

A collection of historical artifacts is displayed on a light-colored surface. On the left, a portion of a chessboard with a checkered pattern and several chess pieces is visible. Below the chessboard, there are several medals and orders, including a red ribbon with a circular emblem, a white star-shaped medal with a central emblem, and a blue ribbon with a circular emblem. A pair of gold-rimmed glasses with thin temples is positioned in the center. In the bottom left corner, a circular compass with a white face and black markings is visible.

# The Sanborn Maps of Florida : Exploring the State's History Through Cartography

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Smathers Libraries  
University of Florida

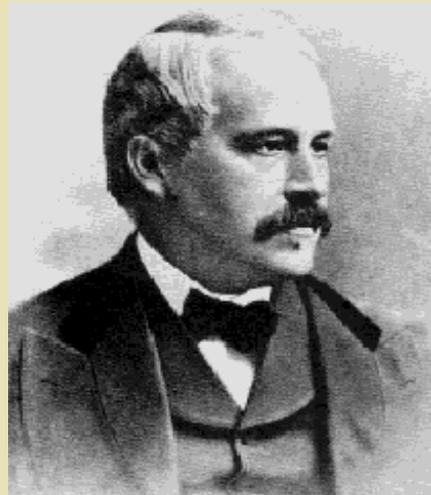


# SANBORN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY ♦ MAPS OF FLORIDA

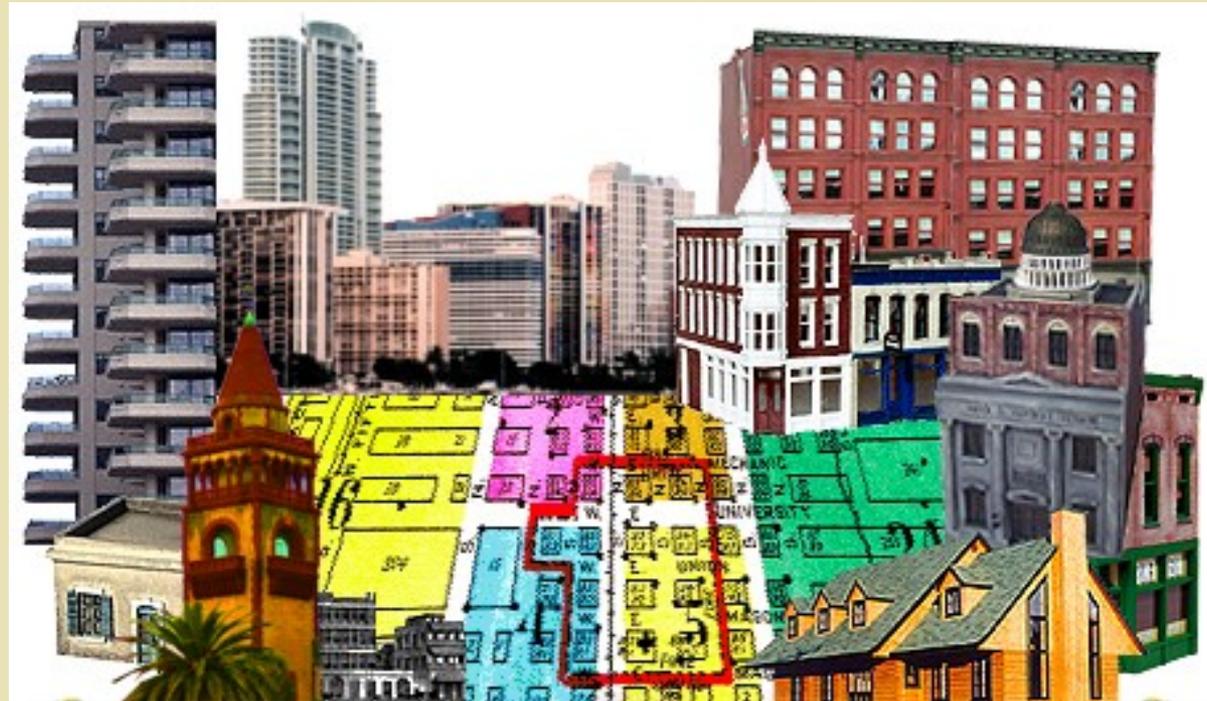
The [Sanborn Map Company](#) produced a series of maps dating from the 1860's to present day that depict the commercial, industrial, and residential sections of around 12,000 cities and towns in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

D.A. Sanborn, a surveyor from Massachusetts who worked for an insurance company, originally made an atlas of the city of Boston.



He followed this with making maps for several cities in Tennessee in the mid-1800's.

Sanborn later established a company that would specialize in compiling and publishing maps for the fire insurance industry.



After several mergers and acquisitions, the company he helped establish now goes by the name Sanborn Map Company.

The maps were mainly designed to help fire insurance agents determine the degree of damage to a property and show accurate information to help them determine risks and establish premiums.





KEY	
HEIGHT OF BUILDING IN FEET (C. B.)	Fire proof construction.
NUMBER OF STORIES BASEMENT BRICK BASEMENT STONE	Hollow concrete or cement block construction.
FRAME PARTITION	Brick building with brick or metal cornice.
SLATE OR METAL ROOF	" " " frame cornice.
COMPOSITION ROOF	" " " stone front.
SHINGLE ROOF	" " " frame side.
BRICK 1ST	Brick veneered building.
D = DWELLING	Brick and frame "
F = FLAT	Frame building.
S = STORE	" " iron clad.
	Stone building.



Using a **key**, they showed the size (including color-coding), shape and **construction of buildings** (brick, adobe, frame, etc), and other

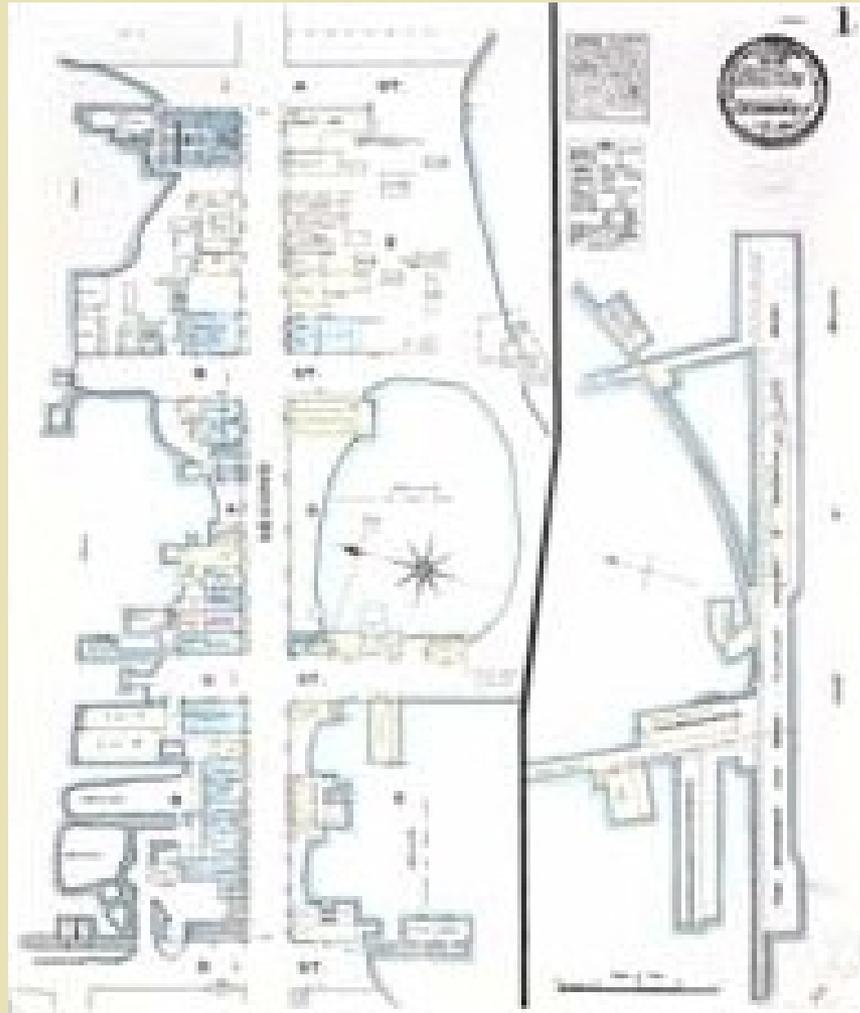


dwelling (including hotels and **churches**), and other structures such as: bridges, docks and barns.



Along with fire stations, you could also find water facilities, sprinklers, hydrants, **cisterns**; and alarm boxes as well as firewalls, **windows**, doors, elevators and **chimneys** and roof types.

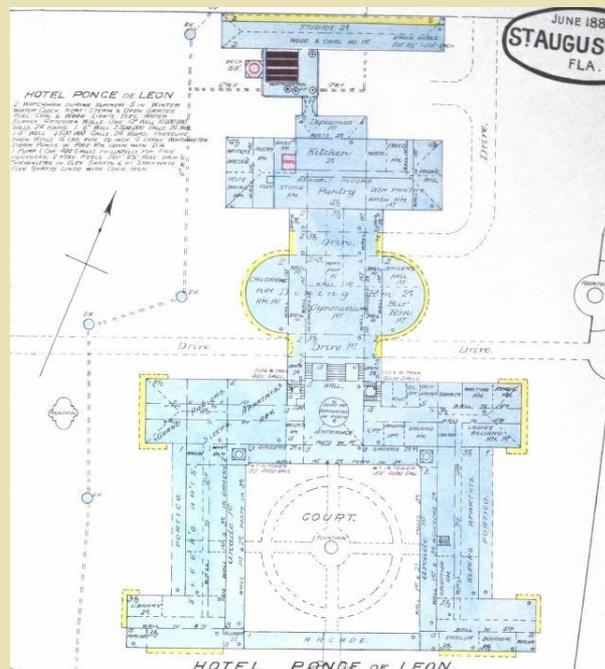
The maps included street names, property boundaries and lot lines, and house and block numbers.

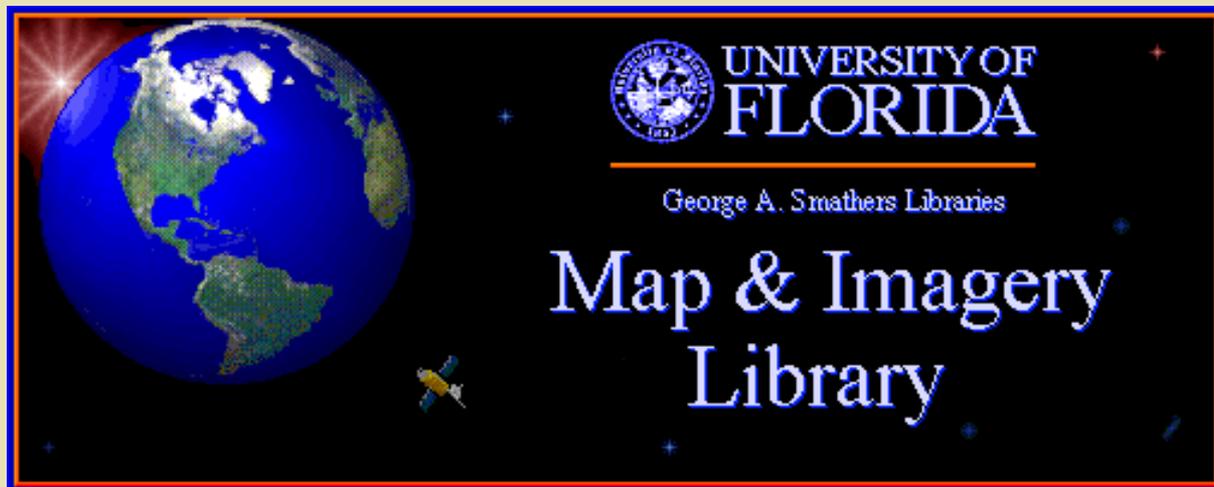




Other information such as the latest census figures, prevailing winds; railroad lines and **Indian reservations** and topography were included.

Presently, Sanborn maps are used by: municipal governments, and engineering and architectural companies, as well as individuals doing: historical (environmental & architectural) research, ethnic studies, urban archeology, and geography.





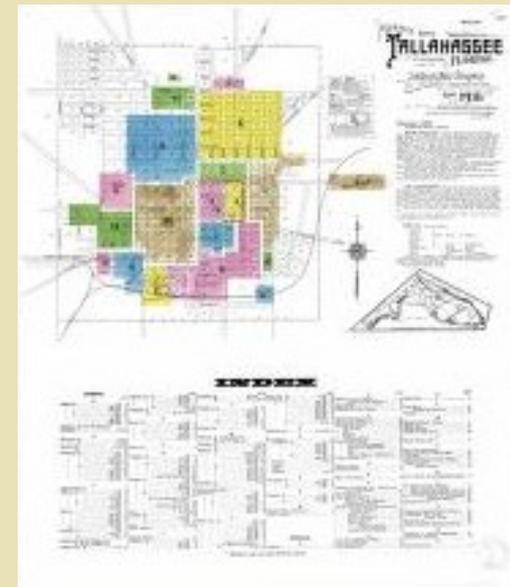
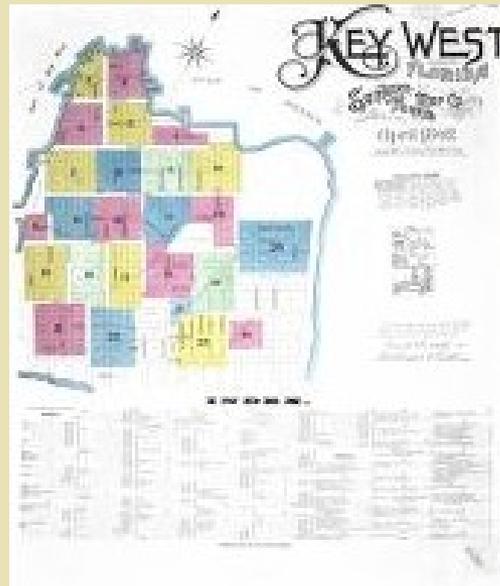
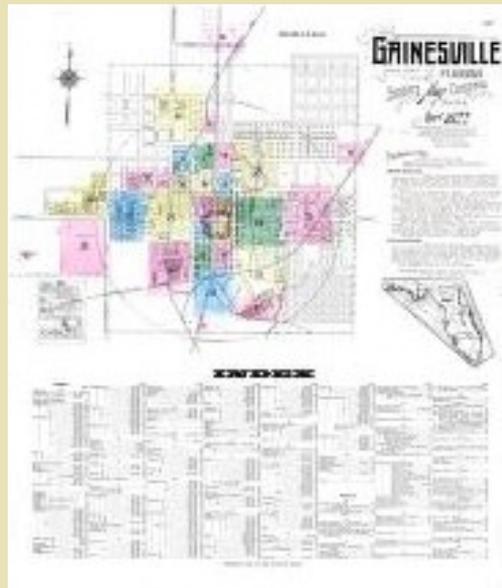
The University of Florida Map and Imagery Library holds the largest collection of Sanborn maps of Florida cities, outside the Library of Congress.

Maps in the collection are filed in **map cases** by LC class number (which, by design, puts cities in alphabetical order by place name and each city in chronological order).

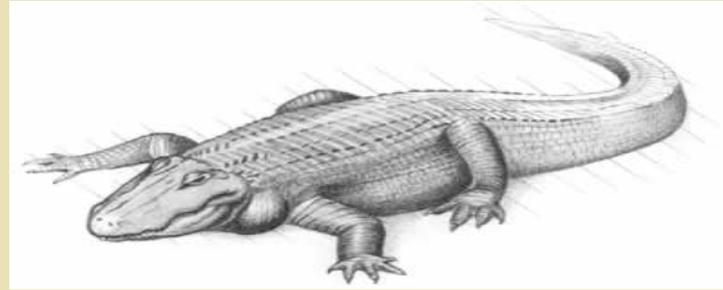


<u>City</u>	<u>City Cutter</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>no. of sheets</u>
Clermont	.C54	1924	3
Cocoa	.C6	1915	3
		1919	4
		1924	5
		1930	8
--1919-1930 include the town of Rockledge			
Coconut Grove	.M5:2C6	1920	6
(Miami)			
--Community within the city of Miami			
Coral Gables	.C7	1924-1947	v. (30 sheets)
Crescent City	.C8	1926	4

The Map and Imagery Library's collection contains over 130 Florida cities and towns. Most sheets arrived at the University unattached, but some were stapled together and others were previously bound together.



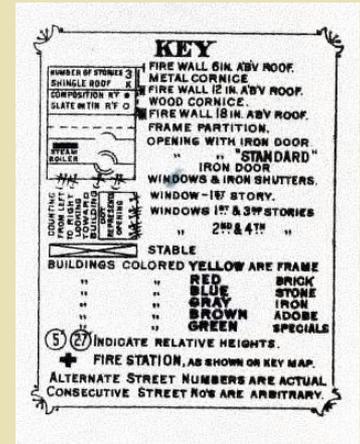
# A Brief History of Florida in the 1900's



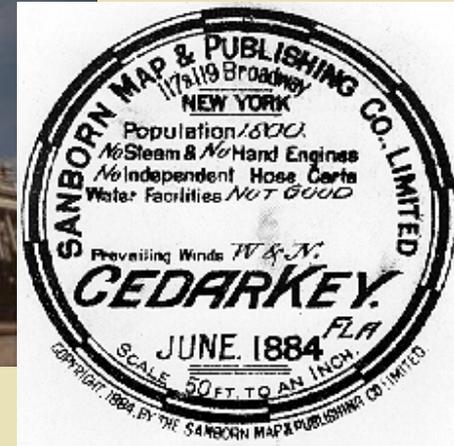
The State of Florida experienced incredible population growth around the turn of the last century with a combination of Henry M. Flagler bringing the railroad further south; a tourist boom; and the invention of air conditioning.

Examining Sanborn maps is an interesting way to see where, when and how cities and towns grew over this time.

Accuracy and uniformity of Sanborn maps were ensured with the publication of a surveyor's manual. This included precise instructions, sample maps and a comprehensive symbol key. Most maps were drawn at the scale of 50 feet to an inch (the exception for some older maps being 100 feet to an inch).

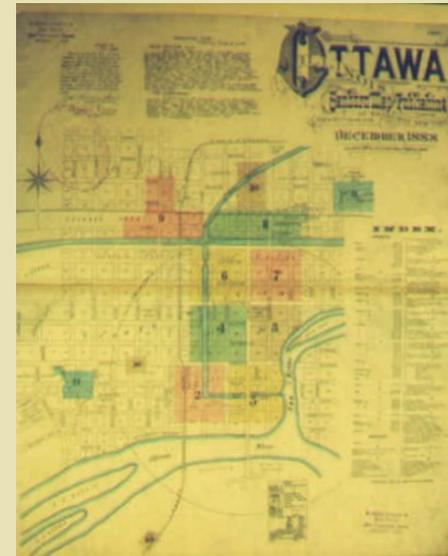
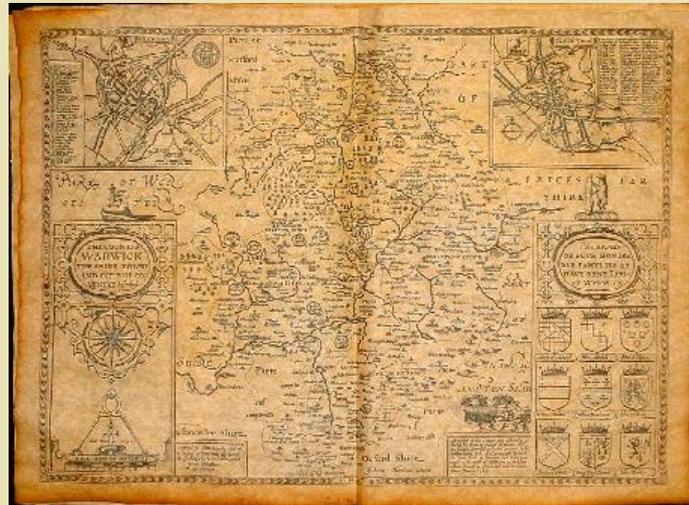




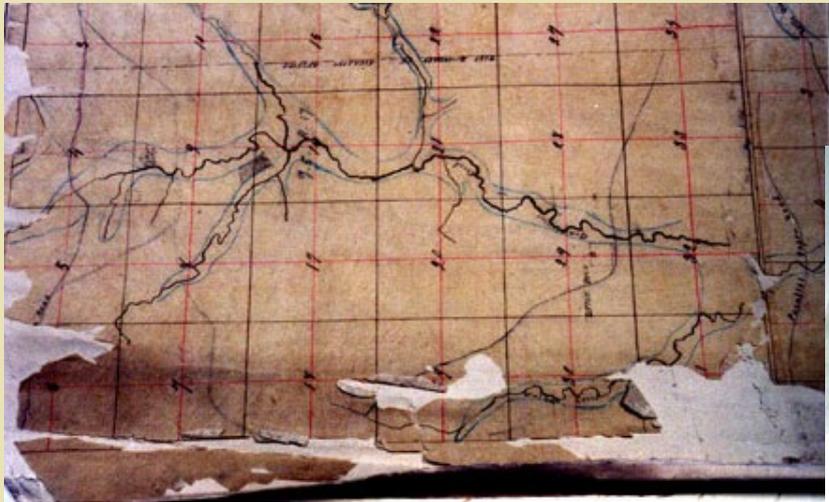


Sanborn gave more than 750,000 maps to the [Library of Congress](#) for copyright purposes, the largest single collection of any detailed map publisher in the United States. Subsequently, the Library of Congress donated one copy (complete with [original copyright stamps](#)) of their Florida holdings to our University.

While the maps in our collection are clean and unmarked, it is not unusual to find map copies that have been updated with hand-revisions over the years that now obscure their original lines and markings. Unfortunately, many of the maps have also suffered **browning from folding** and others have their **edges worn out**, mostly from unsafe handling and **acidic paper**.

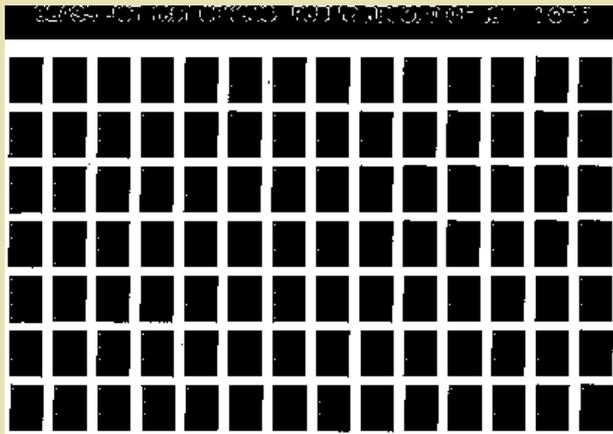


Conservation treatments are being evaluated in order to preserve these old yet very valuable sheets. A few sheets were applied with backings and plasticized in an attempt to reduce wear and tear and exposure to the elements.



Today, the maps are being digitized and preserved forever on the web:

<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/sanborn>



Microform and microfiche copies of the maps are also held at the Map Library. The microfiche negative copies are arranged by city and date each pertaining to one Map sheet. The fiche copies are black and white but the quality of resolution of these provides better detail than the microfilm version.



The maps had been cataloged locally on cards in the 1970's, but this was not reflected in the [online catalog](#) until 1998.

At that time a project was undertaken based on careful examination of each map, and combined a very high level of detail in the [description](#) and access of the maps with efficient techniques afforded by modern software.

**Author, etc.:**

[Sanborn Map Company.](#)

**Title:**

Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida, 1939 / **Sanborn Map Company.**

**Published:**

New York : **Sanborn Map Company**, 1939, c1940.

**Scale, projection, coordinates:**

Scale 1:600

**Description:**

1 map : col. ; on 5 sheets 65 x 55 cm.

**Notes:**

Fire insurance map which shows building construction by hand coloring, locations of windows and doors...

**Subjects, general:**

[Insurance, Fire--Florida--Crestview--Maps.](#)

[Crestview \(Fla.\)--Maps.](#)

**Subjects, reversed geographic:**

[Sanborn maps--Florida--Crestview--1939--1:600.](#)

[Florida--Sanborn maps.](#)

[Crestview \(Fla.\)--Maps--1939--1:600.](#)

**Other author(s), etc.:**

[Sanborn Map Company. Sanborn fire insurance maps, Florida.](#)



## Resources -- weblinks

Sanborn Maps at Florida (part of PALMM Collections)

<http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/collections/sanborn/>

Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

University of Virginia Library

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/maps/sanborn/>

Environmental Data Resources, Inc. Sanborn Maps

<http://www.edrnet.com/sanborn.htm>

UC Berkeley - Sanborn and other fire insurance maps

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/sanborn.html>

Sanborn total geographic information

<http://www.sanbornmap.com/>



## Resources -- weblinks continued

University of Utah (Marriott Library) Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

<http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/sanborn/>

Fire Insurance Maps - Library of Congress

[http://www.surveyhistory.org/fire\\_insurance\\_maps\\_library\\_of\\_congress.htm](http://www.surveyhistory.org/fire_insurance_maps_library_of_congress.htm)

UC-Davis - Sanborn Map Collection

<http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/govdoc/MapCollection/sanborn.html>

University of Georgia-Sanborn Maps for Georgia

<http://www.libs.uga.edu/maproom/ahtml/mcsaindx.html>

Sanborn at UMI

<http://sanborn.umi.com/>



## Resources -- References

Hoehn, R. Philip, 1941-

[Union list of Sanborn fire insurance maps held by institutions in the United States and Canada](#) / by R. Philip Hoehn ; foreword by Walter W. Ristow. -- Santa Cruz, CA : Western Association of Map Libraries, c1976-1977.

Library of Congress. Geography and Map Division. Reference and Bibliography Sect.

[Fire insurance maps in the Library of Congress : plans of North American cities and towns produced by the Sanborn Map Company : a checklist](#) / compiled by the Reference and Bibliography Section, Geography and Map Division ; introd. By Walter W. Ristow. -- Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1981.

[Indiana Environmental Compliance Update](#), February, 2000; Volume 10, Issue 8