



National Map Editor

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Introduction

I spent time volunteering with the United States Geological Survey editing the National Map. I started as an editor and later a peer reviewer, the lower levels in the multi step process to verify information on the map. Learning some of the process it takes to maintain an online database like an online map. This was done virtually so my hours were flexible, and I would do my work through logging into my account so my work could be monitored.

Activities:

Find sites on the national map that were either unedited or incorrect. If they were unedited, I would verify the information by finding some type of official site of theirs., normally more than one source to verify, for example an official website and Facebook page. If it was incorrect, I would either correct the information if it was an actual desired site or delete it if it was a repeat or if there is evidence that building is not one of the desired building. I started out as a standard editor but after doing enough sites I was made a peer editor where I would verify the sites edited by other editors.

Impact:

I made nearly 250 edits on the national map that can now be seen on the website, so the quality of information on the map has improved. Making the map more accurate by adding the right information for sites and removing some that were incorrect. Through this experience I learned some of the work it takes to keep an online database like a map up to date, and all the different levels it takes to verify and keep information up to date. This was good experience for working on any body of information on the internet.

Name
Oakland Elementary School

GNIS ID
[Empty field]

Address 1
2415 East Brockton Avenue

Address 2
[Empty field]

City
Royal Oak

State
MI

Zip-code
48067

Comment
[Empty field]

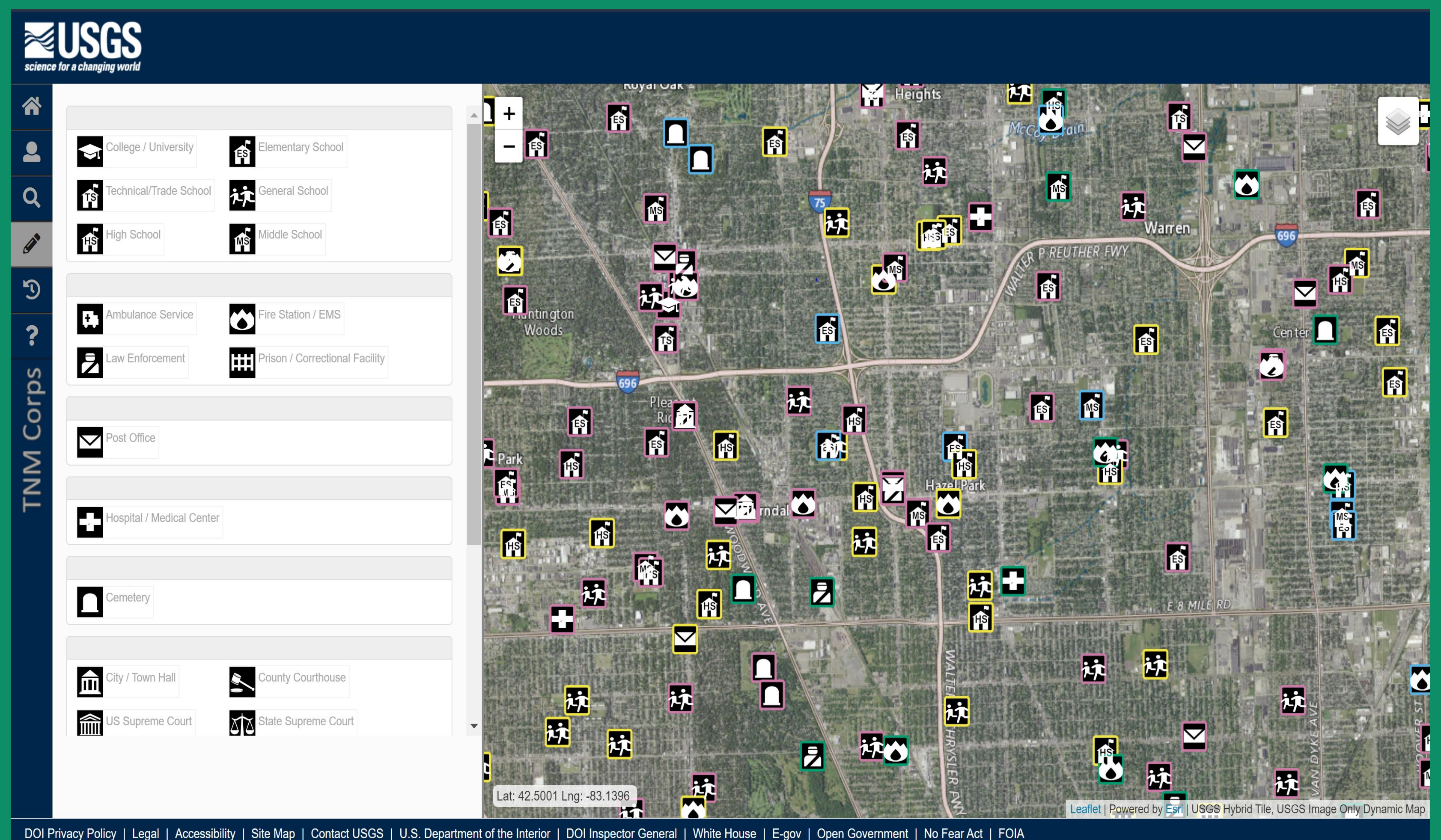
These are the information needed to be filled out and verified for each site.

Site Information:

Worked online from home
Supervisor: Emily Anderson
Site goal: Keeping information up to date

Issues Confronting Site:

The issue that I was confronting was the maintaining of a map database. There is a lot of information being uploaded to the map either by people or the computer and some how all that information needs to be verified through multiple steps. I was one of the people verifying such information making sure things weren't incorrectly added and nothing was missing.



This is what the map zoomed out looked like. On the left is the key of the desired sites they want added. The map has the icons on the building, where brown is unedited, green is edited, blue is peer reviewed, pink advanced edited, and yellow approved.

Future Work:

When you are dealing with a database of this much information there is always more edits to be made. Especially since buildings like schools and fire/police departments are prone to be closed or moved. The future work would be to keep the map update and continue to verify the unedited information across the country.

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