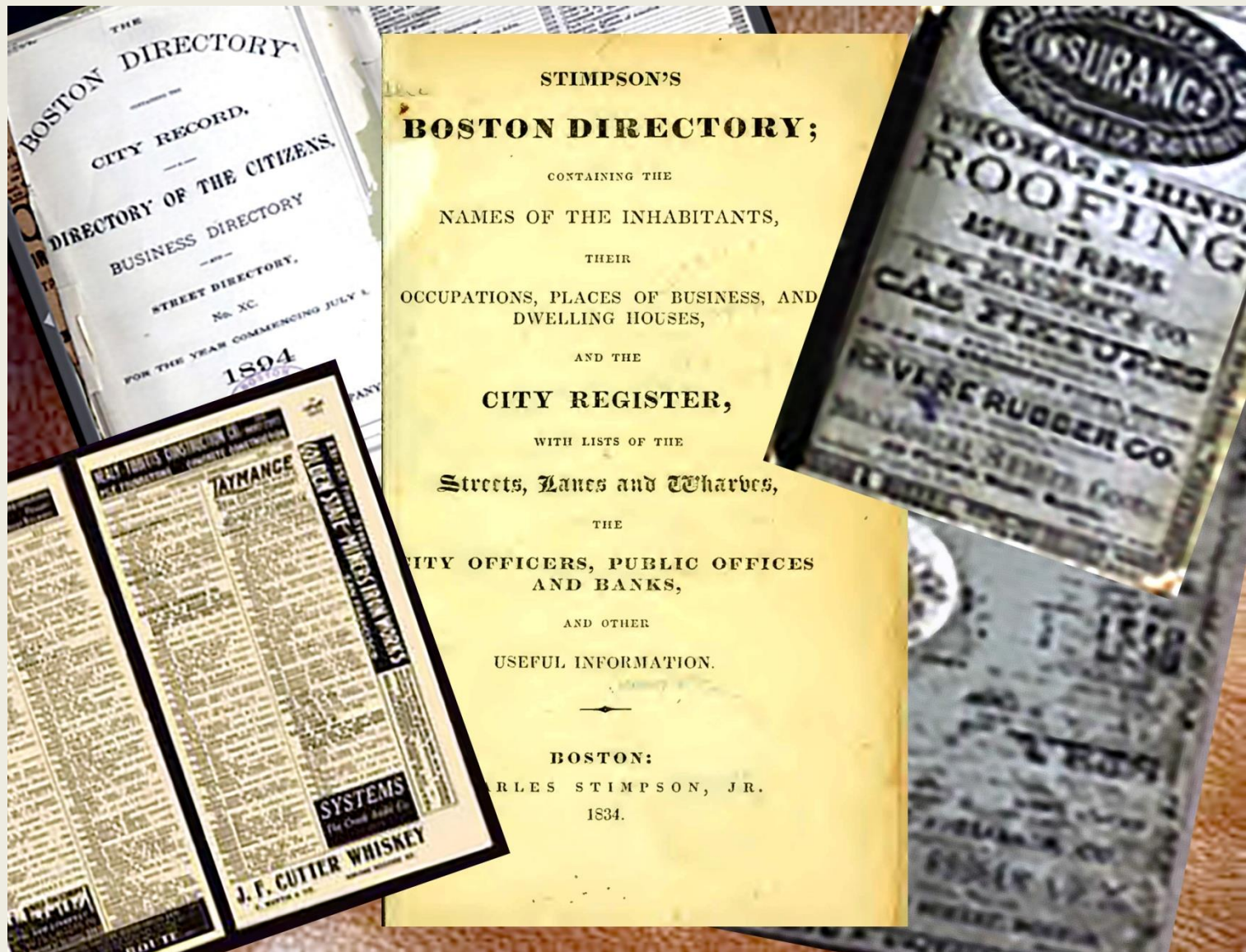


Researching City Directories



City Directories for Genealogy

- City directories date back to around 1752 in the United States
- Gives insight into your ancestor's community, often including sections on neighborhood churches, cemeteries, and hospitals, plus organizations, clubs, associations, and societies.

Why Use Directories

- Helpful for research in large cities, where a high percentage of the people were renters, new arrivals, or temporary residents.
- Is a source to help identify an ancestor who was not registered to vote and did not own property.
- Learn the exact years your ancestor inhabited a place.
- Locate ancestor in a census that hasn't been indexed (esp. state census).
- Estimate year of immigration.
- Learn occupation and employer as identifiers
- Find other family members – useful to pinpoint possible DNA matches.

Information Often Found in City Directories

- Name and occupation of head of household (often men and female widows; later single employed females)
- Name of spouse (often in parentheses following name of husband; mid to late 19th century)
- **Sometimes** the names of children, often only those employed outside the home
- Street name and house number of residence
- Occupation
- Work address (if employed outside the home)
- A listing of names received too late for inclusion in the alphabetical portion

Abbreviations

GENERAL ABBREVIATIONS

acct	accountant	drsmkr	dressmaker	mfg	manufacturing	s or S	South
adj	adjuster	e or E	East	mfr	manufacturer	san	sanitary
admn	administrator	educ	education	mgr	manager	Sav	Savings
adv	advertising	elec	electrical or	mkr	maker	scb	school
agcy	agency	electn	electric	mldr	molder	sc	southeast
agri	agriculture	electro	electrician	mlnr	milliner	sec	secretary
agt	agent	elev	elevator	mn	man	serv	service
al	alley	emp	employee	mono	monotype	shlp	shipping
Am	American	eng	engineer	mngtr	messenger	sht mtl	sheet metal
appr	apprentice	enrg	engraver	mstr	master	als	ales
apts	apartments	equip	equipment	mtce	maintenance	smstrs	seamstress
archt	architect	es	east side	mtge	mortgage	soc	society
asmbler	assembler	exam	examiner	mtr	motorman or motor	splr	solicitor
assoc	associate	excb	exchange	mus	music	spl	special
asst	assistant	exp	express	mut	mutual	sq	square
atndt	attendant	fcy	factory	n or N	North	srtr	sorter
atty	attorney	fdry	foundry	Natl	National	es	station
aud	auditor	Fed	Federal	ne	northeast	sta	station
av	avenue	fl	floor	ns	north side	eta eng	stationary engineer
bgempn	baggageman	flshr	finisher	nw	northwest	stat	statistician or
bkbndr	bookbinder	formn	foreman	ofc	office	sten	stenographer
bkpr	bookkeeper	forwn	forewoman	opp	opposite	stereo	stereotyper
bldr	builder	ftr	freight	opr	operator	stge	storage
blk	block	ft	foot	optn	optician	stmfr	steamfitter
blksmith	blacksmith	ftr	fitter	optom	optometrist	str	setter
blmkr	boltermaker	furn	furnishing	osteo	osteopath	studd	student
blvd	boulevard	furngs	furnishings	PS	Public School	stvdr	stevordore
bmo	business machine	gdnr	gardener	PTS	Postal	sup	supply
br	branch	gds	goods	Transportation Service	passenger	supt	superintendent
brklyr	bricklayer	genl	general	pase	passenger	supvr	supervisor
brkmn	brakeman	geol	geologist	pharm	pharmacist	sw	southwest
bur	bureau	govt	government	photog	photographer	swtchmn	switchman
CSP	Christian	gro	grocer	phys	physician	sys	system
Science Practitioner		h	householder	pk	park	tehr	teacher
cabtmkr	cabinetmaker	hairdrsr	hairdresser	pk	packer	tech	technician
carp	carpenter	hdw	hardware	pkwy	parkway	tel	telephone
cash	cashier	hlpr	helper	pl	place	teleg	telegraph
chauf	chauffeur	hndlr	handler	pimb	plumber or	telev	television
chem	chemist or	hoep	hospital	plshr	polisher	ter	terrace
chemical		hq	headquarters	plstr	plasterer	tmkpr	timekeeper
chf	chief	hsekr	housekeeper	pntr	painter	tndr	tender
chk	checker	htg	heating	pres	president	tob	tobacco
cl	circle	Hts	Heights	prfrdr	proofreader	trans	transportation
cl	civil	implts	implements	prin	principal	trav	travelling
clk	clerk	ins	insurance	priv	private	treas	treasurer
cln	cleaning or cleaner	insp	inspector or	prntr	printer	trmr	trimmer
clo	clothing	insp	inspection	prod	produce	trnmn	trimman
collr	collector	instr	instructor	prof	professor	tr	tester
coml	commercial	int dec	interior	prsfdr	press feeder	typ	township
comm	commission	decorator		prsmn	pressman	typ	typist
commr	commissioner	int rev	internal revenue	prsr	preaser	USA	U S Army
comp	composer	inv	investment	ptrnmkr	patternmaker	USAF	US Air Force
condr	conductor	jan	janitor	pub	public	USCG	US Coast Guard
confr	confectioner	jwlr	jeweler	publ	publisher or	USMC	US Marine Corps
constr	construction	kpr	keeper	pureb	purchasing	USN	US Navy
contr	contractor	la	lane	r	resides or rooms	undwrt	underwriter
cor	corner	lab	laborer	R	room	Univ	University
corres	correspondent	lab	laboratory	RC	Roman Catholic	uphol	upholsterer
ct	court	lbr	lumber	RD	Rural Delivery	ret	retailer
ct	cutter	lbrn	librarian	rd	road	vulc	vulcanizer
custdn	custodian	lino	linotype	rdr	reader	w or W	West
del	delivery	lndra	landress	rec	receiving	whol	wholesale
dep	deputy	lndry	laundry	recept	receptionist	wisemn	warehouseman
dietn	dietitian	ltd	limited	refgr	refrigeration or	wid	widow
dir	director	lwy	lawyer	refgr	refrigerator	wkr	worker
dispr	dispatcher	mach	machine	rep	representative	wks	works
dist	district	mdse	merchandise	repr	repairman or	wldr	welder
dist	distributor	mech	mechanic	restr	restaurant	ws	west side
div	division	med	medical	ret	retail	wchmn	watchman
dlr	dealer	Med	Metropolitan	Rev	Reverend	ydmn	yardman
dmnstr	demonstrator	meter rdr	meter reader	rm	room	ydmstr	yardmaster
do	ditto or same						
drive	drive						
drftsmn	draftsman						

ABBREVIATIONS OF GIVEN NAMES

Abr	Abraham	Chas	Charles	Jas	James	Richd	Richard
Alex	Alexander	Danl	Daniel	Jos	Joseph	Robt	Robert
Alf	Alfred	Edw	Edward	Kath	Katherine	Saml	Samuel
Arth	Arthur	Eliz	Elizabeth	Margt	Margaret	Sol	Solomon
Aug	August	Eug	Eugene	Michl	Michael	Steph	Stephen
Benj	Benjamin	Fredk	Frederick	Nathl	Nathaniel	Theo	Theodore
Cath	Catherine	Geo	George	Patk	Patrick	Thos	Thomas
						Wm	William

What if I Can't Find My Ancestor?

- Make sure you have checked every available city directory for the time period when your ancestors were living in the area.
- Names were also often misspelled or standardized, so be sure to check name variations.
- Check for a street index.

Where to Find City Directories

- [Ancestry](#) - \$, [free at FamilySearch Centers](#), 1821-1989, dates vary by location, incomplete
- [Fold3](#) - \$, [free at FamilySearch centers](#), dates vary by location, incomplete
- [United States Online Historical Directories](#) - identifies historical city, county, business and other directories available online on both free and pay-to-access websites.
- [US City Directories](#) - identifies directories by place and gives repository and call number (incl. FHL film numbers).

Online Historical Directories

United States Online Historical Directories

Expand your research by checking out the United States Online Historical Newspapers [here](#).

Alabama	Alaska	Arizona	Arkansas	California	Colorado
Connecticut	Delaware	District of Columbia	Florida	Georgia	Hawai'i
Idaho	Illinois	Indiana	Iowa	Kansas	Kentucky
Louisiana	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota
Mississippi	Missouri	Montana	Nebraska	Nevada	New Hampshire
New Jersey	New Mexico	New York	North Carolina	North Dakota	Ohio
Oklahoma	Oregon	Pennsylvania	Rhode Island	South Carolina	South Dakota
Tennessee	Texas	Utah	Vermont	Virginia	Washington
West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming			

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MA Directories by County

Massachusetts Online Historical Directories - listed by county

Expand your research by checking out the Massachusetts Online Historical Newspapers [here](#).

Unsure of which county your city, town or village is a part? Check out RootsWeb's Town/County Locator [here](#).

Barnstable	Berkshire	Bristol	Dukes	Essex	Franklin	Hampden
Hampshire	Middlesex	Nantucket	Norfolk	Plymouth	Suffolk	Worcester

Online Historical Directories

<https://sites.google.com/site/onlinedirectorysite/>

Bristol County, Massachusetts Online Historical Directories

Expand your research by checking out the Massachusetts Online Historical Newspapers [here](#).

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson, Davenport & Co., 1880](#) - Free (Internet Archive)

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson, Davenport & Co., 1880](#) - Free (Internet Archive)

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson, Davenport & Co., 1882](#) - Free (Google Books)

[Bristol County Directory, Briggs, 1888-9](#) - Free (Google Books)

Fall River City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1905 - Free (Internet Archive)
- [Part I](#) (beginning to page 530; William LeClerc)

[Taunton City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1908](#) - Free (DistantCousin)

[Attleboro City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1911](#) - Free (DistantCousin)

[Berkley and Freetown City Directories, White, 1911](#) - Free (Don's List)
- includes Lakeville in [Plymouth County](#)

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1915](#) - Free (Internet Archive)

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1918](#) - Free (Internet Archive)

[Fall River City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1921](#) - Free (Internet Archive)

[Taunton City Directory, Sampson & Murdock, 1923](#) - Free (DistantCousin)



fall river directory



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FALL RIVER DIRECTORY.

79

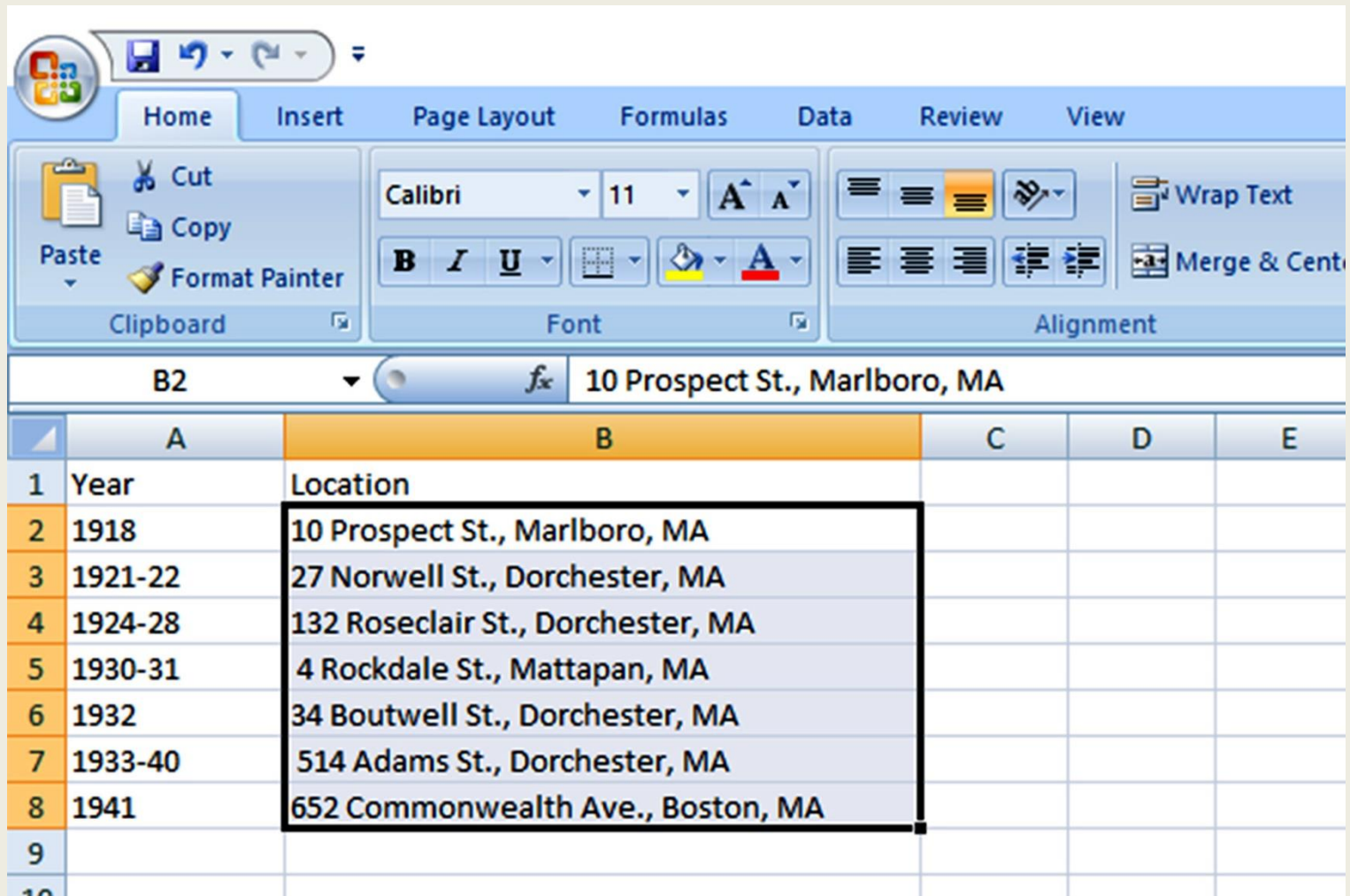
Collins Michael, laborer, house 42 William
Collins Michael, laborer, boards 2 Seabury, ward 4
Collins Patrick, laborer, house 4 Beach
Collins Richard, weaver, house 450 Pleasant
Collins Stephen D. engineer, house 8 Taylor
Collins Sylvia A. Mrs. house 21 Elm
Collins Thomas, weaver, boards 4 Wilcox avenue
Collins Thomas, laborer, house 7 Linden
Collins Thomas C. pilot, house 11 Elm
Collins Thomas E. engineer, boards 8 Taylor
Collins William, laborer, house rear 6 Freedom
Collins William, weaver, boards 4 Wilcox avenue
Collins William, teamster, house 20 Ferry
Collins William, jr. laborer, boards rear 6 Freedom
Colombe Francois, laborer, house 8 Eleventh
Colombe Ignace, weaver, boards 13 Sagamore mills block
Colombe Joseph, laborer, house 58 North Main
Colombe Pierre, house 460 North Main
Colombe Pierre, jr. laborer, house 460 North Main
Colombe Treffe, operative, boards 452 North Main
Colston Charles, butcher, house 6 Claffin
Colway John, laborer, house 54 Ferry
Comerford William, baker, house 49 Snell
Commean Joseph, operative, house 58 Robeson
Comstock Fred A. salesman, 3 Richmond, h. 14 Cambridge,
cor. Richmond
Comstock Jonathan F. & Sons, wholesale butchers, 69 Second
Comtois Catharine, widow, house 12 Unity
Conanicut Mills, C. E. Lindsey, treas., Bay, cor. Mt. Hope
CONANT PRELET D. & CO. (*J. O. Neill*), dealers in
doors, sashes, and blinds, also hardware and paints, 63
and 65 Bedford, house 173 So. Main (see page 510)
Conboy M. laborer, house 26 Read
Conboy Thomas, weaver, house rear 31 Lindsey
Conboy William, laborer, house 21 George
Condon Pierce, loom fixer, house 29 Snell
Cone M. M. L. Mrs. house 2 Franklin
Cone Oscar J. removed to Topeka, Kansas
Conefey Alice, widow, house 52 Spring
Conefey James, laborer, house 24 Seventh
CONGDON. CARPENTER. & CO.. E. E. Barney. agent.

Map Your Ancestors Homes

To get started, follow these steps:

- Open your spreadsheet
- Select and copy all your data
- Open your web browser and go to batchgeo.com
- Click on the location data box with the example data in it, then paste (Ctrl+V or Cmd+V) your own data
- Check to make sure you have the proper location data columns available by clicking "Validate and Set Options"
- Select the proper location column from each drop down
- Click "Make Map" and watch as the geocoder performs its process

Open Spreadsheet and Copy Data



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface. The ribbon is set to 'Home', and the 'Clipboard' group is visible. The data table is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Year	Location			
2	1918	10 Prospect St., Marlboro, MA			
3	1921-22	27 Norwell St., Dorchester, MA			
4	1924-28	132 Roseclair St., Dorchester, MA			
5	1930-31	4 Rockdale St., Mattapan, MA			
6	1932	34 Boutwell St., Dorchester, MA			
7	1933-40	514 Adams St., Dorchester, MA			
8	1941	652 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA			
9					
10					

Go to batchgeo.com

[make maps](#)[features](#)[pro pricing](#)[mobile](#)[support](#)[blog](#)

Paste your location data below to map it:

Example Address	City	State	Zip	Name	Phone Number	Group	URL
1 Crossgates Mall Road	Albany	NY	12203	Apple Store Cross Gates	(518) 869-3192	Example Group 1	http://www.apple.com/retail/...
Duke Rd & Walden Ave	Buffalo	NY	14225	Apple Store Walden Galleria	(716) 685-2762	Example Group 2	http://www.apple.com/retail/...
630 Old Country Rd.	Garden City	NY	11530	Apple Store Roosevelt Field	(516) 248-3347	Example Group 3	http://www.apple.com/retail/...
160 Walt Whitman Rd.	Huntington Station	NY	11746	Apple Store Walt Whitman	(631) 425-1563	Example Group 3	http://www.apple.com/retail/...

(Don't forget to include some header columns - You can also try our [Spreadsheet Template \(Excel\)](#), or hit "Map Now" and try it out with our example data.)

[Validate & Set Options](#)[Map Now](#)

Create a map:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Address	City	State	Zipcode	Name
2	1 Crossgates Mall Road	Albany	NY	12203	Apple Store Cross Gates
3	Duke Rd & Walden Ave	Buffalo	NY	14225	Apple Store Walden Galleria
4	630 Old Country Rd.	Garden City	NY	11530	Apple Store Roosevelt Field
5	160 Walt Whitman Rd.	Huntington Station	NY	11746	Apple Store Walt Whitman
6	9553 Carousell Center	Syracuse	NY	13200	Apple Store Carousell
7	2655 Richmond Ave	Staten Island	NY	10314	Apple Store Staten Island

1. Copy your data

From spreadsheets, to tables in web pages, databases—anywhere you can visualize a table with location data you can paste it into BatchGeo. If you are starting from scratch, we recommend

Basic options

Region: United States

Location / Address: Example Address

City / Country: City

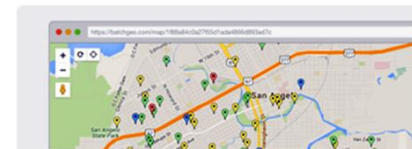
State / Province / Postcode: State

Zip / Postcode / Country: Zip

Group By / Thematic Value: Group

2. Validate & set options

We make our best guess at your intended columns like the address, city, state, zip code, or latitude / longitude. You may want to set the options yourself if you don't like the default



3. Map locations

We geocode your postcodes / addresses and make your map. It may take a few minutes depending on how many addresses you have, if you already had latitude and longitude in your data

Paste your location data below to

10 Prospect St., Marlboro, MA
27 Norwell St., Dorchester, MA
132 Roseclair St., Dorchester, MA
4 Rockdale St., Mattapan, MA
34 Boutwell St., Dorchester, MA

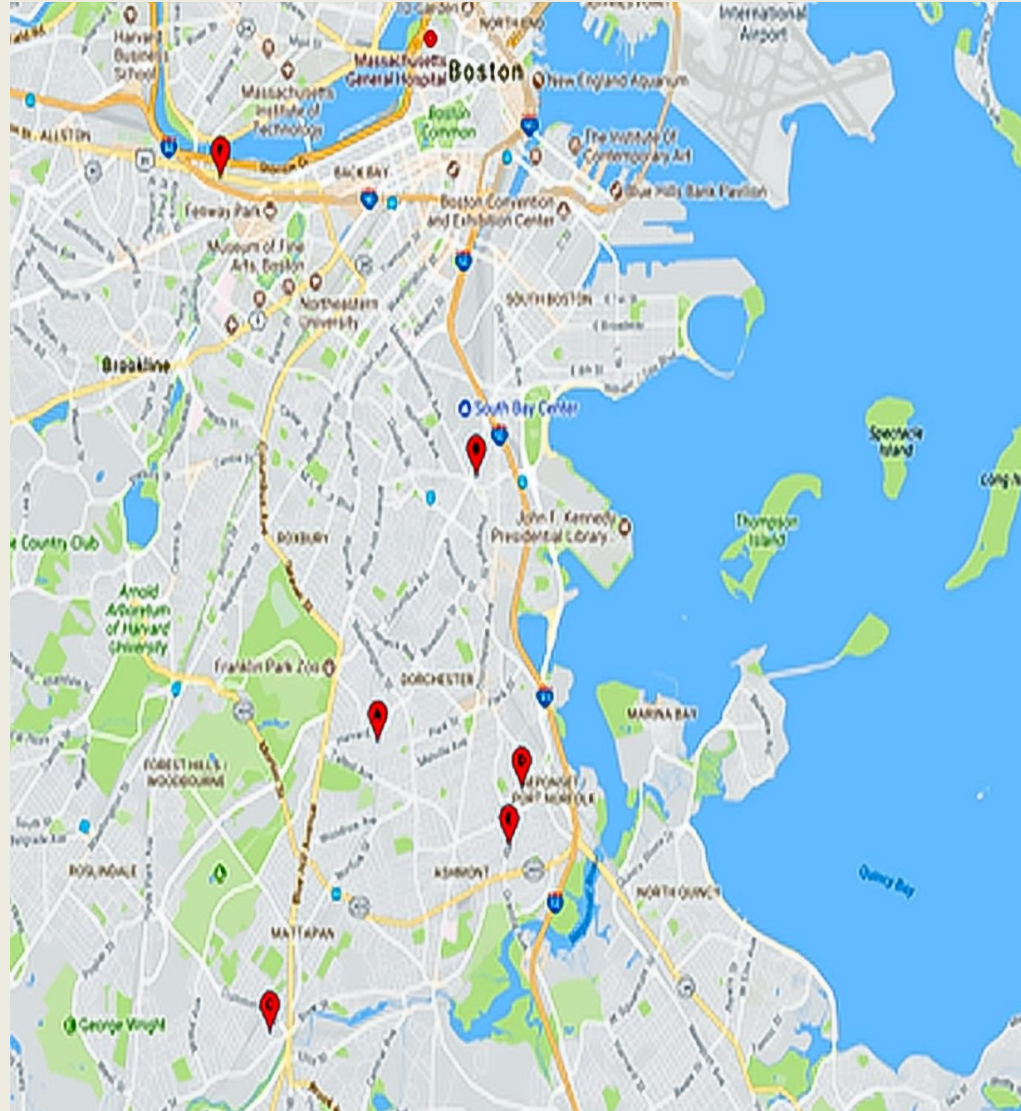
(Don't forget to include some header columns - You can also try our [Spreadsheet Template \(Excel\)](#), or hit "Map Now")

Validate & Set Options

Map Now

Hit – Map Now

Family Locations in Boston, MA



Paste your location data below to

Location
Fornaught, County Cork, Ireland
Coolmona, County Cork, Ireland
Aghabullogue, County Cork, Ireland
Blarney, County Cork, Ireland

(Don't forget to include some header columns - You can also try our [Spreadsheet Template \(Excel\)](#), or hit "Map It

Validate & Set Options

Map Now

Family Locations in Co Cork Ireland

Geocoded 5 records.

See your map below. If you find any markers out of place - just drag and drop them to the correct location.

