

Abstract

Scanned historical topographic maps are among the most widely appreciated and heavily used materials in the UNH Library's digital collections.

In 2005 we received a grant that allows us to make significant enhancements to the New Hampshire maps in the collection. The Library and the state geospatial data repository (GRANIT) are working together to rescan maps at higher resolution using a large-format scanner, process them for use with geospatial information system (GIS) software, and create metadata that meets the needs of each partner. Compressed images will be available on the library website and GIS datasets will be distributed by GRANIT.

Key Steps in this Collaboration

Enhancing an existing collection rather than "starting from scratch" was a significant advantage. There was already a community of users established.

Making and Maintaining Contacts

- ✓ Became visible to users and potential users.
- ✓ Established credentials and enhanced personal knowledge.
- ✓ Identified key colleagues within the library.

Collecting Information from Users

- ✓ Analyzed comments from users and personal contacts.
- ✓ Determined main disadvantages of current collection.

Conducting Pilot Project

- ✓ Worked with library personnel to identify technology and methodology.
- ✓ Determined we lacked internal resources to expand pilot.

Taking Advantage of Grant Opportunities and Building Internal Library Support

- ✓ Maintained contact with primary author (Chormann) of the unfunded EPA grant application.
- ✓ Revised EPA grant for UNH proposal, retaining initial partners (Chormann and Rubin) and adding new library partner (Bellinger).
- ✓ Gained support of Library Digital Collections Committee.

Developing and Testing Standards

- ✓ Organized meetings of grant participants to determine standards.
- ✓ Evaluated test scans and documented problems.

Bringing in Additional Expertise and Technology

- ✓ Library hired full-time Digital Librarian in October 2005.
- ✓ Implementation of digital management software will allow further refinement of metadata and provide one interface for access to the collection.
- ✓ Providing a graphic search interface is not covered by this grant and will require further resources.

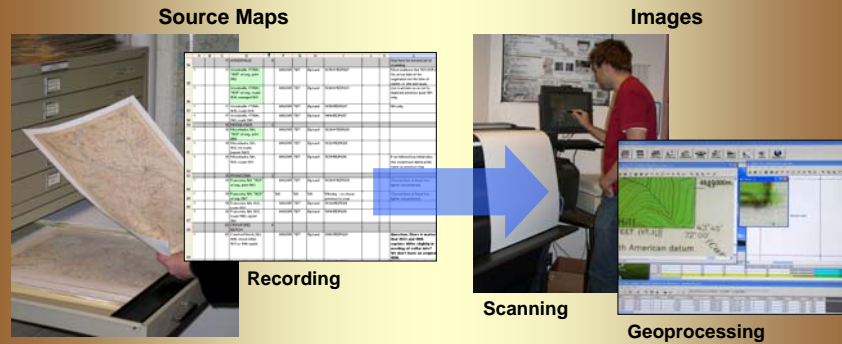
Developing a Collaborative Map Scanning Project

A Partnership Involving:

The University of New Hampshire Library

The NH GRANIT Geospatial Data Repository

PROCESS



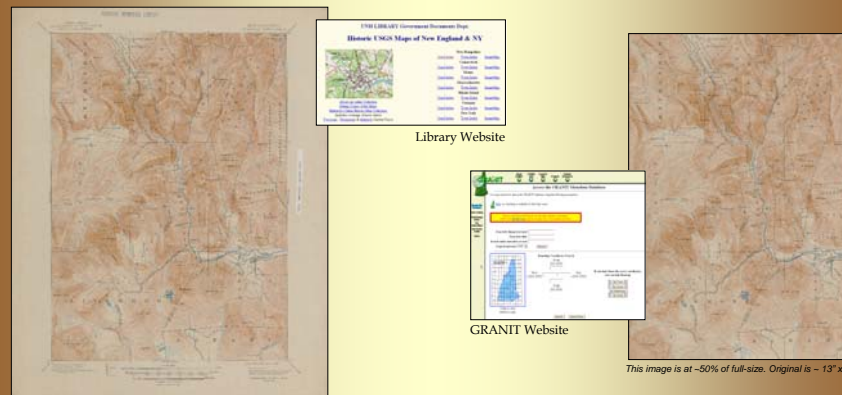
Locating

Recording

Scanning

Geoprocessing

PRODUCTS



This image is at ~50% of full-size. Original is ~ 16" x 21".

This unclipped, 600 dpi image is georeferenced and preserves all the information on the map margin. It will be compressed for display on UNH Library website.

GRANIT Website

This clipped, 600 dpi, georeferenced image will be available from GRANIT for use with GIS software. Because the map margin is removed it will be easy to "mosaic" with adjacent maps.

Thelma B. Thompson
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Lessons Learned

Importance of Making Contacts

- ✓ Contacts became grant partners.

Value of Persistence

- ✓ Early efforts were not successful.

Focus on Do-able Tasks

- ✓ Broke large project into manageable parts.

Recognize Opportunities

- ✓ Found new source of funding and different approach.

Expect Delays and Plan for Them

- ✓ Scanning equipment broke down.
- ✓ Our soon-to-be-implemented software may not function as we expect.

Major Challenges Remain

- ✓ Crosswalking GRANIT metadata into library schema.
- ✓ Compressing the images.
- ✓ Integration of metadata and images into existing website.
- ✓ Redesign of the website.

Collaboration multiplies resources
and builds relationships
for future efforts.

The Team Members

UNH LIBRARY

Thelma Thompson, Government Documents and Maps Librarian
Christina Bellinger, Head, Technical Services Department
Eleta Exline, Digital Librarian
Lori Hunsacker and Jennifer Bucko, Student Assistants
UNH Library Digital Projects Committee

EXTERNAL PARTNER REQUIRED BY UNH GRANT

Rick Chormann, Senior Hydrogeologist, NH Geological Survey

NH GRANIT

Fay Rubin, GIS Manager
David Justice, Information Technologist
Robert Hanson, GIS Technician

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LIBRARIES AGREEING TO LEND ADDITIONAL MAPS

Dartmouth College
Harvard University