



## ***SOME WEB SITES DEALING WITH GEOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY***



**Africa: Explore the Regions: Sahara** - Information about the world's largest desert: "3.3 million square miles or around 25 percent of Africa." Includes information about human inhabitants and the ecosystem (plants, animals, topography, rainfall). Also includes information about specific countries. [http://www.pbs.org/wnet/africa/explore/sahara/sahara\\_overview\\_lo.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/africa/explore/sahara/sahara_overview_lo.html)

**\*American Fact Finder** - 2000 Census data provides both reference maps, which show basic boundary information (cities, counties, census tracts, etc.) and thematic maps. Thematic Map option allows the user to select the geographic area of coverage, choose from a limited number of themes, and then view the results. Changing items, such as geography, theme and data sets, is done following a series of steps with straightforward directions. Data tables are also available. Output options include printing and saving to a file. From the U.S. Census Bureau. <http://factfinder.census.gov>

**\*California Geographical Survey** - Includes maps, movies, population data, and other geographical information covering California and other areas in the United States. Divided into three primary areas: "The Electronic Map Library," the "Educational Materials Archive," and the "Cartographic Resources: Digital Map Bases." Panoramic aerial maps in the "Electronic Map Library" are presented as still images or slide shows. Atlases cover the major California cities and large population centers in the United States, grouping still images under a variety of topics. "Cartographic Resources" offers data sets created by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Links to free versions of the necessary viewing tools were available. <http://geogdata.csun.edu/>

**California Geological Survey (CGS)** - Provides "information on the geology, natural resources and geologic hazards of California." Includes a history of this government body, news, educational materials, maps, and reports on topics such as mineral resources (including gold and hazardous minerals), earthquakes, landslides and erosion, and tsunamis. From the California Department of Conservation. <http://www.consrv.ca.gov/CGS/>

**\*David Rumsey Collection** – A collection of primarily 18th- and 19th-century North and South American cartographic materials. Digital images of a variety of maps, atlases, globes, and other cartographic items. <http://www.davidrumsey.com>

**\*CIA World Factbook** - Geographic information on countries and maps of regions and individual countries of the world. Map images are available in JPEG or PDF format. <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>

**\*geodata.gov: U.S. Maps & Data** - Government's site for federal, state, and local geospatial data and generating maps. Permits users to create maps with data elements to meet their needs in a variety of categories. [www.geodata.gov/gos](http://www.geodata.gov/gos)

**\*Geographic Names Information System** - "Contains information about almost 2 million physical and cultural geographic features in the United States." Searchable by name, state or territory, feature type (e.g., cemetery, beach, hospital), county, elevation, and population. Results pages provide longitude and latitude, USGS map names, elevation (if applicable), estimated population of cities and towns, and links to online maps. Searchable via "Query the GNIS Online Data Bases." <http://geonames.usgs.gov/gnishome.html>

**\*Goode's World Atlas** – Permits the selection of a specific theme to map (world refugees, energy production, precious metals, etc.) or print a map of a U.S. state. Individual maps of non-U.S. locations are not available. Maps are available as PDF files. <http://www.goodesatlas.com/downloadmaps.htm>

**\*Library of Congress American Memory Map Collections** - Provides access to digital representations of maps found in the Geography and Maps Division of the Library of Congress and covering the years 1500–1999. Search using keywords or browse the subject, title, creator, and geographic indexes to find maps that are focused on Americana and other cartographic materials. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

**\*Maps.com** - Offers maps of all sorts, from wall to digital. Can also be used for driving directions or to find an address. <http://www.maps.com>

**\*Maps on Other Web Sites.** A listing of maps available on the web by categories. [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map\\_sites/map\\_sites.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map_sites/map_sites.html)

**\*MapTech MapServer** - Provides access to topographic maps, nautical charts and aerial photos, called NavPhotos, which cover coastal regions exclusively. Permits searching for maps by place name and state. Multiple map scales are available, and placing the cursor over the map image will generate coordinates for that point on the map. <http://www.maptech.com>

**\*Microsoft's Terra Server** - Provides free public access to maps and aerial photography of the United States. Permits searching for a specific city or clicking the green areas on the map to zoom into a location of interest. <http://terraadvisor.msn.com/default.asp>

**\*multimap.com** – A European road and street map service that also covers the U.S. Maps resemble those of more widely used sites (such as MapQuest), they are better looking and easier to read than many. <http://www.multimap.com>

**\*National Atlas of the United States** - Choose “Atlas Maps” to use the National Atlas Map Browser to build, view, and print maps using a variety of information layers. There are a number of multimedia maps available that combine graphical representations of data with animation as well as links for finding additional information. From the U.S. Geological Survey. <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/>

**\*National Geographic MapMachine** - Searching is by city, country, region, continent, zip code, and more. There are many kinds of maps for most places, from road, topographical, and population to political, satellite, "ecoregions," and more. Different types of maps are defined, and features include the ability to switch from one type of map to another while locked on the same area, historical maps, and a Mars map. <http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/>

**\*Oddens' Bookmarks** - Provides links to map resources and the entire world of cartography and geography. Select Browse, then Maps and Atlases and choose the type you want to find. Search by keyword, country, subject category (e.g., "Electronic Atlases"), or general bookmark categories (e.g., "Maps and Atlases"). "What's New" lists links added in the last 30 days From the Faculty of Geosciences at the Universiteit Utrecht (Netherlands). <http://oddens.geog.uu.nl>

**\*Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection** - Provides electronic access to maps (mostly political) for all regions of the world covering mostly the 19th and 20th centuries though some represent time periods as far back as 980 C.E. Includes maps of many scales (many are in PDF format) copyright free and organized by region and special interest areas. Also has population density maps, reference maps, vegetation maps, and a variety of others. Maps of current interest are posted on the main page and there are links to other map web sites. Created and maintained by the University of Texas at Austin. <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>

**\*State Data Centers** - Provides information for state data centers in all 50 states, but often provides canned maps that focus on socio-economic data or natural resources. Not all states provide web sites, data, or maps. <http://www.census.gov/sdc/www/>

**\*TopoZone** - Provides access to USGS topographic maps of the U.S. Searchable by map name, name of a city or place, or the name of a geographic feature. Maps are scalable from 1:10,000 to 1:1,000,000. Users can adjust resolution and map size. <http://www.topozone.com>

**U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** – Provides “scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life. <http://www.usgs.gov/>

**\*United Nations Cartographic Section** - Provides access to more than 100 non-U.S. maps organized by region and country. Maps open as PDF files. Also has peacekeeping maps and a select number of thematic maps. <http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/english/>

**\*Wetlands Interactive Mapper Tool** - Provides access to National Wetlands Inventory Maps in digital format. Permits selection by county, city, zip code, refuge, or lat/long. Not all locations are available. From the National Wetlands Inventory Center of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. [http://wetlands.fws.gov/mapper\\_tool.htm](http://wetlands.fws.gov/mapper_tool.htm)

### *Street mapping sites*

**\*Google Maps.** <http://maps.google.com/>

**\*MapQuest** - Includes three main components: online maps, driving directions, and travel guides. “Outside U.S. and Canada” link gets street maps and driving directions for other countries. “World Atlas” provides additional map resources and some are supplemented with aerial photos. Can also “Map by Lat/Long,” “See What’s in Your Neighborhood,” and subscribe to “MapQuest Mobile.” <http://www.mapquest.com>.

**\*MSN Maps & Directions** - Maps addresses or cities and provides driving directions. Map icons are somewhat customizable, and in larger urban areas offers traffic reports for the region. Also provides local weather reports. <http://www.mapblast.com>.

**\*Make Quick Maps** - Allows the creation of maps of the U.S. based on street addresses and the generation of general maps of Europe or the world. For major non-U.S. cities, using the zoom function gets street maps, though they are not as detailed as the ones in MapQuest or Yahoo Maps. Maps can be saved in GIF format. <http://www.esri.com/data/online/quickmap.html>

**\*Yahoo Maps** – Street mapping with a similar interface and features as other sites, though this is the only street mapping site that contains detailed Canadian maps. <http://maps.yahoo.com/py/maps.py>

**IF YOU NEED HELP, ASK A LIBRARIAN.**