

Georeference

This tutorial is part of an educational series produced by members of the [Big Ten Academic Alliance Geospatial Information Network](#).



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Overview of Georeferencing

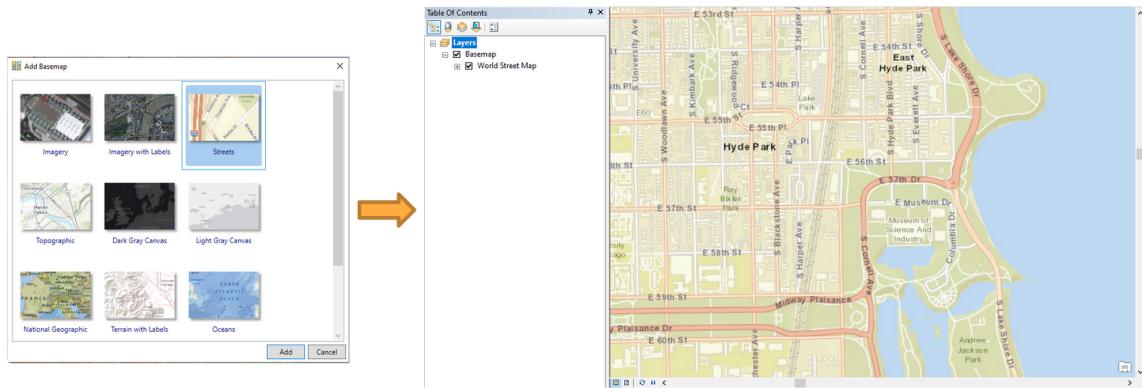
Georeferencing is a commonly used tool to accurately digitize data on a paper map. It uses a series of control points in the digital image to associate this image with spatial locations. The digital image could be an aerial photography, a scanned map, or a picture of a topographic map. The georeferenced map can be used for basic map analysis, such as calculating distances and areas. In this tutorial, you will learn how to georeference a historical map by using ArcMap.

Download Data

1. Open BTAA geoportal: <https://geo.btaa.org/>
2. Search term “Hyde Park Community”
3. Click Original Jpeg button to open the map
4. Right click the map and save image as “G4104-C6-2H9-1920z-U5.jpg”

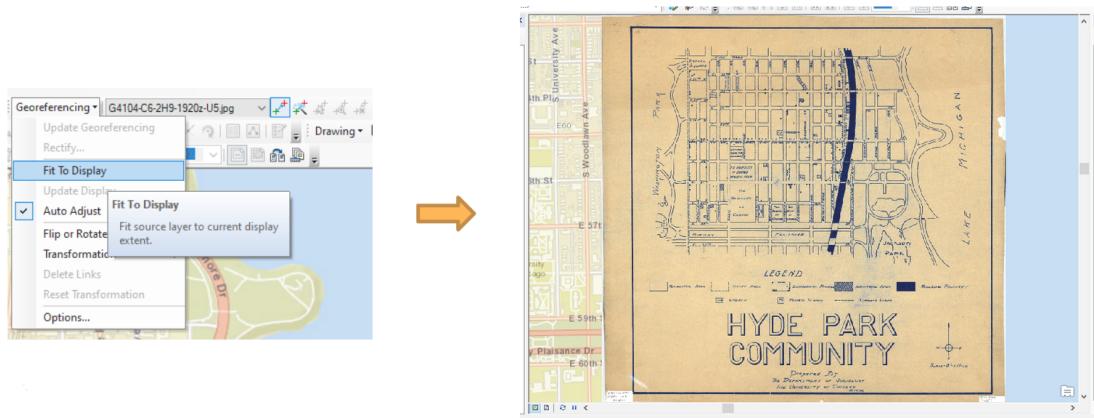
Data Processing

1. Open ArcMap
2. Click Add Basemap and choose Streets map
3. Zoom in to the study area: Hyde Park, Chicago, Illinois



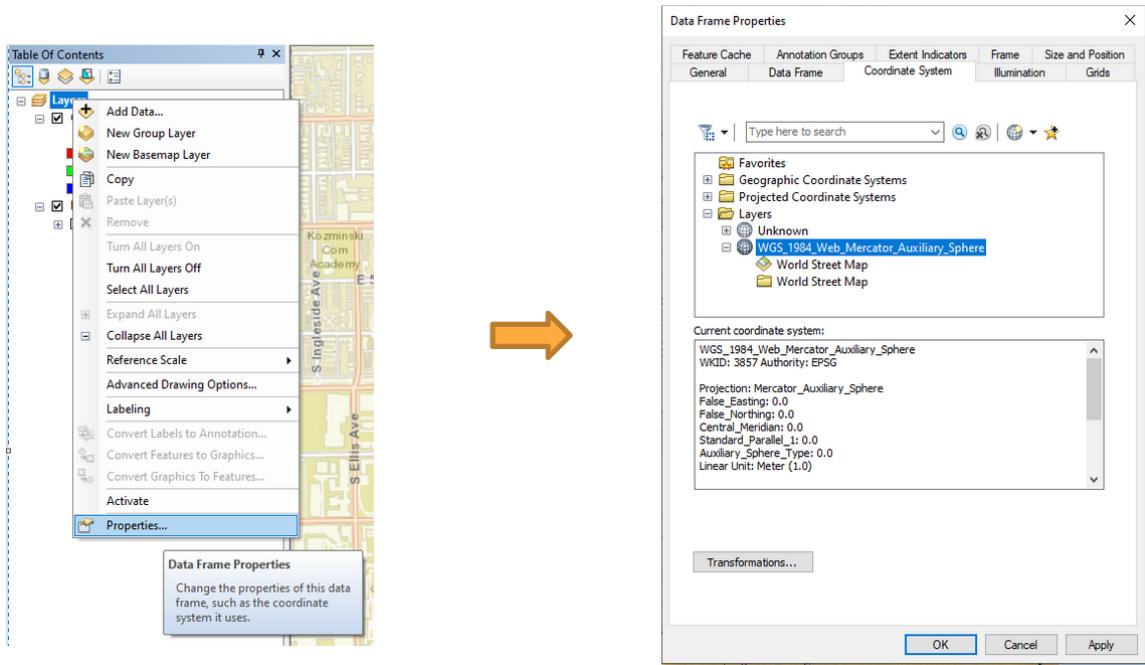
Add Basemap and Zoom to Hyde Park

1. Click Add data and choose the image “G4104-C6-2H9-1920z-U5.jpg”
2. Click Customize -> Toolbar -> Georeferencing to add georeferenced tool
3. Click Fit To Display to show the image in the study area.



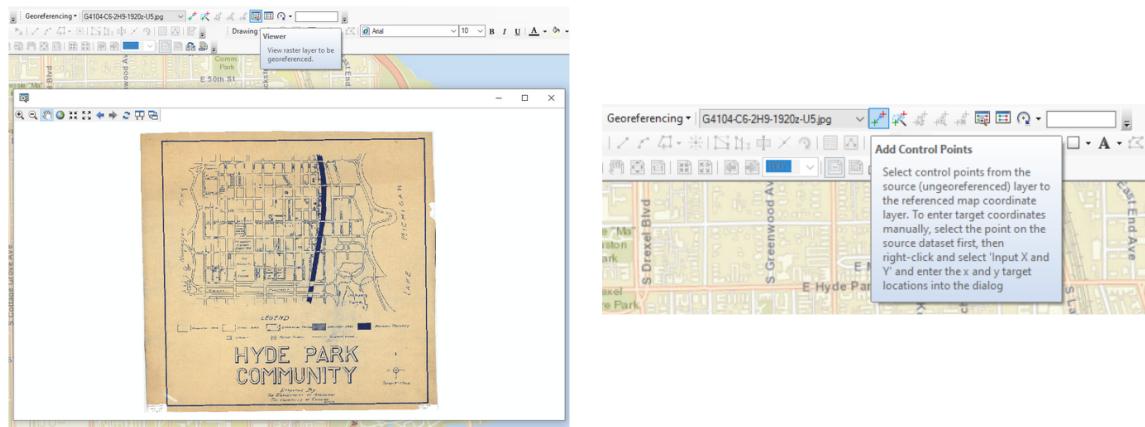
Fit Scanned Map to Display

1. Right click Layers -> Properties and select WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere as the coordinate system.



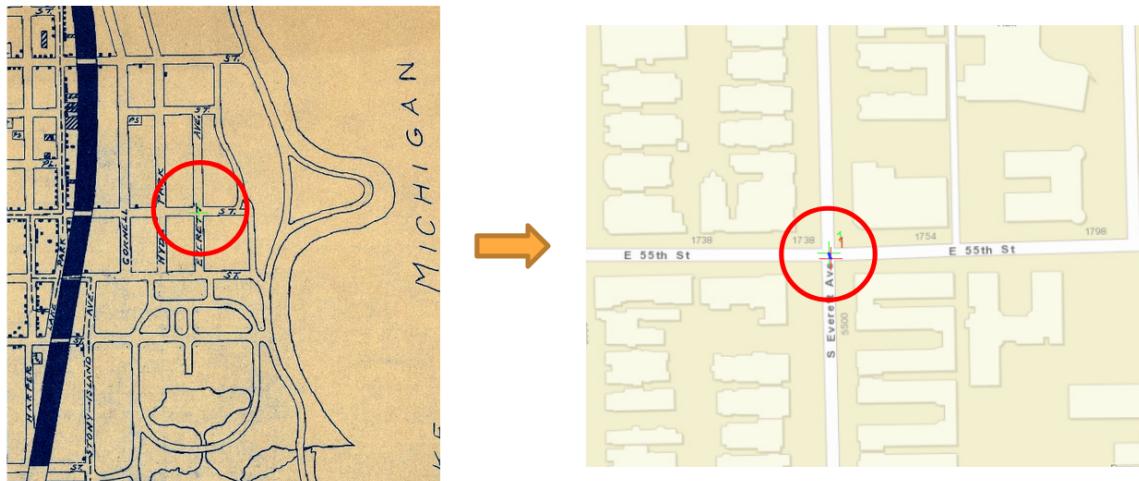
Set Coordinate System

1. Click Viewer to show the image in a new window.
2. Click Add control Points to select control points. Select control points from the viewer window, and then choose the corresponding location in the street map.



Add Control Points

1. Select control points in the area close to the four corners of the map.
2. Select additional control points. The more points you assign the more accurate your georeferenced map will be.



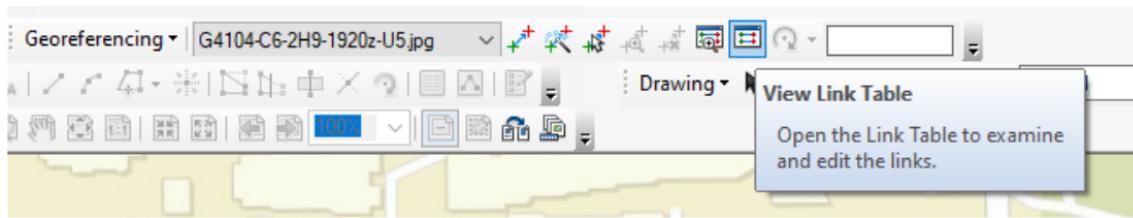
More Control Points

Tips

Here are some tips for choosing control points:

- The number of control points needed depends on the image being used. Normally, at least four control points are required for georeferencing.
- Choose road crossings or sidewalk intersections, because the edges of roads may change over time.
- The control points should be spread across the unreferenced image.

1. Click View Link Table. It is up to you to determine the acceptable residual values. If a link has a residual value much larger than others, the link should be deleted.



Link

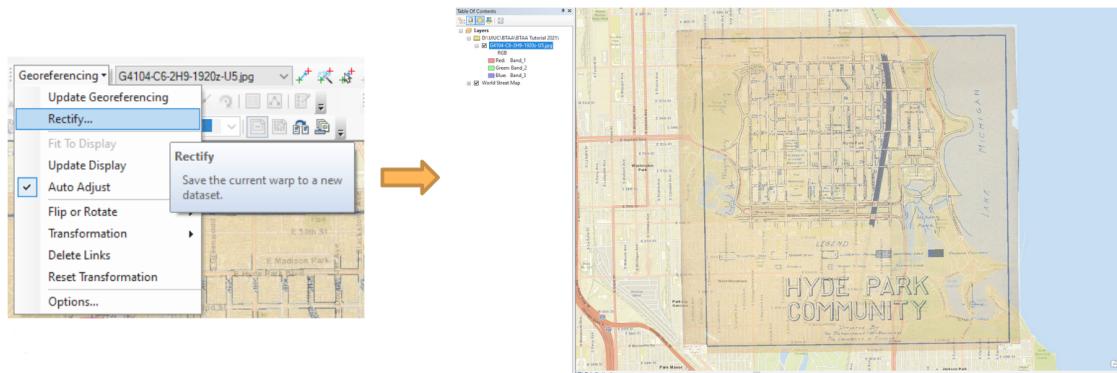
Total RMS Error: Forward:4.89351

Link	X Source	Y Source	X Map	Y Map	Residual_X	Residual_Y	Residual
1	1089.227882	-476.435962	-9749639.963...	5130353.047442	1.06865	-3.73	3.88007
2	326.804469	-242.654675	-975293.210...	5131130.130246	-0.862824	3.01158	3.13274
3	327.818076	-790.174377	-975262.915...	5129229.253945	1.5339	-5.35389	5.56929
4	796.026836	-868.999922	-9750640.884...	5128991.393052	-1.73973	6.07231	6.31662

Auto Adjust Transformation: 1st Order Polynomial (Affine) Degrees Minutes Seconds Forward Residual Unit : Unknown

Residual Values

1. After georeferencing, click Rectify to save the result.
2. In the layer property, change transparency to 50%. It is an easy to compare the georeferenced map locations with the real world locations.



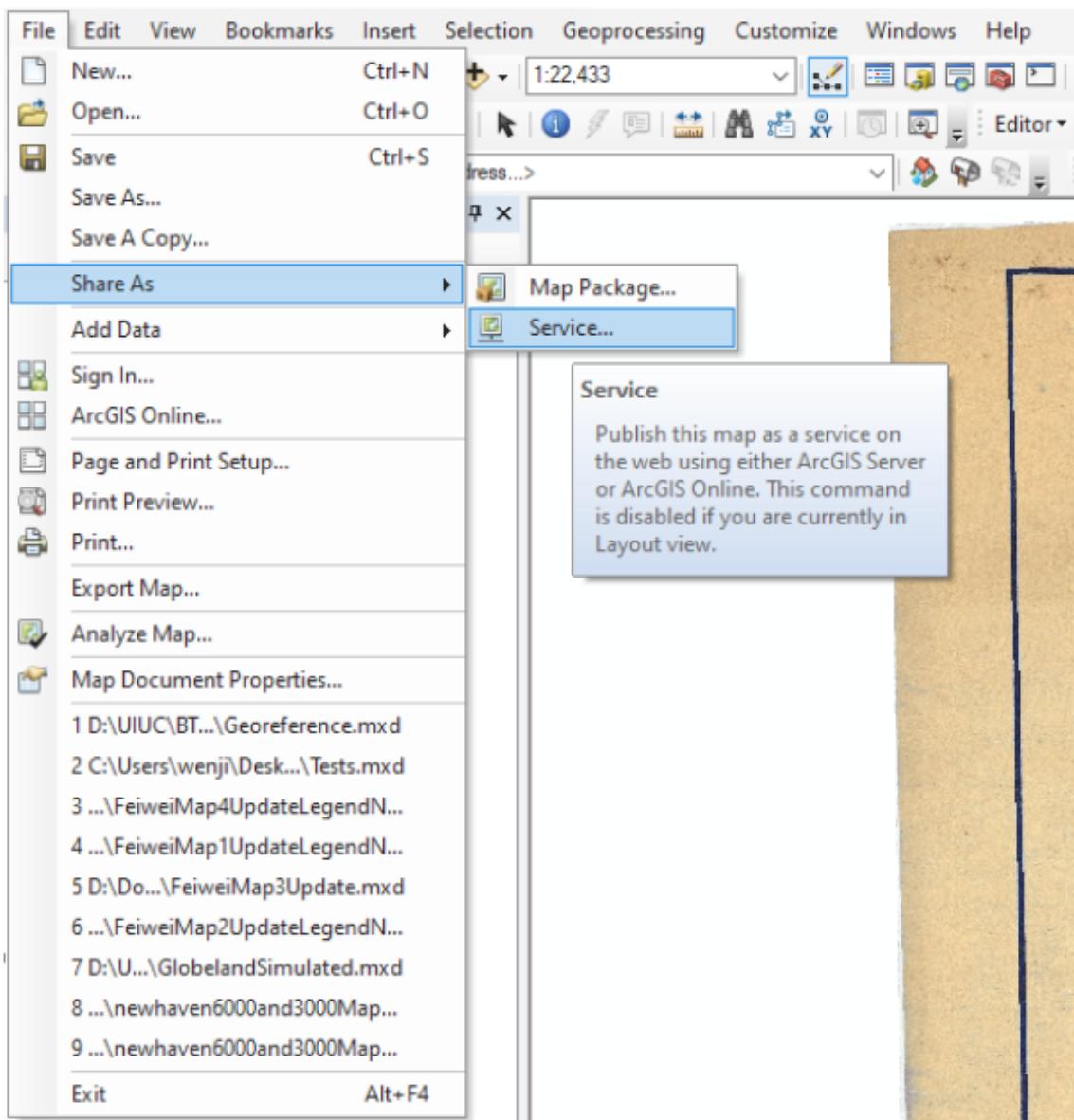
Make Map Overlay Semi-Transparent

Publish Map on ArcGIS Online

- This topic is optional. to publish a hosted layer, you will need publishing privileges in your ArcGIS organizational account.
- Publishing a tiled service to ArcGIS Online will consume credits, which are the currency used across ArcGIS. To estimate how many credits you will need to perform specific transactions or

store data, you can refer to this website: <https://doc.arcgis.com/en/arcgis-online/administer/credits.htm>

- Sign in with your university account.
- Remove Basemap
- Click File -> Share as -> Service
- Choose Public a service
- Choose a connection and enter service name

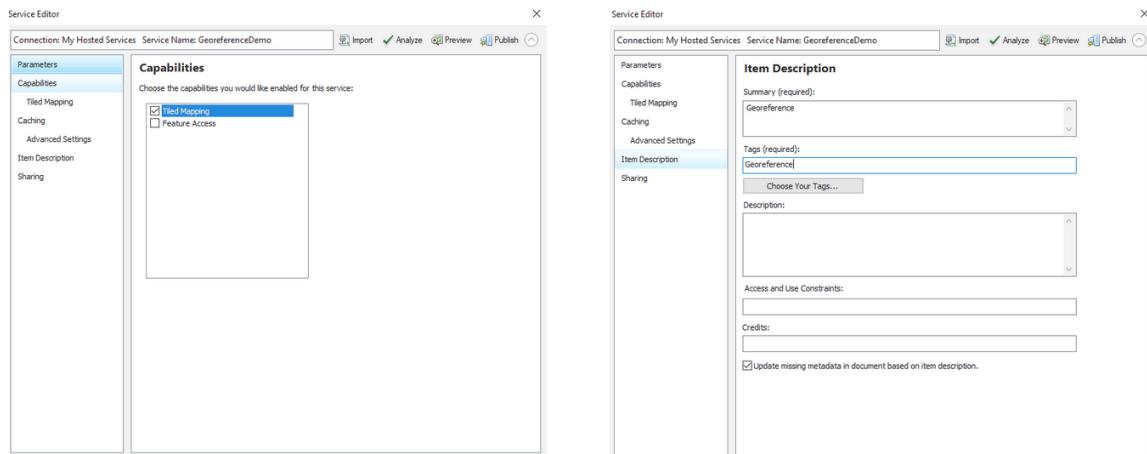


Share as a Service

1. Select Tiled Mapping

2. Enter information in Item Description

3. In the Sharing tab, you can choose to share your service with yourself (private), your organization, or everyone (public)



Enter Service Information

1. Select appropriate levels of detail. Do not choose extreme large cache size, which may consume all your credits.
2. Click Publish button to publish this service.
3. Tile Packages can be used to save credits. You will not be charged for generating tiles. You will only be charged for tile storage. For more information, please refer to: <https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/arcuser/use-tile-packages-to-save-credits/>

Parameters

Capabilities

Tiled Mapping

Caching

Advanced Settings

Item Description

Sharing

Caching

Draw this map service using tiles from a cache

Cache Settings

Tiling Scheme: ArcGIS Online / Bing Maps / Google Maps

Levels of Detail

Choose the minimum and maximum scales for this tiled map / image service. All levels between the minimum and maximum scale levels will be cached.

Minimum scale level: Level: 14 Scale: 1:36,111.909643

Maximum scale level: Level: 18 Scale: 1:2,256.994353

Town

Buildings

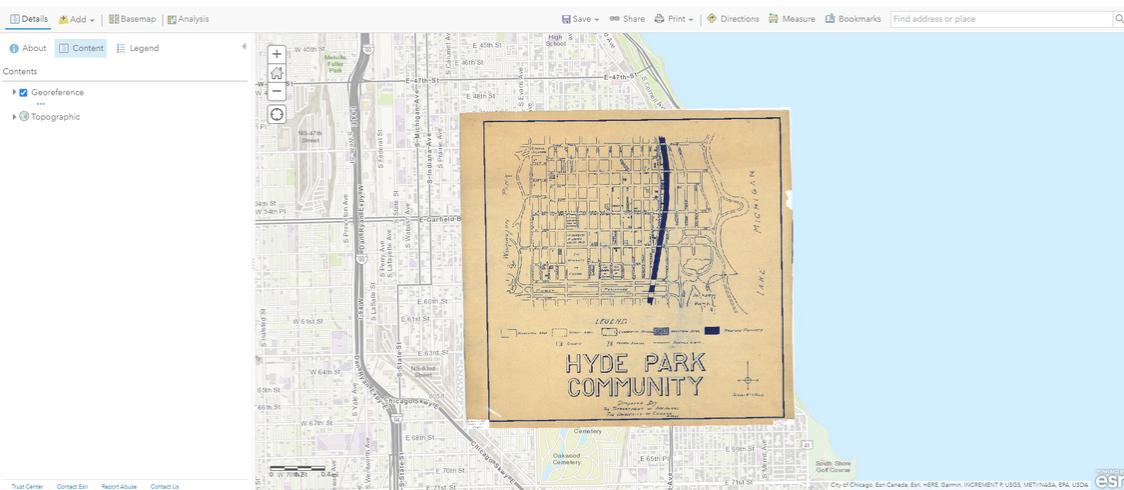
Estimated Cache Size: 8 MB

Build cache automatically when the service is published
 Build cache manually after the service is published

Calculate Cache Size

Define Scale Range for Tiles

1. Log in to ArcGIS Online and open the published map in your Content. The map can be digitized for further usage. For more information, please refer to the Digitizing tutorial, which was prepared by Nicole Kong.



Open in ArcGIS Online