



## Product Overview: Digital Sanborn Maps 1867 - 1970

**Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970** provide digital access to more than 660,000 large-scale maps of over 12,000 American towns and cities. Founded in 1867 by D. A. Sanborn, the Sanborn Map Company was the primary American publisher of fire insurance maps for nearly 100 years. No maps are consulted more in academic and public libraries.

Sanborn maps are valuable research tools for geographers, social historians, urban specialists, genealogists, planners, local historians, architects, environmentalists, and anyone who wants to learn about the history, growth, and development of American cities, towns, and neighborhoods. Users of Digital Sanborn Maps have the ability to manipulate the maps, magnify and zoom in on specific sections, and easily print them out.

Each large-scale plan contains detailed property and land-use records that depict the grid of everyday life across a century of change. The maps provide a wealth of information, such as building outline, size and shape, construction materials, height, building use, windows and doors, street and sidewalk widths, boundaries, and more. The plans often include information and shading for steel beams or reinforced walls, plus symbols for stables, garages, warehouses, etc. Also depicted are pipelines, railroads, wells, water mains, dumps, and heavy machinery likely to affect the property's vulnerability to earthquake, fire, and flood. Maps also give street names, street and sidewalk widths, and house and block numbers.

The digital collection was scanned from the microfilm developed from the holdings at the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress's Sanborn collection includes all maps submitted to the library through copyright deposit and a set of maps transferred to the library from the Bureau of the Census. Maps from the bureau include corrections issued by the Sanborn Company that were pasted over the original map sheet.

### Content & Format

With Digital Sanborn Maps, you can:

- Search over 660,000 maps of 12,000 American cities and towns.
- Navigate the collection using an intuitive interface featuring handy drop-down menus.
- Easily examine multiple maps for towns and cities through numbered thumbnail views.
- Review key and index maps to find specific streets and buildings.
- Pan over the map sheet using arrow buttons.
- Magnify maps for greater detail.
- Download and print maps (in whole or part) in the Adobe® PDF format.

Sanborn Maps were originally published in color, yet the digital maps are displayed in black and white because the digital maps were created by scanning microfilm. Because the original maps were filmed in black and white, the digital images are also in black and white. Due to this source, color images cannot be made available and a map legend has been specifically created for the black and white images: <http://sanborn.umi.com/HelpFiles/bwkey.pdf?CCSI=82n>.

To find out which maps are available for your state, navigate to this website: <http://www.proquest.com/en-US/promos/sanbornmaps.shtml>.



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### Key and Index Sheets

Each Sanborn Map is divided into numbered sheets, each approximately 65x55 cm. If you arranged all the sheets together on the floor, you would have a complete, but very large map! Because streets and buildings are located on various sheets, you need to use the key and index sheets to navigate.

Maps with several sheets also include a key sheet and/or an index sheet. A key sheet provides a birds-eye view of the city. You will be able to see sheet numbers (or volume numbers) over different areas of the town. You can then browse the sheet thumbnails to pull up the sheet you are looking for. An index sheet provides an alphabetical list of streets (usually including block numbers) and prominent buildings, labeled "specials." The index refers you to the sheet number for that address or building.

### Where to find help

#### Search our Support Center:

<http://www.proquest.com/support>

#### To access product help and training documentation:

<http://www.proquest.com/go/training>

<http://www.proquest.co.uk/go/training>

#### By phone

**In North America:** 800-889-3358

**Outside North America:** 0880 220 710 (UK only)  
+44 1223 271 496 (Outside of UK)