LEARNING OBJECTIVES
Students will:
• Gain a personal perspective about the WWII housing shortage
• Recognize difficulties Americans faced during WWII
• Identify different groups that participated in the WWII defense industry
• Evaluate and analyze primary sources
• Make inferences based on a map

ERA
USHG Era 7- The Great Depression and World War II (1920-1945)

MI GLCES
HSCE 7.2.3 Impact of WWII on American Life – Analyze the changes in American life brought about by U.S. participation in World War II including
• mobilization of economic, military, and social resources
• role of the home front in supporting the war effort (e.g., rationing, work hours, taxes)

ELA COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS ANCHOR LITERACY STANDARDS
• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
• CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

After years of struggling during the Great Depression to make ends meet, Southeastern Michigan manufacturers were fortunate to receive many WWII government war contracts creating a boom of economic activity in the metro Detroit region. Workers streamed into the area from across the nation to procure these jobs, only to discover a lack of adequate housing. The new workforce shared apartments, rooms, and sometimes rented beds by the hour to avoid living in tents.

Realizing the dire situation, the United States Government under the Federal Public Housing Authority, stepped in to create new housing projects for these defense workers. Since most building materials were being used for war production, many of the housing projects were to be temporary structures and torn down after the war.

However, some, like the Norwayne Community located in present day Westland, Michigan, were designed and built to become permanent neighborhoods for use after the end of the war. Today Norwayne continues to function as a residential community and is recognized as a historic district by the National Register of Historic Places.

MATERIALS USED

- Norwayne map and street signs.
- Student copies of the newspaper article.
- Copies for each student of the Community Information Sheet.
- Norwayne resident identities

LESSON PREPARATION

Prior to the lesson, the teacher should become familiar with the housing shortage in Southeastern Michigan during WWII. Please read the “Quick Overview of the Housing Shortage” included with the lesson. Also, the following link to the Norwayne Historic District’s description in the National Register of Historic Places Program offers a nice overview to help teachers understand the details and importance of the Norwayne Housing Project. http://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/places/13000479.htm

LESSON SEQUENCE

1. Pass out the newspaper reading, “First Workers’ Homes At Norwayne Project Ready in About 3 Weeks” and allow students to read and answer the questions to obtain background information about Norwayne.

2. Hang up in the classroom or display on a Smartboard/overhead the Norwayne street map. Place the four provided street signs on various walls in the classroom where students can gather and create their streets’ Norwayne Welcoming Committees after the reviewing the directions.

3. Read with the students the directions for the Norwayne Welcoming Committee activity. Review with students good communication, cooperation and listening skills.

4. Randomly distribute the various identities of Norwayne inhabitants and provide students a few minutes to examine their new identities’ characteristics.

5. Allow students about ten minutes to examine the Norwayne street map and fill out their Norwayne Housing application.

6. Students from the same streets should arrange themselves in a circle under their street sign on the wall to discuss and exchange information to be filled in on their Community Information Sheet.

7. Each welcoming committee should follow the directions on their Community Information Sheet and fill in the sheets accordingly.

8. Reflect with students about their decisions. Ask each street committee chairperson to share with
the following information:

• How did the people living on your street support the war effort?
• What areas of the world did the residents on your street formerly live?
• What was the most surprising story your street learned about a resident?
• Describe your welcoming committee’s plan to welcome new residents and promote community patriotism.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY
Have each student write a persuasive letter urging a relative from their character’s home town to relocate to Norwayne. The letter should describe the wonderful new housing at Norwayne and the possibilities of employment with one of the companies at which a neighbor works. The letter should also include how the work will help win WWII for the Allies.

EVALUATION
• Newspaper article questions
• The Community Information sheet
• The Norwayne Welcoming Committee sheet
• Feedback shared by students to the class during the activity
• Extension Activity letter

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
Herman, Arthur. Freedom’s Forge: How American
Business Produced Victory in World War II. 2012.
Willow Run Village, https://sites.google.com/site/willowrunvillage/

For more information about the Detroit Historical Society, or to schedule a field trip to the Detroit Historical Museum or Dossin Great Lakes Museum, visit detroithistorical.org
DIRECTIONS: Read the newspaper article and use your reasoning to answer the questions.

1. According to the article, what has taken place for the last eight months for war workers and their families?

2. Based on the author’s statement, what can you conclude the author incorrectly believes is happening to war workers without families?

3. What is the range of actual dates when the first families may be able to move in the project? July ___ -- July ___

4. How many families a week will be able to move in once the project gets going?

5. What is the most important problem to be taken care of before the first people can move in?

6. Explain why the author included the personal background of the new manager.

7. Why can rental applications not be made at the Norwayne housing project?

8. Why might a person today not understand the contact phone number provided to rent a home in the Norwayne housing project?
EMERSON AVENUE

CALUMET AVENUE

OTTAWA COURT

ROSSOMMON CT.
**Norwayne Housing Application**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>M.I.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Current Address

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Former Address

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Current Employer

| ____________________________ |

What kind of work do you do?

| ________________________________________________ |

Your hourly wage _________ Hours per week __________ Your weekly income _________

Second wage earner’s weekly income (If applicable) = ______________________

The number of people who will be living in the residence? ________________ (All persons must be a member of your immediate family.)

The current type of housing is newly constructed and available on the following streets:

- One bedroom, row units—Emerson Avenue
- Two bedroom, single units—Calumet Avenue
- Three bedroom, twin units—Ottawa Court
- Four bedroom, twin units—Roscommon Court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of unit desired?</th>
<th>Monthly rent?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Unit address requested:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street</th>
<th>Unit Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please explain to the housing selection committee why you need this housing and how your work contributes to the war effort:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________
THE NORWAYNE WELCOMING COMMITTEE

DIRECTIONS: Interview your neighbors. Prepare to report out your committee’s decisions.

1. Your street has decided to create a Welcoming Committee to welcome new residents as they move onto your street. Select a member of your group to be the committee chairperson.

_______________________________

2. List five other people living on your street with their family status, occupation and former residence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>FAMILY STATUS</th>
<th>OCCUPATION</th>
<th>FORMER RESIDENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Using the neighborhood map, who are the closest neighbors in your group living to your east and west, or north and south? Discuss with these two neighbors why they came to live in Norwayne and document their answers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME:</th>
<th>NAME:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDRESS:</td>
<td>ADDRESS:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REASON FOR MOVING TO NORWAYNE:</td>
<td>REASON FOR MOVING TO NORWAYNE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Describe what your Welcoming Committee will do to welcome new residents.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

5. Describe the type of activities your Committee will conduct to promote patriotism and show support for the war on your street.

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Carl Stokes
- **Age:** 42
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a machinist
- **Wage:** $1.50/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Nancy who also works at the Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant. They have six children: Robert-15, William-13, Agetha-12, Bertie-10, Paul-8 and Barbara-7
- **Current Address:** Living in a trailer in an orchard by the Willow Run Plant
- **Former Address:** Lynchberg, Tennessee
- **Prior Occupation:** Tractor repairman for sharecroppers and tenant farmers in an area that had been hit hard by the Great Depression.

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** William Knapp
- **Age:** 37
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.30/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Flora who is a housewife. They have four children: William Jr.-15, Nora-11, Nancy-8 and David-4
- **Current Address:** Renting a garage on Superior St., in Ypsilanti
- **Former Address:** Paducah, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Farm hand doing various farm work

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Sam Feltey
- **Age:** 28
- **Employment:** Ford River Rouge Plant as an electrician
- **Wage:** $1.70/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Beth who is a housewife. They have three children: Harriet-6, Floyd-4 and Laura-18 months
- **Current Address:** Michigan Ave., Dearborn-sharing a two bedroom apartment with Beth’s mom and dad and Beth’s four siblings
- **Former Address:** Hardin, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Mill man at a grain mill
| Name: | Elizabeth Goodson  
| Age: | 38  
| Employment: | Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter  
| Wage: | $1.15/hour, 70 hours per week  
| Family Info: | Married to James who is currently serving in the navy. They have four children: Patricia-15, Patrick-12, Roberta-10 and Anthony-6  
| Current Address: | Washtenaw Avenue, Ypsilanti-sharing a trailer with the Kuhn family  
| Former Address: | Hillsdale, Michigan  
| Prior Occupation: | Homemaker |

| Name: | Dorthey Kuhn  
| Age: | 46  
| Employment: | Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant installing pilot's seats  
| Wage: | $1.15/hour, 70 hours per week  
| Family Info: | Married to Tony who is serving in the army at Camp Willow Run. They have three children: Anthony Jr.-23 who works at Willow Run, Celia-17 and Diane-11  
| Current Address: | Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti-sharing a trailer with the Goodson family  
| Former Address: | Hillsdale, Michigan  
| Prior Occupation: | Elementary school teacher laid off during the Great Depression |

| Name: | David Cell  
| Age: | 33  
| Employment: | Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as an electrician  
| Wage: | $1.70/hour, 60 hours per week  
| Family Info: | Married to Betsy who also works at the Willow run B-24 Bomber Plant. They have five children: Walter-13, Will-11, Wilda-10, Wilamena-8 and Wally-6  
| Current Address: | Geddes Road, Superior Township-living in a tent in a farmer’s field  
| Former Address: | Louisville, Kentucky  
<p>| Prior Occupation: | Pig farmer |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Wage</th>
<th>Family Info</th>
<th>Current Address</th>
<th>Former Address</th>
<th>Prior Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Betsy Chumley</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Eloise Sanitarium</td>
<td>$1.00/hour, 45 hours per week</td>
<td>Married to Paul who is serving in the navy. They do not have any children.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Street, Village of Wayne-living with three other nurses in an apartment over a store</td>
<td>Addison, Michigan</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Slaven</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a drill operator</td>
<td>$1.50/hour, 60 hours per week</td>
<td>Married to Carla who also works at the Willow run B-24 Bomber Plant. They do not have any children.</td>
<td>Cross Street, Ypsilanti-sharing an apartment with his parents</td>
<td>Milan, Michigan</td>
<td>Farm hand on his brother’s farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Stewart</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a foreman</td>
<td>$1.80/hour, 60 hours per week</td>
<td>Bachelor</td>
<td>Hamilton Street, Ypsilanti-renting a room in a boarding house</td>
<td>Carleton, Michigan</td>
<td>Grain miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** John Hill
- **Age:** 21
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.30/hour, 70 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Bachelor
- **Current Address:** Living in a tent in an orchard by the Willow Run Plant
- **Former Address:** Springport, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Farm hand

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Walter Smith
- **Age:** 55
- **Employment:** Packard Motors Plant as a foreman
- **Wage:** $1.80/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Widower
- **Current Address:** Fourth Street, Village of Wayne-renting a room from his former mother-in-law
- **Former Address:** Village of Wayne, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Auto repairman

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Sandra Wiltse
- **Age:** 26
- **Employment:** Eloise Sanitarium as a nurse
- **Wage:** $1.00/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Widower-husband killed in the Battle of Coral Sea, one child-Sarah-3
- **Current Address:** Elizabeth Street, Village of Wayne-sharing an apartment with three other nurses
- **Former Address:** Temperance, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Housewife
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Hans Krause
- **Age:** 38
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a machinist
- **Wage:** $1.50/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Helga who also works at the Willow run B-24 Bomber Plant. They have two children: Augusta-14 and Heidi-10
- **Current Address:** Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti-living in a tent next to the river
- **Former Address:** Frankenmuth, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Dry goods store clerk

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Gus Norris
- **Age:** 32
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a drill operator
- **Wage:** $1.40/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Doris who is a receptionist at the Eloise Sanitarium. They have one child: Sam-8
- **Current Address:** Adams Street, Ypsilanti-sharing an apartment with friends
- **Former Address:** Buttermilk Pike, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Tobacco farmer

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Gerald Tower
- **Age:** 45
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a spot welder
- **Wage:** $1.40/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Clara who is a housewife. They have one child living with them, Arnold-24 who works in the Willow Run Bomber Plant, also.
- **Current Address:** Adams Street, Ypsilanti-renting a basement apartment
- **Former Address:** Cassopolis, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Store janitor
NORWAYNE RESIDENT CARDS (CONT.)

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Tim Johnson
- **Age:** 51
- **Employment:** Ford River Rouge Plant assembling landing gear for the B-24
- **Wage:** $1.30/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Edith who also works at the Willow run B-24 Bomber Plant. They have two children: Marion-4 and Charles-1.
- **Current Address:** Second Street, Village of Wayne-renting a one bedroom apartment
- **Former Address:** Morgantown, West Virginia
- **Prior Occupation:** Coal miner

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Al Hubert
- **Age:** 36
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as an engine mechanic
- **Wage:** $1.70/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Sharon who is a housewife. They have seven children: Mary-16, Al Jr.-14, Caroline-12, Cynthia-11, Maxine-9, Ida-6 and Dean-2.
- **Current Address:** Savage Road, Van Buren Township-living in a shack made of scraps
- **Former Address:** Wheeling, West Virginia
- **Prior Occupation:** Coal miner

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Raymond Anderson
- **Age:** 33
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a fuel cell installer
- **Wage:** $1.60/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Alice who is a housewife. They have two children: Thomas-11 and Karen-8.
- **Current Address:** Pearl Street, Ypsilanti-living with Alice’s sister and husband
- **Former Address:** Gaylord, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Grocer
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Trudie VanDusen
- **Age:** 51
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant sewing motor covers
- **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 50 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Widow
- **Current Address:** Hamilton Street, Ypsilanti-living in a boarding house
- **Former Address:** Ashland, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Seamstress

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Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Dalton Valentine
- **Age:** 34
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant assembling cockpits
- **Wage:** $1.70/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Mae who is a housewife. They have two children: Betty Lynn-14 and Peggy Sue-10.
- **Current Address:** Congress Street, Ypsilanti-living in a trailer parked in the back yard
- **Former Address:** Murray, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Tenant farmer

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Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Bud Finney
- **Age:** 35
- **Employment:** Packard Motors Company as a machinist
- **Wage:** $1.80/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Sarah who works as a riveter at the Willow Run Bomber Plant. They have six children: Paul-16, Scotty-14, Jerry-12, Susan-11, Kay-9 and Charlie-7.
- **Current Address:** Living in a trailer in an orchard by the Willow Run Plant
- **Former Address:** Ida, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Gas pump attendant
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name**: Rachel Clementine
- **Age**: 22
- **Employment**: Ford River Rouge Plant assembling B-24 landing gear
- **Wage**: $1.10/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info**: Engaged to Charlie Tucker serving in the 31st Infantry of the U.S. Army.
- **Current Address**: Village of Wayne, renting a basement room
- **Former Address**: Grass Lake, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation**: Domestic servant

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name**: Dimitra Wocjowski
- **Age**: 23
- **Employment**: Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage**: $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info**: Single
- **Current Address**: Hamilton Street, Ypsilanti-living in a boarding house
- **Former Address**: Jackson, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation**: Sales clerk

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name**: Bernice Ackerson
- **Age**: 21
- **Employment**: Eloise Sanitarium as a nurse
- **Wage**: $1.10/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info**: Single
- **Current Address**: Inkster, Michigan renting a room
- **Former Address**: Detroit, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation**: Student
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Shannon O’Hara
- **Age:** 24
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Single
- **Current Address:** Hamilton Street, Ypsilanti-living in a boarding house
- **Former Address:** Benton, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Waitress

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Beth Caprella
- **Age:** 25
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Married to Douglas Caprella serving in the U.S. navy aboard the USS Saratoga. They do not have any children.
- **Current Address:** State Street, Ann Arbor-sleeping on her aunt’s couch
- **Former Address:** Saline, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Telephone operator

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Billy James
- **Age:** 21
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as an electrician apprentice
- **Wage:** $1.20/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Single
- **Current Address:** Geddes Road, Washtenaw Township in a self-made shack
- **Former Address:** Louisville, Kentucky
- **Prior Occupation:** Soda jerk
### Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Wanda Jaworski  
  - **Age:** 28  
  - **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a secretary  
  - **Wage:** $.85/hour, 50 hours per week  
  - **Family Info:** Single  
  - **Current Address:** Forrest Avenue, Ypsilanti-living in her car  
  - **Former Address:** Tullahoma, Tennessee  
  - **Prior Occupation:** Secretary for General Shoe Company

### Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Annie McRae  
  - **Age:** 20  
  - **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter  
  - **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week  
  - **Family Info:** Single  
  - **Current Address:** Oak Street, Ypsilanti-renting a room with two other women  
  - **Former Address:** Quincy, Michigan  
  - **Prior Occupation:** Nanny

### Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Jimmy Wilberkin  
  - **Age:** 23  
  - **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter  
  - **Wage:** $1.30/hour, 60 hours per week  
  - **Family Info:** Married to Myrtle. They have two children, James, Jr.-3 and Clayton-1.  
  - **Current Address:** Ballard Street, Ypsilanti-living in a boarding house  
  - **Former Address:** Trenton, Michigan  
  - **Prior Occupation:** Bus driver
Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Suzie Kindle
- **Age:** 22
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Single
- **Current Address:** Oak Street, Ypsilanti-renting a room with two other women
- **Former Address:** Wyandotte, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Sales clerk

Norwayne Resident Information Card

- **Name:** Jane Stoskas
- **Age:** 21
- **Employment:** Willow Run B-24 Bomber Plant as a riveter
- **Wage:** $1.15/hour, 60 hours per week
- **Family Info:** Engaged to Ricky Crane currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corp.
- **Current Address:** Hamilton Street, Ypsilanti-living in a boarding house
- **Former Address:** Garden City, Michigan
- **Prior Occupation:** Cook