



MAPS

for Kids

Why are maps important?



Where can you find maps?

What can you do with a map?

Discover the answers to these questions and more in this fun, fact-filled activity booklet from the Ulster County Clerk's Records Management Program!



Hi! My name's Marty Map, and I'd like to tell you about how cool maps can be. We can help you find things, or show other people how to find places that only you know about—we can even help you learn about history, which I think is prrretty neat! Do you want to find out more? Keep reading! There are also some fun activities which will help you discover more about how you can use maps today!

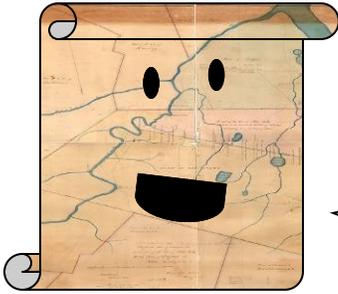
Think about all of the places you usually go in a day. Do you go to school? Do you go to a friend's house? You probably don't need a map to find places you go everyday—but if you want to go someplace and you don't know where it is, maps can be really helpful. Maps tell you exactly where to find places.

Did you know that maps can help you learn about history too? Old maps can show us where to find places that may not even exist today. Maps can also tell us about what KINDS of places existed in the past...like blacksmith shops, or poorhouses. If you want to find old maps, a very good place to go is the Ulster County Clerk's Office. Their job is to file maps so that people can keep discovering cool stuff from them for years to come!

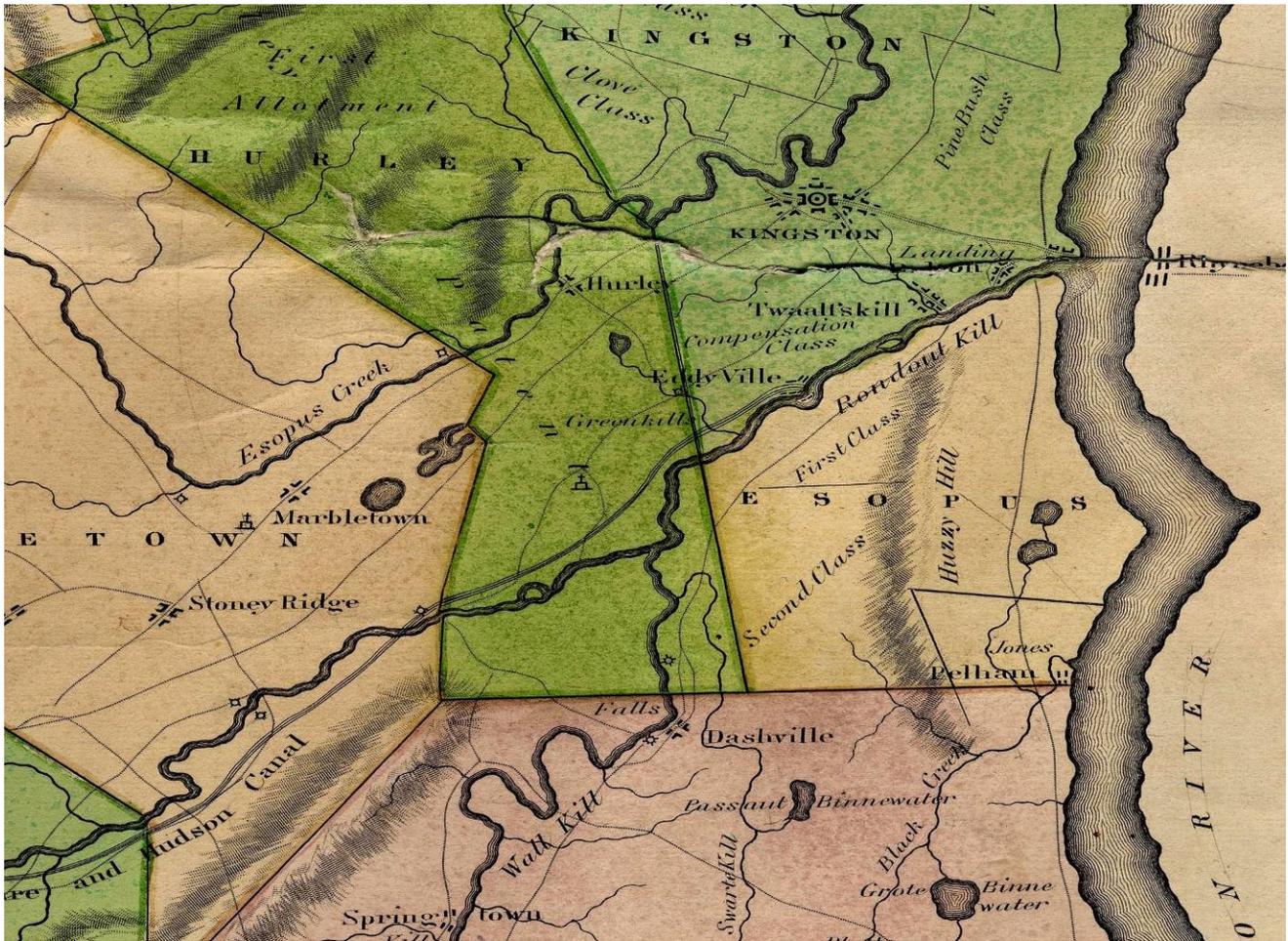


MAP FACT: The County Clerk's Office has over 28,000 maps on file!!!

What are some different kinds of maps?



The Ulster County Clerk's Office has many different kinds of maps. Here are some pictures of just a few of them.

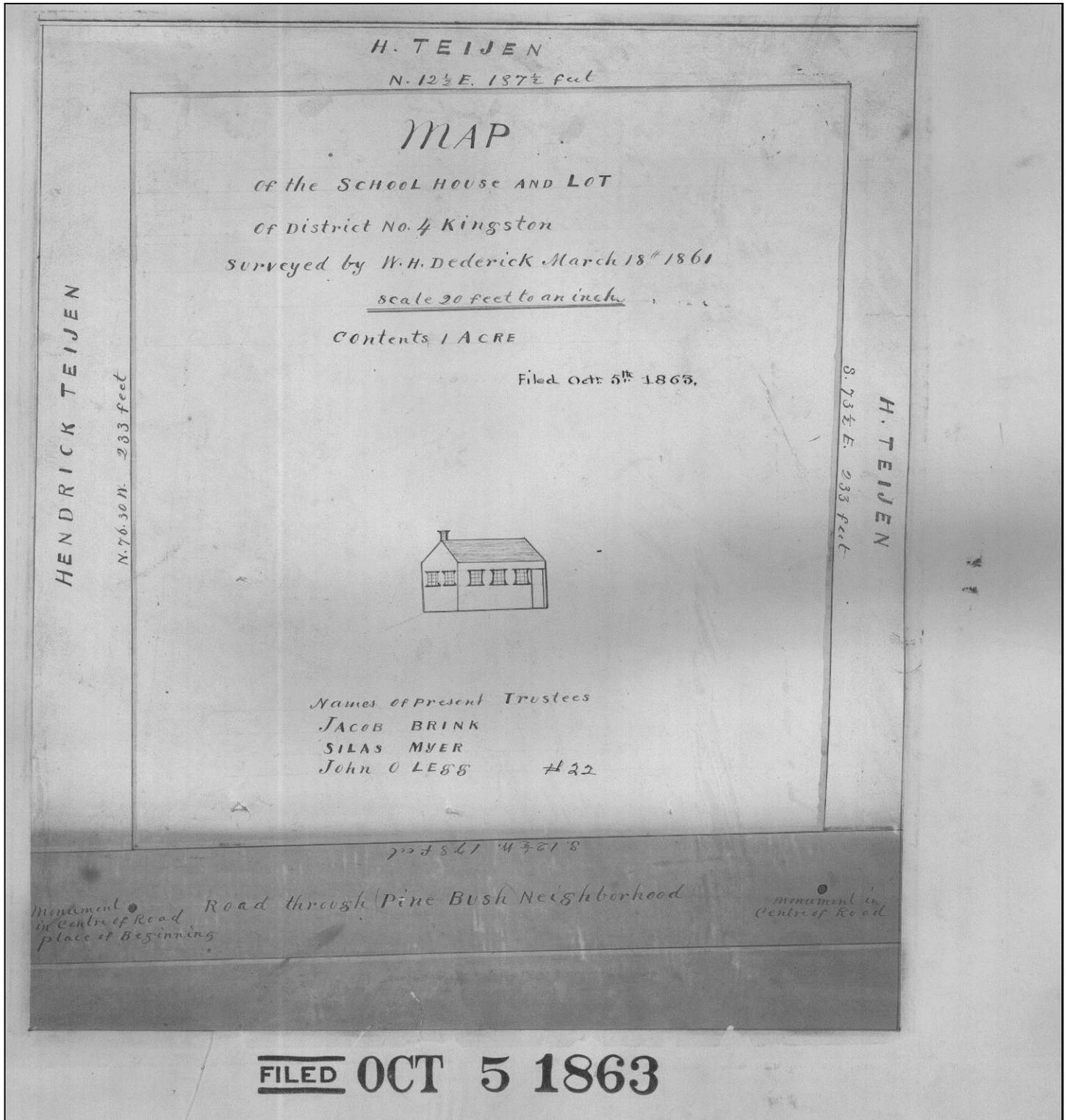


This is part of a map of Ulster County in 1829. Do you see the town you live in?



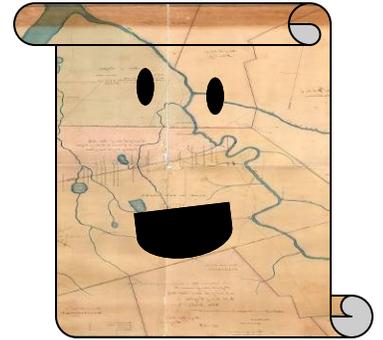
MAP FACT: Ulster County covers approximately 1,160 square miles: 1,126 square miles of land and 34 square miles of water. That's a lot of space!

Another kind of map...



...And a few facts

Here's a really cool picture I just had to show you. It's a map of the School House and Lot from District Number 4 in Kingston. It's from 1861—that's over 150 years ago! What do you think of that school? Does it look anything like the school you go to?



Have you ever watched all the names at the end of a movie? Or looked at the first page of a book where it lists things like the author and publisher? These are important because they give credit to the people who made the projects, and they also give us useful information. Did you know that maps have information like that too? Look at the map on the left. It tells you things like who surveyed it (a surveyor is someone who measures the land for a map, so people know how big the property is), the date the map was made, and when it was filed at the Ulster County Clerk's Office.

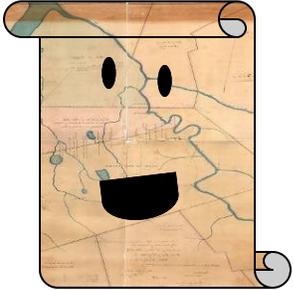
This map also tells you the names of the trustees for the school. What are their names?



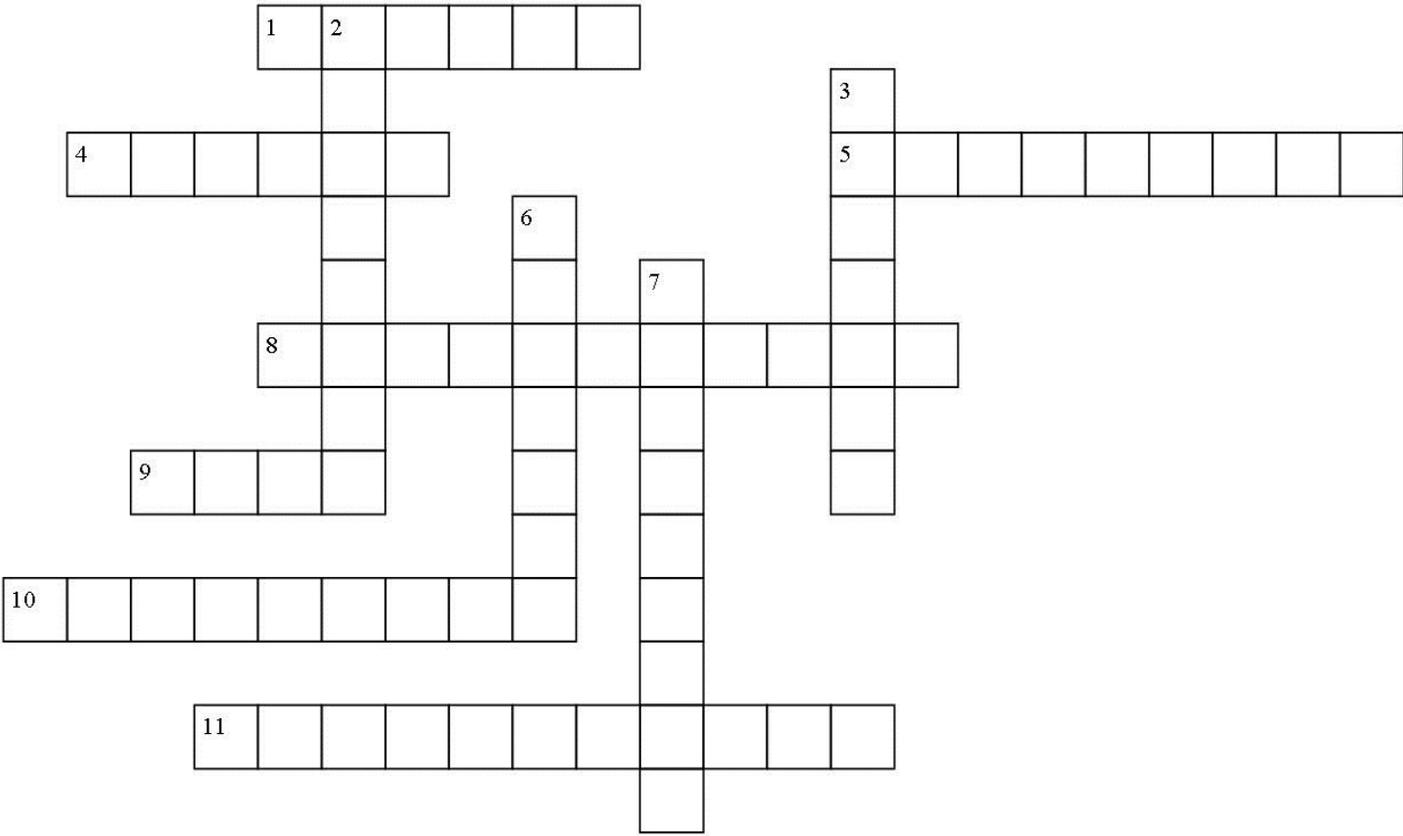
MAP FACT: The County Clerk's Office has a wide variety of maps, and they range in date from the 1700's to today!



Pssst, it's me again! Can you help me solve these puzzles about maps? The puzzle below tells you more about the many kinds of maps there are, and the word search on the right lists some of the different things you can find on them.



CRISS-CROSS MAPS



This is a list of some different kinds of maps. Can you fit these words into the puzzle?

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|----------|--------|
| Bridge | Elevation | Highway | Hybrid |
| Population | Property | Railroad | Road |
| Satellite | Topographic | Weather | |



WHAT'S ON A MAP?

N	S	E	T	G	B	N	D	K	A	M	M	J	K	B	S	A	R	U	D
F	G	C	L	R	T	Y	I	W	R	O	I	T	M	Y	N	D	Y	K	F
I	X	X	I	Q	A	P	Q	K	U	A	C	D	F	I	B	W	V	I	I
Z	M	D	G	W	C	K	O	N	M	L	M	S	X	Z	S	Z	C	N	U
O	G	Z	L	G	W	C	T	K	C	D	X	D	G	B	E	N	R	D	B
E	H	I	G	H	W	A	Y	P	Q	A	A	G	N	V	T	H	S	O	J
M	A	C	X	I	I	U	S	P	U	R	X	Z	C	A	Z	I	K	J	L
R	J	I	P	N	R	I	O	V	R	E	S	E	R	E	L	S	R	J	G
R	S	P	S	A	Q	S	G	D	E	J	N	Y	W	S	C	T	A	S	R
R	E	H	B	Y	S	X	A	L	N	J	B	R	X	P	B	O	P	G	P
X	D	V	L	D	A	T	I	X	C	Q	Z	T	U	S	C	R	X	G	Z
V	J	H	I	A	P	U	R	D	M	K	Z	S	V	O	U	I	G	F	C
V	I	M	D	R	W	R	P	E	V	K	I	U	D	T	T	C	H	P	L
P	O	L	A	K	E	K	O	M	E	V	G	D	R	B	Y	S	H	S	R
C	C	L	Q	Y	F	A	R	H	A	T	Z	N	T	Z	I	I	L	H	V
S	Y	F	C	E	U	N	T	C	Q	D	Q	I	O	E	D	T	D	T	V
Y	S	L	S	A	N	J	K	E	E	I	V	H	D	C	B	E	K	J	R
S	K	U	J	W	N	P	S	K	N	I	J	D	P	R	W	G	R	K	I
N	K	B	F	L	Y	O	O	D	L	Y	X	N	D	N	A	L	S	I	E
E	A	Y	C	F	Y	K	G	P	M	Y	K	W	R	S	K	K	X	W	P

Airport

Bridge

Highway

Historic Site

Industry

Island

Lake

Landmark

Mountains

Parks

Railway

Reservoir

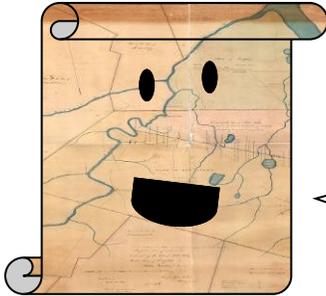
River

Street

Volcano

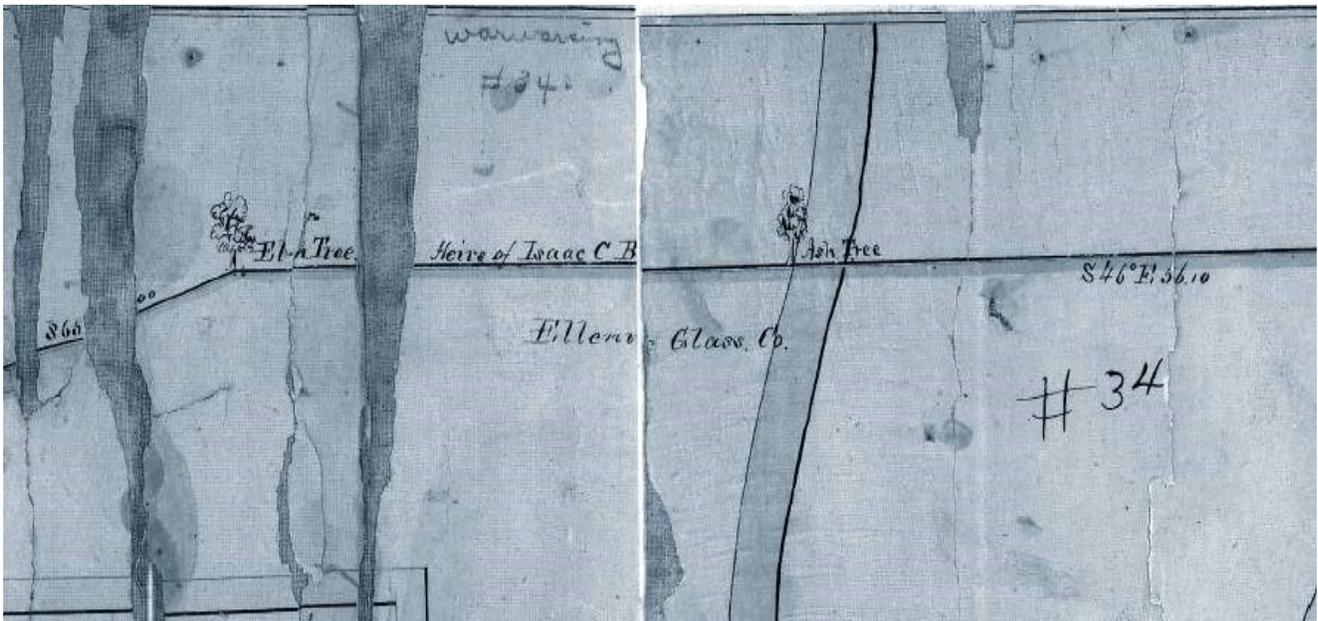


What can you do with a map?



Now that you know a bit about the different kinds of maps kept by the County Clerk, maybe you are wondering what you can actually do with those maps? Well, besides looking at them—I think they look kind of neat—you can use them to learn about history. Read below to find out more!

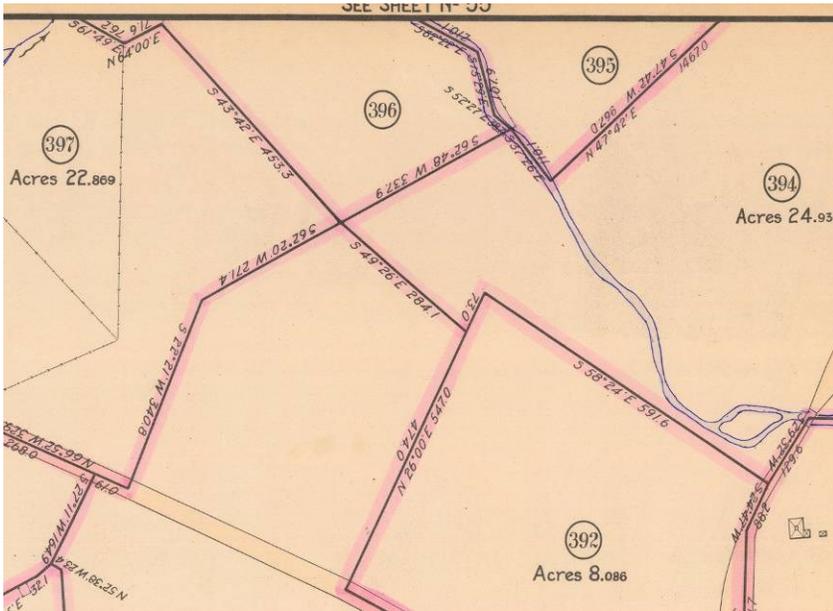
Did you know that maps are important historical and legal documents? Maps provide us with a picture of the world that people lived in ten, fifty, even a hundred years ago! Take a look at this map of the Village of Ellenville, in 1853, below.



What can we learn from this map about what life was like for people back then? Well, let's think about this for a minute. See that place right in the middle of the map, labeled "Ellenville Glass Co."? If there was a factory, there had to be people to work in it—so that tells us a bit about some of the jobs people who lived there might have had. And do you see those two trees? Nowadays, we may not think it's important to include specific trees on a map, but in 1853, people used trees sometimes as boundary lines to show where one person's property ended and another person's began.



FINDING FUN



PARCEL No.	NAME OF CLAIMANT
379	Libbie Burton
380	Clifton H. Smith
381	Ermie C. Elmendorf
382	Cemetery
383	J.J. Boice
384	Roadway
385	Susan M. Preston
386	Ruth Bloom
387	Virgil Merrihew
388	John I. Boice
389	Cemetery, John Ennist
390	Greer
391	Ruth Bloom
392	Evergreen Cemetery
393	John J. Boice
394	Oscar Rider
395	Oliver Davis
396	I. Weeks
397	Maynard
398	Caleb S. Maltby

Maps help us learn about history by preserving records of the past. We can learn things from maps about how life used to be for groups of people, but maps can also tell us things about the lives of specific people. Some maps show us who owned what properties, and where those properties are.

The picture above shows part of an index map of Section 9 from the Ashokan Reservoir Department. Look at the numbered portions in the picture on the left, then find them on the list to the right. Can you figure out who all of the claimants are?

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 397? _____

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 396? _____

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 395? _____

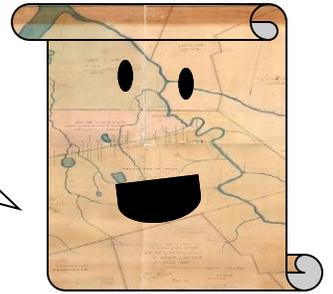
Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 393? _____

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 392? _____



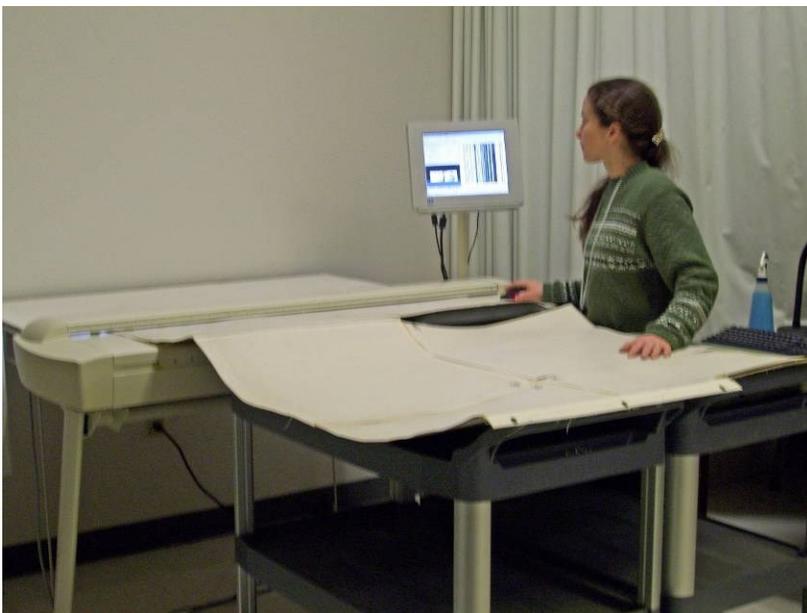
Where can you find maps?

When I'm not having fun with cool people like you guys, I like to spend time with my fellow maps. Want to know where we hang out? There are a lot of great places in Ulster County where maps like to go, including the library, the County Clerk's office, and even online! One of my favorite spots, though, is the Ulster County Records Center. They really like us there, and they take great care of us. Want to find out how? Keeeep reading!



PRESERVATION

Maps, especially old ones, can be really fragile—that means they could easily tear, or get wrinkled, or dirty, for instance. Since maps are so delicate, special care needs to be taken to protect them. As maps are filed at the Ulster County Clerk's Office, they are scanned to create a digital image. Then, once a week, the images are put on microfilm for permanent storage and backup.



Here's a picture of someone scanning a map, so it can be accessed on a computer. This is very important, because making information accessible to people is what the Ulster County Clerk's Office is all about!

STORAGE



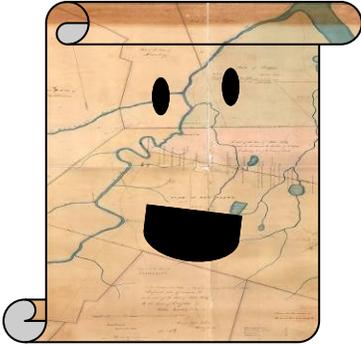
Look at all those maps! Since maps are so important, the Ulster County Clerk's Records Management Program takes special care to store them safely. Basically, there are two ways that maps are stored, depending on their size. Smaller maps are wrapped in acid-free paper on flat boards. They are on the lower shelves to the left in the picture above. Longer maps are wrapped in acid-free paper and rolled into special tubes. You can see them in the shelves above and to the right.



MAP FACT: One of the longest maps on file in the Ulster County Clerk's Office is an 1891 map of the New York Canadian Pacific Rail Way from Saugerties to Rosendale. It is 55 feet long—that's longer than a humpback whale!

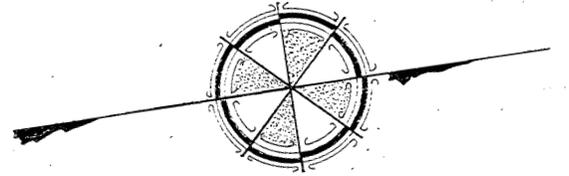
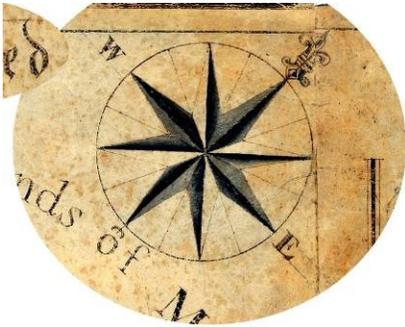


A few more facts about maps...



Hey! What do you think about how the County takes care of maps? Pretty neat stuff! There are just a few more things I'd like to share with you about maps...then I have some more fun activities for you!

Roses on Maps?

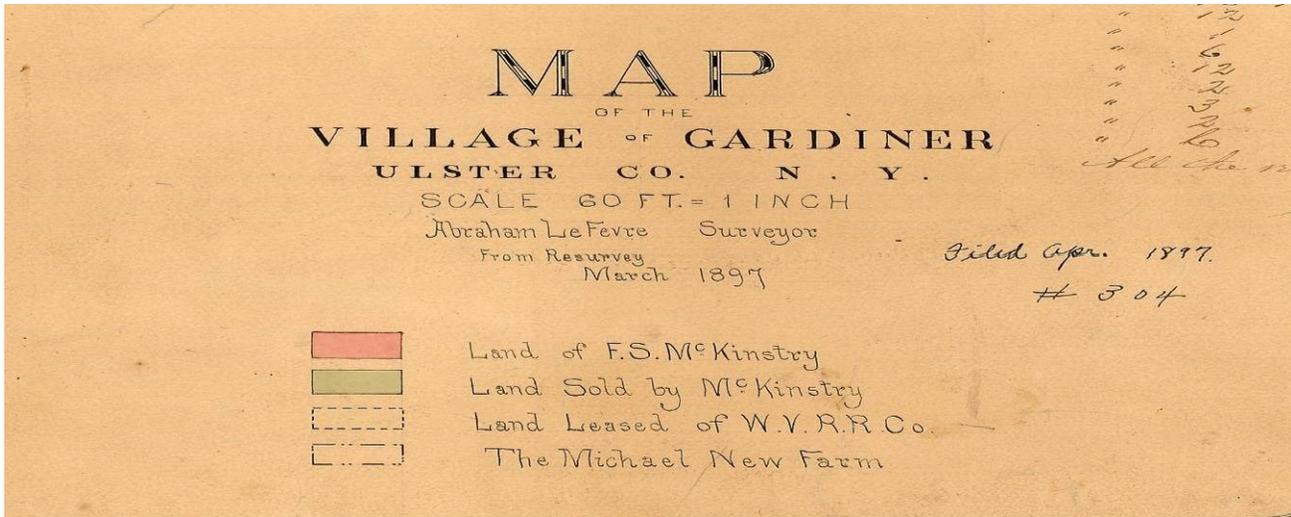


See those three things above? They are called “Compass Roses”. The Compass Rose is a fancy but functional element found on most maps that points out which way is north. Contemporary maps often have a Compass Rose showing both the true geographic direction, as well as the magnetic direction (as found in a compass).

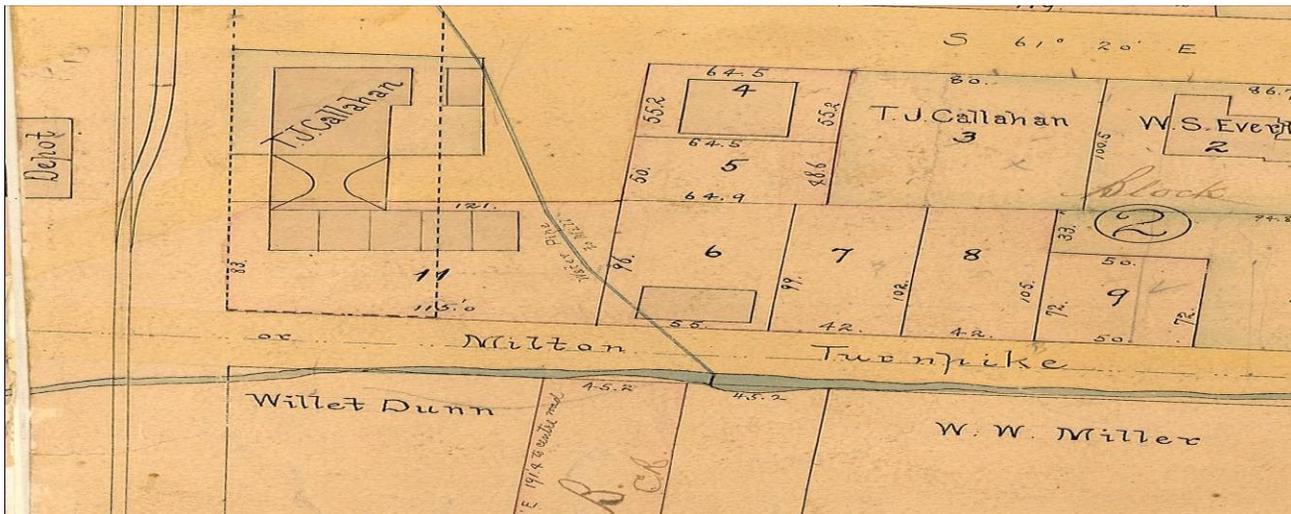


The Legend of the Map

Do you know what a legend is? One thing the word “legend” means is an old story—and another meaning is something in the corner of a map that explains the pictures, colors, and symbols of that particular map. The two meanings are kind of related, though, because we can use the legends on maps to help us learn more about the old stories maps have to tell.

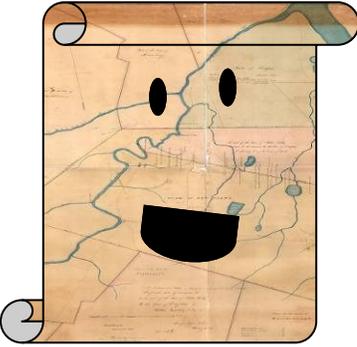


This is an example of a map legend—each color represents a person who owned property. Now look at the map below. Instead of having to write out each person’s name on each piece of property they owned, the mapmaker could just color in the portions with the correct color. Can you figure out who each piece of property belongs to?



More facts...and fun!

Scales and Feet



What is really colorful and has scales and feet? No, it's not a sea monster—it's a map! Ok, maybe sea monsters have scales and feet too—but I've never seen one, anyway!

Check out the pictures and description below and on the next page to find out more about the kind of scales and feet that maps have—and why they're so important!



The length of the pen in this picture is the same as a pen in real life—it is about 5 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long.

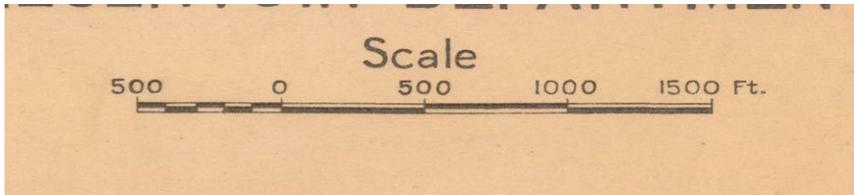


This is a picture of the same pen, but the length of this pen is half the size of the pen above—it is about 2 and $\frac{7}{8}$ inches long.

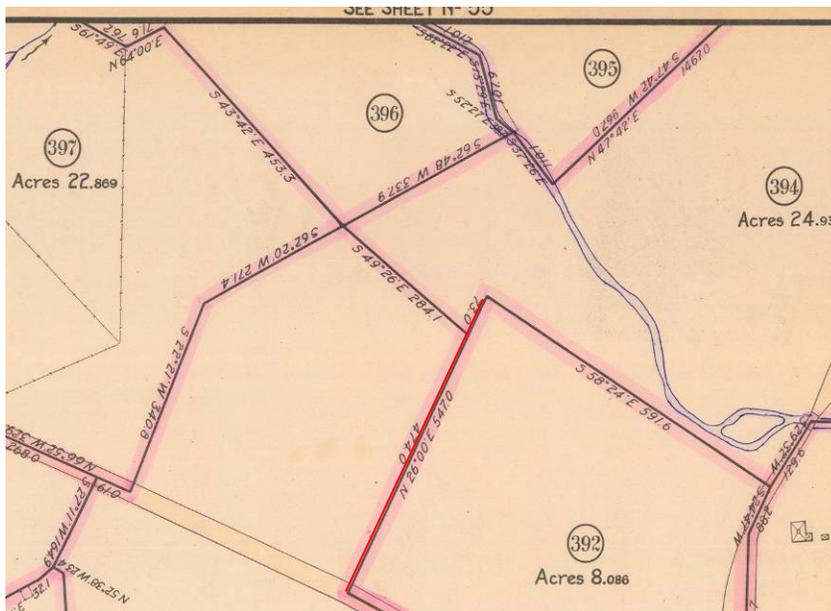
Hmm...it's the same pen—but the pictures are two different sizes. How can that be? It is all because of something called scale. When someone draws a map, are things on it the same size as they are in real life? Nooo. Imagine how big a map of a street would be if all the houses on it were the same size they are in real life!



Ok, we know that everything on a map cannot be the same size as it is in real life...so how can mapmakers show people how big things actually are, and the distance between them? Well, they use something called a scale. Take a look at the picture of one below. It is taken from another part of a map you used earlier in this booklet—remember “Finding Fun” on page 7?



See the bar above? It is three inches long, and it is divided into four sections. Each section is $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch. The numbers along the top of the bar show us how many feet each section represents. Want to see how this works? Grab a ruler!

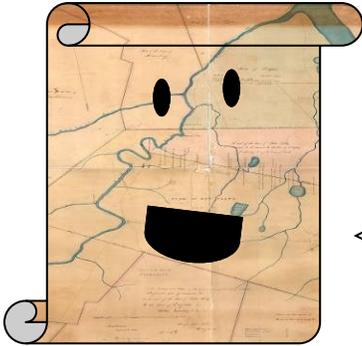


First, measure the red line. It should be about 1 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches, or two and $\frac{1}{3}$ sections, long. Now look at the scale. How many feet are in two sections? That’s right! There are 1,000 feet. That’s only two sections, though—we still have $\frac{1}{3}$ of a section to add. How do we find out what $\frac{1}{3}$ of a section is equal to? We take the length of a section (500 feet) and divide it by three! (You can do this on a calculator—if you round the answer, it comes to about 167).

Remember, that line is the same length as two and $\frac{1}{3}$ sections, so what do you think we do now? I’ll give you a hint: the word AND means that we ADD. So, add the length of two sections (1,000) to the length of $\frac{1}{3}$ of a section (167). Did you get 1,167 as your answer? Then you’re right! In the picture, that line is only 1 and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, but if you were looking at that property in real life, it would be 1,167 feet long—that’s longer than three football fields!



Making maps of your own!



Now that you've discovered some of the ways that you can learn about history from maps, how about making a map of your own? That way, you can show people where things are now...and also save it to show people in the future, like maybe your kids, or grandkids! Don't forget, maps are historical records. People can learn a lot from them about where things were and what your life was like. So what would you like to make a map of? Your classroom? Your bedroom? A special place that only you know about? Use your imagination!

When you make your map, remember you can include some of the things you've learned about in this booklet—for instance, try creating your own Compass Rose, or a legend that shows people what the symbols and colors you used stand for. Maybe you'll even want to include some "scales and feet" so other people can figure out the correct size of things! Whatever you choose to do, do your best and have fun!



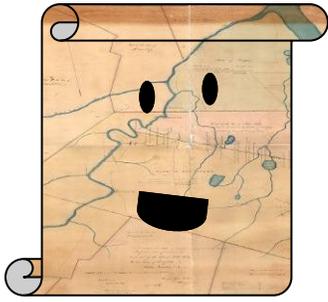
Here's a hint: use a photocopier to make copies of the next page so you can make a bunch of maps!



My Map of _____

My Map of _____

"Maptivities"



Aww, somebody told me you're gonna have to go soon. Before you leave, do you want to have fun with a few more "maptivities"?

WHAT IS A CARTOGRAPHER?

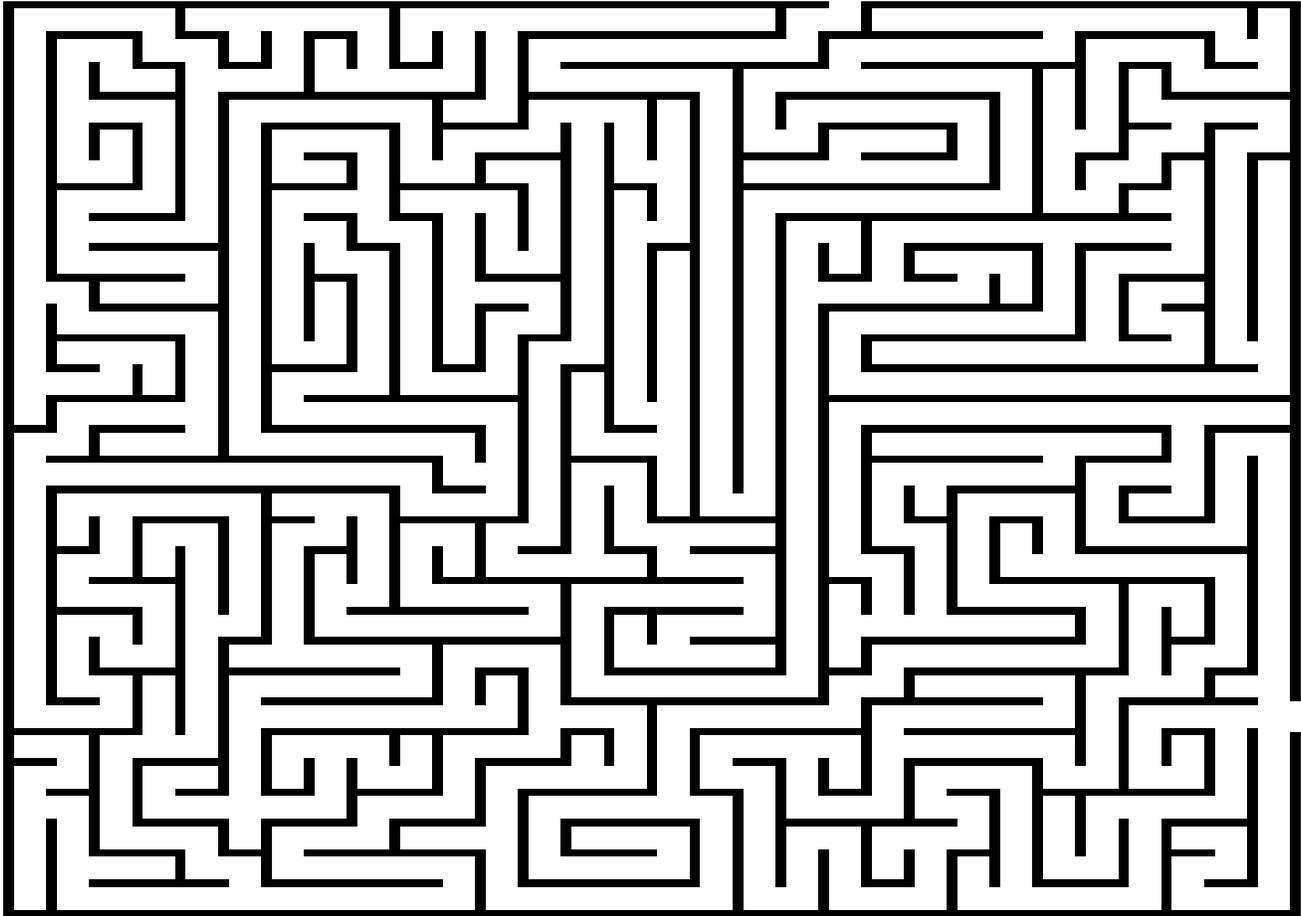
Unscramble the tiles to answer the question!

A	P	U	D	I	S	T	E	R	S	E	S	M	A	K	O	N
E	S	M	A	P	O	R	S	.	W	H	O					



MAP MAZE

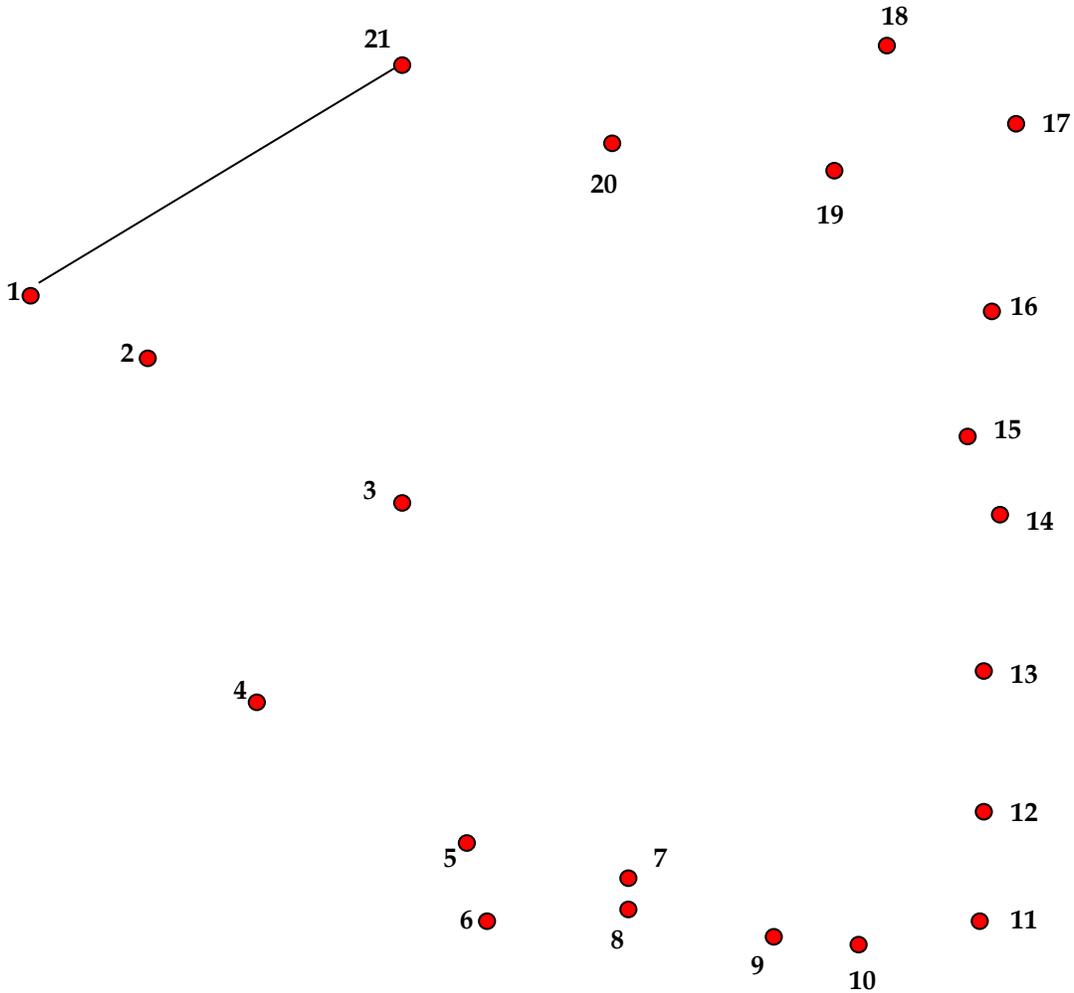
Maps have lines all over them! There are lines for roads, and boundaries, and all kinds of things. Can you find your way in this Map Maze?



MAP FACT: With so many maps on file, the Ulster County Clerk's Office has approximately 1,413,800 inches of maps! That is equivalent to 22.31 miles, or 212 Washington Monuments stacked end-to-end! WOW!



CONNECT THE DOTS



This is a map of:

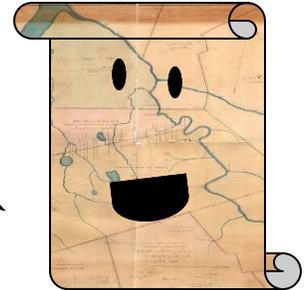
(a) Village of Ellenville, (b) Ulster County, (c) New York State

What kinds of things would you find on this map? Draw them in!

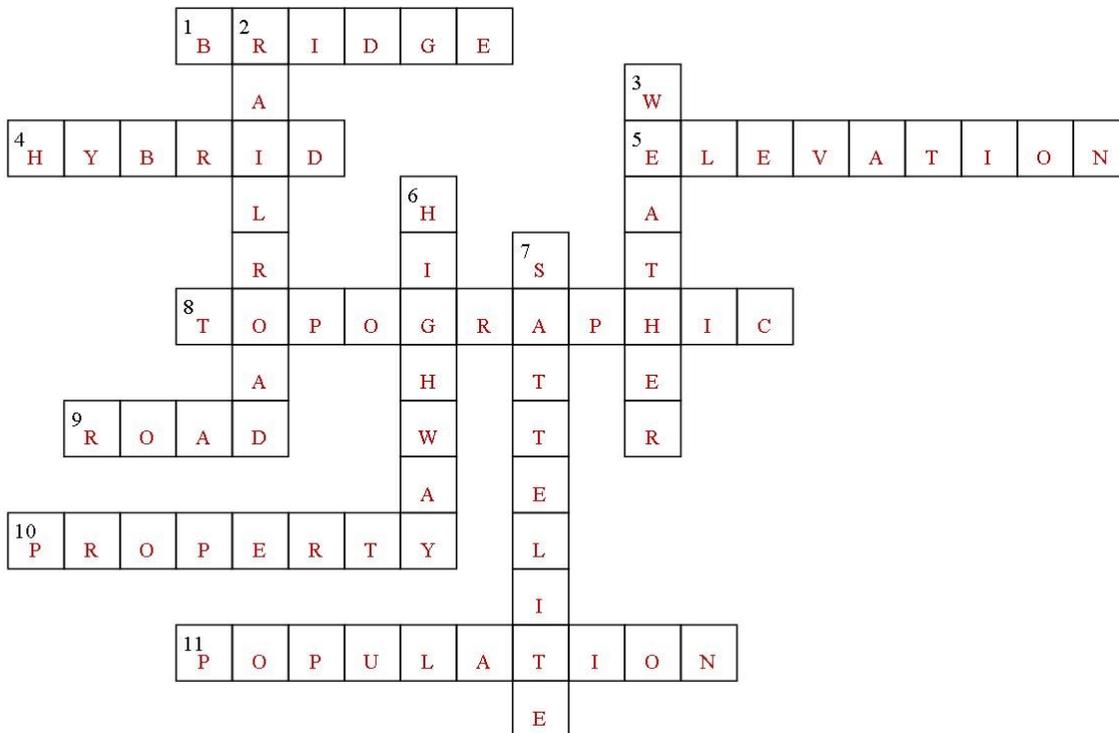


Psst!

Hey, you guys! I uh...had a little trouble solving some of the puzzles in this booklet. But I found the answers! They're right here! Just **don't peek** unless you've really, really, *reeeally* tried to solve the puzzles—or if you did solve them and just want to know if you're right.



CRISS-CROSS MAPS



Across

- 1) Bridge
- 4) Hybrid
- 5) Elevation
- 8) Topographic
- 9) Road
- 10) Property
- 11) Population

Down

- 2) Railroad
- 3) Weather
- 6) Highway
- 7) Sattelite

WHAT'S ON A MAP?

N	S	E	T	G	B	N	D	K	A	M	M	J	K	B	S	A	R	U	D
F	G	C	L	R	T	Y	I	W	R	O	I	T	M	Y	N	D	Y	K	F
I	X	X	I	Q	A	P	Q	K	U	A	C	D	F	I	B	W	V	I	I
Z	M	D	G	W	C	K	O	N	M	L	M	S	X	Z	S	Z	C	N	U
O	G	Z	L	G	W	C	T	K	C	D	X	D	G	B	E	N	R	D	B
E	H	I	G	H	W	A	Y	P	Q	A	A	G	N	V	T	H	S	O	J
M	A	C	X	I	I	U	S	P	U	R	X	Z	C	A	Z	I	K	J	L
R	J	I	P	N	R	I	O	V	R	E	S	E	R	E	L	S	R	J	G
R	S	P	S	A	Q	S	G	D	E	J	N	Y	W	S	C	T	A	S	R
R	E	H	B	Y	S	X	A	L	N	J	B	R	X	P	B	O	P	G	P
X	D	V	L	D	A	T	I	X	C	Q	Z	T	U	S	C	R	X	G	Z
V	J	H	I	A	P	U	R	D	M	K	Z	S	V	O	U	I	G	F	C
V	I	M	D	R	W	R	P	E	V	K	I	U	D	T	T	C	H	P	L
P	O	L	A	K	E	K	O	M	E	V	G	D	R	B	Y	S	H	S	R
C	C	L	Q	Y	F	A	R	H	A	T	Z	N	T	Z	I	I	L	H	V
S	Y	F	C	E	U	N	T	C	Q	D	Q	I	O	E	D	T	D	T	V
Y	S	L	S	A	N	J	K	E	E	I	V	H	D	C	B	E	K	J	R
S	K	U	J	W	N	P	S	K	N	I	J	D	P	R	W	G	R	K	I
N	K	B	F	L	Y	O	O	D	L	Y	X	N	D	N	A	L	S	I	E
E	A	Y	C	F	Y	K	G	P	M	Y	K	W	R	S	K	K	X	W	P

FINDING FUN

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 397? [Maynard](#)

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 396? [I. Weeks](#)

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 395? [Oliver Davis](#)

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 393? [John J. Boice](#)

Who is the claimant for Parcel No. 392? [Evergreen Cemetery](#)

WHAT IS A CARTOGRAPHER?

A	P	ERS	ON	WHO	MAK	ES	OR
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ST	UDI	ES	MAP	S.
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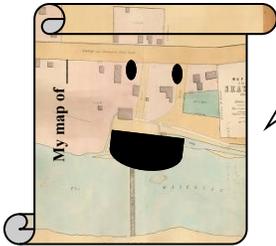
Congratulations! You are now a genuine cartographer! Hopefully by now you've seen some of the many ways that maps are interesting—and important. Current ones help you find places you want to go, and old ones show you places people have been. Tools like GPS's or the internet can help you find where you want to go, but once you use their directions, they disappear. Maps are important because we're records—when taken good care of, we can last for hundreds of years, and our information can be preserved and made available to people for generations to come! See, I told you us maps were pretty cool...what do you think?

If you ever want to see some more maps, you can come and visit us at the Ulster County Records Center! There are some really interesting ones on display for you to look at, and you can talk to people who can tell you more about us awesome maps! Just ask your parents or teacher to call them up! (The number is on the back of this booklet.)

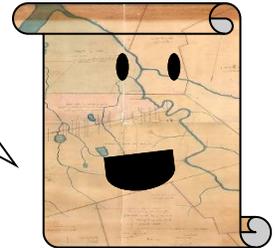
It was really great getting to know you, and I hope you had as much fun as I did!



Hey! My name's Matt—
I'm one of the maps the
kids made!



Cool! You made me a friend!
Well, I guess I'm off to the
Ulster County Records Center
to show him around...hope to
see you there!



**A publication of the Ulster County Clerk's
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ulstercountyny.gov/archives**

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