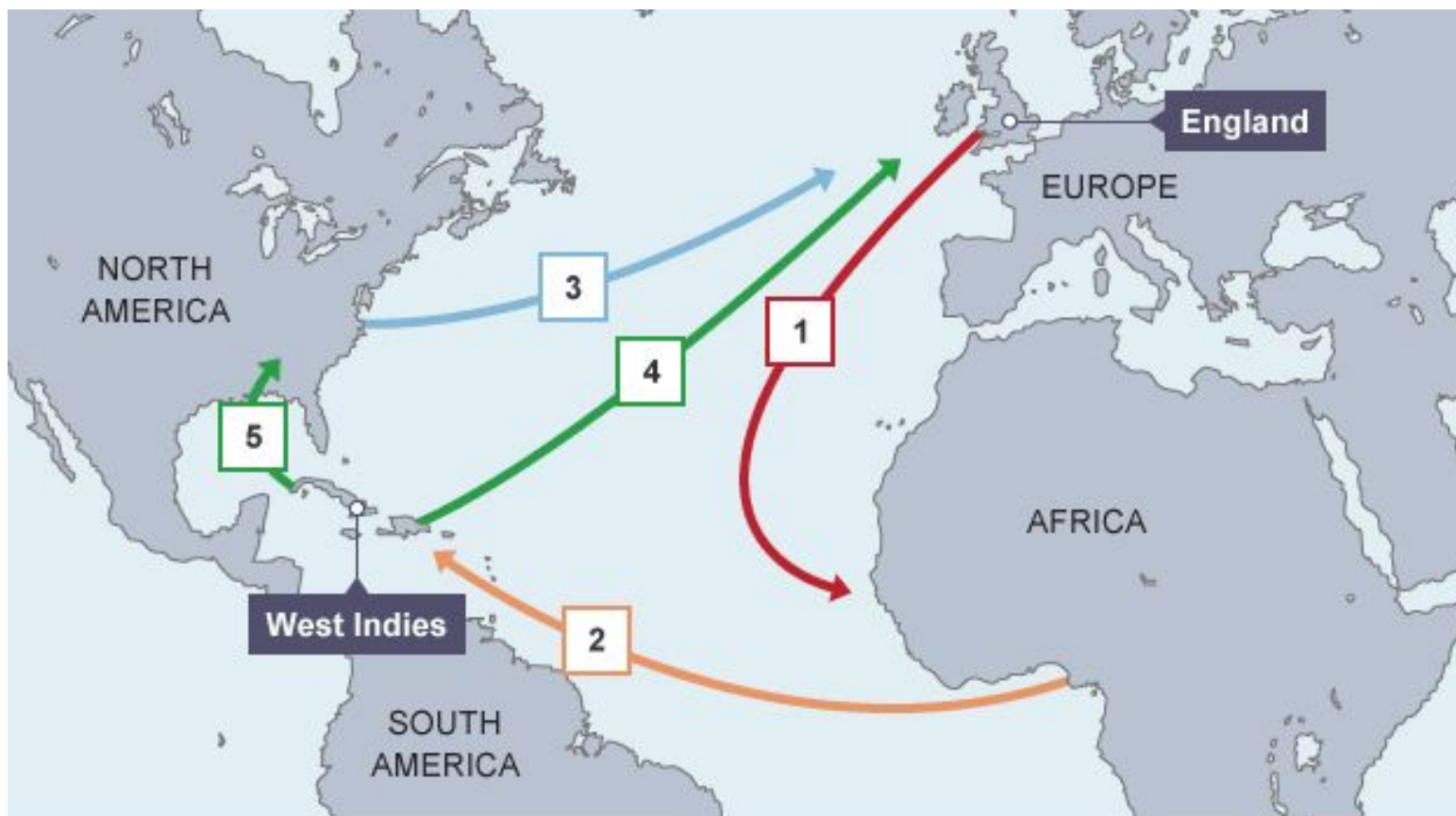


The Atlantic Slave Trade

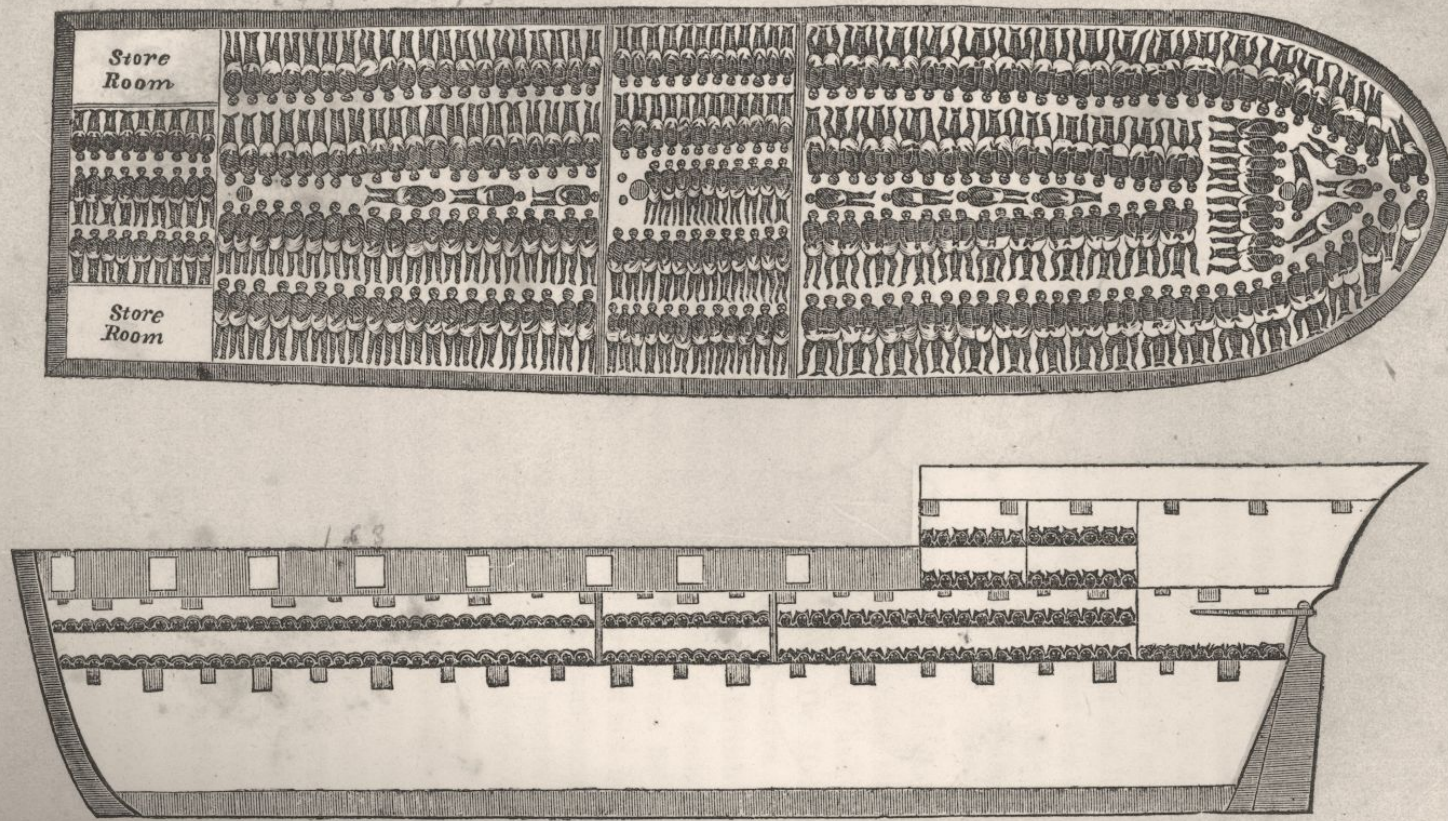
Triangle Trade



- 1** Guns, cloth, iron, beer
- 2** Slaves
- 3** Whale oil, lumber, furs, rice, silk, indigo, tobacco

- 4** Sugar, molasses, wood
- 5** Slaves, sugar, molasses

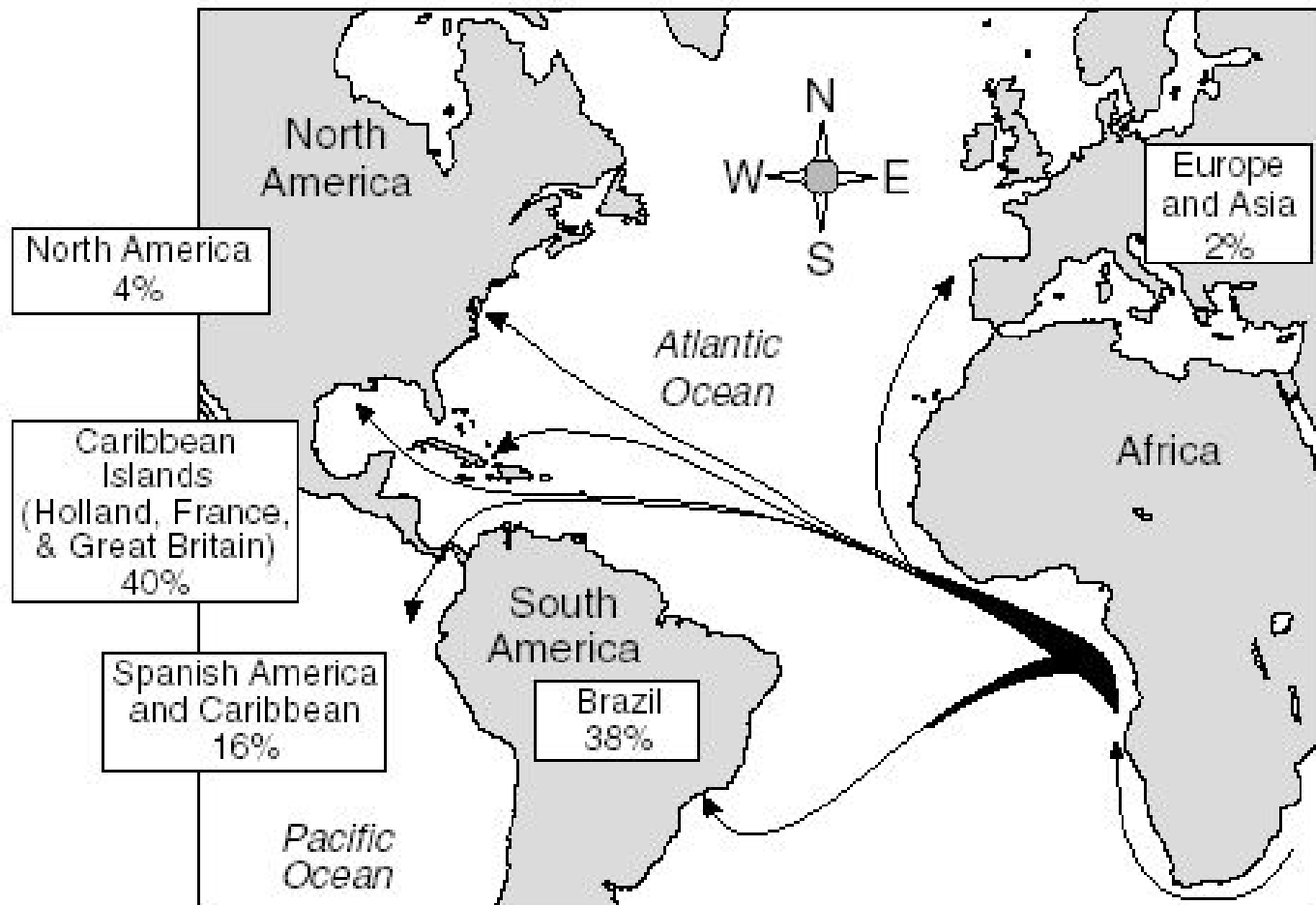
Middle Passage

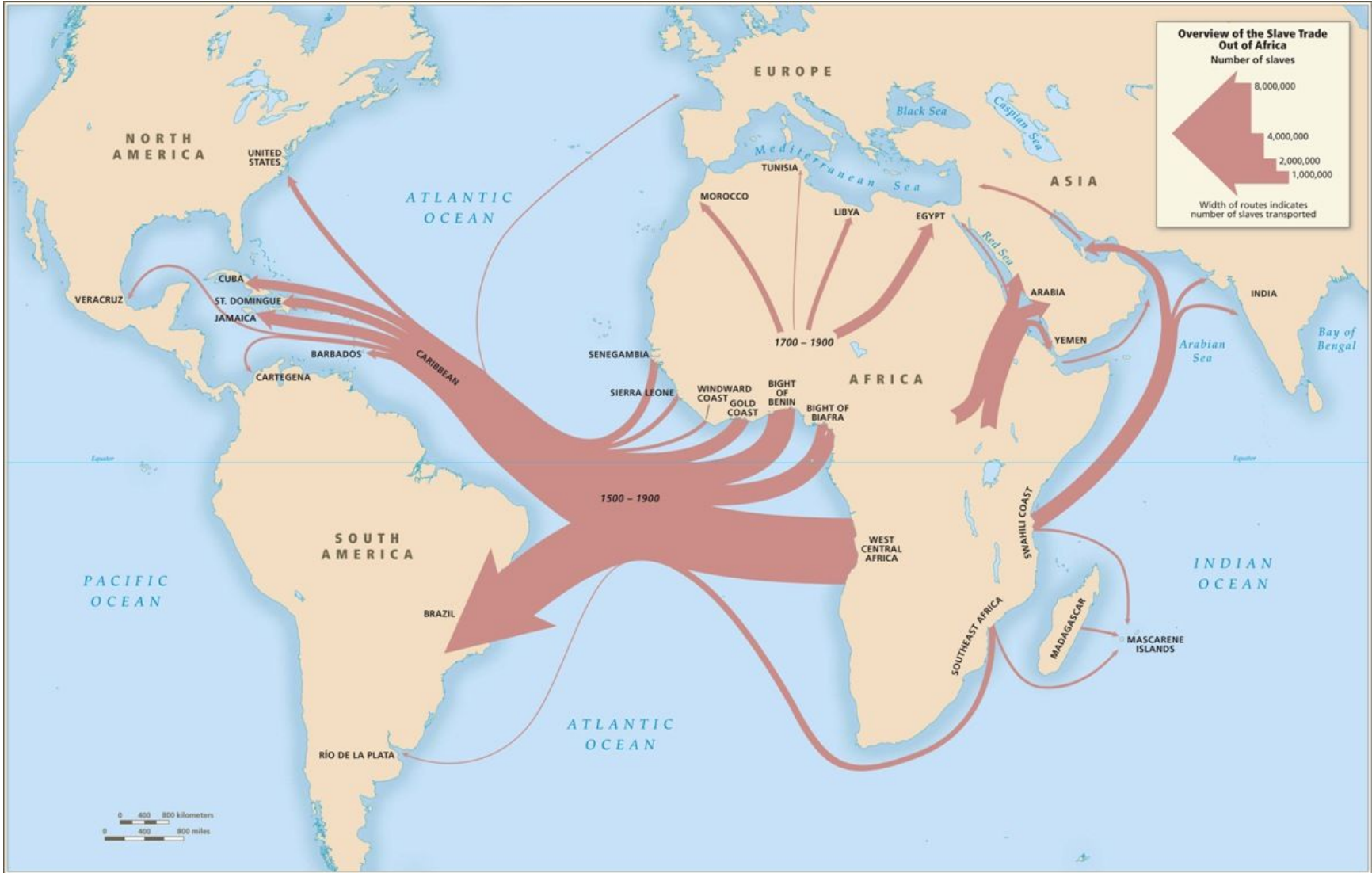


DECKS OF A SLAVE SHIP.

Excerpt from *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*
by Olaudah Equiano

“I now saw myself deprived of all chance of returning to my native country, or even the least glimpse of hope of gaining the shore, which I now considered as friendly; and I even wished for my former slavery in preference to my present situation, which was filled with horrors of every kind, still heightened by my ignorance of what I was to undergo. I was not long suffered to indulge my grief; I was soon put down under the decks, and there I received such a salutation in my nostrils as I had never experienced in my life; so that, with the loathsomeness of the stench, and crying together, I became so sick and low that I was not able to eat, nor I had the least desire to taste anything. I now wished for the last friend, death, to relieve me; but soon, to my grief, two of the white men offered me eatables; and, on my refusing to eat, one of them held me fast by the hands, and laid me across, I think, the windlass, and tied my feet, while the other flogged me severely. I had never experienced anything of this kind before, and, although not being used to the water, I naturally feared the element the first time I saw it, yet, nevertheless, could I have got over the nettings, I would have jumped over the side, but I could not; and besides, the crew used to watch us very closely who were not chained down to the decks, lest we should leap into the water; and I have seen some of these poor African prisoners most severely cut, for attempting to do so, and hourly whipped for not eating. This indeed was often the case with myself.”

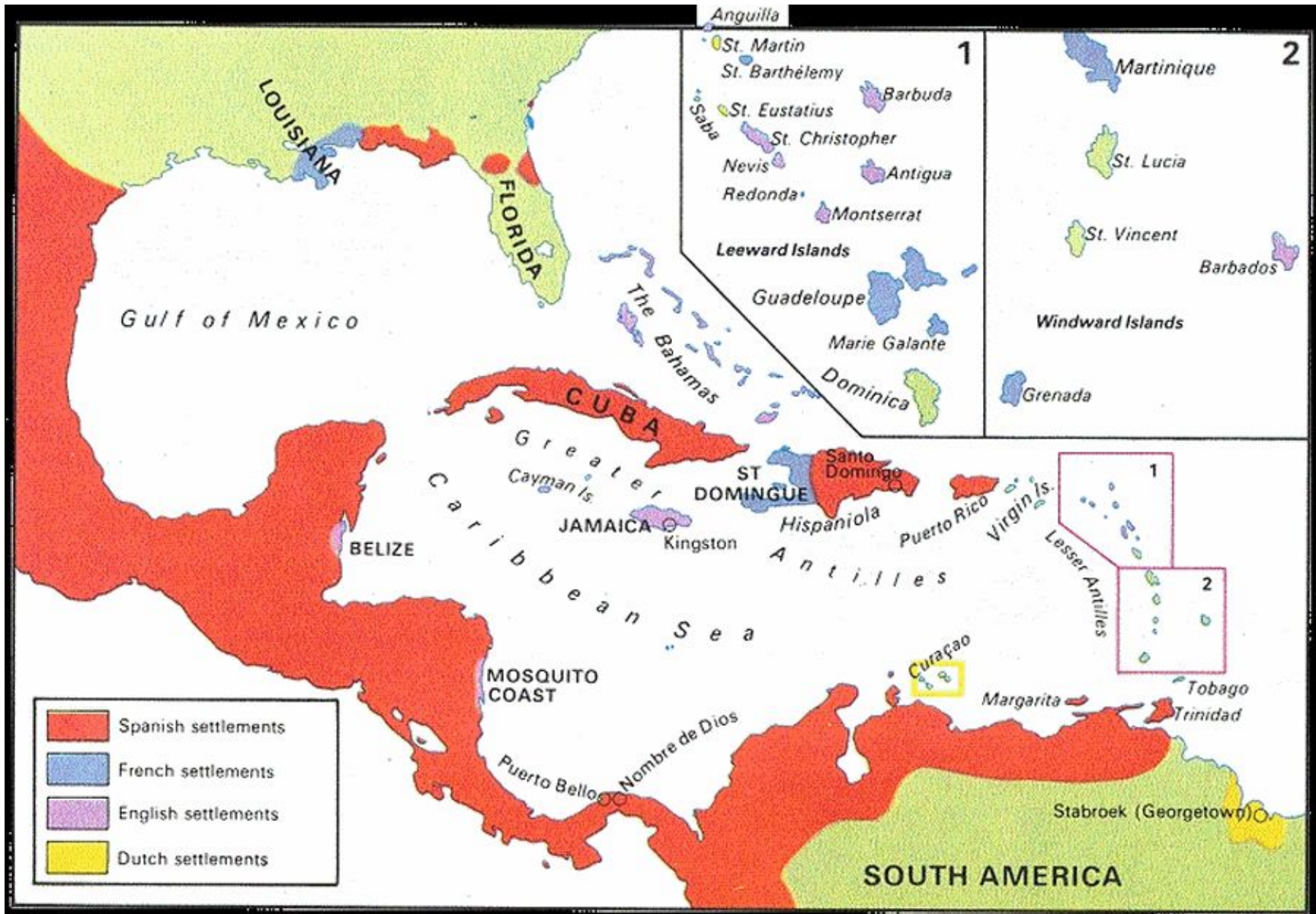




Plantation Agriculture

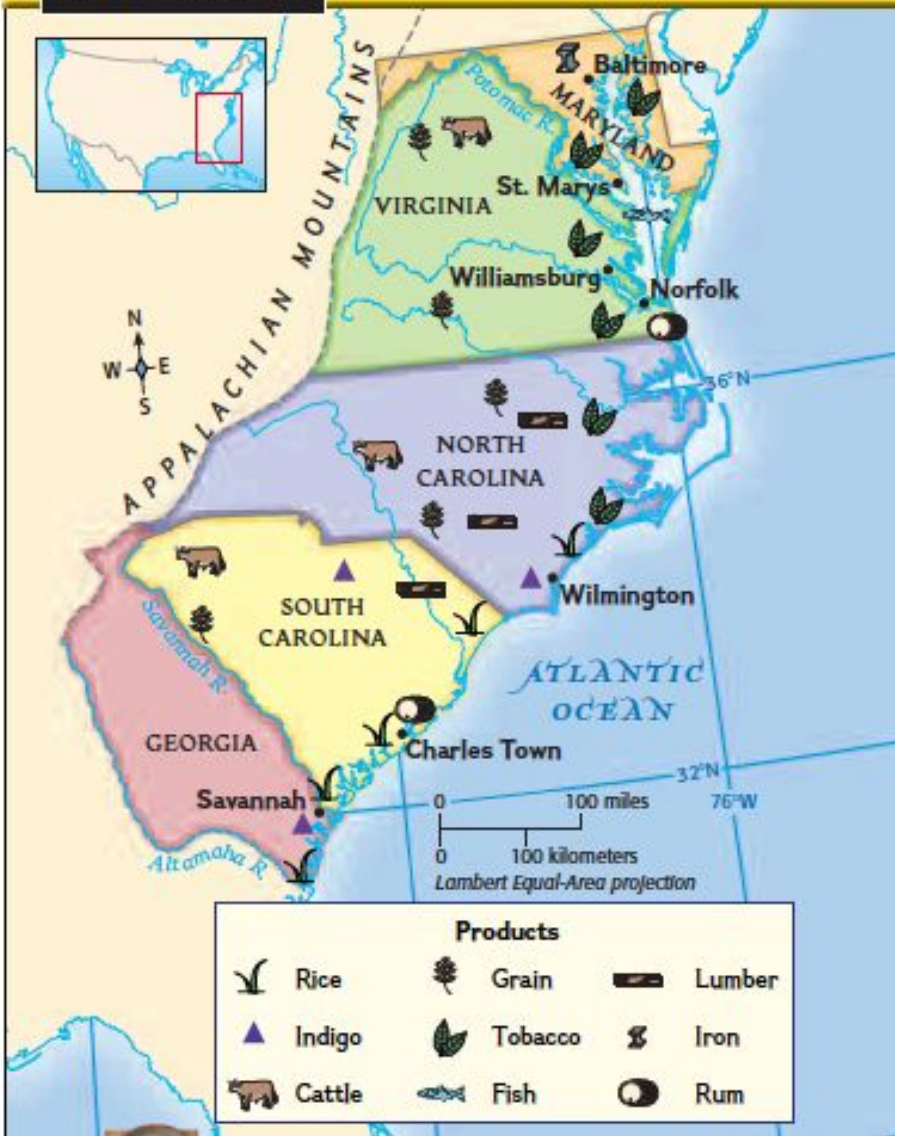
“Plantation agriculture is a type of commercial farming where crops are grown for a profit. Usually only one type of crop is grown on a plantation at a time. Plantations require a large, stable work force and often involve highly labor-intensive work.”

“A crop (such as tobacco or cotton) that is grown to be sold rather than for use by the farmer.”



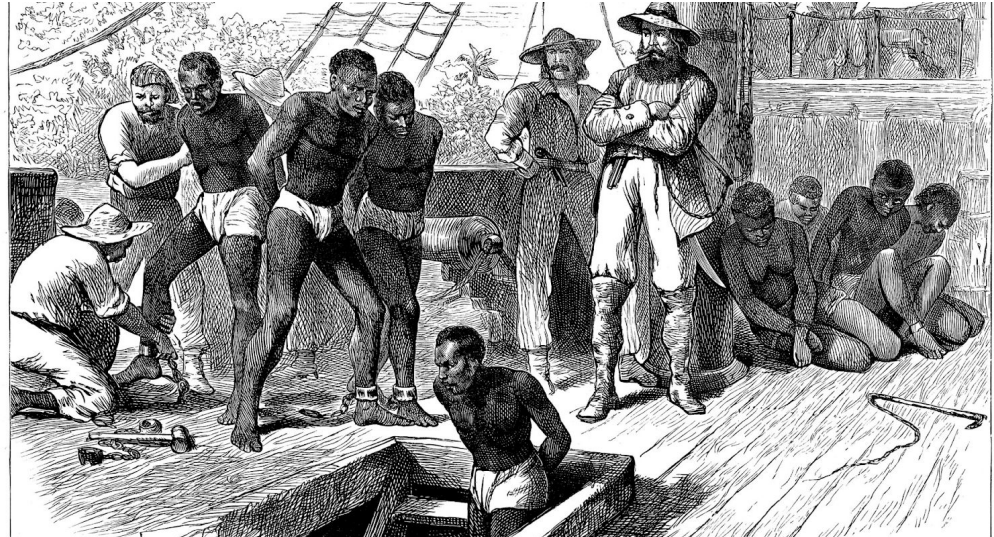


The Southern Colonies



**Slavery
Across the
Colonies**

Royal African Company



- Massachusetts became the first colony to legalize slavery in 1641.
- The Barbados slave code was set up by the English in order to provide a legal base for slavery in the Caribbean island. Slave owners were allowed to do anything they wanted to their slaves, which in practice included mutilating them and even burning them alive. South Carolina adopted the code in 1696, and it formed the legal basis of slave law in many English colonies in North America.
- A 1662 law decreed that the children of slaves took on the status of their mother, in contrast to common law, which conferred the father's status on a child. The law was intended to enslave the increasing number of children fathered by white men.
- Maryland legalized slavery in 1663 and attempted to pass a law that would enslave free blacks and require that all blacks be slaves regardless of their mother's status.
- In 1667 Virginia enacted a law that decreed that baptism would not change the status of the converted, meaning that becoming Christian would not free a slave.
- In 1699, slave laws stipulating whippings and other forms of corporeal punishment as the standard practice for dealing with slaves were the rule in Virginia.
- In 1705, Virginia law began to define more clearly the status of slaves as property. Slaves could be used both as collateral for borrowing money and as assets in the payment of debts. Creditors, in fact, had first claim on slaves in settlement of debts; even slaves who had been freed could be re-enslaved if necessary to settle their former master's debts.
- A year after the Stono Rebellion, South Carolina passed the Negro Act in 1740, which made it illegal for slaves to gather in groups, earn money, learn to read or raise food, and gave slave owners the right to kill rebellious slaves.

Slavery in New England



Slavery in the South



Slave Culture and Resistance



“Gullah arose independently in South Carolina and Georgia in the 18th and 19th centuries when African slaves on rice plantations developed their own language combining features of the English they encountered in America with the West and Central African languages they brought with them on the Middle Passage.”

The Stono Rebellion

Excerpt from "An Account of the Negro Insurrection in South Carolina," 1739

by an unidentified white official

"On the 9th day of September last, being Sunday, which is the day the Planters allow them to work for themselves, Some Angola Negroes assembled to the number of Twenty; and one who was called Jemmy was their Captain. They surprised a Warehouse belonging to Mr. Hutchenson at a place called Stonehow [Stono]; they there killed Mr. Robert Bathurst and Mr. Gibbs, plundered the House and took a pretty many small Arms and Powder, which were there for Sale. Next they plundered and burnt Mr. Godfrey's house and killed him, his Daughter and Son. They then turned back and marched Southward along Pons Pons, which is the Road through Georgia to Augustine...Several Negroes joined them, they calling out Liberty, marched on with Colours displayed and two Drums beating, pursuing all the white people they met with, and killing Man Woman and Child when they could come up to them... but the Militia being raised, the Planters with great briskness pursued them and when they came up, dismounting, charged them on foot. The Negroes were soon routed though they behaved boldly, several being killed on the Spot, many ran back to their Plantations thinking they had not been missed, but they were there taken and Shot, Such as were taken in the field also, were, after being examined, shot on the Spot... In the whole action about 40 Negroes and 20 whites were killed."

“Slave revolts were... most common when large numbers of native-born Africans (“New Negroes”) had been brought into an area at one time... In general, Africans were more likely than slaves born in the New World (“Creole Slaves”) to participate in outright revolts. Not only did many Africans have combat experience prior to enslavement, but they also had fewer family and community ties that might inhibit violent insurrection.”