

Exploring Our Local History

Learning objective: To understand how to investigate local history and identify how our local area has changed over time.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of local history. Read the question on the front, think of your answer, and then check the back to see if you are correct!

What is a primary source in history?

A primary source is an item or document from the time period being studied, such as a diary, photograph, or map created at that time.

What is a secondary source?

A secondary source is something created after an event has happened, such as a history textbook or a documentary film.

Where might you go to find historical documents, maps, and records about your local area?

You would visit a local history archive or a library.

What does it mean to put events in chronological order?

It means arranging events in the order in which they happened, from the earliest to the most recent.

How can an old map of your local area help a historian?

It shows how the landscape has changed, such as where new roads, houses, or factories have been built over time.

What is oral history?

Oral history is information about the past gathered through interviews with people who have personal memories of those events.

Why is a census useful for local historians?

A census provides a snapshot of who lived in an area at a specific time, their jobs, and how many people lived in each house.

What is a landmark?

A landmark is a recognisable natural or human-made feature that acts as a point of reference and often has historical significance.

What is an artifact?

An artifact is an object made or used by humans in the past, such as a tool, a coin, or a piece of pottery, which gives us clues about how they lived.

True or False: Local history only focuses on buildings.

False. Local history also covers the stories of people, the development of local industries, and how the community has changed.

How can looking at local street names tell us about the past?

Street names often commemorate famous local people, past industries, or historical events that happened in that specific area.

What is a heritage site?

A heritage site is a place that is protected because of its historical, cultural, or scientific importance to the local community or nation.