

STEVEN P. FRENCH, Ph.D., FAICP

Steve French, is a Professor of the City and Regional Planning and Director of the Center for Geographic Information Systems at Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia. He has thirty-three years of experience in land use planning as a practitioner and as a professor. His teaching and research focus on land use planning, development impact analysis and natural hazard mitigation. He is the author of more than twenty journal articles, three books and numerous professional reports. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners and a member of the American Planning Association and the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association.

Dr. French currently teaches graduate courses on land use planning and smart growth and the use of geographic information systems in planning. He provides consulting services to local governments and the electric power and telecommunications industries. He has prepared innovative land use plans, implementation ordinances and fiscal impact models for local governments and served as an expert witness in planning and zoning cases in several states. He was a member of the team that developed the EPRI/GTC Electric Power Line Siting Methodology and is currently developing an urban growth model to support electrical system planning for Georgia Transmission Corporation. He has been involved in a number of National Science Foundation projects that GIS to model earthquake damage. He is currently leading the effort to develop quantitative social and economic impact models of earthquake damage for the Mid-America Earthquake Center.

Dr. French completed his Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980. Prior to that he was a professional planner in Colorado, where he served as the Land Use Administrator for Garfield County. From 1981-1991 Dr. French was a member of the City and Regional Planning faculty at California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo. During the 1987-88 academic year, Dr. French served as the Visiting Professor of Resources Planning in the Civil Engineering Department at Stanford University.

Recent Projects

Coweta County Comprehensive Plan

Part of the team that developed an innovative 2026 Comprehensive Plan for this rapidly suburbanizing county. Led the effort to develop an effective growth management strategy to implement the plan. Provided testimony before the County Commission and multiple citizen groups. Under contract to Jordan, Jones and Goulding, Inc.

East Kentucky Power

Provided expert testimony on electric power transmission line siting methodology before the Kentucky Public Service Commission. Under contract to Photo Science, Inc.

EPRI/Georgia Transmission Corporation Siting Methodology

Member of team that developed a methodology and GIS-based software for siting electric power transmission lines. Led the section on modeling impacts on the built environment and communities. Under contract to Georgia Transmission Corporation.

Dynegy Zoning

Analyzed the noise and air pollution impacts and procedural issues related to the rezoning to allow peak load power plants in Heard County on nearby residences in Coweta County. Under contract to Coweta County.

Whisper on the River

Worked with the developer, architect and engineers to redesign a 113-acre mixed use development project. Provided written analysis to the Atlanta Regional Commission as a part of the Development of Regional Impact review and expert testimony before the Cobb County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners. Under contract to Goodman Properties.

North Springs Mixed-Use Development

Worked with the developer, architect and neighborhood groups to shape a high density, mixed-use project adjacent to the North Springs MARTA station in Sandy Springs. Provided expert testimony before the Fulton County Planning Commission and County Commission. Under contract to Roberts Properties.

Tyrone Square

Expert witness on the impact of a commercial project adjacent to downtown Tyrone, Georgia. Testimony before the City Council and in Superior Court. Under contract to the Callaway Land Company.

Mixed Use Zoning District, Cordele, Georgia

Created a mixed use zoning district to allow the mixing of professional offices in a residential neighborhood. Revised the entire zoning and subdivision ordinances. Under contract to the City of Cordele.

Curriculum Vita

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EDUCATION:

1971	B.A. with Honors (Economics)	University of Virginia
1973	Master of Urban and Regional Planning	University of Colorado - Denver
1980	Ph.D. (City and Regional Planning)	University of North Carolina

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Geographic Information System Applications
Land Use Planning and Management
Earthquake and Flood Hazard Analysis and Mitigation
Urban Infrastructure Management

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONORS:

Phi Beta Kappa
Honors Program in Economics, University of Virginia
Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship, Soil Conservation Society of America
Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise Award, Cal Poly State University
UPS Visiting Professor Fellowship in Resources Planning, Stanford University
Mid-Career Achievement Award, College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology
Distinguished Professor, College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology
College of Fellows, American Institute of Certified Planners

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

1996 - present Director - Center for Geographic Information Systems and Professor of City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology.

1992 - 1999 Professor and Director - City Planning Program, Georgia Institute of Technology.

1986-1991 Professor - Department of City and Regional Planning, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California.

1987-1988 Visiting Professor of Resources Planning - Civil Engineering Department, Stanford University

1981-1986 Associate Professor - Department of City and Regional Planning, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California.

1980-1981 Senior Research Associate - Rice University, Houston, Texas.

1975-1976 Land Use Administrator - Garfield County, Colorado

PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND PAPERS:

* denotes peer reviewed article

*Steven P. French and Subrahmanyam Muthukumar. 2006. "Advanced Technologies for Earthquake Risk Inventories." *Journal of Earthquake Engineering* 10:2.

Gayle Houston, Christy Johnson, Steven P. French and Jesse Glasgow 2004. "A Standardized Methodology for Siting Overhead Electric Transmission Lines." *Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on Environmental Concerns in Rights-of-Way Management*, September 14-17, Saratoga Springs, New York.

Steven P. French, Lawrence D. Frank, Michael Dinan and James Chapman. 2003. "SMARTRAQ Regional Land Use Geodatabase – Development and Applications," *Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*, October 12-16, Atlanta, Georgia.

*Arthur C. Nelson and Steven P. French. 2002. "Plan Quality and Mitigating Damage from Natural Disasters: A Case Study of the Northridge Earthquake." *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 68:2 (Spring).

*Raymond J. Burby with Timothy Beatley, Philip R. Berke, Robert E. Deyle, Steven P. French, David R. Godschalk, Edward J. Kaiser, Jack D. Kartez, Peter J. May, Robert Olshansky, Robert G. Patterson and Rutherford H. Platt. 1999. "Unleashing the Power of Planning to Create Disaster-Resistant Communities." *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 65:3 (Summer).

Steven P. French and William H. Bachman. 1999. "Transportation Facilities in Mid-America " *Proceedings of the 5th U.S. Conference on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering*, August 12-14. Seattle.

*Raymond J. Burby, Steven P. French and Arthur C. Nelson. 1998. "Plans, Code Enforcement, and Damage Reduction: Evidence from the Northridge Earthquake." *Earthquake Spectra* 14:1 (February)

Steven P. French and Arthur C. Nelson. 1997. "Land Use Planning for Earthquake Hazard Mitigation: Lessons from Northridge." *Proceedings of the Northridge Earthquake Research Conference*. August 20-22. Los Angeles, California.

*Steven P. French and Mike E. Disher. 1997. "Atlanta and the Olympics: A One Year Retrospective." *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 63:3 (Summer).

*Steven P. French and Xudong Jia. 1997. "Estimating Social and Economic Impacts of Infrastructure Damage with GIS." *Journal of the Urban and Regional System Association* 9:1 (Spring).

Steven P. French and Amy E. Skiles. 1996. "Organizational Structures for GIS Implementation." *Annual Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*, July 27- August 1 Salt Lake City, Utah.

Steven P. French and William J. Drummond. 1996. "The Rapidly Changing Technology of Planning " *Carolina Planning*. 21:1 (Spring).

*Steven P. French. 1995. "Damage to Urban Infrastructure and Other Public Property from the 1989 Loma Prieta (California) Earthquake." *DISASTERS: The Journal of Disaster Studies and Management* 19:1 (March).

*Philip R. Berke and Steven P. French. 1994. "The Influence of State Mandates on Local Plan Quality." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 13:4 (Summer).

*Steven P. French. 1994. "A Knowledge-Based System for Earthquake Risk Inventories." *Environment and Planning B*. Volume 21

Raymond J. Burby, Philip R. Berke, Linda C. Dalton, John DeGrove, Steven P. French, Edward J. Kaiser, Peter May and Dale Roenigk. 1993 "State Planning Mandates: How Well Are They Working." *Land Use and Zoning Digest*

*Steven P. French. 1993. "Public Property Damage and Emergency Response Costs: Comparing the Loma Prieta and Whittier Narrows Earthquakes " *Earthquake Spectra*, 9:1 (February).

Steven P. French. 1993. "Infrastructure Damage Modeling with GIS." in *Geographic Information Systems and Their Application to Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering Workshop Proceedings*. New York: American Society of Civil Engineers.

Steven P. French. 1992. "Reconciling Census and Tax Assessor Mapping Systems." *Annual Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*. Washington, D.C.

Steven P. French. 1991. "A Knowledge-Based Approach to Using Existing Data for Seismic Risk Assessment." *Annual Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*, August 11-15, San Francisco, California.

Steven P. French and Raymond K. Belknap. 1991. "Analyzing Rural Development Alternatives Using a Geographic Information System." *Annual Proceedings of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*, August 11-15, San Francisco, California.

Steven P. French. 1991. "The Utilization of Geographic Information Systems for Land Use Planning and Emergency Preparedness." *Disaster Management and Regional Development Planning with People's Participation*, United Nations Center for Regional Development, Nagoya, Japan.

*Steven P. French and Lyna L. Wiggins. 1990. "California Planning Agency Experiences with Automated Mapping and Geographic Information Systems," *Environment and Planning B*, 17:4.

*Lyna L. Wiggins and Steven P. French. 1990. "Desktop Mapping and GIS," *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 56: 3, (Summer).

*Steven P. French and Gary R. Rudholm. 1990. "Damage to Public Property in the Whittier Narrows Earthquake: Implications for Earthquake Insurance." *Earthquake Spectra*. 6:1 (February).

*Steven P. French and Lyna L. Wiggins. 1989. "Computer Adoption and Use in California Planning Agencies: Implications for Education," *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 8:2 (Winter).

Steven P. French. 1988. "An Automated Lifeline Inventory for Earthquake Damage Modeling," *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Conference of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association*, August 8-11, Los Angeles, California.

*Steven P. French and Mark S. Isaacson, "Applying Earthquake Risk Analysis Techniques to Land Use Planning," *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 50: 4, Autumn 1984

Steven P. French, "Earthquake Information Needs of Local Governments" in *A Workshop on Evaluation of Regional and Urban Earthquake Hazards and Risk in Utah*. Open File Report 84-763, Reston, VA: U.S. Geological Survey, 1984.

Steven P. French and Ronald L. Wright, "Local Implementation of Coastal Zone Management in California," in *Coastal Zone '83*, Orville Magoon, ed., New York: American Society of Civil Engineers.

*Steven P. French 1981. "An Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment," *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, Volume 36, No. 5, September-October.

*Raymond J. Burby and Steven P. French. 1981. "Coping with Floods: The Land Use Management Paradox," *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 47: 3 (July).

*Raymond J. Burby and Steven P. French. 1980. "The U.S. Experience in Managing Flood Plain Land Use" in *DISASTERS: The International Journal of Disaster Studies and Practice*, 4: 4, (December).

Steven P. French and Raymond J. Burby. 1980. "Current Practice in Managing Coastal Flood Hazards," in *Coastal Zone '80*, Billy L. Edge, ed., New York: American Society of Civil Engineers.

BOOKS:

Co-author with Raymond J. Burby and Peter J. May 1997. *Making Governments Plan: State Experiments in Managing Land Use*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press.

Co-author with Raymond J. Burby et. al 1991 *Sharing Environmental Risks: How to Control Governments' Losses in Natural Disasters*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.

Lyna L. Wiggins and Steven P. French. 1991. *GIS: Assessing Your Needs and Choosing a System*, PAS Report 433. Chicago: American Planning Association.

Raymond J. Burby and Steven P. French 1985. *Flood Plain Land Use Management: A National Assessment*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.

Steven P. French. 1980. *Flood Plain Land Use Management: An Analysis of Context, Programs and Impacts*. Chapel Hill, NC: Ph.D. dissertation, University of North Carolina.

BOOK CHAPTERS:

Robert E. Deyle, Steven P. French, Robert B. Olshansky and Robert G. Peterson. 1998. "Hazard Assessment: The Factual Basis for Planning and Mitigation" in *Cooperating with Nature: Confronting Natural Hazards with Land Use Planning for Sustainable Communities*. Raymond J. Burby, ed. Washington, D.C.: John Henry/National Academy Press.

Steven P. French. 1998. "Spatial Analysis Techniques for Linking Physical Damage to Economic Functions" in M. Shinozuka A. Rose and R. Eguchi, eds. *Engineering and Socioeconomic Impacts of Earthquakes: An Analysis of Electricity Lifeline Disruptions in the New Madrid Area* Buffalo, NY: Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research.

Steven P. French. 1995. "Planning for Reconstruction: Opportunities and Constraints Facing Wellington" in *Wellington After the Quake: The Challenge of Rebuilding Cities*. Wellington, New Zealand: Earthquake Commission

Steven P. French. 1993 "RISKEQ: Earthquake Risk Analysis" in Klosterman, Brail and Bossard, eds. *Spreadsheet Models in Urban and Regional Analysis*. New Brunswick, NJ: Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University.

Steven P. French. 1993. "GIS: Underpinning for Specialized Niche Products" in Gilbert Castle, ed. *Profiting from a Geographic Information System*. Fort Collins, Colorado: GIS World.

Steven P. French. "A Preliminary Assessment of Damage to Urban Infrastructure" in *The Loma Prieta Earthquake: Studies of Short-Term Impacts*. Robert Bolin, ed., Boulder, Colorado: Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, 1990.