

**New Tools, New Knowledge:  
The Potential of GIS for Historical and Cultural Studies**

David J. BODENHAMER

The Polis Center, Indiana University Purdue University, Indianapolis, U.S.A.

[intu100@iupui.edu](mailto:intu100@iupui.edu)

Over the past decade scholars in the humanities and social sciences have explored how to apply geographic information systems to their disciplines. Much of this effort has centered on the development of large spatially enabled databases in the form of community and cultural information systems, historical GIS, and digital atlases. How do spatial technologies create new landscapes and perspectives, and what is their potential to reinvigorate and enhance heritage and cultural scholarship and practice?