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Kenosha Mural Project

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Kenosha Mural Project

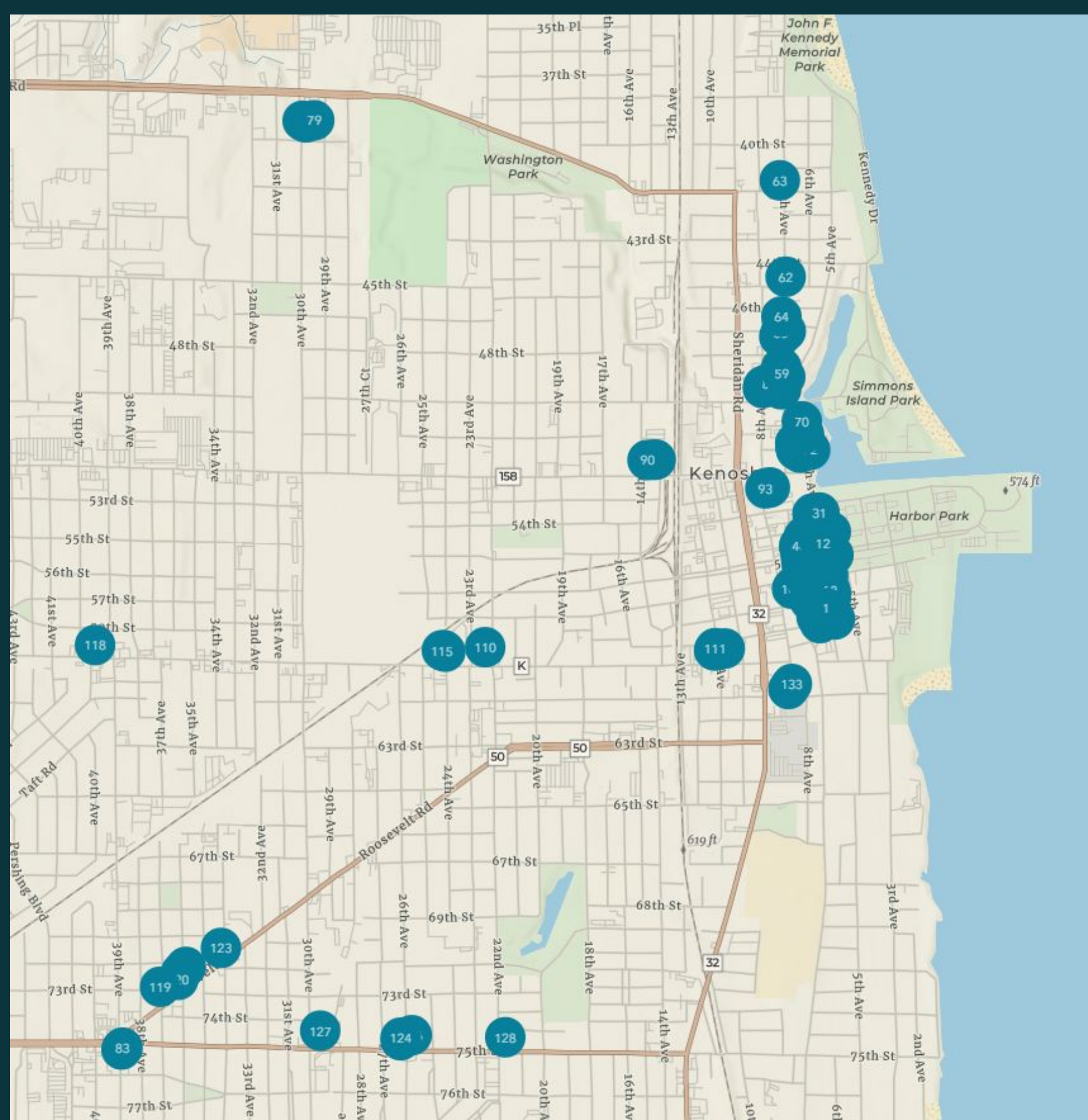


Photo of the Kenosha Mural Interactive Map



Justice for Jacob Blake Mural, Photo taken by Ron Larson



Photo of a mural taken by Ron Larson

Introduction

Within the past few years we have seen an increase in social justice movements within America, for instance, the Black Lives Matter Movement. Through our Community Geography class we have connected with a photographer, Ron Larson, a partner of Kenosha Creative Space, a non profit organization in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Larson began photographing the city of Wisconsin after Jacob Blake, a black man, was shot and killed by police. Larson spent the next few weeks taking photos of the different murals painted on boarded up businesses. Our objective was to create an interactive story map to display the murals around the city, we have done just that.

Creating a Story Map

Using the ArcGIS online story map tool, we were able to plot Larsen's photos across Kenosha as points. These points show a photograph and the location it was taken. This process was made possible due to organization of the photos by street, and consisted of comparing the noticeable details within the mural photography with Google Street View. With a population of roughly 100,000, Kenosha is a relatively large city, and it is also important to note that the murals were painted on temporarily boarded windows and doors. This being said, some murals were easier to locate than others, (thanks to address numbers or business names, etc.) however, some photos required much more time searching in order to properly identify a correct location.

Conclusion

Working with the Kenosha Creative Space has been a productive way to assist the people of Kenosha, and an interactive map is an excellent way for people to remember the importance of the protests and the value of the art it produced. Considering the large number of photos sent by Ron Larson, we are also detailing how future students can continue to add points to the story map so that it can be extended in the future.



Photo of a mural taken by Ron Larson

