

AGE

It was very common for a slave ship to carry young children from Africa to continents across the globe. Some ships carried nothing but children from various ages. Most were young boys or teenaged boys characterized and young men, because their ages were unknown. There were also young females enslaved as well, but there was far less than the males. Children made up roughly 21 percent of the cargo that came from Africa to North America.

GENDER

Contemporary depictions of enslaved people often tell a narrative of greater enslavement of men rather than women. The reality, however, is not quite so. Women were often enslaved at similar rates as men, and in some circumstances, were the only captives among slave ships, such as the *S Jose Dilegente*. Women of all ages were enslaved; Catherine Zimmerman-Mulgrave was only 8 years old when she was kidnapped by sailors who lured her and her friends aboard an enslaver ship with candy. While all enslaved peoples were robbed of their labor, knowledge, and skills, women were robbed and dehumanized in unique ways. In order to rob enslaved women of their womanhood, and specifically motherhood, illustrations during the early Trans-Atlantic slave trade depicted women and mothers as dehumanized and uncaring. This type of dehumanization is unique to enslaved women.

WESTERN POWER

There were a number of European powers responsible for the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. To name a few, there was Denmark/Baltic, U.S.A., and Netherlands. These European powers represented the smallest number of slaves that were either embarked or disembarked. However, there were European powers like Portugal/Brazil and Great Britain. These powers represented numbers of slaves in the millions. Portugal had about 5.8 million slaves while Great Britain was not too far behind with 3.3 million slaves. France and Spain had a little over a million slaves each. The abolition of slavery dated back to the 1780s, however each Western/European power abolished the Trans-Atlantic slave trade at different times. Denmark was the first country to abolish slavery in 1803 when it took effect. It was in 1792 that they announced their plans to abolish the slave trade. Great Britain, U.S., and France all abolished the slave trade between 1807-1808. Portugal and the Netherlands came later in 1817 with abolishment, while Spain was the last power, in 1820, to abolish. Spain and Portugal both had conditions to abolish which included the trade of money. Spain had phased abolition and Portugal only abolished North of the equator.

AFRICAN STATUE OF LIBERTY

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WHY TYBEE ISLAND

As ships arrived in North America with enslaved men, women, and children they were inspected at Tybee Island for signs of illness, and disease in order to hinder the spread of infectious diseases from overseas. As shipments increased a demand for a quarantine hospital arose. After building was complete, the hospital was named "Lazaretto" descending from the Italian word for "pest-house." Tybee Island officially recorded only two ships that disembarked enslaved Africans, totaling three hundred and fifty-eight, of the four hundred and sixty-two who embarked in African locations. However, Tybee received thousands more enslaved for quarantine before the Lazaretto was demolished in 1785 and a new hospital was built on nearby Cockspar island.

TYBEE ISLAND

Tybee Island is situated at the mouth of the Savannah River, which leads to the city of Savannah. As ships arrived in North America with enslaved men, women, and children they were inspected at Tybee Island for signs of illness, and disease in order to hinder the spread of infectious diseases from overseas. As shipments increased a demand for a quarantine hospital arose. In 1766 lawmakers in Savannah authorized a budget of seventy pounds to seek a location to serve as a receiving juncture for incoming ships. The seventy-pound budget was used to purchase 104 acres on the west end of the Island from plantation owner Josiah Tattnall, and construction began. Once complete, the hospital was named "Lazaretto" descending from the Italian word for "pest-house." Tybee Island officially recorded only two ships that disembarked enslaved Africans, totaling three hundred and fifty-eight, of the four hundred and sixty-two who embarked in African locations. However, Tybee received thousands more for quarantine before it was demolished in 1785.