



# Database Guide: Historic Map Works Library Edition, (1500s to present)

## Introduction

**Historic Map Works Library Edition** is one of the most extensive digital map collections available, with over 200,000 high-resolution, full color historic maps. The core of the collection consists of property and land ownership maps illustrating the geographic and development history of the United States. This unique content allows genealogists, historians, and researchers to track the "residential genealogy" of families and locations.

Historic Map Works delivers a diverse collection of sources that allow users to discover the physical spaces of the past. Three core content sets make up the collection:

- **Property (Cadastral) Maps:** Over 800,000 maps detailing the development of North America since the late 1700's to the present. Unlike many collections, coverage includes not only big cities, but also extensive coverage of rural areas and small towns. These extremely detailed and comprehensive maps illustrate property and land ownership across the centuries, often with the contemporaneous owner's and/or occupant's names adjacent to structures and plats.
- **Antique Maps:** Over 100,000 antiquarian maps from around the world, from the 15th to 19th centuries. These exclusive digital maps are drawn from the University of Southern Maine's Osher Map Library, whose collections include many of the world's most important printed maps.
- **City Directories & Illustrations:** Over 100,000 contemporaneous pages of illustrations including bird's eye views, building images, and scenery. And, over 1,000 city directories with address listings, images and photos, business ads, statistics, and more.

The special attention to image quality allows users to see incredible detail that supports research into ancestral lands, land boundaries and structures, geographic names and locations, community growth, topography, and more. Plus, with collections that span decades and centuries, researchers can easily examine change over time—from big cities to small rural areas around the world.

The straightforward interface lets users search Historic Maps Works by keywords, location names, and other advanced features. They can also easily browse the collections using an intuitive point-and-click world map. Other features such as image previews, zoom in/out, and image cropping make reviewing and using the maps easy.

Historic Maps Works Library Edition is an exclusive distribution and development partnership between ProQuest and Historic Map Works, which brings the collection to libraries globally.

## How to View Maps

### Browse

- 1) From the homepage, select the particular **continent** of interest from interactive map in the center of the page.
- 2) Select either the "Browse Continental Maps" button to view all maps for the selected continent or select the **country** of interest from the list that appears.
  - a. If you selected the "Browse Continental Maps" button, scroll down the page to view all maps available for the continent and click on the title of the map of interest to view it.



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- b. If you selected a specific country, a list of maps for that country will be displayed in reverse chronological order (or most recent first). Click on the title to view the map.

*\*Note: The column header of the results pages can be clicked to resort the list of maps. Also, the name of the source is listed in the Atlas Name column and may be clicked to view all results from that source.*

Once the date is selected, the screen will refresh to display thumbnail images of the maps available for that city and date selected. *The number of maps will vary depending upon the size of the area the city/town covered at that time.* Two drop-down menus will appear at the top of the page allowing you to change the city and date at any time. To find images for a different state, click "Browse Maps" and begin with step one above.

- 3) Hover the mouse over the map title to see a preview thumbnail image of the map. Click the title of the map to open the image viewer; the screen will refresh to display the map.
- 4) A hand-shaped cursor will appear which will allow you to click on any point of the map image to auto-zoom to that point or click-and-hold the left mouse button to drag the map.
- 5) At the bottom of the image viewer, zoom and navigation buttons appear along with the option to instantly reset the image to its original size.
- 6) The Crop button appears at the top right of the page.

### Search

- 1) "Map & Directory Keyword Search"
  - a. Contains two categories: US and World
  - b. Search by map title or atlas (source) name, location, publisher, or date.
    - i. When searching for a location, the comma is not necessary to separate a city and state or country (e.g. *London England* rather than *London, England*); a city name can be entered independently of the state (e.g. *Denver* rather than *Denver Colorado*).
    - ii. Dates should be entered as the year only (e.g. 1921).
    - iii. Quotation marks should not be used to create phrases.
    - iv. Other forms of punctuation, such as apostrophes, will be ignored (e.g. *Bird's Eye* will search for *Bird s Eye* instead).
    - v. Boolean operators, such as AND OR, are not necessary because search terms are automatically combined with AND by default.
    - vi. A link to the „Advanced Search’ page and the option to „Search Within Results’ is available from the results page.
- 2) "Category Guide"

Defines the types of map categories.
- 3) "Advanced Search"
  - a. Select (Checkbox) Category
  - b. Enter Keywords\*
    - i. *Contains, Starts With, Exact Match, and Doesn't Contain* options 1<sup>st</sup> dropdown box. (2<sup>nd</sup> dropdown only offers *Contains and Doesn't Contain*.)
    - ii. Boolean operators' dropdown box (Boolean operators are not allowed in the Keyword search boxes).



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### iii. Add Search Field link.

*\*Keyword search queries our database for map names, atlas names, directory content, publishers, dates, and locations that match your keywords. Results that contain all of your keywords are returned. They are divided into categories; Maps, Atlases, Bird's Eye Views, Charts, Directories and Directory Pages for the United States, Maps, Atlases and Special Collection for the World.*

#### 4) Address Tab

- a. Search by geocoded United States addresses. If no exact match is found, results for the city or town entered are displayed.
- b. The physical address (i.e., 123 Main Street) is not required, but the City and the State fields are mandatory fields to retrieve results.
- c. Some states have additional atlases that are searchable; they are indicated in the State dropdown menu by an asterisk.
- d. Once on the results page, another search may be conducted at the top of the page rather than returning to the search tab.

#### 5) GPS Mapfinder Tab

- a. Utilizing latitude and longitude coordinates, a list of maps containing the coordinates are returned.
- b. Cardinal directions, such as N, S, E, or W, should not be added to the numerical location.
- c. Maps are currently available for the following states: California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

If you search for a Lat/Long in a state that is not represented, the 1875 *U.S. Map* by Comstock & Cline will display as the sole result.

#### 6) Illustrations Tab

Search the database for Family Name, Business Name, City or Town Name that match your keywords.

#### 7) Directories Tab

- a. Search any word that appears in the directory database.
- b. State selection is optional.

### View, Zoom, Crop, Print, and Save

- To **VIEW**, click on the Map Title to open the image in the viewer; use the cursor to click and drag the image or the arrows at the bottom center of the viewer to move the image. The small window in the top left of the viewer will display a red outline around the portion of the map that you are currently viewing.
- To **ZOOM**, either use the cursor to click on the area you wish to zoom-in on, or utilize the + or – symbols in the toolbar at the bottom center of the viewer to zoom in or out. The upward facing arrow on the top left of the toolbar can be moved left to right to zoom in or out. The  $\frac{3}{4}$  circle with an arrow is used to reset the image to the original size and center it in the viewer.
- To **CROP**, click the Crop button in the top right of the viewer. The page will refresh and you are able to click and drag anywhere on the image. A selection box will appear (this may take a few seconds). Move the selection box by dragging it; resize the box by dragging one of its corners. Click the "Crop Image" button at the bottom of the page to display and print or save your downloadable cropped image.



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- To **PRINT**, click the Print button at the top right of the viewer (print function is only compatible with IE browser) to view the image in a refreshed page. Once the image has loaded (image will contain digital watermarks reading "Historic Map Works"), the print options for the local printer will display.
- To **SAVE**, click the Save button at top right of the viewer and choose "Save File". In Firefox, this will download the file to the specified location. In IE, you will be given the option to Open or Save the file. File is a JPEG.

### Search Results

Search results are displayed in a tabbed page for Maps and Atlases. Select the tab of the particular type of image to view and the results will be displayed in a table format, the columns of which may be clicked to sort the results list by such headings as Map Title, Maps (number of maps), Publisher, Date, and Collection.

Results containing data such as illustrations or geocode data will be indicated as follows:



Denotes atlases with illustrations.



Denotes atlases with geocode data.

### Search Tips

- Names of cities, states, and countries have changed over time; maps will reflect the name of the location at the time the map was created and it has been indexed thusly.
- A map may contain multiple countries and will be indexed and be made browsable/searchable by each country represented.
- The borders of countries, provinces, territories, states, counties, and cities change over time.
- The majority of the maps are English-language maps, thus diacritics (é, ñ, ü, etc.) are not needed for searching (e.g. **Duche' de Silesie** is searchable with the accent after the **e**, but it is not necessary to find the map). Some maps are not English-language (e.g. **Bois de Boulogne**).
- Locations within the maps, such as rivers, streets, topographical and structural landmarks, have not been indexed.

### Where to find help

#### Search our Support Center:

<http://www.proquest.com/support>

#### To access product help and training documentation:

<http://www.proquest.com/go/training>

<http://www.proquest.co.uk/go/training>

#### By phone

**In North America:** 800-889-3358

**Outside North America:** 0880 220 710 (UK only)  
+44 1223 271 496 (Outside of UK)