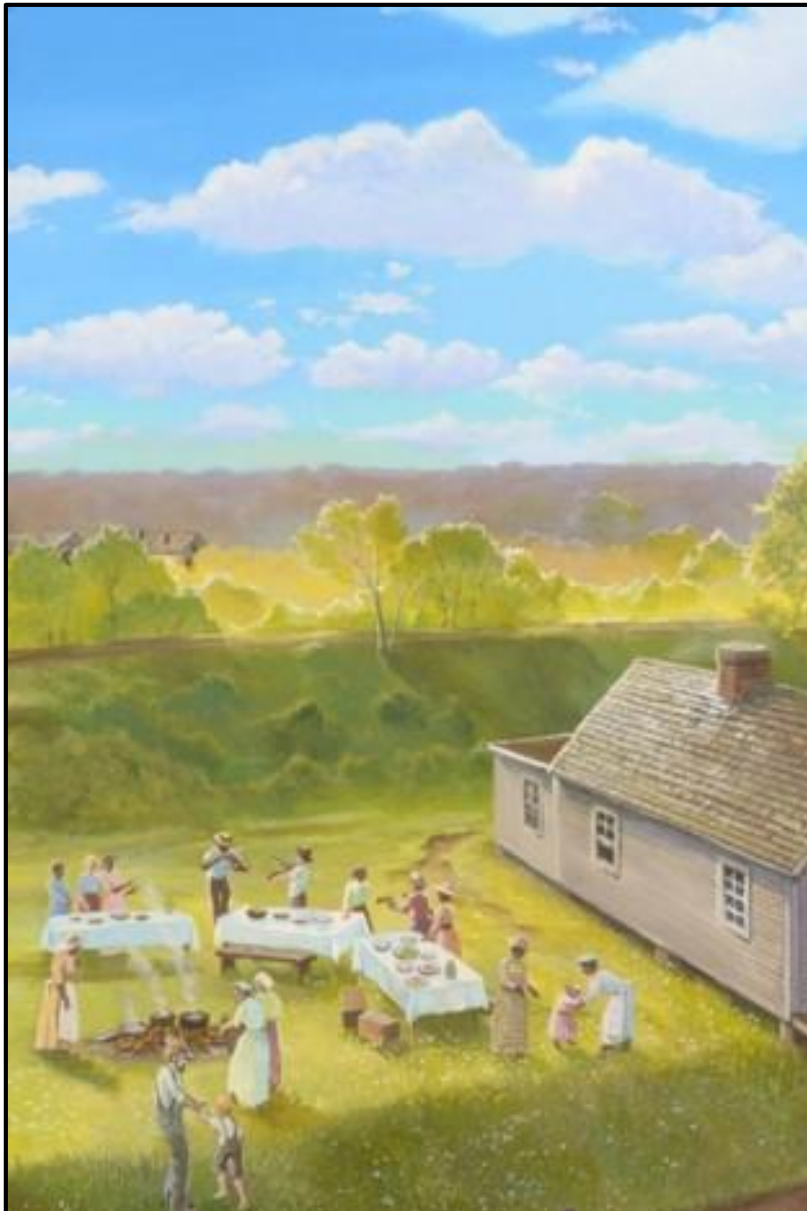


ATTENDING A FISH FRY BACKGROUND ESSAY

This scene shows both black and white families gathering for a fish fry. People who lived in Davis Bottom fished in nearby ponds and streams for bluegill. They raised vegetables in small gardens and put up their harvest for the winter. They shared what they had with each other.

How do we know this? One way is by listening to the stories of people who grew



up in Davis Bottom. They shared their stories with scholars who were studying the neighborhood. And they shared stories that had been passed down to them by their grandparents. That is called *oral history*.

We also know this is true because of what archaeologists found. Archaeologists dug where the *privies* (or outhouses) used to be. Privies were used as outside toilets and also as places to throw away garbage.

Archaeologists found jar lid liners and fasteners from canning jars in the privies. They also found fish bones from bluegill, walleye, redhorse, and freshwater drumfish in the privies.