



# TNMCorps News

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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](mailto:nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov).

## Get Recognized on USGS Social Media!

We want to recognize your contributions to The National Map Corps! If you have a Twitter account and want to be acknowledged through [The National Map Twitter](#) account, please go into “my settings” in the [editor](#) and add your Twitter handle. Also double check that you have checked the authorization box seen below.

**My settings**  
[Return to profile](#) | [oauth settings](#)

Display Name:

Current Email Address:  (never displayed publicly)  
 New Email Address:  (never displayed publicly)

Current Twitter Handle: @  (optional) [what's this?](#)

Password:   
 Confirm Password:

OpenID:  (what is this?)

Delete Account: Please contact [nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov](mailto:nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov) if you would like to delete or cancel your account.

Public editing: Enabled. Not anonymous and can edit data.

Contributor Terms: You have agreed to the new Contributor Terms.  
 You have also declared that you consider your edits to be in the Public Domain.

I authorize the USGS to publish my username as needed to show contribution achievements via social media and websites.



## Call for Volunteer Photos and Stories

Do you have photos or stories about volunteering for The National Map Corps? We want them! This could be anything from a photo of you working from your computer to verifying a structure in the field. 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](mailto:nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov).

## The Next Big One

By Volunteer Roger Davis (AKA Cartograsaurus)



Volunteer Roger Davis, AKA  
Cartograsaurus

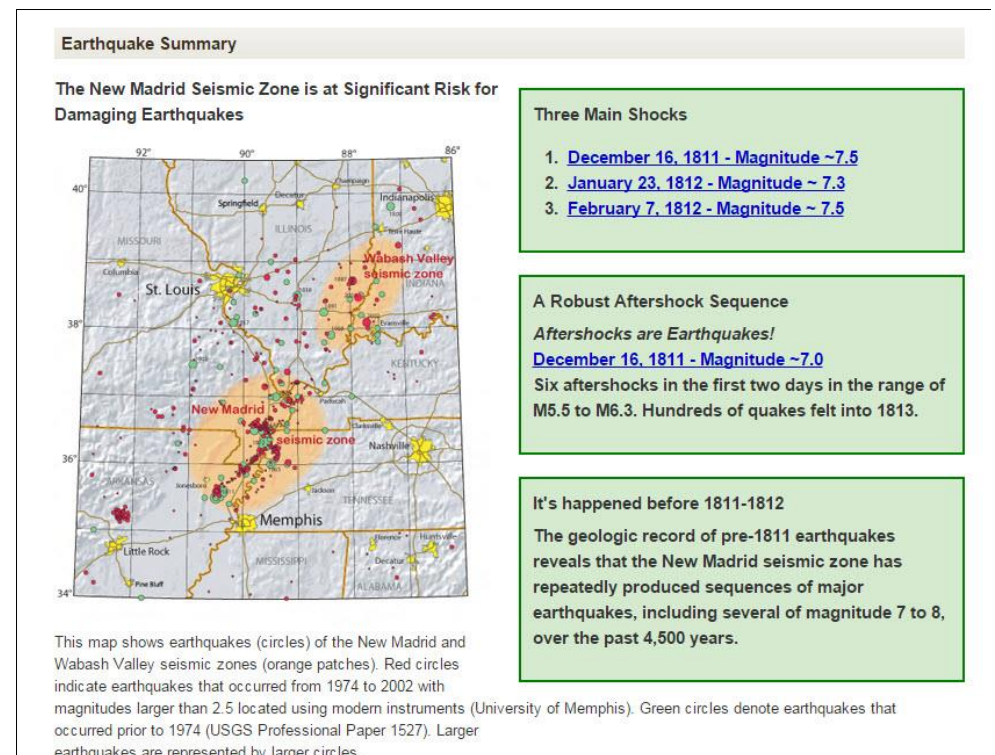
*“As a long-time TNMCorps volunteer I’ve been working what I call my ‘Self-Inflicted Edit Challenge’ in the NMSZ and have edited several points in that region including hospitals, emergency response centers, fire departments and stations as well as local law enforcement agencies.”*

*–Roger Davis, AKA  
Cartograsaurus*

Nobody knows when the Next BIG earthquake will strike or where. Those are BIG questions seeking answers and we as TNMCorps volunteers have the chance to help prepare for the next BIG ONE.

How might we do that, you ask? Quite possibly through our efforts editing in the [New Madrid Seismic Zone](#) (NMSZ). The NMSZ covers parts of eight states including SE Missouri, SW Illinois, NE Arkansas, western Kentucky and Tennessee. In December 1811 and January-February 1812 at least three Magnitude (M) 7-8.0 earthquakes struck the small frontier village of New Madrid, Missouri with devastating results. The population being sparse and the cabins and barns being constructed of logs, loss of life was minimal and property damage slight but manageable. That would most definitely not be the case if a similar disaster occurred today.

[\[see image below from the USGS Hazards Program\]](#)



As a long-time TNMCorps volunteer I’ve been working what I call my “Self-Inflicted Edit Challenge” in the NMSZ and have edited several points in that region including hospitals, emergency response centers, fire departments and stations as well as local law enforcement agencies.

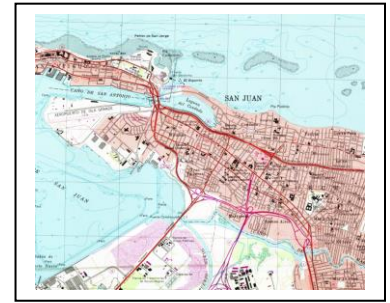
Additional resources to check out: [“20 Cool Facts about the New Madrid Seismic Zone”](#); [Coping with Earthquakes Induced by Fluid Injection](#); and an excellent video produced by Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI) of the University of Memphis: [New Madrid: The Earthquakes of 1811 - 1812](#).

And these are all the more reasons I believe we should have an Edit Challenge for the NMSZ. What do you think?

## Help Us Update Puerto Rico Structures

We need your help to clean up the Structures data for Puerto Rico! Puerto Rico has been [available for editing](#) since late June 2014, but so far we haven't seen any edits. The existing data we have needs a lot of work, but we know you all are up to the challenge! Puerto Rico [US Topo](#) maps are scheduled to be updated in 2016, so help us get the data cleaned up before then.

For information about editing in Puerto Rico, please check out our [Tips & Tricks guide](#) linked to from the [FAQ](#).

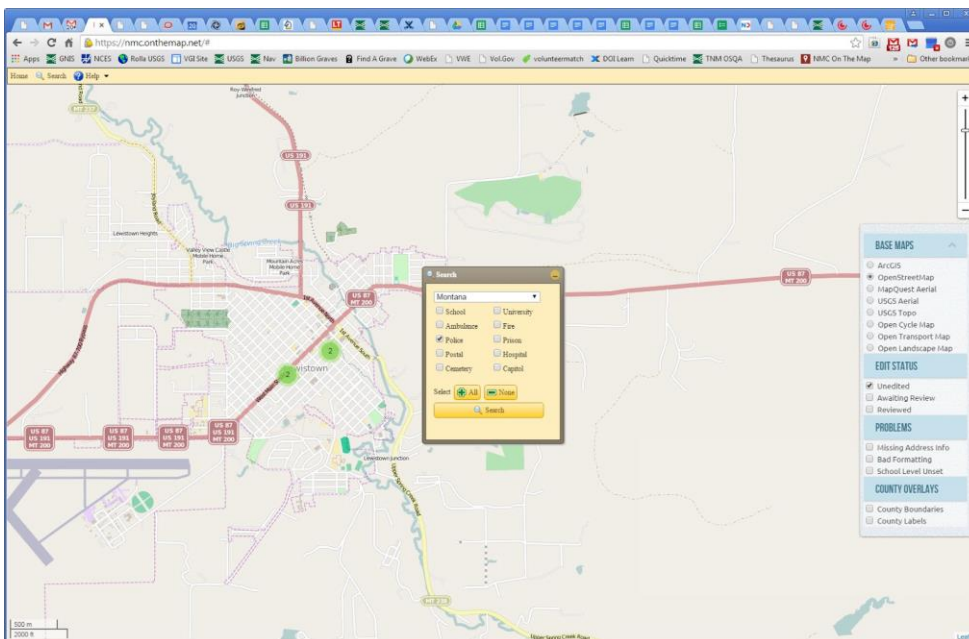


*Help up improve Puerto Rico Structures data before US Topo maps are updated.*

## The National Map Corps Explorer

As some of you may already be aware, one of our volunteers, Eric Anderson, has created an impressive web application, "[The National Map Corps Explorer: A Swiss Army Knife for the discerning NMC Editor](#)," that allows users to search by state, filter by structure type, or by "problem." Once you click on a point, you'll have the option of popping over to TNMCorps web editor to do the actual editing. Another aspect of this application is that Eric is able to pull in a variety of basemaps, some of which we don't easily have access to. Whether you want to concentrate on a particular feature type or just want to hunt for problem areas, this application is well worth checking out! Thanks, Eric!!!

Please be aware, at this time this map is not automatically updated as changes are made through the TNMCorps editor, so you might find that some things are slightly out-of-date. We are currently providing updated data on roughly a weekly basis.



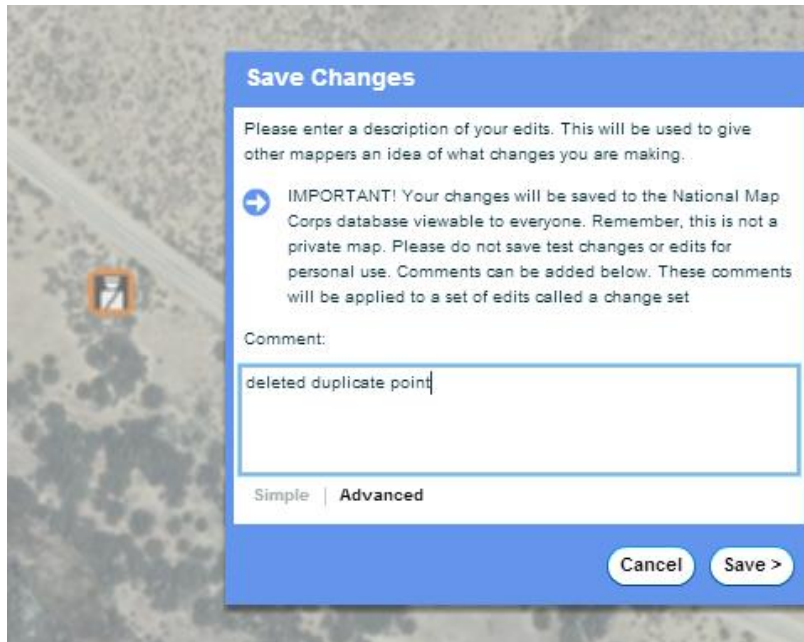
*"Whether you want to concentrate on a particular feature type or just want to hunt for problem areas, this application is well worth checking out!"*

Note: This is not a USGS website.



## ALERT!! Be on the Lookout for Duplicate Law Enforcement Points and More Info about Law Enforcement Editing

Duplicates should be deleted. Please make a note in the “comment field” about why you are deleting the point (this applies to any deletes). To apply a comment to a single edit, press “Shift c” before and after your edit or deletion.



**Save Changes**

Please enter a description of your edits. This will be used to give other mappers an idea of what changes you are making.

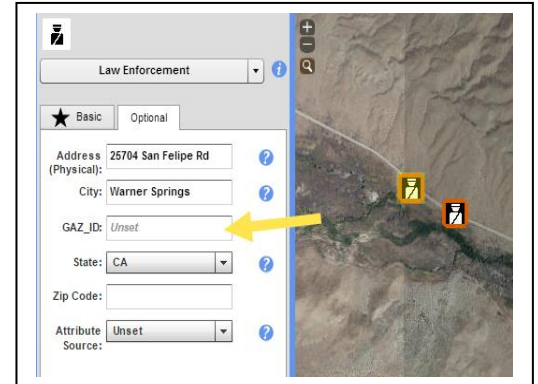
→ **IMPORTANT!** Your changes will be saved to the National Map Corps database viewable to everyone. Remember, this is not a private map. Please do not save test changes or edits for personal use. Comments can be added below. These comments will be applied to a set of edits called a change set

Comment:

deleted duplicate point

Simple | **Advanced**

Cancel Save >



*If duplicate points do not have a value in the GAZ\_ID field, either one may be deleted.*

As long as the duplicates do not have a value in the GAZ\_ID field, either point may be deleted. If you happen to find duplicate points with a value in the GAZ\_ID field, always keep the point that has the GAZ ID, or if they both have one, keep the point with the numerically smaller ID.

**TIP:** When encountering the situation shown to the right (County Sheriff and County Jail in same location), it is correct to use two Law Enforcement icons. The general guidance is that even if a Sheriff's Office and a Jail are co-located, there are two points, one for the Sheriff's Office and one point for the Jail. Both are Law Enforcement.

### When should a jail be included and symbolized as a prison?

A facility called a jail is symbolized as a prison **ONLY** if it handles long-term sentences and is medium or maximum security. This is more common in Texas. Be sure to take a look at their functions on the Department of Corrections site. If you are not sure if a jail is a jail or a prison, symbolize as a jail (law enforcement).

Sometimes these facilities are hard to define.



## TNMCorps Tips and Tricks

**TIP:** Be careful if you are copying and pasting names, addresses, city, or zip codes from websites. It is easy to accidentally grab more information than you intended when copying, as seen below. This includes extra spaces and carriage returns. If you copy and paste please double check that you are only pasting the appropriate information.

School

History for Structure point

Required Optional

Address (Physical): 8810 Hickory Ridge Road, Harrisburg, NC 28075

City: Harrisburg

GAZ\_ID: Unset

State: NC

Zip Code: 28075

**TIP:** We see a lot of issues with the formatting of Post Office names. We ask volunteers to use the [USPS locator tool](#). Although the search result is displayed without the words “Post Office,” as seen below, we ask volunteers to add “Post Office” to the name.



Post Office

History for Structure Point

Required Optional

Name: Oak Hill Post Office

**TIP:** Have you seen school points with numbers attached to the name that don’t seem like they are part of the name, as seen below? These are typically related to the State school ID system. If you don’t see the number on the official/authoritative source, you can remove the number from the name.

School

History for Structure Point

Required Optional

Name: GS MICKELSON MIDDLE SCHOOL - 02



**TIP:** When adding address information, be aware that routes and highways need a designator of hierarchy or otherwise be named. For instance Highway 52 should be State Highway 52 or County Route 52 or Pena Highway.

If you are having trouble determining the proper designator, try using sign symbology to determine the hierarchy designation.

[Wikipedia](#) has an easy to understand list of symbology:

| County highway shields |                |               |           |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|
|                        |                |               |           |
| Standard County        | Square variant | West Virginia | Wisconsin |









  

| Interstate Highway shields |                           |                                      |               |               |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                            |                           |                                      |               |               |
| Standard Interstate        | Standard Interstate, wide | California and Iowa style Interstate | Business Loop | Business Spur |

| U.S. Highway shields  |                             |                               |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                       |                             |                               |                       |                       |
| Standard U.S. Highway | Standard U.S. Highway, wide | California style U.S. Highway | 1948-era U.S. Highway | Original U.S. Highway |

## New Recognition Category Members

-  **Ring of Reconnaissance Rocketeers (5000-5999)**
  - meyerkv
-  **Flock of Winged Witnesses (4000-4999)**
  - Somy
  - robwills77
-  **Family of Floating Photogrammetrists (3000-3999)**
  - TheJ
-  **Stadia Board Society (500-999)**
  - ThatJenn
  - KentRobert
  - patty21
  - Bikertom
-  **Circle of the Surveyor's Compass (200-499)**
  - patty21
  - KentRobert
  - Bikertom
  - GatorGal
-  **Pedometer Posse (100-199)**
  - patty21
  - mulehead Jackson
  - KentRobert
  - GatorGal
-  **Society of the Steel Tape (50-99)**
  - CC Pjoral Dahl
  - Cricket
  - jdjii76
  - Donovan
  - KentRobert
  - Calvin
  - MapRx
  - GatorGal
  - Patrickallen
  - rockhound
-  **Order of the Surveyor's Chain (25-49)**
  - Skorasaurus
  - dcs143696
  - South Dakota Geographic Alliance
  - Kenglis
  - JacobBarlow
  - Venetaboyanova
  - Dizz
  - KentRobert
  - frgeof
  - rockhound
  - GatorGal
  - Patrickallen
  - TeamWhiteWolf
  - ABermond

CONTACT US AT: [nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov](mailto: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

