

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/bodies-and-structures/>

This video describes the collaboration between scholars Kate and the narrator, which began in 2016 at a conference. Both were interested in applying spatial theory and critical human geography to the study of the Japanese Empire in East Asian history. Their discussions led to the formation of a reading group and eventually the idea to create an online platform for annotating primary sources. They discovered the potential of the Scaler platform, which allowed for interactive annotations and multimedia presentations of research.

The scholars sought to move away from a singular narrative of history to one that incorporates multiple perspectives, emphasizing the importance of understanding various historical actors' experiences of space. They aimed to uncover the processes involved in mapping, highlighting how maps are constructed rather than mere representations of reality.

The project also emphasized non-linearity, allowing users to explore materials in a way that encourages personal engagement and interpretation. The digital scholarship project seeks to blend traditional scholarship with new tools to foster collaborative research and a broader understanding of historical contexts.

Ultimately, the scholars highlight the richness of materials available for studying spatial dimensions in history and the importance of collaborative efforts in historical inquiry. They encourage a nuanced understanding of history as an evolving conversation shaped by diverse experiences and interpretations.