

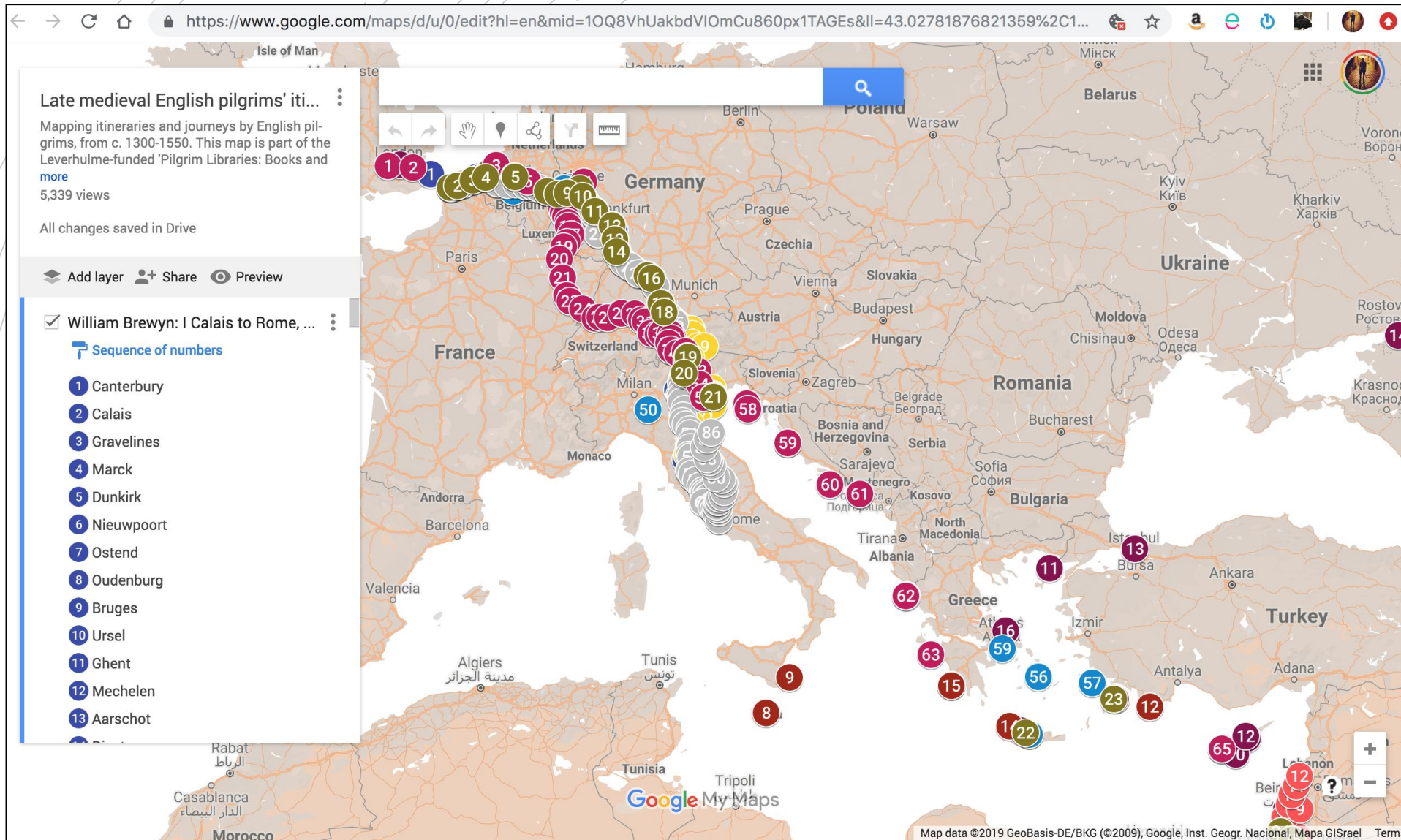
Digital Mapping and the 'Pilgrim Libraries' project

Professor Anthony Bale. a.bale@bbk.ac.uk, [@RealMandeville](https://twitter.com/RealMandeville)

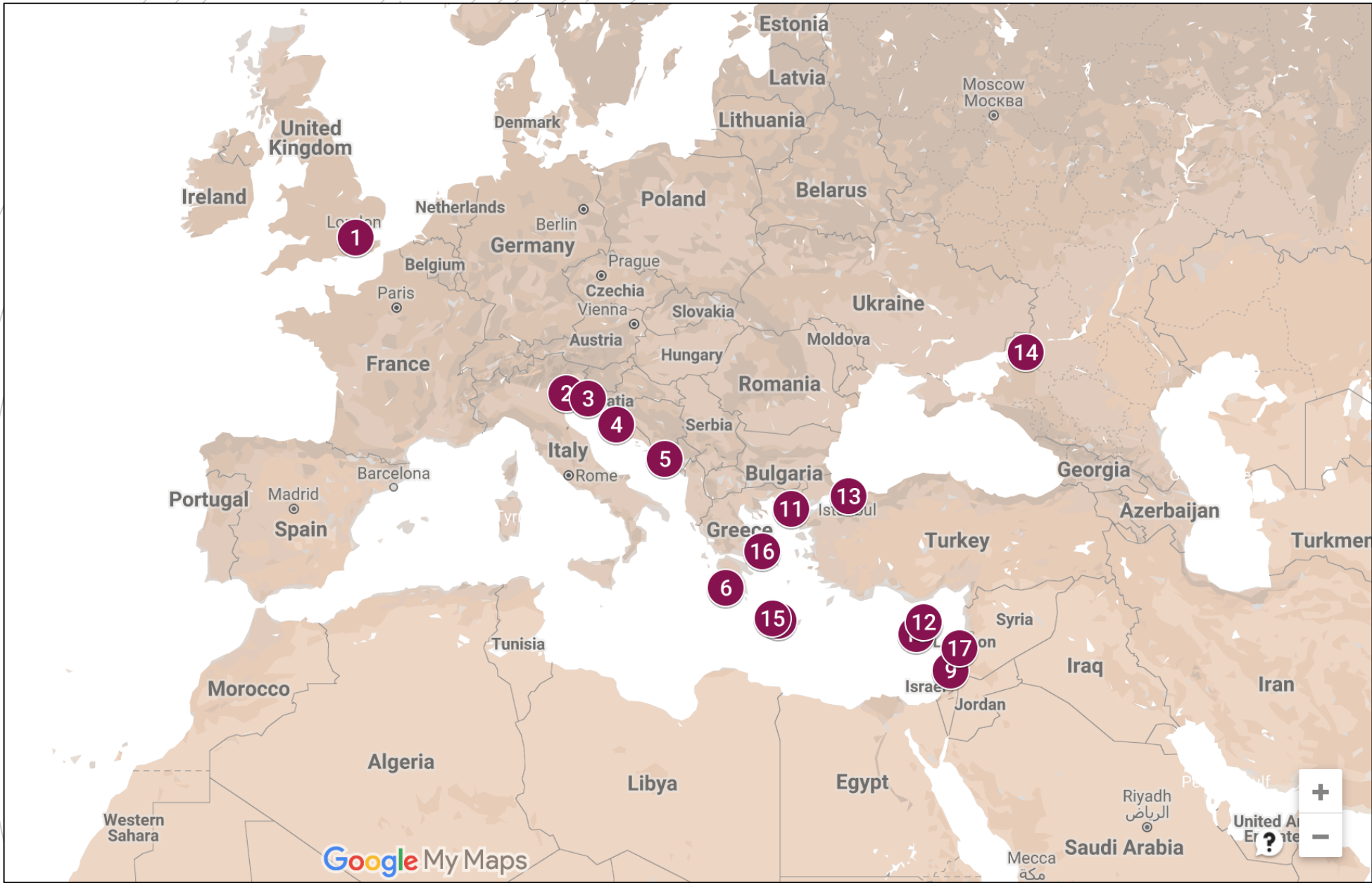
Birkbeck, University of London

Birkbeck Leverhulme
*Pilgrim Libraries:
Books & Reading on
the Medieval Routes
to Rome & Jerusalem*
network project
questions

- What are the archival, material, textual remains of pilgrimage?
- What was the role of books and other written material before, during, and after the pilgrimage?
- How have the textual remains of pilgrimage found their way into archives? Can we assess what has been lost? What is the fate of the institutional archives connected to pilgrimage (e.g. monasteries *en route*)
- How does the trans-national and often ephemeral culture of pilgrimage fit into the 'nationalist' and 'prestige' imperatives of many archives?
- Where were the pilgrims reading and where were they writing? Before, during, and/or after the journey?
- Can, or how can, critical bibliography help us better understand 'actual' pilgrimage versus 'mental' or 'armchair' pilgrimage?
Bibliography + 'literary-mobility' studies
- Outputs: include project blog (<http://www.bbk.ac.uk/pilgrimlibraries/>), digital mapping, workshops, and future publications.



First attempts:
mapping pilgrims'
texts with Google
maps: various late
medieval English
pilgrims' itineraries



First attempts:
mapping pilgrims'
texts with Google
maps: Sir Edmund
Wighton's
pilgrimage, c. 1470

AB-2018-04_WLA x | Inbox (40) - apbal x | Late medieval Eng x | Holiday at The Gra x | Maps | CARTO x | Arts Dean - Outloc x | Elton John: 'I am a x | +

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?hl=en&mid=10Q8VhUakbdVIOmCu860px1TAGEs&ll=50.56618128112139%2C3...

Late medieval English pilgrims' iti...
Mapping itineraries and journeys by English pilgrims, from c. 1300-1550. This map is part of the Leverhulme-funded 'Pilgrim Libraries: Books and more'
5,339 views
All changes saved in Drive

Add layer Share Preview

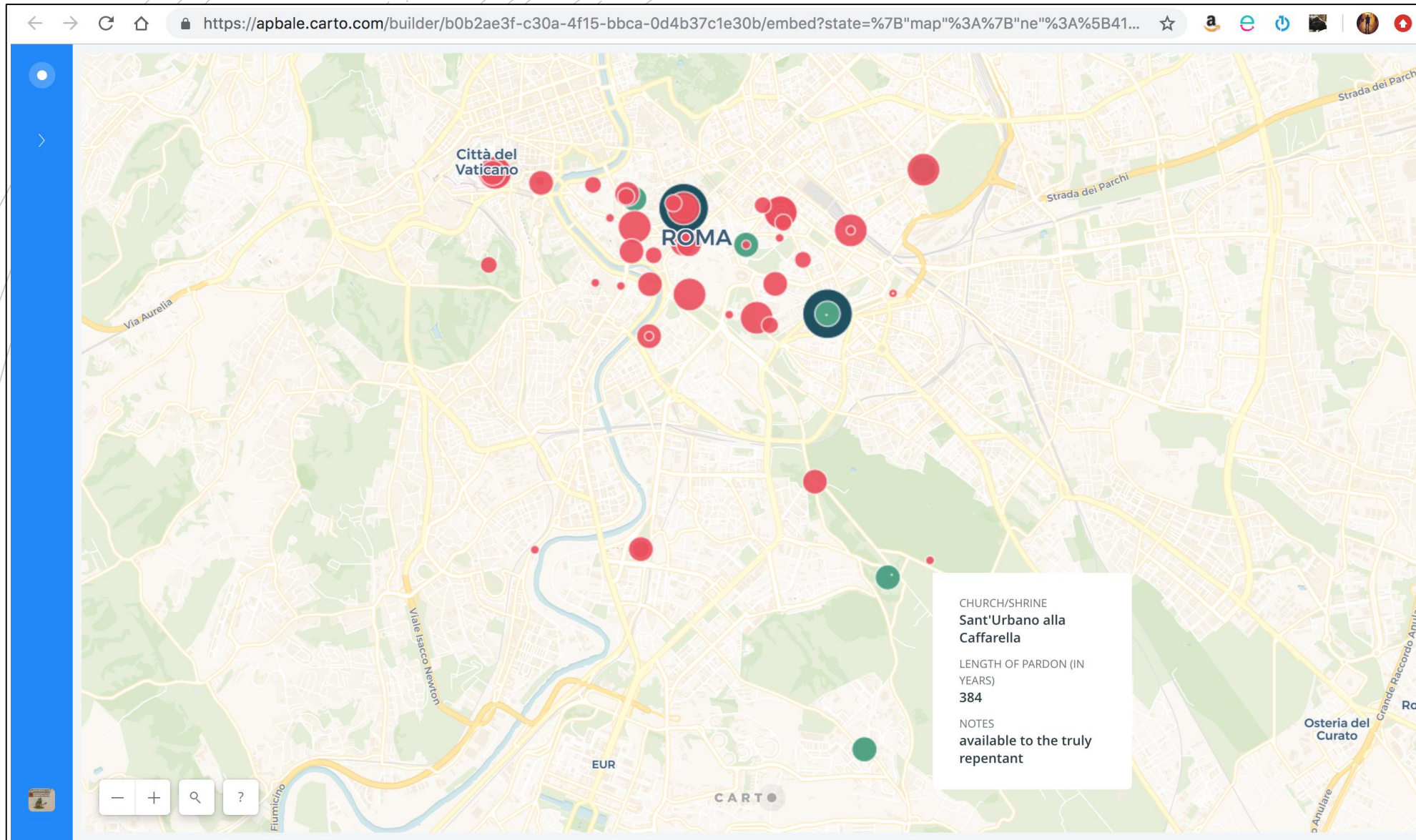
- William Brewyn: I Calais to Rome, ...
- Edmund Wigton: Manchester, Ch...
- San Marino, Henry E. Huntington ...
 - Sequence of numbers
 - 1 Gravelines
 - 2 Dunkerque
 - 3 Nieuwpoort
 - 4 Bruges
 - 5 Ghent
 - 6 Maastricht
 - 7 Mechelen
 - 8 Brussels
 - 9 Aarschot

Map data ©2019 GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009), Google Terms

First attempts: mapping pilgrims' texts with Google maps: the itinerary in Huntington Library MS EL 26 A 13



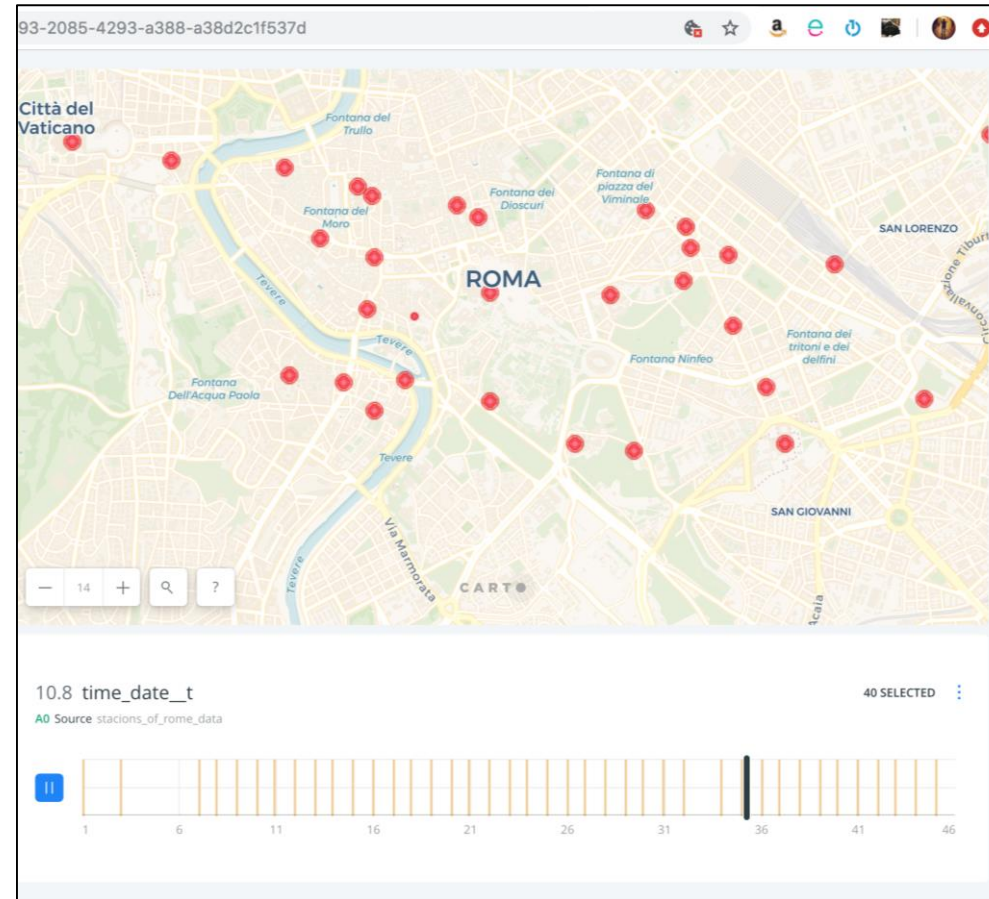
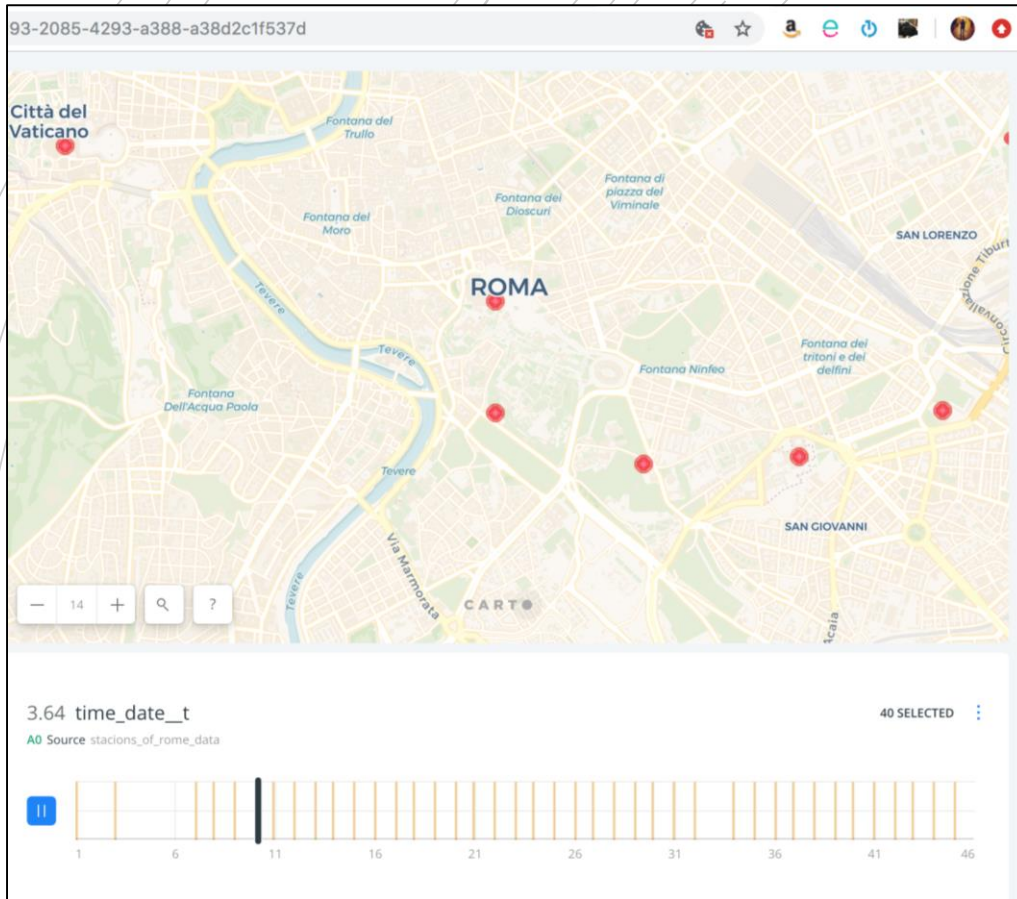
The Pilgrimage of Robert Langton, as printed by R. Copland (1522).



Weighted map of Rome by length of pardon, after *The Stations of Rome* (c. 1400)

<https://apbale.carto.com/builder/3d63c193-2085-4293-a388-a38d2c1f537d>

Animated pilgrim's route through medieval Rome, according to *The Stations of Rome*, c. 1400



<https://apbale.carto.com/builder/3d63c193-2085-4293-a388-a38d2c1f537d>

Pilgrim Libraries
conclusions
from our
network
meetings:

- Primacy of the pursuit of individual pilgrims through bibliographical research; rejection of heuristic 'pilgrimage' narrative.
- Importance of the historiography of our own discipline and in particular problematising instrumentality – carrying books, reading books, lending books, identifying books; surprising research – not what we thought we'd find; mapping helps us to query instrumentality.
- Need for polyglot scholarship and engagement with Byzantine and Arabic materials and scholarship; heraldry, military history, archaeology, print history, and open, global scholarly community to achieve this.
- Importance of specific and correct data about place.
- Importance of learning specifics of using software.