Learning Journeys for our Heartlands

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What is Heritage?

Definition (Oxford Dictionary)

- property that is or may be inherited; an inheritance
- **valued** objects and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions that have been **passed down** from previous generations:
Places – Heritage Sites

- A visual representation of history
- Allow us to easily compare between the past and present.
- As a trigger for old memories
- Provides the environment for imagination
Learning Journeys

Advantages

- Students get to “see”, “experience” or “imagine” history on-site.
- Inject certain element of excitement into lessons
Learning Journeys

- Chinatown
- Kampong Glam
- Little India
- WWII sites
- Civic Districts
Learning Journeys

Disadvantages

- “Packaged” for tourism
- Students have no direct relationship to those places
- “Passive consumer” of history
Why not the Heartlands?

- Has not really been explored yet
  - Students can be guided to “do” history
- Students have a direct relationship to these places
  - Where they live, play and grow up in
Heartland: Woodlands

Toponymics

- Woodlands
- Marsiling

Derived from the Chinese name of Maxiling, where Maxi is the name of a village whom Lim Nee Soon came from.
Marsiling Tunnels

Disused British Military underground facilities, abandoned after World War II
Old Kampongs that have vanished

Kampong Lorong Fatimah, Kampong Sungei Mandai Kechil

Picture from http://picas.nhb.gov.sg/
Old Woodlands Town Center

http://remembersingapore.wordpress.com/2012/05/21/old-neighbourhood-old-woodlands-town-centre/
Learning to “do” history

- Students can be engaged in a historical enquiry process through:
  
  0 Photographs (Past vs Present)
  
  0 Oral Interviews
  
  0 Online/Academic Research
    
    0 remembersingapore.wordpress.com, Singapore OneNorth Explorers, GoodMorningYesterday, Infopedia.com
Contributing to the record of history

- Sharing their findings, add to the RemSG collection

  http://heritagetrail.mslportal.edu.sg/MSL_POIHistory.aspx
Taking actions

Students can be encouraged to think about

- A heritage site/building in their heartland that they think should be preserved
- Why it should be preserved
Value

- Students will learn to appreciate the historical value of the neighbourhood they live in.

- Debunk the misconception that only gazetted national monuments & heritage sites counts.
Thank you.