1. To access the database go to the library’s webpage (www.buffalolib.org) and click on the Research + Resources link located near the top of the page. Select Databases A-Z and then select the Genealogy category and click on the database name – Sanborn Maps of New York 1867-1970.

2. Once you are in the database select the Browse and Explore button.

3. Select the State, City, and Date.

4. Maps sets for large cities will include a key sheet which provides an overview map showing map plate numbers and volume numbers. Click on “Key, Sheet 0” to see a sample overview map.
5. A window will open with a map viewer. You can zoom in/out, make the image full screen, download and print the image.

5. The map shows the plate numbers for the volume that you are currently in. If the area you are looking for is outside the boundaries of the current volume, the overview map will refer you to the appropriate volume.
6. An easier way to find what plate an exact address is on is to use the index sheet. Select “Index, Sheet 0b.”

7. Zoom in so the Streets section is readable. Look for the address 51 Broadway. The first set of numbers after the dots following the street name are the street address ranges. After those are the plate numbers. So according to this map, numbers 1-70 Broadway are on plate 6. If an asterisk is next to the plate number, it means that only one side of the street depicted on that plate. On this map, for Broadway, street numbers 71-153, only one side of the street is on plate 6.

8. Use the back arrow on the internet browser. This will bring you back to the list of thumbnail images.
9. Next, select the thumbnail image for “Sheet 6_a.”

10. Here is 51 Broadway.
11. Use the back arrow on the internet browser. This will bring you back to the list of thumbnail images.

12. You can change the city, date, or volume from your results screen anytime after your initial search. Change the Volume to 2.

13. Select the “Index, Sheet 0b.”

14. Here we will view the Specials index. A specials index lists places such as named city blocks, businesses, places of worship, schools, and other prominent buildings. The specials index will follow the street index. Navigate to the L section and look for the Larkin Soap Works.

15. The Larkin Co. is on sheet 67. Use the back arrow on your browser to go back to the thumbnail images.

16. Choose “Sheet 67_a.”

17. The Larkin Co. is near the bottom left of the map on Seneca and Heacock Streets.
1. It is recommended to download (arrow and bracket icon) the map as a PDF file and then print it.

1. Click the Print button. The Print box will open. Then set the Page Sizing to “Fit.” Then select “Print.”