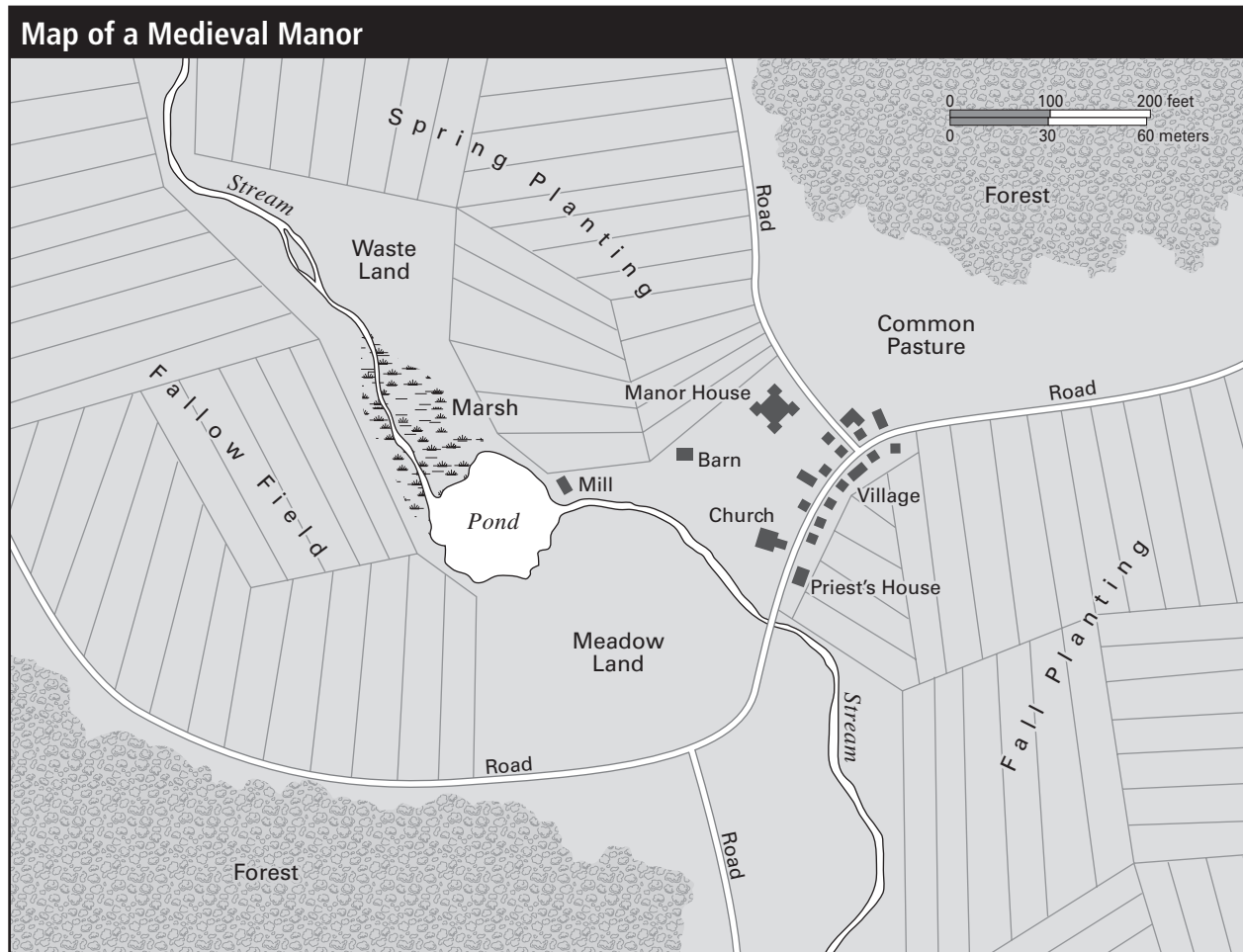


## Geography Practice

### The Medieval Manor

At the center of Europe's feudal structure was the manor, the estate and surrounding land owned by lord. Each manor was largely self-sufficient. The manor's farmland and streams provided food its residents needed, while forests provided the wood used for building shelters and other materials. As the map highlights, farmers planted during different seasons and always left a section of the field fallow, or unused. This allowed the soil time to regain its nutrients.

The lord of the manor lived in a grand house that often was a castle. The peasants who farmed the land and performed other duties occupied small and simple homes in a nearby village. Most manors also contained structures devoted to various economic and production activities. They included a mill for grinding grain, a bake house for making bread, and a blacksmith for producing metal goods. Most manors also housed a church.



## GEOGRAPHY PRACTICE CONTINUED

**PRACTICE**

Use the map to do these activities and answer these questions.

1. During what seasons did planting take place in the fields?

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2. Draw a box around the manor house.

3. How did living conditions for the lord and workers differ?

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4. Draw circles around the structures involved in an economic or production activity.

5. What other geographic features besides farmland and forest made up a manor?

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**APPLY**

6. Re-examine the map and use the information displayed on it to help explain what role geography played in the ability of manors to thrive on their own.

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