Texas General Land Office's Geospatial Team and Archives and Records Division’s collaboration and launch of a new map store.

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Texas General Land Office (GLO) (est. 1836/1837)

Archives and Records

- Created to collect and keep land records, provide maps and surveys, and issue land grants
- 45 million+ historical documents
- 45,000+ historical and modern maps
Education Outreach

• Create lesson plans using documents and maps from our archives

Map #93949
E. Ray, Map of East Texas Oil Field, 1933.

https://historictexasmaps.com
Education Outreach

- Provide scheduled in-person tours
- Tours tend to last between 30 minutes to an hour and focus on the visitor's area of interest.
GLO Maps

Collections Strengths

- Western Hemisphere, circa 1535-1900
- North America, circa 1650-1900
- United States, circa 1774-1900
- American West, circa 1840-1900
- American Southwest, circa 1844-1900
- Texas, circa 1822-1990
- Mexico, circa 1600-1900
- County Maps, circa 1837-1950
- City and Town Maps, circa 1839-1900
- Railroad Maps, circa 1854-1940
- Colony and District Maps, circa 1824-1850
Education Outreach

The GLO Archives houses the only known draft of the Texas Constitution, documents signed by Sam Houston or Stephen F. Austin, and beautiful maps as old as 1525.

Map #96578
From the 1525 edition of "Claudii Ptolemaei Alexandrini Geographicae", first published in 1522.
https://historicr Texas Map.com
KNOW ALL MEN
To whom these Presents shall come:

THAT Sir, Sam. Houston, HAVING

HADphem in the Battle of San Saba

IS ENTITLED TO

SIX HUNDRED AND FORTY ACRES OF

DONATION LAND,
New Map Store

We also have our documents available on our website called the Map Store. Over 35 million documents and all 45 thousand of our maps are digitized and are available to view and we are continuously scanning documents to make available online.
Diefert Situs Orbis Hydrographorum ab eo quem Ptolomeus Posuit

From the 1525 edition of "Claudii Ptolemaei Alexandrini Geographicae", first published in 1522.
Texas Hidden History: GLO StoryMaps
Start a StoryMap by highlighting 1 document or map from our collection.
Then add images and text.

Map #95701
https://historictexasmaps.com
Plague of the South:

Yellow Fever Turmoil in Texas, 1839-1905

Texas General Land Office
In the nineteenth century, the dreaded yellow fever haunted Texans with sickness and horrific death until its final epidemic in 1905. Beginning in 1839, it plagued much of the South almost every summer. A whisper of the disease nearby could cause panic, forcing thousands to flee to uninfected places. The mysterious disease, the vector for which was not discovered until 1900, earned the name "yellow fever" because it caused liver failure and jaundice (yellowing of the skin).

My dear father I have delayed writing for the last two or three days in expectation of receiving a letter from you; and my disappointment was very great when the mail which has just opened brought not a single line. I am grateful to say that my health continues to be good, and I hope will still be so for some time in spite of epidemics etc etc. The physicians one and all have pronounced the prevailing disease ‘Yellow fever,’ there are upwards of a hundred cases of it, and although these in general are somewhat lower than the former ones, are proving very slow to return to former active life. The people are getting sufficiently to bear the strain of it, and some of them are quite well. I have been as usual very industrious, and have written to all of my friends who are well. I am afraid my own fortune is not equal to that of the others, as I am not feeling the heat so comfortably as yet. Although I went out on the same plan as you I have no fame of any movement which has occurred there. I hope it will have to take very little. God slide some here. But not with the yellow fever, but rather a negative attack caused by standing so much and exerting after work. It is to be hoped he will be up and doing tomorrow.
Click on the Galveston map to the left to zoom in and explore the city layout during the American Civil War.
Move the slider below to see the contrast between a nineteenth-century map display of Galveston Island and present-day aerial images:
Click on the cities for more detail on yellow fever outbreaks in the interactive map to the left.
StoryMaps

• Creating GIS Education maps or static maps

Map #97094
A. Maione & L. Cen, Yellow Fever Deaths in Texas and Louisiana, 1791-1873.
https://historic.texasmaps.com
GIS Educational Maps

Archives and Records staff members along with GLO interns have been developing a series of maps to "align with the state’s curriculum standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). All are painstakingly researched and name the primary and secondary sources consulted, which include historical documents and maps in the GLO collection."

All maps are a collaboration with an Archives and Records staff members and interns and staff members of the Geospatial team.

https://www.historictexasmaps.com/showcase/showcase/gis-educational-maps.com
GIS Educational Maps

Challenges of creating historical maps, not accurate to modern-day.

- Customizing vector tile base maps
- Finding historical data
  - National Historical GIS
  - Census
- Creating historical data
- Creating highly stylized maps and visualizations
GIS Educational Maps

GIS Educational Maps
Our team hosts an internship program with Texas colleges and universities.

Any student of a Texas college or university can apply. The work can be done 100% remotely.

Majority of the work done through ArcGIS Online and Microsoft Teams.

We've had interns from Austin Community College, University of Texas, Texas State University, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, etc.

We are open to all students of higher education in Texas, including private schools.

Interns are actually employees of their school and fulfill a contract with our agency.
Geospatial Internship

Interns are involved in some of our highest priority projects.

- Texas Hidden History - Archives and Records
- TXSed – Coastal
- ReGen - TXGIO Strategic Initiative

Skills learned:

- Cartography
- Data Editing
- Application Configuration
- Analysis
Find historic maps, spatially(!), using the GLO Land and Lease Viewer.

https://gisweb.glo.texas.gov/glomapjs/index.html
When you turn on the Archives and Records layer, many circles, polygons, and lines appear.

Each circle and polygon are representative of a physical document that exists in the GLO Archives. Many of which are scanned and can be viewed at no-cost in the GLO Map Store.

The lines are bearing and distance lines, emanating from the County Seat location. Typically the location of the County Courthouse.
The link will take you to the scanned sketch document on the historictexasmaps.com.

Here you can use the tools on the bottom left to zoom in/zoom out.

https://historictexasmaps.com/collection/search-results/69387-travis-county-working-sketch-3-general-map-collection
How are the Sketch circles and bearing and distance lines generated?
Python!

The script takes the bearing and distance values in the table and generates the lines and sketch circles using the county seat as the point of origin.
Contact

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QUESTIONS?

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