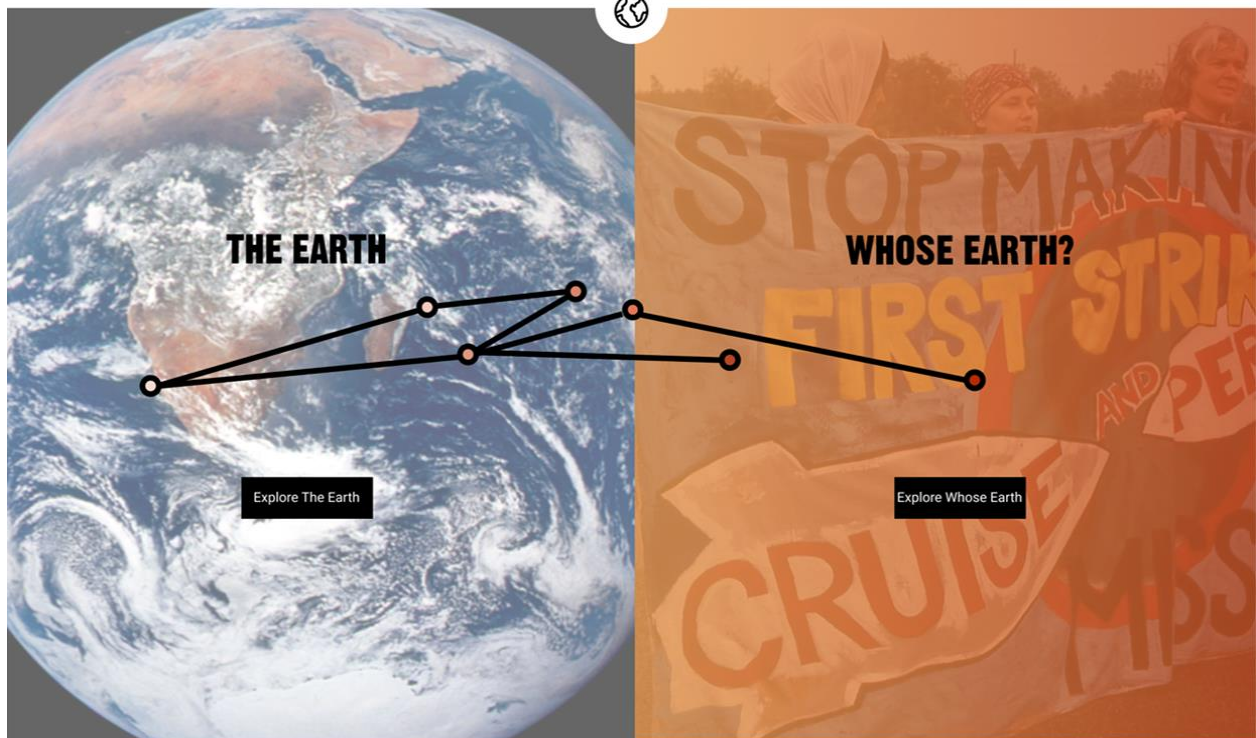


A People's Atlas of Nuclear Colorado

Edited by Sarah Kanouse and Shiloh Krupar



“A People’s Atlas of the Nuclear United States” is a three-year digital public humanities project that documents and interprets the relational geographies of nuclear materials developed and deployed by the United States. Seeded by contributions by scholars, students, and artists, the Atlas will offer the public an opportunity to explore, research, and document nuclear materials and ecologies of Colorado.

Powered by the Scalar publishing platform, the Atlas is organized around the nuclear fuel cycle, from extraction, milling, and processing to the assembly and deployment of weapons to the storage and monitoring of waste. It is structured to articulate scalar relationships—from the planetary to the body—and to simultaneously present cartographic, textual and image-based information on nuclear materials, in order to foster active interpretation and meaning-making on the part of its users. The Atlas seeks to be a living document that infuses discussion about nuclear policy and memory with humanistic forms of inquiry and public engagement.

Join Us!

We seek educational and community partners to continue to grow the online project after the launch of the pilot Atlas in Fall 2020. The Atlas includes several types of material: site descriptions, issue briefs, essays, artworks, and first-person narratives. Courses in Western, military, public, and environmental history; geography; environmental law and policy; and environmental arts and literature are especially encouraged to partner with the Atlas to further develop accessible informational, archival, and interpretive materials for publication to the Atlas. Community organizations may highlight their work by developing new or modify existing site descriptions and issue briefs. Individuals with ties to Colorado’s nuclear legacies may wish to contribute a first-person essay, while scholars may excerpt previously published materials and artists submit documentation of creative work.

Rationale

The stakes in assembling, presenting, and interpreting the legacies of the American uranium complex have never been higher. Throughout the Cold War, hundreds of communities across the United States and the world were involved in (or subjected to) some aspect of nuclear weapons production, from mining and enrichment to weapons production, testing, and deployment to decommissioning and remediation. These activities have deeply marked human lives and ecologies in these places, yet there is little public awareness to inform citizen and policy action around a revived nuclear weapons program.

"A People's Atlas of the Nuclear Colorado" draws together an open-source repository of interactive data sets, photo-documentation of sites and materials, accessible scholarly essays, and narratives of individuals and communities on the front lines of the domestic Cold War. The Atlas offers more narratively-rich spatial experiences by allowing users to explore the scales of operation and relational-thematic geographies of the nuclear complex, navigating the ambiguities characteristic of Cold War geographies and the political divisiveness of security issues.

Logistics and Personnel

The project currently is a collaboration between Sarah Kanouse, an artist and professor at Northeastern University, and Shiloh Krupar, a geographer and professor at Georgetown University. Raised near Hanford, Washington and in Lakewood, Colorado, Krupar is the author of *Hot Spotter's Report: Military Fables of Toxic Waste* (University of Minnesota Press, 2013), which explored the legacies of Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Rocky Flats. She and Sarah Kanouse co-founded the arts collective The National Toxic Land/Labor Conservation Service to promote what they call "seriously playful critical thinking" around the environmental and health legacies of the Cold War. The *Atlas* is an outgrowth of this work.

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