

Designing a Late 1800's Home

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OVERVIEW

Students will analyze primary sources and draw conclusions about the different kinds of homes that would have been built for people in Colorado in the late 1800's.

STANDARDS

- Reading and Writing Standard 1: Students read and understand a variety of materials. This includes using a full range of strategies to comprehend materials such as directions, nonfiction material, rhymes and poems, and stories.
- History Standard 2.2: Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of historical information.

OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, students will be able to:

- Interpret information from historical photographs and text.
- Draw conclusions about what kinds of homes different Coloradoans lived in at the turn of the century.
- Outline plans and building materials for two different homes

INQUIRY QUESTIONS

- What different building materials were used? Why were different materials chosen for different homes?
- How many rooms were in most homes? How many rooms were in most mansions? What kinds of rooms were included in the homes?

MATERIALS

- All photographs and text from the Doing History CD-ROM disk or Internet site for the Cities Topic, Homes and Mansions Theme.

PROCEDURE

1. Have students review all the photographs and primary sources about Homes and Mansions, thinking about the above inquiry questions.

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This activity was developed with funding from the State Historical Fund.

Doing History/Keeping the Past
Lesson Plans

2. As a whole class or in small groups, discuss the students' thoughts and answers to the inquiry questions.

ASSESSMENT

Tell the students that they are each an architect in Denver in the late 1800's. They have two new clients who want a home built. One client has earned a fortune in mining and the other is a police officer. How would their homes differ? What style would they suggest to each client. Their work should include the materials used for each home as well as a floor plan.

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