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# *Before? and Why?*

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- Life was better before the manor
- the Roman Empire controlled much of Europe and had established a strong central government
- Before the manor there was trade, education, hospitals, and a relatively safe and stable environment
- After the fall of the Roman Empire everything disappeared. NO central government.
- A need for protection and stability made free men turn to nobles that provided a safe home, work, and food and in return they would work for them and in a way also own them. This is part of the bigger system of Feudalism that spread thorough out Europe



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Fall of Rome 476 AD



# *What Came? Life After?*

- Life in a manor as a peasant was being able to own land and would take grain from the mill and take it to the bakery to cook.
- Lords would own the land and would give some to peasants in exchange for service and would protect the peasants.
- Peasants could have their own vassal by giving them land they own in exchange for service.
- They weren't able to leave the manor without the lords permission and the lord determined who their daughters married
- Serfs were "free" weren't slaves but couldn't leave
- Serfs had to take care of shard crops and king's crops
- Manors started to become more self sufficient
- Trade started to decline
- From the manor and feudalism the economic system known as Manorialism also developed

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Medieval Manor Layout



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Serfs Working the Land



# *The Process*

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- Everything in the manor is designed to be self sufficient and to work for the manor
- This is why when creating our manor we thought of the best way to facilitate work for the serfs
- The first step was to make the river that flowed through the village, fields, and manor house to provide water for the crops, livestock and also power a mill
- We also considered the placement of the fields and forest to maximize efficiency of the serfs while working
- Lastly we created a small village where the serfs lived along with a small church and bakery





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Reconstruction of a Manor's village