

***Holdings of
Sanborn Fire
Insurance Maps at
The Putnam County
District Library***

- * *Columbus Grove*
- * *Conneaut*
- * *Continental*
- * *Corning*
- * *Cortland*
- * *Coshocton*
- * *Covington*
- * *Crestline*
- * *Creston*
- * *Cridersville*
- * *Crooksville*
- * *Cumberland*
- * *Cuyahoga Falls*
- * *Kenton*
- * *Kingston*
- * *Kinsman*

- * *La Rue*
- * *Lakemore*
- * *Lakeside*
- * *Lakeview*
- * *Lancaster*
- * *Leavittsburg*
- * *Lebanon*
- * *Leesburg*
- * *Leetonia*
- * *Leipsic*
- * *Lewisburg*
- * *Liberty Center*
- * *Osborn*
- * *Ottawa*
- * *Oxford*
- * *Painesville*
- * *Paulding*
- * *Payne*
- * *Pemberville*
- * *Peninsula*
- * *Perrysburg*
- * *Perrysville*
- * *Piketon*
- * *Piqua*
- * *Plain City*



**Sanborn Fire
Insurance
Maps**

The Putnam County
District Library
Local History
Department

What are Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps?

Founded in 1867 by D. A. Sanborn, the Sanborn Map Company of Pelham, New York, was the primary American publisher of fire insurance maps for nearly 100 years. Sanborn Maps were originally created for assessing fire insurance liability in urbanized areas in the United States. The maps include detailed information regarding town and building information in approximately 12,000 U.S. towns and cities from 1867 to 1970.

The maps were designed to assist fire insurance agents in determining the degree of hazard associated with a particular property and therefore show the size, shape, and construction of dwellings, commercial buildings, and factories as well as fire walls, locations of windows and doors, sprinkler systems, and types of roofs.

The maps also indicate widths and names of streets, property boundaries, building use, and house and block numbers. They show the locations of water mains, giving their dimensions, and of fire alarm boxes and hydrants. The maps list street blocks and building numbers including numbers in use at the time the map was made and previous numbers.

Today Sanborn fire insurance maps are the most frequently consulted maps in both public and academic libraries. Sanborn maps are valuable historical tools for urban specialists, social historians, architects, geographers, genealogists, local historians, planners, environmentalists and anyone

who wants to learn about the history, growth, and development of American cities, towns, and neighborhoods.

Historical research is the most obvious of uses, with the maps facilitating the study of urban growth and decline patterns, and for research into the evolution of specific buildings, sites and districts. Historic preservationists utilize the maps to understand the significance and historical evolution of buildings, including their historic uses and building materials in conservation and rehabilitation efforts. Genealogists use the maps to locate the residences and workplaces of their ancestors.

