

## **PRESERVE MAIN STREET ACTIVITY**

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### **OVERVIEW**

In this activity, students will learn about local history and methods of historic preservation.

### **STANDARDS**

- History Standard 2: Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.
- Geography Standard 2: Students know the physical and human characteristics of places, and use this knowledge to define and study regions and their patterns of change.
- Reading and Writing Standard 5: Students read to locate, select, and make use of relevant information from a variety of media, reference, and technological sources.

### **OBJECTIVES**

After completing this lesson, student will:

- Expand their knowledge of local history by investigating the history of "Main Street."
- Learn about architectural aspects of historic buildings.
- Research the history of several buildings.

### **INQUIRY QUESTIONS**

- Where is your city or town's historic "Main Street?"
- Which are the most important or most interesting buildings?
- What is their style of architecture?
- How have these buildings changed over time?

- How is "Main Street" different from other downtown areas or streets?

## **PROCEDURE**

1. You will need multiple copies of a street map of your town or city; a (digital) camera; the Doing History/Keeping the Past CD-ROM or website—Mining and Colorado Cities topics; Virtual Field Trips.
2. Using copies of street maps, ask the students to identify your city's historic "Main Street." What are the hallmarks of such a street?
3. Take photographs of several buildings on Main Street.
4. Using libraries, historical societies, local historians and other resources, have students find out what functions Main Street, and these buildings in particular, served.
5. Have students use the Virtual Field Trips for the Mining and Colorado Cities topics to compare their Main Street with others.
6. Using historical photographs, have students investigate how buildings or sections of Main Street have changed.
7. Have students pull their research together as a scrapbook, poster or brochure about Main Street.