



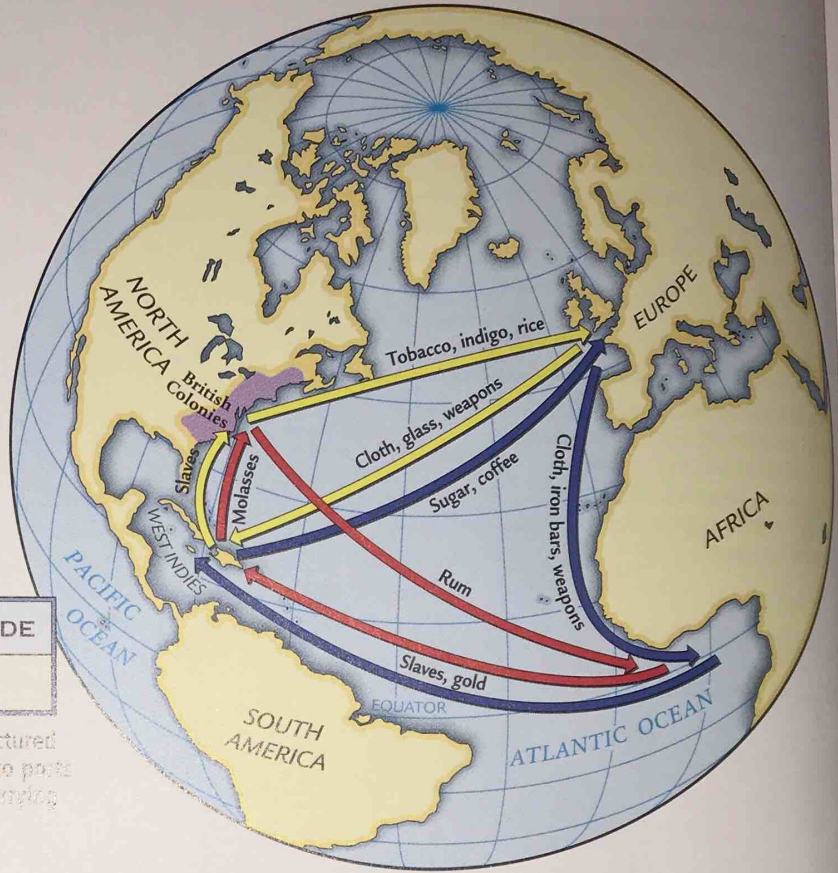


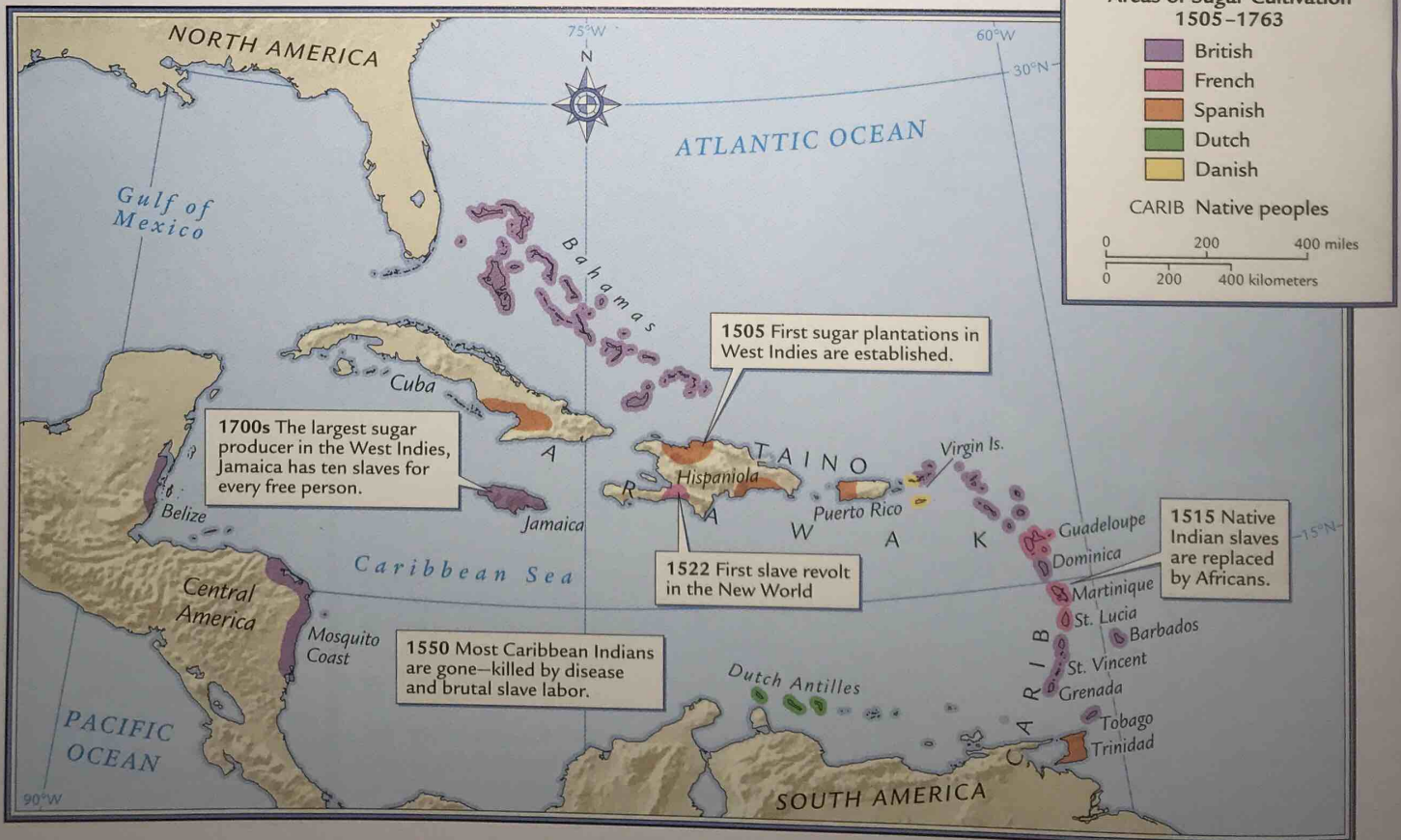
Slavery in the Americas

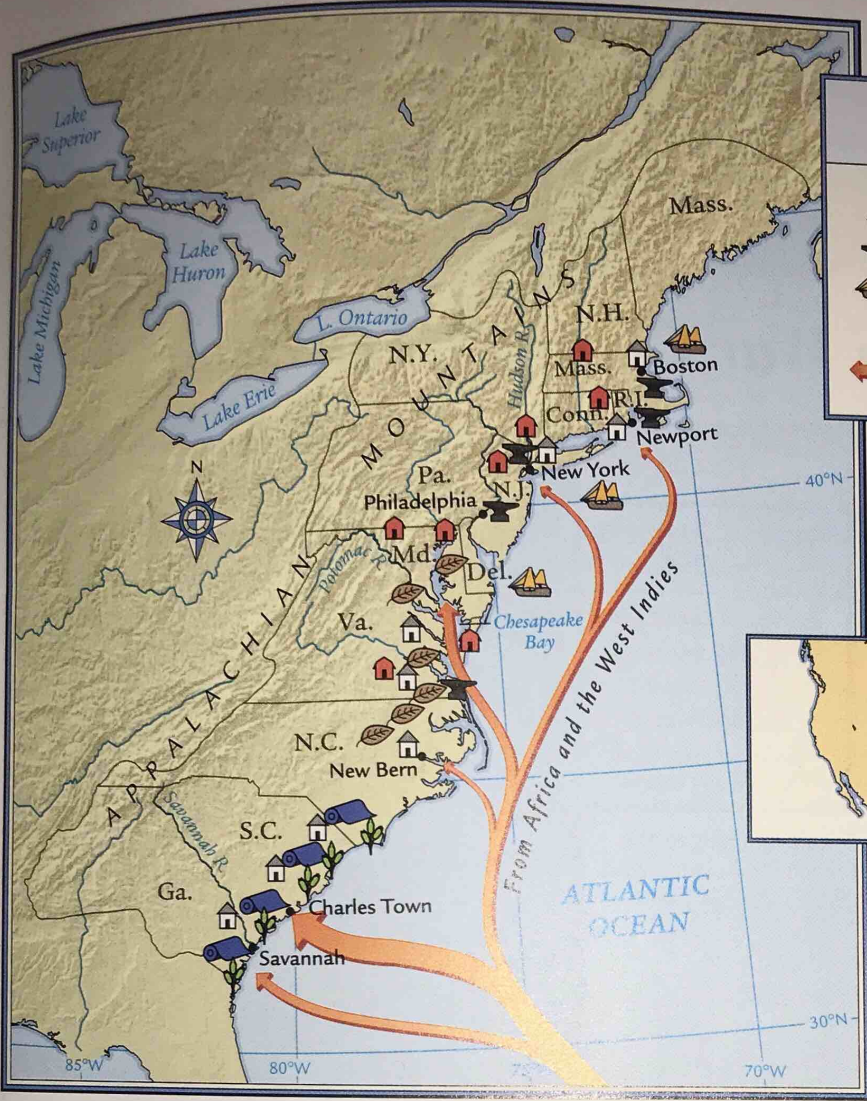
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 More than 11 million Africans were sold into slavery in the Americas. Most were put to work on plantations in the West Indies and Brazil.
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 In North America, the Southern Colonies copied the plantation system, which relied on slave labor.
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 By 1760 slaves were held in all 13 colonies, but slavery remained concentrated on plantations and in large cities.
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 Although far outnumbered by slaves, many people of African descent gained their freedom and continued to live in the colonies.



Ships sailed to Africa or the West Indies to trade manufactured goods for enslaved Africans. Next the slaves were taken to ports near plantations. Then ships completed their routes by carrying plantation crops to their home ports.

Slaves on plantations dug pits for planting sugar cane and later harvested it with large knives. Then they crushed and boiled the cane in mills where temperatures reached 140°F. Millions died after leading short lives of brutal labor.





SLAVERY IN THE BRITISH COLONIES, 1750

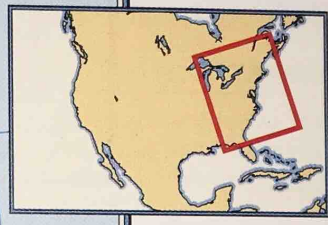
Where Slaves Worked

- Household
- Workshop
- Merchant ship
- Small farm
- Rice plantation
- Tobacco plantation
- Indigo plantation

Slave trade route

0 100 200 miles
0 100 200 kilometers

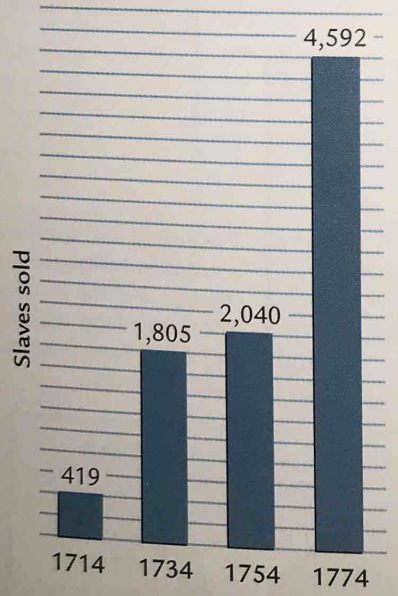
Rice was a familiar crop to many of the African farmers brought directly to Southern slave markets. Most slaves in Northern colonies arrived by way of the West Indies.



Slave ships carried nearly 13 million people across the Atlantic Ocean. One in eight died during the terrible journey.

DESTINATIONS OF ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

Slave trade mid-1400s to mid-1800s



SLAVE TRADE AT CHARLES TOWN

The demand for slave labor in the 13 colonies grew with the demand for the plantation crops of rice, indigo, and tobacco.

