

**The Gelman Library
The Special Collections Department**

REAL ESTATE DIRECTORIES

Real estate plat books, originally produced for the use of businesses, are of enormous value to researchers interested in Washington, D.C., history. In addition to showing the land use of individual lots throughout the city at particular times, the books, as a whole, provide a graphic illustration of the city's development.

Baist, George W. (later G. Wm. Baist's Sons, R.H. Baist). Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Washington, District of Columbia. Prepared from Official Records, Private Plans, Actual Surveys.

The format of the Baist atlases has changed little from the 1890s. Produced in sets of four volumes (by NW, NE, SW, and SE quadrants), color-coded maps show the nature of building lot-by-lot throughout the city. Among the information to be gleaned from the maps, on which city squares and the lots composing them are clearly numbered, are the size and configuration of structures, exterior building materials, and existence of accessory buildings. In addition, major business and institutional uses are noted as are the location of public utilities and the extent and materials of public paved areas and parks. The following are those volumes found in Special Collections.

1910-1919 Vol. 2, NE section south of Florida Avenue (1915)

Call Number: G 1275 B 2 1913 ff

1920-1929 Vol. 4, NE section north of Florida Avenue and SE section east of Anacostia River (1927)

Call Number: G 1275 B 2 1924 ff

1930-1939 Vol. 3, NW section north of Florida Avenue (1931);
Vol. 1, NW section south of Florida Avenue (1932)

Call Number: G 1275 B 3 ff

Vol. 2, NE section south of Florida Avenue and SE section west of Anacostia River, and SW (1938);
Vol. 1, NW section south of Florida Avenue (1939)

Call Number: G 1275 B 2 1937 ff

1940-1949 Vol. 3, NW section north of Florida Avenue (1945)

Call Number: G 1275 B 2 1945 ff

1950-1959 Vol. 3, NW section north of Florida Avenue (1954);
Vol. 2, NE section south of Florida Avenue and SE
section west of Anacostia River, and SW (1956);
Vol. 1, NW section south of Florida Avenue (1957);
Vol. 4, NE section north of Florida Avenue and SE
section east of Anacostia River (1959)

Call Number: G 1275 B 25 1954 ff

1960-1969 Vol. 3, NW section north of Florida Avenue (1960
and 1968);
Vol. 2, NE section south of Florida Avenue and SE
section west of Anacostia River, and SW (1967)

Call Numbers:G 1275 B 25 1960 ff

OTHER DIRECTORIES

Fire Insurance Maps from the Sanborn Map Company Archives: Late 19th Century to 1989.

Holdings: 1927-1985 (2 Reels)

Reel 1 - 1928 (Volume 1-6)

Reel 2 - 1927 (Volume 7-10)

Call Number: Microfilm 507

Note: These maps have been updated through 1985.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of the District of Columbia.

Holdings: 1888-1960 (4 Reels)

Reel 1 - 1888-1927/28 (Volume 2)

Reel 2 - 1927-1928 (Volume 3)

Reel 3 - 1927-1960 (Volume 1-7)

Reel 4 - 1927-1960 (Volume 8-10)

Call Number: Microfilm 501

Note: These maps have corrections through 1960, and include areas of suburban Maryland, Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. An index is included with this finding aid.

Real Estate Assessments and Related Plats, Maps, and Directories for Washington, DC to 1934.

Holdings: 1873-1934

Call Number: Microfilm 516 (25 reels)

A Complete Set of Surveys and Plats of Properties in the City of Washington, District of Columbia.

Holdings: 1887

Call Number: G 1275 H 6 1887 ff

The King's Plats of the City of Washington in the District of Columbia.

Holdings: 1888

Call Number: G 1275 K 5 1888 ff

Sketch of Washington in Embryo: Viz, Previous to its Survey by Major L'Enfant.

Holdings: 1874

Call Number: G 3851 G 46 1791 F 3 1874 (Map)

Real Estate Directory of the City of Washington, DC.

Holdings: 1874

Call Number: HD 268 W 3 F 33 1874 f