

HISTORIC NEWBURGH: A LOCAL HISTORY INVESTIGATION

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GRADE LEVEL: Middle School

Prepared in partial fulfillment of requirements for
"INDIANA AND THE NEW NATION, 1776-1876"
a project of the Historic Southern Indiana Project
of the University of Southern Indiana
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Evansville, Indiana 47712
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FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

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Submitted by
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Indiana and the New Nation
N E H Grant
1991

"The farther you look back, the farther you can see ahead"

OBJECTIVES

1. BY EXAMINING LOCAL HISTORIC SITES STUDENTS ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO "EXPERIENCE HISTORY." STUDENTS CAN TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT WHAT THEY LOOK AT EVERY DAY AND LETTING THEM SEE IT - REALLY SEE IT - FOR THE FIRST

TIME.

2. BY UNDERSTANDING WHAT HE SEES PERHAPS THE STUDENT WILL SEE THE UNFAMILIAR IN THE FAMILIAR AND GAIN AN

This study of Newburgh, Indiana can be used to make history class more meaningful and relevant to our students. History is a record of real people and their activities. Local historical investigation can be an avenue to "touch" those "real people." History should be not the story of "great

men and women, who sometimes take extraordinary steps to meet the challenges they face.

By focusing on our local history we can reconstruct the past, measure progress or change over a period of time and analyze the causes and effects of events and actions of the people who

As we focus in our classroom on topics that each student
wants to pursue, the following suggest a wide range of direction

the questions that follow suggest a wide range of direction
for the "historian" or "researcher."

Family History

What was family history?

How did the people meet who eventually formed a couple?

What was the social and economic status of each person?

there a difference? What was the effect?
Was the courtship local or long distance?
What were the roles of men and women in the family?
How and by whom were decisions made? Did males and females
have different areas of responsibility for decision-making?
How was the birth of children spaced?
Where were the children born?
Draw a family tree

A more telling description was that "\$120,000 to \$135,000 per year was being done by only three of the larger merchants.

There are ...

school which held "regular five month sessions each beginning the 2nd Monday in February and September." The curriculum was made up of "Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and Geography with the use of globes; English Grammar, History, and Composition; Mental and Moral Science, Mathematics, Astronomy; Chemistry and Natural Philosophy with the use of Apparatus; Greek and Latin Languages." A small fee and "good" boarding could be obtained in private families at

teacher credited on the handbill

Students will make a time line with clothes line and string up dates on bulletin board along with example school papers from 1850, 1900, 1950 and 1990. Boonville diaries, Grandparent's grade cards, parents and present day report

cards can be included. Historical inquiry by 2 students to be made to see just how curriculum compared. What

The Delaney Academy class photographs could also be used for historical inquiry by junior high students. By ~~looking at photographs of 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000~~

students can find clues as to personalities with a magnifying glass, economic circumstances and evaluate what is the same and what is different. Examples of historical investigation results would be ~~presented in the~~

How has changing technology affect your family? When and how did cars, refrigerators, telephones, radios, vacuum cleaners, televisions, microwave ovens, and so forth come into use, and what impact did they have in your family? What kind of social activities did the family...

What cultural institutions (museums, libraries, theatres,
performing groups, broadcasting stations, and churches
are found in Newburgh?

What

How did Newburgh get its name?

What are the geographical features of the Newburgh community?

What are the boundaries of Newburgh?

What important institutions make up the neighborhood?
[faded text]

GUIDELINES FOR INTERVIEWING

1. CALL OR WRITE TO THE INTERVIEWEE WELL BEFORE YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW.

EXPLAIN YOUR PLANS AND PURPOSE AT THE TIME

FOR YOUR INTERVIEW.

2. GATHER AS MUCH BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON AS

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