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Welcome!

Welcome to our Newsletter! We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy putting it together. Please feel free to email us with suggestions, pictures, or tips and tricks at nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov.

Check Out Volunteer Contribution Maps!

It is not news that the work of The National Map Corps volunteers is truly outstanding; with almost 150,000 structures edited across the nation our volunteers are indeed a mapping force to envy. Have you ever wanted to see a map of ALL of your (or other volunteers') contributions? Now you can! The National Map Corps team is happy to release a new web application that displays our volunteers' efforts. The map offers a platform where the user can view all points contributed (includes edited, added, verified, and deleted points) by any volunteer who has contributed 25 or more points. Each point has a link that leads back to the TNMCorps editor which displays the current status of the point. Explore our volunteers' amazing work through the [new map!](#)

The screenshot shows the web application interface for viewing volunteer contributions. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a logo on the left, a 'Volunteers' dropdown menu, a search box labeled 'Search for a Volunteer', a 'Search' button, and a 'Volunteer Information' button. Below the navigation bar is a map of the United States. Three callout boxes with green arrows pointing to specific UI elements provide instructions:

- Callout 1 (left):** Select a user from the drop down to view their edited points. The # represents unique points contributed at the time the map was last updated.
- Callout 2 (center):** You can also search by user name.
- Callout 3 (right):** Once a user is selected, click here to display information about that user, including badges earned.

At the bottom of the map, there is a small logo for 'Leaflet | USGS Hybrid Tile, USGS Image Only Dynamic Map, USGS ImageTopo Tile'.



*If you find a point called a "jail" but it seems to meet the criteria of a prison, you **can** collect it and code as a prison. If **unsure** whether a point such as this is a prison or a jail, **don't collect it.***

Volunteers who contribute in the [Challenge](#) area will be recognized on the TNMCorps project site and also tweeted on [The National Map Twitter](#) account!

A Reminder: Jails, to collect or not?

In the June newsletter we clarified [what to include as Prison/Correctional Facilities](#). Just a reminder:

- Jails do not need to be collected as either a police station or a prison.
- Prisons should be collected.

If you find a point called a "jail" but it seems to meet the criteria of a prison, you can collect it and code as a prison. If unsure whether a point such as this is a prison or a jail, don't collect it.

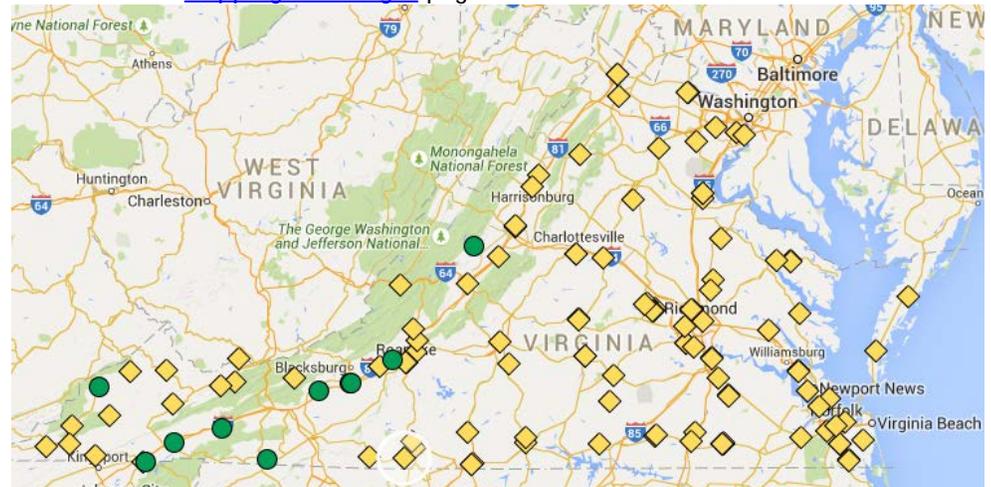
NEW Mapping Challenge

Speaking of Prison/Correctional Facilities... we have a [new mapping challenge](#): Prison/Correctional Facilities in Virginia!

This challenge should go a lot quicker than the last; a lot of the work has already been done! There are just 10 points that have already been edited that need to be checked by a peer reviewer or advanced editor. If you are feeling extra ambitious you might want to check the "finished" points as well. As explained in the section above (Jails, to collect or not?) we have revised/simplified our guidelines for [what to collect as a Prison/Correctional Facility](#). Some of the finished points in VA are jails and may need to be reviewed. Don't forget to check for missing points too!

Volunteers who contribute in the Challenge area will be recognized on the TNMCorps project site and also tweeted on [The National Map Twitter](#) account!

Check out the [Mapping Challenges](#) pages for more information.



NC Law Enforcement Facilities Mapping Challenge FINISHED!

This was a HUGE mapping challenge!

A BIG thanks to fconley, Cartograsaurus, fred82001, HGeisler, rjerrard, robwills77, Trailblazer, and LunaHyacinth for updating, verifying, adding, and deleting all Law Enforcement Facility points in North Carolina!

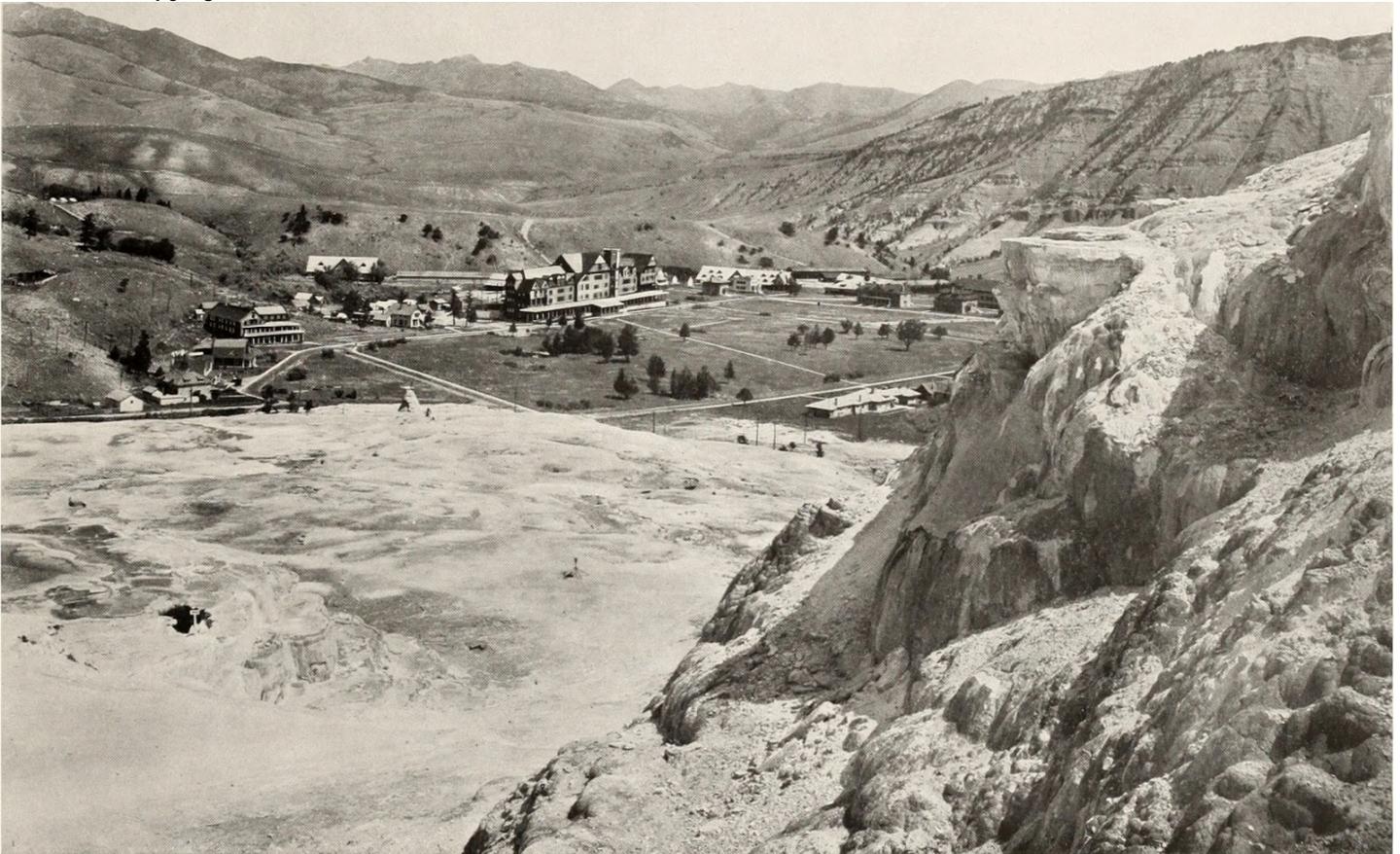
What the Park Brochure Doesn't Tell You about Yellowstone National Park

By Kent Wangsgard, TNMCorps Volunteer

There are two cemeteries and one grave site within the Park. The grave site is the Mattie Culver site on the banks of the Fire Hole River. She was the wife of the winter caretaker of the Fire Hole Hotel, and died in 1889. The two cemeteries are in Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyoming, the Park Headquarters and just over the border from Montana. The civilian cemetery is called Kite Hill Cemetery. The name comes from the practice of the town members in the 1800s, climbing the open hill to fly kites. The military cemetery is called Fort Yellowstone Cemetery.

The interesting part that many people don't know is that there is a Military Fort within Yellowstone National Park. In 1882, Gen. Philip Sheridan visited the park. He found that all was not well, as outside interests from the East as well as local interests were destroying the natural resource of the area. By 1886 the problem had become so acute; the United States Government felt that the only way to insure the safe guarding of the area was to place the United States Army in charge, directly, to enforce rules that would conserve the natural resources for all. So the Army controlled and ran the park for 31 years, until the National Park Service was established in 1916, and by 1918 had taken over control of Yellowstone from the Army.

Photo: Mammoth Hot Springs Army Post (from Yellowstone National Park: America's Only Geyser Land-1913)
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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/internetarchivebookimages/14765342872/in/photolist-ow7Bs8-ocS9Ni-ou79qV-ocTz6q-ocSN6e-ocFqUi-ou6HYX-ocGwjH-oxB1n4-ouvCsZ-oeQbq7-oukFVv-ouLf27-sGDb8X>

Have a story or photo you'd like to share?

We want them! This could be anything from a photo of you verifying a structure or an interesting story (like the one above) that you discovered while editing. Photos, graphics, and stories may be used in future news releases and social media posts. All materials submitted become part of the "public domain," and can be used by USGS in the future unless otherwise specified. Please email them to nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov.

Who's Got Mail??? Contract, Community, and Village Post Offices

Our post office data has been updated using information from the US Census Bureau, and you might be coming across some unfamiliar terminology. Contract Postal Units (CPU) and Village Post Offices (VPO) are commonly found in retail locations and are **not something we collect**. Community Post Offices (CPO) differ in that they are usually located in a community whose independent post office has been closed. CPOs retain their own zip code and town name, and therefore **should be collected**. When providing the name of the feature, be sure to include the correct designation.

For example: "Meadville Community Post Office" or "Meadville CPO."



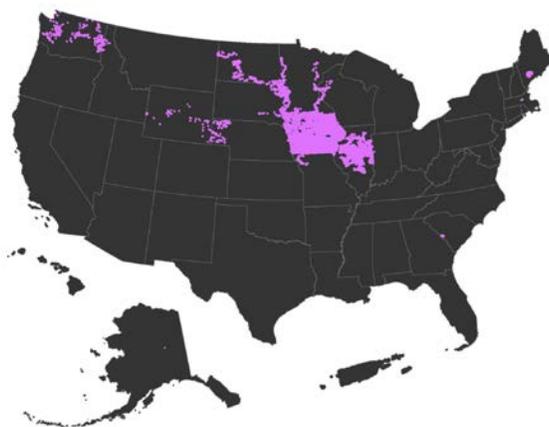
CPOs should be collected. CPUs and VPOs in retail stores should not be collected.

Volunteer crazeyme Visits the USGS

Kathy, aka crazeyme (on the left in the photo) is one of our youngest (that we know of!) and most ambitious volunteers. She signed up for TNMCorps in the summer of 2014, treating it as a bit of a summer job, and quickly jumped to the top of our contributors list, editing mostly cemeteries. This summer she stopped by our office in Denver to say "hi" and get a small tour. We were so pleased to meet her and we are sure she'll go far!



Volunteer crazeyme (left) and TNMCorps team member Erin (right) standing by a poster that featured her contributions



Volunteer crazeyme's TNMCorps contributions

Here is her story, as previously featured on the USGS facebook page:

In February, 2014 there was an earthquake near where we live and my mom, who grew up in earthquake-prone Los Angeles, wanted to know the details right away. She went to the USGS website and got the answers to her questions, and then she saw a link about volunteer opportunities and specifically, the TNMCorps. Since I am giving consideration to potential college majors and future careers, and with the summer approaching, we both thought it would be a good way to see if I liked some of the work the USGS has to offer, because I already enjoy using a computer. I also wanted to see what a real part-time job was like, so I dedicate 4 hours a day, Monday through Friday, to volunteering. The National Map Corps makes it easy for anyone to volunteer, since all assistance can be done from home, so long as you have a computer with internet access. I can make my own schedule, which is a major plus. I decided to focus on locating and editing cemeteries because there are loads that need to be identified, and I was already aware of websites that could be used to check the edits. I've only been working for a month and already I've discovered interesting facts, like where Sacagawea is buried, and all of the unique names for places around the country. I also like the idea of continuing the tradition of service to our nation, since a member of my family has served in each generation since the Revolutionary War!

TNMCorps Team Corner

Get to know the TNMCorps Team members!



Lily is a student contractor working for The National Map Corps project and has been with the team for a little over four months. Before coming to work with The National Map Corps, she worked as a GIS technician in the private sector and as an agronomic research assistant for the USDA. Lily has grown up loving the outdoors. Her passion for maps and navigation was developed through years of camping, hiking, farming and backpacking in colorful Colorado. Working for the USGS TNMCorps is an honor for Lily who loves to teach and participate in geospatial science.

New Recognition Category Members



Squadron of Biplane Spectators
(6000-6999)



Ring of Reconnaissance Rocketeers
(5000-5999)

- rjerrard



Flock of Winged Witnesses
(4000-4999)

- rjerrard
- ThatJenn



Family of Floating Photogrammetrists
(3000-3999)

- ThatJenn
- KentRobert



Theodolite Assemblage
(2000-2999)

- ThatJenn
- mfmsl
- msean21
- DSchaper
-



Alidade Alliance
(1000-1999)

- DSchaper
-



Stadia Board Society (500-999)

- DSchaper



Circle of the Surveyor's Compass (200-499)

- DSchaper
- James Weakland
- LunaHyacinth
- Bocan
- Calvin



Pedometer Posse (100-199)

- trekker2
- LunaHyacinth
- eakelly
- klluvsk
- Calvin
- ironingboard77



Society of the Steel Tape (50-99)

- ohthatdan
- meitnerium
- LunaHyacinth
- riveja2
- SilenceDogood
-



Order of the Surveyor's Chain (25-49)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gbolsta • msrosej • timberwolf • El Doctor • TXM • fred82001 • ahultz • cycleloco | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meitnerium • LunaHyacinth • klluvsk • Blair Bear • gsandoval • DanaKushner • kendallm • Timber_Wolf | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack • SilenceDogood • riveja2 • KLadybug |
|--|--|--|

CONTACT US AT: nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov for suggestions, questions, additions to the next newsletter, or if you would like to be removed from the email list.

Or call Elizabeth McCartney at 573-308-3696

