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Foundation for East European Family History Studies



Mapire Provides Online Maps of the Former Austro-Hungarian Empire

by Greg Nelson, FEEFHS Board



Maps are an invaluable genealogical resource as they give context and location to records you are seeking. What can be especially difficult is researching an area that has changed boundaries and ownership over time, leaving you to coordinate older maps with modern maps. How do you make a military survey work with a modern street map? Where is the property on the cadastral map located today? How do I ensure the scale between the maps is correct? A solution lies in the incredible technology behind <u>Mapire.eu</u> that uses historical maps of the Habsburg empire in collaboration with Google Maps, Google Earth, and OpenStreetMap.

Several institutions from Austria, Hungary, and Croatia have combined their resources to allow users to see historical maps that overlay current locations in scale, zoom in and out for detail, rotate for better perspective, and even see maps in 3D. Mapire doesn't display only a few maps, they display ALL of the maps created for the three military surveys covering the Habsburg empire. The site also contains maps of major European cities such as Paris, London, Rome, Moscow, and Sarajevo.

One of the most useful features on the site is the ability to compare maps side by side. You can do this between historical maps or compare a historical map with a current street view. I brought up a map of Budapest, clicked on the 'Options' box in the upper right corner and chose 'Synchronized View.' On the left side is an 1872 historical map of Budapest and on the right is the current aerial view of location, which you can see by clicking on the 'Maps' box, selecting 'Aerial' and sliding the 'Historical Layers' to 0%. As I navigate one map, the other map will move and scale accordingly. At any point you can change the maps on both sides to contrast and compare.

Also on the site are publications about the site and mission of Mapire as well as links to sponsoring organizations. You can change the language of the site between German, Hungarian, and English and there is an option to purchase maps you have found on the site. If you are interested in using historical maps in your genealogical research in the Habsburg Empire, Mapire.eu is an essential tool.

1.5 Million Names in JewishGen Hungary Database



JewishGen, the premier web site for Jewish genealogy, announced that their <u>Hungary Database</u> now has more than 1.5 million names. This resource combines data from multiple databases pertaining to the current and former territory of Hungary, including Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, and parts of Serbia, Romania, and Ukraine.

While you are at it, check out what else <u>JewishGen</u> has to offer. As a non-profit organization affiliated with the Museum of Jewish Heritage, their mission is to preserve Jewish family history and heritage for future generations by providing access to records, information, and tools and maintaining an online community for family researchers. They currently have over 20 million records online as well as many other resources to help with Jewish family history research.

Hidden Genealogical Treasures in the Library of Congress (Updated Webinar Link)



In our last newsletter, we shared a link to a webinar by Byron Holdiman on "Hidden Genealogical Treasures in the Library of Congress", sponsored by the Genealogy Roundtable of the Utah Library Association (GENRT).

We have received feedback that many people were not able to access this webinar, because of technical difficulties in downloading and installing a required web browser plugin. We apologize for the inconvenience for anyone who wanted to view the webinar, but couldn't.

GENRT has now posted the video in an a format that you can view online without a plugin. The new link is here: "<u>Hidden Genealogical Treasures in the Library of Congress</u>."

FEEFHS 2018 25th Anniversary Conference

We invite you to join us for next year's <u>FEEFHS Conference</u>, <u>August 6-10</u>, <u>2018</u>. Celebrate FEEFHS 25th anniversary with us and learn from the experts in Slavic, Germanic, and other aspects of East European Genealogy. The conference venue is located right next door to the world famous Family History Library in Salt Lake City.



Click on the flier image to go to the FEEFHS Conference page, where information about the conference is posted. Check back for more information as the 2018 conference nears, including early-bird registration information, hotel details, and more.

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