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Grade level: 4

Primary Source Citation: John Rankin House in Ripley, Ohio. Photographs taken by Carol Teverbaugh while visiting the site.

Allow students, in groups or individually, to examine the photographs located at the above link while answering the questions below in order. The questions are designed to guide students into a deeper analysis of the source and sharpen associated cognitive skills.

Level I: Description

1. Write a description of the home of Reverend John Rankin. Where is it located? What is it made of? What can you say about its size? What are 2 other physical features of the home?

Level II: Interpretation

1. Make an inference. Why do you think that Rev. Rankin built his house in such a high location?

2. If you were a member of the Rankin family, where would you hide fugitive slaves that came to your home? Explain your answer.

Level III: Analysis

1. Why is it important to preserve the Rankin House?

2. If you ever visit the Rankin House what things could you think about that might help you appreciate the experience of being there? Explain your answer.