

Identifications

Plantation Slavery

Code of Honor

Plantation Mistress

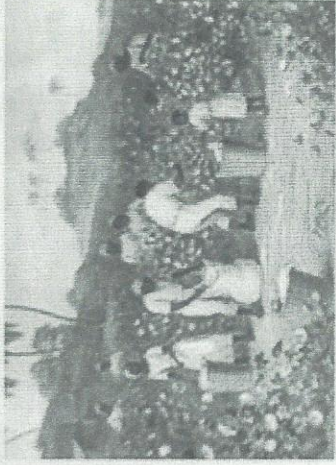
American Slavery

- Before 1776, slavery was legal in all 13 colonies, with 500,000 slaves in all the colonies combined
- Most slaves had always lived in the South working on large plantations (rice and tobacco)
- After the American revolution, Northern states outlawed slavery
- Southern states introduced cotton planting, which made slavery larger than ever





Plantation Slavery 1800-1860, South



- To grow cotton you need: Hot human weather (South), land and territory (Mexico, Texas, California), workers, you need a labor force to do all the hard physical work



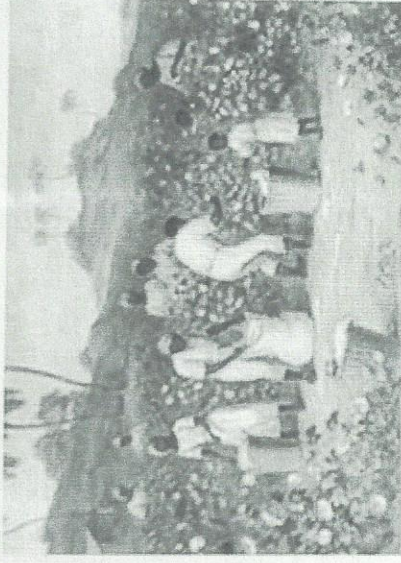
Slaves were divided into large work "gangs" of 50+ slaves, depending on their physical condition and abilities. (Skills) how quickly

They were assigned repetitive tasks like picking cotton, for many hours at a time. For masters, this was very efficient and productive. But for slaves: slaves are property and not people, not human beings / not treated legally like humans.

- Brutally hard work, sometimes up to 12 hours at a time in the hot sun; bad health risks



Plantation Slavery



- Men and women treated equally in terms of job requirements, punishments, productivity
- Boring tasks, slaves receive no education for anything but manual labor *(by law) maybe they become abolitionists. (danger)*
- Harsh conditions and punishments for not meeting quota of 200 lbs. picked per day
- Drastically shortened lifespans for slaves, died at only 33 years of age

You do not need to study or memorize the notes on this page

Southern Population in 1860

8 million whites 4 million slaves

385,000 whites owned slaves (one-third of all white families)

200,000 whites owned 5 or fewer slaves (50+ %)

338,000 whites owned fewer than 20 slaves (88%)

47,000 whites owned more than 20 slaves (5%)

Need to know! Control the South/economy/Congressman

8,000 whites owned more than 50 slaves (.01%)

(not include) George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson (VA), James Madison (VA), the South, James Monroe (VA) First Presidents. They dominated and tell you how to vote and what to think.

2nd ID Code of Honor (behavior)

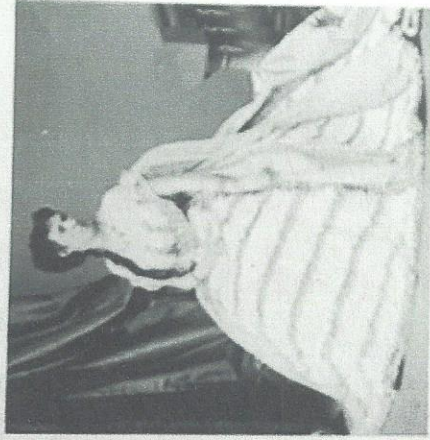
A code of behavior qualities expected from wealthy Southern men. Its main characteristics included:

- Truthfulness and trustworthiness
- Bravery and courage; often learned in military schools
- *a undisputed male rule over their entire household - patriarchy* **PATRIARCHY**: caring for all dependents, including family members and slaves. Undisputed male rule over households.
- A spotless reputation, and a willingness to defend it (duel)



3rd ID

The Plantation Mistress



Southern women from the wealthy plantation class were expected to play both public and private roles throughout their lives



Public Role (Southern Lady):

- From the tiny group of Southern aristocracy
- Raised as 'upper-class Lady' to marry well, continue family line
- Social responsibilities and reputation are crucial
- Sheltered as a child from harsh realities of slavery and great responsibility as Plantation Mistress

Private Reality (plantation mistress):

- Responsible for entire domestic side of Plantation life *(supervising everything Food, clothing)*
- "Slave to the slaves"
- Often fearful, insecure, uncertain about status; very aware of the limits of her authority *(laudanum)*
- Severely limited by boundaries and rules of patriarchy
- Might take out her frustrations on house slaves