

ON THE ROAD AGAIN: MAPPING A TEXANA COLLECTION

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

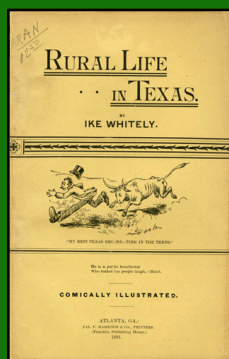
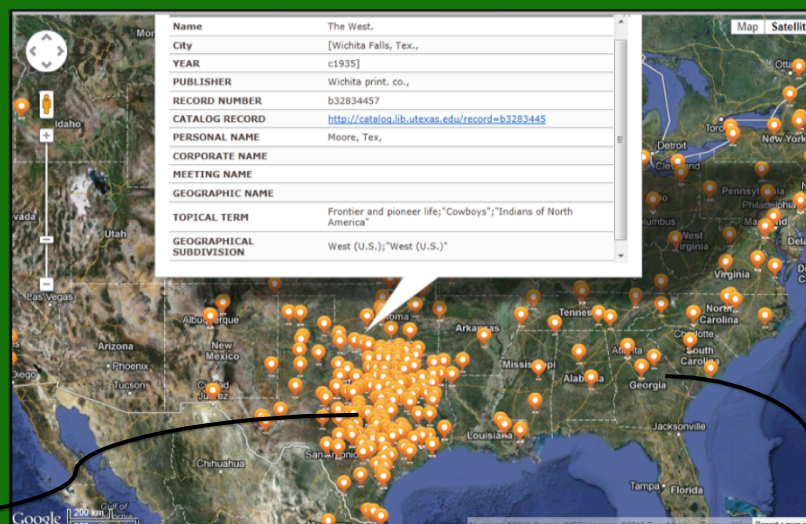
Mapping print collections provides visualization for digital exhibits and context for remote users. We have created a prototype digital map using a geographically cohesive collection of significant size with extensive bibliographic records.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION:

The Frank Caldwell Collection, 1778-1941, at the Briscoe Center for American History is a unique survey of rare items about Texas. Donated by Frank Caldwell, a travelling hardware salesman from Austin, to the University of Texas in the 1950s, the collection of approximately 3,000 items includes books, pamphlets, manuscripts, newspapers, maps, and almanacs documenting the history and culture of Texas from the 18th to the 20th centuries.

METHOD:

- Conducted a Millennium ILS report request, searching by the special collections note: Frank Caldwell Collection.
- Compiled a spreadsheet of 2,198 unique metadata entries; 11 fields per entry.
- Used the web-based mapping application, Topo.ly, to generate a map using the unique metadata entries; plotted 24,178 individual fields.



PROS...

- Digital maps provide geographic visualization and context for large print collections
- User-friendly and customizable
- Allows for upload of pre-existing spreadsheets
- Maps can be shared and embedded

...AND CONS

- Spreadsheets must follow Topo.ly's format in order for data to be uploaded quickly and be automatically geocoded
- Required upgrade to paid account for more customizable features

