

Lesson Plan: *The Mill and Housing Areas*

The map reproduced here entitled “Mill Area and Housing” is a blowup of the circled area on the “Plantation Field Map.” The map is based on real plantations, but it does not depict any particular plantation. Again assume this plantation existed in the year 1915.

The Mill Area

Break into groups of three to five students. Using the “Mill Area and Housing” map, discuss the following questions. You should be able to make some educated guesses about the purpose of various buildings depicted on the map. When the discussion is finished, at least one person from each group will be asked to respond to one (or more) questions:

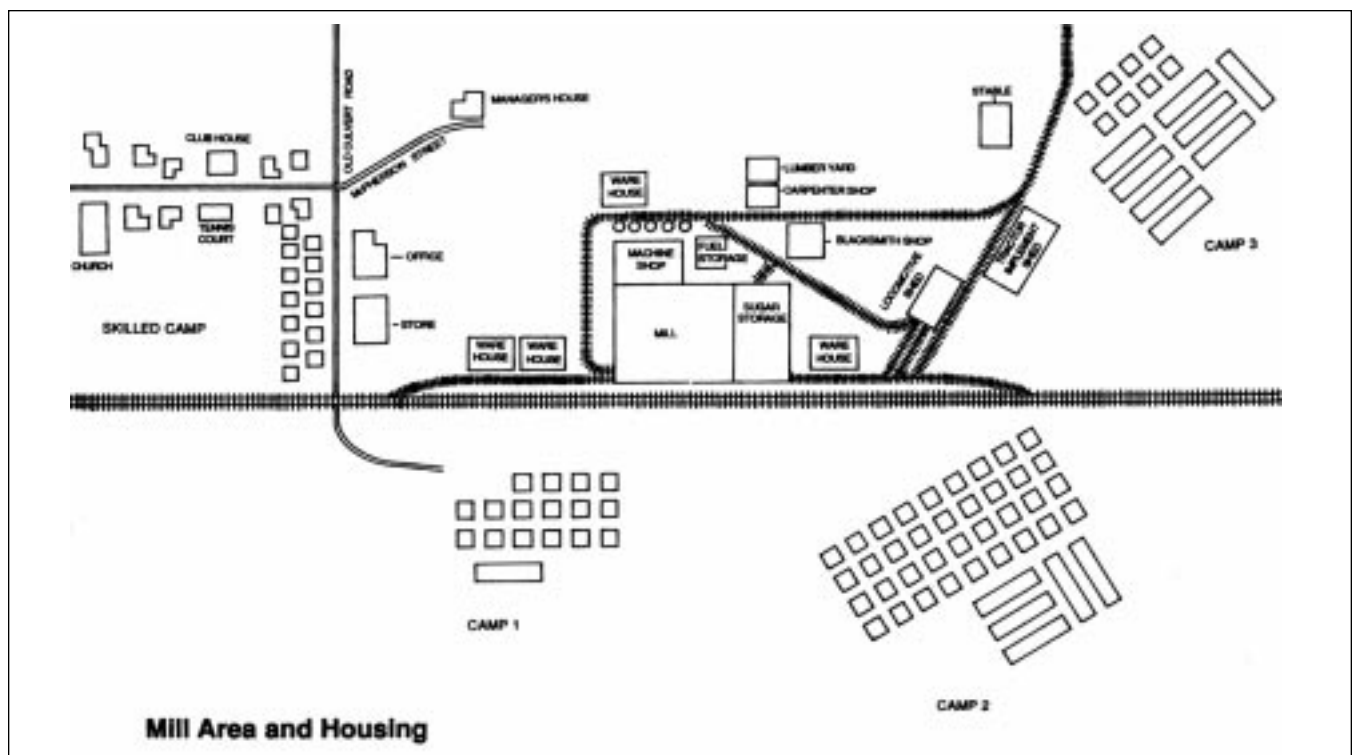
1. What is the locomotive shed?
2. What is the purpose of the blacksmith shop?

3. Why is there a stable when there is already a railroad system?
4. Why is there a carpenter shop?
5. What is the function of the machine shop?
6. What is the sugar storage area?
7. Which building would you characterize as the center of plantation activity? Justify your answer.

The Housing Area

Stay in the groups you have already formed. Your teacher will distribute a set of “Sample Plantation Population” cards to each group. Each card represents one worker and contains information about him or her; again the year is 1915. Look over the information on the cards.

1. Sort the cards according to addresses. Then put each pile next to its camp on the map.



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2. Go through the cards in each pile and find one thing that most, if not all, the workers in each pile have in common. What is that common factor?
3. What is the factor that the people in Skilled Camp have in common?
4. Which ethnic groups are represented in Skilled Camp?
5. Which ethnic groups have no members there?
6. How does Skilled Camp look different from Camps 1, 2 and 3?
7. Who would you think lived in the long rectangular structures in Camps 1, 2 and 3? Why are there more of these buildings in Camp 3? Why is there only one in Camp 1?
8. Make a general statement regarding the connection between ethnicity and housing on the plantation.
9. Why do you suppose there was this degree of ethnic separation?