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Napoleon's Failed Campaign and the End of Louverture: 1802

After consolidating power in 1802, Napoleon planned to reassert control in the Western Hemisphere, return slavery to its overseas territories, and fund its European wars with colonial wealth. Over the course of Napoleon's campaign, 50 ships and over 80,000 soldiers were sent to Saint Domingue. While some areas surrendered without a fight, most of Louverture's army fought back against the very country to which Louverture had declared allegiance, burning their towns behind them. They rightly feared that Napoleon would reestablish slavery. After several months, however, most of Louverture's troops joined the French army, including Jean-Jacques Dessalines, Henri Christophe, and Louverture himself, although the latter would soon be betrayed and sent to a French prison. Despite these shifting alliances, a group of insurgents, led largely by African-born soldiers, continued to resist the French and their black troops, leading to unexpected and tragic conflicts.

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EVENTS

1802
Mapou, site of the rebel camp under Sans Souci and Sylva

LATE WINTER/SPRING 1802
French victories: early surrenders to the French army

LATE WINTER/EARLY SPRING 1802
French victories: early surrenders to the French army

EARLY 1802
Major battles and towns burned defensively by Louverture's army

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MARCH 1802
Battle of Crête à Pierrot

MAY 1802
Louverture surrenders to France, keeps his rank, and retires

MID-1802
Insurgent revolts

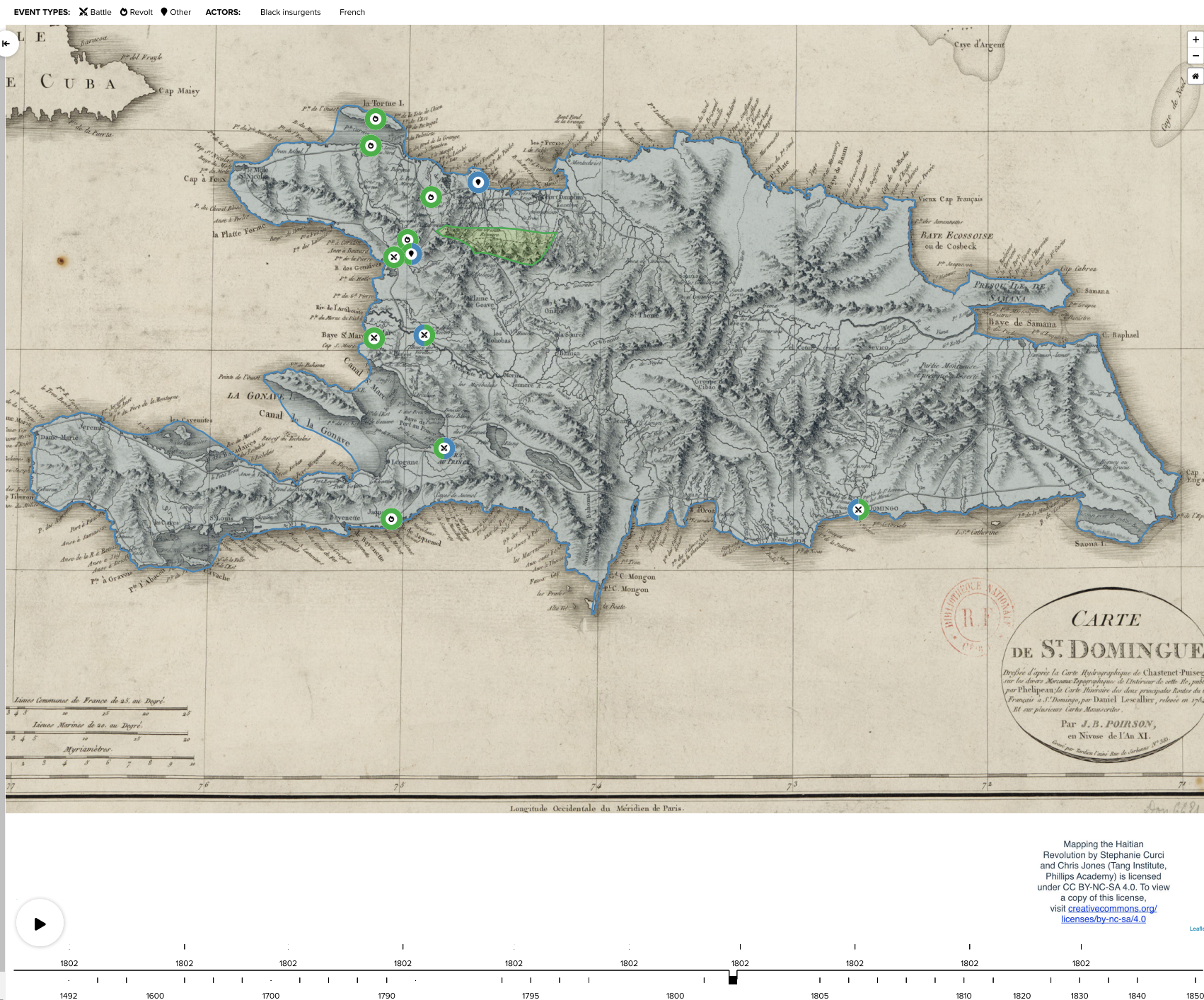
Insurgent revolts

MID-1802
Insurgent revolts

MID-1802
Insurgent Revolts

JUNE 1802
Louverture betrayed, arrested, and expelled

NOVEMBER 1802



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Leaflet