



Couch Historian Ep. 3: Fun With Historical Maps

Answer Key

1) What town is located in Township 9S, Range 1W?

Stayton, Oregon! Have trouble getting there? Try searching for the code "09S01W" and then switch the basemap from the satellite imagery to the street map option.

2) In which Township, Range and Section(s) was the landclaim of Joseph and Angelica Gervais

Township 05 S, Range 03 W, sections 25, 26, 35, 36.

3) What can you tell about what the landscape on Lorenzo A. Bird's landclaim in 1852 looked like?

The 1852 map (found after locating Lorenzo's landclaim by clicking on Related Documents and then Surveys – click "Plat Map" to open the map itself. You may need to scroll down to the bottom and select "Basic Viewer" if it doesn't load right away) outlines that section 18 and 19 of 5S02W had a "mirey swamp or slough." It also had Fir, Oak and Ash trees on it.

4) On what modern Salem street/road is the NW corner of I.N.Gilbert's Donation Landclaim on?

Sunnyview Road NE, just west of its intersection with Evergreen Avenue NE. How did we get there? First we used the BLM GLO records to look up the Township, Range and Section of I.N. Gilbert's Donation Landclaim. Then we looked at the related documents and selected "surveys" to see how the property sat in Section 24. Then we started guessing and checking in Section 24 on the ORMAP. We got to that area by first searching for 07S03W and then scrolling over to the far right side and zooming in until we could see maps with the prefix 0703W24. We could see the corner in the map 073W24BB, but could only see the name of the street next to it in 073W24BA.

4) Can you find your house on ORMAP and look for Donation Land Claim corners near you? Did you find one?!?