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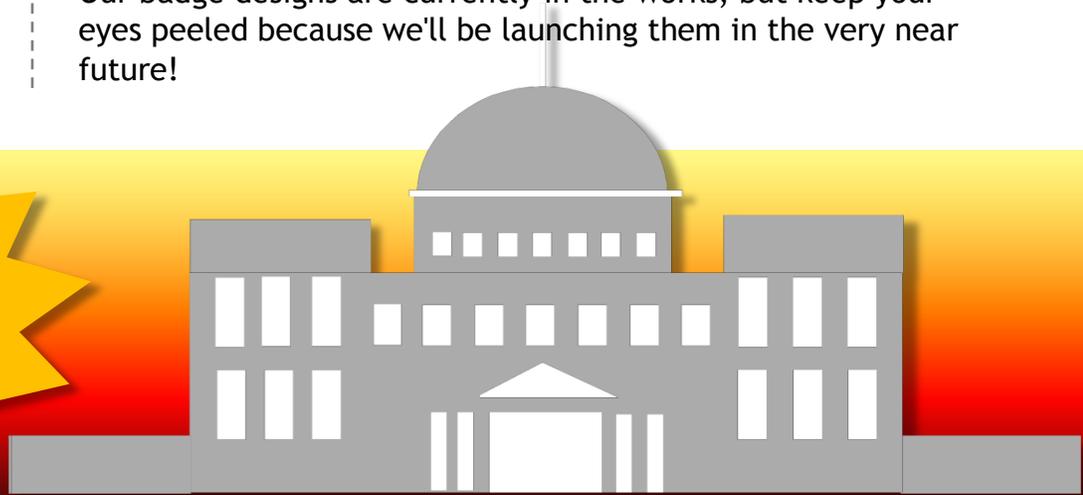
Courthouse Recognition Program

Although we've still got a ton of work to do behind the scenes, the volunteer portion of the [Courthouse Pilot Project](#) is just about finished! To honor those of you who participated, we will soon be launching a courthouse recognition program, similar to our regular [recognition program](#).

Depending on how many courthouse points you created/edited, you'll receive one or more of four new courthouse themed badges.

Our badge designs are currently in the works, but keep your eyes peeled because we'll be launching them in the very near future!

Complete this month's [cryptogram](#) to find out the names of the new courthouse recognition categories!



TNMCorps Team Q&A: What's your Favorite Structure to Edit?

The TNMCorps team thought it'd be fun to share a little bit about ourselves with you this month, so we've each described our favorite structures to edit and why we find those structures particularly interesting.

If you'd also like to share the types of structures you prefer editing, reach out to us at nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov and you could be featured in an upcoming newsletter!



TNMCorps Team Q&A: What's your Favorite Structure to Edit? (Continued)

Erin

I can't pick just one! My two favorite structure types to edit are cemeteries and Post Offices. I like Post Offices because they range from extremely easy to quite difficult. They are also often in the center of communities, and I especially like "cruising" down small town main streets on imagery and Google™ Street View. The easy ones provide a methodical process that I find somewhat relaxing and rewarding, and I enjoy the challenge of finding the correct location of the difficult ones, which are often in rural areas. Check out the [March 2017 newsletter](#) article "Tricky Points and 'Deep' Research," for a story about one of those tough Post Office points.

Cemeteries are often quite difficult to edit, and I enjoy the challenge and the deep online sleuthing it often requires. As a history buff, I enjoy looking at cemeteries from a historical perspective. I also enjoy seeing the small differences across the country, as well as through time, in how cemeteries are designed and where we put them in our communities. In case you didn't know, there are dead people all around us! I also believe that accurately mapped cemeteries are a valuable and important cultural resource. One cemetery that sticks out in my mind is the [Tonopah Cemetery](#) in Nevada. Not only did I have to do some of that tricky research, which concluded with adding a second point for [another cemetery](#) in Tonopah, but it also led me to the [Clown Motel](#), which is right next to one of the two cemeteries! A little creepy... but also pretty fun!

If I'm lucky, sometimes I'll even come across imagery of a cemetery that was captured in autumn (my favorite season). The headstones with the leaves' colors help to set the stage.

Union Cemetery, Menomonee Falls, WI



Google Image capture: Oct 2016 ©2018 Google United States

Check out the [September 2017 newsletter](#) article on aerial photo interpretation and cemeteries.

Old Tonopah Cemetery, Tonopah, NV



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/60/1f/bb/601fbbfe32ddea0be0410247782f9f86.jpg>

I assume it was by coincidence, but in our [very first newsletter](#), way back in October of 2014, we highlighted articles focusing on cemeteries and Post Offices. If you want a TNMCorps blast from the past, including images of our old original recognition badges, check it out!

Sam

If I had to pick which structures were my favorite, I'd have to choose schools or cemeteries. When I first started with TNMCorps, schools were my favorite because, more often than not, they have ample authoritative sources with complete address information. There is the occasional challenge of parochial and/or private schools whose information is not readily available, but such challenges keep us on our toes!

As I've gained more experience with TNMCorps, cemeteries have emerged as another favorite. I especially enjoy historic cemeteries with elaborate headstones. The headstones and landscaping make for a scenic "scroll" down the street with Google™ Street View. And as Erin mentioned above, it's also fun to see the spatial distribution of cemeteries and how plots of land were designated. I've seen small linear cemeteries along U.S. highways, individual family plots, along with cemeteries that are centrally-located, have multiple acres and contain hundreds (if not thousands) of interments. Such variety!

Continued on [next page](#)

TNMCorps Team Q&A: What's your Favorite Structure to Edit? (Continued)

Emily

My favorite structure type to edit is Post Offices! They are generally one of the easiest features to edit, but can be quite challenging, especially in rural areas. In towns where there are no on-the-ground views available, I enjoy the detective work involved in identifying [clues in the imagery](#) that distinguish Post Offices from surrounding buildings. I also enjoy editing Post Offices because these unassuming features can be quite [fascinating in surprising ways](#). The [Ochopee Post Office](#) in Florida, for example, is the smallest one in the country - small enough to be completely obscured by [the point](#) representing it in the TNMCorps editor! And while it's only big enough to house a single postal worker, it serves an area of roughly 130 square miles.

The [Englewood Post Office in Chicago](#) is also fascinating, though it wouldn't be much to speak of if not for the sordid history of the plot on which it was built. This Post Office now occupies the space where notorious swindler and serial killer H.H. Holmes constructed his infamous "[Murder Castle](#)", originally intended to be used a hotel during the 1893 world's fair. The [Englewood Post Office](#) was constructed shortly after the hotel was torn down in the late 1930's.

The [Hoolehua Post Office](#) in Hawaii is interesting for a much more pleasant reason: the [Post-a-Nut program](#)! For a small fee, you can have a hand-painted coconut with a personal message mailed from the island of Molokai to any location on the planet (within reason, of course!).

This was one of my favorite fire stations to edit because I found the architecture particularly beautiful.

Charlotte Fire Department Station 32, Charlotte, NC



<http://www.charlottefdtrucks.com/fire-stations/fire-station-32.html>

Ochopee Post Office, Ochopee, FL



<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/ochopee-post-office>

Whichever feature you find yourself editing, maybe take a little extra time to do some bonus research. You never know what you'll find!

Rachel

My favorite structure type to edit is fire stations because I love the diversity of these features with regards to their geographic dispersion throughout a large city (like in [Tulsa OK](#)), or the different architecture of each of the buildings throughout the county. In addition, fire stations are both easy and difficult depending on what area of the country they are located in. In this regard, they are both an enjoyable structure to edit and a challenge to undertake.

Introducing the TNMCOrps Structure Finder

To enhance your editing experience, we have created an [interactive web map](#) called 'Structure Finder' that will allow you to easily identify and locate points that need to be edited or peer reviewed.

How it works:

USGS
science for a changing world

The National Map Corps Structure Finder

Instructions and About

- Points that need to be edited
- Points that need to be peer-reviewed

Generate Random Point

Standard Edit

Peer Review

127 The purple circles represent clustered points. The number shown is the number of clustered points. Zoom in or click to see all of the points.

Updated in Real Time

If you are new to our interactive web maps, the 'Instructions and About' section will explain how to use the interface.

To generate a random point, click on either the 'Standard Edit' or 'Peer Review' buttons.



American Architecture

This article is the first in a three-part series detailing prominent American architectural styles. In the spirit of July 4th, we will focus on the Georgian and Federal subtypes of the colonial period, both of which were popular during the American Revolution.



Researching structures for The National Map Corps leads one to explore different regions and their cultures via map imagery and local websites. In doing so, it is easy to become intrigued by the various [phases of American architecture](#), some of which date back to the birth of our nation. And what better time to explore its history than in July!

Case in point: while researching cemeteries in [King George County, Virginia](#), we recently came across several adjacent churches whose architectures are revivals of the colonial and/or Federal styles. Examples include [Union Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery](#), [First Baptist Church Cemetery](#), [Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery](#), and [Montague Baptist Church Cemetery](#), among others.

Union Bethel Baptist Church



Another fascinating find was the [Goliad County Courthouse in Texas](#), which is of the [Beaux-Arts \(Second Empire\)](#) style.

While this list does not cover every US architectural period, some of the more prominent periods to emerge during our nation's early history include:

Colonial (1600s - 1800s)

- Georgian
- Federal
- French
- Spanish

Revival (early-1800s)

- Greek
- Italianate
- Gothic

Gilded Age (mid- to late-1800s)

- Late Victorian
- Beaux-Arts
- Arts and Crafts (early-1900s)
- 20th century Revivalism

Colonial Architecture: 1600s through 1800s

Architectural styles during the colonial period were constrained by which natural resources and tools were available. Due to [resource availability and transport difficulties](#), brick was used for more prominent buildings inside the city, while residential and/or rural structures were predominantly wood. For ease of construction, most of the structures dating to this time period consisted of a square and/or rectangular floor plan, were wood frame with a high pitched roof, and had a single chimney. Windows were double-hung and evenly spaced with leaded glass encasements.

American Architecture (Continued)

Prime examples of some of the first colonial wood structures include the [Paul Revere house](#) in Boston (c1680), and the [Old Jail](#) (c1690) in Barnstable.



Samantha Doering

Paul Revere House



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/86/Old_Jail_Barnstable_MA_2014.jpg/250px-Old_Jail_Barnstable_MA_2014.jpg

Old Jail



<http://cdn.loc.gov/service/pp/habshaer/ma/ma0900/ma0961/photos/073762pr.jpg>

Georgian Style: 1700-1830

Georgian style architecture was named for the four British monarchs (i.e., Kings George I, II, III, and IV) who ruled England successively from 1714 to 1830. Most of the structures erected in America during this period borrowed design elements from British architecture. Characteristics of Georgian architecture include gabled entrances, a symmetrical design with a centrally located front door, and vertically aligned windows of equal size. Buildings were either made entirely of brick, or consisted of a wood frame with wooden clapboard siding. Floorplans were commonly wide yet shallow rectangles designed to give the house a stately impression from a distance. Ornamentation included columns and pilasters topped by pediments.

[Gunston Hall](#) in Virginia is a perfect, though somewhat more luxurious, example of Georgian architecture. It was the home of [George Mason](#), crafter of the Declaration of Rights for the newly formed state of Virginia.



<http://www.gunstonhall.org/>

American Architecture (Continued)

Federal Style: 1780-1840

With the American Revolution coming to an end, a new nation was emerging and was faced with forming its own identity. As a result, buildings erected during this time started to deviate from styles associated with British rulers. Architects instead [looked to the “ancient democracies of Greece and the republican values of Rome”](#) for inspiration.

[Federal style architecture](#) soon emerged as the simpler successor to Georgian style architecture. Federal style structures were typically rectangular with planar rooflines and flat facades lacking the pilasters and dormers that characterized Georgian style buildings. Federal style facades relied upon window shutters and the building’s symmetry for accents, although [swags, garlands, and urns](#) were popular ornamentation. Curved projections (i.e. curved corner rooms) were another common trait found on more elaborate Federal style facades. Historic preservationists point to the elliptical fan light over the front door as an easy way to differentiate between Georgian and Federal styles.

Images from left to right: [Adelphi School \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#), [Old City Hall \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#), and Thomas Jefferson’s [Monticello \(Charlottesville, VA\)](#) are good examples of Federal style architecture. Note [Adelphi School’s simple facade](#) and [Old City Hall’s fan light by the roofline above the main entrance](#).



Adelphi School was one of the first schools in Philadelphia’s school district and the Old City Hall housed the U.S. Supreme Court from the late 1700s until the nation’s capital relocated to Washington, D.C. [Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello](#) is home to the [Monticello Graveyard](#) and [Jefferson Tomb](#), both of which are features in [The National Map](#). Design elements of his [Monticello](#) residence include fan lights and curved projections.

Famous architects of the Federal Period include Thomas Jefferson and Pierre L’Enfant. [Thomas Jefferson](#) is one of our nation’s founding fathers who [aided in the design](#) of both the U.S. Capitol and the White House.

[Pierre L’Enfant](#) is famous for designing the urban layout of our newly-formed nation’s federal district (aka Washington D.C.). L’Enfant was also the architect of the original [Federal Hall](#) in New York City, which went on to host the 1st United States Congress. It was also the location where George Washington was sworn in as president.



Where Are These Buildings Today?

While researching structures for The National Map Corps, you might not come across too many structures that are still active and occupy Georgian and/or Colonial style buildings. Two hundred years ago, courthouses, schools, and cemetery grounds exhibited this architecture style abundantly, but as noted above, most of these buildings were made of wood and easily succumbed to fire and/or decay. However, remnants of these architecture styles can still be found in communities preserved as private museums and/or national parks.

Up Next - Revival Styles: Greek (1825-1860), Italianate (1840-1885), and Gothic (1830-1860)

Aerial Photo Interpretation Part 6: Ambulance Services

This article is the 6th in a series of newsletter articles highlighting aerial photo interpretation for different structure types. This month we will focus on Ambulance Services.

Check out our past [newsletters](#) for the other articles in this series:

[September 2017](#) - Part 1: Cemeteries

[November 2017](#) - Part 2: Post Offices

[January 2018](#) - Part 3: Fire Stations and EMS

[March 2018](#) - Part 4: Prisons / Correctional Facilities

[May 2018](#) - Part 5: Hospitals

You may not realize it, but every time you participate in TNMCorps you are conducting aerial photo interpretation. This part of the process of editing structures can be quite fun and interesting. In order to identify the correct building associated with a structure point, you must do a little bit of detective work by searching for clues in the imagery. You may be an expert at this, or you may be new to it. Either way, here are some helpful tips and tricks for interpreting the aerial photography background layers and identifying building types.

Ambulance Services

Ambulance services can be some of the most difficult structures to identify using aerial imagery alone. Unlike [hospitals](#) or [fire stations](#), ambulance services often lack distinct structural details, making them much more challenging to distinguish from non-ambulance services buildings. They often appear to be large square or rectangular warehouses, with ambulances occasionally parked outside. But since there is a high level of variation in the appearance of ambulance services structures, we strongly encourage you to do additional [research](#) to verify that a building actually houses an ambulance service.

The following tips may help you identify the correct ambulance building, but keep in mind that they are not hard and fast rules. As always, before editing this structure type, make sure you've reviewed the [structures definition table](#) to find out what we do and don't collect as ambulance features.

Building Shape

Ambulance services buildings are often square or rectangular, and frequently appear to be warehouses in the imagery.



Leaflet | Powered by Esri | ESRI Imagery

Aerial Photo Interpretation Part 6 (Continued)

This one has it all: a rectangular warehouse style building, large paved parking area, and ambulance trucks parked outside



Large paved area next to or surrounding the building



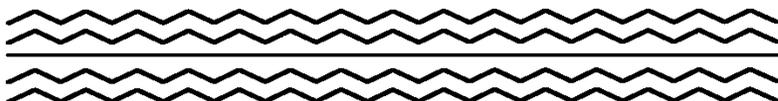
On-the-ground or 3D imagery can be used to reveal garage doors, which is a good indicator that the building is used to store ambulances.

Ambulance trucks parked outside



The symbol on this truck matches the one shown in an image from this company's official website.

Sometimes the name or symbol of the company can be seen on the top of the ambulances.



Reminder: Reach Out!



Don't forget that we're here to help and we love hearing from our volunteers!

Whether you're a new editor with lots of questions, or a seasoned volunteer who just hasn't heard from us in a while, please feel free to reach out.

We don't always have immediate answers or solutions to your inquiries, but we work hard to make sure you feel heard and that your concerns are addressed. To get in touch, send a message to nationalmapcorps@usgs.gov.

Send us a message if:

- ✓ You'd like us to do another quality check of your data to make sure you're still on track
- ✓ We made changes to one of your edits and you'd like to know why
- ✓ You have any questions or concerns
- ✓ You have a story or photo to share
- ✓ We've made a mistake that needs to be corrected
- ✓ You have feedback for us regarding any aspect of The National Map Corps
- ✓ You just feel like getting in touch or saying hello

TNMCORPS Puzzle

In anticipation of our new courthouse badges soon to be released, meddle through this month's puzzle to see if you can guess the titles of these badges!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
				3				25			16		22				2								

<u>L</u>	<u>N</u>																									
16	9	22	24			17	5			16	25	12	3	2	13	8				2	25	22	21		17	5

				<u>I</u>	<u>E</u>					<u>N</u>										<u>E</u>					<u>E</u>	<u>L</u>	
15	18	23	13	25	1	3				12	9	22	24		17	5			13	7	3		21	9	19	3	16

				<u>I</u>	<u>E</u>															<u>R</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>E</u>				<u>R</u>	
				23	18	25	13	3		17	5			23	18	6	2	3	10	3			1	17	18	2	13

TNMCORPS Team Corner



It has been a while since we've had any team news, but we figured we should let everyone know that as of May, Erin Korris is officially the team lead for TNMCORPS! As some of our volunteers may be aware, our former team lead, Elizabeth McCartney, left TNMCORPS in early 2017 to work in another part of our organization. We miss working directly with her, but luckily we still get to draw on her project wisdom from time to time. Since her departure, Erin has been the acting project lead, and it's finally official! Having worked on TNMCORPS since the beginning of its [rebirth](#) in 2010, she is thrilled to now be at the helm. Erin loves TNMCORPS and especially wants to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who make it a success!

New Recognition Category Members



Squadron of Biplane Spectators
(6000-6999)



Ring of Reconnaissance Rocketeers
(5000-5999)



Family of Floating Photogrammetrists
(3000-3999)



Flock of Winged Witnesses
(4000-4999)



Theodolite Assemblage (2000-2999)



Alidade Alliance (1000-1999)



Stadia Board Society (500-999)



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

- Birdman03
- calijarjar

- Birdman03
- calijarjar

- rsullivan1210
- Rose Luzader



Pedometer Posse (100-199)

- Birdman03
- Serendipitous
- calijarjar

- rsullivan1210
- Rose Luzader
- pi24



Society of the Steel Tape (50-99)

- Birdman03
- Cgibson
- Serendipitous
- Sharon Fighter
- Trevor Laureys

- checox
- Rose Luzader
- calijarjar
- rsullivan1210
- Morrilton
Pathfinders

- jpramuk
- pi24
- TexasNavy78
- stuart



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

- Aj Limore
- Birdman03
- MiriamMichel
- Sharon Fighter
- Serendipitous
- Skyliner
- checox
- rchlmrtn
- theJordanabides54

- rsullivan1210
- Jawfish147
- calijarjar
- Morrilton
Pathfinders
- pi24
- stuart
- AnneG

- Rose Luzader
- Samuel
- jpramuk
- thegridexe
- CourtK
- johngaul
- Erickaevp14
- matthew-belanger

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.

