

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY USING MAPS
AND
OTHER RESOURCES**
Gene F. Williams, CGSM

SOLVING THE “BRICK WALL”

- Many times we search in the *wrong* places for the records of our ancestors
- Our reasoning and methodology is sound
- We have the Town or County names
- We have the right time period when they lived there
- We know about the different types of records existing for the area
- But we simply can't find them in any of the records

Why?

ORGANIZE YOUR PROJECT

- Find the state map showing counties
- Use the “*HandyBook for Genealogists*” or Ancestry’s “*Red Book*”
- Find the county and township maps
- Use the “*Township Atlas of the United States*” by Jay Androit
- Find maps that cover the U.S. censuses “*Map Guide to the Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*” by William Thorndale & William Dollarhide
- Use a “*Postal Guide*” or locality “*Gazetteer*” to find the name of the county if you have the name of a town only

!SAMPLE PROBLEM!

- Your ancestor lived in Floyd County, Kentucky as early as 1780
- They moved from there in 1799
- You have the information about them after they moved but
- You **cannot** find them in the records in Floyd County, Kentucky between 1780 and 1799

“Handybook Search”

- Current map shows Floyd County in eastern Kentucky
- Floyd County** was created 13 December 1799 from Fleming, Mason and Montgomery
- Fleming County** was created 10 February 1798 from Mason County
- Mason County** was created 5 November 1788 from Bourbon County
- Montgomery County** was created 14 December 1796 from Clark
- Clark County** was created 6 December 1792 from Bourbon and Fayette Counties
- Bourbon County** was created 17 October 1785 from Fayette County
- Fayette County** was created 1 May 1780 from Kentucky County, Virginia

MAPS FOR KENTUCKY

Various Census Years

●Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790 – 1920*. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc. 1987)

1860 Census Map of Kentucky

1830 Census Map of Kentucky

1800 Census Map of Kentucky

1790 Census Map of Kentucky

NEED MORE MAPS!

USGenWeb.com - ↓

Kentucky Page - ↓

Subject – Maps - ↓

County Formation Maps

RESEARCH OUTLINE

Floyd County Records, 1799



Fleming County Records, 1798



Montgomery County Records, 1796



Bourbon County Records, 1785



Fayette County Records, 1780



Kentucky County, Virginia, 1780



NOTES: