

Spotlight on...Gallus Glasgow

TRANSCRIPT

Hi there, and welcome to this Gallus Glasgow CPD for teachers. My name is Gemma Wild I'm one of the Heritage Managers at Glasgow City Heritage Trust.

We just want to go through a wee presentation to hopefully give you a few more hints and tips about how we think you can use our Gallus Glasgow resource in the classroom.

So what is Gallus Glasgow?

We set up this project to try and encourage people to see Victorian Glasgow from a new perspective. It's a digital outreach project, which explores the development of Glasgow during the Victorian period, sometimes referred to as the Gilded Age, through the eyes of Thomas Sulman, who's the illustrator of the bird's eye view of Glasgow 1864, which the project is based upon.

Our aims for the project are to improve the awareness and local people about how Glasgow developed as a Victorian city, and to make the Glasgow's Victorian architectural legacy relevant to local people. And of course, that includes young people just as much as it does anyone else.

So how does it fit into the Curriculum for Excellence?

We've been working with the Education Improvement Service at Glasgow City Council and the project is signposted in the Social Studies Framework. And so we've identified that we think the Gallus Glasgow project would work well at early, first and second level, but primarily probably the second level is where we're focusing our resources and activities.

We are adding E's and O's to our website. So you should be able to find those very soon. But sort of the themes that you may be able to explore using the microsite and the the the interactive resource are:

- mapping and the local environment
- using historical sources
- how people lived in the past
- past events and chronology
- caring for our environment, and learning about human impact on it. Of course, Glasgow City Heritage Trust is primarily a grant giving organisation, we exist to encourage people to care for our historic environment. And so that aspect of not just learning about the history, but learning to care about the environment that we have all around us is very important to us.
- housing
- diversity of cultures, values and customs in our society.

These are just some of the topics and these mainly come from the Social Studies Framework. Outside of the social studies. area, there will of course be additional themes, and if you check on our website, you'll be able to have a look at some of the E's and O's related to those as well.

But for now, I'll start right at the beginning. Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin.

This is an unusual story of a chap called Thomas, a map, and the Second City of the Empire. The story goes that Thomas Sulman took to the skies and a hot air balloon to draw his intricate bird's eye view of Glasgow in 1864.

It's thought that the advent of hot air ballooning in the 1820s played a major role in the popularisation of these panoramas - granting a higher vantage point increasing the field of view of the artist, allowing for a greater sweep and broader perspective. However, the vast majority of the draftsmanship would still have taken place at ground level and been informed by contemporary mapping. Unfortunately, we actually have no evidence of the process Sulman used. He was an architectural illustrator, and our best guess is that used a combination of maybe hot air balloon photography and Ordnance Survey mapping to create the bird's eye. It's a really romantic idea though isn't it? We love the idea of him up in the sky in his hot air balloon.

The ground level mapping used to create the illustration is evident in the remarkable level of architectural detail visible in the civic buildings, monuments and churches captured in the view. The perspective has been altered a little bit to exaggerate the affluent north of the city, and some streets have been widened to allow some of the buildings to be seen more fully produced almost four decades before the first aeroplane took to the skies.

The tremendous scale and intricate detail in this bird's eye view of Glasgow is mind blowing. So the resulting map is an incredible snapshot of Glasgow in 1864. The view includes the whole of central Glasgow looking north from the south side of the river towards the Campsie Fells as seen from a fixed high point about the city. Rather fascinatingly recognisable landmarks throughout the city, such as the City Chambers and the Glasgow School of Art have yet to be built allowing us to see in great detail what existed there before. So some of those buildings that we associate with Victorian Glasgow actually aren't on the map yet, and that's what makes it so compelling. The frequently deepened Clyde teems with sail and steam shipping and its banks are packed with cranes and warehouses, the smokestacks of the thriving chemical industry of the era are seen to the northeast, a key driver of the westward expansion of the city. The foundations for new tenement buildings around Kelvingrove Park, are further evidence of that westward movement. Every single section of this panorama provides fascinating detail to study.

So this just shows you the extent of the map without that annoying bit of text on it. It's about a metre wide in real life. And if we just look at this wee square here, you might just be able to make out that's George Square with the Scott Monument right in the middle of it, and this is what that area looks like if you blow it up. So this is the kind of detail that you'll be able to see on our website. So you can see George Square there, with Queen Street Station in the corner, the Scott Monument - a bit exaggerated, it's not quite that tall in real life - but you'll see that the City Chambers isn't yet built to the right hand side there. You can see GOMA, the Museum of Modern Art with the Duke of Wellington outside, no cone on his head just yet in 1864. You can see Hutchesons' Hall on Ingram Street. So it's a really fascinating, detailed view of central Glasgow.

The map is really immersive. As a result, it's like a giant Where's Wally for Glasgow, or someone on Twitter said it was a bit like Google Streetview for Glasgow in 1864. You can't help but be sucked in. And especially look for areas that you know buildings that you know that maybe you work in or you've visited or you have a connection to. So we wanted to capture that feeling somehow, and let people step into this world drawn by Sulman to enjoy Victorian Glasgow and better understand how the city

developed and what was happening at that time. We thought that maybe an animation would help us to really let people get inside the map in the most effective and engaging way. So we've developed this little five minute animation produced by SUUM.studio, which follows a day in the life of an average family working in living in Glasgow.

I feel like a bird soaring over the city when I gaze upon Sulman's map, every nook and cranny with every detail so exact. I can see where I came from and where I'm at.

I've just collected the final piece of the map, it came in the paper which I have to take back - along with everything else on my list for the Websters, its them I work for and live in with as a domestic, my name is Elizabeth.

Although my days are long and I haven't seen my family in ages. Every day, I love being sent to the shops to get the finest foods. It goes on their "account" and is always more than my wages. Compared to other domestics I know - I have it better than most, the Websters treat me well and take pride in being terrific hosts. Compared to the builders I pass everyday, my work isn't so bad, but I do miss my brothers, my mummy and my Dad.

My wee brother George is only 10 years old but has little time to play, at first light he dashes out to his work at the Match Factory. George doesn't say much and he's not one for walking - he runs the 2 miles, dodging and weaving - through bustling narrow, dirty streets and sometimes has to hold his breath - to avoid heaving. George works a ten hour day with little food and even less pay. All the wee ones round his bit do the same - but some get injured - or worse still - the bosses are rarely held responsible.

My mammie is called Heather and Glasgow Green is her favourite place to be. Where she'll take a minute to breath in the fresh air - she calls it the lungs of the city - and says it feels "serene" there. There's rarely a day she doesn't meet someone she knows asking how the family have been - and have a giggle watching the strong young men exercising at the outdoor gym. She always says - "a stroll though the green is the best place to start the day" as she makes her way, to her to her long shift ahead, at the carpet factory.

My dear Daddy Thomas along with my brother - works at the River Clyde, every day. The never ending stream of goods in and out - unloading, reloading, with no time to think about - how the work is hard and very dangerous. No matter what, the cargo cant stop, because it's the Clyde that's making Glasgow prosperous. He says the best bit, is when the ships they've loaded, sail away.

And when the warehouses close for the day, The Trongate's busy bars take many a man's pay. My Brother Edward doesn't go straight home, he's seen what happens when people drink and can't stop, so he makes his way through the dark streets alone. He's joined the temperance movement, he doesn't touch alcohol, not one little drop. Living a sober life, he welcomes each day.

In Glasgow life feels 'full steam ahead'. There's plenty work for us all that each morning drives us from our bed. Despite the dangers, temptations and vice, life is nothing if not varied. There's community and opportunity. It's the place I want to bring up my weans when I get married. And it was Sulman's map that helped me to see that there's no place but Glasgow I'd rather be.

So as well as the animation, we also wanted to create a resource for the city where people can explore the map in all its detailed glory, and use it to find out more about Glasgow's Victorian heritage. We know from our work with communities and schools like yours, that although there are loads of places to go for information on heritage and historic buildings, it's all spread around multiple websites, you need to know where to go really, it can be a bit confusing. So we wanted to create a one stop shop, if you like. So that for example, a teacher can easily find resources that will allow them to use heritage as a learning tool with their class, or a community can easily find out about buildings in their area and plan heritage activities.

So the map will be added to and continue to grow to showcase not only the resources created by us, but content written by others that we've commissioned, and also signposting some of the amazing interpretation that's already out there.

So I'm just going to give you a really quick tour around the site. Okay, so if you click on the burger button, you can turn on all the different layers and see what's on the map and what's not on the map. And if you click on each of those pins, you can see a picture and some more information about all of those buildings. You can zoom right in and see the incredible detail. And you can pan around on the map and explore some of the buildings that you can see. Zoom back out again. And you can turn on street names to help you to orient yourself. I usually use landmarks like George Square, but street names can help as well. You can rewatch the animation in full or in the chapters relating to each individual character.

You can find out more about Gallus Glasgow, about the family, find resources on our blog, and events as well. So this is the Meet the Family page, where there's a post about every family member. And a little bit more about how we developed their story and the archival information that we used to inform it. We think the characters are a really great way for young people to get into thinking about how people might have lived in the Victorian era. What stories you might find in those buildings in those streets that relate to Victorian Glasgow. If you are looking for teaching resources, they will all be under the blog page.

Finally, you can Tell us Your Story. This is something we're really keen to promote with schools. So you can drop a pin anywhere on the map and you can add a story. So it could be related to a building. It could be a person on the street, so you can add an image. You can add a title, add a description, give us your email address, and then submit the pin to us. And then we will see all of those and we will approve them so that they appear on the map. And if you click on the Your Stories layer, you can see some of the ones that have already been added by other people. Some have a lot of information, some only a little bit, but it's all fantastic information that helps us build up a picture of Victorian Glasgow. It's really important to us to showcase as many community stories as we can, and to allow people to share things that are important to them or things that are important to their neighborhoods. So we really hope that you use that opportunity to share things with us that you can see in the map interesting details. There's so much more to explore that we haven't yet been able to label and identify for you.

So, we're talking about Victorian architecture. What do we mean by Victorian architecture?

Glasgow is a city full of Victorian buildings and Victorian refers to the reign of Queen Victoria. So she was on the throne from 1837 to 1901. So we sometimes call that the Victorian era. The name represents the British and French custom of naming architectural styles for reigning monarch. It follows Georgian architecture, and was succeeded by Edwardian architecture. For the purposes of this project,

we're looking at a period of 1864 to around 1914. So we're taking in the Edwardian period as well. The Victorian period was one of amazing progress. You can see here a list of some of the huge achievements that happened during that time. It was a time of huge national pride and confidence. As cities grew and the lives of ordinary people were improved through things like the Public Health Act, the Education Act, public services like libraries, hospitals and schools. A huge portion of Glasgow as we see it today dates from that Victorian period, and as a result, Glasgow has an impressive heritage of Victorian architecture. Buildings like the City Chambers, the main building of the University of Glasgow, and Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum are just a few outstanding examples. Buildings like Kelvingrove were designed to reflect the wealth and self confidence of the residents of the Second City of the Empire.

During the 1800s the industrial revolution happened in the UK. This meant we went from hand making items to machine production for the first time. It was a turning point in history, and Glasgow generated huge wealth from trade and industries that developed from that industrial revolution. Over the course of about 100 years, Glasgow transformed from a small town into a huge industrial city, growing very quickly in size to become the biggest Scottish city. Many people were attracted to the city in search of work, not just from rural Scotland, but also from England and Ireland.

Here we see Glasgow in 1795. About 40 years before Queen Victoria came to the throne. We can see the city centre with the High Street and Argyle Street and Trongate running along parallel to the river. Over to the west, you can see the area around Kelvingrove and what would now be the University as a lot of open space or parkland with some big houses probably owned by wealthy merchants working in the city.

This is Glasgow in 1864. So around the same time that Sulman's drawing his map, now you might think it's grown hugely in that time and looks almost as we might expect it to. However, if you look at the the picture in the corner there, you can see an image of George Square and although the Square itself is in place, the statues and monuments are all there. The buildings around the sides of the square are actually quite different to the ones we see today. So we're facing what would be the City Chambers there on the right hand side. And you can see it's a two to three storey Georgian building. So quite different to the scale of buildings that we see around George Square today. So a lot of what we see in this 1864 map was going to be redeveloped. And that's as we say quite an exciting part of Sulman's map because you can see what was there before these big huge Victorian civic buildings were erected.

So this is Glasgow in 1888, so less than 100 years later than that first map. Queen Victoria has now been on the throne for 51 years, the shipyards, marine engineering, steelmaking, and heavy industry have all contributed to the growth of the city. Glasgow's population has trebled from a quarter of a million at the start of Victoria's reign to 760,000 at the end of her reign, we can see that the city is expanding westwards with many of the streets and buildings we see today around the park area, woodlands and beyond.

Why do we call it Gallus Glasgow?

We decided to call the project Gallus Glasgow, because we felt it captured both the positive and negative aspects of this period in the city. The map captures a city on the cusp of greatness. The Victorians have found success in manufacturing and trading. They've conquered much of the world. They celebrate these achievements by constructing extravagant buildings in which to work live and meet It's an exciting time full of opportunity and optimism. However, the city was a place of contrast to,

with the spectacularly rich living side by side with some of the poorest in Britain. So who are these people, we can see in Sulman's view? Who are the voices in this image? I think one of the most fantastic things about his map is that he has included people you can see horses and carts, people rushing around on the streets, a whole marching regiment.

The usual stories that we hear about Victorian Glasgow might include the architects, the civic leaders, the politicians, the merchants who built this great city. Our characters from the animation are a little bit different. It's an average family.

So we have:

- Elizabeth, our narrator, who has links to housing life for women and girls, the rise of the middle classes in the West End.
- Wee George, he's only 10 years old, he's working in a match factory, there're stories there about work and school for children.
- Mum, Heather, she's on our way to Glasgow Green, to her work in the carpet factory. We can talk about industry, housing conditions, parks and green space.
- Dad, Thomas, he's an Irish immigrant. He's working down on the docks, there are stories there about immigration, shipping and trade.
- And Edward, the eldest brother, he's leaving work and heading to a temperance meeting. The story's there about social attitudes in Victorian Glasgow.

So the interactive site has a number of ways that people can get involved and enjoy it. Really what we'd like your help with is to populate the site with more stories about the Victorian period in Glasgow and its legacy. You can explore the map, you can click around, find out more about some of the buildings, you can use to tell us your story function to add those those stories about the Victorian period, you can have a look at our blogs and resources. And as I've said, we'll be adding our schools activities and Curriculum for Excellence links as we go along as well. We really want to feature as many voices as possible, we know that no one knows let Glasgow better than its communities. So alongside all the blogs and other content that we've added to the website, we want everyone to tell us what they can see in the map whose voices are missing. There's still so much to uncover there. We details that we've missed buildings that are long gone, neighborhoods that have changed or survived intact, and we can't wait to see what you spot.

So just a few ideas of places that you might go to to find some information that you could add to our map. If you want to look at historic maps online, you cannot do better than the National Library of Scotland maps website. It's a fantastic resource. Where you can search for an area or street, you can explore different maps relating to that area. And you can even fade between old and new maps. So it's a really compelling way to explore your local area and see how it's changed over time.

While we're talking about maps, Pastmap is a great resource. You can search by map and you can turn on different layers including listed buildings conservation areas. So we're mainly talking about things that we would describe as designated assets. So listed buildings is one that people understand and usually have heard of conservation areas scheduled ancient monuments, gardens and design landscapes, they all fit on this map as well. But it's a great way to find out a bit more about some of the historic buildings in your area.

While you on Pastmap, you might click through to some information relating to some of those buildings. And probably one that again, most people will have heard of is listed building descriptions. You can go direct to the Historic Environment Scotland website and look for listed building designations. Some of them are better than others. If they've been revised and changed quite recently, they might have quite a lot of explanatory information, notes about social information related to that building. Some have very basic architectural descriptions, but it's worth having a look at the very least you'll probably find out a category of listing, which gives an idea of how important the building is, a date it was built, an architect, and maybe who it was built for. So that's always worth a look as well.

Historic photographs, I think, are one of the best ways to get young people involved in looking at the historic environment. If you combine historic photographs with a historic map, you building up a really strong picture of what a place might have looked like. SCRAN is a great resource which everyone should have access to as education establishments, and particularly for our map, which dates from the 1860s Thomas Annan photographs are a fantastic resource. He was in the city taking photographs around the same time that Sulman was drawing his map. So they are really fantastic and evocative way of finding out more about what the city would have looked like at the time Sulman was drawing the map.

If you do want to find out a bit more about buildings and architects, and other useful website is the Dictionary of Scottish Architects where you can look up an architect or a building. You can find out all the buildings that architects worked on, a bit more about them, and their practice, where else they worked. And just find out, you know, perhaps they designed something in your local area, you can find out maybe they designed some other famous buildings.

And we're going to be adding some of our resources for schools and our worksheets and activities. This one pictured is our Word Play activity, where you work in groups to look at a historic image and add words to it to describe what that image looks like. All of these activities will come with curriculum links, a worksheet with explanation and anything else that you need. Another activity that we have is our Iconic Buildings sheets. These are just three examples of the Victorian buildings featured in those which all have a description of the building some questions to prompt a bit of discussion and some links to help you find out a bit more.

So I hope that was really helpful and just give you a quick whizz through how we think you could use our Gallus Glasgow resource in the classroom. If you ever have any questions, please do get in touch with us. We'd love to hear from you. And we're always happy to help if we can.