# Panel IV Mining and Mine Maps on the Web

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West Virginia Office of Miners' Health Safety and Training

#### West Virginia Mine Map Archives

The Coal Industry of West Virginia is nearly 150 years old. It is estimated that over those years, thousands of mines were abandoned in West Virginia. In many cases very little information was compiled regarding these mines. As early as 1883 Mine Maps were required to be "furnished" to the inspector, however there was no law providing for the maps to be maintained. When a mine was abandoned, it was forgotten. No one considered the future problems that the abandoned mines could create.



(Sample mine map of the Layland Mines in 1915)

The first real indication of abandoned mines presenting a problem was the Hominy Falls disaster of May 6, 1968.

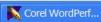


(Photo of Hominy Falls Recovery Operations.)

Four miners of the Gauley Coal and Coke Co., No. 8 mine died as a result of a mining crew cutting into unknown, adjacent, abandoned mine workings filled with water. The resulting inundation, drowned the four miners and trapped many others. Immediately following this disaster laws were passed establishing the "Mine Map Archives". Both the Federal Government and the West Virginia Legislature passed laws regulating the preservation of mine maps. In West Virginia, this law (22A-2-1) requires all mining operators to submit to the West Virginia Office of Miners' Health Safety and Training a final, certified map of their operation. Further it requires the maintenance of maps in a fire-proof vault and required the establishment of an indexing and microfilming system.



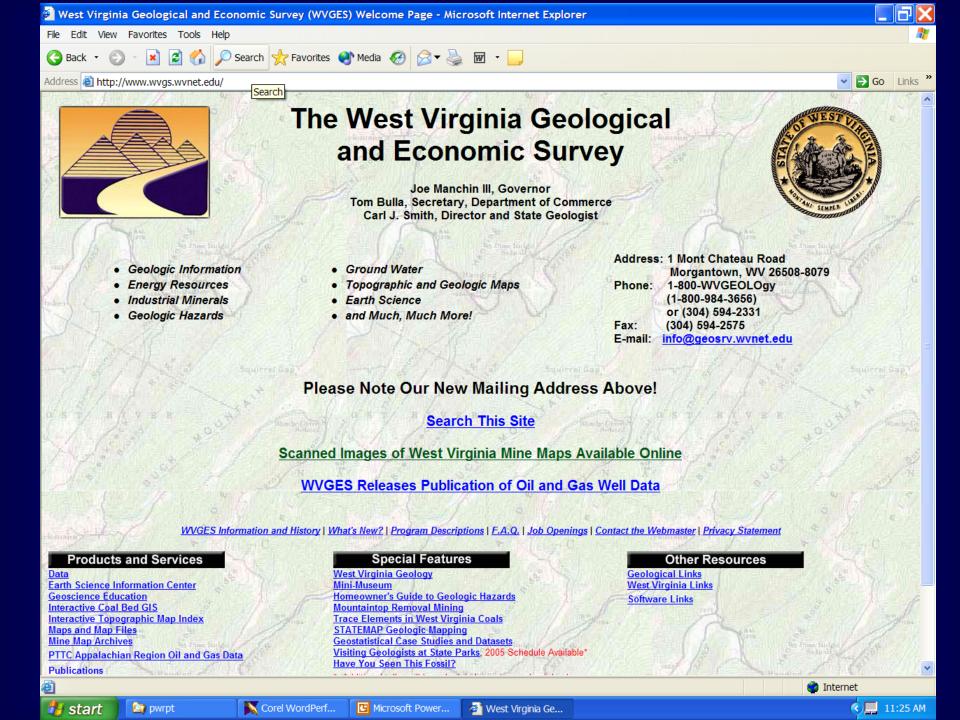


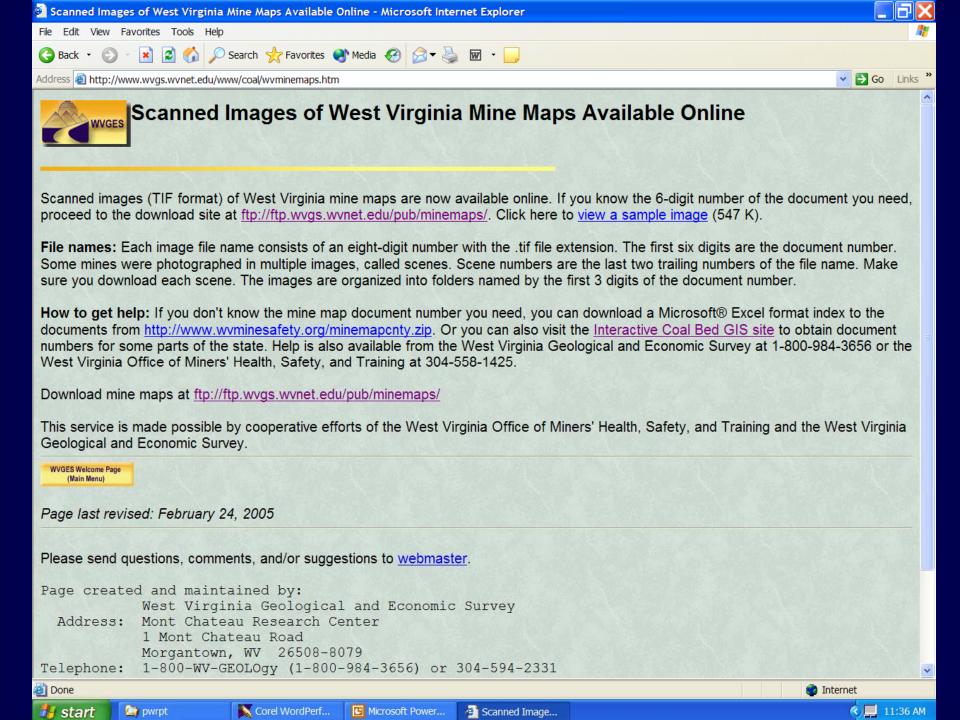


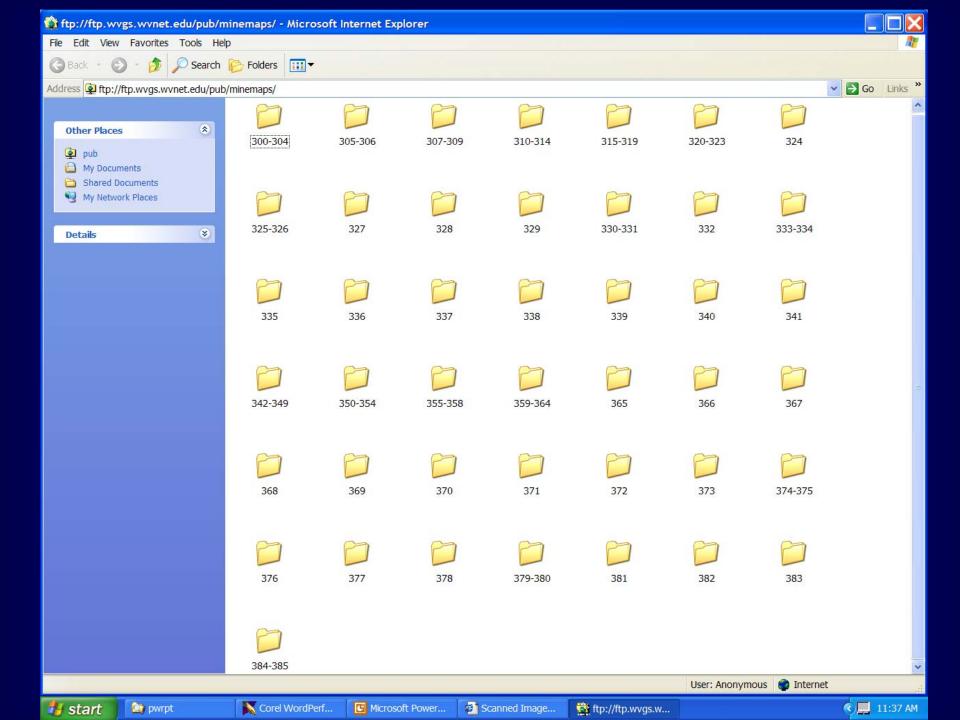






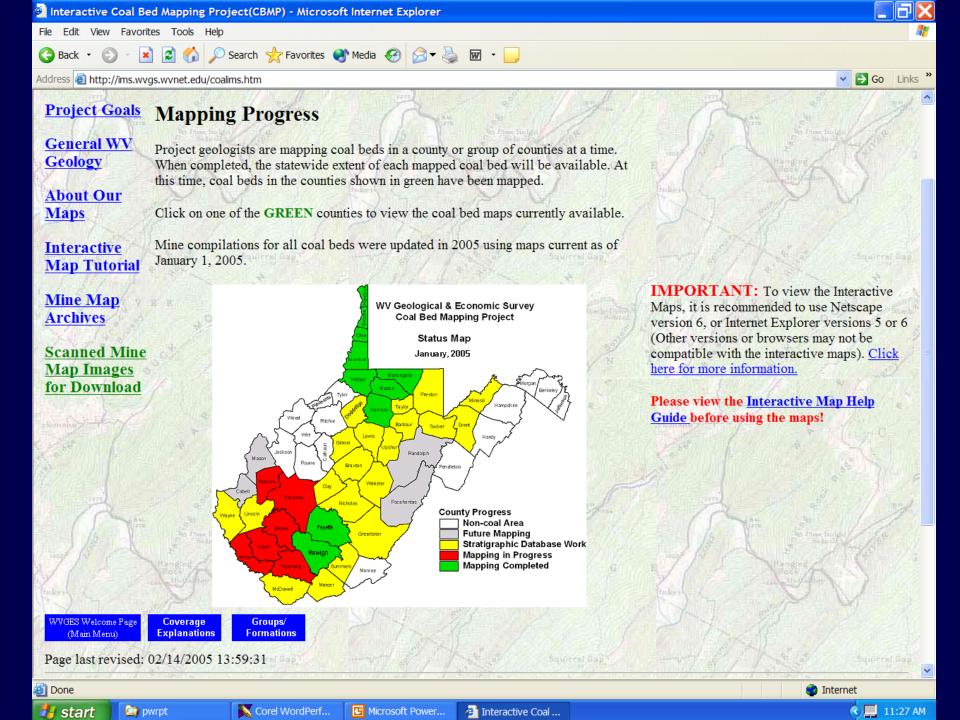


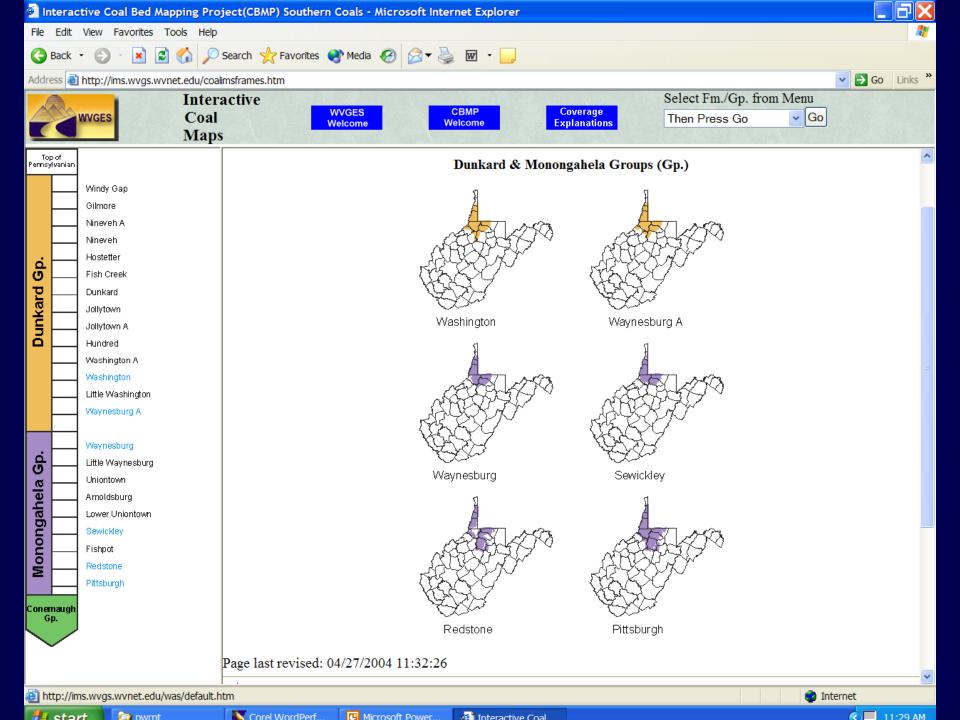


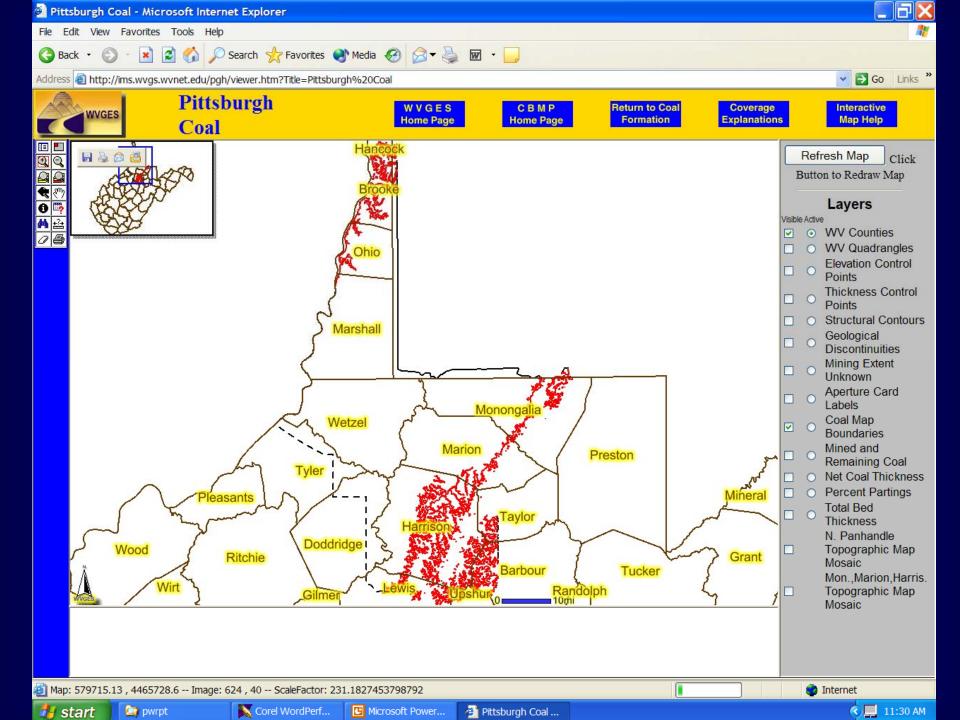


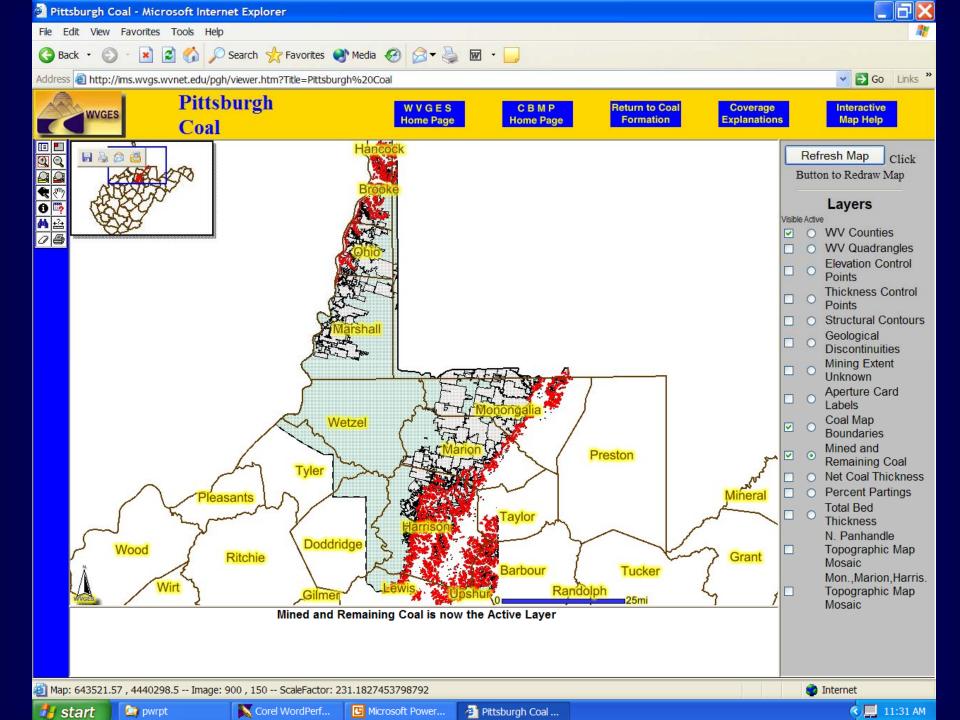
### Coal Bed Mapping Project

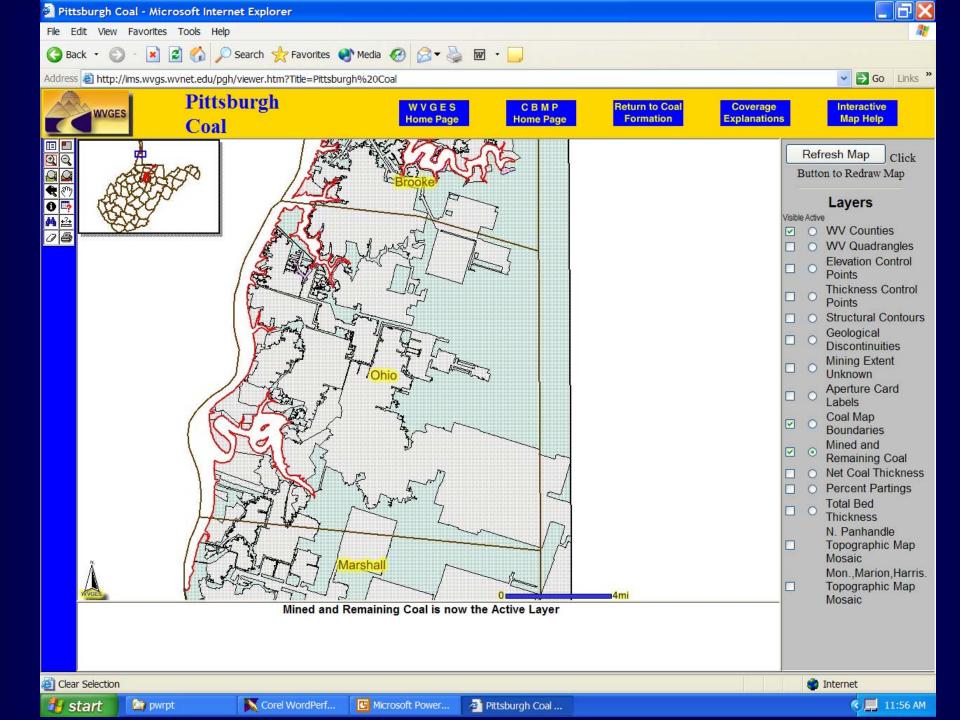
- Placing the underground mine maps in a geological framework
  - Structural contours and outcrop
  - Depth of overburden
  - Bed and parting thickness
  - Also compiling surface, auger, and highwall mined areas
  - Bed discontinuities
  - Other supporting maps

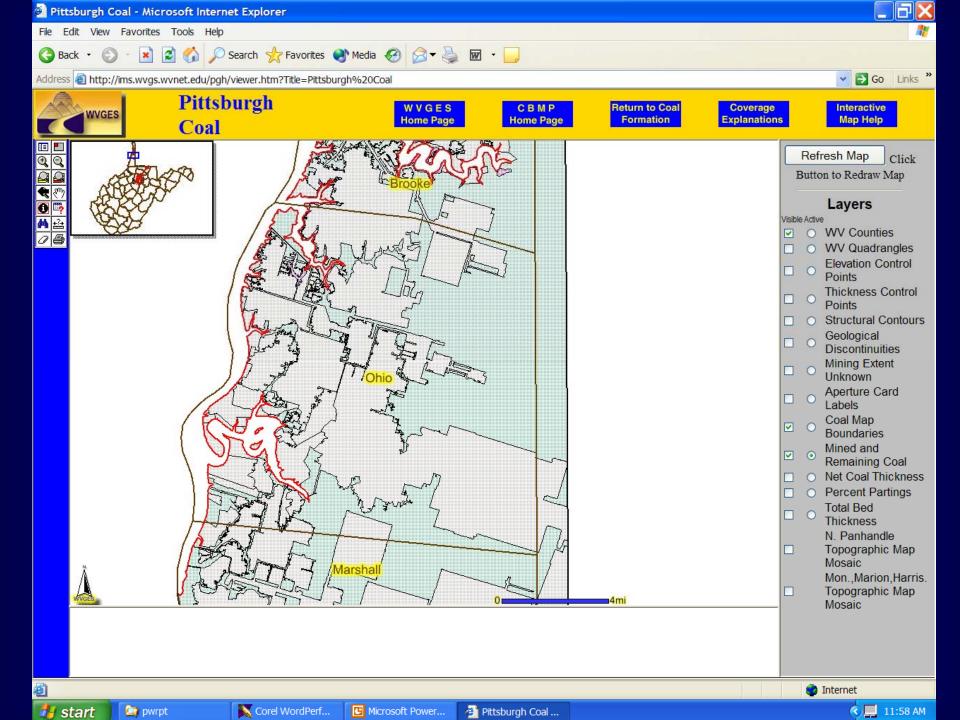


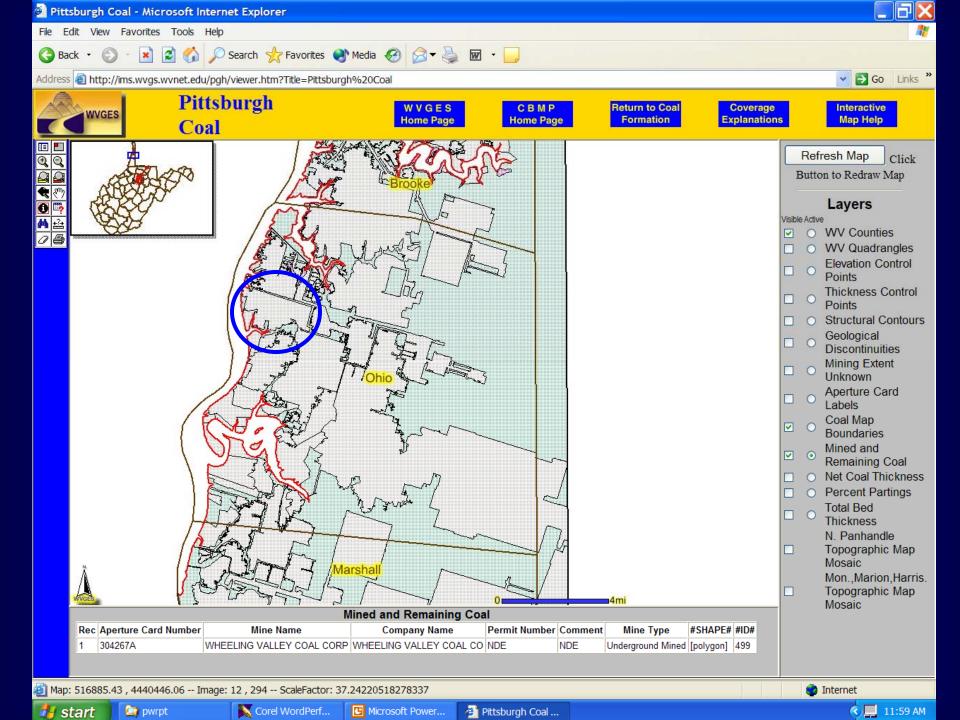


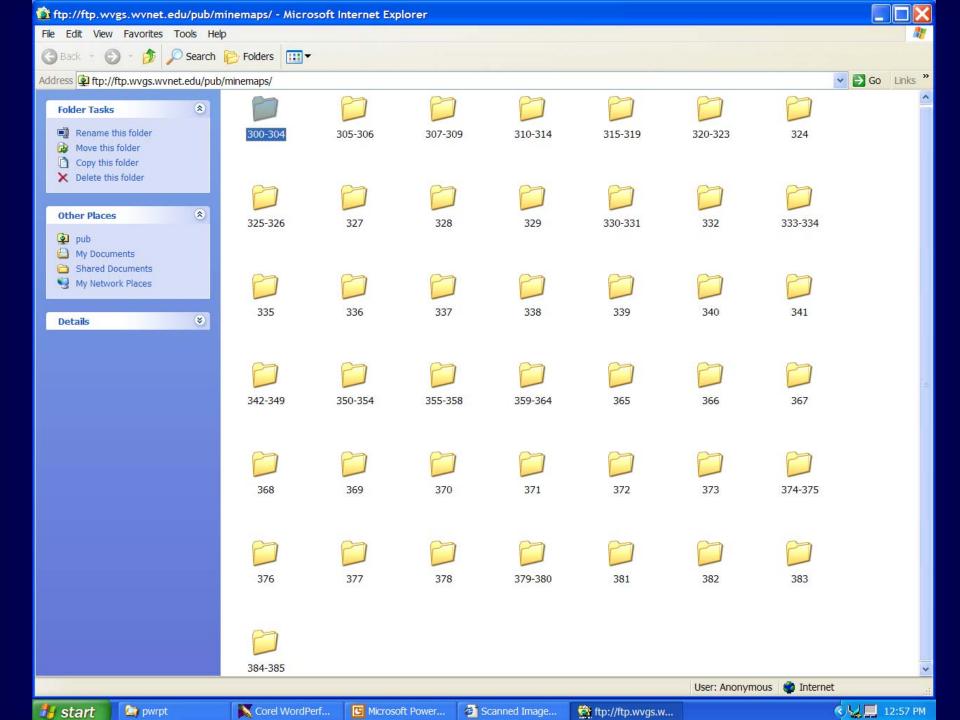


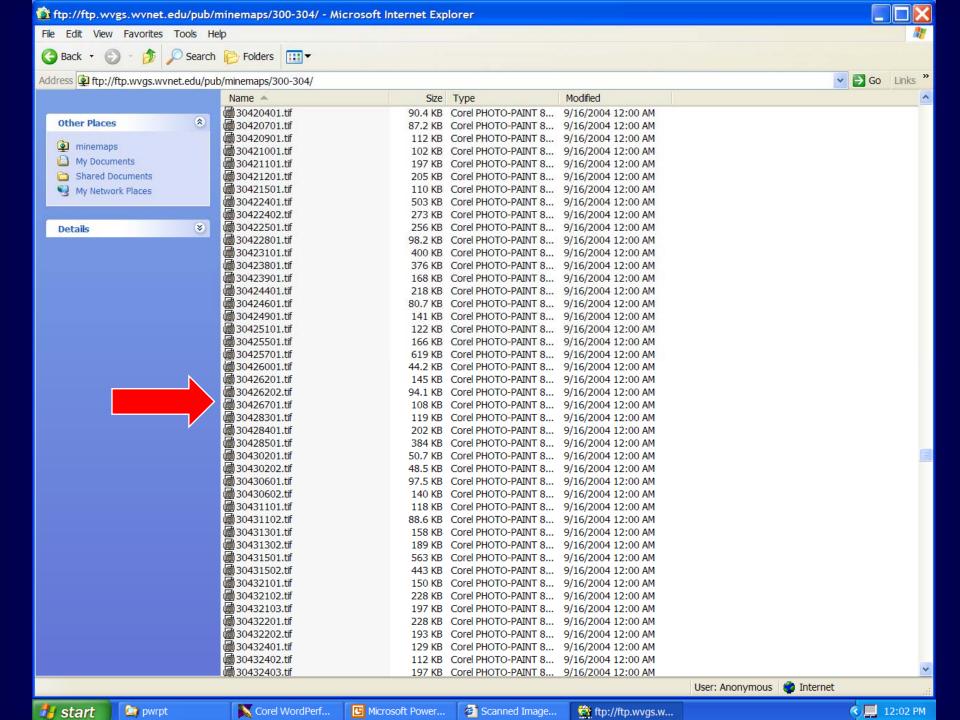


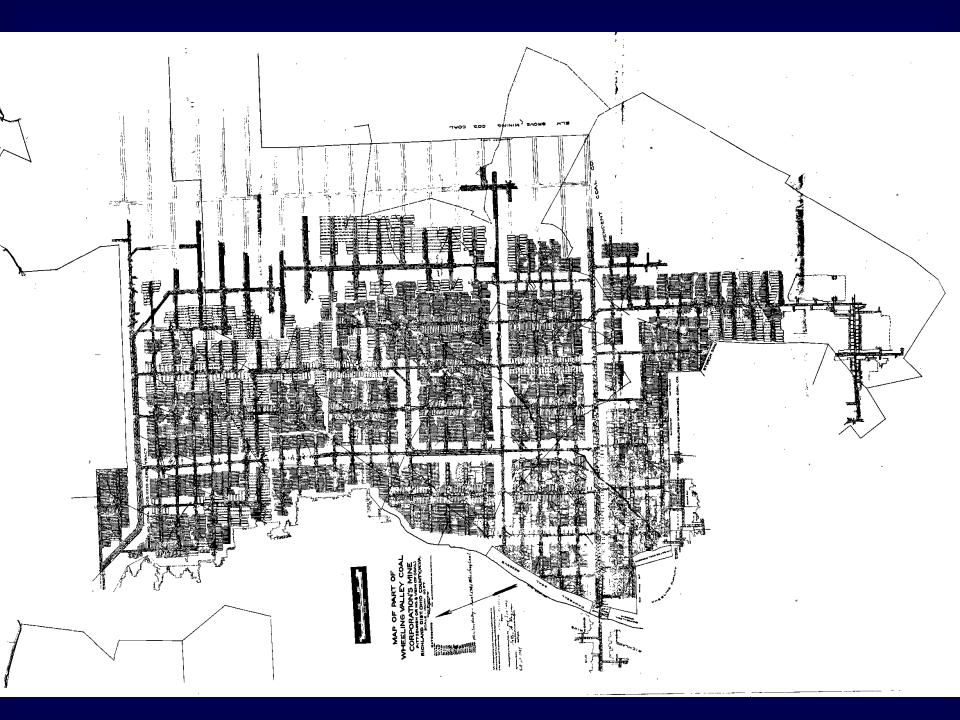












#### **Improvements**

- Link CBMP IMS to mine image FTP site
- Provide an on-line searchable database and link to the image FTP site



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