

How Great was the Devastation of the Chicago Fire?

Activity #1: Mapping the Path of the Chicago Fire

INSTRUCTIONS

Use the document, The Path of the Great Chicago Fire, to map the path the fire took on the current map of Chicago. The document uses accounts of people who witnessed the fire to reconstruct the path of the fire as it swept through the city.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- The fire jumps the Chicago River, why do you think this happened?
- Why do you think so much of the city was consumed by the fire?
- Based on the path you plotted, can you estimate how much land was burned?