**Local History & Genealogy Pre-Conference**:

**Maps for Genealogists**

**Outline of today’s presentation**

Maps with names

●US Geological Survey (USGS) maps

●Land maps: Major topic, worth in-depth study

Maps paired with other sources

●Fire Insurance maps + city directories

●Enumeration district maps + census records

●Township maps + vital records or newspaper articles

Maps with historical context (Putting yourself in their shoes)

●Political boundary changes

●Transportation routes

●Maps commemorating a specific event (battle, disaster, etc.)

Where to find original maps

●County courthouses, state archives (for maps supporting government functions)

●Historical societies; public libraries (usually strongest on local area)

●University libraries (maps supporting their research and teaching mission)

●Large national libraries (Library of Congress, National Archives)

**Further reading: understanding surveys, townships, and land claims**

Davenport, Linda Haas. 2000. “Untangling townships.”

<http://www.lhaasdav.com/learningcenter/index.html> (scroll down to Untangling Townships link)

Naylor, Chris. 2005. “Those Elusive Early Americans: Public Lands and Claims in the American State Papers, 1789–1837.”

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2005/summer/state-papers.html>

Szucs, Loretto Dennis. “Overview of Land Records.”

<http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=Overview_of_Land_Records>

**For a more detailed discussion than the above:**

Hone, E. Wade. 1997. *Land & property research in the United States*. Salt Lake City, Utah: Ancestry Publishing.

**Finding maps (including ones that might not be digitized yet)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Site / URL | What it covers | Finding maps on the site | **Digitized or undigitized maps?** |
| WorldCat  [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org) | 10,000s of library catalogs worldwide | •**Advanced search** has option to limit search to **maps only**  •You can create a login and save lists of books that you can share, such as my list for this talk: <https://www.worldcat.org/profiles/ejaycox/lists/2904404> | Both |
| National Archives  <https://catalog.archives.gov/advancedsearch> | Document s in the US National Archives | •**Advanced search** has option to limit search to **maps and charts** only | Both |
| Library of Congress: American Memory project  <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html> | Maps at the Library of Congress | Use facets to narrow your search by place or date | Default = digitized; change facet to search all maps |
| Missouri Digital Heritage:  <http://digital.library.umsystem.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx?page=index;c=umcscsanic> | Missouri fire insurance maps on Missouri Digital Heritage | Digitized Fire insurance maps for 390 Missouri cities | Digitized |
| Missouri Digital Heritage:  <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/mocoplats> | Missouri County Plat Books on Missouri Digital Heritage | 141 digitized county atlases and plat books from all over the state, 1875-1930. If you don’t see a plat book you want, search for individual plat books scanned as separate projects here: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/browse?id=12_5> | Digitized |
| David Rumsey Collection  <http://www.davidrumsey.com/> | 70,000+ digitized maps | A stellar private collection with a robust and versatile website for searching | Digitized |
| Atlas of Historical County Boundaries  <http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/> | Interactive atlas of county boundary changes | Interactive portion temporarily unavailable. Should be able to draw county boundaries for a user-specified date range. | Digital resource |
| Bureau of Land Management / General Land Office records  [www.glorecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorecords.blm.gov) | Search for land patents including scanned documents | Click on Land Patents, then search by name, location, land office, military #, Indian claim, etc. | Digital resource |
| US Geological Survey  <https://www.usgs.gov/> | Order USGS maps (scans or paper, current or historic) | Choose **Products**, then **USGS Store** to search for and order maps | Both |
| Cyndi’s List – map section  <http://cyndislist.com/maps> | Links to wide variety of **Locality Specific maps** | Additional topics include:  •Migration Routes, Roads & Trails  •Ethnic Group Maps  •Surname maps | Digitized maps, how-to guides, and more |