

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Learning Lagniappe: Educator Extras

Historical Map Collection

http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/series/maps

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History has catalogued 2,463 maps in its collection. About 1,200 are maps published from the sixteenth through twentieth centuries or hand-drawn maps of towns, localities, plantations, and battlefields. The rest are topographic quadrangle maps published by the U.S. Geological Survey in the mid twentieth century. A large collection of early twentieth-century Mississippi county soil maps was added in 2004; an example is included in this exhibit

Subjects that can be addressed within this Digital Archive:

U. S Government, Mississippi geography, European exploration and settlements, Territorial Mississippi, Native American history, Civil War, 1927 Flood, and Mississippi Statehood

For more lessons and activities based on the Historical Map Collection Digital Archive and other collections visit our Classroom Materials page on our website at

<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/learn/classroom-materials/lesson-plans-and-teaching-units/>

Navigating the Historical Map Collection Digital Archive

The historic maps in the online Historical Map Collection can be examined more closely if you zoom in using the “+” at the top left of the screen. Click on the hand icon to maneuver the map around to focus on a certain area of the map.

- ◆ You can search the images of the Historic Map Collection by following the steps below.
 - ◆ Click on ***Browse Images***
 - ◆ Click on individual maps to view and examine them.
 - ◆ The title of each map will be located under the individual map once you have chosen it.

Teacher Discussion Guide on Reverse

Teacher Discussion Guide

Use the scanned maps from the MDAH Digital Archive Historic Map Collection (found at http://mdah.state.ms.us/arrec/digital_archives/series/maps) to lead your class in a discussion analyzing and interpreting the following images.

1. **Tanner, Henry Schenck. Louisiana and Mississippi. Philadelphia: H.S. Tanner, 1820. MA/87.0006(c)**

(Fourth from the left on the second row of maps.)

Zoom and read the six paragraphs of text on this 1820 map. Why do you think that the maps creator thought that this information was valuable enough to put on this map? What are some of the possibilities this map could have been used for?

2. **Mississippi River Flood of 1927: Showing Flooded Areas and Field of Operations Under Herbert Hoover, Chairman of President's Commission, and James L. Fieser, Vice-chairman of American National Red Cross. U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1927. MA/2002.0092(os)**

(Last map on the page)

Zoom in on the map and identify the places where and when the levees on the Mississippi side of the the Mississippi River were breached during the 1927 Flood. How much land was flooded by this levee break and where were the Red Cross Stations were established in Mississippi to respond to the disaster.

3. Compare the following maps

1. **Plat Map of Port Gibson, Mississippi. [1811] MA/94.0008(d)** - *(First map on the second row)*

2. **Van Dorn, P.A. Jackson, Mississippi. 1822. Original Plan for the City of Jackson. MA/2003.0101(b)** - *(Fifth map on the second row)*

3. **Ordinance of the Trustees of the Town of Washington, Sep. 3, 1838, naming the streets of the town, with accompanying map by B.L.C Wailes. In Minute Book, Town of Washington, Mississippi, 1832-1848, vol. 1, pp. 95-96. Series 2051, Original Municipal Records, 1795-1982.**

(Second map on the third row)

What do these maps all have in common? What elements would you take from these map to design your own town/city?