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Cultivation and Culture: Labor and the Shaping of Slave Life in the Americas

By -

University of Virginia Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 400 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.1in. x 1.3in. So central was labour in the lives of African-American slaves that it has often been taken for granted, with little attention given to the type of work that slaves did and the circumstances surrounding it. Cultivation and Culture brings together essays by leading scholars of slavery - historians, anthropologists and sociologists - to explore when, where and how slaves laboured in growing the New Worlds great staples and how this work shaped the institution of slavery and the lives of African-American slaves. Selected from a conference on comparative slavery at the University of Maryland that set the agenda for the next decades research in this field, the essays focus on the inter-relationship between the demands of particular crops, the organisation of labour, the nature of the labour force and the character of agricultural technology. They reveal the full complexity of the institution of chattel bondage in the New World and suggest why and how slavery varied from place to place and time to time. What these scholars show is that although work in the slave owners fields accounted for most of the slaves labouring...



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