

Researching the History of Your Home?

Whether you're curious about when your home was built, who lived there before you, or what architectural style it represents, here are some helpful resources to get you started:

Online Research Tools

Ancestry – [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)

Explore census records, historical documents, and family trees to trace past owners and residents.

Beacon – beacon.schneidercorp.com

An interactive tool that provides property information, parcel maps, public records, and GIS data.

City of Buffalo Historic Context Study – ci.buffalo.mn.us

Provides insight into the city's historic preservation efforts and notable architectural developments.

Internet Archive – archive.org

Browse digitized books and documents that may reference local history or past residents.

Minnesota Historical Society – mnhs.org

A valuable resource for state-level history, archives, photographs, and preservation support.

Library of Congress – loc.gov

Explore historic maps, newspapers, and photographs—some specific to Minnesota.

Wright County Historical Society – wriighthistory.org

Local history, historic photographs, archived newspapers, and genealogical resources.

Your Local Library: A Hidden Treasure

The Great River Regional Library in Buffalo is a fantastic place to begin your research.

They offer books on historical architecture, community development, and Minnesota history.

Bonus: Access the *Ancestry Library Edition* and *FamilySearch* genealogy tools for free—available only onsite.

County & City Records

Wright County Recorder's Office

This is where you'll find your home's **Tract Index**—a chronological record of property ownership.

Staff are available to help you interpret older documents when time allows.

Wright County Assessor's Office

Discover: **Assessor's Diagram** (property-specific layout details)

Parcel Maps (shows surrounding properties and changes over time)

Buffalo City Center

Holds records of your home's **building permits**, helping you determine which features are original and which were added later.

By combining online resources, local government offices, and your community library, you can uncover fascinating details about your home's past and its place in Buffalo's evolving history.