Woodrow Wilson House

Cumulative Presentation

About Me

Overview of Scholar Work





Conclusion

About Me

- Senior at Wilton High School
- First came to Woodrow Wilson House in July
- One of the very first historical museums I was really interested in
- Most drawn to the idea that history can be taught in an exciting way
- Cumulative work

Lesson Plan Package #1 - Panama Canal















Lesson Plan Package #2 - Black Wall Street

















Black History Month - February Work

Harriet E. Wilson



Harriet E. Wilson: March 15, 1825 - June 28, 1900

The first African-American to publish a novel in North America, a popular spiritualist, and hair care entrepreneur.

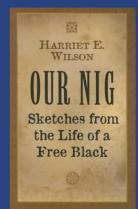
Harriet was born in Milford, New Hampshire in 1825, leaving much of her private life left to be discovered within her published novel, Our Nig or Sketches From the Life of a Free Black. Harriet's novel was long thought to be the work of a white author. It wasn't recognized until 1985, when Henry Louis Gartes republished the novel, that Our Nig was discovered to be written by an African-American. This was unsettling news to the literary world at the time. Prior to the discovery of Our Nig it was once widely accepted throughout the literary world that Frances Harper was the first ever published African-American. Her novel was published in 1859 by George C. Rand & Avery and it now serves historians with key autobiographical information about Harrie's life.

By the age of 5 Harrier's father, Joshua Green, had died. Soon after the death of her father, Harrier's mother had abandoned little "Hattie." Her mother died at the age of 27 after a "violent and intoxicated quarrel with her black lover," as reported in the Amherst/Milford paper. It was because of this that Harrier's spent her adolescent years serving as an indentured servant for the Bellmont family, in Milford. Harriet while working for this family was allowed to attend school for 3 months of each year, and she did so for 5 years. At the age of 24 Harriet leaves the Bellmont family to continue housework for several others. It isn't until 4 years later that she appears on the federal census for Milford as a black woman luring with the Bowles family.

Harriet moved to Wear, Massachusetts in 1850. It is during this time that she boards with the Walker family while also working as a straw seven; Harriet then meets her husband, Thomas Wilson, in Massachusetts marrying him soon after in her hometown of Milford. In December of 1851 Harriet's poem Fading Away is published in The Farmer's Cabinet, a local newspaper. Harriet then moves to Goffstown, New Hampshire where their son George Wilson is born; Thomas Wilson dies soon after aboard a ship in Cuba. During this time Harriet struggles to make enough money to support George. The young boy is placed with foster parents while Harriet makes It onto the "Poor List of Milford;"

During 1855–1860 Harriet Wilson went through a drastic transition period that would change the rest of her life, and ultimately lead to the publication of her autobiography. It is during these years that she travels between Massachusetts and New Hampshire working as a seamstress, house servant, and selling her own hair products. She began selling her own hair dye under the slogan of "Mrs. H.E. Wilson's Hair Dressing" to further her income. It is also during this period that she begins to write Our Nig. It isn't until 1860 when her son George dies at only 7 vers old.

Much of "Hattie's" young life was one of an indentured servant, who could only go to school for 3 months of each year. It isn't until the age of 24 that she leaves her childhood home and begins to work for other families in the nearby area.



During 1855–1860 Harriet travels between Massachusetts and New Hampshire working as a seamstress, house servant, and selling her own branded hair dye. Her son George dies in 1860, at the age of seven.



Conclusion

- My biggest challenge was narrowing in on a topic
- Support I received
- Resources given
- Wide variety history can teach us