



WHO are you?

GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



June 2020



The colors are so cheery on this image. Sorry that I have not found the artist, who I wish to thank most humbly!

So, how you doing?

I hope you have been able to have some productive time during this “timeout” of what we used to know as “normal” whether it be genealogy or a hobby or fixing something up or walking or gardening or just relaxing.

Have you found a genealogical gold nugget that you might care to share? In the library, I have been fielding genealogy questions each and every day. Yes, I am actually at my desk! The library is quite different without patrons, and we most heartily will welcome every one back. I would love to hear from you.

Program Postponed

*Sorry to have to send
this message--*

the TOUR of the
North Burial Ground
has to be rescheduled.

So, from June 10th it was changed to:

Wednesday, July 8, 4- 5:30

And now changed again to:

Wednesday, September 9, 4- 5:30

Maps ?

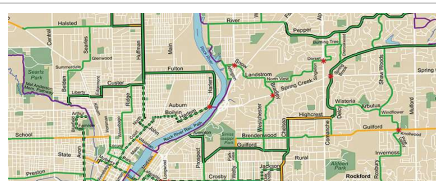
Check out my “Introduction to Maps”
handout on PAGES 2 and 3. Comments?

Irish Genealogy?

An 8 page color tearsheet is included in the March/April 2020 Family Tree Magazine. Want it? Email me and I will send a pdf.

Speaking of Maps...

A memorable date just passed on April 30th. It was the 217th anniversary of the signing of the Louisiana Purchase Treaty in Paris by James Monroe and Robert Livingston during the Thomas Jefferson administration, 1803. Considered the greatest real estate deal of all time, the cost in 1803 dollars was \$15 million or an unbelievable amount in today’s dollars. To put the size of the area by the purchase in perspective, the United States was actually doubled in size...



“The richest person in the world, in fact all the riches in the world couldn’t provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library.” ~ *Attributed to Malcolm Forbes*

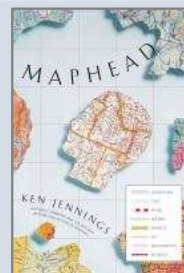
*Just this tonight,
while I wait for the stars...*

Excerpt from a poem by Joyce Rupp

no map, no specific directions,
no “this way ahead” or “take a left”.
how will I know where to go?
how will I find my way? no map!
but then my midlife soul whispers
“there was a time before maps
when pilgrims travelled by the stars.”

Need a book?

Mohr Library is participating in Curbside Delivery until we open. Call or send an email, and we’ll let you know how it works.



The famous Ken Jennings of tv’s Jeopardy! fame tells the story of why he and others find maps so fascinating. Each chapter speaks to map culture and why cartography has shaped our history!

Maphead: charting the wide, weird world of geography works by Ken Jennings

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon – Thurs 9-8/

Friday 9 – 6// Saturday 9-5

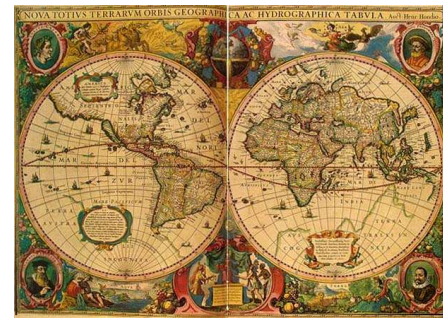
Mohr Library Genealogy Group

2nd Wednesday, 4:30

Special Program times vary

Maps for Genealogy

Grayce Moorehead, MILS, Mohr Library / 2020.06



Using Maps as a tool in your genealogical research can give you an incredible look at an earlier time. On the other hand, preparing a handout on maps is an awesome task because maps are not easy, a very complicated topic and pretty much considered advanced research. Therefore, please understand this short handout to be merely an introduction that is not in any way exhaustive! I present a choice of videos and links that I have vetted as an introduction for you to explore.

[Note, be advised that you may have to do some actual legwork instead of just letting your fingers walk (i.e. digital stuff).]

Why check maps?

Maps are fascinating artistic attempts to define areas of the state, the country, the world. With the right map, you can identify stores, farms, roads, neighbors – a puzzle piece in the story you are creating for how they lived!

Variety of maps:

Geography ★ Topography ★ Aerial Photography ★ Atlases ★ and more

Websites for maps:

★ Library of Congress: Geography and Maps, an Illustrated Guide

Get to know your way around with this comprehensive online guide to LOC.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/guide/>

★ Sanborn Maps

Since 1866, Sanborn Map Company has published maps and atlases of more than 12000 U.S. towns and cities issued primarily for fire insurance purposes.

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps>

and for an Introduction to Sanborn Maps: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/san4a1.html>

★ David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

The David Rumsey Map Collection was started over 30 years ago and contains more than 150,000 maps focusing on rare 16th through 21st century maps of North and South America, as well as maps of the World, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Oceania. Whereas the David Rumsey physical map collection is housed at Stanford University, you can explore the digital collection online >> <https://www.davidrumsey.com/home>

★ USGS: Using Maps in Genealogy

This starting point tearsheet is a bit old – 2002, and covers some general tips as well as hints on the whys and hows of maps for genealogy. Some information may be dated, but it is still a great overview with many valid sources.

<https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/mapsgenealogy.pdf>

★ Amy Johnson describes the 5 types of maps for genealogy

Easy to understand, quick explanation with images of kinds of maps.

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/5-types-maps-every-genealogist-know/>

And there are some interesting Rhode Island sources:

★ Rhode Island School of Design map resources.

A guide to locating and using Rhode Island map resources

<https://risd.libguides.com/rimaps>

★ oldpvd.com or OLD PROVIDENCE

A developing absorbing site of where things used to be, and stories of the past.

<https://oldpvd.com/>



Where, after all,
do universal
human rights begin?
In small places, close to
home—so close and so small
that they cannot be seen
on any map of the world.
~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Maps for Genealogy

Videos that are helpful for using Maps

★ Really Interesting Maps You Need To See

With almost a million and a half views since January 2020, this new video will reel you swiftly through all kinds of incredible maps to give you an overview of the vast variety of maps. (*well worth 10 minutes of your time.*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxibNlbn-f4>

★ Historical Maps | Expert Series | Ancestry

A quick and easy to digest overview of maps that will aid in your genealogical sleuthing! (*only 7 minutes long*)

Be sure to check the body language and facial expressions of this couple as they move through their presentation!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQ3Z0pGNjgQ>

★ Using Maps in Your Family History Research from American Ancestors

with Alice Kane from NEHGS Excellent as always as this outstanding resource. (*about 45 minutes*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGACKjoKKzs&t=89s>

★ The best historic maps I've seen! USGS Historical Maps! (*about 9 minutes*)

It won't take much time to buzz through this video and it is terrific to get the idea of USGS --United States Geological Survey -- very quickly. This is an easy overview of the website listed above. Your government at its best!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gi17SHifvlw>

★ Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Genealogists with Blake Gulbransen from BYU.

Stick with this one or start about the middle (16 minutes), then you'll get the best info on how to make story maps! Presenter uses a particular software, but you don't have to. (*about 38 minutes*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gY7HjGK66O4>

★ Using Sanborn Fire Maps for Genealogy and Family History (*about 9 minutes*)

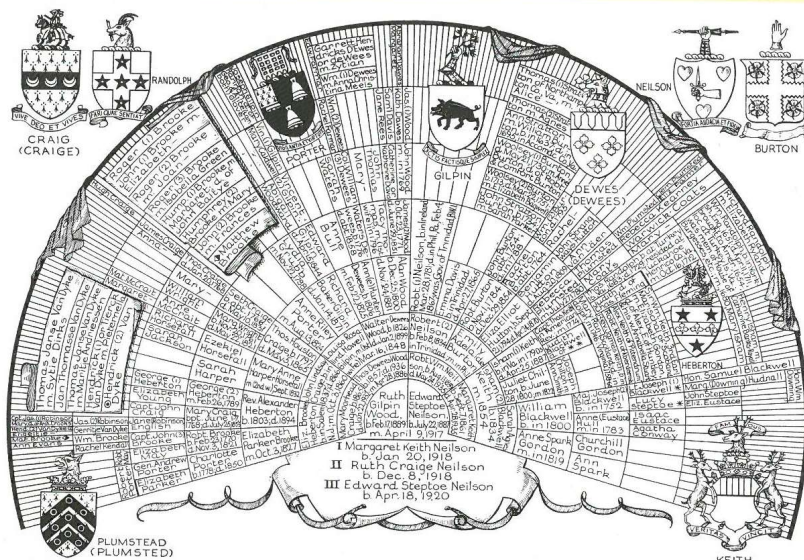
A super look at what Sanborn maps are, how to use them for genealogy and where to find them.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rhv5vtWwONM>



A fantasy map ©Disney

"Map of the marvelous land of Oz"



← A fascinating "map" of a family relationship

From a book in our Ralph S. Mohr Collection: "The American Historical Company, Inc." page 8 [R655.409 A RSMC]