

In many parts of Western Europe, the feudal system plus new ways of farming led to a different kind of farming community called a manor.

You have learned how land was divided under the feudal system. Each lord divided his land among his lesser lords and knights. The smallest division of land was the manor, which was the unit of agricultural production. Each manor had one or more villages where a number of peasant families lived. It also had a manor house or small castle where the lord of the manor lived. There was also a church with a priest.

The lord of the manor (barons, dukes, earls...) defended the villages. He owned the mill and some workshops. He ruled the peasants who did the farming. The peasants were either free or serfs. Serfs were considered to be the property of their lord, the noble, for their entire life. An interesting thing about the manor is how the land and work were shared. All of the farmland of the manor was divided into long strips. Every year the strips were distributed. Some strips were the lord's. Some were the priest's. The rest were divided among the peasants. The peasants worked on their own strips as well as the strips of the lord and the priest. In return for using the strips to farm and graze their livestock, the nobles would give protection to the peasants during time of attack.

At first, each manor was self-contained: it produced and consumed its own goods. Later, however, it produced a surplus and trade began.

-Preceding from *Medieval Civilization* & "Middle Ages/Medieval Times"

Assignment:

1. Further research manor life using texts and the websites provided.
2. You must provide at least two sources (at least one print source) on the reverse of your assignment.
3. Create a neat and beautiful map of manor. Use ink. Provide a legend. Include the following:
 - a. castle or manor house*
 - b. farmland (showing spring, fall, and fallow fields; field strips allotted to each rank)
 - c. water supply
 - d. barns
 - e. forest
 - f. village occupied by peasants
 - g. church
 - h. mill

Optional additions: Bake Oven, Brewery, Wine or Oil Press, Smithy...

4. Each lettered location/item must be accompanied by two-three sentences explaining its key part in the interconnectedness of the manor. All writing must be in your own words. Do not copy. Use ink. Map must not exceed 16"-21" so that it can later be glued into your world history notebook.

*For an "A" create a floorplan, with legend and explanations, of a typical manor house.

<http://mars.wnec.edu/~grempe/courses/wc1/lectures/22manor.html>

http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/medieval_manor_houses.htm

<http://www.wnorton.com/college/history/ralph/resource/manor.htm>

<http://www.middle-ages.org.uk/manor-house.htm>

<http://historymedren.about.com/library/atlas/blatmapmedmanor.htm>

<http://www.britannia.com/history/wilts/mm-wilts1.html>

<http://lancefuhrer.com/manor.htm>

<http://web.nickshanks.com/history/medieval/manor>

<http://www.wolfhavenproductions.net/FeudalEurope/home.html>

<http://gossamerstrands.com/Hist100/lecture14new.htm>