

I. GeMS Resources & II. A Georeferencing Utility

...

Caroline Rose (she/her)
Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey
caroline.rose@wisc.edu

I. GeMS Resources

...

resources from the Wisconsin Geo. Survey

github.com/wgnhs/gems

DMT 2019 presentation

GeMS Fields Checklist

DMT 2020 presentation

Metadata in ArcCatalog: step-by-step

Workflow overview

Metadata & GeMS Attributes reference

Layers and Tables Quick-reference
sheets

Python tools for working with domains
in our original data

github.com/ wgnhs/gems

🔍

wgnhs/gems

🔗 Unwatch

★ Star 2

🔗 Fork 1

📄 Code

🗨️ Issues 3

🔗 Pull requests 0

👤 Actions

📁 Projects 0

🌐 Wiki

🛡️ Security 0

🔍 Insights

⚙️ Settings

WGNHS developed tools and documentation for working with the USGS Geologic Map Schema (GeMS)

Edit

Manage topics

🔗 28 commits

🌿 2 branches

📦 0 packages

📦 0 releases

🛡️ 1 environment

👤 2 contributors

Branch: master • New pull request

Create new file

Upload files

Find file

Clone or download

📄 ometone Update README.md		Latest commit 68951b5 on Mar 9
📄 DMT12019-Moving-Maps-to-GeMS.pdf	add slides PDF from DMT 2019 presentation	13 months ago
📄 DMT12019-moving-maps-to-gems-sc...	add script of the DMT talk	12 months ago
📄 DecodeCodedDomains.py	tool to decode coded domains into tables in a geodatabase	14 months ago
📄 DecodeCodedDomains.tbx	tool to decode coded domains into tables in a geodatabase	14 months ago
📄 GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Refer...	update the quick reference sheets	12 months ago
📄 GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Refer...	update the quick reference sheets	12 months ago
📄 README.md	Update README.md	3 months ago
📄 Workflow_Overview_05-10-19.pdf	add workflow overview PDF	14 months ago
📄 metadata-to-tables.py	Add file via upload	14 months ago

📄 README.md

gems

Tools and documentation for working with the USGS Geologic Map Schema (GeMS), developed at the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS). Please direct questions to Caroline at caroline.rose@wisc.edu

Resources developed by WGNHS:

Workflow documentation:

Workflow_Overview (PDF): This is a general overview of the steps we followed when converting previously published maps into GeMS

DMT2019-Moving Maps to GeMS: Slides and the script from a presentation at the Digital Mapping Techniques meeting, May 2019, Butte, Montana. An almost identical presentation was given at the NCGDPP workshop in Golden, CO in September of 2019.

GeMS Layers and Tables Quick Reference: This document summarizes all fields for any GeMS layer or table. This mostly reproduces the text in the GeMS manuscript. It is meant to be printed so that one layer is summarized on one sheet of paper. We found this useful because it helps narrow down the reference material. Provided in both doc and pdf format.

Specialty tools:

metadata-to-tables.py: A python script for extracting any Enumerated Domain Values and their corresponding definitions from FGDC metadata in .txt format. Outputs a .csv file for each Enumerated Domain.

DecodeCodedDomains.tbx: An ArcMap toolbox with one tool in it. It references the .py script of the same name. The tool accepts a geodatabase as input, and it turns every coded domain into a table within the database.

Other resources:

USGS GeMS official documentation: <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/info/standards/GeMS/>

USGS GeMS Toolkit: https://github.com/usgs/GeMS_Tools/

NGCMP09 on Github: <https://github.com/ngcmp09>

National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDP) on GitHub: <https://github.com/nggdp>

Arizona GS web map of a NCGMP09 map: <https://github.com/arizona/geologic-map-of-arizona>

Summary of
resources

Get a general overview of a GeMS workflow

See prior DMT presentations (scripts and slides on [github](#)).

We also have a summary document.

Workflow Overview

(PDF on github)

Workflow Step	Basic Steps	Tools/Scripts/Templates
Locate Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create folders to house initial data, edited data, and eventually GeMS data. Download from WGNHS website or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find in past project folders 	
Convert to use in ArcMaps	If in .E00 format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use conversion tool Create a new file geodatabase (with correct spatial information) and within that create a new feature dataset. Import the converted shapefiles into the geodatabase/feature dataset. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Import from E00 (Conversion) (tool) Create new File Geodatabase Create new Feature Dataset
	If already in a geodatabase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a new file geodatabase (with correct spatial information) and within that create a new feature dataset. Import the other geodatabase files into the geodatabase/feature dataset. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create new File Geodatabase Create new Feature Dataset
Examine Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extract metadata from larger metadata txt (if necessary). Write down the initial data type in the progress table. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run in-house extract from metadata script
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill in tables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Templates:

Populate your GeMS containers

Become familiar with each GeMS layer or table and its attributes

We have reference sheets for that.

Quick-reference Sheets

(PDF on github)

MapUnitPolys (polygon feature class) required

Fields:

MapUnit	<i>Short plain-text key (identifier) for the map unit. Example values: "Qal", "Tg", "Kit", "water", "Trc3", etc. Foreign key to DescriptionOfMapUnits table. Null values not permitted—a mapped polygon must have an assigned map unit</i>
IdentityConfidence	<i>How confidently is this polygon identified as MapUnit? Value is usually "certain", "questionable", or "unspecified". Null values not permitted. Suggest setting default value to "certain". Values must be defined in Glossary.</i>
Label	<i>Determined from the appropriate value of the Label in the DescriptionOfMapUnits table and IdentityConfidence: if IdentityConfidence = "questionable", then append "?" to Label value from the DescriptionOfMapUnits table. Allows for subscripts and special characters. Null values permitted</i>
Symbol	<i>References an area fill symbol (background color + optional pattern). Area fill symbols must be defined in an accompanying style file. If Esri Cartographic Representations are used to symbolize map units, the value may be null or blank. Null values permitted</i>
DataSourceID	<i>Foreign key to DataSources table, to track provenance of each data element. Null values not permitted</i>
Notes	<i>Optional field. Free text for additional information specific to this polygon. Null values permitted</i>
MapUnitPolys_ID	<i>Primary key. Example Values = MUP1, MUP2, MUP3, etc. Values must be unique in database. Null values not permitted</i>

Topology rules:

- Polygons must not overlap
- No gaps between polygons
- Boundaries must be overlain by lines in ContactsAndFaults

Note that not all lines in ContactsAndFaults necessarily bound polygons

Check over your GeMS database

In tandem with the USGS schema validation script/tool
(use before or after)

We have a checklist for that.

“GeMS Fields Checklist” (PDF on github)

Glossary (non-spatial table)

Term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Check paragraphStyles against original map<input type="checkbox"/> Terms are in the master glossary<input type="checkbox"/> Master glossary has the map listed in the 'Maps' column
Definition	Look for truncated definitions
DefinitionSourceID	
❖ SeeAlso	
<u>TermSrcFld</u>	
TermSrcFC	
Glossary_ID	

DataSources (non-spatial table)

DataSources_ID	Unique and readable abbreviations of the citations
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Cite the entire publication instead of the plate itself.<input type="checkbox"/> Citations follow USGS format
Notes	
URL	If referencing a past Survey publication, the URL directs to the overall publication, not just the plate.

Metadata

Before running the USGS metadata script, you populate metadata at the Feature Dataset level in your geodatabase.

We have a step-by-step guide for that.

“Metadata For GeMS Maps - Step by Step in ArcCatalog”

(PDF on github)

ArcCatalog



FGDC metadata



Overview > Citation	Titles	2	Lineage > Source_Information > Source_Citation > Citation_Information		
Overview > Citation	FGDC Geospatial Data Presentation Form	1	Citation > Citation Information > Geospatial Data Presentation Form		Vector Digital Data
Overview > Citation	Dates > add a Publication Date	1	Time Period of Content > Time Period Information > Single Date/Time > Calendar Date	January 1 of the publication year	
Overview > Citation	Series > Name	1	Citation > Citation Information > Series Information > Series Name	Bulletin, Information Circular, etc	

Also reference:

The Esri Illustrated Guide to FGDC metadata:

<http://desktop.arcgis.com/en/arcmap/10.6/manage-data/metadata/illustrated-guide-to-complete-fgdc-metadata.htm>

Metadata

The USGS metadata tool/script will pull GeMS attribute values from throughout your database into your metadata (e.g., glossary definitions, data source citations, DMU fullnames)

We have a reference guide for that.

“Metadata Summary for GeMS Fields” (PDF on github)

Attribute	Is an Enumerated Domain	Links between Tables / Feature Classes	Appears in Enumerated_Domain_Value_Definition	Appears in Enumerated_Domain_Value_Definition_Source
MapUnitPolys / MapUnit	Yes	Links to DescriptionOfMapUnits / MapUnit		
Any Type field (e.g., in the ContactsAndFaults or GeologicLines feature classes)	Yes	Links to Glossary / Term		
Any Confidence Field (e.g., ExistenceConfidence, IdentityConfidence, etc.)	Yes	Links to Glossary / Term		
Any DataSource Field (e.g., DataSourceID, DefinitionSourceID, DescriptionSourceID, etc.)	Yes	Links to DataSources / DataSources_ID		
DescriptionOfMapUnits / ParagraphStyle	Yes	Links to Glossary / Term		
DescriptionOfMapUnits / GeoMaterial	Yes	Links to GeoMaterialDict / Definition *		
DescriptionOfMapUnits / GeoMaterialConfidence	Yes			
DescriptionOfMapUnits / MapUnit		Yes		
DescriptionOfMapUnits / FullName			Yes	
DataSources / Source			Yes	Yes

Metadata summary: MapUnitPolys (polygon feature class) required

Attribute Label:	Attribute Domain Values:
MapUnit	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value drawn from this table. Value_Definition drawn from the “FullName” attribute of the DescriptionofMapUnits table (linked by foreign key “MapUnit”) Value_Definition_Source is “this report, table DescriptionofMapUnits”
IdentityConfidence	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value drawn from this table. Value_Definition drawn from the “Definition” attribute of the Glossary table (linked by foreign key “Term”) Value_Definition_Source drawn from the “Source” attribute of the DataSources table (linked by foreign key “DataSources_ID” connected to the “DefinitionSourceID” in the Glossary table)
Label	Unrepresentable domain
Symbol	Unrepresentable domain
DataSourceID	Enumerated Domain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value drawn from this table.

I'm here to help.

caroline.rose@wisc.edu

Emails, phone calls, video meetings

See our examples (20 maps): <https://wgnhs.wisc.edu/catalog/publication?q=gems>

II: Quad-G ...

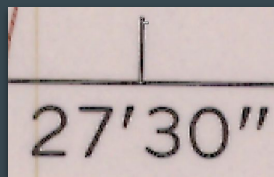
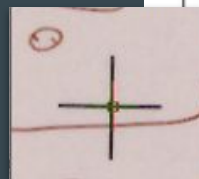
georeferencing made easier

What is Quad-G?

A program to facilitate georeferencing of USGS Quads (Quad-G) and/or any map with graticule control marks (Thematic-G).

It scans the image for control marks

Single file input or batch input (many maps)



Why is it useful?

Historic field notes / sample locations on quads

Emeritus faculty / mappers who prefer to work on paper

Example: Western Waushara Quaternary Geology



Yr1_Hancock_uncompressed.tif



Yr1_Plainfield_uncompressed.tif



Yr1_WautomaNE_uncompressed.tif



Yr2_Coloma_quad_uncompressed.tif



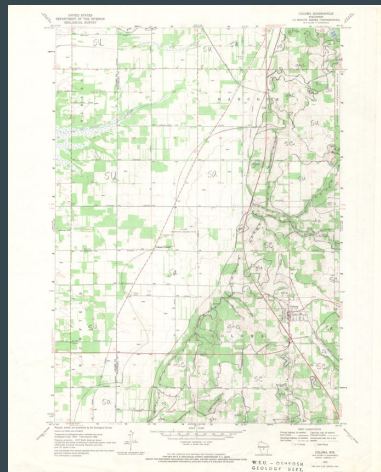
Yr2_Richford_quad_uncompressed.tif



Yr2_Wautoma_quad_uncompressed.tif



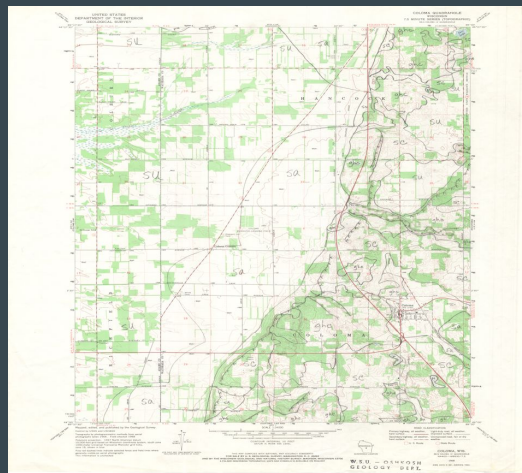
Example: Western Waushara Quaternary Geology



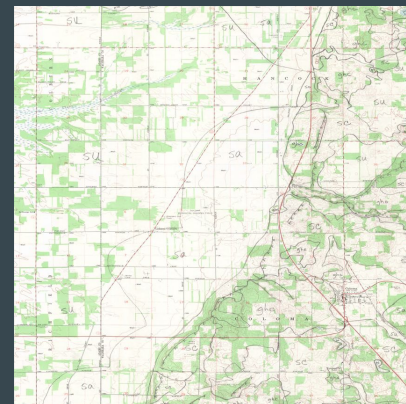
.tif
scan



Quad-G
Single
file input

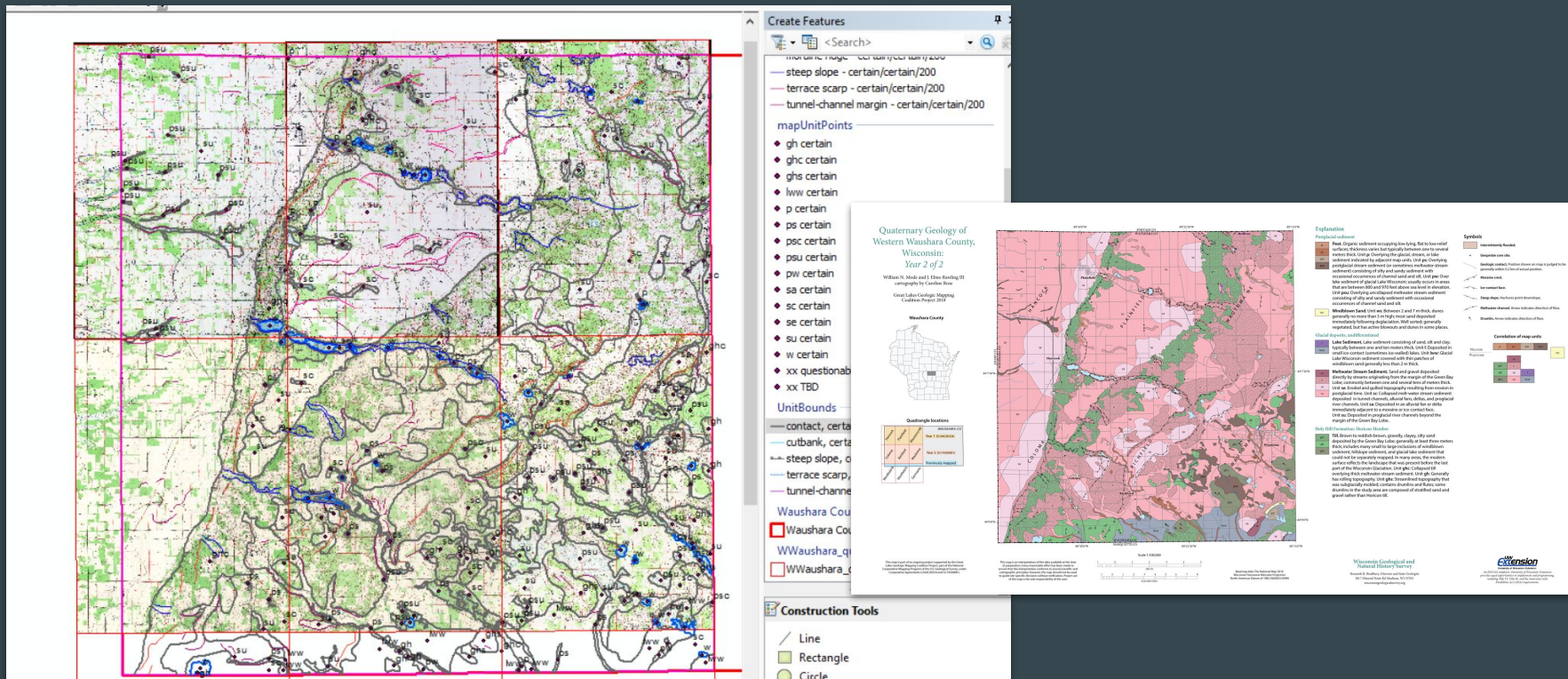


geotif



geotif
without
collar

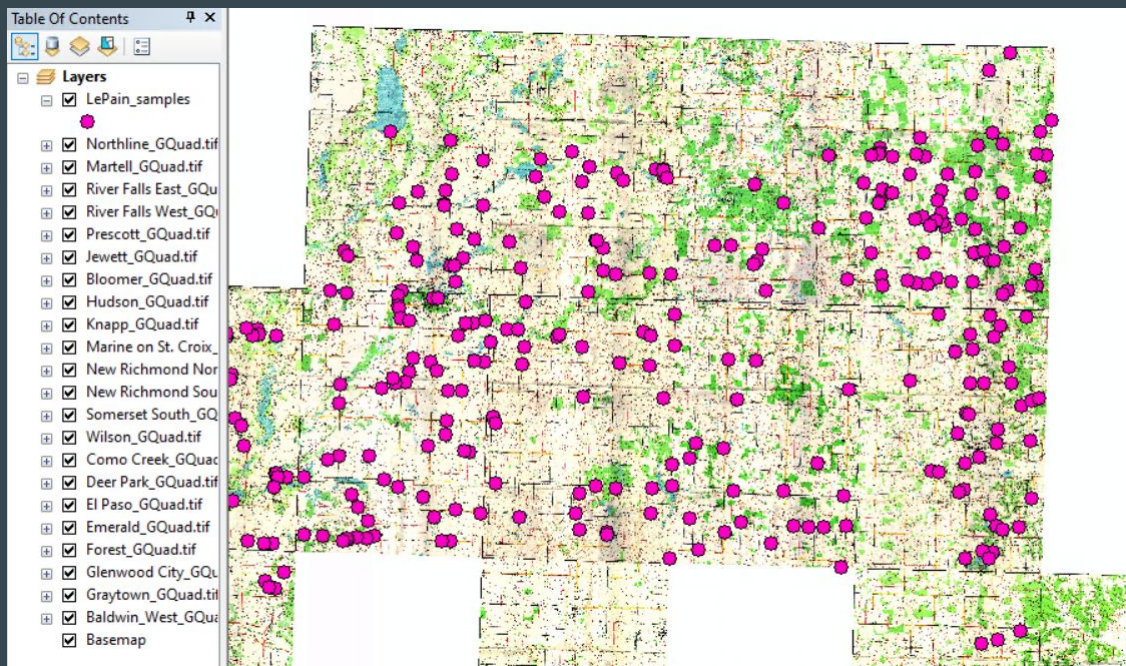
Example: Western Waushara Quaternary Geology



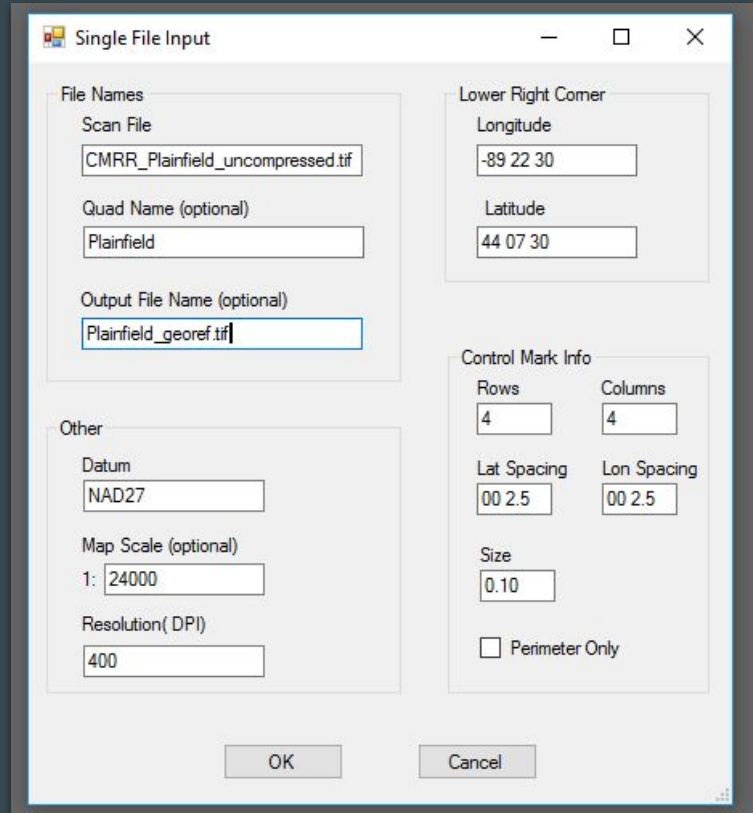
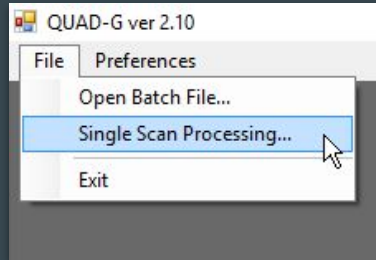
Example: Data Preservation Grant for Historic Field Notes

Georeferenced about 30
quad maps to reference
historic sample locations

Non-GIS Staff
georeferenced and used
the scans



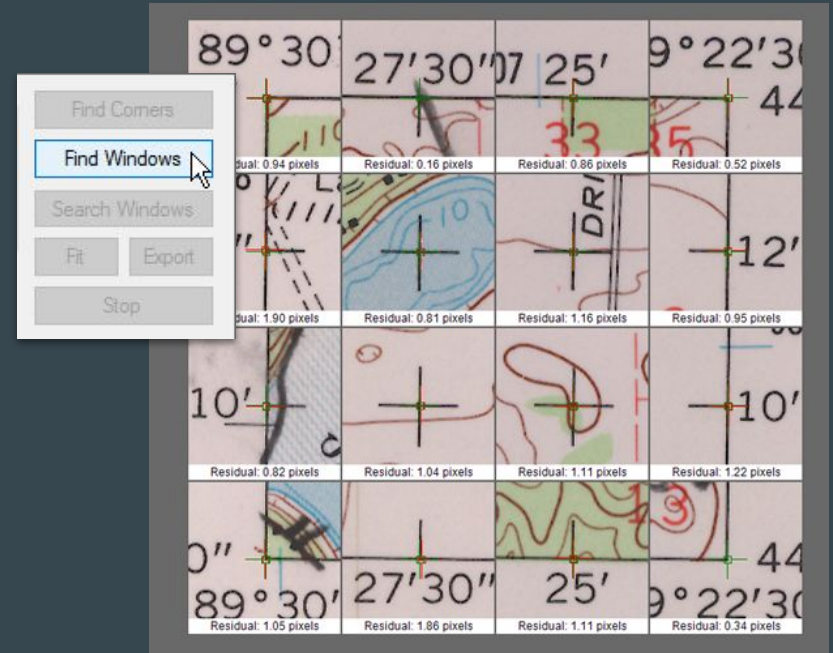
Using the software



Input image file

Specify datum, lower-right coordinate, image dpi, scale, number of rows and columns, control mark length

Using the software



Historical Topographic Map Collection (HTMC)

190,000 historic USGS quadrangle maps, published 1884 - 2006

Scanned, color-corrected, georeferenced, catalogued in the
Historic Quadrangle Scanning Project 2009 - 2012+

Made available online

Find them in USGS topoview...

<https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/>

The screenshot displays the USGS TopoView web application interface. The main map area shows a historical topographic map of Madison, WI, with a blue location pin. The map is overlaid on a modern street map. The interface includes a sidebar on the left with navigation controls (plus, minus, compass, etc.) and a top panel with search and filter options. The right panel shows a list of map records for Madison, WI, with details for each record including the year, edition, scale, and download options.

topoView

Location: Madison, WI
Search by location

29 maps here | Scale: All, Date: 1880-2021, Series: All
Elevation @ 43.074, -89.434 is 874 ft (266 m)

Filter records

Madison, WI
1890 (HTMC, 1890 ed.) Scale 1:62500
↓ JPEG (2 MB) ↓ GeoTiff (6 MB)
↓ KMZ (2 MB) ↓ GeoPDF (6 MB)
HIDE INFO ZOOM PAN PIN FIX

MAP TRANSPARENCY

Madison, WI
1892 (HTMC, 1892 ed.) Scale 1:62500

Madison, WI
1892 (HTMC, 1898 ed.) Scale 1:62500

Madison, WI
1892 (HTMC, 1903 ed.) Scale 1:62500

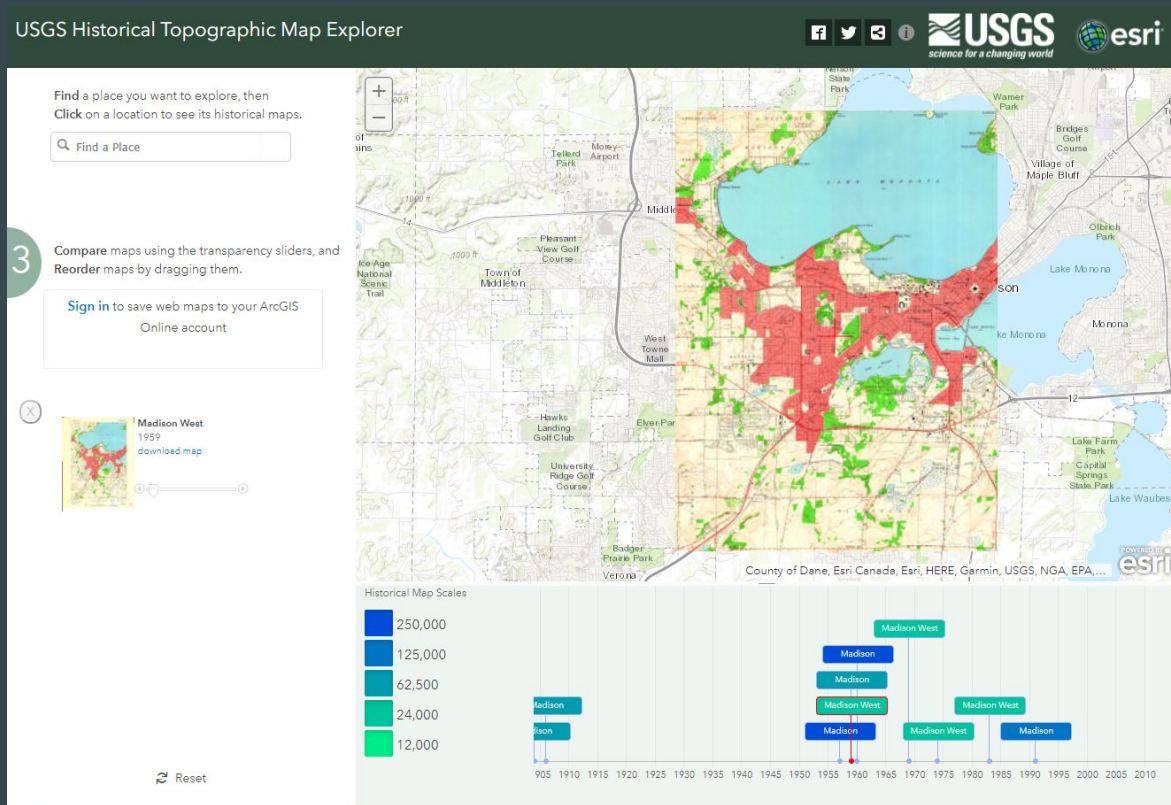
Madison, WI
1904 (HTMC, 1954 ed.) Scale 1:62500

Madison, WI
1906 (HTMC, 1906 ed.) Scale 1:62500

Lat: 43° 9' 0" N Long: 89° 14' 1" W
Scale 1:288,895
Map Records: 205
Weather data not available at this point

...or in the Esri Historical Topo Map Explorer

<https://livingatlas.arcgis.com/topoexplorer/index.html>



190,000 maps were not georeferenced by one-by-one “single file input”

376 3

Views

1


CrossRef citations to date: Altmetric

Articles

Automated and semi-automated map georeferencing

James E. Burt  , Jeremy White , Gregory Allord , Kenneth M. Then  & A-Xing Zhu 

Pages 46-66 | Received 03 Sep 2018, Accepted 03 Apr 2019, Published online: 29 May 2019

 Download citation <https://doi.org/10.1080/15230406.2019.1604161> Check for updates

Get access

ABSTRACT

Historical maps contain a wealth of information not generally available, but they must be referenced to well-known coordinate systems for maximum use in spatial analysis. Existing georeferencing tools are essentially manual, requiring considerable data entry, much panning and zooming, and precise on-screen digitizing. Here we present alternative approaches based on pattern-matching and spatial computing intended to overcome the inefficiencies of standard tools. We also describe and make available two computer programs implementing the methods discussed. The first, designed for large-scale quadrangles, locates map boundaries, finds ground control points, and produces georeferenced images without operator assistance. Experiments show that quadrangle georeferencing can be reliably automated (88% success rate in our tests). A second program, developed for general maps at any scale, uses self-learning and other approaches to overcome most of the manual aspects of georeferencing. Both programs find control points with single-pixel accuracy, yield transform errors on the order of map linewidth, and can produce warped or unwarped images as desired.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/15230406.2019.1604161>

Techniques and Methods 11-B6

>> Pubs Warehouse > TM 11-B6

National Geospatial Program

Specification for the U.S. Geological Survey Historical Topographic Map Collection

By Gregory J. Allord, Jennifer L. Walter, Kristin A. Fishburn, and Gale A. Shea



Introduction

This document provides the detailed requirements for producing, archiving, and disseminating a comprehensive digital collection of topographic maps for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Historical Topographic Map Collection (HTMC). The HTMC is a digital archive of about 190,000 printed topographic maps published by the USGS from the inception of the topographic mapping program in 1884 until the last paper topographic map using lithographic printing technology was published in 2006. The HTMC provides a comprehensive digital repository of all scales and all editions of USGS printed topographic maps that is easily discovered, browsed, and downloaded by the public at no cost. The HTMC provides ready access to maps that are no longer available for distribution in print. A digital file

representing the original paper historical topographic map is produced for each historical map in the HTMC in georeferenced PDF (GeoPDF) format (a portable document format [PDF] with a geospatial extension).

First posted December 1, 2014

- [Report PDF \(13.9\)](#)

For additional information contact:

National Geospatial Technical
Operations Center NGTOC
U.S. Geological Survey
P.O. Box 25046, MS 510
Denver, CO 80225
<http://ngtoc.usgs.gov/>

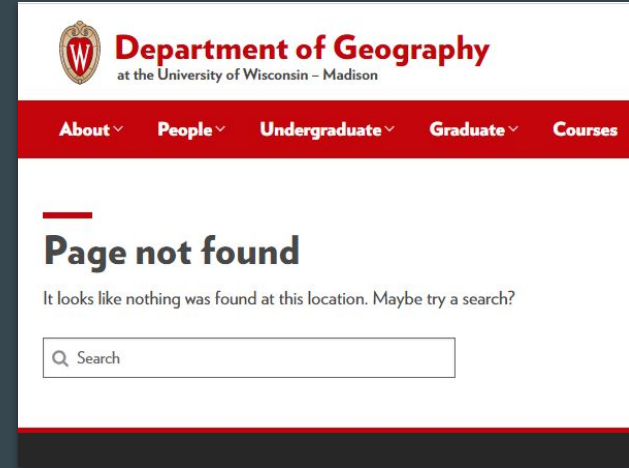
Part or all of this report is presented in Portable Document Format (PDF). For best results viewing and printing PDF documents, it is recommended that you download the documents to your computer and open them with Adobe Reader. PDF documents opened from your browser may not

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/11b6/>

How to get it

Geography Dept website?

Not right now.



..email me: caroline.rose@wisc.edu

Thanks!

github.com/wgnhs/gems

Caroline Rose
Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey
caroline.rose@wisc.edu

