

**P014 Underwriters' Survey Bureau fonds
1915-1950
32 cartographic records**

Administrative history: The Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association was founded in 1883 for the purpose of standardizing fire insurance rules. In 1918, the Canadian Fire Underwriter's Association founded its own plan making department named the Underwriters' Survey Bureau. In 1931, the Bureau purchased all of the assets of the Chas E. Goad Company, including copyright. The Charles E. Goad map making company was established in Montreal in 1874. From 1911 to 1918, the Goad Company had reached an agreement by which they were to create and revise plans for the Canadian Fire Underwriter's Association exclusively.

Scope and content: Consisting of printed fire insurance plans with handwritten notations, the fonds attests to the activities of the Underwriters' Survey Bureau and to Charles Goad Company. Originally compiled by mapmakers and leased to insurance companies, who used the information about building sizes and construction material to determine the fire risk and the cost of insurance premiums, the fire insurance plans depict nine (9) municipalities of Northern Ontario: Ansonville, Bruce Mines, Cache Bay, Capreol, Chapleau, Gore Bay, Rainy River, Schreiber, and Thessalon (embracing Nestorville).

The following information can be found on the plans: the population, housing information such as: the materials used for construction, as well as, information on the power used, water works and alarm systems. Handwritten notes can be found on some of the plans.

Note: Custodial history: The Archives of Ontario donated the fire insurance plans to Laurentian University in March 1991.

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- : **Associated materials:** The Archives of Ontario holds associated materials.