The immense, open spaces of the Great Plains powerfully shaped and continue to define our region’s people and cultures. The land created a need for maps and a fascination with “place” that has never left us. From the earliest Pawnee star charts to cadastral surveys, from the first Burlington route maps to the latest digital cartography and remote sensing, we have used maps to make sense of space and place.

“Mapping” as a metaphorical concept has also proved valuable to humanists and others attempting to understand our region. This Symposium invites exploration of how place and mapping influence Great Plains identity, culture, economy, agricultural practices, natural resources, environmental issues, business strategy, art and creative expression, literature, social movements, politics, and more. We invite proposals on any of these topics for paper presentations, roundtables, workshops, chain-reaction panels, lightning-round sessions, or other formats (deadline Oct. 14).

WITH:

Susan Maher, author of Deep Map Country: Literary Cartography of the Great Plains

Dan Cole, chief cartographer of the Smithsonian Institution, co-author of Cartographic Interactions between Indigenous Peoples, Government, and Academia

Susan Schulten, author of Mapping the Nation: History and Cartography in Nineteenth-Century America

Conference information and paper or presentation submittal details at www.unl.edu/plains/2017-symposium