Use the crowd - georeferencing of old maps at ETH Library
Maps in Libraries 2019, IOS, Regensburg, 13 and 14 March 2019
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Agenda

- Portrait map department ETH Library
- From the box to the web
- 1st map crowdsourcing project (2017)
  - Workflow
  - Challenges and Results
- 2nd map crowdsourcing project (April 2019)
- Summary
Portrait map department ETH Library

- Since 1972
- About 400’000 map sheets, 1’250 atlases, 700 maps before 1850
- Thematic focuses: Scientific, technical and topographical maps and atlases from the 19th to 21st centuries: Single maps, map series, plans of cadastral surveying, city maps, panoramas, satellite photographs, etc.
- Spatial data from the Federal Office of Topography swisstopo
- Platforms:

  Kartenportal.CH  ETHorama  e-rara
From the box to the web

- Maps from the 18th & 19th Century have been digitized since 2013 and published on e-rara.ch
- Currently there are 1’349 Map titles available via e-rara.ch (11.03.19)
From the box to the web

- Various access and use of digitalized maps
  - e-rara.ch
  - ETHorama
  - Kartenportal.CH
  - Oldmapsonline.org

- Public Domain Mark 1.0
- New Interface upcoming for e-rara.ch: IIIF
Goals (project «Map on App»):
- Possibility of using the digitized maps of the ETH Library on all terminals.
- Creation of the prerequisites for georeferencing the digital representations for further scientific processing in GIS programs.
- Stronger perception of the high-quality scans on e-rara.ch in a broader interested public via the platform oldmapsonline.org
1st map crowdsourcing project (2017)

- Workflow
  - Harvesting metadata and TIFF-Files
  - Mapping and interlinking Publishing 1'135 map sheets on oldmapsonline.org and IIIFHosting (Klokan)
  - Using Georeferencer V3
  - Crowdsourcing period (planned): 10.01. - 30.04.2017
1st map crowdsourcing project (2017)

- Mapping

- Mapping e-rara.ch

- Mapping oldmapsonline
1st map crowdsourcing project (2017)

- Challenges
  - Mapping metadata
  - Community Building
  - Unknown quality of public georeferenced data
  - Sustainable interest
1st map crowdsourcing project (2017)

- Results
  - Support from the «Bildarchiv» Crowdsourcing Community
  - 50 participants
  - Few (retired) people did most of the work
  - High quality in georeferencing the map sheets
  - Georeferencing had been finished four weeks before end of planned period
2nd map crowdsourcing project (2019)

- Upgrade to Georeferencer V4
- 1’800 map sheets from 208 different titles (most of them atlases)
- Crowdsourcing period (planned): April & May 2019
- Main Challenge (preparation): Metadata (records) just for items (atlas), not for map sheets
Thank you for your attention!

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