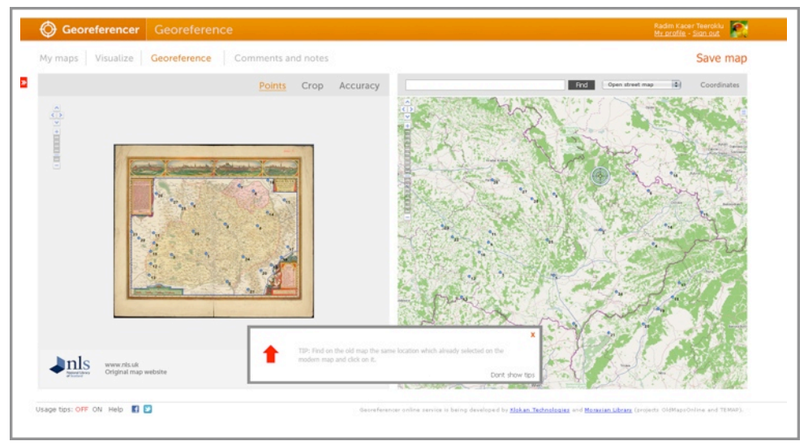
Georeferencer

Collaborative online tools for scanned maps

Georeferencer gives libraries and archives a simple way to make their scanned **map collections more attractive**, **engage general public**, provide attractive **3D visualization** of maps via Google Earth, make **overlays** with other maps, deliver standardized Web Map Service (OGC WMS), and at the same time also **enrich existing metadata records** with numerical spatial footprint to allow comfortable **geographical searching**. These tools are available directly in the web browser, without the need to install any software neither in the institution nor on the side of the online visitors.

More information is available at: http://help.georeferencer.org/. Contact email: georeferencer@googlegroups.com.



If you assign location to a scanned map in Georeferencer then several outputs are generated.

MARC 21 Dublin Core

Experience from the pilot project in the Netherlands:

Over 650 maps finished in less then a month by 13 volunteers!

TURN THE SCANS OF MAPS INTO TRUE MAPS

Culture heritage institutions have begun a process of massive scanning of their collections, followed by online publishing of this material on the web. The digitized documents also include maps. A scanned map is only a picture and not a map at all: it is not searchable geographically and cannot be compared with other maps. Georeferencer is an online service which helps to change that: it turns the existing scans of maps into true maps.

ENGAGE ONLINE VISITORS & ENRICH METADATA

The Georeferencer tools can be used by the library staff as well as by volunteers, either in groups explicitly organized for this task by the institution or simply by volunteers recruited from online visitors and general public – via so called "crowdsourcing". In all cases, by using the Georeferencer tool the users can through an easy and enjoyable process help to localize the scanned maps on Earth surface and produce several outputs including attractive visualization, GIS ready geodata, and new metadata for library catalog in the form of MARC field 034 or Dublin Core DCMI Box.

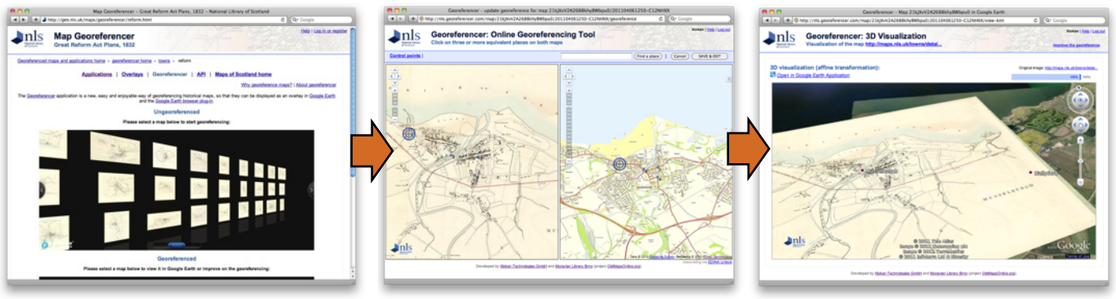
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION PLATFORM

The Georeferencer is a platform which allows annotation and personalization of historical map collections already available on the web. It helps visitors to conduct online research on the scanned maps and simplifies using the digital material for education purposes.

Visual integration of historical map layers and overlaying these on top of aerial imagery and modern base maps is possible as well. The system will make it possible to find maps of a particular area across collections and institutions.

Georeferencer online service is being developed by Klokan Technologies and Moravian Library in Brno (research projects OldMapsOnline.org and TEMAP.cz).

http://help.georeferencer.org/ | http://www.mzk.cz/en/ | http://www.klokantech.com/ | http://help.oldmapsonline.org/ | http://www.temap.cz/



The pilot schema: choose a map from the list of ungeoreferenced maps (1), assign location with a few clicks (2), enjoy a live 3D visualization (3).

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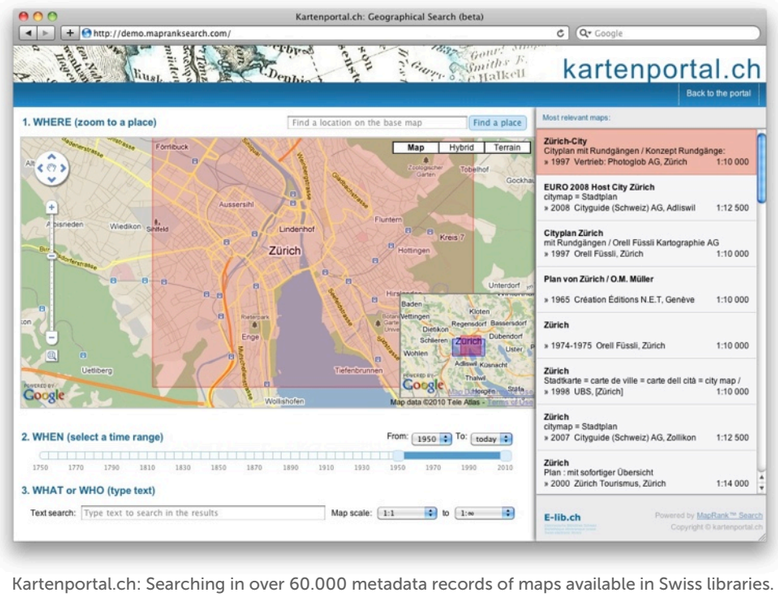
MapRank Search

Technology to explore thousands of maps in time

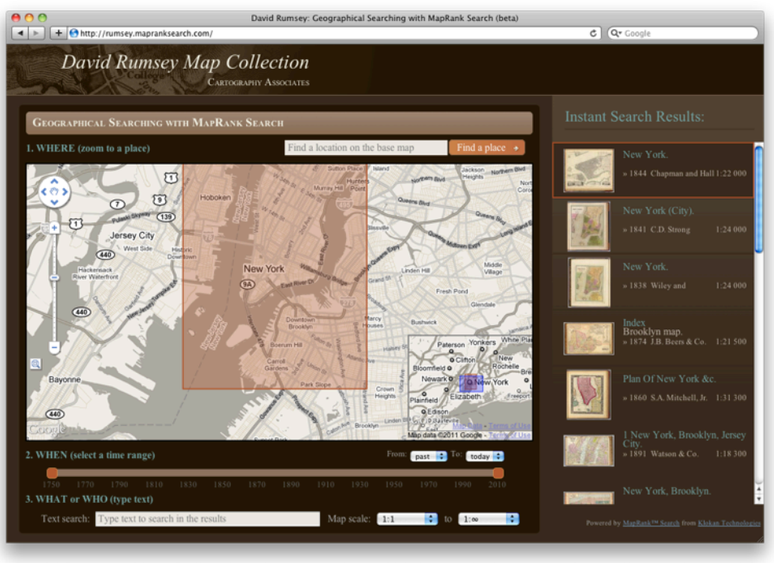
Choose a place, select the time range, search and get the **most relevant results**. MapRank Search is empowering its users to explore collections of maps in time and space **faster then ever before**. The whole process runs in a web browser, giving an instant response on the user's screen with no need to install any additional software.

More information is available at: http://www.mapranksearch.com/.



Kartenportal.ch: Searching in over 60.000 metadata records of maps available in Swiss libraries.

MapRank Search is a search technology complementary to traditional library catalogs. It allows users to immediately find the most relevant maps held in large map collections.



David Rumsey Map Collection: large catalog of high-resolution maps from all over the world.

The system is built on the innovative MapRank™ algorithm which is sorting the maps by geographical relevance to the user's query. The product is powered by a new indexing method which ensures the search system scalability and allows to deliver the results in a fraction of a second even for large catalogs with millions of records.

The whole search process runs in a web browser, giving an instant response on the user's screen with no need to install any additional software. The query comprising area of interest and time range can be further refined by text search, map scale or other parameters.

The visitor can experience a new feeling of "spatially browsing" trough a large collection of maps or extensive geospatial catalogs. This intuitive search process helps to discover new documents simply by their geographical relation.

Existing metadata with numerical geographical footprint in standardized formats can be easily indexed. Supported are formats such as MARC (with field 034), DublinCore (with DCMI Box), FGDC or ISO 19139 (following the INSPIRE directive).

The pilot application of the MapRank Search technology was introduced in September 2010 as the 'GeoSearch' part of the Kartenportal.ch project. It is indexing SwissBib, the metacatalog of the Swiss university libraries and the Swiss National Library. Over 60.000 map records are currently searchable. The records describe mainly topographic and thematic maps of any kind and period, but also atlases, bird's-eye-views, relief models, and other map-related documents.

Other live applications include David Rumsey Map Collection and the Union Catalogue of the Czech Republic.