

KentuckyHistoricalSociety

Primary Source Pre-Visit:
Morgan Postcard Collection



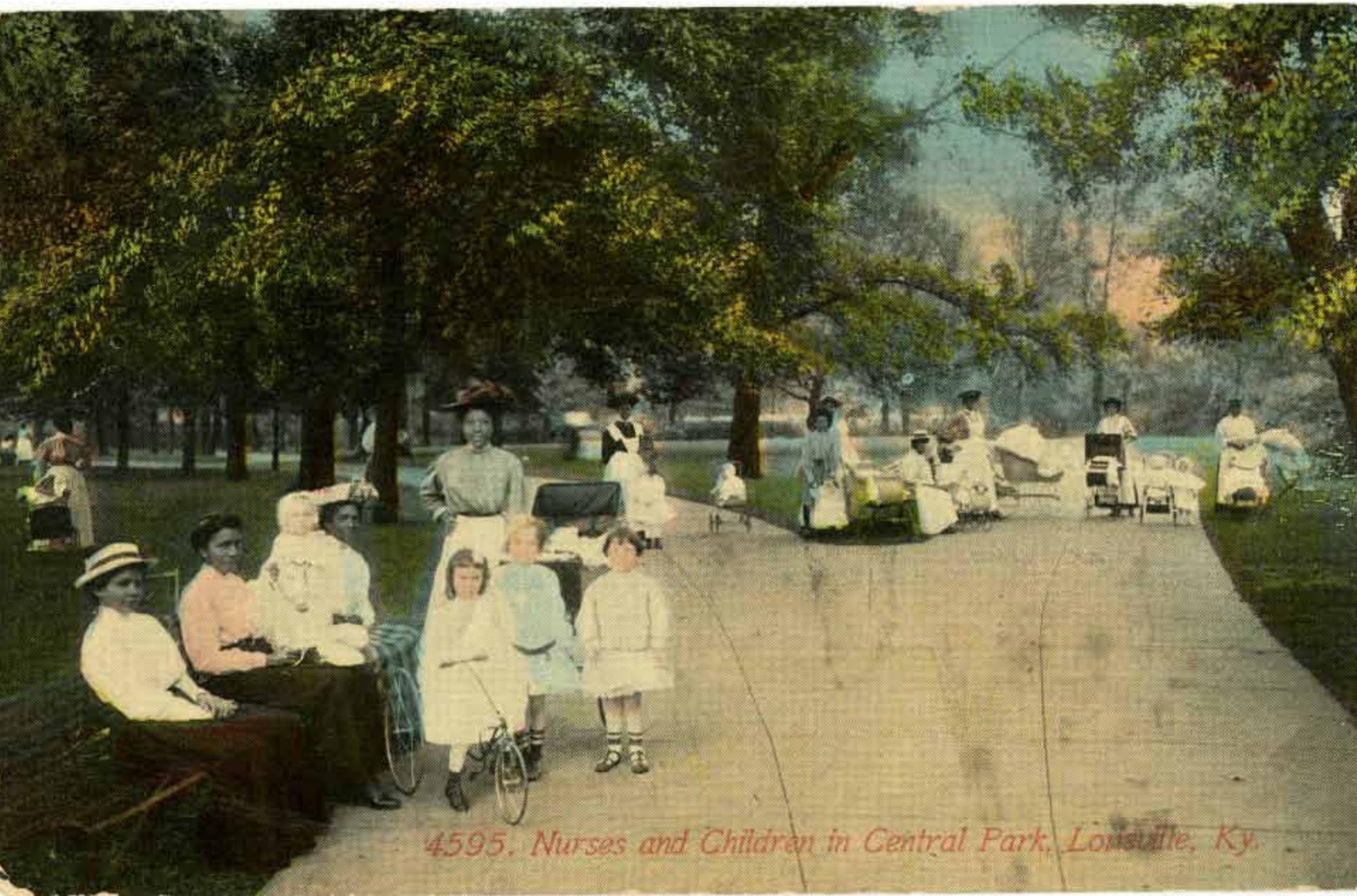
**kentucky
junior
historical
society**

in cooperation with KentuckyHistoryDay

www.history.ky.gov

Central Fire Station. Bowling Green, Ky.





4595. Nurses and Children in Central Park, Louisville, Ky.



An Afternoon in Woodland Park, Lexington, Ky.



Public Square on Court Day, Russellville, Ky.

Don't this look natural?

BATHING BEACH, DAYTON, KY., OPPOSITE CINCINNATI, OHIO.





KIDDIES AT PLAY, BENHAM DISTRICT, BENHAM, KY.

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

MORGAN POSTCARD COLLECTION

CONTENT RECOMMENDED FOR FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS

COLLECTION OVERVIEW:

This collection consists of Kentucky-related postcards collected by Ronald Morgan over a period of ten years. At approximately 11,000 items, dating from the late 1800s to the present, it is believed to be the second largest collection of Kentucky postcards in the U.S. and provides a remarkable pictorial history of life in Kentucky during the 20th century. These postcards document Kentucky towns and locales, including businesses, government, roads and transportation, churches, cemeteries and universities. Other topics include agriculture, industry, natural resources and formations, waterways, recreation and other aspects of life in Kentucky.

Some of the postcards in the collection can be found online at:

<http://www.kyhistory.com/cdm/landingpage/collection/Morgan>.

VOCABULARY

- Archives:** *A collection of historical records or the physical place they are located. Archival records are normally unpublished and almost always unique. Often found within a library.*
- Artifact:** *Something made or modified by humans, usually for a purpose.*
- Diary:** *A record (originally in handwritten format) with entries arranged by date, reporting on what has happened over the course of a day or other period. A personal diary may include a person's experiences and/or thoughts or feelings, including commentary on current events outside the writer's direct experience.*
- Letter:** *A written message sent from one person to another which can contain information about life events, people and places.*
- Newspaper:** *A scheduled publication containing news of current events, informative articles, diverse features, editorials and advertising.*
- Photograph:** *A visual record that can show people, places, events and objects from different time periods.*
- Primary source:** *A piece of information about a historical event, period or person, in which the creator was an actual participant in or a contemporary of a historical moment.*

IMAGES

The following examples from the Ronald Morgan Postcard Collection are available in this packet and online in the KHS Digital Collections at www.kyhistory.com.

- Central Fire Station, Bowling Green, Kentucky
- Bathing Beach, Dayton, Ky., Opposite Cincinnati, Ohio
- Nurses and Children in Central Park, Louisville Ky
- Kiddies at Play, Benham District, Benham, KY
- An Afternoon in Woodland Park, Lexington, KY
- Public Square on Court Day, Russellville, Ky.

ACTIVITY

Can be completed in groups or as individuals

Step 1: Begin with an introduction about primary sources. Ask your students what they think makes something a primary source. Ask them for examples of primary sources.

What is a primary source? A piece of information about a historical event, period or person, in which the creator was an actual participant in or a contemporary of a historical moment.

Examples: documents, artifacts, historic sites, songs, photographs or other written and tangible items created during the historical period being studied.

Step 2: Divide the images among the students and have them answer the questions on the following pages.

Step 3: Discuss your answers with the class. Have students discuss interesting or surprising things they found. Introduce students to other types of primary sources and where to find them.

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

MORGAN POSTCARD COLLECTION

Observation: What do you see?

1. Study the postcard for two or three minutes. Note your overall first impressions of the image.
2. Using the chart below, list the people, objects and/or activities you see:

People	Objects	Activities

3. Is there any text? If so, what does it say?

Analysis: What is going on?

2. When do you think it was used?
 - a. What do you see that makes you say that?

3. When do you think it was made?
 - a. Is this different from when you think it was used?
 - b. What do you see that makes you say that?
4. What do you think is being depicted?
5. If there is text, how does it relate to what you think is going on in the source?
6. How do you think the source was used?

Interpretation: What does it all mean?

1. What does the source tell you about the time period it was used?
2. What does the source tell you about the lives of the people who used it?
3. Based on what the source shows, what connections can you make to the present?
 - a. Are there similarities?
 - b. Are there differences?

PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

MORGAN POSTCARD COLLECTION

Further Questions: Introduce students to other types of primary sources and what information can be found in them.

1. If you wanted to learn more about the daily life of a person or people from the time period of your postcard, what other sources could you go to find that information? Multiple answers can apply. What information would you find in each source?
 - a. Diary
 - b. Letter
 - c. Legal document
 - d. Memoir
 - e. Interview
 - f. Photographs
 - g. Newspapers

2. Which of the following would you use to find more information about the way people dressed, what their homes looked like or what transportation was like? Explain your answer.
 - a. Diary
 - b. Letter
 - c. Legal document
 - d. Memoir
 - e. Interview
 - f. Photographs
 - g. Newspapers

3. If you were continuing your research and wanted to learn more about events that happened during the time, would you use a newspaper or diary? Why?

4. What information do you think you will find in a diary that you might not find in a letter?

5. How could you use your postcard to support other primary sources you might find?