

# HISTORIC PLACES

Position yourself in view of a historic place (indoors, outdoors, or online). Then, briefly answer the following questions. *For questions that ask about the past, please refer to this date:* \_\_\_\_\_.

INQUIRY QUESTION	KEYWORD ANSWER	EXPLAIN YOUR EVIDENCE
What colors and shapes do you see?		
What light and shadows can you see?		
How is this place organized?		
What does this place feel like?		
What smells and sounds can you sense?		
What can't you see?		
What do you see that was built, planted, or placed by people?		
What was the function of this place in the past?		
Why did people pick this place for its function?		
Who decided what this place looked like?		
Who used this place in the past?		
What features have been at this place a long time?		

HANDOUT: 20 QUESTIONS FOR READING AND EVALUATING HISTORIC PLACES

INQUIRY QUESTION	KEYWORD ANSWER	EXPLAIN YOUR EVIDENCE
What features are more recent?		
How have people changed this place?		
Who uses this place now?		
How would this place change in different seasons?		
How would the place change at different times of day?		
Describe a person who used this place in the past.		
What do people remember about this place?		
What other sources help us understand this historic place?		

Based on your answers, write 2–3 sentences about what you can interpret about this historic place.

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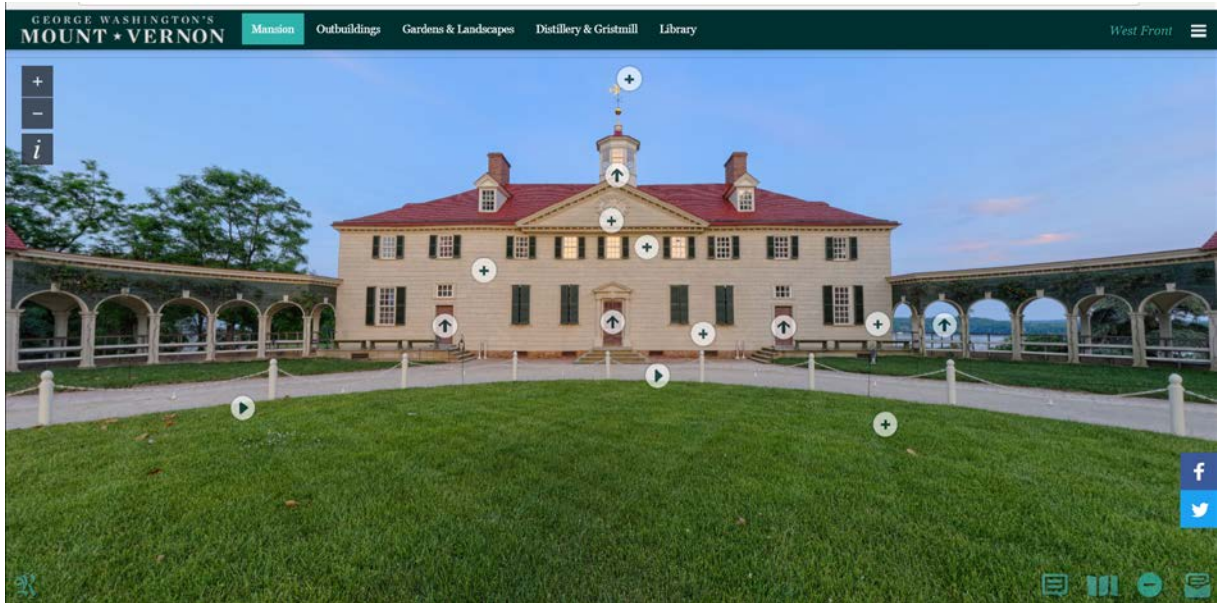
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PRIMARY SOURCE SET:

20 QUESTIONS FOR READING AND EVALUATING HISTORIC PLACES

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## GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT VERNON



Visit in person: 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, VA 22121

Visit online: [www.mountvernon.org/virtualtour](http://www.mountvernon.org/virtualtour)

## INDEPENDENCE HALL



Visit in person: Independence National Historic Park 143 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Visit online (still images): <https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?id=B6F0257A-155D-451F-67E68FF4C2857CBC>