

Post Visit Activity: Rocky Springs Before and After

Objectives:

- 1) The students will distinguish between qualitative and quantitative observations. (MS 6th grade competency Inquiry 1a)
- 2) The students will judge how what they observe may affect the environment and ecology of the area. (MS 6th grade competency Life Science 3)

Grade: 5-8th

Time: One lesson period

Materials:

- Copies of the 3 Rocky Springs Before and After worksheets for each student or pair of students
 - The photographs may be reused. A good color print out will work best.
 - The worksheets for writing may be front and back
- Pencil or pen

Method: Review the concepts of qualitative and quantitative observations. In pairs, students will look at two photos and make a list of qualitative and quantitative observations for each photo. They will make a determination as to which animal populations would thrive at the locations shown in the pictures. They will analyze if photographs are the best way to make these observations. They will make judgments as to the outcome of the area if the management were not the same.

Rocky Springs Before and After

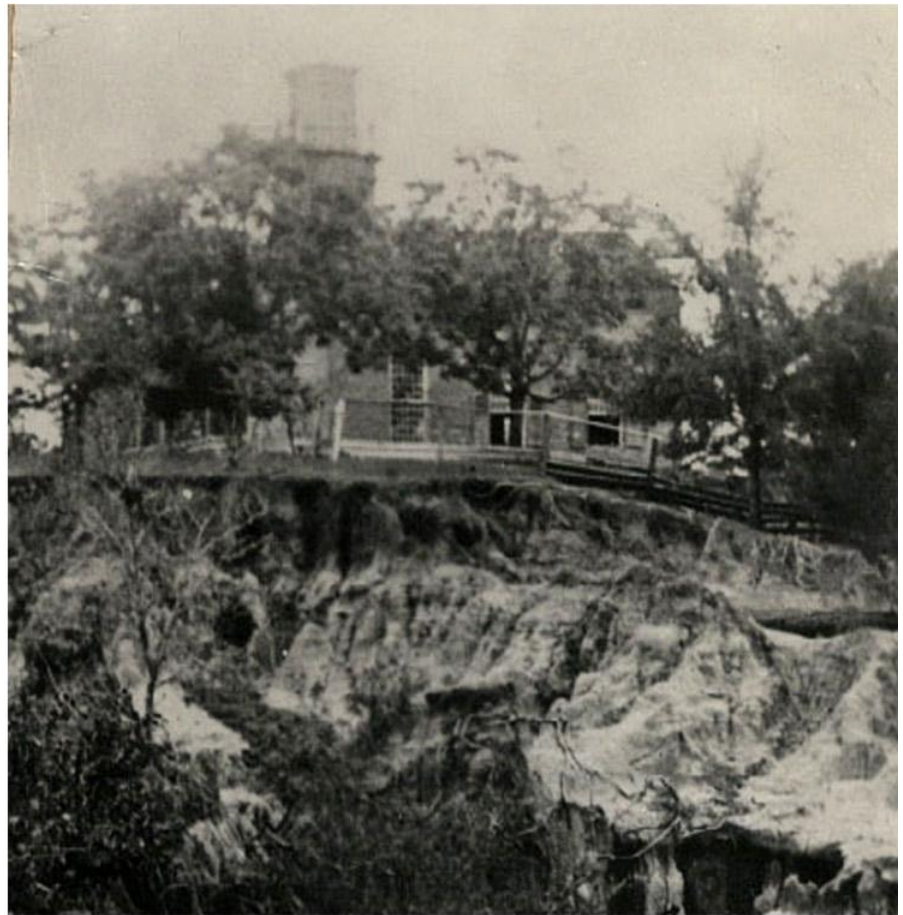
Instructions:

Look at the two pictures and fill in the worksheets.

A: This photo was taken in about 1893 of the area below Rocky Springs church.



Background: This area has soft soils called "loess". They are easily eroded. It is now part of the Natchez Trace Parkway, so it is protected. The Natchez Trace Parkway was established in 1938.



B. This photo was taken in 2006 at about the same location as the picture above



Qualitative Observations	Quantitative Observations

Rocky Springs Before and After Worksheet: Page 2

1. Which type of observation was easier to make from photographs?
2. What would have made it easier to make observations?
3. What kinds of animals could live in the area shown in picture "A"?
4. What kinds of animals could live in the area shown in picture "B"?
5. How does the quantity help improve the quality?
6. Does increasing the quantity always improve the quality?
Give an example to support your yes or no answer.
7. What may have happened if the National Park Service's Natchez Trace Parkway had not started protecting this area with "preservation" management?