

READ IOWA HISTORY

STUDENT MATERIALS

Buxton: A Lost Utopia

LESSON PLAN FOR SUPPORTING QUESTION

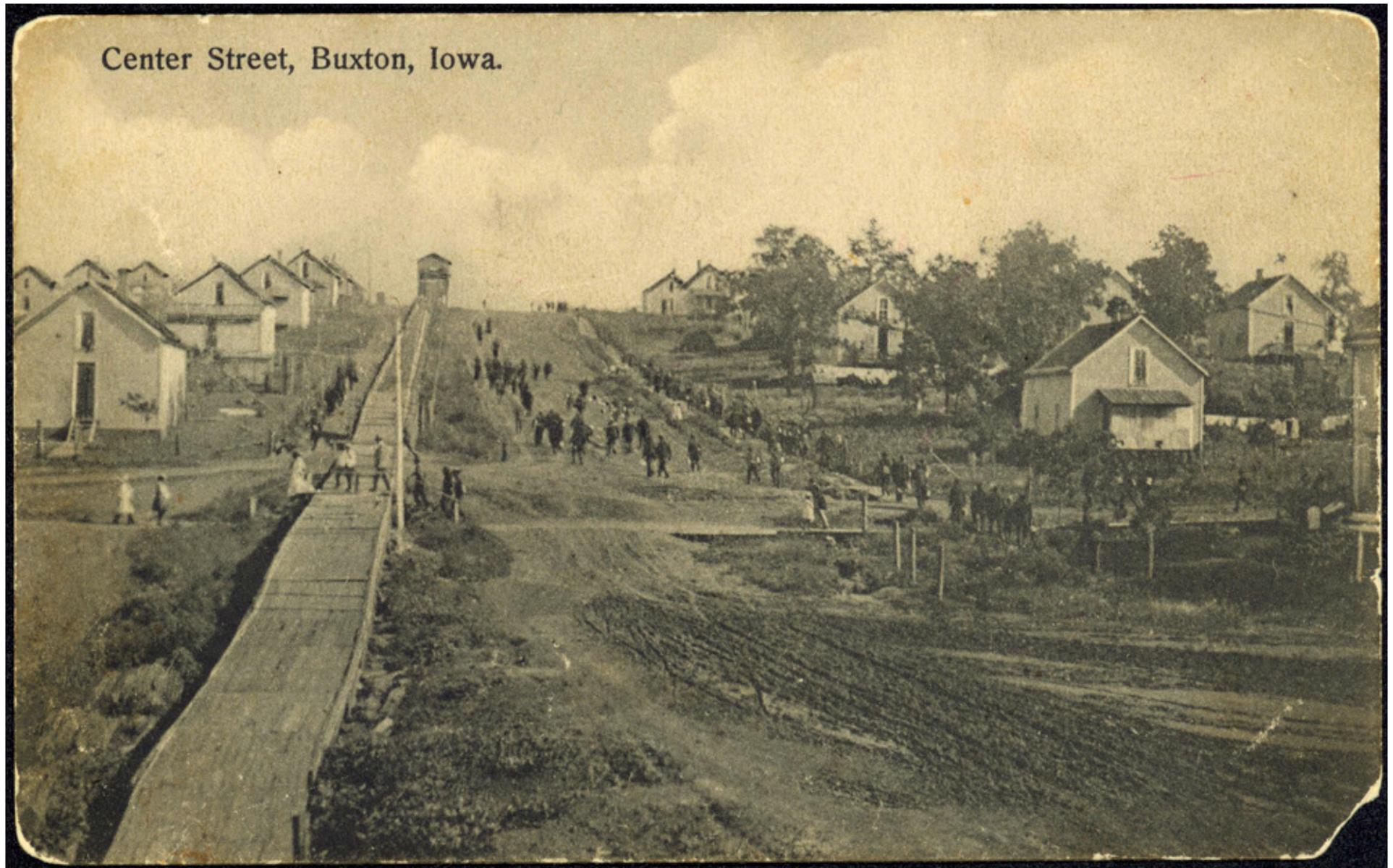
How was Buxton a unique community?



2ND GRADE

STATE HISTORICAL
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SOURCES



Center Street was also known as "coal chute hill." Large wagons were loaded with coal from train cars at the bottom of the hill and then pulled up to the chute at the top of the hill. Then people pulled their horse-drawn wagons under the chute, filled the wagon with coal and brought it to their homes or businesses. *Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, 1908*



Analyze a Source

Type of Sources (circle one)

Text

Image

Map

Video

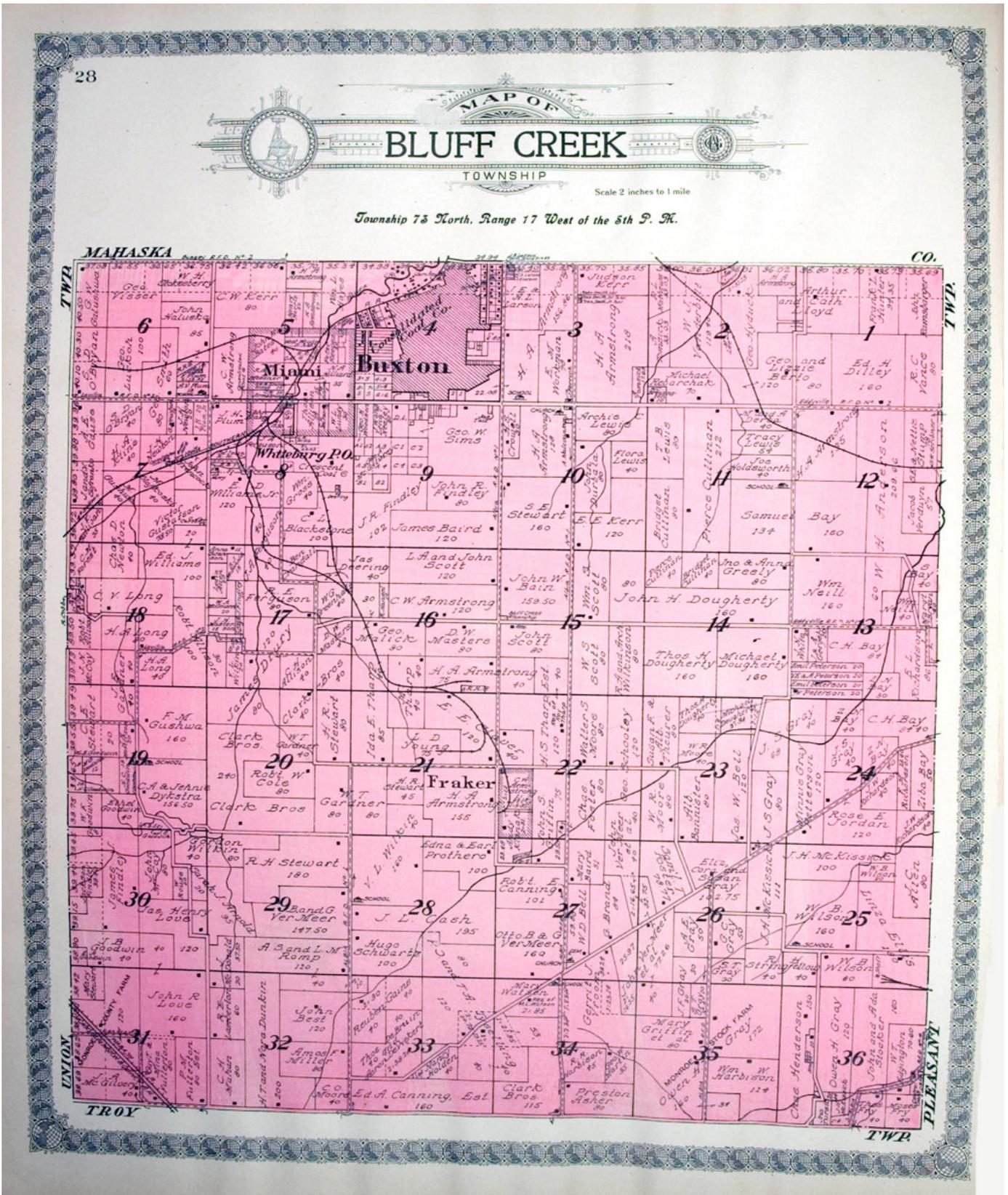
Other:

Source Title**Creator(s)****Date Created or Published**

1. Describe what you see in the image. Who is in the image? What are they doing?

2. Who is the photographer's intended audience? Why do you think this photo was taken?

3. What questions does this photo lead you to ask?



This plat map shows more information about geographic features around Buxton. Iowa is divided into 99 counties. Each county is divided into townships, and each township is divided into numbered sections that are usually one square mile. Courtesy of University of Iowa Libraries and Archives, "Standard Atlas of Monroe County Iowa," Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1919



Monroe Mercantile was the Consolidation Coal Company's company store. The original Monroe Mercantile building was destroyed by fire on February 21, 1911. This photograph is of the building's reopening. *Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, 1911*



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This photograph shows employees at the Monroe Mercantile Company in Buxton. *Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa, 1911*



This 1940 article was written by Minnie London, who first moved to Muchakinock as a bride and then to Buxton a few years later. London writes of her life as a coal miner's wife. *Courtesy of University of Northern Iowa, London, Minnie, "As I Remember," Explorations in Iowa History Project, 1940*

The Y.M.C.A was a large three story structure built diagonally across from the **company store**. It was built expressly for the colored miners, and when they seemed reluctant to take advantage of the opportunity, the Supt. indicated that he would turn it over to the white people. Our people, after reconsideration, pledged cooperation and then a very efficient secretary in the person of L.E. Johnson was engaged.

The first floor of the building contained officed and recreation rooms. The second a spacious auditorium with stage and dressing rooms. The third floor was occupied by rooms for the many secret orders. To the north of the large building was a smaller building containing a swimming pool for the younger group with their own secretary.

The Langlois sisters, better known as the French Women, displayed moving pictures every night, which afforded a very enjoyable recreation for the miners and families. Road shows as well as moving pictures were featured in the auditorium. Among them East Lynne and the Count of Monte Christo.

Among the many noted Negroes who entertained packed houses were: Hallue Q. Brown, Booker T. Washington, Blind Boone and Roscoe Conklin Simmons.

I must not forget to relate to you about the roller skating rinks and the added recreation it afforded the younger folks, and I might add some older ones too. You ought to have seen how these boys and girls did skate! The jolting jitterbug of today was a mild comparison.

Name _____



Make a Claim

Was Buxton successful, according to Minnie London? Cite evidence from sources.

Claim _____

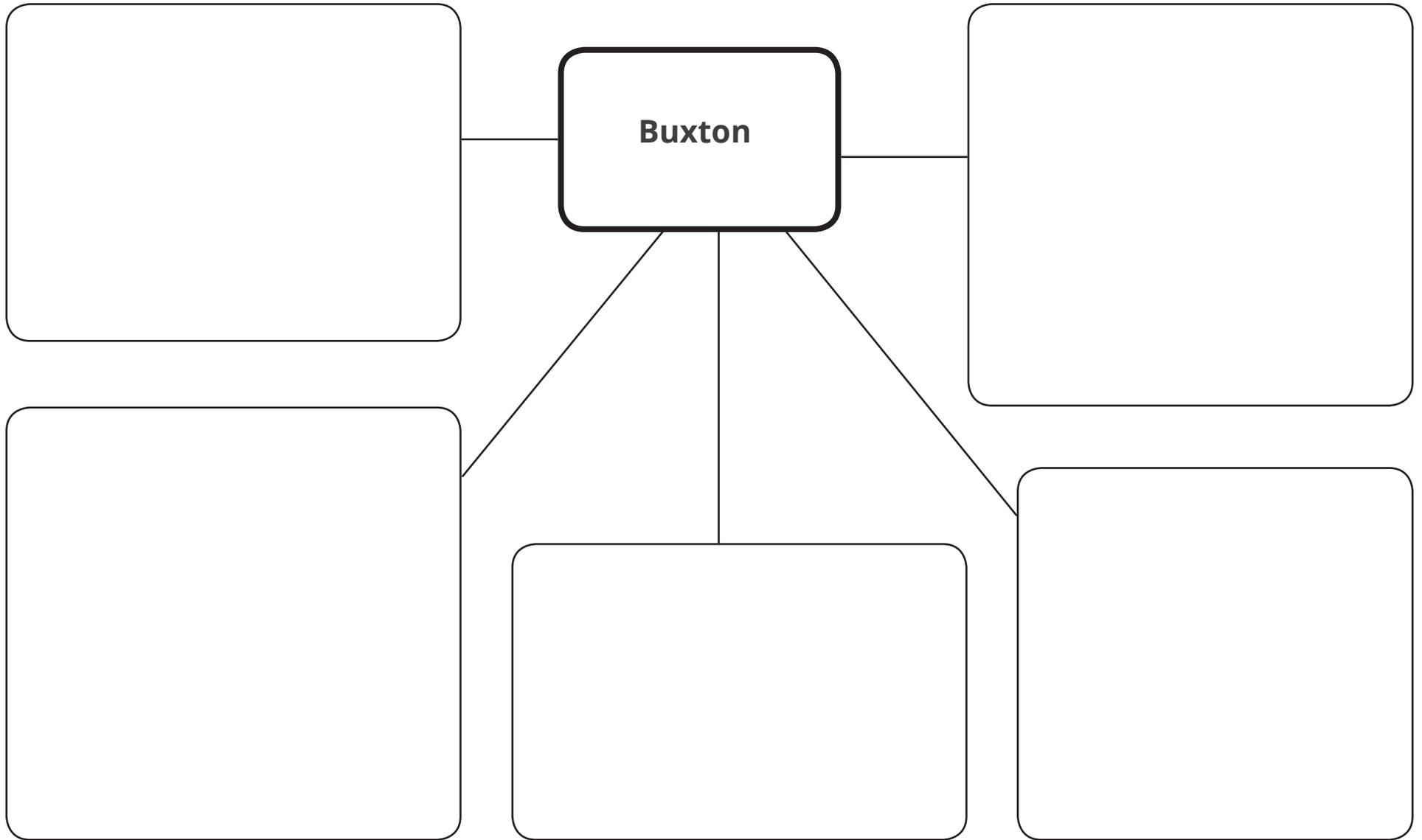
Supporting Evidence from _____ (Source).

Supporting Evidence from _____ (Source).

Supporting Evidence from _____ (Source).

Name _____

Assessment: How was Buxton a unique community?



Name _____

Assessment: Journal Entry

How was Buxton a unique community?
