General Resources


Mrozowski, Stephen A. *Living on the Boot: Historical Archaeology at the Boott Mills Boardinghouses, Lowell, Massachusetts.* Lowell: Lowell Historic Preservation Commission, 1996. Using findings from an archaeological dig at the Boott Cotton Mills in Lowell Massachusetts, the authors create a portrait of nineteenth century domestic life in company-owned boardinghouses. An excellent introduction to the field of historical archaeology.


Watson, Bruce. *Bread and Roses.* New York: Penguin Group, 2005. Account of the 1912 Bread and Roses strike in Lawrence, Massachusetts based on newspaper accounts, magazine reports, and oral histories.

Historical Fiction and Student Resources

Avi. Beyond the Western Sea. 2 volumes. New York: Orchard Books, 1996. Fictional account of trials and hardships first in Ireland during the famine, then during voyage to America and last in the mills of Lowell. Grades 5-9 and up.


Levine, Ellen. If Your Name was Changed at Ellis Island. New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1993. This book describes the immigrant experience at Ellis Island when it was opened in 1892 as a center for immigrants coming to live in America. Grades 4–6.


Ross, Pat. *Hannah’s Fancy Notions*. New York: Puffin Books, 1992. Introduces young readers to the concept that history is made up of the lives of real people like themselves. Hannah creates decorative band boxes to be used by the nineteenth century mill workers in Lowell, MA. Grades 2-6.


Winthrop, Elizabeth. *Counting on Grace*. New York: Random House, Inc., 2006. This is the story behind the famous photograph by reformer Lewis Hine taken while collecting evidence for the Child Labor Board. Grace’s brief acquaintance with Hine and the photos he takes of her changes her sense of herself, her future and her family’s future.

**Curriculum Packets and Teacher Resources**

Tsongas Industrial History Center. *Lowell & the American Industrial Revolution Curriculum Packet*. Eastern National. Students explore the American Industrial Revolution using Lowell as a case study. This primary source-based curriculum packet features maps, timetables, regulations, hospital records, letters, photos and more. Teacher’s guide and student activities are included. Grades 5-12. *(Available at the Eastern National Store at the Lowell National Historical Park.)*

Tsongas Industrial History Center. *Cotton, Cloth, and Conflict: The Meaning of Slavery in a Northern Textile City*. Eastern National. Using this collection of primary source materials and related activities, students investigate the relationships between the industrial North and plantation South before the Civil War. Grades 8-12. *(Available at the Eastern National Store at the Lowell National Historical Park.)*

important early labor movement through this primary-source-based curriculum packet, which includes a historical background essay and timeline, eight activities, and thirteen documents. Grades 7-12. (Available at the Eastern National Store at the Lowell National Historical Park.)

Tsengas Industrial History Center. The Lowell Mill Girls. Eastern National. This portfolio contains concise information about the mill girls, reproductions of original documents, and suggestions for using the material in the classroom. Grades 3-8. (Available at the Eastern National Store at the Lowell National Historical Park.)

Tsengas Industrial History Center. Teaching with Historic Photographs: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution. Eastern National. Eight photograph/line-art study prints illustrate themes related to Lowell’s history: waterpower, the textile industry, mill work and workers, housing and immigration. (Available at the Eastern National Store at the Lowell National Historical Park.)

Tsengas Industrial History Center. The World of Barilla Taylor Interdisciplinary Rental Kit. Students read Barilla Taylor’s personal letters and examine primary sources such as maps, mill timetables, corporation hospital records, newspaper articles and more to learn about mid nineteenth century farm and factory life. (Available through the Tsengas Industrial History Center.)