



How to Research your House

Rochester Sanborn Maps

www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/

Sanborn Maps were originally created to assess fire insurance liability in US cities and towns. Today, they are invaluable resources used for historical, genealogical, preservation, and planning research. These maps document specific information about each building, including what it was used for and the material it was made with. The Library of Congress has a searchable database of Sanborn maps, including maps for Rochester, Michigan.

Rochester Hills Historical Aerial Maps

<http://atlas.rochesterhills.org/historicaerialstab/>

What did your neighborhood look like 50 years ago? The Historical Aerial Maps can show you! These maps provide aerial images of Rochester Hills from 1940 to 2014.

Rochester Newspapers

<http://rochesterhills.org/newspaper>

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm's collection of Rochester ERA newspapers dating from 1873-1949 is digitized, fully searchable, and available online! Try searching a street address, the name of a property owner, or specific years to locate articles on a particular home.

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen

www.rochesterhills.org/musarchives

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm has an archive full of local history information to share with you! From maps to rural property inventories to photographs, the Museum can check a number of sources to help you learn more information about a home (or anything else) in the greater Rochester area. Contact the Museum Archivist with your inquiry.

Clio

theclio.com

Clio is an educational website and app that allows users to learn about nearby historical sites, museums, monuments, and landmarks. Dozens of entries for historic sites in the greater Rochester area can be found on Clio!

Recommended Books

Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You by David E. Kyvig and Myron A. Marty

Discovering the History of Your House and Your Neighborhood by Betsy J. Green