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Doing History with Online Mapping Tools: An Introduction

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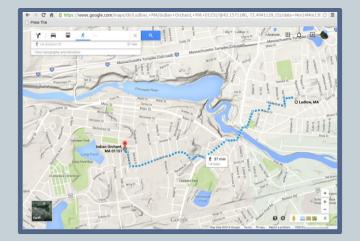
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Doing History with Online Mapping Tools



JOANNE RILEY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST UMASS BOSTON JOANNE.RILEY@UMB.EDU

"Let us look at the map, for maps, like faces, are the signature of history."



FamilySearch Research Wiki

Contents [hide]

- 1 Brief History
- 2 Historical Data
- 3 Town Histories
- 4 Vital Records
- 5 City Directories
- 6 Maps
- 7 Cemeteries
- 8 Churches
- 9 Town Records
- 10 Newspapers
- 11 Libraries and Historical Societies
- 12 References

← → C f https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Roxbury,_Massachusetts	± ☆
FamilySearch Family Tree Memories Search Indexing	Volunteer Get Help ▲ Sign In
Page Edit Talk History	슈 Watch 💌 Share 💼 Print
Roxbury, Massachusetts Edit This Page United States Massachusetts Norfolk Roxbury	Search Learning & How-To's Subject, Place or Keyword Q
This is a historical and genealogical guide to the town and city of Roxbury. You will find help with town histories, vital records, city directories, cemetery records and cemeteries, churches, deeds (i.e. land records), town and city records, newspapers, maps, and libraries. There is a detailed guide for the town and city of Boston that annexed Roxbury.	by country by topic
Roxbury (1630–1868) Roxbury was a town in Norfolk County before it was annexed to Boston in Suffolk County. This guide discusses the records created by this town and includes references to material of present-day Roxbury (the neighborhood of Boston) as well. Be careful of the time period you are researching here as the records you need may be in one of two counties or one of two towns. Contents [hide] 1 Brief History 2 Historical Data 3 Town Histories 4 Vital Records	Share Your Opinion! The Community Council Selection Committee is now accepting recommendations for potential council vacancies. Recommendations Page
5 City Directories 6 Maps 7 Cemeteries 8 Churches 9 Town Records 10 Newspapers 11 Libraries and Historical Societies 12 References	Getting Started Wiki Home New to the Wiki Wiki Tools Find an Ancestor Research Help
Brief History Roxbury was one of several towns settled by the passengers from the Winthrop Fleet in 1630. The	Browse by Country Volunteer and Helper
settlement grew when the famed Rev. John Eliot (called "the Apostle to the Indians") arrived in 1632	Family History Centers

Contributor Help

P 🍪 🖆

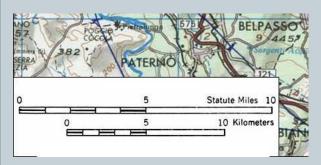
with a group of his followers called "Nazeing Christians." It is under Eliot that the church is

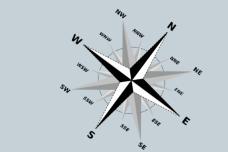
established (with residents attended Dorchester's church before his arrival). Some settlers moved

Types of Maps

- Birds-eye
- Aerial Photography
- Topographical Maps
- Real estate Maps
- City Atlases
- Fire Insurance Maps
- <u>Learning Historical Research</u> superb site!
 <u>http://www.williamcronon.net/researching/maps.htm</u>

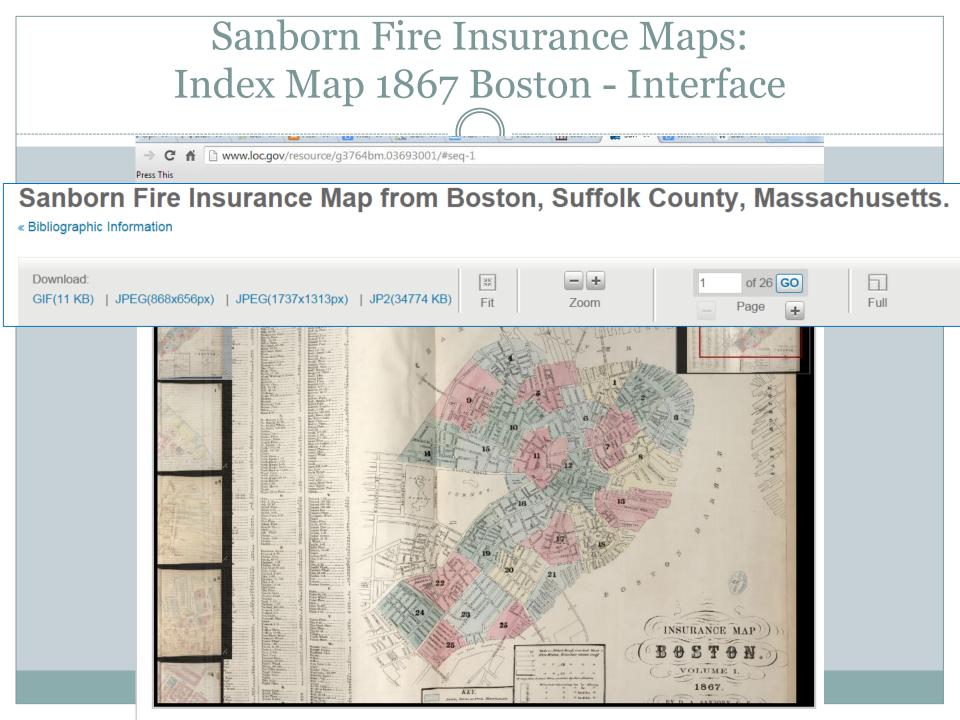
Reality Check



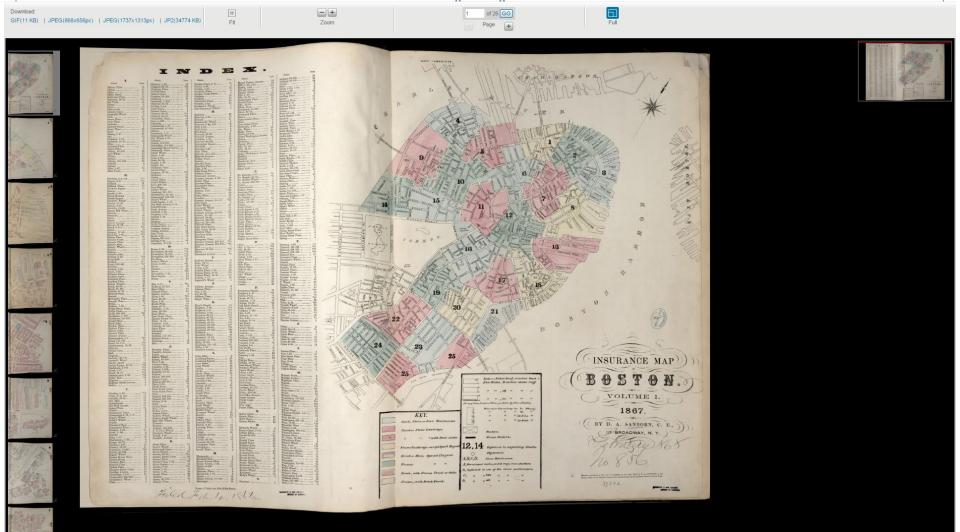


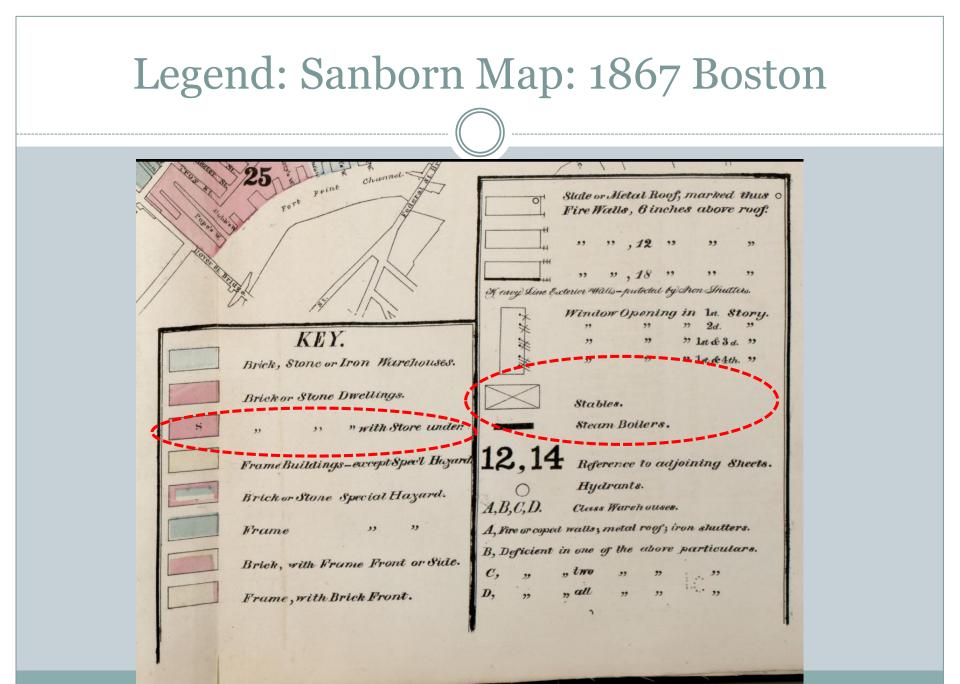


- Scale relationship (or ratio) between distance on a map and the corresponding distance on the ground.
- Orientation relationship between the directions on the map and the corresponding compass directions in reality.
- Legend an explanatory list of symbols on a map or chart

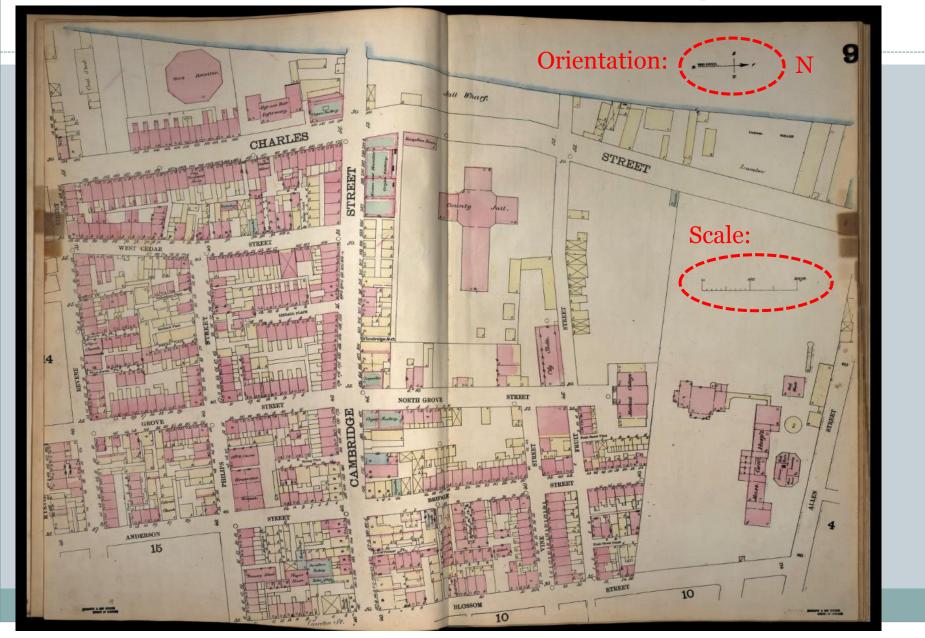


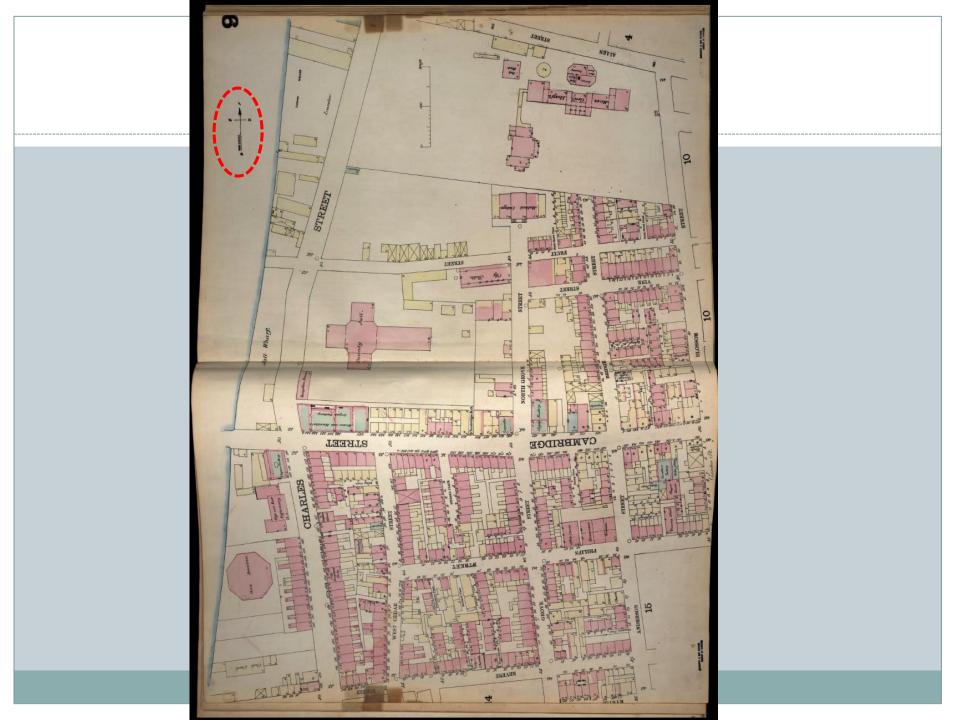
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: Index Map 1867 Boston – Legend, Orientation, Scale





West End, Boston 1867 (loc.gov)





Extra help from good old Google

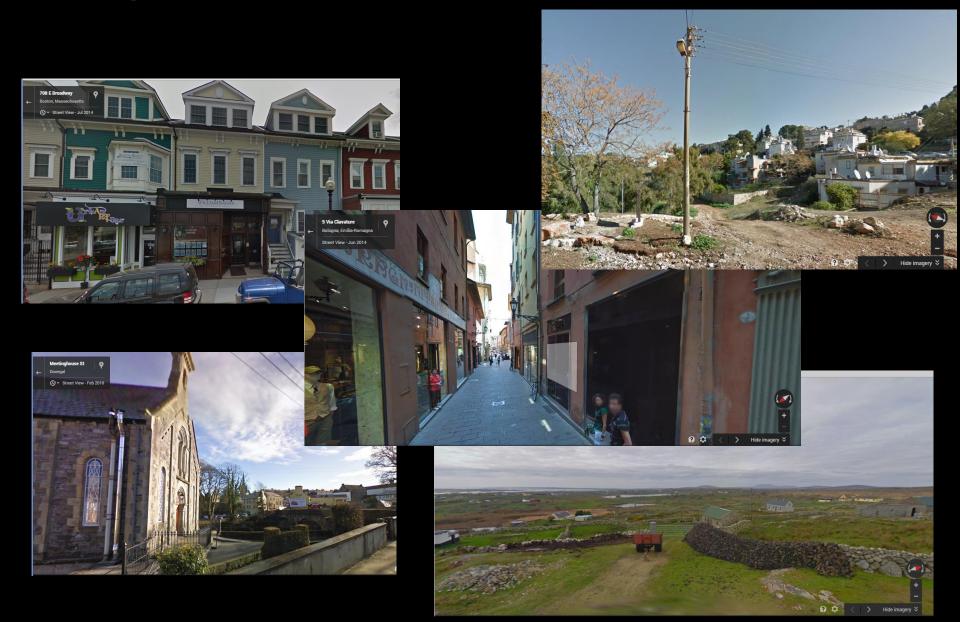
- Geo-coded maps allow for calculating
 - Directions
 - × Walking directions informative for historical conjecture
 - Distances
 - × "Atlantic" to Milton? Indian Orchard to "Jenksville"?
- Street views
 - o including far-flung places
 - "Walk" the roads of unfamiliar locations

TIP: be sure you're exploring the right place! Check out archaic or duplicate names at TGN, USGS, FS Wiki or MA Archives list

Lucilla Beebe Diary (1876) Ma got onl- and strolled FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1876. TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1876. Went down Heas rained a good deal al Jenkoulle. to the to day a and I sent More rain to day Orchard down to the Office with father + Stris afternoon. again with SATURDAY 13 WEDNESDAY 10 Sylvia. We Mr. Ma Duffie called We orent up to and got out and this afternoon. a's this afternoon. Comma called Stris strolled evening commenced to rain THURSDAY IS while she around SUNDAY 14 pas here. near the I and R. went-out Colder to day and dring this evening. river at the mind blows quite hard. Nent-down to the Jenksville. Orchard again with Sylvia



Google Street View – "walk" down the street!



An oft-told family story:

 "Your great-grandfather emigrated to Middletown, CT from Melilli, Sicily. His compatriots built an exact replica of their hometown church in Middletown."

• Through Google Street View:

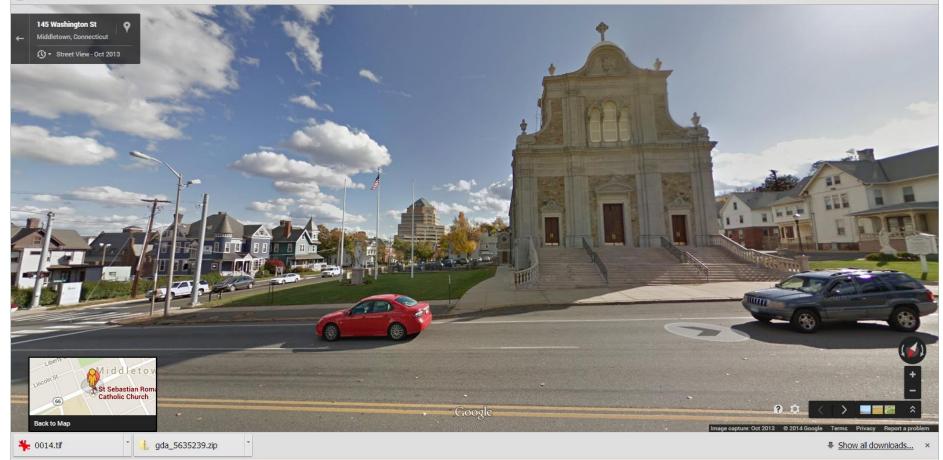
Basilica San Sebastiano, Melilli Sicily

← → C ☆ 🎽 https://www.google.com/maps/place/Basilica+di+S.+Sebastiano/@37.1777492,15.1277548,3a,75y,95.18h,97.45t/data=!3m4!1e1!3m2!1sdd8sKYuh-JKVdgyST2NHvQ!2e0!4m2!3m1!1s0x0000000 ☆ Ξ



St. Sebastian Church, Middletown CT

 $\leftarrow \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ fi $\left[\frac{1}{2} \text{ https://www.google.com/maps/place/St+Sebastian+Roman+Catholic+Church/@41.5614532,-72.653456,3a,75y,149.08h,96.59t/data=13m4!1e1!3m2!1s3b9j9wbQWQoh07R3P0vAwAl2e0!4m2!3m2! = 12m2!1s3b9j9wbQWQoh07R3P0vAwAl2e0!4m2!3m2! = 12m2! + 12m2! +$

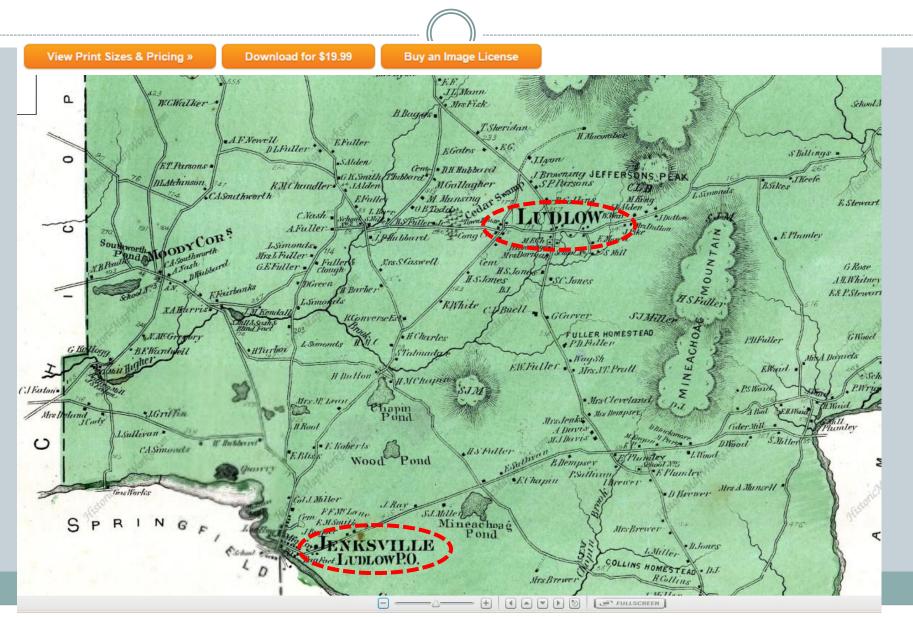


Map Collections

- <u>Leventhal Map Collection, Boston Public</u> <u>Library</u>
- Library of Congress American Memory Map Collections
- <u>Historic Map Works</u>
- <u>David Rumsey Historical Map Collection</u>
- <u>Portal: Old Maps Online</u> links to all of the above and more



Beers Atlas Map of Ludlow - HistoricMapWorks



1874 Diary of Zenas Brett, Brookline, MA

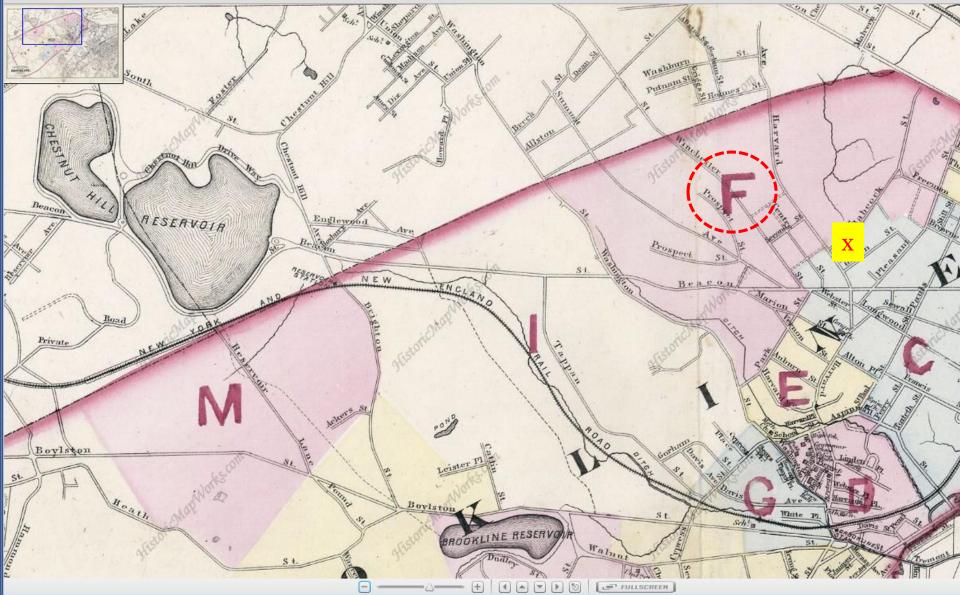
FRIDAY 7 Pleaner Ru. M. Pleasant. Wanner, Come Mone Text Pu Dr Emsti from store before 5 and took Shows Hunt Clara and her company Mis Pleasa Haskell & Mma, Son William the se Wrote of to note around "Cheitreat Hill Reservir", In the encount Cool and pleasant, leasant. Manner, Come mo from store before 5 and took Rec. mistory of Provillem which is Clara and her company Miss were sub. and panil for som Naskell + Mma, son William 6 mes. ago, Ree? letter from Carrie and France to note around "Chestrut Hill Reservir", In the succest Sent illajore Daw" + Other People, to our ch. Mayer meeting and Silts. Worsted & Haufer to Pro. Ward took Charger, Wife who is at Schucauter Mit -

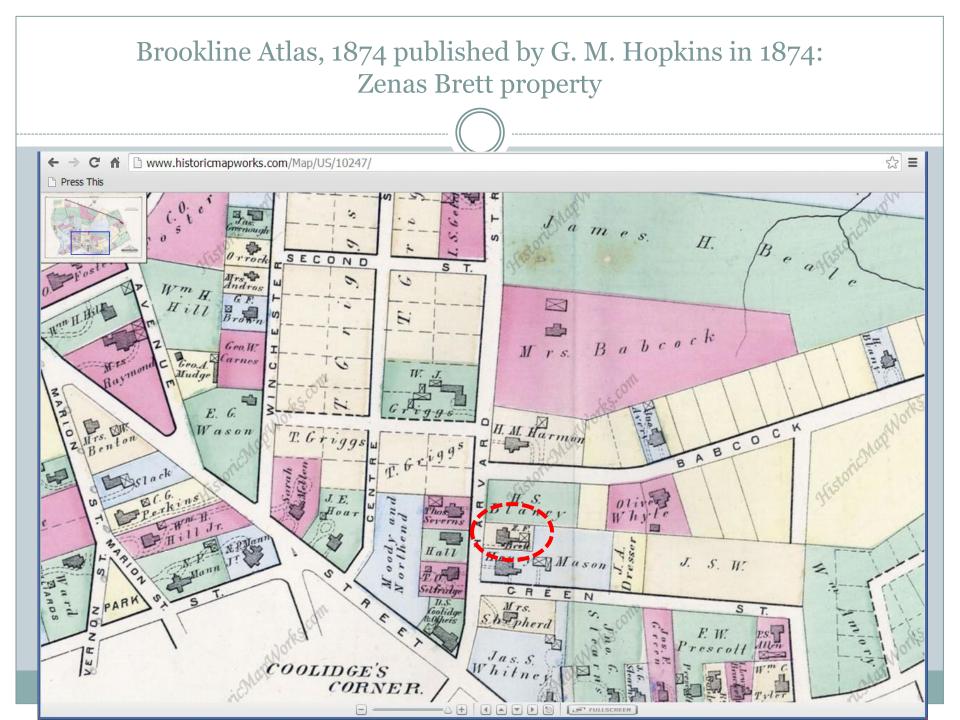
Index Map From the atlas Brookline 1874 published by G. M. Hopkins in 1874

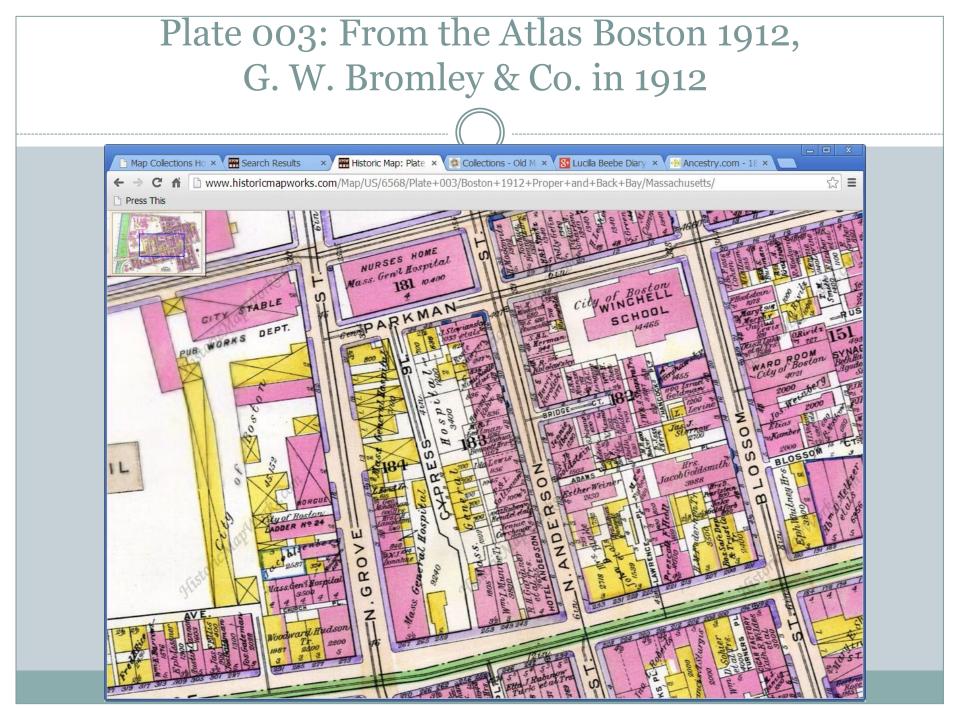
Www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/10241/Index+Map/Brookline+1874/Massachusetts/

Press This

C





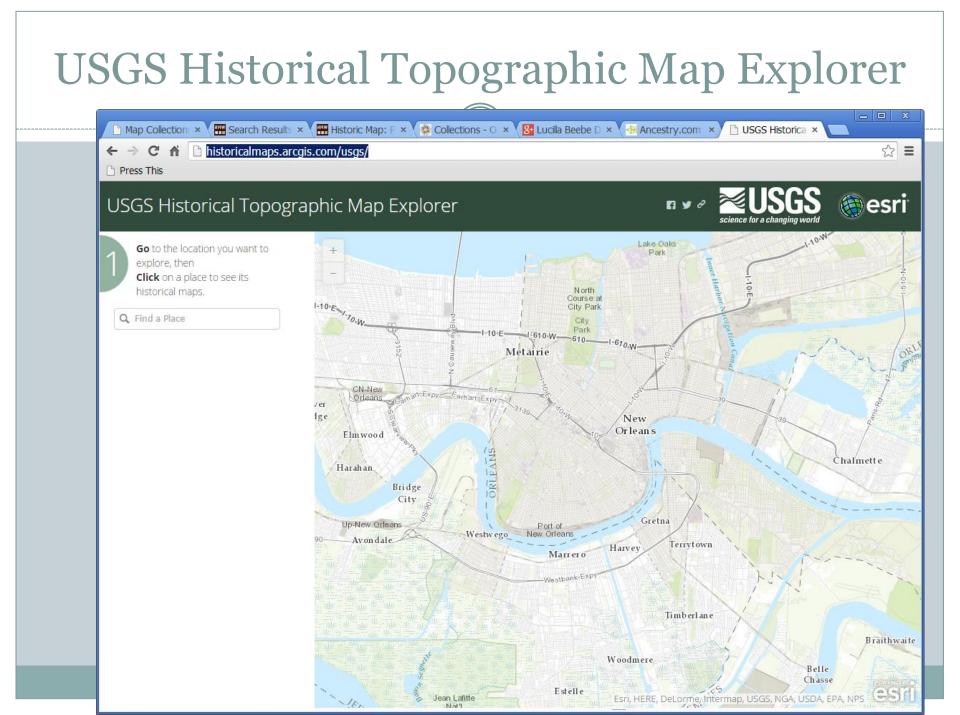


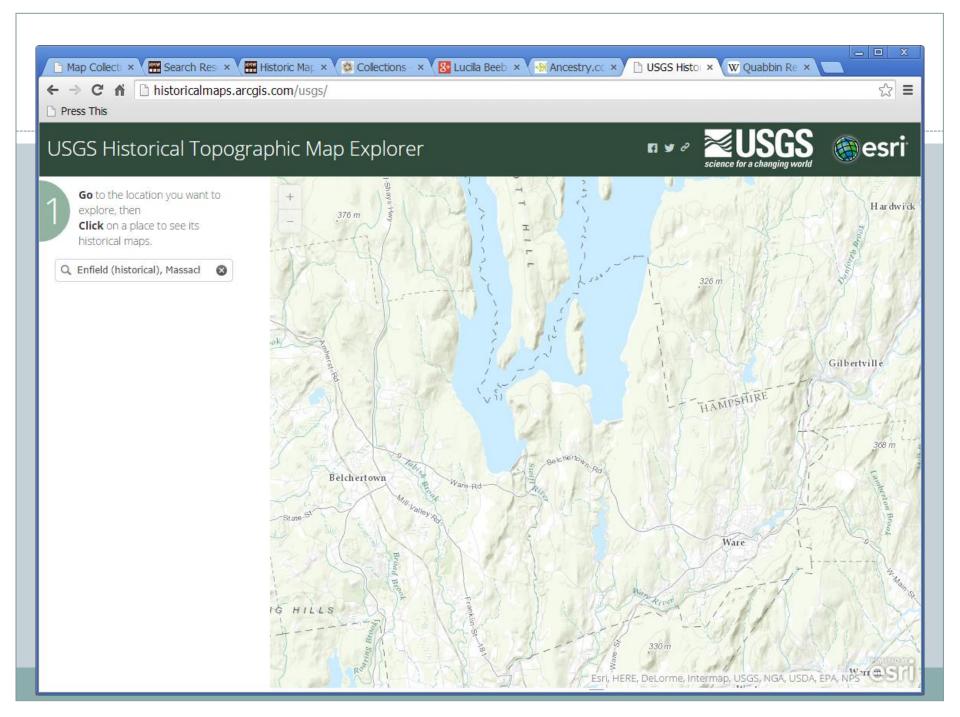
Best of Both Worlds

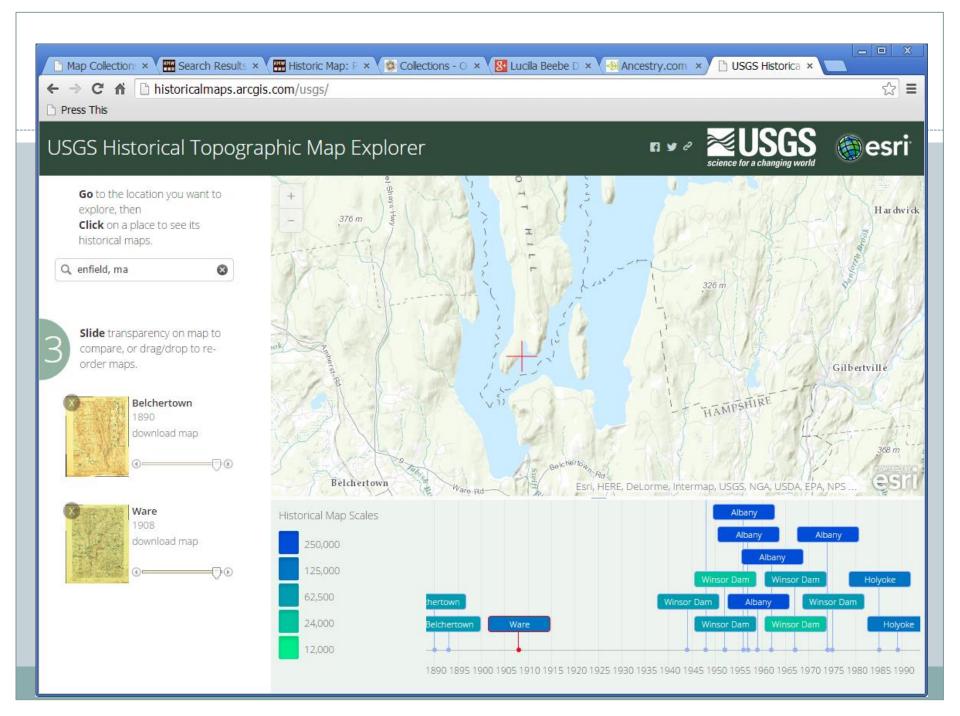
 What would we need to combine features of a Beers map a Bromley map a Sanborn map a street map and a satellite image?

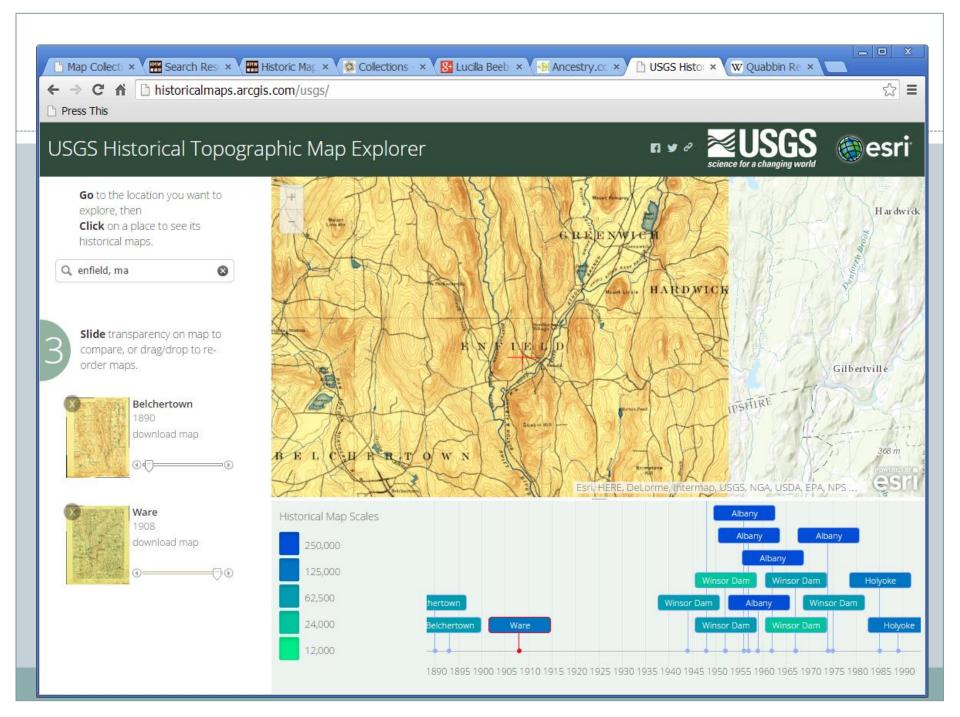
- Match up and align the images
- Resize as necessary
- Identify common features
- Create a magic see-through layer

• I.e. skew, enlarge, geo-reference, create transparent layers



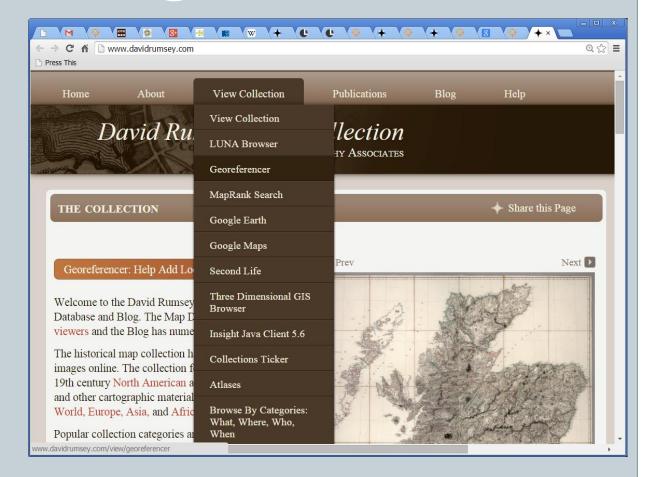






David Rumsey Collection

- Complex site!
- Many, many options!
- Best paths are:
 - o Luna Viewer
 - o <u>Geo-Referencer</u>



John McNally and family lived on "Pine Island" in Boston City in 1870s and 1880s

• No Boston "Pine Island" in TGN or USGS

• 1880 Boston Directory – street definitions:

- "Pine Island" from Roxbury Point
- "Roxbury Point" from **Swett**
- "Swett" Northampton to Roxbury Point

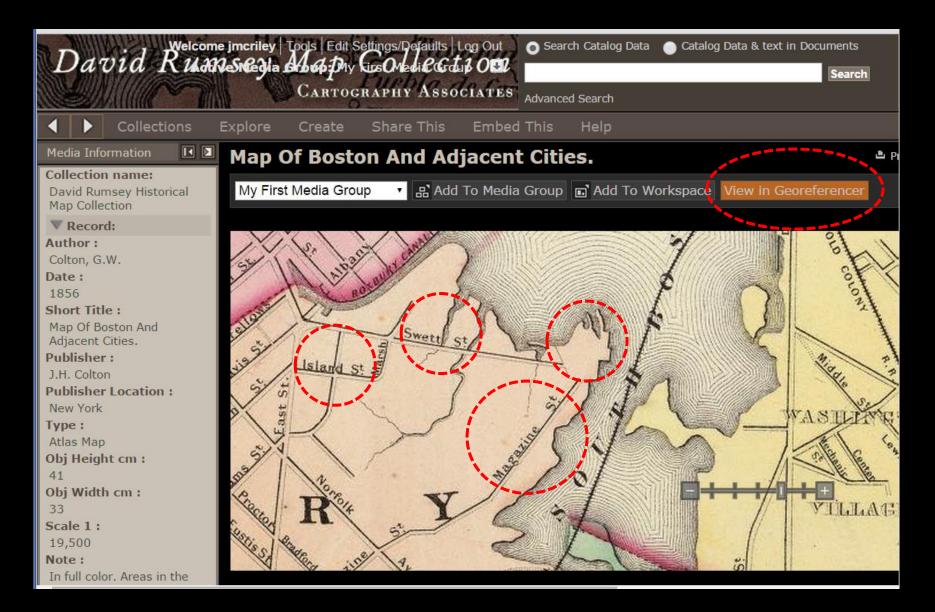
• 1905: Glimpses of Early Roxbury say:

• Magazine Street, leading from Dudley Street near St. Patrick's Church, was laid out in 1662, and was called Powder House Lane because it led to the powder magazine. **This magazine** was owned by the State, and **was on Pine Island, now a part of the mainland.**

• 1912: A Record of the Streets, Alleys, Places, Etc. in the City of Boston

o "Swett Street (now Southhampton)"

Swett, Magazine, Roxbury Point...

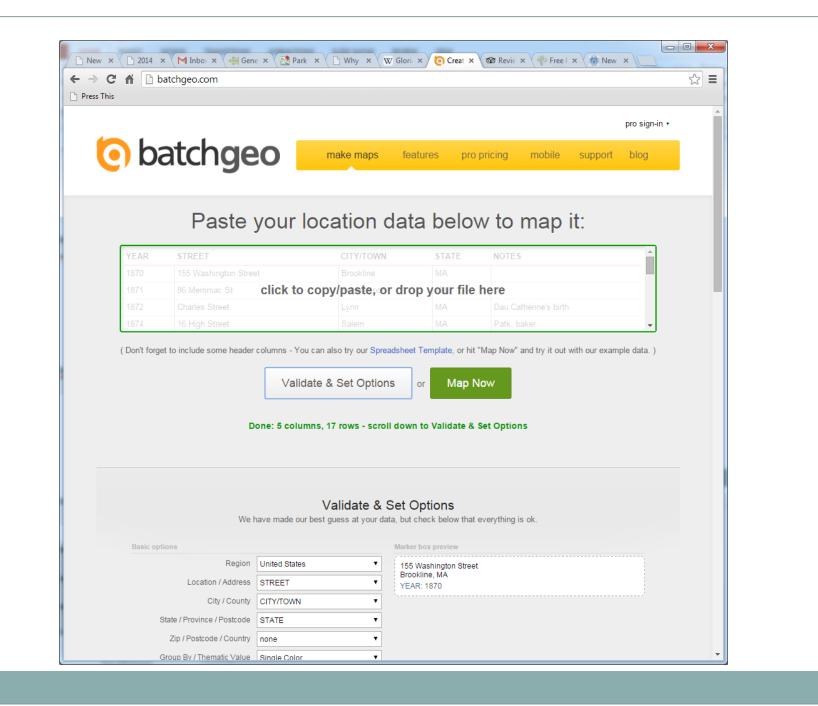


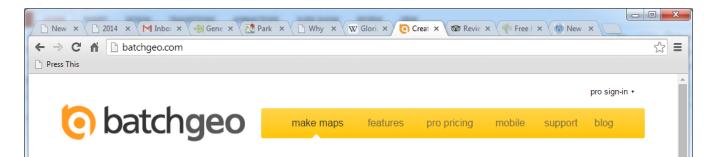
A plan of Boston in New England with its environs, including Milton, Dorchester, Roxbury, Brooklin, Cambridge, Medford, Charlestown, parts of Malden and Chelsea with the military works constructed in those places in the years 1775 and 1776.



Source: Library of Congress Maps Collection

YEAR	STREET	CITY/TOWN	STATE	NOTES
1870	155 Washington Street	Brookline	MA	
1871	86 Merrimac St	Newburyport	MA	
1872	Charles Street	Lynn	MA	Dau Catherine's birth
1874	16 High Street	Salem	MA	Patk, baker
1876	19 Union St	Salem	MA	2 children born there
1878	125 Division St	Chelsea	MA	Baker
1880	268 Havre St	East Boston	MA	son Wm baptism
1880	36 Middle St	So. Boston	MA	
1882	248 East Ninth St	So. Boston	MA	Dir - baker
1885	71 Emerson St	Boston	MA	Birth record
1890	104 H Street	Boston	MA	directory
1892	908 E. Broadway	Boston	MA	
1897	78 Bower St	Boston	MA	
1900	36 Northfield St	Boston	MA	Census
1904	709 E. Broadway	So. Boston	MA	Bus Dir
1905	737 East Broadway	So. Boston	MA	
1910	12 Mitchell Street	So. Boston	MA	





Paste your location data below to map it:

YEAR	STREET	CITY/TOWN	STATE	NOTES	Ê
1870	155 Washington Street	Brookline	MA		1
1871	86 Merrimac St	Newburyport	MA		
1872	Charles Street	Lynn	MA	Dau Catherine's birth	
1874	16 High Street	Salem	MA	Patk, baker	

(Don't forget to include some header columns - You can also try our Spreadsheet Template, or hit "Map Now" and try it out with our example data.)

Validate & Set Options

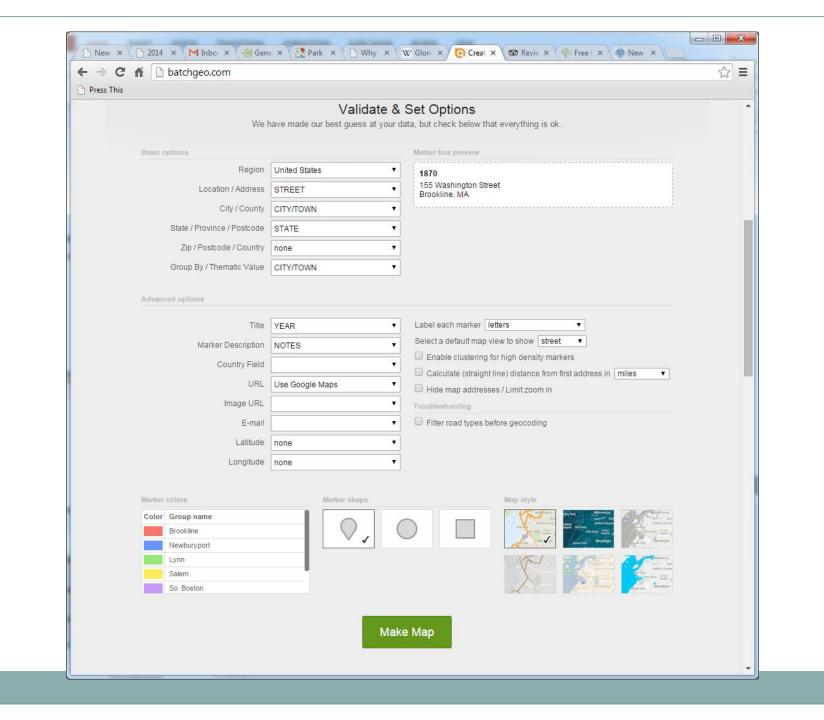
or Map Now

Done: 5 columns, 17 rows - scroll down to Validate & Set Options

Validate & Set Options

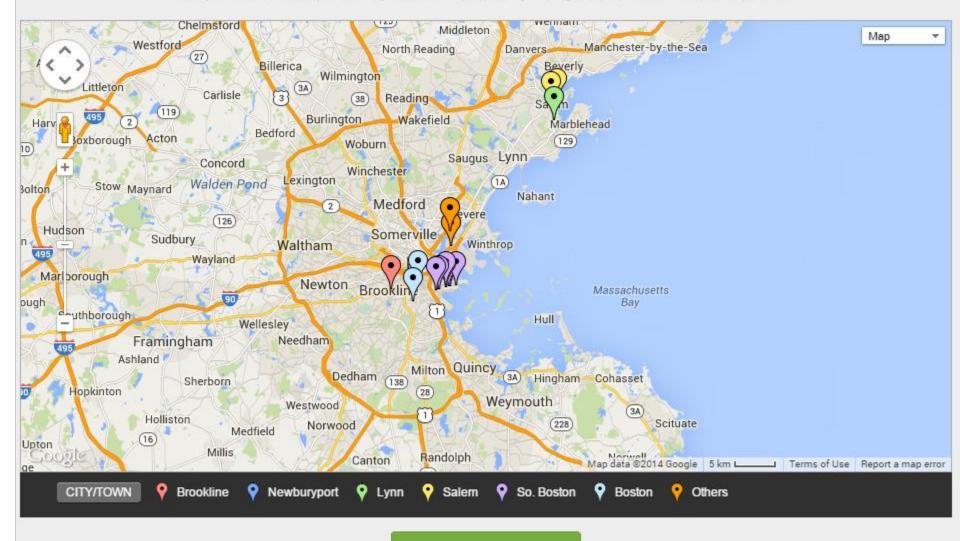
We have made our best guess at your data, but check below that everything is ok.

Basic options		Marker box preview		
Region	United States 🔹	155 Washington Street		
Location / Address	STREET •	Brookline, MA YEAR: 1870		
City / County	CITY/TOWN •	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
State / Province / Postcode	STATE •			
Zip / Postcode / Country	none 🔻			
Group Bv / Thematic Value	Single Color 🔹			



Geocoded 10 records.

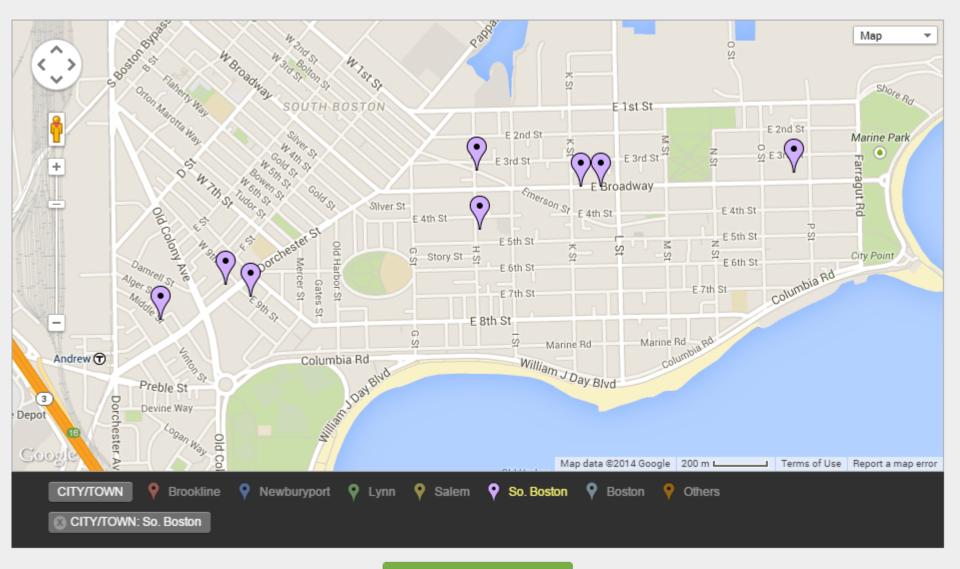
See your map below. If you find any markers out of place - just drag and drop them to the correct location.



Save & Continue

Geocoded 10 records.

See your map below. If you find any markers out of place - just drag and drop them to the correct location.



Save & Continue

Doing History with Online Mapping Tools: Links and Resources

- 1. Family History Research Wiki (FamilySearch.org): search by city, town, county, region, country for detailed rundown of resources including maps, associated names, border changes and area history. Also provides specific and important tips about how to use listed resources. <u>familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/</u>
- 2. Introduction to Map Scales: excellent explanation of scales, map projections, grid systems, degrees, minutes, quadrangles... geology.isu.edu/geostac/Field Exercise/topomaps/map scale.htm
- 3. Archaic Community, District, Neighborhood Section and Village, Names in Massachusetts <u>www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisuno/unoidx.htm</u>
- 4. Thesaurus of Geographic Names (TGN): 2 million placenames including historic and alternate names www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/tgn/
- 5. USGS Nameserver can be slow give it a few minutes! You can download full database if you like. geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/index.html
- 6. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps introduction, descriptions, notes on symbols, keys, colors <u>www.loc.gov/collection/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/</u>
- 7. Real Estate Atlases of Massachusetts at the Massachusetts State Library: free! PDF files may be downloaded, but can be hard to navigate. www.mass.gov/anf/research-and-tech/oversight-agencies/lib/massachusetts-real-estate-atlases.html
- 8. Topographical Maps of the United States, searchable, filterable by year: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS): <u>ngmdb.usgs.gov/maps/TopoView/</u>
- 9. Interactive topographical maps from USGS: excellent interface, searching, filtering by date, transparent overlays. historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/index.html
- 10. BatchGeo: Custom location mapping paste spreadsheet data and create map pins and popup information boxes <u>batchgeo.com/</u>
- 11. Map Collections Online:
 - 1. Historic Map Works <u>HistoricMapWorks.com</u>
 - 2. David Rumsey Historical Map Collection <u>DavidRumsey.com</u>
 - 3. Leventhal Map Collection, Boston Public Library - <u>maps.bpl.org/view_collection</u>
 - 4. Library of Congress American Memory Map Collections <u>memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/</u>
 - 5. Old Maps Online searchable portal with links to most of the above and more. <u>http://www.oldmapsonline.org/</u>

Ancestral Atlas – sharing data

• Ancestral Atlas is a family history web map that everyone can share. It shows family history events added by users. Take a look and if you want to add your own family history information, simply register for free.

With Ancestral Atlas you can:

- Attach your own family history to the map on the location where the event took place, and share it with everyone else, or keep it private.
- Find out who else has family events in the same area by browsing the map and collaborate with them in a secure environment.
- Build your own "Ancestral Atlas" and visualize your family history.
- Browsing the map is simple, just click on the map pins to find out about the events located there. Refine your search by date, name and event type.

If you want to start adding your data to the map simply <u>register for free</u> (no credit cards details required).

For more help and tips, please use the "HELP & FAQ" menu button on the top menu bar.

We're continually improving the site, so if you have any comments, we would be more than happy to hear from you.

🛛 🕅 analog - Wiktiona × 🕅 Inbox (4,631) - ja × 🌗 Genealogy, Famili × 🔽 Ask a Librarian: Si × 🌾 fhmaps CartoDi × 👰 Ancestral Atlas - A × 🎲 Managing Data 🔹 🎆 A plan of Boston I × V 🗈 5 Genealogy Map ×		- 0	X	
← → C f www.ancestralatlas.com/ancestry-mapping.php	5	4	2 =	-
Press This				

