An Introduction to the Geography and History Online Project
Project Goal

Our goal is to create a website of tools, content, and lesson plans for 5-12 grade social studies teachers and students that supports teaching of geography and history standards and encourages further exploration of the topic themes and resources.
The Minnesota Historical Society is a private, non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1849 to preserve and share Minnesota history. The Society collects, preserves and tells the story of Minnesota's past through museum exhibits, libraries and collections, historic sites, educational programs and book publishing.
Phase I

Preparation  Advisory group chosen, staff brainstorming

Content Selection  Research, map creation and selection

Phase II (current phase)

Application and Web Site Development  Development of prototype, initial teacher feedback, advisory meetings

Curriculum Development  Work closely with advisory board and teacher focus groups to draft lesson plans.

Phase III

Prototype Testing  Regular trials with select schools. In-house meetings with teachers, as well as hands-on school demonstrations.

Project Completion, Review, and Workshops  Official release to public. Staff will continue to maintain and support system.
Technological Background

Minnesota’s Digital Resources

Digital Topos
High Quality Aerials
Land Use Maps

Ecological Data
Geological Research
Transportation Maps
For teachers to tell a story, many layers are necessary. Digital Data and Maps are available, but not centrally located…

Land use and Soil Type: Dept. of Natural Resources

Road Maps: Minn. Dept of Transportation

Immigration data
www.census.gov

Historic Neighborhood Maps
MSP Public Library, MHS

Aerial Photography
Land Management Information Center

Civil Boundaries
Ramsey County
A teacher would also have to know…

What format will the data come in?

- Tables
- Image files
- Shape files

And how will I view my data? ($$)

ATLAS
IDRISI
MAP INFO
ESRI
To alleviate these problems, Land Management Information Center developed:

The Minnesota Environmental Atlas

- several CDs of digital maps
- lessons
- software package to install

Pros: Excellent maps, wide variety of educational tools
Cons: Few historic maps, extensive tool choices, classroom technological limitations.
So, to meet the needs of Minnesota’s students and teachers,

We take the maps that LMIC created.
We put them Online.
We add new maps.
We simplify the Layout.
We link MHS resources
We develop lesson plans
What We Offer…

• **Raw Content**: hundreds of digitized maps, links to photographs, websites, 3D collections, etc.

• **Online GIS software**: User-friendly tool for manipulating maps

• **Pre-Packaged Lessons**: MHS-created lessons that meet standard requirements for content and skills

• **Lesson Library**: Collection of self-developed, teacher-submitted lessons.
Educational Background

Northern Lights Textbook, published in 2003, created new historic maps for Social Studies teachers at the Middle School level.

Standards

New state **Geography and History standards** for K – 12th grade classrooms were passed as part of the new Social Studies Standards in spring 2004.
The Inside View (day-to-day work)
Begin with Existing Maps
Create New Maps

Historic map

GIS data
By layering historic maps from different decades over the 2006 topographic map, we can transpose historic information onto a contemporary medium.
The result is a standardized, comparable view of history.
A map is no longer simply a representation of geographic data or historic fact.

It can now be a portal to the material and cultural worlds that lived, breathed and died on the land.

Consolidated access to these resources will enrich the teaching and learning experience.
Welcome to the Geography and History Online Web site! Here we have merged maps and historical data into an amazing website that will ...

There are two main ways to explore the maps available here.

Click on Maps here or on the tab above to explore over 200 maps by category.

Click on Lessons here or on the tab above to explore Minnesota’s geography and history through thematic lessons. This is where teachers should go.
Site Components

1. Maps
2. Legend
3. Toolbars
4. Related Links
5. Lessons
Map List

Nearly 200 maps that teach and tell a story.

Maps can be overlayed to highlight data.

Maps divided into logical and searchable folders:

- Background Images
- Natural Resources
- Production and Transportation
- People
- Public Systems
- History
Legend

Editing Tools

• Change colors of legend keys
• Set transparency
• Display or hide labels
Legend Example

**Corn (Total bushels)**
- No Corn
- Less than 1,000,000 bushels
- 1,000,000 to 5,000,000 bushels
- 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 bushels
- 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 bushels
- More than 20,000,000 bushels

**Transportation:**
- Interstate Highway

**Background:**

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Monday, November 2
Toolbars

Navigational Elements

• Zoom In/Out
• Pan
• Set Extent

Locational Elements

• Search by Place Name
• Search by Lat/Long
• Identify Feature

Functional Elements

• Send map to Printer
• Save map as a pdf
Welcome | Maps | Lessons | Help
---|---|---|---
Layers | Legend | Related Links | Navigate | Find Place
- Background Maps
- Natural Resources
- Production and Transportation
- People
- Public Systems
- History

**http://www.chnic.state.mn.us** - Find Places - Mi...

6 results found.
Click on the place name to refresh the map page.

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Como, Township</td>
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<td>Marshall</td>
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</table>

Update

Copyright 2005. Send questions or comments to webmaster@mnhs.org.
Related Links

Photographs

Museum Collections

External Resources

Metadata/ Sources

Corn Production by County
Department of Agriculture
Statistics Database
From 2002 Ag. Census Data
http://www.mda.state.mn.us/maite/deskmapbl03.pdf
Corn Map Related Links Example

Visual Resources
- Planting Corn
- Corn and Potato Palace, Anoka
- Drying Corn by a Teepee
- Corn Husker-Shredder
- Others...

Catalog
- Where the Tall Corn Grows
- Corn Songs: poems
- Corncribs in History folklife
- Mn Corn Production and Marketing
- Indian Corn in old America
- Others...

External Links
- MN Department of Agriculture
- MN Corn Growers Association
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- American Coalition for Ethanol

Map Source

Done
Corn (Total bushels)

Visual Resources:
- Planting Corn
- Corn and Potato Palace, Anoka
- Drying Corn by a Teepee
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External Links:
- MN Department of Agriculture
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- American Coalition for Ethanol

Map Source:

Corn and Potato Palace, Anoka,
Photograph Collection, Postcard 1907
Location no. MA6.9 AN9 r2
Negative no. 94067

Return to Search Results | View Details | Ordering & Permission
### Corn (Total bushels)

#### Visual Resources
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- Corn and Potato Palace, Anoka
- Drying Corn by a Tepee
- Corn Husker-Shredder
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- Mr. Corn Production and Marketing
- Indian Corn in Old America
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#### External Links
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- MN Corn Growers Association
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- American Coalition for Ethanol
- Map Source

### MHS Library Catalog

You are searching: MHS Library Catalog

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<th>Brief View</th>
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#### Record 1 out of 1

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In the Classroom
Lessons and Teacher Resources

1. Lessons and Templates
2. Standards Correlations
3. Workshops
4. Teacher-Created Lesson Library
Lesson Level Distinctions

5th-8th Grades

- Teachers are less experienced with GIS-based skills and Geography Instruction
- We will develop stream-lined lesson plans

9th-12th Grades

- Teachers are more experienced with GIS-based skills and Geography Instruction
- We will offer useful content, flexible resources, lessons, and lesson templates
Welcome to the Geography History Online Lessons!

Choose Topic
• The Fur Trade: Economy/Land
• Reservations: Use and Values
• 19th Century Immigration
• Rondo: Transportation and Politics
• Ada: Small Towns
• Local history Research

Choose a Grade Level
• 5-8 Grade Lessons
• 9-12 Grade Lessons

Choose a Lesson Template

Come to a Workshop!
• Sept 12, 2007 Sibley House

See what other schools have done!
• Lesson library

Link to Standards Correlations

5th – 8th Grade Classrooms
Rondo Lesson

Lesson plans (web/pdf)
Worksheets (web/pdf)
Standards (web/pdf)
History Standard Correlations

Minnesota History Standard

G. Post-World War II to the Present: “Students will identify and describe significant demographic changes in Minnesota and issues related to those changes and analyze the significance of their impact.”

Historical Skills Standard

“Students will identify, describe, and extract information from various types of historical sources, both primary and secondary.”
Geography Standard Correlations

Interconnections Sub-strand

“The student will identify examples of the changing relationships between the patterns of settlement and land use in Minnesota.”

2. Students will analyze how changes in transportation affected settlement of the state...

4. Students will explain the changing situation of Minnesota’s largest cities and suburbs and analyze associated effects.

Essential Skills Sub-strand

“The student will use maps, globes, geographic information systems, and other databases to answer geographic questions at a variety of scales from local to global.”

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to obtain geographic information from a variety of print and electronic sources.

2. Students will make inferences and draw conclusions about the character of places based on a comparison of maps, aerial photos, and other images.

3. Students will demonstrate the ability to use geographic information from a variety of sources.
Background

Between 1940 and 1970, St. Paul underwent an enormous change that greatly affected its African American population. This lesson explores the history and geography of the Rondo neighborhood...

St. Paul 1940
Analyze this aerial photo of St. Paul taken in 1940.

What do you notice about the road patterns?

Where is the downtown located?

What is the relationship like between the downtown area and the surrounding areas?
Compare this aerial photo of St. Paul taken in 2000 with the one taken in 1940.

How have the road patterns changed?

How has the relationship between the downtown area and the surrounding areas changed?

How might these changes affected people?
Let's explore one particular area where the freeways were built.

Here is a close up of this area, showing how it looks today.

Here is what it looked like in 1940.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950

This map shows the same area, but with different information.

**Analyze** this map to uncover more about this neighborhood…

What were the different types of buildings present?

What kinds of businesses were there?

next
Let's look now at some of the historic resources from this neighborhood.

**Analyze** this photograph of the student taken outside Maxwell school in 1905.

What can you tell about the economics of this neighborhood?

What can you tell about the people who lived there?
Analyze this photograph of the interior of the Credjafawn grocery store around 1950.

What can you tell about the economics of this neighborhood?

What can you tell about the people who lived there? What has changed since 1905?
Welcome to the Geography History Online Lessons!

Choose Topic
- The Fur Trade: Economy/Land
- Reservations: Use and Values
- 19th Century Immigration
- Rondo: Transportation and Politics
- Ada: Small Towns
- Local history Research

- Choose a Grade Level
  - 5-8 Grade Lessons
  - 9-12 Grade Lessons

- Choose a Lesson Template

Come to a Workshop!
- Sept 12, 2007 Sibley House

See what other schools have done!
- Lesson library

Link to Standards Correlations

9th – 12th Grade Classrooms
9-12 Grade Lesson Templates

Interconnections -
Agriculture
Interconnections –
Iron Ore
Interconnections –
Modern Immigration
Interconnections –
Lake Superior

Spatial Organization -
Growth of Twin Cities
Spatial Organization –
Communication
Interconnections - Agriculture

Worksheets (web/pdf)
Standards (web/pdf)

Analyze the following maps and historic resources to explore the connections between man and our influence on the environment:

- Pre-Settlement Vegetation
- 19th Century Immigration
- Soil Fertility
- Corn Production
- Floodplains
- Ditching and Tiling
- Population 2000
- Anoka County Fair Photo
History Standard Correlations

Historical Skills Standard

“The student will apply research skills through an in-depth investigation of a historical topic.

U.S. History, Emergence of Modern America

“The student will understand how the United States changed politically, culturally, and economically from the end of World War I to the eve of the Great Depression.”
Geography Standard Correlations

Interconnections Sub-strand

“The student will describe how humans influence the environment and in turn are influenced by it.”

1. Students will provide a range of examples illustrating how types of government systems and technology impact the ability to change the environment or adapt to it.

2. Students will analyze the advantages and drawbacks of several common proposals to change the human use of environmental resources.

3. Students will understand and analyze examples of the impacts of natural hazards on human activities and land use.

Essential Skills Sub-strand

“The student will use maps, globes, geographic information systems, and other databases to answer geographic questions at a variety of scales from local to global.”

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to obtain geographic information from a variety of print and electronic sources.

2. Students will make inferences and draw conclusions about the character of places based on a comparison of maps, aerial photos, and other images.

3. Students will demonstrate the ability to use geographic information from a variety of sources.
On-going Work

• Map Making
• Curriculum Development
• Website Construction
• Prototype Testing
• Integration within MHS
Thank you!

Comments? Contact
Nancy O’Brien Wagner (Curriculum)
nancyobwagner@hotmail.com
or
Lesley Kadish (GIS Content)
651 297 1261
lesley.kadish@mnhs.org