

Mapping Alchemy for Genealogists

by
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Whether we're in an unfamiliar location or working out the best route to our destination, maps help us navigate – and that's particularly true in our family history research.

In this session, I'll hope to persuade you that maps really can be genealogical gold!

Focusing on my Outlier Method and Ancestral Walks techniques, we'll unite historical maps with historical records in order to spot research errors, separate out namesakes, understand our ancestors & bring their worlds to life, all using freely available, historical Ordnance Survey maps.

Examples will focus on U.K. towns for the period 1800-1950, but these methods can be applied to any place or era where suitable maps and address data are available.

From DNA to historical maps, from research methods to historical occupations, Dr. Sophie Kay is a professional genealogist and geneticist at Khronicle® (www.khronicle.co.uk) who loves all manner of family history research challenges.

She's the Ancestry and Genealogy Expert for popular archaeology show, Time Team; the specialist DNA Tutor for the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies; and teaches courses in historical mapping techniques and research methodology at Pharos Tutors.

She's also a Member of AGRA, a UK organisation of professional family historians.

Sophie also writes a family history blog, The Parchment Rustler (www.parchmentrustler.com), where she shares tips, tricks and strategies for making the most of your ancestral research journey.