How to Build a Custom-Made Google Map
http://www.maps.google.com

Initial Steps

- Sign in to a Google account
- Go to My Maps and click on Create new map
- Enter brief title, provide concise description, set public view, click done, and EDIT to begin
- To access the main Google tutorial, go here: https://support.google.com/maps/answer/3045850

Adding Placemarks

- Enter addresses or GPS locations into search maps
- Clicking "Save to" & choosing desired map will create a new placemark
- Then enter map, click Edit, and click on placemark icon
- Add title and description in placemark text box
    - All placemark titles should begin with a year then just 2-3 words of text
    - Keeping titles very short and leading with dates will allow you to create a timeline effect in left-side box (placemarks in box can be moved around into chronological order)
- Click on placemark icon in box to change placemark image from the standard pin to something custom (Click "Add icon" to create custom placemark)
- Copy in URL for the custom Dickinson College / House Divided Project placemark:
    - http://housedivided.dickinson.edu/sites/files/2010/06/hdmarker11.png

Enchancing Placemarks

- Add concise text within placemarks either by quoting from published sources or by original writing
- Add images and YouTube videos to enhance text using plus ("+") button in Edit function
- Add hypertext links for relevant documents after quoted text
    - NOTE LIMITATIONS IN NEW GOOGLE MAPS: No rich text function; no HTML coding; no paragraphs
- To access the Google tutorial on customizing maps, go here: https://support.google.com/mymaps/#topic=3024924

Other Enhancement for Google Maps

- The most important additional tool now available in Google Maps is the ability to import data layers and to color code maps to correspond to these layers. Read about this function here: https://support.google.com/mymaps/answer/3024836?hl=en&ref_topic=3024924
- Use the lines / shapes icon to add lines or shapes to provide structure to maps
- You can also set the default view (Map, Satellite, Google Earth) and perspective altitude
- Click on link in map's right corner to obtain stable URL or embed code for sharing in blogs or websites
- Remember, you can also order the placemark stops in left-side box by dragging & dropping markers up or down the column