Starting a Survey of the Map Special Collection at Yale University

Objective: To determine the condition of Yale’s rare map collection through a needs assessment using a random sampling methodology.

Pre-Survey Issues:
- Lack of electronic cataloging
- Local call numbering system
- Environmental conditions
- Access issues due to limited space
- General disorganization

Survey Terminology:
Maps - Flat, Rolled, Covers, and Atlases
Damage Types - Brittle, Discoloration, Splits/Breaks, Iron Gall, Copper Pigments, Creases, Adhesives, Water Damage, Mold, Foxing, and Staining

Created Survey Tool in FileMaker Pro
- Included Bound and Unbound material
- Used numbering system to rank damage

Completed pilot survey to assure suitability of survey instrument

Katherine Risseeuw, MSIS, CAS Candidate, School of Information
Tara Kennedy, Field Supervisor, Yale Preservation Field Services Librarian
Ellen Cunningham-Kruppa, Faculty Supervisor, Kilgarlin Center Director