

Chapter 1 : Sorry, this content is not available in your region.

The Chicago Fire of , also called the Great Chicago Fire, burned from October 8 to October 10, , and destroyed thousands of buildings, killed an estimated people and caused an.

A remarkable moment when the most brilliant engineers, architects and inventors came together to build a new city. Their innovations “ born of passion and practical ingenuity ” shaped not just Chicago, but the modern world. What started years ago continues to this day. Today is the home of nearly early-stage, high-growth digital startups. If that sounds like you, join us. Come to a place where you can share ideas, make mistakes, work hard, build your business and, with a little luck, change the world. Education and Inspiration Building and learning go hand in hand. Tenants and members of have priority access to hundreds of classes, lectures, seminars and other programs designed to educate and inspire. From classes specifically designed to empower entrepreneurs, to talks from leading business-builders, technologists and designers, to inspirational sessions from artists and others, offers a full range of content and programming. Inclusion and Diversity The absence of exclusion is not enough; at , we believe that we must be actively inclusive in order to build a more diverse community, and that responsibility lies with not just as an organization, but with every single person who walks through our door. These efforts are promulgated through all aspects of our organization, from our membership, to the way we hire, to our events program, and more. Job Creation and Economic Growth The mission of is to grow the number of technology jobs in Chicago by providing diverse, digitally-enabled startups with access to space and connectivity, education and training resources, early-stage and venture capital and customers. Amidst the flurry of inspired thinking and heightened passion, there arose a very simple idea: And from this seed of an idea came the inspiration for the name Our space would be a place that would enable Chicago to emerge as a major center of technology, not just in the U. The Logo utilizes two types of logos in perpetuating the brand: The Plate and The Stencil. The Plate is a symbol of exploring, getting your hands dirty, and making it happen. The Stencil, however, can take many forms. There are hundreds of versions of the logo, which are variations of the Stencil. Stencil logos take form through hand made treatments, photographic underlays, and textual patterns that act as a window showing our vision for and Chicago. In creating and presenting these logos, we have an opportunity to mark our history and important moments as an organization and create lasting memories of these special events, all of which are designed for the purpose of the organization “ to foster technology growth and opportunity throughout Chicago. Feel free to peruse them and pick out your favorites ” if you can.

Chapter 2 : About - Chicago

Chicago fire of , also called Great Chicago Fire, conflagration that began on October 8, , and burned until early October 10, devastating an expansive swath of the city of Chicago.

There has been much speculation over the years on a single start to the fire. The most popular tale blames Mrs. More than two thirds of the structures in Chicago at the time of the fire were made entirely of wood, with most of the houses and buildings being topped with highly flammable tar or shingle roofs. Firefighters had hoped that the South Branch of the Chicago River and an area that had previously thoroughly burned would act as a natural firebreak. As the fire grew, the southwest wind intensified and became superheated, causing structures to catch fire from the heat and from burning debris blown by the wind. About this time, Mayor Roswell B. Mason sent messages to nearby towns asking for help. When the courthouse caught fire, he ordered the building to be evacuated and the prisoners jailed in the basement to be released. These fire whirls are likely what drove flaming debris so high and so far. Such debris was blown across the main branch of the Chicago River to a railroad car carrying kerosene. Within minutes, the interior of the building was engulfed in flames and the building was destroyed. Finally, late into the evening of the 9th, it started to rain, but the fire had already started to burn itself out. The fire had spread to the sparsely populated areas of the north side, having consumed the densely populated areas thoroughly. Of the , inhabitants of Chicago in , , were left homeless, one-third of the population. The county coroner speculated that an accurate count was impossible, as some victims may have drowned or had been incinerated, leaving no remains. In the days and weeks following the fire, monetary donations flowed into Chicago from around the country and abroad, along with donations of food, clothing, and other goods. These donations came from individuals, corporations, and cities. Milwaukee , along with other nearby cities, helped by sending fire-fighting equipment. Additionally, food, clothing and books were brought by train from all over the continent. Many people who were left homeless after the incident were never able to get their normal lives back since all their personal papers and belongings burned in the conflagration. After the fire, A. In April , the City Council passed the ordinance to establish the free Chicago Public Library , starting with the donation from the United Kingdom of more than 8, volumes. Based on a religious point of view, some said that Americans should return to a more old-fashioned way of life, and that the fire was caused by people ignoring traditional morality. On the other hand, others believed that a lesson to be learned from the fire was that cities needed to improve their building techniques. Frederick Law Olmsted observed that poor building practices in Chicago were a problem: It did a great deal of commercial advertising in its house-tops. The faults of construction as well as of art in its great showy buildings must have been numerous. Their walls were thin, and were overweighted with gross and coarse misornamentation. Business owners, and land speculators such as Gurdon Saltonstall Hubbard , quickly set about rebuilding the city. The first load of lumber for rebuilding was delivered the day the last burning building was extinguished. The Palmer House hotel burned to the ground in the fire 13 days after its grand opening. A bronze sculpture of stylized flames, entitled Pillar of Fire by sculptor Egon Weiner , was erected on the point of origin in

The Great Chicago Fire was a conflagration that burned from Sunday, October 8, to Tuesday, October 10, The fire killed up to people, destroyed roughly square miles (9 km 2) of Chicago, Illinois, and left more than , residents homeless.

Late one night, when we were all in bed, Mrs. She also owned a horse that pulled the wagon, as well as a calf. She and her husband Patrick had just laid up plenty of coal, wood shavings, and hay for the winter--and to feed the flames when the barn took fire. There was a rumor that Kate admitted to different people right after the blaze began that she was in the barn when one of her cows kicked over a lantern. A few curiosity-seekers claimed to find the broken pieces of such a lantern while snooping behind her cottage, whose escape from destruction was one of the ironies of the disaster. But there are plenty of reasons to think that Mrs. Those who heard her "confess" presented conflicting versions of why she said she was in the barn. A person who years later claimed that as a boy he found the broken lamp under some floorboards and took it home never explained how, if the barn had floorboards, they made it through the inferno. The Chicago History Museum has in its collections a few cowbells that were also supposedly discovered on the site of the barn after the fire. Ahern opined that one of the revelers went out to get milk and ended up burning Chicago down. As for Ahern himself, this other reporter confided, "The booze got him many years ago, and he has not been able to do any newspaper work. Some boys were sneaking a smoke or gambling in the barn. Bales bases his argument on an exhaustive review of property records and the post-fire inquiry. It is highly unlikely that we will ever have definitive knowledge of the cause of the fire. While she herself may or may not have been at fault, what she represented was a more acceptable cause for the fire than the Communard. Unlike him, she was a familiar and recognizable type who could readily be made to stand for careless building, sloppy conduct, and a shiftless immigrant underclass. Blaming her adapted existing anti-Catholic, anti-immigrant, and possibly anti-female sentiments to the terrible calamity at hand in a way that was oddly comforting. As a poor clumsy Irishwoman and not a sworn enemy of the social order, she was a disempowered comic stereotype, and the damage she caused, massive as it was, could be reassuringly categorized as the result of accident, not conspiracy. Given that the catastrophe could not be undone, there was even something imaginatively satisfying in the tale that this epic fire had such a humble beginning. She was in her early forties at the time of the fire, sober and hard-working. In some popular anecdotes and illustrations she was characterized as an aged crone and a drunkard. The alley behind the house became a kind of sacred site for local residents, who protested when the city paved it two decades after the fire. And when Chicago constructed a new fire academy in the early s, it selected as the location the block where the calamity began. To her dismay, her son Dion Tyrone Power becomes a rascally saloon owner, but his brother Jack Don Ameche is an idealistic lawyer who is elected mayor on a reform platform. Jack sacrifices his life for the city when, while he is trying to stop the fire, he is first shot by a corrupt political opponent and then crushed beneath a collapsing building. Hearing this sad news from a morally awakened Dion as they find refuge in the lake, his mother proudly rededicates the family to the building of a new and better Chicago. For his part, Dion exultantly declares, "Nothing can lick Chicago. But this is almost incidental to the main plot, and there is no particular blame assigned to her or her owner. By this time the legend was a charming mainstay of American folklore, the subject of a Norman Rockwell painting. On the anniversary of the fire, local parades, commemorations, and promotions would feature a woman dressed up as Mrs. The theme of the parade was "Tall Tales and True. She bemoaned her own losses by the fire, which included all the animals in the barn except the calf, but otherwise she tried to avoid the unwanted attention, including offers from promoters who promised her money for public appearances. She and her family lived in a series of homes around 50th and Halsted, where journalists would seek her out for interviews in early October. She would ignore them or chase them away, and they in turn would make up stories that revived the old stereotypes about the unwashed immigrant poor.

Chapter 4 : The O'Leary Legend | The Great Chicago Fire & The Web of Memory

On Oct. 8, , a fire began in the barn behind the O'Leary cottage on De Koven Street, near 12th and Halsted streets. The Chicago Fire eventually would leave Chicagoans dead, 90, homeless.

Gale Encyclopedia of U. It had been an unusually dry summer and the flames jumped quickly from house to house, then from street to street. The blaze raced along from the southwest to the northeast, enveloping the business district and leaping over the Chicago River, dying out only when it reached Lake Michigan almost thirty hours later. Never before had the prosperous American city seen such devastation and upheaval. At the time, many feared the metropolis would not be able to regain its standing as an industrial and economic center. There are several theories about how the Chicago Fire of began. Other explanations range from the accidentalâ€”a spark blown from a chimney, or a matchstick dropped â€”to the intentionalâ€”arson, or even the wrath of an angry God. To this day, however, colorful myths surround the tragic event, and the unsolved mystery remains a subject of speculation and debate. Less ambiguous to historians is what made the fire grow to a size and ferocity that were uncontrollable. Once the barnyard blaze raged out of control, the surrounding buildings and the entire city were at risk. Then the lumber capital of the world, Chicago was a city built primarily of wood. Its houses, storefronts, and factoriesâ€”even its sidewalks and streetsâ€”were made of this versatile yet flammable material. Drought, which had plagued the region for months, left all of this wood dry, brittle, and particularly vulnerable to flame. Gusts of wind carried "fire devils," chunks of flaming wood, which rapidly spread the destruction. Pandemonium erupted in the streets as families abandoned their homes. Many people seized valuables from the blazing buildings and looting broke out as vandals took advantage of the confusion. In his article "The Great Chicago Fire," John Pauly described how businessmen trundled their families off to safe havens, then risked their lives to reach downtown offices, hoping to salvage money, records, and equipment. Some felt safe enough to stand back and watch the bright, awesome conflagration. With the development of the railroad and the economic boom that followed the American Civil War â€” , the city thrived. But the fire raged through four square miles of the metropolis; it demolished factories, stores, railroad depots, hotels, theaters, and banks. Nearly people died in the blaze and , were made homeless. Millionaires became paupers over-night, their businesses destroyed. At first, the damage seemed irreparable. The fire not only halted but also erased much of the progress the city had made in recent years. Chaos reigned in the days following the catastrophe, as civil unrest and looting continued. Mason declared martial law to preserve peace in the ravaged city. But help was on the way, and with dispatches sent via telegraph, Chicagoans were able to maintain contact with nearby cities that would assist in the rescue, rebuilding, and recovery efforts. Many businesses in other cities had economic interests to protect in Chicagoâ€” New York vendors, for example, conducted trade with interior states through Chicago merchants. The support of businesses in other cities helped the city to emerge from the ashes of the great fire. The rebuilding of Chicago was a tremendous endeavor. Insurance companies in America and Europe rose to the occasion, producing the sums they were obliged to pay for the damages. The city was able to resurrect itself quickly on this underlying framework. Before long Chicago began to attract entrepreneurs, businessmen, and well-known architects, who found ways to profit from the reconstruction efforts. Their city did not perish. Rather, the rebuilt metropolis reemerged, years later stronger than before, with buildings and homes constructed under new fire regulations. The fire marked an interruptionâ€”but fortunately, not a terminationâ€”in the period of economic growth that Chicago, along with other American cities, experienced during the post- Civil War years. The New Encyclopedia Britannica.

Chapter 5 : The Great Chicago Fire Of , When The Windy City Almost Burned Down

On October 8, , a fire broke out in a barn on the southwest side of Chicago, Illinois. For more than 24 hours, the fire burned through the heart of Chicago, killing people and leaving one-third of the city's population homeless. The "Great Rebuilding" was the effort to construct a new, urban.

March 6, May 22, A great wall of fire approaching fast and destroying everything on its way is that something you will like to see? This is precisely what people of Chicago saw and experienced back in This uncontrolled fire went on a rampage, penning down a story of horror and misery for the Chicagoites. What started the fire? How long did it continue destruction? How was it controlled? We are going to find the answers to all these questions here in this 20 interesting Great Chicago Fire facts list. Interesting Great Chicago Fire Facts: It was estimated that around people lost their lives because of the fire. Apart from human casualties, the fire damaged thousands of building and several other properties. Back in those days wooden buildings were abundant in Chicago. Sidewalks and streets too had no scarcity of wooden structures. As per legends, it was the family cow of Patrick and Catherine that was responsible for the fire. Stories floated that the cow knocked down a lighted lantern which started the blaze. Patrick and Catherine were questioned but Catherine denied the charge. So, the true source of the fire is not known till date and will never be unearthed. Among other theories, the cause of fire has been blamed on humans and comets but none of them have been proved. The fire became uncontrolled very soon and rapidly moved to the east and north of Chicago. The fire continued to burn through 9th of October forming a massive wall speeding at kilometers an hour. The speeding massive fire wall created tornado-style winds and the tremendous heat turned the beach sands into glass. Even worse, the fire wall even managed to jump over and cross the Green Bay waters and played havoc in a number of cities there. The immense heat and energy produced by the fire managed to toss houses and rail cars into air. With an estimated dead and , homeless, the fire left behind a destruction trail of 4 miles long and 1 mile wide. Over 17, homes and structures were completely destroyed. With the devastating fire Chicago saw lawlessness and mass looting, forcing the government to introduce martial law. Companies of soldiers were sent to Chicago to prevent looting and other problems with effect from 11th of October. While most of the infrastructure of Chicago was destroyed by the fire, the transport system was left relatively unharmed that helped with the reconstruction phase. During the reconstruction period, Chicago experienced a massive growth in population as well as economic growth. When the fire broke out, the population of Chicago was around , and by next 5 years, the population shot up to ,

Chapter 6 : Chicago Fire Collectibles | eBay

The fire started on Sunday, October 8, and didn't stop until October 10. When it was over, as many as 300 people were dead and 100,000 were left homeless. The blaze, which later became known as the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, is said to have started inside a barn that was located on DeKoven Street.

How did the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 impact Chicago and its architecture? On the night of October 8, 1871, a fire spread across Chicago. While the cause of the blaze is unknown, its origin was at West DeKoven Street—an address that today is home to a Chicago Fire Department training facility. An estimated 300 people died and 100,000 were left homeless by the three-day inferno that erased 2,000 acres of the city. The center of Chicago and the heart of the business district were wiped out. Would Chicago have developed in the same way without the fire? Booming industries such as the Union Stockyards and lumberyards were located outside of the burn zone, which was roughly Halsted Street east to Lake Michigan and Roosevelt Avenue north to Fullerton Parkway. By 1871, Chicago had already claimed a central role in the U.S. It was the most important processing point for raw materials heading east from the frontier and the biggest interchange in the new national railroad system. Timber and paper industries took hold first, then came meat packing and steel production. But within months of the fire, a land rush began. Following another destructive fire in 1837, new building codes were written to ensure that most new construction contained more fire-resistant brick and stone. Slow rise of skyscrapers The myth is often told that the fire cleared the city—wiping the slate clean so tall new skyscrapers could be designed and built. But in reality, a different story unfolded. Immediately after the fire, both downtown and in the neighborhoods, new construction looked very similar to what was built before the fire. With time and money at stake, as often happens after a natural disaster, business owners quickly rebuilt what they knew. Typical four-story downtown commercial buildings were often a hybrid of brick, stone and iron construction. It would be another years before the earliest skyscrapers—8 to 10 stories, with structural steel frames, elevators and innovative foundations—would come to replace those first post-fire buildings. Old Town gives us a glimpse of what pre-fire Chicago looked like. Although the neighborhood was nearly leveled in the fire, it was immediately rebuilt in a similar style and scale. Old Town avoided through a strong-arm political deal the new boundaries that dictated fireproof construction. Still more questions remain. How many of the 18,000 structures vanquished in the fire would have outlasted the twin threats of growth and neglect to reach the present day? Would creative new skyscrapers have been designed as early without a push from skyrocketing land values downtown? Many historians agree that the city that rose like a phoenix from the ashes would likely have kept growing without the fire. Perhaps it would have done so without the grand plans and large population boom that fueled commerce, construction and innovation into the 20th century. The next time you see the flag fluttering on the side of a building, you may recall the story of a windy day in when Chicago changed forever.

Chapter 7 : - Chicago's Technology & Entrepreneurship Center

Listen as Casey Grant from the National Fire Protection Association and best-selling author Lauren Tarshsis of the 'I Survived' book series talk about the fire.

Chapter 8 : Progress of the Chicago Fire of 1871

Not to be confused with the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, The Chicago Fire of 1857 was a conflagration in Chicago, Illinois, that took place on July 14, 1857.

Chapter 9 : Great Chicago Fire begins - HISTORY

After those two catastrophic days in October 1871, when more than 2,000 acres of Chicago burned, reporters continually

appeared on Mrs. O'Leary's doorstep, calling her "shiftless and.