

History notes

main idea

details

Frontier Period Plot

• most people made their living by farming (agriculture)

Yeomen farmer Plot-108

• corn was the most important crop.

• lived on small farms with no navigable rivers.

• family did chores.

• feed the chickens, carried water, planted & hegd the gardens, picked cotton, sheared pees, cared for animals.

• planted enough cotton to sell to get money to buy things that couldn't grow

• grew beans, squash, potatoes, and melons

• bought coffee, tools, medicine, plows, nails, scissors, strong threads, sewing needles, and cooking utensils.

• didn't have much money to buy finer things of life.

planter (plantation owners) Plot

• most of their land was planted in cotton

• sold their cotton at a market

(Commercial agriculture.

• bought food, tools, cloth, china, furniture, and other fine items

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planters
P110

lived near rivers so that steamboats could transport the cotton, if there were no rivers they hauled the cotton to a town wharf (dock) to ship

• slaves had to do most of the work and even helped the wives in the kitchen and with house work.

• children might do odd jobs, but the slaves did most of the work

• wives made sure everyone was fed and clothed and were in charge of nursing and supervising the care of the sick.

voting
P109

both yeoman farmers and plantation owners were able to vote in statewide elections

there were more yeoman voters than planter voters.

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Alabama Africans

were bought to Alabama in 1721 to work for the french.

113-116

- came over on the africane (French ship)
- were tied together with ropes so they could not run away (cattle)
- sometimes families were separated.
- brought folkways with them from Africa

stories, songs, superstitions.

lived in small one room house called the quarter

worked in the fields

had to ask their master to get married

kids wore straight dresses called shifts.

most Alabamians did not own slaves

schools

132-133

hard to go to school because

people lived far apart

mothers often taught the kids.

Wealthy people hired tutors

children of all ages would be taught

together in a small one-room cabin

teachers were poorly trained and poorly paid.

there were few books

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schools
132-133

- only half the children of Alabama attended any schools
- children had to sit on hard benches and use a slate

owns and
commerce
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- plantation owners ordered goods from a broker in a large town
- small towns had millinery shop, doctors but no hospitals, general dry goods, stores, taverns, inns.
- every county had one county seat where the courthouse is located
- people recorded deeds and legal documents at the courthouse
- Mobile and Montgomery were the largest towns in Alabama

transportation

- steamboats were the first major transportation system
- carried more cotton than rats
- traveled against the currents
- covered wagons or stagecoaches
- traveled on dirt roads
- traveled on toll roads (wooden planks)

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Trans
portation . railroads
traveled across rivers that were
dangerous

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