

Canyons EarthCache FUN

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

Al-Idrisi (born in 1099 or 1100, died in 1165 or 1166), full name Abu Abd Allah Muhammad al-Idrisi (الإدريسي محمد الله عبد أبو) was an Arab cartographer, geographer and traveler who lived in Sicily, at the court of King Roger II. Al-Idrisi was born in Sabtah, then belonging to the Almoravid Empire (modern day Spain). In 1154, he made a large, south-oriented mappa mundi known as the *Tabula*



Rogeriana and an accompanying book, named *Geography*. Taken together, they were named *Nuzhat al-Mushtak* by Roger, but *Kitab Rudjar* ("Roger's Book") by al-Idrisi.

Al-Idrisi constructed a world globe map of 400 Kg pure silver and precisely recorded on it all 7 continents, trade routes, lakes and rivers, major cities, and plains and mountains. This world map was used in Europe for centuries to come, including by Columbus. A second, expanded edition was produced in 1161 with the title *The Gardens of Humanity and the Amusement of the Soul*, but all copies of it have been lost. (source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_al-Idrisi- WIKIPEDIA)

Maria Mercator and Anthony Azimuthal were on a quest to find a copy of *The Gardens of Humanity*. They heard that educators would be gathering at the Canyons District Office, and felt sure that these fine educators would be able to help them. Clutching their only clue—a frayed chad from a 1948 Esso Map from a rest stop off of I-15, they set out. Maria and Anthony set their GPS receivers to WGS84 horizontal datum. The Esso map contained coordinates of places that would help them unravel the mystery.

Practice Navigation Whole Group:

N 40°34.880' W 111°52.901'

Historically, what was the method of delivery for this service?

Homing pigeons, the pony express, telegrams, etc.

Safety First --- Watch where you are walking. Use crosswalks. Don't get run over! Have fun with these questions.

1) Name 3 types of information you can find here. **N40°34.898' W111°52.783'**
At this location I am able to figure out barometric pressure, wind direction, and temperature.

2) Who's wise council can be found at **N40°34.952' W111°52.860'**
Ellen Degeneres is very wise and she can be seen by using this resource!

3) The travels found a monument containing a secret code, no doubt left by Al-idrisi, at **N40°34.994' W111°52.915'**

What are the letters of the secret code?
Jordan Credit Union

How tall do you think the monument is?

I believe this monument is approximately 7 feet tall.

4) What resources are available here? What is the technology component?
N40°34.987' W111°53.041'

Surplus resources are available at this location. There are many technology components to this building. For example, there are buzzers, lights, intercom system, and even security cameras.

5) What color is this line? What could you use this line for?

N40°34.863' W111°53.175'

There are two different lines located at this location. The first line is yellow. It can be used for many different uses; drug testing, balance beam practice, teaching geometry with line segments, teaching the color yellow, etc.

The next line is Blue. This line is used to name the train. It explains at which location the train will arrive.

6) Estimate the height of the object found at - use your shadow.

N 40°34.920' W 111°52.944'

Based on Ratios. $x/39 = 5/6$ $x=32.5$ feet high I think the flag pole is about 32.5 feet high.

What does this represent?

The pole being raised mean stability. The red of the flag stands for "blood shed." The blue stands for bravery. The white of the flag stands for purity. The 13 stripes stand for the 13 original colonies. The stars stand for the 50 states.

Jotting furiously in their notebook, Maria and Anthony rushed back to the Computer Lab. They were still stumped and still had not found the answer to the Al-Idrisi mystery. Therefore, they turned next to the Challenge.

Challenge:

“What is the real *Garden of Humanity*?” The two wondered.

First word: The name of the high elevation land feature directly to the east of the SLC valley.

Second word: The opposite of back.

The *Garden of Humanity* is the: _____