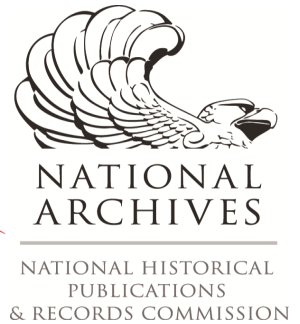


Title: The Grand Ole Opry: A Tennessee Musical Icon

Creator: Educator in Nashville



Standards:

US.30: Examine the growth and popularity of country and blues music, including the rise of the **Grand Ole Opry**, W.C. Handy, and Bessie Smith.

Materials:

- Primary sources
- Graphic organizer

Primary Sources

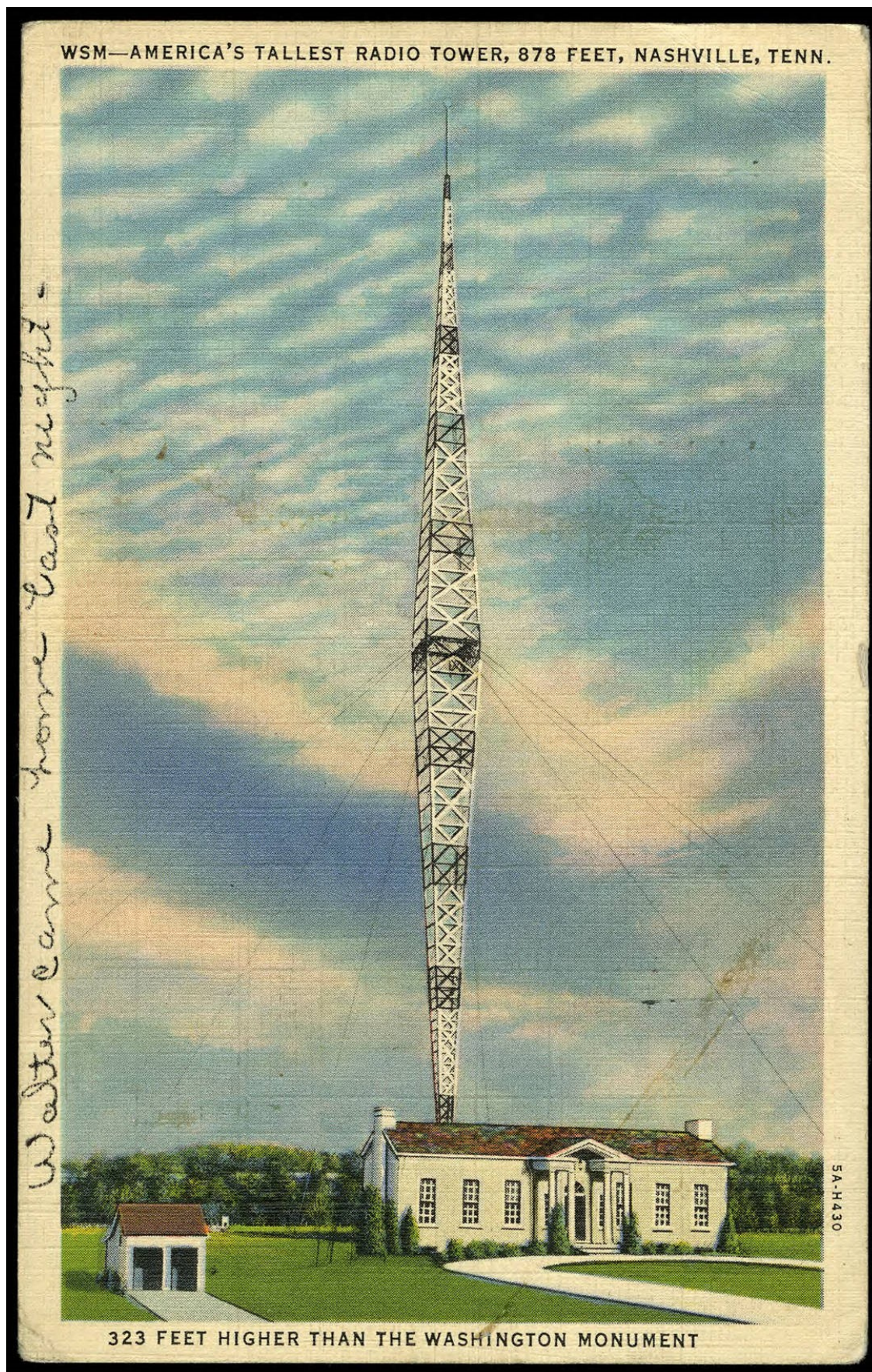
1. "WSM – America's Tallest Radio Tower, Nashville, Tennessee" postcard: <https://cdm15138.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/tpc/id/128/rec/1>
2. "Roy Acuff and the Smoky Mountain Boys on stage at the Ryman" photograph: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll12/id/38/rec/6>
3. "Minnie Pearl, Red Foley, and Rod Brasfield performing on stage at WSM's Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee" photograph: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll28/id/3119/rec/28>
4. "Grand Ole Opry cast on stage of the Ryman Auditorium" photograph: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll12/id/39/rec/15>

Activity Instructions:

- Display or distribute copies of the primary sources for students to analyze (small groups can share the documents, copies of the documents can be posted around the room, etc.).
- Students should analyze the primary sources and complete the first section of the graphic organizer, describing what they can infer about the Grand Ole Opry.
- Students should then use their own background knowledge to fill in the second section of the graphic organizer, describing what they already know about the Grand Ole Opry.
- Finally, students should combine their inferences and background knowledge to explain why they think the Grand Ole Opry is an important part of Tennessee's history.

The Grand Ole Opry: A Tennessee Musical Icon

| Based <u>only on what you can observe in these primary sources</u> , what can you infer about the Grand Ole Opry? | Based <u>on your own background knowledge</u> , what do you know about the Grand Ole Opry? | Based <u>on the sources AND your own background knowledge</u> , why do you think the Grand Ole Opry is an important part of Tennessee's history? |
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"WSM – America's Tallest Radio Tower, Nashville, Tennessee" postcard:

Located in the Tennessee Postcard Collection.



"Roy Acuff and the Smoky Mountain Boys on stage at the Ryman" photograph:

Located in the Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937-1976



"Minnie Pearl, Red Foley, and Rod Brasfield performing on stage at WSM's Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee" photograph:

Located in the Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937-1976



“Grand Ole Opry cast on the stage of the Ryman Auditorium” photograph:
Located in the Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937-1976