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Census Geography Items in the Homer Babbidge Collection

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The Census Geographic Data Initiative is a project of the University of Connecticut Center for Geographic Information and Analysis. The UCCGIA was founded in 1997 with support from the Homer Babbidge Library, the Department of Geography, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The mission of the Center is to advance the use of geographic data and spatial analytic techniques in research, teaching, and service at the University of Connecticut and in the region it serves.

We would like to welcome you to the third in a series of four workshops sponsored by the Initiative.
The purpose of the UCCGIA’s Census Geographic Data Initiative is threefold:

First, we want to increase understanding and use of U.S. Census geographic data in the University community and in the state.

Second, we are in the process of designing and creating a digital geographic database of Connecticut census geography for each decennial census from 1790 to 2000.

Third, we are working with colleagues in the Libraries’ Information Technology Services Area to develop search and discovery tools that will use this database to find information. A 3-year grant proposal has been submitted to IMLS; Dr. Cromley will talk more about project in next presentation.
Four Workshops

• Geography of the 2000 Census
• Using the Census Web Site
• Census Geography Items in the Homer Babbidge Collection
• Census Enumeration Districts

As you know, this is the third workshop in this series.
Purpose of this Presentation

- Inform patrons about the procedures of finding Census geography items in the collection in the Homer Babbidge Library (HBL)
- Provide listings of Census geography items in the collection in HBL

Including examples of maps from Federal Documents, MAGIC, and Dodd Research Center collections; Homer search strategies; commercial products
Pre-1940 Census Maps

- Fewer geographic products
- Statistical reports mainly used mainly political, not statistical, geographical units
- In some cases, Census Bureau relied on commercially-produced maps in reports

For the most part, towns are the smallest census unit.

The University of Minnesota maintains a site for downloading historical boundaries. These boundaries would date back to the early 20th century in Connecticut. There may have been cities with census tracts.

Statistics by ward may be available for pre-1940 Census years.

Tracts started in metropolitan areas in 1910?20 in NYC/Boston
Dubester numbers are the classification system used to shelve the Decennial census volumes up to the 1950 census in the Reference Census collection within the Federal Documents collection on Level B of the Homer Babbidge Library. Most of these materials are also cataloged in Homer.

The commerically-produced CIS index to the Serial Set is a vital aid to locating the many Census reports published in the Congressional Serial Set; the 'Carto-bibliography' identifies the thousands of maps included in the Serial Set volumes. Uconn's Serial Set collection is one of the most complete in the country, numbering over 10,000 volumes, is housed in the Dodd Research Center. Copying and scanning is available.
Enumeration District Boundaries

• Described in Manuscript Census microfilm
• Physical description only: e.g. Enumeration District 210 in Manchester in the 1910 Census consisted of addresses:
  "North of center of Middle turnpike and east of center of Main, North Main St., Oakland St. and the line of Oakland St. extended to the northern boundary."

• Library guide available for pre-1940 Census publications
• Enumeration Districts are Focus of final presentation in Geographic Data series
Examples of maps used in early Census Publications

Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island – Changes in County Lines 1790-1900


There seem to be few examples of maps produced by Census bureau produced prior to 1880. This map from a 1909 publication tracks the changes in county boundaries in three New England states from 1790-1900
Examples of maps in 10th Census Publications (1880)

• All published in U.S. Congressional Serial Set, housed in Dodd Research Center
• Many significant Serial Set maps have been removed, stored, and scanned by MAGIC and are available through Homer
Contains a historical sketch of New York City, and current information public services and infrastructure including markets, sanitation system, schools, fire & police departments. Essays on other New England cities are contained in this volume.
Boston at the time of the 10th Census, 1880

**U.S. Deaths by Dyptheria by county, 1880**

Map of Charleston, South Carolina. Revised 1877.
Published by Walker, Evans & Cogswell

From: U.S. Congressional Serial Set Volume 2149
Tenth Census, v.16: Social Statistics of Cities pt.2:
Charleston (47-2) H.Misdoc
Map of the United States Showing The Birth Rate Per 1000 Women Between 15 and 50 Years of Age (1890 Census)

From: U.S. Congressional Serial Set Volume 3033
Eleventh Census. Vital and Social Statistics pt.1: Analysis and rate tables (52nd -1)
H. Misdoc
Map of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio. Showing Relative Death Rates of the Total Population in different wards during the census year ending May 31, 1890


It is unusual, before the 1910 Census, to see data (much less thematic maps) published reflecting geographic areas less than state, county or city.
Density of Scandinavians, 1900


Statistical atlases accompanied the 12th and 13th censuses (1900&1910), with many color thematic maps.
Proportion of Foreign-born White and Native White of Foreign or Mixed Parentage of Connecticut, by Counties: 1910

A series of maps shows the population density per square mile of regions outside of larger cities, from the first census in 1790 through the 1910 Census. Many other color maps are included in this statistical atlas.
Linguistic Families of American Indians North of Mexico by J.W. Powell. 1915

From: U.S. Bureau of the Census: Indian population in the United States and Alaska. 1910 (Babbidge Federal Documents collection, Level B: C 3.2:In 2/3)
“The concept of Census tracts was originated by Dr. Walter Laidlaw in New York City in 1906. He was convinced of the need for data for homogeneous subdivisions of cities as a basis for studying neighborhoods smaller than boroughs or wards. At his request, the Bureau of the Census tabulated census tract data from the 1910 Census for New York and seven other cities with a population over 500,000. Tract data were again tabulated for the same 8 cities in 1920, and in 1930 this number was increased to 18. In 1940, tract data were tabulated for 60 cities…” Including New Haven.
Characteristics of housing, population by Census Tract and Blocks published in the 1940 Census.


Series on Level B includes Block statistics and maps for 191 cities which in 1930 had a population of 50,000 or more. Each report presents for the city, by blocks, limited tabulations of data obtained in the Housing Census taken as of April 1, 1940, as a part of the 16th decennial census of population. Subjects presented include the number of residential structures, the number of dwelling units classified by occupancy and tenure, year built, color of occupants, number of persons per room, state of repair, and plumbing equipment; the average monthly rent or rental value of dwelling units; and the mortgage status of owner-occupied dwelling units.
Reports in this series on Level B consist of separate reports for each of the 209 cities which in 1940, or in a subsequent census prior to 1950, had a population of 50,000 or more. Each report presents for the city, by blocks, tabulations for a limited number of subjects obtained in the Census of Housing. The Subjects are similar to those in the block statistics supplements to the 1940 census.
The base of this map is a scanned general highway map from the Connecticut State Highway Department from 1938. It was annotated to show enumeration districts of the 1960 Census.

These maps have not been cataloged, which means they are not searchable in HOMER. However, they are available for viewing in the Map Library.

Collection of CT maps in Map Library with 1960 Enumeration Districts drawn on 1938 Maps Created by the Connecticut State Highway Department in Cooperation with the Federal Works Agency, Public Roads Administration. EDs are hand-drawn and are believed to be used by Census enumerators in the 1960 Census, the last to rely on door-to-door enumeration by Census personnel. No data was published by Enumeration District. Personal data from the 1960 Census will be released in 2030.

1960 last pre-computerized Census; not put on magnetic tape.
By the 1960 Census there were reports issued for 180 tracted areas in the U.S., of which New Haven was one. The report that this map accompanies presents statistics by census tracts on population and housing characteristics enumerated in the 1960 Censuses of population and housing. The population items are: Race and color, nativity and parentage, foreign stock and country of origin, age, relationship to head of household, marital status, married couples and families, school enrollment, years of school completed, residence in 1955, income in 1959, employment status, occupation, industry, class of worker, place of work, and means of transportation to work.

The housing items are: Tenure of housing unit, color of occupants, vacancy status, number of persons in the unit, persons per room, year moved into unit, number of units in structure, year structure built, basement in structure, number of rooms, condition and plumbing, number of bathrooms, heating equipment, automobiles available, value of property, contract rent, and gross rent.

A similar series for Block Statistics, with accompanying maps, was printed for the 50 States.
This legend for 1970 Census Boundary Symbols and Area Identifiers illustrates the numerous geographical features, political and statistical areas defined by Census maps in 1970; streets; political boundaries including counties, congressional districts, minor civil divisions (towns), incorporated places; Statistical units include Tract, Enumeration District, Blocks and Wards.
This 1970 Census map of Waterbury and surrounding area includes Minor Civil Division (town) and Congressional District boundaries, Tracts (enumerated in green), and block numbers.

The maps accompanying the 241 Census Tract Reports for the 1970 Census allow one to identify the correct tract numbers to find data in the statistical report. As with Census Tract reports for earlier censuses, more data on items such as income, occupation, education and nativity is available than within the Block Statistics reports.
Census tracts were not yet established for all areas in the 1970 Census. This map is from the report: 1970 census of housing. Block Statistics. Waterbury, Conn., urbanized area. In the 1970 Census, 278 Block Statistics reports were issued for Urbanized Areas: central cities with a population of 50,000 or more and surrounding “closely settled” territory which meets a certain population density threshold. The Numerous maps accompanying this series allow one to identify the blocks and tracts for in towns in Litchfield and New Haven counties surrounding Waterbury, to identify the population and housing statistics provided in the accompanying report on: population, race group quarters, age, and characteristics of housing units.
This image comes from the cover of the Urban Atlas, Tract Data for Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, for Hartford, Connecticut. This book is from 1974. The atlas is comprised of thematic maps based on basic Census data. The Map Library houses this atlas, as well as others from this Urban Atlas series.
This is one of the thematic maps found in the Urban Atlas, Tract Data for Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, for Hartford, Connecticut. This map shows the interrelationship of family income and educational attainment. The areas with the highest percentage of graduates and highest income are indicated by the dark navy blue color.
Windham area
Tract/Block map

1980 Census of Population and Housing

The Block Statistics Reports that were produced in the 1940-1970 censuses were discontinued with 1980, but the maps and reports that were produced for the 1980 Census are the most voluminous in the Babbidge Library’s collections, comprising 41 shelves of materials. In addition to this block map series, fold-out maps accompany the 380 Census Tracts volumes of detailed statistical data.
The complete set of paper maps for 1980 Block Statistics were reproduced on approximately 12,000 microfiche, available in the Microforms area of the Homer Babbidge Library Federal Documents collection, level B.
This is a scanned Census Tract/Block numbering area outline map, and is from 1990. The base map was generated using digital data obtained at 1:100,000 scale through a cooperative program with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Department of the Interior.

A limited number of fold-out maps are available in the library, primarily for CT census tracts, which accompany the 40 shelves 1990 Census Volumes in Level B.

These maps have been cataloged, which means they ARE searchable in HOMER by title, and are available for viewing in the Map Library. The next slide shows an example of the HOMER record for this map series.
Census Geographic Data Initiative

Census Geographic materials in Homer

- [HOMER](#) Library Catalog contains records for most Census materials 1976-present
- Advanced Search options allow results to be limited to Map Library
This is HOMER record of the map from the previous slide. You can see that the series has only one call number, but the record indicates that the Map Library has the series 001 (Fairfield) through 011 (New London). These series are based mostly on counties, and each series is made up of a number of maps.
Census Geographic Data Initiative

Census Geographic materials available through MAGIC

- Census Data that can be downloaded into a GIS program
- Census data files are organized by locally-produced derivative of Library of Congress classification
- Web site: http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/
This slide is a screen shot from the Map and Geographic Information Center Web site (which you can see at the bottom of the slide). This view shows that we selected Town Level coverages, and then selected Mansfield, from the dropdown list, as the town. The red arrow on the left points to one of the Census data files available for this particular town.
Geolytics, Inc. Products

- Commercially-produced Census data and mapping products available for use in Homer Babbidge Library
- Data and maps available for 1970-2000 Census
- Geolytics web site: www.geolytics.com

CensusCD 1970 - 1970 Census Long Form data with over 5,000 variables. It has data and mapping capabilities for counties and tracts, and data only for MCDs and places. The country was not fully tracted in 1970; there is no tract data available in untracted areas. **1970 Boundaries:**
1970 Boundaries were created by GeoLytics for tract, State, and County. These boundaries were built from the 1970 tract Urban Atlas project. These data were digitized from the 1970 tract maps back in 1975. They represent the first digital set of boundary files ever created. The state, region, and division boundaries were taken from 1980 boundaries, since little or no changes occurred at these levels. Boundaries for 1970 Places and MCD's were not included because spatial definitions for these areas were not available.

CensusCD 1980 - The complete 1980 Census Long and Short Form date sets. This CD includes 1500 variables: 1200 from the Long Form and 300 from the Short Form. Data and mapping capabilities for county, MCD, place, tract and block group. The country was not fully tracted in 1980; there is no tract or block group data available in untracted areas.

CensusCD 1990 Long Form - Complete 1990 Census Long Form (STF3) census data, plus a built-in mapping function. Includes about 3500 variables and 11 boundaries such as tracts, block groups, zip codes, MSA and more.
This is a screen shot from the GeoLytics, Inc. Census 2000 software. This map represents the total population, by county, of the state of Connecticut from the 2000 Census. This data, the DBF (database file) can be exported to a SHP (shapefile), which can be brought into ArcView GIS and ArcGIS.
This is a screen shot of the GeoLytics, Inc. Census 2000 data, which have been brought into ArcMap. The GeoLytics data are recorded in latitude and longitude. These data are unprojected. The projection utility function in Arc GIS can be used to project these coordinates into Conn. State plane coordinate system. Here you can see the total population is illustrated using graduated color. So the darker colors indicate the higher population.
Census geographic data can be downloaded from the Census web site and can be acquired from the collections at Babbidge Library.

The final workshop in this series will focus on Census enumeration districts. People interested in attending can register through the Library’s web site.

Thank you for your participation in the workshop.
Census Geographic Data Initiative

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