



HISTORY

in the Heartland

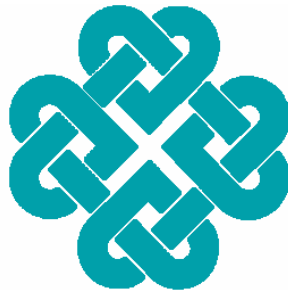
EXPLORE HISTORY

Summary Evaluation Report for the December 6, 2008 Harding Home Field Trip

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1. Perceived Success of Field Trip in Meeting Learning Objectives

Thirty five teachers participated in the December 6, 2008 Explore History field trip to the Harding Home. Activities for the day included:

- A presentation on architecture as a primary source by Stuart D. Hobbs
- A presentation on the historic restoration of the Harding Home by Melinda Gilpin
- A tour of the Harding Home led by Melinda Gilpin and other OHS staff at the Harding Home

Participants were asked how successful the Harding Home December field trip was in covering the following topics:

- Architecture as a primary source.
- The history and importance of the Harding Home.

The percentages of responses for each response category are provided in bullet format below each objective:

How successful was today's fieldtrip in covering architecture as a primary source?

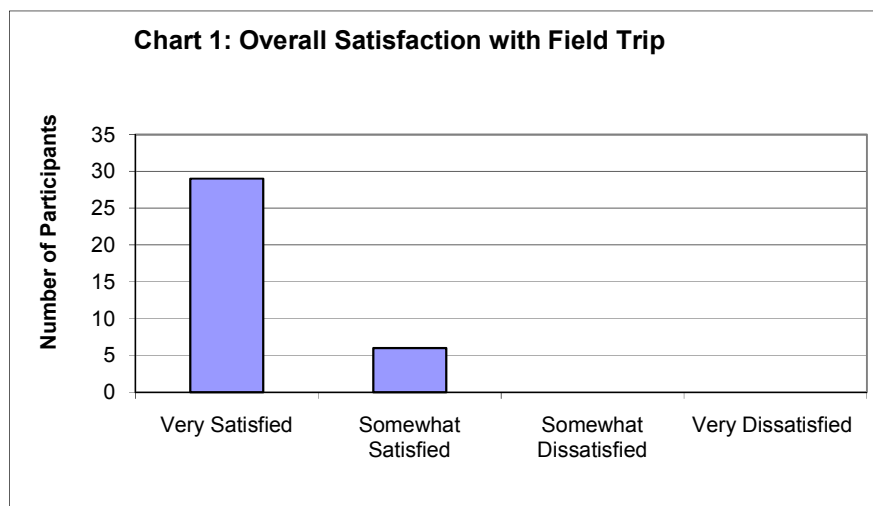
- 63% (22) said "very successful"
- 37% (13) said "mostly successful"

How successful was today's fieldtrip in covering the history and importance of the Harding Home?

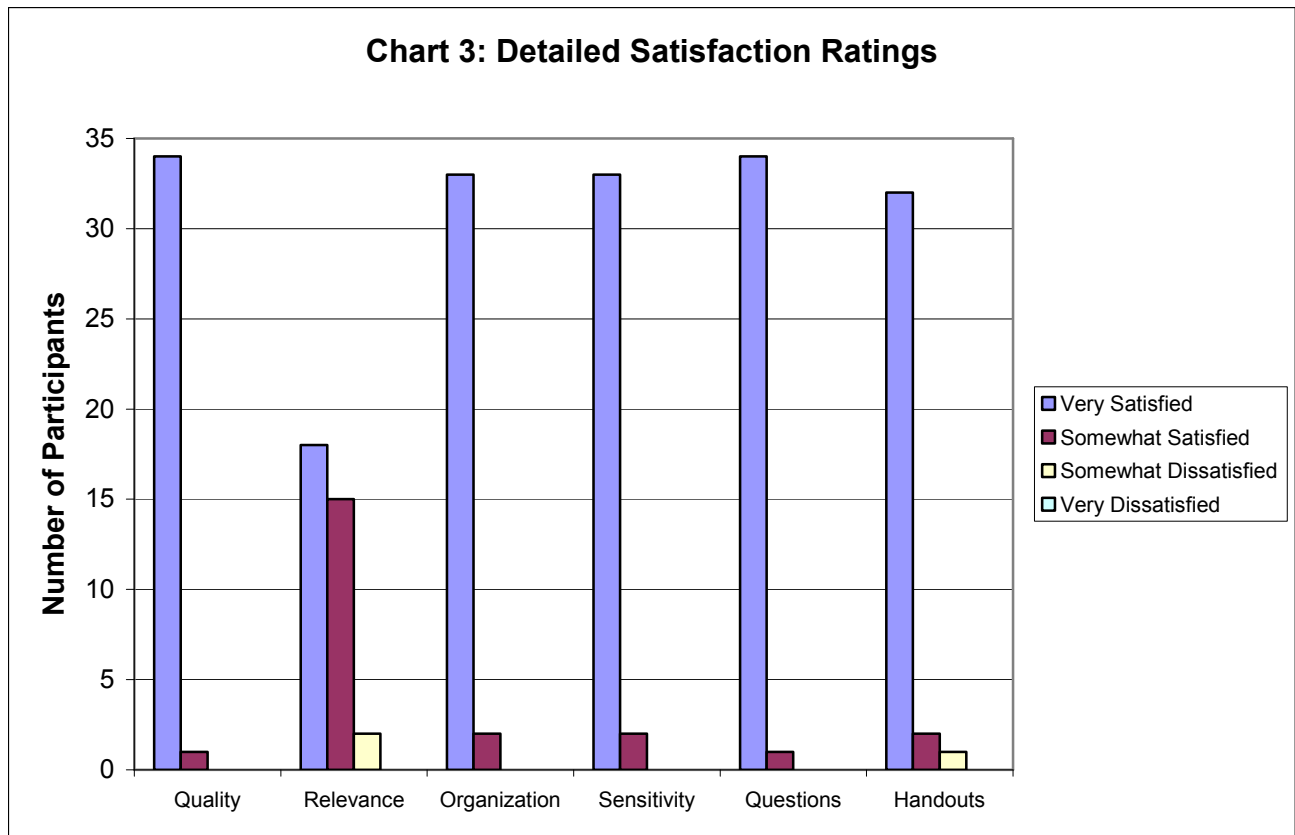
- 86% (30) said "very successful"
- 14% (5) said "mostly successful"

2. Participant Satisfaction Ratings

Participating teachers were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the field trip. Of the 35 teachers who responded to this item, 83% (or 29) indicated that they were "very satisfied" with the trip, while 17% (or 6) indicated that they were "somewhat satisfied." No participants reported being "somewhat dissatisfied" or "very dissatisfied". Chart 1 presents this data in graphical format.



The 35 teachers who participated in the field trip also were asked to provide detailed satisfaction ratings for the following aspects of the trip. Chart 2 presents participants' ratings for each of these aspects.



- **Quality of information:** 97% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the quality of the information presented in the field trip and one participants reported that they were “somewhat satisfied” in this area.
- **Relevance of information to participants’ work:** 51% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the relevance of the information to their work and 43% reported that they were “somewhat satisfied” in this area. Two participants reported being “somewhat dissatisfied” with the relevance of the information to their work.
- **Organization of the field rip:** 94% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the organization of the field trip and 6% reported that they were “somewhat satisfied” in this area.
- **Sensitivity of instructor to participants:** 94% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the sensitivity of the instructor to them and their needs, and 6% reported being “somewhat satisfied” in this area.
- **Opportunity to ask questions:** 97% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the opportunity they had to ask questions, and 3% of participants reported that they were “somewhat satisfied” in this area.
- **Field trip materials:** 91% of participants reported that they were “very satisfied” with the materials they received and 6% of participants reported that they were “somewhat satisfied” with the field trip materials. One participant reported that they were “very dissatisfied” in this area.

3a. What were the *most helpful* features of the Field Trip?

The participants were asked in an open-ended question on the post-test instrument to list the most helpful features of the Harding Home field trip. Table 1 summarizes the teachers' comments for this question. The actual comments of participants are listed under each of the categories below. It should be noted that many of the comments by participants included more than one key idea. Some comments were repeated more than once; those comments are listed once in the Table below with the number of occurrences in parentheses following the comment.

Table 1: Most Helpful Features of the Harding Home Field Trip

Information and Organization (14)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stories we were told about the Harding's and the house really added to the enjoyment of the trip (6)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The history of President Harding and descriptions of materials found in the home(3)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding what would have been authentic to the Harding Home in 1920. Details about the family – Warren and Florence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on outreach programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thought it was very well organized
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It connected to content I teach in my classroom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of it! I loved learning how to analyze buildings as primary resources, and I loved learning so much about the Harding's and their home
Hands- On (12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing all the stories behind the artifacts. Being able to see the house and its belongings first hand was very exciting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since I teach here in Marion, it was nice to get some hands on experience to share with my kids
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just seeing the home/furnishings brought feeling of realism to the time period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided me with the opportunity to view a primary source establishment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research that has gone into the home, decor, and articles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting some variety and also seeing period things first hand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The detail of work gone into restoration. All the artifacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing it first hand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands on – being able to go there
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual – can view actual "life size"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loved the presentation and trip
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being in history
Guides and Presenters (7)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker and all guides [were] very knowledgeable (4)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter was very knowledgeable. She emphasized the importance of the primary sources used in restoring Harding's home
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interesting and personable tour guides
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our guide was great and the presentations from everyone before the trip were very informative

3b. What were the *least* helpful features of the field trip?

Seminar participants next were asked in an open-ended question on the post-test instrument to rate the least helpful features of the Harding Home field trip. Table 2 (below) summarizes teachers' comments for this question.

Table 2: Least Helpful Features of the Harding Home Field Trip

Misc (8) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The weather (2)• Gift shop (2)• Outside my course of study• Good commentary• Understanding all the restoration plans• Large group made it difficult to see everything
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4. How could this field trip be improved?

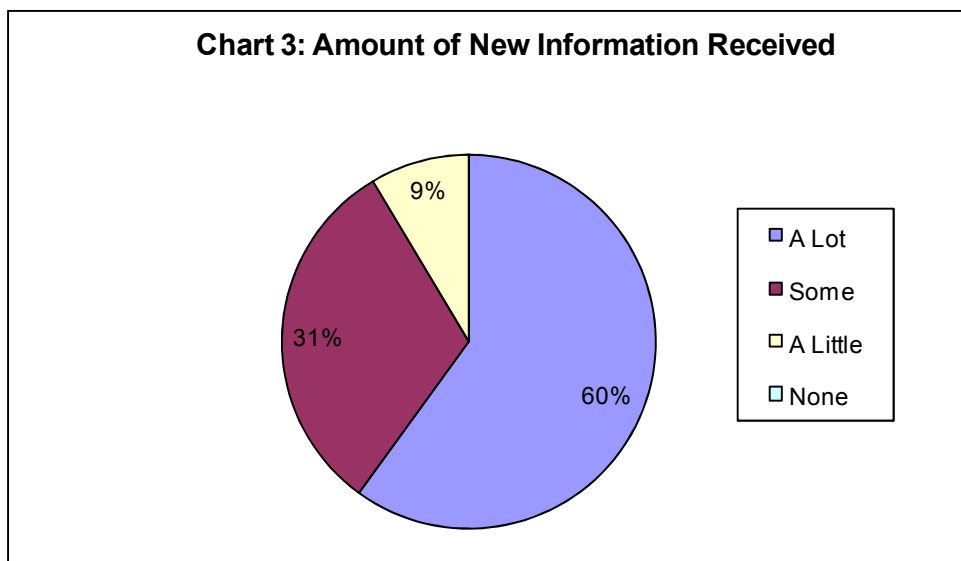
Seminar participants were asked in an open-ended question on the post-test instrument to identify ways that the field trip could be improved. Table 3 summarizes participants' comments for this question.

Table 3: Participant Suggestions to Improve Future Explore History Field Trips

Misc (6) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smaller groups (5)• Would like to have had more prior knowledge before we went. Maybe had a handout to read before class

5. How much new information or ideas did you receive from the field trip?

The 35 field trip participants were asked on the post-test instrument to rate the amount of new information or ideas that they received from the trip. The results are presented in Chart 3.

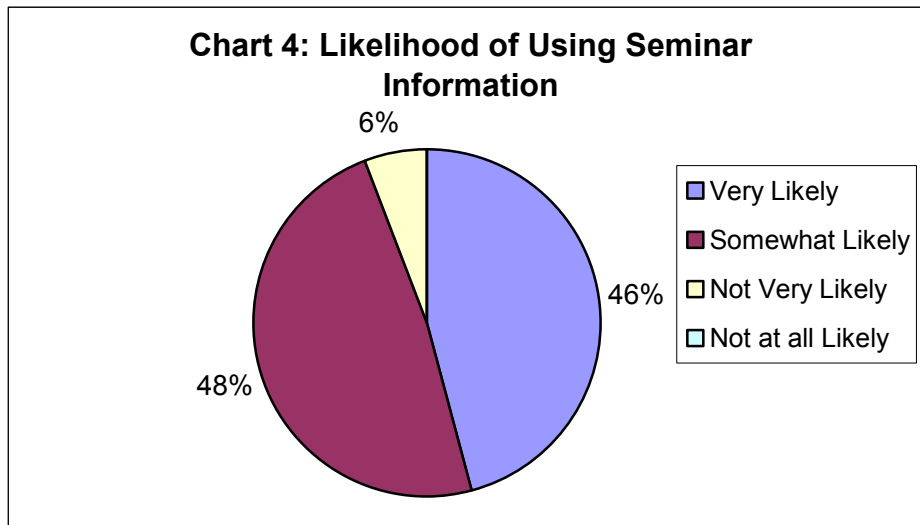


Twenty-one of the 35 (or 60%) participants who answered the question concluded that “a lot of new information/ideas” were received in the field trip, while 11 of 35 (or 31%) said “some new information/ideas” were received. Three participants (or 9%) said that “a little new

information/ideas” were received. No respondents said that “no new information/ideas” were received.

6. How likely are you to use the information or ideas that you received on the field trip?

Seminar participants also were asked on the post-test instrument to rate the likelihood that they would use the information or ideas that they received on the field trip. The results are presented in Chart 4 on the next page.



Sixteen of the 35 participants who answered the question concluded that they would be “very likely” to use the information that they received on the field trip. Seventeen of the 35 participants who answered the question concluded that they would be “somewhat likely” to use the information that they received, and two respondents said that they would be “not very likely” or “not at all likely” to use the information that they received.

7. Additional comments and suggestions.

Finally, participants were asked to list any additional comments or suggestions they had related to the Harding Home field trip. Their comments are listed below in Table 4.

Table 4: Additional comments and suggestions.

<p>Positive (9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Everything went well. Loved it• I liked hearing how the tour is done for students• Field trip was a great way to learn about President Harding and the home he grew up in. It was good to see it first hand• Food was fantastic. I would think fieldtrips are good ideas for this in the future• I enjoyed visiting the Harding home – very interesting• It was great, very informative, interesting• Great opportunity. Would love more info about the Harding Memorial• Interesting info• Very appropriate
