

The book is broken into seven chapters with chapters one and seven providing practical information for GIS Services, and the remaining topical chapters covering a distinct deployment of GIS in higher education. Chapter one, Democratizing Spatial Thinking Across Higher Education, serves as a brief introduction to the concept of spatial thinking before breaking down the history and operations of U-Spatial at the University of Minnesota. It provides an overview of the core services, supports, and infrastructure that U-Spatial has developed, including software and hardware support, data services, instruction, and outreach initiatives. The authors emphasize this holistic approach to ensure sustainable GIS services. Chapter seven provides practical support for creating a sustainable GIS centre with examples specific to Libraries, dedicated GIS centres, IT, departments, and others.

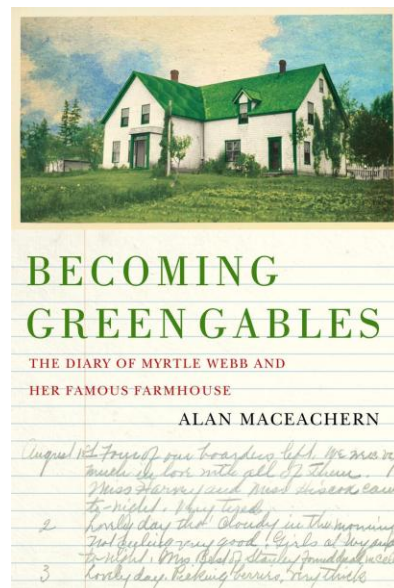
Chapters two through six focus on individual different ways in which higher education institutions can deploy GIS including Research, Teaching, Campus facilities, Community engagement, and GIS careers, respectively. The chapters are written to be accessible to a wide audience from students and researchers to administrators and policymakers. The chapters begin with a short introduction providing concise, plain language summaries of how GIS operates in each sector of higher education. Each introductory section is followed by diverse examples of GIS projects from around the world. These examples include a title, discipline, industry, organization, and location followed by a brief overview and colour image of the GIS application making it an excellent entry point to dive deeper into inspirational projects.

Both authors come with deep backgrounds in geospatial research and support. Kne's experience creating and running U-Spatial

shines through in chapters one and seven, where that experience provides readers with an exceptional how-to guide to building and maintaining GIS services at multiple scales. Both authors' experience is also evidenced in their ability to gather such a vast quantity of diverse GIS projects. Geospatial librarians and practitioners seeking to create, advance, or even justify GIS supports and services will find their insights and suggestions highly valuable.

The Spatial Edge is highly recommended as a tool for communicating GIS trends and impact for any geospatial practitioner in higher education. It provides a strong vocabulary and vernacular to describe how thinking spatially crosses disciplinary boundaries and can support how institutions approach academics and operations. Students and scholars will find the examples from across disciplines and organizations to be valuable inspirations for their own research.

Becoming Green Gables: The Diary of Myrtle Webb and Her Famous Farmhouse



MacEachern, Alan. *Becoming Green Gables : The Diary of Myrtle Webb and Her Famous Farmhouse*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2024. 268p. \$29.95 CAD. 9780228021490

Becoming Green Gables offers a multi-faceted reflection of the Webb family and their home in Cavendish, Prince Edward Island. As the title suggests, the house (and family) have deep connections to Lucy Maud Montgomery and her well-known book series, but are also entwined with the movement of economies, the building of nations, and the impact of history on a family and a single stationary house. It is a trenchant representation of a location through time and the space of the world on daily life.

As a text, the book is a fine example of modern historical research. Alan MacEachern, professor of history at Western University, has broken down the diary of a resident of the house – now used as a semi-fictional tourism site – to show how the family was impacted by the fame of Anne of Green Gables, how government programs were instituted to bring about change to the island, and how the community as a whole has shifted around the individuals and places involved. Through a series of extracts from the diary covering 1924 to 1945, we are taken through Cavendish's change from quiet farming community to bustling tourism hotspot, and the impact of depression, strife, and development on communities.

The writing style walks a fine line of academic historian and popular non-fiction, and pulls the reader into the world presented. It appeals not just to those interested in Prince Edward Island, but to anyone with an interest in rural living in Canada and the shadow of modernity. Where previous histories of the area have tended toward a dry recounting of events and listings of families, this book

focuses on a specific family in a specific place, and how the two inform each other within their community. The Webbs were part of making Green Gables House the attraction it has become, and the house is entrenched in who the Webbs were and are.

As well as being a fine example of history writing, the book includes a number of examples of geospatial information to enhance and expand on the narrative. Illustrative maps and aerial photography of the area highlight the text, enhancing the story of the changes to the home over decades. Photographs and other visual extracts give a sense of how those changes were met by the people living there, and the impact of those who brought the change. While the reader would benefit from a few extra maps to show some of the nearby areas mentioned (e.g. Rustico, Hunter River, or O'Leary), it still holds a strong place in incorporating geospatial information with history.

Becoming Green Gables is an eminently enjoyable and engaging read about the life of a building amidst the changes of the people within and the land around. Researchers in History and Human Geography will value it as an exemplar of narrative storytelling and diary interpretation; Planning and Economics types will find insights into community economies and the benefits and challenges of literary tourism. For the casual reader, the insight into the world that brought us Anne is both elucidating and poignant. With insights both deep and broad-ranging, this text is an excellent addition to any library.