

Mapping Ancestors on the Move

Virtual Fall Stay At Home 2023

Melanie McComb, Senior Genealogist

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



Why use maps in genealogy?

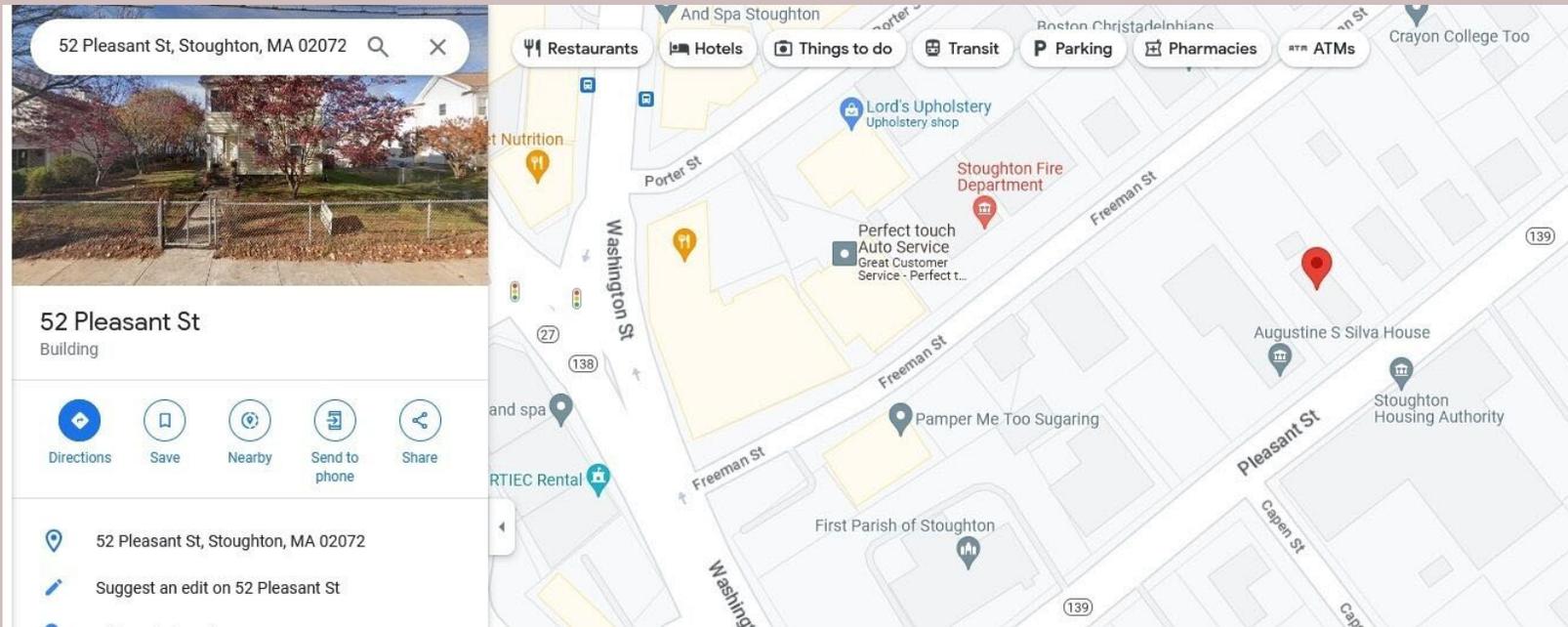
- Piece together your family puzzle
 - Visualize the land on which they lived
 - Provide context for their surroundings
 - Follow family groups through the years
 - Travel and migration routes
 - Use maps to present information
- Think broadly: shift your focus away from an individual to a *place* to break down brick walls and provide context

Types of Maps

Types of maps

- Different types of maps may be available depending on whether your research subject is urban or rural, and the time period
- Cadastral maps (land/property ownership)
- Topographical maps (geographic features)
- Insurance (Sanborn)/real estate maps
- Ward and enumeration district maps
- Land surveys or plat maps
- Road maps
- Consider the *purpose* of the map – why was it created, who created it?

Google Maps – Stoughton, Massachusetts



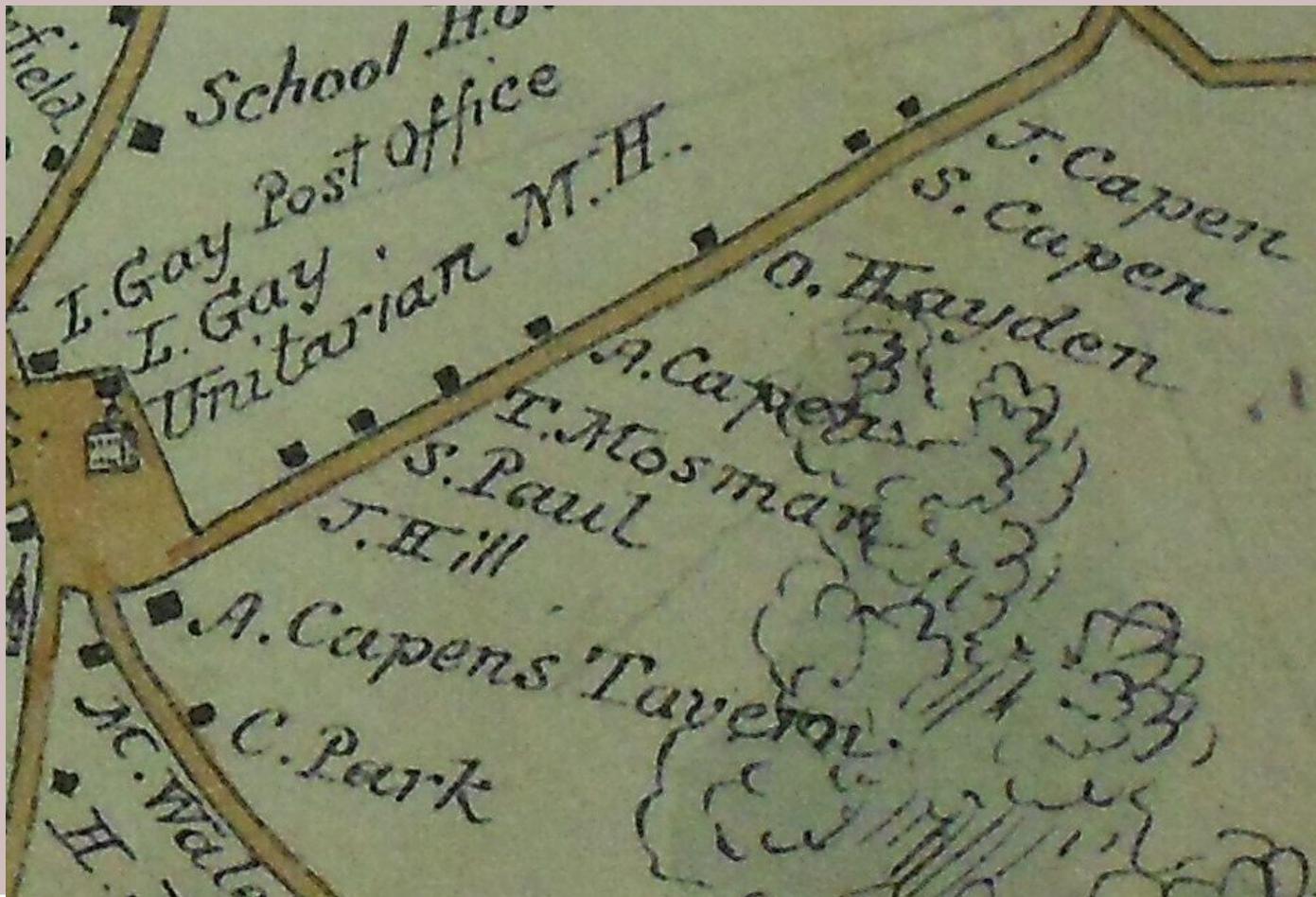
2011 Photo – Stoughton, Massachusetts



1879 Aerial Map – Stoughton, Massachusetts



1831 Map – Stoughton, Massachusetts



Cadastral Maps

- Otherwise known as land ownership maps or plat maps
- Shows the amount of land and owner's name
- Maps are used for taxation purposes, land ownership claims, mortgage planning, urban planning, and more



ISLANDIMAGINED

HISTORIC MAPS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Map Archive ▾ Interactive ▾ Learn more ▾

[HOME](#) / [MAP ARCHIVE](#) / [ATLASES](#)

MEACHAM'S ATLAS - 1880



Published in 1880 by the J. H. Meacham Company, the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the Province of Prince Edward Island* contains maps of each Lot on the Island, maps of Charlottetown and various towns and villages, and engravings of prominent citizens, properties and businesses. The maps are based on surveys made under the direction of C. R. Allen, C.E.

Included in this atlas is a Historical Sketch of the Province of Prince Edward Island and a Patron's Directory. The Historical Sketch covers the history of the Island from the first settlements and treaties to governance and Confederation. The Patron's Directory, located at the back of the atlas, gives biographical information about principal businessmen and professionals across the Island. This directory includes information such as their profession, nativity, and date of settlement.

https://www.islandimagined.ca/meachams_atlas

PLAN OF LOTS FIFTY SEVEN & FIFTY EIGHT

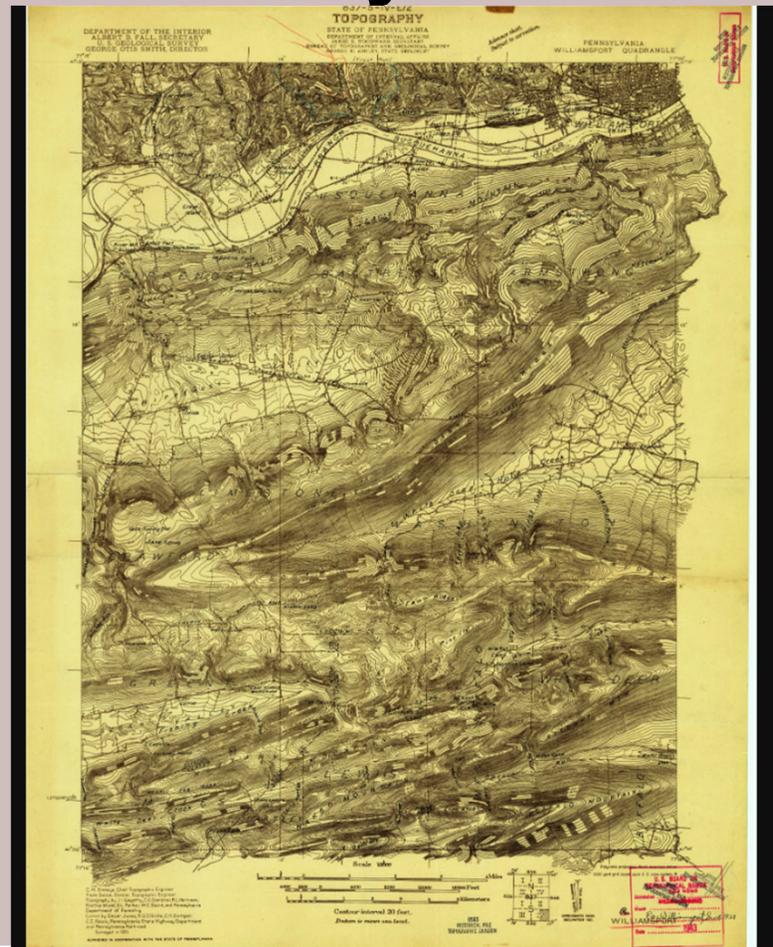


www.islandimagined.ca

Close-up of a Cadastral/Land Ownership Map – PEI, Canada

COLVILLE		SELKIRK	
Angus McLean	50	Lawrence Morrissey	50
Hrs of Hugh McLean	50	Bernard Dougherty Jr	50
Hrs of Hugh McLean	50	Mich: Flynn	75
Don ^d McLead	75	Felix Farmer	50
Don ^d McLead	40	James Dougherty	50
Donald Currie	50	Owen Mc Teague	50
Don ^d Buchanan	50	Owen Mc Teague	50
Dan ^d Currie	25	James Connolly	75
Jno ^s Ross	50	Edw ^d Roach	50
William Bowles	60	Walter Roach	60
Hugh McLean	40	Jas Mc Williams	50
Allan Mc Donald	50	Jas Mc Mahon	50
		Patrick Mc Closkey	50
		Nicholas Stack	75
		Barney Mc Teague	50
		Jno Callaghan	50
		Patrick Mc Teague	50
		Terrence Mc Garrach	75
		Terrence Mc Garrach	50
		Thos Morrissey	60
		Barney Dougherty	175
		James Mullen	100
		Dennis Rooney	100
		Walter Kelly	75
		Ed. Hughes	50
		Jas O'Connell	60
		Mrs. Owen Daly	50
		Jno Mc Donald	50 1/2
		Edw ^d Kelly	62 1/2
		S.H. Pat ^k Kelly	62 1/2
		James Kelley	100
		Mrs. W ^m Cody	50
		Thos. Brennick	75
		Jno Kelly	50
		Jno Kelly	60
		Jas Mc Cabe	50
		Owen Mc Kenna	50
		Jas O'Connell	50
		Jas Callaghan	50

Topographical Map – Williamsport, Pennsylvania



Fire Insurance Maps

- Originated in London, England towards the end of the eighteen century
- Used by insurance companies to assess potential risk of a building based on several factors:
 - Building Material
 - Proximity to other buildings
 - Proximity to gas lines

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Search by:

Countries (excluding United States)

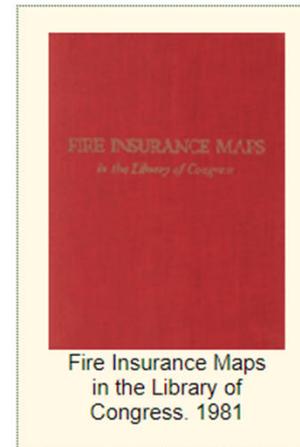
Please note: There are over 50,000 hits for **United States** in this database. Browse U.S. maps by state using the form below.

U. S. State

Building Types

Full Text Fields (city, county, other geographic areas)

» [Full-text Search Hints](#)



The **Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Online Checklist** provides a searchable database of the fire insurance maps published by the Sanborn Map Company housed in the collections of the Geography and Map Division. The online checklist is based upon the Library's 1981 publication *Fire Insurance Maps in the Library of Congress* and will be continually updated to reflect new acquisitions. The online checklist also contains links to existing digital images from our collection and will be updated as new images are added. If you have any questions, please [Ask A Librarian](#).

NOTE: The online presentation includes entries from all 50 United States, as well as Canada, Mexico, Cuba sugar warehouses, and U.S. whiskey warehouses. Geographic locations may have changed due to boundary moves of counties or cities becoming independent or merging into other cities.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map – Jeffersonville, Indiana

Enumeration District Maps

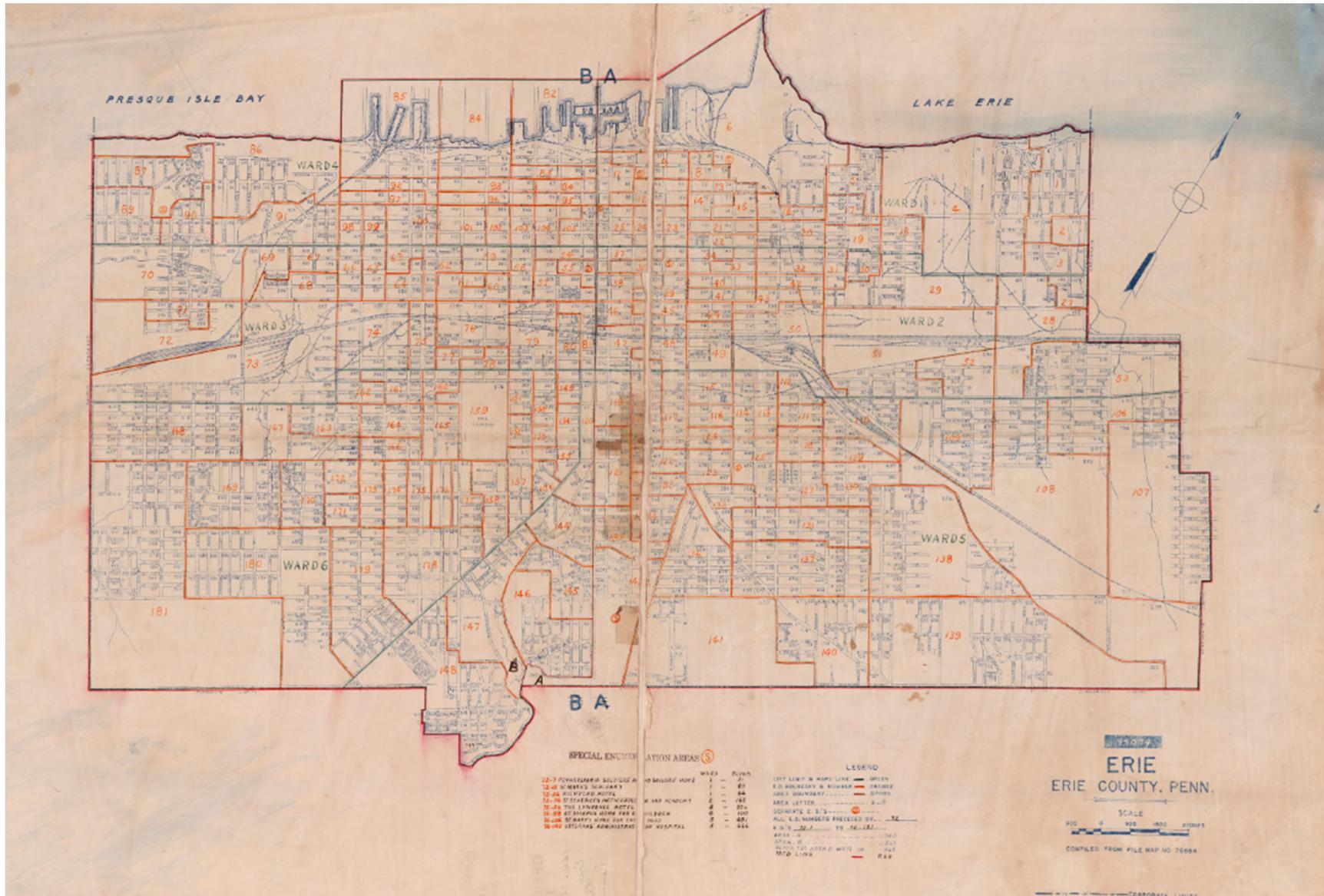
- An enumeration district was an area that a census taker could cover in two weeks in cities and four weeks in rural areas.
- The U.S Census Bureau started using enumeration districts in 1880.
- The maps illustrate the district's boundaries
- They provide a visual representation on how enumerators travelled from house to house.
- They include landmarks like schools, churches, parks, etc.

The screenshot shows the National Archives Catalog interface. At the top left is the National Archives logo and the word 'CATALOG'. A search bar is positioned to the right of the logo. Further right are links for 'Advanced', 'Help', and 'Log in / Sign Up'. Below the search bar is a dark blue navigation bar with 'Share...' and 'Options...' links. The main content area has a dark background and displays the following information:

- Record Group 29: Records of the Bureau of the Census
- Series icon and label: **PARTIALLY AVAILABLE ONLINE**
- Series Title: **Enumeration District and Related Maps, 1880–1990**
- Creators: **Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Office of the Associate Director for Decennial Census. Geography Division. (1/1987 - 7/15/2011) (Most Recent)**
Department of the Interior. 12th Decennial Census Office. Director of the Census. 1899-7/1/1902 (Predecessor)
- Metadata: NAID: 821491 | Local ID: 029EDMAPS | Maps and Charts | Collected: 1880–1990
- Search bar: Search within this Series
- File Units: 3,173 File Units

 **Partially Available Online**
This Series contains records, some of which are available online.
16,479 Items (with a total of **41,484 digital objects**) from this Series are currently online and ready to view.

catalog.archives.gov



1950 U.S. Census Enumeration Map, Erie County, Pennsylvania

Warrantee Township Maps

- Show original land purchases from proprietors of a colony or commonwealth
- Show the following information:
 - Name of warrantee
 - Name of patentee
 - Number of acres
 - Name of tract
 - Dates of warrant, survey, and patent
 - Survey and patent #'s



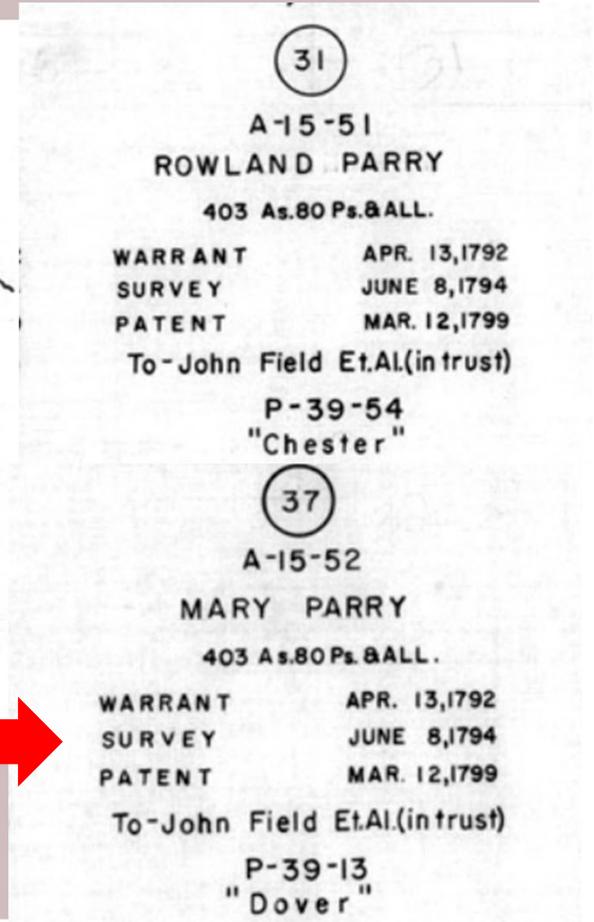
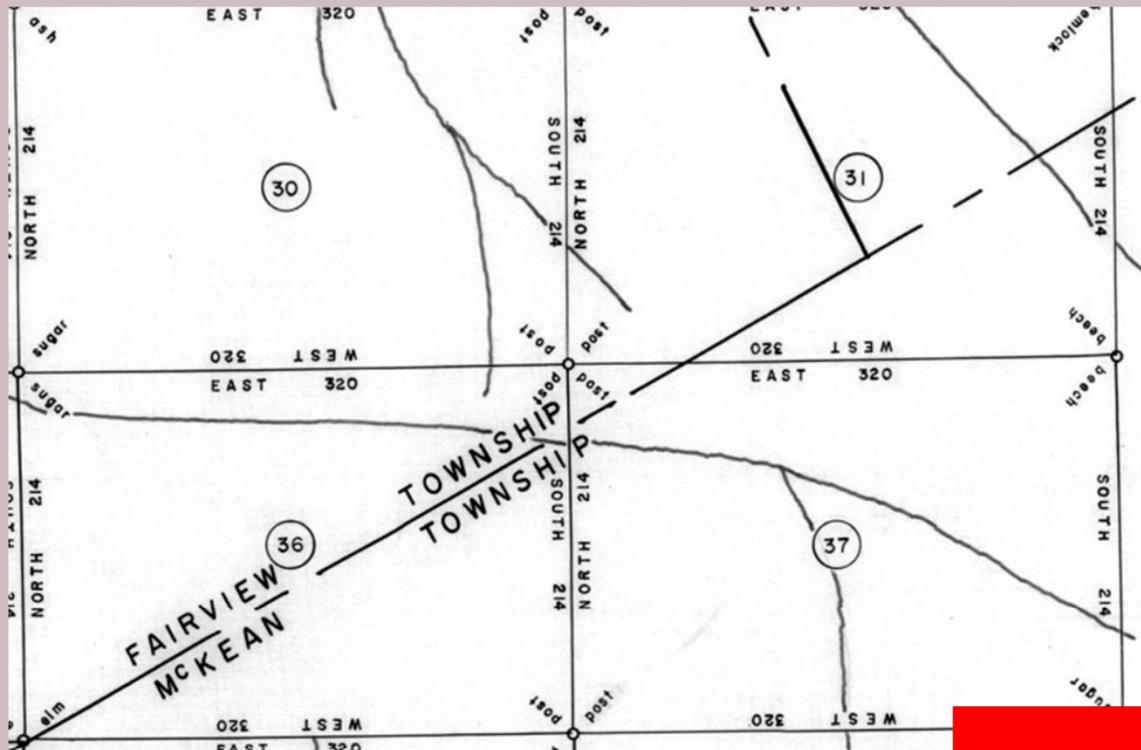
Revolutionary War veterans of the Pennsylvania Line regiments

Maps

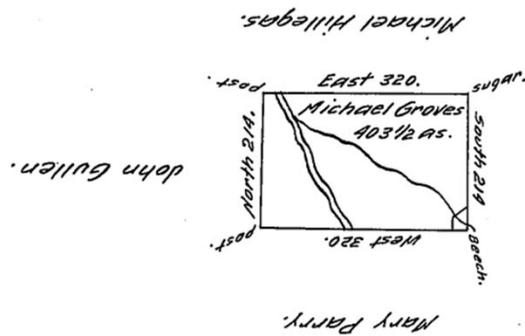
- [Connected Draft Maps](#) - maps from the Land Office Map Collection that show warrant tracts for specific areas within various counties
- [Land Office Map Collection Database](#) - Index to maps held in the Land Office Map collection in Record Group 17
- [Melish-Whiteside Maps](#) - Early-nineteenth century county maps depicting township boundaries, rivers, churches, factories, mines, taverns, furnaces, forges, mills, ferries and roads
- [Warrantee Township Maps](#) - Land office maps showing original warrant tracts within the boundaries of present-day townships

<https://www.phmc.pa.gov>

Fairview, Erie County, Pennsylvania Warrantee Map

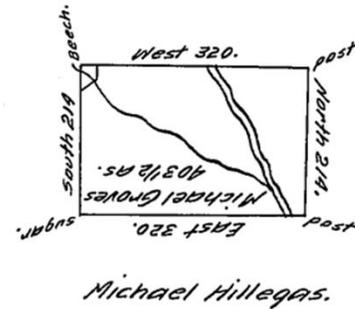


Survey of Land on Waters of Lake Erie – Mary Parry



Mary Parry.

Jesse Groves.



John Gullen.

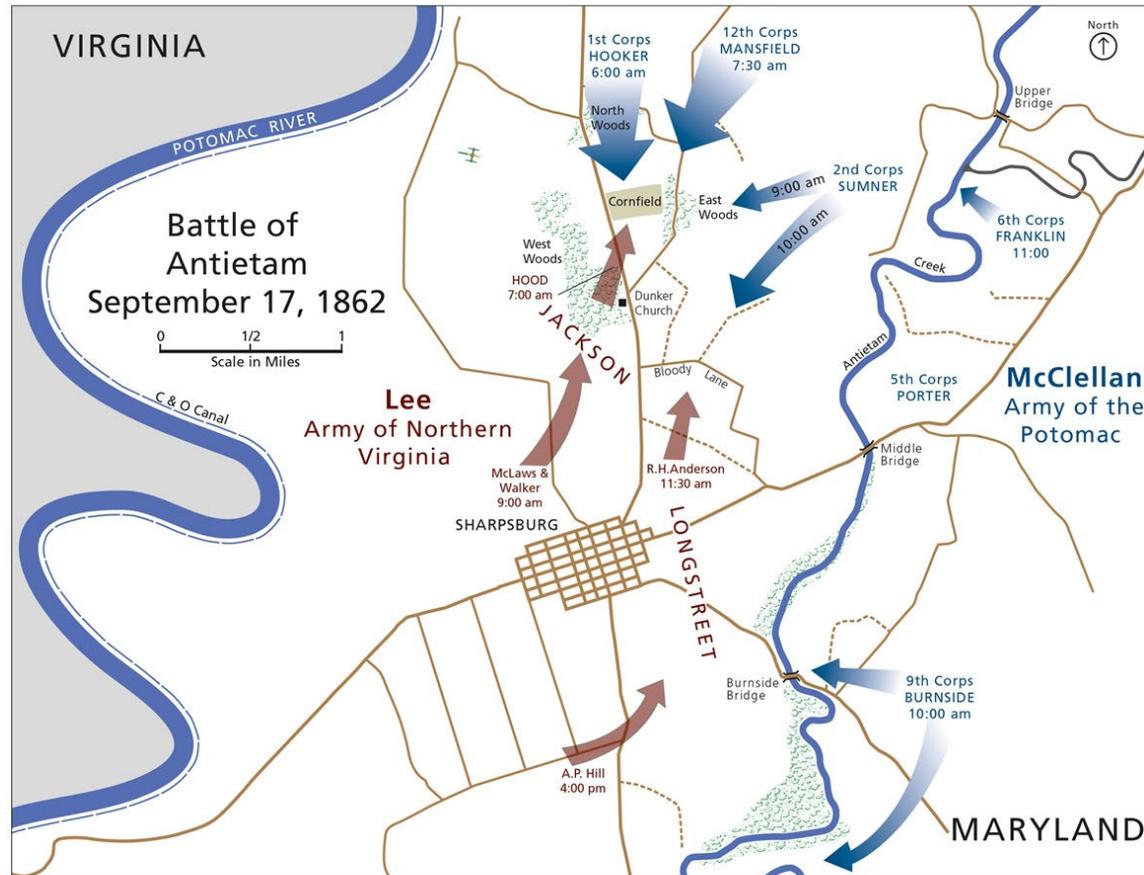
*Situate on the waters of Lake Erie in Allegheny County
No. 1. Survey'd 21 June 1799 to Michael Groves on his
Warrant dated 13 April, 1792. Containing four hundred
three Acres An half & allowe.
Danl. Brodhead Esqr. Thos. Pees. D.S.
Survr. Genl.*

Military Maps

- Helpful to understand battles that your ancestors fought in and follow a regiment
- Some maps show property owners



Battle of Antietam (Civil War) Map



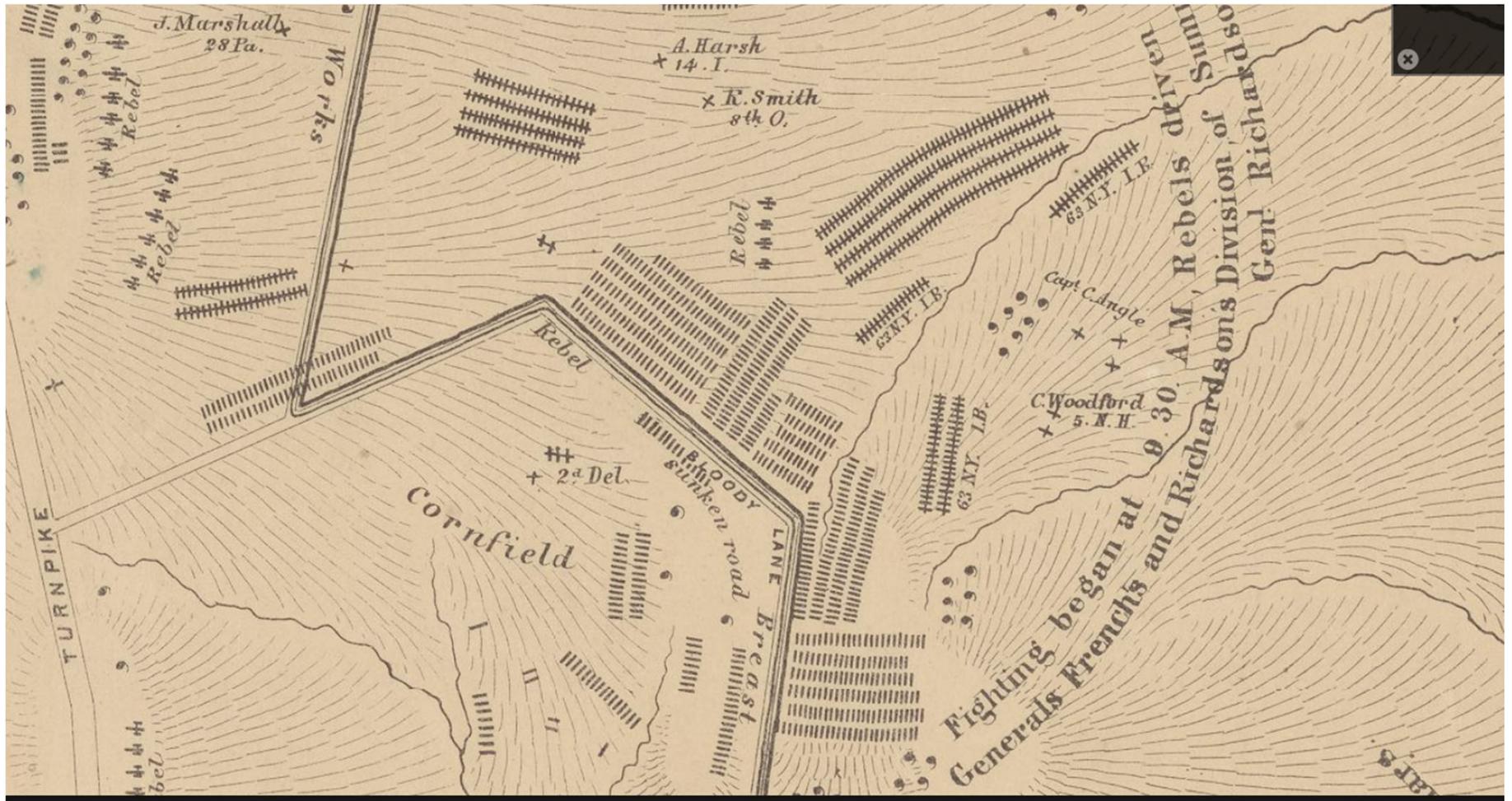
nps.gov

Battle of Antietam Cemetery Map



digitalcollections.nypl.org

Battle of Antietam Cemetery Map



digitalcollections.nypl.org

Mapping a Migration Route: Case Study (Elias Leonard)

Steps

1. Summarize What You Know
2. Create a Research Plan
3. Research
4. Create a Timeline
5. Create a Map

Step 1: Summarize What You Know

- Elias Leonard
 - b. circa 1758
 - m. Mary Ervin on 18 Feb. 1779 in New Jersey
 - Settled in Springfield, Burlington, New Jersey (1810 and 1830 U.S. Census)
 - Was on the 1835 pension roll, living in Burlington, New Jersey (age 77 years old)
 - Served in the Pennsylvania Militia

Step 2: Create a Research Plan

- Objective: Create a migration map for Elias Leonard, who married Mary Arvin in New Jersey.
- Strategy:
 - Search Fold3 for a pension file for Elias Leonard for the Revolutionary War that may include an affidavit from Elias detailing his movements before and after the war.
 - Search for any relevant land deeds and create a map of his migration

Step 3: Research

- Search for a pension file for Elias Leonard
 - Pension file S.4542 was found on Fold3.com under Revolutionary War Pensions.

Affidavit of Elias Leonard, Pension S. 4542, Fold3.com

has he any record of his age, but he knows some
time of his birth from tradition. - He was born
at Peekskill in the state of New York Septem-
ber 10th 1756. He was an apprentice
in Philadelphia when called into service. -
After the Revolution he remained a short time
in Phila., then moved to Burlington City in New
Jersey & lived there for 2 years. - He then went
to sea and was absent for about 6 months. -
After his return, he lived 9 years in Chester county
Pennsylvania - then moved into the state of New
York near the place of his nativity, and remained
there for 6 years, when he moved into Burlington
County N. Jersey, and has lived there ever since. -
He now resides at Julia town in said county. This

Transcription of Affidavit of Elias Leonard, 6 Nov. 1831

- "He was born in Peekskill in the State of New York September 10th AD 1756. He was an apprentice in Philadelphia when called into service. After the Revolution he remained a short time in Phila., then moved to Burlington City in New Jersey & lived there for 2 years. He then went to sea and was absent for about 6 months. After his return, he lived 9 years in Chester County Pennsylvania – then moved into the State of New York near the place of his nativity, and remained there for 6 years, when he moved into Burlington County New Jersey, and has lived there since. He now resides in Juliustown in said county."

Step 3: Research Cont'd

- Search for land deeds/mortgages and land grants that your ancestor had
 - Many are kept at the county level
 - Connecticut, Vermont, and Rhode Island – town level

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Get Involved Activities

Records Images Family Tree Genealogies **Catalog** Books Wiki

BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS PRINT Catalog Print List (0)

Deeds, 1785-1901; deed index, 1785-1948

Add to Print List

Authors: [Burlington County \(New Jersey\). County Clerk \(Main Author\)](#)

Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Film

Language: English

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed for the Genealogical Society of Utah by Reproduction Systems, 1970

Physical: 211 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

Notes

Microfilm of original records in the Burlington County courthouse, Mt. Holly, New Jersey.

[View this catalog record in WorldCat for other possible copy locations](#)

Subjects

Locality Subjects

[United States, New Jersey, Burlington - Land and property](#)

Film/Digital Notes

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	Image Group Number (DGS)	Format
Grantee index, A-B 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842375	8351824	
Grantee index, C-D 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842376	8139751	
Grantee index, E-G 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842377	8139752	
Grantee index, H 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842378	8217379	
Grantee index, I-L 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842379	8139753	
Grantee index, M 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842380	8351823	
Grantee index, N-Q 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842381	8271792	
Grantee index, R-Se 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842382	8351822	
Grantee index, Sh-Sy 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842383	8217380	
Grantee index, T-Wh 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842384	8351821	
Grantee index, Wi-Z 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842385	8351820	
Grantee index corporations, A-Q 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842386	8351819	
Grantee index corporations, R-Z 1785-1921	Family History Library	United States & Canada 2nd Floor Film	842387	8351818	

2574

Leo A.B.C.D.E

GRANTOR.		GRANTEE.		No.	LETTER.	PAGE.	YEAR.
Leonard	Elias	Caleb	Carl	C. 2		115	1808
	100	Henry	Curtis	F. 3		178	1833
	100	Caleb	Curtis	" "		"	"
	100	Thomas	Haines	G. 3		84	1833



familysearch.org

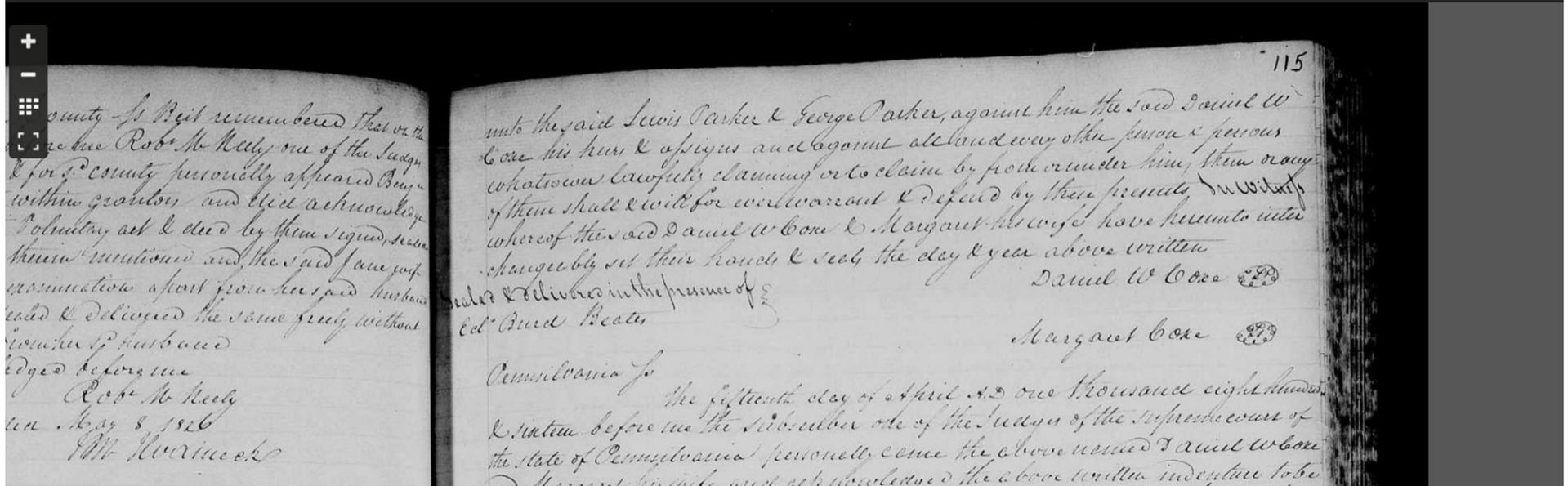
Film # 008351264

Source Box

Attach to Family Tree

Image 419 of 702

Print Download Tools



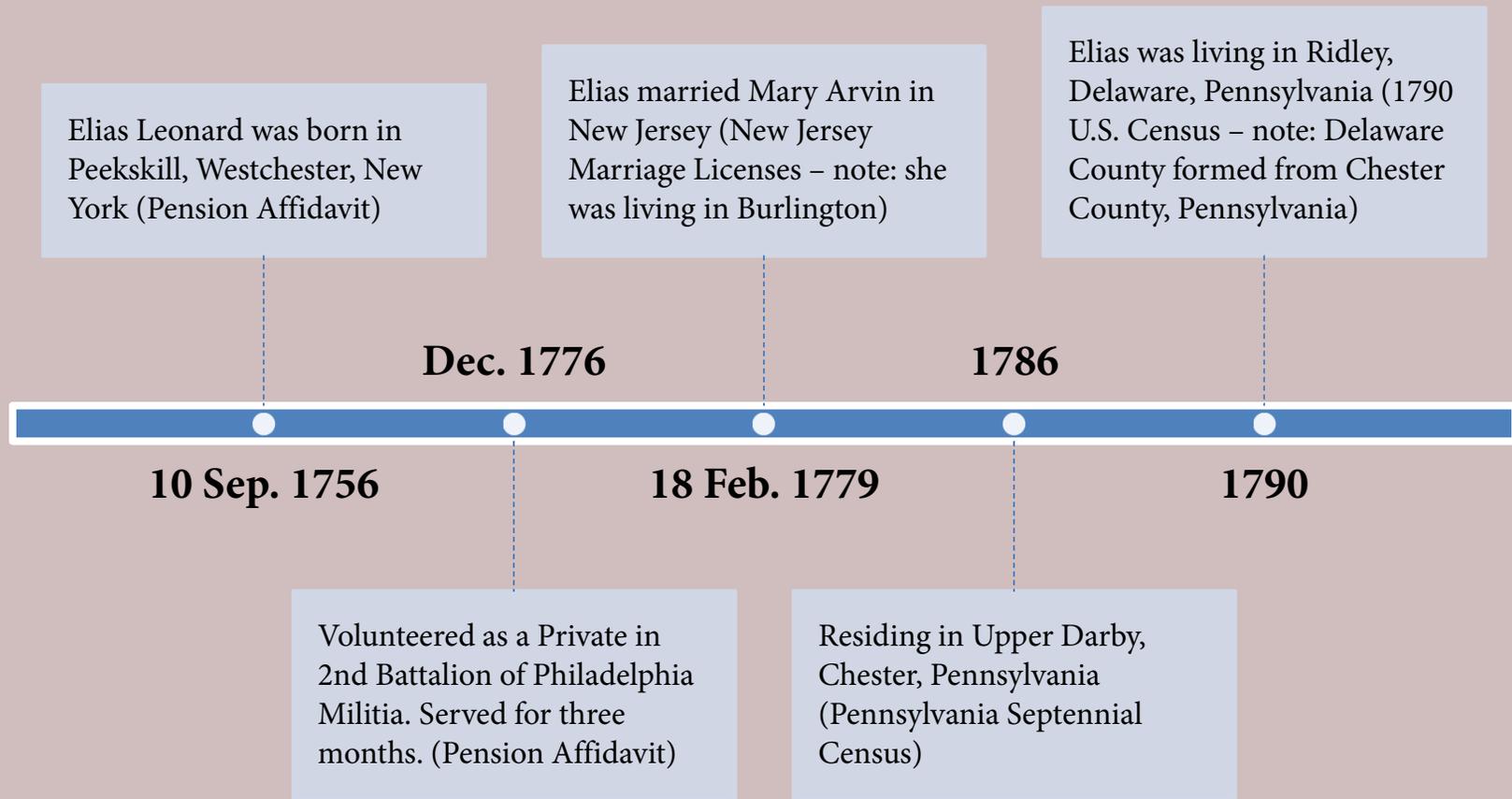
familysearch.org

Elias Leonard
Caleb Earl

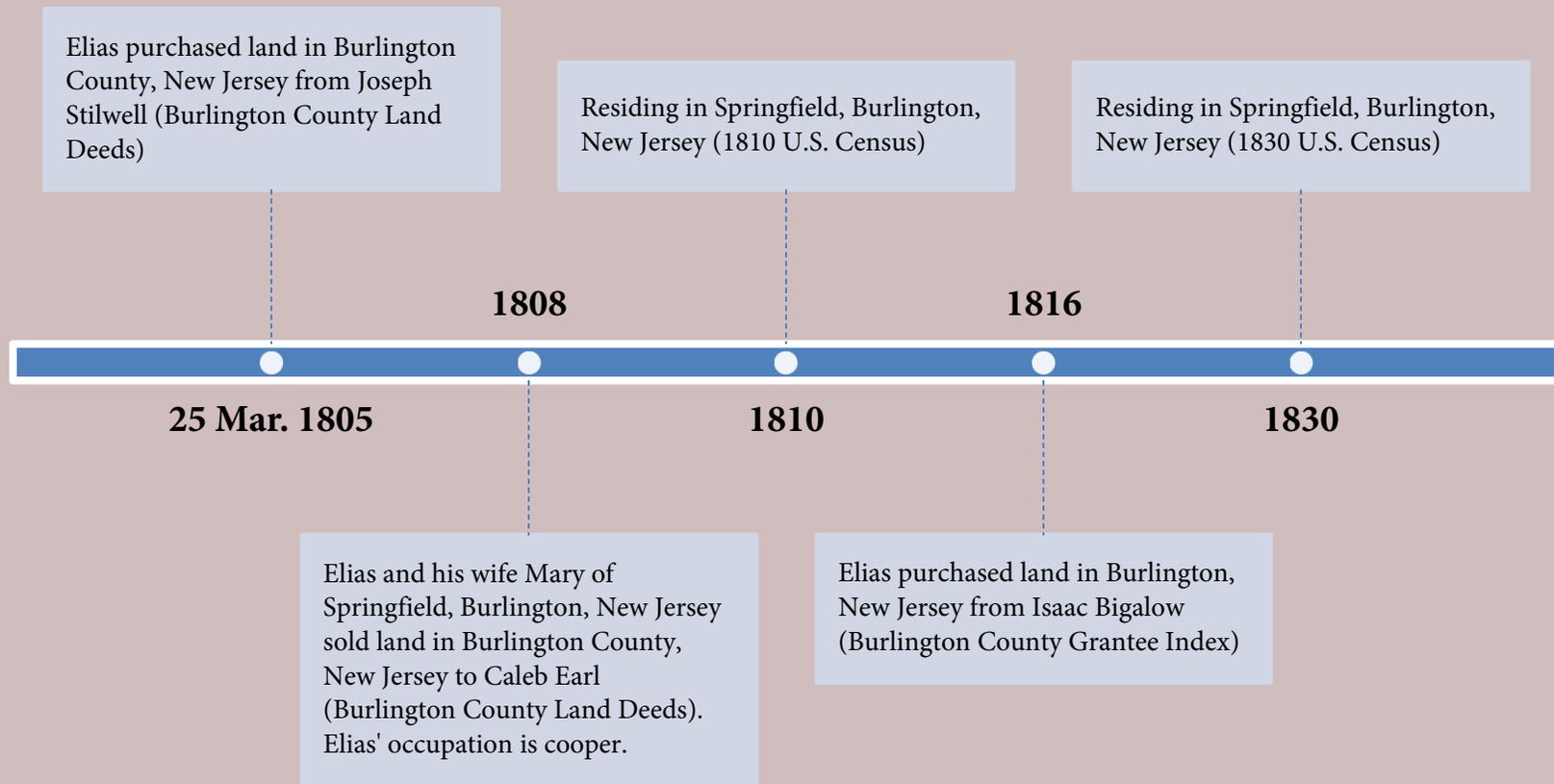
This indenture made the fourteenth day of September in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred & eight between Elias Leonard of Springfield township, Burlington County, in the State of New Jersey, Cooper, & May his wife, of the one part and Caleb Earl of the township, county & State aforesaid, of the other part witnesses that the said Elias Leonard & Mary his wife, for & in consideration of the sum of two hundred & fifty dollars, to them in hand paid by the said Caleb Earl, at the time of the execution hereof the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge have granted, bargained, sold, released & confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, release & confirm unto the said Caleb Earl, his heirs & assigns a certain messuage or tenement and lot or piece of land thereto belonging situate & being in Julius town, in the township, county & State aforesaid bounded & described as follows Beginning at a stone in the middle of the road or street leading through the village corner to land of Samuel Hough Esquire and runs thence 1st along

Elias Leonard Deed to Caleb Earl, 14 Sep. 1808, Burlington, New Jersey, FamilySearch

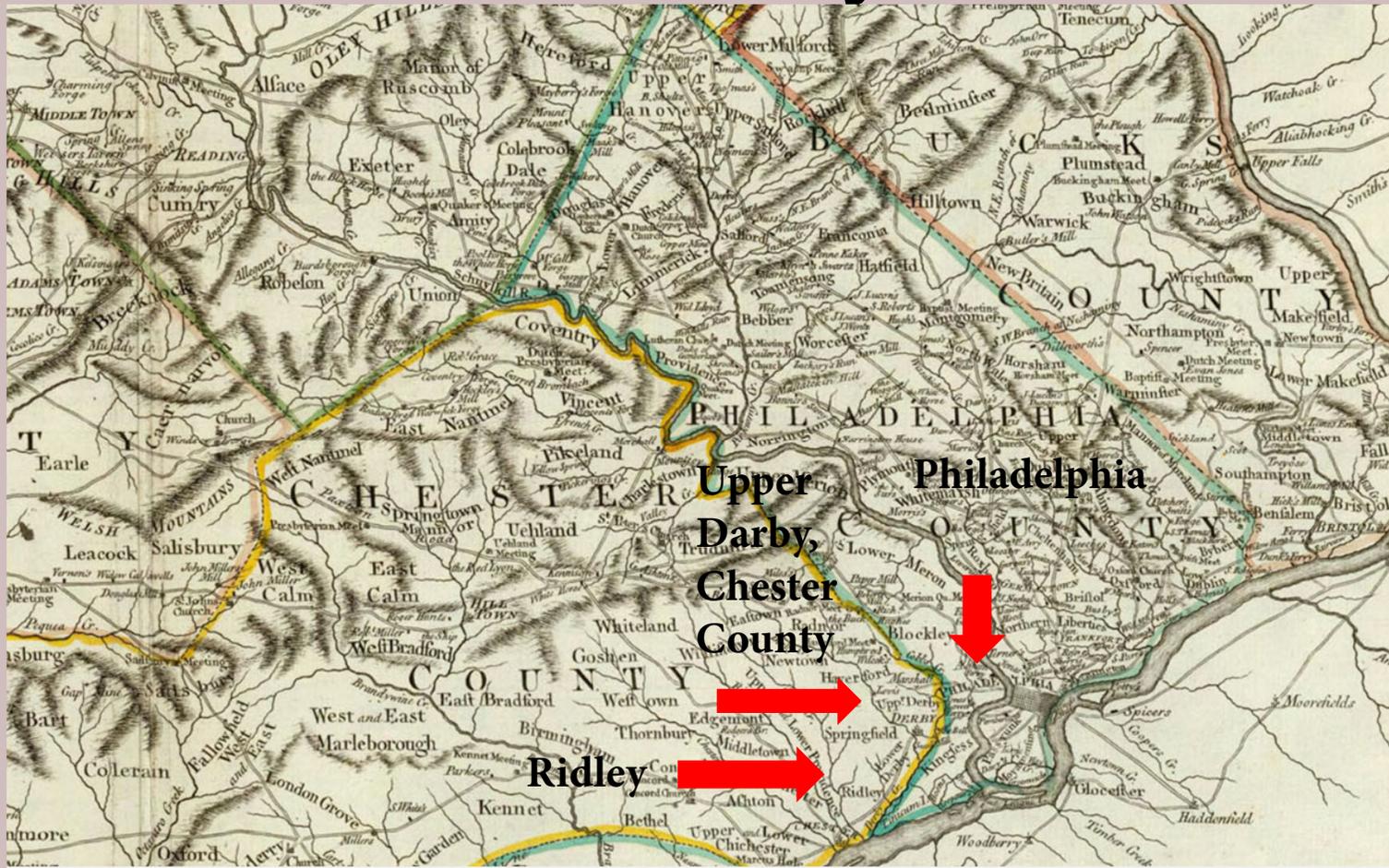
Step 4: Create a Timeline

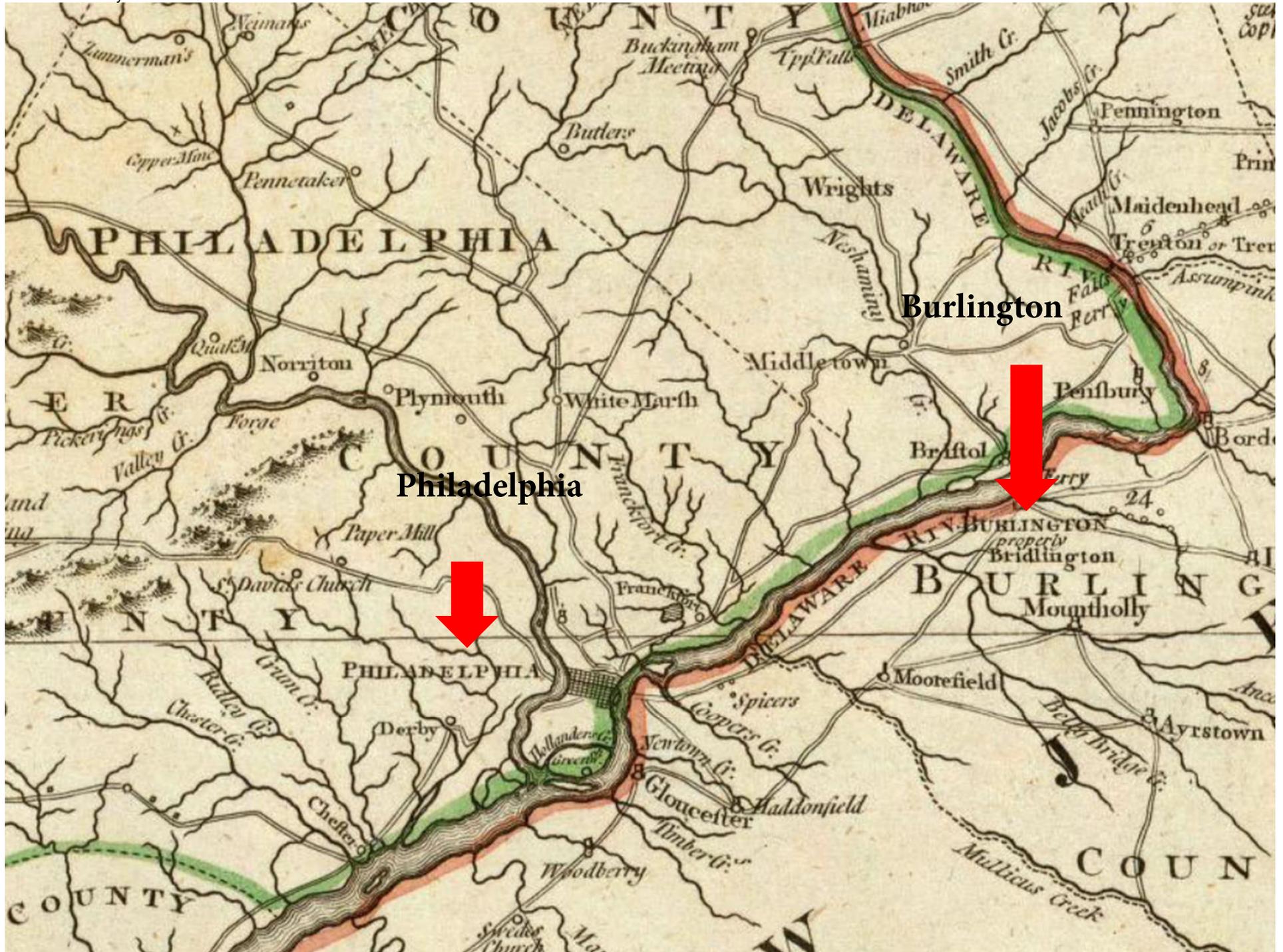


Step 4: Create a Timeline Cont'd



Create a Map (Historical Atlas, 1776, David Rumsey Collection)



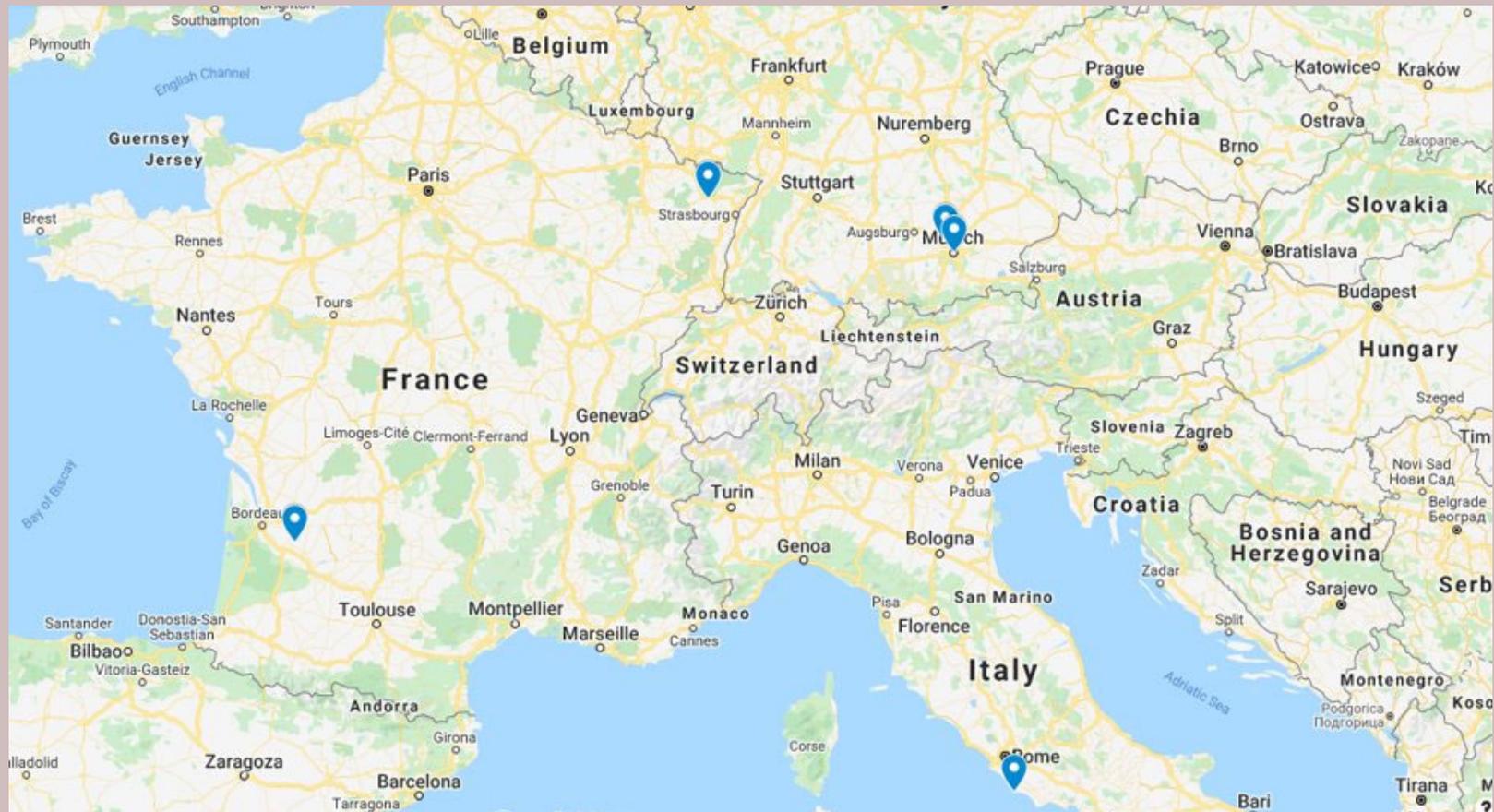


Creating a Map

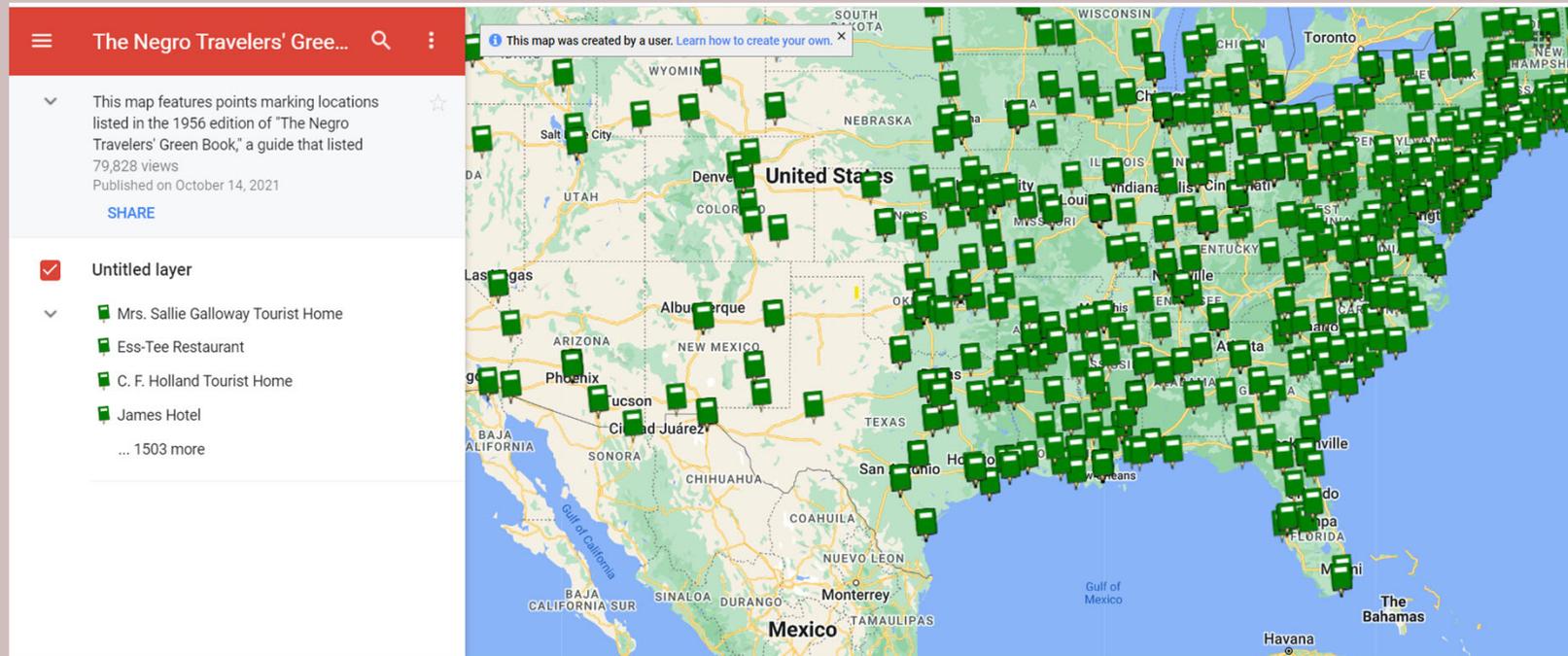
Create your own maps

- On the computer or by hand
 - Google Maps
 - Google Earth
 - ArcGIS
 - StoryMaps
 - DeedMapper
 - Print-outs of (blank) maps

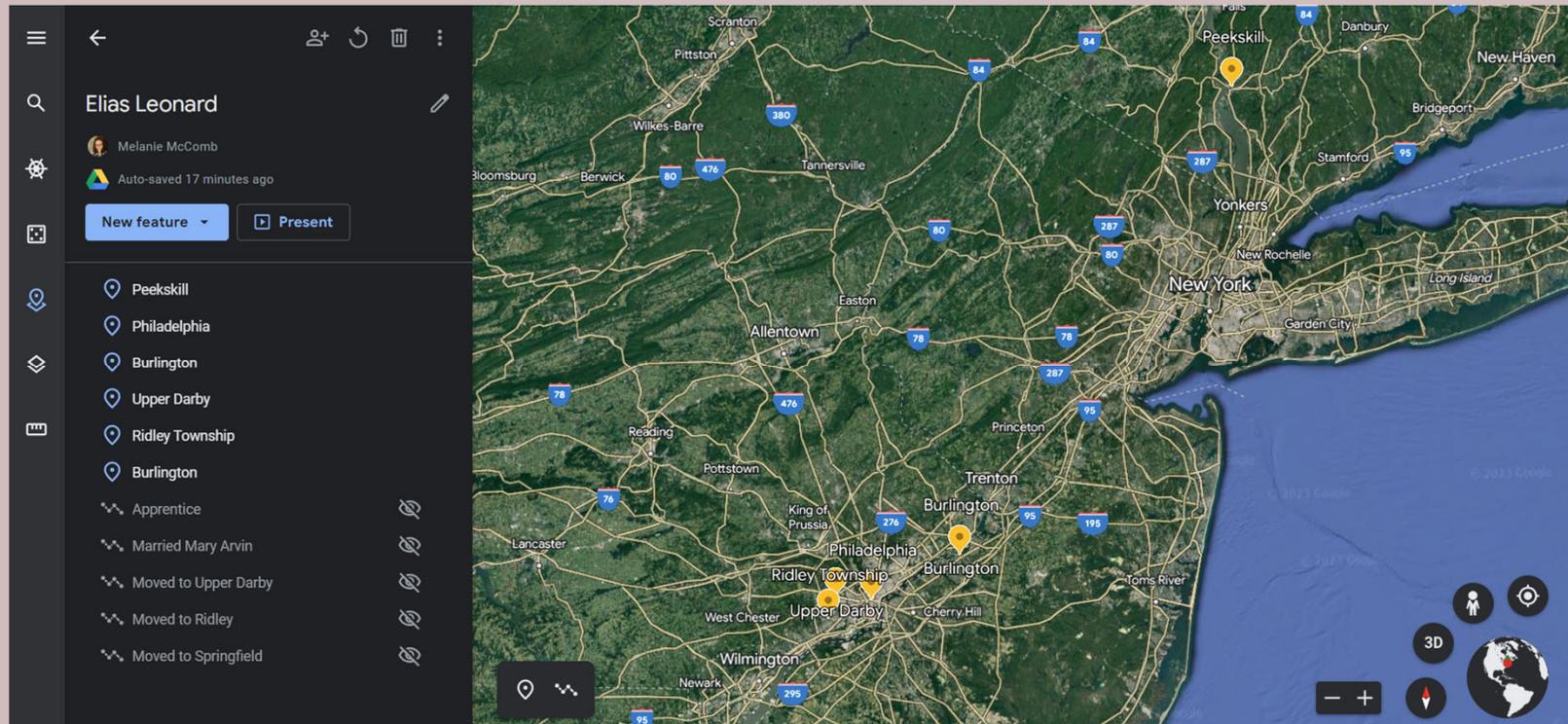
Google Maps



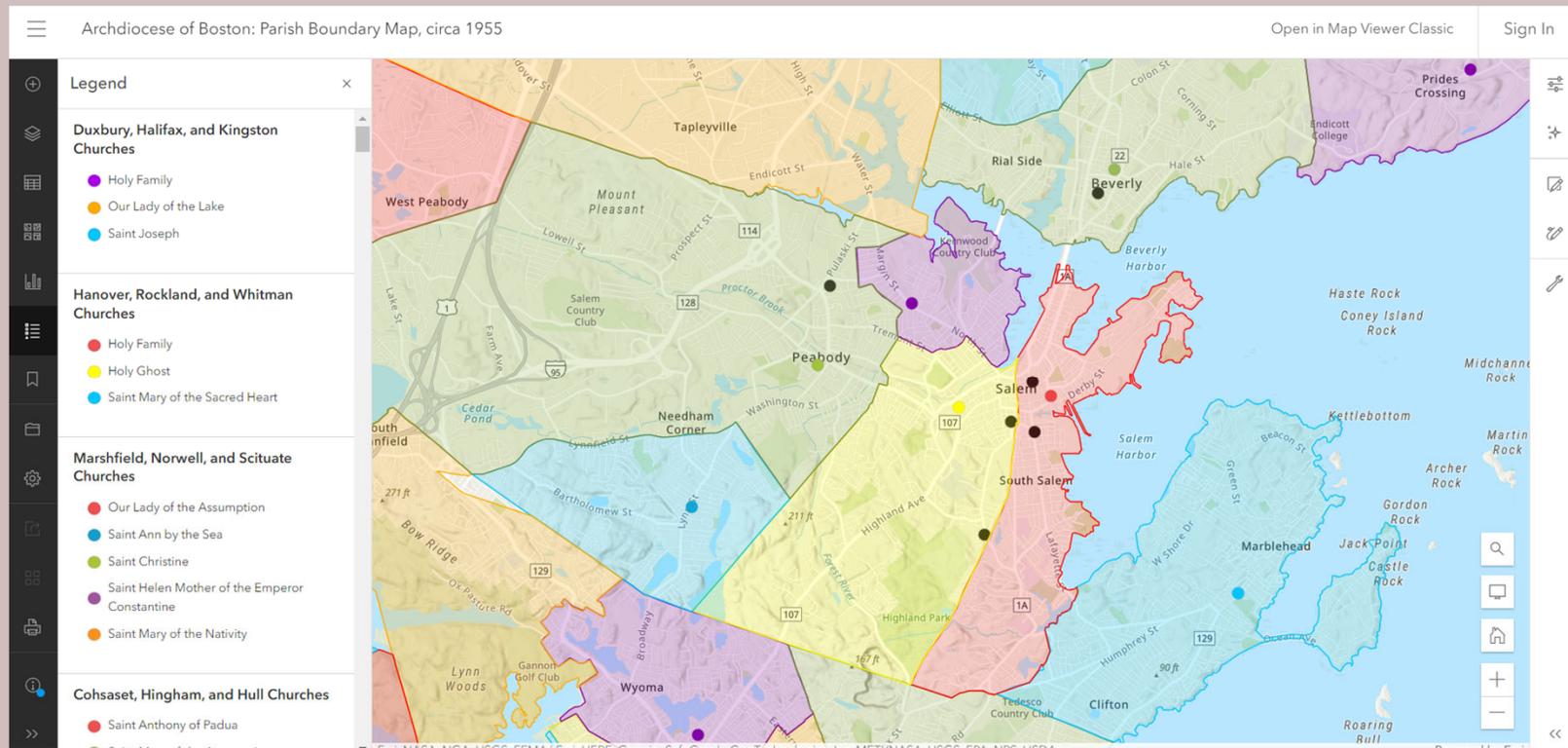
Negro Travelers' Green Book, 1956 from South Carolina Library



Google Earth



ArcGIS



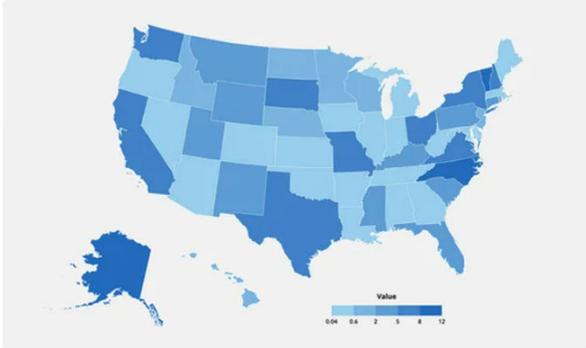
StoryMaps

StoryMaps™ Overview Features Explore Learn Pricing Sign in [Get started](#)

Maps: Give context with places

Take your readers on a journey where your story happens. You only need a few minutes to make a map.

[Learn more](#) →



Thematic maps
Bring your data to life on a custom map. Show how things are related to each other like patterns, and trends.

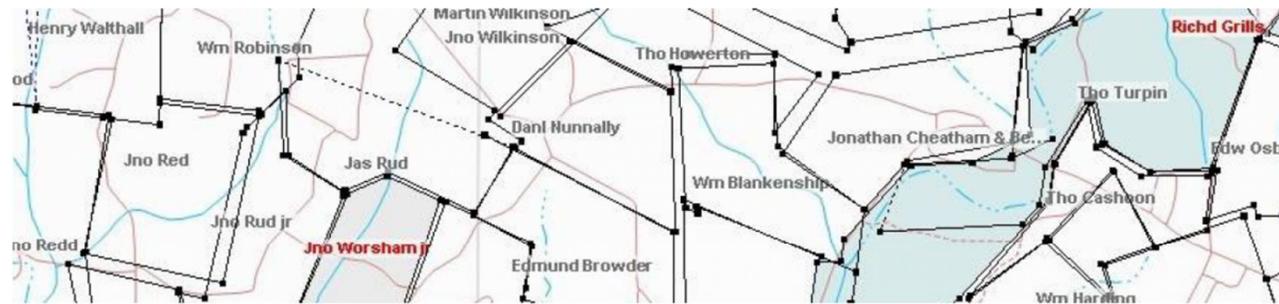


Express maps
Highlight places or areas of interest. Enhance your maps with pop-ups, images, labels, arrows and other elements.

DeedMapper

Direct Line Software

Makers of DeedMapper



DeedMapper 4.2

Whether you have one deed or a hundred, in a “metes and bounds” state or in a Public Domain state, DeedMapper has all sorts of uses! Some examples:

- [Welcome](#)
- [DeedMapper 4.2](#)
 - [Background Maps](#)
 - [Screen Shots](#)
 - [Tutorial Videos](#)
 - [Testimonials](#)
 - [Purchase](#)
 - [Land Record Reference](#)

Printable Maps

The screenshot shows the homepage of the website 'Printable World Map'. At the top left is a logo featuring a figure holding a globe, with the text 'Printable World Map' next to it. Below the logo is a search bar with the text 'Search All Printables' and the website URL 'www.PrintableWorldMap.net'. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with links for 'Home', 'Categories', 'World Maps', 'Continent Maps', 'Country Maps', 'State Maps', 'Region Maps', 'County Maps', 'Blank Maps', 'Labeled Maps', 'Fill-in Maps', 'Topical Maps', 'Outline Maps', and 'Maps in Portrait'. The main content area features the heading 'Printable Maps' in orange. Below this heading is an advertisement with the text 'Savings coming in hot' and a red 'OPEN' button. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a paragraph of text: 'More than 770 free printable maps that you can download and print for free. Or, download entire map collections for just \$9.00. Choose from maps of continents, countries, regions (e.g. Central America and the Middle East), and maps of all fifty of the United States, plus the District of Columbia. There are labeled maps, with countries and capital cities shown; fill-in-the-blank maps, where we've got the outlines and you add the names; and blank maps, where you've got borders and boundaries and it's up to you to flesh out the details.'

Other Map Resources

Norman B. Leventhal
Map & Education Center
at the Boston Public Library
DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Discover the digital
collections of the Leventhal
Map & Education Center
and partners

Enter search terms...

[Advanced Search](#)

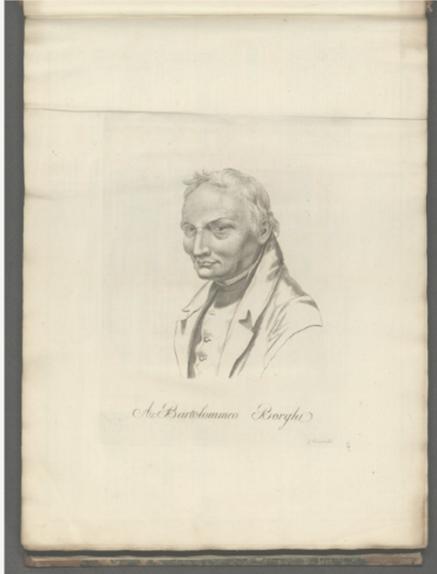
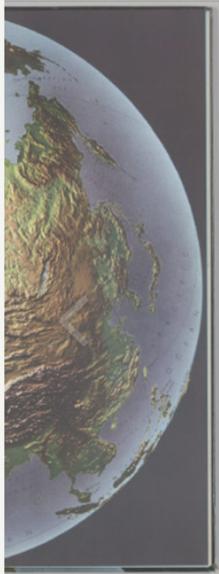
Menu

Bünting, Heinrich, *Die gantze Welt in ein Kleberlat* (1581)

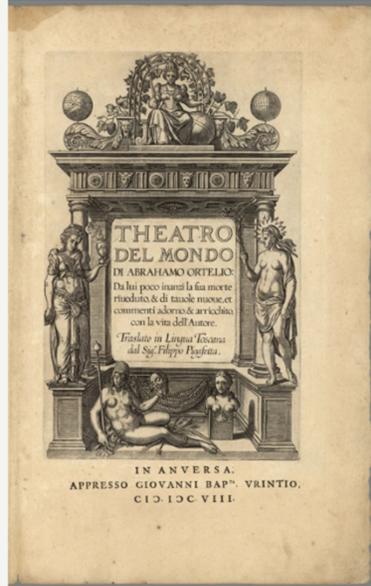
collections.leventhalmap.org

THE COLLECTION

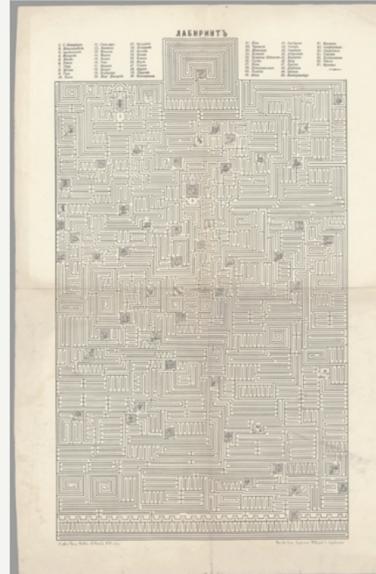
Share this Page



A: Bartolomeo Borghi.; Borghi, Bartolomeo, 1750-1821; 1819; 14255.003



Title Page: *Theatro Del Mondo*.; Ortelius, Abraham, 1527-1598; Vrients. Jan Rantista: 1608; 10001.007



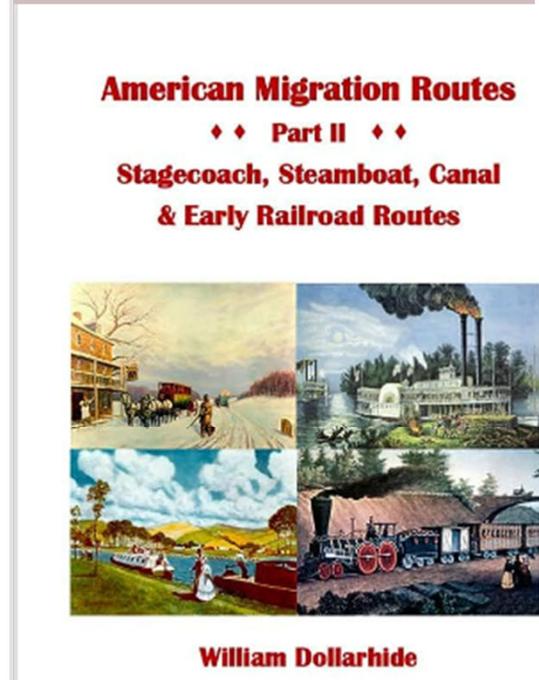
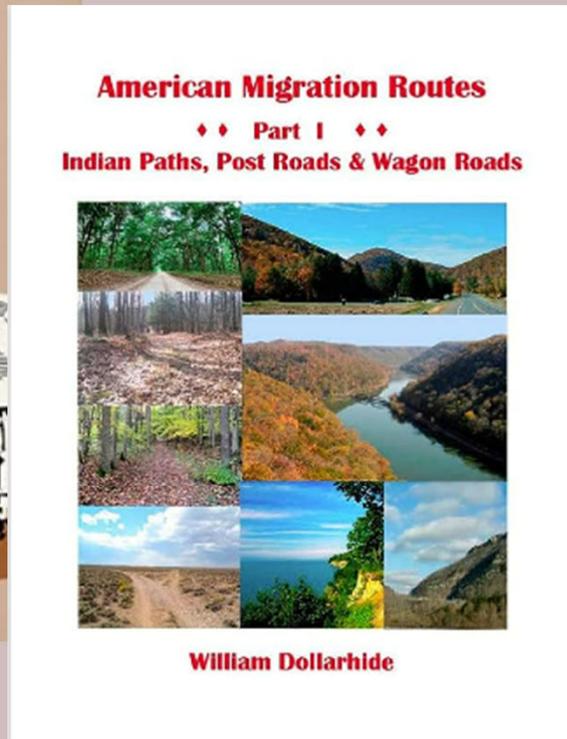
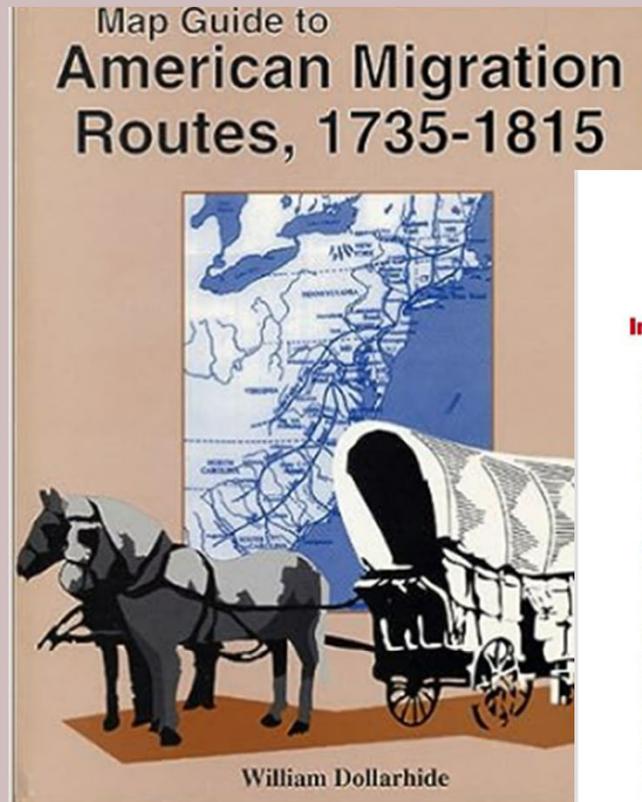
Labirint. *Geograficheskaya igra* (The Maze. Geographical game); Anonymous; 1870; 10486.000



Amsterdam railway system. July 2013; 13005.002

davidrumsey.com

Published Resources





THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org



NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

AmericanAncestors.org

Copyright © 2023