

Map and Atlas Collection

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Ida Public Library

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Summary Information

Repository	Ida Public Library
Title	Map and Atlas Collection
Date [inclusive]	1839-2013
Extent	10.0 Cubic feet
Location note	<p>The collection is located in several places: The rolled maps are located in the map crate in the Local History Room. The bound plat map books are located in several drawers in the History Room's flat-file cabinet. The fold-out maps and the plat maps after the 1940s are located in the Research Files Cabinet 5, Drawer 2 in the Local History Room. The Sanborn insurance maps are on one microfilm roll in Cabinet 9, Drawer 1. The electronic maps are located on five CDs, stored in the CD tower in the Local History Room. See index for locations of individual maps.</p>
Language	English
Language of Materials note	Materials are in English.
Abstract	<p>The Map and Atlas Collection is a collection of plat maps, atlases, and road maps dating from 1839 to 2013, primarily of Boone County, Illinois and the city of Belvidere, Illinois. The collection also includes plat maps and road maps of other Northern Illinois counties, namely Winnebago, McHenry, and DeKalb; also featured are road maps and atlases of the state of Illinois. Taken together, the maps show how the area, particularly Boone County and the city of Belvidere, have changed over time. They are primarily helpful for those researching the historical changes in particular areas of Boone County and Belvidere. They are also helpful to</p>

genealogists looking for family land and house researchers looking for information on their homes and property.

Scope and Contents note

The Map & Atlas Collection from 1839 to 2013 contains geographic and topographical information of the Northern Illinois area, primarily Boone County, Illinois and the city of Belvidere, Illinois, but also McHenry County, DeKalb County, Winnebago County, the city of Rockford, and the full state of Illinois. The maps in the collection are represented in a variety of formats. Bound plat books, electronic files, microfilmed maps, rolled maps, and photocopies of original maps are the primary formats in the collection. The collection is divided into three series.

The *Boone County & Belvidere Maps* series is the largest series in the collection and dates from 1839 to 2013. It includes a large collection of plat books and booklets of Boone County, which feature the names of landowners; the acreage of each land parcel; and markers for cemeteries, churches, and rural schools. The 1886, 1905, and 1923 books also detail the city of Belvidere and contain sketches and/or photographs of significant residents and homes. The collection also includes street and road maps of the county and city; these do not include landowner names but a few provide street details of smaller Boone County cities, such as Capron, Caledonia, and Poplar Grove, as well as major subdivisions. Several are address maps, which detail the addresses of all residences in the county. Many of the road maps are undated.

Of interest in this series are two photocopies of an 1839 survey map of Boone County, which contains topographical information, as well as an aerial map of Belvidere from 1894, which is an aerial sketch of the entire city, clearly detailing the homes and businesses in Belvidere. The series also contains seven Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps on microfilm. These date from 1885 to 1931 and detail the layout, designs, and construction materials of residences and businesses in Belvidere, as well as the city's population, and the water facilities and city fire department capabilities of the city.

The *Illinois State Maps* series dates from 1919 to 2003, with a bulk date of 1965 to 1979. It primarily consists of highway road maps and atlases, many of which are fold-out maps. Most are in color. The earliest ones are titled "Clason's Guide to Illinois with map of auto routes" from 1919 and "Chicago Daily News Official 1922 Auto Trails Map." It also includes an atlas titled "Illinois: Her Counties, Her Township, and Her Towns" from 1979 that shows each Illinois county and its townships, as well as a list of all Illinois towns and cities.

Plat maps, road maps, and atlases dating from 1858 to 1995, with a bulk date of 1858 to 1886, are the materials in the *Other Northern Illinois County & Township Maps* series. The geographic locations included in this series are Winnebago County, DeKalb County, McHenry County, and the city of Rockford, Illinois. The plat maps include names of landowners and details of the division of land in the counties. Several Winnebago County maps also include details of smaller towns, such as Cherry Valley, Roscoe, Rockton, and more. Street maps for Winnebago County and the city of Rockford are also included in this series.

Arrangement note

The collection is arranged into three series based on geographic location: 1. Boone County & Belvidere Maps, 1839-2013. 2. Illinois State Maps, 1919-2003. 3. Other Northern Illinois County & Township Maps, 1858-1995. Within each series, the contents are further subdivided into subseries based on format of map.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Ida Public Library May 10, 2014

Conditions Governing Access note

No restrictions.

Conditions Governing Use note

Bound plat books should not be copied on the copy machine due to the fragile pages and binding. The Flip-Pal mobile scanner should be used for reproductions instead.

Accruals note

New plat books are purchased from Rockford Map Publishers by the Ida Public Library Local History & Genealogy staff whenever new books are available, usually every three years.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Unknown. The materials have been collected and gathered over time and no paperwork exists for the donations. Many of the photocopied maps were made and donated by Martin William Johnson over the years.

At this time, new plat books are purchased from Rockford Map Publishers by the Ida Public Library Local History & Genealogy staff whenever new books are available, usually every three years.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

For more information and photocopies, see the Map and Plat Map folders in the Research Files, Cabinet 5, Drawer 2.

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Atlases
- CD-ROMS
- Fire Insurance Maps
- Microfilms
- PDF
- Plats (maps)

Geographic Name(s)

- Boone County (Ill.)- Maps

Subject(s)

- Belvidere (Ill.)--Maps.
- DeKalb County (Ill.)- Maps.
- McHenry County (Ill.)--Maps
- Winnebago County (Ill.)--Maps.

Other Finding Aids note

Please see the index for the collection, which is available online and in the Local History & Genealogy Room. Collection is indexed by date.

Collection Inventory

Boone County & Belvidere Maps 1839-2013 7.0 Cubic feet
Plat & Survey Maps 1839-2013
Road & Street Maps 1930-2003 (Bulk, 1965-1998)
Miscellaneous Maps 1885-1931 1 microfilm reel (Roll R); map crate
Illinois State Maps 1919-2003 (Bulk, 1965-1979) 1.0 Cubic feet 4 file folders; 1 rolled map in map crate
Road Maps 1919-2003 (Bulk, 1965-1978)
Miscellaneous Maps 1952; 1979
Other Northern Illinois County & Township Maps 1858-1995 (Bulk, 1858-1886) 2.0 Cubic feet
Plat Maps 1859-1957 (Bulk, 1859-1886) 1 file folder; map crate
Road & Street Maps 1858-1995 (Bulk, 1858-1859)

Atlases

Atlases 1979-1998 0.2 Cubic feet 2 file folders