

CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MWDL GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY TASK FORCE

Liz Woolcott

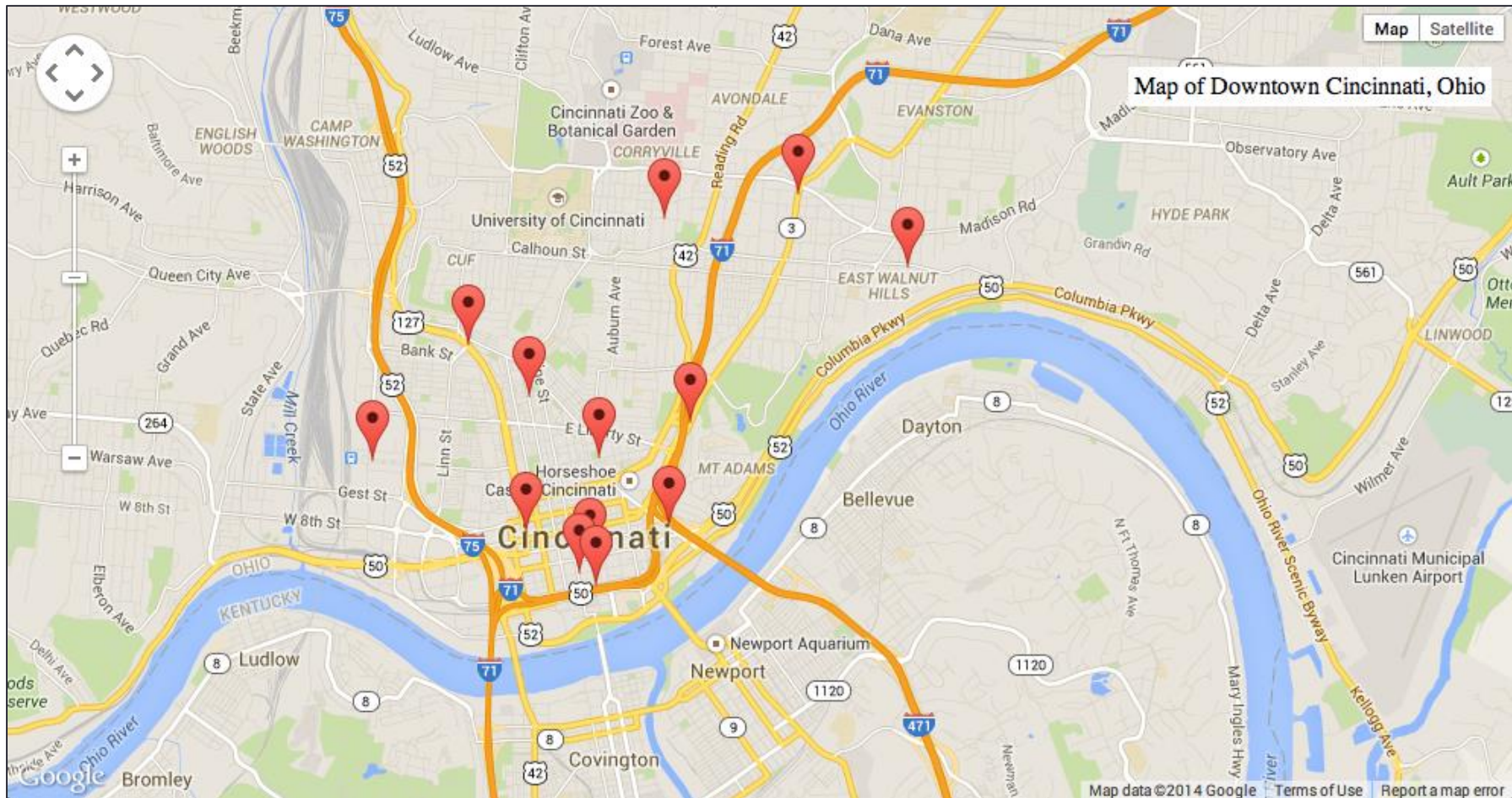
Utah State University, Merrill-Cazier Library

Jeremy Myntti

University of Utah, J. Willard Marriott Library

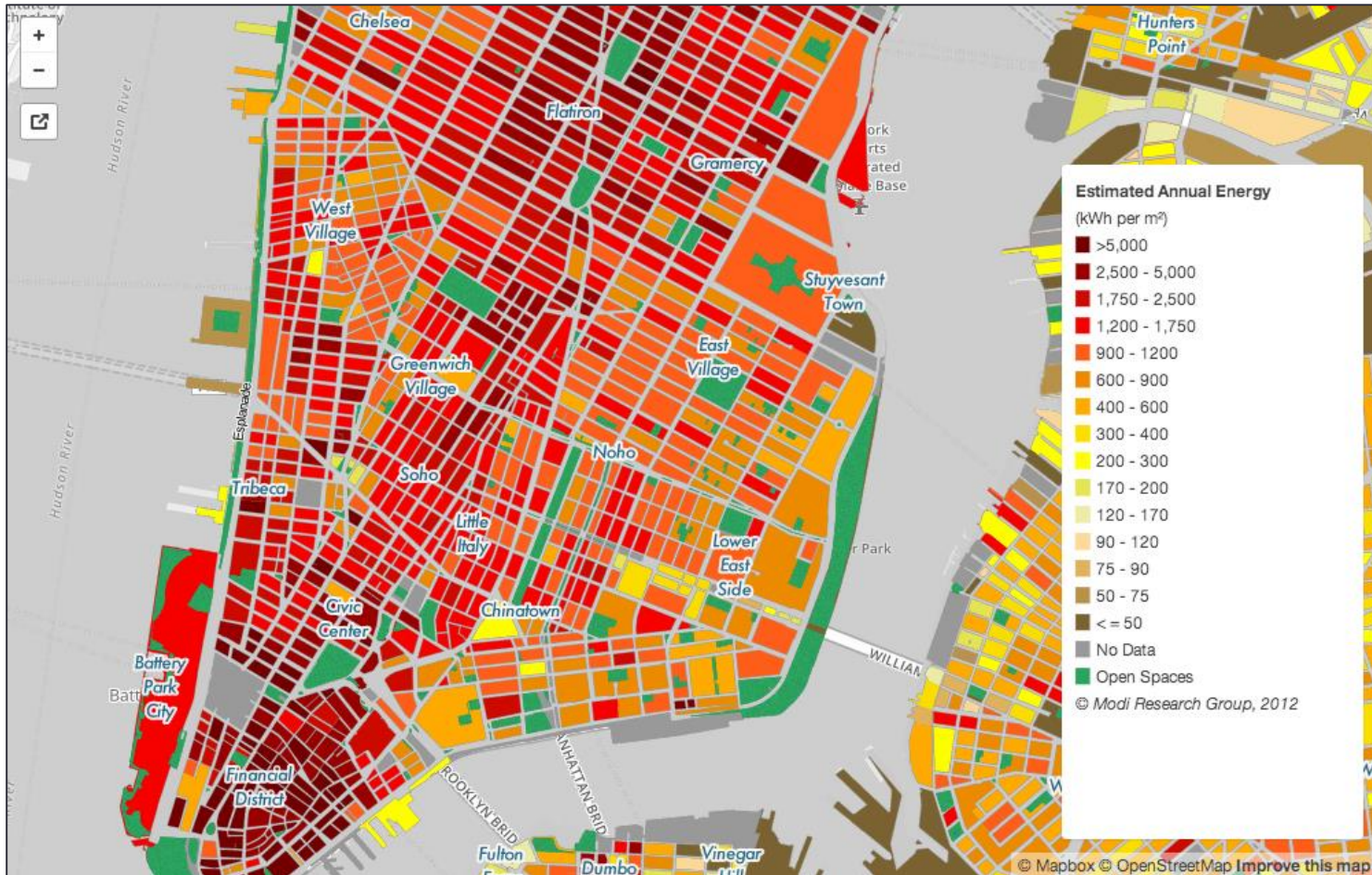
Sandra McIntyre

Mountain West Digital Library



Map of Downtown Cincinnati, Ohio

Ohio Memory Project, "Then and Now" maps



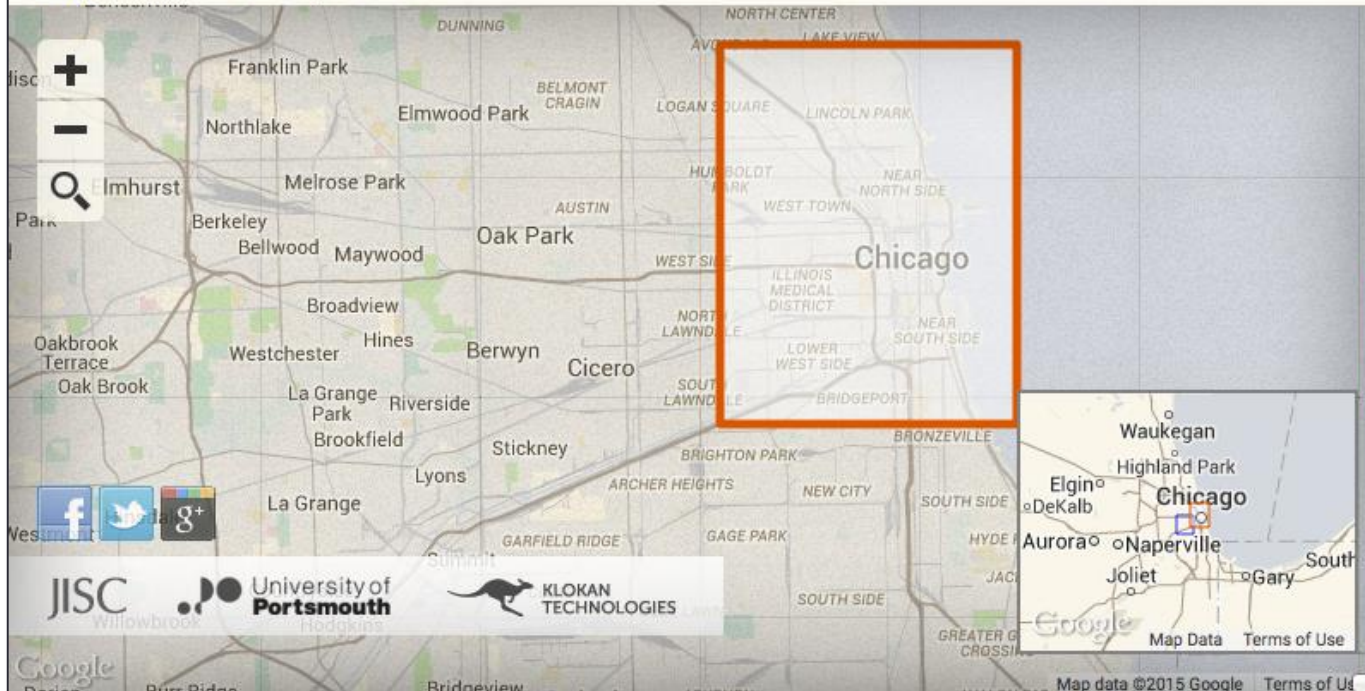
Estimated Total Annual Building Energy Consumption at the Block and Lot Level for NYC



1000 1250 1500 1750 2010

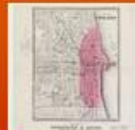
[Search](#) [Collections](#) [Blog](#) [About](#)

Instant Search Results: [Fulltext](#)



Downtown Chicago. Hammond, Gary, Michigan City Region, Indiana. Sightseeing Guide to Chicago.

1956 - Shell Oil Company



Map of Chicago showing the burnt district

1871 - Freeman & Burr



Blanchard's map of Chicago and suburbs

1910 - Rufus Blanchard



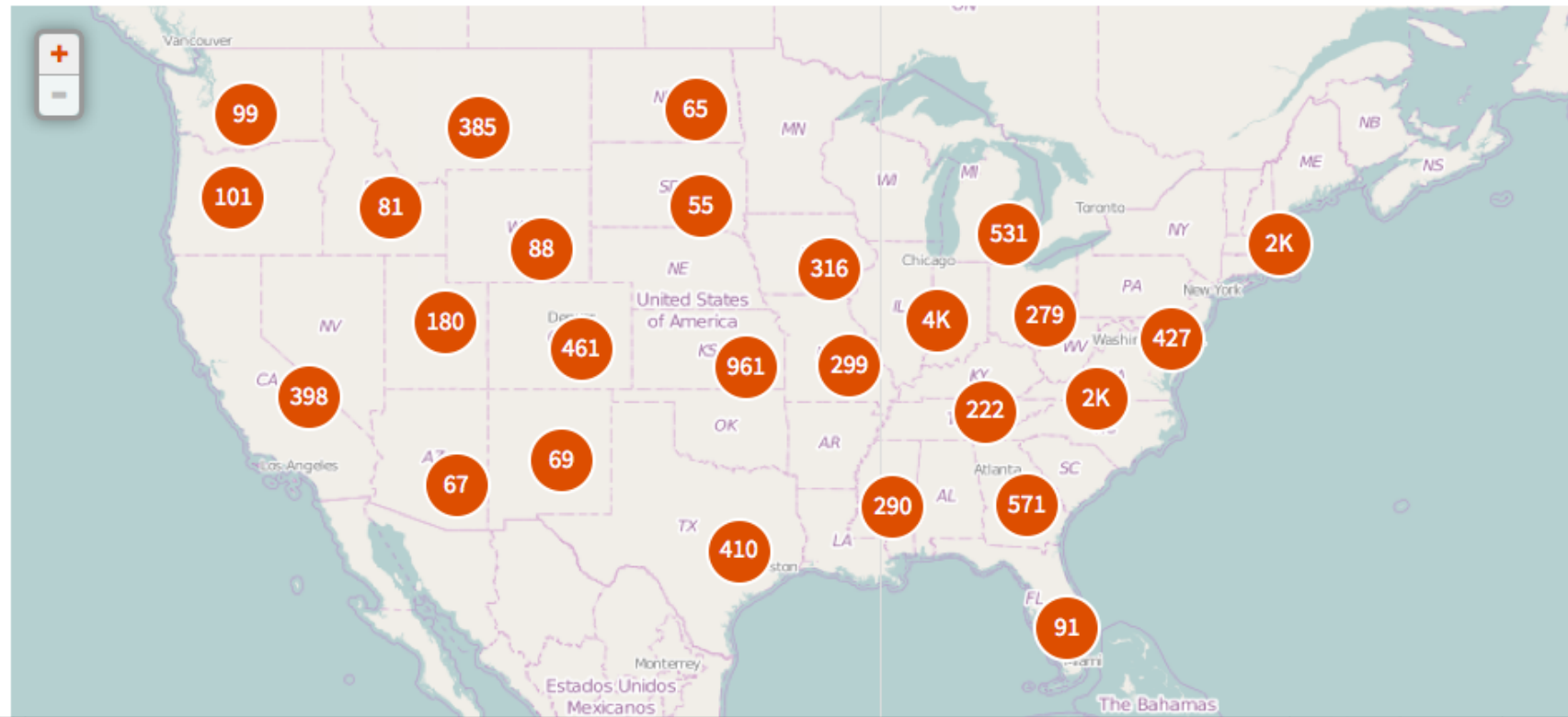
Chicago railway terminal map.

1:63 360

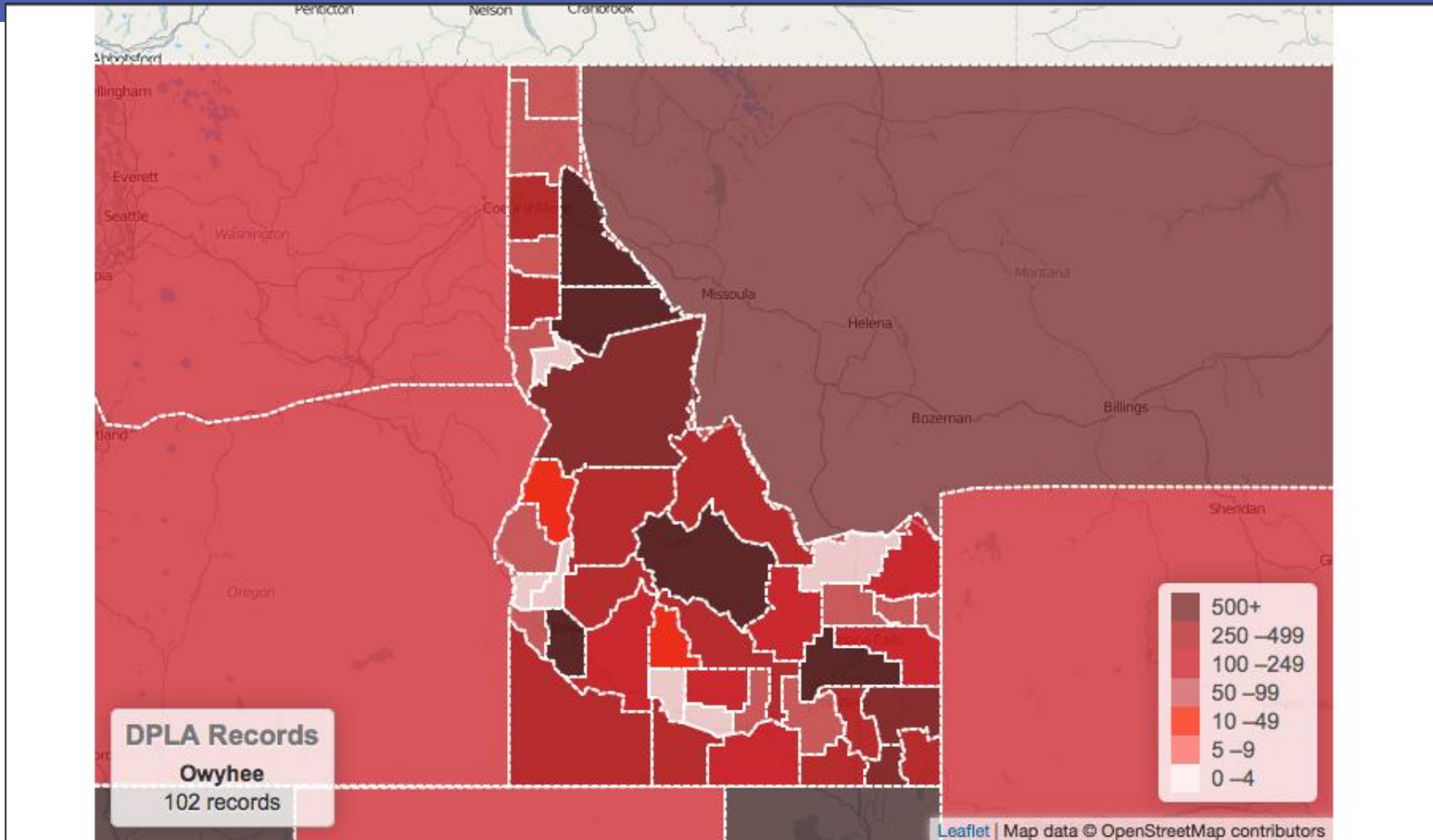
Your search for **Chicago** returned 100,856 results.

Only results with location data are shown below.

Show >



Digital Public Library of America, search on "Chicago"

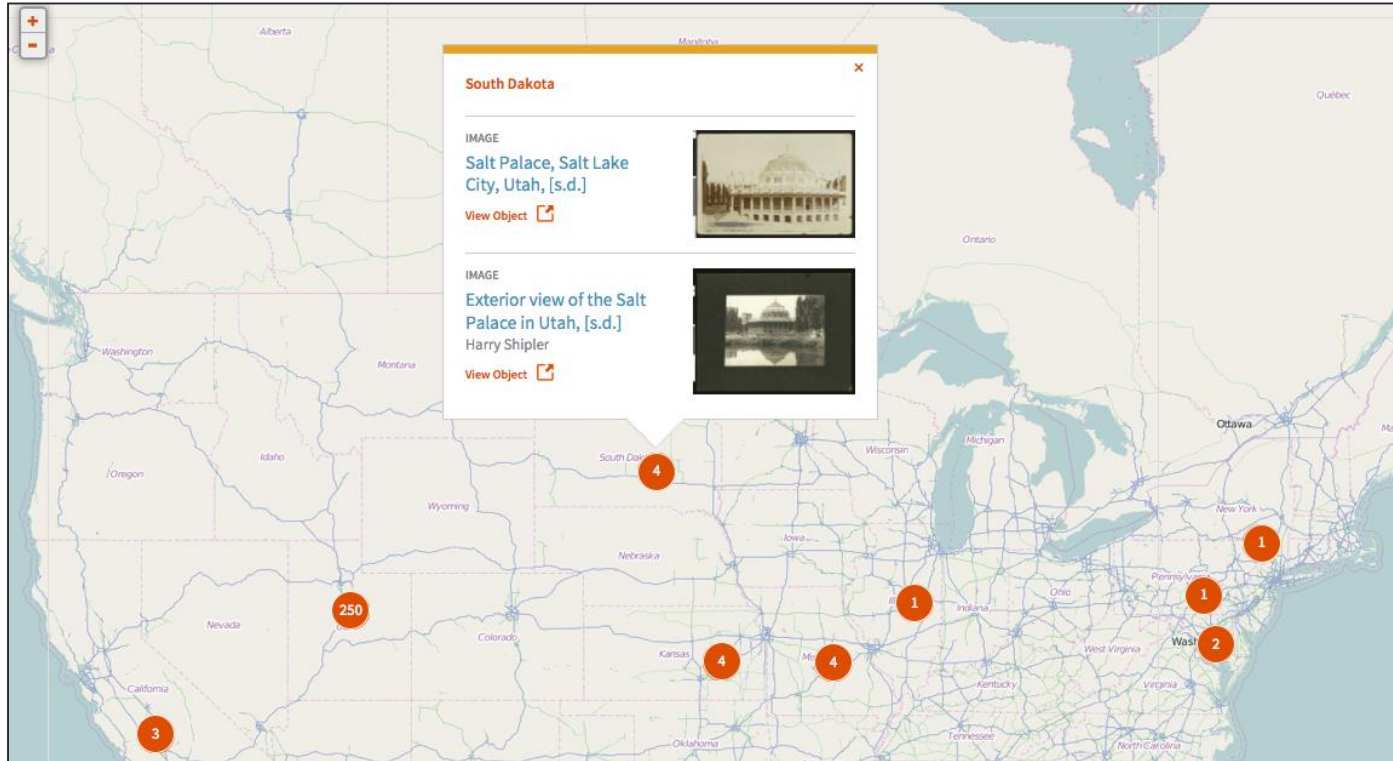


Digital Public Library of America, app: "DPLA State by State"

GEOSPATIAL METADATA QUICKSAND



Misinterpreted location



A Salt Lake City landmark is placed in South Dakota

[← back to search results](#)

Search the Library



Salt Palace, Salt Lake City, Utah, [s.d.]

Save To...

Share



Partner University of Southern California. Libraries

Contributing Institution California Historical Society

Publisher University of Southern California. Libraries

[View Object](#)

Description

Photograph of a large dome structure called the "Salt Palace", in Salt Lake City, Utah, [s.d.]. A large structure stands at center, with a two-story base and a large dome for a rooftop. A long flight of stairs leads up to the entrance, at left, while poles bearing an assortment of flags stand atop the roof, surrounding the dome. In the background, at left, a line of trees can be seen, while the mountains can be vaguely discerned in the distance.

Location Salt Lake City
Utah
USA
[s.d.]

Format 1 photograph : photoprint, b&w

Ambiguous place names

- Washington County, UT
- Washington County, ID
- Washington County, OH
- Washington County, MD
- Washington County, GA
- Washington County, MS
- Washington County, NC
- Washington County, PA
- Boulder, CO
- Boulder, MT
- Boulder, UT
- Boulder City, NV

More problems

Report by
MWDL metadata intern



**Recommendations for Geospatial Metadata
Standards for Digital Collections in the
Mountain West Digital Library**

Report prepared for the
Utah Academic Library Consortium
Digitization Committee

By Dorotea V. Szkolar
MWDL Intern

8/01/2012

Variations in coordinate formats

- Numbers:
 - decimal degrees
 - degrees/minutes/seconds
- Directions:
 - (+) and -
 - W, N, E, and S
 - westlimit, northlimit, eastlimit, and southlimit
- Placement:
 - In same field
 - In different fields



Xena and Callisto in quicksand

Variances in field mapping

- Dublin Core
 - coverage
 - spatial
 - subject



Jean Dujardin sinks into quicksand in a still from *The Artist*.

GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY TASK FORCE



Westley rescues Buttercup in *The Princess Bride*.

Task Force Charge

1. Identify existing geospatial metadata practices
2. Develop guidelines for standardizing
3. Creating map-based search interfaces
4. Identify and share tools

<https://sites.google.com/site/mwdlgeospatial/>

Phase 1

Three subgroups:

1. Review previous report
2. Identify low hanging fruit
3. Identify map-based interfaces

Phase 2

Three more subgroups:

1. Controlled vocabularies
2. Coordinate data and GIS perspectives
3. Map-based Interfaces

Current Recommendation: 1

All standards and practices adopted by the metadata review board should be compliant with the ISO 19115:2003* Geographic Information--Metadata standard.

*Task Force will review the latest released standard ISO 19115-1:2014 in the coming months.

Current Recommendation: 2

Since MWDL contributors may need to use varied controlled vocabularies, we recommend that a geospatial metadata format and selected controlled vocabulary be highly recommended but not enforced.

Current Recommendation: 3

There is a clear preference for expressing coordinates in latitude-longitude as decimal degrees over the degrees-minutes-seconds format.

Ex. Mount McKinley:

Latitude: 63.540777

Longitude: -151.723614

Latitude: N 63° 32' 26.7972"

Longitude: W 151° 43' 25.0108"

Current Recommendation: 4

It is recommended that partners keep all the elements of a single term within a single iteration of the field. For example, don't split latitude and longitude. Repeat spatial field for each new entity.

Current Recommendations: 4 example

For example: Mt. McKinley

Lat/Long expressed:

`<dcterms:spatial>63.540777, -151.723614</dcterms:spatial>`

Controlled Vocab expressed:

`<dcterms:spatial>Mount McKinley, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska, United States</dcterms:spatial>`

URI expressed:

`<dcterms:spatial>http://geonames.org/5868589</dcterms:spatial>`

All together:

`<dcterms:spatial>63.540777, -151.723614; Mount McKinley, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska, United States; http://geonames.org/5868589</dcterms:spatial>`



Current Recommendation: 5

Partners should map geospatial metadata field(s) to the Dublin Core spatial refinement of coverage (dcterms:spatial), which can be done at the collection level. The OAI provider for the repository hosting the collection should support provision of qualified Dublin Core if possible.

Current Recommendation: 6

The spatial coverage refinement (dcterms:spatial) is highly recommended for all new collections harvested by MWDL.

Current Recommendation: 7

Where converting legacy data may be too difficult, partners can add an additional separate field mapped to the Dublin Core term `spatial` (`dcterms:spatial`) with basic, minimal geospatial metadata (at least at country and state level), in accordance with upcoming recommendations for controlled vocabulary.

Current Recommendations: Resources

- To see a complete list of the current recommendations, visit:
<http://goo.gl/ZHMgtu>
- To see all the meeting minutes and reports created by the task force, please visit:
<https://sites.google.com/site/mwdlgeospatial/home/meeting-minutes>

Use Case Scenarios

DLF Forum 2014 session: gathered and shared “user stories” of complicated geospatial metadata decisions

- Groups formed then discussed scenarios, input selected in [use case survey](#)
- [Survey results](#) available

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4. Use Case Scenarios - Breakout Session

"Use Case" involves a set of goals along with a set of considerations that involve a series of decisions to achieve a desired outcome.

Breakout Group Name:

Personal name: (if applicable)

Contact email address: (not required)

Describe situations which involve geospatial metadata and authority decisions.

Scenario 1

Scenario 1 Explained:

Scenario 1 Resolution: (if applicable)

Recurring Cases

- Use of neighborhoods in geospatial metadata
 - Historical and informal
 - Immigrant neighborhood with multiple and changing ethnicities
- Deciding when a location is “near enough” to add to metadata
- Changing political boundaries: what to call an area
- Distinguishing which geospatial metadata to include: *about* a specific location or *from* a specific location
 - Adding a geospatial layer to browse content by location subject matter
 - Location where photo taken or locations in the photo?

Infographic

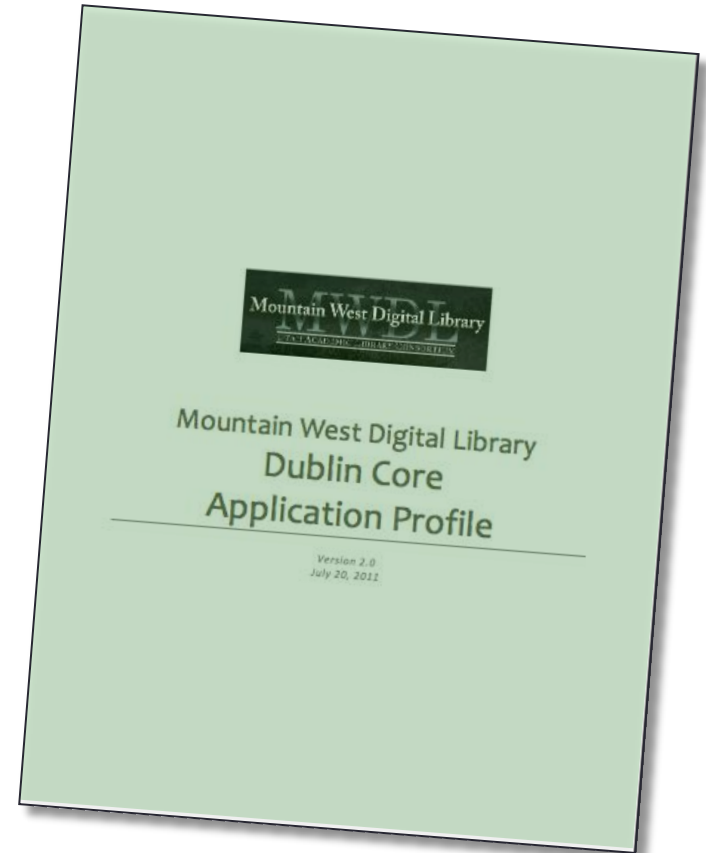
- Providing a visual overview of the work of the Controlled Vocabulary subgroup
- <http://my.visme.co/projects/mwdl-geospatial-task-f>

Phase 3 – Next steps

1. Select a recommended controlled vocabulary.
2. Review the DCMI Box/Point Encoding Schemes:
 - a. DCMI Box Encoding Scheme at <http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-box/>
Example: `name=Western Australia; northlimit=-13.5; southlimit=-35.5; westlimit=112.5; eastlimit=129`
 - b. DCMI Point Encoding Scheme at <http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-point/>
Example: `name=Perth, W.A.; east=115.85717; north=-31.95301`
Example: `east=148.26218; north=-36.45746; elevation=2228; name=Mt. Kosciusko`

Phase 3 – Next steps

3. Make recommendations for modifying the MWDL Dublin Core Application Profile.
4. Finalize the infographic.



Phase 4 – Future plans

1. Develop regional gazetteer.
2. Develop actionable plans to deal with legacy data.

Want to stay informed?

Join the listserv: <https://www.lists.utah.edu/wws/info/mwdl-geospatial>

To subscribe, send an email message to sympa@lists.utah.edu with this subject:
subscribe mwdl-geospatial firstname lastname

*Note: replace “firstname” and “lastname” above with your first and last names.
Do not put anything in the body of the message.*

Want to get involved?

Contact Kristen Jensen (kjensen@utah.gov)

or

Liz Woolcott (liz.woolcott@usu.edu)

Questions?

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