

Chapter 1 : Mitchelville - Wikipedia

South Carolina SC African-Americans Understanding Slavery African Slave Trade and South Carolina South Carolina and the African Slave Trade Slavery was well established in the "New World" by the Spanish, Portuguese, and Dutch, who all sent African slaves to work in both North and South America during the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

The English began aggressively trading in what was called "black ivory" during the middle of the seventeenth century, spurred on by the need for laborers in the hot, humid sugar fields on the West Indian islands of Barbados, St. Christopher, the Bermudas, and Jamaica. By the time Charles Towne was settled in , Englishmen from the West Indies were well acquainted with slavery and the huge profits they could reap from the toil of others. Slavery was therefore considered an essential ingredient in the successful establishment of cash crop plantations in South Carolina. Like other European nations, England created the Royal African Company to underwrite the slave trade. A string of forts and "slave factories" were established from the Cape Verde Islands to the Bight of Biafra. But the slave trade would likely not have been as "successful" were it not for the "unholy alliance" between the English and other European nations and the African kingdoms on whose territories the forts stood. The English slave traders did their best to dupe the native kings, and each native king did his best to obtain the maximum amount of goods in exchange for the slaves he had for sale. For their cargoes of human flesh, the traders brought iron and copper bars, brass pans and kettles, cowry shells, old guns, gun powder, cloth, and alcohol. In return, ships might load on anywhere from to over African slaves, stacking them like cord wood and allowing almost no breathing room. This slave trade is thought to have transported at least 10 million, and perhaps as many as 20 million, Africans to the American shore. The slave traders discovered that Carolina planters had very specific ideas concerning the ethnicity of the slaves they sought. No less a merchant than Henry Laurens wrote: In other words, slaves from the region of Senegambia and present-day Ghana were preferred. At the other end of the scale were the "Calabar" or Ibo or "Bite" slaves from the Niger Delta, who Carolina planters would purchase only if no others were available. In the middle were those from the Windward Coast and Angola. Carolina planters developed a vision of the "ideal" slave "€" tall, healthy, male, between the ages of 14 and 18, "free of blemishes," and as dark as possible. Writers of the period remarked that there was no harder, or more unhealthy, work possible: In fact, these Carolina rice fields have been described as charnel houses for African-American slaves. Malaria and enteric diseases killed off the low country slaves at rates which are today almost unbelievable. Based on the best plantation accounts it is clear that while about one out of every three slave children on the cotton plantations died before reaching the age of 16, nearly two out of every three African-American children on rice plantations failed to reach their sixteenth birthday and over a third of all slave children died before their first birthday. Once in South Carolina what was the lives of these slaves like? How did they live? What did they eat? What did their houses look like? How did they prepare their food? What kinds of possessions did they have? What did their pottery look like? White masters had little or no interest in recording these details for future generations. Slavery was an economic issue and the only details worthy of being consistently recorded were those related to the value of their slaves or the value of their production. The daily lives of these new African-Americans was probably poorly understood and certainly of little importance to the planters. These are all questions that can only be answered through archaeology.

Chapter 2 : Slavery in the American South - Constitutional Rights Foundation

Slavery in South Carolina and the Ex-slaves and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. Learn more Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App.

History of Slavery in South Carolina Image: Plantation Dance in South Carolina This well-known watercolor by an unidentified artist depicts people presumed to be plantation slaves dancing and playing musical instruments. It gives a rare view of African American life in South Carolina during the colonial period. The women are wearing head wraps and gowns with fitted bodices and long full skirts. Some of the men are wearing earrings. Although its setting is uncertain, materials in the files of Colonial Williamsburg suggest a plantation between Charleston and Orangeburg, South Carolina. Conditions in the South were favorable for slavery. Large stretches of fertile land, a warm climate that the Negroes tolerated much better than the whites, and unhealthy regions where white men did not care to work "all these drew slavery to America. Established first in the Spanish possessions of the West Indies, it spread as soon as the mainland was settled along the mainland, from Jamestown northward and southward. Land for Slaves Slavery was encouraged from the outset of the Carolina Colony. The four proprietors of the colony were members of the Royal African Company, a slave trading company. In , the proprietors encouraged settlers to acquire slaves with the promise that they would be given 20 acres of land for every black male slave and 10 acres for every black female slave brought to the colony within the first year. This encouragement worked; by , the black population was equal to the white population. Colonial Slavery South Carolina was a slave colony from its inception. Although the first Africans arrived in as part of a large Spanish expedition from the West Indies, planters who later emigrated from Barbados established large scale slavery in the Carolinas on indigo and rice plantations. The black population outnumbered whites by , and remained in the majority in the Low Country along the coast, even as whites began filling up the back country starting in the s. Black slavery was legally recognized by the Carolina Grand Council in , and a number of specific statutes were passed beginning in to control the emerging slave population. Freehold property in theory could not be moved or sold from the estate, similar to the position of medieval serfs who were tied to specific farms or feudal estates. By , however, the status of enslaved Africans in South Carolina had been degraded to chattel property in law and in practice. Enslaved blacks, mulattoes, and American Indians could be bought and sold, and their children were enslaved for life. In addition to defining the status of enslaved blacks, the code explicitly spelled out the punishment for those who struck a white person and for runaways. Enslaved blacks found off the plantation without written permission from their master were considered runaways. Those who ran away more than once could be branded with an R on their cheek and might suffer the loss of an ear. Castrating male slaves and branding an R on the left cheek of female slaves punished a fourth offense. A fifth failed attempt could be punished by either cutting the tendon in one leg or sentencing the enslaved person to death. Manumission The freeing of enslaved persons "manumission" was not regulated by statute in South Carolina until , when the colonial legislature decreed that slaveholders or the colonial governor or provincial council could manumit enslaved persons for good cause. Later legislation stated that manumitted blacks had to leave the colony. If the freed person failed to leave South Carolina within six months, he or she would be re-enslaved and sold at public auction. By , manumission laws had become more stringent. In response to some slaveholders who freed troublesome or debilitated blacks who then became burdens on the community, the legislature required the approval of a commission for any future manumissions. By , enslaved African Americans could only be freed by an act of the legislature. Other statutes, such as one passed in, prohibited free blacks from entering the state. Slave Codes As the black population continued to increase, South Carolina lawmakers feared the consequences of a black majority and tried to halt the importation of slaves. A statute required planters to import one white servant for each ten slaves. A bounty of 25 pounds was also paid for each white servant imported. In , a duty of 10 pounds for African blacks was assessed on importing slaveholders and 30 pounds for blacks from the West Indies. South Carolina whites believed that blacks from the West Indies were more rebellious than slaves imported directly from Africa. South Carolina passed a new slave code in , more commonly known as the

Negro Act. The code, which was passed in response to the Stono Rebellion of 1739, remained largely unaltered until emancipation in 1865. The act also served as a model for the Georgia slave code of 1770. The new code further stripped enslaved blacks of any kind of protection under the law. Punishment for the murder of an enslaved person by a white, for example, was reduced to a mere misdemeanor punishable by a fine. Slaves could never physically attack a white person except in defense of the slaveholder who owned them. Blacks were prohibited from learning how to read and write, and were not permitted to assemble with one another. Blacks in violation of these provisions were subject to flogging. Criminal trials for enslaved blacks were often held in a local tavern or country store. The mixing of alcohol with the drama of a black defendant on trial often for his or her life created a bawdy and raucous atmosphere. One historian found that between the passage of the Negro Act of 1739 and the beginning of the American Revolution, at least 100 enslaved blacks received the death penalty for a criminal offense. Between 1739 and 1770, nearly 63 percent of the slaves executed were convicted of a violent crime against a white. Another 16 percent were convicted of a violent offense against a slave. Two blacks were convicted of a property crime arson, burglary or theft, and only one enslaved black was found guilty of conspiring to revolt. Between 1770 and 1789, nearly 58 percent of the South Carolina enslaved blacks executed were convicted of a violent crime and 21 percent for a property offense. Another 21 percent were executed for insurrection, a result of the Denmark Vesey conspiracy of 1793. These efforts did little to curb black population growth in South Carolina. By 1790, more than 100,000 enslaved blacks lived in South Carolina, representing 58 percent of the population. And the large majority of these enslaved people had been born in the state as second and third generation African Americans.

Chapter 3 : Slavery in South Carolina – The Crucial Decade: s

MLA Format. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "Slavery in South Carolina and the ex-slaves."

Convinced that the Taino Indians of the Caribbean would make ideal slaves, he transported to Spain in 1492. Some died during the overseas voyage. Thus Columbus initiated the African slave trade, which originally moved from the New World to the Old, rather than the reverse. To meet the mounting demand for labor in mining and agriculture, the Spanish began to exploit a new labor force - slaves from western Africa. Slavery was a familiar institution to many sixteenth-century Europeans. Although slavery had gradually died out in northwestern Europe, it continued to flourish around the Mediterranean Sea. Ongoing warfare between Christianity and Islam produced thousands of slave laborers, who were put to work in heavy agriculture in Italy, southern France, eastern Spain, Sicily, and eastern Europe near the Black Sea. Most slaves in this area were "white" -- either Arabs or natives of Russia and eastern Europe. But by the mid-fifteenth century, the expansion of the Ottoman empire cut off the supply of white slaves. It was during the mid-fifteenth century that Portugal established trading relations along the West African coast, and discovered that it was able to purchase huge numbers of black slaves at a low cost - from the Africans themselves, who chose to make a profit off their enemies. Several factors made African slaves the cheapest and most expedient labor source. The prevailing ocean currents made it relatively easy to transport Africans to the Caribbean. Further, because Africans came from developed agricultural societies, they were already familiar with highly organized tropical agriculture. The first African slaves were brought to the New World by the Spanish as early as 1492, where they would mine precious metals and raise sugar, coffee, and tobacco -- the first goods sold to a mass consumer market. The African slave trade would be an indispensable part of European settlement and development of the New World. By the mid-eighteenth century, slaves could be found everywhere in the Americas from French Canada to Chile. Indeed, the number of Africans forcibly imported into the New World actually exceeded the number of whites who would come to the Americas before the 1800s. Between 1600 and 1800, approximately ten to fifteen million Africans were forcibly brought to the New World, while only about two million white Europeans had migrated. Numbers are not easily obtained prior to 1700, but in a census there were approximately 3,000 African slaves in South Carolina - it is estimated that there were less than 1,000 in North Carolina at that same time. Both colonies increased their numbers each year until slavery was finally abolished in 1865. North Carolina, on the other hand, was settled first in an area that was not conducive for "plantations," and was much more suited for smaller farms along the many waterways in the northeastern part of the colony. From the beginning of the existence of the Carolina colony, slavery was encouraged. Four of the eight Lords Proprietors of the colony were members of the slave trading company, the Royal African Company. In 1701, the Lords Proprietors encouraged settlers to have slaves by promising that they would be given 20 acres of land for every black male slave and 10 acres for every black female slave brought to the colony within the first year. By 1709, the black population was equal to the white population. Like the other slave holding colonies, because of the sizeable slave population, South Carolina was in fear of slave insurrections. In order to help keep slaves from revolting, slave codes prohibited the sale of alcohol to slaves. In addition, to prevent cruelty to slaves, thereby dissuading rebellion, owners were prohibited from working slaves more than 15 hours between March 25 and September 25 and not more than 14 hours between September 25 and March. North Carolina, on the other hand, had a large Quaker population that was opposed to slavery. Even though the slave population was small, Quakers established regular religious meetings for slaves and urged slaveholders to treat them well. In 1706, Quakers sought the prohibition of slavery. Unlike other slaveholding colonies, North Carolina did not have a concern about slave insurrections. There was not a slave rebellion until the 19th century. The early English and English-Caribbean colonists experimented with several crops including rice. Although, rice production did not take a permanent hold until about 1700 when Landgrave Thomas Smith successfully cultivated rice from Madagascar, there is some debate over who actually introduced rice culture into South Carolina. The historian Peter Wood points out that in contrast to the European settlers, those slaves from the West Coast of Africa had

been familiar for centuries with rice planting. Thus they, and not their owners, probably introduced the techniques which made rice take hold as a primary and lucrative source of income in the last decade of the seventeenth century. Furthermore, these were the very years when the African portion of the population began to surpass that of the white. Thus there would have been a ready population to implement rice culture technology. From to the , Charles Town Charleston was the primary port-of-call for slave ships, and more slaves passed through Charles Town than any other city in the English Colonies on the North American continent.

Chapter 4 : Slave Narratives, Charleston County, South Carolina

South Carolina SC Black History SC Slavery Exact dates vary, but the first African-American slaves are generally believed to have been brought to the United States during the first quarter of the sixteenth century. Over the next years, a total of million African-American slaves were shipped to our shores.

O my great Lord keep me from sinking down. When we celebrate American freedom, we must also be mindful of the long and painful struggle to share in those freedoms that faced and continue to face generations of African Americans. To understand the present, we must look to the past. A painting depicts George Washington and workers on his plantation. Modern scholars have assembled a great deal of evidence showing that few slaves accepted their lack of freedom or enjoyed life on the plantation. It is all night "night forever. In , a bounty hunter kidnapped Solomon Northup, a free black man from Saratoga, New York, on the pretext that he was a runaway slave from Georgia. When the bounty hunter sold him into slavery, Northup lost his family, his home, his freedom, and even his name. Freeman [the white slave broker] would make us hold up our heads, walk briskly back and forth, while customers would feel of our heads and arms and bodies, turn us about, ask us what we could do, make us open our mouths and show our teeth Sometimes a man or woman was taken back to the small house in the yard, stripped, and inspected more minutely. By law, slaves were the personal property of their owners in all Southern states except Louisiana. The slave master held absolute authority over his human property as the Louisiana law made clear: Slaves often found themselves rented out, used as prizes in lotteries, or as wagers in card games and horse races. Separation from family and friends was probably the greatest fear a black person in slavery faced. When a master died, his slaves were often sold for the benefit of his heirs. Solomon Northup himself witnessed a sorrowful separation in the New Orleans slave pen when a slave buyer purchased a mother, but not her little girl: Freeman [the slave broker] sternly ordered [the mother] to be quiet, but she did not heed him. He caught her by the arm and pulled her rudely, but she clung closer to the child. Then with a volley of great oaths he struck her such a heartless blow, that she staggered backward, and was like to fall. How piteously then did she beseech and beg and pray that they not be separated. Perhaps out of pity, the buyer did offer to purchase the little girl. Slave Labor Of all the crops grown in the South before the Civil War including sugar, rice, and corn, cotton was the chief money-maker. Millions of acres had been turned to cotton production following the invention of the cotton gin in As more and more cotton lands came under cultivation, especially in Mississippi and Texas, the demand for slaves boomed. A mature female would sell for a few hundred dollars less. Slaves worked at all sorts of jobs throughout the slaveholding South, but the majority were field hands on relatively large plantations. Men, women, and children served as field hands. The owner decided when slave children would go into the fields, usually between the ages of 10 and The cotton picking season beginning in August was a time of hard work and fear among the slaves. In his book, Solomon Northup described picking cotton on a plantation along the Red River in Louisiana: The hands are required to be in the cotton field as soon as it is light in the morning, and, with the exception of ten or fifteen minutes, which is given them at noon to swallow their allowance of cold bacon, they are not permitted to be a moment idle until it is too dark to see No matter how fatigued and weary he may be If it falls short of weight Only when the slaves finally finished working for their master could they return to their own crude cabins to tend to their own family needs. Slave food was adequate but monotonous, consisting mainly of corn bread, salt pork or bacon , and molasses. The master also usually provided a winter and a summer set of clothes, often the cast-offs of white people. Sickness was common and the infant death rate doubled that of white babies. They were forbidden to learn how to read and write. They could be searched at any time. They could not buy or sell things without a permit. They could not own livestock. They were subject to a curfew every night. Marriage among slaves had no legal standing and always required the approval of the master. Generally, slaves could marry others living at their plantation, or at neighboring ones. Solomon Northup discovered the following rules during his enslavement in Louisiana: Either party can have as many husbands or wives as the owner will permit, and either is at liberty to discard the other at pleasure. The law in relation to divorce, or to bigamy, and so forth, is not applicable to property, of

course. If the wife does not belong on the same plantation with the husband, the latter is permitted to visit her on Saturday nights, if the distance is not too far. The painful cries and shrieks of the tortured Patsey, mingling with the loud and angry curses of Epps [the slave master whipping her] loaded the air. She was terribly lacerated "I may say, without exaggeration, literally flayed. The lash was wet with blood. Some like Nat Turner rebelled. In 1861, he led a slave revolt that left nearly 60 white persons dead in Virginia. Such insurrections were relatively rare in the South. White people outnumbered slaves in most places, possessed firearms, and could call on the power of the government to suppress rebellions. Nevertheless, slaves everywhere found other ways to resist their bondage. The most effective way that a slave could retaliate against an owner was to run away. It is estimated that 60,000 black people fled slavery before the Civil War. Solomon Northup attempted to run away but failed. Then, in 1841, a white carpenter with abolitionist sentiments met Northup and learned about his kidnapping. The carpenter wrote several letters to New York state officials on behalf of Northup. In response, the governor of New York sent an agent carrying documents proving that Northup was a free black man. After a court hearing in January 1841, a Louisiana judge released Northup from his bondage. He finally returned home to his wife and children. When Solomon Northup wrote the narrative of his experiences in 1853, he left little doubt about his feelings toward slave owners: They are content and are actually better off than free white laborers working in northern factories. What was the legal status of slaves and their families? The 13th Amendment was finally ratified in 1865, long after most other nations in the world had abolished slavery. Why do you think slavery lasted so long in the American South? Today practices such as slavery seem to us unjust and unthinkable. When students of the future read about our world in their history books, will they be horrified by any of the conditions we find acceptable? What causes public opinion to change? University Press of Kentucky, In this activity and based on the reading, the class will create narratives of six slaves who have run away from different southern plantations in 1850. After forming small groups, assign each group one of the following profiles. Each should work cooperatively to write a narrative of one of the following runaway slaves: Jackson, age 25, a field worker with many scars on his back. Polly, age 18, a field worker who is 8 months pregnant. Eliza, age 15, a house servant whose mother was sold to another master one year ago. Thomas, age 12, a stable boy who wants to learn how to read and write. Hattie, age 45, a cook whose master recently died. Marcus, age 70, a coachman and butler who has worked for the same family all of his life. The following questions are intended to help the groups develop their slave narratives. Every response should be written in first person as if the runaway slave had answered himself or herself. What is your name and how old are you? What was it like to be sold? What was your work day like? What was your family life like in the slave quarters? What was it like to be punished for violating a slave code regulation? What was it like to resist your master without his knowing it? Why did you run away? After all the narratives have been read, hold a class discussion on what seemed to be the worst part of slavery in the American South. This could also be the subject of an essay assignment.

Chapter 5 : The African Slave Trade and South Carolina

Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, contains more than 2, first-person accounts of slavery and black-and-white photographs of former slaves. These narratives were collected in the s as part of the Federal Writers' Project (FWP) of the Works.

Residents of South Carolina were outraged by the Townsend Acts that taxed tea, paper, wine, glass, and oil. Other taxes were removed, but tea taxes remained. Soon residents of South Carolina, like those of the Boston Tea Party, began to dump tea into the Charleston Harbor, followed by boycotts and protests. South Carolina set up its state government and constitution on March 26, 1778. Many of the Patriot battles fought in South Carolina during the American Revolution were against loyalist Carolinians and the Cherokee Nation, which was allied with the British. Augustine and sandwich George Washington in the North. Clinton alienated Loyalists and enraged Patriots by attacking and nearly annihilating a fleeing army of Patriot soldiers who posed no threat. White colonists were not the only ones with a desire for freedom. About 13,000, joined the British, who had promised them freedom if they left rebel masters and fought with them. It was a decisive Patriot victory. It was the first Patriot victory since the British had taken Charleston. Thomas Jefferson, governor of Virginia at the time, called it, "The turn of the tide of success. Joseph Alexander, preaching open rebellion to the British Crown in June 1776. Bullock Creek Presbyterian Church was a place noted for being a Whig party stronghold. Under a ground swell of such Calvin Protestant leadership, South Carolina moved from a back seat to the front in the war against tyranny. The federal Constitution was ratified by the state in 1788. The new state constitution was ratified in 1790 without the support of the Upcountry. Scots Irish[edit] During the Revolution, the Scots Irish in the back country in most states were noted as strong patriots. The area had two main settlement periods of Scotch Irish. This particular group had large families, and as a group they produced goods for themselves and for others. They generally were patriots. In addition to these, The Earl of Donegal arrived in Charleston on December 22, 1733, from Belfast, bringing approximately fifty families over who received land grants under the Bounty Act. Most of these families settled in the upstate. A portion of these eventually migrated into Georgia and on into Alabama. Just prior to the Revolution, a second stream of immigrants came directly from northern Ireland via Charleston. Mostly poor, this group settled in an underdeveloped area because they could not afford expensive land. Most of this group remained loyal to the Crown or neutral when the war began. British victory at the Battle of the Waxhaws resulted in anti-British sentiment in a bitterly divided region. While many individuals chose to take up arms against the British, the British forced the people to choose sides, as they were trying to recruit Loyalists for a militia. About 10,000 men took up arms against the Patriot government during revolution, and thousands more were supporters. Nearly all had immigrated to the province after 1730, only about one in six was native-born. Geographically they were strongest in the backcountry. About 10,000 white Loyalists left when the war ended, but the majority remained behind. The state successfully and quickly reincorporated the vast majority. The legislature named Loyalists liable for confiscation of their property, but most appealed and were forgiven. South Carolina led opposition to national law during the Nullification Crisis. It was the first state to declare its secession in response to the election of Abraham Lincoln. Dominated by major planters, it was the only state in which slaveholders composed a majority of the legislature. Politics and slavery[edit] Further information: Most of the northern states abolished slavery, sometimes combined with gradual emancipation. In the Upper South, inspired by the revolutionary ideals and activist preachers, state legislatures passed laws making it easier for slaveholders to manumit their slaves both during their lifetimes or by wills. Quakers, Methodists and Baptists urged slaveholders to free their slaves. In the period from 1780 to 1860, the proportion and number of free blacks rose dramatically in the Upper South and overall, from less than 1 percent to more than 10 percent. Slave owners had more control over the state government of South Carolina than of any other state. Elite planters played the role of English aristocrats more than did the planters of other states. In the late antebellum years, the newer Southern states, such as Alabama and Mississippi, allowed more political equality among whites. Most of its small number of free blacks were of mixed race, often the children of major planters or their sons and slave mothers. Their wealthy fathers sometimes passed on social

capital to such mixed-race children, arranging for their manumission even if officially denying them as legal heirs. Fathers sometimes arranged to have their slave children educated, arranged apprenticeships in skilled trades, and other preparation for independent adulthood. Some planters sent their mixed-race slave children to schools and colleges in the North for education. In the early 19th century, the state legislature passed laws making manumission more difficult. The manumission law of 1808 required slaveholders to gain legislative approval for each act of manumission and generally required other free adults to testify that the person to be freed could support himself. This meant that free people of color were thwarted from freeing their children if born into slavery. So, while some slaves were freed during this period and might earn enough to purchase relatives, they could not readily free them. The first law required that five citizens attest to the ability of the person proposed to be freed to earn a living; this prevented slaveholders from freeing their own children before they became adults. In 1826, the legislature ended personal manumissions, requiring all slaveholders to gain individual permission from the legislature before manumitting even family members. The majority of the population in South Carolina was black, with concentrations in the plantation areas of the Low Country: Free blacks numbered slightly less than 10,000. Unlike Virginia, where most of the larger plantations and slaves were concentrated in the eastern part of the state, in South Carolina plantations and slaves became common throughout much of the state. When rice planters left the malarial low country for cities such as Charleston during the social season, up to 98 percent of the Low Country residents were slaves. This led to a preservation of West African customs while developing the Creole culture known as Gullah. The plot was discovered when two slaves opposed to the plan leaked word of it to white authorities. Charleston authorities charged men with participating in the conspiracy. In total, the state convicted 67 men and killed 35 of them by hanging, including Denmark Vesey. White fear of slave insurrections after the Vesey conspiracy led to a 9:1 ratio of plantations in older Southern states such as South Carolina wore out the soil to such an extent that 42 percent of state residents left the state for the lower South, to develop plantations with newer soil. The remaining South Carolina plantations were especially hard hit when worldwide cotton markets turned down in 1832 and again in 1843. Nullification Crisis The white minority in South Carolina felt more threatened than in other parts of the South, and reacted more to the economic Panic of 1837, the Missouri Controversy of 1820, and attempts at emancipation in the form of the Ohio Resolutions of 1820 and the American Colonization Petition of 1821. He said that tariffs that became progressively higher in 1816, and had the same effect as if a thief stole forty bales out of a hundred from every barn. The tariffs applied to imports of goods such as iron, wool and finished cotton products. The Forty Bale theory was based on faulty math, as Britain could sell finished cotton goods made from Southern raw cotton around the world, not just to the United States. South Carolinians, rightly or wrongly, blamed the tariff for the fact that cotton prices fell from 18 cents a pound to 9 cents a pound during the 1830s. These were largely short-term problems that existed before United States factories and textile makers could compete with Europe. Also, the tariff replaced a tax system where slave states previously had to pay more in taxes for the increased representation they got in the U. House of Representatives under the three-fifths clause. All, thus required, is regarded in law as that of the master. All of the violations of the alleged rights of Southern states mentioned in the document are about slavery. President Buchanan protested but made no military response aside from a failed attempt to resupply Fort Sumter via the ship Star of the West, which was fired upon by South Carolina forces and turned back before it reached the fort. This was what they believed had happened after slave revolutions in Haiti, in which numerous whites and free people of color were killed during the revolution. Calhoun noted that the dry and barren West could not support a plantation system and would remain without slaves. Calhoun proposed that Congress should not exclude slavery from territories but let each state choose for itself whether it would allow slaves within its borders. Andrew Pickens Butler argued against Charleston publisher Robert Barnwell Rhett, who advocated immediate secession and, if necessary, independence. Butler won the battle, but Rhett outlived him. When people began to believe that Abraham Lincoln would be elected president, states in the Deep South organized conventions to discuss their options. South Carolina was the first state to organize such a convention, meeting in December following the national election. On December 20, 1860, delegates convened in Charleston and voted unanimously to secede from the Union. President James Buchanan declared the secession illegal, but did not

act to stop it. The first six states to secede with the largest slaveholding states in the South, demonstrating that the slavery societies were an integral part of the secession question. Fort Sumter[edit] , inside Ft. Sumter, flying the flag of Robert E. On February 4, the seven seceded states approved a new constitution for the Confederate States of America. South Carolina entered the Confederacy on February 8, , thus ending fewer than six weeks of being an independent State of South Carolina. Meanwhile Major Robert Anderson , commander of the U. Fort Sumter was vastly outgunned by shore batteries and was too small to be a military threat but it had high symbolic value. In a letter delivered January 31, , South Carolina Governor Pickens demanded of President Buchanan that he surrender Fort Sumter, because "I regard that possession is not consistent with the dignity or safety of the State of South Carolina. Lincoln was determined to hold it to assert national power and prestige; he wanted the Confederacy to fire the first shot. If it was to be a dignified independent nation the Confederacy could not tolerate a foreign fort in its second largest harbor. Edmund Ruffin had the honor of firing the first shot. During this salute, one of the guns exploded, killing a young soldierâ€”the only casualty of the bombardment and the first casualty of the war.

Chapter 6 : The Varieties of Slave Labor, Freedom's Story, TeacherServe® , National Humanities Center

Title Slavery in South Carolina and the ex-slaves; or, The Port Royal mission. Contributor Names French, A. M. (Austa Malinda),

History[edit] During the first year of the Civil War, on November 7, , Union forces consisting of approximately 60 ships and 20, men under the command of Union Navy Captain Samuel F. Sherman attacked Confederate forces commanded by Brig. Fortifications such as Fort Howell , a hospital, barracks, and other utilitarian structures were built for the military, which at times numbered 30, men. Negro slaves came flocking into our camp by the hundreds, escaping their masters when they knew of the landing of "Linkum sojers" sic , as they called us - many of them with no other clothing than gunnysacks " Trinkleley In February , there were at least contrabands living in Union encampments on Hilton Head Island. General Thomas West Sherman repeatedly wrote his superiors in Washington asking for guidance regarding, and supplies for, the "contrabands". Official policy regarding "contrabands" varied between Union-occupied areas, a problem which persisted throughout the war. Help came from two sources: Chase , who sent his colleague and outspoken opponent of slavery Edward L. Pierce to Port Royal to examine and eventually oversee the government effort regarding the freed slaves. Pierce and representatives from the American Missionary Association quickly devised a plan for the education, welfare, and employment of the former slaves. The Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom " and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages " NARA Many Union officers complained that the ex-slaves "were becoming a burden and a nuisance. Some wholesome changes are contemplated by the new regime, not the least of which is the removal of the negro quarters beyond the stockade, where they can at once have more comfort and freedom for improvement Accordingly, a spot has been selected near the Drayton Plantation for a Negro village. They are able to build their own houses, and will probably be encouraged to establish their own police. Mitchel , Commander of the Department of the South and headquartered at Hilton Head, decided to develop a town for the escaped slaves. Built in a cotton field on the former Drayton Plantation and in close proximity to the military camps, it was eventually known as Mitchelville after the commander. Unlike other contraband camps, Mitchelville was developed as a regular town, with roads, one-quarter-acre lots, elected officials some officials were appointed by the Union military, however , a church, various laws addressing such issues as community behavior and sanitation, collection of taxes, and a compulsory education law for children between the ages of six and fifteen. This was likely the first such law in the South. When Thomas Drayton failed to pay the taxes due on the property, it was advertised for sale by the Federal government. The government purchased it, holding it until , when white Democrats regained control of the state legislature shortly before the end of Reconstruction. The residents of Mitchelville supported themselves largely by wage labor for the military, earning mostly between four dollars and twelve dollars a month, depending on their level of skill. Nearly all of the wage jobs for the residents of Mitchelville ceased when the Union military departed the island in , more than two years after the end of the war. The residents switched to a subsistence farming -based economy, with many forming farming collectives , joining together to rent large tracts of land from the government. But sometime in the early s, Mitchelville ceased being a true town. It dissolved to a small, kinship-based community that survived into the s. A topographic map of Hilton Head Island shows a cluster of buildings centered around a church. Previous archaeological investigations have concluded that the majority of Mitchelville was abandoned by c. After , it relied on funds from the United States Tax Commission as northern interest waned in the freedmen on the Sea Islands. Mitchelville, Marshland, Seabrook, Stoney, and Lawton. In Mitchelville District, the American Missionary Association supplied most of the teachers, and offered primary, intermediate, and high school classes at the various churches. There were as many as students being taught in the district at one time, with classes meeting for up to five hours per day. Attendance varied according to job requirements and travel conditions of the students.

Most teachers were white northerners, but in there was at least one black assistant teacher, and Sunday school lessons were taught by black teachers around Each house was on a one-quarter-acre lot. Post-Civil War[edit] Congress soon passed laws restoring lands confiscated by the U. In April , the Drayton Plantation lands were returned to the Drayton family. However, the Drayton family was no longer interested in farming the property, and sold the land to anyone who was interested and had money “ including many freedmen. Gardner was illiterate, but was locally well respected and very successful in his business ventures. Gardner placed his son, Gabriel, in charge of his Mitchelville properties, which at that time included a cotton gin , grist mill , and store. The legal papers produced by this court case provide a unique insight into Mitchelville during the period. The money that was collected from them for rent was used to pay the taxes on the property. March Gardner had built a cotton house, cotton gin, a steam-powered grist mill, and a shop on the property. Also named were several late and early century residents of Mitchelville: An Early Experiment in Self Governance. In The Forgotten History: Hilton Head During the Civil War. McCracken and Faith M. Hilton Head Island, SC. Carse, Robert, Department of the South: Hilton Head Island in the Civil War. State Printing Company, Columbia. A Sea Island Chronicle. Negro Universities Press, New York reprint of edition. Anonymous, The Freedman at Port Royal. Arno Press, New York. Martin ed , Josephine, Dear Sister: Letters Written on Hilton Head Island, Government Buildings for Contrabands at Hilton Head Webb and Associates, Holly Springs, Georgia. The Port Royal Experiment. Oxford University Press, London.

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Slavery in South Carolina and the ex-slaves; or, The Port Royal mission Item Preview.

Most commonly, slave labor differed according to period and location. Work on a sugar plantation. Yet plantation labor was not always and everywhere the same. Work on sugar plantations in the West Indies was not the same as that on rice plantations in South Carolina, which was different again from what enslaved laborers did on tobacco farms in the Chesapeake. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when slavery extended to the Middle Colonies and New England, work there was even more different, at least in the variety of tasks and the influence an enslaved person might exercise over his or her work they could sometimes initiate a change of master, though in other ways, particularly in the element of compulsion, it was much the same. Moreover, labor in all these places changed over time and was dependent upon advances in mechanization, stages of plantation development, and changes in management outlooks. Everywhere circumstances diverged between those who merely did common labor and those who exercised skills. In the plantation owners tried to maintain self-sufficiency based on the varied skills of their slaves. In eighteenth-century North America, planters in the Chesapeake expected to have a large number of skilled slaves as well as common laborers. One could not readily dispense with such people. Whether making boats or barrels, building barns or houses, making furniture either fine or just functional, being able to make or repair harnesses or do other leatherwork, or various kinds of ironwork, people with artisanal capability were in short supply in the eighteenth century and not everywhere in the nineteenth and expensive where found. Their very real social distance was mitigated by a mutual awareness of the limitations of force in an inchoate society. Lock-step, highly supervised gang labor replaced traditional patterns of individual work. Most slaves, however, were common laborers. At the earliest stage of plantation development slaves, even common laborers, worked in a traditional fashion, with each being responsible for a multitude of tasks under relatively little supervision. As plantations developed, gang labor superseded traditional laboring methods. Under this system, the processes of cultivation were divided into simple tasks capable of minute supervision, where field hands worked in lock-step under the eye of a white overseer or black driver foreman. He carried a whip as an emblem of authority and a means of coercion. Gang labor developed at different times in various places and was perhaps first closely associated with sugar cultivation in Barbados. Historians do not agree on when it first appeared there but associate it with a transition from white indentured servitude to African slavery and development of a new plantation structure that more efficiently and economically produced sugar. One historian argues that it developed uniquely among the English and because their cultural outlook permitted them to apply so harsh a regimentation only to people as ethnically distinct as Africans, but not everyone accepts this racial interpretation. Race may have influenced the development of gang labor. Englishmen treated English indentured servants with extreme rigor, certainly more rigorously in America than people in the same condition were treated in England, though legal considerations, however laxly regarded, imposed some limits, as did the realization, at least in North America, that some of the mistreated would eventually command free status and political influence. To the extent that no such restraints applied to Africans, race may be said to have influenced the development of gang labor. It was common in Barbados by the eighteenth century and served as an example for other English plantation regions. In eighteenth-century Chesapeake, tobacco plantations were divided into various units specializing in growth of the staple crop but also in the production of corn and other foodcrops, the care of livestock, and other products necessary to support the enterprise. The home unit, comprising the plantation mansion and out-buildings housing cooks and craftsmen, also had storage sheds and a dock to receive supplies and send off tobacco. The region was characterized by gang labor, modified by the stage of plantation development and the task at hand. The master laid claim to the full service of the enslaved who normally worked from sunrise to sunset. Planting, hoeing, harvesting, and preparing the fields before and after these major events could be hard and routine work unrelieved by much variety. They took place under the watchful eye of an overseer who insisted on a set pace and punished those who fell short. Herding might provide greater freedom and more contrast but also entailed more

responsibilities in ensuring the safety of the animals. By the middle of the century some Chesapeake plantations became more diversified, growing wheat and other crops which often required fewer slaves and labor was less gang-like in terms of the number of workers supervised, but no less regulated. Growing rice was more difficult and dangerous than raising other crops. In the eighteenth-century Carolina low country, including coastal Georgia, where planters specialized in rice, work was harder because preparing the land for cultivation usually meant claiming marshlands or swampy regions. One needed to construct dikes to hold water and sluices to let it off. These dikes required considerable effort to build and maintain, in the company of snakes, alligators, and other vermin, Rice culture on the Ogeechee, near Savannah, Georgia. Slaves had to plant, weed, and harvest in soggy, sickness-inducing fields. Fields of standing water brought mosquitos and the diseases they carried, which the enslaved had to combat, along with hungry rodents that invaded the fields and burrowing ones that attacked the dikes. These characteristics of rice planting made labor there more taxing than in tobacco fields but labor took place under the task system which permitted a laborer to have time to him- or herself once the task was done. Rice plantations in the low country of South Carolina and Georgia operated on the task system which allowed slaves free time when their work was done. How the task system originated has also been debated because it certainly diverged from the gang labor system that eventually dominated Barbados whence many early South Carolina settlers came, though it apparently had not fully developed before most of them left. Among the reasons advanced for the task system has been the supposition that the character of rice, being hardy, needing a scattered work force, and not requiring minute supervision, was suitable to the method; another is that wealthy South Carolina planters, inclined towards absenteeism, left work initiatives to their slaves, and they, referring View of a rice field in South Carolina. None of these explanations entirely satisfies, particularly ones that absolve humans and blame the crop or the environment. The struggle cost more than its value in lost production. Black slave drivers were critical to work on some plantations. Cultivation in the rice country took place under the direction of black drivers who served under white overseers but directly over the field workers. They allocated the tasks and helped to set the pace. They had less time to themselves than workers who completed their jobs early but the driver was entitled to the help of other workers in his own enterprises. Of course, not all workers finished with time to spare; maybe even most did not but enough to provide hope and impart value to the system. The driver had to be very knowledgeable about the crop: These decisions could make the difference between a successful and unsuccessful crop and drivers often knew these things better than overseers. In fact, some planters dispensed with overseers altogether and depended upon their drivers. A respected driver had a great deal of authority and was frequently a leader in the black community before and after slavery. By the nineteenth century the development of a cotton South, stretching from the eastern seaboard all the way to Texas, flattened somewhat the appearance of slavery and increasing mechanization, to which slaves had to adjust, Slaves working in a cotton field. From Tupelo by John H. A more developed and interconnected countryside, limiting the possibilities, put most slaves into the fields. I repeatedly rode through the lines at a canter,. Plantations still required artisans, for which more men were trained than women, but for the vast majority of the enslaved, labor was almost certainly duller and less varied than in the colonial period. Tobacco still grew in the Chesapeake, rice in South Carolina, and sugar in Louisiana, where refining obliged special capabilities and provided opportunities for a few more men, but practically everywhere else slaves labored in cotton. In all of these places, excepting coastal South Carolina and Georgia, they labored in gangs. Most students relate slavery to the cotton South but is important for students to realize that it had a longer and more varied history than that, spanning more years in the colonial period than in the nineteenth century. Equally important is the fact that in this early period it extended to the Middle Colonies and New England. This recognition will allow teachers along the North Atlantic seaboard to look at areas in their own regions where slaves labored, while still considering the more traditional perspective. In New England and the Middle Colonies slaves worked on dairy farms and aboard ship, in wheat farms and on the docks, in gardens and homes, at printing shops or as personal attendants. They might do all of these things in the South as well but plantation slavery was a southern institution and slave labor there was more important and lasting than in the North. It is also important to note that gang labor and the task system were not mutually exclusive practices but represented extremes

within which planters might organize their labor. Some jobs might be better performed by task assignment than by gangs even in a region where gang labor prevailed and vice versa. In a few places, as in the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond, Virginia, slaves even worked in factories, and in Richmond and other urban locales they worked as teamsters, stevedores, porters and dockhands, to mention only a few of the urban tasks they performed. Consequently, the variety of slave labor was greater than students sometimes assume. Tredegar Iron Works, Richmond, Virginia. Students should also realize that slavery was a relationship between human beings and while authority emanated from the top, a wise planter did not make decisions without taking into account the reaction of his laborers. Slavery depended upon force but it worked best when slaves cooperated; planters had to compromise as well as command. James Henry Hammond, for example, soundly resented the autonomy provided by the task system and tried with great brutality to impose gang labor on his slaves but ultimately had to accommodate them. He learned in the nineteenth century what most low country South Carolina planters learned in the eighteenth, that he could not grow crops if he spent more time punishing slaves or hunting them down than in supervising while they worked. Planters succeeded when they provided an environment in which enslaved people labored as willingly as could be expected under the circumstances, and wise planters tried to get slaves to "buy into the system. More than one planter commented that slaves were less likely to abscond if that involved leaving something they were building or growing for their own use. Planters in gang-labor regions had to provide other incentives, maybe extra food or drink, additional clothing or other trinkets, perhaps a little money, for better-than-average performance. What did it mean that field hands obliged an accommodation even though they could not overthrow the system? One might consider that the distinction sometimes made between field hands and house servants, portraying the one as having a much harder lot, can be overdrawn. Domestics occasionally had better food and clothing but, where they existed, these advantages were offset by the tension of being under more constant tasks considered unskilled today in slavery times required considerable judgment and discrimination. Field hands at least normally had evenings to themselves. Moreover, many types of domestic work, such as washing, which might appear relatively unskilled today, required both strength and discrimination because it was not a simple matter of putting clothes in a machine but of heating water in iron kettles, using dangerous soaps made from lye or other corrosive materials, bringing water and clothes to a boil, interior of a slave kitchen. At a more primitive level, it might involve pounding clothes in a stream. Ironing was also a cumbersome and dangerous process. Cooking, successfully done, demanded the art of composition in producing appealing recipes, the benefit of experience in knowing how to move food around in a hearth or on an iron stove or in an oven in such a way as to bake or cook evenly without burning, including the ability to judge temperatures as well as to move heavy implements, and required definite talents not always easily acquired. Despite the obvious value of accomplished domestics, the conditions of their labor did not inspire harmony and inevitable mistakes could bring unjustifiable wrath from both master and mistress sometimes merely because either or all were having bad days. Opportunities for such contretemps were multiple because slavery everywhere involved a contest of wills. Shifting focus slightly, one might encourage students to consider the psychological affects of slave labor on the master class. For one thing, there developed a notion associating hard labor with Ask students to consider the effects of slavery on the master class. This idea was scarcely modified by the consideration that various immigrants did similar work because they were stigmatized as a result of its association with blackness and slavery. That was one reason why immigrants avoided the slave South. Another more complicated issue is that enslaved people often possessed extraordinary talents and exercised considerable authority during slavery, without which the institution could not operate, but these facts were inconsistent with an ideology of white supremacy that guided southern social and political relations by the nineteenth century. The fact that most slaves were unskilled and uneducated supplied cover but could not have extinguished doubt among those who thought deeply about the nature of their society. There is the caution, however, that human beings have shown themselves to be peculiarly adept at holding contradictory beliefs and clinging to habits even at a psychic cost. There is the additional caution that most people probably do not think much about their customs at all. On the emotional level is the reflection that servants who acted as wet nurses or nannies, frequently establishing strong ties with their charges and influencing their culture and outlook in

acknowledged and unacknowledged ways, instilled attitudes and expressions that maturing youth had difficulty shedding, if ever they did so. Historians Debate The subject of slavery and its function as a labor system has been of great interest in recent years, particularly as changing social currents shifted attention to American race relations and the historical background of those relationships. The first scholar to give American slavery serious attention was Ulrich B.

Chapter 8 : History of South Carolina - Wikipedia

MLA Format. Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library. "Slavery in South Carolina and the ex-slaves; or, The Port Royal Mission; By Mrs. A. M. French.

Though most people, including the framers of the Constitution, believed that the era of slavery would simply end of its own accord, it did nothing of the sort and continued to thrive well into the nineteenth century, as it did in South Carolina. As the economy suffered in the wake of the Revolution, slave prices rocketed. The battles fought in South Carolina during the Revolution destroyed many farms and plantations, most importantly, those producing rice. Thus, it was more expensive to plant and harvest rice, rendering slaves a rather expensive commodity. Slaves were still purchased in large numbers, however. Though rice was indeed labor-intensive, it had high yields in the coastal climate of South Carolina and was incredibly profitable. Consequently, countless slaves were shipped to America and sold in South Carolina in order to repair rice fields and allow the economy to thrive once again. As an indirect result of the increased slave force, there was an obvious decrease in the numbers of freed slaves. There were very few free blacks to speak of. Though the number of free black men and women was never high in South Carolina, the dire need of labor decreased their numbers even further. The white population resented this minority of freed slaves, not only because of inherent racism, but also because they felt that the freemen stole employment opportunities from them when their work was to repair the vital rice industry. As rice fields returned, slaves were continually in high demand. They worked on a task system and were thus allowed a life outside of work if they finished their daily labor. They were granted a nutrient-lacking diet of mostly plants and few other provisions, like clothing and blankets, and personal possessions were few and far between. They endured the same punishments as slaves everywhere; they were beaten, raped and humiliated, and in severe cases, killed. Slavery encompassed years of brutality and exploitation; and in South Carolina, the case was no different. There were few free black men in a society dominated by slave labor. In fact, there was at least a 65 percent majority of slaves in the state by Rice motivated slave labor in South Carolina in particular, and slaves in the state fared as well as slaves in other states; they were pricey commodities that were abused harshly physically and mentally, but rarely killed. Historical Statistics of the United States: Earliest times to the Present. Slave Advertisement, Charleston, South Carolina.

Chapter 9 : South Carolina African-Americans: to

In , South Carolina passed "an Act to prohibit the Importation of Slaves from Africa, or other places beyond the sea, into this state, for two years." By , slaves could not be imported from offshore, and no one could bring in more than ten slaves from anywhere in the country.