

LESSON ONE WORKSHEETS AND DOCUMENTS

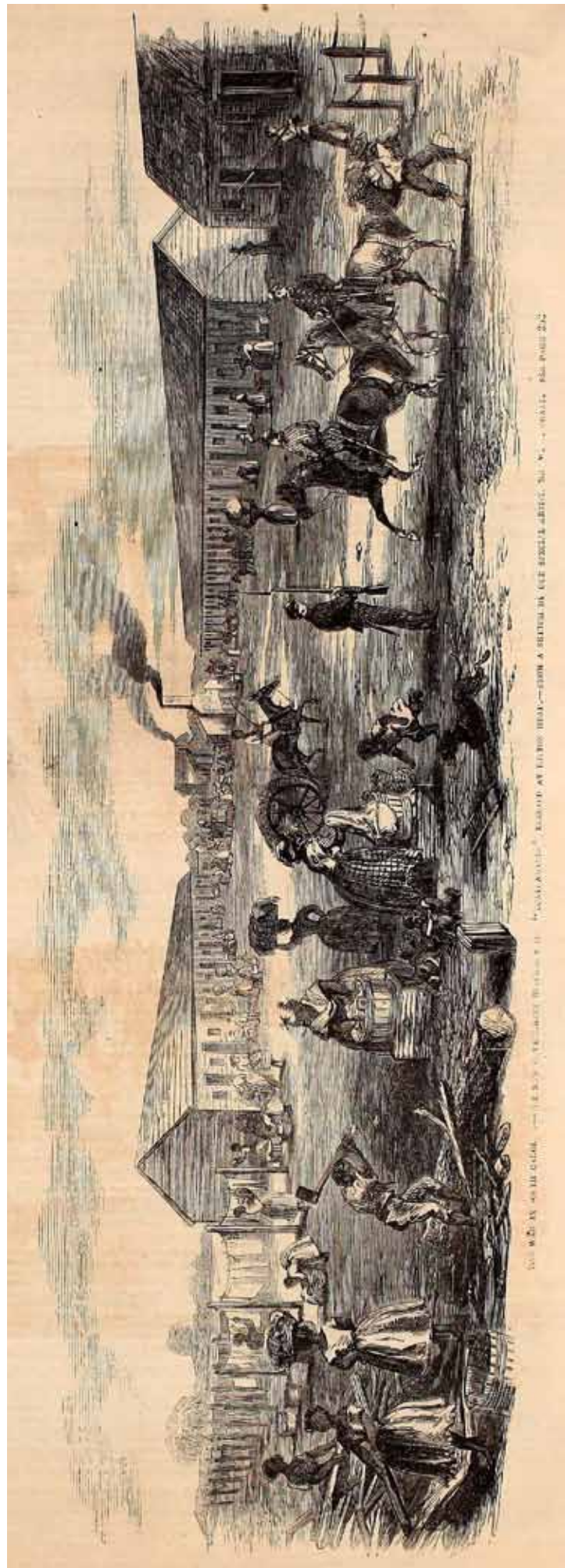
DOCUMENT ONE

DESCRIPTION OF MITCHELVILLE

In October 1862, Major General Ormsby Mitchel, commander of the Department of the South at Hilton Head Island ordered the construction of a Freedmen's town to serve as a new home for thousands of former slaves who flocked to the island after it fell to Union forces in November 1861. Mitchelville was more than a refugee camp. The town's new residents built their own homes with materials provided by the Union Army. They were responsible for creating their own government, enforcing town ordinances, establishing schools, and ensuring every child between the ages of six and 15 attended regularly. Mitchelville proved that freed men and women could govern, sustain, and educate themselves.

At its peak in 1865, approximately 3,500 people may have lived in the town. Mitchelville declined after the US Army and the jobs it offered left the island in 1868. By the 1880s, Mitchelville ceased to exist as a formal town. By the 1950s, only the island's oldest residents remembered its important history.

DOCUMENT TWO
HARPER'S WEEKLY ILLUSTRATION:
CONTRABAND CAMP



THE CONTRABAND CAMP. DRAWN BY G. H. RAY. FROM A SKETCH BY G. H. RAY. HARPER'S WEEKLY, VOL. 1, NO. 1, 1862, P. 222.

DOCUMENT THREE

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE: NEW SOUTH, OCTOBER 1862

“some wholesome changes are contemplated by the new regime, not the least of which is the removal of the negro quarters beyond the stockade...where they can at once have more comfort and freedom for improvement...Accordingly, a spot has been selected near the Drayton Plantation for a negro village. They are able to build their own houses, and will probably be encouraged to establish their own police and the supervision of their Superintendent. A teacher, Ashbell Landon, has been appointed, to be paid from the Quartermaster’s Department...Mr. McMath is at present the active and efficient Superintendent of these people on the island.

ACTIVITY FOUR TIMELINE EVENTS

- The Union Army leaves Mitchelville.
- South Carolina secedes from the Union.
- Congress passes the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution
- General Ormsby M. Mitchel speaks at the dedication of the First African Baptist Church on Hilton Head Island, calling for the creation of Mitchelville
- 32nd USCT begins construction on Fort Howell August 19, 1864

HISTORICAL RESEARCH WORKSHEET

1. What must a historian select before beginning their research?
2. Name three sources of information historians use to find out about the past:
3. What is the difference between a primary source and a secondary source?
4. What is a secondary source?
5. If Mitchelville no longer exists, how do we know about it?
6. Do we have documents written by people who lived in Mitchelville? Explain.
7. What kinds of documents could historians use to learn about you?

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

1. Why did the Union Army build a camp on Hilton Head Island?
2. What type of source is the Harper's Weekly illustration?
3. What does the illustration represent?
4. Name four activities you can see in the illustration.
5. What kinds of things are not shown in the illustration?
6. Why was Mitchelville created?
7. Who lived in Mitchelville?
8. Why did most people leave Mitchelville after the Union Army decamped?
9. Use the newspaper article to name three activities that residents of Mitchelville might have done for the first time.
10. Why does the newspaper article mention teachers?

CHRONOLOGY WORKSHEET

Number each event from 1 to 6 in the order they happened.

EMANCIPATION DAY AT SMITH PLANTATION



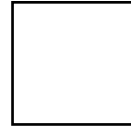
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• “These people were first called contrabands at Fortress Monroe;
• but at Port Royal, where they were next introduced to us in
• any considerable number, they were generally referred to as
• freedmen. These terms are milestones in our progress: and
• they are yet to be lost in the better and more comprehensive
• designation of citizens, or, when discrimination is convenient,
• citizens of African descent.”
• **EDWARD PIERCE “THE FREEDMEN OF PORT ROYAL,” THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY,**
• **SEPTEMBER, 1863**
.....



BATTLE OF PORT ROYAL



November 7, 1861



SAMUEL COOLEY PHOTOGRAPHS HOMES AT MITCHELVILLE



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• “A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this
• government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half
• free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect
• the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It
• will become all one thing or all the other. Either the opponents
• of slavery will arrest the further spread of it...or its advocates
• will push it forward, till it shall become alike lawful in all the
• States, old as well as new—North as well as South.”
• **ABRAHAM LINCOLN, JUNE 16, 1858**
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TIMELINE WORKSHEET

1858

Combine the events from your Chronology Worksheet with the classroom events chronology to create a timeline.

A vertical timeline structure consisting of a central vertical line. At the top of this line is the year '1858'. At the bottom of the line is the year '1868'. There are seven horizontal lines extending from the central vertical line, three to the left and four to the right, creating a series of rectangular boxes for writing events.

1868