsystem, 2 vol., 1987

Thomas M. Lillesand, A proposal for the National center for geographic information analysis to the National Science Foundation, U. of Wisconsin-Madison, 1988

BOX 11   N. Chrisman correspondence and manuscripts: 1978-1982

Sidewalks / computation, draft article on National need for improved geographic information handling and Harvard lab. 1978-1980

Clifford A. Kottman, comments from N. Chrisman on Some questions and answers about digital geographic information exchange standards. 1982

Digitization calibration, letters from IOM-Towill, an automated digitizing service, 1982

BOX 12   Publications 1966-1989

The Lab book, Harvard, 1966-1973. With comments on Post-Its. Ring binder

Harvard booklet for the staff, 1976.

BOX 13   Files and Harvard papers 1972-1990

John Cloud, 1986-87

ACSM – ASPRS American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, awards, 1987

Hrvoje Lakatela original graphics, U. of Zagreb, 1987. Draft article for Dr. Dobbs journal, 1992

Kenneth J. Duecker, Land resource information system, Iowa Planning Land Use System, 1974

Thomas K. Peucker, article Geographic Data Structures with N. Chrisman, The American Cartographer, 1975. Digital representation of 3D surfaces, Office of naval research, 1976

BOX 14   Software and records 1989-2006

Odyssey note 1989 with sessions listings printed, 1991

Digital chart of the World 1.0 and VPFView, 3,5" and 5,25" disks, ESRI, 1992

MapLink software, 3,5" disks, 1996.

CDROMS Video interviews Charting the unknown, 2004-2006

BOX 15   Software and records 1986-2004

OSU MAP V2.0, PC 5,25" disk, Ohio State U., 1987

VORONOI Demo, 5,25" disk

MAP II, Map Processor, Apple MAC 3,5" disks, Wiley, 1989

MAP II, ThinkSpace Inc., 3,5" disk, 1992.

GISTutor, GIS World Inc., 3,5" disk, 1988.

Hrvoje Lukatela, letter with Auto-Carto 8 questionnaire, 5,25" disk, 1986

MICROCAM Demo, Mapping program, MicroConsultants', 5,25" disk, 1989

QTM Demonstration 3,5" disk, 1989.

Miscellaneous software copy on CDROM.

Harvard Lab interviews, 3 VHS tapes, ESRI, 2004

BOX 16   Files and Harvard papers n/a

Harvard Laboratory for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis Internal reports, 1974-1977

G. Dutton and J. Cohen, The Laboratory: an historical overview 1965-81, Harvard

G. Dutton, Current research at the Laboratory for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis

BOX 17   Gray literature papers 1972-81

Harvard Computer Graphics Week papers, 1981

Choosing and using charts, Gene Zelazny, 1972

Image understanding, proceedings of a workshop, Palo Alto, 1979

Engineering the 80's, computer graphics in transportation, 1981

Course notes, Brian J.L. Berry, 1980.

Gray Literature, Periodical Papers, and Others

Container	Contents

BOX 18   Gray literature papers 2/2 1972-81

         An overview and output examples, A. Babin and al., U. of Montreal, 1981

         Why space is important, Rockwell International, 1981

BOX 19-20   Harvard Computer Graphics Week 1982

BOX 19-20   ODYSSEY 1976-1988

         User's manual, vol. I-II, Harvard, 1982.

         User's manual, vol. 1-3, Harvard, 1982.

         Installation and testing guide, 1983.

         Topological polygon cycling, 1978, rev. 1983

         Files: Odyssey papers, index and notes, 1976-1980

         Paul B. Wilson, H.E. Wilkinson, Getting started with Odyssey, U. of Montana, 1988

         Denis White, The ODYSSEY system for display and analysis of geographic information, Harvard computer graphics week, 1979

         Cyclops Odyssey topological polygon cycling program, user's reference manual, 1983

BOX 21   Set of microfiches 1981-83

BOX 21   Gray literature papers and manuals 1975-86

         Harvard Laboratory for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis, Harvard Graduate School of Design :

         A report on the conversion of twelve urban atlas files, 1975

         Cartographic data structures, 1976.

         DOT.MAP, user's reference manual, 1978.

         Ted Driscoll, SOLARE, a computer program for automated modeling, 1978

         Proceedings, vol. I-II, 1983

         Dana Tomlin, An IBM PC-version of map analysis package, 1983

         Denis White, Issues in map digitizing, 1985

         Geographic information systems on microcomputers, 1986

BOX 22   Gray literature papers, files and manual 1969-78

         Donald S. Shepard, Thesis, A load-shifting model to reduce exposure to air pollution caused by electric power generation, Laboratory for Computer Graphics and Spatial Analysis, 1969. Article: A two-dimensional interpolation function for computer mapping of irregularly spaced data, 1969

         Computer mapping as an aid in air pollution studies, 1970

         SYMAP manual, 1973, with two plastic rulers

         SYMAP reference manual, fifth ed. 1975, rev. 1977

         Files: SYMAP/SYMVU test data

BOX 23   LARS Graphics, Landsat converted to Odyssey chain file format. n/a

         Harvard Laboratory for computer graphics and spatial analysis, Calform manual, V.2.0, 1978

BOX 23   Charting the unknown, files, articles and notes n/a

         Charting the unknown, files, articles and notes

         Topology 1859-1967

         Topological data structures, 1977.

         Map analysis package data structure, 1986-87

         Topological information systems, 1974.

         Dot Map experiments, 1976-78

         Networks analysis and software, 1979.

         Geometric computation, 1989

         Topology / algebraic, 1989

Gray Literature, Periodical Papers, and Others

Container	Contents

BOX 24   Charting the world files n/a
> LCGSA contract ESRI, 2004-2006
> ESRI contract, 2004
> Film and video conversions, 2004.
> Video transcripts
> Blad drafts
> Front matter
> Preface
> Permission paper work
> 11 chapters

Files: letters, articles and notes collection

BOX 25   Files: letters, articles and notes 1972-1978
> ARPA Network 1975-76
> LUDA Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System, 1974-78
> CV Computer Vision 1974
> JPL Jet Propulsion Laboratory 1974-77.
> BZIS, GGIS Generalized Geographic Information System, IBM 1974
> GRDSR Geographically Referenced Data Storage and Retrieval System 1972
> ESRI Environmental Research Institute, DIMECNV, sketchbook 1976
> PILLAR, Canada 197?
> Thomas C. Waugh, GIMMS Geographic Information Manipulation and Mapping System, 1973?
> Topo USGS, 1977-78
> WDB II, 1972-74

BOX 26   Files : letters, articles and notes 1970-1975
> CODES 1970-72
> COMPUTERS 1968-75
> DIME DOC Dual Independent Map Encoding 1971-75
> CGIS Canada GIS 1975
> NASA 1977-79
> ASPO American Society of Planning Official, 1976-77
> Wolf D. Rase, Subroutines for plotting graduated symbol maps, EDV Report 1980. Copy
> LBL Mapedit Fortran program users guide, 1974
> IMGRID Information Manipulation System for Grid cell data structures, 1976
> CSIRO Australia 1971-73
> MLIS Minnesota Land Management Information System, 1978-82
> David RHIND, Computer-aided cartography, 1976
> Kansas, 1977?
> EROS Data Center USGS, 1975
> SMSA Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, 1971-74

BOX 27   Files : letters, articles and notes 1972-1981
> William Warntz, Distance in the man-made environment, unpublished 1972
> W.R. Tobler, 1975
> Articles, 1975-81
> GEOFIL 1974

Files: letters, articles and notes collection

Container	Contents

NRIS Natural Resource Information System, 1973

BOX 28   Files : letters, articles and notes 1963-1981

Graphics 1977-80

Howard Fisher 1965-73

Landscape planning 1963-67

History of LCG Laboratory for Computer Graphics, 1978-81

Eric D. Teicholz

Dennis Preher

Denis White

BOX 29   Files : letters, articles and notes 1975-1984

USGS, NMD – DLG, LUDA, 1975

Turmoil GSD LCG 1982-84

Odyssey 1978-79

BOX 30   Files : letters, articles and notes 1975-2004

Stray programs 1981-2004

Foreign contracts events Philippines – Iran, 1976

Various proposals 1975-82

Flaky: Odyssey 1981-82

Endicott House: Seminars 1977-80.

Graphic weeks 1979-82

GE Time sharing access

BOX 31   Files : letters, articles and notes 1976-1987

Vu Great Originals Odyssey

DMA – TASC Odyssey 1977-78

Odyssey – DMA

CIRCE 1977-81

SORSA International Segment-Oriented Referencing System Association 1976-77

ODYSSEY documentation 1978

Historical code 1976-77

Denis White, Odyssey Computer Graphic Week 1979

WRR 1977-78

Scott MADRY 1983-87

BOX 32   Files : letters, articles and notes 1969-1980

Workshop Graphic Week 1979

Cyclops 1979

NUBS memory management module 1978.

Russel Seitz, Siberian fire as 'nuclear winter guide', Nature vol.323, 1986

Voronoi polygons subroutine, 1977.

GBF program conversion DIME to ODYSSEY, 1980

Iran DIME, 1976

Urban Atlas development, 1974-75.

FLECS user's manual, conversion program 1974-76

William A. Gates, 1977

Boston SMSA census (1939-1970) housing maps.

MacDonald Barr, 1984-86

NCGIA National Center for Geographic Information Analysis, 1988

Files: letters, articles and notes collection

Container	Contents

Rubber-sheet map transformation 1985-87.

G. Dutton, GG513 cartography 1984

Harvard Computer Graphics Week, 1979-83.

NSF Grant sponsorship, 1976

DIMEX 1977

LUTM – MIDI - SYMAP, 1977

Odyssey maps -1986

GIS 1975

University of Wisconsin, Senator Kasten proposal, 1986

Lawrence D. Mann, University of Arizona, 1986

BOX 33   Files : letters, articles and notes 1973-1998

Alfonso Govela-Thomae, Mexico, 1982?

David M. Mark, Digitizing topography

Miscellaneous: notes, convert, census 1983-87

GBF conversion system for Brown University, 1977

Dot map program listing

Oak Ridge National Laboratory, geoecology thematic maps 1980, Natural Landschaft 1982

Transparencies Odyssey

GBF Geographic Base Files 1973-.

Matrix processor 1976

Mapping, 1977-87

Cartogram proposal

CALYPSO 1976?

GIS surveys 1982-85

Bernard J. Niemann on Allan H. Schmidt, 1998

International conference on automation in cartography, 1974

World maps – data

CUTUP program listing 1978

BOX 34   Files : letters, articles and notes 1974-1985

Little's Creek

LUDA – Demo 1977

DOX 1974-76 programs listing

Historical files notes

Cartographic data bases

Counties maps (1790-1900)

Harvard – university of Bristol correspondence, 1980-82

RDW – NSF, National Science Foundation 1978-79

Correspondence 1974-85

TDS final? 1979

Tutorials 1982

Calform 3.0 1981

Color shading 1982

Rat tails notes

BOX 35   Files : letters, articles and notes 1971-1982

Lisbon seminar, French and English papers, 1979

Multi. Var. Maps

Files: letters, articles and notes collection

Container	Contents

Redistricting 1965-
INPOM Interactive Polygon Mapping Program, 1974
W.R. Franklin, 1980-82
Geoffrey H.Dutton, 1981
Geograf routines 1975
Geograf plans 1973
Inoperative
Geograf old ideas 1974
Geograf Dox
Modules Odyssey
Small answers 1979
Lab 1971-79
DIDS Domestic Information System 1979.
Odyssey Forest Service questionnaire 1979.
Union Pacific Odyssey package
TVA Tennessee Valley Authority stuff 1979.

BOX 36   Files : letters, articles and notes 1983-1989
Fundamental principles of GIS 1987
National Geographic Information and Analysis Center 1983-87
DCLRP Dane County Land Record Project 1986-89
AAAG 1989
Auto-Carto London 1986-87
NOS – CGS 1984-87
Ground water DNR 1984
Mound study 1985-86
Slide – Graphics
Zipper 1986-87
90 Cartogram
NSF 1986

BOX 37   Files : letters, articles and notes 1983-1994
NSF National Science Foundation 1983-87.
Standards task force 1985-91
CITAS China In Time And Space 1993-94.

BOX 38   Files : letters, articles and notes 1973-1992
Roots 1987-88 with 3,5" and 5,25" disks.
Whirlpool statistics 1982
Hades code, NUBS, bugs 1977-91
Ferenc Csillag (Ferko C.) 1989-92.
Teklicon IBM 1973
Dates 1988-89
Roger Babson 1981

BOX 39   Files : letters, articles and notes 1963-1999
Correspondance 1973-92
GIS program 1997-99
History of Department, University of Washington (Seattle) 1963-98
ACIO, A diagnostic test for categorical maps, Maptest 1991

Files: letters, articles and notes collection

Container	Contents
	TAC reflections 1987-88
	IGIS challenges 1987-88
	ODYSSEY license 1983-84
	The Odyssey of Homer, book
	ODYSSEY programs and documentation 1990.
BOX 40	Files : letters, articles and notes 1979-1992
	ODYSSEY 1983-92
	ODYSSEY DOX 1979-85

Computer listings 1970-83

BOX 41	Computer listings 1970-83