



Primary Source Analysis: Total Dystopia - the Fall of Richmond

On April 2, 1865, Confederate forces in Richmond set fire to the tobacco stores and warehouses to keep food and supplies from the Union Army that was advancing on the city. The fire, however, spread uncontrollably, eventually engulfing most of Richmond in a surreal, horrific scene that reduced the city's building and neighborhoods to smoldering ashes. It was the invading Union Army that put the fires out. Below is an eyewitness account describing the devastation:

As the sun rose on Richmond, such a spectacle was presented as can never be forgotten by those who witnessed it... All the horrors of the final conflagration, when the earth shall be wrapped in 'flames and melt with fervent heat, were, it seemed to us, prefigured in our capital. The roaring, crackling and hissing of the flames, the bursting of shells at the Confederate Arsenal, the sounds of the Instruments of martial music, the neighing of the horses, the shoutings of the multitudes... gave an idea of all the horrors of Pandemonium.

Sallie Putnam - Richmond resident

Based on the description above, use your imagination to draw and color the former Confederate capital on April 2. In addition, give your drawing a title.

Title: