

## Announcement regarding the Digital *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*

The Newberry Library's Dr. William M. Scholl Center for American History and Culture is delighted to announce the launch of an updated and expanded edition of the digital *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. The *Atlas* provides comprehensive data and downloadable shapefiles on the formation, development, and fluidity of county borders within the territory of the United States from 1629 to 2000. Updates to the digital *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries* include:

- An enhanced user-interface.
- New National Data: Interactive maps with supporting shapefiles and metadata. These maps allow the user to view the development of county borders on a national scale from 1783–2000 (<http://publications.newberry.org/ahcbp/index.html>).
- Boundary Animations of U.S. Historical County Boundaries (1629–2000), as well as State and Territorial boundaries (1783–2000).
- A national synthesis of the *Atlas's* individual state files-work.

First launched in 2010, the *Atlas* represents more than twenty years of work compiling county lines from research in state laws and other primary sources. It offers comprehensive information for counties in all fifty states, which makes it a powerful research tool for individuals and institutions alike. The *Atlas* is an authoritative reference for scholars and researchers in areas as varied as history, politics, geography, journalism, law, and genealogical studies. With the help of ArcIMS software, users can access interactive maps that allow them to compare counties across historical periods for every state. Users can download files for use in GIS systems and Google Earth, as well as printable PDFs.

The National Endowment for the Humanities provided the principal funding for this project; the Newberry served as sponsor and home base; and private individuals and foundations contributed significant additional support to this project. The Newberry Library is the copyright holder; all files of the digital *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries* are free for use under a Creative Commons License. All queries should be directed to: [scholl@newberry.org](mailto:scholl@newberry.org)