



MAP LIBRARY
University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries
Handout for Jewish Genealogy Research—November, 2004

The Map Library is located downstairs in the Jerry Crail Johnson Earth Sciences and Map Library. It is the main map collection for the University of Colorado Libraries and houses approximately 200,000 maps. The collection is open to everyone. Staff is available at all times to answer your questions.

The collection is based on the Federal Depository program, which means that it primarily contains publications from United States federal mapping agencies. Some agencies that contribute maps are the U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Land Management, Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Forest Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

There is also a large collection of detailed World War II and Cold War era topographic maps of Europe, Russia and Asia produced by the Army Map Service/Defense Mapping Agency. **These are of primary interest to genealogists and historians.**

Fall 2004 hours:

8am-10pm Monday -Thursday
8am-5pm Friday
12pm-5pm Saturday
12pm-10pm Sunday

Reference hours:

8am-5pm Monday -Friday
5pm-10 pm Sunday
Closed for home football games
Phone: 303-492-7578
Email: maplib@colorado.edu

Hours during Thanksgiving and Winter Break are different than hours listed above. Please call for hours information.

Circulation:

Maps may be checked out for 14 days. Most maps (except those marked "Reference", published before 1950, or fragile ones) may be checked out. They are checked out and returned to the Map Library circulation desk only. Maps that cannot be checked out usually may be copied. There is a black and white copier available in the library that makes 8 ½" x 11" (15¢) and 11" x 17" (15¢) copies. Maps may be taken out of the library for copying if a driver's license is left with staff.

Web Page:

More information about the Map Library, and where to find maps on the Web, is available on the Map Library web pages: <http://www-libraries.colorado.edu/ps/map/>

Other University of Colorado Libraries collections that house maps:

Government Publications, Norlin Library
Special Collections, Norlin Library
Reference Department, Norlin Library (Historic County Boundaries Atlases, atlases, gazetteers)

Other notable map collections in the Front Range area:

Selected List of Eastern European Maps and Reference Sources in the Map Library:

- AMS/DMA maps of European and Asian countries, 1940s-1960s (at scales 1:50,000, 1:100,000, 1:250,000, and 1:1,000,000)
- Historic Urban Plans reproductions (Maps/bird's eye views of cities in the U.S. and around the world)
- Miscellaneous reproductions of European countries, 18th and 19th centuries (mostly by Jonathan Sheppard Publications)
- Baedeker's travel guides: covers areas of Europe including Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy from the later 1800s to 1920s
- Gazetteers in the Reference section of the Map Library such as Columbia World Gazetteer
- Current USGS Topographic maps (all U.S. states, at scales 1:24,000, 1:100,000 and 1:250,000)
- USGS topographic maps from 1880-1940 (all U.S. states, at scales 1:62,500, 1:125,000 and others)
- Plat maps of Colorado, General Land Office, 1890s-1930s (Show land holdings by township and range, sometimes giving property owners' names)
- Reproductions of Colorado and Southwest maps from the 19th century
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of all of Colorado from the 1880s thru early 1900s (need to make an appointment to view these)

SELECTED LIST OF MAP WEB SITES:

I. Gazetteers:

- GeoNet Names Server: Produced by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency as a place and feature finder for all countries outside the U.S. <http://164.214.2.59/gns/html/index.html>
- ShtetlSeeker: Searches for place names in Central and Eastern European countries. Names can be searched using the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex system, which allows for a phonetic match in case an exact spelling is not known. Also links to Mapquest to show current locations. <http://www.jewishgen.org/shtetlseeker/>
- GNIS (Geographic Names Information System): Produced by U.S. Geological Survey as a place-name finder for ALL named sites on their topographic maps, including towns, lakes, mountains, cemeteries, churches, etc. <http://geonames.usgs.gov/>
- U.S. Census Bureau Gazetteer: U.S. populated places <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/gazetteer>

II. Maps Online:

- Federation of East European Family History Societies Map Room: Scanned 19th century maps of eastern European countries <http://feefhs.org/maps/indexmap.html>
- Perry-Castañeda Library Electronic Map Collection (University of Texas at Austin): 2400 scanned maps from the library's collection, plus links to many other maps on the Web. Covers all parts of the world and includes a large, diverse Texas collection. <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/index.html>
- Library of Congress Map Collections: More than 1000 of the 4.5 million items in the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress's collection have been scanned at high resolution and are viewable at this site. "Map Collections" focuses on Americana and the Cartographic Treasures of the Library of Congress. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>
- David Rumsey Map Collection: Focuses on 18th and 19th century North and South American cartographic materials including atlases, globes, school geographies, maritime charts, and more. <http://www.davidrumsey.com/>
- BLM land patents records site: provides image access to more than two million Federal land title records for Eastern Public Land States, issued between 1820 and 1908. <http://www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov/>
- National Archives and Records Administration - Cartographic and architectural unit: http://www.archives.gov/publications/general_information_leaflets/26.html
- Oddens's Bookmarks: The premier map web site with links to pretty much every map on the Web (or so it seems)! Created by a geography professor at University of Utrecht, Netherlands <http://www.old-maps.co.uk/>
- Denver Public Library: The Western History and Genealogy Department's (<http://www.denver.lib.co.us/wbg/index.html>) excellent online photography collection includes some maps. Try a search for "maps" in "subject keyword" to browse: <http://photoswest.org/presearch.html>
- Colorado Digitization Program's Colorado Heritage Collections: Historical maps of Colorado and a few other Western states. (Also includes a large collection of historical photographs of the West.) <http://www.cdphheritage.org/heritage/index.html>

III. Map Dealers (often have map images to view and will help you find a map of your area, for a price of course):

- The Gold Bug: historical information for genealogical research (reproductions of old European country and city maps; U.S. county boundary changes info.; gazetteers)
<http://www.goldbug.com/>
- Jonathan Sheppard Books: products and services for genealogists, researchers and those looking for unusual and hard to find books and maps:
<http://www.jonathansheppardbooks.com/intropage.htm>
- Historic Urban Plans: Museum-quality reproductions of maps, plans, and birds-eye-views of cities around the world, drawn from major museums, libraries, archives, and private collections.
<http://www.historicurbanplans.com/>
- Historical Ink - New England maps and gazetteers (Athol, MA): <http://www.oldmapsne.com/>
- See Map Library Web site for more antique maps dealers: <http://www-libraries.colorado.edu/ps/map/LINKS/lmvhis.htm>