

Chicago's Destruction And Rebuilding

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Research Paper

Junior Division

2,423 Words

Thesis

The Great Chicago Fire was a turning point in Chicago history and was actually a good thing for Chicago because even though Chicago was destroyed, it was rebuilt even better into the center of architecture, culture, and commerce that it is today.

How The Fire Started

On October 8th, 1871, a fire broke out at 137 DeKoven Street in Patrick and Catherine O'Leary's barn at about nine o'clock in the evening. This fire came to be known as the Great Chicago Fire and was one of the worst disasters in American history. There are many theories as to how this fire started, but one of the most well known theories is that one of Mr. and Mrs. O'Leary's cows kicked over a lit gas lantern and that is what started the fire. But this is not the only theory as to how the fire started. Another theory that some people think is that it was just a coincidence because there was a long summer drought¹ earlier in that year in Chicago and the dry and windy conditions just made the fire a really destructive one. One of the other theories is that the fire was caused by a meteor shower that broke apart from Biela's Comet². Another possible theory is that a group of men were gambling in Mr. and Mrs. O'Leary's barn and one of them accidentally knocked over a gas lamp and started a fire³.

¹ Earlier in that summer, it was so hot and dry that there had been a devastating drought. During the drought, only three inches of rain fell during the whole summer.

² Biela's Comet was a periodic Jupiter family comet. In 1826, Wilhelm von Biela identified it as periodic. Then in 1852 it had split into two parts.

³ A few years after the fire, a man named Louis M. Cohn confessed to knocking over a gas lamp inside of the O'Leary's barn while illegally gambling and starting a fire.

Regardless of how the fire started, it probably became such a bad fire because it was allowed to grow unchallenged for about forty minutes before someone noticed it and sounded the alarm⁴. At that point, the fire was a decent size, but Chicago's firefighters could probably have still put out the fire. But the Chicago fire department's watchman, Matthias Schaffer, accidentally told the firefighters to go to the wrong location⁵. After he did that, the fire had even more time to grow in size and cause more damage. Also, there weren't even that many firefighters to battle the fire. There were only about 185 firefighters in the whole city of Chicago⁶. So because the firefighters got sent to the wrong location and gave the fire time to grow larger, by the time they got to where the fire was, there was very little that the firefighters could do to put out the fire.

The Fire Spread

Then soon after the fire left Mr. and Mrs O'Leary's barn, it quickly came upon many furniture factories and grain elevators,⁷ consuming them in flames and accelerating the blaze towards the more densely populated areas of Chicago. The fire department had hoped that the Chicago River would be able to slow the fire down a little

⁴ A big problem that helped the fire grow was the fact that nobody reacted quick enough. Also, they didn't think that the conditions would accelerate the fire so they didn't think that it was a huge problem.

⁵ When the alarm was finally sounded the Chicago Fire Department's watchman, Matthias Schaffer, thought that it was in a different location so by him sending the firefighters somewhere else, he severely delayed them from being able to stop the fire.

⁶ For a big city at the time, there were very few firefighters in the Chicago Fire Department. There were only about 185 firefighters and 17 horse drawn steam engines. That wasn't a lot for a city of this size.

⁷ Many of Chicago's main industries were located very close to the Chicago River, so goods could easily come into and out of Chicago. Also, many of these factories produce very flammable goods such as coal, grains, and lumber.

bit if not stop it, but because of all of the furniture factories, lumber yards, and grain elevators, it actually just gave the fire more fuel to keep burning on towards the heart of Chicago. And since it happened to be really windy that day, the wind just carried the burning embers from the fire across the Chicago River to the other side of the river. So when the burning embers landed on anything such as wooden sidewalks, wooden buildings, and anything else that happened to be made of anything flammable,⁸ it lit everything on fire on that side of the river.

Then by that point the fire was beyond the fire department's control and it kept rampaging towards the heart of the city, lighting everything in its path up in flames and destroying almost everything that was set on fire. And because most of the structures and buildings at that time were made of wood and tar,⁹ the fire kept burning strong and it traveled very quickly throughout Chicago. Also, the really dry and windy conditions at the time kept creating fire whirls¹⁰ and fanning the fires flames towards the more densely populated areas of Chicago as well as the northern parts of Chicago.

The whole time the firefighters kept bravely battling the fire even if there wasn't much they could do to completely put out the fire. They had tried everything that they could to hinder the progress of the flames, but there was little if anything that they could

⁸ In Chicago during that time, wood was being used in favor of concrete to build roads and sidewalks because of the abundance of wood and forests and how long it takes to make concrete.

⁹ Wood and tar were the main building materials used at that time because the frame of the buildings would be made of wood and the tar would hold the shingles on the roofs together.

¹⁰ A fire whirl is what happens when the hot air of the fire rises and meets the cooler air higher in the sky which then start to spin around, sending burning embers everywhere.

do to stop it. Finally, they had to give up after the fire reached the waterworks¹¹ and sent it up in flames along with everything else. After that, the only thing that could have possibly done anything to stop the blaze was destroyed. Once Chicago's last defense against the fire crumbled, the only thing that you could do to escape the fire was to just run away from it.

The Aftermath

Then, finally after almost two full days of burning throughout Chicago, the Great Chicago Fire had started to burn itself out because it had reached the much less populated north side of Chicago. Also, something that really helped out was the fact that the winds had drastically died down from how bad they used to be when the fire was in full swing. Another thing that really helped to put out the Great Chicago Fire was a much needed rain.

The Great Chicago Fire lasted from about nine o'clock in the evening of October 8, to the very early morning of October 10, 1871. In the span of about a day and a half to two days, the Great Chicago Fire burned down about three and a half square miles of Chicago, or over two thousand acres of land. About 17,500 structures and buildings were burned down, costing an estimated two hundred million dollars in property damage, which in the present day would be equal to almost four billion dollars. The Great Chicago Fire also left about 100,000 people homeless and it is believed that three

¹¹ The Chicago waterworks were Chicago's only hope to put out the fire, but when a piece of burning wood hit the roof of the waterworks, the building instantly went up in flames, along with any hope of stopping the fire after that.

hundred people were killed in the fire although only one hundred and twenty bodies were recovered from the ashes. When the burning remains from the fire were eventually put out, there was a survey of the damage and it was estimated that a total of over two thousand acres of land were destroyed throughout Chicago during the Great Chicago Fire.

The Reconstruction

After the Great Chicago Fire ended, the vast majority of the city's business district, which had mostly consisted of homes and company buildings, was burned to the ground, but luckily a lot of, if not most of Chicago's major industries and factories managed to survive the devastating blaze. For example most of the stockyards,¹² wharfs,¹³ mills, grain elevators, and other industrial buildings and structures managed to survive the fire because the fire mostly burned in the more urban, populated parts of Chicago, away from the industrial structures, buildings, and factories. So because all of these industrial businesses were still in full operation and business, and the fact that Chicago had to be rebuilt, the economy of Chicago really began to boom.

In addition to a booming economy, Chicago received a large amount of donations in the form of money, food, clothing, and other essential goods to help rebuild itself after the recent catastrophic disaster. The donations that Chicago received were from all

¹² At the time of the Great Chicago Fire, stockyards were one of Chicago's many leading industries. Because of this, Chicago came to be known as the "Hog Butcher For The World."

¹³ Wharfs were a huge part of trade between Chicago and other cities because of the Chicago River and Lake Michigan, so whenever a ship came in or out with goods, they always had to stop at the Wharfs to load and unload.

around the United States of America and from many other countries all around the world. These donations were able to come mostly on trains because railroads were largely unaffected by the fire and transporting the donations on trains would be the fastest and easiest way to get all of the goods to Chicago at that time. Some cities that helped Chicago by donating money were New York City, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Buffalo, Milwaukee, along with many other nearby towns and cities. All of those cities and many more donated hundreds of thousands of dollars in money and other supplies to help Chicago start over and rebuild itself from the ashes of the Great Chicago Fire.

Then about a month after the Great Chicago Fire ended, a new mayor named Joseph Medill¹⁴ was elected. He was elected because he promised that he would enforce much stricter fire codes. So while rebuilding was in process, Chicago was placed under martial law so that the reconstruction would go smoothly and nothing would get too out of hand. Then with the new rules¹⁵ in place, most of the new buildings had to be built out of fire resistant materials such as brick, stone, marble, or other non-flammable materials, which all had to be held together by a sticky substance called mortar. Then a few years after the Great Chicago Fire ended, terra-cotta clay became a very popular building material in Chicago. Terra-cotta became a very popular building material because it was relatively cheap, it was made quickly, and it was resistant to

¹⁴ After being elected as mayor of Chicago, Joseph Medill created the first public library in Chicago, made and enforced the Blue Laws or the Sunday Laws, which were related to religion, and lastly he improved upon the police and fire departments.

¹⁵ After the Great Chicago Fire had ended, new building laws were put into place that restricted what you could and you couldn't use to build the new buildings with so there would be a lower chance of another fire like the Great Chicago Fire or any fire in general.

fire. So since terra-cotta clay was such a popular building material in the years following the Great Chicago Fire and it was a material that was resistant to fire, Chicago became one of the most fireproof cities in the United States of America.

What Changed

In the aftermath of the Great Chicago Fire, many businesses started to rebuild their buildings, but with a much simpler style of architecture. They chose to make much more simpler buildings because it was much more practical and a lot more cost efficient for them. So in light of this, a few new architecture schools were created in Chicago. These new schools were to help new and younger architects learn different and better building techniques to aid in the reconstruction of Chicago.

One of these schools was the First Chicago School of architecture, which had a simple design, but had many great ideas and was very innovative. For example, they suggested the use of steel frames for buildings. Then, the buildings would be much stronger than before and wouldn't catch on fire so easily. Another thing that this particular school suggested was more natural light. So because of this new idea, many buildings were given more windows, so the natural light in each building would be greatly increased.

In addition to that, they started to build skyscrapers about ten years after the time of the Great Chicago Fire. In the year 1884, one of the world's first skyscrapers, the Home Insurance Building¹⁶, was built. A few other new types of buildings emerged

¹⁶ The Home Insurance Building was one of the world's first skyscrapers and was widely considered as the first. It stood at 138 feet tall and ten stories high. Later on, two more floors would be added on for a

during this era. One of these would be the Greystone flat buildings¹⁷. Another new type of building is the Courtyard Apartments¹⁸. These two styles of architecture were actually created as a result of the new fire safety regulations and the fact that many people were still homeless because of the fire. This is one of the ways that the fire helped Chicago.

Another thing the people of Chicago have that they can thank the Great Chicago Fire for is the Chicago Public Library. Before the fire, there were libraries, but none of them were public. All of the libraries in Chicago before the fire were private which you had to pay for. Not only that, but not everyone had access to those libraries. After the fire, the city of Chicago decided to make a public library which was free and everyone could go to. So the first public library in Chicago was made in an abandoned water tower which had managed to survive the fire. They had put all of the books that had been donated into this library, and that is how it started.

So really, the Great Chicago Fire actually ended up being a good thing for Chicago in the long run. The Great Chicago Fire ended up being good for Chicago because even though it was one of the United States's worst disasters in all of its history, the people of Chicago learned from their mistakes and they rebuilt Chicago

total of twelve stories and 180 feet tall. It was built with a fireproof metal frame. This building's architect was William Le Baron Jenney.

¹⁷ The Greystone flat buildings became so popular after the fire because many people still needed a home and it was the perfect fit for Chicago. They could fit large families and could be used as an apartment building. They were also inexpensive and easy to build.

¹⁸ The Chicago Courtyard Apartments were really popular because they were very organized and friendly compared to other apartment complexes. Other apartment complexes had horizontal doors lining the hallway. In this particular style of apartment complex, there were two apartments on each floor, and it was typically three stories tall. This style of apartment complex also had two fire exits for every unit accord to Chicago fire safety protocol.

even better than ever¹⁹. Much of that has to do with the many new and successful building styles which emerged from the ashes of the Great Chicago Fire. Also, because of the fire, Chicago decided to make a new public library system. So now, Chicago has very strict building and fire safety codes. So now we have much more fire resistant buildings, better fire safety protocols, and a much more skilled, advance, and better equipped fire department that is prepared for any situation.

The Conclusion

So in conclusion, even though the Great Chicago Fire burned down the vast majority of Chicago and was an incredibly devastating event in American history, the people of Chicago and the people of the United States of America learned that there needed to be very strict fire safety protocols to keep people safe from fires. Also, we now know much better firefighting techniques which can save more people's lives and put out fires.

Because of the Great Chicago Fire, Chicago became a much more advanced city than it was before the fire. Chicago got even larger than it had been before the fire and the economy boomed because of all of the available jobs so Chicago could be rebuilt. That really helped Chicago in the long run. Another way that the Great Chicago Fire was actually a good thing for Chicago was the fact that Chicago became a much more

¹⁹ Since the Great Chicago Fire burned down most of Chicago, it was able to be totally rebuilt into a center of commerce and architecture. Also, after the fire, the economy boomed because of all of the available jobs and Chicago became much larger than it was before the fire.

fireproof city after the fire. There were many new fire protocols and in the years following the fire, most of the buildings became almost completely fireproof.

Another thing that was very good for Chicago because of the fire was new architecture styles that were created. One of the other good things were the new schools that really helped the new architects build the great new buildings in Chicago after the fire destroyed almost all of the old ones. The new schools were very good for Chicago because new ideas were taught there such as building skyscrapers and other types of buildings such as the Greystone flat buildings and the Courtyard Apartments. One more good thing about the fire is that the first skyscraper, the Home Insurance Building, was built in Chicago. If the Great Chicago Fire never happened, then that might not have been built because the other buildings would still be there.

Chicago is one of the best and most populated cities in America and in the world today because the Great Chicago Fire had destroyed the vast majority of Chicago, so that it could be molded into the great city that it is today. So, the Great Chicago Fire ended up being a good thing for Chicago because if the Great Chicago Fire had never happened, then Chicago would not be the amazing city that it is today.

CHICAGO METRO HISTORY FAIR 2018 SUMMARY STATEMENT

Attach an annotated bibliography (AB) that is divided between primary and secondary sources.
Submit two copies of the SS and AB at the competition. *Please type.*

Student name(s): <i>Ryan Clifford</i>				
Title: <i>Chicago's Destruction And Rebuilding</i>				
Check if applicable (and respond to Question 3):				
<input type="checkbox"/> This project uses the 2018 National History Day theme, "Conflict & Compromise in [Chicago/Illinois] History"				
Project Category:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit	<input type="checkbox"/> Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Documentary	<input type="checkbox"/> Performance
<i>Student Composed Word-Count:</i>	<i>Student Composed Word-Count:</i>	Total Word-Count (excluding citations):	<i>Time:</i>	<i>Time:</i>
		2,408 words		

1. THESIS STATEMENT

Present the project's argument or interpretation in two sentences. If you are using the NHD theme, you might want to make it evident in your thesis statement.

The Great Chicago Fire was a turning point in Chicago history and was actually a good thing for Chicago because even though Chicago was destroyed, it was rebuilt even better into the center of architecture, culture, and commerce that it is today.

2. SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Briefly explain your project and its conclusion. Include: How and why did change happen and what was the impact? Why is it historically significant? What historical meaning or importance can we learn from your findings?

My project is a research paper that is focused on the events of the Great Chicago Fire, and the reconstruction of Chicago after the fire had ended. The Great Chicago Fire greatly changed Chicago because Chicago had to be completely rebuilt, so it was rebuilt much better than it was before the fire so Chicago could prevent another possible disaster like that from ever happening again.

The Great Chicago Fire is historically significant to Chicago and Illinois because almost all of Chicago was burned to the ground and had to be completely rebuilt. So during the reconstruction of Chicago, everything in the city was built a lot better than it was before. Everything was sturdier, and after the reconstruction, Chicago became one of the most fireproof cities in America because they learned from the fire and they made stricter fire safety codes. Because of the Great Chicago Fire, Chicago is the city that it is today.

The historical meaning that we can learn is that the Great Chicago Fire devastated Chicago and crippled Illinois. But because of the Great Chicago Fire, Chicago became a much better city than it was before. After the fire, the city grew, prospered, was an important part of Illinois's economy, and most importantly, became one the most fireproof cities in America because they learned from their mistakes during the time of the fire. That is why the Great Chicago Fire was a good thing for Chicago and Illinois in the long run.

3. Required for projects using the National History Day theme only.

Explain how this project integrates the NHD theme "Conflict & Compromise in [Chicago/Illinois] History" into its argument.

My research paper has to do with the theme of "Conflict & Compromise" because the Great Chicago Fire was one of the worst disasters in American history, if not the worst. The fire had burned down almost all of Chicago and was a crippling blow to the economy of Illinois. But soon after the fire, the people of Chicago began the reconstruction of Chicago, making it one the best cities in America. Chicago was rebuilt better than ever, now with building being made of fire resistant materials with much stricter fire codes. Not only that but the reconstruction of Chicago gave many American citizens job opportunities which really helped to boost the economy of Illinois after the fire. Now, Chicago has been rebuilt into the center of architecture, culture, and commerce that it is today.

4. PROCESS

A. What historical question did you start off with—and how did it change once you began doing your research?

I started with the question of, “How was Chicago rebuilt after the Great Chicago Fire?” Once I had started researching, I got another question that I could research. It was, “How did the Great Chicago Fire make Chicago into the place that it is today?” Another question I had while researching was, “What were the effects of the Great Chicago Fire?” So in the end, I tried to combine all of these questions with this final question: “How did the Great Chicago Fire change Chicago?”

B. What kinds of sources did you use as evidence to develop your argument (for example, letters, photographs, government documents, interviews, etc.)?

In my research paper, I used online website and articles about the Great Chicago Fire for the most part. But I also used many other sources such as newspaper articles, images, and drawings from the fire. Other sources used include videos, interviews, and books.

C. Select one piece of evidence that you used and explain how it influenced your argument.

One piece of evidence that I used to influence my argument was buildings being built and rebuilt with terra-cotta clay. This piece of evidence was really important to my argument that the Great Chicago Fire was a good thing because terra-cotta clay is resistant to fire. This really helped because I learned that it was cheap and fast to make, so it was in high demand when it came to building materials. Also since terra-cotta clay is fire resistant, that really help Chicago become a much more fireproof city and one of the most fire resistant cities in America at the time.

D. List libraries (other than school), museums, and other institutions that you visited to do your research.

One place that I went to for my research was the Chicago History Museum. This museum really helped in my research of the Great Chicago Fire because I learned a lot of things that I didn't know about or couldn't find in other places. The Chicago History Museum was very helpful to me and I'm happy I went there.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary:

Websites

Chapin, John R. "An Eyewitness Account of the Great Chicago Fire, 1871." *The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History*. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 08 Oct. 2014. Web. 30 Nov. 2017.

<<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/development-west/resources/eyewitness-account-great-chicago-fire-1871>>.

This website had excerpts from an interview with John R. Chapin, a witness of the fire that drew a picture of what was happening just across the street from his hotel. The interview and drawing really helped me understand what it was like for a normal person during the fire.

The Editors of Getty Images. "Great Chicago Fire." *Great Chicago Fire Stock Photos and Pictures* | Getty Images. Getty Images, n.d. Web. 03 Dec. 2017.

<<http://www.gettyimages.com/photos/great-chicago-fire?excludenudity=true&sort=mostpopular&mediatype=photography&phrase=great%2Bchicago%2Bfire#license>>.

This source had many images, maps, and drawings from the Great Chicago Fire and it really helped me understand why the fire was such a significant and awful thing that happened because of how little was left after the fire ended.

LaTrace, AJ. "Maps Show How Chicago Was Devastated After the Great Fire of 1871." *Curbed Chicago*. Curbed Chicago, 08 Oct. 2015. Web. 03 Dec. 2017.

<<https://chicago.curbed.com/2015/10/8/9913324/great-chicago-fire-map>>.

This website had many good images from the Great Chicago Fire showing me what happened, the rubble after the fire from what was left, and a map that showed how much of Chicago was burned down from the fire.

"Images/Primary Sources - The Great Chicago Fire." *Google Sites*. Google Sites, n.d. Web. 03 Dec. 2017. <<https://sites.google.com/site/chicagofirehistoryfair/claim-1>>.

This source had a lot of newspaper articles about the fire and it gave me a lot of facts about what happened, where it happened, how much was damaged, and a lot of very useful facts like that.

Newspaper Articles

The Editors of The Sun. "Chicago Destroyed" *The Sun* [New York] 10 Oct. 1871: n. pag. Print. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030272/1871-10-10/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=10%2F08%2F1871&sort=date&date2=12%2F31%2F1871&words=Fire+fire+fires&sequence=1&lccn=&index=15&state=&rows=20&ortext=fire&proxtext=&year=&phrasertext=&andtext=&proxValue=&dateFilterType=range&page=1>>.

Since this newspaper article from The Sun is actually from 1871, there are many facts that are reliable, especially since it was written so recently after the fire. Also it tells exactly what happened during the fire.

The Editors of The New York Tribune. "The Chicago Calamity." *New York Tribune* [New York] 11 Oct. 1871: n. pag. Print.

<<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030214/1871-10-11/ed-1/seq-1/#date1=10%2F08%2F1871&sort=date&date2=12%2F31%2F1871&words=FIRE+fire+Fire+fires+firing&sequence=1&lccn=&index=5&state=&rows=20&ortext=fire&proxtext=&year=&phrasertext=&andtext=&proxValue=&dateFilterType=range&page=2>>.

This Newspaper article has a lot of facts about what happened during the Great Chicago Fire such as how much was destroyed and about how many people died, and it also says how it might have started.

Digital Images

Barlow, Paul. "Illustration of Chicago Fire: How It Started. Mrs. O'Leary's Cow Upset an Oil Lamp." *File:Mrs O'Leary's Cow.jpg*. Wikimedia Commons, 15 Dec. 2011. Web. 01 Dec. 2017. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mrs_OLeary%27s_cow.jpg>.

This image shows a cow kicking over a lamp inside of a barn, which is likely how the fire started and that is how this source helped me.

Chapin, John R. *Chicago In Flames*. Digital image. *An Eyewitness Account of the Great Chicago Fire, 1871*. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, 08 Oct. 2014. Web. 03 Dec. 2017.

<<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/development-west/resources/eyewitness-account-great-chicago-fire-1871>>.

This picture that John R Chapin sketched was very useful because it shows people escaping the fire by just running away from a burning building.

Currier and Ives. *Chicago In Flames*. Digital image. *File:Chicago in Flames by Currier & Ives, 1871.jpg*. Wikimedia Commons, 27 Feb. 2016. Web. 03 Dec. 2017.

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Chicago_in_Flames_by_Currier_%26_Ives,_1871.jpg>.

This picture shows people escaping from the Great Chicago Fire by crossing over a bridge to get on the side that wasn't burning so they could be safe.

Currier and Ives. *Great Chicago Fire of 1871*. Digital image. *Great Fire of 1871 - Preface*. Awesome Stories, 01 Sept. 2002. Web. 03 Dec. 2017.

<<https://www.awesomestories.com/images/user/7f95566b6ac986fc4e633be3583be751.jpg>>.

This picture was very helpful for me because it shows Chicago in flames, but the fire being stopped by Lake Michigan, and people still trying to escape the fire by getting on a boat or into the water.

Secondary:

Websites

History.com Staff. "Chicago Fire of 1871." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, 2010. Web. 29 Nov. 2017. <<http://www.history.com/topics/great-chicago-fire>>.

This website has a very informational video about the Great Chicago Fire and describes what happened very well, for example telling me how much was destroyed and how Chicago was rebuilt.

McNamara, Robert. "How One Fire Destroyed Chicago." *ThoughtCo*. ThoughtCo, 06 Mar. 2017. Web. 29 Nov. 2017. <<https://www.thoughtco.com/the-great-chicago-fire-of-1871-1774058>>.

This source really helped me understand why the fire was so bad, because, according to the website, there was a very bad summer drought, and it also told me a lot about the reconstruction of Chicago.

Society, National Geographic. "The Chicago Fire of 1871 and the 'Great Rebuilding'." *National Geographic Society*. National Geographic Society, 15 Oct. 2012. Web. 29 Nov. 2017.

<<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/news/chicago-fire-1871-and-great-rebuilding/>>.

This source has some good pictures of the fire, it tells about how the fire most likely started, it says all of the facts about the fire, then it goes into great detail of the reconstruction, which was very useful and informative.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. "Chicago Fire of 1871." *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 25 May 2017. Web. 29 Nov. 2017.

<<https://www.britannica.com/event/Chicago-fire-of-1871>>.

This website shows a very informative map as well as it tells why the fire was so bad and tells a lot of facts about the fire such as the many ways it could have started, how much was destroyed, and why Chicago was able to rebuilt so quickly.

Upton, Emily. "The Great Chicago Fire Wasn't Started by a Cow." *Today I Found Out*. Today I Found Out, 30 May 2013. Web. 29 Nov. 2017.

<<http://www.todayifoundout.com/index.php/2013/05/how-the-great-chicago-fire-started/>>.

This website goes over all of the possible theories as to how the fire started then goes into detail about the fire and how it spread with wind and a lot of other helpful facts about the fire and how it made Chicago better.

LaTrace, AJ. "Maps Show How Chicago Was Devastated After the Great Fire of 1871." *Curbed Chicago*. Curbed Chicago, 08 Oct. 2015. Web. 30 Nov. 2017.

<<https://chicago.curbed.com/2015/10/8/9913324/great-chicago-fire-map>>.

This website has many images from the Great Chicago Fire, as well as a map that showed the burned area and a few pictures that showed the aftermath after the fire which were all very useful.

Hansmann, Della. "The Great Chicago Fire: A Calamity That Reset a City." *Moss Architecture*. Moss Architecture, 24 Mar. 2015. Web. 21 Jan. 2018.

<<http://moss-design.com/the-great-chicago-fire-a-calamity-that-reset-a-city/>>.

This website told me about the new architecture schools in Chicago that were made after the Great Chicago Fire to help new architects learn more about buildings styles as Chicago was being rebuilt.

Hansmann, Della. "Chicago Building Types: The Greystone." *Moss Architecture*. Moss Architecture, 15 Jan. 2017. Web. 22 Jan. 2018. <<http://moss-design.com/greystone/>>.

This website really helped me learn about the Greystone buildings in Chicago. It told me why this style of house was so popular, especially why it was so popular after the Great Chicago Fire.

Hansmann, Della. "Chicago Building Types: The Courtyard Apartment." *Moss Architecture*. Moss Architecture, 07 Feb. 2016. Web. 22 Jan. 2018.

<<http://moss-design.com/courtyard-apartment/>>.

This website was very helpful to me because I learned a lot about the Chicago Courtyard Apartments. I also learned about why they were so popular and so different from other apartment buildings.

Books

Grossman, James R., Ann Durkin. Keating, and Janice L. Reiff. "Fire of 1871." *The Encyclopedia of Chicago*. Chicago: U of Chicago, 2004. 297. Print.

This source told me that the fire burned down three and a half square miles of Chicago and destroyed 18,000 structures but Chicago was quickly rebuilt due to donations and the fire ended up being a turning point in Chicago history.

Videos

How the Great Fire of 1871 Actually Benefited Chicago. Youtube, 23 Apr. 2015. Web. 03 Dec. 2017. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhiRFATge4c&t=111s>>.

This video on Youtube helped me by telling me the facts of what happened during the Great Chicago Fire, how we rebuilt it, and how because of it, it actually benefited Chicago for the better.

The Rookery: A City's Rise from the Ashes. Youtube, 29 Sept. 2014. Web. 03 Dec. 2017. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reS3jFrS1o4&t=86s>>.

This Youtube video helped me by telling me what happened in the fire and this Youtube video also helped me by going into great detail about how we rebuilt Chicago.

Norton, Ada. *The Great Chicago Fire and Mrs' O'Leary's Powerpoint Final.* Youtube, 06 Dec. 2013. Web. 03 Dec. 2017. <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwdMrDNfUsI>>.

This Youtube video was useful to me because the video was of a powerpoint presentation that told me what happened during the Great Chicago Fire, how the fire started, and how we learned from the fire.

Dunn, Stewart. *The Great Chicago Fire and the Myth of Mrs. O'Leary's Cow.* Youtube, 21 July 2015. Web. 03 Dec. 2017. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fe38_RpWweA&t=419s>.

This Youtube video was also powerpoint presentation but it was about a book about the Great Chicago fire. In the presentation, it goes over the author's perspective of the fire, what happened during the fire, the progress of the fire through Chicago, why the fire was so devastating, and how it affected us today.