



4D Merced

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Biographies



A. Katherine Shurik

Katherine has been the primary contact with community partners. She is a third year PhD student in Interdisciplinary Humanities, specializing in Digital Heritage Conservation and Anthropology. She holds 3 Masters degrees in Anthropology, Library and Information Science, and Geography, along with a graduate certificate in Museum Studies. Before becoming an anthropologist, her prior work experience was in the computer industry including: technical support, computer graphics, technical writing, and database administration. Therefore, she is looking to interconnect anthropological research with her computer expertise.

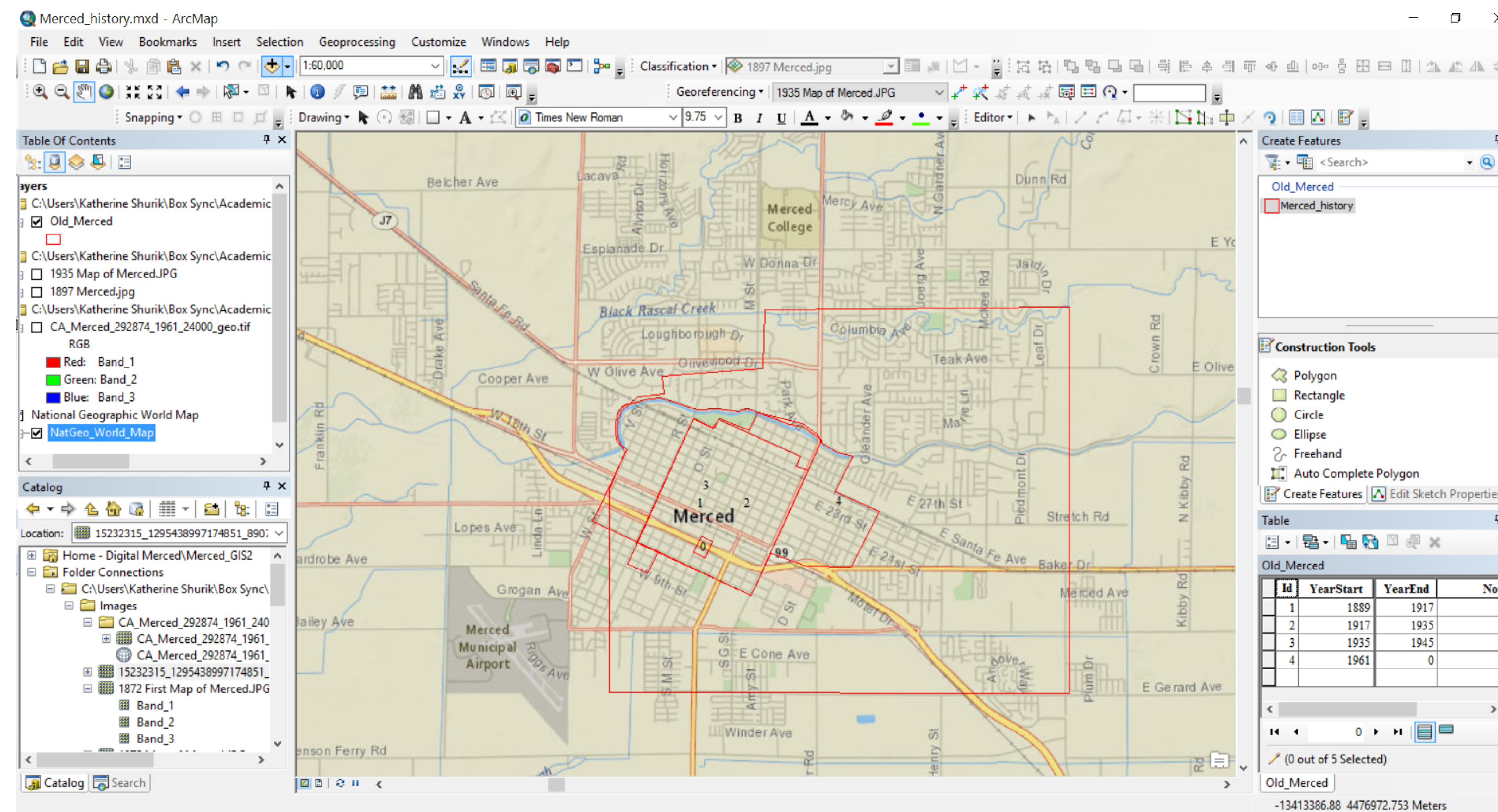


Maria Elena Arias-Zelidon

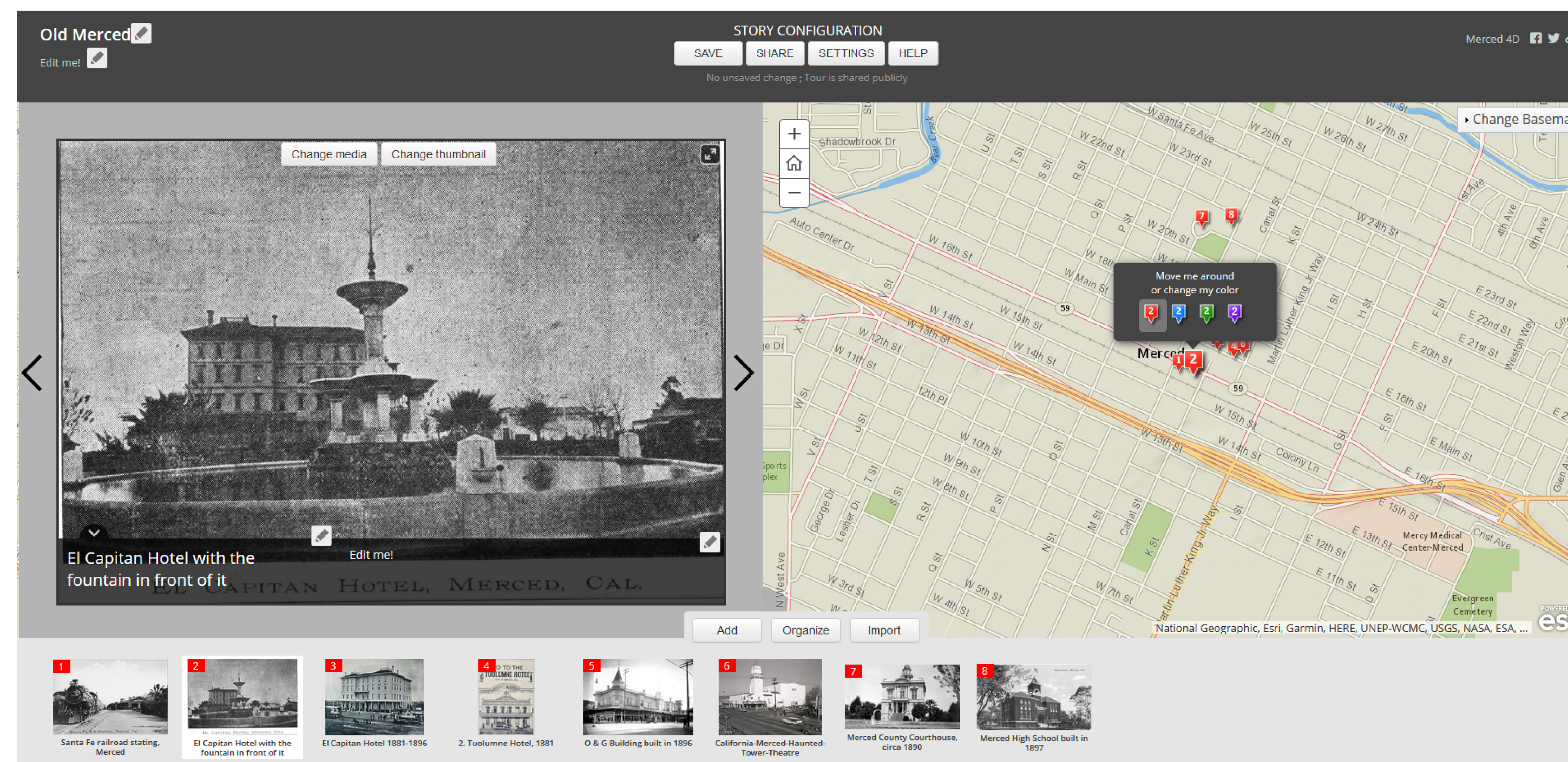
Maria is a second year PhD student in Interdisciplinary Humanities Program at UC Merced. She studied and worked on her intellectual passions: architecture, design, business administration, and literature. In El Salvador, she learned about the many faces of misery. To change this, she worked as a volunteer to establish and promote the creation of sustainable micro-enterprises. In addition, she has labored as much in the public sector as in the private in her native country and the United States. In both countries, she has also been involved in artistic and cultural activities of nonprofit organizations. This continuous contact with heritage have reinforced her appreciation for multiculturalism and diversity.

Abstract

Establishment of Virtual Merced in 4-D will expand the knowledge about central California's cultural heritage and the relations between it and the world wide web. This project is intended to tell stories about Merced's rich history. Cartography and map-making are very important activities in the history of humanities as well as in people's daily lives. Our purpose is to build a 4-D map of Merced, and thereby link Merced with the online community worldwide. This will permit us to use old maps of Merced to travel back in time where the fourth dimension of time will be added.



Areas in Merced over different time periods done in ArcGIS



Major downtown historical places of Merced, some of which do not exist any longer done in Story Maps online

Community Partners

- Merced County Courthouse Museum
- Merced Visitor Center
- Merced Multicultural Arts Center
- Merced Historical Society
- Merced College

Scope of the Project

- Generates increased tourism
- Create a platform for future research of Merced's socio-cultural history accessible from both computer and in situ via smart-phone interactive interface
- Communicates the historical narrative of Merced both locally and worldwide
- Provides a method for telling and retelling the story of Merced that is sensitive to current and emerging technologies, such as mobile. Thus its use and dissemination can be assured of ongoing, worldwide accessibility.

Methods

Use of Esri's ArcGIS and Story Maps for display of historical parts of Merced

Maps will include:

- Historical narrative
- Photography (both modern and historical)
- Video interviews about historical events
- Links to cultural organizations

QR codes will be posted on physical buildings that are displayed on the map, thus connecting the individual on the street to historical and augmented reality information about the buildings including photos and videos accessed via smart phone/tablet.