The Gardens of Humanity and the Amusement of the Soul: Quest for the Missing Map

Team or Individual: ______________________________

Description: This 15-question geocaching activity in Raleigh NC was created to illustrate questions that could be posed in creating and running any geocaching course. The course map and questions can also be found on ArcGIS Online: http://bit.ly/mXs1Rc.

Mission: Al-Idrisi (أليدريس), Arab cartographer and geographer living in Sicily at the court of King Roger II, in 1154, made a large, south-oriented mappa mundi of 400 Kg pure silver and precisely recorded on it all 7 continents. This world map was used in Europe for centuries to come, including by Columbus. An expanded edition was produced in 1161 entitled The Gardens of Humanity and the Amusement of the Soul, but all copies of it have been lost.

Maria Mercator and Anthony Azimuthal were on a quest to find a copy of The Gardens of Humanity. They heard that environmental educators would be gathering in Raleigh, and felt sure that they would be able to find it. Clutching their only clue—a frayed chad from a 1948 Esso Map from a restroom on the Pennsylvania Turnpike, they set out. Maria and Anthony set their GPS receivers to latitude-longitude decimal degree position format and set the datum to WGS84 horizontal datum. The Esso map contained coordinates of places that would help them unravel the mystery.

NOTE: All coordinates begin with 35 degrees north, 78 degrees west. The 35 and 78 are omitted from each of the coordinates, below.

1) Exit the front doors of the Convention Center on Salisbury Street. Make your way to .77353 North, .64062 West. How many posts are in front of the convention center? ____________.

2) Journey to .77394, .64060. Is the tree deciduous or coniferous? ___________.

3) Walk south and east to .77296, .63941. At what street intersection are you? _______________ and ________________.

4) Trek south to .77227, .63952. What tree species is symbolized on the metal posts here? __________________

5) Walk south again to .77204, .63955. What is the name of the plaza straight ahead to the south? ________________
6) Walk east to .77211, .63908. Whose confederate army surrendered here?
___________________.

7) Continue east to 35.77203, .63780. Who is the Shaw University Learning Resource Center named after? ________________________.

8) Walk southeast through campus to .77116, .63720, and identify the 3 flags that are flying here: ______, _____________________, _____________.

9) Stroll south-southwest to .76990, .63761. What building is this? ________________.

10) Walk through the parking lot west to .76976, .63863. When did the Civil Rights Movement have its origin here? ________________________.

11) Walk west again to .76966, .63924. What tree species are growing here in clumps? ________________________________.

12) Walk northwest to .77051, .64008. What kind of cable is buried here? ____________________________.

13) Continue uphill to .77170, .64053. What is the town at the western terminus of the Interstate Hwy referred to across the street? _________.

14) Cross at the light to .77204, .64072. What organization is housed here? ________________________________.

15) Continue north to .77304, .64058. What is the address of the Convention Center? _________________________________________.

Final Clue: “What is the real Garden of Humanity?” They found the answer on the bottom of the Esso map: It was 7 letters long, composed of letters that corresponded to the above clues as follows:

Letter 1: The last letter of the second name in the tree species in #11.
Letter 2: Middle initial of the person in #7.
Letter 4: Second letter in the name mentioned in #6.
Letter 5: First letter of the state at the western end of the highway in #13.
Letter 6: Last name in the street named after a person where the tree species are growing.
Letter 7: First letter of the street where the convention center is located.

The Garden of Humanity: __ __ __ __ __ __
**The Gardens of Humanity and the Amusement of the Soul: Quest for the Missing Map: Answer Key**

**Description:** A 15-question geocaching activity in Raleigh NC was created to illustrate questions that could be posed in creating and running any geocaching course. This is the answer key.

1) Exit the front doors of the Convention Center on Salisbury Street. Make your way to .77353 North, .64062 West. How many posts are in front of the convention center? **16 posts**

2) Journey to .77394, .64060. Is the tree deciduous or coniferous? **deciduous**

3) Walk south and east to .77296, .63941. At what street intersection are you? **Lenoir** and **Fayetteville**

4) Trek south to .77227, .63952. What tree species is symbolized on the metal posts here? **oak tree**

5) Walk south again to .77204, .63955. What is the name of the plaza straight ahead to the south? **Lichtin Plaza**

6) Walk east to .77211, .63908. Whose confederate army surrendered here? **Johnstons**

7) Continue east to 35.77203, .63780. Who is the Shaw University Learning Resource Center named after? **James E. Cheek**

8) Walk southeast through campus to .77116, .63720, and identify the 3 flags that are flying here: **USA**, **North Carolina**, **Shaw University**

9) Stroll south-southwest to .76990, .63761. What building is this? **Education**

10) Walk through the parking lot west to .76976, .63863. When did the Civil Rights Movement have its origin here? **15-17 April 1960**

11) Walk west again to .76966, .63924. What tree species are growing here in clumps? **crepe myrtle**

12) Walk northwest to .77051, .64008. What kind of cable is buried here? **fiber optic**
13) Continue uphill to .77170, .64053. What is the town at the western terminus of the Interstate Hwy referred to across the street? Barstow California__________.

14) Cross at the light to .77204, .64072. What organization is housed here? North Carolina Association of Educators__________________________.

15) Continue north to .77304, .64058. What is the address of the Convention Center? 500 S. Salisbury Street______________________.

Final Clue: “What is the real Garden of Humanity?” They found the answer on the bottom of the Esso map: It was 7 letters long, composed of letters that corresponded to the above clues as follows:

Letter 1: The last letter of the second name in the tree species in #11. myrtle = E
Letter 2: Middle initial of the person in #7. James E Cheek = E
Letter 4: Second letter in the name mentioned in #6. Johnson = O
Letter 5: First letter of the state at the western end of the highway in #13. California = C
Letter 6: Last name in the street named after a person where the tree species are growing. Martin Luther King Jr = K
Letter 7: First letter of the street where the convention center is located. Salisbury = S

The Garden of Humanity: E E ROCKS!