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Google Geo Challenge: Tools for Online Geographical Referencing of Scanned Old Maps

To whom it may concerns

An important part of my job as head of the Ryhiner Collection is to make available historical maps (<http://www.zb.unibe.ch/maps/ryhiner/sammlung>). With 16.428 high resolution images and bibliographical records, this collection is one of the largest general sites. It consists of maps, charts, plans and topographical views from the 16th to the 18th century, covering the whole globe.

So far, it was possible to search verbally in map library catalogues. For a long time, map librarians need a graphical search. Moreover, there is still a gap between metadatas of libraries and GIS. The value of the work of Petr Pridal to map libraries is very important. In the implementation of new methods, involving the application of open source programs, his work is very useful for map libraries.

Unfortunately, my library is unable to provide financial support for his programme applications. With this letter, the library gives no commitments either financially or otherwise.

But I can confirm that the idea of the grant is interesting for me and many of other map collections.

Yours faithfully,

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