



## Colorado Academic Library Summit 2007—Digital Poster Session

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### Abstract:

Sanborn fire insurance maps are large scale historical city maps, detailed at the block and building level, that show residential, commercial, and industrial uses of sites, building footprints, potential environmental hazards, and construction details of structures. They are valuable historical tools for use by researchers, public citizens, and students to study the development of cities across America. The University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries has created an online collection of Sanborn fire insurance maps: *Building Colorado Story by Story: the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection*. Maps of 79 principal cities in 52 counties covering the years of 1883-1922 are available to the public through the University Libraries' Digital Asset Library (DIAL). This digital poster session will present *Building Colorado Story by Story*, briefly cover the history of Sanborn fire insurance maps, and explore the numerous research and educational uses for the maps. The presentation will also discuss the history of this digitization project and the collaboration with CLiC to provide workshops across the state.

### Outline:

- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: Introduction & History
- Using Sanborn fire insurance maps
- CU's Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Digitization Project
- Using *Building Colorado Story by Story*
- Statewide workshops
- Accidental Map Librarian Wiki

### Important Web Sites:

Access the Project: <http://libluna.lib.ad.colorado.edu/sanborn/index.asp>

Key/Legend: <http://libluna.lib.ad.colorado.edu/sanborn/colorKey.asp>

DIAL: <http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/dial/index.htm>

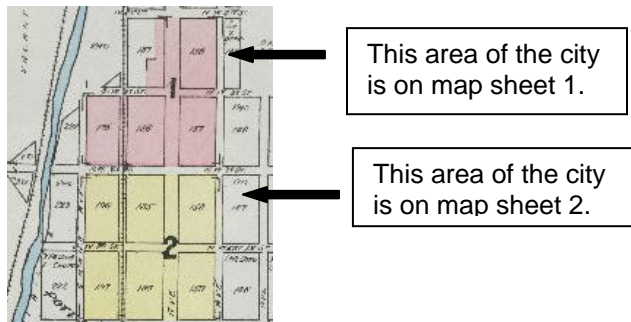
Accidental Map Librarian Wiki: <http://maplibraries.pbwiki.com/>

Poster session presentation and handout available on the wiki.













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## Tips for accessing *Building Colorado Story by Story: the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection*:

- Turn off browser pop-up windows
  - The maps will load in a pop-up window to allow for zooming and panning. Turn off pop-up blockers in your Internet browser. If they are still being blocked, try holding down the CTRL key while you click on the link to view a map.
- Use the index map to figure out which map sheet you want to view.



- Using the View Image Toolbar

Select/Deselect			Close Window
Zoom In			Zoom Out
List Multiple Images			Descriptive Information
Maximize Image			Minimize Image
Print			Help
Return to Traditional Interface			Minimize Toolbar

**Panning/Thumbnail View:** Click on an area of the map on the thumbnail to pan to that area on the large map. The white box shows the area of the map currently shown on the large