Ulster County Final Case Study

Hudson Bear Brigade
The Original Ulster County

- The Native Americans called Ulster County “Esepu” meaning “High Banks”.
- The name changed from “Esepu” to “Esopus” when the first European settlers (Dutch) came in 1652.
- Thomas Chambers was the first person to begin trading in “Esopus”.
- The Shawangunk Mountains
Ulster County was officially founded on November 1st, 1683 when the Duke of York created 12 counties.

The 1st capital of NY was in Kingston, which is a town in Ulster County.

Later affluent families were recruited for the American Civil War to help form the 139th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment.
Demographics Overview

• In 1860, there were 76,408 people and a majority of them were white. By 2010, Ulster County had 182,493 people. Although a majority are still white, the county has become much more diverse.

• Job opportunities and the field of work has also changed significantly
The class will be broken up into five groups and will be assigned one of the key historical or industrial sites in Ulster County. Each group will become experts on their site while developing roles to display the sites important occupants, the significance of the site, an explanation of key features such as architecture and landscape.

When visiting the sites on planned and approved field trips, the students will lead the trips but role-playing as the occupants they determined to be important.

We will conclude our field trip and lessons at the Tuthilltown Gristmill, where we will have lunch. At each of the five sites, an interactive activity will take place.
Ulster County Lesson Plan

- At the Catskill Mountain Railroad, students will act as farmers, tourists, city dwellers, and traders to show the different uses of the railroad.

- At the Gristmill, students will learn to make matzah.

- At Byrdcliffe, students will do arts and crafts that were done in the early 1900's.

- At Perrines Bridge, students will design roadways to show the significant and convenience of bridges.

- At the Courthouse, students will participate in a debate.
Tour Guide
Day 1

Stay at: **Minnewaska Lodge**

Brunch at: **Cafe Mio**

Visit for the day: **Gardens and Greenhouse & Barn Museum**

Dinner at: **Mohonk Mountain House**
Byrdcliffe

- Founded in 1902 near Woodstock, NY by Ralph Radcliffe Whitehead
- Created as a result of the Arts and Crafts Movement
- Surrounded by the beautiful Catskill Mountains on 1,500 acres of land
- Guests from across the county came to stay at the estate including writers, painters, social reformers and musicians
- Referred to as a "textbook example" of a utopian Arts and Crafts Community.
- Teachers and students were dedicated to their pottery, furniture making, photography, painting and weaving
- Twice a week there would be dances in the Studio and White Pines lawn
- It is now owned by the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild (WBG) which is a non-profit organization
- Oldest continuing arts colony in America

Ulster County is rich in history and has played a pivotal role in the establishment and evolution of New York through government, recreation and culture.
Day 2

Stay at: Getaway on the Falls
Brunch at: Bread Alone
Visit for the day: Byrdcliffe
Dinner: Mountain Gate Indian Restaurant
After Dinner Movie: Upstate Flims at Tinker Street
Day 3

- Stay at Moondance Ridge Bed and Breakfast
- Visit Bevier House Museum
- Lunch at Barnaby’s Restaurant
- Visit Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art
- Dinner at 36 Main Street
Day 4

- Breakfast at the Moondance Bed and Breakfast
- Relax at the spa
- Drive home!
Tuthilltown Gristmill was originally constructed in 1788 on Albany Post Road in Gardiner, NY. This gristmill was built by Selah Tuthill and was once the oldest operating gristmill in New York state. The original power source for this gristmill was an undershot wheel that was later replaced with an overshot wheel. Tuthilltown Gristmill produced kosher flour to make matza and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. Today it is the site of the restaurant Tuthill House at the Mill that opened in 2010.

Ulster County was officially founded in 1683 by the Duke of York after first being inhabited by Dutch settlers. Ulster County is situated in southeast NY in the Mid Hudson Valley surrounded by the Shawangunk Mountains and the Hudson, Roudout, and Wallkill Rivers. The county is rich in history and has played a pivotal role in the establishment and evolution of New York through government, recreation, and culture.
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Byrdcliffe was founded in 1902 near Woodstock, NY by Ralph Radcliffe Whitehead. This site is surrounded by the Catskill Mountains and sits on Mount Guardian and includes 1,500 acres of land. It is considered to be a “text book example” of a utopian Arts and Crafts community consisting of studios for pottery, art classes, and metalworking among other subjects. Byrdcliffe was frequented by numerous art students and teachers along with notable visitors such as Bob Dylan and Chevy Chase who came to gain artistic inspiration. Today Byrdcliffe is owned by the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild and is the oldest continuing arts colony in America.
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Perrine’s Bridge was constructed in 1834 by Benjamin Wood and is located in modern day Esopus–Rosendale, NY in the area once referred to as the hamlet of Perrine Bridge. The one-lane wooded bridge was originally built to aid trade between Rosendale and Rifton and was named after the French Hugenot immigrant James W. Perrine. Today the bridge is closed to vehicular traffic and was recognized as a NY State Historic Site in 1966 as well as being placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Perrine’s Bridge is the second oldest bridge in New York.

Left: Location of Ulster County in NY

Right: Present day Perrine’s Bridge
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The Catskill Mountain Railroad was charted in 1866 and is based in Shokan, NY and has a yard located in Kingston, NY. The railroad was completed between Kingston and Oneonta in 1900 and was frequented by passengers wishing to visit the Catskills and stay at the lodges and grand hotels; however, passenger travel decreased as a result of the Great Depression and because of the increased use of the automobile. The railway was also used for freight traffic to ship coal and dairy products among other items. The Catskill Mountain Railroad later became part of Penn Central and it connects with the Delaware and Ulster Railroad.
Tuthilltown Gristmill

20 Gristmill Lane, Gardiner, New York 12525
Byrdcliffe

34 Tinker St # 4
Woodstock, NY
12498
Perrine’s Bridge

Esopus Rosendale, NY
Works Cited

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