

## RESEARCHING SITES

The *Kappe Library Guides* identify general resources on broad topics to help researchers begin their work. Individual projects and practitioners are avoided; guides, indexes and general introductions are preferred to specialized works.

Book citations that include a call number can be found at the Kappe Library; other books are identified by author, title and date. Magazine articles are selected from the *Avery Index* and the *Art Index* databases; to identify which are available at the Kappe Library, see the *Periodicals In the Collection* reference.

Web versions of this and all other Guides are available at <http://www.sciarc.edu/v5/aboutarch/lrg.php> and <http://sciportal.sciarc.edu> Submit questions and suggestions to the library manager directly at [kevin@sciarc.edu](mailto:kevin@sciarc.edu)

## NOTE

This *Guide* recommends sources of information about sites, with an emphasis on Southern California.

For geography and cartography, see *Guide #42*, "Geography, Cartography & GIS."

For general principles of geology, water and climate see *Guide #66*, "Earth Sciences."

## RESEARCHING SITES A - Z:

## AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

- Navigate L.A., <http://navigatela.lacity.org> (Downloadable aerial photos, substructure and topo maps)
- TerraServer (Compaq, Microsoft & USGS), <http://www.terraserver.com> (Online vendor of aerial & satellite photos)
- USGS Earth Resources Observation Systems, <http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/> (Links to photos, maps and other data)
- USGS Photofinder, [http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/Webglis/glisbin/finder\\_main.pl?dataset\\_name=NAPP](http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/Webglis/glisbin/finder_main.pl?dataset_name=NAPP)

## CULTURAL LIFE

- American Religion Data Archive, <http://www.arda.tm/> (Quantitative data by city)
- Best Places, <http://www.bestplaces.net/> Zip-code searchable quantitative data.
- CIA World Factbook, <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/> (Concise data and assessments of countries)
- City Search, <http://www.citysearch.com> (Zip-code based database of businesses)
- Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names on line, [http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting\\_research/vocabularies/tgn/](http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/tgn/)
- Google Regional directory, <http://directory.google.com/Top/Regional/>
- Google Travel Guides directory, [http://directory.google.com/Top/Recreation/Travel/Guides\\_and\\_Directories/](http://directory.google.com/Top/Recreation/Travel/Guides_and_Directories/)
- Restaurants.com, <http://www.restaurants.com/> Zip-code searchable.
- Yahoo Holidays, [http://dir.yahoo.com/Society\\_and\\_Culture/Holidays\\_and\\_Observances/By\\_Country\\_and\\_Region/](http://dir.yahoo.com/Society_and_Culture/Holidays_and_Observances/By_Country_and_Region/)

## DEMOGRAPHICS

- Allen & Turner, *Ethnic Quilt: Population Diversity in Southern California*, Office-F867.A45 1997 (1990 census data)
- American Factfinder, [http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?\\_lang=en](http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en) (U.S. Census Bureau interface)
- California Geographical Survey (Cal State, Northridge), <http://130.166.124.2/> (Maps and census data)
- Census Profiles / L.A. County, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/06/06037.html>
- Council of European Social Science Data, <http://dasun3.essex.ac.uk/Cessda/IDC/>
- County and City Data Books, <http://fisher.lib.Virginia.EDU/ccdb/> (Convenient collection of U.S. data)
- Demographic Surveys of Los Angeles, Electronic Map Library (Cal State Northridge), [http://130.166.124.2/LA\\_1.html](http://130.166.124.2/LA_1.html)
- Migration Information Source, <http://www.migrationinformation.org/GlobalData/> (By country)
- Steel, *The People Atlas*, GN333.S84 1991
- WWW Virtual Library—Demography & population studies, <http://demography.anu.edu.au/VirtualLibrary/>

## ECONOMICS

- Alta Plana: International Economics Gateway, <http://altaplana.com/gate.html> (Links to resources)
- City of Los Angeles Economic and Demographic Information, <http://www.cityofla.org/CAO/econdemo.htm>
- EuroStat, [http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?\\_pageid=1090,1137397&\\_dad=portal&\\_schema=PORTAL](http://epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/portal/page?_pageid=1090,1137397&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)
- Stat-USA, <http://www.stat-usa.gov/> (U.S. Department of Commerce)
- Statistical Data Locators, <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/lib/stat/statdata.htm> (Links to regional resources, especially Asia)
- Thomas Register of American Manufacturers, <http://www.thomasregister.com/>

U.S Regional Economic Accounts, <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/data.htm>  
WebEc, <http://www.helsinki.fi/WebEc/webecc8d.html> (Trade resources)

#### EXISTING STRUCTURES.

Burns, *Recording Historic Structures*, CC135.R4 1989  
Los Angeles Building & Safety Records, [http://www.lacity.org/LADBS/permits/bldg\\_permit\\_records.htm](http://www.lacity.org/LADBS/permits/bldg_permit_records.htm)  
Santa Monica Building & Safety, <http://pen.ci.santa-monica.ca.us/planning/buildingsafety/buildingcomm.html>  
Sanborn Maps, <http://search3.webfeat.org/la.html> . Sanborns are the standard source of building footprint maps. You can download gif-format files of California Sanborns via this LA Public Library website. You need your library card i.d. number to access. For non-California Sanborns, , <http://www.edrnet.com/>

#### GOVERNMENT, LAWS & POLITICS

Los Angeles Interactive city maps, <http://lacity.org/lacity197.htm>  
Los Angeles Parcel profile report, <http://www.permitla.org/parcel/>  
California Government homepage, <http://www.ca.gov>  
City of Los Angeles, <http://www.ci.la.ca.us> (Official homepage)  
Election World, <http://www.electionworld.org>. (News on upcoming elections worldwide)  
First Gov, <http://www.firstgov.gov/> (Directory of U.S. government internet resources)  
Los Angeles County homepage, <http://lacounty.info>  
Munisource, <http://www.munisource.org/> (Directory of international municipal government sites)

#### HISTORY

American Local history Network, <http://www.alhn.org/>  
Beck et. al., *Historical Atlas of the American West*, G1381.WS1B4 1989  
Google Regional History links, [http://directory.google.com/Top/Society/History/By\\_Region/](http://directory.google.com/Top/Society/History/By_Region/)  
Southern California Genealogical links, <http://www.scsgenealogy.com/links.html>  
Los Angeles Almanac, <http://www.losangelesalmanac.com/topics/history/#Headline%20History>  
O'Brien, *The Oxford Atlas of World History*, Reference-G1030.O94 1999  
Online archive of California, <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/>

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <http://www.bts.gov/> (U.S.)  
California Dept of Transportation (CalTrans), <http://www.dot.ca.gov/>  
Center for Land Use Interpretation, <http://www.clui.org/> (Organizes exhibits, trips to natural and manmade landscapes)  
Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power, <http://www.ladwp.com>  
Los Angeles Police Dept, <http://www.lapdonline.org/> (News section)  
The Police Officer's Internet Directory, <http://www.officer.com/> (International links)  
U.S. Highway System, <http://www.us-highways.com/us1830.htm> (History)  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District, <http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/>  
Western Interstate Energy Board, <http://www.westgov.org/wieb/>  
Western States Water Council, <http://www.westgov.org/wswc/>

#### MAPS

California Geographical Survey (Cal State, Northridge), <http://130.166.124.2/> (Free, downloadable)  
California Map & Travel, 3312 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-396-6277, <http://www.mapper.com/>  
Cartographic Resources, <http://oddens.geog.uu.nl/index.html> (Exhaustive links to maps & map-making resources)  
The Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies, <http://www.cast.uark.edu/local/hunt/> (Links to free U.S. geospatial data)  
City of L.A online map links., <http://www.lacity.org/lacity197.htm>  
DeLorme, <http://www.delorme.com/> (Maps, software, consumer GPS)  
Google Land surveying links, [http://directory.google.com/Top/Science/Earth\\_Sciences/Geomatics/Land\\_Surveying/](http://directory.google.com/Top/Science/Earth_Sciences/Geomatics/Land_Surveying/)  
Land Surveyor Reference Page map links, <http://www.lsrp.com/maps.html>  
National Geographic Society, <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/resources/ngo/maps/> (Topo & thematic maps)  
Navigate L.A., <http://navigatela.lacity.org> (Downloadable aerial photos, substructure and topo maps)  
*The Oxford Atlas of the World*, Reference-G1021.A7545 1993  
Thomas Bros. Maps, <http://www.thomas.com/> (Also a retail outlet next to the Biltmore Hotel, 521 6<sup>th</sup> Street, 213-627-4018)  
UCLA Urban Simulation Team, <http://www.ust.ucla.edu/ustweb/projects.html> (3-d rendering project)  
U.S. Federal & State Spatial Data Site, <http://home.earthlink.net/~rpmfonet/spatial.html>  
USGS Store, <http://store.usgs.gov/> (Click Enter USGS Store. Then click Map Locator.)

#### GEOLOGICAL

Digital Elevation Models by State, [http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/glis/hyper/guide/1\\_dgr\\_demfig/states.html](http://edcwww.cr.usgs.gov/glis/hyper/guide/1_dgr_demfig/states.html) (U.S. only)  
Icemaps2, <http://icemaps.des.ucdavis.edu/icemaps2/> (California only)  
Southern California Aerial Mapping Project, <http://scamp.wr.usgs.gov/> (Free)  
Tiger/Line Digital Map Bases, <http://geogdata.csun.edu/cart.html> (U.S. only)  
Topographic Data, <http://www-socal.wr.usgs.gov/north/topo.html> (Digital Elevation Models (DEM)s for So Cal)

#### POLITICAL

*The Oxford Atlas of the World*, Reference-G1021.A7545 1993

#### STREET MAPS

Mapquest, <http://www.mapquest.com/> (Map engine)  
World City Maps, [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Map\\_collection/world\\_cities.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Map_collection/world_cities.html)

#### METHODOLOGY

Babbie, *Basics of Social Research*, H62.B18 1999  
Denscombe, *Good Research Guide: for Small-Scale Social Research Projects*, 1998  
De Tombe, *Analyzing Complex Societal Problems: a Methodological Approach*, 1996  
Katzer, *Evaluating Information: a Guide for Users of Social Science Research*, 4<sup>th</sup>, 1998  
Monmonier, *How to Lie with Maps*, G108.7.M66 1991  
Vogt, *Dictionary of Statistics & Methodology : a Nontechnical Guide for the Social Sciences*, HA17.V64 1998  
Warren, *Studying Your Community*, HN29.W39

#### NATURAL RESOURCES

Cal Flora, <http://www.calflora.org> (Extensive database with species info. Free trial registration.)  
California Environmental Resources Evaluation System (CERES), <http://ceres.ca.gov/index.html>  
Environmental Protection Agency community info, <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/commsearch.htm> (Zip-code search)  
GeoGuide, <http://www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/ssgfi/geo/> (Earth sciences links)  
National Weather Service, <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/>  
On-line Soil Survey Information, [http://www.itc.nl/~rossiter/research/rsrch\\_ss\\_digital.html](http://www.itc.nl/~rossiter/research/rsrch_ss_digital.html)  
Patriak, *Handbook of Environmental Analysis*, TD193.P38 1996

#### NEWS

Google News directory, <http://directory.google.com/Top/News/Regional/>  
Online Newspapers, <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/>  
Yahoo News directory, [http://dir.yahoo.com/News\\_and\\_Media/By\\_Region/](http://dir.yahoo.com/News_and_Media/By_Region/)

#### SITE ANALYSIS

Dines, *Time-Saver Standards: Site Construction Details Manual*, 1999  
EPA Environmental Test Methods & Guidelines, <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/Standards.html>  
Lefavre & Tzonis, "Kevin Lynch and the Cognitive Theory of the City," *Design Book Review*, no. 26, Fall 1992  
Lynch, *Managing the Sense of a Region*, HT392.L95 1976  
Lynch, *Site Planning*, NA2540.5.L9 1984  
Rubenstein, *A Guide to Site Planning and Landscape Construction*, 1996  
Talarico, "Evaluating Hidden Site Conditions," *Architectural Record*, May 1998

#### SITES IN ART, FICTION, MOVIES, ETC.

Looking for representations of your site in art? Search catalogs, the Internet and indexes by searching with phrases like:

SITE NAME in art  
SITE NAME in folklore  
SITE NAME in literature  
SITE NAME in music

The Internet Movie Database, <http://www.imdb.com/> is a searchable database of credits, plots & data on an extraordinary range of movies. Use your keywords to search for movies that are about, from or have something to do with your topic.  
Barnes & Noble, <http://www.barnesandnoble.com> Use the book browser to search your keyword in Novels and Poetry.  
Los Angeles Public Library's California Fiction Index, <http://dbase1.lapl.org/pages/calfic.htm> Searchable index of novels, stories and other fiction related to specific California cities and neighborhoods. [10/19/04]