

Episode 6: Locate Where Your Ancestors Lived

5 minute challenge—Use maps, atlases, and gazetteers to locate your ancestor!

Steps:

- 1. Start with a gazetteer to find more information about a location.
- 2. Use the information learned from the gazetteer to find the right map or atlas for that location. Make sure you are using a map from the right time period.
- 3. A map can help you identify what jurisdiction your ancestor lived in, such as the town or county.
- Identifying the jurisdiction will help you know where to search for records.



Vocabulary

Map: A visual representation of an area.

Atlas: A bound collection of maps.

Gazetteer: A geographical dictionary or encyclopedia. Often describes an area's features like population, religion, and landmarks.

Jurisdiction: The geographical area over which a court or government body has the power and right to exercise authority.

For more information visit: https:/wiki.familysearch.org/en/Maps

https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Gazetteers

Helpful hints:

Maps, atlases, and gazetteers will help you learn about the area and pinpoint where your ancestors lived.

If you feel confused about how to use one of these tools, ask for help!

FamilySearch Centers and the Family History Library can help you learn how to effectively use these resources to improve your searches.



