PROJECT SCROLL · FOR TEACHERS

A field day in Cassopolis

A one-day local-history field trip for upper elementary through high school, built from the Local History Branch, the old courthouse and the Broadway walk. Everything on the walk is seen from the sidewalk.

The day

When	Where	What students do
Morning	The Broadway walk, Cassopolis (eleven stops)	Walk old Broadway with the 1860 town plan. At each stop, note one thing that is the same as on the old plan and one that has changed.
Late morning	The Local History Branch, 145 N. Broadway (Mon–Thu)	Look at a county history, a directory and a plat map. Call ahead to arrange a class visit: 269-357-7823.
Lunch	Bring a picnic, or eat on Broadway	Compare prices in the 1899 newspaper of the month with today's.
Afternoon	Photo spots on the walk	Rephotograph an old postcard (worksheet 1), from the sidewalk, never the road.
Back in class	Anywhere	Read a record together (worksheet 2), and send the class's best then-and-now photo to Project Scroll.

Before you go

- Check the Local History Branch's hours and tell them you are coming.
- Many buildings on the walk are homes and businesses: stay on public ground.
- The walk works on a phone without a signal once opened: projectscroll.com/walk
- Four free lessons, ready to teach, are at projectscroll.com/classrooms

Times and hours change: check each place before the trip. Project Scroll is independent and free to use in class.

WORKSHEET 1

Stand where the photographer stood

Name _____ Date _____

1. Which postcard did you choose? Write its title and date.
2. Find two things that have not moved since the card was made (a building corner, a street, a roofline).
3. Stand where the photographer stood. Use your ordinary camera, not the wide one, and do not zoom. Take the picture.
4. Draw or describe what has changed: buildings, signs, trees, the road, the people, the vehicles.
5. What has stayed the same? Why do you think it lasted?

Send the best pair to research@projectscroll.com with a parent’s or teacher’s permission. It can go up on the website beside the old card, with the class’s name.

WORKSHEET 2

Reading a record

Name _____ Date _____

Choose one old record: a death certificate, a census page, a directory line or a county-history paragraph. The guides at projectscroll.com/guide help with old handwriting and death certificates.

Question	Your answer
What kind of record is it?	
Who made it, and when?	
Who gave the information? Were they there?	
Name one fact it states.	
Where else could you check that fact?	
Is anything hard to read? Copy it exactly, with [?] for the letters you can’t make out.	
Does it disagree with another record? Which do you trust more, and why?	

The rule of the hunt

Every clue is true, and every answer is in the record. A good answer says where it was found: the record, the page, and a link if there is one.