

Primary and Secondary Sources

Section 1: Lesson Preparation

Grade Level: 4th-6th Grade

Unit/Subject: English | Social Studies

Lesson Summary & Focus

Students will explore the difference between primary and secondary sources using an analysis worksheet on a historic photograph. This lesson plan pairs well with the lesson plans *Florida Tourism: Past and Present* and *Hotel Alcazar: Health, Wellness, and Luxury*.

National/State Learning Standards

S.S. 4.A.1.1: Analyze primary and secondary resources to identify significant individuals and events throughout Florida's history.

Specific Learning Target Objectives

- Students will read the corresponding essay to understand the difference between primary and secondary sources and why they are important.
- Students will take a closer look at primary sources by examining a photograph taken by William Henry Jackson of historic St. Augustine, Florida.

Academic Language

Key terminology will be taught through topic-related reading passages and vocabulary reference sheets.

- Primary Sources
- Secondary Sources
- William Henry Jackson

Resources/Materials

- Corresponding reading passages regarding primary and secondary sources.
- Matching sources worksheet
- William Henry Jackson Photograph
- Primary source analysis worksheet
- Exit Ticket Question

All materials are located at the end of this lesson plan.

Section 2: Reading Passage

When learning about a new topic, writing a paper, or creating a research project, it is crucial to use reliable sources for information. Primary sources are original, first-hand materials of an event or topic in history that have not been changed by interpretation. Primary sources are considered direct evidence of a specific topic because they were created during the event or time period. When reading a primary source, it is important to read the information critically and not take it as literal truth. The reader should consider who wrote the primary source, why they wrote it, who their target audience would be, and if they had any biases. Primary sources are a great source that allow students and educators to ask questions, evaluate information, make inferences, and develop interpretations.

Types of Primary Sources:

- Letters, diaries, manuscripts, official documents, maps, pictures, original film footage, period newspapers and magazines.
- Artifacts such as arrowheads, pottery, remains of buildings, clothing, and statues.
- Art such as literature, poetry, music, and drawings.

A secondary source is a more current document, book, or article that analyzes or interprets information from a primary source. Secondary sources often attempt to describe or explain primary sources. Many of these sources use quotes or pictures from primary sources to provide an accurate explanation or support an interpretation of the primary source.

Types of Secondary Sources:

- Books
- Scholarly journals
- Contemporary magazine articles and newspapers
- Encyclopedias
- Textbooks

Let's take a closer look at primary sources by exploring photographs found at the Lightner Museum. These photographs were taken by a photographer named William Henry Jackson in 1890. Jackson was hired by Henry Flagler, the owner of Hotel Alcazar, to photograph his St. Augustine hotels, city streets, and the daily lives of its residents to promote St. Augustine as a tourist destination. These photographs served as advertisements for wealthy northerners interested in visiting St. Augustine, FL.

Section 3: Matching Worksheet

Match the reading or visual material with the correct type of source.

Diaries

Maps

Textbooks

Poetry

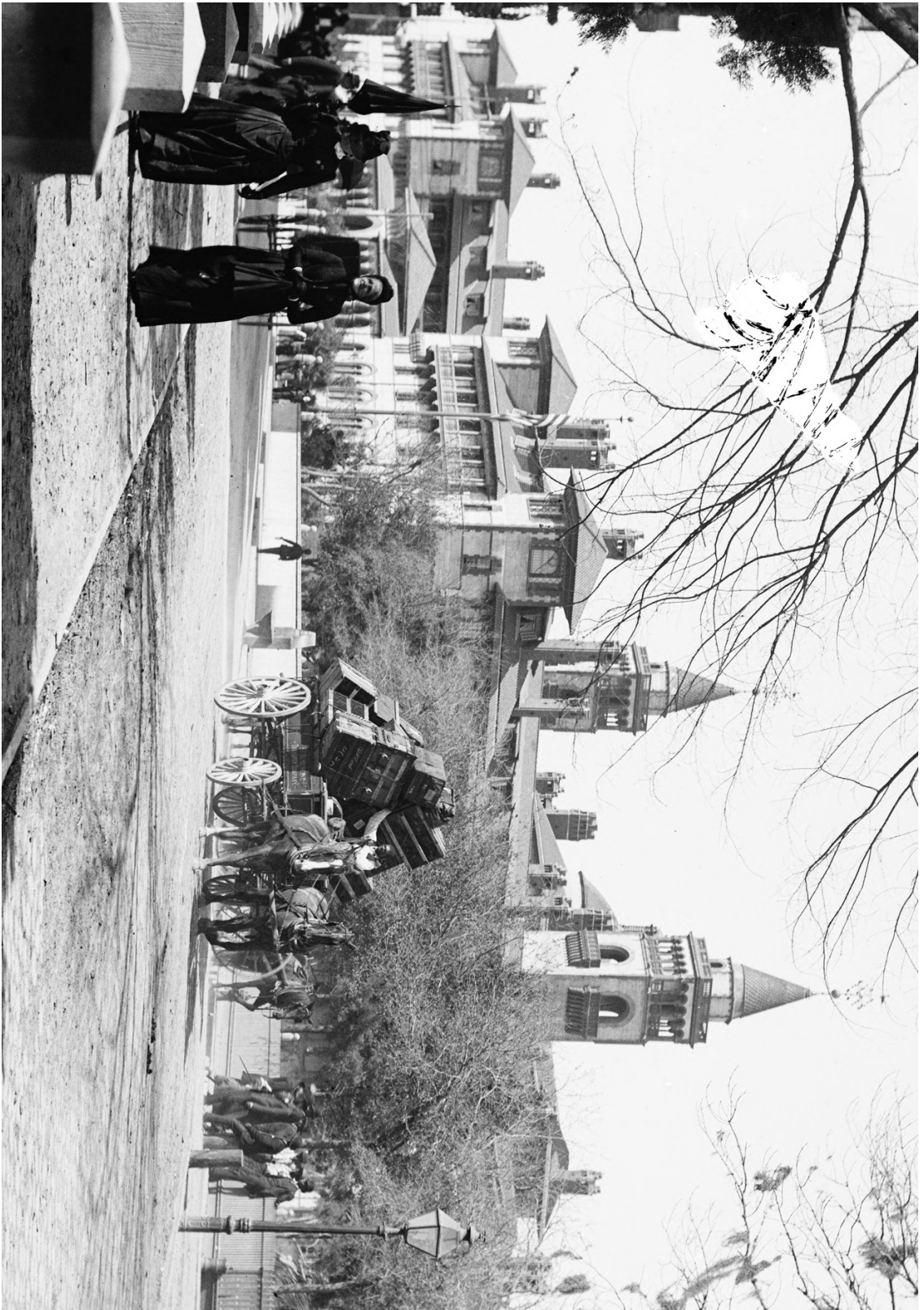
Music

Bibliographies

**Primary
Sources**

**Secondary
Sources**

Section 4: William Henry Jackson Photograph



*William Henry Jackson, King Street,
St. Augustine, Florida, c. 1890s*

Section 5: Photograph Analysis Worksheet

Title of Photograph:

Artist's Name:

Is the photograph black and white or color?

Describe the location being depicted:

Are there people, buildings, or objects in the photograph? Be specific about what you see.

Write down three words that describe this photograph:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How does this photograph compare to photographs today?

What questions do you have about this photograph?

Section 6: Photograph Analysis Worksheet

If a historian is writing a new book about the Hotel Alcazar and Henry Flagler's impact on tourism in St. Augustine, Florida, would the book be a primary or secondary source? If the author included letters and diaries from the 1800s, would those materials be primary or secondary sources?

Answer: