Fire Insurance Maps (Workshop organized by Dr. Imogene Lim, VIU)

A number of the fire insurance maps used at the ‘Planning for Cultural Identity’ session are located in the Library and Archives Canada.

1897, Slocan City: [http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=3807657&lang=eng&new=-8586449454576368236](http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=3807657&lang=eng&new=-8586449454576368236) Given the population size of 700, the number of hotels identified is large. As well, block '2' has written: "Thick bush with squatters huts and tents."

1897, revised 1903, Vancouver: [https://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=FonAndCol&id=3807904&lang=eng](https://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=FonAndCol&id=3807904&lang=eng) (click Digital Objects). Sheets 6, 7, 10, 11, show 'Chinatown' with businesses identified: Japanese, Chinese Theatre, Opium Factory, etc. Note the changes in street name listed Princess (late Dupont), which is Pender, and Westminster Ave, which became Main.

The Duncan map was from the Cowichan Valley Museum & Archives, (1954, CVMA 1996.6.4.1); while two were from the Nanaimo Community Archives (1938, rev. 1951, Sheets 14 and 30), see: [http://www.nanaimoarchives.ca/using-archives/building-site-research-guide/](http://www.nanaimoarchives.ca/using-archives/building-site-research-guide/), Fire Insurance Maps.

The Vancouver Public Library, Central Branch, Special Collections, Reference, has a number of fire insurance maps or plans, or catalogues for BC and Canada (use key word search: fire insurance maps). Although the BC Archives Fire Insurance Plan Collection, [https://search-bcarchives.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bc-archives-fire-insurance-plan-collection](https://search-bcarchives.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bc-archives-fire-insurance-plan-collection), has many towns and cities represented, they are not necessarily the oldest. If 1912 Vancouver is of specific interest, go to: [https://data.vancouver.ca/datacatalogue/goadsFireInsuranceMap1912.htm](https://data.vancouver.ca/datacatalogue/goadsFireInsuranceMap1912.htm), Goad’s Fire Insurance Map (georectified). This is in the public domain.

Other possible sources include: University of Calgary, [https://library.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=255407&p=1705375](https://library.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=255407&p=1705375) (Alberta, British Columbia/NWT, Manitoba, Ontario, PEI, Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Saskatchewan), and University of Toronto, Map and Data Library, which has a list of bibliographies and catalogues ([https://mdl.library.utoronto.ca/collections/maps-atlases/fire-insurance-plans](https://mdl.library.utoronto.ca/collections/maps-atlases/fire-insurance-plans)).

Bibliography

