

Date:

What was life like in the Middle Ages for the majority of people?

Villein: Peasants with land to farm. Villeins were not allowed to leave their manor

Serf: Peasants with land to farm. A Serf could move if necessary but it was safer to stay

Manor House: Home of the lord (Tenant in chief)

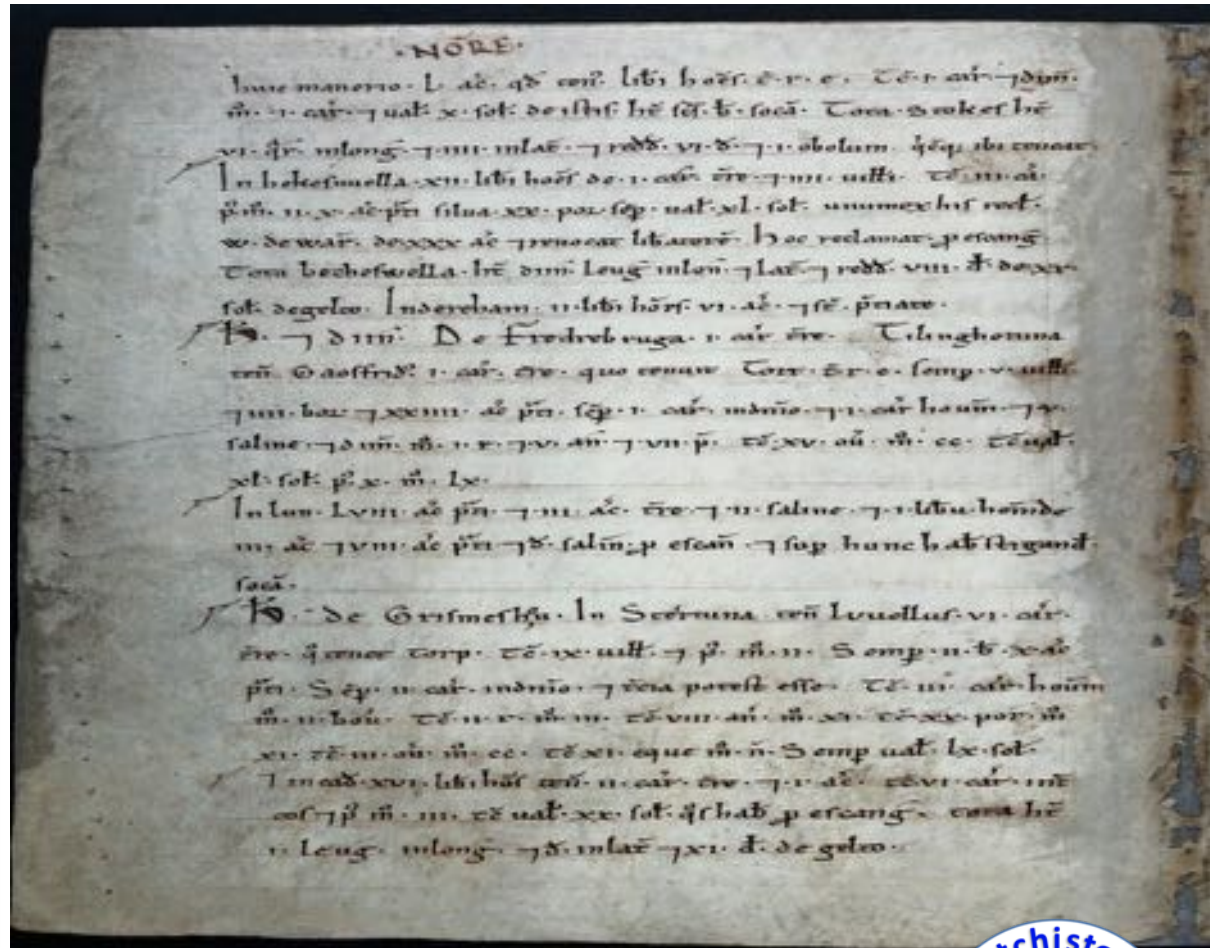
Domesday Book: A survey by William to assess the land and wealth of his new country (and tax people)

Tithe: A tax (10% of earnings paid to the Church)

Aim:

To understand what the Domesday Book was for and begin to understand what it was like to live in the Middle Ages



[illegible]

Perhaps nothing showed William's desire to control his new country more than the making of a countrywide survey, the results of which were recorded in the Domesday Book. William wanted to collect this information for a number of reasons, including the following:

- He feared another Viking invasion and needed to know where he could station and feed his soldiers
- He thought that some of his barons might be holding lands that should belong to him or the Church
- He wanted to be able to collect more taxes

Answer in full sentences: Why did William want to collect all of this information?



Questions William's commissioners wanted to know:

Name of the manor; who held it in King Edward's time; who holds it now; how much land there is; how many ploughlands belong to the domain and how many belong to the men; how many villeins; cottars; slaves; freemen; how much woodland; pasture; meadow; how many mills or fisheries; how much has been added to the estate or taken away; what it was worth and what it is now worth; All this is to be recorded for three periods: as it was in King Edward's time; as it was when King William granted the manor; and as it is now.



How might you feel if someone came knocking on your door asking about things 10 years ago, in a foreign language too?

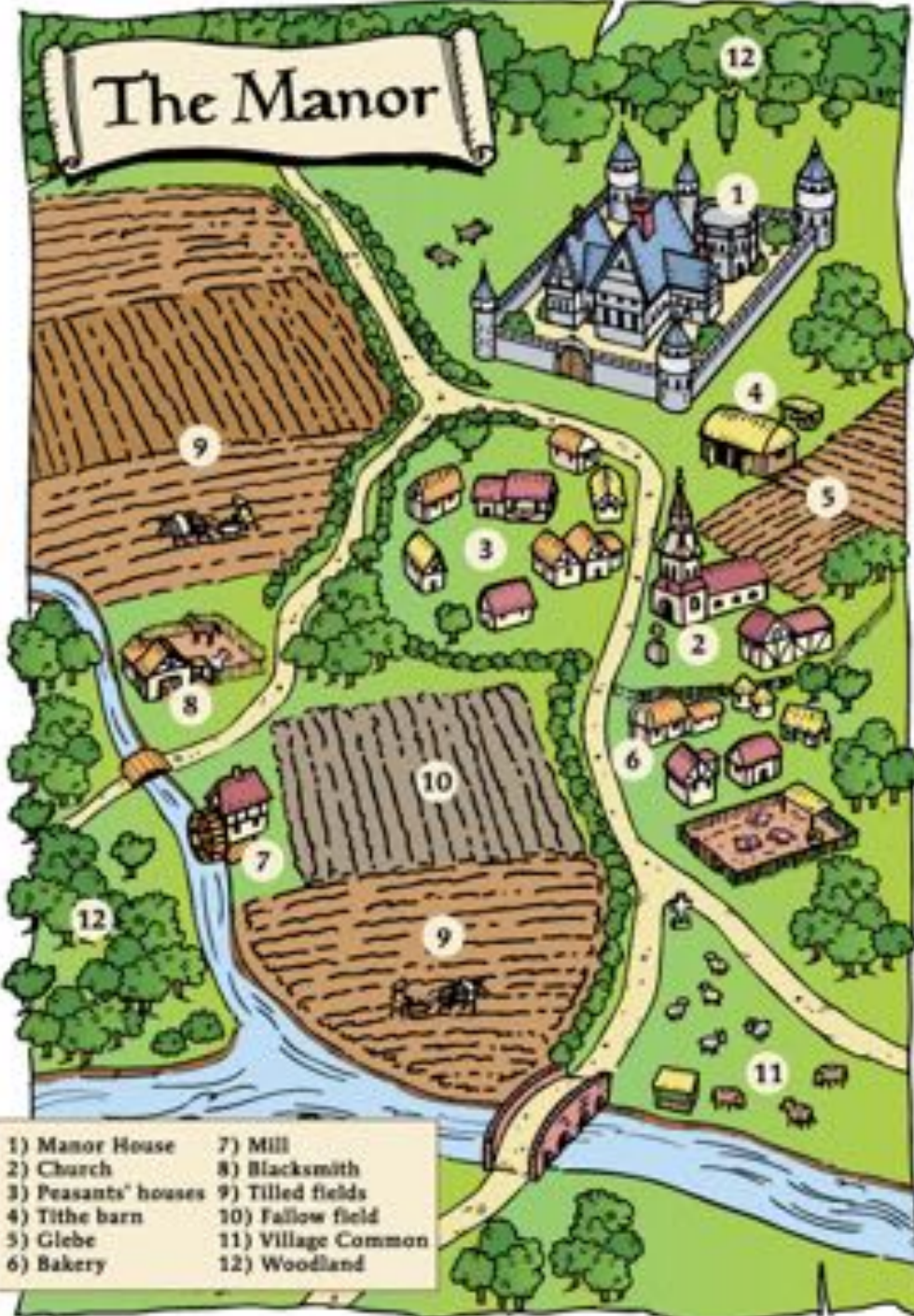
Your job as commissioners of William is to travel around the classroom and interview 3 people finding out:

- How many people live in their house
- What domestic (indoors) animals do they have
- Do they have any animals outside
- Do they have a garden
- Has the house had any work done on it in the last 11 years

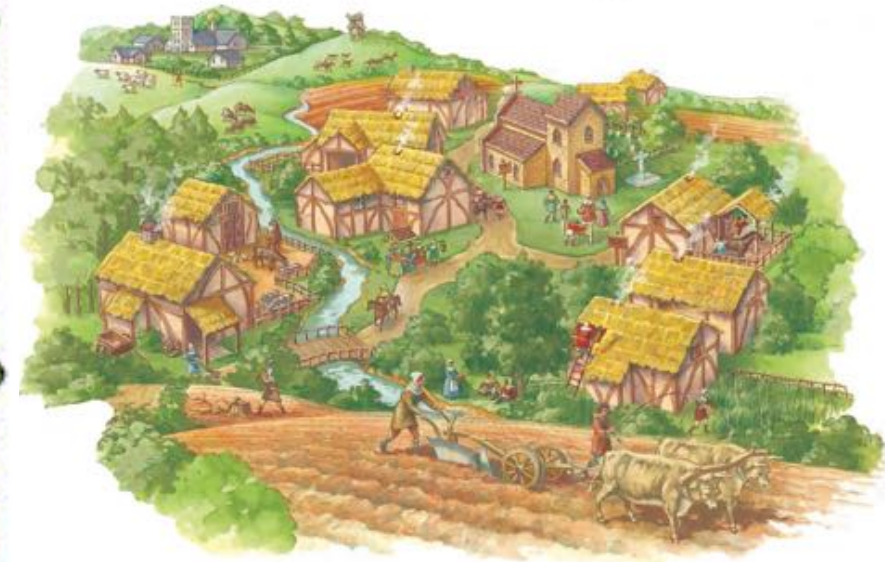
HH Clip



The Manor



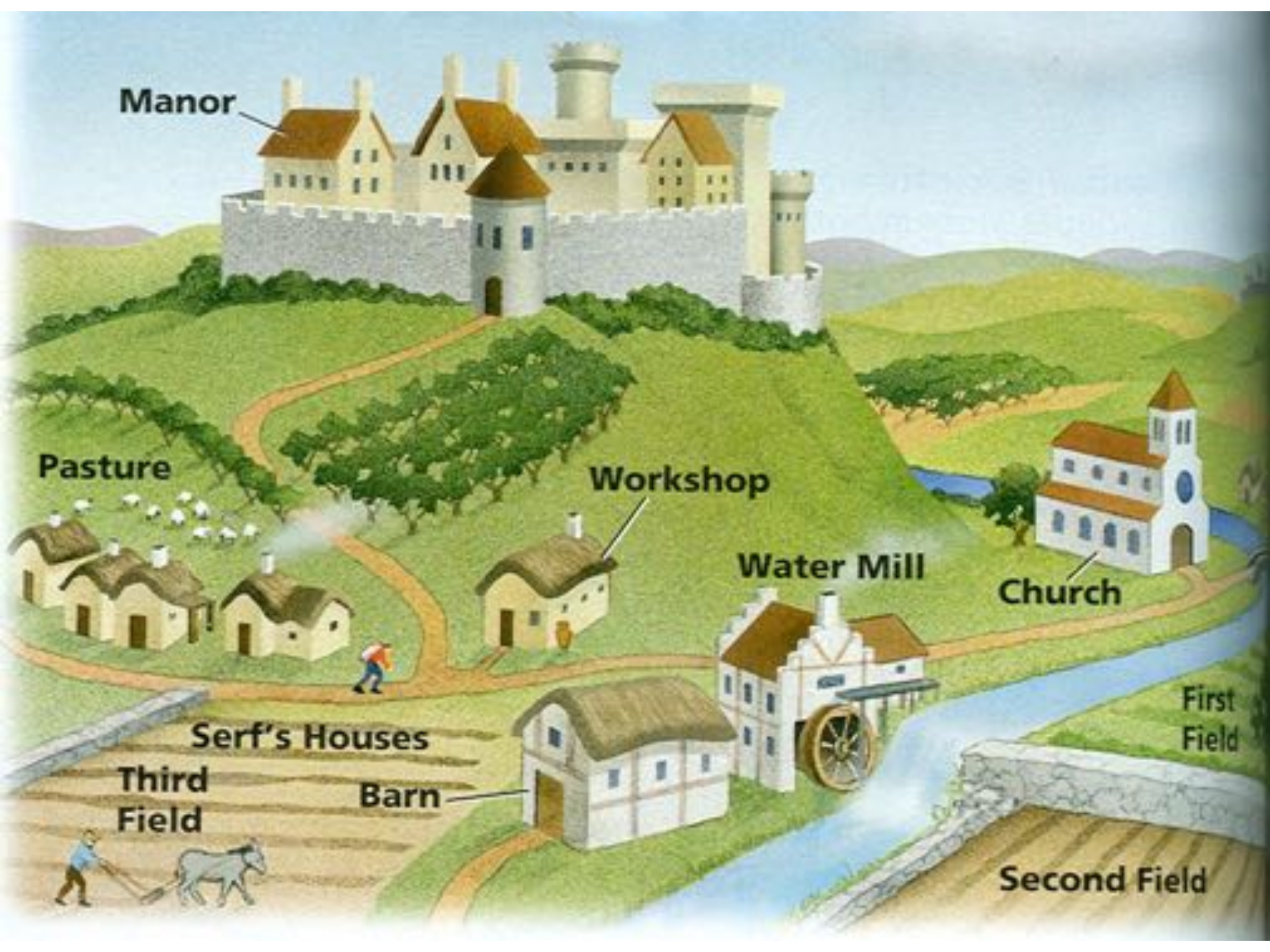
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|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1) Manor House | 7) Mill |
| 2) Church | 8) Blacksmith |
| 3) Peasants' houses | 9) Tilled fields |
| 4) Tithe barn | 10) Fallow field |
| 5) Glebe | 11) Village Common |
| 6) Bakery | 12) Woodland |



Most English people lived in the countryside as farmers. Just enough food was produced for the Manor if there had been a good harvest.

The Manor was the area of land granted to the Lord by the king in the [**Feudal System**].

The Manor was made up of fields of crops, woods, meadows and a village. All Manors were different in both geography and size, as well as importance. All villagers had to work for their overlord, be it a knight, bishop, noble or the king himself.



Manor

Pasture

Workshop

Water Mill

Church

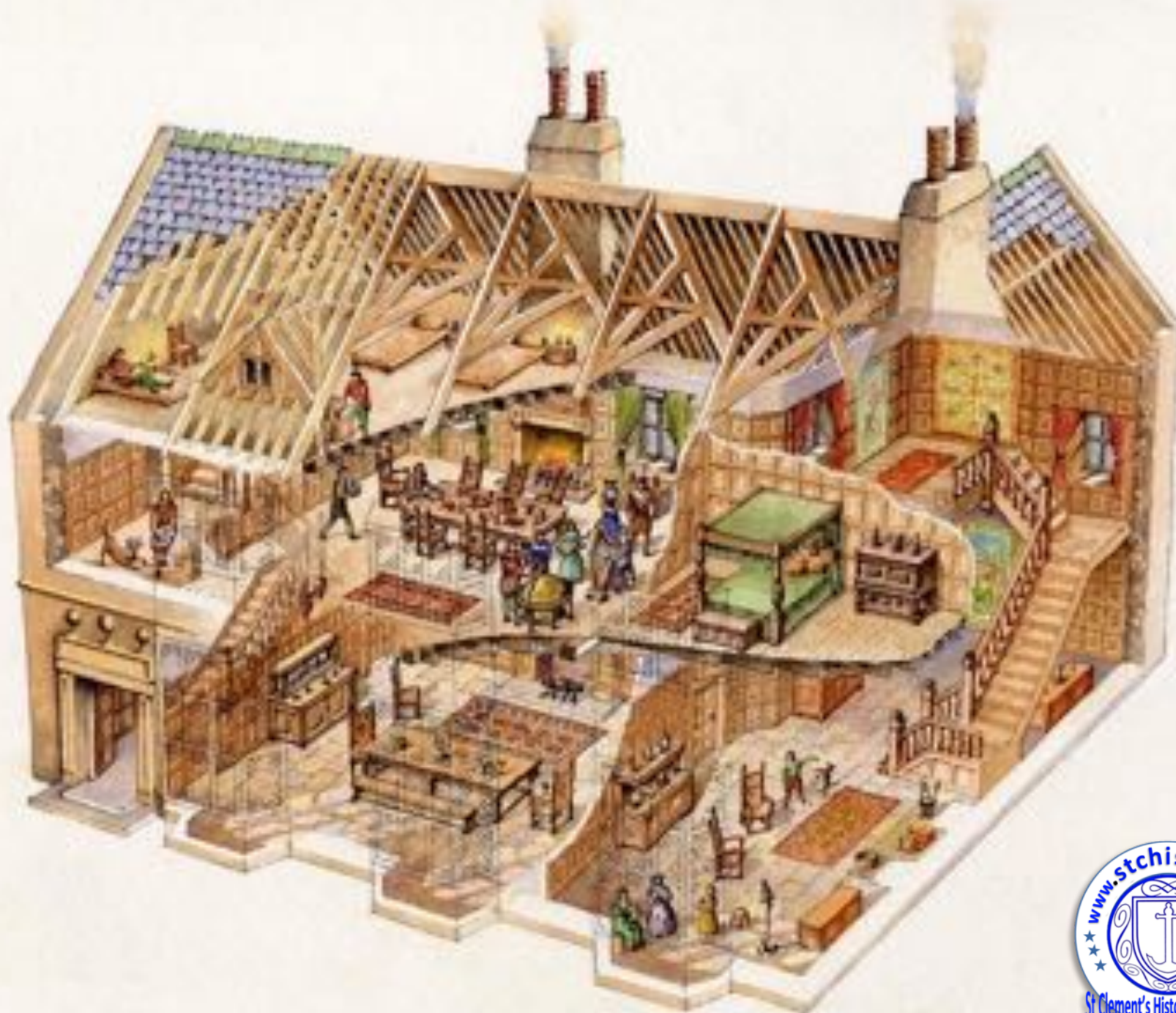
Serf's Houses

Third Field

Barn

First Field

Second Field



What is this?

TERRINGTON [ST CLEMENT AND ST JOHN]

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Known today as Terrington / Terrington St Clement / Terrington St John / Terrington Saint Clement

Hundred (subdivision of the county): [Freebridge](#)

County: [Norfolk](#)

Total population (counted in heads of families so probably x5):
25 households (quite large).

Total tax assessed on each property: 2.1 geld units (quite small).



TERRINGTON [ST CLEMENT AND ST JOHN]

Known today as Terrington / Terrington St Clement

Taxable units: Taxable value 1 geld units.

Value (what the lord received from the villagers): Value to lord in 1066 £2. Value to lord in 1086 £3. Value to lord c. 1070 £0.5.

Households: 5 villagers. 4 smallholders.

Ploughland (each ploughland has 8 oxen): 1 lord's plough teams. 1 men's plough teams.

Other resources: Meadow 24 acres. 5.5 salthouses.

Livestock in 1066: 15 sheep. 11 wild mares.

Livestock in 1086: 1 cobs. 5 cattle. 7 pigs. 200 sheep.

Lord in 1066: Thorth (son of Ulfkil).

Lord in 1086: Geoffrey (Baynard).

Tenant-in-chief in 1086: Ralph Baynard.

£1 = approx. £2000 today



(Terrington St. John)

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vi

£1 = approx. £2000 today

Known today as Terrington St John

Taxable units: Taxable value 1.1 geld units.

Value: Value to lord in 1066 £3. Value to lord in 1086 £3.1. Value to lord c. 1070 £3.

Households: 7 villagers. 7 smallholders. 1 slave. 1 freemen.

Ploughland: 1 lord's plough teams. 1 men's plough teams.

Other resources: Meadow 24 acres. 7 salthouses.

Livestock in 1066: 1 cobs. 6 cattle. 16 pigs. 310 sheep.

Livestock in 1086: 6 cattle. 7 pigs. 315 sheep.

Lord in 1066: Thorkil.

Lord in 1086: Hermer of Ferrers.

Tenant-in-chief in 1086: Hermer of Ferrers..



What was it like living in the Manor?

Some Medieval Misconceptions? maybe?... In the back of your book put the answers to these questions based on what you think you know about the Middle Ages... eg 1a, 2a...

UNDERSTANDING THE MIDDLE AGES

To understand medieval medicine you need to understand medieval life and thinking. These questions will diagnose any misunderstandings you have.

1. True or False?
 - a) People did not wash or try to keep clean.
 - b) You could be fined for throwing rubbish in the street.
 - c) People believed that God sent diseases.
2. How influential was the Christian Church?
 - a) Very.
 - b) Fairly.
 - c) Not at all.
3. Who controlled education?
 - a) The king and his council.
 - b) The bishops and local priests.
 - c) The schools.
4. What were the king's two chief duties?
 - a) Defending the country.
 - b) Improving people's health.
 - c) Keeping law and order.
5. How did ideas spread?
 - a) Through printed books.
 - b) Through handwritten books.
 - c) By people talking to each other.
6. Which of these statements best fits people's attitudes?
 - a) We must respect traditional ideas, especially what is written in the Bible.
 - b) We must seek out new ideas. It is important to challenge old ideas.

Before we watch a short clip, describe what you know, or think you know, about living conditions in Medieval England.... You can do it in a list if you prefer, but it must have a subtitle

Anything like this?

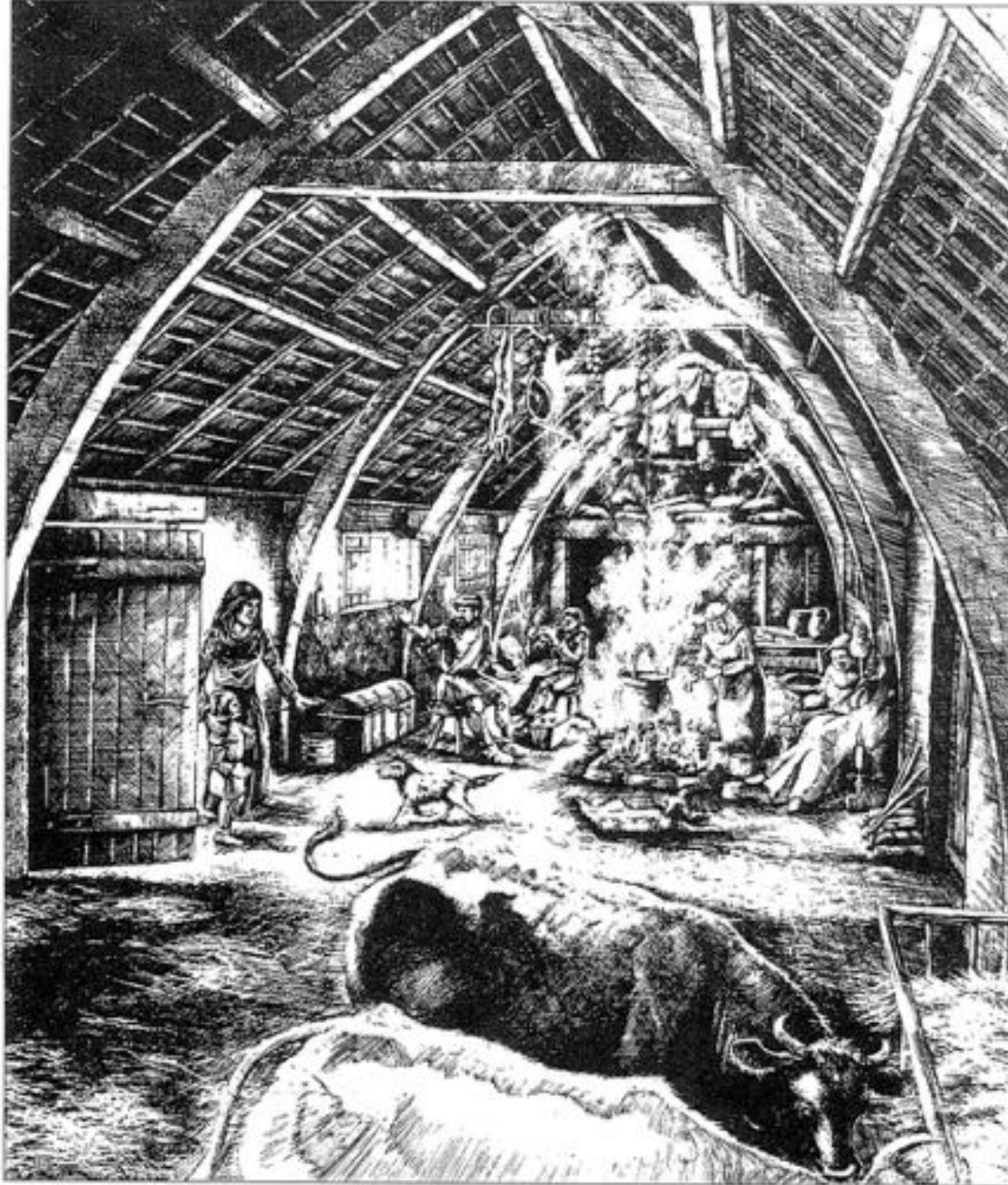


Inside the Villein's or Serf's house



Life in Medieval Britain clip:

Make a note of as many things as you can to describe the life of a peasant (Most of this should be a recap)...



Imagine you were living in the Villein House.

- What would it be like to live in there? What would you smell and hear and what would you see?
- Would you be comfortable? Is it an easy life?
- Write a 3 day diary entry of a Villein describing how they lived