Mapping Buddhist Monasteries: Modern Technology in the Service of Plotting Ancient Networks

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EAJRS, Newcastle
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Whither the map?

- Matthew Ciolek http://www.ciolek.com/
- ANU Asian Studies WWW Virtual http://coombs.anu.edu.au/WWWVL-AsianStudies.html
- Mapping Buddhist Monasteries http://monastic-asia.wikidot.com/

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The Silk Road and other routes

- The Silk Road
- other trade routes
- commercial and diplomatic expansion
- Buddhist monks
- developped by the eighth century

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C. Holcombe, “Ritsuryō Confucianism” (1999), p. 280

Buddhism traveled to East Asia along established trade routes, and swelled the pre-existing volume of trade by itself creating new religious incentives for travel, and a demand for imported religious articles. Buddhism legitimated private commercial wealth as a vehicle for serving sacred needs through generous donations, and Buddhism lubricated foreign exchange by overcoming narrow local prejudice with a radically more cosmopolitan, international, perspective.

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- the origins of the monastic institution
- Xuan Zang 玄蔵
- Nittō 入唐 monks: Saichō 最澄, Kūkai 空海, Ennin 円仁, etc.
- Holmes Welch on Chinese Buddhism, 1900–50

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- accuracy
- Google maps
- Google Earth
- the Open Street Map project http://www.openstreetmap.org/

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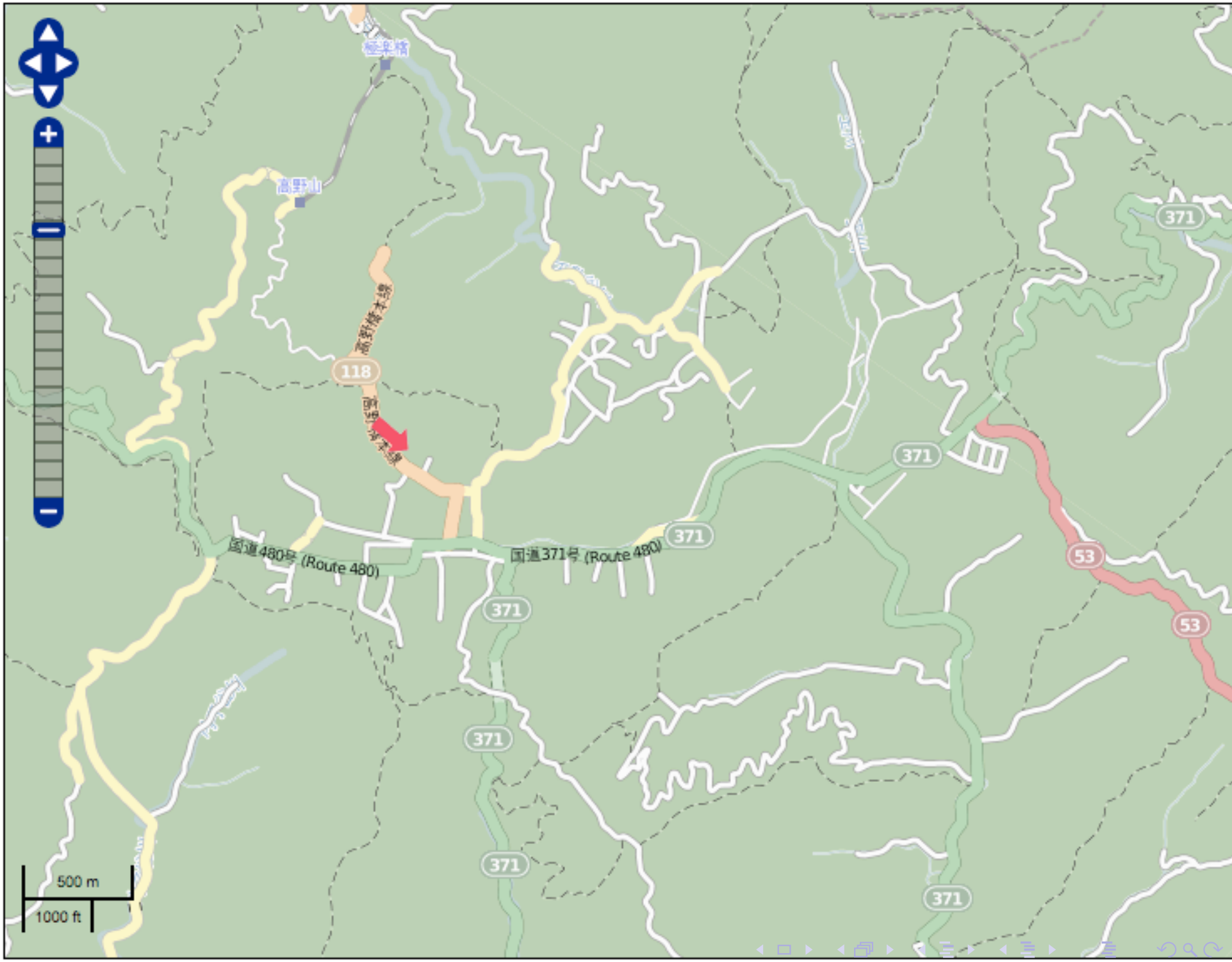
高野山
高野橋本線
118
国道480号 (Route 480)
国道371号 (Route 480)
371
53
500 m
1000 ft

徳川家霊台
光臺院
高野山
高等学校
文
寂静院
龍泉院
B
福智院
Tanigamine
谷ケ峰
宝城院
高野専修
学院
文
正智院
明王院
成蓮院
Kongōbu-ji
Temple
金剛峯寺
総持院
善修院
Daimonchubu
大門中部
Sainan-in
Temple
西南院
大門
案内所
Daimontobu
大門東部
壇上伽藍
明泉院
Nishiodawara
西小田原
Daimonseibu
大門西部
小倉屋
480
天徳院
A
Koyasan
University
高野山大学
Atagodani
愛宕谷
(株)角濱
総本舗
桜池院
寶龜院
遍照尊院
五智院
Bunkadori
文化通
文
Kōyasan
Elementary
School
町立高野山
小学校
500 ft
200 m

GPS technology

- civilian/military
- Frequences: 1.5GHz (L1), 1.2GHZ (L2) (=0.2m–0.5m)
- geo-tagging (photography)

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The gathering of the data

- eclectic
- GPS data
- the temples themselves: pamphlets, Internet profiles
- traditional scholarly methods: archives, etc.

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- Sambosachal 三寶寺刹
  Tongdosa 通度寺 Gyeongsang Namdo
  Haeinsa 海印寺 Gyeongsang Namdo
  Songgwangsa 松廣寺 Jeolla Namdo
- Punctuating the Nation

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Whither the map?

- Open Source versus proprietary code
- community involvement
- integrated database with multi-faceted sources of information

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